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The MORNING POST, June 17, 1907.

. . . . On Saturday another drama by Mr. Walter Howard drew and delighted an immense audience. . . . . It did one good to see those acres, as it seemed, of faces, and to note the audience's enjoyment of the play. The people came in their thousands, they laughed in their thousands, they cheered and applauded in their thousands. . , . He shows a mastery of his materials, a stronger and surer sense of drama, than, to put it inoffensively, one is at all used to. . . The construction is admirable. . . Altogether Mr. Moward has in this style of drama no superior,and he has qualities which, were he to attempt a higher class of work, should serve him well. . . . Mr. Howard took his "call" amid thunders of applause.

The SPORTSMAN.

Mr. Walter Howard is a skilful dramatist. . . . We take off our hat to such an accomplished craftsman of the theatre. . . . The enthusiasm manifested at the close left no doubt that "The Midnight Wedding" is a success.

The TIMES, June 17, 1907.

At the end of March the Lyceum started on its new career with a stirring and romantic drama by Mr. Walter Howard, for which we did not hesitate to predict popular favour; and the fact that it has now given way to "The Midnight Wedding," from the same pen, justifies the prediction. Mr. Howard knows what frequenters of the Lyceum like, and he has therefore decided to give it them early and often. The whole thing goes with a swing that is essential to well-constructed melodrama.

The DAILY MAIL.

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Melodrama is dead, is it? Phew! You should have been at the Lyceum Theatre on Saturday night. You should have seen the hundreds and hundreds of eager faces, row upon row of them, from floor to ceiling. Mr. Walter Howard "knows his job" through and through. . . . The rights of the piece are probably worth—no, the brain reels at the thought.

The STANDARD.

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An audience of astonishing dimensions received the new play with almost frantic enthusiasm. Mr. Walter Howard's new piece is a sound popular melodrama, skilfully constructed, picturesque, well written, and abounding in exciting incidents. A strong feature is its wealth of low comedy, frankly farcical in character, which keeps the vast audience in continuous shrieks of merriment. Another gratifying feature is the absence of maudlin sentiment.

The DAILY TELEGRAPH.

It is a good, sound, and capable piece of work. . . . Its reception by the enormous audience that crowded every nook and corner of the Lyceum on Saturday night was of the most enthusiastic description.

DAILY NEWS.

"The Midnight Wedding" aroused the utmost enthusiasm.

The TRIBUNE.

Was keenly relished by the audience.

DAILY CHRONICLE.

Once more a brisk, bright, clean, and dashing melodrama fought and thrilled its way into triumphant success at the Lyceum Theatre.

DAILY GRAPHIC.

That it will make a long stay in town there can be little doubt.

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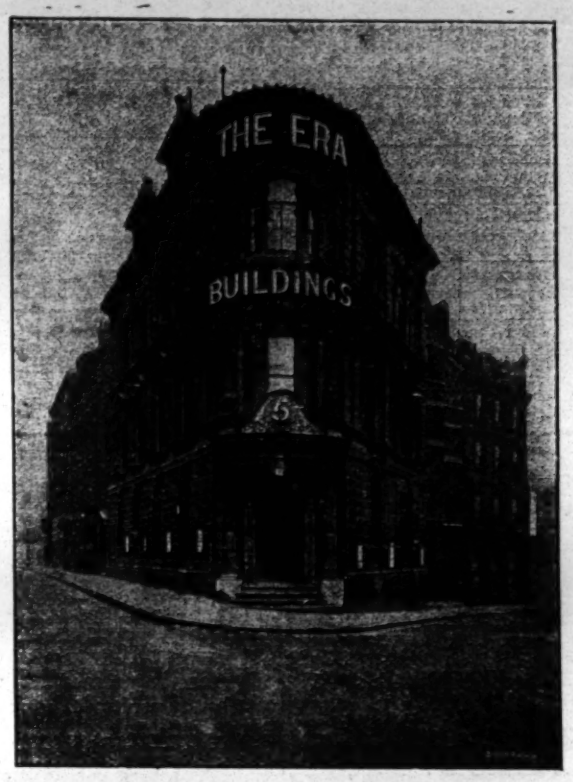

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—The familiar and still popular *Shaughraun* is presented this week by Mr. Hollister's company. Mr. Ernest K. Nelson gives an excellent impersonation of rollicking Conn; Mr. Johnny Chippendale is successful as Harvey Duff; and Mr. Hilliard Vox makes a good type of the chivalrous English officer. Mr. William Carriden acts well as the Squireen, and Mr. H. P. Owen contributes a first-class sketch of Father Doolan. Miss Jeanne Burgoyne acts vivaciously as an Irish lady, and Miss Hilda Sherley is happy in her presentation of Oste O'Neill. As Bridget Modigan, the Keener, Miss Brandon Gower, a young actress of first-rate talent and great promise, with an excellent singing voice, repeats the success she made last week as Susanne in *East Lynne*. Most of the other members of the company play very capably.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The performance of Galetti with his star combination of monkeys is really remarkably clever, as well as intensely amusing; and another notable turn is that of Palette, a lightning sketcher, who is ably assisted by his highly-educated dog, Max. Miss Mignonette Kokin is an exceptionally smart and graceful dancer and a piquante comedienne; the Cherry Lass is attractive alike as a dancer and vocalist; the Four Eerlin Belles score a decided success; Mr. Tom Bassett is always popular; the Ellimans give a high-class musical entertainment; and Mr. Sidney Wolf shows himself a superior vocal speciality artist. A funny series of pictures is shown by the Bioscope.

ALDERSHOT. — HIPPODROME. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—The old Theatre Royal (which has recently been redecorated and renovated throughout to meet the necessities of the new venture, under the guidance of Mr. Jack Gladwin) is becoming very popular. Miss Laurie Deering's company, in the romantic episode, *A Soldier of Napoleon*, tops the bill. The story is founded on that of *Proof*, and is told in a dramatic manner by Messrs. Clarence Temple, Arthur Gilroy, Augustus Hammond, Robert Barton, and Misses Laurie Deering and Phyllis Steane. Miss Ena Soutar is encored for her charming ballads; the Three Pirmans go through a marvellous gymnastic performance; the Stavordale Quintette, with banjo and harp specialities, are heartily received; Mr. A. G. Spry is well applauded for his monologues; and the Sisters Edwardes renew their acquaintance as dancers and drummers. Several new pictures by Pathé Frères are presented by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*The End Crowns All* is being presented here by Miss Augusta Tullock and company. Miss Tullock, in the character of Vera Romaine, is charming and powerful; Mr. Roy Milton makes the Russian Prince, Borinsky, a notable personage; Miss Amber Wyville, in the part of Lola, is equally impressive; Lord Lyndhurst is admirably impersonated by Mr. Arthur Plummer; and Nicholas Boris is ably interpreted by Mr. Edward Vivian.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—Excellent "business" is put forward in the Empire programme this week. Maurin's Marvellous Fountains is the chief feature; 20,000 gallons of water are poured on to the stage under powerful electric limelights, with beautiful prismatic effects, with living statues introduced, the whole concluding with the water nymphs. May De Rowse is a smart comedienne and dancer; Will Doran and company, in the absurdity *The Inventors*, furnish abundance of fun; Mi Narom appears as a comedy lady; the Three Martinettes appear to advantage in the screaming farce, *The Mad Music Master*; Gustave's Royal Pierrots, eleven in number, give a good "show"; and the Napoli Sextette, with Mr. Lloyd, the notable tenor, sing some concerted ditties and part-songs very sweetly. *His Wife's Birthday* is the subject of the Bioscope Pictures.

ATTERCLIFFE.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—This week's programme is headed by the Three Whittingtons, a clever trio of acrobats, who combine ability and comedy in a pleasing manner; Miss Madge Northcote, a charming soprano, wins well-deserved applause; an interesting film, "The Police Dogs of Paris," is shown by Mr. E. C. Clayton; the Two Neros provide a laughable turn in a speciality acrobatic act. Other items are furnished by Burton and Trent, eccentric musicians; Mr. Mattie Cheshire, drawing-room entertainer; Mr. Percy Johnson, comedian; and Walker and Lake, patter comedians.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Miss Winifred Maude and company in *The Stowaway* are here. Miss Maude is in every way admirable as Althea Dale, and with Mr. Victor du Cane, who is a capital Dicky Dials, provides capital songs; John Inglis is convincingly played by Mr. Vincent Carlyle, and Mr. William Bradford plays Charles Etherington with fine judgment, while Mr. Leonard Harrison is a good Percy Ewart; Miss Ethel Tinsley makes a sympathetic Florence Etherington, Miss Jenny Hackett a versatile Chucky, and Messrs. W. E. Simpson and Harry Johnson do well as Job Hickey and Sandy Prouse respectively.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—The unsettled weather and cool evenings are all in favour of indoor pleasure, so that the picture entertainment given twice nightly by Raymond's Animated Picture Co. is greatly appreciated. Illustrated songs (the singing by Miss Nora Desmond) are well received.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Kennedy's Komiks are still showing twice nightly, and their change of programme this week includes new animated pictures, songs, business, and anecdotes by the musical-caller Schallers, frivolous interludes by the Great Little Hutch, instrumental items by the Sisters Deare, some good comic songs by Dan Noble, and other clever turns are Marie Yorke, James Burt, Florrie Wentworth, and Keane Harker.

BELFAST.—PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Hackenschmidt's wrestling exhibition has aroused considerable enthusiasm. Percival, the clever comedy pianist, has been accorded a capital reception; and Kartelli appears in his amazing wire act. Alec Kendall creates much amusement with his funny patter; Mr. Charles Sloman is a smart comedian with good songs; and Mr. Russell Carr, the military ventriloquist, furnishes an entertainment of undoubted excellence. Vandinoff paints pictures in an incredibly short space of time; and the bill is completed by the Palace Pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Miss Katie Lawrence, the accomplished comedienne, tops the bill, and has been very successful with her catchy chorus songs. The Andos Troupe execute some clever feats; and Mr. Ted Curtis and Picannines, black and white speciality artists, have been accorded a capital reception. Angeline, the lady juggler, is certainly very smart; and Mr. Harry Curwen and Miss Marie Belle appear to advantage in their comedy act. The Brothers Wartenburg, double-foot experts, appear in their unique performance; and Mr. Arthur Hill's Lilliputian act is quite a feature of the bill. Miss Lottie Collard is a fascinating comedienne with good songs; and also here are Miss Jenny Hartley, comedienne and dancer; the Tampico Trio; and the Hipposcope Pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John S. Walker.—Mr. W. J. Ashcroft's inimitable rendering of Irish songs has been enthusiastically received, while his dancing is the very acme of excellence; Signor and Mme. Borelli return with their entertaining act, which has been successful; and the acrobatic feats of the Sisters Gasch have created the utmost wonder. Mr. Will English, the clever comedian, sings coon songs in capital style; and Mr. Bert Woodward's cycle performance is one of the outstanding features of the bill. The Bioscope Pictures have been a great attraction. Also appearing are Miss Maudie Macdonald, character vocalist; and Mr. Victor Travers, comedian.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company, directed by Mr. M. Montgomery, are here with *Under the Czar*. Mr. Horace Denton furnishes a skilful impersonation of Colonel Nicholas Yerosloff, his acting being beyond reproach; and we have nothing but praise for Miss Nina Blake-Adams in the trying rôle of Sonia Gregorovitch. The iniquities of Major Kovesky are done full justice to by Mr. Edward M. Heanley; Mr. Elmore Frith is all that can possibly be desired as Egor Gregorovitch; and Mr. Cyril Grier's impersonation of Petroff reflects much credit on the able actor. Miss Mattie Crawford's acting in the rôle of Zara is in every sense excellent; and Miss Alice Clarke distinguishes herself as Siomka Ivanovitch. Mr. Tom H. Solly (the capable stage-manager), as Paul Ignat, creates roars of laughter; and other rôles are capably represented by Messrs. Ed. Smyth and J. E. Davies. The Alhambra Bioscope, under the direction of Mr. W. E. Newlove, present a series of pictures this week entitled "Forty Winks."

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mr. Charles Marsh's company is here with *The Gamester of Metz*. Mr. Marsh repeats his clever assumption of Paul Baldot; Mr. John Burton is seen to advantage as General de Montparasse; Mr. George Gaisford is an efficient Captain Badaire; and Louis Badaire is well played by Mr. Monson Thorpe. Miss Gwendoline Hastings acquits herself with marked ability as the Countess Baldot; Miss Una Lane earns distinction as Lucia Baldot; and Miss Emma Victor is acceptable as Gwendoline Pearson. Later in the week Mr. March's play, *The Saint and the Woman*, has been played.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Mr. Joe O'Gorman, the Irish humorist, is the top-liner this week, and is received with much cordiality; Mr. Harry Rogerson, the versatile comedian, is also a big favourite; and a fine programme is also supported by Stelling, and his dog comedian; the Crown Trio of speciality vocalists; Miss Mayure Cannon, comedienne; Mr. Arthur Woodville, comedian; Miss Carry Joy, descriptive vocalist; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton.—The pierrot season is in full swing here. This week a strong combination includes: Arthur Aldridge, tenor; Bert Byrne, comedian; Jack MacDermot, humorist; Leo Trainor, comedian; Miss Iris Banfield, comedienne; and Forshaw Kershaw, accompanist.

BIRMINGHAM.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Barnardo.—*A Woman's Past* is retailed at the Alexandra, where Mr. Collingwood's resolution to keep open house all the year round is again meeting with the best of results. Messrs. A. Hamilton Warden and Chas. V. Sandford's company is presenting the play. Miss Masie Hanbury's assumption of the central rôle, Bessie, appeals with irresistible pathos; Miss Mary Mallalieu makes a most charming character of Dorothy Heath; Miss Eva Bertram is well suited as Clara Darrell; and Miss Phyllis Moncton acquits herself in the remaining female rôle as Kate; Mr. Horace E. Herbert is well received and thoroughly able as David Heath; Mr. Chas. V. Sandford scores with a clever impersonation of Frank Dellannoy; Mr. A. Hamilton Warden acts with infinite skill as Clement Harper; Mr. G. Moreton Williams gives full effect to the rôle of Uriah Craven; and Messrs. Philip Nailor, William Benson, and Wilson Munroe complete the cast.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Kennedy's Komics continue their successes here, this week's company being good indeed. The Cedrics, conjurers and equilibrists, are received with great applause; Mr. Victor Verney makes a big hit as "the whistling coon"; the Vervains are speciality coon vocalists and dancers of a very pleasing and high order; Mr. Clarence Turner, "the Lancashire Lad," is well applauded for his clever comic singing and dancing; Miss Lola Vane is successful as a coon singer; Miss Mollie Revell is a powerful and tasteful contralto vocalist; the Four Godfreys prove a very smart and popular acrobatic quartette; and Miss Ella Melville is a charming soubrette.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*Man's Enemy* receives a successful portrayal here. Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby, who brings the company, devotes much skill and attention to the part of Count Lanski. Mr. Norman A. Overton wins viciferous applause with his realistic acting as Harry Stanton; Mr. W. Jeans renders valuable support as the General; Mr. T. A. Ellis acts with capital expression as Tom Drake; Mr. Percy West makes the utmost use of his opportunities as Fred Lisle; Mr. Charles E. Johnson shines exceedingly well as Bill Saunders; and Mr. Fred Owen puts the audience in the best of humours as Ikey Barnett. Excellent work is done by the ladies, who include Miss May Grayce as Polly Harris, Miss Maudie Grayson as Grace Lisle, Miss Maud Buchanan as Sarah Drake, and Miss Evelyn Geldard, with songs, as Mrs. Saunders.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Addison; Acting Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Huntley.—This place of amusement opened for a week on Monday evening with the engagement of Dr. Walford Bodie, the famous bloodless surgeon, who nightly gives an extraordinary manifestation of his skill with the electric current. Each evening he has accomplished many successful cures, and has elicited unlimited applause. Several smart variety turns are also given, including Miss Bella Skene, burlesque actress and vocalist; the Musical Acmes, in a diverting musical programme; and Mr. Tom N. Mills in his new and up-to-date scena, *John Bull*.

BLACKBURN.—NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Miss Maude Western's company in *The Prodigal Son* are appearing here.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—A capital entertainment is given here by the Kellinos, acrobats; Jock Walker, comedian; Blanche and Powell, speciality artists; Capt. Devereux and his performing dogs; Les Sados, jugglers; Master Carr, juvenile dancer; Charles Coverdale, comedian; and J. W. Winton, ventriloquist.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Thomas Sidney and company are appearing here this week in *The Marriage of Kitty*. Mr. Sidney submits a careful study of John Travers, and Mr. Edgar Kent gives a good account of Sir Reginald Belsize; Miss Mary Thorne makes a delightful Kitty; Miss Kathleen Russell shows much skill as Mme. Samiano, and Miss Josephine Rae as Rosalie is also worthy of favourable mention. *Twenty Years After* is the title of an interesting curtain-raiser played by Mr. Sidney, Mr. Edgar Kent, and Miss Ada Clarke.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Messrs. Ralland and Sergenson's repertoire company is still in possession here, and drawing big houses this week with the very amusing farce, *In the Soup*. Mr. H. R. Averell as Horace Gillibrand scores a big success, and Mr. Frank Bradley plays the part of Abernethy Puppershaw to perfection; Mr. C. B. Vaughan contributes a well-thought-out sketch of Mons. Moppert; whilst Miss Ada Marius very ably represents Mme. Moppert; Judith Gillibrand has a most capable representative in Miss Edith Anton Laing, and Delphine is cleverly sustained by Miss Ida Chapman.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—George Leyton, the actor-vocalist, tops the bill here this week, and appears with great success in a dramatic sketch entitled *The Wreck of the Birkenhead*; Frank and Jen Latona are still retained, and remain immense favourites; James Fawn has met with a warm welcome this week, and Queenie May finds favour as a singer of popular songs; the programme is also contributed to by Harry Mountford and Maude Walsh, society entertainers; Harris and Worth, a pair of harmonious comedians; Millie Howell, a pleasing and refined vocalist; the Three Phantos, in a comic sketch; and Hall and Earle, the clever eccentric comedians. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope shows a capital selection of pictures.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. T. P. Dingnan.—The doors were opened for the season on Monday, and the enterprising management has met with due reward during the week. Two performances are given daily, and the programme submitted is eminently satisfactory. The Driscoll and Beattie Combination appears in the diverting sketch, *Major McPhee, M.P.*; Alf Chester, the comedian, sings his best songs; the Great Vincent contributes some clever tumbling feats; Marie Empress is a smart comedienne; Baroux and Bion are laughable acrobats of great ability; and Walter Barrett is a capital baritone vocalist.

TOWER CIRCUS.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop.—The special feature introduced here this week is Herr Hagedorn's Transformation Floral Fairy Lake, a magnificent water spectacle. The arena is instantly turned into a huge lake, in the centre of which is a circle formed into a pond with stone surroundings, on which are placed five massive pillars. These are covered with myriads of coloured electric lights and fountains playing in all directions. Living statuary is also introduced, and the effect is really very beautiful. The rest of the programme is also very good.

NORTH PIER.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. James Walker.—Owing to the great success recently achieved here by Mr. Sidney James's Royal Strolling Players, they are engaged here again this week. Their entertainment is a very interesting one, and is contributed to by Madeline Rossiter, Seymour James, Clarice May, Victor Wallace, G. W. Desmond, and Sydney James.

WINTER GARDENS PAVILION. — General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Horace Goldin, the great illusionist, is the new-comer here this week. A grand spectacular ballet, entitled *By the Zuyder Zee*, is to be produced on Monday next.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. C. Moody.—Messrs. Stratton and Copeland's Co. are here with *Dan the Rake*. In the title-rôle Mr. Arthur Stratton gives a capital impersonation, and Miss Amy Gibson as Madge wins the hearty applause of the audience, the remaining members of the company rendering good support.

GAIETY.—Lessee, Mr. George E. Good.—Hall and Wilson, in a cycling act, top the bill here, and are highly successful. Mabel Ormonde, vocalist and dancer; Maud Elliott, Florence Raymond, Frank Esdale, Marie De Voy, Jim Cameron, John Cronow, and the Electric Pictures make up an entertaining programme.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Tudor.—Turns here include The Mays, burlesque artists; Maud Ethelda, comedienne; The Hooligans, in mirth, fun, and frolic; and The Deccars, in a pleasing burlesque, *Off to the Races*.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—The Brothers Poluski, mirth-provoking comedians, regale the audience with clever song and patter; the Resuas Trio present a clever wire equilibristic act; Les Belles Americans are an exceedingly smart set of vocalists and dancers; and Sidney and Maud score in two song-scenas. Will, Poluski, jun., scores as a dancer; Nellie Dunbar is a pleasing comedienne; and Crissie Cross, vocalist and dancer, is well received. The Hippodrome pictures conclude.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. C. Watson Mill is presenting for the first time here his cleverly-conceived and distinctly original drama, *A Wrecker of Men*. The audiences are large and very appreciative of the excellent representation submitted by an able company. Miss Ruth Zillwood gives a powerful and clever performance of the exacting part of the adventuress, Risca Mallinson; and, in striking contrast, Miss G. Talbot's docile bearing as Doris Melville is particularly noticeable. Between the latter and Guise Strange (a part well played by Mr. Percy Horton) the love interest is strong. Jim Murley, the valiant friend in need, is well taken and with judicious touches of humour by Mr. Eric Campbell. Pharasaphus, the Egyptian adventurer, is a well-studied character by Mr. Milner Noble; excellent work is also done by Mr. Miller Anderson as Railton, Mr. Charles Earle in the dual rôle of a Jew and Karnaphus, an Egyptian mummy, and by Miss Beatrice Reynolds as Vavasole Slopper, a slavey. The play is well staged.

THE EMPIRE.—MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig. — There is plenty of variety in this week's well-appointed programme. Jennie Johns, a charming soubrette, submits a bright turn; "Dida," the production of a woman from nothing, is a clever and mystifying illusion, presented by Mr. Lewis De Burgh; in a pantomime sketch of the knockabout order, *Dinner Hour*, the Karno Four are diverting; a naval and military display, *Egypt*, by a host of juveniles, is presented by Wallace Selkirk; Neil Kenyon, the Scottish eccentric comedian, is meeting with great success, roars of laughter greeting his songs and patter; the Sisters Poole submit duet and dance in winning style; Leonie Dixon is a graceful and expert dancer; in their amusing sketch, *The Scarecrow*, the Musical Jees give a smart xylophone performance; as a protean artist, actor, and ventriloquist, Randolph King is clever and original; and there are some fine pictures shown by the American Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—In a programme of much merit the Royal Czar Troupe are a feature with national dance and characteristic costumes; Massona introduces some original tricks in a clever juggling entertainment; a distinct hit is made by the charming soprano, Mlle. Du Roche; Stanley's Urchins dance capitally and sing well; and Phil Bransby's coster impersonation is a capital study. Carrie Victoria, comedienne, submits an acceptable turn; as a grotesque comedian, juggler, and performer on the rings, Jack Rae is particularly diverting; a numerous company of coloured performers, in *A Trip to Coon Town*, are responsible for much mirth and good vocalism and dancing; and some excellent pictures are shown by Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

BRIGHTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter. — Mr. T. Morton Powell's company opened here on Monday with *Honour Thy Father*. Mr. J. W. Evelyn submitted an excellent impersonation of Gabriel Garth; Mr. Robert Gilbert made a manly Jack Halyard; Miss Kate Newton was highly successful as Gertrude Garth; Miss Violet Hammersley did well as Lilian Garth; Miss Winnie Donovan was a pleasing Mercy Merry; Mr. Howell Travis ably portrayed Duncan Bly; Mr. Claude Morton acquitted himself admirably in the dual rôle of Job Merry and George Bloggs; and the remaining characters were ably sustained.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard. There is a capital company here this week. Gustave Fasola, the Indian magician, performs some very clever and mystifying feats; Clemart gives a pleasing ventriloquial entertainment; Burley and Burley, comedy acrobats, give a good turn; Claude Ginnett's original *Rejected Remounts* proves interesting and amusing; Dene and Dawson are warmly applauded in *Stage Aspirants*; Agnes Hanson, comedienne and dancer, is well received; Harry Glyn, baritone, sings in artistic style; and other pleasing vocalists include Cecilia Maude and Woolmer Young. The Alhambrascope pictures comprise an excellent series.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A varied and pleasing programme is sustained here this week. Miss Dolly Elsworthy's company achieves marked success in *The Orange Girl*; Miss Dolly Elsworthy makes a delightful Nell Gwyn, and is admirably supported by Mr. G. Wilson, Miss J. Douglas, Mr. Adderley Howard, and Mr. J. Terrie. The Schenk Brothers give a very clever and daring equilibrist performance; George D'Albert is a versatile comedian; Dan Thomas, "the dame of dames," keeps the house rippling with laughter with his comic songs and patter; Moon and Morris, comedians and dancers, are warmly applauded; Richardson Taylor, whistling ventriloquist and mimic, submits a popular turn; Roxborough and Wright are very effective in the farcical episode, *Cockie*; Pat Carey is a capital Irish comedian; and the Barrascope pictures are interesting.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Miss Annie Hughes and company are here this week with *Tommy*. Miss Annie Hughes gives a charming enactment of Jane, known as "Tommy"; Mr. Evelyn Vernon is well suited as Peter Hope; Mr. Willie Hartill gives an admirable impersonation of William Oledd; Mr. Reginald P. Beach is very entertaining as Flipp; Mr. Rupert Lister's Dick Danvers merits praise; and Mr. Winifred Pearson as "Mr. Morrison" and Miss Vera Pole as Honour make the most of their opportunities.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope provides interesting and amusing afternoon and evening entertainments here this week. The pictures are up to date, and marked by charming variety and picturesque reality.

BRISTOL. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—Mr. Ellis J. Preston's company is here on a return visit with the sensational drama, *Shadows of a Great City*, the play being excellently staged. Mr. Roy Redgrave acts in excellent and convincing style as Tom Cooper; Miss Daisy Scudamore is pleasing and expressive as Nellie Standish; Mr. E. J. Preston presents a good character study of George Benson; as also does Mr.

Charles Russell as Abe Nathan; Miss Lucy Murray is eminently satisfactory as Biddy Roonan; and other important parts have careful exponents in Miss Amy Venimore, Miss Marie Tremayne, Messrs. Charles Preece, H. C. Lanceley, George Thomas, Arthur E. Hill, H. Trevor, and T. George.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Zertho heads the programme with his admirably-trained dogs, the turn being both amusing and exceptionally clever; Ike and Will Scott, comedians, obtain applause; Arabella Allen presents with much success impersonations in costume of characters from Dickens; Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene and company score with their domestic episode, *His Birthday;* Violetta Gibson, assisted by four young ladies, has a pleasing song and dance scena, *Under a Cactus Tree;* Rappo and Ella are exceptionally expert equilibrists and gymnasts; John Grun Marx obtains much appreciation for his weight-lifting and other strong acts; the Kimberley Boys, comedians, are quaint in their style; and amusing animated pictures are depicted by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—The programme here is headed by the Vasilescu Troupe, who perform some remarkably clever and amusing acrobatic acts on horizontal bars and bicycles; Nellie Wallace, comedienne, is highly successful, her funny songs and quaint costumes causing roars of laughter; Dunning is successful with his ventriloquial act; Tennis and Laune score with their scena, *Chapters from Life;* Maud Elliston and company have a good farcical absurdity, entitled *Dobson's Day;* Gus Hurdell, comedian, obtains applause; Kahn and Kahn do some smart legerdemain and illusions; and Jock McKay, Scotch comedian, has some good comic songs. The performance concludes with animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Mr. John P. Preston finishes his stock season this week with the dramas, *Faith, Hope, and Charity,* and *Lady Godiva,* Mr. Preston representing Jabez Drake and Mr. Horace Custins appearing as Dan Danbury, and keeping the house in roars. Mr. Arthur Lenville (Cobweb), Miss Laura Wright (Faith Mayton), Miss Gertie Wasley (Hope Mayton), Miss Ethel Rainforth (Charity Mayton), and the other members giving good support. In *Lady Godiva* the title-rôle is well sustained by Miss Mabelle F. Barlow, and Mr. J. F. Preston presents his original character of Tom.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE (NEW HIPPODROME).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Waller.—A good array of talent comprises the Calcotts, in a clever and original musical scene; J. T. Daniels, comedian and high-pedestal dancer; Wright and Elton, in their speciality mirthisms; Alma Campbell, comedian and dancer; Charles Bignell, favourite comedian; the Three Sisters Grosvenor, singers of popular melodies; and De Ora, a fearless acrobatic performer. The Operascope is also in evidence.

BURY (Lancs).—CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—The pictures this week are very popular. They include "The Harlequin's Love Story," "The Reluctant Dog," &c. The variety turns include the Sisters Henderson, two clever musicians and dancers, and Joe Humphreys, a character vocalist.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—An excellent programme includes Miss Harriet Vernon, burlesque artist; the Deer Family, in a sensational act, entitled *Indians of the Past;* the Wilton Heriots, in a protean act, *An Anglo-American Alliance;* Clotilde and Musto, with their clever parrots; Leslie Race, comedian; Hilton, Scotch ventriloquist; and the Moules, bone soloists.

BUXTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—Mr. William Greet's company was here the first three nights of the week is *The Shulamite,* a praiseworthy representation being given. Mr. Algernon J. Hicks played with much merit as Simeon Krellit, and Mr. George Rammel was satisfactory as Robert Waring. Mr. Alfred Hilliard played excellently as Jan, and Miss Violet Vivian was most successful as Tante Anna. Miss Ella Thornton acted with much spirit and resource as Deborah, and Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff and Mr. Albert Rogers were humorous as the nigger servants Mohke and Klas. The piece was excellently mounted.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Closed.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Mr. Carr Loates presents his comedy-drama, *At the World's Mercy.* Miss Cissie Milford appears as Skittles, and submits a performance that deserves high commendation; Captain Manley is portrayed in dashing style by Mr. Morris Maud; Mr. Carr Loates gives a capable delineation of the rascally Jabez Barber; Mr. G. D. Knight is a clever exponent of the Jew Goldstein; and Mr. W. H. Irving could not be better placed for the part of Slouching Sam. Tiny Carrie Johnson proves a remarkable child actress, while Miss Muriel Greatwich displays much ability in her interpretation of the heroine, Alice Lloyd.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. W. Lea; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—The ever-popular George Lashwood appeared on Monday night to crowded houses, and was accorded a hearty reception. Ella Retford is a chic comedienne, her latest songs and splendid dancing being greatly appreciated; Austin Rudd is an exceptionally funny comedian, and in his humorous song and parody keeps the audience much amused. Another successful item is the comedy duologue of Kent and Keith; and the Eight Empire Girls are dainty dancers. Amy Anderson and company, in their coster-scena, *The Banana Queen,* create uproarious fun; and Baker and Balfe, operatic xylophone experts, are certainly clever. Farley, Rennie, and Farley, in their speciality act, *Fun at the Railway Station;* Rosie Archer, excellent mimic at the piano; and exceedingly interesting pictures on the bioscope also contribute to a fine entertainment.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. B. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—For the race week the enterprising manager has provided a popular attraction in the musical medley entitled *Fun on the Bristol,* in which is sandwiched some capital variety turns. Perhaps the most popular is that contributed by Algie, the clever clown and juggler, who, as late proprietor of the Hippodrome here, is a tremendous favourite. In the piece proper, Mr. Chas. R. Stone was to the fore as Widow O'Brien; Mr. Harry Douglas played Captain Cranberry with the requisite amount of dash; Mr. Gerald Byrne made a comical Tommy; and Captain Winnington-Barnes scored as Richard Sparkles. A condensed version of *East Lynne* as a curtain-raiser gave Miss Edith Bracewell an opportunity of displaying her exceptional gifts as an emotional and sympathetic actress in the part of Lady Isabel. *The Arabian Nights* was billed for Mr. Stone's benefit on Friday night.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Alec Hurley and company, in *The Coster's Beano,* is the big attraction for the race week, and crowded houses testify to the popularity of the engagement. Mr. Hurley, who scores heavily all through the scena, was in capital voice on the opening night, and soon became a warm favourite. The Sivronis, in their clever sketch, *Opera Gone Mad,* are voted one of the best turns seen here for some time; Ada Cerito, comedienne, has two capital songs; the ever-popular Lotto, Lillo, and Otto repeat their former success as trick and comedy cyclists; the Sisters Morgan are also paying a return visit; Marie Gros sings sweetly, and the always-popular Pepiscope has some excellent new pictures.

CASTLEFORD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will H. Emerson.—A capital programme is provided here. Miss Marie Winsome is a successful male impersonator; Leslie H. Murray, magician, thoroughly succeeds in mystifying the audience; and the Loyal Dominion Co. give a new series of animated pictures which are well received.

CHATHAM.—BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—There are three youths in the bill this week: Joe Conway, comedian; Master Clifford, comedian and dancer, and Gicardo, whose juggling act is very smart. The Bros. Hayes score as cross-talk comedians and dancers; the Lafaille troupe are capital equilibrists; the Bros. Lang are deservedly applauded for their boisterous knockabout act; Lacey's Erascope has a good film, entitled "Quick, I'm on Fire"; Challis, with performing dogs, and Ethel Donna, comedienne, complete the company.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. G. Humphries.—Lovers of operatic music have quite a treat this week in the shape of a visit from Mr. Ernest Ch. Gittins's company in condensed versions of *The Bohemian Girl, Il Trovatore,* and *Maritana.* The latter was chosen for the opening performance, and appeared to be thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated. The Three Danbrooks give an act, entitled *A Lively Time in a Music-shop;* Gracie Taylor scores with "When there isn't a girl about"; the Five Digby Girls give spirited dances; and the Sisters Tinsley do well in song and dance. Daisy Fowle, ballad vocalist, and Fred Harrison, comedian, also appear.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—This week we have Mr. Fred Granville's company in the drama *Defending His Honour.* Mr. John Davidson is popular as Douglas Bryce, and assumes various disguises with success; Mr. George Arthur has just the appearance and manner requisite for the villainous Stephen Graid; Messrs. Fred L. Arthur and Haughton Macaulay provide plenty of fun as the Verisons, senior and junior; Mr. Evan Roland makes quite a hit in his original character of Jack Damish. Miss F. Melrose-Millett makes the most of her many opportunities as Ethel Bryce, and secures the entire sympathy of her audience.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—PALACE, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. P. W. Willard.—Virto tops the bill, and gives a fine musical turn. The Falcons, a couple of fine acrobatic gymnasts, submit a good show; and Kenneth and Fane do well as comedy artists and dancers; Fields and Lewis go down well in a burlesque of a drama; and the rest of the programme is made up of Tom Collins, a smart comedian; Walter Balfour, a fine baritone; Ena Richards, comedienne and dancer; Harry Sims, comedian; and Beattie Benson, a smart little dancer. Caban's miniature circus opened here on Monday, and now give three perfomances daily in the grounds. The Lunar Sextette are still here, and also give a long al fresco show.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Licensee, Mr. Fred Williams.—This house has again opened under the direction of Mr. W. F. Jury. Shows are given nightly, the major portion of which consists of some very fine and amusing pictures on the bioscope. Mr. Arthur Lonsdale, vocalist; Sidney Cooper, illusionist and entertainer; and Les Henris, equilibrists and balancers, also entertain.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Harold Montague; Manager, Mr. E. J. Barrett.—This is the last week of Mr. Harold Montague and his troupe of Vagabonds, who go on tour, to return here later on in the season. Bright vaudeville shows have been given by the following: Mesdames Marie Longmore, Olive Spark, and Leslie Lu-Lu, and Messrs. Leslie Burgess, Claude and Russell, and the chief Vagabond himself. This troupe have become very popular here.

WESTCLIFF GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Graham, Russell and Bentley.—In addition to the three comedians, Bert Graham, Bernard Russell, and Will Bentley, this week Kit Keen, coloured comedian; Wilfrid Alderton, hand-bell soloist, and Miss Rosa Dalton are also in the bill. Mr. Jas. Jefferson is a good pianist.

AL FRESCO shows now in full swing are those of Claude North on the West Beach, Hy. Frewin's White Coons near the jetty, and Fred Pullan's Yorkshire Pierrots at Rigg's Retreat.

COLCHESTER.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fred K. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Franke Hardie and company in the military sketch *For the Honour of the Regiment* provide the premier turn this week. Lack and Ford Trio combine drollery and cleverness in their acrobatic act; Edith Fink, a daintily-attired comedienne, is deservedly popular with her brace of songs; and the Courtney Family, in their song-scena, *Our Brother,* supply a welcome turn. Mlle. Maie is a graceful tight-wire artist; Jas. Reilly and May Templeton present a Dutch musical act; and J. W. Barrett, comedian, sings a couple of songs.

CORK.—Mr. George R. Sims and Mr. Clarence Corri's company opened a week's engagement here on Monday in the musical comedy *The Dancing Girls of Spain.* Miss Dolly Varden as Miss Chiquita Joyce won much appreciation for her tasteful singing; the same remark applies to Miss Gertrude Fawcett as Marie Montressor. As Don Julian Alvarez, Mr. W. H. Austin sang in manly and spirited style; as Sir Jeremiah Joyce, Mr. George Danvers scored an undoubted success; Mr. George Delaforce as Terence McGinty acted well; and Mr. Edgar Dereve as Darcy Davis was responsible for some of the humour. Mr. Jack Crichton, who took the part of Rev. Alonzo Joyce, sang and danced in a sprightly style; and Johnnie Schofield, jun., was capital as Jack Davis. There are several pretty Spanish dances given by the Three Magnets.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—A good week is assured by the visit of the well-known drama, entitled *A Warning to Women,* by Mr. C. Watson Mill. The piece is well staged and the scenery excellent. Moria Kennion, the heroine, is excellently portrayed by Miss Molly Malone, and the wandering minstrel, Shaun, is in the clever hands of Mr. Geoffrey Tearle. Dr. Marcus Dread finds a good exponent in Mr. Richard Vane; and Miss Grace Barton gives a pleasing rendering of Sheila.

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—An attractive and enjoyable programme was put before the patrons of the above theatre on Monday. An interesting feature was the performance by Messrs. Gledhill and Davis, roller cyclists, the artists riding racing machines which stand upon sets of rollers. A capital turn was given by the Eight Lancashire Lads; and the Lannons, pedestal dancers. A dramatic sketch by Charles Daly and Co.; the Brothers Webb, in a fine musical turn; Miss Lily Wood, a clever vocalist; Fyne and Hurley, in an amusing sketch; and the Bioscope Pictures were other attractions.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. George Dance; Manager, Mr. Kay Draco.—The programme here is capital. Arthur Lennard as a character actor and vocalist quite deserves the success he receives, and sustains his deservedly high reputation; Mlle. Sidy Nirvana gives some fine character poses, finely coloured by various shades of light, the most interesting one, of course, being "Lady Godiva." The Dean Tribune company present a funny sketch, *Applicants,* in which Dean Tribune is responsible for some smart changes; the Martelloni Family are clever lady acrobats; Bertha Stuart is deservedly encored for her pleasing Scotch songs; Eadie and Ramsden, a musical duo, are responsible for remarkable grotesque dances; H. O. Wills is a good comedian; and the Bioscope Pictures conclude.

CROOK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Wallace Davidson, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wallace Davidson.—Mr. Roland Yorke's company in *The Triumph of Truth* is attracting good houses here this week. Mr. Dudley Winton is a manly hero, and Miss Gertrude Bonser is excellent in a dual rôle. As the swell mobsman, Raoul D'Orville, Mr. Yorke submits a fine piece of acting; Miss Gertrude Hunt, in the character of Blanche le Croix, finds favour; and Mr. Herbert Goddard is a commendable Sir Charles Eversleigh. Mr. Fred De Vere (Tommy) and Miss Gertie Rosalind (Kate) are both good.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Herrick.—Mr. Lloyd Phillips' company presents two good sketches, entitled *Betrayed Friendship* and *In the Tempter's Coil.* Patty Hanbury is a good serio-comedienne; Tony Iveson is well received; Lottie de Abbey is an excellent character-vocalist; Bernard and Weston, comedians, do well; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux maintains its popularity.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Jack and Evelyn are creating a perfect hurricane of laughter here in their comedy act, *Come into the Office;* Harry Ford is a favourite comedian; the Max Millian trio of Continental equilibrists, are well received; Hettie Chattell is a character burlesque actress of ability; Conway and Leland are remarkably clever one-legged clowns; Edwin Boyde, comedian, is quaint and curious; Clifton and Gibson, comedians and patterers, are very good; Aida Martine is a neat comedienne and dancer; Ray and Calden are worth seeing in comedy act; and the Imperial Bioscope pictures are applauded.

DARWEN.—PUBLIC HALL.—This week we have Parlato's Royal Animated Picture Company with a fine selection of films. Variety turns of an excellent character are provided by Parker's Performing Dogs; Miss Rosina Bellini, a charming contralto; Master Walter Gray, a clever boy juggler; Frank Shackells, an instrumentalist who is very entertaining; and Parlato gives several clever impersonation of celebrities.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, M. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Charles Denby and Herbert Taylor.—An attractive programme this week is headed by Fred Carey, a comedian of undoubted ability; Walton and Lester fully maintain their droll reputation as the World's Worst Wizards; Edward Davies, operatic tenor, is heard to particular advantage; Fred S. Peake and Co. submit a costume sketch, *The Gambler,* which is most capably sustained; Lord, Murray, and Lord, in their gymnastic mélange, introduce some clever bag punching; Blarney and Kennard do very well as comedians and dancers; Lilian Victoria, male impersonator, proves herself a vivacious little comedienne; and Marlow, equilibrist juggler, performs his tricks neatly; the Bioscope continues to be a popular item.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—The military drama *Tommy Atkins* is being played by the stock company. Mr. Douglas C. Phelps takes the popular character of Harold Wilson; Miss Olga Audre ably plays the part of Ruth; Captain Richard Maitland is impersonated by Mr. Leonard Aardale; and Mr. Oscar Power and Mr. Larry Clement supply the humorous element.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—The deafening applause greeting the manifold and amazing risley exploits of the George Bonhair troupe is emphatic tribute enough to the astounding agility, sangfroid, audacity, and adeptness possessed by these talented acrobats; Juno Salmo introduces so much novelty, ingenuity, and originality that one watches with awe and admiration his varied, grotesque, distorted, and contorted movements in mid-air. It is refreshing to find a comedian with the praiseworthy spontaneity which stamps Harry Meegan's work, the humour of the "man with the mat" being explosively mirthful as it is new and ingenious. Dandy George has trained his canine companion Rosie to such a degree of cleverness that the dog's promptitude and perfection of performance excite intense wonderment. The Sisters Brand are greatly in favour as vocalists and dancers. Most hilarious result accrues from the diverting drolleries of the Brothers Brooks as eccentric patter comedians and dancers; and Harry Fife evinces no less ability in provoking laughter. Wat Tyler deserves high commendation for the excellence of his work as a descriptive vocalist.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Grand Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—Mr. T. R. Wood continues to occupy the boards of the Grand Theatre. The animated pictures are much enjoyed. Miss Elsie May gives a graceful turn with the clubs; Miss Nellie Hewett gives selections on a large number of instruments, some thirteen in all, and secures great applause; Professor J. H. McCann's performance on the concertina is much appreciated; the contralto voice of Miss Molly Gwynne is heard to advantage in ballads; and Messrs. T. W. Cottrell and Frank Crauford are quite successful in their own line.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, Jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—The comedy *The Two Roses* was played on Monday evening by Mr. Herbert Ralland's company. Miss Kitty Cavendish was delicately fascinating as Ida, and Miss Chrissie Ralland was equally dainty as Lotty. The Digby Grant of Mr. A. E. Gibbons was well balanced and effective; Mr. F. Pennington Gush made an ideal Jack Wyatt; and Mr. Charles Boult was sympathetic as Caleb Deecie. The Mr. Furnival of Mr. Arthur Dennis was dignified; Mr. Leon Simkin was artistically quaint as Our Mr. Jenkins; Miss Avis Graham was well placed as Our Mrs. Jenkins; and Miss Victoria Wray was satisfactory as Mrs. Cupps. The curtain-raiser, *He, She, and It,* was well played by Mr. Leon Simkin and Miss Chrissie Ralland.

DERBY CASTLE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, Jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Kelly.—Dancing to the strains of the Harry Wood orchestra is pursued with very great enthusiasm. The chief star in the variety interlude is Miss Lil Hawthorn, who more than maintains her reputation; she sings her tuneful and witty songs with artistic abandon. The Three Merrions continue to provoke laughter; and Selbo, the Indian club juggler and plate thrower, submits a graceful turn.

Among other attractions at Douglas, Mr. Fred Buxton's Pierrots and Tea Village secure quite a fair share of patronage. The company is an excellent one. New songs, new sketches, given with artistry, secure a full measure of approval. Mr. Tom Isherwood, a popular comedian, presents his newly-formed Pierrot Troupe in the Promenade Bandstand every morning and afternoon with satisfactory results. Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's organisation occupy Onchan Head. The company is small, but each artist has a distinct individuality and possesses talent. Mr. Alec Chentrens has a fine voice, and sings his French chansons with taste; Mr. Sydney Bach's exhibition as a trick pianist is very clever; Mr. J. W. Hughes uses his bass voice with effect in stirring ballads; Mr. Eric Charlesworth is an amusing comedian with a budget full of new jokes; Miss Edith Heron Brown gives an excellent pianoforte interlude. Mr. Charles Davis's Minstrels cause the visitors to flock in thousands to Douglas Head when the weather gods are propitious.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Limited; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—An excellent entertainment is this week provided by Harry Stewart's animated pictures and company of variety artists. A pretty turn is contributed by Miss Daisy Graham, with some trained birds; Miss Kitty Woodford's highly-trained dogs' orchestra and circus is productive of much amusement; an expert triple-bar act is given by the Almos, two exceptionally smart acrobats; Harry Stewart's quick changes and finished character studies prove him an actor of experience; Little Doretta submits a quaint Dutch song and a smartly executed acrobatic dance; and Leonard and Mac, patter comedians, are well received.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessees, the Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. Fred Holt.—Fred Moule's and E. D. Nicholl's mock melodrama is exceptionally funny and cleverly played; a charming comedienne and dancer is found in Lily Lassah; and Sinclair and Parr's vocal entracte, "Keeping an appointment," is smartly done; Bessie Willow, comedienne, and Tom Yorke, the coster vocalist, score a success; and Cambo, the musical monkey, and Chas. Lilbarn, comedian, also appear. The "Sons of Martha," and several other good films are shown by Raymond.

THE PAVILION, PROMENADE PIER.—Lessees, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—A magnificent reception has been accorded nightly to that popular concert party, the Scarlet Mr. E.'s, and their jester, Mr. Walter Dowling has an apparently inexhaustible fund of genuine comedy; a tenor voice of great sweetness is possessed by Mr. E. No. 1; and Mr. E. No. 3 has a fine baritone; a clever example of trick banjo playing is submitted by Mr. E. No. 2, who also sings coon songs in a pleasing manner; while Mr. E. No. 4's bass-baritone songs win him an enthusiastic recall.

DUBLIN.—EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The attraction here this week is the world's championship wrestling tournament, in which Constant Le Marin has been nominated by the management to meet all comers. A capital reception has been extended to Miss Billie Burford, who has been heard to advantage in several catchy songs; a decided hit has been made by the Northern Troupe of dancers; and Bob Hutt and company appear in their funny sketch, *Welcome Home,* which is quite a feature of the programme; the Brothers Mills, in a clever trapeze act, are deservedly applauded; and Howard and Collinson, comedy artists, find much favour; as silfleurs and dancers the Twin Brothers Dean are very good; and Livesay and Roseberry are responsible for some bustling humour; Harry Bedford submits his comic songs in acceptable style; and the Empire pictures complete the bill.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Topping a good bill of fare, the Mirthful Mystifiers provoke hearty laughter in their sketch, *Three of a Kind;* the Royal Dreadnoughts, in an excellent shooting act, win unstinted applause; and Adele Roze sings and dances with animation; a capital speciality act is presented by the Three Rubys; and Fred Carr and Ada Rose are responsible for good vocalism; the Jimsons in a smart sketch, entitled *The Burglar's Surprise,* are well received; and the Lombards are eminently success in their equilibristic act; Will Bell, comedian and dancer, submits an acceptable turn; as does also Harry Friskey, in a novel juggling performance. The Bioscope is, as usual, interesting.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The company engaged here includes Ada Lytton, international dancer; Witty Will Pearce, humorist and mimic; Emilie Stephenson, ballad vocalist; and Fred Walton's living marionettes. Pictures on the cinematograph are also provided.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. Fred R. Heley.—The Russell-Rossee Répertoire company paid a welcome return visit here on Monday, when *A Fool's Paradise* was presented to a full house, and heartily enjoyed. Mr. David James admirably sustained the part of Sir Peter Lund; and Miss E. Nolan O'Connor displayed her usual ability in the rôle of Beatrice Selwyn; Lord Normantower had a capital exponent in Mr. J. Edward Fraser; and Miss Cissie Sephton made a pleasing Mildred Selwyn; the part of the Hon. Tom Verinder was in the able hands of Mr. Norman Clark; and the rôles of Johnson, Kate Derwent, Price, and Philip Selwyn, were satisfactorily played by the Misses May Wilson, L. Kingston, and Messrs. Maurice Denham and George Mudie, jun. The farce entitled *His Last Legs,* in which Mr. David James appeared, concluded the entertainment.

SAMUEL'S EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The following artists are appearing here:—Miss Shela O'Donnell, ballad vocalist; Jimmy Ross, eccentric comedian and dancer; Miss Gertrude Livock, coon and descriptive vocalist; George Howard, tenor vocalist; Harry Dane's sketch company, in *The Secret;* and Miss Agnes Macdonald, the Scotch fasting lady.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Some remarkably good animated pictures by the Anglo-American Bioscope are well received by good audiences here this week, and Miss Evelyn Yorke in her song-scena proves an enjoyable variation; and Collin and Croft, the world's illustrators, give a good turn.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Peberdy.—The Empire Bioscope Pictures are still proving a great attraction here. At intervals enjoyable turns are given by Inez Rita, comedienne; Allen and Hall, comedians and dancers; and the Sisters Gaynor, vocalists and dancers.

DUNDEE.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—An excellent combination of dramatic and variety fare is proving a decided attraction here. *The Shadow of a Crime* is capitally played by a strong company, which includes Mr. Johnny McElroy, who simply revels in the part of Tom Brown, the gay old shop-keeper; Mr. Herbert Cecil gives a powerful performance as Jim Murdock; Mr. Charles Kean does clever work as Ralph Esmond; Mr. Anthony Gordon makes a manly Harry Bullington; and Mr. Leslie Vyner acts forcibly as Jim Todd. Miss Dora Hammersley, in the rôle of Loyal Norman, is sympathetic; Miss Dora Hamilton makes an exceedingly sweet Dora Bullington; Miss Maude Le Ray is a saucy Sarah; and Miss Vera Moorhouse a droll Mrs. Brown. The variety turns include Mlle. Rosini's miniature menagerie; Gipsy Ann, and her fortune-telling dog, Rosie, and several others.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Percival.—The Kingston Dramatic company opened their third week's engagement here on Monday. The play presented being *Jane Shore.* In the title-rôle Miss Madge F. Young proved herself an actress of great power; while as Richard, Duke of Gloster, Mr. A. W. B. Kingston acted the part to perfection; Mr. A. Thomas as Anthony Yeast was very effective; and Miss Emily Peel made a majestic Queen; Mr. Harry Egan and Mr. J. C. Grey contributed much humour in their respective parts. On Wednesday evening, Mr. Frank Percival, the popular manager, took his third annual benefit, the proceeds of which are to be devoted, as in former years, to a holiday in the country for Dundee's poor children. The performance was under the distinguished patronage of the Right Hon. the Earl of Strathmore, the R.W.M. and Brethren of Masonic Lodge Ancient No. 49, and the Excellent Principals and Companions of Union Royal Arch Chapter No. 6. Huge audiences assembled at both houses.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clarke.—Mr. Ian Maclaren and his company are appearing here throughout the week in a number of Shakespearean and old English plays. On Tuesday *The Merchant of Venice* was staged. Mr. Ian Maclaren undertook the part of Shylock, and to an artistic make up added a thoughtful and impressive performance, achieving the success of the evening; Mr. Frank Royde contributed capital and dignified work as the Prince of Morocco; Mr. Kenneth Bruce was an earnest and effective Bassanio; Mr. Basil Dean an animated Gratiano; and Mr. Arthur Fayne a good Antonio; while Mr. F. Stafford Dawson supplied much fun as Launcelot Gobbo; Miss Rosalie Notrelle was an able Portia, speaking her lines forcefully; Mrs. Ian Maclaren did consistently well as Nerissa; and Miss Edith Coleman was a satisfactory Jessica.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Leonard Pagden and a capital company are appearing here in *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray.* Mr. Pagden as Aubrey Tanqueray plays with fine judgment, and is again a notable success; Mr. Edward Pearce is an easy, natural Cayley Drummle; Mr. Gordon Bailey is an earnest and clever Hugh Ardale; and Mr. James Hussey causes much amusement as Sir George Orreyed. High praise is due to Miss Lucy Wilson for the exceptional ability she displays in the trying part of Paula Tanqueray; Miss Edith Cuthbert is a pleasing Ellean; Miss Gladys Bartle-Frere is a convincing Mrs. Cortelyon; and Miss Muriel Alston is a capital Lady Orreyed. On Monday afternoon Mr. R. G. Knowles gave a successful matinée, treating a large audience to a description of his adventures abroad, together with songs and stories rendered in his own clever style.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—At the top of the bill are Miss Millie Engler and company playing *Beauty and the Burglar.* Miss Engler is a fascinating Kate, Miss Louise Tinsley, a clever character actress, is an effective Polly; and Mr. F. Knight is well placed as Mr. Ripple-by; Mr. Walter King, a great favourite here, with his droll work keeps the house in roars of laughter; Mr. Montague Biggs scores as a female impersonator; the Two Kays sing and delight the audience; Miss Queenie Hawke is a clever and supple dancer; Mr. Mark Henton succeeds as a comedian, and new exciting pictures are added.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—Mr. Edward Marris's musical play, *Somebody's Sweetheart,* is new to Edinburgh, and has been played here this week by the author's own company, under the direction of Mr. George Jenkinson. The acrobatic dancing of Miss Dolly Payne and Miss Rosie Chandler gains great favour, and Miss Norah Melton and Mr. Cecil W. Parke, as heroine and hero, carry off the honours among the vocalists; Miss May Norris and Mr. George Brentwood share the lighter scenes in the rôles of Freddie Ashleigh and Martin Blabbs; and the heavier work is successfully undertaken by Miss Lena Laton, Mr. Walter Nugent, Mr. Percy Maitland, and Mr. Frank Gala, with their respective impersonations of Zora, Stephen Leverton, Lem Lee, and Old Joe.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—There is abundant variety in the programme here this week. Mr. Ballard Macdonald's Melody-Makers present a musical act, *The Burglar's Dream,* which has some novel features, comprising pianoforte quartettes, admirably played, and a good deal of excellent pantomimic work. Mr. Daniel Llewellyn, the principal solo vocalist, sings with dramatic effect; Elton and Edwin show themselves to be masters of the banjo; and Miss Rosie Lloyd is enthusiastically received; the Tally-ho Trio provide a diverting sketch, notable for several delightfully rendered part songs; Mr. Arthur Kenney, a daring cyclist, gives a wonderful exhibition of trick riding, his extraordinary leaps through the air arousing loud applause; the Four Rio Brothers, graceful gymnasts, display surprising strength and agility in their performance on the rings, and interesting turns are also contributed by the Venola Brothers, comedy gymnasts; Burns and Bentley, skilful dancers; the Sisters Melba, juvenile duettists; and the Royal Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—Mr. R. A. Roberts, who heads the bill at the Empire this week, brings his latest sketch, a clever comedy entitled *Ringing the Changes.* Mr. Roberts's performance is of the nature of a tour-de-force. Miss Elsie Claire, a singer of more than average ability, renders her songs with genuine expression; Miss Hetty King, male impersonator, is heartily recalled, after her bright and natural interpretations; the Three Musical Johnstons perform admirably on the Xylophone, playing several concerted pieces in clever style; Miss Lina Verdi imitates with effect several music-hall stars, and Mr. Guy Ryder is a capable vocalist and excellent siffleur; the Narow Brothers, cyclists, are not only skilful gymnasts, but impart much humorous business into their turns; and Miss Peggy Pryde is, as usual, vigorous in her acting and singing; Mr. Frank Cumminger, sand dancer, and an exhibition of pictures by the Bioscope add to the attractiveness of the entertainment.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—*Lucky Durham* is being played to excellent houses this week by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company. Mr. Edmund Kennedy figures with great effect in the title-rôle; Mr. T. Renand Lockwood as Lord Mountfallon shows to advantage; Mr. Arthur Leigh is most efficient as the Hon. Reggie Steighton; Mr. A. E. Walker gives satisfaction as Mr. Vallerton; Arthur Walcombe and Ben Verstein are well sustained by Mr. W. Dunlop and Mr. W. F. Clitherow; Miss Alice Esther Belmore makes a most delightful Helen Vallerton; Miss Rosabel Dodd portrays Lady Mountfallon with success; Miss Florence Dulhunty as the Hon. Margaret gives a bright interpretation of the part; and Miss Lilian Mason is deserving of high praise for her natural acting as Mrs. Durham.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—The principal artist in a good programme here is Miss Edith A'Vard, the talented violinist, whose playing is much appreciated. Mr. Eric Davidson, baritone, makes a welcome reappearance, and gains applause for his superb rendering of popular ballads; Miss Edith Eatherley is cordially received; Mr. Edward Mortimer is a great favourite; and the Pavilion Bioscope has an interesting set of pictures.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Stear.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company appeared here for three nights last week in *A Beautiful Fiend.* Miss St. Elmo was a strong exponent of the title-rôle, and she was well supported in the villainous side of the drama by Mr. Goddard as Karateff. Mr. Beaudyn played with considerable dramatic force the part of Ivan, and Miss Munroe was a pathetic Nadine. The humorous element, in the hands of Mr

Stewart, a dainty dancer, and Vernon's Pictures make up an acceptable programme.

Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Mr. Percy Norman's company is presenting *A Woman Worth Winning* here this week. Mr. Norman embodies with a large amount of success the part of General Borinski, and Mr. A. B. Mackay (the author) is eminently fitted for the part of Fergus Lovinsky; Mr. Gilbert Standing is capital as Amos Pauloff; Messrs. E. Hall Eldon and E. C. Edwards look after the comedy in the respective parts of Bertie Scribbles and Peter Popples. Miss Cissie Bellamy's work in the rôle of Roma Pauloff stamps her as a very promising artist; and Miss Ida Mackay is a vivacious Katerina Kloss.

Queen's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Smith.—Pictures of the Gosforth Park races are being shown here by the New York Picture Co. Also appearing in the bill are the Three Sisters McQueen.

GLASGOW.—**King's, Ltd.**—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—A programme is submitted here this week which is a distinct departure from the usual theatrical fare. Herr Aiuif Hjorvard, the Royal Scandinavian pianist, is presenting two operatic works composed by himself, and between the plays gives several pianoforte solos, and also introduces Mr. Rafelewski, a Polish violinist. The opening play, *The Gamester*, is in a tragic vein, and the three characters in it are cleverly acted and sung by Miss Lili Sharp and Messrs. Arthur Cartwright and Furness Williams. The concluding piece, *The K.C.*, is a lyric comedy, and various amusing incidents are woven round the visitors to an old-fashioned inn. Mr. J. E. Watson made a typical host of the inn, and the other parts were brightly interpreted by Misses Lili Sharp and Madge Elswick, and Messrs. A. J. Nicholls, Furness Williams, and Arthur Cartwright. The librettos of both operas are by Mr. Walter E. Grogan and the music by Herr Hjorvard, who conducted the orchestra. The two violin solos of M. Rafelewski and the various pianoforte solos of Herr Hjorvard were brilliantly executed, and heartily appreciated.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—After being closed for the summer vacation this house opened on Monday with Mr. G. W. Whitbread's drama, *Lord Edward, or '98*, under the direction of Mr. Dave Clarke. Mr. Robert Faulkner gives a fine portrayal of Lord Edward, and Pamela finds a thoroughly capable interpretation at the hands of Miss Cecilia Dare. Mr. Dave Clarke displays sound ability as the villain, Francis Magan, the part of Neilson is admirably sustained by Mr. H. Bailey, and Mr. Shamus Brien does well as Napper Tandy. The comic element, as depicted by Mr. Frank Dalton as Thady McGarth and Miss Jessie Glenn as Katie Malone, contributes largely to the enjoyment of the audience. Lady Louisa Connolly is ably presented by Miss J. Moore. The Lord Edward Band plays tunes in fine style. The scenery is good, and the performance was received with marked approval.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—That ever-popular comedian Ernest Shand tops the bill, and his smart songs and jocular patter are in great demand. John Lawson and company are at no time behind, and their latest sketch, *The King's Minister*, is an excellent production. The company is a capital one, and deserve the applause so freely bestowed. Another old Glasgow favourite is Charles Mildare, whose imitation of the various whistling birds is excellent; Fred Poplar is an amusing comedian, and much appreciated; Fatmah Diard, in her musical episode "Choosing a Lover," is deserving of much praise. The singing of her company makes the operation of selection a decided pleasure. The ventriloquial entertainment by Tom Edwards is also much enjoyed, while Will Bishop's company in *My Gollywog* are also a success. Kitty Wager, comedienne, and Ernest Tilbury, in his illustrated songs, both lend much aid towards an enjoyable evening's amusement. The Bioscope terminates the programme.

Zoo-Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Hill and Whittaker top the bill here this week, and the celebrated instrumentalists and singers had a flattering reception, their unique performance being clever and amusing. The Seven Perezoffs contribute a funny sketch, entitled *An Evening in a Parisian Café*; and the McConnell Trio are great favourites as comedy sketch artists. An amusing and diverting skotch is given by Matthews, Cowper, and Co., entitled *When the Clock Went Wrong*; and the up-to-date patter and singing of popular ditties by Victor Courtney, the comedian at the piano, are much enjoyed. Other acceptable items include Collins and Rice, comedy duo; Lavender Sisters, duettists; Alf Walker, popular negro comedian; Eily Adair, comedienne; and the Hippodrome Bioscope, with first-class pictures.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—The bill this week is topped by Malcolm Scott, and crowded houses are the result. This clever comedian's new impersonation, the "Gibson Girl," is in his best vein, and Glasgow audiences were quick to appreciate the caustic wit plentifully sprinkled through the patter. John E. Coyle is another strong favourite, and he gets a right hearty welcome; May Edouin appears in a clever scena, in which as a gipsy girl she acts and sings with dramatic force; Fred Edwards and company in *The Kleptomaniacs* keep the audience in roars of laughter; Carlotta Levey's chorus songs confirm the opinion that she is an artist of exceptional merit; Mabel and Winnie Brooke are a couple of dainty vocalists; and enjoyable turns are contributed by Jack Chambers, negro comedian; Mary Ambrose, a violinist and vocalist of much merit; and Fred Barnes, a smart young light comedian with many original touches.

Coliseum.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—A programme of all-round merit here includes the novel tree-felling turn of Messrs. Jackson and McLaren, from Australia, which was received with much acceptance. Matthew Bodie's company present the strongly dramatic sketch, *A Drummer of the 76th*; the Austins give an amusing comedy juggling act; Fred Cullane's Comedy Four delighted the audience with their musical mixtures; Harry Freeman is accorded the welcome of an old favourite; Charles Robinson is well received in his illustrated songs; that clever comedian, Harry Conlin, is again well to the front with smart songs and patter; the Twin Sisters Anderson are strong favourites in their smart song and dance items; and Cissie Curlette is a clever mimic. Several new films are shown on the Bioscope.

Palace.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Waldon; General Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—The Brothers Leslie top the bill here, their original comedy *Music Mad* being of the mirth-provoking order. Hayman and Franklin, Hebrew impersonators, are marked out for special approval for their singing and patter. Other notable items include Elmo and Rego, acrobats; Larola, juggler and acrobat; Bob Hamilton, comedian; Frank Cass, vocal comedian; Nat Watkins, comedian; and the Bioscope, with an interesting set of pictures.

Gaiety, Ltd.—General Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Will Godwin tops the bill to advantage, his songs being very popular. The Sisters Du Barrie are in good favour as duettists and dancers, as is the amusing and popular Scotch comedian, Jack Neil. In *The New Office Boy* Ingram and Irving provide amusement and smart burlesque boxing; a first-rate singing and dancing act is provided in *The Belle of Arizona*; and hearty recalls greet Milstead and Bell; two good picture songs by Maggie Binnie are well received; and Sam Shipley, comedian, is also a popular artist. The Bioscope pictures are extra good.

Britannia.—Sole Proprietor, A. E. Pickard.—Large houses are patronising this place of entertainment, which is run at unusually cheap prices with surprisingly good companies. The Ladies' Orchestra and capital Bioscope pictures vary a pleasing programme, which is sustained by a company comprising Tessie Vaudian, burlesque singer and dancer; Billie Mella, coon singer and dancer; May Russell, soubrette; Johnnie Quinn, descriptive singer; the Brooklyns, who score well as dancers; and Pollie Leslie, who features chorus songs.

GLOUCESTER.—**Palace.**—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Miss Addie Dorina, a clever protean artist, presents a novel act; and McCann's Irish terriers and leaping dogs are accorded a good reception. The Wedburns are a capital pair of comedians; and Denby and Dent, comedians of quite a different style, are very entertaining. Wragg and Wragg, military athletes, give a very smart display; Miss Gracie Bard is a neat comedienne and coon impersonator; and Mr. Martin Conway is amusing, as is also Mr. Alf Bishop. Corrie and Foote are responsible for a duologue, *A Double Birthday*; Miss Nancy Ranshaw is a negro comedienne and expert bone soloist; and the Bioscope concludes the entertainment.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — **Royal Aquarium.**—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—A return visit is being played by the Leopolds in the *New Frivolity*. All the members of this clever family work hard to win success, and the fun and frolic of the piece arouse plenty of laughter and applause. The musical absurdity is preceded by *The Houseboat*.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The newcomers this week are the Savonas, who give a wonderfully clever musical turn; and the Elliotts, whose marvellous cycling feats must be seen to be appreciated.

Britannia Pier Pavilion. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—So successful were the San Francisco Minstrels last week that their services have been retained. Little Thomas and Arthur Gallimore continue to be first favourites.

Wellington Pier Pavilion.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—A charming entertainment is provided this week by the March Hares in comedy, song, and dance. The members of the company are Miss Kathleen Severn, Miss Doris Lind, Miss Maud Jay, Mr. Davy Burnaby, Mr. Edmund Hollick, Mr. Crampton Bryant, and Mr. Philip Braham.

GREENOCK.—**Empire Theatre of Varieties.**—General-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Skivington.—The bill here includes the McShinnon Family, instrumentalists and dancers, who submit an excellent turn; Nellie Hazelwood, a pleasing singer and dancer; Tony Brown, Scotch comedian; and little Eddie Malley, boy comedian. Glennie's Marionettes and the Bioscope, with up-to-date pictures, are other attractions.

Pavilion Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—Sterling and Love head the bill here this week, in an amusing vocal and instrumental act, which proves a big success. Another excellent turn is that provided by Miss Cordite, a clever lasso manipulator, who is assisted by Wild Buffalo. Other good turns are those of the Lashmars, comedy artists; the Brennans, expert dancers; Leah Arden, a charming ballad vocalist; Deffrey Winton, Scotch comedian; and some amusing pictures, shown by the Paviscope.

GRIMSBY.—**Prince of Wales Theatre.**—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—*A Little Vagrant* is here this week. Miss Vashti Wynne is a prominent figure as Poll, and portrays the unfortunate slum-girl with considerable fidelity. Mr. Cecil A. Collins has a difficult part as Jim Harris, but realises the surly character of the brutal criminal most effectively. Miss Alice Bowes is admirably adapted to the part of Arthur, whilst as his unscrupulous half-brother, Eric Arden, Mr. Stanley Radcliffe meets the requirements. Mr. Richard Bosco is a dignified Mr. Whitworth, Miss Caroline Fenton accomplishes good acting as Julia, and Mr. J. W. Callagher as Slideaway Bates, Mr. Douglas Campbell as Snatcher, and Miss Bella Moody as Hannah Smithers also contribute to the success of the piece.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes.—The Avolos give a remarkable display of somersaulting whilst swinging upon a number of perpendicular poles. It is a novel performance in every way. Edith Muir, Hubert Bartlett, and company present their laughable sketch, *The Collar Stud*, with considerable success. Mlle. Sylvia introduces songs illustrated by tableaux vivants, and Miss Laura Heyden also contributes pleasing vocal items. The Smarte Brothers give a capital acrobatic turn, and others appearing are J. H. Bray, comedian, the Sisters Hypatia, duettists and dancers, and the Musical Keiths, in an instrumental speciality.

GUERNSEY.—**Theatre St. Julian.**—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris.—This week we have Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company here in *Trilby*. The piece is well put on and admirably interpreted. Mr. E. R. Abbott, in the rôle of Svengali, displays conspicuous skill and artistic ability; Taffy, Sandy, and Little Billie have capable exponents in Messrs. John Lester, Edwin Keene, and Frank Stephens; Mr. Weedon Ross is of signal service as Gecko; and Mr. W. H. Garbois is effective as the Rev. Mr. Bagot. Miss Ada Abbott wins both sympathy and admiration as Trilby; Mme. Vinard is brightly and cleverly played by Miss Marjorie Tennant; and Miss Louise Gillmore is a severe Mrs. Bagot. *Sapho* is also in the bill for the week.

HALIFAX.—**Theatre Royal, Ltd.**—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson.—After a successful season, the Northern Theatres Stock Company terminate their engagement here to-night, after which the theatre will close for four weeks. This week *The Octoroon* has been presented.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—A delightful programme is doing record business here. Roze and Calvert's witticisms cause laughter; Tiny Arnold has a répertoire of breezy songs; Austin and Hartley are smart barrel-jumpers; a fantasy, entitled *Yo San*, is artistically presented by Talbot and Pearce; Prof. Barney Fox, ventriloquist, evokes amusement; and a couple of taking acrobatic comedians, Lanos and Montes, R. C. Note, together with Daisy Davenport and some pictures, complete the bill.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—An American picture company commands attention here until further notice, and business, so far, has been brisk.

HANLEY. — **Grand, Ltd.**—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—The Royal Banzai are seen in a really clever act, consisting of juggling, contortions, and balancing which throughout is most interesting. Florence as a mimic has but very few rivals, her impersonation of Eugene Stratton being the height of mimicry; Chas. Johnson, the coloured comedian meets with all possible success; his songs being good and his dancing extraordinarily clever; the Rhoda Brothers present a turn which is quite original in gymnastics, and their feats well merit the loud applause accorded; Baker and De Sales in their comedy act are diverting, the male member being a smart acrobatic dancer; the Haverleys, American song illustrators, show some beautiful pictures, and the vocal items are well selected. Marie Elsie is a bright and vivacious comedienne, and the pictures are full of interest.

HARROGATE.—**Grand Opera House.**—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cyril Fielding-Smith.—For the first three nights of this week *The Superior Miss Pellinder* was presented by Mr. William Fraser-Brunner and his company. Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner played the title-rôle with full realisation of its humorous possibilities; the part of Mrs. Pellinder was successfully portrayed by Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh; Miss May Staples gave a clever impersonation of the hypochondriacal Nancy; and Miss Marie Ault was distinctly good as the tomboy Edith. Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle certainly made the most of the chances afforded him as the irrepressible schoolboy Noel; while the Mr. Lister of Mr. Fraser-Brunner was a character study of exceptional brilliance. We must really congratulate the latter gentleman on his clever make-up. The piece was preceded by *The Man of Vengeance*, a dramatic episode of the French Revolution. The attraction for the last three nights of the week is *The Shulamite*.

HARTLEPOOL. — **Empress.** — Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—Duncan and Brasque present an entirely new and original playlet, *A Society Butterfly*, in which they are particularly good; Kyoto is amusingly entertaining with his comedy Japanese box; much fun is caused by the Three Prestons, in a laughable absurdity, *The Liftman's Rise*; the musical and dancing act by the St. Johns is a great attraction; Stanley Liston has a capital baritone voice, which gains appreciation; Alfred Graham's troupe of juveniles are undoubtedly successful in their work, and reflect credit upon their conductor, Phil Rees, the well-known vocalist. The Five Sisters Warwick, lady trick cyclists, go through a performance that is as remarkable for its intricacy as it is for the neatness with which it is carried out.

HASTINGS. — **Beach Concert Pavilion.** — Mr. Wallis Arthur's vaudeville company opened its summer season here on Monday. The new members are Miss Marie Schultz, a clever comedienne and Mr. Alec Johnstone, a capable baritone. Miss Ada Gaskill, Mr. Harry King, Mr. Geo. Blackmore, and Mr. Geo. F. Swaine are old favourites. A new departure has been made in providing a No. 2 company to give al-fresco entertainments in the St. Leonards Gardens during the afternoons and in the Band Kiosk of the St. Leonards Pier during the evenings. This company is known as the Lieutenants and the Maids, and includes the Misses Doris Lee and Nellie Chamroux, and Messrs. Robt. A. Innes, Bert Mortimer, Chas. Howard, Robt. MacLachlan, and Harry Jeans.

Hastings Pier Pavilion.—Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—*Oh, Susannah*, is being presented here. Mr. Drew Mackintosh plays the part of the young Dr. John Sheppard, M.D., with characteristic ease and skill; Mr. Edward Retley is amusing in the character of Plant; Lieut. Andrew Merry, R.N., and Waverly Vane are carefully represented by Mr. Harding Steerman and Mr. Philip Renouf; Miss Susannah Sheppard is naturally taken by Miss Una Gilbert; and Ruby and Pearl are winsomely enacted by Miss Hilda Sims and Miss Dorothy Brand. Miss Nancy Harding as Aurora creates much amusement.

St. Leonards Pavilion Theatre.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—A welcome return visit is being made by the children from Drury Lane Theatre, who are appearing here in *The Forte Thieves*. The juveniles are quite equal to their task and give a spirited performance, singing some very pretty songs and introducing some grotesque as well as graceful dancing. Among several good performances mention may be made of the excellent acting of Master W. Bishop as Ali Baba, and his rich brother Cassim Baba by Master Teddy Gordon. Miss L. Randall as Cassim's wife, and Master Jack Frost as Abdalla, the captain.

HUDDERSFIELD.—**Hippodrome, Ltd.**—Resident-Manager, Mr. M. Robinson.—The turns provided here are the Three Golden Graces, in their well-designed representations of living statuary; Arthur Croxon, a clever comedian and mimic; La Danseuse, a dainty, youthful dancer; Ripsaw, in a particularly smart exhibition of ball-bouncing; Fred Hastings, comedian; Corelli, an expert conjuror, who shows "how it's done"; Boyd and Gilfain, in a well-arranged musical duologue, *Mixed Drinks*; and some good pictures on the Bioscope.

HULL.—**Theatre Royal.**—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*Bootle's Baby*, after a long lapse of years, returns to the Royal. The play is well cast. It finds in Mr. Henry Wolston a very satisfactory Captain Gilchrist. The Mignon of Miss Maisie Richardson is a very creditable performance; and as the wife Miss Georgina Wynter contrives to catch the sympathy of the audience. Mr. Tom Mowbray proves himself an adept comedian, and Mr. Hamilton Stewart is all one could expect as an officer and a gentleman.

Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*The Sorrows of Satan* is being played here. The Prince Lucio Rimanes of Mr. Ed. Neville is a good, honest interpretation of a difficult rôle. Miss Rosie Neville is a very capable Lady Sybil, and something similar may be said of Miss Lole Esmond as Diana Chesney. Mr. F. Douglas Howard does well as Geoffrey Tempest, and Mr. Fred Cherry ably furnishes the comic relief.

Alexandra Theatre.—Morton's, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. George Morton.—*The Stolen Birthright* is beautifully staged here. Miss Muriel Thompson hits to life the Princess Miranda. As the evil genius Mr. Chas. Draycott fills the picture with Count Marco. The schemer Stefano could not be in better hands than those of Mr. Harry Scatchard. The Prince Andrea Celsi is a fine piece of work done by Mr. A. C. Holmes. The comedy parts are capitally filled by Miss Ethel Vinroy and Mr. Harry Harrop. Mr. G. Ridgeway Thorne is a commendable prince.

The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Ivan Lunn.—Zaid, the Spanish Moor, assisted by Orienta and Hassan, top the bill in a novel act; Ernest Montefiore and company present a clever dramatic and musical sketch entitled *The Little Colonel*; Will E. Haines, character comedian, is very popular; and other artists in an attractive bill include Henriquette Maude, who relates some very interesting experiences whilst touring the world; Alf. Rippon, Cliffe Ryland and George Helm and Nellie Cozens.

The Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—The Four Cecilians, who make a first appearance in Hull, create much enthusiasm in a clever musical and dancing act; the Swift Trio of comedy cyclists are a popular turn; and Arthur Elvy is a comedian who should make headway. Other attractive engagements include Sisters Carlton, Otto Ethardo, the Monckton, and Doyle and Gibson.

The Circus.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—Animated pictures are still running.

ILKESTON.—**Theatre Royal.**—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*Siberia* and *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* are being presented here this week by the company of Mr. James Elphinstone, *Siberia* being chosen for Monday. Mrr. Edwin Turner as Nicholai Neigoff was effective, and Miss Isobel Marte made a successful Sara. Miss Ella Forest pleased as Marie; and the lighter side of the play was represented by Mr. J. Crawford as Michael Trolsky and Miss Daisy Stone as Vera.

IPSWICH. — **Hippodrome.** — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock. The Saxon Trio contribute the chief turn here this week, their sensational strong feats and other performances being unique and really marvellous. Other attractions include the Five Vernons, whose operatic selections on xylophones much delight the audience; Barrington, an eccentric pianist; the Four Hearnes, a clever troupe of acrobats; Hyram Travers, character comedian; T. J. Macmillan; Tay and Fay, boxing experts; and Charles Windermere and company, in a sketch called *Lunch for Two*.

JERSEY.—**Horseshoe Quarry.**—The Pierrot and Veronique troupe opened their fourth week here, under the direction of Mr. Edward Marris. The attendance was good, numerous encores being demanded. Mr. J. Salter and Mr. Tom Payne gave an amusing parody on "The shade of the old apple tree." The duet "Take care" was given by Miss Vincent and Mr. Winter; Mr. Williams and Miss Jerrard giving "The Swing Song" in good style.

Oddfellows' Hall.—The National animated pictures are still drawing crowded houses. This week some very interesting Jersey views are being shown. Mme. Stuart Clare renders her songs in cultivated fashion.

The Triangle Park.—The Dagonets' programme this week is an excellent one, Mr. Blascheck singing many quaintly funny songs.

LANCASTER.—**Hippodrome.**—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. W. J. Ferguson and John Porter.—The bill here is headed by the Geni's Family, clever acrobats, who introduce three ponies; C. Tamomoto, Japanese rope climber, is very smart; and Gillin, ventriloquist, is well received. Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford supply an amusing comedy, *Getting Even*; Carlos Menard plays the violin cleverly; W. McIvor, vocalist, sings well; as also does Miss Kitty Marion, comedienne. The Hippograph is still an attraction.

LEEDS.—**Theatre Royal.**—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—At the Royal this week is a thrilling drama, *Guilty Gold*—a story full of striking incidents and strong situations. The author, Mr. Horace Stanley, brings his own company, and himself plays the leading rôle in powerful style. Mr. Alex. Alexander does extremely well in the part of Harold Elmore; a capital villain is forthcoming in Mr. Ralph Bartlett; whilst Miss Violet Cranford as Rhoda Hampton and Miss Jenny Priestman as Kitty Clarke are prominent amongst the ladies for their special good wrok.

Empire.—Moss Empires, Ltd; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—A dramatic sketch, *The Little Stowaway*, is a leading line here this week, and its presentation by Mr. Fred Bowyer's company is much enjoyed. A very amusing comedy pair, Howard and Harris, fill the bottom of the bill in popular style; and Starr and Leslie again score well with a comedy and juggling specialty. Stelling and Revell present a comedy bar-act with good success; Tom Woottwell and Dusty Rhodes are the comedians of the bill, and their efforts receive due appreciation; David Stewart, a tenor vocalist, is well liked; an interesting turn is that of Belloni's Cockatoos; and Rosa Loader is very popular.

Hippodrome. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—Another excellent programme is in evidence at this popular hall, the leading item being a smart comedy sketch, by Arthur Watson, Flo Stanley, and Company, which goes extremely well. Those fine vocalists, Verno and Voyce, are heard to advantage in an effective vocal scena; Geoffrey and Benson are doing a smart comedy turn, and much success attends them; the bill includes popular comedians in Jack Pleasants and Fred Curran; and Harry Thurston does a burlesque comedy act of merit. Lottie Stone's speciality dancers provide a clever exhibition; the Macdonald Trio appear in a much-appreciated musical art; Fiorretti and Elli do wonderful feats of acrobatic tumbling; and Osborne and Brooks have a comedy sketch which is well liked.

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—A clever act is this week presented here by Marie Jones, who plays each of the six characters in a smart little sketch with conspicuous ability; the Satanella Trio give a remarkable exhibition of acrobatic dancing; the Meymotts are vastly amusing in a screaming absurdity; Kloof and Ramsey appear in a musical burlesque which goes well; the Sisters Lytton are very pleasing duettists; Leo Vincent, ventriloquist, makes a decided hit; whilst Fred Mason, whistling comedian, and Johnny Walker, eccentric, are also amongst the most popular contributors.

LEICESTER. — **Palace Theatre, Ltd.** — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Bransby Williams, the remarkable delineator of famous characters, deservedly holds the premier position here this week. On Monday he gave what must be termed a thoroughly versatile and clever entertainment, consisting of Sidney Carton's farewell speech from *The Only Way*, a recitation entitled "The Student," impersonations of Micawber and Uriah Heap, and finally created roars of merriment by impersonating an old-time showman. Queenie Leighton, who has a charming style, is scoring a success with her song, "Is London like it used to be?" and her enjoyable scena, *On and Off the Stage*; Larry Lewis proves a popular comedian; the Yankee-Doodle Duo, Ross and Lewis, are making a hit in their idiosyncracy. *Fits and Misfits*, the dancing of Mr. Ross being especially clever; Les Frasettis give a refined entertainment on the violin, harp, and xylophone; the Two Dixons are capital banjo, song, and dance artists; Light and Marshall are good as patter comedians and dancers, their local allusions winning great popularity; Gertrude Bradshaw, soprano vocalist, renders "Good-bye" in a praiseworthy manner; and Frank Darwin, actor-vocalist, is also heard to advantage in a good song. Bioscope pictures are also provided.

Pavilion Theatre. — Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence.—Miss Lois Du Cane and her well-selected company entered on Monday on their fourth and last week of a popular engagement here, when they produced *The Octoroon*. Mr. Frederick Maxwell made his first appearance during the present visit as Wah-No-Tee, a part which he played with his accustomed ability; Miss Du Cane did full justice to the character of the Octoroon, Zoe; and the other members of the cast also deserve praise. Oakdeane, the comedy ventriloquist, is scoring a success with a turn of rare excellence; Louie Hurman, a favourite here, gains her usual warm welcome; the Carpenters are amusing comedy artists; Jack Foley is a comedian of ability; Cissy Thompson is an entertaining comedienne; Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope is a special feature of the bill.

LEITH. — **New Gaiety Theatre.** — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—*Siberia* has been played here during the week. Among the principal performers in a good all-round cast are Mr. Clavering Craig and Miss Doris Gilham, as Nicolai and Sara; Mr. James Somerville and Miss Etta Imeson, as Ivan and Marie; Mr. David Inch and Miss Paulina Gear, as the Count and Countess Stanislaus; Mr. F. Freeman and Mr. James Chippendale, as the iniquitous Jaracoff and his confederate, Sparta; and Mr. Barry Lupino and Miss Sallie Adelstone, in the lighter rôles of Trolsky and Vera. Conscientious work marks the interpretations of the Governor-General, David, Portoff, and a Priest, given respectively by Mr. John Darlison, Mr. Percival Dye, Mr. Roy Craig, and Mr. John Wayford; and Miss Norah Gilbert does well as Princess Jaracoff. The farcical sketch, *Which is Which?* is smartly played by Messrs. Chippendale, Lupino, Somerville, and Freeman, Miss Adelstone, and Miss Imeson.

LIVERPOOL. — **Rotunda Theatre.**—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*The World's Great Snare* has been presented by Mr. W. Alexander-Dallas's company. Mr. Leonard Williams gave a clever rendering of the part of Royal Keene; a typical villain, Lascelle La Mort, was presented by Mr. Fellows Bassett; much humour came from Mr. George Scully as Hans Von Vinck, and Mr. Hyland O'Shea as Patrick Maloney; Miss Lallie Forsyth was charming as Wild Rose; the Indian chief's daughter, Star Eye, found in Miss Fay Garnet Vayne a good exponent; Miss Lilith Gabriel did justice to the rôle of Louise Granville; and Mr. Stewart Quartermayne proved a dignified Sir Vivian Ashley. The staging was very complete.

Lyric.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The delightful violin playing of Edie Reynolds, "the girl in grey," is cordially applauded; the acrobatic work of the Cattaneos is both smart and funny; a welcome return visit is paid of Zeta Grey and Co., with the amusing sketch, *The Lancashire Lass in London*; Cull-Pitt, assisted by Mlle. Adele, provides an especially clever pot-pourri of conjuring and talk, which is highly appreciated; Lambert and Hands present an acceptable vocal scena; the Four Kurios are eminently amusing; and other excellent turns are provided by Halma, society juggler, Fred Hallam, comedian, and Ted Thomas, eccentric comedian; while the Lyrioscope has some interesting pictures of the Olympia Horse Show.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineburg.—A new production is dealt with in another column.

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—George Robey has been packing this big and popular resort during the week. He brings some new songs that are richly enjoyed. Marie Kendal is another strong line, and has a hearty reception; Fred Earle comes with his highly amusing numbers; Clown Barker and his comedy circus are responsible for a deal of laughter; Mlle. Lumiere performs some attractive fire dances; Wallan shows himself, for a juvenile, to be an excellent juggler; the vaudeville burlesques of Arthur Goodman are particularly entertaining; as a comedian and roller-skate dancer Edgar Budden would be hard to beat; and Steve McCarthy renders several funny songs.

Royal Palace of Varieties. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock company here are this week giving *Denounced*, from the pen of Harry Gascoyne. Among the principal artists are Messrs. Cecil Ravenswood (the Czar), Sydney Grant (Wolf Nicholia), Harry Tresham (Karl), Robert Wilton (Boko), Miss Nellie Bouser (Ogara), Miss Beryl Ravenswood (Catherine), and Miss Florence Cameron (Katrinka).

Paddington Palace.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Edwards.—The stock dramatic company are presenting *The Scales of Justice*, the principal artists including Messrs. Charles Herberte (Admiral Duncan), Francis E. Wybert (Major Duncan), Wallace Campbell (Harry Maxwell), Frank S. Strickland (Antonio Cordova), H. G. Brandon (Wilkins), Miss Gladys H. Walton (Mary and Jennie Maxwell), Miss Lina Nazeby (Inez), and Miss Florence Barnes (Pollie).

Park Palace.—Proprietors, The Lancashire Vaudeville Syndicate, Ltd.—*Her Fatal Past* has been played by the able stock company, under Mr. Albert Sember. The change from variety to drama, made last year, has undoubtedly proved a wise one, and public appreciation is great. Mr. Sember played, with marked effect, the part of the farmer, Desmond; Mr. Walter Foster acquitted himself in the rôle of Leonard Fernside; Mr. Hugh Carmichael did excellently as Jonathan Nobbs; Miss Lilian Burns reflected credit upon herself as Honor Symes; the double part of Ruth Fernside and Belle de Lara was efficiently held by Miss Nelson-Ramsay; and Miss Lizzie Chambers was a lively Kitty.

Haymarket.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Frequenters of this house continue to enjoy the clever dramatic sketches produced weekly by Harry Calden and company. In this week's programme are Dan Kennedy, comedian; Walter Arnold, with taking illustrated songs; and Jack Harrison, comedian and patterer; while the Bioscope shows as fine pictures as could be desired.

Westminster. — Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weleker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Cim Maree, the Indian boy wonder, is top of the bill here this week; Eileen and Mayne are a pair of talented juvenile vocalists, dancers, and instrumentalists; Scotch Kris is a humorous ventriloquist; and the Bioscope shows a number of good pictures.

Olympia.—District-Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Crowded houses have been the rule here this week, due to the presence of Wilkie Bard, who brings songs that are new to Liverpool; another big item is the company of Black Hussars, whose *Black Drum Trust* proves a source of much interest; May Mars, a sprightly burlesque artist, has a charming song scena, "In the shadow of the Pyramids"; the New York Nippers are as diverting as ever; as duettists and expert dancers, the Sisters St. Julian prove an excellent turn; Launceston Elliott gives a remarkable exhibition of strength; and also in the bill are Nellie Stratton, comedienne; Donaldson Bros. and Ardel, with their funny pantomime, *A Zoological Comedy*; Frank Seeley, eccentric comedian, and Nellie Martell, comedienne and dancer.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Foremost here is the popular comedian, Lew Lake, with his comedy company, including Harry Lavers, Charles Graydon, Kitty Wilmore, Fay Gurling, and Bob Morris. Their rollicking *My Pal Jerry* proves an immense treat. Hilda Jacobsen has a hearty reception for her catchy and clever songs in operetta, *10 p.m.*; Percy Honri is loudly cheered for his able playing of the concertina, his humorous stories being also greatly enjoyed; Alfred Lester, along with Miss Florence Wakeman, provides an amusing scena, *A Restaurant Episode*; J. W. Rickaby makes his audience rock with laughter; the Soho Trio submit an excellent turn of singing and dancing; Effie Stuart is a Scotch comedienne and speciality dancer of a high order; and Mlle. Ameda has a neat entertainment of juggling and balancing.

Tivoli.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—At the top of the bill are Gar Kiddie and company, in the screamingly funny absurdity, *The House of Tinn*. The Pasqualis are wonderful head and hand balancers; Mlle. Haydee's Marionettes prove a most enjoyable turn; Julian Mack has some catchy songs; the vocal and acrobatic dancing turn of Forrest and King earn for them much applause; some daring work on the trapeze is executed by Natalia and Diana; and also in the list are Lola Patey, ballad vocalist, the Melroses, comedians, and Ernest Rees, eccentric comedian.

Roscommon.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Top of the programme here are the Alton Trio, remarkable contortionists, and barrel experts, with their merry sketch, *Imp's Revels*; Tella and Gardelle perform cleverly on the rings; Billy Hook and Daisy Eye present a funny trifle, *The Latch Key*; and interesting films are shown by the Bioscope.

LLANDUDNO.—**Princes Theatre.**—Lessee, Mr. A. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—Mr. Ellerslie Pyne's company are presenting *The Bells*. As Mathias Mr. Ellerslie Pyne does exceedingly well, fully maintaining the varied moods and mannerisms

Lady Jiu-Jitsu Troupe, exponents of the Japanese art of self-defence; and Georgette Thierry and company in *Nancy Sikes*. Other good turns are contributed by Bert and Dora, comedy artists; the Sisters Currie and Wallie Scott, comedy artists and dancers; Harry Bentley, comedian; T. E. Gilbey, on the rocking ladder; Payne Clarke, tenor vocalist; and Drum and Major, comedy duo. Pictures complete.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr Tealor Wade.—Charming Mlle. Alexia provides a most delightful dancing act (assisted excellently by M. Orfeo) here this week, and meets with a fine reception. Amy Augarde, the popular musical comedy actress, is seen to great advantage in a musical sketch, entitled *La Carmencita*, and is ably supported; the Westwoods do some wonderful tricks on bicycles, and are well received; Hayle's scena, *A Garden of Girls*, is well presented by some clever juveniles; the Alaskarno Trio, including a very smart boy, are capital; and the dancing of Will Driscoll, swell comedian, is something exceptional. Enjoyable items are also offered by Rose Harvey, vocal comedian; Ailsa Douglas, ballad vocalist; and Little Salvino, a clever juvenile instrumentalist. The pictures are very amusing.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—*A Judicial Separation* is the title of a smart sketch presented here this week in excellent style by that pleasing musical comedy artist, Ethel Newman, assisted by G. P. Newall (a capital comedian) and Rosemary Rees. Its reception is deservedly a good one. Dick's Comedy Five go through a unique acrobatic song-and-dance performance, and gain much applause. Tom Fancount and Jennie Lubri are excellent in their comedy act; the Sisters Brenton do some spirited dancing; and Stacey and Williams are exceedingly smart simultaneous dancers, who cause roars of laughter with their cross-talking. Good turns are also those of Bert Bowden, comedian; Allsop and Beckwith, patterers and dancers; Daisy Hicks, serio; and Fred Pollard, eccentric comedian.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—A very attractive and successful turn here this week is a tabloid edition of *The Colleen Bawn*, presented by a good all-round company. The rescue of Lady O'Connor is very realistic, a real water scene being introduced with striking effect, and the whole production meeting with hearty approbation. The Waldrons are capital in an absurdity, *The Silly Burglar;* Pete and Minnie Lee sing in good style; the Lilian Brothers perform some clever feats on the swinging trapeze and rings; and Scott Leslie is a good character actor. Other smart turns are given by Conn and Davies, patter comedians; and Mme. Collard's burlesque-trained boarhounds as lions and tigers. The pictures shown are "The Convict's Escape" and a very amusing film, "Carlo Steals the Sausages."

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay.—The Romsskoff Cossack Amazons head the bill here this week, and give an exceptionally smart military musical drill turn. Ada Fawn, comedienne, sings in her usual good style, and is recalled; Marquis and Mignonette, in a very laughable comedy act, entitled *Little Willie*, are a big success; some splendid dancing is done by the Sisters Belmont; and the Custances are clever in a comedietta, entitled *A Game for Two*. The Scotch comedian, George Westland, causes much laughter, and is very popular; J. Kofler-Reynolds and company present a one-act episode, entitled *Conscience*, in a satisfactory manner; and Hyde and Cody perform some smart tricks. The pictures are very interesting. Phil Bransby, who figures on the programme, did not appear on the occasion of our visit.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Secretary, Mr. Geo. Phillips; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North.—Maude Davies, who heads the bill here this week, sings with excellent effect; Stuart Alexander has a tenor voice of good quality; and Harold Johnson, a comedian of the Chevalier order, is decidedly successful. Other smart items are offered by Millie Gordon, speciality dancer; Gwynneth Power, comedienne; Hilda Poel, vocalist; and Ernest Thiel, comedian.

GRAND.—No abatement in the popularity of the entertainment here is to be observed, good houses flocking nightly to the attraction of Jasper Redfern's pictures and a smart vaudeville programme.

THE WHITE CITY (Old Trafford).—Manager, Mr. S. C. Brown.—New attractions are to be noted at this popular pleasure resort, not the least among them being the band of H.M.'s 1st Life Guards.

MANSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—*How Money's Made* is played here this week by Messrs. Morgan and Lloyd's company, good houses being the rule. Mr. John Cullen ably represents Sir James Franklyn, Mr. Fred Constable is well placed as Eustace Dare, as Bobbie Vane Mr. Charles Locke is successful, Mr. Fred Lloyd capably fills the rôle of Leonard Murray, Mr. Elton Morgan gives a masterly interpretation of the part of Glory, and as Charles Franklyn Mr. A. Knight is quite at home. Miss Annie Hylton shows marked ability in the rôle of Ruth Franklyn, and as Phyllis Miss Flo Norman is successful. All the other parts are capably sustained.

GRAND THEATRE AND GARDENS.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Captain Cecil Clayton.—During the week the Royal Star Pierrots have occupied the boards here, and an excellent programme has been submitted to good houses. In addition to choruses, sketches, &c., a series of specialities has been presented to the evident appreciation of the audience.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael.—Miss Cecil Cromwell and company are here with *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*. Miss Cecil Cromwell acts delightfully, and impressed her audience in the rôle of the misunderstood Paula; very able assistance is given by Mr. Arthur Royston, whose Aubrey Tanqueray is most effective. Miss Katherine Carew gains the full appreciation of the audience for an earnest and careful delineation of Ellean; and Mrs. Culling is successful as Mrs. Cortelyon. An admirable rendering of the part of Cayley Drummle is given by Mr. A. Austin-Leigh; and in the small, but important, part of Captain Ardale, Mr. Wallis Clark acts with telling realism; Miss Mabel Archdall gives a natural impersonation of Lady Orreyed; whilst Mr. Ernest Cossart is not at all bad as the bibulous Sir George. The remaining characters are well sustained by Mr. H. G. Mason as Frank Misquith, Mr. Gilbert Clark as Gordon Jayne, and Mr. Richard Trieve as Morse.

THE HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—George Mozart heads the bill, and his humorous turn has been much appreciated. A delightful musical entertainment is provided by the Carina Sisters, these clever and refined instrumentalists evoking the heartiest possible applause; Charlton proves himself a smart and mystifying magician; Chas. Rose, comedian and speciality dancer, secures a large amount of appreciation; and Ruby Bijou, comedienne and dancer, in her latest novelty, dancing with bare feet, takes the audience by storm; Janet Hall, vocalist, and some particularly amusing Bioscope pictures, complete the programme.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—Miss Winifred Chalmer's company is here with *The Master Criminal*. In the title-rôle Mr. Henry L. Osmond presents an excellent study; Miss Winifred Chalmers is successful as Cecille; and other principals are Mr. Harold C. Macartney as Philip Manners, Mr. John C. Carlyle as Ben Beandy, Mr. Ernest Noble as Gentleman Jim, Mr. Harry Cooke as Tommy Dala, Mr. Russell Yorke as James Dawney, Mr. W. B. Somerville as Mr. Manners, Miss Kate Somerville as Mabel Manners, Miss Mabel Tremere as Peggy Perks, and Miss Alice Lloyd as Mrs. Manners.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—An attractive programme, well diversified, is submitted this week. Oliver Conroy in song and dance pleases the house. Welda and Wynne are smart jugglers and capital dancers; the Bonanzas are clever acrobats; Florence Juman, coon artist, is well received; the Bros. Zano are amusing triple bar performers; and Minnie Love is a pleasing comedienne; and capital pictures are shown on the Biograph.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—*The Eve of Her Wedding* is being produced here this week by Mr. Wilson Benge and his company. Mr. Benge appears in the character of George Tremain, and gives a very natural and manly rendering of a difficult part; Miss Sadie Smith contributes considerably to the evening's enjoyment by her clever portrayal of the Squire's Daughter; and the part of Squire Leverton has an excellent representative in Mr. Arthur Keand; Mr. K. Arthur is very amusing as Bill Groggins, and Mr. Chas. H. Gallier is effective in the rôle of the Squire's son. Miss Sybil Hove is good as Kimkie; and the rôle of Rudolph Earle finds a capable exponent in Mr. Charles Digby; Mr. David Beattie as Giovanni, Mr. Chas. Grooves, jun., as Paul Cairshaw, and Hyram Younger, Mr. Norman Cannon as Jackie Herne, and Miss Adeline Ruby as Renie, are all that can be desired.

OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, The Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Miss Violet Osmund's company, in the musical comedy, *The New Barmaid*, is presented here. The title-rôle is taken by Miss Clara Beck, a lady of attractive appearance, and the part fits her to perfection; Mr. Alex. Loftus in the character of Bertie White is exceedingly amusing, and his singing is particularly effective; Captain Lovebury is excellently portrayed by Mr. James Hawkes; and William White, the head waiter, receives adequate interpretation at the hands of Mr. James Grant. Miss Marion Vyner is good as Dora Heather; and Miss Mabel Harrison is pleasing as Lady Moulton; Mr. Charles Addison does full justice to the part of Bonsor; while Mr. Frank Collins as Col. Claymore, and Miss Grafton as Brenda Louth, are all that can be desired. The play is nicely staged.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Stewart and Morgan, the chief attraction here this week, provide some excellent singing; Fred Mitcham and Frank Lister are good in a dramatic episode, entitled *No. 99;* and the Sisters Rallis, in *The Artist and His Monkey*, create much merriment; Viviana provides a clever dancing turn; and Phillips and Merritt are also excellent. Other turns are provided by the Sisters Allen, duettists and dancers; and Sadler and Ross, who take the place of Kitts and Windrum, announced on the bill, but unable to appear.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—Good houses are the rule here this week, the principal attraction being a musical extravaganza, entitled *The Garden of Glitter*, which is ably presented by Jack McKeaze and company. The Three Zaracs, in their amusing sketch on the triple horizontal bars, create roars of laughter, while the Ladderites astonish all by their clever feats on a couple of ladders; the Lorrisons are very amusing; and Vardon is a clever ventriloquist. Other good turns are Jack Crawley, in a laughable sketch, and J. C. Scatter, a clever comedian.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft's company (under the direction of Mr. Geo. E. Mudd) has been fulfilling a pleasant engagement here in the delightful society play, *The Idler*. As Mark Cross, Mr. Philip Cuningham has delighted all; and Mr. Stephen T. Ewart as Sir John Harding has made the most of the part. Mrs. Greenwood-Croft has sustained the rôle of Lady Harding with considerable charm; Mr. C. W. Spencer has appeared most successfully as General Merryweather; and other parts have been sustained by Misses Celia Gordon, Zoe Davies, Lucy Edwin, Messrs. W. Attfield, and R. Myers.

WINTER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—During the week Miss Fredrica's terriers and her celebrated cake-walking pony, Dot, have occupied the attention of audiences. Craig, Rose, and Craig present a highly artistic gymnastic exhibition; Ray and Miles, comedy jugglers, and Florrie Conolly, Irish songstress, also appear.

WEST END PIER.—Secretary, Mr. Bastow.—Mr. Walter George's company of entertainers known as the Colonials have been well appreciated here. The company includes Miss Barbara Antoine, a charming soprano; Miss Constance Bromley, contralto and elocutionist; Miss May Elliott, soubrette; Mr. Chas. Tyers, baritone; Mr. Ed. Elliott, with his lively marionette, Sunny Jim; Little Zola, the diminutive and favourite comedian; and Mr. Geo. Ess, pianist.

ALHAMBRA PALACE.—Manager, Ald. John Gardner.—Onda Bros.' combination of artists have been appearing again during the present week, and the programme has been well received.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—*The Octoroon* is presented by Mr. Frank Thorne's company, and is favourably received by good houses. In the title-part Miss Leslie Warner acts with conspicuous ability; and others who take part in an able representation are Mr. Hugh Montgomery, Mr. J. O. Stewart, Mr. Oliver Birrell, Mr. Harry Leander, Mr. Albert Sinclair, Miss Marie Harcourt, and Miss Florence Thorne.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Thomas W. Rowe.—An interesting drama, *A Destroyer of Men*, is ably played by a company under the direction of Mr. James Hare. Miss Irene Clifford gives a clever and forceful representation in the leading rôle, and capital support is lent by Mr. James Hare, Mr. Charles Bickell, Mr. C. P. Wentworth, Mr. Hill Cremer, Mr. Arthur Swain, Miss Jessie Yatman, and Miss Alice Buckland.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton.—Mr. George Formby vastly amuses large audiences with his eccentric creations; Yorkshire fun is provided by Mr. Tom Foy, who as a lad "fra Sowerby Brigg," keeps the house in laughter. Lockhart's elephants again prove popular, being as clever a turn as ever. A smart act is given by Mr. Horace White, ventriloquist and musician; and the American Comedy Four again gain hearty rounds of applause. Marie Santoi and company, in an elaborate and picturesque scena, "A Japanese Tea Garden," provide some excellent singing and dancing; and others in the programme are the Sisters May, Barnard's Mannikins, and the Brothers St. Clair.

PAVILION THEATRE.—The Barrasford Company; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Following quickly in the wake of the visit of other Scottish comedians to Newcastle comes Mr. Jock Whiteford to the Pavilion, and his Scottish burlesque of a coon song and laughable imitation of a football match spectator keep the audience highly amused. Mr. Martin Adeson, an old Newcastle pantomime favourite, presents a musical sketch, *The Masked Lady*, which meets with marked favour. Extremely funny song and patter is contributed by Tennyson and Wallis; and a clever comical acrobatic turn is given by Tate and Tate. Nellie Chandos, comedienne and dancer; Martinet and Wallace, coloured musical comedy duettists; Maud Esmond, burlesque actress; Rastus and Banks, coloured American entertainers; the Nirdas, clever juvenile acrobats and equilibrists; Barton and Franklin, musicians; and the Henres, club jugglers and throwers, also give most acceptable turns.

NEWPORT.—EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Page.—Eugene Stratton, who heads the bill here, receives quite an ovation. "The Lily of Luzana," given in inimitable style, is followed by old favourites. An attractive turn is provided by Little Agnes Tina, who gives clever impersonations of well-known music-hall artists; Gus Garrick is droll in music-hall tit-bits, and a novel entertainment is provided by the Three Cape Girls, comediennes and long boot dancers; Seeley and West, musical comedians, came in for warm recognition; Flo. Esdaile, vocalist, is warmly received; and Josh Dixon, a quaint comedian, is responsible for much laughter. The Bioscope shows humorous films.

NORTHAMPTON.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans.—The Bioscope pictures are still the leading features of the programme, supplemented by the entertainment provided by Will Ellerslie, a clever comedian; Florrie Bray, a dasing burlesque artist; and Albert St. Clair, a gifted double-voiced vocalist.

NORTH SHIELDS.—CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The bill here this week is headed by Mr. H. Leslie Bell, Miss Lily Pearl, and company with the sketch *The Red Letter*, which has been warmly greeted. Messrs. O'Malley and Brown, eccentric comedians, are as popular as ever, and Mr. George Rae, Scotch comedian, provides an enjoyable turn. Mr. Mark Hovis, Hebrew comedian, is well received; Miss Daisy Thorne, vocalist and dancer, gains applause; the Brothers Varley, speciality concertinists, are successful; and the Bio-Photoscope concludes a good programme.

NORTHWICH. — THE PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Glanmore Jones; Manager, Mr. Lindon Wyatt.—Miss Stella Millar sings her songs vivaciously, Mr. Edgar Vyson gives a good ventriloquial sketch, Happy Atwood is quaintly humorous, and Mr. Fred Templar, a tenor, is heard to great advantage in his well-chosen songs. Mr. Glanmore Jones's singing seems to have lost none of its savour; Professor Davison and Son give a really clever and smart thought-reading performance; and the new pictures are up to the usual high-class standard.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—Charles Kitts, Rhoda Windrum, and company head the bill this week, in their military comedy, *The Cuckoo*, which creates much fun; Herr Max Gruber introduces his highly-trained elephant, horse, and pony; the Three Lloyds are accomplished artists on the tight-rope; Rowland Hill takes well as a comedian; Clarke's Nippers are always attractive; Edie Anderson is charming in her turn; Spry and Monti, in their military scena, *The Dandy Guardsman*, are well received; and Daisy Morell is greeted with much applause. The Hippo. Bioscope's comical scenes create much laughter.

AGRICULTURAL HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—The Royal Canadian animated pictures continue with an entire change of pictures, and prove attractive.

NOTTINGHAM. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is giving a capital representation of *The Woman who Gambles*. As the unfortunate Count Steinbach, Mr. George Steele preserves a dignified and manly demeanour throughout, evoking hearty sympathy and applause; Miss Lillian Herries manifests abundant emotional power as the Countess; and Miss Dora Thrale makes an energetic and passionate Cora. The scoundrelly Baron Cratzlaw is played by Mr. Percy Ballard with ability; Mr. Reginald Fox acts commendably as Lieut. Carl; and Mr. Owen Edwin is effective as the Hon. Bertie Bray. Distinction is earned by Miss Lilian Rignold (Zila Zeyelda), Miss Lily Malvern (Stella Melakoff), and Miss Brenda May (Zanetta), while Messrs. E. H. Clarke, Gilbert Dance, and Richard Hutton, sustain their several parts with aptitude.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—*The Prince of Monte Carlo*, a bright and amusing musical mélange, provides Harry Roxbury with abundant opportunities for his mirth-provoking absurdities; he is well supported by Ethel Bryant, Mary Ross, and Alf. Clegg; the quick changes in costume effected by Mlle. Von-Etta gain her abundant applause; the horizontal bar performance of the Sisters Moulier shows many interesting features; the Miles-Stavordale Quintette demonstrate their ability on stringed instruments; Arthur Astill, who hails from Nottingham, delights his many friends by a smart whistling entertainment; and the ventriloquial item of David Poole is deservedly appreciated. The vocal efforts of Grace Merton and George Ridgwell receive recognition; and resourceful comedians are seen in Will Musgrave and J. B. Preston. The programme is further assisted by the American Bioscope.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—A good audience was present on Monday, when Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton, in conjunction with Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond, presented their military play, *A Soldier of France*. In the title-rôle Mr. A. Hinton gives a powerful rendering; Mr. Travis Green is successful as Judas Delara; and Mr. M. H. Glenville is very good as the Duke d'Laval. Mr. Victor Millard doubles the parts of Captain Louis Lorraine and Lieut. Louis very cleverly; Mr. Lester Charles is capital as Sergt. Flange; Mr. Fred Osmond is humorous as Jollyput Jollyboy; Miss Hetty Zillwood as Margot is excellent; Miss Leila Zillwood gives a fine delineation of Pauline; and Miss Dally Turner makes a good Master Louis. Miss Lydia Audre is a dainty Rita, and Miss Oliver a successful Quassi.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Spissel Bros. and Mack head the bill here with their acrobatic act, *Scene in a Café*, and earn repeated recalls. The Bros. Durant cause much laughter with their act in an airship; Violet Ashcroft uses a fine voice with good effect; Warsaw Bros. take well in their comedy musical act; Ajax and George are smart in a gymnastic novelty; Walter Emerson, comedian, sings funny songs; and Harry Cotton, comedian, does well. The Dottoscope is showing new pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall. — The Bioscope takes the place of the usual variety show with a series of serious and comical pictures; Miss Sophie Knight, ballad vocalist, and Mr. Chas. Carte, actor-vocalist, appear at intervals.

OXFORD.—EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill; Manager, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. Junius Booth and company are here with *Monte Cristo*. Mr. Junius Booth gives a very striking and forcible portrayal of Edmond Dantes; Mr. C. W. Crowe is seen to advantage as Captain Fernand Mondego; Mr. Augustin Bowerman does well as Baron Danglars; and Mr. Beckett Bould is natural as M. Nortier. Mr. Walter Huron enacts M. Villefort with ability; and Mr. Finn Doyle is bright and intelligent as Lieutenant Albert de Morcef. Mr. Fred Martin deserves mention for his excellent rendering of Abbé Faria; while Mr. Percy Braithwaite is well placed as Caderousse. Miss Alice West makes the most of La Carconte, and Miss Loris Regan is successful as Sophie Danglars. Miss Joan Wellman makes a sympathetic and attractive Mercedes. The scenery is pretty and effective.

Ford and Dekker's old masque, *The Sun's Darling*, has been performed on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday nights this week in the picturesque gardens of Worcester College by a most excellent company, under the management of Mr. Richard Neville. The chief characters were most admirably sustained by the Misses Hilda Bruce Potter, Muriel Currey, Kate Turner, Violet Cecil, Gwendolen Bishop, Muriel Matters, and Eva Turnour, and by Messrs. Frank Cellier, jun., Arthur Goodsall, Bertram Forsyth, Vivian Gilbert, E. Landor, E. Playford, H. Turnley, and Master Cyril Bruce. Incidental music was exquisitely played by the Chaplin Quartette, and the dances were beautifully rendered.

PAISLEY.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—The Wakeman Quartette head the bill this week, with a clever entertainment; Lena Wylie is a charming ballad vocalist; Thornbury, an exceedingly clever chromographist; Kate Gourlay, a taking comedienne and dancer; Harry Taft, sifflеur, is responsible for amusement of a refined character; the Lester Brothers, duettists and dancers, furnish an entertaining number; a funny sketch, *Charlie's Uncle*, is performed by Mr. Bates Maddison and company; Nat Clifford, eccentric dancer, shows versatility; and the Hippodrome Bioscope shows excellent pictures.

PLYMOUTH.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Miss Marie Lloyd appeared before a crowded house, and was enthusiastically received. Carrie Laurie's Juveniles give an excellent show; Henry Bekker is a clever conjurer; and the Attila Brothers give a novel display of strength. Steeley and Dowton, in a pot-pourri of burlesque moments, Gertrude Moore, singer and dancer, and Joe Mac, comedian, also contribute to an excellent programme.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—Mr. Herbert Barrs and Miss Dorothy Oswald's *Life* is being played here this week. Jack Lockhart is admirably taken by Mr. Barrs; Mr. Ronald Grahame scores as Sir Horace Lester; Mr. Will Sherlock deserves high praise as Zac Crabbe; Mr. A. R. Lyons shines as Joe; and Beatrice is finely portrayed by Miss Dorothy Oswald.

PORTH. — THE PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Bynorth.—The programme provided this week includes the Gentrys, in their original comedy act; Olive Armidale, charming ballad vocalist; Bugler Carr, marvellous equilibrist and musical puzzle; Lidden and Hayward, in *The King of Timbuctoo;* Bodina Trio, in their popular vocal and musical speciality; the Three Tivoli Girds, vocalists and speciality dancers; Harry Grey, the popular and refined colonial artist; the Original Jackley Trio, including the whistling comedian, George; and the Palace Bioscope, with the latest pictures.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram's excellent company is here this week with *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*, Miss Decima Moore taking the part of Peggy with delightful animation. The Hon. Jimmy is well sustained by Mr. Lionel Glenister; Lord Crackenthorpe is well taken by Mr. Alfred S. Barber; Mr. Henderson Bland, as Major Archie Phipps, is entirely successful; and Mr. Edgar Stevenson is distinctly good as Jack Menzies. Miss Kate Wingfield makes a dignified and a sufficiently severe Lady Crackenthorpe; the Hon. Millicent Keppel and the Hon. Mrs. Colquhoun are capably acted by Miss Eva Lonsdale and Miss Estelle Despa; and Miss Naomi Neilson ably portrays the Widow O'Mara. The comedy is preceded by a dramatic episode, *After Seven Years*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—*The Conscript* is staged here this week, Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company being responsible for its capable presentation. Mr. James Stillwell ably takes the part of the persecuted hero, Karl Truevitch; Mr. Walter Steele as the rascally Governor, Count Paul Hardiski, gives a fine rendering; Maxim Fredka, "the Ferret," is successfully impersonated by Mr. Wybert Clive; Ivan Manioff is played by Mr. Cowell Clarke with excellent effect; Messrs. Harold Holmes and Murry Maud do capital work as Captain Droska and Lien Hardy. Miss Lilian Ross acts feelingly as Nadia Truevitch; and Miss Mabel Hunt as Wanda, and Mrs. Harry Liddle as Tretch Trotoff are seen to advantage.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Bright and varied is the bill of fare here this week, the principal turn being Geo. Chanti, protean artist, international dancer, and musician, who gives a brisk, clever, and most attractive performance. E. J. Sheldon is a comedian, dancer, and sifflеur of much ability; Ruby and Lawes are capable and artistic in their vocal scena, *Old Madrid;* Alf. Gibson, the quaint and popular comedian, takes immensely; Mr. and Mrs. Finden, in their successful farce, *Two to One*, are amusing; the Dancing Gilberts are skilful and clever in their terpsichorean speciality; Emma Don and company's Black and White team in *Mirth, Melody, and Music* give an excellent turn; Beatrice Willey is a dainty and pleasing soprano; the Five Osranis, with *Yoette's Birthday*, are uproariously funny; and the Selwyns, in a refined vocal and dancing act, and Payne's Bio-photoscope, with some highly effective pictures, complete an enjoyable entertainment.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. de Frece; General-Director, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—A capital entertainment is provided for the current week. Mr. Harry Randall, the well-known comedian, gives some amusing items; the Paolias, in their athletic speciality, are much appreciated; Miss Daisy Martell is an attractive comedienne and dancer; Mr. Will Johnson, comedian, acquits himself well; Boden and Bell, juvenile duettists and dancers, are capable; Miss Alice Hollander, the Australian contralto, is popular; the Four Burnells, musical and comedy artists, with the sketch, *On the Lawn*, are most diverting; the Martine Brothers are comedy acrobats and trampolin experts; the Sisters Charnley are capable duettists and dancers; and the Hippodrome pictures complete.

RAMSGATE. — AMPHITHEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Popular performances have been given during the past week, the chief feature being an admirably-arranged naval and military spectacle, *King and Country*, in which a large number of children take part. A very pretty effect is obtained, and the well-drilled youngsters reflect a good deal of credit upon Mr. T. Herman, who is responsible for the arrangement and instruction. Incidentally, there are vocal and instrumental numbers of an appropriate character. In addition to the spectacle, the programme at the "Amphi." contains a capital display of animated photographs, exhibited by the Urban Bioscope. Mr. Dan Cannon has been thoroughly successful with his songs.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Richeux.—During the past week Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen's company have been staging the three-act farce, *The New Boy*, with considerable success. The chief part—that of Archibald Rennick—is impersonated in extremely clever fashion by Mr. Lean M. Lion, whose portrayal of the adult-turned schoolboy proves highly amusing; Miss Katherine Harrington is a charming Mrs. Rennick, and much of the success of the production is due to her efforts. Mr. Harry Ashford is excellent as the benevolent old pedagogue, Dr. Candy; Mr. George de Lara makes a capital appearance as Felix Roach; and Mr. William J. Rea is a realistic Frenchman as Theodore de Brizac. Miss Nellie Redwood appears to advantage as Nancy Roach; and the other parts are well filled. *The New Boy* has been preceded each evening by the dramatic incident, *Meg the Mobswoman*, a well-written curtain-raiser, by Messrs. Leon M. Lion and W. Strange Hall. On Thursday evening Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen produced for the first time, *England*, a play without a plot, by Norman Roe, a notice of which appears in another column

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode.—The Three Merrills give a skilful exhibition of trick cycling; Lestree, "the society juggler and mystical manipulator," is a clever performer; the Carpo Brothers show their strength and daring in some marvellous acrobatic feats; Dolly Dancer makes a hit as a "buck dancer"; the Brothers Barker, patter comedians; Amina Rinder, illustrated songstress; Charles Bowen, comedian; and Vernon's Bioscope complete an attractive programme.

RHYL.—QUEEN'S PALACE.—Engaged here this week are Mlle. Lucretia, top-boot dancer; Constance Bellamy, Albert German, Arthur Sedgeley, and the Drolls and Demures.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—An excellent combination of artists known as the Anglo-Indians provides the programme, and the songs, music, and comedy are greatly enjoyed. The company consists of Kennedy Allen, Frank Hook, Clifford Morgan, René Steadman, Aline Sudbury, Kitty Allen, Nellie Burn, G. W. Bartlett, Murray Scott, Cecil Warwick, and Jas. A. Lowe, accompanist.

VICTORIA HALL.—Federation Day was celebrated in Rhyl at the above hall, which was lent by Mr. Phil Davey. All the available talent in the town assisted, including Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots, Mr. Gilbert Roger's troupe of jovial jesters, Mr. H. K. Osborn, Mme. Constance Bellamy, Miss Ada Royston, Miss Florrie Heywood, the Drolls and Demures, Mr. Bertram Jones, and the Abadaroffs.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*The Power of Gold* is in possession here. Mr. George Lyttleton impersonates with telling effect the part of Hadji Zambra; Mr. R. F. Stacy makes a manly Paul Judson; Mr. Richard Harris acts well the part of Mark Harley; and Mr. Frank Ayrton is highly amusing as Sammy Smudge. Miss Madge Seymour is a bright and vivacious Norah Donelly; Miss Hettie Laytine wins all hearts as Sister Marie; and Miss Amy McNeill submits a clever conception of Lady Brandon.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs Smith and Co.—Mr. Ralph Pringle's North American Animated Picture Co. continues here with an entire change of pictures, both instructive and amusing. The Santeron Wonders, including Frank Santeron, champion jumper, perform some clever feats

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Pictures by the Bioscope are again the attraction here this week. A capital variety programme is submitted by Flo Lister, who sings with a powerful and cultured voice; Chris Van Bern, an amusing comedian; and Mac and Hill, comedians.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Local playgoers are receiving a welcome return visit from Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company with *A Sister's Sin*. Mr. H. Young is a manly Harold Raymond, Mr Andrew Money is seen to advantage as George Oakley, Mr. Edward Birker is a bluff Walter Hastings, Mr. Ernest Frere a typical Ikey Moses, Mr. Harry Lyndon a smart Theophilus Hope, and Mr. Michael Madden an amusing Larry Murphy, his songs being received with well-deserved applause. Miss Lilian Radburn as Charzel and Miss Violet Langley as Redempta score as rival gipsies; Miss Iza Lyndon is effective as Jack, and Miss Dorothy Love is seen to advantage as May Raymond; Miss Mabel Scudamore as Minnie Hastings gives a clever and sympathetic rendition of a difficult part.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Constant.—A great attraction has been furnished during the week by the engagement of Mr. W. F. Jury's No. 1 Imperial Picture Company who have brought with them many interesting new films. One of the most popular depicts the recent torpedo attack on H.M.S. Dreadnought on the occasion of the visit of the Colonial Premiers to Portsmouth. Mr. J. W. Hortin's songs never failed to evoke enthusiastic applause.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Jay; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. S. Furst.—The native Jamaica choir introduced to the people of this country by Sir Alfred Jones, after the recent West Indian disaster, have been fulfilling a week's engagement here. Mr. F. Weaver's sand dances are astonishingly clever, and Mr. Harry Nation's efforts at the piano are very effective.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Messrs. C. and H. Elliman provide an intensely interesting attraction in *A Heart's Desire*, by Frank Adair. The hero, Lord St. Ives, was ably sustained by Mr. Frank V. Fenn; Mr. Eddie Vane as Eric May made the most of his opportunities; Mr. S. Claydon smartly played the Hon. Bertie Beresford; Mr. H. Lewis as Luke Forrest, and Mr. C. King as David McCulloch, successfully portrayed those villainous characters; Miss Enid Edoni did well as Oiya; and the Hon. Elsie Beresford was cleverly portrayed by Miss Amy Dalby. Miss E. Roselle was an amusing French girl as Julia; Coombes, a comical old butler, was in the capable hands of Mr. Walter Kennion; Miss Ida Irving was an amusing Gwendoline Ross. Several of the scenes, painted by W. and R. Small, were very pretty.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—An excellent programme is headed by Hanvarr and Lee, in *The Golfer and the Maid*, a smart juggling and tumbling act; *Life in the Slums* is a clever scena by Vay's Juveniles; Harry Pleon and company, including Celia Kent, keep the house in roars with *P.C. Pudden;* Happy Tom Parker, with his songs and eccentric business; Ivy Gallard, comedienne; E. W. Selman, quaint comedian; Fraser and Haley, contralto duettists and dancers; and Minnie Wren, with her taking songs, also appear.

Mr. Fred Keeton, comic vocalist; Ryan and Hall, two funny and agile benders and pantomimists; the charming Sisters Caselli, in their Parisian dances; and Mr. Herbert Darnley's company in the melodramatic serio-comic pantomime sketch, in five scenes, entitled *The Skirmishers*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. David Warwick.—Mr. Fred Baugh's variety company is here this week, good turns being done by Abrahams and company in a sketch; Mr. Harry Willatts, comedian; Raleigh; Miss Nellie Montague, burlesque actress; and Mr. Fred Sothern's company in a clever sketch. In addition there are the popular "Grand" animated pictures of topical and humorous events.

CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietors, Jasper Redfern and Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—In the scheme of amusement scheduled this week are the famous Vol Becques, patterers, &c.; Story and Story, acrobats; Will and Roze, a clever duo, in a smart acrobatic and comic conjuring sketch; and some first-rate Bioscope photos.

FITZALAN HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Edward Ranier.—Drama and variety continue to delight the patrons of this resort.

SHREWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—Presented by Mr. Donald Arthur, the charming young actress and vocalist, Miss Phillis Dare, supported by a small, though highly-talented, party, gave two attractive entertainments here on Tuesday.

SMETHWICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*An Unwedded Wife* is being performed this week by Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company. Miss E. Van Praagh in the title-rôle displays great emotional power; the audience are kept in a continual ripple by Mr. J. Edward Whitty as P.C. O'Runyin, C1; and Mr. Will Casey as Napoleon B. Boomer; and they are ably assisted in their efforts by Miss Jessie Gilette. Mr. E. St. Clair is successful as the villain, Blackstone; Mr. Valentine Henry wins the sympathy of the audience for his capable acting as Frank Armstrong; Mr. Logan Darra gives a good rendering of John Hawthorne; Miss Elsie Walton is well placed as Elsie Langham; Mr. J. A. Grove is good as David Drummond.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—*Charley's Aunt* is delighting large audiences. On Monday evening, Mr. Brandon Thomas, the author, himself played Colonel Chesney, and gave a finished impersonation; Mr. Stanley Cooke as Babs extracts every ounce of fun from the part; Miss Lena MacNaughton is imposing as Donna Lucia; Mr. Walter Beaumont is admirable as Stephen Spettigue; and others who do well are Messrs. Hastings Lynn (Jack Chesney), R. B. Mason (Charley Wykeham), the Misses Amy Harpwaye (Kitty Vernon), Miss Gracie Russell (Amy Spettigue), and Miss Ethel Dene (Ela Delahay).

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wm. Trussell.—Henriette de Serri's company of French artists' models present some exquisite tableaux vivants and statuary; the detective drama, *Sexton Blake*, is capably presented by Miss Carlotta de Yonsen and company; Maidie Scott, *chic* comedienne; Horace and Olga, with their performing cats and dogs; the Simms, and Royston and Royce, speciality dancers; and Harry Taylor, comedian, also prosper well.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. W. de Frece and F. Mouillot; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—Datas, the wonderful memory man, is starring here, and meets with a great reception; George Gilbey scores with his droll songs; and Dora Lyric, comedienne, is very popular. Adey Spencer, the girl from the hat shop; Kisbey, the call boy; Lozelle, gymnast; Ruby Aston, comedienne and dancer; Hans and Lux, comedians; and the Sisters Marion, juvenile vocalists, also successfully appear.

PIER PAVILION.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait.—Mr. Tom J. Morton's concert party, The Touristes, consisting of Miss Maggie Bowman, the favourite comedienne; Miss Pauline Hague, soprano; Mr. Yorke Haiton, baritone; and Mr. Tom J. Morton, comedian, who is the life and soul of the party, are this week presenting their novel entertainment with great success.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Great enthusiasm is shown in this week's attraction, *The Lion and the Mouse*, in which Mr. Walter Maxwell's principal company is seen to advantage. John Burkett Ryder is a strong character, capitally impersonated by Mr. Leslie Carter, who gives a masterly and impressive study of the Lion. His son, Jefferson, has a worthy exponent in Mr. Lewis Edgard; Mr. A. W. Baskcomb is well suited as the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley; Messrs. Frank Joy, Douglas West, John Wheatman, and Dyer play their respective parts with entire satisfaction; Miss Maude Townsend is pleasing as Mrs. Ryder; Miss Evelyn M. Read renders the rôle of Kate Roberts creditably; and Miss Ninon Dudley proves successful as Mary. The portrayal of Shirley Rossmore by Miss Christine Silver is faultless.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless. — The engagement of Mr. Arthur A. Horner's company, in *Walker, London*, drew a capital and enthusiastic audience on Monday evening, when this well-known play was presented successfully by a strong and talented cast. The reception accorded amply testified that this humorous play still retains its popularity; Jasper Phipps has a typical exponent in Mr. Edward A. Coventry; while his assumed rôle of Colonel Neale proves highly entertaining. Mr. W. René Hammersmith gives every satisfaction as Renard Von Burg, and presents the character with ease and marked ability; W. G. is humorously taken by Mr. Forrester Harvey; while Ben has a good interpreter in Mr. Arthur Flinders. Mr. Walter Pemberton, who possesses capital elocutionary powers, gives a striking portrayal of Kit Upjohn; and Miss Mary Pemberton shares equal honours as Bell Golightly, both being well matched. Nanny O'Brien has a fascinating impersonation by Miss Ruhamah Catton, which pleases immensely; the Misses Ruby Wyndham and Ethel Stanley, with Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite, well sustain their respective characters. *Hester's Mystery*, an enjoyable comedietta, precedes.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—Miss Emma Litchfield's principal company, under the direction of Mr. Stuart Cleveland, appears here in *A Clever Impostor*. Mr. Cleveland as Manuel Teixeira gives a clever assumption of the title-rôle; Miss Litchfield portrays no less than four distinct characters in a versatile manner; the Jim Brightside of Mr. Edward Swinton is characteristically enacted. The piece is well staged, and enthusiastically received.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—The top of the bill is occupied by Lonnen Meadows and company in a comedy, entitled *Kiss Your Father*, which is enthusiastically received. Little Ganty, a clever comedian, is as popular as ever; the Norman Leonard Trio are excellent musicians; a good comedy scena, *Early Closing Day*, is contributed by Bert Raynor and Cissie Reece; and Mark Merry is quaintly funny, and has a good reception. The remaining enjoyable items are Maud Mortimer, burlesque artist; Madge May, comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—A capital house assembled on Monday to witness the performance of *The Best Must Win*, which is being presented by Mr. Valentine Beadon's company under the direction of Mr. Sidney C. Cranston. The capital scenery gives material aid to the efforts of the artists, all of whom render a very good account of themselves. Mr. Graham Woods appears with great success as Gaston, and the character of Paul is ably depicted by Mr. Cranston. The pretty part of Denise is faithfully enacted by Miss Marie Menzies; Miss Marie Robson appears successively as Therese and Lucille, but is seen at her best in the former part; Mr. Geo. H. Child submits an admirable rendering of the rôle of Sabertache, the blind veteran; as Minos, Mr. Dobson Clyde is capable; and Mr. A. Hall Menzies submits a droll impersonation of Jacques. As Suzette, Miss Daisy Humphreys is full of life.

STAFFORD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—The stock company this week presents *Jane Shore* and *Not Guilty*. In the first-named piece the title-rôle is allotted to Miss Kate Randolph, a clever actress, who displays great emotional power; Lord Hastings is well played by Mr. Henry Danson; Mr. Clarence Ibbotson makes the most of the part of Quinton Scarsdale; Mr. Fred A. Marston as Anthony Yeast shows to advantage; Miss Ethel Crawford makes an effective Elizabeth Woodville; and Mr. Francis Everard ably takes the part of Richard Duke of Gloucester.

ST. HELENS. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr. A. McLeod Loader.—*The King of Thieves* is being presented here by Messrs. Foster and Napier's company. The leading rôle of James Galston is strikingly portrayed by Mr. Frank Eaglesfield; Miss Beatrice Balfour gives a charming representation of May Galston; Miss Mary Florence as Maud Desmond is quite successful; Mr. Guy Hastings makes a manly Harry Travers; Mr. Tom Robertson an excellent Sir Gilbert Redville; and the fun is provided by Mr. Harry Batt as Joe Reckitts, Mr. Bernard Vaughan as Jean Vittelli, Miss Blanche Hill as Polly Puff, and Miss Fanny Wallace as Mrs. O'Brien.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmott.—Sensationalism is once more a big feature, and Le Diavolo, who loops the Devil's Wheel, causes breathless excitement. Miss Lily Soutter appears in her latest successes; Cyril Carl scores a distinct success in his imitation of the late Charles Godfrey; Mark Leslie is a clever dancer; Earle and Melville, knockabouts, cause plenty of laughter; and Canard, with an original act, completes a good programme.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—*Uncle Tom's Cabin* has lost none of its attractiveness, and Mr. Chas. Harrington's combination is a numerous and talented one. Mr. St. Clair is effectively acted by Mr. Albert G. Wray; Mr. J. Henry Rogers gives a realistic portrayal of Legree; and Uncle Tom has a sympathetic representative in Mr. J. Carr. Sylvia Stella makes a capital Topsy; Miss Hettie Johnson acts ably as Cassy; and Emmeline is charmingly played by Miss Annie Watson. Much that is entertaining is seen in Act IV. at the plantation festival, notably Rowe and Holden, refined cake-walkers; Walter Langford, a clever banjoist; and Rich and Moore, pleasing coloured duettists.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—The Daunton-Shaw trick cyclists are again displaying their expert cleverness here with remarkable success. Tom Lloyd's amusing ditties are greeted with favour; The Firnans cause abundant fun in their sketch *The Fire Station*; Edith Marion is a contralto vocalist of ability; the Three Sisters Macarte are entertaining and clever; Ernest Hildred is an accomplished character vocalist; and the Edlins, in their refined sketch, *Smart Society*, are highly pleasing. The Bioscope continues to be a most interesting feature.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—HIPPODROME THEATRE.—Messrs. Dooley and Seymour's company in the comic operetta, *A King for a Day*, heads the bill this week, the playlet being admirably staged and performed. Billy McClain and company in *A Hot Time in Dark Town* supply an amusing turn; *The Fight in the Forge* is an interesting and sensational tabloid drama; Will and Jennie Sage, comedy burlesque artists, are very amusing; and Molly Auguarde proves herself an accomplished vocalist. The Lizzette Troupe of lady acrobats and tumblers are smart; Molly Doon is well received for her song and dance; and the Pictoscope completes the programme.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—*Man and Wife* is the title of a French military drama presented this week by Mr. A. Montgomery. Mr. E. Wingfield as Paul Revere, a conscript, is an ideal hero, and Miss Lilian Beaumont in the rôle of Marcelle, Paul's wife, is graceful and tender. Mr. Wm. Heitbrown, as Captain D'Esparre, makes an admirable exponent of evil; and Miss E. F. Brady, Miss Lalla Stanhope, and Messrs. Arthur Byron and Val Gully also contribute to the success of the piece.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—Lily Burnand heads the bill this week in her latest success, and is accorded a hearty welcome. The Four Rosaires, on the triple bars, contribute a clever and amusing turn; James Lowery, the singing furnaceman, does well; Mint and Mark do some skilful paper-tearing; Fox and Melville, song illustrators, provide an interesting turn; the Saletos, in their balancing act, are much appreciated; Dick Bradley is a smart trick cyclist; Mora and Flora, in their quick-changing act, *Rich and Poor*, are good; and the pictures are capital.

SUNDERLAND.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Sunderland Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Mr. Alex. C. Grant's company is making a first appearance with the sensational drama, *The Woman from Scotland Yard*, Mr. Grant supporting the rôle of Paul Obanoff with considerable power. Mr. George Edwin Clive submits an excellent rendition of Harry Stanhope; Mr. John L. Schofield ably represents Ivan Vassilietch; Mr. Charles Graham creditably portrays Sir James Stanhope; Mr. Walter Clarke scores as Algy Fitzmaurice; and Mr. Frank Lister as Sergius Strogoff does well. Miss Chrissie Dunbar creates a favourable impression as Edith Wayne, the heroine; Miss Isabel Edbrooke as Lady Stanhope is excellent; and Miss Dorothy Wilkinson is amusing as Mary White, as is Mr. R. Cromwell as Jack Brown.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Sunderland Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The new home of variety opened on Monday on the two-house-a-night system, and had a brilliant "send off." A full account of the house and opening will be found in another column.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. A. Browne and Syd Stringer.—The programme for this week includes "Ju-Jitsu," illustrated and explained by Frank Long and Oyomo San; Gracie Lawn, comedienne and dancer; Marvelle and May's performing cockatoos, &c.; Jennie Lee, vocalist; the Three Romas, gladiatorial marvels; Jordon and Harvey, Hebrew comedians; McDonald and Huntingdon, American entertainers; and Abdy and Bushman, with their comic dog show and table act.

SWANSEA.—THE GRAND.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—Mr. Norman MacOwan's repertoire company maintain their high standard of excellence in *The Glass of Fashion*, at the Grand this week. Prince Borowski, the Polish adventurer, is admirably impersonated by Mr. MacOwan; the nobility of character of Colonel Trevanion is effectively brought out by Mr. Arthur Somers; John MacAdam, the proprietor of "The Glass of Fashion," is cleverly taken by Mr. Sidney R. Palfrey; whilst Mr. Robert Entwhistle makes much of the part of Prior Jenkin, the editor. Mr. Arthur Linay as Tom Stanhope is very successful; Miss Violet Sterne as Mrs. Trevanion achieved another success; and Miss Mary Masters as Peg O'Reilly is charming. Miss Lester Stephens as Lady Coombe displays exceptional ability; and Miss Isabel Hawthorn as the servant is good.

THE STAR.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. P. Powell.—*The Beautiful Fiend*, played by Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company, is at the Star this week. As Ivan Paulovitch, Major of the Russian Police, Mr. Beaudyn excelled himself; Miss Cissie St. Elmo as Wanda Lubinoff (the beautiful fiend) was equally successful; the Count Karateff of Mr. Fred Goddard is good; as is also the Serguis Strogoff of Mr. Lionel Fulton, and the Christopher Crackles of Mr. Harry Oates. Mr. Arthur Newburn's impersonation of Tolski, the beerhouse keeper, is fine; Miss Irene Munro makes a graceful Nadine Karateff; Miss Annie Clunn being very successful as Patty Woodlands. Mr. W. Robertson Foxlis is very effective as Malachi.

EMPIRES, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—The irrepressible Harry Tate, in *Fishing*, keeps the house in one continual roar; Ella Shields scores a well-deserved triumph with her coon songs; Spry and Austin, a couple of first-class comedians, do well; as do also the Mezzettis, a pair of really clever gymnasts. The Brothers Melford, Welsh comedians, get a cordial reception; Jock Mills scores heavily with "The Suffragee"; Francis, assisted by Alfred, does clever juggling with cannon balls; and Fielding and Hull are heard to advantage in vocal medleys. Good pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

TON-Y-PANDY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Counsell.—Mr. M. Beaudyn's company pay a welcome return visit this week in *A Beautiful Fiend*. Ivan Paulovitch is admirably undertaken by Mr. H. Skardon, Mr. H. C. Robinson also merits praise as Count Feder Karoteff, and Mr. Dick Seddon provides plenty of humour as Christopher Crackles. The title rôle could scarcely be better assumed than by Miss Sydney Crowe.

WAKEFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Tolfree.—Mr. John Clempert and company ably present a stirring Russian military sketch entitled *Jedovka*. The boy Hackenschmidt gives some interesting exhibitions of wrestling; Charles Carte, character actor and vocalist, sings in capital style; Fortune and Fame are a couple of funny comedians, and cause much merriment; the Three Behans, quick change artists and dancers, are smart; Sisters Lingard, duettists, are pleasing; the Danas, comedy duo, and Le Warren, ventriloquist, also win appreciation.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The great attraction here this week is Miss Dot Stephens, who is meeting with a most cordial reception, it being her first appearance since her unfortunate accident on leaving Walsall last year. Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco give their clever entertainment, including Talma, "Queen of Coins," Servais Le Roy, "King of Conjurors," and Bosco, "Emperor of Fun"; other items include Ethel Ra-Leslie, with her old-time songs, which evoke great applause; Clito Clifford, who sings and dances effectively; Sid Cotterell and company in their comedy *The Substitute*, which creates roars of laughter; Marie Ray, who charmingly sings "The Children's Home," beautifully illustrated; and Binns and Binns in comedy and music

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Florence Zaymen is delighting large audiences here this week with a charming collection of coon songs. Henri Cazman supplies a unique entertainment, styled *The One-Man Music Hall*, and his versatility knows no bounds; Edna Latonne has a good voice, and is heard to advantage; whilst Entwistle and Robero score well with their patter and up-to-date business. Ernie Mayne is an original droll; and Daisy Stratton a clever coon impersonator. The Brothers Brasso are smart acrobats, and the Bioscope pictures delight all.

PARR HALL.—Lessee, Mr. J. Lyon Whittle.—Messrs. Levy and Cardwell's Girton Girls are here this week, and their charming singing and dancing have gained for them a host of friends. They are assisted by the Brothers Armstrong, two really clever female impersonators; whilst Mr. J. Harrison is a smart comedian; Wee George Wood is a really wonderful mimic for one so young. The Misses Katie La Blanche, Gertie Prince, Isa Orston, Flo Edwards, Trixy Wyatt, Ray Watson, May Gilson, La Belle Sylvia, and Dolly Dodds render songs in fine style. The pantomimic sketch, *Little Paul Pry*, is rendered most efficiently, and Young Wood again scores.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—PALACE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The Flockton-Foster Sketch company, including Arnold Richardson, amuse immensely in the sketch *Ferdie's Ma-in-law*. Much laughter is also the result of a comic military absurdity by Le Clen Trio; a marvellous exhibition of the extent to which birds can be trained is submitted by Melia and Mozarabar with their trained ravens and pigeons; admirable vocalism is rendered by Webb and Branston, operatic vocalists; the Six Idols, vocalists and expert dancers, are exceedingly neat and pretty at their business; Billy Ross and company are old favourites here, and their comedy boxing sketch goes as well as ever; a clever and novel acrobatic performance is given by Bains and Reed.

CIRCUS.—This building, after having for some years been devoted to the exhibition of boxing, is occupied by Signor B. Volpi, whose troupe of performing dogs, monkeys, goats, bears, and ponies are providing a veritable feast for lovers of animals. The training is brought to a state of perfection that is almost incredible, so cleverly do they go through their extensive and varied performance. The performance is lightened at frequent intervals by the introduction at intervals of comicalities by the eccentric quartette of clowns, Nimble Nip, Wee Wullie, Piccolo, and Fiori.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE. — Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Miss Dorothy Cacey's company is here this week in *When We Were Twenty-one* and *A Country Mouse*. The former was staged on Monday. Miss Dorothy Cacey gave a fine interpretation of Kara Glenesk; Mr. Riddell Robinson was highly artistic as Richard Carewe; Mr. Edgar J. Coyne did excellent work as Sir Horace Plumely; Mr. Frank Powell was good as Colonel Miles Grahame; and so, too, was Mr. F. C. Pool as Terrance McGrath. Worthy of commendation was the Richard of Mr. Gerald Henson.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—The Sabots made their first appearance here on Wednesday, and were welcomed by a crowded house. Miss C. Stroud Wilson's fine voice was heard to great advantage in "Cupid at the Ferry"; Miss Gwenllian Lewis proved a clever artist in her Dutch song and dance; "Henry Klein" (Mr. Walter Walters) was loudly applauded for his humorous song "She's not the only"; Mr. Sydney Warwick sang with much expression "Thora"; and Mr. Archie Naish is entitled to unstinted praise for his musical sketch *Mary at the Piano*.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Arnold's amalgamation of artists includes Miss Ella, who with her group of trained lions present an effective turn; Bert Crosby is a good all-round comedian and dancer; Mlle. Dora, a smart oboe soloist; Louie Rayne, a lady who renders some sensible songs; and the Saladones give a remarkable turn; Monte Cristo is a flexible and smart comedian; the Jercys are smart duettists; J. H. Newton is a racy comedian; and Dhuleep and Singhi are wonderful Hindoo magicians.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—Mr. J. Cummins is paying his first visit to this district with a fine collection of animated pictures. A small variety company includes Miss Alice Golding, a clever and winning singer; the Three Royal Temples, with a smart turn; Mr. W. H. Smart, a good all-round dancer; and Miss Kitty Levigne, a lively comedienne and dancer. The pictures are exceptionally good.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Selected artists have successfully presented Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's modern drama *When the Lights are Low*, Mr. George Daiper as Guy Goldsworthy and Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan as Roland Goldsworthy portray their respective characters most creditably, and the Sisters Christie have admirable exponents in Miss Violet Carlyle and Miss Amy Ellam. The humorous situations of the play are hit off to a nicety by Mr. Francis Serle as Willie Wilkins and Miss Cissie Podmore as Kathleen Kerry.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—On Monday *Such a Nice Girl*, a new musical absurdity, was produced and gave a favourable impression. On Thursday Miss Lydia Donovan and company appeared in *Her One Great Sin*.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. C. W. Collings.—Mr. Barney Stuart, a Wrexham favourite, was re-engaged for the present week, and his refined sketches and songs gain him increased popularity. The Dewars, in a screaming absurdity, *The New Barman*, greatly excite the risible faculties of the delighted audiences; as do the Hazards, clever and amusing comedy and character duettists. Other mirth provokers are Sill and Sillcott, who made a welcome reappearance in a novel skit, *Lively Luggage;* and Miss Dora Denmark, a pleasing comedienne, also comes in for a share of the frequent plaudits of the amused audiences. The Bioscope pictures are as entertaining as ever.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Messrs. Burnett and Tindall's "A B C" animated pictures are of exceptional merit. Miss Kate Kyrle's American vocal pictures are interesting, and good entertainment is provided by the Musical Morrellis.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—Ernie Myers' songs and business are most amusing; the Sisters Russell introduce an original act, which at once takes on. J. Johnson and Miss De Vere, in a clever wire and cycling act, are applauded; Cookson is a first-class ventriloquist; the Nettas in their sketch introduce some delightful singing; Fred Dorman, vocalist, and Lily Lonsdale, soprano, are well received; and the Stern-Erretto Troupe are undoubtedly expert in their particular line of business.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

LONDON.

JUNE 3. *A Knight of the Road*, romantic drama, in four acts, by Ina Leon Cassilis—County Theatre, Kingston.
" 4. *Hands Up*, revue, lyrics by Mostyn Pigott, Fred Bowyer, and Adrian Ross, dialogue by Fred Bowyer, and music by various composers (Savage Club Matinée)—His Majesty's.
" 4. *Mr. Steinmann's Corner*, play, in one act, by Alfred Sutro—His Majesty's.
" 4. *Don Juan in Hell*, a dream, from *Man and Superman*—Court.
" 4. *The Man of Destiny*, trifle, by Bernard Shaw (originally produced at the Comedy, March 29, 1901)—Court.
" 5. *Pansy*, playlet, by Herbert Swears—Playhouse.
" 8. *The Merry Widow*, comic opera, in three acts, adapted by Basil Hood from *Die Lustige Witwe*, by Victor Leon and Leo Stein, music by Franz Lehar (produced at Berliner Theater, Berlin, May 1, 1906)—Daly's.
" 10. *Great Possessions*, play, in four acts, translated from the German of Karl Rössler (Mr. Martin Harvey's season)—Adelphi.
" 10. *The Playboy of the Western World*, comedy, in three acts, by J. M. Synge (Irish National Theatre Society)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 10. *Der Kammersanger*, piece, in one act, translated from the German of Frank Wedekind (Incorporated Stage Society)—Imperial.
" 10. *David Ballard*, play, in three acts, by Charles McEvoy (Incorporated Stage Society)—Imperial.
" 10. *The Extra Shilling*, comedy, in two scenes, by Francis Toye—Royalty
" 10. *The Daughter of Herodias*, by Brinsley Trehane, music by Robert Hilton—Royalty.
" 11. *Riders to the Sea*, play, in one act, by J. M. Synge (Irish National Theatre Society)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 11. *The Jackdaw*, comedy, in one act, by Lady Gregory (Irish National Theatre Society)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 11. *The Shadowy Waters*, play, in verse, by W. B. Yeats (Irish National Theatre Society)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 12. *The Gaol Gate*, tragedy, in one act, by Lady Gregory (Irish National Theatre Society)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 12. *Hyacinth Halvey*, comedy, in one act, by Lady Gregory (Irish National Theatre Society)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 12. *The Rising of the Moon*, play, in one act, by Lady Gregory—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 12. *Divorçons*, an adaptation by Margaret Mayo of Victorien Sardou's comedy, in three acts, played for the first time in London—Duke of York's.
" 12. *Helen's Little Subterfuge*, comedy, in three acts, by Roland Bottomley—Queen's Gate Hall.
" 14. *The Door Upon the Latch*, play, in one act, dramatised by F. Kinsey Peile from "Le Sire de Maletroit," by Robert Louis Stevenson—His Majesty's.
" 15. *The Midnight Wedding*, drama, in four acts, by Walter Howard (originally produced at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, Oct. 30, 1905; at West London Theatre in February, 1907)—Lyceum.
" 17. *The Corsican Brothers*, new version of *Les Frères Corses*, adapted from the novel of Alexandre Dumas (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, Oct. 10, 1906), played for the first time in London (Martin Harvey's season)—Adelphi.
" 17. *A Tragedy of Truth*, a piece, in two panels (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, on Nov. 2, 1906, as *The Spell* (Mr. Martin Harvey's season)—Adelphi.
" 17. *Cupid's Throne*, an Arcadian comedy, in one act, by Beatrice Forbes-Robertson—Royal Botanic Society Gardens, Regent's Park.
" 17. *The Quest of the Star*, a romantic pastoral play, in one act, by Beatrice Forbes-Robertson—Royal Botanic Society Gardens, Regent's Park.
" 18. *The Anonymous Letter*, duologue, by G. H. Street—Vaudeville.
" 19. *The Dumb Cake*, play, in one act, adapted from Arthur Morrison's "Divers Vanities" by the author and Richard Pryce—The Hicks Theatre.
" 19. *The Servant in the House*, comedy, in five acts, by Charles Rann Kennedy (copyright performance)—Bijou, Bayswater.
" 19. *The Winter Feast*, tragedy, in five acts, by Charles Rann Kennedy (copyright performance)—Bijou, Bayswater.
" 23. *The Parasites*, Act 2, Scene 1, of a play by Miss Rose Mathews (The Play Actors)—Theatre, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.
" 23. *The Sergeant of Hussars*, play, in one act, by Cicely Hamilton (The Play Actors)—Theatre, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.
" 24. *In the Bishop's Carriage*, play, in three acts, dramatised by Channing Pollock, from a novel by Miriam Michelson—The Waldorf.
" 25. *The Earl of Pawtucket*, comedy, in three acts, by Augustus Thomas—The Playhouse.
" 25. *The Shell of a Man*, play, in one act, by Mrs. George Cran—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 25. *The Phœnix*, play, in one act, by Laurence Irving—Coronet.
" 25. *The Incubus*, English version of *Les Hannetons*, by Brieux, produced under the original French title on March 25, 1907, at Terry's—Coronet.
" 25. *The Idol and the Husband*, play, in one act, by Mrs. Albert S. Bradshaw—Adelphi.
" 27. *The Heart of the Machine*, play, in three acts, by Mrs. Antonia R. Williams—Royalty.
" 28. *Which Is It?* by Bertha Moore—Royal Albert Hall Theatre.
" 28. *The Terror*, dramatic episode, by Bertha Moore—Royal Albert Hall Theatre.
" 28. *Just a Little Change*, episode, by Bertha Moore—Royal Albert Hall Theatre.

REVIVALS.

JUNE 3. *The Breed of the Treshams*, play, in four acts, by John Rutherford (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Sept. 28, 1903; produced in London on Dec. 7, 1903, at the Kennington Theatre, and reproduced at the Lyric, June 3, 1905) (Mr. Martin Harvey's season)—Adelphi.
" 4. *The Walls of Jericho*, play, in four acts, by Alfred Sutro (originally produced at the Garrick Theatre on Oct. 31, 1904)—Garrick.
" 11. *Iolanthe*, fairy opera, in two acts, by W. S. Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan (originally produced at the Savoy Theatre on Nov. 25, 1882)—Savoy.
" 18. *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past*, farce, in three acts, adapted by Sir Francis Burnand from *Madame Mongodin*, by MM. Ernest Blum and Raoul Toché (originally produced at the Avenue Theatre on Nov. 2, 1895)—Vaudeville.
JUNE 24. *The Only Way*, dramatic version by Freeman Wills, of "A Tale of Two Cities" (Mr. Martin Harvey's season)—Adelphi.

PROVINCES.

JUNE 3. *Guilty Gold*, drama, in five acts, by Horace Stanley—Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.
" 7. *The Honorary Degree*, musical farce, in two acts, book by H. Rottenburg, music by J. W. Ivimey, extra numbers by Paul Rubens, H. E. Haines, and K. L. Duffield (played by amateurs)—New Theatre, Cambridge.
" 10. *The Daughters of Men*, play, in three acts, by Charles Klein—Theatre Royal, Margate.
" 10. *The Saint and the Woman*, play, in four acts, by Charles March—Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor.
" 11. *Amy's Burglar*, comedietta, by Leonard C. White—Public Hall, Croydon.
" 17. *The Twins of Skirlaugh Hall*, play, in a prologue and four acts, by Emma Brooke—Theatre Royal, Margate.
" 24. *The Dancing Girls of Spain*, comedy, in two acts, by George R. Sims, music by Clarence C. Corri—Theatre Royal, Hull.
" 24. *The House of Shame*, drama, in four acts, by Ada G. Abbott—Theatre Royal, Cardiff.
" 24. *The Love of a Life*, drama, in four acts, by Eugène Gotere—Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.
" 25. *The Blossom of Brittany*, comedy opera, by Sutton Vane, music by Edward Jones (copyright performance)—Theatre Royal, Brighton.
" 28. *The Girl is Mine! Ha! Ha!*, farce, by Arthur Jefferson—Metropole, Glasgow.

PARIS.

JUNE 5. *Fortunio*, musical comedy, in 5 acts, founded on Alfred de Musset's *Le Chandelier*, by G. A. de Caillavet and Robert de Flers, music by André Messager—Opéra Comique.
" 8. *Une Aventure de Frédéric Lemaître*, play, 2 acts, by Serge Basset—Théâtre de L'Œuvre.
" 13. *La Rivale*, play, 4 acts, by Kistemaeckers and Delard—Comédie-Française.
" 14. *L'Enfant du Temple*, play, 5 acts and 9 tableaux, by Alban de Polhes, music by Charles Pons.
" 15. *Raffles*, farcical comedy, 3 acts, adapted from the English by Nicodemi—Théâtre Réjane.

BERLIN.

JUNE 1. *Die Welt ohne Maenner*, four-act farce, by MM. Engel and Horst (Viennese operetta season)—Lustspielhaus.
" 5. *Der grosse Unbekannter*, comedy, in four acts, by K. Matull—Bernhard-Rose.
" 6. *Perrichon's Reise*, farce, in four acts, by MM. Labiche and Martin—Residenz.
" 8. *Der Jongleur*, musical farce, in four acts, by Emil Pohl (Meinhard-Bernauer season)—Deutsches.
" 18. *Feenhaende*, five-act comedy, drawn from Scribe, by T. Gassmann—Royal Schauspielhaus.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, MAY 28.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis).—Mr. Williamson is bringing Miss Tittell Brune's season to an end with a series of short revivals of her most successful plays. On Saturday evening *La Tosca* was staged for three nights. There was a large house, and the performance was a great success. Miss Brune repeated her former clever impersonation of Floria Tosca, and was recalled after each act. As Baron Scarpia, Mr. Thos. Kingston carried out the precise designs of the author. Mr. Mervale's Cavaradossi was intense in its realism. Mr. Beauchamp made an excellent Angelotti; while the balance of the cast was ably filled.

THEATRE ROYAL (Lessee, Mr. Bland Holt; Business-Manager, Mr. Simonsen).—A revival of *The Great Millionaire* served to attract an enormous audience on Saturday evening. The part of the Millionaire was taken by Mr. Styan, and too great praise cannot be given him for his fine interpretation of it. Mr. and Mrs. Bland Holt contributed in a large measure to the

"LOVE RULES THE WORLD."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by T. G. Bailey, Produced for the First Time on any Stage, at the Star Theatre, Liverpool, on Monday, July 1.

Harold Kingston .....MR. CHARLES FANCOURT
Stephen Blight .....MR. GERALD JORDON
Paul Carruthers ....MR. VICTOR GARNET VAYNE
Billy Binks .....MR. WALTER DALE
Jim Dixey .....MR. SIDNEY RENNEF
Farmer Carruthers ....MR. ERNEST A. DOUGLAS
The Major .....MR. CECIL RAYMOND
Inspector Ferritt .....MR. HARRY STOCK
Jailor .....MR. G. M. CUTLER
Hon. George Chumley..MR. ARTHUR BLAKESTONE
Sir Edward Whybrow ..MR. RICHARD TOWNSEND
Maud Carruthers .....MISS RUTH SHEPHARD
Flo Merton .....MISS CONSTANCE MEDWYN
Mother Grimble ..MISS GWENDA GARNET VAYNE
Kitty Snowdrop .....MISS KITTY RUSSELL

This is a well-constructed play, which will compare very favourably with any of its class. A feature of it is the clearness with which the author tells his story, while interest in the development, aroused at the beginning, is maintained throughout. The work has certainly all the elements which tend toward success—crisp dialogue, good situations, and an abundance of humour—so that its acceptance by theatre-goers is fairly well assured.

Stephen Blight, a burglar by profession, whilst engaged in robbing the house of Farmer Carruthers, is disturbed by Maud, who is walking in her sleep. The sight of the beautiful girl so impresses the man that he leaves the house, resolved to turn over a new leaf, and live to win the girl in marriage. Accordingly, he breaks up his gang of thieves, and subsequently meets Maud at her father's house, having discovered that his own parent is acquainted with the family. Here, however, he finds an obstacle to his wishes by the presence of Harold Kingston, who is affianced to the girl, and so disappointed does he feel that his good resolutions are thrown to the wind. He trumps up a charge against Kingston in order to disgrace him, but Flo Merton, the burglar's former companion, learning of his changed feelings towards her, resolves to inform Farmer Carruthers that such charges are false. Blight, guessing her intentions, shoots her, the crime being charged against Kingston, who had been heard to threaten her for assisting in scandalising him. He is arrested and sent to penal servitude. Maud, having been persuaded by Blight into a mock marriage, leaves home, and is afterwards abandoned by him. In the course of time Kingston escapes from jail, owing to a thunderbolt demolishing one of the walls, and, assuming the garb of a clergyman, resolves to devote the rest of his life to good works. He also assists in the education of Maud's son, who, in time, succeeds in gaining the Legion of Honour for his masterly paintings. His last subject is "The Child of Shame," a pathetic chapter of his own life. At the end, Blight shoots Flo again, fatally this time, and she, in returning the fire, declares the innocence of Harold Kingston.

The company, under the control of Mr. Sidney Rennef, was a picked one, and consisted of artists who did every justice to the well-conceived drama. Miss Ruth Shephard threw into the part of the unfortunate farmer's daughter a deal of feeling, and certainly carried her audience with her. She depicted the despairing state of the once happy girl with a naturalness which earned general commendation. Thanks are due to Mr. Charles Fancourt for his manly and thoughtful picture of the injured Harold. He clearly conveyed the author's intentions, and deserved the cordial recognition he received from his auditors. A sufficiently villainous Stephen Blight came from Mr. Gerald Jordan, whose acting was powerful and telling. A particularly good figure was that of the depraved gipsy woman, Mother Grimble, and here Miss Gwenda Garnet Vane is to be highly complimented for her fine piece of character work. The thankless part of Flo Merton was in the good keeping of Miss Constance Medwyn, who made several strong points, had a capital delivery, and rose to the occasion when necessary. A lively and vivacious Kitty was submitted by Miss Russell, who, in conjunction with the merry Billy Binks, smartly, and with great success, played by Mr. Walter Dale, kept the house in shouts of laughter. Mr. Sidney Rennef showed his qualifications as an actor in the rôle of the demented Jim Dixey, a difficult character, which, in less capable hands, might have been spoiled. Mr. Victor Garnet Vayne as the successful boy painter, spoke his lines well, and acted correctly; Mr. Ernest A. Douglas was very acceptable as Farmer Carruthers; and the other parts, though of a minor sort, were all given with point, so far as the author allowed. The drama was well mounted and dressed.

THE LATE VIRGINIA BLACKWOOD.

This once very popular actress was seized with a paralytic stroke at her residence, 24, Lloyd-square, W.C., on May 24, and unfortunately she never regained consciousness, but passed away on May 28. She was interred on June 1 at Brompton Cemetery, in the presence of her sister, Miss Emilie Blackwood, a dramatic friend, Mrs. Linley, and one or two others. She had reached her 73rd year. Her most famous characters were taken from Dickens, and comprised The Marchioness, Little Nell, Dolly Varden, Mog, and Miggs. Her devotion to Dickens was phenomenal, and in days when associations to his honour were less numerous than now, she championed his merits, and on the stage helped thousands to realise the marvellous character of his genius. She saw his dramatic possibilities, and gave fine expression to them.

The late Miss Virginia Blackwood was a connection of the Dufferin family, whose private name is Blackwood. Her social connections were very good, and many distinguished friendships were hers till her dying day. She had much dramatic study as a girl, was a wide reader, and one of the most devoted Dickensians of the nineteenth century. Miss Blackwood and her husband, the late Mr. G. Murray Wood, took dramas round the country, a standing dish being a version of "The Old Curiosity Shop," specially prepared for Miss Blackwood by her husband.

In this she represented the Marchioness and Little Nell. The piece also had a run at Astley's, in the Westminster Bridge-road, where Mr. Wood entered upon a speculation, which made havoc with the financial resources of the dramatic couple. Miss Blackwood's Marchioness was a clever Dickens picture, and its mingled pathos and humour were irresistible. Little Nell, in the version Miss Blackwood preferred, was doubled with the Marchioness by Miss Blackwood, the actress portraying the extreme types of the poor servant of Sampson Brass, and the tiny heroine, the most pathetic child in fiction.

After a while Mr. Wood went to America, where he won some distinction, and died a few years ago. Miss Blackwood, with her sister, Miss Emilie Blackwood, got various engagements in town and country. In low-comedy recitations Miss Virginia Blackwood was inimitable, and her costume recital of the Marchioness was admirable.

At the Strand Theatre in April, 1889, by the kindness of Mr. (now Sir Charles) Wyndham, Miss Blackwood was accorded a very successful benefit, at which, in addition to Sir Charles Wyndham, Mrs. Bernard Beere, Miss Mary Moore, Mr. Dallas, Mr. Bassett Roe, and Mr. Arthur Roberts appeared, he at that time convulsing his audience with Richard Henry's "Who's that calling?" On this occasion Miss Blackwood gave her own "poem," as an address to her audience, and the excellence of her interpretation gave her verses every possible chance. Miss Blackwood wrote excellent verse and good prose.

"ENGLAND:
A PLAY WITHOUT A PLOT."

By Norman Roe. Produced at the Royal Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate, on Thursday, July 4.

Mark Olstein .....MR. GEO. DE LARA
Samuel Escott .....MR. HARRY ASHFORD
Victor Robinson .....MR. STANLEY LOGAN
Steerage Passenger .....MR. A. BERTRAND
1st Rich Passenger .....MR LEON M. LION
2nd Rich Passenger .....MR. WILLIAM J. REA
3rd Rich Passenger ....MISS BEATRICE MANNING
Vera Mainwaring .....MISS NELLIE REDWOOD
Mary Falkner ....MISS KATHERINE HARRINGTON

England: A Play Without a Plot might well be described as an impressionist picture dramatised. The playwright has sought to give a contrast in human character, without the aid of a plot to help him in its dramatic *dénouement*, and it is correct to say that he has done it extremely well. The play lasts about nine minutes only, but that time is sufficient to allow Mr. Roe an opportunity of giving a most effective scene. The setting is the deck of a liner homeward bound from South Africa, and the audience are shown a group of millionaires engaged in the edifying pastime of tossing for half-crowns. The arrogance of these representatives of a gilded plutocracy is illustrated by a number of neat touches in the dialogue. Mark Olstein, a millionaire of the most odious type, is terribly afraid that some of the party may win more half-crowns than he, and works himself into a frenzy of excitement. A pathetic figure in the scene is Mary Falkner, a sweet young wife who has been touched by the blighting hand of the white death, a mother who is returning—consumptive—to England to die. She has her baby with her. Her husband is left behind in South Africa, while the wife, knowing her case is hopeless, longs to return to the old country to end her days, and to leave her child in her sister's care. The contrast between the millionaire, Olstein, with only a thought for his precious gold, and the high type of womanhood, Mary Falkner, is admirably drawn. The "sporting" millionaires organise a sweepstake, the person who first sights the lighthouse at Plymouth Sound to be the winner. Olstein is feverishly excited at the prospect of securing the stake—a sum of actually over £25!—and the anxiety increases as the vessel ploughs along towards home. At last the light gleams through the darkness. Olstein, mad with joy, proclaims the fact that he has won!—has won England!—and in a burst of generosity he calls on his millionaire friends to join him in celebrating the win. But for the young mother the sight of the dear homeland has a deeper significance. She lifts her child up, its baby face turned towards the shores of the old country. She is glad, for there is England, Home, and Rest! It is a pretty piece of work in vivid and dramatic contrast.

Mr. George de Lara played with much skill as the millionaire, Olstein. He interpreted effectively the grasping nature of the man of dollars, the absence of human sympathy, the ability to appreciate nothing but money and money-making. The part of Mary Falkner was handled by Miss Katherine Harrington in a manner which calls only for praise. She displayed all the feeling that the accomplished actress can show when she has a good playable character put into her hands. The other parts do not stand out very markedly. True, they complete the setting of the picture, and are all impersonated admirably. Miss Nellie Redwood is charmingly sympathetic as Vera Mainwaring, and Mr. Harry Ashford and Mr. Stanley Logan are excellent types of the sort of men that a man like Olstein would consort with. Mr. A. Bertrand is distinctly good as a steerage passenger who comes among the gilded coterie to make a collection. He is a weakling physically, and there is a joke at his expense on that account. Olstein pompously offers him money, but the proffered coin is declined.

The play was produced at Ramsgate under the direction of Mr. Leon M. Lion and the author, Mr. Norman Roe.

FUNERAL OF CHARLES H. TAYLOR.

The sudden passing away of so gifted a lyrical writer as Charles Taylor raised a deep feeling of regret in theatrical circles, and also among his friends resident in his native Manchester, where his first efforts in writing found encouragement from Mr. Robert Courtneidge, a Mancunian manager who recognised in a practical way the ability of the young writer, and became one of his warmest friends. Mr. Courtneidge was among the mourners in the church of St. Patrick, Soho, on Saturday, when Canon L. G. Vere, assisted by the Rev. Father McGuckin, conducted the Catholic service previous to the interment in the St. Pancras Cemetery, Finchley. The solemn tones of the officiating priests and the choir in the "Dies Iræ," and the pathetic strains of the Dead March in *Saul*, were listened to, among others, by Mr. George Grossmith, jun., Mr. David Day, Mr. Philip Rutland, J.P., Mr. Hayden Coffin, Mr. Ambrose Manning, Mr. Hamish Maccunn, Mr. and Mrs. Hartley Milburn, Mr. Charles Wilmott, Mr. Herman Darewski, Mr. Lester Barrett, Mr. Evelyn Baker, Mr. Canton, Mr. Verity, Mr. Collinge, Mr. Herbert Haines, Mr. Edward German, Mr. Edward Royce, and Mr. Thompson. The widow and sister of the deceased came to the church, but did not follow the casket to the grave, which is beautifully situated in the Catholic portion of that lovely God's acre, St. Pancras Cemetery, East Finchley, where roses are softly blooming in the greatest luxuriance even in this most wintry of summers.

The sentences at the grave were recited by Father McGuckin, the responses being led by Mr. Cassidy, choir-master, and two acolytes. The simple inscription on the casket was as follows:—

CHARLES HENRY TAYLOR,
Died 27th June, 1907,
Aged 47 Years.
R.I.P.

The relatives and friends who followed to the grave were Messrs. Canton, Verity, Collinge, J. H. Milburn, Baker, Haines, Edward German, Thompson, Royce, and Robert Courtneidge. Among the floral tributes was a large white cross entwined with deep red roses, "from his loving and sorrowing wife, Mollie, also his loving daughter, Phyllis." There was a touch of deep sadness in the thought that this beloved daughter, aged nineteen, is lying in such a critical condition in a nursing home that it was thought the shock of her father's death would be too much for her, and up to the day of the funeral she was kept in ignorance of her bereavement. Other flowers included a bunch of madonna lilies from Baby Prudence, wreaths from Mother and Bertha, Hetty and Frank (sister and brother), Gertie and Hartley Milburn, A Dear Friend E. R., Will, Annie, and Guy, Jack, *Tom Jones* company, *Tom Jones* orchestra, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Courtneidge, Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, members of Green Room Club, Mr. Stanley Bartlett, Mr. Edward German, Mr. and Mrs. Hamish Maccunn, Mr. Charles Angelo, Mrs. and Miss Dainton, Mrs. Shenleigh, Leonard Austin Parker, Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Haines, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Haines, Mr. and Mrs. Evelyn Baker, Mr. and Mrs. George Highland, Mr. John Fraser, Richard Taylor and family, Dr. and Mrs. Talbot McCarthy, Gertrude Bloomfield, Mr. Thompson, and others. The funeral arrangements were very simply and reverently carried out by Mr. Albert France, of Lamb's Conduit-street.

MR. ARTHUR HARDY has re-engaged Mr. C. A. White for the autumn tour of *Beauty and the Barge*, this making the third consecutive tour.

THE LATE MR. ROBERT FOGERTY.

It is with great regret that we record the death of Mr. Robert Fogerty, C.E., which took place at his residence, Henry-street, Limerick, on the 29th ult. Mr. Fogerty had been in failing health for some nine months back, and though within the past six weeks or so he showed signs of improvement in health, having been able to take carriage drives in the vicinity of the city, yet a relapse set in about a fortnight ago. Mr. Fogerty, who was in the sixty-fourth year of his age, came of an old Limerick family. He was the eldest son of the late Mr. Joseph Fogerty, architect, who is still remembered by the older generation, and served his time to the engineering profession. He was qualified some time about 1863, and the earlier portion of his career was spent in India, where for several years he occupied an important appointment as engineer under the Public Works Department, and carried out extensive railway and waterworks undertakings in that country. On the death of his father some time in the eighties Mr. Fogerty returned to Limerick to take up the conduct of the business of the Theatre Royal, of which the late Mr. Joseph Fogerty was proprietor, and also to carry on his father's professional practice as an architect. Since then Mr. Fogerty has constantly resided in his native city, with the everyday life of which he has been largely identified. In his time he carried out many important works, public and private, as a civil engineer, the most extensive being the Limerick waterworks scheme, with which he was associated with the late Mr. Cruise and Mr. J. J. F. Browne, civil engineers, the latter also a fellow-citizen. It was started about the year 1880, and the first sod

THE LATE MR. ROBERT FOGERTY
(of the Theatre Royal, Limerick).

was turned in the year 1888, at Clareville, during the Mayoralty of Mr. F. A. O'Keeffe. Mr. Fogerty was also diocesan architect of the Church of Ireland for the whole of Munster, and in his time was a member of the Limerick Synod.

He was well known to the old school of actors, and in theatrical circles his widespread popularity can be estimated by the countless letters of sympathy from old stagers which the good "governor" received during his illness. His historic gallery of celebrities is well worthy of the deceased gentleman, and his treasure trove of curios and stage accessories is calculated to make envious the most astute connoisseurs. Long ago, when Edmund Kean was "the rage" at Drury Lane Mr. Fogerty, then a boy, got a ticket of admission for the circle, and his many vivid recollections of his theatrical experiences were often recounted with pleasure to his fellow-managers. He was as charitable as he was courteous, and artists who were obliged to have recourse to his generosity found in him a kind and unostentatious friend. The Jesuits and parochial clergymen of Limerick had no better supporter, the theatre being often given free for benevolent purposes. In the realm of sport, too, Mr. Fogerty always lent a helping hand. He was one of the original members of the Regatta Committee, he took an active interest in the L.A.A. and B.C., and the football field was also to him a source of attraction. As proprietor of the Theatre Royal his name occupied a prominent position.

The remains were removed on Monday morning, at 10.30, from his residence, Henry-street, for interment in the family vault at St. Mary's Cathedral. There was a large and representative attendance of all classes desirous of paying a last mark of respect to the memory of a prominent citizen, and of expressing deep sympathy with his widow and family in their grief.

The chief mourners were—Joseph, Harry, George, Cecil, and Gerald Fogerty, sons; W. A. Fogerty, M.D., and G. J. Fogerty, M.D., R.N., brothers; James Wallace, Charles Fitt, Francis M. Fitt, G. M. Harris, brothers-in-law; Joseph, Richard, Frederick, John, and Wm. Wallace, Alma Fitt, F. Raine, and E. G. Stokes, nephews.

As the coffin was being borne into the cathedral, "O Rest in the Lord" was played. The service was partly choral, the 90th Psalm being sung to Purcell's chant, and the hymn selected was the beautiful and touching one, "Peace, perfect peace." Chopin's funeral march was played as the coffin was being removed from the church to the vault by the theatre staff. The officiating clergymen were the Bishop, the Dean, the Chancellor, and the Rev. R. A. Adderley. The committal sentences at the vault were read by the Bishop.

THE Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Hesse and Princesses Elizabeth and Victoria of Bentheim Steinfurt were present at the performance of *La Bohème* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on Thursday night.

MR. T. HARRIS, the well-known manager of the Chemical Cleaning Co., wishes to warn ladies of the profession against glacé silk. The following disclaimer has been issued from a first-rate West End drapery house, and is the most complete condemnation of the practices of the modern silk manufacturer that has been heard of for a very long time: "Owing to the unreliable character of glacé silk, we cannot hold ourselves responsible for the wear of skirts made in this material." It certainly is an anomalous state of things when glacé silk cannot be sold to the public without attaching to it a notice that it is useless for all practical purposes, and will not wear.

MESSRS. J. WELLS AND SONS, pyrotechnists, of London, have lately been busy with a series of evening fêtes and firework displays. On the evenings of the Oxford Pageant Week a series of six promenade concerts and firework displays was given at the White House grounds. A special feature being made of a dancing enclosure, illuminated with a canopy and festoons of Japanese lanters and prismatic lamps and a powerful limelight, which proved very popular. The weather, however, was inclement, necessitating a postponement on the opening night, for which an extra evening was given on Thursday. The fireworks programme embraced many novel features, including fire portraits of the King and Queen, the Mayor, and local ecclebrities, &c. A series of fêtes upon similar lines will be given at St. Albans during the pageant week there. With these and various other speculations and private contracts Messrs. J. Wells and Sons are having a very busy time.

"SUCH A NICE GIRL."

A Musical Absurdity, in Two Acts, by Frank Stanmore, with Music by E. Paschall, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Worthing, on Monday, July 1.

Bertie Holbrook .....MR. FRANK STANMORE
Colonel Bullett .....MR. ARTHUR POOLE
Harry Harrow .....MR. FRANK TENNANT
Brown .....MR. DOUGLAS PAYNE
William .....MR. FRED CLARKE
Cerise .....MISS MAUDE PERCIVAL
Little Flossie .....MISS GLADYS ANDERSON
Miss Grim .....MISS NELLIE CLARENCE
Hilda .....MISS NELL RICHARDSON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

For pleasing music, pretty songs prettily sung by pretty young ladies, and comedy of the farcical type, we can thoroughly recommend *Such a Nice Girl*, and the reception which was accorded the play by an audience which packed the Worthing Theatre Royal on Monday evening should augur well for the future of Messrs. Paschall and Stanmore's work. Mr. Pascall's name in connection with the music should stand as a recommendation in itself, for that gentleman has in the past composed many delightful numbers.

There is not much story to tell, but there is quite sufficient to act as a chain to link together the funny incidents, songs, and dances. Hilda Coleman is "such a nice girl" that pretty nearly every man in the boarding-house where she is staying, prior to her return to Miss Grim's finishing school at Brighton, has fallen in love with her. When the time comes for Miss Hilda to return to the young ladies' academy by the seaside her admirers give play to their ingenuity by planning ways and means by which they will secure admittance into Miss Grim's establishment, if only to gain a few minutes' tête-à-tête with the charming Hilda. Her real lover, Bertie Holbrook, selects one kind of disguise; Colonel Bullett goes as a plumber; and Harry Harrow answers an advertisement for a French master. In the end, after we have been treated to a host of absurdities, the men and the girls are "paired off," Bertie to his beloved Hilda, Harry to Cerise, a French girl, and Colonel Bullett to Miss Grim. There is an extremely laughable scene between the two latter, as Miss Grim effusively accepts the Colonel's proposal, which, by the way, is never meant to be taken seriously.

Miss Nell Richardson makes a most engaging personage as Hilda, and gives evidence of a tuneful and well-trained voice. The house fairly shook with applause at the conclusion of her rendering of "Grow, little Mushroom, grow," and she was also particularly happy in her singing of "That's the man for me," "I want somebody to love me," and "Moon, dear." Mr. Frank Stanmore acted in capital fashion as Bertie Holbrook, and sang well; while Mr. Arthur Poole was good as Colonel Bullett, and secured an ovation for his song, "I'm Captain Reginald Darcy of the Guards." Miss Nellie Clarence was responsible for a really entertaining character-sketch of an old maid as Miss Grim; and Miss Maude Percival is vivacious and sprightly as Cerise, a French girl. She sings nicely, and her dancing is specially praiseworthy. Mr. Frank Tennant as Harry Harrow; Mr. Douglas Payne as Brown, the butler, is very good, especially when disguised as a policeman, his droll acting causing great merriment; Mr. Fred Clarke as an "odd man"; and Miss Gladys Anderson as "Little Flossie," all render able assistance. The Four Smart Set Girls contribute several smart dances, and their choruses form an agreeable feature of the production.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

Verdi's early opera, *Un Ballo in Maschera*, was given at Covent Garden on Friday night, June 28, and in honour of the King's birthday the proceedings began with the National Anthem. The performance was all-round excellent, and the fine cast rendered ample justice to Verdi's melodious work. Miss Selma Kurz again sang the music of the page, Oscar, with the utmost brilliancy, repeating her triumph in this opera, as when performed in the 1905 season. Miss Kurz had her customary success in the duet, "La Rivedra nell 'Estasi," and in the last act aroused considerable enthusiasm by her magnificent shake. Signor Caruso also was in splendid voice, and sang superbly, although his costume in the second act was not entirely satisfactory; and that fine artist, Signor Sammarco, imparted great dramatic interest to the character of Renato. Miss Scalar achieved success in the part of Amelia, Renato's frail wife; while Mme. de Cisneros proved an excellent Sorceress. Signor Panizza was the conductor, and not a little of the success of the performance was due to his untiring efforts. The opera was well mounted, and chorus and orchestra thoroughly efficient.

Ponchielli's opera, *Gioconda*, was repeated last Saturday, June 29, with the same cast as on the opening night. Considerable "cuts," however, have been made, with marked advantage, the opera playing closer, and with no loss in the dramatic situations. Mme. Kirkby Lunn had improved on her performance given at the opening night, while Miss Destinn and Mme. Edna Thornton sang beautifully, and Messrs. Journet, Bassi, and Sammarco repeated their success of the first night. Signor Campanini conducted, and the charming ballets and splendid scenery were duly appreciated by a crowded house.

On Wednesday night Giordano's opera *Fedora* was played for the first time this season, with Mme. Giachetti as the heroine and Signor Caruso in the part of Louis Ipanow. The character of Fedora, which requires exceptional dramatic power, was undertaken by Mme. Giachetti when the opera was performed during the autumn season last year, and the success achieved by this fine artist in that performance was repeated on Wednesday night. Although Sardou's *Fédora* in operatic form is not so entirely successful as the play, there are some striking situations in the opera, one of the most dramatic being in the second act where Ipanow tells Fedora that he has shot Vladimir, her husband, because he had discovered a letter written by him to his own wife, Wanda. This scene was finely acted and sung by Signor Caruso and Mme. Giachetti, Fédora's passionate air "Lasica che pianga io sola" being grandly delivered by the latter artist. Signor Caruso, who was in fine voice, also roused the audience to the utmost enthusiasm by his fervent singing of "Amor ti vieta," and in the closing duet, both artists being recalled before the curtain many times, amidst prolonged applause. Signor Scotti impersonated the diplomat De Siriex in a most finished and artistic manner, and was entirely successful in his solo "La donna russa," while Mlle. Zeppilli proved an excellent representative of the lively Olga. Signor Marcoux and Signor Gianoli were also very effective in the parts of the coachman and Gretch the police officer, and the minor characters of Désiree, Rouvel, Borrow, Lorck, and Boleslao Lazinski excellently filled by Signor Zucchi, Signor Venturini, M. Crabbé, Signor Navarrini, and Signor Lierchar, who may also be warmly commended for his able performance as pianist. The doubled parts of Dimitri and Piccolo Savoyardo were skilfully undertaken by Mme. Severina, and Signor Panizza, who conducted, considerably advanced his position by this fine performance. *Cavalleria Rusticana*, conducted by Signor Campanini, with Signor Carpi and Mlle. Scalas in the cast, preceded the performance of *Fedora*.

A NEW musical play entitled *The Maid and the Motor Man*, written by Mr. Hickory Wood, and composed by Signor Romilli, with additional numbers by Mr. Ernest Bucalossi, will be produced by Mr. John Hart at the Gaiety, Manchester, during the autumn.

THE THEATRE COMBINE.

Negotiations between the representatives of Howard and Wyndham (Limited) and Messrs. Buchanan and Stevens with reference to the theatrical combine, have resulted in the following circular being sent to the shareholders of Howard and Wyndham (Limited):—

5, St. Andrew-square, Edinburgh,
July 2, 1907.

DEAR SIR,—You are aware that by an agreement approved by the shareholders of this company in general meeting on February 15 last the company granted to Mr. R. C. Buchanan and Mr. Ernest Stevens an option to acquire the undertaking and property of the company for £160,000, and that Messrs. Buchanan and Stevens on May 14 intimated their exercise of the option. In accordance with the agreement the price fell to be paid on or before June 30, 1907, but Messrs. Buchanan and Stevens have approached the directors with a request that the time for payment should be extended to October 31, 1907, interest meantime to continue to run on the purchase price at 6 per cent. per annum. They explain that while considerable progress has been made, they have not found it practicable to complete their arrangements within the time allowed by the agreement. The directors have given careful consideration to the request, and, subject to the approval of the shareholders, they have agreed to grant the extension of time on condition—

(1) That any claim on the part of Messrs. Buchanan and Stevens to any portion of the sum of £500 originally paid to the company shall be held as forfeited; and

(2) That a further sum of £2,000 shall be deposited with the company, which shall be forfeited if the purchase price is not paid by October 31, 1907.

Messrs. Buchanan and Stevens have agreed to these terms, and have deposited the sum of £2,000. A supplementary agreement embodying the necessary conditions has been entered into, and this agreement, of which a print is enclosed, will be submitted for approval to a general meeting of the company.

You are accordingly requested to attend an extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of this company, to be held at No. 5, St. Andrew-square, Edinburgh, on Thursday, July 18, 1907, at 2.30 p.m., for the purpose of considering, and if so resolved passing, with or without amendment, the resolution of which a copy is subjoined.

Yours faithfully,
CARTER, GREIG, & Co., Secretaries.

RESOLUTION.

"That this meeting, having considered the supplemntary agreement, dated June 29, 1907, between Howard and Wyndham (Limited) and Mr. Robert Colburn Buchanan and Mr. Ernest Stevens, approves of the same, and authorises the directors to carry out the arrangements therein set forth, with such alterations, additions, and modifications as the directors may agree to."

The supplementary agreement referred to in the above circular contains the following clauses:—

First.—The time for payment of the purchase price of £160,000, and of any balance on the apportionment mentioned in article fourth of the principal agreement, shall be extended from the 30th day of June, 1907, to the 31st day of October, 1907. The said purchase price and balance on apportionment shall be paid by the purchasers to the company not later than the said 31st day of October, 1907, with interest thereon at the rate of 6 per centum per annum from the 28th day of February, 1907, to the date of settlement. In the event of the said purchase price and balance on apportionment and others not being paid on or before the said 31st day of October, 1907, the company shall have the right to cancel the sale.

Second.—Without prejudice to the provisions of the principal agreement, the purchasers hereby undertake liability for all sums expended subsequently to the 28th day of February, 1907, or to be expended by the company upon repairs, improvements and alterations on the company's properties, and in particular they shall be liable for the expenditure now being incurred in connection with the equipment anew of the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, and in connection with structural alterations on the adjacent buildings in Hope-street, Glasgow.

Third.—Along with the purchase price and balance on apportionment and interest thereon, the purchasers shall pay to the company at settlement whatever balance (if any) may be owing to the company on an accounting for the period subsequent to the said 28th day of February, 1907, in virtue of the provisions of the principal agreement and these presents.

Fourth.—The sum of £500 paid by the purchasers in accordance with article eight of the principal agreement shall be held as forfeited to the company, but the company shall bear the costs, charges, and expenses mentioned in said article so far as incurred by the company to this date; and no part of said sum shall fall to be treated as paid on account of the purchase price or otherwise accounted for to the purchasers. The consideration for the extension of time hereby granted shall be the sum of £2,000, to be paid by the purchasers to the company immediately after the execution of these presents by all the parties hereto, and in the event of the purchasers failing to pay the purchase price and others in accordance with these presents this sum shall be forfeited to the company; but if the purchasers shall duly pay the purchase price of £160,000 and the other sums payable by them, and perform the whole other obligations incumbent on them under the principal agreement and these presents, the said sum of £2,000 with bank deposit receipt interest thereon shall be treated as paid as on the day of settlement on account of the purchase price, under deduction of all costs, charges, and expenses incurred by the company in connection with these presents, or with the under-mentioned meeting or otherwise in relation to the transaction from and after this date, including legal charges and secretaries' remuneration for extra trouble; provided, however, that in the event of the shareholders of the company declining to approve of this agreement at the extraordinary general meeting to be called as hereinafter mentioned, the purchasers shall be entitled to repayment of the said sum of £2,000, under deduction of costs and others as above-mentioned. Nothing contained in this article shall affect the liability of the purchasers to pay the sum of £500 as provided in article seventh of the principal agreement.

Fifth.—So far as not altered or modified by, or inconsistent with, these presents, the whole provisions of the principal agreement shall remain in force and be binding on the parties, the provision for arbitration in article eleventh thereof applying also to any dispute, difference, or claim which may arise under this agreement.

Sixth.—This agreement is conditional upon the same being approved by the shareholders of the company at an extraordinary general meeting to be held for the purpose of considering it.

AT the Grand Theatre, Bolton, the attraction this week is Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton's company in *A Gambler's Daughter*, in which Mr. Robert Ayrton successfully appears as an Irish emigrant, and Miss Adria Hill, in the dual part of Mildred and Miriam Grant (mother and daughter). Mr. Richard Pitt sustains the character of John Grant, a gambler; Miss Harriet Loydell is humorous as Auntie Zeb, a negress, and other characters are well sustained.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, July 1, the Drama, entitled
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."

Mr. C. W. Somerset and company are presenting *The Sorrows of Satan* here this week in a way that is worthy of praise. The staging and mounting are exceptionally good, and the characters have been well cast, so that the moving and pathetic incidents of the play are given with a quiet force and naturalness that at once go straight to the hearts of the audience. The gentleness and grace of the Margaret Forster of Miss Agnes Russell endear her to the audience; Miss Winnie Stephen, too, is to be highly commended for the individuality she gives to the rôle of little Mary Forster. Mr. C. W. Somerset, so long associated with the part of Prince Lucio, is still the central figure, and repeats his powerful performance; the difficult and unthankful rôle of Lady Dragnette is sustained by Mrs. Clare Kennelson with conspicuous success; Miss Leah Marlborough suitably undertakes the part of Lady Delila; Miss Gertrude Kemble is responsible for a clever character-sketch of Mother Wurrall; and Miss Geraldine Somerset completes the feminine portion of the cast with a richly humorous interpretation of Chartenax Cholamdy, called "Jack." Mr. Keith Fraser cleverly characterises the part of Lord Adolphus Burrows, both he and Miss Somerset playing well into each other's hands. Mr. Talbot Homewood is responsible for a skilfully-limned portrait of Paul Carruthers; and the scarcely less important part of Grafton Lisle is in every respect masterfully treated by Mr. Arthur Law Raynor. Mr. E. Newman as Mr. John Grabley and Mr. Sinclaire Gladstone suitably complete an excellent cast.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, July 1, the Farcical Comedy, entitled
"TOM, DICK, AND HARRY."

A change is made this week from drama to comedy of the lightest description, and Mr. George Unwin and Miss Violet Ellicott are appearing in that well-known comedy, *Tom, Dick, and Harry*. The whole story is woven round the likeness of three men, and the situations arising therefrom, which are laughable in the extreme, have been utilised in the halls in the sketch *Three of a Kind*. Mr. George Unwin, who appears as General Stanhope, a part which he has played over five hundred times, gives a capital delineation of the fiery old soldier, and creates roars of laughter. As Daisy Armitage, Miss Violet Ellicott finds ample scope, and adds greatly to the success of the play by her charming rendering. Mr. Paige Laurence is in capital form as Tom Stanhope, and plays with immense energy. The twin brothers, Dick and Harry, are excellently portrayed by Messrs. Geoffrey Saville and J. P. Jordan, the close resemblance of the characters to each other being cleverly realised by make-up. Mr. Fred Manners is good as Ned Moreland; Ned's fiancée, Isabel, is brightly played by Miss Beatrice Mardsene; Miss Dorothy Lambert makes a pretty Molly Summers; and Miss Maud Arnold is to be congratulated on her clever acting of the weeping Mrs. Winter, a rather trying character. Mr. T. Brown Elliott as Dr. Wagner hits off the ways of the medical profession with humour; and Mr. W. S. Foley is to be commended as Matthew. The play is preceded by *The Last Post*, in which the author, Mr. George Unwin and Miss Violet Ellicott, acquit themselves admirably. The staging is adequate, and the dresses are most tasteful.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, July 1,
"IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT."

In Mr. James Willard's melodramatic mixture there is an infinity of incident, and it is well written and aptly illustrated, the scenery being both pretty and appropriate, and the realism of the sensational scenes very effective. Mr. Jackson Wilcox is every inch a villain of the polished, smooth-tongued, well-groomed, cigarette-smoking order as Clifford Yorke, and his best reward is the hisses which greet his entrance in the later acts. Mr. Austin Mortimer acts with earnestness and intensity as Gordon Allington, the deeply-wronged son of the Squire of Hazelmere, the part of the said Squire being capitally portrayed by Mr. George Harvey. Mr. G. Belmore acts with any amount of vim as the gentleman in khaki, Tom Nainby, who divides his time between fighting and making love. The part of the poacher, Jake Grudgewell, is realistically acted by Mr. William Hayward, who has a capital make-up. Mr. Harry Emmerson is first-rate as the good-hearted rustic farmer, James Woodstock; and Mr. H. Evison causes much laughter as the rural postman, who is somewhat hard of hearing, which part he doubles with that of the parson, Rector of Hazelmere. Miss Phyllis Brent acts with all the necessary anguish, and evokes the sympathy of the audience for the ill-treated heroine, Violet Kingston. Miss Mildred Carr is very bright and engaging as Molly Woodstock—"she was a farmer's daughter," and the song, slightly altered, applies to this pert young lady. Miss Phyllis French does admirably as Bob, the little tramp with the sunny smile; nor must we forget to mention the terrier, Gyp, Molly's faithful canine companion and Clifford Yorke's *bête noir*.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, July 1, the Play, entitled
"DAVID GARRICK."

The popularity of the recent engagement of Mr. Walter Maclean in the famous play, *David Garrick*, was evidenced by the large audience which greeted its return visit on Monday to the Brixton Theatre, so ably controlled by Mr. R. W. Allum. Mr. Maclean repeats his successful assumption of the title-rôle, playing with ease and a keen sense of humour, while the pathos of the part was also made prominent. A comely Ada Ingot is presented in the person of Miss Maud Linden, who plays gracefully throughout, and looks quite entrancing in the white satin costume of the second act. Her assumption of the part of the love-lorn heroine is well-nigh perfect, the only exception that could be taken to her performance being a slight affectation in her delivery. A pillar of strength to the cast is the Simon Ingot of Mr. Thomas J. Forde. Pompous and dignified in style, Mr. Forde reels off the lines of the part with the utmost drollery, and is throughout a favourite of the first water. Mr. Fred W. Permain is a rollicking and dashing Squire Chivy, thoroughly preserving the sporting character of the part. Conspicuous among the group of oddities who assemble at Simon Ingot's dinner party is Mrs. Smith, who is invested by Miss May Conrade with amusing quaintness. Her dialogue is delivered in a comical style, which well matches her eccentric appearance. Other grotesque personages of the cast are the Mr. Smith of Mr. Sydney Burt, the Araminta Browne of Miss Lilly Edmonds, and the Browne and Jones respectively of Mr. Arthur G. Brown and Mr. C. Lionel Brocknor.

Monday evening was rendered notable at Brixton by the first production of a new comedietta, by John Cutler, K.C., entitled

"A BRACE OF HUMBUGS."

Charles Smithers .....MR. FRED W. PERMAIN
George Smithers .....MR. ARTHUR G. BROWN
Maud Smithers .....MISS MAUD LINDEN
Miss Priscilla Baker .....MISS LILLY EDMONDS

A Brace of Humbugs, as hinted by one of the characters, is founded on a story in "The Arabian Nights," and is brightly written. It tells in amusing fashion the tale of a young couple, who resolve to amend their extravagant ways, but are hopelessly involved in debt. Maud, the attractive wife, proposes that Charlie, her husband, shall pretend to be ill, while she exercises her fascinations over his Uncle George, with whom she is a great favourite, in order to get an advance. It is further agreed that, in the event of failure, a similar plan shall be tried upon Maud's Aunt Priscilla, who had shown a decided preference for Charlie. The first to arrive is Uncle George, who finds his nephew asleep on the sofa, suffering from a pretended attack of influenza. Maud's appeal to her uncle for financial assistance is in vain, and at length, in order to gain her ends, she suggests a visit to Richmond, to which the uncle readily agrees. When he has departed, Maud takes the place of Charlie on the sofa, in readiness for the maiden aunt, upon whom Charlie tries similar methods; but she is equally obdurate, and in the end Charlie arranges to take her out to lunch. The return of uncle and aunt, who thus meet for the first time, ends in both falling in love with each other. Under Maud's threat to reveal his duplicity to Priscilla, uncle consents to write out a cheque, and the aunt, similarly influenced by Charlie, also adds her donation. The little piece, which raised much laughter, was admirably played. Miss Maud Linden was charmingly coquettish as the prepossessing and resourceful young wife; and Mr. Fred W. Permain played with unceasing vivacity as the husband. Miss Lilly Edmonds as the simpering spinster, who has not yet lost the attractiveness of youth, played with skilfully varied expression; and Mr. Arthur G. Brown was also excellent as the amatory uncle. Loud cries for the author were raised at the conclusion of the piece, and a venerable-looking gentleman appeared and bowed his acknowledgments, but firmly resisted the calls for a speech.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, July 1, the Play,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."

The reception given this now famous moral play at the above theatre this week speaks well for its great popularity. The play is so well known that it is unnecessary to comment upon the excellence of the work, and every point is gained by the splendid company, under the direction of Mrs. Morton Powell, who are presenting it here this week. As the Rev. Basil Gortre, Mr. E. Stanton Sharp acts in an earnest and impressive manner throughout, receiving much assistance from Mrs. Morton Powell as his trusting fiancée, Helena Byars. Miss Hilda Beverley gives a fine study of the extremely difficult character of Gertrude Hunt; and Mr. Millar Wilson as the Hon. Charles Gayfly is responsible for a sound performance, being at his best in the last act, where he becomes paralysed. This scene was carried to great heights, and met with well-merited applause. The palm for the acting must, however, go to Mr. W. J. Butler, who, as Constantine Schwabe, treats this important character in an extremely clever manner, never overplaying his part, and making all his points tell. The numerous other minor characters of the play are all well handled. The play is effectively staged throughout. A word of praise must be given to the genial acting-manager, Mr. W. H. Pease, who spares no effort whereby he may add to the comfort of his numerous patrons.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

Seldom has a more powerful company occupied the boards of the Kennington Theatre than the one which this week is drawing huge crowds to Mr. Robert Arthur's handsome playhouse. The attraction is found in a triple bill, consisting of *The King's Hat*, *Faithful James*, and *La Mascotte*. In *The King's Hat*, a romantic dramatic episode of the later life of King Charles II., Mr. Richard Green plays the King in a manner which won for him the admiration of the entire audience, his conception of the part being extremely clever. Mr. Frank Perfitt is seen to advantage as Sir Reginald Delaunay; as also is Mr. Frank Lacey in the character of Colonel Digby. Mr. Charles Wingrove is excellent as Captain Meers; and Ferrier, a faithful old servant of Sir Reginald Delaunay, is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Marshall Moore; while as Lady Delaunay, Miss Blanche Fenton scored a great success. The play is received with great enthusiasm. The second item of the programme is the one-act comedietta, *Faithful James*, in which Mr. Rutland Barrington appears in his original character. The popular actor keeps the house in a continual roar of laughter the whole time he occupies the stage, and at the conclusion of the performance is vigorously applauded. Mr. George F. Mackarness as Admiral Vincent, Mr. Fredk. W. Hearne as Henry Duncan, Mr. Earle Hopwood as a waiter, Miss Nellie Moore as Mrs. Catherine Melville, and Miss Winifred Macey as Mrs. Grace Duncan, all give able renderings of their respective parts. The programme terminates with Audran's charming opera, *La Mascotte*, in which Mr. Rutland Barrington as Laurent XVII., Duke of Prombino, is again the source of much merriment. Mr. Whitworth Mitton is seen to the best advantage as Prince Fritellina, his fine voice gaining for him well-deserved recalls. As Pippo, a shepherd, Mr. Richard Green's acting deserves the highest praise. Mr. Reginald White as Rocco, a farmer, and Mr. George P. Mackarness, as Giuseppe, a peasant, do ample justice to their respective rôles. Miss Madge Temple as Fiametta uses her splendid voice to great effect; and Miss Blanche Fenton cleverly plays Bellina, La Mascotte. Miss Maud Cottrill and Miss Nita Alexander, as Angelo and Luigi, together with Miss Gladys Gordon as Bianca, assisted by a large and powerful chorus, complete the cast of this delightful little opera. Mr. Harry Brandreth, the genial acting-manager at Kennington, is to be congratulated on the gratifying results which the triple bill has attained.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

THE Sports Committee will meet to-night in *The Era* office to complete the final arrangements for Tuesday next. The number of tug-of-war teams is now 15, and all have given satisfactory evidence as to the eligibility of the competitors for admission. Covent Garden and Lyceum have entered two teams. Any other theatre wishing to enter two teams may do so, if particulars are received in time, as requested on a special communication from the committee.

THE Ladies' Race will be a 50 yards egg-and-spoon race. The entries for this event are small, and owing to the short notice and the fact that this event is in addition to the list published on the entry form, the committee will receive entries to the latest moment. It is hoped that many more may be received.

THE prizes are on exhibition until Monday evening at 27, Wellington-street, Strand, next door to the office of the Sports Committee. Competitors who have not received their tickets—those who have entered for two or more events—should apply to the secretary. The following donations and prizes have been received since the last list was published:—Mr. Edward Terry, £1 1s.; Mr. W. S. Penley, £1 1s.; Miss Lena Ashwell, £1 1s.; Mr. H. J. Brett, 10s. 6d. Mr. Thomas Harris, of the Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Company, has presented a Sheraton clock, and Messrs. Gamage an ornament.

AN amusing feature at the Sports will be provided by the Shaftesbury tug-of-war team, who will appear in costume, and drive from the theatre to the ground as dressed to pull, with a suitable advertisement for the Sports and *Lady Tatters*. The team insist upon providing their own line for the contest, and have had one specially prepared. It is not anticipated that any other team will object—when they see the line. The staff are also preparing other surprises, and feel the greatest confidence that the "fat boy" who has entered from the Shaftesbury Theatre will either win the obstacle race or cause considerable obstruction. The staff propose to present a magnificent specially made cup to the most successful competitor among their number. How and why is kept a secret, but it may be stated that, owing to certain rumours, the cup will be placed under a strong guard. The staff do not propose that it shall share the fate of the Ascot Cup.

MR. A. W. PULLINGER, formerly property maker to the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, and the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, where he was employed for many years, died on July 2, and was buried in Birmingham on July 4. His two sons, one of whom is Mr. William Pullinger, master carpenter of the Garrick, attended the funeral.

MR. E. A. TAYLOR, master carpenter of the Scala, has for the third time in succession painted and presented a picture for competition at the Sports. Mr. Taylor, who is spending a holiday in Margate, has chosen for the subject of his picture "Venice at Sunset."

THE meeting held in The Horns, Kennington, was the first general gathering of the Musicians and Stage Employees since the Award, and it may be assumed from the statements made there by Mr. J. B. Williams, General Secretary of the Musicians, and Mr. William Johnson, General Secretary of the National Association of Theatrical Employees, that both these societies will co-operate with the managers in the observance of the Award.

THE fourth annual staff outing of the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, took place on Sunday, the party, numbering fully eighty friends and employees, being taken in special saloon carriages from New-street to Worcester, whence they were conveyed by steamer to Holt Fleet, where dinner was served. Here the chairman, Mr. Lester Collingwood, resident-proprietor of the theatre, proposed the health of the King, and other toasts were honoured. Mr. A. W. Matcham (Empire), in proposing "The Alexandra Theatre," spoke in graceful terms of the improved position Mr. Collingwood has won for that theatre, his remarks being thoroughly endorsed by the gathering, which drank Mr. Collingwood's health with musical honours.

FOR the rest of the afternoon, which continued fine, Mr. Fred Bernardo, acting-manager, had provided a programme of sports ycleept "the Alexandra Pageant." After tea the party returned to Worcester, and thence to Birmingham, arriving there at 9.45, well satisfied with the day's outing, which certainly had proved the most enjoyable and successful that has been held in connection with this theatre. Among those who contributed to the enjoyment of the party were Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Matcham (Empire), Mr. and Mrs. Albert Bushell (Gaiety), Mr. B. C. Farris (Bodega Café Royal), Mr. Edwin Barwick (who "spoke a piece" after the dinner), Miss Brammer, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bernardo, Mr. Chas. Price, Miss F. Price, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wallis, Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. Forsyth, Mr. Fred Homer, and Messrs. Montgomery and Taylor.

ACTORS' UNION.

LONDON.

Mr. Cecil G. Calvert presided at Tuesday's meeting of the Actors' Union, held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane. There was a large gathering, and many new members joined. Among those present were:—Mr. Percy Lincoln, Mr. Edward Chester, Mr. David Noble, Mr. Roy Sydney, Mr. E. J. Carlin,, Mr. Frank Dacre, Mr. Herbert Russell, Mr. Howard Cochran, Mr. J. W. Ryder, Mr. Kingsford Pearce, Mr. Jack Collinson, Mr. Harry Scott, Mr. H. Tripp-Edgar, Mr. Maurice Hoffman, Mr. Edward Valentine, Mr. Carlyle Pritchard, Mr. Chas. Stafford, Mr. J. W. Braithwaite, Mr. William Matthews, Mr. Maitland Stapley, Miss Robberds, Miss Edyth Goodall, Miss Grace Lester, Miss Undine Rhodes, Mr. William Allison, Mr. E. Y. Rae, Mr. and Mrs. Oswald Marshall, Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., Mr. Francis Chamier, Mr. Kirkham Hamilton, Mr. John Coghlan, Mr. John M. Troughton, Mr. Rawson Buckley, Mr. Bruce Lindley, Mr. Claude Haviland, Mr. J. P. Dryden, Mr. W. J. Butler, Mr. Albert Wainwright, Miss Violet Chamier, Mr. Herbert Hewitson, Mr. Fred Prior, Mrs. Ryder, Mr. Alfred Tate, Mr. Francis J. Bithell, Miss May Conrade, Miss Adelaide Gracie, Mr. H. Irving Loveday, Miss Vere, Mr. Frederic Jacques, Mr. Arthur St. John, Mr. Frank Sutherland, Miss Audrey Canning, Mr. W. Manfree, Miss Wynne Hanley, Miss Beatrice Western, Mr. E. Howard Templeton, Mr. Robberds, Mr. Fred Dent, Miss Mary Bessle, Miss Violet Norton, Mrs. Horace Booth, Miss Nellie Howitt, Miss Hilda Paget, Miss Lena Delphine, Miss Grace Lester, Mr. Harry Townley, Miss Gladys Ffolliott, Mr. Stanley Roberts, Miss Dorothea Mapleson, Miss Hilda Denison, Mr. Cecil Anson, Mr. Alfred Richards, Mr. Arthur Chisholm, Mr. Charles Halling, Miss Daisy Halling, Mr. Charles Rogers, Mr. A. E. Johnstone, Mr. G. Goodwin, Mr. F. Finchson, Miss Lily Crammonde, and Mr. Ruddle Brown.

THE CHAIRMAN opened his remarks by saying that the gradual deterioration of the profession was responsible for bringing the Actors' Union into existence. The present bad state of things was brought about, partly by the competition with the music halls and partly owing to the fact that theatrical managers did not attempt to make any improvement in their affairs. They had now to get back the confidence of their audiences. They were working to get more money for the actor and the touring manager. He (the chairman) did not think that the touring manager made any great profit; in fact, he certainly did not, when one considered his expenses and the risks he ran. Thousands of pounds per year were unnecessarily spent upon hoardings, and there were pictorial publishers in England who had made fortunes out of actors. But the first thing they had to do was to get the touring manager to improve his company. A little while ago the first unionist company went into the provinces, and it proved a distinct success, all the members of the company working well together, and for the general good. The theatrical profession at the moment was on the downward grade, and if they did not make an effort to stop its downward progress, in a short time it would not exist at all.

MR. MAITLAND STAPLEY, who said he was just now playing in a music hall sketch, remarked that the variety houses put on their productions in a superior manner to the theatres.

MISS DAISY HALLING thought that this season of the year, when so many actors and actresses were "resting," was hardly the time to expect a great increase of membership. She was thoroughly in favour of trades unionism for the dramatic profession.

MR. FRANCIS CHAMIER explained his position in regard to the opposition he had advanced against the admission of ladies to the committee. He thought that women who earned their living on the stage as actresses were quite as clever as the actors, but he was afraid that their presence at committee meetings would lead to a waste of time. And then, it could not be denied that some questions might arise which the male members of the committee would hesitate to discuss when ladies were present. On another point he had a suggestion to make. It was that the Actors' Union should run their own company as soon as they could do so, as it would be a good advertisement for them.

MR. MAURICE HOFFMAN said that, as other trades unions demanded a rate of payment by the hour, and not by the week, the Actors' Union should act in a similar way.

MR. H. TRIPP EDGAR drew the attention of the meeting to what he described as "an excellent article in *The Era*" on the subject of the music hall award, which said that the strike had done one good thing, and that was to get payment for matinées, while the powers of the barring clause were limited.

After MR. OSWALD MARSHALL, MR. HARRY PAULTON, JUN., and MR. ROY SYDNEY had spoken, a vote of thanks was accorded the chairman, and the meeting dispersed.

THE Willow Pattern Serenaders occupy the boards at the Princess Pier Concert Hall, Torquay, and on Monday evening opened to an appreciative audience. Miss Amy Brook as Toy does very well; and as Lu Lu, Miss Zoe Styles is good; Mr. Coran Smart (Ko-Ko) has a good baritone voice; and Mr. Arthur Chenery as Chin Chin renders some pleasing items. The concerted numbers are also very attractive.

[*Photo by Emery and Son, Ltd.*

CROWN THEATRE, PECKHAM.

NINTH ANNUAL OUTING OF THE STAGE AND PERMANENT STAFFS.

CROWN (PECKHAM) OUTING.

The ninth annual outing of the stage and permanent staffs of the Crown Theatre took place on Sunday, the "Devil's Dyke," at Brighton, being the place chosen. The party was accompanied by the respected manager, Mr. Cecil Paget, and his able lieutenant, Mr. Acting-Manager H. J. Brett, and a goodly number of visiting friends, and a good time was spent.

In accordance with the arrangements on the neatly-printed programme, devised by the hon sec. and treasurer, Mr. Phillip Sheridan (the Crown electrician), the party, numbering forty-three, assembled at London Bridge Station at 8.30 a.m., and were soon en route, per L.B. and S.C. Railway, in specially reserved carriages, to London-by-the-Sea, where they arrived after a pleasant hour and a half's journey, thanks to the excellent catering of Mr. "Pip" Sheridan and his steward colleagues, Messrs. Thos. Morgan, Matt Buck, Fred Chappell, and Jas. Wren. Proceeding to the Aquarium, where two char-à-bancs awaited them, an eight miles' drive across the downs brought the party to the "Devil's Dyke," where Mrs. Barrasford's fine Dyke Park Hotel is situated, and where the host, Mr. Henry G. Hammerstein, received them smilingly. Ample justice was done to the excellent repast, every member of the party acceding to the request, printed as a foot-line under the menu, to "Eat, drink, and be merry."

Mr. Cecil Paget, the chairman, after proposing the usual loyal toasts, then said:—Mr. Vice-Chairman and gentlemen, I need hardly tell you of the great pleasure it gives me to be with you to-day, for you all know it. Last year I was unfortunately absent from your "annual" owing to a pressing business appointment, but I can assure you my heart was, and always is, with you on these festive occasions, even when I cannot be present in body. However, I am here to-day, and when I look around and see you, my Crown boys, it makes me feel proud to be the manager of a theatre with such a staff. As to your visitors—a real live Borough Councillor in the person of Mr. George Scott, supporting, in company with our genial friend Mr. Tom Carter, your worthy vice-chairman, Mr. Jack Mellish, whom, I believe, is a race-horse owner—well, I think we ought all to feel highly honoured, and I am sure we do; and, on behalf of the Crown staff, I welcome them most heartily and hope that we shall, for many years to come, have the pleasure of their company at our annual outings, which I think will take a lot of beating by any other theatre. I must also pass a few remarks anent the organisation of this party. To go by the names as they are printed on your programme, first come your vice-presidents, Messrs. Harry J. Brett and Edward Wade; then your hon. sec., Mr. Phillip Sheridan, who bears the biggest brunt of the organising work, but he is an Hibernian, and doesn't mind; then there are your stewards, Messrs. Morgan, Chappell, Buck, and Wren—all good boys, as you know; and I think we are all thankful to them for helping to make this, your ninth annual outing, the great success that it is. To conclude, I will call on Mr. Mellish, the vice-chairman, to say a few words, knowing as I do his excellent oratorical powers, and I can see that he is waiting impatiently for me to sit down.

The vice-chairman then said:—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, as regards my speechifying capabilities, I am afraid you, Mr. Paget, muchly overestimate them, but I must thank you for the honour done me in allowing me to be with you to-day. I echo the wish of the chairman that I shall again have the pleasure of accompanying you on your "annuals," which I know are always of the best. I can say no more, but perhaps my colleagues and brother bungs, Mr. Tom Carter and Mr.—I mean Councillor—Scott, will help me out and make up for my shortcomings.

Mr. Scott remarked how pleased he was to be present once again on the occasion of a Crown outing, and he trusted that he, too, would often be present at those joyous events, to which he always looked forward with pleasurable anticipation.

Mr. J. M. East, the pantomime-producer and stage-manager, who was amongst the visitors, expressed his sense of satisfaction at the honour of being invited. Mr. Tom Carter also expressed his cordial appreciation of the honour conferred by the Crown boys in inviting him, and hoped that history might continue to repeat itself, as far as his presence at the good old Crown "beanos" was concerned.

The Chairman then passed a few remarks concerning the other visitors, amongst whom were Mr. William Brett, who carried out the railway arrangements; Mr. R. Langley, of Messrs. Wades, Peckham; Mr. White, of the Farrier's Arms, Rotherhithe; Mr. Dave Sheridan, of the Scala Theatre; Mr. W. Whitaker; and last, but by no means least, Mons. Lucien Lichtblan, of Paris, whom he cordially welcomed, as, if there was one thing more than another that would help to strengthen the *entente cordiale*, it was his presence at a Crown Theatre outing.

The secretary, Mr. Phillip Sheridan, then spoke a few words, as did Mr. H. J. Brett, Mr. Edward Wade, Mr. Fred Chappell, and the Crown's "one and only hall-keeper," as he was termed by the chairman, Uncle Ben Wicking.

A hearty vote of thanks having been enthusiastically passed to Mr. Hammerstein and his assistants for the excellent repast they had provided, the party were taken in hand by Messrs. Emery and Sons, of the *Hove Gazette*, to the café chantant in the grounds, where a couple of excellent photographic groups were obtained on the stage.

During the afternoon the party disported themselves in the various ways for which the Devil's Dyke is noted. There was an exciting race between Messrs. Mellish, Brett, Langley, Whitaker, Phil Sheridan, and others, up and down the dyke, which resulted in a win for Mr. Will Whitaker, who thus claims the Crown purse of gold, which on this occasion contained only three shillings in cash, but any amount of honour and glory—so Mr. Paget, who acted as judge, remarked when handing over the prize, and there was also an up and down dyke wrestling match between Messrs. Mellish and Brett.

After tea, the party were conveyed back in the char-à-bancs to Brighton Station, and the home journey commenced at seven o'clock.

The Crown staff desire sincerely to thank Mr. Paget, Mr. Brett, the directors, and all the friends, local and otherwise, and also the Crown 1906-7 *Mother Goose* pantomime artists, who so kindly contributed to their outing fund, and thereby helped to make it the success it was.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, July 1, the Drama, by William Bourne, entitled
"MAN TO MAN."

Mr. John M. East is responsible for this week's entertainment, which meets with entire success. Mr. Frank Stone gives a fine, manly rendering of George Gordon; Mr. J. Wilton Reed is excellent as Matthew Ellerton; Mr. Fred Morgan makes a polished, but unscrupulous, villain of Richard Ellerton; Mr. Alfred Holles plays remarkably well as the Rev. Philip Ormond, known as the Mad Parson; Mr. Fred Ingram is an amusing Samuel Plumtree; and Mr. Charles A. East gives a capital character performance as Bill Burkley. Miss Irene Ross gives a clever portrait of the boy Ned. Mr. Paul Peters as Forde, the constable; Mr. Samuel Jones as Turner, a warder; Mr. John Roberts as Roger, a rustic; and Mr. C. Ellis, as another rustic, are good in their respective parts. Ethel Maythorne is played in a charming and attractive manner by Miss Phyllis Ralph; Miss Annie Travers is remarkably good as Miss Lavinia Dove; Miss Louie Smith is effective as Mary; while clever Miss East Robertson gives a very fine performance of the gipsy, Madge.

ACTORS HELPING THE PRESS.

Pictorial evidence that the services of the actor were ever at the disposal of the journalist was afforded by the programme supplied at the matinée in aid of the funds of the Foreign Press Association in London, at His Majesty's, on Tuesday. The fly-leaf bore an illustration of a pre-historic penciller drawing animal designs on the horn of a mammoth, with a comrade posing as an elephant, while the inner pages scintillated with a brilliant array of modern "stars," who generously gave their services for the matinée. An item appropriate to the occasion was the second act of *Miss Tommy*, the play of Jerome K. Jerome, which deals with a romance of the editorial sanctum. Miss Annie Hughes appeared in her artistic impersonation of "Tommy," the lady journalist, and won warm commendation by the exercise of her comedy powers and by the dramatic skill and exquisite pathos of the scene with her rival. Mr. Rupert Lister gave a picturesque and convincing exposition of the young journalist, Dick Danvers. Mr. Evelyn Vernon made a benign old gentleman of Peter Hope; Mr. Willie Hartill acted smartly as Clodd, the manager; Miss Winifred Pearson invested with almost tragic intensity the part of "Mr. Morrison"; and Mr. Reginald Beach did excellent work as Flipp.

Another dramatic excerpt was the Orchard scene from *Julius Cæsar*, acted with profound impressiveness by Miss Constance Collier as Portia and Mr. Basil Gill as Brutus, Miss Iris Hoey making a comely and well-spoken youth of Lucius. A very popular appearance was that of Miss Marie Dainton, for whom the rule against encores had to be temporarily suspended. Miss Dainton gave delightfully real impersonations of Miss Evie Greene and Miss Mary Moore in well-known selections, and imitated Miss Connie Ediss's rendering of the favourite ballad, "Sing me to sleep." An enthusiastic recall resulted in a representation of Miss Marie Lloyd singing "Every morn I bring thee violets," and of Mrs. Patrick Campbell reciting "Stop yer tickling, Jock." Mr. James Welch gave a humorous rendering of "Hallo!" and Mr. Maurice Farkoa well sustained his popularity in a couple of characteristic effusions. Little Vera Le Fleming captivated all with her clever singing and dancing in "The Gay Tom-tit"; Miss Adeline Genée fascinated the audience with her dainty riding dance from *High Jinks;* and Mme. Yvette Guilbert gave three selections with exquisite expression.

Foreign artists were found in Mons. Fernand Depas, of the Paris Odéon, in Mons. and Mlle. Tania Oumiroff, in Bohemian folk-songs; in Senor Alvarez, whose artistic singing was rapturously applauded; and in the youthful Brothers Cherniavsky, who played Grieg's "Peer Gynt" in masterly style as a suite for violin, 'cello, and piano. Mr. Albert Archdeacon sang with rare expression Rossini's "Largo al Factotum," from *The Barber of Seville;* and Miss Kitty Gordon rendered the "Cigarette" song from *Nelly Neil* with her customary charm. Miss Viola Tree was cordially welcomed, and gave added proof of her vocal accomplishments in Henschel's "Spring" and in 'Liza Lehman's "Guardian Angel," displaying in the latter selection exceptional breadth and vigour; and even after such a plethora of good things, the audience were moved to enthusiasm over the delightful singing by Miss Mabel Nelson of Salvator Rosa's "Mia Piccirella."

The final item of the entertainment, which enjoyed the patronage of the Lord Mayor and several foreign Ambassadors and Ministers, was furnished by Mr. Tree, who said his simple task was to announce the result of that day's performance, by which the Foreign Press Association would benefit to the extent of over £200. He was desired by the committee to express their best thanks to the ladies and gentlemen who had so generously given their services. It was a great pleasure to them to realise that there was so much talent in London ready to respond to the call of charity. There were some present, perhaps, who did not know what a fine cause they had supported that afternoon, and he might tell them that its mission was to succour foreign journalists in distress in London. Journalists, like actors, were not millionaires, and it was a source of considerable satisfaction to their visitors from a foreign country that English artists should thus have come to their help. He thanked them on their behalf and his own for their kindness.

MISS GERTRUDE BATTERSBY'S CONCERT.

A large audience assembled at the Brinsmead Galleries on Thursday evening, June 27, on the occasion of Miss Battersby's first concert. In the long programme, which contained no less than thirty-six items, the concert giver was set down for the modest number of three. Miss Battersby, who was assisted by Mr. Clay Thomas, Mlle. Bouri, Mr. Stanley Vaughan, Mons. Edouard Michel, Miss Clara Reed, and a host of other clever vocalists was first heard in Louis Cottell's song, "Child of Spain," which was much applauded and encored. Miss Battersby, who is a pupil of Mr. Lansdowne Cottell, director of the London Conservatoire of Music, has a voice pleasing in quality, and, although slightly nervous in her first song, gave an excellent piano solo of the "Balmoral Waltz," composed by herself, which proved very attractive. The young lady, who comes forward as vocalist, pianist, and composer, does great credit to her professor, Mr. Cottell. Miss Battersby's last song was E. Green's "Springtime." In Meyerbeer's aria, "Nobil Signor," Miss Mathilde Henry was successful; and Mlle. Isade Bouri, another pupil of Mr. Cottell's, gained hearty applause for her rendering of the chanson, "Aimer, c'est forger sa peine," by Alfredo Barbirolli. Mr. Clay Thomas, an excellent baritone, also greatly pleased the audience in a song given by request; and Miss Agatha Triebner sang "The Children's Home" (Cowen), with good expression. Mr. Cottell's piano solo, "Westminster Chimes," was skilfully played by Miss Hannah Seymour; while Mr. Edward Green's capitally sung "Sweet Killarney" had the additional advantage of being accompanied by Mr. Cottell. Later in the concert, Mr. Green sang "The Death of Nelson." A clever little vocalist, with a bright, pleasing voice, Miss Doris Trevelyan, was warmly greeted, and recalled in "Buy My Primroses," by Mr. Claude Trevelyan, being accompanied by the composer; and in Goring Thomas's charming song, "O, Summer Night," Miss Annie Lynch made an excellent impression. To give relief to so many vocal items, Miss Gwladys Arden's humorous sketch, *The Telegram*, by Arden, proved of great service, and caused much merriment; but in Miss Moyna Hill's clever recitation of "Mrs. Hankey on Pork Pies and Funerals," the effect was somewhat spoilt by the extreme length of the work. In the second part of the programme, Mr. Stanley Vaughan sang, "Oh, hear the wind blow," by Tito Mattei with great spirit. M. Edouard Michel also gave good effect to the vocal scena, "Fierce Passions" (Cottell); and Miss Daisy Hill was entirely successful in a brilliant "Tarantelle," for the piano, written by the same composer. Other clever performers were Miss Clara Reed (a pupil of Mrs. Hasluck, Royal Polytechnic), who gave a scene from *Macbeth*, with considerable dramatic power; and among the vocalists may be mentioned Miss Almina Clark, Miss Dale, Miss Beatrice Beaufort, and Mr. Thomas Savage. The conductors were Mr. Claude Trevelyan, Miss Daisy Hill Mr. Thomas Savage, and Mr. Lansdowne Cottell.

THEATRICAL SPORTS HANDICAP.

The handicapping for the Theatrical Sports, which take place at Stamford Bridge Grounds on Tuesday next is as follows:—

100 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Heat.

1. J. Bundy (Lyceum) ..... 3yds.
2. E. Carne (Hicks) ..... 4½yds.
3. F. J. Cooper Adams (Covent Garden) ..... 5½yds.
4. G. F. Bampton (Savoy) ..... 6yds.
5. G. Caplin (Fulham Grand) ..... 8yds.
6. H. Rockett (Surrey) 13yds

Second Heat.

7. F. Porter (Oxford Music Hall) .... 3yds.
8. J. Ford (Duchess, Balham) ..... 4½yds.
9. D. Waller (Grand, Croydon) .... 5½yds.
10. H. J. Lefort (Empire, Croydon) .. 5½yds.
11. Lichfield Owen (Duke of York's) 7½yds.
12. A. B. Whittaker (Comedy) ..... 11yds.

Third Heat.

13. P. Lavender (Grand, Fulham) .... 1½yds.
14. W. Annis (Coronet) ..... 4½yds.
15. C. C. Turner (Putney Hippodrome) 5yds.
16. W. Blades (Crown) ..... 5½yds.
17. — Kendall (Woolwich Hippodrome) ..... 6½yds.
18. W. Seiver (Oxford Music Hall) .. 9½yds.

Fourth Heat.

19. B. Womack (Oxford Music Hall) scr.
20. A. Whale (Duke of York's) .... 4yds.
21. H. Thomas (Waldorf) ..... 4½yds.
22. C. Whale (Duke of York's) ..... 5½yds.
23. C. Crouch (Grand, Croydon) ..... 6½yds.
24. J. Andrews (Alhambra) ..... 8yds.

Fifth Heat.

25. J. Simms (Playhouse) ..... 1yd.
26. J. Cowis (Paragon) ..... 4½yds.
27. A. H. Lenton (Oscar Asche Co.).. 4½yds.
28. F. Hayward (Oxford) ..... 5½yds.
29. G. Poynton, jun. (Gaiety) ..... 6½yds.
30. J. T. Pennett (New Theatre) .... 9yds.

Sixth Heat.

31. W. Rosser (South London Palace) 1½yds.
32. J. Betteridge (Camden Theatre).. 4½yds.
33. J. Fitzmaurice (Drury Lane) .... 5yds.
34. J. Green (Oxford) ..... 5½yds.
35. W. Henson (Duchess, Balham) .. 6½yds.
36. P. Groeveson (Savoy) ..... 10yds.

Seventh Heat.

37. A. W. Cordier (Daly's) ..... 3½yds.
38. A. G. Trevell (Court) ..... 4½yds.
39. E. Wright (Gaiety) ..... 5½yds.
40. C. Entwistle (Wyndham's) ..... 6yds.
41. A. Wright (London Pavilion) .... 8yds.

Eighth Heat.

42. R. Williams (Alhambra) ..... 4yds.
43. C. Mason (Grand, Croydon) .... 4½yds.
44. H. Pritchard (Vaudeville) ..... 5½yds.
45. A. Mathams (Cambridge Music Hall) ..... 6½yds.
46. W. West (Coronet) ..... 8yds.

FIVE-MILE CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIP.

(First two in each heat to ride in final, of one mile.)

For the Dewar Championship Shield.

First Prize, Gold Medal. Second Prize, Gold Medal. Third Prize, Gold Centre Medal. Fourth Prize, a Lap Prize.

First Heat.

1. B. E. Major (late Duke of York's Theatre).
2. F. Stephenson (Duchess, Balham).
3. Cecil M. King (Brixton Theatre).
4. — Nicholls (Empire, Croydon).
5. F. W. Parrott (Chelsea Palace).
6. S. F. Bailey (Borough, Stratford).

Second Heat.

7. W. J. Simpson (Hippodrome, Ealing).
8. F. C. Meredith (Empress, Brixton).
9. W. Durbridge (Grand, Croydon).
10. R. Hudson (Empire, Croydon).
11. E. S. Dawson ("La Milo" Company).
12. J. Maskell (London Pavilion).

Third Heat.

13. A. W. Whattey (Hippodrome, Ealing).
14. C. D. Setzer (Savoy).
15. J. E. Lane (Coronet).
16. A. Ford (Chelsea Palace).
17. C. W. Bailey (Borough, Stratford).
18. K. Semming (Camden Theatre).

Fourth Heat.

19. F. J. Chilman (Hippodrome, Ealing).
20. H. W. Marsh (Savoy).
21. J. W. Thompson (Brixton Theatre).
22. W. Hasthorpe (Grand, Clapham).
23. G. Fuller (Grand, Croydon).

100 YARDS VETERANS' RUNNING HANDICAP.

(First two in each heat to run in final.)

First Prize, a Cup. Second Prize, Oil Painting (by, and presented by, Mr. E. A. Taylor, master carpenter, the Scala Theatre).

First Heat.

1. J. Blackburn (Gaiety) .. Age 50 .. scr.
2. W. Avery (Shaftesbury) .. 52 .. 2yds.
3. J. E. Lane (Coronet) ..... 54 .. 4yds.
4. H. Rockett (Surrey) ..... 55 .. 5yds.
5. C. Seville (Oxford) ..... 68 .. 18yds.

Second Heat.

6. J. Andrews (Alhambra) Age 58 .. scr.
7. W. Lee (Covent Garden) .. 53 .. 3yds.
8. A. B. Whittaker (Comedy) 54 .. 4yds.
9. H. Smith (Lyric) ..... 56 .. 6yds.
10. — Borley (South London).. 69 .. 19yds.

Third Heat.

11. C. Hutton (Gaiety) .... Age 51 .. 1yd.
12. T. H. Coombes (Alhambra) 53 .. 3yds.
13. J. Knott (Grand, Fulham) 55 .. 5yds.
14. — Johnson (Woolwich Hippodrome) ..... 57 .. 7yds.
15. H. Stanford ..... 62 .. 12yds.

ONE-MILE WALKING HANDICAP.

First Prize, a Biscuit Box. Second Prize, Ink Stand. Third Prize, Tankard.

1. H. H. Jeapes (Metropolitan Music Hall) ..... scr.
2. F. Robinson (Daly's) ..... 30yds.
3. E. Hall (Lyric) ..... 30yds.
4. J. Warner (Alhambra) ..... 95yds.
5. A. S. Tong (Lyceum) ..... 130yds.
6. J. Scott (Alhambra) ..... 136yds.
7. T. Batch (Duke of York's) ..... 135yds.
8. E. Kettley (The Playhouse) ..... 140yds.
9. W. J. Barry (Crown) ..... 140yds.
10. C. Crouch (Grand, Croydon) .... 146yds.
11. F. Devan (Oxford Music Hall) .. 150yds.
12. W. West (Coronet) ..... 165yds.
13. W. Tricks (Grand, Croydon) .... 166yds.
14. A. E. Horne (St. James's) ..... 166yds.
15. W. Harrington (Empire, Croydon) 170yds.
16. Lichfield Owen (Duke of York's) 185yds.
17. G. Caplin (Grand, Fulham) ..... 185yds.
18. H. R. Walker (Lyceum) ..... 190yds.
19. W. Seaman (Crown) ..... 195yds.
20. J. Knott (Grand, Fulham) ..... 240yds.
21. H. Rockett (Surrey) ..... 250yds.
22. J. Griffin (Lyceum) ..... 270yds.
23. W. H. Stanford ..... 355yds.

HALF-MILE RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Prize, Rose Bowl. Second Prize, Spirit Decanters. Third Prize, Jam Dish. Fourth Prize, Case of Liniment (presented by the Dr. Bodie Electric Drug Co.).

1. E. Hall (Lyric) ..... scr.
2. C. S. Powell (Waldorf) ..... 33yds.
3. B. Womack (Oxford) ..... 35yds.
4. C. T. Willat (Lyceum) ..... 46yds.
5. G. Bailey (Paragon) ..... 50yds.
6. G. F. Bampton (Savoy) ..... 50yds.
7. D. Waller (Grand, Croydon) .... 50yds.
8. A. S. Tong (Lyceum) ..... 55yds.
9. E. Kettley (the Playhouse) ..... 56yds.
10. H. J. Lefort (Empire, Croydon).. 56yds.
11. A. E. Horne (St. James's) ..... 56yds.
12. J. Munn (Crown) ..... 56yds.
13. Clifford Byng (late George Dance Co.) ..... 56yds.
14. H. Spratt (Grand, Croydon)..... 60yds.
15. A. Wright (London Pavilion).... 60yds.
16. S. Barry (Crown) ..... 60yds.
17. E. Robbins (St. James's) ..... 65yds.
18. W. Seaman (Crown) ..... 70yds.
19. Lichfield Owen (Duke of York's) 70yds.
20. A. G. Trebell (Court) ..... 70yds.
21. C. Mason (Grand, Croydon) .... 75yds.
22. A. H. Lenton (Oscar Asche Co.) 80yds.
23. J. A. Green (Gaiety) ..... 80yds.
24. G. Poynton, jun. (Gaiety) .... 80yds.
26. W. Blades (Crown) ..... 85yds.
26. G. Poynton, sen. (Gaiety) ..... 85yds.
27. J. Blackburn (Gaiety) ..... 120yds.
28. J. E. Lane (Coronet) ..... 135yds.

ONE MILE CYCLING HANDICAP.

(First in each heat and fastest second of the four heats to ride in final.)

First Prize, Claret Jug. Second Prize, Sugar and Cream Stand. Third Prize, Fruit Spoons, in case.

First Heat.

1. F. C. Meredith (Empress, Brixton) ..... 110yds.
2. C. D. Setzer (Savoy) ..... 120yds.
3. W. J. Simpson (Ealing Hippodrome) ..... 130yds.
4. W. Saunders (Savoy) ..... 160yds.
5. H. S. Hobbs (St. James's) ..... 160yds.
6. Cecil M. King (Brixton) ..... 165yds.
7. J. W. Thompson (Brixton) ..... 170yds.

Second Heat.

8. S. F. Bailey (Boro', Stratford).... scr.
9. G. Fuller (Grand, Croydon) .... 110yds.
10. W. Hasthorpe (Grand, Clapham) 130yds.
11. J. Maskell (London Pavilion) .. 140yds.
12. B. E. Major (late Duke of York's) ..... 160yds.
13. F. Stephenson (Duchess) ..... 165yds.
14. A. W. Whattey (Ealing Hippodrome) ..... 170yds.

Third Heat.

15. C. W. Bailey (Boro', Stratford).. 35yds.
16. A. Ford (Chelsea Palace) ..... 110yds.
17. W. H. Marsh (Savoy) ..... 125yds.
18. K. Semmings (Camden) ..... 130yds.
19. F. W. Parrott (Chelsea Palace).. 150yds.
20. C. Murfitt (Aldwych) ..... 160yds.
21. W. Durbridge (Grand, Clapham) 166yds.

HALF-MILE CYCLING HANDICAP.

First Prize, Fruit Dish. Second Prize, Knives in Case. Third Prize, Cruet.

First Heat.

1. C. E. Dawson ("La Milo" Co.).. 25yds.
2. F. C. Meredith (Empress, Brixton) ..... 50yds.
3. G. Fuller (Croydon Grand) ..... 55yds.
4. K. Semmings (Camden) ..... 60yds.
5. J. Maskell (London Pavilion) .. 65yds.
6. F. J. Chilman (Hippodrome, Ealing) ..... 65yds.
7. F. Stephenson (Duchess) ..... 70yds.

Second Heat.

8. C. W. Bailey (Boro', Stratford) 15yds.
9. W. J. Simpson (Ealing Hippodrome) ..... 60yds.
10. W. Hasthorpe (Grand, Clapham) 65yds.
11. R. Hudson (Empire, Croydon) .. 65yds.
12. C. Murfitt (Aldwych) ..... 70yds.
13. B. E. Major (late Duke of York's) ..... 75yds.
14. G. Sylie (Daly's) ..... 85yds.

Third Heat.

15. S. F. Bailey (Boro', Stratford) .. scr.
16. A. Ford (Chelsea Palace) ..... 55yds.
17. C. D. Setzer (Savoy) ..... 60yds.
18. W. H. Marsh (Savoy) ..... 60yds.
19. W. Durbridge (Grand, Clapham) 65yds.
20. F. W. Parrott (Chelsea Palace).. 70yds.
21. H. S. Hobbs (St. James's) ..... 75yds.

100 YARDS BOYS' (under 12 years) RUNNING HANDICAP.

(First two to run in final.)

First Prize, a Watch and Chain. Second Prize, a Pocket Knife.

First Heat.

1. B. Green (Gaiety) ....Age 11 .. scr.
2. C. Dawson ..... 10 .. 2yds.
3. R. Hooke (Putney Hippodrome) ..... 9 .. 8yds.
4. W. Wootten (Drury Lane) 8 .. 11yds.
5. A. Dyball ..... 7 .. 14yds.

Second Heat.

6. W. P. Seaman (Crown).Age 11 .. 2yds.
7. W. Porter (Criterion) .... 11 .. 2yds.
8. H. Langham (Gaiety) .... 9 .. 8yds.
9. G. Chaplin (Grand, Fulham) ..... 7 .. 14yds.

ONE MILE RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Prize, a Biscuit Box. Second Prize, Ink Stand. Third Prize, Tankard. Fourth Prize, Case of Liniment (presented by the Dr. Bodie Electric Drug Co.).

1. E. Hall (Lyric) ..... scr
2. C. S. Powell (Waldorf) 50yds
3. E. T. Willat (Lyceum) ..... 85yds.
4. G. Bailey (Paragon) ..... 90yds.
5. G. F. Bampton (Savoy) ..... 95yds.
6. A. E. Horne (St. James's) ..... 100yds.
7. Clifford Byng (late George Dance Co.) ..... 100yds.
8. J. Nunn (Crown) ..... 100yds.
9. J. Cowis (Paragon) ..... 110yds.
10. H. Spratt (Grand, Croydon) .... 120yds.
11. A. Swanson (Hicks Theatre) .... 125yds.
12. W. Harrington (Empire, Croydon) ..... 130yds.
13. S. Barry (Crown) ..... 130yds.
14. Lichfield Owen (Duke of York's) 140yds.
15. A. G. Trebell (Court) ..... 140yds.
16. E. Robbins (St. James's) ..... 140yds.
17. J. T. Pennett (New) ..... 145yds.
18. A. H. Lenton (Oscar Asche Co.).. 155yds.
19. C. Mason (Grand, Croydon) .... 170yds.
20. J. A. Green (Gaiety) ..... 190yds.
21. G. A. Poynton (Gaiety) ..... 190yds.
22. J. E. Lane (Coronet) ..... 200yds.

LADIES' RACE (Extra Event).

50 YARDS EGG-AND-SPOON RACE.

The egg must be carried on the spoon in one hand from starting-mark to finishing-mark; if the egg falls, it may be picked up with the spoon only. First lady arriving at finishing-mark with egg in spoon wins.

First Prize, a Silver Bag Purse, containing one sovereign, presented by Miss Ada Reeve.

1. Miss Florence Coward (Putney Hippodrome) ..... Dresser.
2. Miss T. King (Ealing Hippodrome) ..... Secretary.
3. Miss B. Felder (Ealing Hippodrome) ..... Programmes.
4. Miss D. Wadmore (Ealing Hippodrome) ..... Programmes.

Owing to short notice of this event, entries will be accepted on the ground. Competitors must be eligible as per form. Fee 6d. A second prize will be given if more competitors enter.

QUARTER-MILE RUNNING HANDICAP.

(First three to run in final.)

First Prize, Marble Clock, presented by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter. Second Prize, a Jug. Third Prize, a Cake Dish. Fourth Prize, a Case of Liniment, presented by the Dr. Bodie Electric Drug Co.

First Heat.

1. B. Womack (Oxford) ..... 15yds.
2. C. S. Powell (Waldorf) ..... 18yds.
3. J. Green (Oxford) ..... 20yds.
4. W. T. Annis (Coronet) ..... 22yds.
5. J. Bundy (Lyceum) ..... 25yds.
6. E. Kettley (The Playhouse) .... 25yds.
7. D. Waller (Grand, Croydon) .. 25yds.
8. R. Williams (Alhambra) ..... 25yds.
9. J. Munn (Crown) ..... 25yds.
10. H. J. Lefort (Empire, Croydon) 25yds.
11. S. Barry (Crown) ..... 28yds.
12. Nicholls (Empire, Croydon) .... 25yds.
13. W. Seaman (Crown) ..... 30yds.
14. Lichfield Owen (Duke of York's) 30yds.
15. C. H. Cannon (Gaiety) ..... 30yds.
16. G. A. Poynton, sen. (Gaiety) .. 33yds.
17. W. Lee (Covent Garden) ..... 35yds.
18. P. Grieveson (Savoy) ..... 35yds.
19. A. H. Lenton (Oscar Asche Co.) 40yds.

Second Heat.

20. E. Hall (Lyric) ..... scr.
21. G. F. Bampton (Savoy) ..... 20yds.
22. E. T. Willat (Lyceum) ..... 22yds.
23. C. Entwistle (Wyndham's) ..... 23yds.
24. A. W. Cordier (Daly's) ..... 23yds.
25. A. S. Tong (Lyceum) ..... 25yds.
26. Chas. C. Turner (Putney Hippodrome) ..... 25yds.
27. A. E. Horne (St. James's) .... 25yds.
28. P. Lavender (Grand, Fulham) .. 25yds.
29. A. Rodber (Alhambra) ..... 25yds.
30. W. J. Barry (Crown) ..... 25yds.
31. E. Wright (Gaiety) ..... 25yds.
32. A. Wright (London Pavilion).. 28yds.
33. W. Blades (Crown) ..... 30yds.
34. A. G. Trebell (Court) ..... 30yds.
35. G. Poynton, jun. (Gaiety) ..... 32yds.
36. J. A. Green (Gaiety) ..... 35yds.
37. C. Seville (Oxford) ..... 50yds.

"THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD,"

Drama, in Four Acts, by May Irene Wright, produced at the Theatre Royal, Darlington, on Monday, July 1.

Gregorius ..... MR. ALFRED WADE
Geraldus ..... MR. CLIFFORD REAN
Petunias ..... MR. BOB ANDERSON
Joris ..... MR. F. BOOTH CONWAY
Sculda ..... MR. E. HOLLAND DAY
Sysimus ..... MR. CLAUDE AYMOND
Lemos ..... MR. R. S. INNES
Clotho ..... MR. L. BAKER
Mythera ..... MR. ALBERT WAGHORN
Cecropia ..... MISS THEO HENRIES
Latrilla ..... MISS EDITH LORRAINE
Flamma ..... MISS GERTIE HENDERSON
Glycera ..... MISS ETHEL GRIFFIES
Beric ..... MR. F. B. WOULFE
Tynwar ..... MR. ALFRED WAGHORN
Theulf ..... MR. GEORGE MUCRO
Woader ..... MISS EVA WAINE
Morwenna ..... MISS SARAH THWAITE
Eda ..... MISS JANE EVAN
Gwith ..... MR. CECIL RENTON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Light of the World was produced on Monday by Mr. F. B. Woulfe's company, and was received with great applause. The story opens in Britain during the Roman occupation. The interest centres in the struggle of Beric, the chief of the Brigantes, for liberty and the efforts of Geraldus, the Roman Prefect, to overcome them. Beric is captured, but is released by a patrician lady named Cecropia, who offers him her love, which he rejects. In revenge, she betrays the Britons to the Romans; and Beric is recaptured, and is offered for sale in the slave market at Rome. Geraldus buys him, and also endeavours to purchase a virtuous dancing-girl named Glycera, but fails. He, however, kills her brother, and carries away Glycera to prison, where she is racked to death. Geraldus returns to his home, and Beric, who has become a gladiator, seeks him out and kills him, afterwards becoming a Christian and going to a martyr's death, the play ending with the tableau "Rock of Ages."

Mr. F. B. Woulfe's representation of Beric was a fine character study. Miss Ethel Griffies as Glycera deserves warm praise; Mr. Clifford Rean as Geraldus well brought out the character; Mr. R. S. Innes sustained the part of a leper to advantage; a part well played was that of Sculda, by Mr. E. Holland Day; Mr. F. Booth Conway as Joris did well in a difficult rôle; Mr. L. Baker was a typical gladiator; Mr. Bob Anderson as Petunias sang well and caused roars of laughter; Mr. Claude Aymond as Sysimus made the most of his opportunities; Miss Theo Henries as a Roman lady was charming; Miss Edith Lorraine as Latrilla was effective; and Mr. Cecil Renton as Gwith gave a brilliant impersonation.

THE ARTHUR VERNE FUND.

Subscriptions already received:—

	£	s.	d.
Henry Swinerd	5	5	0
J. W. Cordiner	5	5	0
Messrs. Power and Kirby's Co. (per Martin Comstock)	2	10	6
Horace Stanley	2	2	0
Sam Livesey	2	2	0
Dan Rolyat	2	2	0
The Tyrant Company (per Roy Fortescue)	1	16	6
Nellie Harcourt	1	1	0
George Brooks	1	1	0
Lyn Harding	1	1	0
G. Howard Watson	1	1	0
Mrs. Hy. Mayhew	1	1	0
George Arliss	1	1	0
Queenie Leighton	1	1	0
Charles Barnard	0	10	6
Lester Collingwood	0	10	0
Walter H. Nightingale	0	10	0
Bert Edwards	0	7	6
Deane Cliffe	0	5	0
W. C. H.	0	5	0
Arthur Hartley	0	5	0
Walter Ashley	0	5	0
Henry C. Ward	0	5	0
Marie Vere	0	5	0
W. E. Mowbray	0	5	0
T. F.	0	2	6

Subscriptions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Henry Swinerd, Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich; or by J. W. Cordiner, *Dare-Devil Dorothy* company, en route.

PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG, the Duchess of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Princess Beatrice of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, and suite, witnessed the performance of *The Gondoliers*, at the Savoy Theatre, on Wednesday evening.

ACTORS AT THE OVAL.

The glorious game of cricket at the Oval has scarcely been enjoyed this summer with the zest that is born of sunny skies and hard wickets; but the weather conditions prevailing on Tuesday, when a team of London actors, captained by Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, played eleven provincial actors, were decidedly favourable to a good attendance. Unfortunately for the professional charities that should have benefited, the prominent people of the theatres were conspicuous only by their absence, and as a social gathering the function was somewhat disappointing. The cricket generally was good, and there was no lack of excitement during the afternoon. With the middle-aged observers of the game who remember Edgar Willsher, the first professional over-arm bowler, the tremendous run taken by the trundler of to-day stimulates reflection. To take a nineteen yards' trot up to the wicket in order to give the requisite spin and force to a lightning delivery must "take it out" of the strongest in a long match, and as an arithmetical calculation it would be interesting to tot up the distance compassed by the two most successful bowlers of the day—Messrs. H. E. Pearce and F. G. Warlock—while travelling up to the "sticks" for each delivery.

The touring actors first went to the wickets, and were somewhat cheaply got rid of for 115. The attack was mostly shared by B. Egerton, H. E. Pearce, and C. Childerstone, who fairly divided the honours. Aubrey Smith was rather expensive, 19 being scored from his three overs, so he took himself off. Sam Livesey and P. F. Knox made a fairly-good stand, and Talbot Homewood compiled a useful 17 before he was smartly caught by O'Connor. The London Actors made a most sensational start. Getting under the first ball bowled by F. G. Warlock, V. O'Connor put it into the hands of Sam Livesey. Mr. Aubrey Smith, who learnt his cricket at Charterhouse, and was a Sussex amateur for some fourteen years, came next, but Warlock's second delivery rising quickly from the pitch beat him and spread-eagled the wicket. Two for 0. Pearce and Selby then came together, and, gradually wearing down the bowling, were not separated until the score of the Provincials had been well passed, the telegraph-board reading 3 for 133, last player 41. This was Selby, who played a sound defensive innings, and was also caught by Sam Livesey. Pearce, who, we were given to understand, played for Middlesex a year or two back, showed very small respect for the bowling, punishing it unmercifully, and scoring twenty 4's and a 5. When the score had reached 213 for six wickets, Smith declared, and the Provincials went in a second time, running up a total of 103 for seven wickets, when stumps were drawn. Childerstone and Egerton bowled exceedingly well. The umpires were Ducat and Edwards. The following are the scores and bowling analyses:—

PROVINCIAL ACTORS.

First Innings.

Herbert Morgan, b Pearce	12
P. F. Knox, c Childerstone, b Pearce	29
J. P. Wilson, c Blackman, b Egerton	0
Leslie Holland, b Egerton	0
F. G. Warlock, b Egerton	5
Sam Livesey, c Whitby, b Pearce	21
Horace Mills, b Pearce	1
Talbot Homewood, c O'Connor, b Childerstone	17
A. J. Metcalfe, b Childerstone	9
Percival Knight, not out	9
A. Wheatman, c and b Childerstone	1
Extras	10
Total	115

Second Innings.

Herbert Morgan, lbw, b Childerstone	0
J. P. Wilson, b Egerton	11
Leslie Holland, c Smith, b Egerton	3
F. G. Warlock, b Childerstone	1
Sam Livesey, b Egerton	18
Horace Mills, b Childerstone	0
A. J. Metcalfe, not out	31
Percival Knight, c Pearce, b Childerstone	5
A. Wheatman, not out	17
Extras	17
Total (7 wkts)	103

LONDON ACTORS.

First Innings.

R. Selby, c Livesey, b Metcalfe	41
V. O'Connor, c Livesey, b Warlock	0
C. A. Smith, b Warlock	0
H. E. Pearce, not out	118
B. Egerton, c Mills, b Warlock	13
R. Evett, c Holmwood, b Metcalfe	7
C. Childerstone, b Warlock	6
A. Whitby, not out	8
Extras	20
Total (6 wkts)	213

Innings declared. F. Blackman, F. Pope Stamper, and J. Clifford Brooke did not bat.

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

LONDON.—First Innings.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	W.	N-b.
Egerton	16	3	45	3	..	..
Smith	3	0	19	0	..	..
Pearce	10	1	31	4	..	..
Childerstone	3.3	1	6	3	..	..
O'Connor	1	0	4	0	..	..

LONDON.—Second Innings.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Childerstone	12	1	26	4
Egerton	10	1	38	3
Smith	3	0	9	0
O'Connor	2	0	12	0

PROVINCIAL.—First Innings.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	W.	N-b.
Warlock	13	0	69	4	4	..
Knight	5	1	16	0	..	..
Livesey	5	1	22	0	..	..
Holland	1	0	15	0	..	..
Wheatman	1	0	12	0	..	..
Metcalfe	9	0	58	2	..	..

PRESENTATION.—At the conclusion of the performance at the Marlborough Theatre on Monday night, Mr. J. Murray Herriot, the acting-manager, was made the recipient of a handsome solid 15ct. gold fob chain and pendant (the latter suitably inscribed), a cheque, and an illuminated address, as a mark of esteem and goodwill at the close of his second year of office. The subscribers to the gift included everyone employed at the theatre, from the managing-directors, Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan, downwards, and many personal friends and patrons of the house. Mr. Herriot has, during his time at the Marlborough, been exceedingly popular with the visiting managers to this handsome and well-managed house, on account of his energy, attention, and devotion to business. The house closes to-night (Saturday) for the summer vacation, and will reopen on August Bank Holiday.

MAKES THE SKIN AS SOFT AS VELVET.—Beetham's "LAROLA" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, irritation, tan, &c., and KEEPS THE SKIN SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE at all Seasons. INVALUABLE for the COMPLEXION, DELIGHTFULLY COOLING AND REFRESHING after golfing, cycling, motoring, tennis, boating, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. BEETHAM AND SON, CHELTENHAM.—[ADVT.]

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Charles Wyndham's determination to go holiday-making this month will shortly bring to a conclusion the season of *The Liars*, which last night registered the eighty-sixth performance of its present revival at the Criterion. *The Liars*, which was produced in the October of 1897, has been thrice revived, and so lasting is its popularity that Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore might well make it the attraction of their re-opening in September were it not for the promised production of Mr. Hubert Henry Davies's new play, *The Mollusc*.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have been pleased to appoint Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander to be presidents of the South St. Pancras District of the League of Mercy. It is that constituency, it will be remembered, which Mr. Alexander represents on the County Council.

Mr. Arthur Collins has an army of workmen busy on the mechanical portion of the scenery for the Drury Lane autumn drama, the dozen sets including many that are exceptionally complicated. Mr. Albert Chevalier, Mr. Julian L'Estrange, Mr. Lyn Harding, Miss Constance Collier, Miss Adrienne Augarde, and Miss Fanny Brough are the chief artists engaged for Messrs. Cecil Raleigh and Henry Hamilton's still unnamed drama, rehearsals for which will shortly begin.

Miss Lena Ashwell is in negotiation for a lease of the Great Queen-street Theatre, the little house owned by Mr. W. Penley, which during late years has been devoted at intermittent periods to German seasons and special performances. Miss Ashwell proposes to begin her season about the middle of September, when she will inaugurate a series of short runs, producing plays of the class with which her reputation is associated. Several changes will be made in the theatre, one of which will be that of a new name. The auditorium will be redecorated and re-upholstered throughout, and nothing left undone to render the house as dainty, cosy, and comfortable as any in the West End.

Distinguished members of the dramatic profession were present at the dinner given by the Lord Mayor to Mark Twain and his fellow-members of the Savage Club, at the Mansion House, on Saturday. Among the assembly were to be seen Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. W. S. Penley, Mr. George Grossmith, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. A. E. W. Mason, M.P., Mr. Bram Stoker, Mr. Charles Sugden, and Mr. W. H. Denny. Sir W. S. Gilbert bore his new-found honours with credit, and music had representatives in Sir Frederick Bridge, Mr. Charles Santley, and Professor Elgar.

Miss Viola Tree, who sang at the Foreign Press Association matinée at His Majesty's on Tuesday, was found earlier in the afternoon at the Cadogan Rooms, Sloane-street, where she assisted at the entertainment given in connection with a "coster bazaar," organised to provide funds for building a club-house and restaurant in the parish of Holy Trinity, Stepney. Misses Minnie and Olive Terry, Miss Marie Wilson, Miss Helen Mar, and Mr. Maurice Farkoa also appeared. The cocoanut shies were in charge of Miss Nina Sevening and her assistants, who wore print frocks with large sun-bonnets; and among the wares offered for disposal by Miss Gladys Unger was a family of fox-terrier puppies and some kittens.

London playgoers of an earlier generation will learn with regret of the death of John Carter, once a well-known English actor, who has just passed away at 1412, Fairmont-avenue, Philadelphia, at the age of eighty-seven. The deceased actor, who only retired from the active pursuit of his profession two months ago, made his début at the early age of five, and thus may be said to have completed the phenomenal record of eighty-two years on the stage!

Mr. Carter played François to the great Macready's Richelieu, and was a member of the Lyceum company in the days of Charles Dillon, Edmund Falconer, H. L. Bateman, and Irving, extending altogether over a period of twenty years. He was one of the company which Irving took on his first American tour. Among other rôles in this tour Mr. Carter played Tubal in *The Merchant of Venice*, Verges in *Much Ado About Nothing*, and the Postmaster in *The Lyons Mail*. He had the distinction of being the first actor who ever appeared as Uncle Tom in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. In the early seventies he appeared with H. J. Byron at the Strand Theatre, the company at that time including Mr. Edward Terry and the late Mr. W. H. Vernon. America eventually claimed him entirely, and there he ended his long career, practically dying in harness.

The toast of "The Guests of the Evening" at the dinner to be given at the Criterion next Sunday, in celebration of Mr. J. E. Vedrenne and Mr. Granville Barker's three years' tenancy of the Court, will be proposed by Lord Lytton, who will preside. Mr. Beerbohm Tree will give "The Author of the Court," to which Mr. Bernard Shaw will reply. Professor Gilbert Murray's eulogy of "The Players at the Court" will be acknowledged by Miss Wynne Matthison. "Success to the Savoy" will be moved by Sir Oliver Lodge, and Mr. William Archer will conclude the interesting proceedings with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, vice-president of the League of Mercy (Strand district), has kindly arranged for a special matinée of *Iolanthe*, to take place at the Savoy Theatre on Wednesday, July 17, for the benefit of the League. Mr. Carl Hentschel is president of the Strand district, and tickets may be obtained from him at 55-56, Chancery-lane, E.C., as well as from the box-office and libraries.

Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton will follow their autumn season at His Majesty's with a provincial tour early next year. In the course of the itinerary they hope to produce a new play specially designed for them by Mr. Frank Stayton, entitled *The Two Pals*, the period being laid in the thirteenth century, and the action taking place near the banks of a well-known river in the North-West of Europe. Crusaders, soldiers of fortune, and mercenaries figure in the piece, the moral of which is the virtue of self-sacrifice.

Mr. Lionel Brough, who has made such a marvellous recovery from his recent severe illness, is now practically convalescent. On Thursday he was well enough to take a boat trip to Margate and back, making the journey on board the Palace steamer Royal Sovereign.

Our birthday list this week includes the name of Mrs. Alfred Mellon, possibly the oldest living actress, who on Monday next reaches the advanced age of eighty-three. Mrs. Mellon numbers among her most notable impersonations that of Ophelia to Charles Dillon's Hamlet at the Lyceum in 1857. She is happily in the enjoyment of good health and spirits, one of her chief delights being a visit to a theatre and meeting old professional friends. The talents of the once-popular actress are reflected in her daughter, Miss May Woolgar Mellon, whose excellent work on the stage is well known and admired.

Miss Ely Malyon, the clever young actress, has been engaged to support Mr. H. B. Irving in his forthcoming provincial tour, starting the middle of August.

Sir Squire Bancroft is to be one of the speakers at the Church Congress meetings at Great Yarmouth during the first week in October. The eminent actor has selected for his subject that of "Elocution in Reading and Preaching of the Clergy."

Cordial congratulations are offered to Mr. Edward Vaughan, the rising young actor, and to Miss Dorothy Moore-Lane, the equally promising actress, who are engaged to be married on the 17th inst. Both artists have played in Mr. and Mrs. Kendal's company and under Mr. Lewis Waller's management, and are going out in the coming autumn with *John Glayde's Honour*, under the auspices of Mr. George Alexander. Mr. Vaughan's private name is Villiers, and he is the son of Mr. Frederick Villiers and Jane Isabella, one of the Baird twin heiresses of Dumfriesshire, the other of whom, it will be remembered, married the Earl of Enniskillen. Miss Moore-Lane is the daughter of the late Colonel Howard Moore-Lane and granddaughter of Admiral De Courcy.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell and her daughter were among the guests at the garden party given by the Duke and Duchess of Wellington at Apsley House on Tuesday. The company, which numbered between six and seven hundred, included Princess Henry of Battenberg, the Dowager Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha and Princess Beatrice of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha.

Mr. Frederick Wright, sen., if not the oldest living actor, is certainly the "father of the stage." Despite his eighty-one years, Mr. Wright played with Mr. Martin Harvey last week at the Adelphi, acting with marvellous energy and vigour the part of the venerable Dr. Manette in *The Only Way*. Mr. Wright, it may be remembered, narrowly escaped being a passenger by the London, which foundered at sea in 1866. Mr. Wright, at the last moment, accepted an engagement at Bradford, and was thus preserved from sharing the fate of his friend Gustavus Brooke, who went down with the ill-fated vessel.

The marriage took place on Monday of Miss Viola Finney and Mr. Leonard Craske, both of Mr. Martin Harvey's company, the ceremony being performed at the Strand Registrar's office in the presence of a few near relatives. The bride is the elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Finney, and comes from a distinguished naval family, being a grand-daughter of the late Vice-Admiral Mends and great-grand-daughter of Admiral Sir Robert Mends; also of Captain Josiah Nisbet, R.N., son of Lady Nelson. Miss Finney has recently recovered from a long and serious illness, and will shortly resume her professional career.

Mr. Otho Stuart will start his enterprise at the Court in September by indulging in his favourite pursuit of "spotting" new authors. His latest discovery is the work of Mr. John Kendall, a hitherto untried dramatist, who has written a play bearing the title of *The Mere Boy*, described by the author as "a slight comedy of pleasant people," in three acts. The story is laid in India, the scene of two acts being set at a station amid the hills and that of the third in the plains below. Mr. Graham Browne, who will sustain the responsibilities of production, plays an important part in the piece, and Miss Marie Illington will also be in the cast.

Miss Jessie Bateman, the accomplished young actress, is shortly to enter once again into the bonds of wedlock, and sailed on Friday last week for Brazil, to be married immediately upon arrival to Mr. Wilfred G. Chancellor. Miss Bateman began her theatrical career when quite a little girl as Cobweb at the Globe Theatre in Mr. Benson's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and has since played Babbie in *The Little Minister* in a touring company in South Africa. More recent achievements have included those of Beauty in *Beauty and the Barge* and the captivating Nell of *Everybody's Secret* at the Haymarket. Miss Bateman's first husband, Capt. G. W. Ashfordby Trenchard, died at Elandsfontein in March, 1902.

Mrs. Beerbohm Tree will perform the opening ceremony at the new Opera House which is being built on the Spa at Bridlington. The building is a very fine one, and will seat 1,280, holding at ordinary prices about £90. The inauguration of the new theatre, which is under the management of Mr. Henry Hague, will take place on the 29th inst., *The Girl from Kay's* being the opening engagement.

An unfortunate accident occurred on Wednesday evening at the Star Theatre, Liverpool, in the course of the new play, *Love Rules the World*. Near the conclusion of the first act Mr. Gerald Jordon, the heavy lead, discharged a gun, the wading of which was apparently excessive, for it penetrated a portion of the scenery and entered the arm of Mr. Ernest A. Douglas, the able exponent of Farmer Carruthers, causing an ugly wound. The injured gentleman was, however, able to continue his part, but on Thursday evening it was thought advisable for him to take a rest, and Mr. Fred W. Graham, another member of the company, assumed the character.

Miss Rose Moncrieff has arranged with Miss Winnifred Stuart for the entire rights of *The Curate*. She has had entirely new scenery painted for the production, which she will take on tour, commencing Sept. 23, at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

Mr. Luscombe Searelle, whose poetical and musical drama, *Mizpah*, has met with such success in America, and is shortly to have a London production, is a gentleman of diverse accomplishments. Some years ago, in South Africa, he invented a carpenter's screw which does away with the use of a gimlet and a countersink. When his troubles came through the South African War, he tried to sell the English patent rights for £50, and failed. After the production of *Mizpah* in America he happened to mention his invention to some commercial men, who immediately became interested, with the result that a syndicate was formed to exploit the screw. The invention has now been floated in America with a capital of $5,000,000. Twenty-eight patents have been taken out, and factories will be erected in America and the principal countries in Europe for the turning out of the screw on a colossal scale.

Mr. Dan Rolyat, who makes such effective use of his nether limbs, has been discoursing in a contemporary on the art of acting with the legs. It is fairly well known, writes the popular comedian, that one of the great difficulties the tyro on the stage has to contend with is what to do with his hands. But perhaps it is not so notorious that his legs are usually an even greater source of embarrassment. Legs are a sore trial to the beginner. Indeed, when one first goes on the stage one seems to have a hundred pairs of them, each of which is always getting in the way of the others, and one is firmly convinced that every eye in the audience is glued on one's feet, which appear, to one's heated imagination, to be about a yard long. Experience, of course, will cure this kind of stage-fright, but the finest remedy, or rather preventive, in the world is a course of ballet dancing.

Mr. Norman V. Norman took the second prize at Frampton-on-Severn Dog Show last week, in the open class for any dog under 30lb., with his Japanese spaniel Kara. Mr. Norman exhibited four toy spaniels, but only sent one into the ring, owing to the inclement weather.

Mr. Edward Terry, who is deeply interested in many forms of philanthropic work, kindly lent Terry's Theatre for a meeting which was held on Thursday afternoon, under the auspices of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, with Lieutenant-Colonel Clifford Probyn in the chair. Mr. Robert J. Parr, a director of the society, having fully explained its objects, and the means by which it was endeavoured to attain them, Mr. Terry then moved that a committee of the society should be formed for the Strand District. He felt some surprise that no committee had already been formed. The object that every child should be enabled to lead an endurable life was one which appealed to every human being—to every man, wife, and mother. As a twig was bent so it was inclined; and it was important that these human twigs should be so treated as to make them grow up into men and women of whom it would be possible to be proud.

The statistics of infant mortality, Mr. Terry continued, were, to his thinking, terrible; and he hoped that they would be able to arouse the "powers that be" to give more influence to societies like theirs. Mr. Terry then referred to the action of a certain Mayor of Huddersfield, who, in order to diminish the infant mortality in his city, offered £1 to the mother of every child who survived for twelve months, and thus, in his year of office, actually reduced the mortality by 50 per cent. "What a terrible lesson!" said Mr. Terry, "Only £1 for every little life!" Concluding, he hoped the meeting would be a snowball which would result in the formation of a strong committee for the Strand Division.

In response to a vote of thanks to Mr. Terry, which was proposed by the Rev. J. S. Pennington, seconded by Miss Evans, and carried unanimously, Mr. Terry referred to the number of charities, including the Foundling Hospital, with which he was connected, and said that he had been so much "mixed up with" children that to do anything, however little, for their welfare gave him the greatest pleasure.

The King has conferred upon Signor Caruso the Fourth Class (hon.) of the Royal Victorian Order in appreciation of the famous Italian's talents as an operatic vocalist. His Majesty has granted a similar honour to M. Gilibert, the distinguished Belgian vocalist, who is also a member of the company at Covent Garden.

A pastoral play, entitled *The Snuff-Box*, was produced at a garden fête in aid of the relief work for the poor of Rotherhithe and Mile End-road, carried out in connection with the St. Margaret's and the St. Phillips's Settlements, on Monday afternoon at Wetside, Wimbledon Common. The scene represented a garden in a country house in 1780, and the costumes were exact copies of those of that period. Mr. P. A'Beckett acted as stage-manager, and a minuet was arranged by Mr. T. Comyns Platt. There was a prologue before the play, in which references to the old-world garden of Westside, which had frequently been the staying place of Pitt, Burke, and Fox, were made.

Miss Davies Webster gave a soirée on Tuesday at the Women's Institute, Westminster, for the benefit of an old actor's widow, Mrs. Harry Grindall, who, in spite of great pluck and determination to work while her health permitted, has fallen on hard times. It was proposed to assist her in stocking a small shop, and over £8 was collected for the purpose. The entertainment opened with musical selections by Mrs. Paul Zeidler on the 'cello and Miss Eugenie Caverhill Shiels on the pianoforte. M. Garet sang a French song cleverly; and Mr. Hermann Vezin recited "My Kate" and "My Cousin" with all his old delicacy of treatment and refinement of expression. Mr. Vezin also told some amusing stories. Miss Davies Webster herself contributed a fine recitation of Auguste Webster's "Jeanne d'Arc"; and a new drawing-room sketch by C. A. Dawson gave great satisfaction. It was called *The Holiday Governess*. The rich and vulgar Mrs. Ponk engages as "holiday governess" a Miss Blake, entirely unaware that she is the god-daughter of Lady Ffrench, a "fashionable," whom Mrs. Ponk greatly wants to know. She tells the governess that she can only receive her friends in the schoolroom, and is horrified when she overhears Lady Ffrench, who has come to see her god-daughter, discussing her—Mrs. Ponk's—vulgarity with great amusement. Miss Cazalet was very droll as Mrs. Ponk, and Miss Humbert played Miss Blake pleasantly. Miss Murray was quite characteristic as Miss Drimmett, and Miss Ingham made a pretty maid. The little piece had a cordial reception.

Mr. Joe Haynes, who was for many years the chairman at the Bedford Music Hall, Camden Town, and subsequently undertook the management of the Queen's, Poplar, has purchased the King's Theatre, Pitfield-street, Hoxton, where he will run drama on the twice-nightly system, a plan that has already been tried at the old-established theatre. The house will be known as the Hoxton Theatre of Varieties, and the stage-director and producer will be Mr. Brien McCullough, whose long service to the stage in the capacities of author, actor, and manager should ensure success. The building will be renovated and decorated throughout, and many of the best dramas have already been booked.

Mr. Graham Morrison, acting under his doctor's orders, has been compelled to resign the management of Mr. Seymour Hicks' South American tour, and Mr. Hicks has courteously released him. Mr. Morrison is able, however, to accept engagements in this country.

The Theatrical Sports Committee wish to thank Mr. Wentworth Hogg, of French's, for his courtesy in allowing the prizes to be exhibited in the window of Fox's, the theatrical costumiers, of Wellington-street, Strand, of which establishment Mr. Hogg is managing-director.

The option held by Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan to buy the business of Howard and Wyndham, Ltd., was on Tuesday extended for four months to enable the arrangements to be successfully completed. A further sum of £2,000 has been deposited in view of the extension.

The stock company at the Grand Theatre, Brighton, closed their season last Saturday with *The Colleen Bawn*, and, in the last act of the evening performance, Mr. Ernest Carpenter, on behalf of the company, presented Mr. Ellis J. Preston, the stage-manager, with an antique dressing-case with silver fittings. Mr. Carpenter said he had never had so good a summer season at the Grand Theatre since he had been in Brighton, and in thanking his patrons for their kind support, announced that he had engaged the principal members of the company for a season next summer.

Miss Grace Lester will begin on Monday a fortnight's re-engagement with Mr. James Willard, at the Camden and Kennington, playing Pauline in *Called Back* at the former theatre and her old part of Grace Daremont in Mr. Willard's clever play, *A Woman's Pluck*, at Kennington, the week commencing the 15th. Miss Lester, who has had two successful autumn tours with the latter piece, has fulfilled in the course of her career many engagements as Pauline.

Mr. Austin Melford's recent success as the Priest in *The Bondman* has led to his re-engagement by Mr. Arthur Collins for the autumn drama at Drury Lane. This engagement will make Mr. Melford's sixth at the national theatre.

The Oxford Pageant, which finished on Wednesday, has been a complete success, every performance being carried out in its entirety. The huge stand, accommodating some five thousand persons, has been nearly full at each performance, so that the financial success will nearly equal the artistic. Among the many distinguished visitors have been the Princess Louise and Duke of Argyll, the Duke of Marlborough, the Chancellor (Lord Curzon) and Vice-Chancellor (Dr. Warren) of the University, Mr. Beerbohm Tree (whose kindly advice has been so freely given, and so thankfully received by the committee), Mr. Bourchier, and many other theatrical celebrities. Mr. Frank Lascelles, the master of the pageant, who deserves all the praise universally accorded him, has been admirably backed up by the stage-manager, Mr. John Douglas, and was fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Henry Neville as Theobaldus Stampensis, and of Mr. Percival Riley as Algar, in the opening St. Frideswide scene, every word uttered by these two actors being heard all along the great stand.

Mr. Johnny Osborne has just returned from a successful Indian tour, and was at once booked for the autumn by Mr. Robert Courtneidge, with whom he has already fulfilled several engagements.

Mr. Monckton Hoffe has arranged to tour *Lady Windermere's Fan*, in addition to *The Importance of Being Earnest*, this autumn. With two such engrossing plays, which still retain their popularity in the West-end, a prosperous tour should be in store for the enterprising manager.

The Vedrenne-Barker performances, which terminated at the Court on Saturday, will be resumed on Monday evening, Sept. 16, at the Savoy Theatre, the revival of Bernard Shaw's comedy, *You Never Can Tell*, being the opening attraction. It should be added that during July and August all communications are to be addressed to the Offices, 37, King-street, Covent Garden.

Mr. J. Cooke Beresford, of 16, Panton-street, Haymarket, our readers will be interested to learn, has made a special study of theatrical managers' liability under the Workmen's Compensation Act, and has arranged to cover all risks at specially reduced rates.

Mr. Walter Gay, who has been for some time absent from the stage, hopes to return in the autumn, and again take up the profession which he followed with success for a number of years. During his retirement Mr. Gay has taken a prominent part in municipal affairs. He was a guardian of the poor for a term, and now occupies the positions of Deputy Mayor of his town and Town Councillor.

Mr. Harry Kilburn commences his third tour with Baron H. Harriss's principal *Prince of Pilsen* company, as Hans Wagner, the Dutch brewer, at the Gaiety Theatre, Douglas, on Monday.

Mr. Percy Hutchison successfully produced Mr. John Valentine's fine play, *The Stronger Sex*, on Monday, June 24, at Oxford, the stalls and circles being crowded. Miss Emma Hutchison was supported by Mr. D. Lewin Mannering, Mr. George Rowlands, Miss Cavania, and Miss Margaret Fareleigh. On Wednesday, when Mr. Otho Stuart, Mr. Walter Hampden, and Miss Lilian Braithwaite, and the London company appeared in *The Peacemaker*, followed by *The Stronger Sex*, the house was again crowded with a fashionable audience. After the performance Mr. Otho Stuart entertained the two companies, numbering thirty people, to supper, the author, Mr. John Valentine, being present. In the autumn, Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison will be running no less than five companies with Mr. Otho Stuart's productions.

"In the Bishop's Carriage," which, with Miss Fannie Ward and her talented colleagues, is transferred to-night to the Aldwych Theatre, is preceded by Mr. Charles Collette in his clever patter sketch, *Hard Luck*, in which he is ably assisted by Miss Joan Derry. A professional matinée of *In the Bishop's Carriage* will be given on Tuesday.

The seventh Annual Conference of the Actors' Church Union will be held at Bishop's House, Kennington Park, on Monday, July 15, at 2.30. Mrs. Talbot will be "At Home" in the garden from 4 to 6 p.m.

Miss Ruth Vincent and Miss Carrie Moore will be fitted with new songs for *Tom Jones* when that popular opera reaches its hundredth night on Thursday. The successor to Mr. Edward German's work, when such is required, will be a musical play, entitled *The Three Kisses*, written by Mr. Leedham Bantock and Mr. Percy Greenbank, with music by Mr. Howard Talbot. The piece is in two acts, the scenes being laid in Italy. Miss Ethel Irving will then make her welcome reappearance at the West End, and the cast of the new play will also include Mr. Arthur Williams, Mr. Lionel Mackinder, Mr. O. B. Clarence, Mr. Willie Warde, and Miss Kitty Gordon.

Mr. F. M. Paget will be assisted at his recital at the Steinway Hall on Tuesday evening by Miss Euneta Truscott (vocalist), Miss Ivy Augove (violinist), Messrs. Earle Douglas, Frank Reynolds, and Victor Marmont. Mr. Paget's songs, in album form, will be on sale, the proceeds going to the Lord Mayor's Cripples Fund.

The Brixton Theatre, we understand, will on August Bank Holiday come under the management of Mr. Fredk. Melville. The enterprising manager is booking for the autumn with first-class dramatic attractions and musical comedies.

Particulars of forthcoming competitions at the Royal Academy of Music are to hand. The Stainer exhibition for organ playing will be decided at the entrance examination, to be held on Thursday, September 19. The literary examination in the Dove Scholarship, for violin playing, will also be held on Thursday, September 19., and the musical competition will take place the following day. The Sainton-Dolby scholarship, open to soprano vocalists between the ages of seventeen and twenty years, is fixed for Friday, September 20, on which date the Ada Lewis Scholarships, one each for male and female vocalists and one each for pianoforte, organ, and violoncello, will also take place. The Ross Scholarship, for players on wood-wind instruments, will be competed for on Monday, October 7.

Mr. J. J. Shubert, of the Waldorf Theatre, asks us to correct a slight error which has appeared concerning the representation of his firm in London. Mr. Maundy-Gregory is the manager of the Waldorf and Mr. Edward Michael continues his position as general representative for attractions and other business in London, but he is in no way connected with the actual working of the theatre.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's play, *The Hypocrites*, will be produced at the Hicks Theatre during the last week in August, *Brewster's Millions* being transferred on Monday, Aug. 26, to the Duke of York's. Mr. Jones is now on his way to London from America.

At the adjourned meeting of the West Riding General Purposes Committee, at Wakefield, on the 27th ult., the licence of the Theatre Royal, Barnsley, was granted on the condition that no Excise licence was applied for. The stage-play licence for the Grand Theatre, Doncaster, was also renewed on the same terms.

Mr. Arthur Jefferson, of the Metropole, Glasgow, was accorded a complimentary benefit on the 28th ult., when a host of talent from all the variety theatres in the city combined to make an enjoyable programme. By courteous permission of their respective managements, excellent turns were given by Misses Queenie May, Tessie Vaudean, Minnie Wren, Norah Bremner, and Mayme Cannon; Signor and Mme. Borelli, Retta and Rex, the Lashmas, the McKinnon Family, and Cline and Clark; Messrs. John E. Coyle, Peter Birmingham, Arthur Woodville, Little Ganty, Bob Nicol, Don St. Clair, Victor Travers, R. H. Douglass, W. G. Webber, Ernest Tilbury, &c. In addition, there was produced a lively sketch, entitled *The Girl is Mine! Ha! Ha!*, written by Mr. Arthur Jefferson. The main incident is extracted from one of the author's popular dramas, and on this occasion Mr. Arthur Jefferson made his first appearance in an acting part on the Metropole stage, playing with much humour the character of Sammy Plum in the sketch. Other rôles were cleverly enacted by Miss Cecilia Dare, and Messrs. Morley Carroll, H. Ryland Leigh, and Tom Jones.

Following on a successful summer season, Mr. Reginald Dance begins on Thursday next his autumn tour with *Raffles, the Amateur Cracksman*, opening in Guernsey for three nights, and the Opera House, Jersey, the following week. Mr. Dance, who sustains the title-rôle, will be supported by Messrs. Edward Irwin, Brisco Owen, Stanley Lathbury, and C. Rivers Bertram, and Misses May Brooke, Katie Yates, Frances Tithéradge, Rita Ward, and Mildred Orme. Mr. E. Cecil Price is the business-manager for Mr. Dance, and Mr. C. Arthur Carew is in charge of the advertising department.

The Grand Theatre, Falkirk, Limited, notwithstanding the dulness of trade in that district, on Wednesday declared a dividend of 5 per cent. on the ordinary shares for the past year.

In the Court of Bankruptcy on Wednesday the examination was held and concluded of Oscar Arthur Adye, of College-court, Hammersmith. The debtor stated that his insolvency was due to his earnings having been insufficient to meet his household and personal expenses. He filed his petition to escape the consequences of two committal orders. He had debts of £411 2s., assets nil.

The Moody-Manners Opera Company start their eight weeks season of opera in English, at cheap prices, at the Lyric Theatre on Monday, July 15, with Nicolai's *Merry Wives of Windsor*, and the first week's performance will include *Tannhäuser*, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci*, *Lohengrin*, and *Faust*. There will again be available a chorus of eighty voices and an orchestra of fifty instrumentalists. Mme. Fanny Moody, Mme. De Vere Sapio, Miss Enriqueta Crichton, Miss Rosina Beynon, and Messrs. Joseph O'Mara, Charles Carter, Lewys James, William Dever, Charles Magrath, and Charles Manners will be the principal vocalists.

During the season a new English opera, in one act, by Mr. Hermann Löhr, entitled *Sarenna*, will be produced. The operas to be rendered in English will include *Aïda*, *Madama Butterfly*, and *La Bohème*, which the company will be able to play directly Covent Garden closes, as until then the sole rights are held by the Covent Garden Grand Opera Syndicate. *Tristan and Isolda* is also down for production in the second week, the sole rights of this opera now having lapsed.

Mr. E. Taylor Platt will, by arrangement with Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker, go on a summer tour with Bernard Shaw's *You Never Can Tell*, starting at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on Monday, with Eastbourne, Folkestone, Hastings, Brighton, and other important dramatic centres to follow. Many of the Court Theatre artists will be comprised in the company, which will include Misses Mary Barton, Mary Hamilton, Amy Lamborn, and Penelope Wheeler, and Messrs. Lewis Casson, P. Clayton Greene, Edmund Gurney, Edmund Gwenn, Trevor Lowe, and Norman Page. The stage-manager is Mr. Trevor Lowe, and the business-manager Mr. Harry P. Towers.

A new opera, entitled *Errisiñola*, libretto by Luigi Illica and music by Louis Lombard, will be produced at the Opera House of the Castle of Trevano, Lugano, Switzerland, on Aug. 25.

Miss Lois Du Cane will produce on Monday, at the St. James's Theatre, Manchester, the powerful four-act drama, *The Heathen and the Christian*, by Frederick Maxwell. Miss Du Cane has organised a very strong company for this production, she herself playing the heroine.

"Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch" is running as securely as ever at Terry's Theatre. A special flying visit of the play will be made to the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, on Thursday, Mr. Gaston Mayer having arranged for the entire company, including Mrs. Madge Carr Cook, who has been received with such favour as Mrs. Wiggs, to travel to the south-western seaport. The company will leave London by an early train in the morning, and will return to town in ample time to commence the performance at Terry's at the usual hour.

The Children's Concert Jubilee at the Crystal Palace on Saturday drew an attendance numbering 15,000 or thereabouts. In 1857 it was considered an act of great daring to conduct a juvenile choir of several thousand voices, unaccompanied, and without combined rehearsals. The tonic sol-fa system made this experiment not only possible, but highly successful. Many of those who had taken part in the first concert attended on Saturday, and they received bronze medals, which had been struck in their honour. Altogether there were 5,000 certificated singers present. Besides the children's concert, which was conducted by Mr. Filmour Rook, there was a great adult concert, with orchestral accompaniment, conducted by Mr. L. C. Venables. During the proceedings Miss A. W. Wakefield presented a challenge shield and some silver cups to successful competitors.

Mr. J. C. Williamson, the veteran Australian manager, arrived in town on Wednesday. He intends to make his stay in London a very long one, and will turn it to profitable advantage by witnessing performances of some of the plays which he has acquired for production in Australia. Among the most notable of his acquisitions are *Peter Pan*, *The Merry Widow*, *The Girls of Gottenberg*, and *John Glayde's Honour*. Letters addressed to Daly's Theatre will reach him without delay.

"The Dairymaids," the popular opera which had such an extensive run at the Apollo, is destined for America, where it will be produced by Mr. J. A. E. Malone for Mr. Charles Frohman. The piece will be played in America by a "mixed" company of American and English players, the latter being represented by Mr. Huntley Wright, Mr. George Gregory, Miss Ruby Ray, Miss Selina Ray, and Mr. Donald Hall. The part of Peggy, played in London by Miss Carrie Moore, will be entrusted in New York to Miss Florrie Sanderson.

During the "année terrible" of 1870, when the Germans were besieging Paris, the Théâtre Français was turned into an ambulance, and the actresses blossomed into hospital nurses. They not only looked very becoming in their white caps and aprons, but did some excellent work. A graphic description thereof appears in *Le Mariage d'Agnes*, a new play by M. Serge Basset, which will shortly see the footlights at the Comédie-Française.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Sir W. S. G.

SIR W. S. GILBERT has written a letter to the Dublin *Evening Herald*, in which he says:—"A circumstantial account of the separation between Gilbert and Sullivan is give in great detail. There is not a word of truth in that statement. The 'separation' was not between 'Gilbert and Sullivan,' but between myself and Mr. D'Oyly Carte. It arose from a question whether a sum of £1,500 for refurnishing the front of the Savoy Theatre was properly included in the preliminary expenses of the production of *The Gondoliers*. I had no quarrel with Sir A. Sullivan, though a coolness existed between us for a time in consequence of his declining to interfere in the difference between Mr. Carte and myself. This coolness lasted a very short time, and was quickly done away with by mutual expressions."

Mr. Tree as a Loser.

"MANY people," says Mrs. Cran in "Stars of the Stage," "labour under the idea that Mr. Tree is financed or 'backed' by wealthy lovers of the drama. This is a mistake; Tree has earned his name of 'sportsman' by his practice of venturing *his own money*, not other people's; the credit of his courage in backing his own judgment and his persistence in running for the best in drama has been earned at the constant risk of his fortune. 'I am happiest when I am losing, because I have need of all my conceit,' he has himself said."

Having Tea with Kruger.

MISS FRANCES DAVY (Mrs. Charles Esdale) who, with her husband, has just finished a tour with *Lights Out*, went on the stage in 1897, and a year later had a tour in South Africa with a series of musical plays, appearing in the same part as Ada Reeve in *Florodora*. "Of course, that was before the war," says Miss Davie in the *Hastings Observer*, "and we had a very pleasant time there. Some friends and I were shown over the Government buildings at Pretoria by some Dutchmen, who did not think old Kruger would be there, but we found him in one of the rooms. I knocked over a screen in the tea-rooms, and discovered the President behind it, and the result was that we had tea with him. I did not think he was a bad sort. I was told to speak to him in French, but I am certain that he understood everything that was said in English. I mentioned to a friend that a piece off the colours in the building would make a pretty hatband, and the President at once directed that my friend and I should have a piece each."

Managers and Actors.

MR. ROBERT CASTLETON, in an interesting letter about the Actors' Association, says:—"Acting is not, and never can or will be, a *trade*. The relation of master and servant exists between a man and the groom who looks after his horses, but a totally different relationship obtains between the owner of a racehorse and his jockey. In the same way the relation of master and servant exists between a man who agrees to employ another for so many minutes each evening to balance a grand piano on the end of his nose. But a man who agrees to employ another to help him to present to an audience an artist's conception—to act in a play—this man takes the other into partnership. Actor and manager are, and must be, not financially but artistically, *partners*. A camaraderie must exist between the actor-manager and the artist which would be totally out of place and subversive of all discipline between the man who tunes or balances pianos and his employer.

Friendship in Business.

"'THERE is no friendship in business' is about the silliest lie that has ever been coined. My best work has been done under managers who were my friends, and the best work done for me has been done by actors who were my friends. I only once came across a case in which my manager said to his company, after many bad, unlucky weeks: 'Now ladies and gentlemen, I am at the end of my tether, will you stick by me?' We did, and I am sure none of us have regretted it."

Opera for the Masses.

MR. OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN, the director of the Manhattan Opera House, New York, has given a *Daily Chronicle* representative an outline of an important scheme for the erection in London of an opera house for the masses. "Hitherto opera has been conducted on the wrong principles," he said. "It has been supposed that this form of entertainment only appeals to the people of the highest intellect and the greatest amount of money. I might almost say to people with much money and little intellect. In the fashionable opera houses the scenery is not on the stage but in the auditorium, where one finds an exhibition of diamonds and costly garments. It is for this display that architects have designed tiers upon tiers of rabbit-hutch boxes.

The Future Opera House.

"The opera house of the near future will be built for the accommodation of the great paying middle classes, and it will not be long before London possesses such a building. A scheme which I have in my mind is nearly settled, and the money is ready. The masses have little knowledge of opera, but that they appreciate it is shown by the popularity of excerpts at your variety theatres. But you must offer them good performances in order that they may be educated up to modern works. The old Italian school forms an excellent start, and then you can give them Wagner and some of the newer compositions of living French, Italian, German, and even English masters."

G. B. S. and the Censorship.

MR. GEORGE BERNARD SHAW contributed to a recent number of *The Academy* a characteristic article on "The Solution of the Censorship Problem." In the course of the article Mr. Shaw says:—"A wise control of the stage by the community is very much to be desired indeed; and the mischief of the present situation lies, not in the existence of such a control, but in its utter defeat by the false and silly pretence that the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain supplies it. The question is, is the censure of plays a possible judicial function? I submit that it is not. I call on Mr. Redford to do his duty thoroughly and consistently, and sweep the British drama from the stage. Away with us all; there is not room in the world for us and a censorship. Our suppression is what Mr. Redford is there for. It is what he is paid for. The absurdity of the results of the censorship is too glaring, too ghastly, to need much illustrating. We want, not anarchy and the police, but reasonable liberties in return for reasonable guarantees."

Stopping a Runaway.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD, the popular comedian, has told a *Daily Mail* representative a strange story. "I was riding in Phœnix Park while fulfilling an engagement at Dublin," said Mr. Lashwood, "when I heard a wild clatter of hoofs behind me, and I just turned my pony's head in time to grasp the bridle of a runaway horse, on which was mounted a fair lady. In this way, I flatter myself, I saved her from disaster, if not death. I raised my hat and passed on, but the lady's groom found out who I was. Eighteen months ago, while I was appearing in Birmingham, the lady and her husband—the latter since deceased—made themselves known to me. They were hunting in Leicestershire, and they asked me to join them at what proved to be a very pleasant luncheon-party. Then it was that I received a gold cigar-case and their profuse thanks for what they were pleased to call my gallantry."

"MEDEA IN CORINTH."

The Play, in Three Acts, by W. G. Wills, Revived at a Matinée, at the Court Theatre, on Tuesday, July 2.

King Creon	MR. JULES SHAW
Jason	MR. LEWIS CASSON
Orpheus	MR. HENRY LE GRAND
Xanthus	MR. TEMPLER POWELL
Lycaon	MISS MONICA HARRISON
Melanthus	MISS MARGARET HARRISON
Medea	MISS ISABEL MERSON
Glaucea	MISS LEAH BATEMAN-HUNTER
Nurse	MISS MARION LIND
Ianthe	MISS DOROTHY WATKINS
A Maiden	MISS ELISE STUART
Queen	MISS MARJORIE ADAM
Vestals	MISS SCHOLES AND MISS MANNERING

W. G. Wills's play was produced at the Lyceum Theatre in the July of 1872, with Mr. John Ryder as Creon, Mr. T. Swinbourne as Jason, Mr. Charles Warner as Orpheus, Miss Virginia Francis as Glaucea, and Miss Bateman as Medea. The *Medea* of Euripides, which, of course, forms the basis of Mr. Wills's work, suffered on its first production in Athens in 432 B.C., from its extreme originality, and obtained only the third prize. As Mr. Gilbert Murray, in his masterly essay on the drama, remarks, Jason, son of Æson, King of Iolcos, in Thessaly, began his life in exile. His uncle, Pelias, had seized his father's kingdom, and Jason was borne away to the mountains by night, and given, wrapped in a purple robe, to Chiron, the Centaur. When he reached manhood he came down to Iolcos, to demand his rights. Pelias, cowed, but loath to yield, promised to give up the kingdom if Jason would make his way to the unknown land of Colchis, fetch back the soul of his kinsman Phrixus, who had died there far from home, and find the fleece of the Golden Ram which Phrixus had sacrificed. Jason undertook the quest. After desperate adventures, he reached the land of Aietes, King of the Colchians. Aiêtês was both hostile and treacherous. The Argonauts were surrounded, and their destruction seemed only a question of days, when Aietes's daughter, Medea, an enchantress as well as a Princess, fell in love with Jason. She helped him through all his trials, slew for him her own sleepless serpent who guarded the fleece, deceived her father, and secured both the fleece and the soul of Phrixus. Her brother, Absyrtus, was about to lay an ambush for Jason. She invited Absyrtus to her room, stabbed him dead, and fled with Jason over the seas. When they reached home, Medea saw with rage how Pelias hated Jason, and was bent on keeping the kingdom from him. Making the most of her fame as an enchantress, she persuaded Pelias that he could, by a certain process, regain his youth. He eagerly caught at the hope. His daughters tried the process upon him, and Pelias died. Medea and her lover had to fly for their lives, and Jason was debarred for ever from succeeding to the throne of Iolcos. He fled with Medea to Corinth, where Jason accepted the hand of the King's daughter, Glaucea. Here the tragedy begins. Medea enters with her children, seeking the false Jason. She learns that Glaucea is her rival, and is about to wed him. By the influence of Jason, Creon offers Medea the alternative of departing from Corinth, with Jason's wealth, leaving the children behind her, or being put to death. Medea brews a poison draught, which she administers to Glaucea, who dies almost at the marriage altar. Then Medea slays her children, replying to Jason's reproaches by telling him that it is he who has really been their murderer. Ristori's utterance of the terrible "Tu!" was one of the great features of her performance of the part.

Miss Bateman's pupils, who presented Wills's work at the Court Theatre on Tuesday afternoon, certainly had a severe test applied to their abilities, and it speaks volumes for Miss Bateman's powers of training and instruction that they were able so well to meet the demands made upon them. Miss Isabel Merson, the representative of Medea, spoke her lines admirably, and with a grandeur of style that was entirely appropriate. She has evidently a genuine gift of emotional expression. She made a most picturesque and impressive appearance, and her performance as a whole was excellent. There can be little doubt that we shall hear of Miss Merson again. If she continues as she has begun, a prosperous future is certainly before her. Mr. Lewis Casson spoke Jason's lines with admirable inflection, using his fine voice to great advantage, and giving a very creditable rendering of the rôle; and Mr. Henry Le Grand treated the character of Orpheus with good discretion and obvious capacity. Miss Leah Bateman-Hunter made a sweetly sympathetic Glaucea, and evidently only requires further practice to attain an enviable position in the profession to which she seems destined by nature and inheritance. Miss Dorothy Watkins showed decided promise as Ianthe, her elocution being pleasing, and her style agreeable and artistic. Mr. Templer Powell played Xanthus commendably; and Miss Monica Harrison and Miss Margaret Harrison must be praised for their performances as Lycaon and Melanthus. Miss Marion Lind did sound and sterling work as the Nurse; and Miss Elise Stuart was seen to advantage as a Maiden, Miss Marjorie Adam's Queen being worthy of favourable notice, and Miss Mannering and Miss Scholes being satisfactory representatives of the Vestals. *Medea in Corinth* was followed by a comedy in one act, adapted by F. Kinsey Peile from the German of Emil Pohl, played for the first time in London, and entitled

"THE STRATAGEM."

Rennell Paton	MR. TEMPLER POWELL
Lord Bernard	MR. HAROLD WEST
Adams	MR. EDWARD COUTTS
Brown	MISS M. FOUNTAIN
Angela Pinker	MISS IERNE FITZGERALD

In this slight but pleasant little piece Lord Bernard plans to upset the motor car of a certain circus-rider named Aurora, so as to make her take refuge in his country house. His lordship is called away, and leaves his young friend, Rennel Paton, to entertain Aurora when she arrives. Angela Pinker, a rich American heiress, to whom Lord Bernard is engaged, comes instead, meets with the accident, and is mistaken by Paton for the circus-rider. They take a liking to each other, and, as Miss Pinker discovers that Bernard is marrying her for her money, she departs with Paton, leaving his lordship—who falls into his own trap, and comes in "shaken up" by a tumble—to put out the candles and go to bed.

Mr. Templer Powell looked well and acted agreeably and intelligently as Rennell Paton; Mr. Harold West gave sharp characterisation to Lord Bernard; Mr. Edward Coutts was commendable as Adams; and Miss M. Fountain amusingly indicated the inanity of the Maid. Miss Ierne Fitzgerald supplied a bright and alert impersonation of Angela Pinker, assuming the American accent ably, and playing the part with much ease and alacrity. *The Stratagem* had a cordial reception.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The Social Committee held a meeting on Monday, when there were present Mr. Robert Castleton (chairman), Mesdames Georgina Hamilton and Margaret Parker, and Messrs. A. E. Drinkwater, James Gelderd, and Fewlass Llewellyn. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The chairman read a letter from Miss Lucy Sibley. It was agreed that the chairman should write to Mr. Poel with reference to the play he proposed to give on July 19 and the casting of the same, and at the same time to inform him of the permission given by the Council for him to use the room for rehearsals. It was resolved that the chairman should write to Miss Sibley asking her to appoint a deputy during her absence to act as hon. secretary, according to the rule governing committees. The chairman was also requested to write to Miss Ada Hatchwell, informing her that the "Social" arranged for July 5 had been abandoned owing to the Theatrical Garden Party, and ask her if she could undertake the tea on July 19 instead. Failing Miss Hatchwell, Miss Dorothy Garth was to be asked to do so.

The suggestion that meetings should be held once a fortnight—every fourth meeting being a business meeting, and the others being "social" meetings as before—the chairman for all meetings to be appointed in accordance with the rule at present governing the social meetings, was agreed to.

It was agreed that a notice should be posted asking for lady volunteers to assist at the socials for the dispensing of tea, &c., and that the dates of four socials in advance should also in future be placed on the notice-board.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. H. Athol Forde (in the chair), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Cecil Brooking, Edmund Gurney, Roy Horniman, Fewlass Llewellyn, Fredk. Morland, Frank Vernon, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The hon. solicitors reported they had interviewed two members, and advised them.

The secretary reported he had communicated with fifty agents with regard to sub-letting the premises. About half the number had replied, the majority wishing to exhibit boards. It was decided that the consent to exhibit boards could not be given. The secretary reported the receipt of a letter from a firm offering, on behalf of a client, a premium for the lease. After some discussion, it was agreed that the original sum demanded as a premium be adhered to.

It was agreed that the recommendation of the Finance and General Purposes Committee be accepted, and that for the bi-monthly and social meetings, "fortnightly meetings of the Actors' Association" be substituted, such meetings to be held every alternate Friday from September to May inclusive; that this rule take effect as from Sept. 1 next, and that the first meeting under this rule be held on Friday, Sept. 6, 1907, which shall be a business meeting, after which every fourth meeting shall be a business meeting and the others conducted as social meetings, the Council to appoint the chairman at all meetings, and the remainder of the recommendation of the Finance and General Purposes Committee be adopted. It was also decided that the secretary should write to the hon. secretary of the Social Committee stating that although the above resolution does not affect the social meetings until September next, yet, having regard to the fact that so many people will probably be away in August, he should suggest to the hon. secretary the advisability of discontinuing the social meetings during that month.

The chairman read letters from Mr. William Devereux and Miss Wynne Matthison accepting appointments on the Minimum Wage Committee.

The secretary reported he had written to the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation, Ltd., and had received a cheque in settlement of a member's claim. He had forwarded it to the member, who had acknowledged receipt, tendering his best thanks to the Council for their action in the matter.

The chairman read two letters from the secretary of the Play Actors' Society, asking permission "to employ 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C., as the official address of the Play Actors' Society, to be printed on the official paper employed." It was agreed that permission could not be granted.

The secretary submitted a draft letter which he suggested sending to such members who have returned from abroad and whose subscriptions are unpaid. The hon. solicitors made several alterations, which were ultimately adopted.

The chairman read a letter from Miss Elisabeth Kirby, in which she resigned her seat upon the Council, and the resignation was accepted with regret.

Mr. Harry Averell (a member) suggested the appointment of Dr. Ferguson, of Douglas, as hon. medical officer. It was agreed that when a member of the Council visited the island he should call upon Dr. Ferguson to talk with him on the subject of his appointment.

A letter from a manager was read, stating that a demand for seats was made by one of the hon. medical officers. The demand was not complied with owing to pressure of business, and the doctor complained. The secretary was directed to reply to the manager on the subject.

The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was accepted, and the report of the Social Committee was accepted and confirmed. It was agreed that in future when the minutes of committee meetings were accepted and confirmed the chairman of the Council should write, "Confirmed by the Council of the Association," and date and sign such confirmation.

Two candidates were nominated for election to the Association. The nomination of one was passed, and it was agreed the secretary should write to the other candidate informing her that at present she could not be elected, but suggesting she should apply again at the expiration of six months, or some time thereafter, when she had done some further work.

The secretary stating that he required further signatures for the cheque-book, it was agreed that the names of Messrs. Roy Horniman and Fewlass Llewellyn be added to the list of signatories to cheques upon the London and County Banking Co., Ltd. Two former members were reinstated, and Charles Bruce was elected.

NEW ROYALTY THEATRE.

A pleasant afternoon was spent on Friday, the 28th ult., at the New Royalty Theatre, when a matinée was given in aid of the Grosvenor Hospital for Women and Children. The programme consisted of Mr. J. Storer-Clouston's new three-act farce, *The Pocket Miss Hercules*, and the one-act play, *'Op o' Me Thumb*, by Messrs. Frederick Fenn and Richard Pryce.

We question whether there is any future for "THE POCKET MISS HERCULES,"

A Farce, in Three Acts, by J. Storer-Clouston.

Lord Dyderdown	MR. H. ATHOL FORDE
Hon. Ferdinand Falarope	MR. FRED WRIGHT, JUN.
Rev. Septimus Falarope	MR. EDWARD SASS
Dick Power	MR. H. C. BUCKLER
Meakin	MR. CHARLES GOODHART
Thomas	MR. ARTHUR ELDRED
Hon. Sophia Falarope	MISS ISABEL GREY
Muriel Falarope	MISS DAISY ATHERTON
Daisy Faye	MISS ESMÉ HUBBARD

Lord Dyderdown, being in monetary straits, is anxious that his son, the Hon. Ferdinand Falarope, should marry the wealthy Miss Daisy Faye. Ferdinand is really in love with Muriel, his cousin. It has been arranged that Miss Faye shall pay a visit to Lord Dyderdown's country house, but she is preceded by a newspaper report, which says that a Miss Faye, a "strong woman," who performs on the music hall stage, has decided to relinquish her profession, she having just been notified that a fortune has been left to her. Before Daisy reaches Lord Dyderdown's, she has already fallen in love with one Dick Power, who proved a gallant escort and guide when Lord Dyderdown's broken-winded old horse suddenly stopped in the middle of the road, and could not be induced to drag the carriage further. Daisy hears from Meakin, the butler, of the reputation as a music hall performer with which the family have credited her, and she decides to act up to that reputation. The result is extremely amusing. She frightens Ferdinand, who is not very large nor very strong in physique, by pretending to indulge in all manner of violent exercises; she whips the butler—by arrangement, be it whispered—and threatens to treat the other members of the family in the same way, should they come too near her. However, there is one she does not so easily terrorise, and he is Dick Power. He demands from her certain photographs she has caused the butler to take of Lord Dyderdown, the Rev. Septimus, and Ferdinand, in ridiculous attitudes, and under the influence of her threats to use the whip upon them. Daisy at first declines to do his bidding, but finding that she has an athlete to deal with, she eventually gives way to him—and to love. All ends well by her promise to "endow" the Hon. Ferdinand and Muriel on their marriage.

Mr. Fred Wright, jun., created endless merriment by his interpretation of the part of the Hon. Ferdinand Falarope. Nothing could have been more excruciatingly funny than the manner in which he showed the terror of the somewhat unathletic little man, whose father had designed what was to the son an unwished-for marriage. Miss Esmé Hubbard delighted everybody with her acting in the rôle of Daisy Faye, her pretence to athleticism and her fighting attitudes and actions causing immense merriment. Mr. H. Athol Forde enacted the rôle of Lord Dyderdown with a due appreciation of the type of aristocrat that was supposed to be represented; and Mr. Edward Sass was grave and dignified as the Rev. Septimus Falarope. Miss Daisy Atherton was a sweet and winsome Muriel Falarope; and Miss Isabel Grey made a suitable Hon. Sophia Falarope. Mr. Charles Goodhart was exceedingly comical as Meakin, the butler; and Mr. Arthur Eldred made the most of his opportunities as the footman.

In *'Op o' Me Thumb* we had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of a gifted amateur, Miss Helen Lacy, who essayed the part of Amanda Affick, and played it with rare pathos and feeling. Mr. Percy Gawthorne acted excellently as Horace Greensmith; and other parts were taken by Miss Winifred Clay (Mme. Didier), Miss Maud Buchanan (Celeste), Miss Florence Bull (Mrs. Galloway), and Miss Ina Pelly (Rose Jordan). Mr. Percy Gawthorne acted as stage-manager for this piece, and throughout the afternoon Miss Vickers's Amateur Orchestra, conducted by Mr. Lyall Taylor, performed a number of selections.

"MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE" REVIVAL.

Mr. Lewis Waller's revival for twelve nights at the Lyric Theatre on Thursday evening of that popular play, *Monsieur Beaucaire*, which had such a prosperous career after its production at the Comedy Theatre on Oct. 25, 1902, was received with marked approval by an excellent audience. Both the play and the performance of the leading part by Mr. Waller are too well known to need description or discussion; and we need only say that Mr. Waller's rendering of the title-part has lost nothing of its spirit and picturesqueness. The light gallantry and the jaunty gaiety of the assumption are as conspicuous as ever. Miss Evelyn Millard's Lady Mary Carlisle is a delightfully artistic and interesting embodiment; and Mr. Frank Dyall does full justice to the rank and resolute villainy of the Duke of Winterset. Mr. Owen Roughwood's Major Molyneux is a sound and sturdy bit of acting; and Mr. S. B. Brereton does excellent work as Captain Badger, the little part of Mr. Rakell having an excellent exponent in Mr. A. E. George, and Mr. J. H. Irving being amusing as Mr. Bantison. Mr. H. J. Carvell presents a well-studied picture of Beau Nash; Mr. H. Tripp Edgar gives a capable rendering of Mr. Becksett; and Mr. Shiel Barry is seen to much advantage as the Marquis de Mirepoix. Miss Dora Barton is a pleasing, winning, and attractive Lucy Rellerton; and Miss Minnie Griffen plays the old Countess of Greenbury with genuine skill and commendable care and intelligence. The scenery by Messrs. Walter Hann, R. C. McCleery, and E. G. Banks, is admirable, and the costumes and dances—the latter arranged by M. D'Auban—are worthy of warm praise. Mr. W. W. Keene's attentive stage-management secures a smooth and complete production.

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

The puritanical Mrs. Ponderbury in the play that bears her name, at the Vaudeville, is tastefully gowned by Miss Marie Illington. In Act I. she wears a mauve crêpe de Chine with hem of gold tissue to the skirt, above it a garland of leaves of the same fabric. This same trimming occurs on the pinafore bodice, which is worn over a net blouse. For Acts II. and III. the lady is clad in a brown chiffon transparent over white, and trimmed in a fashion very suitable to a ball dress of white chiffon or tulle. Bands of ribbon studded with red and pink roses are arranged in festoons on the skirt, while on the corsage similar ribbons hang down from either shoulder, the décolletage being filled up with tucked net, a tiny vest of lace just appearing at the point. Mrs. Ponderbury's toque is likewise a smart affair, apparently a "crin" twisted up into a weird shape, and much trimmed with roses and a long ostrich plume.

Miss Billie Burke, who impersonates Mme. Polacca Mojeski, has three striking costumes. The first is a tucked mousseline dress, over the shoulders of which are bretelles of holly-blue taffetas fastened into a sash of the same, the ends of which hang at one side of the back. She carries a very smart white tucked parasol. Act II. introduces Miss Burke in white robes covered with a Liberty satin kimono of soft grey colour, her hat profusely trimmed with blue roses. In Act III. Miss Burke is clad in a white satin Princess robe, over which she wears a red lace coatee, with the ubiquitous Jap sleeve, tied in round the figure with a band of velvet.

MRS. TREE'S MEMORIES.

An interesting speech was delivered by Mrs. Beerbohm Tree at a dinner given at the Trocadero on Monday to obtain £10,000 to provide an adequate endowment of Queen's College, Harley-street. Major-General Sir FREDERICK MAURICE was in the chair; and Mrs. TREE, in response to the toast of "The Guests," said: Sir Frederick Maurice, ladies, and gentlemen, on me falls the honour, whose greatest honour is that I should be numbered amongst them, of returning thanks for the guests of Queen's College to-night. I must confess to feeling a little overwhelmed when I look at the distinguished array of men and women for whom I am answering. But—

> There is so much bad in the best of us,
> And so much good in the worst of us,
> That it hardly behoves any of us
> To talk about the rest of us.

Therefore, if I confine my remarks to a dissertation about myself, my attitude must be regarded merely as one of becoming humility.

The last time that I was a guest of Queen's College I was invited—a diffident little girl—to tea, and I remained for five years. If there be any analogy, the guests on the present occasion who have been invited to dinner will stay at Queen's College for the rest of their lives—and I cannot imagine a happier fate. Yes, at that tea-party—ah! how long ago!—I was given a scholarship—the blessed gift of a guestship—at Queen's College, and that guestship lasted for all the best years of my life. For even after five years I would not go away. I looked wistful, I suppose, and deans, professors, and lady visitors said to me, "Oh, must you be hurrying? Do stay another year! And another year, and yet another year," until I became a sort of institution—something before the Druids—a sort of Stonehenge. Yes, I became the Stonehenge of Queen's College.

Well, after I had gone through the mill—the Stuart mill—a dozen times, after I had "done" the second book of Virgil so often that my very brain was dog-eared. I gave up trying to learn, and began to teach. I became what I am sure Mr. Barrie would call a "tweenie"—a college tweenie. Now a tweenie is a buffer—a learned buffer—between the backward pupil and the forward professor. There is no subject, however profound one's ignorance of it, that one has not glibly at one's finger ends. "Miss Holt," for thus some grave and reverend senior would address me, "Miss Holt, our dear young friend here is anxious to perfect herself in the study of Sanskrit, but her proficiency in the language is not yet sufficiently advanced to allow her, unaided, to attend my lectures. Can you be of any assistance to her?" "Sanskrit, sir? Sanskrit? my favourite study" (or, whisper I low to my soul, it shall be my favourite study—only give me ten minutes' start with the book). And can Mrs. Scharlieb deny that her early knowledge of Sanskrit she owes to me? But the standing menace to the fluffy buffer is the inquiring child. "Flora, what is the pluperfect passive of 'Tupto'?" I fondly ask. But patience, or the inquiring child, quick replies, "Well, what is it?" A floorer from Flora, because you dare not confess that you have not the slightest idea. You assume an air of ineffable scorn: "Poor child, you don't even know that! Tell her, Gertrude." And Gertrude—the clever girl is always Gertrude—tells her. But to this day my heart quakes at the thought, *suppose Gertrude had not known!*

Halcyon days! Days of labour and learning, ambition, hero-worship, reverence, and love. Our love—and it was great—was for the lady resident and Miss Rosa Morison. Dear Miss Morison, do you remember those wild evenings of the Latin exercises? Our reverence was for the professors. Our hero-worship ran the whole gamut of great names, from Marcus Aurelius to Mark Twain. The idol of one of us, for instance, was Sir Henry Irving. She, for his sake, made a daily pilgrimage of two miles' detour for seven hundred afternoons just to pass under his windows—his windows over a shop in Bond-street. Many years later the worshipper of this unknown god met Sir Henry Irving in the flesh. She no longer let concealment, like a worm in the bud, feed on her damask cheek, but told her love, for she was by this time safely married. Very nice, very pretty; but they were not my windows. I lived opposite. Chaos come again!

Then our ambitions. We all wanted to get to the very top of whatever profession we adopted, for we were none of us in the least depressed about that general opinion of our sex, that since we were incapable of learning anything we could do nothing except teach everything. Those of us who liked teaching wanted to be the headmaster of Eton or Harrow, or something like that. When we were told that some difficulties would probably be raised on account of our sex we said that we would choose some profession in which the greatest woman was as great as the greatest man. Some of thought of the Army, for is not the greatest military commander known to history Joan of Arc? But "Army virumque cano"—no place for the eternal feminine there! Then there was the Church. But could a woman become an Archbishop? No. But—and now I am speaking seriously—there is one thing better in the Church than an Archbishop, and that is a saint. Gentlemen, you may shut us women out of your humanly-instituted Holy Orders; you cannot shut us out of that divinely-instituted Holy Order to which St. Clare and St. Louisa belonged. That does not, however, help in the choice of a profession, for no one ever was, or ever will be, a saint by intending to be one. Yet in our midst at Queen's College there was one of God's making—I mean that dear and great woman, Eleanor Grove.

Well, some of us chose the stage for our profession, where at least Mrs. Siddons is as great as Garrick. That profession which was open to us—really ungrudgingly, unreservedly open to us, from the lowest to the highest rung of its ladder—that profession, whose worth and honour and, I maintain, whose importance to the public school of manners and morals is so little understood that when one entered it one could feel quite sure that one had not cut oneself off from all chance of being thought worthy of the duty, for instance, which I am at present discharging. For who am I, a poor actress, that I should return thanks for a Bishop! I ask myself, Can he be expected to like it? And what will Bristol say? Will it not picture this grave banquet as a bacchanalian revel of the most unbecoming kind? Still, they tell me Bishops are human; and, besides, our Bishop is a great author, and my profession accustoms me to take liberties with authors. Has he not written "The Church at Home before Augustine"? And if the Church was at home before Augustine, why should I not feel at home with the Church before this august assembly? There may seem less reason why I should feel at home with the Master of Trinity. But it has been whispered to me that he has so far descended—or shall I say ascended?—from his position of dignity, from the throne made illustrious by a Whewell and a Thomson, as to address a crowded audience from a box at the Cambridge Theatre. And though I may fear the Master of Trinity, I have always admired him, because he has destroyed forever the tradition that men don't like their wives to be more learned than themselves. When Mrs. Butler (then Miss Ramsay) swept everything before her in the Classical Tripos, though we said there was no one more fitted to be a wife, yet we wondered whether any man could be found magnanimous enough to accept the position of such hopeless mental inferiority as that in which he would be involved by becoming her husband. Yet here they are, and here am I returning thanks for them.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE EMPIRE.

Though that beautiful and interesting ballet, *Sir Roger de Coverley*, is still as popular as ever, and *The Débutante* continues to fill an important place in the bill at the Empire, the management are paying great attention to the variety portion of the entertainment, which is remarkably interesting and amusing. Especially exciting is the representation by means of the biograph of S. F. Edge's Twenty-four Hour Motor Record on the new track at Weybridge. We see the cars ranged in line before the start, and then they are shown flying at tremendous speed round the smooth, whitish road which has been prepared for them. Another pretty film is that which is devoted to the reproduction of the incidents in the Richmond Horse Show, with the jumping competitions. A final film places on record the adventures of a "runaway" motor car. The car, left standing by the road-side, suddenly starts off, and is chased by the chauffeur, mounted upon a bicycle. Many attempts are made to stop the "runaway," but all in vain, and the crowd which follows it steadily increases in numbers and excitement, the pursuing cyclist blundering into the rear of the followers of the fugitive with broadly-comic results. The accident takes place in a French town, and *gendarmes* take an active part in the attempts at capture. Finally the car stops of itself, and the chauffeur resumes his sway. The Adelmann Trio appear before a well-painted cloth, depicting a German town, with a stall of toys in the foreground. From this stall the Adelmanns take their instruments of music—mouth-organs, bells, Pandean pipes, and rattles; and one of the trio, a little girl, supplies a very spirited solo on the drum. The trio then perform on curious combinations of eight or a dozen horns, fastened together, giving a really remarkable effect. The Adelmanns conclude with an exhibition of their skill on xylophones, the *piano* passages being especially well rendered, while the *fortissimo* effects are also done full justice to. Miss Ciara Alexander is a genuine humorist and a most dramatic reciter. After an imitation of an old negro singing a ditty called "Father Abraham is settin' down"—a droll bit of "darkey" realism—she gives a thrilling account of how a little nigger jockey won his first race and his freedom at the same time. Miss Alexander delivers this with intense expression and vivid enthusiasm, winding up with a climax which prepares for her exit amidst hearty applause. The Barber-Ritchie Trio are cyclists of a high order of skill and daring. In addition to performing the usual cycling feats, they waltz together, each on a hind wheel, evidently a most difficult and hazardous feat. The comedian of the trio does the "tramp" business very comically, and excites hearty laughter by the extraordinary machines on which he enters, one, a kind of "multi-pede," having, instead of the usual hind-wheel tyre, boots fixed at the end of the spokes. Mr. Hymack's marvellously quick changes of gloves, collars, neckties, and cuffs excite the greatest hilarity; his show is both extraordinary and diverting. The finish with which the whole thing is done, the spirited acting of the artist, the superior quality of the "props.," and the weird cleverness of the contrivances, make Hymack's entertainment a great and lasting success. Keen and Waller do a capital turn; they are strong, supple, and amusing, and are called before the curtain at the end of their entertainment. The ballets continue to create enthusiastic delight, and Mlle. Adeline Genée as Lady Dolly, in *Sir Roger de Coverley*, is immensely admired and loudly applauded. Nothing could be daintier or more artistic than her display of Terpsichorean skill. Mlle. Zanfretta is as handsome and dramatic as ever as Lady Vallancy; and Mr. Fred Farren distinguishes herself as the Hon. Tom Vallancy. The general arrangements of the Empire are as unimpeachable as ever, and Mr. A. Aldin attends to affairs in front of the house with his wonted tact and courtesy.

THE OXFORD.

Men of might and muscle have from the early days of the seventies found their true environment at the Oxford, and wrestlers, weight-lifters, and Samsons of every nationality have found there the appreciation invariably given without stint to tricks denoting trained biceps and exceptional skill. For the current week Mr. Blyth Pratt is "featuring" Mr. Bert Wickham, the Herculean Cymro and world's champion all-round athlete, who gives an exhibition of his physical strength, including his remarkable tests of motor v. man. He is announced to pit his strength against the pulling power of a 16 to 22 horse-power motor-car, and claims that he can, by sheer strength alone, and without any mechanical aid, resist the force exerted by two eight horse-power automobiles at the same time. On Monday, before a house crowded in every part, Wickham's challenge was put to the test, and he successfully held his ground against the efforts of two motor-cars to get away within the stipulated time of 40sec. He is without apparatus of any kind except the rope that is attached to the car. It will be remembered that he performed this feat in Piccadilly some time ago, to the amazement of the passers-by.

Early in the evening Miss Isabelle Dillon is responsible for the singing of a pretty song, "Pansy, which has a most taking melody. She wears a charming dress, and is joined in the chorus by a little girl, whom she holds in temporary bondage with flower-decked reins, the two dancing off together to the loudly-expressed satisfaction of occupants in all parts of the house. Mr. G. H. Elliott's reputation as an artistic singer of coon songs and an original dancer grows apace. We seem to see him everywhere, and never without enjoyment of his performance, or admiration of his earnestness and charm. "If the man in the moon were a coon" and "Baby Lulu" are amongst his latest numbers, and they are inspiring Oxford audiences to sing their melodious refrains very heartily. Mr. Carl Howard makes fun of the ordinary conjuring feats by exposing the *modus operandi* with many amusing remarks. Miss Millie Lindon is heard to advantage in "Mary, the maid of the dairy," and Miss Lucy Weston sings artlessly of a country girl's adventures in London. Mr. Morny Cash, as a deputy, is exploiting his droll song about "Bed," a restful number that it highly relished; and the Brothers Egbert are once more announced as the "Happy Dustmen." Old favourites in the persons of the Brothers Griffiths present a burlesque wrestling act, which, good as it is, cannot approach the Blondin Donkey for quaint humour. Living statuary finds an excellent variant in Dr. Angelo's exhibition of living porcelains. We see living figures made up so as closely to resemble Delft China, a Sèvres vase, an Idylle (vieux Saxe), a Clock (Vienna), and Dresden chandeliers, with "The Triumph of Britannia" as a final "porcelain" trophy. Towards the end of the programme the fun becomes fast and furious when Mr. Arthur Roberts appears as Fitzawful Smith, whose adventures in Mr. Thunder's flat include the adoption of petticoats in order to hoodwink a jealous husband. The farce is by Harry Pleon, and it gives Arthur all the necessary opportunity to gag, and the audience has a very hilarious time. Mr. Will Evans is giving his "fancy ball" adventures with the greatest unction and success, and others in the bill include the Mayvilles, Miss Kate Traitt, and Farr and Farland. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope winds up the programme.

THE PALACE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

There have been many whistlers before the public of late years, both American and British, but never one to excel, if to equal, Mr. Arthur Slater, who is this week appearing at the Palace, Stoke Newington. His imitations of birds are clever, his whistling song most enjoyable, but his whistling of the overture to *Poet and Peasant* to a full orchestral accompaniment is a *tour de force*, and as a "sifleur" he can easily hold his own with any other on either side of the Atlantic. The attractiveness of this turn is materially added to by the excellence of the rendering of the above-mentioned overture by the Palace Orchestra under the experienced directorship of Mr. Norfolk Megone. A distinctly clever and amusing item is that contributed by Mr. Horace Jones, a comedian whose impersonation of a Welshman at a football match is a well-sustained and artistic piece of acting, and quite equal to many of the character-studies given by a Scotch comedian at present very high in the public's favour. Miss Josie Delaine is a comedienne with a refined and graceful style who sings nicely, but scores her greatest success with her clog-dancing. The Marconis, in their electrical act, perform some wonderful and truly bewildering feats, and appear to be impervious alike to fire and electricity. Theirs is a novel and remarkable show, and the favour with which it is received cannot be wondered at. Miss Isabel Dillon's two songs, "My Gollywog" and "Pansy," find considerable favour with the audience. Hooker and Davis and the Six Cowboy Girls contribute a turn made up of song, chorus, and dance. The leading lady of the combination provides some acrobatic and toe-dancing that looks more painful than graceful, and the most satisfactory feature of this turn is the opening chorus and dance of the six girls. Messrs. Harrigan and Holt contribute some cross-talk of the all-too-familiar type, but the applause with which they are rewarded at the finish of the dance which concludes their contribution to the programme is thoroughly deserved. Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company appear in the sketch *Did He Deserve It?* This is chiefly noticeable for the acting of the gentleman who appears as the villain of the playlet, whose name does not appear on the bills, and the wonderful training of the hound that also takes a prominent part in the production. A most sensational and thrilling bicycle act is gone through by the Three Demons and a lady, and it is a relief to see them emerge safely at the end of their performance from the task they set themselves. Mr. Bert Brantford scores with his "Sweep" song, and the Brothers Adderley, comedians and mimics, and Mr. L. B. Athol, descriptive vocalist, add to the programme, which is completed by the Palace Pictures.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

The programme this week at the above hall of amusement is attracting vast crowds nightly. Foremost on the programme appears the name of Hardeen, the world-renowned handcuff king, whose skill in releasing himself from handcuffs and leg-irons is truly marvellous. His concluding trick is mystifying in the extreme. Completely enveloped in a sack, the fastening at the top of which is sealed, Hardeen is placed in a large chest which is afterwards locked and made securely fast with rope. The whole concern is then placed inside a draped cabinet, together with a lady assistant. No more than three seconds elapse before the curtains are thrown aside and we see Hardeen standing by the side of the chest, while the girl, who, a moment before was outside, is subsequently discovered tied in the sack with the seal intact. The performance is much appreciated and is suitably applauded. The contribution of Mr. Arthur Bedini, a comedy pantomimist of considerable ability, is a complete success. He makes much out of little and raises hearty laughter at every turn.

The three Gregsons provide merriment with their sketch, and prove themselves to be capable acrobats as well as clever performers in other ways. They work hard and well, and earn for themselves deserved applause. Huline and Le May, the modern musical clowns, play different types of instruments expertly, and cause much amusement with their quaint antics. Mr. Charles R. Whittle sings "Put me amongst the girls" in his usual facetious style, and the old favourite, "Billy Muggins," still continues to amuse. The chorus of the latter song is taken up by the gallery boys, who afterwards show their appreciation of his efforts in an unmistakable manner.

Miss Ida Brophy is a charming comedienne and an expert dancer Her song, "I wish I were you," is daintily rendered, and the dance at the conclusion is neatly executed. Much praise is due to her for her excellent performance. Carney and Armstrong prove themselves to be a couple of comedians of ability. In their comedy tit-bit they appear with decided success, and create much hilarity in their travesty of modern actors. Rauschle is here is his costume and characteristic representations of great men of the world, past and present. His impersonations include Napoleon, Campbell-Bannerman, Gladstone, John Burns, and the King, and in each case his make-up and facial expression are the facsimile of the character he represents. Some interesting pictures are shown by the Imperial Bioscope, and the orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. A. Petersen, dispenses artistic and effective music during the evening.

THE STANDARD.

Walker and May, the well-known coloured artists, have been made the subject of a popular demonstration whenever they have appeared this week before the footlights of the Royal Standard, Pimlico. There is no doubt that their act can now be considered one of our leading music hall attractions. It may be that one reason why so much favour is extended to the talented couple is that Mr. Walker goes through a most attractive performance in spite of the fact that he is totally blind. It must have cost him many hours of practice to be able to execute, as he does now so perfectly, his coon dances on the stage. The melodious "darkie" ditties which Walker and May sing and their smart terpsichorean efforts are, as we have already indicated, greatly appreciated. Dale and Vale are also comedians and dancers of outstanding ability, and Mr. Lester May is a most entertaining "eccentric." Delightful turns, too, are submitted by the Sisters Vaili in their musical act and dancing and Mr. Ted Cowan with his laughable comedy business. Mr. Harry Elliston and company create a good deal of merriment with their sketch, *My Friend the General*, in which Mr. Elliston makes an excruciatingly funny mock military officer, and in which he is ably supported by Miss Maude St. John as an "eligible" widow and Mr. Jack Patrick as a suitor to the widow's hand and fortune. Miss Maudie Forde is a *chic* and engaging comedienne, who renders in quite a nice fashion a couple of songs with enchanting melodies, one being on the subject of a certain "Shy Ann," and another in which Barbados is referred to. Stewart and Evans are really as entertaining as a pair of human beings reasonably can be expected to make themselves. They have a host of funny ideas, and the quaintest ways imaginable. Even the most *blasé* dryasdust could not help being amused by their witty sayings, which are happily free from any trace of vulgarity. Their song "We ain't got no use for sleep" and their dance are greatly enjoyed. Mr. Charles Denton is another merchant of mirth, whose individual style and songs are altogether to the liking of the audience. As to Miss Sable Fern, she captivates all hearts by the very daintiness with which she "takes" the stage. She has a number of up-to-date illusions in her song entitled "If you read between the lines," during the rendering of which she is seen, and, we venture to say, admired, in a pretty knickerbocker costume. Changing into girl's costume, she tells us in a second song, which is expressively sung, all about "an old tale" which reiterates certain facts which have long characterised the history of human beings. Mr. Joe Peterman and his merry band of comedians and comediennes give us a merry time while they disport themselves in various ways in the extravaganza *The Belle of the Orient*. Mr. Peterman causes intense amusement by his ludicrous impersonation of the Jew moneylender, and Miss Millie Field presents an agreeable picture as the Belle, and sings, acts, and dances in a sprightly manner. Miss Kittie Lord, Mr. Robert Comber, Mr. Charles Ossi, and Mr. Frank Payne render able support. Mr. Andie Burn, comedian, and Hughes and Elliott, comedy duo, likewise afford no small degree of pleasure to the audience in their different capacities; and the show comes to a conclusion with a new series of animated pictures shown by the Edisonograph, and depicting some of the thrilling incidents of the dramatic serial, "Sons of Martha," now running in the *Evening News*.

THE METROPOLITAN.

Mr. Jack Edgar in his scheme of amusement for the delectation of the inhabitants of Paddington has this week introduced a couple of sketches of a bright character, which both gods and pit have received with a great deal of favour. Mr. Harry Claff in his duologue *The Demon and the Fairy* has treated the old pantomime traditions of the forces at the disposal of good and evil in our Christmas entertainments with no lack of light-hearted gaiety. As a devil in red, he proclaims, in recitative and in melodramatic accents, his fell purpose; but no one takes him seriously, least of all the Fairy Queen (Miss Molly Maguire), who, in gossamer garments, sings a song concerning the waving of the wand, a process of enchantment without which no well-conditioned pantomime is complete. The dialogue has some well-timed jokes, and generally the effect produced by the trifle is exhilarating.

Miss Florence St. John is the heroine of a sketch entitled *Quits*, which, like so many farces, owes its fun to the frivolous husband, who throws his "cap over the mills," as the French say. Frank Dale has been to a Covent Garden ball—that *fons et origo* of so many imbroglios—where he has met ladies dressed in the costumes of Sapho and "Mixed Biscuits"—an original design indeed. The latter lady is, naturally, very dry, and when Dale takes her to Romano's to supper, she quaffs her wine freely, and raises the bill to the figure of £7 15s. With the arrival of Mrs. Dale, the husband's friend, Simmy, makes an attempt to get Dale out of the mess by explaining away things, and the situations become uproariously amusing. Miss St. John introduces the well-known song, "Molly Molyneux," and plays with considerable unction the part of Mrs. Dale. Mr. William Sauter is a light and agreeable Mr. Dale; and Mr. H. V. Surrey's stage dude is of the accepted pattern.

In the early part of the evening Lieutenant Albini, an excellent showman, exhibits the famous illusion *A Sailor and His Lass*, being assisted by Miss Marie Gautier and another young lady. Mr. Albini's committee of two on the night of our visit caused a good deal of fun and laughter, and astonishment prevailed while the clever magician occupied the stage. Miss Hanid Alexander, the clever pupil of Miss Helene Townshend, plays the piano with a much improved technique since we last heard her, and her transcription of the air "For All Eternity" is a brilliant effort. She also introduces at the piano the dialogue between two street arabs, who are watching a dinner party in Piccadilly, singing also with much expression "Jest her way." Leaving the piano, she takes the stage to sing of "A leader of frocks and frills," and dances very neatly.

Mr. Tom Costello has the audience laughing when he sings about "The ten-bob rise," and there is a loud-voiced chorus when, seated round a camp-fire, he expresses with such fervour the sentiments of a modern version of "Auld Lang Syne." Mr. Costello does exactly what he likes with his audience, and treats his numbers with an originality that is as refreshing as it is ingenious. Athleticism is well represented by the Brothers Wynford, barrel and chair jumpers, one of whom recently lowered Joe Darby's record for two hops and a jump; the King's Musketeers, a cohort of girls, are responsible for a smart fencing display, the D'Artagnan of the crowd engaging successfully in a contest with six opponents; and Miss Gladys Mavius in her successful song "Rosie is waiting," is aided by a youngster who already demonstrates the possession of the gift of comicality. Other turns in the bill are Miss Cerise Bell, the Ongars, Miss Anna Kenwick, Mr. Albert Christian, the Royal Welsh Singers, Mr. Jack Lorrimer, Marcel and Boris, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, and Hunter and Maris.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

Mr. Oswald Stoll's selection of artists is always admirable, so that it is a foregone conclusion that an entertainment for which he is responsible must be as good as money and judgment can make it. This is the case this week at this favourite hall, so ably presided over by Mr. Ernest Bridgen, who is very popular in the locality. After the fine orchestra, so well directed by clever Mr. Louis la Rondelle, had brilliantly rendered the always acceptable *Mikado* selection, the first turn on the programme was that of Mr. George Reeves, who justifies his description as a "funny comedian." This artist was most favourably received. The flying trapeze act of the Clement Trio was remarkable for the skill and dexterity with which their many tricks were executed; Haley's Juveniles came next, and their performance reflects the greatest credit on their instructor, the various items being presented by the little artists with great precision and ability; the tiny duettists, Dot and Spot, were very warmly applauded in "Creole Sue" and "I'll be your butterfly," and the little dancers must be congratulated on their successful efforts; Miss Ray gave much pleasure to all present by her delightful rendering of "Dear heart," followed by "Eileen Alannah," with 'cello accompaniment; Drew and Alders caused unbounded merriment by their very funny patter and original business as comedy coastguards, their acrobatic efforts, also singing and dancing, being decidedly successful; Mr. Whit Cunliffe, who had a great reception, sang in his well-known brilliant style "Be a sport," "Poor old father," and "A different girl again"; the Six Æolians made a great hit in their entertainment, consisting of song and dance, including "Go to sea," "My girl from Paree," "Come back to Erin," "A medley," and an original and very smartly-executed hornpipe; Mr. J. W. Hall caused much laughter by his quaint performance and his amusing songs, entitled "When I heard the bells go" and "Crowded cars"; Bella and Bijou—always enormous favourites here—met with a warm reception for their capital contributions, "Money," and "So and Sew." In the latter, Bijou, as the henpecked husband who turns at last so effectually on his suffragette wife, was excellent, and Bella, as the wife, once more proved herself a clever and charming actress. The American Bioscope exhibited some interesting pictures of the great Horse Show at Olympia.

THE GRAND, CLAPHAM.

The management here have for the top of the bill this week the much-talked-of La Milo. No doubt the recent decision which the authorities have come to on living statuary has had much to do with the crowded state of the hall this week. The tremendous reception which greets the signalling of this artist's number shows full well that the popularity of her entertainment is not yet on the wane, and she is delighting Claphamites with the beauty of her poses. Amongst others, she is giving "Hebe," Canova's "Venus," "Maidenhood" ("Youth and Age"), "Diana," and the much-talked-of "Venus di Milo." The charm of her entertainment is also greatly enhanced by some clever caricature-sketching by Cruickshank. Considering the rapidity with which he draws his subjects, the result he attains is wonderful. His many sketches include portraits of Winston Churchill, A. J. Balfour, H. Campbell Bannerman, Joe Chamberlain, and last, but not least, W. T. Stead, whose name was so prominently associated with that of La Milo some time back. Another excellent item on the programme is that furnished by Herbert Clifton, a mimic with a phenomenal voice. He gives imitations of several of our leading musical comedy actresses, and with the happiest results. He is this week reproducing Misses Maudie Darrell, Isabelle Jay, and Gertie Millar, in "Keep off the grass," from *The Toreador*. This last-named ditty brings down the house, and, in response to a most undeniable demand for an encore, he imitates Miss Camille Clifford in her famous song, "Why do they call me a Gibson Girl?" Herbert Darnley's Dots are appearing in an amusing speciality, entitled *Helping Mother*, and must certainly be accorded a prominent place in the evening's amusement. The singing and dancing of these youngsters is really most clever. The Brothers Etharien, who took such a prominent part in the pantomime that was produced at the Shakespeare Theatre last Christmas, are repeating with advantage many of their successes there. The heartiest laughter reigns whilst they are in possession of the stage, and on concluding they receive hearty applause. Charles Morritt, the famous illusionist, is fairly mystifying Claphamites with the ease and rapidity with which he performs his many tricks. His "electric table" especially causes hearty laughter, and the antics of the poor sufferers are most funny. He also, with the assistance of a lady who is blindfolded, introduces some thought-reading, which proves most interesting. Venie Clements is singing "The argument came to a close," and in response to a demand for an encore, gives some clever imitations of juveniles. Blake and Granby are responsible for much laughter. A man in possession is, whilst taking an inventory of some premises, surprised by the occupant, a lady, who mistakes him for an American millionaire whom she is expecting. As can readily be imagined, this causes great fun, and applause rewards them on concluding. Jimmie Laurie has a funny song about the walking craze; and Lawrence Barclay contributes a couple of humorous songs. A pleasant two hours is brought to a conclusion with some interesting pictures on the bioscope, which are observed with great interest. Mr. Harry Ketteman evidently does all that is possible for the comfort of his patrons.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

The excellence of the programmes submitted by the management here is resulting in first-rate houses, and on Monday evening every available seat seemed to be occupied. Mr. Foster C. Warner, the genial manager, is to be complimented upon the pleasing variety of the respective turns. Following a crisply-played overture, Miss Bertha Winder, the lady champion of the wooden shoes, makes her appearance in Scottish costume and entertains her audience by her skilful manipulation of the pipes, and by a neatly-danced reel. On her second appearance she mounts the pedestal and gives an exhibition of fancy steps that gains unbounded applause, the ease and certainty with which the little lady puts in remarkable shuffles and steps demonstrating the perfect mastery she has of the art. The Ongars, a pair of clever dancers whose entry is made in a rag-time duet, are also very acceptable, the concluding item of their turn being a delineation of various styles of dancing, including Spanish, Dutch, and Russian. Tatten Hall is a quaint comedian who scores in a song about his eyeglass.

Messrs. Grant and Allen appear in a speciality entitled, "Where's Snooker." The individual in question is finally discovered in the shape of a lay figure disconsolately propping up a lamppost. Rezene and Robini create roars of laughter by their knockabout acrobatics, and there is something irresistibly funny in the way one administers and the other receives innumerable buffettings, the accompanied dialogue being also very smart. A novelty in mimicry is introduced by Mr. and Mme. D'Arc, whose wonderful marionettes give reproductions of celebrated artists. The impersonations include R. G. Knowles, Vesta Tilley, Geo. Lashwood, Victoria Monks, and May Henderson, and a fitting reception awaits the clever pair at the conclusion of their turn. Bert Cootes' "Yankee Doodle Girls" give a very spirited turn, singing, dancing, and performing sundry evolutions with grace and accuracy.

Mr. R. H. Douglas, the clever monologue artist, is the cause of uncontrollable mirth. His forensic effort as counsel for the plaintiff in a breach of promise case appeals more strongly to the audience than it would to a jury, and his rapid changes of costume and voice in the various characters adopted by a detective in the course of his business are also productive of much genuine interest and amusement. Kitty Clover and Co. cleverly present an interesting sketch, entitled *Mr. There's Heir*, in which an impecunious artist is befriended by the domestic who keeps his studio tidy, the devotion of the humble slavey finally enabling the artist to take up his proper station in life to the satisfaction of all concerned. Only three persons are included in the sketch, which goes remarkably well and is much enjoyed. The Imperial Bioscope pictures are very good, roars of laughter being created by the remarkable adventures of a short-sighted cyclist.

"KINDRED TIES."

Dramatic Sketch, by Wilfred H. Benson, produced at the Hammersmith Palace of Varieties on July 1.

Lord Marston .....Mr. W. Ruddle Brown
Count Lugi Lonella ..Mr. Stanley Grosvenor
Paolo .....Miss Joan Harcourt
Countess Lola de Castro Miss Freda Sharlotte

The scene opens on the Château of Countess Lola, who is a Corsican, and consequently cherishes thoughts of vengeance against an Englishman travelling as Lord Marston, who had run away with the Countess's sister, married her, and then left her and her child Paolo. The deserted wife returns to Corsica, and is there murdered. The real Lord Marston living as Jack Smith arrives in Corsica, falls in love with the Countess de Castro, who in turn loves him. Count Lonella wishes to marry the Countess, presumably for her wealth, and threatens her that he will gain his wishes by force if other ways fail, but at this moment Lord Marston enters and escorts the Count to the door. Left alone for a few minutes, Lord Marston produces and studies the papers he has obtained concerning the murder and Lugi's past career, and reflects on the fact that an orphan he had befriended in England had repaid him by using his (Lord Marston's) name abroad for his own advancement. Count Lonella returns, and in order to obtain possession of these papers apologises to Lord Marston for his ill-manners, which he attributes to his Southern temperament. He is allowed to look at the papers, and while doing so suggests a drink, which he proceeds to drug. Lord Marston is at length overpowered by the drug, but the Countess appears on the scene, and fights a sword-duel with the Count. She is the victor in the duel, and the Count is about to kill her treacherously when Lord Marston revives and shoots him dead. Thus the Corsican feud is ended, and the Countess is clasped in his lordship's arms.

Miss Freda Sharlotte played with any amount of energy as the Countess, and, when she has somewhat modified her style, will undoubtedly be a great success in the part. Mr. W. Ruddle Brown made the Englishman a manly character, and Mr. Stanley Grosvenor (otherwise the author, W. H. Benson) invested the Spanish Count with the necessary sinister air. Miss Joan Harcourt was satisfactory in the small part of Paolo.

ON THE ROAD, JULY 8.

All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—West Pier, Brighton.
An Unwedded Wife.—King's T., Manchester.
At Duty's Call.—Grand T., Southampton.
At the World's Mercy.—T. R., Pontypridd.
Bootles' Baby.—O. H., Harrogate.
Branded Woman.—Theatre Royal, Woolwich.
Dan the Rake.—Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Eve of Her Wedding.—O. H., St. Helens.
Girl from Japan.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Heart's Desire.—West London Theatre.
Her One Great Sin.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
His Sister's Honour.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
Honour Thy Father.—T. R., Rotherham.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Bellingham and Amble.
Leah Kleschna.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Little Vagrant.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Lucky Durham.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
Man's Enemy.—Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
Manxman, The.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
Master Criminal.—Stafford.
Monte Cristo.—Grand Theatre, Brighton.
New World.—Queen's T., Gateshead.
Octoroon (Thorn).—Prince's T., Bradford.
Prodigal Parson.—Theatre Royal, Croydon.
Royal Divorce.—O. H., Blackpool.
Shulamite.—Grand Opera House, Middlesboro'.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Stolen Birthright.—P. O. W., Salford.
The Woman Pays.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Tommy.—Folkestone.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harrington).—T. R., Rochdale.
When It Was Dark.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
When the Lights are Low.—Hippodrome, Wigan.
Woman from Scotland Yard.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Woman's Past.—Theatre Royal, Scarborough.
Wrecker of Men.—East Oxford T., Oxford.
£1000 Reward.—Empire Theatre, Southend.

SOUTH LONDON OUTING.

Not even the sight of Proteus rising from the sea, or of old Triton blowing his wreathèd horn as he rode upon the waves, nor the fulfilment of any Hesiodic or other fable associated with the briny, could have made more merry than they were the festive party of South Londoners who on Sunday sought the invigorating breezes of Margate. For this was the annual outing of the staff of the South London Palace, and, therefore, it was an occasion on which one would say to Dull Care, "I prithee begone from me." And, unquestionably, it was in such a humour that the goodlie companie of which Manager William Payne had charge set forth from the Elephant and Castle Station for the place which the late Montague Williams described as being famous for its sand and its fried fish and chips. The said place was reached at half-past ten, and at one o'clock dinner was served at the West End Restaurant, Marine Parade, Mr. Payne, of course, presiding over the gathering, and Mr. H. B. Wincote occupying the vice-chair.

The usual loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the chairman expressed the great pleasure he felt at being present, for the first time in his official capacity, at the annual festival. He was glad to say that they had with them at the table Mr. Chas. Beecham (the manager of the Paragon) and Mrs. Beecham, whose health he took pleasure in proposing. Mr. H. B. Wincote gave the toast of "The Directors and Management of the South London Palace." He stated that he had been associated with the "South" for nearly seven years, during which time he had received many courtesies from the directors, and he believed he voiced the sentiments of the whole of the staff when he said that they were proud to be working under such gentlemen. Unfortunately they had sustained a great loss by the death of Mr. George Adney Payne; but, while regretting that occurrence, they would wish every success to their new director, Mr. Walter Payne. They were pleased to welcome there their popular manager, who was presiding over them at the dinner, and they congratulated him on completing his first anniversary at the South London. The toast was duly honoured, and the chairman suitably responded. Mr. Charles Beecham briefly expressed his own and his wife's pleasure at being able to accept the invitation to attend the dinner. Mr. A. Weeks, in a capital little speech, proposed "Success to the South London Palace." The concluding toast was that of "The Press," given in a most charming manner by the chairman, and acknowledged by Mr. Douglas Crichton.

In the afternoon trips were taken in various directions—by steamer, electric railway, or on foot—the beautiful weather aiding in the enjoyment of the views of sea and countryside. Tea was partaken of at half-past five, and at seven the train was boarded for the return journey. On the way home it was apparent, from the snatches of song that frequently burst forth from one or other of the carriages, that the spirit of Comus had descended upon some of the party; but if there was anything of the nature of a revelry, it was a revelry which, even in this milk-and-water age, could only be considered as being conducted with the utmost decorum.

Congratulations were showered upon Mr. H. B. Wincote for the excellent manner in which he had organised the outing, this being the seventh function which has to be set down to his credit. The guests on Sunday were Mr. Robert D. Dunn, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Beecham, and our own representative.

"UPS AND DOWNS."

Sketch, by Wilfred Vaughan, Produced at the Empress Theatre of Varieties, Brixton, on Monday, June 24.

The Wife .....Miss Florence Hyde
The Husband .....Mr. Wilfred Vaughan

The scene of this little piece, in which both laughter and tears are contained, opens in a humble dwelling late at night. The housewife is working hard at her sewing, while her husband is spending time at the public house. The wife declares that her husband thinks more of his beer than he does of her, and that, whilst he is enjoying himself, she has to slave hard to keep the roof over their heads. She has come to the conclusion that she will put a stop to it, and consequently prepares to give her husband a warm reception on his return. At this moment the husband enters, and the wife proceeds to express her opinion of him in forcible language. He treats the matter as a huge joke, and his replies to her many questions provoke the heartiest laughter This leads up to a song by the wife, entitled "What I want to know," which is a topical number, and is very cleverly written. Eventually the pair decide to part, and some boisterous comedy ensues; but just when there seems least hope of reconciliation, mention is made of their little boy, Jim, who died some time previously, and the husband, stricken with remorse, begs his wife to forgive him, and promises in the future to lead a better life. The reconciliation takes the form of a pretty duet, in which the well-trained voices of both artists are heard to the greatest advantage.

The acting of the wife by Miss Florence Hyde leaves nothing to be desired, while her singing in the two songs is excellent. Mr. Wilfred Vaughan as the husband proves himself to be a versatile actor, and obtains the happiest results. At the conclusion of the sketch the applause was deafening, and the artists, who are heartily to be congratulated on the success achieved, had many times to bow their acknowledgments.

Joad Hayes, the conjuror from the land of the Sphinx, is by way of producing at the Metropolitan some Egyptian illusions, and we are promised some interesting and startling experiments with the electric chair.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

(We do not answer questions by post.)

F. CLIVE (Harrogate).—*We are not aware of the exact conditions imposed by the London County Council regarding scenery being made fireproof. You might easily ascertain, however, by writing to the chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, L.C.C., Spring Gardens, London, W. As to the process and material for making scenery fireproof, you would be able to discover the best way to proceed by writing to the Fire-Resisting Corporation, Wandsworth Bridge, Fulham; or to Mr. Alfred Moul, care of the Alhambra, Leicester-square, W., who has had more experience with non flammable scenery than most managers.*

GEORGE LEGLERE (Banbury).—*In our variety gossip columns to-day there is a paragraph referring to Miss Bella Bashall's slight improvement in health. She is in the able hands of Dr. Leonard Williams at the French Hospital, 172, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, E.C.*

KATE SHERRY (Edinburgh).—*You had better inquire of Samuel French and Co., Southampton-Street, Strand, W.C.; or of Mrs. Douglas Cox, 22, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.*

GLADIATOR.—*So much depends on the idea of your sketch and the strength of the dialogue and situations, and, as we know nothing of either, it is difficult for us to advise you. But your interests as a budding writer would perhaps be best served by a sum down—say a fiver—and a weekly royalty, with the stipulation that your name is to appear as the author on all bills and programmes, wherever the sketch may be played. The assignment should be in writing, and properly drawn out.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

GIRDLESTONE.—June 30, at Sheene, Upper Deal, Kent, the wife of Charles Girdlestone, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BEST—GALVIN.—June 26, at the Brixton Registry Office, Charles Francis Best, comedian, to Georgina Galvin (Lydia Reynolds), widow of the late Dan Leno.

CRASKE—FINNEY.—July 1, at the Strand Registrar's Office, Leonard Craske to Viola Finney, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Finney.

DEATHS.

CARTER.—At Philadelphia, U.S.A., recently, John Carter, actor, aged eighty-seven.

FOGERTY.—June 29, at his residence, Henry-street, Limerick, Robert Fogerty, proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Limerick, aged sixty-three.

HANLON.—June 30, at Middlesex Hospital, from hæmorrhage of the lungs, Bob Hanlon, of the Hanlon-Voltas and Hanlon troupe of gymnasts, aged forty-six.

MARSTON.—Mary Ann Marston, June 1, 1907, of phthisis. Never forgotten by her devoted husband, George Marston, and children, Mabel, Flo. Acton, Friday, June 5.

Rest, darling mama, in peace;
She was so tired.

IN MEMORIAM.

HEMMING.—In loving memory of my dear husband William Walton, who died July 8, 1904. Never forgotten by his wife Annie Craston and his daughter Daisy.

SELBY.—In loving memory of Wilton J. Selby, who passed away July 10, 1906.

Rest, perfect rest.

WAKEFIELD.—In ever loving memory of our dear brother, J. H. Wakefield, comedian, who passed away July 3, 1900. By us never forgotten.

WALTON.—In loving memory of our dear Uncle William Walton (Hemming), who departed this life July 8, 1904. Deeply regretted by L. and G. Hand.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Henry Swinerd—Saturday, July 6.
Walter Stockwell—Saturday, July 6.
Fanny Brough—Sunday, July 7.
Amy Augarde—Sunday, July 7.
Rita Everard—Sunday, July 7.
Nora Morra—Sunday, July 7.
Florry Cooper—Monday, July 8.
Laura Dyson—Monday, July 8.
Mrs. Alfred Mellon—Monday, July 8.
Marion Walker—Monday, July 8.
H. A. Jordison—Monday, July 8.
Carlotta Addison—Tuesday, July 9.
Julian Cross—Tuesday, July 9.
Ena Ethelburne—Tuesday, July 9.
Morley Carroll—Tuesday, July 9.
Doris Beresford—Tuesday, July 9.
Whitmore Ledger—Tuesday, July 9.
Leslie Murray—Tuesday, July 9.
Marie Craig—Wednesday, July 10.
George H. Bellamy—Wednesday, July 10.
Walter Giffard—Wednesday, July 10.
Lucy Weston—Wednesday, July 10.
Schackey Seebold—Wednesday, July 10.
Ruby Norton—Wednesday, July 10.
Adeline Raby—Thursday July 11.
Agnese D'Aragon—Thursday, July 11.
Myra Stansfield—Thursday, July 11.
Letta Poole—Thursday, July 11.
Ina Cunard—Friday, July 12.
Hilda Bretton—Friday, July 12.
Allan Hanbury—Friday, July 12.
Hettie Cornwallis—Friday, July 12.
Lottie Govell—Friday, July 12.
Joe Tennyson—Friday, July 12.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list

Abbott, Mr. W. L.
Acton, Mr. Fred
Adams, Mr. Vincent
Adeson, Mr. C.
"Alec"
Allen, Mr. J. Grant
Anderson, Mr. Max C.
Armitage, Mr. H.
Arnold, Miss M.
Artois, Brothers
Asche, Mr. Oscar
Attwell, Mr. L.
Aucliffe, Miss Alice
Austa, Miss Amba
Bale Troupe.
Barlow, Miss Billie
Barrett, Mr. W. Burgess
Bartlett, Miss Rose
Bastow, Mr. George
Bateman, Mr. Edgar
Beaumont, Mr. C.
Bickford, Mr. M.
Biresleyn, Miss E.
Boucicault, Miss Nina
Bown, Mr. Clifford
Brennand, Mr. R.
Brett, Mr. Harry
Brooke, Mrs. E. H.
Bruce, Mr. W. Arthur
Burgon, Mrs. W.
Cadell, Mrs. Nellie
Campbell, Miss A. E.
Carlile, Mr. Chas.
Carmen, Mr. Harry
"Carrie"
Carrol, Miss B.
Carsoll, Mr. J. P.
Carter, Mr. Chas.
Chaplin, Mr. Sydney
Chattell, Mr. Henry
Ching Lung Soo
Clyatt, Mr. C.
Cochrane, Master J.
Coma, Mr. Arthur
Condon, Miss Dora
Copping, Mrs.
Corsbie, Miss Dorcas
Courtnedge, Mr. Robert
Curre, Mr. Carne
Cutler, Miss Kate
Dagnall, Mr. E.
Dalrymple, Mr. Leonard
Danby, Mr. F.
Dartrey, Mr. R.
Daviss, Mr. F. D.
De Cordova, Mr. R.
De Gracia, Mrs.
De Lara, Miss G.
Delph, Mr. C. L.
Dobler, Mr. George
Douglas, Mr. O.
Edwin and Edwards
Eldred, Mr. Frank
Ellery, Mr. John
Elliott, Mr. G. H.
Elliott and Warne
Elton, Mrs. Fred
Elvin, Mr. Joe
Elvo, Mr. Jim
Emmeline and Orford
England, Miss D.
"Eno"
Farren, Mr. Arthur
Fawn, Miss H.
Felix, Miss Lizzie
Fischer, Mr. Harry
Fuller, Miss Louie
Galette's Monkeys
Garbois, Mr. Wm. H.
Gillmore, Mr. Barry
Ginnett, Mr. F.
Glendinning, Mr. John
Godfrey, Mr. Syd R.
Godwin, Mr. Will
Grosvenor, Mr. Stanley
Greenhouse, Miss Marie
Hampel, Mr. A.
Harcourt, Mr. Fred
Harding, Mr. M. C.
Hargreaves, Mr. W.
Harrison, Mr. Fredk.
Hazel
Henriette and Selina
Hermann, Mr. Chas.
Hertie, Mr. Frank
Hewitt, Mr. Chas.
Holman, Miss Lolo
Howard, Mr. Carl
Jackson, Miss Nellie
Knights, Mr. A.
Kreamer, Mr. George
Laird and Leslie, Messrs
Langford, Mr. E. J.
Lauderdale, Miss Ada
Lawrence, Miss Francis
Lemoine, Miss Rose
Lenton, Miss Olive
Leslie, Mr. C.
Letters, Mr. W.
Levett, Mr. Harry
Lidden, Mr. Cecil
Lloyd, Mr. Fred
Loftus, Sisters
Lomax, Mr. Anthony
Loraine, Miss Violet
Lorraine, Mlle.
Louis, Mr. Edward
Marler, Mrs. Nellie
Marms, Miss Ada
Martin, Mlle. S.
Maville, Mr.
McCoy, Sisters
Melvin, Mr. Frank
Miller, Mr. St. Aubyn
Miller, Mr. W. J.
Moodie, Miss Louise
Moore, Miss Carrie
Moore, Mr. Marshall
Morris, Mrs. Chancery
Morton, Miss Effie
Mozar, Mr. Ernest
Neilson, Mr. H. V.
Newman, Miss Ethel
New York Comedy Four
Nolan, Mr. M.
Norman V. Norman, Mr
Oates, Miss Lillian
O'Mara, Mr.
Orchid, Mr. Harry
Osborne, Mr. Will
Ottawas, The
Pattersons, Mr. B.
Picquays, The
Pink, Mr. Wal.
Power, Mr. Chas.
Rae, Mr. W.
Rafferty, Mr. Pat
Ray, Miss Belle
"Rebla"
Redmond, Mrs. M.
Reinhart, Mr. Louis
Ringham, Mr. Walter
Roma, Mlle.
Rose-Hessee, Mme.
Rossitor, Miss Nancy
Royce, Mr.
Ruggles, Miss Annie
Saker, Bonas, The,
Schubert, Miss Florence
Sedgwick, Mr.
Selbo
Selby, Mr. Alf
Seldon, Miss Olga
Shine, Mr. Wilfred
Silvani, Mr. H.
Smith and Johnson
Smith, Mr. Wellesley
Snow, Miss Ellen
Soldene, Miss E.
Southgate, Mr. R.
Spalding, Mr. Ernest
Stamford, Mr. Gordon
Stanley, Mr. J. Briant
Starbuck, Mrs.
Stather, Mr. Herbert
Storey, Miss S.
Summers, Miss M.
Taylor, Mr. William
Tearle, Mr. Edmund
Tearle, Mr. Godfrey
Thomas, Miss Amy
Thornburn, Mr. Chas.
Thornton, Mr. Frank
Transfields, Mr.
Veno, Miss Edie
Vestrucker, Mr. H.
Volt, Miss W.
Wakefield, Mr. J. H.
Warburton, Mr. Hornby
Ward, Mr. Harry
Warren, Miss L.
Weaver, Mr. Willie
Webster, Mr. G. H.
White, Miss Effie
Whyte, Mr. Karl
Willford, Mr. Paul
Williamson, Miss Maud
Wilson, Mr. Toney
Wood, Miss Dora
Wood, Mrs. John

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, Mr. Percy Harris (Chairman) presiding.

MISS KITTY GORDON'S CIGARETTE.

On the reception of the report of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, Mr. Montgomery asked the acting-chairman whether the committee's attention had been called to a certain song now being sung by Miss Kitty Gordon at the London Pavilion, during which the artist smokes a cigarette, and whether, in view of the harmful example thus set to boys and girls who nightly thronged the hall, the matter would be considered by the committee?

Mr. Brandon replied that although many complaints had been made about music-hall songs none had been received about the one referred to by Mr. Montgomery. In view, however, of his important question, he had no doubt that the committee would bring up a report on the matter.

LIVING STATUARY.

In reply to Mr. E. Smith, Mr. Brandon stated that communications containing the Council's resolution on living statuary had been sent to the managers of all the Metropolitan music halls, and he believed that they were now taking steps to cancel their contracts for such turns. The replies would, of course, be considered by the committee.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

JUNE 1. George Walton Collins.
,, 1. Herbert Manfield (Manfred) Russell.
,, 3. Augustine Alexander (Frank Crisford), aged 45 (found drowned).
,, 4. Mrs. Frank Harvey.
,, 4. Mrs. George Owen, aged 81.
,, 6. Ernest Joseph Shepherd, aged 23.
,, 8. Charles Goold, aged 54.
,, 9. Mrs. James Stewart.
,, 10. Mrs. Lauderdaile Maitland (Gertrude Valentine), aged 26.
,, 11. Major-General Sir A. E. Augustus Ellis.
,, 11. Clovis Hughes, aged 55.
,, 11. Rowland Stewart (found drowned).
,, 15. George Griffiths English, aged 38.
,, 15. Jane Lewis.
,, 19. James William Chenery, aged 28.
,, 21. Mrs. Charles Locke (Miss Dorothy Fairley).
,, 23. Joseph Knight, aged 77.
,, 24. Alfred Farrell.
,, 26. Alderman Mitchell, aged 85.
,, 27. Charles Henry Taylor, aged 46.
,, 29. Robert Fogerty, aged 63.
,, 30. Bob Hanlon, aged 46.

THE London Hippodrome Friday afternoon's performance was in aid of the Lord Mayor's Cripple Fund, and Sir William Purdie Treloar, Bart., and Sheriffs Sir T. Boor Crosby and Sir William Henry Dunn were present to lend additional interest to the brilliant entertainment organised by Manager Fred Trussell.

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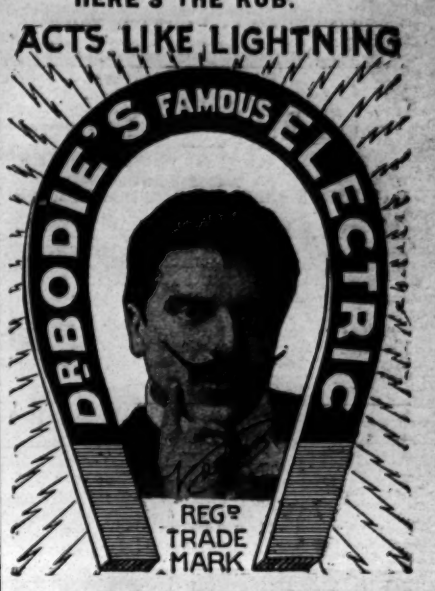

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
That invaluable annual, "The Era" Almanac, has just made its appearance for 1907. In addition to its usual record of the important productions and revivals of the past twelve months in London and Paris, there is a series of bright contributions by Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Edward German, Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Charles Collette, Miss Alma Murray, and other well-known members of the profession.—Sunday Times, Jan. 27.

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in "The Importance of being Another Man's Wife," 9.40; Bert Wickham, The Herculean Cymro, in his extraordinary tests, Man v. Motor, 10.30; Dr. Angelo's Living Porcelains, 10.50; Will Evans, 9.10; Clarice Mayne, 9.25; Bros. Griffiths, 10.15; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, 8.30; Geo. Brooks, 9.35; Margaret Ashton, 8.45; Tom Edwards, 10.40; Hardeen, 8.50; Valazzi, 8.15; Hunt and Thomas, 7.55; Harry Leybourne, 8.10; The Mayvilles, 7.40; G. H. Elliott, 8.25; Kate Traill, 7.50. Open 7.30. Saturday Matinées at 2.30.

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Open, 7.30.
Saturday Matinées, 2.15.

MIDDLESEX, Drury Lane, London.
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BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.
Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.
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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1907.

MR. GILBERT'S KNIGHTAGE

THE honour shown to Mr. W. S. GILBERT in conferring upon him knighthood is an honour also to the theatre and the English drama. The title of "Sir" is not given to any man in England unless he has earned it; and the only thing to be wondered at is that Mr. GILBERT has had to wait so long for the official recognition of his achievements. It has one great advantage—it can cause no jealousy. No one in his own profession will grudge Mr. GILBERT, in his advanced age, the credit of the *accolade*. He is as a writer for the stage unique. He has invented a style which has had many imitators, but not one rival.

GILBERT presents the curious study of a literary man and artist turning playwright from the most practical motives. It is this which distinguishes him from other successful fellow playwrights. Insufficient justice is done by the present generation to Mr. GILBERT'S literary and artistic gifts. The sketches with which he used to embellish the "Bab Ballads" are full of artistic inspiration. They have not the complete knowledge of the figure which distinguishes the work of the draughtsman who has been through the schools, but there is a life, a humour, and an elvish vitality about them which may vainly be sought for in drawings more technically excellent.

When GILBERT started on his dramatic career he was already well trained in the literary part of it. And it is by virtue of this literary faculty, and the employ of a peculiar mental organisation, that Mr. GILBERT has conquered. His capacity is limited; but within the limits of that capacity he reigns supreme. He is an extraordinary combination of the poet and the Philistine. The man in the street enjoys Mr. GILBERT because his view of life is just that of the average middle-class individual. The epicure in quaint thought and happy expression admires him for the unexpected oddity of his fancy and for his complete command over his material. His work has the charm which is exercised over amateurs by those Chinese and Japanese curios, carved in ivory, which adorn so many side-tables—the charm of high-class workmanship applied to minor objects, of technical quality devoted to trifles.

Everything must be paid for; and this "originality" has been an obstacle to Mr. GILBERT'S complete success as a dramatist. He is too much detached from the "world of our sorrow," too superior to our weakness, to draw men and women well. The characters in his serious plays have a machine-made air; we do not recognise them as living, feeling fellow-creatures. In *The Wicked World* GILBERT represents certain fairies descending to earth to taste the joys of humanity. If an elf from some other sphere, amused with our mortal sorrows and sufferings—a kind of literary Puck—came on our globe, he would not be unlike GILBERT. At times this indifference has almost the appearance of cruelty—witness the grim jokes about boiling oil and the rack and the thumb-screw. But, as a rule, the effect of the detachment is inoffensive, and the strangeness of the standpoint gives an exquisite flavour to the jest, an incomparable singleness to the satire.

The effect of this odd idiosyncrasy, applied to a class of work which had previously been done in the most cheap, careless, and indifferent way, was electric. The comic opera libretto had fallen into the lowest grade of jape and doggerel when *Trial by Jury* was produced at the Royalty. It was an entirely new sensation to have the lilt of merry music wedded to words which would bear taking home and reading, and ideas which flowed with a spontaneousness which was phenomenal. In the whole of the book of *Trial by Jury* there is to be found no superfluous word, no pointless phrase, no unnecessary line. In the "Dream Song" in *Iolanthe* the quaint fancies follow each other with apparent unpremeditation—the art of the poet conceals his art. Contrast such work as this with the wretched doggerel which was produced when the cheap jingle of a French libretto was passed through the medium of an English adaptor's muse, tramelled by the necessities of musical accent. The GILBERT and SULLIVAN opera was a revelation to the refined, and did not interfere with the enjoyment of the Philistines, for whom Mr. GILBERT had many acceptable items; jibes at corpulence—always a safe laugh since the days of Falstaff—topical allusions, and unblushing personalities.

Just as the modern actor-manager has elevated the position of the actor, so Mr. GILBERT elevated the position of the playwright. It is taken for granted nowadays that the dramatist shall receive a due proportion of the profits which are made by his talent; but it was not by any means the case when GILBERT commenced to write. He carried self-respect and conscientiousness into everything he did. With unwearying endurance he laboured at the fatiguing work of rehearsal, insisting on careful and distinct enunciation, on an attention to detail which was often regarded as unnecessary, but which told its tale when the play or opera came to be produced. He could not have done all he did, however, without the support he received from Mr. and Mrs. D'OYLY CARTE at the Savoy. Mr. CARTE, happily for GILBERT, was himself imbued with the passion for perfection. He always had an ideal theatre in his mind, and, when he was able, he realised his dream. The Savoy was the pioneer of the modern artistic and comfortable playhouse, regulated and controlled strictly, humanely, and intelligently. The "school" was a severe but a sound one. From it came a manager like Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES, and artists like Mr. GEORGE GROSSMITH and Mr. RUTLAND BARRINGTON, to say nothing of others. We cannot do better than conclude with a quotation from Miss EDITH A. BROWNE'S "W. S. Gilbert" in the "Stars of the Stage" series. She says:—

"At the age of seventy GILBERT, the doyen of our dramatists, is a modern, and a modern he will still remain when the Savoy operas are reproduced in the days to come as nineteenth-century classics, for his delightful nonsense always has that delicacy of touch which ensures everlasting freshness. Moreover, he levels his intellectual sallies at the fundamental principles of the social system and the inherent weaknesses of human nature; such primary causes are so slowly changed that their effects vary almost imperceptibly, and whilst generation after generation swarm round the banner of Progress and choose either the implements of War or the peaceful weapons of Science and Art to fight against these causes, generation after generation armed with a sense of humour can appreciate the absurdities of their effects. By the intelligently entertaining, broad-minded, and comprehensive way in which GILBERT has drawn attention to vital absurdities he becomes a public benefactor; for the man who can make the world laugh whilst it thinks holds Progress in the balance by checking the ravages of serious fanaticism."

A RESERVED SEAT QUESTION.

A case of some importance to patrons of music halls was heard at Shoreditch on Tuesday, before his Honour Judge Smyly, K.C. Abraham Marks, of 67, Middlesex-street, Aldgate, E., a glass merchant, sued the R.B. Syndicate (Ltd.), the proprietors of the Cambridge Music Hall, in Commercial-street, E., to recover £50 damages for assault.

Mr. Budden appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Hinde was counsel for the defence.

In opening the case Mr. Budden said that on April 12 plaintiff went to the Cambridge. It was the rule at that hall when a seat was reserved a ticket to that effect was put, and any other seat could be occupied by anyone. Plaintiff and his wife got in early, and they sat in two seats in the front row of the stalls, where there were no tickets. Suddenly, after having been there ten minutes and when the show was in progress, a waiter came up and rudely told them to get out, as the seats were reserved. Plaintiff refused to move, and said he should exercise his right and stop where he was. The manager then came up and ordered him out of the seats, and plaintiff said he would go if he could be given two seats of equal value where he could see and hear. The waiter then admitted that he had forgotten to put the "reserved" tickets on the seats. Without further comment, the manager went away and came back with two big attendants, who caught the plaintiff by the scruff of the neck, dragged him through the vestibule, and threw him into the street.

Mr. Marks was called, and bore out this statement. He said the manager called a constable, who refused to have anything to do with the affair.

Mr. Budden: Was there an uproar during the fracas?—Yes, the altercation lasted nearly an hour, and the show was stopped.

Did anyone say anything?—Yes, everyobdy was crying "Shame!" Everybody knew me, and it was a terrible disgrace.

Mr. Hinde: Did the manager offer you the money back?—Yes, but why should I have it? I had paid for seats, and was entitled to them, as they were not reserved.

For the defence, Mr. Mathams, the acting-manager of the hall, said that he requested the plaintiff and his wife to move, as the seats were reserved, and when they were eventually moved the tickets were actually found on the floor, where they had either fallen or been wilfully put. No seats were guaranteed in the hall, and all the bills said so. He offered the plaintiff two seats two rows back, but he refused them. No undue violence was used in putting him out.

Mr. Budden: Then why employ two burly Hackenschmidts to throw him out?—The attendants look after that matter themselves.

The waiter whose duty it was to put the tickets on the seats gave evidence.

Mr. Budden: You were in a hurry after the first house and may have forgotten the tickets?—No, I couldn't have done, because I am not in the habit of hurrying.

But haven't you a retainer to supply the ladies behind the scenes with drink?—If they don't forget the retainer.

Judge Smyly, in giving judgment, said a man was bound to leave a music hall if requested, and he could then sue for breach of contract if he felt aggrieved. In the present case it appeared that the plaintiff had made a mistake as to whether the seat was reserved or not, and, as he refused to take his money back, they were entitled to remove him. There would be judgment for the defendants with costs.

SINGERS AND SALARIES.

In the Court of Chancery on Tuesday the liquidator of the Winter German Opera (Limited) applied to Mr. Justice Warrington for permission to give the claims of the singers for salary due preference over the demands of other creditors.

There were sixteen claims by artists, varying from £10 to £250, and the short point was whether these singers were "servants" within the meaning of the Preferential Payments in Bankruptcy Act, 1888, so that their salaries up to £50 might have first claim against the assets. The liquidator thought that the employment could be regarded as being in the same category as that of a piece-worker, and thus within the provisions of the statute.

Mr. Justice Warrington asked what was the distinction between a singer and a person who scrubbed a floor; they both rendered services. Mr. Hart, for the liquidator, submitted that within the meaning of the Act there was no difference.

Mr. Martelli, for creditors other than the singers, opposed the application. He claimed that the contracts were transitory engagements for a period of three weeks, that the remuneration paid the artist was not "salary or wages," but a fixed sum for each representation, and that these eminent singers were not subject to the control of the company. If his learned friend was right, then either Mme. Patti or Signor Caruso must be held to be a servant within the meaning of the Act, being paid wages or salary. He should have thought that the object of the Act was to provide against people in a humble calling being suddenly deprived of their means of livelihood through a bankruptcy, and not to mean every person who had a claim for personal services. The latter contention would bring distinguished singers or professors at a university into the category.

Mr. Justice Warrington: Is not an assistant-master at a school a servant?

Mr. Martelli thought not within the meaning of the Act. It was not possible now to argue that a servant meant a person in a menial position, but it could not mean any person who had a claim for personal services. Besides, the remuneration of eminent singers could not be described as "salary or wages."

Mr. Justice Warrington: I suppose you do not know that the salary of a judge is called "wages"?

Mr. Martelli said it did not depend on the eminence of the person, but he should not have thought that in the popular sense a judge was paid "wages."

Mr. Justice Warrington: Has it not something to do with modern susceptibilities, because the word has got associated with menial service, and a clerk likes to call what he receives "salary"?

Mr. Martelli thought wages obviously indicated something arranged to be paid per time—per week, month, or year. A person engaged to sing at so much for each representation was not getting salary or wages.

Mr. Justice Warrington said he was not at all sure that counsel would not find in the old books that barristers' fees were called a wage.

Mr. Hart said that, according to Johnson, wages were "pay given for services."

Mr. Justice Warrington held that by reason of the nature of their employment the artists were under the control of the company, and that they were in receipt of salary—he preferred the old English word wages. They, therefore, properly came within the term "servant," and were entitled to preferential treatment.

ENGAGEMENTS AND SUBSTITUTES.

At the Whitechapel County Court last week, before his Honour Judge Bacon, Will Haverley and James Haverley, known as the Haverleys, of Albert-square, Clapham-road, sued the Macnaghtens' Vaudeville Circuit, proprietors of the Foresters, for £16. Mr. Williams, barrister, appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Martin O'Connor for the defendant syndicate. It appeared that the Haverleys had been engaged to give their performance at various halls belonging to the defendants at a salary of £7 a week. Differences arose, and plaintiffs now sued for two weeks' salary for engagements they were not permitted to fulfil.

Will Haverley, in his evidence, said his real name was William Lovel Hust. He had been four years at his present work, for which he had most successful Press notices, and he had made a big success with two lady vocalists, being complimented after the show by the stage-manager and the resident-manager at Leicester. Then Mr. Baugh, Mr. Macnaghten's London manager, complained that the vocalists were ladies and not men, and refused to allow him to "open" unless he had a male vocalist. He therefore got a capable one who had been six years with Haigh's Minstrels. His show was worked by himself from a lantern, which was situated among the audience, and depended on this, together with the ability of the vocal artist. No one complained when they were at the Surrey Theatre but Mr. Baugh. After the first song a messenger boy came and said Mr. Baugh had telephoned down to stop the show. He went to his room and found him in a towering rage. Baugh threatened to "look after him," and he then felt that Baugh had determined to close his show. He subsequently attended to fulfil his engagement at the Britannia, but was told he was not on the bill.

In cross-examination, plaintiff said he did not suggest the male vocalist he got was named Haverley. There was a Mr. Edward Haverley with him at the time the contract was made, but he was taken ill, and a substitute had to be obtained, and he had two ladies in his place.

Lady Mansell was called, and Mr. Williams said she was called to prove malice on the part of Mr. Baugh, the defendant manager.

His Honour said malice or hostility on the part of anybody would not alter the facts in an action for damages for breach of agreement.

Mr. Frederick Baugh, the general manager of the syndicate, said he knew Edward Haverley for six or seven years. When he heard Edward Haverley and plaintiff had come out as the Haverleys, he advised Mr. Macnaghten to engage them. In this combination the singer was the important person; the lantern operator could be got anywhere for 20s. to 30s. a week. He knew nothing about what happened at Leicester, but directly the vocalist began to sing at the Surrey the audience began to jeer. It was evident the man had never been on a stage before, he was totally unfit. He at once asked Mr. Fortune, who was plaintiff's agent, to come down and judge for himself. Mr. Fortune did so, and said the man was absolutely and entirely useless. Plaintiff thereupon promised to get a competent man for the next night, but on the Tuesday he brought the same man again. It was impossible to hear two words of the singer from the second row of the pit.

Mr. James Fortune, variety agent, corroborated.

Mr. Charles W. Craig, manager of the Surrey, said the singer plaintiff brought was "bad, very bad." He was standing at the back of the grand circle, and could hear no words at all.

Mr. O'Connor submitted that the contract was with the Haverleys—Edward Haverley and the plaintiff—and the moment Edward Haverley left the troupe the contract was at an end. He cited the case of "Harvey and others v. the Tivoli, Manchester."

Judge Bacon thought that plaintiff's claim must fail on two grounds. Firstly, the contract was for the engagement of the Haverleys—Edward and the plaintiff—and if he was not right about that there was abundant evidence of the vocalist's incompetence which would justify instant dismissal under clause 12 of the forms of contract signed between the parties. Judgment would therefore be for the defendant.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, JULY 4.—Of the four State-subventioned Paris theatres, the Opéra-Comique is the only one that closes its doors during the summer months. But M. Carré, the indefatigable manager, does not take any rest. The Conservatoire competitions are now in full swing, and his name constantly figures on the list of the jury who, during several hours of the day, have to listen to the same melody sung by dozens of male and female pupils. It is interesting to glance at the list of works produced at the Opéra-Comique during the season that has just come to an end, for it indicates the curious evolution in the taste of the public in regard to music. The favourite of the day is Massenet, who has been played no fewer than ninety-three times, his *Manon* and *Werther* heading the list. The second is M. Erlanger, with one work, *Aphrodite*, produced fifty-four times. The third, M. Mascagni, has had his *Cavalleria* given thirty-one times. M. Puccini comes fourth with *La Bohème* and *Madama Butterfly*, in all twenty-seven times. Charpentier's *Louise*, that created so much enthusiasm in the beginning, has been given only twelve times. Debussy's *Pelléas et Melisande*, over which all Paris went mad a few years ago, nine times. And what about Rossini, Auber, Adam, Donizetti, whom nobody could dislodge from the Opéra-Comique? If they were alive now, their authors' rights would not keep them in cigarettes. Rossini's *Barbier de Séville* figures on the list eight times; Adam's *Le Chalet* seven times; Auber's *Fra Diavolo* and his *Domino Noir* ten times; Verdi's *Traviata* eleven times. Beethoven cuts a poor figure with *Fidelio*, produced seven times; and Messager, with four operas only, appears four times. On the other hand, Ambroise Thomas' *Mignon* was given seventeen times; and *Carmen* twenty-nine times. Gluck's *Iphigénie en Tauride* had three representations; and Godard's *La Vivandière* one. It is a curious list, and gives food for reflection.

THE Comédie-Française also announces some interesting revivals for the coming season. First there will be *Notre Jeunesse*, by Alfred Capus, condensed into three acts, with Mlle. Suzanne Devoyod in the rôle created by Mlle. Bartet. Then *Les Tenailles*, with Mlle. Lara in the chief rôle. We are also promised Marivaux's *La Mère confidente*, a charming little comedy, not produced since 1863. The cast comprises MM. Jules Truffier, Dehelly, Croué; and Mmes. Renée du Minil, Dussane, and Bovy.

THE first novelty at the Châtelet will be *La Boite à Malices*, a fairy play by MM. Kéroul and Barré. Mlle. Devassey, a former music hall star, gone over to the "regular" stage, will make her début therein. The other chief rôles will be played by Mmes. Alice Bonheur and Eva du Perret.

THE Porte-Saint-Martin, the Grand-Guignol, the Boite-à-Fursy, the Comédie-Royale, and the Concerts Touche have closed their doors for the season. It is a pity they did not keep them open, for many Parisians, afraid of the bad weather, have remained in town, and feel absolutely lost with all the playhouses shut. They cannot even fall back on the open-air music halls, where the few people who risk themselves there are shivering with cold.

EVERY year, on July 1, the same old sea serpent makes his appearance. He takes the form of an English syndicate intending to take over three of our biggest music halls. This year the serpent was a trifle longer, for it was added that the "Great Syndicate" want to build a monster hall on English lines. The name of the English manager was even added. This gentleman, who, I understand, is now motoring in Scotland, would be somewhat surprised if he knew of this unexpected honour showered upon him.

A FEW years ago M. Decourcelle imported a play from America which was perhaps the biggest rubbish ever put on the stage here. But the "hit" therein was the noise of the tramp of thousands of soldiers behind the scenes. It was a clever, but simple, apparatus. Somebody turned a handle, and for twenty minutes we assisted at the march-past of a tremendous army. We never caught sight of a single warrior; but the all-swallowing public did not seem to mind this. To them one hundred thousand invisible soldiers were more interesting than a dozen they could see. They applauded the man who turned the handle, and sent their friends to listen to the noise. And the manager rubbed his hands and declared that he never made a military display at so little cost. No costumes, no unruly supers! But, like all good things, it did not last long, and the wonderful piece did not have much of a run. I thought of all this when I heard that MM. Auguste Germain and Trébor have adapted a German play by M. Robert Remert. It is called *Guerre*, and will be brought out at Antoine's. I do not know the work, but what alarms me is that we are informed that in the first tableau, representing a battlefield, we will hear the uproar befitting such a place. The list of these noises comprises musketry firing, screams of the wounded, neighing of horses, tramping of soldiers, beating of drums, sound of trumpets, rolling of drums, booming of guns, &c. In other words, we will again assist at a big battle—behind the scenes.

MESSRS. SOTHERAN AND CO. report that a very unique work illustrating Bartholomew Fair has come into their possession, and is for sale. It is the "Memoirs of Bartholomew Fair," by Henry Morley, 1 vol. cr. 4to., inlaid and mounted to royal folio size, extra illustrated, and extended to six handsome volumes by the insertion of over 400 rare and curious portraits, views, &c., plays, operas, proclamations, show and play bills, ballads, music, anecdotes, pamphlets, extracts from books, periodicals, &c., &c.; also manuscript matter (chiefly by William Upcott, topographer), each volume with a specially designed title-page, sumptuously bound in crushed olive morocco, super extra, emblematically tooled backs and sides within leaf-scroll borders, doublé with red morocco, richly tooled panels, joints, gild edges, by Lofficiaux, of Paris. A very interesting and valuable collection; unique. The portraits include Rahere, founder and first Prior of St. Bartholomew's Priory; the Stone Eater; the famous Dutch Woman (rope dancer); Hale the Piper; Killigrew; Barbara van Beck (the hairy faced woman); Hans Buhling; Phillips the Merry Andrew; Mathew Buckinger (ancestor of Sir Richard Calmady), with autograph; William Joy (the English Samson); Penkehman (mezzotint); Capt. Macheath, by Faber (mezzotint); Pinchbeck, by the same (mezzotint); Mrs. Pritchard, by McArdell (mezzotint); Thomas Topham, the Strong Man; Leveridge, singer (mezzotint); Griffin and Johnson, as Tribulation and Ananias (mezzotint); Primrose, the piebald boy; George Alexander, the spotted boy; Daniel Lambert, fat man; and other portraits of famous giants, dwarfs, monstrosities, mountebanks, &c. Views: The Fan View of Bartholomew Fair, 1721; water-colour drawing of Nevill's Court, seat of Jacob Hall; Powell's Puppet Show; the Raree Show; Pye-Powder Court, Bartholomew Fair, by Rowlandson; Bartholomew Fair as it was, by George Cruikshank; a Peep at Bartholomew Fair, &c. Books and pamphlets: "Bartholomew Faire, or a Variety of Fancies," first edition, 1641; "Downefall of Temporizing Poets," 1641; Guy's "Beggar's Opera," first edition, 1641; "The Quaker's Opera," 1728; "The Strollers' Pacquet Open'd," 1742; &c. Also a fine series of hand, show, and play bills, engravings of performances, illustrations of strange animals, animal comedians, Spinacutus monkey, movable coloured harlequinades, and a very extensive collection of cuttings, advertisements, and miscellanea.

"THE GIRL WHO MARRIED FOR MONEY."

Drama, in four acts,
produced at the Castle Theatre, Neath,
on Monday, July 1.

George, 3rd Earl of Dorincourt ..... MR. W. HAGGAR, JUN.
Berkely Chesterfield ..... MR. JOHN DESMOND
General Sir Andrew Courtney ..... MR. GEORGE STANLEY
Percy Courtney ..... MR. BOB CHAPMAN
Track Innington ..... MR. A. W. BEVERLEY
James Barker ..... MR. EARNEST MEADOWS
Bob Smith ..... MR. F. C. HAGGAR
Spicer ..... MR. ARTHUR STANLEY
Sergeant O'Mulligan ..... MR. DAVID JOHNS
Edith Penhurst ..... MISS JENNY HAGGAR
Mary Fenton ..... MRS. A. W. BEVERLEY
Hester Freshwood ..... MISS FRANCIS GIDDINGS
Bessie Trot ..... MISS ANNIE FALKNER
Nellie Barker ..... MRS. WILL HAGGAR, JUN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Act I. opens with a very prettily painted scene—the exterior of the Silver Swan, Willowbank-on-Thames. The innkeeper, James Barker, is expecting the arrival of the Earl of Dorincourt and a party of friends, including Berkely Chesterfield. Upon his arrival the Earl avows his love for Nellie Barker, who has been ruined under a promise of marriage by Berkely. Berkely swears to be silent, and urges Nellie to accept the hand of George. She does so, and they are married, but at the wedding breakfast they are interrupted by the appearance of a commission agent named Innington, who brings the startling news that the Earl is ruined. In a powerful scene Nellie reveals her true character, and admits the reason of her marriage.

Act II. opens at Bob Smith's lodgings, where the Earl is being taken care of after a dangerous illness. Dorincourt is visited by Chesterfield, and they leave together with the object of searching for the Countess. The third scene of the act shows Nellie at Lorrimer Mansions, where she is living with Chesterfield under the assumed name of Mrs. Lorrimer. Mary Fenton, Chesterfield's discarded wife, now appears upon the scene in company with the Earl, who, in helping her to find her destination, thus meets his faithless wife. Aided by Nellie, Chesterfield plays the hypocrite, and the Earl leaves in disgust, after which Chesterfield, meeting his discarded wife—whom he has married under the name of the Earl of Dorincourt—murders her to secure her silence, Mary, in dying, accusing Lord Dorincourt of the crime.

In Act III.—the Barrack Square at St. George's—the Earl is about to start for South Africa. He is accused of the murder, but eventually makes good his escape. Meanwhile, Nellie has discovered the real assassin of Mary, and is being kept a prisoner by Chesterfield. After a thrilling scene between the two, Chesterfield tears her clothes from her back and lashes her until she is insensible, then pulling down the wainscot he boards her up alive. The Earl and the faithful Bob, who have been in hiding, are attracted by the groans of the incarcerated girl, and together with the police soon liberate her, whereupon she confesses the real murderer's name. Chesterfield, trying to escape, is run down on board the Calais boat. Nellie, accusing Chesterfield, thus clears the name of George, but meets her death at the hands of the arch-villain.

The drama was received with unbounded applause. The scenery was very good, notably the instantaneous change from the Barrack Square to the Old Warehouse. Of the artists we have nothing but praise. Chief honours were taken by Mr. W. Haggar as the Earl of Dorincourt, his fine stage presence and clear enunciation being admirable. Mr. John Desmond as Chesterfield fully sustained the reputation of the villain—his brutality towards the unfortunate Nellie evoking groans and hisses from the audience. A capital piece of character acting emanated from Mr. G. Stanley, who as the Volunteer General caused much amusement, and good work was also done by Mr. A. Stanley and Mr. E. Meadows as Spicer and James Barker respectively. Mr. A. W. Beverley gave weight to the character of Track Innington; and from Mr. Bob Chapman came some very humorous sayings as Percy. The comedy element was also supported by Mr. F. C. Haggar and Miss A. Falkner as Bob Smith and Bessie Trot. Mrs. Will Haggar as Nellie Barker gave an excellent representation. Her acting throughout was natural, great dramatic power being evinced in Acts II. and III., her death scene at the last being very pathetic. Miss F. Giddings, Mrs. Beverley, and Miss Jenny Haggar appeared thoroughly at home in their respective parts of Hester Freshwood, Mary Fenton, and Hon. Edith Penhurst.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, July 1, the Drama,
"THE SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD."

This well-known drama is drawing capital houses this week at the Lyric. The acting-manager, Mr. Frank Liston, ably sustains the leading part of Captain John Thornton, and is well supported by Mr. James Duncan as the Rev. Alan Grey. Mr. Wilson Summers in the part of Stephen Haysel, alias Dr. Henry Granger, the selfish brother of the heroine, distinguishes himself; Mr. Hugh Brady is good as the cheery Barney O'Reilly; and Mr. Arthur Trail makes a satisfactory Thos. Haysel, looking a typical farmer. As his drunken wife, Maria Haysel, Miss Clara Santley plays excellently, investing the part with all the necessary squalid detail. Miss Effie Bartlett as the grown-up Mary Haysel presents a good interpretation of the conscience-stricken heroine, the part in the prologue being well filled by Little Dorothy. Little Dorothy afterwards plays Eric Dugdale in a pleasing manner. An extremely clever child is Miss Lissa Young, who is little Hannah Spry. She sings two songs, and her pretty voice gains for her enthusiastic applause. Other parts are well filled by Mr. William Myers, Mr. Richard Dick, Mr. Thomas Kemble, and Mr. John Berry; and Miss Katie Lever is a good Eliza Muggins. The play is very well mounted.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

A varied programme was presented at the Royal County Theatre on Monday and during the week. The programme opens with the sketch, entitled *Checkmate*, in which the parts are well sustained by Miss Molly Wynne and Mr. Bertie Wright, who are not unknown to Kingston playgoers. The other rôles are ably filled by Messrs Francis Hawley, Tom Taylor, F. Frost, G. Henry, L. Warren, and Martin Vivien, and the Misses Edyth Goodall, Muriel Wray, and Olive Lester. *Man and Brute*, an "incident" written by Mr. Harry Grattan, was also on the bill, and was productive of much amusement, Mr. Grattan, Mr. Fred Emney, and Mr. Tom Taylor filling the three parts. Other features of the programme were living art bronzes, presented by Mlle. Irma Clasen, and a series of living pictures.

MR. CYRIL WENTWORTH HOGG has written, and Messrs. Samuel French, Ltd., have published, in neat and complete form, "Episodes," a series of six monologues for both sexes. All are cleverly written, and some are genuinely dramatic. Artists requiring monologues, and amateurs desirous of pleasing their friends, should certainly buy and read this bright and spirited little work.

THE Princess of Wales and suite witnessed the performance of *My Wife* at the Haymarket Theatre on Tuesday.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Miss Vesta Victoria was welcomed home to London again on Saturday after her season in New York, during which she took the Americans by storm. She came viâ Plymouth on the liner Philadelphia. The popular comedienne naturally expressed herself delighted with America, and declares herself to be in the best of form and spirits.

The plans prepared by Mr. Frank Matcham for certain alterations and the enlargement of the Metropolitan, which have been passed by the L.C.C., will be held in readiness, in case of certain developments in music-hall enterprise in the immediate neighbourhood. The reports of the closing of the famous Edgware-road house are, therefore, unfounded.

Mlle. Liane D'Eve opens at the Tivoli on Monday next, singing a series of songs in French and English. Between each number, Mlle. D'Eve changes her costumes (a la Fregoli) in full view of the audience. She is a beautiful woman—at least, no less an authority than Joseph Wilson says so—and has most magnificent dresses. Her turn must prove a great acquisition to the already strong Tivoli bill. This is Mlle. D'Eve's first appearance in England.

Madame Yvette Guilbert is again with us, and is said to be making her farewell appearances in the variety theatres at the Palace. Last year she delighted audiences at the Duke of York's Theatre, where she found an artistic associate in Mr. Albert Chevalier. She is again giving in her usual quaint and polished style "Les Housards de la Garde" and "Le Jaloux et la Menteuse" in French, and in English "The Keys of Heaven" and "The Dumb Wife Cured." The two last-mentioned are immense favourites.

Miss Dot Stephens is this week at Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall, the house in which she appeared last year, just previous to her sad accident. Her welcome has been most cordial, and it is a matter for the deepest thankfulness that her face has not been in the least marred by her terrible experiences. She is the living exemplification of the marvels of advanced medical skill and science, as she finds not the slightest difficulty in walking without fatigue with her wonderfully-made artificial feet.

It was at Maidenhead on Ascot Sunday that a young acting-manager of a music hall, not a hundred miles from Oxford-circus, for the sake of a little bet and some fun, took the fiddle from the hands of a girl busking with her father, who played the guitar, and evoked the admiration and amusement of a large crowd by giving several selections on the borrowed instrument to the old man's accompaniment. His chum went round collecting, and gathered close upon ten shillings in silver and coppers. This sum he handed with the fiddle to the grateful little girl, who must have thought that Ascot Sunday had become Mascot Sunday.

Mr. Louis Cohen's playlet, *The Drummer of the 76th*, which was originally produced by Mr. Matthew Brodie at the Coronet, and has since become an established success at the halls, has been written in story form for the *Grand Magazine*, where it appears in the current number. Mr. Cohen's first stage work was *The Land of Diamonds*, produced at Sadler's Wells Theatre in 1884.

Miss Henriquette Maude, the little New Zealander, whose proud boast it is to have appeared in at least one thousand theatres in different parts of the two hemispheres, is on tour illustrating her experiences by picture and story. Her personality is highly interesting, and her turn novel and attractive.

Miss Alice Norton, the daughter of a German chemist, has discovered how to work with safety in a temperature of 3,600deg. We should be much favoured if she could lend some of those degrees to our cold and sunless summer. By means of a metal powder put in a block of ice Miss Morton—this is bad news for the electric light companies—irradiates the darkened theatre and puts the sun to shame. She has been secured by the London Hippodrome management to demonstrate how easy it is to manufacture artificial sapphires and rubies, and she is interesting large audiences in the process.

Among the list of successful candidates at the recent solicitors' final examination of the Law Society, we notice the name of James S. Lyon. This young gentleman should be well known to our readers, being a son of Mr. W. S. Lyon, a P.M. of the Earl's Court Lodge, M.E.Z. of the Earl's Court Chapter, and treasurer of the Chelsea Lodge and Chapter, and a grandson of the late Mr. James S. Lyon, the well-known theatrical upholsterer, of High Holborn.

The *Dublin Independent* is responsible for the following statement:—"Some four years ago Mr. George Lashwood, who is now singing in London, was riding a polo pony through the Phœnix Park in Dublin when a horse before him bolted with its rider. Heading off the horse from a clump of trees for which it was making, Mr. Lashwood caught its bridle, allowing the lady who rode it to dismount in safety. A meeting followed, at which Mr. Lashwood had the lady's thanks and a gold cigarette case as a souvenir of his deed. Since that day Mr. Lashwood has become a widower, the lady of the Phœnix Park is now a widow, and a marriage between her and her rescuer is said to have been lately arranged." Mr. Lashwood has denied the romantic sequel of this most interesting story.

Friday and Saturday, Nov. 1 and 2, have been fixed by the Theatre and Music Halls Committee of the London County Council as the licensing days for theatres and music halls on the north side of the Thames, and the following Friday and Saturday for those on the south side. Friday, Nov. 22, is the date fixed for the confirmation or otherwise of the decisions of the Committee.

Mr. Maurice H. Hoffman and Miss Ethel King have resigned their membership of the V.A.F.

To the lively and amusing rallies, both in the skating and water scenes of *The Zuyder Zee*, at the Hippodrome, Hess and Lisbon contribute largely. The huge distended member of the force cuts a droll figure, and is immensely popular, both with the kiddies and the grown-ups.

Once again was the Alhambra officially identified with a great national commemoration, the famous Leicester-square house having been selected to entertain, under the immediate patronage of Sir Edward Ward, the Permanent Under-Secretary at the War Office, the 250 picked men of both the Services who were present at the opening of the Union Jack Club by His Majesty the King on Monday. No brighter or more varied programme than that now framed at our leading variety theatre could possibly be desired, including as it does the two beautiful ballets, *Queen of Spades* and *Electra*, the famous Zancigs, and the incomparable Urbanora animated picture exhibit, with its pictures of the greatest diamond mine in the world—the De Beers—taken exclusively by the Urban Company, and to be seen only at this theatre.

Owing to the success of Mr. James Fioni's variety season at the Theatre Royal, Worcester, he has arranged with Mr. Arthur Carlton to prolong it until the end of July. Mr. Sidney Reach is the indefatigable local manager.

Miss Bertha Stuart is appearing with great success on the Moss-Stoll tour. She is fully booked till January, 1911, through Henry Kemble's agency.

Miss Ella's lioness, Gretchen, gave birth on Saturday last, at the King's Theatre, Gateshead, to three cubs (all males). Mother and babies are doing well. This is the third litter from the lioness within eleven months, making eleven cubs in all.

The Theatre Royal, West Bromwich, has done so well during the month of June with variety attractions that the management has decided to continue them during the autumn and winter. The sole bookings have been entrusted to E. G. Jazon's agency, Liverpool, where all communications should be addressed.

The Holbeck Palace, Leeds, better known as the Queen's Theatre, has been purchased by Mr. Fred Wood, well known as the proprietor of the Leeds City Varieties. The tenancy of the Queen's, it will be remembered, was taken over by the De Frece Syndicate so recently as March 4 last, on which day it was converted into a veriety house. A month or two later Mr. Charles Bush, who had been appointed acting-manager, was superseded, and it will interest his many friends to know that he has been offered again his old post by Mr. Wood. The Palace is closed at present, but will be reopened on Bank Holiday under its new proprietary, on the two houses a night plan.

Mr. G. Rhodes Parry, who succeeded Mr. Charles Bush at the Palace, Leeds, at the end of April, has made but a brief stay in the city, for he has severed his connection with the De Frece Syndicate, having been appointed general manager of the Palace, Grimsby, a variety house which was opened about two years ago. Mr. Parry has for some time held the position of district manager for the De Frece circuit, and altogether has been with Mr. De Frece for about six years. Previously Mr. Parry managed, among others, the Palace, Manchester, Collins's, the London, Shoreditch, and the Theatre and Music Hall, Crystal Palace.

A concert, organised to celebrate Federation Day, was given at the Lansdowne, Hope-street, Glasgow, on the 27th ult. Mr. J. L. Shine, the well-known comedian, after telling some good stories at the expense of the Dublin car-drivers, made an appeal on behalf of the Federation, and several handsome donations to the funds, including one of £10 from Mr. A. E. Pickard, were intimated in rapid succession.

River Bailie M. J. Connell, as a magistrate of the city, said he must speak with becoming circumspection, but was not afraid to say that those of his colleagues within the magisterial chambers of Glasgow who were at variance with the dramatic and theatrical profession were so either from invincible ignorance or a stereotyped determination not to have the cobwebs lifted from their antiquated ideas. In conclusion, he stated that he had been asked to intimate that a musical and dramatic club, on the lines of the well-known Vaudeville Club in London, was in course of formation in Glasgow.

A capital evening's entertainment was submitted, the programme including such names as Messrs. J. L. Shine and Bransby Williams (Empire), Little Ganty, Brothers Allison, Lew Lake, and Marie Santoi (Coliseum), Miss May Mars and Mr. Ernest Tilbury (Zoo), Miss Connie Ediss, Mr. Gillin, Mr. R. H. Douglass, Mr. Cairncross, and Mr. W. B. Webber (Pavilion), Mr. John E. Coyle, and Miss Cline and Mr. Clark (Palace). A dance followed.

The Victoria Pier, Folkestone, under the management of Mr. Robert Forsyth, is doing big business. The star turns this week are Miss Ghita Corri and the Bouncing Dillons. The pier is being run now on up-to-date lines, and the proprietors are well supported by the townspeople.

At the Victoria Pier Pavilion, Cowes, of which the lessee is Mr. Reuben More, the Dutch Serenaders, under the direction of Mr. Frank L. Hayler, are drawing crowded houses this week. Mr. Alec Davidson's voice has won him many admirers, and Miss Dora Harrison scores heavily with dainty numbers. Miss Elsie Tracey, a sweet soprano, and Miss Madeleine Stone, a contralto of great depth and purity, both contribute to the success. Mr. Maurice L. Head, tenor, and Miss Dora Harrison, make a great hit in their duets. Miss Vera Desmond plays some violin solos with great feeling, in addition to accompanying.

Mr. Richard Ralli, the manager of the Palace Theatre, Bradford (Macnaghten circuit), has just returned from a trip to Norway for the benefit of his health. He has been three years with Mr. Frank Macnaghten.

Mr. Harry Liston and Miss Lord Lumley, who are established favourites on Skegness Pier, are meeting with their usual success with their "Merry Moments." They, and those excellent artists Mr. Webber (basso), Mr. Errol, Mr. Hyam Long, and the Pier Orchestra, are drawing good houses twice daily.

The new Pier Pavilion, Ventnor, was opened to the public on Monday. The handsome new building, which has been erected by the enterprising District Council, is built of iron girders, covered by a wooden roof, with glass dome and ventilators. The interior is beautifully decorated in green and white, and holds about three hundred people. It will greatly add to the attractions of this beautiful seaside resort. There was a large audience on the opening night. The chairman of the Council, Mr. Wetherick, declared the Pavilion opened amidst great applause. A capital performance was given by Mr. Henri Goddard's Evening Stars, consisting of Miss Gladways Adey (soprano), Miss Kate Rutherford (contralto), Mr. Stanley Ridout (tenor), Mr. Claude Hamilton (bass), and Mr. Henri Goddard (humorist). The programme gave abundant enjoyment.

The Four Geraldos and Miss Mabel La Blanche sailed yesterday (Friday) for Australia, under engagement to Mr. Harry Rickards, who is expected in London shortly.

"Who's Afraid of Ghosts?" a fantastic sketch by C. H. Longden, was produced by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company on Monday at the Theatre of Varieties, Oldham. The story opens at the home of Mr. Brown, who has received notice to quit, the owner of the house having decided to live in it himself. Sammy, the page, has an idea which he confides to Miss Brown and her father—that is, to scare away Mr. Battle. On his arrival he is informed that the house is haunted, and then—left for a time. The furniture gives way; the fire-irons dance; pictures change; and ghosts appear. Mr. Battle, however, captures a ghost, which proves to be no other than Miss Brown, and the game is given away. Mr. C. H. Longden appeared successfully as Mr. Brown; Miss Denville made a winsome Miss Brown; Mr. Percy Brown did well as Mr. Battle; and Mr. A. Leslie was droll as Sammy. The skit, with its comedy and dainty dancing, should prove attractive.

We regret to hear of the illness of My Fancy (Mrs. Harry Bawn), who, on Sunday, underwent an operation. She is, however, making excellent progress, and hopes soon to be quite convalescent.

Miss Edith Courtney is producing, on Monday next, at the Palace, Bordesley, an entirely new musical scena, entitled *A Marble Flirtation*, written by Charles Osborne, with incidental music by Clement Locknane. Dresses by Harrisons, Ltd.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held at the York Hotel on Wednesday next, at 2 p.m., when the officers for the ensuing year will be elected. All members of the Fund who are in London are invited to attend.

Miss Amy Clevere, the dainty comedienne and dancer, who is at the Tivoli this week, has been offered by Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger, of New York, a sixteen weeks' engagement in the States, which she is unable to accept.

Miss Bessie Butt has been delighting audiences at Stoll's suburban halls with a new song of the semi-ballad order, called "Cherries are blooming." The melody has been picked up by the audiences at the first time of asking—a fact that clearly points to the song being an absolute winner. A. E. Sidney Davis (author) and John Neat (composer) are responsible for the number. West-end audiences will shortly have an opportunity of passing judgment, as Miss Butt is due to open at the Tivoli in August.

Miss Marie Bentley, daughter of Terry and Bentley, who was run over by a mail van on Monday evening, is happily on the road to recovery, and it is satisfactory to learn that she has entirely escaped permanent injury.

La Milo has written to Mr. H. J. Greenwood, chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee of the L.C.C., offering to arrange a special private performance for the Committee, "in order that the members may see and judge for themselves whether my performance can in any way be adversely criticised from the point of view of delicacy, and whether it is not one which they would be perfectly willing to take their wives, their sisters, their mothers, and their daughters to see."

At a meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday the chairman of the Theatres Committee stated that letters conveying the decision of the Council in regard to living statuary had been sent to music hall managers, and replies had been, he understood, received from them, stating that they proposed to cancel the contracts. These replies would be considered at the next meeting of the Theatres Committee.

At the meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday Mr. Montgomery asked the chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee whether his attention had been drawn to a certain song now being sung at the Pavilion by Miss Kitty Gordon, in which the artist smokes a cigarette on the stage, and whether, in view of the harmful example thus set to the boys and girls who nightly thronged the music halls, he would take steps to bring the matter before his committee. In his reply, Mr. Jocelyn Brandon took the question quite seriously, and said that no complaints had been received about that particular song, although the committee had received many complaints about music hall songs generally. It should, however, be brought before the committee.

Miss Alice Lloyd, who opened at the Hackney Empire on Monday, after her successful American tour, had a surprise visit paid her by Mr. and Mrs. Gus Elen and Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Romaine.

Mr. Arthur ("Willie") Preston, of the Music Publishers' Association, and chief of the department of that body that specially deals with music piracy, will to-morrow (Sunday) lead to the altar Miss Rosina Bull, of the Chandos Hotel, Sheffield. A large gathering is expected at St. Giles's, Camberwell, at 9 a.m., most of the great music publishing houses sending representatives, and a contingent of well-known Sheffield folk journeying specially to town for the ceremony. Mr. Preston, who in thief-tracking has repeatedly combined the doggedness of the Bow-street runner with the astute methods of Conan Doyle's great detective, will be the recipient of the congratulations of the entire music-publishing world.

The 518th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held on Wednesday afternoon, when Charles Coborn (V.P.) presided. Also present were Messrs. Harry Wright, John Alexander, Douglas White (hon. treasurer), Jack Collinson, George H. Smythson, Harry Blake, Fred Herbert (vice-chairman of the Committee), Harry Bancroft, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary).

The minutes having been confirmed, the following alterations in the provincial agencies were made:—Dublin, Mr. John Behan, 80 and 81, Dame-street, in place of Mr. M. Delany, resigned; Mr. F. Groves, Adam and Eve Hotel, Windsor, and Mr. G. Humphries, Gaiety Theatre, Chatham. A vote of condolence was unanimously passed to the relatives of the late Mr. Bob Hanlon, who died on Sunday.

The first summer outing of the staff of the Empire, Camberwell, will be on Sunday, July 14. Leaving the Metropole Hotel, Denmark Hill, at 9 a.m., they will travel by brakes to the Crown and Anchor Hotel, Long Ditton, where an enjoyable time will be spent. The Empire managing-directors (Jesse Sparrow, Harry Bawn, and Percy Ford), and the following gentlemen, E. C. Webb, F. H. Kohler, G. P. R. Burgess, Fred Neiman, Oldfield and Co., Harry Booth, and others, have handsomely contributed to the fund. The stewards are Captain Ben Woodger, Leslie Darby, W. Few, C. Shedden, and Mrs. Dalton.

The Terriers' Cricket Club (president Jesse Sparrow) will play on Wednesday, July 10, F. C. Barker's Selborne eleven, at Freeman's Grounds, Champion Hill, near the Empire, Camberwell, commencing at 12 noon. The Terriers are open to play any team connected with the profession for July 17 and 24. Address, the hon. sec., Ben Woodger, Hotel Metropole, Denmark Hill, S.E.

Miss Mayme Cannon, the attractive and clever daughter of Tom Cannon, the well-known English champion wrestler, is making her appearance on Monday at the Royal Standard, Pimlico.

Congratulations to Mr. John Terry (Terry and Lambert), who has learnt from the remote regions of Indiana that he is heir to the sum of $35,000, left to him by an uncle.

The Queen, the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Hesse, the Crown Prince and Princess of Greece, and Princess Victoria, with their suites, were present at the afternoon performance at the London Hippodrome on the 28th ult., to witness the Dutch spectacle, *Zuyder Zee*.

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 30s.; Canterbury, ½; Empire (15s. paid), 1⅜; Empire (10s. paid), 1¼; London Pavilion Ord., 4⅞; London Pavilion Pref., 5; London Coliseum, ½; Metropolitan, ½; Moss' Empire, 5; Moss' Empire 5 per cent. Pref., 3⅝; Oxford, 6⅜; Palace, 13s. 6d.; Tivoli, 6⅜; Varieties Consolidated Theatres, 13s.

Hengler's Circus, Argyll-street, Oxford-street, is to be brought thoroughly up to date and to be redecorated and refurnished throughout. Mr. W. Hancock, architect, of 13, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, has been entrusted with the scheme, and his plans are now before the Theatres Committee of the London County Council.

Mr. Oswald Stoll accepted the directorship of the variety theatre department of the theatrical garden party in aid of the Actors' Orphanage Fund, held yesterday (Friday) in the grounds of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. Mr. Fred Trussell, of the London Hippodrome, had the entire management of the four shows given.

Mr. Harry Nicholls is to be seen shortly on the variety stage in Mr. Charles Hannan's shortened version of his comedy, *The Electric Man*, originally produced at the King's, Hammersmith, on April 4, 1904, and revived at the Royalty on November last year. Mr. Nicholls will play his original characters of Walter Everest and the machine made and electrically driven man. Let us hope that the popular comedian's personality will prove magnetic, and that he will find his new environment entirely congenial. *The Electric Man* will be seen in the course of the month at the Metropolitan.

Mr. Barney Armstrong has made quite a hit in town with his original number, "Something's gone wrong with my band parts." He has been booked by Mr. Frank Glenister for the London Pavilion, to open July 15. Barney is no stranger at the Pavilion. It was there that he made such a hit with his silly little hat, and his re-appearance at the house in Piccadilly-circus will be heartily welcomed.

Miss Bella Bashall desires to thank, through our columns, all kind inquirers, and to say that she has slightly improved in health, and is in the able hands of Dr. Leonard Williams, at the French Hospital, 172, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C. The visiting days are Thursdays and Sundays, from three to four.

Mr. Tom Jones, the Welsh comedian, who has been playing the part of Clara ap Morgan in drama with such complete success, will make his first appearance on the London variety stage at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday. Mr. Jones, from Anglesey, should be heartily welcome.

Mr. Homan, whose professional name is Sacco, writes denying the statement that his condition became so alarming on Saturday that he was compelled by his medical adviser to give up his fast. He explains that it was not because of his physical unfitness that he gave up, but that worry occasioned by litigation in which he was concerned, and to which he was unable to attend owing to being sealed in his glass house, had such an effect upon him after a twenty-three days' fast that it was deemed advisable, owing to his having lost 6lb. overnight, to discontinue the test.

Thousands of motorists and other sportsmen were precluded from witnessing Mr. S. F. Edge's astonishing performance last Saturday, and the Empire Theatre management has come to the rescue by presenting Mr. Edge on the Biograph making his world-famed ride in a series of excellent films. The Empire, having the exclusive rights of Biograph pictures at the motor track, will add to this series films of the many incidents of the first race meeting, to be held to-day.

Mr. Ivy Baldwin, a tight-rope performer, whilst walking along a wire rope stretched across a cañon at Eldorado Springs at a height of 583 feet from the ground, suddenly lost his eyesight when fifty feet from the end of his journey. He retained his nerve, however, and, calling to the men at the end of the wire, he guided himself by their voices, and landed in safety. Blondin's performance across the Falls of Niagara is said to have been eclipsed by Baldwin, but we doubt it.

Some very pleasant functions preceded the departure for New York of Mr. Fred Day, of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, towards the close of a necessarily brief holiday in the Old Country. In addition to his being present at the annual outing of the employées of the firm, as chronicled in these columns on Saturday last, he was, on the evening of the 29th ult., the central figure at a dinner at the Hotel Boulogne, given in his honour by a number of gentlemen mainly connected with music, literature, and the fine arts. The "Caruso Quartet" was a feature of the evening.

On Monday last one of the large stock-rooms at the Charing Cross-road branch of the firm was the scene of an interesting presentation, Mr. John Smith, the manager, presiding. In the spacious place, which had been tastefully draped with the flags of England and America, and in the presence of many important business neighbours, representatives of the paper-making and printing industries, and the entire strength of the two establishments, Mr. Fred Day was asked to accept a handsome travelling bag, subscribed for by the members of the staffs. Mr. "Sixpenny Pops" Smith made the presentation, and Mr. Fred Day returned thanks for the gift in brief and well-chosen sentences.

The crowd to see young Mr. Day off from Euston at noon on Tuesday was very large and representative. Among those present on the platform were Mr. and Mrs. David Day, with their daughter and granddaughter, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Plucknett, Mr. R. W. Reynolds (Reynolds and Co.), Mr. E. Goodman (Chappell and Co., Ltd.), Mr. B. Feldman (Feldman and Co.), Mr. Stanley E. Mullen (Mullen and Co., Melbourne), Messrs. A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott (Star Publishing Co.), Messrs. Udloff, Radford (F. Grant and Co.), and C. Leithold, these three gentlemen representing a like number of printing firms, Mr. J. Fraser, Mr. J. F. Lambe, Mr. R. P. Weston, Mr. T. F. Robson, and Mr. Kenneth Lyle, well-known writers for the variety stage; Mr. Arthur Preston, Music Publishers' Association; Mr. John Francis, the well-known harpist; Mrs. Arthur Francis, and Mr. and Mrs. Warwick Williams. Members of the staff of Messrs. Francis and Day present included, among others, Messrs. John Smith (the firm's manager), Lester Barrett, Arthur and William Francis (sons of William Francis), Chas. Wilmott, Fred W. Leigh, Henry E. Pether, Herman E. Darewski, jun., Leonard Bellamy, D. Alger, H. Harris, Chas. Rooker, T. Templar, and Edgar Bateman.

In "Old Japan," at the Balkan State Exhibition, Earl's Court, for two months has been passed a consistent and brilliant Eastern summer. Outside the walls of the Empress Hall the rain may fall, the cold chill, and the wind bluster, but once in the "Land of the Lotus," the mild, even temperature, the quaint beauty of the surroundings, together with the life of the open Japanese Theatre, and the ever-plashing 40ft. waterfall, dispel all memories of dulness and dreariness. The busy, native craftsmen in the open studio through the day and evening exemplify deftly their skilful crafts. For instance, the Shippo-Cloisonne makers, at their artistic work in mosaic, attract many onlookers. Their characteristic work is laid on a thin network of copper or brass, soldered to a formation of solid metal. Then the cloisons, or cells, in the network are filled with enamel of various colours. Bakings, rubbings, and polishings complete the work, the result being a brilliant softness and smoothness. Not very far away the busy lantern makers and painters seem to have a special attraction for visitors, and similarly interesting are the other forty or so crafts in "Old Japan," which is fast drawing all London.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

To Messrs. Francis and Day's "Sixpenny Pops" series has just been added "Can't you see I'm thinking?" and "The man who struck O'Hara," Mr. Walter Munroe's famous song. The series now comprises no fewer than 380 numbers.

It is to be doubted whether Mr. Sidney Kent has ever designed a more striking frontispiece to a comic song than the one he has evolved for Mr. Harry Randall's humorous ditty, entitled "The garden outside in," just issued by Mr. David Day's firm. It brings to beholders a memory of sunny days in former years when summer came at its proper time between spring and autumn.

A goodly number of new items by foremost writers have during the week been added to Messrs. Francis and Day's catalogue, including the following: "They pretend they really couldn't," a song which will be featured by Miss Margaret Cooper, written and composed by Arthur Trevelyan; "Pompeii" (Mis Victoria Monks), by C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton; "Won't you let me be your primrose?" by J. F. Lambe and H. E. Pether; "Always look after number one" (Miss Florrie Gallimore), by F. W. Carter and Joe Burley; "It seems to me" (George Brooks), by W. H. Wallis and Charles Collins; and "I'd like to see the colour of your money, Mr. Green," by Percy Edgar and R. Penso.

Mr. Walter Munroe, melodious and vigorous as ever, has arranged to feature on the Moss and Stoll tour Felix McGlennon's Irish song, "When you're tired of roaming" (Blackbird), published by the Star Co. The refrain of this number is one that you find yourself humming unconsciously at odd moments. "It grows on you, and haunts you." At least, so Walter says.

The Star Music Co.'s rapidly increasing catalogue includes all the recent compositions of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott. These well-known versatile writers have just completed a most striking number, entitled "I've got a spooney-ooney feeling," which will be featured on both sides of the Atlantic.

Harry Bedford has produced with emphatic success a very droll dude song by R. P. Weston, entitled "When I breathe." The Star Co. will issue this number without delay.

It will be remembered that Mr. John Tiller was the first to discover the merits of that most popular song of last season, "Au revoir, my little hyacinth," and managers on the look-out for a big pantomine winner should bear this in mind in noting that Mr. Tiller is this season featuring a Mexican song, called "Yucatan," both at Blackpool and New Brighton. The words of both songs are by the same author, A. E. Sidney Davis, and in the present instance Sydney Baynes is responsible for the music.

Edgar Bateman on Thursday morning last began his tenth year's service as one of Mr. David Day's representatives at London music halls. Apprenticed in 1876 as a compositor to Mr. Edward J. Francis, of the *Athenæum* Press, who was also manager of the *Weekly Dispatch* and the first printer of the *Referee*, Bateman can now truthfully claim that for thiry-one consecutive years he has been employed by Francis *and* Day, he having left the printing profession on a Saturday specially to join Mr. Day's staff on the Monday. Mr. Bateman has written much verse, and fitted Mr. Gus Elen with two of his most celebrated songs, "The 'ouses in between" and "It's a great big shame."

Miss Anna Kenwick, who is appearing this week at the Paragon and Queen's, Poplar, is making a great hit with Harry Taylor's latest song, entitled "Sally." Francis, Day, and Hunter have recently bought three more of this popular writer's songs.

Mr. Herbert Cole, who was for some years Mr. George E. Belmont's general manager, and who is the author and composer of many successful songs, including Mr. Harry Randall's "I was in it," "I can't get at it," &c., has again entered the song-writing arena, and has supplied ditties to Miss Florrie Forde, Miss Emmie Ames, Miss Daisy Harcourt, Mr. Harry Bancroft, and entire répertoire for Miss Chummie La Mara for her American tour.

Little Maudie Francis is making a great success this week at the New Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

Owing to rapidly increasing business, Mr. Frank Lynne has been compelled to take larger premises. His offices now are at 77, Angell-road, Brixton.

Brian McCullough will be Joe Haynes's stage-manager and director at the Hoxton Theatre of Varieties, which will shortly open on the twice-nightly system.

Miss Chummie La Mara and Mr. Will Sergeant sail per s.s. Teutonic from Southampton on Wednesday, July 10, at 11 o'clock a.m., for New York, for a season in America, booked by Miss Jenie Jacobs.

The Brewster Troupe, owing to the success achieved by them at the Os Budavadra, Budapest, have been re-engaged, and have accepted other engagements for Austria, Bohemia, and Germany, which will prevent them returning to England before pantomime, which they have already settled.

Little Tich will be shortly departing for Paris, where he enjoys the reputation of being the most popular English comedian on the French variety stage. He is not likely to forget the memorable occasion when he was specially honoured not only by the leading lights of variety in la ville lumière, but by the Coquelins and the *societaires* of the Comédie-Française.

Miss Anna De Grey, secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, desires to thank Miss B. N. Graham for donation of clothing. She also states that the smart hats presented by Mme. Phœbe, of Leicester-square, and Miss Florrie Forde and Mrs. Hamilton Hill (trading as Beatrix) not having been sold on Federation Day, will be raffled for. Tickets 6d. each, may be had from Miss De Grey, 69, Primrose Mansions, Prince of Wales'-road, Battersea Park, London, S.W., the proceeds to be given to the V.A.F.

On Monday, in the Court of Bankruptcy, the first meeting of creditors was held under the failure of Philip Yorke, described as of Charing-cross-mansions, W. The accounts showed liabilities £1,704, and available assets £10 6s. Debtor states that up to the date of the receiving order he was managing-director of International Entertainments (Limited), a company formed in January last. Under an agreement he was to receive £6 a week, out of which he was to provide offices and certain staff, and a percentage of the company's profits.

For six years prior to 1901 he was assistant-manager at the Palace Theatre, and for two years up to April, 1904, manager of the Tivoli. He had also acted as manager for Sousa and his band, and for the Kilties Band of Canada. He attributes his present position to the failure of his enterprises, owing chiefly to the depression in trade, to the loss of an action brought against him by the petitioning creditor, and to law costs. The case was left in the hands of the Official Receiver.

SKETCHES AT THE MIDDLESEX.

A French Flirtation is the title of an amusing farcical comedy act, presented by Mr. and Mrs. Matt Wilkinson at the Middlesex this week. A gentleman pays a visit to Earl's Court, where he meets a French woman, to whom, apparently, he is foolish enough to make known his address. The woman calls the following day at his house, and sees his wife, who, of course, soon gets rid of her, as a dutiful wife should do, without permitting the caller to see her husband. But the wife decides to play a trick upon her lesser half, and accordingly decks herself in gorgeous costume, and talks broken English as naturally as a Frenchwoman should do. In this way she perpetrates a deception upon her husband, who is in a state of great perturbation lest his wife should make the acquaintance of his visitor. In the end, of course, she permits him to learn that she has known of his gay time at Earl's Court, and he promises to improve his conduct. Mrs. Matt Wilkinson acts in her accomplished style in the dual rôle, and Mr. Wilkinson interprets the uneasiness of mind of the man in a most convincing, and, at the same time, entertaining manner.

Told in a Flat is a dramatic playlet, which is produced by Mr. Harry Roberts. The cast is as follows:—

Tommy Hawkins .....
Solomon Isaacs ..... } MR. HARRY ROGERS
Esther Le Strange ..... MISS JESSIE NEILSON
Detective from Headquarters.. MR. J. ROBERTS

Tommy Hawkins and Esther Le Strange are confederates in crime, the first-named being a noted thief, and the second having committed murder some years previous to the opening of the story, at a time when she was known by the name of Pauline du Monte. She and Hawkins now meet in her flat, in order to discuss some fresh villainy, and subsequently Hawkins leaves. A few minutes later there enters another visitor. It is Solomon Isaacs, the Jew detective. It is not long before Isaacs extracts a confession from Esther, and the curtain falls upon that worthy creature's arrest. Mr. Harry Rogers displayed his versatility in the rôles of Tommy Hawkins and Solomon Isaacs, and acted as well as the author's lines permitted him to. Miss Jessie Neilson as Esther Le Strange was intensely dramatic in several situations; and Mr. John Roberts did all that was required as the "detective from headquarters."

What is undoubtedly one of the best features of the programme is furnished by Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas, in their scenes from Dickens's works. The entire act opens with an announcement as to what is to follow, after which we are shown a representation of the empty chair at Gad's Hill. Then the country churchyard is brought before us, and we see Jonas Chuzzlewit courting Mercy Pecksniff in his own peculiar way. The ensuing picture is a sad one. It shows us the lovers six months after marriage—Jonas, the ill-mannered, drunken sot, ill-using his faithful little wife. The death of Poor Jo, from "Bleak House," forms the next item in a very agreeable series, Mrs. Lucas enacting with great tenderness the part of the little crossing-sweeper. In all of their impersonations Mr. and Mrs. Lucas act with much realism and naturalness, and it is not too much to say that no "turn" could have been more highly appreciated than was theirs on a night when the Middlesex audience are too ready to criticise adversely with very little reason. As a matter of fact, the whole house watched and listened in wrapt attention as each word was spoken and each action was made. It would be well for the music hall stage were more artists to follow in the footsteps of Mr. and Mrs. Lucas. We cannot too highly praise their performance.

THE EMPRESS ANNIVERSARY.

For the eighth anniversary at this most popular hall a fine programme was arranged. Although time did not admit of it being carried through in its entirety, it contained many interesting and excellent items. The house was most tastefully decorated, and, in addition to those artists whose names were down on the programme, many others in the course of the evening dropped in to wish Mr. Nelson Francis, the popular manager, many happy returns of the day. Punctually at 7.15 p.m. the orchestra struck up a spirited overture, and from then until midnight turn followed turn as rapidly as possible. The stage-management of Mr. R. S. Gaston was excellent. Miss Victoria Monks, the popular comedienne, had a most enthusiastic reception. In response to an undeniable demand for an encore, she gave that famous number, "London Town," the popularity of which does not yet seem to be on the wane. On concluding, it was some time before the audience would let her go, and she had many times to bow her acknowledgments. Miss Florrie Forde sang a capital song, entitled "Down at the old Welsh Harp," the chorus of which was most catchy, and was soon taken up. G. H. Elliot, the chocolate-coloured coon, was another great favourite, and his song, "If the man in the moon were a coon," was followed by some of his inimitable dancing. George Mozart was, as he usually is on these festive occasions, in his most happy vein, roars upon roars of laughter greeting his efforts. Anna Kenwick, tastefully dressed, and the possessor of a most pleasing manner, did some capital sand-dancing. Price and Revost did some novel acrobatic work. The beautiful voice of Mme. Natalia was heard to excellent advantage in the number she selected; and Fred Ginnett's renowned boy army did wonders in the small space that was at their disposal. Datas answered all and sundry questions in his usual ready fashion, and in a manner that gave unqualified approval. Dion Wade gave his quaint, "Wouldn't you be better in a home?" which was followed by a most faithful impersonation of George Robey. Kurkamp the singing conductor, had a splendid reception on concluding, his magnificent voice being heard clearly in every corner of the building. Gilbert Girard, with his wonderful imitations of birds and animals, had a most flattering reception, and his wonderful powers of mimicry caused great delight. Thomas Brooklyn sang in excellent style the increasingly popular, "Waltz me round again, Willie." Lilian Lea, on the conclusion of her song, did some neat and clever dancing. Lena Brunton gave some excellent impersonations of some of the leading musical artists. Clark and Hicks supplied one of the most acceptable items on the programme, the singing by the lady of Tosti's "Good-bye" being beautiful. T. E. Dunville was in his usual irresistible form. Gladys Mavius, the Canadian singer and dancer, has, judging by the applause that she receives, worked her way well into the hearts of Brixtonites. Rosie Lloyd, one of the famous sisters, sang a number with an excellent chorus; and Stella Stahl, a charming comedienne, soon won the audience. Bert Williams gave a very interesting ventriloquial show, in which he was assisted by a very clever mannikin. An amusing sketch, entitled *Yorkshire Relish*, met with a favourable reception. Max Waldon, with his female impersonations, was most diverting. Some clever thought-reading was done by Sidney Gandy, who was assisted by Miss Inglefield. The fine baritone voice of Mr. Ian Colquhoun was much appreciated; and Miss Louise Eetland vocalised to great advantage. Amongst many others who contributed to an enjoyable evening were Tots Davis, Fanny Robina, Edie King, Tom Bass, Lily Arthur, and Florrie Cooper. Mr. Robert Allington, the *chef d'orchestre*, may well feel proud of how the men under him worked, and they certainly had a large share in making the evening the great success it was. Mr. Nelson Francis, the popular manager, and his most able lieutenant, Mr. Francis Winchcombe, are to be congratulated on the result.

"THE FORTUNE OF WAR."

Sketch in one scene, by C. C. Andrews, music by Archie Howels, produced at the Canterbury Theatre of Varieties, on Monday, July 1.

Lieut. Chas. Daventry.. MR. CLIFFORD PEMBROKE
Rev. James Burnett ..... MR. AINSLEY BURSON
Jonathan Lightfoot ..... MR. J. W. HOOPER
Martha Grant ..... MISS ALICE DRUMMOND
Priscilla Kirton ..... MISS SYLVIA CAVALHO

A prominent place among the successes which Miss Sylvia Cavalho has achieved on the music-hall stage will be taken by the new sketch which received its first production at the Canterbury on Monday. The playlet possesses dramatic tenacity and the qualities which appeal in a profound degree to the average Englishman. The period of the piece is that of the British-American war, and the scene opens on a new England homestead. Priscilla Kirton, its owner, is ever ready to succour those who are suffering from the effects of the campaign, and, consequently, a soldier who comes into the room wounded and faint with the loss of blood finds immediate refuge. Priscilla is young and fair, and the soldier is in his early manhood, and the pair exchange confidences with regard to their respective sweethearts. Afterwards Priscilla learns that the refugee is a spy and had been nearly caught at the enemy's lines by a sentry, who, however, he had shot dead. Suddenly there approaches a cavalcade bearing the lifeless body of a sentry killed at his post, and Priscilla realises that it is her sweetheart who has fallen at the hands of the very man whose safety she is trying to secure. At first she determines on revenge, and requests the clergyman to fetch the soldiery. The hidden spy then comes out, declares he has overheard the order, and hands her a photograph which he requests she will send to his sweetheart in England. The girl goes to the door to call the soldiers, but unwilling that another woman's heart should be broken as well as her own, she bids him depart, and when the officer returns with his men she tells them there is nothing for them.

Miss Sylvia Cavalho displayed her customary emotional power in the exacting part of Priscilla. Solicitude for the young soldier's misfortunes and sympathy with his hopes were skilfully varied, and the pathos of the final scene, when the bereaved girl gives freedom to the slayer of her sweetheart, was made very poignant. Mr. Clifford Pembroke's martial appearance gave distinction to the part of the young refugee, and he delivered his lines with suitable emphasis. The piece was listened to throughout in profound silence, and at the end loud applause was conferred upon the chief performers.

MASONRY.

CHELSEA LODGE, 3098.

Many of our readers will doubtless remember the founding of the Chelsea Lodge of Freemasons little more than two years since. The promoter of the Lodge, who introduced several professional members to the Earl's Court Lodge, of which he was at that time one of the senior officers and a founder, noted the difficulty that these new members experienced, on account of their engagements, in attending a lodge held in the evening. Having discussed the matter with several of them, the happy thought occurred to him of founding a Lodge in the interests of the music hall and theatrical world, to be held at a more convenient time of the day, so as not to interfere with their professional duties. With characteristic energy he at once set the work going. A petition for a charter was at once granted by Grand Lodge, and Mr. Henri Gros and his co-directors kindly placed their Board-rooms at the Chelsea Palace at the disposal of the members. After the first year they, with great regret, had to seek accommodation at the Chelsea Town Hall, the rapid growth of the Lodge causing the space at their first home to be entirely inadequate to their needs. Started with thirty-four founders, the Lodge, at the commencement of its third year, had very nearly trebled that number. It has also contributed largely to the Masonic Charities, besides having established a substantial benevolent fund in the interests of its own members.

It is now our pleasing duty to chronicle the founding of the Chelsea Chapter, as an outcome of the Lodge, and on Friday, June 28, this Chapter was consecrated at Restaurant Frascati, Oxford-street, W., by Sir Edward Letchworth, assisted by the following Grand Chapter Officers:—Mr. Harry Nicholls, Rev. H. W. Turner, M.A., Mr. R. Percy, W. F. Simpson, and Mr. J. Percy Fitzgerald. The petition for the Charter had an unusually large number of signatures, there being no less than twenty-eight petitioners—viz., Messrs. J. W. Mathews, Albert Le Fre, Herbert Chenery, C. J. Doughty, Wolfe S. Lyon, Theodore Schreiber (Serpentello), G. H. Cobley (Baroni), G. H. Dyball, Harry Bawn, Geo. Mozart, F. H. Pedgrift, H. W. Hitch, G. Grahame, T. S. Burnetti, Frank Hardie, W. H. Atlas, H. K. Ramsden, Fred McNaughton, W. Valazzi, R. W. Duce, W. Scott Adacker, W. S. Jeapes, Albert Christian, H. K. Mayville, Fred Neiman, E. L. Robertson, Fred Farren, and W. G. Moseley.

The founders mustered in full force, with the exception of Mr. Harry Bawn (unfortunately prevented from attending owing to the serious illness of his wife), Mr. Fred McNaughton, W. Valazzi, and Fred Neiman, whose engagements abroad and in the provinces prevented their attendance. There were upwards of twenty visitors, and the Grand Chapter was represented by the previously named consecrating officers, and also by Mr. James Weaver, Charles Cruickshanks, Mostyn T. Pigott, and H. Sadler. The musical arrangements, both at the ceremony and at the subsequent entertainment, were under the direction of Mr. Charles E. Tinney (of the Guildhall School of Music). The consecration ceremony was most impressively rendered by the consecrating officers, and Messrs. J. W. Mathews, Albert Le Fre, and Herbert Chenery were installed principals, and the following gentlemen appointed to the other offices, viz.:—Messrs. C. J. Doughty, G. H. Dyball, W. S. Lyon, T. Schreiber, G. H. Cobley, F. H. Pedgrift, H. Bawn, Geo. Mozart, and J. Gilbert. At the conclusion of the ceremony founders and visitors numbering fifty sat down to an excellent banquet. After dinner the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly responded to. Replying for the visitors, Mr. Charles Cruickshanks said:—The importance of being in earnest was noticeable in the fact that the Companions of the Chapter had invited a large number of visitors, and right royally were they entertained and very gratified with their reception. He expressed a doubt whether it would be possible for him, in the limited time at his command, to give adequate expression to the feelings of his fellows; for himself he desired to say he had the highest admiration for variety artists—they were men of talent, self-reliant, and certain to give a good account of themselves under any circumstances, therefore there was every prospect of success in the working of the Chapter. Oddly enough, "varieties," as we understand them to-day, were not thought of by Shakespeare in his time, otherwise we might have found something like the following somewhere in his works: "All the world's a variety stage, and all the men and women merely artists. They have their agents and their contracts, and one man in his time 'presents' many 'turns.' His 'notices' fill many pages." Mr. Cruickshanks concluded by expressing the hope that he and his fellow visitors might be asked to come again. A very enjoyable concert was contributed by the following artists:—The Westminster Singers, Miss Ruby Helder (by kind permission of the Tivoli management), Miss Alice J. James, Mr. Dutton's Solo Boys, Miss Doris Cleud (violinist), and Mr. C. E. Tinney at the piano.

DEATH OF BOB HANLON.

It is with much regret that we record the death of Bob Hanlon, of the well-known Hanlon troupe, and formerly of the Hanlon-Voltas. He had been in indifferent health for the past six months, and was admitted into the Middlesex Hospital to undergo an operation, which was, however, never performed, as hæmorrhage of the lungs set in. He became too weak, and passed away on Sunday. He was born in 1861, and was therefore forty-six at the time of his death.

Bob Hanlon was one of the gymnasts of the century, and his name will go down to posterity with such fine performers as Fred Boisset, Cragg, Risley, and Schaffer. His wonderful aerial triumphs made the name of Hanlon a synonym for grace and intrepidity from the Pacific Slope to St. Petersburg. For over thirty years he upheld the supremacy of English gymnasts, and in his special line of work had no equal. At the age of seven he joined, in 1868, the Hanlon-Lees, the original producers of *Le Voyage en Suisse*, and after an experience of seven years with this historic troupe he joined in 1875 the twin brothers Ted and Taff Volta in America, his brother Bill, who was a year older, having done so already. The troupe became known as the Hanlon-Voltas, and made its début in England at the Crystal Palace in 1875.

They opened there for four weeks, but so great was their success that the engagement was extended to fourteen months. They then went to Birmingham for four weeks, and returned to the Palace for one year, and it was while fulfilling his second engagement that Bob Hanlon originated the dive of 125 feet from a specially-constructed bar, fixed to the top rafters of the Palace, to the ground net. This feat, however, was considered

[*Photo by Beverley, Blackpool.*

THE LATE BOB HANLON.

dangerous by the local officials, and he was commanded to discontinue it, or reduce the distance. Bob, therefore, made his dive from a pedestal 60ft. high. In 1890 the twin brothers Volta withdrew from the troupe, and became connected with an agency, and the three Hanlons, whose names were Carmody and O'Mara, remaining together, went to America in 1891 under contract to Rich and Harris. It was while appearing at Clinton, Iowa, U.S.A., in the same year that Willie O'Mara's single bar gave way, and the fall to the ground killed him. Carey, a later member of the troupe, died of consumption. In 1894 John and Bob divided, each organising his own troupe. Bob's included his two sons, Robert and Julius, and Charles Chalon, a famous French gymnast, and this troupe formed one of the attractions of the great Barnum and Bailey show in London in 1898. Just after his appearance with this mammoth combination he broke his leg at Hastings; but so cleverly was the limb set by one of London's leading surgeons that the gymnast was able to say after a time that the limb was as strong as ever.

Of late years, since aerial trapeze acts have gone out of fashion, Bob gave a stage exhibition with his son Eddie. His style of performance was what is known as the passing act, and there were few who saw him on the bar who could help marvelling at his mid-air flights, and at the consummate ease and grace with which each trick was accomplished. His dive to the net was the most stirring feat of his whole performance, inasmuch as he took a headlong plunge for the net, making a quick turn just before reaching his destination. This feat he first introduced about 1886, in order to keep away from others who had copied his old dive. Bob Hanlon's triumphs were specially acclaimed at the Crystal Palace, the Alhambra (under William Holland's management), the Canterbury (where his popularity always had a personal note), and the Aquarium; but, of course, he became world-famous, and performed in every part of the two hemispheres. His two partners, the twin-brothers Volta, are the only living members of the famous Hanlon-Voltas, and both of them will be present to-day, if possible, at the interment in Streatham Cemetery, the funeral cortège leaving the residence of the deceased in Wiltshire-road at 11 o'clock.

AN excellent programme is submitted this week at the Empire Theatre of Varieties, Burnley. Tina Clementa's horse and dogs are wonderfully well trained, and come in for a large share of the applause. Les Pollos perform many extraordinary acrobatic feats, and are highly amusing. A clever and funny turn is that of *The Maid and the Squire*, performed by Harry and Fanny Dent, and Miss Florence Smithers, supported by Owen Dacrey and company, present a comedy-sketch, *Hard Lines*. Little Maud Ray is a pretty comedienne and dancer, and Harry Seaton is an excellent comedian. The Three Sisters Urma call forth great appreciation, and "Jim's Apprenticeship," by the Empire Theatroscope, is a very funny picture.

HEKAN BROTHERS, of 32, Shaftesbury-avenue, inform us that they have severed their connection with Messrs. Hugo Baruch and Co., and have been appointed sole representatives of Mr. E. Landolff, of Paris.

THE AWARD AND THE ALLIANCE.

MASS MEETING AT THE HORNS.

The Arbitrator's Award, in so far as it affects musicians and stage hands, was discussed at a mass meeting convened by the Amalgamated Musicians' Union and the National Association of Stage Employees, which took place at the Horns, Kennington, on Sunday. The chair was occupied by Mr. C. Jesson, L.C.C., who was supported on the platform by Mr. Harry Gosling, L.C.C., Mr. Frank Smith, L.C.C., Mr. J. B. Williams, general secretary of the Musicians' Union; Mr. William Johnson, secretary of the N.A.T.E.; Mr. Frank Gerald, late secretary of the Variety Artists' Federation; Mr. Sydney Taylor, London Orchestral Association; Mr. G. H. Dyball, and Mr. Fred Harrison. The large hall was well filled, among the audience being several well-known music-hall artists, including Mr. Gus Elen, Mr. Chas. Coborn, and Mr. Fred Herbert, the last-named having occasion in the course of the proceedings to make a correction of one of the statements made.

Mr. WILLIAMS, who was the first speaker, said he proposed to deal with the question of the Award from the musicians' point of view. A good many people—musicians in particular—were not satisfied with the Award. He desired it to be absolutely clear that the Award had given the musicians a decidedly improved position. They had come out best, and they could judge what the others had done when he said that the musicians were a long way from being satisfied even with that best. When they went before the Arbitrator, however, they had unfortunately a number of small salaries which were used against them. They were frequently told that the musician was a person who had all the day to himself and could follow out some other occupation during that time. With all due deference to those who believe that musicians could keep a shop or run an insurance business during his spare time, he contended that with the amount of skill that is demanded of the musical performer it required as much time as he could devote during the day to maintain his efficiency. A good many anomalies were created by the Award, and people who had paid the best salaries would be penalised most in regard to carrying it out. They had been advised to kick over the traces, but they should give the matter a fair trial. If they found that any advantage was being taken of the Award, then would be the time to say to the individual managers, "This has got to be stopped; if you want another dispute you go on. If you want peace you will carry out the terms of the Award and rate of pay." Let them be fair and say that they would abide by the Award for a certain period. They should do the best they could with it, and if not they could have another dispute in regard to it. They had secured an improved position, but it was very far from being what it ought to be. No matter what statements had appeared in the Press or elsewhere, the fact remained that the Theatrical Employees and the Musicians' societies were loyal to each other and loyal to the Variety Artists' Federation. (Applause.) Not only were they loyal, but they actually had offered to them better terms than they had got from the Award at certain of the places as an individual society. He asked the question, "If I accepted these terms would it mean that they would break away from the Alliance?" When the answer came, "Yes, the musicians would be finished with," he said: "If we go in as one society we shall break away from the Alliance, and we shall become divided and split into factions, and they will beat us in detail, but rather than have that happen I will refuse the terms offered and go hand in hand together as an Alliance before the Arbitrator." The Alliance was called into being, not because the musicians or the stage hands were fighting, but because the V.A.F. were fighting in connection with a grievance. The V.A.F. was placed in an awkward position, as every member of their executive had been injuncted over the Brixton dispute. Then they came along and next the Brixton Trades Council in order to get them to do something to help the artists to win the battle. As a result three societies representing the workers came together, and together they could fight with treble the strength of any individual society. The talk about a paramount society was all nonsense and bunkum. Each was fighting for all in order that all individually and collectively might benefit by any results of their fight. With regard to the actual formation of the Alliance, it was formed at the Musicians' Club. The London Branch committee, at which Messrs. Johnson, Gerald, and himself were present, met, and a resolution was drawn up, signed, and sent to each of the three societies, and representatives appointed to carry out the agreement come to. He was never more disgusted than when a statement was made on the part of prominent officials that because no record appeared in the minute book of the Variety Artists' Federation therefore no Alliance existed as far as the V.A.F. was concerned. No refutation of the Alliance came while the fight was on, but when arbitration had been agreed to, and the possibility arose of the artists getting more than the stage hands, V.A.F. officials slipped the cable from the musicians and stage employees and elected to stand on their own. They had been used and made a tool of, and those loyal and true-hearted men and women of the V.A.F. who fought the hardest had been left in the lurch. He himself was accused of being a traitor to the V.A.F. He thought the term might be more fittingly applied to the action of the executive of the V.A.F. at the time of the interim award. They had all agreed to unconditional arbitration, but Mr. Johnson and himself were very anxious that as a condition of going to arbitration their members should be reinstated. The V.A.F were not concerned at all in the question of reinstatement. The musicians and stage hands were, because, whereas the men and women of the V.A.F. were under contracts and could come out possibly for a week, the musicians were called out from permanent situations. When they took on a responsibility like that they did not want to end by a mere quibble that it was not entered in the minute book. There was such a thing as honour, and when men had fought together, though no pen had been put to paper, that Alliance was as strong as if signed and sealed. The artists were not concerned in this question of reinstatement, but were concerned in certain artists who had legal proceedings against them, and the interim award was agreed to by the executive of one society without consultation with the other two. Mr. Williams repudiated a statement that had been circulated that he had come to an agreement with Mr. Mitchell, the general secretary of the Federation of Trade Unions, behind the back of the Alliance, and declared that he had been true to himself, true to his members, and true to his colleagues throughout the whole of the dispute. When they went to the executive of the General Commitee and pointed out that their members had been called out on the distinct pledge that none should go back unless all went back, he said to them: "I appeal to you. Did you understand that the artists were going to stand out until the musicians were reinstated?" Mr. Gus Elen was the only man who said "I did!" (Cheers.) The advantages they had obtained were miles ahead of what the artists had. If a dispute should arise they could get a representative of the managers and a representative of the musicians and a member of the Federation of Trade Unions. The variety artists had to get two managers and two artists, and if all four turned up they would never agree. The musicians and stage hands had only three, and with that there was always the possibility of a majority. As far as that condition was concerned it was a very fine one. Not only that, they had a position in the condition that stated that the managers had got to recognise the officials of the Union, and had got to attend to their grievances within a period of three months. They had besides the privilege of representing their men through their officials. So far as the musicians were concerned they had been absolutely true and loyal to their colleagues and to themselves. They put up a good stiff fight in front of the Arbitrator. No one could possibly have done more than he did to try to get the musicians what he considered they were fully entitled to. If he had not succeeded, he thought he deserved the credit of having tried. Had Mr. Gerald and Mr. Mountford, as representatives of the Alliance, gone there as a united, solid body they would have got infinitely better terms. With all due deference to the Bar, he thought that men like those he had named could have put up a better fight on behalf of the artists. Only those with a knowledge of the peculiarities of their profession and who had got them all at their fingers' ends were able to deal with the points at issue. (Cheers.)

Mr. WILLIAM JOHNSON, who was the next speaker, said the Award, so far as it affected stage employees, had many valuable concessions. It had done at least two things of great value to their movement. It had established what they had previously not possessed—a uniform minimum rate of pay throughout the police area of the metropolis, and a maximum working day. Before it was possible to estimate the value of the Award it was necessary to review the conditions which existed prior to the dispute. A number of men employed in music halls were formerly paid as low as a 1s. a night for one performance and 1s. 6d. for two performances, and men employed during the whole of the week, day and night, Sundays included, as low as 21s. Those men who were paid 1s. would get 2s. 3d. under the Award and men who were receiving 1s. 6d. for two shows would get a proportional increase. Those who got 21s. with an unlimited day would get 27s. 6d. for a considerably limited day. Therefore, in regard to those two points—the uniform minimum rate and a limited working day—two valuable concessions were obtained. The case of the Heads of Departments was, in his opinion, extremely unsatisfactory. The Arbitrator realised the difficulties with regard to fixing a minimum for that particular section, and left the question open. There was also a valuable clause with regard to future disputes. In order to get the full benefit of the Award and make the machinery efficient it was necessary that every stage employee should come into the Society, otherwise he had no guarantee that he would get the benefit of the Award. Personally, he intended to give his loyal support in the attempt to get the best out of the Award and see that it had a fair trial. There were a number of anomalies and inequalities established by the Arbitrator, but it was hoped to adjust them by negotiations with the managers. He would tell the truth about the music-hall war so far as it concerned the Alliance, which was the most powerful combination that ever to his knowledge existed in the trade union world. They had brought together the highest and the lowest, all animated with one motive, and it was entirely due to the personal jealousy of a few men that that magnificent combination had been brought into disruption that would take a long time to readjust. So far as the two organisations present were concerned, they would go on in unity and rapidly strengthen their respective positions. They had called out men who had held their posts for twelve and fifteen years, who came out, not because their Society called them out, but because the Alliance called them out, and some of these men, after twenty-three weeks of sacrifice, were out in the streets to-day. Had the V.A.F. stood by the Alliance and their pledges the result would have been very different, and they would have got everything they stood out for. The interim award which put an end to the strike was signed by the V.A.F. executive without the Alliance having been consulted, in order that the V.A.F. men might be freed from legal proceedings for non-fulfilment of contract. He had nothing but admiration for the rank and file of the V.A.F. No body of men and women could have shown greater loyalty or a better spirit, and their motive was as pure as it was possible in human nature to be, and beyond all praise. Mr. Frank Gerald had proved himself a noble and earnest colleague, and had placed his professional future in jeopardy through his devotion to the cause. Mr. Mountford, too, had lived up to the letter and spirit of the movement at all costs, and he hoped in time to come he would not suffer for it. "Stick to your Union, which has been in existence for fifteen years," said Mr. Johnson in conclusion, "and we shall be growing in strength and flourishing when the V.A.F. is forgotten."

Enthusiastic cheers were raised when the name of Mr. Harry Mountford was announced by the chairman, who also paid a high compliment to Mrs. Mountford. His reception, said Mr. MOUNTFORD, surprised him, when he stood there as a man who had been expelled from the V.A.F. Why he had been expelled he did not know, but he looked upon his expulsion as a personal compliment. Mr. Mountford read some correspondence bearing upon his engagement at one of the affected halls at the time of the interim award, in which he was invited to send bill matter for his turn, but he had replied that he did not intend to appear at any hall which had a "blackleg" orchestra or stage hands. The arbitration proceedings, he continued, were a fight round a table in a room instead of fighting in the streets. No protection society could be any good whatever unless it was prepared to be a fighting force. What was the good of an army if it was not willing to fight, and what was the good of the Federation if the fighting men were gone? The Alliance had been broken, and the biggest weapon the variety profession ever had had been snapped. They might, however, burn up the Alliance, but, like a phœnix, it would rise again. Trade unionism was growing stronger and stronger every day, and the march of progress could not be stayed. With Tennyson he would say:—

"I hold it truth with him who sings
On one clear harp in divers tones
That men may rise on stepping-stones
Of their dead selves to higher things."

Mr. FRANK GERALD, whose rising was received with applause, said he stood before them that night a discredited man. (Loud cries of "No!") But he thought most people who had met him knew that he never took a thing like that lying down. He was in that position because, after giving the subject years where other people had given it hours, he had come to the conclusion that the only way to gain their rights was by adopting trade union principles up to the hilt, and it was because he had stood up to that conviction that he was in his present position. His principles had not changed; he was going to be a trade unionist still and continue to fight the cause upon the same lines. He thanked them for not quite agreeing with him when he said he was a discredited man. He wanted to say that he asked for nobody's sympathy for the loss of his position. He would rather stand there that night and meet with the approval of the Musicians' Union, the Stage Employees' Society, and other trade unionists than he would stick in his position under false circumstances.

Mr. HARRY GOSLING also addressed the meeting, which came to a conclusion with a vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. MOUNTFORD and seconded by Mr. FRANK SMITH, who read a resolution of sympathy and support passed the previous Friday by the Lambeth Trades' Council.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Fairs Ahead.

The fairs ahead for next week are:—Leeds on the North-Eastern, North-Western, Lancashire and Yorkshire, Great Northern, Midland, Great Central, and Great Western. Menston on the Midland. Ringwood (Hants) on the London and South-Western. Stroud on the Great Western and Midland. Burnley on the Lancashire and Yorkshire. Headless Cross on the Midland. Chapel-en-le-Frith on the Midland and London and North-Western. Holmesfield on the Midland. Baildon on the Midland. Chulmleigh on the London and South-Western. Darwen on the Lancashire and Yorkshire. Linton (Cambs) on the Great Eastern. Salisbury on the Great Western and London and South-Western. Spilsby on the Great Western. Glasgow on the Caledonian, Glasgow and South-Western, North British, North-Eastern, Highland, Great Northern, Great Western, North-Western, and Midland. Hawick on the North British. Johnstone on the Glasgow and South-Western. Motherwell on the Caledonian. Forfar on the Caledonian. Rothesay on the Caledonian Railway, and Kinross on the North British Railway.

The Right Hon. H. Chaplin and Mitcham Fair.

The secretary of the Metropolitan Workmen's Council brought the subject of Mitcham Fair before the notice of the Right Hon. H. Chaplin, M.P., in whose division of the county of Surrey Mitcham is situated. In his reply, the right hon. gentleman regretted his inability to attend the popular demonstration against abolition, owing to Committee Room business in Parliament on the evening of the meeting. He writes "that his sympathies are with old-established institutions of this kind, and if the people of Mitcham wish to see it maintained he would be sorry to see the old fair abolished."

Lord George Sanger in Retirement.

As we anticipated when the veteran showman gave up the active pursuit of his loved profession, the life within would from time to time, even in the noontide of life, find ample expression. In a charming letter to the Rev. T. Horne—wishing all success to the public meeting at Mitcham last week—the president of the Guild tells of one of his many-sided activities for Sweet Charity's sake at East Finchley. This was done to show his inability to take an active part in the Mitcham meeting. For some time past "the past grand master of many pageants" has been pledged to organise the bigger portion of a grand display and procession in aid of the funds of East Finchley Cottage Hospital, a deserving local institution, but, alas, like all such good things, in a state of impecuniosity. Ever ready to forward all good works, Lord George Sanger undertook to provide and organise the display of five emblematic groups for the monster procession. No. 1, a large revolving carriage containing the band of the Boys' Brigade; No. 2, a very large carriage showing an encampment of wild men; No. 3, a large lorry fitted up to represent the escape of King Charles from his enemies—in the historic scene of the King hiding in the branches of an oak tree—the growth of underwood and a magnificent oak 30ft. high being all taken from Sangers' own estate, Park Farm. (Writing of this tableau, he says, "I suppose that it will resemble the forest of Burnham Wood coming to Dunsinane, but the King will be seen safely hidden in the Royal Oak and his bloodthirsty pursuers with their dogs at its base.") No. 4, a small carriage drawn by four ponies, containing a group to represent Florence Nightingale ministering to a wounded soldier; No. 5, Lady Godiva on the famous white horse making her celebrated ride through the streets of Coventry, with the companion picture—the blinding of the inquisitive Town Crier, Peeping Tom. This was the reason why Lord George Sanger was otherwise (and most wisely) engaged on June 27, the day of the now historic fight for Mitcham Fair.

Cambridge Fair.

Both "Town and Gown" went merely to enjoy the fun of the fair at this ancient city of learning. Like the sister University of Oxford, Cambridge is proud of its annual pleasure fair. The show and novelties were of a high-class character, and included Wm. Taylor's magnificent new concern, the acme of Marenghi organ front perfection, and Thurston's cinematograph and variety theatre, Goldsmith with boxiana, and several side shows. Thurston and Sons provided the machine novelties, these included galloping and steam horse sets (2) and the African ostrich farm. Swing boats and park swings were provided by Harris, Bancroft, Port, and others.

Halifax Fair.

This big centre of show life as usual had some of the best concerns on the Yorkshire circuit. Chipperfield's menagerie, E. Farrar's cinematograph, Gal Hayne's boxers, Reeph's freaks, and fine art show by Shaw. Laing and Rayner represented the exhibitions. The machine and mechanical novelties were those of Aspland (Ben Howden and Son), Waddington, P. and T. Collins, Shaw, Corrigan Morley, Redfern and Geoghegan. Shooters, varieties, stalls, and throwing games by Seed, Jameson, Cornwell, Ratcliffe, Humphrey, Joy, Stewart, Turner, Illingworth, Brook, and Doubtfial.

The Caravan Club.

One result of the Travel Exhibition, recently held in London, is the establishment of a club for amateur vandwellers, to be known as the Caravan Club of Great Britain and Ireland. Mr. J. Harris Stone, of 72, Stamford Brook-road, W., is acting as general secretary pro tem., and the objects of the club are to bring together amateur caravanners, to secure camping ground, and to protect caravanners from undue interference when pursuing the simple life of the road, and also to co-operate with like-minded organisations.

The Rev. T. Horne in Scotland.

The organising chaplain of the Showmen's Guild hopes to meet his many friends at Greenock Fair to-morrow (Sunday, July 7). Miss Helen Wilmot, hon. agent for the Guild, has kindly undertaken all the forward arrangements for the Guild meetings on the fairground, which will be held as usual in a show. We are glad to know that the veteran vice-president for Scotland, General Wilmot, a co-founder of the Guild, and a generous subscriber to its funds, is quite well in health again, and taking part in his numerous business concerns in the showman world.

Fancy Fair at Redditch.

On their way to Worcester for the race week the following concerns set up a fair at "Needle Town," but the weather took all the heart out of the enterprise. Amongst the fun merchant adventurers to brave the terror of Pluvius, the god of showers, were J. Sagar, with premier living picture show, Prof. Haydn and Clytie, the clairvoyante in second sight séances, J. Hastings with his two freak shows, P. Collins with racing motor track, the wheeley whirley, and the Japanese airship; Messrs. Jennings, Ford, and Dobson with shooting concerns, and the other variety novelties. "Multum in Parvo" by A. Powell, J. and E. Humphries, Cooper, Beach, Bullin Stanley, Cockney Jim, and Old Paddy.

White City, Old Trafford.

The extraordinary abundance of rain we have had this summer may be thought to have kept this amusement park clear of visitors, but there are so many indoor as well as outdoor novelties that large numbers of people have attended this week. Among the new arrivals are Jean Seul, the world-renowned Indian mystery, and Captain Kettle Mersano, king of cards and coins. Herr Wilhelm Morgann's Imperial White Austrian Band in the grounds give pleasing selections.

On the 27th ult., at the White City, Old Trafford, the Variety Artists' Federation made their fête, garden party, and carnival a huge success. The day was fine, and variety shows were going all day in various parts of the grounds. The attendance of the public caused all previous records to be broken in the patronage of the figure eight railway, Hale's tours of the world, Louis Tussaud's "Paris by Night," and the very many side shows of this amusement park. Many leading music-hall artists travelled from long distances—Marie Loftus came from Blackburn—to assist in the good work, which will no doubt benefit considerably. This week's band is that of H.M.'s First Life Guards, and Jean Seul, the Indian mystery, assisted by Mersano, continue their conjuring act. Milton's marionettes and the Pierrots are also still doing good business. One of Spencer's small balloons (not used for passengers) broke loose on Tuesday and disappeared.

Arthur Whitwell, 23, of Tyler-street, Salford, who was employed at the White City, Old Trafford, as a night watchman, was found by his brother on Friday, June 28, lying dead on the balloon ground within the gardens. He was apparently in his usual health when left at 9.30 p.m. by his brother. His food which he had taken with him for supper remained untouched. At the inquest the medical evidence showed that although there might not have been a noticeable escape, the man had been overcome by the smell of gas, and a verdict of death by misadventure was returned.

Feckenham Wake.

Feckenham Wake was maintained by Mr. H. Strickland, of Worcester, the popular amusement caterer, who brought his galloping horses and motor-cars, park swings, shooting saloons, striker, cokernut sheets, &c., all illuminated by the electric light.

Herbert's amusements have been at Astwood Bank on a three weeks' visit.

Astwood Bank.

Proprietors of shows, circuses, menageries, roundabouts, portable theatres, and other amusements wishing to visit Astwood Bank and other villages in the Needle District, please write to Mr. W. C. Sorrell, Avenue-road, Astwood Bank, near Redditch.

At Studley are Shepherd's gallopers, at Feckenham are Strickland's gallopers and motor-cars, at Inkberrow are Scott's gallopers, at Astwood Bank are Herbert's roundabouts, at Bidford are Jones' mountain ponies.

Redditch.

At the recreation ground, Redditch, we have had P. Collins' grand carnival, which included P. Collins' motor-cars and wheeley whirley (two machines), Sagar's cinematograph exhibition, Hastings' two shows, Madame Clytie with second-sight show, juvenile roundabouts by Messrs. Ford and Chaplain, shooting saloons, bottle batteries, jungles by Messrs. Harris, Dobson, and Ford. Other amusements were provided by Messrs. Powell, Chaplain, Butler, Stanley, Winsper, Cooper, and numerous others.

Bangor Notes.

Lord John Sanger's hippodrome and menagerie visited this town on Monday, both afternoon and evening performances being patronised by large crowds. The programme was full of attractions. Cyclo, over whose body a motor-car was driven, proved a great draw. Amongst the artists were Zampo and Clown, in their somersault feats; La Belle Fondant and Comical Pimpo, in their wire act; the Maro troupe of acrobatic equestrians, the Airlees, and Pimpo's canine wonders. Each performance concluded with the spectacular equestrian drama, *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*. The music was under the direction of Mr. Clem A. Lawrence. The parade through the town was fine and drew a huge crowd of spectators.

Cornwall.

Mr. John Jones, with his talented company, has been at the Town Hall, Fowey, during part of this week, and has been showing to crowded and enthusiastic houses. Saldo, the boy Samson, has been adding to his feats of strength, and now lifts a 160lb. dumbbell with one hand, no mean feat for a boy of 18. Miss Sophie Jones, the champion dancer of the West, scored another huge success, and was recalled time after time to repeat her brilliant performance. Mr. Jones showed some good French films and lectured on each in his inimitable manner.

Porchester, Hants.

Porchester pageant was held on June 28 and 29, a host of travellers visiting the village. In the Castle grounds were George Baker's steam pleasure yachts, also his "Slipping the Slip; R. Edward's American skittle alley, swings by Arnold and Baker, cocoanut sheets by Baker, Arnold, and Moore, J. Edward's penalty kick, F. Arnold's strikey the "Dreadnought," R. Edward's Doll frame, bottle breakers by Arnold and Moore. Refreshments of every description was supplied by Mr. Chas. Slater. Charles Arnold's exhibition of living pictures showed with gas, and very clear pictures were the result. Confetti stalls, whelks, and ginger-bread tables completed a grand display. In Mason's Meadow were George Baker's ostrich farm, J. Edward's globe and bottle shooter, Baker, jun., two cokernut shies, W. Redhorne's electric fish pond and sporting games, T. Billing's Geshia sports, and Walter Payne's exhibition, "Dreamland by Bioscope," showed to packed houses. The pictures here were excellent, the principals being "A Slave's Love," "The Red Spectre," "The Bunco Steerers," "A Seaman's Widow," and "A Victim of Science." Confetti, squirts, and fancy stalls were numerous.

Havant Fair.

Walter Payne's bioscope and variety combination is visiting Havant this week, showing the latest coloured pictures, which caught the public taste the first night. The varieties include Mons. Bellini, equilibrist; Mdlle. Galleith in the garden of roses; the Dawsons (Joe and Lill), comedy duo and dancers, in their latest success, "The Ragtime Dance"; Verbel, aerial trapeze artist; Sisters Tilley, international dancers; Joe Dawson, eccentric patter comedian; Mazeppa and Madame Olivia, mental telegraphists; Emmett's company of silent comedians in a laughable sketch, *The New Assistant*.

Guild Subscriptions, 1907.

Per Mr. Alf. Ball—Mrs. Bird, £1; J. Tyler, 5s.; per Mr. Walter Wilmot—Mrs. Manders, 10s.; J. Manders, 5s.; per Mr. Whiting—Wm. Greenhalgh, Cotton Tree Inn, Rochdale, 10s. 6d.

Emsworth, Hants.

Emsworth Fête, which was held on July 11, was well catered for by the well-known Hampshire fair caterer, Mr. James Bartlett.

Biddal's cinematograph and variety company visited Emsworth this week, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Good business was the result.

BURSLEM WAKES.

The fight of the people of Burslem with their would-be dictators on the Borough Council will be well within the memory of our showmen readers. As it first manifested itself, the object of the opponents of the wakes was to sweep it away entirely. So easily did the noisy exponents of total abolition dominate the more reasonable elements on the Borough Council, that the first vote on the matter left the friends of the cause of the people in a miserable minority of two, all the other members voting for the prohibitory resolution. A strong local committee of traders was organised to save the wakes. This committee combined forces with the executive of the Showmen's Guild, and a determined and well-managed struggle began for the preservation of the fair rights of the people of Burslem. Public opinion in favour of still preserving the wakes rose to such a pitch that, at a town's meeting, summoned by the Mayor, and attended by the whole Town Council, resolutions were carried against the Council's mistaken policy, and the leaders of the abolitionists subjected to lively expressions of public contempt. The manifest misinterpretation of the people's wishes these gentlemen had made was clearly seen at the ensuing meetings of the Borough Council, when proposals to rescind its former ill-judged action were only lost by one vote; in fact, it was known that if two other members, absent on account of sickness, had been present, the obnoxious prohibitory resolution would have been rescinded. In fact, the abolitionists, even as it was, would have been routed on the Council had they not made a *volte-face*, and explained that they never really meant abolition, but only wanted to remove the fair from the centre of the town to a site in the suburbs, and very cleverly covered their tactical retreat by mentioning possible sites.

Mr. P. Collins's Enterprise.

Realising, as he did, that in all likelihood the Borough Council would not, out of a sense of *esprit de corps*, change the narrow majority of its last decision—at least, until the question became urgent again at the next borough election—Mr. P. Collins fortunately secured the only possible piece of vacant land in the town, and well within sight and sound of the old fair ground. This splendid business move on Mr. Collins's part has received the cordial approval of the whole town and district, and for all practical purposes, and on the showmen's side of the case, Mr. Collins's action has fully vindicated their position, and has continued the old-time wakes without a break. All through the Midland district the enterprise of Messrs. Collins in a score of towns has done the same thing. Where the local bodies have become the ready tool of fanatics and faddists, Messrs. Collins have stepped in and made the corporation's action of no effect by securing suitable fair sites on private lands, and continuing the people's fairs. In this relation the enterprise of the modern showman is as keen and as clever as the enterprise and ability in other industries and commercial enterprises. To the business men of Burslem, and to the ratepayers in general, the money loss to the borough funds is quite two hundred pounds a year. To the traders and shopkeepers in the centre of the town the loss is already causing much alarm and outcry. The diversion to another centre of the presence of 50,000 people a day for four days is bound to make a serious loss to the shopkeepers and traders on the fringe of the old central fair ground. We understand that Mr. P. Collins is holding the new ground, and will continue to hold it, until such times as the Borough Council rescinds its prohibition against shows and fair-ground novelties on the market and other sites under Corporation control in the centre of the town, Mr. Collins's primary object being to continue the fair on his own initiative until such time as the better mind of the Council asserts itself.

Conference with Local Traders.

Burslem has a splendid fighting force in the local committee of traders, under the leadership of Mr. Thos. Bentley, of the Roebuck Inn, a man of sterling public worth, and justly esteemed by the whole community. In order that this local interest might take counsel with the organised showmen, a meeting of the Showmen's Guild was held on Wakes Sunday afternoon, June 30, at four o'clock, in Collins's show, the local representatives of the traders present being Messrs. Thos. Bentley, George Crump, H. Hall, and Matt. Hall, manager of the Burslem Theatre. The Guild representatives were the Rev. T. Horne, organising chaplain; Mr. S. Mercer, member of the committee; and Messrs. P. Collins, jun., H. Wall, J. Gordon, Cordwell, Howard, Whyatt, Wright, Hughes, Martin, Davies, Cullis, Montgomery, Humphries, Deeks, Jewell, and others.

In the absence (on important business) of Mr. P. Collins, vice-president of the Guild, Mr. S. Mercer was voted to the chair.

Mr. Mercer said that, as their object was to hear the invited speakers and their chaplain, Mr. Horne, he would be a model chairman, and begin work at once by asking their reverend friend to address them. (Applause.)

The organising chaplain, at the outset of his remarks, read some interesting letters, appreciative of the work of the Guild, from the Rector of Burslem (the Rev. Arthur Williams), and from the Vicar of Sneyd Church, Burslem (the Rev. T. H. Rabone), in whose parish the fair was this year located. The reading of these letters provoked hearty applause from the showmen and friends present.

The General Defence Work of the Guild.

He had just come hot-foot from the battle of Mitcham. Some of those present had not yet read their *Era*, and, even if they had, he thought that a *résumé* of the main incidents might still be interesting, as coming from the mouth of one of the fighters in the fighting line. (Applause.) Briefly, the fight for Mitcham was now as keen, and now as much a people's question, as the fight for Burslem Wakes. It meant in its main features what every struggle of their enterprise in life meant—a fight to a finish with the adverse powers of "cant," of humbug, of "perverted pieties," and of fanatical prejudice. He told them of an interview he had had with a reverend brother at Mitcham, who, knowing full well that he (Mr Horne) was in favour of keeping the fair, remarked that "he took credit to himself for having been the first man to move in the matter to obtain its abolition." His own reply was: "You and I, my dear sir, must agree to differ on that question, and if we cannot be 'bright,' let us be brief and brotherly." (Laughter and applause.)

At Mitcham, as at Burslem, the main issue was between the people and their would-be masters and dictators—a narrow-minded and illeberal set of men, who, lacking in themselves any of the graces of sympathy with, or any tolerance for the views of their poorer brethren, were determined to deprive the people of holidays and open-air amusements, such as their fairs, feasts, and wakes provided. (Shame.) The speaker then outlined the main features of the struggle at Mitcham between the conservators of the common lands and the people, as already given to our readers in our reports on various occasions, and too recent for repetition. With regard to Burslem, he had heard on every hand lamentation and regret for the necessity of the present mistaken policy of the borough authorities. He had also heard most warm and generous approval of the public-spirited enterprise of Mr. P. Collins in providing a fair ground in the present emergency, and his determination to hold the fort for the people's sake, and for the sake of the showmen. He rejoiced in the fact that everywhere—east, west, north, and south—a better state of public opinion prevailed with regard to shows and showmen. At such important centres of human life—Manchester, Birmingham, Preston, and Wrexham, at far-away places like Penzance and Porth, in the Rhondda, Wales, and last Sunday as Mexboro', Yorkshire, the show-loving public had most warmly set its seal of approval on their work. He hoped to be at Greenock Fair next Sunday. That grand old man of showland, John Wilmot, of Glasgow—a man who had never wavered in his support of the Guild, who when others grew lukewarm and cold only increased his support, and extended his interest in the support and defence of his poorer brethren (great applause)—that "veteran of the road," had invited him to make Greenock Fair a rallying centre for this year's work. Quite readily he had responded, and next week he hoped to break new ground in Bonnie Scotland, to renew acquaintance with the loyal friends of their organisation in the sister kingdom.

The Cost of Trade Protection.

A glance at their balance-sheet for last year would disclose the fact that over eighty pounds were spent in defending fairs. Their expenses at Burslem in organising and carrying on the work of trade protection had exceeded more than half that serious total, Mitcham being responsible for the remainder.

Their Parliamentary defence work costs exceeded £200 last year. All this was money well spent, and the work it had thrown upon his shoulders was immense—so immense that without the loyal and constant help of his colleagues on the Executive he could not possibly have done it. (Great applause.)

There were interests so important and so far-reaching in the show business that any vexatious restraints placed upon it involved thousands of hard-working and law-abiding people. He claimed for the itinerant entertainer the same lawful protection (the liberty to live his life, and to express his artistic soul) as was enjoyed by any other class of worker or any other profession or business in the country. (Applause.)

It was high time that corporations took the same enlightened course with regard to show-people as the House of Commons took, as the great County Councils of London, Middlesex, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Cheshire, and many other great local governing bodies took—a policy that recognised that the people still cherished and still required their fairs (cheers); still enjoyed the show, the circus, the menagerie, the hobby horse, and the thousand and one delights of a modern fair. Could anyone doubt this statement who took the trouble, as he had done the previous night, to visit a real live fair, and to see the multitude in a merry mood at play, enjoying to the full all the multiform fun of the fair.

He hoped to meet most of them again later on, and he trusted that by then the weather would have changed, and that they would be in a better position to help their own cause, by being generous to the old Van-dwellers' Society.

No man living realised, or could realise better than he did what a bad season meant to the showman. His purpose would be fully secured, even if he did not, at this meeting, enrol a single member. He was at Burslem in fulfilment of a promise made to Mr. Collins, in whose show they were now assembled, and to the local committee, whose defence of Burslem Wakes had endeared them to the hearts of the people. (Cheers.)

Mr. Thomas Bentley (applause) and the local committee did immense good in their crusade against the despoilers of the people's open air amusements. He was enjoying the hospitality of Mr. Bentley during his week-end at Burslem, and he felt sure that the veteran champion of popular rights would tell them presently the present condition of affairs, as it touched the possible return of the wakes to its old ground, and under Corporation control. Mr. Horne's address lasted over an hour, and was followed from the commencement to its close with the closest attention.

Mr. Bentley's Speech.

At the chairman's earnest request Mr. Bentley gave a closely reasoned argument in favour of the old position of the wakes. He showed the people were feeling bitterly and resenting strongly the autocratic action of the majority on the Borough Council. He traced the successful action of the movement to preserve the fair, and on its old historic site. He demonstrated the effect of public opinion on the minds of the Borough Councillors not already too far committed to abolition. From a minority of two, their friends had grown into an actual majority of one. Could their friends have all been present at the last vote upon the question at the Council Chamber they would certainly have won the day by one vote. (Cheers.)

He had no hesitation in saying that showmen who could upon that ground erect and display as they had done, under such difficulties as to the condition of the land and space, the fair he saw in such capital order, deserved to rank as engineers of the first water. (Cheers and laughter.) He was glad to have been able to do what he had done to defeat the abolitionists. It was all very well for them to cry out now that they had never meant abolition; but when the adverse resolution was passed, no body said a word about removal, and their mad and sad vexation since was evidence enough to his mind that they meant abolition, and that the afterthought to remove it was but to cover their retreat from an unpopular position in the eyes of the people—the people, he reminded his hearers that these councillors would have to face when their term of office was finished. He rejoiced that the showmen were so well organised and so well led, and he had great pleasure in becoming an annual subscriber for one guinea. (Cheers.)

Mr. Mercer, from the chair, again urged the importance of every traveller being a member.

Mr. George Crump, a local tradesman, also gave a guinea, and Mr. P. Collins, jun., (second subscription), one guinea. Two ordinary members, at 5s. each, Hughes (of Hughes and Martin), and W. Whyatt, jun., were then enrolled, and the meeting terminated with the usual votes to speakers and chairman.

In the evening, at 8.30, the Guild service was given in Mr. Collins's beautiful show (the third time this season), and the congregation, a large one, was most devout and attentive. Owing to festival character of the services at Sneyd Parish Church, the church of the fair ground, Mr. Horne was not able to obtain the help of the local clergy and choir. The Parish Church services were not over in time for that help to be given.

The service was rendered throughout by the Rev. T. Horne, who preached on the Holy Gospel for the day. The hymns were sung with great heartiness, and at the end of the service both visitors and showmen expressed the highest appreciation of the service and the sermon.

Burslem Wakes.

The new wakes on the Moorland Road, and situated between the market and the railway station is the best location (other than the old position, in the centre of the town) in Burslem. Mr. P. Collins was most fortunate and enterprising to secure so central and so valuable a site. The shows and novelties at the fair were, Collins's Coliseum, the motors, the slip, the cockerels, and ships in the air; J. Collins's motors, Manders, H. Cullis, Wall and Howard, and Leonie the lion-faced lady, Davies's horses and ships; gem sets of horses and motors by Cordwell, Mercer, Wright, and Montgomery; shooting concerns by Messrs. Hughes and Martin, Wright, Whyatt, and Marsden; throwing games by Mercer, Cordwell, Deeks, Humphries, Hall, Stokes, and Jacob Jewell; pannum and toy stalls by Messrs. Mulhearn, Hodgkiss, and Shaw.

THE FIGHT FOR MITCHAM FAIR.

The really great gathering of Mitcham people last week, in spite of the rain, has undoubtedly moved the question of the retention of the Charter fair at Mitcham a great stride forward. In the face of such an expression of the people's will, we very much doubt that any body of public men, however secure and entrenched they may feel in the office they now enjoy, will have the hardihood to persist in a course so obviously distasteful to their constituents. The executive of the Showmen's Guild has been busily occupied this week in correspondence with the Mitcham Parish Council, the Parochial Council for the Mitcham Division for the county of Surrey, the Board of Conservators, and the owners of the Fair Franchise, and no effort will be wanting on the part of the organised showmen to bring the questions at issue to a just and amicable conclusion. We give the correspondence in existence as illustrating the energetic steps now being taken in the matter by the Showmen's Guild. One reason for taking immediate action was that the Parish Council had to meet this week. The Guild executive, therefore, before approaching the local authorities, decided to hold a public meeting, and obtain its mandate from the people direct.

THE PETITION TO PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVES.

June 29, 1907.

To the Mitcham Parish Council,

Gentlemen,

At the request of a duly convened public meeting of Mitcham people, held on the Fair Green, June 27, 1907, I have to submit to you the following resolution:—"This meeting of residents of Mitcham objects to the abolition of the fair, and respectfully urges the Parish Council, the Conservators of Mitcham Common, the owners of the Fair Franchise, and the showmen traders to speedily arrive at a friendly agreement, whereby the fair may be removed to the more commodius site on the Three King's Common, and that a joint petition by all the parties concerned may be sent to the Home Secretary, seeking permission to remove the fair to the new site."

On behalf of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain, a society which includes the principal show tenants and fair ground traders frequenting Mitcham Fair, I have to add that this Society is now prepared, in the interests of the tenants of the Fair, to give the Parish Council, the Board of Conservators, and the present holders of the Franchise, full guarantees that if the fair is continued on the suggested site (the Three Kings' Common) that only such shows and amusements as shall meet with the approval of the joint authorities shall open at fair time, that the fair-ground itself shall be left clean from all litter, or possibly objectionable matter, and that, in every respect, good rule and order shall be maintained. I have to point out to you that the showmen fully recognise the increasing difficulty and danger of holding the fair on the present historic site. They are also aware of the fact that in order to remove a fair to a better site, must be done with the approval of the Home Secretary. Through this Society, as their trade organisation, they are ready to sign a joint petition for the removal of the fair to the Three Kings' Common, in their judgment an admirable site, and completely free from the difficulties which its long continuance in the centre of the town inevitably provokes. But, at the same time, if the Parish Councillors and Conservators suggest alternative sites on the Common Lands, they will give, as in duty bound, full consideration to the suggestions. I have also to draw your attention to the fact that the London County Council, through its Parks and Open Spaces Committee, frankly and fully co-operates with the organised showmen in providing for the amusements of the people on London's great open spaces and common lands. This enlightened care for the amusements of the poorer classes, at a cost which is well within their means, has had the effect of steadily drawing the people from more vicious forms of amusement, and has materially helped to increase public sobriety and morality.

I venture to also point out that all the great municipalities in the industrial belt of England, stretching from London to Newcastle, are adopting, and in most cases have already adopted, the enlightened policy of the London County Council. Further, it is manifest from the two great public demonstrations, the one held on the Fair Sunday last year, and the other only last week, that popular feeling in Mitcham is overwhelmingly against abolition.

It is also evident that without the wish of the people, constitutionally expressed, the provisions of the Abolition of Fairs Act cannot operate, and that however influential the minority may be who favour the abolition of the Fair, the Home Secretary is bound to administer the powers of the great office in accordance with the known wishes of the majority of the people. I ask, therefore, if the time has not arrived for the Parish Council to mediate in this matter; is it not time that duly elected representatives of the popular will recognise that the people desired to retain their fair, and that an enlightened and progressive policy demanded such an agreement between the parties concerned as will express under better and more adequately secured conditions (direct municipal control) the fair to be continued to the people.

I am authorised to state that the Executive Council of this Society is ready and prepared to give such satisfactory guarantees, and to take such pains as may be necessary to maintain the fair in the future, in accordance with the highest standards of open air popular amusements.

Awaiting the favour of a reply,

I am, gentlemen,

Respectfully yours,

T. Horne

(Chaplain, the Showmen's Guild).

July 2, 1907.

PETITION TO THE CONSERVATORS.

To the Conservators of Mitcham Common.

Gentlemen,

We venture to submit the following resolution, unanimously passed at a public meeting of Mitcham people, on June 27 last:—"This meeting of residents of Mitcham objects to the abolition of the fair, and respectfully urges the Parish Council, the Conservators of Mitcham Common, the owners of the Fair Franchise, and the showmen traders to speedily arrive at a friendly agreement, whereby the fair may be removed to the more commodious site on the Three Kings' Common, and that a joint petition by all the parties concerned may be sent to the Home Secretary, seeking permission to remove the fair to the new site." The expression of public opinion against the abolition of the fair, and in favour of the transfer from the congested area of the ancient fair green to the Three Kings' Common, is being supported by a numerously signed petition to the Home Secrtary, now in process of signature. We are, therefore, induced to ask in the face of such a volume of public opinion whether the time has not arrived for recognising that the abolition of the fair is not in accordance with the wishes of the people, and that the time has arrived for considering the advisability of removing the fair to the suggested site, that it may be continued under such conditions of local control as may obviate some of the objections that have led to the cry for abolition. We, therefore, respectfully ask that you grant us, the undersigned, an interview. We should prefer that we be received officially, at a meeting of your Board, as a deputation from the Showmen's Guild, and as representing the interests of the show and fair-ground traders frequenting Mitcham Fair. We are sufficiently acquainted with the operation of the Abolition of Fairs Act to know that the sanction of the Home Secretary will have to be procured for its removal to another site. We

are prepared to agree, and to support an application to the Home Office for that purpose. As we are now within a few weeks of the fair, the urgency of the matter is obvious, and we beg an early reply. We remain, gentlemen,

Your obedient servants,
GEORGE SANGER, President,
T. HORNE, Chaplain,
F. H. PEDGRIFT, Treasurer.
(the duly appointed delegates of the Showmen's Guild). June 29, 1907.

PETITION TO COUNTY COUNCIL.

To the members of the Parochial Committee.

Gentlemen,

We, the undersigned Executive officials of the above Society, venture to approach you with regard to the proposed abolition of Mitcham Fair. Upon two occasions this Society has in public meeting on Mitcham Fair Green tested public opinion as to abolishing the fair. Upon each occasion the vote was unanimous in favour of the continuance of the fair, and upon the last occasion, as recent as last Thursday, June 27, in addition to a resolution asking for the preservation of the fair rights, subject to its possible removal to a more commodious site, a petition was opened for signature, begging the Home Secretary not to abolish the fair.

This petition was signed at the meeting by nearly five hundred adult residents of the parish, and it is still being signed by others. We respectfully draw your attention to the significance of the above facts, and to the strength of public opinion in favour of the retention of the fair. We approach you upon this matter, under the impression that, as a representative body, you will be quite ready to interpret this strong expression of the public wishes, and will also use whatever powers you possess to further the desire of the people of Mitcham in this matter.

We have already made representations to the Board of Conservators, the present holders of the Fair Franchise, and the Mitcham Parish Council. We now beg your kindly offices in this important matter.

Briefly stated, our position is this: First, we oppose the abolition of the fair rights secured to Mitcham by ancient charter; second, we recognise the wisdom and the growing necessity of removing the fair to a safer and more commodious site. We have suggested the Three Kings' Common, but are willing to consider any other suitable site under direct Parish control.

Our Society is organised for the improvement of the fairs and open-air amusements of the people. We are prepared to give guarantees that the entertainments provided shall be thoroughly wholesome in tone and character, and that no exhibition shall be admitted to the fair that does not meet with the approval of the local authorities. We also undertake that the health and sanitary conditions shall be adequate, and in accordance with the full requirements of the sanitary authorities. We should be glad to furnish further particulars if required.

Again begging your best consideration of the public feeling in this matter, and your kind interest in furtherance of the object of this letter, we beg to remain, gentlemen,

Your obedient servants,
GEORGE SANGER, President,
T. HORNE, Chaplain,
T. HURST, Hon. Sec.

Death of a Famous Ventriloquist.

WE deeply regret to announce the death, on June 21 last, of "Lady Fauntleroy," formerly known as "Lady Zilla," the premier female ventriloquist.

"EQUESTRIANS IN AMERICA."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I read with much sorrow Lord George Sanger's communication to you relating the sad misfortunes of the well-known Rowland equestrian family.

Some years ago I was connected with them in business as manager at Coventry, Wolverhampton, Plymouth, &c. A more united, talented, and loving family it has never been my pleasure to meet. True, we had our ups and downs, but we had much success together, and there was always that pleasantness and natural affinity which should be the basis of all professional associations.

In the absence of Mrs. William Rowland's address, I claim the courtesy of your columns to convey to her and her family my sincere condolence in their sad bereavement.—Yours faithfully,

Twickenham, June 29. FREDK. HERMAN.

A NATION'S LUCK.

Before Judge Willis, K.C., at Southwark, on Tuesday, Alice Denham, a comedienne, professionally known as Alice Coates, of Lincott-street, Kennington, sued Harry Nation, a comedian, of Granddrive, Raynes Park, Wimbledon, to recover £22, the balance of salary and money lent.

Mr. Condy (instructed by Mr. G. P. R. Burgess) appeared for the plaintiff.

Plaintiff's case was that she was engaged by the defendant as a comedienne to perform at al fresco entertainments at Herne Bay during the season of last year at a salary of 50s. per week and a "benefit share." Owing to lack of patronage the show closed on Sept. 1, and during the twelve or thirteen weeks it had run she had never received a full week's salary. Prior to the opening the plaintiff had lent the defendant various sums of money, amounting in all to £7 6s.

Plaintiff said she lent the defendant £2 10s. in the Stags public house, Kennington, to enable him to purchase deck chairs, and sent him various sums when he was appearing in the provinces. He was always borrowing small sums when he met her. Her account included an item of twopennyworth of brawn she bought for him on one occasion.

Defendant said he put £60 of his own money, and £40 he borrowed from a Miss Smith, into the venture, and lost it all in six weeks. Then he went to the dressing-room one night, and, addressing the company, said, "Now, boys and girls ——"

His Honour (interposing): Boys and girls!

Defendant: Yes, that is an affectionate term we use in the profession.

His Honour: Oh, I am very glad to hear it, and I should like it to always continue.

Defendant said he told the company that he had lost all his money, but the rent was paid up, and they could either close down or continue on shares. He gave them half an hour to think it over, and then the pianist, speaking for the company, accepted the offer of shares. From then they shared out, the plaintiff receiving £1 12s. 8½d., £1 0s. 9d., £1 16s. 6½d., £1 17s. 6½d., 17s. 4½d., £1 0s. 3d., and £1 16s. 2d. each week respectively. On the last Saturday they shared 2s. 9d. each, as it rained from eight o'clock.

His Honour: Two shillings and ninepence for a matinée and an evening performance!

Defendant: We never could get a matinée; that was the diabolical part of it.

Nation denied the loans, except the £2 10s., whereupon the plaintiff put in the following letter, written to her by the defendant: "My dear old pal ——"

His Honour: There they are—dear old pals.

Counsel (reading): "Just a line, trusting you are A1. Did you get what you expected? I am absolutely ——. Can you oblige until I touch? My luck is out for the time being. Do, if you can.—Yours ever sincerely, Harry."

Defendant said that the letter was an application for money the plaintiff owed him for commission on engagements he had secured for her. The defendant added that he had been served with a writ in respect of the £40. He was also being sued by George Lawrence for £5.

In the end his Honour gave judgment for the plaintiff for £17 6s. and costs.

FILM GOSSIP.

Pathé Frères.

THIS firm are able to introduce a number of very attractive films. One of the finest of these, from an educational point of view at any rate, is that which give illustrations of an ostrich farm at Nice. Some magnificent specimens of this genus of bird are brought to our notice. We see them fed and otherwise dealt with, their plumes removed, &c. The eggs of the ostriches appear to be of an enormous size, even in the pictures, all the scenes of which are remarkable for clearness and resemblance to actual life. "Geneviève of Brabant" is a beautiful pictorial representation of a well-known fable. The scenes in the mediæval castle, with men and women in the picturesque costumes one associates with the Dark Ages, are most vivid and realistic.

As usual, Pathé Frères are able to make a good show of comical subjects. Four of those we witnessed on Thursday afternoon should find a ready sale. "The 'Cello Player" shows now a musician takes his stand—or, rather, his seat, for he carries a camp-stool—in a street, and then commences to produce what to him, presumably, is harmony divine, but what to the good people on both sides of the road is something of a very distasteful nature. The unappreciative audience fling at the instrumentalist a variety of interesting objects, such as hats, cushions, and bandboxes. Still, the undaunted 'celloist plays on, though nearly smothered, until someone, more diplomatic than the others, gracefully presents him with a bouquet. Then the musician bows to all and sundry in a most gracious manner, and makes his exit after falling over one of the "trophies" which had been thrown at him. "The Window-Cleaner" is equally comical. It depicts one of the fraternity emerging from a public-house in a state of drunkenness. As he proceeds along the various thoroughfares he contrives to catch at least a dozen people with his ladder and brings them to mother earth. He is about to operate on the windows of a restaurant when he falls through the glass and disturbs the diners. This film would rouse any audience to hearty laughter. "The Troubles of a Cook" and "Sham Beggars" are also of the comedy order.

Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd.

"TOO STOUT" is the name given to the latest production of the Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd., and in it the scenes are very cleverly arranged. A man of enormous bulk receives an imperative message demanding his presence elsewhere, and the troubles he experiences, owing to what the Americans would call his "pretty considerable" figure, in reaching his destination, are laughably depicted. Doorways are too narrow, railway apartments too crowded, cabs too weak, chairs too frail, bicycles too slight, even a coster's barrow is too fragile to accommodate his weighty proportions. He tries every one of these methods of conveyance, but comes to grief with each one of them in a most undignified way. Ultimately, after a somewhat expensive series of misadventures—for he "parts" promptly where he does damage—he arrives at his destination in a strong wheelbarrow, but even from this vehicle he is upset into a dirty puddle of water. The film, which is 425 feet long, is one of the funniest we have seen for some time.

THE Urban Company gave a display before the British Homœpathic Society on Thursday at the annual meeting held at the Great Ormond-street Hospital. The pictures of scientific and surgical subjects were very clear and well-defined, and congratulatory remarks were passed on all hands. Dr. J. H. Clarke, the president, stated that the pictures were remarkable as opening a new era for surgical science. In this connection, it may be mentioned that the Urban Company are at present engaged, in conjunction with a well-known specialist, in securing a series of pictures to illustrate lectures on medical science. The set of films will be ready in October, for the commencement of the new term and the re-opening of the schools.

Vitagraph Co.

THIS firm has just published a most amusing film, entitled "How to Cure a Cold." The scenes in it are capitally arranged. John Jones has a very bad cold, he coughs, he sneezes, he moans, he groans, and his head and back ache severely. He tries to work, but sneezes all the papers off his desk, and the stenographer has to put up her umbrella. Finally he decides to give it up and go home. Outside he meets a friend who describes to him in detail just how to get rid of his cold; down the street he meets another, who drags him into a drug store and loads him up with boxes and bottles and patent medicines. Entering the subway another kind friend insists that the "only sure way" to cure the cold is to take a Turkish bath. Nearing his house he is met by a stout lady friend, who becomes so excited that she knocks all his bottles and medicine out of his hands and tells him the "only way" to get relief. Arriving home, his wife and mother-in-law send for the doctor, meanwhile applying old-fashioned remedies. Doctor arrives, prescribes, and departs. Man friend comes in, opens all windows, throws foot bath out of window, hustles father upstairs to bed, gives him "fresh air and cold water treatment." Female friends arrive, one applies mustard plasters—another places a hot-water bag on his feet—lachrymose female relative in widow's weeds stands over bed. The final scene in the picture is a nice new tombstone engraved as follows: "John Jones, cured of his cold."

Ruffell's New Projector.

RUFFELL'S have been successful in designing and manufacturing a new film projector, which is stated to be absolutely flickerless. They are turning out this contrivance at the rate of half a dozen a week, and the firm are to be commended for their enterprise in arranging that the new machine shall cost no more than the ordinary type now generally in use. As to the films which the firm is exploiting, a very interesting and instructive one is that which goes by the name of "The Egg-Gatherer," which explains the methods adopted in securing the eggs of wildfowl on the cliffs at Flamborough Head. Ruffell's are also doing well with the panorama of the Victoria Falls, Zambesi. The firm is at the present time making extensive alterations, and will shortly take up a number of exclusive subjects. Their two-hours' show of animated pictures at the Brighton Palace Pier is being exceedingly well patronised.

Walturdaw Co.

EXTENSION of premises surely bespeaks prosperity. The Walturdaw Company are busy arranging their additional accommodation at No. 3, Dean-street, High Holborn, where they have taken an additional house, next door, of course, to their present establishment at No. 2, Dean-street. The fresh premises will be used for developing, drying, painting, perforating, and, in fact, all processes connected with the actual photographic work. There is quite a maze of rooms at No. 3, which, when ready in about ten days time, will be an exceedingly well equipped and well appointed cinematographic factory. It may be of interest here to mention that the London County Council have decided to change the name of Dean-street, Holborn, to Dane-street, to prevent a continuance of the confusion which has existed so long, owing to the fact that there is another Dean-street a short distance away, in Soho. A notice is posted in Dean-street, High Holborn, stating that on and after July 27 the name of that thoroughfare will be Dane-street.

"THE MERMAID OF MARGATE."

Sketch by Alice Rix, with lyrics by Ballard Macdonald and music by Donovan Meher, produced at the Queen's, Poplar, on Monday, July 1.

The new scena, entitled *The Mermaid of Margate*, that Miss Gipsy Woolf elected to make her re-appearance in London after her Continental tour, was produced here with great success on Monday night. The idea is very fanciful and lends itself to picturesque treatment. The curtain rises on a realistic representation of Margate, with its cliffs and houses in the distance and bathing machines on the shore. Six pretty maidens, who have been gaily disporting themselves in the sea, indulge in song and dance, after which their conversation leads up to the existence of mermaids. At this moment a rock opens from which appears the Mermaid of Margate. The girls, at first a little timid, quickly become friendly, and ultimately arrange that the new-comer shall dress in modern costume and remain with them. This is shortly accomplished, and to some very smart singing and dancing the curtain falls. Miss Gipsy Woolf, looking very handsome as the Mermaid, is extremely good, her animation and vivacity, accompanied by her clever dancing, fairly bringing down the house, and her songs, "The pier parade" and "Sea shell," are rendered in faultless style, the refrain of the latter being a dainty composition, and reflecting great credit on Mr. Donovan Meher, who deserves praise for the really fine music introduced. Miss Woolf had the valuable assistance of her six handsome Sunbeams, who worked well. The admirers of Miss Woolf had assembled in force, and to accentuate her success handed over the footlights three immense floral trophies, consisting of a floral yacht, a floral rock, and a Margate trophy. The costumes by Lily Woolf were simply magnificent. This turn would prove a very effective number in a high-class pantomime, and Mr. Jack Woolf has every reason to be proud at the triumph of his talented daughters.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

Although the animated pictures have entered upon their sixth week here, there is no falling off in the crowds that throng the theatre nightly. This week the subjects have been well chosen and in many cases are extremely interesting, while the humorous films are provocative of much merriment. A local picture that creates applause is "The Charnico Fire Brigade" at work, while the dangers of Alpine climbing are vividly depicted in "The Ascent of Faulhorn." From an educational standpoint, "Life in Burmah" is not only instructive, but the scenes of this portion of the Indian Empire are shown with such exquisite beauty as to gain well-merited approbation. The well-known dramatic episode of "The Dog Detective" is portrayed so well that one is almost carried away by the remarkable sagacity displayed by "the friend of man," while the pathos of "The Poor Tutor" immediately claims sympathy. The way to get rid of "The Mother-in-law" is exceedingly amusing, "The Billiard Fever" certainly proves a lesson to the devotees of the cue, and "A Modern Diogenes" and "A Night Off" are incidents that are screamingly funny. Other films worthy of special mention are "Jack's Return," "An Evil Day," and "The Colonel's Bicycle," all of which give great satisfaction. The small orchestra provide plenty of good music, and Mr. C. Melville Lurring is ever on the alert for the comfort of his patrons.

MUMMERS AND MOTORS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Apropos to your par in last issue *re* artists' motor-cars, if there be any honour or credit attached to it, I think I can safely claim the introduction of the petrol engine to the profession. In 1900 I drove to my London turns with an early Constadt-Daimler motor-brougham and landau—belt transmission and tube ignition—engine behind. It weighed a ton and had large solid tyres. I don't think I ever got more than fourteen miles per hour out of it. Although cars are now passed by with a side glance, mine created quite a scene outside the halls in those days. Crowds gathered round then as they would now if a flying machine were to descend and something with a red nose stepped out of it.

One of the penny music-hall papers produced a sketch of me driving it through London, knocking down policemen and running over fowls, dogs, &c.

The cars you mention are up to date: they would be very *old* if they were *built* at the time I *sold* mine.—Yours faithfully,

TOM WOOTTWELL.

Empire Theatre, Leeds, July 1.

"THE HONEYMOON KID."

A new Farcical Sketch, produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, July 1, by Mr. R. Cameron Matthews.

George Drummond .....MR. R. C. MATTHEWS
Mrs. Drummond .....MISS MAGGIE BYRON
Alexander McHaffie ....MR. FRANK WOODVILLE
Elspeth McHaffie .....MISS BESSIE ARMYTAGE
The Kid .....BILLY

This bright, merry, and exhilarating farcical comedy sketch has been most deservedly received with enthusiastic approval by crowded houses at each performance here this week. The story is a most ingenious one, and keeps the audience laughing all the time. George Drummond and his charming wife have come to spend their honeymoon at an hotel in the Trossachs. They are much perturbed by the possibility of a visit from George's Scottish relations, the McHaffie's, having only just arrived at their destination. Mrs. Drummond, in looking around their apartments, discovers a dress basket, and, being curious, opens it, and finds inside a young goat quietly munching cabbage leaves. She is so delighted with her find that she asks her husband to let her adopt the kid, as "a bird in hand is worth two in the bush." Their conversation is overheard by George's spinster aunt, Elspeth McHaffie, who jumps to the conclusion that the "kid" the young couple are talking about is a baby. She is shocked, and when her brother, Alexander, an elder of the kirk, arrives, she imparts to him her belief. The fun that ensues when these guid Scottish folks accuse the young honeymooners of having a bairn concealed in their bedroom can be better imagined than described, and the tangle is not unravelled until Alec McHaffie rushes into the bedroom and finds the kid instead of a child.

As the young wife, Miss Maggie Byron is exceedingly charming, and deserves much praise for a highly creditable performance. As the husband, Mr. R. C. Matthews obtains his success by means at once unobtrusive and artistic. Miss Bessie Armytage and Mr. Frank Woodville as the McHaffie's submit really lifelike character studies.

Another laughable absurdity is provided by Mr. John Humphries in his sketch *Ancient Britons*. In his character of Obadiah Bates, of the Ancient Order of Britons, he is responsible for most of the fun, his quaint appearance as a man of the Stone Age no less than his dry and incisive humour keeping his audience in a merry mood. As his niece, Jessie, Miss Gertrude Scott adds to her shapely appearance a bewitching charm and manner; while as her scheming suitor, Dr. Jack Beaumont, Mr. Bay Russell contributes a large share to the fun and frolic.

The trio of sketches is completed by a sensational dramatte, entitled *A Woman's Justice*, which depends for its plot on an incident of a brother's treachery and the imprisonment of his elder brother in a lunatic asylum, and his rescue therefrom by his faithful wife. Mr. Lionel D'Arragon assumes the dual rôle of the brothers, and cleverly depicts the suffering of the persecuted one and the brutal exultation of the other. Mrs. George Daventry as Grace Mainwaring imbues the part with a womanly tenderness and grace; while Mr. Charles Aldred as the kind-hearted warder of the asylum gives a praiseworthy performance. Eileen Bernard, a charming and pretty young Irishwoman, sings in true brogue two humorous Irish ditties, "McSolley's twins" and "McGillagan's daughter"; Tom Leamore is a strong favourite, and both in his patter song, "Don't I wish I were a single married man again" and "Listen to my story," raises a furore of applause; Tom Leo, the tired comedian, gives a striking demonstration of the wastrel in his song "Too lazy to live," and in his new effort he sings his song in a bath, and tells his audience that he means to stop in this bath for years; and others who contribute to the intense enjoyment are Amy Marsden, a chic comedienne; Freddy and Carman, in a novel and eccentric musical act; Molly Seymour, whose violin solos are brilliantly executed; Charlie Dillon, in his "Idiot" song; the Mayfair Comedy Trio, in their operatic selections, part songs, &c.; Jeapes' Animated Graphic creates roars of laughter with their pictures "Curing a Jealous Wife" and "Madame Tantruma"; and the packed houses and evident enjoyment of their patrons is eloquent testimony to the care and attention of the managing directors, Messrs. Jesse Sparrow and Harry Bawn.

FEDERATION SPORTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I am desired by the other members who swam in the 50 Yards V.A.F. Handicap at the Palace on Thursday to correct your result list. In your edition, June 29, you put Carl Lyne second. Such is not the case. W. Phillips was second and R. Dunlo Payle third. Mr. Lyne was not there in time to start, so, as he was dissatisfied, I swam an impromptu race with him, beating him easily. The results should have read thus:—50 Yards Handicap: H. Cormack (scr.), 1st; W. Phillips (5 secs.), 2nd; R. Dunlo Payle (14), 3rd. 100 Yards Championship: R. Sheldrick, 1st; W. Marlo Doran, 2nd; C. Mildare, 3rd. Thanking you—I am yours, HORACE CORMACK.

THE SUNDERLAND EMPIRE.

On Saturday afternoon last a large and fashionable company numbering some 1000 persons, accepted the invitation of Mr. Richard Thornton and his co-partners to a private view of their latest venture, a full description of which we gave last week.

The visitors were received by Mr. and Mrs. Rich. Thornton, Mr. Sydney Stone, and Mr. Frank Allen, &c., in the circle saloon. Amongst those present we noticed Mr. Walter de Freece and Miss Vesta Tilley, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Milburn, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Milburn, Ald. Potts, T. Johnson, J.P., J. W. Smith, Annison, J.P., R. Readhead, Rutland, J.P., J. Reay, Wm. Carter (Chief Constable), Councillors Huntley, D. Bell, G. Mew, J.P., Wm. Blanchard, Hastings, Swan, Armstrong, Johnson, Geo. Bartram, G. Swan, Hutton, Pratt, J.P., J. R. Hall, and Scott; the Mayor of Jarrow (Mr. W. J. Ramsay), Foster, J.P., Col. and Mrs. Evans, Dr. and Mrs. Markin, Messrs. R. H. Nicholson, Wm. Milburn, jun., C. W. Laing, S. W. Milburn, D. Wilson, J.P., and Mrs. Wilson, R. Murray, P. Thornton, W. B. Burtram, Geo. Thompson (South Shields Empire), R. H. Mushens (Manager Sunderland Theatre), Fred and Mrs. Emley (Newcastle), Jos. Hemingway (Royal Theatre), Mr. Pellow (Sir Ed. Moss's General-Manager), Mr. Gething (Empire District Manager), and Messrs. J. and R. Coulson (Royal Theatre, South Shields), and others. In the course of the afternoon, Mr. Frank Allen, on behalf of Mr. Thornton and his co-partners, appeared on the stage and addressed the audience as follows:—

"Ladies and Gentlemen,—By Mr. Thornton's request, I beg to thank you for the honour you have done him by your presence here to-day, and to express a hope that this new Empire Palace, which he has had pluck enough to erect, comes quite up to your expectations. Speaking for myself, I am filled with admiration and astonishment at the beauties of the decorations, the perfect acoustic properties, the clear and unobstructed lines of sight, the cleverly arranged entrances and exits so necessary for the safety of the public; in fact, taking the theatre as a whole, I can with confidence say that it will bear fair comparison with the most pretentious in the country, and I am sure reflects the greatest credit upon the architects, our own townsmen, the Brothers Milburn, who have designed and carried out the work in a manner worthy of their reputation, giving, I assure them, the greatest satisfaction to the Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton, and those who are associated with him. It is twenty-one years since he (Mr. Thornton) commenced his first venture as a music-hall proprietor in South Shields, with your humble servant as his General-Manager, and I well remember how careful he was during our first interview to impress upon me his great desire that the entertainment which was about to be presented to his patrons should be clean and wholesome; nothing must be allowed either in word or gesture on the stage that could possibly offend the most fastidious; the entertainment must be of such a character that any man can with safety bring his wife and family to witness it—said Mr. Thornton. These were the principles laid down by him at the beginning of his career, and these are the principles to-day. From the ashes of an old workshop in Union-alley, South Shields, nearly twenty-two years ago, arose, phœnix-like, the pretty little theatre known as Thornton's Varieties, and which unquestionably has proved itself the jumping-off board to all his future successful undertakings in the business, resulting in his name being prominently associated with the greatest entertainment enterprise the world has ever seen, with a capital of over two millions of money. A few years after the commencement of his South Shields venture, Mr. Thornton, who by this time had added the Theatre Royal, Sunderland, the Alhambra, West Hartlepool, and the Empire, Newcastle, the latter being only partly completed, when he joined partnership with that great showman, Mr. H. E. Moss, now Sir Edward Moss, appointing me their first General-Manager, with a seat on the board, a position I have had the honour of holding for nearly twenty years. Then additions were made with startling rapidity, and a few years later, just to put the finishing touches upon this wonderful combination, Mr. Oswald Stoll joined forces with them, adding his beautiful variety theatres to the already long list. And now, here we have the veteran Mr. Thornton, coming up smiling with a final effort to try and eclipse the lot by adding this palatial structure, making a grand total of thirty-nine, comprising some of the finest appointed theatres in the world. A record that will take a lot of beating by those who try to follow us. In conclusion, ladies and gentlemen, allow me to express a hope, in which I hope you will all join, that the new Sunderland Empire Palace, which I am sure is a credit to the architects, a credit to Mr. Thornton, and a credit to the town, will be worthy of the best traditions of our numerous and successful undertakings, and that the people of Sunderland will not be slow in showing their appreciation of what the worthy promoter has done for them, by giving him their most generous and hearty support. I thank you once more for the honour you have done us by your attendance here to-day."

Music was rendered at intervals, and a series of "back-cloth" were unfurled and duly admired by those present.

Mr. Thornton has appointed as his Resident Acting-Manager Mr. Harry Esden, a gentleman of wide experience and great ability, lately manager of the Newcastle house.

A large audience assembled at the opening on Monday, when Miss Vesta Tilley headed the bill. The orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Chas. P. Loller, struck up the first strains of the National Anthem. The audience rose to their feet, the curtains opened, and Miss Lilian Lea advanced and sung "God Save the King," the audience lustily joining in the chorus. The fair singer was backed by Mr. Richard Thornton, Sir Ed. Moss, Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, Mr. Sydney Stone, Mr. Wm. Milburn, Mr. T. R. Milburn, Mr. J. W. White, — Martin (Leeds), Mr. W. de Freece, Mr. Gething (Glasgow), and Mr. H. Esden, Acting-Manager. On Miss Lea concluding her solo, a huge "horse shoe" bouquet, symbolical of good luck to the venture, was brought to Mr. Thornton amidst cheers. The programme was commenced by the orchestra playing the overture to *William Tell*. Mr. Fullbrook and company were the first to appear, and the sketch, *Astronomy*, soon had the audience in excellent humour. Then came Thorpe and Coe in a most amusing comedy-sketch, entitled *My Burglar*, that fairly kept the house in roars. Miss Maudie Francis was delightful in a smart sand dance. The Sousloffs proved themselves smart and nimble cyclonic dancers, and Will Van-Allen, the musical tramp, was very diverting. Miss Vesta Tilley was received with uproarious applause. Her first song, "When the right girl comes along," was given in fine style, and was heartily greeted. Her next, "The soldier," was very enjoyable. She responded with "Following in father's footsteps"; and Mr. Thornton appeared on the scene and presented the artist with a lovely bouquet of white flowers amidst applause. She soon re-appears and gave "The seaside sultan" capitally. The Biograph showed an interesting series of living pictures of Miss Vesta Tilley laying the foundation stone of the present palatial building some twelve months since. Charles Kay rendered an amusing medley on songs past and present, and Miss Lilian Lea brought the programme to a close with a pretty scena, entitled "Dear Little Primrose." She sang "Banish sorrow" in a manner that was keenly appreciated.

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NO STAMPS.

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THE PUBLISHER,
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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
July 29, Aug. 12, Oct. 28, Dec. 16, Jan. 20, Feb. 10, 17, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Oct. 14, 21, Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 24, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Aug. 5, Dec. 2, Feb. 24, March 2, 9, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Oct. 14, 21, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9, Jan 27, on
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Sept. 16, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9,
Feb. 10, March, 2, 9, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 20, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 10, 24, April 6, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Oct. 28, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 2, 9, 16, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies; for OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER, Aug. 5, on, certainty; DALSTON, Aug. 12; HUDDERSFIELD, Sept. 2; WOLVERHAMPTON, Sept. 16. Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Sept. 9, 16, 23, Oct. 7, 21, 28, Nov. 4, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 4, 11, 25, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16 (three nights only).
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Companies, Concert Parties, or Pierrots, for Luton and Bedford, July 15, onwards. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Theatre Royal, Canterbury, Aug. 22, 23, 24, Second Cricket Week. Address, E. G. FALCON, County T., Bedford.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, for week of July 29,
First-class
Attraction.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

LYRIC OPERA HOUSE, HAMMERSMITH.
WANTED, Good Drama, July 29.
SAMUEL JAMES,
Warwick House,
8, Warwick-court,
Gray's Inn, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROYDON.
WANTED, Good Drama, Aug. 19.
SAMUEL JAMES,
Warwick House,
8, Warwick-court,
Gray's Inn, W.C.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Strong Attractions,
must be First-Class,
July 29, July 29,
Aug. 5, 12, 19,
and on, with exceptions.
Wire, Wire, Wire.
R. C. BUCHANAN.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, for
Aug. 12, 19,
Sept. 2, 16, 23,
Oct. 14,
Nov. 4, 18,
Dec. 27, and onwards, with exceptions.
Big Attraction for Xmas and New Year's weeks.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

GRAND THEATRE,
SWANSEA.
Lessees and Managers, BROOKS and WOODBRIDGE.
WANTED, No. 1 Attractions only,
Sept. 9, Nov. 18.
Apply, WALTER DEAN, Acting-Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Musical and other London Attractions, Aug. 19, Sept. 9, 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 25, and Xmas Pantomime. FRED GRANVILLE, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE,
PONTYPRIDD.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions,
for July 22 and 29.
This Theatre is now fitted with Electric Light.
Apply, C. TRENCHARD, Manager, Pontypridd.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, Good Attraction,
July 15, July 15.
Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN, General Manager.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Aug. 5, Jarrow; 12th, Spennymoor. Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

WANTED, Really First-Class Attractions, for Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, Musical preferred, Aug. 12. Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

LYCEUM THEATRE, GOVAN, GLASGOW.
WANTED, through cancelling "French Spy" to oblige Mr. Fred Bentont), First-class Attraction for Aug. 5; Re-opening week after Summer Vacation. Address,
RICH WALDON, as above.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.
WANTED, Companies, Aug. 5, 12, Sept. 9, and a few later dates, on. Address, FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-st., W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORTHING.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, three nights, one matinée, July 25, Sept. 26, Several Dates in October, and onwards; good Pantomime for Xmas. All communications to SEEBOLD, as above.
Silence a polite negative.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
July 29, July 29,
Aug. 5 (Musical),
Aug. 5 (Musical).
JAMES BELL.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.
WANTED, Companies for Aug. 12,
Sept. 2, 30 (?),
Oct. 14 (?).
J. H. CURRY, as above.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant Dec. 16, Mar. 9 (1908), onward, with exceptions.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant July 29, Aug. 5, 12, onward, with exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant Aug. 5, 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY,
Vacant Aug. 5, 19, onward, with exceptions.

THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY DOCK.
Vacant onward, with exceptions.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH,
Vacant July 22, Aug. 5, onward, with exceptions.
(Last three nights of each week).

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Sept. 2, 30, onward, with exceptions.

ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
MIDDLESBROUGH.
Proprietor, ALBERT SMITH.

One of the Handsomest and Best-equipped Theatres in the Provinces.
Holding Capacity, 3,500.
Unexpectedly Vacant Aug. 5 (Bank Holiday).
WANTED, First-Class Attraction; also vacant Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9, 16.
Bookings include: No. 1 "Girl from Kay's," "Peter's Mother," Miss Decima Moore in "The Truth," Mr. George Edwardes' No. 1 Company, in "See-See," Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, in "The Royal Oak," Mr. George Alexander's No. 1 Company, in "His House in Order," Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville's Companies, "The Shulamite," The D'Oyly Carte No. 1 Répertoire Company, "A Master of Artifice," the No. 1 Moody-Manners Opera Company, Miss Marie Studholme, in "My Darling," &c., &c.

All communications,
JNO. ED. JOWSEY,
Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.

Telegrams, "Magnet," Middlesbrough.
Telephones, 413, 426, 500.
Silence a Polite Negative.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions,
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
July 29, Aug. 12 (?), 26, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 7, Nov. 11.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Sept. 2 (opening date of season, Musical Play), Sept. 26, 27, 28 (three nights), Oct. 7, 21, 28.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
PAISLEY THEATRE,
Vacant Aug. 19, Nov. 25.
PERTH THEATRE.
Vacant Aug. 5, 12, Nov. 4, 18, 25.

Address after Tuesday (letters only),
J. H. SAVILE, Theatre Royal, Brighton.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
for Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2 and 9.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street S.W.

WANTED, First-class Co., Aug. 15, 16, 17, Grand Theatre, Llandudno, height of the season, over £400 same period last year. Wire, HALDANE CRICHTON, Opera House, Cork; next week, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, Company, Aug. 12.
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

GRAND T.'s, CHORLEY and RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Big Dramatic and Musical Attractions, Sept. 9, Oct. 7, on, Grand, Chorley; also Aug. 5, 19, Sept. 2, 23, on, Grand, Radcliffe (electric installation, and re-decorated). Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, HEBBURN.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Sept. 9, 23, Nov. 4 and 18, Dec. 16. Good Pantomimes write in. CHARLES ELDERTON, Whitley Park, Whitley Bay.

WANTED, Theatre Royal, Peterborough, Companies, Aug. 5, 19, Sept. 16, on.
A. D. VERNON.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, good Attraction, Aug. 12 (local Holiday week and opening of Autumn Season); also vacant Sept. 2 and 16. Address, GERALD HARDING.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE GRAND PIER PAVILION THEATRE.
WANTED, High-Class Attractions, Musical or Farcical Comedies preferred. Vacant dates, Oct. 10, on. JOHN H. STEVENSON.

GRAND THEATRE, ABERAVON.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for August and onwards; nothing too big; electric light; scenery all flown. Apply, MANAGER.

RAMSGATE THEATRE
(Sanger's Amphitheatre).
WANTED, First-Class Companies only.
Address
HENRY BOWMAN.

WANTED, a really First-Class Attraction, for the Empire, Oldham, Aug. 19.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

CRITERION THEATRE, WORKSOP.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for last three nights of each week; Share or Rental.
S. GOODMAN, Proprietor.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Known. — For Vacant Dates (First-class Companies only),
apply, J. RITSON, General-Manager.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Sept. 9, Oct. 7, Dec. 2, 16, 30,
Jan. 6, 27, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and onward.
Apply to JAMES KIERNAN,
Owner and Manager.

DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, Known, Vacant July 29. Write, MURRAY KING, 2, Hungerford-rd., Camden-rd., N.

OPERA HOUSE, JERSEY.
ST. JULIANS, GUERNSEY.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 26 (through obliging), also one or two later dates. Bookings include the Leading Attractions Touring. Business excellent. Write, EDWARD MARRIS, Jersey.

WANTED, First-Class Attraction, for the Spa Theatre and Opera House, Bridlington, for Sept. 5, 6, and 7, and 26, 27, and 28, opening ceremony by Mrs. Beerbohm Tree July 29, followed by "The Girl from Kay's." Wanted, good Xmas Pantomime. Mr. HAGUE, Manager, above.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, Musical preferred, Aug. 15 (3 nights), 19, 26, Sept. 2, on, with exceptions.
Address, W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, Comedy Companies, Touring Scotland, to book Theatre Royal, Inverness, N.B. Vacant dates Sept., onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
MR. and MRS. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The Only Theatre in the Town allowed to Advertise on the Electric Cars.

Now in Course of Rebuilding.
The Seating Capacity of each part of the House is being Largely Increased.

The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
Autumn Bookings include
"The Dairymaids,"
Mr. James Welch's Co., in
"When Knights Were Bold,"
Miss Annie Hughes, in
"Tommy,"
Mr. Norman Macowan, in
"Monsieur Beaucaire,"
"The Little Stranger"
(including Master Edward Garrett),
"A Trip to the Highlands,"
Mr Bannister Howard's No. 1 Company,
"The Eternal City,"
Mr. Walter Maxwell's Co.,
"The Lion and The Mouse" (third visit),
Mr. Charles Cartwright and Co., "In the Bishop's Carriage,"
Mr. Frederick Mouillot's Co., including Miss Decima Moore, in "The Truth,"
and other of the Principal Attractions Touring.
Autumn Bookings include
Mr. Percy Hutchinson's No. 1 Company,
"The Stronger Sex,"
Mr. Brandon Thomas' No. 1 Company,
"Charley's Aunt,"
Mr. Walter Melville's Drama,
Mr. Frank Lindo's "Home Sweet Home,"
Mr. Morton Powell's Companies,
&c., &c., &c.
WANTED, Exceptional Attractions, for Sept. 2, 16, Nov. 25, Dec. 30, onwards.

CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H.M.T., Barrow.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
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LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, owing to alteration of arrangements, Sterling Attractions only. Dec. 23, 30, Jan. 20, and several other Spring and Autumn 1908 dates.

Prospective Bookings include Mr. Geo. Alexander's Companies, Mr. Geo. Edwardes' Companies, the D'Oyly Carte Operas, Moody-Manners, Mr. Robert Courtneidge's Companies, "The Prince of Pilsen," "Veronique," William Mollison's return visit, F. R. Benson's return visit, and a limited number of Best Dramas.

Address
SIDNEY COOPER.
Please accept silence as a negative.

WANTED, Dramatic, Variety, and complete Entertainments. Tours booked and arranged for First-Class Attractions. Day bills, pictorials, full particulars, and lowest to ALFRED SAKER and Co., Dramatic and Variety Agents, 17, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton. 'Phone, 194 Brixton.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, good Companies, Aug. 5 and few remaining Season Dates.
CHAS. CHAPLIN, Public Hall, Colwyn Bay.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
W. J. COTTON, Proprietor.
Seats 600; Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, share or rent. Sole Booking Agent, SIDNEY HAMILTON, Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres,
Nov. 18, Dec. 2.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23.
Apply,
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 2 and 9.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12
and Dec. 2 and 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE.
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Dec. 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE
Standard Theatre, E.

FRED MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Nov. 18 and 25.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Dec. 9, 23, 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 23,
Jan. 6, 13, Feb. 3, 17, March 2, 23.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, 22, Upper Hagley-rd., Birmingham.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Aug. 12, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 21.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Sept. 2, 30, Oct. 21, Dec. 2.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The most successful Play produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 9 and 16, in First-Class Theatres only.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of Sept. 16 and 30,
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"
and
"THE OCTOROON."
Full Chorus, Specialities, Powerful Company.
The general verdict was that this is the finest production of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" given in Coventry.—Coventry Mercury.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 5, on. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Aug. 12, 19, 26,
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
Osborne Theatre, Manchester.
See Companies' Advertisement, page 2.

MISS DOROTHEY CACEY'S
"WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE"
and
"A COUNTRY MOUSE."
Company of First-Class Artists, including
Miss DOROTHEY CACEY
and
Mr. RIDDELL ROBINSON.
WANTED, July 29, and good Theatre for Bank Holiday; also various onwards.
FRANK NELSON, Grand Pavilion, Ventnor, I.O.W.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, good Theatres, July 29, Aug. 19, 26, Sept 16. HENRY L. OSMOND,
Wire, Merthyr; write, Star, Swansea.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
July 29 (?), Aug. 5, Nov. 4, 11, and 18.
Splendid cast.
MORTON POWELL, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, for this Brilliant Play,
July 29, Sept. 23, Nov. 18, 25.
MORTON POWELL, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates,
Sept. 2, 9, 23, 30.
Strong Company. Excellent Production.
MORTON POWELL, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Dates, for
this Great Money-maker,
Oct. 7, 14, 28, Nov. 11, Dec. 23.
MORTON POWELL, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

"THE LITTLE OUTCAST."
WANTED, Dates, for
this Honest, Homely Play,
Oct. 14, 21, 28.
MORTON POWELL, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, Aug. 12 and 19. Wire,
RUSSELL ROSSE, Pavilion, Kingstown.
Aug. 5, Aug. 5, Aug. 5.
Wanted, above (to follow Glasgow), for the Excruciatingly Funny Comedy, "My Soldier Boy," with
Mr. DALLAS WELFORD
in Mr. Grossmith's part, by arrangement with his American Manager, Mr. J. D. Hackett.
Mr. Welford can only play in England three weeks prior to his return to America.
Aug. 5 only vacant date.
Wire,
RUSSELL ROSSE, Pavilion, Kingstown, Ireland.

"SAVED FROM THE SEA."
By Arthur Shirley.
Everything carried.

Bookings include Prince's, Portsmouth; Alex., Hull; Court, Warrington; Rot., Liverpool; Col., Oldham; Alex., Sheffield; Met., Devonport; Alex., Birmingham.
WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 11, 18, Xmas Week,
and Spring, 1908, with various exceptions.
Apply, SAMUEL JAMES,
Warwick House, 8, Warwick-court,
Gray's Inn, W.C.

"THE LOVE THAT LASTS FOR EVER."
By Edward Thane.
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 16, Oct. 7, 23, Nov. 4, 18, Xmas Week.
Clear Stage only required.
Apply,
SAMUEL JAMES,
as above.

By arrangement with Mr. George Alexander.
MR. MONCKTON HOFFE'S COMPANY
in
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST"
and
"LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN."
WANTED, First-Class Date, Aug. 5.
Address, MONCKTON HOFFE,
35, Margaretta-terrace, Oakley-street, S.W.

WANTED, Aug. 12 (?), and Sept. 9 (North), Mrs. ANN HUGHES' COMPANY,
in the New Comic Opera,
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
Mrs. ANN HUGHES,
Selattyn, 38, Thurleigh-road, Balham, S.W.

HERBERT RALLAND'S COMPANY.
"MICE AND MEN."
"MICE AND MEN."
"MICE AND MEN."
Powerful Company of London Artists.
Everything carried. New scenery and dresses.
Tour opens Sept. 2.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
HERBERT RALLAND, Gaiety Theatre, Douglas.

The Premier Shakespearean Company.
Third Year of Tour.

ALLAN WILKIE.

WANTED, Sept. 30 (North or Midlands), Nov. 4 (Midlands),
a few Spring Dates and Autumn, 1908, with exceptions.
Address (letters only), ALLAN WILKIE,
Opera House, Buxton.

MR. THOMAS SIDNEY'S COMPANY,
in "THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, Dates.—Mr. Sidney is desirous of filling Aug. 26 and all Sept.
Address, SIDNEY, Londesborough T., Scarborough.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOURS.

"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Aug. 19 (?), 26, Sept. 9, and on, with exceptions.

"THE LOVE OF A LIFE."
A few Autumn Dates vacant.
Vacation address,
JOHN B. SHINTON, 18, Royal-avenue,
Oncham, Douglas, Isle of Man.

"THE SUPERIOR MISS PELLENDER."
WANTED, through transferring, July 15. "A perfect show in every way." Refer any theatre visited. Wire, FRASER-BRUNNER, O. H., Harrogate. Write, Spa, Scarborough.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY.
"THE BEST OF HER SEX."
Many thanks to Messrs. Otto Culling, W. W. Kelly, Charles Barnard, R. C. Buchanan, Arthur Carlton, &c., for Contracts and Offers during the past week.
WANTED, July 22 (between Coventry and Aston), Aug. 12 (follow Dewsbury), Aug. 19, Sept. 9, 16 (3 nights), 30, and on, with exceptions.
W. A. ARMOUR, to-day, Gaiety, Burnley; next, T. R., Ashton.

"A PRINCE OF ROGUES." Miss Dora Dench's Successful Production. Booked by four managers on seeing show Tuesday. New scenery, printing, &c.
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Sept. 9, 16 30, Oct. 21, 28. Address, St. James's T., Manchester.

WANTED, for "The Woman Pays," Sept. 9, Oct. 7, 21, and on.
F. M. THORNE, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Sept. 30, Oct. 7,
Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 16,
Dec. 23, 30.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1908.

Refer W. Bailey, Esq.
July 8 Empire, Southend-on-Sea.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
An Established Success.
WANTED, Sept. 16 and 23 (Scotland), Sept. 30, Oct. 7 (North), Nov. 4 (between Chesterfield and Keighley, return). Re-booked at the Palace, Newcastle; Grand, Mansfield; Irving, Seacombe; Gaiety, Dundee; Queen's, Keighley; Victoria, Broughton, &c. DICKIE CLARE, Leckbarrow Cottage, Greenodd, near Ulverston, Lancs.

"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, for this great Draw, Sept. 2 (Midlands), Oct. 7 (possibly vacant) 21 (Lancs. or Yorks.), Jan. 6 (Scotland or North). Thanks to R. C. Buchanan, Esq., for Contracts Metropole, Glasgow, and Coatbridge; and Otto Culling, Esq., Contracts for Rochdale and Bury (Easter). Apply, E. H. KNIGHT, 7, The Crescent, Barnes.

MESSRS. ELLIMAN'S ENTERPRISES.
"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, July 22, between Middlesbrough and Preston. Refer Wm. Eastwood, Esq., Colosseum, Oldham; J. E. Culcen, Esq., Gaiety, Burnley; E. H. Page, Esq., Prince's, Blackburn; re piece. Return Contracts at above Theatres. Refer Tom Jennings, Esq., Mansfield; also E. B. Goulden, Esq., Salford; or any Manager we have visited. Wire for July 22. Several important Autumn Dates vacant, Aug. 26, onwards. G. M. HURST, P.O.W., Salford; Monday, West London Theatre, N.W.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, Oct. 21, 28, Xmas.
FRED BULMER, c/o "The Era" (Vacation Address).

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
The Latest Great Successful Musical Comedy.
Special New Scenery. Gorgeous Costumes.
Special New Printing by Allen's.

Big Cast, including
Miss Ethel Dunford.

Full London Operatic Chorus.

Additional new numbers by the Composer,
Mr. Albert E. Wilson.

WANTED, for this Great Attraction, owing to the Tour starting six weeks earlier,
AUG. 12, AUG. 12, AUG. 12,
AUG. 12, AUG. 12, AUG. 12,
AUG. 12, AUG. 12, AUG. 12,
to follow Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, and precede Opera House, Leicester; also Aug. 26, Aug. 26, and Sept. 29, and on, with exceptions.

All communications re dates, &c.,
HAMILTON BAINES,
Caversham-road, Reading.

A. J. HARDING and CHARLES R. HANN.
Autumn and Spring Tour of
FRANK DIX'S
"DELIVERED FROM EVIL,"
A Social Drama, in Four Acts.
Entirely new Scenery. Printing by Allen's.
Enormous success of first Tour.
T. R., Bristol, production April 1899.
O. H., Leicester; Star, Liverpool.
T. R., Cardiff; T. R., Croydon, &c., &c.
Tremendous success. Excellent business.
Created a furore everywhere.
This Drama will be interpreted by a Strong Cast of Sterling Artists.
"DELIVERED FROM EVIL."
"DELIVERED FROM EVIL."
"DELIVERED FROM EVIL."
WANTED, Dates (Aug. 5 and on, with exceptions.
A. J. HARDING,
Bedford Club, Bedford-street, W.C.

WYBERT CLIVE'S TOURS.
"THE BRANDED WOMAN."
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"THE BRANDED WOMAN."
Strong Cast, Superbly Mounted, Correctly Dressed.
300 Sheets of Printing without a Repeat.
The Strongest Attraction Touring.
Record week at Hippo., Mansfield, last week.
Refer Herbert Darnley, Esq.
WANTED, Aug. 5, Sept. 2, 9, and 16. Managers can book this Play with the certainty of doing a fine week's business.
Wire for Aug. 5. WALTER STEELE, General-Manager, to-day, P., Portsmouth; next, T. R., Woolwich.

WANTED, good Dates, July 15 and 22, Only Vacant Dates,
MR. GEORGE E. MUDD'S CO.,
in the Charming Society Play, "The Idler," from the St. James's Theatre, London, by arrangement with Mr. George Alexander. Mr. Philip Cunningham as Mark Cross. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart as Sir John Harding. Address, GEORGE E. MUDD, this, King's T., Sunderland; next, P.O.W., Grimsby.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S
"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 7
Communications to GEORGE KIRK,
Theatre Royal, Leeds.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.,
"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, July 29, between Alex., Hull, and Osborne, Manchester, for this Successful Play. Refer Rotherham this week. F. G. KIMBERLEY, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres
Oct. 14, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2, 9, 23.
A Magnificent Production. Everything carried.
Miss ANNIE BELL as FLARE-FLARE.
Address, JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COS.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Aug. 5, Sept. 2, and 9.
WALTER J. BAYLISS, Opera House, Harrogate.
Wires, T. R., Hull.

THE WILLIAM MOLLISON SHAKESPEAREAN TOUR.
WANTED, Nov. 4 (South or Midland), Dec. 23 and 30, Jan. 6 and 13 (precede Aberdeen), and Feb. 3 (North). Bookings include the Leading Theatres in the United Kingdom.
Address, SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum Theatre, Newport.

Miss ROSE MONCRIEFF'S CO.,
"THE CURATE."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 7 (to follow Croydon), 21st and 28th; entirely new scenery, uniforms, &c. Add., NEWMAN MAURICE, Lyric, Hammersmith.

FRED ACTON and HARRY C. NASH'S
"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Nov. 11. Address, FRED ACTON, 4, Claypole-st., Nottingham.

"LA POUPEE."
"LA POUPEE."
"LA POUPEE."
WANTED, unexpectedly Vacant, Sept. 2 and 30, also few later Dates.
HERBERT RALLAND, Gaiety Theatre, Douglas.

Instantaneous Success of the new and original Musical Absurdity,
"SUCH A NICE GIRL."
Managers invited to see this Play at Kingston.
Exceptional Cast.
WANTED, July 15 and July 22, and onwards with exceptions.
FRANK TENNANT, County Theatre, Kingston.

"WOMAN AND WINE."
Fifty People on the Stage.
Entire Production carried.
WANTED, through alteration in arrangements,
Aug. 5, 12,
also
Oct. 14.
E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, 13, Hosack-rd., Balham, S.W.

"THE PICK OF THE BUNCH,"
the Brilliant Musical Comedy Success,
presented by
Harold Wantage's Premier Company.
Full Opera Chorus, and Miss Lottie Stone's Troupe of Dancers.
WANTED, First-class Theatre, July 29, Aug. 5; also for Autumn Tour, commencing Sept. 2. Vacant Sept. 30, Oct. 14, Nov. 4, and on, with exceptions. J. W. CHILTON, G. T., Blackpool.

MIDLAND SYNDICATES CO.
"WANTED BY THE POLICE."
WANTED, Aug. 5 (follow T. R., Cardiff), Sept. 9 (follow Star, Swansea), 16 (precede Sutton), Oct. 28 and on. Alien's finest and latest printing; powerful company. HERBERT BARRS, Theatre, Bordon Camp, Hants.

"HER MARRIAGE VOW."
Production August Bank Holiday.
Plant of American Printing.
Every Scene Carried.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21.
GARSIDE and KNOWLES, H. M. T., Aberdeen.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.,
"THE OLD, OLD STORY."
WANTED, Aug. 5, 12, wire for Aug. 5; everything carried; fine plant of specially cut printing. E. SURREY, 133, Rock-st., Oldham.

WANTED, Theatres, for First-Class Christmas Pantomime, splendid new production, good Company, Chorus, Ballet, Costumes and Unique Specialities. Sure success. MANAGER, Box 5,084, "The Era."

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES CO.
"FAIR ONE WITH THE GOLDEN LOCKS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, North, Xmas week and Feb. 3 and 17.
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for "THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH,"
Oct. 21, Nov. 18 (South), Jan. 6 (Lancashire),
"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL,"
Oct. 7, 14, 21, all Nov.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

THEATRES WANTED.

ALFRED B. CROSS' TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
WANTED, Aug. 5,
also Oct. 7, 14, and 21.
"DIVORCED,"
a New Powerful Domestic Drama; also
"DAVID GARRICK,"
if required.
July 8, T. R., Hull (fourth visit).

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, Sept. 2, follow Preston (return); Sept. 16, precede Crewe;
Sept. 2 and 16,
Oct. 14, Nov. 4 and 25,
Fast Booking Spring, '08.
Cast, scenery, and printing A1. Refer.
FRANK AYRTON,
Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

WANTED, Known, "Under Two Flags," vacant Sept. 2, 23, 30. MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, Regent's Park, London.

Escaped from the terrible earthquake.
THE NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA (twelve Coloured Ladies and Gentlemen) are causing a Sensation Everywhere and doing Record Business. Re-engaged for Liverpool, Blackpool, Morecambe, Southport, Folkestone, Southend, &c.
Managers all delighted, and altering their season's arrangements, so as to have the Jamaicans back again at increased terms. No Combination more Successful or received with such Wild Enthusiasm.
WANTED, Known,
Only Vacant Dates, Aug. 12 (?), 26, Sept. 23, Oct. 28, and on, with exceptions.
A Unique, Artistic, and Delightful Entertainment. This week, Pier Pavilion, Ryde; next, Pier Pavilion, Southend-on-Sea. Apply for booklet, terms, &c., Managers, Messrs. H. E. JONES and A. DOUGLASS, 21, Water-street, Liverpool.
Telephones 5660 and 2449 Central.
Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."

MENOTTI and PURVIS' VAUDEVILLE CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. and Oct. Address, London Hippodrome, W.C.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Autumn Tours, Musical Comedy, Principal Baritone, Tenor Choristers, First-Class Prima Donna; also for London Pantomime, Artists in all Lines. Apply, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy and Light Opera, Town and Tour, Principal Artists in all Lines; also Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen; the latter must be young, of good appearance, and good voices. Send particulars at once to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Actor, for Constantine Schwabe,
"When It Was Dark,"
for Autumn; must be tall, and have good voice.
Terms, latest references,
MORTON POWELL, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-Class Eccentric Comedian, for Mike Copplestone, "Honour thy Father."
MORTON POWELL, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Acknowledged Star Leading Lady, for Gertrude Hunt, "When It Was Dark."
MORTON POWELL, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

"A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for the Above. Lowest terms, photos., references, to Miss EDITH BARNES, 81, Hamilton-terrace, London. Interviews by appointment only.

LINGFORD CARSON'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-Class Irish Comedian (no Songs or Dances), Gentlemen for Short Char. Parts and A.S.-M., good Responsible Man, combine Acting-Mangt. (both tall). Age, height, chest measurement, refs., and photos. in all cases, GEO. A. DE GRAY, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

WANTED, for Fit-up Tour of "The Private Secretary," commencing Aug. 5, Gentlemen for Douglas and Harry, Lady for Eva (photo. imperative), and smart Agent in Advance. Age, height, references, lowest terms, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Leads, Heavies, Juveniles, and Artists in all Lines, to communicate with John Clempert, the Author and Producer of "Zedovka," "A Woman's Promise," "Pogrome," "A Mother's Mistake," "A Wife's Mercy," &c. Photos, particulars Empire, Hull, 8th inst. Will let out Sketches on Royalties to Responsible Managers.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Stock Business; rehearse immediately; must have quick perfect studies; dress well on and off. Age, height, photos., references, and lowest terms, to GEORGE H. PITT, New Grand Theatre, Aberavon, S. Wales.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen in the vicinity of Edinburgh to communicate with view to Special Weeks. Say when disengaged and all particulars, M. RUSSELL ROSSE, The Pavilion, Kingstown, Ireland.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN," Tour, Aug. 5.

WANTED, Tall, Robust Man, for Sir Noel Hartland; Petite, Clever Child Actress, for Lynette Leader, must be over 14 years of age, but must be very small for her age; Tall Young Man, for Comedy Part, to do advance work; Comedy Circus Acts. Photos., refs., lowest terms, with two weeks' addresses, stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed in first letter; parts must be well dressed.

SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, for Long Tour of Successful Comedy, Pretty Young Lady; must dress well; no objection to clever Amateur; small salary. Send photo., terms, &c., Box 5,067, "The Era."

FRANK BERTRAM'S TOURS.
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, a Lady, with a little experience, for small part and understudy. State full particulars and enclose photo. to BERTRAM, Killarney, Lewisham.

WANTED, Clever Child Actress; must be small and well spoken; preference given to one who can sing. HENRY L. OSMOND, Merthyr; next, Star, Swansea.

WANTED, good Juvenile Gentleman. Send names and addresses of last two references, photo., lowest terms, long Tour, ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, good Juvenile Man, rehearse Manchester, July 22. Send age, height, photo., last two references, STANLEY CARLTON, Empire T., Oldham.

WANTED, a good Scotch-Irish Comedian, and others, rehearse at once, long Tour to suitable persons. Terms, references, height, and all particulars to
MAJILTON,
Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, a Short Comedian, capable of Edmund Payne part and Light Eccentric Comedy; Sing and Dance. CHARLES CAREY, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

"A KNIGHT IN ARMOUR."
WANTED, Character Comedian, for Domino; Sing and Dance well. Also good Responsible man. Photos., terms, and references, FRED J. WEBB, 49, Goldthorn-terrace, Penn-road, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Comedian, for Willie Edouin part in Sketch by George R. Sims, Esq. CHARLES DAVIES, 7, Upper Richmond-road, Putney; or GEORGE BROOKS.

WANTED, Light Baritone Juvenile Actor, and Singing or Dancing Comedian, for Musical Comedy, July 15. Address, HALDANE CRICHTON, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

"A LITTLE VAGRANT."
WANTED, for Special Week, Newcastle, rehearse next, Birmingham, First-class Character Actor, for Jim Harris, Bill Sykes part (those played part before wire). Terms, height, references. HARRY ROXBURY, Empire, Nottingham, Monday, Palace, Leicester.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING."
WANTED, Heavy Gent. Lowest terms, long tour. Photo., refs., height. Rehearse Birmingham, July 16. Apply, WILSON BENGE, Opera House, St. Helens, Lancs.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, immediately, Engagement, Chambermaids, Responsibles, Turn (Serio-Comic), if required; young, experienced. Wire or write, ROSY MONTEFIORE, 6, Canada-road, Deal.

WANTED, Engagement, Character Comedy Part, Autumn Tour, age 20, height 5ft. 10in. BERT HANBURY, 75, Haven-lane, Ealing, W.

WANTED, Known, Mr. William D. Vincent, Tenor, at Liberty, Concerts, &c., Town or Seaside. 167, Tachbrook-street, Belgrave-road, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Tenor (Powerful), Piers, Al-Fresco, &c.; splendid répertoire, band parts. 42, Hillersdon-avenue, Barnes, S.W.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Pantomime Chorus and Show Ladies. Send photograph, age, height, and other measurements, lowest salary. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Artists, Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Principal and Chorus, for London Pantomimes. Apply any day at 12 or 3, BASIL DAWSON'S Agency, 52, Regent-street, Piccadilly-circus End.

WANTED, Chorus and Show Ladies, for Pantomime. State height, references, &c.
E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Estimates for Scenery, The New Palace Music Hall, Reading. Apply, letters only, G. HOWARD WATSON, care of Stanhope and Co., 12, Buckingham-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, a Scenic Artist's Apprentice, where two Artists are working.
Address, Moody-Manners Stores, Colindale-avenue, The Hyde, Hendon, N.W.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts for High-Class Scenery, at Lowest Prices. Carlyle Scenic Studio, W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-road, S.W.

WANTED, Travellers to Know, Alfred Smith, jun., Artist, Figure, Animal, Landscapes, and Flowers, writing and decorations. 66, Stanbury-road, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Known, that Sidney Beltram's arrangements are complete till end of July; after at Liberty for Contracts or Salary Engagement. Letters, c/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, good Resident Acting-Manager (must thoroughly understand Bars); also good Touring Manager. Will all applicants please accept silence as polite negative? Address, with terms and references, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, an Experienced Acting-Manager, for Music Hall, commencing Sept.
Box 5,062, "The Era."

WANTED.—Assistant-Manager required for Variety Theatre; must have good appearance, be thoroughly experienced, furnish unexceptional references as to character and ability, and obtain guarantee policy, premium on which will be paid. Apply, giving full particulars, including age, and salary required, to Box 5,088, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a Vacancy occurs for an Intelligent Gentleman to learn Duties of Management on Tour with reputed Manager playing a West-End Success. Small premium required, returned in salary. State age, height, and full particulars to Box 5,073, "The Era."

WANTED, Known. Exceptional opportunity occurs for smart, active Young Gent. to learn Variety Agency Business (established), view partnership; salary, £2 per week; premium required, £14. Letters, age, fullest particulars, to KING'S, 54, Newington Green-road, N.

WANTED, First-Class Advertising Expert, to assist Management; none but really competent need apply. Terms, &c., MANAGER, Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

WANTED, Wanted, Secretary.
Full particulars, R. PRINGLE, Penarth, Croft-road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham.

WANTED, for Autumn, First-class Agent in Advance, also Stage-Carpenter and Musical-Director.
Apply, with lowest terms and references, to MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Agents, open August. Full particulars, R. PRINGLE, Penarth, Croft-road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham. Mark envelope "Agents."

WANTED, First-class Electrician, well up in Theatrical Work; steady and reliable.
Address, with references,
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, good Practical Man; thoroughly understands working gas plant and understands electrical work, with knowledge of Bioscope, for a First-class Theatre in the North. State age, refs., and wages expected. A good berth for a good man. Apply in confidence to Box 5,068, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Fit-up Carpenter and Baggage Man, for Tour of "The Private Secretary," commencing Aug. 5. Age, height, references, lowest terms, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, Steady Carpenter; tour commences Aug. 5. Rehearsals commence July 22. Lowest terms, references, first letter, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, good Baggage-man and Wife to look after Wardrobe; both able to play small parts. Apply by letter only, with references, to STAGE DEPARTMENT, Moss' Empires, Limited, Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

WANTED, Bill Inspector (Knowledge of Electric preferred). Lowest terms and references, first letter. Open July 29. SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Bill Inspector; must be young, smart, and hard-working. Apply, full particulars and references,
W. P. KING, The Dalston Theatre, N.E.

WANTED, for ten months' Tour, starting July 25, three smart Window and Handbillers, also good strong Baggage Man. State age, height, photo., references, lowest terms. LEON VINT, 128, Caunce-street, Blackpool, until July 17.

WANTED, good High-Window Biller and Effect Workers; commence Sept. 29. Full particulars, R. PRINGLE, Penarth, Croft-road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham. Mark envelope "Window Billers."

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE CHAS. W. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, for the Greatest of all Poole's Productions, 25 good Lithographers (High Window-billers), for ten or twelve weeks, Free Trade Hall, Manchester, to open July 22. Apply, CLIFF CRAWFORD, Advance Manager, Bristol and Exeter Hotel, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, steady High Ladderman. Apply, giving references, GENERAL BILLPOSTING CO., LTD., Clayton-street West, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, a couple of smart Window-Billers; must be able to use Brush; also two smart Ring Men; strictly sober, or useless writing; to open July 22. Apply, GEO. ZALVA.

WANTED, smart Housekeeper, to manage Block of Flats, furnished and unfurnished (Oxford Circus), and Cater for Tenants.
Call,
LEVENSON, 42, Lamb's Conduit-street, Holborn.

WANTED, Sharp Lad, to look after Pony and Window-bill. Apply, CLAYTON, Menagerie Agent, Green's Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Harold Nuttall concludes Engagement as Business-Manager for Mr. Allan Wilkie; now disengaged for Autumn, Management or parts. Address, Chester-road, Swinton, Manchester.

WANTED, by smart Business Man, of fine physique and commanding appearance, management of Theatre, Music Hall, or position of responsibility; excellent refs. Box 5,056, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, well-known Provincial Resident Business-Manager, five years in present position, is desirous of similar position in good Theatre; can give excellent references. Address, in first place, Box 5,055, "The Era."

WANTED, position as Manager or Assistant ditto, or otherwise, Variety Theatre or Circus, tact, energy, and experience, age 35; strictly sober, and not afraid of work. Box 5,059, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Gentleman requires Berth as Acting-Manager in a Theatre; experienced, smart, and energetic. Cash security if required, or would invest in a paying theatre. Box 5,071, "Era."

WANTED, Management of Theatre, Hippo., Pier Pavilion, large or small; experienced in all details. F. LEWIS, 36, Brunswick-street, Horwich.

WANTED, by Advance Agent, abstainer, settled position, Provincial Theatre or Hippodrome; wife to clean. Offers, AGENT, care of Williamson, 75, King-street, Stirling.

WANTED, by competent Electrician, used to all kinds of Theatre work, at Liberty. PARKER, 10, Lismore-circus, Gospel Oak, London.

WANTED, by Young Man (22), Situation, anything respectable. TREVOR BURLEIGH, 13, Langside-place, Langside, Glasgow.

WANTED, position as Companion-Housekeeper to Actress or Actor; would undertake cooking soups, fish, entrées, jellies, cakes, sweets, ices, bread. Box 5,060, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
WANTED, to open Aug. 3, Conductor for small Orchestra, must be First-Class Pianist, but able to play some other instrument when visiting company brings Conductor; exclusive library indispensable; references required; permanent situation to suitable man. Address (letters only), stating particulars and lowest terms, to STEPHEN PRITT. Silence a polite negative.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
WANTED, Musical Director (Violin); must be thoroughly experienced and have highest references; also First-class Pianist. Both to open Saturday, July 20. Apply, stating age, lowest terms, and full particulars, to JAMES FIONI.

WANTED, for J. H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy Co., experienced Musical-Director, good Pianist and Arranger essential; commence September. TOMKINSON, 36, Albany-road, Kensington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Musical-Director (Violinist), at once, must be used to Variety business, and have up-to-date Répertoire of Music. Write, stating age and refs., to J. R. POOLE, Palace T., Gloucester.

WANTED, Conductor (Violin), for Provincial Music Hall; also Pianist for London Hall. Apply, stating terms and recent references,
Box 5,087, "The Era."

WANTED, for the Spa Theatre, Bridlington (open July 29), two experienced First Violinists, also Pianist to combine Clarionet, and Trombone, First Cornet, Flute-Piccolo, and Drummer with effects; all must be good players and sight readers, used to musical plays and theatre business. State wages and references; unreliable men need not apply. Strings, Cornet, and Wood Wind from July 29 to Sept. 14; Trombone and Drummer to Sept. 8. Address, Mr. HAGUE, Opera House, Bridlington.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, to commence July 15; must be thoroughly good performer. State salary. A. COLLINSON, Pier Orchestra, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, must be First-Class, experienced in Varieties. Age, terms, for permanency, HINCHCLIFFE, Conductor, Palace, Carlisle.

THEATRE ROYAL, ALDERSHOT.
WANTED, thoroughly experienced Cornet, also First Violin, must be used to Variety work. Lowest terms and references to J. GLADWIN, Acting Manager.

HOWARD AND WYNDHAM, LTD.
WANTED, First-Class Solo Cornet, open July 15. Reply, with terms, reference, &c., GEO. BURNLEY, Conductor, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

WANTED, First-class Clarionet Player, open July 29. Lowest terms and refs., W. H. MELTON, Prince of Wales' Theatre, Mexboro'.

WANTED, Solo Clarionet, Second Violin, or 'Cello, to combine Second Cornet, six weeks, July 26. Terms, age, GREENHEAD, Cavendish, Herne Bay.

WANTED, First-Class Solo Clarionet, open Monday, High-Class Concert business; Seaside Season. FITZSTUART, 2, Raglan-road, Sandylands, Morecambe.

WANTED, a Double Bass, to open Monday, July 15.
Apply, MANAGER, King's Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Double Bass, experienced in Dramatic and Variety, to open Monday next. Lowest terms and references, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

WANTED, Trombone, at once, Season to Oct. 5, references to Michael Connelly, Musical-Director, Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate;
also for
July 15, week only, for D'Oyly Carte's Opera Co., Oboe and Second Clarionet.

WANTED, for C. W. Poole's Myriorama, 'Cello, Clar., Second Cornet, and Double Drums (with effects), Manchester, Aug. 5. FRED MANN, M.-D., Palace T., Gloucester.

WANTED, for Seaside, South, good 'Cello Trombone, Cornet, Piccolo, Piano, and Drums; must know Variety and Ball-room. State age, refs., and lowest terms, HARVEY, c/o P. O., Bognor, Sussex.

WANTED, good Flute and Piccolo, for the Aberystwyth Promenade Military Band, July 15 till Sept. 28. Lowest terms. ROWE, Conductor, Durban House, Queen's-road, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Pianist (Conductor), Cornet, and Drums; open Aug. 5. Grand, Chorley. Lowest terms and references, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM, FULBOURN, NEAR CAMBRIDGE.
WANTED, Male Attendant, Pianist preferred. Apply,
stating age and height, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to
THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, at the Asylum.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, excellent Lady Pianist, London Resident; good stage appearance, Classical Musician, able to play from memory, to demonstrate on the Variety Halls, &c., a Unique Piano. Applicant with a capital of £30-£50 can have sharing terms; without capital, fixed salary. Exceptional opportunity to fame for a talented Pianist. Application in first instance by letter, stating particulars and if previous stage experience, to
Box 5,074, "Era."

WANTED, Young Ladies, Pianist and 'Cellist, for permanent engagement in London; must be good players and sight-readers. Write only to G. BOXMORN, 214, Piccadilly, W.

WANTED, Lady Double Drummer, with effects, well up in Variety business; one that could double with another instrument preferred. T. C. RAWES, Victoria Theatre, Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Bandsmen, String and Wind,
also Pianists and Buglers,
for First-Class Ocean Liners.

Apply,
BANDMASTER,
3, Fenchurch-street, E.C.

Ocean Liner Bands.
WANTED, Players on Piano, String Instruments, Flute, and Clarionet. Applicants send permanent addresses for insertion in my list. Offers will be made to suitable players as vacancies occur. J. O. SHEPHERD, 11a, Myrtle-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Small String Band (seven), Promenade, pitching; three times daily. Terms, shares. Apply, stating instruments, BONI, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Lady Instrumentalists, also Lady Ballad Vocalist, able to play Violin, Piano, or 'Cello; Summer Engagement. Apply immediately, Box 5,061, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Lady Musicians (Solo and Orchestral), for Long Tour, commence September. Particulars, TOMKINSON, 36, Albany-road, Kensington, Liverpool.

WANTED, small Band, Ladies and Gentlemen. Solo Artists, Instrumental and Vocal, holiday engagement, for few weeks, from July 29 or Aug. 5. Press notices and references. Mr. W. TROWELL, 11, Lancaster-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Boy Musicians, Comedians, Dancers, &c., &c., over 14 and small.
CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, Instrumentalists, to complete Orchestras; open Aug.
Terms, references, age, to
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, good experienced Instrumentalists, immediately, for full String Band until middle Sept.; Seaside. Send lowest, Box 5,075, "The Era."

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street,, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Bandmaster, shortly retiring on pension, appointment to Volunteer Band, School, or other similar post; thoroughly experienced in Orchestral work and Arranging; capable Violinist; good testimonials and references. Address, BANDMASTER, Gazette Office, Ealing.

WANTED, by Conductor-Pianist, Engagement, experienced, reliable, any business.
L. PICARD, Post Office, Dover, Kent.

WANTED, Known, a First-Class Musical-Director is now at Liberty for Music Hall; highest references. Box 5,057, "The Era."

WANTED, by Leader or First Violin, Re-engagement, Aug. 5; experienced Variety, Dramatic. First-class references. DAVIS, 68, Harrow-road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Business as Conductor, Military or otherwise, could supply good small Band; good library. High testimonials. MADDISON, 1, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, Known, James E. Lord, Conductor (Pianoforte), Theatre Royal, Hyde, at Lib. July 8 to Aug. 10, for Engagement or Deputising.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced Leader (lady),
used to Leading Small Orchestras.

Box 5,078, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Violin and Viola, thoroughly experienced, late Leader Theatre; young, strictly steady. W. B., 68, Pritchard's-road, London, N.E.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement, in a good Orchestra. Apply, VIOLINIST, 5, Combe-view, Wookey Hole, Wells, Somerset.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, First-class Violinist, any Business; young, and thoroughly reliable. Address, VIOLINIST, 32, Princes-road, Richmond, Surrey.

WANTED, by Lady Violinist, late Répétiteur, Exhibition Orchestra, Re-engagement; excellent refs. VIOLINIST, Holly Grove House, Diggle, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, Violinist, Leader, 4½ years Brighton West Pier Orchestra, recently disbanded. MASON, 42, Belle Vue-gardens, Kemp Town, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violinist; 12 years' experience; any Business.
VIOLINIST, 17, Roe-lane, Pitsmoor, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Second Violin; experienced, steady; good references; can open at once. F. C. DIBBERT, 7, Upper Brunswick-street, Hopwood-lane, Halifax.

WANTED, by Tenor Cor, experienced Engagement, Militia, Yeomanry, Volunteer, deputising, or any other business. IRETON, 62, Warriner-gardens, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Reliable Cornet, well up in any business. Disengaged July 23. G. THOMPSON, Kursaal, Bexhill-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, as Second Cornet, String or Military Band.
H. RUSSELL, 4, Court-street, Leamington.

WANTED, Engagement, by good reliable Clarionet, thoroughly experienced; good references. At Liberty Monday. Address, CLARIONET, Post Office, Sheerness.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet and Horn. Refs. if required; Disengaged at present. W. WRIGHT, 39, St. Mary's-road, Hastings.

WANTED, by Solo B Flat or E Flat Clarionet, combine Viola or Second Violin, late one H.M. Staff Bands; excellent character and refs.; Disengaged Aug. Box 5,083, "The Era."

WANTED, by First-Class Double Bass, permanent Engagement, good Theatre or Music Hall; highest refs.; abstainer. NICHOLLS, 19, Glenburn-road, Seacombe, Cheshire.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Double Bass and B Flat Bombardon, Summer Engagements; experienced player, late Staff Band. F. N., 35, Bellefields-rd., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, by Double Bass, first-class, experienced, reliable; permanency; open immediately; last engagement, 6 years; disengaged through fire. MASON, Gilesgate, Durham.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement; Open for Summer Season, Opera or Tour; late Principal, 2nd Life Guards. AMOS, 92, High-street, Thornton Heath.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement, seaside preferred.
MASSEY, 11, Como-road, Forest Hill, S.E.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLS, 37, Great Percy-st., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, good Engagement, by experienced 'Cello, any business. Apply, 21, Hope-street, Halifax.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement, any Capacity, Theatrical and Hotel; experienced. Apply, BERNARD GOODALL, Belmont House, Leonard-road, Landport, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, 'Cello, at Liberty for First-class Theatre or Variety; abstainer; good refs. and experience. 4, Grand-parade, Upper Parkstone, Dorsets.

WANTED, by First-Class 'Cello, good Engagement, any business.
'CELLO, 26, Chantry-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, by Viola, Permanent Engagement, thoroughly experienced in Variety and Concert business; good refs. Apply, 29, Khyber-road, Battersea, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Viola or Violin, any Business; good references; age 30. H. ESKE, 15, Atheldene-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements as Oboe, would play Violin or Viola when Oboe not required. G. EDMONDS, JUN., 4, Frances-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Trio, Harpist or Pianist, Violinist (Ladies), Gentleman 'Cello, combined or separate; experienced Small Orchestra. H., 4, Lansdowne-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, with String Band, any business; steady, reliable. F. WANSBOROUGH, Longparish, Whitchurch, Hants.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, or Deputising. COLEMAN, Grand T. Varieties; or 27, Park-road, Bolton.

WANTED, Engagement by Pianist and Violinist,
excellent reputation as Soloists and Ensemble Players (Violinist Leader of two large Northern Town Orchestras).
At Liberty from last week July to second week Sept., Pavilion, Hydro, or Hotel, Seaside or other Pleasure Resort. Splendid Répertoire, 'Celloist or full Concert Party provided if required.
For terms, &c., apply,
F. ALTON, 134, Cecil-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by N. Robinson, Pianist, Arranger, any business, steady, reliable; excellent refs., Orch. or Self. 62, North Cliff-rd., Conisboro'.

WANTED, immediate Engagement, by Pianist (young), any business.
W. C. SESSIONS, 80, Carlton-vale, Maida Vale, Kilburn, N.W.

WANTED, by Young Lady, First-Class Pianist (and Organist), Engagement, London or Suburbs. Terms low. HOLLAND, 43, Buchan-rd., Nunhead, S.E.

WANTED, Engagements by thoroughly experienced Double Drummer, Variety, permanency preferred; reliable; good refs. DRUMS, 11, Ritson-road, Dalston, London.

WANTED, by First-class Drums, &c., Engagement, any Business; good refs. DRUMS, 98, Milton-street, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, by J. O'Day, Drums, Grand T., Derby, last 18 months, Engagement after 13th, with Tymps; Sight-reader.

WANTED, by First-Class Double Drummer, an Engagement; good references; reliable and steady. DRUMS, 22, Beaconsfield-road, Acton Green, W.

WANTED, an Engagement, by an experienced Double Drummer; can open at once. G. PABLO, 22, Woodland-avenue, Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Shikissima Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, all Soloists, for Piers, Hotels; trio disengaged, including Vocalist. Glenthorpe, Chesterfield-rd., Newbury.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, at home or abroad. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Riders, with or without own Horses, Performing Animals, Acrobats, or any Novelties, to Open at Once; 4 months' engagement. SILVANI, Circus, Fermoy, Co. Cork.

WANTED, Easter Monday, 1908, Novel Specialities, High and Low Sensational Acts, in all Lines. Lithos., memos., GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, useful People, for Small Circus, Fair Business; would take Partner, or sell; everything ready. HALL, P.O., Mexboro', Yorks.

WANTED, Ground Acts, Animals, no Ladies or Music. Shares. BUER, 2, Regent-cottages, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, at once, a good useful Turn, for Tenting, money sure. Send lowest terms. MANAGER, Melville's Circus, Hospital, Co. Limerick.

WANTED, First-class High Wire Act, or Trapeze Act, for Outside; must have own Fittings, Aug. 5, Bank Holiday week. Lowest terms, ELDERTON, Whitley Park, Whitley Bay.

WANTED, Benders, Posturers, Ring Performers, Trapeze Artists, Clowns, useful people. Lowest terms, join at once. DENNIS, Circus, Girlington, Bradford.

WANTED, Young Man, used to Comedy Triple Bars. State experience, salary required.
Box 5,081, "The Era."

WANTED, a good Groom, used to Ponies; sober and reliable. Write, with particulars, C. CABAN, Circus, Palace Gardens, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Stage or Ring, Tudor's Four Educated Ponies; good Speciality for Galas. Address, W. TUDOR, Barnard's Palace, Greenwich.

WANTED, Known, The Fitzroys, Society Gymnasts; fourth Engagement London Pavilion; free till July 15. Address, FITZROYS, London Pavilion, Piccadilly.

WANTED, Engagement by a young, experienced Comedy Triple Bar Performer, will join Troupe or Partner. VOLTA, Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, Known, George Davills, Liberty, High or Low Wire, Aug. 5, several dates July, Aug. Forest View, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

WANTED, Galas, by Mlle. Bartenelli, Aerial Contortionist, open July and Aug. Address, 53, Worcester-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, Dates, 1908, The Rolands, Marvellous Athletes, and Alfred Siegel, Champion Wrestler. Acknowledged by all to be Unequalled in their Equilibristic Act and Wrestling. On tour. All coms., 7, Wellington-avenue, Liverpool.

WANTED, Situation as Groom, with Equestrian Family; experienced; references; abstainer. Box 5,082, "The Era."

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WANTED, Situation as Groom, with Equestrian Family; experienced; references; abstainer. Box 5,082, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

Balloon Ascents.

WANTED, Engagements, by Lieut. Lempriere, the Popular Reliable Aeronaut. Address, LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

Parachute Descents.

WANTED, Gala Secretaries seeking Big Attractions to engage Lieut. Lempriere and his charming Lady Pupils for Parachute Descents or Races; together or separate. One still open for Aug. Bank. LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and HIPPODROME, BARRY DOCK.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.
No wires, please.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

Scarborough.

WANTED, Monday, July 15, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, July 8, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest. Hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, for the Empire, Doncaster, Variety Artists, Doubles doing Singles, July 22, 29. Say when last there. State lowest. B. KENNEDY.

POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, nothing too big, tour, or send vacant dates; all fares paid after joining. POOLE, 9, Reform-street, Peterboro'.

WANTED, all kinds Variety Artists. Will see any Artists working if time sent. RICHARD CASS'S Agency, 9, Mundania-rd., Peckham.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, July 22, new to Blyth. Big Acts, shares. SEAVEY and Co., 23, Islington-green, London.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, July 22, and onwards.
A. E. PICKARD, Britannia Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, from Aug. 12, and onwards. Silence a polite negative. T. C. RAWES, Proprietor.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, for July 15.
Apply, with lowest terms,
SIDNEY TAYLOR, Royal Theatre, Dewsbury.
Those who have written, write again.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Glasgow Concerts. State absolute lowest. THE SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Known, Artists requiring Engagements, state qualifications, vacancies 1907, salaries desired, and where seen working. ARTHUR WARWICK, Bax-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, for Gala, near Leeds, Sept. 2 and 3. Lowest in first letter. Address, CANDLER, 6, Oxford-terrace, Harrogate.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, Cavalry and Army Service Theatres, brougham found; people doing two Acts wire for Monday. Terms low. State when last here. BAKER, 41, Union-street, Aldershot.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, July 15, 22, 29, Aug. 5. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists all Lines, July 15, onwards. Terms, Lithos. Bookings. Big Specialities for Galas, Aug. 6.
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester.
'Phone 09251. Tels., "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Jersey; Smart Serios and Dancers, Sisters, &c.
Mr. SINCLAIR, 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artist, Pavilion, Belper, July 15 and 22. Lowest terms and particulars, new to Belper. HICKS, Gordon House, Wolfa-street, Derby.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists, refined, young, big rép., used concerted sketches; also Pianist, must transpose. DAVIS, 15, Garnett-st., Saltburn.

PAVILION, SUNDERLAND.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, July 15, onwards. PRINGLE, Pavilion, Sunderland.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Marionettes, Musical Acts, and any suitable Speciality. Lowest terms. HARRY BATTERSBY, Bilston Al Fresco Pavilion.

WANTED, Refined Artists, London, Suburban, Seaside, Provincial, Al Frescos; Brains, please; the rest with EDWIN DREW, "Era," London. Unknowns may write.

WANTED, for the Gaiety Theatre of Varieties, Glasgow,
Artists in all Lines,
Comedians and Comedy Acts,
New to Glasgow.
Com. at once to HARRY BOWERMAN, Manager.

WANTED, Stars, Specialities, and First-class Artists of every Description,
for immediate and future dates.
Send full bookings, terms, lithos., &c.,
GEORGE PEARSON'S Agency,
Honor Oak, S.E.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and Future Dates. Lithos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury avenue, W.

STALYBRIDGE AND WORCESTER.

WANTED, Wanted, Turns, for July Dates, both Towns.
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." 'Phone 1686 Royal.

WANTED, Gala, suitable Turns, Aug. 3, also Aug. 5.
W. WOOD, 22, Charles-street, Royton, Oldham.

WANTED, Smart Al-fresco Turns, including Tenor or Baritone (Light Ballads), Pianist (sight-reader), open July 8, covered stage. Alf Cawthorn write. Turns known to Eugene Brant wire, Prince's Pierrots, Barry Island, S. Wales.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
31, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, the Best Real Talent in the World, for Momentary and Future Dates; can Book Great and Small Everywhere. Full particulars, terms, bookings (not vacancies), lithos., photos.

WANTED, Talent all Lines.
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street,
Liverpool.
Farr and Farland, Bayne and Hope, Beau and Belle send addresses.

LESLIE KEITH'S AGENCY.
Cavendish-road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

WANTED, best real Talent extant, immediate and future dates. Full bookings, terms, lithos., photos., particulars. Can book great and small.

DUNDAS'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Talent all Lines, nothing too big, July 8 and onwards. Artists disengaged for Panto. write. 52, Rosthwaite-road, West Derby, Liverpool.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, the Best of Talent, July and August, and on, for the North; also England and Wales. Another train-load of Scotch Talent going to England shortly, and Good Ones. Look out for them.
170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

PALACE THEATRE,
CORK.
Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.

WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, and onwards, Big Specialities,
Cycle Acts, Jugglers,
Musical Sketches, Animal Shows, &c.
Full list of Bookings and Terms to
HENRY KEMBLE'S Agency
233, Kennington-road, London.

WANTED, Specialities of every description, for August Bank Holiday, onwards, to write in at once. Send Lithos. and particulars of Act to EDMUND VINCELLE, 140, Walbrook-road, Derby.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Specialities, all Lines, for Fête, Reading, August Bank Holiday. Terms low. BAKER, 41, Union-street, Aldershot.

WANTED, Big Specialities, August, Sept., Oct. Nothing too Big. Full particulars. R. PRINGLE, Penarth, Croft-road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham.

NEW PAVILION, ABERTILLERY.

WANTED, for Above, the Greatest Possible Attractions, with Drawing Powers, Comedy Acts, &c.; Acts must be Known to me, or Useless. Full bookings, &c. Acts booked for Gloucester and Porth can have Abertillery to follow or precede. Direct, or through Agents. All communications to LEO FRITZ'S VARIETY AGENCY, Glenshaw-mansions, Brixton, S.W. 'Phone 457 Brixton. Telegraphic address, "Evelyncia, London."

WANTED, for Gloucester, Porth, Pandy, Pentre, Abertillery, Barry, Worcester, Variety Acts. Full bookings. Mantell Oval write. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Frank Lynne has removed his Offices to 77, Angell-road, Brixton, S.W. Can always book First-class Acts. Callers by appointment only.

WANTED, Big Novelty Act that can Draw Business, to follow Bouncing Dillons, July 22. No fancy terms. FORSYTH, Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED, Aug. 19, for Thirty Weeks' Tour, good Comedy Act, not Gymnastic; fares after joining. T. GANNON, West Grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Turns wanted for Harrogate Gala, Aug. 5. State positive lowest. Also Stars for Seaside, July, Aug., Sept. Address next week, Pack Horse Hotel, Briggate, Leeds.

THEATRE ROYAL AND PALACE OF VARIETIES, WEST BROMWICH.
Lessee, HARDING THOMAS. General-Manager, RICHARD NIGHTINGALE.

WANTED, the Cream of the Variety Profession to communicate with list of bookings and absolute lowest terms, to Sole Booking Agent, E. C. JAZON, St. Andrew-road, Anfield, Liverpool.

WANTED, Strong Attractions, all Lines.
BARNARD'S Variety Agency,
33, Shaw-street, Liverpool.

HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY.
HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY.
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Good Tops of Bill, for Glasgow, Greenock, and District. Send full list of bookings and lowest terms.
Empire, Greenock, re-opens Aug. 19.

WANTED, Tops and Bottoms, July 15, 22, Aug. 5; also Pantomime Artists all lines.
GEO. AYTOUN,
120, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.
Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1949 Hop.

BEXHILL.

WANTED, Known,
The Borough Council
will consider applications
on behalf of
Select Concert Parties
for Entertainments
on West Parade
and in Park
during August.
Further particulars,
apply TOWN CLERK.

WANTED, on Shares, for Scarboro', First-class only, Pierrot Troupe, or other First-class Show, Season. WHITAKER, Foreshore, Scarboro'.

WANTED, for Hancock's Palace of Varieties and Pictures, Two Sisters, Singers and Dancers, capable of doing either Single or Double Turns and to Parade Outside. Send photo., lowest terms, to the MANAGER, Hancock's Varieties, West Hoe, Plymouth. Vacancy for Two Good Knock-about Comedians.

THE LEON VINT'S SCENORAMA GLOBE CHOIR (thirty Artists).

WANTED, to open July 22, for ten months' Tour, smart Lady Musical Speciality (one or two Ladies, no Gentlemen), powerful Deep Contralto; Stage Dresses found; Rail Fares after joining. Terms in first letter. LEON VINT, 128, Caunce-street, Blackpool.

WANTED (through illness), a Lady Trick Cyclist, who has knowledge of Tumbling, to take place of another young lady in well-known Troupe. L. H., Post Office, 10, Acre-lane, Brixton.

WANTED, through illness, Lady or Gentleman Trick Cyclist, one used to Teacup Track. Address, Box 5,080, "The Era."

WANTED, Prepossessing Young Girl, 14 to 15 years old, slender figure, and weight not over 100lb., for Apprentice in well-known Act. Apply in person, or address with photo. and particulars; preference given to one who can do a little bending, splits, &c. T. DRANEG, New York Clipper, 48, Cranbourn-street, Leicester-square, W.

WANTED, to open July 15, eight weeks, rehearse Monday next, Refined Entertainers, Comedians and Soubrettes, must be educated, well dressed. Send photo., age, height, and lowest terms, DIRECTOR, Bandstand, Bognor.

WANTED, First-class Al-Fresco, near London, really good Comedians, Comedienne (Contralto voice an advantage), Accompanist (Compose and Arrange—state if vocalist). Age, particulars, Box 5,079, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, smart Young Comedian-Dancer, single, versatility, and refinement essential. Répertoire, refs., photo., and absolute lowest to HOWARD STEVENS, Clare Hall Gardens, Halifax.

WANTED, for Al Fresco, Comedian, really funny, young, and refined; also Comedienne, young and pretty, good voice, to assist at Piano preferred. All particulars, VERNON CHALDERS, West End Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Experienced Youth, for Animals, assist Baggage; also small, smart, funny Pantomimists and Knockabouts. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand.

WANTED, Young Man and Lad; must tumble a little, or front bending. State tricks and salary. Box 5,069, "Era" Office.

WANTED, immediately Smart Tumbler and Knockabout for Comedy Act. Apply, with tricks, terms, &c., to Box 5,066. "The Era."

WANTED, Clever Girl Beginner, for small Portable Variety Theatre. Send photos. MANAGER, Empire Theatre, Deanshanger, Stony Stratford, Bucks.

WANTED, Clever Children, several Clever Children, Boys and Girls, Vocalists, Dancers, Specialities, all High-Class and Refined, 2 months, from July 29. Apply personally to MURRAY KING and CLARK, 2, Hungerford-road, Camden-road, N., to-day, 11 till 3.

WANTED, Punch and Judy Show, for July 11. 6 miles from town; must be good. Lowest price, MORTIMER, 32, Broadway, Wimbledon, S.W.

WANTED, good complete Bioscope Show, for Season, at Greenwich Theatre. Send best terms, specimen programmes ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, immediately, Bioscope and Operator, good pictures, Shares; other Halls to follow; also Automatic Machines, Stickyback Photographer, and Tattooing Artist. Address, MANAGER, Drew's Hall, Blaina.

WANTED, Animated Picture Machine, with reliable Operator, Films and Gas provided, for eight weeks certain. T. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Cinematograph Operators, with or without necessary Apparatus, to Photograph Subjects at Various Places in the Provinces. Reply, stating lowest terms, qualifications, and other particulars, to Box 259, Sell's Advertising Offices, 168, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

WANTED, competent and reliable Bioscope Operator, open in the North-West July 29, stationary. Bona-fide applicants will be considered; others save stamps. Terms and recent refs. (which will be inquired into) to FRANK LENS, Grand Pier, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, good Operators, long Engagement to expert hands. R. PRINGLE, Penarth, Croft-road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, will Wright and Lawson please forward two Sets of Band Parts to FRANK NEWBURY, Pavilion, Sunderland.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, MYSTERIOUS LILITH,
in her beautiful Palace of Roses,
the most Sensational Mystery Act ever presented.
Also LILIAN WARREN'S Vocal Pictures,
with beautiful Dissolving Effects.
Liberty July 8, 22, Aug. 5, 26. Coms. to 113, Kennington Park-road, S.E.; or 77, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff. Proprietors and Managers should secure these Two Star Acts.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lolo, Charming Lady Gymnast; also Little May, Juvenile Speciality Dancer and Contortionist. Private address, 127, Upper Aughton-rd., Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, by Little Dolly Brough, Refined Juvenile Comedienne and Clog Dancer, Monday next and July 15. Wire, 16, Roome-street, Orford-avenue, Warrington.

WANTED, Known, Little Dorretta, Liberty Monday, also 22nd, only Vacancies this year. Wire, Theatre Royal, Dover.

WANTED, by Musical Zingara (C. Mignon), Banjo Queen, Six Instruments, Dates; or would join Good Act. 73, Drake-street, Rochdale.

WANTED, Known, Lottie Collard, Charming Comedienne and Expert Dancer, at Liberty July 15, 1907. This, Hippo., Belfast; Monday next, Tivoli, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Monday, Ella Macgregor, Scotch Soprano.
Wire, Palace, Grimsby.

WANTED, by Babs Lloyd and Nellie Vance, July 8, 15, 22; two distinct turns. Wire, South London Palace, London-road. After Saturday, B., 158, Witton-road, Aston, Birmingham. Wire, quick.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Terry, Popular Comediennes, at Liberty July 15, 22, 29. Address, Argyle Varieties, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Monday and 15th, by Sisters Ely, the Talented Duettists. Success and complimented everywhere. Wire, 13, Edward-st., Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Mella, great and refined Speciality Pot-Pourri Act, vacant July 15 onwards. Address, 12, Temperance-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known, Florence and Lillian (Artistic Musical Act), Disengaged July 8 and 15. Address, 83, St. Augustine's-road, London, N.W.

WANTED, 15th and 22nd, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey (big Novelty), also First-Class Ventriloquial Show. Wire or write, this, P., Dover; next, Foresters', London; North preferred.

WANTED, Known, Prof. Thomas, Ventriloquist and Mimic, open for few immediate dates, commencing July 8. BERT VINCENT, Agent, 239, Harnall-lane, Coventry.

WANTED, Perce Upton, Droll Comedian, through hall closing, July 15, Aug. 5; still vacant Pantomime. 52, Bolton-road, Stratford, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Monday, J. H. Bray, Descriptive Vocalist.
Wire, Palace, Grimsby.

WANTED, by James Brady, Comedian, a Cert., July 15, 22; re-engaged Empire, Middlesbrough, £5 rise. Wire, 30, Banstead-grove, Leeds.

WANTED, July 15, through misunderstanding, by Li-Chang-Hi, Chinese Illusionist and Wonder Worker, also Aug. 5. Next, Pier Pavilion, Folkestone.

WANTED, by Otto Ethardo, Artistic Juggler, Monday next.
Wire, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Engagements, Shavo, Juggler, Halls, Picture Shows, Galas, Al-Fresco, Vacant Monday, onwards. 8, Wellington-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, July 8, onward, wire Empress Theatre, Hartlepool, the Great Kyoto, Comedy Japanese Contortionist and Pot-Pourri Act, a laughing and applauding hit; also May Geraldine, Comedienne, Vocalist, Dancer; two distinct Acts. After Saturday, 506, Stockport-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Vokes and Marshall (Ned and Jessie), Funny, Refined Comedy Musical and Patter Artists; Liberty. 16, Moreton-st., Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, by Ted Young and Ada Twibell, Monday next; also July 15 and 29. Wire, 13, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, The Days, Florence and Frederic, the Acme of Telepathy. This, Palace, Scarboro'; next, Hippo., Maidstone. Vacant July 15, 22, and 29.

WANTED, Known, Edward Clark and Sadie Gold, American Expert Banjoist, Singers, Dancers, Liberty July 29, Aug. 5, 12. Address, General P.O., Ludgershall, Wilts.

WANTED, Monday next, by The Calcotts, also July 29. Terrific success of Musical-Dancing Scena, "Rags and Tatters." Wire, Hippo., Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, by Wallace Whitney, Comedian; Beatie Foster, Comedienne; July 8, also 15. P. H., Wrexham; after Sat., to 62, Gt. Jackson-st., Manchester.

WANTED, July 15 and 22, by Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers, and Alvar, Daring Gymnast; two acts, three people. Success, Pal., Oldbury; next, G. T., Manchester.

WANTED, by Cadogan and Wingrove, "A Clerical Complication" (Muir and Bartlett's), 22, 29, follow Gaiety, Glasgow, also Aug. 5. Palace, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Monday next, also 15th, 22nd, The Monckтons, in Successful Screamingly Funny Episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" Address, Empire, Hull. Thanks Rosen and Bliss for further Contracts.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, smartest of all Lady and Gentleman Gymnastic Pot-Pourri Acts, free July 8, 15, 22, 29. Till Sunday, Theatre, Keighley; after, PACEY'S Agency, or SLEY and STEBBINGS.

WANTED, Monday next, also July 13, by Syd Herman, Hebrew Comedian, Lil Dresden, Characteristic Vocalist, and Daisy Thorne, Smart Young Comedienne and Dancer. Wire, HERMAN, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Monday next, also July 15, 22, 29, only dates this year, vacant through Continental Hall Closing.
Picitt and Lizette, Magical Pantomimists,
in their Great Illusory Extravaganza,
"THE CRAZY COOK."
Big Dumb Comedy Act, worked like lightning.
Original Illusions, Fifty Birds and Animals.
The Most Realistic Kitchen Set Ever Staged.
Wire for Monday,
PICITT, 40, Oriel-terrace, Gerard-street, Derby.

WANTED, Known, The Gentrys are at Liberty, in their Laughter-provoking Comedy Act, "Bits," July 22, July 22. Letters, Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

WANTED, July 8, 15, 22, 29, by Mueller and Coyne.
Wire, 14, Boundary-road, Merton, London.

WANTED, by Doyle and Gibson, Comedians, July 15, 22, and 29. Only vacs. until May. Mon., Hip., Burton-on-Trent; or BURNS, Hartlepool.

WANTED, July 8, 22, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, by the Bros. Webb, famous Musical Clowns. P. A., 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, Monday next, Leonard and Mac, up-to-date Patter Comedians, Vocalists, and Dancers. Wire, Theatre, Dover.

WANTED, Monday next, July 8 and 15, by Hector and Sultan, Eccentric Groteseques. Wire, 15, Oxford-street, Accrington.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Wright and Elton, Great Comedy Act, vacant July 22 onwards. This, Hippo., Burton; Monday next, July 8, E., Dover. Wire or write.

WANTED, Known, Mac and Beale, the Popular Comedians, Vacant July 8. Wire for a Successful Turn. 57, Templar-road, Lower Clapton, London.

WANTED, Three Distinct Acts, Zancig Thought-reading, Conjuring, and Bioscope, for in or outdoors. LENTON and BERTRAM, 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, by the Three Danbrooks (a team of extraordinary musicians), "A Lively Time in a Music Shop," great success this week Gaiety, Chatham; vacant for July 8, wire.

WANTED, July 15, 22, by Los Granadas, with their own Trampolin Novelty, "Sensational Happenings Outside an Hotel," Galas or Theatres. July 8, week, Wolverhampton Flower Show and Cardiff Gala. Fixed by Messrs. Wilder's, 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, July 15, by The Musical Palmers; share or certainty; two turns if required. This, Hippodrome, Redditch; Monday, Hippodrome, Kidderminster.

WANTED, Known, do you want packed Halls? Try Four Cecilians. Vacant July 8, 15. 120, Victoria-dwellings, Clerkenwell, London.

WANTED, Monday next, for Walker's Comedy Nippers; Globella, Globe Speciality.
Wire offers one or both Turns.
78, King-street, Southport.

"THE DUTCH SERENADERS,"
under the direction of Frank L. Hayter.
WANTED, July 15, 22, 29. This week, Victoria Pier, Cowes. Unprecedented Success; elaborate costumes; special printing. Refer Mr. Dew, Pier, Dover, as to show, or Mr. More here. Biggest Success and Draw on the Road. Wire or write as above.

WANTED, July 15, 22, by Billy Ross and Co., Greatest and Funniest Comedy Act on the Stage. Starring Palace, West Hartlepool. Wire.

WANTED, July 8, 15, for Matt Wilkinson and Co. in the "Registry Office" or "French Flirtation," also Violet Beatrice, Boy Impersonator. Address, 157, Silver-street, Edmonton, N.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus, Ponies, Donkeys, Goat, and Dogs, will be at Liberty Oct. 21, 28, also Nov. and Dec. All coms. address, C. CABAN, Palace, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show, Vacant July 15 and 22; also Aug. 19 and 26. Notice.—Another Three Baby Lions born on Saturday last. All communications, week July 8, Hippodrome, Paisley, N.B.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Comedy Troupe of Dogs, the Four-footed Animals with the Human Brains. A Show that Hits them Every Time. Liberty July 22 and 29. Palace, Halifax.

WANTED, Monday next, Kitty Woodford's Dogs, Circus and Orchestra combined. A Pretty and Smart Performance. Wire, Theatre Royal, Dover.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Cycling Act, free July 29, Aug. 12, 26, two Acts, Galas.
Address, 168, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, The Duniops, Comedy Cyclists, and Lillian Sivado, Lady Gymnast; two distinct Acts, Vacant July 15. Address, Blue Bell Hotel, Stockport.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio, Humorous Cyclists, Mon. next, Hippo., Lancaster; vacant July 15, 22, 29.

WANTED, Known, William Lorenzi, of Sisters Phillips and Brothers Lorenzi, is at Liberty to join Sketch, and also for Christmas Pantomime. All coms., 127, Westbrook-street, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, R. Hull, Liberty to Play in Sketches; played Principal Parts in all Equestrian Sketches; can Break Horses or Ponies for the Stage. 14, Tiverton-road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Tumbler wishes to join Sketch or Comedy Act. Address,
Box 5,064, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Dane's Marionettes, immediate and future dates; everything new and up to date; first production "Zuyder Zee" (five characters). Address, 276, Sherrard-road, Manor Park.

WANTED, by Bioscope, Engagements, also Song Slides, 8 Pal of Mine, 4s.; 9 Daddy, 4s.; 8 Anchored, 4s.; others; also Films, 1d. per ft. MORRIS, 18, Tweed-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagements, at Piers, Halls, Al-Frescoes, &c., for E. Holmes' Bio-stereograph; gas or electric fit-up; the Finest Pictures on the Road; everything up-to-date. Wire or write, 92, Church-road Essex-road, Islington, N.

WANTED, Known, Mr. O. Maus Dayton wishes to highly recommend his Operator for Bioscope, thorough electrician. CHAS. E. RALPH, Public Hall, Wrexham.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World.
If you want to Buy or Sell
Anything Connected with the Business,
Consult TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept.,
The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.
Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Known, .22 "R" and "D" cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters, Pistols, and all repairs done. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Simons, of 100, 101, 102a, Houndsditch, London, is the Cheapest for Secondhand Watches, Jewellery, &c. Metal Watches, 1s. 9d., 2s., 2s. 3d., 2s. 6d.; Silver, 3s., 3s. 3d., 3s. 6d., 4s.; Levers, 5s., 6s., 7s., to 10s. Assorted Parcel of 300 and 935 Watches, 3s. 6d. each.

WANTED, Auctioneers, to Know.—For cash only, my New Price List. Ready for you to Sell. Silver English Capped Lever Watches at following prices: 7s., 7s. 6d., 8s., 8s. 6d., 9s., 9s. 6d., 10s., 11s., and 12s. each, splendid goods. Silver Geneva Watches, 300 and 935 silver (assorted) at 3s. 6d. each. Market Workers should buy my 6s. and 6s. 6d. English Lever Watches; also my 3s. and 3s. 3d. Silver Geneva Watches. C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Showmen to Save Money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, I will always sell under every maker of Wire Rings; I have greatly reduced my prices. No. 1, 4s. per gross; No. 2, 5s. per gross; No. 3, 6s. per gross; No. 4, 7s. per gross. Send 12 stamps for samples.
FRED HILL,
115, Branston-street, Hockley, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Fair-keepers, Rifle Ranges, &c., STACEY and Co., Showmen Stores, Specialities for Rifle Ranges, Settles-street. E. Est. 50 years.

WANTED, Known, our new Intense Flame Arc Lamps are the best for Showmen.
SIMPKIN, WILKINSON, and GIBSON, Leeds.

WANTED, for St. Andrew's Exhibition, July 17 to 31, good Cinematograph or other Side-show, on sharing terms. If satisfactory, can arrange Long Tour. Sharing terms. Two Spaces for Side-stalls Vacant. Stalls and gas-fittings provided. MANAGER, Exhibition, City Hall, Brechin, N.B.

WANTED, Novelties, Freaks, can open at once. Sale of Books and Postcards allowed. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES, FOR JULY.

ENGLAND.

July 6 Ashover (2,362)
July 6. Barlborough (1,942)
July 6. Blandford (3,600)
July 6. Bognor (6,200)
July 6. Gloucester (48,000)
July 6. Haxey (1,800)
July 6. Silston (3,189)
July 6 Stainsby (121)
July 6. Taunton (21,600)
July 6. Tibshelf (3,000)
July 10. Leeds (423,900)
July 10. Menston (1,745)
July 10. Ringwood (4,400)
July 10. Stroud (9,200)
July 11. Burnley (97,044)
July 12. Headless Cross (3,500)
July 13. Chapel-en-le-Frith (4,652)
July 13. Holmesfield (510)
July 15. Baildon (6,000)
July 15. Chumleigh (1,200)
July 15. Darwen (38,200)
July 15. Linton (9,200)
July 15. Salisbury (17,100)
July 15. Spilsby (1,500)
July 18. Atherstone (5,000)
July 18. Horsham (9,500)
July 18. Launceston (4,052)
July 19. Dursley (2,400)
July 20. Dewsbury (31,500)
July 20. Hatherlow (8,962)
July 20. Hollinwood (8,962)
July 20. Normanton (Temple)
July 20. Stalybridge (27,000)
July 20. Tipton (20,500)
July 20. Tunstall (10,500)
July 22. Bramley (9,000)
July 22. Chesham (7,300)
July 22. Haworth (5,100)
July 22. Nelson (35,000)
July 23. Chiddingley (800)
July 24. Glemsford (2,000)
July 25. Alresford (2,000)
July 25. Epsom (11,000)
July 25. Hockwold (800)
July 25. Kingsbridge (3,000)
July 25. Reading (60,000)
July 27. Cley-next-the-Sea (700)
July 27. Compstall (2,300)
July 27. Longsight (16,500)
July 27. Melksham (2,500)
July 27. Mossley (14,800)
July 27. Shirland (3,697)
July 27. Stretton (615)
July 27. Walton (1,470)
July 29. Bollington (3,600)
July 29. Keighley (40,050)
July 29. King's Nympton (586)
July 29. Knottingley (6,500)
July 29. Olney (2,500)
July 29. Saltaire (5,000)
July 29. Sandford (200)
July 29. Shepley (25,000)
July 29. Unsworth (2,289)
July 29. Windhill (7,352)
July 30. Heyford (800)
July 31. Alfreton (6,120)

SCOTLAND.

July 8. Glasgow (622,355)
July 8. Hawick (17,803)
July 11. Johnstone (10,502)
July 11. Motherwell (54,274)
July 15. Forfar (12,061)
July 17. Rothesay (7,323)
July 20. Arbroath (22,372)
July 20. Kinross (2,136)
July 25. Edinburgh (208,062)
July 25. Kilmarnock (34,161)
July 25. Kirkcudbright (3,500)
July 25. Stirling (18,403)
July 29. Leith (76,667)

WALES.

July 31. Tenby (4,700)

THE UNITED KINGDOM SHOWMEN AND VANDWELLERS' PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.
THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD.
President, Lord George Sanger.
Vice-Presidents for Scotland, General Wilmot and George Green, Esq.

WANTED, Known, Meeting at Greenock Fair, Campbell-st. Ground, to-morrow (Sunday, July 7), at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, in Henderson's Show. Speaker, the Rev. T. Horne. T. HURST, Hon. Sec.

WANTED, Known, Important, that the Next Meeting of the BRITISH ROUNDABOUT PROPRIETORS' AND SHOWMEN'S UNION will be held at Burnley on Thursday, July 11, at 2.30 p.m.
Members to meet on the Fair Ground at 2 p.m.
Members specially summoned to this Meeting:—Wm. Pedley, Joseph Wingate, J. Caris, and N. J. Baker.
(Signed) THOS. HURST, Secretary.

WANTED, Tenders for good Punch and Judy Show or Ventriloquist, on percentage, for Al Fresco, Pitch found. WILL MARSH, Skegness.

WANTED, Lady Phrenologist, on Shares, splendid position, open immediately. SAMUELS' Exhibition Palace, 6, Henry-st., Dublin.

WANTED, a small Dwarf, one able to play Agouste. Write, with terms and photo., to C. CABAN, Caban's Circus, Palace Gardens, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, two Knockabouts, for Show Front, must assist to pull down and build up, and make themselves useful; all-the-year-round job to right people. TUBY, Coliseum, Feast Ground, Grimesthorpe, near Sheffield.

WANTED, good Doorsman, for Novelty Show, used to Fair Business; one that will make himself useful; good shop for good man; can join at once. PROPRIETOR, 100, Lower Marsh, Lambeth, London.

WANTED, at once, two good Auctioneers, that understand gold and silver Jewellery thoroughly. Apply,
14, Central-beach, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Bailey's Punch and Judy and Toby, Galas, next week, three days Wolverhampton, two days Cardiff. Address, Buxton, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Known, Large Distorting Mirrors, at Liberty; share, rental, or hire for Exhibitions, Bazaars, &c. Address, Box 5,065, "The Era."

BLACKPOOL SANDS.

WANTED, Known, the South Shore Pleasure Beach is the only site in Blackpool for Open-Air Attractions.
The grounds are forty acres in extent, right on the sea front, and are situated immediately next the Promenade at the Electric Tramway Terminus. From April 1 to Dec. 31, 1905, 4,000,000 passengers were carried on these tramways. The permanent attractions now include the "River Caves of the World," "Maxim Flying Machine," "Sea Circus," &c. Great Canadian Water Chute and Scenic Railway from Coney Island now being erected for this season. For sites and concessions for really good Novelties apply personally. Office on grounds. Letters only. 14, Balmoral-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Ground to Let, for Sole Right of Switchback, Helter Skelter, or any Novelty Machine, also Side Shows, &c., at Dartford Fair, Aug. 1, 2, and 3, 1907; best Fair in Kent; record attendance 1906; also Ground to Let for Side Shows, Cinématograph, Throwing Games, &c., for Grand Commemoration Fête, Bromley, Kent, Monday, Aug. 5. Apply to R. CLASPER, 26, Batsford-road, St. John's, S.E.

WANTED, Known.—Notice. All parties requiring Ground for all the Devonshire Regattas and Fairs in July, August, and September. First Regatta, Exmouth, July 20; Honiton Fair, 24th, 25th, 26th; Exeter Regatta, Aug. 3; Dawlish Regatta, Aug. 8; Babbacombe, 9th, 10th; Teignmouth, 15th, 16th; Paignton, 20th, 21st; Brixham 23rd, 24th; Torquay, 26th, 27th; Dartmouth, 29th, 30th, 31st; Plymouth Regatta, Sept. 4, 5; &c. Good opening for Shooters and Side Shows. Apply, W. C. and S. HANCOCK, West Hoe, Plymouth.

WANTED, to Let, Land for Stalls and Shows. Apply, JOHN HARDMAN, Manager, Starr Estate Fairground Co., 15, King-street, Blackpool.

Notice to Showmen.
WANTED, Known, Spaces to Let, for all Kinds of Side-shows, for Fête and Gala for Mottingham, Kent, for August Bank Holiday. Low rents. 5,000 to 6,000 visitors. Address, S. WETHERHEAD, 490, New Cross-road.

WANTED, Known, Tontine Assembly Rooms, Fol

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen, Stallholders, and other Fair Travellers, to Know that I have SPACES TO LET on the following well-known Fair and Wakes Grounds: Longton Fancy Fair, Commencing July 6; Worcester Races, July 5 till 10; Tipton, Tamworth, Atherstone, Hanley Wakes, Bloxwich Grand Fête and Gala, Aug. 16 to 20; Darlaston, Oldbury, Netherton, Wednesbury, Willenhall, Brierley Hill, and others to follow, up to the Great Birmingham Onion Fair, commencing Sept. 25; West Bromwich, Smethwick, and Leicester October Fair.

P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall. Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall." 'Phone, 80 Walsall.

WANTED, Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, and Stallholders, to Know that they can have Ground on Reasonable Terms, at what will, without the slightest doubt, prove to be the Record Success in the Annals of British Showmen's History, of this and many past and coming Centuries. The 700th Anniversary of the Foundation of the City of Liverpool. Grand Pageant and Fêtes, arranged by His Worship the Lord Mayor and the Corporation of Liverpool.

P. and J. COLLINS have succeeded in securing from Aug. 3 to Aug. 10, the whole of the Liverpool Parks and Corporation Open Spaces, viz., Sefton Park, Wavertree Park, Walton Hall Estate Ground, and Newsham Park, where up-to-date Monster Fun Fairs will be held. All the Greatest Outdoor Amusement Attractions have been secured. Bostock and Wombwell's famous Menagerie, the Travelling British Zoo. F. Collins's Grand Cosmograph, the Talking and Singing Living Pictures. Wonderland, with its New Ideal Orchestra, and grand display of Thousands of Vari-coloured Electric Fairy Lights. An unrivalled display of Electric Fireworks. All the Best British, Continental, and American Novelty Exhibitions. F. Collins's Patent Switchback Motor Car Track. Rollicking Giant Roosters, and Helter Skelter Lighthouse, or Dragon Slide. J. Collins's Unrivalled Electric Jumping Horses, Giant Steam Yachts, the Razzle Dazzle and Japanese Air-ship, and a Host of other Novelties.

The City of Liverpool will observe this week as a General Holiday. His Majesty's Channel Fleet will anchor in the Mersey. Numerous Excursion Trains and Steamers will run daily into Liverpool from all parts of Britain.

All persons requiring Ground or Spaces for Shows, Games, Stalls, &c., address, with full particulars, the sole Lessees, P. and J. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall. Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall." 'Phone, 80 Walsall.

WANTED, Auctioneers, to Know that Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is still forging ahead with his up-to-date Lines in Jewellery, Clocks, Fancy Goods, &c. New Catalogue, containing over 2,000 illustrations, now ready.

WANTED, to Sell, Four fine Pantechnicon Vans; measurements, No. 1, 21ft. 2in. long, 6ft. wide, 5ft. 3in. high; No. 2, 21ft. 1in. long, 6ft. 3in. wide, 5ft. 3in. high; No. 3, 20ft. 4in. long, 6ft. 8in. wide, 6ft. high; No. 4, 16ft. 11in. long, 5ft. 5in. wide, 5ft. 3in. high. All in good condition, and will travel on any railway. Full particulars from POOLE, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, Living Waggons, 12ft., £20; 17ft., £35; road or rail. Would exchange for good Films. HODSON, Theatre, Clay Cross, Chesterfield.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

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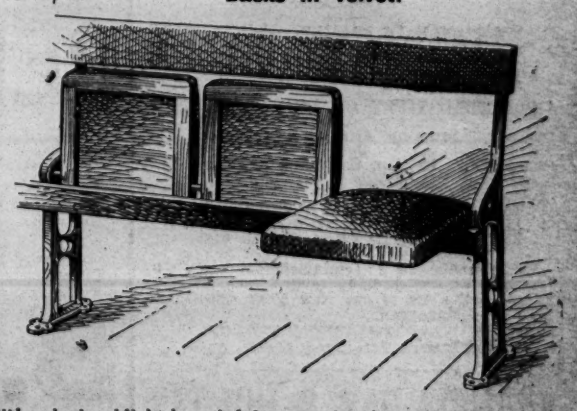

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Australian Woodcutters, "Kiss Your Father" Co., Geo. Formby, Ruth Lytton, Cissie Curlette, Marie San Toi and Co., Norman-Leonard Trio, Ellis Barrieton, Maud Mortimer, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
R. A. Roberts in "Ringing the Changes," Three Phydoras, Gus Garrick, Musical Johnstones, Millie Hylton, Hilda Playfair, Bioscope, Bertha Palliser, Tom Foy and Co., Frank Cumminger.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Mariedl, Marba and Verity, Chas. Robinson, Jessie Albini, Four Regals, G. W. Hunter, Bioscope, Raglus, Harry Tate's No. 1 Co. in "Motoring," Peggy Pryde.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Prof. Grossi, Elsie Claire, W. E. Whittle, Narow Bros., George Melvin, Lena Verdi, Illustrated Song, Bioscope, El Trio Tampico, Guy Ryder, Blake and Amber.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Ten Loonies, J. A. Wilson, Herbert Rule, Lockhart's Elephants, Ted and May Hopkins, Three Rubys, Frank Bertram and Co., Minna Merry, Bioscope, Illustrated Song.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Neil Kenyon, Harry Weldon, C. Randolph King, Caselli Sisters, Alexandre and Hughes, Jennie Johns, David Poole, Fred Hastings, Illustrated Song, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Tom Child, Lennie and Hast, Binns and Binns, Eric, Fred and Pauli, Chas. Norton, Madge Grey, Master Garrett and Co., L. W. Harris, Illustrated Song.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Eugene Stratton, Bioscope, Ryan and Hall, Nellie Martell, Frank Seeley, Ray Wallace, Belloni's Cockatoos, Les Frasettis, New York Nippers, Matthew Cowper and Co.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Selkirk's "Egypt," Bioscope, Edith Courtenay, Dot Stephens, Olive Armadale, Moulier Sisters, Carl Howard, Harry Grey.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Darnley's "Skirmishers," Lukushimas, Orpheus, Mendel, Arthur Gill, Hartley Wonders, Maggie Walsh, Ruby Dahl, Robb Gilmore, Illustrated Song

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"The King's Minister," Donaldson Bros. and Ardell, "Dida," Tom Woottwell, Starr and Leslie, Mark Merry, Grace Merton, Little Ganty, Madge May, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Ernest Shand, Bioscope, Alice Maydue, Roma and Romani, Irene Rose, Sanford and Lyons, Dusty Rhodes, Stelling and Revell, Northern Troupe "Little Stowaway."

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, "Heartstrings," Bioscope, Harry Bedford, Will Bishop and Co., Brothers Dean, Howard and Collinson, Five Osranis, Leonie Dixon, Carter Livesey and Co.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
George Robey, Ethel Hayden, The Leonards, Sisters Pine, Tom Parker, Sinclair and Parr, Marie Weston, The Mozarts, Gertie Gitana, Bioscope, Fred Lindsay.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
McNaughtons, Alice Lloyd, Park's Eton Boys, Victoria Monks, Herr Rousby, J. W. Rowley, Ella Dean, Le Gey Quartette, Whalen and West, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Karno's "The Bailiff," Rich and Rich, Elsie Robey, Lowell and Lowell, Russell Wallett, Rochez's Dogs, Bessie Butt, Bioscope, Illustrated Song

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Bella and Bijou, Drew and Alders, George Reeves, J. W. Hall, Whit Cunliffe, The Aeolians, Haley's Juveniles, Clement Trio, Rhoda Paul, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Fanny Fields, The Anartos, Ben Albert, Edie King, Pat Rafferty, May Henderson, Ryder Slone, Boy Glen, Lauder's Chronomegaphone, Wilde, Willie, and West.

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Cinématograph Exhibition, Curio Halls, Roller Skating, Phonograph, Waxworks, Galatea, Magic Maze, Shooting Ranges.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
George Lashwood, Austin Rudd, Baker and Balfe, Rosie Archer, Eight Empire Girls, Amy Anderson and Co., Farley, Rennie, and Farley, Ella Retford, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Harry Tate in "Fishing," Spry and Austin, Francis and Alfred, Fielding and Hull, Mezzettis, Ella Shields, Illustrated Song, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Wilkie Bard, Josh Dixon, Flo Esdaile, Seeley and West, "Aunt Matilda," Canty's Grotto, Nellie Stratton, Cruikshank, Boden and Bell, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for :—
Harry Roxbury and Co., Will Musgrave, George Ridgwell, Rosa Loader, Rapoli, Celtic Comedy Trio, May Mars, "The Globe of Life," Arthur Woodville, Miles Stavordales.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Lew Lake and Co. in "My Pal Jerry," Two Dixons, George Leonard, J. W. Rickaby, Thorpe and Coe, Harry Conlin, Eda Mady, Bioscope, De Biere and Co.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Fred Karno's "Tragedy of Errors," Matthew Brodie and Co., Nada Moret, Cecile and Francois, Rosalie Diard, Larry Lewis, Satanella Troupe, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Launceston Elliott.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Black Hussars, The Delevines, Chas. Fisher and Co., Lancashire Lassies, Bonnie Goodwin's Piccaninnies, Melot Hermann, Doughty's Sketch Co., Walter Munroe, Ted E. Box, Bioscope.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Bransby Williams, Maudie Macdonald, Gasch Sisters, Victor Travers, Muir and Bartlett, Bert Woodward, Signor and Mme. Borelli, Pictures, W. J. Ashcroft.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for :
Hetty King, Bros. Mills, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Twin Andersons, Eily Adair, Collins and Rice, McConnell Trio.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"Home from the Honeymoon," Dan Leno, jun., Horsley Bros., Dolly Denton, Horace White, Pictures, Barnard's Marionettes, Ross and Lewis.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Closed for cleaning and redecoration.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Three Golden Graces, Carlyles, Bertha Stuart, Musical Jees, Sidney Lee, Harry Anderson, Bioscope, Little Tina.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
"Jolly Japan," Billy McClain's Sextette, Jack Lane, Dave O'Toole, Nat Clifford, Fred Elton, Millie Engler, Sisters Morgan, Sadie Simpson, Maidie Scott, Shirley and Ransome, Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, Athas and Collins, Olive and Owen, Pictures.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Both Performances.
Gus Elen, "Belle of the Orient," Dave O'Toole, Nat Clifford, Madie Scott, Kate Trail, Maudie Ford, The Findens, New Macs, John Holland and Co., Daisy Dormer, Pictures.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Ginnett's "Dick Turpin," Venie Clements, Kent and Keith, Frank Sylvo, The Uniques, Netherlands, Blanche Vincent, Jock Mills, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
August Van Biene and Co., American Comedy Four, Gus Dallon, Bros. St. Clair, Laurie and Beattie, Bros. Corcoran, Cullane's Comedy Co., Sisters Lavender, Alfred Lester, Bioscope.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
ARTISTS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE THAT THE ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON, IS WITHIN THE AREA ABSOLUTELY BARRED BY US.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

NOTICE.—Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose a stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.
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"WHEN I WAS A BEAUTIFUL BABY," Sung by Courtice Pounds.

"MOLLY MOLYNEUX" (Edward Montagu), Sung by Miss Billie Burke in "Mrs. Ponderbury's Past," at the Vaudeville Theatre. Also by Miss Margaret Cooper, Miss Florence St. John, and Miss Ethel Newman.

"THERE'S NOTHING LIKE YOUR FIRST LOVE AFTER ALL." (Morton and Leslie Stuart). Sung by Eugene Stratton.

"IN THE VALLEYS OF SWITZERLAND." (Charles Wilmott and H. E. Darewski, jun.) Sung by Miss Annie Purcell.

"EVERY LITTLE BIT ADDED TO WHAT YOU'VE GOT." Sung by R. G. Knowles.

"HE'S A COUSIN OF MINE" (Mack, Smith, and Silvio Hein), Sung by Miss Clarice Vance.

"FOR KING AND SIRELAND," The New Imperial Anthem (Edward Montagu). Sung by Miss Ruby Helder, at the Empire, Leicester Square; also by Stanley Adams.

"IN THE TWI-TWI-TWILIGHT" (C. Wilmott and H. E. Darewski, jun.), and "OH, FOR A NIGHT IN THE WEST" (E. W. Rogers), Sung by George Lashwood.

"FOR AULD LANG SYNE" (F. W. Leigh and H. E. Pether), and "THE TENBOB RISE" (Bateman and Bennett Scott), Sung by Tom Costello.

"MAY" (G. Arthurs and O. Powell). Sung by Miss Alice Lloyd.

"ALL ALONE IN OLD COLOGNE" (Murray, Leighton, and Hilbury). Sung by Miss Betty Green, at the London Hippodrome.

"MY CASTLE IN SPAIN" and "MY COSY CARAVAN" (Lawrance, Mellor, and Gifford), Sung by Miss Lil Hawthorne.

"I'LL TELL TILLY ON THE TELEPHONE" (Castling and Godfrey), Sung by Miss Dora Lyric.

"LAZY." Written, Composed, and Sung by Walter Tilbury.

"READ BETWEEN THE LINES" and "THE ECHO OF AN OLD, OLD TALE." (Frank Leo). Sung by Miss Sable Fern.

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Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

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LONDON DISTRICT.
MR. WILLIAM COLLINS,
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N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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All Billing Matter for the undermentioned Theatres to be sent to the Secretary at above address. All communications as to engagements for the Theatres to be addressed to Messrs. ROSEN & BLISS, Variety Agents, 12 & 13, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

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N.B.—INTERVIEWED BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS for MONDAY, JULY 8, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.

G. H. Chirgwin, The Fordyces, Arabella Allen, Harry Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene and Co., Rappo and Ella, Vernon's Bioscope, Zertho.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.

Paul Cinquevalli, Lily Stewart, Steeley and Dowton, Kisbey, Adey Spencer, Francis O'Flynn, Vernon's Bioscope, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.

Chung Ling Soo, Starr and Jerome, Ida Ross, Frank Keegan and Co., G. W. Foster, Les Rallis, Georgina Leonard, The Seven Zerbinis.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.

Jordan and Harvey, Marie St. John, W. H. Hilton, Fred Mason, Baine and Reed, Cherry Lass, Vernon's Bioscope, Fred Cleveland's Burlesque Co.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.

Frank Long, Amoyo San and Co., The Sages, Sisters Henderson, J. T. Macmillan, The Brooklyns, Tossing Austins, Will Candlish, Vernon's Bioscope, Macdonald and Huntingdon.

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Closed during the Summer Season. Due notice of re-opening will be given.

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CALLS. CALLS.

THE VAUDEVILLE SYNDICATE.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JULY 8, 1907.

PALACE, DOVER.

Raymonds, Bros. Hayes, Lilly Lassah, Vere and Royal, Cissie Lupino, Three Transfields, Peter Gotz.

ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.

Lillian Elfreda, Wright and Elton, Raymonds' Pictures, Bessie Willow, Chas. Gardener, the Zampas, Harry Simms.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.

Oakdeane, Jack Foley, Louie Hurman, Pictures, Edie Endon, Cissie Thompson, Metz and Metz, Fred Southern and Co.

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All Bookings are now made direct from above Hall.
All Contracts made on behalf of the Palace, Glasgow, on or before April 7, 1906, and delivered to the present Management, not yet completed, will be carried out.
Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.
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having resigned from the Directorate of the above establishment, artists holding contracts are requested to note that bill-matter should be sent direct to the Manager, Tivoli, Lime-street, Liverpool, and not to the De Frece Circuit Offices as hitherto.

Artists who may have signed contracts which have not yet been confirmed should communicate with the Manager, Tivoli, Liverpool, without delay.

For other Calls see Page 33.

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Proprietor and Director General:
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Business Manager for the Circuit:
Mr. E. P. LAWTON.
Secretary:
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Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen between the hours of 12 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

All applications for dates at the Theatres Royal, Rotherham, Chesterfield, and Leeds, to be addressed to the London Offices.
Telegraphic Address, "Cartavnac."
Telephone, No. 9167, Gerrard.

General Manager, Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.
Secretary ... Miss AGNES M. RUSTON.

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All billing matter and notification of appearance, accompanied by samples of pictorial printing, must be sent in to the London Offices fourteen clear days prior to opening, or contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management.
All artists carrying scenery must have same fireproofed in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
In cases of emergency after office hours, Mr. Baugh may be consulted at the Foresters' Theatre, Cambridge-road, E.
Telephone, 5964 Avenue.
Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London."

CALLS.

FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, JULY 8, 1907.

PALACE, BRADFORD.

Arthur Watson and Co., Lew Towers, The Claymores, Burns and Bently, Sisters Thurbani, J. P. Ling, Lack and Ford Trio, Raymond's Biotableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.

Columbia Trio, La Belle Maie, Czar Troupe, Jack Rae, Six Idols, Harvey and Holt, Lanos and Montes, Billy Ross and Co., Raymond's Biotableaux.

PALACE, HALIFAX.

The Kellinos, Le Cren Trio, Alf. Ripon, Capt. Devereux, Massona, Carrie Victoria, Melia and Mozarabar, Bert and Dora, Raymond's Biotableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.

Leoni Clarke, The Peritas, Cadogan and Wingrove, Talbot and Pearce, Whimsical Walker, Master Carr, Jock Walker, Raymond's Biotableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.

Alexandra Dagmar, R. C. Note, Jay W. Winton, Carlotta de Yonson and Co., Daisy Davenport, Blanche and Powell, Romsakoff Guards, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.

Queenie Essex, Pictures, J. H. Hawtrey, Mme. de Rose, Hilda Claremont, Challis' Dogs, Raleigh Abrahams and Co.

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"Honour Thy Father."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"My Sweetheart."

THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.
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PALACE & HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON
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PALACE & HIPPODROME, BURNLEY
will open in December.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday.
Lottie De Abbey, Casey's Circus, Will Harmony, Chas. Denton, Karnello, Ethel Arundell, Learto, Bros. Tarrant, Carl Rosine, Raymonds, Austin and Cowen.

THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
Raymond's Pictures, Arnold Bell and Co., Vivian and Lee's Sketch Co., Lovelaces' Illustrated Songs.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Eva Farleigh, Phedona, Society Quartette, Leonard Mortimer and Co., Kenderick and Laura, Geo. Bendon, The Almos, Flo Gallimore, Josie De Laine, Les Louberts, Raymond, Gracie O'Neil.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Roze and Calvert, Elton and Elma, Tom W. Barrett, Joan Deering, Bros. Curran, Davenports, Queenie Dell, Sisters Rayman, Raymond, Frank Hardie and Co., Parker and Parr, Sidney Mason and Co.

SURREY THEATRE.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
"Crossing the Alps," Stidder and Dunbar, L. Mortimer's Co., Miska, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, Geo. Antil, Vi Raynor, Dora Dalby, Yorkshire Meisters, Raymond, Foy Bros. and Co., the Pirmans, Keith and Meirson.

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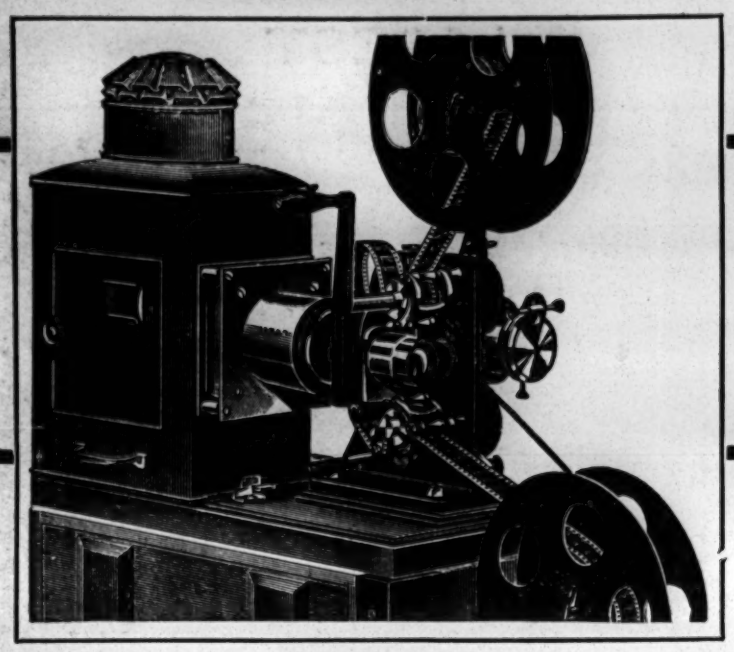

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Continued from Page 29.

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MUSIC HALL CARDS.

Alphabetically Arranged—Limited to Three Lines.

ABADAROFFS, Comedy Act, Prehistoric Mountebanks. Perm. Add., 95, Stretford-rd., Manchester, or STEBBINGS.

ABDULLAH ARABS, THE TWELVE, June, Cirkus Angel, Touring Germany. All coms., ASHTON'S, 140, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

ABEL and WELSH, "Horray, work at last." July 8, Barnard's, Chatham.

ACHMED IBRAHIM'S GREAT Troupe of Ten Bedouin Arabs. The genuine Success. Orpheum, Karlsbad, till July 31.

ALEXANDER'S, JOHN, Burlesque Company. Address, 13, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

ALFONZO, the Tranka Wonder. Vac. July 22, 29, Aug. 12. Great success, this, P., Oldbury; next, Palace, Gloucester.

ALLEN, SISTERS W., Hippo., Huddersfield, July 8; De Frece's, Colchester, July 15; Crystal Palace to follow. S. Hart, Esq.

ALMO TRIO, First-class Comedy Three Bar Act. July 8, Palace, Northampton; July 15, Aug. 5, vacant.

AMERICAINES, LES BELLES, This week, Hip., Boscombe; next, Hip., Portsmouth. Big Success. Agent, H. DAY.

ANTILL, GEO., the Original Shadow, Going Bigger than Ever. This Week, Seaside. Next Week, Macnaghten Halls.

ATLAS, the Beautiful MISS VULCANA and SISTERS ATLAS. Require 22nd. 17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

BADDOW and TIM, Clement's Concerts. Mablethorpe.

BAKER, SYDNEY, and CO., in the Beautiful Musical Romance, "Visions of the Past." Add., 38, Eccles-rd, Lavender-hill, S.W.

BARCLAY, GEORGE, and CO., Variety Agent. Telephone, 84 Streatham. 221, Brixton-hill, London, S.W.

BARD, GRACIE, Smart Character and Coon Delineator. Instantaneous success. P., Gloucester. Mon., P., Porth. Offers invited for 15th.

BARTHOLOMEW, SISTERS. (VIOLET) Dainty Girl, (DAISY) Smart Boy. London, Shoreditch. 8th, H., Aldershot.

BATTLE, GEORGE, Actor-Vocalist, The Lawn, Skegness. Per. add., 3, Goswell-road, London, E.C.

BELLA and BIJOU, the Celebrated Society Entertainers. Monday, July 8, Empire, Stratford.

BELROSE and DE VELIN, Speciality Duettists. Hippodrome, Coventry. Offers invited for 1909.

BENSON, BESSIE, in a Refined Singing and Dancing Act. July 8, Grand, Gravesend.

BENSON, JOHN, Lessee Pier Pav., Bognor. Star Artists wishing a pleasant week at seaside, com. vac. dates and summer terms.

BENTLEY'S VARIETY AGENCY, Cromwell House, Surrey-st., Strand, W.C. Telegrams, "Yeltneb, London." 'Phone, 12706 Central.

BERLIN BELLES FOUR, Big Success, Palace, Aberdeen. Thanks for offer for America. Monday, Hippo., Douglas.

BERNARD, GEO., Modern Vocal Actor. Taking a rest to count my money. Letters, 119, Westbourne-avenue, Gateshead.

BLANCHE and DIACOFF, the Great Cycle Whizz. Next week, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield. Telephone 195 Basford.

BLANCHE and POWELL, in their High-Class Drawing-Room Entertainment. July 8, Southampton. Macnaghten Tour.

BLARNEY and KENNARD, Comedians, with Waltzing Dog, Success, Palace, Derby. Panto. offers invited.

BLISS and BLISS, Comedians. All Coms., King Alfred Hotel, Walney, Barrow-in-Furness.

BLYTHE, MARIE. July 8, Resting. Address, S. M. Hyman, Ltd.; or 9, Cleveland House, Hackford-road, Brixton, S.W.

BOHEMIANS, THE (WILL and MADGE), Instrumentalists and Comedy. Theatre Royal, Tyldesley. Vacant July 8, wire.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME. Different from all others. Empire, Dublin. TOM SHAW and Co.

BOULTONS, THE, and MDLLE. BARTENELLI. Kingholm Pavilion, Gloucester. Open for Galas.

BRADY, JAMES, Comedian. A Cert. Re-engaged, Empire, Middlesbro', £5 rise. Vac. July 15, 22. 30, Banstead-grove, Leeds.

BRAMHAM, JOHN. Professionals' House of Call in Bradford is the Oddfellows' Arms (Saloon Bar Entrance, opposite People's Pal.)

BRENTON, SISTERS, Refined Duettists and Dancers. Big Success Royalty T., Morecambe. This week, Tivoli, Manchester.

BREWSTERS, FIVE, Novel Speciality Act, Monumental Success, Engagement Prolonged. Os. Budávárá, Budapest, Hungary.

BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELLA), July 1 and 8. London Add.,9, Camberwell New-rd. Chatham, Gravesend to follow.

BROOKS, GEORGE H., Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BURTON and TRENT, Original Eccentric Musicians. It's not here; it's what we do. This, P., Attercliffe. JESS VERNO, Liverpool.

BUTT, BESSIE, July 8 Empire, New Cross. Communications to HUGH J. DIDCOTT.

CABAN'S FRENCH CIRCUS, Ponies, Donkeys, Goat, and Dogs. Palace Gardens, Clacton-on-Sea.

CADLE'S AGENCY, 105 and 106, Strand. Telephone No. 1975 Gerrard.

CADOGAN and WINGROVE, "Clerical Complication" (Muir and Bartlett's). Vac. 22nd. 29th. Glasgow. Palace, West Hartlepool.

CAINE, ANDIE, Indisposed. Sylvan Villa, Filey, Yorks.

CAMBO, the Musical Monkey. This, Palace, Dover; next, Foresters', London. Vacant 15th and 22nd.

CARLOWS, THE (TOM and CISSY), Comedy Couple, Singles and Doubles. Offers for Aug. 5. All coms., 101, Sultan-st., Accrington.

CARLTON, HENRY, in his High-Class Novel Comedies. Thanks Jack Woolf, for Contract. London; next, Leeds.

CHALLISS, FRED, Canine Champions. Great Success everywhere. This, Barnard's, Chatham; next, Pav., Leicester. Vac. date Aug. 5.

CHARNLEYS, THE (Annie and Edie). This week, Hip., Portsmouth. Mon., return, Empire, Wolverhampton.

CHEERS, THE, with their Wonderful Performing Cats. This, T. Royal, Windsor. Next, Empire, Burnley.

CHESTER and LEES, Electric Theatre des Fantoche. Kirn and Dunoon, Daily.

CLARK, H. G., Eccentric Comedian, Thanks Victor Samson, Esq., also Messrs. Grapho and Jackson for offers. Settled. P., Morley.

CLIFF and KEAN, July 8, Empire, York. Fully Booked, with thanks.

CLIFFORD, CHARLES, C.D.D., the Renowned Harpist and Humourist, on Tour 15, Priory-gardens, Highgate, London, N.

CLYO and ROCHELLE, thank Delmar for offer 8 weeks, I. of M. This, Hip., Scarborough. Vacant Monday.

CONN and DAVIS, Broadhead Tour. Vacant, July 15 and 22. Panto. settled. This week, Empire, Ashton-under-Lyne.

CORELLI (the Original), giving "A Lesson in Magic." This week, Hip., Huddersfield; next, Hip., Lancaster. TOM SHAW'S Agy.

CORNISH, WILL, in his Unique Musical Bell Act. July 8, Aquarium, Scarborough (second week).

COSTELLO, BROS., Comedy Acrobats and Knockabout Comedians. On Tour. Liberty for Panto. Add. care of "The Era."

COTTERELL, SID, and CO., in the Great Comedy Hit, "The Substitute." H. M. T., Walsall; next, Hippo., Hastings.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG, and CO. Vacant Monday next, 8th. Wires, Winter Gardens, Morecambe.

CRANKS, COMICAL, Motorists, Cyclists, Motorists. Vac. Galas, also Aug. 5, Panto. 33 South-drive, St. Annes-on-Sea.

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Staley's Transformation Co., In America.

CULLEN and CARTHY, and LITTLE CLULEY. Enormous Hit, Pier, Southport. Hippo., Stockton-on-Tees.

CURRY, PERCY, the Original Candy Man. Only Vacancy this year, July 29. This week and next, Hippodrome, Blackpool.

DALTON'S AGENCY. Telegrams, "Granbeste, Withington, Lanc." 29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.

DANIELS, THE TWO, Niggers. Vacant Autumn. Palace, Bridlington.

DARRELL, WYNNIE, Comedienne and Dancer. July 8, The Canterbury. Coms., George F. Slatter, Walthamstow Palace.

DAUNTON - SHAW TROUPE, Trick Cyclists, Monarchs of the Wheel. Gaiety, Birmingham. Agent, FOSTER.

DAYS, THE (FLORENCE and FREDERIC), Engoged by Sir E. Moss, who has booked the best. Piano and Book Tests.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE, July 8, Great Floral Fête, Wolverhampton.

DECARS, THE, Comedy Acrobatic Animal Act. This, Hippo., Blyth; next, Flower Show, Wolverhampton. Vacant, July 29.

DE HENAU and MLLE. ALADINA, Phenomenal Marvellous Painter, and Cockatoos. Post Office, Charing Cross, Glasgow.

DENE and DAWSON, in the Greatest Comedy Act Ever Seen. Terrific Success, Alhambra, Brighton. Next, King's, Longsight.

DENT, BERT, Manager, Barnard's Palace, Greenwich, S.E. Palace Buffet open on Sundays.

DE ROSE, MDLLE, J. H. HAWTREY, The Lady Foll. Actor-Vocalist. Pavilion, Leicester.

DILLONS, BOUNCING, July 8 Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

DIXON, CHARLEY, KATE LYND, Mon., July 8, Hipp., Blackpool. Mon., July 8, Hipp., Blackpool.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, the Factory Nightingales. Only Act of its kind. Moss' Hippodrome, Burton-on-Trent.

DOLLY and ELSIE, Dainty Juvenile Vocalists and Dancers. Vac. July 15. July 8, Hippodrome, Stockton.

DORRETTA, LITTLE, Dutch Comedienne and Acrobatic Sabot Dancer. Liberty Monday. Wire T. R., Dover.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, A comedienne of much merit and attraction.—Vide Press. London Nightly.

DOUGLAS, AILSA, a Most Charming Singer.—Vide Press. Big Success Palace, Manchester. 32, Ellesmere-street, Salford.

DOYLE and GIBSON, Comedians. This week, Empire, Hull; next, Hip., Burton-on-Trent; only Vacs., July 15, 22, and 29.

DUNCAN and BRASQUE, In a New Playlet, "A Society Butterfly." Address, 32, Whitby-street, West Hartlepool.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 15, Brixton. 1a, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

EILEEN and MAYNIE SISTERS. Musical Dancing Dutch Act. Westminster, Liverpool. Next, return Hippo., Accrington.

ELLA'S, MISS, Best Existing Lion Show. July 8. Hippodrome, Paisley, N.B.

ELLERTON, A., Songs, Sketches, &c. Author of Tich's "Drapery Sale," Dunville's "Dinky Doo," &c. 19 Vassall-rd., Brixton, S.W.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. July 8, Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

ELSWORTHY, MISS DOLLY, Sole Proprietress "Orange Girl" Co. Next week, Hippodrome, Birmingham.

ELTON and ELMA, Comedy Bar Act, Monday, Sadler's Wells, Monday.

ELY, SISTERS, the Only, Make Big Success Everywhere, through being Talented Duettists. Perm., 60, Gt. Mercy-street, Liverpool.

ESMOND, MAUD. July 8, Met. Success, "Avon Rose," and "I'd like to call you sweetheart." Vacant Panto. Boy, London.

EUGENE and WILLIE, Thank Hamilton's for ten weeks' return. Vacant July 22, Aug. 12. All Coms., 31, Delverton-road, Walworth.

EUSTACE, FRED, July 8, Palace, Croydon.

FAWN, ADA, Big Success, "Not the only Rose grows in the Garden," by W. Letters, Esq. Monday, July 8, Hippo., Salford.

FIMANS, THE, 550th Performance of present Successful Speciality. 550th Performance.

FIONI'S JAMES, AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." 'Phone, 1,688 Royal.

FITZROYS (FRED and LILIAN), Society Gymnasts, London Pavilion, Piccadilly. Free July 15 and 22.

FLORADORA GIRLS, Novel Comedy Scena, "Two's Company, Three's None." Mon., Hip., Liverpool.

FLORIAS, THE, Novelty Equilibrists. This week, Middlesex; next, METROPOLITAN.

FORD, SISTERS, Character and Comedy Duettists. Monday, Public Hall, Barnsley.

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE, Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams, "Waggishly." 'Phone, 1,309 Gerrard.

FRANCE and STEWART, in their American racing Comedy, "The 100 to 1 Chance." The Tivoli, Strand, W.C.

FRASETTIS, LES, Stoll Tour.

FREDRICKS', CARL, Naval Cadet Merrymakers. 16th Al Fresco Season, Assembly Rooms, Lytham.

FULTON, FRED, Comedian, The White Coons, Carnoustie, N.B.

GENTRYS, Humorous Duo, in "Bits," An Act away from all others. This, Porth; next, Temp. Hall, Merthyr. (See Wants.)

GERALDOS, THE JUGGLING, and MABEL LA BLANCHE, Touring Australia under Contract with Harry Rickards, Esq.

GERETTI SISTERS, Smartest Trapeze Girls in the Profession. Free July, Aug., Xmas. 3 Wiltshire-rd., Brixton.

GILBERT'S Dog and Cat Circus, Next two weeks, Galas. Liberty Sept., on. Per. add., 74, Boyson-rd., London, S.E.

GOODWIN'S, BONNIE, Apollo Piccaninnies. Agent, GEO. BARCLAY. 221, Brixton-hill, S.W.

GRAHAM, the Human Marionette. First Vacancy Sept. 30. Agent, GEO. BARCLAY 'Phone, 349 Brixton. Grand Pavilion, Bridlington.

GRANADAS, LOS, Free July 15, 22. 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

GRANVILLE, GUS, Comedian, The White Coons. Address, 11, Lodore-road, South Shore, Blackpool.

GRAY, GEORGE, GRAY, GEORGE. No. 2000. V.A.F. V.A.F.

GREEN, JIMMY, Funny Comedian; and MAY MAINE. Lib. Monday, onwards. Wire, 2, Well Court-lane, Sheffield.

GRIESLEY, SAM, and LIZZIE ROUND, Character Vocal Comedian, Ideal Male Impersonator. 34, Nursery-street, Sheffield.

GROVES, F., Adam and Eve Hotel. Two doors from Theatre Royal, Windsor. Pleased to see all Professionals.

HALL, J. W., Empire, Stratford, E.

HARCOURT, HARRY, Comedian. ELLA ROSE, Vocalist. Vacant October. Pier, Paignton, Devon.

HARRIS and WORTH, 2nd week, Palace, 2nd week. Blackpool.

HART and CO., Dramatic and Variety Agents. 7, Lancaster-house, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton. Tele., 116 Brixton.

HARTLEY, FRANK, Pocket Cinquevalli, Tivoli, Sydney. Rounds of applause greet this wonderful juvenile juggler.—Vide Press.

HART'S, HARRY S., AGENCY, Star Palace, Bermondsey, S.E. Tel., "Hart, Star, Bermondsey." 'Phone 1048 Hop.

HASTINGS, CLARE, Vocalist. Just concluded tour Scotland. With H. Rayne's Entertainers. Beaumaris. Address, Pier.

HERBERT, FRED, Premier Topical Vocalist. Metropolitan; July 15, Hammersmith and Ealing.

HESS and LISBON, thank Messrs. Bostock and Wilmott for releasing. London Hippodrome, "Zuyder Zee."

HICKS, DAISY, the New Comedienne July 8, Royal Albert Canning Town. Sole Agent, SAM HART, Brixton.

HILDERSLEY, BERT, Comedian. Perm. Address, 2, Campana-road, Fulham, S.W.

HILL, ROWLAND, Terrific success of new act. Hippodrome, Ipswich. Vacant, July 29.

HINSON BROS., Comedians and Dancers. Scarlet Merrions, Broughty Ferry, N.B.

HOWARD, RALPH and NELLIE, London Pavilion, Fourth Week.

HUMBER, FANNIE. Concludes, Gravesend. Liberty July 8, 15. 85, De Laune-street, Kennington Park, S.E.

HUTT, BOB, Welcome Home. This, Empire, Belfast; next, Empire, Dublin.

HUXTER, THREE BROS., "Nothing succeeds like success." 10, Middle-street, Worcester.

HYMACK, MR Empire, Leicester-square, W.C.

IVESON, TONY, July 8, Pal., Stoke Newington. First Vacancy, July 6, '08.

JAMES, CHAS. A., Waxworks and Varieties, 30, Henry-street, Dublin. Always openings for Novelties.

JOY, ZONA, Enormous Success of New Sketch, "School," by Elliston and Edlin.

JUDGE, SISTERS, with their Marvellous Performing Cockatoos, Parrots, and Macaws. Vac. July 15. 6, Ashbrook-rd., Holloway.

KAVADOS, FLO MELVILLE. Monday, Theatre Royal, Windsor.

KEENE, BILLY, and JESSIE ADAMS, Continued Success, Pavilion, Portrush, Ireland.

KEITHS, THE ORIGINAL MUSICAL (CARLINA and CHARLIE). July 8. Grand Theatre, Derby.

KELLERMANN, ANNETTE, Principal Lady Swimmer, London Hippodrome.

KYOTO, the Original; MAY GERALDINE. Empress, Hartlepool. Vacant July 8. 506, Stockport-road, Manchester.

LAKE, LEW, and CO., "Bloomsbury Burglars." "My Pal Jerry." This, Emp., Liverpool; next, Emp., Manchester.

LA MARA CHUMMIE, WILL SERGEANT. Coms., c/o FRANCIS and DAY, New York.

LASSAH, LILLIE This week, Empire, Dover; Next week, Empire, Dover.

LAVELLE BROS., Quaint Comedy Acrobats. Vacant, July 22 and 29. July 8, Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees.

LEATON, HARRY. A Singer of Sensible Songs. This, Palace, Aberdeen; next, E., Burnley. Thanks H. Burns for Contracts.

LE BRUN and IRENE, Novelty Jugglers; also LITTLE EDIE, Clever Child Vocalist. Vac. July 15. Ad., Theatre Royal, York.

LE CLERQ, GUS, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

LE FRE, ALBERT, July 8 London Pavilion, W.

LEGLERES, THE ORIGINAL, Premier Acrobats and Risleyists. Marine Grounds, Whitstable. Vacant July 15, and on.

LEMPRIERE, LIEUT., The Popular Reliable Balloonist and Parachutist. Handsworth, Birmingham.

LEONS, TWO, and MITZI, on Tour. Also MELITA. Private address, 53, Third-avenue, Manor Park, Essex.

LILIAN BROTHERS, Society Acrobats par excellence, in their new and original musical scena. 16, Corporation-street, Sheffield.

LISLE, MISS LUNA, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer. Thanks Marinelli for offer of 40 weeks in America.

LISTON, MR. HARRY, and MISS LUMLEY'S "Merry Moments," W. Gardens, Morecambe. Few vacant dates. Salary or share.

LIZZETTE TROUPE, THE, Lady Acrobats; also MOLLY AUGARDE. At Lib. July 8. 15. 36, Albany-road, Kensington, Liverpool.

LORCH FAMILY, Risley Act, including Three Ponies, Donkeys. June 17 to Aug. 24, Ten Weeks. Blackpool Winter Gardens.

LOVELACES, THE, American Song Illustrators. Macnaghten's London Halls Nightly.

LUCRETIA, MDLLE., fourth visit, top of bill, Palace Theatre, Rhyl. Monday next, Theatre Royal, Wednesbury.

LYNCH, AGNESE and ARTHUR. In American Picture Songs. Rusticating. Park Gate Cottage, Hapton, Lancs.

MAC and FULLER, in New and Novel Act, "The First Performance," from life, closed to-night, Plymouth; next, "Karno's Co."

MACDERMOTT and SHELDON'S AGENCY., 14, Glasshouse-street, Piccadilly, W. All Coms., Horace Sheldon.

MACS, THE NEW, Conversational Jesters. Monday, July 8, Palace, Camberwell.

MALONE, MOLLY, Irish Comedienne. Irish Comedienne.

MARJUTTI, MLLE., Lib. Monday for three weeks. Coms., Longfield Cottage, Urmston, Manchester.

MARTINETTES, THREE, Comedians. Ashton. Monday, Hippo., Salford. Vac. Aug. 5. and on, 27, Sidney-street, Manchester.

MAUDE, MISS HENRIQUETTE, "The Little New Zealand Girl." On Tour Provinces.

MAY, MISS ALICE, "Tranquility," July 8, Hip., Colchester. Vacant July 22, 29.

MAY, MR. HENRY W., Musical-Director, Empire, Shepherd's Bush. All kinds of music composed and orchestrated.

MAYE, PERCY, Eighth Turn Nightly, The Bedford. See Back Page.

MAYNALL, ALF, Third Summer Tour, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton. Perm. Add., 209, Ladbroke-grove, London, W.

MAYNE, ERNIE (of Cupid fame), Too full for words. Alhambra, Brighton.

McASKELL, Comedy Conjurer, thanks Taylor for Offer Dewsbury. Monday next, Empress, Hartlepool. Booked through CADLE'S.

McGREGOR, HELEN, Scotch Character Contralto. July 8, Alhambra, Brighton; 15th, Bedford, London.

MELVIN and MAX, Novelty Comedy Artists and Dancing Experts. Vacant Aug. 5, 12, 19. P. O. W. T., Nuneaton.

M'FALL, JOHN E., Gardeners' Arms, 10, Market-st., and 5, Manse-lane, Greenock, opposite Empire Theatre. "The Era," &c., kept.

MILES-STAVORDALE QUINTETTE the Original Act. July 8, Palace, Leicester. ANGER and BAUER, 50, Rupert-street, W.

MILSTED, EMMIE, and JOE BELL, "The Belle of Arizona." July 8, Pavilion, Greenock, N.B.

MILTON'S MARIONETTES, For Vacant Dates Address "The Era" Office, London.

MINAROM, Big Success Hippo., Ashton-u.-Lyne. Monday, King's Theatre, Longsight, Manchester.

MOHAMED BEN MOHAMED, Sousa Arabs, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

MONA, WEE (VIVIAN), July 2, Pier Pavilion, New Brighton. July 9, Olympian Gardens, Rock Ferry.

MONTAGUE, LEO, Intelligent Idiot, India.

MONTAGUE, NELLIE, Another big success Grand, Sheffield; next, Empire, Camberwell. Agent, HENRI CAZMAN.

MORELL, MISS DAISIE. Hippodrome, Ipswich. Vacant, July 15, 22.

MORLEY, TOM, Comedian. Agent, TOM PACEY.

MORRIS, J. C., Droll Comedian and Raconteur. Victoria Gardens, Mablethorpe. Vacant Panto (Dame pref.)

MORTIMER, EDWARD, the Humorous Lightning Sketcher. Few vacant weeks for Piers. 32, Broadway, Wimbledon, S.W.

MOXONS, THREE, Acrobatic Comedians. Continental tour. All communications, 3, Winsley-road, Bristol.

MUIR and BARTLETT'S "Collar Stud" is the funniest sketch ever seen in Grimsby.—Telegraph. Monday, Empire, Dublin.

MUNROE, MR. WALTER, "The Man Who Struck O'Hara." Empire, Shepherd's Bush.

MYERS, ERNIE, and LILY LONSDALE, Opera House, York. Next week, Circus, Bury.

NAPOLI SEXTETTE, in Great Vocal Act. This, E., Ashton; next, Hippo., St. Helens. Vac. Sept. 16. Coms., JOHN LLOYD.

NEILSONS, TWO (HARRY and ROSA), Comedy and Acrobatic Dancing Speciality. Mon., E., Doncaster. 15th, G., Glasgow. Vac. 22nd.

NEIMAN'S Ventriloquial Minstrels. Queen's Palace, Poplar.

NELSON and THOMAS Combination, in "A Fight for a Fiver." Vacant Monday, July 8. 495, Stapleton-road, Bristol.

NORA, NELLIE, Dainty Instrumental Act, Vac. July 15, 22. This, 69, Falmouth-rd., S.E.; next, Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

NORTON, RUBY, July 8, Hippodrome, Crouch End.

NOTE, R. C., and DAISY DEVONPORT, P., Halifax. Mon., Pal., Southampton. Jolly good luck to Rose and Calvert

OBO, BROS., The Popular Laughing Comedians. July 8, Theatre Royal, Oldham.

O'CONNOR and BRADY, thoroughly experienced in Pantomime. Vacant Xmas. Perm., 83, The Crescent, South Tottenham.

O'FLYNN, FRANCIS, the Celebrated Banjoist and Composer. Next Week, Palace T., Bristol. Business Add., 92, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.

O'GORMAN, LIL, Address, 21, Batley-street, Old Swan, Liverpool.

ONDA and LEON, Comedy Triple Bar Act. Vacant. Address, 24, Brook-street, Preston.

ONDA BROS. and WILL ONDA and CO., in "Motor Maniac." Third week. Alhambra, Morecambe.

PALETTE and Dog Max. "A Busy Time in the Studio." This, Palace, Aberdeen; Monday, "Geisha Boys," Dunoon, N.B.

PARLATO, Facialist and Impersonator, Public Hall, Darwen, Lanc.

PEARCE and WARD. This, terrific hit, Palace, Bordesley. Fred Terry and George Conway write.

PEARSON'S, GEORGE, AGENCY. Manager, Mr. George Pearson. 6, Dunstan-road, Honor Oak, S.E.

PICKARD, A. E., American Museum, Glasgow. Britannia Panopticon, Glasgow.

PINDER, MISS, and JOHN IRVIN, Bareback Equestrians, Pigeon Charmers, and Foot Equilibrists, Hippodrome, Douglas, I.O.M.

PIRMANS, the Three, Novelty Gymnasts. Tremendous Success. Yells. Hippo., Aldershot. Mon., Macnaghten's, Surrey, London.

POOLE, SISTERS (ADA and LETTA), Charming Entertainers. July 1, Empire, Bradford; July 8, Palace, Glasgow.

POWELL, PETER, Farmyard Mimic and Ventriloquist. This, Big Success, Oldham. Now open. 16, Gorbutt-street, Oldham.

POYNTON, MR. ALFRED, the Great Facial Mimic. Address, Blenheim Hotel, Brighton.

PRIMA-VESI, Unique Juggler. Convalescent.

PURVIS, WALTER, and CO., in the enormous Comedy hit, "Cauliflower Joe," South London. TOM SHAW.

RAE, GEO., Scotch Comedian. Big Success Central Palace, N. Shields. Vacant July 8. Wire, D. Bayley, 170 Saltmarket, Glasgow.

RALLIS, LES, the Artist and his Monkey. Empire, Middlesbrough.

RAY, MISS VIOLET, Violoncello, Soloist, Soprano Vocalist, E. New Cross. Vac. July 16. 188, Hermitage-rd., N.

REED, MR. LESLIE, Cremorne Tavern, Havelock-road, Gt. Yarmouth; good apartments, two minutes Hippo., Wellington Pier.

REGAN and RYAN, This week, Empress, Brixton. Next week, Palace, Walthamstow.

RESDAN, MISS RITA, in new songs, by Mills and Scott. Sole Agents, G. BARCLAY and Co.

RICH and RICH, Stoll's Empire, New Cross. "How-de-do?"

RICH (EDIE) and RARE (HARRY), Comedy Duo. Third week Pav., Stalybridge. P.S.—Kind regards to Arthur and May Patmore.

RICHARDS, ARTHUR, Monday, Palace, Portsmouth. THE WALONS. (RENEE and WILLIE).

RICHARDS, ENA, Canadian Comedienne and Dancer. This, Clacton-on-Sea; next, Clacton-on-Sea.

RIZARELIS and RECARS, Lady Gymnast and Acrobats, Vacant July 15. Address, 3, Bowdon-street, Stockport.

ROBY, ELSIE, Stoll Tour. Empire, New Cross.

ROLAND VAULTA TRIO, Daring Acrobats; also FOLI BROS., Knockabouts. At Lib. Aug. 6, 7. 23, Chesterton-ter., Plaistow.

ROSE, MR. CUTHBERT, Humorous Monologist, Summer Tour. This, Dawlish; next, Pier Pav., Herne Bay.

ROWLEY, J. W., Lynton House, Durand Gardens, Clapham-road. Wires, Comedian, London; also MISS ELLA DEAN.

ROYAL WELSH SINGERS (Original), Palace, Chelsea, and Metropolitan. Monday next, Queen's, Poplar. Manager, Lewys Thomas.

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THE GOLDEN GOOSE,

By J. Hickory Wood.
Music by Fred Eplett.

ROBERT PENDER in the Novel Impersonation of The Goose, who, by the way, is engaged for next season's Panto. at T. R., Drury Lane.

"THE GOLDEN GOOSE,"

Musical Comedy Burletta, in Two Scenes, by J. Hickory Wood, produced at the Theatre Royal and Opera House, West Bromwich, on Monday, June 10.

Widow Wank ..... MR. JOHN E. BARRIE
Jack ..... MR. WILLIE LOMAS
Landlord ..... MR. CHARLES BAKER
Sheriff's Officers ..... WALKER AND BAKER
The Golden Goose ..... MR. ROBERT PENDER

The story opens outside the house (or, as the piece is written, the shoe) of Widow Wank. This lady is supposed to have gone to market with her farm produce, consisting of eggs, butter, &c. On her return with her donkey and cart she is run into by a party of motorists. A general spill gives fine scope for a regular pantomime rally, of which advantage is of course taken. Trouble quickly overtakes the unfortunate widow, who is unable to meet the demands of her landlord. He arrives on the scene with a couple of eccentric sheriff's officers to eject her. Previous to this happening, a stray goose strolls into the garden of the widow, who decides to give the bird a home. A wise resolve, indeed! For the goose lifts the cloud of misfortune by presenting to the widow a number of golden eggs each larger than the previous one. Of course the landlord, noting the widow's sudden access of wealth, makes vigorous overtures to her. All this takes place in the midst of a concourse of villagers and motorists. A compromise is arranged, and all are taken to the Golden Palace, the Magic Home of the Goose. Magic it truly is, for in the brief space of ten seconds we are transferred from the humble abode of the widow to a magnificent Palace scene. Here revelry of a very high order is indulged in, the climax being reached when the widow accepts the hand of her once oppressive landlord. The principal parts were effectively played by Mr. John E. Barrie (Widow Wank); Jack, Mr. Willie Lomas; the Landlord, Mr. Chas. Baker; and Messrs. Walker and Baker, who caused an amount of fun as the Officers. The title-rôle was most cleverly interpreted by Mr. Robert Pender.—The Era, June 15, 1907.

THEATRE ROYAL, WEST BROMWICH.

The management of the above place of amusement have been fully justified in re-engaging Mr. R. Pender's company in "The Golden Goose" for another week's stay, for large audiences have nightly visited the theatre. The production is described as a musical comedy, and it deserves the title. It is one of the best things seen for some time past in West Bromwich. It describes how an old woman was compelled to live in a shoe with her son, because of her extreme state of poverty. They possessed a goose, however, an ordinary goose at first, but which afterwards turned out to be a "Golden Goose." Like all people who possess no money, the widow in the shoe ran into debt, and, singularly enough, the heaviest was the one for rent. Threats were uttered by the lordly landlord because the money was not forthcoming to meet the arrears, and the ultimate result was that they were evicted from the home where they had spent their "youthful" days. It was only when they did not know where to find a home that the goose came to the rescue, and by laying a "golden egg" made the "old woman" and her son the happiest persons living. This was not the full extent of their riches, for the "goose" continued to lay these "golden eggs" of enormous size, and the result was that the old shoe with its recollections of poverty was left behind for ever. They are entertained to the house of their late landlord (because they pay their rent), who immediately falls in love with the widow's wealth, and declares that it is her that he loves instead. More rejoicings follow this, but the goose keeps a steady course throughout, never mingling up much in the festivities, as he has in his mind, we have no doubt, the fate of the goose in the fable, who met with an untimely death. He was placed in different hands, however, from that one, and he becomes a faithful servant of the family, providing the most necessary thing (cash) for them when they are short. The comedy has an abrupt ending, for in the midst of all the rejoicings the curtain drops, and one is left to wonder whether they have seen a real goose or not on the stage, the impersonation being so perfect. The dresses are good, and so is the dancing, whilst all the parts are well sustained, and the thanks of the local playgoers are due to Mr. Nightingale, the manager, for his constant efforts to satisfy their tastes.—June 22, 1907.

All communications to T. R., WEST BROMWICH.

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The whole Pith of this Remarkable Tragic Story in Half-an-hour of Tensely Nervous Excitement.

Originally produced as the bottom of the bill at the Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead, to a packed audience, it was received at the finish with five enthusiastic curtains; it was booked to top the bill at the Lyric Theatre, Liverpool, where it created the same impression. Since then it has everywhere topped the bill with the very greatest success, no matter the class of audience, and has been voted one of the most weird, powerful, and artistic sketches ever produced on the variety stage.

Read the Following Two Letters, from the Proprietors of the Last Two Variety Theatres it has been Played in.

Empress Theatre, Hartlepool, June 22, 1907.

Dear Mr. Armadale,

I must really congratulate you on your splendid production of "The Bells" as a thirty-minutes sketch, and can assure you it has proved a draw with me this week. Wishing you every success, kindest regards,

Yours faithfully, R. EVERTON (Proprietor).

Hippodrome Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees, June 29, 1907

E. Hoggan-Armadale, Esq.

My Dear Sir,

After a very nice week, I cannot allow you to go without expressing to you my appreciation of your sketch from "The Bells." The character of Mathias, so ably portrayed by yourself, is without doubt the talk of our patrons. They use that estimable word "extra" very ungrudgingly, and this, I might add, speaks volumes for any star turn in this town. Wishing you every success,

I am, yours truly, ROBT. A. NICHOLSON (Proprietor).

The Liverpool Express, Jan. 22, 1907, said:—

Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale, who has figured in drama for many years, has at last taken to the halls, and his appearance last evening in a sketch founded on "The Bells," at the Argyle, evoked the greatest interest. His impersonation of Mathias was weird and thrilling, the three scenes of the sketch being followed by the crowded audience with the closest attention. The first appearance of this noted actor on the variety stage should afford him great encouragement in his future efforts.

The Liverpool Daily Post, Feb. 18, 1903, said:—

One is seldom afforded the opportunity, apart from that so closely associated with Sir Henry Irving, of witnessing such a finished performance of the part of Mathias as that given by Mr. Hoggan-Armadale last evening.

All New Special Scenery, Vision Effects, Original Music, Special Costumes, &c., carried. Special Pictorial Printing, Six-sheet Panels, &c. Lithos, Fourteen-sheet Streamers, &c. For Terms, Dates, &c., address, ARMADALE, Ruthin, North Wales till 15th inst. Then, HIPPODROME, WIGAN.

MISS MARIE LLOYD.
HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE.
HUGH JAY DIDCOTT, Sole Representative

"Always Look After No. 1," Francis and Day.
FLORRIE GALLIMORE,
FORESTERS' and BRITANNIA.
JOSIE DELAINE, FORESTERS', where kindly address communications.

MISS VESTA VICTORIA,
Address,
14, Stockwell Park-road, S.W.

MISS ALEXANDRA DAGMAR,
on Tour.
Coms., 12, Calais-gate, Camberwell, S.E.
Agent, GEO. FOSTER.

L. LILY BURNAND,
TIVOLI, MANCHESTER.
Great Success of "Under the Lilac Tree." Written and composed by Charles Wilmott, T. M. Down, and Herman E. Darewski, jun.

ETHEL RA-LESLIE,
London Season.
Pantomime arrangements complete.
Grand receptions Nightly in Coventry and Walsall.

FANNY ROBINA, FLORRY COOPER.
Vacant for Panto. Principal Boy and Fairy Queen. Notice, our business is now in the hands of Mr. WILL OLIVER, an agent proprietors can believe and rely on. Address, 122, Brixton-road.

De Première Qualité.
MISS MARGARET ASHTON,
THE OXFORD.

MARIE EMPRESS.
Billed by O. Stoll, Esq., as "The Girl who is making a name for herself." This week, hit of bill, Hippodrome, Blackpool. July 8, PIER PAV., SOUTHPORT. Vacant Dec. 23 and 30.

Emmie's Christmas Tree.
Enormous Success Everywhere.
EMMIE AMES,
Huge Success, Macnaghten's Vaudeville Circuit. Mon., July 8, HIPPO., BLACKPOOL.

MISS MAUDE MORTIMER,
Everybody's Favourite,
EMPIRE, EDINBURGH.
In 1908, as in 1907, She has no Vacancies, Except for Panto, Principal Boy.
Maude's Successes in Pantomime are too Well-known to need Comment.
Maude has just signed for the Syndicate Halls.
All Coms., re Panto. and Variety Theatres, to My only Agent, WILL OLIVER (Spot).

An artist of rare ability, whose voice is comparable to the tone of an old violin.—Professor Norton.
BERTHA STUART,
Scotch Character Vocalist.
Moss and Stoll Tour.
This week, Usual Success, Coventry.
Next week, H.M. THEATRE, WALSALL.
Booked through HENRY KEMBLE'S Agency.
First Vacancy January, 1911.

The Latest and Greatest Success.
MISS RAIE WALTERS,
Monday next, EMPIRE, MIDDLESBRO'.
Thanks all other Agents for Offers.
Exclusive Agent, E. DE VERE, 72, Waterloo-rd., S.E.

"An actress of the Nellie Farren type."
MISS DOLLY HARMER.
Enormous success at the Empire, Johannesburg. The Hit of the Programme.
The Transvaal Critic says:—Miss Dolly Harmer, the embodiment of Bessie Bellwood, Vesta Tilley, and a few other vital sparks of happy memory, has positively fetched 'em. Frequenters of the Empire are unanimous in their approval; there is nothing betwixt and between about her. She is low comedy in excelsis, and wants a lot of beating in her particular line. As the flamboyant suffragette she enthuses, and that "miserable microbe man" has a rough time of it. Her new song, "Wait till you hear the chorus," is funny and very catchy. Her mimicry is excellent, and the audience tell her so pretty plainly.
Address, WILLIE SCOTT, GAIETY, LEITH.

The Original "Silly Sally." Murray and Hilbury; "There isn't many men down our way," F. Murray.
MISS JOSIE MOONEY,
A Comedy Lady, a Vocalist, and a Dancer.
Address, Monday, EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

MISS WINIFRED HARE,
Enormous Success,
Empire, Johannesburg.
Now at
TIVOLI, CAPE TOWN.

MISS LOIS DU CANE,
The Popular Leading Actress, and Powerful Company, Monday, July 8, production drama, "THE HEATHEN AND THE CHRISTIAN," by F. Maxwell, ST. JAMES'S T., MANCHESTER.

The Refined Comedienne.
MISS ROSE HAMILTON,
8th HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE. 8th

A Coming Star.
NELLIE LAWRENCE,
Double-voiced Vocalist

NELLIE	and	LAWRENCE
NELLIE	Dancer	LAWRENCE
NELLIE	HIPPODROME,	LAWRENCE
NELLIE	HASTINGS,	LAWRENCE
NELLIE	July 8.	LAWRENCE

Sole Agent, F. HIGHAM, 9, York-road, S.E.

LITTLE DOTT MOSS,
the Toy Comedienne
Enormous success, "My Gollywog Sweetheart" and "The Proudest Man in Dixie."
At Liberty for Panto. HIP., SHEERNESS.

The Fancy Dancer.
GWENNIE HASTO,
South London and Brixton.
July 8, EUSTON.
Sole Agent, E. DE VERE.

MISS JESSIE ALBINI,
ZOO
HIPPODROME,
GLASGOW.
Agent, TOM SHAW.

The Champagne of Vivacity.
MISS BESSIE BUTT,
Monday next, EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Thanks to Oswald Stoll, Esq., for fresh tours at progressive salaries.
Thanks to Capt. Warren Wright for return at big increase.
Thanks to Hugh J. Didcott, Esq., for contracts for Empress, Brixton, and The Tivoli.
At Liberty for Pantomime.
Agent, HUGH J. DIDCOTT.

MISS ETHEL DONNA,
Chatham, first house, first turn.
Second house, sixth turn.
Tremendous success. Choruses sung all over Chatham. Monday next, THE BEDFORD, LONDON. See this turn.
WALTER BENTLEY, Sole Agent.

DANDIES,
Presented by HENRY J. CORNER.
Next Week,
CLARENCE PIER, SOUTHSEA.
Sole Agents, Messrs. BLACKMORE.

"Sunshine and Shadow."
MISS HARRIETT VERNON,
in her latest Successes,
"When You are Saying Good-bye,"
"Back, Back, to Pimlico,"
"Sunshine Row,"
On Tour.
Representative, LESLIE RACE,
Coms., care of "The Era."

MISS VESTA TILLEY,
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Resting.
One Week.
All communications to 178, Charing Cross-rd., W.C.

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C/o "Era" Office.

Singer of Novelty Songs.
MISS RACHEL LOWE.
Address all Business Communications to Permanent Address, 186, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.C., or 92, Rue St. Lazare, Paris.

An Artist to Her Finger-tips.
MISS DAISY DORMER.
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PALACE, CAMBERWELL.

MISS BILLIE BARLOW,
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Raisuli's Big Demand
is nothing to be compared
with the demand for
KATE CARNEY,
KATE CARNEY.
KATE CARNEY.
Enormous Success of Song,
"I'm Coming Back," by George Collins.
Look out for the novel Coon Song,
"No Use Calling Hannah," by Chas. Collins and F. J. Barnes.
"The Girl He's Cast Aside," by Chas. Collins.
Also New and Original Scena,
"HAS ANYONE SEEN MY YIDDISHER BOY."
By kind permission of Albert Whelan
Scene, Petticoat Lane.
KATE CARNEY.
KATE CARNEY.
KATE CARNEY.
The Queen of Cester Comedy,
Just played to the Record Business at the Grand Theatre, Bolton. Mr. Elliston says: "One of the biggest successes ever played in Bolton." Re-engaged at enormous increase to pack the theatre again in
1908 1908 1908
1909 1909 1909
1910 1910 1910
Just Finished at the Hippodrome, Boscombe, to the Record of All Records.
Although the Town is devoid of Visitors, Created a Record.
Worth Talking About.
And it wants some doing at Boscombe.
Re-engaged for 1908, 1909, 1910.
1908, 1909, 1910.
Many thanks to J. De Frece, Esq., for offer at enormous salary for all his Halls for the next three years.
Same applies to the Argyle, Birkenhead.
Also re-engaged for Three More Years by D. J. Clarke, Esq. Specially engaged by T. E. Edwards, Esq., for Grand Theatre, Derby, July 15, 1907, at one of the biggest salaries ever paid to an artist.
Many thanks to the American Representatives for their generous offers; but
Old England Wants Some Beating.
Commence the Stoll London Circuit August Bank Holiday. Blackpool, Southampton, Portsmouth, Birmingham to follow.
For further information see the "Winning Post," or apply
GEORGE BARCLAY,
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"Daisy." "Daisy." "Daisy."
Written and composed by S. Richards and H. Rule expressly for Gertie Gitans. What a melody!
GERTIE GITANA,
A
Star
that
never
fails
to
shine.
GERTIE GITANA
Shining this week, Hippo., Birmingham.
What a Hit!
July 8, HACKNEY EMPIRE, LONDON.
GERTIE GITANA
thanks O. Stoll, Esq., for offer of 98 weeks more.
Agents, G. BARCLAY and Co.;
J. O'CONNOR, 83, The Crescent, South Tottenham.

MISS ROSE HARVEY,
Vacant for Panto.
Principal Boy.
July 8, EMPIRE, MIDDLESBORO'.

No Greater Success before the Public than
ESTA STELLA,
The Military Maid.
EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH.
Sole Representative, DAY'S Agency.

Tremendous Success in London.
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PALACE, BOW.
Exclusive Agent, E. DE VERE, 72, Waterloo-rd., S.E.

MISS MILLIE PAYNE,
Low Comedy Queen, with a style of her own.
EAST HAM. Every Evening.
Notice to Managers.—It has come to my knowledge that certain artists are singing my (burlesque) song, "How'd you like to spoon with me?" also "Ring a ding, puff puff." Trouble is not in my line, so I respectfully ask their assistance to prevent a repetition. All coms., WILL OLIVER, Spot Lodge, Brixton-rd., S.W.

THE GREATEST NOVELTY ON EARTH.
THE CAT KING.
LEONI CLARKE.
200 ROYAL CATS, &c., 200.
CATS.
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CATS. 200 CATS.
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CATS.
Cats, Rabbits, Canaries, and Monkeys, &c.
Always Something New.
Notice to Proprietors and Managers who require a sure draw. See the above.
Acknowledged by the Press and Public to be the Greatest Domestic Animal Trainer in the World.
New Fireproof Scenery and Mechanical Effects.
Arranged by Ernest Howard, Esq.
Vacant July 22 and 29.
Shares or Certainty, with or without Company.
Monday next,
PALACE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Posters and Lithos, by Creber, Plymouth.

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The cleverest pony in the world, and the most comical donkey, trick, and sensational leaping hounds. Liberty July 15, and from Aug. 5, Halls or Galas. Address, Pitsea, Essex.

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New. New. Better than ever.
Siberian Educated and Equestrian Bears.
EMPIRE, CAMBERWELL.
Time, 8 and 10.15.
Drop of rum, still on tap.

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Has no Rival for Sprightliness and Liveliness.
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MIDDLESEX (second week), GRANVILLE (WALHAM GREEN); to follow Euston, Chelsea Palace, Canterbury. Always open to buy suitable songs. Agent, R. WARNER.

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DERBY CASTLE, DOUGLAS.
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Anyone singing my songs without my written permission will be proceeded against.

The world's great sand-dancer.—Vide Oswald Stoll.
A New and Novel Dancing Sensation in Preparation.
MY FANCY,
Gibbons' Circuit.

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A Refined Singer of Refined Songs.
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(Daughter of Dan Leno),
Disengaged for Autumn.
Offers invited for Musical Comedy.
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MINNIE MACE,
Comedienne and Dancer.
A huge success all along the line.
Booked and rebooked everywhere.
Re-engaged for numerous dates till end of 1909.
MINNIE MACE,
The coming Star Comedienne.
Re-engaged for all the Syndicate Halls till end of 1909.
Opens at the Oxford in December, 1907.
Has only eleven weeks vacant till the end of 1909.
New Songs in study will be the rage.
All dates fixed by my exclusive agent, FRED REEVES, 31, Grove-road, Brixton.

FLORRIE FORDE,
July 8, DERBY CASTLE, DOUGLAS, I.O.M.
Phenomenal Success of New Song, by Wells and Everard, "Down at the Old Welsh Harp," Absolutely another "Bull and Bush." Also another Winner, "Up to one of your tricks again." Both these successes published by Shapiro, Von Tilzer Co. F. F. can Accept London Panto., Five Weeks only.
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"Since Mother went and saw La Milo,"
By Murphy and Lipton. Original
DOT HARDY,
Big success, Gaiety, Birmingham. July 8, 15, METROPOLITAN. 84, Kennington Park-road.

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Open July 22 and 29.
Only vacancies.
Wire, H. M., WALSALL.

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LONDON. Macnaghten Tour.
GEORGE BARCLAY, Esq., Agent.

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The Classical Musicians,
EMPIRE, LIVERPOOL.
Over 100 Weeks' Solid Work,
All made by a philosopher and guide, WILL OLIVER.

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This week, Tivoli, Manchester;
next, HIPPO., COVENTRY.
July 15, Empress, Brixton.

THE HAVERLEYS, America's Premier Song Illustrators, Finish to-night, Grand, Hanley. Big Success. Next week (return), TIVOLI, DUBLIN. All coms., 15, Albert-square, Clapham, S.W. Agents ROSEN and BLISS, ERNEST DE VERE.

SWAN and VESTA,
Two of the Best,
"In Nelson's Days,"
Return,
QUEEN'S, POPLAR, July 15.

THE SIMMS
(Rosa and Kitty).
Conclude to-night at the Palace, Southampton.
Rebooked to return in 12 weeks.
Next week, EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH.
Booked five dates at an increase each time.
Full all 1907, also Panto.
Early applications should be made for 1908 to our only representative, WILL OLIVER.

The Only and Original
FRASER and FRENCH,
Harmony Boys and America's Premier Ragtime Clog Marvels, July 8, HIP., COLCHESTER.
Sole Representative, DAVID HART, the Hustler.

The people who stand alone.
THE LANNONS,
Champion Dancers of the World,
in new act, "The Policeman and the Maid."
Monday, HIPPODROME, BLACKPOOL.

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ROYAL ENTERTAINERS,
BEAUMARIS CASTLE.
Busy Preparing for Queen's Visit to Castle, July 9, 1907.
FLORENCE ELLIOTT and CHICKLETS.
All Coms., Exclusive Agent, HARRY DAY.

MABEL BARDINE and CO.,
in
"NELL OF THE HALLS."
Just concluded successful Stoll Tour.
A few immediate dates vacant.
Wire or write, 23, Gower-street, London, W.C.

Always a Success.
Moss, Stoll, and Allen Tour. 1903-4-5-6-7.
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At London Coliseum.
. . . . and visitors should on no acccunt miss the Bandurrias, who extract surprisingly sweet music from mandolines and guitars, their selections ranging from grand opera to comic songs.—Lloyd's Weekly News, Nov. 12, 1905.
The Bandurrias have the highest possible reputation as mandoline and guitar performers, and in no establishment has their entertainment caught on more readily than at the Coliseum, where they have made a great success. They know and appreciate the value of nuance in their selections, and the effect they create in the highest class music argues excellent culture and great executive facility. It is rare indeed to find a turn so completely in accord with the popular musical taste.—The Era, Nov. 18, 1905.
Now attending the Elite Garden Parties, At Homes, &c.
A Genuine Artistic Success.
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"Number Nine"
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By Harry Adams and Ernie Woodville.
"Born a Girl," by Murray and Hilbury.
Messrs. TOM SHAW & Co., 18, Adam-st, W.C.

"There is a Happy Land," T. W. Connor;
"Would you mind passing the salt?" Reekie and Lawrence. Published Francis, Day, and Hunter.
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MR. ALF GIBSON,
Open to purchase Funny Songs.
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BRIGHTON.
Business-Managers, G. and F. PEEL.

MR. WALTER CURTIS,
The Merriment Merchant,
Now on
Annual Seaside Summer Tour.
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The Australian Ventriloquist.
Convalescent.
Wattle Bloom, Broomwater West, Teddington.

Stockwell's Flying Machine Song was the First, Frank Coyne's the Second. Both by F. V.
MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR
Has the Biggest of all, Secured Already for Ten Xmas Pantomimes. Address, c/o "The Era," London.

MR. FRANK COYLE,
The Continuous Comedian.
Concludes Hippo., Scarborough, same success.
Monday next, ALHAMBRA, MORECAMBE.
With Clean, Clever, Comedy Songs.

Another Star Turn. Another Star Turn.
A genuine Laughing Success in London.
BARNEY ARMSTRONG,
6.55. Fifteen minutes laughter, Royal, Holborn.
8.15. Eighteen minutes' laughter, Duchess, Balham.
9.35. Twenty minutes' laughter, Duchess, Balham.
10.45. Twenty minutes' laughter. Royal, Holborn.
Monday, July 8,
LONDON, SHOREDITCH,
PALACE, HAMMERSMITH.
BARNEY ARMSTRONG
has signed contracts with Mr. Stoll into 1909. All communications to be addressed GEO. BARCLAY.
Something's gone wrong with my band parts.

PERCY MAYE,
Concludes two comfortable weeks,
Gloucester and Porth.
This, brilliant reception nightly, The Bedford.
To follow, Hippos., Lowestoft, Yarmouth, Eastbourne, Reading; Palace, Clacton; Empire, Cleethorpes; Star, Bermondsey; Empire, Bristol; then De Frece's Tour till Xmas. Offers invited for Panto., Princess, Light Comedy Dame, or Special Part. Address, this and next, THE BEDFORD, or DAY'S.

ALFRED GRAHAM'S
Premier Troupe of Juveniles,
in their Vocal Musical Mélange,
"A CONCERT ON THE LAWN."
8 Young People, and all Artists.
The Most Unique Show on the Road.
PHIL REES,
the Double-voiced Vocalist, as Squire Fitznoodle, and Touring Representative.
Producer, R. L. Griffiths.
SMART JUVENILES AT STOCKTON GRAND.
There are plenty of good things in the programme at the Grand Theatre, Stockton, this week, but undoubtedly the tit-bit is the turn given by Alfred Graham's premier troupe of juveniles. Their performance was cordially appreciated last night by crowded audiences, and was voted to be undoubtedly the best juvenile turn seen in Stockton. All the youngsters belong to Middlesbrough, and their appearance at the Grand, following a successful engagement at the Oxford, Middlesbrough, was only the prelude to a tour. Clever singers and dancers, the youngsters gave a delightful show, and should prove a capital draw during the week. N.B.—Managers and Agents may refer to that great showman, Dr. Bodie, Mr. Howard (of Howard and Harris), Walter Batty, and Barney Vox, who have expressed great opinions.
Coms., ALFRED GRAHAM, HIPPODROME, HULL.

ATROY,
Society Juggler
ALHAMBRA, MORECAMBE.
Theatres wanted for
July 15 and 22.

GICARDO, Marvellous Boy Juggler, accomplishing some extraordinary feats. Enormous success, this week, at Barnard's, Chatham. Monday next, STANDARD, PIMLICO. Open all October.

JUGGLING GERALDOS
JUGGLING GERALDOS
JUGGLING GERALDOS
and
MABEL LA BLANCHE.
MABEL LA BLANCHE.
Sailed for Australia July 5,
Per S.S. India,
under Contract with
Harry Rickards, Esq.

CAICEDO,
King of the Wire.
Made the biggest success at the Crystal Palace last Thursday; has a few vacant dates before sailing for America. Could accept good offers for next Summer season, 1908.
Managers and Agents address to,
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Variety, Speciality, and Gala Agents.
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"THE KING OF THE CASTLE,"
"TRESPASSERS BEWARE,"
"HAVE YOU SEEN MY RUDDER?"
"THE SUNNY SEASIDE,"
"WHAT A PAL."
JOE ELVIN,
Resting.
Address, c/o "The Era."

The Fruitful Vine.—Referee.
TOM VINE,
the Famous Vocal Comedian and Up-to-Date Song Writer.
A new Répertoire of Original Songs.
LONDON OR DISTRICT ONLY.
Address, 41, Kitchener-road, East Finchley, N.

BRANSBY WILLIAMS,
July 8,
EMPIRE,
DUBLIN.

LITTLE TICH,
THE TIVOLI.
Coms. as above.

PAUL CINQUEVALLI,
July 8,
PALACE, BRISTOL.

MR.
GEORGE
LASHWOOD,
EMPIRE THEATRE,
SWANSEA.

Annual Moss Tour.
TOM WOOTTWELL,
EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE.
WARNER and Co., LTD.

The world's most marvellous pianist.—O. Stoll.
MENDEL
This week, Palace, Hull; next week, EMPIRE, BRADFORD. Alteration of permanent address, "Rocayne, 123, Ravenslea-road, Balham, London, S.W.

The Genial
HORACE WHEATLEY,
in great form. Better than ever.
TOM SHAW, 18, Adam-street, Strand, W.C.

SLIPPERE,
A Man of Many Parts.
Blind Entertainer.
Pianist, Vocalist, 'Cellist, &c.
Agent, E. DE VERE.

Imitation impossible.
DATAS, the Memory Man,
the Living Almanack.
On Tour.
Sole Agent, TOM PACEY, 186, Brixton-road.

G. H. ELLIOTT.
"Baby Lucy," "If the man in the moon were a coon." Terrific Success, as usual.
Next week, OXFORD (eighth week) and EUSTON.
Thanks to Arthur Collins, Esq., for Pantomime Offer for Drury Lane for next year. Already engaged again by John Hart, Esq. No Vacancies.
Sole Agents, PACEY and REEVES.

WATTY MACNAB,
Scottish Comedian.
Touring South Africa. Enormous Success Everywhere. Back in England, December.
Address coms., Belgrave Hotel, Durban, S. Africa.

New Songs in Study. By Harry Castling.
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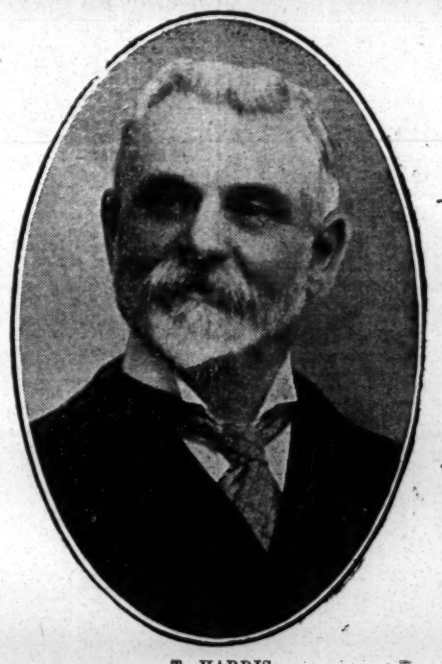

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THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, JULY 11.—We have had two small premières this week, which, owing to the excitement over the Conservatoire competitions, have almost passed unnoticed. The first was *L'Amour aux Castagnettes*, a three-act operette, by MM. Léon Rabbe and Moncousin, music by M. Marius Lambert, produced at the Théâtre des Arts. The work belongs to the category of "summer pieces," and the harmless piffle appeared to please the easily-amused audience. As the title indicates, the plot is laid in Spain. M. Vargas, a notary in Granada, wants his son Miguel to marry Inès, Vargas's niece. But Miguel will not hear of the scheme. He is fond of pleasure, and has a rooted aversion to marriage, and he is not interested in Inès, whom he has never seen. With the young lady the case is altogether different. She does not care for pleasure, marriage attracts her, and she is deeply interested in her Cousin Miguel, who has been described to her as handsome and fascinating. Inès, too, is beautiful. She is even good; for, seeing Chiquita, a young gipsy, set upon by a crowd who want to drown her as a sorceress, she saves her at the risk of her own life. Chiquita is grateful, and she gives Inès some excellent advice. "Your Miguel," she says, "is sentimental. Anything commonplace does not appeal to him. If you want to please him, you must be mysterious and as picturesque as possible." And as Inès does not know anything more picturesque than a gipsy costume, she at once disguises herself as a Bohémienne. The ruse succeeds. Miguel no sooner sees her than he loses his heart, and wants to join her tribe. All this is very satisfactory; but it should be remembered that Inès is the daughter of a wealthy notary, and the good people in Granada would be horrified if a young lady of a first-class family were to leave her home without a proper chaperone. Fortunately Inès has an eccentric mother, willing to accompany her daughter and take part in the intrigue. And the solemn Vargas escorts them, in case their virtue should at any time be imperilled. We all thought that the moment had now arrived for Miguel and Inès to fall into one another's arms and receive the priest's benediction. But we had reckoned without the inflammable Miguel. He catches sight of Chiquita, and—kisses her. This is more than Inès can stand. Thus far she has remained good and respectable. Now she no longer cares to be either, and she retaliates by running away with Chiquito, Chiquita's admirer. It is an anxious moment. Vargas, Inès's mother, and Miguel at once start off in pursuit, and are fortunate enough to overtake the fugitives before any irreparable damage is done. Miguel marries Inès, and Chiquita becomes Mme. Chiquito. The music is on a par with the libretto. The work, however, was well acted.

THE second novelty was *Les Hommes de Proie*, a three-act play by M. Charles Méré, brought out at the ThéAtre de la Nature at Champigny, wherein the author breaks a lance in favour of the so-called wild tribes, and calls to account the "civilised" nations who despoil the natives and oppress them in the most cruel manner. According to M. Méré, the real savages, the "men of prey," are the Europeans. He takes us to a fortified oasis in the desert of Sahara, where Ahitoghel tries to induce a native tribe to free itself from French rule. Ahitoghel's confederates are Ahmed, who abhors Christians, and Aiesha, a fanatical Caïd woman. But Cossé d'Epernon, a lieutenant, has discovered the plot, and, without applying to his chief—who would not have sanctioned his *modus operandi*—he arrests Ahitoghel and kills all the rebels. The colonel of Cossé d'Epernon's regiment orders the latter under arrest, but Cossé refuses to surrender, and commands his men to fire on the French soldiers. They refuse, and following the advice of Mokram ben Hamis, a native corporal, he blows out his brains. The interpretation was excellent. M. Henry Krauss supplied a fine sketch of the erring lieutenant. M. Jean Hervé was most impressive as the native corporal; and Mlle. Christine Mancini gave a first-class rendering of the difficult rôle of Aiesha. M. Albert Darmont had mounted the piece with great care, and M. Charpentier's orchestra rendered efficient aid.

"LE LIEUTENANT CUPIDON," three acts, by MM. Roland, Celval, and Charley, music by M. de Mayfrey, is the title of a farce that has been accepted by the Cluny Theatre.

THE number of English men and girls who come over to Paris to study singing is very great; and we have never ceased in these columns to warn our young friends against the unscrupulous singing masters and mistresses who exploit their victims in the most barefaced manner. The list of these professional "voice-breakers," unfortunately, is a long one, and the public has no idea of the mischief worked by 'hem. Strangely enough, the victims never do to law, although I know of many cases where they could have claimed substantial damages. On the other hand, the professors, speculating on their pupils' fear, have the audacity to sue those whom they have harmed, and then we are treated to some queer stories. Thus, a M. Victor Berardi claimed damages from M. Muratore for having accepted an engagement at the Opéra-Comique without his consent. The contract which the young baritone produced in Court created no little astonishment. According to that document, M. Muratore had bound himself "never to sing anywhere, never to take lessons with anyone, never to accept an engagement without the written consent of M. Berardi." But when M. Muratore—who has a magnificent voice—sang before M. Albert Carré, manager of the Opéra-Comique, that gentleman informed him that he was not sufficiently well taught, and advised him to work with another professor. M. Muratore followed that advice, and some time after was engaged by M. Carré. M. Berardi thereupon claimed the £150 stipulated in the agreement, but the Court only allowed him £20, thereby giving to understand that they disapproved of his attitude in the matter. There was also another lawsuit pending between a well-known professor here and one of his pupils, an American; but I learn to my regret that it has been settled. This is a pity, for it would have thrown a curious sidelight on the means some of these people employ to secure pupils. They even go so far as to pay needy Society ladies a commission on every man or woman they bring. The Parisians know that trick, and are not to be caught that way. But it is the stranger who is entrapped. Those intending studying singing in Paris should, therefore, make careful inquiries about the "professor."

AT the Queen's Theatre, Fleetwood, the boards are occupied by *The Merry Madcap*. Mr. Sten Liddard (late of Mr. George Dance's *Country Girl* company) is stage-manager, and is heard to advantage in some fine baritone songs. Mr. Billy Bland is very popular in his humorous songs, and he and Miss Carrie Nono sing and dance well. Mr. Tom Taylor also contributes to the humorous element, and Miss Marie Robertson is a dainty soubrette. Miss Jessie Anderton is a splendid accompanist, and also sings with good effect.

IN our notice of the triple bill at Kennington in last Saturday's issue there was a slight mistake. Mr. Frank May was playing Admiral Vincent in *Faithful James*.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*Lady Godiva* is the piece presented this week by Mr. Herbert Hollister's company. Miss Jeanne Burgoyne takes the title-part with her customary grace; and Miss Hilda Shirley acts with ease and charm as Lady Aldyth; Leofric is well represented by Mr. H. P. Owen; Mr. Oswald Lingard plays skilfully as the Black Earl; and Mr. H. Hollister makes a very excellent Tom o' Coventry. The humorous element is contributed successfully by Mr. Johnny Chippendale and Miss Millie Maynard, and by Mr. Ernest K. Nelson; Edgar the nameless is capably portrayed by Mr. W. Ellythorne; and all the minor parts are well filled.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, The United Company Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—A thrilling exhibition of Ju-Jitsu wrestling is given by Mr. Frank Long and Miss Oyomo San; McDonald and Huntingdon captivate the audience with their first-rate singing and dancing; the Sisters Henderson contribute a clever and most amusing speciality act; The Sages shine as burlesque comedy actors and dancers; the Brooklyns' turn as vocalists and dancers is also of outstanding merit; the tossing Austins are particularly good jugglers and novelty artists; Mr. Will Candlish is enthusiastically applauded in his Scottish nigger impersonation; and Mr. J. T. Macmillan, Scottish comedian, is as popular as ever. The Bioscope pictures, "The Short-sighted Tourist," are very funny.

ABERYSTWYTH.—COLISEUM.—This week Mr. Clarence C. Corri occupies the boards with the musical comedy, *The Dancing Girls of Spain*, preceded each evening by the comedietta, *Office Hours*. The acting throughout is of a high order, and thoroughly deserves the large audiences which are assembling.

ACCRINGTON. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Potter Vandy, and Weisker; Acting-Manager Walter Mould. — Miss Georgette Thierry and sketch company fairly bring down the house by their clever acting in an episode from Charles Dickens; W. L. Murry gives some very artistic poses and his feats of strength are duly appreciated; the Dancing Gilberts are very good; Edna Latonna is very pleasing; Eileen and Mayine must be complimented; La Danseuse is well received; Cyril Carl does well in his song scena; and some interesting pictures are shown on the bioscope.

ALDERSHOT. — HIPPODROME. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Gladwin.—Another excellent bill is provided this week. The feature of the fare is undoubtedly the farcical sketch by James Willard's company, entitled *The Little Wonder*. Those taking part in this twenty minutes of wholesome fun and banter are Misses Dollie Gilroy, Daisy Tueskie, Little Tony, and Mr. D. Lyle. Mr. Harry Hillier's instrumental items and vocal contributions are popular; Barney Vox supplies an amusing turn with his ventriloquism, manipulating no fewer than four figures. The Eight Stella Girls captivate the house in their swing scena; Miss Florence Thurston sings well, but dances better; and Harry Luck's hustling comedy catches on. Another pleasing turn is presented by the Sisters Bartholomew. The Bioscope this week is funnier than ever.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—What is termed a domestic drama is located at the Theatre Royal this week, the joint authors being W. A. Armour and R. Cheval, entitled *The Best of Her Sex*. Mr. W. A. Armour, as Philip Faringdon, bears himself with the requisite courage and fortitude; as Ruth, Miss Alice Defoe is quite successful; and Miss Dora Price enacts Vera Delorme with considerable intelligence and dramatic power. Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner as Leslie Verney portrays the villain with smooth cunning and studied baseness; and the comedy of the piece finds able exponents in Miss Nell Ingram, Mr. Fred Rignold, and others. A clergyman is ably interpreted by Mr. Jno. Cecil.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—Pleasantly varied is the programme at the Empire this week. Conn and Davies are good patter comedians; Ella Beaumont is charming in style as a comedienne and dancer; the protean pleasantry of the Wilton Heriot trio is a very agreeable change; the Royal Hungarian Szarvaci-Ferencz troupe of singers, dancers, and acrobats is a strong feature of the entertainment; the Brontes, in the new two-ologue, *Stony Broke*, elicit much laughter; Billy Farrell, in "Coonology," scores; Edith St. Clair introduces her latest vocal successes, and the Bioscope pictures illustrates in very amusing fashion the old adage, "Where there's a will there's a way."

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaughton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chris A. Wordsworth.—Although picture entertainments have had such a lengthy run here, there seems to be no falling off of the support accorded them, and, together with beautifully illustrated songs by Miss Nellie Burke, form a popular programme.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. E. Owen.—The principal attraction is furnished by the Tennessee Guards, who give a most interesting exhibition of pyramid building, wall-scaling, and gun-spinning, whilst their military evolutions are gone through with smartness and precision. The Brothers Zampah, aptly described as "one-legged marvels," give a clever and original acrobatic act, for which they are deservedly applauded; Mr. Monti Santos puts in some good work as a society juggler; Mr. Harry Wenburn is a pleasing comedian, whose songs take well; included in Mr. E. C. Clayton's popular Attergraph pictures is "A Corsican's Daughter"; Howard and Wallace present a laughable comedy-sketch, entitled *Taming a Wife*; Miss Laura Hayden is a pleasing ballad-vocalist; and the Two Sparks, vocalists and duettists, are well received.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Charles Marsh's company in *The Gamester of Mets* is here. He himself, in the various impersonations of Paul Baldot, shows remarkable versatility. Gwenoline Hastings is a capital Countess Baldot; Una Lane a pleasing Lucia Baldot, and George Gainsford, a clever Captain Bedaire. *The Saint and the Woman* is also staged.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Raymond's Animated Picture Company continues to give two entertainments nightly, an additional attraction being the illustrated songs sweetly sung by Miss Norah Desmond.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Another attractive programme is presented by Kennedy's Komiks this week. Mr. Donald Purnell is the interlocutor; Miss Lily Oliver sings her songs with good expression; Melvin and May contribute some smart rag-time dancing; and the Sardous mystify their audience with illusions of the "vanishing lady" description. The pictures are new, and much humour is supplied by J. F. Ellis and Marie Liston.

BELFAST.—PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The premier attraction here is provided by George Leyton and company, who appear with every element of success in the dramatic scena, entitled *The Wreck of the Birkenhead*. Mr. Ernest Rees, the droll comedian, has been accorded a good reception; and a big hit has been made by Bullard Macdonald's Merrymakers in *The Burglar's Dream*. The acme of excellence is exhibited by Forest and King in their terpsichorean performance; and the feats of head and hand balancing by Pasquali Bros. are certainly marvellous. Natalia and Diana, juvenile gymnasts; Mr. Harry Rogerson, comedian; Miss Tiny Arnold, comedienne; Phillips and Merriott, comedy artists, and the Palace Pictures are also in the programme.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Mr. Joe O'Gorman tops the bill, and this capital Irish comedian and raconteur has been most successful. A hit has been made by Albert Wyndham and company, who produce with much éclat *Prince Arthur; or the Days of John*, the various rôles being capably sustained. Mlle. Haydée's miniature theatre has delighted all; and the feats of the Lombards have quite amazed the crowds. Jimson's Novelty Sketch Company produce *The Burglar's Surprise*, in which several well-trained canines appear. A startling novelty is produced by the Three Royal Dreadnoughts, clever rifle shots, whose feats have certainly created a sensation. Also appearing are the Sisters Brooke, vocalists and dancers; Sandy and Carl, comedians; Bros. O'Gorman, comedians and dancers; and the Hipposcope pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Miss Hetty King, male impersonator, occupies the premier position here, and her songs have afforded the utmost pleasure. The McConnell Trio appear in one of their amusing sketches, in which their vocalism is such an important and capital feature; and Mr. Fred Poplar's comic songs have been enjoyed. The Twin Sisters Anderson are aptly described as expert skipping-rope dancers; and much fun has been created by Collins and Rice, the talented comedy duo. The Bros. Mills are good gymnasts, their work being very smart; and also here are Miss Kitty Wager and Miss Billy Adair, comediennes.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company is producing here *The Scales of Justice*, which has met with a capital reception. In the rôle of Harry Maxwell, Mr. Horace Denton acquits himself with distinction; the dual parts of Mary Maxwell and Jennie Maxwell could have no more charming interpretation than is furnished by Miss Nina Blake-Adams; Mr. Cyril Grier (capital in every part he undertakes) has been most successful as Jack Breeze; and Mr. Edward M. Heanley's impersonation of the villainous adventurer, Antonia Cordova, is realistic. Mr. Tom H. Solly is a humorous Wilkins, and Miss Mattie Crawford an irresistible Pollie. Miss Kathleen Magee furnishes a skilful impersonation of Inez; and the rôle of Little Jennie is cleverly enacted by the talented child actress, Miss Florrie Drew. Mr. Elmore Frith, as Admiral Duncan, could hardly be excelled; and Mr. Ed. Smythe's impersonation of Major Tom Duncan reflects much credit on him. Miss Alice Clarke is all that can be desired as the landlady. Mr. Tom H. Solly was responsible for the admirable stage arrangements. The Alhambra Bioscope, under the direction of Mr. W. E. Newlove, exhibits a fine series of pictures, entitled "A Female Highwayman."

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—A return visit from Mr. Montague Beaudyn's *A Beautiful Fiend* company proves attractive. Mr. Beaudyn is prominent with a careful and effective rendering of Ivan Paulovitch; and Miss Cissie St. Elmo acquits herself with much distinction in the important rôle of Wanda Lubinoff; Count Fedor Karateff is well represented by Mr. Fred Goddard; Mr. Lionel Ellis is well suited as Sergius Strogoff; and Mr. Harry Oates as Christopher Crackles, Mr. W. Robertson Foulis as Malachi, and Mr. Jack Burnett as Nicholi Trolski accord good support. Miss Irene Munroe is an interesting Nadine; and Miss Annie Clunn a good Patty Woodlands. The production is liberally staged.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—A good combination comprises Frank and Jen Latona, clever comedians and instrumentalists; Mr. J. Gar Kiddie and his able company in the entertaining sketch, *The House of Fun*; the Sisters Terry, accomplished duettists; the Jackley Trio, in a comic speciality act; Mr. Donald McDougall, Scotch comedian; Mr. Bert Danson, comedian; the Four Olympian Stars, vocalists and dancers; and Brown's Royal Bioscope. Mr. Ernest Denney is musical director.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton.—The pierrot entertainment continues to enjoy extensive patronage.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company is here with *A Royal Divorce*. Mr. Frederick Victor's Napoleon is as good as ever, and Miss Edith Cole's charming impersonation of the Empress Josephine also finds favour; Talleyrand has an able exponent in Mr. William Dexter, and Mr. Alfred Grenville is successful as General Augereau. Miss Agnes Imlay as Marie Louise and Miss Helen Richmond as Stephanie likewise merit commendation.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*The Pick of the Bunch* is the fare submitted here this week by a company directed by Mr. Harold Wantage. Mr. Algernon W. Lee as Halliwell Menit and Mr. Percy Baverstock as Colonel Joseph Menit present very amusing studies; whilst Miss M. Sadie delights everyone as Nancy. Mr. Wantage as Martin and Mr. Norman Bowyer as Dick Seymour are also good, both in acting and singing. Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers in a terpsichorean effort find great favour.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Topping the bill here this week is Harry Lauder, than whom no greater favourite visits this theatre. He packs the house at every performance, and gives the greatest pleasure to his audience without resort to rude jest or senseless gibe. Dan Crawley, the popular comedian, is also on the bill, as well as Shawlene, the renowned whistler. Other good turns are provided by Sinclair and Whiteford, in a sketch; the Glenroy troupe of dancers; Millie Howell, vocalist; Harris and Worth, the huntamen comedians; the Sonsloffs, eccentric dancers and acrobats, and W. B. Raby, comedian.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. T. P. Dingnan.—Emma Don and her black and white comedy quartette provide the principal attraction here. Driscoll and Beattie, the sketch artists, are still retained because of their success last week; and Emmie Ames, the comedienne, has established herself a great favourite. Charley Dixon, comedian; the Three Coopers, vocalists; James Stewart, "the tramp at the piano"; the Lannons, duettists and dancers; D. W. Watson, coach-horn artist; Kate Lynd, comedienne; the Rozare Bolleros troupe of acrobats; and Percy Curry, comedian, are also worthy of their respective places.

WINTER GARDENS.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—*By the Zuyder Zee*, the new spectacular ballet, was produced here on Monday. A full notice of it appears in another column.

BOLTON. — GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Messrs. Elton Morgan and Fred Lloyd's company is here with the drama, *How Money's Made, or the Brand of Cain*. A good company is engaged, of which Mr. John Cullen is responsible for the character of Sir James Franklyn (Criminal Court Judge), and he is repeatedly applauded for his fine representation of the part; Mr. Fred H. Constable plays well the villainous part of Eustace Dare; Mr. Fred Lloyd does justice to the trying part of Leonard Murray; Mr. Elton Morgan gives a capital delineation of the part of Glory Hallelujah Jackson; Mr. Charles Locke ably plays the part of Bobby Vane; Ruth Franklyn is in the capable hands of Miss Annie Hylton; and Miss Flo Norman makes an excellent maid to Ruth Franklyn.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—At the head of the bill here is Tom Costello, who has a warm reception for his latest song-scena, *For Auld Lang Syne*; the Bros. Horne introduce boxing; Hans and Lux are a humorous pair; Ross and Grayson, the quaint comedy couple, submit a clever entertainment; Will Johnson causes much laughter; and Lily Black and Daisy Martell are both clever and dainty comediennes and dancers. The Hippo. pictures conclude a capital bill.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company, on a return visit with the time-honoured drama, *The Octoroon*, forms the present attraction here. The representation is of all-round excellence, with many new and striking features introduced. Tenderness and pathos mark the acting of Miss Leslie Warner as the octoroon girl Zoe; Mr. J. O. Steward gives a vigorous performance of the character of the brutish and villainous Jacob M'Closky; George Peyton is capitally represented by Mr. Oliver Birrell; Mr. Hugh Montgomery's Salem Scudder is an excellent effort; Mr. McPhil Harper's Indian chief is very picturesque; Sunnyside, the planter, is an able effort by Mr. A. Sinclair; and Mr. J. E. Roberts, Miss Marie Harcourt, Miss Maud Russell, Miss Florence Thorne, Miss Ethel Phelps, and Miss Ethel Brunn fill the other important parts.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' EMPIRES, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—The accomplished blind pianist, Mendel, is on a return visit, creating, as usual, much interest. In an exceedingly clever jumping act the Hartley Wonders are applauded; Robb Gilmore's style as a comic singer is very quaint; in a rough-and-tumble military sketch of four scenes, *The Skirmishers*, Herbert Darnley's company of comedians are responsible for much boisterous mirth; Ruby Dahl's Merry Mannikins is a clever imitation of life-sized marionettes; the Lukushimas (including Otara San) are clever Japanese acrobats and equilibrists, who do some wonderful feats; the fine voice of Maggie Walsh, the Lancashire Mill Girl, is heard to advantage in well-chosen songs; Arthur Lester submits the haunting Irish-Indian song, "Arrah Wanna," prettily illustrated; Arthur Gill gives examples of different kinds of vocalism; and in his "Solitary Rehearsal" on many instruments "Orpheus," the clever musician, wins hearty applause.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Nacnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—A clever entertainment on original lines is submitted here this week by Alf Ripon, ventriloquist; the Sisters Thurbain contribute to the programme excellent instrumental work and good dancing; Lew Towers furnishes an acceptable descriptive song; Burns and Bentley are smart dancers; club juggling and dancing are pleasingly combined by the Claymores; some funny acrobatic work is accomplished by the Lack and Ford smart trio; in a well-staged burlesque sketch, *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*, Arthur Watson, Flo Stanley, and a company of smart ladies and clever comedians combine with success in a diverting half-hour's entertainment; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux maintain popularity with some capital pictures.

BRIDLINGTON. — ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The Municipal Orchestra has been largely augmented, and under the conductorship of Mr. Joseph Sainton is rendering some capital programmes in the Floral Pavilion. The vocalist this week is Mr. John Bardsley, a pleasing tenor. Mr. Palmer has made ample provision for the entertainment of the visitors to the Grand Pavilion. The Flockton-Foster Entertainers give some excellent programmes, their concerted numbers and sketches being very cleverly performed. A special engagement is that of Mr. Walter Graham, the human marionette, a remarkably clever artist, whose "show" evokes great applause. Another attractive engagement is that of the Loyal Dominion Animated Picture Company, from the Queen's Theatre, Castleford, who have a splendid series of up to date pictures. To mark the first anniversary of the opening of the Grand Pavilion a special programme was arranged for Saturday last, under the patronage of the Mayor and Mayoress (Alderman and Mrs. Savedon).

NEW SPA AND GARDENS—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—Herr Simon Wurm and his famous Imperial Viennese Band is now at its full summer strength, and the daily programmes submitted to the patrons of the Spa are delightfully varied and very efficiently rendered by this fine body of musicians. Mr. Hague always caters well for his patrons, and has made some popular fixtures with many well-known artists to appear during the season. This week Professor Gaudron, the aeronaut, is billed for the grand gala night on Thursday. The Lindon Vaudeville Entertainers give three programmes daily under the glass dome, and have quickly established themselves as great favourites. The vocalist at the promenade concerts this week is Miss Maude Foreshew, a very fine contralto.

THE PALACE.—Managers, Messrs. J. W. and W. H. Delmar.—The Two Daniels, negro comedians and entertainers, are highly amusing in songs and dance, and their instrumental items are very cleverly performed. The Parisian Animated Pictures are very popular, and an amusing contest. "Whirling the Whizzer," is quite to the taste of the audiences.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—The Waterloo Pierrots are submitting some remarkably fine programmes to delighted audiences, and the troupe give some amusing sketches, their burlesque pantomime of *Cinderella* being a most amusing and clever performance. The two ladies, who add to the entertainment by their songs and dances, Miss Nan Farren and Miss Nelly Goodall, are deservedly encored for their various items. Mr. George Hyam, as the conductor of the laughable farce, *Hamelton's Diorama*, shows great versatility by his eccentric acting.

BRIGHTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director.—Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Mr. Junius Booth and company opened here on Monday with *Monte Cristo*. Mr. Junius Booth gave a masterly impersonation of Edmond Dantes; Miss Joan Wellman submitted a charming portrayal of Mercedes; Mr. C. W. Crowe as Fernand Mondego achieved much success; Mr. Beckett Bould's M. Nortier, and Mr. Augustin Bowerman's Baron Danglers, were well played; Mr. Walter Huron was highly effective as M. Villefort; Mr. Finn Doyle as Lieut. Morcef showed able acting; Mr. Percy Braithwaite was entertaining as Caderouse; and pleasing support was given by Miss Doris Regan as Sophia, and Miss Alice West as La Carconte. The play was superbly staged and mounted.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is an excellent company here this week. Hooker and Davis and Six Cowboy Girls submit a capital turn, comprising very effective dancing and singing; Marguerite Broadfoote, a charming comedienne, wins enthusiastic applause for her songs; Mack Ollive, assisted by Daisy Baldry, scores heavily in his whistling scena, *The Candy Store*; Dardan and Iris gave a clever exhibition of dancing; Harry May Hemsley, child impersonator and caricaturist, is well received; Ernie Mayne—"Cupid, the simple one"—is deservedly applauded; Helen McGregor, a Scotch contralto, contributes character songs in good style; Marco, magician and illusionist, is a very skilful performer; Charles Rose is a pleasing comedian; and the Alhambscope pictures are interesting and amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A capital programme is sustained here this week. The Sisters Lytton are accomplished vocalists, and sing with sweet tone and artistic expression; Arthur Goodman, burlesquer of vaudevilles, gives a very original and entertaining turn; Harry Russon, actor-comedian, sings and recites admirably; the Musical Schäfers are distinctly successful in their comedy act, *The Garden of Melody*; Alf. Gibson is a quaint comedian; Rex Fox submits a good ventriloquial and musical act on the wire; Tom E. Hughes, comedian, is heard to great advantage in "Can London do without me?"; Malcom Scott as "Gibson Girl," or "The Woman who Knows," evokes hearty laughter and applause with his clever patter; *London Suburbia*, a comedy sketch, in two scenes, of "rural life in London," is replete with boisterous fun, and knockabout business; and the programme also comprises a football match on bicycles, by Hinton and Morton; and "Living Flowers," by the Barrascope.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram's company is here this week with *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*. Miss Decima Moore gives a delightful impersonation of Peggy O'Mara; Mr. Lionel Glenister acts with conspicuous success as the Hon. Jimmy Keppel; Mr. Alfred S. Barber is admirably suited as the quaint entomologist, Lord Crackenthorpe; Mr. Henderson Bland's Major Archie Phipps and Miss Kate Wingfield's Lady Crackenthorpe merit praise; Miss Eva Lonsdale makes a graceful Hon. Millicent Keppel; Miss Naomi Neilson is a pleasing Mrs. O'Mara; and Miss Estelle Despa as the Hon. Mrs. Colquhoun, and Mr. Jedgar Stevenson as Jack Menzies are effective.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—An entirely new series of pictures by Ruffel's Imperial Bioscope provides very attractive afternoon and evening entertainments here this week.

BRISTOL. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—*When It Was Dark* is capitally staged here, the play attracting good houses. Mr. Stanton Sharp acts in convincing style as the Rev. Basil Gortre; Mr. W. J. Butler displays considerable power as Constantine Schuabe; Mr. Edward Valentine does full justice to the difficult part of Sir Robert Llewellyn; Miss Hilda Beverley presents a highly creditable and characteristic exposition of Gertrude Hunt; Mrs. Morton Powell is in every way pleasing as Helena Byars; and the remaining parts are all in very capable hands. The two tableaux, "Saint Mary's Church" and "Tomb at Jerusalem," are capitally arranged.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Paul Cinquevalli, the eminent juggler, is here for the week, and is attracting a large attendance at each performance; Carrie Laurie's juveniles obtain much applause for their kindergarten entertainment; Lily Stewart, comedienne and dancer, presents a pleasing turn; Steeley and Dowton have a smart burlesque interlude; Francis O'Flynn is an expert banjoist; Adey Spencer impersonates cleverly well-known artists in song, dance, &c.; Kisbey is also successful as a burlesque mimic of Eugene Stratton and others; and the performance concludes with "The Hundred Dollar Bill," projected by Vernon's Bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—John L. Shine and company are highly successful in the interesting sketch, *An Actor's Art*, the various impersonations of Mr. Shine being all cleverly done. Ethel Newman and company please with the comedietta, *A Judicial Separation*; the Royal Tokio troupe of Japanese equilibrists present an exceptionally clever entertainment; Rita Belle, Dutch comedienne and sand dancer, obtains much applause for her very acceptable turn; the Three Dares excel as instrumentalists, the harp playing of one of the ladies being much above the average; Nora Moore, burlesque artist, scores with some taking songs; and both Harry Morgan, comedian, and Tom Leo, comedian, obtain appreciation. The performance concludes with animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*Love Rules the World*, a new domestic drama by T. G. Bailey, keeps large audiences interested here. Miss Ruth Shephard as Maude adds much to her reputation, and Mr. Charles Fancourt makes an excellent character of Harold Kingston. The villain, Stephen Blight, is powerfully portrayed by Mr. Gerald Jordan, who is ably assisted by Miss Constance Medwyn as Flo Merton; Mr. Fred W. Graham as Billy Binks, and Miss Kitty Russell as Kitty Snowdrop keep the house in roars with their clever comedy business. Jim Dixey is a trying part which Mr. Sidney Rennef capably sustains; Mr. Victor Garnet Vayne successfully portrays Paul Carruthers; Mother Grimble is a fine study by Miss Gwenda Garnet Vayne; Farmer Carruthers is satisfactorily presented by Mr. Ernest A. Douglas; and Mr. Cecil Raymond (the Major), Mr. Harry Stock (Inspector Ferritt), Mr. G. M. Cutter (gaoler), Mr. Arthur Blakestone (Hon. Geo. Chumley), and Mr. Richard Townsend (Sir Edward Whybrow) each give their parts most satisfactorily.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—The chief attraction is the Brady and Johnson combination in a most amusing sketch, entitled *Turning the Tables*. Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the factory nightingales, possess splendid voices, and their songs receive much applause. Zenora gives a very clever exhibition of hand-balancing; and Taylor and May, coloured comedians, sing, whistle, and dance well. Sam Shipley, comedian, is very amusing; and Alma Curzon, comedienne, and Doyle and Gibson, comedians and dancers, also do well. Some fine animated pictures, shown by the Operascope, conclude the entertainment.

BURY (LANCS).—CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. O. C. Culling.—The pictures on the Ottograph are interesting and amusing this week. They include "When the wife's away," "The Baffled Burglar," "The Red Spectre," &c. Good turns are given by Miss Lily Lonsdale, who sings nicely; and Mr. Ernie Myers, a quaint comedian.

THE HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—A fine little sketch is presented by Florence Smithers, supported by Owen Ducroy and company; Drum and Major, smart American comedians; Ajax and George, in some wonderful feats; Nellie de Lacey and company in a sketch entitled *The Lady and the Burglar*; Lo Tosta, wire walker; Madge Allen, vocalist and dancer; and J. C. Scatter, comedian, make a very admirable entertainment.

BUXTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, this week, we had Mr. T. Greenwood Croft's company, in *The Idler*. Mr. Philip Cunningham was a most finished Mark Cross; and Mr. Stephen T. Ewart excellently played Sir John Harding; Mr. William Attfield acted with ability and discretion as Simon Strong; and Mr. C. W. Spencer was a capable General Merryweather. Miss Celia Gordon played particularly well as Mrs. Cross; and Miss Zoe Davis was most successful as Kate; Mrs. Greenwood Croft was an acceptable Lady Harding.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Closed.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*A Beautiful Fiend* is presented here by Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company. Mr. Herbert Skardon, in his impersonation of the hero, Ivan Paulovitch, submits a very creditable delineation; the Count Fedor of Mr. H. C. Robinson would be difficult to improve upon; Mr. Pat Quinn as Malachi does extremely well in the rôle; while Mr. Matt Russell is suitably placed as Sergius Strogoff. Miss Sydney Crowe is seen in a part which brings out all her fine histrionic powers, and her rendition of Wanda Lubinoff leaves nothing to be desired. Miss Violet Ingram is a success in the character of Nadine; while excellent comedy is supplied by Mr. Dick Seddon as Crackles, ably assisted by Miss Marie Fontaine as Patty.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. W. Lea; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—At the top of the programme this week is Happy Fanny Fields, who is as funny and vivacious as ever, and Cardiffians are always pleased to welcome her. Blithe May Henderson is another brisk turn, who sings and dances in a pleasing manner and style of her own. The Anartos, in a musical comedy scena, are both comical and clever; while genial Pat Rafferty, in two songs, is certainly entertaining. Wild Willie and West, the bounding navvies, are exceptionally smart acrobats; Edie King, with her nationality dances, keeps the house in high spirits; Ryder Slone, comedian, is successful in his song, "Sing, sing"; Ben Albert, comedian, is exceedingly droll; Boy Glenn, a juvenile raconteur, is good; and last and highly attractive is the series of representations of Harry Lauder on the marvellous Chronomegaphone.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—The stock company is performing *The Colleen Bawn* this week with remarkable success. The impersonation of Hardress Cregan by Mr. Joseph Millane is decidedly good; that excellent comedian Mr. Chas. R. Stone is again seen to advantage as Myles-na-Coppaleen; and Mr. Harry Douglas is no less successful as Mr. Corrigan. Mr. W. J. Miller's Danny Mann is a thoroughly effective performance; Mr. Gerald Byrone's Father Tom a well defined conception; Capt. A. E. Winnington-Barnes makes the most of his few opportunities as Kyrle Daly; Eily O'Connor is delightfully played by Miss Mabel Rose; Miss Ethel Bracewell acquits herself with distinction as Anne Chute; and Mrs. Cregan is in the safe hands of Miss Emily Kelsey. The staging and mounting of the piece are remarkably effective.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—A big house here on Monday welcomed Wilbur Hill and Willette Whitaker, vocalists and instrumentalists of quite a novel and distinct type; Sterling and Zone, well known in pantomime here, introduced many novelties in their musical comedy act; Cole and Rags created exuberant fun with their smart and comical juggling turn; and Nat Watkins' comic singing and droll patter gained a complete success. Mlle. Eldee, in Poses Plastique, and Ailsa Douglas, a dainty singer, met with considerable favour; and the Pepiscope shows a fine series of pictures.

CARMARTHEN. — ASSEMBLY ROOMS. — Public Rooms Co.; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—This week the United English Opera company, under the direction of Mr. F. S. Gilbert, is visiting the town, and presenting with undoubted success the popular operas *Maritana*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, and *The Bohemian Girl*.

CASTLEFORD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES. —Proprietors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson; Business Manager, Mr. Will H. Emerson.—The services of Mr. Cliff Dover, comedian, and the Lancashire Harmony Boys have been requisitioned, and laughter and applause have been accorded them. Master McAndrew, in illustrated songs, sings well, and is much appreciated. The Loyal Dominion Co. has again provided a new series of interesting dramatic and humorous animated pictures. Mr. Tinker, a most efficient accompanist, provides very appropriate music.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—Mr C Watson Mills's company is here with *A Warning to Women*. Mr. Godfrey Tearle makes a picturesque and interesting Shaun; Mr. Richard Vane is a powerful representative of the villainous Dr. Marcus Dread; Mr. William Vane makes a success as Fergus McNaughton; Mr. Henry Rutland is natural in manner and appearance in the rôle of Squire Kennion; Miss Edith Rutland gains everyone's sympathy as the little cripple, Miles O'Moore; and Miss Molly Malone acquits herself creditably in the trying rôle of Moira Kennion. The comedy honours are shared by Messrs. N. Carter Slaughter and W. Palliser Acock as Lord Eversleigh and Ferdinand de Joules respectively.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Here we have Winnie Derson, comedienne; Zanfretto and Napio, the musical knife-grinders; Abel and Walsh, in a very lively acrobatic act; the Sisters Julian, whose duets always go well here; Dan Filmer, in comic ditties; the Royal Delomes, clog dancers of more than average ability; Mr. Lacey's films, "The Seaman's Widow" being a very realistic one; and *Lulu*, a stirring episode, produced in capital style by Miss Sylvia Cavalho and company, including Mr. Clifford Pembroke.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries. — Captain Davis is presenting a good variety company, including Maude Vera, serio and dancer; Ted Cowan, comic vocalist; the Sprees, in their scena, *Twickenham Ferry*; Johnson and Bert, in a laughter-provoking knockabout act, entitled *A Queer Customer*; Florence Schuberth, who looks quite fetching in principal boy's costume; the Three Sisters Sprightly, who are very great favourites in Chatham; and that really funny patterer, Walter King, who nightly convulses the audience. "A Hooligan Idea" and "A Desperate Footpad" are projected clearly by means of the Edisonograph.

CHESTER.—ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—The Atlas and Vulcana Troupe occupy the top of the bill, and present a capital weight-lifting show; Wheeler and Wilson, comedy acrobats, appear with great success; the Brothers Adderley appear in their sketch, *An Officer's Servant*, in which Mr. J. Adderley gives a good imitation of a military band; Morimura, Japanese illusionist, presents the usual run of conjuring tricks; Maggie Grimshaw is a juvenile mimic who shows great promise, her imitation of Jock Whiteford being about her best effort; that versatile pair, Nash and Noel, excel in patter, song, and dance, meeting with a great reception nightly; Violet Ashcroft is an acceptable ballad vocalist; and the Imperial (Vernon's) Bioscope with new films concludes an excellent entertainment. Mr. C. B. Fount

ance of *Jim the Penman* on Thursday was by way of being a function, because it was a complimentary benefit tendered to Mr. Herbert Ralland, under most distinguished patronage.

THE PALACE. — Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—Douglas is particularly proud of the Palace, and not without reason. It possesses one of the finest ball-rooms in the kingdom. Mr. Harry Wood's orchestra would induce even Diogenes to dance, tub and all. The variety entertainment also shows judicious selection. Miss Lil Hawthorn has a personality which appeals. Her songs are clever and refined. Miss Effie Stuart is a smart little comedian and dancer. She exploits the rather "pawky" Scotch humour with point. Shang Hai, who, as his name implies, hails from the Flowery Land of pigtails and unconvention, is really a striking conjuror. His tricks are new, and his method smart. The Rinaldo Trio give a pleasing turn; so do Selbo, the club juggler, and the Violas. Mr. Jack Lorimer has come provided with new songs and fresh variants of kail-yard humour.

DERBY CASTLE. — Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Kelly.—The bright particular star at Derby Castle this week is Miss Florrie Forde, of the "Old Bull and Bush" fame. She has also some new and captivating songs, which delight crowded houses. The Cape Girls are attractive duettists, and they can dance; Radford and Valentine, as comedy jugglers, demand much consideration. A special feature at Derby Castle is the presentation of new dances, and the Imperial Waltz, invented by Mr. J. Powell, and exhibited nightly by Mr. S. Geake, the popular M.C., and Mrs. Geake, has caught on with the public.

HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. F. J. Connor.—When Mr. F. J. Connor opens his most popular place of entertainment we all know the season has commenced. On Monday last he was rewarded with a crowded house, and presented an excellent programme. The Cumberland Troupe of trick cyclists and acrobats displayed some daring and skilful feats; Señorita Rosa Montero is a graceful horsewoman. The Berlin Belles are clever actresses, singers, and dancers; Mme. Thelma and Mr. Harry Groves are amusing in a little sketch, *A Lady Sculptor*; Carl Lynn, apparently, is as well aquainted with animal life as Moogli, of the Jungle Book; and Frank Anderson's comical trained asses make for laughter. Other clever turns are John Irvin, foot equilibrist; Miss Pinder, equestrienne; Du Calion, with his ladder exhibit; Mons. Jean; Mr. W. Ralph Goggin, an attractive singer; and clowns, comedians, and animated pictures. Mr. W. R. Albino is once more the equestrian director and ring master.

Mr. Charles Dare's burnt-cork comedians daily appear, with success, on Douglas Head, and his variety artists give an excellent performance twice nightly at the Empire Theatre.

Other attractions in Douglas are Mr. Fred Buxton's Pierrots and Tea Village, Mr. Tom Isherwood's Pierrots on the bandstand, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's clever combination on Onchan Head.

DOVER. — THEATRE ROYAL — Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Limited; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Mr. Julian Graham's company opened on Monday with the musical play *Juno*. In the name-rôle credit must be given to Miss Kate Graham-Beck for a pleasing portrayal; Mr. Harry Walsh as Timothy Twinkle does his best with a trying part; Mr. Richard Teasdale as John Murphy has one of the best vocal numbers in the piece.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessees, the Vaudeville Syndicate; Mr. Fred Holt, Manager.—Peter Gotz, a smart wrestler, tops the bill; Vere and Royal are too good comedy artists; and the Bros. Hayes evoke laughter. An amusing character comedy turn is given by Will Newman; the Three Transfields' musical act is pleasing; and Cissie Lupino is a charming transformation dancer. Lily Lassah sings and dances with vivacity, and some exciting pictures on Raymond's bio-tableaux conclude.

THE PAVILION, PROMENADE PIER.—Lessees, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—The engagement of Miss Yvonne Lamor, the well known American artist, supported by a London company, has aroused much interest in the town. Miss Lamor, beautifully gowned, renders her songs with the skill of a finished actress, and invariably wins a recall. An expressive baritone voice is possessed by Mr. Scrope Quentin, who sings in good taste, and, together with Miss Julia Willis, contributes some pretty duets. Miss Willis also sings several solos, and Miss Muriel Harding accompanies, and gives two semi-humorous songs with appropriate brightness.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—The principal attraction here this week is the famous wrestler Hackenschmidt, who met with an enthusiastic reception on Monday. Dandy George causes considerable amusement with his clever canine companion Rosie; Frank Maura is a fine foot juggler; James Fawn, an old favourite, has capital songs and smart patter; and an illuminated cycle act presented by Mr. Herbert Adams is well received; the Four Hearnes perform clever acrobatic feats, and Elton and Edwin prove popular in their banjo entertainment. The Royal pictures are also interesting.

EMPIRE.—General Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Wrestling is again the leading feature here this week, and Constant Le Marin, who is open to meet all comers, still maintains supremacy. The evergreen W. J. Ashcroft is as nimble and alert as ever; Victor Travers achieves success as a vocal comedian; Bransby Williams, in his several impersonations, scores a distinct triumph; and the Sisters Gasch, in a clever gymnastic act, merit applause; a sketch entitled *The Collar Stud*, presented by Edith Mair and Herbert Bartlett and company, is productive of much enjoyable fun, and Bert Woodward, trick cyclist, is a favourite turn; Signor and Mme. Borelli win approval by their artistic work, and Maudie Macdonald is a vocalist of more than ordinary merit. The Empire pictures complete the programme.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The star turn here this week is Gustave Fasola, Indian magician. The Schenk Brothers, in their equilibristic act, win success, and Lottie Collard is a chic comedienne and dancer; the Haverleys, song illustrators, are deservedly applauded; as are also Henri Curwen and Marie Belle in their sketch, entitled *The International Club*; Alpho, in a smart ventriloquial entertainment, is well received, and other turns contributing successfully are J. W. Crosby, quaint comedian; Viviana, the dancing girl; and Lade Henderson, character vocalist. The Bioscope is showing some excellent pictures.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. Fred R. Heley.—The Russell Rosse Répertoire Company entered on their second week's engagement here on Monday, when *A Pair of Spectacles* was produced before a large and appreciative audience. Mr. David James, in the part of Benjamin Goldfinch, kept the fun going in his quiet and humorous fashion, and Miss Rachael de Travis successfully portrayed the rôle of Charlotte; Mr. Norman Clarke submitted a good rendition of Uncle Gregory, and Miss E. Nolan O'Connor was seen to advantage as Mrs. Goldfinch; Mr. George Mudie, jun., was very good in the rôle of Percy, and Miss L. Kingston presented an agreeable Lucy Lorrimer. In the remaining parts Messrs. J. Edward Fraser, F. J. Hampson, Maurice Denham, and Clarence Pelham were entirely satisfactory.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The programme submitted here is as follows:—Bell and Bell, refined comedy artists; Bessie Hall, character vocalist; James Murphy, Irish comedian and dancer; Ada Lytton, international dancer; Harry Tremaine, character impersonator; Fred Walton's living marionettes; and the Cinematograph.

SAMUEL'S EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The company engaged here include:—Harry Dane's sketch company in *The Secret*; George Howard, descriptive vocalist; Gertrude Livock, coon vocalist; Jimmy Ross, comedian and dancer; and Sheila O'Donnell, ballad vocalist.

DUNDEE.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—*Home, Sweet Home*, admirably interpreted by a first-class company, constitutes a strong attraction here this week. Mr. Herbert Cecil gives an effective rendering of Stephen Armitage; Lucas Lyle is well played by Mr. Charles Kean; David Armitage has a careful representative in Mr. Leslie Vyner; Mr. Douglas Hutchens is an excellent Duke of Ancaster; Mr. Johnny McElroy as the Hon. Percy has a lot to do, and does it exceptionally well; and Mr. Anthony Gordon's Dick Redmayne is a fine character study. As Joan Miss Dora Hammersley portrays the character creditably; and as Sybil Fay Miss Maude Le Ray is particularly good. In addition to the dramatic programme Tate and Tate, comedy Trampolin acrobats, appear and and receive quite an ovation for their smart turn.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—The Kingston dramatic company entered on the last week of their successful engagement here, the drama presented being *The Steam Forge Hammer*. The elaborate scenery used in the production is capitally manipulated, the steam-hammer scene being particularly realistic. As Eleanor Miss Madge F. Young gave a very meritorious performance; Mr. J. T. Dale as Bill Firelock appeared to advantage; and the Waif was sympathetically played by Mr. A. W. B. Kingston. On Wednesday evening Mr. Kingston had a complimentary benefit.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clarke.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Leigh's company is appearing here in *Lucky Durham*. Strong effective work, combined with artistic restraint, makes Mr. Edmund Kennedy's part as John Durham a complete success. Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood is a fine Lord Mountfallon; Mr. A. E. Walker is a polished Mr. Vallerton; Mr. Arthur Leigh is conspicuously successful as the Hon. Reginald; Mr. W. F. Clitherow does splendidly in a character-sketch as Verstein; and Mr. W. Dunlop is a satisfactory Walcombe. Miss Alice Esther Belmore is a charming and attractive Helen, Miss Rosabel Dodd is quite successful as Lady Mountfallon, Miss Lilian Mason a sweet and womanly Mrs. Durham, while Miss Florence Dulhunty is an excellent Margaret.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Brandon Thomas's company is appearing in *Charley's Aunt*. Mr. Stanley Cooke is irresistibly funny as Fancourt Babberley, and he keeps the house in constant laughter. Mr. Hastings Lynn and Mr. Richard B. Mason share the honours for their bright, invigorating work as Jack and Charley. Mr. Walter Beaumont is a very clever Spettigue; Mr. Sydney Compton an equally good Sir Francis Chesney; and Mr. David Denard repeats his capital work as Brasset. Miss Amy Harpwaye and Miss Gracie Russell are two pretty and graceful exponents of the parts of Kitty and Amy; Miss Lena MacNaughton is a fine, handsome Donna Lucia; and Miss Sylvia Morris is a very pleasing and sympathetic Ela. *The Lancashire Sailor* precedes. On Monday afternoon Miss Phyllis Dare was announced to appear, but through indisposition did not fulfil the engagement. Mr. Astley Weaver, in his remarkably clever and varied work as an entertainer, kept the house thoroughly amused. Mr. Thomas Abel has a splendid baritone voice, and was well received; Mr. Edward Brightwell was a brilliant pianist; and Miss Hilda Barnes ably contributed violin solos.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—Miss Marie Lloyd occupies the place of honour, and at her initial appearance her popularity was very evident, for the audience parted with her with regrets. Hall and Earle are amongst the very best acrobats ever seen here; Mr. George Goodfellow and Miss Jennie Gregson are very smart in their comedy work; Mr. Cyrus Dare with his clever imitations is recognised as an old favourite and enthusiastically received; Miss Ella Lane is a pretty, bright, and charming comedienne; Perrette and Mona have a capital sketch, *Teasing the General*; the Sisters Hall, as singers, and Miss Rosie Revell, as a coon artist, are also successful.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—A variety entertainment of an attractive kind has been provided here this week by Herr Auilf Hjorvard and Mr. John E. Watson's opera company. *The K.C.*, a bright little lyric comedy, proved an entertaining curtain-raiser, the performance being much appreciated. Miss Lili Sharp, in the rôle of Olive, and Miss Elswick, as the rustic Dolly, greatly pleased the audience; while the parts of Alured Inglestone and Jacob Minns were capitally played by Mr. A. J. Nicholls and Mr. A. Hendon; and good work was also done by Mr. A. Cartwright and Mr. F. Williams in the two remaining rôles. A pianoforte recital by Herr Hjorvard and a violin solo by Mons. M. Rafelewski, following the comedy, were thoroughly enjoyed; and the programme concluded with the tragic miniature opera, *The Gamester*, which was well sung by Mr. Furness Williams as Angus, Mr. Cartwright as Raphael, and Miss Sharp as Marjorie. Herr Hjorvard, who is the composer of both the above works, Mr. Walter E. Grogan being the librettist, conducted personally throughout.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—The programme here this week is light and entertaining. An exhilarating turn by Doody and Wright, in which the grotesque dancing of the gentleman is a prominent feature, calls forth loud applause, and the performers have to appear before the curtain at the close of their sketch. The Morris Cronin troupe give a surprising performance of juggling with Indian clubs, and there is much genuine humour in their act; Hayman and Franklin make a successful appearance in a sketch, *A Matrimonial Agency*; and Benson and Geoffreys are admirable in an amusing farce, in which the acting of the lady is particularly good; Wylie's dog circus is a pleasing example of animal training, the dogs performing most of their feats while their teacher is absent from the stage. The Three Romas are graceful, powerful, and daring athletes, and are warmly received for their admirable performance; Mr. Godfrey James, who possesses an unusually sweet and telling tenor voice, gains great applause for a very fine rendering of several ballads; Mr. Jack Crawley, vocal and instrumental mimic, delights his audience with his clever imitations; the Two Nettas sing duets with much expression, and the Royal Bioscope displays films of various recent events.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—The tree-felling exhibition by the Australian backwoodsmen, Jackson and McLaren, is a novel and interesting performance, and, accompanied as it is with appropriate music and scenic effects, the turn proves most popular. That well-known favourite, George Formby, is exceedingly diverting with his "silly" songs and their peculiar line of humour. Marie San Toi and her Merry Little Japs provide quite a feast of colour and music in their highly characteristic sketch, *A Japanese Tea Garden*; and another entertaining sketch, of a broadly farcical kind, is performed by Mr. Lonnen Meadows and company, Mr. Meadows making great sport in an Irish part. The Norman-Leonard trio appear in a delightful musical interlude; Leo Stormont, the popular baritone vocalist, gives a capital selection of songs; Cissie Curlette proves herself a mimic of considerable skill; meritorious comedienne and singing turns are provided by Maude Mortimer and Ellis Barrieton; and Bioscope pictures complete a very good bill.

COOK'S ROYAL CIRCUS.—The New York Animated Picture Company, under the management of Mr. J. H. Sanders, having taken over Mr. John Henry Cooke's establishment for a short season, provide an entertainment of a popular and attractive kind. The programme, which includes an almost endless selection of the most interesting and novel bioscope films—even day-to-day events being shown on the screen—is pleasantly varied by singing and talking pictures, reproduced with surprising skill by the Gaumont patent chronophone, as well as by the singing of a male voice quartette.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Miss Annie Hughes and company are here this week in *Miss Tommy*. Mr. Evelyn Vernon does extremely well in the part of Peter Hope; Mr. Willy Hartill gives a capital impersonation of William Clodd; Mr. Reginald F. Beach is an amusing Flip; Mr. Rupert Lister displays ability as Dick Danvers; Miss Winifred Pearson plays the difficult rôle of Mr. Morrison with perfect ease; Miss Vera Pole is a sweet Honour, and Miss Annie Hughes a sympathetic Tommy, who appeals strongly to the audience.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager and Musical Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—"Les Directoires" are paying a return visit here this week, and are received by good audiences; Mr. John Gill is a popular humorist; Mr. Eric Davidson's baritone songs win him an enthusiastic recall; and the Pavilion Bioscope is a great attraction.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—Jordan and Harvey, Hebrew dialect comedians, are proving worthy stars at this house this week; Fred Cleveland's pantomimists, jugglers, and dancers are highly appreciated; Bains and Reed, eccentric acrobats, are worthy of much praise; a whistler of ability is found in Fred Mason; a Scotch ventriloquist, W. H. Hilton, provides abundant mirth with his figure "Jock"; and Cherry Lass, comedienne and dancer; Marie St. John, serio; and pictures by Vernon's Bioscope complete the bill.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—*The New World*, a drama by Fred Darcy, is being played here by Mr. Will White's company; Mr. Victor Rae makes a manly Jack Hawley; Mr. W. S. Stephenson is a capital Jim Rawlings, Jos. Alverez receives capital treatment at the hands of Mr. Albert Carlton, Albert H. Clarke makes the most of his opportunities in the part of Joe Williams, Messrs. Bass and Guinness in comedy rôles are capital entertainers; Miss Evelyn Robson presents an excellent portrait of May Walton, Miss Maud Leslie makes capital out of Samantha, and Miss Cissie Clarke is a vivacious Jenny.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—The New York Picture Co. still provides the fare at this house.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—Mr. Edward Marris's company, in *Somebody's Sweetheart*, forms the attraction here. Mr. Walter Nugent as Stephen Leverton makes a duly aggressive villain, and his partner in crime, Lem Lee, is well acted by Mr. Percy Maitland. Miss Norah Melton in the part of Lulu is a vivacious heroine, and scores in her various songs and dances; Mr. Cecil W. Parke as her lover, Stanton Ashleigh, has a good voice, and his songs are very successful; Miss May Norris gives a pleasant rendering of the young lad, Freddie Ashleigh. Two well-played parts are the old nigger Joe of Mr. Frank Gala, and the Detective Wilson (with a wonderful dance) of Mr. Arthur Slade; Mr. George Brentwood as Blabbs is responsible for the liveliest fun in the play, and in every scene his comic antics, songs, and sayings keep the audience in good humour. Miss Lena Laton as Zora, the gipsy, Miss Dora Hargreaves as the old-maid housekeeper, Miss Ainsley, and Misses Dolly Payne and Rosie Chandler, in acrobatic dances, all help towards the success of the play.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. J. W. Whitbread's company are proving an attraction here, and are submitting for their second week the Irish drama, *Willy Reilly*. Mr. Robert Faulkner and Miss Cecilia Dare fill the leading parts in clever fashion; Mr. Frank Dalton is very effective as Fergus, while Mr. Dave Clarke is equally successful as the Squire. Other characters capitally filled are those by Miss Jessie Glen and Messrs. H. Ryeland Leigh, M. Morley Carroll, and Harry Richardson.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—R. A. Roberts is here with a new protean sketch, *Ringing the Changes*. It is wonderfully well done, and full of good things. Millie Hylton is always a favourite, and she comes provided with several attractive songs. Tom Foy and company, in their lively sketch, *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, cause roars of laughter. Bertha Palliser and Edith Maynard take well in their operatic duets, both being vocalists of special merit; Gus Garrick's imitation of music hall types is a smart act and goes well; the Musical Johnstones are particularly good in their xylophone selections; Frank Cumminger is a sand dancer of special ability. Hilda Playfair, comedienne; the Phydoras, in an eccentric musical act; and the Bioscope, with some wonderful films of the Zambesi, complete a first-rate programme.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Mariedl, the giantess, appeared on Monday evening, and got a great reception. Peggy Pryde is as great a favourite as ever, and she made a decided hit with her new songs; Harry Tate's No. 1 Company caused much merriment in their sketch, *Motoring*; Charles Robinson, whose songs are illustrated on the Bioscope, has a fine clear voice; G. W. Hunter has received a great welcome, and is most successful in all his songs; Marba and Verity are a couple of clever acrobatic dancers; the Four Regals perform some wonderful feats of strength, most of which are quite new; Raglus, the American juggler, and Jessie Albini, comedienne, complete the programme.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Miss Kitty Gordon, who was seen here in October at the King's as the Duchess of Dantzic, reappears here as a variety artist, and her really high-class vocal efforts are heartily appreciated. Mlle. Aurora Castillo, French chanteuse, is an artist of much ability, and both in her French songs and her piquant English efforts she catches the fancy of the audience; an acrobatic speciality, new to Glasgow, is given by Spissal Bros. and Mack, and proves one of the most entertaining of its kind ever seen here; Rosie Lloyd has some smart songs with catchy choruses; Morny Cash, in "Beautiful bed" and his Lancashire dialect songs, makes as big a hit as ever; Isabelle Dillon is a dainty comedienne, and is assisted by a clever little girl; Charles Sloman, patter comedian; and O'Malley and Brown, comedians, are also attractive turns.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Grossi, the Italian expert in mental telepathy, is here this week, giving a wonderful exhibition of thought-reading. Winfield Blake and Maude Amber display a deal of versatile talent in their sketch, *A Tubloid Musical Comedy*, in which they are ably assisted by Messrs. Frank Lennard, Ivor Cloner, and Charles Comfrey. The Mexican musical act of El Trio Lampibo is a very pleasing item; an exceedingly amusing acrobatic cycle turn is given by the Narow Brothers; Elsie Claire sings ballads and operatic solos in cultivated style; the refined singing and whistling of Guy Ryder is much appreciated; a promising mimic and comedienne is seen in Lina Verdi; W. E. Whittle gives a particularly good ventriloquial show, and Anna Hope sings pictorial songs with capital effect; while an excellent series of films are shown on the Bioscope.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—A fine programme rules here this week, and splendid houses attest its popularity. Miss Amy Augarde and a capable party are presenting a unique operatic episode of Spanish gipsy life, entitled *La Carmencita*, in which this fine actress and singer makes a great success. The other artists are equally successful. The famous Menzies' 'bus scene from Mr. Waldon's last pantomime is once again presented and Barry Lupino and James Chippendale are responsible for this uproarious fun-creator. Mr. Waldon has repeatedly had to acknowledge its hearty reception. The Sisters Poole sing and dance pleasingly, and H. Scott Leslie gives a good character song, both having a good reception. In the Ellimans we have musical entertainers of considerable talent of the instrumental order; and the Seddons vary a pleasant evening by their juggling and "fooling" turn very agreeably. Stendadt and Morgan are as fine as ever in their solo and concerted singing, and for a beautiful rendering of Irish airs are much encored. In song, patter, and dance, Tennyson and Wallis prove very popular, and the Palacescope is to be specially noted for interesting and very amusing films.

GAIETY, LTD.—General Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Will Godwin makes a big hit with his sketch, *Repentance*. Cordite and Buffalo are rope-spinners of considerable merit, and Venola Bros. are very amusing comedy gymnasts. J. H. Carney does well as a comedian; as also does George Fernando. Daisy Taylor, a pleasing comedienne, and Annetta Gray, in illustrated song, completes the programme.

BRITANNIA.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—J. H. Kavanagh is a comedian of resource, and his songs are very amusing; Sidney Dolf gives impersonations which are much enjoyed; a word of praise is merited by the singing and dancing of Lily Zilla, the eccentricities of Cairns and Nelson, and the quaint songs of Allen Farren; while the programme concludes with fine Bioscope pictures.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Dr. Carl Hermann, mesmerist, heads the list. The Eight Lancashire Lads get a capital reception for their clever dancing; Alfonso, foot equilibrist, is heartily applauded; Lytton and Bland introduce a neat little speciality, "A Lesson in Love". Marcus Boyle sings a couple of good songs; and Ivy Aberdare is an effective coon impersonator and dancer; Buglar Carr, in a musical and balancing performance is smart; the Three Bostonians, with music and vocalism, are acceptable; and the Bodina Trio are nimble dancers; Miss Ada Whitton, burlesque artist; and Lidden and Hayward, in a musical sketch, complete the bill.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Manager, Mr. David Hart.—Fred Harrison is a quaint comedian; Gracie Taylor contributes two taking numbers; Bessie Benson proves herself an excellent exponent of the terpsichorean art; Clem Collins, as a comedian, is a good turn; Montague Briggs, who styles himself the male Marie Lloyd, is a capital female impersonator; the Courtney Family treat us to a good musical sketch; and Texas Hattie is an exceptionally expert tight-rope artist.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company is here this week with *The Lion and the Mouse*. Miss Christine Silver, as Shirley Rossmore, the mouse, supplies a strong and natural embodiment of the part; and Mr. Leslie Carter, as John Burkett Ryder, the lion, plays with much force and vigour; Jefferson Ryder is capitally represented by Mr. Lewis Edgard; Mr. A. W. Baskcomb is a pompous Hon. Fitzroy Bagley; Mr. Douglas West an excellent James Rossmore; Alfred Stott is effectively represented by Mr. Alfred Hall; Miss Maude Townsend is admirable as Mrs. John Burkett Ryder; and Miss Evelyn M. Read is charming as Kate Roberts.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—So successful were the Savonas and the Elliotts last week that their services were retained, and applause as hearty as ever greets them at each performance. The newcomers include Charles Banks and his clever dog, Woof; Mdlle. Stella and her wonderful boxing horses; and Miss Duchess Powell, and her well-trained performing animals.

BRITANNIA PIER AND PAVILION.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—Entertainments are in full swing here, and among the artists appearing are the wonderful Boganny Troupe of comedy Risleyists; Witty Watty Walton is playing a successful return visit, Phern and Phern give an excellent musical act, playing on some extremely novel instruments; other artists appearing are the Varleys (Beatrice and Pattie), harmonising duettists; Kay and Manton, singing comedians; and Gwen Clifford, in musical sketches at piano; the Britanniscope shows a good series of animated pictures. Madame H. E. Angless's Ladies' Pompadour Band have commenced their summer engagement here; and G. W. Houghton, the human torpedo, is diving three times daily from the pier head.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—A capital programme is provided by the Hollanders, who in quaint Dutch costumes win high favour with their songs, dances, and sketches. The members of the company are Miss Mary Powell, Miss Muriel Lillington, Miss Isabel Powell, Mr. Leslie Gaze, Mr. Dick Henty, and Mr. Fred Lyne.

GREENOCK.—PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—Emmie Milsted and Joe Bell in their Indian musical comedy scena, *The Belle of Arizona*, are much appreciated. Other good items of an excellent bill are Sisters May, charming vocalists and dancers; Lester Brothers, a clever pair of coons; and Arthur Albert, an accomplished actor vocalist; while the Pavoscope shows an amusing series of pictures.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—The highly romantic drama, *The Woman Who Gambles*, is here this week, presented by Mr. Morton Powell. Miss Lilian Herries, as the lady gambler, portrays the part with passion; as the Count Oto Steinbach, Mr. George Steele is a commanding figure; Miss Dora Pass instils a pleasing charm into the character of Cora Gouedhardt; Mr. Percy Ballard is a capable Governor-General; and others taking prominent parts are Mr. Reginald Fox, as Lieut. Ctzarteriski; Mr. Ernest H. Clarke as the Chief of the Police, Miss Lillian Rignold as Mdlle. Zeyelda, Mr. Owen Edwin as the Hon. Bertie Bray, and Mr. Walter Platt-Carr as Peter Peteroff.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes.—Ted Karno's pantomime sketch, *The Dinner Hour*, is full of amusing incidents, and is a capital piece of burlesque. A sketch of an entirely different type is *The Gambler*, in which a dramatic episode is enacted by Fred Peake and company; the Saletos are a couple of clever juvenile equilibrists; Ruby and Laws combine good singing with comedy; Meritt and Mart give a novel exhibition of paper-tearing; and others appearing are Daisie Cordelia, comedienne; Dick Bradley, trick cyclist; and Edward Davies, tenor vocalist.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—The above place of amusement closed for the usual summer vacation on Saturday last.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—A diversified and attractive programme is headed by the Kellinos, in *A Fête in Venice*; Massona is a clever juggler; Alf. Ripon scores as a ventriloquist; Capt. Devereux's dogs go through an astounding performance; the Le Cren Trio, in a military satire, do well; Carrie Victoria is a comedienne with a dashing style; Melia and Mozarabar are smart Continental equilibrists; and the Rayograph is amusing.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—The delightful pictures exhibited by the American Picture Co. still find favour here, and are successful in filling this spacious building. In addition, Mr. Bernard Mervyn, adequately supported by Mr. J. Cook-Hinton and others, presents a well-conceived farce, entitled *Two Old Pals*, and Mr. Mervyn's unobtrusive comedy, together with the sterling histrionic efforts of his comrades, evoke loud applause. Jeff Vendome and Lizzie Chase dance and sing excellently.

HANLEY. — GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—The Four Madcaps submit smart acrobatic dances; H. O. Wills scores a huge success in his clever songs, and is heartily recalled; the Villions provide a novel cycling act, which has but few rivals, the clowning of one of the male members being exceedingly funny; Dora Martin is a gymnast of ability, and the applause received is well merited; Edwin Barwick once more proves himself to the front as a character actor and vocalist, his monologue *When You are Down* being particularly fine; Yukio Tani contributes an exhibition of ju-jitsu; Webb and Branston are operatic vocalists of a high order, their items being vociferously applauded; Baroux and Bion, as eccentric acrobats, are good; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux shows some clever and interesting pictures.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—The first three nights of this week Mr. Hamilton Stewart's company has been here in *Bootles' Baby*. Mr. Hamilton Stewart was a perfect Captain Ferrers (Bootles), Mr. Wolston made a callous Captain Gilchrist, and Mr. Tom Mowbray as Private Saunders was excelent, his comedy being greatly appreciated. Miss Georgina Wynter made an excellent Helen Grace, and was seen to great advantage; while Miss Gladys Harvey made the most of her slender opportunities as Laura Norris, Miss Maisie Richardson was greatly admired as Mignon, and Miss Roddich was well-placed as Mrs. Smith; Messrs. Leslie Owen, Ernest Gray, William Midgley, and Hubert Purser were all good as officers in the Scarlet Lancers. For the remainder of the week Mrs. Greenwood Croft's company in *The Idler* is occupying the stage.

HARTLEPOOL. — EMPRESS. — Proprietors Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—Brimful of genuine fun is the sketch, *Casey's Court*, which, as played by Harry Cadles midget mimics, with Bob King as Mrs. Casey, is being received nightly with roars of laughter. The favourite comedy conjuror, McAskell, is here again, reaping fresh favours; Gertrella is a dainty trapeze artist; Harry Drew, a capital Welsh basso; Clark and Glenny in *The Haunted House* take exceptionally well; Ed. Penley, a refined comedian and mimic, contributes an attractive number; as also do the Lyric Five, in a refined musical item. The Bioscope concludes the list.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—This pleasant house, looking most inviting after its renovation, reopened on Monday for the prospective season with *Leah Kleschna*, played by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company. Mr. William Clayton as Kleschna set forth the traits of the character very forcibly; Miss Bessie Rignold played Leah very sympathetically; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid ably represented the dogged devotion of Schram; Mr. Henry Nunn gave a clever performance as the dissipated Raoul Berton; Mr. William Grant gave a well-studied performance as Paul Sylvaine; Mr. Laurance Murray as Valentine Favre supplied a clever character-stury, and, with Miss Violet Thorold as Sophie Champonnière, provided much humour. Mr. Charles Barrett, Miss Ethel Russell, and Miss Emmie Wallace as General and Mrs. Berton and daughter respectively gave good assistance; and the remaining characters were successfully undertaken by Messrs. Bert Gunter, Bernard Rain, Aries Conway, F. Bannerman, H. Buxton, the Misses May Hammond and E. Summers.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Hastings Hippodrome Syndicate; General-Manager, Mr. H. Vivian Fisher; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—The re-opening of this popular music-hall on Monday evening was a decided success. During the recess several improvements have been made, and the theatre has been thoroughly renovated. On Monday a packed house welcomed Mr. Walter Norman when he stepped on to the stage to lead off the National Anthem. Miss Elsie Vincent, an attractive comedienne and dancer, opened an excellent programme; Dale and Vale go through some artistic dancing; Stave creates great amusement by his comicalities; Johnny Dwyer, comedian, gets much applauded; some very interesting scenes are shown on the new Bioscope; Miss Nellie Lawrence has a wonderful range of voice, and shows some graceful dancing; a remarkable laughter-provoking black-faced minstrel is found in Sam Redfern; the Sisters Rampel are highly amusing comediennes; the singularly natural imitations of animals and birds by Arthur Slater is much appreciated; Mr. Sid. Cotterell and company introduce an entertaining sketch, entitled *The Substitute*.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Turner.—The principal item in the programme is the well-known farce *A Kiss in the Dark*. This is acted by Mr. J. D. Hunter with all his inimitable drollery, the Misses Eva and Blanche Bayley, who invest their respective parts with a bright and fresh manner, and Mr. Charles Hawker, who puts some healthy vigour into his rôle. Miss Nellie Moore gives some very fine impersonations from Shakespeare, Dickens, and other writers, which place her on a high scale as an elocutionist; Miss Maude May Murray, with an ever-varying electric light, shows some graceful and novel dancing; Mr. Walter George's Smart Set Entertainers conclude the evening. This comprise Miss Lena Hutchings, soprano; Miss Hilda Light, soprano; Miss Ethel Wyndham, elocutionist; Miss Nellie Coombes, contralto; Miss Georgie Martin, comedienne; Mr. Arthur Court, tenor; Mr. James Burlington-Rigg, bass; Mr. Herbert Oliver, accompanist; and Mr. Walter George, society humourist.

HUDDERSFIELD.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—This week's programme includes George Abel and Ethel Arden's company in the hilarious sketch, *Three of a Kind*; Miss Helen Martin, a cultured singer of high

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Rex Sugden.—This week's attraction is Mr. J. E. Tomlinson's company, in *Secrets*. Mr. Reggie Brown gives a manly portrayal of Lieut. Markham; Mr. Wilton Richards plays with force the part of Nouredin Ali; Mr. Victor T. Raymond presents an excellent rendering of the Hon. Cecil Chodmondeley; and Mr. J. E. Tomlinson is seen to advantage as Ibrahim; Mr. W. Bird being a first-class British tar. Miss Lizzie Palmer plays Ismailia with care, and Miss Nellie Navarro is quite at home in the part of Zuleika. Mr. Woodin and Miss Palmer, as Peter and Winnie Wilkins, keep the audience in a good humour; and excellent dances are contributed by the Verno Troupe.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Marris.—The Opera House here re-opened this week with Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company, in an adaptation of *Sapho*, written by Miss Ada Abbott, who appeared in the name part with considerable success. She was ably supported by Mr. Ernest R. Abbott as Jean Gaussin. Mr. John Lester made an amusing Uncle Césaire, and Mr. Charles Franks was good as Flamant.

HORSESHOE QUARRY.—Mr. Edward Marris's Pierrots are still proving a big draw here. Mr. Tom Payne continues to cause roars of laughter, and Elfie Vincent's dancing is much appreciated.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—The National Animated Pictures have added a series of views, entitled, "Beautiful Jersey." On Friday night the entertainment was patronised by His Excellency Major-General Gough, the Lieutenant-Governor, and the officers of the 1st East Surrey Regiment.

TRIANGLE PARK.—The attraction here this week is Mr. John Ridding's Opera Singers, with Mr. Ernest Carter as musical director. *The Daughter of the Regiment, Faust, Maritana, Il Trovatore,* and *The Bohemian Girl* are billed.

KEIGHLEY.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall.—The Bros. Durant provide a bright and entertaining turn here, and meet with gratifying success; Bert Bowden, comedian, with his droll individuality and amusing songs, has a hearty welcome; Akbar is seen in a clever act; and Bella Leaburn contributes capital songs; the Sisters Wilfred, comediennes and dancers, are heartily applauded; Fred Danvers's Sketch Co. is this week presenting, *Finding an Heiress*, Mr. Danvers has become quite a favourite; Mr. H. Evelyn is a versatile actor; the Bioscope completes a capital programme.

LANCASTER.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. W. J. Ferguson and John Porter.—Fanny and Harry Dent appear in an amusing sketch, *Mary and the Squire*; the Swift Trio supply a pleasing cycling turn, whilst Corelli delights his audience with "a lesson in magic"; Messrs. C. Wordley Hulse and company present a dramatic sketch, *The Fight in the Forge*, which is most exciting; Earle and Melville, comedians, R. A. Speedwell, painter, Sisters Belmore, comediennes, Jack Niel, comedian, and the Hippograph, with "His First Ride," complete the programme.

LEEDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—The stirring drama *Her Luck in London* is presented here by Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company. Miss Neil appears as Nellie Harborne, and her fine acting is admired. Mr. Frank Langton plays the Hon. O'Connor with rare enthusiasm; the fine work of Mr. George Heath as Richard Lenowen provokes interest; and Mr. Douglas Tremayne merits high praise for a convincing personation of the Rev. Strong; Miss Marie Clavering is exceedingly good as Mme. Gabrielle; and a comedy part is taken full advantage of by Miss Dora Woodbury.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Ltd; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Great success is this week achieved by Tom Child, tenor vocalist; Madge Grey, who sings and tells stories with a refinement and vivacity which are refreshing; Master Edward Garratt finds scope for his abilities in an amusing sketch; Lennie and Hast are to the fore with a pleasing phantasy; a capital gymnastic turn by Fred and Pauly is enthusiastically received; and those diverting musical eccentrics, Binns and Binns, are appearing to advantage. Eric is a ventriloquist with an original act; Charles Norton is particularly happy in his delineations of famous variety artists; and L. W. Harris, comedian, and Marie Burnett, vocalist, are also prominent.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—Welcome is here accorded John E. Coyle, a popular comedian; Marie Kendal comes in for hearty recognition; Martin Adeson hits the taste with a clever musical farce; Larola, a real comic, is very smart and entertaining; Steve McCarthy is a smart comedian; and Edgar Budden does well in a similar line. Success attends Kartelli's sensational wire act; and expert acrobats are the Smarte Brothers; Rose Cabani has a big reception; and a successful appearance is made by Gladys Witton, vocalist.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—The imperturbable Sam Mayo is again amusing his many admirers here, and a clever sketch, *The Little Colonel*, earns for Ernest Montefiore and company an abundance of applause; the Crown Trio are very successful with admirable vocal work; Farr and Farland prove popular in their comedy portrayals; and the Alskarno Trio, in comedy acrobatics, are well liked. Other capital turns are provided by Snowball and Dolia, comedy artists; Cissie Hare, comedienne; and May Fallowfield, burlesque artist.

Mr. Sam Jones, the popular acting-manager of the City Varieties, Leeds, enjoyed his third annual benefit on Friday last, when a monster programme was submitted to crowded and enthusiastic houses.

LEICESTER.—PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—In "The Globe of Life" "Wizard" Stone gives a most sensational cycle performance, accompanied by his sister Irene. The artists, who are Americans, do their "show" inside a large iron globe, the feats accomplished being truly remarkable. Harry Roxbury and company are presenting the merry musical mélange entitled *The Prince of Monte Carlo*. Rapoli does some clever tricks as a juggler; the Celtic Comedy Trio are popular; the Miles-Stavordale Quintet give a thoroughly delightful musical turn; Arthur Woodville is a capital comedian; May Mars, the well-known musical comedy girl, is scoring a success with a bright singing entertainment; and other artists appearing are Rosa Loader, the lady slavey at the piano; George Ridgwell, a capital vocalist; and Will Musgrave, comedian.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence.—The lead is held this week by Raleigh Abrahams and company, including Frank Exall, in their boxing absurdity, entitled *Fun in a Pawnshop*; Mme. De Rose, the well-known lady baritone, receives her usual warm welcome; Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope is again a special feature; and the programme also includes Queenie Essex, a capital vocalist; Challis's dogs; Hilda Claremont, comedienne; and J. H. Hawtrey, descriptive vocalist.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Two dramas have been staged here this week, concluding the season of the stock company. An interesting revival of *Belphegor* has shown Mr. Clavering Craig at his best in a stirring impersonation of the mountebank, with Madeline finely played by Miss Doris Gilham; and able support rendered by Miss Vera Craig as Henri, Mr. John Darlison as Fanfaronade, Mr. Frederick Freeman as Lavarennes, and Miss Paulina Gear as Mme. Catherine. Miss Georgina Tauter and Mr. Jas. Somerville give good character studies of Mlle. Vermandois and the Duke de Montbazon; Viscount Hercule and Zephyrina find lively exponents in Mr. Roy Craig and Miss Sallie Adelstone; and De Blangy, De Courgemont, and D'Arpignol are well represented by Messrs. Percival Dye, Dudley Brown, and J. Turner; while the minor parts are well filled. In *The Sleigh Bells* Mr. Clavering Craig gives a powerful rendering of Mathias; Miss Gilham and Miss Gear are artistic as Annette and Catherine; and Herr Walther, Heinrich, Christian, and the Judge receive careful interpretation at the hands of Mr. Somerville, Mr. D. White, Mr. Darlison, and Mr. Freeman.

LIVERPOOL.—ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*The Sin of Her Childhood* has been creditably presented here by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company. Miss Effie Bartlett held the rôle of Mary Haysel, playing with an earnestness and discretion which won general approval; Mr. Wilson Summers skilfully portrayed the inconsiderate brother, Stephen Haysel; Mr. Hugh Brady proved exceedingly humorous as Barney O'Reilly, and was helped with the comedy by Miss Lissa Young, as Hannah Spry; Mr. Frank Liston made a manly Captain Thorton; and Mr. James Duncan (the Rev. Alan Grey) capably filled his part.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Presented by Henry Herne, Ida Millais, and company, the water sensation, *Blackmail*, has proved a big attraction here. Cline and Clark, a clever pair of black and white comedy artists and dancers, have had a hearty re-welcome; the juggling comedians, Derenda and Green, aroused endless laughter; applause, well deserved, was bestowed upon the Wakeman Quartet for their delightful singing; Sing Ling Sing, with his conjuring, mystified his audience; the remarkable sagacity shown by a dog, directed by Stelling, was watched with the closest interest; Alice Blandford, possessed of a charming voice, rendered several pieces that were much appreciated; and others who appeared were Mark Leslie, swell coon comedian, and May Templeman, comedienne.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Mr. Fred Granville's able company have been playing *Defending His Honour* here. Mr. John Davidson was an admirable Douglas Bryce; praise was deserved by Miss F. Melrose-Millett for her well-drawn picture of the wretched Ethel Bryce; a deal of excellent comedy was provided by Mr. J. T. Geddes as George Duncan, Mr. Fred L. Arthur as Richard Verison, Mr. Haughton Macaulay as Dick Verison, and Mrs. Edmund Lyons as Mrs. Verison; Mr. George Arthur acted excellently as the villainous Stephen Graid; Mr. Evan Roland handled his original part of Jack Danish with his customary skill; Mr. Sam Hoggarth made the most of Constable Emmerson; and the rôles of Harry and Jack Bryce were done justice to by Miss Marie Angus and Miss Dorothy Vaughan.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the bill here this week has been *High Jinks*, Tiller's smart farcical burletta, which has proved very enjoyable; Kelly and Gilette, with their billiard table act, had a most hearty reception; Carlotta Levey was heard, with pleasure, in the songs "Sympathy" and "Man and wife should always pull together"; endless laughter was aroused by the smart comedy acrobats, the Schiavonis Troupe; the coloured comedy musical duo, Martinett and Wallace, presented an excellent turn; an enjoyable trifle, entitled *Two's Company, Three's None*, was submitted by the musical Floradora Girls; and Joe Chevers, character comedian, and Fred Curran, quaint comedian, an able artist, also appeared.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*A Woman's Error* has been presented here this week by the "Royal" stock company. Mr. Harry Tresham acquitted himself as Ralph Lawrence; Mr. Sydney Grant brought out all the chief points in the character of Captain Sudley; as Dr. Foster Mr. Cecil Ravenswood showed high ability; Mr. R. Wilton capably impersonated Noah Girthing; Miss Nellie Bonser handled the rôle of Vanda Lawrence in a most accomplished manner; Miss Beryl Ravenswood proved an excellent Vivian Fallacia; Miss Florence Cameron acted humorously as Eliza March; and Miss Cecilia Crawford held the part of Sal Girthing.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Edwards.—The "Royal" stock dramatic company, here this week, have given *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*.

HAYMARKET.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. E. W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company are still here, playing this week the dramatic sketch, *A Homeless Waif*; and Amy Marsden, a smart vocalist and dancer; Harry Chester, comedian; and Maurice Delroy, assisted by Dora Thackeray, conjuror and illusionist, are also in the list.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Welsker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Principal here this week are the ever-popular Majilton company, with the laughable sketch, *The Plumber*, which has provoked endless merriment; Alpha, with his remarkable hoop manipulating, proved an excellent turn; and the Bioscope showed the latest pictures.

OLYMPIA.—District-Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—The wonderful mystifying entertainment provided by Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, who top the bill here this week, has been witnessed by large audiences; Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery, assisted by Albert Mason, presented an exceedingly funny trifle, *The Would-Be Actors Rehearsing a Drama*; Howard and Collinson made their audience laugh incessantly with *The Porter and the Parcel*; some smart dancing and clever whistling came from the Twin Brothers Dean; Will Bishop and Company had a humorous episode, *My Gollywog*; Clarence C. Corrie's company submitted a neat musical episode, entitled *Heartstrings*, in which Miss Gladys Hooley exhibited talent as a violinist; Harry Bedford brought his latest songs; and the list also contained the names of Leonie Dixon, soubrette and expert dancer, and the Five Osranis, with their smart burlesque pantomime.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Ernest Shand heads the bill here this week, and has had a cordial reception for his exceedingly funny songs and patter; an interesting episode, entitled *The Little Stowaway*, has been given by a company comprising Messrs. John K. Walton, H. G. Shaw, Hugh Metcalfe, G. Rawson, A. Charrington, and Lawrence Stevenson, and the Misses Maude Osmond and Eva Lumley; Sanford and Lyons kept their audience in a merry mood with their cross-talk and antics, not forgetting some clever dancing; in consequence of sudden indisposition, Miss Alice Maydue, the talented singer of dialect songs, was unable to appear, but her place was taken by Mlle. Sidy Nirvana, whose delightful poses on her horse "Loky" pleased everybody; some artistic work as musicians was shown by Roma and Romani; the exhibition of international dancing by the Northern Troupe was watched with pleasure; and other good turns were given by Dusty Rhodes, comedian; Irene Rose, comedienne; and Stelling and Revell, humorous aërial gymnasts.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Sam Elton heads the bill here this week with his humorous juggling; the Albert and Edmunds Troupe of comedians proved exceedingly enjoyable; some remarkable work was shown by the Dainez animal circus; the Paytes presented a funny duologue, *Also Ran*; the laughable Alec Kendal had a hearty reception; Pollo Jerome, as a lady gymnast, gave a pleasing show; and others in the programme were Flo Somers, comedienne and dancer, and Will Driscoll, eccentric vocal comedian.

THEATRE MODERNE.—This popular place, formerly known as the Parthenon, is doing good business with its fine cinematograph exhibition, under the direction of Mr. G. Gooes. Not only the Passion Play is shown, but many particularly funny pictures.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Florence Yaymen has been foremost here this week with her coon songs; Dave Miller has some smart songs, and dances exceedingly well; and Henri Cazman delighted everybody with his *The One-Man Music-Hall*. Some fine pictures were shown by the Bioscope.

LLANDUDNO.—PRINCES THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. A. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday Mr. Leigh Lovel and Miss Octavia Kenmore's company appeared in *Lucky Miss Dean*. As Frederick Ware Mr. Lovel was excellent throughout, the same remark applying to Miss Kenmore for her portrayal of Acacia Dean. Mr. Aubrey Mather (Horace Chaney) and Mr. Brember Wills (Wilfred Ashmole) sustained the comic characters in good style; and Miss Katherine Maynard as Lady Ashmole was all that could be desired. *Lucky Miss Dean* was preceded by *The Man in the Street*, in which Messrs. Leigh Lovel and Mr. Aubrey Mather and Miss Kenmore appeared. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday *The Master Builder* was staged.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Managing Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Mr. A. Horner's company in *Walker London* is paying a visit this week. Mr. Edward A. Coventry does well as Jasper Phipps, and Messrs. W. R. Hammersmith (Renard Von Burg) and Walter Pemberton (Kit Upjohn) are both well placed. Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite is praiseworthy as Sarah Rigg, and Miss R. Catton makes a pleasing Nanny O'Brien. Miss Ruby Wyndham (Mrs. Golightly) and Miss Mary Pemberton (Bell Golightly) add to the success.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Frank Freeland.—Record business still continues here. The huge building was packed to overflowing on Monday, when a new series of animated pictures were introduced and warmly appreciated by the crowded audience. The excellent variety programme includes Wishart, the wonderful wizard; Watson's Sketch Troupe in *Johnny's Troubles*; the Four Scoreys, in a pleasing musical act; and Addison's marvellous fox terriers, in a really clever performance.

OLYMPIAN GARDEN (under the direction of Mr. Paul Will) and the SPARROWS' NEST PARK (under the local Corporation).—The variety concerts at these popular resorts are now in full swing. The illuminated fêtes and confetti carnivals are a great draw.

MANCHESTER.—ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—An entertaining musical comedy novelty, *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, is presented here this week by Mr. Henry Swinerd's principal company. It is well staged, well acted, and its vocal parts are well sung, while the action is lightened continuously by comic and terpsichorean interludes. The principal parts are briskly played, and in the third act clever specialities are introduced by Miss Dorothy Desmond, contralto; Miss Nellie Harcourt, soubrette; Misses Mabel and Lillie Blake, acrobatic dancers; Miss Marie Vere, soprano; and Mr. Bert Edwards, comedian. Good houses are the rule.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—An excellent programme is here this week, with Harriet Vernon at the top of the bill, in a series of fine songs sung in capital style. Agnes Molteno, the well-known prima donna, is also a great turn, giving full proof of the possession of a cultured and delightful voice. The Deer family of North American Indians provide a novel and sensational act; and other enjoyable turns are May de Roose, comedienne and dancer; Currie and Scott, comedy artists; the Wedburns, in a funny and original act; Edgar Forrest and company, in *My Friend the Enemy*, an amusing sketch; and Leslie Race, a pleasing swell-comedian.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—A new play, *The Heathen and the Christian*, was produced here on Monday. See special notice.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Messrs. Silverstone, Wright, and Belton's company are drawing good houses with their sensational Russian drama, *The Nihilist*, very realistically played. Mr. Felix Pitt, as Ivan, the blacksmith, makes an excellent hero; and Miss Florrie Kelsey cleverly and sympathetically brings out the admirable traits in the character of Alexina Orloff. On the evil side of the story Mr. Carl Rinovelle makes a sufficiently villainous Prince Alexander; and to the Princess Olga of Miss Mary Dawson—a capable impersonation—Mr. Henry Wright as Bobbie Smart and Miss Jessica Ford as Katrina add a considerable amount of light and enjoyable interest. Among others, Mr. Konyon Gray and Mr. John Belton, in minor rôles, are especially commendable; and the play as a whole is highly satisfactory.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Lew Lake and his comedy company, in *My Pal Jerry*, top the bill here, and are proving a big attraction. De Biere, well described as "the mysterious," provides another remarkably good turn; J. W. Rickaby, burlesque character comedian, is highly amusing; Harry Thorpe and Zoe Coe present successfully a refined comedy episode; the Two Dixons, instrumental and vocal artists, are well received; Eva Mardy sings with great charm and spirit; and clever business is added by Harry Conlin, comedian, and George Leonard, light comedian. The Bioscope shows "Willie's Dream."

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—The star turn here is *A Tragedy of Errors*—which is specially noticed elsewhere. Launceston Elliott, the British Hercules, demonstrates his immense strength with living weights; Fatmah Diard, the American prima donna, sings finely in a musical episode; Cecile and François present their acrobatic novelty act successfully; Nada Moret, dramatic singer and raconteuse, adds to the entertainment; Matthew Brodie and Dorothea Vivian are seen to great advantage in a good dramatic Napoleonic episode, *A Drummer of the 76th*; Larry Lewis, a quaint comedian, is very amusing in his songs; the Satanella Trio give a capital exhibition of acrobatic dancing; and the choir complete an excellent programme with a couple of enjoyable contributions.

KING'S (LONGSIGHT).—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor.—The Three Sisters Tree are prominent here this week, in their new and refined episode, entitled *Hunting*. In another line, Lionel Vaughan's company present a laughable sketch, *In Trouble*, employing six characters. Harwood's Juveniles, in a novelty scena, make a big hit; Dene and Dawson submit their comic skit, *Stage Aspirants*, with effect; Mi Narom, comedienne, presents various comedy characters successfully; Margaret Ismay and her white coons are seen to advantage in *Kickapoo*, an Indian scena; a smart electrical novelty performance is given by Correge and Keith; and George Westland, Scotch comedian, presents his latest London successes in the way of dialect songs.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr Tealor Wade.—Alec Hurley, in *The Coster's Beanfeast*, is proving a big attraction here this week; and Arthur Rigby is repeating his usual success in the popular scena, "The March of the Married Men." Other excellent turns are given by Percival, a very smart comedy pianist, and the Tally-Ho Trio, in mirth and harmony; while clever business is added by Vandinoff, lightning painter; the Six Pichels, Risley acrobats; Colby and May, in a ventriloquial act; Mignon Tremaine, comedienne and dancer; and Flo Deighton, ballad vocalist.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Lovely, lively Lily Burnand is pleasing full houses here this week in her usual charming style; and E. Lockwood's company are doing excellently in their farcical sketch called *Left*. Stuart and Evans submit some smart singing, dancing, and patter; Ted Waite, comedian, is highly diverting; Ruth Molloy is exceptionally good in her mimicry of music-hall stars; and other good turns are provided by Idento Bros., comedy jugglers; Sybil Montague, soprano vocalist; and Will Terry, comedian.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meak.—Quite a novelty is provided here this week in Maurin's marvellous fountains, which play under electrical effects and among living statuary. J. H. Darnley and company, in *What a Night!* cause much merriment; and Gravetta and Parr are smart in a double pot-pourri act, while Yorick and Yorick are quaint talkers and tumblers. The Boston Twins introduce some clever comedy boxing. Other enjoyable turns are Vinie Belfry, burlesque artist; Chris van Bern, eccentric comedian; the Moules, bone soloists and duettists; and Maud Lessin, vocalist.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay.—The Waldrons head the bill here this week, and are very successful in their absurdity *The Silly Burglar*. The turn provided by Clotilde and Musto, the French cockatoo and parrot impresarios, is a really wonderful and interesting performance. Sylvester, Sansane, and company do well in their musical comedy gem, *The Girl and the Tutor*; Maxford and O'Neill are an amusing pair; Sid Carlton, character vocalist, is well received; and the Ju-Jitsu troupe of ladies demonstrate effectively the Japanese art of self-defence. An unusually smart extra turn was provided on our visit by Las Sados, juggler.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Secretary, Mr. Geo. Phillips; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. North.—The artists here this week include Teddy Whittle, the popular comedian; Charles North, baritone vocalist; Annie Hall, a fine soprano; Revill Hall, a clever entertainer just returned from India; Lucy Wilson, at the piano; Owen McGiveney, in scenes from Dickens; Bertram Thomas, humorist; and Herr Bornski, Hungarian violinist—the whole making up a capital programme.

MANSFIELD.—GRAND THEATRE AND GARDENS.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing Director, Captain Cecil Clayton.—The Bouncing Dillons submit a good turn, and are loudly applauded. The Three Eventios give a novel pot-pourri act, entitled *The Juggler's Dream*, which is greatly appreciated. Adelina, facial expert, provides an entertaining turn. McKeever and McGovern, ball punchers, give a splendid exhibition of ball manipulation.

HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Mr. Harry Telbury's company is presenting *The Blind Foundling*. Mr. Charles H. Phelps ably portrays the role of Gerald Dalton. As Parson Ray Mr. Frank Harvey is all that can be desired. Mr. A. George Fry gives a masterly interpretation of the part of Mark Redman. Mr. John Byron is natural as Algy Fitz-Cholmondeley. Miss Alene T. George is responsible for a fine rendition of the rôle of Viola Waterford; Miss Belle Tilbury is well suited to the character of Isabel Dalton; Miss Ivy Rochefort is seen and admired in a very clever and artistic portrayal of Fairy, the blind foundling. The comedy parts are well supplied by Mr. Harry Tilbury (Dick Dobbins) and Miss Milly Doris (Winnie Dobbins); and Mr. Bernard Webb is commendable as Jasper Waterford.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael.—Mr. E. Taylor Platts' company has been presenting this week Bernard Shaw's plays *You Never Can Tell* and *John Bull's Other Island*. The first-named play had a successful run on Monday and the two following evenings Miss Penelope Wheeler played wonderfully well as Mrs. Clandon. Miss Mary Barton is excellent as Gloria Clandon, and Miss Amy Lamburn and Mr. Norman Page are vivacious as the other members of the do-as-you-please Clandon family, Dolly and Philip. Mr. Edmund Gurney put in some capital work as Fergus Crampton; Mr. Trevor Lowe was seen to advantage as Finch McComas; Mr. P. Clayton Greene did splendidly as Valentine, and Mr. Edmund Gween was quietly and effectively amusing as the waiter. Miss Mary Hamilton as a parlour-maid and Mr. Lewis Casson as Bohm were each satisfactory in their respective parts. For the remainder of the week *John Bull's Other Island* was in the bill.

THE HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—*The Garden of Girls* is a pretty musical mélange, presented by Haley's company of vocalists and expert dancers, and makes a charming entertainment in itself. Crissie Cross, comedienne and dancer, is good; Selby and Myers, comedians, are amusing talkers and exceptionally clever dancers; C. V. Adams, comedian, provokes great laughter as a humorous railway porter; and Zarmo, the crazy juggler, is clever. George Prince, described as the premier parody merchant, and Ike Scott and son, funny comedians, are each responsible for a good deal of merriment. The bioscope pictures this week blend the pathetic with the humorous.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—*The Stowaway* is presented by Miss Winifred Maude's company, under the direction of Mr. Victor Du Cane. As Althea Dale Miss Winifred Maude is delightful, and Mr. Victor Du Cane is responsible for much humour as Dicky Dial. Tom Jugles is well played by Mr. Vincent Carlyle; Mr. William Bradford is excellent as Charles Etherington; while Mr. Leonard Harrison is well suited as Percy Ewart. Miss Ethel Tinsley plays with feeling the part of Florence Etherington, and Miss Jenny Hackett makes a capital Chinky.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—A capital programme is provided here this week. The Gentrys in their comedy act provide a good show; Wragg and Wragg (late 21st Lancers) give a fine military athletic display; Nellie Noro greatly pleases with solos on the mandolin and violin; other turns are given by Nellie De Voy, Jim Cameron, Jim Fitzroy, and there are some fine pictures shown by the American Biograph.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—Miss Loie Esmond's company is here on a return visit in *The Sorrows of Satan*. Miss Loie Esmond sustains the part of Diana Chesney with all her wonted dignity and sweetness; Prince Lucio Rimanez is convincingly depicted by Mr. Edward Neville; Miss Rosie Neville acts with distinction as Lady Elton; and Mr. F. Douglas Howard is effective in the rôle of Geoffrey Tempest; Miss Eunice Udall is a charming Mavis Clare; and the part of Earl Elton has a capable exponent in Mr. J. Le Fleming; Mr. Coleman Davies does well as Lord Lynton, and Miss Cecil Byrne is all that can be desired as Mrs. Grimbles.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—*The Shulamite* is the attraction here this week. The play is produced by arrangement with Mr. William Greet. Mr. Algernon Hicks gives a clever impersonation of Simeon Krillet, a Boer farmer; Deborah Krillet is admirably delineated by Miss Ella Thornton; Miss Violet Vivian gives a sympathetic rendering of Tante Vanderburg; Mr. George Ramnell ably portrays the character of Robert Waring; Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff is good as Memke; and Mr. Alfred Hilliard as Jan Vanderburg is all that can be desired. The scenic effects are exceedingly pretty.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—The star turn here this week is provided by Terry and Lambert, in a novel production, entitled *Scenes from Everyday Life*; the Four Eugenes give a clever aerial gymnastic performance; Victor Newman's imitations are well appreciated; Ouida Macdermott is an excellent vocalist; and Stacey and Williams create much laughter; the Three Sisters Chester, vocalists and dancers, and Mlle. Sylvesto contortionist, also add to the programme.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—An excellent programme is presented here this week, a most enjoyable turn being that given by Gilbert Girard, who imitates a number of animals; the Westwoods are expert cyclists, and Verno and Voyce score a success in a vocal scena; a sensational sketch entitled *The Red Letter* is portrayed by Miss Lily Pearl and Co.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. C. M. Julian.—*Under Two Flags* is being presented this week by Julian Malvern, who has sustained the dual rôles of the Hon. Bertie Cecil and Louis Victor of the French Army with marked ability and success. He has been ably supported by Miss Maud Malvern in the exacting character of Cigarette, Miss Blanche St. Albans, who makes a stately countess, Mr. J. Leicester Jackson as Lord Rockingham, Mr. A. Raymond Shaw in a clever representation of the Jew Baroni, Mr. Geoffrey Broughton as the villainous Colonel Chateauroy, Mr. C. M. Julian as Rake Flanagan, and Miss Trixie St. Albans as Marie.

WINTER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—The Craggs in their clever act *Billy* are giving delight to big houses; the Boccaccios are very clever, the mandolin playing of Signor Francia being magnificent; Harry Liston and Lord Lumley are good in sketches; Mooney and Holbein have a clever vaudeville entertainment, and the blind musician Henderson is excellent; Silbon's Circus is as popular as ever; The Bristons make fun in a comic cycling act; Miss Ada Parker sings and dances nicely, and Mr. A. S. Clifford is a pleasing vocalist.

WEST END PIER.—Secretary, Mr. Bastow.—The Kornedy Koncert Kompany are appearing with success here, and Herr Wilhelm Morgann's Blue Hungarian Band provides the music for the popular promenade concerts.

ALHAMBRA PALACE.—Manager, Ald. John Gardner.—The programme here has included Mahatma in a clever "Zan Zic" entertainment; Bell and Bell, comedy act; Violet Gerard, soubrette; Mlle. Viola in a novel musical entertainment; Will Rain and company, motor maniac, a capital show; Frank Coyle, the continuous comedian; Hook and Eye in *The Latch Key*; and Gillin, the clever ventriloquial humorist.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Thos. W. Rowe.—A company, under the direction of Mr. Roland Yorke, is here in *The Triumph of Truth*, Mr. Yorke enacts the Mobsman, and Mr. Dudley Winton ably fills the rôle of Jack Eversleigh. Miss Gertrude Hunt, Miss Gertrude Bonser, and Mr. Fred de Vere are seen to advantage in leading parts.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Mr. Alex. C. Grant's company is here in *The Woman from Scotland Yard*, the chief parts being played by Mr. G. E. Clive, Mr. A. C. Grant, Mr. Chas. Graham, Mr. John L. Schofield, Miss Chrissie Dunbar, Miss Anne Brunette, and Miss Dorothy Wilkinson.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton.—The Donaldson Brothers and Ardel win hearty and continuous laughter here; a thrilling piece, entitled *The King's Minister*, is played by John Lawson and company, all the parts being well sustained; the mysterious turn of Dida, and the performances of Mark Merry, Tom Woottwell, and Little Ganty, are all popular; and Grace Merton and Madge May also provide noteworthy turns.

PAVILION THEATRE.—The Barrasford Company; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Mr. Frank Danby is here with a sketch, *The Chauffeur*, and scores an immense success; and Mr. Fred Cary gains many admirers by his eccentricities. Mme. Georgina Burns's sweet singing is very attractive. Others in the programme are Martine and Son, Mollie Doon, the Custances, Clown Barker, Frank Cass, Mlle. Reno, and Osborn and Brookes.

NEWPORT.—EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sage.—Harry Tate, the star turn here, produces his "pisc-tate-orial" absurdity, *Fishing*, in which he is well supported by members of the company, the scenic effects being very pretty; Spry and Austin create unbounded laughter with their songs and patter; Ella Shields, a dainty singer of coon songs, is accorded a flattering reception; and some clever tricks with cannon balls are performed by Francis, assisted by Alfred, a comedian who imparts much fun into the turn; Fielding and Hall, in their vocal medley, are enjoyable; Mazetti, in a comedy act on the triple bars, deserves praise; and Gracie Moore, a pictorial balladist, possessing a sweet voice, sings with expression and taste. The Bioscope, with some amusing pictures, completes the bill.

NORTHAMPTON.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans.—The Bioscope Pictures continue in the programme with an entire change of subjects, and variety is provided by Inez Rita, comedienne; Vesta, female impersonator; and the smart and clever triple bar act by the Almo Troupe. This week concludes the season. The autumn season will open on August Bank Holiday with high-class varieties.

NORTH SHIELDS.—CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The principal item here this week is Smith and Johnson, the coloured duo, who meet with their usual cordial reception. Mr. Harry Allan and Miss Rosie Hart, duettists and protean artists, are very smart, and The Henres, jugglers and Indian club throwers, are clever. Covelli, ventriloquist, gives a good show. Miss Adele Lincoln, comedienne and dancer, is favourably received; Mr. Archie Milne, baritone, is popular, and the Bio-Photoscope pictures are still interesting.

NORTHWICH.—THE PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Glanmore Jones; Manager, Mr. Lindon Wyatt.—A record crowd welcomed the Merrions, who appeared here last night on a week's engagement. As usual they gave a high-

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen's company, with *The New Boy*, is here for the week, Mr. Leon M. Lion impersonating in most diverting manner Archibald Rennick. Dr. Candy is played with ability by Mr. Harry Ashford; Felix Roach is taken in capital style by Mr. George De Lara; Mrs. Rennick is sustained with entire success by Miss Katherine Harrington; and Miss Nellie Redwood makes a charming Nancy Roach. The farce is preceded by *Meg the Mobswoman*, in which Miss Katherine Harrington, Miss Nellie Redwood, and Messrs. Stanley Logan and Harry Ashford appear to advantage. On Thursday, the 11th inst., the full London company from Terry's Theatre, including Mrs. Madge Carr-Cook, paid a flying visit with *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Topping the bill here are the Boissets, with *The Bricklayers*, which causes unlimited mirth; Lucy Coventry is a dashing soubrette and danseuse; Woodhouse and Wells, patter comedians and dancers, are responsible for roars of laughter; Edie Gray and "the boys" in harmony are an undoubted success; the Simms, in their vocal and dancing speciality, *From School to Stage*, score well; Fred Lincoln, eccentric, meets with a most favourable greeting; Howard and Townsend are high-class vocal duettists; Esta Stella, "the military maid," is sprightly and dainty in song and dance; Little Tich-Bourne is a juvenile grotesque dancer; and Arthur Boyne, comedian, and Payne's Bio-phoscope, complete.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Jake Friedman and company, with *Happy Holland*, are a huge success; Lozelle, sensational gymnast, shows exceptional ability; Miss Ruby Aston is a dainty dancer; Mr. Walter Wade, comedian and story teller, finds great favour; the Sisters Marion, juvenile duettists, are much liked; Mr. George Newburn is a smart mimic; Les Belles Americaines are a charming quartette of vocalists; Datas, the memory man, is perfect as usual in his answers to some puzzling questions; the Poluski Brothers give some quaint songs and patter; and the Hippodrome pictures are of commendable quality.

RAMSGATE. — AMPHITHEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—Dramatic variety has been afforded at the Amphitheatre during the week, for Mr. Arthur St. John's company have been staging *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Black-Eyed Susan*. The Shakesperean play is put on at the first house, and the nautical drama at the second. In the first-named piece Mr. St. John gives a capital representation of Petrucio, while Miss Ida St. John proves herself an accomplished actress as Katharina. All the other characters in the cast are sustained in a manner which calls only for complimentary reference. Mr. St. John is not less successful as William, the sailor, in *Black-Eyed Susan*, for the audience have recognised the merit of his performance by the heartiness of their applause. Miss Ida St. John's interpretation of Susan is worthy of high praise. Mr. F. Carlile gives a clever bit of characteracting as the skinflint Doggrass; Mr. W. J. Mackersey fulfils well the requirements of the part of Jacob Twigg, the bailiff; Mr. Archie Grant does well with the part of Gnatbrain; and Miss C. Leon appears to advantage as Dolly Mayflower.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jules Richeux.—Dr. Douglas Gill's company have been producing the domestic comedy, *The Snug Little Kingdom*. This met with appreciative audiences. It is a pretty piece, admirably staged. Mr. H. M. Love is an excellent representative of Ben Kershaw, a good-natured old Yorkshireman, and Mr. W. Kershaw presents in first-rate style the character of Bernard Gray, a musical composer. Mr. Edmund Breon is quite at home in the part of Hubert Gray, the composer's younger brother; and Miss Margaret S. Fareleigh is a charming Dolly Kershaw, a chorus girl who has the chief part in the love-making of the piece. Miss Ada King is appropriately amusing as Miss Blower, a landlady; and the other characters are handled with skill by Miss Leslie Thorne (Sister Hope) and Miss Margaret Stuart (Amelia). At each performance *A Snug Little Kingdom* has been preceded by a new one-act dramatic episode, by Mr. J. Herbert Jay, entitled *Wanted, James Burton*, the powerful characters of which are impersonated in effective fashion by Mr. Montague Love and Miss Ethel May.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode.—This week's attractions include the starring engagement of Francini, Ollom, and Page, who give a clever juggling, acrobatic, and instrumental performance; the Three Sisters Kilner are refined coon vocalists and dancers; C. H. Charlton causes immense mystification with his magic kettle; the Steinway Quartette introduce an excellent song-scena, "Songs of the Sea"; and Eva Chadwick, ballad vocalist and comedienne; Crosby and Walker, patter comedians and dancers; Jimmy James, who manipulates the "bones" in a marvellous manner; Percy Johnson, the new comedian; and Vernon's Bioscope complete.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*Uncle Tom's Cabin*, presented by Mr. Chas. Harrington's company, occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Harrington takes the part of Phineas Fletcher with conspicuous ability; Mr. Leslie Beaufort acts with power as George Harris; Mr. J. H. Rogers as Legree is sufficiently callous; and Mr. J. Carr ably impersonates Uncle Tom. Miss Hero Hathaway wins all hearts as Eliza Harris and Little Eva has a capital exponent in Miss Holly Haselwood.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Co.—Pringle's North American Animated Picture company is still here and attracting good houses with some really fine pictures. Variety turns are submitted by Molly O'Garth, who is greatly appreciated, and the Lizzette troupe of dancers, vocalists, and acrobats.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Animated pictures are the chief attraction here this week. The Zano Brothers, comedy bar performers; the Selma Vocas (Will and May), song illustrators; and the Bonanzas, hand balancing acrobats, appear at intervals with success.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company is occupying the boards here this week with *Honour Thy Father*. Mr. J. W. Evelyn is an excellent Gabriel Garth; Mr. Robert Gilbert a manly Jack Halyard; Mr. Howell Travis is seen to advantage as Duncan Bly, being ably seconded by Mr. Fred L. Conyngham as Mike Copplestone; Mr. W. H. Melrose is an amusing Ned Pennycomquick; and Mr. Claude Merton scores in the dual parts of Job Merry and George Gloggs. Miss Kate Newton does well as Gertrude Garth; Miss Winnie Donovan is a pleasing Mercy Merry; Miss Ada Salmon a smart Poppy Cornleigh; and Miss Violet Hammersley a sympathetic Lilian Garth.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Constant; Business-Manager, Mr. William Collard.—At this house *A Fool's Paradise* was performed for the first three days of the week by the London Comedy Company. Miss Laura Hansen was responsible for a striking impersonation of the treacherous wife, Beatrice Selwyn; as the dignified Sir Peter Lund Mr. Cecil Wynne acted in characteristically lofty manner; Mr. Wylie A. Thompson as the Hon. Tom Verinder and Mr. Arthur Claremont in the part of Lord Normantower created a very effective diversion; Miss Florence Radcliffe upheld the part of Kate Derwent with conspicuous success; Miss Hilda Stericker as fifteen-year-old Mildred Selwyn acted charmingly; Mr. J. Henry Twyford excellently portrayed the part of Philip Selwyn; and Mr. Walter Vernon made an efficient Price. Later in the week *A Glass of Fashion*, by Sydney Grundy, was given by the same company.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Jay; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. L. Furst.—A visit has been received this week from Fant Abbott, aptly named "The World's Wonder-Worker," who, with his excellent company, has provided splendid entertainment; "She," the beautiful witch, is also very successful; Albert Vincent shows himself an accomplished comedian; while the "Times" animated pictures meet with general approval.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. Charles Draycott had a good reception on Monday, when he presented *The Stolen Birthright*, by Sydney Spenser. The evil genius, Count Marca Taddeo, was successfully played by Mr. Draycott; Miss Muriel Thompson filled the part of Princess Miranda with credit; Mr. A. C. Holmes made a manly Prince Andrea; Mr. G. Ridgeway-Thorne carefully portrayed Prince Michele; Mr. John S. Sheridan made a fine Prince Antonio; Stefano was admirably sustained by Mr. Harry Scatchard; Mr. Harry Harrop as Pedro and Miss Ethel Vinroy as Nita were full of fun; and Miss M. Desmond was a charming Fidelia. The piece was beautifully staged.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—*A King for a Day* is a short musical comedy by Sidney Dooley and Charles Seymour's company, which keeps the house in roars. Mr. Will Letters as Signor Carrara and Miss Edith Darwell as an old maid are both very funny, and the choruses are good. *The Order of the Bath* is another amusing sketch by Miss Lilieth Leyton and company. Much laughter is caused by Lowenwirth and Cohan (Sam and Charles), American Hebrew comedians; Miss Dora Lyric, comedienne; the Reays, clever acrobats; Ethel Bedgood, an excellent ballad vocalist; and Benson and Waite, comedy duo, also appear. (Closed next three weeks for alterations and decorations.)

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Ada Fawn, comedienne, heads this week's delightful programme, and scores heavily. *My Statue of Grace* is a cleverly-played sketch by the Emmell Comedy company, including Fred Haming, Jeannie Weston, and Adela Levey; W. G. Wesley causes much laughter with his songs and quaint sayings; *Two Little Cracksmen*, in three scenes, includes Howard Barlow, Nita Langford, Eric Hudson, H. Macro, Edward Garthorne, Bert Carter, Amy Manfree, and May Montague. The other turns are by Louis Hardt, in a pleasing emulation of Sandow; Bianci, equilibrist; the Three Martinettes, in "The Mad Music Master"; Lily Eyton, comedienne; and the cinematograph pictures.

STRETFORD PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Sidney Weatherilt; Manager, Mr. Fred Erick.—Mr. Geo. Ward, comedian and dancer; the Brothers Leo, quaint comedians; Emily Hardy, contralto vocalist; Harry Hampson, tenor vocalist; Eugenie Glenn, soubrette; and Mabel Wrey, serio and dancer, are doing good business here.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Drama again holds the boards here, *The Best Must Win* being presented by Mr. Valentine Beadon's company. Lieut. Paul Dumaresq is powerfully acted by Mr. Sidney C. Cranston; Mr. Graham Woods presents the villainous Caston with excellent effect; Mr. J. Dobson Clyde as Minos is a typical Jew; Sabretache is admirably played by Mr. Beadon; Mr. A. H. Menzies is a satisfactory Jaques; Miss Marie Menzies is a charming Denise; Lucille is skilfully treated by Miss Marie Robson; and Suzette is successfully presented by Miss Daisy Humphreys.

SHEERNESS.—THE PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—Yankee Joe, a smart comedian, is well received; the sketch, *Our Jane*, causes great hilarity; Mr. Phil Reymond, the popular comedian, scores, as usual, with his clever comedy impersonations; Miss Topsy Levane, the well-known burlesque actress and dancer, renders her songs in first-rate style and dances admirably; and the Crown Sketch company conclude with a screaming comedy sketch, *The New Compensation Act*, written by Phil Reymond.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—The Smythsons create roars of laughter with their comedy act, *Love Germs;* Tennis and Laune, in a vocal scena, *Chapters from Life*, are much admired; Royston and Royle, vaudeville artists, gain hearty applause; Bonnetti and Corrie, eccentric jugglers, submit an amusing performance; Walter Levello, comedian and dancer, wins favour; and Dot Moss is a promising juvenile comedienne. The programme concludes with a capital display of animated pictures.

SHEFFIELD. — ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Mr. Fred Jarman's popular company opened to a large audience on Monday in the thrilling drama of love and intrigue, *Under the Czar*. Mr. Wilson Howard and Mr. William Matthews specially distinguished themselves, and Miss Vivienne acted with grace and dramatic power as Sonia. The other characters were carefully represented, and the play was mounted with every attention to detail.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The following talented artists delighted crowded audiences on Monday: The Three Rubys, graceful lady acrobats and trapeze performers; Mr. Herbert Rule, eccentric comedian; Ted and May Hopkins, the Cambrian duettists; Mr. Ernest Tilbury, in pictorial songs; Mr. Frank Bertram's company, in the comedy sketch *The Chaperon*; Mr. J. A. Wilson and his dog Towser; Miss Minna Merry, a clever young comedienne; and the Ten Loonies, in their farcical musical absurdity, *Dotty*. In addition Lockhart's elephants and the American Bioscope proved very acceptable items.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. David Warwick. — The company this week includes Prof. Oakdene, a clever comedy entertainer; Miss Louie Hurman; Miss Cissie Thomson; Metz and Metz; Fred Southern and company, in a smart dramatic sketch; and Miss Edie Endon, a talented dancer. Pallister's Bioscope with up-to-date films is still a pleasing feature.

CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietors, Jasper Redfern and Co., Ltd.—In addition to the artistic animated pictures, good turns are done this week by Miss Dorothy Dainton and Miss Pattie Halston.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham-Power.—*£1000 Reward* is being presented here by Messrs. Frank J. Pitt and Charles Halling's company in four acts. A number of specialities of a most enjoyable nature are given in the third act, when Miss Lynn Darlington, an Australian contralto, is rapturously received, and Mr. Joe English sings and patters in telling manner. Mr. Fred Wilberforce takes the part of the villain, Gilbert Lisle, successfully; Fred Ingleford has a good interpreter in Mr. J. Newton Cowling; and Mr. Charles Halling and Mr. Frank Dallas play the detectives humorously. Meg is pleasingly taken by Miss Lynn Darlington, and Miss Maudie Douglas and Mrs. Sidney Halling are good in their respective parts. Madame Sanson is presented by that powerful actress, Miss Daisy Halling.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—The re-opening of this popular rendezvous on Saturday evening last was the occasion of great rejoicing among a huge crowd. Mr. Bacon has succeeded in booking first-class engagements. In the theatre Messrs. Mayes and Merritt cause quite a sensation in their aerial flights and trampoline table act; Miss Florrie St. Roy delights all by her clever acrobatic dancing; Miss Rosalie Jacobi's singing maintains her popularity; Miss Amy Elcock contributes acceptably as a burlesque actress; Wal Robbins entertains with excellent patter, and his musical selections make him a great favourite. Unfortunately D'Argan and Dene and Fred Villars were unable to appear on Saturday, but their services on Monday added greatly to an already successful programme. As usual, the Bioscope has a delightful new series of animated pictures. An interesting concert is given in the Café Chantant, where Miss Beatrice Brandon, medallist L.A.M., sings and recites, followed by Miss Elsie Russell, the Mannikins (the living marionettes), and the Terrys (the Coster and the Masher), with Mr. Hosking Dickinson as accompanist.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—A merry party are the Native Choir from Jamaica, who are appearing here this week under the direction of Messrs. James and Douglass. Part I. consists of choruses, sentimental and humorous songs, with coon songs and dances, all of which are rendered tastefully. "The Volunteer Guards," an action song cleverly depicted, wins good favour, but the admirable rendering of the concerted chorus, "Come where the lillies bloom," will long be remembered as the most popular item. The first half concludes with the sketch, entitled *My Wife's Mother*, which is creditably enacted by three members of the company. Part II. opens with a patriotic chorus, when "Motherland" is sung with each member carrying a flag. Songs are again indulged in, adding greater enthusiasm by those with choruses, while an exceptionally clever sand dance by one of the male members deserves special mention. On Sunday the talented Brothers Cherniavsky appeared both afternoon and evening, their selections on the piano, violin, and 'cello being spoken of in the highest order.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—Mr. James Hare's company is appearing in *A Destroyer of Men* before large audiences this week. Mr. Hare stands out prominently as Karl Mischla with a strong and forcible performance; Mr. C. P. Wentworth submits a good portrayal of the villainous Count Starevitch; Michael Mischla is manly as represented by Mr. Charles Bickell; and the comedy element, which is furnished by Mr. Ross Warren as Coco and Miss Alice Buckland as Nina, evokes loud laughter. Miss Jessie Yatman is a charming and pathetic Vida, and Miss Irene Clifford a powerful adventuress.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—*Home from the Honeymoon*, which forms the principal attraction, is noticed on another page. Ross and Lewis, in a sketch, *Fits and Misfits*, prove an exceptionally clever turn; coon revelry, by Barnard's Mannikins, is enthusiastically applauded; an enjoyable ventriloquial entertainment is submitted by Horace White; the Horsley Brothers are amusing boxing comedians; and the remaining turns are Dolly Denton, comedienne and dancer; Dan Leno, jun., comedian; and the Bioscope.

ST. LEONARDS.—PAVILION THEATRE.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. Charles M. Daly's company is appearing in *A Pair of Spectacles*. Sydney Grundy's popular play finds an excellent exponent of the genial Benjamin Goldfinch in Mr. Henry Belding; the rough, though genuine, character of Uncle Gregory is depicted by Mr. Charles M. Daly very naturally; Mr. Stanley S. Gordon and Mr. George M. Newell, in their respective parts, give very intelligent representations; Mrs. Goldfinch is admirably played by Miss Nina Vaughton; Mr. Lorimer, Benjamin's friend, is a thoroughly good sketch, his daughter, Lucy, being gracefully taken by Miss Hilda Merilese; the shoemaker could hardly be in better hands than those of Mr. Trewell.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun.—*A Gambler's Daughter*, capitally presented by Adria Hill and Robert Ayrton's company, has interested fairly large audiences here this week. Mr. Charles Yorke effectively impersonates the villain, Stephen Brand, his confederate, Solomons, being amusingly portrayed by Mr. Alfred Sanders; Mr. Robert Ayrton makes a pleasing Desmond O'Dare; Mr. Robert Pitt is highly creditable as the gambler, John Grant; Mr. Basil Mitchell acts with ability as Jack Grant; and Dick has an effective representative in Mr. Frank Wheatcroft. Miss Adria Hill, in the dual rôle of Mildred and Miriam Grant, mother and daughter, acts with sympathetic grace and power; and Auntie Zeb, a negress, is delightfully filled by Miss Harriet Loydall.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—An excellent company of varied talent is engaged here this week, pride of place being occupied by Georg Chanti, whose electrical novelties and quick changes are distinctly entertaining; Bromley and Fontein, in *A Musical Birthday*, cause plenty of laughter; Fraser and Haley sing and dance delightfully; Oliver Conroy is a comical comedian; Meier and Mora give a versatile performance, with marked success; Marstro and Oretta are clever equilibrists and tumblers; Mabel Le Roy's song, "Love is better than riches," was pleasingly greeted; Jules Kiaro is an exceedingly clever hand jumper and pyramidist; and Ethel Dunford, vocalist, is received with favour.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—HIPPODROME THEATRE.—General-Manager, Robt. A. Nicholson; Assistant-Manager, Geo. Stainton.—Tarro Miyakee, Japanese wrestler, heads the bill this week; Miss Marie Bruce renders soprano songs in capital style; Alex. Arthur delights with descriptive songs; Dolly and Elsie's dancing is particularly good; the Warsaw Bros. provide amusement as eccentric musicians; the Lavelle Bros., comedy acrobats, are greatly appreciated; Cullen and Carthy are old favourites here; and the Pictures complete a capital programme.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—*The Ticket-of-Leave Man* is well staged here. The various characters are ably sustained by Mr. E. Wingfield, Miss Lalla Stanhope, Mr. W. Heilbronn, Mr. H. Hesselgrave, Miss Daisy Norman, Mr. A. Byron, Mr. J. Milne Taylor, Mr. Val. Grelly, and Mrs. E. Brady.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—The Ten Genis head the bill in their marvellous Risley acrobatic performance, which is much appreciated. Billy Richardson, the stump orator, is highly successful; a capital sketch, *The Inventors*, proves most interesting; Miss Madge Northcote is a soprano with an excellent voice, and she met with a most hearty reception; Mlle. Zelda, in a musical turn, is capital; Andy Fagan as an Irish humorist is successful; Wall Owen as a comic conjurer provides a most interesting and humorous turn; and Miss May Zant and her Juveniles, in their songs and dances, are excellent. The pictures are good.

SUNDERLAND.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Sunderland Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Mr. Percy Norman's company is here in *A Woman Worth Winning*. In the rôle of Fergus Lorinsky, Mr. A. B. Mackay has great opportunities, which he does not fail to make the most of. Mr. Gilbert Standing's portrayal of Amos Pauloff is all that is desired; Mr. Sidney Barton is good as Czar Nicholas; a word of praise is due to Mr. Wynne Davies for an admirable rendition of Fedor Petronovitch. A part that stands out conspicuously is that of Ivan Bardoff, a strong character study of which is given by Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh; Mr. Percy Norman is capable as General Borinsky; Mr. E. Hall Eldon supplies the lighter comedy element as Bertie Scribbler; and Mr. E. C. Edwards is responsible as Piper Ropples. Miss Cissie Bellamy plays the leading rôle of Roma Pauloff in a way that at once stamps her as one with great histrionic ability; Miss Trixie Leighton is commendable as Lota Kalnorky; and Miss Ida Mackay assists materially in the comedy element as Katrina Kloss.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Rich. Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden. — Mr. Auguste Van Biene and company appear in a playlet, *The Master Musician*, in which the actor-musician, in the character of Heinrich Klein, has opportunity of displaying both his histrionic ability and his skill on the 'cello, receiving adequate assistance from Miss Julia Burnleigh as Jennie and Miss Pulleirs as Rose Carlisle. Edward Lauri and company's sketch, *In Her Boudoir*, is highly exhilarating; Alfred Lester is seen in a smart scena, and is assisted by Florence Wakeman. Other turns to fill up the bill are contributed by the Bros. St. Clair, knockabout cyclists, whose foot match is to the taste of the Wearsiders; the American Comedy Four; Bros. Corcoran, brass instrumentalists; Fred Cullane and company, in a musical sketch, *Pipple from Poppleton*; Sisters Lavender, duettists; and Gus Dalton, with some excellent bioscope object-lesson pictures.

PALACE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Alfred Browne and Syd B. Stringer.—Chung Ling Soo, the wonderful mystifier, is here; and other turns are given by G. W. Foster, a smart comedian, who goes exceedingly well; Les Rallis, in an acrobatic scena; Starr and Jerome, clever dancers; Frank Keegan's cyclists; Ida Ross, Tyrolean vocalist; Georgina Leonard, serio; and the Seven Zerbinis, in a grand musical mélange.

SWANSEA.—THE GRAND.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—Mr. Norman MacOwan's company presents *A Fool's Paradise*, in which Miss Mary Masters, by her admirable acting in the rôle of Beatrice Selwyn, scores one of the greatest successes of the season. As Kate Derwent, Miss Violet Sterne acts with great effect; Mr. Norman MacOwan as Lord Normantower is as successful as ever; Philip Selwyn had an able impersonator in Mr. Arthur Somers; the realistic acting of Mr. Murray Hawthorn as Sir Peter Lund, the family physician, is excellent. Great amusement is afforded by the boy and girl lovers, Tom Nerinda and Mildred Selwyn, parts capitally taken by Mr. Sydney Palfrey and Miss Isabel Hathorn.

THE STAR.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. F. Powell.—*The Master Criminal*, presented by Miss Winifred Chalmers' company, fills the Star this week. Mr. Henry L. Osmond, as the Master Criminal, is exceedingly good; Miss Winifred Chalmers as Cecile is par excellence; Mr. Harold C. McCartney and Miss Kate Somerville as Phillip Manners and his wife Mabel Manners, are also good. The humour of the play is entrusted to Miss Mabel Tremere, Mr. Harry Cook, and Mr. Ernest Noble, who keep the house in roars. Miss Lizzie Power as Winifred Manners does excellently, her singing being very good.

EMPIRES, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—Geo. Lashwood, in several new numbers, is received very heartily; Miss Ella Retford gains popularity with each visit; Amy Anderson and company, in the coster scena, *The Banana Queen*, are greatly appreciated; Austin Rudd is as usual successful; the Empire Girls are singers and dancers of more than usual ability, and the mimicry and impersonations of Rosie Archers are first-class. Baker and Balfe give a pleasing musical turn; whilst *Fun at the Railway Station*, by Farley, Rennie, and Farley, is very acceptable. Local pictures on the bioscope are greatly appreciated.

TON-Y-PANDY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. Graham Arthur's company in *When a Man Hates*. The chief honours lie with Mr. Graham Arthur, who takes the part of Pietro Danelli with marked success; Lawrence Hastings was well played by Mr. Arthur Jarvis; Mr. Herbert King is convincing as the half-witted Paul; Miss Mabel Liston makes a dainty Lettie; Miss Jennie Halworth is well placed as Dollie Dimple; and Miss Mamie Stewart plays the trying part of Olga Gwyne excellently.

TORQUAY.—PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—Mr. Sydney James' "Rustic Scholars" made their first appearance here this week, and a packed house welcomed them on Monday evening. Mr. Gilbert Fernie, who is also the manager, has a good baritone voice, and makes a clever show as Tommy, the bad boy; the Misses Aileen and Doris Woods, as the naughty twins, are accorded an appreciative reception, and are frequently encored, their New Zealand duets in native costume and in the Maori language being particularly novel; Mr. Alfred Wootton has a remarkably fine tenor voice, and is meritoriously applauded; Mr. Harker Nicholls, as the eccentric schoolmastr, creates much merriment; and Miss Maud Fitz Stubbs, the music mistress, is an efficient accompanist.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA. — Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—Sidney Gandy as a society entertainer, assisted by his comical company, is most enjoyable. Miss Inglefield, in the thought-reading séance, is keenly appreciated; Ernest Hastings, in his monologue sketches and musical numbers, is in high favour; Bridge Peters, the bass baritone, goes well, his rendering of Villiers Stanford's sea songs being received with favour; whilst Olly Oakley's banjo solos are of the first order. The usual variation of the biograph pictures is always a popular item, and the Palace orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Edwin Thornton, is quite a feature.

WAKEFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The George Bonhair Troupe of Risley performers are here, and by their smartness and wonderful feats earn much applause; Juno Salmo gives a clever grotesque turn as a contortionist, assisted by electrical effects; the Brothers Brooks are a versatile pair of comedians; Harry Meegan, comedian, is amusing; Harry Fife, comedian; Wat Tyler, comedian; Harry Thurston, in a burlesque on *The Silver King;* and the Sisters Brand, duettists and dancers, provide acceptable turns.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mme. De Vry's Three Golden Graces, in their poses as gold and bronze works of art, prove exceedingly good. The Carlyles, in their clever dancing act; Harry Anderson, with his catchy songs; Little Agnes Tina, the clever juvenile mimic; Sydney Lee, *The Gay Deceiver;* Bertha Stuart, Scottish character vocalist; and Musical Jees, in a comedy musical sketch, *The Scarecrow;* and the American Bioscope, furnish attractive items.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Another excellent company is here this week, and good business is again done. The Leslie Brothers in the eccentric sketch, *Music Mad*, are responsible for laughter; Lambert and Hands score well in capital duets; Ted Curtis and his piccaninnies are exceptionally smart, and Miss Gibson Pearl is a charming soubrette; Walfred Gregory, contortionist, goes through many eccentricities, and Queenie May is a good-class artist; Bert Adam and Ivy Hall please all with their magical act; and the Bioscope pictures depict the Automobile Thieves, to intense amusement.

PARR HALL.—Lessee, Mr. J. Lyon Whittle.—Messrs. Levy and Cardwell, juvenile pantomime artists, are remaining here for another week.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Kuner.—Messrs. Kennedy's Komiks are still continuing to draw crowded houses here; Mlle. Lucretia, the star artist, proves a big attraction; Messrs. Dunville and Dare, duettists and dancers, give a brilliant performance; whilst the refined burlesque artist, Keane Harker, submits an artistic and characteristic entertainment. Miss Mabel Wentworth and Miss Josephine Townend, ballad vocalists, score a decided success; Professor Brindley, ventriloquist, also proves most interesting. Mr. Johann Strauss, wire-walking tramp, and The Cedrics, expert jugglers and equilibrists, are also included in the programme.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—PALACE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Leoni Clarke's clever performing cats, rats, mice, rabbits, monkeys, and birds are once more here in a performance that is thoroughly enjoyed; the musical duologue, *Yo San*, by Talbot and Pearce is exceedingly pretty; Whimsical Walker and company in the sketch, *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*, are highly successful; song and dance have an admirable exponent in Master Charlie Carr; considerable amusement is the result of Cadogan and Wingrove's comedy duologue, *Complications;* quaint Scottish humour is admirably depicted by Jock Walker; an interesting item is provided by the Peritas, gymnasts; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are more than usually good.

CIRCUS.—Signor B. Volpi's Royal Italian Circus remains another week. Several new items are introduced. The whimsicalities of Nimble Nip (of Allen Family fame) cause abundance of amusement to young and old alike; and Wee Wullie and Piccolo and Fiori also contribute to the merriment.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—The Vagabonds are paying a welcome return visit here On Monday an excellent programme was submitted. Miss Lester Lu-Lu was loudly applauded for her singing of "Connie the Connoisseur"; Miss Marie Longmore's fine voice was heard to advantage; Miss Olive Sparke made a big hit; Mr. Harold Montagu brought down the house with his song, "Happy Land of England"; and Mr. Leslie Burgess was great in "A Vagabond's Life."

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Dr. Walford Bodie and his powerful variety company are here this week, after a short absence of only five weeks. The variety turns were again well received. The doctor devotes his time entirely to the treating of intricate cases, dispensing with the humorous part of his programme, which time he occupied for the benefit of these cases.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co. — Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company remains another week, and produces on Monday *The Price of Sin*. Mr. George Daiper as Cecil Ray, Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan in the heavy part of Frank Foster, and Mr. Lance Usher as the Rev. James Small, who is guilty of much unconscious humour, all delineate the respective characters with great histrionic ability. Miss Violet Carlyle, in the leading rôle of Nancy Crawford is a "splendid sinner," and she is admirably circumvented by Miss Amy Ellam (Crelyn), Miss Cissie Podmore (King), and Miss C. Harrison (Eliza Jane).

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. C. W. Collings.—This week George Stanley and Co., in a sensational episode, entitled *Beneath a Mask*, are proving a big draw; Happy Attwood repeats his previous success; the Lisando Bros., in their clever acrobatic act, are acceptable; the Sisters Hypatia, duettists and dancers, are a pleasing couple; and Harry Leaton sings talking songs. The Pictures continue to be most attractive.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Burnett and Tindell's Bioscope is remaining another week, and proving a great draw. Le Brun and Irene are jugglers of much merit; Little Eadie, a clever child vocalist, is much applauded; and the song-pictures, by Miss Katie Kyrle, are greatly enjoyed.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Sidney Brooke.—Miss Queenie Leighton is this week delighting crowded audiences by her clever performance. Her latest success, "Is London like it used to be?" has become most popular. The Martelloni troupe of acrobats go through some astonishing feats with apparent ease; Harry Zetter is a comedian with a style distinctly his own, and he is well received; Will Douglas has proved a genuine draw, his Yorkshire witticisms being greatly enjoyed; the Sisters Clifton, in song and dance, are well received; Cliff and Kean are thoroughly up-to-date in their business; Little Salvino is a wonderful instrumentalist, and Marlo a clever juggler.

AMUSEMENTS IN NEW ZEALAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

WELLINGTON, MAY 7.—THEATRE ROYAL (Lessees, Fullers, Ltd.).—Amongst the English artists appearing here are Miss Nellie Dent and Mr. Fred Graham, in humorous sketches. Miss Dent and Mr. Graham give delight to numerous audiences. Mr. Slade Murray sings some of his amusing songs.

OPERA HOUSE, MAY 14.—Messrs. MacMahon, opening with *The Yellow Peril*, finish their season with another representation of *The Kelly Gang*.

MAY 18.—To-night Mr. Edwin Geach brought his *Human Hearts* company here. At the head of it is Mr. Ernest Leicester, who has made instant mark. Mr. G. R. Mountford is exceedingly good in the heavy part; and Miss Valentine Sidney plays the feminine lead well.

WANGANUI, MAY 31.—The Meynell-Gunn company open here to-night, in *The Midnight Wedding*, to be followed by *

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, July 9, for the First Time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Madge Duckworth and Ridgewood Barrie, entitled

"HER NAMELESS CHILD."

Anthony Ford ..... MR. GEORGE MITCHELL
Arthur ..... MR. WINGOLD LAWRENCE
Lord Henry Woodville ..... MR. FRANK ADAIR
Mongrole ..... MR. FRED WITHERS
Tom Rivers ..... MR. GEORGE H. ASQUIN
Jake ..... MR. F. WALTERS
Jack ..... MR. GEORGE WYE
Jim ..... MR. H. HUNTLEY
XXX 41 ..... MR. GERALD VANE
Officer ..... MR. FRED RILINGS
Bessie Brooks ..... MISS DAISY MAYNARD
Sarah ..... MISS BEATRICE DOVER
Crayout ..... MISS JOAN PEREIRA
Lady Sybil Woodville.. MISS LYDIA MANNINGTON
Phyllis Ford ..... MISS LOUIE ADAIR

After playing to crowded houses for two weeks, *Man to Man* was withdrawn on Saturday, and on Monday evening Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett presented, for the first time in London, the heart-stirring drama, *Her Nameless Child*, first produced at the Metropole Theatre, Devonport, on July 9 last year. The play, which was under the direction of Mr. Frank Adair, met with a very cordial reception, and at each fall of the curtain the principals were enthusiastically applauded. The story is interesting from start to finish, the characters are well drawn, and several of the situations are very effective.

Chief interest in the play centres round the blacksmith's daughter, Phyllis Ford, played with much skill by Miss Louie Adair. Thoroughly grasping the character, Miss Adair quickly wins sympathy by her pathetic impersonation of the sorely-tried widow, and acquits herself with distinction. Miss Lydia Mannington skilfully portrays the varying moods of the repentant adventuress, Lady Sybil Woodville; and Miss Joan Pereira as Crayout makes a vivacious and pert French maid. As Lord Henry Woodville, Mr. Frank Adair acts throughout with his accustomed ease, and gives a convincing embodiment of the adventurer, adding another triumph to his long list of successes. Mr. Wingold Lawrence in the rôle of Arthur Ford is earnest and manly; and Mr. Fred Withers does well as Mongrole. Mr. George Mitchell is well suited as Anthony Ford, hitting off the sluggish sternness of the character exactly. Mr. George Asquin as Tom Rivers, a postman, is full of comic force, and his antics as an amateur detective are productive of much laughter. He is ably assisted by Miss Daisy Maynard as Bessie Brooks. The piece is staged with completeness, and the scenery leaves nothing to be desired. Mr. Chris Mason is assistant stage-manager, and Mr. E. De Hague Body acting-manager, for Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, July 8,

A TRIPLE BILL.

During this month Mr. Robert Arthur submits a triple bill, under the direction of Marshall Moore and Frederick Stanhope, with a change of programme weekly. This week *The King's Hat*, *Faithful James*, and a special arrangement of Audran's *La Mascotte*, are given. *The King's Hat* is a romantic episode, founded on an attempted betrayal of the fugitive monarch by a couple of card-sharping traitors, and is acted with romantic vehemence by all concerned. Mr. Richard Green makes a very virile and alert Charles II., and his song, "A King may be a man," specially written and composed by Leslie Stiles, goes with a swing. Mr. Frank Perfitt is excellent as the wine-soaked gambler, Sir Reginald Delaunay. Mr. Frank Lacy is particularly good as the rascally Colonel Digby; and Mr. Charles Wingrove as his precious confederate, Captain Meers, also does good service. Miss Blanche Fenton looks pretty as Lady Delaunay; and Mr. Marshall Moore is first-rate as the faithful henchman, Ferrier. That most amusing farcical comedy, *Faithful James*, by B. C. Stephenson, causes considerable laughter and entertainment. Mr. Rutland Barrington, who enacts the title-rôle, was much applauded on his first appearance, and his rendering of the part is deliciously droll and perfectly in keeping with the character of the resourceful waiter. Miss Winifred Macey is very good as Mrs. Grace Duncan, acting with spirit and ability; and Miss Nellie Moore as Mrs. Melville, and Messrs. Frank Lacy (a choleric Admiral Vincent), George F. Mackarness as the jealous husband, Mr. Earle Hopwood, who presents a clever silhouette of a foreign waiter, and Fredk. W. Hearne as Henry Duncan, all help to keep the ball of fun rolling. The melodious music of *La Mascotte* receives ample justice at the hands of a first-class company. Specially good are Mr. Richard Green's rendering of "The Mascotte song," Mr. Whitworth Mitton's delightful rendition of "Love is blind," and the sweet little duet, "Glue, glue," sung by Mr. Green and Miss Madge Temple. The picturesque part of Pippo, a shepherd, suits Mr. Richard Green to a nicety, and he can act as well as sing. Miss Madge Temple is delightfully arch, bright, and pretty as Bettina, the country wench, who is the harbinger of good-luck. Miss Winifred Masey enacts the rôle of the capricious Fiametta, the King's daughter, who prefers a muscular shepherd to a nincompoop of princely blood. The part of Prince Frittelina is pleasantly played by Mr. Whitworth Mitton, who really only has one chance in his song, "Love is blind"; and Mr. Reginald White is diverting as the old farmer, Rocco. Last, but not least, comes the Laurent XVII. of Mr. Rutland Barrington, a part which he renders with all his old-time vivacity and unctuous humour, putting in many a gag, and altogether adding to the gaiety of the operetta by his keen sense of humour and fertility of resource. Mr. Frank Perfitt stage-manages the show, with Mr. Geo. F. Mackarness as assistant, and Mr. Walter Henderson as business-manager for Messrs. Marshall Moore and Frederick Stanhope.

BRITANNIA THEATRE.

The old form of entertainment that for so many years was such a success at this popular house of amusement is slowly, but surely, returning. That it is likely to be popular again is a prophecy that large audiences seem to entirely justify. Much interest is being shown this week in the production by Mr. Arnold Bell and company of *The Mystery of a Hansom Cab*, adapted from the famous novel by Fergus Hume. The drama was remarkably well represented and adequately mounted. Mr. Bell gave a vigorous and conscientious performance of the Irish gentleman, Brian Fitzgerald. Mr. Roy Jackson was equally well placed as the scoundrel, Roger Moreland, and duly received the execrations of the audience. Mark Frettleby had a successful representative in Mr. Arthur Lennard; Mr. W. G. Gregory was excellent as the drunken scamp, Oliver White; and Mr. C. Joyce, Mr. Cory Thomas, and Mr. Billy Ross caused amusement in their respective characters. A really clever study of Sal Rawlins was given by Miss Frances Campbell, who realised both in speech and gesture the slum girl. Another excellent performance was the Mother Guttersnipe of Miss Minnie Clare, who played admirably throughout. The minor characters were in capable hands.

The other part of the programme was a new musical sketch, played, we believe, for the first time, entitled *A Violet*. Violet, a young lady, is heard singing by a Mr. Lee, a neighbour, who jumps over the wall and makes violent love to her. Much to his delight, his feelings are reciprocated. The happy pair decide to ask Violet's father, an irascible old General, who, finding the lover in the garden, naturally wishes to know his business. The young man explains that his fondness for flowers had made him fall over the wall when admiring them, and he wishes the General to give him the prettiest flower he has in the garden. The General agrees, but is furious when he finds it is his daughter Violet who is meant. Of course, "papa" is won over to the cause of true love, and all ends happily. This very simple, but at the same time pretty story, is well presented by Miss Vera Vallis, a charming and dainty violet, who must be commended for her sweet singing; Mr. Stanley Vivian, who deserves praise for his acting and singing, as the lover, and Mr. Cecil de Lee, who makes the most of his opportunities while playing the stern parent. The music is very pretty, and the scene artistic.

Raymond's Bio Tableaux include some very amusing pictures on the screen, notably "Willie's Dream." The orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Carl Hamlin, discourses sweet interludes during the evening. Mr. James McCarthy, the courteous acting-manager, is once more at his post after his late operation.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, July 8, the Drama

"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."

The attraction this week at Kennington is Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company in *The Midnight Mail*. The play, which is under the direction of Mr. James Willard, positively brims over with exciting situations, while at the same time there is no lack of mirth, the house being frequently convulsed with laughter. The fine scenery is by Mr. C. E. Markham. Mr. George Harvard is seen to advantage as Harry Steyne, an engine driver, whose varying fortunes figure largely in the plot; as Billy Brewer, Mr. Evison scores a great success, his interpretation being wonderfully clever; Mr. Austin Mortimer makes an excellent Leonard Royle, an African explorer; and great praise is due to Mr. Charles Spencer, a most able Hassan Padisha. Mr. Harry Emmerson makes of the kindly Donald Craig a noteworthy character; and Mr. Richard Banks as Ben Burney (a gamekeeper), Mr. J. Wilkinson as Peter Pratt (a barman at the inn), Mr. J. Mann as Gerald Eustace (a wealthy landowner), Mr. Warburton as Edward Barclay (superintendent of the Walfs' Home), Mr. H. Dobell Lyle as Jasper Thornleigh (a signalman), Mr. J. Ingledew as Sergeant O'Flyn (Metropolitan Police), Mr. Fred Morley as P.-C. Duncombe, Mr. Alfred Warne as a magistrate, Mr. Clive Rawlings as a doorkeeper at the music hall, Mr. George F. Ford as Ridery (a stoker), Mr. Trusswell as Thompson (a porter), and Mr. Vinning as Patterson (a carter) contribute to the success. Mary Steyne, the engine-driver's wife, is charmingly played by Miss Ada Oakley; Miss Mildred Carr does ample justice to the part of Nancy Brewer; Miss Sandford is effective as Lady Phyllis Eustace; and Miss Kate Merton as Mrs. Mildmay (matron of the Waifs' Home), Miss Ethel North as Patty (a schoolgirl), and Miss Kity Jothnstone as Parker (Lady Phyllis's maid) are admirably suited.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

The cinématograph programme continues to give unbounded satisfaction to the patrons of the Prince's, Poplar, who still throng this handsome building in such large numbers as to crowd the house at each performance. This week the selection of films is really excellent, and gives unfeigned pleasure to both old and young alike, who applaud with vigour every picture appearing upon the screen, testifying thereby their delight and sincere appreciation. Much instruction is gained from "Our Ice Supply," and the wonderful beauty of "The Alhambra at Granada," with its celebrated fountain of lions, showing the magnificent alabaster basin, the fine stone carving of various sections of this old palace of the Moorish Kings, together with the elaborate arabesque scroll-work, &c., all provoke enthusiasm as this splendid film is unfolded. Another interesting subject is "A Railway Ride through the Ardennes," in which the densely-wooded slopes and fertile valleys, as seen between the Meuse and Moselle, are charmingly depicted; while a typical incident of life "Down South" is seen in "The Negro's Revenge"; and a touching and pathetic episode, taken from life, is portrayed in "The Grandchild's Devotion." "Ascending Mount Snowdon by Motor," is an adventure at once hazardous and full of daring, although the danger is compensated by the lovely mountainous scenery. "A Balloon Race at Ranelagh" is full of excitement; and "The Launch of the Japanese Battleship Katori" is watched with consuming interest, especially at the point where the enormous vessel leaves the slips. "The Villain Still Pursued Her" produces great hilarity; and "His First Camera," "How Jones Saw the Derby," "Two Little Scamps," "The Serenade," and "A Good-hearted Judge," are full of humour and realism. Other pictures that give satisfaction are "A Great Temptation," "The Magic Ring," "A Vision of Art," and a "Visit to Sunlight Soap Works." The courteous and genial manager, Mr. C. Melville Lurring, spares no effort in giving every attention towards the comfort of his audience.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, July 8, the Romantic Play, in a Prologue and Four Acts, Written by Frank Adair, entitled

"A HEART'S DESIRE."

Intense interest was taken by the West Londoners in this fascinating play of Mr. Adair's, and Messrs. Elliman's capable company has certainly scored a big success in Marylebone this week. As Lord St. Ives, alias Beautiful Jim, Mr. Frank V. Fenn made an emphatic success, speaking his lines clearly and well. Without undue accentuation of points, this experienced actor quickly made many friends, and certainly all the applause so lavishly showered on him was thoroughly deserved. A clever character-study of Coombes, the butler, was proffered by Mr. Walter Kennion, who acquitted himself admirably. Mr. A. Lawrence was decidedly good as Eric May; Mr. Charles King was well placed as David McCulloch; and Mr. A. Armfield gave a vigorous portrayal of the ne'er-do-well, Luke Forrest. Mr. S. Claydon worked with surprising energy and skill as the versatile Hon. Bertie Beresford, his efforts being well backed up by Miss Ida Irving as Gwendoline Ross, their marionette dance being most cleverly done. Miss Amy Dalby winsomely impersonated the Hon. Elsie Beresford, an embodiment full of womanly grace and tenderness; whilst Miss Enid Edoni enacted Oiya with such impressive earnestness that her success was assured from the very first.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, July 8, the Drama,

"SHADOWS OF A GREAT CITY."

The above drama, as presented by Mr. John M. East's company, is drawing good houses here. Mr. Roy Redgrave is a dashing sailor hero, giving a touch of true pathos whenever necessary during the action of the play. Mr. Fred Morgan as George Benson makes an admirable villain; and the character of Arkwright, the detective, is admirably portrayed by Mr. Brian Daly. Mr. Bertie Wright supplies an excellent piece of character-acting as the villainous and cowardly Abe Nathan; and much humour is supplied by Mr. Charles A. East as Jim Farren. Miss East Robertson successfully doubles the parts of Helen Standish and Annie Benson; and Miss Blanche Stanley is responsible for a perfect representation of the faithful Irish servant, Biddy Roonan. Other minor characters are suitably cast.

LEGAL NOTES.

BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.

Several cases of great importance to the profession have been decided in the Law Courts lately. Perhaps the two most important ones are those by the R.B. Syndicate *v.* Ernest Shand, and the London Music Hall *v.* the Poluskis and others. In the first case the syndicate sued Mr. Ernest Shand, whom they engaged in July last to appear at the Cambridge Music Hall for one week, commencing on Nov. 12, at a sum of £15 per week. Mr. Shand was barred from appearing from the date of the agreement to the date of the performance at any rival hall within a distance of two miles, but nevertheless he threatened to appear at the Paragon, which was admittedly within the area.

The defence was that the barring clause was unreasonable on the ground that it was in restraint of trade, and that the restriction was wider than was necessary for the protection of the plaintiffs.

The more important case was that of the London Music Hall *v.* the Poluskis, and it was an action brought for an injunction restraining the defendants from breaking the barring clause in an agreement, dated Dec. 19, 1903, and covering certain periods of a fortnight in each case, from October, 1904, to October, 1907, by which plaintiffs agreed to pay the defendants £20 per week for their performances, the defendants being prohibited during that period from performing within one mile and a half of the London Music Hall without plaintiff's consent. The defendants contended that they had not, as alleged, threatened to perform within one mile and a half of the London Music Hall, urging that the distance should be determined by "Phillip's Table of Distances." Several witnesses on behalf of the defendants gave evidence that they always understood the distances were measured by the King's highway, and not as the crow flies. Now, it is perfectly clear that in measuring these distances the Court decides that it is to be measured as the crow flies, and there are several cases decided on the subject. It is to be hoped that in future every artist will remember the way the distance is measured. The judge, in his judgment for the plaintiffs, said that in accordance with the ordinary rule by which these contracts are interpreted a distance must be taken from point to point, and, that being so, he held that the Paragon was within one and a half miles from the London Music Hall.

Another case of great importance was that of Harvey *v.* the Tivoli, Manchester (Ltd.). In this case, by a contract between the proprietors of a music hall and a troupe consisting of three brothers, called the Harvey Boys, the former engaged the latter to perform for a week at the music hall. The contract was signed "Harvey Boys" by one of the troupe. The two elder brothers shared the profits of the troupe, and paid their younger brother a salary. One of the elder brothers died before the time for the performance arrived, and the surviving elder brother engaged another person to take his brother's place, he himself taking the profits and paying the two others salaries. The proprietors of the music hall cancelled the contract on account of the death of one of the members of the troupe. The plaintiffs contended that this case was like that of Glinseretti *v.* Rickards, on which I commented some weeks ago. In giving judgment, the judge, referring to that case, said: "Ferdinand Glinseretti was the person who made the contract, and he was the person who would be obliged to perform it, and nobody else. The members whom he had got together could not be sued upon it. If, in the present case, the three persons could sue, one would never know who were the parties to the contract."

There is certainly a distinction between the two cases, though it is a very subtle one, and, in fact, may be called a lawyer's point.

A point of importance to the profession was settled in the case of the Winter German Opera, Ltd., where it was decided that the artists engaged by that company were "servants" within the meaning of the Preferential Payments and Bankruptcy Act, 1888, so that their salaries up to £50 would have first claim against the assets. Of course, whether artists are servants or not depends to a great extent upon the terms of the contract, but in the majority of cases where the artists are in receipt of a salary they will come within the term "servants," and will be entitled to preferential treatment. This is decidedly satisfactory.

In the case of Marks *v.* the R.B. Syndicate, Ltd., heard by the Judge of the Shoreditch County Court on July 2, it was decided again, as it has been decided before, that the only remedy a person has who does not get a seat for his ticket, and insists upon taking another seat and is forcibly turned out, is to sue for damages for breach of contract to provide him with a seat, and not for the damages caused by his being turned out. The Judge said that a man was bound to leave a music hall if requested, and in the present case it appeared that the plaintiff did make a mistake as to whether the seat was reserved or not, and as he refused to take his money back, they were entitled to remove him.

With regard to the new Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, which came into force on the 1st of this month, perhaps I may be permitted to reply to a letter from Mr. Stuart Cleveland, which appeared in *The Era* a fortnight ago. Mr. Cleveland asks:—

(1) Is the touring manager liable for any accident that may happen to a member of his or her company? The answer is: Yes, provided such accident arises in the course of the employment of such member. As I have already pointed out, no employer is liable for accidents that happen to an employee while the latter is on his own business or pleasure; but if the accident happens when the employee is carrying out the terms of his contract, no doubt the employer is liable.

Then Mr. Cleveland asks: Is he liable for an accident that may happen to the carters who cart his scenery and baggage? That again is a question of the terms of employment. If a touring manager arranges with a firm of carting agents to cart his baggage, then the manager will not be liable for an accident happening to a servant of the carting agent; but if the touring manager were to habitually and regularly engage a man who went round with him for the purpose of carting this luggage, no doubt such man would be a servant of the manager, and the manager would be responsible for accidents.

The third question asked is: Is he liable for the stage men when getting his stuff out on Saturday night if they are paid by the touring management? This raises a question of considerable difficulty, but I should say that the touring manager would not here be responsible. It would appear to come within the definition of casual labour, as, although the stage men might be paid for that particular piece of business by the touring manager, yet in no way can they be called his servants.

The last question is: Can the porter claim damages for any accidental injury received whilst loading or unloading the stuff at the station, working under the travelling management, carpenter's, or baggage-man's orders? Assuming that Mr. Cleveland means the railway porter, I do not think for one moment that the management can be liable here, as the porter is the servant of the railway company, and is really doing their business, though he may receive a tip from the manager.

I shall be glad if readers will acquaint me, through *The Era*, of any cases on the new Workmen's Compensation Act that come under their notice, in order that I may discuss them in these notes.

ACTORS' UNION.

At the weekly meeting of the Actors' Union, at the Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Mr. Edwin J. Collins took the chair. Among those present were:—Mr. E. H. Templeton, Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., Mr. E. Chester, Mr. E. Mervyn, Mr. L. Lawrence, Mr. A. E. Johnston, Mr J. W. Ryder, Mr. K. Pierce, Mr. A. Richards, Mr. Barratt, Mr. C. Medwin, Mr. John Coghlan, Mr. Fred Bentley, Mr. Arthur Bawtree, Mr. Francis Chamier, Mr. Ruddle Brown, Mr. James English, Mr. Wm. Macready, Mr. E. Howard, Mr. W. Wynne, Mr. Rawson Buckley, Mr. Frederic Jacques, Mr. Dennis Bryan, Mr. James Willoughby, Mr. Charles Stafford, Mr. Denis Campbell, Miss Dot Seilby, Miss Gertrude Harrison, Miss Hilda Denison, Miss Maude Shelton, Miss Lena Delphine, Miss Ruby Lonergan, Miss Isa Patterson, Miss Jennie Garside, Miss Wynne Hanley, Miss Violet Chamier, Miss Mary Bessle, Mr. Lloyd Townrow, Miss Dorothy Townrow, Mr. Roy Redgrave, Mr. Cecil G. Calvert, Mr. Harry Townley, Mr. Tod Squires, Miss Helene Forrest, Mr. J. W. Braithwaite, Mr. Alfred Tait, Mr. G. Goodwin, Mr. B. Wilson, Mr. Orton, Miss Georgie Trueman, Mrs. Blaythwaite, Mrs. Lester, Miss Phyllis Manners, Mr. William Reed, Mr. Fred Prior, Miss Helen Russell, Miss Marion Bird, Mr. Tripp Edgar, Mr. Seager, Mr. Sydney Teversham, Mr. Carlyle Pritchard, Mr. Frank Litchfield, Mr. and Mrs. Oswald Marshall, Mr. E. Y. Rae, Miss Gladys Ffolliott, Miss Gertrude Kingston, and Miss May Conrade

MR. E. J. COLLINS, in opening the meeting, claimed the indulgence of his fellow-unionists. He was speaking in public for the first time, and they could appreciate the position. He was proud of being on the executive committee. He read a telegram from Mr. J. L. Shine, whose message to them was that he only desired to help the cause. As Mr. Shine was asked to retire from the committee the other week, he thought that it was treating them in very nice fashion. The work of the Union was progressing apace. Agencies had been established all over the country; the death levy, now instituted, had never before been recognised in the profession; and the 450 members enrolled were enthusiastic workers, who had the good of the profession at heart. The Union should be a great power for good; but it was not the slightest use for them to approach managers without the bulk of the profession at their back. Their work should be such that a manager, in engaging a member of the Union, would always secure an artist both reliable and conscientious. If able to do this a manager would be willing to pay a little more salary. He hoped members would not write derogatory letters to the newspapers or take notice of anonymous attacks. Somebody had stated that the future of the Union was in the lap of the gods. Nothing of the sort; it was in the hands of the people it was intended for. They were not antagonistic to the managers; indeed, they wanted to work hand-in-hand with them to rescue the theatres from evil influences. They should throw off lethargy or indifference and work with a will, so that each member should be a credit to the Union. They should organise meetings in every town in the provinces, and keep the interest alive during the autumn, so that by Christmas there would be at least a thousand members. But they must work. He must emphasise most strongly that there was nothing further from the thoughts of the executive of the Union than to pursue an aggressive policy towards the touring manager.

MR. FRED BENTLEY complimented Mr. Collins on his statement of facts and his advocacy of the Union. They often heard the assertion concerning the Union, "I do not know what it is about." They must therefore be harping on the same subject until it was drummed in. The primary object of the Union was to establish and maintain an honest living minimum salary; and, secondly, there was the question of abolishing the unfair competition of unpaid or premium-paying amateurs. In their endeavour to secure a minimum wage they had started as a trade-union, and a suggestion had been made that they should be paid so much an hour. He was not so sure that the plan had not its advantages, especially with the two-houses-a-night system. But they wished to secure £2 as a minimum for each week's work. They intended that the work of members of that Union should be worth that minimum wage. Managers said to them, "If you have a minimum wage, how about your mediocrities—how are they to earn their living?" But why should they establish a standard of mediocrity? They would do their best to establish a reliable standard, and he was sure there was no member who would not do his or her utmost for the show. A £2 minimum for forty to forty-five weeks meant a 30s. salary throughout the year. The conditions in the provinces were becoming worse. Companies consisted of two or three reliable artists—the rest nowhere. A manager took out a piece with a heavy plant of printing, and if it was not a success he did not change it, because of the printing bill, for which he was responsible. He obtained cheaper artists, and tried to foist cheaper art on provincial audiences, who had been deceived too often to trust to pictorials. Pictorials, he thought, were the great bugbear to the touring manager, who only secured one profit, while sometimes the resident manager got three. It had been stated that the Union had been established to cut the throat of the touring manager. That was a ridiculous assertion. It was their chief desire to work hand-in-hand with him and to establish a better understanding. Actors would combine to squash the bogus manager, and the Union would find money to prosecute him.

MR. RAWSON BUCKLEY enjoined on the meeting the necessity of sinking small details, and to let them stand aside while endeavouring to secure the fundamental objects of the Union.

MISS GERTRUDE KINGSTON, who was greeted with loud cheers, said she had to catch a train. In her few remarks she advocated a reconstruction of the Actors' Association. There were 1,200 people wanting to do the same thing as they—the Union—did. She thought that they should try to get a mass meeting of the Actors' Association and Union before the end of July. Miss Kingston advocated the union of those societies, and concluded her speech by offering herself as an intermediary between the two.

MR. CECIL CALVERT said the Reform Party in the Actors' Association were working on the same lines as the Union; but if amalgamation was thought of, they should come to them. Had they ever considered the question of the bogus actor? The letters A.U. attached to their names should be a guarantee; and if the touring manager discovered this to be so, he would be able to keep his entertainments up to the required standard, instead of driving audiences to the music halls. He made an earnest appeal to them to get all the members they could, and every member should become a missioner.

MR. MACREADY was of opinion that if they amalgamated with any other society, provincial sympathy would be dead as a doornail. The game was in their hands, the ball at their feet. They did not need to join any society; let them come to them.

MISS GLADYS FFOLLIOTT was of opinion that amalgamation would not do them any good. The Actors' Association had never attempted what they had done. Why should they be tutored? The Union was distinct, different, alone. They had secured 500 members in less than five months. They were the working part of the profession, and they should stick to the Union, and the Union only. Any of them in the hands of the bogus manager could write to the bureau of the Union, and they would receive the reply: "Come home, and you will have your fares wired you." Why should they go over to the other side? Let them stick up for themselves and for the Union.

MR. TRIPP EDGAR said they were not antagonistic to the aims of the Reform Party. They should be credited with good intentions. They were all fighting for the general good; but they were two separate bodies, deviating into different roads. A £2 minimum was 25s. a week on a thirty weeks' basis, and he thought that a man content to earn less was not worthy of the profession. They must fight for themselves by the force of argument, and establish as their bulwarks the glory and mainstay of union.

MR. AYNSCLIFFE said he was a portable actor, and not ashamed of it, and he demurred to Mr. Edgar's statement concerning the actor willing to take less than £2 a week being unworthy to associate with the profession. There were lots of people willing to take less than £2 a week. He preferred to be in portables at a weekly salary of 30s. and a benefit than tour with a company where he might not get his money. It was pointed out to Mr. Aynscliffe that a minimum of 30s. applied to portables, and he sat down.

MR. FRED JACQUES also enlarged on the advantages of union.

A vote of thanks to the chairman evoked from Mr. Collins the statement that a sub-committee had been formed to arrange the meetings, as it would be a saving of time. He would be pleased to receive the names of speakers. He thought they were all indebted to Mr. Aynscliffe for speaking out as he had done.

CLEANING EXTRAORDINARY.

A VISIT TO ACTON.

Thomas Harris, manager of the Chemical Cleaning Company, by the judicious use of bold advertising has become famous the wide world over. He is a necessary component part of the theatrical system. Does he not set himself the task to clean up a company or a theatre "between the shows"? This in itself is a great convenience to the theatrical manager, and is a feat of which the organising mind of Mr. Harris is justly proud. As manager of a firm ever ready to take into its works the most recent and up-to-date scientific cleaning apparatus, he is particularly fortunate in having at his disposal such aids to facilitate theatrical cleaning. The emissaries of the Chemical Cleaning Company are ever on the alert for the latest thing in chemical cleaning, and this time it has been found in Lyons. "The Barbe" machine is really a very marvellous scientific development. By its means that very volatile and highly explosive chemical, naphtha, is as easily used and manipulated as water itself. A number of dirty articles are presented to this machine and in a very short time it deals with the dirt and grease by extracting them, and returns the articles perfectly clean and looking as new. How is it done? Imagine a long barrel, like the barrel of a locomotive, with a flap in its side. The flap is opened and the articles introduced. The flap is closed, the boiler now contains the articles to be cleaned and common air. Now, air contains moisture, and moisture, or hydrogen, does not agree with the cleaning spirit, naphtha, and when they come in contact an explosion occurs. To avoid this the air is drawn off; in other words, a vacuum is created in the boiler, which now contains the articles to be cleaned and nothing else—not a particle of air. Highly inflammable naphtha is allowed to flow into the boiler, and to make everything perfectly safe carbonic acid gas is introduced. Carbonic acid gas is the safeguard against ignition and explosion. When we place an extinguisher over a candle it is the carbonic acid gas which puts out the flame. The boiler now contains articles to be cleaned, naphtha, and carbonic acid gas. The barrel revolves, and the spirit is forced through and through the articles until all the dirt is removed. The naphtha containing the dirt is drawn off to the distillery to be re-distilled, the carbonic acid gas returns to its gasometer, common air is introduced, the flap of the barrel is opened, and, lo and behold! without having been touched by hands the fabrics are taken from the machine perfectly dry, perfectly clean, and without a trace or smell of the cleansing spirit. The economies practised by the wonderful Barbe machine are simply marvellous. Not a particle of spirit is lost in the process. It is by the use of such scientific methods that Mr. Harris is enabled to do the work of the profession so rapidly and so cheaply.

THE ARTHUR VERNE FUND.

Subscriptions already received:—

	£	s.	d.
Henry Swinerd	5	5	0
J. W. Cordiner	5	5	0
Messrs. Power and Kirby's Co. (per Martin Comstock)	2	10	6
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Walter Ashley	0	5	0
Henry C. Ward	0	5	0
Marie Vere	0	5	0
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Subscriptions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Henry Swinerd, Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich; or by J. W. Cordiner, *Dare-Devil Dorothy* company, en route.

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THEATRICAL SPORTS.

Once more an interesting series of athletic "events," in which only people engaged in theatres and music halls took part, were watched by a considerable crowd at the Stamford Bridge Sports Grounds on Tuesday afternoon. The occasion, of course, was the Theatrical Sports, which are annually organised by a committee representing all departments of stage work in conjunction with the National Association of Theatrical Employees, of which Mr. William Johnson is the secretary. It may be mentioned that this is the fifth year that Mr. Johnson has laboured strenuously in the work of organising the sports, which, by the way, are held for the purpose of augmenting a national benevolent fund which assists men and women who look to the theatre for a livelihood.

MISS MARIE TEMPEST, the fair distributor of the Prizes at the Theatrical Sports, Stamford Bridge Grounds, Tuesday, July 9th, 1907.

And while on the subject of the able honorary secretary of the Theatrical Sports committee, we might add a word of compliment by saying that few men exert themselves to such good effect in such excellent cause as he has done. The thanks, too, of those who will in one way or another benefit by the sports are due to Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, the chairman of the committee, who on Tuesday afternoon ought to have been awarded a prize for continuous exercise in his capacity of one of the judges. The committee also desire to give an expression of their indebtedness to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, the hon. treasurer, for his excellent services in connection with the sports. The magnificent array of prizes was largely due to his canvassing efforts. Then, there was Miss Marie Tempest, who, when the last race had been run, very charmingly and gracefully presented the prizes to the triumphant contestants.

The gentlemen who officiated in one direction or another in connection with the sports were as follows:—

Sports Committee: Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. F. H. Pedgrift (hon. treasurer), Mr. William Johnson (hon. secretary), and Messrs. James Cullen, W. Barbour, A. Palmer, C. T. Cory, G. W. Wilton, H. J. Powell, P. Sheridan, H. Porter, A. Earnshaw, Ed. Stow, G. H. Dyball, A. Spaull, A. Catlin, and C. Thorogood.

Referee: Mr. J. T. Hulls; Judges: Messrs H. J. Brett, S. Fredericks, J. J. Dallas, F. H. Pedgrift, F. W. Parker, and C. Aubrey Smith; Official starter: George Thurling; Honorary timekeeper: F. W. Parker; Handicapper: Ed. Bostock; Marksman: G. H. Dyball; Clerks of the course: Messrs. A. E. Wood, A. Palmer, G. W. Wilton, F. McMullen, E. Rockett, A. Earnshaw, G. Lawrence, P. Sheridan.

Reception Committee: Messrs. C. Aubrey Smith, F. H. Pedgrift, W. Barbour, C. T. Cory, H. J. Powell, James Cullen, and William Johnson.

Stewards: Transfer, Mr. Charles Thorogood; Weighing, Mr. A. E. Wood; Programmes, Messrs. Harry Porter, A. Spaull, E. Catlin, C. Williams, G. T. Dalgarno, James Finnigan, J. Linton, R. Rogers, W. C. Weaver, F. Meakins, John Phelps, Edward Stow, B. J. Taylor, H. Bowmer, W. Bevington, Geo. Davis, S. Pickering, J. Atterton, W. G. Farrell, G. Palmer.

The stern gladiatorial contests in the arena were relieved by a little party of comedians, whose antics created a good deal of merriment. There was a fat boy, "Tommy Tatters," he chose to call himself, though his real name was Jack Skinner, who in a kind of balloon outfit, with a ponderous protuberance at the stomach, wrestled with the comic policeman (Mr. J. Garner), engaged in hurdle and obstacle races all by himself, generally coming to grief and requiring the assistance of an ordinary mortal to help him to his feet again. "Lady Tatters," as represented by Mr. W. Clarke, was also present, and subsequently had the great joy of seeing her loving "spouse" presented with the "Asgot" gold cup, which was a really fine example of the gilder's art. Mr. C. Keeble, dressed up as a corsair, was a most ferocious-looking and cadaverous pirate king, and it was clear that he was not a person to be trifled with. In addition, there was a Mr. Billy Bunber, who cut an amusing figure as a golliwog; and Mr. W. Avery, who was as breezy a specimen of an able seaman as one would wish for.

Physical fitness characterised the performances of many of the competitors in the athletic events. In the tug-of-war *The Era* shield was won by a team from the Woolwich Hippodrome, and the trophy will be exhibited during the next six months at Woolwich. The previous holders were the Empire, Dublin, who proved such redoubtable opponents to all-comers on the last few occasions, and who did not compete this year. The members of the successful team were Messrs. Hore (stage), Hutchins (stage), Fisher (stage), Vore (limes), and Harding (linkman), each of whom got a gold medal. Mr. Rickett (baggage) was the coach, and Mr. Kenall (flyman) was held in reserve. The second prize went to the East Ham Palace—Messrs. J. Grant (stage-manager), A. H. Davis (flies), G. Willis (flies), A. Harris (flies), and H. Winters (stage carpenter), each of whom received a gold centre medal. The East Ham coach was Mr. Mitchell, and the reserve man Mr. C. Hicks. The theatres and halls represented in the tug-of-war were the Oxford, Shaftesbury, London Pavilion, Putney Hippodrome, Ealing Hippodrome, Empire (Leicester-square), Lyceum, East Ham Palace, Woolwich Hippodrome, Covent Garden (A and B), Crown (Peckham), and Duchess (Balham). In the five-miles cycling championship race for the shield presented by Sir Thomas Dewar, and which is to be won three times in succession to establish ownership, a fine performance by Mr. E. S. Dawson, of La Milo company, secured for that young man the premier honours. Messrs. F. Stephenson, S. F. Bailey, W. Durbridge, K. Semming, C. W. Bailey, G. Fuller, and W. Hasthorpe also rode in the final, all keeping well together until in the last lap Dawson went away from the others, and was two yards ahead at the finish. The previous holder of the shield, Mr. S. F. Bailey, came in third. Excellent form was shown in the one mile walking handicap, the first prize in which was won by H. H. Jeapes (scratch), of the Metropolitan Music Hall; the second by J. Griffin (270yds. start), of the Lyceum; and the third by W. H. Stanford. Much interest was taken in the four-lap relay race for the silver challenge cup presented by Mr. C. Aubrey Smith. The Daly's Theatre team, consisting of A. W. Cordier (runner), F. Robinson (walker), and G. Smylie (cyclist), took first honours, though they were hard fought for, the Gaiety (A. Finins, C. H. Cannon, and W. E. Cox) and the Lyceum (E. T. Willats, A. S. Tong, and Raphael) running them pretty close, and coming in second and third respectively. The one mile running handicap was won by C. Mason, of the Grand, Croydon; and in the ladies' race—the conditions of which were that the competitors should run for fifty yards holding a spoon containing an egg—Miss T. King, of the Ealing Hippodrome, got home first. K. Semmings, the winner of the third prize in the five-miles cycling championship, and the previous holder of the Dewar shield, won the first prize in the one mile.

At the conclusion of the sports the prizes were distributed by Miss Marie Tempest, who, on the proposal of Mr. Aubrey Smith, was accorded a warm vote of thanks and no end of applause. One unfortunate incident happened during the giving out of the prizes, by which Mr. William Johnson, the hon. secretary, was robbed of a sum of money amounting to ten or twelve pounds. The first award in the ladies' race was a silver bag-purse, containing a sovereign, and after Mr. Johnson had taken a gold piece out of his own purse to place in the metal bag, it appears that someone who had closely watched his movements had taken advantage of the knowledge gained thereby, and smartly picked the pocket containing Mr. Johnson's purse.

One could scarcely leave this subject without awarding a word of praise to the Alexandra Imperial Military Band, which, under the able conductorship of Mr. S. Welch, performed in capital style a score of selections during the progress of the sports.

100 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Prize, a Clock, presented by Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander. Second Prize, a Cup. Third Prize, Cruet. Fourth Prize, a Case of Liniment, presented by the Dr. Bodie Electric Drug Co.

Heat 1: E. Carne, 4½yds., 1st; H. Rochet, 13yds., 2nd; J. Bundy, 3yds., 3rd. Time, 12sec. Heat 2: J. Ford, 3yds., 1st; A. B. Whitaker, 11yds., 2nd; F. Porter, 3yds., 3rd. Time, 12 2-5ths sec. Heat 3: C. C. Turner, 5yds., 1st; W. Blades, 5½yds., 2nd; P. Lavender, 1½yds., 3rd. Time, 11 2-5ths sec. Heat 4: H. Thomas, 4½yds., 1st; B. Womack, scratch, 2nd; A. Wale, 4yds., 3rd. Time, 11 4-5ths sec. Heat 5: G. Poynton, jun., 6½yds., 1st; F. Hayward, 5½yds., 2nd; J. T. Bennett, 9yds., 3rd. Time, 11 2-5ths sec. Heat 6: J. Fitzmaurice, 5yds., 1st; W. Rosser, 1½yds., 2nd; J. Betteridge, 4½yds., 3rd. Time, 11 4-5ths sec. Heat 7: C. Entwistle, 6yds., w.o. Heat 8: W. West, 8yds., 1st; D. Mason, 4½yds., 2nd. Time, 14 2-5ths sec. Second Round.—Heat 1: Turner, 1st; Thomas, 2nd; Carne, 3rd. Time, 11 2-5ths sec. Heat 2: Entwistle, 1st; Poynton, jun., 2nd; Fitzmaurice, 3rd. Time, 11 2-5ths sec.

Final: H. Thomas, 1st; Entwistle, 2nd; Poynton, jun., 3rd; C. C. Turner, 4th. Time, 11sec.

HALF-MILE CYCLING HANDICAP.

First Prize, Fruit Dish. Second Prize, Knives in Case. Third Prize, Cruet.

Heat 1: F. Stephenson, 70yds., 1st; C. E. Dawson, 25yds., 2nd; G. Fuller, 55yds., 3rd. Heat 2: B. E. Major, 75yds., 1st; R. Hudson, 65yds., 2nd; W. J. Simpson, 60yds., 3rd. Heat 3: S. F. Bailey, scratch, 1st; F. W. Parrott, 70yds., 2nd; W. Durbridge, 65yds., 3rd.

Final: Stephenson, 1st; Dawson, 2nd; Major, 3rd. Time, 1min. 6 2-5ths sec.

100 YARDS VETERANS' RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Prize, a Cup. Second Prize, Oil Painting (by, and presented by, Mr. E. A. Taylor, master carpenter, the Scala Theatre). Third Prize, a Teapot, presented by Mr. J. Cullen, Eight Bells, Fulham.

A. B. Whittaker, 6yds., 1st; H. Smith, 6yds., 2nd; H. Rockett, 5yds., 3rd. Time, 12 2-5ths sec.

QUARTER-MILE RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Prize, Marble Clock, presented by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter. Second Prize, a Jug. Third Prize, a Cake Dish. Fourth Prize, a Case of Liniment, presented by the Dr. Bodie Electric Drug Co.

Heat 1: H. J. Lefort, 25yds., 1st; C. S. Powell, 18yds., 2nd; W. Seaman, 30yds., 3rd. Heat 2: C. C. Turner, 25yds., 1st; C. Entwistle, 23yds., 2nd; E. T. Willatt, 25yds., 3rd.

Final: Lefort, 1st; Turner, 2nd; Seaman, 3rd. Time, 56 1-5th sec.

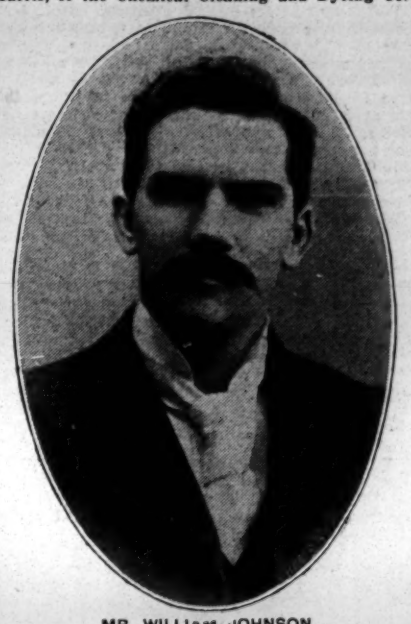
100 YARDS BOYS' (under 12 years) RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Prize, Watch and Chain. Second Prize, a Pocket Knife.

R. Hooke, 8yds., 1st; W. P. Seaman, 2yds., 2nd; G. Caplin, 14yds., 3rd. Time, 14 2-5ths sec.

ONE-MILE WALKING HANDICAP.

First Prize, a Clock, presented by Mr. Thomas Harris, of the Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co.



MR. WILLIAM JOHNSON, the Indefatigable Secretary.

Second Prize, a Spirit Decanter, presented by Mr. E. S. Willard. Third Prize, Butter Knives, in case.

H. H. Jeapes, scratch, 1st; J. Griffin, 270yds., 2nd; W. H. Stanford, 355yds., 3rd. A. S. Tong finished second, but was disqualified. Time, 7min. 56sec.

[*Photo by C. Muggeridge.*

THE OBSTACLE RACE. Skinner the Fat Boy refuses to sink.

HALF-MILE RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Prize, Rose Bowl, presented by Miss Marie Tempest. Second Prize, Spirit Decanters. Third Prize, Jam Dish. Fourth Prize, Case of Liniment, presented by the Dr. Bodie Electric Drug Co.

A. G. Trebell, 70yds., 1st; C. T. Willat, 45yds., 2nd; Clifford Byng, 55yds., 3rd. Time, 2min. 8 2-5ths sec

ONE MILE CYCLING HANDICAP.

First Prize, Claret Jug. Second Prize, Sugar and Cream Stand. Third Prize, Fruit Spoons, in case.

Heat 1: W. J. Simpson, 130yds., 1st; F. C. Meredith, 110yds., 2nd; C. M. King, 165yds., 3rd. Heat 2: F. Stephenson, 165yds., 1st; G. Fuller, 110yds., 2nd; B. E. Major, 160yds., 3rd. Heat 3: K. Semmings, 130yds., 1st; C. W. Bailey, 35yds., 2nd; W. Durbridge, 166yds., 3rd.

Final: Semmings, 1st; Fuller, 2nd; Stephenson, 3rd. Time, 2min. 20 2-5ths sec.

TUG-OF-WAR COMPETITION,

For a Challenge Shield, presented by the Proprietors of *The Era*.

The Shield will be a perpetual trophy, and may be exhibited for six months, next following the date of the sports, in the theatre represented by the winning team. The trustees, for the time being, of the National Association of Theatrical Employees shall be the custodians of the Shield, and in the event of any dispute, the donors of the Shield shall decide the same.

The maximum weight of each team is limited to 60st., with a maximum allowance of 10lb. per team.

Holders: The Empire, Dublin, Team.

First Prize, Five Gold Medals. Second Prize, Five Gold-centre Medals.

The coach of each of the teams pulling in the final presented with a medal.

First Round: Covent Garden (B Team) beat London Pavilion, Lyceum beat Oxford, Covent Garden (A Team) beat Crown (Peckham), Woolwich Hippodrome beat Empire (Leicester-square), East Ham Palace beat Duchess (Balham), Ealing Hippodrome beat Shaftesbury. Second Round: Woolwich Hippodrome beat Ealing Hippodrome, Lyceum beat Covent Garden (A Team), Covent Garden (B Team) and East Ham Palace byes. Semi-finals: East Ham Palace beat Covent Garden (B Team), Woolwich Hippodrome beat Lyceum.

Final: Woolwich Hippodrome (Hore, Hutchins, Fisher, Nore, and Harding) beat East Ham Palace (J. Grant, A. H. Davis, G. Willis, A. Harris, and H. Winters) two pulls in succession.

120 YARDS OBSTACLE SACK RACE.

First Prize, Silver Egg-cup and Spoon, presented by Sir Squire Bancroft. Second Prize, a Biscuit Box. Third Prize, Gold Centre Medal.

G. Bailey, 1st; F. Kent, 2nd; W. Rosser, 3rd.

QUARTER-MILE OBSTACLE RACE.

First Prize, a Covered Tankard. Second Prize, Fruit Stand. Third Prize, Gold Centre Medal.

J. Fitzmaurice, 1st; A. Wright, 2nd; H. J. Lefort, 3rd. Time, 1min. 58sec.

FIVE-MILES CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIP RACE.

For the Dewar Championship Shield, Presented by Sir Thomas Dewar.

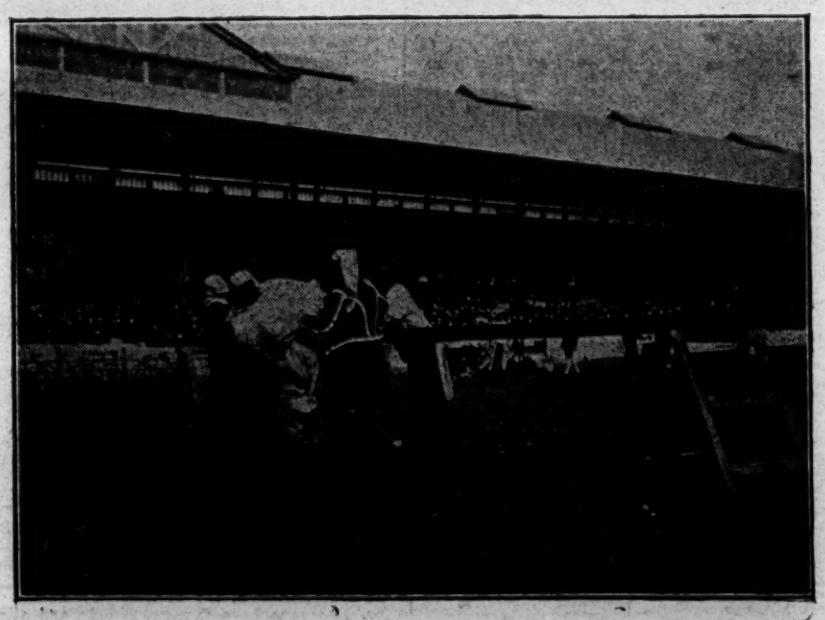
Holder: S. F. Bailey.

Shield must be won three times in succession to establish ownership. The shield may be held six months by the winner, at his own risk, and exhibited for six months as arranged by the Sports' Committee.

First Prize, 15ct. Gold Medal. Second Prize, 9ct. Gold Medal. Third Prize, Gold Centre Medal. Fourth Prize, a Lap Prize, Silver Match-box. Fifth Prize, a Case of Liniment.

Heat 1: F. Stephenson, 1st; S. F. Bailey, 2nd. Heat 2: E. S. Dawson, 1st; W. Durbridge, 2nd. Heat 3: K. Semming, 1st; C. W. Bailey, 2nd. Heat 4: G. Fuller, 1st; W. Hasthorpe, 2nd.

Final: Dawson, 1st; Semmings, 2nd; S. F. Bailey 3rd; C. W. Bailey, 4th. Dawson won by 2yds. C. W. Bailey won the lap prize. Time, 14min. 45 3-5th sec.



[*Photo by C. Muggeridge.*

OBSTACLE RACE. The Fat Boy in difficulties.

[*Photo by C. Muggeridge.*

BOYS' 100 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP. R. Hooke wins easily.

ONE MILE RUNNING HANDICAP.

First Prize, a Biscuit Box. Second Prize, Ink Stand. Third Prize, Tankard. Fourth Prize, Case of Liniment, presented by the Dr. Bodie Electric Drug Co.

C. Mason, 70yds., 1st; A. Swanson, 125yds., 2nd; E. T. Willats, 85yds., 3rd; G. Bailey, 90yds., 4th. Time, 4min. 49 3-5ths sec.

LADIES' RACE (50 Yards Egg-and-Spoon Race).

First Prize, a Silver Bag Purse, containing one

sovereign, presented by Miss Ada Reeve. Second Prize, Ornamental Clock, presented by Gamage's.

Miss T. King, 1st; Miss Lersh, 2nd; Miss Gray, 3rd.

50 YARDS BOOT RACE.

First Prize, Silver Mounted Scent Bottle, presented by Lady Bancroft. Second Prize, Salad Bowl. Third Prize, Gold Centre Medal.

H. R. Walker, 1st; A. E. Bull, 2nd; J. Langham, 3rd.

FOUR-LAP RELAY RACE,

For a Silver Challenge Cup, presented by C. Aubrey Smith.

Holders: Daly's Theatre Team.

The Cup will become the property of the manager for the time being of the theatre or music hall whose team wins this race three times in succession. The Cup may be exhibited for six months at the theatre represented by the winners at each meeting, subject to the conditions specified by the Sports Committee

First Prize, Three Gold Medals. Second Prize, Three Silver Match-boxes. Third Prize, Three Gold Centre Medals.

Daly's—A. W. Cordier (runner), F. Robinson (walker), and J. Maskell (cyclist)—1st; Gaiety—A Finnis (runner), C. H. Cannon (walker), and W. E. Cox (cyclist)—2nd; Lyceum—E. T. Willats (runner), A. S. Tong (walker), Raphael (cyclist)—3rd. Time, 4min. 12 1-5th sec.

50 YARDS BLINDFOLD RACE.

First Prize, Folding Chair, presented by Messrs. Lazarus and Son. Second Prize, Butter Dish. Third Prize, Gold Centre Medal. Fourth Prize, a Case of Liniment.

A. E. Bull, 1st; J. Betteridge, 2nd; Kendall, 3rd.

100 YARDS SCRATCH CONSOLATION RACE.

Open to competitors who have not won a prize.

First Prize, Ink Stand. Second Prize, Tankard. Third Prize, Silver Match-box.

B. Womach, 1st; W. T. Annis, 2nd; C. Whale, 3rd.

Among those who have generously contributed to the prize fund, and who have presented prizes for competition were:—Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, Sir Charles Wyndham, Sir W. S. Gilbert, Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander, Miss Adrienne Augarde, Miss Lena Ashwell, Mr. G. Grant Allen, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Dion Boucicault, Mr. H. J. Brett, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, Miss Kate Compton, Mr. J. Cullen, Miss Zena Dare, Miss Phyllis Dare, Mrs. C. Ellis Fredericks, Mr. Charles Frohman, Messrs. Gamage, Ltd., Mr. William Greet, Miss Marie George, Mr. Ernest Hart, Mr. Martin Harvey, Miss Annie Hughes, Mr. G. P. Huntley, Mr. H. B. Irving, Miss Nora Kerin, Mr. W. H. Kendal, Miss Millie Legarde, Mr. J. H. Leigh, Mr. W. Lestocq, Mr. John Lawson, Miss Gertie Millar, Miss Eva Moore, Mr. Gaston Mayer, Mr. Michael Morton, Miss Julia Neilson, Mr. Cecil Paget, Mr. W. S. Penley, Miss Ada Reeve, Mr. H. Rayne, Mr. T. Richards, Miss Rozant, Mr. Alfred Sutro, Lord George Sanger, Miss Marie Tempest, Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. C. Thorogood, Mr. W. H. Tilling, Mr. E. A. Taylor, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Ruth Vincent, Mr. J. E. Vedrenne, Miss Genevieve Ward, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. E. S. Willard, the Moss' Empires, Ltd., the Charles Urban Trading Company, proprietors of the *Daily Telegraph*, Messrs. Whitbread and Co., Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, the Goswell Printing Company, the Bodie Electric Drug Company, H. Lazarus and Son, proprietors of *The Era*, Messrs. Charles H. Fox, Ltd., Mr. William Lee (of the London General Omnibus Company), Mr. C. Squires (of the London Road Car Company), Mr. Nash (of Messrs. Wymans and Co.), Messrs. David Allen and Sons, Ltd., and Messrs. Elms-Lester Bros., of 8, New Compton-street.

MISS DOT STEPHENS AT WORK.

Miss Dot Stephens, who appeared at Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall, on the 1st inst, for the first time after the amputation of her left foot, and part of her right, has been telling a representative of the Walsall *Express and Star* some interesting things:—Miss Stephens was looking remarkably well, and as she extended her hand she remarked, in that bright, vivacious manner which is all her own, "Expected to see me looking dull and depressed, eh? Oh, no; I am feeling wonderfully well. My mother is staying with me. She has been greatly upset by my accident. She is with me to look after me, but," added Miss Stephens archly, "I am looking after her."

She spoke in high terms of the kind treatment she received at the hands of Dr. Dent and the matron and the officials at the Wolverhampton Hospital. "I can never thank Dr. Dent enough," she went on, "nor Mr. Ernest, of Charlotte-street, who has given me such wonderful feet. I could have cried for joy when the specialist said to me, 'Well, little woman, you can bear up; I am going to send you back to the stage almost as you left it. I do not promise you that you'll be able to dance, but you'll be able to go on again.'" "Oh, I am not lame," she continued, as she walked across her room. "I can walk perfectly well, as you see."

"When I got to London the Lord Mayor sent offers of assistance. He sent someone from the Surgical Aid Society to know if I wanted anything, but through the kindness of my professional brothers and sisters, and everybody, I had everything I wanted, and I sent word back that sometime I would like to sing for him on behalf of the Cripples' Fund in which he takes so keen an interest. I shall be all right if my nerves will only keep up, and I think they will, for I feel in coming to Walsall I am coming amongst friends."

"My accident evoked wide and wonderful sympathy—I had letters from Australia, South Africa, and America. One lady from South Africa sent me some pressed flowers. From a little girl, who, alas! is now blind, I had a most pathetic letter. One letter of sympathy I received was from a little London girl who sells newspapers, and I have promised she shall see me when I go back to London."

"I used to be quite an outdoor girl, and when I see people playing golf or riding, I must confess just to a pang of regret that there is no golf for me. Still, I am deeply thankful to be as I am. I have been greatly touched by the great kindness which I have received on all hands, and feel that if I am able I ought to do what I can, and to be ready, if called on, to do anything in my power for any brother or sister artist who may meet with accident or misfortune."

Mr. James Hare writes as follows from the Theatre Royal, South Shields, under date July 9:—"In your correspondent's notice of the production of *The Girl Who Married for Money* the author's name was omitted. The play is by St. Aubyn Miller (author of *The Guilty Man, An Englishwoman, The Golden Chance, Fatal Fortune*, &c.), and the entire rights—with the exception of the South Wales fit-ups—are my sole property."

Alterations are at present being made at the Mansfield Grand Theatre by which the upper circle and gallery seating arrangements will be greatly improved.

ACTORS' DAY.

The Advisory Board issue a list, given below, of those who on Thursday, Oct. 18, 1906, conformed to the suggestion of surrendering one night's salary to relieve distress amongst their fellow-actors and actresses.

The Advisory Board have, in deference to the expressed wishes of many contributors, recommended the trustees to hand over to the Committee of the Actors' Benevolent Fund the sum of £522 14s. 7d., which sum the Advisory Board, after careful investigation, have computed to be the maximum loss which the Benevolent Fund may have suffered through the institution of Actors' Day. Donations of £40 each have also been made to the Actors' Orphanage and the Ladies' Theatrical Guild. After allowing for expenses in the past, and a reserve for possible expenses in the future, the Advisory Board estimate that they will still have a balance of £650. In obedience to the wishes of others of the contributors, they propose to set apart this balance for the sole benefit, under certain conditions, of those who contributed, and are willing in the future to contribute their night's salary. With this end in view the Advisory Board have had many consultations with the committee of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, who have admirable machinery at their disposal. They hope that the result will be that contributors to Actors' Day, while having the advantages of the experience and able organisation of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, will have the satisfaction of knowing that the wishes of those who desire to benefit theatrical charities, without condition, are being faithfully carried out, and that, at the same time, the fullest consideration is given to the wishes of those who desire to see their contributions set apart for the exclusive benefit of those who gave like support to Actors' Day when it was in their power to do so.

ACTORS' DAY CONTRIBUTORS, 1906.

Every care has been taken to make the following list correct and complete. The Advisory Board will be glad to receive notification of any inaccuracy. Letters should be addressed to 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

Contributions from theatres are acknowledged under the names of the individual managers, when sent personally; under the names of the theatres, when sent on behalf of the managers.

Actors and actresses whose names are marked * have made donations, but are not returned as having relinquished a night's salary.

Abrahams, Morris
Adams, Blake
Adams, Mabel L.
Adderley, Frederic
Addison, Carlotta
Addison, Victoria
Aickin, Eleanor
Ainley, Henry
Ainsworth, Henry
Aldred, Charles
Alexander, Adam
Alexander, Fyfe
Alexander, George
Alford, Arthur
Allandale, Fred
Allen, Fuller
Allen, Jerrard Grant
Allen, Tom
Allison, Barbara
Alves, Alec
Ames, Gerald
Anderson, Millar
Anderson, Reddick
Angell, Nellie
Annand, James
Anstey, F.
Antley, George
Appleby, Joe Clifford
Arden, Alice
Arnold, Jessica
Arthur, Percy G.
Asche, Oscar
Ascot, George May
Ashley, W. H.
Ashton, Aubrey
Augarde, Amy
Austin, Dare
Austin, Henry
Austen-Lee, Cyril

Back, Phyllis
Baker, Norah
Balfour, Walter
Baleine, Cyril
Bancroft, Sir Squire
Bandmann-Palmer, Mrs.
Barber, Charles J.
Barfoot, Harry
Barker, J. A.
Barraclough, Roy
Barrie, J. M.
Barrs, Herbert
Barry, Ruth
Barry, Shiel
Barth, Cecil
Barton, Adah
Barton, Dora
Bateman, Ethel
Bateman, E. (Miss)
Bateman, Jessie
Batson, J. Hastings
Baverstock, Percy
Bayliss, Percy James
Beacon, Nellie
Beardsley, Mabel
Beattie, Gertrude
Beaudet, Rose
Beaufort, Leslie
Beckett, Paul.
Bedells, Charles B.
Bedford, Bessie
Bedford, Henry
Bedford, Sidney A.
Bedwell, Stanley
Best, Alice
Belding, Henry
Bell, Armstrong
Bell, Beatrix
Bellamy, Cissie
Bellington, Isa
Benford, Dan
Benham, Ernest
Bennett, Annie
Bennett, Edwin
Bennett, H. G. Dudley
Benson, F. R.
Benson, Mrs. F. R.
Benson, Sydney
Bentham, M.
Bentley, Herbert J.
Bentley, Walter*
Beresford, J. Cooke
Beresford, Nancy
Beresford, Percy
Berlyn, Ivan
Bevans, E. Lionel
Binden, Nellie
Bioletti, Pascoe
Birchenough, Nellie
Bird, Marion J.
Birmingham, P. of W. Theatre, per J. F. Graham
Bishop, Alfred
Bishop, Kate
Black, Jessica
Black, Kenneth
Black, Phyllis
Blair, Joan
Blake, Wilson
Blanche, Ada
Bland-Brereton, Edith
Bland, Sydney
Blandford, Nellie
Boag, Thos.
Bode, Milton
Bond, Acton
Booth, Horace
Booth, J. H.
Bosco, Leon
Boucicault, Dion
Boughton, J. W.
Bourchier, Arthur
Bourchier, Sybil
Bourne, Adeline
Bowman, Nellie
Bowyer, Arthur
Bowyer, Norman
Braban, Harvey
Brabason, T. B.
Bracewell, Ethel
Bracewell, Joe
Bracewell, Mrs. Joe
Bradford Theatre Royal, per John Hart
Bradley, E. F.
Bradsell, Frank
Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.
Braithwaite, Lilian
Brandon, Frank
Brandram, George A.
Brayton, Lily
Breon, Edmund
Brenan, Howard
Brereton, S. B.
Bretherton, Dorothy
Bristowe, Alfred
Bristowe, Julie
Brodie, Matthew
Brooke, J. Clifford
Brooke, May
Brooke, Sarah
Brooking, Cecil
Brooklyn, Thomas
Brough, Fanny
Brough, Lionel
Brough, Mary
Broughton (Miss)*
Brown, Archer
Brown, Graham W.
Brownfoot, Clara
Bruce, Kenneth
Brunner, W. Fraser
Bryan, Dennis
Brydone, Alfred
Buchanan, George
Bucklaw, Alfred
Buckley, Rawson
Buffum, C. E.
Bunston, Herbert
Burchill, William
Burgess, Rosa
Burnard, Henry
Burnaby, G. Davy
Burnleigh, Lena
Burry, Rosamund
Busch, Lydia
Bussé, Margaret
Butler, George
Butt, W. Lawson
Byrne, George

Cabourn, John
Cadell, Jean D.
Caffrey, Charles
Caldwell, Marianne
Calvert, Louis
Caine, Hall
Cameron, Charles J.
Cancellor, Leyton
Cane, Harry
Cardiff, Maggie
Carlin, E. J.
Carlisle, Alexandra
Carlton, Arthur
Carlton, Nina
Carlyle, Ellis D.
Carrington, Murray
Carter, G. Harrison
Carter, Leslie
Carton, Molly
Carvill, H. J.
Casson, Lewis
Cassy, Alexander
Castle, Betty
Cattley, Cyril
Cecil, F.
Cellier, Francois, jun.
Cellier, Marguerite
Chalmers, Grace
Chambers, Emma
Chamberlain, John S.
Chamier, Francis
Champion, Ada
Chart, H. Nye
Chart, Mrs. H. Nye
Chase, Pauline
Cheetham, Edwin
Chester, Edward
Chester, Lucy
Chevalier, Marcelle
Chown, Herbert
Chute, Jas. Macredy
Clair, H. Buxton
Claremont, Arthur
Clarence, O. B.
Clarens, Elise
Clark, Chas.
Clark, G. F. Hannam
Clark, Holman
Clarke, Gerald
Clarke, Percival
Clay, Muriel
Clemence, Harold
Clement, Elfrida
Clements, Dora
Clough, Dennis W.
Clowes, Edward
Clyndes, Aimée Grattan
Clynes, Evelyn Shannon
Clynes, J. H.
Cochran, Howard
Cochrane, Frank
Coffin, C. Hayden
Cole, Edith
Collier, Louie
Collins, Cecil A.
Collins, Willis
Colville, Betty
Combe, Charles
Comberbach, Edward
Compton, Edward
Compton, Henry
Compton, Sydney
Compton, Wilfred
Conrade, May
Conway, Bert
Cook, Daisie
Cooke, Burton
Cooke, Major
Cooper, Sidney
Cooper, Horton
Copping, Bernard
Copping, G. M.
Cordiner, J. W.
Cordova, Rudolph de
Cornwall, Harry
Cosham, Ernest
Cotell, Mr.*
Coutts, Edward
Coventry, Edward Alban
Cowen, Henrietta
Cox, Ernest H. G.
Cox, Faulkner
Crane, Harry J.
Crawford, Alice Lindsay
Crawford, Percy
Cremlin, F.
Cresswell, Maud
Crocker, Henry
Croke, Wentworth
Croker-King, C. H.
Cruikshanks, Charles
Cruikshanks, Edith
Cunningham, Roland
Curtis, David
Cuthbert, Edith

Dainton, Marie
Dalby, Gray
Dale, Welton
Dalton, Fred R.
Dalton, Florence
Daltra, Marie
Dana, Henry
Danby, F.
Dance, Reginald
Dansey, Herbert
Danvers, James
Dare, Colet
Dare, Gladys M.
Darcier, Lakmé
Darleigh, Webb
Dauncey, Silvanus
Davies, Hylda
Davis, Mrs. Alfred
Davis, Reginald
Davis, Zoe
Daviss, Florence Hale
Daviss, Fred D.
Dawson, Ivo
Day, Marjorie
Dean, Basil
De Burgh, Beatrix
Dee, F. C.
De Lara, Frederick
Delarue, Moirah
Denard, David
Dene, Connie
Denis, Frank
Dennis, Will
Denton, Frank H.
Denville, Alfred
Dering, Charles E.
Derwent, Clarence
Desmond, Shena
De Solla, Marie
Devereux, William
Dexter, William
Digan, Patrick E.
Dillon, Frances
Dillsen, J. Telly
Dixon, Ella
Dobell, Wm. Lucky
Dolby, H. Gray
Domville, David
Donnohoe, Alfred
Donovan, Lydia
Douglas, Ernest A.
Douglas, Byron
Douglas, Kenneth
Drake, Ewart
Draper, Mark
Drewitt, Stanley
Drinkwater, A. E.
Drummond, Dolores
Drury Lane Theatre, per Sidney Smith
Dudgeon, Elspeth
Dudley, Arthur F.
Dudley (Miss)
Dukes, Alice
Dukes, Horace
Du Maurier, Gerald
Dunbar, Hubert
Durrant, Mabel
Dutton, R. Courtice
Dyall, Franklin

Eadie, Dennis
Earle, Clara
Eastbourne, Pavilion
Eastbourne, Devonshire Park, per A. Standen Triggs
Edgar H. Tripp
Edgard, Lewis
Edmonds, Claude
Edmunds, Walter
Edoni, Enid
Edwards, A. E.
Edwards, Ernest C.
Edwin, Grace
Edgerton, Beatrice
Edgerton, Brian
Egerton, Hilda
Elliott, Bernard
Elliott, Beth
Ellis, Carrie
Ellis, Josephine
Ellis, Lionel
Elphinstone (Mr.)
Elworthy, W. T.
Emden, Millie L.
Emney, Fred
English, James
Englefield, Violet
Entwistle, Gertrude
Entwistle, Harold
Estelle, Dallas
Evans, (Mr.)*
Ewell, Caroline

Faber, Beryl
Fairclough, May
Farkoa, Maurice
Fawcett, Charles
Fellowes, Dora
Fenton, Caroline
Fernie, Loring
Ferrar, Jules
Ferrers, Helen
Ffolliott, Gladys
Fiennes, Sydney
Firmin, Dorothy
Fischer, Harry
Fiske, Stephen
Fitzgerald, Beatrice
Fitzgerald, George
Fitzmaurice, Aubrey
Flood, Alec
Foley, Frances J.
Forbes, Norman
Ford, Frank
Fordham, King
Forster, Wilfred
Fox, Constance
France, Charles V.
France, Frank H.
Francis, Annie
Francis, Charles
Franks, Wilfred
Fraser-Brunner, Queenie
Fraser, Miss*
Fraser, H. M. (Miss)
Freeman, F. W.
Fredericks, Mrs. C. Ellis
Frere, Loyale
Frohman, Charles
Furnival, Violet

Gaffney, John
Garbois, W. H.
Garden, E. W.
Gardiner, William
Gardom, Victor
Garvey, Willie
Gatley, W. K.
Gaston, George
Gawthorne (Mr.)
Gaythorne, Pamela
Geach, E. Spencer
George, A. E.
George, Edward J.
George, H. Cannon
Geldred, James
Gilbart, Eleanor
Gilbert, Marie
Gilbert, Robert
Gilbert, Vivian
Gilda, Viola
Gilham, Doris
Gill, Basil
Gill, M. (Miss)
Glynn, Florence
Glynn, Olivia
Goddard, Alfred
Goldsmith, Ina
Goodhart, Charles
Gordon, Douglas
Gordon, Edith
Gordon, Ethel
Gough, A. Conybeare
Gower, Ada
Grace, Adelaide
Graeme, A.
Graeme, K. (Miss)
Graeme, Louise
Grahame, Othniel
Grahame, Ronald
Grand, Eve
Granger, Gladys
Grant, Lawrence
Gray, Dora
Gray, Ernest
Greatrex, Geo. P.
Green, Dorothy
Green (Miss)*
Greene, Clayton
Greene, Richard A.
Greene (Mr.)*
Greenlaw, Nora
Greet, Douglas
Gregory, Hilda
Grenville, Alfred
Greville, Herbert
Greville, Violet
Grey, Isabel
Grey, Lytton
Grey, Robert,
Grossmith, Weedon
Grove, Fred
Grove, Lawrence
Groves, Charles, jun.
Groves, Nellie
Guilbert, W.
Gunn, Haidee
Gurney, Edmund
Gwenn, Edmund
Gwyn-Richardson, F. R.

Hahn, Grete
Hale, Louie
Hales, Arthur
Hall, Stephen
Hallatt, W. H.
Hallows, Lilian
Hallier, Ruby
Hamilton, Douglas
Hamilton, Penn
Hamilton, Sydney
Hamund, St. John
Hampden, Walter
Harcourt, Johnson
Harding, Alfred
Harding, D. Lyn
Hardinge, Mabel
Hare, John
Hargreaves, William
Harker, Frederick
Harkness, Jean
Harley, Charles
Harley, May
Harley, Violet M.
Harlington, Grace
Harper, Ethel
Harrington, Katherine
Harris, Alfred A.
Harrison, Bessie
Harrison, Edward
Harrison, Frederick
Harrison, Mona
Hartford, W. S.
Hartill, Willie
Hartopp, C. L.
Harvey, Dora F.
Harwood, John
Harwood, Kate
Hastings, Geoffrey
Hathorn, Murray
Hatton, Hilda
Hawkins, Iris
Hawley, Francis
Hayden, Molly
Haydon, Florence
Haye, Helen
Hayes, George
Haynes, T. P.
Hearn, James
Heath, Haidee
Heggie, O. P.
Helmsley, Chas. T. H.
Hendrie, Ernest
Henry, S. Creagh
Herbert, Gwynne
Herbert, Henry
Herbert, Joseph
Herne, Henry
Heron, Dalziel
Higgins, Mary
Hignett, H. R.
Hill, Frank
Hilliard, Stafford
Hineson, C. Allan
Hodson, Mildred
Hoffman, Maud
Holmes, Charles
Holmes, Marian
Holmes, Morrice
Holloway, Balliol
Holt, Miriam
Homer, Beatrice
Homewood, A. S.
Homewood, Talbot
Hope, Francis
Horton, Robert
Howard, Evelyn
Howard, George
Howard, Keble
Howard, Walter
Howlett, A. Stanley
Hubert, W.
Hudson, Eric
Huggett, Dora
Hughes, Charles H.
Hull, Grand and O. H., per L. M. de Bouffler
Humber, S. Herbert
Humphries, John
Hunt, Reginald A.
Hunter, Reg. C.
Hussey, James P. E.
Hutchison, Emma
Hutchison, James Geo.
Hutchison, Percy

Illington, Marie
Imbert, Douglas
Imlay, Agnes
Inda, Helene
Ingleton, George
Ingreville, Agnes
Irvine, J. Harry
Irving, Laurence

Jackson, Alf.
Jackson, Florence
Jackson, Percy H.
Jacobs, H.
Jacobs, W. W.
Jacques, Frederick
Jalland, Henry
James, Chas. A.
James, Edith M.
Jarman, Herbert
Jeayes, Allan
Jenoure, Aida
Jerome, Gerald
Jerome, Sadie
Jewitt, Arthur
Johnson, Katie
Johnstone, A. E.
Johnston, G. Wallace
Jones, Kitty
Julian, P. L.

Kean, Mrs. Osborne
Keightley, Cyril
Keightley, Ethel Dane
Kelly, W. W.
Kemble, Eugenie
Kemble, Henry
Kenion, G. Stanley
Kenion, Walter
Kenyon, Violet
Kerr, Fred
Keston, C. B.
Kilbourne, Charles R.
Killick, E.
Kimpton, H. R.
King, Edith
Kingsley, Frank
Kingston, Gertrude
Kirkwood, J. Poole
Klein, Arthur L.
Knight, Agnes
Knight, Fred
Knott, J. F.
Knowles, Francis
Knowles, J. H.

Lacy, Frank
La Fane, James R.
Laing, E. Anton
Landeck, Ben
Lane, Charles Leveson
Lane, Mr.*
Lane, T. Langton
Langford, Walter W.
Langley-Bill, Geo.
La Trobe, Charles
Laurence, J. W.
Laurent, H.
Lawrence, Dulcie
Lawrence, Paige
Law, Arthur
Layland, A. D.
Le Clercq, Florence
Lee, Algernon, W.
Lee, Miss
Lee, G. B.
Leeds, Grand and O. H., per John Hart
Legerton, Herbert
Legh, Ernest
Leigh, Stella
Leigh, Henry B.
Lennon, Lizzie
Le Roy, Servais
Le Sage, Gertrude
Leslie, Norman
Leslie, Victor A.
Lester, Adeline
Lestocq, W.
Leverett, Henrietta
Leverton, Charles
Lewis, Eric
Lewis, Fred
Lewis, Harry B.
Lewis, Rosie
Lewis, Violet
Leybourne, Thomas
Leyton, Lawrence
Lilliput, Frank
Lind, Marion F.
Linden, Maud
Linden, Marie
Ling, Edwin
Lingard, Louis
Lingard, Oswald
Lingham, A.
Lion, Leon M.
Liston, Frank
Litchfield, Frank
Liverpool, Shakespeare, per John Gaffney
Llewellyn, Fewlass
Lloyd, Fredk.
Loader, McLeod
Lloyd, Maude
Locke, W. J.
Lockhart, William
Lohr, Marie
Lonnon, Alice
Love, Mabel
Lowne, Charles M.
Lucy, Arnold
Ludlow, Henry
Lyttleton, George
Lytton, A. G.
Lytton, Doris

Macdonald, J. W.
Mackenzie, Mary
Mackinlay, Jean Stirling
Mackarness, George F.
Macowan, Norman
McArdle, John F.
McArthy, Daniel
McKinnel, Norman
McIntosh, Madge
McLaren, Rosetta
McLean, Archibald
McFarland, Harry
McGuinness, Cecil
McQuarrie, J. M.
McRae, Duncan
Maine, J. G.
Major-Jones, Saml.
Marlborough Theatre
Malcolm, Jennie
Mallalieu, William
Mallalieu, Mrs. W.
Mallett, George
Maltby, Mrs. Charles
Malyon, Eily
Manchester, T. R., Prince's, Gaiety.
Mancini, Maurice
Manley, John H.
Mannering, D. Lewin
Mannering, Mary
Manners, Phyllis
Manning, Ambrose*
Mansfield, Alice
Marlborough Theatre, per J. Murray Herriott
Marmont, Percy
Marsdin, Dorothy
Marshall, Percy
Marshall, W. Roberts
Martin, Ernest
Mason, Gladys
Mason, Muriel
Masters, Frank
Mathews, James W.
Mathews, Rose
Matthews, A. E.
Matthison, Edith Wynne
Maturin, Eric
Maude, Charles R.
Maude, Cyril
Maxwell, Evelyn
Maxwell, Walter
May, Ethel
Mayhew, Alec
Mayhew, Dorothy
Mayhew, Mrs.
Meads, E. F.
Medley, C. Howard
Medwin, Charles
Mehrer, Ernest F.
Melford, Austin
Melrose, Frank
Menzies, Beatrice
Menzies, A. Hall
Menzies, Marie
Merivale, Phillip
Merrie, Eric G.
Merryweather, Madge
Metcalfe, George T.
Mervyn, Arthur
Mervyn, Rosa
Mervyn, Edward
Millais, Helena
Millais, Ida
Millard, Evelyn
Miller, F.
Millins, Edwin
Milman, Rita
Mills, Frank
Mills, Horace
Mitchell, Nancy
Milward, Dawson
Minster, Arthur
Minto, Dorothy
Monte, H. W.
Montesole, Max
Moodie, Louise
Moore, Minna*
Moore-Lane, Dorothy
Morand, M. R.
Morgan, C. A.
Morgan, Elton
Morgan, N.
Morland, F.
Morrison, Graham
Morton, Wm.
Moss, William
Mowbray, Tom
Muir, Denholm
MulhoHand, J. B.
Murch, Daisy
Murray, Arthur B.
Murray, Gertie
Murray, Madge
Murray, M'Aimee
Murray, Marjorie
Musgrave, Kenyon

Nazeby, Lina
Nelson, Henry
Nesbit, John
Nevill, Nancy
Neville, Henry
Nicholls, A. J.
Nicholson, H. O.
Norcott, Major
Norman, Norman V.
Norman, Thyrza
Norton, Harry
Noy, W.

Oates, Cicely
Oakley, Ada
O'Connell, Vera
O'Connor, Kathleen Nolan
O'Malley, Ellen
Onslow, A. G.
Osman, Henry
Ouston, Edward
Owttrim, Ernest
Owen, B.
Owen, Percy D.
Owen, H. P.
Oxlee, E.

Pagden, Leonard
Page, B. Leonard
Page, Norman
Palmer, Ada
Palmer, E. A.
Parker, Barnett
Parker, Leslie
Parker, Margaret
Parmenter, B. W.
Parr, Harry,
Parry, Kate
Passmore, Mr.*
Passmore, William E.
Pateman, Bella
Paterson, E. H.
Paulton, Tom
Pauncefort, Claire
Pauncefort, Thomas
Pawle, Lennox
Payne, Ben Iden
Pearce, Newton
Pearce, Walter
Pearce, W. Kingsford
Pearse, Ashton
Pearson, Molly
Pemberton, Mary
Pemberton, Walter
Penley, Fred
Pennington-Gush, F.
Permain, Fred W.
Percy, George
Phillips, Ida
Philliot, Gordon
Phipp, W. Scott
Pierpoint, Lena
Pierpoint, W. H. Cecil
Pinero, Arthur W.
Pitter, B. H.
Pittard, Robert
Playfair, Nigel
Podmore, Cissie
Poel, William
Polini, Emelie
Pollock, A.
Poole, J. Westbrook
Pope, Muriel
Powell, Frank
Powell, F. Joynsen
Powell, Tempier
Powis, Celia
Powys, Nellie
Price, Nancy
Price-Evans, Donald
Pulleyne, Roberta
Purnell, Gladys
Pyott, Rule

Quill, Patrick

Rachel, Lydia
Rae, E. Y.
Ragnall, Florence
Ramsey, Alicia
Ray, Gabrielle
Raymond, Cecil H.
Rayner, Minnie
Reade, Henry
Reade, Randolfe
Reed, Langford
Rees, Rosemary
Relph, Mary
Rennef, Sidney
Revell, Lilian M.
Reynolds, E. Vivian
Reynolds, Kathleen
Ricardo, Rita
Richardson, Grace
Richmond, Helen
Ridley, Frank
Rignold, Harry H.
Rignold, Lionel
Risley, Jennie
Roberts, Dorrie
Roberts, Ralph
Robertson, George
Robertson, Helen K.
Robin, Mona
Robinson, George
Robson, E. M.
Robson, Marie
Rock, Charles
Roe, Bassett
Rogers, L. F. A.
Rogerson, Amy
Roland, Isabel
Rolyat, Dan*
Ronalds, Stanley (Miss)
Rorke, Mary
Rose, Cecil
Roselle, Emmeline
Ross, Elsie Howard
Rotheram, W. H.
Roughwood, Owen
Rous, Helen
Rowell, Dorothy H.
Royale, Ethel
Royce, Julian
Rozant, Ina
Ruskin, Sybil
Russell, Ethel
Russell, Kathleen
Russell, Mercia
Russell, Walter

St. Clair, Stuart
Saker, M.
Salberg, Valerie
Samson, E. Allistoun
Sampson, Eva
Sandford, Nesta
Santley, David
Saunders, Florrie
Sauter, William
Savery, W. H.
Savill, Ethel
Saville, Kate
Sayers, Edmond T.
Schlessinger, Hans
Schonberg, W. C.
Seager, George A.
Seilby, Dot
Selwood, Alf.
Selwyn, Archie
Selwyn, Beatrice
Shakespeare Theatre, S.W., per H. G. Dudley Bennett
Sheffield, T. R., and Lyceum, per John Hart
Shelley, Herbert
Shelton, George
Shelton, Guinevere
Shine, Wilfred E.
Shirley, Arthur
Shore, Ross
Silver, Christine
Simpson, Ivan
Sims, Violet
Sinclair, Beatrice
Sinden, Topsy
Skea, Kas.
Sleddall, Elaine
Smith, C. Aubrey
Smith, J. Sebastian
Smith, Stafford
Smith, R. C.
Snape, Topsy Colville
Snelson, Harry J.
Somers, Arthur
Spalding, Daisy
Spens, Andrew W.
Spiller, Edward
Spray, William
Stacey, A. Gifford*
Stafford, Eugene C.
Stafford, Florence
Standing, Harold Gus.
Stanley, Blanche
Stannard, Betty
Stanton-Sharp, E.
Staveley, W. R.
Steele, Blanche
Stephenson, C. A.
Sterne, Violet
Stevens, F. Percival
Stevens, Rosie
Stevens, Thomas
Stevenson, J. Edgar
Steward, Frank
Stewart, Edith
Stewart, Gwen
Stewart, Hilda
Stinger, J. Mansell
Stockholme, Thos.
Stone, Charles R.
Stoney, Franc
Strannack, Wallace
Stratford, E. T. R., per Mrs. C. Ellis Fredericks
Stuart, Alexander
Stuart, Annie
Stuart, Babs
Stuart, Eva
Stuart, Otho
Sutro, Alfred
Swansea, Grand, per Messrs. Brooke and Woodbridge
Swete, E. Lyall
Symonds, Augustine
Syms, Algernon

Talbot, Howard
Talma, Mlle.
Tarver, E. W.
Tate, Gertrude
Taverner, May
Taylor, James C.
Taylor, J. Milne
Tearle, Godfrey
Tearle, Mrs. G.
Tempest, George
Templeton, E. Howard
Tennant, Frank
Terry, Edward
Terry, Marion
Terry, Minnie
Terry, Olive
Thomas, Agnes
Thomas, Allen
Thomas, Amy
Thomas, Brandon
Thomas, Dorothy
Thomas, E. W.
Thompson, Alec F.
Thompson, Hazel
Thompson, Wylie A.
Thorne, Eric
Thorpe, Hilda
Titheradge, Madge
Tomkins, Rita
Tonge, H. Asheton
Topham, Fred
Tours, Frank E.
Townsend, Maud
Traill, George
Traynor, John F.
Tree, H. Beerbohm
Tressilian, Florence
Trevelyan, Hilda
Trevor, Francis
Trigga, A. Standen
Turner, Alfred
Turner, Montague
Twyford, J. Henry
Tyrel, Chas.
Tytler, Helen

Valentine, Sydney
Van Biene, Auguste
Vanbrugh, Irene
Vanbrugh, Violet
Vaughan, Edward
Vaughan, Hilda
Venn, Frank
Venne, Lottie
Venning, Gerald
Vernie, Eugenie
Vernon, Estelle
Vernon, Frank
Vernon, Percy H.
Vernon, Rose
Verona, Irene
Veronique, Vera
Vezin, Arthur
Victor, Lionel
Vincent, Maude
Vincent, Ruth
Vinden, E. Stuart
Volar, Deborah
Volpé, Frederick
Vyvyan, Herbert

Wade, Allan
Wade, Cicely
Waldron, Millie
Walker, Chris.
Walker, Florrie
Walker, Laura
Waller, Gordon
Waller, Lewis
Wallis, Claude
Walsh, Edward G.
Wantage, Harold
Warburton, Edward A.
Ward, Rita
Warde, Hylton
Warde, Willie, jun.
Warden, Humphrey
Wardley, Sidney
Waring, Herbert
Warley, May
Warry, Tom G.
Watson, Henrietta
Watson, Horace
Wauton, Hilda
Webb, Mary
Webb, Richard
Webster, Ben
Weigall, Mary
Weir, George R.
Wellesley, Charles
Wells, Florence
Wentworth, Stephen
West-Symes, Dorothy
Westlake, Amy
Westwood, Walter
Wetherall, Frances
Wharton, Phillipa
Whitby, Arthur
White, C. A.
White, J. Fisher
Whitling, Townsend
Whitney, Beatrice
Whittaker, Vivienne
Whyte, Robert, jun.
Wiehe, Dagmar
Wigney, Jennie
Wilde, Henry J.
Wilford, Cecil
Wilkinson, Sam, jun.
Willard, Edward S.
Williams, G. Moreton
Williams, Henry
Willoughby, A.
Wills, Brember
Wilson, Beatrice
Wilson, J. P.
Wilson, Pathnell
Withers, Frank
Wood, Frank Motley
Wood, R.
Woods, Graham
Woolcote-Waters, Bertha
Woolfe, Frank
Worrall, Henry
Wright, Hilda
Wright, Huntley
Wright, May
Wyley, George
Wyndham, Ruby
Wynne, Cecil
Wynter, Maud

Yapp, Cecil
Yates-Southgate, S.
Yorke, Maud
Young, Rosamund Mayne

Zerbini (Miss)*

"WANTED: JAMES BURTON."

Dramatic Episode, in one act, by J. Herbert Jay, produced at the Royal Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate, on Monday, July 8.

James Burton ..... Mr. Montague Love
Mrs. Burton ..... Miss Ethel May
Detective-Sergeant Salter.. Mr. Edmund Breon
P.C. Watts ..... Mr. Frank West
P.C. Cooper ..... Mr. Archie Ford

For the second week in succession the Ramsgate Victoria Theatre has witnessed the initial production of a curtain-raiser. The "dramatic episode" under review is from the pen of Mr. J. Herbert Jay. It can certainly be described as a departure from the beaten track of one-act plays. James Burton follows the discreditable "trade" of robbery, but he has a sweet young wife who does not share his unconcern as to the nature of his "calling," and after he has effected a big haul of jewellery, she hears his recital of a narrow escape from the police, and extracts from him a promise that on the next day he will give up his nefarious ways and turn to some honest avocation. Meanwhile both parties agree to keep the stolen jewels, as the money obtained by the sale of them will provide a nice little round sum to start the new life with. Burton has his suspicions that the police are on his track, and this belief is justified by the pair being startled by a loud knocking at the door of their house. "The police!" says Jim. He is right. Quick as lightning he decides to disguise himself in a military uniform he has in his possession as part of his burglar's stock-in-trade. The change is at once effected, and it is difficult to recognise the smart red-coated figure as Jim Burton the thief. The jewels are placed in a haversack, and Jim is secreted in a cupboard. Enter the police offic

"THE HEATHEN AND THE CHRISTIAN."

A Drama, in Four Acts, Produced, for the First Time on any Stage, at the St. James's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, July 8.

Lord Allendale .....MR. ERNEST E. BATLEY
Admiral Freebold .....MR. GERALD BLAKE
Joshua Samson .....MR. FRED WARING
George Berresford .....MR. W. BEATTY
Bah-Lamb-Gentle .....MR. ARTHUR LAWRENCE
Ling Hi .....MR. SAM HARCOURT
Li .....MR. P. BARRY LEWERS
Chung Lu .....MR. WM. CLARE
Chang .....MR. HAROLD GARTHORNE
Lieutenant Powell .....MR. GREY LANGTON
A Policeman .....MR. ROBERT MAYNE
A Postman .....MR. CECIL NOBLE
Mira .....MISS ETHEL MURREY
Harry Beresford .....MISS MAY ROBERTS
Becky Fibbins .....MISS EVA REED
May Berresford .....MISS LOIS DU CANE

The unnamed author of *The Heathen and the Christian*, which was produced before a large audience at the St. James's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday last, has made a stirring story out of the time-worn, but still essential, elements of love, hatred, jealousy, and heroic adventure, exploited amid social surroundings at home and perilous conditions abroad. The story opens at the Berresford's home in England. George Berresford is a missionary in China, and his wife, May, and their boy, Harry, have fallen upon evil times. So has Lord Allendale, whose estate is mortgaged to the Berresfords' landlord, Joshua Samson, a man whose ambition is to marry his daughter to the nobleman in question, and whose daughter agrees with him in that desire. Allendale, however, is in love with Berresford's wife, who returns his affection, a state of things which, it is easy to discern, must lead eventually to the death of the husband by some means. The liking is, however, a guiltless one, and Lord Allendale is impelled by Admiral Freebold, under whom he is to hold a naval commission, to put from him the thought of his passion. As an act of sacrifice, he is inclined to yield to the financial pressure of Samson, and marry the latter's daughter Mira; but Mrs. Berresford prevents this. The upshot of the situation is that Admiral Freebold pays Allendale's debt to Samson, and Mira Samson is possessed by a deadly hatred for the lovers. The act is very well done from first to last, and is by far the most creditable of the four; it is, indeed, so compact and interesting that it seems a pity the author found it necessary to change the scene to the comparatively unconvincing regions of China. The second act opens in a room in the palace of Ling Hi, a high official, whose mind is divided between allegiance to the Emperor and an inclination to place himself at the head of a rising of the Boxers. May Berresford and her boy are expected to arrive in China; Allendale also is due here on his ship; needless to add that Mira Samson, too, is on the scene. To enumerate the various threads of interest which now begin to wind about the theme would be to obscure its purport. A compact is entered into by Mira and Ling Hi, that they shall assist each other in their several objects; but the compact entails the murder of a sleeping Prince of China by Mira's hand. Much detail in subsequent acts is lavished on incidents which do not directly bear upon the story, but are introduced for local effect. The murder incident and its immediate consequences for an innocent man, however, lead—though not through the instigation of Mira—to the vengeful betrayal of the Berresfords by the son of the man who suffers wrongfully for the murder. The striking thing is that Mira Samson moves among the Boxers, and directs their torture of the Berresfords' child, while his parents are tied up helplessly in sight of him, as if she were quite at home among them. It is the ultimate betrayer who contrives the escape of the Berresford trio, for his hour of vengeance—believing George Berresford responsible for the beheading of the supposed murderer of the Prince—has not yet come. It comes, in the course of the remaining scenes, at the mission house and gardens of Berresford, who is living quietly with his wife and child, unaware that the Boxers have risen and are advancing. Berresford goes away in search of a messenger who is overdue, and the sense of extreme peril to his wife and child, left to the mercy of the duplicitous and revengeful Li and a rascally confederate, is very well produced. In this portion of the story a high dramatic tension is attained, quite transcending the relative endeavour of Allendale to reach the mission house, and the convenient death of Berresford (in Allendale's arms) from a rifle-shot. The scene and its sinister development inspire a very close conception of the horror of actual events upon which, it is stated, some of the incidents in the play are founded. Allendale's appearance on the scene does not immediately relieve the tension; it seems for a moment that he, too, will be involved in the impending butchery. But suddenly (the audience already has the satisfaction of knowing that Mira Samson has paid the penalty of her crime upon the Prince), as the Boxers swarm in upon their victims, a company of bluejackets appear, and there is a sharp, short fusillade. The producers may congratulate themselves upon a realistic finish. The annihilation is sudden and complete, and there is no longer any bar to the safety, or the mutual happiness, of the lovers.

As Lord Allendale Mr. Ernest E. Batley acted with praiseworthy care and sincerity, showing great capability for character-delineation in the opening act, and exhibiting ample vigour in subsequent scenes of stress. The rôle of May Berresford was played with a delicate womanly sympathy by Miss Lois Du Cane, whose quiet and natural manner materially increased the realistic effect of the more dramatic passages. Miss Ethel Murrey as Mira gave a consistent interpretation of a jealous woman whose malice would stop short at nothing, and who could witness the torture of her rival with a heartless and mocking laugh. As Admiral Freebold Mr. Gerald Blake was manly and self-contained; and Mr. Fred Waring gave a bold and effective depiction of the vulgar and overbearing Joshua Samson. Among the Chinese characters Mr. P. Barry Lewers played Li with a very good conception of the requirements of the character, and scored a decided success; Mr. William Clare as Chung Lu and Mr. Harold Garthorne as Chang are also highly praiseworthy for their clever work; while as the missionary, George Berresford, Mr. W. Beatty fulfilled every requirement to the perfect satisfaction of the house. A word of praise must be added for Miss May Roberts as the boy Harry; and considerable credit is due to Miss Eva Reed for an indefatigable effort to make the very utmost of the comic possibilities of the rôle of Betty Fibbins—an effort entirely successful. All the minor parts were correspondingly well filled, and nothing was lacking in point of scenery and costumes.

A Copy of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery. and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

THE Award comes into operation on Monday next, and, as will be remembered, the interim Award relating to the stage employees provided that those who were reinstated on March 11 and subsequent dates, prior to the final Award, are to be paid the rates provided by the final Award. The night men who were reinstated in the two-shows-a-night houses will be entitled to 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. per week and some of the day men to 6s. 6d. per week. The employees will be well advised if they exercise care in observing the terms of the Award as to the hours of labour. They will serve their own interests best, and the managements' interests also, if they be punctual in starting work and leave at the stated hour, unless ordered to work overtime.

THE National Association of Theatrical Employees is publishing a special circular relating to the Award and their views of its terms. Copies may be obtained from the office of the society, 29, Wellington-street, Strand, London. Attention is also directed to the pamphlet published by *The Era* containing the whole of the interim and final Awards, price one penny.

THE Theatrical Sports Committee wish to thank all those who assisted in organising the sports and in the selling of tickets. A full list of ticket-sellers, with the amounts sold, will be published. The committee have also to thank Messrs. Elms-Lester Bros. for a donation of £1 10s., being cost of hire of a van and the services of two men during the day; and also Mr. Ernest Hart for a donation of £1 1s. to the Prize Fund. Special mention should also be made of the amusement provided by the members of the Shaftesbury staff, and Mr. Chris Porter and Mr. W. G. Farrell in organising the comic interludes at the sports. To all of these a cordial vote of thanks is duly presented.

IT is impossible to publish this week a full statement of the Sports accounts, as all the ticket receipts are not yet recorded. Those who have not yet sent in returns are requested to kindly do so, as the auditors have already commenced their duties, and it is desired to publish the balance-sheet without delay.

THE following is a copy of the statement prepared by Mr. A. Palmer, master carpenter of the Comedy Theatre :—

THE GEORGE CLARKE FUND.

Mrs. Clarke wishes me to convey her sincere thanks to the ladies and gentlemen, and all concerned, for their kind sympathy and generous donations.

(Signed.) A. PALMER, Hon. Secretary.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.
National Association Theatrical Employees	2	2	0
Mr. Charles Thorogood	0	5	0
A Friend, per Wm. Johnson	0	2	6
The Scala Theatre, per Mr. E. A. Taylor	0	10	0
His Majesty's Theatre, per Mr. Lewin ..	2	14	9
The Garrick Theatre, per Mr. Pullinger	2	10	0
The Adelphi Theatre, per Mr. C. Sharp..	1	7	6
Wyndham's Theatre, per Mr. H. Hippwell	0	11	0
Daly's Theatre, per Mr. C. Richards....	1	8	6
The New Theatre, per Mr. G. Bailey....	1	4	0
Covent Garden Theatre, per Mr. R. Affleck	1	8	6
The Criterion Theatre, per Mr. W. Gordan	0	13	6
The Prince of Wales's Theatre, per Mr. R. Andrews	1	12	6
The Comedy Theatre—The ladies and gentlemen of the company—per Mr. Clifford Brooke	9	1	0
The Comedy Theatre Staff (stage)	4	17	6
The Comedy Theatre—Front of House Staff —per Mr. Millies	2	0	6
The Vaudeville Theatre, per Mr. C. T. Cory	1	0	6
The Duke of York's Theatre, per Mr. H. Thompson	6	5	6
The Duke of York's Theatre—Dressing Rooms—per Miss Lillies	1	0	0
Hicks Theatre, per Mr. H. J. Powell	3	14	6
Haymarket Theatre, per Mr. H. Boorer..	1	3	0
Mr. Bert Bean	0	2	6
Apollo Theatre, Stage Employees	0	12	6
The Playhouse, per Mr. Marshall	0	11	6
St. James's Theatre, per Mr. James Cullen	3	1	0
The Court Theatre, per Mr. Ed. Keating	0	17	6
Per Mr. Dion Boucicault—			
Mr. Charles Frohman	2	2	0
Mr. W. Lestocq	0	10	6
Mr. Lyall Swete	1	1	0
Duke of York's Theatre—Dressing Rooms —(No. 2)	0	16	0
Duke of York's Theatre—Dressing Rooms —(Nos. 3 and 4)	0	17	6
Miss Alexandra Carlisle	2	2	0
Mr. C. M. Lowne	2	2	0
Mr. Henry Ainley	2	2	0
Total	£62	10	3

EXPENDITURE.			
Printing, stationery, and postage, &c. ..	1	3	3
Bank returns	2	2	0
	3	5	3
Balance	59	5	0
	£62	10	3

By kind permission of Mr. R. A. P. Williams, the band and staff of the Gaiety, Dundee, had their first complimentary benefit on Wednesday evening. For the occasion there was a gigantic programme of well-known local and professional artists, and a largely-augmented orchestra. The proceedings passed off most successfully, the frequenters of the Gaiety rallying round them in large numbers.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

In the College concert of Thursday evening, July 4, Haydn's Quartet for Strings in G, No. 34, was the first item in the programme, and the executants, Miss Marjorie Beer, Miss Dorothy Devin, Mr. Frank Bridge, and Mr. Felix Norman Salmond, secured a very creditable result, being particularly successful in the second and third movements. Miss H. Muriel Robinson, who had a pure and pleasing voice, slightly veiled, no doubt owing to the trying weather, sang Gluck's "O del mio dolce ardor" and Veracini's "La Pastorella." Although Gluck's air required more experience, Miss Robinson gave the quaintly florid music in her second song with considerable effect. The principal novelty of the concert on Thursday evening was Mr. Eric Gritton's Theme and Variations, in D major, for piano, a work which revealed talent in the clever variations, admirably played by the young composer, who had two hearty recalls at the close. Miss Rachel Cox sang Berlioz's "Absence" with good intonation and expression, and greatly pleased the large audience in "Legère bergère," a French eighteenth century air; while Miss Florence Jennings's violin solo of Lalo's "Andante and Scherzo" (Symphonie Espagnole), well deserved the warm applause with which her efforts were greeted. A most welcome feature in the concert was the organ solos of Bach's fine Choral-Vorspeil, "Ein' feste Burg," and the same composer's beautiful Praeludium in A minor, both capitally played by Mr. Harold Darke. Two songs of A. Somevell, written to verses from Robert Browning's "James Lee's Wife," did not afford Miss Geraldine Wilson much opportunity for the display of her excellent and well-trained voice. E. Dohnanyi's able Quintet for Piano and Strings, in C minor, which ended the programme, was skilfully played by Mr. William D. Murdoch, Miss Esther Capel-Cure, Mr. Thomas Peatfield, Mr. Herbert Kinze, and Mr. Felix Norman Salmond. The accompanists were Miss Alice Cotton and Miss Ellen Edwards.

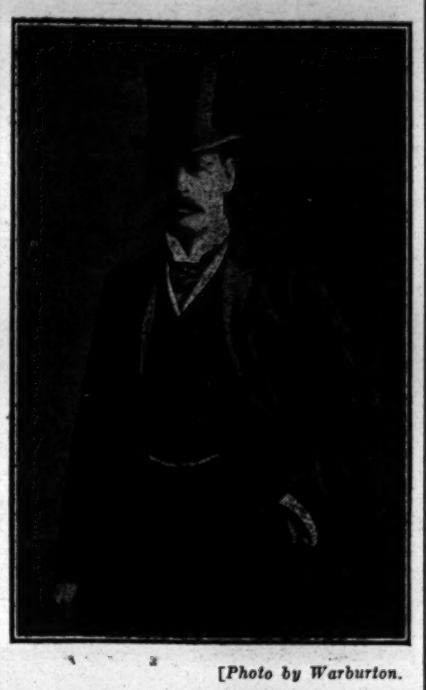
A MANXLAND MANAGER.

CHARLES FOX, JUN.

Mr. Charles Fox, jun., is the dominant force which controls those really large concerns registered as a public company in the Isle of Man, under the generic title of "The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd." Their assets consist of a theatre—the Gaiety, an up-to-date playhouse, designed and built by Mr. Frank Matcham; and the Palace and Derby Castle, with their magnificent ballrooms. Incidentally, a fully-licensed hotel at Derby Castle and Sunday concerts at the Palace, which disdains the drink traffic.

Mr. Charles Fox, jun., has the burden of these enterprises resting on his very capable shoulders. He has now the knowledge of experience, and his efforts for his directorate and shareholders are crowned with artistic and financial success. He was born in Manchester, and educated at the Grammar School there, where he gained scholastic honours. The irony of fate elected that at the commencement of his strenuous career he should be situate in Douglas with his future before him. He had a taste for matters appertaining to the Cinderella of the arts, and an opportunity presented itself. In 1893 he became secretary and manager of the Palace.

The company then only owned this one place of amusement; but five years later the great combine eventuated, and Mr. Charles Fox was instrumental



[*Photo by Warburton.*

MR. CHARLES FOX, JUN.

in carrying through the complex liquidation of the concerns, and consolidating them into one concrete venture, the result being that four places of amusement, the Palace, Derby Castle, the Pavilion, and Falcon Cliff, coalesced. Where once the fossilised Pavilion stood was erected the Gaiety Theatre. Falcon Cliff, which was antiquated, was squelched out of existence. Derby Castle and the Palace renovated marked time for the myriad visitors to Manxland, and Mr. Charles Fox was appointed manager and secretary for the amalgamation, a position which, in a much wider horizon, he to this day fills worthily. In his engagements at salaries fabulous he has displayed the courage of his convictions. At the Gaiety Theatre he has presented the latest Hall Caine dramas, and such striking personalities as Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. Seymour Hicks, Miss Louie Freer, Miss Olga Nethersole, the George Edwardian musical comedies, and other people of much importance. The late Dan Leno and Herbert Campbell, with his exploitation, made the Palace and Derby Castle resound with applause and laughter. Arthur Roberts, Vesta Tilley, and all the stars who sparkle in the music hall hemisphere, have appeared at one or other of these brilliantly-conducted pleasure houses. The Sunday concerts at the Palace are a distinct and artistic feature in the Manxman's bid for patronage from across the water. To substantiate this claim, young Mr. Charles Fox can point to engagements of such artists as Mr. Charles Santley, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Sims Reeves, Miss Ada Crossley, Mme. Ella Russell, to name no others.

In private life, Mr. Charles Fox is just a well-groomed, clean-souled English gentleman, without either fads or hobbies, and he will take a hand at anything, from ballooning to billiards. He is a fellow of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries, a Freemason, a Past-Master and provincial officer, and, above all, he is a clever, brainy man of the world, who knows his business and does it.

MR. F. M. PAGET'S MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC RECITAL.

At Steinway Hall, on Tuesday evening, Mr. F. M. Paget gave a most successful recital, being assisted by Miss Euneta Truscott, Mr. Earle Douglas, Mr. Victor Marmont, and Mr. Frank Reynolds. Miss Ivy Angove, owing to an injured finger, was unable to appear, and her place as violinist was filled by Miss Mary Winifred. Mr. Paget, an experienced actor who has been associated with Mr. Tree, the late Sir Henry Irving, Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, Mr. W. Mollison, and Mr. Forbes Robertson, was first heard in a recitation, "The Portrait," by Owen Meredith, which his superb voice and dramatic delivery made doubly impressive. In a pathetic little sketch, entitled *Dan's Wife*, the talented reciter was also warmly applauded, but it was in the Shakespearian examples given that Mr. Paget's great gifts as an actor and reciter were most clearly shown, and more of these would have been very welcome. "To be or not to be" and "Hamlet's Instruction to the Players" were most admirably given, while the quaint features of Polonius's immortal counsel to his son Laertes deserved hearty praise. Mr. Paget later in the programme was heard in "The Fireman's Love" and a humorous musical recitation. It was not only as a clever reciter that Mr. Paget appeared, as several pleasing songs testified to his no small ability as composer. "Guess, guess," written to verses of Thomas Moore, and sung by Mr. Frank Reynolds, proved very attractive, while in "The zephyrs' lament," and particularly "All for thee," sung by Miss Euneta Truscott, the music was well adapted to the verses of Mr. Brandon Thomas. Miss Mary Winifred during the evening gave several well executed violin solos, and Mr. Frank Reynolds sang the famous "Arioso" from *Pagliacci*. Miss Euneta Truscott, besides singing the two songs of Mr. Paget, was heard in the "Jewel song" from *Faust*, and Mr. Earle Douglas afforded relief to the more serious items by telling some humorous stories. The recital was given under the patronage of the Lord Mayor, the Right Hon. Sir William Treloar, and the proceeds of the sale of Mr. Paget's three songs at the concert were devoted to the Lord Mayor's Cripples Fund.

MARTIN HARVEY AND THE N.L.F.

The following is the text of a speech recently delivered by Mr. Martin Harvey in Leeds, on behalf of the National Lifeboat Fund :—

"Ladies and gentlemen,—In the first place, I want to thank you, and that heartily, for asking me to be present on this occasion. I consider myself privileged to have been singled out as spokesman of this great cause. When I received the request to come to Leeds from your energetic and popular secretary, I instantly decided that were your fine city twice the distance that it is from London, where I have just concluded my season, I should most gladly, and, indeed, enthusiastically, have responded to your invitation. I felt that for me, in a cause like that we have at heart, distance could be no object. The most casual mention of the word 'lifeboat,' must kindle in the breast of every true son of our sea-girt isle an instant sense of enthusiasm. That is a sense whose sway one gladly accepts. I tell you, candidly and happily, ladies and gentlemen, that my enthusiasm brought me to Leeds as your guest, and as your advocate. I would have you bear in mind, too, that my family associations with the great briny element should give to my advocacy of a cause which has always been near my heart, more—much more—than the mere savour of genuineness.

"I hear you say, 'What were those family associations?' Well, they were such that my own career only just escaped having a close association with maritime matters. My father was a naval architect, and I was destined, early, for the same profession. How it was that other gods beckoned me, other spheres seemed more attractive, comprises a long story. But you will readily understand that my early days were spent amid the things of the deep, and in an atmosphere which was charged, so to speak, with the maritime. To me, as a boy, ships were far more than they are to most boys. This is a big statement to make, ladies and gentlemen, but I offer it to you firm in the conviction of its truth. I had what I may call an instinctive sense of proportion, which called forth my childish admiration of a ship's beautiful lines and trim symmetry. I can remember as a child lamenting the loss of one such ship. A fine vessel was broken to matchwood upon a coast with a reputation evil in the extreme. I can remember feeling a sense of grief as if I had lost a friend. My childish equilibrium was upset. Many times since that day a more mature nature has been clouded more by the destruction of life and less by the loss of fine ships at sea. There can be few deaths more terrible to die that that which threatens on the deck of a wave-swept ship in touch with land. Picture it! I leave it to your imagination—an imagination which is so strong, and so easily stirred by life and romance!

"Here we are in our comfortable Leeds, content in body and mind, but the picture I would fain bring before you is one to touch the hardest, the most embittered man, to the quick. It is one to cause a shiver of distress, one to bring the tear of sympathy to every eye. It is anything but a pleasant picture; indeed, it is an awful picture; but it is one in which you and I might, any day, be figures in the foreground. Think, then, of the indescribable relief which the lifeboat brings as it looms up out of the spume and spindrift to our rescue! Hope after fear! Gleam of sunshine after beclouded night! Life after death! Ladies and gentlemen, some of you may have had such an experience. I do not know. If there be any such in this large audience, let me say at once I am not addressing them. They have no need of my words to urge them to support such a cause. They have had an experience which they will never forget; could not if they would. I dare say that the vividness of the incidents of their rescue is as strongly before them to-day as if they were things of the closest yesterday. No; I am not urging my way to their hearts. It is to their brothers and sisters that I speak. It is to their brothers and sisters that I come—how shall I describe myself—well, as a beggar! A beggar in a good cause is an honourable burgess. I represent myself to you then as an honourable burgess—and a beggar. I beg on behalf of the grandest cause of all grand causes, the fund of the National Lifeboat Institution, a fund which appeals to our common humanity, and which seems to me to signify the brotherhood of man. There is an exceptional satisfaction in contributing to such a cause. It means that husbands and fathers, wives and mothers, are preserved to us, salved from the fierce enmity of the greatest of all natural forces. It means, often enough, that the little ones—human buds, those little roses that blossom and flower—are safeguarded so that they may grow up to be honourable men and worthy women. And it means that where, but for its God-blessed work, there would be weeping and anguish there is joy and happiness.

"Indeed, ladies and gentlemen, the picture is infinite in its depths, in 'its sorrow and song.' It is only a few months ago that not only England, but the whole world was face to face with an enormous object-lesson of the horrors of shipwreck. When the hapless Berlin broke her back at the Hook we were thrilled. Of one accord we seemed to ask, 'Can such things be in these days of man's masterfulness?' The heroism of the Dutch was grand; it was worthy of all that was bestowed upon it. We in England know much of such heroism. It is empanelled upon our records in letters of gold. It is for funds for the maintenance of the means whereby this heroism is possible that I ask to-day. The heroism is ever to be found: let us heroically give. If there is, as there is, self-denial in the boats there must be self-denial on the quay.

"Here we are upon the quay! Let us throw the life-lines; let us pull the oars, and bring the boats to the side of the doomed ship. It is a grand task, a noble work, a heritage of the English—the English to whom the sea is all, barrier and bulwark, friend and ally. Of your bounty, then, ladies and gentlemen, I would say, 'give, give, give!' and let us at Leeds show the way to those others who dwell in inland cities and towns. Here we stand upon the quay! Come, let us throw the life-lines!'"

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, JUNE 4, 1907.—Mr. Charles Holloway opened at the Palace Theatre on the 1st, with a dramatic company, in *The Coal King*, and all his principal actors and actresses are with him again. Misses Beatrice Holloway, Alice Deorwyn, Rosa Conroy, and Mabel Russell, and Messrs. Robert Inman, Godfrey Cass, John Hesford, Jefferson Tait, and Witton Welch all have parts suited to their abilities, or to which they suit themselves. Mr. George Campbell has painted fine scenery. Mr. Holloway himself directs the production. The first night's performance went well, special credit accruing to Miss Beatrice Holloway (Grace Shirley) and Mr. Robert Inman (Tom Roberts).

AT Her Majesty's the days of *Mother Goose* are numbered, the 7th seeing the end of a run which began in Melbourne on Boxing night. The cast was a huge one, and more than ever the usual Williamson lavishness was expended over the pantomime. Mr. Phydora and Mr. Harry Shine remain in the cast on the coming Australasian tour. Miss Olive Morrell returns to England very shortly. Next Saturday Mr. Williamson presents *The Spring Chicken*, for which a number of English artists are being imported, and have already arrived.

MR. WILLIAM ANDERSON continues coining money with *The Squatter's Daughter*—Miss Eugenie Duggan, leading—at the Criterion, and he expresses no intention of immediately changing the bill.

THE Brough Flemming company had an enthusiastic send-off on the 31st, and Mr. Flemming made a characteristic speech, bidding *bon voyage* to Mr. Carter Pickford and Miss Gordon Lee, who left for England the next day.

THE Tivoli folks welcomed Frank Hartley, "the boy Cinquevalli," with uproarious applause. His "turn" is a decidedly clever one. Miss Eileen Lyons, a new soprano, secured considerable favour. Techow's cats, Miss Bijou Russell, and a host of other artists in Mr. Harry Rickards' plethoric list do their utmost to entertain the thousands who make the Tivoli their home of amusement.

MELBOURNE, JUNE 5.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis).—A dramatic version of Mr. Owen Wister's very charming and widely-read book, "The Virginian," was produced, for the first time in this city, on Saturday evening, and served to draw a crowded house. Miss Olga Humphrey as Molly Wood, the schoolmarm, played with a natural and altogether pleasing simplicity. Too high praise cannot be bestowed upon Mr. Charles Waldron for his powerful rendering of the character of the Virginian. Mr. Waldron looked the hero to the life. The Judge Henry of Mr. G. P. Carey was excellent. Mr. Edwin Lester put into the part of Uncle Henri a large amount of genuine humour, and was ably assisted by Miss Mary Bancroft.

THEATRE ROYAL (Lessee, Mr. Bland Holt; Business-Manager, Mr. Christie Simonsons).—The popularity of *The Great Millionaire* continues unabated.

OPERA HOUSE (Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon).—A varied and excellent programme was submitted to a large audience on Saturday night. The star item was the reappearance of the popular comedians Graham and Dent in an amusing comedy, entitled *The Lady Sport*, which was received with great approval. The mystifying Svengalis repeated their clever performance; Mr. V. L. Granville appeared in a series of impersonations from famous plays; Miss Gracie Grahame continues a great favourite; while other artists who deserve their meed of praise include Fred Bluett, Fanny Powers, Leonard Nelson, Carlton, the Gibson Girls, Alice Fane, Marjorie Bray, Will Lochrane, Arthur Sharples, Olive Sinclair, Sam La Mert, Jack Willis, and Irving Sayles. On Wednesday last Mr Rickards left for London in search of fresh novelties for his various Australian theatres.

"Everybody Smokes" Series, No. 3.

Everybody Smokes

PLAYER'S

"NAVY"

MIXTURE

"The MIXTURE OF MATCHLESS MERIT"

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THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Mr. Tree has been talking to a lady special correspondent of the *New York American* concerning men and women in society. Mr. Tree was asked what he thought of his audiences, and did he depend upon his women or his men for approval? To which he replied:—"In everything woman is the deciding power. She is the dominant note; she makes or mars by her intuition everything that is given in the name of art, be it a painting, a sonnet, a play, or the name and fame of an actor. My audiences always are made up, in the critical sense, of women. Women are quickest to perceive the art in a thing—most sensitive to the values, whether they be agreeable sensations or unlovable. That is why they dominate in all fine things—why their opinions are of such vast importance." Asked how he spent his leisure, Mr. Tree said that his life off the stage was a simple one. "I detest society," he observed. "It takes too much time, and is so unsatisfactory in the last analysis. On the other hand, I am fond of my own particular friends—the world is much more agreeable in units than in generalities."

Mr. Edward Terry, when on his magisterial duty, tempers justice with mercy. At Mortlake Petty Sessions on Wednesday a certain Frank Stonebanks was fined £1 and costs for "failing to prevent" his dog from chasing and disturbing the deer in Richmond Park. The defendant said the fine was excessive; and Mr. Edward Terry remarked, "We could have made it £5."

Sir Francis Cowley Burnand, to whom a pension of £200 has been granted, is a voluminous dramatist. His first piece was brought out successfully at St. James's Theatre, under the management of Chatterton and Willet. His burlesque of *Black-eyed Susan* ran for 800 nights at the Royalty, Dean-street, Soho, and was played for years in the provinces, and twice revived, with exceptional success, in London. He has written over a hundred and twenty plays, chiefly burlesques and light comedies, among the latter *The Colonel*, which satirised the æsthetic craze of a period. He adapted from the German several farcical comedies for the late Augustine Daly; and wrote two light operas, *Contrabandista* and *The Chieftain*, for Arthur Sullivan, with whom he did a popular musical version of Morton's old farce, *Box and Cox*, entitled *Cox and Box*.

Miss Louise de la Ramée ("Ouida"), who is to be the recipient of £150 per annum from the Civil List, is connected with the stage by the successful dramatic versions of her novels, "Under Two Flags," "Strathmore," and "Moths," in the last-named of which a highly-coloured picture of theatrical life is given. Mr. John Davidson, who is to have a pension of £100, is the author of *In Scotland—Bruce*, a chronicle play; *Godfrida*, a play; a version of *For the Crown*; and that extraordinary poem, "The Theatrocrat."

Mr. Percy Hutchison, who was married at a registry office last Saturday to Miss Lilias Earle, has been in control of the many touring enterprises sent out by his mother, Miss Emma Hutchison, who commenced managerial work in 1885 with *The Golden Ladder* and has since scored success after success by the presentation to country audiences of the best London successes. Mr. Percy Hutchison is a nephew of Sir Charles Wyndham, and was associated with his enterprise for eight years, and Sir Charles was present at the ceremony. Mr. Hutchinson superintends all the rehearsals of the Hutchison companies, and is in favour of original readings of rôles, not of servile copies of the performances of London artists. He has had with him as "stars" Mr. Henry Neville, Miss Annie Hughes, Mr. Yorke Stephens, and Mr. Arthur Roberts.

Mr. Wentworth Croke and Mr. Ernest Carpenter have just returned from Greeba Castle, where they have been spending a few days with Mr. Hall Caine, bringing back with them a new script of *The Christian*, which is to be produced at the Lyceum Theatre about the end of August or the beginning of September. This will be Mr. Wentworth Croke's season by arrangement with Messrs. Smith and Carpenter, Mr. Carpenter being responsible for the production. The piece will be mounted on a very lavish scale, especial attention being given to the new sets, the locale of which is different in many respects to the old piece. The following engagements have been made:—Mathison Lang for John Storm; Alice Crawford for Glory Quayle; Eric Mayne, Lord Robert Vere; Frederick Ross, Father Lamplough; Miss Valli Valli, Pollyhox; Miss Keith Lytton, Mr. Callender. Mr. Wentworth Croke holds from Mr. Hall Caine the sole performing rights of this piece for London and the country.

Mr. Arthur Williams writes:—"In reference to your notice of the death of the late Mr. John Carter, will you allow me to say that the Mr. Carter of the Strand Theatre in the early 'seventies was Mr. Henry Carter, who was the prompter, and in no way related to the late John Carter. Mr. Henry Carter has been dead some years."

Mr. J. E. Vedrenne, of the Court Theatre, is an excellent musician, a painter of ability, and a good linguist. He has been, in his time, a vice-consul, a company promoter, and a concert agent. Mr. Granville Barker, who has been on the stage since he was fourteen, is a Radical-Socialist in politics and a strong advocate of female suffrage.

Mr. Maundy-Gregory, already known as manager of the Waldorf Theatre and proprietor of *Lights Out* companies and other ventures, will also present at Christmas a pantomime on an exceptional scale. A great feature is being made of the revival of real ballet, which is being invented and arranged by Miss Lizzie Maynard. Most original specialities are being arranged for, and the whole production is being sent out with the idea of giving our provinces a taste of real pantomime in its best and happiest vein.

The health of Mark Twain, who on Wednesday evening was the principal guest of the Lord Mayor of Liverpool at a dinner and reception given in his honour at the Town Hall, was proposed by Mr. T. P. O'Connor, who described Mr. Twain as an Ambassador between two peoples.

An action for divorce has been called in the Court of Session, Edinburgh, by the Countess of Rosslyn against her husband, the Rt. Hon. James Francis Harry St. Clair Erskine, Earl of Rosslyn. He is a step-brother to the Countess of Warwick, and was once known on the stage as "Mr. James Erskine." The present Countess of Rosslyn was an American actress, Miss Anna Robinson by name, who appeared with success in one of Mr. Carton's plays.

Many of our readers will remember Miss Nellie Moon, whose death has just taken place, after a long absence from public notice. She was very popular at the Surrey Theatre, where her pretty face and neat figure were seen in many notable pantomimes. She appeared in *Jack and the Beanstalk* with the late Nellie Power, and in *Cherry and Fair Star* she was the Papilo to Mr. James Fawn's extravagantly comical Conrad the Corsair. Her Abdallah in *The Forty Thieves* in 1874, with W. B. Fair, the late Harry Payne, and Harry Nicholls, was another of Miss Moon's achievement, and, in 1877, she was the Alice Fitzwarren in *Dick Whittington*, having Mr. Arthur Williams and Miss Topsy Venn as companions. Miss Moon was also very popular on the music hall stage.

Mr. Charles Manners is building fifty cottages for the artisan class at Hendon, for men earning from 30s. to £3 per week. The first four cottages which are half-completed will have several little novelties which will render them more artistic than the usual workman's dwelling. The mantelpiece will be plainly but artistically moulded, and the overmantel will contain a mirror. In the kitchen or living-room there will be pretty dressers, with sliding glass doors to keep out the dust. The larder will be in the extension at the back, and in the front of the cottages there will be a little porch with a seat.

Viscount Tiverton, whose engagement to the daughter of Lady Duff Gordon is just announced, will be remembered perhaps in theatrical circles as the "Oliver Bath" who gave to the public *Naughty Nancy*, the musical comedy in which Miss Kitty Loftus appeared some time ago at the Savoy.

Mr. W. Gayer Mackay and Miss Edith Ostlere ("Robert Ord") were united in the bonds of wedlock on Wednesday, and Mr. Otho Stuart has bought their new comedy, called *Barry Doyle's Rest Cure*. Mr. and Mrs. Gayer Mackay were, it will be remembered, collaborators in that clever comedy, *Dr. Wake's Patient*.

Congratulations to Mr. Edward L. Garside (part proprietor of *The London Fireman* and *Her Marriage Vow* companies) and Mrs. Henry Mayhew (the popular proprietress of the Theatre Royal, Scarborough), who were made one on Saturday last. Mr. Garside is no stranger to Scarborough, having first won his spurs there in the "good old stock days" with the late Mr. Wybert Reeve, supporting such stars as Chas. Dillon, Barry Sullivan, Chas. Kelly, Miss Ellen Terry, &c. Since then he has visited Scarborough periodically, and on the last two occasions with his own company. The happy couple had many valuable presents and congratulatory wires from residential friends of Mrs. Mayhew in Scarborough and other important people in the profession. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles journeyed to town from holidaying in Aberdeen to attend the ceremony.

Mr. Cecil Klein was the gainer by a strange happening during his recent visit to Portsmouth with Mr. Arthur Bertram's company. Whilst walking along the front, his hat was caught by the wind and blown into the sea. He tried in vain to recover it, but to no avail. A gentleman passing came to his assistance, and kindly offered his walking stick. Mr. Klein rescued his hat, and when in the act of returning the cane his glance was attracted to the mount, and he discovered it to be his own—his initials, C. C. K., showing up plainly—which he had left in Romano's Restaurant over a year ago. On explaining the fact, the gentleman, who frankly owned he had found it, represented the stick to its lawful owner.

Mr. Hobart Druce will produce, at the New Royalty on the 23rd inst., Mr. J. S. Clouston's farce, *The Pocket Miss Hercules*, which was tried at a matinée at the New Royalty on the 28th ult. Mr. Fred Wright, jun., will enact as the Hon. Ferdinand Falarope, and Miss Esmé Hubbard will also be on the list of principals. Mr. Druce's first important appearance was at the Novelty, now the Great Queen-street Theatre, in *The Blue Bells of Scotland*. He has also enacted Flambard in *The Night of the Party*, and Glabrio in *The Sign of the Cross*, and last appeared in *Three Blind Mice* at the Criterion. He has also acted in America under Mr. Richard Mansfield's management.

The advance booking for Mr. Norman V. Norman's series of Pastoral Plays at Bournemouth is already very heavy, and the beautiful Winter Gardens will be elaborately decorated. Should the weather prove unfavourable, the performances will be given in the handsome concert-room, which for the time being will be turned into a theatre. The selections of music will be played by Mr. Dan Godfrey's celebrated band.

Ramsgate has been chosen as the first place to perform *The Mikado* after the ban has been taken off, and certainly the programme for next week is likely to please all the district for miles round, for it is one of the treats of the season, and the visit to the Royal Victoria Theatre of the D'Oyly Carte principal répertoire company in a round of Gilbert and Sullivan operas is sure of big houses. In the company are Miss Theresa Rassam, Miss Hope Hastings, Miss Mabel Graham, Mr. Strafford Moss, Mr. Fred Patrick, Mr. Charles R. Walenn, and Mr. Lee Sheffield. On Tuesday *Iolanthe* will be given, and on Wednesday afternoon that opera will be again performed, also on Thursday night.

Mr. Granville Barker, in returning thanks at the dinner at the Criterion Restaurant on Sunday, said the first thing he and Mr. Vedrenne would do at the Savoy Theatre would be to produce *The Devil's Disciple*. After that they would give *Cæsar and Cleopatra*, with Mr. Forbes Robertson in the principal character. They also had another play by Mr. John Galsworthy, the author of *The Silver Box*, and an adaptation of the *Medea* by Mr. Gilbert Murray. They had also a play of his—Mr. Vedrenne's—own, a new work of Mr. Bernard Shaw's, an English version of *Peer Gynt*, and plays by Mr. Laurence Housman, Mr. John Masefield, and Mr. Frederick Fenn.

The members of the York Opera House and Empire staff recently had a delightful outing, organised by Mr. W. W. Wallis, who was ably supported by Mr. W. Peacock, managing-director; Mr. S. Brooke, manager; Mr. Forster-Todd, Mr. A. Ward, Mr. G. Breed, and Mr. A. Gretton. The party, numbering about twenty-eight, proceeded by char-à-banc to Easingwold, where they breakfasted at the George Hotel, and later resumed the journey to Wass. Dinner was partaken of at the Wombwell Arms, and after a most enjoyable ramble the visitors from York repaired to Easingwold, where they had tea at the George Hotel. The return journey was then commenced, and York was reached about 10 p.m.

The sensation of this week at the Balkan States Exhibition is the throwing open to the public of the Wheel of Avernus, a colossal engineering feature, which has the sub-title of "Motoring in Mid-air." On Saturday the bands of the Grenadier Guards, the Irish Guards, the 3rd Battalion King's Royal Rifles, and the London Exhibitions military band, played throughout the sunny day and brilliant evening.

For the benefit of Mr. A. Austin-Leigh, who recently severed his connection with the Theatre Royal, Margate, where he had been for some considerable time the acting-manager, a performance of *One Summer's Day* was given on Tuesday afternoon in the well-adapted grounds at the Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate. The beneficiare played Major Dick Rudyard with his characteristic skill, and Miss Emmie O'Reilly (Mrs. Austin-Leigh) was excellent as the Gipsy Chiara. Members of the stock company who gave their services included Miss Mabel Archdall as Irene; Miss Mildred Eversleigh as The Urchin; Miss May Saker, as Mayne; Miss Agnes Knights, as Mrs. Bendyshe; Mr. Robert Grey, as Phil Marsden; Mr. Ernest Cossart, as Theodore Bendyshe; Mr. Wallis Clark, as Robert Hoddesdon; Mr. Richard Trieve, as Tom; Mr. H. G. Mason, as Seth; Mr. W. P. Wells, as the gipsy hag, Bess. The benefit was a financial success.

Mr. Douglas Gerrard has recently arrived from Australia and America, after an absence of three years. He was leading man and producer of plays for Mr. J. C. Williamson, and last year was with Miss Viola Allen in America. He was exceptionally lucky in Australia. He invested a small capital in an original copper enterprise that turned out trumps. He made £5,000 out of it, and still retains his interests, and hopes to make £20,000. He is part owner of "The Budgery Mine"—the biggest copper discovery ever made in New South Wales. At present he is playing Adhémar in *Divorçon*, with Miss Gracie George at the Duke of York's. He returns to America in August.

In the Belfast Recorder's Court on the 4th inst., Michael Elliott, a hairdresser, sued the Belfast Hippodrome, Ltd., to recover £19 19s., damages for alleged breach of contract to permit plaintiff to witness a performance at the theatre, on June 19. The plaintiff had exhibited the company's bills, and got a book of passes, which enabled him to go each week, except on Monday or Saturday, to witness the performance. The pass admitted plaintiff to the pit or circle, but by paying an additional sixpence a transfer to the stalls was obtained. The plaintiff on the occasion in question, accompanied by his wife, went to witness the performance at the Hippodrome, but was refused admission on the pass. He then paid 2s. for admission.

Mr. George Dobler, assistant-manager, deposed that on the occasion in question Mr. Elliott persisted in getting two tickets for one pass. Witness explained that the pass was only available for one, and the plaintiff replied that the whole thing was a fraud, and threw the pass in witness's face. His Honour said the question was whether or not the person who purchased the tickets was refused entrance. On the evidence given, he dismissed the case.

Mr. J. Cooke Beresford, of Panton-street, Haymarket, has succeeded within the last few days in getting a further reduction in insurance rates for theatrical risks. Mr. Beresford informs us that he can cover at from 25% to 30% below tariff rates.

"Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," which is so successfully running at Terry's Theatre, paid a flying visit to the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, on Thursday. Through the courtesy and kindness of Mr. J. W. Broughton, of the Theatre Royal, and Flag-Commander Balfour MacDonald, R.N., the visit was made the occasion of an enjoyable outing for the company. Mr. Broughton had carriages waiting on the arrival of the train at Portsmouth at 11.15, and the artists were immediately conveyed to a launch which was waiting for them. A visit was also paid to Nelson's ship, the Victory. The submarine A1 was also seen, and after a delightful trip the company drove back to the theatre.

Mrs. Clement Scott's share in the foundation of the Actors' Orphanage is described in the current number of the *Free Lance*. Mrs. Scott's earnest application to Sir Henry Irving was the cause of his supporting the then-projected charity, and she was also an earnest worker in the cause.

Miss Ruby Ray, who has been appearing in the first act of *Divorçons* at the Duke of York's Theatre, and who has, in addition, proved a most popular turn as a comedienne at the London Pavilion this week, sails on Wednesday for New York, where she will appear under the Frohman management in *The Dairymaids*.

As a result of the transfer of *In the Bishop's Carriage* from the Waldorf to the Aldwych Theatre on Saturday, the professional matinée announced for Tuesday is postponed to Tuesday next.

Mr. Frederick Harrison announces the fiftieth performance of that most amusing comedy, *My Wife*, at the Haymarket Theatre on Wednesday.

Miss Olga Nethersole will shortly appear in Brussels, Berlin, and Vienna, and will return to Paris next spring. She will subsequently present in London an English version of *La Plongée*, the charming little play which was recently produced at the Grand Guignol, Paris.

In an appeal in the *Monthly Musical Record* for a national opera house the sums allowed to the leading establishments on the Continent are given as follows:—The subsidy for that in Berlin amounts to £45,000 annually. The opera house in Paris receives £32,000; Dresden, £24,000; Munich, £12,500; Wiesbaden, £20,000; Carlsruhe, £15,000; Vienna, £24,000; Prague, £15,000; Darmstadt, £12,500.

Mr. J. B. Mulholland announces the production at the King's, Hammersmith, on Monday, of a new play, *The Song of the Torch*, by Ion Perdicaris, who was captured by Raisuli some three years since. The period is the Napoleonic era, during the French occupation of Prussia. The scene is laid at Koenigsberg, and the plot deals with the love of a great Court lady for a young Jewish advocate who is concerned in a conspiracy which the lady's husband is interested in detecting.

Mr. Edward Compton has engaged Miss Grace Lane for the leading part of Anastasia Coke in the production of *The Eighteenth Century*, at the St. James's Theatre, on the 29th inst.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier has secured the rights of a new play, called *Simple Simon*, written in collaboration by Mr. Murray Carson and Miss Nora Leslie Keith. *The Walls of Jericho* is still doing extremely well at the Garrick.

Miss Eva Moore's many admirers will be sorry to hear that she has been far from well lately, and has been ordered to take a rest until the end of the autumn. She has the warmest sympathy of all London playgoers.

Mr. Otho Stuart has secured the English rights of Ludwig Fulda's *Der Heimliche Kŏnig*, and has commissioned Mr. J. B. Fagan, the author of *The Prayer of the Sword*, to adapt the German play.

Mr. Frank Curzon will present the new musical play, *The Three Kisses*, by arrangement with Mr. Tom B. Davis, at the Apollo Theatre on Aug. 21, with a cast including Miss Ethel Irving, Miss Coralie Blythe, Miss Kitty Gordon, Mr. Arthur Williams, Mr. Walter Hyde, Mr. Lionel Mackinder, Mr. Albert Le Fre, Mr. Charles Angelo, Mr. Willie Warde, Mr. O. B. Clarence, and Miss Caroline Hatchard, who will be remembered by her appearances at Covent Garden as Dewman in *Hansel and Gretel*, and as the Shepherd Boy in *Tannhäuser*.

A matinée will be given at the Apollo Theatre on the 23rd inst. for the benefit of the widow of the late Charles H. Taylor, whose sudden death we recently and regretfully recorded.

Mr. Frederick Harrison will put on at the Haymarket Theatre on the 25th inst., in front of *My Wife*, and in place of *A Case of Arson*, a one-act play adapted by Michael Morton from the French of Tristan Bernard.

The next bi-monthly meeting of the Actors' Association will be held on Thursday at 2.30 p.m., when Mr. Fred Morland will, on behalf of the Council, make a statement, and the question will be discussed, as to sub-letting the premises.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree gave proof of his extraordinary versatility on the 8th inst. by appearing in four out of the five items which constituted the programme on the last night of the season, playing Lord Illingworth in *A Woman of No Importance*, Antony in *Antony and Cleopatra*, Arthur Blair Woldingham in *The Van Dyck*, and Colonel Newcome in the ball scene of the play. In his speech at the conclusion of the evening, Mr. Tree, who had an enthusiastic "ovation," after referring to the work of the past season, said:—"I am very glad to-night once more to have had the assistance of my friend, Mr. Weedon Grossmith. The last play we produced this season, with, I am glad to say, a very delightful success, *A Woman of No Importance*, was first produced fifteen years ago at the Haymarket Theatre. This play has proved as modern to-day as on its first production. I feel sure you will agree with me that this is a real test of the greatness of any work of art. After the vacation I have arranged to go on tour again through the British Isles, playing in my repertory two plays of Shakespeare—*King Richard II.* and *Julius Cæsar*—and also some modern plays, including *Trilby*, *The Red Lamp*, *Colonel Newcome*, and *The Van Dyck*. We look forward in the not far distant future to present to you Mr. Comyns Carr's rendering of Dickens's *Edwin Drood*, also a dramatisation of Mr. W. J. Locke's fine novel, *The Beloved Vagabond*, and Mr. Stephen Phillips's new version of *Faust*, in which he is collaborating with Mr. Carr."

During the forthcoming season of the Moody-Manners Opera company opening at the Lyric, on Monday, the list of operas to be rendered in English will include *Aïda*, *Madama Butterfly*, and *La Bohème*. Nicolai's *Merry Wives of Windsor*, on the opening evening, will be followed by *Tannhäuser* on Tuesday, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci* on Wednesday afternoon, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* on Wednesday evening, *Lohengrin* on Thursday, *Faust* on Friday, *Tannhäuser* on Saturday afternoon, and *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci* on the evening of that day. The performances can hardly fail to give great pleasure to those who prefer to hear celebrated operas sung in their mother tongue.

Miss Lois Du Cane's production of *The Heathen and the Christian* in Manchester on Monday, proved such a success that she has made up her mind to tour the play right away. A fine plant of printing is being specially done by Messrs. Allen and Sons, and Mr. Ernest G. Batty is booking the tour.

Mr. Stanley Rogers has purchased the lease of the Theatre Royal, North Shields, from Mr. Arthur Jefferson, and will reopen it on August Bank Holiday, with Mr. F. B. Woulfe's company in *Lady Godiva*. Mr. Rogers will retain Mr. Horace Lee as his acting-manager.

Mr. T. Brock, R.A., the sculptor of the statue which the theatrical profession propose to raise to Sir Henry Irving, has informed the Westminster City Council that the figure and ornamental base will be in bronze, and the pedestal in Portland stone, the total height of the monument being 21ft., and the extreme dimensions of the base 11ft. square. The height of the statue itself is to be 9ft. 6in. The question of a site for the memorial has been before the General Purposes Committee of the Westminster City Council since December last, when Mr. John Hare, writing on behalf of the committee of the fund, asked the Council to provide a site. Several positions were suggested, but the General Purposes Committee of the Council have come to the conclusion that the most suitable one is on the broad pavement in Charing Cross-road at the rear of the National Portrait Gallery.

Alderman Thomas Lucas, J.P., who laid the foundation-stone of the New Theatre, Oxford, in 1885, and who has acted as chairman of the company and managing-director ever since, has resigned his position as managing-director. The management of the theatre will now be in the hands of Mr. C. C. Dorrill, who has been connected with the house since it was built.

The hundredth performance of *Mrs. Wiggs* will take place at Terry's on Saturday, the 20th, when the members of the audience will be presented with a souvenir. Mr. Gaston Mayer will run the piece through this year, and a tour of the principal provincial cities is now being booked for the spring of 1908.

At the "Go-as-you-please" entertainment in Theatre Royal, Belfast (kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. Fred W. Warden, Managing-Director), on the evening of the 5th inst., the following artists assisted:—Messrs. Alec Kendal and Percival (from the Palace Theatre), Mr. Harry Downs (of the Hippodrome), and Miss Jenny Hartley, whose coon songs were deservedly encored. Special features of the evening were the eccentric songs and patter of Mr. Will English, from the Empire, and the selection by the orchestra of the "Go-as-you-please March," specially composed by the talented conductor of that theatre, Mr. W. L. Richards.

Mr. Charles Frohman will present at one of his London theatres in August the play called *A Little Japanese Girl*, the original of which was performed last winter at several minor theatres in Paris. Miss Pauline Chase will sustain the leading part.

Mr. H. V. Esmond has written for Miss Maxine Elliott, who will open her season at the Lyric on Sept. 9, a play called *Under the Greenwood Tree*. The scene is laid in the New Forest, which will be picturesquely reproduced by the brush of Mr. Hawes Craven. Miss Elliott will enact the heroine, and Miss Mary Jerrold, Mr. Charles Cherry, and Mr. Eric Maturin will be in the cast.

Mr. Tree will commence his autumn tour at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Sept. 9, afterwards visiting Liverpool, Dublin, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Manchester, and Cardiff. His reception in the provinces is certain to be enthusiastic.

A revised edition of the drama in three acts, by F. L. Connynhame and C. A. Clarke, entitled *The Prodigal Parson*, was held at the Theatre Royal, Croydon, on Monday. The piece is now in three acts, and a new scene of great interest has been written into the last act. The revisions are decided improvements, and the popular play goes better than ever. Mr. W. V. Garrod submits a skilful impersonation of the Rev. T. Godley; Mr. Paul Beckett deserves praise for his rendering of Enoch Jaggins; Mr. T. G. Bailey carefully handles the rôle of Ben Jaggins; Ned Kettlepin finds a good exponent in Mr. W. Vincent; Mr. Owen Remonde, as Phil Drive, plays with tact; and useful services are rendered by Mr. T. Edward Evans as George Markby, a detective Mr. Thomas Edwards as Karten, an officer at the Bier Garten, Mr. E. Ashton as Fritz, a waiter, and Mr. E. Vincent as Mr. Naggleton, an old parishioner. Miss Sybil Hammersley is excellent as Gretchen Van Crans (afterwards Mrs. Phil Drives); Miss Amy Shaw does well as Fraulein Korale, a dancer; Mrs. Ashton scores as Mrs. Snaffiewich, an old parishioner; Miss E. Fredericks is a neat parlour-maid, Pomeroy; and Miss Violet Jeffries prettily enacts the part of Myrtle. Miss Berta Kingston was all hearts with her sympathetic and expressive acting as Fern Godley.

The second performance of the Bury St. Edmunds Pageant took place on Tuesday before four thousand spectators. Among those present were Her Royal Highness Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll, who was accompanied by the Duke of Argyll, the Duke of Bedford, the Duke of Grafton, the Countess of Moray, Lord Lindley, Lord Cranworth, Lord Henry Fitzgerald, Lord Iveagh, Lord Huntingfield, Lady Saumarez, Lady Buchanan Jardine, Sir James Malcolm, Sir W. Cuthbert Quilter, Sir Peter Eade, Sir E. Walter Greene, the Hon. Walter E. Guinness, Sir Henry Bunbury, Mr. G. W. Agnew, M.P., Mr. G. A. Hardy, M.P., Captain Hervey, M.P., and others. The Mayor of Bury St. Edmunds, Mr. Owen Clark, Archdeacon Hodges, and Mr. John Wood, of Hengrave Hall, were presented to Princess Louise. To-day the Lord Mayor of London, the Sheriffs, and several provincial Mayors, will attend in state, when the freedom of the borough will be conferred on Sir William Treloar.

Miss Sophie Harriss is indeed an indefatigable lady. During last week, with the cares of the entire production of the third tour of *The Prince of Pilsen* upon her shoulders, she was able to witness the latest London successes, give sittings to several photographers, hold a farewell reception at the Hotel Cecil on Saturday, and proceed next morning by motor with her husband, Baron Harriss, and his advance-director, Mr. Hugh Fleming, to Liverpool, which was reached in time to cross over to Blackpool with the company, where they open on Monday.

Mr. Pigott (Mr. F. R. Benson's general-manager) and Mr. Savery (acting-manager of Mr. Benson's North Company) have secured the sole provincial rights of *The English Rose*, *The Harbour Lights*, and *In the Ranks*, and are sending the two first-named pieces out on tour next spring.

The Prince of Wales witnessed the performance of *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past* at the Vaudeville Theatre on Monday. The Duke and Duchess of Connaught and Princess Patricia, Princess Henry of Battenberg, and Princess Beatrice of Coburg witnessed the performance of *The Merry Widow* at Daly's Theatre on the same evening.

At the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, with the permission and kindly co-operation of the governors, members of the British Empire Shakespeare Society will give performances of *The Merchant of Venice* during the first week in October, under the direction of Mr. Acton Bond. The double cast that will be employed will be representative of several of the society's branches. Already arrangements have been made for the Edinburgh, Ripon, Leamington, Bristol, Worcestershire, Stratford-on-Avon, and Sheffield branches to be represented in the casts. This will be the first occasion on which an amateur company drawn from all parts of the kingdom will have performed at the Memorial Theatre in one of Shakespeare's plays.

Mr. Richard Green, who is playing in the special season for four weeks at the Coronet Theatre, has been engaged to sing with the Queen's Hall Orchestra at promenade concerts. His first appearance will be on Saturday, Oct. 5.

Miss Olga Andre has secured a new drama, by Jack Denton, entitled *Martin Pryor's Millions*, which will be produced under the direction of Douglas Phelps at the Metropole Theatre, Devonport, on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Dunscombe (Miss Marie Tennant) have been re-engaged by Messrs. Armadale and Warren for *The Face at the Window*, opening next Monday at Wigan. This will make Mr. Dunscombe's 888th appearance in the part of the detective, Paul Gouffet.

The opening took place on Tuesday evening of a new and commodious theatre in the Scarborough Aquarium and People's Palace. The new theatre will seat a thousand. It has seating accommodation on the ground floor, in the orchestra and the pit stalls, for 250, and in the pit for 250. There is also a balcony on three sides, which will seat 450. The decorations, in cream and gold, have been carried out neatly and effectively. The stage has a depth from back to front of 31ft., and a width of 66ft. Two new entrances from the main building are provided, and also an emergency exit in case of fire. The balcony staircase is fireproof, and the stage and auditorium are provided with hydrant and hose-pipe. In winter the theatre will be heated with steam pipes and radiators. The electric light has been installed.

The Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, is being charmingly redecorated and painted inside and out, in preparation for the coming season. A new installation of electric lighting is also included in the scheme.

Miss Elfie Vincent's many admirers will be pleased to learn that Mr. Peter Davey, of the Kingston Theatre, who has been staying at the Grand Hotel, Jersey, engaged this clever artist to open in London at Christmas, after seeing her perform with Mr. Edward Marris's troupe.

Mr. Charles Frohman has arranged to produce three American plays in London next year—*Caught in the Rain*, by Messrs. William Collier and Grant Stuart; *The Heir to the Hoorah*, by Mr. Paul Armstrong; and *Three of Us*, by Miss Crothers.

The frequency of Shakespearean representations in Germany in 1907 is remarkable. *The Merchant of Venice* had 319 performances; *Midsummer Night's Dream* had 253; *Othello*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Hamlet* had 150; *Macbeth* was performed only twenty-three times; and *Coriolanus* is last on the list with seven performances. Altogether twenty-four plays were given, and 1,653 performances, or nearly 200 more than the previous year.

Mr. J. A. E. Malone is leaving for America during the coming week, to produce *The Dairymaids* in New York, for Mr. Frohman.—Mr. Richard Adams, who has been engaged by Mr. Robert Courtneidge to play the part of Frank in one of his *Dairymaids* companies, is the son of his Honour Judge Adams, K.C., of the Irish Bench and Bar.

The staff of the Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough, took their sixth annual outing on Sunday. The party journeyed to Richmond, Yorkshire, arriving at their destination at 9.30 a.m., and breakfasted at the Turf Hotel. They then went through the Castle ruins and grounds. At twelve o'clock brakes were waiting to convey the party to the quaint old village of Reeth, where they stayed for an hour, and returned to Richmond. At 4.30 they had dinner at the Turf Hotel, when over forty sat down and enjoyed a good "spread." Mr. Kirkham, one of the heads of staff department, thanked Mr. J. Chas. Imeson, the proprietor, for his kindness and presence amongst them. Mr. J. Chas. Imeson responded in a few words, saying how pleased he was to be amongst his staff, and to share in their enjoyments; and he was glad to have the managers of the other places of amusement in the town and district with him, including Mr. Ker Chatto, of the Grand Theatre, Mr. Charles Rembge, of the Empire, Mr. Griffiths, of the Oxford, and Mr. Walter Batty, of the Grand, Stockton, who all suitably replied. Amongst the party were Mr. George Imeson and Mr. Cecil Imeson, sons of the proprietor. A most enjoyable day was spent, and the party arrived back at Middlesbrough at 9 p.m.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Max Beerbohm as a Boy.

My brother, Max Beerbohm, said Mr. Tree in his speech at the Vedrenne-Barker dinner at the Criterion on Sunday, is not a brilliant conversationalist, but I have never known so witty a listener. I remember Max showed the literary faculty in an extraordinary degree on the occasion of his tenth birthday, when I had occasion to admonish him for too liberally drinking his own health in champagne cup. Even in his then deplorable condition the budding literary artist proclaimed himself. "Max," I said, in my most portentous manner, "it is bad to be tipsy at ten." He retorted upon me with that customary literary *riposte*, with that grace of style which has made English famous among the languages. Here are his memorable words: "How can one be tipsy when we are conscious they are not?" Oh, how I envy this literary gift—the power to select words that will make a sentence vibrate through the ages!

A Link With the Past.

MR. JOHN CARTER, who died recently in Philadelphia at the age of eighty-seven years, made the first trip ever made by a railroad train, being a passenger on George Stephenson's locomotive, the "Rocket," on its first trip from Stockton to Darlington, England. "I wasn't much interested in the great invention that has revolutionised the commerce of the world," said Mr. Carter. "The thing that fascinated me was the fireman as he threw coal into the furnace." Mr. Carter remembers that the Duke of Wellington was a passenger on the train. Other guests were Sir Robert Peel, Lord John Russell, and Lord Brougham. As a boy of seventeen Mr. Carter was present at Queen Victoria's coronation, and in the prime of his young manhood he played François to Macready's Richelieu. "Edmund Kean," he used to say, "God made him, the same as God made Burns and Shakespeare, and all true geniuses. He was the grandest actor the world has ever known, or ever, in my judgment, will know."

Yvette Guilbert as an Actress.

MME. YVETTE GUILBERT, who will in the autumn go on the dramatic stage, appearing at the Théâtre des Variétés in a comedy by Louis Arbus, called *La Revanche et la Belle*, has told a *Chronicle* representative that she finds the prospect of the drama but a doubtful exchange for the chanson. "The great difference that I see," she confessed, "between acting in a play and singing a song is that in a song one can be perfect; in a play one cannot. There are so many people, so many things, to come between one and one's art. One cannot have freedom. There is the company and the *metteur-en-scène*, and, worst of all, the author. I think all authors ought to be dead! One can concentrate as much into five minutes of a ballad as into whole hours of a play. I remember once reciting a ballad about Adrienne Lecouvreur to Eleanora Duse. She told me afterwards that I had acted everything that there was in the play. I shall play both comedy and tragedy. I shall not play classical tragedy. It is too artificial, too far from nature. But Molière—yes, I have often thought I should like to play Molière."

Mr. Shaw and the Critics.

MR. G. BERNARD SHAW, in his speech at the Vedrenne-Barker dinner on Sunday, complained that the critics were too fond of referring to a past success. When *Major Barbara* was produced they said that it was a sad falling-off as compared with *Man and Superman;* and when *The Doctor's Dilemma* was given, they said it was a pity it was not as good as *Major Barbara*. He had a new play, not begun as yet, and he was sure the critics would say that it showed a sad falling-off as compared with *The Doctor's Dilemma*. If only critics would say that a piece showed an improvement upon the author's last work!

Mark Twain's White Clothes.

IF I had been an ancient Briton, said Mark Twain in a speech at the Savage Club dinner on Saturday, I would not have contented myself with blue paint, but I would have bankrupted the rainbow. I so enjoy gay clothes in which women clothe themselves that it always grieves me when I go to the opera to see that, while women look like a flower-bed, the men are a few grey stumps among them in their black evening dress. There are two or three reasons why I wish to wear white clothes. When I find myself in assemblies like this with everybody in black clothes, I know I possess something that is superior to everybody else. Clothes are never clean. You don't know whether they are clean or not, because you can't see.

An Englishman on the Jury.

THIS year's competition at the Paris Conservatoire did not differ in any way from the preceding ones, except that a young Englishman, Mr. Harold Bauer, was on the jury who awarded the prizes to the various competitors. The examination is divided into two parts. The pupil first plays the piece selected by the Conservatoire management, and then he or she is called upon to read at sight a composition, specially written for the occasion. At the end of each day the names of the laureates are publicly announced, and, according to the humour of the audience, the decision is received with cheers or with goans. "I think," said Mr. Bauer, "that these annual prize shows are run on altogether wrong lines. At one time prizes were awarded sparingly, and really were a distinction. Now they are given away broadcast. The other day, out of thirty odd competitors, fifteen carried off prizes. In one class nine pupils carried off a first prize! At this rate the whole thing threatens to develop into a farce. On the other hand, whereas the jury show themselves strangely lenient in the matter of awards, they are needlessly severe as regards reading at sight. In their opinion—and I venture to say it is a wrong one—reading well at sight is the all-important thing. Be the pupil ever so great a virtuoso, his talent will not save him in the eyes of his examiners should he fail to decipher correctly the M88. placed before him. I repeat, this is wrong, utterly wrong. A person musically gifted need not necessarily be an expert at deciphering music. He can be great without that natural endowment, which, from a practical point of view, is of but little value. It should be borne in mind that the young competitors are to be divided into two categories: those who develop into virtuosos, and the others—the majority—who will seek engagements in some orchestra or other. They, therefore, will never be called upon to read at sight in public. This also applies to pianists. Why, then, attach so much importance to the dreaded 'déchiffrage'?"

Killing the Beast.

MR. ARNOLD DALY, the American manager, has some gloomy ideas of the condition of the drama. He says: "People in the theatre are rapidly killing the beast that carries them. We are all insisting that the theatre is a gold mine, when it is nothing of the sort. Not only do managers expect to become millionaires, but authors and actors expect it as well. Some authors demand ten per cent. royalties, and I have heard of fifteen and twenty being paid to still more voracious scribes.

We shall be obliged if our readers will send us any amusing anecdotes they may hear, or accounts of any quaint incidents they may witness while acting or rehearsing.

THEATRICAL GARDEN PARTY.

There were many picturesque scenes in the grounds of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, on Friday afternoon, the 5th inst., when the annual theatrical garden party was held, in aid of the Actors' Orphanage Fund. The deep scarlet tunics of the grizzled old Chelsea Pensioners, full of years and honour, made a striking contrast with the pretty white dresses and light costumes of the ladies. The very cream of the theatrical profession turned up to support one of their noblest charities, and the function benefited by the presence of Princess Henry of Battenberg, Marie Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and Princess Beatrice of Saxe-Coburg, who were received and escorted round the grounds by Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Miss Mary Moore, and Mrs. Cyril Maude. Their Royal Highnesses spent a little time at each of the shows, and appeared greatly entertained by what they saw and heard. And they were only a few out of many thousands who spent an agreeable afternoon, great credit being due to Miss May Warley, the honorary secretary, for the excellent arrangements she had made in connection with the fête, and the able manner in which the numerous attractions were organised.

It would be difficult to say which particular show furnished the most amusement, but a company of artists, under the direction of Mr. Fred Wright, jun., certainly had a good share in that most admirable result. Mr. Wright for the time being was a Mrs. Jarley, and Mrs. Jarley, be it known to all and sundry, was the happy possessor of an incomparable collection of waxwork figures. Mrs. Jarley, it should be recorded, was attired in the decorous attire of a middle-aged female. Her shapely arms were enveloped in a vivid red shawl, and she carried in her hand and frequently flourished an old-fashioned dust-wiper, which served the double purpose of brushing away the cobwebs from the figures, and of indicating which "subject" she was dealing with. Mrs. Jarley apparently came in no spirit of rivalry to Mme. Tussaud, for it was stated that "these figures have been kindly lent by the directors of Tussaud and Son's exhibition, and represent some of the most life-like examples of John P. Tussaud's work." The claim of being life-like was more than justified, as will be admitted when we give a catalogue of Mrs. Jarley's curiosities, and say how they were composed. Thus, Miss Kate Cutler assisted in the making of a merry mermaid, and Miss May Fortescue hid her personal charms and good looks under the disguise of a "Suffragette" not overburdened with beauty, a charge, we believe, that is generally advanced against that amiable class of lady. Mr. W. Graham-Browne appeared as Robinson Crusoe, Mr. Fred Kaye as Toddles, Miss Pattie Browne as Harry Lauder, Mr. W. Devereux as Robin Hood, Miss Nellie Bowman as Maid Marian, Mr. Bertram Steer as the King of Spain, Miss Amy Ravenscroft as the Queen of Spain, Mr. L. Goodrich as G. Bernard Shaw, Miss Lettice Fairfax as Cinderella, Mr. J. Farren Soutar as "One of the Very Seldoms," Mr. Laurie de Freece as Pygmalion, Miss Lilias Waldegrave as Galatea, Miss Dora Barton as Ophelia, Mr. Loring Fernie as a Prince, Miss Margaret Fraser as Sleeping Beauty, Miss Aida Jenoure as the Insured Domestic, Mr. A. Whitby as the Right Hon. Campbell Bannerman, M.P., Miss Polly Emery as Cleopatra, Mr. Sydney Brough as Little Jack Horner, Miss Suzanne Adams as the Vocalist, while Messrs. W. H. Berry, Joe Coyne, and F. Collins were Mrs. Jarley's assistants. Visitors were told that all complaints were "to be laid on the table before Miss Vane Featherston, Mr. H. Nye Chart, and Mr. Aubrey Smith," while Mrs. H. Warner-Hollis and Miss Mignon Johnson presided at the piano. Mr. Fred Wright's comments as he directed attention to each of his figures were as laughable as we know that gentleman can make himself. Pointing to his Robin Hood, he explained that Robin got his Christian name because he took up the calling of robbing. As for Ophelia, he particularly desired his kind patrons to notice the lady's "life-like sucks of the orange." Then there were the Insured Domestic, who put dust into her eye and advanced her claim immediately; Miss Pattie Brown as Harry Lauder indulging in intermittent fits of laughter; the Suffragette cuddling the poor Prime Minister, for giving her the franchise; and the King and Queen of Spain taking turns at nursing the baby. The ladies who assisted Mrs. Jarley by selling tickets for the waxworks were the Misses Nell Toller, Valerie Salberg, Janet Alexander, Constance Hyem, Sybil Carlisle, Gertrude Lang, Carrie Moore, Gladys Storey, Margery Allison, Charlotte Granville, and Dorothy Le Marchand.

Outside the Theatre Royal—a tent, the exterior of which bore the Royal Arms among other decorations—Mr. Brandon Thomas, attired as a showman of the old school, with white hat, black and greasy ringlets, and heavy fur coat, called upon the nobility and gentry to walk up and see the most wonderful play of the century. Many were bold enough to do so, and they agreed that the description of "original, blood-curdling, pathetic, and entrancing drama" was quite correct. The play, which was written by Captain Robert Marshall and Mr. Alfred Sutro, bore the alluring title.

"THE DESPERADO DUKE; OR, THE CULPABLE COUNTESS."

Hydrangea .....Miss FANNY BROUGH
Theodosia .....Miss ALEXANDRA CARLISLE
Duke of Ramsgate .....Mr. CYRIL MAUDE
Mr. Ponder .....Mr. LENNOX PAWLE
Archdeacon Chancel Mr. EDMUND MAURICE

Hydrangea, Countess of Margate, has democratic and socialistic predilections, which somehow do not clash with her possession of three country seats, two boxes at the opera, a yacht, a motor car, and a moor. She desired it known that the moor was not Othello, but was kept for the purpose of getting the best breed of partridges. The Duke of Ramsgate, whose estate adjoins that of the Countess, feigns a great affection for the lady, and would marry her. But, no! Hydrangea swears that her lover shall be of lowly birth, and, in point of fact, she has engaged a footman with that precise object. Hereupon the noble Duke becomes desperate, and he commits the unpardonable crime, the wholly unmitigated piece of blackguardism, of impersonating the butler, and under disguise once more laying siege to the affections of Margate's pride, and succeeds in inducing her to marry him. The ceremony is performed on the spot by the Archdeacon, whom the Countess keeps in her house for little emergencies of this kind. But, of course, murder will out, and when Theodosia is made acquainted of the black-hearted treachery practised upon her by the Desperado Duke in concealing his identity, she immediately sends for an imperial pint of poison. Then she is informed that she has no right to the title of Countess, that the babies have been mixed, and altogether there is most sad and sorrowful confusion. So the Culpable Countess, fearing lest someone should have, in an ultra-charitable moment, tried to render the poison ineffective, sends for a tin of American canned meat, mixes it with the poison, and we see the pathetic sight of the gradual fading into unconsciousness and into death of the Duke and his beloved spouse, to the accompaniment of slow music. And when they are dead, kind friends place posies at their head and puppy dogs at their feet. *Sic transit gloria mundi!* Mr. Cyril Maude, in a ferocious black beard, and weighed down with the avoirdupois of many medals and glittering orders, cut a ludicrous figure as the Desperado Duke, and Miss Brough contributed her share of the absurdity in the character of the Countess of Margate. Able support was forthcoming from Miss Alexandra Carlisle as Theodosia; the Countess's confidante, Mr. Lennox Pawle as the Butler, and Mr. Edmund Maurice as the Archdeacon. It is only right to give the names of those who assisted in other directions towards the success of the production, namely, Mr. Alfred Turner, as the Manager of the Booth; Mr. Lewis Sydney as the Clown, Mr. Edward Coutts as the Brigand Chief, Miss Maidie Andrews as Columbine, Master Bobbie Andrews as Harlequin; others who officiated as sandwichmen, programme and ticket sellers, being Messrs. George Shelton, W. H. Post, A. G. Onslow, George Courteney, A. S. Aspland, Richard Stirling, David Todd, Daniel McCarthy, W. Blair, Walter Hampden, Misses Marjery, Maude, Madge Titheradge, Elsie Ferguson, Rosalie Toller, Kitty Sparrow, Constance Bourjeaurd, Max Hinton, Daisy Moriand, Maud Thornton, MacLaren, Dorrit MacLaren, Maude Courtenay, and Mrs. A. Turner. The orchestra was under the direction of Mr. John Ansell, who composed the music for the occasion; and Mr. John Harwood acted as stage-manager.

The hat-trimming competition by actors, with Miss Phyllis Broughton as directress, and Mrs. George Alexander as the judge, also provoked much merriment. The competitors were Messrs. George Alexander, Arthur Bourchier, George Hodgson, C. Aubrey Smith, Walter Passmore, William Spray, Henry A. Lytton, Sydney Brough, Herbert Sparling, M. R. Morand, H. B. Warner, Horace Lane, Frank Lacy, Farren Soutar, Rutland Barrington, Godfrey Turner, H. Nye Chart, Maurice Farkoa, Dan Rolyat, Hayden Coffin, Robb Harwood, Charles Sugden, Fred Wright, Ben Webster. The Royal visitors took great interest in this contest. Mr. George Alexander contrived to make something resembling a hat out of some pink straw, some tartan ribbon, and a couple of birds, while Mr. Arthur Bourchier made a noble effort to fasten strips of mauve and pink ribbon, and heliotrope flowers to a straw hat, but neither of these gentlemen had the satisfaction—if it could be satisfaction—of gaining a prize. A lavender hat, trimmed by Mr. Henry A. Lytton with salmon ribbon, and blue cornflowers, won the first prize, and the pleasing confection was purchased for 10s. 6d. Mr. Ben Webster took the second prize with a white straw, decorated with pink and green ribbons and pink flowers. The third went to Mr. Frank Lacy, for a chapeau in which the predominant colours were brown and orange; the fourth to Mr. Montague Leveaux for a green straw, trimmed with green velvet and green ribbon; and the fifth to Mr. George Hodgson for a plum-coloured straw, with pink roses, green, blue, and brown feathers, and turned up at side, like a Gainsborough. The materials for the hats—which, by the way, were put up for auction at the conclusion of the competition—were generously provided by Madame Lövse. The acting-managers for the competition were Messrs. Corbett Smith, J. W. Lethbridge, and Fred Wright, sen., while ladies who assisted in the selling of tickets were Misses Clara Jecks, Ada Blanche, Stella St. Audrie, Hilda Stewart, Lena Liebrant, Agnes Fraser, Radcliffe, Maude Thornton, Gertie Thornton, Lilian Digges, Cicely Courtniedge, Cicely Villiers.

The "music hall," controlled by Mr. Oswald Stoll, as director, and Mr. Fred Trussell, as manager, offered a bumper programme, the Zancigs coming in for a good share of attention. Other artists who gave freely of their talents on this occasion were Mr. Gus Elen, with his usual delightful coster business; Mr. John le Hay, in a ventriloquial show; the Anartos, Mr. Morny Cash, Miss Margaret Cooper, Captain Corbett Smith, Mr. Algernon Lindo, Mr. Bert Gilbert, Miss May Moore Duprez, Nipper Lupino Lane, Mr. Tom Shale, Miss Millie Lindon, Miss Gwen. Howard, Mr. Joseph Adelmann, Mr. Hal Forde, Mr. Paul Cinquevalli, Mr. J. W. Rowley, Miss Katie Cohen, Mr. Albert Christian, Mr. Fred Lindsay, Miss Clara Alexander, Miss Evelyn Hughes, Mr. Hymack, Miss Alexandra Dagmar, Miss May Henderson, Colibri's Midgets, Mr. Harry Russon, Mr. George Graves, Mr. Leslie Lambert, Fair and Farland, Serpentello, Mr. Siems, Mr. Albert Le Fre, Mr. J. S. Burnetti, Mr. J. J. Dallas, Miss Mabilia Daniell, Miss Georgina Delmar, Miss Sadie Jerome, Little Vera Le Fleming, Douglas Beaufort, Richard Hope, Robert Michaelis, Master Max Darewski, Mr. Andre Romanow, and Xaver. Ladies selling tickets for the "music hall" were Misses Olive Terry, Christine Silver, Hilda Antony, Gwladys Morris, Gladys Purnell, Gladys M. Williams, Grace Hempsted, Ida Sydney, Pauline Straus, Vere Sinclair, Wynne Gastrell, Keith Gastrell, Dorothie Wyatt, Alfreda Clement, Gertrude Glynn, Blanche Burdett, Sylvia Dauncey, and Millie L. Emden.

In a tent which bore the somewhat dignified title of the Ranelagh Opera House, Messrs. Bellew and Stock's company of juvenile artists presented a burlesque,

"THE CENTRE OF THE STAGE,"
or
"The Actor man; the Super-man, and the Baggage Man."

Written and Produced by Mr. Harry Norton. Music Written and Arranged by Mr. E. Cecil Stock.

Saymoricks (a Hickstrionic, Hickshilar-ating Hickscerpt) .....Miss EDITH STREETER
Peddytayne (a boy "IT" at Gaiety) Miss FLORENCE HARRINGTON
Mr. Gedwards (the Da(i)ly Gaiety) Master G. E. MINER
Mr. Ttrreellbohmm (the bard's bountiful baytree) .....Master ARTHUR ACKERMAN
Mozart Coughing (a singer of soulful songs) Miss OLIVE COOKE
Neverthere (a primitive prompter) Miss GRACE CHAPLIN
Herr Waggstick (a conductor. Badge 3525) Mr. E. CECIL STOCK
Perchbox (a shining light) ....Miss DOLLY STAMP
Miss Evergreen (a country buttercoop) Miss VIOLET RECHER
'Onnie Kedis (He! diss is the Merry Widow) Miss OLIVE PICKANCE
Little Odol (a Gottenberg girl. Her papa was a miller) .....Miss CONNIE FLEMING
Gibsonpicturebuns ..Misses BABBIE KAY, BERTHA ROBERTS, ETHEL STREETER, ALICE BERNSTEIN, DORA GARDNER.
Bathchapsandyorkhams ..Masters VOAKES, WINGROVE, BENNETT, LILLIE, ELDERTON, SCOUELL, JARVIS.

This proved a merry little trifle, and was heartily appreciated by the spectators.

Even now we have not exhausted the list of attractions. Excellent performances of musical selections were given by the full band of the Honourable Artillery Company, and Miss Gascoyne Old's Shakespearean Orchestra. Miss Lilian Behrens and her company, "The Merry Gitanas," submitted bright songs and picturesque dances in the grounds. The Misses Zena and Phyllis Dare charmingly presided over a specially designed tent for the sale of chocolate bonbons. These ladies were assisted by Mr. James Welch, as the acting-manager, and Master Philip Tonge, Misses Olive Adair, Kathleen Shaw, Mildred Claire, Miss Beatrice Hawkins, Miss Gwenda Villiers, Miss Doris Levis, Little Vera Le Fleming. The photographic tent was presided over by Mrs. Gay, assisted by Misses Adrienne Augarde, Crissy Bell, Ruth Dalson, Dorothy Dunbar, Lily Elsie, Glossop Harris, Mabel Green, Grace Griswold, Isabel Jay, Gertie Millar, Helena Millais, Denise Orme, Louie Pounds, Gabrielle Ray, Jessie Rihll, Nina Sevening, Dora Sevening, May de Sousa, Cora Williams, Miss Cecilia Cavendish. Strawberries and cream seemed all the more enjoyable and palatable because they were handed round in a cool tent in a graceful manner, accompanied by the sweetest of smiles, by such ladies as Mrs. Edward Compton and Miss Lilian Braithwaite, assisted by Misses Irene Vanburgh, Eva Moore, Margaret Cooper, Billie Burke, Marie Löhr, Kittie Bishop, Constance Collier, Compton, Haideé Wright, Viola, Katherine and Fay Compton, Culling, Alfred Bishop, Martin Harvey, Fred Wright, Victoria Addison, Mona Harrison, Grace Lane, Louise Stopford, Nina Boucicault, Wynne Matthison, Mabel Adair, Evelyn Beaumont, Esmé Hubbard, Dorothy Scott, Enid Dark, Joyce Lawrence, Ethel Beale, Freda Watson, Iris Hawkins, Margaret Bussé, Lily Hanbury, Edyth Olive, May Whitty, Muriel Martin Harvey, and Mrs. Cecil Raleigh. The ice cream tent was under the direction of Mrs. Mangles, assisted by Misses Winifred Fraser, Chubb, Evelyn Millard, Ruth Maitland, Ethel Bryan, Dorothy Trollope, Madge Titheradge, Grace Murielle, May Chevalier, Irene Fitzgerald, Amy Elliot, Crystal More-Brabazon, Gladys Grove, Molly Evans, Birdie Vetter, Olive Dickens, Elaine Dickens, and Lieut. Dacre Stoker, R.N., Lieut. R. M. Fraser, R.N., Mr. Geoffrey Saville. Harmless entertainment was also provided by the cokernut shies, and "the dodger"—who generally dodged most successfully—under the excellent showmanship of Mr. Fred Grove (in fine coster make-up), Mr. J. J. Dallas and Miss Hilda Trevelyan, assisted by Mr. Jamie Dallas, Mr. Treshahar, Mr. Fred Grove, Mr. Sydney Grahame, Mr. Taylor, Miss Ethel Harper, Miss Gordon Walker. Clowns, Messrs. Gardner, Leitz, and Lavater Lee. In addition, Mrs. Neville Ross told one's fortune from the teacup; there were character-reading from the face by Professor Annie I. Oppenheim, and palmistry by Mrs. St. Hill. Miss Cicely Richards did good service in the giving out of the badges.

VEDRENNE-BARKER DINNER.

A complimentary dinner was given on Sunday to Messrs. J. E. Vedrenne and H. Granville Barker, at the Criterion Restaurant. The guests included the Earl of Lytton (who was in the chair), the Countess Feodora Gleichen, the Ranee of Sarawak, Principal Sir Oliver Lodge, Mr. and Mrs. G. Bernard Shaw, the Hon. John Collier, Mr. Edward Bond, M.P., Mr. Sidney Lee, Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Lady Pollock, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Sutro, Mr. Tom Gallon, Sir Home Gordon, Mr. James Welch, Mr. Fred Kerr, Mr. St. John Hankin, Miss Fanny Brough, Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen, Mrs. W. K. Clifford, Mr. Norman McKinnel, Mr. Frederick Wedmore, Mr. E. J. Horniman, M.P., Judge Adams, Mr. J. H. Barnes, Mr. Hayden Coffin, Mr. Eric Lewis, Miss Wynne Matthison, Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson, Miss Winifred Arthur Jones, Miss Margaret Halstan, Mr. Eugene Mayeur, Mr. Luigi Lablache, Miss Darragh, Mr. Bram Stoker, Miss Isabel Jay, Mr. Louis Calvert, Mr. Albert Barker, Mr. Fred J. Melville, Mr. Grant Richards, Mr. Robert Harcourt, Mr. Alfred Brydone, Miss Gertrude Kingston, Mr. Robert Loraine, Mr. Sydney Brough, Mr. John Galsworthy, Miss Gertrude Scott, Mr. William Poel, Mr. Fredk. Whelen, Mr. Malcolm Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hentschel, Mr. W. Scott Buist, Miss Florence Farr, Mr. Frank Desprez, Miss Margaret Fraser, Miss Alice Esty, Miss Frances Ivor, Mr. S. H. Purdon, Miss Adeline Bourne, and Miss Fortescue. Letters of apology were read from Mr. J. M. Barrie, Sir C. Wyndham, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Frederick Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Dion Boucicault, and others.

The EARL OF LYTTON, in proposing the health of Mr. Vedrenne and Mr. Barker, said they had their own standard, and produced plays which satisfied them that they possessed an element of interest, without any regard as to what it might bring them. Like Solomon, they had elected wisdom, and all other things had been added unto them.

MR. VEDRENNE, who was unable to speak, and whose speech was read for him with admirable distinctness and excellent emphasis by Mr. Whelen, said: I want to thank you, to thank you all, for the honour that you are doing my partner and myself this evening. I also thank our chairman and the ladies and gentlemen of the committee who have so very kindly organised this gathering. It is an evening that Barker and I will never forget, and we are proud to think that you thought us worthy of this special recognition. I want to take this occasion to thank publicly all those who have helped us to build whatever reputation we may have obtained; first the authors who have given us the plays, and the actors and actresses who have so loyally worked with us.

MR. H. GRANVILLE BARKER said he was afraid that the step from the Court to a repertory theatre would be a long one; owing to the question of rent, the experiment would, he was afraid, have to be carried out, not in London, but in one of the large provincial cities. In the course of his speech Mr. Barker condoled with Mr. Tree, whose immense popularity rendered it undesirable for him to absent himself from the cast of any of his productions, even when he was desirous of taking a few days' rest.

MR. TREE, in moving the toast, "The authors of the Court Theatre," in the course of an eloquent speech, said:—I rank myself second to none in sympathy with the work done by our guests and in admiration of the remarkable record, to do honour to which this distinguished assembly is gathered to-night. The happy realisation of high endeavour which we are celebrating is of course in a large measure due to the band of writers who have gathered together in that little temple of art called the Court Theatre. But it is appropriate that that remarkable man—I was almost saying that remarkable institution—known as Bernard Shaw, should be the spokesman of this distinguished band, for to him, more than any other, belongs the literary Godfathership of the Court Theatre. It is only right that he, the head and front of its offending, should be given an opportunity of explaining himself—if he can. To be understood is to be found out. Of course, it is always difficult for a community of Englishmen to understand an Irishman. It is this lack of alertness in the Saxon race which explains its difficulty in governing the Irish people. Of course, some there are who cannot take Mr. Shaw seriously because he is humorous—there are others who cannot see his humour because he is serious. This mental agility, which is a characteristically Irish possession, is often disconcerting to us heavy-minded Saxons. The most searching criticism of our times on Ireland and on Irish national character is contained in a play written by Bernard Shaw, called *John Bull's Other Island*. Here, it seems to me, he showed that impartiality of the literary artist—that serenity of outlook, which towers him above the minor thinkers of our age.

Alluding to the authors of the Court Theatre who were present Mr. Tree said:—Mr. Gilbert Murray has the proud distinction of being the first author whose work was produced under the management whom we are met here to honour this evening—I refer to Mr. Murray's translation of the *Hippolytus* of Euripides. Mr. Laurence Housman is the joint-author with Mr. Granville Barker himself, of that charming play, *Prunella*, which, produced in their first season, has again been produced during the last few weeks, and shows signs of becoming a classic. I also see here Mr. St. John Hankin, the author of two comedies produced at the Court Theatre. He is a typical product of modernity. Mr. Frederick Fenn is here also, the author of *The Convict on the Hearth*, produced last year at the Court Theatre; and Mr. John Galsworthy, whose play, *The Silver Box*, is by universal consent one of the ablest plays written in the last few years. I also see Mr. John Masefield, whose play, *The Camden Wonder*, has encouraged some people to think that we have room for a Grand Guignol Theatre in London.

Ladies and gentlemen, these are only some of the authors of the Court Theatre. Their presence here to-night, and the success of so many of their plays during the past two or three years, does show that there is a new development, the more encouraging and hopeful because it proceeds in so many instances from young men, in the English stage of to-day. I confess that I feel a jealousy—a not ignoble jealousy, I hope—of Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker. I think I proved in years past that I was always ready to open my door to the younger generation which was knocking at it. It has always been a souce of deep regret to me that the conditions of the theatre over which I now preside have precluded my devoting my whole-hearted energies to the modern drama. If the palatial proportions of our building have placed certain limitations upon my efforts in this direction, it is pleasant to think that my loss has been the gain of our guests to-night. It is impossible that every production in an undertaking of this kind should be equally successful, but I have never come away from any of these productions without a feeling that here indeed was an institution in which the art of the theatre was worthily striven for. If the flour with which the bread was made differed in quality, the yeast was the same—the yeast of the presiding genius—the yeast of a directing personality.

There can be no doubt that the drama has advanced most hopefully during these latter years. I remember that when I first went on the stage, all the characters in a playbill (with the possible exception of a comic footman or a singing chamber-maid) had to be Dukes or Duchesses, Peers or Peeresses; none under an "honourable" or an occasional colonel was admitted to that select society. The drama to-day appeals to a wider humanity—it treats in a more philosophic spirit with the actions and the passions of mankind. The theatre is no longer the toy of fashion—intellect is the pose of the lower middle classes. I am glad to see we are so largely represented to-night. It is right that we should thank these authors, and that we should encourage them to persist in holding up the mirror to the nature of their time. It is right also that we should encourage them to those reaches of the imagination which give to humanity the idealised truth—this, the highest achievement of all art. I ask you in this toast to show your appreciation of what these authors have done. I give you the toast, "The authors of the Court Theatre, coupled with the name of Mr. Bernard Shaw."

MR. G. BERNARD SHAW, in returning thanks for "The Authors," said he was a remarkable man, and a clever man; perhaps a great man, but one was enough. No one wanted another Bernard Shaw.

Time pressing, the toasts of the "Players of the Court Theatre," "Prosperity to the Savoy Theatre," and "The Chairman," were then drunk, without further speeches being made.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

At the Council meeting of the Actors' Association on Tuesday, Mr. Fredk. Morland was in the chair, and amongst those present were Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Misses Clare Greet and Georgina Hamilton, and Messrs. Cecil Brooking, Kenyon Musgrave, and Charles Cruickshanks (secretary).

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The hon. solicitors reported they had advised three members.

It was proposed by Mr. Cecil Brooking, seconded by Mr. Kenyon Musgrave, and agreed—"That the secretary be instructed to write to the secretaries of the principal golf clubs in the United Kingdom asking them to arrange that members of the Actors' Association be allowed to use their links at a reduced rate."

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Hayden Coffin accepting his appointment on the Minimum Wage Committee.

The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was given, received, and confirmed.

The Chairman read a letter from Messrs. Pyke, Pyke and Howland, with regard to an offer for the premises.

Upon the proposition of Mr. Kenyon Musgrave, seconded by Miss Georgina Hamilton, it was agreed that the Council could not accept the offer.

Upon the proposition of Mr. Cecil Brooking, seconded by Mr. Kenyon Musgrave, it was agreed that Mr. Arthur Applin be appointed as a member of the Council, to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Miss Elisabeth Kirby.

The departure of a member of the Council reduced the number present to less than the required quorum, and those remaining were immediately formed into a Finance and General Purposes Committee for the purpose of carrying on the rest of the business, and Mr. Fredk. Morland being elected to the chair, the agenda was proceeded with.

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Lewis Casson, in which he stated he had had no reply to his letter to Mr. Holmes-Gore, and, therefore, concluded he wished his resignation to stand.

It was agreed the resignation be accepted with regret.

Miss Kate Phillips's resignation was also accepted with regret.

At the tenth bi-monthly meeting of the members of the Actors' Association at 10, King-street, Covent Garden, on Thursday, Mr. Adnam Sprange was elected chairman. There were present:—Miss Marian Bird, Miss Elsie Carew, Miss May Conrade, Mr. Burton Cooke, Mr. Hampton Gordon, Miss Georgiana Hamilton, Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood, Miss Stella Leigh, Miss Vera Leslie, Miss Sophie Lingwood, Mr. F. Morland, Miss Helen Mosley, Miss Emilie Polini, Mr. Randolfe Reade, Mr. Langford Reed, and Mr. Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. F. Morland stated that he was deputed by the Council to attend this meeting to make a statement on their behalf as to the subletting of the premises, and referred to the rumour that it was the first step towards the dissolution of the Association, of which the Council took no heed, feeling, as they did, confident that no such thing was likely to happen. The taking of the premises in King-street was an unfortunate blunder; and the present Council were merely taking steps to repair that blunder, the step being also taken for financial reasons. A reserve fund was a desirable thing, in order that money might be in hand to meet legal expenses incurred on behalf of members; it was, in fact, a "necessary" thing. Mr. Morland then reviewed the accounts for 1898, 1899, and 1900, and the disastrous issue of the Debentures. The coming into the premises was absolutely bad policy. He advocated one large room where meetings could be held, and a clerk's office where Council meetings could take place. There would be no difficulty in letting these premises and obtaining others, but it would be impossible to provide precise details as to cost. The matter was in the hands of all the principal agents in the neighbourhood; and there was no doubt satisfactory arrangements would shortly be made. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

ACTORS v. JOCKEYS.

Sol put on his best behaviour, wreathed himself in smiles, and gave Thalia a warm greeting at Lord's Cricket Ground on Thursday, when the above match was played.

Some 600 male visitors turned "the stile" at the St. John's Wood ground; the ladies, being free of the gate, outnumbered the sterner sex by two to one. Though the ladies were admitted free they soon busied themselves, besieging the printing office for "cards of the match," one penny each, which they bravely retailed for sixpences, shillings, and half-crowns for the benefit of the theatrical charities. "Morny" Cannon won the toss for the jockeys, and did not put his opponents in, but took up the defence. The pitch—for Lords—was amazingly hard. Mr Robert Evett captained the actors. Wickets fell rapidly at the outset (1 for 9, 2 for 12, 4 for 26), but with "Morny" and R. Hayhoe partnered, matters brightened up, the latter playing really good cricket, "Morny," who does not pretend to a "straight" bat or "Haywardian" methods, keeping his end up and punishing the loose balls. Woodman, a left-hand player with a graceful style, was the only other "Jock" to give the actors any trouble, and the innings closed for 128, of which 18 were made extras. A few catches fell unaccepted, and an occasional overthrow, from lack of backing up, afforded the crowd a little merriment. The fielding of Evett, Pierce, and O'Connor was smart and clean, and the bowling of O'Connor, Wilde, and Kenny excellent, the latter's analysis working out three wickets, four maidens, thirteen runs.

At half-past two the actors set about their comparatively easy task of getting 129. The match was to be decided on the first innings, if unfinished. Pierce and O'Connor took the sting out of the bowling, which was fairly "collared" when the captain, R. Evett, joined O'Connor. The rate of scoring then became almost "Jessopian," and boundaries followed one another in quick succession, making respectively 56 and 50. These two batsmen, who left with the telegraph board unchanged at 103, paved the way for an easy, comfortable victory. O'Connor's innings was practically faultless, his driving clean and well timed, his leg hitting forcible, and boundary compelling. He was out to a magnificent catch by Woodman close to the Pavilion rails. Evett played a more dashing and popular game, though had the guardian of the "sticks" been smarter he might have lived a less long and merry life. Kenny and Nainby, the latter not out, tied at 18 each. Extras were 24. The innings closed for 197, or 69 to the good. As there was over an hour before stump-drawing, the jockeys donned the pads and wielded the willow once more. Graves and Nainby handled the leather, one at each wicket, and the sport somewhat degenerated. The following is the score:—

JOCKEYS.
First Innings.

H. Hayhoe, b Kenny	9
P. Chaloner, b Kenny	3
E. Hunt, b O'Connor	2
R. Hayhoe, b Wilde	35
G. Williamson, b O'Connor	0
M. Cannon, c Kenny, b Pierce	22
G. Lyall, b Wilde	0
J. Woodman, c Nainby, b Wilde	19
D. Maher, c Malone, b Evett	15
J. Hunt, b Wilde	3
W. Matthews, not out	1
K. Cannon, b Kenny	0
Extras	19
Total	128

ACTORS.
First Innings.

V. O'Connor, c Matthews, b H. Hayhoe	50
P. F. Knox, l b w, b Woodman	1
H. E. Pierce, c H. Hayhoe, b Chaloner	10
H. Wilde, b Woodman	13
R. Evett, c Woodman, b Chaloner	56
F. Blackman, b H. Hayhoe	0
J. T. Kenny, c and b Chaloner	18
R. Nainby, not out	18
J. A. E. Malone, b J. Hunt	5
G. Graves, c and b J. Hunt	2
R. Hale, b J. Hunt	0
J. Coyne, absent	0
Extras	24
Total	197

JOCKEYS.
Second Innings.

H. Hayhoe, st Blackman, b Kenny	10
E. Hunt, not out	42
R. Hayhoe, c Knox, b Kenny	13
G. Williamson, b O'Connor	4
M. Cannon, b O'Connor	7
G. Lyall, c Kenny, b O'Connor	0
J. Woodman, c and b O'Connor	26
D. Maher, b Pierce	12
Total	127

MR. COLLETTE AT THE ALDWYCH.

In the Bishop's Carriage, which was transferred on Saturday from the Waldorf to the Aldwych Theatre, is an extraordinary example of success achieved by the aid of a remarkable and original embodiment. Miss Fannie Ward's Nance is a marvellously clever conception, and improves as the run of the play proceeds; and she is splendidly supported by such admirable actors as Mr. Charles Cartwright, Mr. Frank Cooper, and Mr. Charles Collette, who, besides enacting the bibulous Ramsay most cleverly, now appears with Miss Joan Perry in a duologue called *Hard Luck*, in which the irrepressible vivacity and quaint versatility of Mr. Collette are employed with diverting results, Miss Perry supporting the accomplished comedian very pleasantly. *Hard Luck* is one of Mr. Collette's comical concoctions, and is composed of clever patter, humorous anecdotes, and capital songs. Mr. Collette, who wears a red dress coat and red opera hat, is "assisted" by Miss Joan Perry, who brings him the necessary "props." He imitates the voice of a singer overpowered by the cries of costermongers, gives a droll account of a certain "Thirteen Club," and delights the audience by his rendering of that diverting ditty, "I've a lot to do to-day." Mr. Collette is as audaciously amusing and as magnetically alert as ever, and his efforts at the Aldwych are crowned with complete success.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, the Musical Play, by Frank Stanmore, Music by E. Paschal, in Two Acts, entitled "SUCH A NICE GIRL."

There was a numerous audience at the Kingston playhouse on Monday, when the first of seven performances of this tuneful play was given. Mr. Stanmore, the author, who takes a leading part in the production, appears as Bertie Holbrook, in which he has many opportunities of displaying his undoubted abilities as a low comedian. In this respect he receives valuable support from Mr. Arthur Poole, who appears as a peppery colonel. Miss Nell Richardson renews her acquaintance with a Kingston audience in the title-rôle, playing the part of Hilda Colman with much charm. Miss Maud Percival makes a piquant French schoolgirl as Cerise; Miss Gladys Anderson succeeds in winning much approval as the precocious child, Flossie; and Miss Nellie Clarence succeeds in giving a good picture of the severe schoolmistress, Martha Grimm. Some pretty dancing and singing are given by the Misses Marjorie Battis, Ada Smart, Lilian Lilford, and Constance Lilford, as the Smart Set Girls. The dressing and mounting of the play are all that can be desired. Mr. Fred Penley ably conducts the orchestra.

CHAT WITH MR. HARRY RICKARDS.

"I do not know any place in the world where there is such a splendid theatre-going public." That is Mr. Harry Rickards' opinion of Australian playgoers. And if evidence as to the value of Mr. Rickards' opinions on subjects connected with the stage were asked for, it would be found in the fact that he can boast a whole life's experience of theatrical affairs. But, as he goes on to explain, there is good reason why the Australians patronise the various places of amusement in the colony. "They have always had the best of everything, and in large quantities," he explains. "Mr. J. C. Williamson puts on all the best London pieces, comic operas, musical comedies, etc., while from my humble self they get the finest vaudeville turns."

Mr. Rickards, who is here on his annual visit, and will remain in England for thirteen or fourteen weeks, has made a few alterations in his business arrangements since he left London last September. He relinquished the lease of the Theatre Royal, Perth, in May, and in lieu thereof has leased the Palace Theatre and Pleasure Gardens in Perth. He had held the Theatre Royal for some five years, and he found that it had paid well enough, but it occurred to him that a better arrangement would be to run the Palace and Gardens for the summer months and close down in the winter. He is also running the Cremorne Gardens at Kalgoorlie, which is a fine structure;

[*Photo by Falk Studio.*
MR. HARRY RICKARDS

accommodates 2,500 people; and, like the place already referred to, is open for the summer season, which extends to five months.

Mr. Rickards has, of course, other interests in Australia. He is the sole owner of the Tivoli Theatre and Tivoli Hotel at Sydney, and the Opera House and Prince of Wales's Hotel at Melbourne. In addition to these, he holds the lease of the Tivoli Theatre, Adelaide, and has short leases of nearly all the principal theatres in New Zealand, where, by the way, he has been running his own vaudeville company, the list of artists including the Charlenes, King and Benson, Fred Russell, Cassie Walmer, the rest of the company being talented Australians. He is also responsible for supplying the demand for artists for a mining district called Broken Hill, where two theatres are kept up all the year round. He tells us that he is well booked up until 1909, and is only sending out three turns this year for immediate dates, these artists being the Molasso Quartette, who sailed for Australia yesterday; Price and Revort, the comedy acrobats; and the Whiteleys, acrobats and wire-walkers. During his present sojourn in this country, Mr. Rickards will engage artists for the whole of the years 1909 and 1910.

"All the artists who have been to Australia under my management," continues Mr. Richards, "have seemed greatly pleased with the country, and desirous of going back to it. Of course, there may be a few who have not made as great a success as they thought they should have done, and they do not give the colony a good name; but all the best people I have engaged have been extremely well satisfied with their visit to the Antipodes. As a matter of fact, I have made a number of re-engagements, including Charlene and Cinquevalli. The latter is going out for me once again in 1909. He is very popular in Australia."

Mr. Rickards, who arrived at Plymouth by the P. and O. liner Mongolia, was accompanied by his wife, Mrs. J. C. Leete, whose husband is Mr. Rickards' head manager, and his private secretary. It is of interest now to recall that it was in 1872 that Mr. Rickards first went to Australia to woo fair Fortune, but previous to that he had himself performed on the stage in England for fourteen years.

The Creo Brothers, comedy acrobats, have just been engaged by Mr. Rickards, and sail for Australia on Aug. 2.

AMUSEMENTS IN BIRMINGHAM.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Barnardo.—*A Little Vagrant* is being played here by Mr. Harry Roxbury's company. Miss Vashti Wynne, Miss Alice Bowes, and Mr. Cecil A. Collins especially distinguish themselves; and the drama is excellently mounted.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Nat Abatt, entertainer, is doing well here; the Sisters Verne are lively duettists; Miss Dolly Ellison, serio, has many admirers; and T. W. Lenner scores highly. Florrie Waring, the Sisters Dudley, Ethel Dunville, King and King, and Ella Dare all contribute valuably to the variety programme, which is proving so attractive. The electric Bioscope is showing some pleasing and interesting views.

Empire Theatre.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Eugene Stratton has had an enthusiastic reception here, and is as popular as ever. Matthews and Cowper, the New York Nippers, Nellie Martell, Frank Seeley, Belloni's Cockatoos, the Frasettis, and Ryan and Hall are making valuable contributions to the capital variety entertainment.

Gaiety.—General-Manager, Mr. A. Bushell.—The military sketch, *Outflanked*, is admirably given here by Mr. H. Coutts and company. The Dawnton-Shaw combination are smart trick cyclists; and George Young, Andy Burn, the Three Seabournes, and Hector, on the wire, are all warmly applauded.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Miss Dolly Elsworthy's company are presenting *The Orange Girl*. Miss Elsworthy plays the part of Nell Gwyn with great ability; George Gilbey, the popular comedian, makes the house rock with laughter, and, as usual, his stick plays a large part in his performance; Harry Webber, a Hebrew dialect comedian, submits an amusing performance; and Jack Pleasant proves himself a genuinely funny artist. A popular turn is that of the Macdonald Trio in their musical garden; while Wallace is a clever juggler; Nellie Chandos is a good comedienne; Moon and Morris are splendid dancers; while Rastus and Banks, coloured entertainers, and Mlle. Lumiere, serpentine dancer, complete the programme.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Harry Grey, the comedian, makes up in the most grotesque manner, and there is a quaintness about his humour that cannot fail to create laughter; Wallace Selkirk's naval and military display, entitled *Egypt*, finds general favour; another acceptable turn is provided by Dot Stephens, who, it will be remembered, met with a terrible accident last year, falling from the Glasgow express, between Walsall and Wolverhampton, losing the whole of one foot and half the other. Her reappearance is most welcome, her voice being fuller, and her songs charming. One could scarcely notice the slightest defect in her stage movements, thus showing a splendid example of modern surgery. Edith Courtney produces a new musical scena, *A Marble Flirtation;* Carl Howard is a good conjuring comedian, doing some excellent tricks, and then giving them away; Olive Armidale is a dainty comedienne; and the Moullier Sisters are clever horizontal bar performers.

CAMDEN THEATRE OUTING TO TRING, JULY 7, 1907.

The Camden Theatre annual outing took place on Sunday. The party journeyed by train from Euston to Tring, arriving at their destination shortly after eleven o'clock. They proceeded to the Royal Hotel, where, after being photographed and partaking of light refreshments, they roamed through the park, returning to the hotel at 1.30. After dinner, Mr. Andrews toasted the health of the King and the Royal Family, to which Mr. Wilfred Stanford ably responded. Mr. Tayler, the treasurer of the theatre, said how pleased he was to be amongst them all; and Mr. Ford, the musical director, hoped to see the same faces round him again next year. The party had a pleasant drive in brakes to Ashridge Park, returning by way of Ivanhoe. After tea, they roamed through the beautiful lanes, and proceeded to the station, where a special carriage was waiting to take them back to London.

THE LATE JOHN CARTER.

Mr. John Elcock Carter, who died of heart disease on June 15 at his home in Fairmount-avenue, Philadelphia, at the age of eighty-eight, fulfilled an engagement in Baltimore less than a month before his death. Mr. Carter began his career as an actor when only five years of age, appearing as the child's ghost in *Macbeth*. He was born in England. One of his pet reminiscences was to the effect that he had sat on George Stephenson's knee when that engineer drove the first railroad train. He witnessed the coronation of Queen Victoria. He played François to Macready's Richelieu, and supported such other stars as Edmund Kean, Junius Brutus Booth, Charlotte Cushman, Charles Dillon, Edmund Falconer, H. L. Bateman, and Sir Henry Irving. He gave the original portrayal of Uncle Tom in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in England. He came to America with Sir Henry Irving when that tragedian made his first visit, playing Walter in *The Hunchback*.

The funeral ceremony was simple. In the little parlour of the late home of the deceased the body reposed in an oak casket, upon which there were a number of floral tributes. Simple yet impressive services were preached, and the body was then taken to Monument Cemetery for interment. The pall-bearers were Messrs. Creston Clarke, H. Dornton, J. J. Mason, and Edward Barber. The two first-named represented the stage; others who were of the profession the dead man had adorned were Mr. and Mrs. Howard Jones and Mrs. Marcellus.

John Carter left a widow, who as Jennie Coburn had shared his triumphs on the boards. He came of a long-lived race. His father died at 109 and an uncle at ninety-eight. For nine years past Mr. Carter supported the grandson of Junius Brutus Booth, Mr. Creston Clarke, on tour in America.

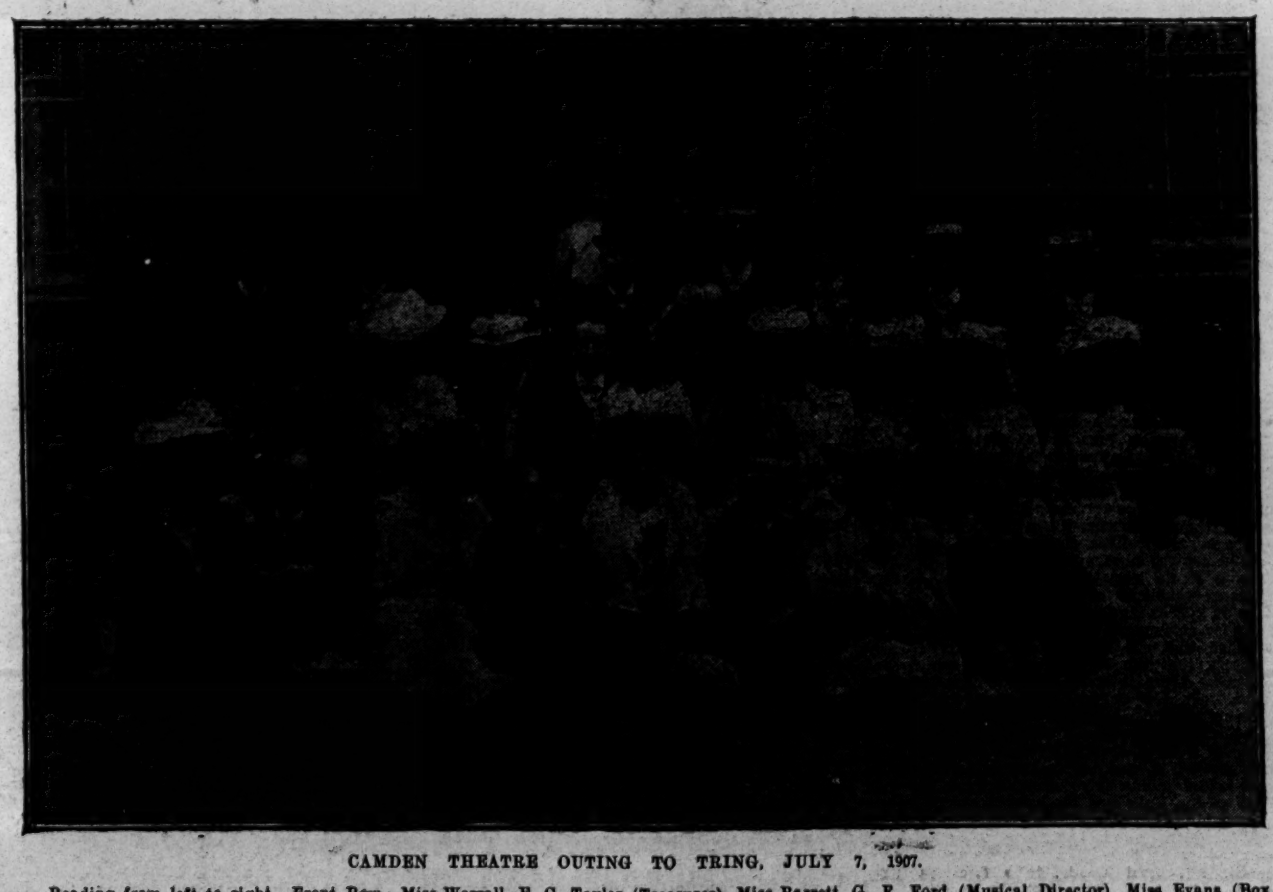
THE LATE JOHN CARTER.

He used to tell how he came to be the first representative of Uncle Tom in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

"Shortly after the Stowe book was published the Mayor of Wolverhampton, in Staffordshire, was in this country. He secured a copy of the book and read it during his voyage home. So impressed was he with its dramatic possibilities that he prepared a crude sort of dramatisation. I was then a member of a negro minstrel company and did a song and dance. The Mayor, whose name now escapes me, came to me and asked if I would play the part of Uncle Tom. I consented, and so the play was put on.

"I never at that time had been in America, and I don't believe I had seen more than a half dozen negroes in my entire life. I'm afraid the performance I gave was not a very faithful portraiture of the aged negro, but the people seemed to like it. After that many dramatisations of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' were written and produced in England, but I was the original Uncle Tom."

The Society of Arts held a conversazione in the Gardens of the Royal Botanic Society, Regent's Park, on Tuesday evening, when Sir Steuart Colvin Bayley, the chairman of the Council, presided. In the conservatory the string band of the Royal Marine Light Infantry, conducted by Lieut. George Miller, played, while in the gardens music was provided by the band of the Coldstream Guards, under Lieut. Mackenzie Rogan. A "Watteau" play, *La Marquise*, was performed by Mr. Patrick Kirwan's Idyllic Players, and a concert was given in the Club House, under the direction of Mr. Patrick Kirwan.



CAMDEN THEATRE OUTING TO TRING, JULY 7, 1907.

Reading from left to right.—Front Row: Miss Worrall, E. G. Taylor (Treasurer), Miss Barrett, G. F. Ford (Musical Director), Miss Evans (Box Office Keeper), Wilfred Stanford (Manager), Miss Almond (Bar Manageress), J. Brown, Miss Corrall. Second Row: Miss Godard, Mrs. Brown, Miss Rees, Mrs. Salmon, J. Andrews (Steward), Miss O'Donoghen, Miss Macchi, Miss Pinner, Miss Barton, Miss Gibbs. Third Row: G. Beech, J. Helsden, Mrs. Andrews, J. Quinton, J. Griffiths, J. Grant, J. Every, J. Crook. Back Row: Miss Buckle, Mr. Buckle.

ON THE ROAD, JULY 15.

All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—Royal, Gt. Yarmouth.
An Unwedded Wife.—T. R. Rotherham.
At the World's Mercy.—Pavilion, Chorlton.
Beneath the Stars.—Court T., Bacup.
Bes Must Win.—O. H., Workington.
Best of Her Sex.—O. H., Coventry.
Bootles' Baby.—O. H., Harrogate.
Branded Woman.—T. R., Stratford.
Charley's Aunt.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Curate, The.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Dan the Rake.—P.O.W., Salford.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Junction T., Manchester.
Destroyer of Men.—Royal T., Sunderland.
D'Oyly Carte Opera.—Pavilion, Ramsgate.
End Crowns All.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Eve of Her Wedding.—T. R., Aston.
Gambler's Daughter.—Prince's, Portsmouth.
Girl from Japan.—Junction T., Manchester.
Heart's Desire.—Royal, Middlesbrough.
Her Luck in London.—Grand T., Bolton.
Her One Great Sin.—T. R., Croydon.
Lion and The Mouse.—West Pier, Brighton.
His Sister's Honour.—T. R., Stockport.
Honour Thy Father.—Royal, Bristol..
How Money's Made.—Gaiety, Burnley.
Idler.—Grand T., Nelson.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Morpeth and Alnwick.
Leah Kleschna.—Pleasure Gardens, Folkestone.
Little Vagrant.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Lucky Durham.—P. G. T., Hastings.
Man's Enemy.—Royal, Wolverhampton.
Master Criminal.—Lyceum T., Stafford.
Merely Mary Ann.—West Pier, Brighton.
Mollison, William.—O. H., Blackpool.
Monte Cristo.—T. R., Chatham.
My Sweetheart.—Royal, Jarrow.
New World.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Nobleman of Nature, A.—G. T., Aberavon.
Octoroon (Thorn).—Metropole, Gateshead.
Peter's Mother's (N.).—Blackpool.
Pick of the Bunch.—Royalty, Barrow.
Power of Gold.—Star, Liverpool.
Prince of Pilsen (Harris).—Gaiety T., Douglas.
Prodigal Parson.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Prodigal Son (Western).—Oxford.
Raffles.—O. H. Jersey.
Royal Divorce.—T. R., York.
Secrets.—T. R., Leeds.
Shulamite.—Londesborough T., Scarborough.
Sin of Her Childhood.—King's T., Manchester.
Snug Little Kingdom.—Royal, Worthing.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—Empire, Oldham.
Superior Miss Pellender, The.—Alexandra, Dovercourt.
The Woman Pays.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
Tommy.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harrington).—P. of W., Grimsby
Walker, London.—King's T., Glasgow.
Warning to Women.—Empire, Southend.
When a Man Hates.—Royal, Cardiff.
When It Was Dark.—Camden T., N.W.
When the Lights are Low.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Woman from Scotland Yard.—O. H., St. Helens.
Woman's Past.—Prince's T. Blackburn.
World's Great Snare.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Wrecker of Men.—Grand T., Brighton.
You Never Can Tell.—Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne.
£1000 Reward.—T. R., Dover.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, July 8, the Drama, entitled "CALLED BACK."

Mr. James Willard's company is presenting at the Camden this week that famous West-end drama, adapted from Hugh Conway's shilling shocker, "Called Back," and bearing the same name, which was so popular years ago at the Prince's Theatre, when Mr. Beerbohm Tree's powerful impersonation of Macari established his high reputation as a character actor. It still remains a thrilling and exciting piece, and it is pleasant to be able to see it again, especially when acted by such a capital company as the present one. The favourite actress, Miss Grace Lester, fills the rôle of Pauline, and plays with great skill a character which is indeed of the most trying description. Gilbert Vaughan, the blind hero, who afterwards regains his sight, is depicted in a masterly way by Mr. Harry Hillier, who draws a very fine picture of the character. Mr. Frank Denis is in excellent form as Ceneri, and enlists sympathy for the old patriot. Mr. James Gelderd gives a forcible rendering of Macari, the political agitator. It is a finished piece of work. Petroff is likewise well portrayed by Mr. William Heyward; Mr. Herbert Claremont is successful in his one short scene as Anthony March; Miss Phyllis French is a charming Ellen Vaughan; and Miss Helena Rigby a good Priscilla. Mr. H. Belmore causes much laughter as Captain Kenyon; Mr. Joe Bracewell contributes to the lighter scenes as the Perisher, a quaint character indeed; and Mr. Arthur Mansfield proves an acceptable Dr. Maxwell. The play is well staged.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—Sir Henry Irving.

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

Miss Edie Martin (Mrs. Felix Pitt) has terminated a six months' engagement as Dick in *Two Little Vagabonds* at Kingston-on-Thames, and has been engaged by Mr. Peter Davey for his forthcoming Christmas pantomime.

A young actor, journeying to South Africa to fulfil an engagement with Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler, at Cape Town, writing home, gives a description of a grand view he had of the famous bay and Table Mountain. He says:—"The bay in which Cape Town is situated is very beautiful. It is the finest sight I have ever seen. Table Mountain stands almost alone, rising 4,500ft. above the sea-level, and is perfectly flat on top. When I first sighted it I saw the whole of it without a cloud near. Very gradually, apparently from nowhere, a cloud formed on the top just like a white tablecloth, and, after staying awhile, slowly lifted and melted away. A grand sight!"

Mr. Fenwick, upon the application of the Music Publishers' Association at the Bow-street Police-court on the 5th inst., granted summonses against a hawker to show cause why a talking machine disc and a perforated music roll which he had offered for sale should not be destroyed. The proceedings will constitute a test case under the Musical (Summary Proceedings) Copyright Act, 1902.

Sylo, with his wonderful hoop-juggling effects, is making a big success at the London Pavilion.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

(We do not answer questions by post.)

V. WALBRAN CHAPMAN (St. James's-square).—*You might be able to get a copy of Mme. Yvette Guilbert's songs, with French and English words, by applying to Mr. James W. Mathews, Duke of York's Theatre. The translation of the verses is by Mr. Raphael, the French correspondent of a widely-circulated Sunday paper, and the books were sold at the theatre during Mme. Yvette Guilbert's season there last summer with Mr. Albert Chevalier.*

ELECTROPHONE (Glasgow).—1. *The lady you mention is neither the daughter nor is she any relation whatever of the late George Leybourne. Miss Leybourne sang her father's famous song, or part of it, in a medley of airs that he made popular during his career. She is the wife of Mr. Albert Chevalier.* 2. *Yes; at Golder's Hill. The ashes were afterwards interred in Westminster Abbey in close proximity to the grave of David Garrick.*

HAROLD C. HUNT (Hampstead).—Called Back, *adapted by Mr. J. Comyns Carr from Hugh Conway's novel of the same name, was not produced originally at the Haymarket, but at the Prince's—now the Prince of Wales's—Theatre, on May 20, 1884. Mr. Beerbohm Tree made one of the hits of his career as Macari; Mr. Kyrle Bellew was the Gilbert Vaughan, Mr. G. W. Anson the Dr. Ceneri, and the late Miss Lingard the Pauline March. The play was afterwards transferred to the Olympic.*

OLD STAGER (Swansea).—*We have taken considerable trouble to trace the production you mention at Drury Lane, but have been unsuccessful. Charles Dillon appeared under the late F. B. Chatterton's management at the theatre mentioned in September, 1878, when he played Leontes in* The Winter's Tale. *No mention of the character of Werner as associated with Dillon is made in his obituary in our columns, nor in Davenport Adams's "Dictionary of the Drama." The play was originally produced at Drury Lane in November, 1830, with Macready in the title-rôle and Helen Faucit as Josephine. Werner was a favourite character with Macready, as he included it in his répertoire for something like fifteen years, playing it both in the United Kingdom and America.*

G. S. S. (Harlesden).—*We are unable to inform you of our own knowledge as to the lady's nationality, but will make enquiries and let you know in this column. We do not, however, intend to enlarge the scope of our enquiry so as to include the lady's age.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

ROLPH.—On July 6, at 10, Osterley-gardens, Osterley Park, Middlesex, the wife of Fred Rolph, of a son.

ROYCE.—July 8, at North Cottage, Mablethorpe, Lincs., the wife of Arthur Royce, of a fine bouncing boy. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

CARRODUS—HIDE.—July 10, Bernhard Molique Carrodus, violinist, third son of the late John Tiplady Carrodus, formerly leader of the Italian Opera orchestra, Covent Garden, to Cicely Carrington, only daughter of Allan Carrington Hide, of Highgate.

GARSIDE—MAYHEW.—July 6, Mr. Edward L. Garside, part proprietor of *The London Fireman* and *Her Marriage Vow* companies, to Mrs. Henry Mayhew, proprietress of the Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

HUTCHISON-EARLE.—July 6, at the Registry Office, Marylebone-road, Percy Hutchison to Miss Lilias Earle.

MACKAY—OSTLERE.—July 10, W. Gayer Mackay, actor, to Miss Edith Ostlere, actress and authoress.

MUMFORD—LITTAUR.—On June 15, 1907, at St. John's Church, Secunderabad, India, Charles Edward Mumford, formerly musical-director, Palace Theatre, Bow, to Jeannette Louisa Littaur (Jeannette Latour), ballad vocalist.

DEATHS.

DONALD.—On July 5, at Fulham, Maria Ann, widow of the late John Donald, formerly of Bareilly, Rohilcund, N.W.P. East India, 5, Argyll-road, Kensington, and Raleigh House, South Penge Park, in her eightieth year.

HOWLETT.—On July 8, Prof. Carl Howlett, at Granville House, Green-lanes, Hornsey, London N., aged 48. Gone, but not forgotten.

MILNER.—On July 3, Professor George Milner, in his 85th year, Professor of the Risley performance, and master of the renowned Johnson Troupe, globe performers.

WILLIAMS.—July 11, at her residence, Kennington, of apoplexy, Mrs. Williams, wife of Jesse Williams, musical conductor.

IN MEMORIAM.

BLANDE.—In memory of my mother, Mrs. S. A. Blande, who died July 15, 1901.—EDITH.

DAVIS.—In loving memory of Robert Davis, the beloved father of Heleanor Gordon, who passed away July 12, 1906.

MARTIN.—In loving memory of Ada Beatrice Martin, who passed away July 11, 1905. Never forgotten by her devoted husband Will.

WALTON.—In loving memory of George Walton (Hemming), who died at Durban, South Africa, July 15, 1903. Never forgotten by his nephew, George Swinnerton.

ALTHOUGH this is the seventh visit of Brien McCullough to the Star, Bermondsey, with *The Winner*, the business has been phenomenal, and Johnny Hart has again rebooked it.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.
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Bale Troupe.
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Barker, Mr. J.
Barrett, Mr. W. Burgess
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Biddall, W.
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Bosanquet, Mr.
Boucicault, Miss Nina
Bown, Mr. Clifford
Braithwaite, Miss L.
Brennand, Mr. R.
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Bruce, Mr. W. Arthur
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Gillmore, Mr. Barry
Ginnett, Mr. F.
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Wynne, Mr. E. S.
Yelding, Mr. R.
Zalvar, Mr. C.
"Zenora."

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen :—

J. B. Vedrenne—Saturday, July 13.
Gladys Archbutt—Saturday, July 13.
Forbes Dawson—Sunday, July 14.
Jessie Millward—Sunday, July 14.
Oscar Beringer—Sunday, July 14.
Nellie Malcolm—Sunday, July 14.
Herbert M. King—Monday, July 15.
Jennie Hallworth—Monday, July 15.
Joseph Joachim—Monday, July 15.
Marie Tempest—Monday, July 15.
Beatrice Lamb—Monday, July 15.
Fred Herbert—Monday, July 15.
Tom M'Kay—Monday, July 15.
Ida Mackay—Monday, July 15.
Harry Clyo—Monday, July 15.
Ada Blanche—Tuesday, July 16.
Conway Wingfield—Tuesday, July 16.
B. A. W. Abadaroff—Tuesday, July 16.
Armando Caicedo—Tuesday, July 16.
Evelyn de Worms—Tuesday, July 16.
Arthur W. Howard—Tuesday, July 16.
Joseph O'Mara—Tuesday, July 16.
Will Sley—Tuesday, July 16.
Herr Fritz—Tuesday, July 16.
Mrs. Carmen Caicedo—Tuesday, July 16.
Master A. Caicedo—Tuesday, July 16.
E. A. Ward (Cameo)—Tuesday, July 16.
Florrie Robina—Wednesday, July 17.
Dorothy Fairley—Wednesday, July 17.
Victor Knight—Wednesday, July 17.
Ada Brogden—Wednesday, July 17.
Marjory Armstrong—Wednesday, July 17.
Tom Edwards—Wednesday, July 17.
Cecil Clayton—Thursday, July 18.
Chas. Pierpoint—Thursday, July 18.
Mrs. Austin Melford—Thursday, July 18.
Queenie Leighton—Thursday, July 18.
Gracie Clements—Thursday, July 18.
Peggie Pryde—Friday, July 19.
H. Cooper Cliffe—Friday, July 19.
Lizzie Norman—Friday, July 19.
Nellie Gannon—Friday, July 19.

THE Barber-Ritchie Trio, which includes the original "Tramp-cyclist," had the honour of appearing at the Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on Saturday, and caused, if possible, more laughter among the Royal children and their guests than that heard nightly at the Empire, where they are appearing. The biograph films taken from special positions authorised for the Empire by the Brooklands Syndicate are among the best motor-racing pictures ever exhibited.

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	C	A	B			D				
Liverpool-street, depart..	8.40	9.10	9.50	10.18	11. 5	12. 0	2.30	4.15	4.30	8.20
St. Pancras, "	..	9.15	9.48	10.18	..	12.20	2.40	4.10	..	5. 7	..
Newmarket, arrive..	10.33	11.34	11.45	12.10	12.50	2.20	4.48	6. 5	6.21	7.17	10.18

Up Trains.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
			D		D	D		D		*B	†A
Newmarket, depart..	8. 3	8.59	10.42	12.25	12.30	3.57	4.10	4.15	5.40	6. 0	6.15	7.47
St. Pancras, arrive..	10.23	11.15	..	2.40	2.45	6.15	6. 0	..	7.35	8.10	8.35	..
Liverpool-street, " ..	10.15	10.55	12.40	2.30	2.55	6. 6	..	6. 3	7.40	8. 0	8.26	9.57

(A) Special. (B) Special—First Class only. (C) On July 15 only. (D) On July 18 only. * †. On July 18 start one hour and one hour and twenty minutes respectively after the advertised time of the last race.

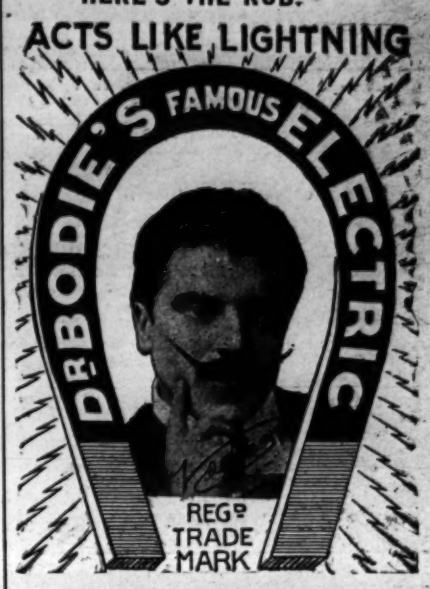
Price 3s. 6d. Post free 3s. 10d.
THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Shakespeare said—
"THERE'S THE RUB."
BODIE says—
"HERE'S THE RUB."



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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
Another book which calls for attention is that excellent and almost indispensable work of reference, "The Era" Almanack and Annual. In this handy shillingsworth one has a complete record of the past dramatic year, and the arrangement is so admirable that no time is lost in finding the desired subject, title of play, revival, or new production, and all that appertains to the drama of the year. The same remark applies to the information concerning the stages of Paris and Berlin; and I should like to see next year the American stage included, because it is becoming so intimately allied with our own, by reason of the production of plays, the interchange of actors, and the comprehensive interests of managers. In addition to the solid pages of facts, there are included short tales and stories by well-known actors and actresses, and altogether the book is one which should find its way into the hands of all genuine lovers of the drama. —Morning Advertiser, Feb. 23, '07.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
To anyone connected with the stage, from the call-boy to the "star," and from the electrician to the manager, the "Era Annual" makes an appeal which it is very hard to resist. The number of stories and anecdotes contributed by well-known members of the theatrical profession are always bright, breezy, and fresh, and, as usual, the photographs are excellently reproduced. The calendar is arranged so as to give an interesting theatrical event, with the year of occurrence, for every day in the year. The tables of plays produced at the various London and provincial theatres provide an interesting story of successes and failures, and in every respect the Annual for 1907 is well up to the usual standard. It is published at one shilling by "The Era," at 5, Tavistock-street London.—Dublin Express, Jan. 28.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
A capital shilling's worth is the "Era Annual," with its valuable lists of new plays produced during the year in London, the provinces, Berlin, and Paris. In contains, also, many readable articles by stage favourites, notably a characteristic contribution, "How I Spend My Day," by Miss Ellen Terry.—Daily Express, Feb. 2.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1907.

THE PAST SEASON.

It is taken as a matter of course by many that a season of long runs is disadvantageous to Dramatic Art. In that case, the season which is now coming to a close must be extremely artistic; for there has seldom been so many productions which have made but a short stay upon the boards. It is pleasant, however, from a financial standpoint to notice that at our most important theatres artistic success and prosperity have gone hand in hand. *John Glayde's Honour*, at the St. James's, settled down into a steady success from the commencement, and Mr. ALEXANDER may be congratulated upon his commission to Mr. SUTRO, who has earned the reputation of being one of our most able and expert of our serious playwrights. From the point of view of the public, the season has been one of the most interesting on record. Variety has been its chief characteristic; and there has been a "choice selection" provided for all sorts and conditions of playgoers. The fact that, in many cases, managers have been obliged to fall back upon revivals and adaptations has not made the season any the less interesting, especially as these latter have been done with the requisite skill and respect for the originals. A notable instance is *My Wife* at the Haymarket, the excellences of the comedy being made more notable by the charming acting of Miss MARIE LOHR as the artless heroine. A strong proof of the readiness of our London managers to adventure into the realms of intellectual drama was given by Mr. ARTHUR BOURCHIER'S experiment with *The Duel* at the Garrick. A play so deep in meaning and so powerful in passion is seldom presented to an English audience, and it is greatly to Mr. BOURCHIER'S credit that he should have selected it for production. The success of Miss GEORGE at the Duke of York's in a version of *Divorçons* was due as much to the delightfully vivacious performance of the leading actress as to the diverting nature of SARDOU'S comedy. Nor, from the playgoer's point of view, were the revivals unwelcome, since they included the reproduction at His Majesty's of such a fine work of art as *A Woman of No Importance*, which so many of the rising generation of playgoers must have longed to see acted. Mr. TREE won the gratitude of many lovers of the drama by again offering to them this polished piece of modern comedy, and it was interesting to notice how piquantly its wit and humour appealed to a present-day audience.

A notable feature of the season has been the number of imported American plays which have been presented to the public. The visit of Mr. SOTHERN and Miss JULIA MARLOWE to the Waldorf was an artistic success, and introduced London playgoers to two able and accomplished performers, and some extremely interesting plays. At the Aldwych the "American novelties" were equally quaint and original, the football drama *Strongheart* giving a good idea of the way in which the game is regarded in the States, and *In the Bishop's Carriage* revealing unexpected genius in Miss FANNIE WARD, who made a remarkable personal success in the piece. The American play presented which was most "racy of the soil" was *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, irresistibly droll, and giving evidence of being a "slice out of life." Another amusing importation from the States was *Brewster's Millions*, which scored highly at the Hicks Theatre; and *The Earl of Pawtucket* at the Playhouse gave Mr. CYRIL MAUDE an opportunity of shining in a class of part in which he is unapproachable. Several American artists supported Mr. MAUDE; and Mr. CLYDE FITCH, an American author, with the help of Miss MARIE TEMPEST, who played the heroine superbly, scored a genuine success with *Truth* at the Comedy.

An event for which the season will be memorable was the "new departure" at the Lyceum, where Messrs. SMITH and CARPENTER'S policy of presenting sensational melodrama, admirably acted and mounted, at popular prices, has proved immensely profitable. Mr. OTHO STUART was thoroughly fortunate in the productions of *The Stronger Sex* and *Peter's Mother* at the Apollo; and Mr. MARTIN HARVEY added greatly to his reputation by the fine work done by him and his company in a series of refined and artistic revivals at the Adelphi. Altogether, if the spring season of 1907 has not been always financially prosperous, it has been full of interest and enterprise, and much clever and creditable work has been done both by English actors and authors and by their Transatlantic visitors and rivals.

A résumé of the past season would be incomplete without reference to the continuance of the enterprise of Messrs. VEDRENNE and BARKER at the Court Theatre. It cannot now, at any rate, be said that the minority who prefer the works of Mr. BERNARD SHAW and the other "advanced" dramatists to those of Mr. SUTRO and Mr. STEPHEN PHILLIPS is not represented in London. It is a satisfaction to find that we have not now to go to the Continent for our "intellectual" theatrical supplies, and that a school of "advanced" dramatists, major and minor, sprang up as soon as a theatre was opened at which their works could be performed. It is pleasant also to notice that "modernity" is not the sole qualification for production at the Court, and that an antiquated entertainment of the "old philosophy" like the *Hippolytus* of Euripides is found worthy of a place on the bills of the Sloane-square house. It is to be hoped that, in time, we may cultivate sufficient genius not to have to rely chiefly on Mr. BERNARD SHAW to "lay the golden eggs" which keep a playhouse going.

THE Attorney-General, M.P., sat in the Library, Dublin Castle, on Saturday, to hear an application on the part of the Dublin Theatre Royal Company, Ltd., with reference to certain contemplated extensions. The memorial of the applicants prayed for "an extension of the existing letters patent or new letters patent to enable them to utilise as a winter garden and palace court in connection with the said Theatre Royal a certain building proposed to be erected adjoining." The Theatre Royal Company were under the impression that even under the terms of their existing patent they could carry out the improvements they desired, but they thought it better to come before the Attorney-General to make this application. The Attorney-General said he would announce his decision at an early date.

MISS RUBY RAY, who has proved such a popular turn at the London Pavilion this week, sails for America in a few days under the Frohman banner.

QUENNIE JOHNSON, of Dickinson and Johnson, the well-known tank performers, won the ladies' championship of the world in the River Seine on Sunday last. Miss Johnson swam the distance—about eight miles—in 3 hours 10 mins., beating Miss Kellerman's time for the same race by 42 mins. 38 secs., and allotted records. Dickinson and Johnson will be back in town in August.

MR. FRANK HOWARD concludes on July 20 at the Empire Theatre, Croydon, a fourteen weeks' comfortable engagement as general-manager for Herbert Darnley's *The Skirmishers* and *Moving In* companies. He is re-engaged by Mr. Lester Collingwood to take up the management and play his old part, the Hon. Bertie Broomhead, for the autumn tour of *When London Sleeps*.

MESSRS. BLISS AND BLISS' pierrots collected for the Saturday Hospital Fund, in Barrow-in-Furness, no less a sum than £24 17s. 11d., which was gathered in the rain. The troupe consists of the following artists:—Dan Biglow, comedian; Percy Vale, vocal comedian; Harry Vernon, baritone; James Bassnett, vocalist; Bert Bertram, pianist; Walter Lynham, tenor; Louis Kerno, coon singer; and Bliss and Bliss, comedians. They have been playing to crowds for the last two weeks.

THE third river outing of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association is fixed for Sunday, July 28, and Mr. Douglas Stuart, who is organising the arrangements, has agreed with the London and South-Western Company to run a special train of first-class saloons to carry the party (9 a.m.) to Reading. From Reading, the commodious steam launch, Empress of India (one of the largest on the river and licensed to carry 250 passengers) has been engaged, and the river trip will be through some of the prettiest peeps of the Thames for sixteen miles up the river, through Caversham, Mapledurham, Whitchurch, Pangbourne, Whitchurch Lock, Goring, and Streatley, to Wallingford. Here a stay of an hour on shore will be made to view the historical remains of Wallingford Castle and other points of interest. The return journey will then be made back to Reading. Luncheon and high tea (supplied by Mr. Uccelli, of the Boulogne Restaurant, Gerrard-street) will be served on board the launch, while champagne and sandwiches will be provided on the train to Reading, and ices and fruit served during the afternoon. The inclusive price of ticket is £1.

THAT dainty and charming comedienne, Miss Winifred Hare, has just returned from South Africa, where she has eclipsed all previous successes. Her three "bits" were "Cheer up, Mary!" "Alice, where art thou going?" and "What more can I do, little girlie?" All three songs are now being played, sung, and whistled all over South Africa. Messrs. Francis and Day publish them. After fulfilling engagements at notably Glasgow and Manchester, Miss Hare will open at the Oxford on August Bank Holiday.

MR. GUS ELEN is topping the bill at the Camberwell Palace this week, and is sustaining his immense popularity as an entertainer by reviving some of his old successes in conjunction, of course, with that excellent skit on the work-shy labourer, "Wait till the work comes round." There was excellent reason for this procedure on the part of the famous coster comedian, and it was found in the choruses that swelled in great volume from every part of the house, and threatened to take off the roof. What an idyll of the barrow is "The faifless donah," and what a touching tribute to the love of animals is to be discovered in "Down the road." We get the broad comedy of the heart in "It's a great big shame," and in "Don't stop my 'arf a pint." On Monday were shown on the bioscope Mr. Elen's past successes, and on Tuesday so enthusiastic was his reception that Gus felt compelled to make a speech of thanks.

THE United County Theatres Company (Ltd.), the proprietors of Plymouth Palace Theatre, have completed arrangements for building a theatre of varieties at Devonport. The company have purchased three houses in Princes-street and one in Granby-street, and the consent of Lord St. Levan has been obtained for the site to be used for the erection of a music hall. The cost, including the site, is estimated at £20,000, and the building, forming a complete block faced by streets on three sides, will have a frontage of 75ft. and a depth of 125ft. Situated at the top of St. Aubyn-ope, the theatre will face Fore-street, so that it will be near the termini of the two tramway companies' systems. Mr. Bertie Crewe is preparing the plans.

MR. GEO. COLLINS has been deputising for Mr. Edwin Boyde at the Hippodrome, Ealing, this week, and has made an enormous success. His two songs "The fellows call me Jam" and "What a sport" are both by his brother, Charles Collins, and are published by the Von Tilzer firm. Next week he returns to the Cambridge to renew old acquaintances.

THE Manchester Palace shows a net profit for the year of £9,280 7s. 4d. The balance brought forward from last year was £1,940 9s. 2d. The directors have placed to the credit of the reserve fund £3,000, and recommend the payment of a dividend at the rate of 7½ per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, absorbing £5,250, leaving a balance of £2,970 16s. 6d. to carry forward to next year.

THE CENTURY OF "TOM JONES."

Heartiest congratulations to Mr. Robert Courtneidge, whose success with *Tom Jones* at the Apollo has shown us once again, as B. C. Stephenson and Alfred Cellier showed us in *Dorothy*, that English comic opera has no need to be founded on adapted French *libretti* when there is such excellent material to be found in our English authors. We all should be proud of Fielding, the father of the English novelists, and the breeziness of his characters, who reflect so completely the manners of the time in which they lived and moved, makes for joyousness and heartiness on the stage. Robert Buchanan, when he took "Tom Jones" in hand and gave London playgoers at the Vaudeville, in the days of Tom Thorne, *Sophia*, introduced serious passages that are absent from the merry musical piece attaining its century at the Apollo on Thursday. The main thread of the story has been sufficiently traced, and Mr. Edward German's score is so delightfully English in every bar, and so exhilarating, that we are reminded of the best days of the Savoy.

The hundredth performance found an immense audience at the Apollo, and encores were numerous. Since the first night Miss Ruth Vincent, the Sophia of the cast, has been endowed with a new number, "Dream-a'-day Jill," which is destined to great popularity. It is a happy inspiration on the part of Mr. German, who has written a melody that is both peculiarly grateful to sing and is prettily scored. Miss Vincent sings it with the cultured ease and rare expression that have made her the favourite prima donna of comic opera since the latter days of the Savoy. She displays the brilliancy of her execution in the waltz song, and is really pathetic in Sophia's duet with Tom Jones in the first act—a melody that forms what may be called the *leit motiv* of the opera.

Mr. Hayden Coffin has added some characteristic touches to his impersonation of Tom Jones, which has more robustness to recommend it. "A foundling boy" is still the favourite number, and the singer brings out the pathos of the words without striking a false note. Sincerity and conviction mark Mr. Coffin's acting in the last act in the interview with Lady Bellaston and the reconciliation with Sophia.

Mr. Dan Rolyat has become one of London's favourite comedians, an enviable position that he has won by sheer originality and a penetrating sense of humour. He had an excellent training in knockabout farce in the provinces, and this experience has endowed him with a self-reliance and a power of extracting every ounce of humour out of a comic situation. We do not suppose that Benjamin Partridge confines himself exactly to the lines set down for him, and we recognise many new gags and bits of business. The village barber's scraps of Latin are amusingly uttered; but they are as nothing to the tangle of his legs in the droll dance of the second act. Mr. Rolyat means a lot with his legs, and has the cleverness to be able to express that meaning. The original Partridge never saw anything so rollicking or humorous as Mr. Rolyat's eccentric movements even when the morris dancers came to his native village. Lizzie the leech is still inquired for amid the loud laughter of the audience. A course of Partridge is recommended even after a good dinner, and Dan Rolyat's fun should always prove a stimulating digestive.

Miss Carrie Moore has added greatly to her reputation as actress and singer in the grateful part of Honour. Was ever lady's maid so saucy a coquette, so arch a singer as Miss Moore proves herself to be? She etherealises the comedy of the rôle, and there is a pretty touch of sentiment sometimes that emphasises neatly the staunch attachment of maid for mistress. Her newest number is "I knew," introduced in the second act, and followed by the most delightful dance imaginable. Miss Moore also shares the success of "The Barley Mow" in the first act.

In this number Mr. Jay Laurier furnishes an example of bucolic comedy that does much for the success, and in the second act gives his Zummerzet song with rare zest and humour. Mr. Laurier has a laugh that is infectious, and his work is genuinely artistic throughout. He does not disfigure his work by exaggeration.

Miss Dora Rignold has in Lady Bellaston a difficult part to play. Without over emphasis she in the second act makes her infatuation apparent for Tom Jones, whom my lady evidently regards as a lad of spirit, and in the gardens scene in the third act plays with a contemptuous hauteur and a distinction that are exceedingly effective.

The Squire Western of Mr. Ambrose Manning is one of those ripe unctuous performances that can only come from experience. Mr. Manning is an instance of the value of stock training, and his sure touch is apparent in the splenetic outburst of the gouty old squire in the second act. Western's rage and disappointment in the first act are very real, and the dramatic note of the finale in the same act is emphasised very strenuously by the actor.

Miss Marie Daltra as Miss Western has but one chance in the first act, and does extremely well all that is necessary for the part. Mr. Crompton's great height and comic phiz serve him well in the part of Dobbin; Mr. Arthur Soames plays the difficult part of Blifil without shrinking from its disagreeable nature, expressing the character of the mean skunk with genuine art; Mr. John Morley has little more to do than to walk through the part of Mr. Allworthy, but uses his fine voice to great advantage whenever there is opportunity; Mr. Walter L. Rignold is a droll Grizzle; and Mr. Carr Evans makes an amusing character of the lugubrious waiter.

Many parts in *Tom Jones* are of little significance in the dramatic scheme, but require careful handling; and in this connection it is but just to praise the work of Messrs. Harry Cottell, D. Percival, W. Biddlecombe, H. Welchman, Melville, Derrick, Woodin, Rupert Mar, Manners, and Dalmuir, likewise that of Misses Cicely Courtneidge, Florence Parfrey, Dorothy Ward, Minnie Green, Annie Heenan, Maud Thornton, Mabel Newcome, and Fay Temple. The gaiety of the gilded youth of the period is admirably realised in Ranelagh Gardens, a scene cleverly painted by Mr. Conrad Tritschler; and Mr. Stafford Hall's lawn and gardens at Squire Western's house make a delightfully old-world pleasaunce. The dresses, especially those in the Ranelagh Gardens scene, are exceedingly pretty, and their wearers reflect the grace of a day that is gone.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, Mr. Percy Harris (chairman) presiding.

LIVING STATUARY.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that the decision arrived at by the Council in reference to living statuary exhibitions had been communicated to the music-hall proprietors, but in the case of certain halls the proprietors had asked that they may be allowed to fulfil contracts which they had entered into before the decision of the Council was made known to them. "The management of the London Pavilion Music Hall state that they are under a contract with The Seldoms which necessitates four weeks' notice being given to determine the engagement, that this notice was given as from Saturday, June 30, 1907, and that they hope that the course taken by them will be satisfactory to the Council.

"As regards an exhibition of living statuary at the London Hippodrome, entitled 'Makers of History,' the management state that all the figures are properly clothed, and that there is not the slightest suggestion of nudeness in the exhibition, and they ask whether they are correct in thinking that the resolution passed on June 25, 1907, with regard to living statuary exhibitions does not apply to this case.

"In view of the fact that summarily to terminate or cancel engagements might inflict considerable hardship on the artists affected, and possibly involve the proprietors concerned in litigation, we recommend—

"(*a*) That no objection be taken to the fulfilment of the following contracts with regard to living statuary exhibitions:—La Milo, for two weeks from July 1, 1907, and for one week from July 15, 1907, at the Holborn Empire and new Grand Theatre of Varieties, Clapham Junction; Les Grandes, for one week from July 1, 1907, at Collins' Music Hall; Countess Romanow, for one week from July 1, 8, and 22, 1907, at the South London, Cambridge, and Euston Music Halls respectively.

"(*b*) That no objection be taken to the continuance, until July 27, 1907, of the exhibition given by The Seldoms at the London Pavilion Music Hall.

"(*c*) That the resolution of June 25, 1907, with regard to exhibitions of living statuary does not apply to the performance, entitled 'Makers of History,' at the London Hippodrome."

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER, in a maiden speech, said he did not speak a fortnight ago when the matter was before the Council because of his position as a theatrical manager, but he had not allowed that to interfere with what he considered to be his duty. He had since witnessed the performance of The Seldoms at the London Pavilion, and he felt bound to say that it was a performance which was to him very beautiful, and one from which no human being could get any ill. He saw nothing before him but a group of marble, and he was sure that not one of the audience had any other opinion. A good deal had been said about the importance of the deputation which had attended to condemn these exhibitions, but it should not be forgotten that a great many members of that deputation would condemn all theatres and music halls. It had been suggested by Sir John McDougall that if marble statuary were exhibited in the place of human beings it would attract no audience. He thoroughly disagreed with that. Surely if the works of Rodin, Gilbert, and other great sculptors were placed before them they would attract as great an audience. But would such statues be allowed? Some years ago a plaster-cast of Eugene Sandow was taken, and permission was asked that it might be exhibited in the Natural History Museum. But the authorities intimated that the exhibition was not desirable, and the result was that Mr. Sandow had been given a private apartment in the Natural History Museum to which the public were not admitted. Perhaps some compromise might have been made in the case of Eugene Sandow as was made some years ago in the Achilles' statue in Hyde Park. He did not think that the members of the deputation should have been willing to condemn a performance without seeing it, for out of the fifty-five persons forming the deputation only seven, he believed, had witnessed it. Was that delicacy? If it was they should have carried their delicacy still further, and refrained from examining the photographic post-cards which at the last debate appeared to be so popular with the members on the other side of the house. A member of the Council on that occasion said they were photographs, and that photographs did not lie; but there was no greater liar than the negative toucher-up. He did not see those photographs at the time, but, having taken the opportunity since, he did say that they did not properly represent the performance at the Pavilion. Sir John McDougall had endeavoured to get the Council to pity a lady because her body was covered with oxide of zinc and glycerine. Well, he had applied that to his face for more than twenty-five years, and if necessity compelled him to black himself all over to represent Othello he would willingly do so. If the lady had been condemned to wear a beard she would have won his sympathy, because putting on, and still more taking off, a beard which had been fixed by means of spirit was a form of amusement which no one would willingly wish to engage in. Perhaps Sir John McDougall shared the opinion of a Chief Secretary of Ireland who said: "I am no great admirer of beards, however glossy; but I never look upon the clean-shaven face of an actor without feeling a pity not akin to love." It was that pity not akin to love which prompted people to take steps which they would not have done otherwise. He could not but think that if the living statuary had been allowed to die a natural death no great harm would have been done. A great many of the people employed in living statuary had still their living to get, and if the performance was allowed to go on they would be able to say to themselves that they were following a calling not altogether opposed to the principles of honesty and innocence.

SIR JOHN MCDOUGALL said he had not seen the performance which had been referred to and he had no intention of doing so; but the statement made to the committee by the manager of the Pavilion was quite enough to convince him that they ought to have pity on this poor woman.

THE REV. STEWART HEADLAM reminded the Council that a little before the last election at least three times the same kind of complaint was made about living statuary; but having the fear of the election before them the Progressive majority very wisely refused to take any action. But after the election they behaved quite differently. Just before that contest the Progressives took care not to risk the terrible catastrophe which was known as the "Mrs. Chant campaign," for if they had done so they would have come back with even a smaller minority than they had at present. The proposal now was that these exhibitions should be allowed to go on for a few weeks longer, and he earnestly asked that those who voted without seeing The Seldoms should have the common honesty to go and see them. He suggested that the Rev. Scott Lidgett, Sir John McDougall, and Captain Swinton should go to the Pavilion, chaperoned by some sedate matron. The performance of the Seldoms was clever, interesting, and coldly chaste. Some members who spoke against the exhibition on the previous occasion had asked the question, Would they like their own sisters to take part in such a performance? But would Sir John McDougall like his own sister to be talked about as he had about Clara Seldom?

SIR JOHN MCDOUGALL: I never said anything against her.

THE REV. STEWART HEADLAM said that, without seeing her, the majority had passed a vote which practically precluded her from earning her living in England at all. The Bishop of London was offered a private performance without anybody knowing anything about it, and the management of the Pavilion offered to take anything out of the turn to which the Bishop objected; but he absolutely refused the invitation.

MR. WILD expressed a hope that the Council would, on reflection, not only pass the recommendation of the committee that day, but that they would take the earliest opportunity of rescinding the resolution which they passed a fortnight ago.

The recomendation of the committee was then put, and carried *nem. con.*

BALHAM EMPIRE.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that they had considered an application by Mr. H. Winter for the transfer to himself of the provisional music and dancing licence which was granted on Nov. 30, 1906, to Mr. P. Gotto for the Balham Empire, 75, Balham High-street. The Council's requirements in respect of the premises had, with a few minor exceptions, been complied with, and the committee recommended that the provisional licence be confirmed.

Agreed to.

INSPECTION.

The committee reported that the expenditure incurred in connection with reports upon the character of the performances at places of public entertainment during the quarter ended June 30, 1907, was £8 4s. 6d.

KING'S THEATRE.

The committee recommended that the Council offer no objection to the drawings submitted by Mr. F. H. Jones, showing a proposal to erect a store on a site adjoining the prompt side of the stage at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, subject to certain conditions being complied with.

Agreed to.

TRANSFERS.

It was agreed that the application of Mr. H. H. Wells for the transfer to himself of the music and dancing licence granted to the late Mr. G. A. Payne for the Canterbury Music Hall be complied with. A similar application from Mr. I. Ibbetson with reference to the licence of the Euston was also granted.

"A WOMAN OF PARIS."

A Dramatic Sketch, by Roy Milton, produced for the first time on any stage at the Tivoli, Manchester, on Thursday, July 4.

Vivian Black .....MR. ROY MILTON
Harry Hartley .....MR. EDWARD VIVIAN
Phedele Lemoine .....MISS HELEN FOREST

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The scene is a garret in the Latin quarter; it is occupied by Harry Hartley, a young man who, left to his own resources by an indulgent guardian, has "gone the pace" with ballet girls, and now, destitute and abandoned, is on the point of suicide. From committing this last rash act, however, he is prevented by the appearance of Vivian Black. This is a very sinister character, behind whom is a story more intimately concerning the would-be suicide than the latter is aware of. He is, in fact, the father of Hartley, who, if he should succeed by any chance in redeeming his errors, is the bar to Black's ultimate acquisition of the guardian's wealth, the guardian being Black's uncle. The secret of the paternity is known to Hartley's guardian, who objects strongly to the dissolute life the young man has been leading. Black sends Hartley out for wine. During his absence Phedele Lemoine, "a woman of Paris," appears. Black explains the position; Hartley must not be reinstated in the good graces of his guardian, or the fortune will be lost. As the guardian is coming, Black suggests that Phedele shall attach herself to Hartley, who, found in the arms of a woman of Paris, must then be discountenanced beyond redemption. In the event of the failure of her blandishments, poison must be used. To the latter alternative Phedele objects, but, threatened with the police and the guillotine on a criminal charge, she at last consents. So, on Hartley's return, she makes amorous overtures. He rejects them; whereupon she prepares the poisoned glass. As he is about to drink, however, a ring on the youth's finger catches her eye. In reply to her startled question, he answers that the ring belonged to his mother. Be it noted that the situation has been created by Black, the father!—a situation in which Phedele now discovers Hartley to be her own son! She pushes the young man into a room as Black returns, and a scene of recrimination ensues between the parents. Black, who is now revealed also as a sufferer from heart disease, draws a knife for the purpose of killing his son; but the mother, interposing, engages in a terrific struggle with him, the result of which is that Black falls dead from excitement. Hartley then reappears, to learn the unsavoury truth about himself. As Vivian Black Mr. Roy Milton acted with tact and vigour, doing especially well at the close; Mr. Edward Vivian played the part of Hartley with commendable sincerity; and in the exacting rôle of Phedele Lemoine the various moods of a woman descended from the possibility of better things to immorality were rendered with admirable sympathy and judgment by Miss Helen Forest. So well, indeed, was the piece presented that the applause extended to a recall.

MR. WALTER STANTON, who has spent the last six years touring the States with Forepaugh and Sell's Circus, Klaw and Erlanger's *Mother Goose* company, and *The Land of Nod* (Majestic Syndicate Company), has been secured by that astute young and successful manager, Mr. Ernest Carpenter, to play the Parrot, also to give his world-renowned giant rooster impersonation at the Lyceum in the next Christmas pantomime.

MR. CLIFF RYLAND is enjoying the salubrious air of the Kentish coast at Margate, where he is resting until he resumes business on Monday, July 29, in town.

MR. MATTHEW BRODIE was badly poisoned by eating prawns last week. He met with an enormous reception on the Monday at the Coliseum, Glasgow, where he is a great favourite; but, unfortunately, he had to be out of the bill for the rest of the week. So bad was he on the Friday that the doctors began to talk of appendicitis. His strong constitution pulled him through, and his Napoleon has proved a huge draw three times a day at the Manchester Hippodrome this week.

THE manager of the South London applied at the Tower Bridge Police-court on Monday for a licence to allow a boy, aged twelve, to perform. "I do not see the object of it," said Mr. Mead to the father. "You are not needy. You are prejudicing your boy, and he looks very ill. He is undersized and has no colour, and you send him to school during the day and to work in the evening. How much does he earn?"—£2 12s. per week. Mr. Mead: I certainly shall not license him.

THE Liverpool Tivoli will hold its first picnic to-morrow (Sunday), when about 200 of the employees and friends are expected to journey to Morecambe.

MAUD ROCHEZ and her monkeys were commanded by King Edward VII. to appear at Buckingham Palace last Saturday, and scored a remarkable success. This clever turn is scoring nightly at the Hippodrome (London), and Papa Brown has booked it far into 1909.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

A link with the music halls of the seventies has been snapped by the death of Miss Nellie Moon. No greater favourite existed on the Surrey side, unless it was Nelly Power, who sang "Up in a balloon boys," at the Canterbury, before she entered her teens. Miss Nellie Moon was associated with the late Mr. William Holland's pantomime productions at the Surrey. In *Jack and the Beanstalk*, by Mr. Frank Green, presented on Christmas Eve, 1873, she played the Man in the Moon to Nelly Power's Jack, and a joker of the period complimented the Napoleon of caterers on having more than one "Nelliement" of success in his Yuletide entertainment, in which Mr. W. B. Fair played the part of Liveliboi.

The production by the People's William of *Cherry and Fairstar*, an adaptation of the Countess D'Aulnoy's story, by Frank Green, enabled the patrons of the popular transpontine Theatre to see Nelly Power as Cherry, and Nelly Moon as Papilo. Mr. James Fawn was the Corsair. In *The Forty Thieves*, by Frank Green, produced Christmas, 1874, the deceased lady played Abdallah to Mr. W. B. Fair's Hassarac and Mr. Harry Nicholls's Cogia. In another year she was the Jill to Topsy Venn's Jack, and in 1877 appeared as Alice Fitzwarren in *Dick Whittington*, Arthur Williams being the Cook.

In 1883 Miss Moon played the part of the swell mobsman in a burlesque of *The Silver King*, written by Walter Burnot, and produced at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, and her last appearance on the stage was as Diamond, a small show part in the Covent Garden pantomime, 1887. Miss Moon, in the zenith of her career, was a great favourite at the Royal, where during her latter years she sold flowers. Such is fame!

The appearance of Mr. Hunnable, of Jarrow election notoriety, did not add to the dignity of the entertainment at the Holborn Empire on Monday, and the observations of gallery and pit were a trenchant criticism of the unwisdom of placing on the variety stage so-called attractions which are distinguished by everything that is derogatory to art.

Mr. W. B. Fair, who has borne the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune with considerable philosophy, is to have a benefit at the Holborn Town Hall in a few weeks' time. The Brothers Abraham, who were Mr. Fair's landlords at the East London Theatre in the seventies, are taking a great interest in the affair, and there should be excellent support for this capital entertainer and singer. Mr. Alf. Abrahams, of 42, Wellington-street, is the hon. secretary, and would be pleased to acknowledge subscriptions.

We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Williams, the wife of Mr. Jesse Williams, who was twice conductor of the Canterbury in the late sixties and in the nineties. The deceased lady was known as a celebrated burlesque actress in the old Strand days, and the greybeards of the present day will remember pretty Hetty Tracey in many a bright production. She was always associated with a part that required vivacity and *chic*, and her talent also added to the attractiveness of many a pantomime. She passed away on Thursday morning at her residence in Kennington, the cause of death being apoplexy. She is to be buried to-day at Brookwood Cemetery, Woking.

Mr. Albert Christian, the popular baritone, was one of the victims of a nasty motor accident on Sunday at Hindhead. He and an engineer named Jackson were out for an early morning spin, having travelled from London, and were proceeding in the direction of Portsmouth. All went well till the car had reached the cross-roads skirted by the Post Office on the one side and the Royal Huts Hotel on the other. The main Portsmouth road dips towards the junction, and there is a distinct bend to negotiate, which, owing to the width of the highway at this point, is not at once noticeable, especially by strangers.

The car ran along under the wall, but there does not appear to have been time to turn it into the road again, with the result that it careered along in a straight line, snapped a post in front of a gate, mounted the greensward, which was about 2ft. in height, and darted along unchecked, with the off-side wheels in a ditch, wrenching off two overhanging boughs of withy trees which were level with the occupants' heads, and finally crashed into a 30ft. telephone pole, which was knocked out of perpendicular by something like 10ft. The front of the car was smashed in the impact, and the occupants were hurled into the road.

The crash was heard by the postmaster and by people in the hotel, who hurriedly rose and went to investigate the matter. Meanwhile, the chauffeur, who escaped uninjured, had sought assistance at the hotel. The proprietor, Mr. B. Chandler, and other willing helpers were soon on the spot, where the other three occupants were found lying motionless, and in a state of semi-unconsciousness. With all possible speed Mr. Cousins and Mr. Jackson, whose head and face were literally covered in blood, were removed to the hotel, and Mr. Christian, who appeared to be injured more seriously, was removed in a passing car to the Haslemere Cottage Hospital, where he was seen by Dr. Roger Hutchinson. He was found to have two broken ribs and to have received a considerable amount of bruising. The latest inquiries elicit the cheering intelligence that Mr. Christian is going on splendidly.

The enterprising management of the Bedford, Camden Town, have had reserved for their advertisements a goodly space in the lifts of the Charing Cross, Euston, and Hampstead Tube. Two of the stations on the new line—Camden Town and Mornington Crescent—are in close proximity to this prosperous hall.

The Empire "Living Pictures," it appears, have created a great stir in the variety theatres of the States. Their number has been increased by "The Bath," a subject which touched American susceptibilities, and was forbidden at the Pittsburg Academy.

Miss Jennie Maynard, who has just returned from a trip to Australia, will produce on Monday at the Palace, Greenwich, an entirely new comedy sketch, entitled *The Mad Actress*.

Mr. Will White, at the termination of his tour of the New World, will go to St. Anne's-on-Sea for a month's holiday, previous to taking over a six months' contract as advertising manager for Mr. Ralph Pringle's North American Animated Photo. Co.

In reply to Mr. Horace Cormack, who wrote in our columns last week, Mr. Carl Lynn states that Mr. Cormack beat him by a yard, and that at the time he was suffering from a sprained thumb.

The London County Council gave official sanction to the transfer of the licence of the Balham Empire (where, by the way, they are running successful cinematograph shows) from Mr. P. Gotto to Mr. E. Winter; the Canterbury from the late Mr. G. Adney Payne to Mr. H. H. Wells; and the Euston to Mr. Ilford Ibbetson.

The Hippodrome, Hastings, re-opened on Monday to a packed house, money being turned away. This success augurs well for the new management (local), which is providing good companies and giving the public of Hastings a good performance for their money. All bookings are done by Mr. Fred Higham, who has secured Mr. Alec Hurley for Monday next.

The Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre opens its regular season on August Bank Holiday with *The Lady Slavey*, but during the week prior to that date the building will be engaged by Mr. R. G. Knowles and his vaudeville company, in which are included the Spissell Bros. and Mack, Miss Rachael Lowe, Mr. Dave Carter, and others. Having variety on the Shakespeare stage is altogether unusual.

The transfer of the Holbeck Palace, Leeds, to Mr. Fred Wood, the proprietor of the Leeds City Varieties, from the De Frece syndicate, which was announced by us in our last issue, has now been formally completed. The appointment of acting-manager, which was offered to Mr. Charles Bush, has been accepted by that gentleman, and he will, of course, take up his duties with the reopening of the house on Aug. 5.

Miss Rachael Lowe will be one of the features of the vaudeville company which Mr. R. G. Knowles will present at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, on July 29. It was at this theatre that Miss Lowe made her first appearance as a child playing the children's parts in all kinds and conditions of plays, thereby gaining the experience that has been so useful in later life. As this is her first engagement at the Shakespeare (although she has appeared there at several benefits) the event is of unusual interest to Miss Lowe.

Mr. Dave Carter, who will be remembered as the tenor of the Manhattan Quartet, has returned to England, and will be henceforth working on his own. He is making a special feature of the songs "Love me, and the world is mine" and "Just idle dreams." His initial engagement will be with the R. G. Knowles combination. With his pleasing personality and his charming voice there can be no doubt as to Mr. Carter achieving an instantaneous success.

Towards the end of the entertainment at the Birmingham Hippodrome on Monday, while two of the attendants were endeavouring to quieten a couple of disputants in the gallery, some miscreant raised the cry of "Fire!" The more nervous and excitable people made a rush for the exits, and several women fainted. But, happily, before the stampede assumed any serious proportions, it was realised that the alarm was unfounded, and after the performance had been interrupted for a few minutes it was resumed. Mr. P. D. Elbourne, from the stage, assured the audience that there had been no need for alarm, and he offered a substantial reward to anyone who would give information leading to the identification of the person who raised the cry.

Mr. Louis La Rondelle, the New Cross Empire chef d'orchestra, completes his second year of conductorship on the 17th of this month. During this period his unremitting efforts have placed the orchestra in a position second to none in the London theatre district.

Mr. Bertie Sheldon will produce at Holloway Empire, on Monday next, Mr. Harry Dacre's song-scena, "A Schoolboy's Dream." The part of the schoolboy will be taken by Miss Rhoda Paul, a young lady whom Moss' Empires think sufficiently talented to give a five years' continuous engagement to. The idea of the sketch is decidedly novel. A grammar school-boy—silk-hatted and Eton jacketted—comes to London for a holiday and gets lost. At midnight he finds himself on Waterloo Bridge with 5d. left out of the 6s. he started with in the morning. Tired out he falls asleep on a buttress seat, and as a result of the orgie of ice-creams, chocolates, and sweetmeats he has indulged in, has some very bad dreams. He imagines himself to be a London waif who commits suicide, and it is only when a friendly policeman wakes him up that he feels quite glad to be a schoolboy again. Miss Paul makes three lightning changes of costume during her fifteen minutes' act.

In their entertainment of the sailors of Admiral Lord Charles Beresford's squadron on Saturday, the Corporation of Edinburgh found a helpful and practical ally in Mr. Walter de Frece, who not only lent the theatre, but offered to supply the artists. The artists, however, themselves volunteered. The gallant bluejackets numbered fully a thousand, and the late hour at which the arrangements were made somewhat handicapped the city authorities. A tobacco manufacturer had to be communicated with, and eleven hundred packages, each containing a plug of tobacco and a packet of cigarettes, were delivered soon after one o'clock on Saturday in time for distribution to the men as they entered the Theatre Royal shortly after two o'clock.

During the performance the Lord Provost, who was accompanied by Mrs. Gibson, spoke a few words of welcome. He was afraid that the short notice they had for making the arrangements for their comfort might interfere with the success. The Lord Provost then called for cheers for Mr. Walter de Frece for the use of the theatre, the management, and the artists, who had all given their services free of charge. After the performance the men were entertained to tea in Waverley Market, the music being supplied by the Seaforth Highlanders Band and the City Police Band. The Edinburgh Town Council adopted a special resolution expressive of their appreciation of Mr. Walter de Frece's generosity and that of the artists.

The Bordesley Palace held its fourth annual outing last Sunday, when Mr. Edward Foster, resident-manager, took a party of over sixty friends and employees via Worcester to Holt Fleet, where a capital dinner was admirably served by Mr. J. H. Stephens, at the Holt Fleet Hotel. The loyal toasts having been observed, Mr. Foster proposed that of Moss' Empires in a pithy and properly-appreciative speech, which was cheered enthusiastically, its reception saying much for the *morale* of the staff. Mr. A. W. Matcham, in proposing the health of the chairman, paid a neat compliment to his brother-officer, and Mr. Foster, in responding, referred to his approaching departure to the Grand Theatre, Birmingham, and passed the highest of eulogies on his staff, who, it was easy to see, viewed the separation with genuine regret, albeit somewhat reconciled in the fact of Mr. Foster's promotion. Mr. Albert Bushell (Gaiety) was also a prominent and popular speaker.

After dinner the party repaired to Stourport and other places of beauty and interest, and, the weather being excellent, a most pleasant day was passed, the party returning to Birmingham in the evening well pleased. Mrs. Edward Foster, Mrs. A. W. Matcham, and Mrs. Albert Bushell were of the party, and Mr. Chas. Chick, Mr. Arthur Williams, Mr. Bert Browne, Mr. Willis Crisford, Mr. E. Trevor, Mr. J. W. Clegg (musical director of the Bordesley Palace), Mr. J. H. Butler, Mr. Chas. Bryant, Mr. Harry Willmott, and others helped to make up the party.

We regret to hear that Mrs. Campbell, the widow of Jack Camp, is lying seriously ill in Charing Cross Hospital.

The New Musical Comedy and Concert Artists' Agency have established offices at 16, Green-street, Leicester-square. The agency is directed by people fully experienced in all the routine of the above professions, and a first-class musical staff has been engaged, under the personal direction of Mr. T. Sutton (late musical-director for Mr. Geo. Edwardes' companies).

Mr. John Lawson returns to town on Monday, July 22, and will be seen at the Holloway Empire in Mr. Cecil Raleigh's powerful sketch, *The King's Minister*. The reception of this work on tour has been more than gratifying, whilst the business has been exceedingly good. As the Prime Minister, John Lawson as won great praise from all provincial critics.

Miss Georgina Leno (the talented daughter of the inimitable Dan) will shortly appear on the variety stage in an entirely new répertoire, specially written and composed for her by Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate, two principal items of which are respectively entitled "The Empire girl" and "Grandma's advice."

Miss Vesta Victoria, whose success in America with Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate's "sequel" song, "I've told his missis all about him," has been absolutely phenomenal, has commissioned the same author and composer to write and compose her some half-dozen new number's for America, which commission has this week been duly carried out.

Miss Alice Lloyd, fresh from her American triumphs, has just been equipped with three new and original numbers, specially written and composed for her by Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate. Miss Alice, who has upheld so brilliantly the reputation of her gifted family in the States, gave a little party to English and American friends on July 4, Independence Day.

Mme. Yvette Guilbert has been persuaded by Mr. Alfred Butt to stop one week longer at the Palace Theatre of Varieties. Her songs next week will be "La Legende Tretonne," "The bargain," "Les Cloches de Nantes," "Mary was a housemaid," and "Ma Tête."

The Battersea Empire, which has so long remained closed, is again to be on the active list. An enterprising syndicate has secured the freehold from Mr. Pony Moore; and on the directorate are Miss Winifred Moore, Mr. Joseph Nolan, M.P., Mr. Barkly, and Mr. H. E. Brammall (chairman and managing-director). A heavy outlay is necessary to bring the house up to date, and to meet the requirements of the L.C.C. When the architect's scheme is completed there will not be a finer variety hall in South London. The new régime will open the Battersea Empire as a "twice nightly" house early in September.

The training of the young actor of the present day is not sufficiently varied to enable him to do himself justice to the screaming farce; and, therefore, the really funny first pieces of years ago has become practically extinct. Mr. Joseph Wilson, who in his day has played in many such productions, believes that, given the smart writing and actors experienced enough, a new order of things may reign. Messrs. Fred Emney, Harry Grattan, and Paul Taylor have been engaged, therefore, in an entirely new and original piece, entitled *Man, the Brute*, in which Mr. Emney appears as one of the softer sex. It is a just compliment to him to say that nothing so funny has been seen since *Charley's Aunt*. Harry Grattan divides with him the honours of this amusing trifle at the Tivoli on Monday.

Mr. W. H. Denny, another experienced actor of London reputation, stars in a farce *Minding the Shop*. Here also we have "laughter in lumps." Denny as a bucolic agricultural labourer (after Maddison Morton's own heart) must be seen, and will doubtless bring back happy remembrances of his grand performance of the village policeman in *Dandy Dick*. The farce is to be seen at the Tivoli on Monday.

"The Black Hussars" is a company of fourteen musicians who are seen in a varied programme, including American instrumental music, songs, and dances. The costumes worn by the ten men and four women who comprise the band are picturesquely elaborate. They will appear on Monday at the Hippodrome. They bring with them a speciality brass instrument, which is about the length of a coach horn, with three bell-shaped end pieces.

Mlle. Liane d'Eve, the newest importation of Mr. Joseph Wilson's to the Tivoli, realises in her graceful and attractive personality and her artistic endowment all the charm of the French school. In the dress of a Neapolitan flower-seller she sings with a brio a melody that brings the romance of Southern skies over the footlights; and she is a Parisienne to her finger tips when she essays the famous "Mattchiche." Using with great art a voice possessing compass, sweetness, and agility, her movements are full of the dash and activity of youth.

For each song Liane, the brunette, adopts a different costume—each in perfect taste and with a cachet that is of Paris—which she puts on in sight of the audience. Her robing and disrobing necessitates some display of rounded limbs and a perfect figure, which is, however, not more décolletée in a low-necked camisole than is customary. The susceptibilities of Mrs. Grundy might be slightly touched by this pretty soubrette, but Frenchwomen "do things" with a tact and delicacy that seem impossible to the softer sex of other nations. Mlle Liane d'Eve was very favourably received on her opening night, and her popularity grows.

The remains of Bob Hanlon were on Saturday interred in Streatham Cemetery, in the same grave as his brother William, who predeceased him by some three years. The funeral cortège started from the residence at 67, Wiltshire-road, Brixton, at eleven o'clock, and among those who followed as mourners were the three sons. The other immediate friends of the family who went from the house included Paul Cinquevalli, Charles Colby (of Colby and May), Edwin Volta (the deceased's old partner and life-long friend, who represented also Messrs. Anger and Bauer), Will Oliver, Tom Cannon, Walter Tilbury, and Will Crackles. These stood round the grave while the chaplain of the cemetery recited the impressive committal sentences. Mr. Taff Volta, much to his regret, was unable to pay his last respects to his dead comrade, being prevented from attending the last sad rites in consequence of an acute attack of rheumatism.

The wreaths included floral offerings from the widow, the three sons and daughter, Mr. W. S. Lyon, jun., Mr. Walter Tilbury, the Jackson family, Mr. and Mrs. Percival Hyatt, Paul Cinquevalli, Charles Colby, Ted and Taff Volta, Angelina (sister-in-law), Morris Cronin, Fred Baker, jun., Sam Elton, Anger and Bauer, Mr. and Mrs. John Wood, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Ritchie, Gilbert Girard, Mr. Johnson, Harry Barratt, Will Oliver, Tom Cannon, and Mrs. Frank Coyne.

Doctor Bodie, who takes a deep interest in the welfare of the town of Macduff, N.B., has just accepted the position of a director of the North of Scotland Boot and Shoe Manufacturing Co., Ltd., which is about to be floated, and will mean a large source of increased revenue for the town.

Dr. Walford Bodie will commence his annual Scotch tour on Monday at the Palace Theatre, Aberdeen, his native city, with his own company for two weeks. This will make his fourteenth annual visit. The doctor has always packed the huge building to its utmost capacity. After Aberdeen he will visit the Palace, Dundee, which he reopens for the season, after which engagement he will take two weeks' well-earned holiday at his beautiful Highland home, the Manor House, Macduff, N.B.

Mr. Albert Le Fre, the versatile comedian, is once more about to leave the halls for the theatres, having been released by his various managers to enable him to accept an offer from Mr. Frank Curzon to play in *The Three Kisses* at the Apollo. Mr. Le Fre has been a pillar of musical comedy for some years; and one can remember his humorous impersonation of M. Pompier in *The Gay Parisienne* and his other amusing types of character.

In connection with the promised production by Mr. Beerbohm Tree of a version of Charles Dickens's novel, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood," we may recall the fact that the late G. H. Macdermott adapted the work for the stage of the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, on July 22, 1872. The best known version was that produced at the Surrey about the same time.

The secretary of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund has received a cheque for £10 10s. from *The Era* as a donation to the dinner fund; also the sum of £3 12s. from Fred Miller, collected in the pence box at the Canterbury during the past month.

Angeline, the widow of Mr. William Hanlon, writes to say that her late husband died on the thirty-seventh anniversary of his birth three years ago. He was seven years younger than his brother Bob, whose death was chronicled in our last issue, and his brother John is still alive.

The variety theatre at the Crystal Palace on Federation Day, under the control of Newham and Latimar, proved an enormous success, both in the takings and turns, the stage being kept going fast and furious during the four performances. There was not the slightest wait.

Mendel, the blind pianist, terminates this week at Bradford his fifth tour with Messrs. Moss, Stoll, and Thornton, and is due for the first time at the Tivoli, London, in September for four weeks. He will complete thirty weeks at the London Hippodrome on his next visit there in April next, and has been rebooked with the management until 1910.

Mr. D. R. Barnes, the managing-director of the New Hippodrome, Redditch, has supplied the town with a long-felt want, and is, in consequence, playing to packed houses. The catering is most liberal, and many sterling attractions are announced.

Miss Mary Allestree, who has been the heroine of so many sketches at the London Hippodrome, is appearing this week in that excellent sketch, *The Water Cure*, at the Hippodrome, Crouch End, with Mr. Charles Steuart's company, which includes Miss Nellie Bowman.

Mr. Fred W. Millis called at *The Era* office on Wednesday. Considering the nature of the severe operation which the popular ventriloquist has undergone, he may be said to have made a wonderful recovery, and hopes soon to regain his usual robust health.

Mr. Tom Fancourt and Miss Jennie Rubie, after a most successful tour, will appear for the first time in London on Monday next at the Empress, Brixton, in their refined and clever comedy act, *Nipper, the Messenger Boy*, with beautiful scenery and electrical fittings. Managers and agents on the look-out for novelties should see this act.

Mr. A. E. Pickard, of the Britannia, Glasgow, was a candidate for municipal honours in that city, but proved unsuccessful. Mr. Pickard had a good programme of improvements, but the successful candidate scored 1,000 votes above him at the election on Tuesday.

The many friends of Mr. S. Macintosh will be pleased to learn that he has been appointed by the United County Theatres, Ltd., manager of the Palace Theatre, Dundee. For the past eight years Mr. Macintosh has acted as stage-manager of the Palace, and during that time has made many warm friends in the front and back of the house. The appointment is a popular one.

Mr. Will Dalton (Dalton's Agency), we are pleased to state, is mending after his illness and operation, and is attending now to business. He has done a considerable amount of business with provincial proprietors recently. Mr. Will Dalton has an intimate knowledge of the requirements of audiences at the majority of provincial cities and towns.

Mr. Thos. E. Finglas, who has just concluded a starring engagement on the Stoll tour, has achieved a great success with his two songs, "Ma little white flower" and "Idaho." Mr. Finglas starts his London season on Monday.

Mr. Martin Henderson, blind pianist, Mr. Percy Hannan, vocal comedian, and Mr. John Goodin, illusionist, are the latest to swell the ranks of the Terriers' Association, being initiated into the mysteries of the order last Sunday by Mr. Ben Whiteley (of the Five Whiteleys.)

The Paddington Palace, Liverpool, will be closed for a fortnight after this week in order to allow for redecoration, &c. On being again opened the Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd., owning the place, will continue it with a stock dramatic company, a form of entertainment inaugurated twelve months ago by Mr. M. Montgomery, whose lease has expired.

On Monday evening a large audience assembled at the opening of the new amphitheatre situated on the Rhyl Pier, where a number of excellent entertainments are promised during the season. The house, which is exceedingly well planned, has seating accommodation for 2000, and a good view is obtained from any part. The National Anthem was sung by Mr. Clifford Morgan, the accompaniment being played by Mr. Forshaw Kershaw, the audience heartily joining in. The special performance was contributed to by Messrs. Edwin Adeler, W. G. Sutton, Arthur Sutcliffe, A. Straud, Jack Macdermott, Kennedy Allen, Jas. A. Laws, Murray Scott, G. W. Bartlett, Cecil Warwick, Frank Hook; Misses Aline Sudbury, Kitty Allen, Renée Steadman, and Nellie Burn.

Lord George Sanger, looking as well as ever, is now staying at Margate for a short time enjoying a seaside holiday in his retirement from show-life.

Lord George Sanger's far-famed Hall-by-the-Sea at Margate, with its variety theatre and splendid ballroom, opens for the summer season on Monday. The popular resort is still under the able management of Mr. Charles Evans, who passed his thirteenth year at this establishment a few weeks back. Herr Grais, with his wonderful troupe of baboons, tops the bill for the opening week, and Mr. Evans has arranged to run a "speciality" programme as much as possible during the season.

Mr. Douglas Stuart is busy preparing a new edition of his popular "Railway Fare Book." The issue will be brought right up to date, and will include the fares to and from a number of new towns in which variety theatres are now established. Several novel features will be included.

The Palace, Tottenham, re-opened its doors on the evening of Saturday last. The bill was headed by Max Boyatt, the boy hand-cuff king and gaol-breaker. Jack Sheppard did this sort of thing in the days of the stone jug, and one of our pleasantest experiences was when we saw the lamented Nelly Farren play the part at the Old Gaiety. Tottenham audiences have been particularly interested during the week in the performances of Aldro Lukos, the latest to play the part of the man-monkey and to emulate the feats of the late James Dubois.

Miss Chummie La Mara and her husband, Mr. Will Sergeant, left Waterloo Station at 8.55 on Wednesday morning en route for Southampton, from whence they sailed by the Teutonic to New York. Among those at Waterloo to wish them *bon voyage* we noticed Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Cole (Miss Dorothy Alexander), Mr. and Mrs. Teddy Leon ("Stumps"), Mr. Harry Bancroft, Miss Ray Raymond, &c. Miss La Mara opens at Tony Pastor's, while Mr. Will Sergeant acts as sole representative for a celebrated London firm of motor coat manufacturers. Mr. Herbert Cole, the well-known author and composer, has appointed Mr. Sergeant his sole representative "across the pond."

Five hundred thousand Parisians visiting Versailles on Sunday, on the occasion of the Grand Fête given in the Palace grounds, had a most agreeable surprise on arriving at the Palace gates to find that the Grand Cirque Pinder was giving a series of performances. Great excitement was caused by the experiment of the French Military airship, Patrie, which was carried out with great success some 200ft. above the tent. As the voyagers came within 50ft. of the circus top they were cheered by the circus staff, the compliment being heartily returned by the air-shippers as the Patrie sailed over the Casern du Geni to her station at Meudon.

At 1.30 the Place du Palais and the Avenue de Paris were crowded to see the cavalcade of the Cirque Pinder, in which took part 115 horses, elephants, &c. It was carried out in grand style, the closing feature being the grand char (as the Frenchman calls it), drawn by thirty horses, driven by James Watson. At 2.30 the large tent was packed to its utmost, a condition of things again existing at the 8.30 performance.

Eleven-thirty found all ready for the road to Argenteuil, where the Cirque Pinder has had three big seasons' business. From Argenteuil they go to Chantilly, where they have a great reputation, and afterwards make for Boulogne-sur-mer, where they expect to be July 24 and 25. They will then start their annual tour of the Normandy and Brittany Coast from Le Treport to St. Nazaire.

There is a report that the widows of the late Messrs. Albert and Olman Pinder will retire from the business this winter, and that the concern will be sold to an enterprising French gentleman, who will retain Mr. Arthur Pinder (the present director) as managing-director.

On the presentation of the Theatre and Music Halls Committee's report at Tuesday's meeting of the London County Council, Mr. Goldsmith asked the chairman, Mr. Greenwood, whether he had received any notices of objection to the entertainment which Mr. Hunnable, who posed as a candidate at the late Jarrow election, was announced to give at the Holborn Empire. Mr. Greenwood replied that he had no definite information as to what the entertainment was to be—whether it was to be a performance or a lecture. All he knew about the matter was obtained from what had appeared in the newspapers.

At the same meeting the Hon. H. Lygon put a series of questions:—Whether care would be taken to see if there was a sufficiency of clothing on the living statues of Mr. John Burns and Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, as exhibited at the Pavilion; whether it would be referred to the Stores Committee to supply drapery and goldbeaters skin for the lady appearing there in living statuary during the remainder of her engagement; and whether Mr. Hunnables was not an advocate of compulsory mixed bathing? Mr. Greenwood replied that all these questions scarcely come within the terms of reference to the Theatres and Music Halls Committee; but generally he assured the Council that everything in the way of supervision in regard to the turns put on at music halls would be done by their excellent inspectors and officers.

Mr. John Donald, late acting-manager of the Coliseum, and formerly manager for the late Mr. J. L. Toole, has suffered a sad bereavement in the death of his mother, who passed peacefully away at the age of seventy-nine, on the 5th inst. Although not connected with the profession, the deceased lady was known to many members, and in early life was an intimate friend of the Russells, of the old Royal, Brighton, and also of J. B. Buckstone, the Chippendales, and Mrs. Fitzwilliam, at the Haymarket, and Sir Michael Costa. She was the widow of the late John Donald, a prominent indigo planter in the North-West Provinces, East India, one of the few civilians who earned the Indian Mutiny Medal, and a sister of the late John and Arthur Ballard, both of whom were well known to the older generation in Liverpool.

The funeral took place at the family grave in Norwood Cemetery, on the 9th inst., and there were present at the graveside the three sons, John, Arthur, and Alec Donald; Major F. C. Goldney, representing deceased's son-in-law, Colonel T. H. Goldney, C.B.; Mrs. John Donald (Miss Rose Temple), Mrs. Arthur Donald, Mrs. Burns, and other friends and relatives. A service was held previously at St. James's Church, Fulham. The funeral arrangements were in the hands of Messrs. Cocks and Sons, Westminster and Chelsea.

A matinée for the benefit of the widow of the late Charles H. Taylor, the well known writer of lyrics, will take place at the Apollo Theatre on Tuesday, the 23rd inst. Mr. Robert Courtneidge is preparing an interesting programme. The late Mr. Taylor was the author of the words of the song "Commissionaire," sung by Mr. Albert Christian with such success during the South African War.

PARIS VARIETY GOSSIP.

The continued bad weather is proving almost disastrous for the summer halls, always with the exception of the Marigny, which only profits by the others' bad luck. Their present programme consists of the Revue, still going well; Miss Saharet, the well-known dancer; Chris Richards, whose funny antics with his proverbial hat have tickled the Parisians; also the Maxims, who made quite a success last year, and are paying a return visit. Miss Edna Aug, who opened last Monday, only stayed one week, her other engagements preventing her remaining longer.

Quite an imposing array of English artists are on the bill at the Alcazar d'Ete. The Bros. Artois, in their funny bar act; Vasco, the mad musician; Alexandra and Bertie; Adams and Ward; Recco—still learning to be an acrobat, and only succeeding in making the audience laugh; and the Lavails, who are acrobats, and who succeed in making the audience applaud, which wants a bit of doing in Paris.

The grand gala performance which was to be given on Saturday, 29th ult., at the Alcazar in honour of the American colony was postponed until July 4, upon which date it was more appropriate. Many well-known stars from other halls put in an appearance, including Gabys Deslys and Max Dearly. Little Vera Barton, who, by the way, is quite the pet of the Ambassadeurs, made a big success there with her dancing.

At the Etoile Palace are Johnny and Charlie, two comedy acrobats, whose show has made a hit. Wilbert and Lealand, in their acrobatic act *On Board Ship*, are paying a return visit there. They are favourites, and the show goes very well. The old Moulin Rouge has changed hands again, and this time the director of the Scala, Brussels, has taken over the management. He is producing about the end of the month a revue which has been running with great success in Brussels. The cast, which will be a fine one, is not yet complete.

There is no more definite news of the Ruez-Isola case, but a judgment is expected about the 20th inst. In the meantime, rumour is busy, and *La Patrie*, an evening paper, states that the Olympia is to be pulled down and a Théâtre Lyrique put up on its site, which will be under the management of M. Gaillard, the late director of the Opéra.

Another change which we may expect before long will be the passing of the Nouveau Cirque. Messrs. Borney and Duprez, of the Marigny, will take it over, and will probably turn it into a high-class variety house for the winter season under the name of the Empire.

Miss Lawler, who was to have appeared at the Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, during this month, has been obliged to postpone the engagement until a future date. She may possibly be seen there about Christmas or the New Year.

LONDON PAVILION.

An American turn that keeps an audience rocking with laughter is to be found among the strong list presented by Mr. Frank Glenister, who has secured through Messrs. Harry Day and Ben Nathan Mr. Louis Simon, Miss Grace Gardner, and company, in Miss Gardner's successful farce, entitled

"THE NEW COACHMAN."

Mr. James Devonshire..Mr. Charles H. Stevens
Mrs. Devonshire .....Miss Grace Gardner
Maid .....Miss Lena Denton
Mr. Jack Devoe .....Mr. Louis Simon

The amusing incidents of this piece of rollicking fun turn on the similarity of initials on a couple of brown leather travelling bags—each appropriated by the wrong owner. James Devonshire and his wife, newly married, come to the college-room in a swell New York hotel. In an ante-bedchamber is Mr. James Devoe, of Cornell University, who is sleeping off the effects of a hot time the previous evening. Waking up in full evening dress at five in the afternoon, he finds that his bag, marked "J.D.," containing his clothes, has been taken away, and he has to get into a bulgy suit of dittoes and worn-out boots. While in this comic predicament he is mistaken by Mrs. Devonshire for the new coachman, with whom she has been in correspondence, and is immediately ordered to hang pictures. He in turn mistakes her for the lady whom he is to meet with a view to matrimony. After much droll business with a ladder, the husband returns in a furious state of jealousy, each bag is searched by the one to whom it does not belong, and just when the audience has had its fill of laughter things are straightened out, and full apologies offered to the Cornell student. Mr. Louis A. Simon is the acrobatic comedian, whom all London will surely go to see in a ladder act that is a scream from start to finish. One need not attempt to describe Mr. Simon's doings. Suffice it to say that they are in the most hilarious spirit of broad farce. Miss Gardner, an attractive-looking actress, gives him excellent support as Mrs. Devonshire; and Mr. Devonshire is presented in a humorously mock-tragic way by Mr. Charles H. Stevens. Miss Lena Denton plays with a full appreciation of the humour of the situations, and adds to the success of the trifle, which was received on Monday with uproarious laughter and applause. *The New Coachman* is a winner.

In the early portion of Mr. Glenister's scheme of amusement a strong attraction is presented in Mr. Albert Le Fre's novel mélange, "That's what you see on the halls." Than this clever act the force of versatility could no further go. Mr. Le Fre dances and pirouettes in a way that suggests he has done nothing else all the days of his stage career, and yet he surprises us with the truth and humour of his character-sketches—both French and English; and, as if this was not enough proof of his remarkable all-round ability, he fixes us with an acrobatic and a conjuring show. Prodigious! It is altogether delightful to welcome back to variety such a cultured and charming vocalist as Miss Ruth Davenport, who a year or two since added so much to the attractiveness of Alhambra productions. Mr. Albert Whelan is entirely welcome as an Australian entertainer and mimic, with a wonderful whistle; and Miss Daisy Mayer may be credited with a genial and entertaining educational influence in her coon stories with music, assisted by Mr. Paul Knox, the writer of many famous songs. The Howards win applause and laughter in their most acceptable musical comedy-sketch, *Military Mad*; Mr. Harry Ford is not quite so amusing as a policeman as other comedians we might name; Mr. Edwin Boyde's eccentricities are heartily enjoyed; Stylo as a hoop manipulator astonishes by the neatness of his numerous tricks; Ray and Calden open the bill with their amusing act, entitled *Peculiarities*; and the Fitzroys, gymnasts; Winifred Ward, known as "the immaculate boy"; Marzel and Boris, with some neat acrobatic feats, in which a youngster displays great cleverness; Mr. Frank Leon, clog dancer; Seldoms' Venus; Miss Ruby Ray, diseuse; the Harmony Four; and Mr. Charles Rogers, banjoist, are also in the bill.

HARRY GRELL FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Allow me to thank the ladies and gentlemen who have contributed to the "Harry Grell" Fund. I have received from Mr. Albert le Fre the sum of £21 14s. 0d.—Yours faithfully,

TRIC GRELL.

16, Walton-terrace, South Lambeth Road, S.W.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter have just added two new songs to their list, entitled "I don't want no one" and "It's a girl" (sung by Woolmer Young), both by George A. Stevens.

Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter have just issued the vocal score of that bright little piece *Lady Tatters*, which is drawing such large houses to the Shaftesbury Theatre. The publication will be welcome to those whose ears have been tickled with the captivating tunes of Mr. Walter Slaughter, who has composed the music of this gay little comedy.

A melancholy interest attaches to a song which Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter have in the press. It is called "The stolen sunbeam," and is possibly the last lyric written by the late Charles H. Taylor. The music is by Evelyn Baker.

Miss Maud Esmond has made a great success with J. Francis Lambe's "My beautiful Avon rose," a number published by Messrs. Francis and Day. The song has been melodied by Henry E. Pether, who is at present holiday-making at Margate. Miss Kate Traill has also made good with Mr. Lambe's "Kissing in Japan."

Miss Marjorie Slaughter has just placed with Messrs. Francis and Day a delightful song, named "A ragged hero," the words by that past-master of lyric writing, Clifton Bingham.

From Swansea come glowing accounts of the emphatic triumph made by Mr. George Lashwood with his new chorus song, "In the twi-twi-light," which has eclipsed even the success of his prior winner, "Riding on top of the car." It is by Charles Wilmott and H. E. Darewski, jun., and has already been issued by Messrs. Francis and Day.

The latest additions to the "Sixpenny Pops" of Messrs. Francis and Day is Mellor Lawrance, and Gifford's "How do, Matilda McGee?"

Mr. Gus Elen has accepted a song, entitled "The coster's pony," which possesses a characteristic melody by H. E. Pether. The words are by the author of several of the artist's earlier successes.

Miss Clarissa Talbot and Mr. Albert Pearce, who did so much to popularise the song, "Will you love me in December as you do in May," have obtained from M. Witmark and Sons another equally pretty number, entitled "Take me to your heart again."

Miss May Mars, who was the original singer in England of "In the shadow of the Pyramid," and who has the exclusive music hall rights for the same, is achieving a great success at the Empire, Leicester. Realising the possibilities of the song, Miss Mars gives it a fine production at no inconsiderable expense. It is satisfactory to note that the enterprise has been rewarded by popular success and a full date book.

The pretty song "Pansy," so charmingly sung at the Oxford recently by Miss Isabelle Diffon, proves to be still another of the "Witmarkian" American melodies of which we have had so many in the past few years.

Mr. Geo. A. Stevens has just supplied Messrs. Feldman with two new songs, entitled "Roses round the door" and "'Tain't the bee that hangs around the hive."

Miss Minola Mada Hurst is playing a very successful engagement at the Kursaal in Lucerne. She is making a feature of the songs "Carissima" and "My little Hong-Kong baby." On the 4th of July an especial American programme was given commencing with the Witmark "Monarch Medley," which includes "Will you love me in December as you do in May," "Bill Simmons," and other "foot disturbers." It is needless to say the American contingent present enjoyed the occasion.

Messrs F. Leigh and Pether have written for Miss Winnie Stanhope an entirely new and original song, entitled "A lot to learn," to suit this young lady's special style, which is quite new to the variety theatres.

"Come with me in my submarine!" is the title of a new song which the Star Music Company will shortly issue. This number looks like being a winner, having a most catchy chorus. The words are by A. J. Mills and the music by Maurice Scott.

Mr. Will Evans' company will on Monday next produce, with appropriate costumes and effects, at the London, Shoreditch, Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's "Dutch" success, "I'm going back to the Fatherland," which is being so extensively featured at the seaside this year. The Monte Carlo Publishing Company issue this song in their "Sixpenny Successes" series.

Chirgwin's al fresco company are making a big hit at Southend with the Monte Carlo Publishing Company's striking march-song, "When the band played the 'Men of Harlech,'" by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford; while in far-away Wales Mr. W. J. Churchill's pierrot company are charming all hearers with the same "taking" and tuneful lay.

Clever Miss Katie Marsh has been making a very palpable "hit" with Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's tuneful song, "Don't go back to Carolina," which she is singing at all her engagements, and which is, furthermore, sung by Misses Rosie Lloyd and Ada Martini. This song is published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company.

Max Darewski's brilliant "Fantasia Impromptu" has been dedicated to Mons. Paderewski, who gave the gifted lad permission so to do after hearing him perform the morceau, and furthermore the great master accepted a copy of it. Messrs. Francis and Day have the work in the press.

Mr. Charles Whittle, whose "I'm Billy Muggins" has proved one of the biggest comic chorus successes of the time, has just published with Messrs. Francis and Day, who issued the "Muggins" number, another song from the same pen—that of Charles Ridgewell. It is entitled "I'm Dunn—Mister Dunn," and will enable the comedian to again portray an apparently foolish Yorkshireman.

Miss Edna Leslie, at the Paragon, has been winning hearts by her attractive manner of singing "Daddy will be your trainer," by Sam Richards. It is one of Messrs. Francis and Day's publications.

Songs purchased during the last few days by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter comprise: "It's no use calling Hannah" (sung by Miss Kate Carney), by Charles Collins and F. J. Barnes; "Flying," written, composed, and sung by Walter Tilbury; "I've a garden in Sweden," by C. W. Murphy, Hugh Owen, and Dan Lipton; "Though I march, march away," also by Murphy and Lipton; and "The simple milliner" (Miss Millie Lindon), by Leslie Stiles.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

MISS MAYME CANNON.

Miss Mayme Cannon, the clever trick pianist and coon comedienne, is the daughter of Mr. Tom Cannon, the wrestler, who held the championship of the world for fourteen years, till defeated by Hackenschmidt, after which he practically retired from his profession. She was born in Clinton, Iowa, and was educated at the Convent of Notre Dâme, Liverpool, studying music at the Royal Institution, Colquith-street, in that city, and gaining there, at the age of fifteen, by eighty-five marks, or five above honours, a certificate and medal, which were presented to her by the Mayor of Liverpool. Her voice, which is a contralto, was, by an error of expert judgment, trained as a soprano, the result being that Miss Cannon possesses a remarkable "double" organ. She opened at Gatti's in the December of 1904, with a sketch called *Life in a Flat*, in which the noises which trouble flat-dwellers were made the excuse for the imitation of various instruments, &c. Last year she accepted an offer to visit Russia, and appeared with great success at the Ermitage Theatre, Moscow, having to prolong her engagement in consequence. A similar result followed her appearance at the Krestobski Theatre, St. Petersburg, where her name was placed at the top of the bill; and

[*Photo by Whiteley, Ltd.*

MISS MAYME CANNON.

she had to refuse offers for Riga and Odessa, as the Russian Revolution was evidently brewing. Indeed, while in Moscow, Miss Cannon and her mother—an accomplished lady, who speaks six languages—heard the report of the bomb with which it was attempted to assassinate the local Governor. Returning to London, she appeared at the Empire, Camberwell, in the November of last year, with imitations, trick piano playing, and coon songs. Miss Cannon plays the piano with her elbows, with her wrists, with her hands behind her back, and with them crossed behind her back. She imitates—with her nose and throat—a gramophone, and mimics many other instruments. Since her visit to Russia she has been in the provinces at the Barrasford halls, returning to fulfil a very successful engagement at the Standard, Pimlico. She opens at the Palace, Gloucester, the week after next, and at Christmas she will be the principal girl in Mr. Dottridge's pantomime at Oldham, with Miss Florrie Gallimore as principal boy, after which she intends to go to South Africa.

Miss Cannon is now singing such ditties as "I'll tell Tilly on the telephone" and "Songs of a bygone day." One of her feats is that of playing two different melodies at the same time on the piano, while singing a third. The remarkable range of her voice gives her a great advantage in her imitations, which are remarkably faithful. Miss Cannon considers Russia a very agreeable country for professionals to visit, but it is necessary to have a knowledge of French and German—the latter is most spoken in Moscow—in order to be quite comfortable.

SCARBOROUGH AQUARIUM IMPROVEMENTS.

On Tuesday the theatre in the Scarboro' Aquarium was opened. Mme. Levantes' orchestra played "God save the King," followed by a selection; D'Artigan looped the devil's wheel, a most daring and sensational turn; Johnson and Devere, in their excellent cycling tricks and performance, pleased all; Walter Curtis caused much amusement by his funny patter and amusing songs; Frederica's toy terriers reflected the greatest credit on their instructress; Will Cornish delighted the audience; Harry Mantle, coon vocalist, afforded great pleasure; the Orchids, entertainers of no mean ability, appeared with success; Will Lindsay was very funny; Ward and Davis played *Wanted a Typist* in capital style; and the vocalist was Mr. Walter Barrett, a baritone with a well-trained voice. Vernon's Bioscope showed some up-to-date films.

The new theatre stands on the site of the old billiard saloon and refreshment-room, kitchen, &c. It has accommodation for an audience of 550 on the ground floor, the back part of which slopes so as to give those in the rear a better view of the stage. In the balcony, which occupies three sides of a square, there is accommodation for a further 450, so that the building will seat fully a thousand persons, and after that leave room for standing and promenading. The stage is entirely under the roadway, and is of ample dimensions. The large iron columns, which were so conspicuous in the old theatre, and a hindrance to the view, are entirely absent, and only light iron columns substituted, which reduce to a minimum the obstruction of the view of the stage. A great improvement has been effected in the ventilation and the lighting. There are two entrances from the main building, with an additional one in case of emergency. The stage and auditorium are provided with hydrants and hosepipes. In the winter the theatre will be heated with steam radiators. The greater number of the seats, as has been the custom in the old theatre, will be free to visitors to the Aquarium. The decorations are very pleasing, the seating of the modern type—mainly tip-up seats—and the whole air of the place one of comfort. For the present the variety performances hitherto given in the Indian Theatre will take place in the new theatre, whilst the orchestral performances will be given in the Indian Theatre. The old theatre or concert hall is now about to be transformed into a refreshment and billiard room. The cost of the alterations is about £2500.

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—In your report of the Standard, Pimlico, on July 6, you mentioned Mr. Charles Denton as appearing. As I was deputising for him all the week, it should have been—Yours faithfully, Tom Dunmore.

The Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth, of which the licensee and manager is Mr. J. W. Boughton, is closed this week for redecorating and alterations, but will reopen on Monday next.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

The weather's unsummerlike behaviour has much to do with the crowded houses that are nightly assembling to witness the excellent programme that is being presented here this week. The evening's entertainment is started in excellent fashion by Alec and Lilly, cross-talk comedians, who raise many a laugh whilst in possession of the stage. Mr. W. H. Clemart, the clever ventriloquist, who is making one of his periodical visits to this hall, is meeting with his customary success. With the assistance of several figures he presents a most interesting entertainment that comes in for generous applause. Miss Dolly Golden shows herself to be a most able dancer, her neat and original execution making her turn one of the most acceptable of the evening. Mr. G. W. Kenway, one of our earliest mimics, is giving several imitations of our leading variety artists, including Gus Elen, G. H. Chirgwin, and Eugene Stratton. He also submits a realistic imitation of a gramophone. Mr. Walter Stanley, the popular comedian, has a couple of numbers that are much to the liking of Brixtonians, and "It's an ill wind" is an excellent number. Ruby Helder, the lady with the man's voice, is making her first appearance here, and her phenomenal powers are causing much astonishment. The Wynfords, including James Wynford, the champion jumper of the world, are challenging all and sundry to try and emulate their feats, but on the evening of our visit their challenge passed unheeded. The easy manner in which they execute many of the most difficult jumps is wonderful, and they are the recipients of well-sustained applause on concluding. Margaret Ashton is scoring well with a couple of capital songs, entitled "Mignonette," and "When will Tommy Atkins marry Dolly Gray," both excellent vehicles for the display of her vocal abilities. Hernert la Martine's dancing is much to the liking of the house. He also manipulates a baton in a dexterous manner. The Four Athos, acrobats, are presenting many new and original tricks; and the manner in which they perform with a number of balls is most bewildering.

The Sandow Girl is being presented by Herbert Darnley's able company. This sketch has been referred to before in these columns, so that detailed comment is quite unnecessary. It is the cause of much laughter, and one of the songs, a topical number, is very funny. The Rosaire Troupe of dancers also help the success of the piece with some neat and pretty dancing.

Millie's Baby, an amusing little farce, is being presented by Richard Elliot and Co. It serves to introduce Miss Dorrit Nolan, stated to be the smallest actress on the stage. She is 16 years of age, and is only 3ft. 6in. tall. Her interpretation of the part allotted to her is most clever, and she at times fairly convulses the house. William Lee and Helen Bentley have an amusing little comedy entitled *A Friend in Need*, and a pleasant evening is brought to a conclusion by interesting pictures on the Bioscope, which are followed with every sign of approval. Mr. Nelson Francis, the popular manager, is most ably backed up by Mr. Francis Winchcombe, his able lieutenant, and everything possible is done for the comfort of patrons.

THE PARAGON.

The patrons of this spacious and most comfortable establishment are provided this week with an excellent entertainment, and those who are particularly fond of drama must feel well satisfied, for the two principal items are of that description, both being well played throughout. Mr. George Kirk presents that very interesting item, *Grip; or, The Fatal Hand*. The story deals with an attractive young lady who is tricked into marriage with an adventurer, who uses her as a decoy in his gambling saloon. The girl, not being satisfied with the life, decides to leave, and at the particular moment, unknown to her, a murder has been committed by her husband. The lady is accused, but "Grip," the famous detective, suspects the real murderer, who leaves the place and endeavours to hide in the disguise of a navvy. He is, however, trapped by the officer with the assistance of "Judy," a little street girl, a character well played throughout by Miss Connie Laurie, who proves to be his own child that was stolen when quite young. Mr. Kirk as "Grip" and Mr. Henry Hare (the Viper) played capitally, and Miss Nina Westerleigh, Miss Ada Roscoe, and Mr. H. Holls in their respective parts acted perfectly throughout. *The Ace of Hearts*, an intensely dramatic episode, well played by Mr. James Willard, Miss Mabel Carr, and Mr. Jackson Wilcox, is very thrilling. Beautifully staged, the scene is laid in a West-end flat owned by the husband and wife (an actress), who have a gentleman friend to dinner, an old admirer of the lady. The friend leaves the house, after promising to return in the husband's absence whilst he is away at business. This he does, and during their conversation upon old times he asks her to oblige with a song, which she proceeds to do, changing into an appropriate costume. The husband unexpectedly returns whilst the wife is being assisted by the friend in the changing of her gown, and though mad with rage, he listens to the finish of the song, and then proceeds to make a bargain with the wrong-doer, that the one picking the ace of hearts from a pack of cards shall be shot dead. This falls to the lot of the friend, and in the scuffle that ensues (a gramophone being played all the time) the wife is also killed, thus bringing to a conclusion a most interesting number. The song mentioned is very tuneful and well sung by the lady. Price and Revost are extremely good acrobats, the wonderfully clever falls over chairs of the humorous partner causing shrieks of laughter. Mr. W. H. Downs, coloured vocalist, gives a couple of songs in good style, his powerful voice being heard to advantage in "Remembrance of you" and that old favourite ballad "Jenny Bell." Bert Cook's *Fatal Wedding* Kiddies provide a most enjoyable few minutes with their various numbers, the youngsters working splendidly together in their singing, dancing, and general business. Mr. Reginald Leyland, society entertainer, gives a decidedly clever burlesque of "A Visit to the Opera," his imitations of the various voices, together with his own accompaniment on the piano, being much appreciated. Dale and O'Malley are a couple of good comedians, the continuous smile of the smaller partner being very amusing. Miss Anna Kenwick, an attractive young lady, submits a clever imitation of a real coon singer, and concludes with a neat sand dance. King's College Boys in harmonious excerpts give a most refined entertainment, each member of the troupe possessing a capital voice. The young lady of the party has a specially good, deep contralto voice. Fioretti and Elly in their unique barrel and spade-jumping act provide an attractive turn, the male partner engaging in some very difficult feats. Miss Edna Leslie, a pleasant little comedienne, sings a couple of songs in good style, "Daddy shall be your trainer" and "Wait till the sun shines." Mr. Fred Land, eccentric comedian, was also greatly appreciated for his humorous items. Ruffell's Bioscope provides a most interesting film in "Paris Police Dogs." A special selection played by the band, "Old Favourites," arranged for orchestration by the conductor, Mr. A. Grimmett, proves a source of delight, the audience displaying their satisfaction by a perfect round of applause. The courteous Mr. Charles Beecham is busy all the evening looking after the comforts of his many patrons.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

A particularly strong and attractive programme is that provided at this popular hall for the current week, and on the evening of our visit "standing room only" was the gratifying condition of business. Miss Alice Lloyd, who is one of the two stars who top the bill, met with a demonstrative greeting on making her appearance, proving that her absence in the States has not lessened the regard in which she is held this side of the herring pond. Her first song, "May," is admirably suited to her style, and enables her to make an immediate hit. For her second item, some claim to originality may be made, it taking the form of a semi-recitation with orchestral accompaniment, and it is needless to say that every point was clearly and distinctly made. In response to undeniable demands, Miss Lloyd gave "Won't you come and splash me?" a ditty that shows every sign of becoming an immediate success. Altogether it was a dainty and attractive turn, and the audience parted with the artist regretfully. The other top-liner is Miss Victoria Monks, who was cheered whole-heartedly on showing herself. For her first song, the familiar "Take me back to London town" was given as only this singer can give it, with enthusiastic assistance from the house, of course; and for the second, a new scena, "Moving Day." In this the melancholy proceedings of broker's men are portrayed by the stage staff, who are so thorough in their efforts as to finally remove the scene itself. Many calls rewarded her at the end, and only the pressure of time prevented another song being given. Charles Whelan and Carrie West, in a "comedy offering," *Walk With Me*, submit a pleasant show, chiefly noticeable for the gentleman's ability as a dancer. Park's Eton Boys submit as good a show as ever, the ability of the boys as vocalists being remarkable, and their efforts, individual and collective, most enjoyable. J. W. Rowley was warmly greeted. His first song, "Paddle your own canoe," goes with a swing, and his second "It's no business of mine," a dame song, allowed him the opportunity to patter in an irresponsible and amusing manner. He gave in addition an old song, "On a starry night," with all his old skill and effect, and a very enthusiastic call was his recompense. The Legay Quartette of Parisian dancers submitted an act requiring both skill and considerable physical exertion, in which they greatly distinguished themselves. E. Rousby's *Around Paris* is an attractive turn, in which scenic effect and electrical mechanism are the chief features. The results are certainly very beautiful, and the reception accorded them was certainly well deserved. The bottom of the bill is occupied by the McNaughtons, whose entry was the signal for much applause. Their business is still as mirth-provoking as ever, and the duel scene is as absurdly humorous as can well be conceived. They do not spare themselves in the least, and the calls accorded them proved the success of their efforts. Miss Ella Deane is also billed, but failed to answer to her number. The programme is completed by the American Bioscope, this week depicting the King and Queen of Denmark with our own Sovereigns at the Horse Show, the films proving very interesting. Mr. Forbes Russell's excellent orchestra contributes agreeably to the evening's entertainment.

"THE SPY."

A Dramatic Episode, in One Act, by Percy Ford, Produced, for the First Time, at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, July 8.

Mme. Halcon .....Miss Amy B. Ellis
Sergeant Burnie .....Mr. George Hanbury
William Hinton .....Mr. Lionel D'Aragon

Mr. Percy Ford has found time, amidst his many managerial duties here, to write a powerful dramatic incident of the American Civil War, which is full of pathos. The story opens in the home of Mme. Halcon, who is full of anxiety concerning the safety of her son, a lieutenant in the 3rd Battalion. Being a devout Catholic, she kneels before the altar, and prays that her son may be restored to her in safety. On rising from her knees she is startled by the appearance of a wounded soldier, blood and mud bespattered, standing in the doorway. Noting the severity of his injuries, she assists him to a couch, and examines and dresses a nasty furrow across his forehead. After giving him a draught, she questions him as to where he has come from, and if he knows her son. He says he met her son at Richmond the day before, but Mme. Halcon says that cannot be, as her son is stationed at Daneville, an hour's journey from her house, from which the sounds of heavy fighting can be heard. The embarrassment of the soldier arouses her suspicions, and she openly accuses him of being a spy. The soldier confesses that his superior officers have sent him on a mission to find out the strength and position of their opponents, and that if her own son was ordered on the same errand he would have to obey orders. Madam's first impulse is to call the patrol just passing her house; but the spy tells her that he has a mother awaiting his return, even as she is awaiting that of her own son. Her woman's heart is touched, and she asks him how he came to be wounded. He replies that while coming through the lines he had been challenged by an officer, who fired at and wounded him, and, knowing it was either his life or his enemy's, he shot him down and fled. The heavy tramp of soldiers is heard without, and she tells him to go into her room and wait till she calls him. On opening the door all her fears return, for a file of soldiers bring in a body covered over with the Stars and Stripes. The kind-hearted sergeant breaks gently to her the news that it is the body of her son, who has been killed by a spy, who had managed to escape. Mme. Halcon realises at once that she has her son's destroyer in her power, and after the first outburst of grief asks the sergeant to withdraw his men and wait outside. The spy, who has overheard all, is full of remorse, and proceeding to the altar, takes down the crucifix, and lays it on the body. He dare not look at the grief-stricken mother, but places his revolver on the table, and tells her to call in the soldiers and denounce him as the spy that killed her son. She goes to the door, but all the motherly sympathies rise in her, and smother her anger and grief, and she places him in hiding while she calls in the sergeant, and tells him he can withdraw his men, as she has no further use for them. The grip this cleverly-written incident had on the audience was evidenced by the series of enthusiastic recalls that rewarded Miss Amy B. Ellis for her admirable portrayal of Mme. Halcon, and Mr. Lionel D'Aragon, who sustains the title-rôle with an artistic sincerity and conviction beyond all praise. *The Spy* deserves to be seen and appreciated by many audiences.

On the visit of the London Shakespeare League to Hampton Court Palace on Saturday, a paper was read by Mr. Ernest Law, F.S.A., the historian of the Palace, who stated that of all the old buildings in which it could be positively asserted that Shakespeare's plays were produced in his lifetime, there were no more than three now existing—namely, the halls of Gray's Inn and the Middle Temple, and the Great Hall at Hampton Court.

The staff of the Harrogate Grand Opera House had their first outing last Sunday, when seventy drove to Wass, on the Cotswold Hills. A start was made at 7 a.m., and a most enjoyable day was spent. At dinner Mr. Marshall, the property master, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. W. Peacock, which was seconded by Mr. Braithwaite, the master carpenter, carried with acclamation, and responded to, in the absence of Mr. Peacock, by Mr. C. F. Smith, the acting-manager.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

The great topic of the showman world is still the fight for Mitcham. Messrs. Ball and Horne presented the first section of the people's petition against the abolition of the fair at the Home Office on Friday last, July 5. The petition contained 1,273 names of Mitcham residents, and measured 36ft. in length. Section No. 2 of the petition is now being signed, and will be presented in due course.

Such a remarkable response to the appeal of the Guild for a popular vote on the question is exciting the interest of all lovers of liberty in the district, and one result has been the formation of a People's Rights League, with much wider objects in view than saving the fair to the people. The autocrats of Mitcham will have to reckon with this new political force.

Petition of the Guild to the Home Secretary.

With the people's petition the Guild executive sent the following petition :—

To the Right Hon. H. J. Gladstone, His Majesty's First Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Sir,—As the convener of the public meeting held at Mitcham, June 27, 1907, to protest against the abolition of Mitcham Charter Fair, I was asked to send you the resolution passed unanimously by the crowded gathering, estimated at between two and three thousand persons. It reads as follows :—

"This meeting of residents of Mitcham objects to the abolition of the fair, and respectfully urges the Parish Council, the Conservators of Mitcham Common, the owners of the fair franchise, and the showmen traders to speedily arrive at a friendly agreement whereby the fair may be removed to the more commodious site on the Three Kings Common, and a joint petition by all parties concerned may be sent to the Home Secretary seeking permission to remove the fair to the new site."

A numerously signed petition was the result of the meeting. We send you that petition—the first one that the working classes (who really form the great majority of the patrons of the fair) have had an opportunity of signing. I venture to add to this remarkable expression of public opinion a few observations on the position of the showmen and fair-ground traders, whose business and livelihood is seriously threatened by this and other movements by interested parties to abolish fairs and to curtail the holidays of the people. Mitcham is one of the most profitable business fixtures remaining to them in the London suburbs. The showmen think (and, indeed, all Mitcham thinks) that the better course for the Conservators to take would be to ask you to sanction the removal of the venue of the fair to the admirable site on the common known as the Three Kings Common. The showmen are deeply grateful for the way in which you have treated this question hitherto, and they trust that, in the light of the remarkable expression of local popular opinion, you will see that the people are against abolition, yet ready to accept removal to another site under local control.—I remain, Honoured Sir, your obedient servant,

T. HORNE, Chaplain,
The Showmen's Guild.

5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

The official reply to the Guild petition is as follows :—

Home Office.
July 6, 1907.

Sir,—I am directed by the Secretary of State for the Home Department to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, and to say that the same shall receive due attention.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

M. D. CHALMERS.

The Rev. T. Horne.

The Mitcham Parish Council.

The Vestry Clerk has sent an official reply to the Guild petition to the local body in these words :—

Vestry Hall,
July 1, 1907.

Dear Sir,—We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of June 29, which will be duly laid before our Council at their next meeting.—Yours faithfully,

ROBERT M. CHART.

The Rev. T. Horne.

The matter did come before the Parish Council and was under discussion, the result being the sending the matter for further consideration to the General Purposes Committee; so that the door is still open for an amicable settlement with the people of Mitcham and their representatives.

Croydon Rural District Council.

The clerk to this important body has sent the following reply to the Guild petition :—

Mitcham Fair.

Sir,—I beg to acknowledge your letter of the 29th ult. addressed to the Mitcham Parochial Committee, which shall have attention.—Yours truly,

E. J. GOWEN, Clerk.

Mr. T. Hurst, Hon Sec. Showmen's Guild.
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

The Guild executive also sent a communication setting forth the claims of the people and the showmen, from a ratepayer's point of view, to an important local society known as the Ratepayers' League. This league has, we understand, sent a petition in the interests of the ratepayers against abolition to the Home Secretary.

The Conservators and the Guild.

In addition to a formal acknowledgment of the Guild petition to the Board of Commons Conservators, the Rev. T. Horne has received the following extraordinary communication :—

5, Fenchurch-street, London, E.C.
July 9, 1907.

Mitcham Fair.

Dear Sir,—I brought your letter before the Mitcham Conservators on Saturday, and it was discussed. The Conservators can see no object whatever in having a meeting between themselves and the Showmen's Guild, and therefore are unable to comply with your request that they should receive a deputation from the Guild. When I was meeting Mr. Webb on the settlement of the recent action, I was assured that none of the parties to that action or the Showmen's Guild would take any further part in this agitation, and when I see the active part that Mr. Ball and other members of the Guild are taking in it, it seems to me to render it all the more unnecessary that there should be any interviews between the two bodies in question—which could be productive of no result, as there could be no confidence in what was said, at all events on one side.—Yours truly,

FREDK. FOSS.

The Rev. T. Horne,
The Showmen' Guild, Tavistock-street, W.C.

The Rev. T. Horne's Reply.

5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
July 11, 1907.

Re Mitcham Fair.

Dear Sir,—The Conservators are under an absolute misapprehension of the real facts of the case. How such a mistake could have arisen is beyond my ability to grasp. The Showmen's Guild, as in duty bound, petitioned the Home Secretary last year against abolition, and that petition prevailed, for the Home Office refused to issue an order abolishing the fair. I, as representing the Guild, accompanied by Mr. Alf. Ball, sought upon several occasions at interviews with yourself to meet the difficulties of the case by offering to accept the Three Kings Common site as the venue of the fair. This offer you laid before the Conservators, with unfavourable results. There the matter, as regards official action of the Guild, ended, for until our letter of July 2 we have taken no official action in relation to your Board.

We were not cited by you, nor did we appear as joint defendants in the High Court action for trespass against three showman traders—Messrs. Ball, Hill, and Wilson. We never gave these old tenants of Mitcham Fair authority to use the name of the Guild, or authorised Mr. Webb, our solicitor's London agent, to act for the Guild in the High Court action which ended in the injunction against the defendants.

Contrariwise, when the action of Messrs. Ball, Hill, and Wilson came before our committee at our Guild meeting in London in January last, we strongly advised them to come to any reasonable compromise they could effect with you, and not to fight the case. Whatever Messrs. Wright and Webb did was in the interest of their clients, Messrs. Ball, Wilson, and Hill.

Whatever action this society has taken, it has always, in courtesy, sent you all public announcements of the same, and an invitation has invariably been sent you by post to attend public meetings organised by it to inform public opinion of the just claim of our members to consideration.

If the magnificent expression of public opinion against abolition and in favour of removal to the Three Kings Common has not as yet moved the Conservators to a wiser and more public-spirited policy than your letter indicates, all that the Guild executive officers can do is to keep the door open, as far as they are concerned, for a possible Round Table conference, as suggested by you in a former communication.

Personally, I have always acknowledged your courtesy and frankness in the matter. You and I differ upon the question of retaining the fair; but surely the significant manifestation of public feeling in Mitcham against abolition is a matter for the Conservators to recognise and consider.

I, therefore, again ask that you meet the suggested delegation from the Guild, and that something be done to settle a question that locally contains elements of a most serious nature. I refer to the unmistakable demonstration of the people's wish to retain their fair.

Messrs. Sanger and Pedgrift, with myself, have power to give all necessary guarantees, both with regard to taking over the fairground as a whole, or co-operating with the Conservators and the owners of the Fair Franchise in order that the fair may be removed to the Three Kings Common, and that the shows and amusements shall be of the best character—and also that good rule and order be maintained.

I have, therefore, again, Sir, to beg your good offices in the matter, and to ask your Board to reconsider, in the light of this explanation, their decision not to meet us.—Yours truly,

T. HORNE,
Organising Chaplain, the Showmen's Guild.

To F. Foss, Esq.

The Organised Showmen and Mitcham.

All our readers who know how the Showmen's Guild is governed by its stringent rules as regards individual members committing the society to expensive legal action, will join with Mr. Horne in his indignant repudiation of the charge of want of faith brought by the Conservators against the Executive Council. The case of the individual member may be a perfectly just one, yet he cannot commit the Guild as a corporate body without the matter being thoroughly understood and discussed and determined by a duly summoned committee. The executive officials have ample powers to deal with matters of secondary moment, but even that is bound by a financial limit.

What the Guild Did Do.

It did consider the whole question at its London committee, and it did advise, and promised assistance on that advice being taken by Messrs. Ball, Hill, and Wilson. That advice was, that the High Court action should not be defended, and that the defendants accepted the penalty of the Court.

Reasons for that Advice.

Not want of sympathy with the fighters in a good cause; not a vote of censure on Ball, Hill, and Wilson; nothing of the kind; but an earnest wish to save these men from a long and expensive High Court action that must have lasted many days, because of the intricate and unsettled legal points raised by the action for an injunction. Mr. Alf. Ball especially won the sympathy of his showmen friends, and as he stood, in the event of an adverse decision, to lose the savings of a lifetime, the Guild Committee did not see its way to advise him to persevere with the case. The Guild did undertake to make (at the right time) an appeal to the people of Mitcham. This has been done, and with extraordinary success. The Guild did undertake to open up negotiations with the Parish Council, with the Board of Conservators, and other local bodies. This has been done, and effectively.

The Guild is now in the arena, and in the thick of the fight, and the Guild has behind it the enthusiasm and the fervour of a town fully roused to retain its ancient rights and privileges in its Charter Fair.

The Guild uses no underhand or semi-secret methods. It does go direct to the people, and we venture to advise the Conservators of Mitcham common lands to appeal to the people for a mandate on this question.

Darnall Feast.

Held under Messrs. Tuby's management, they exhibited their splendid show, the Coliseum of living and talking pictures, their motor track, and shooting range. The Fansmiths and itinerant entertainers in attendance with the *olla podrida* of the fair were Messrs. Fisher, Pullen, Shaw, Campfield, Calver, Illingworth, Warren, Doubtful, Webb, Clay, Lewis, Bishton, and local caterers.

Barlboro' Feast.

This Derbyshire village had for its entertainers Twigdon and Co., with all their well-known fairground novelties.

Worcester Summer Fair.

Well set out on the commodious Fairground near the Racecourse, the show and machine novelties made a grand galaxy of attraction for the merry citizens on pleasure bent. Here for their delectation were :—Soger's theatre of animated pictures and varieties; Clytie, the clairvoyant; and Professor Haydn, occultist—"the Zancigs" of the ground booth; J. Hastings' two excellent freak exhibitions, and the grand free sight show, Chevalier Ponchery on the high wire.

The concourse of huge machines included a selection from P. Collins's world-famed aggregation. There were the No. 1 motor-car set, the Japanese airships, and wheeley-whirley machine; Strickland, the Worcester caterer, with three-abreast horses, park swings, and juvenile roundabout; Mrs. Hayes, with overboats and park swings; juvenile horses by Messrs. Wm. Chaplain and Dobson; shooting ranges and tubes by Jennings, Ford, Dobson, and Strickland; football games by Cooper and Beach; throwing games, varieties, and stalls in splendid array by Chaplain, Powell, Cooper, Beach, Humphrey Bros., Stanley, Butler, Stevens, Wagstaffe, Walton, and Butlin.

Redruth Exhibition Week.

Thousands of visitors to the Exhibition thronged Redruth on Wednesday and Thursday. In Moore's fields were Lock's hobby-horses, Laurence's marionettes, Chapman's big wheel, with the usual swings, shies, stalls, &c. In the Fairmeadow stood Ware's horses.

Conisboro' Feast.

Another fixture on the "Tuby" cycle of Yorkshire fairs was maintained by the concerns given as being at Darnall, with the addition of the following concerns :—T. Wortley's two ground booths, the colliery model show, the gallery of fine arts, Watson's school of boxers, and Bentley's swings.

Wakefield Summer Fair.

Here for the amusement of the multitude were the high-class cinematograph theatres of Ben Howden and Son, E. Farrar, and J. Leighton; Westray's No. 2 freak show; Hilton's novelty booth; Aspland and Wadington's (two sets) motor-cars; P. Collins' ostriches; Waddington's steam yachts; Holdsworth's alpine glissade; the bazaars of Seed and Son; shooting concerns of George Cornwell and J. Holdsworth; and throwing games, varieties, &c., of Doubtful, Holdsworth, W. Steward, and others.

Messrs. W. Butcher and Sons, Ltd., have entered into an agreement with Charles Tyler and England Bros., Ltd., the well-known manufacturers of photo mounts and Christmas cards, and "Teb" and "Excelsior" cameras and specialities, and from this date the businesses will be amalgamated and carried on in the future as W. Butcher and Sons, Ltd., Camera House, Farringdon-avenue, London, E.C.

A switchback motor track in the form of a wheel is the latest novelty at the Earl's Court Exhibition. The Wheel of Avernus, as it is called, has an outer rim eccentrically bent in or bulged out from the axle on which it revolves. Round this distorted circle are fixed rails, and poised on these, at the top of the wheel, is a motor car capable of holding twenty people. This is kept in position by two arms fixed to a steel upright. Thus the car follows all the irregularities of the track as the wheel revolves beneath it. At one moment it rises to fifty feet or so in the air, and then sinks gently down into a depression in the rim ten or fifteen feet deep, only to immediately climb up another bulge, no two points in the outer rim of the wheel being the same distance from the axle. The movement of the wheel towards the car—which itself remains stationary at the top—combined with the varying up and down motion, makes the illusion of "motoring in mid-air" complete. The new device will be perfectly safe.

At the Chancery Court of Lancashire, sitting at St. George's Hall, Liverpool, on Monday, before Vice-Chancellor Leigh Clare, the case of Sergenson *v.* Whiteley was mentioned. Mr. F. H. B. Hodgson stated that the plaintiff, Thomas Sergenson, was the owner of the freehold premises, 85, Church-street, Blackpool, and on June 15 he agreed with the defendant, Thomas Whiteley, to let him the premises referred to for four weeks, from May 18 to June 15, for a waxworks and cinématograph exhibition. The four weeks duly expired, but the defendant declined to leave the premises, and was still in possession. Mr. Hodgson now asked for an interim injunction pending the trial of the action to restrain the defendant from continuing in occupation of the place. His Honour granted the injunction pending the trial of the action.

Mansfield Cheese Fair commenced on Thursday last week, and continued on Friday and Saturday. Thousands of school children were taken to the seaside on the Friday, so the showmen had a very unremunerative day, as the trains did not come back until late at night.

On Monday Mansfield Woodhouse Feast commences, when the majority of the showmen who are at Mansfield will be again in evidence.

Mr. E. Hannaford's Canadian circus is visiting Tonford Ballina, Crossmilina, &c., showing twice daily to crowded houses.

At the White City, Old Trafford, the magnificent ballroom, with its 2,000 electric lights, and the large skating rink, are well patronised. The dreadful weather interferes with some of the outdoor amusements, but those under cover, notably Hale's tours of the world, the mystic rivers, Paris by night, the pierrots, Milton's marionettes, and other varieties are doing well. A new dance has been invented by Mr. Tom Walton, M.C., called the "White City Waltz," and there was a competition for prizes in the ballroom on the 10th inst. for dancing it. This week's band in the Kiosk is that of the Queen's Own Yorkshire Dragoons.

Guild Subscriptions, 1907.—Per Mr. C. Shaw : F. Oliver, 5s.

ANSWERS TO SHOWMEN.

A. Dashwood.—*Many, many thanks. Your wishes shall be respected in the matter.*

Miss Wilmot.—*Thank you. Letter received; will write to Johnstone.*

Perplexed Committeeman.—*The Showmen's Guild, as its name implies, is not a gipsy protection society, and does not enrol gipsies or dwellers in vans not used for the business of the fair.*

Will Harry Ashinglot send his address to this office for the week?

Will J. Gordon, of P. Collins' Coliseum, write to this office his address for the week?

"THE ERA."

EARLY DELIVERY.

Special Newspaper Express Services now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible.

	a.m.
RUGBY	4.30
COVENTRY	4.54
BIRMINGHAM	5.20
CREWE	6. 5
MANCHESTER	6.50
LIVERPOOL	7. 0
CHESTER	9. 3
DONCASTER	5.10
YORK	7. 0
HULL	8.20
DARLINGTON	6.58
SCARBOROUGH	10. 5
NEWCASTLE	10.10
LEEDS (Central)	6.58
HUDDERSFIELD	7.37
BRADFORD (Exchange)	7.47
HARROGATE	7.50
HALIFAX	8.17
BURNLEY	9.28
LEICESTER	4.36
NOTTINGHAM	5.10
DERBY	5.36
SHEFFIELD	6. 0

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD IN SCOTLAND.

From the point of view of numbers present at the "showpeople only" meetings of the guild, the one held at Greenock Fair last Sunday was the best since the chaplain began his summer tour of British fairs. From the other aspects of local interest and enthusiasm Greenock also takes a very high and honoured position, and the first of the annual conferences of the Guild in Scotland will remain, from every point, a memorable event, a veritable "red-letter day," a high festival in the calendar of showland.

The gathering took place in McIndoe's famous cinematograph theatre (Mr. A. Henderson, manager), kindly lent for the occasion. "The Father of the Scottish Show-world," General John Wilmot, took the chair, as vice-president of the Guild, at Greenock Fair. Supporting the chairman, and taking part in the meeting were Messrs. James Wilmot and Arthur Henderson, and Messrs. Walter Wilmot and J. Caddick, jun., who acted as secretaries. Amongst the prominent showmen present at the gathering were Messrs. J. Manders, Wm. Clark, jun., J. McIndoe, J. Murphy, J. Caddick, T. Paulo, J. Buckley, H. Strand, W. Strand, J. Westray, T. Manders, John Wilmot, jun., L. Rayner, R. Wright, G. Blockley, W. Salvona, E. Stevenson, F. Boswell, W. Wright, Tours, F. Merker, Thompson, T. Dowson, W. Smith, jun., H. Palmer, S. J. Rostron, W. Henderson, W. Bickert, H. Dawson, jun., J. Godley, J. Knight, J. Gray, D. Moore, W. Slater, Goddard, Wilson, Davies, J. Stewart, D. Kennedy, H. Stevenson, and others. The ladies who graced the assembly were Mrs. Wilmot, Mrs. John Wilmot, jun., Mrs. Walter Wilmot, Mrs. Henderson, Mrs. H. Strand, Mrs. A. Palmer, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. T. Wright, Mrs. Matchett, the Misses Wilmot, the Misses Dawson, and amongst the local friends, present by special invitation, were Mrs. Forbes, of Greenock, and Miss Bell, of Paisley (ladies who take a deep interest in show-people).

General Wilmot from the Chair,

briefly outlining the objects of the Guild and its work, warmly welcomed to Scotland their staunch champion and friend, the Rev. T. Horne, the organising chaplain. To him it had always been a problem, and still remained one, what they should do, and what they could do, without such gentlemen as Mr. Horne. He rejoiced to see so many of their friends present before him, and he felt sure that Mr. Horne would not regret the long journey he had made to speak to Scotch showpeople. He, for his part, would continue to do his best for the dear old Society, and he was confident that, after Mr. Horne had told them the story of that work, and the good the Guild was doing for all alike, that Scotch travellers would join the Guild, and support the trade defence movement. He had great pleasure in asking Mr. Horne to address them. (Cheers.)

The Rev. T. Horne's Address.

On rising to address the meeting, the organising chaplain received a warm ovation. He desired first of all to express his deep sense of gratitude for the organisation of the splendid meeting before him, largely due to the enthusiasm of the Wilmot family, particularly Miss Ellen Wilmot, their hon. local agent for Scotland. (Applause.) He had been detained by urgent and most important Parliamentary defence until the last moment. He arrived in Greenock only the night previous, and he found the local arrangements quite ready, and everybody looking forward to the gathering he was now privileged to address. (Cheers.) Their honoured and esteemed chairman had referred to the work that he and others with him had attempted on their behalf. All that he could say with regard to that was, that without the loyal and generous support, without the unfailing sympathy and intelligent appreciation of such men as their present chairman, General Wilmot, he and others would have broken down and retreated under the strain of the work years ago. (Applause.)

"By way of remembrance," he then proceeded to tell how it was, now nearly twenty years ago, that the Van Dwellers' Trade Protection Society came into being. He detailed the now almost historic occasion, when he was drawn into the movement, and his own intimate connection with shows and show-life. He was strongly convinced that when the tale of his life was told that the best work, and the most finished, as well as the happiest portion of his life's work, would be found to be that that he had striven to do for his brethren of the road, the travelling showfolk. (Great applause.)

To that enterprise he had set his hand. He had made this year the full venture of faith. He had relinquished the fixed parish work, that hitherto had prevented him from coming to Scotland, and to many other centres of show-life. He was now giving the whole of his time, weekdays and Sundays, to the constantly growing demands of the Guild work, a work so necessary and so urgent that the time had fully come for him to make it the chief business of his life. (Loud and continued applause.)

For the information of those who had not kept in touch with their many-sided endeavour for the protection and the betterment of show-life, he showed how the Society had secured their freedom from vexatious and over officious interference that local governing bodies had attempted. He dealt with these attempts in detail, and showed how both as regards individual liberty—in their home life, freedom of trade, and trading in their business life—the Guild had benefitted the whole body of itinerant performers and fairground traders. Fairs had not only been saved to them, but the right and the liberty they now enjoyed of creating new fairs and developing their trade and business had been secured to them by the strenuous fight they had waged in the showmen's interests for twenty years past. (Cheers.)

Not Only Defence, but Advance.

As an organised body of workers, with a recognised position in the industrial evolution of the British Empire, he insisted that they (the showmen and show-women) must recognise that they stood not alone for defence—great and important as that work was—but that they must move forward, their object must be to advance. No trade or business in the world was more dependent than theirs on the goodwill and esteem of the people. They had to carry the good opinion and the support of the British public with them every step forward they took. When the tired workers—whether exhausted by hand or brain work—came to the fair, they must give the best of their talent, the best of their enterprise and industry to the people. Here was their work in life, and here was their justification in life. (Cheers.)

Some Details of the Guild Work.

In Parliamentary work alone, fighting the private Bills of various corporations, they had spent over £3000. In the defence of fairs threatened with extinction they had spent over £1000. In public meetings and necessary propaganda work another thousand or more. All this had been money well spent, for by it they secured not only the liberty to live their own life in they way that best expressed their soul, but also in the way that best helped others, and that best contributed to the well-being of the country.

He had come to Scotland, he said, in conclusion, to make a personal appeal to them to rally to the support of their own trade defence organisation. He begged those present (not already enrolled) to become members, to follow the good lead of their honoured vice-president, in the chair, who not only paid his annual subscription without fail, but was ever ready to say, "Mr. Horne, is there anything else to pay." (Applause.)

To him (the speaker) it had been a work of love this season to visit the big fairs, and to make the appeal to show-people to combine, and to help themselves. He was confident that the fairs of the Empire were growing in importance, in popular favour, and that British shows and showmen were to-day better appreciated and better respected by all classes in the community than ever before in their national life.

Let them, therefore, realise their advantages, and let go forward to greater and to fuller expression of the ancient and honourable craft of travelling showmen and itinerant entertainers of the people. (Cheers.)

Local Interest and Support.

Mrs. Forbes asked permission of the chairman to say a word or two of kindly welcome to the show-people. She could remember the bad old days in Greenock, when the advent of the fair gave many Greenock people grave cause for anxiety; they endeavoured to prevent their children and their young people from going to the fair. Then there came a time when she and others thought that they would go amongst the show-people, and see what sort of people they really were, and what sort of life they lived. (Cheers.) The result was the beginning, not only of a better knowledge on both sides, but also the beginning of close personal friendship, that increased year by year. She desired to express in public to their show friends how grateful the British Women's Temperance Association (with which she was connected) were to both Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot for their sympathy and interest, they (and indeed all their family) had taken in the temperance refreshment tent, a now well-known feature of Greenock Fair. (Applause.) Mr. Wilmot gave the site, one of the best pitches on the fair ground, free of any rent or charge whatever, and she had seized that opportunity of openly acknowledging their debt of gratitude to Mr. Wilmot. (Great applause.)

The temperance work they had thus been able to do was of immense value to the town of Greenock at the fair time, and she also hoped that wholesome food and drink close at hand had been some advantage to show-people. They had their good friend, Miss Bell, of Paisley, well-known to show-people, who had come to Greenock to take part in showmen's meeting at the Temperance Institute that evening, and she trusted that many of those she was now addressing would come to that meeting, at which their friend, Mr. Horne, had kindly promised to speak. (Cheers.)

Mr. James Wilmot's Speech.

In a humorous and chatty vein, Mr. James Wilmot took up his parable for his brother showmen, the point and moral of his speech being the importance of combination for trade purposes. He asked them to consider how trouble usually began with regard to them and their business in life. First there came some mistaken or narrow-minded person who made a complaint to a policeman of the show being an annoyance; that was in most cases the start of it. The policeman took his complaint, and carried it to his superior officer, who took it to the town council, or the bench of magistrates. From these authorities it was sent to Parliament, embodied in a private Bill, or in a bye-law, and then it became an Act of Parliament, and their liberty was lost and their business in life injured, unless (and here was his main point in speaking to that meeting of fellow showmen)—unless they had gentlemen like Mr. Horne, like their Parliamentary agents and solicitors, on the alert, ever watching their interests, and able and willing to defend them. (Applause.) Here was their great security, and here was the work they were now called upon to support. He had heard some of the travellers say, "why should I bother to join the Society? Why should I pay money for this work? Let the Society do it. Whilst it is protecting the people who do support it it is protecting me. Why need I trouble?" To his mind this policy was an intensely selfish and unjust one. (Hear, hear.) That was a policy destructive of all fellowship and unity, and unworthy of anyone who aspired to bear the name of showman or van-dweller. He heartily supported Mr. Horne's appeal for new members. He pointed out that now they had got the Society well organised, and again to the front in Scotland, that if a traveller could not pay his subscriptions at Greenock Fair, and join that day, he could apply to him (the speaker) or to his brother-members of Committee for Scotland, and they could be enrolled, either there at Greenock, or at Ayr, Mr. Horne's next place of meeting in Scotland. He knew no wiser, no better, no more urgent or necessary duty, incumbent upon all showmen than to join the Guild, and thus exhibit that combination, that unity, that alone would secure to them and theirs their liberty of life and action. (Great applause.)

Mr. Arthur Henderson's Speech.

Mr. Henderson rejoiced that their reverend friend, Mr. Horne, had at last been able to come to Scotland, and to speak to them on trade defence. He had for some time past been a keen observer of the work done by the Showmen's Guild, and that work had convinced him that his own interests and those of his fellow travellers were best served by joining the Society, and subscribing to its funds. Glad as he was to hear Mr. Horne, he had not waited for that event to join and support the Guild. For two or more years now he had sent to the offices of the Guild his subscription of one guinea to its funds, and he was prepared to give a second subscription at the end of the meeting. (Cheers.) They had other and useful societies safeguarding their interests in particular ways, and in special districts, but he was strongly convinced that the Guild—of all societies—was the one that defended in the widest and best sense, all the various interests of the show world. To his mind it was obviously the greatest bulwark of their defence. (Cheers.) No matter the line of business—show, roundabout, shooter, variety, frame, or stall—the defence work of the Guild covered them all. (Loud applause.) He would go further, and say that every artist, craftsman, or worker employed in or about any concern on the fair ground ought to join and support the Guild in its noble work of safeguarding their work and trade. The small subscription that entitled to trade defence, also gave the poor man legal advice at the nominal enquiry fee of one shilling. He cordially welcomed Mr. Horne to Greenock, and sincerely hoped that that meeting would be but the first in order of time of many such fraternal gatherings in the years to come. (Cheers.)

Enrolment of Members.

The energetic secretaries, assisted by Mr. James Wilmot, member of the committee, made a most successful canvass of the show-people present, and the enrolment of members, which occupied some little time, began. Mr. James Wilmot proposed, and Mr. Henderson seconded, a vote of thanks to the Rev. T. Horne, which was carried with acclamation. Mr. Horne proposed votes of thanks to the proprietor for the use of the show that afternoon, and for the admirable arrangements, and to Mr. Wilmot for his able conduct of the meeting, as their honoured vice-president and chairman; these being passed with cheers, the meeting closed.

Members enrolled by Messrs. James and Walter Wilmot, and Mr. J. Caddick, jun. :—

	£	s.	d.
J. McIndoe	0	10	6
J. Wilson	0	10	6
A. Henderson (second subscription)	0	5	0
W. Henderson	0	5	0
Mrs. A. Palmer	0	5	0
W. Talbot	0	5	0
Mrs. T. Wright	0	5	0
W. Slater	0	5	0
A. Horne	0	5	0
W. Davies	0	5	0
J. Stewart	0	5	0

	£	s.	d.
G. Blockley	0	5	0
J. Wright	0	5	0
Mrs. Smith	0	5	0
Tom Paulo	0	5	0
J. Buckley	0	5	0
S. J. Rostron	0	5	0
R. Rayner	0	5	0
W. Salvona	0	5	0
H. Strand, jun.	0	5	0
Dick Kennedy	0	5	0

SUBSCRIPTION TO GUILD FUNDS, PER REV. T. HORNE.

Anonymous (third subscription) ..	0	5	0

Owing to the existence at Greenock of an evening gathering of show-people under the auspices of the British Women's Temperance Association, the Rev. T. Horne did not attempt a Guild service. He sincerely hopes to be able to do so next year. The Rector of the parish of St. John (the parish of the fair ground) has kindly undertaken to be the hon. local chaplain for Greenock, and next year will heartily co-operate with the organising chaplain in the Guild service on the fair ground.

The Rev. T. Horne gave an address at the evening temperance meeting, which took place at the Temperance Institute, and was largely attended by the show-people and itinerant traders. Col. Lamont occupied the chair, and in addition to the showmen's chaplain, the local clergy taking part in the meeting were the Vicar of Holy Trinity, the Rev. Fraser, and the Rev. Strothers. The kindness of the ladies in organising and carrying out these social evenings at the Scotch fairs is beyond praise, and the show-people value highly these local manifestations of Christian fellowship in good works.

A special word of praise is due to Miss Ellen Wilmot, who so efficiently carried out all the detailed arrangements of the Guild meeting at Greenock.

MITCHAM FAIR.

MEETING OF PROTEST.

A well-attended meeting was held on the Fair Green at Mitcham, under the auspices of a body known as the People's Defence League, to protest against the action of the local Parish Council in requesting the Home Secretary to abolish the time-honoured Fair. Mr. Harry Mount acted as chairman, and others present were Mr. F. H. Pedgrift (founder of the Showmen's Guild), Councillors C. Dant (vice-chairman Parish Council), Dr. De Caux, W. M. Bland, and Messrs. G. Parker, J. Grange, J. Bull, J. Dennis, H. Pillinger, W. Sherrer, C. Eden, W. Hyde, A. Sammons, J. W. B. Withers, T. Burge, J. Domney, F. Cox, A. Drummond, J. T. Stenning, A. H. Riley, Mr. Ball, and A. P. Riley.

The Chairman opened the proceedings by explaining the objects of the meeting. He was strongly of the opinion that the abolition of the Fair would be a most unrighteous thing. He read extracts from the newspapers showing that there had been an agitation for the abolition of the Fair for sometime past, but that the subject had been shelved in consequence of the opposition of the people.

Mr. Charles H. Dant, vice-chairman of the Mitsham Parish Council, proposed the following resolutions:

The Resolution.

"That this meeting of inhabitants of the Parish of Mitcham, assembled on the historic Fair Green, strongly protests against any endeavour to bring about the abolition of Mitcham Fair, and specially petitions the Home Secretary to uphold the rights of the people and to support them in their desire for the continuance of the Fair, and for its removal to a more suitable site on the spacious Mitcham Common."

"That copies of this resolution be sent to Mr. Chaplin, M.P., and to all Members of Parliament for the County of Surrey, urging them to use their powerful influence in support of the retention of the Fair."

A Source of Revenue.

Speaking in support of his motion, Mr. Dant stated that a poll of the people alone should decide whether the demand for the abolition of the Fair should be acceded to. He himself thought that it would be a far better policy to remove the Fair to the Common. It should not be overlooked that the showmen provided one of the possible sources of revenue—a fact which seemed to have been overlooked by those members of the Parish Council who voted for the abolition. He would read to them the motion put by Councillor Aldwinckle in the Council Chamber. It ran thus:—"That the conservators of Mitcham Common be urged to follow up the proceedings which they have already taken with the view of abolishing the annual Fair by making an application to the Home Secretary for an order closing the Fair for ever." He (Mr. Dant) would ask them, as ratepayers, did they give Mr. Aldwinckle permission to move that motion? And if he had no instructions from them to move that motion, what right had he to move it? The Parish Council had no right to pass Mr. Aldwinckle's motion. Nothing short of a poll of the whole parish favourable to abolition would justify such a proceeding on the part of the Council. But if he (the speaker) and some of his friends came forward and backed their cause, they on their part must do everything in their power to improve the Fair. They must not be parties to anything of a demoralising character. The people who were in favour of the abolition of the Fair had not a leg to stand upon. The Rev. T. Horne had written a letter to the Parish Council which contained a statement to the effect that the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain was prepared, in the interests of the tenants of the Fair, to give the Parish Council, the Board of Conservators, and the present holders of the franchise full guarantees that if the Fair is continued on the suggested site—the Three Kings' Common—that only such shows and amusements as shall meet with the approval of the joint authorities shall open at Fair time.

Mr. John Bull, in seconding the motion, remarked that the local shopkeepers benefited by the Fair. And, on another point, did anyone wish to do away with the pleasures of the children?

Mr. P. V. Gorton, a ratepayer, also spoke in favour of continuing the Fair. He thought that they should make every endeavour to improve it for the legitimate, honest amusement of the people.

Councillor W. M. Bland and Mr. John Grange expressed their indignation at the Council's resolution to abolish the Fair.

The Rights of the People.

Mr. Frank Baker made a very effective speech, in which he drew attention to the rights of the people. Were they going to submit to the withdrawal of those rights in favour of a few people who wanted the common reserved for their game of golf? He himself was sent by the people to the Council to look after their interests, and he intended to carry out his promises to them if they would only give him their support. The removal of the Fair to the Three Kings' Common would overcome all difficulties. The London County Council had set them a very good example in considering the rights of the showmen and of the people, and the Mitcham Parish Council would do well to consider the claims both of the people and of the showmen.

The resolutions, on being put to the meeting, were declared unanimously carried.

GREENOCK FAIR HOLIDAYS.

The indestructible hold that fairs have on the workers of the Empire finds a most striking illustration in Scotland. If anywhere in the United Kingdom the genius and spirit of the people might have manifested itself against fairs that place to the superficial student of human life would be Scotland. The "canny Scot," with his proverbial thrift, might be expected to object to spend his money on such human delights and vanities of pleasure that the fair provides.

Again, it might reasonably be concluded that the stern and simple faith of the Scotch race—the Calvinism of their National apostle and prophet, John Knox—would have created an atmosphere adverse to the lighter side of life. These conclusions of the superficial observer of social conditions in Scotland would be immediately shattered by any real, any intimate knowledge of Scotch life and character. The care of the "bawbee" (thrift in its elemental form) does not prevent the Scotch mind—always shrewd and reasonable—understanding and appreciating the need for relaxation from toil, and of recreation and amusement in the true sense of these much-abused terms.

There is nothing dour or solemn about the Scot when on pleasure bent. It pleased the comic writers of years ago to hold up to ridicule the serious side of the National character. The comedian who played the Scot on the stage got all they could out of this perversion of Scotch life. We all know the ancient wheeze that satirises the thrift of the people—"Bang went anither saxpence," and the solemnities of Scotch life are immortalised in the literature of the kail yard.

Are these things the real oul-word symbols of the genius of the race? We venture to say, No. A real prophet of the Scotch people has arisen in these latter days, and his name is Harry Lauder—the Scot as he really is in life. Bubbling over with fun and quaint humour—a real man, who knows to the full the joy of life. It was neither John Knox nor Calvin of the dismal creed we met with Saturday night at the fair in Greenock Toon, but thirty thousand potential Lauders—bubbling over with the joy of life—real men and women—lads and lassies at the fair. Not the Scot of caricature, but the genuine Scot of Scotland, with a joke on his lips and an abundant capacity for fun and jollity in his heart.

The Scot is Not a Puritan.

Puritanism that captured England for a time never found rootage in Scotland. The creed of the Roundhead preachers and its travesty of Christian liberty never appealed to the logical and sober-minded Scot. Presbyterianism contains no leaven of Puritanical prejudice against the joy of life. Wherever there has been any serious hindrance to the fairs of the people it has arisen from purely economic causes—causes and principles of economic philosophy that have for a time misled the rulers of the people.

Greenock is also an example of the return to a better mind of the city fathers with regard to the provision of fairs. In the bad old days of economic heresy—when men thought that cessation from work was economic waste—Greenock, like many other great centres of trade and commerce, made the mistake of abolishing its fair—*for the good of the people?* The modern Pharaohs said: "Why cease from your tasks, O ye people? Get back to your burdens." The corporation ceased to provide a fair ground. Like the autocrats of Mitcham, they thought they were justified, and that if they (the authorities) did not provide a fair ground that there would be no fair. But they reckoned without knowledge of the showman and without knowledge of the people. Like the Brothers Collins' in the Midlands, John Whiting in Lancashire, Waddington and Murphy in Yorkshire, and other showmen in all parts of the United Kingdom. John Wilmot (Scotia's Premier showman) came to the rescue, and the fair was continued under private control and upon private land.

The People Love Their Fair.

This mistaken policy of the city fathers made the people rally to the fair and to regard John Wilmot as a benefactor of the town. After events have more than justified the revolt of the people and the sound business sense of the showman, Greenock Fair to-day, under the banner of the Wilmots, is better, bigger, and more popular than ever before. John Wilmot is now regarded a notable character in Greenock, and justly so, for no good cause or charity appeals to his generous heart in vain.

All the Jolly Fun of the Fair.

There are two immense sites for the fair, with a connecting avenue along the Prince's Pier on the majestic Clyde. Here for the delight of people were menageries, museums, circuses, cinematograph theatres, mechanical shows, freak exhibits, trained animals and birds, stereoramas, and novelty booths, motor-cars, galloping horses, slipping the slope tower, swings, gem horses and cars, shooting ranges, throwing games, gipsy tents, variety frames, football games, pannum and toy stalls. In very truth, all the "jolly fun" of the fair. Here were the people in happy throng, and for their entertainment, "the Aladdin of the Fair," John Wilmot, had rubbed his wonderous lamp, had called all the genii of the imagination into shape and being for the people's real joy of life.

It was good to be there, to feel the joy and the pulse of it. The merry gladness and the jocund madness of it, the music of it, the shout of it; the gleam of its myriad electric lights, the gold and glitter, the colour and the æsthetic sense of it, the people in happy comradeship at the fair. What would you, my brothers, in this sad-eyed old world of our's—better than the wholesome joy of it, "all the jolly fun of the fair"?

Popular Shows at the Fair.

Manders' museum with living pictures, McIndoe's coliseum of cinematography, W. Clark's, jun., bioscope, Mackney's theatre of varieties, Paulo's circus, Biddall's circus, Chapman's performing birds, Campbell and Slye's diving exhibition, Hutin's second-sight temple, Rayner's novelty exhibit, Westing's freak show, Davies' model of coal pit, and several small side shows.

Riding Machine Novelties.

John Wilmot's motor-cars and No. 2 machine, the gallopers, Walter Wilmot's steam horses and helter-skelter tower, Stevenson's swings, and various striking and other mechanical concerns.

Shooters, Photo Vans, &c.

The rifle ranges, bottle batteries, and tubes of Messrs. J. McIndoe, S. J. Rostron, Strand, Slater, Smith, Palmer, and Wright. The photographic concerns of J. Caddick, Goddard, Maley, and another. The football frames, dolly stalls, throwing games, and varieties of Messrs. Blockley, Saloona, H. Strand, jun., Kennedy, Wilson, Slater, Horne, Talbot, Henderson, and many others.

At Port Glasgow.

Only a tramcar ride away from Greenock there was another fair ground. Here were Wilson's living picture show. Buckley's performing animals, J. Wilmot's steam roundabouts, J. Murphy's riding machines, and the usual attendant novelties of a well-ordered fair.

From Greenock many of the concerns still follow John Wilmot's round of fair and go to Johnstone; some go to Glasgow fair, and others to Dunfermline.

MR. T. C. RAWES reopens the Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, on Aug. 5, with a first-class variety company, on the twice-nightly system. Several well-known stars are already engaged for the coming season, and big business should be the rule. Mr. Henry E. Kauffman will be the general-manager.

FILM GOSSIP.

Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd.

A GOOD deal of interest on the part of the spectators at the Theatrical Sports on Tuesday at the Stamford Bridge Grounds centred round the doings of the Urban Bioscope operator, who was busily engaged taking animated photographs of several of the races and of the different scenes enacted in the grounds. No one would bother turning his head to look at an ordinary photographic apparatus, but a thing that did revolving motions and which turned round and round on its base with the greatest ease was no common kind of camera. These fine pictures will be shown at the Alhambra on Monday.

"THE SHORT-SIGHTED CYCLIST," another Urban speciality, has now been running at the Alhambra for eleven weeks, and is still regarded as a popular feature of the programme. Other scenes which the same company are now displaying with enormous success are the "Victoria Falls at the Zambesi," "A Baffled Burglar," "The International Horse Show at Olympia," and the annual display of drills at the Reedham Orphanage. All these subjects are in great demand.

Pathé Frères.

"LIVING SILHOUETTES," a particularly fine film, which we had the pleasure of witnessing yesterday afternoon, is the latest production of the Pathé Frères. It is one of the cleverest "trick" films that we have seen. A large blackboard floats in the air until it reaches the resting-slide of an easel, when the board adjusts itself in position. Then a portfolio case on the ground opens by itself, and there spring out, one by one, what look like tailor's patterns. First comes the right leg, which flies to the blackboard and fastens itself thereon. This is quickly followed by part of the shoulder and trunk, then another leg, the other part of the trunk, and, finally, the head of a man. The man suddenly proves to be alive, steps from the easel, and immediately proceeds to sketch silhouettes on the blackboard. But all the silhouettes—six girls—come to life, and dance before our eyes in a most enchanting manner. Finally, they all disappear in the same mysterious way that they had come, and even the easel walks off apparently unaided. We can heartily recommend this film to managers and showmen.

ANOTHER Pathé film, "The Dieppe Circuit of 1907," shows us some very sensational motor racing scenes. The manner in which an extremely awkward curve is negotiated by the various contestants, one of whose cars is completely turned over, furnishes some exciting moments to the spectators. This series should prove exceedingly popular, as should also "An Englishman at the Harem," "Knowing Dogs," "From Barrel to Barrel," "Lightning Sculpture," and "A Kind Grandfather."

Vitagraph Co.

MR. GEORGE H. SMITH, the London manager of the Vitagraph Company, has been spending a couple of weeks in Paris, from which city he has just returned, after attending to various matters in connection with the Paris office.

THE firm's latest productions are a tragic and a comic film. The first, which bears the title of "The Slave," is an exceedingly dramatic and pathetic story of "The South before the War." The scene opens on a typical Georgia cotton plantation. A number of slaves are working in the cotton field. In the foreground is a fine-looking young darky and a very comely young woman, who is apparently ill and unable to work The overseer now appears on the scene, and brutally lashes the girl with his whip. The young slave standing near by, who is her husband, becomes enraged and, lifting a large rock, he smashes it down with terrific force on the overseer's head. The latter falls to the ground lifeless, and the slave, seeing what he has done, flees in terror. Planters, plantation hands, and negroes, and two enormous bloodhounds start in pursuit. The hunted slave is seen straining every nerve to outdistance his pursuers. Through the thick tropical undergrowth, through swamps and ravines, the men and hounds relentlessly pursue their human prey. At last the slave, panting and weak, arrives at the edge of a precipice; he looks back, and seeing his pursuers are almost upon him, hurls himself downward to his death. Later in the evening the slaves all meet at the cabin of one old negro and mournfully wend their way through the woods to the fatal spot at the foot of the cliff, where they find the body of a young man who was "only a slave."

"THE AWKWARD MAN" is the second subject. We see this gentleman at breakfast, awkwardly knocking over the milk-jug and not sparing the family dishes. His wife remonstrates, and finally gently argues with him, breaking the sugar-bowl and some plates over his head for his awkwardness. He starts for the restaurant where he is employed, and on the street car his awkwardness annoys the passengers greatly. He steps on everyone's pet corns, and after landing in the lap of a pretty girl, he gets thrown off the car by her indignant escort, willingly assisted by all the other passengers. Arriving at the restaurant, he rushes into the kitchen, hurriedly dons his coat and apron, and goes out into the dining-room. There his clumsiness causes havoc. He knocks over the glass holding the bouquet of roses, and one of the diners gets a free bath; he collides with another waiter bearing aloft a tray full of dishes, and finally spills hot soup down the back of a young lady, who, naturally, springs to her feet and runs, but alas! the awkward man is standing on the train of her skirt with both feet and that garment is ripped off. Her escort chases the awkward one through the dining-room into the kitchen, where he gives him a good thrashing.

Walturdaw Co.

AMONG the many surprises of modern civilisation, none, perhaps, has proved more startling than the development of the cinematograph. We thought it was wonderful when we saw our physical actions reproduced in motion photography. Since then the magician's wand has been waved again, and we can now not only see ourselves but hear ourselves. In this new branch of the art the Walturdaw Company is to be congratulated for its enterprise. When the Lord Chamberlain placed his ban upon *The Mikado*, the Walturdaw Company came to the rescue and provided us with living and singing pictures, embracing the principal musical numbers of the famous Gilbert and Sullivan opera.

FOR this series the firm has been singularly fortunate in securing the services of many of the old Savoyards, conspicuously prominent among them being Mr. George Thorne, whose unique performance of the character of Koko, the Lord High Executioner, is of world-wide reputation. We can add our commendation to the multitudinous praises the Messrs. Walturdaw and their clever stage-manager (Mr. John Morland) have received, and we are further able to extend our congratulations to the firm upon their having undertaken to produce the entire series of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas. So that in future lovers of these fascinating works, both at home and in remote corners of the globe, will be afforded many delightful hours, the Walturdaw Company supplying the entire paraphernalia—company, scenery, and orchestra. Their next effort in this direction will be *The Yeomen of the Guard*.

The New Bioscope Company

ARE busy preparing their new patent projector, which is to be put on the market in a few days.

MR. MACNAGHTEN EXONERATED.

EXITS IN PERFECT ORDER.

At the Halifax Borough Court on July 5, before Mr. J. H. Howarth (presiding) and other magistrates, Mr. Frank Macnaghten, the lessee of the Palace Theatre, Halifax, was summoned by the police for permitting overcrowding there on Saturday evening, June 15.

Mr. H. E. Smith (Messrs. F. G. and H. E. Smith) appeared for the defence, and pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Herbert Ashling, the Deputy Town Clerk, stated the case for the prosecution. He explained that on the date in question the constables visited the Palace in the course of their duties, and when they entered they were met by the manager, Mr. Harrison, and they asked for someone to accompany them round. Mr. Harrison said, "I'll go round with you. You'll find us pretty full." Mr. Harrison, in speaking to the constable, admitted that the place was exceedingly full, and his excuse was that a shower of rain had come on and the people had gone in to get shelter.

The police found the gangway and the space at the back of the pit densely packed, the grand circle overcrowded, and its gangways packed, though in this case there was room to pass behind. The sergeant told Mr. Harrison that he would have to report the condition of the house. Mr. Harrison replied, "Yes, I expect you will. You will have to do your duty." Up to the present there had been no denial of the offence.

Sergeant Lee stated that at 7.25 he and P.C. Townsend visited the Palace Theatre. In answer to Mr. Ashling he affirmed that he had never seen a theatre more densely packed.

P.C. Townsend gave corroborative evidence.

Mr. Smith, in addressing the magistrates, said this was a very serious case for Mr. Macnaghten, because it was in effect an effort to restrict the holding capacity of the house. If a conviction were made Mr. Macnaghten would hardly know how to manage his own business, and it would be an injustice not only to him, but to the shareholders of the company. The mere fact of having a full house was not overcrowding. To prevent the free exit of any person they must have the standing capacity so overcrowded that persons were unable to force their way through. Upon that point he would call attention to the evidence of P.C. Townsend, which, he submitted, gave the whole case away. The police went over the theatre in ten minutes, and yet wanted them to believe that it was so overcrowded that people could not get in or out. It was an insult to their commonsense. When the curtain had risen the people were not what was called "settled down." When the house was full people were transferred from one part to another—that was called settling down, and that was in process of being done when the police came in. "Packing" was the technical expression for this. The magistrates were asked to convict Mr. Macnaghten merely on the evidence of two policemen, and in the absence of any evidence of complaint on the part of the public. The evidence of both witnesses was exceedingly hazy. The capacity of the house as allowed by the licence was 2,400. In the two performances on the night in question there were 4,591 people in the house, which, if equally divided—though the first house was larger than the second—gave them an attendance of 2,295, as against the holding capacity of 2,400. It was improper to introduce the question of previous warnings, and it was very kind of the police to warn people when they had done nothing wrong. It was fatherly of them to do so, but it had no significance. He invited the magistrates, if they had any doubts about the case, to visit the theatre, and inspect the gangways, exits, &c.

Mr. Ashling said he would admit that the exits were in perfect order.

The Magistrates' Clerk: The Superintendent tells me they have the best exits of any theatre in the town.

Edward Harrison, the manager of the Palace Theatre, was called as a witness for the defence. He had had a considerable experience of theatres, and he did not think the Palace on this occasion was overcrowded at all. It was a matter of opinion with regard to the overcrowding of a theatre. People coming in on a wet night, seeing a large number of people with mackintoshes, would think the house was crowded. On a fine night all the people wore thin clothes, and there didn't seem to be half the number.

R. Edgar Horsfall, architect, said his firm were architects for the building of the Palace. He had often timed the departure of the audience, and, on Saturday night, with a full house, it never took more than three minutes. The pit emptied easily in two minutes. The ordinary sitting capacity was about 1,650, and architects as a rule allowed half as many again for standing. The total accommodation was 2,475.

Frank Macnaghten, the lessee of the Palace Theatre, said there were twenty theatres on his circuit. In provincial towns like Halifax Monday and Saturday made practically the week's business. They took more money on Monday and Saturday than during the whole of the other days. He had never had such a complaint as this made against him before. He had never heard anything of the kind in the whole of England before. His books, he said, were kept by chartered accountants, and he found from the books that 4,591 people were in the house that night. There was a triplicate check on every person who entered the theatre. His manager had instructions not to overcrowd the theatre.

Witness referred to the difference between the holding capacity of the theatre on a wet and a fine night. On a wet night, he said, people packed close together. The solicitor for the prosecution tried to give a comic aspect to the point, but it was a fact.

After an adjournment of the Bench, the Chairman announced:—We have very carefully considered this case. We find the evidence is very conflicting, and we shall give the defendant the benefit of the doubt and dismiss the case.

THE latest quotations for music-hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 30/-; Canterbury, ½; Empire (15s. pd.), 1⅛, Do. (10s. pd.), 1⅛; Lon. Pav. Ord., 4⅞; Do. Pref, 5; Lon. Coliseum, ⅛; Metropolitan, ½; Moss' Empire, 5, Do. 5 p.c. Pref, 3⅞; Oxford, 6⅜; Palace, 14/6; Tivoli, 6⅛; Var. Cons. Theas., 13/0.

ON Monday was solemnised, at the church facing Covent Garden Market, the marriage of Mr. Alfred Penfold, proprietor of the Market House, Covent Garden, and Miss Clara Harris (Punchard), the only daughter of Mr. Fred D. Harris. There was a full choral service. The father of the bride was, in his younger days, a popular comic singer at the halls, his contemporaries including the great Vance, George Leybourne, Jolly John Nash, Henri Clark, and many others. Mr. Harris subsequently became manager of the Star, Liverpool, under Messrs. Fineberg and Lees, and held a similar position at the now demolished Olympic Theatre, when the late Mr. Charles Wilmot was the lessee. More recently Mr. Harris accepted an engagement as manager of the Queen's, Poplar, the directors being Messrs. Maltby and Wickes, where he remained several years. He is one of the oldest members of the Music Hall Sick Fund, having joined nearly a quarter of a century ago.

OLI-VER, the original magical jester, finishes a two months' tour with Messrs. Collina's Picture Company this week, and rejoins his late partner, Mlle. Jean Etta, with a new pot-pourri act of clever illusions, song, and story.

MISS ALICE MAY is playing *Tranquillity* this week with great success at the Hippodrome, Colchester, where she is at the "bottom of the bill."

"HOME FROM THE HONEYMOON."

A Farcical Comedy sketch, in two scenes, by Arthur Jefferson, produced at the Empire Palace, South Shields, on Monday, July 8.

Colonel Pepper	MR. T. G. WARRY
Hon. Percy Fitzhuggins	MR. W. COMPTON
Flash Harry	MR. F. BONNELL
Lightfoot Jim	MR. C. LYLE
Lydia	MISS MIRIAM HOLT

An entirely new and in many ways an original farcical comedy sketch, entitled *Home from the Honeymoon*, written by Mr. Arthur Jefferson, was produced for the first time, at the Empire Palace, South Shields, on Monday, before a large and enthusiastic house.

The piece is both exciting and interestingly humorous. The first scene opens at the Reception-room of the Hotel Majestic, where we learn from the Hon. Percy and his newly-married wife, Lydia, that they are returned from their honeymoon, and that they are dismayed to find that all the hotels are full, owing to some carnival. Seeing the advertised offer of a suitable furnished residence, Percy decides to apply, and leaves his wife, promising to ring her up on the telephone.

The second scene is laid at the furnished residence of Colonel Pepper, who has gone abroad. The gloom of the unoccupied house is broken by the sudden entry of Flash Harry and Lightfoot Jim upon a burglarious expedition. Their nefarious work is shortened by the ringing of the door-bell by Percy, who, having seen the agents, has come to inspect the house. The burglars have previously found that the house belongs to Colonel Pepper, and they immediately resort to disguising themselves before admitting Percy. Percy upon being admitted by Lightfoot Jim, disguised as a maidservant, is introduced to Flash Harry as Colonel Pepper. Flash Harry, finding that their game is spoiled by Percy, who is intent upon securing the house, attempts to make what money he can before clearing; and as Colonel Pepper promises Percy the house for three months at £50 per month, Percy agrees to pay, and further allows the pseudo Colonel to remove what valuables he chooses. The pseudo Colonel and his pal, armed with Percy's notes and the valuables belonging to the house, are just upon leaving, when the real Colonel appears on the scene. An angry altercation ensues, in which Colonel Pepper accuses all of being a gang of thieves, and singles Percy out as chief conspirator. Percy is somewhat abashed, but having been warned by Flash Harry that the Colonel is a lunatic, trys to humour him, whereupon the Colonel becomes furious and commences making things generally warm. Flash Harry trys to thrust the Colonel out of the room, and into a cab hired to remove the valuables and themselves to a safe distance, when the Colonel, whose patience is now beyond all endurance, seizes a pistol and fires about him, and the noise brings the police upon the scene. The inspector recognises the Colonel. Questions are asked, and things appear black against Percy, when Lydia, who is the niece of the old Colonel, turns up, the Colonel and she embrace, Percy is cleared, and the capture of Harry and Jim brings the little play to a satisfactory end.

The piece was finely staged, and the acting was of a high order. Mr. T. G. Warry as Colonel Pepper rendered admirable service, his outbursts of passion and spleen exciting much laughter. The cool, quiet, and pleasing way in which Mr. W. Compton handled the part of the Hon. Percy Fitzhuggins left nothing to be desired; Mr. F. Bonnell was good as Flash Harry, and the broad humour of Mr. C. Lyle as Lightfoot Jim was highly acceptable. Miss Miriam Holt was charming and effective as Lydia, and minor parts were capably played, and the piece was an all-round success.

"A TRAGEDY OF ERRORS."

A Semi-Tragic Comedy in Three Scenes, by Fred Karno and Leonard Durell, with Music by Joe Cleve; produced at the Manchester Hippodrome, on Monday, July 8th.

This latest of the Karno productions, which are famous everywhere for their amplitude and humour, contains excellent material upon which to build up a success worthy to rank with the best of its predecessors. The idea is essentially humorous, though grimly so, for it is based upon a contemplated suicide. Harry Righton is of a speculative turn of mind, and has risked his well-being by indulgence in horse-racing and the uncertainties of stocks and shares. His speculations have resulted disastrously; bills are coming in from his creditors in shoals; and, to make matters worse, his fiancée, on a misunderstanding, returns his ring, with a declaration that all is at an end between them. Harry is, of course, immediately plunged into despair. There is nothing for it but suicide—he will shoot himself with a revolver, and be found with his faithless Lucy's letter in his hand. But he finds the idea easier to conceive than to carry out. It is part of the fun that he resorts to all imaginable methods to persuade himself that he means it, and, as an alternative, is equally funny with a glass of poison concocted from a metal polish and a dash of whisky. At the end of his serio-comic trifling a friend bursts in upon him, and to this friend his intentions are confided. The upshot is an arrangement that the friend (who really intends to repair the situation, so far, at least, as the lady is concerned) shall bring death upon Harry unexpectedly, in some form or other, and be exonerated by a written statement of the victim from any share in the "accident." All this takes place in the latter's bachelor chambers. In the second scene, the salon of the Hôtel du Louvre, Paris, Harry's terror of death is worked up to a high pitch. Knowing that his friend will be disguised, he suspects first one unlikely person and then another, challenging each, with outstretched arms, to "get it over," and being taken for a madman by everyone. Much diversion accompanies this phase of his doings, and the fun is intensified when, having disguised himself in a mock-armour suit of culinary utensils from the kitchen, he steals out of the hotel, at the moment when his friend and the lady appear. He goes out of the imagined danger with the best of reasons, for he has received a telegram that some of his shares have risen to a fabulous price, and made him a rich man; so that death is now by no means to be desired. The friend and Lucy follow him to the gardens of the Pera Palace Hôtel, Constantinople—a fine scene overlooking Stamboul and the Golden Horn. On Harry's appearance here he is equipped with a life-belt, a bullet-proof screen, and a bomb; and the nature of his talk and his doings spreads fear and fun among the waiters and others about him. How the friend and Harry's manservant appear at last in a sort of military disguise, followed by Lucy; how they endeavour to persuade him that no attempt is to be made upon his life; how he terrifies the whole assemblage with the upraised bomb, and is finally pacified and reconciled to the lady, may be better imagined than described. The entertainment is great, and the possibilities are still greater; for the Karno productions are notoriously subjects for continuous comic development. Mr. John Brabourne played Harry Righton in capital style, and the other principal male parts of the friend and the manservant were in the capable hands of Messrs. Orlando Martin and Robert Whyte, jun. The production was an immediate success.

MISS MARGARET MURCH has been specially engaged to support Mr. W. H. Denny in his new comedy sketch, *Minding the Shop*, to be produced on Monday at the Tivoli.

"BY THE ZUYDER ZEE."

OR, THE ADVENTURES OF THE BLACK TULIP.

Spectacular Ballet Extravaganza, in three scenes. Libretto by George R. Sims and Charles Fletcher. Music by Hermann Finck. Produced at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, on Monday, July 8, 1907.

Frau von Stoop ..... MR. J. NIGHTINGALE
Gretchen ..... MISS BESSIE COHEN
Cornelius ..... MR. SAM POLUSKI, JUN.
Hans ..... MISS ANNIE BRADDON
Hendrich van Dunck .... MR. SIDNEY VINCENT
Katrina ..... MISS EMMIE FRANKS
Theodore von Toozleveldt..MR. GEORGE BARRON
Evelyn Anna ..... MISS ADELE CRISPIN
Percy Dunne-Browne .....MR. GUS LE CLERQ
Jan ..... MR. SAM POLUSKI, JUN.

"The best so far," was the verdict accorded on Monday afternoon on Messrs. Huddlestone and Tiller's latest production, which drew together a packed house. Under the same régime some half-dozen ballets have been produced here during the last half-dozen years, and all have met with great success, but that of the latest is undoubtedly the greatest.

The scene is laid in Holland, and though the days have passed when that country was the commercial centre of the world, when her argosies, laden with rich merchandise, sailed on every sea, and her navy proudly disputed the empire of the wave with that of Britain, yet her cities bear ample evidence of her great past, and the quaint costumes of her people bring to memory the heroic days when, led by William of Orange, she grappled with, and overthrew, the might and majesty of Spain.

In one of the cities of the Zuyder Zee the people are joyfully celebrating the "Kermis" and annual market. The "kermis" is rung in by the church bells, and a dance follows. White crosses are nailed on the bridges and gates of the town in token of the "market vrede," that is the market peace. Of course, there is a love interest. Hans, a young fisherman, is in love with Gretchen, daughter of Frau von Stoop. On returning from the North Sea Fisheries, Hans finds that he has a rival—Hendrich van Dunck, a man of property, and the landlord of the village inn, Den Fliegender Hollander (The Flying Dutchman). Hendrich finds no favour with Gretchen, but threatens that unless she marries him he will turn her mother out of the mill. This he can readily do, as the mill is mortgaged to him, and the interest is in arrear. But for the timely arrival of Hans Hendrich's threat would have succeeded. Hans, with some difficulty, persuades the Frau von Stoop to refuse Hendrich as a son-in-law, and the latter vows vengeance.

In the meantime, a party of tourists arrive and put up at Hendrich's inn. The party consists of Theodore von Toozleveldt, a millionaire from the Far West, Evelyn Anna, his daughter, and the Hon. Percy Dunne-Browne, a sprig of English aristocracy. Percy wishes to marry Evelyn, but when he proposes she explains that she can only marry a manly man. She is a spirited girl of the modern, breezy, strong, and healthy type, and proceeds to take the nonsense out of Percy, who has an exciting time.

The great ambition of tulip growers has been to produce a black tulip; and it appears that Von Toozleveldt has succeeded in this. Hendrich, who comes from a family of tulip growers, is unable to resist the temptation to steal this rarest of all specimens. The bulb being missed, he accuses Frau von Stoop to divert suspicion from himself. She is arrested and searched. The bulb cannot be found, and Von Toozleveldt is distracted.

Scene II. (outside The Fying Duchman). Hendrich takes down his sign, a picture of the Flying Dutchman, with the object of selling it to Von Toozleveldt as a genuine "old master," but the latter thinks only of his lost tulip. Frau von stoop comes to beg Hendrich not to turn her out of the mill, but he is obdurate. When Hendrich has closed his inn for the night, and all his guests are in bed, he takes the tulip bulb from its hiding-place to examine it. By a clever stratagem on the part of Hans he is caught with the tulip in his possession.

Scene III. is The Garden of Tulips, where, to save himself from the law, Hendrich gives up all claim to Gretchen. From Toozleveldt Hans receives a large reward for finding the black tulip, and he and Gretchen are happily married.

All the parts are in excellent hands. Miss Bessie Cohen is a great favourite, and has appeared here on many occasions. Miss Annie Braddon as Hans sings and acts with fine spirit, while Miss Emmie Franks as Katrina and Miss Adele Crispin as Evelyn Anna also prove themselves to be clever and graceful actresses. All the men are good comedians, with Mr. Gus le Clerq standing out for special mention. The dances and settings are amazingly effective, and the grand finale, where tulips, hyacinths, daffodils, and a floral revolving windmill are all illuminated, is a distinct triumph for the inventors.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.

The annual general meeting of the members of this fund was held on Wednesday afternoon at the York Hotel, York-road. Mr. Pat Carey (president) occupied the chair, and there were present Messrs. Douglas White (trustee), W. J. Wainratta (vice-president), W. Brisco, F. D. Harris, H. E. High, J. Mulcaster, W. West, W. Collins, Frank Heath (hon. treasurer), and R. T. Baines (secretary).

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Carey resigning his position as president of the fund, owing to the pressure of other business. Mr. Carey, at the unanimous request of the members present, agreed to reconsider his decision, and to retain the position of president for another year. He said he had been a member of the society for twenty years, and he was glad to be able to congratulate the members upon the sound financial position of the fund. The annual balance-sheet recently issued showed that they had in the bank the sum of £1,389, though last year there had been extra expenses incurred in advertising by means of framed bills placed in music-hall dressing-rooms, &c. It was, however, still a matter for regret that the membership had remained so small. He trusted that members of the profession would see their way to joining a society which offered such substantial benefits for very little outlay.

Mr. Heath, the treasurer, stated that for the current half-year there was an increase in the income of the fund considerably in excess of the increase for the corresponding period of last year, as there had been fewer sick payments.

The following officers were re-elected:—President, Mr. Pat Carey; vice-presidents, Messrs. W. J. Wainratta, Jesse Sparrow, and C. E. Howells; trustees, Messrs. H. Jennings and Douglas White; hon. auditors, Messrs. H. E. High and H. Griff; hon. medical advisers, Messrs. G. F. McCarthy, M.R.C.S., and J. H. Griffin, M.R.C.S; hon. solicitor, Mr. A. Aldred Clarke; hon. treasurer, Mr. Frank Heath; secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines.

The management committee were re-elected, the only alteration being the substitution of the name of Mr. F. D. Harris for that of a member who was unable to attend the meetings.

On the motion of Mr. Harris, seconded by Mr. Wainratta, it was resolved that Mr Frank Allen be asked to become a trustee of the fund in the place of the late Mr. Geo. Adney Payne.

After disposing of some other business on the agenda, the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

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"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

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MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
July 29, Oct. 28, Dec. 16, Jan. 20, Feb. 10, 17, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 24, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Dec. 2, Feb. 24, March 2, 9, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Jan. 27,
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Sept. 16, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9, Feb. 10, March. 2, 9, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 20, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 10, 24, April 6, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Oct. 28, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9, 16, Jan. 6, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Oct. 28, Dec. 2, 9, Xmas week, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for HUDDERSFIELD, Sept. 2; WOLVERHAMPTON, Sept. 16.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, 1907, Aug. 12, 19, Oct. 21; 1908, April 27, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, 1907, July 29, Sept. 23; 1908, April 6, onwards.
Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole T., Gateshead. Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
WANTED, July 29.
Wire,
"Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-Class Companies for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, Sept. 9, 16, 23, Oct. 7, 21, 28, Dec. 9, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Oct. 21, Nov. 4, 11, 25, Dec. 2, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Aug. 12, 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16 (three nights only).
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Companies for Wardoun Park, Luton, Aug. 5, onwards, Sharing Terms only.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attraction for the week, Oct. 28.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only.
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN.
Sept. 9, Oct. 21.
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH.
Oct. 21, Nov. 18.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, Big Attraction for August Bank Holiday Week.
Wire or Write,
W. W. KELLY,
6, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

THEATRE ROYAL, JARROW.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Aug. 5, through Disappointment. Apply HUGH ROBERTSON.

ROYALTY THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, First-class Attractions (Musical preferred), Aug. 12, 26, Sept. 9, and 30.
Apply HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
WANTED, Really Sound Attractions for July 29 and Sept. 30. Apply HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.
WANTED, Really First-class Attraction, Aug. 26. Apply HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

WANTED, a really First-Class Attraction, for the Empire, Oldham, Aug. 19.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Vacant Aug. 19 and on.

DUMFRIES AND HAWICK.
WANTED, a good Company, for opening date, Aug. 12 or 19, New Year open at Hawick.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Whitby.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, Musical preferred, for Aug. 12.
Address,
JAMES ALEXANDER.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Musical and other London Attractions, Aug. 19, Sept. 9, 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 25, and Xmas Pantomime. FRED GRANVILLE, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD, E.
July 29 and Aug. 5.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for the above dates, vacant through disappointment.
FRED FREDERICKS.

ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction, Aug. 12
M. MONTGOMERY.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction, Aug. 26 (unexpectedly Vacant).
Apply T. W. ROWE.

WANTED, big Attractions, Aug. 5 (re-opening after electric installation and decoration), Aug. 19, Grand, Radcliffe; also Sept. 9, Grand, Chorley. Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, High-class Company, Two or more Pieces, July 29 week, Vacant through obliging. W. PAYNE.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for T. R., Chatham, Aug. 12; and T. R., Wolverhampton, Aug. 19; only vacancies till Xmas. BARNARD, West Hampstead.

WANTED, First-Class Musical Attraction, Aug. 26. Apply,
J. W. CHAPMAN, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
WANTED, good Company, July 22, 23, and 24, owing to cancelling of Tour; vacant for good Dramas, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, and on. W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant Dec. 16, Mar. 9, 1908, onward, with exceptions.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant July 29, Aug. 5, 19, onward, with exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant Aug. 5, 12, 19, onward, with exceptions.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY,
Vacant Aug. 19, 26, onward, with exceptions.

THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY DOCK.
Vacant onward, with exceptions.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH,
Vacant Aug. 12, 19, 26, onward, with exceptions (Last three nights of each week).

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Sept. 30, Oct. 21, onward, with exceptions.

ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
MR. and MRS. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The Only Theatre in the Town allowed to Advertise on the Electric Cars.

Now in Course of Rebuilding.
The Seating Capacity of each part of the House is being Largely Increased.

The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
Autumn Bookings include
"The Dairymaids,"
Mr. James Welch's Co., in
"When Knights Were Bold,"
Miss Annie Hughes, in
"Tommy,"
Mr. Norman Macowan, in
"Monsieur Beaucaire,"
"The Little Stranger"
(including Master Edward Garrett),
"A Trip to the Highlands,"
Mr Bannister Howard's No. 1 Company,
"The Eternal City,"
Mr. Walter Maxwell's Co.,
"The Lion and The Mouse" (third visit),
Mr. Charles Cartwright and Co., "In the Bishop's Carriage,"
Mr. Frederick Mouillot's Co., including Miss Decima Moore, in "The Truth,"
and other of the Principal Attractions Touring.
Mr. Percy Hutchison's No. 1 Company,
"The Stronger Sex,"
Mr. Brandon Thomas' No. 1 Company,
"Charley's Aunt,"
Mr. Walter Melville's Drama,
Mr. Frank Lindo's "Home Sweet Home,"
Mr. Morton Powell's Companies,
&c., &c., &c.

WANTED, Exceptional Attractions, for Sept. 2, 16, Nov. 25, Dec. 30, onwards.

CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H.M.T., Barrow.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
MIDDLESBROUGH.
Proprietor, ALBERT SMITH.

One of the Handsomest and Best-equipped Theatres in the Provinces.
Holding Capacity, 3,500.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9, 16.
Bookings include: No. 1 "Girl from Kay's," "Peter's Mother," Miss Decima Moore in "The Truth," Mr. George Edwardes' No. 1 Company, in "See-See," Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, in "The Royal Oak," Mr. George Alexander's No. 1 Company, in "His House in Order," Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville's Companies, "The Shulamite," The D'Oyly Carte No. 1 Répertoire Company, "A Master of Artifice," the No. 1 Moody-Manners Opera Company, Miss Marie Studholme, in "My Darling," Amateur Operatic Society, in "The Mikado."

All communications,
JNO. ED. JOWSEY,
Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.

Telegrams, "Magnet," Middlesbrough.
Telephones, 413, 426, 500.
Silence a Polite Negative.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
PAISLEY THEATRE,
Vacant Nov. 25, Feb. 3, 10.
PERTH THEATRE.
Vacant Nov. 4, 18, 25, Feb. 3, 10, 17.

Address (letters only),
J. H. SAVILE, Theatre Royal, Brighton.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
July 29, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 16, Oct. 7.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
Sept. 26, 27, 28, Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 18, Dec. 9.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Aug. 12, 26, Sept. 2 and 9.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

CRITERION THEATRE, WORKSOP.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for last three nights of each week; Share or Rental.
S. GOODMAN, Proprietor.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Known. — For Vacant Dates (First-class Companies only),
apply, J. RITSON, General-Manager.

WANTED Companies, July 22, Aug. 5, and on, now booking Autumn.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, good Dramas, with music, printing, &c., for Stock Season. Terms low.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, First-class Company, Aug. 19.
MANAGER,
King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts.

WANTED, First-class Panto., Christmas, Two Weeks Mansfield, One Week Sutton.
MANAGER, Grand Theatre, Mansfield, Notts.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 9, Oct. 7, Dec. 2, 16, 30, Jan. 6, 27, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and onward.
Apply to JAMES KIERNAN,
Owner and Manager.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, Musical preferred, Aug. 15 (3 nights), 19, 26, Sept. 2, on, with exceptions.
Address, W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, First-Class Company, Aug. 8, 9, 10.
Address, ARTHUR WILLOUGHBY,
Opera House, Buxton, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Sound Attractions, Aug. 12, 19, 26. (Musical), Sept. 16, 30, Oct. 21, Nov. 25 (Musical). SHERWOOD Co., Theatre, Wakefield.

WANTED, Comedy Companies, Touring Scotland, to book Theatre Royal, Inverness, N.B. Vacant dates Sept., onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

COMPANIES WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, MIDDLESBROUGH.
The most popular and successful Theatre in the district.

All the best and biggest Managers have sufficient confidence in the drawing powers of their Attractions at this Theatre.

WANTED, Known, only vacant Dates open this Season, Aug. 5, 12, 26, for First-Class Attractions only. Bookings for the forthcoming Autumn and Winter Season:

Edward Terry and Co. (return).
"The Earl and the Girl," No. 1 Company.
"Prince of Pilsen," No. 1 Company (return).
"Lion and the Mouse," No. 1 Company (return).
"The Girl Behind the Counter," Principal Company.
"Prodigal Son," great Drury Lane Drama, No. 1 Company.
"Amasis," Mr. Louis Calvert's London Company and production, including Mr. Rutland Barrington, &c.
"The Dairymaids," Mr. Courtneidge's No. 1 Company.
"The Bondman" (Hall Caine's great Play).
"The Sign of the Cross."
"The Blue Moon" (return), Mr. Courtneidge's No. 1 Company.
"When Knights were Bold," Mr. James Welch's No. 1 Company.
"Belle of New York," No. 1 Company.
"Brigadier Gerard," Mr. Lewis Waller's Co.
"Tom Jones," the latest London Musical success, No. 1 Company.
"Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch."
"Clancarty," Lewis Waller's latest success.
"Catch of the Season," No. 1 Company.
"Miss Hook of Holland," No. 1 Company.
"Tommy," Miss Annie Hughes and Company.
William Mollison and Co. (Shakespearean Répertoire),
and
The Royal Carl Rosa Grand Opera Co.

All communications to
J. CHAS. IMESON.

WANTED, Companies, Aug. 1, 2, 3, and 19, 20, (coming visit of the Channel Fleet, from Aug. 1 to 5). Wire, PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, First-Class Musical Attraction, Sept. 23, Theatre Royal, South Shields.
Address, J. and F. COULSON.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE GRAND PIER PAVILION THEATRE.
WANTED, High-Class Attractions, Musical or Farcical Comedies preferred. Vacant dates, Oct. 17 on. Apply, JOHN H. STEVENSON.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
W. J. COTTON, Proprietor.
Seats 600; Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, share or rent. Sole Booking Agent, SIDNEY HAMILTON, Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 18, Dec. 2.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23.
Apply,
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 2 and 9.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12 and Dec. 2 and 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Dec. 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

FRED MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Nov. 18 and 25.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Dec. 9, 23, 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, important Theatres, Dec. 23, Jan. 6, 13, Feb. 3, 17, March 2, 23.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, 22, Upper Hagley-rd., Birmingham.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The most successful Play produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 9 and 16, in First-Class Theatres only.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of Sept. 16 and 30.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"
and
"THE OCTOROON."
Proved a huge success.—Bristol Mercury.
Unique and real delineation of the great slave story.—Bristol Magpie.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
P.O.W. Theatre, Grimsby.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16, Dec. 9.
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
Junction Theatre, Manchester.
See Companies' Advertisement, page 2.

MISS DOROTHEY CACEY'S
"WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE"
and
"A COUNTRY MOUSE."
Company of First-Class Artists, including
Miss DOROTHEY CACEY
and
Mr. RIDDELL ROBINSON.
WANTED, Aug. 3, Bank Holiday, and later Dates; also various onwards. FRANK NELSON, Florence Villa, Esplanade, Ventnor, Isle of Wight.

The Premier Shakespearean Company.
Third Year of Tour.

ALLAN WILKIE.

WANTED, Sept. 30 (North or Midlands), Nov. 4 (Midlands),
a few Spring Dates and Autumn, 1908, with exceptions.
Address (letters only), ALLAN WILKIE,
Opera House, Buxton.

MR. THOMAS SIDNEY'S COMPANY,
in "THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, Dates.—Mr. Sidney is desirous of filling Aug. 26 and all Sept.
Address, SIDNEY, Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for
"THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH,"
Oct. 21, Nov. 18 (South), Jan. 6 (Lancashire),
"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL,"
Oct. 7, 14, 21, all Nov.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

"A WIFE'S TRIUMPH."
and Répertoire of five other plays if required.
WANTED, Aug. 5 (South or Midlands), for this sure draw. July 29 also possibly vacant, only open dates till Nov. 18. Address, ERNEST R. ABBOTT, Theatre, St. Julian's, Guernsey.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
Aug. 5, Aug. 5, Aug. 5,
Oct. 24, 25, 26, Nov. 4, 11, 18.
Brilliant Reception of
Return Visit to Bristol.
MORTON POWELL, Camden Theatre, London.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
July 29, Sept. 23, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, 25.
MORTON POWELL, Camden Theatre, London.

"HONOUR THY FATHER,"
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"HONOUR THY FATHER,"
July 29 (?), Sept. 2, 9, 23, 30.
MORTON POWELL, Camden Theatre, London.

"GREED OF GOLD,"
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"GREED OF GOLD,"
Oct. 7, 14, 28, Dec. 23.
MORTON POWELL, Camden Theatre, London.

"THE LITTLE OUTCAST,"
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"THE LITTLE OUTCAST,"
Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 11, 18.
MORTON POWELL, Camden Theatre, London.

ALFRED B. CROSS' TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, and 21, and Few Later.
"DIVORCED,"
a New Powerful Domestic Drama; also
"DAVID GARRICK,"
if Required. Both Solid Successes.
July 8, T. R., Hull; July 15,
110, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool (Vacation).

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
by Frank Lindo.
WANTED, July 22,
July 22,
July 22
Unexpectedly Vacant.
Wire or Write,
FRANK LINDO,
To-day, Gaiety, Burnley;
Next, Rotunda, Liverpool.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 16, Dec. 23, 30.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1908.

July 15, T. R., Dover.

A. J. HARDING and CHARLES R. HANN.
Autumn and Spring Tour of
FRANK DIX'S
"DELIVERED FROM EVIL,"
A Social Drama, in Four Acts.
Entirely new Scenery. Printing by Allen's.
Enormous success of first Tour.
T. R., Bristol, production April 1899.
O. H., Leicester; Star, Liverpool.
T. R., Cardiff; T. R., Croydon, &c., &c.
Tremendous success. Excellent business.
Created a furore everywhere.
This Drama will be interpreted by a Strong Cast of Sterling Artists.
"DELIVERED FROM EVIL."
"DELIVERED FROM EVIL."
"DELIVERED FROM EVIL."
WANTED, Dates (Aug. 5 and on, with exceptions.
A. J. HARDING,
Bedford Club, Bedford-street, W.C.

"SAVED FROM THE SEA."
By Arthur Shirley.
Everything carried.
Bookings include Prince's, Portsmouth; Alex., Hull; Court, Warrington; Rot., Liverpool; Col., Oldham; Alex., Sheffield; Met., Devonport; Alex., Birmingham.
WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 11, 18, Xmas Week,
and Spring, 1908, with various exceptions.
Apply, SAMUEL JAMES,
Warwick House, 8, Warwick-court, Gray's Inn, W.C.

"THE LOVE THAT LASTS FOR EVER."
By Edward Thane.
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 16, Oct. 7, 23, Nov. 4, 18, Xmas Week.
Clear Stage only required.
Apply,
SAMUEL JAMES,
as above.

"HER MARRIAGE VOW."
WANTED, Sept. 30, to follow Cambridge, Oct. 7, 14, 21.
Managers Invited to Send their Open Dates for this Complete Attraction, Star Cast, Everything Carried, to
GARSIDE and KNOWLES, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C.

"THE GRIP OF IRON."
Autumn fully Booked.
WANTED, for this recognised Draw, Jan. 6 (North or Scotland), Feb. 10, March 2 and 9 (South or Midlands), First-Class Company, including Mr. Fred Powell. Thanks to many Managers for Contracts and offers. Apply, E. H. KNIGHT, 7, The Crescent, Barnes, S.W.

THE WILLIAM MOLLISON TOUR.
WANTED, Nov. 4 (London, South, or Midlands), Dec. dates and Jan. 6 and 13. Bookings include the leading theatres in the United Kingdom.
Address, Opera House, Blackpool.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S
"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 7. Xmas Week Vacant.
Communications to GEORGE KIRK,
Grand Theatre, Bolton.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, Oct. 21, 28, Xmas.
FRED BULMER, c/o "The Era" (Vacation Address).

HERBERT RALLAND'S COMPANY.
"MICE AND MEN."
"MICE AND MEN."
"MICE AND MEN."
Powerful Company of London Artists.
Everything carried. New scenery and dresses.
Tour opens Sept. 2.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
Address, 10, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

FRED ACTON AND HARRY C. NASH'S
"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."
WANTED, Dec. 2, 9, 16, for above Attraction.
Address, FRED ACTON,
4, Claypole-road, Nottingham.

"THE SUPERIOR MISS PELLENDER."
WANTED, for this Charming Comedy, Aug. 5, 19, a Perfect Show in every way. Refer Theatres Visited. FRASER-BRUNNER, Spa, Scarboro'. 15th, Alex., Dovercourt.

"A SECRET WEDDING."
WANTED, Theatres, July 29 (?) (follow T. R., Bolton), Aug. 26, Sept. 9, 23 (precede Glasgow), Oct. 21 (precede Stratford). STANLEY CARLTON, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Oct. 14, Nov. 18, 25.
Miss Annie Bell as Flare-Flare.
An elaborate production. Everything carried.
Address, JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

"THE HEATHEN AND THE CHRISTIAN."
MISS LOIS DU CANE'S CO.
Enormous success at the St. James's Theatre, Manchester. Call after call, return date booked. Refer Mr. Flanagan. Local management say finest play and finest company seen here for years. All Manchester are talking about it.
WANTED, Aug. 5, everything carried; Aug. 5 and on, with exceptions.
ERNEST E. BAILEY,
Empire Music Hall, Camberwell.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES CO.
"FAIR ONE WITH THE GOLDEN LOCKS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, North, Xmas week and Feb. 3.
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY and
MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO., in
the highly successful Comedy,
"MY WIFE," "MY WIFE."
Now playing to crowded houses at the
HAYMARKET THEATRE, LONDON.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Aug. 26, Sept. 16, 30, Oct. 14, 28, and Nov. 11.
Address
Mr. SILVANUS DAUNCEY, 22, Charing Cross, S.W.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY and
MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO., in
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Aug. 12, 19 (3 nights), and Sept. 9 (3 nights).
Address,
Mr. SILVANUS DAUNCEY, 22, Charing Cross, S.W.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."

WANTED, July 29 and Aug. 26, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, various on.
A Most Desirable Attraction, Perfect in Detail.
Again Enormous Business last week, at Grand, Hull. The Worst Night was £20 12s.
Now Playing another Big Week at Middlesbrough.
Messrs. Imeson have Courteously given Permission for the use of their Names.
Enquire of them and a Booking is Assured.

The Attention of First-class Theatre Managers is Respectfully Called to the Following Names, in Addition to those of Messrs. Imeson.

Mr. Redford, Theatre Royal, Cardiff;
Mr. Sergenson, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.
Mr. Cook, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.
Mr. John Hart, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

Enquire of either, or all.

Emphatic Success, Financial and Artistic, of the Intensely Human Play,
"NANA."
Another Beautifully Dressed and Superbly Acted Production, which is Played one or two Nights as Desired. Special Engagement of the Brilliant Young Actress, Miss Rosie Neville, as Lady Sybil, and Nana.

LOIE ESMOND, To-day, T. R., Middlesbrough; July 15, North Eastern Hotel, Scarborough.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.

WANTED, Aug. 12 and 19. Wire, RUSSELL ROSSE, Pavilion, Kingstown.
Aug. 5, Aug. 5, Aug. 5.
Wanted, above (to follow Glasgow), for the Excruciatingly Funny Comedy, "My Soldier Boy," with
Mr. DALLAS WELFORD
in Mr. Grossmith's part, by arrangement with his American Manager, Mr. J. D. Hackett.
Mr. Welford can only play in England three weeks prior to his return to America.
Aug. 5 only vacant date.

Wire,
RUSSELL ROSSE, Pavilion, Kingstown, Ireland.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.

WANTED, Sept. 2, follow Preston (return); Sept. 16, precede Crewe;
Sept. 2 and 16,
Oct. 14, Nov. 4 and 25,
Fast Booking Spring, '08.
Cast, scenery, and printing A1. Refer.
FRANK AYRTON,
Star Theatre, Liverpool.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY.
"THE BEST OF HER SEX."

Bookings include Great Grimsby, Aston, Wolverhampton, Coventry, Leicester, Luton, Oldham, Ashton, Dewsbury (Bank Holiday), Burnley, Palace, Newcastle, Blyth, North Shields, Doncaster (Bank Holiday), Crewe, West Bromwich, Mansfield Edmonton, Prince's, Portsmouth, &c.
Many Thanks to J. F. Elliston, Esq., for Offer of Grand, Bolton. Sorry Date Already Filled.
First-class Company, including Miss Dora Price.

WANTED, Aug. 19 Sept. 9, 16 (3 nights), 30, Oct. 14, and onwards, with exceptions.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, To-day, T. R., Ashton; next, O. H., Coventry.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS,"
"THE OCTOROON,"
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
"THE SHAUGHRAUN,"
"THE HEART OF A HERO."

WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, Nov. 25, onwards, for this excellent money-drawing Attraction.
Apply at once to
CHARLES DRAYCOTT, A. T., Birmingham.

MR. LEONARD BOYNE AND CO.,
in
"RAFFLES."

WANTED, Aug. 26 (vacant through obliging a Manager), at a First-Class Theatre (Midlands preferred). Apply to
Mr. THOMAS MCKENZIE, 10 and 11, Jermyn-street.
Telegrams, "Stirpes, London."
Telephone 6534 Gerrard.

"A MOTHER'S LOVE."

WANTED, July 29(?), Aug. 12, between Leicester and Portsmouth,
Aug. 26, Sept. 30, Oct. 28,
First-class Theatres,
for this Money-maker.
Seventh Year of Tour.

FRED L. CONNYNGHAME,
To-day, Rotherham; next, T. R., Bristol.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"A SISTER'S SIN."

WANTED, July 29, 29, between Alexandra, Hull, and Osborne, Manchester, for this Great Draw. Refer Preston this week, third visit.
F. G. KIMBERLEY,
Vauxhall. The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, for Messrs. Elliman's Enterprises, "A Heart's Desire," July 22 (between Middlesbrough and Preston); another successful week at Salford. Thanks E. B. Goulden, Esq., for return contract. Refer Wm. Bailey, Esq. Several Autumn Dates vacant, Aug. 26, onwards. Wire for July 22. G. M. HURST, West London Theatre; next, T. R., Middlesbrough.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COS.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."

WANTED, First-Class Theatres (South or Midlands), Aug. 5, Sept. 2 and 9, Nov. 11.
WALTER BAYLISS, 29, Winifred-grove, Clapham Common, S.W.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.
"THE OLD, OLD STORY."

WANTED, Aug. 12, follow Glasgow, precede Stratford. EDWARD SURREY, 133, Rock-st., Oldham.

The New Comic Opera,
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
A Story of 1805, Nelson's Glorious Days.

WANTED, Aug. 26, to follow Burnley. First-Class No. 1 Company, Full Operatic Chorus.
Everything carried; clear stage only required.
Magnificent scenery and printing.
Mrs. ANN HUGHES,
Selattyn, 38, Thurleigh-rd., Balham, London, S.W.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANY,
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

WANTED, Sept. 30, Sept. 30, Oct. 28, Oct. 28, Nov. 4, Nov. 4.
Address, CECIL BARTH, General-Manager,
Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON,"
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON,"
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON,"
by Geo. R. Sims.

WANTED, good Theatres, for Aug. 5 (?), Sept. 9, Sept. 30, Oct. 14 (?), Nov. 4, and several Spring Dates.
H. HOLLISTER,
His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen.

"THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD."
by May Irene Wright.
An entirely new Roman Play.

WANTED, for this great Success, Sept. 2, 9, 16, and on, with exceptions; a really good religious Drama. Company of twenty Artists. Full Choral Effects. Every Scene carried. Magnificent Costumes.
MR. F. B. WOULFE as BERIC.
F. B. WOULFE, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."

The Latest Great Successful Musical Comedy.
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WANTED, Aug. 5, Aug. 12, Aug. 5, Aug. 12, and onwards.
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WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 2.
HENRY L. OSMOND,
Wire, Star, Swansea; write, Lyceum T., Stafford.

WANTED, for the Farcical Comedy, "Jerry's Dilemma," Good Seaside Date for July 22, 1907, or Later. RICHARD HENRY LACE, 19, Parkfield-drive, Liscard.

WANTED, through disappointment, Christmas and New Year's dates, for Pantomime, London production last year. Write, X. Y. Z., 44, Chancery-lane, W.C.

WANTED, for "The Woman Pays," Sept. 9, Oct. 7, 21, and 28.
F. M. THORNE, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy and Light Opera, Town and Tour, Principal Artists in all Lines; also Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen; the latter must be young, of good appearance, and good voices. Send particulars at once to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

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WANTED, Light Comedian, for Hon. Bertie Bray, "The Woman Who Gambles." MORTON POWELL, Camden T., London.

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WANTED, First-class Artists in Various Lines, including Experienced Pantomimists, for Tour, Irish Comedian, Juvenile Leading Gentleman, Heavy Lead, First-class Leading Lady, &c.
All for Autumn Tour of
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WANTED, Character Actress, for Biddy Maloney, in "A London Actress," special week, rehearse Tuesday next. Lowest terms, MONTGOMERY, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Tour, rehearse at once, Juvenile Lady, Juvenile Gentleman, Clever Child. Photos., fullest particulars, CARR LOATES, Pavilion, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.

WANTED, Lady, for small Character part, with two little children over 11, three nights North. LEIGH LOVEL, Spa T., Scarboro'.

WANTED, for "Private Secretary" Tour, Lady and Gentleman, for Mr. Marsland and Miss Ashford (through releasing), Lady for Eva, good fit-up Carpenter. Age, height, references, lowest terms, ladies' photos., E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED (Mr. Norman V. Norman's Tours), Lady and Gentleman, to understudy and play small parts. MANAGERS' CLUB, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

WANTED, good Chambermaid, also tall Responsible Man, rehearse Monday, Oldham; long Tour. Photos. (essential), full particulars, STANLEY CARLTON, Empire T., Oldham.

"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG."

WANTED, Robust Juvenile Man, Juvenile Lady, and Character Man for Wolf Marischia Photo, Height, and Lowest Terms to JACK HADDON, 9, Grand-parade, Teddington, Middlesex.

"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."

WANTED, to rehearse 20th inst., a young, experienced Juvenile Gentleman. State lowest terms and enclose recent photo. to BERTRAM, Killarney, Lewisham.

WANTED, Juvenile Gentleman, Character Actor, Young Leading Lady, to play Piano. Terms, &c., ARTHUR CARLTON, Worcester.

WANTED, for Tour of High-Class Comedy, Gentlemen for bright juvenile part and aristocratic comedy, both must be tall; intelligent novice to understudy, &c., can be treated with. Letters only, with exact height, recent photo., and lowest terms, WHITING, 37, Brook-street, Kennington-road, S.E.

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WANTED, for Autumn Tour, First-class Heavy Gentleman, for part à la Mark Lezzard, Aris. Old Man, to Double, Good Powerful Character Actor, to Combine A.-M., Responsible Gentleman; Powerful Young Actress, Capable of Dramatic Intensity and Pathos; Smart Experienced Chambermaid. Photos, Refs., Lowest Terms, F. M. THORNE, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

WANTED, immediately, First-Class experienced Heavy Man, for Suburban Tour. Send full particulars, photo., and lowest terms. Wire or write at once, ERNEST GRANT, Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

WANTED, for Répertoire, a Thoroughly Experienced Gentleman for Heavies, with Good Modern Wardrobe; also Juvenile Gent., Long Tour. Ages, Heights, Refs., and Terms, J. B. CARRICKFORD, Town Hall, Westport, Ireland.

WANTED, to open at once, thorough good Leading Gentleman, must be young, used to stock. JOHN ORTON HAYES, People's Theatre, Glastonbury, Somerset.

WANTED, Good Responsible Actor for Sketch, Open Monday, Tall, Strong Voice. Write or Call, Sunday, ALEXANDER, 38, Blandford-street, Sunderland.

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Salary and interest paid.
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Apply,
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WANTED, Smart Lady Dancers. Apply, between 2 and 3 o'clock, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 3, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road.

WANTED, immediately, First-Class Acrobatic Dancers, smart appearance. Call, with practice dress, 11 to 4. 99, Falmouth-road, New Kent-road, Elephant and Castle, London, S.E.

WANTED, Tall Dancers, experienced, for American Tour; sail this month. Apply, DOLLIE BELL, Manchester House, Kennington Cross, Monday, July 15, 2 p.m., with practice dress.

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WANTED, Pantomime Chorus and Show Ladies. Send photograph, age, height, and other measurements, lowest salary. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, tall Chorus Ladies, for Pantomime, London and Provincial. Apply, FRANK POSTLETHWAITE, Theatrical and Variety Agent, 25, Wellington-street, Strand.

WANTED, Artists, Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send Photos, Terms, and Particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

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WANTED, for New Pavilion, Abertillery, Stage Manager, Competent to take Charge, and Two more Assistants, all to Bill and Work Generally. Terms, &c., E. PRYCE, Manager.

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WANTED, Leader, First Violin, Double Bass, Flute, Clarionet, Cornet, Trombone, Drums, Hippodrome, Scarboro'; Season, lowest terms. Letters only, refs., M. D., 35, Venetian-road, Camberwell Green, London.

WANTED, First-Class Variety Leader, as Deputy, for eight weeks, for Belfast, commence Aug. 5; good terms. Write, READ, 14, Percy-street, Tynemouth.

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WANTED, Conductor-Violinist and Band of 10 for Hippodrome (South). State Age and Experience. Box 5101, c/o "The Era" Office.

GRAND HIPPODROME, WIGAN.
WANTED, Smart Musical Director (Piano), find own music; also First-class 'Cellist; both must be Steady and used to Variety Business. Open Aug. 5. Refs., &c., to WORSWICK, as above.

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WANTED, Second Violin, Viola, and Oboe, to Open July 22, Must be Thoroughly Experienced in Variety Business. Permanent if Suitable, Evening Dress and Sobriety Essential.
Recent References and Terms to
GEO. CLOUGH, Conductor.

WANTED, for the Spa Theatre, Bridlington (open July 29), two experienced First Violinists, also Pianist to combine Clarionet and Trombone, First Cornet, Flute-Piccolo, and Drummer with effects; all must be good players and sight readers, used to musical plays and theatre business. State wages and references; unreliable men need not apply. Strings, Cornet, and Wood Wind from July 29 to Sept. 14; Trombone and Drummer to Sept. 8. Address, Mr. HAGUE, Opera House, Bridlington.

WANTED, Violin (Leader), must be First-class and fully experienced; various other instruments also required. Apply, with particulars, references, and terms, to W. R. KING, The Dalston Theatre, N.E.

C. W. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, season, commencing Saturday, Aug. 3, at Alexandra Palace, First and Second Violins, Double Bass, Flute and Piccolo, Clarionet, Cornet, Trombone, and Double Drums, with effects, wear evening dress and assist with fittings when travelling; must be thoroughly efficient and reliable. Terms and recent references to HARRY STEWART, Alexandra Palace, London, N.

WANTED, Good First Violinist, Experienced in Varieties, Open July 22. Refs. and Lowest Terms, W. BYNORTH, Palace T., Porth, S. Wales.

WANTED, First-class Violinist for Season commencing Monday, July 22. Apply, with Terms, References, &c., J. D. HUNTER, Pier Pavilion, Hastings.

WANTED, experienced First Violin, Double Bass (4 string), or 'Cello, for High-Class Minstrel Troupe. Lowest terms, must read and transpose at sight. GILBERT ROGERS, Rhyl.

WANTED, Second Violin for 10 Weeks, Commencing July 22. Terms and References to A. CLEGG, Musical Director, Grand T., Blackpool.

WANTED, New Pavilion, Abertillery, to complete Band, one First Violin, Double Bass, Flute, Piccolo, and Clarionet; all must be thoroughly up in varieties. Terms, &c., E. PRYCE.

WANTED, First Violin (repetiteur), must be Good Player, Steady, and Reliable, and well up in Variety Business. Apply, stating terms, HOWARTH, Conductor, Empire, Edinburgh.

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WANTED, Immediately, Good, Reliable Solo Cornet for Orchestral Band. State Age, Terms, and References. FORD, Band Offices, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, First-class Clarionet Player, open July 29. Lowest terms and refs., W. H. MELTON, Prince of Wales' Theatre, Mexboro'.

WANTED, Solo Clarionet, for Theatre Royal, Dublin, to open Monday, Aug. 5; only First class Performers need apply. MOODY, Musical-Dir.

WANTED, Solo Clarionet, Concert Work, good Engagement, commence to-morrow or Monday. FITSTUART, 2, Raglan-road, Sandylands, Morecambe.

WANTED, Bass and Flute, Variety, Commence July 22. Refs. and Terms to T. STEVENS, 31, Torrington-street, Grimsby.

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WANTED, Trombone, Small Military, Council Band, Open at Once, 7 weeks, Accustomed Military Journals preferred. Terms, Refs., BELLERBY, Deneholme, Ilkley.

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"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street,, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Smart Variety and Orchestral Pianist-Conductor, Disengaged, with or without own Band. GRAHAME, 115, Ferry-street, Stapenhill, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, by Conductor (Violin), Engagement shortly; permanent appointment in public institution desired; experienced. Box 5,089, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Musical Director (Violin), London or Provinces; Variety preferred; experienced, steady; references; library. Box 5,094, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Well-known Musical Director, Violin, Composer, Arranger, at Liberty after Aug. 10. Apply, Box 5106, "The Era."

WANTED, Business as Conductor, Military or otherwise, could supply good small Band; good library. High testimonials. MADDISON, 1, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, by Leader or First Violin, Re-engagement, Aug. 5, Experienced Variety, Dramatic, Abstainer, First-class References. DAVIS, 102, Patrick-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Known, a First-class Musical Director is at Liberty for Music Hall, Good Composer and Arranger. Highest of References. Box 5097, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Répétiteur (Lady), experienced, Disengaged Aug. 1. CISSIE MATHER, Drill Hall, Darlington; permanent, School of Music, Widnes, Lancashire.

WANTED, by Good Young Repetiteur, Immediate Engagement. Address, VIOLINIST, 86, Colvestone-crescent, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement by good First or Second Violin, experienced any business; good references; abstainer; reliable. VIOLINIST, 9, Gonsalva-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement, in a good Orchestra. Apply, VIOLINIST, 5, Combe-view, Wookey Hole, Wells, Somerset.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Violin, Young, Any Business. Address, VIOLINIST, 32, Prince's-road, Richmond, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement by Violinist, immediate, any business; good reference; total abstainer. WALPOLE, 25, Bethel-street, Norwich.

WANTED, Engagement, Violinist, 4½ Years Leader Brighton West Pier Orchestra, Recently Disbanded. MASON, 42, Belle Vue-gardens, Kemp Town, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Second Violin, experienced, steady; good references; can open Monday, July 15. CHARLES DIBBERT, Grand Theatre, Halifax.

WANTED, by Solo Violinist, Pianist, expert accompanist, Engagements for Evenings (after four), Summer months. FRANZ, 37, St. Mary's-road, Peckham.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement, Any Business, Seaside or Otherwise. A. LONG, 62, College-street, Putney, S.W.

WANTED, by First-Class English Violinist and Conductor, well experienced in hotel, café, concert and theatre work, permanent engagement in South Africa; highest references for ability and character. Address, GEORGE S. CRICHTON, Musical-Director, North British Station Hotel, Edinburgh.

WANTED, by First-class Violinist, Re-engagement as Musical Director, Experienced all Lines, Good Library, Highest References, Disengaged July 27. Box 5113, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet, First or Second, sixteen years' experience; excellent references; at Liberty July 29. J. H. EAMES, 4, Ditchling-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, as Second Cornet; reliable; can start at once. RUSSELL, 47, Wellington-road, Rhyl, North Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, Perm., Provinces, Total Abstainer, First or Second. LONG, Tunn-street, Fakenham, Norfolk.

WANTED, by Solo B Flat or E Flat Clarionet, combine Viola or Second Violin, late one H.M. Staff Bands; excellent character and refs.; Disengaged Aug. Box 5,083, "The Era."

WANTED, by brilliant Clarionettist, Engagement, experienced in Operatic and Concert Work; first-class refs. BONELL, 151, George-street, Coventry.

WANTED, Engagement by Thoroughly Experienced Clarionet, at Liberty Aug. 3, Good Theatre or Music Hall. CLARKE, Band, Jephson Gardens, Leamington.

WANTED, Engagement, by good reliable Clarionet; thoroughly experienced; good references. Address, CLARIONET, Post Office, Sheerness, Kent.

WANTED, Engagements, near Liverpool, Disengaged after July 26. Miss MAUD JONES (Double Bass), Drill Hall, Darlington.

WANTED, by First-Class Double Bass, permanent Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall; refs.; abstainer. NICHOLLS, 19, Glenburn-rd, Seacombe, Cheshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Double Bass, any business. CONTRA BASS, 74, Chandos-street, Hereford.

WANTED Engagement, by Competent Double Bass, Orchestral or Military, can Open at Once. E. J. ELLIOTT, 67, Albion-st., Halton, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, Disengaged after July 26. Miss GRACE JONES (Trombone), Drill Hall, Darlington.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by thoroughly experienced Trombonist, any business, can join at once, Music Hall preferred. GEORGE NICKS, 38, High-st., Ilfracombe, N. Devon.

WANTED, Engagement by Trombone, Two Cornets, and Violin, Ladies, Together or Separate. 100, Eswyn-rd., Tooting, London, S.W.

WANTED, by experienced Euphonium, Engagement; good refs. Wire or write, CHARLES GRICE, The Lodge, Stafford-mews, West Kilburn, N.W.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 37, Great Percy-st., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Known, 'Cello, at Liberty for First-Class Engagement; abstainer; good refs. and experience. 4, Grand-parade, Upper Parkstone, Dorsets.

WANTED, Engagements as Oboe, would play Violin or Viola when Oboe not required. G. EDMONDS, JUN., 4, Frances-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Oboeist, six years' Orchestral experience; moderate terms. Apply, Box 5,090, "The Era."

WANTED, Permanent Engagement by High-class Oboeist, Theatre Experience, Total Abstainer. State Terms. OBOE, 59, King-street, Peterhead.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Flute and Piccolo (young Lady), Disengaged July 26. DAISY TOOTILL, Drill Hall, Darlington; permanent, Sefton-avenue, Surbiton.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Flute and Piccolo, any business; Disengaged shortly. FLAUTIST, 18, Furzefield-road, Blackheath, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Competent Flute and Piccolo, late Artillery Band and Canterbury Music Hall, London. WILDMAN, 34, James-street, Sheerness, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, by N. Robinson, Pianist, Arranger, Any Business, Steady, Reliable, Good Reader, Orch. or Self, Excellent Refs. 62, North Cliff-road, Conisboro'.

WANTED, by Lady, an all-round Pianist, had previous experience; must be London Engagement. Miss SCOTT, 46, Penton-place, Kennington.

WANTED, Known, Rowland Clark, Piano and Double Bass, at Liberty. 23, Lebanon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Immediately, Engagement by First-class Pianist, Thoroughly Experienced all Lines; also by First-class Clarionettist, late Moody-Manners. North Cottage, Lake-road, Bowness-on-Windermere.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Double Drummer and Tympanist, at Liberty July 27. Address, 8, Winchester-street, Coventry.

WANTED, Engagement by Double Drummer and Tympanist. Thoroughly Experienced and Reliable. F. G., 38, Marlborough-rd., Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Drummer, Varieties Preferred. Good Experience. G. FANQUE, 266, Gorton-lane, Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, at home or abroad. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Gilleno's Great American Circus, White City, Manchester, Artists in all branches of the Circus Profession, now and later; two bar or ring performers (to combine double or single Clowns, with entrées), also lady wire Act; can open Monday, 15th inst. Wire, address, Manager, CHARLES POWELL, 39, Sidney-street, All Saints, Manchester.

WANTED, for Llanelly Hospital Great Fête and Gala, Aug. 23 and 24, Sensational Novelties, must be good. Write, with Full Particulars, Lithos, or Photographs, to Messrs. HENRY STUDIS and SON, Fair Ground, Maesteg, Glamorganshire.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."

WANTED, good Comedy Acts, for Tour, commencing Aug. 5. Lowest terms first letter, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, to Engage, High Rope Walker and High Pole Climber, or anything suitable, new and novel, for outdoor performance on Fair Grounds, to perform twice daily. Lowest terms, with particulars first letter, apply, WALLIS, 10, Church-rd., Seaforth, Liverpool.

WANTED, a First-Class Troupe of Lady Swimmers, for the Continent. Apply, SCHULTZE'S Agency, 38, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

WANTED, for Well-known Troupe, Young Lady Trapezist, and Gent., Flying Rings, must be first class, Brother and Sister, or Married Couple (without children) not objected to. State tricks, height, weight, and experience; also forward photos in costume. Address, JAS. EUGENE, Aquarium, St. Petersburg, Russia.

WANTED, Triple Bar and Flying Ring Act, for Gala, Thursday, Aug. 8. Lowest, EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Gymnast, by well-known Performer, for Leaps, Flying Act. F. M., care of Secretary, Thornton Games, Thornton, Fife, Scotland.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Circus, Tenting Ireland, five or six useful grooms, to join at once. Address, Saturday, Grange; Monday, Bundoran; Tuesday, Ballyshannon; Wednesday, Donegal.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty July 29, Tudor's Four Educated Ponies, for Stage or Ring; a big Speciality for Galas; thirteen weeks Hengler's Circus, London. Address, W. TUDOR, Barnard's Palace, Greenwich.

WANTED, Known, the Maros, Comedy Bar Act, 15th, County Theatre, Reading, Liberty Aug. 5, 19. Address as above.

WANTED, July 22 and 29, Aug. 5, Miss Myria Lo-La and Clown, Smart Comedy Three-Bar Act; a First-class Turn. 13, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Three Bordellas, World's Greatest Juvenile Gymnastic Act, vacant July 15, 22, 29, Aug. 5, Hippodrome, Blackpool (third return). Com., 37, Central-parade, Promenade, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Olrac and Milton, Society's Triple Bar Gymnasts. Communications, 193A, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Captain Roberts and his Soldier Boys, Musical Athletes and Balancers, Four in Number, and own Pony. 21, Newport-court, London, W.C.

WANTED, Known, George Davilla, Liberty, High or Low Wire, Aug. 5, several dates July, Aug. Forest View, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

Balloon Ascents.
WANTED, Engagements, by Lieut. Lempriere, the Popular Reliable Aeronaut. Address, LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

Parachute Descents.
WANTED, Gala Secretaries seeking Big Attractions to engage Lieut. Lempriere and his charming Lady Pupils for Parachute Descents or Races; together or separate. One still open for Aug. Bank. LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and HIPPODROME, BARRY DOCK.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.
No wires, please.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, all kinds Variety Artists. Will see any Artists working if time sent. RICHARD CASS'S Agency, 9, Mundania-rd., Peckham.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, July 22, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest. Hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, July 29, and onwards. A. E. PICKARD, Britannia, Glasgow.

HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY,
HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY,
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.
WANTED, for Glasgow, Greenock, and district, Star Artists in all Lines. Empire, Greenock, Reopens Aug. 19. Address, this week, Norfolk Hotel, Surrey-street, Strand.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Glasgow Concerts. State absolute lowest. THE SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists for Saturday Popular Concerts. State terms and vacant dates. HUDSON, Temperance Hall, Yeadon, near Leeds.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards. Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
WANTED, Artists, suitable for Concert Platforms, three Halls, one night only, Saturdays. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, 126, Rottenrow, Glasgow.

Scarborough.
WANTED, Monday, July 22, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms. ANDERSON'S Agency, 5, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, July 29, Aug. 5, 12, 19. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

DUNDAS'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, for July 15, Aug. 12, and onwards, nothing too big. 52, Rosthwaite-road, West Derby, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Nothing too Big or Grand, for Tour of South Wales, to Open July 29, Aug. 5, 12, 19, and 26. State Lowest Terms, when last in Wales, and what towns. DR. CARL HERMANN, this, P., Gloucester; next, P., Porth.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, July 22, onwards; also Vocalists, with Slides for Illustrated Songs. Lowest Summer Terms. First Letter to BEANLAND and EMERSON, Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Al Fresco, Pianist, and Specialities, open Aug. 5. C. FRANCIS, 293, Alfreton-road, Nottingham.

WANTED, Artists for the Theatre Royal, West Bromwich, nothing too big. Apply, JAZON'S Agency, St. Andrew-road, Anfield, Liverpool. Blarney and Kinnard and Syd Myra communicate.

WANTED, First-class Artists Only, for First-class Variety Theatres, Immediate and Future Dates, also Pantomime. JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

HORNSEA PIERROTS.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Open July 22; also Really Good Stage-Manager. Full particulars, Photos, &c., STANHOPE, 36, Leonard-road, Lake-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Artists for small Gala, Aug. 14, near Chester. La Dor Troupe write. S. SMALLEY, 19, Vauxhall Bridge-road, S.W.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Aug. 12, and on. Apply T. C. RAWES, Victoria, Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, including Society Humorist and Comic Singer, for Al Fresco Concerts at Littlehampton and Swansea. Write, stating lowest terms and dates vacant for last week in July and for August, to M. W. SHANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, for New Pavilion, Abertillery, Artists Engaged to Send Bill Matter, as Bills are going out at once. E. PRYCE, Manager.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
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WANTED, Artists and Agents to Note.

All Contracts on Behalf of the Above Company will in future be signed by Mr. S. T. NEWSOME, who alone is authorised to sign. Artists Holding Contracts are requested to apply immediately for Confirmation of Dates to S. T. NEWSOME, Hippodrome, Coventry.

N.B.—All Bill Matter to be addressed to THE MANAGER, Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and Particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WORCESTER PALACE.
WANTED, Turns, July 22 and 29. JAMES FIONI'S Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone, 1686 Royal.

STALYBRIDGE HIPPODROME.
WANTED, Turns, seven nights, commencing Saturday next, July 20, also for Aug. 5 and 12. JAMES FIONI'S Agency, 21, Norton-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone, 1686 Royal.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Turns of all Kinds, with Immediate Open Dates. THE ALBEMARLE VARIETY SYNDICATE, 157, Strand 'Phone 4957, Gerrard. Wire, "Templify, London."

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, the Best of Talent that Money can Pay for July; also Wanted, Aug. 5 and 12, for Hippodrome, Perth, Big Tops.
All letters must be addressed to me. DREW BAYLEY, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Talent all Lines, Halls, Seaside, and Galas. JAMES FIONI'S Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone, 1686 Royal.

PALACE T. OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.
Proprietors, Messrs. J. TYRER and WM. B. BOSTOCK.
WANTED, July 22, 29, Aug. 5, onwards, Novel Acts, Continental Specialities, Comedy Acts, Serios, Comedians, Sisters (Double Acts doing Singles), all new to above. Lowest Summer Terms, Lithos. (if any). WM. B. BOSTOCK, General-Manager.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY,
728, Romford-road, Manor Park, London.
WANTED, First-Class Acts, with odd weeks vacant (North), Sept. on, to communicate.

WANTED, for Gloucester, Porth, Worcester, Barry Dock, Abertillery, Variety Acts, must have Full Bookings, Towns. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Speciality Acts, Sharing Terms, Acts that will draw, Big Money taken. Variety Artists write MANAGER, 97, Forest-st., Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, for Circus and Hippodrome, Rochdale, Big Acts and Comedians. Address, J. JACKSON, c/o Jackson Family, Empire, Sheffield.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address, next week, Pack Horse Hotel, Briggate, Leeds.

WANTED, for Immediate Fêtes, Startling Specialities and Novelties, Lithos, Memos. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol. Johnson and Devere, Cyclists, send address.

WANTED, good Specialities, all Lines, for Galas, July 27, Aug. 6, 10, 14 (two Acts preferred). Lowest terms per day. CHAS. MELLOR, Caterer, Wellclose-road, Leeds.

HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS VARIETIES, FOUNDRY-STREET, DEWSBURY.
General-Manager, GEORGE WELDON. Will Reopen for the Autumn Season, Monday, Aug. 5.
WANTED, for Opening Week, a First-class Dumb Show Act and Double Act (Comedians), must be good and free from vulgarity. Artists also Required for week commencing Aug. 12, and Future Dates.

PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
General-Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.
WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, and onward, Big Numbers; nothing too Great.
Send lowest terms, with lithos., &c., to HENRY KEMBLE'S Agency, 233, Kennington-road, London.

"LORD" GEO. AYTOUN'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Top Liners, July 22 and Aug. 5, for the best Variety Establishments. 120, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone 1949 Hop.

WANTED, big Tops, bigger the better, for Sept. 2, 16, and 30 (North). Full bookings, &c., to FRANK LYNNE, 77, Angell-road, Brixton S.W.

O. MAUS DAYTON'S VAUDEVILLE COS.
WANTED, a Complete Troupe of Pierrots or Minstrels, also Artists all Lines; First-Class Advance Manager also required, must be expert in his line. Sure money; fixed salary, no sharing terms. Confortable Engagements. Lowest combination Summer Terms to THE DAYTON FAMILY, Sofia Gardens, Cardiff. Silence polite negative.

WANTED, a Good Troupe of Pierrots, or any thing Suitable for the Pier Pavilion, Scarborough, July 15, for Season, Share or Rental. WHITAKER, Foreshore, Scarborough.

WANTED, good Troupe of Dogs, Aug. 24, good Gala Acts, Aug. 5, big Gala Acts for Easter Monday, 1908. Send lithos., bills, permanent address. WOOD, Caterer, 140, Whitehall-road, Bristol.

WANTED, Two Ladies for American Tour, 40 weeks, one to sing and do good step dance, one to dance and play piano. No Amateurs. Letters only, stating Height and Qualifications, COLES, 83, St. John's-park, Blackheath.

WANTED, real smart Dancers, for the States and England, able to sing. All particulars, GEO. NORMAN, 10, Brighton-terrace, Brixton.

WANTED, Four Coloured Ladies, for Continental Tour, Cake-walkers, &c., must be good-looking and clever. Write ROBERTS, 52 Nelson-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Smart Sisters, Song, Dance, Sept. 23, Dog Act, Sept. 30. Known to William Ainsworth. Address, 26, Rothbury-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, Smart, Clever Lady Beginner, for Music Hall Speciality, Free Tuition on Violin, Cornet, Mandoline, and Guitar. State particulars to Box 5119, "The Era."

WANTED, to Complete Company for Opening, Aug. 5 New Pavilion, Abertillery, Good Serio or Sisters. Terms, &c., E. PRYCE, Manager.

WANTED, Refined Humorist or Society Entertainer, Week Commencing July 22. Full Particulars and Lowest Terms First Letter. CASH, Manager, Pier, Skegness.

J. H. TOMKINSON'S ROYAL GIPSY CO.
WANTED, for Long Tour, Commence Sept., Pair of Really Funny Comedians, Good Soprano Vocalist, and Smart Pair of Sisters. Address TOMKINSON, 36, Albany-road, Kensington, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Al Fresco Comedian, Cross to Jersey to-night, Big Répertoire Songs, Sketches, Dancer Preferred. Price no object, but must be Refined, Fares Paid. Wire Particulars, MARRIS, Opera House, Jersey.

WANTED, a Smart Little Comedian at once for the Happy Valley, Llandudno, must be Funny. A Long Engagement for those Suitable. All Must Black. Wire, CHURCHILL, Arvon Cottage, Llandudno.

WANTED, through Releasing, Smart Young Al Fresco Comedian; also Good Baritone. Lowest Terms and Photos. GRAPHO and JACKSON, Abington Park Hotel, Northampton.

WANTED (through illness), a Lady Trick Cyclist, who has knowledge of Tumbling, to take place of another young lady in well-known Troupe. L. H., Post Office, 10, Acre-lane, Brixton.

WANTED, Good Male Voice Comedy Quartette for Northern Seaside Town, Aug. 5. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, good Vent., Juggler, or Comic Act, for outside performance, two weeks; open Monday. BUER, 2, Gegent-cottages, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Young Man and Lad; must tumble a little, or front bending. State tricks and salary. Box 5,069, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Few Young Men to Tumble and Knockabout, Long Engagement if Suitable, Open July 29. Add., ADDISON, Hippo., Yarmouth.

WANTED, a Small Dwarf, one able to play Agouste Write, with Terms and Photo, to CABAN, Circus, Palace Gardens, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Young Man, for Music Hall Sketch, to take care of Baggage and play small part; must be about 5ft. 7in. tall; four months in London.

Address, JOHN CARNEY, Clipper Office, 48, Cranbourn-street, Leicester-square.

WANTED, good complete Bioscope Show, for Season, at Greenwich Theatre. Send best terms, specimen programmes ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, good steady up-to-date Bioscope Machine and Operator, with own Films, for five or six weeks, commencing Sat., July 27; must be able to change 1,500ft. of Films weekly; gas and limes provided. Terms to PAYNE, Palace, Porthcawl, S. Wales.

WANTED, Cinématograph, for seven weeks, commencing July 20, at Redcar, Al Fresco, to show one hour nightly, including Sunday. Lowest terms inclusive to G. B. ROBINSON, 51, Newcomen-street, Redcar.

WANTED, an Operator, for Chronophone, well up in electric light, must assist to build up and pull down, and make himself useful; all the year round shop; no learners. Apply to TUBY'S Coliseum Feast Ground, Hoyland Common, near Barnsley.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lolo, Charming Lady Gymnast, also Little May, Juvenile Speciality Dancer and Contortionist, Liberty Dec. 16. 127, Upper Aughton-road, Birkdale, Southport.

NOTICE.
WANTED, Known, Ruby Bijou, "The Daintiest of Dancers," and the best Barefoot Dancer, requires July 22, Aug. 12, Sept. 16 and 23, only vacancies this year. A smart, refined, and novel Turn. Offers, 23, Seymour-flats, Euston-road, N.W.

WANTED, by Miss Daisie Morell, the Chic Comedienne and Versatile Vocalist, Monday next, July 15. 22nd. Wire, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, Monday, July 15, and 29, Norah Drew, Comedienne and Quick-Change Artist. Wire quick, 22, St. Agnes-place, Kennington Park, London.

WANTED, by Little Dolly Brough, Refined Juvenile Comedienne and Clog Dancer July 15, 22, 29. Wire, this week, 16, Roome-st., Orford-avenue, Warrington.

WANTED, by the Three Sisters Urma, July 15 and 22 (only vacant dates this year).

The Era (Hippodrome, London): The Sisters Urma—three pretty and well-formed girls—are seen to great advantage in their lithe and active doings on a suspended trapeze. The celerity with which the trio go through their tricks immediately strikes the visitor. The charm of the exhibition of these perfect lady gymnasts reaches its culminating point when the chief performer acts as a sort of apparatus for her sisters in a series of smart feats.

Wire, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Terry, Popular Comediennes, at Liberty July 15, 22, 29. Address, Argyle Varieties, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Known, Florence and Lillian, in their Artistic Musical Act, Disengaged July 15. Address, 83, St. Augustine's-road, London, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Three Transfields, Lady Instrumentalists, in their Refined Musical Speciality, Splendid Electric Stage set, and Handsome Costumes, Vacant Monday. Wire, Palace, Dover; after, 13, Middle-row, Maidstone.

WANTED, Monday, through Disappointment, Jack Sheppard, World's Greatest Handcuff King and Prison Breaker; also Miss Ruby Vesta, in the Greatest Trunk Mystery on the Stage, Big Top, Challenges, with Safes, &c. Second Week, Olympia, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, weeks, July 22 and Aug. 12, by Cuthbert Rose, Society Humorist, in his original Mimetic Songs and Monologues, at Pier Pavilions or Highest-class Al Frescos. This, Pier Pav., Herne Bay; next, Pier Pav., Dover.

WANTED, by Tom Leo, Comedian, Knockabout, Shop with Sketch or Troupe; also at Lib. for Panto. 5, Ely-terrace, Mile End-rd. E.

WANTED, Known, Fred Dobito, Baritone and Expert Lecturer, Large Rep. of Songs, Own Slides, Vacant July 15. Wire, St. James's Hall, Plymouth.

WANTED, by Fred Hadley, Comedian and Dancer, late of Catlin's, Scarborough Pierrots, Liberty Monday, Al Fresco. Wire, 77, Erdington-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Monday next, onwards, by Aldro Lukos, Man Monkey, Speciality, Swinging Perch and Tumbling Antics. Wire, PALACE, Tottenham; after, 32 Osborne-terrace, London, S.W.

WANTED, by Oliver Conroy, Comedian, one week, Monday next; another big success Empire, Stockport; vacant for Pantomime, 1907-8.

WANTED, by Otto Ethardo, Artistic Juggler, Monday next, also 22nd and 29th. Wire or write, 15, William Edward-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, July 22 and 29, by Alpha, Eccentric Juggler and Burlesque Hoop-Roller. This, Westminster, Liverpool; next, Grand, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Monday next, Cambo, the Musical Monkey, also Ventriloquist; two big Acts. Wire, 59, Urquhart-road, Aberdeen.

WANTED, July 22, onwards, by Harry Barlow, Principal Baritone, Scarboro', Filey, and Highwaymen Quartette, Brighton. Address, 24, Albemarle-road, Taunton.

WANTED, Known, Boy Hackenschmidt, great big terrific success last week Hippo., Wakefield; next, Starring, Westminster, Liverpool. Agent, CHARLES DIETRICH, 31, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Prof. Thomas, Ventriloquist and Mimic, open for few immediate dates, commencing July 8. BERT VINCENT, Agent, 239, Harnall-lane, Coventry.

WANTED, Aug. 19, Sept. 2, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist); two smart Acts. Monday, Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate.

WANTED, Monday Next, also July 22, 29, only Vacant Dates this year, Picitt and Lizette, Magical Pantomimists, in their Great Illusory Extravaganza, "THE CRAZY COOK." Original Comedy, Original Illusions, 50 Birds and Animals, the Most Realistic Kitchen Set ever Staged. Wire, PICITT, 40, Oriel-terrace, Gerard-st., Derby.

Managers and Agents Note.—We can now send you particulars of our New Magical Pantomimo, 2 Tons of New Illusions and Scenery, More Comedy than Half-a-dozen Pantos., Rehearsing Daily, Ready for Production Shortly, Suitable for Full-size Stages only.

WANTED, July 15, onward, the Great Kyoto, Japanese Contortionist and Pot-pourri Act; also May Geraldine, Dainty Comedienne, Vocalist, Dancer. Wire 45, Clarence-road, Bridlington.

WANTED, by Ted Young and Ada Twibell, Monday next, also July 29. Wire. 13, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Vokes and Marshall (Ned and Jessie), Refined Comedy, Musical, and Patter Artists, Liberty Monday. 16, Moreton-street, Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Great Comedy Act, a Star Turn, Monday next. Wire, Chappell's Concerts, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Le Brun and Irene, Novelty Jugglers; also Little Edie, Talented Child Vocalist, vacant Monday, also 22. Theatre Royal, York.

WANTED, by Cadogan and Wingrove, "A Clerical Complication" (Muir and Bartlett's), vacant 22nd, 29th (Midlands), also Aug. 5. Gaiety, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Monday, also 22nd, Jimmy Green (Comedian) and May Mayne (Serio), wire for two sound Turns. 2, Court, Well-lane, Sheffield.

WANTED, Monday next, also 22nd, the Percys (Harry, Lillie), Duettists, Dancers and Speciality Performers, Reliable Turn. Wire, Empire Theatre, Doncaster.

WANTED, July 29, Aug. 5, the Moncktons, in Particularly Funny Comedy Episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" 15th, Aquarium, Scarboro' (Fifth Return).

WANTED, Monday next, by Will and Rose, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers, and Alvar, Daring Gymnast, Two Acts. Wire, Grand, Manchester

WANTED, Monday next, by Syd Herman, Hebrew Comedian; Lil Dresden, Vocalist; Ray Thorne, Comedienne and Dancer. Wire, Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, July 15, 22, 29, by Mueller and Coyne, Versatile Comedy Artists. Wire, 14, Boundary-road, Merton, London.

WANTED, July 22, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, by the Bros. Webb, famous Musical Clowns. P. A., 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Kloof and Ramsay, vacant July 15 (Monday next), 22, and 29, funny Musical Novelties and rare Vocalism. Wire, Gaiety, Birmingham; vacant Monday.

WANTED, Known, Wright and Elton (Great Comedy Act), vacant July 22, 29, and onwards. This, Alhambra, Sandgate; next, July 15, Empire, Dover.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Doyle and Gibson, Comedians and Dancers, July 22 and 29, Only Vacs. until May, '08. Add., 12, South Hill-rd., Gateshead-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Rezene and Robini, vacant Monday and July 22, only vacancies. Write or wire, 501, Holloway-road, N.

WANTED, Monday next, by Mack and Beale, Refined Singing and Patter Comedians. For a sure success wire, 57, Templar-road, Lower Clapton, London.

WANTED, July 15, 22, by Los Granadas, with their own Trampolin Novelty, "Sensational Happenings Outside an Hotel." 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, by The Henres, the World's Greatest Juvenile Club Throwers, July 15, 22, 29, First Vacancy for 30 weeks, Share or Certainty, can Top or Bottom. Communications to HENRE, 73, Milbourne-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, the Ringling Trio, Original Comedy Act, always a hit, just finished the Barrasford Tour, big success at every Hall, vacant July 22. Wire or write. Winter Gardens, Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, the Three Parzones, Comedians, Vac. Aug. 5 on. Good Funny Acts, Galas. Perm. Address, 27, Sidney-st., Manchester.

WANTED, July 15, 22, and 29, by the Great Albano Troupe, the Greatest of all Rehned Musical Acts. See "Cards."

WANTED, Monday next, also Aug. 12 and 19, by Titan, Telka, and Wyllie (three Acts), Strong Show, Musical Act, and Ballad Vocalist. 20, Gordon-road, Aldershot.

WANTED, Known, through Continental Engagement falling through, The Boultons and Mlle. Bartenelli are vacant from Oct. 7. Address, 53, Worcester-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, Five Abadaroffs, Comedy Act, vacant Monday, for few weeks previous to Continental Tour. 95, Stretford-road, Manchester; or STEBBINGS.

WANTED, Aug. 5, 12, and 19, two Acts, Zancig Thought Reading and Conjuring. Gigantic success everywhere. LENTON and BERTRAM, 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, July 15, the Great Zerbinis Troupe of Eight, Electrical Transformation Musical Act, Scenery Carried. Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Managers and Agents requiring a good Top Liner, to witness the realistic costume Sketch, "The Phantom Earl," in two Acts and Tableau, at the Victoria Theatre, Broughton, Monday, July 15, and during week; something absolutely new in Music Hall Sketches. All coms. to J. FRED WATSON, Manager, Victoria Theatre, Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Dates for July and October, Miss Violet Furnivall and Company, in a new Original Sketch, "The Wrong Room," introducing Songs, Dances, Indian Clubs, Solos. HENRY J. COURT, 52, Mill-lane, W. Hampstead.

WANTED, Monday next, also July 22, by Billy Ross and Co., greatest Comedy Act on the Stage. Starring Palace, Blackburn. Audience still laughing. Wire for big draw.

WANTED, Pier Pavilions, by the "Pink Carnations," refined Concert Party, consisting of six Principal Musical Comedy Artists; share or certainty; weeks Aug. 5, and onwards, with exceptions. Bookings include Princess Pier, Torquay; Kursaal, Sandown; Pier Pavs., Ventnor, Herne Bay, Dover, Teignmouth, &c. HAROLD PERRY, this, Pier Pavilion, Herne Bay; next, Pier, Dover.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show, Vacant Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 2, 23, and 30. Communications, Week July 15, Miners' Theatre, Ashington, Northumberland.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus, Marvellous Performing Ponies, Donkeys, Goat, and Dogs, at Liberty Oct. 21 and 28, also Nov. and Dec. All communications, address, C. CABAN, Palace Gardens, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Funny Dog Show, the four-footed Animals with Human Brains, Liberty July 22, 29, Share or Certainty. Palace, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known, Alice Fontainbleau, Canine Marvels. Great success this week Metropole, Manchester; next week, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury; vacant for Panto., sure success; few Autumn dates, vacant, July 15, 22.

WANTED, Monday, Kitty Woodford's Dogs. Circus and Orchestra Combined, a Pretty and Smart Act. Wire, 5, Buckingham-rd., Wood Green, London.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio, Humorous Cyclists, vacant July 15, 22, 29. Wire, Hip., Lancaster; after Sat., 1, Raglan-terrace, Everton, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, that William Lorenzi (of Sisters Phillips and Bros. Lorenzi) is still open to join Sketch, &c. Have just finished successful Tour. All coms., 127, Westbrook-street, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Dane's Marionettes, immediate and future Dates; first production "Zuyder Zee," five characters, entirely new. 276, Sherrard-road, Manor Park

WANTED, Known, Vacant Monday, Operator, Own Machine, Tour or Al Fresco, Slides Illustrating Standard Songs, Up-to-date, 20 to 60 minutes' Pictures. MALCOLM, Post Office, Bridlington.

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WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World. If you want to Buy or Sell Anything Connected with the Business, Consult TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

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WANTED, Immediately, Good Attractive Novelty, Shares, Good Cinematograph write in, Tour if Suitable; also Automatic Machines and Tattooing Artist, on Shares. Write or Wire, MANAGER, Drew's Hall, Blaina.

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All the Greatest Outdoor Amusement Attractions have been secured. Bostock and Wombwell's famous Menagerie, the Travelling British Zoo. F. Collins's Grand Cosmograph, the Talking and Singing Living Pictures. Wonderland, with its New Ideal Orchestra, and grand display of Thousands of Vari-coloured Electric Fairy Lights. An unrivalled display of Electric Fireworks.

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All persons requiring Ground or Spaces for Shows, Games, Stalls, &c., address, with full particulars, the sole Lessees, P. and J. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall. Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall." 'Phone, 80 Walsall.

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P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall. Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall." 'Phone, No. 80, Walsall.

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The grounds are forty acres in extent, right on the sea front, and are situated immediately next the Promenade at the Electric Tramway Terminus. From April 1 to Dec. 31, 1905, 4,000,000 passengers were carried on these tramways. The permanent attractions now include the "River Caves of the World," "Maxim Flying Machine," "Sea Circus," &c. Great Canadian Water Chute and Scenic Railway from Coney Island now being erected for this season. For sites and concessions for really good Novelties apply personally. Office on grounds. Letters only, 14, Balmoral-road, Blackpool.

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WANTED, Known.—Notice.—All Parties requiring Ground for all the Devonshire Regattas and Fairs in July, Aug., and Sept. First Regatta, Exmouth, July 20; Honiton Fair, July 24, 25, and 26; Exeter Regatta, Aug. 3; Dawlish Regatta, Aug. 8; Babbacombe, Aug. 9 and 10; Teignmouth, Aug. 15 and 16; Paignton, Aug. 20 and 21; Brixham, Aug. 23 and 24; Torquay, Aug. 26 and 27; Dartmouth, Aug. 29, 30, and 31; Plymouth Regatta, Sept. 4 and 5; Newton Abbott Fair, Sept. 11. Good opening for one or two Shooters and good Side Shows; none in this country; all Holidays en route, and short journeys. Apply for all particulars, W. C. and S. HANCOCK, West Hoe, Plymouth.

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EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30, for:—
"The King's Minister," Donaldson Bros. and Ardell, Horace White, Will English, Mark Merry, Barnard's Marionettes, Les Strads, "Globe of Life," Alec B. Thorne, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, Anna Hope, Jannette Alexander, Marguerite Parker and Co., Alf Lester, Ruth Lytton, Tom Child, Irene Rose, Bioscope, Sanford and Lyons.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
Mariedl, Ellis Barrieton, Gus Dallon, Stelling and Revell, Norman and Leonard Troupe, Maud Mortimer, Minnie Mace, Bioscope, Bros. Mills, Tom Foy and Co.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
George Formby, Jeannie Macintyre, Canty's Grotto, James Stewart American Comedy Four, "Kiss Your Father," Bioscope, Four Regals, Jenny Hartley, De Biere.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Wilkie Bard, Powell's Marionettes, Jackson Family, Varnando, Arabella Allen, Nellie Stratton, Cruikshank, L. W. Harris, Bioscope, Marie Ray.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Bransby Williams, Arthur Gill, Ruby Dahl, J. A. Wilson, Hartley Wonders, Maggie Walsh, "My Pal Jerry," Bioscope, Minna Merry.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Eugene Stratton, Orpheus, Harry Weldon, Caselli Sisters, Alexandre and Hughes, Three Rubys, Frank Bertram and Co., Fred Keeton, Bioscope, Chas. Robinson.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Ernest Shand, Northern Troupe, Leonie Dixon, Lennie and Hast, Kent and Keith, Narow Bros., Soho Trio, Bioscope, Ella Shields, Brown, Le Clerq, and Co.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
"Madge," Farley, Rennie, and Farley, Talbot and Pierce, May Mars, Walter Munroe, Josie Mooney, Bioscope, Lukushima Troupe.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Australian Woodcutters, Madge Grey, Herbert Rule, Binns and Binns, New York Nippers, J. W. Rickaby, Howard and Collinson, Nellie Martell, Ted and May Hopkins, Millie Lindon.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"Prince of Monte Carlo," Miles Stavordales, Eric, Ross and Lewis, J. B. Preston, "Aunt Matilda," Robb Gilmore, Chas. Coborn, Gotham Quartette, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Karno's "Tragedy of Errors," Madge May, Lieut. Travis, Little Ganty, Signor and Mme. Borelli, Eda Mardy, Bert Woodward, Bioscope, Salerno, Three Phydoras.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Blake and Amber, Sisters Gasch, Bioscope, Victor Travers, Selkirk's "Egypt," Harry Freeman, Jessie Albini, Gertrude Sandiford, Ten Loonies, Fred and Pauly.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
George Gray and Co., Fred Lincoln, Smythsons, Sleedes Troupe, O'Gust, Eadie and Ramsden, Frank Couch, Lucy Weston, Bioscope, David Stewart.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
George Robey, Ethel Hayden, The Leonards, Sisters Pine, Tom Parker, Sinclair and Parr, Marie Weston, The Mozarts, Rhoda Paul, Bioscope, Fred Lindsay.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
The McNaughtons, Alice Lloyd, Park's Eton Boys, Victoria Monks, Herr Rousby, J. W. Rowley, Ella Dean, Le Gay Quartette, Esta Stella, Whallen and West.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
"The Bailiff," Rich and Rich, Elsie Robey, Lowell and Lowell, Russell Wallett, Rochez's Dogs, Bessie Butt, Bioscope, Gracie Moore.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
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PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for:—
The Craggs, Josh Dixon, Flo Esdaile, Moulier Sisters, Seeley and West, Boccaccios, Dan Crawley, Lilian Bishop, Bioscope, C. Randolph King.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"The Duchess of Tooting," Will Musgrave, Frank Sylvo, Laurie and Beattie, Bertha Stuart, Ryan and Hall, Howard and St. Clair, George Ridgwell, Bioscope, Ray Wallace.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
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Rehearsal at 2, for:—
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Telegrams, "Twopence, London." Telephone No. 7623 Gerrard.
N.B.—INTERVIEWED BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS for MONDAY, JULY 15, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Paul Cinquevalli, Lily Stewart, Sid Cotterell and Co., Kisbey, Adey Spencer, Ernie Mayne, Vernon's Bioscope, Romsakoff Troupe.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Jordan and Harvey, Bros. Lawrence, Les Uniques, Charles Denton Creo Bros., Sisters Ford, Clemart, Vernon's Bioscope, Launceston Elliott.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Casey's Court, George Rae, Attilla Bros., Cherry Lass, Scottie's Waifs and Strays, Fred. Land, Whizzing the Whirl, The St. Johns, Vernon's Bioscope, G. W. Hunter.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Frank Long, Omoyo San and Co., The Sages, The Seddons, Little Vio-Lette, Dene and Dawson, J. P. O'Carroll, Vernon's Bioscope, Macdonald and Huntingdon.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
Dr. Bodie and Co.

PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE.
Closed during the summer season. Due notice of re-opening will be given.

N.B.—Artists will oblige by sending billing matter punctually.

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"DON'T GO BACK TO CAROLINA."
"GEORGIE FROM GEORGIA."
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CALLS. CALLS.

THE VAUDEVILLE SYNDICATE.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JULY 15, 1907.

PALACE, DOVER.
Lil Elfreda, Carlotta de Yonsen and Co., Wright and Elton, the Bransbys, H. Blandford, Sadie Simpson, Raymond, Chas. Gardener, Two Zampas.

ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.
Two Kays, Frank Hardie and Co., Tony Iveson, Fyne and Hurley, Lily Woods, Lilly Lassah, Vere and Royal, Pictures.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Raymond, Challis Dogs, Bessie Shelley, Frank Zara, Katie Eplett, Lillie Soutter, Leslie Bell and Co.

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PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.

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(Signed)
WALFORD BODIE, M.D
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Tokio Troupe and all Engaged.

For other Calls see Page 33.

NOTICE.

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in the above establishment, artists are requested to note that under clause 7

All Contracts are Cancelled.

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Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen between the hours of 12 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

All applications for dates at the Theatres Royal, Rotherham, Chesterfield, and Leeds, to be addressed to the London Offices.
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Secretary ... Miss AGNES M. RUSTON.

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All billing matter and notification of appearance, accompanied by samples of pictorial printing, must be sent in to the London Offices fourteen clear days prior to opening, or contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management.
All artists carrying scenery must have same fireproofed in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
In cases of emergency after office hours, Mr. Baugh may be consulted at the Foresters' Theatre, Cambridge-road, E.
Telephone, 5954 Avenue.
Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London."

CALLS.

FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, JULY 15, 1907.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Columbia Trio, Bains and Reed, Cissie Thompson, Harvey and Holt, Harry Maxim, Lilian Rigby, Woolmer Young, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Horace and Olga.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Hackenschmidt, Bert and Dora, Sisters Thurban, Melia and Mozarabar, Harry Taylor, Stacey and Williams, Massona, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Leoni Clarke, Alf Ripon, "Lilith," Allsopp and Bekwith, Master Carr, Lack and Ford Trio, Lilian Warren, E. Bosanquet, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Arthur Watson and Co., Capt. Devereux, Stuart and Stuart, La Belle Maie, Royal Czar Troupe, Royston and Royce, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Bros. Egbert, Queenie Essex, Roze and Calvert, Harry Milton, Marguerite Broadfoote, Haley's "Garden of Girls," Bros. Luck's Co., Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Raymond, "Capt. Hamilton, V.C.," Ethel Hillary, Mackintosh and Royal, Metz and Metz, Dolly Elsworthy and Co.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"An Unwedded Wife."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"A Soldier of France."

THEATRE ROYAL, LEECS.
"Secrets."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
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PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Picture Entertainment.

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PALACE & HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON
will open in September.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, BURNLEY
will open in December.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday.
Phedona, Elton and Elmar, Hardie Palm, Tom W. Barrett, Sable Fern, Florrie Gallimore, Josie Delaine, Geo. Antill, Queenie Dell, Raymond, Deane, Jennings, and Co.

THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
Arnold Bell and Co., Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, Raymond, Fred Southern and Co.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Austin and Cowan, Keith and Merson, Leonard Mortimer's Co., Florence Schubert, Rose Cass, Bros. Tarrant, Stuart and Evans, Maude Elliston and Co., Madge Lynn, Carl Rosine, Raymond, Will Thompson.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Gracie O'Neil, Casey's Circus, Welda and Wynn, Hal Chapter, Percival and Morley, the Almos, Les Louberts, Ethel Arundell, Learto, Sisters Valli, Raymond, Yorkshire Glee.

SURREY THEATRE.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
Six Idols, Mr. and Mrs. Finden, Woodhouse and Wells, Two Wiltons, Parker and Parr, Kenderick and Laura, Karno's "Mumming Birds," Joan Deering, Bros. Curran, Davenports, Raymond, Karnello.

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THE RED SPECTRE. 626ft. The Subject, £10 8s. 8d. Colouring, £7 12s. Code Word, CAROUBIER.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

Once more, stuffed with good things, "The Era" Annual appears from its office at 5 Tavistock-street. The edition for 1907 is as nicely got up as its predecessors, and, in addition to a calendar and other theatrical memoranda, contains two lists of the year's productions, one arranged under the names of the theatres and the other alphabetically. In addition there are a number of striking or humorous contributions by leading actors and actresses—Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Charles Collette, Miss Alma Murray, and Mr. John Lawson are among those who have contributed bright experiences to this up-to-date shilling theatrical handbook.—Star, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

The "Era Annual" for 1907 is now out. It is full of good things, and will be eagerly perused by all who are interested in dramatic and musical affairs and personnel. Portraits of, and original contributions by, several public favourites and managers appear, including Miss Ellen Terry, who tells "How I Spend My Day"; Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Charles Collette, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Matthew Brodie, Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Edith Cole, and Mr. Tom Craven. There is, in addition, the usual store of miscellaneous theatrical information which is indispensable to all who are interested in stage matters.—Liverpool Post, Jan. 26.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

A compendium of great value to all interested, professionally or otherwise, in music and the drama is "The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual, the issue for 1907 of which has just been issued (London: 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, 1s.). Especially attractive are the stories told by some twenty artists, whose photographs and autographs are included.—Glasgow Herald, Jan. 31.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

"The Era" Annual for 1907 is out, published from the offices of "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. It is the usual complete record of doings in theatreland during the past year, and possesses a live interest in the number of excellent personal contributions by well-known managers, authors, actors, and actresses of the day.—Sportsman, Jan. 22, 1907.

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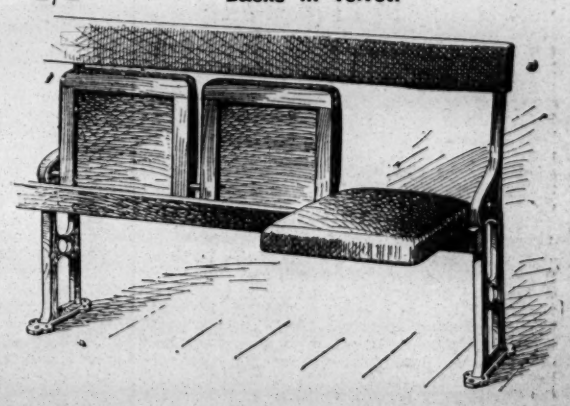

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*The Streets of London*, by Mr. Herbert Hollister's company, draws good holiday houses this week. Bloodgood is very ably played by Mr. H. P. Owen; Mr. Johnny Chippendale makes a natural and amusing Badger; and Jonas Puffy is excellently well represented by Mr. E. K. Nelson. Miss Marion Fawcett as Miss Puffy and Miss M. Maynard as Dan Puffy, both contribute good work; Miss Brandon Gower is successful in the difficult part of Mrs. Fairweather; and Miss Jeanne Burgoyne is an admirable Lucy.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees, The United Company Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Dr. Walford Bodie, as usual, fills the house to overflowing in every part. His experiments on the present visit seem to be even more remarkable than ever, and his entry to the "Cage of Death" is witnessed with breathless interest. He is enthusiastically applauded when he emerges unscathed, as well as at many other points in his striking turn. As usual, the Doctor brings an excellent variety company along with him. Among the clever artists may be noted Mlle. Lillie Le Breton, lady trapeze performer; Little Dolly Robson, the Coatbridge child wonder; the Musical Acmes; Miss Helen Henri, ballad vocalist; the Three Sisters Holman, vocalists and dancers; Belford and Mars, talkers and duettists; and Conway and Garland, in an amusing burlesque.

ALDERSHOT.—Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes.—A good programme this week includes the Ten Dixie Girls in a scena, entitled *The Silver Coon;* the Two Firmans in a funny scene; Miss F. Green and company in the sketch, *A Young Tyrant*; Ben Jackson; Will Freedo; Edie Anderson; and Ruffell's Bioscope, a new set of pictures being shown each evening.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Miss Emma Litchfield has possession here for the week with *A Clever Impostor.* Manuel Teixeira is sustained with power by Mr. Stuart Cumberland; Miss Emma Litchfield successfully challenges critical attention in a variety of rôles, exhibiting to advantage her gifts of character delineation. Capt. Desmond is admirably sustained by Mr. Herbert Evelyn; Mr. Sydney Bryant is prominent as Jim Brightside; and Messrs. A. C. Britton, F. G. Kay, W. Waring, G. Childers, and Misses Madge Trevelyan, Isabel Singleton, and Florence Gomer also give satisfactory portrayals.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The bill for the week at the Empire includes the Waldrons, in the very amusing *The Silly Burglar;* Sid Carlton scores as a character-vocalist; and J. C. Scatter is a good sample of the humorous comedian and dancer. The perfection of expertness of hand is seen in the bone solos of the Moules; Marquis and Mignonette introduce a funny and refined comedy act, *Little Willie;* Geo. Westland, the Scotch comedian, introduces his latest successes; and Harry Bentley is a capital eccentric. Yorick and Yorick, eccentrics, are responsible for laughter. The feature of the week, however, is Cameron Matthews' comedy company, including Miss Maggie Byron, in the farcical comedy, *The Honeymoon Baby.* The scene is laid at an hotel in the Trossachs, Scotland. Mr. and Mrs. Drummond (Mr. R. C. Matthews and Miss Byron) are on their honeymoon. Mr. Frank Woodville, as an Elder of the Kirk, Miss Bessy Armytage as Elspeth, his sister, and the baby boy Billy, keep the audience in roars of merriment. Georgina Leonard is a very prominent turn for the lovers of variety. The Bioscope pictures illustrate the Royal visit to the Horse Show.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacey Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. T. B. Owen.—The programme is headed by the Idania troupe of lady gymnasts. Two of the members support an elaborate electric arrangement, from which depends the trapeze and silver chains, upon which some really astonishing and clever evolutions are given. Another "turn" of exceptional merit is given by Miss May Zant and her juveniles in songs, dances, and piano solos, their efforts proving highly popular. Vilvare is responsible for a smart conjuring entertainment; a pleasing performance on a number of novel musical instruments is given by Mlle. Zelda in excellent style; Mr. Wal Owen, in "comedy items," raised hearty laughter; Mr. Andy Fagan is most successful as a character comedian and dancer; Mr. Clayton shows a laughter-compelling series of pictures of "Jim's Apprenticeships"; and Mr. Will Doran and company are appearing in an absurdity entitled *The Inventors.*

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Harold Wantage and company are here this week with *The Pick of the Bunch.* Mr. Algernon W. Lee as Halliwell Menit portrays the young man of the world with exceptional skill, and has a capital voice; Mr. Percy Baverstock as Colonel Joseph Menit submits a clever piece of character acting; Mr. Harold Wantage is exceedingly humorous as Martin; and the Dick Seymour of Mr. Norman Bowyer was a perfect dude. These two work up the comedy of the piece with excellent results. Miss M. Sadie as Nancy is really most energetic; she is a splendid comedienne, her songs and dancing creating roars of laughter. Miss Madge Christopher as Nellie Mather, and Miss Eva Ellis as Ruth Gay, are most charming with their songs and acting. There are delightful specialities by the Hydro Girls, Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers, the Dutch children and the Gollywog children.

Tivoli.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Laban.—This theatre of varieties has been in the hands of the decorator, the seating has been rearranged, and is now one of the most comfortable little theatres in the provinces. It was reopened on Monday, the 15th, with an excellent company. The Harvey Boys, in their comedy specialty act, give a very excellent show; R. A. Speedwell executes portraits with lightning speed, undoubtedly clever and lifelike; the Westwoods, comedy cyclists, give indeed a wondrous performance, and they were greeted with rounds of applause; the Lannons, duettists and dancers, give a neat comedy dancing act; Nat Walkins is a very capable comedian; Vernon's Bioscope pictures are much appreciated.

Hippodrome.—Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge present the Fred Newman British Animated Pictures, and they are as popular as ever, drawing good houses.

BATH.—Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Raymond's Animated Picture Co. still holds sway here with an excellent entertainment, interspersed with illustrated songs, sung by a capable vocalist.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter E. Wilson.—Fresh members of Kennedy's Komiks are presenting new items here this week. The return visit of Clarence Turner, the Lancashire Lad, is hailed with delight by the audience, who also show their hearty appreciation of the dancing of the Four Godfreys, the duets and dances by the Sisters Dudley, the witty sayings and songs of Kearne Harker, the baritone songs of Mollie Revell, and the musical numbers of Florrie Wentworth.

BELFAST.—Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Mr. Sam Elton, juggling comedian, tops the bill, and has been very successful. Roars of laughter greet the sketch *The First Mrs. Banbury*, presented by the Albert and Edmund's Troupe; and a good reception has been accorded Mr. and Mrs. Frank Payte, who present their comedy duologue, *Also Ran.* As a coster comedian Mr. Phil Bransby is capital; and Dandy George, the society clown, introduces his canine Rosie, whose performance is certainly marvellous. Elton and Edwin are talented banjoists, their performance being heard with infinite pleasure; and Miss Violet Carlyle stages her pretty scena, *My Mountain Maid*, with every possible effect. Miss Pollo Jerome, a fine gymnast, and the Palace pictures complete.

Royal Hippodrome.—Maraging-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Gustave Fasola, the Indian magician, heads the bill here, and his extraordinary feats have created quite a sensation. The clever equilibristic performance of Schenk Bros. is certainly one of the features of the bill; and a hit has been made by the Sisters Warwick in their smart cycling performance. The Haverleys, song illustrators, have been accorded a terrific reception; and much amusement has been created by Johnny Holland and company, who appear to great advantage in their funny sketch, *My Friend the Boots.* Walton and Lester, the World's Worst Wizards; Percy Curry, comedian; Elmo and Rego, comedy acrobats; Lade Henderson, character-vocalist; and the Hippodrome pictures complete.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Miss Peggy Pryde, the accomplished comedienne, is the star here, and worthily does she fill the position with her fascinating rendering of several catchy songs. The xylophone performance of the Musical Johnstons is certainly remarkable, and they richly deserve their reception; Edith Muir and Hubert Bartlett and company succeed in creating roars of laughter with their comedy *The Collar Stud;* the sand dancing of Mr. Frank Cumminger would, indeed, be difficult to excel; and Miss Nelli Lunelle is a talented comedienne, her dancing being neat. Miss Elsie Claire, vocalist, Mr. Guy Ryder, vocalist and whistler, and the Empire Bioscope complete the programme.

New Alhambra.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic company are presenting *The Shadow of a Crime.* Mr. Horace Denton acquits himself with the highest possible distinction as Harry Bullington; and Miss Nina Blake-Adams appears to advantage as Loyal Norman, her acting being most praiseworthy. Mr. Elmore Frith's impersonation of Sir E. Bullington reflects much credit on this experienced actor; and Mr. Edward M. Heanley's powerful impersonation of the iniquitous Ralph Esmond would indeed be difficult to excel. Mr. Cyril Grier's fine acting as Jim Murdoch wins universal favour; and Miss Kathleen Magee furnishes a skilful impersonation of Dora Bullington. Rarely, indeed, has Miss Magee appeared to greater advantage. The humour of the piece is entrusted to Mr. Tom H. Solly, who is certainly very funny as Tom Brown; and Miss Mattie Crawford is a charming and vivacious Sarah. Miss Louie Tetley as Brown's doubtful relative and Miss Alice Clarke as Mrs. Thomas Brown are quite equal to their respective parts; and other rôles are cleverly sustained by Messrs. Ed. Smythe and J. E. Davies. Mr. Tom H. Solly acts as stage-manager. The Alhambra Bioscope, under the direction of Mr. Hugh Beckett, produces a fine series of pictures this week, entitled "A Horse of Another Colour."

BILSTON.—Alfresco Pavilion.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. H. Battersby; Accompanist, Mr. J. E. Machin.—Much pleasure to patrons has been given here by the appearance of Eddie Claye as a tramp musician; Saveno, on the concertina; and Percy Victor's dog circus. The latest attraction by the regular Pierrots is the pantomime sketch *The Babes in the Wood*, in which Messrs. Sid Bazley and Chas. Bradford show their comicalities as Snatcher and Sneaker. A couple of good vocalists are Mr. W. H. Whiteman as Dame Durden and Mr. Tom Griffiths as Baron Hardup. The Robin Hood and Maid Marion were well represented by Misses Brenda Leslie and Grace Battersby; whilst Miss Linda Arthurs and Miss Dora North played the Babes.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mr. John F. Preston's company is on a successful return visit with *Rogues of the Turf.* Mr. Preston presents an effective rendering of the trainer, Joe Flaxman; Mr. W. H. Barlow is an efficient Arthur Somerton, the evil genius of the piece; Captain Dudley Clifton is well illustrated by Mr. Henry Lloyd; and Mr. Arthur Leuville is a capital Moses Solomons. Miss Mabelle F. Barlow gives a fine performance of the exacting and unpopular rôle of Lady Heathcote; Nellie Flaxman is well impersonated by Miss Ethel Rainforth; and Phyllis Wurzel is made much of by Miss Laura Wright. Mr. Horace Custins is a good Sammy Flaxman, and the cast generally is a most capable one. Some thoroughbred race horses add to the realism of the production.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Fred Karno's comedians in *Mumming Birds* are a prominent attraction, as also are Ernest Montefiore and company in *The Little Colonel.* Other excellent turns include Little Dorretta, Dutch comedienne; Maston, mimic; Walker and Lake, patterers; the Grosvenors, vocalists; Billy Richardson, stump orator; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

Olympian Gardens, Rock Ferry.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton.—The Pierrot entertainment this week introduce Mr. Maynard Dakin, comedian; Mr. Tom Evans, baritone; Mr. C. D. Reekie, comedian; Mr. Clifford Grey, comedian; Mr. Tom Stuart, character actor; and Mr. Forshaw Kershaw, accompanist.

BIRMINGHAM.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*The Stolen Birthright* is here this week. Mr. Charles Draycott as Count Marco is realistic; Miss Muriel Thompson as Princess Mirando is winsome; Mr. John Sheridan as Prince Antonio is artistic; and Mr. A. C. Holmes as Prince Andrea Celsi is warmly applauded; Mr. Harry Harrop as Pedro and Miss Ethel Vinroy as Nita provide much fun; and the rest of the company have been admirably selected.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—The Moore-Kennedy Combination continue here, and provide an interesting entertainment. Ellis and Liston, in their clever paper-painting speciality; the Behans, song and dance artists; Doyle and Massey, eccentric knockabouts; the Sisters Lingard, duettists and dancers; Little Hatch, a miniature comedian of merit; and James Burt, descriptive vocalist, all obtained applause. Kennedy's Komiks are very clever.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. B. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*The Eve of Her Wedding* is being presented here by Mr. Wilson Benge and company. Mr. Benge as George Tremaine is excellent; Miss Sadie Smith as Mavis Leverton shows personal charm and sweetness; and Mr. David Beattie as Dean Clifton is very successful. The other parts are well filled, and the scenery is excellent.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Ernest Shand, who heads the bill this week is as funny as ever. The humour of Big Ben Brown and Little George le Clerq is somewhat broader, their sketch, *Black Justice*, being given in a rollicking fashion. The Northern Troupe of International Dancers are remarkably clever; the Narrow Brothers give an exceedingly funny display of trick cycling; Lennie and Hast present a pleasing phantasy, entitled "The Sea Nymph"; Kent and Keith are fine duologue artists; Ella Shields is an excellent coon singer; Leonie Dixon an expert dancer; and the Soho Trio complete a good programme.

Gaiety.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The Kellinos head the bill with a speciality act, entitled "A Fête in Venice," which meets with a hearty reception. W. J. Ashcroft, the original "Solid Man," is an excellent dancer; Mlle. Victoria Dagmar a clever horizontal-bar performer; Alf Chester has a most infectious laugh; the Bros. Obo, laughing comedians and patterers, are in excellent form; Arthur Slater is exceedingly clever as "The Whistling Man in White"; the Three Sisters Kilner are exceptional acrobatic dancers; and Little Dando, Rosie Lloyd, Arthur Boyde, and Bessie Lind also contribute.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Kelly and Gillette give their original billiard-table act—a clever and artistic turn; Marie Kendal sings with her accustomed brilliancy and finish; Tom E. Hughes is an excellent comedian; and Arthur Goodman a tricky juggler. Carlotta Levey is a fascinating vocalist; and Steve McCarthy, Selbo, Fred Curran, Martinett and Wallace, and Edgar Budden are also in the bill.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—*Madge*, J. F. Ellison's latest sketch, is most effectively produced by Lola Patey. The Lukuskimas give an excellent performance; Farley, Rennie, and Farley cause plenty of laughter with *Fun at a Railway Station;* Walter Munroe catches on with his well-known songs and stories; Clarissa Talbot and Albert Pearce, in a musical duologue, *Yo-San*, are remarkably good; May Mars has an effectively set song, entitled "In the shadow of the Pyramids"; and Josie Mooney is a charming comedienne.

BLACKBURN.—New Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—The drama, *A Woman's Past*, is being played here to good houses.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—George Hackenschmidt, the world-famous wrestler, is proving an attraction at this place of amusement. Other artists appearing are Bert and Dora, comedy artists; Massova, juggler; Stacey and Williams, comedians; the Sisters Thurbani, vocalists and dancers; Harry Taylor, comedian; and Melia and Mazarabar, Oriental equilibrists.

BLACKPOOL.—His Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—*Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush* is being capitally presented here this week by Mr. William Mollison and company. In the part of Lachlan Campbell, Mr. Mollison has the opportunity to display the great histrionic power of which he is possessed, and the impersonation is a complete success; Mr. Archie W. Chappell is very good as Lord Hay; and Mr. W. A. Mackersy gives a satisfactory account of Dr. Maclure. Miss Evelyn McNay plays Flora with grace and dignity; and Miss Josephine Woodward is seen to advantage as Margaret Howe.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here again this week with *Peter's Mother.* Miss Lilias Earle repeats her charming study of the title-rôle; and Mr. Percy Hutchison now plays with much cleverness the part of Peter. Mr. Lawrence Grant contributes a capital piece of acting as John Crewys, K.C.; and Mr. Ernest Rushton submits a praiseworthy sketch of Sir Timothy.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Vesta Tilley's visit here is proving to be just as successful as any of the previous ones. She sings five songs nightly, and the audience clamours for more. Prices of admission are put up, and yet the theatre is packed nightly. Rendering good support to the programme are Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford, in a sketch; N. T. Kioto, juggler; Winifred Ward, comedienne; Burley and Burley, acrobats; the Howards, in a musical turn; W. B. Raby, comedian; the Brothers Ashley, in a boxing sketch; and Frank Seeley, comedian.

BOLTON.—Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—This week Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil are presenting the drama, *Her Luck in London.* Miss Mary Neil gives a realistic rendering of the part of Nellie Harborne, for which she is deservedly applauded; Mr. Frank Langton plays well the part of the hero, the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor; Mr. George Heath does justice to the part of the villain, Richard Lenowen; and Mr. Tyrone Power acts and looks the farmer, Stephen Harborne, to perfection.

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—George Mozart creates roars of laughter with his latest hit, "The Mudlark Village Band." The Maples present a humorous item, *How to Treat a Burglar*, in which their dancing is shown to advantage; the Four Ramlos present a clever turn on the triple bars; the Sisters Marion are accomplished vocalists; Harry Conlin is a quaint comedian; Ruby Bijou is a particularly dainty dancer; and Walton Wade is a humorous comedian. Some laughable pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

BRADFORD. — Prince's Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. B. Hill-Mitchelson's very stirring drama, *When the Lights are Low*, has had a cordial reception this week. Mr. Geo. Daiper as the hero, Guy Goldsworthy, is distinctly effective in a manly and telling impersonation; as Roland Goldsworthy Mr. S. E. Scanlan is forceful and strong; the Jew, Isaacson, is capitally played by Mr. Lance Usher; very charmingly Miss Violet Carlyle fills the part of Nancy Christie; the adventuress, Violet Christie, is a powerful and effective impersonation by Miss Amy Ellam; little May Ediss scores well as Stella Goldsworthy; and the comedy of the piece is well brought out by Miss Cissie Podmore as Kathleen Kerry; and Messrs. F. Serle, J. E. Abbott, and Russell Rogue in humorous military parts.

The Empire. — Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Miss Millie Lindon's grace and winning charm as a comedienne have won her hosts of admirers here this week. Howard and Collinson, with their amusing absurdity *The Porter and the Parcel*, are on a return visit; J. W. Rickaby, who is a very funny comedian, elicits hearty laughter; great interest is evinced in the expert axemanship by the two stalwart Australians, Jackson and McLaren, and the novel performance is greeted with great applause; Nellie Martell is an excellent comedienne; in their humorous sketch, *Fun Before Bedtime*, the New York Nippers do some capital dancing; Herbert Rule's comedy is quaint; with her "Children's Stories," funnily told, and her dialect comedy, Madge Grey is very entertaining; the Cambrian Duo (Ted and May Hopkins), Welsh entertainers, are original and amusing; and Binns and Binns are clever instrumentalists whose comedy is screamingly funny.

Palace Theatre. — Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Woolmer Young contributes to a good programme descriptive songs acceptably; and Horace and Olga introduce a remarkable troupe of performing dogs in quite a novel and pretty style. Lilian Rigby's instrumental efforts and big-boot dancing are clever; Bains and Reed are smart and diverting acrobats; Cissy Thompson is a pretty and very smart comedienne; the Columbia Trio sing finely and introduce capital comedy; Harvey and Holt's speciality turn is entertaining; Harry Maxim contributes acceptable comedy; and there are some fine pictures shown by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

BRIDLINGTON. — Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer. — The Municipal Orchestra, under Mr. Sainton's conductorship, was largely augmented for the grand symphony concert on Sunday evening, the programme including Mendelssohn's "Italian Symphony," and other items, which were highly appreciated by a crowded audience. Miss Leonora Sparkes (soprano) is the special vocalist this week, and her songs are very finely rendered. In the Grand Pavilion, Mr. Flockton Foster and his company of entertainers are giving some excellent programmes, the special artist for the week being Dome, the lightning clay-modeller, whose clever modelling of the features of celebrated persons is wonderfully lifelike. The Loyal Dominion Animated Pictures are a great attraction to the crowded audiences of this popular resort.

New Spa and Gardens.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—Herr Simon Wurm and his Imperial Viennese band are giving some excellent programmes of music. Especially delightful are the pianoforte solos of Herr Van der Naaten, his perfect technique and delicacy of touch being admirable. Miss Winifred Siddons, the vocalist for this week, possesses a pure soprano voice, and her songs are very finely rendered. Mr. Surrie Lindon and his vaudeville company never fail to give great pleasure by their programmes, which are well chosen, the various artists being frequently accorded double encores for their talented contributions of songs and dances.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Mr. Chas. Watson Mill's company is here this week with *A Wrecker of Men.* Miss Ruth Zillwood gives an artistic and convincing portrayal of Risca Mallinson; Mr. Eric Campbell achieves complete success as Jim Murley; Mr. Miller Anderson displays excellent work as Railton; Mr. Percy Horton acquits himself admirably as Guise Strange; Mr. Milner Noble's Pharosaphus is a capital character-study; Miss Gwendoline Talbot makes a pleasing Doris Melville; Mr. Sidney Rennef, in the dual rôle of a Jew and a mummy, is effective; Mr. Thompson Carruthers's Eric Melville is ably played; and much amusement is afforded by Mr. Leslie Ross as the Hon. Reggie Verincourt, and Miss Beatrice Reynolds as Vavasole Slopper.

Alhambra.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—The Boissets evoke the heartiest of applause and laughter in *The Dock Strike;* the Silvas, marvellous equilibrists, are very warmly received; the Two Bees (Harry and Flora) are highly successful in their allegorical scena, *The Man in the Moon;* Charles Ashdown is an eccentric comedian; Rose Elliott is a dainty comedienne; the Raymond Trio are deservedly applauded for their refined instrumental and dancing act; the Cosmas contribute a delightful comedy act; Estrella is a pleasing international vocalist and dancer; and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting and amusing.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Vesta Victoria, the popular comedienne, is enthusiastically applauded for her highly entertaining songs; the Lyons Trio, pantomimists and dancers, are clever and amusing; Brent Hayes, banjoist, is warmly received; Fred Earle is distinctly effective in his latest successes; Juno Salmo, "the devil dandy," gives a capital turn, comprising unique scenery and electrical effects; Rosalie Jacobi is a charming soubrette; Harry Thurston is successful in a burlesque monologue, *The Silver King;* Mlle. Lumière, serpentine and fire dancer, wins well-deserved applause; Edie Gray and the Boys submit a good singing turn; the Macdonald Trio are effective in their musical garden; Barras and Ford sing and dance themselves into great favour; and the Alhambrascope pictures are entertaining.

West Pier.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company is here with *Merely Mary Ann.* Miss Christine Silver, in the title-rôle, displays charming and winsome acting; Mr. Lewis Edgard submits an excellent portrayal of the composer, Lancelot; Mr. A. W. Baskcomb is admirably suited as Lancelot's friend, Peter; Mr. John Wheatman gives a pleasing character study of the Rev. Samuel Smedge; and Mr. Dwyer is effective as the music publisher, Herr Brahmson. Miss Maud Townsend as Mrs. Leadbatter, the lodging-house keeper, Miss Ninon Dudley as Rose, Mr. Herbert Chown as Lord Tottenham, and Miss Edith Hunter as Lady Chelmer, also deserve praise.

Palace Pier Theatre.—*Trilby* occupies the boards here. Mr. Charles Carey, the author of the dramatic version of the well-known story, gives a masterly portrayal of Svengali; and Miss Rosemary Rees submits a charming impersonation of Trilby. Mr. Arthur Goodall acts cleverly as Little Billee; Mr. Bruce Lindley makes a capital Laird; Mr. Edwin F. Fysher also does well as Taffy; and Miss Londolph Barrett is an excellent Mme. Vinard. The singing and dancing, and a special dance by Miss Madge Lacey, merit praise.

BRISTOL.—Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—*Honour Thy Father* is being well played here by Mr. T. Morton Powell's company. Mr. J. W. Evelyn acts with much distinction as Gabriel Garth; Miss Violet Hammersley presents a pleasingly sympathetic exposition of Lillian Garth; Miss Kate Newton distinguishes herself as Mrs. Garth; Mr. Howell Travis is consistent as Duncan Bly; Mr. Robert Gilbert makes a capital Jack Halyard; Miss Ada Salmon is amusing as Poppy Cornleigh, as also is Mr. W. H. Melrose as Ned.

Palace Theatre.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Jordan and Harvey, Hebrew comedians, successfully head the bill, amusing with their comical patter and eccentricities; Launceston Elliott performs marvellous feats of strength; the Creo Brothers do clever tumbling tricks, and generally amuse with their speciality, "The Gipsies"; Clemart, ventriloquist, is successful; the Sisters Ford please with character and comedy duets; Les Uniques score as ladder gymnasts, etc.; the Brothers Lawrence, vocalists and rag-time dancers, do a good turn; and Charles Denton, comedian, obtains applause. The performance concludes with animated pictures.

Empire.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident Manager, Mr. Sid. Macaire.—Henry Horne, Ida Millais and company present an interesting dramatic sketch, entitled *Blackmail*, which is well played and capitally staged, the realistic real water scene adding much to the attraction. Arthur Reece, comedian, has some good songs, and obtains appreciation; the Elvio Trio amuse with their speciality, *Those Troublesome Slaveys;* Evelyn Taylor has a pleasing style, her songs being well rendered and selected with taste; Gravetta and Parr are successful in their pot-pourri act; Kate Traill, vocalist and pianist, is well received; Walter King, comedian and dancer, is appreciated; and Amy Sullivan, comedian, does a pleasing turn. The performance concludes with animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre, Ltd.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—A very full house gave a most favourable indication of their pleasure at the sketch, *The Phantom Earl*, which was fully noticed on March 30 last on its first production at the Regent, Salford. It is played by Mr. J. Fred Watson's company, Mr. Wm. Garrett as Lord Geoffrey Stevedale and Mr. James Dillon as Raymond Yorke capably sustaining those characters, the comedy business being cleverly worked by Mr. Fred Dale as the innkeeper, Wells, and Miss Patty Hastings as his daughter. Some excellent animated pictures by Pilma, Ltd., were afterwards shown.

BURNLEY.—Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Spissell Bros. and Mack head the bill here this week in their acrobatic act, "Scene in a Café," and great applause greets their series of wonderfully clever and funny tricks. Harwood's Juveniles, in *A Children's Christmas Eve*, introduce excellent songs; Martin Henderson, blind concertina soloist, gives a beautiful rendering of "The lost chord"; and Cecile and François, in an acrobatic and dancing novelty, elicit applause. Earle and Melville create much mirth by their drolleries; Blake and Granby, in a comedy sketch, *The Man in Possession*, tickle the risible faculties of the audience; and Little Tim is successful in "They're at it again." The Empire Theatrescope exhibits a fine film, entitled "The Clown Doctor."

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—Opera House (New Hippodrome).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Waller.—Good variety turns are the order here this week. Mahatma succeeds in mystifying the audience by a skilful exhibition of thought-reading; Emmie Milstead and Joe Bell give a picturesque musical sketch; Haverley and Homer are original comedians and dancers; Akbar excels as a gymnast; Bella Leaburn's songs secure for her a good reception; Li-Chang-Hi is a clever illusionist; and some amusing patter songs are given by Fred Dunstone, and good pictures by the Operascope.

BURY (Lancs.).—Circus of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—The pictures continue to be a great attraction. The series this week include "De Beers Gold Mines," "A Borneo Tobacco Plantation," "The Magical Press," "Too Stout," "Wanted, an Errand Boy," &c. The variety artists are Jack Lane, rustic mimic; Ouida Macdermott, descriptive vocalist; and the Sisters Poole, vocalists and dancers.

The Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. W. Broadhead, jun.—A good programme here includes Las Sados, a wonderful juggler; the Brontes, in an amusing sketch entitled *Stony Broke;* Maxford and O'Neill, comedians; Four Netherlands, singers and dancers; Pete and Minnie Lee, in a song-scena, *The Scotchman's Visit to London;* Jack Mansfield, comedian; Mi Narom, a character-comedienne; Vinie Belfrey, vocalist; and the Shermans, comedians.

CARDIFF.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—*When a Man Hates* is effectively staged this week by Mr. Graham Arthur's company, which includes the well-known actor, Mr. Herbert M. King, and which proves a very strong combination of talent.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. W. Lea; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—The chief item of interest on this week's programme are the splendid pictures on the Bioscope of last Saturday's Royal visit to Cardiff. The series is admirable. In addition, a capital miscellaneous entertianment is provided, which includes Charles Fisher's company in a novel speciality, *The Music-Master;* the well-known H. Melot, a marvel of deftness in conjuring; Arthur Lennard, splendid character vocalist, in his latest successes; Howard and Harris, in a screamingly funny sketch, *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp;* the Delevines, in their novel and amusing mélange; J. P. Ling, the new comedian and clever mimic; Geo. C. Doughty and Phyllis Atherley, assisted by Lesley Adair, in their smart comedy scena, entitled *Captain Cupid;* the Six Lancashire Lasses, exceptionally meritorious clog dancers; and Lizzie Fletcher, pleasing comedienne.

CARLISLE.—H. M. Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Mananger, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—For the last week of the stock season the management have put on *The Green Bushes.* As Connor O'Kennedy Mr. W. J. Miller was quite successful; Mr. Joseph Millane played George with all the care and power which one always associates with his parts; Capt. A. H. Winnington-Barnes as Capt. Dartois contributed an excellent performance; and the comedy relief, in the safe hands of Mr. Phil Davis and Mr. Harry Douglas, kept the audience well amused. A sympathetic and convincing rendering of Geraldine was given by Miss Mabel Rose; and Miss Emily Kelsey was admirably suited as Meg. Chief interest centred in the altogether admirable performance of Miss Ethel Bramwell, who as Miami acted throughout with consummate skill and resource, and well deserved the enthusiastic appreciation her artistic efforts evoked. Theatre closed after this week until August Bank Holiday.

The Palace.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Diablo, looping the devil's wheel, is creating intense interest this week; a distinctly novel and amusing act is contributed by the Kurios, who introduce curious and mysterious stage properties and give a capital all-round performance; the return visit of Tate and Tate is a welcome item; and J. E. James as a dialect comedian is very hard to beat, his comical make-up and clever patter creating roars of laughter; Mr. Tom Moore too is a comedian with a distinct style and capital songs, as a laughter-maker he scores heavily. Rex Fox contributes a clever turn, his versatility as a wire-walker, ventriloquist, and musician being astonishing; Dot Stephens had an enthusiastic and sympathetic reception; always a big favourite in musical comedy here, her artistic and delightful contribution gained her hosts of new admirers.

CASTLEFORD.—Queen's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and Will H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will H. Emerson; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Travers.—Animated pictures are presented here by the Loyal Dominion Company. Of the variety artists, Vendome and Chase, as society entertainers, sing and dance very well, and are highly appreciated; and Miss Belle Ray, in illustrated songs, sings sweetly and in an attractive style.

CHATHAM.—Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Here we have Sam Mayo, the immobile comedian, who delights all with "The old tin can"; Percy Johnson scores with parodies; Jessica Brooks pleases with her dancing; Carr and Rose give a well-liked musical duologue; songs by the Lovelaces are illustrated by means of some well-coloured dissolving views; Gibbon and Bell appear in an act where the gentleman shines in acrobatic feats; Lacey's Erascope has an interesting film, entitled "The Slave"; and great excitement prevails during the cycle racing of the Davis and Gledhill Trio.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Capt. H. B. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries.—There are two coloured ladies in the bill here, Tiger Lily, a dexterous acrobatic dancer, and Texas Hattie, a clever tight-rope performer. Montague Biggs, female impersonator, gives a creditable imitation of Marie Lloyd in "The coster's wedding march"; Carrie Laurie's Juveniles are popular; Grant and Allan have a capitally-staged scena; and others appearing are Henri Bekker, conjuror; Beattie Benson, vocalist and dancer; and Ena Somers, concertina player. The Edisonograph has a set of fresh pictures.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—An attractive programme is headed by Arthur Kenny in a novel cycling act; Bertie Grace sings charmingly "Just across the bridge of gold"; Wilton Heriot and company are seen in a smart protean act; Ada Gatley excels as

bill, give a good turn, the gentleman being a smart ball-puncher. Ina Lorimer, the child comedienne, is exceptionally clever; Eugene and Willie are a couple of accomplished musical acrobats; and Booker and Markis, comedy artists; Miss Ethel Walker, a clever young lady at the piano; Ferris and Farnley, cross-talk comedians; Maggie Rimmer, comedienne; Edgar Berte, with his monologues; and Charles Craston, comedian, also entertain. Norton Greenop's Lunar Sextette give long *al fresco* shows in the grounds, and Cahan's miniature circus is doing well, as well as several good sideshows.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. H. Montague; Manager, E. J. Barrett.—Good shows are being given here by Mr. Tom J. Morton's company of "tourists." The troupe includes Miss Maggie Bowman, Mr. Yorke Hague, and Mr. Tom J. Morton. Miss Constance Upstone is the pianist. The White Ladies' Orchestra, under the direction of Miss Maud Risley, is now performing in the Pavilion and on the pier.

WESTCLIFF GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Graham, Russell, and Bensley.—In addition to the three proprietors, the programme is this week helped out by Miss Emilie Hayes, a fine soprano; Mr. Harry Childs, a good baritone; and Owen Clark, the well-known conjuror.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Licensee, Mr. Fred Williams.—Mr. W. F. Jury is still here, and doing good business with his popular living-picture shows.

COLCHESTER.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Mr. J. Collinson's *Club Raid* combination and Datas are attracting large audiences; the Sisters Allen dance in such style as to vociferously applauded; whilst the Topsy-Turvy School appeals strongly to lovers of the juvenile. Jack Wayho and Eva Hope present pickings from Dickens; and Ruby Aston is an approved comedienne.

COVENTRY.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*The Best of Her Sex* is being presented here. The hero of the piece, Philip Farringdon, is admirably sustained by Mr. Wm. A. Armour; Mr. N. G. Polson Turner gives a capital rendering of Leslie Verney, the villain; Mr. Herbert J. Walton is successfully responsible for Sir Stanton Farringdon; Miss Dora is an emotional Vera; and Miss Alice Defoe a satisfactory Ruth.

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—This week *The Garden of Glitter* occupies the premier position. It is a well-staged musical comedy. There is also a capital chorus of trained voices, and the dresses are superb. The performance of Rappo and Ella, equilibrists, calls forth much applause; Ingram and Irving give a laughable comedy act, entitled *The New Office Boy;* Maudie Scott is a charming comedienne; and other artists are Rose Waller, comedienne; May Kent, vocalist; Rudge-Whitworth, society entertainer; and Mr. G. W. Foster, comedian.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance; Manager, Mr. K. Draco.—Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas are well received here for their admirable acting of well-known scenes from the works of Dickens; Charles Norton's mimicry is deservedly encored; Harry Grey is an amusing comedian; the Musical Jees give a comedy sketch, *The Scarecrow;* and other well-chosen items are Hilda Playfair, ballad vocalist; Les Clements, pole jumpers; Conn and Conrad, "quiet burglars"; O'Malley and Brown in a sketch; and Olive Armidale, comedienne.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Herrick.—Miss Lydia Donovan's company in *Her One Great Sin* is here. Mr. Cecil Newton as Arnold Thornhill displays talent; Mr. G. Edward Hall earns distinction as Reuben Warhurst; Mr. Fred Hodson is excellent in his portrayal of Jerry Jumble; Mr. Charles E. Lambert is well-suited to the part of Dan Humble; Mr. J. Croudace, as Jack Hundle, is commendable; Miss Louie Walton is a good representative of Bet Hundle; Miss Nellie Lambert is very successful as Nancy Wimpenny; Miss Phyllis Damain as Charlie is well-received; Miss Maude Lambert ably sustains the rôle of Gracie; and Miss Lydia Donovan, as Grace Warhurst, acts with intensity and power.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay. — Herbert Darnley's company is creating much merriment here in sketch, *Moving In;* enchanting little Bertha Winder gives a smart exhibition of dancing; Tod Laven is an amusing comedian; Dale and O'Malley are entertaining comedians; Charles Morritt is a marvellous illusionist; Terry and Bentley are interesting comedy artists; Bonnie Goodwin and her pic-chicks are well applauded; Louise Zetland is a bewitching vocalist; Daisy Jerome's unique style captivates all, and she sings and recites with good effect; and the Imperial Bioscope is worth seeing.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. F. B. Woulfe's seventh week of stock season opened on Monday with *The Corsican Brothers* and *The Bells*, a double programme. *The Three Musketeers* and *Othello* are also announced during the week.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Chas. Denley and Herbert Taylor.—The principal attraction here this week is Kate Carney in her exhilarating scena, *Liza Johnson*. Ably supported by numerous auxiliaries, this popular artist achieves an undoubted success; the Four Maisanos, French musical clowns, are also to be warmly congratulated for their exceptionally neat and clever turn; among other items are Smith and Johnson, coloured vocalists, in some smart rag-time melodies; and Cris Van Bern, a comedian who is deserving of high praise; Helen Martin, ballad vocalist, renders her songs in pleasing style; while the Sisters Grovina, acrobats and tumblers, gain cordial applause for their various difficult feats; Stowe Bros. are equilibrists of particular merit; and the Bioscope concludes a very acceptable programme.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—A large house welcomed the production of a highly exciting drama from the pen of Mr. Jack Denton, entitled *Martin Pryor's Millions*. Miss Olga Andre gives a dramatic rendering of the part of Rita Woodville, receiving much well-merited applause; Mr. D. C. Phelps is capable and hard-working as the Rev. Arthur Carruthers; Mr. Leonard Aardale is a highly creditable villain; and Mr. Larry Clements is exceptionally amusing as the hotel proprietor.

DONCASTER.—GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Excellent talent continues to grace the boards here. M. Kwars, comedienne and dancer, gives liberally of her best; Osmond, hand and head balancer and acrobat, scores; the Lauriers, Continental comedy conjurers, are popular; Savado is a refreshing number as a patterer and dancer; Mlle. Fontain's Mannikins, direct from the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, are interesting; Chas. Cassell, character vocalist and actor, renders a good account of himself; and the concluding item is the Lashmars, in their comedy act, *Bits and Pieces*, beautifully flavoured with the most verdant humour.

DOUGLAS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—Miss Sophie Harriss as Mrs. Maddison Crocker in her production of *The Prince of Pilsen* has made a sensation in Douglas. The piece is lavishly mounted and brilliantly produced. Miss Sophie Harriss is her own stage-manager, and the result is perfection. Her acting and singing charmed all and sundry. She was well supported by Mr. Harry Kilburn as Hans Wagner, Mr. Frank Crimp a dashing Carl Otto, and Miss Minnie Muir a dainty Nellie Wagner. Mr. Lindon Lang was well placed as Lieutenant Tom Wagner, and Mr. Bernard Russell scored as the Earl of Shrimpton. Miss Sophie Harriss is a distinct personality, and her production of *The Prince of Pilsen* is hall-marked with well-deserved success.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Grand Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—Mr. Harry Lauder and his concert party have been much appreciated at the Grand Theatre this week. The star turn is warmly received. Other artists associated with his enterprise are Alpha, a clever juggler; Claire Greeta, Spanish singer and dancer; Prof. Vox, a ventriloquist as smart as the hero of Henry Cockton's novel; and Mr. Fred Elton, in a musical interlude. The Bohemians, comedy artists, and the American Bioscope caught on. This is the Scotch week in Douglas.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Chas. Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—The powers that obtain here present a popular programme this week. Mr. Neil Kenyon is a name to conjure with when Hall Caine Land is redolent of the patois of the country which Robbie Burns honoured by being born in. He was an immediate and pronounced success. Shang-Hai is a clever conjuror; and the vogue for the occult was exhibited by the Violas, experts in mental telepathy. The Douglas Male Choristers sang with exquisite taste under the conductorship of Mr. Noah Moore. Other turns which make for pleasure are the Four Flying Eugenes, Vernon's Bioscope, and Harry Woods' fine orchestra.

DERBY CASTLE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. W. Kelly.—An excellent programme is submitted here. Miss Florrie Forde has a following who admire her methods, sing her choruses, and applaud her to the echo; Craig, Rose, and Craig present novel feats; Mr. Loudon Cameron is a resourceful conjuror; the Wedburns can patter with effective facility; Ray and Miles insure laughter; the Cope Girls dance themselves into the good graces of spectators; and Mr. Jack Lorimer has made new friends with his witty songs. The dance competitions are a strong attraction.

MR. F. I. CONNOR presents a fine programme at the Hippodrome. The Cumberland Troupe of cyclists and acrobats are much admired; Senorita Rosa Montero is a graceful horsewoman; Du Callion's feat on an unsupported ladder catches the imagination; Mme. Thelma and Mr. Harry Gloves are clever in a sketch, *The Lady Sculptor;* Carl Lynn is also interesting and other attractions are John Irvin, foot equilibrist; Miss Pinder, equestrienne; Frank Anderson; the Berlin Belles; W. Ralph Goggin, *raconteur*; M. Jean, a dashing rider; and clowns and comedians. Mr. W. R. Albino is the ring-master and equestrian director.

MR. CHARLES DARE, not content with his success on Douglas Head with his burnt-cork comedians, has leased the Empire Theatre, and presents, twice nightly a well-selected variety programme. An entire change of animated pictures occurs weekly. Mr. Joe Hudd, once principal comedian with Sam Hague's Minstrels, has made himself a great favourite; Mr. Charles Santon, a double-voiced vocalist, has some excellent songs; and all the turns are worthy of attention.

OTHER amusements in Douglas are Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots on Onchan Head; Mr. Tom Isherwood's organisation on the band-stand; and Mabbot's waxworks.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—*£1,000 Reward* is the dramatic attraction this week, presented by Messrs. Frank J. Pitt and Chas. Halling's company. Mr. Fred Wilberforce submits a forcible rendering of Gilbert Lisle; Mr. Chas. Halling wins praise for his Vincent Rainsworth; unctuous humour is shown by Mr. Frank Dallas as Inspector Gilbert; capability marks the work of Mr. J. Newton Cowling as Fred Ingleford; Fighting Jepps is cleverly played by Mr. Arthur Merton; Mr. Joe English is a hardworking and mirth-provoking Dick Springthorpe; and Mrs. MacCarthy is amusingly played by Mrs. Sidney Halling. Miss Maudie Douglas is a captivating Kitty; Miss Daisy Halling enacts the rôle of Madam Sanson with a fine appreciation of its dramatic possibilities; and Miss Lynn Darlington plays with skill as Meg.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—A sensational and exceptionally well-played sketch, entitled *Sexton Blake*, is given this week by Carlotta de Yonson, Mr. Chas. Carlile, and company. The Bransbys are good, and the Two Zampas also please. Chas. Gardner, comedian, scores a decided success; and the bill includes Sadie Simpson, Lil Elfreda, Wright and Elton, and Harry Blandford.

THE PAVILION, PROMENADE PIER.—A bright and varied entertainment is given twice daily by the "Pink Carnation" party of concert artists. Mr. Cuthbert Rose is an accomplished and versatile entertainer, and his songs are cleverly rendered. The cultured voice of Mr. Charles F. Howard is duly recognised and appreciated; and the humorous songs of Mr. Harold Perry are also popular. A charming soubrette is found in Miss Nellie Barnwell.

DUBLIN. — EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The World Championship Wrestling Tournament is the premier attraction here. Constant Le Marin continues to hold his own against all comers. Fred Poplar scores well as a comedian; the McConnell Trio, comedy vocalists, are warmly applauded; Celeste gives a smart exhibition on the wire; and Hetty King is particularly good in her male impersonations. A breezy comedy duo by Collins and Rice is most amusing; Harry Freeman is a capital comedian; and the Sisters Anderson, duettists and dancers, have many admirers. Bily Adair, comedienne, and Kitty Wager, comedienne, together with the Empire Pictures, conclude a good programme.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—A good bill is presented here this week, pride of place being given to the Robertys Family, who are very successful in a clever equilibristic act. Albert Wyndham and company in a Shakespearean episode, *Prince Arthur*, merit applause, and Lily Hayes is a *chic* comedienne and dancer. Wild, Willie, and West, the Bounding Navvies, cause hearty laughter; and Mlle. Haydee's miniature theatre is much appreciated; Sandy and Carl, comedians and dancers, please with their patter; Harry Seaton is an excellent vocal comedian; the Sisters Brooke are seen to advantage in a singing and dancing act; and Bert Bowden is a popular comedian. The latest pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. Fred R. Heley.—An attractive programme of vocal and instrumental music, interspersed with amusing sketches and some clever dancing, is provided here this week by the Gems Comedy Company, consisting of Miss Olive Mortimer, Miss Hessie Walker, and Messrs. Kenna Lawson, Wallace Kennedy, Ernest Attwell, and Edgar Hulland.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The bill of fare here this week is furnished by Bell and Bell, refined comedy artists; Bessie Hall, character vocalist; James Murphy, Irish comedian and dancer; Ada Lytton, international dancer; Harry Tremaine, character impersonator; Fred Walton's living marionettes; and the Cinematograph.

DUNDEE.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—*What Women Suffer* is being played here. Mr. Herbert Cecil, who doubles the parts of Wilfred and John Coventry, acts with commendable vigour and ability; Mr. Charles Kean interprets the part of the nephew in an appropriately aggressive manner; Mr. Johnny McElroy as Obadiah Shakespeare creates roars of laughter; John Meredith has a capable representative in Mr. Leslie Vymer; Mr. Douglas Hutchens makes a dignified Squire Norton; and as Todd Potts, Mr. Edward Chesney is responsible for a good deal of fun. Miss Dora Hammersley is very sweet and sympathetic as Edith Coventry; Miss Dora Hamilton as Nancy acts the part with due appreciation of its requirements; and Miss Maude Le Ray makes a very good Marion, Miss Mamie Clancy supplies a good child study as Cedric, and the minor parts are in most capable hands. At the conclusion Julian Mack, a clever comedian, does a very smart turn.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—The Kingston Dramatic Co. entered on their fifth, and last, week on Monday night, when they presented *Robert Burns*, an original Scotch drama. In the title-rôle, Mr. A. W. B. Kingston furnished a good piece of acting; as John Simpson, Mr. Addison Thomas was sufficiently villainous; while Harry Egan and James T. Dale were capable in the parts of Soutar Johnnie and Tam o' Shanter. Mr. H. A. Haliburton gave a good character study as Gavin Hamilton; and as James Armour, Mr. F. Kellard was excellent. Miss Madge F. Young's portrayal of Jean Armour was a fine piece of acting; Miss Madge Locke as Libbie and Miss Emily Peel as Poosie Nancy did well; and all the other characters were capably filled.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—A change is this week made from the usual dramatic entertainment offered here, and a variety bill takes its place. Chung Ling Soo is a very accomplished and versatile conjurer, and the dresses and stage set are remarkably elaborate and effective; Slippere, the blind musician, gives a popular and interesting turn; Little Tina is in high favour with her songs and imitations; Mr. Arthur Albert is a capital vocalist; Miss Cissie Curlette in charming costume sings excellently; Martine and Son are applauded for illustrated songs; Les Rallis are clever acrobats, as artist and monkey; Starr and Jerome succeed as singers and dancers; and Miss Ida Ross, a Tyrolean singer, with Keegan and company, in a bicycle absurdity, complete the programme very satisfactorily.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. E. Taylor Platt's able and well-balanced company is appearing here in *You Never Can Tell*. Mr. P. Clayton Greene, polished in manner and appearance, is a very interesting Valentine; a special word of praise is earned by Mr. Edmund Gwenn for his conspicuously clever work as the waiter, William; Mr. Edmund Curney is a strong effective Fergus Crampton; Mr. Norman Page, smart and incisive, is an ideal Philip Clandon; Mr. Trevor Lowe is a finished and artistic McComus; and Mr. L. Casson does all that is necessary as Bohun. Miss Penelope Wheeler is a womanly and sympathetic Mrs. Clandon; Miss Mary Barton plays the part of Gloria with a depth of feeling and fine expression which are notably successful; Miss Amy Lamborn is an animated and girlish Dolly; and Miss Mary Hamilton gives good help as the Maid. On Tuesday afternoon Miss Phyllis Dare appeared here, and sang to a large and evidently delighted audience. Mr. W. A. Peterkin has a splendid voice, and sang most artistically; Mr. Edward Brightwell was again a most accomplished pianist; Mr. Kenneth Young was highly amusing in his sketches; Miss Margaret Lethbridge whistled sweetly, and Miss Minnie Whiting sang successfully.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—Topping the bill here are Tom and Marie Motramo, who please the audience with their music and patter; Miss Elsie Bernard is a smart and elegant lady with breezy songs and stories; the Mayfair Comedy Quartette are fine singers, and give one of the most pleasing items of the evening; Mr. George Prince is a popular and able comedian; Mr. Harry Morgan is a refined singer and very neat dancer; Beaty and Blanche are two excellent lady dancers; Miss Rita Belle is a clever Dutch comedienne, and new sensational pictures are added.

FLORAL HALL, Devonshire Park.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. A. E. Brown.—Mr. Patrick Kirwan's company is appearing in the beautiful grounds here for three evenings, in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Tempest*. On Saturday evening last the first fête of the season was given, and proved very successful.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—The revival of *The New Boy*, and its performance by Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen's company, is most welcome to summer playgoers. Mr. Leon M. Lion and Miss Katherine Harrington are delightfully amusing in the parts of Archibald and Martha Rennick; Mr. Harry Ashford makes an excellent appearance as Dr. Candy; and Mr. George de Lara's Felix Roach is an admirable impersonation. Mr. William J. Rea as Theodore de Brizac, Mr. Stanley Logan as Bullock Major, and Mr. M. A. Scott as Mr. Stubber, play their respective rôles in characteristic style; and Miss Nellie Redwood as Nancy Roach, with Miss Nell Douglas as Susan, complete a well-selected cast, all of whom contribute successfully to a most enjoyable entertainment. A dramatic little piece, entitled *Meg the Mobswoman*, by Leon M. Lion and W. Strange Hall, proves a most interesting curtain-raiser, and it is very effectively played by Miss Harrington, Miss Redwood, Mr. Logan, and Mr. Ashford.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—The programme here is greatly strengthened by the engagement of Mr. R. G. Knowles this week, and the houses have been crowded. Mr. Knowles, who brings a budget of new songs, is in his best form, and laughter and applause are continuous while he is on the stage. Clever acting is shown by Bromley and Fontein, in a musical piece, entitled *Tit-Bits;* and there is good singing in a sketch, *The Two Merry Vagabonds*, submitted by Les Rubens, although the patter is somewhat archaic. Francini, Ollom, and Page do some smart acrobatic feats and enjoyable xylophone playing; the globe-rolling performance of the Three Ettenas is excellent, and there is a touch of humour in it; and Hyde and Cody display much suppleness in their eccentric gymnastic sketch. Mr. Morny Cash is drolly effective in a quiet style in his Lancashire impersonations; and Mr. Lester May, comedian, and pictures by the Royal Bioscope, are also on the bill.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—Mr. John Lawson and company head the bill here with the society episode, entitled *The King's Minister*, which commands the close attention of the audience, and brings enthusiastic recalls. A sensational and thrilling cycling act by Wizard Stone and Miss Irene Stone, in which the two performers circle in every direction round the inside of a large spherical framework, is unique among exhibitions of its kind; Les Strads appear in their eccentric musical scena; Donaldson Brothers and Ardel and company contribute a bustling original pantomime sketch; Barnard's Mannikins are deftly handled in an amusing puppet show; Mr. Will English gives a popular coon turn; the comedian element is represented by Mr. Mark Merry and Mr. Alec B. Thorne; Mr. Horace White provides a clever ventriloquial entertainment; and the American Bioscope show a series of interesting films.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is playing *Leah Kleschna* to good houses here. Mr. William Clayton infuses power and feeling into his portrayal of Kleschna; Mr. William F. Grant acts in a natural and effective manner as Paul Sylvaine; Mr. Henry Nunn is well placed as Raoul Berton; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid is satisfactory in the trying rôle of Schram; Mr. Charles Barrett is worthy of praise as General Berton; Mr. Laurence Murray makes the most of Valentine; Miss Bessie Rignold in the title-rôle gives an intensely realistic rendering; Miss Emmie Wallace is a commendable Claire, and Miss Ethel Russell a very good Mme. Berton.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—*The Gipsies and Their Jester* make their welcome reappearance here this week. Miss Muriel Fane (Maritana) possesses a charming voice; Miss Florence Crofts excels both as accompanist and vocalist; Mr. Eric Davidson (Don Carlos) is as great a success as ever; Mr. Robert Tattersall (Rinaldo) is a past master in the art of conjuring and ventriloquism; and last, but not least, Mr. Will Gane (the Jester) keeps the house alive with merriment.

VICTORIA PIER.—Manager, Mr. Robert Forsyth.—Jamaica Choir, consisting of twelve coloured ladies and gentlemen, are engaged here this week, and are creating a great success. Miss Zette Handel's Ladies' Orchestra plays three times daily to pleased patrons.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—Jiu-jitsu is being illustrated in a very interesting manner by Mr. Frank Long and company at this house; McDonald and Huntingdon are a pair of excellent entertainers from America; Little Vio Lette is a dainty and sweet-voiced child comedienne; Dene and Dawson submit a laughable skit named *Stage Aspirants;* the Sages are burlesque artists of the first quality; the Seddons, a lady juggler and a really funny waiter, present an act which causes much laughter; J. P. O'Carroll is described as the champion tambourine manipulator of the world; and the usual pictures are also exhibited.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Mr. Frank M. Thorpe's excellent company in *The Octoroon*, supplies the entertainment at this house. Mr. Hugh Mongomery gives a careful impersonation of Salem Scudder; Jacob McClosky is rendered just sufficiently brutal by Mr. J. O. Stewart; Mr. Oliver Birrell presents a capital picture of George Peyton; Mr. Phil Harper makes a picturesque Wahnotee; Mr. Albert Sinclair as Mr. Sunnyside; Mr. Thorne as the auctioneer, and Mr. W. G. Clements as Ratts fill their parts with distinction. A feature of the production is the excellent work done by Mr. Harry Leander in the part of Pete. Miss Leslie Warner as Zoe distinguishes herself; Miss Marie Harcourt does good work with the part of Dora Sunnyside; and Miss Florence Thorne is well placed as Mrs. Peyton.

GLASGOW. — KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. McFarlane.—*Walker, London*, pays a welcome return visit to Glasgow, and is well presented by Mr. Arthur A. Horner's company. Mr. Edward A. Coventry brings out all the eccentricities of the principal character, Jasper Phipps; Mr. Forrester Harvey suits the part of the youthful "W. G."; Mr. Walter Pemberton as Kit Upjohn makes a good lover; and Mr. W. René Hammersmith as Renaud von Bury is satisfactory. Miss Mary Pemberton is successful as Bell Golightly; and the Nanny O'Brien of Miss Ruhamah Catton is bright and winsome.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—*The Irish Dragoon*, and a change on Friday to *Sarsfield*, for Miss Cecilia Dare's benefit, form the scheme of amusement presented by Mr. J. W. Whitbread's first-rate company. The above-named play is received nightly with great enthusiasm, and those notable for this success include Mr. M. Morley Carroll, Mr. H. R. Leigh, Mr. R. Faulkner, Mr. Frank Dalton, and Misses Cecilia Dare, Lily Devere, and Jessie Glenn.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager Mr. Sam Gething; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Manners.—Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco are the strong attraction of a fine programme here. They repeat their former and well-won successes. In a fine sketch, *Sunshine*, Miss Margaret Parker and company make quite a hit; and in *A Restaurant Episode*, very hearty laughter is evoked by Mr. Alfred Lester and Miss Florence Wakeman. Fine ballad-singing by Tom Child, prize tenor, and Anna Hope, contralto—the latter with pictures—adds to the evening's enjoyment. In a series of pretty poses, with a beautiful white horse, Sidy Nirvana proves a very welcome attraction; and other performers of ability are Irene Rose, comedienne, Janette Alexander, a clever child singer and dancer, and Sanford and Lyons, patterers and dancers. The Bioscope is a big attraction.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The management have retained as the star turn the Tyrolean giantess, Mariedl, who has proved a great success; Tom Foy and Co. provide endless amusement with their funny sketch, *The Yorkshire Lad in London;* the programme is further enhanced by Maude Mortimer, a refined comedienne, whose descriptive scena, with Scotch songs introduced, makes a decided hit; the Bros. Mills provide a clever gymnastic turn; and Minnie Mace also has a flattering reception. The Norman and Leonard Trio give their musical sketch, *The Itinerant;* and Ellis Barrieton, a double-voiced vocalist; and Stelling and Revell, on the horizontal bars, also prove attractive members of the company. The Bioscope pictures conclude the programme.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Lily Burnard is proving a strong attraction here, and all her latest songs, including one to the "Mattchiche" air, take well; Fred Mulvey and Minnie Miriam have brightened up their sketch, *In the Studio*, with lots of new business; Tom Leamore as an eccentric comedian ranks high; Elsie Earle is a comedienne of much ability; Warsaw Bros., comedy musicians, are a clever and versatile pair; the Sisters May, duettists; Cleveland Comedy company, in a varied act; the Sivronis, in song and dance; John Kurkamp, the singing conductor; and Will Terry, comedian, complete a varied and attractive bill.

COLISEUM, LTD.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—George Formby, a great favourite, tops the bill here; De Biere exhibits wonderful sleight-of-hand achievements; David Canty's illuminated Water Grotto (assisted by Mlle. De Silva) is a unique and novel performance; the amusing comedy, *Kiss Your Father, or, the Irish Doctor*, presented by Lonnen Meadows and company, is much enjoyed; and Jennie Hartley, coon comedienne, James Stewart, the tramp at the piano, the American Comedy Four, and Jeannie Macintyre, soprano, complete the bill.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—The Brennans, two accomplished dancers, achieve a big success here; Millie Howell, in two topical songs, has a good reception; and as a "miniature star" turn few could equal Tiny Arnold, a dainty young lady; Harry Brown, here so recently, is a popular coloured comedian; *Menzies' 'Bus* continues to keep the house in a roar; the "comedy acrobatics" of Lavelle Bros. is good; and Fred Cary, with new songs, is a favourite; Mr. Barry Lupino, Mr. J. Chippendale, Miss Ethel Davies, and Miss May Lupino create hearty laughter in a domestic sketch, *Bibbs and Bibbs*. Allis and Casatti, in song, dance, and comedy, and the Lorrisons, also add to the gaiety of the evening.

GAIETY, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Harry Pleon and company, in a lively sketch, *P.C. Pudden*, are provocative of many a hearty laugh here; Sisters Clifton, skipping-rope dancers, prove popular; Vardon, the ventriloquist, has a particularly smart telephone sketch, which goes well; Cadogan and Wingate cause roars of laughter in a sketch, *A Clerical Complication;* Line O. Bright is a lively comedienne, with a taking style; Little Venus, vocalist and dancer; Two Neilsons in a burlesque, *Silly Billy;* two promising extra turns, and a much enjoyed selection from *The Pirates of Penzance*, by the orchestra, under Mr. W. Milne, were also attractive items in this week's programme.

BRITANNIA.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—Jack Kavanagh, a good descriptive vocalist, scores heavily; and Katie Moore contributes several good songs; Lily Lilla, a popular comedienne, has many friends; and Papita deserves praise for a capital turn. The programme concludes with a series of pictures on the Bioscope.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—At the head of the bill this week are Jan Rudenyi and Co. in *The Power of Music;* F. Foster's sketch causes laughter; Nelson Hardy, ventriloquist, amuses; the Villions, acrobatic trick cyclists, uphold their big reputation; the Decars present a comedy tumbling act; and Gladys and Albert contribute neat dancing; Messrs. Wake and Dean, as argumentative comedians, are good; and Leo King, actor vocalist, and Charlie Dillon, comedian, also entertain. The Bioscope presents good pictures.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—A return visit is being paid by Mr. Thomas Sidney and company with *The Marriage of Kitty*. The varying moods of Kitty are naturally depicted by Miss May Thorne; Mr. Edgar Kent is responsible for a capital portraiture of Sir Reginald Belsize; Mr. Thomas Sidney is excellent as John Travers; and Mme. de Semian is presented with force and feeling by Miss Kathleen Russell; Mr. Cronin Wilson as Norbury, Mr. J. J. Hooker as Hampton, and Miss Josephine Rae as Rosalie play well in their respective parts.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Lionel Glenister and Mr. Wood-Ingram's company is here with *All of a Sudden Peggy*. Miss Decima Moore as the merry, impulsive Irish girl, is exactly suited to the part; Mr. Lionel Glenister as the Hon. Jimmy Keppel is tactful and effective; Lord Crackenthorpe is capitally played by Mr. Alfred S. Barber; Mr. Henderson Bland is an excellent Major Archie Phipps; Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson an able Jack Menzies; Miss Kate Wingfield a stately Lady Crackenthorpe; the Hon. Millicent Keppel is charmingly depicted by Miss Eva Lonsdale; Miss Estella Despa is capital as the talkative Mrs. Colquhoun; and Miss Naomi Neilson makes a natural and hearty Mrs. O'Mara.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—A capitally varied programme is provided for the week. Leo Tell gives a wonderful display of mimicry, musical instruments and the cries of animals being produced with marvellous fidelity; the Avolos contribute an exceptionally fine gymnastic display, using perpendicular poles from which double somersaults are thrown and other clever tricks done; the three Sisters Macarte supply a novel turn, their famous serpentine dance in mid-air winning hearty commendation. Captain Max Gruber and Miss Adelina introduce their performing animals; the four Rosaires excel as acrobats; the three Boleros score in a comedy triple bar performance; Miss Chloe Convere and her cake-walk horse receive loud applause; Mdlle. Stella's boxing horses excite laughter and admiration; Miss Duchesse Powell's performing animals are splendidly trained; and Rabbit and Pimple supply any amount of fun.

BRITANNIA PIER PAVILION.— Managing Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting Manager, Mr. Edward Grey.—Miss Veronica Brady and company in an amusing sketch, *The Lady Soubrette*, win high favour; Vasey and Ramsey supply a clever dancing act; Miss Bertha Norwood pleases with her songs; Marco proves himself a veritable prince of magicians; Miss Rosa Loader, as the "slavey at the piano," is a big attraction; Mr. Fern Pounds contributes some pleasing songs; and Witty Wattie Walton, a Yarmouth favourite, shows his versatility in the contrasts between the comedy and pathos of his contributions.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The attraction for the week is a bright and varied entertainment provided by Mr. Walter George's company, *The Colonials*, consisting of Little Zola, Miss Barbara Antoine, Miss Constance Bromley, Miss May Elliott, Mr. Charles Tyers, Mr. George Ess, Mr. Edward Elliott, and Miss Ray Vivian. Herr Josef Delikat's Viennese Band contributes selections.

CHAPPELL'S PROMENADE CONCERTS.—These favourite open-air concerts are now in full swing, and a capital programme is provided by J. H. Crew, eccentric comedian; Bros. Hannaway, patter comedians and dancing experts; Daisy Silcott, burlesque artist; Henri Foden, hand jumper and equilibrist; Clarke and Gold, vocalists and banjoists; Ernest d'Almaine, tenor; Ada Victor, vocalist and dancer; Byden Currie, ventriloquial comedian and banjoist; Jack Heath, eccentric comedian; Bob Stephenson, funedian; Maie Duncan, comedienne; Leslie Reed, extempore artist; Amy Bellwood, comedienne and dancer; and Harry Barker, refined versatile entertainer. An amusing sketch, entitled *Look Out, Boy!* is well played by H. Barker, Bob Stephenson, Bros. Hannaway, Jack Heath, and Byden Currie.

GREENOCK.—PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—Alix Lukos heads the bill here this week, and his vocalising is of a high order. Other good items are Lena Wylie, contralto vocalist, who sings well; Alf. Walker, a smart comedian and dancer; La Belle Lilly and Albert, expert gymnasts; Leo Gow, an amusing Scottish comedian; and the Mambas, in an interesting musical act; while the Pavoscope shows an amusing series of pictures.

BUCHANAN'S
"BLACK & WHITE"
THE WHISKY OF WORLD WIDE REPUTE

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN.—Lessee, Mr Edward Marris.—On the 11th inst. Mr. Reginald Dance and company opened a three nights' engagement with *Raffles*. Mr. Dance undertakes the title-rôle with decided tact and skill; Mr. Edward Irwin is forcible and clever as Mr. Curtis Bedford; Mr. Briscoe Owen is effective as Harry Maunders; Mr. C. R. Bertram is a formidable-looking Crawshay; and Mr. Stanley Lathbury is an ideal Lord Amersteth. Miss May Brooke is deserving of the highest praise for her finished performance of Mrs. Vidal; Miss Rita Ward displays evident ability as Marie; Miss Kate Yates as Gwendoline is pleasing and effective; Miss M. Orme as Lady Ethel, and Miss F. Titheradge as Lady Melrose are both highly meritorious. *Jerry and a Sunbeam* is a pleasing curtain-raiser. This week Mr. Ernest R. Abbott is on a return visit with *The House of Shame, A Wife's Triumph, Turned Up,* and *Lady Audley's Secret*.

HALIFAX.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—An American animated picture company still claims attention here. On Monday, through the enterprise of the popular resident-manager, Mr. Arthur Bingley, a local business man and an entertainer of many years standing, once more took his place where he is ever welcome. His masterly renditions of "Love and Gold" and a well-conceived character song, entitled "Studying the faces," were the call for rounds of applause from a crowded assembly. Mollie Seymour sang well, and gave a few Irish melodies on a well-tuned violin in fine style.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Ed. Harrison.—An astounding animal act is given by Leoni Clarke; Edmund Bosanquet's magnificent 'cello playing evokes tumultuous applause from the captivated audiences; and Lilith, in her mysterious Palace of Roses; Alf. Ripon, ventriloquist; Charlie Carr, Lilian Warren, Allsopp and Bekwith, and the Lack and Ford Trio are worthy of their respective places in the bill; while the pictures shown are edifying.

HANLEY.—GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—Gunner Moir heads the bill this week in a turn of exhibition boxing; Larry Lewis is a comedian with a capital style and good songs; Nell Emerald is a versatile artist, her dancing boing quite a feature; the Avigny Troupe are smart jugglers, and their performance merits all the applause received; the Bros. Corcordan, as instrumentalists, provide a turn which is heartily appreciated, their horn-playing being excellent; Dan Filmer is a comedian of merit; the Sisters Wingrove sing well together, and dance admirably; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux shows some capital pictures.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—For the first three nights of this week Herr Hjorvard and Mr. John E. Watson's company appeared in two plays, *The K.C.* and *The Gamester*. The first-named is a musical comedy and the second a miniature grand opera. In *The K.C.*, Mr. A. J. Nicholls is good in the title-rôle; Mr. A. T. Hendon is a genial landlord as Jacob Minns; as George Darrell, Mr. Cartwright sang and acted well; and Miss Lili Sharpe as Olive earned hearty applause; Miss Madge Elswick made a smart Dolly Hawthorne; and Mr. Furness Williams's tenor voice was heard to advantage. In *The Gamester*, Mr. Furness Williams, as a cavalier, was greatly appreciated; Mr. Cartwright as Raphael and Miss Lili Sharpe were both well placed. The music of both plays was by Herr Hjorvard, who conducted throughout. Between the plays Herr Hjorvard gave three pianoforte selections, and Mons. Rafalewski played the violin. For the remainder of the week Mr. H. F. Maltby's company in occupying the theatre with *The Youngest of Three* and *Sir George of Almack's*.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—Laughter of the heartiest greets the irresistible comedy play of Miss Florence Smithers in the comedy sketch, *Hard Lines*, by Owen Dacroy and company. Miss Smithers is ably supported by Miss Lillian Dacroy, Mr. E. H. Bertram, and Mr. Owen Dacroy. Bock Pylades' impersonations of celebrities are well conceived; Watt Tyler is a favourite in his descriptive scena, *The Deserted Home*; Harry Meegan is very amusing; Harry Butt, boy soprano, is gaining fresh laurels; Onda and Leon are funny and clever in their triple-bar absurdity; Edie St. Clair is an attractive comedienne; and a funny film, "His first ride," concludes the performance.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.— An excellent presentment of *Lucky Durham* is made this week by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company. As on the former visit, Mr. Edmund Kennedy supplies a fine conception of John Durham; in strong contrast to this firm and resolute character is that of the Hon. Reginald Sleighton, which is played with the same artistic realism by Mr. Arthur Leigh; Miss Alice Esther Belmore deserves special commendation for her pleasing performance as Helen Vallerton; strong emotional acting is provided in the last act by Miss Lilian Mason as Mrs. Durham, and by Miss Rosabel Dodd as Lady Mountfallon; Mr. John Hartt as Tasker, and Mr. W. F. Clitherow as Ben Verslem are well placed. Admirable support is given by Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood as Lord Mountfallon, Mr. A. E. Walker as Mr. Vallerton, Mr. W. Dunlop as Arthur Walcombe; and Miss Florence Dulhunty as the Hon. Margaret Steighton.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Vivian Fisher; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—Miss Mab May is an attractive comedienne and dancer; a burlesque sporting scene by Murphy and Felino causes great laughter; the exhibition films are remarkably realistic; the Glenroy Troupe show some artistic and characteristic national dances; Miss Marie Gros, serio and dancer, is another well appreciated turn; Jimmy James is singularly expert on the banjo and bones; Driscoll and Beattie achieve great success in their laughable sketch, *Major McPhee*. As a manipulator and juggler Friscari shows exceptional ability; the comedy cycling of Maxey and Pete is very clever; another welcome addition to the programme is the performances of the Burnells, who exhibit considerable versatility and skill; the impersonations of George Fairburn, character comedian, are exceedingly good; Maud and Sydney Wood are dainty duettists and dancers. An important feature in the entertainment is the appearance of the coster comedian, Alec Hurley, who, with his talented company, is accorded a hearty reception.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. Hunter and his able combination of artists give interesting performances of *Our Boys*. Mr. Charles Bedells gives a dignified embodiment of the part of Sir Geoffrey Champneys; Mr. A. B. Tapping submits a most polished interpretation of the part of Talbot; as the butterman, Perkyn Middlewick, M. J. D. Hunter is particularly effective, evincing all the drollery that one would expect from so genuine a comedian; his son, Charles, is well taken by Mr. Hubert Harben; a graceful exposition of the part of Mary Melrose is exhibited by Miss Alice Farleigh; Miss Eva Bayley as Clarissa Champneys plays the part with much refinement and spirit; Miss Blanche Bayley as Belinda creates much amusement by her clever comedy acting; Miss Leonora Thomas as Violet Melrose plays with dignity and grace.

BEACH CONCERT PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Blackmore.—Wallis Arthur's No. 1 company provides a strong attraction here, and in the Alexandra Park. Miss Marie Schultz wins success by her humorous songs, as also do Mr. Alec Johnstone, Mr. Harry King, and Mr. George Blackmore. Miss Ada Gaskill renders her ballads with much refinement; and Mr. George F. Swaine proves an efficient accompanist. The No. 2 company provides entertainment in the St. Leonards Gardens, as well as in the Band Kiosk, on the St. Leonards pier.

ST. LEONARDS PAVILION THEATRE.—Pier-Master and Entertainment Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—*Sweet and Twenty* is a delightful comedy, and its performance gains well merited approval. Mr. Drelingcourt Odlum as the Rev. James Floyd is a fine example of dignity and subdued force; Eustace (his eldest son) is admirably taken by Mr. Stephen Wentworth. His other son, Douglas, as the good-hearted sailor, is well represented by Mr. Gordon McLeod. Nothing could be more amusing than Mr. Joseph Rowland as the Prynne, who wins the laughter and the favour of all; the juvenile acting of Miss Olga Hope is excellent; Ellen, the housekeeper, is a capital portrait and a finished piece of acting; Miss Hilda Vaughan plays the part of Joan with exquisite grace and finish, quite realising the character.

HUDDERSFIELD.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The turns appearing here are the Tom Davies Trio in their sensational motor-cycling in a teacup track; Miss Maudie Ford, comedienne and dancer; Etharien Bros., comedians; Chas. Banks, with his clever little dog assistant; Miss Katie Butler, comedienne; Manson and West, in a duologue, *Telling the Tale*; Mr. Bernard Mervyn and company in sketch, *Two Old Pals*; the Royal Tokio Troupe of Japanese equilibrists; and new pictures on the Bioscope.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—With a view to catering for his patrons on sultry summer nights Mr. Morton has secured the services of the Raymond Animated Picture Co., who opened on Monday for a fortnight's stay. The entertainment consists of pictures merry and mournful, with songs by Mr. Wensley Russell and clever impersonations by Mr. Lindon Wyatt. One set of pictures which is highly interesting is that which deals with the Thaw trial.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's Ltd.—Manager, Mr. George Morton.—The great American spectacular drama, *The World's Great Snare*, is presented by Mr. W. Alexander Dallas's company. Mr. Leonard Williams plays the hero with conspicuous skill; Miss Fay Gamet Vayne is a fine representative of Star-Eye; Mr. Fellows Bassett is a clever Lasalles La Morte; in the rôle of Wild Rose, Miss Lallie Forsyth plays with much merit; Mr. Theodore Hill makes the most of the rôle of the Indian chief; and the play is well staged and nicely mounted.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*Jane Shore* and *Shadows of a Great City* are being played this week by the company of Mr. James Elphinstone. *Jane Shore* was presented on Monday evening, the title-rôle being taken very effectively by Miss Kate Randolph. Miss Isobel Marte makes a suitable Queen of England; as Anthony Yeaste, Mr. Edwin Turner wins excellent opinions; and Miss Edith Leslie is at home as Alison Yeaste. Mr. Sydney Fiennes scores in the double rôle of Matthew Shore and Lord Hastings.; Mr. Francis Everard gives a good impersonation of Richard, Duke of Gloucester; and Mr. Edwin Finlay equally so as Sir William Catesby.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Jim Morley.—The Pierrotts and artists which appeared last week are re-engaged for the present week.

IPSWICH. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Brothers Luck head the bill this week, in a sketch, entitled *Blazes, or The Lightning Fire Brigade*, which causes much laughter. Other items include the Howards, in telepathic business; Arthur Spencer and George Marks, in a comedy act, called *The Stage-Struck Waifs*; Beatty Roy, vocalist and dancer; Gus Barra, who is described as a musical motorist, his instrumental business being well received; Chas. Coverdale, a patter singer and mimic; Amy Marsden, a pleasing comedienne; and the Kirbys, whose dancing, &c., was exceptionally good.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Rex Sugden.—Mr. Sydney Spenser's company is here with *My Sweetheart*. Mr. Edward Rawlinson is a most ideal Tony Faust, his singing being much appreciated; Mr. Sydney Spenser is quite at home in the part of Joe Shotwell; and the part of Harold Bartlett is in the capable hands of Mr. Wilson Coleman. Mr. Frank Wilson is very good as Dudley Harcourt; and the part of Dr. Oliver is most ably portrayed by Mr. J. F. Traynor. Miss Lizzie Hall gives a most charming rendering of Tina, her singing establishing her quite a favourite; and Miss Ada Champson does full justice to the part of Mrs. Fleeter. The scenery reflects great credit on all engaged.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Marris.—That particularly successful and exciting play, *Raffles*, is paying a first visit here this week. Mr. Reginald Dance, who is an old favourite in Jersey, greatly enhances his popularity by his fine rendering of the name-part; Edwin Irwin is ably acted by Mr. Curtis Bedford; Mr. Briscoe Owen is good as Harry Manders; Mr. C. Rivers Bertram excellent as the Housebreaker; and Messrs. Stanley Lathbury and Oswald Griffiths figure respectively as Lord Amersteth and Lord Crowley; Miss May Brooke is a perfect Mrs. Vidal; Miss Katie Yates a fascinating Gwendoline Conran; Miss Rita Ward a good-looking Maria; and Miss Mildred Orme a stately Lady Melrose.

HORSESHOE QUARRY.—Mr. Edward Marris's Pierrots and Veroniques are doing excellent business here. On Saturday night there was a crowded audience to bid farewell to popular Tom Payne. Elfie Vincent is a delightful dancer, and Mr. Charlie Williams greatly assists in keeping the ball of fun rolling.

TRIANGLE PARK.—The John Ridding Opera Singers are having fine receptions here. On Tuesday night *Old Knockles*, the celebrated comedy-opera of the German Reed days at St. George's Hall, was rendered for the first time in Jersey. On Friday night Aspa's *Statue Bride* was given.

KIRKCALDY. — SEAFIELD PIER.—The summer season was opened here on Monday, by the Mighty Merrymakers, vocal and instrumental entertainers, the company consisting of selected and talented artists, who are highly successful in their endeavours. Worthy of special mention are Mr. James Barr (tenor and comedian), Mr. John Russell (bass), Mr. James R. Dewar (at the piano), and Mr. Wm. Dewar (solo cornet). The violin solos of Miss Martha Dewar, and the trios of Messrs. Barr, Russell, and James R. Dewar, are well received.

LANCASTER.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. John Porter and W. J. Ferguson.—The programme again is well up to the average, and includes Yukio Tani, Jap jiu-jitsu wrestler; Harry Rogerson, comedian; Del and Hall, in a skit, *The Doctor's Deputy*; Anna Kenwick, comedienne and sand dancer; Phern and Phern, in a musical act; the Wakeman Quartette; and Gus Garrich, comedian, all of whom have a good reception. The Hippograph still proves an attraction.

LEEDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Tomlinson's company is here in *Secrets*. Mr. Tomlinson evinces histrionic ability as Murad, the slave dealer; Mr. Wilton Richards is of considerable assistance in the rôle of Caliph; and a manly Lieutenant Markham is portrayed by Mr. Reggie Brown. The leading female parts are in the hands of Miss Cissie Harcourt and Miss Nellie Navarro, and both are capably handled; and Miss Lizzie Palmer makes a decidedly pleasing Ismailia, the persecuted Christian girl.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Eugene Stratton, once again at the Empire, has been nightly received with unbounded appreciation. That entertaining couple, Alexandre and Hughes, fill the bottom of the bill with their excellent musical and comedy business. Orpheus presents an accomplished musical act with success; Frank Bertram and company score well with a clever comedy act; Harry Weldon is a favourite comedian locally; and in a similar line Fred Keeton achieves success. The vocal contributions of Charles Robinson are admired; the Three Rubys are clever and graceful lady acrobats; and some expert specialty dancing is done by the Sisters Caselli.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—The Madcaps are prominent in an attractive Hippodrome bill, their clever and versatile dancing act arousing much enthusiasm. The Floradora Girls are also popular in vocal comedy; Hinton and Wooton do a novel and entertaining specialty on cycles; a ludicrous absurdity by Rastus and Banks is much enjoyed; and Tennyson and Wallis are a leading line with eccentric business; Cullen and Carthy are successful with comedy specialty; an instrumental novelty by Mlle. Renee is much applauded; and Frank Cass, favourite comedian, with Newell and Niblo, in a musical entertainment, complete the programme.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—At this popular hall Henry Carlton and company supply the leading line, a mirth-provoking sketch, *One Night Only*, which is very well received. Libby Blondelle presents her clever juveniles in a smart comedy and vocal act; a decided novelty by Cordite and Buffalo, expert lasso manipulators, is much appreciated; Nellie Farrell is a great favourite with vocal renditions; there are two smart and popular comedians appearing in Will Driscoll and Fred Hallam; whilst Harding and Preston, with comedy specialty, and Fraser and Haley, duettists and dancers, are also responsible for entertaining items.

LEICESTER.—PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—The lead is held this week by the famous Craggs, who are repeating their big success with the comedy sketch, *Billy*, into which is introduced many brilliant feats of acrobatism and tumbling; Dan Crawley well maintains his immense popularity here, and creates roars of laughter; Seeley and West are musical comedians who give a thoroughly enjoyable and clever turn; Josh Dixon, a mirth-provoking and quaint comedian, receives a flattering reception; the Boccaccia Minstrels, including Signor Francia, a mandoline soloist of exceptional ability, are popular; C. Randolph King, a clever protean artist and ventriloquist, scores a well-deserved success with a turn displaying great versatility; the Moulier Sisters are seen to advantage in a smart performance on the horizontal bars; Flo Esdaile is a dainty vocalist; and Lilian Bishop is a pleasing male impersonator. The Bioscope depicts a tour through Egypt, from Cairo to Khartoum, &c.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence.—This week's bill is headed by Miss Dolly Elsworthy and company, in the highly-successful sketch, *The Orange Girl*, which is being presented in a most praiseworthy manner and is meeting with a cordial reception. Miss Dolly Elsworthy is very good as Nell Gwyn, and Mr. Adderley Howard plays well as Dick Harriden; others in the cast who also deserve commendation are Mr. Wilson as King Charles II., Mr. J. Pearson as the Duke of Buckingham, Miss E. Moss as Lady Castlemaine, and Miss C. Rivers as Mother Gwyn. Another turn scoring high honours is Whimsical Walker, who is assisted by a talented child actress, Miss Mollie Moore, in the interesting sketch, *Captain Hamilton, V.C.* Other artists who are well received are Mackintosh and Royal, champion dancers; Ethel Hellary, American coon comedienne and dancer; and Metz and Metz, comedians and dancers. Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope is still one of the hits of the programme.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The return visit of *A Trip to the Highlands* is seasonable and well timed, and with Miss Isa Bowman in her old part of Winnie, Mr. Wal Croft again to the fore as the MacMutchkin, and a good combination of players filling up the rest of the cast, the popular production has been assured of a cordial greeting. The Two Lackingtons, father and son, are well portrayed by Mr. Wellesley Smith and Mr. Frank Barclay; Mr. Geo. A. Fox and Miss Grace Desmond are happily fitted with the rôles of Sir Septimus Brown-Windsor and Miss Araminta; Timmins and Fanny Flounce are very amusingly played by Mr. Willie Scott and Miss Nellie Burdette; and Mr. Harry A. Gribben comes out strong as Dexter, the detective. Miss Grace Olivia, Miss Kate Robey, and Miss Clara Moore do well as Flora, Charlie, and Lottie; the Tricky Trio of speciality artists, headed by Miss Dolly Lancaster, introduce some clever dancing; and the chorus is efficient.

LIVERPOOL. — ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—During the week Mr. Frank Lindo's able company has delighted audiences with an acceptable presentation of *Home, Sweet Home*. As the young fisherman, Stephen Armitage, Mr. Lindo played with excellent effect, Miss Marion Wakeford threw a deal of feeling into the rôle of Joan; credit is due to Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle for his thoughtful picture of David Armitage; Captain Gerald Gambier was a dignified Duke of Ancester; and other well-held parts were Dora (Miss Daisy Rochefort), Sybil Fay (Miss Ray Rochefort), the Hon. Percy (Mr. H. Gordon Ingram), and Lady Summerton (Miss L. Carlton). The staging of the drama was very complete.

LYRIC — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Principal here this week is Mlle. Von-Etta, whose remarkable illusions and quick changes have delighted everybody; Doody and Wright, a smart couple of comedians, kept their audience busy laughing; Picton Roxborough and Fanny Wright presented a farcical episode, entitled *Cockie*, which proved irresistibly amusing; the Athlones, and the Sandow lecture models, were interesting; Barney Stuart, an old favourite, had a cordial reception for his songs, his latest, "The Miser," being much appreciated; Ted Curtis and Picks, black and white speciality dancers, submitted a capital turn; the Two Jays were undoubtedly funny as the "Kwarrelsome Komedians"; and also in the list were Cissie Sinclair, comedienne; and Queenie May, juvenile vocalist.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Despite the hot weather that has prevailed in Liverpool during the week the popular Star has drawn large audiences to witness *The Power of Gold*, presented by Mr. Frank Ayrton's company. In the rôle of Lady Brandon Miss Amy McNeill made a deep impression upon her audience; Mr. Frank Ayrton as Sammy Smudge, and Miss Madge Seymour as Norah Donelly, were humorous and exceedingly entertaining with songs and dances; Mr. George Lyttleton acted powerfully as Hadgi Zambra; a most creditable Paul Judson was submitted by Mr. R. F. Stacey; Miss Lily Prescott acquitted herself in the character of Meg Judson, and gained hearty applause; Mr. Richard Harris afforded every satisfaction with his Mark Harley; and Little Prudence showed much intelligence as the street arab.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan. —Tiller's *Trip to Paris* tops the programme here this week, and has proved most enjoyable; John E. Coyle has been received with enthusiasm for his merry songs and patter; Emma Don, with her black and white comedy team, afforded general pleasure; Larola, the clever man with the funny ways, was an excellent turn; lovers of music enjoyed a treat provided by the Schafers; Moon and Morris, a clever pair of comedians and dancers, were deservedly applauded; May Fallowfield rendered in good style several acceptable songs; the Stebbing Trio had some excellent comedy; and Rose Cabani, comedienne, also appeared.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. —The Royal stock dramatic company here have this week presented *First Class*, from the pen of F. A. Scudamore. Mr. Cecil Ravenswood was an able Mr. Franklin; Mr. Sydney Grant proved a powerful Lewis Montford; the part of Jack Stroud was carefully handled by Mr. Harry Tresham; Mr. Robb Wilton made a humorous Nosey; Miss Nellie Bonser acquitted herself admirably as Florence Franklin; Miss Sara Blumenthal played with tact the rôle of Mrs. Stroud; Miss Beryl Ravenswood did every justice to Mildred; and Miss Florence Cameron was the Peggy.

PARK PALACE.—Proprietors, Lancashire Vaudeville Syndicate, Ltd.—A creditable presentation of *Trilby* has been given here this week by the stock company. Mr. Albert Sember's work as Svengali was very cordially recognised; Miss Lilian Burns in the rôle of Trilby brought a deal of intelligence to bear; Messrs. Archy Helsby, Hugh Carmichael, and Geof. Sutherland filled the characters of Taffy, the Laird, and Billie most admirably; and worthy support came from Andrew Weir (Manager Kaw), Miss Nelson Ramsey (Mrs. Bagot), and Miss Lizzie Chambers (Mme. Vinard).

HAYMARKET.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Good business continues to be done here, Mr. Harry Calden and his company being retained to produce ably-presented dramatic sketches. This week *A Gambler's Fate; or, Retribution*, written by Mr. Calden, has been given. The Brothers Dolan aroused a deal of laughter with their work as comedy acrobats; Fred Wells sang several funny songs; and Marie Freeland, comedienne, also appeared.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Foremost here this week is the military sketch *Jedovka* (Jewess), played by Mr. John Clempert and company. It has proved exceedingly interesting. The boy wrestler, Hackenschmidt, has given a remarkable exhibition of his powers; H. D. Hughes, a basso with a fine voice, rendered several popular songs; as an equilibrist Sylvene, assisted by Miss Florence, showed great skill; and Witty Will Wickes, Scottish comedian, proved most amusing.

OLYMPIA. — District - Manager. Mr. Albert Bulmer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—Top here this week are Winfield Blake and Maude Amber, who, assisted by Ivor Clover, Frank Lennard, and Charles Comfrey, presented the laughable sketch, *A Tabloid Musical Comedy*; another humorous trifle in the same line was given by the Ten Loonies, whose *Dotty* caused the audience to shake with laughter; Victor Travers, the new eccentric coon, was a smart turn; some clever work as gymnasts was gone through by the Sisters Gasch; Harry Freeman was unable to appear on Monday night through indisposition, and Little Ganty gave a capital turn instead; Wallace Selkirk's delightful juvenile spectacle, *Egypt*, met with approbation; as gentlemen gymnasts Fred and Pauly showed considerable cleverness; Gertrude Sandiford's rich contralto voice was heard to advantage in illustrated songs, particularly "The Lost Chord," with organ accompaniment; and Jessie Albini, comedienne, also appeared.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.—Top of the bill this week is Fred Karno's latest production, *A Tragedy of Errors*, which has been richly enjoyed; the exceptionally clever juggling of Salerno earned for that artist rounds of applause; endless laughter followed the antics of Little Ganty; Signor and Mme. Borelli gave excellent imitations of the language of the feline tribe; clever and humorous was the eccentric musical act of the Phydoras; remarkable cycling was shown by Bert Woodward; and the list also contained the names of Madge May, comedienne; Lieut. Travis, "the man of many voices"; and Eda Mardy, vocalist.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Kartelle, who heads the bill here this week has astonished everybody. His uncommon and almost incredible tricks on the slack wire have fairly taken away one's breath. Needless to say the audience have given him a rousing reception. Harrigan and Holt well merited the rounds of applause bestowed upon them for their smart songs and tricky dancing; Mignon Tremaine moved gracefully as a dancer, and had some popular numbers; Stelling made his dog go through some neat tricks; clever club juggling came from Derenda and Green; the Napoli Sextette presented a humorous vocal scena, *An Evening at Home*; and Chrissie Cross, comedienne and dancer; the Sisters Charnley, duettists; and the Paolias, acrobats, also appear.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot. — Here the Bioscope occupies the greater part of the programme; the variety portion being provided by Charles Lestree, a smart juggler; and Amina Rinder, with some well-rendered illustrated songs.

LLANDUDNO.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. A. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—For six nights this week a variety entertainment has been provided for the habitués of this theatre, the top of the bill being Dinah Morris in *A Village in Dahomey*, with a company of sixteen performers. Some excellent dancing and singing is done. Others are May Lloyd, descriptive vocalist; Carlotti, juggler; Master Sid Walker, boy dancer; George Wilson, character actor; Ford and Hanson, musicians; Mme. Alecia, globe walker; the Ottowas, musical sketch artists; Lilian Dormer, acrobatic dancer; Bartlett and Barton, sketch; and Fontainbleau, with her troupe of performing dogs.

PIER HEAD PAVILION.—Local Manager, Mr. A. R. Sutcliffe.—Messrs. Adeler and Sutton are presenting a powerful troupe this week in the form of a musical comedy, *The Anglo-Indians*. Messrs. Frank Hook and Kennedy Allen supply the comic element in lively fashion; Mr. Clifford Morgan's efforts are deservedly appreciated, his descriptive song on Rip Van Winkle calling forth loud applause; Miss Aline Sudbury sings charmingly; Miss Rene Steadman scores heavily; Miss Kitty Allen, the juvenile of the party, is excellent, her song, "I can't get nobody to love me," being especially good; and Mr. James A. Lowe presides at the piano.

PIER PAVILION, LTD.—Secretary, Mr. Samuel Hughes.—The orchestra is now at full strength (forty instrumentalists) under Mr. A. W. Payne, A.R.A.M. The vocalists on Saturday were Misses Marie Stuart and Nora Meredith.

LOWESTOFT.—SOUTH PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Lowestoft Corporation; Manager, Mr. E. C. Luxton.—Charles Kay, the Typical Topical Talker, is the chief attraction here, and causes screams of laughter. His "Muddled Melody" is a great number. Humphrey Bishop is a very fine basso and Fanny Chetham has a lovely soprano voice. Guy Carlton is a pleasing tenor. Bod Jose is a very clever little comedian, and scores well. Frances Rescoria, Madge Campbell, and Frances Andrews complete the bill.

SPARROW'S NEST PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Lowestoft Corporation.—Carl Bert's "Black and White" concert party are here this week, and Miss Ethel Jones makes a great hit as a lady comedian.

LUTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor, E. Graham Falcon; Manager, Louis J. Beard.—The proprietor this week has commenced giving excerpts from operas, and *Maritana* is the chosen one, the trios, solos, and duets being admirably rendered by Mr. Albert German as Don José, Miss Rose Florence as Lazarillo, and Miss Lucy Lever as Maritana. Miss Blanch Marion, comedienne and dancer, is a great favourite, and amongst others who are successful are the Evalos, in their comic juggling and gymnastics.

MANCHESTER. — ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—The romantic play, *The End Crowns All*, is presented here this week by a capable company, under the personal direction of Miss Auguste Tullock. As Vera Romaine, Miss Tullock fills an exacting part with simplicity and pathos; and the effort is well supported by Miss Cora Linda as Enid Romaine, the circus girl. A trio of evil chracters—Prince Borinsky, Ivan Spava, and Lala Ivanovitch—are capably impersonated by Mr. Roy Milton, Mr. Hugh Travers, and Miss Amber Wyville; while Mr. Arthur Plummer is effective as Lad Lyndhurst; and Mr. Edward Vivian plays Nicholas Boris in excellent style. Much humour is provided by Miss Gladys Maye as Birdie, and Mr. Wm. De Lacey as the Curate, and many others, who fill minor rôles capably. Miss Nellie Fern as Mrs. Jubbs, Mr. Geo. Byrne as the clown, and Miss Rosie Watson as Tilda Anna, are all well worthy of praise.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company are here with *A Sister's Sin*. Mr. C. Quinton Fulford plays the part of Harry Raymond with distinct success; Mr. Andrew Money as George Oakley makes an effective villain; Miss Mabel Scudamore works well as Minnie Hastings; and praise also is due to Miss Dorothy Love as May Raymond; and Miss Iza Lyndon as Jack. Very successful are Mr. Ernest Frere as Moses, the moneylender, Mr. Harry Lyndon as Theophilus Hope; and Mr. M. Madden as Carry Murphy, a vocal son of Erin; while the remainder of the cast are adequate, and the staging leaves nothing to be desired.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—Messrs. Thacker and Carlton's company is here in *L'Assommoir, or the Effects of Drink*, in which the part of Coupeau, a plumber, is of the chief importance. The character is very ably impersonated by Mr. James Spencer Thacker (the author of the play), who has filled the part upwards of 2000 nights. He is well supported by the company.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—*Dare-Devil Dorothy*, played by Mr. Henry Swinerd's company, is the attraction here.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Maager, Mr. H. Hall.—A strong turn, *The Duchess of Tooting*, heads the bill here this week. It is a sketch of the musical comedy order, and includes Stephen Adeson in the cast. Very popular also is Ray Wallace, the clever and charming mimic at the piano; Edward Lauri and company add a fine protean mélange, *In Her Boudoir*, in which some capital musical fun is introduced; Ryan and Hall are seen in their diverting acrobatic and wrestling act; Howard and St. Clair provoke mirth by their comedy sketch, *Do You Want to Buy any Coke?*; and entertaining business is provided by Will Musgrave, comedian; Frank Sylvo, quaint juggler; George Ridgwell, versatile vocalist; and Bertha Stuart, Scotch character singer.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Happy Fanny Fields, the jolly American Dutch girl, is worthily the top star here this week; and Juggling Rapoli shares the prime honours by virtue of a wonderful and successful act; Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery, in their rehearsal burlesque, are highly amusing; the Crown Trio of vocalists are accomplished and pleasing; Roma and Romani give a talented musical act; the Five Osranis are seen to advantage in their burlesque pantomime; some clever whistling and dancing is submitted by the Twin Brothers Dean; Menotti's electrical wire act is daring and sensational; and a couple of vocal items are contributed agreeably by the choir.

KING'S (Longsight).—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor. —A favourite drama, *The Sin of Her Childhood*, is presented here twice nightly, by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company. The cast is a long one, and the piece is adequately rendered and well staged. Miss Effie Bartlett is in the title-rôle, and acts with considerable skill and sympathy; Mr. Wilson Summers gives a vigorous delineation of Stephen Haysel; and as Capt. John Thornton, Mr. Frank Liston is manly and effective. Among others who do well, praise is due to Mr. H. Brady and Miss Katie Lever, as Barney O'Reilly and Eliza Muggins, for their clever humorous work.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tealor Wade.—Malcolm Scott, the well-known comedian, in his burlesque of the Gibson Girl, shares the distinction of topping the bill here with Alice Pierce, the American impressionist, who is excellent in a series of impersonations. Another striking turn is that of Henriette de Serris, and a company of twenty French models, in a number of classic and artistic groupings; Wallace contributes a smart juggling act; Natalia and Diana are expert gymnasts; Little Tichbourne, juvenile comedian, dances well in the big boots; Alec Kendal, patter comedian, is very amusing; Ernest Rees, a quaint comedian, is very well received; the Pasquali Bros., head and hand balancers, are a capital turn; and Flo Somers, comedian and dancer, completes an excellent programme.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Annie Purcell, the charming burlesque artist, is the principal attraction here this week; Gwladys Elvey, musical comedy artist, also contributes a prominent and successful turn. Other excellent items are *A Daughter of Pleasure*, played by J. G. Graham, jun., and Zerlina Harrington; Ada Parker, juvenile singer and dancer; Edith Sylvesto, lady contortionist; Marie Vere, vocalist; and A. E. Clifford, vocal artist; while Harry Bold, comedian; D. W. Watson, on the cornet and coach horn; and the Claymores, buck dancers and club jugglers, are entertaining and well received.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—A nicely varied programme here this week includes Gustave's Royal Pierrots; Curwen and Belle, a smart musical comedy couple; Mr. Billy Farrell, the cake-walk artist; Lionel Vaughan's sketch company, in *In Trouble*; the Greys, agreeable vocalists; Bianchi, a remarkable equilibrist; W. G. Wesley, singer of quaint songs; Hilton, the

turns are Lily Eyton, character vocalist; Scott Leslie, vocal entertainer; Marguerite Ismay and her white coons; Edgar Forrest and company, in *My Friend the Enemy;* and Louis Hardt, the original boy Samson, in a novel scena. The pictures, showing the great Victoria Falls, Zambesi River, are distinctly noteworthy.

THE WHITE CITY (Old Trafford).—Managing-Director, Mr. John Calvin Brown; Assistant General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Ellis.—Simbri, the illusionist, has returned here this week; Gilleno's Circus, with wire-walking, rings, and trapeze, performing dogs, ponies, &c., commenced on Monday, and was well patronised; the Zingari Pierrots continue to give acceptable turns. This week's music is by the famous band of H.M. Grenadier Guards (conductor, Lieut. A. Williams, Mus. Bac.).

MANSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.— Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Miss Arlene T. George's company is presenting *His Dishonoured Wife*. Mr. Chas. H. Phelps in the part of Frank Lindon shows ability; Mr. George A. Fry is well placed as Lord Devant; Mr. Frank Harvey is a satisfactory Neil Locksley; Mr. A. S. Young a capable Arthur Cooper; Mr. Harrison Weir a successful Geoffrey Harvey; and Mr. Bernard Webb an effective Tom Redman. In the rôle of Mickey Doolan, Mr. Harry Tilbury causes merriment, being well supported by Miss Millie Doris as Araminta. In the exacting rôle of Florence Lindon Miss Belle Tilbury is all that can be desired; Miss Arlene George plays Alice Harvey powerfully; and Miss Ivy Rochefort is at home in the rôle of Mabel Lindon.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Stage and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wallis Clark.—*The Daughters of Men* was played for three nights. Miss Cecil Cromwell was excellent as Mrs. Reginald Crosby, as also was Miss Eily Molyon in the rôle of Grace Crosby; Mr. Arthur Royston played effectively as John Stedman, and received good support from Mr. Wallis Clark as Richard Millbank, Mr. Henry Renouf as James Burgess, and Mr. Frank Stone as Louis Stolbeck. Other characters capably sustained were Oscar Lackett (Mr. Philip Renouf), Martin (Mr. Lionel West), Mrs. Reginald Crosby (Mrs. Culling), the remainder calling for no comment. For the concluding three nights of the week *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* was again in the programme.

THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Frank Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—With G. H. Chirgwin in the programme this week it goes without saying that the entertainment is an enjoyable one, as the White-eyed Kaffir is a veritable host in himself. Lily Black, a dainty comedienne, sings delightfully, and Little Cliff, a clever juvenile comedian and grotesque dancer, has been vociferously applauded. The Sisters Belmont, duettists and dancers; Billie Burford, comedian; Milner Verren, tenor; Ross and Grayson, the bright comedy couple; and Leah Adell, vocalist, have each come in for a full share of favourable recognition.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Sole Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Evans.—The week's programme is headed by Herr Grais and his cleverly-trained baboons, who give a remarkably interesting performance, the baby, Diavoleno, in looping-the-loop, being especially good. Musical Silvo, soloist, on the musical glasses and the silvochimes, elicits loud applause; and other contributions include Mons. De Lil, illusionist and card expert; Ida Brophy, comedienne; Bonnetti and Corrie, eccentric jugglers; Prof. Hulbert, ventriloquist; and A. G. Spry, comedian. The orchestra is conducted by Lieut. W. Harvey, and Mr. W. Dennis is the M.C.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—*A Heart's Desire* is being staged here. The play is well presented by Messrs. Elliman's No. 1 Company. Lord St. Ives is exceedingly well portrayed by Mr. Frank V. Fenn; Miss Ethel Tooney plays the part of Oiya capably; Mr. S. Claydon is an excellent Bertie Beresford; and Eric May is in the able hands of Mr. Eddie Vane. Miss Amy Daley is a pleasing Elsie, and Mr. A. Armfield and Mr. Charles King do full justice to their parts.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—*The Dancing Girls of Spain* is being presented here by Mr. Clarence Corri's company. Mr. Jack Crichton as the Rev. Alonzo Joyce is a great success in some smart dancing; D'Arcy Davis is capitally represented by Mr. Edgar Deneve, and the rôle of Don Julian Alvarez is in the capable hands of Mr. W. H. Austin. Miss Katie May is a charming Miss Chiquita; Miss Gertrude Fawcett a pleasing Marie Montresser; Mr. George Denvers an excellent Sir Jeremiah; Mr. Johnnie Schofield, jun., an effective Jack Davis; and Mr. George Delaforce an amusing Terence.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Chas. Rembges.—An excellent programme is provided here. Nellie Wallace pays a return visit, and keeps the "house" in a constant roar of laughter with her songs and patter; the Daunton-Shaw Troupe are clever cyclists; Lowenwrith and Chas. Cohan cause much laughter with their patter; the Three Pirmans score a success; and Frazer and French, vocalists and dancers, please. Other turns are given by Cecilia Maude, vocal comedienne, and Corelli, in his humorous interlude.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—Gittins' Condensed Opera Company is the star turn here this week. The company render some excellent excerpts from *Maritana, Il Trovatore*, and *The Bohemian Girl*. The Cecilians, musicians and vocalists, and Bessie Wellow, the Two Dixons, Will Walton, the Custances, and Harry Coates are also in the bill.

MORCAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. C. M. Julian.—During the week Mr. Malvern has revived a version of Ouida's *Moths*, and has himself appeared with distinction as Correze. He has been well supported by Miss Maud Malvern as Fuschia Leach, Miss Blanche St. Albans as Vera, Miss Maud Lilian as Lady Dolly, Mr. Geoffrey Broughton as Prince Zouroff; Mr. J. L. Jackson as Lord Jura, Mr. C. M. Julian as the Duke of Mull. Miss Trixie St. Albans and Mr. Raymond Shaw have also been in the cast.

WINTER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—Auguste Van Biene has been topping the bill here in *Van Biene's Dilemma*, a sketch in which he gives evidence of his power as a performer on the 'cello. He is assisted by Miss Pullene and Mr. Percival Goffin. Ghita Corrie, in a vocal scena is delightful, and Miss May Newall also sings pleasantly. Joe Reichen's dogs are wonderfully trained; Silbon's Circus remains for another week, and has caught on; the Ringling Trio are funny on the stilts; Williams and Warden are excellent in Irish cross-talk; the Cromwells juggle well; Cliff and Kean sing and dance with success; and the Lancashire Harmony Boys succeed in the scena, *Home For the Holidays*.

ALHAMBRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—Joe Boganny with his lunatic bakers, create the customary furore; the Wulfrunas amuse everybody in their *Fun in a Café* acrobatic creation; and the Three Royal Dreadnoughts do some wonderful rifle practice. The other turns are Ellis and Watts, in catchy song and clever dance; Henriquette Maude, the *Daily Mirror* Girl, whose world travels are depicted on the Bioscope; a collier and his child in a thought-reading act; Fred and Maude Vypond, society entertainers; Lily Lonsdale, soprano; and Ernie Myers, favourite comedian.

CENTRAL PIER.—Manager, Mr. E. Hill.—Miss Ada Fawn is the bright particular star here this week, and very well she goes in all her songs and business. Walter Bellonini is responsible for some clever juggling, and a word must be said for his clever assistant; Clown Barker is smart with his miniature circus; the Woodwards delight all with clever equilibristic work; the Gentrys have a refined comedy act; Marie Blythe is a pleasing contralto; Mlle. Eldee has something original in her *poses plastiques;* Marie Palmer sings and dances well; and the Three Cheers have some well-trained cats.

WEST-END PIER.—Secretary, Mr. J. Bastow.—The Redcaps Concert Party are here this week, and the chief vocalist retained is Miss Elsa Hope, the dramatic soprano. Herr Wilhelm Morgann's Blue Hungarian Band is also a feature. The directors have decided to remodel the pier-head, and to provide extra accommodation for about 3,000 people. The plans have been prepared by Mr. Thomas Dryden.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Thos. W. Rowe.—*A Little Vagrant* is being played here by Mr. Harry Roxbury's company. Among those taking prominent parts in the production are Miss Vashti Wynne, Mr. Brian Henry, Mr. J. W. Gallagher, Mr. Fred D. Daviss, Mr. Richard Boscoe, Miss Alice Bowes (in the title-rôle), and Miss Bella Moody.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—An excellent company, under the direction of Mr. Will White, appears here this week in *The New World*, and in a well-finished rendering very prominent are Mr. Victor Rae, Mr. Charles Whitlock, Mr. Albert H. Clarke, Mr. Fred Guinness, Mr. Will Bass, Mr. Frank Hertie, Miss Cissie Clarke, Miss Maud Leslie, and Miss Georgina France.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton.—In *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, Harry Roxbury, supported by a good company, provides plenty of fun here; Mr. Charles Coborn, with amusing recitative and song, is well received; and in robust comic business the Gothams again prove a great success. The Miles-Stavordale Quintette do some wonderful banjo playing; Ross and Lewis, with a novel turn, are applauded; Eric, ventriloquist, and Robb Gilmore, a really good comedian, are both very popular; others in the company are Frank Elliston and company, in a sketch; and Mr. J. B. Preston, Scottish comedian.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Barrasford Co.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Miss Kitty Gordon gains a great reception here, and her singing of the "Cigarette" song from *Nelly Neil*, and the "Black Butterfly" song, proves very popular. Belrose and De Velin are duettists whose vocal selections are of a high-class order; and Max Waldon an amusing and clever female impersonator. Hayman and Franklin, American Hebrew impersonators, have some quaint dialogue and songs, and do a good turn; Gipsy Woolf and her Six Sunbeams sing and dance nicely; and others in a good company are Joe Cheevers, character comedian; Smarte Brothers, acrobats; Geoffreys and Benson, in a comedy duologue; Beatrice Croker, singer of Irish songs; and the Wallys, comedy and expert jugglers.

NEWPORT. — EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant, Mr. Page.—Rosie Archer is delightfully entertaining as a mimic on the piano; Austin Rudd in song and parody is humorous; and Amy Anderson and company, in *The Banana Queen*, prove a very taking turn; Baker and Balfe display ability in their xylophone performance; the Eight Empire Girls sing and dance admirably; and the Bioscope shows pictures of the Royal visit to Cardiff; George Lashwood is in good form, and has lost none of his popularity.

NORTH SHIELDS.—CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Mr. Will Goodwin with his scena, *Repentance*, scores a great success; Helene and Martin give a clever athletic display; the Gracias, comedians and dancers, are very entertaining; Winona, in her speciality act, meets with a hearty reception; Miss Lil Garrick, comedienne and dancer, is pleasing; Mr. Jack Crawley, comedian, is a great favourite; and the Bio-Photoscope is still interesting.

NORTHWICH.—PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Glanmore Jones; Manager, Mr. Lyndon Wyatt.—Mr. Harry Liston and Miss Lord Lumley are reappearing here this week, and their entertainment seems as popular as ever. Mr. Liston's work has lost none of its pristine freshness, and he is very ably backed up by Miss Lord Lumley.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fit.—A unique programme is presented this week, with Miss Marie Lloyd heading the bill. Although suffering from a cold on Monday evening, her performance was greeted with immense enthusiasm, and her charming illustrations, dresses, and songs, carried the audience away with delight. Among other items are Correze and Keith, who are successful as comedy jugglers; Mlle. Ameda displays some wonderful feats as an equilibrist, and is much applauded for her efforts; the Great Vincent in his somersault from five or six tables, is exceedingly good; Russell Brandon gives specimens of neat clog dancing; the Calcots are very entertaining in their musical turn, and get a capital reception; Ella Lane is a charming comedienne and dancer; while Bishop and Vale are good as knockabouts. The Hippo. Bio. is always well received.

AGRICULTURAL HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—The Royal Canadian animated pictures conclude their fifth week, and have received continuous support.

NOTTINGHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—In the laughable sketch, *Fishing*, Harry Tate manages to crowd in so much fun and absurdity that his audience is convulsed with mirth from start to finish; the ponderous "grace" of De Gracia's elephants, and their remarkable agility and cleverness provoke hearty applause and admiration; Les Frasettis present a refined and artistic musical entertainment on the harp, violin, and xylophone; an illustrated song by Marie Burnett is well recognised from all parts of the house; and Marie Empress proves a smart comedienne; Feilding and Hull offer their vocal medleys; and Spry and Austin receive a demonstration of approval; Francis, styled the cannon-ball king, and Ella Retford, an exceedingly neat dancer, submit attractive items; and the Bioscope has several amusing films.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Kennedy's Komiks, whose variety entertainment has had a successful run of four weeks, terminate their engagement on Saturday. For the closing week the programme includes Natt Abbott, in some clever musical novelties; the Incemores, with an amusing marionette speciality; King and King, good comedians; Verne and Verne, contributors of skipping rope dancing; and songs by Dan Noble, and the Misses Marie Yorke and Dolly Vince. For the next two weeks the theatre closes for the summer vacation, reopening August Bank Holiday.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. Edward Marris and company are here with *Somebody's Sweetheart*. Miss Norah Melton, in the name-part, Lulu, is a capable actress with a good voice; Miss Lena Laton makes an excellent Zora; and Miss Dora Hargreaves is also very good as Miss Ainsley. Misses Dolly Payne and Rosie Chandler as Norah and Molly are a pair of smart dancers. Mr. Cecil W. Parke is a smart Stanton Ashleigh, and he sings well; Miss May Norris is a clever Freddy; and Mr. Walter Nugent acts well as the villainous Stephen Leverton, his accomplice, Lem Lee, being well played by Mr. Percy Maitland. Mr. Frank Gala is fine as Old Joe, and Mr. Arthur Slade makes a good Detective Wilson. Mr. George Brentwood as Martin Blabbs provides some delightful comedy, keeping the audience in roars of laughter.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—The Geni Family head the bill in a Risley act, in which they introduce three ponies, and their turn earns several recalls. Alice May and company are capital in an amusing farce, entitled *Tranquillity;* the Barton and Franklin Trio provide some excellent music, playing several instruments in a clever manner; Johnson and Dever are a pair of speciality artists of merit with a smart show. Rose Harvey sings her latest successes with much success; Joad Heteb in Egyptian mystery gives an exceedingly interesting exhibition; Nancy Renshaw, laughing negro comedienne and bone soloist, is another good turn; and Ernest Hildred is a baritone vocalist worth listening to. The Dottoscope concludes with an amusing picture.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—Lambert and Hands, duettists, are here, and receive much applause for their singing; Lillian Sivado gives a smart performance on the trapeze; and the Dunlops, comedy skaters and cyclists, are very good. The Bioscope is again showing a series of humorous and interesting pictures.

OXFORD.—EAST OXFORD THEATRE. — Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. Watson Mills; Manager, Mr. John Stuart.—Miss Maud Western's company is here in *The Prodigal Son*. Mr. Claude Seaton is a most convincing and natural John Fanshaw; the part of his brother being capitally played by Mr. W. A. Buckstone; Mr. F. Dudley as Sir John Fanshaw does well; Mr. John Levey acts with commendable and realistic power as Bill Burke; Mr. Alf. Stretton is admirably suited as the villainous Ralph Marsden; and Mr. Robert Earl keeps the fun going all through the play as Larry the servant; Miss Connie Meadows is a bright and vivacious Mary; Miss Ada Hender is an attractive and able representative of Margaret Marsden; Miss H. Thompson is good as Nellie Burke; and Miss Maude Western plays Dick with a refreshing swing and "go" that establishes her a prime favourite.

PAISLEY.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—The star turn here this week, and one which affords genuine entertainment, is Professor Duncan and his wonderful troupe of performing collie dogs; Raglus puts in some good work as a comedy juggler; So-Da, illusionist, submits a startling novelty; decidedly smart and clever are Marba and Verity, humorists and acrobatic dancers; an excellent number is the musical scena contributed by Clare and Pastor; and others appearing successfully are Charley Dixon, eccentric comedian; Kate Lynd, comedienne; and Harry Zetter, comedian and versatile dancer. Interesting and humorous pictures are also shown on the Hippodrome Bioscope.

PLYMOUTH.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Cinquevalli proves an enormous attraction, his marvellous feats of jugglery mystifying the audiences at both performances. The Romaskoff Troupe, a troupe of Russian girls, perform some clever evolutions; Ernie Mayne's efforts in the comic line are rapturously applauded; Sid Cotterel and company are again engaged in their amusing sketch *The Substitute;* Lily Stewart is an attractive comedienne and dancer; and Kisbey, the "call-boy," Adey Spencer, and Vernon's pictures complete an excellent bill.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—A great attraction this week is Mr. Montague Beaudyn's *A Beautiful Fiend*. Ivan Paulovitch is splendidly portrayed by Mr. Montague Beaudyn; Mr. Fred Goddard makes an excellent Count Karateff; Sergius Strogoff is well characterised by Mr. Lionel Ellis; Mr. Harry Oates is entertaining as Christopher Crackles; Mr. W. Robertson Foulis deserves praise as Malachi; Miss Cissie St. Elmo cannot be too highly commended for her acting in the title-rôle; Mis Irene Munroe very cleverly impersonates Nadine Karateff; and Patty Woodlands is ably sustained by Miss Annie Clunn.

PORTH.—THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—The chief item here is Dr. Carl Hermann, who is enthusiastically received; Prof. McCann's performing Irish terriers show signs of careful training; Harris and Worth, comedians, are responsible for amusement; Mooney and Holbern (James and Ida) receive much applause; Terris and Ward, in a refined comedy act, *No Flowers*, are exceedingly good; Ada Whitton, burlesque actress, scores a success; Ella Rose, ballad vocalist, possesses an admirable voice; Marcus Boyle, comedian, does remarkably well; Lytton and Bland, in *A Lesson in Love*, give a good account of themselves; and the Palace pictures afford much amusement.

PORTSMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Brandon Thomas and Company are playing *Charley's Aunt*. Mr. Stanley Cooke gives extremely clever impersonations of Lord Babberly and the spurious Donna Lucia. Colonel Sir Francis Chesney is played by Mr. Brandon Thomas in most perfect manner; the parts of Jack Chesney and Charley Wykeman are ably taken by Messrs. Hastings Lynn and Richard B. Mason respectively; Mr. Sydney Compton does full justice to the rôle of Brassett; Mr. Walter Beaumont gives an excellent reading of Stephen Spettigue; Miss Amy Harpwaye and Miss Grace Russell charmingly sustain the girls, Kitty and Amy; Miss Sylvia Morris is a winsome Ela; and Miss Lena Macnaughton portrays Donna Lucia with distinction. The comedy is preceded by Mr. Thomas's one-act play, *The Lancashire Sailor*, and on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday the one-act play, *A Highland Legacy*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—This very comfortable theatre seems more cosy, if possible, than ever after its renovation, cream and gold being the prevailing colour scheme. A capital audience assembled on Monday evening on its re-opening to witness the successful and intensely human play, *The Gambler's Daughter*, presented by Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton and company. Miss Hill, in the trying rôles of Mildred and Miriam Grant (mother and daughter), was most pathetic as the gambler's wife, and as the daughter acted spiritedly and with conviction; Mr. Ayrton's Desmond O'Dare was a very excellent and natural impersonation of the light-hearted Irishman; Mr. Alfred Sanders as Soloman Solomans played with force and humour; Mr. Richard Pitt gave an able portrayal of the gambler, John Grant; Mr. Charles York had an arduous part in that of the villain, Stephen Brand, but did it full justice; the American capitalist, Ralph Gillman, was admirably taken by Mr. Wilford Bailey; Mr. Frank Wheatcroft made a manly Dick Stanhope; Miss Harriett Loydall gave an able and quaintly comical rendering of the negress, Auntie Zeb.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—G. H. Elliott, "the original chocolate-coloured coon," is a prime favourite at this house, and his most artistic singing and dancing gain much applause; Goodfellow and Gregson, vaudeville entertainers, do extremely well, and were rewarded by a hearty recall; the Pichel Troupe, acrobats, are graceful and very clever, and most brisk in their Risley act; Violette Gibson and White Coons in scena, *Under a Cactus Tree*, are much liked; John Warren, ventriloquist, is smart and most diverting; Katie Marsh, actress, vocalist, and dancer, gives a good turn; the Four Jumels are most capable musicians; others doing good work are Agnes Asher, comedienne; Bert Brantford, comedian; Sisters St. Julian, duettists and dancers; Payne's pictures; and Mr. John Warren, magician, with the "Magic Carpet."

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—The Morris Cronin Troupe of modern jugglers give a marvellous exhibition of club manipulation and balancing; Mr. C. V. Adams is a very capable comedian, and has caught on well; Haig and Novel, in a mirth-provoking comedy act, do some extraordinary tumbling business; Mr. Will Poluski, jun., scores with his very diverting patter and clever dancing; the Wylie Dog Circus is most entertaining, and much liked; the Bros. Horne, in comedy sketch, *The Biter Bit*, do an excellent boxing turn; Ike Scott and Son, popular comedians and dancers, are amusing; the Five Whiteleys, an exceedingly clever combination of Continental speciality artists, give an acrobatic and wire performance that receives great applause; the Hippodrome pictures finish a capital programme.

RAMSGATE.—AMPHITHEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—The Amphitheatre has been well patronised on each evening during the past week, and the "Chronophone Singing Pictures" have proved most popular. They are very distinct and steady, and the spectator can see the lips of the figures depicted moving in perfect time with the songs and choruses rendered by the talking machine. The animated photographs of recent events include the Derby, the Royal Review at Aldershot, &c. Humorous subjects are well represented. Miss Jessie de Grey is well received in her rendering of songs; Mr. Leslie Sear contributes comic ditties; and Miss Marie Jonqui proves herself a popular comedienne.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jules Richeux.—A large audience greeted with enthusiasm *The Mikado* on its revival at the Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate, on Monday evening, after the removal of the official ban. The D'Oyly Carte Company opened a week's engagement in Gilbert and Sullivan's opera most auspiciously. Mr. Stafford Moss filled the part of Nanki-Poo, and his solos were loudly applauded; Mr. Charles R. Walenn was a brilliant success as Ko-Ko, causing no end of amusement; Mr. Leicester Tunks very admirably fulfilled all the requirements of the character of The Mikado of Japan; and Mr. Fred Pattrick was duly impressive as Pooh-Bah (Lord High Everything Else). Mr. Leo Sheffield and Mr. Fred Drawater did well respectively as Pish-Tush and Go-To. The charming singing and clever acting of Miss Theresa Rassam as the jilted Katisha were especially admired, her solo at the end of the first act being greeted with most hearty applause. Miss Hope Hastings made a sweet Yum-Yum; and Miss Elsie Carey (Pitti-Sing) and Miss Mabel Graham (Peep-Bo) were thoroughly successful. All the old favourites among the musical numbers were encored, several having to be repeated three or four times. *The Mikado* was in the bill for Wednesday afternoon and Thursday evening. On Tuesday, *Iolanthe* was staged to a large audience, and the performance was in every respect a marked success. *The Gondoliers* occupied the boards on Wednesday evening, the other operas in the repertoire being *Patience* (Friday evening) and *Yeomen of the Guard* (Saturday evening).

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode.—The star attraction this week is the engagement of Atlas and Miss Vulcana "Society" Athletes, who give a wonderful display of feats of strength and weight-lifting. Miss Vulcana also appears in a number of classic poses. The Maros give a clever triple bar performance; Sam Redfern is very diverting; The De Veres (Harry anrd Lillie) and Carney Bros. provide entertaining turns; and the Meymotts appear to advantage in the musical comedietta, *Semi-Detached*.

RHYL.—PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's company provides plenty of enoyment with their exhilarating miniature musical comedy, *The Gay River*. W. H. ("Pip") Powell is responsible for the liveliest fun, and his comic antics, songs, and sayings keep the audience in good humour. Another favourite is Frank Dunlop, whose talents as comedian have been put to better use than this week. Mildred Bryan has a good voice and her songs are very successful. Harrison Latimer's baritone songs are greatly appreciated. Casa Crawford, Winifred Norman, Eleanor Crawford, and A. W. Parry are also in the programme.

ROCHDALE.—CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Smith and Co.—Pringle's North American Animated Picture Co. continues with success here, an entire change of pictures being submitted each week. Variety turns are given by Clark and Glenney, and Frank Newbury.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—This week is billed as the last of the Bioscope season. Some capital pictures are again shown on the screen, and variety turns are given by Charles Ousley, comedian and expert dancer; and Blarney and Kennard, in a comedy act. The Sisters Russell, burlesque artists, should have appeared, but, through the illness of one of them, were unable to do so.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Messrs. Stratton and Copeland's company, by arrangement with Mr. J. Rice Cassidy, is presenting *Dan the Rake*, Mr. Arthur Stratton keeping the audience in roars with his portrayal of the title rôle, in which he is ably seconded by Miss Amy Gibson as Madge. A fine Colonel Flame is that by Mr. Jerold E. Reed, and Lieut. Charles Kavanagh is in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Copeland. Mr. Frederick Biron does excellent work as Captain Tom Cooper; Mr. Jo. Cuthbertson is a comical Achille; Miss Florence Creagh plays well as Helen; the support given by Miss Nellie Shields (Biddy O'Malley), Miss Florence Bell (Peggy O'Rourke), and Miss Alice Marsden (Mrs. Donnelly) is duly appreciated.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Closed for redecoration, etc., until Bank Holiday.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—*The Nihilist* is presented twice nightly at this house. Mr. Felix Pitt gives an excellent portrayal of Ivan Nowasky; fun is provided by Mr. Henry Wright as "Bobbie Smart" and Miss Jessica Ford as Katrina; Miss Mary Dawson as Princess Olga and Miss Florrie Kelsey as Alexina are equally successful in those parts. Karl Orloff is carefully played by Mr. Kenyon Gray, and Mr. C. Rovinelli is well placed as Prince Alexander; Pietre Petoff by Mr. O. Silverstone and Father Gourko by Mr. John Belton are good studies. The staging is good.

STRETFORD PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Sidney Weatherilt; Manager, Mr. Fred Erick.—The cinematograph views are both interesting and amusing, and the variety turns are also appreciated.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Son; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—*The Shulamite* is here this week. Mr. Algernon Hicks as Simeon Krillett is particularly good; Mr. George Rammell as Robert Waring does well; Miss Ella Thornton as Deborah does excellent service and is dramatic; Mr. Alfred Hilliard as Jan aids the success; Miss Violet Vivian as Tante Anna is satisfactory; Miss Chrissie Bickerstaffe as Memke plays earnestly; and Mr. Albert Rogers as Klas acquits himself with distinction.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mrs. Hy. Mayhew; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—*The Bank of England* is the attraction here. Mr. Charles Lester as Sherlock Holmes acts with care and sincerity; Mr. Clifton Boyne as Stephen Hartley shows ability in character delineation; Miss Lailah Davis as the American widow puts plenty of life into her part; Mr. F. Ernstone as Godfrey Dane is self-contained; Mr. Edmond O'Grady as Gordon Isaacs plays effectively; Mr. Victor Leglere as Timmy Sprouts deserves a word of praise; Miss Dorothy Riddell as Sylvia deserves considerable credit; and Mr. Will Whittaker as the Whistler has ability.

SPA THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. F. Goodricke.—*Lucky Miss Dean* is the title of a pleasing little comedy which is the attraction here this week. Mr. Leigh Lovell as Fredk. Ware acts the part with great refinement; as Acacia Miss Octavia Kenmore displays an attractive style; Mr. Arthur McCulloch and Miss Catherine Maynard as the Uncle and Aunt respectively take their parts delightfully; and as the rival cousins Mr. Aubrey Mather and Mr. Brembler Wills are popular.

THE AQUARIUM.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The vocalist for the week is Miss Marie Swales, who treats all her songs with great skill. The great attraction is Wee Georgie Wood, who is meeting with great success; Hurman juggles with ability; John Higgins gives exhibitions of jumping; Frederica's terriers are retained for another week; Rene and Smith give exhibitions of ball-punching; the Moncktons have a sketch entitled *A Woman's Curiosity;* Miss Nellie Dunbar, vocalist, is pleasing; and Will Cornish still continues his capital musical exhibition.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—*The Triumph of Truth* forms an excellent attraction here this week as played by Mr. Roland Yorke's company. The Count D'Orville of Mr. Yorke is an effective study; a rollicking Captain Eversleigh is found in Mr. Dudley Winton; Sir Charles has a capable representative in Mr. Herbert Goddard; Tommy Woodhead is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Fred de Vere. Miss Gertrude Bonser submits the dual rôles of Lilian and Violet Anstruther with telling effect; Blanche le Croix finds a careful exponent in Miss Gertrude Hunt; Kate Bright is sympatheticaly played by Miss Gertie Rosalind; Miss Nellie Hughes is a charming Little Lena.

SHEERNESS.—THE HIPPODROME. — General-Manager, Mr. F. Leighton. — Notwithstanding counter attractions, good business still prevails here. Walter Purvis and company, in the comedy sketch, *Cauliflower Joe*, cause considerable merriment; Chas. Ullrick, aptly described as the barrel king, submits a skilful performance; G. Gicardo, a youthful juggler, is clever; Beattie Besson, comedienne and clog-dancer, is well received; Selbey and Meyers, comedians and dancers, gain approbation; and J. F. Daniels, pedestal dancer, is also deserving of praise. A capital selection of animated pictures concludes an interesting programme.

THE PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—The excellent company at this popular hall this week includes Rosie Mayo, a big favourite; Mr. Wattie Mitchell, a clever Scotch comedian; Miss Topsy Levane, an up-to-date burlesque actress; Mr. Phil Reymond, a capital comedian and vocalist; and the Crown Sketch Company, in a laughable comedy sketch, *A Distant Relation*, which is well played and excellently staged.

SHEFFIELD.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*A Beautiful Fiend* is played by Mr. Beaudyn's talented company. In the title-rôle Miss Sidney Crowe gives a picture of fascinating femininity in her elaborate and becoming confections, and she acted with her accustomed power and grace; Miss Marie Fontaine is a charming heroine; Mr. H. C. Robinson is a picturesque Count, and all the other characters are cleverly delineated. The mounting is admirable.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Mr. Wilkie Bard's original methods and clean, wholesome humour have made him one of Sheffield's biggest favourites; Powell's Marionettes, with a lovely transformation scene, which takes up the entire Empire stage, are enthusiastically applauded; the Jackson Family submit a refined musical entertainment; Miss Arabella Allen shows dramatic intensity in her impersonations of Uriah Heep and Nell's grandfather; the funniosities of Cruickshank, the fool, are deservedly cheered, and Miss Nelly Stratton, Mr. L. W. Harris, the Bioscope, Miss Marie Ray, with a charming illustrated song, "Daddy's Girl," and Vernando, a smart ventriloquist, complete the company.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—Miss Lillie Soutter, a pretty and accomplished comedienne, is "knocking" the Grand habitues nightly, and other artists engaged this week are Mr. H. Leslie Bell's company in *The Red Letter;* Mr. Frank Zara, patter vocalist; Miss Kate Epelet, a clever dancer; Miss Bessie Shelley, vocalist; and Challis's performing dogs. Mr. Turpin, late of the Theatre Royal, entered on his duties as resident manager last week.

CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietors, The Jaspar Redfern Co., Ltd.—In addition to the pictures, there are appearing the Musical Palmers, Jack Martin, descriptive vocalist; and Miss Daisy Almer, song and dance artist.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.— Every commendation is due to Mr. C. Watson Mill's company in presenting *A Warning to Women*. Shaun, a wandering minstrel, has in Mr. Godfrey Tearle an exponent of skill, and his easy demeanour is of a pronounced type; Mr. Richard Vane gives the villainous rôle of Dr. Marcus Dread with much vigour and complete success; Mr. William Vane stands out well as Fergus McNaughton; Squire Kennion is a pathetic character, ably taken by Mr. Henry Rutland; his daughter, Sheila, is entrusted to Miss Grace Barton, who gives a pleasing performance; Miss Helen Beverley is good as Molly O'Moore, while Miss Edith Rutland is well suited as Miles O'Moore; Miss Molly Malone, in her impersonation of Moira Kennion, wins great admiration for a clever and natural rendering.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—An interesting and novel attraction for this week by the juvenile company from Drury Lane Theatre meets with evident favour, the talented youngsters giving a most

Special mention should be made of the music under the direction of Mr. J. Holiday, who has a capable leader in Miss Zeo Lynn.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House, Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—The Opera House was reopened on Monday evening, when Mr. Rollo Balmain and Miss Sara Mignon, supported by their London company, presented a capital interpretation of the exhilarating farcical comedy *Our Flat*. Mr. Rollo Balmain depicts the rôle of Nathaniel Glover with much humour and versatility; Miss Sara Mignon, in the part of Bella, the slavey, presents an admirable and volatile comedy-sketch, which was much appreciated; Reginald Sylvester is characteristically impersonated by Mr. Sydney Leyton; Mr. Archie Selwyn submits a clever portraiture of Clarice Vane; Miss L. Western and Miss May Beatrice are charming and piquant as Lucy McCullum and Mary Sylvester respectively; Mr. W. B. Griffiths did well as Mr. McCullum; and Miss Lilian Walker gives a good impersonation of Mme. Volant. As a curtain-raiser a one-act playlet, entitled *One of the 93rd*, is presented.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Coulson.—Mr. George Fulton's company is appearing here in *A Girl Redeemed from Sin*... Mr. Jo Monkhouse submits a good portrayal of the hero, Will May; the Nancy Lee of Miss Olive Fulton is powerful; as the aged couple, Samuel Lee and Mrs. Lee, Mr. Frank Lyndon and Miss Nellie Waddington acquit themselves creditably; Mr. Walle Spinner, as Robert Denham, makes the most of the part; Mr. Harry C. Momber is good as Jim Jakes, being ably supported by Miss Ada Oxley as Peggy Grey and Mr. G. M. Benson as the Hon. Bertie; Mr. Wm. Burgess, in the villianous rôle of Ernest Sylveston, is seen to advantage.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, The South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—At the head of the bill are Marie San Toi and Co. in the musical novelty, entitled *A Japanese Tea Garden by Night*. The scena, which is well staged and full of sweet music, good singing and dancing, is enthusiastically received; David Poole submits a good ventriloquial show; Starr and Leslie contribute *Watch the Lamp*, a funny speciality; some good dancing is displayed by Bowden and Bell; Tom Woottwell, the loose legged comedian, has a good reception; and the other enjoyable turns are Grace Merton, ballad vocalist; Florence Vie, comedy artist; Dusty Rhodes, a comedy merchant; and the Bioscope.

Tivoli.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. K. Hall and Jos. Sweeney; Business Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—Though the summer fare at the Tivoli is generally a living picture entertainment, the management has judiciously added variety turns. Corman's Juveniles are seen to advantage in a pretty scena, and Maggie Dilston sings favourite songs.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—This week *Under the Czar* is being staged here by Mr. Fred Jarman's company, directed by Mr. Wilson Howard. The leading rôle of Nicholas Yeroslaff is ably sustained by Mr. Howard; Sonia Gregorovitch has a sympathetic exponent in Miss Carlotta Anson; Mr. William Matthews presents the treacherous Kovesky in glaring colours; Alexis Petroff is cleverly handled by Mr. Carl Vallender; and Miss Violet Vivienne supplies a capital impersonation of Siomka. Mr. Cecil Morand as Paul Ignat is the life and soul of the piece; and Miss Madge Clare makes a bewitching Zara.

STAFFORD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—*The Master Criminal* is being presented here. Mr. Henry L. Ormond impersonates with effect the part of Telford Lestage; Mr. Harold Macartney makes a manly Philip Manners; Mr. John C. Carlyle is seen to advantage as Ben Beauday; and Mr. Willie Black and Mr. Walter Rousby are amusing as Gentleman Jim and Tommy Dala. As Mabel Manners Miss Kate Somerville is sympathetic; and Miss Winifred Chalmers submits a finished conception of Cecile.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House.—General Manager, Mr. A. McLeod Loader.—*The Woman from Scotland Yard* is being played. In the title rôle Miss Chrissie Dunbar figures to advantage;; Mr. George E. Clive is a manly representative of the hero, and as the villain, Paul Obanoff, Mr. A. C. Grant gives a forceful performance; Miss Mildred Howard leaves nothing to be desired in her performance of Lady Stanhope; Mr. J. L. Schofield is excellent as Ivan Vasseletich; and the comedy is well maintained by Messrs. Walter Clarke and R. Cromwell, assisted by Miss Dorothy Wilkinson.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmott.—*My Statue of Grace*, a sketch, presented by the Emmell Comedy Company, has a genuine claim to merit. The statuesque Adele Levey is an ideal statue of grace; and Miss Jeannie Weston cleverly plays the jealous wife. Mr. Fred Haming is excellent as the much-perturbed sculptor. Another excellent turn is that of the Bros. Leslie, in an absurdity entitled *Music Mad*. They give some capital selections on unique instruments, and cause a lot of amusement. Florence Yamen pays a welcome visit with her well-rendered songs and quaint dancing; Dave Miller is an Irish comedian of much humour; Henri Cazman provides a distinctly clever turn "A One Man Music Hall"; the Dancing Gilberts give a fine exhibition of their talents; and Edna Latonna is a charming vocalist with quite a style of her own. "Baby's Outing" on the Barrascope completes an excellent bill.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun.—Messrs. E. A'Dell and Chabot's company are appearing here this week in *His Sister's Honour*. Mr. Ed. E. Louis displays merit in his impersonation of Frank Stanley; Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe acts powerfully as Sir Richard Redvers; and Dr. Godfrey is effectively portrayed by Mr. Gilson Brooke. Timothy Timid is very amusingly played by Mr. Harry Ugar, who is capitally supported by Miss Janet Lawton as Marie. Miss Kathryne Eckart acts feelingly as Dora Stanley; and Miss Ethel Ashleigh gives a pleasing impersonation of Ivy Merton.

Empire, Ltd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—The Tally-Ho Trio, styled monarchs of mirth and harmony, have proved highly entertaining; a comical juggler is Harry Friskey; clever acrobatic equilibrists are Les Zelovas; Francis O'Flynn, banjoist, is distinctly pleasing; J. W. Winton, ventriloquist, causes abundant laughter; the Elgars, refined vocalists, are cordially greeted; the Sisters Walmsley, vocalists and dancers, achieve much success; and the Four Rio Brothers, gymnasts, accomplish some exceedingly smart feats.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—*The Mockery of Marriage* is being presented here by Mr. Montgomery. The leading characters are ably sustained by Messrs. Milne Taylor, Heilbronn, Hesslegrave, Gully, Mrs. E. Brady, and others. Interesting films are also shown by Payne's Bioscope.

STOKE.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr T. Allan Edwards; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—A dramatic sketch, *The Little Stowaway*, heads the bill, and is watched with much interest. As the stowaway, Miss Eva Lumley is excellent; the Bros. Zampa contribute their usual clever act; the Bros. Lord and Murray, as manipulators of clubs, etc., are capital; Howard and Wallace are very funny in their dialogue, *Taming a Wife*; the Two Sparks sing well, and are appreciated; Monti Santos is a clever juggler, some of his feats being first-class; Will Lindsay is a capital comedian; and the pictures are good.

SUNDERLAND.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—A strong attraction is provided here by Mr. James Hare's *A Destroyer of Men* company. Mr. Jas. Harris submits a strong and forcible interpretation of the part of the hero; Mr. Charles Bickell capably fills the character of Michael Mischla; Mr. C. P. Wentworth in the heavier rôle of Count Starevitch is successful; and Mr. Hill Cremer is well placed as Paul Starevitch. Mr. Ross Warren relieves the proceedings as Coco Tatchoski, receiving assistance from Miss Alice Buckland (Mina Pattakake) in the lighter comedy element. Mis Jessie Yatman is adequate as Vida Rovel; and Miss Irene Clifford submits an admirable rendition of the more unthankful part of the adventuress, Olga Mischla.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Rich. Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The Elliott Savona's, with their go-a-head musical show, carry everything before them. Mr. Arthur Jefferson's smart comedy sketch receives an admirable interpretation from Messrs. T. G. Warry (Col. Piper), Wilfred Compton (The Hon. P. Fitzhuggins), Miss Miriam Holt (Lydia), and others. The really clever illusions of "Dida" is most wonderful, a couple of ladies appearing most mysteriously in a glass tank filled with water. W. E. Whittle is a ventriloquist of more than average ability, his camp scene being most realistic. The Montague Bros. score in a statuesque scena, entitled *The Sculptor's Dream*. Barney Armstrong has some quaint new songs that are exceedingly good. Godfrey James, the singing collier, has a tenor voice that stands him in good stead, and he is enthusiastically received. Barrett and Knowles, comedians; Dan Leno, jun., comedian; and the bioscope pictures complete the bill.

Palace of Varieties.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co.; Resident-Manager, Messrs. Alf. Browne and Syd. B. Stringer.—A good all-round bill is offered to Wear-siders by the managers here this week. First honours are given to *Casey's Court* in their droll entertainment. G. W. Hunter, comedian and raconteur, is also a popular item. The Attilla Bros. exhibit their strength in some wonderful feats. Cherry Jan, comedienne and dancer; George Roe, Scottish comedian and dancer; Scottie's Waifs and Strays; Fred Wand, comedian; "Whizzing the Whirl"; The St. John's, musical comedians and dancers; and the Palace pictures fill the remainder of the bill.

SWANSEA.—The Grand.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—For the concluding week of their season Mr. Norman MacEwan and company staged *The Profligate*. Mr. Norman MacEwan as Dunstan Kershaw, the man with the past, was simply magnificent. The part of Mrs. Renshaw gave Miss Violet Sterne excellent opportunity to display her powers, which she utilised to the full. Another excellent character is Hugh Murray, in which Mr. Arthur Somers was admirable. Lord Danglers, the divorcee, was given a life-like impersonation by Mr. Murray Hawthorn; Wilfred Brudenell was capitally impersonated by Mr. Sydney Palfrey; Mr. Robert Entwhistle achieved success as Mr. Cheal; whilst as Ephgraves and Weaver Mr. Arthur Liray and Mr. Erik Yorke did well. Miss Lester Stephens was eminently suited with her part as Mrs. Storehay, the society lady. Miss Isabel Hathorn as Irene played with rare delicacy and sharm. The Janet of Miss Mary Masters was another excellent impersonation, whilst the Priscila of Miss Ella Edgar left nothing to be desired.

The Star.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. J. Powell.—Mr. Ellerslie Pyne and company opened on Monday with *The Sleigh Bells*. In essaying the part of Mathias, Mr. Pyne undertook a severe task out of which he came with flying colours. As Annette Miss Grace Jones played charmingly, whilst as Christian Mr. Norman H. Stacey showed a fine conception of the part. The rest of the cast is in capable hands. *The Bells* is preceded by the Balcony Scene from *Romeo and Juliet*, played by Mr. Pyne and Miss Grace Jones.

The Empire, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—The Chronomegaphone presents Harry Lauder in all his latest successes and is much appreciated. The Anartos are seen to great advantage in *The Morning's Mail*. The Marconis give a wonderful electrical exhibition; Pat Rafferty is as usual a tremendous success; Edie King dances beautifully; Boy Glen tells funny stories well, and should be heard of in the future; Rider Sloan, comedian, will take some beating; whilst May Henderson soon makes herself a huge favourite; Ben Albert suits his title, "A dry old stick." American bioscope pictures of the Royal visit to Cardiff are much enjoyed.

TORQUAY.—Princess Pier Concert Hall.—Proprietors, Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—This week "The Pansy and the Owls" are providing the amusements here, and good audiences are attracted each night. Miss Louie Langley does some good step dancing; Miss Lottie Drury is a pleasing soubrette; Miss Florence Waddington a capable accompanist; Mr. Harry Dunco and Mr. Walter Gordon introduce humorous selections; and Mr. George Newey has a good baritone voice.

TYNEMOUTH.—Palace-by-the-Sea.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—Barclay Gammon as a humorous entertainer holds his own with the best, and is highly appreciated here. The Ellimans, in their musical interlude, repeat their previous successes. Harry Esdon's intelligent dogs are a novelty which finds great favour. The Bristows contribute excellent comedy cycling items; and Evansio manipulates the plates, &c., in a wonderful way. The bioscope pictures still prove popular; and the musical numbers of the Palace orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Edwin Thornton, remain a feature of the evening's entertainment.

VENTNOR.—Grand Pavilion.—Miss Dorothy Casey was here for the first three nights this week with *A Country Mouse*. Miss Casey as Lady Bowlby, Mr. Riddell Robinson as the Hon. Vyse, Mr. E. J. Coyne as the Duke of St. Kitts, and Miss Mildred Hodson in the title-rôle, were all that could be desired. The other parts were all well portrayed. *The Country Mouse* was preceded by a screaming one-act farce, entitled *Faithful James*, the cast including Mr. E. J. Coyne, Mr. R. Stutfield, Mr. G. Henson, Miss Susie Oak, &c.

WAKEFIELD.—Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The Pardoes perform some clever gymnastic feats in a novel sketch, entitled *Uncle and the Cannibal*; the Three Eltons are smart on the triple bar; Frank Whiteley, negro comedian, proves very successful; Sam Shipley, comedian, is highly amusing; Miss Lottie Holland, comedienne, sings well; the Vanora Troupe contribute an interesting musical and vocal turn; Thomas Taylor, boy tenor, merits favour; and Mlle. Sara's Marblesque Trio appear in classical statuary poses.

WEDNESBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Batersby; Manager, Mr. T. Kuner.—Messrs. Kennedy's Komiks are including in their interesting programme this week the Jollions, versatile duettists and sketch artists, who are making a marked impression; the return of Freddy Marston, the Bluebeard of Birmingham pantomimes, is a huge success; Mr. T. W. Lenner, droll entertainer, and Miss Florrie Wright, dainty soubrette, do some excellent work in their respective parts. An interesting impersonation is that of Miss Clarence Turner, "the Lancashire take-downer." Other turns are contributed by Miss Mollie Revell, ballad vocalist, Mme. Astor, contralto, and Mr. Glem Lisbon, the extraordinary skater with his bulldog pal.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—This week's array of talent is headed by Arthur Watson, Flo. Stanley, and company, in *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*. Shrieks of laughter greet the comicalities of Arthur Watson, in the character of Jack Marlinspike. Captain Devereux is paying another visit with his clever dogs; the Royal Czar Troupe of Russian dancers give a smart exhibition; a graceful performance is that of La Belle Maie, "Queen of the Silver Thread"; Royston and Royce are heartily applauded; Stewart and Stewart, comedy entertainers, secure a gratifying reception; and Raymond's Biotableaux are especially interesting.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company is here in the sensational drama *The Face at the Window*, by Mr. F. Brooke Warren. Although quite familiar with the piece, the play retains all its attractions to Wigan audiences. Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale as the Chevalier Delgardo, Mr. T. W. Dunscombe as Paul Gouffet (detective), Mr. Alf Warne as Hy. de Brisson, and Mr. Geo. Phythian as Le Blanc, play the leading rôles to admiration; whilst Miss Gladys Newcombe as Babette, Miss Marie Tennant as La Pinau, and Miss Marie Barrett as Marie de Brisson give excellent portrayals of their respective parts.

WORKINGTON.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—This theatre was reopened on Monday, when Valentine Beadon's company played *The Best Must Win* to an appreciative house. Mr. S. C. Cranston is a refined and manly hero; and Mr. Graham Woods a satisfactory villain. Mr. J. Dobson Clyde as Minos created roars of laughter; Mr. A. Hall Menzies as Jacques reveals ability in low comedy; Mr. V. Beadon is a pathetic Sabretache; and Miss Marie Robson, in her dual parts, evokes admiration and applause. Miss M. Menzies is charming as the heroine.

WORTHING.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. Dudley Gill's company came here for the first three nights this week, presenting *A Snug Little Kingdom*. Mr. W. Kershaw submitted an artistic delineation of Bernard Gray; Mr. Edward Breon typically enacted the part of Hubert Gray; Mr. H. Montague Looe presented an excellent character study of Ben Kershaw; Miss Ada King did well as Mrs. Blower; Miss Margaret Stuart caused amusement as Amelia; Miss Leslie Thorne was a capital Sister Hope; and Miss Margaret S. Fareleigh an excellent Dolly. The curtain-raiser, *Wanted, James Burton*, was well put on. Miss Dorothy Cacey and company on Thursday presented *A Country Mouse*.

WREXHAM.—Empire.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—George Stanley and company are retained for another week in consequence of their success. Sid Bandon is a big favourite; the Alton Trio are clever contortionists and barrel experts; Miss Nell Brough is a pleasing serio and dancer; and Tella and Gardell are clever gymnasts. The animated pictures add greatly to the entertainment.

YORK.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company is here with *A Royal Divorce*. Miss Edith Cole repeats her delightful impersonation of Josephine, a part which this clever lady has made particularly her own; as Napoleon, Mr. Frederick Victor depicts the Emperor as a man with a good deal of human sympathy; a rugged impersonation of Talleyrand is given by Mr. William Dexter, who fully realises the many possibilities in the part; and Mr. G. M. Mantanini was forcible and declamatory as De Beaumont. Miss Agnes Imlay as Marie Louise was clever, making the rôle sufficiently insipid to be natural; and Miss Helen Richmond made a merry and laughing little Stephanie. Much amusement was caused by Mr. George Hudson as Grimaud; and Little Ethel Love was exceedingly natural as the King of Rome.

Opera House and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—The Banzai Troupe of Japanese artists are a strong attraction this week; Kitts and Windrum, in their clever sketch, *The Cuckoo*, are extremely amusing; the efforts of the Brothers Brooks cause much laughter; and that able comedian, James Kurry, is also to the fore. The Cattaneos, the Three Orros, the Sisters Brand, the Brothers St. Clair, Maudie Ray, and the Bioscope complete the list.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The concise descriptions that we give below of recent applications for patents are specially contributed by Messrs. Howard and Co., patent agents, 57 and 58, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will assist readers in all patent matters:—

Applications.

15654.—Harry Luttrell Godden, of Coleherne road, Earl's Court, London. For improvements in aerial tracks for popular amusement, and other purposes.

15902.—Arcade Mallet, of Southampton-buildings, London. For Improvements in and relating to cinematographs and like apparatus.

16050.—Harry Luttrell Godden, of Coleherne-road, Earl's Court, London. For improvements in gravity tracks for public amusement, and like other purposes.

Complete Specifications Accepted.

25146.—Kondo. Ladder for acrobatic performances.

7495.—Down and Down. Irrigators for operating theatres.

Complete Specification.

7364.—Fire extinguishing. H. T. Murphy, Winthrop-street, Springfield, Massachusetts, U.S.A. Relates to means for extinguishing and for preventing the spread of fire in theatres. To prevent the spread of fire from the stage to the auditorium a fire-proof curtain is lowered on the outbreak of fire by means of water-motors or by a windlass. Water-wheels are attached to the curtain roller, and mounted within a casing fitted with a supply pipe and discharge. This pipe is connected to the water main through a valve casing provided with two branches fitted with valves, which are respectively operated by hand and automatically. To cause the automatic operation of the valve, it is fitted with an arm which carries a weight, and is held by links connected together by fusible material, and is attached to a wall, &c. The fusion of the material releases the arm, allowing the weight to fall and open the valve. Guides are provided at each side of the stage for the curtain to prevent it from being blown about by draughts. Sprinkler pipes are arranged at the rear and front of the proscenium opening, these pipes being fitted with nozzles directed across the curtain so as to keep the curtain moistened when lowered, or to form a water-curtain. The pipes are put into operation by valves of a suitable nature. At the back of the stage and in the auditorium are arranged pipes connected to the water supply through double valves, similar to those above referred to, and terminating in sprinkler pipes fitted to the ceiling.

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THE COMEDIE FRANCAISE COLLECTION.

"While the Comédie Française," once wrote M. Francisque Sarcey in an article in the *Nineteenth Century*, "was forming for itself an admirable répertoir of plays, it was also gathering a marvellous collection of objects of art, statues, busts, and paintings, which might be called its *trésor*, in the same way as we say the *trésor de Notre-Dame*. Who does not know the *foyer* of the Comédie Française and the gallery which joins it? Who has not admired that superb marble where Molière—an ideal Molière, but no matter—seems to live again, and the pensive face of the aged Corneille, and that *chef-d'œuvre* of *chefs-d'œuvre*, the inestimable jewel of the collection, the bust of Rotrou? Shall I speak of the statue of Voltaire sitting, which is known to the whole world by the copies that have been made of it; and of the bust of the same Voltaire which figures by the side of the statue? This Comédie Française, being a lasting institution, has been able, day by day, and seizing good opportunities, to enrich itself with these marvels of art, of which our Louvre might be jealous. The history of each of these works of art is known, as well as the way the Comédie Française got them. For this one the artist received a free admittance for life; that one was bequeathed to the house by a theatrical amateur; while others were offered by a member of the company, or given by the Government. Every half-century increases the splendour of this collection, and enlarges the library and the archives. The *Maison de Molière* is at one and the same time a theatre, a palace, and a museum.

All this—répertoire, company, collection of art, archives, and glorious mementoes—narrowly escaped destruction or dispersion in the great Revolution of 1789. Politics invaded the house, and divided the members into two hostile camps. The one clung to the old *régime* and Royalty; the other boldly espoused the new ideas. A schism was inevitable; it broke out. The Royalists remained faithful to the *salle* where the Comédie Française was then installed, and which is now the Odéon; the others came and established themselves in the Rue Richelieu, at the same spot where the *salle* of the Théâtre Français is now to be found. The dissidents were the more numerous, and, be it said, the most celebrated. At their head was the illustrious Talma, he who was to become the glory of tragedy under the First Empire. The public did not hesitate; they recognised in them the real heirs of Molière. Moreover, by one of those dictatorial measures in vogue at the time, the theatre on the left bank of the Seine was closed, and the actors who had not rallied to the Republic thrown into prison.

On the 9th of Thermidor there was a moment of inexpressible confusion. All the actors that formed the old company, each going his own way, were dispersed over various theatres. But this crisis was a short one, and in May, 1799, they found themselves united together again in the *salle* of the Rue Richelieu. All the institutions of the past had fallen around them; they alone were left standing uninjured. It was still a republic governed by consuls elected for a week, and by their side was the sovereign represented by a commissioner of the Government. He loved the theatre, did the sovereign, who was no other than the First Consul. When he became Emperor, Napoleon the First interested himself in the house most deeply, and took a proud pleasure in providing a royal audience for his actors in ordinary. He felt the necessity of codifying the customs in virtue of which the Comédie Française was administered, and he issued the decree which is so celebrated in France under the name of *Décret de Moscou*. It was indeed from Moscow (1812) that the decree was dated. Napoleon, who had something theatrical and *charlatanesque* about him, did not dislike these contrasts and surprises, with which he thought to dazzle the imagination of posterity. It is useless to enter into the details of this new code; it merely consecrated old usages. The Comédie Française is still regulated by this code, although it has been modified by an ordonnance delivered in 1830, and by decrees issued in 1850 and 1857. But neither ordonnances nor decrees have changed the great features of the house, the only features that interest us in this sketch, and those great features were fixed by Napoleon in accordance with tradition. He only added one point which had its importance as regards the maintenance of the perpetuity of the Comédie Française through the course of ages. It had long been the custom that the actors, on retiring after long service, should receive a pension from their colleagues levied on the profits. But it was necessary to provide for the possibility of the company making no profits. Napoleon, besides the annual subvention he allowed to the Comédie Française, assigned a sum of 200,000 francs as a reserve fund to meet the deficit of bad years and to assure the regular service of the pensions. That measure was not useless, for the House of Molière had hard seasons to pass through.

Of the three elements which have co-operated in the formation and development of the Comédie Française, we have already seen two at work. And the third? The public—that public of great lords and *bourgeois*—that intelligent public, fond of theatrical affairs and jealous of artistic traditions.

The era of *gentilshommes* had passed, and they were no more spoken of. There were still some after the Revolution, but they no longer formed a separate body; they were mixed up with the great public, and, to use the expression of Charles the Tenth, they only had, like everybody else, their places in the pit. But the *bourgeois* public was found again; they formed round the orchestra of the Théâtre Français a kind of aristocracy in the matter of taste. They were called the *habitués* because they went to the theatre every night; and when the actor, entering on the scene, perceived those long rows of bald and shining heads, on which the chandelier shed its rays, he was seized with a slight trembling. I saw the last remnants of this circle in my youth: to-day they have entered into the category of fossils. It was in talking with them that I learned all that I know about contemporaneous theatres, for they were nearly all educated persons, men of taste, who went to the play not to be seen, but to see.

But this public of the Restoration and the Monarchy of July committed a grave mistake. It did not, like its predecessors, hold the balance equal between the respect for tradition and the taste for novelty. It leaned too much towards the side of tradition, and nearly caused the ruin of the Comédie Française. It was natural that the great shock of the Revolution, followed by the magnificent Imperial epopee, should have its influence on literature and the stage—that authors and actors should display to generations, renewed by those prodigious events, new modes of thought and sentiment.

But there is nothing so tenacious as a literary taste. The public of *habitués* had in its childhood admired classic tragedies and comedies in verse, of which the *Misanthrope* and the *Femmes Savantes* are the most perfect models. It would not admit of anything outside these two consecrated forms being tried. It might be tired and weary of them, but it would not confess the fact, and gaped and yawned in secret. It rejected with horror every innovation as a scandal; and while in the field of literature that clamorous army known as the Romantic school arose, the Comédie Française remained obstinately closed to the new art, or, if the latter succeeded in breaking open the door, it was immediately hissed out again. and the *habitués* returned to sleep over the tragedies of the imitators of Campistron, who himself had imitated Racine.

In M. Sarcey's youth the great public, of that which was composed, as we say in these days, of the *nouvelles couches sociales*—no longer went to the House of Molière. It conceived such a deep hatred of the last copyists of Corneille, Racine, and Molière, that at length it got disgusted with the masters themselves. The Comédie Française had hard times to go through then. Receipts of from three hundred to a thousand francs were not rare at that period: the company rubbed its hands with joy when it had (to use the consecrated term) 'passed the four figures,' that is to say, when the receipts amounted to more than a thousand francs. Sarcey in his youth often saw classic works played by a company of eminent actors whose equals we do not possess to-day; altogether there were not more than a dozen of us in the pit, where the price of the places was not more than forty-four sous; the empty boxes looked like so many black holes in the wall; the stalls alone were filled; it was there where the *habitués*, most of whom paid nothing, gathered together."

EUGENE ARAM'S END.

The trial of Eugene Aram, says Mr. H. B. Irving in his "True Story of Eugene Aram," took place at York before Mr. Justice Noel on Aug. 13, 1759. To the surprise of Aram, Houseman, who had been previously arraigned and acquitted for want of evidence, appeared in the box as a witness for the Crown. It may be partly due to his surprise at this proceeding that in his now famous defence Aram made no effort to reply to the evidence given against him; in all probability the evidence was sufficiently clear to make an effective answer impossible. There is no report of the trial; Aram's speech is the only part preserved to us, and in this he is altogether silent as to any of the witnesses called by the prosecution. Scatcherd says that, though the wisest of men, Aram was too much of a child in a law court to make a defence that would have satisfied a judge and jury. Certainly Aram laboured under the usual disadvantages of prisoners in those days; but it is difficult to believe, from his previous career, or the ingeniousness of the defence which he did make, that he was so child-like as to have been unable to offer a refutation of the case against him if it had been in his power to do so. His defence, as it stands, admirable in the modesty of its expression and the ingenuity of its arguments, is absolutely unconvincing. It consists entirely of an attempt to show that the bones of Clarke might be the bones of some long-buried hermit, and he cites a number of instances in which such bones have been found in a similar state of preservation, in spite of a much longer interment than fourteen years. He dwells, too, with becoming diffidence on his irreproachable character and reputation, and the improbability of a man of such conduct suddenly, without any previous experience in crime, committing a horrid murder. In this argument Eugene Aram touches the very mystery of his own career. He has offered a solution of this sudden impulse to crime by accusing his wife of infidelity. Let Aram speak for himself. Convicted and condemned to death, he attempted suicide in York Castle the night before his execution. Before opening the veins of his arm with a razor he had concealed for the purpose, he wrote:—

"What am I better than my fathers? To die is natural and necessary. Perfectly sensible of this, I fear no more to die than I did to be born. But the manner of it is something which should in my opinion be decent and manly. I think I have regarded both these points. Certainly nobody has a better right to dispose of a man's life than himself; and he, not others, should determine how. As to any indignities offered to my body, or silly reflections on my faith and morals, they are (as they always were) things indifferent to me. I think, though contrary to the common way of thinking; I wrong no man by this, and hope it is not offensive to that eternal Being that formed me and the world; and as by this I injure no man, no man can be reasonably offended. I solicitously recommend myself to that eternal and almighty Being, the God of nature, if I have done amiss. But perhaps I have not, and I hope this thing will never be imputed to me. Though I am now stained by malevolence and suffer by prejudice, I hope to rise fair and unblemished. My life was not polluted, my morals irreproachable, and my opinions orthodox. I slept sound till three o'clock, awaked, and then writ these lines:—

Come, pleasing rest, eternal slumbers fall,
Seal mine, that once must seal the eyes of all;
Calm and composed, my soul her journey takes,
No guilt that troubles and no heart that aches.
Adieu! thou sun, all bright like her arise.
Adieu! fair friends, and all that's good and wise.

Are these lines the dignified farewell of a martyred philosopher, or the egotistical exit of a criminal posing as a martyr and philosopher? Would not a word or two of greeting to Mrs. Aram, of apology to Clarke, have been more seemly on such an occasion than six lines of indifferent verse in praise of his own sublime departure from this world? Over Aram's farewell one can exclaim with Joseph Surface, "Ah, my dear sir, 'tis this very conscious innocence that is of the greatest prejudice to you." One would be so grateful for just some little acknowledgment of human weakness from this consciously irreproachable assassin.

Was Eugene Aram a good man struggling against adversity, as his most zealous apologist would have us believe? We are inclined to answer the question in the negative. All we can say with absolute certainty is that he murdered Daniel Clarke and discovered a European affinity in Celtic roots. For the latter achievement he is entitled to rank with scholars as well as murderers; for the former he was hanged at York, half fainting from his attempt at suicide which had been happily, or unhappily, frustrated, and his body hung in chains near Knaresborough. One of his daughters, Betty, described as a "wild girl," saw the corpse swinging in its chains on Thistle Hill, and ran gleefully to tell her mother that she had seen father hanging up on the hill; the sight seemed to give her satisfaction.

Houseman withdrew with his raven from his native village, loathed and dejected, his windows having been smashed by old pupils of Aram, and died in his bed at a place called Marton.

Mrs. Aram kept a pie and sausage shop in Knaresborough, and picked up her husband's bones as they fell from the gibbet.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—Sir Henry Irving.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News*.

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Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News*.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star*.

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era*.

ROWDY UNDERGRADUATES.

The annual meeting of the New Theatre, Cambridge, Limited, was held at the theatre, on Wednesday, under the presidency of Mr. J. W. Clark, chairman of the board of directors. There were also present Messrs. W. B. Redfern (managing-director), G. Swannell (director), W. F. Taylor, A. G. Swannell, D. J. Scott, T. Coulson, A. F. Jackson, T. Dodson, W. Tyler, C. Watson, C. F. Charlton (auditor), and H. Slater (secretary).

Mr. Redfern proposed the re-election of Mr. J. W. Clark as a director of the company. As he had said on previous occasions, Mr. Clark was most helpful on the directorate, and had always taken a very deep interest not only in the theatre, but in theatrical matters generally in the town. He was recognised all over the country in connection with the Greek play and other institutions in the university, more especially of the A.D.C. He believed he was right in saying that Mr. Clark was one of the founders of the A.D.C. with Sir F. C. Burnand. Mr. Clark was always ready and willing to assist him in the management of the theatre, and he found him of very great assistance.

Mr. A. G. Swannell seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman briefly returned thanks.

The report of the directors was as follows: "In presenting their twelfth annual report the directors are gratified in being able to inform the shareholders that the business for the past year has shown a considerable improvement. As will be seen from the accounts, the profit on the year's working, after allowing for depreciation of plant and furniture and the payment of debenture interest, amounts to £1343 19s. 9d., which, with the amount brought forward from the last year, makes a total amount of £1401 1s. 2d. available for dividend, &c. Your directors are in a position to recommend the payment of arrears of preference dividend, together with that of the current year, amounting in all to 15 per cent., and advise that a dividend of 5 per cent. free of income-tax be declared upon the ordinary share capital. These dividends will absorb the sum of £950, leaving a balance of £451 1s. 2d. Of this sum the directors propose to carry to the reserve fund the sum of £385 9s. 4d., thereby increasing that fund to £600, and to carry forward the balance, £65 11s. 10d. to next year. Under the articles of association, Mr. J. W. Clark retires from the directorate, and, being eligible, offers himself for re-election. The auditor, Mr. C. F. Charlton, offers himself for re-election."

The Chairman, in proposing the adoption of the report, said it was with great regret that he had to refer to the extremely bad behaviour of a certain portion of the audience, namely, the undergraduate portion. He was very much abused in many places for what he said to a representative of the *Cambridge Daily News* who called upon him, with reference to the undergraduates—a word of three syllables—but it was difficult to find any one word which would adequately express what he thought of the conduct of the undergraduates. He thought it was about as bad as it could be, and the only thing one could say was that it was not as bad as that of similar audiences at a sister university. They had been doing all they could up to the present time to stop such behaviour, and perhaps they had succeeded to a certain extent. He did not think it was as bad as it had been. Every now and then there was a fresh outburst. In the Senate House the undergraduates had resumed their habit of throwing pennies, which was very dangerous, and they did it at the theatre. It was an offence, he believed, if it could be proved. He only wished he could catch one and lock him up. He only wanted to get one of these young persons locked up until the morning to see how he liked it. He thought condign punishment of that sort might perhaps induce them to behave better. Steps would be taken before the beginning of next term to see what they could do, and he could only hope the result would be satisfactory. It was a matter of great regret to him that people of his native town were positively kept away from the theatre simply because these youngsters could not behave decently. If they got one of the offenders by himself, he freely admitted that he had behaved badly, that it was a very shocking thing, and so on, and then the next week he came to the theatre again and behaved as badly as ever. The directors would do their best to stop it.

Mr. W. F. Taylor seconded, and the report was adopted.

Mr. Tyler moved that a vote of thanks should be accorded the directors, and that the sum of £25 be voted them for their services.

Mr. C. F. Charlton seconded the proposition, which was carried.

Mr. W. F. Taylor proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Redfern for his services as managing-director. The extremely satisfactory report presented at that meeting must have been in some sense a reward to Mr. Redfern for his arduous work. For some three or four years Mr. Redfern had been working as hard as it was possible to work, and then had had little results to show. Last year the climax was reached, and now the tide had turned. They thought of the theatre as Mr. Redfern, and of Mr. Redfern almost as the theatre, and they were all glad to feel that the efforts of the managing-director had now been crowned with success. They trusted he might be spared many years to direct the fortunes of the theatre, and that such a splendid result as had been reported this year would not be of an exceptional character, but would be continued for many years. Mr. Redfern had felt the anxiety of management probably much more than anyone imagined. After putting in twelve or fourteen hours' work a day, he had the additional anxiety that something unpleasant might happen the moment his back was turned. Mr. Redfern deserved well of them. He had looked after the interests of the shareholders, he had studied the tastes of the public, and had shown a very keen knowledge of what was best in the theatrical world.

Mr. G. Swannell seconded, and the proposition was carried unanimously.

Mr. Redfern, in reply, first spoke of the satisfactory turn of the wheel of fortune. He never lost heart years ago, when they were suffering from the general slump from which all kinds of trades and professions suffered. He looked forward to this time with a certain amount of confidence, which he was happy to say had been realised, and he saw no reason why the theatre should not go on as prosperously as it did some years after it was first started. If it had not been for the arrears they might have been able to pay a dividend of 10 per cent., and he hoped next year they might be able to reach that figure. It would not be for the want of energy on his part, or of his loyal staff, if it was not. He was sorry to say that the behaviour of a certain section of the undergraduates—not by any means the majority—was most shameful. A dozen or twenty men behaving badly in the theatre were enough to make the theatre uncomfortable, and to his knowledge such behaviour caused a number of leading people in the town and university to refrain from attending. He had had serious complaints made by gentlemen and their wives about the bad behaviour of undergraduates. If these young men could only know the contempt in which they were held by the actors and actresses on the stage and by other members of the audience they would subside into their proper sphere and become quiet and orderly. He hoped in the future they would have less of this rowdyism. It was very heart-breaking, when they had a good company, to find actors and audience insulted by a few ruffians. He had the temerity one night, in the middle of a beautiful piece—*La Poupée*, he thought—when some of the men were behaving in a most vulgar manner, to remark, "Will no one help me to turn out these vulgar brutes?" It had the desired effect, and he was complimented by the respectable portion of the undergraduates for having uttered those words. He was always on his guard as to the pieces he selected, and he did not think a better series of performances was given in any provincial theatre than at Cambridge. Mr. Redfern concluded by paying a tribute to the loyalty and devotion of his admirable staff, mentioning in particular Mr. Hall, Mr. Adams, Mr. Briggs, and Mr. Lindsell.

NEW ENGLISH AND FOREIGN PLAYS.

In order to assist managers and others in the selection of pieces for production and adaptation, we are publishing from time to time synopses of likely English and Continental plays, so that dramatic speculators may judge for themselves of the suitability of the plots for their purpose. Authors wishing for this publicity should forward synopses to "Playwrights," care of *The Era*, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

NORTHERN LIGHTS.

Melodrama, in Four Acts, by James W Harkins and Edwin Barber.

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This play deals with episodes during the Sitting Bull Indian risings in June, 1876, and depicts scenes of American military life. It takes its title from the tradition that the Indians are always more restless and inclined to go upon the war-path when the Northern Lights are unusually brilliant. We hear that the chief surgeon at Fort Terry, Sidney Sherwood, has studied cholera bacteriology, and that he is suspected of having sacrificed victims on the altar of inoculation in order to win celebrity in the cause of science; also that he married Helen Dare, who appears in the play, before he married his present wife Florence, believing Helen, his real wife, to be dead. Colonel Gray, in command at Fort Terry, has a son Wallace, who is an arrant coward. The lad, trying to cure this weakness, has enlisted, but without avail, and he has deserted in face of attack. John Swiftwind is an educated Indian who holds the appointment of assistant surgeon, and is, therefore, aware of Sherwood's investigations in bacteriology. Colonel Gray has two adopted daughters; one is Florence, Sidney Sherwood's wife, the other is her sister Dorothy, nicknamed "the little Major," as she is wont to rule the domestic matters of the fort. Dorothy and Lieut. Charlie Sherwood, a wounded but convalescent officer and Sidney's cousin, are lovers. Among the passengers by the coach which now arrives is the deserter, called "Jordan," who is really Wallace Gray, sent to the fort to be court-martialled. The Indians have shot the "leaders" of the coach, and during the ensuing confusion Wallace has contrived to "desert" again. Florence notices her husband's neglect and coldness, which so disturb her that she seeks oblivion by hypodermic morphia injections, often administered, although most unwillingly, by her husband, who, himself troubled by an uneasy conscience, is prone to suspect her of a love affair previous to their marriage. There was, as a matter of fact, a mutual attachment between her and Wallace; but Sidney in unaware of this. Wallace soon arrives, and tells Florence of his futile attempts to overcome his cowardice by enlisting; and, finding all effort useless, he has come to give himself up as a deserter and bear his punishment as bravely as he can. When Helen meets Sidney she tells him that she has been told that Florence is hardly expected to live long; therefore they agree to be silent about the past. Colonel Gray is overjoyed at the thought that his son, Wallace, has enlisted under Gen. Crook, and looks forward to effecting his exchange into his own command; but he is soon disillusioned, as he finds that the deserter "Ralph Jordan" is his own lad, whom duty compels him to place under strict guard. Helen Dare's father is a Wall-street speculator, a drunkard, and an unscrupulous blackguard, ready to force Sidney to purchase his silence about the marriage with Helen, who entreats him to remain silent, reminding him that she would never corroborate his story, which would be worthless without her evidence. His business partner, Higgs, a vulgar New Yorker, wishes to propose to Dorothy, but the "little Major" soon sends him about his business. At the court-martial Wallace reveals his identity to his father, and begs, in vain, for the death sentence. He also tells Sidney of his former love for Florence, who takes precisely the wrong view of this confidence, and elects to distrust her. Possibly by error two bottles in his dispensary have had their labels exchanged—one containing morphine, the other cholera germs. Swiftwind calls his attention to the error. Florence comes to him for her habitual injection, and he allows her to fill the needle herself! This done, he injects the dose, repenting, however, the moment he has done it. A day or two later he is obliged to forbid her receiving any visitors, while concealing the true nature of her malady, only to find that Helen has visited her and kissed her, too. She remains unharmed, but tells Sidney that she has discovered that Florence is suffering from cholera. Later, he imagines himself a prey to the fell disease. At General Crook's camp news is received of the Indians having ambushed a party of soldiers in overwhelming numbers. Sitting Bull's followers are preparing to surprise and attack Col. Gray's little party. It becomes imperative to send someone to warn Colonel Gray; but the mission is desperate and almost hopeless, as the Indians are concealed all along the only possible route, and number thousands, against a mere handful of white troops. News is further brought of Florence's dangerous illness and partial recovery and of Sidney Sherwood's sudden death. A relief party is formed hastily, and Wallace is allowed to try and regain his honour by conveying a warning message to Colonel Gray by the almost impassable route through Indian forces. Colonel Gray and his party have been obliged to retreat to a point above Tongue River, and are expecting a night attack, the Northern Lights being unusually brilliant. The Indians advance in great force, and the attack begins. Wallace, weakened by wounds received, gallops in and delivers the message of warning. The relief party arrives, and Wallace is embraced warmly at last by his father. There is abundant comedy to relieve the otherwise sombre tendency of the play.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S ENTERPRISES.

After nearly twelve years' occupation of his present office at 3, Bedford-street, Strand, Mr. J. Bannister Howard is "moving" to 15, Clifford's Inn, Fleet-street, E.C., where he has secured a fine suite of rooms. His reason for leaving Bedford-street are, firstly, that the noise occasioned by the motor traffic has become intolerable, and, secondly, he finds it necessary to take larger premises. So that on and after the 27th of this month he will be conducting his various undertakings in the quieter, more romantic, and more exclusive little neighbourhood known as Clifford's Inn.

Mr. Howard tells us that he feels he has hardly anything to do, because he has only been running five companies in addition to the Crystal Palace. He is, however, limiting his theatrical enterprises in order that he may devote the time and energy to his sporting and racing interests.

It will interest many people to learn that Mr. Howard is entering into partnership with Mr. G. B. Lambert, who will relieve Mr. Howard of a good deal of the work connected with the office. Miss Annie Matthews, who Mr. Howard describes as his "right hand," and who has been with him for many years, chiefly of late as the treasurer, is retiring from active work altogether, and Mr. Lambert will attend to the duties of accountant and treasurer. Mr. Howard will lose a very valued assistant in Miss Matthews. Another change in his staff will be caused by the fact that Mr. William Martin, the general manager, has resigned his position, and is entering into partnership in the agency business of Darrell and Co., of 415, Strand. This does not mean that Mr. Martin is altogether severing his connection with Mr. Howard, as the latter has arranged to give him all his bookings, etc.

The companies Mr. Howard will run in August will be *The Belle of New York* and *Florodora*, and he will have certain rights, by arrangement with

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD.

Mr. Milton Bode, in *The Belle of Mayfair;* in *The Earl and the Girl*, by arrangement with Mr. Wm. Greet; and in *The Silver King*, by arrangement with Messrs. Polini and Melford. His Crystal Palace season opens on September 9th, and he has arranged in connection therewith a capital list of bookings, which include *The Duchess of Dantzic, The Prodigal Son, The Bondman, Veronique, Mr. Popple of Ippleton, The White Chrysanthemum*, a flying visit of the Zancigs, *Sherlock Holmes*, the third visit of the Moody-Manners Opera Company, *The Stronger Sex*, the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, *The Geisha*, and Miss Ellen Terry. His wardrobe is already in preparation for his forthcoming Christmas pantomime, the subject of which will be *The Forty Thieves*. Mr. Howard's Crystal Palace pantomime of last season is to be put on at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, in December.

After having launched his companies on the road in August, and having settled down in his new offices, Mr. Howard will take his first long holiday for many years, which he will spend at his house in Ryde, Isle of Wight.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

Haydn's Quartet for Strings in D, No. 35, was the first item in the chamber concert given at the Royal College on Wednesday evening, the executants—Mr. Philip Levine, Miss Lorna Downing, Mr. Frank Bridge, and Mr. Felix Norman Salmond—being very successful in the charming Menuetto, Allegretto, and the spirited Finale. Miss Alice M. Young displayed a rich and well-trained mezzo-soprano voice to much advantage in Caldara's song "Come raggio" and Saint-Saëns' "La Brise"; and Mr. Willam Murdoch was warmly applauded for his finished and admirably-executed piano solo of Bach's Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue. Miss Adelaide Parker's organ solo, Finale of Sonata, Psalm xciv. (Reubke), also deserves special mention. Miss Daisy Turner sang "Trennung," by Franz Ries, and Miss Jessie Patey was very successful in her two songs, "Ich trage meine Minne" (R. Strauss) and, in strong contrast, the old Scotch song, "My boy Tammie." Miss Marguerite Owen also was greatly applauded for her singing of H. Wolf's "Verborgenheit" and E. Schütt's "Ewig mein bleibt." Brahms' fine Quintet for Piano and Strings, played by Miss Ellen Edwards, Miss May Harrison, Miss Marjorie Beer, Mr. Frank Bridge, and Miss Beatrice Harrison concluded an excellent concert.

THE annual outing of the Theatre Royal, Worthing, staff took place on Sunday last. In two brakes the party, numbering from thirty to forty, left Worthing for Pulborough. The route chosen was viâ Arundel Park and Fittleworth. The day being fine, this beautiful drive was greatly enjoyed. On arrival at Pulborough an excellent cold collation was awaiting the party at the Railway Hotel. Herr C. Adolf Seebold (who was accompanied by Mrs. C Adolf Seebold) presided, and was supported by Mr. Spurgin, the genial stage-manager, in the vice-chair. The usual toasts were duly honoured, and the thanks of the company present were tendered to Mr. Seebold and Mrs. Cronshaw for their generosity. Mr. H. F. Maltby, one of the party, journeyed specially from London. The return journey was made viâ Storrington, Washington, and Findon.

EARLY ACTRESSES.

Miss Marie Löhr, who has made so striking a success in "My Wife" at the Haymarket Theatre, may (said the *Express* in a recent article on "Stars from the Cradle," etc.), be taken as a living illustration of two striking facts about the life of the theatre. The first is that histrionic ability runs in families to a far greater extent, perhaps, than does any other artistic quality. And the second is that success on the stage, at any rate as far as women are concerned, is nearly always the result of a career that began in early childhood.

It would be easy to multiply instances of stage ability running from father to son, from one generation to the other. One has only to think of the Batemans, the Boucicaults, the Broughs, the Calverts, the Farrens, the Grossmiths, the Irvings, the Kembles, the Robertsons, the Terrys, and the Websters to realise the persistence with which the stage instinct pervades families.

It is equally true that the great majority of successful actresses began their careers at a very early age. As is well-known, Miss Ellen Terry made her first appearance at the Princess's Theatre as Mamillius in "The Winter's Tale," when she was eight, and before she was "sweet seventeen," the age of Miss Marie Löhr, she had played more parts than most modern actresses play in a lifetime.

Miss Terry's sister Kate made her first appearance when she was seven, her niece, Beatrice, when she was ten, and her niece, Minnie, when she was three. Miss Marion Terry played Ophelia when she was seventeen, and made her first appearance in London in the same year with Mr. Henry Neville at the Olympic Theatre.

Mrs. Kendal made her first appearance at the Marylebone Theatre when she was four, and she played Ophelia at the Haymarket Theatre when she was sixteen.

Another actress whose fame is associated with the Haymarket, Miss Winnifred Emery, made her first appearance on the stage in "The Green Bushes" in Liverpool when she was eight, and gained her first London success at the Imperial when she was seventeen.

Miss Bateman, the famous impersonator of "Leah," first appeared on the stage when she was five, and when she was eight was brought to London by the late P. T. Barnum to appear in a series of Shakespearian revivals. Her sister, Miss Virginia Bateman, was fifteen when she made her first appearance at the Lyceum in 1871.

Mrs. Dion Boucicault, in her day a very famous actress, made her stage début when she was ten, and her daughter, Miss Nina Boucicault, when she was fifteen.

Lady Bancroft, after many years' experience as a child actress in the provinces, made her first London appearance at the Lyceum when she was sixteen, playing the part of the boy Henri in "Belphegor." Mrs. Charles Calvert, who is now performing with Mr. Tree in *A Woman of No Importance*, has been acting since she was six. Miss Fanny Coleman began her stage career when she was seventeen, and Miss Carlotta Addison first appeared when a very young girl at Doncaster, and acted with Irving at St. James's Theatre when she was seventeen.

Mrs. John Wood began to act when she was eight. Miss Lydia Thomson appeared as a dancer when she was sixteen, and that most accomplished comedienne, Miss Fanny Brough, played in Manchester in a pantomime written by her uncle when she was fifteen, and at the same early age, with the versatility of a real actress, performed Ophelia to the Hamlet of the late Barry Sutherland.

Miss Constance Collier began her theatrical career when she was a mere child. Miss Annie Hughes had her first part when she was fifteen, and Miss Ellaline Terriss made her first appearance at the Haymarket—it is curious how often the Haymarket appears in these records—when she was sixteen.

Miss Esmé Beringer first played when she was thirteen, and her sister, Miss Vera Beringer, when she was nine. Miss Kate Rorke made her first appearance at the Court Theatre when she was twelve.

Coming to the musical stage, one finds the same evidence of precocity among the ladies who have achieved success. Miss Florence St. John began delighting the public when she was fourteen. Miss Ada Reeve, another member of a theatrical family, appeared before the public when she was six, and when she was fourteen was an acknowledged music-hall "star."

Miss Vesta Tilley began still earlier. Her stage career started when she was three, and when she was six she first appeared in men's clothes, and was advertised as the "Pocket Sims Reeves."

Miss Louie Freear was so young when she began her stage life that she was known as "Baby Freear." Miss Kitty Loftus first appeared when she was twelve, and Miss Evie Green began as a dancer when she was fourteen. Miss Sybil Arundale had a part in a Drury Lane pantomime when she was seven. Miss Marie Dainton appeared before the public when she was twelve, Miss Phyllis Dare when she was nine, and her sister, Miss Zena Dare, when she was three years old.

Mlle. Adeline Genée appeared at the principal theatre in Copenhagen before she was seventeen.

In America one finds many examples of these early beginnings. Miss Maud Adams, who is perhaps the most successful of all Mr. Frohman's many "stars," first appeared on the stage when she was a baby of nine months' old, the play having the suggestive title of "The Lost Child," and she was an accepted public favourite when she was sixteen.

Miss Julia Marlowe made her first appearance in a juvenile production of "H.M.S. Pinafore" when she was twelve. Miss Maud Fealy first played when she was three, Miss Ada Rehan when she was fourteen, and Miss Clara Morris when she was thirteen.

Miss Cissie Loftus, who has in recent years achieved fame in America as an actress, appeared at the Oxford Music-hall as a mimic when she was sixteen.

The famous French actress, Mme. Jane Hading, made her first appearance on the stage as a doll in a play called "Le Bossu" when she was three, and Mme. Sarah Bernhardt acted at the Comédie Française when she was eighteen.

EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

DEAR SIR,—It may interest your readers to know that I have arranged to cover theatrical managers at the following rates:—Members of the Touring Managers' Association, 7s. per cent.; non-members, 7s. 6d. per cent., and to have travelling managers' policies endorsed as follows: "In consideration of an additional premium of 3s. 6d. having been paid by the insured, the company agrees to relieve the insured of all legal liability in connection with local staff should a claim be made against the insured in lieu of the local manager, and to bear all costs involved, with the company's consent, in defending any action hereunder that may be chargeable to the insured."

I have also arranged that in the event of an artist being engaged for a short period at a salary above £5 a week, the manager shall pay premiums on such salary at the rate of £5. Managers should include in their wages list all sums paid to casual helpers.—Yours faithfully,

J. COOKE BERESFORD.

15, Panton-street, Haymarket.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

For the first time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, by F. Wybert Clive, entitled "THE BRANDED WOMAN."

Philip Maurice	MR. JAMES STILLWELL
Zarka	MR. W. COWELL CLARKE
Leon, Prince Haubert	MR. WALTER STEELE
Dick Brown	MR. HARRY LIDDLE
Louis Daroc	MR. EDWARD LOWRIE
Victor D'Este	MR. E. JEFFS
Paul Fleuret	MR. F. WYBERT CLIVE
Notary Albare	MR. HENRY STACEY
Rudolph	MISS MABEL RONALD
Marie	MISS NORMA DUMAYNE
Jacqueline	MISS ISABEL HUNT
Countess Daphne	MISS ALICE CAMPBELL
Madame Crevier	MISS ROSE FRANKLYN
Genevieve Laroche	MISS LILIAN ROSS

Originally produced at Burnley a couple of years ago, *The Branded Woman* appeared in the London district for the first time on Monday. Presented under the personal direction of the author, the piece met with the hearty approval of the patrons of Mrs. Ellis Frederick's popular melodrama theatre, interest in the plot being well maintained from start to finish, although the plentiful supply of "comic relief" necessarily interferes somewhat with the action.

Genevieve Laroche, around whom the story centres, may be aptly described as a victim of circumstances; given better surroundings she would undoubtedly have become a good and true wife and mother. But Fate willed otherwise. Indelibly branded as a Spy, it is scarcely to be wondered at that Philip Maurice rejects his wife when he hears of her previous history. Then the branded woman's evil genius is once more in the ascendant; the past might have been buried, but she again gets mixed up with a bad lot. Leon, the impostor Prince Haubert, brings off a double coup by murdering the rightful owner of the title and "taking up with" the fair and false Genevieve. Philip being thus in the way, is charged as a spy on evidence supplied by his callous wife, and is sent to penal servitude. Here in his solitude he vows should he ever get free a terrible vengeance against the woman who has so blighted his life, and by the help of a guardian angel in Marie, the ward of the prison governor, he finally effects his escape. Marie, who is the rightful heiress of the murdered Prince Haubert, brings to the impostor Prince a letter establishing her identity, and he and his paramour (who again shows signs of contrition at tender thoughts of husband and child) scenting danger to themselves, determine on her "removal." To this end the aid of Zarka, a former accomplice in crime, is enlisted. Zarka is a dabbler in occult science, whose doings have considerably impressed the impostor Leon, and it is the latter's confidence in Zarka which is the final undoing of villainy. For the rampant Philip Maurice is a pastmaster in the art of disguise—his appearance as a travelling peddlar when he meets his vixenish wife face to face proves this—and to further his schemes for revenge, and incidentally to re-establish the claims of Marie, to whom he has transferred his affections, he impersonates the hunchbacked Zarka with such effect as to perfectly deceive the plotting pair. And it is in the rôle of Zarka (who has been conveniently placed out of the way) that Philip Maurice finally confronts his enemy Leon, and the pair engage in a duel with swords, in which the villain is worsted. As for the unhappy branded woman, the sight of her relentless husband is too much for her, and she falls back dead, thus clearing the path for the alliance of Philip and Marie.

The interpretation of the piece by Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company is entirely satisfactory, and much care has been bestowed upon its staging and mounting. Mr. James Stillwell is an outspoken and virile representative of Philip Maurice, his delivery of the prison speech being especially effective, and he exhibits much histrionic resource by the various disguises he assumes. Miss Lilian Ross as the adventuress, Genevieve Laroche, the Branded Woman, handles this complex part with considerable tact and skill, and possessing a fine stage appearance, she does full justice to every phase of the character. Mr. Walter Steele plays with sound judgment as the villainous Leon, Prince Haubert, and Mr. Edward Lowrie renders an excellent account of Louis Daroc, though his performance would be improved without the foreign accent, which appears unnecessary. Mr. W. Cowell Clarke plays Zarka very appropriately; Mr. F. Wybert Clive contributes a capital sketch of the gaoler, Paul Fleuret; Mr. E. Jeffs is well placed as Victor D'Este; and Mr. Henry Stacey is the Notary Albace. A sympathetic and charming performance is that of Miss Norma Dumayne as Marie, and in minor parts Miss Alice Campbell and Miss Rose Franklyn do well. The lighter side of the piece is mainly entrusted to Mr. Harry Liddle, who is a host in himself as Dick Brown, being always amusing and entertaining. Much of his good work is in conjunction with Miss Isabel Hunt, a pleasant, bright, and vivacious Jacqueline, these two also winning success vocally. A special word of praise is due to Miss Mabel Ronald for her very intelligent and expressive performance as the boy Rudolph.

"THE ERA."

EARLY DELIVERY.

SPECIAL NEWSPAPER EXPRESS SERVICES now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible.

	a.m.
RUGBY	4.30
COVENTRY	4.54
BIRMINGHAM	5.20
CREWE	6. 5
MANCHESTER	6.50
LIVERPOOL	7. 0
CHESTER	9. 3
DONCASTER	6.10
YORK	7. 0
HULL	8.20
DARLINGTON	8.58
SCARBOROUGH	10. 8
NEWCASTLE	10.10
LEEDS (Central)	6.58
HUDDERSFIELD	7.37
BRADFORD (Exchange)	7.47
HARROGATE	7.50
HALIFAX	8.17
BURNLEY	9.29
LEICESTER	4.30
NOTTINGHAM	5.10
DERBY	5.38
SHEFFIELD	6. 6

THE musical comedy sketch, *A Violet*, was produced for the first time at the Britannia on July 8, with excellent results. The music and lyrics are by that rising young author and composer, Stanley Vivian, and, owing to the great success of one of the songs, "Place by me violets," Messrs. Cramers have undertaken to publish it.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, July 15, the play, entitled
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."

Mrs. Morton Powell's company are appearing this week in the play *When It Was Dark*, which has been founded and suggested by Guy Thorne's novel of the same name, which caused so much discussion when it appeared, and was so well spoken of by certain bishops and well-known clergymen. The play is written by S. Buchanan Rodgerson, and contains some striking lines and effective scenes. The rôle of the Rev. Basil Gortre is played in an earnest and convincing style by Mr. E. Stanton Sharp, who is careful not to over-emphasise at all, thereby adding greatly to the success he makes in the character. Miss Hilda Beverley is especially good as Gertrude Hunt, playing with much force and skill in the many somewhat trying scenes that are encountered in the part. Mrs. Morton Powell is a very charming Helena Byars, while Miss Dorothy Hildebrande is a bright and captivating Grace Goldeye. The millionaire "anti-Christ," Constantine Schuabe, is portrayed in a bold manner by Mr. W. J. Butler, and he certainly draws a very strong picture of this man who plots for the overthrow of Christianity. It is a daring character, and requires careful handling, and Mr. Butler is equal to his task. Sir Robert Llewellyn, the man who aids Schuabe to accomplish his desires, is admirably played by Mr. Edward Valentine; Mr. Ernest St. John does well as the Vicar; Mr. Millar Wilson is amusing as Charles Gayfly, and is responsible for the few moments of humour that are to be found in the play. Nunc Wallace is well filled by Mr. R. B. Drysdale; and Mr. Harold B. Lewis is good as Harold Spence. A word is also due to Mr. Francis Cairns for his very dignified rendering of Lucifer; it was only a brief appearance, but the actor made it most impressive. There are many other minor characters, in each case suitably filled. The play is staged in a most complete manner, and the scene of the tomb at Jerusalem is capitally staged. Mr. E. Valentine is the stage-manager, and Mr. Arthur Clifton is manager for Mrs. Morton Powell.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, July 15, the Opera, in One Act,
"No. 442—HIS ESCAPE."

Messrs. Marshall Moore and Frederick Stanhope ushered in the second week of their Coronet season with the first production of an original opera, in one act and two tableaux, under the above title. Lady Helen Ackroyd is giving a ball at Ackroyd Manor, and momentarily expecting to hear news of the escape of her husband, who had been convicted of a crime of which he was innocent, and had somehow contrived to let his wife know of his intended escape. A word would have cleared his character, but he could not speak it, so we are told. Being asked to favour the company with a song, Lady Helen somewhat indiscreetly sings of "a lady and her trusty knight who languishes in a prison near," and when later on her trusty knight appears they join in a very pretty duet, called, "Once more united." The prison officials arrive on the scene, and remark the resemblance between the smart young dandy and their quarry, and, one of their number finding the convict's clothes in the gun room, confirms this suspicion. All and sundry then make for the beach, where a yacht is waiting to take the fugitives to safety. Sir Charles Furnival, a friend of the family, heads off the pursuit and delays the officers in the execution of their duty, giving Lord Ackroyd and his wife time to escape. Mr. H. M. Higgs has written some pretty music for the piece. Miss Madge Temple bore the chief burden of the piece as Lady Helen Ackroyd, and sang and acted with great pathos and expressiveness. Mr. Richard Green made a dramatic entrance as the escaped convict No. 442, and sang remarkably well. Mr. Frank Lacy acquitted himself well in the small part of Sir Charles Furnival; and Miss Muriel Hodges enacted the part of Mrs. Murgatroyd satisfactorily.

The highly successful performance of Audran's sparkling operetta *La Mascotte* was repeated again this week, with Mr. Rutland Barrington as the superstitious and scheming monarch, Laurent XVII., Duke of Piombino, Miss Madge Temple in her delightfully vivacious performance as Bettina, Mr. Richard Green as the shepherd Pippo, Mr. Reginald White as Rocco, the unfortunate farmer, and Miss Winifred Macey and Mr. Whitworth Mitton as Princess Fiametta and Prince Fritellina.

The third item in the triple bill this week is a revival of J. J. Dilley's fine old farce, *Chiselling*, with Mr. Rutland Barrington as the bibulous "model" manservant Trotter, a part which he plays with a ripe fund of unctuous humour and perception of character. Miss Kate Phillips appears in the part of the nervous old landlady, Mrs. Piper, who gets the horrors when the statue of Alexander the Great, which she had broken and thrown away in the dustbin, not only reappears sound and solid, but speaks to her in accents dour. Mr. Frank Lacy as Larkspur, a sculptor, acts with energy and ability; Miss Winifred Macey as his *fiancée*, Kate, and Mr. Reginald White as the meddlesome old fool Dr. Stonecrop, all do good service in the art of funmaking. Mr. Frank Perfitt stage manages, and Mr. Walter Henderson is business manager.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, July 15, the Drama,
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."

As a wind-up to the present season at this house of drama a strong attraction is presented in the above drama by Mr. Morton Powell's company. The action of the play takes place in Balaka, the chief city in the State of Bilerma, a supposed kingdom in the Adriatic Sea, and introduces many thrilling incidents in the struggles between the authorities and revolutionists. Mr. George Steele is a dashing Count Otto Steinbach, captain in the Balakan Army, playing with much force, and taking full advantage of the strong situations offered him. Mr. Percy Ballad is a villainous Baron Cratzlaw, receiving well-deserved hisses for his malicious persecution of the heroic Count Otto. The important character of Countess Natalie Steinbach (the woman who gambles) is effectively undertaken by Miss Lilian Herries, who is to be congratulated upon an impressive performance throughout, her scene in her boudoir with the Baron in Act III. being a particularly fine piece of acting. Mr. Reginald Fox submits a spirited performance of Lieut. Carl Ctzarteriski, giving a splendid representation of the noble, true-hearted friend of the Count. Miss Dora Pass is also to be commended for her rendering of the character of Cora Gouldhart. Some acceptable comic relief is supplied by Mr. Owen Edwin as the Hon. Bertie Bray and Miss Lilian Rignold as Mlle. Lila Zeyelda. Other characters are all well played. After the fall of the curtain on to-night's (Saturday) performance the theatre will remain closed, reopening on August Bank Holiday.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, the Drama,
"THE PRODIGAL PARSON."

This week the above house has for its attraction the well-known drama, *The Prodigal Parson*, which is presented by Mr. Alfred Northway and Mr. W. V. Garrod's company. The play is a happy mixture of comedy and melodrama, and is continuing its successful career by doing excellent business at Hammersmith. Mr. W. V. Garrod is the Rev. Tom Godley, the Prodigal Parson, and plays the part in good style. Mr. Paul Beckett gives a satisfactory portrayal of Enoch Jaggins, the villain of the piece. Mr. George Allen as Ben Jaggins is decidedly good. Mr. Owen Remonde's performance as Phil Drive stamps him one of the best comedians now playing in melodrama; and he receives plenty of help from Miss Sybil Hammersley as Gretchen Van Crans. Miss Amy Shaw dances well in her part of Fraulein Korale. Miss Bertha Kingston as Fern, the parson's wife, wins much sympathy, and sings her songs particularly well. The blind child, Myrtle, is well interpreted by Miss Violet Jefferies, who cleverly keeps her eyes fixed in a most realistic manner. Other parts are satisfactorily filled by Mr. T. E. Evans, Mr. T. Edwards, Mr. E. Ashton, Mr. E. Vincent, and Mrs. Ashton. The play is suitably mounted, the Beer Garden, Hamburg, scene, being particularly effective.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, July 22, the drama, by James Willard, entitled
"A WOMAN'S PLUCK."

Mr. Robert Arthur has further added to his already brilliant record of Kennington successes in the production of Mr. James Willard's powerful drama, *A Woman's Pluck*, in which Mr. Willard's own company is engaged. The play, which is described as a new and original spectacular drama, overflows with thrilling episodes. Miss Grace Lester, in the rôle of Grace Daremont, is admirably suited to the part, which she plays with a wonderful charm of manner, her clever acting gaining for her the frequent applause of an enthusiastic audience. Miss Elsie Maitland is excellent in the part of Mrs. Pope, while as Jessie Pope Miss Phyllis Brent scores a success. Miss Fanny James is seen to advantage as Ophelia Pippin, as also is Miss Nora Kingsley as Lady Daredevil. Miss Lily Danby as Polly Primrose, Miss Daisy Dale as Lotty Maynard, and Miss Margaret Smart as Gertie Fairfax give praiseworthy interpretations. The part of Dick Darrell is capably acted by Mr. Austin Mortimer, and Mr. Arthur Temple scores as Sir Noel Fordyce. Mr. Lawrence Leyton as Winston Dale, Mr. William Hayward as Mark Scanlon and Jim Daremont, Mr. Harry Emmerson as Matthew Pope, Mr. Dicky Bird as Roger Pippin, Mr. Highman Twyson as Sir John Daredevil, V.C., and Mr. Herbert Claremont as Bertie Daredevil submit highly creditable renderings of their different rôles. Mr. Forbes Carrington as Benjamin Oldacre, Mr. Clive B. Rawlings as Corporal Flint, Mr. Alfred Prior as Tom Ascot, Mr. C. Wilson as Marks, Mr. Fred Bentley as a constable, Mr. R. F. Ponsford as a stage manager, and Mr. George Massey (Detective Smart), contribute in no small measure to make *A Woman's Pluck* the highly interesting production it undoubtedly is.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

The cinematograph programme has entered upon its eighth week here, and still maintains its great popularity. Full houses are the rule at every performance, the varied pictures being followed with admiration and delight. The later improvements with the mechanism of the bioscope machines are eminently satisfactory, and add considerably to the enjoyment of the audience. The film showing "The Great Motor Race in the Isle of Man," with the cars travelling at ninety miles an hour, is extremely realistic and exciting; while the picture of "The Fox Hunt," which created a sensation when first produced, still retains a strong hold upon those interested in the Chase. "The Alps seen Through a Telescope" depicts the great mountain range, with its glaciers and occasional glimpses of animal life, and a thrill of fascination is produced as this beautiful film is unfolded. "On Board the French Flagship Massena" portrays with vividness the daily life on board a warship, with its drill and necessary discipline, together with the needful recreation. The comedian Little Tich is seen in his favourite songs and dances; and the house is convulsed at the strange doings of "The Runaway Motor" and "Carlo and the Sausages." The vain efforts to get through the barriers is seen in "The Customs Officials Outwitted"; and the clever subject, "A Visit to Auntie," wins much applause. Amongst the pictures that also create merriment are "The New Pillar Box," "Moving Day," "Spot at the 'Phone," "Toothache," "Between two Fires," and "Too Much of a Hurry." Mr. C. Melville Lurring, the ablest of managers, attends to the comfort of those in front with assiduity and thoughtfulness.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, July 15, the drama in four acts, written by Edward Thane, entitled,
"EVERY INCH A MAN."

Despite the warm weather, the loyal West Londoners turned up in goodly force this week at Mr. William Bailey's comfortable playhouse to witness the above interesting melodrama. As Dick Barnett Mr. George Denham plays with plenty of vitality and force; Mr. C. J. Forster is successful as Alderman Barnett; Mr. James E. Manning acts in a dignified, soldierly way as the veteran Ben Brown; and Mr. Edward Thane enacts the rascally Daniel Barnett in the approved way, so dear to the Marylebonites, who are always most happy when a good opportunity is afforded them to "hiss the villain and cheer the maid forlorn." The important rôle of Vera Maxwell is handled by that accomplished actress Miss Louise Hampton with sympathetic tenderness and womanly grace, her whole performance being a most finished and convincing one; Miss Grace Emery does well as the old deaf housekeeper, Martha; whilst Miss Winifred Whyte sustains the gay young widow, Mrs. Edwardes, with plenty of lively vivacity. Other parts are well played by Mr. Victor Rowland, as Teddy Edwardes, the spoiled mother's darling, and Mr. C. Lodge-Percy as the dude, Marmaduke Poole-Martin.

BRITANNIA THEATRE.

A triple bill is submitted here this week, and the *pièce de résistance* is that most popular of Irish dramas, *The Shaughraun*. Mr. Arnold Bell has engaged a most capable company to interpret it, and he undertakes the part of Conn, giving a rollicking impersonation of this lovable ne'er-do-well. Mr. Roy Jackson as Corry Kinchela contributes a fine performance; a typical parish priest is Mr. Arthur Lennard as Father Dolan; a clever study of Harvey Duff is contributed by Mr. Robson; Mr. Cory Thomas as Captain Molyneaux is a fine specimen of the manly British soldier; Mr. C. Joye is very good as Robert Flolliott, and wins warm sympathy; Miss Frances Campbell's Claire Ffolliott is very pleasing and artistic, the scenes with the captain being well played; Arte O'Neal is sympathetically embodied by Miss Violet Campbell; Miss Dorothy Richardson is a charming and dainty Moya; Mrs. O'Kelly is well played by Miss Lily Woods; and Bridget Madigan is ably represented by Miss Maisie Mayne. The play is well mounted, and several scenes call for special mention, notably St. Bridget's Abbey and Hogan's shanty. Much amusement is caused at Conn's wake.

Mr. Fred Southern and his company introduce a very humorous sketch, entitled *La Billo*, which is a skit on the recent rage for living statuary; and Mr. Southern, who causes hearty laughter with his amusing antics as the statue, is ably assisted by a good company. Mr. Chas. Ashwell is excellent as Frank Spurling; Mr. Percy Emery does well as the shortsighted old man, Stony Granite; Harold, a dude, is drolly depicted by Mr. C. A. James; a demure and pleasing Kate Primrose is Miss Sadie Southern; and the part of the servant, Liza Spuds, receives capable treatment from Miss May Emery.

The third item is a duologue by Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, and entitled *Coming Home*, and is well rendered by Mr. Leonard as the drunken husband and Mrs. Leonard as the wife. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux show some very amusing pictures, amongst which is "The Curate's School Treat," which causes much amusement. Mr. J. McCarthy looks well after the comfort of his audience.

"THE LITTLE MOTHER."

New Drama, in Four Acts, by Gordon Holmes, produced at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, on Monday, July 15.

Lord Arlincourt	Mr. Geo. Mitchell
Harry Cornwall	Mr. Wingold Lawrence
Ormonde Cowell	Mr. Frank Adair
Augustus Sparrow	Mr. Geo. H. Asquin
Myles Jarvis	Mr. Fred Withers
Sidney	Little Elsie Videau
Arthur	Little Bertha Hanbury
Jesse Willard	Mr. James Dunbar
McGuire	Mr. Allan McKay
Jolliffe	Mr. L. C. Hindle
Pellatt	Mr. Henry Squire
Purvis	Mr. Geo. Wyn
Sir Norman Power	Mr. Chris Mason
Jeremiah Dobbin	Mr. Fred Rilings
Detective Wright	Mr. Fred Carr
Mrs. Alma Cortelyon	Miss Lydia Mannington
Mrs. Bridget Sparrow	Miss Nellie Daly
Janet	Miss Daisy Maynard
West	Miss Emily Rilings
Mrs. Dobbin	Miss Beatrice Dover
Lady Agnes Carlyle	Miss Isabel Lowe
Nancy	Miss Louie Adair

An interesting drama from the pen of Gordon Holmes was produced at the Shakespeare Theatre on Monday, and met with a very cordial reception. The interest of the story lies in the doings of Harry Cornwall, who has parted in anger from his father, Lord Arlincourt, and joined the Navy as ordinary seaman. It is reported that he is killed in action, and is mourned for as dead; but this proves to be untrue, and he returns to London, where he unexpectedly encounters Ormond Cowell, his cousin, who, in the event of Harry's death, is heir to the estates. Cowell fears Harry's reconciliation with his father and the consequent loss to himself of a fortune, keeps the knowledge of Harry's return from Lord Arlincourt, and bribes Myles Jarvis to kill him. In the meantime, Harry has met and fallen in love with Nancy, who obtains a living by selling papers, and has earned the nickname of "the little mother" for her loving care of two little waifs, Sydney and Arthur. He is enticed to a drinking saloon by Myles Jarvis, drugged, and flung into a cellar, from which predicament he is rescued by Augustus Sparrow, a friend of Nancy, who had overheard the conversation between Jarvis and Cowell.

Alma Cortelyon, an adventuress, who is also aware of Harry's return, in order to be revenged on Cowell for refusing to keep his promise to marry her, informs Lord Arlincourt that his son still lives, and also enlightens him to the true character of Cowell. On being confronted with evidence of his perfidy and threatened with exposure, Cowell, rendered desperate by his loss of fortune, fatally stabs Lord Arlincourt; but the deed is seen by Alma Cortelyon, who promises to keep silence if Cowell will agree to marry her. The body is discovered soon after by Harry, who is accused of the murder, and eventually sentenced to death. He, however, contrives to escape, and, with the assistance of Nancy (to whom he declares his love), sails for South America. Nancy, however, falls on evil times, and is persecuted by Cowell, who would make her his mistress; but she steadfastly refuses his advances, and manages, by the aid of her poor, but generous-hearted, friends, Mr. and Mrs. Sparrow, to keep herself from starvation until the return of Harry. Thinking himself secure, Cowell endeavours to break off his marriage with Alma Cortelyon, but is dismayed to learn that she has kept a record of the murder in her diary, and has also sent a sealed copy to her solicitors. The diary is stolen by Jarvis, but eventually falls into the possession of Nancy; and the story ends with the arrest of Ormond Cowell and Alma and the reunion of the lovers.

Mr. Frank Adair, under whose stage direction the drama was produced, deserves warm praise for his admirable performance in the part of Ormond Cowell, every detail of the character being clearly drawn. Mr. Wingold Lawrence is a manly Harry Cornwall, and acted throughout with zest and sincerity; Mr. Geo. Mitchell played Lord Arlincourt with befitting dignity; Mr. Chris Mason did all that was possible in the rôle of Sir Norman Power; humour of the kind expected in this class of piece was supplied by Mr. Geo. H. Asquin, who scored a success in the rôle of Augustus Sparrow; the rascally Myles Jarvis was cleverly portrayed by Mr. Fred Withers; and Mr. Fred Carr was satisfactory as Detective Wright. In the title-part, Miss Louie Adair scored a decided hit, and her spirited acting, together with the excellent delivery of her lines, ensured the success of the piece. Another good performance was that of Miss Lydia Mannington, who acted with dramatic force the part of the adventuress, Mrs. Alma Cortelyon; Miss Nellie Daly was well placed as the kind-hearted Bridget Sparrow; and Miss Daisy Maynard as Janet, a newspaper girl, acted with humour. The two little waifs were capitally played by little Elsie Videau and little Bertha Hanbury, who showed considerable talent, and are to be congratulated for a clever performance. The new play, which was excellently staged, ought to enjoy a most prosperous provincial tour.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, July 15, the Play, entitled
"CALLED BACK."

The last week of the present dramatic season here has been devoted to an excellent production of *Called Back*. Mr. Cecil G. Calvert is responsible for the representation, and must be congratulated on his success and on his rendering of the character of Paolo Macari, which is very good indeed. Miss Edyth Goodall is a clever and charming Pauline March; Miss Jessica Black is an attractive Edith Vaughan, and plays the part in a convincing manner; Miss H. Edwins is excellent as Mrs. O'Brien; Kate is pleasingly enacted by Miss Wynne Hamblin, and Veda by Miss Elliman; Mr. Benson North is an earnest and manly Gilbert Vaughan; Mr. E. Howard Templeton is well suited to the rôle of Dr. Harold Kenyon; Mr. H. Gray Dolby presents an excellent character study of Dr. Ceneri; Mr. W. Kingsford Pearce is good as Anthony March; Mr. Sydney N. Hallows is well placed as Petroff; Mr. Kenneth Black is commendable as Captain Varlamoff; and Mr. G. Williams as Bolski, Mr. Hal Forde as Captain Trepoff, and Mr. T. J. Wells as Colonel Menzki add to the general success.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

DURBAN, June 22.—Theatre Royal (Lessees, B. and F. Wheeler).—A fine production of *The Manxman* was given this week by Mr. Leonard Rayne's company. The part of Pete Quilliam was filled with much excellence by Mr. Rayne. In her impersonation of the difficult part of Kate Cregeen, Miss Gertrude F. Godart displayed great skill; the Philip Christian of Mr. Charles Howitt was of much merit; while Mr. E. Burton Seymour as Cæsar Cregeen made the most of his part. Miss Annie Leaf as Miss Christian was exceedingly successful; the Ross Christian of Mr. C. Herman Pullen was deserving of praise; and Miss Dorrie Roberts as Nancy acquitted herself admirably. Other plays presented during the week have been *Raffles*, *The Prodigal Son*, and *A Royal Divorce*.

ACTORS' UNION.

Mr. Arthur Bawtree presided over the usual weekly meeting of the Actors' Union, held on Tuesday at the Bedford Head Hotel. There were also present Messrs. Harry Paulton, Cecil G. Calvert, Edwin J. Collins, H. Tripp Edgar, E. Howard Templeton, Kingsford Pearce, Frederic Jacques, Orlando Barnet, Edward Chester, Ray Barraclough, Ed. Valentine, W. J. Butler, Gordon Phillott, Grahame Herrington, F. Rawson Buckley, E. T. Rae, Wm. Macready, Fred Prior, Alfred Richards, H. Bonhote Wilson, A. J. Harding, John W. Ryder, H. Carlyle Pritchard, Francis Chamier, J. W. Braithwaite, Harry Townley, James English, Charles Medwin, Henry Nelson, Charles Stafford, Fred Bentley, Elbert Wainwright, Harry Paulton, jun., Leonard Laurence, Thomas Barry, Paul Beckett, Victor Rowland, Tom Paulton, Henry S. Dacre, Nayler Grimson, Dennis Bryan, W. Elliott, George Howard, Paul Sands, C. Haviland, Edgar L. Hocking, E. St. Edmunds, Frank Coston, Herbert Russell, A. B. Garland, John Coghlan, J. Green, Ernest Percy, Ainslie Burton, P. Howard Sturgess, Maurice Drew, and Walter Mantell; and Misses Agnes Paulton, Adelaide Gracey, Kate Ruskin, Violet Sims, Grace Lester, Edyth Goodall, Hylda Denison, Wynne Hanley, Winifred Symonds, Grace Garside, Georgie Trueman, May Conrade, Gladys Ffolliott, Marian Bird, Mary Bessle, Lindsay Fincham, Lily Crammonde, Beatrice Western, Millie Vere, Dorothea Mapleson, Enid Edom, Ida Irving, Denis Campbell, Annie Barclay, Louise L'Estrange, Amy Fanchette, Mildred Clay, Emma Robberds, Marion Armitage, Mildred Fincham, Ethel Stalman, Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite, Mrs. Edward Kipling, and Mrs. Frank Caston.

The Chairman, in his opening statement, announced that a general secretary had been appointed. There was now a membership of 460, and matters were progressing most satisfactorily. Already they had been able to find employment for several members of the Union. They had been accused by letters in the Press of not standing by their original programme. Statements to that effect were absolutely untrue. Nor had they lost their first member, as had been stated. He (the chairman) wanted them to understand that the Union had not been founded by a London clique, or by a body of unemployed actors. The Union had been formed by men and women in all seriousness and earnestness of purpose—by people who were only too well aware that the present dire state of the theatrical profession could only be improved by banding together the members of the profession.

Mr. E. J. Collins spoke on the subject of the anonymous letters which, he said, had been written without sufficient knowledge of the objects of the Union or the work of the committee.

Mr. Harry Paulton said that at a recent meeting of the committee he was appointed to air their views before the members. He would now read to them a proclamation which the committee had formulated, and extracts from which we give, as follows:—

Your committee have been patient and long-suffering under attack, but the time has now arrived. The situation is such that we think we may now step out and confront our traducers and silence the calumnies and misrepresentations with which we are continually assailed, and which are also injuring the Union.

Your rules are now revised and passed in accordance with your decisions. They are in print; we have the proofs, and we trust they will quickly pass the Registrar of Trade Unions, and shortly be in the hands of the members of this Union. The rules are your rules. We have taken no liberties with them; there have been no secret changes or erasures, and no working in the dark. We feel it a duty to repudiate such insinuations. You will guess, no doubt, that we have now arrived at Mr. Raleigh. At the present juncture it is impossible to avoid Mr. Raleigh. The analysis of Mr. Raleigh is our defence. Our only reflection must be that, though Mr. Raleigh has been a friend to this Union, he is so no longer, and, much as we would like to, we can no longer consider him. Your committee received a very long letter from Mr. Raleigh, full of fatherly advice and censure, upon the non-encouragement of perpetual correspondence in the Press. Let them write all they can, he urged—propose and refute, and dispute and discuss, ever and always! May we reflect for a moment before moving to more serious matters upon the folly of such arguments? May we ask, Are we never to settle down? These are Mr. Raleigh's words: "I would not join the Union, neither would I continue to pay my subscription to it, until the rules of the Union had been published, considered, and confirmed by the whole of the members." What do you think, ladies and gentlemen, of this professed friend and helper of the Actors' Union, who counsels no one to join, and advises its members not to pay their subscriptions, on a wilful misstatement of facts? It is wilful. No one knows better than Mr. Raleigh that the rules have been considered and confirmed by the whole of the members. But let me give you a few Raleigh facts concerning that general meeting. At the suggestion of Mr. Raleigh, simply and purely because there has been always a desire to adopt his views, and, in the light of recent events, too much desire to humour and bow down to him, the entire plan and business of that meeting were conducted on the advice of Mr. Raleigh. In a consultation with the chairman before the meeting commenced he advised: "When I've said my say and gone, have any of these important rules, upon which there may be difference of opinion and discussion, considered and passed by the meeting, and then let the meeting appoint a sub-committee to revise and correct the rest; the sub-committee then to return them to the executive committee, who finally pass them, and have them printed for the members."

This Raleigh programme was carried out to the letter. You discussed all the important laws; you carried, resolved, and made them laws; and laws they must remain till you in your judgment, under properly constituted conditions, decide to alter them. You appointed your sub-committee; they performed their work upon the rules as you desired, and returned them to us on Wednesday last. On the following day we sat for four solid hours over them. I should think it might be safely estimated that for a general meeting to take and discuss all the wording of those yards of rules and regulations in detail would take four solid weeks. Continuing, Mr. Raleigh says: "I would not pay my subscription till I knew what the Union proposed to do, and how it proposed to do it." This may sound and look very clever at a passing glance, but you will find on reflection it is merely high falutin, though mischievous, nothingness. I think you do know pretty well what you propose to do. The objects and aims of this Union are clearly defined in its rules. The rules (as did the original prospectus, from which there has been no departure) show plainly what we propose to do. When or how we propose to do it I fear at present we can't tell Mr. Raleigh. Mr. Raleigh would be a cleverer man than I believe him to be if he could tell us. His charge of working in the dark is as silly as it is spiteful. I don't know that it is usual to have the dull routine of committee meetings reported, but I am pleased to announce to you that we have secured the services of a permanent paid secretary—Mr. Blackmore—an appointment on which I assume we shall have reason to congratulate ourselves. And we shall now be in a position to furnish a report of our committees for the use and help of the provincial weekly meetings. I don't think you have ever believed that there is a desire on the part of your committee for darkness, or for secret meetings to pervert the objects of your Union.

Now, regarding Mr. Raleigh's remarks upon "burking the free criticism of your members in the Press," please give me a moment's attention. We contend there is no necessity for this never-ending arguing agitation outside conveying the impression of an entire absence of all unanimity within. Our members can come here and discuss, if there is anything to discuss, as the members who have the best interests at heart do, and will. Mr. Raleigh now brings us to an important issue, and to an important announcement I have to make to you. Mr. Raleigh says: "I would not join the Actors' Union, or pay my subscriptions, so long as it represents only one side of the actors' calling—that is the male side." What an absurd pronouncement from this master of logic! Doesn't actor mean actress? As in the records of the world and in the story of humanity man means woman, are not actresses our wives, our daughters, our sisters? You'll pardon me wasting your time on such arguments, I hope. As a set-off to the indignity Mr. Raleigh exhibits on this question I have to inform you, from your Provisional Committee, that the instigator, the originator of this motion not to have ladies on the committee was—Mr. Raleigh! Comment is unnecessary.

Voting papers were sent out in accordance with your decision; scrutineers were appointed when the time for sending in had elapsed—Mr. Leonard Russell and Miss Howitt—and the result we have now to announce to you. Out of a total of 460 members, only 139 have taken the trouble to vote—a strange lack of interest in a matter believed to be of such importance. To the question "Should ladies serve on the committee?" there were 67 for and 72 against—a majority of five against ladies on committee! And in giving you the details of the voting it will be seen that the ladies themselves seemed to have settled it, for the returns of the female votes were—25 for and 28 against; the against ladies being three in excess of the others. So that for the present, you see, that matter is settled. If, in view of the narrow majority, you think fit, the question can be reopened at the next annual meeting, or, as you will find by your rules, a special meeting can always be demanded by a certain number of your members in requisition; but it is the duty of your committee to remind you—as also members who casually suggest general meetings *ad lib.*—that they come expensive, and are a heavy tax on funds at present limited and weak. One of our earliest endeavours must be for better premises; but we have to move with great caution. We know what we would like, we know what we want, but I fear our wise mentor would be very angry with us—we don't know how to get it! I should have told you that the vote upon the ladies' sub-committee was 54 for and 18 against, a majority of 36 in its favour. We regret not being able to place the rules in your hands to-day, but the reason I have explained. I could read each and every one to you, but there is a limit to human endurance—you wouldn't stand it, and I doubt if I could. Moreover, it is unnecessary. Here at the outset are the objects of your federation. I have looked through them and your original synopsis. I find nothing omitted and nothing changed. We should remind you that these objects are not laws, and cannot become laws without your approval and decision. When the time is ripe—in other words, when your committee think you have the strength and the funds for any of these reforms, they must come to you for your opinion and your fiat—what to do and how to do it. Our first rule is, "That the title of this body shall be the Actors' Union." We propose that not in name only shall it be a Union of Actors. With our rules passed, our routine organised and in working order, we claim that it is.

Mr. H. Tripp Edgar said that it was perfectly easy for some people to criticise and to find fault, but it was quite a different matter to construct. Had the Union ever been given a fair trial? He thought that even the managers were beginning to encourage them.

Mr. William Macready said that Mr. Raleigh had been splitting hairs on every point in a most absurd manner. The Union could well afford to lose him. He (the speaker) expressed the hope that each member would, during the autumn, induce three new members to come in.

Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Bawtree for presiding.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The pupils of Mr. L. F. Chapuy gave a highly creditable dramatic performance in the theatre of the Guildhall School on Friday evening, July 12. Three short pieces were given, the programme commencing with Mr. J. P. Wooler's comedietta, entitled *Orange Blossoms*, in which Mr. J. A. Ellerton extracted the utmost fun out of the character of Mr. Septimus Symmetry, a determined foe to matrimony, who, however, at last succumbs to the attractions of Louisa—little Loo. It also appears that Mr. Symmetry must marry before he is thirty-five or lose his property. The other parts in the comedietta were Colonel Clarence, played by Mr. Maurice A. Rossiter, and Mr. Falcon Hope, impersonated by Mr. Earle Gabriel; while their wives, Isabella and Violet, were brightly acted by Miss Emily M. Surridge and Miss Jessie Badcock. The character of Little Loo, so often referred to in the play, was played by Miss Ethel Huntley. The action of the little comedy takes place in Symmetry's garden.

Orange Blossoms was followed by *Time Tries All*, a drama, in two acts, by Mr. John Courtney. In this Miss Gertrude Sylvert deserves great praise for her skilful and natural acting as Laura Leeson, who is somewhat overdone with the constant attentions of her lover Mathew Bates; and as her father wishes their union of course the young lady rebels, and only finds out the good qualities of the too persistent lover after she has sent him away. As may be taken for granted, in the second act all ends happily. Mr. Earle Gabriel played Bates with praiseworthy earnestness, and Mr. Stanley Hughes was equally effective as Mr. Leeson, while that clever, versatile student, Mr. J. A. Ellerton, made the sleepy character of the Hon. Augustus Collander Yawn very amusing. Charles Clinton, a foppish young man, introduced as a contrast to Mathew Bates, was cleverly acted by Mr. Dare Sinclair. In the comic parts of Tom Tact, a clerk, and the servant, Fanny Fact, Mr. Leonard J. Brooker and Miss Jessie Badcock greatly amused the large audience.

The programme concluded with *Dearest Mamma*, a comedietta, by Mr. Walter Gordon. Mr. Dare Sinclair as Harry Clinton and Mr. Stanley Hughes as Nettle Croker were again highly successful; Browser and Jones were played by Mr. Maurice A. Rossiter and Mr. Brooker; and Miss F. Adams was very happy in her treatment of the character of Mrs. Breezeley Fussell; while as Edith Clinton and Mrs. Honeywood, Miss Emily M. Surridge and Miss Violet France acted most intelligently. Between the acts piano solos of Raff's "Valse" and Schumann's "In der Nacht" were neatly executed by Miss Eva Shacklock.

ACTORS' CHURCH UNION.

The seventh annual conference of the Actors Church Union was held at the Bishop's House, Kennington Park, on Monday afternoon, under the chairmanship of the Bishop of Southwark, the president. There was a large and interested gathering, noticeable among whom were Mr. Charles Allan, Mr. Frank Macnaghten, Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mrs. Edward Compton, Miss Louise Stopford, Mr. C. J. Cameron, Miss Viola Compton, Miss Elizabeth Dexter, Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, Mr. J. L. Franklyn, Miss Franklyn, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Mervyn, Miss Cornèlie Saret-Charles, Miss Beatrice Mervyn, Miss Vera Moseley, Mr. Valentine Williams, Miss C. Bennett, Miss Emmie East, Miss Viola Holland, Miss Kirsteen Graeme, Miss Cecilie Grey, Miss Harriett Greet, Miss J. Greet, Miss Beatrice Bell, Miss Eva Erskine, Miss Violet Sutherland, Mrs. Sutherland, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wright, Miss Jeannette Ansell, Miss Catherine Brandon, Miss Lena Clifton, Miss Juana Jerome, Mr. Everard Digby, Mr. J. Maundy Gregory, and Mr. Allan Jeayes.

The Hon. Secretary (the Rev. D. Hole) read his report, which was as follows: It is once more my pleasant duty to report the sustained progress of our Union. Since the last annual conference our members have increased from 190 to 243, our associates from 50 to 110, our centres from 120 to 142, and our hon. chaplains from 153 to 171. I regret to say that only sixty-five out of the 171 hon. chaplains have made their annual returns, so that I am without any report whatever from considerably more than half our centres. Still, judging from the material which has come to hand, it appears that the Union is doing steady, quiet work. Cases of sickness have been visited, in some instances cases of distress have been relieved; the visits of the chaplains have been received with the usual courtesy and cordiality. Canon Melville Pigot, of Ipswich, writes: "The response of actors to little acts of hospitality is delightful. The human touch with our brethren is a fine art and the Church's sympathy with and recognition of all that is in the direction of what is best and of what is wholesome on the stage . . . . is a real gain." This testimony is repeated in varying terms from practically all the other centres from which reports have been received. The suspicion and mistrust with which our efforts were regarded by some members of the profession seems really to be dying, although it would be an exaggeration to describe it as already dead. There is one thing, however, which it would be impossible to exaggerate, and that is the friendliness shown towards the Union by the managers of the local theatres, almost without exception. It is obviously within the power of the local managers to make the chaplain's work very difficult or very pleasant; it is, therefore, extremely gratifying to hear on all sides of the unfailing courtesy and even active co-operation which they manifest. I am pleased to say that there are several theatrical managers who are members of the A.C.U., but even where they have not thus formally identified themselves with us they render the most material assistance to our work. The directly spiritual work which our chaplains have been able to accomplish it is obviously impossible to tabulate in the form of a report. It is, however, interesting to note that the Bishop of Birmingham mentioned a short time ago that several members of theatrical companies playing in Birmingham have, within the last year, been presented to him for confirmation. And our president, the Bishop of Southwark, allowed me the privilege of presenting to him a young actress (who had been prepared while on tour by our chaplain at Chatham) at a special confirmation which his lordship held for the purpose in the private chapel over this very room in which we are sitting. The A.C.U. service at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, seems likely to become an annual institution. The service this year took place on Sunday, April 28, and the sermon was preached by the Lord Bishop of Birmingham. Several developments in the work and constitution of the Union have been made during the past year:—

(1) The following vice-presidents have been elected: the Lord Bishops of London, Birmingham, Glasgow, Galloway, Argyll, and the Isles, Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. Edward Compton, Mr. Martin Harvey, and Mr. Cyril Maude.

(2) A movement has been begun in the direction of forming local branches of the Union. A meeting was held on Jan. 3 at 45, Earl's Court-square for the initiation of such a branch at Earl's Court, the Rev. W. Cree being elected president and Miss Emily Clarke hon. secretary.

(3) A scheme has been formulated for a register of specially-recommended professional lodgings in the various centres. A difficulty in procuring suitable lodgings has often been acutely felt by members of the profession, and it was thought that the chaplains of the A.C.U. were in a specially favourable position for knowing of reliable rooms in their various districts. It has therefore been proposed to issue in the A.C.U. directory a list of lodgings recommended by the chaplains. This scheme has already been carried out in several of the centres, namely at Aldershot, Burnley, Berwick, Dover, Earl's Court, Edinburgh, Gateshead, and Wigan. The most various opinions, however, have been expressed as to the utility and advisability of the scheme, some strongly in its favour and others very much the reverse. The matter, probably, can only really be determined by experiment.

(4) The question of the relation of the A.C.U. to the music halls is now forcing itself upon our attention. The membership of the Union has, of course, always been open to music-hall artists, though very few have so far joined us. When we first started the Union it was felt that, for practical reasons, it would be simpler, at the outset, to confine our attention more particularly to the theatres; but there are several reasons at the present time which sugest a more extended scope for our operations. The barrier which formerly existed between the theatre and the music hall is to a great extent breaking down. There are many members of the profession who play upon both stages. Our chaplains, again, are constantly finding that the local theatres are changing their character, and are being converted into places of variety entertainment. I have been personally approached by the secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, who, I am pleased to say, has become a member of our Union, and who has suggested that we might with advantage come into closer touch with the branch of the profession which she represents.

(5) On March 19 a special meeting of members and friends of the A.C.U. was held at St. Paul's Vicarage, Wilton-place, to consider the future development of the Union, the Lord Bishop of Southwark being in the chair. The chairman stated that the time had come in the history of our society when the services of a regular organising secretary would be required if the work was to progress as it ought to do. It was impossible that an hon. secretary should be able to devote the time requisite for its efficient working. After some discussion, the hon. secretary was asked to undertake, as a tentative experiment, a short tour in the interests of the Union. In order to defray the expenses of this tour, and to form the nucleus of a fund for the further development of the Union's work, an afternoon entertainment was organised by Mr. Edward Compton and a committee of ladies. It took place place on June 4 at Bridgewater House, kindly lent for the purpose by the Earl and Countess of Ellesmere. Many prominent members of the profession generously gave their services on this occasion, and the entertainment realised, after the payment of all expenses, the sum of £124 8s. 6d.

With regard to the financial position of the Union, I am pleased to be able to report that the receipts for the year ending Dec. 31, 1906, were £67 5s. 8d., as against £51 14s. 5d. for the previous year. A detailed balance-sheet is in your hands, and will be printed, as usual, in the annual report. The receipts for 1907 up to the present amount to £57 15s. 10d., exclusive of the £124 8s. 6d. accruing from the Bridgewater House entertainment. I am bound to report, however, that there are more than 100 members who have not yet paid their subscriptions for the current year, in spite of application for payment having been made. The subscription is not a large one, the minimum being one shilling; but I would point out that it is absolutely necessary for members to be regular in their contributions if the Union is to be placed on a satisfactory financial basis. I am sorry that I am still unable to report the formation of an Actors' Church Union for South Africa, but I really think that we have altogether made a move in this direction. I have received a letter from the Ven. Archdeacon Vincent, of Bloemfontein, in which he tells me that he has found priests willing to act as chaplains in Kimberley and Port Elizabeth, and that he hopes to do the same for Cape Town and Johannesburg. For the present it would seem that the work must be organised from London until a secretary and committee can be appointed in South Africa, which I hope may soon be done. I think that, even if we cannot be entirely satisfied with the progress which the Union has made during the past year, we at least have ground for encouragement and hope for the future.

The honorary treasurer's account from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1906, was as follows:—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.
To Balance, Jan. 1, 1907.	2	14	7
,, Subscriptions and Donations	42	0	6
,, Collections	21	17	6
,, Sale of Literature	0	12	6
	£67	5	1
1907.			
Jan. 1. To Balance, Cash in Hand	6	8	8
Expenditure	£	s.	d.
By Travelling Expenses	1	12	10
,, Printing and Stationery	34	18	4
,, Stamps	11	10	5
,, Mr. Elliot Stock	3	2	0
,, Donation to Charity Organisation Society	2	2	0
,, Notices of Annual Service	2	0	0
,, Reporters	2	7	6
,, Press Agency	1	1	0
,, Bank Charges	1	1	0
,, *Review of Reviews*, *Stage*, and *Era*	0	12	4
,, Christmas Boxes, &c.	0	9	0
,, Balance	6	8	8
	£67	5	1

Examined and found correct.
DOUGLAS STEWART.
July 10, 1907.

The election of officers formed the next business on the agenda, the following being re-elected:—President, the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Southwark; vice-president and chairman of Committee, the Rev. H. Montagu Villiers, Prebendary of St. Paul's; vice-presidents, the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of London, the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Birmingham, the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Glasgow, the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, Mr. Edward Compton, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. Cyril Maude, and Sir Charles Wyndham; committee, the Rev. Canon Brooke, the Rev. Wm. Cree, the Rev. H. F. Davidson, the Rev. Wynn Healey, the Rev. H. E. Mosse, the Rev. Thomas Varney, Mrs. Villiers, Miss C. Chambers, Miss Emily Clarke, Mr. E. H. Bull, Mr. Charles J. Cameron, Mrs. Carson, Mrs. Edward Compton, Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, Miss Winifred Emery, Mr. Benn Greet, Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, and Mr. Chris Walker.

The Bishop of Southampton and Mr. Charles Manners were elected as additional vice-presidents, the proposers and seconders respectively being the Rev. W. Hole and the Rev. J. W. S. J. Danbury and the Rev. W. Hole and Miss Phyllis Broughton. Miss Chambers proposed and Mrs. Edward Compton seconded the inclusion of Miss Louise Stopford to the committee, and Miss Phyllis Broughton's name was similarly submitted by Mr. Chas. Cruikshanks and Prebendiary Villiers, both the candidates being duly elected.

The BISHOP OF SOUTHWARK, in his presidential address, stated that the report which they all had had the pleasure of listening to showed that the Actors' Church Union was progressing satisfactorily. In the controversies of the day one heard a great deal about the narrowness of those who held denominational opinions and a great deal of the emptiness of those who upheld undenominational ways, but the conditions which characterised the membership of the A.C.U. indicated that a really genuine effort was being made to reconcile divergent views.

MR. CHARLES ALLAN, in moving the adoption of the report, was of opinion—an opinion which, he felt sure, would be shared by everybody—that the Actors' Church Union had done wonders, considering the enormous difficulties in the way of starting such an institution. He felt that it was a matter for rejoicing that the local managers of theatres in the provinces had come forward so readily and so willingly to help the Union, which he hoped would continue on its successful career and be of immense benefit to the profession.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. WYNN HEALEY, and carried.

The Honorary Secretary, in giving an account of his recent tour into the provinces on behalf of the Actors' Church Union, said: The objects which I had in view in undertaking this tour were partly general and partly special. I thought it would be useful to gain a general idea of how the work of the Union was being carried out in the various centres, and to learn, from consultation with the chaplains, the needs, the difficulties, and the possibilities which have to be met and be provided for. I was also aware that, in some places, certain special difficulties had arisen, which I hoped it might be possible to remove after careful inquiry into the local circumstances and personal interviews with people on the spot. I was further desirous of promoting the social side of the Union's work by the organisation of local branches. With this view I requested the chaplains of some of the principal centres to arrange meetings at which I might explain the objects and methods of the Union to church people residing in the neighbourhood. The chaplains responded most kindly to this request (in some cases, I know, at great personal inconvenience), and I held in all seven meetings and arranged for several more later on. These meetings were, as a rule, private ones, held in drawing-rooms or parochial halls; in one instance in the rectory garden; and invitations were issued by the chaplains to such of the laity as they thought likely to be interested. I was careful to explain that my primary object was not to collect money. We had no collection at these meetings except in one instance, when people had come armed with shillings, and simply insisted on having a collection whether we wanted it or not. My endeavour was to secure the names of associates in each centre who would be able and willing to assist the chaplain in showing hospitality to members of the Union and other actors visiting the town. The affording of hospitality to brother churchmen from a distance has from the first formed an essential part of the Church's work. In primitive times, I believe, this work devolved upon the local bishop, but the modern diocese makes too great demands upon the time and energy of its ruler to admit of this particular form of episcopal activity. With proper organisation, however, the local branch of the Actors' Church Union could perform this function with regard to the special set of churchmen who are engaged in the theatrical profession. It would emphasise the conception of the church as a "family" if we could do anything to supply to the actor on tour something of that social life from which he is necessarily cut off by his continual wanderings in strange places. I started my tour on Wednesday, June 5, the day after the Bridgewater House entertainment, and went first to Tunbridge Wells, where the chaplain, the Rev. George Bennett, had arranged a drawing-room meeting for me. The local conditions of Tunbridge Wells might have been thought unfavourable to the A.C.U. owing to the strong Puritan traditions of the place, which, a few years ago, I understand, tabooed even the name of a theatre. When I happened to mention the theatre I was told "Hush! there is no theatre in Tunbridge Wells; it is an Opera House!" But by whatever name it is called, it is a very go-ahead institution under the able management of Mr. Welton Dale, who, I am pleased to say, is an enthusiastic member of the A.C.U. There were about sixty persons present at my meeting, including several of the local clergy. They appeared much interested in what I had to tell them, and Mr. Welton Dale, who had a most cordial reception, also spoke. At the close of the meeting twenty-five ladies and gentlemen gave in their names as associates. The following day the chaplain took me to call upon Mr. Welton Dale at the Opera House, and he arranged a plan of campaign for the formation of a local branch. From Tunbridge Wells I went on to Hastings, where I called on a priest with whom I had been in correspondence for some time, and who kindly expressed his willingness to act as chaplain should he be asked to do so. The next day I went to Eastbourne, where I saw the chaplain, and thence proceeded to Birmingham, where I addressed 100 working men at St. Aidan's on Sunday afternoon on the subject of the theatre, and preached in the evening on "Church and Stage" at St. Jude's to a large congregation. On Monday I visited Worcester. The chaplain, the Rev. Canon Wilson, was away from home, but I saw Mrs. Wilson and the assistant chaplain, Minor Canon Tupper, and they promised to get me a meeting later on. At Oxford, where I stayed two days, I found that the chaplain, owing to local circumstances, was unable to carry out the visiting as thoroughly as he would wish, but we obtained the services of an assistant chaplain, who will probably be more favourably situated for this purpose. From Oxford I went to Blackburn and Wigan, and thence to Liverpool, where the chaplain invited the manager of the principal theatre to meet me. On Friday, June 14, I returned to Birmingham, where the chaplain, the Rev. Arnold Pinchard, had arranged a public meeting, and the Bishop of Birmingham kindly took the chair. Two of the local theatrical managers supported the bishop on the platform, and the meeting was well reported by the press. The next day I went to Sheffield, where I obtained the appointment of a new assistant chaplain, whose church is more favourably situated with regard to the theatre than the other Sheffield churches upon our list. On Sunday, June 16, I preached on "Church and Stage" at All Saints, York, and the following day we had a meeting in the rectory garden, at which several of the local clergy were present as well as the manager of the theatre and some of the actors who were playing that week in the city. Five new associates joined after the meeting. Both the sermon and the meeting were reported in the local press. From York I proceeded to Darlington, Newcastle, and Gateshead. At Newcastle the chaplain got me a meeting in the parochial hall, at which our old friend the Rev. J. W. Parish gave a most interesting address. On Friday, June 21, I spoke at a drawing-room meeting at Nottingham, the chaplain, Bishop Hamilton Baynes, being in the chair. Four associates joined after the meeting, and steps were taken for the formation of a local branch. From Nottingham I went to Bournemouth. The chaplain here resides a long way from the theatrical lodgings, but he is arranging for the appointment of an assistant chaplain living somewhat nearer. On Sunday, June 23, I preached on "Church and Stage" at St. Michael's, Southampton, and the next day I had an interview with the Bishop of Southampton, who is much interested in the Union, and has kindly promised to get us a meeting at his own house one day in July. From Southampton I visited Winchester and Portsmouth. At Portsmouth we have been without a chaplain since the resignation of the Rev. C. E. Ommanney, but I sounded some of the local clergy on the subject, and I hope that we may secure a new chaplain for this important centre before very long. On June 27 I had a meeting at Bristol and another at Reading on the following day. On June 29 I visited the chaplain at Aldershot, and that concluded my tour for the present. I visited in all twenty-four towns in twenty-five days. I hope that I may be able to continue the tour in September and visit the Scottish centres, and also look for chaplains in some of the "fit-up" towns of the West of England. I feel that there is plenty of work to be done in this direction, but unfortunately my time is limited.

You would perhaps like me to give you some of the general impressions and conclusions derived from my travels:—

(1) In the first place, I must say that, although all our chaplains make a point of visiting those members of the Union whose names I send them, yet only a small minority visit the theatrical lodgings systematically. I quite realise that local conditions often render general visiting extremely difficult, sometimes even impossible. Perhaps no two centres are exactly alike in this respect. Still, I venture to hope that by means of fuller organisation this general visiting may be carried out far more systematically than it is at present. I am sure that it will repay the time spent upon it; not, perhaps, directly by adding new members to the Union (though it will do this in some measure), but indirectly by promoting a more cordial feeling between the clergy and their temporary parishioners and by breaking down the prejudice which still unfortunately exists.

(2) It is impossible to lay down any general rules for the guidance of the chaplains in their work. Each must develop his own lines according to the needs and possibilities locally existent. Still, great help would be afforded by the interchange of ideas and experiences. It was suggested to me by our chaplain at Wigan that it would be a good plan to organise annual conferences of chaplains in different parts of the country. It is as a rule impossible for chaplains from a distance to attend our annual conference in London. Our proceedings here, moreover, are of a more general character, and do not deal specifically with the work of the chaplains. I think it would be a good thing if we could have five conferences of chaplains each year—one in Scotland, one in the North of England, say at York; another in the Midlands, at Birmingham, or possibly Manchester; another in London; and another at Bristol. They need not be held in the same town every year, but I have roughly indicated the districts. Another suggestion which Mr. Kingsbury has made is that we should issue a quarterly paper, giving the names of new members and associates, and any other items of interest. This suggestion is, I think, worth considering.

(3) Over and over again in the course of my tour the chaplain has said to me, "Our theatre has just been turned into a music hall. What am I to do?" I always replied, "Get into touch with the music hall." This is a side of our work which has hitherto not been brought into much prominence; but, as I said in my report, I think that it now demands our more serious attention, and we ought to make it plain that we welcome music-hall artists in the Actors' Church Union as well as players upon the other stage.

In conclusion, let me say that my recent experiences have convinced me that the Union is distinctly alive, though it is more alive in some centres than in others. Speaking generally, and of course with some notable exceptions, it is being pushed more energetically in the North than in the South. Still, I feel sure that everywhere it is doing good, and that an important work is being quietly and steadily built up. Before I sit down I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the chaplains whom I have had the pleasure of meeting during my travels for the generous hospitality they have extended to me, and for the extreme kindness and cordiality with which they have received me, and which have rendered my tour an exceedingly pleasant and enjoyable one.

The REV. W. CREE emphasised the importance of the work of local branches. They afforded an opportunity to the members of becoming acquainted with each other and of furthering the interests of the Union. Local branches should organise "At Homes," whereat the loneliness often felt acutely by new entrants to the profession might be somewhat alleviated and an opportunity afforded of meeting the shining lights of the stage and listening to their practical advice. Such intercourse is desirable in all walks of life, and must prove beneficial to the Union. This had been the original branch of the Union, and there had been three meetings at his house and four at that of the secretary. He was looking forward with pleasure to a meeting of the local branch to be held next week at his house, and for which his wife had just issued invitations. They had made various visits to companies, always receiving a cordial welcome. The secretary had visited the Japanese at the Exhibition, who expressed their appreciation of this recognition of their membership of the profession, and, he was pleased to say, had regularly attended the church.

MR. CHARLES CRUIKSHANKS proposed the following resolution:—"That the time has now arrived for extending the operations of the Actors' Church Union by including the music halls in its sphere of usefulness." Speaking in support of this motion, Mr. Cruikshanks remarked that at the present day there were quite as many actors in the music halls as there were variety artists. Whenever they heard of a theatre in the provinces being turned into a music hall it meant that more actors were being employed in it than there were when it was conducted as a legitimate theatre.

MR. CHARLES J. CAMERON briefly seconded the resolution.

MRS. EDWARD COMPTON thought that the members should be very glad to welcome music hall artists, as so many artists were actors nowadays that the two departments seemed like one profession.

MR. CHARLES ALLAN expressed the opinion that there should be no invidious distinctions between the music hall and the theatre.

The REV. WYNN HEALEY thought that it was a little too early to include music hall artists, and "people who walked on slack wires and performed with trained monkeys."

The REV. J. BARRASS disagreed with the previous speaker, and spoke strongly in favour of the resolution.

PREBENDARY VILLIERS regarded the subject in a similar light. He took occasion to pay a high tribute to the Rev. W. Hole, the hon. secretary, for the energetic manner in which that gentleman had worked for the Union.

MR. FRANK MACNAGHTEN, called upon by the Bishop for a contribution to the discussion, stated that he had only just discussed the objects of the Union with Mr. Danbury, and that at the moment his knowledge of the Union was not sufficient to enable him to express any opinion on any phase of its operations. On some future occasion he might be better qualified to speak, when he would be very pleased to air his views. It seemed to him, however, that the Union served a useful purpose, and he would be glad to help it in his small way.

The BISHOP OF SOUTHWARK thought that the distinction at present existing between the variety and the legitimate stage was a very insignificant one. It was not desirable to set up any barrier against the variety people.

The resolution was then put to the meeting, and carried unanimously.

On the proposition of MR. CHARLES ALLAN, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Bishop of Southwark for presiding.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

On Saturday evening Miss Italia Conti's company of woodland players, under the direction of Mr. H. Bernhardt, selected the forest scenes of Shakespeare's *As You Like It* for the delectation of a large and appreciative audience in the Grove. The natural beauty of the surroundings added to the picturesque and realistic effect. The stage, admirably adapted for the purpose, was erected on the bandstand in the centre of the Grove, the foliage on each side forming appropriate scenery. The illuminations were supplied by the well-known pyrotechnists, Messrs. James Pain and Son, and the play, being well costumed and managed, made nothing wanting to ensure its complete success. Mr. F. Cremlin depicted the banished Duke with care and judgment; Jacques in the hands of Mr. Walter Ringham was a meritorious performance; Mr. Ernest Griffin was a suitable Oliver; and Mr. Montague Wigan displayed considerable tact as Adam. Mr. Alfred Tate's humorous interpretation of Touchstone was worthy of praise. A good word was earned by Mr. Drawater for his embodiment of Amiens, with song; and Mr. Edwyn Holloway scored as Orlando for his artistic delineation. Miss Italia Conti made a typical Shakespearean study of Rosalind, her well-placed emotional power earning loud applause at the fall of the curtain. The small part of Celia was commendably enacted by Miss Betty Castle; Phœbe, the shepherdess, by Miss Evelyn Marthèze, was also well done; Miss Grete Hahn as the country girl, Audrey, made a conspicuous success of the rôle; and the other members of the company equally well sustained their respective parts. The Thespian Glee Singers, under the direction of Miss E. Pourtales, sang appropriate songs during the intervals, and, being possessors of well-trained voices, in no small degree helped to the success of the piece. The dance in Act 5, arranged by Miss Evelyn Cooke, was charmingly executed. It may be safe to prophesy that the woodland players will on some future occasion again grace the boards of the thespian stage in the Grove of the Alexandra Park.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.

A special matinée was given at the Court Theatre on Friday afternoon, the 12th inst., in aid of the funds of Nazareth House, Southend-on-Sea. The function, which was favoured by the patronage of the Duchess of Norfolk and many other distinguished ladies and gentlemen, included performances of three one-act plays, the opening one being *The Pierrot of the Minute*, by Ernest Dowson, the part of Pierrot being taken by Miss Aimee Lowther and that of the Moon Maiden by Miss Rita Jolivet.

This proved to be a dreary fantasy in rhymed couplets, and we do not think that its production was justified either by the quality of the verse or the construction of the story it told. Nor have we yet realised the applicability of the title. Pierrot finds a scroll, and, acting according to the words written thereon, he hies him to the grove of Venus, where he makes love to the Moon Maiden. They kiss each other affectionately and Pierrot dances, very prettily, it must be admitted. Then, as the moon disappears, the maiden goes to sleep, after making poor Pierrot most disconsolate by informing him that he who once has been kissed by the moon loves long and late, "but never finds the maid to be his fate." Miss Aimee Lowther as Pierrot delivered her lines with good expression and danced in pleasing fashion, and Miss Rita Jolivet suitably enacted the rôle of the Moon Maiden.

Mr. Hubert Carter's *Punchinello* was the second item, and in it the author treated us to his realistic portrayal of the boisterous, penniless, and devil-may-care poet. Mr. Harrison Carter gave an admirable characterisation of the good-hearted literary man, Diderot; Miss Florence Horsfall was seen in an excellent study of the elderly and sorely-tried Mme. Edouard; while Miss Isobel Roland as her daughter, Miss Elsie Chester as Diderot's housekeeper, and Mr. Lewis Willoughby as the secretary all submitted capable interpretations of their rôles.

The Daughter of Herodias, written by Mr. Brinsley Trehane, and music by Mr. Granville Bantock, brought the matinée to a conclusion. It was effectively enough acted by the members of the cast. Miss Mabilia Daniell showed us in convincing fashion all the arts and wiles and enchantments of Salome; and Mr. Robert Hilton gave forcible utterance to the speeches of Herod. Mr. Philip Desborough imparted an air of mystery to the rôle of the Astrologer; and Messrs. Everett Comberbach and J. Braithwaite fittingly represented the Executioner and Slave respectively. A feature of the entertainment was an agreeable new musical composition by Mr. Robert Hilton, well played by the orchestra under the direction of Mr. J. Kornfeld.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC PATRON'S FUND CONCERT.

The eighth concert of the Patron's Fund, given at Queen's Hall on Thursday evening, July 11th, before a large audience, in some respects may be considered the most successful of the series. Having a famous work like Beethoven's "Concerto for piano and orchestra, No. 4, in G major," also added greatly to the attractions of the concert. The solo instrument of this fine concerto was skilfully played by Mr. James Friskin, who introduced an appropriate cadenza of his own. Mr. Friskin, who has received his education at the Royal College, was at the close warmly applauded. Of the five new works brought forward, the most entirely successful was Mr. Montague F. Phillips's symphonic scherzo, on which a bright sparkling allegro vivacissimo forms the principal theme of his clever composition. That Mr. Phillips is a true musician is shown by the able scoring for the orchestra, and his freedom from over-elaboration, that bane of all young composers. The scherzo is in G major, constructed in sonata form, and scored for full orchestra. At the close Mr. Phillips, who does credit to the training he has received at the Royal Academy, was received most enthusiastically, and recalled several times to the platform. The second work of importance was an effective suite for orchestra, entitled "Siena," by Mr. George Dyson, a student of the Royal College. "Siena" was written while Mr. Dyson was abroad, and attempts, not unsuccessfully, to give the local colour of the race for the Palio or standard annually given in Siena on the Feast of the Assumption. The horse race is run round the Piazza, in front of the municipal palace, on a roughly-paved road; the jockeys wearing steel caps and shoulder plates are permitted to strike each other as well as the horses. The music Mr. Dyson has written to illustrate this event is clever and striking, although the introduction of an intermezzo in so strenuous a composition seems unnecessary. The music follows the chief incidents after a short introduction founded on themes from the march played on the occasion, and the composer deserves praise for his clever treatment of the wind and string in the orchestra. The other new works were a well-written, but somewhat conventional Concert Overture by Mr. Walter Lawrence, a student of the Guildhill School of Music, and a Scene for Contralto and Orchestra, "To the Night," by Mr. Thomas Dunhill, which was sung with admirable purity of tone by Miss Phyllis Lett, but the restless, over-elaborate accompaniment which at times quite overpowered the vocalist, hardly realised the calm dignity of Shelley's poem. Mr. Fred W. Wadely was far more successful in his musical setting to four songs, of which "The Widow Bird," by Shelley, was by far the best. Miss Sara Silvers was the vocalist. The London Symphony Orchestra played the new compositions, which were conducted by their composers, Beethoven's Concerto being conducted by Sir Charles V. Stanford.

THE ARTHUR VERNE FUND.

Subscriptions already received:—

	£	s.	d.
Henry Swinerd	5	5	0
J. W. Cordiner	5	5	0
Messrs. Power and Kirby's Co. (per Martin Comstock)	2	10	6
Horace Stanley	2	2	0
Sam Livesey	2	2	0
Dan Rolyat	2	2	0
The Tyrant Company (per Roy Fortescue)	1	16	6
Nellie Harcourt	1	1	0
George Brooks	1	1	0
Lyn Harding	1	1	0
G. Howard Watson	1	1	0
Mrs. Hy. Mayhew	1	1	0
George Arliss	1	1	0
Queenie Leighton	1	1	0
Lodge "Star," No. 219, Glasgow	1	1	0
Charles Barnard	0	10	6
Lester Collingwood	0	10	0
Walter H. Nightingale	0	10	0
James P. Moore	0	10	0
Bert Edwards	0	7	6
Deane Cliffe	0	5	0
W. C. H.	0	5	0
Arthur Hartley	0	5	0
Walter Ashley	0	5	0
Henry C. Ward	0	5	0
Marie Vere	0	5	0
W. E. Mowbray	0	5	0
T. F.	0	2	6

Subscriptions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Henry Swinerd, Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich; or by J. W. Cordiner, *Dare-Devil Dorothy* company, en route.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Charles Wyndham will conclude to-night at the Criterion Theatre the third revival of *The Liars* within nine years. The event is certainly exceptional, and both the author and Sir Charles may be warmly congratulated on the result.

Mr. and Mrs. Beerbohm Tree were present at Admiralty House on Wednesday evening at a reception given by Lord Tweedmouth, First Lord of the Admiralty. The guests, who numbered about 1,600, included the Prime Minister, the Cabinet Ministers, and a large number of members of Parliament. Mr. Tree leaves London this week to enjoy a well-earned holiday at Marienbad, and will not return home until the end of August.

Mr. George Alexander has asked us to state that he has no connection with any trust or syndicate either here or in America. His enterprise at the St. James's is run financially entirely by himself.

Mrs. R. D'Oyly Carte has arranged with Mr. Vedrenne to take the Savoy Theatre from April 27 for a summer season, with the view of giving *The Mikado*, of which she was compelled this season, by no fault of her own, to deprive the London public. The ban on the opera having been removed, Mrs. Carte has been greatly pressed on all sides to give it in London before she retires altogether. Eight London theatres were offered to her for the autumn if she would have continued her season after giving up the Savoy. In many ways this would have suited Mrs. Carte best, as she had her company all together. But she has only done these revivals from a wish to meet what seemed a real public demand, and she felt that if she did them at all she would only care to do them in their old home. Mr. Vedrenne then came to Mrs. Carte and offered her the Savoy for a short season, he, of course, resuming his usual season of plays after *The Mikado* revival. Mrs. Carte has no intention whatever of continuing London productions after the short season arranged. The company will be entirely her own.

The Touring Managers' Association has been making some interesting enquiries with reference to the Employers' Liability Act, 1907, and its bearing upon travelling managers. The Act protects every employee who is in receipt of a salary not exceeding £250 per annum. It is important that a manager should be insured against every possible liability, and the method proposed is that a premium should be paid on the estimated salaries of theatrical companies for the average number of weeks they are on the road. The salary list of all employees would be entered every week into a wages book, and at the end of the year this book would be made up, any excess of premium being returned, and any deficiency of premium paid to the insurance companies. Some of the insurance companies are willing to meet the difficulty of the rate of salary being such a false guide as to income, owing to intervals of non-employment, by insuring an artist for full risks provided his or her salary is entered in the wages book at £5 per week and premium paid thereon.

Where the employees of local theatres have been engaged by the touring manager for his own special work, such as the getting out of scenery on Saturday nights, or for fly-posting, etc., the sums paid for this extra work in a year are comparatively trifling, and the premium for insurance for these persons is a matter of a few shillings. The Association therefore strongly recommends that though a judge might decide that such work was merely casual labour, until such a decision has been made the only wise course is to insure.

A third difficulty is also dealt with. A touring manager might take a company to a provincial or suburban theatre, the resident manager of which had not insured, and was also an insolvent person. If a piece of scenery belonging to the touring manager were to injure one of the local staff, the person injured might take action for damages against the touring manager as a third party.

The Touring Managers' Association suggests that, having regard for the new conditions, the old clause—by which a touring manager was required to indemnify the resident manager, under certain circumstances, against claims of the local staff from accidents—should be deleted, and that a new clause should be inserted in all contracts that the resident manager should agree to insure and take full risk for all his servants, and that the touring manager should insure and take full risks for all his employees, each producing to the other proof of such insurance. It is to be hoped that the Theatrical Managers' Association and the Touring Managers' Association will accept the clause.

The will of 1901 of the late Mr. Howard Paul, author and public entertainer, was pronounced for in the Probate Court on Thursday. The testator left estate in England valued at about £50,000. The plaintiffs were the executors of the will. The defendants, two sisters of Mr. Paul, originally pleaded that the will had not been legally executed, saying that the deceased was not of sound mind, and pleading undue influence. The action was not now defended, however. Mr. Barnard, K.C., for the plaintiffs, stated that thirty years ago Mr. Howard Paul and his wife were well known as public entertainers. Mr. Paul was born in America, coming to this country when about eighteen years of age. In later years he declared his intention of settling in England, buying an estate, and dying there. Under the will and codicil now propounded among the legacies was one of £500 to his lady secretary, the residue going to various London charities.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier, whose season at the Garrick Theatre terminates on Friday next, will commence a tour in the provinces in September. In his absence from the Garrick a new comedy, in four acts, adapted from Mrs. Blundell's novel, *Fiander's Widow*, by the authoress and Mr. Sydney Valentine, will be given at the Garrick with Miss Miriam Clements and Mrs. Charles Calvert in the cast.

Miss Italia Conti was one of the guests at the Duchess of Sutherland's garden party at Stafford House last week. Her masque, *The Princess and the Stranger*, which Miss Conti invented especially to suit the lovely staircase at Stafford House, and which has been most beautifully written by Lady Alix Egerton, is to be played again this autumn at Glasgow at the annual exhibition of Scottish Industries, of which the Duchess of Sutherland is one of the chief patronesses.

A serious accident occurred at His Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle, on Wednesday last. During the performance of *The Colleen Bawn* Mr. Chas. R. Stone, the chief comedian and stage-manager of the stock company there, in shooting Danny Mann almost blew off three fingers of his left hand. Notwithstanding the intense pain he was suffering, Mr. Stone pluckily went on until the finish of the act, when his part was creditably taken up by Mr. W. J. Miller. Fears were entertained that the fingers would have to be amputated, but we are pleased to state that, though still confined to his room, Mr. Stone is now in a fair way to recovery. For the rest of the week his part of Myles-na-Coppaleen was admirably played by Mr. Harry Douglas.

Mr. Bannister Howard has purchased the entire production of *The Belle of Mayfair* from Messrs. Gatti and Frohman, which will be used on his forthcoming tour. Provincial playgoers will therefore have an opportunity of seeing the same effective production as that which delighted the London public.

Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry will bring their season at the New Theatre to an end next Saturday. After a four weeks' vacation, they will commence their autumn tour on Aug. 26, at the Opera House, Blackpool. On this tour they will produce a new play, *The Popinjay*, by Boyle Lawrence and Frederick Mouillot. On their return to the New Theatre next January, they will present the new piece, *Matt of Merrymount*.

The Queen's Theatre, Keighley, the only theatre in the town, which has a playing population of 100,000, is for sale. It was built at a cost of £22,000. Application for a partnership from a man of theatrical experience and ability would be entertained by Messrs. Carson and Kendall, in whose hands the negotiations are placed.

Should the revival of *The Christian* at the Lyceum Theatre prove as successful as is anticipated, the production of Miss Ella Wheeler Wilcox and Mr. Luscombe Searelle's drama *Mizpah* will not take place until next year. At Christmas Messrs. Smith and Carpenter will present *Robinson Crusoe*, a pantomime in which Miss Dorothy Craske will be the principal "boy" and Miss Sybil Arundale the leading girl. Mr. Caine has received up to the present £90,000 in royalties for his popular piece.

Mr. Walter Reynolds, who is already doing good work on the L.C.C., writes:—"My fight for pure milk began on Tuesday in the London County Council. It will be a fight to the finish. May I therefore beg sufficient space to ask everybody who has any evidence or opinion to offer for or against my scheme to be kind enough to furnish me with that opinion, in writing only, addressed to me at the County Hall, Spring-gardens, S.W. My proposition is (1) that all milk from a ha'porth upwards shall be sold in hermetically sealed glass bottles; (2) all such bottles shall bear upon them the name of the first seller of the milk and the place of origin; (3), no milk shall be put into such hermetically-sealed bottles until such milk has been certified as pure by the authorised inspector; and (4), each bottle of milk shall bear the stamp of the authorised inspector. My scheme will not raise the price of milk to the consumer even by a fraction.

The annual outing of the staff of the St. James's Theatre took place on Sunday, the party going from Waterloo to Windsor by rail, and thence by the steam launch Duchess to Bourne End, all the arrangements being made by Young's Pleasure Party and Catering Agency. Dinner was taken at the Railway Hotel, Bourne End, and tea on the launch on the return voyage. The party reached Waterloo about ten o'clock, having spent a thoroughly enjoyable day. Mr. Philip Young's arrangements were completely satisfactory, and were the theme of cordial comment.

Miss Nina Sevening will play the ingénue part in Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen's production of *The Stormy Petrel* at the King's Theatre, Glasgow, on Thursday. Miss Sevening will also appear as the heroine in Miss Gladys Unger's four-act play, *The Knave of Hearts*, which Mr. Allen will shortly send out on tour.

Mr. Charles Frohman will produce Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's play, *The Hypocrites*, at the Hicks Theatre in the last week in August. Mr. Jones is now on his way to London from America, and will remain in town till after the production of *The Hypocrites*, when he will leave for New York.

Mr. Leslie Stuart has contracted to write the score of a new musical play for Mr. George Edwardes, who will supply the book. The piece will be ready for production early next year. Mr. Stuart has also agreed with Mr. Charles Frohman to write an opera in two acts, the scene of the first being in Monte Carlo and of the second in England. Mr. Stuart will furnish the libretto, and the work will probably be produced in America.

Miss Rose Musgrove, a well-known Australian comedienne, the daugther of Mr. George Musgrove, the Anglo-Australian manager, has been engaged by Mr. Otho Stuart for his autumn season at the Court Theatre.

Before Mr. Denman, on Tuesday, at Marlborough-street, Thomas Harris, Arthur North, and Mary North, who were seen crowding amongst the people in various theatre "queues," apparently with the intention of picking pockets, were charged under the Crimes Act. Numerous and heavy convictions were proved against all the prisoners, and Mr. Denman sentenced Harris to twelve months' imprisonment, and the two Norths to similar terms, each with an additional three months for assaults on the police when arrested.

Mr. and Mrs. Kennerley Rumford's first concert in Melbourne will take place on September 10. Their tour, which has been arranged by Messrs. Ibbs and Tillett, includes between fifty and sixty concerts to be given in Australia, New Zealand, and Tasmania. The artists accompanying Mr. and Mrs. Rumford are Messrs. Frank Merrick (pianist), Carl Barré (violinist), and Arthur Godfrey (accompanist).

Mr. John M. Hay, of 2, Portland-Mansions, Addison-road, W., an actor, sued Mr. Archibald J. Critchell, of Bedford Park, at Brentford, on the 12th inst., for £12, two weeks' wages in lieu of notice. The defendant engaged the plaintiff to play Lord Soppington, in *Cupid's Market*. The contract was signed by Mr. Graham Murray, the defendant stating Mr. Graham Murray was his manager. The plaintiff rehearsed for three weeks, and opened at the County Theatre, Bedford. On the Saturday night the company were called on to the stage, and were told that the defendant had decided not to go on with the tour. On behalf of the defendant, it was stated that he was just recovering from an operation, and the case was adjourned, the judge directing the money to be paid into court within forty-eight hours.

The Jewish Syndicate which has taken on the Pavilion Theatre, Mile-End, is affecting considerable improvements, together with re-seating the greater portion of the house, and will re-open the theatre in August with a powerful combination of Yiddish artists, under the sole direction of Mr. Sigmund Feinman, who this week has returned from New York, where he has made several interesting engagements. We are pleased to note that the popular acting-manager, Mr. Fred Brown, whose association with the theatre extends for over thirty years, has been engaged by the new syndicate to act in the same capacity.

"Dare-Devil Dorothy" is now in its eighth year of continuous tour, under the direction of J. W. Cordiner, and Mr. Swinerd invites managers who have not yet booked this successful piece to see it at the Camden Theatre next week. The cast still includes Miss Dorothy Desmonde, Miss Nellie Harcourt, the Sisters Blake, Mr. Walter Ashley, Mr. Henry C. Ward, and Mr. Bert Edwardes. Dates have been booked as far ahead as November 23rd, 1908.

Mr. Edwin Compton's season at the St. James's, which will commence on Monday week with *The Eighteenth Century*, will be an interesting one, the cast of the play including, besides Mr. Compton himself, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. E. M. Robson, Mr. Charles Groves, Mr. Benedick Butler, Mr. G. Wallace Johnston, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. Philip Gordon, Mr. Reginald Bessant, Miss Suzanne Sheldon, Miss Phyllis Relph, Miss Marion Ashworth, Miss Marie Hassall, and Miss Grace Lane. *The Eighteenth Century* is divided into two parts, one dated 1745 and the other 1906.

Miss Fay Davis will appear at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, early this autumn, under the management of Mr. John Hart. Miss Davis will enact Rosalind in *As You Like It*, to Mr. Gerald Lawrence's Orlando. Mr. James Hearn will be the Jaques. Miss Davis, when under Mr Alexander's management at the St. James's, played Celia and Rosalind, and also appeared in a revival of *Much Ado About Nothing*.

Smoke was observed to be issuing from the roof of the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, on Tuesday afternoon, and flames were found to be raging at the back of the gallery and bursting out round the skylight. They were soon extinguished by the local fire brigade, no serious damage being done by water to the auditorium. The cause of the outbreak is presumed to be the heat of the sun's rays on the roofing slates.

Mr. Frederick Harrison will produce at the Haymarket Theatre next Thursday a piece in one act, founded by Mr. Michael Morton on the French of Tristan Bernard, and called *Charley, the Sport*. In the cast will be Mr. H. C. Buckler, Mr. E. W. Tarver, Mr. Harry Norton, Mr. Montague Elphinstone, Mr. Douglas Munro, Mr. Arthur Ackerman, Mr. Percival Clark, Mr. Alfred Bellew, Mr. P. Curwen, Miss Rhoda Ray, Miss Lydia Rachel, and Miss Rose Cazalet. The action takes place on a racecourse.

Miss Margaret Brodie, who is understudy for all the female parts in *The Midnight Marriage* at the Lyceum, has had two excellent opportunities of displaying her talent. Last week she played Miss Norah Kerin's part; and on Monday she undertook the entirely different rôle usually sustained by Miss Valli-Valli; doing admirably in each instance, and proving her possession of rare versatility.

Mr. Charles Hawtrey will take a holiday for six weeks commencing on August 5. His part in *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past* at the Vaudeville Theatre will be undertaken, in his absence, by Mr. Weedon Grossmith.

On Saturday last, in the charmingly-wooded portion of the grounds of the Alexandra Palace known as the Grove, Miss Italia Conti's company of woodland players gave a delightful representation of *As You Like It*. Miss Conti was an ideal Rosalind, and was well supported by Mr. Edwyn Holloway, who both looked and spoke well as Orlando. Mr. Walter Ringham portrayed the melancholy of Jaques with picturesque effect, Mr. Alfred Tate was a vigorous and mercurial Touchstone, Mr. Edward Oxlee was good as Corin, Mr. Cremlin as the Duke and Mr. Montague Wigan as Adam were both admirable. Mr. Ernest Griffen made a handsome and intense Oliver; Mr. Robert Grey gave a most amusing rendering of William; and Messrs. Brookfield, Haines, and Rudall rendered capable assistance. The rustic lovers, Silvius and Phœbe, were extremely well played by Mr. M. A. Wetherell and Miss Evelyn Marthèze. Miss Betty Castle was a bright and charming Celia; and Miss Grete Hahn gave a clever and consistent performance as Audrey. Misses Pourtales, Hamber, and Marjorie Day completed a most excellent cast. There was some good singing during the evening by the Thespian Glee Singers, under the direction of Miss Pourtales, and a very pretty dance, arranged by Miss Evelyn Cooke, gave a pleasing finish to a delightful evening.

Miss Edna May and her husband, Mr. Oscar Lewisohn, on their return from their honeymoon, landed at Dover on Thursday, and proceeded to London.

Mrs. Ann Hughes will resume her tour with *The Young Lieutenant* on August Bank Holiday. Mr. Charles Leverton will be responsible for the reproduction. New numbers have been added, and a comedy court-martial scene has been written in. Mr. E. C. Howitt is Mrs. Hughes's business-manager and Mr. Alexander Humphreys will again conduct the opera.

Mr. H. M. Saintsbury will play Sergeant Volkardt this autumn in Mr. Maundy-Gregory's principal *Lights Out* company.

Mr. Hugh Montgomery and Miss Marie Harcourt, having completed three years' with Mr. Frank M. Thorne's *Napoleon the Great* and *Octoroon* companies, have been engaged by Mr. Wentworth Croke for Magnus and Margaret in *The Prodigal Son*—London suburbs and the South.

"The Geisha Boys" at Dunoon are doing very well, with George Casey (last year's favourite) keeping crowded audiences continually in screams.

An eleven representative of the Swansea theatricals played Mr. F. Humphrey's X. at St. Helens on Tuesday afternoon. The theatricals, who only scored fifteen runs for the loss of the first three wickets, eventually scored as follows:—Pearce c and b Lloyd, 0; P. C. Rowe st Humphreys b Lloyd, 9; Jenkins b Bartlett, 5; Somers c W. Bancroft b J. Hill, 11; Dean c and b J. Meager, 10; S. Rees b Wilson, 60; Rorke b Wilson, 0; MacOwan b J. Meager, 5; T. Linnay c and b Meager, 5; Gwyn not out, 0; extras, 10; total, 120. Mr. F. Humphrey's XI. got 114 for eight wickets. The match was drawn.

On Monday, Aug. 5, the Morton's Theatre, Greenwich, will once more open its doors to the public, Miss Susie Campbell having obtained a lease of the house. Miss Campbell is having the building renovated throughout, and is booking a list of first-class dramatic attractions. The theatre will open with a matinée, and the first week's attraction will be *A Master of Artifice*, the title part being played by the author, Mr. W. Campbell Maxwell. Miss Campbell is sending the play on tour immediately afterwards with an excellent company.

Mr. Norman V. Norman is making some important engagements for his autumn tour, which will shortly commence. Mr. Norman hopes to again have the assistance of the charming actress Miss Beatrice Wilson.

Taking advantage of the midsummer vacation, the staff of the Theatre Royal, Halifax, took their annual outing on Sunday last at Llandudno. The party, about fifty in number, left Halifax by the 8.15 a.m. train en route for Liverpool, whence they embarked on La Marguerite. Notwithstanding a thick haze which prevailed throughout the day and somewhat obscured the landscape, every nook and corner was visited with great interest. A few of the trippers went further ahead to Bognor and the Menai Straits. After a vote of thanks to Mr. Joseph Hinton, the affable stage-manager, who had charge of the arrangements, Halifax was reached just before midnight.

Sir Charles Wyndham will shortly revive, at the Criterion Theatre, Mr. Charles Klein's version, revised by Mr. Seymour Hicks, of MM. George Feydeau and Maurice Desvallières's comedy, *L'Hotel de Libre-Exchange*, entitled *A Night Out*, which had such a long run at the Vaudeville Theatre in 1896 and 1897. The cast will include Mr. George Giddens, Miss Alice Beet, Mrs. Edmund Phelps, Miss Margaret Leslie, Miss Vine, Mr. Frederick Volpé, Mr. Bertram Steer, Mr. Reginald Walter, Mr. George Desmond, and Miss Gladys Forsyth. Sir Charles is under contract to produce Mr. Hubert Henry Davies's play at the Criterion in September, and also to present a new German comedy at the New Theatre before February next.

Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche's fourth tour with *What the Butler Saw* will commence on Monday at the Gaiety Theatre, Douglas. The company engaged is even stronger than before, and the production has been thoroughly brought up to date under the personal direction of Mr. Rignold. In addition to Mr. Rignold and Miss Blanche, the company will include Mr. Charles Fawcett, Mr. Cyril Harrisson, Mr. H. H. Rignold, Mr. Roy Byford, Mr. H. Hornby Warburton, Mr. Geo. Ascot, Mr. Leo St. Clair, Mr. Raymond Dudley, Miss Elenor Gilbart, Miss May Hart, and Miss Julie St. George. After playing at Douglas, the company will visit Glasgow and other large towns, and have also booked many suburban dates.

Mr. G. Moreton-Williams concludes to-night a second tour of nine months with Messrs. Warden and Sandford's *A Woman's Past* company, in which he has been playing his original part of Uriah Craven. Mr. Williams intends to spend a short holiday golfing in Ireland.

Miss Ina Goldsmith, who was for so long associated with Mrs. Langtry, both in London and America, has concluded her second season with Miss Olga Nethersole with the series of performances given at the Théâtre Sarah Bernhardt, Paris. Miss Goldsmith has been secured by Mr. E. H. Sothern for the season 1907-8, and in addition to appearing in his repertory, will create a part in the new play to be produced in September.

Mr. Tom Payne, who has been appearing in Jersey for the last few weeks with Mr. Edward Morris's smart troupe of pierrots and veroniques, was last week kindly released from his engagement by Mr. Morris, and left Jersey on Monday morning to take up the part of Cham with Mr. George Edwards' *Cingalee* company. Mr. Morris has engaged "Little Keeno," the talented boy comedian, in Mr. Payne's place.

The Queen's Theatre, Liverpool, will be opened on Saturday, August 3rd, under new management. Mr. Fred Granville, who was formerly controller of the place, in conjunction with Mr. L. Carson, is the managing-director. The house is now undergoing complete renovation. The opening drama will be *The Prodigal Daughter*. Mr. Granville intends to give the scheme his personal attention, and will be assisted by Mr. Fred L. Arthur, as acting-manager.

The *World*, in an article entitled "The Green Fly: A pest of social charity," exposes some of the abuses of fashionable charity. "When at rehearsals and preliminaries a party of, say, a hundred people lunch and dine together and 'do themselves' passably well, it should be obvious after a moment's thought, that someone has to foot the bill. Three years ago the amateur organisers of a philanthropic entertainment that had a great social success met twice or three times a week for a month to confer, and the conference refreshed itself after its labours by dining together at a fashionable restaurant. It was an unusually flagrant example, and one, there is no doubt, due mainly to want of thought; but the sum those conferences cost the charity concerned was—well, not altogether negligible.

"It is obvious that a chance assortment of amateurs, usually an unwieldy one, is rarely competent to undertake the executive duties of organising an enterprise that may often involve the engagement of dozens of employees—the hewers of wood and drawers of water behind the scenes—the expenditure of a considerable sum, the necessary correspondence, and constant attention to a hundred and one trifling but essential details."

Miss Katie Johnson, who, it will be remembered, played Billy so charmingly in *Billy's Little Love Affair*, recently on tour, has been seriously ill for some little time past, and had to undergo an operation for appendicitis. She is now at Brighton making rapid strides towards recovery, and will soon, we are glad to hear, be able to get back to work.

Mr. Mayer is making arrangements for the next French season at the Royalty Theatre, to commence on Sept. 30. It is to last eighteen weeks. In the first week M. Le Bargy will make his reappearance in London, supported by Mlle. Pierat, a leading comedienne of the Théâtre Français, Mlle. Didier, of the Odéon, and M. Marquet, of the Athenée. Mme. Sarah Bernhardt has also been engaged to appear at the Royalty, in a new piece, from Oct. 20 to Nov. 2, and a *revue de salon*, written by M. de Flers, the well-known Parisian playwright, will also be performed.

Mr. Leslie Stuart has sold Messrs. Chappell the sole right to publish all his music during the next five years. This agreement includes the songs which he has been commissioned by that firm to write for the Ballad Concerts.

Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Brayton will open their season at His Majesty's Theatre on Sept. 4 with Mr. Laurence Binyon's poetic drama, *Attila, King of the Huns*.

Miss Billie Burke, being engaged to appear at the Empire Theatre in New York, Miss Maudi Darrell will appear at the Vaudeville Theatre on and after Monday next in the part of Stella in *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past*.

Mr. Frank Marks, late of the Lancashire Fusiliers, has been appointed assistant-manager to Councillor Culling at the Theatre Royal and Opera House, and Circus of Varieties, Bury. Mr. Marks commences his new duties on Monday next, and his numerous Bury friends wish him every success.

Mr. F. R. Benson is enlarging his sphere of action by sending out a fourth company, to be called the Midlands Company. It will start on Sept. 19, and will tour until Dec. 14.

Mr. W. Clarkson's employees went for their annual outing on Sunday last to Arundel, and spent a most enjoyable day.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., will open the "Pickwick Exhibition" at the New Dudley Gallery, Piccadilly, on Monday afternoon. The exhibition is being held in commemoration of the seventieth anniversary of the completion of the "Pickwick Papers." A large collection of pictures will be exhibited, including all the illustrations to the book by Seymour, Phiz, Buss, Onwhyn, Crowquill, &c.

Mr. Charles Frohman, writing to *Sports of the Times*, says:—"To have four successful American plays in London during one season—*Brewster's Millions, Mrs. Wiggs, The Earl of Pawtucket*, and *The Truth*—is remarkable, and I am so pleased with the financial as well as the artistic results that I shall take over *The Three of Us*, with Ethel Barrymore, if she wishes to appear in London; *Caught in the Rain*, with William Collier; and *The Heir to The Hoorah*, with an English star and an American company. I have engaged Joseph Coyne for America to star in *Toddles*, which has had a year's run in London. There is more demand than ever for good American plays. American dramatists are now the only ones who are touching a human note. Even what we call local points are as appreciated by the English as by the American audiences."

Mr. J. Bannister Howard's offices will, on and after July 27, be removed from 3, Bedford-street, Strand, to 15, Cliffords' Inn, Fleet-street.

Mr. Percy Maishall has been engaged by Mr. Robert Courtneidge to play Dr. O'Byrne in his No. 1 *Dairymaids* tour.—Miss Beatrice Irwin has been engaged by Mr. J. C. Williamson to play lead in his forthcoming répertoire season, and sails for Australia on Aug. 9.

A new and original duologue, entitled *Her Answer*, is to be produced at the Coronet Theatre on Monday. The book is by Mr. Adair Fitzgerald and the music by Napoleon Lambelet.

Baron Harriss is to be congratulated upon the success which attended the opening of his third *Prince of Pilsen* tour at Douglas on Monday. Rarely has the Gaiety Theatre, Douglas, presented such a brilliant sight, everyone of light and leading in Manxland, with the exception of Mr. Hall Caine (who was unavoidably absent), being in the audience.

Last Wednesday was a "big night" at the Metropole, Devonport, when 300 Japanese accepted the invitation of the management, and attended the theatre to witness the performance of Olga Andre's new play, *Martin Pryor's Millions; or, Don't Do as She Did*, written by Jack Denton. A special drop cloth showing the Union Jack and the Japanese flags was received with great cheering and enthusiasm. On Thursday night about 100 of the crew of a French cruiser also visited the theatre.

Mr. A. S. Pigott and Mr. W. H. Savery's spring tours for *The English Rose* and *The Harbour Lights* are being quickly booked up. The applications for dates have already been considerable since it was first announced that the provinces would shortly be again visited by first-class productions of these popular Adelphi dramas.

Miss Grace George, who has made such a success at the Duke of York's Theatre in *Divorçons*, did her first stage work under Mr. Charles Frohman in *The New Boy* and *The Girl I Left Behind Me*. She afterwards made a hit in a sketch, *An Undeveloped Bud*, in the American variety theatres; and then went under Mr. Brady's management, acting in *The Turtle* and *Mlle. Fifi*. In the latter she was associated with Miss Rose Coghlan, Miss Louise Beaudet, Mr. Aubrey Boucicault, and the late John T. Sullivan. She became a star in 1899-1900, acting first in an adaptation of the younger Dumas' play of *Diane de Lys*, called *Countess Chiffon*. She afterwards appeared in *Her Majesty, Under Southern Skies, Pretty Peggy, Abigail, The Marriage of William Ashe, The Richest Girl in the World*, and *Clothes*, all produced by her; and she gave revivals of *Frou-Frou* in 1902 and *Divorçons*, 1907. She was the Louise of the 1904 "all-star" revival of *The Two Orphans*, with Miss Clara Morris, Miss Annie Irish, Miss Margaret Illington, Mrs. Le Moyne, Miss Sarah Truax, Mr. Kyrle Bellew, Mr. Charles Warner, Mr. J. E. Dodson, Mr. James O'Neill, Mr. Louis James, and Mr. Jameson Lee Finney in the cast. She will appear in America next season in Ibsen's *Lady from the Sea*.

A copyright performance of a play by Frank M. Thorne, called *The Woman Pays*, was given at the Metropole Theatre, Gateshead, on Thursday.

His Majesty the King and their Royal Highnesses Princess Victoria and the Duchess of Sparta witnessed the performance of *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past* at the Vaudeville Theatre on Thursday night.

Sir Henry Fairfax-Lucy, who presided at the Primrose League fête at the Shakespeare Habitation, Alveston Manor, this week, has acquired a Shakespearean connection by his marriage with the heiress of the Lucys of Charlcote. Ada Christina, Lady Fairfax Lucy, is twenty-fourth in descent from Thurstan de Charlcote, whose grandson was the first of the Charlcotes to assume the name of Lucy. The great-grandson of John of Gaunt's Sir Thomas Lucy was the great-grandfather of the other Sir Thomas, whose deer tradition makes the youthful Shakespeare poach, and who figures in consequence as Justice Shallow.

"Sailor Sam," an original episode of intrigue and nautical nonsense, by Walter Purvis, was produced for copyright purposes at the Hippodrome, Sheerness, on Thursday.

Samuel Black was fined £1 at Paisley on Monday for having in his possession for sale in Norse-road, Scotstoun, seventy-four copies of pirated music.

Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart concludes his summer tour of *Bootle's Baby* next week at Lowestoft, the autumn tour starting in September. *Sherlock Holmes*, with Mr. Stewart in the title-rôle, will be touring the South and Midlands this coming autumn. An excellent tour has been booked, very few dates being vacant.

Miss Mary Neil (Mrs. George Kirk), who plays Nell Harborne in *Her Luck in London* on tour, is an accomplished follower of Isaac Walton, and Mr. Kirk is quite proud of his charming wife's skill. On their holiday, near the Derwent, one of her "catches" was a 2lb. trout, in addition to six brace of the same fish.

Mrs. Charles Sugden and her company leave Paddington to-day at 9.45 a.m., en route for the Channel Islands. She will open a short season at Theatre St. Julian's, Guernsey, with a repertory of plays, and will travel thence to Jersey. Mr Charles Sugden is already in Guernsey.

Mr. A. Lazarus has been to Portsmouth several times superintending the work of his firm at the Prince's Theatre, Landport, which was closed for a week for alterations and re-decorations, and was re-opened on Monday. They supplied new tip-up chairs to the eight rows of stalls upholstered in bright red velvet, also new tip-up chairs to the extended dress-circle; and renovated the present ones, besides doing other general re-upholstery work throughout.

The shareholders of Howard and Wyndham, theatre proprietors, Edinburgh and Glasgow, on Thursday approved the directors' proposal to grant an extension of option to the syndicate represented by Mr. R. C. Buchanan and Mr. Ernest Stevens, who desire to purchase the properties in Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Newcastle, belonging to the company.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

An Imaginary Trust.

THE report of an international Theatre Trust engineered from America, has evoked some interesting remarks from our leading theatrical managers. Sir Charles Wyndham said to a representative of the *Pall Mall Gazette*: "A trust is too commercial. Besides, there should be no trusts in art; they would strangle it at once. I don't see that art can be developed by trusts in the same way that it can and is by individual exertion, where personal ambition comes in, and, if you like, personal vanity. With trusts everything becomes a business; you see that in their productions. Trusts have no special aim towards high art; they simply take what they get—one week it may be Shakespeare, and in the next the fastest of musical comedies." Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree said: "I am inclined to be sceptical concerning the proposal; indeed, I doubt whether the scheme will ever come off, and I seriously question whether it would be a good thing if it did. I should prefer, however, to know more about it before expressing a decided opinion, but my attitude at the moment is one of scepticism."

"I seem to have heard something about trusts lately," said Mr. Cyril Maude, "but of this one I am dreadfully ignorant. What is it? I assure you I know nothing whatever about it. I have never been approached by anybody, and the association of my name with the scheme is as surprising as the tardy coming of the sunshine. Mr. Frohman, whom I saw just before he sailed for America, said not a word about it, and so far as I am concerned it is a deep, dark, mystery." Mr. George Edwardes said: "There is not, so far as I am concerned, a word of truth in the proposal. When Mr. Erlanger was last in England he said that the last thing he should think of would be to interfere with theatrical matters in this country, as he had more than he could very well do in America. His firm would certainly never come over to England to interfere in any way."

Miss Terry's First Marriage.

MISS ELLEN TERRY, in this week's *M.A.P.*, describes how she left the stage and married. The popular actress adds: "I was not quite sixteen years old, too young to be married even in those days, when everyone married early. But I was delighted, and my parents were delighted, although the disparity of age between my husband and me was very great. It all seems now like a dream, not a clear dream, but a fitful one which in the morning one tries in vain to tell. And even if I could tell it, I would not. I was happy, because my face was the type which the great artist who married me loved to paint. I remember sitting to him in armour—he was painting his Sir Galahad—for hours and hours, and never realising that it was heavy until I fell forward fainting! The day of my wedding it was very cold. Something always makes a woman remember what she wore on the important occasions of her life. I had on this day a silk dress, which had been designed by Holman Hunt, and a quilted white bonnet with a sprig of orange-blossom. I was wrapped in a beautiful Indian shawl. Then I 'went away' in a sealskin jacket with coral buttons and a little sealskin cap. I cried a great deal and Mr. Watts said, 'Don't cry. It makes your nose swell.' The day I left home to be married I 'tubbed' all the children and washed their hair, and brushed and combed it till it looked like spun glass."

Smells and Sanctity.

"WELL, Mr. Tree," said Bishop Welldon, Dean of Manchester (quoted in the *Morning Leader*), to the famous actor, next whom he was sitting at a Manchester luncheon, "what have you been doing to-day?" "I have been for a long motor drive, and I have lost a bet," replied Mr. Tree. "What was the bet?" inquired the dean. "That we should pass through 400 different odours," said Mr. Tree; "and we only counted 399." "Ah, you missed the odour of sanctity," retorted the dean.

Smoking and Sketches.

"I CANNOT imagine," says Mr. George Alexander, in an interview in the *Daily News*, "that the day will ever come when smoking will be allowed in theatres. The result would be absolutely fatal to dramatic productions of any kind. For these reasons, there must and there will always exist a distinction between the theatre and the music hall and the actor and the variety artist. It is merely a question of difference between two branches of art, for socially, as I have already said, the members of the two professions entertain no prejudices against one another."

Charles Manners's Cottages.

MR. CHARLES MANNERS, continuing his scheme for artistic yet convenient labourers' cottages, writes to the *Express*:—"I should like us not to lose sight of the point we started from, and that is to get suggestions from the actual people who have to live in cottages, and who alone know of the discomforts. As one of the public, I have already seen those pretty, artistic houses, cottages, mansions with beautiful twining rose-trees and cosy corners, in the 'flesh,' but I am afraid in very many cases they didn't look half so well as they do in the 'spirit.' One old person says he will purchase a cottage out and out if he can find one with broad treads to the staircase, as he always goes up and down the stairs in the present cottages in fear of his life. I am tiling the front part of the house and slating the back; the difference of cost will only be £1."

Cheap but Distasteful.

MR. JOSEPH R. GRISMER, an American manager, recently benefited $4.50 by the awakening of a Philadelphia conscience. He received a money-order for the amount by mail, with this note: "With my wife and daughter, I saw you in *The New South* in 1892 in the Broad-street Theatre here. We occupied the best seats, but I did not pay for them, taking advantage of the confusion of the ticket-seller harassed by a big line of buyers, to walk away from the window without settling. I suppose part of the money belongs to the theatre, theoretically; but I prefer to assume that the ticket-seller did not make good your share of the loss sustained by my dishonesty." A postscript said: "I ought to add that I did not like the show."

Callous and Indifferent.

MR. ALGERNON ASHTON writes:—"A house especially interesting and memorable to all music-lovers and worshippers of famous men was No. 103, Great Portland-street, for it was here that the illustrious German composer, Carl Maria von Weber, breathed his last on June 5, 1826. A tablet recording this fact was placed there not very many years ago by the Incorporated Society of Musicians. As the house was strongly built and by no means dilapidated-looking, the idea that it might be in any immediate danger of demolition never entered my mind; yet, when walking down Great Portland-street the other day, what was my dismay and horror when I discovered that the house in which the creator of *Der Freischütz*, *Oberon*, and other immortal works passed the last few weeks of his life had disappeared for ever! But how strange that not a single newspaper which has come under my notice should have deemed it worth while to inform its readers of the ruthless destruction of one of the most historical landmarks in the whole metropolis! What shameful indifference and callousness!"

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MRS. WALTER BENTLEY.

This popular lady began her stage career by singing at "at homes" and joining several good amateur clubs in London, doing much work in this way with Mrs. Lennox Brown's Busy Bees. Sometimes she "walked on" at different theatres, and undertook occasionally parts for the benefit of worthy charitable objects, thus gaining good experience. She studied elocution under that clever master Mr. Herman Vezin, fencing in the Angelo School of Arms, the art of pantomime with the late Mr. Alfred Neilson, and dancing and deportment with a well-known lady who prepares ladies for Court presentations. To enumerate all the parts played by this accomplished lady would scarcely be possible within the limits of this article, but we may mention that she has played all Shakespeare's heroines and Richard III. Being a good swordswoman, she was immensely praised for her sword combat in the part of Joan of Arc. A fine combat, indeed, was that between the Pucelle of Domrémy and the Earl of Suffolk over the standard.

Besides her Shakespearean heroines, Mrs. Bentley has appeared in most of the old English and modern comedies, and as leading lady in the following dramas: *The Conscript*, *Is She Guiltless?* *Half-Mast High*, *The Woman of the People*, *The Wages of Sin*, *Hoodman Blind*, *The World Against Her*, *The Ring of Iron*, *The Workman*, *Rob Roy*, *Jeanie Deans*, *Lady Audley's Secret*, *East Lynne*,

MRS. WALTER BENTLEY.

The Flowers of the Forest, *Green Bushes*, *Jane Shore*, *Mary Queen of Scots*, *Kenilworth*, *Camille*, and *Frou-Frou*. She created in the provinces Max Goldberg's Nell Gwynne in the play of that name, and Mary, Princess of England, in Mr. J. W. Boulding's *The White Queen*, also Queen Elizabeth in *The Double Rose*. These last two are her pet parts.

She starred for four months in the American drama *Lost in New York*, taking heavy character. This was followed by a six months' tour with Mr. J. F. Sheridan's *When the Lamps are Lighted*, playing a powerful leading rôle. Then came a stock season of eight weeks with Mr. Drew Mackintosh, to play a number of Mrs. John Wood's comedy parts. She was afterwards engaged to support the well-known actor, Mr. Charles Collette, in *What Happened to Jones*, appearing with this gentleman in a very important rôle for just on two years, and returning several times for special weeks after the long tour had ended. Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow then secured her for a special tour of the principal cities in their beautiful production of *In the King's Name*, in which Mrs. Bentley had the leading rôle of the Duchess of Rockingham, getting great praise from the Manchester and Dublin press for her performance of this difficult part.

Then came a special tour with Mr. C. W. Somerset, supporting him as Mme. Fosco in *The Woman in White*, never speaking through three acts, as the dumb wife. Thus the early training in the art of pantomime came to her aid, and she was most highly complimented by Mr. Somerset and the press. She also appeared with the same clever artist as Lady Dragnette in *The Sorrows of Satan*. A nine months' starring engagement ensued as Eleanor, Queen of Henry II., in *A Queen's Vengeance*. Mrs. Bentley had her first experience of two-shows-a-night when she fulfilled a week's special engagement at the Grand, Islington, in the leading rôle, Risca Mallinson, in *A Wrecker of Men*—a long, trying part, with many changes of dress. It was very hard work. Recently she concluded a very comfortable starring engagement of nearly five months with Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Miller's fine drama, *A Throne of Terror*, in which she took the part of Victoria D'Almonti, the spy of Robespierre. She is to play a special engagement in the autumn in the most successful drama entitled *The Tyrant*, by Mr. Fred C. Somerfield.

AT the Council meeting of the Actors' Association on Tuesday Mr. Frederick Morland was in the chair, and Mr. Henry W. Moto (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Arthur Applin, Cecil Brooking, Fewlass Llewellyn, Roy Horniman, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary) were present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The hon. solicitors reported they had had interviews with three members and advised them. The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Holmes-Gore to Mr. Lewis Casson. It was proposed by Mr. Cecil Brooking, seconded by Mr. Arthur Applin, and agreed, that Mr. Holmes-Gore be thanked for his letter, and informed that the words "by request" appended to the names of three of the vice-presidents who signed the letter resigning membership did not mean by request of the Association. The secretary reported receipt of acknowledgment of his letter of June 18 last to the Theatrical Managers' Association, stating that it would be brought before the next Council meeting, the date of which was not yet fixed. Mr. Harry Cottell was nominated as a candidate for election as a member of the Actors' Association.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—In your notice of the theatrical garden party at Chelsea Hospital in your last Saturday's issue, you mention my name as Clown Leitz, which is spelt incorrectly. By kindly correcting this you will greatly oblige—Yours faithfully, FRED ZIETZ.

ADDINGTON RECTORY, Winslow, Bucks.—Miss Errol has just received the bed furniture, which has been most beautifully cleaned, and for which Miss Errol returns thanks.—Manager, Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Works, 6, Argyle-street, Regent-street, W.

"THE SONG OF THE TORCH."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Ion Perdicaris, produced at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Monday, July 15.

Toledano ..... MR. LAWSON BUTT
Count von Habsfeldt ..... MR. A. E. ANSON
Hartmann ..... MR. HYLTON ALLEN
Von Rosnitz ..... MR. CECIL BROOKING
Koppe ..... MR. ROBERT GREY
Heinrich ..... MR. HERBERT STANDING, JUN.
Countess von Habsfeldt ..... MISS EDITH OLIVE
Fernande ..... MISS INEZ BENSUSAN
Madeleine Rosenthal ..... MISS DORIS DIGBY
Mme. Favelle ..... MISS MARY ALLESTREE
Esther ..... MISS BELLE TRAVERS
Annette ..... MISS RUBY SHAWE

While Mr. Ion Perdicaris's drama shows inexperience in the technical part of the playwright's craft, it possesses a fair amount of interest, and reveals knowledge in the author of the curious period when Prussia, under the armèd heel of Napoleon, was planning resistance to the Conqueror by the aid of the secret society known as the Tugenbund, or League of Virtue. The complications which occur when the government of a country is keeping up appearances with its tyrant while the people are plotting rebellion form the basis of *The Song of the Torch*. The average playgoer is not intimately acquainted with the history of Germany in 1808, and a little more explanation would have greatly improved the exposition, which is rather inept and tedious. When once we are launched on the stream of the story, however, it is quite comprehensible. The Jews and their racial pride have a good deal to do with the plot. The hero, Toledano, an advocate living in Koeningsberg, and one of the "chosen people," has fallen in love with the Countess von Habsfeldt, who is unfortunate in the possession of a bad husband. The Count, who sticks at nothing, has caused to be purloined by his mistress, Fernande, certain jewels of his wife's; and the Countess comes to Toledano's chambers to consult him as her solicitor. Toledano is an ardent member of the Tugenbund, and his enthusiasm in the cause of liberty is only equalled by his admiration for the lady. After her departure, Toledano is visited by Fernande, who offers her aid—it is suggested that she cherishes a hopeless passion for the advocate—and finally goes out scorned and threatening. In the second act the Count presses his odious attentions upon the Countess's companion, a young girl called Madeleine Rosenthal, and is defied by a student named Hartmann, Toledano's friend and confidant. Here is introduced "The song of the torch," a lyric in praise of Liberty, which is sung in chorus by the crowd outside the Habsfeldt mansion. The Countess appears with Toledano on the balcony of the house and harangues the rioters, for which she is placed under arrest. The third act takes place at the house of Mme. Favelle, the mother of Toledano. Fernande bribes an old servant to let her disguise herself in the dress of a domestic, and thus overhears a conversation between Mme. Favelle and a courier, to whom she confides important despatches concerning the plans of the party of Liberty. The adventuress betrays the secret to her employer, and the documents are taken from the courier by the police. Toledano and the Countess meet, and exchange vows of affection; but the *liaison* is denounced by Mme. Favelle, and the Count, discovering it, strikes Toledano on the cheek with his glove. A duel in the park at Castle Habsfeldt is the result; but before it takes place we see the Countess dogged by two mad-doctors, engaged by the Count to certify her insanity. She is subject to "visions," one of which she describes at length. Finally, she faints, and the duel takes place while she is unconscious. Toledano is in danger from the Count's sword; but Fernande, who has at last quarrelled with her employer, stabs him in the back just as he is about to slay the advocate, and then kills herself, leaving the Countess and Tolodano to marry and live as happily as the disturbed condition of the country will allow.

There is plenty of material in *The Song of the Torch*, but it needs revision by a practical dramatist to make it thoroughly effective. It was well acted at the King's, Hammersmith, Mr. Lawson Butt's Toledano being especially commendable. His performance was full of earnestness and vigour, and the nervous intensity displayed by Mr. Butt, both in the duel scene and throughout the piece, was very impressive. He was, personally, well suited to the part, of which he made the very most. Mr. A. E. Anson gave a picturesque performance as the stern, licentious Count, and his tall figure added to the effect of his embodiment. Mr. Hylton Allen did good work as Hartmann, and Mr. Cecil Brooking played Von Rosnitz carefully and capably. Mr. Robert Grey acted intelligently as Koppe, and Mr. Herbert Standing, jun., was an urbane, stately, and magnificent Heinrich. Miss Edith Olive was an expressive and commanding representative of the Countess, acting throughout with an elevation and repose which were very valuable, and being deep and strong in the emotional scenes. Miss Inez Bensusan put a vast amount of scornful audacity into Fernande, whom she made the typical bold, sarcastic adventuress; Miss Doris Digby gave a pleasing and careful performance as Madeline Rosenthal; and Miss Mary Allestree made the most of her opportunities as Mme. Favelle, the lady's indignant remonstrance in the third act being extremely well delivered. Miss Belle Travers did good work as Esther, and Miss Ruby Shawe was efficient as Annette. Smoothness of production was secured by Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn's careful superintendence; and "The song of the torch," a wild and spirited air, composed by Miss Elsie Hall, was well sung by the chorus. The incidents of the play were followed with much interest by an attentive and appreciative audience, and the author, who was called before the curtain, said a few words of thanks.

THE staff of the New Gaiety Theatre, Dundee, together with their friends, to the number of about fifty, took their annual outing on Sunday, their destination being Blairgowrie. The party left by brakes and journeyed viâ Coupar Angus and the far-famed Meiklour hedges. Mr. Williams, the genial lessee of the Gaiety, along with his wife, motored through to Blair, and after dinner and tea had been served in the Railway Hotel the party meandered round enjoying the scenery. They arrived in Dundee about half-past eleven, having had a most happy time.

A CHAT WITH ROBERT BOLDER.

It is not often that an actor, after an absence from his native land for many years, comes home, with an established reputation, to the country where he had his training in the art which he practises; but this is the case with Mr. Robert Bolder, who has returned to us from South Africa, where he has made himself a name, and where he is a great popular favourite.

"I am an old Blue Coat School boy," says Mr. Bolder, "and made my first appearance at the Standard Theatre, in the part of the boy Bolder in *Nicholas Nickleby*, having thus conferred upon me my present *nom de théâtre* instead of my real name of Edney. After that I was at the Strand Theatre for three and a half years as call-boy and prompter, and left when the opera-bouffe season there opened with *Madame Favart*. I next went on tour with Strathmore and Paget's company, playing Percy Grafton, the ingenuous youth in *Peril*; and, soon after, joined the stock company at the Theatre Royal, Great Yarmouth, under Mr. Terry Hurst, in which Mr. Arthur Williams was the low comedian. Another of my 'stock' experiences was with Miss Lizzie King's company, in which I was second low comedian, on a tour round the South Coast. That our repertory was sufficiently extensive," says Mr. Bolder, "you may infer from the fact that I once played fifteen characters in one week.

MR. ROBERT BOLDER.

This is a little different from being engaged in a travelling company to 'found' a part on its original performance in London, and then sustaining it for six months in succession in the provinces. In those days, not only had we to be quick studies, but our memories had to be extremely tenacious. Later on, in 1880, I went on tour with an *Edwin Drood* company, playing the boy, Deputy; and I also enacted Hector Timid in the farce *The Dead Shot*. I toured with 'Dick' South's opera company, playing the Marquis Bambini in the *Tambour Major*.

"About this time the Julian Girard troupe of leg-mania artists—an off-shoot of the famous Girard troupe—added their performance to the attractions of *The Tambour Major*, and one evening the artist who enacted the female in the troupe being indisposed, I undertook his duties, with the result that I was engaged by the Julian Girards, with whom I appeared at the Oxford, the South London, the Aquarium, and other London halls. At Christmas, 1881, I was one of those who introduced æsthetic quadrilles, in which I took part in the Covent Garden pantomime. My next important engagement was at the Avenue, where Fred Leslie was then appearing in *Manteaux Noirs*. During the run of that piece I left England to go to the Cape in July, 1882."

During the six years or so which followed, Mr. Bolder was occupied in building up an enviable reputation in South Africa, appearing in a very large and varied range of parts. He is a practised comedian, both in the high and low departments of his art. To take at random a few of the rôles in which he has distinguished himself, we may mention Beau Farintosh in *School*, Dame Hatley in *Black-Ey'd Susan* (burlesque), Baron Stein in *Diplomacy*, Jim Swan in *Black Sheep*, Laurent in *The Mascotte*, Gaspard in *Les Cloches de Corneville*, Alessio in *La Sonnambula*, Squire Western in *Sophia*, Stephano in *The Tempest* (with Mr. William Haviland's company), the Rev. Robert Spalding in *The Private Secretary*, and Corkett in *The Silver King*. He played this part when he came home in 1890 on account of a family bereavement at the Pavilion Theatre, and tells an amusing anecdote of a contretemps that occurred on an occasion when he was acting Corkett at Cape Town.

"An amateur was playing Geoffrey Ware," says Mr. Bolder, "and when he was to be murdered he fell down, oblivious of the fact that the pistol of his supposed slayer had refused to explode. In order to cover the mishap, I introduced the impromptu line, 'He has killed him, and with his air-pistol!' The tension of the situation was so great that the mirth of the audience was not excited, but they showed by their applause that they appreciated my readiness."

Mr. Bolder is blessed with a clever wife and child. He espoused, *en secondes noces*, Miss Annie Edney, who excels in such parts as Mrs. Porter in *Beauty and the Barge*, Mrs. Putnam in *The Freedom of Suzanne*, Gretchen in *Rip Van Winkle*, Donna Lucia in *Charley's Aunt*, Belinda in *Our Boys*, May Edwards in *The Ticket of Leave Man*, Lady Jessica in *The Liars*, Mrs. Jarvis in *The Lights of London*, Ruth Rolt, Mrs. Gillfillian and Minnie Gillfillian in *Sweet Lavender*, the title part in *Jane*, Rosa Columbia in *The Arabian Nights*, Rebecca in *Pink Dominos*, Mrs. Rennick in *The New Boy*, Phœbe in *As You Like It*, the Queen in *Hamlet*, Siebel in *Faust*, and the title parts in *Falka* and *Dorothy*. His little daughter, Miss Sylvia Edney, is both pretty and talented. When only six years old she was selected from a number of other competitors to sustain the rôle of Derek Jesson in *His House in Order* at His Majesty's Theatre, Johannesburg, last year. Though evidently suffering from the "incubation" of some complaint, she played the part admirably, made a success in it, and only collapsed after the first night when it was discovered that she had been sickening for the measles! She is now completing her education, and preparing herself for the brilliant stage career that in all probability awaits her.

Mr. Bolder has not confined himself entirely to winning fame as an actor. He toured the Transvaal with a company of fourteen artists, and a repertory including *Our Boys*, *The Arabian Nights*, *Pink Dominos*, *The Private Secretary*, and *Dandy Dick*. He was also the pioneer of drama in Barberton, the Knysna Goldfields, and the Namaqualand Gold Fields. His popularity in South Africa is unbounded; he has had benefits and presentations galore, and the view taken by the South African public may be best summed up in the following statement of the *Cape Town Argus*: "Mr. Bolder, by repeated and increasing success in a round of comedy characters, has made for himself a name in South Africa which will long be remembered, and will not be without its value in any future career that may be in store for him." Mr. Bolder is about to put the truth of this prophecy to the test, having signed an agreement with Miss Olga Nethersole for America and the Continent. We wish this experienced and thoroughly-trained actor as much success in the States as he has won in the Colony—which is saying a great deal.

THE MOODY-MANNERS COMPANY.

On Monday, July 15, Nicolai's Opera
THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR.

Sir John Falstaff ..... MR. CHARLES MANNERS
Mr. Ford ..... MR. LEWYS JAMES
Mr. Page ..... MR. CHARLES MACGRATH
Fenton ..... MR. JOHN CHILD
Master Slender ..... MR. W. BAILEY
Dr. Caius ..... MR. CHAS. MOPPETT
Anne Page ..... MISS HILDA MOODY
Mistress Ford ..... MISS ENRIQUETA CRICHTON
Mistress Page ..... MISS ROSINA BEYNON

That grand opera in English is immensely popular in London was proved by the completely successful commencement of the Moody-Manners Company's season at the Lyric Theatre on Monday. The opening selection—Nicolai's *Merry Wives of Windsor*—was a very happy one. Otto Nicolai's opera, after having already enjoyed popularity on the Italian opera stage in England, was first given in English form by the late Carl Rosa, who produced it at Aberdeen in 1877. Mr. Henry Hersee, the adapter, substituted the text of Shakespeare for the feeble recitative with which the work had previously been supplied. Nicolai's opera was originally produced in Berlin in 1848, a year before the death of the composer, the libretto being "drawn" from Shakespeare's play by Mosenthal, the author of *Leah*. In a French version, which was produced at the Théâtre Lyrique on May 25, 1866, with the title *Les Joyeuses Commères de Windsor*, many unauthorised alterations were made in the score; and, by way of giving *couleur locale* to the Elizabethan drama, the curtain fell to the tune of "Rule, Britannia," sung by Mrs. Ford and the chorus! Mr. Hersee's version was ably and intelligently made. The cast of the performance by the Carl Rosa Company at the Adelphi Theatre, on Feb. 11, 1878, included Miss Julia Gaylord as Mrs. Ford, Miss Josephine Yorke as Mrs. Page, Mr. Snazelle as Mr. Page, Mr. J. W. Turner as Fenton, Mr. Charles Lyall as Slender, and Mr. Aynsley Cook as Falstaff. Mr. Charles Manners's reading of the last-named rôle is admirable in every way. His deep bass voice enables him to do full justice to the music, and the humour of his embodiment of the fat knight is irresistible, his drollery being of the best quality, and his comic acting and fine singing bringing down the house. The part of Mrs. Ford is played by Miss Crichton, who uses an excellent organ in effective and artistic style, and is expressive both in speech and gesture. Mr. Lewys James is a thoroughly capable exponent of the character of Ford, and plays the part with alert appreciation of its comicality. Warm praise is deserved by Mr. John Child's Fenton, a performance of real merit, his rendering of the serenade being thoroughly commendable; and Miss Hilda Moody as Sweet Anne Page presents a reading full of grace and charm, showing distinct musical ability. As Page Mr. Charles Macgrath is sound, careful, and satisfactory; and Miss Benyon plays Mrs. Page with due activity, energy, and emphasis. Mr. Bailey's Slender is replete with comic character; and Mr. Moppett makes a good deal of the absurdities of Caius. Particularly to be praised is the mounting, on which Mr. Manners has evidently bestowed great care and pains; and the efforts of the well-trained chorus add greatly to the success of the production. Herr Richard Eckhold conducts very skilfully. The opera had a very hearty reception, and the delight and satisfaction of the audience were unmistakable.

A large audience was present at the Lyric Theatre on Tuesday evening, to see *Tannhäuser*. Mme. Fanny Moody appeared as Elizabeth, and gave a broad and distinctive reading of the part; the invocation to the Hall of Song was one of Mme. Moody's vocal triumphs, while her intercession for Tannhäuser in the great finale of the second act revealed the emotional and dramatic singing and acting of a great artist. Mme Moody's beautiful voice was also heard to advantage in the devotional spirit which marked her singing of the Prayer. Mr. Joseph O'Mara sang the hero's music with fervour and expression, and his clever acting merits special commendation. Mr. O'Mara endeavours also to give some manly touches to Tannhäuser's weak and emotional character. A sympathetic Wolfram was found in Mr. William Dever, who also sang admirably the beautiful music allotted to this part, and Mr. Charles Magrath made a most dignified Landgrave. The Venus of Miss Toni Seiter proved artistic, both vocally and histrionically, and the smaller parts were filled by experienced artists. Herr Eckhold secured an excellent performance of the overture, and the chorus sang with a fine rich full tone. The scenes of the Hall of Song and the Venusberg were both new, and proved very picturesque and attractive.

Wednesday evening saw the presentation of *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci*, works that have come to be associated, both in Italian and English performances. Pietro Mascagni since he wrote *Cavalleria* has not added to the brilliant reputation secured for him by the production of that opera, which gave him a meteoric fame as a composer in the 'nineties, and on which his reputation as a maestro still rests. The performance of both operas was under the direction of Signor Romualdo Sapio, who had to assent to an encore for the beautiful "Intermezzo," which revealed the excellent quality of the strings in his orchestra, who played *con amore*. Mme. De Vere-Sapio interested all by her fine impersonation of Santuzza, her acting having considerable dramatic significance, and her singing being characterised by faultless intonation and great charm. She received good support from Mr. Lewys James, a picturesque and vigorous Alfio; and Mr. John Child did justice to his music as Turiddu, though his acting lacked the passion incidental to a Southern temperament. Miss B. Alexander made effective use of her opportunities as Lucia, and Miss M. Wilcocks did well as Lola. The audience received the familiar work with enthusiasm. In *I Pagliacci*, Mr. William Dever as Tonio created an excellent impression by his singing of the famous prologue; and the part of Canio found excellent interpretation at the hands of Mr. Charles Carter, who played the part with considerable intelligence and no little sincerity. Miss Kate Anderson's style was somewhat cold as Nedda, but the performance did not lack charm or spirit. Messrs. V. Brodo and Frederic Erle played the small parts of Beppe and Silvio neatly. Signor Sapio again conducted, and secured an excellent interpretation of the music. The opera was well staged.

OLD FRENCH THEATRES.

We have seen, says Mr. Henry M. Trollope in his excellent "Life of Molière," that in the 17th century in France tennis-courts were often converted more or less temporarily into theatres. Such was the case with Molière's two first theatres in Paris; and the Théâtre du Marais had been originally a tennis-court. The Hôtel de Bourgogne had been built as a theatre in the middle of the 16th century, but nothing has been said to show that its shape inside was not like that of a tennis-court. The Palais Royal Theatre, where Molière played for twelve years, was the theatre in the Palais Cardinal which Richelieu had built for himself. The theatre stood in the right wing of the palace, close to the commencement of the present Rue de Valois, which begins at the Rue Saint Honoré, at one side of the Place du Palais Royal. And on the side of the building now known as the Conseil d'Etat, at the corner of the Rue de Valois, there is a marble tablet bearing the inscription:—"Ici s'élevait la salle de spectacle du Palais Cardinal, inaugurée en 1641, occupée par la troupe de Molière de 1661 à 1673, et par l'Académie Royale de Musique depuis 1673 jusqu'en 1763." Sauval, one of the chroniclers of the history of Paris, a contemporary of Molière though his book was not published until 1724, describes the theatre rather ambiguously, though he seems to say that it had undergone alteration. Inside, it was an oblong room with four walls at right angles. Sauval says that "it was not more than 9 fathoms (toises) wide, the space intended for the audience was 10 or 11 fathoms deep, and yet it contained as many as 4000 persons." This is clearly impossible. There were two rows of boxes, one above the other, until Easter 1671, when a third or top row was added. But the boxes on the side-walls were not rounded in front, and the occupants had to turn to the right or to the left to see the stage. Ladies who went to the play were seated there, and they enjoyed the comedy. A few seats for men, chiefly for the dandies, were placed on the stage. There was, of course, the parterre or the pit, and there was the amphitheatre. I think that the amphitheatre consisted of rows of raised seats behind the parterre and facing the stage. People there were far from the scene, but the places must have been considered good, for the prices charged for them were relatively high. An extract from Hubert's Register for the year 1672-73, giving the prices of places in the theatre, which I quote in the next paragraph but one, shows that on one occasion there were 394 tickets taken for the parterre and only 60 for the amphitheatre; on another day there were 514 persons in the parterre. Hubert had been a member of the troupe at the Palais Royal for some years, and must have known how the audience was placed. But a German professor, Herr Fritsche, who tried to throw light on Sauval's account of the interior of the Palais Royal Theatre, estimated that the parterre might hold 300 persons and the amphitheatre 700, I cannot but think that Herr Fritsche was mistaken. It is not likely that the parterre, the popular and the cheapest part of the house, should have been so much smaller than the amphitheatre. Sauval says that Richelieu's theatre was better than the others, in that the floor of the parterre sloped downward towards the stage.

The prices of the different places at the Palais Royal were: the parterre or pit, where no one was seated, cost 15 sous (there were 20 sous in the livre or franc, as it is now called); the third row of boxes, 1 livre; the second row of boxes, or "loges hautes," 1 livre 10 sous; the amphitheatre, 3 livres; the first row of boxes and the seats on the stage (called "le théâtre"), 5 livres 10 sous. In the 17th century "le théâtre" was held to mean that portion of the house devoted to the stage. The charges for all places in the theatre were high in comparison with those of our time, and sometimes the prices of most of the places were raised. This was called "jouer au double," or "à l'extraordinaire." The prices in the parterre, in the third and second row of boxes, were in fact doubled; they rose to 30 sous, 2 livres, and 3 livres respectively. A seat in the amphitheatre rose from 3 livres to 5 livres 10 sous. The first row of boxes and the seats on the stage remained unchanged at 5 livres 10 sous. Performances were given "au double" on one or more days when a new play by a known author was being acted and public curiosity was excited. But even with La Grange's Register before one, and comparing the receipts taken on the first five, ten, or twenty days on which any of Molière's comedies were performed, it would be very hazardous to try to determine when or for how long a play was acted "à l'extraordinaire" and the majority of the spectators were forced to pay double prices; and there must have been many persons who put off going to the theatre until the ordinary charges were made. The only time during Molière's lifetime that La Grange mentions this custom was on the occasion of the second performance of the *Précieuses Ridicules*, on the 2nd December, 1659. Chappuzeau leads one to think that it was quite possible that a play should be performed twenty times "au double." He says, "If a play has a great success, and is acted 'au double' twenty times consecutively, the author is made rich and the actors also." I cannot contradict Chappuzeau, but I fancy that the hypothetical event he mentions did not happen very often. It might have happened with the *Tartuffe;* and La Grange shows that the first seventeen performances, or thereabouts of the *Ecole des Femmes*, of the *Critique de l'Ecole des Femmes*, and of *Psyché* gave very high receipts.

When the Palais Royal theatre was quite full it might perhaps have held 1000 persons. At a performance of *Psyché* "à l'ordinaire," which gave a receipt of 1316 livres, there were 944 persons present; and of these 514 were in the parterre. From this perhaps it may be presumed that at the first performance of the *Tartuffe* "au double," which gave 2860 livres—the highest receipt at the Palais Royal—not many more persons were present than at the performance of *Psyché* just mentioned. Despois made an extract from Hubert's Register for 1672-3, which I will copy, as it shows how many persons were present at the first performance of the *Malade Imaginaire*, given "au double," and how they were placed:—

	Livres	Sous
Théâtre, 25 billets	137	10
Loges, Cinq (5 loges entières) et 59 billets	544	10
Amphithéâtre, 60 billets	330	
Loges hautes, 81 billets	343	
Loges de 3me rang, 23 billets	46	
Parterre à 30 sous, 394 billets	591	
	1992	

Despois reckoned that there were eight persons in each of the five loges, besides the 59 billets de loge; so that at this performance there were 682 persons present. The receipt was very high, but the theatre was by no means full. It is at all events clear that the parterre was the popular part of the house, and that when the parterre was full no other part of the house contained so much money. Molière knew the meaning of his words when he said that he trusted to the judgment of the parterre.

The seats on the stage were chiefly frequented by the exquisites who liked to show themselves. At a time when rich men of fashion wore expensive Venice point-lace, they naturally wished to display it. But they might have done so without annoying both the actors and the audience by their folly. Molière gives two instances of this: in the first scene of the *Fâcheux* (verse 13 *et seq.*), and in the fifth scene of the *Critique de l'Ecole des Femmes*. As well as for men of fashion, there was a bench on the stage for poor authors, who entered gratuitously. Despois quotes a short passage from Scarron's dedicatory epistle to Dame Guillemette, written in 1648: "The Hôtel de Bourgogne is filled with authors even on the stage, because, like the page-boys, they pay nothing." And Boursault, in giving an account of the first performance (at which he was present) of Racine's *Britannicus* in 1669, speaks distinctly of an authors' bench. The seats upon the stage were not abolished in the Paris theatres until 1759.

AMERICAN STOCK COMPANIES.

The American provinces, wrote Mr. William Archer in a recent and most interesting article in the *Tribune*, stand to New York very much in the relation of the English provinces to London. New York is the chief producing centre, and the theatrical fare of other cities is supplied by travelling companies organised in New York, and sent out from New York by the firms of capitalists who control very nearly the whole theatrical "business" of the country. The strength of these "syndicates" (the two principal ones, by the way, have recently amalgamated) lies in the fact that the American provinces are proportionally more important than the English provinces. Many English managements can, and do, subsist upon London alone, making only occasional and unimportant excursions to the country. In New York York this is scarcely possible. It is "on the road" that the bulk of the profit upon any given production is to be made; consequently the combinations which control "out-of-town bookings" have the whip-hand of all "attractions" that are not strong enough, or, in other words, sufficiently indispensable, to make their own terms. But I will not attempt to enter upon the bewildering complexities of American theatrical organisation. The system is, doubtless, a rotten one, and hostile to sound theatrical art. The fact that theatrical art contrives to make notable headway in spite of it shows how strong the progressive impulse must be.

But while the leading theatres of the provincial centres are supplied by touring companies, at prices little, if at all, lower than those which obtain in New York, there exists in all the great American cities a very large (and very largely feminine) public which has an insatiable and indiscriminating appetite for theatrical entertainments at what are known as "popular" prices. They want to go often to the theatre—once a week at the very least. They would rather see four old plays at half a dollar apiece than one new play at two dollars. And this class of playgoers is somehow or other apt to be at leisure in the afternoon—not merely on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, but every afternoon of the week. They are, I take it, the theatrical equivalent of the public which supports that strange and melancholy American institution, the "continuous vaudeville" show. The social significance of all this afternoon leisure is not for me to interpret. I simply record the plain fact that in all great American cites there are every day thousands of people seeking public entertainment of one sort or another from noontide onwards. To cater for this public, "Stock Company Theatres" have everywhere sprung up. The universal characteristic of these theatres is that they give two performances a day and change their bills every week. They deal largely, of course, in plays which have fallen into the public domain, and on which no royalties have to be paid; but they also present numerous copyright pieces After a play has enjoyed its first run of popularity in New York and "on the road," it is often advertised as "Freed for Stock," or, in other words, available for stock-company managers who choose to pay for it. The prices at these theatres, I imagine, never exceed one dollar. On a playbill before me the price of the first three rows of stalls is stated (I translate into English money) at four shillings for evening performances, three shillings for matinées; the bulk of the floor seats cost either two shillings or one shilling; the first balcony (dress circle) ranges downwards from two shillings at evening performances and eighteenpence at matinées; and every seat in the second balcony costs, at matinées, no more than sevenpence-halfpenny. These are the prices of the Castle Square Theatre, Boston, a very handsome, well-appointed house, larger and more comfortable than any of our suburban or provincial theatres with which I am acquainted. How faithful is the body of playgoers to whom this theatre appeals may be gathered from the following notices on the playbill:—

"Patrons by applying at the box-office may have the same seats reserved for them each week as long as they desire, on condition that the tickets are taken regularly one week in advance. Failure to do so simply cancels the privilege and incurs no liability whatever.

"Our regular patrons may subscribe for free seats for children between five and fifteen years for any matinée except Monday and Saturday, or when free list is suspended, and will be allowed one child's seat adjoining for each seat paid for."

There is no abonnement system at reduced rates, such as prevails at the German theatres; but this system of allowing a child's seat free to "regular patrons" comes to something nearly equivalent. I was told that many people availed themselves of the right to engage one particular seat throughout the season. Whether the "children free" privilege was found particularly attractive I omitted to ascertain.

What are we to say, now, as to the merits of this institution? At first sight it may seem almost to realise that dream of the theatrical reformer, a repertory theatre. But on looking a little more closely into it, we find that it has none of the advantages of a repertory theatre properly so-called. In the first place, it has not, in any true sense of the term, a repertory. When we speak of a repertory, we mean a number of plays always ready for performance with nothing more than a "run through" rehearsal, which, therefore, can be, and are, acted in such alternation that three, four, or five different plays may be given in the course of a week. New plays are from time to time added to the repertory, and those of them which succeed may be performed fifty, seventy, a hundred times, or even more, in the course of one season; but no play is ever performed more than two or three times in uninterrupted succession. At the Castle-square Theatre, on the other hand, and at the other stock-company theatres, each play is acted twelve times (occasionally, but rarely, twenty-four or even thirty-six times) in uninterrupted succession, and then drops out as completely as a play which has exhausted its popularity in a run of hundreds of nights. If it it put on again in a subsequent season, it has to be rehearsed afresh from beginning to end. Thus the institution is not a repertory theatre, but a short-run theatre—a totally different matter.

The Five Abadaroffs, in their funny prehistoric speciality, are booked to open at Toulon at the latter end of August, with a tour of the Continent to follow.

Mr. T. W. Ford, having concluded a special engagement with Mr. Walter Maclean, has been secured by Mr. Macdona for his autumn tour of *Doctor Wake's Patient*.

Mr. C. Emlyn Jones and the Daughters of Britain (prize singers in costume), have just completed a most successful engagement at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool. This was their second appearance there in eight weeks, owing to their enormous success. Next week they go to Morecambe, and return on Aug. 5 to the Metropolitan and Chelsea Palace, where their services have been secured by Mr. Henri Gros up to 1909.

DEATH OF FRED LOCKE.

It is with regret that we have to announce the death of Mr. Fred Locke, the well-known pantomime author and producer, who died at his residence, Dockhead-street, Saltcoats, N.B., on Sunday, 14th inst., after an illness which had lasted over eighteen months. Mr. Locke's full name was Fred John Locke Scobie, but years ago he took the necessary steps to legalise the name Fred Locke, under which he had made himself so well known in the theatrical world. Born in Glasgow fifty-five years ago, the deceased author was in earlier years a clerk in the Glasgow office of the big thread combine whose headquarters are in Paisley. His inclinations were always theatrical, and he was often assisting in the stage-managing of amateur productions and similar functions. For some time he was connected with the Globe Theatre in Tobago-street, Glasgow, when that east-end house was under the management of Mr. G. Goddard Wyatt, and the acting-manager was Mr. H. Cecil Beryl. A first-rate stock company was always a feature of this house, and Mr. Locke used to recall with pride that it was here he first met Mr. Wm. Mackintosh. A few years after (in 1879) Mr. Beryl became lessee of the Royal Princess's Theatre, Glasgow, and gave Mr. Locke his first commission as a pantomime writer. The result was a great success, and was the forerunner of that long line of hits at this same house, first under Mr. Beryl, and for the last twenty years under Mr. Rich. Waldon's able management

These pantomimes numbered twenty-six in all, which we feel certain is a record for consecutive productions by one author in one theatre, and the break only occurred last December, when the task had to be entrusted to another hand, Mr. Locke being at that time a helpless invalid, having been stricken by paralysis in January, 1906. In addition to his Princess's commissions, Mr. Locke had of course numerous others, and at Liverpool, Sheffield, Brighton, Huddersfield, and many other towns he achieved equally great success. At times he had as many as eight pantomime *libretti* placed at Christmas, and his total was well into hundreds, each of them showing him the possessor of a nimble wit and a caustic humour in handling the fads and foibles of the day. For the sake of his growing family, Mr. Locke left Glasgow a dozen years ago and went to reside at Johnstone, near Paisley. A few years after he again removed, this time to Saltcoats, where he had been for nine years.

He was a member of Ardrossan School Board, and took an active interest in Masonic affairs, being a member of Lodge Neptune, Kilwinning, at Saltcoats. He was greatly esteemed in the district, and his cheery presence will be missed by a large circle of friends. For several summers he published a small advertising sheet called the *Pilot* during the holiday season, and his humorous pars. in this made it an entertaining little paper. Mr. Locke leaves a widow and nine of a family, the youngest not yet two years old, and the sympathies of all professional friends will be extended to them in their affliction. In the latter part of 1906 an appeal was made in these columns on behalf of the family and very generously responded to, and in February of this year Mr. Rich. Waldon added to his previous kindnesses by giving his theatre and staff for a benefit matinée in aid of the fund. The financial result was that between the subscription and the benefit the sum of £230 was raised, and on this the family have been mainly dependent since Mr. Locke's illness commenced, he having been unable, during his more prosperous years, to provide for the inevitable rainy day. The funeral took place on Wednesday, and was carried through with Masonic honours, a large turnout of the brethren, in addition to many private friends and members of the general public, paying their tribute to the deceased author.

BARNARD'S PALACE, GREENWICH.

Mr. Bert Dent presents this week a most excellent bill for the amusement of his numerous patrons, who testify their appreciation of his efforts by greeting each turn with enthusiasm. Miss Jessie Maynard produces this week a clever sketch, entitled *A Mad Actress*. The scene is laid in a lunatic asylum, where an actress of considerable ability is under treatment as the result of a motor accident. During her isolation from the world, she relieves the monotony of her imprisonment by many elocutionary recitations, including the best known speeches of Ophelia, Juliet, and other famous female Shakespearian characters. In these Miss Maynard proves her ability as actress and elocutionist. Her enunciation is excellent, and her delivery of the speeches referred to brings down the house by its energy, expressiveness, and emphasis. She scores a decided success in the sketch, which is warmly received. Miss Ada Mayo does a capital turn, and her songs, entitled "Bass Drum" and "Fisherman and Mermaid," are loudly applauded; the Pritchards are applauded in their song, "Yellow Coons," and their dancing is exceptionally smart; W. Permaine's bears are wonderfully sagacious, and marvellously well trained; Ruffell's Bioscope presented a new series of amusing and interesting pictures; the two Erolls are very good indeed in their really funny patter and comedy speciality; the Benetti Troupe of Acrobats and Risley performers are very expert and clever; the Whitworth Cycling Girls and Gampkin Tramp cyclist present a clever and enjoyable turn; Tudor's ponies do some clever tricks with smartness and precision, and reflect great credit on their trainer; Charles Jackson's "Military song" and "Turn it up" are received with roars of laughter; Professor Colenzo, Continental illusionist, contributes a capital turn, which greatly interests all present; Miss Jeannie Deans is again appearing in "The Tinker's Weddin'"; Mrs. Clayton Bentley's company, including Miss Alice Spry, acts with success in *The Terror of Tierney's Rents*. The excellent band, under the capable direction of Mr. William Skerry, performs some very good selections.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—Sir Henry Irving.

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

ON THE ROAD, JULY 22.

An Unwedded Wife.—T. R., Rotherham.
Best of Her Sex.—Hippodrome, Mansfield.
Bootles' Baby.—O. H., Harrogate.
Branded Woman.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Dan the Rake.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Destroyer of Men.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
D'Oyly Carte Opera.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
Eve of Her Wedding.—Smethwick.
Fool's Paradise.—Grand T., Llandudno.
Girl from Japan.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Heart's Desire.—Empire T., Southend.
Her Luck in London.—T. R. Sheffield.
Her One Great Sin.—T. R. Stockport.
Lion and the Mouse.—Tunbridge Wells.
His Sister's Honour.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
Honour Thy Father.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Ian Maclaren.—O. H., Buxton.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Mussleburgh.
Leah Kleschna.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
Man's Enemy.—East Oxford, Oxford.
Master Criminal.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Midnight Wedding.—T. R., Scarboro'.
My Sweetheart.—Palace T., Newcastle.
New World.—Theatre Royal, South Shields.
Octoroon (Thorn).—Prince's T., Preston.
Pick of the Bunch.—Royalty T., Morecambe.
Power of Gold.—Theatre Royal, Cardiff.
Prince of Pilsen (Harriss).—Winter G., Blackpool.
Prodigal Parson.—West London Theatre, W.
Prodigal Son (Western).—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
Raffles.—Ramsgate.
Royal Divorce.—O. H., Coventry.
Secrets.—Theatre Royal, Darlington.
Shulamite.—Saltburn.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Metropole T., Manchester.
Stowaway, The.—Coliseum, Aberystwyth.
Superior Miss Pellender, The.—T. R., Yarmouth.
The Woman Pays.—Prince's T., Preston.
Tommy.—Spa Theatre, Scarborough.
Triumph of Truth.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harrington).—T. R., Bristol.
Warning to Women.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
What the Butler Saw.—Gaiety T., Douglas.
When a Man Hates.—Lyceum T., Stafford.
When It Was Dark.—Grand T., Brighton.
When the Lights are Low.—T. R., Scarborough.
Woman from Scotland Yard.—Empire T., Oldham.
World's Great Snare.—Star T., Swansea.
You Never Can Tell.—Folkestone and Hastings.
£1000 Reward.—New Theatre Royal, Croydon.

BALHAM EMPIRE.

The patrons of the Balham Empire lack not for variety in the entertainment now being presented by the British Cinema Co., Ltd., the able manager of which is Mr. E. A. Dessent. There are two houses nightly, the first opening at half-past six and the second at nine o'clock. In the hour and a half history is made very rapidly, for important episodes in life stories are brought vividly before us. Of course, all this is done by means of the cinematograph and some very fine Pathé films. This week there are twelve of these stories. Two of the most interesting, from what might be called an educational point of view, are undoubtedly those dealing with an ostrich farm, and costumes of different centuries. The ostrich farm is at Nice, and we are shown some magnificent specimens of this genus of bird. We see them fed and plumed and otherwise dealt with. The eggs of the ostriches appear to be of an enormous size, even in the pictures, which are all remarkable for clearness and resemblance to actual life. "Harlequin's Story" is a clever trick film. Two figures, apparently made up to represent Harlequin and Columbine, have been standing on pedestals for a very long time, enjoying in silence each other's company. But Columbine is taken away, and Harlequin goes forth in pursuit. In this eminently chivalrous pursuit he is assisted by gnomes, who build bridges for him and in other ways render him service. The house whither the pretty doll-maiden has been taken is on fire, and the Harlequin, searching among the débris, discovers the separated limbs of his beloved, reverently places them in a bag, and subsequently, with the aid of a magic wand, puts them all together again. "Sambo as Footman" shows us a native of the Congo trying his 'prentice hand in quite a new rôle, with intensely laughable results for the spectators, but not for the black man's employers. Equally attractive are "The Electric Belt," "Modern Burglars," "The Corsican's Daughter," "Palmistry," and "Baby's First Outing." A particularly amusing film describes certain incidents in "Jim's Apprenticeships," the said Jim being an irrepressibly mischievous lad, who causes trouble in whatever trade he is placed. Of the same order is "Two Little Scamps" and "Troubles of a Cook." The entertainment comes to an end with a very beautiful transformation, very artistically coloured. A new set of films are to be shown to-night and forward, among the subjects being "Views of Paris," "Watch Dogs," "Knowing Dogs," "Living Silhouettes," "Journey Round a Star," "Smoking Chimney," "Mephisto's Son," "Joys of Tight Boots," "A Slave's Love," "Views of Niagara," "A Nervous Kitchenmaid," "Blind Beggar's Dog," "The Boar Hunt," "Misadventures of a Negro King," and "The 'Cello Player."

The Terriers would like to meet any team attached to the music-hall or theatrical profession on the second or third Wednesday in August. For other open dates address the hon secretary, Ben Woodger, Metropole Hotel, Camberwell, S.E.

Performers with acts suitable to the Continent that are thinking of going abroad cannot do better than write to Mr. G. W. Gerald, 39, Avenue des Ternes, Paris, who can fix them up for a good long tour. He has had twenty-seven years' experience, so knows the wants and requirements of English artists.

The Seldoms, in their exhibition of living statuary, will terminate their long engagement (240 performances) at the London Pavilion on Saturday evening next, when a signed souvenir portrait of Mlle. Olga Seldom will be presented to every member of the audience.

Mr. Reuben Morr's latest concert party, "The Artists," are proving a big success on Bournemouth Pier this month During August and September they return to the Pier, Cowes.

After the next two weeks of his engagement at the Tivoli, Fragson will not be giving his entertainment in London until he opens in Mr. Arthur Collins's annual at Old Drury on Boxing Night.

Among the latest engagements for the Drury Lane pantomime is the clever Pender Troupe, who will be responsible for the harlequinade, and will introduce an animal act and some quaint stilt dancing.

Mr. Frank E. Burdett is moving with the times. Following on recent reports of the unrest in India, he is now producing the military sketch, *Mutiny*, an episode from the Indian Campaign of 1857. The first representation of this sketch in town will take place at the Queen's, Poplar, on Monday.

A copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the Publisher, 6, Tavistock-street, W.C.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Rand.—July 9, Mrs. Arthur Rand, of a fine daughter. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

Anniversary.—On July 15, 1899, at St. Mark's Church, Kennington, by the Rev. Montague Swatmann, Edwin Statham Staples to May Comber (May Staples).

DEATHS.

Locke.—At Saltcoats, N.B., on the 14th inst., after a long illness, Fred John Locke Scobie (Fred Locke), aged 55, pantomime author, and for many years Glasgow representative of *The Era*. Deeply regretted by his sorrowing wife and family.

Moon.—July 2, Nellie Moon, serio-comic and burlesque actress.

Transfield.—On July 15, of cancer, after a long and painful illness, Mrs. Transfield, the beloved mother of Pattie Transfield, at 10, James-street, Moss Side, Manchester. Inter., Thursday, July 18, Southern Cemetery, 3 p.m. Age 75.

"Though death divides, fond memory clings."

Williams.—July 11, of apoplexy, the wife of Jesse Williams, formerly musical director of Moore and Burgess Minstrels and the Canterbury. The deceased lady was professionally known as Miss Hetty Tracy. American papers please copy.

In Memoriam.

Barrett.—In loving memory of Wilson Barrett, who fell asleep July 22, 1904. At rest and peace.

Clive.—In ever loving memory of Wybert Clive, actor and dramatist, who died July 16, 1892. Never forgotten by his widow and son (Fred). "To live in the hearts of those we leave behind is not to die."

D'Almaine.—In loving memory of Mary D'Almaine, who died on July 18, 1906, at the Hippodrome House, Brighton, aged 73. Sadly missed by her daughter, Maud Barrasford, and grand-children, Patsy and Teddy. R.I.P.

In fond and unfading memory of Frederick Hawley ("Haywell"), died March 13, 1869, and of Emma C. Hawley, died July 22, 1898.

As "the wound that never healeth,"
Mourned—ever mourned.

Hollister.—In ever loving memory of Walter Hollister, late manager of the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, who passed away July 17, 1905. Never forgotten by his wife and family.

In Memoriam.

In affectionate and loving memory of Marie Henry Walford (Mystic Marie), who died July 19, 1906, aged 21.

MISS MARIE WALFORD.

'Tis just a year ago to-day our hearts were sore with grief.
Our darling Marie breathed her last—in death she found relief.
She was so patient all along, and never did complain;
She always had a loving smile, tho' she was racked with pain.

We all do miss her angel face, so bright and always gay—
A light has now gone from our home which none on earth could stay.
Such wondrous gifts and talents rare were very seldom seen,
And thousands flocked where'er she went to see this Earthly Queen.

But now, alas! she's gone aloft. The curtain has rung down
On one of Nature's sweetest souls, of fame and high renown.
No more she'll thrill with wondrous awe nor tread the boards again.
She has gone now to a better world, with angels she shall reign.

Close by the old church on the hill we laid her down to rest.
Her memory shall be ever green, love's ties for ever blest.
And as the Deveron speeds its course, which no man e'er can stay,
My thoughts, year out, my thoughts, year in, shall be with her for aye.

Tho' deep seas may divide us, wherever I may roam,
My thoughts shall always be with you, my northern Highland home;
For there rests one we dearly loved, from sorrow, grief, and pain,
And when my task on earth is done her I shall meet again.

The storms on Macduff's shores may rage, and waves with thunderous roar
May dash upon the rocks at night, and make my heart feel sore;
But all the noise or lightning's flash shall not disturb her sleep:
Our darling Marie she's at rest; her soul our God doth keep.

Walford Bodie, M.D.
The Manor House, Macduff, N.B.

A 44-h.p. Mercedes car, driven by Mr. Levy, of Hampstead, was descending the steep hill known as Grove-lane on Thursday, and was about to turn the sharp corner into Champion Park when the tyre came off one of the front wheels. This upset the steering, with the result that the car crashed into the iron railings guarding the railway, broke through, and fell some 20ft. down the bank. Mr. Claude Levy, Mr. Stanley Vivian, and Mr. Cecil de Lee, who accompanied him, were thrown headlong over the fence, but fortunately escaped serious injury. They had a really marvellous escape from death, as the railway at this point is some 50ft. below the level of the roadway.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

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Six Months	13	0	Six Months	16	0
Three Months	6	6	Three Months	8	0

Cash must accompany order.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Address,
The PUBLISHER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington Street)
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ADELPHI (Liverpool).—*Old Wilson, the centenarian actor, died at Brierley Hill, April 27, 1853, aged 101.*

H. M. B.—*Very doubtful. But you might try Mr. W. Lestocq, Mr. Charles Frohman's manager, The Hicks Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue.*

B. DARION.—*Your question is too indefinite. Where has the lady been singing the song you are enquiring about, and when? Why not write to her personally, or to the musical director of the entertainment to which she contributed?*

F. W. STANLEY (Rangoon).—*We regret that we are unable to help you. An advertisement in our columns might assist you in your search.*

HERMAN CLIFF (C.-on-M.).—*We cannot help you. You might, however, write to the manager of Earl's Court, London.*

G. JEFFERSON (Metropole, Glasgow).—Arrah-na-Pogue *was produced in Dublin, November, 1864, and at the Princess's, March 22, 1865. Dion Boucicault died Sept. 18, 1890. The following extract from Mr. Albert Strong's work on the "Law of Copyright" may help you:—"There is copyright in an author's play for forty-two years from the first publication, or for the term of his life and seven years from his death, whichever term shall be the longer. The same times apply to the performing right, beginning from the first representation, even though the play be not printed." The copyright term, therefore, seems to be at an end.*

PLAYBILL (Malvern).—*An advertisement in our columns would help you, as there are collectors of old playbills among the profession.*

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Datas—Saturday, July 20.
Clara Wieland—Saturday, July 20.
John Henry Savile—Saturday, July 20.
Miss Beattie Shamrock—Saturday, July 20.
J. Warwick Moore—Sunday, July 21.
C. Aubrey Smith—Sunday, July 21.
Little Tich—Sunday, July 21.
Frank A. Wood—Sunday, July 21.
Lucy Rushton—Sunday, July 21.
Walter M. Cameron—Sunday, July 21.
Flo Elvin—Sunday, July 21.
J. P. Lallen—Sunday, July 21.
Freddie Bentley—Sunday, July 21.
Gus Elen—Monday, July 22.
Frederic Robinson—Monday, July 22.
Haldane Crichton—Monday, July 22.
M. Gordon Ebbutt—Monday, July 22.
Robb Gilmore—Monday, July 22.
H. Evan Gibbon—Monday, July 22.
Leoni Clarke—Monday, July 22.
Florence Marston—Monday, July 22.
Marie Scharning—Monday, July 22.
Wallie Kaufman—Monday, July 22.
Odeyne Spark—Tuesday, July 23.
Richard Cass—Tuesday, July 23.
William Mackintosh—Tuesday, July 23.
Chas. Fulton—Tuesday, July 23.
Joan Burnett—Tuesday, July 23.
Margaret Story-Gofton—Tuesday, July 23.
Anna De Grey—Tuesday, July 23.
J. Henry Twyford—Tuesday, July 23.
William Gillette—Wednesday, July 24.
Carmen Amoros de Caicedo—Wednesday, July 24.
Martin Adeson—Wednesday, July 24.
Barney Vox—Wednesday, July 24.
Kate E. Leslie—Thursday, July 25.
Nat C. Goodwin—Thursday, July 25.
Arthur Rigby—Thursday, July 25.
Nat Travers—Thursday, July 25.
Winifred Wood—Thursday, July 25.
Roy Cochrane—Friday, July 26.
Frank Tyars—Friday, July 26.
Augustine Knight—Friday, July 26.
Frank Lester—Friday, July 26.
Gus Garrick—Friday, July 26.
Tom Craven—Friday, July 26.

"DOLLY'S BIRTHDAY."

A Dramette, by Willie Benn, produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, July 15.

Edwin Stacy .....MR. ALFRED IBBERSON
His Wife .....MISS DORA GREGORY
Dolly Stacy .....MISS ELSIE FOSTER

Dolly's Birthday is decidedly pretty and interesting; but the story has served as the theme of many plays. Mrs. Stacy, on her daughter Dolly's tenth birthday, receives a letter from her ne'er-do-well brother John full of endearments. This she carelessly leaves lying on the table. It is read by her husband, who accuses her of having a lover. Being bound to secrecy, she cannot explain, and her husband tells her "to leave the house." She goes, and Dolly comes in with a merry troupe of her playmates to join her in her birthday feast. The father is miserable, and when Dolly asks for her mamma, he tells her to take her companions, go in search of her mother, and bring her back to him. This she soon accomplishes, and is equally successful in reconciling her father and mother. Miss Elsie Foster assumes the title-rôle with girlish grace and charm, and gives a fresh, bright, and clever impersonation, her versatility being displayed in her pretty "Dolly" song and dance. Mr. Alfred Ibberson as the father and Miss Dora Gregory as the mother, with a troupe of juveniles, aid the success.

THE secretary of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund has received the sum of £7 10s. from "Griff," being part proceeds of concerts organised on board the steamships Kenilworth Castle and Norman. The committee are very grateful to this gentleman and also to Geo. Manton, Charles Stevens, Fred Meaton, Arthur Rockhill, Jock Bell, Harry Tate's company, the Three Braggs, and Miss Winifred Hare. The secretary has also received from Mr. William Payne the sum of £3 5s. 9d., being the amount collected in the South London Palace Pence Box. Thanks are also due to this gentleman.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.
No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list

Ablett, Mrs. W. L.
Adeles, The
Adeson, Mr. C.
"Alec"
Ameeda, Mlle.
Anderson, Mr. Max C.
Ariel and Astarte
Armadale, Mr. E. H.
Artois, Brothers
Athas and Collins
Atwill, L.
Aucliffe, Miss Alice
Balfe, Mr. M. W.
Banford, Mr. Harry
Barrett, Mr. W. Burgess
Barton, Mr. Tom
Best, Mr. C.
Biddall, Brothers
Boggetti, Mr. Edwin
Bosanquet, Mr.
Boucicault, Miss Nina
Bown, Mr. Clifford
Braithwaite, Miss L.
Brammall, Mr. H. E.
Brennand, Mr. R.
Brodie, Mr. M.
Brooks, Mr.
Bruce, Mr. W. Arthur
Butler, Mr. Alec
Burgon, Mrs. W.
Campbell, Miss A. E.
Carrol, Miss B.
Carter, Mr. Chas.
Chard, Lieut.
Cochrane, Master J.
Colossus, The
Coma, Mr. Arthur
Combes, Mr. Arthur
Condon, Miss Dora
Cooke, Miss A.
Coolville, Miss E.
Corsbie, Miss Dorcas
Courtnedge, Mr. Robert
Coutts, Mr. Henry
Crecuner, Mr. Augustus
Curre, Mr. Carne
Dagmar, Mr. Harry
Dalympie, Mr. Leonard
Danby, Mr. Frank
Dante, Mr. G. W.
Dartrey, Mr. R.
Davise, Mr. F. D.
De Cordova, Mr. R.
De Lara, Miss G.
Dene, Mr. F.
Dobler, Mr. George
Dolf, Mrs.
Donaldson Bros.
Eckart, Miss K.
Edouin, Mr. Willie
Edwin and Edwards
Ellery, Mr. John
Elton, Mr. S.
Elton, Mrs. Fred
"Eno"
Estell, Mlle. E.
Farren, Mr. Arthur
Fischer, Mr.
Florence and Lillian
Florizell, Miss
Galette's Monkeys
Gilbey, Mr. T. E.
Ginnett, Mr. F.
Glendinning, Mr. John
Godfrey, Mr. Syd R.
Greenhouse, Miss Marie
Haddon, Miss Blanche
Hampel, Mr. A.
Harrison, Mr. F.
Harrison, Mr. J.
Hazel
Henriette and Selina
Herman, Mr. Syd.
Hertie, Mr. Frank
Hoffe, Mr. Monckton
Holman, Miss Lolo
Howard, Prof.
Hyland, Mr. George
Jolly, Mr. Laffan B.
Kendal, Mr. W. H.
Kingston, Miss G
Kitts and Bellamy
Laird and Leslie, Messrs
Lane, Mr. Jack
Langford, Mr. B. J.
Langford, Mrs.
Lawrence, Miss Francis
Lawton, Mr. Frank
Leo
Letters, Mr. W.
Lewis, Mr. Edward
Lidden, Mr. Cecil
Lloyd, Mr. Fred
Loftus, Sisters
Lomax, Mr. Anthony
Loraine, Miss Violet
Lorraine, Mlle.
Louis, Mr. Edward
Louke, Miss A.
Mallalier, Miss Mary
Marler, Mrs. Nellie
Martin, Mr. Stafford
Marvello, Mr. H.
Matafar Troupe
Maville, Mr.
Mellon, Mrs. A.
Mercers, The
Meyder, Mr. Karl
Miller, Mr. W. J.
Moore, Miss Carrie
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Morton, Miss Effie
Natalia, Mdme.
Nero, Mons. Michel
Newman, Miss Ethel
New York Comedy Four
Nicholls, Mr. Harry
O'Mara, Mr.
Ottawas, The
Pakenham, Mr. R. J.
Peach, Mr. G. R.
Permain, Mrs. F.
Phinas and Aida
Pink, Mr. Wal.
Pollock, Mr. Allan
Proctor's Circus
"Quisde"
Rae, Mr. W.
Ray, Miss Belle
"Rebla"
Reed, Mr. F.
Ridgways, The
Rooney, Mr. M. J.
Rossitor, Miss Nancy
Rowe, Mr. Jack
Royale, Miss J.
Ryland, Mr. Cliff
Schubert, Miss Florence
Selbo
Selby, Mr. Alf
Shine, Mr. J. L.
Shine, Mr. W.
Seigenberg, Miss Lottie
Smith, Mr. Wellesley
Snow, Miss Ellen
Somers, Mr. A. G.
Sports, The Two
Stamford, Mr. Gordon
Storey, Miss S.
Street, Mr. F.
Stuart and Evans
Tearle, Mr. Edmund
Tearle, Mr. Godfrey
Thomas, Miss Amy
Thornburn, Mr. Chas.
Tilbury, Mr. E.
Transfields, Mr.
Tully, Mr. John
Val, Mr. J. R.
Veno, Miss Edie
Vernon, Miss H.
Vestrucker, Mr. H.
Wakefield, Mr. J. H.
Warner, Miss F.
Warren, Miss L.
Webster, Mr. G. H.
Wheeler, Mr John
Williamson, Miss Maud
Wilson, Mr. Toney
Wood, Mrs. John
Wynne, Mr. E. S.
Young, Mr. James
Zalvar, Mr. C.

GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.

At the Granville this week Mr. William H. Lennon presents a strong and varied programme, with dainty Daisy Dormer as the bright particular star. "I want a girl" and "I'm agoin', I'm agoin', I'm gone," are a couple of ditties which show her at her best, and the dance which follows is graceful, even in its abandonment. "The Enchanted Iona," a new and up-to-date comedy illusion, by the well-known comedian, Charley Frazer, is one long laugh, combined with wonderment and amazement. A statue of a female is left in charge of a raw youth, who, directly he is left to his own devices, is alternately startled by an apparition of Lucifer drinking fire out of a golden goblet, pleased by a little loving Dutch girl, and flabbergasted by a phantasy *à la* Ophelia, and in the end the statue vanishes, only to reappear as the callow youth bounds in from the back of the auditorium. The Four Athos are a troupe of marvellous original ball manipulators and head-balancing acrobats, who give a particularly neat and dexterous exhibition of juggling and balancing feats. Alma Obrey, the Australian representative character comedienne, creates a very pleasing impression in her songs, "On your own, my boys," and "What is the use of a penny?" in which she persuades the audience to join in swelling the chorus by a most humorous and tricky method of cajolery. Jennie Johns is a charming soubrette with a strong sense of character and a clever way of singing a catchy song. Her contributions consist of "The seaside girl" and "Bertie, the volunteer," both of which items are wonderfully well received. Syd May, the imitator without imitators, gains much applause by his masterly imitation of Gus Elen in "Waiting for work," Tom Costello in "What's the good of a ten-pound note?" Harry Lauder in "I love a lassie," and in his realistic burlesque sketch of Hackenschmidt wrestling. Gus Hindell, comedian, is a prime favourite in his "Critics of the picture of Venus" and "A charity entertainment." Frank Halter and Marie Ray, in a Hebrew character comedy, with a dancing soubrette, cause much amusement. The New Macs, the Sisters Wickenden, Will Cromwell, comedian, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, in their screaming farcical sketch, *Settled Out of Court*, as well as Johnson and Bert, in their novel act, *A Queer Custom*, provide capital entertainment. Vernon's Bioscope, with "The Winking Woman," "The Fatal Sneeze," and "Late for Lunch," once more form a veritable mine of mirth-moving possibilities.

THE Terriers Association, on Wednesday, defeated Crouch End Empire by six wickets at Champion Hill Grounds, after a very exciting game. The Crouch End Empire won the toss and batted first. Harris and Johnson made a brilliant stand before they were parted, the first wicket falling at 118. The next five batsmen played well, and took the score up to 192, when Crouch End declared. The Terriers opened the innings with Clements and Stebbings, having only ninety minutes in which to score the necessary runs, almost an impossibility. The first four wickets fell for 96 runs. At 4.25 67 runs were required to win, and by a fine display of batting these were obtained in twenty-five minutes. In the last ten minutes 43 runs were recorded, leaving the Terriers victors. Garbett and Stebbings must be congratulated on their fine display.

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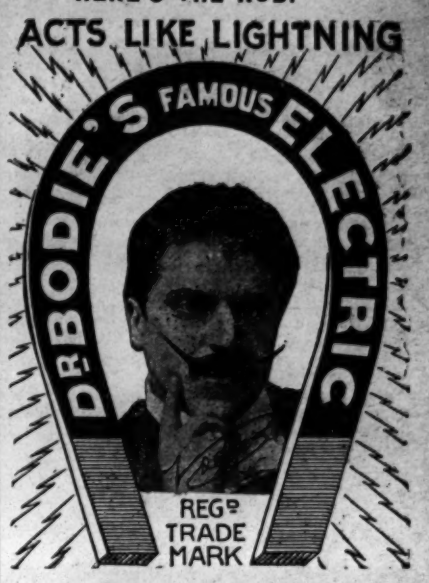
"THERE'S THE RUB."
BODIE says—
"HERE'S THE RUB."

ACTS LIKE LIGHTNING



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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for the current year, besides having all the usual valuable features which make the work so necessary for reference, has, for a special feature, a series of short articles, stories, or sketches by prominent members of the dramatic and musical profession, a well-executed portrait of each writer accompanying the text. The obituary for last year—unfortunately a heavy one—is given in a series of photograph likenesses of those departed. The full-page portrait of Mr. J. L. Toole is, indeed, worth more than the humble shilling at which the Annual is sold. The monthly calendar is, as usual, a storehouse of interesting facts connected with the stage.—Weekly Times and Echo.

LONDON THEATRES.

GAIETY THEATRE.
Manager, Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES.
Every Evening at 8.0 (Doors Open 7.40).
A New Musical Play,
entitled
"THE GIRLS OF GOTTENBERG."
Matinée Wednesday next, at 2 (doors open 1.40).
Box Office Open Daily from 10 till 10.

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Sole Lessee Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Mr. EDWARD COMPTON'S SEASON.
On MONDAY July 29, a New and Fantastic Play,
THE 18TH CENTURY,
in which Miss Grace Lane, Miss Suzanne Sheldon, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. Charles Groves Mr. E. M. Robson, and
Mr. EDWARD COMPTON will appear.
First Matinée, WEDNESDAY, Aug. 7,
and Every Wednesday following, at 2.30.
Box Office (open Monday next), 10 to 5.
Tele., 3903 Gerrard.

GARRICK. MR. BOURCHIER
and MISS VIOLET VANBRUGH,
Every Evening at 8.30, in
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO,"
by Alfred Sutro.
Cast also includes Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. Cyril Keightley, Mr. Charles Goodhart, Miss Pamela Gaythorne, Miss Elfrida Clement, Miss Nora Greenlaw.
Matinée Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2.30.

DALY'S THEATRE,
LEICESTER-SQUARE.
Every Evening, at 8.15.
Matinée Every Saturday, at 2.30,
A New Play, with Music, entitled
"THE MERRY WIDOW"
("Die lustige witwe").
Produced by Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES.

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Sole Lessee, Mr. ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.
Under the Management of Mr. Arthur Chudleigh.
Every Evening, at 8.30,
CHARLES FROHMAN presents
MARIE TEMPEST
in THE TRUTH.
A Comedy in Four Acts, by Clyde Fitch.
Matinées every Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

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The coolest theatre in London. The only one with a sliding roof.
The New Romantic Military Drama,
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING,"
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FANNIE WARD.
Sole Lessee and Managers, CHARLES FROHMAN.
To-night, at 8.50, Matinée Thursday, at 2.30,
"IN THE BISHOP'S CARRIAGE."
Frank Cooper, Charles Cartwright, and Miss Fannie Ward.
Preceded, at 8.30, by Chas. Collette.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1907.

SHAW AT THE SAVOY.

The experiment which is soon to be tried by Messrs. VEDRENNE and BARKER of a season of Mr. BERNARD SHAW'S works at the Savoy is decidedly an interesting one. Mr. SHAW is a phenomenon; and there is inexhaustible amusement in watching the development and cessation of phenomena. The line that we have always taken with regard to eccentric plays, and the various proposals for endowed theatres for their production, is that the machinery already at the disposal of the eccentric dramatist is quite sufficient to test the taste of the public. Our contention has been fully justified by practice. Not only has it been found possible, without State or charitable aid, to run a theatre on eccentric lines; there are, in addition, several private associations formed for the same purpose, and now, at any rate, solvent and in active existence. Our idea always has been that if people really want a thing they ought to be willing to pay for it; and the result has shown that they are.

It must not be too hastily inferred, however, that the continuation of Messrs. VEDRENNE and BARKER'S management at the Court Theatre was a symptom of any extraordinary intellectual advance in the British playgoer. In the first place, we must remember that those gentlemen, as soon as they had secured the services of Mr. SHAW, had no need of any other extensive advertisement. We have no doubt that they deal very liberally with "G. B. S."; and he deserves to be treated by them right royally. He has practised the art of self-advertisement so ably, he has been so successful in achieving notoriety, that he is a daily full-page "ad." in himself. For one member of the public that goes to see a play by SHAW—he has attained the honour of the omitted front-name from purely intellectual and artistic motives—twenty are led by the motive of simple curiosity. Mr. SHAW, who is frankness itself in his demonstration of his methods, has fully explained them in his prefaces. In the chapter "On Diablonian Ethics" he says: "The stage tricks of the *Devil's Disciple* are not the forgotten ones of the sixties, but the hackneyed ones of our own time. Why, then, were they not recognised? Partly, no doubt, because of my trumpet and cartwheel declamation. The critics were the victims of a long course of hypnotic suggestion by which 'G. B. S.,' the journalist, manufactured an unconventional reputation for BERNARD SHAW the author. I have advertised myself so well that I find myself, whilst still in the middle life, almost as legendary a person as the Flying Dutchman. Critics, like other people, see what they look for, not what is actually before them. In my plays they look for my legendary qualities, and find originality and brilliancy in my most hackneyed clap-traps. Were I to republish BUCKSTONE'S *Wreck Ashore* as my latest comedy it would be hailed as a masterpiece of perverse paradox and scintillating satire."

How true all this is! But in one particular Mr. SHAW does not do himself sufficient justice. Now that Mr. GILBERT has retired from business, Mr. SHAW is almost the only dramatic *humourist* in England. Comedy, the comedy of character, is almost extinct amongst us. The successful plays are either dramas or farces. Our contempt for Mr. SHAW'S pretentions to philosophy is only equalled by our admiration of his gifts of humour and observation. Mr. SHAW'S cleverness, as he explains, consists in "gammoning" the public that there are deep and subtle theories and ideas at the back of his plays. This irritates those who see through the trick so much that they often appear unable to do the ingenious self-advertiser justice. But the average man is delighted, when he enters, as he fancies, the area of advanced thought, to find, somewhat as Mr. Jenkins did in *Two Roses* when he went into "serious" circles, that there was more fun in them than any one would think. Take *Man and Superman*, for instance. The motive is that of Bunsby and Mrs. MacStinger; of the elder Weller and the "widder." But by misrepresenting the theories of one NIETZSCHE—a writer on philosophy, half-genius, half-lunatic, who died in the madhouse—Mr. SHAW has managed to spread a halo of intellectuality, originality—whatever one cares to call it—around the play. This "dodge," in combination with the real merit of the comedy, proves irresistible. The object of comedy is to reflect contemporary manners. Well, here were two "up-to-date" characteristics going a-begging—the School Board educated, high-class mechanic, and the *chauffeur*. Mr. SHAW has eyes to see, and a comedy sense wherewith to appreciate—he utilises the material with delicious results. And what more genuine in the way of a comedy situation can there be when the hair-brained free-love theorist, John Tanner, condoling with and encouraging the young woman who, he believes, has "thrown her petticoat over the windmills," has his sympathy thrown back in his face by the lady, who is really, though secretly, a most respectable married woman? As for the whole business of Tanner's pursuit and capture by Anne, it is comedy of the purest kind.

But why call the play *Man and Superman?* What have the transmogrified Bunsby and his pursuer to do with NIETZSCHE'S crazy pessimism? Why not run the amusing piece on its merits? Simply because nowadays people will not come into a show to see comedy unless the big drum be well beaten outside. Had Mr. SHAW entitled his work *The Trapping of Tanner*, left out the sham philosophy, and omitted his own name from the programme, it is doubtful if, with all its merits, the piece would have done any better than *The Silver Box* and other equally clever and more consistent Court productions.

The promised production of *Cæsar and Cleopatra* at the Savoy will put our—and Mr. SHAW'S—theory to the test. Here it has been impossible to "work" the philosophical and advanced-thought trick. There is an attempt, and no more, to drag in an attack on death sentences and the legal punishment of crime; but the play, as a whole, is a delightfully imaginative and well-prepared comedy-drama of 48 B.C. It is true that there is something of the *réclame* in Mr. SHAW'S audacious but absurd abuse of SHAKESPEARE'S Cæsar and applause of his own; and perhaps if he were to make a speech to the same effect every evening before the performance of the play his monologue might prove a "draw." But this is the Nemesis of charlatanism: that, when you have gained a reputation partly by genius and partly by humbug, when you leave out the humbug you may not get even credit for the genius. For, in the end, everything finds its level, and every dog has his day. Whether Mr. SHAW'S is nearly over, or whether he has only just entered on a new lease of notoriety—and consequent success—will be proved, to a certain extent, by the failure or success of Messrs. VEDRENNE and BARKER'S season at the Savoy.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

A programme well equipped with the good things of amusement life is being presented this week at the house presided over by Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, and universal satisfaction may be accepted as a foregone conclusion. The ball is started rolling by Miss May Marton, who sings "You, you, you!" with great effect; Mr. Walter Emerson is a clever comedian whose singing of "Another one" is only beaten in excellence by his neat and dexterous dancing; the Merry Monopedes (Conway and Leland) immediately make themselves popular favourites, their performance being loudly and deservedly applauded; a great hit is made by Mr. Harry Carsdale, whose mimicry of various animals is simply extraordinary, that of the familiar barndoor fowl being particularly clever; the modern Hercules, John Grun Marx, arouses something like enthusiasm by his feats of strength, which have the additional merit of being graceful, to which the grand physique of the man himself lends itself effectively; if we must have "strong men" on the stage, by all means let us have them handsome as well. Miss May Belfort is a charming comedienne, who succeeded in securing the good graces of the house on her first appearance. A vocalist and dancer who has, on one previous occasion at least, made herself popular at the Palace, is Miss Gwennie Hasto. This week the fascinating lady sings her sweetest, but certainly eclipses her vocal success by the admirable grace of her dancing, which recalls the triumphs of the late Miss Kate Vaughan in her best—i.e., Gaiety—days. It is an absolute delight to watch the dainty footing and the marvellous manipulation of the voluminous skirts. Burke, Andrus, and Frisco appear in a spectacular absurdity, entitled *London to Madrid*, a highly amusing piece of nonsense well worked up. The substantial, not to say heavy, item of the programme is supplied by Percy Murray and company in a Peruvian sketch, *The One Too Many*. There is a note of sadness pervading the little play which appeals strongly to the better instincts of even the most casual critic whose critical faculties are not "too many" for him. Mr. Percy Murray himself plays Beppo Sancho with picturesque effect; Mr. James Webster gives a good account of the Peruvian officer, Rio Martinio; Miss Madge Robson is a fine Suzanni; Miss Scard Butler a good Marda Sancho; and Miss Lena Penrose a perfect Ziska. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope continue to be about the most popular feature of Mr. Barclay's bill.

MR. GRAHAM MORRISON has been engaged by Mr. Edward Compton as acting-manager and secretary for his season at the St. James's Theatre.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, JULY 18.—The Gymnase has closed its doors. *Mademoiselle Ma Femme* had 280 performances. Mme. Marthe Regnier, who created the rôle of Josette, having started for the seaside a few days ago, her place was taken by Mlle. Roger, the daughter of the late Victor Roger, the composer of *Les Twenty-eight Jours de Clairette*. It was a difficult undertaking, but the young artist threw herself well into the work, and displayed brilliant qualities that augur well for her future career.

As usual at this time of the year, M. Jules Claretie and the members of the Comédie-Française committee have gone through the farce of giving an audition to the candidates who seek an engagement at that theatre. This painful ceremony has already been described in these columns, and unfortunately it never varies. The candidates know—or ought to know—that they have not the slightest chance. Every year the house of Molière is compelled to admit a few of the first prizes at the Conservatoire competition, so that there is never any vacancy; and this time M. Claretie has engaged M. de Feraudy (son of the famous actor) and Mlle. Lifraud, two laureates. For all that, twenty-six postulants had entered their names, but at the last moment six thought better of it, and only twenty put in an appearance. Poor twenty! One after another they came forward and recited their tirade in a trembling voice, awed by the darkness of the hall, by the ghostly-looking coverings of the seats, by the silence, only broken by one of the sociétaires occasionally blowing his nose. The next morning each of the "twenty" received a short note beginning with "We regret to inform you——." It would not be surprising if all the letters of regret were written in advance.

AT the Comédie-Française MM. Victor and Paul Margueritte have read to the artists, who will have to interpret it, their play, *L'Autre*. The cast will comprise MM. Grand, Siblot, Paul Numa, Mlles. Du Minil, Cerny, Géniat, and Robinne.

WE are all sorry to hear that M. Prud'hon, the well-known actor, has met with an accident. Getting down from an autobus in the Avenue de l'Opéra, the vehicle started off too soon, and M. Prud'hon was thrown down so violently that he fractured his wrist. He intended leaving Paris that same night on a month's holiday.

Two prize winners at the Conservatoire have also been engaged at the Opéra. They are Mlle. Lapeyrette and M. Duclos. MM. Messager and Broussan have informed them that their engagement will hold good with the new management.

A SO-CALLED well-informed paper made the absurd announcement that M. Gailhard intended putting four new works into rehearsal between now and the end of the year. Considering that M. Gailhard will leave the Opéra on Dec. 31 prox., it stands to reason that he will not indulge in such a freak. The only work now in rehearsal is *Le Lac des Aulnes*, by M. Henri Maréchal, to be brought out in October. M. Gailhard will not even produce *La Forêt*, a lyric drama by M. Savard, to a poem by M. Laurent Tailhade. The composer not having quite finished his score, M. Gailhard told him that he must arrange matters with MM. Messager and Broussan. Among the works accepted by the latter is *La Fête chez Thérèse*, by M. Catulle Mendès, set to music by M. Reynaldo Hahn.

IN the theatrical world most marriages take place during the holidays. July is pairing-time for the overworked artist. This week we had several. Mlle. Rachel de Ruy, the well-known singer, was married to M. Pierre Létorey, the composer; M. Steck, the distinguished *chef d'orchestre*, became the husband of Mlle. Marguerite Monnet; and Mlle. Dette, of music hall renown, has become Mme. Schmidt. There are plenty more to follow.

THE members of the showmen world here have reason to be proud. A few days ago a woman owning a waxwork show was arraigned before one of our police courts for assaulting her mother-in-law. The case was not a particularly nice one, and the prosecuting counsel began his speech by referring to the "immorality" in that profession, when the presiding magistrate stopped him. "I cannot allow you," he said, "to make such a sweeping assertion. In the course of my career I have found better morals with people in the showmen world than elsewhere. In fact, I can hold them up as an example to others!" The magistrate's words were received with applause.

ANOTHER music hall singer has gone over to the "regular" stage. He is M. Girier, and has been engaged by M. Michaud to make his début at the Nouveautés in M. Tristan Bernard's new farce.

"LE PUITS NUMERO 4" is the title of a sensational piece by MM. Augustin Thiérry and Eugène Bertaux, to be brought out at the Grand Guignol next season. I have been assured that it will give the "shivers" to the most callous person, and such a statement from a member of the Grand Guignol, which has the speciality of "horrors," means a lot.

M. FRANCIS ROBIN, the new manager of the Capucines, rubs his hands with delight. Speculating on cold weather, he has kept his little house open, and it is full every night. He now wishes it were twice the size.

I HAVE to record the death of M. Alphonse Lemonnier, dramatist. His father, mother, aunts, and uncles were all in the "profession." It, therefore, was not surprising that Lemonnier, already at the age of seventeen, should have wanted to mount the boards. But as his success as an actor was not great he took to writing, and things went much better. With William Busnach, Beauvallet, Eugène, Déjazet, Monselet, Péricaud, and other well-known playwrights he produced several pieces, some of which, like *Madame la Maréchale*, had a good run. He also became manager of the Château-d'Eau, which he re-christened Le Théâtre de la République. It was then that he committed the great mistake of his life. He joined the staff of an important morning paper, and wrote a series of articles, wherein he "slated" those connected with the theatrical world. To everyone's surprise, he was especially hard on actors and actresses. He who, in the course of a long and chequered career, knew of the hardships of an artist's life, attacked the members of the profession with a virulence that took people by surprise. Finally, a journalist took M. Lemonnier to task in a manner that led to an action for libel. Soon afterwards M. Lemonnier left Paris for Brussels, where he managed the Alhambra. His wife, Mme. Riquet-Lemonnier, is very talented, and was a favourite with the Paris public.

M. POREL, who has just gone into partnership with M. Carin, informs us that the Vaudeville will re-open on Sept. 1 with *Le Ruisseau*, to be followed by a revival of *L'Education d'un Prince*, with, of course, Mme. Granier in the principle rôle. The first novelty will be *Patachon*, a comedy in four acts, by MM. Duquesnel and Hennequin. The former, one of our veteran critics, was formerly manager of the Odéon. Mme. Marthe Regnier, Mlle. Rosa Bruck, M. Noblet, and M. Levesque have been specially retained to interpret the work, which, we are assured, will be one of the "hits" of the season.

M. GABRIEL FAURE'S *Pénélope* will be produced at the Opéra in the course of next year. The libretto is by M. Réné Fauchois.

THE famous composer, Verdi, in his will, requested that a cabinet full of papers should be destroyed, but the request was not complied with, and it is in this cabinet that the score of a new opera has been found. It appears to be an early work. Musical circles are greatly interested by the report of the discovery.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

The first production of Alfredo Catalani's *Loreley* was given at Covent Garden on Friday night, July 12, with a fairly strong cast. Catalani, who is little known in this country, died in 1893, before reaching the age of forty, and his opera heard on Friday was produced with some success in 1890. The libretto of the opera, which is founded on the *Lurline* legend, is by Messrs. Carlo D'Ormeville and A. Zanardini, and the story relates how Loreley, a country girl, in love with Walter, Lord of Oberwesel, revenges herself on the young lord, who is about to marry Anna, daughter of the Margrave, by invoking the aid of our familiar friend, Alberich, King of the Rhine, offering to become his wife if he will endow her with surpassing beauty, and at the wedding between Walter and Anna, Loreley appears, and by her beauty casts a spell over her former lover. Shortly after the interrupted wedding, Anna dies, and Walter, hearing of this event, faints beside the river. On recovering, he again finds Loreley beside him, and they embrace; but the Rhine King naturally objects, and on the departure for ever of Loreley, Walter in despair drown himself in the river. That such a story is capable of musical treatment is evident, and the composer, an experienced musician, writes with considerable earnestness. Still, the absence of a strong human interest is greatly felt. Unlike the modern Italian composers, Catalani seems to have founded his music on the German ideals, and has evidently been greatly influenced by the earlier operas of Wagner. There are some pleasing melodies in *Loreley*, chief among them being Anna's aria, "Amore celeste," while there are some attractive choruses and processional music, with a pretty ballet, cleverly arranged by M. F. Ambrosiney; but the music allotted to Walter, although impassioned, fails to be convincing, or to entirely realise the more dramatic situations, and the scoring for the orchestra is in many instances weak. In Loreley's part there are some effective melodies, and, in spite of an apology on behalf of Mlle. Scalar because of a cold, she sang most successfully; and the small character of Anna was admirably sung by Mlle. Selma Kurz. Signor Bassi gave a fervent rendering of the hero's music; while ample justice was done to the parts of Rudolph and Hermann by M. Journet and Signor Sammarco. The opera was well mounted, and skilfully conducted by Signor Campanini, and an excellent English version written by Mr. Alfred Kalisch.

Last Saturday night there was a repetition of Verdi's *Rigoletto*, with the welcome reappearance of Signor Bonci as the Duke. Signor Bonci was well received, sang with great fervour, and was encored in "La donna è mobile"; while Mme. Melba sang "Caro nome" beautifully; and that fine artist, Signor Sammarco, acted and sang the Jester's part superbly. An English artist, Mme. Edna Thornton, appeared with success as Maddalena. Signor Panizza conducted.

Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*, after a lapse of some years, was performed at Covent Garden on Wednesday evening in the presence of a large and enthusiastic audience, no doubt largely owing to the presence of Mme. Melba in the cast in her familiar rôle of Lucia. Although the great prima donna at first showed evidence of a cold, the effects of this rapidly wore off during the evening, and the unrivalled vocalist gave so perfect a rendering of the great Mad Scene that a perfect storm of applause from all parts of the house proved her undoubted triumph. While we have such consummate exponents of florid music as Mme. Melba and Signor Caruso with us, many of the old and once popular operas of Bellini, Rossini, and Donizetti might with advantage be revived. Mme. Melba received excellent support from the Edgardo of Signor Bonci, who by his fine singing and acting greatly advanced his position in the esteem of the audience. That clever artist Signor Scotti proved an able exponent of Enrico Ashton; while M. Journet made Raimondo duly important. The other characters of Alice, Arturo, and Normando were adequately filled by Mme. Severina, Signor Venturini, and Signor Zucchi, and excellent orchestral results were secured by the conductor, Signor Panizza.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER'S COURSE.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER, at the conclusion of the performance of *John Glayde's Honour* at the St. James's Theatre on the 12th inst., said: "To-night I close my longest and most successful season in this theatre. I have had the privilege of producing a comedy by Mr. Arthur W. Pinero, to whom I owe many debts of gratitude, and the play you have seen to-night by Mr. Alfred Sutro, to whom I also tender sincere thanks. I have committed the grave indiscretion of running these two plays for a period of eighteen months. I use the word 'indiscretion,' for have we not been very recently told by an expert that the decline of the English drama (we have heard of this decadence from the year 1) is due to two causes—the actor-manager and the long run? As you will have seen from the performance to-night, I have taken care to surround myself with the most incompetent actors and actresses money can buy. I have to thank my friend, Miss Eva Moore, and all the other members of my company for so kindly obscuring their talents under this roof, and for being willing instruments in helping me to bask in the limelight of vanity and egotism—(laughter)—and Mr. Michael Sherbrooke will understand that the coolness existing between us is only due to the fact that he has made so palpable a hit in the play you have witnessed this evening. The worst of it all is, ladies and gentlemen, I intend to continue to pursue my downward course—to produce the best plays I can secure, and to allow them to run as long as you will pay to see them. After a brief holiday I shall visit my provincial friends with *His House in Order*, but I shall return to this theatre early in November to produce an adaptation, by Mr. Cosmo Gordon Lennox, of *Le Voleur*, called *The Thief*, in which, I am glad to say, Miss Irene Vanbrugh will act with me. This, in turn, will be followed by the production of a new play from the pen of Mr. Pinero, and a revival of *The Prisoner of Zenda*. In my absence the theatre will be occupied by Mr. Edward Compton, who, fresh from his triumphs in the provinces, will appear in a new play, entitled *The Eighteenth Century*, and I only hope my own good luck will follow him."

ON Friday next (instead of usual Wednesday match) July 26, the Hercules team, captained by Willson, will play the Terriers at Sam Salter's Ground, commencing 12 noon.

LE MARIN, the wrestler, after doing his turn at the Empire, Dublin, on Saturday night, appeared in a private box in the Theatre Royal, in company with a wrestler named Allan. Hackenschmidt had already performed. Towards the close of the performance Allan stood up and announced, amid a scene of considerable excitement and commotion, that Le Marin was there to deliver his challenge to Hackenschmidt in person. Le Marin then stepped forward, and, dramatically taking off his overcoat, revealed himself in wrestling costume. The lights were turned down at this stage for the cinematograph performance, and Le Marin and his friends quietly departed.

"THE CORSICAN BROTHERS."

The source of *The Corsican Brothers*, says the writer of an exhaustive article in the *Liverpool Courier*, is a narrative by the elder Dumas (1803-1870), which is to be found in his "Impressions de Voyages." It attracted the attention of the dramatists Grange and Xavier de Montepin, who founded upon it the play *Les Frères Corses*, which was first performed at the Théâtre Historique, Paris, on Aug. 10, 1850, Charles Fechter appearing in the title-rôles. Eighteen months later the first of many adaptations, and that which may be described as the standard English adaptation, was produced at the Princess's Theatre, London. The precise date was Feb. 24, 1852, the adaptor being Dion Boucicault (1822-1890), whilst the production was by Charles Kean, who played the twins, Alfred Wigan being the Chateau-Renaud, J. Vining the de Montgiron, Miss Murray the Emilie, Miss Carlotta Leclercq the Coralie, and Miss Vivash the Estelle. Boucicault had many emulators—in fact, a deluge of adaptations followed upon the Kean production, and hereon we cannot do better than quote Mr. Davenport Adams. He says in his remarkable "Dictionary of the Drama": "Another version was played for the first time at the Marylebone Theatre, London, on March 8, 1852. This was followed a week later by two more versions, viz., *The Corsican Brothers*, translated by G. A. Sala and performed at the Surrey Theatre with W. Creswick as the Brothers, T. Mead as Chateau-Renaud, Widdicomb as Colonna, &c.; and *The Corsican Brothers*, by G. Almar, produced at the Victoria Theatre, London, with J. T. Johnson as the Brothers, Ramong as Chateau-Renaud, T. H. Higgle as Montgiron. Two more versions were performed on March 22—one at the Queen's Theatre, and the other at the Royal Grecian (with R. Phillips as the Brothers). On the same date there was produced at the City of London Theatre yet another version (with Charles Pitt as the heroes). Two days later the stage of the Standard Theatre was occupied with another—the eighth—adaptation, whilst two months afterwards, on May 19, 'a literal translation of the French play was produced at the Astor Palace Opera House, New York.' This piece, however, was called *The Vendetta*, and G. V. Brooke appeared as the dei Franchi. It will be remembered that Brooke was drowned in the wreck of the London (July 11, 1866)." A few weeks after the production of the Boucicault version at the Princess's Theatre at least two comic paraphrases were staged. The first, which rejoiced in the prodigiously humorous title of *O. Gemini, or the Brothers of Co(u)rse*, was at the hands of the *Punch* celebrities, G. A. Beckett and Mark Lemon. The second was written by Charles Selby, and could not boast of a title more apposite than *The Camberwell Brothers*. An adaptation of the Théâtre Historique version was given on Dec. 15, 1860, at the Princess's Theatre, some seven weeks after Fechter made his début as an English actor.

Fechter was supported by Augustus Harris as Chateau-Renaud, Meadows as Colonna, Rose Leclercq as Folichonne, and Miss Murray as Emilie. In the version of the original used by Fechter, the curtain rose on the Opera House scene. Six years later, namely 1866, and at the Lyceum Theatre, Fechter again appeared as the twins ("whose personalities he differentiated with the subtlety beyond Kean's power"), and he was then aided by George Jordan (Chateau-Renaud), Hermann Vezin (Montgiron), Sam Emery (Orlando), Widdicomb (Colonna), Miss Ternan (Mme. dei Franchi), and Miss Henrade (Emilie). Other revivals of less note of this fascinating play took place in 1864 and 1876, the scene on both occasions being the Princess's Theatre. Fechter's revival of 1866 was not to be resisted by that versatile genius H. J. Byron, and we find the records contain particulars of his perversion first performed at the now dead and gone Globe Theatre on May 17, 1869. Byron dropped an "r" and amusingly labelled his skit *The Corsican Bothers; or, the Troublesome Twins*. It was Byron, too, who first took permissible liberties with the characters' names, for we find, for Fabien and Louis dei Franchi, Fabien and Louis dei Flunkie. Another comic treatment (produced at Brighton in 1870) was styled *A New Edition of the Corsican Brothers; or, the Kompact, the Kick, and the Kombat*.

The Lyceum autumn season of 1880 commenced on Sept. 18 with a very elaborate revival of Boucicault's version as used by Kean twenty-eight years before. William Terriss was the Chateau-Renand of the Irving revival, Elwood the Montgiron, the now famous Arthur Wing Pinero the Meynard; whilst Miss Pauncefort was Mme. dei Franchi, Miss Alma Murray the Coralie, and Miss Fowler Emilie de Lesparre. Irving revived the play in May, 1891. Between that date and that of Oct. 10, 1906, when Martin Harvey's revival took place at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, there have been no important performances of the old piece derived from Dumas, though Miss Litton, aided by Hermann Vezin and Mr. Charles Calvert, appeared in it at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, in 1881; whilst in 1883 Kyrle Bellew played the title parts throughout the provinces.

In conjunction with H. P. Stephens, Sir Frank Burnand wrote a farcical version which, under the title of *The Corsican Brothers and Co., Ltd.*, was produced at the London Gaiety on Oct. 25, 1880, with E. W. Royce as the brothers, Dallas as Madame dei Franchi, Nellie Farren as Chateau-Renaud, Connie Gilchrist as Montgiron, and Kate Vaughan as Emilie. Another comic treatment produced at the Philharmonic Theatre, Nov. 20, 1880, flourished under the style and title of *The Coster Twin Brothers*, whilst the ordinarily resourceful George R. Sims had to call to his aid "The Babes in the Wood" legend, for his version done at the Theatre Royal, Hull, March 19, 1881, was christened *The Corsican Brother-Babes in the Wood*; and Cecil Raleigh, in preparing the Royalty Theatre piece of 1889, could not get on without the aid of *Mr. Barnes of New York*, for *The New Corsican Brothers* admittedly was a funny hotch-potch of the two plays

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VARIETY GOSSIP.

Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger are organising a syndicate with £20,000,000 capital to buy music-hall realty all over the world. With this object in view Mr. Klaw and Mr. Erlanger's adviser, Mr. Levy Meyer, has already sailed for London. The capital is practically assured. It is stated that a great many halls are on offer in different parts of Europe. The syndicate will not be likely to get foothold in England.

The engagement of Yvette Guilbert at the Palace, which was to have terminated this week, has been further lengthened by a week at the request of Mr. Alfred Butt, who has persuaded her to forego a portion of her vacation at Marienbad, and so to continue her perfromances at the Palace until Saturday next. In an interview madame has expressed her delight at her Palace reception: "They are wonderful in their warm applause. We French are called responsive, but I cannot remember greater cordiality than I have received during this visit."

The production of a sketch called *Gay Ostend* reminds us that the London Hippodrome, on its opening on Jan. 15, 1900, produced an amphibious burletta, by Henry Chance Newton, entitled *Giddy Ostend; or, The Absent-minded Millionaire*, in which Little Tich played the principal part. The *plage* of the famous seaside resort was one of the scenes, and it was fronted with real water. A ballet of prettily-costumed sea-bathers was also a feature of the representation.

Mr. Joe Lyons some time since formulated a plan of establishing in the West End of London houses of entertainment with winter gardens attached, and it was thought when he purchased Exeter Hall that that famous rendezvous of the orator would become a high-class establishment of the kind; but he is under contract not to turn the place into a licensed house, a theatre, or a music hall; and he has, indeed, stated that nothing shall be done with it that would be inconsistent with its past traditions. Mendelssohn first produced and conducted his *Elijah* at Exeter Hall, and its walls have echoed back the notes of the finest singers of the nineteenth century, as before it passed into the possession of the Young Men's Christian Association, in 1880, it was used for the concerts of the Sacred Harmonic Society.

Prince Robert de Broglie's marriage with Mrs. Estelle Alexander has been declared illegal, and that lady has been deprived of any right to use the name of Broglie. She was married to the Prince at Chicago, where she was a concert singer of some note. It was her second matrimonial essay. The pair, it will be remembered, were at the Tivoli during the Music Hall Strike, but their appearance did not cause any great sensation. Prince Robert now intends to get married with the least possible delay according to the requirements of French law. He is determined that the marriage shall be made legal in France, and his child legitimatised.

Mr. Walter C. Kelly, who made his first appearance in England at the Palace on Monday, and did extremely well, was originally a politician, and, incidentally, an hotel proprietor. He became associated with the profession in consequence of a speech at a little banquet in New York, when he just told them a few things, using dialect when necessary, and causing laughter. Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger asked him to go on the stage, and he did.

One night, when he was playing with Marie Dressler, in New York, she was suddenly taken ill, and the management begged him to go on and do a single specialty to fill in. He had never tried a monologue, but Percy Williams insisted on it, offering to give him a hundred dollars if he failed. He went on, and "they ate it up."

In Bridgeport, Conn., a committee from one of the Irish societies waited on Mr. Kelly and asked him to change the ending of his police-court story so that the Irishman, Rafferty, would not get the worst of it. He demurred to the proposal, and this is how they came back to him: "Av course, Misther Kelly, ye will use yer own judgment. A month ago Misther Aubrey Boucicault played here in *The Shaughraun*, and we wint to him and asked him to wear a wig of another colour. He used his own judgment, just as you are going to do, but he had to git a new set of scenery before he left town."

Mr. Albert Augustus Gilmer, managing-director of the Stoke Newington Palace, was a witness in the Probate Court on Thursday in connection with his executorship to the late Howard Paul. In his evidence, Mr. Gilmer said that Mr. Howard Paul first married Miss Featherstonhaugh, the actress, who used to give imitations of Sims Reeves. His second wife was Florence Arthur. Mr. Howard Paul was of perfectly sound mind. Evidence having been given as to the due execution of the will and codicil, his Lordship held that the domicile of the testator was English, and the jury found in favour of both testamentary papers. His Lordship pronounced for them, with costs.

Mr. John Lawson will be seen in Mr. Cecil Raleigh's sketch, *The King's Minister*, at the Holloway Empire, during the forthcoming week. This episode has proved to be one of Mr. Lawson's biggest successes on the Stoll tour. For the next two years Mr. Lawson has been engaged to give a repertoire of his sketches at all the principal towns of the Stoll tour.

Mrs. John Lawson will be at the Paragon and Walthamstow next week with *The Devil's Sunday*, which is drawing packed houses at the Hippodrome, Woolwich, this week. The setting of this sketch, under the eye of John Lawson, still remains one of the best that can possibly be seen. Mrs. Lawson, as the frivolous, feather-brained Fay Faber, still gives a very intense and remarkable performance. Mrs. Richard Pole, the authoress of the smart-set episode, is writing another sketch for Mrs. Lawson, which she thinks will prove even a bigger success than *The Devil's Sunday*.

Miss Denise Orme will make her first appearance at the Palace on Monday, when she will sing some of her musical-comedy successes, among them being that extremely popular number from *The Lady Dandies*, "I'm sorry." Miss Orme will also play the violin, as she did in *The Little Michus*.

Among the engagements which have already been made for the Christmas pantomime at the Lyceum are Brown, Newland, and Leclerq, the famous Ethiopian comedians, and Miss Sybil Arundale, who is to play Polly, Robinson Crusoe's sweetheart. Miss Arundale has hitherto masqueraded chiefly as a "boy," doing so most successfully in *My Lady Molly*, at Terry's, and at the Empire in a Revue. She is clever enough for anything, and is sure to give a good account of herself. As already announced, the Crusoe of this production will be Miss Dorothy Craske, of the Empire.

A new grand ballet, adapted from the immensely successful operette *Les Cloches de Corneville*, is in preparation at the Alhambra. The production is to be on an unusually lavish scale. Ever since "the bells" began to ring so merrily at the Folly (afterwards Toole's) Theatre on Feb. 23, 1878, Robert Planquette's tuneful work has been running at intervals in the provinces, and the interest in it is likely to be revived by the sumptuous presentation of the work in ballet form.

The Alhambra Theatre, Belfast, of which Mr. Sinclair Neill is manager, closes to-night (Saturday), for painting, &c., reopening on Monday, Aug. 5, with a powerful drama.

Mr. Richard Thornton has taken over the properties of the Sunderland Theatres Company, Ltd., viz., the Avenue Theatre and the old Royal Theatre in the Wearside borough. The new proprietor intends to run the latter on its old lines as the melodrama house of the town. At the Avenue exhibitions of pictures, &c., will probably be the order of the day, with an occasional reversion to legitimate work and varieties.

Mr. Walter de Frece is to be congratulated on the latest balance-sheet of the Palace Theatre, Manchester, Ltd. Since Mr. de Frece has had the control of this, one of the most beautiful theatres in the North, the popularity of the place has increased by leaps and bounds, and the excellent programmes submitted week by week are greatly appreciated by Manchester theatre-goers, as is shown by the increased receipts. Mr. de Frece took command in 1905, and, notwithstanding the erection of two new music-halls in the immediate neighbourhood, has succeeded in placing the company in a very solid financial position.

For the last three years the net profits have been:—1905, £2766; 1906, £8116; and 1907, £9280. In 1906 the amount of reserve was used in writing off the alteration and decoration suspense account, while for the past year it is placed to general reserve, making that fund £6000, against which there are investments held of £12,776—an increase over the former year of £5757. The premises are freehold, and the balance-sheet shows the company in a sound position.

The esteemed and popular manager of the Liverpool Tivoli, Mr. James Marks, determined upon making his first outing something to be remembered, the result being that last Sunday, when everything was over, nothing but praise was heard from 250 participants. The original intention was to limit the invitations to the staff of the theatre, but owing to an outside interest exhibiting itself, patrons were allowed to participate, with the result that the special corridor carriages were well filled. Leaving Liverpool at 9 o'clock, the party reached Morecambe at 11 o'clock. Shortly afterwards some 150 sat down to a substantial dinner in the King's Arms Hotel, Mr. Marks occupying the chair.

The company spent the afternoon in enjoying most charming drives, and at 5.30 partook of a sumptuous tea. All arrived safely back at Liverpool about 9 o'clock. Among the visitors were Mr. Fred Willmot (director of entertainments of the Tivoli), Mrs. Marks, and Miss Lillian Victoria.

Mr. Tom Barrasford's new Hippodrome, in Sheffield, is now in course of construction, and that popular entrepreneur anticipates opening in the late autumn. The new house is situate in Cambridge-street, a few yards from the present Empire, with a frontage of forty-five yards and a depth of eighty yards—ample room for a magnificent building. Mr. Bertie Crewe, the architect of the Bedford and the Standard, Shoreditch, has planned the new place, of which the seating capacity will be between 2500 and 3000.

In Liverpool the two performances per night of drama is becoming very popular. The latest variety house to change its style of entertainment is the Roscommon Music Hall, where, next week, Mr. Percy Boucher, who successfully inaugurated the sketch system at the Royal, Breck-road, some years ago, will lead a stock company with the "legitimate." This will be the fourth hall to adopt drama within recent years; and now there remains practically but one of the smaller variety houses keeping to the old fare. Then again, a short distance away, the Muncaster, at Bootle, will on August Bank Holiday be controlled by Mr. Fred Willmot, of Liverpool, who proposes to have stock drama twice nightly. Under the present regime a full evening's drama is given.

The many friends of Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien, late assistant-manager of the Opera House, Cork, will be pleased to learn that he has been appointed manager of the Palace Theatre of Varieties there, in succession to Mr. Henry Kemble. During the ten years that he was associated with Mr. John Horgan at the Cork Opera House, Mr. O'Brien made a host of friends for himself. He possesses an excellent knowledge of the business, and his appointment is very popular. Mr. O'Brien, who starts on Aug. 1, intends to provide bills of the highest possible order at popular prices, and on the two-houses-a-night system. Several important alterations are being effected that add considerably to the comfort of the house, which is now being renovated.

The Empire, Cardiff, which is situated in one of the principal thoroughfares through which the procession passed, was magnificently decorated on Saturday last, a Royal day for the city, portraits of their Majesties being prominently displayed. For the occasion, stands were erected in front of the main entrance to the theatre, and these were occupied exclusively by the artists engaged that week, and the Empire staff and their friends. In this way a magnificent view was obtained of their Majesties, who, when passing, were accorded an enthusiastic welcome, graciously acknowledged.

A very successful charity matinée performance was given at the Leeds Empire on Saturday. Organised and managed by those indefatigable Moss-Stoll gentlemen Mr. T. Gerald Morton and Mr. Alex Galley, the performance was a record success, the programme including contributors from all the Yorkshire Stoll halls, and a crowded and distinguished audience was in evidence. The local charities will benefit very largely by the effort.

The many friends of Mr. Charles Edward Mumford will be interested to learn that he was quietly married on June 15 at St. John's Church, Secunderabad, India, to Jeannette Louisa Littaur, ballad vocalist, formerly of London. Before embarking on a tour through India Mr. Mumford served under the Macnaghten régime, principally at the Palace, Bow, and Palace, Lincoln, as musical director. He is, by the way, a native of Halifax, Yorkshire.

In consequence of the large measure of support accorded to the Palace, Attercliffe, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes, the proprietor, has decided to forego a summer vacation. The local manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne's efforts have succeeded in making the Palace a popular house of entertainment.

Miss Nellie Gannon, on her birthday anniversary, July 19, received some handsome presents and over 150 wires, letters, and birthday cards.

There seems now every prospect of the Blackpool Public Library, towards which Mr. Carnegie has offered £15,000, being placed on the Raikes Hall site, where the famous gardens originally stood. This land will cost about £10,000. The building will be surrounded by a park. The Blackpool Corporation has refused to permit phrenologists, physiognomists, and other "professors" of that ilk to practise on the South Shore Fairground, over which they have the power of veto.

Mr. R. G. Knowles, prior to leaving London for a short provincial tour, accepted from Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate two songs, specially written and composed by them to suit the talented American's peculiar method. These are respectively entitled "The diner, the dinner, and the doctor" and "Girls, be on your dignity," and bid fair to be most successful in the States, whither Mr. Knowles sails shortly.

"The Ring Between" is the title of a new sketch, by William Felton, that will be produced at the Middlesex, on Monday next, by Miss Geraldine Montrose. Mr. Graydon saw this sketch on July 5, and immediately booked it for July 22. Miss Montrose will play the leading part, and is supported by a strong company, including the author.

"The Tiger Cat" is the name of another sketch which Mr. Graydon will produce on July 29. It is also written by William Felton, and has been secured by Miss May Woolgar Mellon, who will play the principal part, supported by the author and Mr. Fred Dobell.

Mr. B. P. Lucas, the managing-director of the Bedford, is again exerting himself in the cause of charity, and announces that he will shortly give a matinée in aid of that splendid charity the Children's Seaside Fund, which gives so much delight and pleasure to the youngsters in the neighbourhood of the Bedford.

Some heavy scoring was witnessed at The Grange, Acton, on Wednesday, when the Palace Theatre team met the Harmonists in an interesting cricket match. Instead of the twang of the guitar, the "zum" of the banjo, the Harmonists had to be content with the "biff" of the bat of Mr. Hollender, who was simply unmerciful in his swiping, scoring 107 not out. The innings included ten fours and one five. The Harmonists enjoyed, to a certain extent, their "day in the country," but their innings of 28 runs as against 259 for the Palace Theatre hardly compensated for things. The best score for the losers was made by Mr. Willoughby with a plucky stand for 12. The Brothers Hollender (B. and V.) played skittles with the wickets, taking them all.

Miss Gipsy Woolf and her Six Sunbeams, in *The Mermaid of Margate*, start a six months' tour in America on Oct. 1, opening at New York. As showing the enterprise of our American cousins, this successful turn was seen at the Queen's, Poplar, on the Saturday night after production, negotiations were entered into the day following, and the contract was signed on the Monday. Mr. Jack Woolf has had many offers from the Continent for this interesting scena.

The late Edward J. Margetson, a well-known composer of songs, and a member of St. James's Union Lodge, No. 180, who died after only three days' illness, has left his widow (formerly Miss Marion Wardroper, of German Reed's company) and two sons in very straitened circumstances. Efforts are being made to get the younger son, Arthur Charles Margetson, into the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys (the father was a life subscriber). Votes will be thankfully received for this deserving object by Messrs. Francis and Day's manager, Bro. John Smith, 22, Denmark-street, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

The interest evinced by Mr. Pat Carey in every scheme that makes for music-hall progress is well known to his fellow artists, and it is, therefore, with considerable regret that they hear of his resignation from the executive committee of the M.H.A.R.A., which he helped to found. Mr. Carey still retains his position as president of the Music Hall Sick Fund, a flourishing friendly society that provides sick benefits for an abnormally small weekly contribution. It has been established forty years.

An informal luncheon and conference between the theatrical representatives of the principal railway companies and a deputation of the executive committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association took place at the Boulogne Restaurant, Gerrard-street, Soho, on Thursday, July 11. The following represented the Association:—Mr. W. H. Clemart (president, who occupied the chair), and Messrs. Fred Herbert (vice-chairman of the committee), Fred W. Millis (vice-president), Harry Blake, Harry Wright, Harry Bancroft, Bernard Stavordale, Douglas White (hon. treasurer), and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary).

After an excellent menu, the "bombe surprise" being a railway engine of block ice, Mr. Clemart proposed the health of the guests, which was duly responded to; after which the president placed before the theatrical managers of the railways certain suggestions relative to adding to and altering several items regarding the present concessions granted to the Association. The impracticability of certain of these was explained by the spokesman of the railway managers. But regarding one point, viz., the difficulty of crossing from the northern stations to the southern in London on Sundays, all the railway representatives present agreed that in future, providing due notice was given, free omnibuses would be provided for parties of not less than four from the great termini. This friendly function is to become a hardy annual.

Mr. Carl Hamlin, the popular musical director of the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, concluded on Saturday his engagement there, to return to his former position as chef d'orchestre at the Foresters'. Mr. Frederick Baugh, at the conclusion of the second performance, referred to the high estimation in which Mr. Hamlin was held at the "Britt.," and asked his acceptance of a handsome double curb gold chain, subscribed for by himself and all the staff. Mr. Arnold Bell also spoke in a very congratulatory manner of the capabilities of the recipient.

Mr. William Martin, sometime manager for Mr. J. Bannister Howard, is taking over the management of F. Darrell and Company's Dramatic and Variety Agency, 415, Strand.

The 520th meeting of the Music Hall Railway Association was held on Wednesday. The members present were Fred Neiman (chairman), C. C. Bartram, Harry Wright, Fred Harrison, Harold Findon, John Alexander, Harry Bancroft, Griff, Walsh, Joe O'Gorman, Fred Herbert, and Fred Millis. The weekly statement showed that twenty-nine new members had been made, and the receipts for the week amounted to £29 10s. 6d. It was proposed and carried that tenders be invited for a supply of new cards. Mr. Douglas Stuart was authorised to pay a visit to Cardiff on Monday next, with the object of conferring with the representatives of the Taff Vale Railway Company and suggesting improvements in certain matters on that line.

Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to accept from Mr. and Mme. Zancig a copy of their recently published work, "Two Minds with but a Single Thought." The dedication of this little brochure to the British public has been gracefully and appropriately made by Mr. and Mme. Zancig in a reminder that, as Danes, there exists between them and the British public a precious link, as a single thought between two minds, namely, homage to England's Beloved Queen.

"Her Convict Lover," a new sketch by Arthur Jefferson, is to be produced at the Camberwell Palace on Monday.

Mr. Albert Chevalier paid a flying matinée visit to the Theatre Royal, Margate, on Monday afternoon, and met with a very enthusiastic reception. Mr. Chevalier's company included Mr. Alfred H. West, solo pianist and accompanist; Miss Daisy Irvine, soprano; Mr. Harry Brett, comedian; Mr. Arthur Brankston; and Master Bertie Baxter, comedian. In the second part of the programme Mr. Chevalier appeared as Mr. Turby in the farcical sketch *The Goose with the Golden Eggs*.

Mr. Will Oliver has not been quite himself this last week or two, and has taken himself off to a quiet little spot at Sandgate. He writes from the Kent Hotel to say he is doing well, and mentions the fact that it was in 1868 when he last visited Sandgate for a four weeks' engagement at the Alhambra, then known as "The Brick."

There he first met the clever Walton family, also the McCarthy family, both of whom have since become famous all over the world. There are but few alive to-day who used to amuse the soldiers in those days. Will is full of praise for the up-to-date manner in which the show is run at the present time by Mr. Fred Baugh, and says he would like to induce a few London managers to run down and see the artists they put on for five minutes do a legitimate full show, and he feels confident that a lot that are now kept in the background would be brought to the front.

Mr. David Hart, the well-known manager of Gravesend, is going on a health-giving holiday. He leaves on Thursday morning by the s.s. Cæsar for a trip to the fishing fleet in the North Sea, and is expected to be away for about eight days.

Miss Ruby Helder, the girl baritone, having completed an engagement of ten weeks at the Empire, is now singing nightly at the Tivoli, and excites no little attention as "the girl with a man's voice." She has been engaged at the Apollo Theatre, Paris, for September, after which she proceeds to Germany.

At one o'clock on Thursday afternoon the original "Old Bailey" was put up for public auction. The sale comprised the whole of the interior fixtures of the four criminal courts, the original prisoners' dock, and the fittings of the prisoners' cells. The heavy iron grill gate and enclosure to cell, with iron bar grill overhead, protecting fanlight, and the heavy deal door, with the original grating through which Jack Sheppard, the famous highwayman, escaped, realised £7 10s. The prisoners' dock, the jury box, the judge's seat, and all the principal objects of interest were acquired by Mme. Tussaud.

Swan and Vesta, who have recently returned from India, opened on Monday at the Queen's, Poplar, with their miniature comic opera, *In Nelson's Day*, and, owing to their enormous success, signed three return dates with Mr. Jack Woolf after their first performance.

Griff, the juggler with japes, has handed over to the Terriers' Emergency Fund the handsome sum of £7 10s., a third part of monies received through him and others from various sources on board ship during voyages to and from South Africa. Best thanks from the fraternity have been conveyed to the popular clown, who was assisted in his charitable efforts by Chas. Stevens, La Belle Nello, Harry Tate's *Motoring* company, Miss Winifred Hare, and the Three Braggs. The Music Hall Home and the Music Hall Benevolent Fund also benefit by like sums raised through the instrumentality of Griff and his artistic companions. A large parcel of periodicals and magazines from Miss Tots Davis has been received with many thanks by the inmates of the Music Hall Home.

Mr. Frank Leo, a song writer, sued Mr. Joseph Cregan, comedian, in the Westminster County Court, for £35 commission alleged to be due under an agreement. Mr. Rose Innes, for the plaintiff, said his client met the defendant at a concert at Battersea. He was much impressed by his voice, and as a result negotiations were entered into by which the defendant agreed to sing songs written for him by the plaintiff, and to pay a commission of 40 per cent. on salaries arising out of engagements procured for him by the plaintiff. Under the terms of that agreement there was now a sum of £35 due, which the defendant refused to pay.

In cross-examination, Mr. Frank Leo said he did not consider 40 per cent. a high rate of commission under the circumstances, as it was extremely difficult for a beginner to get an introduction to the stage. The defendant's contention was that only one song out of the ten which were supplied to him by the plaintiff was a success. As a consequence, he had to find other business. His Honour, in giving judgment, said he was clearly of the opinion that the plaintiff was entitled to recover. The terms of the agreement were perfectly clear.

Miss Fanny Robina's turn at the Royal Standard, Pimlico, this week, is one into which a host of good things are crowded. She makes her first appearance in the picturesque costume of a principal boy, which suits her admirably. Then this very handsome boy tells us that he has been to a concert at the Albert Hall, and forthwith we are treated to several of the popular songs which he has heard at the great musical establishment. From "Wearin' o' the green" Miss Robina goes on to sing, in her own expressive style, such numbers as "Too old at forty," a Tyrolean refrain, "He was a pal," concluding with a really capital performance of a verse from "The golden city." Then, after a change of dress, the talented artist appears before us in matronly attire, and in a very pretty song, we learn why she is not tired of England, the reason being there is a king in the castle—or, rather, the six-roomed house, which answers the same purpose—and the king is a baby boy, and the chorus is sung by a young lady (Miss Florry Cooper) from the gallery, and the vocal item is one which receives the compliment of vociferous applause from the audience, the voices harmonising with excellent effect.

Miss Florry Cooper, who has established herself a favourite at the Royal Standard this week, has a most pleasant personality, and is a sweet-voiced singer of refined songs. Attired in a rose-pink knickerbocker costume, which becomes her exceedingly well, the young lady imparts some sound advice in a few verses which tell us to "Smile, smile, smile," no matter what trouble there may be, or how sad one may really feel at heart. The song proves quite to the liking of the listeners in the auditorium. We next get a sympathetic rendering of "The stars are angel faces." In this Miss Cooper tells the story of a little girl who has lost her mother, and who has been led to believe that, as the song says, "the stars are angel faces." So, naturally, the child worships the tiny twinkling constellations in the heavens, and wishes her father to point out the star which is her mother's face. Miss Cooper most feelingly renders the lines both of this and her previous number, her enunciation being particularly clear and distinct.

The members of the Actors' Church Union, at their annual meeting on Monday, decided to admit music halls to the sphere of their operations. The Bishop of Southwark said it was perfectly plain that the distinction between music halls and theatres was melting away, while Mr. C. J. Cameron said if they excluded music-hall artists the Union would soon come to an end, for he was afraid before very long there would be no "legitimate" artists left.

The manager of the New Musical Comedy and Concert Artists Agency, 16, Green-street, Leicester-square, W., who inserted an advertisement in *The Era* last week, informs us that the enormous number of replies received will cause some little delay in their acknowledgment. Correspondents are informed, however, that their applications are receiving careful attention.

The success of the East Ham Palace of Varieties, which has not yet completed its first year, has been so great that the directors are able to declare an interim dividend at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum on the first six months' working. This result has been achieved despite the fact that the hall for one month out of the six was barred by the Federation, owing to the strike. Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, the manager, and all concerned deserve hearty congratulations.

That amusing member of the Force, Sergeant Brue, will be on his beat again on Monday, at the Hippodrome, Manchester, where will be produced a condensed version of the old Strand Theatre's last success. The cracksman, Crookie Scrubbs, in which part young George Barrett made such a hit, is to be played by Mr. Maitland Marler, who is playing the Burglar in *The Gentleman Cracksman* at the South London.

"The Wheel of Avernus" is an exciting form of amusement that has just been established at the Balkans Exhibition. It combines the delights of motoring on hilly roads with the thrills of the familiar switchback. A motor-car suspended from strong steel arms runs on rails round the rim of an enormous steel wheel, driven at ten miles an hour by a gas engine, and if the wheel were true the ride would no doubt be pleasant enough, for the car is twenty or thirty feet in the air. As a matter of fact, however, its rim is bent into hollows, and steep rises, and as the carriage follows these as a matter of course at high speed, but in complete safety, the excitement can be imagined. Mr. Cecil Hartley, its originator, calls it motoring in mid-air.

The employees of the Camberwell Empire held their first summer outing on Sunday last, departing from the hall at nine o'clock by four-horse brakes, for the Crown and Anchor Hotel, Long Ditton, Surrey. The party was ably catered for by the genial proprietor, Tom Green. Among the crowd were Messrs. Jesse Sparrow, H. Bawn, P. Ford,, E. C. Webb, G. Burgess, W. Nutt, Ben Woodger, L. Darby, R. Jewell, Brisley, Deans, Shedden, Caley, McOrd, H. Davis, H. Silk, H. Norris, W. Norris, L. Young, Mrs. Dalton Walker, and the Misses Heer, Hollick, Hancock, C. Dalton, E. Dalton, and D. Dalton. The following visitors accompanied the party:—Messrs. E. F. Moy and W. Cecil Jeapes (of the Graphic Cinématograph Co.), J. H. Brandon, Mrs. Percy Ford, Mrs. W. Nutt, Mrs. Woodger, Mrs. Darby, Mrs. Shackleford, and the Misses Hetty and Eva Shackleford and Miss Anderson.

After lunch, at which the chair was taken by the popular manager of the Empire, Mr. Percy Ford (the author of the clever sketch, *The Spy*), and the vice-chair by Captain Ben Woodger, the party enjoyed an afternoon on the river, returning to tea, and continuing with a musical programme, at which the stars were Mrs. Walker, Mr. Brisley, Mr. H. Davis, and others. The start for home was made about 8.30 p.m., and about 10.45, at the Metropole Hotel, Denmark Hill, the party finally dispersed after a most enjoyable day. The committee wish to thank Miss Vesta Victoria and the other ladies and gentlemen who so kindly contributed to the funds.

Mr. Tom Fancourt and Miss Jeanie Rubie have been brightening the programme this week at the Empress, Brixton, with their amusing act *Nipper, the Messenger Boy*, in which humour and smartness are so happily combined. The production is a great success, its lightness and brightness supplying exactly the sort of entertainment for the hot weather.

A case of some interest and amusement was heard before the Registrar of Bow Court on Wednesday, when Henry Anthony, a music-hall artist, now appearing at the Canterbury, brought an action to recover £5, balance of wages alleged to be due from Messrs. F. and M. Abrahams, proprietors of the Queen's, Poplar. Plaintiff, in the course of his evidence, said that he was an "illusionist," and known on the stage as the "Swankiest Swanker of all the Swanks." In April last his agents made an engagement for his appearance at the Queen's at a salary of £8 a week. At the end of the week defendants only gave him £3, and refused to pay him any more.

Mr. Jack Woolf (manager to the defendants) denied that he ever made any contract with the plaintiff. His agents at Liverpool notified him that they had booked "Mark Anthony," but plaintiff was not the man they expected. He only came on the stage, swanked to the audience, then called an attendant, and got a twopenny drink for nothing. The Registrar gave judgment for plaintiff for the amount claimed.

The latest quotations for music-hall shares are as follow: Alhambra, 30s.; Canterbury, ½; Empire (15s. paid) 1⅛, ditto (10s. paid) 1⅛; London Pavilion Ordinary 4⅜, ditto Preference 5; London Coliseum, ⅛; Metropolitan, ½; Moss Empire 5, ditto 5 per cent. Preference 3⅞; Oxford, 6⅜; Palace, 15s.; Tivoli, 6⅛.

Before the Master of the Rolls, the President of the Probate Division, and Lord Justice Kennedy, Mr. C. A. Bartram, the defendant, appealed from a judgment of Mr. Justice Lawrence, who tried the action of Butt *v.* Bartram, with a special jury, which gave Mr. Alfred Butt £100 damages for libel. Mr. Cannot said that Mr. Alfred Butt claimed in the action damages for a libel which appeared in *Variety*. The defendant, Mr. C. A. Bartram, was the London agent, and admitted his employment by the proprietors of the paper to write it, but denied that he wrote or authorised the words concerning the plaintiff to be written. The grounds of the appeal were that there was no evidence of publication by the defendant of the libel to go to th jury, and no evidence to show that he was the writer of the article.

The Master of the Rolls: In short, your case is that the plaintiff should have sued the newspaper. Mr. Cannot replied that was in substance his case, but it was enough for him to show that the action would not lie against his client, who, he submitted, was entitled to judgment. The Master of the Rolls: The defendant was the London agent, and wrote the "London Letter," and the libel appears under the heading of "London News," and is part of the article which is signed C. A. Bartram. How can you disclaim liability? After Mr. Cannot had put his case before the Court, the Master of the Rolls said there was really nothing in this appeal, and it must be dismissed. The other judges concurred. The appeal was accordingly dismissed, with costs.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

AMONG the many new songs just accepted for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day may be mentioned "Sally" (featured by Miss Anna Kenwick), by H. Taylor; "I do pity myself!" (Harry Champion), by Barnes and Weston; "Has anyone seen my poodle dog?" (Billy Williams), by Nat Clifford and Herbert Rule; and "The treasure ship" (Harry Anderson), by that well-known and always consistent writer, T. W. Connor.

MISS ETHEL HAYDON has made a great impression during the week at the Holloway Empire with Leigh Pether's "The home that's home for me" and J. Thompson's "The sunbeam and the rose." Both are published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

THE latest additions to Messrs. Francis and Day's "Sixpenny Pops" are the favourite numbers, "If the man in the moon were a coon" and "My castle in Spain." An extraordinary demand has arisen for No. 347 of the series, which is, "If those lips could only speak!" by Charles Ridgewell and Will Godwin.

IT is always pleasant to hear of talent appreciated, and Charles Collins, the well-known writer and melodist, of "Wooden hut" and "Three's jolly good company" fame, has just been presented by Mr. George D'Albert with a gold watch. Mr. Collins, as is well known, is responsible for the ex-Mohawk's "My daddy's a gentleman."

MR. JOHNNY WORMAN has "struck ile" with a comic song by F. W. Leigh, entitled "Good!" and at the Middlesex a few nights since raised shouts of laughter with this item and his "On the mat" and "The peacemaker." It is quite on the cards that much more will be seen in town of this good comedian.

A GRAND selection of the airs from *Lady Tatters* has been arranged by Warwick Williams, and is being issued by Messrs. Francis and Day. Simultaneously Messrs. Boosey and Co. will have ready the selection arranged by the same hand for full military band.

MISS HARRIETT VERNON, at the Metropole Theatre, Manchester, last week, made a great success with a new song, "On beautiful Lake Lucerne." Mr. Walter Reynolds, of the well-known publishing firm, Messrs. Price and Reynolds, Berners-street, travelled especially from London to hear it, and purchased it at once. There are a few free permissions for pantomime, and it is already secured by four of our prominent pantomime managers.

MR. TOM LEO, whose "Too lazy to live," by Maurice Scott, has set all Northampton singing during the current week, will shortly produce a novelty song from the same pen of a type hitherto unexploited on the variety stage. The comedian's music has been again arranged by John S. Baker, whose song for Miss Fannie Leslie, "The boys of London Town," still is talked of by lovers of good melody. Tom Leo opens at the Pier Pavilion, Southport, on Monday.

CHARLES RIDGEWELL, whose tuneful song for Mr. Charles Whittle, entitled "Billy Muggins," has sold literally by thousands, has just completed another ditty of a comic nature, entitled "I'm Dunn!—Mister Dunn!" which is likely to be in as great request among comedians as the number which has done the popular Yorkshire comedian such yeoman service.

NOT only is Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's tuneful Dutch song, "I'm going back to the Fatherland," the absolute "hit" of Messrs. Huddlestone and Tiller's successful production, *By the Zuyder Zee*, at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, but its success is being duplicated at the London Hippodrome, in the production of the same name, wherein it is sung at every performance by Nipper Lupino Lane. Mr. Will Evans's talented company have also been singing it all the week at the London, Shoreditch, with signal success; while Misses Lena Verdi, Lilian Lea, and other well-known artists find this song an admirable medium for the exploitation of their abilities. The number is published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company.

IN addition to Mr. J. F. Lambe's vocal gem, "Queen of Old Samara," which, according to the local Press, is now being whistled and sung all over Australasia, Miss Bijou Russell has scored very heavily at Mr. Harry Rickard's halls with another of the Monte Carlo Company's publications, viz., "When, when, when is your ship a-coming home?" by Paul Pelham and Herbert Rule, which bids fair to equal, if not out-rival, "Samara" in popularity "down under."

Two of the songs which Miss Vesta Victoria has just purchased from Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate are entitled "Queen of the Jujah Islands" and "Nevermore," and are said to fit this talented comedy artist like the proverbial glove. She will introduce them to English audiences prior to taking the songs to America. Miss Victoria is making as great a success in Brighton this week with the same author and composer's "sequel" song, "I've told his missis all about him," as she did in the States with the same unprecedentedly popular number.

MISS DOLLIE BELL'S three troupes of lady vocalists and dancers, who go to America in a week's time under engagement to Weber and Bush, have been entirely equipped with songs by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company. Three of the principal numbers which each of the troupes will feature are "No thanks, Mr. Octopus," by Percy Edgar and Kenneth Lyle; "Don't go back to Carolina," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford; and "When, when, when is your ship a-coming home?" by Paul Pelham and Herbert Rule.

ONE of the brightest comedy songs published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company is Ballard Macdonald and Donovan Meher's "taking" ditty, 'Will he answer 'Goo-goo'?" and little wonder is it that the song is already getting greatly talked about and popular, considering it is nightly and simultaneously sung by two such talented artists as Miss Clarice Mayne at the Oxford and Tivoli, and Miss Dorothy L. Clark at all her engagements.

"MY EMERALD QUEEN" is the title of a very charming song written by T. M. Down, which will be published forthwith by Messrs. Ascherberg, Hopwood, and Crew. The refrain is typically Irish, and principal boys who want a "sure thing" for pantomime should secure this number without delay. A limited number of performing rights will be issued for the halls. Another winner by the same author is "When you fly," also issued by Ascherberg. The chorus is melodious and catchy.

FARCES AT THE TIVOLI.

Mr. Joseph Wilson—himself an actor of considerable gifts—has an abiding belief in the attractions of farce; and, strong in the faith that is in him, he produced two at the Tivoli on Monday, the hottest day that we have yet had during this sunless summer. Such light fare was felt to be particularly appropriate, and on the whole the initiatory experiment may claim to have been successful. In Mr. W. H. Denny has been secured a London comedian who delighted us in the latter days of the Savoy as Wilfred Shadbolt in the original production of *The Yeomen of the Guard*, and whose performance of Don Alhambra de Bolero, the Grand Inquisitor in *The Gondoliers*, and Scarpio in *Utopia, Limited*, bring back happy recollections of halcyon times, when the playgoing public had not capitulated to the flightiness of musical comedy.

In *Minding the Shop*, Mr. Denny as a bucolic policeman husband, grumbles unduly and in good round terms at the alleged domestic incompetence of his wife. They get to high words, and the lady declares that she is prepared to hoe the potatoes if he cares to peel them and at the same time to mind the shop. In this way domestic peace is temporarily secured. The wife goes to her outdoor task, leaving the grumbler to look after the small general business and to make a beef-steak pudding. The result may easily be guessed, and when the missus returns with her soldier brother the worries of the household-ruling policeman are complicated by jealousy. The usual explanations ensue, and at the conclusion the husband takes to heart the lesson that was taught many years ago in *Domestic Economy*, a farce made famous by the late J. L. Toole, and the curtain falls on the resumption of harmonious conjugal relations. Mr W. H. Denny plays with the sure touch of an experienced comedian, and causes great laughter by his attempts at combining business with pudding-making. Miss Margaret Murch plays with humour the part of the wife, and Mr. Maitland Dicker is an amusing soldier.

Man—the Brute, the second farce, which brightens the latter part of the Tivoli programme, is from the pen of Mr. Harry Grattan, and is played by the following cast:—

Mr. Wiffins.....MR. HARRY GRATTAN
Mrs. Wiffins .....MR. FRED EMNEY
Ramble Rhodes .....MR. TOM TAYLOR

The author has contrived a very amusing piece of extravagance on the "taming the shrew" principle. Mrs. Wiffins has an obedient, timid, and meek better half, who comes home loaded with parcels and a lawn-mower. He has been unable to bring along the sanitary dustbin, which has been left at the station, and for this lapse in obedience to the behests of his terrible partner he is denied the luxury of a cup of tea for which he pleads very hard. During his absence from the scene of his slavish obedience to the behests of imperious woman, Mrs. Wiffins is surprised and held up by a tramp-burglar, who, after abstracting five shillings for a fern that he is hawking, compels the lady to get him tea, and also makes her sing while he burgles the house. When Wiffins returns with the dustbin he is at first terrified, but when he sees the shrewish Mrs. Wiffins bringing the burglar tea his blood is up, and he makes a furious onslaught, belabouring the hulking tramp with every article of furniture he can lay hands on. This unexpected valour on the part of Wiffins effectually tames Mrs. W., and on the departure of the tramp her excessive amiability towards her lion-hearted husband can be well understood. Mr. Fred Emney's dames have found many admirers in pantomime, and his broad treatment of the part of Mrs. Wiffins kept the house in roars of laughter on Monday night, when Mr. Harry Grattan, the author, gave him excellent support as Wiffins; Mr. Tom Taylor as the tramp was responsible for a capital study of low brutality.

"THE THIN RED LINE."

A Sketch, by E. C. Matthews, produced at the Walthamstow Palace, on Friday, July 12.

Sergt. Branscombe .....MR. WATSON HUME
Sir Harry Harding ....MR. SANDERSON MOFFATT
Nelly Branscombe .....MISS PHYLLIS GRAHAM

An undoubted success. Mr. J. Sanderson Moffatt, who produces *The Thin Red Line*, has reason to congratulate himself on the manner in which the little play by Mr. E. C. Matthews was received by the audience last Friday night. So interested had the spectators become in the story of Sergeant Branscombe and his grand-daughter that the curtain had to be raised four times at the conclusion. The plot deals with an episode that is ever dear to the heart of the true-born Britisher—the Battle of Balaclava—and the late Sir W. H. Russell's famous reference to "the thin red line" supplies a telling title. Sergt. Branscombe, proud of his Victoria Cross and of his grand-daughter, Nelly, has also a landlord in the person of Sir Harry Harding. The gallant old soldier, in the correct uniform of the famous "93rd" down to a braid and a button, is spending the sunset of his life in the peaceful retirement of lodge-keeper at Sir Harry's home. The sergeant, in the great battle, saved the life of the hero's father, and the young man has, naturally, a great affection for the old man. All the same, he has contracted a marriage with Nelly, and herein lies the difficulty. The marriage has been celebrated in Scotland according to Scottish form, and Miss Nelly does not seem to think the union quite "square." The strong contrast between the old man's belief that his grand-daughter has been dishonoured and his happiness when he discovers the truth is grandly depicted. There is a very fine scene when the old man and the young man both display the Victoria Cross, nobly earned in each case. The whole play pulsates with emotion, and is written in that fine strain so dear to the hearts of popular audiences. Sergt. Branscombe has a grand-daughter who has been secretly married to Sir Harry Harding. The poor girl gives her grandfather the impression that the marriage is not one at all, Sir Harry having married her under another name; and when the old man discovers that the supposed betrayer of the girl is no other than his own landlord, he hurls at him the vials of his wrath. Fortunately the marriage proves to be valid enough, and, to the girl's astonishment, the young and dreaded landlord turns out to be her real husband.

The interpretation of the thrilling story is in the most capable hands. Mr. Watson Hume gives a magnificent study of the rough old soldier, Sergt. Branscombe, his pathos being quite equal to his humour. Some of the longer speeches—particularly that in which he describes the battle—are delivered with great effect and a refreshing command of the best elocutionary methods. Mr. Sanderson Moffatt, looking strikingly young and handsome, plays the brave young baronet with all that fervour that is absolutely requisite for such a part. In appearance and manner he is just the man a young girl would "go mad" about. Miss Phyllis Graham is very charming and girlish as Nelly. A little nervous at the outset, the young actress soon warmed to her work, and her look of horror, changing to joy, when the bullet aimed at her lover by her grandfather is met by the Victoria Cross on his breast, thus saving his life, is very finely conveyed. The entire play arouses the deepest interest of the spectator, and holds it to the end. The scene is a pretty one, a cottage outside the lodge gates of Sir Harry's house making a charming background for a charming story.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PALACE.

Yvette Guilbert, like Sarah Bernhardt and Coquelin, comes to London time after time to find in the most cosmopolitan city of the world that high artistic appreciation which must make her temporary pilgrimage a very delightful one. She is announced as making her last appearance behind the variety footlights previous to adventuring her gifts on the legitimate stage. Had fate so willed it, Yvette might have been a pillar of the House of Molière and have played Camille or Frou-Frou to admiring throngs of Parisians. She remained to assist in bringing the talent of the variety theatres within the four corners of the domains of art, and might be content with such an achievement. Anyway, she possesses a magnetic personality that must win the suffrages of the public on whatever stage she appears, and she is undoubtedly well placed at the Palace. Attired in the ample gown of figured silk and crinoline of our grandmothers' times, this mistress of the art of diction in song is listened to with rapt attention in all parts of the house, and it is pleasant to note that as much applause comes from the gallery as the stalls. She opened on the night of our visit with "Légende Bretonne," and also introduced two English songs, "The bargain" and "Mary was a housemaid"—all of them most perfectly rendered, and with a complete mastery of comedy and pathos.

Mr. Butt's cosmopolitan desire to rack the hemispheres for talent has been instrumental in introducing to the British public Mr. Walter Kelly, who comes with a deservedly high reputation from "the other side." Mr. Kelly regales the Britisher with a fresh style of humour, and so good is he that he should be able to dump himself down in this tight little island for an indefinite period. Attired in the simple frock coat and continuations of high civilisation, Mr. Kelly appears as the Virginia judge administering the justice that is meted out in this country to the riotous and disorderly by the Stipendiaries. The prisoners brought before the judge are mostly niggers, and one recognises at once the perfect command of the dialect of the civilised African; but each of them possesses a marked individuality with the quaintest possible expressions. Then there is an Irishman who has been raising Cain, and his defence is as ingenious as it is funny. Kelly, at the Palace, should certainly not be missed.

Les Fleury Duo, another of the popular young managing-director's most recent engagements, present a Revuette, in three scenes, wherein are to be seen Paris types. Mme. Fleury parodies Otero and also the great Sarah, and give a danse acrobatique of a distinctly daring and novel type. M. Fleury submits also a clever imitation of Coquelin as Cyrano de Bergerac, and introduces familiar types of the German, the Italian, the Russian, and the American. M. Fleury joins madame in the danse acrobatique to which we have alluded. The pair play twenty different characters in as many minutes, and their success is immediate.

Mlle. de Dio has idealised the serpentine dance, and the beauty of her ethereal appearances as a gigantic butterfly with iridescent wings is much enhanced by charming scenery. As "She," she introduces the wonderful effects of up-leaping flames and smouldering drapery without the slightest danger, and her turn is as interesting an exhibition of the illusions possible to the modern stage mechanician as it is possible to see. Coram, the ventriloquist, has returned from a successful engagement in America to amuse Palace audiences with his ventriloquial farce, in which the figure declares that he does most of the show, and threatens to strike. Lawson and Namon combine ball-punching with trick cycling and comedy; Jennie Johns has a military impersonation that is successful; Hanvarr and Lee appear successfully as "the golfer and the maid," the former being a clever club juggler and the latter a dainty acrobat; Nipper Lupino Lane asserts the principle of heredity with success in song and dance; and Billy French opens the bill as a comedian.

THE BEDFORD.

In a programme of much merit it is somewhat difficult to state which was the most popular turn, but we think the honours fall to Mr. John L. Shine, who was accorded a most enthusiastic reception for his really clever comedy-sketch, *An Actor's Art*. We all know Mr. John Shine as a most sterling actor, but he now adds to his reputation of being that of a quick-change actor, for in this sketch he portrays half a dozen characters, each of which is a very clever study. The other characters are neatly played by Miss B. Colmer, and Mr. W. E. Shine, Mr. Eric Albury, and Mr. R. Purdon. Tom Leo, who calls himself the "lazy comedian," is decidedly quaint, and his song of the man who is too lazy to die soon caught on, and when he finally held up the words of the chorus, which he said he was too tired to sing, the gallery boys obliged in great form, while the sleepy one is carried off the stage by two attendants. Helen Macgregor, a Scottish contralto, who wears the Highland costume, finds much favour by her fine rendering of two of the national songs. She has a good voice, which she uses to every advantage. A very entertaining turn is given by the Four Heames, who are neat and finished acrobats; the two comedians of the troupe are most entertaining, and cause roars of laughter by their really comic antics. That clever combination, the Six Brothers Luck, are also a very popular number with their well-known knockabout pantomime, *The Demon of the Cellar*. It goes as well as ever, and keeps the merriment at a high pitch throughout. The whole thing is smartly done, and one has to keep a very keen watch not to miss anything. An extra turn is given by a couple of cross-talk comedians and dancers, who introduce some original business and meet with much success; they would do well, however, we think, to finish off with the dance instead of the extempore song business they now have. Still, they were a distinctly clever turn, and of more than ordinary merit. A particularly charming turn is that of the Three Dares. One of the young ladies plays a delightful harp solo, which is greatly appreciated, after which she is joined by two other young ladies, who play the banjo and sing and dance. It is pleasing to see a turn of this description meet with the splendid reception which it deserved. It is dainty in the extreme, and the artists are accomplished musicians. Ruffell's Bioscope is still a winning number here, and the present pictures of torpedo boats at work is most entertaining. A quartette of pretty girls is found in the Olympian Stars, who sing and dance in the most captivating manner and score a success with their bright show. Earlier in the evening Jack Channan, a vocalist, and those amusing patter merchants the Kimberley Boys, appear. Mr. Geo. R. Hatley ably conducts the orchestra, which contributes in no small measure to the enjoyment of the entertainment. Mr. A. F. Lovesey, the manager, is as courteous as ever, and, as usual, very busy in looking to the comfort of all comers.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

Business is apparently always brisk at this old-established and popular Surrey-side house, and for this the excellent entertainment provided is doubtless responsible, not a dull or mediocre turn finding a place in the current week's bill. A capital comic interlude is that supplied by Harry Lynn and company in their sketch, *Dead to the World*, in which the head of the combination repeats his ludicrous impersonation of a confirmed toper, a Mr. Peter Guzzle, who makes his appearance on the scene in the final stages of intoxication. The plan his wife hits on to cure him, if possible, of his craving for "Scotch," and its effect on the bewildered Guzzle, who eventually thinks he is really dead, creates much amusement; and Miss Minnie Dare and Miss L. Lynn ably assist their chief in the fun-making. Mr. Walter Stanley, the comedian of the bill, evokes plenty of laughter in his two humorous effusions, "It's an ill-wind" and "Whack-fol-the-diddle"; and Miss Dolly Golden is rewarded with a deal of applause for her smart and attractive dancing.

The Three Sisters Sprightly, a trio of clever girls, whose work is always interesting and original, first appear as enthusiastic lady golfers—an elderly spinster, her niece, and her maid. Their gambols on the green afford much amusement to the audience, their concluding dance being keenly enjoyed. They also impersonate three near neighbours of our old friend, "Mr. Hook"—a merry little Dutch girl and her two sisters; a novel and finished turn that deserved all the appreciation shown. Mr. Herbert Clifton, the mimic with the marvellous voice, submits some most enjoyable imitations of musical comedy favourites, Miss Gertie Millar singing "Keep off the grass" and Miss Maudi Darrell in a quaint Dutch song and dance from *The Beauty of Bath* being two excellent impressions. His concluding contribution is a burlesque imitation of Miss Camille Clifford in "The Gibson Girl," the make-up and walk being vastly amusing, and the gifted and entertaining mimic is enthusiastically recalled.

The Herald Comedy Four combine melody and mirth most successfully in their enjoyable interlude, the vocalisation of the two ladies being particularly praiseworthy; and Miss Ruby Helder, the "girl with a man's voice," was loudly cheered for her singing of "The old brigade," her really wonderful voice being heard with pleasure in another agreeable number. The dramatic sketch of the programme is *The Gentleman Cracksman*, admirably played by Mr. Edward Ferris's company, prominent parts being cleverly undertaken by Mr. Robert Minster and Miss Adie Boyne. Ruffell's always welcome Bioscope Exhibition, showing the latest pictures, concludes the entertainment. The courteous and astute manager here is Mr. William Payne, and the excellent orchestra is controlled most efficiently by Mr. Charles E. Howells.

THE CANTERBURY.

An undoubted attraction in Mr. Fred Miller's entertaining bill at the Canterbury is the sensational sketch, *The Span of Life*, a condensed version of Mr. Sutton Vane's well-known drama, familiar to all London and provincial playgoers. As presented by Mr. Arthur Carlton's excellent company, the many exciting situations with which the piece abounds have been keenly relished by south-side audiences, especially thrilling being the realisation of "the human bridge" by the clever Stebbing Troupe of acrobats. Across this living column the heroine and her child make their escape, and the incident naturally brings down the house, the occupants of which are in full sympathy with the tribulations of virtue.

Another much appreciated item is the scena, *Life in the Slums*, given by Will Vay's juveniles. A quartette of ragged urchins appear on the scene and indulge in much playful banter at the expense of a good-humoured policeman—a most grotesque member of the force, who largely adds to the merriment of the trifle. Eventually their witticisms make way for warbling, and a bright little girls wins much applause for her singing of "The Angel of my dreams," one of her companions rendering with much acceptance the popular number, "When the sunset turns the ocean's blue to gold." A gentleman in evening dress, strolling on, is accosted by one of the half-starved youngsters, who dies at his feet ere assistance is forthcoming, and the trifle concludes with a verse of "Playmates," sung by the troupe. The scena, which is a curious mixture of the pathetic and humorous, gave evident pleasure throughout. A distinctly droll interlude was that supplied by Anthony, billed as the "swankiest swanker of all the swanks." His turn is introduced by some most amusing cinematograph pictures depicting his arrival at the hall and dressing for his "show." When he gets to business he proves himself a decidedly neat and skilful conjurer, in spite of his "swank," not the least enjoyable feature of his refreshing turn being the laughter-compelling "patter," which he rattles off so easily. His "spoof" business with a felt hat borrowed from a gentleman in the audience was especially provocative of mirth, and his entertainment throughout greatly enjoyed.

No more entertaining duologue is to be encountered in the "halls" than *Me and 'Er*, the popular little coster-comedy—with a laugh in almost every line—so smartly exploited by Duncan and Godfrey, and its success is as pronounced as ever, the audience on the night of our visit according it a hearty welcome. Enthusiastic also was the reception given Mr. Thomas E. Finglass, the popular coon impersonator scoring heavily in his song "Idaho," in which he is assisted by a dusky damsel, who joins him in the concluding dance, his other tuneful contributions also pleasing greatly. Handsomely gowned, Miss Margaret Ashton was accorded a flattering reception for her singing of a spirited number, "When Tommy Atkins marries Dolly Grey"; her fine voice being also heard to advantage in her cultured rendering of "The Sweetest Flower in the Garden." Mr. Percy Farrimond, the "Lancashire singing collier," was loudly acclaimed for his rendering of two popular numbers; Miss Irene Meldon scored with an attractive and skilfully-executed dance; Mr. Charles Russell has a much-appreciated number in "The Gutter Hotel," a well-rendered descriptive song; Miss Maud Esmond contributed a tuneful song that won favour; and other most enjoyable items in the bill were given by the Three Kentucky Girls; Miss Hilda Jacobsen, Mr. George Bohee, and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

A strong and diversified programme is that submitted here this week, and, in spite of the belated summer weather, business continues to be good. George Robey is at the top of the bill, and naturally his number was the signal for much applause. His first song, "Now laugh," suits his peculiar style exactly, and provides him with some excellent patter. His second, "What are you looking at me for?" is equally successful, and his imitation with the audience for laughing proved as amusing as ever. He had to concede another song, and gave "Good Queen Bess," in which we make acquaintance with some old incidents in history related in a somewhat unfamiliar manner. Altogether his turn was most enjoyable, and his reception enthusiastic. The other star turn is Mr. Fred Lindsay, the whip wonder. This is an act of distinct novelty and undoubted skill. Mr. Lindsay manipulates a whip with a thong 25ft. long in the most amazing manner. He flicks the ash off a cigar that is being smoked, cuts a whisky bottle in two, cuts a cigarette in half, extinguishes the light of a candle, and then cuts it in two; then lashes a girl's bare arm, and finally shows the value of such an instrument as a means of defence by taking a revolver out of a man's hand, and bringing him on his back. There was no lack of applause during the progress of his turn, and his success was immediate and complete. The Sisters Pine submit a comedy-sketch, *Maggie's Day Out*, the make-up of one of the duo being of the broadly-humorous type, the cross-talk is amusing, and the duet at the end proves them to be the possessors of good voices. The Mozarts present a sketch, *Heinie*, and conclude with a clever snow-shoe dance. Sinclair and Pan, actor-musicians, indulge in some cross-talk, and introduce a good medley of Irish airs, excellently sung. Miss Ethel Haydon displays a nice voice and attractive style in two ballads, both of which gained the appreciation of the audience. Rhoda Paul gives a somewhat ambitious turn, entitled *The Schoolboy's Dream*. In this, the dream of a lost public schoolboy is cleverly suggested. A policeman adds to the gaiety of the scena, and two songs, by Harry Dacre, one with a refrain sung in the gallery, are quite in this talented gentleman's most melodious vein. A very generous meed of applause greets the finale, Miss Paul taking a well-merited curtain. The Leonards, in a comedy act, *Point Duty*, make a hit. The gentleman is an amusing comedian, and is ably assisted by his partner, a smart concluding bringing the item to a close. Happy Tom Parker is a versatile and born comedian. His first song, "Stay in the same place, can't you?" is a capital song, and his second, a burlesque coon song, lends itself to a lot of clever fooling, his dancing in addition being particularly smart. Miss Maiée Weston, vocalist and dancer, is also in the programme; and the American Bioscope shows some interesting views of the great Victoria Falls and the Zambesi River. Mr. Russell's orchestra again renders invaluable assistance during the evening.

DUCHESS, BALHAM.

Although summer may at last be said to have fairly established itself, it does not as yet seem to have made any appreciable difference on the numbers that are twice nightly assembling at this popular hall, where a most interesting programme has been arranged for the current week. At the top of the bill are the Harmony Four, real funny fellows, who succeed in keeping the house in one long, continuous roar. The comedy merchant especially is a most originally humorous person, and the heartiest of laughter greets his many funny antics. C. St. John Denton and George Rowland's juveniles are paying a return visit here with their vocal and dancing scena, entitled *The Punch and Judy Girl*. These clever youngsters sing and dance with an abandon that would do credit to many of their seniors, and a more refined and entertaining turn could scarcely be wished for. Special mention should be made of little Marjorie Lawrence, an expert and graceful dancer.

Herbert Clifton, who is described in the programme as the man with the £1000 voice, is certainly blessed with exceptional powers as a vocalist, which he uses to the greatest advantage. This week he is giving imitations of several of our leading theatrical artists, including Miss Ruth Vincent in the popular number from *Amasis*, "Little princess look up," and Miss Maudi Darrell singing "Luti" from *The Beauty of Bath*. In response to an undeniable demand for an encore he gives Camille Clifford's song "Why do they call me a Gibson Girl," hitting off the peculiarities of the actress to a nicety. Tom Lloyd, who is paying one of his periodical visits to this hall, gives a couple of capital numbers, entitled "All that glitters is not gold" and "When the wintry winds are blowing," the latter number especially being very much to the liking of the house. Hallam and Stanton are playing a novel little sketch entitled *The Broken Journey*, from which they get the maximum of effect. My Fancy, the queen amongst sand dancers, has, judging by the applause that greets the signalling of her number, worked her way well into the hearts of the residents of this neighbourhood. Looking as though she has completely recovered from her recent indisposition, she dances in her very best manner, and the reception awaiting her could scarcely be more generous. George Newburn, the popular mimic, includes among his impersonations Mark Sheridan, George Lashwood in his famous "Latchkey" song, and Walter King. He has certainly studied this last comedian with a thoroughness that calls for specal mention, his imitation being most realistic. Webb and Bramton, operatic singers, have well-trained voices, and their rendering of "Whisper and I shall hear" is excellent. Sterling and Love's vocal and instrumental act does not seem to have lost any of its scoring ability; and a pleasant evening is brought to a conclusion by pictures on the Bioscope, the series depicting "His First Camera" being most funny. Mr. L. Westcott Hicks, the popular manager, continues to make many friends, and he is ably backed up by Mr. Arthur F. Vernall, his acting-manager.

EALING HIPPODROME.

Mr. Tom Costello—ever popular with Ealingites—tops the bill this week with three excellent numbers, and thoroughly deserves the applause which is showered upon him. He is very successful in his first and second songs, "The blue, blue, sea," and "My ten bob rise"; but is conspicuously so in his scena, *Auld Lang Syne*. Here we find him as a miner, who on New Year's eve is alone—a solitary wanderer. Visions of the old home arise as he sits by the smouldering embers of his camp fire. Around him is a picturesque grouping of the mine, forming with its cranks and wheels a veritable wilderness of solitude. Mr. Costello always instils an element of pathos into his work, and never with more success than in his latest novelty. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope unfolds an over-interesting chain of novelties, and the possibilities of this class of entertainment appear well-night inexhaustible. The series of the "Baffled burglar," "The coiner," and the "Golden beetle" are especially attractive. Rita and Roma produce a dainty sketch, *In Eastern Glades*, in which the gentleman sings of his love for a certain Indian maid, who, meantime, flits about the stage under the beams of many-coloured lights. She certainly looks very captivating, and merits all the pretty verses her sweetheart addresses to her. A trip is then taken to Paris, and there the dusky maiden entangles her suitor even more hopelessly, capturing his heart entirely in the end by a contortionist display to which her graceful figure lends itself with excellent effect.

Miss Gladys Huxley comes here with the cachet of an assured popularity. This is not her first appearance by many, and her bright and sparkling personality makes her for ever welcome. With her accustomed entrain she carols of the dashing "Devil-may-care brigade," and her arch rendering of "Spooning" captures the admiration of all the "mere" men of the audience. Billy McClain and Co. claim to present in their great Southern scena, *The Hottest Coon from Dixie*. There are really three coons and three coonesses, and a veritable pot-pourri of song, dance, and mad frolic is presented. The ladies wear pretty dresses, the gentlemen are energetic, and the whole troupe works hard to obtain the approbation which is assured to them. Miss Gracie Langley, who appears early in the evening has two melodious numbers in "Come along, Maisie," and "Bonnie Dundee." Both are equally tuneful, and evoke the admiration of the house. Miss Langley concludes her turn by showing that she is an expert buck dancer. Mr. Fred Herbert has a capital topical number in "John Bull and Britannia," containing many witty references to Hammersmith Workhouse, the L.C.C. and living statuary, and Sir W. Treloar and the cripples. In all of these items the vocalist hits the nail of popular sentiment fairly on the head. Mr. Arthur Croxton, mimetic comedian, who "assists himself," and very neatly he does, is very clever in his running commentary on the titles of some modern songs. With a remarkable range of voice he is able to "give" the vagaries of a village concert with side-splitting effect. Mr. E. W. James has his hands full in looking after the comfort of his patrons, who find here one of the coolest and best-ventilated theatres in the suburbs.

MR. CARL HERTZ, the famous illusionist, who is now on the Kenilworth Castle *en voyage* to the Cape, writes that they are having a beautiful trip, and that the weather is lovely. He sends kinds regards to all friends.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Fairs Ahead.

THE fairs ahead for next week are: Bramley, on the Great Northern and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Chesham, on the Metropolitan; Haworth, on the Midland; Nelson, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Chiddingley, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast; Glemsford, on the Great Eastern; Alresford, on the London and South-Western; Epsom, on the London and South-Western and London, Brighton, and South Coast; Hockwold, on the Great Eastern; Kingsbridge, on the Great Western; Reading, on the Great Western, South-Western, South-Eastern, and Metropolitan and District; Cley-next-the-Sea, on the Midland and Great Northern; Compstall, on the Midland; Longsight, on the London and North-Western; Melksham, on the Great Western; Mossley, on the London and North-Western; Shirland, on the Midland; Stretton, on the Midland; Walton, on the Lancashire, Derbyshire, and East Coast; Edinburgh, on the Caledonian, North British, North-Eastern, Lancashire and Yorkshire, Glasgow and South-Western, Highland, Great Western, and North-Western; Kilmarnock, on the Glasgow and South-Western, Glasgow, Barrhead, and Kilmarnock Joint; Kirkcudbright, on the Glasgow and South-Western; and Stirling, on the Caledonian and North British Railways.

Guild Meeting in Yorkshire.

THE Rev. T. Horne hopes to begin his contemplated series of meetings at the Yorkshire feasts and fairs at Dewsbury Wakes on Sunday (tomorrow), July 21. As at other places, there will be two meetings, in the afternoon at 3.30 for show-people only, and an open service of the Guild at 8 o'clock, to which the general public will be invited. Both gatherings will be on the fair-ground, and in Mr. E. Farrer's cinematograph show.

The Mitcham Conservators and the Showmen's Guild.

NEGOTIATIONS of a most promising character are taking place between these two bodies. The object of these pourparlers is to arrive at a *modus vivendi* by which (without prejudice to the rights of the parties concerned) the ensuing fair on Aug. 12 may be carried on. The suggested site—the Three Kings Common—being the locale of this year's fair, or, failing that, some other position acceptable for the purposes of the fair on the common lands. As the conservators will be holding their meeting to consider this proposal today (Saturday), we are not able to give our readers this week any more definite information than that, so far as the showmen are concerned, they are perfectly willing to conclude any amicable and honourable arrangement, so that the fair may be continued to the people of Mitcham and the business rights and privileges of showmen be conserved and maintained.

The Rousing of the People of Mitcham.

QUITE independent of the action of the Showmen's Guild, two other important public bodies are now engaged in defending the fair against the attack of the abolitionists. The People's Rights League, with its object, "To defend the rights of the many against the private interests of the few," is continuing to hold a public meeting in various parts of the district, especially upon the fair green, calling particular attention to the position of the charter fair at the present juncture as indicating the need for safeguarding the people's rights. The other society covers a much wider area, but is concerned in this division of the County of Surrey in protecting the rights and liberties of the working classes, and is known as the Metropolitan Workmen's Council. The president of this organisation, Mr. Wm. Clarke, at a recent gathering on Mitcham Common, said that a few "goody-goodies" in Mitcham were attempting with all their might to get the Home Secretary to abolish the ancient fair, which for generations has given enjoyment ot the Mitcham and surrounding districts. The Mitcham conservators were also trying to get the fair removed, but he trusted that Mr. Gladstone would not listen to a mere handful of fanatics, who saw nothing but wrong-doing in the light-hearted enjoyment of the people. Mitcham Fair had outlived every other fair in the metropolis, and why should it not remain as a link with the past, and an honoured heirloom to the inhabitants? He appealed to the residents to make a determined and stubborn resistance to the attempt at abolition. The fair must be preserved, and it was for the people of Mitcham to put their foot down. What a sin, concluded the speaker, it would be to abolish so ancient a fair, which had in turn been visited by Sir Robert Peel, Lord Beaconsfield, Mr. Gladstone, and other statesmen! A resolution was carried unanimously strongly protesting against the proposed abolition. Both these organisations are working hard, and it is a great satisfaction to the executive of the Showmen's Guild to have the co-operation of both these societies.

Mansfield Fair.

THIS picturesque, old-fashioned town, embosomed in merry Sherwood, is an ideal spot for a fair. This year's entertainments were almost entirely in the hands of enterprising local showmen. The magnificent electrical coliseums and cinematograph theatres (three in number) of Messrs. Twigdon, Proctor, and Holland, were the principal shows. A. Twigdon provided Venetian gondolas, H. Hall provided steam horses and shooting concerns; the other entertainers were George Neale, T. Waller, and W. Holmes. There were, of course, a number of local caterers and stall-holders.

Tong Street Feast, Bradford.

HARRY ASHINGTON'S cinematograph and marionette theatre was the principal show. The principal machines were Marshall's flying motors, Burgin's steam swings, and manual swings by Johnson, Riley, and Barker. The fun-makers and novelty-providers were Brookes, Burgess, Bassett, Blackburn, Blake, Barker, Burgin, Thomson, Townsend, Illingworth, Riley, Guthrie, Johnson, P. Jack and Uncle Edwin.

East Bierley Feast.

FOR the amusement of the villagers, Crampton provided galloping horses and swings, and Messrs Vanner, Cookshaw, and Seed provided throwing games, football frames, and gingerbread stalls.

Notes from Wales.

MR. HY. STUDT attended the Neath Abbey fête and gala on Thursday and Friday. The old ruins, which was open to visitors, was largely attended. Cokernuts, Emmas, swings, dancing, while not forgetting Mr. Studt's magnificent No. 1 machine, did a roaring trade. A noteworthy feature, which should not go unmentioned, was Mr. Studt's generous action in giving a benefit towards the Neath Abbey Church fund. His charitable actions towards all charitable institutions are well known in South Wales, and we all hope he may be long spared to continue his works.

Pinder's Royal Circus and Menagerie.

ON Saturday Pinder's Royal Circus and Menagerie paid a welcome return visit to Forfar, and at the evening performance the great tent was packed with a large and enthusiastic audience, who greatly enjoyed the fine programme placed before them. The fine exhibition on the high wire, the daring and graceful trapeze act, and the merry interludes of the clowns were much appreciated; as also was the smart tumbling and handbalancing of Goldfish and Spuds. A notable feature of the programme is the wonderful performance given by Capt. G. Pinder and his trained elephant and ponies, which is without doubt one of the most remarkable expositions of animal training ever seen in this country. The fine physique of the Captain and the dainty costume of Mme. G. Pinder, by whom he is assisted, caused much favourable comment, and at the conclusion of their act, they were greeted with a tremendous ovation. Next, but by no means least, came Mr. E. Pinder's sensational performance with group of trained lions, which quite held the audience spellbound. The Grand Chron, with delineation of "Curfew shall not ring to-night," brought the performance to a delightful termination.

Death of a Welsh Showman.

MR. JOHN JONES died at Llandilo, Carmarthen, on Monday, July 15. He was justly esteemed by his fellows on the Welsh round of fairs. His trade mark, "The Old Firm," became a household word amongst the Welsh people. Our sympathy is given to the bereaved widow and family.

Lord John Sanger's Circus.

THIS splendid hippodrome and circus is billed to visit Oxford at the end of next week, and will be located in the Archer's Meadow, White House-road.

The White City—Old Trafford.

THE return of the fine weather (or the commencemenut of this late summer) shows what a popular place of amusement this has become. There is always something fresh, and every part has been crowded each afternoon and evening. The famous band of H.M. Grenadier Guards plays in the grounds this week, and among the additions are Gilleno's circus and Mansfield's racing cycles (Seaden's patent).

Evesham.

AT Merstow Green, Evesham, we have had P. Collins's fun fair.

Astwood Bank.

AT Astwood Bank were Strickland's galloping horses and motor-cars, park swings, shooting saloons, cokernut sheets, striker, &c., and varieties by Messrs. Fletcher, Lewis, and Hemming.

Henley-in-Arden.

AT Henley-in-Arden are Shepherd's gallopers, and other numerous attractions.

At Headless Cross

Great Cherry Wakes, were T. Clarke's motor-cars and slipping the slip, Chipperfield's royal show of living pictures, and Clarke's shooting saloons, park swings, striker, and other fair-ground paraphernalia.

Burnley Fair.

WITH the first week in July the round of the great Lancashire and Yorkshire wakes, feasts, and fairs commences. This great cycle of pleasure fairs is so full of possibilities that the clever showman has got to consider, not where he may go, for the fairs are legion, but where it is best for him to go for the purpose of his summer harvest. The big Lancashire fairs commence with Burnley. They know about Burnley at seaside resorts like Blackpool, Morecambe, Douglas, and Southport, for this fair marks the beginning of the seaside big business. Despite the exodus to the seaside, there yet remain enormous crowds to enjoy the pleasure fair. The shows and entertainments were:—Captain Payne's royal bioscope; Councillor Ball's wonderland; Leo's platonic fantasy, "The Fairy Head"; Mrs. Birch's aquatic marvels; C. Relph's freak show; T. Wortley's model exhibition; W. Shaw's fine-art gallery; P. Collins's superb Panhard motors; J. Green's Gordon-Bennett motor track; Edmund Holland's Olympian motors; B. Mitchell's careering chanticleers; Mrs. Holden's ostrich farm; T. Holden's cruisers; W. H. East's three-abreast gallopers; W. Holmes's helter-skelter; W. Shaw's sky-scrapers; Shuttleworth's juvenile motors and swings; Seed's toy and fairing bazaars; and the photo booths of Barker and Royle. The shooting concerns were those of J. Sharpe, R. H. Williams, J. Starkie, N. Burrows, Mrs. Jewell, and Mrs. J. Cornwell. Amongst the providers of throwing games and varieties were—Messrs. T. Forshaw, T. Taylor, and Butterworth, with, of course, local and other caterers.

Hoyland Common.

FOR the feast, the principal novelties were provied by Messrs. Tuby and Sons, who exhibited their magnificent theatre of cinematography, their switchback motor track, steam horses, and shooting concerns, and with them were associated Houldsworth, with Alpine glissade; Fisher, with steam and manual swings; Pullen and Herring, with park swings; Shaw, Pullen, Wright, Fisher, Warren, and Calver, with shooting concerns; and throwing games and other varieties by Doubtfire, Burgin, Illinworth, Calver, Wright, Houldsworth, Moore, and other caterers.

Halstead, Essex.

THIS local fair and open-air carnival was well provided by Mr. Swales Forrest, who exhibited the Japanese airship, illuminated with hundreds of electric lamps, juvenile roundabouts, highfliers, and various throwing games. The other entertainers were G. Boldsworth, with football game and Emma sheets; T. Boldsworth, with bottle-smasher, dart frame, and Emma sheet; and James Sanders, with fine-art show, striking machine, and throwing games. The great free sight attraction provided by Mr. Forrest was Hermann, the monarch of the high rope, who went through his marvellous performance 60ft. above ground in mid-air without a net. A special feature of this sensational act was the love drama, *Courtship on the High Rope*, in which the rope-walker was ably assisted by Miss Evelyn, his expert assistant in the daring mid-air performances.

COUNCIL AND SHOWMAN.

FORBIDDEN SIGNBOARD REMOVED IN DEAD OF NIGHT.

The controversy over a signboard between Rhyl Urban Council and Mr. A. Cheetham, a showman, who is exhibiting at the Central Hall, Rhyl, assumed an amusing phase yesterday morning.

Mr. Cheetham had erected a projecting signboard without first having obtained the council's sanction, and they ordered him to take it down. As the command was not obeyed Mr. A. A. Goodall, the town surveyor, and four men proceeded to the Central Hall about two o'clock in the morning and took down the sign.

Mr. Cheetham, whose suspicions were aroused, arrived on the scene, and protested that they were committing an outrage on the laws of the country by carrying out such an act between sunset and sunrise.

A few hours later crowds were flocking into Market-street to view an immense poster, which Mr. Cheetham had substituted for the missing signboard, and which ran:—

IN MEMORIAM.

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF A SIGNBOARD, TAKEN DOWN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT BY THE

RHYL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

"MEN LOVED DARKNESS RATHER THAN LIGHT, BECAUSE THEIR DEEDS WERE EVIL."—John iii. 19.

This extraordinary counter-move on the part of Mr. Cheetham has intensified the interest in the controversy.

THE PROPOSED NEW RAILWAY RATES FOR SHOW VANS, &c.

We are permitted by the executive officers of the Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union (acting for the Organised Showmen of the Empire) to see an advance copy of the circular now being considered by the railway companies.

It will be seen that the crisis is an acute one, and that unless the railway companies can meet the showmen in a reasonable and thoroughly business spirit there must be a great revolution in the business as regards transit of show goods.

Broadhurst, Clifton, Pendlebury,
near Manchester.
July 1, 1907.

RAILWAY RATES FOR SHOW VANS.

Gentlemen,—In furtherance of our deputation's meeting with you in London, on May 9 last, we beg to submit the following facts for your consideration:—

The proposed new rates are prohibitive, and we cannot afford to pay these excessive charges. They are also unfair in their action, as, take the case of twelve trucks being sent by rail and some of them weigh only 25cwt.; other trucks, if they only weigh 5lcwt., would be charged one penny per mile for the extra cwt., and no allowance made for those considerably under weight. We are of the opinion that one roundabout is one consignment and should be treated as such, as were we to take the course of equalising the weights when the vans arrived at the station there would be a deal of vexatious delay and loss of time.

If the companies insist on enacting these rates, they will compel us to adopt one of two alternatives.

One is to shorten the length of our journeys, which is not profitable from the railway's point of view.

The other is to purchase traction engines and travel by road, and even in the event of our adopting the former alternative, viz., shortening our journeys, this would also eventually mean purchasing traction engines, since there is no possible doubt that for journeys up to fifty miles traction engines are preferable from all points of view, as, in addition to the saving in carriage, there is the carting to and from the stations (often an expensive item), and in the time occupied by a rail journey in loading and unloading, transit and carting, a traction engine will often travel the whole distance and land the goods on the desired place, after which the engine is available for generating the electric current for lighting the roundabout. We would further point out that, if the companies insist in enforcing the new rates, even for a limited period of, say, six months, there is the probability of the traffic being altogether diverted from the railways, as, if we purchase traction engines, we shall be compelled to continue their use, as we cannot afford to dispense with them after being once purchased. It is also as well to state that traction engines are now sold on the hire-purchase system by all the different makers, and that they are practically earning their cost while being used.

The sixpence per mile has been in force for twenty-five years, and the traffic has been built up on that rate.

At that time roundabouts were intended principally for children, and consisted of only one or two loads, with usually two or three passengers travelling with them. These loads were attached to ordinary passenger trains.

Since then, although the rates have stood the same, the roundabouts are more than six times larger, now requiring a special train, being from ten to fourteen loads, with passengers travelling with them numbering from twelve to sixteen persons. This does not, however, represent the whole of the passengers travelling with a roundabout, as the workmen's wives, our agents, and others travel in advance to secure lodgings, attend to billing, horses, &c., therefore the number of passengers who travel in connection with a roundabout usually number about twenty-two and upwards.

Our request is for a rate of 6d. per mile per truck for five tons when a special train is ordered. This may look a sweeping reduction, but some railway companies are doing this on their own systems, and it has been found to work satisfactorily.

We would point out that we load and unload our own vehicles, only asking you for assistance in strapping and shunting; we prefer to do this, as our men are accustomed to it and it is part of their work. We also provide our own tarpaulins, our own lever sfor moving the vans, and everything necessary to enable us to deal rapidly with the loading and unloading of the traffic. These necessary accessories, including the vans for carrying the roundabouts, represent two-fifths of the total weight carried. The extra weight asked for would entail practically no extra cost to the companies, as it means merely the haulage from point to point, and could only mean a little extra coal. At least we presume this, for whilst not professing to understand the workings of a railway, we know that a traction engine, under ordinary conditions, will haul a roundabout a mile for 1cwt. of coal.

There need be no empty carriages or vehicles hauled, as the exact number are ordered, enabling the companies to provide exactly the number required. There is also the fact that our moving day is usually in the middle of the week, when, we understand, there is not the same demand for carriage trucks.

This is a creative traffic, and it is questionable if there is any other business that creates such an increase in the number of excursions and passenger traffic. Take Hull Fair, Nottingham Goose Fair, Birmingham Onion Fair, and scores of others. Tens of thousands of excursionists visit these places at fair time, and if there were no fairs there would be no excursions to these places.

As to how this traffic would pay the companies, take the smallest unit, one roundabout of, say, twelve loads. (At a fair you would probably put thirty loads on a special.) There would also be twelve to fourteen passengers (paying ordinary fare) travelling with the special; this would mean 7s. 2d. per mile, exclusive of eight or ten passengers who have gone in advance by ordinary train, and we have often journeys of from one to two hundred miles, and in some cases even more.

In conclusion, we would ask you to compare our traffic with the theatrical traffic. A theatrical company of twenty persons travels at three-quarter fare and two carriage trucks free. This is at the rate of 1s. 3d. per mile, and without doubt the loading and unloading of these two trucks means more work to the railway officials than a special train of roundabouts, because the men employed on the roundabouts are labourers accustomed to this particular class of work. Our traffic is not Sunday traffic, and against this 1s. 3d. per mile paid by the theatricals we should pay 2s. 8d. for the same privilege.

We do not ask for three-quarter fare, nor do we ask for trucks for nothing; we simply ask for a little latitude in the weights carried.

We trust, therefore, you will give this matter your favourable consideration, as we feel sure you would find it both a paying and increasing traffic if liberally dealt with.

For the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union,
THOMAS HURST, Secretary.

THE PASSION FOR PAGEANTRY.

By the Rev. T. HORNE, Hon. Chaplain Showmen's Guild.

We are all of us showmen at heart: "We wish to show the mortal ken, the thoughts that burn at tip of pen." The pessimism of Calvin that afflicted Puritanism in the days of the Commonwealth, and still afflicts certain narrow sectarians, has taken generations to eradicate. This virus of the deadly dull, this drab daily discipline of human life, is still a power in certain corners of the land, but the revolt is spreading with irresistible force, and laughter and joy are again heard, and seen in human life. If it is true that the tragedies of the people are voiced in song, so it is equally true that the joy and pleasure of the people must be expressed by music, song, and dance. When tyrant necessity hushes the voice of the people and the fight for bread crushes out all joy of life and work, then it is that the brooding silence of deadly apathy or the biding forces of hidden discontent kill all that is best and brightest in the human soul. "The snarl of the brute in man kills laughter in the land."

The Penny-Wise-and-Pound-Foolish Principle.

Certain men, with pretensions to be authorities on sound problems, fear economic danger to society in the rapid growth of what they call "the lighter vein" of the people. They see danger to the growing life of the country in the appreciation of our palaces of pleasure and amusement that have arisen in every great centre of industry. These apostles of grabbing thrift say that our people should hoard their pennies and bank their shillings and invest their pounds in trading concerns that these good friends of the working world obligingly promote and float upon the parsimonic thrift of the people. These would-be financiers of other people's earnings never deprive themselves of any pleasure that is fashionable in the class to which they belong; it is the pleasure of "the other fellow" that comes under their lash. It is the workers who are the spend-thrifts, not the man who spends an ordinary worker's whole week's wage in some pleasure that his class favours and upholds.

Education the Eye-Opener.

Men, women, aye and children too, take their own view of life. Their educated mind answers to the spirit within them, and shouts aloud for more opportunity of fuller life. The people are bursting the narrow boundaries set up for them by their better (God save the mark), and the common life is no longer drab or grey, but burst out (God be praised) into purple patches. The people are no longer contented with toil and drudgery, of being "the hewers of wood and drawers of water" for their masters and pastors. No, the people ask for more breathing room, and more time wherein to breathe. They even demand, and obtain after hard battle, more time to play and better playing fields. Great thanks are due to the London County Council for giving a good lead to the country by providing entertainments in the open-air on their Heaths and Commons. They go back to the toil of to-morrow with fresher vigour of mind and body, because they have had holiday as well as Sabbath of necessary surcease from wearing work. In the realms of imagination, in "The land of make-belief," they for a time have become human again, and not machine-driven slaves. They willingly pay a tithe of their wage to the joy of life fund, and they are all the better men and women for "the self-denial ordinance." No, the heart of the people is sound and healthy. The people know what they want, and go straight for it. They want light and joy, music and song, parables in living pictures, processions and pageants. Hence the modern renaissance of communal shows. We dub them pageants, yet we stage them, and carry them out as "shows of the people, by the people, and for the people." The towns and cities that a decade or two ago treated the travelling showman or actor as a rogue and a vagabond now gladly welcome the expert ability and experience of both these erstwhile outcasts, to make their municipal shows an artistic and commercial success. The showman welcomes this better mind of the leaders of the people (he has always had the people with him), and he throws himself with his whole heart into the prevailing passion for pageantry. It is his art, it is his craft, it is his business, it is his very life and being.

Is It Revival? Is It Renaissance?

Yes; it is both of these, but it is more, vastly more. It is the poetry, the music, the forceful joys of life seeking expression and outlet in voice and action. The mediæval guild and stagecraft were primarily the instruments of the Church, to inculcate Christian ideals of life. Hence the quaint term, "morality plays." On the purely human side of their work the mediæval guild stood for industrial freedom and the betterment of the life of the workers. All the necessary expressions of human thought, human life, have their considered place in the modern pageant, and they make their appeal to us for these reasons. Good, very good as the revival—the renaissance—of these things is, that is really not all the value of the modern pageant. In those simpler and slower days of the middle ages, when the pulse of the ages was sluggish and slow, the life of the people was a well-ordered blend of work and pleasure. The nation then had a code of social obligation. The Church Calendar regulated labour conditions, feast and fast, Holyday meant holiday, and the common people fully shared in the common life with their betters. When the Parish or the Abbey ceased to be the pivot and centre of the life of the commune, then selfish greed of possession took hold of the classes, and the masses were yoked to a life of toil. That hard and bitter past has its lesson for to-day.

The Revolt of the Transcendentals.

In a very real sense the travelling minstrel, the mummer, and the showmen were Bohemians. Like the wandering gipsy, the itinerant poet, player, and showman refused to settle down in any fixed habitation, or to comply with the so-called immutable laws of political economy. He therefore became "the landless man" of the dark ages of Puritanism, "the rogue and the vagabond" who tramped the highways and byways of the land as a nomad of the road, gipsy-like, in that he claimed his freedom of life and soul, and would not be degraded into being a mere unit in the machinery of industrial life. A transcendental in very truth, for he refused to give over his life to the getting of another man's wealth. Things material were to him valuable only so long as they conspired to express things spiritual, and so the travelling showman was the prophet of "other-worldliness"—the itinerant preacher of the gospel of life and joy and things that do not depend upon material wealth or worldly power for their highest and best expression. He was the apostle of the Higher Thought and the Simple Life, a transcendentalist before metaphysics invented the term or had attempted to fix its approximate meaning.

The Church and the Revival of Pageantry.

Canon Newbolt, the learned divine of St. Paul's Cathedral, in a recent sermon on "The Spirituality of Pageants," thus expresses the connection of the Church with the communal shows and pageants that are now becoming so prevalent in the land:—

"A pageant engenders (for so is the happy aim of him who invented it) a marvellous feeling of union among all who take part in it or in any way try to work for it. Happy and delightful altogether in itself—as I know and you will soon likewise know—not its smallest happiness consists in this—that it binds all men together, draws away all class distinctions; nay, more, can even obliterate (for a while, if not for ever) that sense of separation which comes amongst Christ's people because they will fix their gaze on the things that matter less, to the neglect and disregard of the things that matter more. Is it not true there will always be divergent types of believers? Human nature goes bail for it. My own inherited faith, as a member of the Church of England, is dear beyond words to me; and so is yours to you; and so is the other faith of others to them. There is nothing, I believe, to be gained by minimising—it is neither practical nor sensible to attempt to do such a thing—our real disagreements, real because they correspond to inborn differences. I suppose St. Paul himself, in his human heart, would have wished that Cephas, or James, or John might have seen "eye to eye" with him on every point. But they couldn't; he knew they couldn't. So he fixed his steady gaze on a truth that wholly transcends all surface divergencies. 'One body,' cried he, 'and one spirit'—and in the delight of a pageant we can, all of us, meet as 'one.' Free Churchman and High Churchman, man of 'Broad' views or of 'Low,' what matters it when we meet, for the glory of our birthplace, to commemorate its past, and prognosticate its future—for a wise man it was who said 'you cannot have a future until you have had a past'—on the ample, free greensward?

The Fellowship of Pageantry.

"Believe me that I envy you, you happy people of Bury, for this singular sense of fellowship, each with each—the rich with the poor, the man who clings to the past with the man who lives for the future, you are going to 'revel in' during the next few glorious days. From now the golden memory of this astonishing week will tinge all your relations with your neighbours and fellow-townsmen. How can you quarrel, my friends, or bicker, or use hard words when you are haunted by the memory of this very carnival of whole-hearted, loyal brotherhood—this true-love festival? Believe me, you will find it passing hard. The spirit of these days will cast an abiding glamour over all your dealings together, and all Bury's bygone worthies will seem to rejoice with you, because you are made 'one' (by the spell of pageantry) in neighbourly communion.

"But chiefest, and best of all—and I know you will bear with me if I seem to be urgent here—but chiefest and best of all, a pageant that is a pageant—such a pageant as I know, and you have in execution—is touched and permeated with a sense of real contact with 'our Father.' For if it be not indeed an act of corporate thanksgiving, then it is nothing at all. It is well to be one with the past; it is well to be one in ourselves; but both these 'unities' depend on the larger 'unity'—the sense of the oneness with God. You know (who does not know?) that sometimes the wider perception of the 'overshadowing arms' and the 'all-providing love' becomes feeble, and dim, and faint. And then our lives go awry! But at others we are possessed with the sense of our Father's nearness. And this historic festival, which focuses every instinct of patriotic thankfulness to God for His infinite goodness to Bury and all her sons for age on age, will help you to realise, with an intensity of assurance not always possible, that the God of all your forbears, the God in Whose Name they worked and fought—fought and, if need be, died—is your God still. Fellow-feeling, righteous pride, heart-felt thanksgiving—these form the threefold notes of a veritable 'pageant.' And our pride in a glorious past, our sense of a happy present, highly favoured, truly neighbourly, must find their proper crown and seemly consummation in the joyous readiness of true thanksgiving."

The Co-ordination of Spiritual Forces.

It is thus becoming universally acknowledged that the art of the actor, the art of the painter, the art of the poet, the art of the showman (in its widest sense and interpretation) are valuable spiritual forces, touching the very heart and life of the people. This is the lesson that the commercial man of to-day has to learn, that his business, whether in the manufacture of goods or the distribution of the same in the markets of the world, is all the better, all the sweeter, and all the truer to the real purposes of trade and commerce when both he and his workpeople have rest, refreshment, and recreation by the way. That the journey of life progresses all the smoother and the complexities and inter-relations of society express themselves all the fuller when poetry of voice or motion, when tragedy or comedy, or that ennobling blend of all these forces for God and for good, have free course (without let or hindrance) in this world, here and now, in which "we live and move and have our being."

OLD MITCHAM FAIR.

PROTEST AGAINST ABOLITION.

Under the auspices of the Streatham branch of the Metropolitan Workmen's Council, a crowded meeting of local residents was held on Mitcham Common on Sunday evening last to protest against the proposed abolition of old Mitcham Fair.

Mr. Walter Feldon, the branch chairman, presided, and said that he had not yet received an answer from Mr. Gladstone in reply to a memorial sent to the Home Office by his council. It was for the people of Mitcham to say if the ancient fair which had visited the town for generations was to be abolished. The fair, which came for three days once a year, was a great benefit to local shopkeepers, and it gave enjoyment to the children of the district. It provided honest amusement for the grown-ups, and to have it abolished would be nothing less than a public scandal. (Hear, hear.) It was an honoured fair, said the speaker, as such statesmen as Sir Robert Peel, Lord Salisbury, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Beaconsfield, Mr. Balfour, and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman had in their time visited it, and if the people of Mitcham and the district wanted it continued they must meet the abolitionists with a determined and stubborn resistance. (A Voice: "We will." Cheers.) The fair must be preserved, and to bring that about the residents must unite, said Mr. Feldon, and let a mere handful of goody-goodies see that the old historic fair should remain. (Cheers.)

A resolution was unanimously passed calling upon the Home Secretary not to abolish the ancient fair, and a copy of the resolution to be sent to the Home Office.

LORD JOHN SANGER AND SONS' Hippodrome and Menagerie visited Shrewsbury on Monday last, and after a smart and interesting midday parade gave two capital shows. The varied and attractive programme included a capital turn by Zampo and Clown, Coleman and company's interesting elephant and horse tableaux act; a clever turn on the wire by La Belle Fondants, with the able assistance of Comical Pimpo; the Maro troupe of fearless and graceful equestrians; an amusing turn by the splendidly trained elephants; a daring and skilful performance of the Airlees; Hoffmann's finely trained pony; ancient sports; Pimpo's leaping dogs; Miss Lina's beautiful horse Hawcombe, and the ever popular "Turpin's Ride to York."

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces

FILM GOSSIP.

Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd.

THIS company are publishing a particularly interesting series of pictures illustrative of Mr. Carl Hagenbeck's famous wild animal park at Stellingen, Germany. As everybody knows, Mr. Hagenbeck is the world's principal importer of wild animals, and by his assistance the Urban Company was recently given every facility for obtaining photographs of the animals in thorough enjoyment of their semi-freedom, in appropriate environment of park, lake, dell, cave, rocky fastness, and ravine.

As may be imagined, the operators' task was, under these conditions of wild animal freedom, not altogether enviable, the highly-successful results necessitating close proximity to the various beasts photographed. This was accomplished, however, without mishap, though at the cost of some expenditure of nervous energy when the creatures evinced a morbid curiosity about, and showed great interest in, the manipulation of the cameras. These pictures will be exhibited for the first time at the Alhambra on Monday.

Mr. Seymour Hicks as an Editor.

Great humour is combined with undoubted general interest and value in this unique industrial series, also an Urban production, owing to the fact that Mr. Seymour Hicks poses in the introductory and final episodes as the editor for one day of the *Tatler*. The inimitable actor-manager is seen at his best in the editorial sanctum. His burlesque of the dignity, worry, and anxiety in the earlier stages, and his satisfaction, when the complete edition is placed in his hands, are quaint and mirth-provoking in the extreme. The actual production of the paper, however, full of genuine instruction and technical interest, is presented with wonderful and enlightening effect. The picture illustrating operations in the composing-room, the monster presses working with mechanical precision, their insatiable appetites fed with virgin sheets, which are as rapidly thrown off in printed form on the other side; the folding, stitching, and binding by machine, counting into quires, inserting double-page illustrations, and the publication and despatch of the journal are an education in themselves.

"The Haunted Bedroom" is a comical trick film, wherein an ordinary bedroom and an ordinary man are made subjects of extraordinary animated nightmare. Candles and candlesticks progress without human agency; a ghost arises and vanishes, leaving in its place a pretty chambermaid bearing soothing drinks. Bottles empty themselves after the manner of syphons; gas brackets emit liquids; clothes perambulate without wearers; pyjamas become animated; human bodies dismember themselves, the parts act independently and rejoin. Furniture goes mad and careers about the room. The very room itself shares in the general whirling orgie of mad humour. Finally, order is restored as mysteriously as previous disorder arose.

Pathé Frères.

"The Smoking Chimney," issued by Pathé Frères, should prove a very popular number. A servant is seen using the bellows rather too vigorously upon a smouldering fire, and the result is that smoke issues in great volume from the chimney, which is just outside the windows of the studio belonging to two artists. They promptly stuff the mouth of the chimney so that the smoke is forced back into the drawing-room. General consternation is caused. Chimney-sweepers and firemen are sent for, and the film concludes with a rough and tumble on the roof with the hose playing on artists and everybody.

"The Express Sculptor" is a reproduction in animated photography by the same firm of a clever music hall artist moulding, with lightning rapidity, caricatures of men and women. The illustrations in this case are wonderfully clear and distinct, and the series should find considerable favour.

Vitagraph Co.

A really beautiful set which tells a story of absorbing interest is "The Bandits." In one of the most rugged and picturesque ravines of Southern Italy a lonely sentinel stands on a rocky eminence keenly scanning the valley beneath. He is a Sicilian bandit, and suddenly far below he sees a handsome carriage drawn by four horses, driven by postillions and carrying a lady and gentleman, evidently foreigners of wealth. The sentinel disappears and in a moment we see the interior of the bandits' cave. The leader hastily summons his men, and we follow them down a steep and winding declivity to a spot near the roadway, where they scatter and form an ambush. The scene changes to the opposite side of the ravine. Two American tourists are enoying the beautiful scenery, examining distant points through their field-glasses. One of them sees the carriage before mentioned, and he points it out to his companion. By a novel arrangement of panoramic effects, the audience is permitted to look through the field-glass and see all that transpires. We see the bandits stealthily closing around the carriage—then the attack, the abduction of the lady and the—but then for a moment we see no more, for the glasses are dashed to the ground and the two tourists are running like mad to the rescue, leaping over rocks and crags, straining every nerve to arrive before it is too late. Back to the scene of conflict we go—the husband is making a vigorous fight but is being overpowered by numbers; the lady is struggling in the brutal hands of her captors, when suddenly the two Americans burst upon the scene, take the bandits by surprise, and after a fierce hand-to-hand conflict put them to rout and save the day.

Ruffell's.

THE output of the new projector produced by this firm, to which we recently referred, is rapidly on the increase, and Ruffell's are discarding all the other models on their shelves in favour of the fresh patent.

"LOST IN THE ALPS" is a picture with which Ruffell's are making great headway. It shows a child carrying her father's dinner, and she gets caught in a snowstorm, but is rescued by a couple of St. Bernard dogs. The scenes, in green tint, have a very pretty aspect.

MESSRS. W. BUTCHER AND SONS, LTD., of Camera House, Farringdon-avenue, E.C., have greatly extended their cinematograph department, and are now in a position to supply any requisite necessary to the cinematograph exhibitors in general. The film hiring department has been brought thoroughly up to date, and their catalogue contains the best and latest films. They are also showing some new models of projectors, which they will be pleased to demonstrate to friends, both old and new, if they will give them a call at Camera House.

MR. WILLIE BENN produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, a pretty sketch, entitled *Dolly's Birthday*. Miss Elsie Forster as Dolly made an enormous hit. The little sketch was received with unanimous applause.

WE are glad to hear that My Fancy has recovered from her recent illness, and is dancing as brilliantly and as neatly as ever at the Duchess, Balham, where her turn is heartily acclaimed.

MR. JOSEPH WRIGHT'S TREAT TO THE SHOWMEN'S CHILDREN.

In staid Scotland, and in its commercial capital, too, when all the people are supposed to be out of town enjoying the annual fair holidays at coast or country, a unique gathering takes place on the Sunday afternoon of the fair, in the vicinity of the shows, Mr. Joseph Wright (the friend of the showmen's children, and of all Bohemians, for that matter) holds his annual reception, to which he invites all the children of the menagerie, the circus, the ghost show, the gipsy tent, the shooting alley, and all the children of those who come within the gates of St. Mungo's city to amuse the citizens at the fair. The function is one which is looked forward to with no little expectancy by the showmen and showwomen of the future. It is the only function of its kind in the world, and has attained to much importance. Not only do the young nomads look forward to it, but hundreds of the citizens think themselves highly honoured if they receive tickets for the reserved seats from Mr. Wright to share in the festivities. On Sunday last the area of the Camlachie Institute was crowded with the fair-haired little English Saxons and the dark-haired, olive-complexioned gipsies of the Boswell and Lovell tribes. When the little guests, with their bronzed faces peeping from beneath large picture hats, were seated at the well-filled tables, with their snow-white cloths, they looked most picturesque. The reserved seats for Mr. and Mrs. Wright's personal friends were filled with several hundreds of ladies and gentlemen in summer attire, giving the whole assembly a bright and garden-party appearance. The gallery was set apart for those of the public who wished to witness the proceedings, and it was also crowded to its utmost capacity. Before tea was served to the children and friends, Mr. Wright asked the blessing, and the young people repeated grace, sentence by sentence. Some of the expressions were touching in their simplicity. "Our Father, be with us while we are in Glasgow, be with us when we leave this city, be with us always in our 'living waggons,' in city, in town, or on lonely heath. Bless our fathers and mothers, our sisters and brothers, and all those who love us, and all who are good to us. Bless the food before us to our use, for Jesus' sake."

Mr. Wright was accompanied to the platform by Mrs. Wright, Rev. Mr. Taylor (Clydebank) and Mrs. Taylor, Rev. Mr. Burleigh (Blantyre), Mr. Robert Risk (superintendent of the Slum Mission), Mr. Daniel Graham, Mr. Paterson (the well-known purser of the Columba) and Mrs. Paterson, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Palethorpe, Miss Ferrie, and a host of friends.

After a substantial tea, Mr. Wright gave an address of welcome, advising the young people to trust in God and do the right, to cultivate self-respect, and to remember that they were of more value than many sparrows, and that God was ever watching over them, and was interested in their joys and sorrows. The address was received with great applause. Several other gentlemen delivered short addresses, and there were songs and solos between. Robert Norton, who is a Glasgow singer of much refinement, sang with great taste and feeling "There is a green hill far away" and "Lead, kindly light." Miss McMinn and Miss Burns also rendered appropriate sacred songs. A special hymn, written by Mr. Wright many years ago, which is a great favourite with the show-people all the world over, entitled "The traveller's friend," was sung to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne" by Misses McMinn and Burns and Mr. Robert Norton, Mr. Wright playing the accompaniment on the English concertina. The whole audience joined in the chorus at the end of each verse.

"THE TRAVELLER'S FRIEND."

He went about from place to place—
Our Saviour had no home;
He slept in boats, or on the hills,
Wherever He might roam.

Chorus:
He is the Friend of travellers,
And knows them young and old;
He wishes that they all might come
Into His blessed fold.

The foxes had their hiding-place,
Where they their young ones fed;
But Jesus had not anywhere
To lay His weary head.

What though we roam from place to place,
The Saviour is our Friend;
He is our constant Comforter,
His kindness knows no end.

Though friends forsake, though strangers frown,
We have a friend in Thee,
Who guides our steps continually,
Wherever we may be.

Where'er we go this Friend is near,
To guard, direct, and guide;
Although unseen, He ever will
By His own friends abide.

"Ye're a' welcome hame," Mr. Wright's well-known Scottish hymn, set to the tune of "The auld hoose," was sung by Miss McMinn, Mr. Wright in this instance also playing the accompaniment on the English concertina. Mr. James Patrick, one of Glasgow's well-known organists, presided at the harmonium with much acceptance. At the close of the interesting proceedings each child was presented with a bag of sweets, and the whole audience were presented with a photograph of Mr. Wright as a souvenir of the occasion. Thus ended the most successful gathering of the kind that has ever taken place. If the popularity of this bright gathering increases, larger accommodation will most certainly be required, as the Camlachie Institute was taxed to its utmost capacity.

A WEDDING in which the music-publishing world was greatly interested took place on Sunday morning, the 7th inst., at St. Giles's Church, Camberwell, the Rev. Mr. Fisher officiating, when Mr. Arthur Preston, a leading official of the Music Publishers' Association, was united to Miss Rose Bull, of the Chandos Hotel, Sheffield, from which town came a large number of friends of the bride specially to be present at the ceremony.

FULLY 500 people were assembled at the church when the wedding party arrived, which it did in Renault cars supplied by the General Motor-car Co., of Brixton. Mr. Frank Mabe, of the Music Publishers' Association, was best man, and the bridesmaids were Miss Ethel Alletson (Sheffield), Miss Daisy Preston, and Miss Beatrice Boulton.

ON the return of the party to the residence of the bridegroom, Abbeydale House, Talfourd-road, Peckham, photographs were taken of the wedding group by J. Hermann, of Church-street, Camberwell, and over a hundred guests were in evidence at the breakfast and reception, representatives from all the leading publishers attending, and speeches being made by Messrs. George and Percy Preston, Alfred Wyatt, Hedge, Fred Spooner, Robert Keddell, Gearing, Frank Mabe, and the bridegroom, who is known to all his friends as "Willie" and to every music pirate as "Arthur Preston, the Sleuth." Mr. and Mrs. Preston subsequently left for Bournemouth for the honeymoon. Amongst the donors—besides relatives and intimate friends—of costly presents were Messrs. Boosey and Co., Messrs. Chappell and Co., Ltd., Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, Mr. H. Percy Becher (solicitor), the Music Publishers' Association, and Messrs. Phillips and Page.

SHOWMEN OF TO-DAY.

MR. ARTHUR DASHWOOD.

AGENT IN ADVANCE.

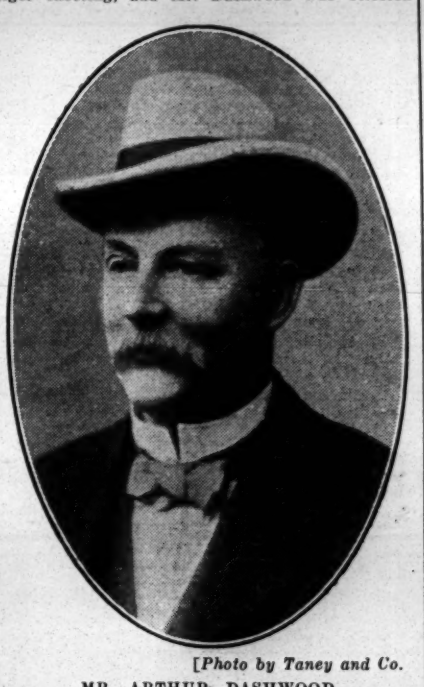
As a rule, nothing is heard of the advertising manager who goes in front of big shows like Bostock and Wombwell's preparing the way for them. The performers get all the applause when the show arrives, but it is the advance agent who really makes the show a success. There you see him in the cities, villages, and towns of the Empire rushing around with scarcely a minute to spare, telegraphing here, telephoning there, interviewing public men, newspaper editors, superintendents of police, tradesmen, billposters, &c., and then—passing on to the next town to go through the same process again. The advance agent has got to make the show talked of, to make people look forward to it; in fact, it is his duty to "boom the show" to the best of his ability.

One can quite understand that the successful advertising manager must be a man of resource, of originality, of smart appearance, and of good address. In Mr. Arthur Dashwood all these attributes will be found. He is undoubtedly one of the smartest advance agents on the road. He is, moreover, one of the breeziest, good-natured, and entertaining of men, yet withal the most diffident and unassuming. This is shown by the fact that for over eight months we have been bombarding him by letter to get the material for this sketch of his life and work.

Born at Birmingham fifty-eight years ago, the son of a Royal Navy captain and the nephew of a famous actress of those days (Miss Evelyn Courtenay), the love of adventure and the artistic spirit were hereditary gifts. Although educated for the stage and gifted with considerable talent, the love of adventure prevailed. He joined the 10th Hussars as bugler.

Being a good comic singer, it was not long before he established himself as a favourite with the men of the regiment. His fame as an entertainer soon reached the ears of the colonel of the regiment (Colonel Baker), who requisitioned his services once a week at the officers' mess.

In the year 1878 His Majesty King Edward—then the Prince of Wales—went out to India tiger shooting, and Mr. Dashwood was selected



[*Photo by Taney and Co.*

MR. ARTHUR DASHWOOD.

as one of the thirty men of the regiment who accompanied His Royal Highness as a bodyguard. Needless to relate, he witnessed several exciting scenes and incidents during his Indian tour.

Returning home after the expiry of his time of service in the Army, he became assistant stage-manager to Mr. George Rignold in that famous actor's American tour of *Henry VIII.* It was whilst in the United States that he turned to the world of shows, and took to the road as advance agent for Tony Pastor.

From Tony Pastor's shows to the great Barnum's show was but the natural preferment, and for two years he handled Barnum's monster attractions, and then, feeling the strain beginning to tell, he turned his face homewards once more, and took a brief breathing space in Birmingham, his native city.

Next we find him running the celebrated and world-renowned pugilist, Jem Mace, with his boxing company, through the United States, India, and Australia, and back again to the States.

This great tour over, Mr. Dashwood returned to England, and settled down at Swansea as manager of Fletcher's Palace of Varieties. This was about twenty-six years ago, and it may be mentioned, as an instance of Mr. Dashwood's many-sidedness, that he helped Mr. Fletcher in the digging of the foundation of this palace, his employer and himself working with the carpenters and bricklayers as if to the manner born.

As general manager, Mr. Dashwood engaged all the big stars of those days for Swansea. Old Swansea music-hall lovers will remember their names—Harry Rickards, Jenny Hill, Fred Coyne, Fred Albert, Frank Egerton, Jack Kavanagh, Fred Archer, &c., &c. From three to four years Swansea claimed our genial old friend for her own, and many Swanseaites will probably remember him sitting in the chair in evening dress and "rapping" the various artists in with a small wooden mallet. Then came another "call from the wild," and Arthur Dashwood threw over the trammels of a settled life, and became a wandering showman once more.

We next come across him as agent-in-advance for Keeley and Patterson's Circus in Ireland. Subsequently he adopted a new rôle—he became his own proprietor, and ran two big variety shows through Ireland as Dr. Dashwood. The "Doctor" was a "broth of a bhoy," and having, like "Father O'Flynn," a "wonderful way with him," he gained a warm corner in the hearts of the Irish amusement-going public, and his popularity in the Emerald Isle was solid and far-reaching. It was Arthur Dashwood who brought the great Peter Maher into the front rank as the champion boxer in Ireland. It was Arthur Dashwood who "ran" J. L. Sullivan and "took" Peter Jackson through Ireland.

Subsequently we hear of Mr. Arthur Dashwood as agent-in-advance for Mr. E. H. Bostock's Royal No. 1 Show. Mr. Bostock is the proprietor of the Glasgow Zoo, and the No. 1 Show, under the paternal care of Mr. Dashwood, toured England, Scotland, and Wales.

This tour took about four years, and then Mr. Dashwood ran on in advance of No. 2 Show, which toured Ireland and came back again to England.

No. 2 Show was booked for the Continent, but as Mr. Dashwood was not able to "parley voo" he resigned his position under the firm, and went on as agent-in-advance of Sedgwick's Menagerie, which had a successful tour for a season in South Wales.

When the Fun City was established for a eight weeks' season at the Olympia in London, the International World's Fair Co. showed their acumen by enlisting the services of Arthur Dashwood, Esq., F.O.S., and the season was a big success.

Now Mr. Dashwood is piloting Mr. E. H. Bostock's No. 1 Royal Menagerie through Great Britain again.

Mr. Dashwood has seen all the sights worth seeing in the world, from the great falls of Niagara to the ponderous Pyramids and mystic Sphinx. He is a Freemason and Buffalo. He is a clever shot, and holds the ex-championship as a pigeon shot, beating all records by killing twenty-three birds out of twenty-four on May 18, 1891, at the Grand Central Park, Sydney.

He is a married man, and his charming wife will be remembered as Miss Lucy Lucas on the variety stage. One of his sisters is Miss Kitty Wright (wife of Mr. Louis Lavater, of Dog orchestra fame).

Recently at the Olympia he was presented with a handsome gold medal as a token of esteem by the showmen of Great Britain.

Mr. Dashwood's globe-trotting has "blown all the cobwebs off," and he take a wide, healthy, breezy, and tolerant view of life. He has a good word for everybody, and everybody has a good word for him. That he may live to a good, ripe, old age is the wish of a multitude of friends and admirers.

QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

The domestic episode, *His Birthday*, as presented by Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene and company, is remarkable for a fine display of feeling and strong emotion, which is entirely due to the very simplicity of the story, which is really its

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.
ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

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THE PUBLISHER,
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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E. July 29, Oct. 28, Dec. 16, Jan. 20, Feb. 10, 17, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING. Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 24, March 2, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER, Feb. 24, March 2, 9, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER, Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 24, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON, Sept. 16, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9, Feb. 10, March. 2, 9, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 20, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON, Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 10, 24, April 6, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER, Oct. 28, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9, 16, Jan. 6, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON, Oct. 28, Dec. 2, 9, Xmas week, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON, July 29; HUDDERSFIELD, Sept. 2; WOLVERHAMPTON, Sept. 16. Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, 1907, Aug. 12; 1908, May 11, onwards. METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, 1907, Sept. 23; 1908, April 13, May 11, onwards. Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole T., Gateshead. Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-Class Companies for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, Dec. 9, onwards. GRAND THEATRE, LUTON, Oct. 21, Nov. 4, 11, 25, Dec. 9, 16, onwards. THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY. Aug. 12, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 (three nights only). Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for the week Oct. 28. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Companies, for Wardown Park, Luton, Aug. 5, onwards, Sharing Terms only. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Sept. 9, at the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, vacant through transferring to oblige. Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-st., S.W.

WANTED, First-class Attraction for Sept. 2. Apply Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-st., S.W.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
WANTED, Sound Attraction for July 29. Apply HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

HOWARD AND WYNDHAM, LTD.
WANTED First-class Attraction, Sept. 9 and 16, Glasgow. Address, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-class Attractions for Sept. 2, 16, and 23, Oct. 14, and onwards, with exceptions. Address, THOS. SWINTON.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Sept. 2. Apply Mrs. MICHAEL GUNN, above address.

THEATRE ROYAL, DOVER.
WANTED, First-class Attractions (Musical preferred) for Aug. 12 (3 nights), Sept. 9, and Sept. 23 (3 nights), and on, with exceptions. Apply, MR. F. C. DEW, Theatre Royal, Dover.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE, Unexpectedly Vacant.
WANTED, Company for July 29, 30, 31. Apply, EDWARD MICHAEL.

OPERA HOUSE, JERSEY.
THEATRE ST. JULIAN'S, GUERNSEY.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 26, on. Now booking Spring for No. 1 Attractions only. EDWARD MARRIS, Jersey.

THEATRE ROYAL, HULL.
WANTED, Aug. 12, for Musical Play, or High-class Dramatic Attraction. WM. MORTON.

RAMSGATE.
SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.
The Old-established and Popular Theatre.
WANTED, First-class Companies only, Dec. 30, and onwards. Address, HENRY BOWMAN.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction, Aug. 26 (unexpectedly Vacant). Apply T. W. ROWE.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, For Sept. 9, Dec. 2, 16, 30.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN, Manager and Owner.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Musical and other London Attractions, Sept. 9, 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 2, and Xmas Panto. F. GRANVILLE, T. R., Hyde.

DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, Aug. 5, Musica l Show. Wire, MURRAY KING, 2, Hungerford-road, N.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Theatre Royal, Belfast, Aug. 26, Sept. 2 (?). Address, FRED W. WARDEN.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies, Sept. 9 and 16. Address, GERALD HARDING.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, HALIFAX.
WANTED, Brilliant No. 1 Attraction, August 19, Week. Address (no wires), OTTO C. CULLING, Bury.

WANTED, Companies (change of bill preferred), Aug. 5, 12, and on. Now booking autumn. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum T., Stafford.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, Musical or Farcical Comedies Preferred. Vacant Dates, with exceptions, Oct. 17, onwards. Apply JOHN H. STEVENSON, Pavilion Theatre, Weston-super-Mare Grand Pier.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, MR. and MRS. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The Only Theatre in the Town allowed to Advertise on the Electric Cars.
Now in Course of Rebuilding.
The Seating Capacity of each part of the House is being Largely Increased.
The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
Autumn Bookings include "The Dairymaids," Mr. James Welch's Co. in "When Knights Were Bold," Miss Annie Hughes in "Tommy," Mr. Norman Macowan in "Monsieur Beaucaire," "The Little Stranger" (including Master Edward Garrett), "A Trip to the Highlands," Mr. Bannister Howard's No. 1 Company, "The Eternal City," Mr. Walter Maxwell's Co., "The Lion and the Mouse" (third visit), Mr. Charles Cartwright and Co., "In the Bishop's Carriage," Mr. Frederick Mouillot's Co., including Miss Decima Moore, in "The Truth," and other of the Principal Attractions Touring. Mr. Percy Hutchison's No. 1 Company, "The Stronger Sex," Mr. Brandon Thomas' No. 1 Company, "Charley's Aunt," Mr. Walter Melville's Drama, Mr. Frank Lindo's "Home Sweet Home," Mr. Morton Powell's Companies," &c., &c.
WANTED, Exceptional Attractions, for Sept. 2, 16, Nov. 25, Dec. 30, onwards.
CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H.M.T., Barrow.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
Proprietor, ALBERT SMITH.
One of the Handsomest and Best-equipped Theatres in the Provinces.
Holding Capacity, 3,500.
Situated in the Principal Thoroughfare of the Town.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Nov. 11, Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9, 16.
Bookings include: No. 1 "Girl from Kay's," "Peter's Mother," Miss Decima Moore in "The Truth," Mr. George Edwardes' No. 1 Company, in "See-See," Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, in "The Royal Oak," Mr. George Alexander's No. 1 Company, in "His House in Order," Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville's Companies, "The Shulamite," The D'Oyly Carte No. 1 Répertoire Company, "A Master of Artifice," the No. 1 Moody-Manners Opera Company, Miss Marie Studholme, in "My Darling," Amateur Operatic Society, in "The Mikado."
All communications, JNO. ED. JOWSEY, Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough
Telegrams, "Magnet," Middlesbrough. Telephones, 413, 426, 500. Silence a Polite Negative.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions Queen's Theatre, Farnworth. Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Nov. 11, Dec. 16. Albert Theatre, Brighouse, Oct. 7 (?), 21, Nov. 18, Dec. 9. MORTON POWELL, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 5, Aug. 5, Aug. 12, Aug. 12, Aug. 19, Aug. 19,
Wire, R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Sept. 23, Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General Manager.

WANTED, Companies, THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE, THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE, THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE, Unexpectedly Vacant, July 29, 30, 31, July 29, 30, 31, July 29, 30, 31. THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE, Apply EDWARD MICHAEL, T. R., Margate.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, through Alteration, for Sept. 30 (Autumn Holiday Week), First-class Leading Attraction. State Terms to RICH. WALDON.

THE KING'S THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Edinburgh's New Palatial Playhouse.
The Premier Theatre of the Capital.
WANTED, Known, owing to Change of Arrangements, a few early Autumn Dates are available for first-class attractions. Wire, R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Companies for the Empire Theatre, Oldham. July 29, Aug, 19. Through obliging. Address ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

ROYALTY THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, First-class Attractions (Musical Preferred) for Aug. 26, Sept. 9. Apply HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD, E. Aug. 5.
WANTED, First-class Company, for the above Date, Vacant through Disappointment. FRED FREDERICKS.

CRITERION THEATRE, WORKSOP.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for last three nights of each week; Share or Rental. S. GOODMAN, Proprietor.

WANTED, Comedy Companies, Touring Scotland, to book Theatre Royal, Inverness, N.B. Vacant dates Sept., onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
WANTED, Good Fit-up and other Companies, three nights per week throughout the winter season. First Vacant Date, Oct. 7.

DUMFRIES AND HAWICK THEATRES.
Wanted, Good Company for Opening Date, Aug. 12 or 19, 3 nights each Theatre, Sept. 30, Oct. 28, Nov. 25, and on Vacant.

OPERA HOUSE, DERRY.
Vacant, Vacant, Aug. 19, and on.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, Musical preferred, Aug. 12 (reopening), 19, Sept. 2, on. with exceptions. Address, W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, Sound Attractions, Aug. 12 (?), 19, 26 (Musical), Sept. 16, 30 (?), Oct. 21, Nov. 25 (Musical). SHERWOOD and Co., Theatre, Wakefield.

WANTED, Strong Attraction, Aug. 5, through Obliging. Terms, &c., to A. M. LOADER, Theatre Royal. St. Helens.

WANTED, Musical Comedies, Novelties, &c. PIER PAVILION, ST. ANNE'S. Aug. 15, 16, 17, 26, 27, 28, Sept. 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 19, 20, 21, One, Two, or Three Nights, Sharing Terms. HARRY LESLIE, Lessee, Pier, St. Anne's,

WANTED, an Attraction, for Good-class Fête at Alexandra Park, Hastings, Aug. 7, short pastorals, or suitable attractions. Write, SECRETARY-MANAGER, 11, Havelock-road, Hastings.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
W. J. COTTON, Proprietor.
Seats 600; Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, share or rent. Sole Booking Agent, SIDNEY HAMILTON, Piccadilly-mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 18, Dec. 2.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23. Apply, WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 2 and 9.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12 and Dec. 2 and 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Dec. 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

FRED MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Nov. 18 and 25.
FREDERICK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Dec. 9, 23, 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Jan. 6, 13, Feb. 3, 17, March 2, 23.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, 22, Upper Hagley-road, Birmingham.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 30 and Oct. 28, in First-class Theatres only. Wire or write, W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of Sept. 16 and 30.
Wire or write, W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Aug. 12, 26, Sept. 2, 9, Dec. 9.
Address, J. W. CORDINER, Camden Theatre, London, N.W.
See Companies' Advertisement, page 2.

MR. THOMAS SIDNEY'S COMPANY, in "THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, Dates.—Mr. Sidney is desirous of filling Aug. 26 and all Sept.
Address, SIDNEY, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

HERBERT RALLAND'S COMPANY.
"MICE AND MEN."
"MICE AND MEN."
"MICE AND MEN."
Powerful Company of London Artists.
Everything carried. New scenery and dresses.
Tour opens Sept. 2.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
Address, 10, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 7. Nov. 11 and 25.
Xmas Week Vacant.
Communications to GEORGE KIRK, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

"HER MARRIAGE VOW."
"HER MARRIAGE VOW."
WANTED, Sept. 30, to follow Cambridge, Oct. 7, 14, 21.
Managers Invited to Send their Open Dates for this Complete Attraction, Star Cast, Absolutely Everything Carried.
GARSIDE and KNOWLES, T. R., Scarboro'.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 16, Dec. 23, 30.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1908.
July 22. New T. R., Croydon.

"WOMAN AND WINE."
Entire Gorgeous Production Carried.
Fifty People on the Stage.
WANTED, Sept. 9 and Oct. 14, through transferring, Birkenhead and Southend.
Only Dates this Year. Wire.
E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, 13, Hosack-rd., Balham, S.W.

SIDNEY RENNEF'S COMPANY, in the New Domestic Drama, "LOVE RULES THE WORLD," by T. G. Bailey.
Rebooked Star, Liverpool, and Victoria, Broughton.
A Really Sound Attraction, Excellent Scenery.
WANTED, Theatres, Spring and Autumn, 1908.
G. M. COPPING, West Pier, Brighton.

MR. and MRS. JOHN E. TOMLINSON'S Tour of Max Goldberg's Oriental Musical Drama, "SECRETS — — — —."
WANTED, First-class Theatres for above Powerful Attraction.
Vacant, Aug. 26, onwards, with exceptions.
This, T. R., Leeds; next, T. R., Darlington.

WANTED, Known. "Under Two Flags." Vacant Sept. 2, 23, and 30.
MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

WANTED, Sept. 9, 23, Oct. 7, 21, for "A Prince of Rogues." SIDNEY DENCH, Littleport, Cambs.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO., "A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, July 29 and Sept. 2, for this Great Attraction, Picturesque Dresses, Powerful Company, Enormous Success this week, Metropole, Manchester, in spite of heat. F. G. KIMBERLEY, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S CO., "THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, for the above Attraction.
Address, ARMADALE AND WARREN, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

"A MOTHER'S LOVE."
"A MOTHER'S LOVE."
"A MOTHER'S LOVE."
WANTED, for this Money-making Attraction, Good Theatres. Aug. 12, Aug. 12, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, Oct. 28.
FRED L. CONNYNGHAME, To-day, Royal, Bristol; next, Grand Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES CO.
"FAIR ONE WITH THE GOLDEN LOCKS."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, North, Feb. 3, Only Vacant Date.
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

"A WIFE'S TRIUMPH,"
and Répertoire of Five Other Plays if Required.
WANTED, Aug. 5 (South or Midlands) for this Sure Draw, Oct. 7 and Nov. 18 also open.
Wire, to-day, ERNEST R. ABBOTT, Theatre, Guernsey. Letters to O. H., Jersey.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, Oct. 21, 28, Xmas.
FRED BULMER, c/o "The Era" (Vacation Address).

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Sept. 30, between Glasgow and Manchester.
DICKIE CLARE, 46, Florence-road, Seacombe.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates for "WHEN IT WAS DARK."
A Perfect Play.
A Perfect Production.
A Perfect Cast.
Vacant, Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25 (?).
MORTON POWELL, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates, an all-Star Cast, a Fine Romantic Drama, Brilliant Mounting.
Sept. 23, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 23.
MORTON POWELL, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates, Sept. 2, 9, 23, Oct. 7.
MORTON POWELL, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates, Oct. 7, 14, Dec. 23, Jan. 6, 13.
MORTON POWELL, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

MRS. MORTON POWELL in New Play, by S. Buchanan Rogerson.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates, First Open Week, April 20, 1907.
MORTON POWELL, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

"THE LOVE OF A LIFE."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates, Dec. 23, 30, and on.
MORTON POWELL, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

"THE LITTLE OUTCAST."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4.
MORTON POWELL, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates for "THE WOMAN WITH THREE HUSBANDS." "THE WOMAN WITH THREE HUSBANDS." "THE WOMAN WITH THREE HUSBANDS." "THE WOMAN WITH THREE HUSBANDS."

MR. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY, "THE BEST OF HER SEX,"
by William A. Armour and Robert Cheval, the Dramatic Success of 1907. Refer to any Manager Visited. Another Big Hit at Opera House, Coventry, this week. Business going up night after night in spite of tropical weather. Refer to H. G. Dudley Bennett, Esq.
WANTED, Aug. 19 (between Grimsby and Leicester), Sept. 9 (between Luton and Crewe), Sept. 16 (3 nights), Sept. 30 (precede London), Oct. 14, and onwards, with exceptions. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, to-day, O. H., Coventry; next, Hippodrome, Mansfield.

MESSRS. ELLIMAN'S ENTERPRISES.
"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, for above Successful Romantic Drama, Aug. 26, onwards, with exceptions. Managers invited to send their Open Dates for this Great Attraction, A Sure Draw. Refer any Manager Visited. Return Dates Booked at every Theatre Visited since Whitsuntide. All Communications re Dates, G. M. HURST, T. R., Middlesbrough; next, Prince's Theatre, Preston.

"SUCH A NICE GIRL."
An irresponsible Musical Comedy which appeals to every part of the house; funnier than a Pantomime.
WANTED, Aug. 5, Aug. 12, and onwards. A Big Draw Anywhere.
Refer Peter Davey, Esq., Kingston.
FRANK TENNANT, (Flat 2), 61, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, Sept. 2, follow Preston (return); Oct. 14 and 28, Nov. 4 and 25. Oct. 14, 28, Nov. 4, 25. Fast Booking Spring, '08.
Cast, scenery, and printing A1. Refer. FRANK AYRTON, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

"AN UNWEDDED WIFE."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 9 and 30.
J. EDWARD WHITTY, Alex. T., Birmingham.

EDWARD MARRIS'S PANTOS.
WANTED (through obliging Milton Bode, Esq.), Jan. 20 and 27, for "Whittington," First-class Show, Month at Grand, Nottingham, company forty-five, specialities, and ballet. Wire, EDWARD MARRIS, O. H., Jersey.

MR. WENTWORTH CROOKE'S COS.
"THE BONDMAN."
WANTED, Feb. 17, between Hanley and Chatham, to oblige Milton Bode. "The Bondman," Vacant Jan. 6 and 13; "The Prodigal Son," Vacant Jan. 6, 13, and 20; both South of Sheffield. See Advert. on Companies Page. 31, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.

Bernard Shaw's Successful Comedy, "YOU NEVER CAN TELL."
From the Royal Court Theatre, London.
WANTED, Theatre, through disappointment, Aug. 29, 30, 31 (to follow Prince's Theatre, Llandudno). Wire TAYLOR PLATT, Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Renowned Attraction, Good Theatres for weeks of Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9, Oct. 28.
Communications, Care of "The Era."

ROSE MONCRIEFF'S CO.
"THE CURATE."
WANTED, Theatres Oct. 7 (to follow Croydon), and onwards, with exceptions. Entire Production carried. Add., NEWMAN MAURICE, Lyric, Hammersmith.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S CO.,
"THE BRANDED WOMAN."
"THE BRANDED WOMAN."
Always a Success, Always a Sure Draw.
Strong Cast, Superbly Mounted.
300 Sheets of Printing, without a Repeat.
WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, 16, and Oct. 7 and Nov.
WALTER STEELE, General Manager.
To-day, T. R., Stratford; next, Prince's, Bradford.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, having large stage and large holding capacity, for production Christmas and New Year's weeks of James Kiddie's James Kiddie's Latest and Up-to-Date Pantomime, "Aladdin." "Aladdin." "Aladdin."
Can play two houses nightly if required.

Managers in want of a Money Magnet for these Holiday Weeks secure this Gigantic Attraction. A Sure Success. Address. JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.,
"THE OLD, OLD STORY."
WANTED, for this Great Attraction, Aug. 12, follow Glasgow; Aug. 26, follow Stratford.
EDWARD SURREY, 133, Rock-street, Oldham.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE LOVE OF A LIFE."
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 16, and on, with exceptions.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
Wanted, Aug. 26, Sept. 9, and on, with exceptions.
Vacation Address, JOHN B. SHINTON, 18, Royal-avenue, Onchan, Douglas, Isle of Man.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. 19, 26, and Nov. 4.
HENRY L. OSMOND, Royalty, Barrow.

"ONE TOUCH OF NATURE,"
New Drama, by Arthur Shirley.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. 26, and onwards, with exceptions. L. OSMOND, Royalty, Barrow.

WILLIAM HOLLES AND NANNIE GOLDMAN'S CO., in Arthur Shirley's Great Domestic Drama, "THE STEPMOTHER."
WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 21, 28. Wire, WILLIAM HOLLES, T. R., York.

THEATRES WANTED.

HERBERT DARNLEY'S COS.
HERBERT DARNLEY'S COS.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Autumn Dates from Aug. 26 (To follow Crewe), for "THE SANDOW GIRL." "THE SANDOW GIRL." Funniest Musical Farce on Tour. Company of Star Artists, including J. C. Graves, Vic Charlton, Frank Lilliput, and Joseph B. Montagu "The little bit of sugar for the bird."
Scenery by Bull. Printing by Allens.

"THE SANDOW GIRL."
Words by H. D. Music by Dudley Powell.
Also Dates from September 16th for "A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE." "A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE." The Most Enthralling Drama ever Written. Strong Company of Leading Artists, including HERBERT DARNLEY'S DOTS, HERBERT DARNLEY'S DOTS, HERBERT DARNLEY'S DOTS, HERBERT DARNLEY'S DOTS, with LITTLE WINNIE CRISP, the Most Wonderful Child on the Stage. (The salary of these Artists alone is as much as most Drama crowds cost.)
Also Christmas Dates for Grand Panto., "BABES IN THE WOOD." "BABES IN THE WOOD."
THE "DOTS" (Dora and Winnie Crisp) as THE BABES, and HERBERT DARNLEY as THE DAME.
A West-end Production on Tour. First-class Theatres only. Equitable terms necessary.
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Third Year of Tour.
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Also various Spring Dates, and Autumn, 1908.
Bookings include:—
Theatre Royal, Manchester;
Gaiety Theatre, Dublin (return);
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Theatre Royal, Bradford (return);
Lyceum, Sheffield;
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Now playing to crowded houses at the HAYMARKET THEATRE, LONDON.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Aug. 26, Sept. 16, 30, Oct. 14, 28, and Nov. 11.
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WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Aug. 19 (3 nights) (North), and Sept. 9 (3 nights) (South).
Add., Mr. SILVANUS DAUNCEY, 22, Charing Cross, S.W.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COS.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres (South or Midlands). Sept. 2 and 9, Nov. 11.
WALTER BAYLISS, 29, Winifred-grove, Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for "THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH," Oct. 21, Nov. 18 (South), Jan. 20. "THE MIDNIGHT MAIL," Oct. 7, 14, 21, all Nov.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

"SAVED FROM THE SEA."
By Arthur Shirley.
Everything carried.
Bookings include Prince's, Portsmouth; Alex., Hull; Court, Warrington; Rot., Liverpool; Col., Oldham; Alex., Sheffield; Met., Devonport; Alex., Birmingham.
WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 9, Xmas Week, and Spring, 1908, with various exceptions.
Apply, SAMUEL JAMES, Warwick House, 8, Warwick-court, Gray's Inn, W.C.

"THE LOVE THAT LASTS FOR EVER."
By Edward Thane.
WANTED, Sept. 16 (?), Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 4, 18, Dec. 2 (?), Xmas Week.
Clear Stage only required.
Apply, SAMUEL JAMES, as above.

"AS GOOD AS GOLD,"
by Fred S. Jennings.
Everything Carried. Clear Stage only Required.
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 14, 28, Nov. 11, 25, Xmas Week. Apply, SAMUEL JAMES, as above.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, Aug. 5, 12, and 19. Wire, RUSSELL ROSSE, Pavilion, Kingstown. Aug. 5, Aug. 5, Aug. 5.
Wanted, above (to follow Glasgow), for the Excruciatingly Funny Comedy, "My Soldier Boy," with Mr. DALLAS WELFORD in Mr. Grossmith's part, by arrangement with his American Manager, Mr. J. D. Hackett.
Wire, RUSSELL ROSSE, Lyceum, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Sept. 16 and Few Later Dates for Mrs. Ann Hughes Co. in the New Comic Opera, "The Young Lieutenant." First-class No. 1 Cast; Full Opera Chorus; Magnificent Scenery, Properties and dresses.
Mrs. ANN HUGHES, Sclattyn, 38, Thurleigh-road, Balham, London, S.W.

WANTED, for the Farcical Comedy, "Jerry's Dilemma," good Seaside date, 29th, or later.
RICHARD HENRY LACE, 19, Parkfield-drive, Liscard.

WANTED, for "The Woman Pays," Sept. 9, Oct. 7, 21, and 28.
F. M. THORNE, Prince's Theatre, Preston.

LOUIE FREEAR and STAR CO.
in "Snooks" and Miscellaneous Programme.
Special Flying Performances.
WANTED, Aug. 14, 15, East Coast. Aug. 21, West Coast or Midlands. Sept. 12, 13, 14, South-West or Midlands. Sept. 30, and on, Northern Cities and Scotland. Either Weeks or Flying Performances.
Write Saturday, TOURING MANAGER, Spa T., Scarborough; or CHARLES, 28, Shakespeare-rd., Herne Hill.

THE NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA.
(All Escaped from the Terrible Earthquake.)
Twelve Coloured Ladies and Gentlemen.
Again an Enormous Success, and causing a furore at Pier Pavilion, Folkestone. Met by the Mayor and Corporation. The local papers say the best singing and dancing ever heard and seen in Folkestone.
WANTED, Known, only Vacant Dates, Aug. 12, 26, Oct. 28, and onwards, with exceptions. Next week, Pier Pavilion, Southampton, and Winter Gardens, Bournemouth. Managers, Messrs. H. E. JONES and A. DOUGLASS, 21, Water-street, Liverpool. 'Phones, 5660 and 2449 Central. Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."

THEATRES WANTED.

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The Latest Successful Musical Comedy.
Special New Scenery. Gorgeous Cotsumes.
New Printing by Allens.
Splendid Cast of well-known Artists,
including
Mr. Walter Champney, Mr. Ralph Lynn,
Miss Florence Watson, and Miss Ethel Dunford
Full London Operatic Chorus,
under the direction of the composer,
Mr. Albert E. Wilson.

WANTED, for this Great Attraction, August 26, August 26, August 26 August 26, August 26, August 26 (to follow Opera House, Leicester). Also Sept. 16 (to follow Merthyr), Oct. 7 (to precede Glasgow). Wire re August 26. Wire re August 26. HAMILTON BAINES, Caversham-rd., Reading.

ALFRED B. CROSS' TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"

WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, and 21, and Few Later. "DIVORCED," a New Powerful Domestic Drama; also "DAVID GARRICK," if Required. Both Solid Successes. 110, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool (Vacation).

WANTED, First-class Theatre, Aug. 5, for Mlle. Lumiere's Electrical Fairy Grotto Co.; 10 distinct Star Turns. Wire, this, Hippo., Brighton; next, Hippo., Coventry.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy and Light Opera, Town and Tour, Principal Artists in all Lines; also Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen; the latter must be young, of good appearance, and good voices. Send particulars at once to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

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All communications to WILLIAM MARTIN, Darrell and Co., 415, Strand, London, W.C.

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WANTED, Principal Girl, Sing and Dance, Young and Petite, Clever Acrobatic Pantomimist, for Traps and Dumb Part, Tall Chorus Ladies. Commence Aug. 5, 1907.
Photos and full particulars to ARTHUR MILTON, 46, Parkhurst-road, Holloway, London.

WANTED, Artists, for "The Prodigal Son" Autumn Tour.
MAUDE WESTERN, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Musical Comedy Artists; also Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen. Young, good voices, and appearance. Apply, with song, THE NEW MUSICAL COMEDY AND CONCERT ARTISTS' AGENCY, 16, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.

WANTED, Artists, all lines, "Beneath the Stars"; Smart Agent, small salary and commission. Full particulars, lowest terms, COLEMAN DAVIES, Court Theatre, Bacup.

"A WOMAN'S PAST."

WANTED, for Autumn Tour, Commencing Aug. 19, First-class Juvenile Gentleman; also Heavy Lady and Gentleman; all must be thoroughly experienced, and have Exceptional Wardrobe. Fullest particulars, terms, last three references, and photos (absolutely essential). WARDEN AND SANDFORD, Hotel Metropole, Blackpool.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO'S.
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WANTED, Juvenile Lady and Gentleman, Strong Char. Old Man, and Good Heavy Gent. Terms, photos., and refs., HARRY LYNDON, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

"UNDER THE STARS AND STRIPES."

WANTED, for Autumn, smart Chambermaid (sing and dance); also gentleman for rough American part. Photos, lowest terms, &c., to CAMERON and ALEXANDER, c/o J. D. Taylor, Esq., Solicitor, Preston.

WANTED, Special Week Manchester, July 29, Lady Marchant, "A Bunch of Violets." Full particulars, HAROLD REYNOR, Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Lady, Good Appearance, is Offered Partnership, by Manager, Touring Two High-class Sketches, already Topped and Bottomed Bills at Principal London Halls and Rebooked. Clever Amateur Entertained. Genuine Offer. Investigation Courted. Box 5156, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady, Auburn Hair, must be Excellent Pianist, Small Part, Experience unnecessary, Knowledge of French advantageous. Terms to Box 5160, "Era" Office.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S TOURS.

WANTED, Gentleman to Play Character and Responsible Parts; also Lady and Gentleman to Understudy and Play Small Parts.
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WANTED, for Stock, at the above, Twice Nightly, a First-class Juvenile Leading Man and Heavy Lead Gent.
Rehearse July 30. Open Aug. 5.
Lowest terms, photos., and references, to
M. MONTGOMERY,
Rotunda Theatre,
Liverpool.

WANTED, for "Mr. Smith" Tour, Gentleman for eristocratic part (comedy), thoroughly experienced and very tall essential. Few other vacancies. Write, first instance, with actual height, recent photo, and lowest terms. RUSSELL NORRIE, Vaudeville Theatre, W.C.

WANTED, Character Comedian, Juvenile Gentleman. Height, Parts Played, Terms, References. MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

WANTED, Robust Character Comedian, Light Juvenile Comedian, Pretty Juvenile Lady. Terms, References, and Photos, to EMMELL COMEDY Co., Empire Burnley.

"THE HERO OF THE FLAG."

WANTED, to Rehearse Lancaster Monday next, Comedian (own songs), for Johnny Truckle. Particulars, lowest terms, MCLEAN, 31, Euston-grove, Morecambe.

WANTED, Good Character Actor for Sketch, 3 weeks; knowledge of brogue and able to use sword. Terms, &c., to WOOD, 103, Lloyd-street, C/M, Manchester.

WANTED, tall, gentlemanly Juvenile Gent., power and pathos, rehearse July 24. Fullest particulars, HERBERT BARRS, Knightstone Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Powerful Juvenile Man, for sketch, rehearse London, July 26. Full particulars, by letter only, FRANK BURDETT, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for Palace Theatre, Paddington, Liverpool, First-class Juvenile Leading Man, twice nightly. Photos., particulars, H. G. BRANDON, 34, Balmoral-road, New Brighton, Cheshire.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR, Commencing Aug. 5.

WANTED, Leading Gentleman, Gentleman for Old Men and Comedy, Responsibles, and Stage-Manager. Vacancy also for a Lady and Gentleman Pupil. Letters (no wires), with all particulars, 283, Edge-lane, Liverpool, "to be forwarded."

WANTED, Good Heavy Gentleman and Lady; Good, Responsible Man to Double or O. Man and Warder. Lowest Terms and Refs., SIDNEY DENCH, Littleport.

WANTED, Two Responsible Gentlemen, One Small Part Lady to give Trial Show, London Music Hall; Engagement if successful. Photos and Full Particulars to J. JARRETT, 102, St. Stephen's-road, Upton Park, E.

WANTED, Useful Men to play and assist in "The March of the Married Men" Co. Terms, references, letters only, 16, Drewstead-road, Streatham, S.W.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, Tour of Well-known London Actor.
A few Amateurs
can be
received in above Répertoire Co.
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WANTED, Al Fresco Baritone. Send Full Particulars, age, height, and photo., and Absolute Lowest. Open Monday. VERNON CHALDERS, West End Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Tenor, Baritone, Bass, or Good Quartette, Special Week July 29. View to Tour. Also Conductor. GALLIMORE, T. R., Woolwich.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Beatie Larkin, Soprano, at Liberty for Sketches or Musical Comedy. Temperance Hall, Merthyr Tydfil, Wales. Manager, Edgar Harper.

WANTED, Known, Kingstone Trollope, just Returned from States and Canada, at Liberty to Accept Engagements, Home or Abroad, Comedy, Character, Old Men, Stage-Management. Address, The Palace, Manchester; or Actors' Association, London.

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WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Panto., including Chorus and Quartette of Dancers. Photos Essential. LOUIS RUSSELL, 10, Bournemouth-road, Folkestone.

WANTED, First-Class Chorus for Pantomime, London and Provinces. Apply, with song, THE NEW MUSICAL COMEDY AND CONCERT ARTISTS' AGENCY, 16, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.

WANTED, Artists disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos, terms, and particulars to BROOKS AGENCY, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Good Tall Chorus and Show Ladies for Panto. Photo. references, &c. to E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

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WANTED, a Scenic Artist's Apprentice, where two other Artists are Working.
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MISCELLANEOUS.

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"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."

WANTED, Well-known Producer to produce the above Musical Comedy, commencing Sept. 2, for 3 weeks. Money no object to the right man. Full particulars to J. W. CORDINER, Camden Theatre, N.W.

WANTED, Assistant Acting-Manager, typist preferred, to understudy, and play small parts. Fullest particulars, CROSS, "Manxman," 110, Elizabeth-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, First-class Advertising Manager. No Personal Applications. Full particulars in first letter to ALFRED SELWYN, Collins's Music Hall, London, N.

WANTED, Stage-Manager, must be thoroughly experienced in the Variety Business, and an Abstainer. Address, SIGNOR PEPI, Palace Theatre, Carlisle. Letters to be marked "Stage Manager," New Hippodrome, Darlington, Opens Sept. 2.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Smart Acting-Manager, to Open July 29, Address, stating height, age, experience, and enclosing refs. and photo., to R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Shortly, Assistant-Manager, for Variety Theatre, in Scotland; must be experienced front and back of house, book-keeping, &c. Also Working Stage Manager, young, without encumbrance. Address, Box 5,158, "The Era."

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WANTED, Working Advance Agent. Preference given to total abstainer. All particulars, photographs, last two references, E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, 13, Hosack-rd., Balham, London, S.W. No interviews except by appointment.

WANTED, Electrician, well up in Theatre work; able to repair and renew; must understand oxygen tanks; steady, industrious man only need apply, stating age, experience, references, and wages to J. H. OAKDEN, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

"WOMAN AND WINE."

WANTED, to Open Aug. 5, Birkenhead (rehearse week previous), Carpenter, Baggage Man, Wardrobe Mistress, to play small parts. All particulars, photographs, refs., E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, 13, Hosack-rd, Balham, S.W. No interviews.

WANTED, for Royalty, Morecambe, Really Good Carpenter, to Assist with Billing. Address, with Lowest Terms, Latest References, &c., C. M. JULIAN.

WANTED, Good Resident Property Man Immediately.
Apply, with References, to
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement in a sound and highly respectable undertaking, by a thoroughly experienced General-Manager and Secretary (Theatre, Variety, Gardens, &c.); good organiser of entertainments, energetic and thoroughly reliable; Society's guarantee. Liberty Sept. Moderate Salary References of the best. Address Box 5,153, "The Era."

WANTED, position as Manager or Assistant ditto, or otherwise, Variety Theatre or Circus, by Arthur Turle, late of Northampton, Derby, &c.; experience, energy, and ability; just returned from the States. Address, 38, Whiterock-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, position Acting, Assistant, Advertising, or Stage Manager; good for Theatre of Varieties; good refs.; age 36. BAKER, 135, High-street West, Sunderland.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Engagement by W. C. Burns, 20 years' practical management, Theatres, Circuses, Picture Shows (Powerful Explicit Lecturer), Varieties, &c.; road, rail, resident, successful, up-to-date methods; life total abstainer; unique refs. 9, Derwent-street, Sunderland.

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WANTED, Management of a Small Music Hall; can put in complete Bioscope and work same. MANAGER, Hippo., Kidderminster.

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WANTED, Known, S. H. Laycock, Advance or Assistant Management, at Liberty through misunderstanding. Address, 1, Evelyn-mansions, Queen's Club-gardens, W.

WANTED, Offers, Advance Agent, 7 years' Experience, Splendid References, Good Appearance. ERNEST LLOYD, 97, Riverview-gardens, Castlenau, Barnes, London, S.W.

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WANTED, Engagement as Carpenter or Assistant age 30, Resident or Tour, Willing. Refs., Tools, Abst. 34, Crabtree-terrace, Belvedere, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement by Practical Carpenter, Own Tools, 2 last refs., W. A. Armour, Esq., 40 weeks. JAMES MORGAN, 12, Colls-rd., Peckham, London.

WANTED, Engagement by a Thorough Practical Carpenter; Bench Hand; Good Tour, or Resident. GRIFFITH, c/o Buckley, Fern Lea, Lees, near Oldham.

WANTED, Theatrical Engagement as Lady Dresser; good Dressmaker, good Reference. M. C., 18, Turneville-road, West Kensington, S.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Conductor (Violin), Leader, Second Violin, Viola, Bass, Flute, Clarionet, First Cornet, Trombone, Drums. Address, SIGNOR PEPI, Palace Theatre, Carlisle. Letters to be marked "Orchestra." New Hippodrome, Darlington, opens Sept. 2.

WANTED, First Violin, Thoroughly Competent and Experienced in Variety Business, able to Lead if Required, One House Nightly, Two Matinées. Terms 35s. Enclose Refs., and apply immediately, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Alhambra, Brighton.

WANTED, to Open Aug. 5, Theatre Royal, Bury, Leader, Cornet, Drums. State age and References. CONDUCTOR, 90, Granville-rd., Blackpool.

WANTED, Reliable Conductor (Violinist); also 'Celloist. Open August Bank Holiday. Apply SHERWOOD and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, Musical Directors. Call Personally on Saturday, between 12 and 2. BAUGH, Forester's Music Hall, Cambridge-rd., Mile End, E.

WANTED, at once, or the latest Sept. 1, in an English Orchestra of 20, touring since two years on the Continent, two First Violinists, must be good readers, not over 24 years of age; concerts only; good position all the year round. State lowest wages and age; also height, with photo. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Scotch Orchestra, Bellevue Hotel Park, Rotterdam, Holland. 2½d. stamp abroad.

WANTED, Second Violin, Double Bass, both combine Brass, Flute, Clarionet, Cornets, Trombone. Write CONDUCTOR, c/o W. Gibson, 5, Alexandra-road, Maidenhead.

WANTED, Lady Violinist, also 'Celloist, to Open at Drill Hall, Chester, Aug. 13, for 10 days; if suitable, a permanent engagement to travel. Apply EXHIBITION MANAGER, Exchange Hall, Blackburn.

WANTED, Lady Violinist for Musical Act, must have Good Appearance and be Brilliant Performer. Reply, with Photo, in first instance, to HILDA COE, Collins's Music Hall, N.

WANTED, Young Lady Violinist, to Join Two Others for Select Music Hall Act.
Apply, Monday, to 10, Islington-green, N.

LORD JOHN SANGER & SONS, LTD.,
Royal Circus.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, join July 29, salary 35s.; also Double Bass, to combine Brass, joint Aug. 5, salary, 32/6. BANDMASTER, Sanger's, Ltd., Burston Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, a Competent Solo Cornet; also Trombone, to open July 29. Terms and references to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, H.M. Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Lady Cornet, commence Monday, July 22. Lowest terms, MANAGER, 17, Lee-road, Dovercourt, Essex. None but competent artists apply.

THEATRE ROYAL, HULL.

WANTED, First-class Cornet, Permanency. Write, stating age, terms, previous engagements, references. B. T. LITTLE.

OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.

WANTED, Experienced Cornet, to Open Aug. 5. Address, Lowest Terms, with last two references, which will be applied for, to MANAGER.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Menagerie, Solo Cornet, Trombone, Salary 30s. per week, Saturday, Carnival, Glasgow; Monday, Blantyre; Tuesday, Bellshill, Scotland. Apply, HOLMES, Leader.

WANTED, Solo Cornet; must be first-class; open Monday. Wire lowest terms, permanency, HINCHCLIFFE, Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, Two Good B flat Clarionets, Euphonium, and Horn, for Ramsgate Town Band. HARRY YATES, Ship Inn, Harbour-street, Ramsgate.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Trombone, Euphonium, and E flat Bombardon, join at once. Terms, 32s. 6d. Monday, Kilrush; Tuesday, Killydysert; Wednesday, Ennis, Co. Clare, Ireland.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM,
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WANTED, Male Attendant, Bombardon Player Preferred.
Apply, stating age and height,
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to the SUPERINTENDENT
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HOWARD and WYNDHAM, LTD.

WANTED, First-class 'Cello Player. Open Aug. 5. Must be thoroughly experienced and reliable. Permanent engagement to good man. State terms, references, and full particulars. GEORGE BURNLEY, Musical Director, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Lady 'Cellist, Experienced. Box 5125, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, 'Cello, for a Few Weeks, Commencing July 29.
Address, with lowest terms and references,
HENRY BOWMAN, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

HIPPODROME, BLACKPOOL.

WANTED, 'Cello Player, commencing Monday, 22nd inst. Must be experienced in variety business. Wire lowest terms, T. CAMPBELL, M. D.

WANTED, a Good 'Cellist (Gentleman or Lady) from Aug. 1 or 5 to end of Sept. Must be steady, reliable, and used to theatre work. Six Nights, Two Matinées Weekly.

State absolute lowest terms and references to Seebold Theatre, Worthing.

WANTED, Lady Harpist, London Engagement. Write, stating age, refs., lowest salary per week, to Box 5129, c/o "The Era" Office.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Good Flute and Piccolo, and Clarionet, for the Aberystwyth Promenade Military Band, to join at once, till Sept. 28, two hours each evening. Lowest terms, ROWE, Durban House, Queen's-road, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Experienced Pianist, to Combine Clarionet or String Instrument, for 8 weeks, commencing July 29.
State Lowest and References to Mr. HAGUE, Opera House, Bridlington.

WANTED, Good Orchestral Lady Pianist, used Variety, Vocalist Combined, Open Monday, only Competent Artists Apply. Wire, 17, Lee-road, Dovercourt.

MACNAGHTEN'S VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.

WANTED, Experienced Pianist for Palace, Bath, Commence Monday, Aug. 5. Terms, references, and age, C. WRIGHT, Conductor.

WANTED, at once, Porthcawl, Gentleman Pianist, Vocalist; Indoors; Salary. Wires, to-day, GANNON, Fête Field, Chippenham; letters, West-grove, Bristol.

SCARLET MERRIONS, BROUGHTY FERRY.

WANTED, Pianist, Immediately. Those in Scotland Wire.

WANTED, Brilliant Pianist, or Small Complete Orchestra, open Scarborough Pier Pavilion, July 29. Full particulars to ALEXANDER, Gaiety Theatre, Blyth.

WANTED, Gentleman Pianist, for Tour, Variety, Pictures. Box 5151, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Wanted, Drums, 30s. per week. Apply CORBETT, 6, Gomm-rd., Rotherhithe, London.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, the Whitby Urban District Council are prepared to grant to some responsible person the privilege of using the Council's Pier Bandstand, and a Stand on the West Pier, for Performances by an approved String Orchestra; the remuneration to be by collection. Address, CLERK.

WANTED, First-class Musicians, Musical Duties Only, String Players and Pianists, for White Star Mediterranean Service (single men preferred). State age, experience, and names and addresses of two references for character and ability. Engagements commencing Aug., Sept., and Oct., for about 10 or 12 months. Also a Few Vacancies on Cunard and White Star North Atlantic Service in Sept. and Oct. Permanencies. MR. CHARLES WM. BLACK, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

WANTED, Instrumentalists, to Complete Orchestras, Aug. 5, onwards. Age, Terms, References, to DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Full Orchestra, to open Aug. 5. Apply, stating age and refs., to FREDERIC BRAHAM, Conductor, Regent Theatre, Salford.

THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT.

WANTED, Musicians for Immediate and Future Dates. Apply, with References and Terms, to J. HOWARD SHACKLETON, Musical Director for the Circuit, Hippodrome, Portsmouth.

WANTED, full Military Band, North Watering Place, Subsidy and Collection, Open July 29. Apply BANDMASTER, Box 5149, "The Era."

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street,, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN."

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Well-known Musical Director, Violin, Composer, Arranger, at Liberty after Aug. 10. Apply, Box 5106, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or Repetiteur, Variety or Dramatic, latter preferred, good refs., age 23, abstainer, Disengaged July 29. WILKIE F. HARRIGAN, Leader, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Post as Conductor in Good Suburban, or Leader in West End Theatre, 10 years' experience as former, leaving through theatre becoming variety. Would accept good Provincial Post, Suitable Teaching. Box 5146, "Era" Office.

WANTED, post as Conductor in England by first-class artist, who has held similar position in America, France, Switzerland, Italy, and Germany; highest references; familiar with all Operas; has starred in America as Solo Pianist. Address, VANDER LINDEN, Hôtel Continental, Jersey.

WANTED, Engagement, Young Musical Director, 10 years' experience Variety, age 26. Good Refs., Distance no Object. Address, CONDUCTOR, 20, Beaumont-square, E.

WANTED, known, a First-class Musical Director is now at liberty for Music Hall; Highest of References. Box 5130, "The Era."

WANTED, Business as Conductor, Military or otherwise, could supply good small Band; good library. High testimonials. MADDISON, 1, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, by Benjamin Parks, Engagement as Musical Director (Violinist) or Conductorship, Variety or Dramatic. BENJAMIN PARKS, Conductor, Hippodrome, Southampton.

WANTED, by First-Class English Violinist and Conductor, well experienced in hotel, café, concert and theatre work, permanent engagement in South Africa; highest references for ability and character. Address, GEORGE S. CRICHTON, Musical-Director, North British Station Hotel, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagement as First Violin, Variety or other Business, London preferred. NUGENT, 64, Wynford-road, Barnsbury, N.

WANTED, Known, Splendid First-class Violin, Virtuoso, wishes to join a First-class Musical Sketch, Serious or Comic, 10 years' Stage Experience. Apply ANDRE, 2 Rupert-street, Coventry-street, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement as Violinist, Any Business, 12 years' experience. Apply, VIOLINIST, 17, Roe-lane, Pitsmoor, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Violinist (conductor), also Lady Pianist, combine other instrument, experienced all lines. Box 5,152, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Violinist, Well Experienced. MISS L. C. MATTHEWS, 2, County-grove, Camberwell, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, Perm., Provinces, Total Abstainer, First or Second. LONG, Tunn-street, Fakenham, Norfolk.

WANTED, by Solo B Flat or E Flat Clarionet, combine Viola or Second Violin, late one H.M. Staff Bands; excellent character and refs.; Disengaged Aug. Box 5,083, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Thoroughly Experienced Clarionet, Orchestral or Military, Steady and Reliable, Good Refs. A. MATTHEWS, Leicester-road, Oadby, near Leicester.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by a thoroughly experienced and reliable clarionet. Good references. Address, R. O'BRIEN, 2, Marine-cottages, Marine Town, Sheerness.

WANTED, by First-Class Double Bass, permanent engagement, Theatre or Music Hall. Highest refs.; abstainer. NICHOLLS, 19, Glenburn-road, Seacombe, Cheshire.

WANTED, Engagements (near Liverpool). Disengaged after July 26. Miss MAUD JONES, double bass, Trades Exhibition, Drill Hall, Darlington.

WANTED, Engagement by Double Bass, Orchestral or Military, at Liberty July 22. Refs. Address BASSO, 67, Albion-st., Halton, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Double Bass, Any Business, but Theatre Preferred. CONTRA BASS, 74, Chandos-street, Hereford.

WANTED, Engagement (Orchestral or Variety Business). Disengaged after July 26. Miss GRACE JONES, trombone, Trades Exhibition, Drill Hall, Darlington.

WANTED, Engagement, by Competent Trombone, for Fortnight Only, to Commence Aug. 5. TROMBONE, 36, Burlington-rd., Small Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Bombardon, E flat, at Liberty, Experienced, Army Journal, excellent references, Reliable Performer. Address, BASSO, 43, Russell-road, South Tottenham, London.

WANTED, Situation by French Horn, any Business. Good Refs. J. S., 98, Hill-street, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 37, Great Percy-st., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Known, 'Cello at Liberty for Engagement; abstainer; good references and experience; any business. Apply Box 5,148, "The Era."

WANTED, Permanent Engagement by High-class Oboeist, Theatre Experience, Total Abstainer. State Terms. OBOE, 59, King-street, Peterhead.

WANTED, by W. Ritchie, Oboeist, engagement from August till end of September, Orchestral or Military; excellent refs. Clifton, Minerva-road, East Cowes, Isle of Wight.

WANTED, Engagement as Flute and Piccolo, String Band; steady, accept moderate terms for an introduction. Address Box 5131, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Flute and Piccolo, sharp or flat pitch, Orchestra or Solo. FLAUTIST, 31, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Flute and Piccolo Soloist, orchestral, military, or variety, five months Crystal Palace. FLAUTIST, 9, Rattray-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Engagement as Flautist, young and reliable; good Refs. FLAUTIST, 7, St. Mathias-street, Kirkstall-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Lady, Pianist or Mandolinist, Good Accompanist, Sight Reader. Miss B. MARTIN, 30, Huntsmoor-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement (perm.), Pianist, combine Violin, first or second; Experienced; Refs; Theatre or Music Hall. Lib. Aug. 5. MANTON, c/o McAndrew, Battery-st., Annan.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, at home or abroad. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Engagement Aug. and Sept. for High Class Viennese Band, West End, Smart Uniforms, Latest Music. CONDUCTOR, 10, Emlyn-road, Wendell Park, W.

WANTED, for Two Weeks, Aug. 10 till 24, Engagement by the Queen of the West Orchestra, of six or more First-class Musicians. WM. SCHOTTLER, Musical Director, Bath.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Useful People for Ground Acts, those doing two turns preferred (Parody Male-riding Acts save stamps, had some), for over three months' engagement, Money Sure. Monday, Kilrush; Tuesday, Killydysert; Wednesday, Ennis, Ireland.

GILLENO'S GREAT AMERICAN CIRCUS,
"WHITE CITY," MANCHESTER.

WANTED, Circus Artists in all Lines, now and onwards. Absolute Lowest Terms and Vacant Dates to CHARLES POWELL, Manager, Circus, "White City," Manchester.

WANTED, for Well-known Troupe, Young Lady Trapezist, and Gent., Flying Rings, Brother and Sister, or Married Couple (without children) not objected to. State tricks, height, weight, and experience; also forward photos in costume. JAS. EUGENE, Aquarium, St. Petersburg, Russia.

WANTED, a Young Man, with Knowledge of Tumbling; one used to Mounting preferred. Age, height, salary, and tricks; photo, if possible. SAMUELS, 10, Naylor-road, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, a useful turn for Tenting Circus. Write MME. HUDSON, Circus, Drumbarn, Co. Tipp., Ireland. Will Johnny Congo write.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, July 22 and 29, for Stage or Ring, Tudor's Four Educated Ponies, a Big Speciality for Galas. Address, W. TUDOR, Barnard's Palace, Greenwich.

WANTED, Known, Three Bordellas, World's Greatest Juvenile Gymnastic Act. Pioneers of the Silver Chain. Vac. 22nd, 29th. Aug. 5, Blackpool Hippo. (3rd return this season). Coms., 57, Central-parade, Promenade, Blackpool.

WANTED, Aug. 5, by Levene-Wilton's Aerial Act; also Martinette's Acrobatic Act; 2 Grand Shows for Fêtes. Coms., 36, Graham-road, Dalston, London.

WANTED, Known, Olrac and Milton, Society Gymnasts. On Tour.
Address 1934, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Knotella, Contortionist, Dancer, &c., Liberty Fêtes, Galas.
208, Wandsworth Bridge-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Galas, July, Aug. 5, Zarinella, contortionist and equilibrist, great pedestal speciality. This, Palace, Tottenham. 4, Cleveland-road, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Motoring Cranks, something new in cycle acts, Vac. Galas, also Aug. 5, Panto. Novel, up to date, clever. Add., see Cards.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, Juggler, 18 years, Seeks Engagement with a Troupe. Write, ADRIEN ANGEL, 9, Wells-buildings, Wells-st., London, W.

WANTED, Open Immediately, High Diver and Swimmer; Collections Only; Good Business can be done by a really good man. FORSYTH, Pier, Folkestone.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and HIPPODROME, BARRY DOCK.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.
No wires, please.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists and Vocalists, with Slides for Illustrated Songs, July 29, onwards. Lowest Summer Terms. First letter to BEANLAND AND EMERSON, Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines. July 29, onwards. Terms, Bookings, &c. Ring and Bar Acts for Gala, August 8. EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester. Tels., "Stebbing, Manchester." 'Phone, 09261.

WANTED, all kinds Variety Artists. Will see any Artists working if time sent. RICHARD CASS'S Agency, 9, Mundania-rd., Peckham.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, July 29, and onwards, Good Specialities Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers, Sisters, &c. A. E. PICKARD, Britannia Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Open Monday; also Pianist. BROWN, Falkirk, Scotland.

WANTED, Refined Variety Artists for Pier Pavilion, Scarborough, &c; Vocalists for Sunday Concerts, &c. Lowest Summer Terms. ALEXANDER, Gaiety Theatre, Blyth.

GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY, HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, from Aug. 12, on, for a Picture Entertainment, in Scotland; all must be absolutely refined, and quote lowest terms first letter. A good top wanted for Aug. 12.

Do you want a week at the seaside?

WANTED, Variety Artists, of every description. Nothing too big. Big acts on shares. Wire for Monday, also July 29, Aug. 5 and 12, HUGH DEMPSEY, Marine Grounds, Whitstable. Wire, Wire.

SCARBOROUGH.

WANTED, Monday, July 29, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known.

DALTON'S AGENCY.
DALTON'S AGENCY.
DALTON'S AGENCY. Artists remit
DALTON'S AGENCY. Vacancies, with
DALTON'S AGENCY. full list of
DALTON'S AGENCY. Dates, and the very
DALTON'S AGENCY. lowest terms, with
DALTON'S AGENCY. any printing and
DALTON'S AGENCY. permanent address.
DALTON'S AGENCY. New Acts state
DALTON'S AGENCY. where can be seen
DALTON'S AGENCY. working.
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Telegrams, "Granbeste, Withington-Lanc." Telephone 193 Didsbury. 29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Glasgow Concerts. State absolute lowest. THE SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms. ANDERSON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate Dates, Nothing too Big. DUNDAS'S AGENCY, 52, Rosthwaite-road, West Derby, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, July 29, Aug. 5, 12, 19. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards. Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAUX, 31, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED.—First-class Artists, in all Lines, are Invited to Communicate for Immediate and Future Dates, and Forward Full List of Bookings.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines. Send Vacancies. Nothing too big to Hustle. BARNARD'S Agency, 33, Shaw-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Artists Only, for First-class Variety Theatres, Immediate and Future Dates, also Pantomime. JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists for Small Music Hall, London, Smart Amateurs and Beginners. Write or Call. BOB GRAHAM, 15A, Electric-avenue, Brixton.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Fêtes and Galas, Aug. 5, and onwards. WILL TEMPLE, Entertainment Contractor, Wilford-grove, Nottingham.

HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY, 48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, for Glasgow, Greenock, and district, Star Artists in all Lines. Empire, Greenock, Reopens Aug. 19. Address, this week, Norfolk Hotel, Surrey-street, Strand.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists, for July 29, and onwards, Pavilion, Belper; also First-class Pianist. Lowest Summer Terms, Photos, and Particulars. New to Belper. HICKS, Gordon House, Wolfa-street, Derby.

WANTED, High-class Artists for Saturday Evening Concerts in Liverpool throughout winter, must be first-class. Terms, &c., to MANAGER, 8, Sandringham-drive, New Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Sheerness. This Hall closes Saturday for usual cleaning and decorating. Due notice will be given of re-opening. P. REYMOND.

TEMPERANCE HALL, MERTHYR.

WANTED, Artists to Note that the above will be Closed for Two Weeks, commencing Aug. 12 and 19, 1907, for Decoration and New Seating. Artists Booked write for Alteration of Dates. (Signed) ISRAEL PRICE.

WANTED, Aug. 5, Big Stars, Comedians, Comediennes, Novel Acts, &c. "LORD" GEO. AYTOUN, 120, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1949 Hop.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS AGENCY, 36, Shaftesbury-ave., W.

HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.

WANTED, First-class Turns, all Lines, Big Specialities, with Good Printing. Send Full List of Bookings and Price to 233, Kennington-road, London.

SUNDERLAND DISPENSARY CHARITY SPORTS, BANK HOLIDAY, Aug. 5, 2.30 p.m.

WANTED, Novel or Comical Turns as Extra Attractions to Ordinary Programme (cycling and running events). Expensive turns need not apply. Full particulars to MUSHENS, Secretary, Dispensary, Sunderland.

STALYBRIDGE, WORCESTER, AND RHYL.

WANTED, Wanted, Turns, Worcester, July 29, Stalybridge, Aug. 5 and 12. JAMES FIONI'S Agency, 12, Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Gloucester, Porth, Worcester, Barry Dock, Abertillery, Variety Acts, must have Full Bookings, Towns. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Greatest Acts in the Profession to Send Full Bookings, Terms, Lithos. Can find you work. AINSWORTH, Heath Villa, Stockton-on-Tees.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, all kinds of good acts suitable for the Continental Stage. Free from the end of August, onwards. Acts with Lithos, and new to France preferred. No Acts pay more than the usual 10 per cent, as I now book direct with my artists for the following towns: Paris, Grenoble, Havre, Rouen, Lyons, St. Etienne, Nimes, Toulouse, Bordeaux, Marseilles, Toulon, Nice, &c., &c. Add., G. W. GERALD, 39, Avenue des Ternes, Paris.

PALACE T. OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.

WANTED, July 29, Aug. 5, onwards, Novel Acts, Continental Specialities, Comedy Acts, Serios, Comedians, Sisters (Double Acts doing Singles), all new to above. Lowest Summer Terms, Lithos. (if any). WM. B. BOSTOCK, General-Manager.

WANTED, First-class Speciality Acts, Aug. 5 to Jan. 10, for new variety theatres, near London. State lowest terms, specimen lithos., Box 5,162, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Everybody to know Joe Lawrence's Change of Address. 49, Brook-street, Kennington-road, S.E. Always Vacancies for Big Acts. Nothing too Big.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY.

Coms., Ovingdean, Ramuz Drive, Westcliff-on-Sea. WANTED, First-class Acts, for the North, Sept., onwards. All known to me with immediate dates open for Southend communicate, London terms.

NEW PAVILION, ABERTILLERY.

WANTED, for above, the World's Greatest Attractions, Comedians, Comediennes, Acts in all Lines; must be big, or useless. Artists booked Gloucester and Porth can have Abertillery to follow or precede. Note.—Bill matter must be sent direct to the Manager, Mr. E. Pryce. All communications in first instance to LEO FRITZ'S Variety Agency, Glenshaw-mans., Brixton, S.W. 'Phone, 457 Brixton. Tele., "Evelyncia, London."

WANTED, Attractions suitable for Fête, August Band Holiday. Particulars and terms to, C. J. LARKINSON, Hitchin-street, Biggleswade..

WANTED, Big Specialities, Sharing Terms; also Serios and Sisters; good Stage, Electric Light. Send Lowest. CABE, Grand Theatre Gardens, Mansfield.

WANTED, Good Drawing Specialities, Aug. 5, on, for Carl and Carr's Great Al Fresco Entertainment. Victoria Park, Plymouth.

AYR, CLYDEBANK, COATBRIDGE, FALKIRK, KILMARNOCK, AND KIRKCALDY THEATRES.

WANTED, Variety Talent, of Every Description, three nights in each town, commencing Aug. 12. All fares and baggage paid after commencing tour, until finish. Artists holding contracts for Paisley can probably be booked to precede or follow. Address, with actual lowest terms, giving permanent address, E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow. N.B.—Silence a polite negative.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, the Best of Talent, July; also Aug. 5 and 12, for Hippodrome, Perth, Big Tops. All letters must be addressed to me. DREW BAYLEY, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.

WANTED, First-class Talent every description, Aug. 12, and onwards. DUNDAS'S Agency, 52 Rosthwaite-road, West Derby, Liverpool.

RALPH PRINGLE'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Big Specialities, for August, September, October, November. Send vacant dates, lithos, lowest terms, and full particulars to RALPH PRINGLE, Victoria Hall, Sunderland. N.B.—Mark envelopes "Specialities."

WANTED, Good Combination, for Aug. 5 week, for Hippodrome, Redditch. Apply, D. R. BARNES.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address, next week, Pack Horse Hotel, Briggate, Leeds.

WANTED, a Few Tops and Bottoms, PAPA BROWN, the Royal Agent, Empire, Portsmouth.

WANTED, big Tops, bigger the better, for Sept. 2, 16, and 30 (North). Full bookings, &c., to FRANK LYNNE, Hippodrome, Belfast.

WANTED, Good Doubles, doing Singles, Refined, Al Fresco, 8 weeks; other Turns and Pianist write. Open at once. NEWMAN, 11, Vintinterrace, Porthcawl, S. Wales.

WANTED, Beginners, Amateurs, London, Provinces. Write, state terms, MANAGER, Lyric Hall, Peckham-road, London.

ROUNDHAY PARK, LEEDS.
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Charles Bush's Pierrots.

WANTED, Troupe for Aug., Sept. and Oct.

1 Lady, and 4 Gentlemen.

Chairs Wanted. Scenery Wanted.

Large Tilt Wanted.

CHARLES BUSH, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

WANTED, Vocalists, for Long Tour. Those used to illustrated songs, and combine lecturer, apply (letters only), JURY'S IMPERIAL PICTURES, 142, Long-acre, London, W.C.

WANTED, for Three Days only, July 29, 30, 31, Comedy Quartettes, doubles and single turns. FORSYTH, Band Stand, Bognor.

WANTED, Smart Young Lady for Musical Act. Send Photo. Address Box 5,139, "The Era."

WANTED, Singing Soubrette, Comedians, Pianist, Vocalists. Particulars, LEONARD THIEL, Arcadia, Roker, Sunderland.

WANTED, a Smart Little Comedian at once for the Happy Valley, Llandudno, must be Funny. A Long Engagement for those Suitable. All Must Black. Wire, CHURCHILL, Arvon Cottage, Llandudno.

WANTED, at once, Knockabout, to join troupe. Must do a little legmania or tumbling. State salary required. Box 5,142 "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Two Smart Talking Knockabout Young Men, for Sketches, Aug.; also Baggage Man. Apply, with full particulars, E. EDMUNDS, Palace, Manchester.

WANTED, Humorist, Comedian, Big Rép., without slightest tinge of vulgarity, for concert party, above other artists. REUBEN MORE, Pier, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Young Man, for Music Hall Sketch, to take care of Baggage and play small part; must be about 5ft. 7in. tall; four months in London. Address, JOHN CARNEY, Clipper Office, 48, Cranbourn-street, Leicester-square.

WANTED, a Tumbler for Comedy Act. Tricks, age, height, and salary. F. Leglere write if disengaged. Box 5,157, "The Era."

WANTED, Bioscope, with Latest Pictures, open 29th, Scarborough Season, One Hour Twice Daily; also Sundays. Particulars ALEXANDER, Gaiety Theatre, Blyth

WANTED, First-class Operators, used to lime and electric. Address, with references and salary required, WALTER PAYNE, 346, Brixton-road, S.W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, Operator, can join at once, ROSENTHAL, 2, Mount-place, Burmantofts, Leeds.

WANTED, Smart Operators, used to electric and lime. Only competent men need apply. JURY'S IMPERIAL PICTURES, 142, Long-acre, London.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known. Lilith, The Mysterious, in Her Beautiful Palace of Roses. Always a Sure Drawing Card. Also Lilian Warren's Vocal Pictures. with splendid Dissolving Effects. Liberty Aug. 5, 26, Sept. 30. Proprietors and Managers requiring a sure draw should secure Lilith. July 29, Palace, Blackpool. Address, 35, Rumford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Aug. 5 and 12 for Mlle. Lumiere's Electrical Fairy Grotto, either singly or with full Vaudeville Company. Wire this week, Hippo., Brighton; Monday, Coventry.

WANTED, by Miss Daisie Morell, the Chic Comedienne and Versatile Vocalist, Monday next, July 22, 29. Wire, Pier Pavilion, Bognor.

WANTED, Known, Miss Dagmar De Ropp, Serio-Dancer, Few Vacant Dates, Splendid Dresses, Songs, Small Terms for Al Fresco. Address, Box 5146, "The Era."

WANTED, Aug. 5, 12, 19, by Babs Lloyd and Nellie Vance, Two Star Turns. Big Hit Canterbury, London. Palace. Attercliffe.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Terry, Popular Comediennes, at Liberty July 22, 29. Address, 27, Stafford-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Patrick MacLoughlin, Irish Comedian, Ireland's Champion Expert Irish Jig, Reel, and Hornpipe Step Dancer. A Good Offer Invited. Music Hall Managers address, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Monday next, Frank Coyle, Comedian. Wires, 160, Woodhouse-street, Leeds. A Certain Draw and Success.

WANTED, Known, George Casey, Purely and Simply a Comedian, Drawing Crowds Daily with the Geisha Boys at Dunoon, N.B.

WANTED, Known, Aldro Lukos, Man Monkey Speciality. Successful return, Hengler's Cirque, W., through SAKER'S Agency. Next, Cavalry Theatre, Aldershot. Liberty July 29.

WANTED, July 29, through misunderstanding, by Li-Chang-Hi and Assistant, Chinese Illusionists; also Aug. 19 and 26. This, Hippo., Burton; next, Zoological Park, Southport.

WANTED, Monday next, by Zelda, Big Musical Act; also Wal Owen, Comedy Act; sure success. Palace, Attercliffe.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, Hoop Juggling Expert. Vacant July 22, 29, Aug. 5. London Pavilion after Saturday. 153, Brunswick-street, Manchester.

WANTED, July 22, onward. Wire 45, Clarence-road, Bridlington. The Great Kyoto, Comedy Japanese Contortionist; Pot-Pourri Act; a Laughing and Applauding Hit. Don't forget! Also Miss May Geraldine, Comedienne, Vocalist, Dancer, with catchy chorus songs and dances. An enormous success Palace, Bridlington. Enquire. The town talking.

WANTED, Vokes and Marshall (Ned and Jessie), Refined Comedy, Musical and Patter Artists. Free July 29. Address Palace, Rhyl.

WANTED, Galas, Bank Holiday Week, by Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers; and Alvar, Daring Gymnast. Next, Public Hall, Barnsley.

WANTED, Known, Liberty, Monday, J. H. Bray, Actor-Vocalist, and Ella Macgregor, Scottish Soprano. Wire, Royal T., Chester, One or Both.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarle, Smartest of all Lady and Gentleman Gymnastic Pot-Pourri Act. Free, Monday 22, 29. Wire 120, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Jimmy Green, Eccentric Comedian, May Mayne, Comedienne and Descriptive Vocalist, Lib. Mon., also 29th. Big Hit, Empire, Hull, where wire.

WANTED, Monday next, The Walons (Renee, Willie), Harmonious Duo; Arthur Richards, Comedian, One or Both. 72, Morant-st., Poplar, London.

WANTED, Known, Picitt and Lizette have July 29 open, only date this year. Picitt and Lizette, Illusionists and Pantomimists, in their great Magical Extravaganza, "The Crazy Cook." Original Illusions; Original Comedy. The Most Realistic Kitchen Set Ever Staged. 50 Birds and Animals 50 Wire for the only date this year. Sat., 40, Oriel-terrace, Gerard-street, Derby; Monday, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Monday next, also 29th, by Cadogan and Wingrove, "A Clerical Complication." Wire, Gaiety, Glasgow, bottom bill; 9, Cambridge road, Battersea.

WANTED, July 29, Aug. 5, The Moncktons, in particularly Funny Comedy Playlet, "Are Wives Dummies?" 22nd, Aquarium, Scarborough (second week).

WANTED, Known, Phinas and Aida, Original Revolving Act, Always Up-to-date, on Tour. P. A., 3 Pitts, Broadhalgh, Rochdale.

WANTED, July 22, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, by the Bros. Webb, famous Musical Clowns. P. A., 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, by Doyle and Gibson, Comedians and Dancers, July 29, only Vac. until May, 1908. Hip., Stalybridge; or, 10, Uxbridge-st., Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Monday next, by Clyo and Rochelle, Original Comedy Act, "An Actor's Antics." Wire, 30, James-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, Aug. 5 and 12, by Peakman and Walsh, Great Expert and Comedy Jugglers, in Original Screaming Novelty, "Past Time in a Restaurant." Coms., 3, Rosary-villas, Poplar-road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Wright and Elton, Comedy Act and Speciality Dancers, Vacant Monday, onwards. Wire, Empire, Dover; after Saturday, 83, Lenthall-road, Dalston, London.

WANTED, Known, Risto Brothers, Comedy Acrobats and Contortionists, at Lib. Aug. 5, on, Halls or Galas. 46, Lothian-rd., Brixton, S.W. 29th, Palace, Clacton.

WANTED, by Brothers Lawrence, Vocalists, Champion Ragtime Dancers, July 22, 29. Great Success, this week, Palace, Bristol. Return London shortly.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Great Comedy Act, a Star Turn, July 29. Wire, this, 17, Sutton-street, Hull; next, Palace, Glasgow.

WANTED, Aug. 19, Two Distinct Acts, Zancig, Thought-Reading and Conjuring. The only open date this season. LENTON and BERTRAM, 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, Known, Attila Brothers, Grecian Gladiators, Herculean Wonders, in Novel Display of Strength, Vacant 22nd and 29th. 195, Boaler-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Oct. 7, onwards, by the Boultons and Mlle. Bartenelli. 53, Worcester-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, July 29, by the Kinnards, Magicians and Illusionists; also Lillie Luraine, Brass Instrumentalist; Two Distinct Acts. Next, Hippodrome, Stalybridge.

WANTED, July 29, August 5 and 12, by Morimura and Miako, Wonderful Japanese Conjurers. Wire for a Sure Success. Concludes to-night Palace, Grimsby; next Palace, Attercliffe. Wire

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, July 22, 29, and Aug. 19 by the Albano Troupe. See cards.

WANTED, Known, the Kyasyas, unconcerned new style athletes, dental and hirsute, Vac. July 22, 29, Aug. 5, through Alh., Paris, closing. Wire, Hippo., Ashton-u-Lyne.

WANTED, Aug. 5 and 19, The Maros, Clean, Clever, and Quaintest Three-Bar Act. This, County Theatre, Reading; next, Theatre, Windsor.

WANTED, July 22, 29, Aug. 5, by Los Granadas, in their own Trampolin Novelty, "Sensational Happenings Outside an Hotel." Big Success Wolverhampton Flower Show and Cardiff Gala. Booked by Messrs. Wilder's, complimented by all. Permanent, 64, Upper Sutton-st., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Four Cecilians are Packing Oxford Palace, Middlesbrough. Next week, Palace, Porth, Wales. Vacant Aug. 1, 8, 15, and 22.

WANTED, Managers who want Packed Halls, to try Four Cecilians, best all-round turn on variety stage. Next week, Palace, Porth, Wales.

WANTED, by the Maltans, July 29 and Aug. 5, and onwards, in their Refined Comedy Sketch, "The Best of It," Great Success, Westminster, Liverpool. Wire, Wire, Wire, 13, Buckingham-street, Dublin.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Lion Show, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 2, 23, and 30, before departure for the Continent and America. Communications, week July 22, Hippo., Redditch.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Comedy Troupe of Dogs; the Four-footed Animals with the Human Brains; the Show that Storms the People. Liberty Aug. 12. Address Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, Monday, Kitty Woodford's Dogs, circus and orchestra combined, smart and pretty act. Wire, 21, Infirmary-square, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio, Cycling Speciality, Vacant July 22, 29. Add., 1, Raglan-terrace, Everton, Liverpool. Thanks STEBBINGS for Contract.

WANTED, Pauletti, the funny and daring cyclist, is free for Galas, with two good acts. Address, 168, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Twins, Sensational Resemblance, at Liberty for Sketches, Illusions, &c. Address, TERRY, 261, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Dwarf Comedian, Open to Join Good Sketch Company, 12 years' experience with known people. A. S., 55, Tivoli-road, West Norwood.

WANTED, Dates, Aug. and Sept., Harmon's Royal Marionettes, Bioscope; also Punch and Judy. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Travers' Bioscope, at Liberty, Moderate Terms, Latest Films. TRAVERS, 154, High-street, Clapham, S.W. Telephone 1412 (Battersea).

WANTED, Engagements with Bioscope; terms moderate; Films to sell, 1d. per foot; Coloured Slides, 11 "Pal of Mine," 5s.; 14 "Tollers," 6s.; others. MORRIS, 18, Tweed-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement First-class Bioscope, grand selection of films; vacant Monday. Wire POWER, 7, Ballybough-road, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Vacant, July 29, on Tour or Al Fresco, Clarke's Royal Bioscope, 20 to 60 Minutes up-to-date Pictures; Illustrated Songs. Post-Office, Dumfries.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World. If you want to Buy or Sell Anything Connected with the Business, Consult TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept., "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Known, .22 "R" and "D" cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters, Pistols, and all repairs done. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, London, is the Cheapest for Secondhand Watches, Jewellery, &c. Metal Watches, 1s. 9d., 2s., 2s. 3d., 2s. 6d.; Silver, 3s., 3s. 3d., 3s. 6d., 4s.; Levers, 5s., 6s., 7s., to 10s. Assorted Parcel of 800 and 935 Watches, 3s. 6d. each.

WANTED, Auctioneers, to Know.—For cash only, my New Price List. Ready for you to Sell. Silver English Canned Lever Watches at following prices: 7s., 7s. 6d., 8s., 8s. 6d., 9s., 9s. 6d., 10s., 11s., and 12s. each, splendid goods. Silver Geneva Watches, 800 and 935 silver (assorted) at 3s. 6d. each. Market Workers should buy my 6s. and 6s. 6d. English Lever Watches; also my 3s. and 3s. 3d. Silver Geneva Watches. C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Showmen to Save Money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, our new Intense Flame Arc Lamps are the best for Showmen. SIMPKIN, WILKINSON, and GIBSON, Leeds.

WANTED, Known.—As it does not appear to be generally known that we control the British Patents covering the "Mills" Slot Bag (or Ball) Puncher, we now publish the fact, and give Friendly Notice that we shall rigidly maintain our rights therein.—MINERVA AUTOMATIC Co., 14, Charterhouse-buildings, E.C.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for the WHITE CITY, WHITE CITY, WHITE CITY, WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER. MANCHESTER. MANCHESTER. MANCHESTER,

The Greatest Outdoor Attractions in the Universe,

The Best Animal Acts, Performing Elephants, &c.

A Complete Spectacular Production, of Great Magnitude, to Occupy a Valuable Open-air Space.

Large Grand Stand Erected, Seating 2,000.

Wanted, for White City Open-air Fêtes, Lady Mandolinists and Chorus Ladies.

Apply by letter only, no interviews except by appointment. Send Photos.

Wanted, for White City Circus, Good Acts, of Every Description, for present and future dates.

In all cases send full particulars and lowest terms to

J. C. BROWN, Managing-Director, White City, Manchester.

WANTED, for a Large Continental International Exhibition, Some Big Outdoors and Indoors Attractions, on Sharing Terms, Native Village, Captive Balloon, Helter Skelter, Aerial Flight, Distorting Mirrors, Freaks, Illusions, &c. Write, Box 5143, "The Era."

WANTED, for South America, offers of First-class Side Shows for large Variety Theatres. Apply Box 5127, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, July 22, on, Freaks, Novelties, and Various Side Shows; also Good Waxworks, July 29, as Main Attraction. MANAGER, Museum, 184, Cleethorpe-rd., Grimsby.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Important, Wanted, Known, That the Next Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union will be held at the Scarbro' Hotel, Dewsbury, on Tuesday next, July 23, 1907, at 2.30 p.m., when all members are requested to attend.

(Signed) T. HURST, Secretary.

WANTED, Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, and Stallholders, to Know that they can have Ground on Reasonable Terms, at what will, without the slightest doubt, prove to be the Record Success in the Annals of British Showmen's History, of this and many past and coming Centuries. The 700th Anniversary of the Foundation of the City of Liverpool. Grand Pageant and Fêtes, arranged by His Worship the Lord Mayor and the Corporation of Liverpool.

P. and J. COLLINS have succeeded in securing from Aug. 3 to Aug. 10, the whole of the Liverpool Parks and Corporation Open Spaces, viz., Sefton Park, Wavertree Park, Walton Hall Estate Ground, and Newsham Park, where up-to-date Monster Fun Fairs will be held.

All the Greatest Outdoor Amusement Attractions have been secured. Bostock and Wombwell's famous Menagerie, the Travelling British Zoo. F. Collins's Grand Cosmograph, the Talking and Singing Living Pictures. Wonderland, with its New Ideal Orchestra, and grand display of Thousands of Vari-coloured Electric Fairy Lights. An unrivalled display of Electric Fireworks. All the Best British, Continental, and American Novelty Exhibitions. P. Collins's Patent Switchback Motor Car Track. Rollicking Giant Roosters, and Helter Skelter Lighthouse, or Dragon Slide. J. Collins's Unrivalled Electric Jumping Horses, Giant Steam Yachts, the Razzle Dazzle and Japanese Air-ship, and a Host of other Novelties.

The City of Liverpool will observe this week as a General Holiday. His Majesty's Channel Fleet will anchor in the Mersey. Numerous Excursion Trains and Steamers will run daily into Liverpool from all parts of Britain.

All persons requiring Ground or Spaces for Shows, Games, Stalls, &c., address, with full particulars, the sole Lessees, P. and J. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall. Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall." 'Phone, 80 Walsall.

WANTED, Showmen, Stallholders, and other Fair Travellers, to know that I have Spaces to Let at Tamworth Fair, July 26, Liverpool Park Pageants, Aug. 3 to 18, Crewe Hospital Fête, Aug. 10, Bloxwich Grand Fête and Gala, Aug. 16 to 20, Darlaston, Oldbury, Netherton, Wednesbury, Willenhall, Brierley Hill, and others to follow, up to the Great Birmingham Onion Fair, commencing Sept. 25, West Bromwich, Smethwick, and Leicester October Fair, commencing Oct. 10.

P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall. Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall." 'Phone, No. 80, Walsall.

WANTED, 22nd, 29th, onwards, Good Dumb Shows every description; perform without music; for Al Frescos, Portable, share, or salary. Address, POLLINTA'S Steeplechase Marionettes Waxworks, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, for Hancock's Palace of Varieties, Two Lady Singers and Dancers, who can do Single or Double Turns; would be required to Parade on the Outside; also a couple of good Knockabouts. Long engagement to suitable people. Apply, West Hoe, Plymouth, until Saturday. Next week, Fair Field, Honiton.

WANTED, for Wadbrook's Palace of Varieties, a Good Young Lady Acrobatic Dancer, one used to Show Business, can either live in or out. Send full particulars to Show Ground, Ton-y-Pandy, till Tuesday. Porth to follow.

WANTED, Good Knockabouts, Lady Paraders, Tumbling and Bending Acts, anything that can be done on Show Front Parade, Money no Object to the Right People, must be Clever and have Good Appearance, with or without Dresses. If necessary, fares arranged. Wire Terms and Particulars, W. BIDDALL, Electric Exhibition, Horsham, Saturday; Godstone, Monday and Tuesday; Epsom, Surrey, remainder of week.

WANTED, for Holland's Cinematograph, 2 good Knockabouts for Show Front; must assist to pull down and build up, and make themselves useful. Good shop for suitable people; single men preferred. HOLLAND'S Cinematograph, Hucknall Torkard, next Monday, Notts, and during the week.

WANTED, for Chas. Thurston's Royal Show, Knockabout Comedian, to make himself useful about Show, Single Man Preferred, Long Engagement for a Suitable Man. Apply, Ramsey, Hunts, one week from July 22. Permanent Address, 60, Ketts-hill, Norwich.

WANTED, Good Comedian, able to do Joinery work in day-time, for BLOOM'S Mart, South Bank. Chas. Rouse write.

WANTED, Good Doorsman, used to Fair Business, one not afraid of work. Nail parers save stamps. PROPRIETOR, 100, Lower Marsh, Lambeth.

WANTED, Lady Phrenologist, on Shares, Splendid Position, Open Immediately. SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE, 6, Henry-st., Dublin.

WANTED, Punch and Judy or Ventriloquist, no opposition, South Sands, Bridlington, near New Spa. Offers. WRIGHTSON, 7, Thorpe-st., Bridlington.

WANTED, for Al Fresco, good Punch and Judy, &c., Vent. show, on percentage, pitch found. WILL MARSH, Skegness.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Bailey's Punch and Judy, Great Success, Sofia Gardens, Cardiff. Few Dates, at Liberty for Galas. Address, Buxton, Derbyshire.

BLACKPOOL SANDS.

WANTED, Known, the South Shore Pleasure Beach is the only site in Blackpool for Open-Air Attractions.

The grounds are forty acres in extent, right on the sea front, and are situated immediately next the Promenade at the Electric Tramway Terminus. From April 1 to Dec. 31, 1905, 4,000,000 passengers were carried on these tramways. The permanent attractions now include the "River Caves of the World," "Maxim Flying Machine," "Sea Circus," &c. Great Canadian Water Chute and Scenic Railway from Coney Island now being erected for this season. For sites and concessions for really good Novelties apply personally. Office on grounds. Letters only, 14, Balmoral-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Let, Land for Stalls and Shows. Apply, JOHN HARDMAN, Manager, Staff Estate Fairground Co., 16, King-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Spaces to Let for Side Shows, for Fête and Gala, August Bank Holiday, at Mottingham, Kent. Apply S. WEATHERHEAD, 490, New Cross-road, S.E.

WANTED, to Let, Ground for Swings, Sideshows, Throwing Games, &c., for Grand Fête and Sports at Gravesend, Monday, Aug. 5. Best offers. T. W. WRIGHT, Royal Jubilee, High-street, Gravesend.

WANTED, Known, all Parties requiring Ground for the Devonshire Fairs and Regattas, commencing Honiton Fair, July 25, Exeter Regatta, Aug. 3, Dawlish Regatta, Aug. 8, all other Regattas en route, apply W. C. and S. HANCOCK, West Hoe, Plymouth, until Saturday. Next week, Honiton. P.S.—Those who have written for Shooters send deposit.

WANTED, to Let, on Hire or Share, set of Distorting Mirrors, Exhibitions, &c. Address Box 5134, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Empty Shops, 4 weeks run each, Oct., onwards, North of England principally. BEVAN'S SNAKE SHOW, Palace, Rhyl.

WANTED, to Hire or Buy, Good Large-sized Booth, Suitable for Cinematograph Show. GOLDING, 97, Whitevale-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Space for Side Show (Illusion); also live 4-legged Duck. Share or Rent. Write CLARK, 6, Valentia-road, Brixton.

WANTED, to Hire or Shares, Helter-skelter, Swings, and other Things, Best Position in London. J. HALL, 102, Old Kent-road.

WANTED, Auctioneers, to Know that Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is still forging ahead with his up-to-date Lines in Jewellery, Clocks, Fancy Goods, &c. New Catalogue, containing over 2,000 illustrations, now ready.

WANTED, to Sell, Rowley's Auction Mart the Smartest and most Compact Establishment Travelling, consisting of 2 loads, large tent, gas fittings, and accessories. Can be seen at Watford, Herts, up to Tuesday next. To be sold a bargain to a Cash Buyer, as the owner is retiring from business. Write ROWLEY, Auction Mart, Clarendon road, Watford, Herts.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, new and secondhand one- to six-drawers Card Delivery Automatic Machines; marvellous money-takers. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

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WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every Description, Best and Cheapest. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-rd., West Kensington, London. Established 1887.

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WANTED, to Sell, First-class set of Marionettes, with scenery and effects. F. AUSTIN, 279, Carmarthen-road, Swansea.

WANTED, Known.—To Showmen, Bazaar Fitters, &c., Unexampled Opportunity. Over 200ft. Scenery Old London, best canvas, fireproof, 20ft. lengths, 7ft. wide, cost over £30 to paint, sacrifice for 50/-, good as new, must sell; also 6 Good Plush Curtains, 6ft. by 4ft. 6in, price 5s. Write or Wire, D., 8, Alwyne-square, Canonbury, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Bargains, Set of 12 Stereos and Pictures, 7s. 6d.; about 450 Future Wives' Photos, 1s. 9d.; 12,000 Roll Tickets, 1d., 2d., 1s., and 2s. 6d., price 3s. 6d.; 1 nickel attendance checker, registers up to 1000, and repeats, cost 10s., price 3s. 6d.; Dangerfield Guide, cost 10s., price 4s. First Postal Order for 17s. 6d. has the lot. D., 8, Alwyne-square, Canonbury, N.

WANTED, to Sell, New Cinematograph Show, complete, and ready for the road. This Show packs up in three loads, including Living Wagons, everything ready to take money. This is a genuine offer. Can be seen at Boleyn Fair Ground, Barking-road, East Ham.

WANTED, to sell, 3 live Alligators, 3ft. to 4ft. long; all good feeders; giving up the business, £6 the 3. PRIEST, known as "Buff Bill," Beehive Hotel, Bridge-street, King's Lynn.

WANTED, to Sell, Electric Engraving Machine and Accumulator, perfect order, nearly new, £3. HEATHCOTE, 4, East High-street, Crieff, N.B.

WANTED, to buy Distorting Mirrors. State size and full particulars to Box 5,135 "The Era" Office.

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WANTED TO SELL.

To Theatre and Music Hall Proprietors.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, at most reasonable price and on easy terms, the commodious premises known as the ALHAMBRA THEATRE, DUDLEY PORT, TIPTON, STAFFS, situated in centre of a working district of 70,000 population, close to G. W. and L. and N.W. Railways, completely equipped with scenery, up-to-date seating, handsome vestibule. A sound investment to a man who could give same personal attention or under manager of sound practical experience. Applications wanted at once, before arrangements made for coming season.

For further particulars apply D. C. PHELPS, Metropole Theatre, Devonport.

WANTED, to Sell, the Leases of County Theatre, Bedford, and Theatre Royal, Canterbury, Principals or their Solicitors by Interview only in London or Bedford. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, to Sell, Good Going Music Hall, in working-class District in Midlands; seats 3,000; large population to draw upon; excellent reasons for sale. Every enquiry courted. Large amount could remain at 4% Principals or solicitors only. Write, Box 4,960, c/o "The Era" Office.

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WANTED, to Let, Cheap, all Complete. Can be seen Queen's, Farnworth next week. HERRICK, T. B., Croydon.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, a Flat, Charmingly Furnished, in Mansions, near Kennington Park. First Floor, self-contained, 5 rooms, electric light, every requisite. Rent 25s. weekly, or would sell contents for £70, owner going abroad. Write Box 5144, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, to Sell, "Cinderella" Pantomime, complete, or hire. Apply Box 5,147, "The Era."

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WANTED, to Sell, Large Stock of Films, majority good as new, from 1d. per foot; fresh consignments of Up-to-date Subjects are received at frequent intervals from the Myrioramas. Send for list. POOLE, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, Up-to-date. BENDON, 3, Albert-road E., Glasgow, S.S.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, all in New Condition, 2½d. per foot, approval on deposit, Blind Man's Dog, Niagara Falls (tinted), Willie's Dream, Police Dogs. Box 5138, "The Era."

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"You Shall Live in a Chalet."
(MELLOR, LAWRANCE and GIFFORD.)

MISS FLORRIE FORDE.
"She's a Lassie from Lancashire."
(MURPHY, LIPTON and JOHN NEAT.)

MISS DAISY DORMER.
"I Wish I were You."
(COLLINS and CASTLING.)
"In Manila."
(ARTHURS and MURPHY.)

MISS MAUDE MORTIMER.
"I wonder if the Girl I'm thinking of is thinking of me."
(CASTLING and JOHN NEAT.)

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RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS

All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office.

Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, AND DISTRICT.
MR. S. GETHING,
Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, AND DISTRICT.
MR. T. GERALD MORTON,
Empire Palace, Leeds.

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Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, AND DISTRICT.
MR. ALBERT BULMER,
The Empire, Liverpool.

LONDON DISTRICT.
MR. WILLIAM COLLINS,
The Empire, Shepherd's Bush, W.

N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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Telegraphic address, "Moul, London." Telephone No. 2009 Gerrard.
All Billing Matter for the undermentioned Theatres to be sent to the Secretary at above address.
All communications as to engagements for the Theatres to be addressed to Messrs. ROSEN & BLISS, Variety Agents, 12 & 13, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, W.C.
Telegrams, "Twopence, London." Telephone No. 7623 Gerrard.
N.B.—INTERVIEWED BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS for MONDAY, JULY 22, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Chung Ling Soo, Webb and Branston, Bob Hamilton, Les Uniques, Sisters Ford, Clemart, Vernon's Bioscope, Launceston Elliott.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.
"La Vivandiere," The Tossing Austins, Fred Dunstone, Little Agnes Tina, Carr and Rose, Evie Hamilton, Vernon's Bioscope, Emma Don and Co.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Mme. Clasen's Art Bronzes, Cosgrove and Burns, Joe Mac, Mollie Woolstenhulme, Thompson Wood's Juvenile Stars, Harry Taylor, Allis and Cassati, Vernon's Bioscope, The Creo Bros.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Gittins Opera Co., Steeley and Dowton, Arthur Goodman, Mlle. Eldee, George Rae, Helm and Cozens, Barney Vox, Vernon's Bioscope, Espinosa and Neilson.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
Dr. Bodie and Co.

PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE.
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N.B.—Artists will oblige by sending billing matter punctually.

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The Hit of "The Zuyder Zee," LONDON HIPPODROME.
The Hit of "The Zuyder Zee," WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.
Also sung by Will Evans' Company, Misses Lena Verdi, Lilian Lee, Margaret Radcliffe, Blanche Vincent, Ethel Donna, etc., etc.

"WILL HE ANSWER 'GOO-GOO'?"
(Macdonald and Meher).
Sung by Miss Clarice Mayne (OXFORD and TIVOLI) nightly.
Sung by Miss Dorothy L. Clark at all her engagements.

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(J. F. Lambe).
The Rage of England, America, and Australia.
Miss Bijou Russell's greatest success in Australasia.
Also sung by "Casey's Court" Company, Misses Lilian Lea and Margaret Radcliffe; all Paul Mill's Pierrot Companies, Adeler and Sutton's Pierrot Companies, etc., etc.

"ROSIE IS WAITING."
(Harrington and Tate).
Miss Gladys Mavius' Phenomenal Scoring-card.

"DON'T GO BACK TO CAROLINA."
(Mellor, Lawrance and Gifford).
The Rage of Blackpool. Sung in "The Zuyder Zee."
Also sung by Misses Katie Marsh, Rosie Lloyd, Ada Martini, etc., etc.

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"SWING ME HIGHER, OBADIAH."
"HAS ANYONE SEEN A GERMAN BAND?"

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CALLS. CALLS.

THE VAUDEVILLE SYNDICATE,

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JULY 22, 1907.

PALACE, DOVER.
Raymond's Bio-tableaux, T. W. Barrett, The Two Kays, Frank Hardie and Co., Tony Iveson, Fyne and Hurley, Lily Woods, Charles Austin.

ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.
Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Hyram Travers, Carlotta De Yonson and Co., "Sexton Blake," Mabel Le Roy, The Bransbys, Harry Blandford, Violet Edmund.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Lillie Lassah, Pallister's Pictures, Ethel Hillary, Whitworth Cycling Girls, Harry Maxim, The 2 McNeils, Macintosh and Royal, Lack and Ford Trio.

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ROYAL MAGNETS,
Palace Theatre, Aberdeen, at 1 prompt, Monday Next. All must attend. No excuses.

The Great Tokio Troupe, Conway and Garland, the Musical Acmes, Gordon and Bailey, Three Sisters Holman, Bella Skene, Helen Henri, Tom N. Mills, Mlle. Lillie Le Breton, Dolly Robson, Henry C. Irving, Robert Calvert, Belford and Mars, Dr. Bodie and full staff.

(Signed)
WALFORD BODIE, M.D
PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
Monday, July 29, PALACE T., DUNDEE.

For other Calls see Page 33.

NOTICE.

PALACE, HOLBECK, LEEDS.

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OF HIS INTEREST

in the above establishment, artists are requested to note that under Clause 7
All Contracts are Cancelled.

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LEEDS.

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Telegraphic address, "Macnaghten, Sheffield."

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where please address all communications in regard to the **PROFESSIONAL** and **PUBLICITY DEPARTMENTS** of the Circuit.
Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen between the hours of 12 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

All applications for dates at the Theatres Royal, Rotherham, Chesterfield, and Leeds, to be addressed to the London Offices.
Telegraphic Address, "Cirvaumac, London."
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General Manager, Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.
Secretary ... Miss AGNES M. RUSTON.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

All billing matter and notification of appearance, accompanied by samples of pictorial printing, must be sent in to the London Offices fourteen clear days prior to opening, or contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management.
All Scene and Property Plots of sketches, scenas, &c., must be sent to Foresters' fourteen clear days before opening.
All artists carrying scenery must have same fireproofed in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
Artists please note that when stage staff are required on Sunday, according to the "award" their time must be reckoned from that given in "call."
In cases of emergency after office hours, Mr. Baugh may be consulted at the Foresters' Theatre, Cambridge-road, E.
Telephone, 5954 Avenue.
Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London."

CALLS.

FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, JULY 22, 1907.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Raymond's, Frank Long and Omoya San, Challis's Dogs, Bert and Dora, Jock Walker, Stewart and Stewart, Lanos and Montes, The Vyponds.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Woolmer Young, Capt. Hamilton, V.C., Marguerite Broadfoote, Bains and Reed, Raymond's Pictures, The Simms, Horace and Olga, Selbinis.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Raymond's Pictures, Rell and Butt, Cissy Thompson, 10 Tan San Girls, Jack Rae, Royston and Royce, Nat Clifford, Libby Blondelle.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Elgars, Bosanquet, Columbia Trio, R. C. Note, Daisy Davenport, Masona, Raymond's, Macdonald and Hunting, Lillian Rigby.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Raymond's Pictures, Æolians, Kellias Family, Three Sisters Kilner, Chas. Coverdale, Tod Lowan, Fred Holland, Daisy Hicks, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
"Ferdie's Ma-in-Law," Czar Troupe of Dancers, Pallister's Pictures, Charles Gardner, The Zampas, La Belle Maie, Bessie Shelley.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Pardoe's Company.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Pallister's Pictures, Clara Victor, Sydney Mason and Co., Vi Raynor.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.
"Face at the Window."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Raymond's Pictures, Norah Desmond.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Vera Mayne.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, CARDIFF
will open early in August.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON
will open in September.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, BURNLEY
will open in December.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday.
Rosalie Jacobi, Welda and Wyne, Astley's Circus, Sisters Valli, Fynn and Fayne, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Bros. Lester, Caffrey and Bardle, Parker and Pari, Vowles and Brian, Hal Chapter, Webb's Sketch, "The Galley Slave."

THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
Bates Maddison and Co., Phedona, Arnold Bell and Co., Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Fred Southern and Co., The Three McDonalds, Larry Lewis, Chapman and Cairns, Rita and Roma, Percival and Morley, Charles Denton, Karnello, Ethel Arundell, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Bros. Egbert, J. W. Winton.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Foy Bros and Co., The Two Wiltons, Society Quartette, Stidder and Dunbar, Geo. Antil, Bros. Tarrant, Bros. Mills, Dora Dalby, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Austin and Cowan, Dolly Elsworthy and Co., "Jack."

SURREY THEATRE.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
F. Karno's "Smoking Concert," Frank Seeley, Vaudeville Sketch Co., Hardie Palm, Florence Schubert, The Almos, Learto, Stuart and Evans, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Will Thompson, The Merrions, Jessie Gouray.

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Miss ELSIE CLARE, on Tour.
Band parts Now Ready.

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(Edward Montagu).
Sung by Miss BILLIE BURKE, at the Vaudeville Theatre.
An Ideal Number for Seaside Soubrettes.

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Written and Composed by Fred. Fischer.
Sung by G. H. ELLIOTT, at the Oxford.
THE COON SONG OF THE YEAR.

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A Quaint Idea with Original Musical Dressing:
"SMILE ON ME."
Delightfully Illustrated.
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THIS WEEK'S NOVELTIES.

THE DIEPPE MOTOR CIRCUIT, 1907

Code Word, CONCOURS.

This film of the recent motor race at Dieppe is unsurpassed in quality and finish. Every incident that occurred is faithfully depicted. We have an excellent view where one of the cars is completely overturned, and a nasty catastrophe averted. Very thrilling, intensely exciting, and the only film of this race worth having. Now being exhibited nightly at the Palace Theatre, London.

857ft. The Subject, £14 5s. 8d.

SMOKING CHIMNEY.

Code Word, COKE.

This film depicts some artists who are painting in their studio, and are extremely annoyed by the fumes coming from a neighbouring chimney. They desire to stop same, so proceed to block up the exit with anything they can lay hands on. This idea meets with great success. The results of their caprice, as seen in the following pictures, when sweep, fire-engines, and all the other paraphernalia arrive on the scene, are excruciatingly funny.

314ft. The Subject, £5 4s. 8d.

THE HENLEY REGATTA.

This is an exceedingly good film of the Regatta at Henley, boats going to the post, the racing, a fine panoramic view of the river, and the finish of the several races. Quality and steadiness, as usual, are perfect.

362ft. The Subject, £6 0s. 8d.

LIVING SILHOUETTES.

Code Word, CAPELIN.

This is a charming illusion. Some of the effects are exceedingly well carried out. From an artist's portfolio we get the artist himself, limb by limb, until the figure is complete, and from his easel and canvas charming figures are produced. After many evolutions they disappear in a most extraordinary manner. A good film.

379ft. The Subject, £6 6s. 4d.

KNOWING DOGS.

Code Word, CLARANETTE.

This is a charming series of pictures, showing our canine friends going through all their several turns, such as hurdle jumping, rolling the ball and basket, etc. This is a very smart little film.

346ft. The Subject, £5 15s. 4d.

THE ENGLISHMAN IN THE HAREM.

Code Word, CLOCHES.

This film gives one an idea of what might possibly happen to the adventurous tourist on a visit to Constantinople, and being silly or careless enough to get into the precincts of the Sultan's household. No doubt it is very nice to try and see the veiled ladies, but the punishment meted out afterwards does not seem worth the risk; but in this instance the situations end up in a kind of "Morocco Bound" manner. Very laughable and good finale.

314 ft. The Subject, £5 4s. 8d.

THREE CHATTERBOXES.

Code Word, COLIMACON.

Women as a rule are termed proverbial chatterboxes, but we here see that such is not the case; three of the opposite sex are so taken up with conversation and arguments that no heed is paid either to passers by, places, or anything of the kind. Their arguments once started, nothing stops them—not even when the traffic seems likely to finish them off entirely. Short, but crisp.

165ft. The Subject, £2 15s.

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ANGLING IN NORWAY. 330ft. The Subject, £5 10s. Code Word, COGNAC

A LOVER'S ILL-LUCK. 297ft. The Subject, £4 19s. Code Word, CHIMISTE.

THE EXPRESS SCULPTOR. 330ft. The Subject, £5 10s. Code Word, CLOITRE.

FROM BARREL TO BARREL. 198ft. The Subject, £3 6s. Code Word, COCA:

A LUCKY HEIRESS. 379ft. The Subject, £6 6s. 4d. Code Word, COCORICO.

THE 'CELLO PLAYER. 180ft. The Subject, £3. Code Word, COLIBRI.

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SHAM BEGGERS. 148ft. The Subject, £2 9s. 4d. Code Word, CLINIQUE.

A KIND GRANDFATHER. 790ft. The Subject, £13 3s. 4d. Code Word, CLASSIQUE.

TROUBLES OF A COOK. 330ft. The Subject, £5 10s. Code Word, CAMPAGNE.

GENEVIEVE OF BRABANT. 660ft. The Subject, £11. Colouring, 14s. 6d. Code Word, CID.

OSTRICH FARM AT NICE. 330ft. The Subject, £5 10s. Code Word, COALITION.

THE WINDOW CLEANER. 230ft. The Subject, £3 16s. 8d. Code Word, CIMAISE.

DRUNKARD IN SPITE OF ALL. 445ft. The Subject, £7 8s. 4d. Code Word, CHIRURGIE.

CHASING A MOTORIST. 230ft. The Subject, £3 16s. 8d. Code Word, CLEMATITE.

A SEAMAN'S WIDOW. 528ft. The Subject, £8 16s. Colouring, 10s. Code Word, CLAVECIN.

VICTIM OF SCIENCE. 643ft. The Subject, £10 14s. 4d. Code Word, CLIMAT.

THE RED SPECTRE. 626ft. The Subject, £10 8s. 8d. Colouring, £7 12s. Code Word, CAROUBIER.

THE WOODCUTTER'S DAUGHTER. 577ft. The Subject, £9 12s. 4d. Code Word, CODICILLE.

A HARLEQUIN'S STORY. 1,352ft. The Subject, £22 10s. 8d. Colouring, £3 2s. 6d. Code Word, CLOWN.

QUICK, I'M ON FIRE. 412ft. The Subject, £6 17s. 4d. Code Word, CRYSALIDE.

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DRAMA ON THE RIVIERA. 510ft. The Subject, £8 10s. Colouring, 10s. Code Word, CHOIX.

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PICTURESQUE JAPAN. 626ft. The Subject, £10 8s. 8d. Colouring, 2s. Code Word, CACAO.

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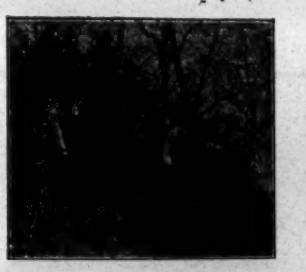

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AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PIETERMARITZBURG, JUNE 25, 1907.—SCOTT'S THEATRE is occupied by the Wheelers' London Gaiety company in *The Catch of the Season*, *The White Chrysanthemum*, and *The Dairymaids*. The first-named was performed on Monday, and met with an enthusiastic reception. Mr. Frank Greene as the Duke of St. Jermyns makes good use of his fine voice; Mr. Arthur Lacely as Lord Dundreary keeps the audience in hilarity; Mr. Bert D'Arcy as William Gibson is well suited to the part; Bucket is ably portrayed by Tiny Tim; Mr. Alfred Lester as Otho Montague makes the part extremely amusing; Miss Trissie Marche does a pretty *pas seul*; Miss Mamie Brickwell as Angela Crystal scores a success. All the minor parts are in capable hands, and the staging and dresses are all that can be desired.

THE MASQUERADERS are giving nightly performances. The company consists of Misses Rosie Dick, Kate Tully, L.R.A.M., and Lizzie Gelding, and Messrs. Dan Munroe, Arthur Gould, and Billie Leopold. Mr. Yates Williams acts as stage-manager and accompanist. Dan Munroe is very amusing in all his turns, and causes rounds of laughter; Billie Leopold is exceedingly funny in vocal and acrobatic endeavours; Arthur Gould is the possessor of a fine baritone, which he uses ably. Miss Rosie Dick scores heavily in her songs, "Cheyanne" and "I've come in my bark canoe"; Miss Kate Tully, L.R.A.M., is a great success; Lizzie Gelding, dancer of the company, is an accomplished artist.

WILLISON'S UNITED CIRCUS is on a visit here, and is nightly drawing good houses.

THE POT-POURRI ENTERTAINERS have just finished a season at the Central Music Hall. The company consists of the Misses Irene Hainott, Cissie Frampton, and Josie Shalders, and Messrs. De Vens and A. Rode, the latter being a local artist. Miss Irene Hainott (late of the Sass-Nelson American Co.) is the possessor of a fine cultured voice; Miss Josie Shalders makes a complete success; Miss Cissie Frampton is a very chic comedienne, and has made herself exceedingly popular; Mr. W. De Vens also does well. Mr. A. Rode is very eccentric and amusing.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

THE annual outing of the staff of the Newcastle Empire took place on Sunday last in delightful weather. The party, which numbered 120, drove in brakes to Shotley Bridge, where a very pleasant day was passed. Dinner was served on arrival at the Crown and Cross Swords Hotel, Mr. Richard Thornton presiding After an excellent repast, the loyal toast was submitted by the chairman. Mr. W. P. Wells, the resident-manager, next proposed "Moss' Empires, Ltd.," and alluded to the prominent position which the company occupied in the world of entertainment. He thanked the staff for their co-operation, and concluded by coupling with the toast the names of the directors and their chairman, Mr. Thornton, who replied in felicitous terms.

A FEW other toasts followed, and the party then proceeded to the Spa Grounds, where an interesting programme of sports was carried out. The prizes, which were numerous, were distributed by Mrs. Thornton, and, after enjoying a substantial tea, the party prepared for the homeward journey. Amongst those present were Mr. and Mrs. Thornton, Messrs. Sidney Stone, W. P. Wells (manager), J. W. Kilgour (assistant-manager), J. W. Dawson (musical director), J. Kelly (stage manager), John Pellow (late manager under the company), Harry Esden (manager Sunderland Empire), and Mrs. Esden, Fred and Mrs. Phillips, Mark Abrahams, F Tindall, and J. Robson.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, the United Company Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Dr. Walford Bodie continues to be the great attraction here, and the interest in his remarkable performances shows no abatement. The Tokio Troupe of Japanese jugglers perform some extremely clever feats, and the other members of the company are nightly applauded for their efforts.

ACCRINGTON.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Vandy, Potter, Weisker, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Mould.—Miss Boden is a chic serio; the Leslie Bros. bring down the house; Ted Curtis and Ricks are very amusing in their black and white sketch; Johnson and Bert are duly appreciated; the Twin Brothers Dean must be highly complimented on their clever dancing; and the Bio. completes a very excellent bill.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—Messrs. Lloyds Philips and company top the bill this week with their cleverly-played tabloid drama, *Betrayed Friendship*, in which Messrs. T. Lloyd, N. Philips, W. Bint, J. Bramham, G. Lawrence, and Misses Ivy Howell and Lizzie Adare take part. One of the most appreciated turns is the musical entertainment by the Four Jumels, who manipulate various instruments with sweetness and dexterity. Fanny Robina scores a success in her medley, "The Albert Hall Concert," in which snatches of various patriotic songs are given in vigorous voice. Miss Florrie Cooper sings sweetly, and the houses have enjoyed her tuneful contralto voice. Miss Maud May Murray, in her artistic serpentine dances, is well received.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*The Blind Foundling* is being presented by Mr. Harry Tilbury's company. Both the author, Mr. Charles H. Phelps, and Mr. Tilbury successfully take important rôles, the former the hero, Gerald Dalton, an artist, and the latter, Dick Bobbins, a comic servant, with songs. Miss Ivy Rochefort, as Fairy, a blind foundling, wins sympathy; Miss Belle Tilbury, as the wife of the artist, makes her character a prominent figure; and Mr. Horatio Sinclair is vigorous as an adventurer.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—Here we have the local favourites, The Three Coopers, in a comedy song scena; Collard's Dogs appear as miniature lions and tigers; the Boston Twins, in their new comedy act, are most amusing; Jack Mansfield is a good dialect comedian; Hilton is a smart Scotch ventriloquist; Los Sados is a remarkably agile and expert juggler; the chief spectacular item is "The Enchanted Glen," an electrical transformation and musical scena; The Zerbinis appear in an attractive musical scena; and the Irving Trio also entertain; the Bioscope illustrates the poem, "Curfew shall not ring to-night."

ATTERCLIFFE.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacey Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bert Lester.—The principal attraction here is furnished by Mr. Fred S. Peake and company in a sketch, entitled *The Gambler*. The title-rôle is well undertaken by Mr. F. S. Peake, ably assisted by Messrs. Edward Morton, Stuart Black, and Sidney Long; and Miss Dora Davis. Morimura, the Japanese conjurer, is paying a return visit; Little Babs Lloyd is interesting in coon-songs; the Brothers Stowe are a couple of smart juvenile equilibrists; hearty laughter greets the series of pictures, "A Fatal Sneeze," presented by Mr. E. C. Clayton on the "Palace Attergraph"; Manson and West introduce successfully a farcical interlude, entitled *Telling the Tale*; as a ventriloquist, Cavalli is deserving of high commendation; and Mr. Andy Burn is mirth-provoking.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stone.—*The Master Criminal* is here this week, performed in clever style by Miss Winifred Chalmer's company. Mr. Henry L. Osmond is in the title-rôle, and his portrayal of the part is a clever piece of character acting; Mr. John C. Carlyle as Ben Beaudy, the detective, displays great dramatic ability; Mr. Harold C. Macartney as Philip Manners acts the reckless son to perfection; Miss Winifred Chalmers as Cecile, the adventuress, gives an impersonation full of power and intelligence; Mr. Walter Rousby as Tommy Dala, and Miss Nellie May as Peggie Perks, in the comedy parts, keep the house in a good humour all the evening.

TIVOLI.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Edgar Laban.—Jack Lorimer, the top of the bill, is paying a welcome return, and is more popular than ever; Rex Fox, who does a ventriloquial and musical act on the wire, is much appreciated; Robb Gilmore causes roars of laughter with his songs and dancing; Jimmy Shields, the one-legged vocalist, is well received; Dora Martini gives a graceful gymnastic act; the Bros. Askley are humorous in their comedy act, *Next Please*; Arthur Slater gives a capital whistling turn. The pictures by Vernon's Bioscope are still popular.

HIPPODROME.—Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge are still receiving big houses to see the Fred Newman British Animated Pictures. A great variety of pictures are shown, and the programme is interspersed with vocal numbers.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Raymond's Animated Picture company is still in evidence here, giving a popular entertainment twice each evening. Miss Norah Desmond continues to charm in a series of illustrated songs.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Kennedy's Komiks are giving their last performance here this week, and their departure will be regretted by all who are fond of "variety." An entirely new company, on Monday night, presented a programme that was much enjoyed. The hit of the evening was made by Mlle. Lucretia (of the Moss and Stoll Empires Tour), whose clever dancing was loudly encored. Next in order of merit may be placed Miss Ella Dunville and Miss Mabel Dare, who were recalled for their pretty duets and well-sung songs; the Sisters Verne did some clever skipping rope-dancing; and the Incemores provided a good "turn" with their marionette show; King and King supplied most of the humour during the evening.

BELFAST.—PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The chief feature of the bill here is the marvellous juggling performance by Mr. Morris Cronin and company, their various feats amazing all. The Ten Genis, in their remarkable acrobatic performance, form an important feature of this week's programme; and a hit of no small magnitude has been made by the Paolias, in their clever athletic act. Wylie's Dog Circus is certainly a unique example of animal training, the entire performance being remarkably clever; a good reception has been extended to Osborne and Brookes, musical comedy artists, and to the Rosna Trio, wire equilibrists. The Sisters Charnley, duettists and dancers; Les Rubens, in a musical comedy scena, *The Two Merry Vagabonds*; Lester May, comedian; and the Palace pictures, complete the bill.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Miss Kitty Gordon tops the bill, and has been most successful with her delightful rendering of several songs; the balancing and juggling feats of the Robertye Family have been pronounced as sensational; and the cycling act of the Woodwards is very smart. Mr. Frank Lynne's comic songs have been hugely enjoyed; and Johnston and Miss De Vere appear in their wire and clever speciality act. Snowball and Miss Dolia furnish a most attractive act, which has taken well; and Miss Lillie Souter is a talented comedienne with catchy songs. Also appearing to much advantage are Wild, Willie, and West, the bounding navvies, whose act has created roars of laughter; Miss Effie Stuart, Scotch comedienne; and the Hipposcope pictures complete a fine programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The leading attraction here is the sketch, entitled *The Little Stowaway*, which has been voted a big success, the acting of the various members of the company—Miss Eva Lumley, Mr. J. K. Walton, &c.—being irreproachable. That droll comedian, Mr. George Formby, returns with some new songs, which he renders in funny style; and the Norman Leonard Trio have been accorded an enthusiastic welcome for their musical act, the violin solos rendered by one of their number being excellent. Mr. Jas. Stewart, "the tramp at the piano," has taken well; and Miss Maud Mortimer, a charming comedienne, gains the utmost approval. Other items of the programme are Celest, in a novel and clever wire act; Mr. Ellis Barrington, a vocalist with a capital voice; and the Bioscope.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mr. John F. Preston's company is continuing a fortnight's successful engagement, appearing this week in *Lady Godiva*, in which Miss Mabelle F. Barlow gives an effective performance of the title-rôle. Mr. Preston is admirably suited as Tom o' Coventry, a part to which he does the fullest justice; Leofric is well impersonated by Mr. Harry Lloyd; Mr. W. Howard Barlow is a good Algar; and Mr. Hardy Macro is well placed as Unwolf. Lady Aldyth is adequately sustained by Miss Ethel Rainforth; Miss Laura Wright is efficient as Elfrida; and Robin Shacklebolt is skilfully impersonated by Mr. Arthur Lenville. The play is carefully and liberally staged, and has been cordially received.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Miss Edith Muir and Mr. Hubert Bartlett, assisted by a competent company, are presenting their amusing sketch, *The Collar Stud*, with excellent results; and the Three Royal Dreadnoughts (including Miss Rennier) exhibit some extraordinary feats in rifle shooting. Attractive turns are also contributed by Miss Rose Elliott, vocalist; Mr. J. W. Gallagher, comedian; Boden and Bell, juvenile dancers; Miss Nellie Cotter, comedienne; Miss Aimee Desiree, in some clever hand illusions; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton.—Almost an entire change of company introduces Mr. Fred Walmsley, comedian and mimic; Mr. Tom Evans, baritone; Mr. Eric Charlswood, comedian; Miss Edith Heron-Brown, musical entertainer; Mr. Perci Gallno, instrumentalist and comedian; and Mr. Arthur Dicks, accompanist. These excellently-conducted pierrot entertainments have deservedly become highly popular.

THE TOWER, NEW BRIGHTON.—Manager, Mr. William Holland.—A large audience assembled on Monday in the Grand Theatre of the New Brighton Tower to witness the production of Hickory Wood and John Tiller's nautical spectacular ballet, *Jolly Jack*. The incidents of the extravaganza are presumed to have occurred in Nelson's day, and are embellished by a number of tasteful ballets. The musical numbers are rendered with artistic finish, and the efforts of the soloists and chorus are applauded. The company includes Miss May Iris, a winsome Nellie Porter; and Miss Cissy Iris, an admirable Jack Sales. Mr. Will Lytton and Mr. Walter Watson work hard and effectively as two strolling players; Miss Rene Howard as Captain of the Coast Guard, and Miss Florrie Page as the Captain of Marines, are successful. Other parts are in the capable hands of Miss Celice Donaldson, Miss May Sharples, Mr. E. D. Lennard, and Mr. George Malpert. The leading item in the programme is preceded by "Her Birthday," a vocal turn by clever Miss Edith Chantter, and a display on the bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—The Alexandra continues to enjoy record summer business with, for this week, Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company, in *An Unwedded Wife*. Miss Van Praagh as Marion avails herself of every opportunity to score, her acting being of a superlative order; Mr. Whitty in the rôle of P.C. Runyin diffuses humour of a rare quality, setting the house in a roar at every sally; and Mr. Will Casey as Napoleon B. Boomer and Miss Jessie Gilette as Caraway Crumpet shine cleverly in the humorous element. Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes plays the villain, Philip Blakstone, in an accomplished manner; Mr. Wilton Bedford is a worthy accomplice as Christopher Lennox; Mr. Valentine Henry makes every effort tell as Frank Armstrong; Mr. Logan Darra is exceedingly good as John Hawthorne; Miss Elsie Walton gains sympathy as Elsie Langham; and Little Doris is a popular figure with her clever acting and singing as Reggie.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—The Moore-Kennedy Combination continue here, in that now popular summer entertainment yclept Kennedy's Komiks; the Vervains prove themselves expert coon singers and dancers, introducing the character of Topsy, &c., with clever effect; Will Ethardo is warmly applauded for his marvellous dexterity as a juggler; Sandes and Vincent are popular in a novel contortionist act; Violet Leslie is admired for her ability as a vocalist; Arthur Jolliott is a droll comedian, and a baritone vocalist to boot; Mme. Annie Astor renders several tuneful ballads with pleasing effect; the Merrions submit their scena, *The Spider and the Fly*, with much success; and the animated pictures on the electric bioscope furnish other delights. The beautiful stage-set, depicting the new Blackpool Tower, with its myriad electric lights, provides an appropriate background, and is much admired.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*His Sister's Honour*, with Messrs. E. A'Dell and Chabot's company, has amply satisfied the patrons of this well-known prosperous house. All the parts are well played. Mr. Evelyn A'Dell shows well-developed powers as the young engineer, Frank Stanley; Miss Katherine Eckhart makes a favourable impression as the sister, Dora; Miss Ethel Ashleigh touches a tender chord as his fiancée, Ivy Merton; Mr. E. Louis invests the villainy of the financier, Sir Richard Redvers, with lurid effect; Mr. Sydney Dean scores with his well-turned comicalities as Timothy Timid; Miss Bessie Dean shows vivacity and talent as Maria Mickle; Miss Winnie Kennedy submits a smart song and dance in the rôle of the Dutch girl, Gretchen; and efficiency marks the efforts of Mr. Gilson Brooke as Dr. Godfrey, Mr. Harry Mitchelson as P.C. Worthie, Mr. Henry Slater as Pedro Ramon, and Mr. Fred Carston as Joan Lopez.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Neil Kenyon is as bright as ever; his jokes are subtle and witty, while his new study—that of an old Scotch fishwife—promises to be as popular as any of his previous triumphs. Alfred Lester and Florence Wakeman give an exceedingly funny scena, entitled *A Restaurant Episode*, Mr. Lester being particularly good as the melancholy waiter; George Leyton does well in his patriotic scena, *The Wreck of the Birkenhead*, adding a pathetic touch by introducing three of the local Crimean veterans; Seener and Fridkin's Imperial Russian Troupe of singers and dancers perform with great vigour; Joe Reicher's dogs are clever; and the Regals give a fine exhibition of strength. Mabel Sinclair, ventriloquist; the Crown Trio of speciality singers; and Venie Clements, comedienne and dancer, complete a good bill.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Dan Crawley heads the bill, and proves as popular as ever; Martin Adeson and company, in a musical farce, entitled *The Masked Lady*, make a decided hit, Mr. Adeson playing a triple rôle with great cleverness; Pat Carey, with his genial, rollicking humour, sets the audience smiling in sympathy, "All Oirish" being particularly popular; Edie Gray and the Boys give an exceptionally clever coon harmony turn; the Sisters Silcott and the Musical Schaffers submit an excellent performance; and the Brontes, Larola, Rose Cabani, Mollie Doon, and Newell and Niblo complete a capital programme.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—An interesting bill is headed by the Mount and Williams company, in *The Vaudevilles*, which proves a most enjoyable performance; the Martelloni Family of clever lady acrobats present several new and daring feats; Martin Conway is as interesting as ever; and Selby and Myers, refined comedians, prove to be highly diverting. Turns are also given by Texas Hattie, Griff (the humorist), Herbert La Martine, Howe and Ardie, McCann, and Fred Hallam.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Fred Ginnett and company are the principal attraction this week in an equestrian scena, *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*. Fred Ginnett assumes the title-rôle with conspicuous success; and George Jennings as Tom King is equally successful. Cullane's Comedy Four provide a good turn in mirth and music; Janette Hall is pleasing as a lady baritone; and the Phydoras, Fred and Panby, Brothers St. Clair, and Harry Simms, are also responsible for good turns.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Baron H. Harriss's company is securing good audiences here this week with *The Prince of Pilsen*. Mr. Harry Kilburn is immensely successful as Hans Wagner; and Miss Sophie Harriss makes a decided hit as Mrs. Maddison Crocker. Mr. Frank Crimp ably sustains the title-rôle, his singing being a special feature of his performance. François is cleverly represented by Mr. Ernest Gifford; and Jimmie is quite safe in the hands of Miss Mollie Wynne. Mr. S. Lindon Lang as Tom Wagner, and Mr. Bernard Russell as Arthur Rosemoss, also do justice to their parts. The chorus and the scenery and dresses are entirely satisfactory.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—The enterprising proprietor has this week engaged a variety combination, headed by R. G. Knowles. "R.G." is well known in Blackpool, and his turn is keenly enjoyed. Supporting him are Dave Carter, a fine vocalist; Spissell Brothers and Mack, comedians; Morgan Sisters, dancers and duettists; Odeyne Spark, comedienne; Dora Kingsley, another sweet singer; Marba and Verity, in a very amusing turn; Derenda and Green, club manipulators; and Captain Taylor's Baboons.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Vesta Tilley still heads the bill here, and the enthusiasm displayed at every performance exceeds even last week's demonstrations. The Howards are also retained, and their musical sketch, entitled *Military Mad*, takes well. Carlotta Levey is a favourite comedienne; Kelly, Gillette, and Bart, the bounding billiardists, give a novel and amusing turn; Gwennie Hasto is a talented singer and dancer; Frank Sylvo is a quaint juggler; N. T. Kioto excels as an equilibrist; and Ruby Dahl is accorded a good reception with her life-sized mannikins.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; Manager, Mr. T. P. Duignan.—F. V. St. Clair occupies the place of honour here this week, and his topical songs are much enjoyed; Cole and Rags contribute a remarkably clever juggling turn; and Barney Stuart meets with his usual success. Millie Denham, burlesque artist; Edgar Budden, comedian; the Haverleys, song illustrators; Will Cornish, expert musician; Arthur Albert, vocalist; Raie Walters, comedienne; and Lena Wylie, a sweet singer, are also in the programme.

WINTER GARDENS PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—The new ballet, *By the Zuyder Zee*, has achieved an extraordinary success, and is now performed twice daily; Horace Goldin, the great illusionist, is still here, mystifying all beholders; and the Lorch Family of acrobats continue to be popular. The Tiller Troupe of dancers; Hanid Alexander, child pianist; and Dr. Jules Angelo's tableaux, complete the programme.

TOWER CIRCUS.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop.—The turn par excellence here this week is Herr Hagedorn's Floral Fairy Lake. Other contributors to a capital programme are Mme. Therese Renz, the noted equestrienne; the Piccolinos, Liliputian wonders; Doran Brothers, in a comedy bar act; the Perezoffs, jugglers; Talberto and Douglas, comedians; Miss Marquis, with her stud of trained cobs; John and Luis Boller, acrobatic cyclists; and August and September, the popular clowns.

NORTH PIER.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. James Walker.—Mr. Walter George's company, the Colonials, are providing the entertainment here this week. Included in the combination are Miss Barbara Antoine, soprano vocalist; Miss May Elliott, soubrette; Miss Constance Bromley, elocutionist and contralto; Miss Ray Vivien, comedienne; Mr. Edward Elliott, humorist; and Mr. G. Ess, accompanist.

BOLTON.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—This house was reopened on Monday, after the summer vacation, when a good audience assembled to witness the society drama, *A Marriage of Vengeance*, the play being presented by a good company run by Mr. Stanley Carlton. Of the principal members of the company Miss Rubie Maude proves herself a clever actress in the part of Stella, a Parisian adventuress; the Paul Earnscliffe of Mr. Arthur Dudley and the Glynn Earnscliffe of Mr. Edwin Beverley were respectively well taken; as was also the Elsie Dean of Miss Marjory Armstrong; Mr. Stanley Carlton and Mr. F. Bulmer Pitt appeared as the villains, Geoffrey Vannock and Max Rheinhardt; much humour was infused into the play by Mr. Fred Rose and Miss Susie Beaven as Bob Shorney and Amelia.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N Hepworth.—Lovers of the sensational are well catered for this week with the drama of *The Branded Woman*, presented by Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company. Mr. James Stillwell gives an admirable performance of the part of the hero of the story, Philip Maurice; and the heroine, Marie, is charmingly impersonated by Miss Norman Dumayne. Miss Lilian Ross acts powerfully in the exacting part of the title-rôle; the villainous Prince Haubert is effective in the hands of Mr. Walter Steele; and his accomplice, Louis Daroc, is well represented by Mr. E. Lowrie. Mr. W. C. Clarke gives an able performance of the vile hunchback, Zarka; and Mr. H. Liddle affords welcome comic relief as the street artist, Dick Brown.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—The clever actor, Bransby Williams, is again repeating his famous impersonations here, and meeting with an ovation; and Mlle. Von Etta, the smart illusionist and charming protean artist, commands applause for a novel entertainment. The Northern Troupe of dancers are on a return visit; and Signor and Mme. Borelli's excellent vocalism and humour once more meet with favour. Victor Travers gives an

original and eccentric coon turn; Gwladys Elvey is a very pretty comedienne; as comedy trick cyclists, Narow Brothers are remarkably clever and very amusing; and a delightful entertainment is submitted by the accomplished instrumentalists, Lee Fraectis. A clever ventriloquist (whose name does not appear) is deputy for W. Fulbrook and company; and the American Bioscope shows diverting pictures.

Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—A fine exhibition in the art of jiu-jitsu wrestling is being given here this week by Frank Long (whose physical development is remarkable), and Miss Omoyo San, the Japanese lady professor, who takes on all-comers; Stuart and Stuart's comedy and eccentric dancing are of good quality; the Vyponds give a finished musical turn, with a clever imitation of a mechanical doll; Challis's clever performing dogs are a credit to their trainer; Jock Walker submits Scotch humour in acceptable style; Bert and Dora are responsible for some good broad humour in a turn as duettists; Lanos and Montes, a pair of smart acrobats, are particularly amusing; and entertaining pictures by Raymond's Biotableaux complete a good programme.

BRIDLINGTON. — Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—In the Floral Pavilion this week Mr. Charles Capper, a most expert whistler, and Mr. D. Milner, a clever banjoist, are giving great delight to large audiences. The special turn in the Grand Pavilion is Mr. Barclay Gammon, a versatile entertainer at the piano. Mr. Flockton-Foster's costume entertainers and The Loyal Dominion Animated Picture Company are constantly adding to their varied programmes. Thursday was a special fête night on the Parade.

New Spa and Gardens.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague. — Very amusing programmes are given three times daily by Mr. Surrie Lindon and his vaudeville entertainers. This week, Mr. Godfrey James, tenor vocalist, is receiving a hearty welcome; and Mr. Ernest Hastings is paying a welcome return visit.

BRIGHTON. — Grand Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is here this week, with *When It Was Dark*, and attracts crowded houses. Miss Hilda Beverley gives a forcible and impressive portrayal of Gertrude Hunt; Mr. E. Stanton Sharp is earnest and convincing as the Rev. Basil Gotre; and Mr. W. J. Butler achieves great success as Constantine Schwabe; Mr. Edward Valentine's Sir Robert Llewellyn is admirably played; Mrs. Morton Powell makes a charming Helena Byars; Mr. Ernest St. John is well suited as the Vicar; Mr. Millar Wilson is an amusing Hon. Charles Gayfly; Miss Dorothy Hildebrande acts brightly and gracefully as Grace Goldeye; and able support is given by Mr. Francis Cavins (Lucifer) and Mr. Harold B. Lewis (Harold Spence). The play is superbly staged.

Alhambra.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is a capital company here this week. Sam Mayo, "the immobile one," is enthusiastically received; Walter King, comedian, is very amusing; Will Poluski, jun., is an entertaining comedian; Charles Rose's singing and dancing are warmly appreciated; Florence Yaymen makes a favourable impression by the able manner in which she caricatures coon songs; Lulu Gould is a clever comedian; Albert Athas and Lizzie Collins win hearty applause for their new entertainment; the Boissets provoke hearty laughter with their farcical pantomime, *The Bricklayers;* and the Alhambra pictures are interesting and amusing.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—An excellent programme is sustained here this week. John Tiller's company submits *High Jinks, or Fun on the Sands* in good style, especial praise being due to Bob Selvidge, Teddy Gibbs, and Barney Dixon, and Lizzie Hay; Marie Kendall achieves her customary success with her admirably rendered songs; Mons. Selbo is a clever juggler and plate thrower; Katie Marsh is a pleasing vocalist and dancer; Kendrick and Laura, society entertainers, are well received; Steve McCarthy, comedian and dancer; and Martinett and Wallace, coloured comedians, give capital turns; and the Barrascope pictures are very interesting.

West Pier.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company is here this week, with *Sunday*. Miss Nita Faydon gives a winsome and charming enactment of the title-rôle; Mr. Leonard Pagden as Colonel Brinthorpe and also as Arthur Brinthorpe wins hearty applause; Mr. Ernest A. Douglas is adequately suited as Tom Oxley; the "Boys" of the "Wild West" find admirable exponents in Mr. William H. Brougham, Mr. Sidney Rennef, Mr. James Hussey, and Mr. Alec Elves. Others deserving praise include Miss Muriel Payne (a nun) and Miss Rosalind Rose (Mrs. Naseby).

Palace Pier Theatre.—A new musical farce, entitled *The Blue Monkey*, was produced here on Monday evening, and is fully noticed in another column. On Thursday a matinée performance of *Trilby* was given.

BRISTOL.—Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—Mr. Charles Harrington's company is here with *The Octoroon*, the play being staged in a liberal and attractive manner. Mrs. Harrington plays Zoe with considerable skill; Mr. Harrington is effective as Salem Scudder; Mr. John Henry Rogers works hard with McClosky, but his style is too aggressive for the part; Mr. Albert C. Wray is satisfactory as George Peyton; Mr. Bentick Rowe is excellent as Pete; Mr. Walter Langford is satisfactory as Sunnyside; Miss Hero Hathaway acts prettily as Paul; Mr. Leslie Beaufort and Mr. James Martin are decidedly good in their parts of Captain Ratts and Colonel Poindexter; and Mr. J. H. Renney presents a clever character study of Wah-no-tee. Mrs. Peyton is acted in a dignified and effective manner by Miss Jenny Malcolm; and Miss Sylvia Stella is in every way pleasing as Dora Sunnyside.

Palace Theatre.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—A military episode, in four scenes, entitled *La Vivandière*, founded on "Under Two Flags," is presented here by Col. Denis Lorraine, the sketch being staged in admirable style. Miss Isabel Derrie plays Cigarette in an attractive manner, and the two horses introduced are trained to perfection. Emma Don's black and white comedy team obtains applause for harmonious singing; the Tossing Austins do some smart juggling and dancing; Fred Dunstone, comedian, is appreciated; Little Agnes Tina excels as a juvenile mimic; Evi Hamilton, soubrette and dancer, does a good turn; Carr and Rose (Fred and Ada) present an attractive vocal duologue; and the performance concludes with "A Struggle for Life" depicted by Vernon's bioscope.

Empire.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Peter Gotz, lightweight wrestler, occupies the leading position on the bill. Wrestling competitions are held at each performance, prizes being offered to all comers. The Six Brothers Luck are successful with their speciality *The Demon of the Cellar;* the Pemms are smart comedians; Lucy Coventry, comedienne and dancer, provides a pleasing turn; Cull Pitt does a novel pot-pourri act successfully; Will Freedo, comedian and dancer, is successful; C. Randolph King scores with a protean entertainment; and the performance concludes with an interesting selection of animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria Theatre, Ltd.—Manager and licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*The Moated Grange* is a comical one-act play, presented by Mr. Edwin Garth's company. Mr. Garth as Jonah Tittlebit keeps the house in roars of laughter, and excellent support is given by Miss Minnie Webb as Amelia Ann Tittlebit, Miss Pattie Hastings as Adelina Tittlebit, and Mr. William Garrett as Rembrandt Smythers. The Filmographs, by Films, Ltd., include some excellent pictures, notably that of the Royal visit to the Dublin Exhibition.

BURNLEY.—Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—De Biere, "the mysterious," a clever illusionist, is the chief attraction here this week, and his wonderful tricks call forth great applause; *My Statue of Grace* is ably played by the Emmell Comedy Company, in which Miss Adele Levey is a charming statue. Another sketch excellently done is *New Milk for Breakfast*, which, in the hands of Johnny Holland and company, creates roars of laughter; the Wakeman Comedy Quartette, in a musical comedy sketch, are cordially received; Miss Lily Hayes, comedienne, wins favour with "Starlight Sue"; Mabel and Winnie Brooke, vocalists and dancers, are generously applauded; and Mlle. Ada Gatley, juggler and wire artist, meet with a cordial reception. An interesting film, *The Corsican's Daughter*, by the Empire Theatroscope, is the closing item.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—Opera House (New Hippodrome).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—Good variety turns are given by Gravetta and Parr, Lily Foy, Percy Johnson, Carl Howard, Howard and Wallace in *Taming a Wife*, Francis O'Flynn, a clever performer on the banjo, and the Three Morocos, in a military speciality act, entitled *Fun in the Barrack Square*. The new Operascope is responsible for some good pictures.

BURY (Lancs.).—Circus of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Marks.—A capital series of pictures on the Ottograph includes "Work in a Stone Quarry" and a number of laughter-provoking views. Other turns comprise Miss Dot Stephens, the lady who sometime ago met with the terrible railway accident. She is no stranger to Bury, and the audience greeted her very warmly on Monday night. She sings nicely to her own accompaniment. Maggie Grimshaw, a juvenile impersonator, is very clever; and Sam Moore has a fine baritone voice.

The Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. W. Broadhead, jun.—Maurin's Marvellous Fountains provide an agreeable interlude, the constant changing of the colour of the lights and the shapes of the water having a charming effect. The Three Martinettes give a funny episode, entitled *The Mad Music Master;* The Yorkshire Meisters sing well; and the programme also includes George Prince, the crazy comedian; Allen and Hall, comedians; Georgina Leonard, burlesque artist; and Jock McKay, Scotch comedian.

BUXTON.—Opera House.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—This week we have Mr. Ian Maclaren and company in Old English comedy and Shakesperean plays. On Monday evening Mr. Mclaren opened with *David Garrick* to a good house. Mr. Maclaren's reading of the title-rôle was an excellent piece of work; Mr. Arthur Fayne was good as Alderman Brackson; Mr. Frank Royde was the Bob Fairley; and Mr. Basil Deane was well placed as Mr. Peters. Mr. J. V. Bryant was a capable Mr. Murmurs, Mr. Huston Meharry a good Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Ian Maclaren a charming Mabel Brackson, Miss Gertrude Littlewood an acceptable Mrs. Peters, and Miss Rosalie Notrelle an amusing Arabella. *Hamlet, The Rivals, Twelfth Night, Merchant of Venice*, and *As You Like It* have been played during the week.

CARDIFF.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.— A return visit is being paid by Mr. Frank Ayrton's company, in *The Power of Gold*. The hero, Paul Jutson, is interpreted by Mr. R. F. Stacey in effective style; Miss Lily Prescot undertakes the arduous task of the heroine, Meg; Miss Amy McNeill portrays Lady Brandon in a manner which adds to her already well-known reputation; Mr. George Lyttleton makes a great success of the character of Hadgi Zambra; while Mr. Frank Ayrton as Sammy, and Miss Madge Seymour as Norah are responsible for some capital and wholesome comedy; Mr. Richard Harris should be complimented upon his rendition of Mark Harley.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. W. Lea; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Lea.—Pride of place is taken this week by Bella and Bijou, who are paying a welcome return visit to Cardiff. Their latest répertoire includes an amusing skit, entitled *The Suffragettes*, and on Monday night they were accorded well deserved applause; Mr. Whit Cunliffe has a rousing reception, his catchy songs being rendered in a pleasing manner; the Jackley Trio, in their acrobatic speciality, are both clever and mirth-providing, a great feature of their turn being the whistling of George, whose grotesque antics also occasion continual laughter. One of the most entertaining items on the programme is that of La Berat, described as "The Mystic Fire Maiden," the scenic changes in which are marvellous; Drew and Alders, in a new and original comedy act, *The Coastguards*, prove themselves amazingly funny, while J. W. Hall, in good songs and patter, is indeed a quaint comedian; Violet Ray is a charming violoncello soloist and soprano vocalist. The programme also includes George Reeves, comedian, Sisters Poole, society entertainers, and an admirable picture on the Bioscope.

CARLISLE.—H. M. Theatre.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—On Friday, the 19th, the members of the Stock company gave a farewell complimentary benefit to the lessees on the termination of the Stock season. The house was well filled in every part, and a most interesting entertainment was thoroughly appreciated. The The Fourth Act of *The Ticket of Leave Man* was given with due dramatic effect and scored heavily. Mr. Phil Davis, the scenic artist, met with well deserved applause for his clever lightning sketches. A scena arranged by Mr. Chas. R. Stone was well put on and smartly played, and a strong quartette, under the leadership of Mr. Fred Burns—conductor of the orchestra—met with great success. Miss Lily Shalders, soprano, sang delightfully; Mr. Sydney Clifford, of Turner's Opera company, was in excellent voice; and scenes from *Dr. Wake's Patient*, and instrumental and vocal contributions by local amateurs completed an excellent and popular programme.

The Palace.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The principal attraction this week is Fred Karno's company, in the well-known and popular sketches, *Early Birds* and *Mumming Birds*. Both pieces are brightly played and well put on, and created roars of laughter and appreciative applause. A sketch, entitled *Do You Want to Buy Any Coke?* by Howard and St. Clair, is most amusing; R. A. Speedwell, the lightning portrait painter, is again a popular item; James Kurry has a comical style and smart patter; The Sisters May, duettists and dancers; and Adeline Zohl, a vocalist who renders her songs with expression and taste, also contribute capital turns; and the Pepiscope, with a fine and novel picture, concludes an excellent entertainment.

CHATHAM.—Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Mike Cray pleases equally with burlesque and genuine juggling, and his trained dog comes in for a goodly share of applause; Ike and Will Scott contribute patter, songs, and dances, which are highly appreciated; the Two Bostons give their well-known bull-fighting act; "His Wife's Birthday" is clearly projected by means of Lacey's Erascope; Pete and Juno's sand-dancing gains admiration; and also appearing are the Lupinos, in an act new to Chatham, and Queenie Dell and Eva Rosslyn, serios.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Capt. H. B. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries.—Miss Beattie Williams opens the bill here with "The Fatherland," and a neat dance; Harding and Preston give a vaudeville act; Letine proves an excellent female impersonator, with well chosen songs and amusing patter; the Falcons are repeating their smart equilibristic act; Tom Collins scores in up-to-date topical song; while Matthews and Cowper are to be congratulated upon their success in *When the Clock Went Wrong;* Genee Manon pleases with "The Toilers," and a medley; and the Edisonograph has fresh films.

CHESTER. — Royalty Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Skill and fun are the two outstanding features of the really clever turn given by the Cattaneo troupe of comedy acrobats, who top the bill here; the Saletos are winning great success in their marvellous head and hand balancing act; coon songs are pleasingly rendered by Ada Parker; Tom Moore, vocal comedian, keeps the audience in laughter with song and patter; the Meymotts have a sure winner in their bright duologue, *Semi-Detached;* A. E. Clifford has a sweet tenor voice; the Sisters Brenton are popular; and Vernon's Bioscope projects several films by the Pathé Company, which are to the popular taste.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—Palace, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. P. W. Willard.—An excellent little variety bill is presented here this week. Marie Santoi and her company in *A Japanese Tea Garden by Night* top the bill, and give an excellent show. Other turns include the Three Sisters Thurban, clever instrumentalists; the Brothers O'Gorman, comedians and dancers; Alf Levani, in a clever wire act; Lilian Elfreda, a mimic, in some capital imitations of Harry Lauder, Marie Lloyd, and other well-known stars; Ada Twibell and Ted Young, both smart performers; and Edgar Berte, with his monologues. The Palascope shows some capital films; Caban's miniature circus continues to give capital performances in the grounds; and Norton Greenop's Lunar Sextette, also entertain every afternoon and evening. Dances are now held every Tuesday and Friday evening in the Grand Hall after the show, and every Wednesday and Saturday evening there is a confetti fête in the grounds.

West Cliff Gardens.—Proprietors, Messrs. Graham Russell and Bentley.—Big business is being done here, and the extra artists this week include Miss Gertrude Shrimpton, Frank Caron, and Charles Morton, vocalists, and Owen Clark, conjurer and ventriloquist. Mr. Jas. Jefferson is a good pianist.

Operetta House.—Licensee, Fred Williams.—Mr. W. F. Jury, of Bioscope fame, is still here, and running his well-known living-picture show.

Pier Pavilion.—Lessee, Mr. Harold Montague.—Mr. Sidney James' troupe of Royal Strolling Players are here this week, giving bright little shows to good houses. The White Ladies' Orchestra, under the direction of Miss Maud Risley, now play daily on the Pier.

COLCHESTER. — Hippodrome. — Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fred Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Brinn, in his wonderful performance, entitled "Pastimes on a Battleship," tops the bill this week; Mr. J. G. Grahame and Miss Zerlina Harrington present a highly dramatic and cleverly acted episode, entitled, *A Daughter of Pleasure;* Vandinoff is a very smart lightning painter; Walter Wallis is a huge success with his two songs; Jimmy James is clever with banjo and bones; Ray Phillips sings and dances nicely; and Beattie Mayer completes the bill. A series of pictures dealing with the recent terrible traction-engine calamity which occurred here were shown within a few hours of its occurrence.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Wm. Bennett.—*A Royal Divorce*, under the direction of Mr. W. W. Kelly, drew a crowded house on Monday night; Miss Edith Cole is responsible for a clever piece of acting as the Empress Josephine, and wins an enthusiastic ovation; Mr. Frederick Victor considerably adds to the success of the piece by his impersonation of Napoleon; Miss Helen Richmond is seen to advantage as the piquant Stephanie de Beauharnais; Miss Agnes Imlay is a stately Marie Louise; Mr. T. Robertson as Talleyrand; Mr. S. Montanini as Marquis de Beaumont, and Mr. A. Grenville as General Augereau are well rendered.

Hippodrome Theatre.—An excellent programme is provided here. The Barton-Franklin Trio contribute some fine selections on bells, trombones, concertinas, cornets, mandolines, &c.; Cliff and Kean do some good step dancing; Holt and Harvey, a very funny couple, submit medley songs; Mlle. Lumiere, in a fairy grotto and electrical bower, introduces her serpentine fire dance; and other artists include Clark and Hamilton, Miss Alice Maple, Miss Lily Webb, and the Five Digby Girls. The Bioscope pictures conclude a very good entertainment.

Empire Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance; Manager, Mr. K. Draco.—A varied programme is being witnessed by well attended houses this week; Blake and Amber and company give a musical comedy sketch; Stelling and Revel supply a horizontal-bar performance, which is both funny and clever; John Warren, a clever conjuror and illusionist, presents his military mystery, *The Magic Carpet*, and is assisted by an able company; Arabella Allen gives a couple of Dickens's characters in a clever manner. Other artists assisting in the programme are Yorke and Weston, in a song scena, *A Country Maid*, Walker and May, coloured American artists, L. W. Harris, light comedian, and Minna May, accentric comedienne.

CROYDON.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Herrick.—Messrs. Frank J. Pitt and Charles Halling's company is here in *£1000 Reward*. Mr. Fred Wilberforce is a cool and calculating villain as Gilbert Lisle; Mr. J. Newton Cowling is commendable as Fred Ingleford; Mr. Frank J. Pitt is a manly Fred Ingleford, jun.; Mr. Charles Halling is excellent as the new school of detective, Vincent Rainsworth; Mr. Joe English, with song and dance, is very funny as Dick Springthorpe; Mr. Frank Dallas is quaint as Inspector Gilbert; Mr. Arthur Merton submits a capital sketch of Fighting Jepps; and useful aid in minor parts is given by Messrs. Charles Parker, George Owen, William Vincent, and James Ashton. Miss Lynn Darlington sings nicely and acts creditably in the rôle of Meg; Miss Kitty Douglas is a vivacious Kitty Springthorpe; Miss Daisy Halling gives an accomplished performance as Mme. Sanson; and Mrs. Sidney Halling is well-suited to the rôle of Mrs. M'Carthy. Mr. Charles Herrick is a courteous and capable acting-manager.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—The Harmony Four are causing a sensation in their musical, vocal, and comedy act; Sid Bandon, comedian, is good; Annie Laurie is a charming comedienne; T. E. Finglas is capital in coon ditties and dances; Les Valdos are very droll as motor-'busmen; Dan Thomas is a remarkably smart comedian; Sibb and Sibb, aerial gymnasts, are greeted with applause; the Three Gregsons make a big hit with their comedy act; Mabel Bright is an enchanting comedienne; and the Imperial Bioscope pictures are capital.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—For the eighth week of the stock company *Secrets* is being played to crowded houses. Mr. F. B. Woulfe as Lieut. Markham acts excellently; Mr. Wilton Richards makes a capital Caliph; Mr. Holland Day as the Hon. Cecil Cholmondeley is effective; Mr. John E. Tomlinson takes the part of a slave dealer; Mr. F. Booth Conway shows to great advantage as Breezy Bill; Miss Lizzie Palmer and Mr. Bob Anderson keep the comedy portion of the play in full swing; Miss Ethel Griffies as Ismailia, a Christian girl, wins the sympathy of the audience; and Miss Edith Lorraine is clever as a Japanese slave. The Verona troupe of dancers add greatly to the success of the performance.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Chas. Denley and Herbert Taylor.—Heading the bill here this week is the famous Hackenschmidt, whose wrestling exhibitions are drawing packed houses; *Sally's Dilemma*, a sketch, submitted by the Bensley Evans Comedy Company, with Miss Olive Lanty as Sally, creates a great diversion; Bros. Zampah, one-legged acrobats, provide a distinctly clever turn; Harry Morris does well as a comedian; the Two Sparks are pleasing duettists and dancers; and other capital items include the Bohemians, instrumentalists of good ability; and Mora and Flora, in a smart vocal scena. The Bioscope, with humorous films, concludes.

DEVONPORT.—Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*Tommy Atkins* is presented this week by the popular stock company, the leading members of which are the Misses Cissie Cleveland, Olga Andre, and Maud Lynton, and Messrs. Douglas Phelps, Richard Webb, and Larry Clements, who do full justice to the various parts entrusted to them.

DONCASTER.—Grand Theatre and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Another delightful variety combination is here. Bella Leaburn is a dainty comedienne; Akbar, novelty gymnast, is clever; La Belle Sylvia, child vocalist and dancer, is very acceptable; Monti Santos, society juggler, gains popularity; Katie La Blanche, comedienne and dancer, is a bright turn; Annie Casey, comedienne, appears with success; and Charles Chard, comedian and dancer, is highly appreciated.

DOUGLAS.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, The Grand Theatre Company, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—This week for the first time in Douglas has been produced the eccentric comedy *When Knights were Bold*. The play and the players were received with the unmistakeable signs of real artistic success. Mr. James Welch's company has been carefully chosen, and the scenery, costume, and effects have been expressly designed for this tour. The piece goes with a swing, and Mr. Alfred Hemming's theatre ripples with honest laughter. Mr. Nelson Keys as Sir Guy de Tere was very diverting; Mr. Augustus Symonds made a character of Isaac Isaacson; Mr. Thomas Pauncefort was excellent as the Hon. Charles Widdicombe; the Rev. Peter Ponteberry was done justice to by Mr. Charles Ommaney; Miss Eva Leonard Boyne, as Lady Marjorie Eggington, was quite delightful; Miss Violet Graham was a pleasing Lady Millicent; Miss Emilie Polini was well placed as Lady Rowena; and other characters were sustained with discretion by Miss Vera Herbert, Miss Marjorie Chard, and Messrs. Talbot, Homewood, and M. J. R. Gillespie. The *pièce de résistance* was preceded by a clever duologue, written by Mr. H. O. Hughes, and played most cleverly by Miss Eva Leonard Boyne and Mr. J. R. Gillespie. This trifle was received with much applause.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Assistant-Manager, Mr. George Ray.—Large audiences have been in evidence at this playhouse, and the attraction, *What the Butler Saw*, has proved entirely successful. Miss Ada Blanche, a piquant and well-versed comedienne, secured a triumph as Mrs. Barrington; that clever actor, Mr. Lionel Rignold, was once more genuinely funny as Pink the Butler; the Jack Barrington of Mr. Charles Fawcett was full of fun; Mr. Cyril Harrison was well placed as Sir Charles Foden; the General Dunlop of Mr. George Ascott was all that could be desired; Mr. H. H. Rignold, as Abraham Weinstein, was distinctly amusing; and Mr. Leo St. Clair was all right as Sydney Clifford; so were Mr. H. Hornby Warburton, Mr. Roy Barford, Mr. Raymond Dudley, and Mr. Charles Barnes in their respective rôles. Miss Elenor Gilbert was excellent as Miss Foden; Miss Jennie Wigney played daintily as Nora; and that experienced actress, Miss Julie St. George, was an acquisition as Mrs. Hake.

The Palace.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Chas. Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—The bright particular star at the Palace this week is Mr. Albert Whitan, who comes from "down under." His first appearance in Douglas has been most popular. The Australian gives an original and clever turn, and to paraphrase an old song, "he is a credit to his calling and to all his native land." Mr. Loudon Cameron, the Scotch magician, still goes strong; Miss Jenny Hartley has danced and pattered herself into a high place in the Douglas public's estimation; Burley and Burley are quaint comedians and adroit contortionists; the flying Eugenes give a daring display; the Vernons Lady Quartette vocalise ear-catching melodies; the De Wynne Brothers excite attention; Vernon's Bioscope is quite up to date, and is much appreciated; the orchestra, controlled by Mr. Henry Robinson, is an incentive to dancing. As an additional attraction, Mr. Sydney Leighton's Bohemians give *al fresco* entertainments in the beautiful grounds. This is a refined organisation.

Derby Castle.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. J. Kelly.—If imitation is the sincerest flattery, then Miss Hetty King pays sweet homage to Miss Vesta Tilley. But she is quite a favourite with the Douglas visitors; her songs have caught on, and she is loudly encored; Messrs. Hinton and Wooton present a football match on cycles; Craig, Rose, and Craig are novelty gymnasts possessing merit; the Wedburns patter with humour; Ray and Miles are expert jugglers; and Mr. Gus Garrick is a comedy merchant of resource; Stewart and Morgan have made a hit in their scena, *Leaving Ireland*. The orchestra here is under the control of Mr. Harry Wood, and the dance competitions, with valuable prizes, have been, and are, a great draw.

The Hippodrome.—Sole Director, Mr. F. J. Connor.—Crowded houses and enthusiasm have been the vogue in Parade-street, where Mr. F. J. Connor's Circus of Varieties is situated. An important engagement which has attracted much attention this week is that of Mr. Martin Henderson, a blind musician. His playing both on the piano and the concertina displays skill and taste; Ara, Zebra, and Vora are pleasing; Mme. Thelma and Mr. Harry Groves, in a sketch, *A Lady Sculptor*, excite laughter; the Berlin Belles give their ballads with emphasis; Carl Lynn mimics the animal world with fidelity; Senorita Rosa Montero is an intrepid horsewoman; and other clever turns are John Irvin, Miss Pinder, Frank Anderson and his comical trained asses, Mons. Jean, W. Ralph Goggin, Du Callion, and Jim and Jennie Jee. These, who are all artists, secure unstinted applause from discriminating audiences.

Buxton's Pierrots, a most excellent combination, and tea village, maintain their well-earned popularity.

Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's small, but select, variants of the same calibre, attract enormous crowds to Onchan Head.

Mr. Charles Dare's minstrels on Douglas Head are a feature in the Island's bids for favour the public never neglect. This entrepreneur also runs the Empire Theatre with a two-houses-a-night variety show, which is largely patronised. He has excellent companies.

Mr. T. Isherwood's troupe also demand and obtain recognition with their performances on the Promenade Band Stand.

DOVER.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Mr. Dudley Gill's company in *A Snug Little Kingdom*, one of the prettiest comedies on the road, opened a week's engagement here on Monday. Mr. H. Montague Love submits a fine study of the rugged Yorkshireman, Ben Kershaw; the clever acting of Miss Olda King as Mrs. Blower calls for equally fervent praise; Mr. W. Kershaw endows Bernard Gray with a good deal of personal charm; a touch of light comedy gives brightness and individuality to Mr. Edmund Breon's portrayal of Hubert Gray; and Amelia is played on broadly humorous lines by Miss Margaret Stuart; the pleasing appearance and grace of Miss Margaret S. Fareleigh as Dolly cannot be too favourably commented on; and Miss Leslie Thorne as Sister Hope also shares in the general success. The comedy is preceded by the new dramatic episode, *Wanted, James Burton*.

The Palace and Hippodrome.—Lessees, The Vaudeville Syndicate Co.; Manager, Mr. F. Holt.—Chas. Austin, an excellent comedian, appears here this week, and scores a big success; the Two Kays' turn is charmingly presented; and Fyne and Hurley are clever and original; Tony Iveson causes much amusement; Lily Woods is a smart comedian; and T. W. Barrett is well received; Frank Hardie and company present a sketch entitled *Helping Hands*.

The Pavilion, Promenade Pier.—Lessees, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—The novel name of the concert party who are here this week, viz., The Pansy and the Owls, has attracted a lost of people out of curiosity, who have thoroughly enjoyed the bright entertainments given twice daily. Miss Lottie Drury has a most charming manner of rendering her vocal numbers, and the many pretty songs and dainty dances given by Miss Louie Langdon also please; Walter Gorden is a hard-working and most amusing comedian; George Newry's baritone voice is of great compass and flexibility; and some humorous songs are cleverly rendered by Harry Dunco; while Miss Florence Waddington is a brilliant pianist and sympathtic accompanist.

DUBLIN. — Empire. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Geo. H. Marsh.—The World's Championship wrestling tournament is still the attraction here, Le Marin being as yet undefeated. A capital reception is accorded to Peggy Pryde, who is heard to advantage in several catchy songs; the Craggs are paying a return visit, and their sketch, *Billy*, is proving most amusing and popular; Frank Cumminger is a clever dancer, and Guy Ryder a capable silfleur; the Johnsons perform some musical selections on different instruments; and Elsie Clare finds a ready acceptance for her vocal items. The Empire Pictures please with new films.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The leading attraction here is provided by the Sisters Warwick in a smart and graceful cycle act; Walton and Lester, in grotesque get up and burlesque conjuring, are responsible for hearty laughter; and the rich baritone of Mlle. de Rose is much admired; Rich Taylor, ventriloquist and mimic, finds much favour, and Elmo and Rego are successful as comedy acrobats; Harry Brown, coloured comedian, is popular; J. H. Hawtrey is an excellent actor vocalist; and Percy Carry, Hilda Claremont, comedienne, and the Bioscope complete.

Pavilion, Kingstown.—Manager, Mr. Fred R. Heley.—The Dagonets opened for a short season here on Monday, and the excellent programme provided was much enjoyed by a large and appreciative audience. The artists who successfully appeared include Mr. Henry Stockwell, Miss Lily Beaton, Mr. Joseph Blascheck, Miss Winifred Fairlie, Mr. Roland Foster, and Miss Mildred Wrighton.

World's Fair and Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles A. James. — The programme submitted here this week is as follows:—Bell and Bell, sketch artists; Sylvia Spiers, coon vocalist and dancer; Harry Tremaine, impersonator; Annie Hall, ballad vocalist; Little Dandy, character and descriptive vocalist; and the Cinematograph.

DUNDEE.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—The Australian drama, *The Grip of the Law*, forms the attraction here this week. As David Arkwright Mr. Henry Harrison acts well; Mr. Charles Kean as Sergt. Frank Paul gives a sterling delineation of the character; Mr. Johnny McElroy as Andy Blunt goes through his part in his usually clever manner; Mr. Leslie Vyner is very good as Zeph Sorrell; and Mr. Douglas Hutchens submits a clever character study as Jacob Hockaday; Miss Dora Hammersley acts feelingly in the part of Rose; Miss Dora Hamilton makes a good Marion; while Miss Maude Le Ray is a vivacious Beulah Bliss; and the other parts are capably filled. Besides the dramatic fare the Sisters Henderson do a smart musical turn, which is much appreciated.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—*The Heathen and the Christian* is presented here this week by Miss Lois Du Cane's company. As Lord Allendale Mr. Ernest G. Batley gives a powerful representation of the part; Mr. Frederick Maxwell as the revengeful Li acts with great vigour and ability; Mr. Fred Waring as Joshua Samson suits the part to perfection; as Admiral Freebold Mr. Gerald Blake merits praise for his fine acting; the part of the missionary, George Berresford has a capable representative in Mr. W. Beatty; Mr. Wm. Clare as Chung Lu, and Mr. Harold Garthorne as Chang, are both good; May Berresford could not have a more charming representative than Miss Lois Du Cane; as the jealous Mira, Miss Ethyle Murray submits a first-class piece of acting; and as Becky Tibbins Miss Nellie Gray makes the most of the part.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Park Theatre.—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—The D'Oyly Carte Opera company is appearing here during the week, and is attracting immense audiences. On Tuesday *Iolanthe* was staged in a manner befitting the reputation of the company. Miss Beatrice Meredith, as Iolanthe, sang sweetly and sympathetically; Miss Hope Hastings was a bright and interesting Phyllis with fine vocal ability; and Miss Theresa Rassam invested the Queen of the Fairies with a commanding presence and rich voice; Mr. Richard Andean worthily followed in the footsteps of his predecessors in the part of the Lord Chancellor; Mr. Leo. Sheffield both sang and acted with great success as Strephon; Mr. Leicester Tunks was a distinct and praiseworthy Mountararat; Mr. Stafford Moss sang excellently as Tolloller, and Mr. George Sinclair was a satisfactory Private Willis. *The Mikado, The Yeomen of the Guard*, and *The Gondoliers* find a place in the week's bill.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is appearing here during the week in *Mr. Popple of Ippleton*, and excellent houses are the rule. Mr. Edwin Brett is a cheery, buoyant Freddy Popple; Mr. Tom May, smart and racy, is a really excellent Platt; Mr. Francis Rayne sings and acts capitally as Kenyon; Mr. Ryton Hoare is a commendable Norman Popple; Mr. Sydney Courtenay and Mr. Henry Chichester share the honours for their work as Hennay and Doring; Miss Emmeline Orford as La Bolero is the embodiment of vivacity, sing-

ing her songs with much point; Miss Raynor Golden is a very pleasing, girlish Violet Brinton; Miss Hilda Stericker and Miss Kate Graham Beck are both excellent in an individual and different way as Mrs. Hennay and Mrs. Doring; and one of the great successes of the evening falls to Miss Norma Morra, who, as Louise, is graceful and charming. The St. Louis pictures, under the management of Mr. Hook, are being shown here twice daily, and have commenced what promises to be a very successful season.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—At the top of the bill is Miss Alice Hollander, and as a contralto vocalist she fairly delights the audience; Sterling and Love are clever and amusing; Elton and Elmo are expert bar performers, and also arouse much genuine laughter; Master Clifford is a smart little comedian; Mr. Percy Maye is again a success as a female impersonator; Tennis and Laune, in their vocal scena, are well received; Miss Ethel Donna sings and dances well, and new pictures are shown.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Carpenter.—Mr. M. Russell Rosse's company is appearing here this week in the farcical comedy *My Soldier Boy*, in which the admirable comedian, Mr. Dallas Welford, makes a distinct hit in the leading part of Montague Mendle. A capital bit of comedy acting is contributed by Mr. George Mudie, jun., as Michael O'Doherty; and Mr. Clavering Craig plays with spirit and true humour as Colonel Roscoe; Mr. Norman Clark is good as Jonas Toddenham; Mr. Stuart Black is a capable Captain Cecil Cullender; and Mr. Maurice Debenham, a young actor of promise, is a philosophical Archie Allison; Miss E. Nolan O'Connor plays gracefully and humorously as Lydia Mendel; Miss L. Kingston is a charming Geraldine; and Miss Rachael de Travis and Miss Cissie Sephton do excellent work as Mrs. Morrison and Martha respectively.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Large holiday audiences have here found fare much to their liking in the smart patter and drollery of Mr. Malcolm Scott, with his "Gibson girl" impersonation; Dandy George and his remarkably trained dog, Rosie, form another attractive item; and a smart display of spring-board jumping and hand-balancing is given by the Three Laurels; Souplessi probably comes in an easy first among boneless anatomical wonders; Harry Tofts is triply qualified as a comedian, raconteur, and concertina-player; Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor appear in a characteristic American sketch, entitled *The Dancing Master;* L. B. Athol pleases his hearers with the song scena, "Dreamland"; the two Gilberts are loudly applauded for their nimble step-dancing; a pathetic episode, *The Little Colonel*, is effectively rendered by Ernest Montefiore and company; and the Bioscope, as usual, completes the bill, with an exhibition of interesting films.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—Quite a constellation of stars appear in the brilliant conjuring and sleight of hand illusions performed by Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, who head this week's bill; and a most enjoyable number is provided by the Miles-Stavordale Quintette of harp and banjo players, whose imitations of the human voice on their instruments are wonderfully perfect; David Canty presents fine effects in his illuminated grotto of fountains and coloured lights; amusing comedian turns are submitted by Dusty Rhodes and Tom Woottwell; Ross and Lewis, as well as Starr and Leslie, are very sprightly in their duologue acts; there is a good show of Bioscope pictures; and both Gus Dallon, a versatile entertainer, and Grace Merton, an agreeable vocalist, share in the success of a good variety entertainment.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. E. Taylor Platt's London company was here on the first three nights of the week in *You Never Can Tell*. Mr. P. Clayton Greene was excellent in his portrayal of Valentine; Mr. Edmund Gwenn was a successful waiter; Mr. Edmund Gurney an excellent Fergus Crampton; Mr. Norman Page was exactly suited to the part of Philip Clandon; Mr. Trevor Lowe was a good representative of McComus; Miss Penelope Wheeler distinguished herself as Mrs. Clandon; Miss Mary Barton made a pleasing Gloria, and Miss Amy Lamborn a sweet Dolly. For the latter half of the week *The Follies* were billed.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—A Japanese fête was a great attraction here on Monday, "The Gipsies and their Jester" appearing incog. Mr. Eric Davidson and Miss Muriel Fane in their duets are deservedly encored; Miss Florence Crofts sings artistically; Mr. Robert Tattersall, as a conjuror and ventriloquist, scores; and Mr. Will Gane upholds his reputation as a humorist.

VICTORIA PIER.—Manager, Mr. Robert Forsyth.—Topping the bill here is Raku, the exponent of ju-jitsu, who supplies an interesting turn; "The Scarletteers" concert party sing excellently; and Gicardo, the boy juggler, deserves high praise.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—The place of honour at this house this week is worthily filled by Gittins' Condensed Operas, a turn which is highly appreciated. The company is made up of Mlle. Adele Prescott, Miss Norah Roy, Mr. Albert Chapman, and Mr. Frank Pemberton. Espinosa and Neilson burlesque all the modern kinds of dancing with great success; Mlle. Eldee has a posing act, which is remarkable for the most ingenious kaleidoscopic effects; Arthur Goodman has a host of clever skits; Barney Vox is responsible for a capital ventriloquial turn; Helm and Cozens have a "real" comedy act; and Steeley and Dowton, in "a pot-pourri of burlesque moments"; George Rae, Scotch comedian and dancer; and pictures by Vernon's Bioscope make up an acceptable programme.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Miss Grace Warner and company return to the scene of a former triumph with *The Scarlet Clue*, *East Lynne*, and *Lady Audley's Secret*. In the first-named play Miss Warner shows great ability as Scarlet Sal; Mr. George Gordon lends valuable assistance as Michael Stanton. In *East Lynne* Miss Warner represents in an efficient manner Lady Isabel, and Mr. George Gordon makes a capital Sir Francis Levison. The company includes Messrs. Chas. Pitt, R. Boyds, Arthur Page, and the Misses Anna Corri, K. Stewart, and Kathleen Cranston.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—In addition to the usual pictures by the New York Picture Company, Joe May (late manager of the King's Theatre) is appearing here this week.

GLASGOW. — KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. Jerrold Grant Allen's company is reviving here Mr. Arthur Law's amusing farce, *The New Boy*. Miss Katherine Harrington is well suited as Mrs. Rennick, and her diminutive husband is played with much humour by Mr. Leon M. Lion. Mr. Harry Ashford acts cleverly as the schoolmaster, Dr. Candy; the fawning character of Felix Roach is well portrayed by Mr. George de Lara; his daughter, Nancy, is charmingly played by Miss Nellie Redwood; Mr. William J. Rea as the excitable French master, De Brizac, and Mr. M. A. Scott as Stubber ably help the fun along; and Mr. Stanley Logan as Bullock Major and Miss Beatrice Manning as Susan complete a good cast. *Meg the Mobswoman*, a clever little play extremely well acted, is given in front. On Thursday was produced a new comedy, entitled *The Stormy Petrel*, a full notice of which will appear in our next issue.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—The last week of Mr. J. W. Whitbread's season of Irish drama commenced on Monday with a stirring performance of *The Insurgent Chief*. Mr. Robert Faulkner appeared as Michael Dwyer, and played the part with all his accustomed dash and spirit; the Captain Airley of Mr. H. Ryeland Leigh was a finished impersonation; Mr. Dane Clarke gave a vigorous and convincing portrayal of Captain Carr; the parts of Dr. Armstrong and Lieut. Fenton were admirably filled by Mr. Harry Richardson and Mr. R. Rainalt; two well-contrasted characters were seen in the Hughey Byrne of Mr. Frank Dalton and the informer, Byrne, of Mr. H. Morley Carroll; Miss Cecelia Dare gave a touching representation of Mary Doyle; a bright and lively Mrs. Airley was found in Miss Lily de Vere; and other parts were well sustained by Misses M. Hugo, Jessie Glenn, and S. Oudon. *Arrah-Na-Pogue* and *The Ulster Hero* are also billed for this week.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Manners.—Fred Karno's company in a new sketch, *A Tragedy of Errors*, is the principal item in this week's bill, and lots of fun are provided by the efforts of Messrs. John Brabourne, Rolando Martin, Robert Whyte, jun., &c. Winifred Hare, a vocalist of special ability, is again here, and her various songs are enthusiastically received; J. A. Wilson and his clever dog Towzer again provide one of the most enjoyable turns in the programme; Montague Bros., in a classical sketch, *The Sculptor's Dream*, gave a cleverly-combined athletic and statuesque display; Wright and Lawson are an amusing couple of knockabout artists and clever step dancers; and Bertha Stuart in Scotch songs, Gertrude Sandford in "The lost chord," Binns and Binns in their musical turn, and Edie Endon, comedienne, complete a well-diversified programme.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Arthur Watson, Flo Stanley, and company made a big hit with their sketch, *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*, keeping the house in the best of humour. Donaldson Bros. and Ardel in *Fun in the Zoo* are also well to the fore; and the Mayfair Comedy Quartette contribute an excellent turn. Horace White, ventriloquist, is highly appreciated; as also is Jeannie Macintyre, soprano, and Eda Mardy, vocalist. The efforts of Les Strads in their musical scena are loudly applauded. The company also includes Les Clements, pole jumpers, and Mark Merry, comedian.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Joe Elvin receives a hearty welcome here, and his new sketch, *Trespassers Beware!* has a number of hearty laughs in it. George Silbey is in great form, and his latest songs and patter fairly bring down the house; Edwards and Espinosa's new turn is a clever blend of music and dancing; the Daunton-Shaw Troupe of cyclists are a wonderfully clever combination; Harry Edson and his two clever dogs provide a most enjoyable turn; Yolande Noble is a comedienne with many original ideas; and the Bros. Hayes are a smart young couple of cross-talkers, and their step-dancing is particularly neat.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—The programme here is strong in musical and dramatic selections, the principal being Harry Roxbury and company in *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, which is ably sustained, Mr. Roxbury as the Detective and Miss Ethel Bryant as Lady Carr having fine scope for their versatile abilities. In *Home from the Honeymoon* Arthur Jefferson presents the farcical sketch with a smart company, which creates hearty laughter. Very mirth-provoking are the Five Osranis in a boisterous pantomime burlesque; and a pleasing change is provided in the fine singing of Tosti's "Good-bye," by Gertrude Bradshaw. Frank Darwin proves a good actor-vocalist; and the American Comedy Four sing and "clown" as smartly as ever. A successful and pleasing musical act, *Yo San*, is given by Clarissa Talbot and Albert Pearce; while Rossi Ashton, in a quick-sketching act on popular songs is at once novel and clever. Rapoli, as a juggler, is par excellence, his two-egg balancing and cannon-ball feats being amazingly clever; and the fine Bioscope film showing torpedo boats in actions calls for the admiration and wonder of large audiences.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—An excellent programme is welcomed by large audiences. The Six Brothers Luck in the pantomime burlesque, *Blazes*, are the principal attraction, and provide plenty of amusement; another equally humorous sketch is *Bibbs and Bibbs*, produced by Barry Lupino and company. The remaining turns include Clare and Pastor, musicians and dancers; Maude Vera, descriptive serio; Fields and Lewis, vaudeville artists; Katie Butler, character comedienne; Lowenwirth and Cohan, Hebrew comedians; Will Driscoll, comedian and dancer; and Menzie's 'Bus Scene, repreduced from last season's Princess pantomime.

GAIETY, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Willie Withers Bain, the well-known Scottish wrestler, is meeting all comers, and has had successful bouts with wrestlers of ability. Bain is a great Glasgow favourite, and pays a visit to Australia at the end of August. Palette gives a pleasing turn as a lightning artist, and varies it with a display of canine training; La Belle Rosa, solo instrumentalist, and Geo. Grenville, comedian, are also favourably received; the Three Sisters McQueen give Scotch songs in harmony, and are recalled; Collin and Irene, second-sight experts, have a good reception; and the orchestra in "Sea Songs" and "Deep-sea Pictures" on the Bioscope add variety to a good programme.

BRITANNIA.—Proprietor and Director, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—A very attractive programme is arranged for this week, and large audiences are the rule. Dextro, conjurer, is the outstanding turn, and is received with marked approval; Katie Moore, comedienne and bâton manipulator, is also specially favoured by the audience; and other turns of note include Arthur Lynn, with illustrated songs; Doris Dene, comedienne; Frank Newland, coster comedian; Capita, the living mannikin; and the Bioscope with an interesting set of pictures.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Les Juanitos do a neat acrobatic act; Sid. Cotterell and company introduce the laughable sketch, *The Substitute;* Miss Mayme Cannon gets a grand reception for her songs; and Messrs. Harris and Worth are an amusing pair; Tamamoto, the Jap on the wire and perpendicular rope, is good; the Two Errols, in an acrobatic performance, are decidedly quaint; Miss Alexandra Royal looks well in a principal boy's costume; and Terriss and Ward appear in a cross-talk act; Miss Ella Rose sings ballads, and the Bioscope concludes.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—*Lea Kleschna* is being presented to Yarmouth audiences for the first time this week, and Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company gives an excellent rendition of the famous play. Miss Bessie Rignold depicts the passion and sadness of Leah with intense force; as Kleschna, Mr. William Clayton shows the complex nature of the man, his brutal outbursts and strong self-restraint being well contrasted; Mr. William F. Grant gives a manly, tactful representation of Paul Sylvaine; Mr. Henry Nunn is admirable as the mean, cowardly Raoul Berton; and Schram is a pathetic figure as played by Mr. Campbell Goldsmid.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Wm. Fraser-Brunner's company is here this week with *The Superior Miss Pellender*. Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh is a winning Mrs. Pellender; Mr. William Fraser-Brunner gives a capital comedy study as the diffident, hesitating Mr. Tister; the self-satisfied, "superior" Miss Pellender is capitally played by Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner; Miss May Ault is a natural Edith; Miss May Staples a bright and impulsive Nancy; and Mr. Ellis D. Calyle a diverting Noel. *The Man of Vengeance*, an episode of the French Revolution, forms the curtain-raiser.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The programme for the week is one of exceptional merit. The collier and his child are seen in an extraordinary display of thought reading; the McGregors have a capital musical act with concertina and xylophones; Duncan's collies take part in a fire drama, and even play a tune on harmoniums; Max Gruber and Miss Adelina introduce their well-trained elephant, horse, and pony; the three Boleros give a comedy triple bar act; the four Louberts have a funny acrobatic sketch; Cordite and Buffalo do wonderful things with rope and lassos; the four Rosaires win applause as acrobats; the Watson troupe submit a laughable scena; and Rabbit and Little Pimple keep the audiences merry with fun and frolic.

BRITANNIA PIER PAVILION. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—A. G. Spry is here topping the bill, and his quaint manner and witty songs gain him a rousing reception; McArley's comedy cyclists give a fine act, which causes loud laughter and wins great applause; the Llewellyn operatic duettists sing in charming style; Fred Herbert, topical vocalist, goes well; Miss Rosa Loader scores a success as "The happy slavey at the piano"; York, Mac, and York's comic scena is artistically good; and Kavados, cannon ball performer, exhibits fine skill and judgment. Madame H. E. Angler's Ladies' Pompadour Band is in great favour, and possesses an expert piccolo soloist in Miss Edith Sharp.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The Gems are paying a welcome return visit, and each member works hard to ensure the success of a bright and pleasing entertainment; Mr. Kenna Lawson is the comedian of the company, and there is no lack of merriment when he is on the stage; Miss Nessie Walker, soprano, and Miss Olive Mortimer sing charmingly, and join in the humorous concerted pieces with smartness and vivacity; Mr. Wallace Kennedy is a good tenor; Mrs. Ernest Attwell's baritone songs are received with enthusiasm; and Mr. E. Hullard, the accompanist, is an excellent pianist.

GREENOCK.—PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—Morny Cash, in songs old and new, has an enthusiastic reception; Jack Crawley, comedian, is also successfu'; the Ellimans submit an enjoyable musical turn; Kitty Grey does well as a pictorial songstress; and Pheland, an eccentric juggler, is also good The Paviscope shows some excellent films.

HALIFAX.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—Plenty of fun is provided here this week by Cribb and Cribb in *Idle Fellows with Idle Thoughts*. A skilful exhibition of conjuring is given by Corelli; and the American Animated Picture Company contributes some delightful scenes.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Ed. Harrison.—One of the most popular artists appearing here is undoubtedly Nat Clifford, whose breezy gags and quaint facial expressions keep the audiences in good temper. Excellent is the fare presented by Bell and Butt, who are gifted with a pleasing style. Carter's Ten San Tan Girls are having a good time here, while Libby Blondelle and company, including her four Johnnies, create hilarity. Cissie Thompson, vocalist; Jack Rae, comedy trapeze artist; and Royston and Royce dance themselves into favour.

HANLEY.—GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—Auguste Van Biene holds the premier position this week in a sketch, viz.—*Van Biene's Dilemma*, which is heartily appreciated. During the sketch Van Biene contributes two finely-rendered 'cello solos, and finishes with "Home, sweet home." Belloni's cockatoos are wonderfully trained; Arf. Chester is as usual successful; Mr. and Mrs. Finden present a highly amusing sketch, *A Mare's Nest;* Mme Sims Reeves, with her late husband's songs, is accorded a hearty welcome; Messrs. Shirley, Liggins, and company sing most harmoniously; Bessie Benson is a capital dancer; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux are amusing.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—For the first three nights of this week Mr. Arthur A. Horner's company presented J. M. Barrie's play, *Walker, London*. Mr. Ed. A. Coventry in the rôle of Jasper Phipps was a host in himself, and the laughter was both loud and long when he was on the stage; Mr Renè Hammersmith was a good Renard Von Burg, and Mr. Forrester Harvey was well placed as the boy "W. G."; Miss Catton, as Nanny O'Brien, was excellent; and Miss Ruby Wyndham was well placed as Ruby Golightly. For the rest of the week Mr. Wm. Mollison and company have appeared in *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—The Follies opened a three days' visit here on Monday, and attracted a full house, which roared with delight at the clever whimsicalities and grotesque humour of its entertainers; notable numbers were the Nicotine Quartettes, followed by burlesque operas. The second part was a burlesque of a music-hall entertainment, which was excellently staged and proved excellent fooling. The second half of the week is taken up by Mr. E. Taylor Platt and his company in George Bernard Shaw's play, *You Never Can Tell*.

BEACH CONCERT PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Blackmore.—Mr. Wallis Arthur's company continues its successes here, the novelty of its surroundings adding charm to the talented company's efforts.

ALEXANDRA PARK.—The opening fête of the Borough Entertainments Association was held here on Wednesday, by permission of the Mayor and Council. Among the attractions, which fine weather favoured, were Mr Kenyon Musgrave and his company, which includes Miss Barbara Fenn, Miss Peggy Yeoman, Mr. Ben Field, and Mr. Gerald Malvern, in farcical comedy. There were also Mr. Wallis Arthur's combination, a company of glee singers, marionettes, al fresco dancing, and illuminations at night by James Pain and Sons. Mr. Philip Goepel's Red Hungarian Band performed very acceptably.

HIPPODROME AND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Vivian Fisher; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—Miss Violet Beatrice daintily impersonates English and Irish boy vocalists; Syd Carden, a good pianist and vocalist, gives some taking songs; Pueblo and Cropp (Bob and Katie) introduce some American dancing. A remarkable display of the instinct and training of Parisian dogs is shown on the bioscope. The same characteristics apply to Professor McCann's dogs, which go through some clever tricks on the stage. The acrobation of Max Merlin as a crocodile and demon is very smart; Tom Bass keeps the audience in good humour with his patter; and Laurence Barclay excels as an eccentric comedian. A versatile and attractive quick change artist and vocalist is seen in Miss Nora Drew. A laughable sketch, entitled *The Registry Office*, produced by Max Wilkinson's company, proves exceedingly amusing.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—The English Light Opera Company are giving selections from various operas. In the character of Faust, in the opera of that name, Mr. Fred J. Hargrave is admirable; Mr. Arthur Winckworth is equally successful in the part of Mephistopeles. Mr. Michael Kemble gives a clever sketch of Valentine. Marguerita is alternately taken by Miss Elizabeth Burgess and Miss Marie Tittiens, both ladies singing with sweetness and expression. Siebel is interpreted with much fervour by Miss Edyth Alvard, whilst Miss Amy Lister is a painstaking representative of Martha. Other operas introduced during the week are *Maritana* and *The Daughter of the Regiment*.

MR. FRED J. LITTLE and his little band of Pierrots attract good audiences on the pier promenade. They give four concerts daily, and their performances afford great delight. Besides the conductor, the artists associated with the performances are Messrs. Ted Wootton, Willie Hicks, Hugh Mewburn, Percy Agutter, Miss Marie Gerant, and Miss Beatrice Moore.

ST. LEONARDS PAVILION THEATRE.—Pier-Master and Entertainment Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Under the direction of Mr. Frank Nelson, the popular and interesting comedy, *A Country Mouse*, is meeting with pronounced success. Mr. Riddell Robinson presents a capital character study in the part of the Hon. Archibald Vyse; The Duke of St. Kitts has an excellent exponent in Mr. Edgar Coyne; and Mr. Frank Powell, as John Bowlby, M.P., presents a finished piece of acting. Miss Dorothy Cacey, as Lady Sylvia Bowlby, is bright and spirited; Lord Robert Wyckham is well impersonated by Mr. Forbes Harrison; Miss Helena Millais plays the part of Angela Muir with natural gentleness and grace; as Mrs. Cropper, Miss Flo Preddy gives an intelligent performance; and Miss Susie Oak thoroughly realises the author's idea of Violet Aynsley.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—The Raymond Animated Picture Company is staying on another week, and repeating their former success. Mr. Wensley Russells is in fine vocal form. As a society entertainer, Mr. Lindon Wyatt scores. Mr. Morton's change from the regular dramatic fare has met with much commendation.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's Ltd.—Manager, Mr. George Morton.—*A Sister's Sin*, a melodrama new to Hull, is a source of pleasure to the vast audience which nightly fills the Alexandra. Miss Mabel Scudamore is a striking heroine; Mr. Andrew Money, as George Oakley, the villain, gives a strong representation; Mr. Ed. Bikker plays the part of Walter Hastings with complete sympathy; as the revengeful Gipsy, Miss Phena Powell has a strong part which she plays well; the Flossie of Miss Edie Macklin is commendable; and Miss Lilian Bales does very effective work as Nell Stubbs. The remainder of the cast work hard towards success.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Appearing here are the Pasquali Bros.; Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford, in an amusing sketch, *Getting Even;* Natalia and Diana, skilled gymnasts; Frank Cass, whose songs are enthusiastically applauded; Sadler and Ross; Ted Waite; and a sketch, *The Red Letter*, presented by Leslie Bell and Eva Pearl.

THE EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—The programme here includes Syd Hermann, in an interesting sketch, *The Hebrew Fugitive;* The Percys, Le Brun and Mlle. Irene, Ray Thorne, Little Edie, J. C. Heffron, and "The Crazy Cook."

THE CIRCUS.—Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—Animated pictures are still packing the house nightly, Mr. Emerson just commencing a run of twenty-six weeks.

HUDDERSFIELD.—HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—At the top of the bill are the Rio Brothers, a quartette of accomplished and graceful gymnasts; also appearing are Harry Wenburn, character comedian; Miss Flo Bankes, comedienne; Vendome and Chase, duettists; Miss Lillian Lowe, a sweet-voiced ballad singer; Metz and Metz, comedians; and Boswell's Circus of cleverly-trained ponies and dogs. Interesting films are shown on the Bioscope.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—For the last week of their visit the company of Mr. James Elphinstone are presenting *The Lass That Loved a Sailor* and *East Lynne*.

IPSWICH. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The one and only Marie Lloyd heads this week's programme, and needless to say crowded and enthusiastic audiences have greeted the first appearance here of the popular music hall star. Her contributions, including the "Coster's wedding," create quite a furore of applause nightly, and her delighted auditors are fain to encore everything. Other engagements include Vincent, a "table expert and lightning Arab tumbler"; the Callcots, in a musical scena called "Rags and Tatters"; Johnny Fuller, a clever and amusing performer on the wire; Russel Brandow, a coloured comedian and dancer; Ella Lane, a pleasing vocalist; and Correze and Keith, whose feats of strength are marvellous.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Marris.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott opened here on Monday night with the new play, *The House of Shame*. Mr. Edwin Keene is most amusing as Morris, and is ably supported by Miss Marjorie Tennant as Mrs. Maux; whilst Mr. Ernest R. Abbott gives a strong rendering of the part of Berkeley Hilderson, and the talented authoress, Miss Ada Abbott, gains much applause as Barbara Lindley. Wednesday being race day here, the sporting drama, *A Wife's Triumph*, was staged.

HORSESHOE QUARRY.—Mr. Edward Mains's Pierrots and Veroniques have this week been augmented by the appearance of Little Keeno, who gives some clever and funny imitations of Harry Lauder. Miss Lucy Wilson, another new-comer, now acts as accompanist. The entertainment concludes each evening by a series of views shown by the Animated Picture Company.

TRIANGLE PARK.—The Gaieties, under the direction of Messrs. Wilson James and Charles Conyers, are here this week, and received a very hearty welcome. Miss Ruby Wilson renders some delightful items; Miss Beatrice Jeffreys proves herself the possessor of a fine voice; and Mr. Percy Watson is an excellent tenor. Miss Lois Barber acts as accompanist.

LANCASTER.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. W. J. Fergusson and John Porter.—Another excellent programme is being put before the patrons here. At the head of the bill are the Melody Makers, six in number, who have a great reception; the Idanias supply a clever gymnastic act; Miss Ouida Macdermott sings sweetly; a unique ventriloquial turn is supplied by Alpho; Elsie Earle, in a scena, *Holly and Mistletoe*, wins favour; and Walter Curtis, comedian, brings down the house; Mlle. Sylvesto, contortionist, and the Hippograph, with new pictures, complete the bill.

LEEDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Linton.—An old favourite, *The Face at the Window*, is at the Royal this week, and its presentation by Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company is attracting good patronage. Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale has the part of Lucio Delgada, a typical villain, and his effective conception is something to be remembered; the detective, Gouffet, is personated in fine style by Mr. T. W. Dunscombe; and Mr. Alfred Warne leaves nothing to be desired in his delineation of the banker Brisson; Miss Marie Barrett arouses the tense interest of her audience by a striking effort as Marie de Brisson; Miss Marie Tennant contributes an excellent portrayal of La Pinau; and the Babette of Miss Gladys Newcombe is a satisfactory study.

EMPIRE PALACE, LTD. — District - Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Lew Lake and Bob Morris are the principal executants in *My Pal Jerry*, and their efforts are very successful. The refined and accomplished musical turn by Florence and Lillian is once more a much-admired feature; Howard and Collinson again present their clever specialty with good success; Maggie Walsh, described as the singing mill-girl, warbles in popular style; and the Hartley Wonders do some marvellous jumping feats; Arthur Gill, vocalist extraordinary, does an acceptable turn; and that clever ventriloquist, David Poole, scores his usual success.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—Fresh from a successful American tour, popular Vesta Victoria opened here on Monday to crowded houses, singing some clever new items with her customary dash and vivacity; Gipsy Woolf and her six juveniles in song and dance are a great attraction; Hayman and Franklin prove very diverting in their Hebrew specialty; Max Weldon arouses enthusiasm with some clever impersonations; and Moon and Morris, simultaneous dancers, disport themselves to general satisfaction; Blake and Granby are smart in a mirth-provoking sketch; Belrose and De Velin contribute vocal items in accomplished style; that clever comedienne Rosie Lloyd once again evidences her popularity; and the Sisters Wingrove, duettists and dancers, and the Wallys, novelty jugglers, also make a successful appearance.

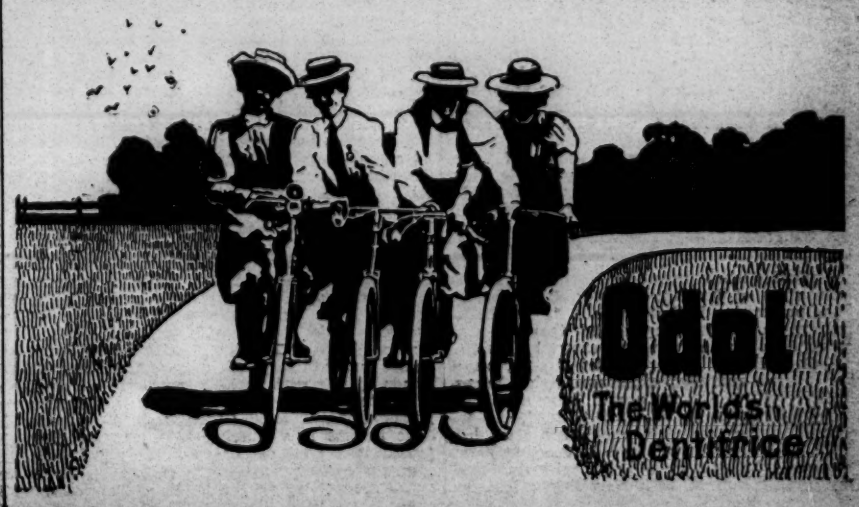
CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—The Bensons in vocal comedy are a popular lead here; Mlle. Haydee has a successful turn with her miniature vaudeville theatre; Dene and Dawson provoke great merriment with an effective comedy sketch; the vocal contributions of Lily Lonsdale are well applauded, as are also some fine renditions at the piano by George Young, a gifted blind musician; Ernie Myers, the eccentric comedian, is again a strong favourite; and other popular contributors in a similar line are Dan Filmer and Arthur Boyne.

LEICESTER.—PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Harry Tate is here in the sketch, *Fishing*, which allows for the full display of the comic abilities of this clever and versatile comedian. Cruikshank as a jester, who has always something new; Ella Retford, a fascinating comedienne and exceptionally smart dancer, renders her songs, "Has anyone seen a German band?" and "Mr. Grundy," in a manner which is vastly pleasing; Spry and Austin are a delightful and entertaining vaudeville couple; Francis juggles with cannon balls, &c., in a remarkably neat style, his turn being brightened by his funny assistant, Alfred; the Cape Girls, comediennes and long-boot dancers, are good; the Musical Jees are amusing and clever in their comedy-musical sketch, *The Scarecrow;* Fielding and Hull are capital in their vocal medleys; and the Bioscope is depicting *The Struggle for Life*, a great human drama, in twenty scenes.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence.—A particularly funny comedy episode, entitled *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*, is being presented here this week by a capital company, including Mr. Arnold Richardson. Another special attraction is the Czar's Royal Russian Troupe of Dancers with a smart show. Bessie Shelley is a vivacious burlesque actress; La Belle Maie goes through a neat and clever performance on the wire; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope still remains a potent attraction. Lew Towers, actor vocalist, and Vera and Royal, comedy duettists, are appearing as deputies for Charles Gardiner and the Zampas. The hall closes to-day (Saturday) to allow of the interior decorations being finished off.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The local trades holiday week has found Mr. Wal Croft, Miss Isa Bowman, and the rest of the company at the top of their form in the popular *Trip to the Highlands*, which goes on running with greater zest than ever. Miss Dolly Lancaster and her associates in the Tricky Trio of Dancers keep things moving briskly in their speciality turns; and the general attractiveness of the production continues to be excellently well maintained. A fine series of views of Scottish scenery, thrown on the screen during the intervals between the acts, arouses considerable interest and enthusiasm.

LLANDUDNO.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—This theatre opened for the season on Monday with *A Fool's Paradise*. Mr. Cecil



Wynne, as Sir Peter Lund, M.D., gives an excellent interpretation throughout; Mr. Arthur Claremont, as Lord Normantower, being equally well placed. Phillip Selwyn is capitally portrayed by Mr. J. Henry Twyford; Miss Florence Radcliffe, as Kate Derwent, adequately sustains a difficult part; and Miss Laura Hansen, as Beatrice Selwyn, is charming and plays with dramatic power; Mr. Wylie A. Thompson (Hon. Tom Verinder) and Miss Hilda Waldorf (Mildred Selwyn) complete a well-selected cast. *A Fool's Paradise* was preceded by *An April Shower*, in which Mr. J. Henry Twyford and Miss Florence Radcliffe appear. *A Chinese Honeymoon* was announced for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. A. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—The attraction is this week supplied by the "Four M.P.'s," the musical Palmers, whose entertainment is enthusiastically received, and the Parisian Animated Pictures.

Pier Head Pavilion.—Local Manager, Mr. A. R. Sutcliffe. — Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots, Anglo-Indians, are extending their visit by another week.

LIVERPOOL. — Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—On Monday the stock company of the Theatre Royal, Breck-road, opened a fortnight's engagement here whilst their own house is undergoing alteration and decoration. The drama selected for presentation was *A London Actress*, from the pen of Miss Emma Litchfield, and was very ably put on. Mr. Harry Tresham showed to advantage as the breezy, manly Lieut. Kingston; Mr. Sydney Grant certainly distinguished himself with his portrait of the unfortunate Clive Crawford; the capital delivery of Mr. Cecil Ravenswood lent dignity to the rôle of Captain Mannering; Mr. Robert Wilton caused continuous laughter as Pat Maloney; Mr. Leo Montgomery made the most of the call-boy; and among the ladies who very creditably went through their work were Miss Nellie Bonser (Phyllis Crawford), Miss Beatrice Annersley (a humorous Biddy Maloney), Miss Florence Cameron (Rosie Blythe), and Miss Beryl Ravenswood (Hilda Mannering). The audiences were large and appreciative.

Lyric — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Top of the bill here this week is the always welcome Horace Wheatley, a prime favourite in Liverpool, whose songs and patters have proved enjoyable. The Tally-Ho Trio provided a most enjoyable turn with their mirth and melody; as comedians and dancers Stacey and Williams earned a cordial reception; the smart dancing of the Currie Trio reflected every credit upon those artists; as a coster comedian Phil Bransby showed many good points; May Marton, a dainty comedienne, pleased everybody; the Three Pirmans had a smart comedy pot-pourri act; and Alf Ripon proved an excellent turn as a ventriloquist.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*A Beautiful Fiend*, presented by Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company, has met with acceptance here this week. Miss Sidney Crowe assumed the title-part, playing with dramatic strength; Mr. Herbert Skardon gave a telling picture of Ivan Paulovitch; Mr. Harry C. Robinson lent great assistance as Count Karateff; Mr. Watt Russell did well in the rôle of Sergius Strogoff; a deal of laughter followed the efforts of Mr. Dick Seddon as Christopher Crackles; and other artists who also acquitted themselves were Miss Marie Fontaine (Patty Woodlands), Miss Violet Ingram (Nadine Karateff), and Mr. Pat Quinn (Malachi).

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—The able John Kurkamp, with his capital musical turn and fine voice, heads the programme here this week, and great has been public appreciation of his work. The hand balancing of Marcel and Boris has been watched with deep interest; the accomplished delineator of Hebrew character, Gus Harris, had a good reception, particularly for his "'Tis Primrose Day"; John E. Coyle, eccentric comedian, afforded much pleasure; Tom E. Hughes raised many a laugh, the song, "Can London do without me?" proving especially good; Smarte Bros. gave a clever acrobatic speciality; Rastus and Banks, coloured American entertainers, caused a deal of mirth with *The Major and the Maid*; and others in the lengthy programme were Mlle. Renée, with a clever novelty musical act; Fred Land, eccentric comedian; Juno Salmo, the Devil Dandy, and Geoffreys and Benson, comedians.

Park Palace.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd..—The stock dramatic company here this week have produced *Fate of the Fallen*, from the pen of T. Hill.

Haymarket.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company are still here, affording pleasure with well-presented sketches. *A Stolen Title; or, The Green Lanes of Erin*, is being given this week. Haverley and Horner, a smart couple of dandy comedians, give their audience good value; May Elliott dances and sings neatly, and Andy Griffin also appears.

Westminster.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Heading the bill here this week is Edna Latouna, a favourite, who sings several popular chorus songs; Lytton and Bland present a pleasing comedy duologue; Fayre and Machenry are capable comedians and dancers; some remarkable work as contortionists is shown by the Alton Trio; Tella and Gardelle go through daring feats on the rings; and Dave Miller, a smart comedian and dancer, is deservedly well received.

Olympia. — District - Manager. Mr. Albert Bulmer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—"The Globe of Life" has been the big attraction here this week; Edward Lauri and company have presented a pretty musical trifle, entitled *In Her Boudoir*; the particularly clever acrobatic work of the Hadj Abdullah Troupe won loud applause; as comediennes and speciality dancers the Sisters Anderson pleased exceedingly; Julia Kent and Alex Keith gave a comedy turn which met with approval; and also in the list were Harry Freeman, a comedian of ability; Kitty Wager, comedienne; Fred Poplar, comedian, and Cissie Curlette, mimetic vocalist.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.—The always popular G. H. Elliott heads the list here this week, and has had a rousing reception for his taking coon songs and graceful dancing. Tom Foy and company, with *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, have provoked endless mirth; the M'Connell Trio gave a charming vocal comedy-sketch; Cecile and François had a smart turn as acrobatic dancers; C. R. Whittel brought his latest funny ditty, "Put me amongst the girls," which went well, and also gave his "Billy Muggins"; Menotti went through a remarkable cycling feat upon a revolving wire; and other acceptable turns came from Anna Kenwick, coon comedienne; Gabrielle Landri, flautist, and Eily Adair, comedienne.

Tivoli.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—The Pichel troupe of acrobats are foremost here this week, delighting everybody with their remarkable achievements; Clive and Clarke, a particularly smart couple of black and white comedy artists, have afforded much pleasure; as a juggler Halma wants a lot of beating; an appreciated feature of the programme is that provided by Les Belles Americans, speciality singers and dancers; some wonderful work as a gymnast is shown by Lozelle; and others in the list are Violet Carlyle, comedienne, Hans and Lux, comedians, Helen James, vocalist, and Ted Thomas, a very funny comedian.

Roscommon.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—As announced in *The Era* last week, this place has abandoned variety for the two-houses-per-night drama. On Monday Mr. Percy Boucher and company opened with *What Women Suffer*, his supporters being Messrs. Charles Herberte, Herbert H. Young, J. D. Geddes, H. Arnold Allen, H. Maxwell Payne, George Hope, Henry Moore, Victor Earle, Misses Evelyn Kington, Lena Nazeby, Hazel Dent, and Enid Wild.

LOWESTOFT.—Marina.—Manager, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's company is presenting *Bootles' Baby* here this week. Mr. Stewart cleverly assumes the rôle of Capt. Ferrer (Bootles), and Miss Georgina Wynter submits an artistic rendering as Helen Grace. Mr. Hy. Wolston appears successfully as Gavor Gilchrist, and his brother officers are well represented by Messrs. Ernest Gray, Wm. Midgley, Hubert Purser, and Leslie Owen, the last-named being especially pleasing in his scenes with Bootles' Baby, a part which is daintily assumed by Miss Maisie Richardson. Mr. Tom Mowbray makes the most of the part of Private Saunders, and other characters receive careful treatment.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Frank Freeland. — With the last week of the present season of the British Biograph Company, who have enjoyed an extraordinary run of success since last November, another popular programme is presented. Amongst the charming series of pictures must be mentioned "The Fisherman's Widow" and "Cairo to Khartoum." The variety turns include the Lizzette troupe of lady acrobats; De Breans, jugglers; Molly Augarde, comedienne; Mint and Mart, sketch artists; and Dick Bradley, cyclist.

MAIDENHEAD.—The weather this season has not been at all favourable to *al fresco* entertainments, but our local shows have pluckily held on. Both the Cadets at the Pavilion Pleasure Grounds and the Pierrots at Northwick House Grounds have erected marquees where they have catered well for those who have braved the elements. The former party not only provide songs and concerted numbers, but their sketches are most amusing; while the Pierrots add to their drawing powers by their excellent mutoscope pictures.

MAIDSTONE.—Corn Exchange.—Mr. Dudley Gill's company is here in *A Snug Little Kingdom*. Mr. H. Montagu Love is pathetic as Ben Kershaw; the Bernard Gray of Mr. W. Kershaw is a genuine character study; and Mr. Edmund Breon does well as Dr. Gray; Miss Ada King makes a success of Mrs. Blower; Miss Margaret S. Fareleigh cleverly depicts the sweet simplicity of Dolly, the chorus girl; and Miss Margaret Stuart and Miss Leslie Thorne are also effective. As a curtain raiser, the company plays *Wanted—James Burton*, by Mr. J. Herbert Jay, with great success.

MANCHESTER. — Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Messrs. Silverstone, Wright, and Belton's company are once more attracting local audiences by their vigorous playing of *The Nihilist*, an exciting Russian drama by George Towers and Hugh Montgomery. One of the best parts is that of Ivan, the blacksmith, rendered admirably by Mr. Felix Pitt; while in addition to the telling impersonation of Princess Olga by Miss Mary Dawson, valuable aid is rendered by Mr. C. Rinovelli as Prince Alexander, Mr. O. Silverstone as Petoff, and Miss Florrie Kelsey as Alexina Orloff. Much enjoyable fun is contributed by Mr. Henry Wright and Miss Jessica Ford.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—*The Sin of Her Childhood*, last week's success at the King's, Longsight, is the attraction here, played by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company.

St. James's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—Messrs. Thacker and Carlton's company remain here another week, and are playing *The Shadows of a Great City*.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Here this week Miss Augusta Tullock and her company, from the Royal Osborne Theatre, are presenting their popular success, *The End Crowns All*.

Queen's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan.—In a triple bill, two items of which are noted elsewhere, a short episode by W. W. Jacobs, *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler* figured here with some distinction for the first time in Manchester on Monday night. The little piece was well staged and well played, and it furnished ample amusement in spite of an unexpectedly tragic ending. Mr. Harold V. Neilson and Miss Lillian Kevill-Davies were particularly successful in a clever cast.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Nellie Wallace, the well-known burlesque artist, is the principal attraction here this week, and is warmly received. Prominent also is Arden and Abel's diverting comedy sketch, *Three of a Kind*, which is capitally presented; the singing of Lola Patey, an accomplished vocalist, is excellent; the Carmos give a very clever and sensational juggling act; Seeley and West are good, as usual, in their instrumentalism and comic patter; Josh Dixon, a quaint Lenoesque comedian, is highly amusing; and other good turns are the Eriks, see-saw equilibrists; Jessie Albini, comedienne; and Collins and Rice, comedy artists. The Bioscope is one of the strong features of the programme.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Mr. Robert Crossman's company is here this week in a tabloid edition of that delightful musical comedy, *Sergeant Brue*, chief parts being sustained in a striking manner by Messrs. Arthur Reynolds, Maitland Marier, J. H. Goldsworthy, Chas. Sims, and Miss Marie Hall. A wonderfully clever turn, gone through in a highly finished manner, is that of Salerno, "the newest of star jugglers." The Ten Loonies in *Dotty* cause roars of laughter, as usual; Little Ganty's eccentric antics are extremely funny, and the clever little comedian makes a decided hit; Gertie Gitana, comedienne and dancer, is very well received; the Brothers Artois, comedy bar performers, are exceedingly smart and amusing; Bert Woodward does astonishing things on a bicycle; Madge May is a dainty comedienne; and other items of interest are the choir selections and the Bioscope Pictures.

King's, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. R. Taylor.—A capital programme here this week is headed by Maxford and O'Neill, whose songs, sayings, and general business are productive of much laughter; the Lombards are clever specialty acrobats, and are well received; Pete and Minnie Lee in the song-scena, *The Scotchman's Visit to London*, are good; Mlle. Vanda juggles well on the rolling globe; and the Betson's are very clever trick cyclists. Good turns are also offered by J. C. Scatter, comedian and dancer; Madge Allen, vocalist and dancer; and Gladys Sylvester, Fletcher Sansome, and company in musical episode, *The Maid and the Middy*. Pictures complete.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. P. Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tealor Wade.—Fred Edwards and company are highly amusing here this week in a sketch entitled *Kleptomaniacs;* H. O. Wills is a capital comedian, and scores all along the line; Maidie Scott, a charming comedienne, makes a big hit; and the banjo playing of Elton and Edwin is excellent; Harry Webber, Hebrew dialect comedian, is good in song and patter; Albert and Edmunds appear with decided success in an amusing sketch, *The First Mrs. Banbury;* and Dainez' Circus includes very cleverly-trained animals; Pollo Jerome is a pleasing lady gymnast; Tiny Arnald is a good dancer; and Hyde and Cody, eccentric acrobats, are extremely smart. Latest events are portrayed by the Palace Pictures.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—The star turn here this week is provided by Miss Millie Engler and company in a first-rate farcical episode entitled *Beauty and the Burglar*, including Miss Louie Tinsley, who did so well in *The Talk of the Town*. George Langdon and Connie Laurie are seen to advantage in dramatic excerpts from famous plays; Kate A. Traill, in songs at the piano, is highly successful; and Gillin is an excellent ventriloquist. Other smart items are contributed by Maud Esmond, burlesque artist; Harry Wright, vocal comedian; Peggy Fame, comedy artist; Joad Heteb, in Egyptian mystery act; and Nellie Gannon, descriptive vocalist. Raymond's Vivagraph Pictures, as usual, are good.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—The Four Kurios, in a pantomimical scena are at the top of the bill here this week, and are very amusing; the ever-popular Ada Fawn, comedienne, meets with a deservedly good reception; Ajax and George perform some clever gymnastic feats; Clotilde and Musto introduce cleverly trained cockatoos; and the Four Netherlands, in their Dutch scena, sing and dance smartly; Lily Eyeton, vocalist, sings in a very pleasing manner; Sid Carlton, character vocalist, sings well; and Mark Henton, comedian, is good. Pictures are shown depicting "The Royal Visit to the Horse Show."

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay.—Mme. Lydia Yeamans-Titus, the well-known cantatrice and vocal comedienne, heads the bill here this week, and is particularly successful in her baby impersonations; Lionel Vaughan's comedy sketch company are seen to great advantage in a laughable item entitled *In Trouble;* and the singing of the Greys (Ada and Herbert) is greatly appreciated; Gustave's Royal Pierrots provide a good turn; Bianchi is a clever equilibrist; Vinie Belfrey, comedienne, sings nicely; and much laughter is caused by Yorick and Yorick, eccentrics, and by J. H. Darnley and company in a playlet, *What a Night!* The animated pictures are enjoyable.

Rusholme Pavilion.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Secretary, Mr. Geo. Phillips; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. North.—Good business is still to be recorded here, the programmes being excellent.

The White City (Old Trafford). — Managing-Director, Mr. John Calvin Brown; Assistant General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Ellis. — Gilleno's American Circus is here again this week, delighting crowded houses. The programme includes a clever tight-wire act, by Mlle. Onra; the Spangaletti's troupe of trained dogs and baboon; and performing pony and equestrian acts by Mr. Harry. The clowns are Littie Stero and Comical Walker. Mr. Charles Powell is a good ringmaster. The music in the grounds is provided by the band of the 1st Battalion Loyal North Lancashire Regiment. Simbri's illusions continue to attract large audiences; Milton's Marionettes, Mr. Henry Drake's Zingari Pierrots, and Hale's Tours of the World are also well patronised.

MANSFIELD.—Grand Theatre Gardens.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and district Theatres, Ltd.; Managing Director, Capt. Cecil Clayton.—During this week Farrien's Merry Mascot Pierrots have been the attraction. A good series of pictures is presented on the Bioscope.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—The attraction this week has been the drama, *The Best of Her Sex*, ably presented by Mr. Wm. A. Armour's company. Mr. Herbert J. Walton gives a capable portrayal of Lieut.-Colonel Faringdon; Mr. William A. Armour is well placed as Philip Faringdon; Mr. A. Polson-Turner is a powerful Leslie Verney; Miss Dora Price a brilliant Vera Delorme; the Rev. Stephen Maxwell is in the capable hands of Mr. John Cecil; Miss Alice Defoe is an effective Ruth Raeburn; and the comedy parts are in the safe keeping of Mr. Fred Rignold as P.C. Jorkins and Miss Nell Ingram as Polly Perkins.

MARGATE.—Theatre Royal.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Stage and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wallis Clark.—Miss Cecil Cromwell and company have been appearing this week in *The Tree of Knowledge;* Mr. Arthur Royston acts well as Nigel Stanyon, whose early intrigues with Belle, a part effectively played by Miss Cecil Cromwell, and the latter's duplicity and deceit provide the motif around which the plot is woven; the rôle of Brian Hollingworth finds capable representation at the hands of Mr. Frank Ridley; and as Loftus Roupell Mr. Henry Renouff is excellent; Miss Nellie Malcolm makes a charming Monica Blayne; and Mrs. Culling plays Nigel's mother pleasingly. The remaining characters are all capably sustained.

The Hippodrome.—Sole Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Frank Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—An attractive item in this week's programme is the appearance of Haley's clever troupe of juveniles in their carnival scena; among the vocalists and dancers are Dot and Spot, the smallest duettists before the public, and their appearance, as well as the whole turn, is rapturously applauded; Tom Costello is accorded a great reception; Leah Odell, reengaged, makes a decided hit in her pretty scena, *Cinderella's Dream*, and other contributors to a pleasing programme include Daisy Martell, comedienne; Will Johnson, comedian; Sisters Marion, duettists; and Luis Hardt, the mighty atom. An extra turn is given with Little Tich in one of the Bioscope pictures.

Hall-by-the-Sea.—Sole Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Evans.—Mlle. Roza's canine hippodrome is a great attraction here this week, and the other items in the programme include Nora Noble, comedienne; the Florias, slack wire artists and novelty equilibrists; Harry Maynard, comedian; De Vere and Kenwick, the American comedy duo, who introduce burlesque pictures of popular songs; Bros. Redmond, acrobatic comedians; and Sisters St. Julian, duettists and dancers.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Jackson.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is paying a return visit here this week with *The Span of Life*. The various characters are ably sustained by Messrs. Arthur Chisholme, Sanderson, Moffatt, Walter Dale, Leon Ainscliffe, Charles Noel, J. Petersfell, the Brothers Stebbing, and Miss Phyllis Graham, Phyllis Hamilton, Kitty Russell, and Ella Wilmer.

Temperance Hall.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Animated pictures, both amusing and instructive, form the chief item in the programme, with variety turns submitted by the Fordyces (Jenny and Willie), comedy singers and dancers; Donetta, acrobatic Dutch comedienne; and Little Frankie, boy vocalist.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—Mr. Leigh Lovel and Miss Octavia Kenmore and company produced, for the first time in Middlesbrough, on Monday night Ibsen's remarkable play, *The Master Builder*, and were accorded a hearty reception. The piece is admirably staged, and the costumes are on a lavish scale. Mr. Leigh Lovel in the rôle of Halvard Solness, the master builder, gave a very impressive performance of a difficult rôle. Miss Octavia Kenmore charmed all by her clever impersonation of Hilde Wangel, her acting being most convincing. As Dr. Herbal, Mr. Arthur McCulloch acquitted himself with credit; while Miss Katherine Maynard as Aline Solness was decidedly effective. Mr. Bremer Wills was excellent as Knut Boovik; and Miss Gladys Morris as Raia Fosli and Mr. Aubrey Mather as Ragnar Boovik were all that could be desired. *The Master Builder* was repeated on Tuesday and Wednesday, and for the remainder of the week another of Ibsen's plays, *The Doll's House*, was announced.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges.—Alexandre and Hughes, musical comedians, provide the star turn here this week, and give a delightful musical turn, also causing much laughter with their patter. W. J. Ashcroft scores a great success; the Bros. Brooks, comedians, are exceedingly good; the Sivronis create merriment in their sketch *Opera Gone Mad;* and Marco, the young magician and illusionist, mystifies the audiences with his clever tricks. Jessie Merrilees, versatile comedienne, pleases; and the Sisters Brand, comediennes and dancers, also contribute to the programme.

Oxford Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—The Arthur Saxon Trio top the bill here this week, and they give a clever display of strength. A pretty turn is given by Alfred Graham's Premier Juveniles, who are conducted by Mr. Phil Rees; the well-known vocalists, Clifton and Gibson, create roars of laughter with their songs and patter; Phern and Phern please in their musical act; Minnie Fenton, Scotch comedienne, does well; and other turns are provided by Alice Maydue, character comédienne, and Tennyson and Wallis, comedians.

MORCAMBE.—Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General Manager, Mr. C. M. Julian.—A very bright and well-constructed musical comedy, *The Pick of the Bunch*, has been doing good holiday business here, and the patronage of the public is thoroughly well deserved. The cast is a long one, and the principal characters are assumed by Miss M. Sadie, who is very bright as Nancy, Miss Madge Christopher as Nellie Mather; Miss Eva Ellis as Ruth Gay; Mr. Algernon W. Lee as Hallwell Menit; Mr. Percy Baverstock as Colonel Menit, in which part he is most amusing; Mr. Harold Wantage as Martin again proves his ability as a comedian; Mr. Norman Bowyer as a typical stage dude; and little Tom Lewis; Lottie Stone's dancers are distinctly good, the principal *danseuse* being Mabel Coleman. The dance of the Golliwogs and the Hydro Girls are amongst the specialities. The musical direction is entrusted to Mr. Harry Bolton.

Winter Gardens.—Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lucas, in their scenes from "Martin Chuzzlewit" and "Bleak House" have achieved a popular success. Both are clever actors, and have caught the true spirit of the characters, which seem to have stepped straight from the pages of the great author; Tom and Marie Motramo are most amusing in their musical drawing-room act; those clever little girls, Dolly Cullen and Elsie Jordison charm the audience in song and dance; the Westwoods give a neat and smart trick cycle act; Charles Santon exercises his double voice; Bennett and Martell push along with gag and whimsicality; the two Dixons are smart with baton and banjo; the Layville's Lilliputian act is good; and W. B. Raby's tired song is well done; a big turn is that provided by the Schenk Brothers, who are quite incomparable equilibrists.

Alhambra Palace.—General-Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—That extraordinary illusionist, Fritz, has been a big attraction here, and his show is certainly a most wonderful one; Troba has been juggling with shot, shell, and billiard ball with his usual smartness; Joe Boganny's lunatic bakers, are extra in their Risley work; Addie Dorina's protean act is really good, and she displays all the qualities of a sterling actress in the seven distinct characters she assumes in *How It was Done;* she is assisted by Mr. H. Butler; there are also in the bill Martinette and Grossi, surprise novelty musical act; Andy Fagan, comedian and dancer; Roy Ford, dainty comedienne; Bruh and Hemsley, in a unique act, *Fun in a Music Shop;* and Mabel Kessler, a talented soprano and post horn player.

Central Pier.—Manager, Mr. E. Hill.—These clever little Japanese, the Andos, are topping the bill here with their acrobatic balancing, rope sliding, and other feats, and right well they go; Henry Carlton and his comedy team in *The Window Cleaner* go with a bang; Mr. C. Emlyn Jones's song scena, *Daughters of Britain*, is very original in conception, and the quintette sing national songs with much charm; Billy Richardson orates in the good old Christy Minstrel style, in which there are plenty of laughs still remaining; the Brothers Durant, gymnasts, contortionists, etc., have a novel prelude to their act in the shape of some fooling in an air-ship; Mr. W. G. Webber sings good songs, and his fine bass voice is much appreciated; included in the bill are Miniature Florrie, child vocalist; the Davenports, illusionists, and the Cheers with their well-trained performing cats, including "Snowball," for which is put forward the claim of being the cleverest cat in the world.

West-End Pier.—Secretary, Mr. J. Bastow.—Miss Annie Schuberth, the well-known light opera *prima donna*, is appearing with great success here, and she is certainly delightful in all she does. She has a fine presence, a beautiful voice, and is a true artiste; Mr. Thornley Dodge imitates celebrities in the theatrical world, such as Tree, Roberts, Huntly Wright, and knocks off sketches with lightning rapidity; Tatten Hall is the comedian, and very good he is; Herr Wilhelm Morgann's Blue Hungarian Band is heard to advantage.

NEWPORT. — Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Major Gallagher; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Page.—Harry Lauder is seen and heard by means of Gaumont's Chronomegaphone, and his favourite songs are excellently rendered; May Henderson is in high favour; and Boy Glen, juvenile raconteur; Pat Rafferty, Irish comedian; the Anartos, in a musical comedy sketch; Ryder Slone, comedian; Edie King, comedienne and dancer; and Ben Albert, the logician, complete a strong bill.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The Almo Trio, in their comedy bar act, top the bill here this week; the Nettas, duettists, are well received; and the two Neros present an enjoyable drawing-room act; Mr. J. P. Carroll, tambourine manipulator, has many admirers; the Sisters Pender, comediennes, are loudly applauded; Mr. Watt Tyler, character vocalist, has made a hit; and the Biophotoscope is as popular as ever.

NORTHWICH.—Pierrot Pavilion.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Glanmore Jones; Manager, Mr. Lyndon Wyatt.—Jean Seul, the Indian mystery, gives an exceedingly clever turn; Captain Kettle Mersano's conjuring is really marvellous; Frank Frame is an undoubted success as a humorist; and Paul Victor gives an entertaining shadowgraph performance.

NORWICH.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. B. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor Fitt.—Dutch Daly's anecdotes evoke much laughter, and his musical companion, the concertina, adds much to his success; Mr. Alfred Wellesley is also humorous in his sketch, *The Peacemaker;* Hall and Earle are clever and eccentric acrobats; Angelina as a juggler displays wonderful tricks; Wontenburgh Brothers are clever double-foot experts; the Tremans are excellent in their comedy creation, *The Fire Station;* Frances Hanlon is a pleasing comedienne; and Marie Empress, comedienne, deserves a similar compliment. The Hippo-Bio is also appreciated.

NOTTINGHAM.—Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Geo. Lashwood heads the bill this week, and is particularly successful in his scena, *A Night in the West*. Ella Shields makes her first appearance here, and captivates all by her delightful rendering of coon songs in a refined and artistic manner; Charles Robinson calls forth hearty laughter in a parody on "In the shade of the old apple tree," comically illustrated; Baker and Balfe extract all the music possible out of the xylophone; and Rosie Archer submits some smart imitations of popular artists. The songs of Austin Rudd are broadly comic; and much hilarity is produced by Amy Anderson as "The Banana Queen." The Eight Empire Girls and Farley, Rennie, and Farley add their quota to the fun; and an interesting film of the Dieppe motor races is given on the Bioscope.

OLDHAM.—Empire Theatre.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Alex. C. Grant's company is here with *The Woman from Scotland Yard*, and is well received by good attendances. In in the name part (Edith Mayne, detective), Miss Chrissie Dunbar gives a capital rendering; Mr. George Edwin Clive is a robust Harry Stanhope; Mr. A. C. Grant makes a good character study of Paul Obanoff; and his villainous servant, Sergius, is well played by Mr. Frank Lester; while Miss Mildred Howard, as the accomplice of the rascally Russian, is very good; Miss Dorothy Wilkinson, as Mary White, causes much hilarity, receiving great assistance from Mr. Robert Cromwell as Jack Brown, and Mr. Walter Clarke as Algernon Fitzmaurice; Ivan Vassilietch is well-played by Mr. John L. Schofield, and Mr. Charles Graham is an excellent Sir James Stanhope; Mr. Arthur E. Kento does well as James Farren, and the remaining characters are adequately sustained.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Paulton and Dooley (Paul and Georg) are high-class trick and comedy cyclists, and were recalled repeatedly, as were also the Edgertons, aerial artists, who perform some sensational feats; Ethel Walker is an agreeable and talented entertainer at the piano; Conan and Doyle are a pair of smart cross-talk comedians; and Meier and Mora are effective in a novel pot-pourri act; the three Panamas give a capital turn of acrobatic tumbling and dancing; Dollie Denton, comedienne, sings in a dainty manner; and Dan Leno, jun., is a clever comedian; the Royal Dottoscope concludes with a humorous picture.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—Miss Fannie Humber is taking well as an instrumentalist, vocalist, and dancer; and W. G. Wesley sings some quaint songs; the Bioscope is showing a varied selection of films, which includes the Olympia Horse Show.

OXFORD.—East Oxford Theatre.—Lessee, Miss Winifred Stuart; Managers, Mr. Frank Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mills.—Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby's company is here this week with *Man's Enemy*, which, capably performed and capitally staged, has met with a most cordial reception from good houses. Mr. N. A. Overton is a manly and convincing Harry Stanton; Mr. T. W. Atherstone a powerful Tom Drake; Mr. H. J. Kirby an excellent Count Lauski, General Stanton, Fred Lisle, Bill Saunders, P.C. Smithers, and Adolph all find capable exponents in Messrs. W. Jeans, P. West, W. H. Burton, F. Paget, and F. Hedley, and Mr. Fred Owen scores a big success in his humorous impersonation of the Jew Ikey Barnett; Miss May Grace plays Grace Leslie in a sympathetic and pleasing style; Miss Evelyn Geldard is a capital Mrs. Saunders, and sings well; Miss Eva Reed is a prime favourite as Polly Harris; and the difficult and trying part of Sarah Drake is sustained throughout with complete success by Miss V. St. Lawrence.

PAISLEY.—Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—Excellent talent continues to grace the boards here. Sam Elton, juggler, achieves a big success; Francini Ollom and Page, comedy instrumentalists, jugglers, and tumblers, are a pair of excellent entertainers; Henry Curwen and Marie Belle present a musical comedy tabloid which causes much laughter; Windermere and Manifield, comedy duologue artists, deserve praise for a capital sketch; Ray Maskell is a lively comedienne with a taking style; in their musical, vocal, and dancing mélange the Mackinnon Family are roundly applauded; Olive and Owen, operatic vocalists, submit a delightful entertainment in their comedy act, *Roadside Tinkers;* Martine and Son score as American song illustrators; and the Hippodrome Bioscope present another series of good pictures.

PLYMOUTH.—Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The principal contribution to the programme is that of Chung Ling Soo, whose feats of conjuring leave his audience in an amusing state of mystification; Launceston Elliott performs some herculean feats, and reaps plenty of applause for his exhibition; Bob Hamilton sings a couple of attractive songs, interspersed with some humorous dialogue in the quaint Scotch dialect; Les Uniques are an accomplished trio of gymnasts; and Clemart pays a welcome return with his finished ventriloquial entertainment. Other contributions are rendered by the Sisters Ford, Webb, and Edna Branson, and Vernon's pictures.

PORTH.—The Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—An excellent and varied programme is submitted here. The following turns are appearing: Jan Rudenyi, Hungarian violinist, in a musical romance, *The Power of Music*, assisted by Miss Dora de Winton and Mr. J. D. Saunders; E. W. Selman, a quaint comedian; the Decars, in their up-to-date scena, *Off to the Races;* the Four Cecilias, drawing-room entertainers and instrumentalists; the Villions, in their cycle acrobatic performance; Ford Williams, the celebrated Welsh basso; Cyrus Dare, in a mimetic performance; the Brothers Sheppard, cross-talkers; the Brothers Adderley, musical mimics; Ivy Gallard, comedienne; and Gladys and Alber, in their novelty comedy act.

PORTSMOUTH. — Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Miss Violet Osmund and company are here for the week with the musical comedy, *The New Barmaid*. Miss Osmund as Dora Heather gives an excellent interpretation; Mr. Alexander Loftus makes the very best of the part of Bertie White; William White is effectively played by Mr. James Grant; Mons. Bonsor is amusingly undertaken by Mr. Charles Adeson; Mr. James Hawkes ably enacts the rôle of Captain Lovebury; Ethel Joy is charmingly personated by Miss Clara Beck; Branda Louth and Lady Moulton are pleasingly sustained by Miss Grafton and Miss Mabel Harrison. The variety interlude in the second act is capitally staged and successfully performed.

Prince's Theatre. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—*A Warning to Women* is being presented here this week by Mr. C. Watson Mill, the author's No. 1 company. The trying part of the revengeful Dr. Marcus Dread is taken with marked success by Mr. Richard Vane; Shaun, a wandering minstrel, is cleverly sustained by Mr. Godfrey Tearle; Mr. William Vane ably plays the part of Fergus McNaughton; Mr. Carter Slaughter acts with distinction as Lord Eversleigh; Mr. Henry Rutland is all that could be wished as Squire Kennion; and Messrs. John Willerton and Arthur Halley are satisfactory as Sir John Harkaway and Sir Thomas Riding; Miss Helen Beverley is effective as Molly O'Moore, the Wise Woman; Miss Grace Barton acts prettily as Sheila Kennion; Miss Elinor Glover is pleasing as Hildred, the "woman who was"; Miles O'Moore, a cripple, is sympathetically taken by Miss Edith Rutland; and Miss Molly Malone gives a well-sustained rendering of the squire's eldest daughter, Moira Kennion.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Captain Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Miss Florrie Forde, the popular burl

applauded; Charles Cranston, comedian, proves very versatile, and gains warm approval; Four Watsons, in vocal and instrumental mélange, are clever; Maggie Rimmer is a smart soubrette; Sisters Hall are successful and refined in their vocal selections; Cissie Hare, comedienne, gives several well appreciated items; Harry Bold, comedian is satisfactory; the Claymores, in a dancing club juggling act, do well; Doody and Wright, Australian comiques, are up-to-date, gaining many plaudits; Fred Elton, in speciality act (at the piano), "On board an ocean liner," presents a highly creditable entertainment; Payne's amusing pictures complete the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Heading the bill here this week is Mr. G. H. Chirgwin, "the white-eyed musical Kaffir," who gives his popular selections with his usual success; Carney and Armstrong are amusing comedians; the Maples, comedy artists, are a smart pair; Miss Gladys Mavius, the Canadian coon, does capital work, and gains great applause; Ross and Grayson are a quaint comedy couple; Mr. Geo. Mozart is entirely successful in "The Mudlark village band"; Mr. Charles Sloman is witty and brisk in his business as a quaint comedian; the Four Ramios, the whirling comedians, are particularly good; and the amusing Hippodrome pictures complete the entertainment.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode.—The Stavordale Quintette, in their banjo and harp speciality, are proving a great attraction this week; Mulvey and Miriam appear in *The Artist's Studio;* Wheeler and Wilson, comedy acrobats, create much amusement; Nancy Renshaw, comedienne and bone soloist; Pallas and Cussick, in *The Funny Side of Life;* Helen McGregor, and Harry Vardon, all supply excellent turns; and some of the latest up to-date pictures are shown on the Imperial Bioscope.

ROCHDALE.—CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Smith and Co.—Pringle's North American Animated Picture Company continues here. A capital entertainment is provided, the pictures being very popular with the regular patrons. Variety turns by Leo and Roland, hand balancers and equilibrists, and Yettmah, Japanese juggler, are submitted at intervals.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—The variety season opened here on Monday evening with a capital array of talent. The Four Herberts top the bill with their "novel farm funniosities," in which some smart and clever acrobatic feats are performed; Rappo and Ella are refined and graceful gymnasts; Harry Nelson created roars of laughter with his patter songs; the Sisters Edwardes as vocalists, dancers, and drummers submitted a charming turn; Marlo, juggler; Master May, boy vocalist; and Maston, mimic, also appear, the entertainment concluding with animated pictures by the Bioscope.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Local playgoers are having a complete change this week, variety taking the place of legitimate drama. The Pardoes give a marvellous turn in their comedy item, *Uncle and the Cannibal;* Mlle. Sara's Marblesque Trio are responsible for some excellent statuary tableaux; Sam Shipley is deservedly applauded; and Miss Lottie Holland gives a fine selection. Other successful turns are given by the Three Elbons, Thomas Taylor (the boy tenor), Messrs. Harley and Hardon, Mr. Frank Whitely, and the Vanaro Troupe, together with an up-to-date series of living pictures.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Constant; Business-Manager, Mr. Wm. Lollard.—A conspicuous success has marked the visit of *A Nobleman of Nature*, Mr. Whitmore Ledger's thrilling drama of Russian political intrigue, which has been performed by a capable company. Prince Ivan, "the people's friend," is admirably depicted by Mr. Howard Coveney; Mr. Whitmore Ledger performs with distinction as the conspirator, Paul Benndoff; as Vera, Miss Hettie Jefferies acts with charm; Miss Levina Mining is admirable in the parts of Edith Nehludoff and Katusha Vodki, twin sisters; Mr. Dan Mining is a great success as Bill Drinkwater; and as Philip Hampton, Mr. David Urquhart acts with good effect. Other parts are equally well sustained.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Jay; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. L. Furst.—Entertainment has been splendidly provided during the past week by the Pelicans, a capable company, including two such well-known artists as Miss Nellie Bowman and Mr. Max Stanhope. Open-air performances on the pier have been given daily to good audiences, and the pavilion has been well filled during the evening.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Woman Who Gambles* is here this week, played by Mr. Morton Powell's company. Miss Lilian Herries is very successful in the title-rôle; Mr. George Steele makes a fine Count Otto Steinbach; Baron Cratzlaw is well played by Mr. Percy Ballard; Miss Dora Pass is a charming Cora Gouldhart; Paul Silvanovitch is impressively presented by Mr. Richard Hutton; and Mr. Reginald Fox, Mr. Ernest H. Clarke, Mr. O. Edwin, Mr. Walter Platt-Carr, Miss Lily Malvern, Miss Lillian Rignold, and the rest of the company present their various characters efficiently.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—This week's programme is headed by *The Sandow Girl*, a physical culture skit, presented by Herbert Darnley's company; Marquis and Mignonette provide an excruciately funny act, entitled *Little Willie;* deserved applause is won by Eva Chadwick for her charming soprano vocalism; *An Evening at Home*, by Napoli Sextette, is vociferously applauded; *The Honeymoon Baby* is a good sketch presented by R. Cameron Matthews' Comedy company. Other acceptable turns include George Westland, Scotch comedian, who tells some smart tales; Two Sprees (Dorothy and Joe), in a good scena, called *Twickenham Ferry;* and H. Bentley, eccentric comedian.

STRETFORD PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Sidney Weatherilt; Manager, Mr. Fred Erick.—Plenty of variety is provided in this week's bill, which includes Hall and Wilson, in their bicycle racing act; De Voy and Cameron (Marie and Jim), comedians; John Cronow, facial expert; Florence Raymond, comedienne; Maud Elliott; Charles Huntley; and Mabel Ormonde, vocalists.

SALISBURY.—VICTORIA PARK.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. F. D'Alton Tebby; Manageress, Miss Jessie D'Alton.—The promenade concerts are again in full swing. Miss Alice Ramsdale is very successful; Mr. Will Skidmore scores a huge success; Miss Grace Walters gives a good rendering of "Angel of my dreams"; Mr. Albert Lawrence causes roars of laughter with "Waiting at the church"; Miss Lillian Ramsdale has a good voice and dances daintily; Mr. Barnes works well with his songs and patter; Little Midge delights the audience; and Mr. F. G. Hime is a capital pianist.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Son; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—*The Dancing Girls of Spain* is here. As Darcy Davis, Mr. Edgar Dereve caused much amusement; as Terence McGinty, Mr. George Delaforce kept the house in a merry mood; Mr. Arthur White as Guitarez was brimful of fun; Miss Katie May as Miss Chiquita Joyce was all that could be desired.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs. Henry Mayhew; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan. — *When the Lights are Low* is here. Miss Violet Carlyle is eminently fitted for the part of Nancy Christie; Miss May Ediss is pathetic as the blind child; Mr. S. E. Scanlan as Roland Goldsworthy acts capably; Mr. George Daiper as Guy scores a success; Miss Cissie Podmore as Kathleen Kerry plays charmingly.

SPA THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. Francis Goodricke.—*Miss Tommy* is here this week. Miss Annie Hughes in the title-rôle is vivacious; Mr. Rupert Lister is very good as Dick Danvers; Mr. Willie Hartills as William Clodd scores a success; and Mr. Evelyn Vernon acts well as the Editor. Mr. Reginald F. Beach is admirably suited as the Office Boy; and Miss Vera Pole as Honour shows ability.

THE AQUARIUM. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman. — The vocalist here is Mr. Ernest Shand, with new songs and amusing comic patter; Mr. Carter Livesey, Miss Lillian Rosebury, and Mr. Albert Mason, in *The Would-be Actors;* Roma and Romani, two talented instrumentalists; Mlle. Nirvana and her white steed, in artistic living pictures; Miss Dot Hardy, serio; Miss Leonie Dixon, dancer; Miss Madge Grey, dialect comedienne; Lieut. Travis, ventriloquist; Miss Marie Burnett, with illustrated songs; Mr. Harry Bedford, vocalist and dancer; the American Bioscope; and Miss Carrie Lawrie's Troupe of clever juveniles.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—The Whitworth Cycling Girls; Campkin, cyclist; Lack and Ford Trio, comic acrobats; Mackintosh and Royal, clog-dancers; Mr. Harry Maxim, a funny and popular vocal comedienne; Miss Lily Lassah, comedienne; Miss Ethel Hillary, coon vocalist; the Two McNeils, burlesque artists; and the Grand pictures constitute the list this week, and the result is good business.

CENTRAL HALL.—Lessees, The Jasper Redfern Co., Ltd.— The old favourites, the Bros. Harrison, are knocking 'em nightly; and very successful are Denton, Roscoe and Galley, vocalists; Sabino, musical expert; and the animated photos of topical and romantic happenings.

SOUTHAMPTON. — PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Trussell.—The Kellinos, in their acrobatic speciality, *A Fête in Venice*, score a great success here; Chas. Parker's Six Æolians prosper well; Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard are capital in a comedy duologue, *Coming Home;* Chas. Coverdale convulses the house; Ted Lowan is a clever comedian; Daisy Hicks, a smart serio; and the Three Sisters Kilner dance well. A grand gala night took place last Friday evening, when Fred Holland, the Surrey cricketer, appeared.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—Alice Pierce gives some clever impersonations of popular favourites; the Bros. Horne excel in their comedy boxing sketch, *The Biter Bit;* Little Cliff is a wonderful dancer; and Harry Conlin, an old favourite, convulses the house with his funny songs and smart repartee. Cedar and Elgar, Victor Courtney, Walter Wade, and the Three Newsomes are all exceedingly clever artists. A gala night in connection with the cricket week took place on Thursday.

PIER PAVILION.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait.—This resort is being extensively patronised now the summer weather has arrived. The famous Jamaica Choir caused quite a sensation by their beautiful vocalism on Monday and Tuesday.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—The musical play, entitled *Somebody's Sweetheart*, is thoroughly enjoyable as presented by Mr. Edward Marris's company. Mr. Walter Nugent as Stephen Leverton is eminently able, having good assistance from Mr. Percy Maitland as Lem Lee. Stanton Ashleigh has a well-spoken and clever representative in Mr. Cecil W. Parke; and Freddie is well embodied by Miss Mary Norris. Mr. George Brentwood is decidedly good as Blabbs; Mr. Frank Gala as Old Joe gives a pathetic characterisation; Miss Lena Laton works well as Zora; Miss Norah Melton wins admiration by her portrayal of Lulu; and the Misses Dolly Payne and Rosie Chandler give speciality dances with ease and skill.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—The Lindons (Tom and Harry) do some smart dances and duets; the Three Breens create fun by their clever juggling turn; the Sisters Benson are smart Japanese dancers; Zasma and Mlle. Delonie render delightfully the scena, entitled *An Evening's Pleasure;* Harry Walker is a droll talking comedian; Miss Kitty Gresham is well received in her musical mélange; and Harry High has to respond to hearty and well-earned recalls. The series of animated pictures of "The Blind Beggar's Dog" is worthy of special mention; the concert party for the café chantant scores well; and Jean and Irene appear in their illusion, *Queen of Egypt*. Miss Florence Carlow, Ping and Pong (comedy conjurers), Little Lucy (child comedienne and whistler), and the Sisters Molly (duettists and dancers) are also engaged.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—Tom Cannon's troupe of wrestlers, with the assistance of a local favourite, Mr. A. H. Manbey, give an entertaining and successful performance here. The troupe includes Michaelvitch (Russian), Dumont (French), W. Kochs (German), Riezzi (Italian), Mullers (Austrian), and Sailor Barber (British Navy), all of whom give creditable performances. Norminto displays great skill in manipulating the handcuffs; Porthos is a Continental heavy-weight juggler, who adds considerably to the success of the programme; Miss Maudie Barrett contributes songs and dances of a pleasing character; Leslie Dundas, eccentric comedian, is well received; and the Sisters Raymond are popular duettists and dancers.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Mr. Monckton Hoffe's company, in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, supplies an attractive entertainment here. Mr. Monckton Hoffe was very successful in his interpretation of the rôle of Algernon Moncrieff, which he depicted with realistic effect; Mr. H. Lane-Bayliff plays the part of John Worthing, M.P., with a fine appreciation of the necessities of the character; Miss Lydia Bush displays versatility and cleverness as the Hon. Gwendoline Fairfax; Cicely Cardew has a charming and vivacious representative in Miss Nona Hope; Miss Kate Osborne impersonates the society matchmaker, Lady Bracknell, with histrionic ability; Miss Amy Lloyd-Desmond efficiently represents Miss Prism; while Mr. Ralph Hutton, Mr. Arthur Forbes Watts, and Mr. A. W. Barker submit good character sketches in their respective parts. The play is preceded by an amusing curtain-raiser, entitled *A Breezy Morning*.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Coulson.—Mr. Will White's company appears here in *The New World*. Mr. Victor Rae is a manly Jack Hawley; Mr. Charles Whitlock is seen to advantage as Jim Rawlings; and Mr. Albert Carlton is well cast as Jose Alvarez. Jenny Williams is vivaciously performed by Miss Cissie Clarke; and Samantha and May Walton are capably portrayed by Miss Maud Leslie and Miss Georgina France. The comedy element is ably sustained by Mr. Will Bass and Mr. Fred Guinness; good songs and dancing are introduced by Mr. Charlie Clarke and Miss Cissie Clarke.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson. — The inimitable Scotch comedian, Harry Lauder, is a great favourite here, and receives an ovation; an uproariously funny sketch, entitled *Aunt Matilda*, is cleverly portrayed by Frank Elliston and company; Orpheus submits a scena, in which he plays on various instruments, assisted by Edison-Bell Company's phonographic effects; a novel entertainment is given by Eric, a ventriloquist; and no end of merriment is created by Will English, the real coon. Miss Lily Burnand, the popular comedienne, has a good reception; and Millie Howell, a refined vocalist; Knotto, a wonderful contortionist; and the Bioscope, complete an excellent bill.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—*A Destroyer of Men* is being presented to good houses by Mr. James Hare's company. Mr. C. P. Wentworth submits a finished impersonation of Count Starevitch; Mr. Hare supplies a capital reading of Karl Mischla, a part which calls for the exercise of much skill and versatility; a vigorous and earnest presentation of Olga Mischla is supplied by Miss Irene Clifford; Messrs. Charles Coventry and Charles Bickell and the Misses Jessie Yatman and Alice Buckland are all efficient in the characters of Fedor, Michael, Vida, and Nina; and Mr. Ross Warren ingratiates himself into the good graces of his audience by his curious antics and droll patter as Coco.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Fioni; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson. — The annual Wakes holidays are being enjoyed, and for the reopening of this popular house an excellent combination has been engaged. The Dayton Family are deservedly awarded the premier position, and their Risley act meets with enthusiastic applause; Doyle and Gibson, versatile comedians and dancers, are amusing; Miss Lillie Luraine is an excellent instrumentalist, and is much admired. The remaining turns are contributed by the Milfords, triple trapeze artists; Fred Dernan, vocal actor; the Kinnards, magicians and cabinet mystifiers; the Percys, speciality artists; and Carta and Mirtziani, gymnasts and equilibrists, &c.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company are here this week with *A Soldier in France*. Corporal Jean is well presented by Mr. Arthur Hinton, his acting being easy and natural; a good representation of Judas Delara is given by Mr. Travis Green; Mr. Victor Millard ably plays the dual rôle of Captain and Lieut. Lorraine; and Mr. Matthew H. Glenville is well suited as Duke De Laval. A good deal of fun is caused by Mr. Fred Osmond as Jollyboy; Miss Leila Zillwood gives a capital impersonation of Pauline Lorraine; Miss Lydia Andre does well as Rita; as also does Miss Hettie Zillwood as Margot.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic Carnell.—Apollo heads the bill here, and is drawing good houses with his feats of strength, which include that of a motor-car laden with five persons running across his body; Silbon's Circus is a popular and clever turn; and others in an excellent programme include La Dance, juvenile dancer; Hill and Mack, comedians; the Lorrisons; Zanfretti and Napio, musical eccentrics; Keith and Merson, comedians; Boyd and Gilfain; and Weisker's Barrascope.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun.—*Her One Great Sin*, capably presented by Miss Lydia Donovan and company, forms the attraction here this week. As Grace Warhurst, Miss Donovan acts with sympathetic grace and charm; Arnold Thornhill is effectively impersonated by Mr. Jack Armitage; Mr. G. Edward Hall excellently portrays the character of Reuben Warhurst; and Mr. Fred Hodson amusingly fills the part of Jerry Jumble. As Dan Hundle, Mr. Charles E. Lambert acts with skill and ability; Miss Louie Walton makes a capital Bet Hundle; Charlie is a pleasing character in the hands of Miss Phillis Damian; and Mr. J. Crondace is efficient as Jack Hundle.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—The Eight Lancashire Lads, vocalists and dancers, supply the leading attraction here this week, their entertainment being highly suited to the popular taste; the Three Romas, in a gymnastic and hand-balancing act, display exceptional strength, and accomplish many clever feats; Clown Barker's animal show is highly diverting; the Tennesse Guards, in their military manœuvres, are smart; Lily Flexmore is a pleasing vocalist and clever dancer; the efforts of the Cymros, Welsh vocalists, are heartily applauded; and others appearing successfully are Adele Lincoln, comedienne and dancer; Charles Lestree, juggler; and Gracie Lawn, comedienne and dancer.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller. — The Four Ferganas head the bill, in their wonderful hand and head balancing act, which is much appreciated; Mahatma interprets the thoughts of her audiences in a most successful manner; Edward Davies is a good tenor, whose items are appreciated; Charlie Deane is also successful in his songs; the Keiths are smart musicians; Walker and Lake provide a capital turn; Smith and Johnson are vocalists and dancers of merit; Le Gren Trio are seen in an entertaining military absurdity; and the Bioscope shows some excellent pictures.

SUNDERLAND.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Mr. Fred Jarman's *Under the Czar* company opened to the usual full house on Monday. Mr. Wilson Howard infuses some good work into the rôle of Nicholas Yeroslaff, and Miss Carlotta Anson is capable as Sonia Gregorovitch.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Rich. Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The chief attraction is La Milo, in her statuesque posing of ancient and modern sculpture; some smartly thrown character cartoons are shown upon the screen during her changes. Mr. Sidney Bacon's *The Duchess of Tooting* is a smart and exhilarating burlesque musical comedy, in which Mr. Stephen Adeson has great opportunities of showing his versatility. Emmie Ames, comedienne, secures a good reception; Harry Bancroft is a capital vocalist; J. B. Preston is a Scotch comedian and smart dancer; Lonnen Meadows and company have a farcical tabloid entitled *Kiss Your Father;* the Warsaw Bros. appear in their bright sketch, *The Bugler;* Minnie Mace is a "petit" song and dance artist; and there is in addition some Bioscope pictures.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees, The United County Theatres; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Alf. Browne and Syd. B. Stringer.—Irma Clasen's studies in art bronzes are exceedingly clever, and fully appreciated; Harry Taylor is a versatile comedian; Thompson Wood's juveniles are interesting; and Joe Mac, eccentric comedian, Cosgrove and Burns, duettists, Molly Woolstenhulme, vocalist, the Creo Brothers, in their latest creation, *The Gipsies*, and Allis and Casati, in a song, comedy, and dance item, with the usual pictures, complete the programme.

SWANSEA. — THE GRAND.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—The Grand this week was open on Thursday and Friday only, when the Swansea Amateur and Operatic Society gave *Trial by Jury*.

THE STAR.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. J. Powell.—The original American drama, *The World's Great Snare*, presented by Mr. W. Alexander-Dallas's company, proves a great draw. Royal Keene, an Army scout, is a character well played by Mr. Leonard Williams; as is also that of Lascelle Le Mort, the renegade, sustained by Mr. Fellows Bassett. Miss Kitty McPherson as Star Eye captivates all hearts by her winsome manner; Miss Lallie Forsyth as Wild Rose is decidedly good; and Mr. Theodore Hill as Red Heart, the Indian Chief; Mr. Maurice Jones as Moses Levy, the Jew; Mr. George Scully as Hans von Vinck, Mr. Hyland O'Shea as Patrick Maloney, Mr. S. Quartermayne as Sir Vivian Ashley, and Mr. Fred Lillywhite as Ronald Granville all play their parts excellently. The Bioscope pictures are also well liked.

EMPIRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—As a descriptive vocalist, Arthur Lennard, who stars here this week, is deservedly popular. A brilliant conjuring exhibition is given by Hermann Melot; those who enjoy good music are well catered for by the Chas. Fisher Pocket Opera company; the Delvines, in their scarecrow dance, are wonderful; J. P. Leng, comedian and mimic, gives an enjoyable turn; a very entertaining comedy scene, *Captain Cupid*, is given by Geo. C. Doughty and Phyllis Atherley, assisted by Leslie Adair; Arthur Lester is heard to great advantage in illustrated songs; Lizzie Fletcher is as taking as ever; and the Six Lancashire Lasses do not fail to captivate the audiences.

TORQUAY.—PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.— A costume concert party, under the style of the Tatlers, is drawing crowded audiences here nightly. The entertainment is particularly bright and original. Mr. Louis Rehill has the direction of the party.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wilton Dale.—This week Mr. Walter Maxwell's company is appearing here in *The Lion and the Mouse*. Mr. Leslie Carter gives a clever study of the financial "lion," while the mouse, who outwits him, has a charming representative in Miss Christine Silver; Mr. D. Lewis Edgard admirably portrays the son of the millionaire; and Mr. A. W. Barkcombe is excellent as the Secretary; Mr. J. Wheatman, as the M.P., gives a finished interpretation; Miss Maude Townsend makes a success in the rôle of the Millionaire's Wife; and the other parts are undertaken in good style by Miss Evelyn Read, Miss Ninon Dudley, Mr. D. West, and Mr. Dyer.

TYNEMOUTH. — PALACE-BY-THE-SEA.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Business-Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—A highly entertaining programme is being submitted by Ernest Lord's Excelsior Light Opera Company, now on a welcome visit here, the principals comprising Miss Ona Ashton, soprano; Miss Alice Singleton, contralto; Mr. Frank Quinn, baritone; and Mr. Harker Holt, tenor; with Miss Gertrude Grant in soubrette parts; and Mr. Frank Crawford as humorist. *Casey's Court*, with a highly amusing pantomime burlesque, also occupies a prominent place; and the Bioscope Pictures are also well appreciated.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Harry Grey, eccentric comedian and society entertainer, heads the bill here this week, and creates a favourable impression; Olive Armidale proves a charming comedienne; a very successful turn is given by Conn and Conrad, the "quiet burglars"; and a clever performance is that of the Cumberlands, a troupe of trick cyclists and gymnasts. Chas. Norton, mimic, is good; the Sisters Gasch are pretty and clever acrobats; Edith Fink is a smart comedienne; and Dida, the "creation of a woman from nothing," presented by Lewis de Burgh, proves an acceptable turn. The American Bioscope concludes with some amusing pictures.

WEDNESBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Acting Manager, Mr. T. Kuner.—Kennedy's Komiks conclude their season here this week. The programme includes Messrs. Ellis and Liston, in their paper-painting speciality, and the expert dancers, Melvin and Max, who evoke loud and continuous applause. A comic sketch given by Messrs. F. J. Ellis and company proves most amusing; Miss Oliver contributes successfully with an illustrated song; and the Animated Pictures are also a feature of special interest. Other artists in the programme are Mr. Fred Ellis, Miss Marie Yorke, Mr. Melvin, Miss Marie Liston, and Mr. Dan Noble.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The principal attraction in the programme this week is the Columbia Trio, who are a huge success in their operatic and humorous absurdity; Edmund Bosanquet meets with an enviable reception from the many who appreciate his fine violin selection; Lilian Rigby, a charming little musical artist, is also an expert boot dancer; a couple of duets by the Elgars are nicely rendered; McDonald and Huntingdon, American entertainers, gain favour; Massona's juggling feats are well executed, and followed with considerable interest; Daisy Davenport, comedienne and dancer; R. C. Note, vocalist; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux conclude the list.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. M. Payne.—Mr. Herbert Barr's company is paying a return visit here this week in *East Lynne*. Miss Dorothy Oswald gives an artistic and sympathetic portrayal of Lady Isabel; Miss Edna Hana makes an excellent Barbara Hare; Miss Ethel Bateman does good work as Camelia Carlyle; and Miss Maudie Vincent is commendable as Joyce. As Little Willie Miss Olive Lyons is entitled to a special word of praise; Mr. Herbert Barrs gives a thorough impersonation of Archibald Carlyle; and Mr. Ronald Grahame is sufficiently villainous as Francis Levison. Mr. A. B. Lyons evokes much laughter as Bibby Bulbs; Mr. Arthur Staples, Mr. A. Selwood, and Mr. Willis Collins all do well in their respective parts.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—The Æolian Opera Singers are paying a welcome return visit here this week, every item being encored on Monday. Mr. R. Leach sang "The desert" most effectively; Mr. H. Connorton's song, "Wonderful," was delightfully rendered; Mr. Charles E. Browne gave some remarkably clever musical sketches; Miss Lilian Payne sang "Fairies" artistically; Miss Rose Alderman's song, "Someone," was warmly received. Mr. Frank Lens displayed some delightful pictures on the Bioscope.

WHITBY.—SPA THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Payne Seddon.—The boards of this theatre were occupied on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday by Mr. William Mollison's company in *Beside the Bonnie Briar Bush*, good audiences being present on each occasion.

WATERLOO THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Julian Bainbridge.—*A Little Vagabond* was staged on the 18th inst., the occasion of Mr. Bainbridge's benefit. The hall was crowded, and a fine interpretation of the piece was given.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—*A Heart's Desire*, by Messrs. Elliman, was presented on Monday night to an appreciative house; Mr. F. V. Fenn as the Hero was manly and effective; and Miss E. Tooney was excellent as the Heroine; Mr. E. Vane gave satisfaction as Eric and Mr. S. Claydon as Bertie; Miss E. Seaton as Gwendoline well sustained the part; and Miss A. Dalby was piquant as Elsie; and Miss E. Rose was a sprightly impersonator of Julie.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Jno. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. C. W. Collings.—This week Miss May Zant and her juveniles, in a pot-pourri of song and dance, provide an entertaining item; Chester and Lee's Marionettes are as good as ever; Mr. Will Lindsay causes roars of laughter with his amusing sayings; Miss Stella Millar sings in a pleasing manner; Frank and Violet Payte, in their sketch, *Betsy's Blunder*, take well; and the pictures are as welcome and entertaining as ever.

YORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Sidney Brook.—Jordan and Harvey head the bill this week with an amusing duologue; Clarke and Glenney in an absurdity, *The Haunted House*, are well received; and the Elvio Trio also give a clever sketch. Wilton, Heriot, and company also score heavily, and the Alskarnos are expert tumblers. Ryde and Beeman, acrobats; Allsopp and Beckwith; Bessie Willon, vocalist; and the Bioscope complete the bill.

"THE CORSICAN BROTHERS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your very interesting article *re The Corsican Brothers* of the 20th inst, and a comic treatment of same being done at Brighton in 1870, I beg to mention it was for the annual regatta performances on July 18 of that year, which were enhanced by the prizes being exhibited on the stage. The programme consisted of two pieces: *Not a Bad Judge*—J. K. Nye, Lavater; C. S. James, Betman; J. M. Nias, Lug; C. Harcourt, Treval; Ellen Wallis, Mme. Betman; and A. Maryon, Louise;. Mason and Roe's burlesque, *The Corsican Brothers*, was rendered by W. H. P. Bioletti as Mme. de Frenchi's twin sons; Edward Major, Madame; J. M. Nias, Griffo; W. H. Mason, Renard; and C. W. Mason, Martelli.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN PETER ROBINSON.

17, Gower-place, W.C., July 25.

"MY SWEETHEART" is this week at the Palace Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Possessed of a good voice, Mr. Edward Rawlinson is an ideal Tony Faust, and he receives able assistance from Miss Lizzie Hall, a vivacious Tina (My Sweetheart). Mr. Wilson Coleman (Harold Bartlett) and Miss Teresa Haynes (Mrs. Fleeter) both lend capital support, and praise is also due to Miss Olivia Downes, Miss Lily Smith, Miss Fanny Olive, Miss Violet Etherington, Mr. Sydney Spenser, Mr. Frank Wilson, Mr. John F. Trayner, and Mr. James Porter.

AT the Grand Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, *Honour Thy Father* was produced this week by a good company. In the strenuous rôle of Lilian Garth, Miss Violet Hammersley is a decided success. Not less impressive is the rendering Mr. J. W. Evelyn gives of the stricken father. Duncan Bly is ably impersonated by Mr. Howell Travis, and other conspicuous members of a large caste are Mr. Robert Gilbert (Jack Halyard), Mr. W. H. Melrose (Ned Pennycomequick), Miss Winnie Donovan (a charming Mercy Merry), Miss Ada Salmon (Poppy Cornleigh), and Miss Maud Grey (Violet Wilfrid).

AT Newcastle-on-Tyne Empire this week, the Elliott Savonas in their latest creation, *The Palace of Orpheus*, provide a particularly fine musical turn, which meets with frequent and prolonged rounds of applause. In its line it is a show that will take some beating. Miss Ray Wallace, mimic, is again well worth hearing, and Harry Weldon is a good comedian. Walter Munroe, an old and ever-popular favourite, the Moulier Sisters, in a horizontal bar act, the Garganis, comedy acrobats, David Stewart, in beautifully illustrated song, Josie Mooney, vocalist and dancer, and the Sisters Caselli, dancers, are all good turns.

PRESENTATION.—On Saturday night last, the termination of the stock season at H. M. Theatre, Carlisle, Mr. Chas. R. Stone, the popular stage-manager and comedian of the company was presented, at the conclusion of the performance, with a well-lined purse, contributed by the company and the lessees, as a mark of sympathy for his recent severe accident and appreciation of his valuable services. The presentation was made by Mr. Thos. Courtice, and was responded to by Mr. Stone in a few appreciative words.

BUCHANAN'S
"BLACK & WHITE"
THE WHISKY OF WORLD WIDE REPUTE

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, July 22, the Musical Play,
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY"

Mr. Henry Swinerd's company is appearing at this theatre during the week in that remarkably successful play *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, a drama with a large supply of musical items introduced. In the title rôle Miss Dorothy Desmonde distinguishes herself by her natural and dashing picture of an Australian's farmer's daughter. Miss Desmonde is also the possessor of a sweet-toned voice, which she uses to much advantage in her various songs, notably in that charming number, "The cuckoo." Mr. Bert Edwardes is very amusing as Silas, and scores heavily with his various songs. Miss Nellie Harcourt appears as Judith, a part she plays in the liveliest and breeziest manner imaginable. Her singing and dancing are equally agreeable, her skipping-rope dance being pretty. Mr. Walter Ashley, as Harold Vivian, plays in manly and earnest style. Mr. Ashley is also well applauded for his song, "Come, my lad, and be a soldier." Mr. H. C. Ward does well as the evil spirit of the play, Captain Dudley. Featherstone Haugh is amusingly depicted by Mr. Dean Cliffe; Mr. W. G. Hearson makes an acceptable Smith; Mr. A. Hartley does much good work as Hawkins; and Miss Marie Vere is a bright and vivacious Ruth. The Misses Mabel and Lily Blake contributed a clever and dainty mirror dance. The play is prettily staged, under the direction of Mr. W. J. Cordiner, who is also General-Manager for the company. The musical numbers are admirably played by the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Leslie Whitham. Mr. Robert Arthur's interests are quite safe in the hands of Mr. Wilfred Stanford, the Manager of the theatre.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

This handsome theatre is establishing a record in London by its successful cinematograph entertainments, which have now entered their ninth week here, and still continue to exhibit to large and appreciative audiences. A thrilling and awe-inspiring picture is "Vesuvius in Eruption," in which can be seen the mass of moving lava together with clouds of burning ashes, while a few daring travellers are noticed to have ventured upon the mountain side. The military evolutions, with the march past and Royal salute at the Aldershot Review, held before the Kings of England and Denmark, roused the hearty applause of the audience, while a long film representing the great "Glove Fight—Gunner Moir *v.* Jack Palmer," is evidently to the liking of the house. "The Rogie Falls" appeals to all lovers of scenery, the hills with their glorious covering of heather making this view of Bonnie Scotland most acceptable. Humorous subjects are predominant in the programme, and hearty laughs are secured by "Husbands Beware," "A Reluctant Dog," and "Please Help the Blind." "The Haunted Hotel" is a cleverly arranged picture, the movements of various utensils, as well as the extraordinary antics of the articles of food, providing much amusement. An example of life on the prairie is seen in "Hooligans of the West," and an Eastern illusions, portrayed in brilliant colours, entitled "The Magic Ring," is effective, while "A Smart Capture," "A Sure Laugh," "Quarter Day Conjuring," and "Customs Officials Outwitted" obtain well-merited approbation. The Manager, Mr. C. Melville Lurring, studies in every way the comfort of his patrons.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, July 22, the first production of an original Musical Duologue, written by S. J. Adair Fitzgerald, music by Napoleon Lambelet,
"HER ANSWER."

Tom ..... Richard Green
Bob ..... Reginald White

Mr. Robert Arthur's triple bill, submitted under the direction of Messrs. Marshall Moore and Frederick Stanhope, this week includes the new original musical duologue, *Her Answer*, which makes a bright, amusing, and melodious little curtain-raiser. Tom and Bob have both fallen in love with a sweet young thing at a hop, and each is in ecstasies. At first it appears as if they are each in love with the same girl, but eventually things smooth themselves out, and it transpires that their sweethearts are separate and distinct entities, and that they have sorted themselves out quite correctly in accordance with the dictates of their hearts. A good bit of fun is got out of the situation arising from the friends' jealousy of one another and their keen rivalry on the love-path, and Mr. Richard Green and Mr. Reginald White acted on Monday, the night of the production of the piece, with great spirit and vivacity. "Love is a whimsical god" is a capital song cleverly sung by Mr. Reginald White, and "Oh, little unknown!" is a very pretty ballad delightfully rendered by Mr. Richard Green. The duet, "What will she do, what will she say?" in which they join forces, is also a lively example of the author's and composer's talent. *Her Answer* is likely to be heard of again.

Faithful James, which took so tremendously on the occasion of its reproduction the first week of the "triple bill" season, has been revived this last week, and goes with a swing from start to finish, and there is evidently any amount of life left in B. C. Stephenson's old farce. In the title rôle Mr. Rutland Barrington repeats his admirable character sketch of the artful and resourceful but blundering old waiter, and the part fits him like a glove, whilst his up-to-date "gags" are always in good taste and in keeping with the part. Misses Nellie Moore and Winifred Macey and Messrs. George F. Mackarness, Fredk. W. Hearne, Frank Lacy, and Earle Hopwood all do good service among the mirth-making brigade.

So well has Audran's charming opera, *La Mascotte*, been received that it has been repeated again this week, with identically the same cast. Mr. Whitworth Mitton, who gives such a capital impersonation of the invertebrate Prince Fritellina, Crown Prince of Pisa, also sings after the first piece two fine old songs, "My queen" and "Drink to me only with thine eyes." Next week the theatre closes, reopening on Bank Holiday with *Two Little Vagabonds*.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, July 22, the Drama, entitled
"THE PRODIGAL PARSON."

This play, from the pens of Messrs. F. L. Connyngham and C. A. Clarke, is quite to the taste of the West Londoners, the various exciting incidents therein receiving their closest attention. Mr. M. V. Garrod puts in plenty of good work as the Rev. Tom Godley, his efforts being cordially appreciated; Mr. Paul Beckett does well as Enoch Jaggins; Mr. George Allen brings the rascally traits in the character of Ben Jaggins well to the fore; Mr. Walter Vincent realistically portrays Ned Kettlepin; whilst Mr. Owen Remonde keeps things lively with his sprightly impersonation of Phil Drive. Miss Sybil Hammersley deserves every credit for her telling representation of Gretchen Vans Crans, afterwards Mrs. Phil Drive; Miss Violet Jeffries tastefully enacts the blind child, Myrtle Godley; and Miss Bertha Kingston sustains the important rôle of Fern Godley with womanly charm and convincing pathos. The play is well mounted, and favourably received.

All the New York theatres, with one or two exceptions, are closed for the summer, but they will resume operations early in August, so the "close season" is to be pretty short this year. At the Herald-square Theatre *The Orchid* is doing splendidly, the theatre being delightfully cool and comfortable, thanks to big blocks of ice and electric fans.

CENTURY OF "MRS. WIGGS."

The success of *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* in London again proves the truth of the axiom that "there is nothing so certain as the unexpected," for we have had nothing so typically American, so eloquent of the soil, as the comedy of which the 100th performance was given on Saturday at Terry's. President Roosevelt's recommendation of Alice Hegan Rice's story did much in the States for the simple annals of the struggling mother, in which may be discovered "the root principles of self-help and helpfulness towards others." But Mrs. Wiggs, if we demur somewhat to her untidiness, teaches us much more than this—she inculcates in us the lesson of true charity. Patience and gentleness and love are mixed up in her nature; and when she stirs the audience to enthusiasm by her championship of Lovey Mary she preaches a moving sermon with a simple eloquence that cannot be acquired in the schools.

The character seems inseparable from the actress playing it. Mrs. Madge Carr Cook has made it her own—for us she completely realises Mrs. Wiggs. Her kindliness of heart, her invincible optimism, her odd ways, her shrewd wit, her keenness of observation—all these are to be found in Mrs. Cook's rendering. Mrs. Wiggs's friends are mostly eccentric, not to say queer. Miss Hazy, for instance, strikes the English playgoer as somewhat exceeding the possible limits of artful simplicity; but her oddities and the 'cute worldliness of her lover, Mr. Stubbins, make for laughter in a courting scene as original as it is funny. Miss Louise Closser and Mr. Frederick Burton share the success of this scene in the first act, and the broad comedy of it on Saturday night appealed most successfully to a crowded audience, which gave an uproarious reception to the piece.

Mrs. Eichorn and Mrs. Schultz, who represent the censorious spirit, do so with no lack of bitterness of tongue, and both Miss Grace Griswold and Miss Bertha Livingston—both admirably made-up—serve the dramatic scheme excellently by their clever impersonations of these "lady mar-joys." The children, each in her own particular way, are all delightful, and Misses Edith Story as Asia, Miss Dutchie Forsyth as Australia, and Miss Pearl Egan as Europena, enliven the scene of Mrs. Wiggs's home with some lively comedy.

The pathetic interest of the piece is finely sustained by Miss Lottie Alter, who as Lovey Mary plays with a touching sincerity that goes straight to the hearts of her hearers. Mr. Forrest Robinson teaches us how to comprehend the character of Mr. Wiggs; and Miss Florence Busby and Mr. Kenneth Rivington give a light and agreeable touch to the parts of Miss Lucy and Mr. Bob, who are the good fairies of the piece—after Mrs. Wiggs *bien entendu*. Mr. Thomas Kelly's Billy Wiggs is a typical American lad; and Mr. T. Swan makes Chris Hazy an alert figure with his wooden leg. Mr. G. Hagar Robinson interests us in H. Hunkerdunkus Jones; and Messrs. G. Howard, S. H. Williams, Robert Downing, Cecil Yapp, E. C. Buffum, Masters Batchelor and Richard Storey, and Miss Effie Byrne fill minor parts adequately. The stage-management of Mr. Louis Mercanton should be praised. The one-hundreth performance was celebrated by the presentation to each member of the audience of a souvenir in the shape of a copy of the story of "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch." This, however, does not cover the dramatic scheme of the play, which also includes the story of "Lovey Mary."

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, July 22, the Drama,
"IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT."

Crowded houses are the rule this (the last for the present) week at the Lyric, where the above play is proving highly acceptable. The last scene, with real water in the river, proves a great attraction. Mr. James Willard has a particularly good company, which includes Mr. George Harvey, who enacts the squire, John Allington, with good effect. Mr. Austin Mortimer plays Gordon Allington, the hero, with plenty of energy; Mr. Raymond Thomas makes Clifford Yorke a sufficiently detestable character; as Jake Grudgewell, a poacher, Mr. William Hayward gives a good character-study; Mr. Herbert Belmore is an amusing Tom Nainby; and Mr. Cecil Raymond also adds considerably to the fun in his double rôle of the Rev. Nathaniel Hope and Joe Jackson, the rural postman. Mr. James Ingledon looks a typical farmer in his part of James Woodstock; and Inspector Manners is in the safe hands of Mr. Harry Emerson. Quite one of the best performances in the piece is that of Miss Phyllis French as Bob, a little tramp; Miss Ada Oakley wins sympathy as the heroine, Violet Kingston; as Molly Woodstock Miss Tina Shaw is responsible for much merriment, playing her part in very good style; and other parts are well filled by Messrs. R. M. Butt, Albert Plant, W. Branscombe, Richie Bell, M. Rowe, and Wilton Forde. Last, but by no means least, mention must be made of the excellent performance of "Gyp," a terrier who on every available opportunity did his level best to make a meal of some part of the villain's clothing. The play is well staged, the river scene being most effective.

MLLE. ISADE BOURI'S CONCERT.

At Brinsmead Galleries, on Monday, Mlle. Isade Bouri gave a highly successful evening concert. Mlle. Bouri, who was assisted by Mr. Clay Thomas, Miss Gwladys Arden, and Miss Violet Tatlow, was first heard in Gounod's Cavatina from his opera, *Reine de Saba*, which was gracefully sung and much applauded. Mlle. Bouri, who has a pure and well-cultivated voice, also sang Batten's "Love song of Har Dyal," Hahn's charming melody, "Si mes avaients des ailes," and Luzzi's "Lucia," which were well received by the audience, and later in the programme Massonet's song, "Air de l'infante," from *Le Cid*. A clever youthful pianist, Miss Hannah Seymour, played "Fantasia," by Mr. Lansdowne Cottell, and the same composer's popular "Westminster Chimes" (given by special request), and Mr. Clay Thomas used a flexible baritone voice with great effect in "A jolly old cavalier" (Dix), and Squire's song, "Lighterman Tom," while Miss Violet Tatlow created a most favourable impression by her capital singing of "Nobil Signor." Miss Beatrice Beaufort sang "Le nil," by Leroux, with good expression and intonation, and Miss Muriel Leroy's piano solo "Carnival espagnol" (Delcrux) proved a pleasing feature of the concert. As a relief to vocal items, a clever humorous recitation, "The Telegram" (Arden) was given by Miss Gwladys Arden, who has, in addition to an attractive appearance, a pleasing voice and bright, effective style. Miss Arden's recitation was much appreciated by the audience. Several of the vocalists were pupils of Mr. Lansdowne Cottell, and did great credit to the training they have received at the London Conservatoire of Music. Mlle. Isade Bouri, in the second part of the programme, gave a finished rendering of Lotti's "Pur dicèsti"; and among others whose efforts added to the success of the concert may be mentioned Miss Gertrude Battersby, who gave a piano solo, "March of the brave," of her own composition, also singing "The child of Spain," by Louis Cottell. Miss Lucinda Barton acted as accompanist.

Princess Louise of Battenberg and Princess Henry of Battenberg were present at Terry's Theatre on Monday night, and witnessed the performance of Mr. Gaston Mayer's American company in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*.

Mr. Thomas F. Reilly is a passenger on the White Star Liner Cedric due at Liverpool from New York to-day.

TWO NEW PLAYS AT MANCHESTER.

"THE LONELY LIFE."

By Alfred Sutro.

Produced, for the first time on any stage, at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, July 22.

Mr. Cassadine ..... Mr. Harold V. Neilson
Walter Gifford ..... Mr. Martyn Roland
Janet ..... Miss Amy Sangster

This little one-act play is rather overweighted by its authorship and its distinguished predecessors from the same pen; but the probability is that Mr. Sutro wrote it long before he conceived any of the larger plays which made him famous. Certainly, *The Lonely Life* adds nothing to his reputation, and it is not likely that it will be played with anything like successful results. Those who witnessed its production at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, showed an intelligent interest in the idea it contains, though conscious of an element of absurdity. It depicts a girl of twenty, well connected, and gifted with a strong taste for painting, living the lonely life of an artist in her studio in Gower-street. She is under the tuition of Mr. Cassadine, a man of fifty, who has achieved some success, and who is married to a wife with whom he cannot live. She is also the object of her cousin Walter Gifford's affection; and Gifford cannot go on any longer without protesting against her foolish and unnecessary isolation, and against her association with a man whose circumstances are so unsuitable to qualify him for friendship with a trusting young girl as those of Mr. Cassadine. The argument between Gifford and Janet is, more than any other part, characteristic of the dramatist, who has *The Walls of Jericho* and *The Perfect Lover* to his name; it is virile, natural, and depicts especially the dogged and sensible character of Gifford with unerring clearness. But his commonsense avails him nothing in Janet's eyes; she will have none of him—she is infatuated with Cassadine; and when the latter makes his appearance Gifford also is overcome by the candour and integrity that are supposed to shine in the artist's countenance, and instead of creating a scene as he intended to do, he goes off with an apology for his suspicions of the elder man—an unexpected and incredible proceeding. Cassadine has come to tell Janet that he is going abroad. Janet cries out that he must take her, for she loves him. The scene is easily conceivable. The passionate protests of a girl of twenty (foolish enough to any girl of twenty in the audience)—the renunciation, tinged with a sense of humour, of the man of fifty, who could not congruously be anything but a father to her, if he saddled himself with her at all—his shrewd parting advice that she shall go back to her friends—ends in his withdrawal and the girl's despair. Sensible as the issue is, however, it is permeated with a sentiment of the lonely life for both. In his case, it may be accepted as quite in the order of things; in hers, it is but a curable distemper, unworthy of serious consideration. The acting was uniformly good. Mr. Harold V. Nielson played Mr. Cassadine with an intelligent understanding of the character and unfailing self-possession, bringing out all the pith and significance of the lines; as Walter Gifford, Mr. Martyn Roland contributed a distinctly clever and entertaining impersonation; and Miss Amy Sangster's depiction of the wilful and sentimental Janet was marked by individuality and accomplishments of no mean order, quite realising, no doubt, the author's idea of a charming and clever girl misled.

"THE RECKONING."

By Stanley Houghton and Frank G. Nasmith.

Produced, for the first time on any stage, at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, July 22.

Merlin ..... Mr. Bartlett Garth
Trevor ..... Mr. Martyn Roland
Gabrielle de Richepin ..... Miss Amy Sangster

The action of *The Reckoning*, a new one-act play, produced at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, takes place in the rooms of Merlin, a paid bully, and the period is 1790, when French refugees were plentiful in England. Merlin is under obligation to his patron, Trevor, to kill a young Frenchman, de Richepin, who has been goaded to insult the bully in a public café. It would seem that Merlin is not so callous a fellow as the majority of his kind, for he surveys the prospect with compunction, and is not without reflection on the misdeeds of his life, and a consequent distaste for the man whose pay maintains him in iniquity. There is no chance for de Richepin, as Merlin is an expert fencer, and it is patent that Trevor has an interest in de Richepin's death. While Trevor is out of the room, arranging for the coach that is to take them to the scene of the duel, a woman enters. It is de Richepin's sister, Gabrielle, who has come to plead for her brother's life. The interview between Merlin and this girl contains the substance of the plot; it is somewhat tedious and explanatory, though it is not without interesting moments, while the argument is solely on the theme of intercession. Gradually it transpires that Gabrielle is the daughter of the woman Merlin once loved, from whom he was separated by a trick of substituted letters, conveyed from one to the other by a false friend. It is only now that he learns the truth about the correspondence. Trevor returns to the room in time to hear it also. This knowledge in de Richepin's identity is, of course, sufficient to change Merlin's attitude. Gabrielle goes, glad of her brother's safety. Trevor would conduct her forth, but Merlin prevents that. It was Trevor who came between Merlin and the woman he loved; it is Trevor, therefore, not de Richepin, who must die. A duel follows, and Trevor is killed. The piece contains some clever dialogue, and rises to a sufficiently dramatic conclusion. The rôle of Gabrielle de Richepin was made interesting by the neat and capable acting of Miss Amy Sangster, while, as Trevor, Mr. Martyn Roland answered all requirements, and Mr. Bartlett Garth made the most of his opportunities as Merlin. Mr. Harold V. Nielson produced the play in highly creditable style.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The programme of the choral and orchestral concert given by the students on Tuesday evening was entirely devoted to the music of Bach. The cantata "Du wahrer Gott" came first in the programme, the soloists being Miss Ethel Duthoit, Miss Dilys Jones, and Mr. Spencer Thomas. Although the singing of the duet for soprano and alto, "Du wahrer Gott und David's Sohn," proved somewhat uncertain, Mr. Spencer Thomas distinguished himself in the recitative for tenor. On the whole the rendering of the second cantata, "Wachet, betet, seid bereit," was most successful, and the soloists—Miss Gladys Honey, Miss Dilys Jones, Mr. Spencer Thomas, and Mr. Robert Chignell—deserved praise in their by no means easy task. Some of the most difficult music fell to the bass, and Mr. Robert Chignell may be heartily commended for his artistic singing of the florid passages in the final bass recitative. In the earlier portions of the cantata the chorus sounded slightly rough, but the chorale "Freu dich sehr, Omeine Seele" was finely sung. By far the most interesting feature in the concert was the charming Overture (Suite) in D major, admirably played by the orchestra, the Bourrée I., Gavotte, Menuet I., and the joyous Réjouissance proving particularly attractive. So pleased, also, were the larger audience by Mr. Herbert Arnold Smith's organ solo of the famous Toccata and Fugue in D minor that the clever performer was twice recalled to the platform. Miss Gladys Honey sang with ability the air "Bete, bete," from cantata "Mache dich, mein Geist, bereit," being ably supported by Mr. Robert Murchie (flute) and Mr. F. Gershom Parkington (violoncello). Sir Charles V. Stanford conducted, and the concert concluded with the cantata "Now shall the Grace" ("Nun ist das Heil"), sung by full chorus.

"THE BLUE MONKEY."

A Musical Farce, in Two Acts, by Walter R. Flint, with Music by H. Wilkinson, A. Taggart, and others; Produced at the Brighton Palace Pier Theatre, on Monday, July 22.

Professor Meadows ..... Mr. Bruce Lindley
Georgie Meadows ..... Miss Sadie Neville
Freestater, I.B.D. ..... Mr. Edwin F. Fysher
Miss Bliss ..... Miss Rosemary Rees
Harry Dare ..... Mr. Phillip Sefton
Nimble Nat ..... Mr. Sidney Benson
Adolphe Beausejour Froget ..... Mr. Chas. Swinburne
Dent Istjoy ..... Mr. Philip Durham
Edna Teething ..... Miss Merrie Omar
Isabel St. Clair ..... Miss Loudolph Barrett

(from our own correspondent.)

Under the direction of Mr. Charles Carey the two-act musical farce, *The Blue Monkey*, was produced at the Brighton Palace Pier Theatre last Monday evening. The story has a very slender plot, and the music is bright and spirited. In the first act, which opens in the Rose Garden at Dowell Academy for Select Young Ladies, we find the pupils in high glee in anticipation of their breaking-up. Professor Meadows, whose house adjoins the rose garden, is a collector of curios, and is much excited over the possession of a rare treasure—a model of a blue monkey in solid turquoise, with diamond eyes. A rival collector, Freestater, I.B.D., finding Professor Meadow will not part with the blue monkey, determines to secure it by surreptitious means, and obtains the assistance of Nimble Nat (of the Dials), who is wanted by the police. Freestater promises the burglar £10 if he succeeds in robbing Meadows of the blue monkey. Nimble Nat hangs about the neighbourhood, and, finding the Professor has left home for a little fishing, is about to enter the house when he mets Harry Dare (of the *Evening Gun*), who is enamoured of Meadows' niece, Georgie Meadows, and wishes to gain the consent of the uncle to his marriage with her. Nimble Nat, adopting a bold policy, passes himself off as the absent Professor, and promises Harry Dare shall marry Georgie, and that he will make handsome settlements upon the young lovers. Meadows returns from his fishing, and surprises Georgie by informing her that Harry's story of his consent to the marriage is a mistake, for he had not even seen that young man. The lovers quarrel, Georgie assuming that Harry had deceived her. They part, and the act closes with Nimble Nat rushing from the house with the stolen blue monkey, wrapped in a handkerchief.

In the second act, in the Recreation Room of the Ladies' School, we are introduced to the principal, Miss Bliss, who is evidently bent upon making a match with the Professor. Nimble Nat, without invitation, attends the ladies' dancing party, and Miss Bliss confronts him and accuses him of being the much-wanted burglar. A mock tragic struggle takes place between them, and Miss Bliss gains possession of the lost blue monkey. Soon, however, Freestater appears upon the scene, and, posing as a detective, is allowed to walk off with the rare curio under the pretence that he must take it to Scotland Yard for identification; but eventually, with the assistance of Harry Dare, the Professor once more recovers his treasure.

Mr. Bruce Lindley gave an effective impersonation of Professor Meadows; as Georgie Meadows Miss Sadie Neville acted with much charm, and sang in pleasing style. She was encored in the song "On the Isle of Anglesey," and was also warmly applauded for her tasteful rendering of "Holding hands," "Come to me," and "Maisie." Mr. Phillip Sefton as Harry Dare marked his enactment by earnestness, and was heard to advantage in the song "My Darling" and in the duet "Spooning in the Summer-house," which he sang with Miss Sadie Neville. Mr. Sidney Benson made an amusing Nimble Nat, and proved himself a capital dancer. Miss Rosemary Rees was a graceful and refined Miss Bliss, and displayed dainty vocalisation in her "Fairyland" song; Mr. Edwin F. Fysher made the most of his few opportunities as Freestater; and the small parts of Adolphe Beausejour Froget (a waiter) and Isabel St. Clair (a massive schoolgirl) were ably sustained by Mr. Charles Swinburne and Miss Loudolph Barrett respectively. Special dances were cleverly given by Miss Madge Lacey, the choruses were well sung, and the duties of musical-director were in the hands of Mr. Stephen Bowring.

THEATRICAL WEDDING.

The Church of the Holy Trinity, Folkestone, was the scene of an interesting ceremony on the 17th inst., when Mr. Edward Vaughan and Miss Dorothy Moore-Lane, both well known in the theatrical profession, were united in wedlock. Miss Moore-Lane is very well known in Dover and the district, having frequently appeared in theatrical performances at the Pleasure Gardens Theatre and at several society functions at Dover, and there was a very large and fashionable attendance at the church. The bride looked charming in a dress of white ninon de soie over chiffon and white taffetas, made in the Empire style, and trimmed with lace, satin, and orange blossom: She wore a wreath of real orange blossom and a Brussels lace veil, and carried a lovely shower bouquet of white roses and heather, the gift of the bridegroom. The bridesmaid was Miss Evelyn Moore-Lane (sister of the bride). The best man was Captain George Villiers, brother of the bridegroom, the bride being given away by General W. A. Collings. The officiating clergy were the Rev. Preb. H. Villiers (Vicar of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, uncle of the bridegroom), and the Rev. Canon E. Gardiner (Vicar of Holy Trinity), and the service was fully choral.

On the arrival of the bride at the church, which had been artistically decorated for the occasion, "Benediction Nuptiale" (Guilmant) and "Canzone" (Guilmant) were ably rendered by Mr. R. Bertram Hudson, F.R.C.O., the organist. During the service the hymns, "Lead us, Heavenly Father, lead us," and "O, perfect love, all human thought transcending," were sung by the choir.

After the ceremony the Rev. Preb. H. Villiers read a passage from the Scriptures and the anthem "Love one another," was sung by the choir. As the newly-married couple left the church "The Wedding March" (Mendelssohn) was played.

A reception was afterwards held at the Grand Mansions, numerous friends being entertained, and the happy couple left later in the afternoon for the Continent.

Mr. Vaughan, whose real name is Evelyn Charles Villiers, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Villiers, of The Sheiling, Ayr, N.B., and Closeburn Hall, Dumfries. He has achieved noteworthy success on the stage, having played with Mr. and Mrs. Kendal's company and under Mr. Lewis Waller's management. Mrs. Villiers is the daughter of the late Colonel Howard Moore-Lane and grand-daughter of Admiral De Courcy, and has also gained histrionic honours with the Kendals and Mr. Waller. She was for some time understudying important parts at the Waldorf. Both artists are engaged for the forthcoming autumn tour of *John Glayde's Honour*, under the auspices of Mr. George Alexander.

The presents were valuable and numerous, and included a substantial number of cheques. The bridegroom's gifts to the bride comprised a set of electric lamps, ventilating fan for dressing-room, gold bracelet, gold watch, diamond ring, diamond and sapphire bracelet, brooch, pendant, diamond and ruby ring, links, buttons, and jewel case; while the bridegroom received from the bride a gold pen, pipes in case, a gold-mounted pocket-book, and a gold ring. We join heartily in the wishes for the future happiness of the newly-wedded pair.

"THE LADY OF HAIGH;
or, A WIFE'S PENANCE."

Romantic, historical Play, founded, by Alard Bensell, upon the Lancashire legend of Mab's Cross, Wigan, produced, for the first time, at the Royal Court Theatre, Wigan, on Monday, July 22.

Sir Osmond Nevill ..... Mr. Roy Fortescue
Sir William Bradshaigh ..... Mr. John McNally
Richard Bradshaigh ..... Miss Olive Lloyd
Father Adam Cliderhoe ..... Mr. David Curtis
Humphrey Lathom ..... Mr. Wayton Hope
Giles Dawber ..... Mr. A. W. Thompson
Darby Grimshaw ..... Mr. H. Bannister
Ap Gryffidd ..... Mr. A. Vincent
Ap Ryhs ..... Mr. Barclay Fulton
Dame Dorothy Bradshaigh ..... Miss Ada Corona
Madge Dawber ..... Miss C. L'Estrange
Phœbe ..... Miss Lilian D'Arcy
Lady Mabel Bradshaigh ..... Miss Lalla Shelton

(from our own correspondent.)

The above new drama, which deals with one of the most eventful and picturesque episodes in English history, is of particular interest to Lancashire people. In Act I., A.D. 1317, Sir William and Lady Mabel Bradshaigh, of Haigh Hall, near Wigan, are holding the birthday revels of the former in the old hall, but are interrupted by the arrival of the King's Messenger, Sir Osmond Nevill, a Welsh knight, with a command from the King for the instant departure of Sir William to the Crusades. Sir Osmond Nevill had been a former suitor of the Lady Mabel, and was now plotting with Parson Adam Cliderhoe to get rid of Sir William and force Lady Mabel into a marriage with him, in order to obtain possession of the Bradshaigh estates. Sir William, under protest, obeys the King's mandate, and amidst a great uproar departs for the Court of London en route to Palestine.

Ten years afterwards, by the treachery of Sir Osmond Nevill and Parson Cliderhoe, Sir William Bradshaigh has been left for dead upon the battlefield in Palestine. Sir Osmond and Cliderhoe have returned to England. The Lady Mabel has been deceived by them and forced into a marriage with the Welsh knight, and the conspirators have obtained possession of the Bradshaigh lands, and reside at the Hall, indulging in riot and oppression. Lady Mabel is kept a close prisoner, and young Richard Bradshaigh (the rightful heir) is brutally treated by Sir Osmond Nevill. At the hostelrie, known as "The Merry Maypole," kept by Giles and Madge Dawber, Sir William Bradshaigh is discovered in the disguise of a pilgrim, and here he learns of the ill-treatment of his wife and son by Sir Osmond Nevill, and departs for Haigh Hall, where he meets his faithful Jester, Humphrey Lathom, by whose help he gains access to Lady Mabel and his son. Their interview is broken in upon by Sir Osmond Nevill and his fellow conspirator, Cliderhoe. Sir William is denounced as an impostor, and is thrown into a dungeon, whilst Lady Mabel is again hurried back to her prison-chamber, leaving the tyrant and the wily Cliderhoe masters of the situation.

In Act III. Sir Osmond and Cliderhoe meet and dispute the terms of the division of their plunder of the Haigh lands. Sir Osmond is compelled to agreed to Cliderhoe's extortionate demands, and a plot is arranged to assassinate Sir William in his prison. This is overheard by "Humpy," who, with the aid of buxom Madge Dawber, the hostess of the Merry Maypole, determines to frustrate it, and in an amusing scene with Madge and Phœbe, the waiting-maid, proposes the plot to them, and they agree to aid him. Sir William and Lady Mabel are rescued from their prisons; but their escape is discovered, and a search is made for the fugitives, who are speedily found; but the Haigh tenants rally round Sir William, and a terrific fight ensues, in which both Sir Osmond Nevill and Cliderhoe are put to flight.

The last Act opens with an amusing comedy scene between Giles Dawber, Madge, and "Humpy," the Jester, whereby we learn that Sir William Bradshaigh is pursuing Sir Osmond and his accomplice, Cliderhoe, towards Newton. The lad Richard then arrives, bearing the news that Lady Mabel has vowed to perform a solemn penance by walking barefooted "from Haigh to Wigan Cross" (thenceforth called "Mab's Cross"). This self-imposed punishment her faithful followers determine to prevent. Meanwhile, Sir William Bradshaigh has overtaken the Welsh Knight and the traitor Cliderhoe, and after a fierce combat in Newton Park, has slain Sir Osmond and captured the villain Cliderhoe. He then returns to Wigan town and finds that Lady Mabel has completed her first penitential journey to the Cross, and straightway forbids the repetition of the undeserved penance. To this Lady Mabel agrees. Thus the noble House of Haigh is once more restored to happiness, and the curtain falls.

The play abounds in many strong situations, and the possibilities for spectacular effect are numerous. Overflow audiences have, during the week, been roused to the highest pitch of interest, and at the close of each performance the players have been received with the surest marks of approval. The "book" is well written, and this stirring and pathetic drama should rank amongst the best of romantic and historical productions of recent years.

In Mr. Roy Fortescue Sir Osmond Nevill has an able and powerful exponent, the duplicity, cunning, and cruelty of the personage being brought out to the full. As Sir William Bradshaigh Mr. John McNally is a distinct success. A fine elocutionist and of good stage presence Mr. McNally infuses into the exposition of the part hope and faithfulness to wife and home on the one hand, and loyalty to his King on the other. Miss Lalla Shelton as the wronged Lady Mabel wins all hearts in her sorrowful resignation; and in the scene wherein her son is flogged by her barbarous "husband" she displays rare histrionic abilities. Miss Olive Lloyd as the young son of Sir William plays the part realistically, and Mr. David Curtis as Parson Adam Cliderhoe imbues the character with all the elements of a crafty, selfish, and sordid disposition. The rôle of Humphrey Lathom, the jester, is played with consummate tact and wit by Mr. Wayton Hope, whose drolleries and by-play with the Dawbers, the quaint and highly-amusing host and hostess of the Merry Maypole Inn, are extremely diverting. The other members of the cast also fulfil their parts creditably.

THE STRENUOUS LIFE.

We all of us lead the strenuous life nowadays, and the inevitable and unpleasant result is that we are subject to those dreadful headaches which result from overwork, worry, and other things, but the cure to clear the head and brighten the mind is quickly found in EMERSON'S BROMO-SELTZER.

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Bromo-Seltzer
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CURES ALL HEADACHES
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ACTORS' UNION.

LONDON.

Mr. J. C. TAYLOR occupied the chair at Tuesday's meeting of the Actors' Union, held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane. Others present were Messrs. Geo. Goodwin, Vernon De Ville, Fred Prior, E. Y. Rae, Jack Collinson, H. Irving Loveday, E. H. Templeton, Edwin J. Collins, Arthur St. John, Frank Sutherland, Charles Stafford, Douglas G. Murray, Jas. C. Taylor, Jno. W. Ryder, J. W. Braithwaite, H. Carlyle Pritchard, Orlando Barnett, Roy Barraclough, Francis Chamier, H. Tripp Edgar, Cecil G. Calvert, W. Ruddle Brown, Arthur Bawtree, Kenneth Black, jun., Harry Paulton, Harry Paulton, jun., Howard Cochran, Percy Everard, Grahame Herington, Edward Mervyn, A. Seager, Fred Bentley, Horace Booth, Edward Campbell, Alf Richards, Gerald Merrilees, Albert Hayzen, Will Henry, Alfred Tate, Dennis Bryan, and Thos. Bowes; and Misses Dorothea Mapleson, Hylda Denison, Isa Patterson, Mary Brougham, Georgie Trewman, Mary Bessie, Daisy Halling, Annie Warwick, Grace Garside, Irena Moncrieff, Lilla Nordon, Violet Chamier, Adelaide Gracey, Millie Vere, Mary Conrade, Gladys Ffolliott, Wynne Hanley, Nellie Howitt, Dot Sellby, Marion Bird, Louie L'Estrange, Dora Dent, Patey Trounsell, and Mrs. Horace Booth.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, stated that it was desirable for those who were going on tour this autumn to notify the secretary of the names of the companies, and, if possible, give a tour list, so that they could be communicated with if necessary.

Mr. EDWIN COLLINS referred to the opposition the Union was getting from people who wrote letters in the newspapers under assumed names. The rule in regard to members writing letters to the Press was this: "That if any member be satisfactorily proved to have done, said, or expressed in writing, or caused to be done, said, or expressed in writing, anything calculated to bring discredit upon the Union, the said member was for the first offence to be fined the amount of the entrance-fee, and for the second offence to be asked to resign; and, if refusing to resign, to be expelled." That rule had been passed by members for members, and was not the work of the committee. Men who made attacks upon the Union or members of the Union under a *nom de plume* in the Press were moral cowards, who had not the courage to come forward and speak their opinions at a meeting. The committee did not object to criticism in the least.

Mr. CECIL CALVERT called upon the members who were going on tour to get as many new recruits as possible. He pointed out that any member had the power to call a meeting wherever he liked. He was glad to note that the membership was increasing.

Mr. HARRY PAULTON said that what they wanted was a sense of unity and enthusiasm from everyone. In regard to the abusive letters which had appeared in the Press, the committee did not intend to depart from their rules, and would not reply to them. They were ready to meet all arguments at the weekly meetings. He was pleased to say that unity prevailed in the committee.

Miss GLADYS FFOLLIOTT spoke in contemptuous terms of the "Nosey Parkers" who were trying to cause trouble among them. It was this species of human being that was ruining the Actors' Association.

Miss DAISY HALLING and Mr. FRANCIS CHAMIER also spoke.

The CHAIRMAN, in his concluding remarks, stated that there was absolutely no dissension in their ranks. It afforded him intense pleasure to know that the Actors' Association seemed willing to join hands with the Union, and he thought that, if such a desirable scheme could materialise, it would make for greater unity in the profession.

PRIZES AT THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL.

The gold medallist of the Guildhall School of Music this year is Vera Wise, a 1906 Associate, a pupil of Mr. Norman Cummings, who has gained the award, with honours, for her proficiency on the pianoforte. The silver medal was taken, with honours, by Miss Nellie Lake, a pupil of Miss Kate Rorke, in elocution; and the bronze medal went to Wallis Bandey, pupil of Mr. John Francis Barnett, for pianoforte. The following students have also passed the highest grade examination set by the School, and are duly elected Associates for the year 1907: Beatrice Roberts (with honours), elocution; Jessie A. Stirling, pianoforte and elocution; Jessie M. Jackson, pianoforte; Enid Cummings, singing; Nora K. J. Bee, pianoforte; Benjamin R. Edwards, singing; Maud Amory, elocution.

The special prize-winners were as follows: The Lord Mayor's Prize for soprano vocalists, Lilian Allen; the Lady Mayoress's Prize for pianoforte students, divided between Ethel Wynne and Evelyn Harrison; the Sheriff's Prize (Alderman and Sheriff Sir Thomas B. Crosby) for mezzo-soprano vocalists, Dora Palmer; the Sheriff's Prize (Sheriff Sir Wm. H. Dunn) for contralto vocalists, Violet Oppenshaw; the Chairman's Prize for tenor vocalists (presented by Mr. Paul Alliston, C.C.), Fred S. Thomson; the Knill Challenge Cup, with silver medal, Albert E. Cazabon; the Davies Gold Medal, Frederick Blamey; the Tillie Gold Medal for lady violinists, Audrey Richardson; the Summers Prize for contralto vocalists, Effie Cook; the Knight Prize for bass vocalists, Mario Vail, S. Gordon Smith being highly commended; the Lady Jenkinson Prize for pianoforte students, divided between Dadine Sutherland and Helen S. Gall; the Alexander Prize for elocution students, Beatrice Roberts; the Tubbs Prize for violin students, Hilda Lett; the Organ Prizes, M. Gordon Burgess and Arthur C. Rackham; the Max Hecht Scholarship for British vocalists studying German classic songs, Gladys Scott; the Dove Memorial Prize, Doris Cloud; the Libotton Memorial Prize, Ruth Tanner.

The school prizes were thus awarded: Pianoforte, K. Ethel Harman; soprano, Pansy Hooper; contralto, Gladys Scott; tenor, Wallis Anderson; baritone or bass, Wm. H. Cooper; violin, Yathe Mandelbom; violoncello, divided between M. Elaine Powell and Louis A. Rozelaar; elocution, Ada Castiglione; harp, Edith Harnden; flute, Marshall B. Watson; accompanying, Gwendoline Williams; opera, Maude Willby; composition, Margaret Hinton, Mary W. Etherington and Jenny Hyman being commended

Principal scholarships for 1907-8 were allotted as follows: Knoop Scholarship, Mr. Eric Leftwich, violoncello; the Mercers Company Scholarship, Miss Ethelmay Barwell-Holbrook, soprano; the Merchant Taylors Scholarships, Miss Audrey Richardson, violinist; the Andrew Carnegie Scholarships, Misses Elizabeth Tarttelin and Ethel Harman, vocalist and pianist respectively; the Palmer Scholarships, Mr. R. J. Stannard and Muriel Herbert; the Corporation Scholarships, Stuart Welch and Dadine Sutherland.

At Brentford County Court on the 19th inst. Mr. John M. Hay sued Mr. Archibald J. Critchell, of Bedford Park, for £12, two weeks' wages in lieu of notice. The plaintiff said he was engaged by the defendant to play the part of Lord Soppington in a piece called *Cupid's Market*, his contract being signed on paper headed "Birds of Paradise Syndicate." After playing five nights at Bedford the defendant decided not to go on with the tour. The case was originally heard on the 12th inst., when it was stated that the defendant was seriously ill, and in granting an adjournment for a week the judge directed that the money should be paid into court within forty-eight hours. As this direction had not been complied with, his Honour now gave judgment for the plaintiff, Mr. Hay, for the full amount claimed, with costs.

MUSICAL PROGRESS.

The eighteenth annual meeting of the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music took place at Marlborough House on Monday, when the Prince of Wales, in his capacity of president of the Board, occupied the chair. Among those present were Mr. William H. Bigge, chairman of the Board; the Hon. G. W. Spencer Lyttelton, deputy-chairman; Sir Alexander C. Mackenzie, Principal of the Royal Academy of Music; Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, Director of the Royal College of Music; Dr. Eaton Faning, Mr. Ernest Mathews, Mr. Charles Rube, Mr. Franklin Taylor, Sir William McMillan (Sydney), and Mrs. Leach (Gibraltar).

Mr. BIGGE read the report for the year ended April 30, which gave particulars of examinations and awards at home and in the Colonies. The Board regretted the resignation of Sir James Dewar, one of its original members, and stated that the directors of the Royal Academy of Music had elected Mr. Charles Rube to the vacated seat. The present accommodation having proved insufficient for the extended operations of the Board, it had secured the lease of 15, Bedford-square, to which the offices will shortly be removed. The balance-sheet and revenue account, duly audited by Sir Lesley Probyn, showed that the Board is in a satisfactory financial position. By agreement between the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music it had been decided to reduce the reserve fund and limit the balance to be carried forward at the close of each financial year.

In moving the adoption of the report, His ROYAL HIGHNESS said they had every reason to congratulate themselves upon the results achieved during the past year, and which were fully set forth in the report which they had heard read. He might add further that the total number of candidates examined throughout the Empire amounted to 25,413 as against 21,856 in the year 1905-6, and they had not yet received the report from South Africa, which would probably give 1,500. It was satisfactory to hear of the successful manner in which their offer of exhibitions in Australasia had been received, and that the successful exhibitioners would take up their studies at either the Royal Academy or Royal College this year. At the same time new centres had been established in various parts of the Empire.

The Hon. G. W. SPENCER LYTTELTON, deputy-chairman of the Board, seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

His ROYAL HIGHNESS presented medals to the winners and congratulated them on their success. The recipients of the medals were John Younger, Glasgow (harmony), intermediate grade gold medal; Gwenydd Powell, Liverpool (violin), advanced grade gold medal; Jessie C. Stewart, Cardiff (violin), advanced grade silver medal; William Hough, Blackburn (harmony), intermediate grade gold medal; and Ernest Quinton, Birmingham (singing), intermediate grade silver medal.

On the motion of Sir ALEXANDER MACKENZIE, seconded by Sir HUBERT PARRY, a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the Prince of Wales for his kindness in presiding at the meeting.

The PRINCE OF WALES also presided at the twenty-fourth annual general meeting of the Corporation of the Royal College of Music, held on Monday, at Marlborough House. Among the members of the Corporation present were: Prince Christian, Viscount Althorp, Lord Farquhar, Lord Tredegar, the Hon. G. W. Spencer Lyttelton, the Hon. R. H. Lyttelton, Sir Edward Hamilton, Sir J. Herbert Marshall, Sir Charles L. Ryan (hon. auditor), Sir Hubert Parry (Director), Mr. Charles Morley (hon. secretary), Mr. Stuart Wortley, M.P., Mr. Lionel Benson, Dr. Eaton Faning, and Mr. Frank Pownal, registrar.

Mr. CHARLES MORLEY having read the annual report of the Council, the PRINCE OF WALES, in moving that the report and accounts be received and adopted, reminded his hearers that the College was on the eve of accomplishing a quarter of a century of its existence, and they had every proof that in all its functions it was manifesting the strength and energy of a vigorous and healthy life. The past year had been one of marked activity in all departments. In performances one opera, seven orchestral concerts, and thirteen chamber concerts had been successfully carried out. In the case of the opera the work chosen was Sir C. V. Stanford's *Shamus O'Brien*, in which, as was to be expected, the pupils exerted themselves to the utmost in honour of their brilliant conductor. Its success was emphasised by the opinion of Kapellmeister Boris Bruck, who came especially from Breslau for the performance. The unqualified praise which he bestowed upon the manner in which the opera was given was a most gratifying testimony to the eminent position which the College had reached, both as regards its students and the training which they receive. At the orchestral and chamber concerts important works by distinguished composers, and a very great variety of quartets and quintets of the highest standard were produced. The Patron's Fund concert brought forward a number of new works by young British composers, the most important being a Symphony by Mr. Ahn Carse, of the Royal Academy of Music. He had read with much interest of the first gathering of the Royal College Union, which was held during the past year, and that it was increasing largely in membership and prosperity. Such associations must be of the greatest advantage in fostering *esprit de corps* and keeping old pupils in distant parts of the Empire in touch with the College. At the annual examination the College was honoured by the presence of Madame Albani-Gye, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Principal of the Royal Academy of Music, Mr. Oscar Beringer, and other eminent musicians as examiners, and he was gratified to learn that their reports on the various branches were most favourable. The entries for the examinations for certificates of associateships were well maintained, and 165 candidates obtained certificates, which was one in excess of the number last year. A great number of appointments had been secured by pupils of the College in the course of the year, and singers and instrumentalists were much in request in every department, whether of serious or light opera, chamber concerts, or at musical performances at private houses. He knew how pleased the King would be to hear that the College continued to flourish, and that they had every reason to believe that there was increasing public confidence in its administration and work.

PRINCE CHRISTIAN seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The PRINCE OF WALES then presented to Miss Ellen C. Edwards the John Hopkinson and the Challen and Son gold medals for pianoforte playing; to Miss Winifred M. Gardiner, the John Hopkinson silver medal for pianoforte playing; and to Mr. Beckwith the gold medal annually presented by Rajah Sir S. M. Tagore, of Calcutta, for the most generally deserving pupil of the year.

In reply to a vote of thanks, His ROYAL HIGHNESS said he had presided with pleasure over the meeting and listened to what everyone must agree was a most gratifying report of the past year's achievements of the College. Such results could not be attained without strenuous work on the part of both the teaching and the administrative staff. To those he offered his sincere thanks, and especially to their able director, his friend Sir Hubert Parry.

The action entered by the Countess of Rosslyn against Lord Rosslyn was decided in the Court of Session at Edinburgh last Saturday, when a decree of divorce was pronounced.

A NEW ZEALANDER'S NOTIONS.

In a chat with our representative Mr. John Fuller, jun., of John Fuller and Sons, the New Zealand amusement entrepreneurs, says:—"Theatrically speaking, I am more than delighted with my trip to the Continent, London, and my recent tour of the provinces. There is a big difference between the life of a vaudeville artist in New Zealand and Australia when compared with England. At the most, they are only called on to do eight performances a week, and artists with two or three changes can play in the one city for six weeks before being requested to shift to another, and when they do shift all travelling expenses are paid. If we consider, therefore, the number of performances given weekly by English turns, shifting regularly each week—a process that necessitates plenty of 'tipping,' both in front or behind the curtain—why, the vaudeville artist in New Zealand and Australia is in a veritable paradise.

"I cannot but express the great admiration I have for the excellent way the music halls of England are conducted. Generally speaking, they are entirely free from the taint of vulgarity. I am greatly surprised at the arbitrary and clumsy manner in which the London County Council dealt with the Living Statuary question, and when viewing their action, along with Employers' Liability Act, it only goes to show that theatrical managers and proprietors in England

MR. JOHN FULLER, JUN.

should endeavour to emulate Mr. George Alexander, and take a little keener municipal and political interest in the affairs of the country. In New Zealand, the Workers' Compensation Act doesn't apply to artists, and I can assure you that this concession was gained by the hard work of those concerned before the Act was passed in New Zealand, and not left to 'chance.'

"The West-End of London seems to me almost over-supplied with theatres, so that the enormous rent asked, and got, for some of the theatres, will soon come down to normal level. In the provinces I think that vaudeville, in most of the large cities, has reached its limit, and he that invests his money in 'new theatre schemes' is going to lose it quickly. I can see strong indications on the theatrical horizon of the revival of drama, which I think will again take its place in the economics of the playhouse.

"In conclusion, I should like to express my delight at the extreme courtesy I have received during my stay in England from all branches of the English entertaining profession. The people of the old country have warm hearts for Britons beyond the seas. I am leaving for New Zealand, America, Japan, and China, by the Adriatic on the 31st inst., arriving home next December, and thus completing a world's tour."

THE MINIMUM WAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The Council of the Actors' Association have appointed a committee to enquire into the possibility of establishing a minimum or living wage in the theatrical profession.

The committee are anxious to collect all available information bearing on this subject, and they would be glad to hear from any actor or actress, whether members of the A.A. or not, who would be willing to supply them with facts relating to salaries and expenses in the profession.

The committee trust that it will be clearly understood that any communication addressed to them will be treated as strictly private and confidential. The names of the writers will not be divulged.

The contents of the letters will be tabulated and arranged for publication in the report so far as may be necessary to throw light on the subject, but in such a way that it will be impossible for anyone outside the committee to know from whom communications have been received. All the members of the committee pledge themselves to absolute secrecy.

The sort of information which the committee seek to obtain from those who may be willing to write to them may be classified under the following headings:—

1. Length of time in the profession, with dates.
2. Lines of business.
3. London or provincial.
4. Salary per week and number of weeks employed in each year.
5. Annual expenses (please give record for as many years as can be clearly remembered).
6. Views and suggestions—experiences not covered by the above questions.

All letters must be signed, and should be addressed to the Chairman Minimum Wage Committee, care of A.A., 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C., and will be opened only by him.—Signed on behalf of the Committee,

F. MORLAND,
Chairman.

10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C., July 25.

EARLY DANCERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The article on "Early Actresses" last week I read with considerable interest. The regulations of recent years with regard to age limit of children have their disadvantages, and especially so with dancers. The great art of dancing has suffered materially from the difficulty placed in the way of children starting, as they used to do, when "little dots." Dancers who began when only three years old—like Miss Connie Gilchrist, now Lady Orkney, or Miss Lizzie Maynard with the Vokes Family, at Drury Lane—would be still able to hold their own; and the reason that so many dancers come to us from the Continent is, in my opinion, because of the difficulty placed in the way of those "born dancers" beginning at an early age, when they would have time to acquire their art while they are still young.—Yours faithfully,

J. MAUNDY-GREGORY.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

Umberto Giordano's opera *Andrea Chénier* was given on Saturday, July 20, at Covent Garden. The composer's *Fedora* has already been heard this season, and he was known by his opera *Mala Vita* when *Andrea Chénier* was produced at Milan in 1896. Some years ago the Carl Rosa Company first performed this opera, and it was again given in the autumn at Covent Garden in 1905, with Mme. de Cisneros and Signor Sammarco in the cast. The story of *Andrea Chénier* is founded on the love of a young poet, Andrea Chénier, for a lady of birth, Madeleine de Coigny, and both in the end are victims of the Reign of Terror, the sombre background of the French Revolution forming the chief feature. If not reaching any great point, the music of Giordano is in many instances melodious, and sometimes strikingly dramatic, and the composer often well imparts the storm and stress of the Revolution to his opera, while the dramatic incident of the old woman devoting her grandson to the country's cause is illustrated with appropriate music; there is also much charm in the ball-room scene of the Château de Coigny. The most interesting portions of the opera are the love song of Chénier in the first act, Gérard's soliloquy, and the duets in the second and last acts. The performance on Saturday was in many respects noteworthy. Signor Caruso as Chénier acted and sang grandly, while his picturesque costume of the eighteenth century proved very effective. Mlle. Destinn's fine voice also was displayed to the greatest advantage in the part of Madeleine, and Mme. de Cisneros in the small character of Madelon sang with passionate intensity. Signor Sammarco's fine performance of Gérard was another important feature in the performance, and Mme. Edna Thornton deserves praise for her acting and singing as the Comtesse Coigny. That useful artist M. Gilibert made the most of the part of Mathieu, while Signor Marcoux, Signor Venturini, and Signor Gailetti were successful as Roucher, the Spy, and Fleville. The rest of the long cast was adequately filled, and the clever stage-management, picturesque costumes, and effective scenery deserve special mention. Signor Panizza conducted, and secured an excellent ensemble.

Mme Selma Kurz, who took Mme. Melba's part in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, given at Covent Garden on Monday last, sang with no little success, being most enthusiastically applauded for her brilliant and artistic rendering of the great mad scene. Signor Bonci again sang Edgardo's music with admirable purity of tone and fervour, while Signor Scotti and M. Journet repeated their former successes. The conductor was Signor Panizza.

LOVERS of golf will welcome the information that the committee of the Blundell Golf Club will give the use of their ground to any professional ladies and gentlemen who may visit Southport at the very low fee of 1s. per day or 4s. per week. The Links are within five minutes' walk of Birkdale Station (a penny fare) and near two tram termini, and there is an excellent nine-hole course, partly meadow-land and partly sandhills. Tickets may be obtained at any time of the groundsman, or of the hon. secretary, Mr. Henry Pidduck, 175, Lord-street, Southport.

ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ART.

The summer term of the Academy of Dramatic Art, which has just closed, after the examinations, which were held at 62, Gower-street, has been a very prosperous and successful one. The council, including Sir Squire Bancroft (president), Mr. John Hare, Mr. Tree, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Pinero, and Mr. J. M. Barrie, make the gratifying announcement that the Academy is now firmly established on a sound basis, the financial year lately completed showing the institution to be already more than self-supporting. This is an achievement of which they can feel justly proud, in that it has been accomplished in a very short space of time, and after rejection by the examiners of a considerable number of candidates at the entrance examinations on the ground of an absence of sufficient qualification for stage-work. On a recent occasion, indeed, as much as £500 in fees was refused by the examiners for this reason, as many as fifty per cent. of the candidates failing to pass.

The students have been regularly rehearsed by Mr. Lyall Swete, Mr. Fisher White, and Mr. William Haviland, and special rehearsals, given in a purely honorary way—as, indeed, certain instruction is given by Royal Academicians in the Royal Academy Schools—have been held from time to time by Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, Mr. John Hare, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. Cyril Maude, Miss Winifred Emery, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, and Mr. Pinero. Mr. Forbes Robertson, who, after his return from America was taking a well-earned rest in the country, some considerable distance from London, came regularly to conduct these honorary rehearsals.

As many as fifteen different parts had been studied and rehearsed by a number of students during this last term, which concluded with the performance of no less than eighteen one-act plays by the various students without any tuition. For this creative work the prize of five guineas given by Mr. Tree was awarded by the judges to Miss Violet Farebrother; the "Henry Irving Shakespeare," presented by Miss Greta Morritt for the best untaught dramatic rendering of a speech from Shakespeare, being won by Miss Sybil Mockett. The practical result of the students' stage-training is to be found in the fact that lately more professional engagements of the advanced pupils have been made by Mr. John Hare, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, and Mr. Forbes Robertson.

The next entrance examination, for which early application should be made to Mr. George P. Bancroft, the administrator, at 62, Gower-street, will be held on Sept. 24.

THE case of the musicians Eugene and Théo Ysaye, who were sued for damages for having struck a railway guard in the Antwerp-Brussels train in March last, was concluded by the Antwerp tribunal on Tuesday. Eugene Ysaye was ordered to pay £6 fine for insulting an official, and the two brothers were condemned jointly to £320 damages for having by their action caused the guard to go deaf.

THE FAMOUS NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA.

A CHAT WITH MR. T. ELLIS JACKSON (THE CONDUCTOR).

To become really famous in the true sense of the word after only being a few months in England is perhaps a record to be proud of, but this has been accomplished by the company of Jamaican singers and dancers who are now touring England giving their charming and sparkling entertainment at our principal theatres, halls, and pier pavilions to the great delight of vast audiences all over the country. The choir consists of twelve coloured ladies and gentlemen, survivors of the terrible earthquake which took place at Kingston, Jamaica, in January last. The members of the choir are all highly educated, and have a very pleasing and attractive manner, and each one is an artist to the finger-tips. Not one of them had ever been outside the West Indies, or even put their foot on a steamer, until they came to England. Truly a very interesting body of people, whose opinion of England must be worth hearing.

"Well, Mr. Jackson, what do you think of England and our audiences?"

"I am delighted and deeply grateful to the English public, not only for their enthusiastic reception of our efforts, but for their great kindness generally. Wherever we go we appear to be singled out for special favours. At Liverpool Lord Elgin (His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies) was extremely kind and helpful to us in many ways; Lord Derby also paid us a very high compliment; and from Lord Roberts, Lord Brassey, Lord Lathom, Sir Alfred L. Jones and others who all came to see our performances we received every consideration and encouragement; whilst the Lord Mayor of Liverpool gave us a splendid reception at the Town Hall, and presented each member of the company with a gold medal, as we were told we created a unique record in Liverpool by giving thirty-two complete concerts, and money was refused at every performance."

"Your visit to England has certainly turned out very successful. What made you think of leaving the West Indies for our shores?"

"Well," replied Mr. Jackson, "the credit is really due to Dr. James Johnston, a Scotchman, and a noted medical practitioner in Jamaica, who takes a general interest in the advancement of our island; he said he was sure we should be a great success in England. Also to the famous Liverpool shipping magnate, Sir Alfred Jones, whose name is a household word in Jamaica. It is to him that we owe the successful introduction of the bananas into the United Kingdom, and also the revival of the cotton industry. Sir Alfred most kindly brought us all to England by one of his steamers free of charge, and will take us back again at the end of the tour. He has put us in the hands of Messrs. H. E. Jones and A. Douglass, of 21, Water-street, Liverpool, who are acting as our managers and agents. Their attentions have been untiring, and their vast experience has stood us in good stead."

"When do you propose to return to the West Indies, Mr. Jackson?"

"Well, we had intended to return in September, but engagements have poured in upon us. We have just decided to stay in England through the coming winter, and our managers will commence to book winter dates at once, possibly at the music halls, where we are told by those who know that we should be just as enthusiastically received as we have been elsewhere. The fact is, some of our 'turns' are specially to delight the patrons of music halls."

"Do I understand that your summer dates are all taken up?"

"Oh, yes; we were soon booked up to the end of October, although we have two vacant dates in August, these having to be recently cancelled owing to the licence of the New Dover Pavilion and Gardens not having been granted to the lessee. A gratifying feature of our tour has been the great number of return dates offered us, several managers having gone to much trouble to alter their arrangements so as to have us back again this season; but, unfortuntely, we have been compelled to refuse many tempting offers for the summer."

"Do the members of your company all hail from Kingston, Jamaica?"

"Yes, with one exception, and we possess the best voices obtainable in the island. I have two bass singers, four sopranos—one known as the West Indian Patti and winner of several gold medals—two tenors, and one contralto. My accompanist is a pianist of a very high order; and we also possess two real coon singers, both remarkably clever dancers. Our native Jamaican songs and plantation melodies have never before been heard in England, and apparently give great pleasure to our audiences, for they are very lavish in their encores. On Tuesday H.R.H. Princess Henry of Battenberg and party attended our performance at the Pier Pavilion, Southampton, and her Royal Highness expressed her very great delight at our original and unique entertainment."

"You must all have had a trying time in Jamaica during the earthquake?"

"We did, indeed, for it was beyond anything of its kind ever experienced by anyone in the island. No words of mine could adequately express to you the horror of that never-to-be-forgotten day on Jan. 14 last. The members of the company had wonderful escapes from death; many of their relatives and friends were killed, and all the choir lost greatly by the calamity. When we sailed from Kingston after the earthquake we were naturally very depressed and despondent, but, thanks to the kind aid extended by the British Government, we are more cheerful, knowing that our people are being helped out of the trying ordeal passed through seven months ago. Thank God, we can see a hopeful future before us!"

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Charles Wyndham has decided upon Tuesday next for his revival of *A Night Out* at the Criterion. Mr. George Giddens will appear in his original part of Joseph Pinglet, and support will be rendered by Messrs. Bertram Steer, Frederick Volpé, George Desmond, Reginald Walter, Lawrence White, F. W. Permain, G. Savile, and P. L. Julian, and Misses Marguerite Leslie, Alice Beet, Frances Vine, Millicent Forsyth, Nell Toller, Violet Hollom, Leonora Caldwell, and May Hollom.

Mr. Edward Terry was present in his capacity of P.G. Treasurer at the annual meeting of the Surrey Grand Lodge of Freemasons on the 18th inst., presided over by Mr. Justice Bucknill, P.G.W. All the lodges of the province were represented, the attendance amounting to something near five hundred.

Mr. Martin Harvey makes the interesting announcement of his intention to appear as Ravenswood next year in a new adaptation by Stephen Phillips of "The Bride of Lammermoor." The most noteworthy adaptation of Scott's romance was that by Herman Merivale, which was produced by Henry Irving at the Lyceum in 1890, with Miss Ellen Terry and the late William Terriss supporting the famous actor. In the latest revival Miss N. de Silva will play Lucy Ashton. Mr. Harvey's autumn tour commences at the Opera House, Buxton, on Aug. 22, and concludes at the Coornet on Dec. 14. Subsequently the popular actor will appear in the West End with a revival of *The Corsican Brothers*.

Miss Viola Tree was one of the eleven bridesmaids who officiated at the wedding of Mr. Raymond Asquith, son of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with Miss Katharine Horner, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on Thursday. Mrs. Beerbohm Tree was also among the distinguished gathering, which included Mr. Asquith and Mr. Balfour.

Mr. Otho Stuart will inaugurate his venture at the Court Theatre on Sept. 25 with a new comedy, in three acts, by W. Gayer Mackay and Robert Ord, entitled *Barry Doyle's Rest Cure*, a play of a light description designed principally to amuse. The cast will include Messrs. W. Graham Brown, C. M. Lowne, E. W. Garden, A. Holmes Gore, E. Y. Rae, and Misses Carlotta Addison, Rose Musgrove, and Beatrice Terry. Following the custom which his predecessors at the Court found so remunerative, Mr. Stuart will give Tuesday and Friday matinées, the first of which will take place on Oct. 1, when *The Incubus*, the translation by Mr. Laurence Irving of Brieux's comedy *Les Hannetons*, will be revived, with Miss Mabel Hackney and Mr. Charles V. France in their original parts, and Mr. Irving himself sustaining that of Brochot.

Mr. Laurence Irving, who performed his translation of Brieux's comedy in a marvellously short period, has turned his attention to Dostoievsky's novel, "Crime and Punishment," and his adaptation has been secured by Mr. E. H. Sothern. Under the title of *The Sixth Commandment* a version of the same book by the late Robert Buchanan was produced by Mrs. Lancaster Wallis at the Shaftesbury in 1890, with Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. Herbert Waring, and Miss Elizabeth Robbins in the cast.

Miss Connie Ediss, who has just arrived in New York, is credited with the alarming statement that she intends to make America her home. "I am shaking off London for ever," she is reported to have said to an interviewer, "and shall become an American. Born in Ireland, I shall take out citizen papers here." Miss Ediss is to play the leading rôle in *The Girl Behind the Counter*, in rehearsal for production at the Herald-square Theatre in August.

Miss Annie Hughes finishes her present successful tour with *Miss Tommy*, by Jerome K. Jerome, on Aug. 10, and her next tour, which starts on Sept. 9, will extend to Christmas. In the course of her tour Miss Hughes will play *Sweet Nancy*, and produce a new front piece written by the Rev. Wallace Duthie, rector of Caister, near Great Yarmouth. Miss Hughes, it should be added, has been specially engaged by Mr. Percy Hutchison to play her original part in *A Country Mouse* at Brighton for the week of Aug. 26.

The vexed question of the minimum wage has been taken up in a practical way by the Actors' Association, the Council of which, as will be seen in a letter in another part of this issue, have appointed a committee to inquire into the matter, and are inviting particulars relating to individual salaries and to the expenses incurred in the pursuit of the profession. The information which the committee seek to obtain includes that of salaries received and the number of weeks employed in the year and a record of annual expenses. All communications are to be treated as strictly private and confidential, and no names will be divulged, either in the report which the committee is to present or elsewhere.

Mr. Henry Kemble has been advised to take a prolonged rest, owing to the indifferent state of his health. It is hoped that it will not be long before this sterling actor is restored to health and to the London stage.

Miss Phyllis Dare will, at Harrogate, on Aug. 3 begin her first provincial tour in musical comedy, and will be seen as Peggy in *The Dairymaids*, in which she is to sing new numbers specially composed for her by Mr. Paul Rubens. At Christmas she will be the Cinderella of Mr. Courtneidge's pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, when she will be associated with Miss Carrie Moore as the Prince and Mr. Dan Rolyat as the Baron. Next spring will see Miss Dare back in London in the leading part of a new musical play upon which Mr. Courtneidge is now engaged.

We regret to announce the death of the well-known scenic artist Robert Burriss, who passed away on the 17th inst. after a long and painful illness. The deceased artist, during his career, had been connected with the West London, the County Theatre, Kingston, the Palace, Clacton, and other establishments. He leaves a widow and three young children. The funeral took place at Woking on Saturday.

Mr. Charles Manners is putting into practice at the Lyric a more merciful system towards latecomers than that of shutting the doors against them. It is now decided that those who arrive after time shall be admitted to the corridors immediately adjacent to the part of the theatre in which their seats are situated, where they can thus listen to the overture without disturbing those who are already seated.

Miss Ida Valli, the clever child actress and mimic, met with a painful accident at Clacton-on-Sea on the 19th inst., when she fell from her bicycle, breaking her ankle. The wheel of a cab which was following immediately behind passed over her hand, which was terribly bruised, but otherwise uninjured, owing to the fact that the wheel had just been re-tyred. The little sufferer was conveyed to the Clacton Cottage Hospital, where she received every possible attention, and is progressing as well as could be expected.

Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison have hit upon an effective means of directing attention to their various enterprises, and have issued a little booklet, containing a list of eight tours under their management. The three companies of *Peter's Mother* start in August, at Brighton, Buxton, and Margate; *The Stronger Sex* company will open its tour on August Bank Holiday at Scarborough, with Miss Hutchison in the cast, supported by an exceptionally strong company; and in September another company of this powerful play will be seen at the Coronet, for a tour of the London suburbs, with visits to Nottingham, Glasgow, Edinburgh, &c., to follow. All the arrangements are in the hands of Mr. Percy Hutchison, who also has arranged for a four weeks' season at Brighton, commencing with *Peter's Mother* for the first week, to be followed by *The Freedom of Suzanne*, *The Stronger Sex*, and Miss Annie Hughes in *A Country Mouse*.

The autumn season of Italian grand opera will begin at Covent Garden on Thursday, Oct. 3, and will last for eight weeks. Amongst the engagements already made are those of Mme. Rina Giachetti and Mme. Maria Gay, who have already won favour at Covent Garden. Tenor rôles will be entrusted to MM. Bassi, Vignas, Carpi, Zucchi, and Bada, and among the basses and baritones will be MM. Sammarco, Deluca, Scandiani, and Thos. Signor Panizza, who has been conducting during the past grand season, has also been engaged, in conjunction with Signor Serafin, who is new to London, but comes with the highest credentials from Milan, Rome, and Naples.

The orchestra will be specially selected from English players, and will be largely drawn from the grand season orchestra. The chorus will also be the same as in the grand season. Performances will be given every evening, except on the nights of the fancy dress balls, which take place every alternate Friday. The prices of boxes will range from 16s. to 4 guineas, the stalls will be 10s. 6d. to 12s. 6d., and other charges will be in proportion, with an unreserved gallery at 1s. 6d.

The race for Doggett's Coat and Badge, which is annually run to perpetuate the name of a celebrated Drury-lane comedian, was duly contested on Wednesday, when the four-and-a-half miles course from London Bridge to Chelsea was covered by the half-dozen competitors. The coveted prize fell to Hammersmith, Alfred Thomas Cook, of that borough, winning a closely-contested race by four lengths.

Messrs. Frank J. Pitt and Charles Halling will conclude this evening at the Theatre Royal, Croydon, their first tour of the late Charles Rogers' detective drama, *£1000 Reward*, with which they have had a fifty-one weeks' run. The autumn tour will commence at the Grand Theatre, Brighton, on Aug. 5, the piece being fully booked with one or two exceptions up to Christmas, 1908.

The stage in Spain has received somewhat tardy recognition in official circles, the great Spanish actor, Fernando Diaz, having just been made a Grandee. This is the first time an actor has been ennobled in Spain.

"Tom Jones" will on Saturday next terminate its present run at the Apollo, after which the piece will be sent on tour, beginning at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool, on Aug. 9. The company which Mr. Courtneidge is sending out will include Miss Ruth Vincent as Sophia, Miss Carrie Moore as Honour, and Mr. Dan Rolyat at Partridge. *Tom Jones* will be revived next spring at a West End theatre, at present in negotiation.

Mr. Frank Lindo will on Monday celebrate the 1,000th performance of his successful play, *Home, Sweet Home*, at the Theatre Royal, Leeds. The piece was produced at Greenwich in the May of 1903, and has since enjoyed a measure of prosperity upon which the author is to be congratulated.

Mr. Wentworth Croke has purchased the entire productions of *The Bondman* and *The Prodigal Son* from Drury Lane for his forthcoming autumn tours, and playgoers in the suburbs and provinces will thus have an opportunity of seeing the same magnificent and correct productions as those which delighted the London public. Mr. Croke has been fortunate in securing the services of Miss Grace Chalmers, who has been specially chosen by Mr. Hall Caine to play Greeba in *The Bondman*, and will make her first suburban appearance in that character at the Broadway Theatre on Aug. 26.

Mr. Croke's *Christian* company commences its ninth year of tour on August Bank Holiday at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham. The piece will enter upon another year of prosperity with a new production throughout.

The Fulham Theatre, thoroughly cleaned and redecorated, will be reopened on August Bank Holiday by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company in a play, new to England, entitled *For Her Sake*. The piece was originally produced in America, where it has been represented by no less than four companies for the last six years, and is still playing to large business. The subject is Russian, and furnishes vivid pictures of Muscovite aristocracy, military and diplomatic life, and the sulphur mines of Siberia.

Mr. Charles Windermere has disposed of two of his one-act plays to Mr. Frank Thornton, who will produce them in front of *When Knights were Bold* on his forthcoming Australian tour. Mr. Windermere is now appearing, with much success, in his original duologues in the variety theatres, assisted by that clever young actress, Miss Clare Manifield.

Miss Maud Buchanan, who has just finished a successful tour as Sarah Drake in *Man's Enemy* with Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby, has been engaged by Messrs. A. J. Harding and Charles R. Hann for the lead in *Delivered from Evil*.

The beautiful new theatre at the Spa, Bridlington, which Mrs. Tree will open on Monday, is to have as its Bank Holiday attraction that vivid picture of German Army life, the successful play, *Lights Out*, with an exceptionally strong cast.

The Lyric Theatre and Opera House, Hammersmith, owing to the extensive alterations imposed upon the proprietors by the L.C.C., closes to-day. The date of reopening, and by whom it will be reopened, is not at present known, but Mr. Samuel James is leaving, and transferring his personal interest to the Theatre Royal, Croydon, proprietorate. Mr. Newman Maurice, the resident-manager, terminates his engagement at Hammersmith, and rejoins Messrs. W. and T. Melville on August 5.

Mr. Tom H. Solly, the popular stage manager and comedian of the Alhambra Dramatic Company, Belfast, was accorded a complimentary benefit on the 18th inst. The programme comprised the drama, *Shadow of a Crime;* and special turns were furnished by Dandie George and his dog "Rosie," Frank Cumminger, Walton and Lester, Percy Curry, Elton and Edwin. The performance concluded with the farcical sketch *Turn Him Out*, the various rôles being capitally sustained by Miss Mattie Crawford, Miss Alice Clarke; Messrs Cyril Grier, Ed. Smythe, Elmore Frith, and Tom H. Solly. During the evening Mr. Sinclair Neill, manager of the Alhambra, on behalf of Mr. Solly's numerous admirers, presented him with a large crayon drawing of himself, suitably framed, together with a handsome cigarette-holder and case.

Mr. Mulholland writes, calling attention to the fact that the Lyceum Theatre is not the only theatre in London that has a sliding roof. There is one called the King's, he tells us, down Hammersmith way, which he believes was the first theatre in London at all events to enjoy this luxury—or necessity.

The Council of the Actors' Association held their weekly meeting on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. Fredk. Morland (in the chair), Mr. Henry W. Mote (Hon. Solicitor), Miss Wynne Matthison, Messrs. Arthur Applin, Cecil Brooking, Fewlass Llewellyn, and Roy Horniman, and Chas. Cruikshanks (Secretary).

The Finance and General Purposes Committee met for the purpose of carrying on the business of the Council. Mr. Fredk. Morland was elected to the chair. Miss Wynne Matthison and Mr. Arthur Applin were elected members of this committee. The Hon. Solicitors reported they had had an interview with a member, and advised him that they had written to another member in reply to a letter advising him. There was some discussion on the subject of the agency, and it was agreed that the Secretary exhibit the following notice:—"The attention of members seeking work is called to the 'Disengaged' forms, which all desiring engagements should fill up and hand to the Agency Clerk."

The Touring Managers' Association submitted a revised form of contract for approval, and the Secretary was directed to return the contract suggesting certain alterations. The Secretary of the Sun Fire Office inquired as to insurance of staff, and the Secretary was directed to ask for quotation to cover all risks. The resignation of Mr. Fredk. Mouillot as life member was accepted with regret. The Secretary was directed to exhibit a notice that—"No messages are to be written in the visitors' book, it being intended for signatures only." Laura Vale was nominated for election to the A.A., and three former members were reinstated.

M. Auguste van Biene commences on Aug. 19 at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, his autumn tour of *The Broken Melody*, which is now approaching its 5,000th performance, and in January, 1908, will resume his Moss-Stoll tours with his successful playlet, *The Master Musician*. It is M. Van Biene's intention in future to divide the year into two halves, one of which will see him in the theatres and the other in the halls.

Mr. F. R. Benson is sending out a fourth company, to be called the "Midlands" Company, which will start on Sept. 19, and will tour until Dec. 14.

The Rev. J. Stephen Barrass, rector of St. Lawrence Jewry, Gresham-street, E.C., has accepted the post of hon. chaplain for Central London to the Actors' Church Union. The district includes all the leading West End theatres and halls. The object of the Union is to unite in religious work and life the men and women members of the Anglican communion who are engaged upon the theatrical and variety stage. Mr. Barrass will gladly furnish information respectnig the Union to members of the profession who wish it.

Mr. Julian Bainbridge has just concluded a stock season at the Waterloo Theatre, Whitby, which has not been used for the purposes of entertainment since, some twenty-five years ago, it was the favourite resort of local theatre-goers under the title of the Star Theatre. Mr. Bainbridge has carried out extensive alterations, comprising an electric-light installation, and his enterprise has received most satisfactory patronage, including that of the Rev. Marquis and Marchioness of Normanby, who attended a fashionable performance of *Our Boys*, given for the benefit of the Whitby Cottage Hospital. Mr. Bainbridge intends to keep open throughout the year, as there is every prospect, when the new harbour bridge is built, of shipbuilding being restarted, thus enabling this old-world town, so long dead to the theatrical world, to be restored to its once flourishing condition. Some first-class attractions are booked for the autumn.

Mrs. Wyn Weaver (Miss Mabel Mellor), we are glad to hear, is now entirely recovered from her severe illness, and anxious to resume work. Miss Mellor was very successful with Mr. W. S. Penley as Donna Lucia, with Mr. Milton Bode as Mme. Camembert in *The French Maid*, and more recently as Anne Dulley with Mr. H. F. Maltby in *The Youngest of Three*. Her Mrs. Fritchley, the landlady in *The Sportsman*, was also a noteworthy impersonation, and her ambition is to earn a reputation in this class of character in town.

Miss Ellen Snow will commence a lengthy tour at the Grand Theatre, Brighton, on Monday next, when she will revive the well-known romantic drama, *Why Men Love Women*, one of the most successful of the many plays Mr. Walter Howard has written, Miss Snow having secured the touring rights from Messrs. Paumier and Howard. A very strong company has been engaged, including Messrs. Hillard Vox, Lionel Gadsden, Gerald Kennedy, Martin B. Pedler, Harwood Roberts, Claude Aymond, Misses Beatrice Shirley, Mildred Eversleigh, Nita Owen, and Freda Vaughan. Miss Snow will play the leading part of Violet Livingstone. Entirely new scenery has been painted, and magnificent costumes and uniforms provided, and Mr. Howard is rehearsing and producing the play himself. The tour is under the direction of Mr. Stanley B. Farbridge.

Miss Hilda Hammerton, who recently played the character of a sea-maiden at the Vaudeville Theatre, owes her life to the bravery and promptitude of a gentleman at Hastings, but for whose timely assistance she would have been drowned. Miss Hammerton was bathing some way beyond her depth, when she was seized with cramp and sank. A gentleman at once dived from the pier, reached the lady just as she was sinking for the second time, and held her up until the boats arrived.

The Comedy, which closes this evening, will reopen on Sept. 2 with Mr. Clyde Fitch's comedy *The Truth*, which has maintained a career of steady prosperity. A few weeks later Mr. Alfred Sutro's new play, *The Barrier*, will be produced, with Miss Marie Tempest in the cast, supported by Mr. Allan Aynesworth, Mr. A. E. Matthews, Mr. Michael Sherbrooke, Mr. Dawson Millward, Miss Geraldine Olliffe, Miss Jean Harkness, and Miss Lillah McCarthy.

Mr. T. Edward Ward commences touring operations after a summer vacation with his latest venture, *Second to None*, a story of the Royal Scots Greys, on Monday next, at the Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth. There are practically no breaks in the tour, which extends to Christmas, 1908. In fact, the play, which is not only the latest of Mr. Howard's, but undoubtedly one of the best will most likely be exploited by two companies after Christmas.

"The Drums of Oude," the little play which has enjoyed a large measure of popularity at the Playhouse, is to be replaced shortly by an English version, prepared by Mr. Gaston Mayer, of Tristan Bernard's amusing comedietta *L'Anglais tel qu'on parle*. Mr. Maude has already distinguished himself among French players in the part of the Englishman, of which he made an excellent character-study. When the little piece is performed at the Playhouse the part of the interpreter will be allotted to Mr. George Shelton.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., opened on Monday afternoon the Pickwick Exhibition which is being held at the New Dudley Gallery under the auspices of the Dickens Fellowship. "One of the finest things of the 'Pickwick Papers,'" said Mr. O'Connor, in the course of his interesting address, "is that it gave a real life-like and true picture of that most misunderstood of human beings, the typical John Bull. We all know the general impression of John Bull, especially among foreigners who don't know him—his frigidity, his seriousness and occasionally, among unfavourable critics, his supposed Pharisaism and hypocrisy. We who know him from the inside know that a more good-humoured and kindly creature doesn't exist in the world than the typical Englishman, and all that kindness and love and good humour are typified in the immortal Mr. Pickwick."

Mr. Norman V. Norman's season of pastoral plays at Bournemouth was a success in every way. Vast crowds attended every performance, and a great number of people were unable to obtain seats at all. The Winter Gardens were beautifully decorated, the music was played by Dan Godfrey's celebrated band, and the Steinway Quartette sang glees between the acts. Mr. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson received quite an ovation on the last night of the season.

Mr. Bannister Howard is evidently a believer in strengthening the bonds that link the Colonies and the Mother Country. In his *The Belle of New York* company, which opens at the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, on Aug. 5, he has no fewer than five Australians—Mr. Ernest Mozar, who plays Harry Bronson; Miss Olive Lenton, who embodies Fifi; Miss Winnie Browne, the Cora; Mr. James Watts, the Count Patsi; and Miss Daisee Jennings, the Pansy.

Messrs. Savery and Pigott having acquired the suburban and provincial rights of *The English Rose*, *Harbour Lights*, and *In the Ranks*, the two former of these old Adelphi favourites will be sent out on the road next Christmas, and *In the Ranks* a little later.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell will commence an autumn tour on Aug. 5 at the Opera House, Blackpool, with a répertoire consisting of *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, *Magda*, and *Hedda Gabler*. The tour will be for twelve weeks, in the course of which the principal towns in the provinces will be visited, and will terminate at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, on Oct. 26. Miss Stella Patrick Campbell will accompany her mother, playing in *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* and in *Magda*, and the company will include Mr. Charles Garry, Mr. Julian Royce, Mr. Alfred Goddard, Mr. James Gelderd, Miss Margaret Watson, Miss Catherine Dupont, Miss Helen Boucher, Miss Doris Digby, Miss Blanche Wilmot, &c. Mr. E. H. Kelly will be the stage-manager and Mr. H. J. Wilde the business manager.

Mr. Harold West has been engaged by Mr. Leonard Boyne for his forthcoming tour of *Raffles*.

Mr. Percy Marshall has been engaged by Mr. Robert Courtneidge to play Dr. O'Bryne in his No. 1 *Dairymaids* tour.

Miss Mab Paul, who will be remembered as the Beatrice of the late Sir Henry Irving's production of *Dante*, both in England and America, will play the principal part in the forthcoming tour of Mr. Weedon Grossmith's funny farce, *The Night of the Party*. Miss Paul, who has also appeared with Mr. Beerbohm Tree and Mr. Charles Hawtrey, has been thrice "hung" in the Royal Academy. She is at present negotiating for a London theatre, where she intends to produce a new play by a well-known author at the conclusion of the tour.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge open their new theatre at Barrow on August Bank Holiday with Mr. James Welch's company, in *When Knights Were Bold*, and have all the best companies booked during the autumn. His Majesty's has been converted into one of the most modern and up-to-date theatres in the provinces, and the enterprising lessees' former successes in Barrow are in a fair way of being greatly exceeded.

"Brewster's Millions,' which will make way at the Hicks Theatre on Aug. 26 for Mr. H. A. Jones's *Hypocrites*, will find accommodation at the Duke of York's. The transference will be marked by the production of a new curtain-raiser called *A Little Japanese Girl*, in which Miss Pauline Chase, Mr. Edward Sass, Mr. Percival Stevens, and Miss Jane May will be seen.

Miss Fanny Dango, who is the youngest sister of the celebrated family that includes Miss Letty Lind, Miss Millie Hylton, Miss Adelaide Astor (Mrs. George Grossmith, jun.), and Miss Lydia Flopp, left Victoria Station on Thursday for Australia, travelling via Marseilles, where she will join the s.s. Mongolia. Miss Dango had a send-off from many of her friends, and the whole of her family. She has been engaged by Mr. Williamson for twelve months to play leading parts in his various companies, opening in the part of Peggy in *The Dairymaids*.

Miss Mabelle F. Barlow, who has won such high commendation for her rendering of Lady Godiva in Mr. Max Goldberg's play on tour, "dresses" the part in a manner which might serve as a model for the promoters of the Coventry pageant. Recently Miss Barlow was presented with an old Coventry halfpenny dated 1729, bearing the city arms and the figure of Godiva on the horse—a similar coin to that which it is reported La Milo is to wear "for luck" during her forthcoming ride.

Miss Lydia Flopp has been engaged by Mr. Chas. Macdona, and will open on Monday at Southend in *The Cingalee*.

At Westminster County Court on the 19th inst. Miss Madge McIntosh, the well-known actress, was sued by Messrs. Miles and Co., printers, for the balance of an account for the printing of certain theatrical posters. The manager of the plaintiff firm said that Mr. Lumsden Hare called on him and said that Miss McIntosh and he were going on tour with one of Sutro's plays, *Mollentrave on Women*, and wanted some printing done. Certain work was ordered, and defendant and Mr. Hare agreed to take 300 large lithographed posters at 3s. 3d. each and a number of double-crown posters at 4s. 6d. a hundred. These latter were afterwards changed to pictorial posters at 12s. 6d. per 100. Defendant had had supplied to her 140 posters, and it was in respect of the balance of 160 that defendant was now sued.

Mr. Lumsden Hare and Miss McIntosh denied that there was any guarantee on their part to take 300, as the arrangement was that the plaintiffs should supply copies of the large poster as they were required. At the time of the order only four towns on the tour were booked. The design on the large lithographed poster, it was contended, was one chosen from stock, and represented Cupid shooting at a heart. Defendant also disputed a claim for certain slips with the names of the theatres at the various towns at which defendant was to perform. Judge Woodfall found for the plaintiffs as regarded the large lithographed posters for £25 16s. 9d., but for the defendant in respect of the slips and the double-crown bills.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Mr. Compton on "Stock."

"The touring company," says Mr. Edward Compton in an interview in the *Chronicle*, "grew out of the 'starring' system. It originated not, as is generally thought, with the tours of the Robertson plays, but almost accidentally by a visit of Buckstone and the whole Haymarket company to open a theatre at Bradford. Their performances were so successful that the visit was repeated, other companies were sent out from London, and from that the whole touring business, with all its evils—and merits—is to be dated. Certainly it encouraged versatility, breadth, and all-round competence. It was—for, say, three or four years—a splendid training for the young actor. He had to work hard. He had to appear in hundreds of small parts. He saw most of the great actors in their famous characters.

Killing Work.

"At the same time, it was not by any means so ideal an arrangement as some would have it. In the first place, directly an actor arrived at a position where he would take fairly big parts, the work began to be positively killing. In any Shakespearian or well-known play it was supposed to be taken for granted that he knew every part that was in his 'line.' Many was the time that I myself, as leading man of a stock company, have pretended to know a long part that I had never seen before, because it would have meant disgrace, if not dismissal, to have confessed ignorance. This meant working up to all hours of the night. Indeed, I hardly ever used to get to bed in those days before two in the morning—and it was work all the time."

Altogether, there is much to be said on either side. There is, I fancy, more finesse, more individuality, occasionally more personal sincerity, about our present-day acting. Above all, the *mise-en-scène* has vastly improved. The great lack, of course, is the lack of training, which is the great question of the future.

Advance Booking.

Sir Edward Moss, says the *Weekly Dispatch*, was, a few years ago, shortly after he was first made a magistrate for Midlothian, on the bench one day when a hulking ruffian was brought before him on a charge of wife-beating. After the case was proved Sir Edward (he was then Mr. Moss) told the scoundrel he was very glad to have the opportunity of punishing him severely. "I will give you the full limit that the law allows me," he said; "three months' hard labour; and I am only sorry I cannot book you for the whole tour."

Real Blood.

Our old genial friend Frank Fillis, says the *Times of Natal* in a recent issue, is nothing if not fond of a dramatic situation. The other night he was giving a performance in Pretoria of *Intercepted Dispatches*, during which he is shot and falls heavily to the ground. On this occasion he met with a slight accident. He had a drawn sword in his hand, and as he came down the point stuck in the ground, the hilt jabbing him under the ear, inflicting a flesh wound. Taking full advantage of the incident, he staunched the blood, which was flowing copiously, with his hand, while the audience cheered themselves hoarse, being fully convinced that they were witnessing a remarkably realistic piece of stage by-play. It might, however, have been more serious, but fortunately, when the wound was dressed, Frank was none the worse.

The "Star" System.

To know exactly what operas people want, says the *Tribune*, is the chief thing that the entrepreneur who wishes to make money wants to know. For it is not unlikely that with the disappearance to richer climes of the all-attractive Caruso, the "star system" may receive, if not its death-blow in England, at any rate a shrewd knock from which it will reel for many a day. Then the question for the opera-goer will be, not "What singer shall I go to hear?" but "What opera among all these operas that I want to hear shall I choose?" So the composers may come by their own, and the grateful thanks of subscribers be given first to the maker of the music and only in the second place to its interpreters.

Funny, not Philosophical.

Men laugh, says Mr. Spenser Wilkinson in the *Morning Post*, not when they will, but when they must. They cannot laugh at an incongruity which they do not perceive. A tall man going about in a little boy's coat and trousers would probably in England be ridiculous. But in unexplored Africa he would be received with perfect gravity, because the people there, not knowing the type of his clothes, would not be aware that they were a misfit. An audience that laughs with an author exposing shams proves that it recognises as sham what the author presents as shams, and agrees with him as to what is real and what not. Accordingly, to make an institution ridiculous is to deal its death-blow, and to make people laugh at an idea supposed to be established is to show that it has been disestablished—has sunk to the level of a convention or a prejudice. But in Mr. Bernard Shaw's plays, though the audience is constantly convulsed with laughter, the laugh, so far as I can discover, is not at the ideas or institutions which Mr. Shaw as a pamphleteer attacks, but at the irresistibly funny situations which he creates and at the clever sayings which he puts into the mouths of his characters. Mr. Shaw is labouring under the delusion that his audiences are laughing at institutions and ideas, whereas they are laughing only at his wit. His mission to preach led him to put on the cap and bells, but the jester's trade threatens to absorb him.

An Empty Outcry.

The cry against the modern theatre, the shallowness of its entertainment, says the Sydney *Lone Hand*, still comes from the precious few who cherish ideals of dramatic art. But without effect. What is lost sight of is that the decadence of the drama is not really due to a specific mental malady; it is a symptom of a widespread intellectual tendency. The mind of yesterday devoted itself partly to the arts and graces of life. The mind of to-day devotes itself wholly to business.

Over the "Century."

"Nowadays," says the *Daily Chronicle*, "it is generally understood that a piece must run one hundred performances before the manager hopes to recover the money he has spent on the production, and the following therefore are the thirteen plays that have paid this season, with the theatre and number of performances:—*Nelly Neil*, Aldwych, 107; *John Glayde's Honour*, St. James's, 138; *The Stronger Sex*, Royalty, 153; *Robin Hood*, Lyric, 162; *The Lady Dandies*, Daly's, 196; *The Morals of Marcus*, Garrick, 198; *Amasis*, Criterion, 200; *The New Aladdin*, Gaiety, 203; *Toddles*, Duke of York's, 335; *The Beauty of Bath*, Hicks, 342; *Raffles*, Comedy, 353; *His House in Order*, St. James's, 428; and *The Belle of Mayfair*, Vaudeville, 432."

Well Prepared.

Some people, says the *Daily News*, look longingly back to the old-fashioned concerts before Wagner and other composers dominated the programme. There is a story of an elderly man who disliked the rather noisy orchestral concerts to which his daughters dragged him. He called out one evening to them: "What a time you girls take to get ready for a concert. Look at me: I put a large piece of wadding in each ear, and am perfectly ready!"

"THE POCKET MISS HERCULES."

Farce, in Three Acts, by J. Storer Clouston, Performed at the New Royalty Theatre, on Tuesday, July 23.

Lord Dyderdown .....MR. H. ATHOL FORDE
Hon. Ferdinand Falarope .....MR. FRED WRIGHT, JUN.
Rev. Septimus Falarope.....MR. CECIL BURT
Dick Power .....MR. NORMAN TREVOR
Meakin .....MR. HUBERT DRUCE
Thomas .....MR. ARTHUR ELDRED
Hon. Sophia Falarope .....MISS ISABEL GREY
Muriel Falarope .....MISS DAISY ATHERTON
Daisy Faye .....MISS ESME HUBBARD

The Follies having concluded their successful engagement at the New Royalty Theatre, the lessee and manager of which is Mr. Tom B. Davis, Mr. Hubert Druce presented there, on Tuesday, the farce in three acts by J. Storer Clouston, entitled *The Pocket Miss Hercules*. The piece, which was first seen at a matinée in aid of the Grosvenor Hospital for Women and Children, at the New Royalty Theatre, on June 28, is an instance of an amusing edifice being erected on very slight foundations. The "motive" of the fun is a young lady, of no abnormal physical powers, being mistaken for a "strong woman" from the variety stage. The impecunious Lord Dyderdown is anxious that his silly son, Ferdinand, shall marry his cousin, Daisy Faye, who has recently come into a large fortune. Daisy has been a dressmaker, and, in order to conceal her antecedents from her aristocratic relatives, she gets the report spread that she has been a certain "Samsonia," of muscular and athletic fame. When Daisy arrives at Dyderdown Court everyone is in awe of her prowess, and she keeps up the error by making the butler her accomplice, so that he submits to be thrown down by her and thrashed. By terrorising Ferdinand, Lord Dyderdown, and his brother, the Rev. Septimus Falarope, she gets each of them to propose to her, the butler photographing them in ridiculous attitudes. The lively young lady meets her match, however, in a young man named Power, who is not afraid of her muscles; and she falls in love with him and accepts his offer of marriage, the Hon. Ferdinand being left to pair off with the daughter of the Rev. Septimus, whom he has loved from the first.

The acting was of a superior order; indeed, though the incidents of the play were farcical, the characterisation was capital comedy. Mr. H. Athol Forde's Lord Dyderdown was an excellent embodiment. By dint of taking the personage quite seriously, and endowing him with a peculiarly "throaty" voice,' an autocratic manner, and solemn self-importance, Mr. Forde managed to be absolutely convincing and impressive. Not only was the work done by this able actor effective in itself, the fun of the play gained immensely by the sense of reality which was supplied by Mr. Forde's clever creation. The ironic utterances of Lord Dyderdown came from Mr. Forde's lips with so much earnestness that they seemed doubly diverting from the unconsciousness of the speaker. Mr. Fred Wright, jun., added to his interpretation of the Hon. Ferdinand Falarope just a touch of farcical drollery; but he kept his tendency to caricature well within control, and his inane aristocrat was a perfectly possible and very absurd impersonation. Excessively amusing was his depiction of Ferdinand's dread of the physical strength of his *fiancée*; and the weak, irritable character of Lord Dyderdown's offspring was very drolly delineated. Roars of laughter were evoked by Mr. Wright, jun.'s, performance, which was intensely amusing, his funny business proving quite irresistible. Mr. Cecil Burt's Rev. Septimus Falarope was the ideal of a corpulent and "comfortable" clergyman. He looked the part to the life, and played it with a fidelity to the type depicted which was worthy of the warmest praise. It was a performance which would not have disgraced a first-class modern comedy. Mr. Norman Trevor was a fine manly exponent of the part of Dick Power, acting with gentlemanlike repose, yet with sufficient earnestness and energy. Mr. Hubert Druce's Meakin was a delightful study of benign butlerdom. The arched eyebrows, the sparse hair, carefully plastered across the poll, the slight corpulence, and the admirably "superior" air, all added to the effect of this really well-studied and completely successful impersonation. Very faithful and natural, too, was Mr. Arthur Eldred's reading of the little rôle of Thomas. Mr. Eldred managed, by the aid of a suitable personality, to exactly hit off the characteristics of the individual and the class. Miss Isabel Grey did all that was necessary with the character of the Hon. Sophia Falarope, being sufficiently magnificent, and yet adroitly suggesting the worldly meanness of the elderly aristocrat. Miss Daisy Atherton was most appropriately cast as Muriel Falarope, acting with a brisk alertness and resolute energy which were very acceptable, and looking the 'cute, matter-of-fact young lady to the life. Miss Esmé Hubbard scored a thorough success as Daisy Faye, the large-hearted, ingenuous, and outspoken little milliner being represented by Miss Hubbard with a freedom, a vivacity, and a genial humour that won the heart of the audience from the outset, and made her a great favourite. Miss Hubbard hit the happy mean between making Daisy too vulgar and omitting the racy flavour due to her origin and experiences; and the result was a most amusing and artistic piece of acting. Miss Hubbard was, of course, the mainstay of the production, and Mr. Hubert Druce was fortunate in securing so pleasing, clever, and popular an artist to sustain the leading part in Mr. Storer Clouston's play. It went capitally at the Royalty on Tuesday evening, every point being echoed by a burst of responsive laughter; and the enthusiasm at the close was as demonstrative as it was well-deserved. *The Pocket Miss Hercules* was preceded by a comedietta in one act by Barton White, performed for the first time, and entitled

"THE SECOND MRS. GRUNDY."

Phyllis Hewitt .....MISS DAISY ATHERTON
Jerry Grundy .....MR. W. T. LOVELL

It was surprising what an amount of amusement the author and actors managed to extract in this case from very slight and simple materials. Jerry Grundy, an artist who has rented a little cottage on a Welsh mountain, is unexpectedly visited by his old love, Phyllis Hewitt, to whom he was only prevented from proposing, four years since, by his poverty. He is now in better circumstances, and is delighted when a sprained ankle forces Phyllis to take refuge in his abode. A thick fog prevents him from going and seeking assistance; and Phyllis is in great distress, as it seems likely that she will have to pass the night under Jerry's roof. In order to calm her apprehensions, he tells her that he is married, and that Mrs. Grundy is in the next room asleep. In the attempt to maintain the imposture he makes various blunders of a ridiculous and entertaining nature. Phyllis, believing his statements as to his marriage, resolves to accept another admirer. This leads to a proposal on the part of the jealous Jerry, and a confession of his innocent imposture. Phyllis is appeased, the fog clears up opportunely, and a rescue party arrives to carry the young lady home. Miss Daisy Atherton and Mr. W. T. Lovell made the most of their parts in the little piece, Miss Atherton enacting Phyllis Hewitt with a nice mixture of delicacy and sincere sentiment; and Mr. W. T. Lovell—an excellent actor to whom nothing comes amiss—being very alert and amusing as Jerry Grundy. The scenery by Mr. W. T. Hemsley was nicely painted, and both pieces had evidently been well rehearsed.

"CHARLIE, THE SPORT."

A One-Act Play, adapted by Michael Morton from the French of Tristan Bernard, Produced at the Haymarket Theatre on Thursday, July 25.

Charlie, the Sport .....MR. H. C. BUCKLER
Harry, the Swell .....MR. E. W. TARVER
Billy, the Kid .....MR. HARRY NORTON
Inspector Williams..MR. MONTAGUE ELPHINSTONE
Mr. Sharpe .....MR. DOUGLAS MUNRO
Barnes .....MR. ARTHUR ACKERMAN
Nigger Minstrels.....MR. PERCIVAL CLARK, MR. ALFRED BELLEW
A Young Man .....MR. PATRIC CURWEN
Jennie .....MISS RHODA RAY
An Old Lady .....MISS LYDIA RACHEL
A Gipsy .....MISS ADELAIDE BURT

My Wife still continues its successful career at the Haymarket, and a new first piece was put on there in front of *My Wife* on Thursday. The hero of M. Tristan Bernard's play, as adapted by Mr. Michael Morton, is a racecourse pickpocket named Charlie. He is deeply in love with Jennie, a showy girl whose real affections are fixed on Harry, a member of the "swell mob." When Charlie finds out to whom his "donah's" heart is really given he makes a desperate appeal to her, which is sternly rejected. A racecourse "sharp," one Billy, suggests to Charlie to revenge himself by getting Harry "pinched" and imprisoned. A detective, learning that some bank-notes have been stolen from the coat of a jockey, induces him to leave the garment on a seat, while he—the detective—keeps watch from behind a fence. Harry is about to fall into the trap, and search the pockets of the coat; but at the last moment Charlie, realising that Harry's arrest will break Jennie's heart, gives the signal of danger used by the gang, and saves Harry, afterwards breaking down in tears.

The production was remarkable for the careful and effective embodiment of the various characters by a competent cast. Mr. H. C. Buckler as Charlie managed, while indicating the loose and reckless nature of the pickpocket, to suggest a depth of passion and purity of sentiment in strong contrast with the general idea of the thief. In the earlier part of the play he was as gay and careless as possible; in the scenes in which Charlie's agony of disappointed love had to be shown Mr. Buckler was extremely powerful; and the tension which the thief endures when unresolved whether to let his rival be incriminated and captured was very strongly shown by Mr. Buckler, whose performance throughout was striking, earnest, and effective. Mr. E. W. Tarver, admirably costumed, hit off the cynical sharpness of Harry very cleverly; and Mr. Harry Norton, whose appearance alone was quite comical, acted with ability as Billy. A performance of real merit was Miss Rhoda Ray's Jennie. It was full of character, and endowed with a sharp, quaint intensity which was entirely appropriate. Mr. Montague Elphinstone did useful and careful work as Inspector Williams; and Mr. Douglas Munro was seen to advantage as Mr. Sharpe, Mr. Arthur Ackerman being commendable for his acting in the little part of Barnes. Mr. Percival Clark and Mr. Alfred Bellew were a pair of most realistic nigger minstrels; and Mr. Patric Curwen did useful work as a Young Man. Miss Lydia Rachel made the most of the brief rôle of the Old Lady; and Miss Adelaide Burt was a picturesque Gipsy. The effect of the piece was increased by the excellent dressing and mounting, Mr. Walter Hann's rural set being both pretty and convincing. To Mr. H. Norton's attentive stage-management may be ascribed the smoothness of the production, which was warmly received, the curtain being raised again and again at the conclusion in response to repeated applause.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

At Queen's Hall, on Friday afternoon, July 19, the Royal Academy gave their annual distribution of prizes to the successful students, who this year received their awards from the hands of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, President of the Royal Academy of Music. His Royal Highness was supported by the Earl of Shaftesbury, Lord Alverstone, Lord Collins, Lord Strathcona, Sir James Dewar, and Sir Alexander Mackenzie. As in former years, the proceedings commenced with a short concert. The National Anthem being sung. Bach-Gounod's "Meditation," for violins, harps, and organ, was played, Master Stanelli de Groot skilfully undertaking the solo violin. A spirited performance of Ries' Moto Perpetuo, for thirty-five violins, conducted by Mr. Hans Wessely, was also warmly greeted by the large audience; and Miss Myra Hess greatly distinguished herself in Moszkowski's pianoforte solo, Tarantelle. The short concert concluded with three part songs, "Look Upward," Reinecke, "Romance," Corder, and "Come, sisters, come," Mackenzie, sung by the female choir, conducted by Sir A. C. Mackenzie. The accompanists were Mr. Ralph Letts and Miss Mary Burgess. Sir A. C. Mackenzie in the course of his address spoke of the continued prosperity and progress made by the Royal Academy during the past year. In the list of the school's departed patrons, Sir Alexander spoke gratefully of Mrs. Lewis Hill, Dr. Charles Oldham, who had left £1,000, for a violin scholarship, Mr. John Rutson, Sir Benjamin Baker, and lastly of Mr. Thomas Trelfall, late chairman of committee. Sir Alexander Mackenzie, in speaking of modern music, said "there was a mischievous drift which was gaining force in these latter days of hurry militating against the true interests of music and the future careers of its young professors." "There was now certainly much to be acquired in the matter both of skill and knowledge, the requirements of mere technique were increasingly large, composition was infinitely more complex, and the art of instrumentation had probably reached boiling point. Some hoped it had." The Principal also warned young musicians not to accept as a work of genius what was merely unintelligible, Towards the close of his address Sir Alexander quoted a warning from an article by Mr. Joseph Bennett against the pitfalls presented by modern music. After the speech, which was heartily cheered, the prize-winners, in a long procession, received their awards from the Duke of Connaught. In replying to the vote of thanks, His Royal Highness spoke of the real pleasure he had in again appearing among the students of the Royal Academy. "Like most Englishmen, he had a deep love of music." "Nothing," he said, "demands more time and patience than the noble art of music." In speaking of the progress the Academy is making, His Royal Highness said, "You have the great advantage of having at your head my old friend, Sir Alexander Mackenzie. No man works harder; I am afraid he works too hard." In the course of his speech, the Duke spoke of the necessity of keeping music pure and the need of the careful study of the great masters, and, with a reference to the gentlemen on the committee of management and a tribute to the generous friends of the Academy who have passed away, the speech concluded, the proceedings terminating with the singing of the National Anthem.

PRESENTATION TO MR. J. F. ELLISTON.

For years past the question of theatrical insurance has been discussed by certain sagacious theatrical managers. It has long been realised that the cost of insurance in the ordinary offices was too great when compared with the risk of fire to such property. Twenty years ago the attention of Mr. J. F. Elliston, of Bolton, was called to the excellent results attained by the Cotton Spinners' Mutual Insurance Company in that city; and the idea occurred to him that a similar scheme might be organised in connection with theatres. But there were many difficulties in the way, and though the idea was warmly supported by managers like Mr. R. D'Oyly Carte and Mr. Mercer Simpson, it was long before any practical step could be taken.

The Theatres Mutual Insurance Company, Limited, has an authorised share capital of £50,000, and a subscribed share capital of £18,870. The directors are Mr. George Alexander (chairman), Mr James Fyfe Elliston (vice-chairman), Mr. James Macready Chute, Mr. Frederick Mouillot, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Herbert Beerbohm Tree, Mr. John Hart, and Mr. Frederick William Wyndham. The secretary is Mr. Ernest William Buckley, and the registered offices of the company are at 6, Bowlalley-lane, Hull. The third annual general meeting of the members was held at the St. James's Theatre, on Thursday, with Mr. George Alexander in the chair, to receive and consider the directors' report, the annual statement of accounts and balance-sheet, and the report of the auditors thereon; to declare a dividend; and to elect directors and auditors. In their report the directors again congratulated the shareholders upon the continued and increasing success of the company's operations. The continuance of the policy of judicious selection has been amply justified by the result of the year's working. The fire losses for the year have been remarkably low; so that during the three years' working the fire losses have averaged less than 4 per cent. of the nett premium income of the company. The total management expenses for the year, after crediting interest, &c., received, are 16 per cent. of the nett premium income. Material reductions have been made by the Tariff Offices in the rating of numerous theatres insured by this company; and the sum remaining to the credit of the revenue account is equivalent to about 88 per cent. of the premiums, and the directors recommended that this should be appropriated as follows: (*a*) By writing off the preliminary and formation expenses a sum equivalent to 10 per cent. of the nett premium income; (*b*) by the payment of a dividend at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, on the paid-up capital of the company; (*c*) that a sum of approximately 30 per cent. of the annual premiums be carried forward as a reserve against the liability of policies current at the end of the financial year; and (*d*) that in accordance with the company's articles of association, the balance, representing over 63 per cent. of the nett premium income for the year, be apportioned amongst the policy-holders *pro rata* with the premiums paid. The limit on any one risk is now £4000, and those members who hold sixty shares, entitling them to an insurance of £3000 on any one property, may insure for an additional £1000 without applying for further shares. The directors have made arrangements to undertake the insurance of scenery and properties whilst on tour. They consider that this innovation and the continued prosperity of the company should facilitate a further increase of the company's business, and therefore remind the shareholders that they are individually and directly interested in the success of the company, and strongly urge them to assist the board by introducing such further business as they themselves can influence, and to bring the claims of the company to the notice of their friends. In accordance with the terms of the company's articles of association Mr. Arthur Collins and Mr. J. F. Elliston retired from the board of directors, but, being eligible, offered themselves for re-election. The auditors of the company, Messrs. P. and J. Kevan, chartered accountants, Bolton, also retired and offered themselves for re-election.

Amongst those present on the stage of the St. James's Theatre on Thursday were Mr. George Alexander (who presided), Mr. J. F. Elliston, Mr. Herbert Blackmore, Mr. F. J. Domville, Mr. Fred Fredericks, Mr. Ernest Stevens, Mr. Cecil Paget, Mr. Wm. Bailey, Mr. T. H. Birch, Mr. F. Mouillot, Mr. John Hart, Mr J. M. Chute, Mr. J. F. Graham, Mr. P. Hedderwick (solicitor), Mr. E. W. Buckley (secretary), Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett, Mr. Ernest Carpenter, Mr. Will Smithson, and Mr. Milton Bode.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER, in opening the meeting, referred to the following paragraph which appeared in the *Daily Mail* of Thursday:—

"We understand that a scheme is being mooted for the formation of a theatre insurance corporation with a nominal capital of, say, a million sterling. A small mutual insurance company organised by theatrical proprietors already exists, but it is unable to cope with big risks and is admittedly unequal to dealing with the business on an adequate scale. We are able to state that six or seven of the leading men in the theatrical world have the matter in hand, and that they have already approached the fire offices with a view to obtaining such a reduction in premiums as would obviate the formation of a new corporation."

He desired most strenuously to deny that the Theatres Mutual Insurance Company was unable to cope with big risks, and was admittedly unequal to dealing with the business on an adequate scale. With the means of information at their disposal, and other advantages, they were second to none in the ability to take any risk in connection with theatrical property. Though they had only been in existence for a short time, their position was already assured, and no company, old or new, could compete with them on their special ground. He hoped that all theatrical managers would see the advantage of joining the company, and that the present shareholders would do all in their power to assist the board by introducing such further business as they could influence. Their vice-chairman, Mr. J. F. Elliston, had given information, and done such work, as no paid official in any office could do or give. Mr. Alexander then moved the adoption of the report, and called on Mr. Elliston to second the motion.

MR. J. F. ELLISTON, in an interesting speech which included some startling statistics, said that, twenty years ago, his attention had been called to the Bolton Cotton Spinners' Mutual Insurance Company, and to the great reduction in terms which had been effected by it. Believing that the same system could be applied to theatrical insurance, he consulted the Managers' Association, and sent out circulars to various theatrical managers. The response was not encouraging, and Mr. Elliston felt the want of figures to drive home his arguments. His opportunity came when he was made chairman of the Bolton Board of Guardians. He then obtained the assessments of 277 theatres in the United Kingdom, and found that people were paying a great deal too much. Even at that period about £5,000,000 worth of property was under assessment; and since then the amount must have much increased. As for the music halls, they had grown from 168 to 468. If they could only include the theatres and music halls in one insurance scheme, what an amount they would save! Twenty years ago the insurance companies were drawing £50,000 per annum in insurance premiums. Had they only taken one-quarter of that they would still have made a handsome profit. Mr. Elliston then gave some astonishing figures of the amount saved by the Bolton company, and concluded by an earnest appeal to the shareholders to use every effort to extend the influence of the Theatres Mutual Insurance Company.

MR. T. H. BIRCH suggested that they should show their sense of the directors' work by voting them a sum of money for their services last year.

MR. JOHN HART, on behalf of the directors, asked that the remuneration might be deferred to another year, and Mr. Birch accordingly withdrew his proposition.

MR. HART then moved that the sum remaining to the credit of the revenue account should be appropriated as proposed in the report, and this was agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. Ernest Stevens, seconded by Mr. Milton Bode, Mr. Arthur Collins and Mr. J. F. Elliston were re-elected directors, and the auditors of the company were also re-elected.

MR. ALEXANDER, having read a paragraph which it was proposed to send to the *Daily Mail*, correcting the errors in its paragraph of Thursday, said that the greatest joy in life was the consciousness of having done some good work for his fellow-men. The next best joy was to acknowledge so great a virtue. They had seen the report, and had heard Mr. Elliston's speech; and they were able to say if he had done his duty or not. Mr. Elliston was both a good talker and a good worker, and the combination of persuasive eloquence and hard work, in his case, had brought about the most happy results. They owed to Mr. J. M. Chute the idea of acknowledging Mr. Elliston's services by a presentation. At first they had thought of giving him a very valuable cup; but, after the recent experience of Ascot, they felt that to do so might cause Mr. Elliston difficulty and danger, and might mean risk to the company in which he should insure against burglary. So they had decided to place in the cup, instead of champagne, a cheque, which would be a suitable vehicle for the expression of their very good wishes. Mr. Elliston would value the cup as a proof of the appreciation of the work he had done; and it would be something for him to gaze upon during the remainder of his long life, and to hand down with pride to those who followed him.

MR. ELLISTON, who was obviously affected, said he never had dreamed that his services would be so highly appreciated. The cup would remind him of friendships and associations that would never be forgotten.

The gift, which Mr. Alexander handed to Mr. Elliston, was a two-handled silver cup of massive Georgian pattern, supplied by D. and J. Wellby, Ltd., of Garrick-street, the cover beautifully decorated with a raised band of vine-leaves and flutings on the lower part. Its height was 13¼in., and its weight 84oz. The inscription was as follows: "Presented to James Fyfe Elliston, in appreciation of his untiring efforts in promoting the success of the Theatres Mutual Insurance Company, July 25, 1907." On the sides and cover, engraved in facsimile, were the following signatures:—Geo. Alexander, W. E. Allen, Henry C. Arnold, Robt. Arthur, E. W. Buckley, H. Cecil Beryl, T. H. Birch, Milton Bode, Arthur Bourchier, Granville Barker, H. G. Dudley Bennett, Wm. Bailey, J. W. Boughton, Herbert Blackmore, R. C. Buchanan, A. F. Cross, L. Collingwood, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, Sidney Cooper, Edward Compton, Arthur Collins, Otto Culling, J. M. Chute, J. M. Clement, Frank Curzon, Ernest Carpenter, Peter Davey, E. J. Domville, Tom B. Davis, Ernest Dottridge, Geo. Edwardes, Harris Fineberg, E. Graham Falcon, Chas. Fox, jun., Fred Fredericks, H. A. Freeman, J. F. Graham, Mrs. Michael Gunn, William Greet, John Gatti, Rocco Gatti, P. Hedderwick, Frederick Harrison, John Hart, J. Bannister Howard, Jno. R. Huddlestone, John Horgan, Arthur Jefferson, James Kiernan, W. W. Kelly, Wm. Kevan, A. McLeod Loader, Egbert Lewis, J. B. Mulholland, Sir H. E. Moss, F. Mouillot, Wm. Morton, Edward Marris, Donald Munro, Cyril Maude, Cecil Paget, W. S. Penley, Hugh Robertson, H. W. Rowland, Stanley Rogers, W. B. Redfern, T. W. Rowe, R. Redford, T. Sergenson, Ernest Stevens, Will Smithson, John Henry Saville, Clarence Sounes, T. W. Turner, Edward Terry, Fred Terry, H. Beerbohm Tree, J. E. Vedrenne, F. W. Wyndham, Sir Charles Wyndham, J. Edward Whitty, Fred W. Warden, C. F. Williams, Alexander B. Wright, John J. Wright, Rich. Waldon, and Lewis Waller.

A scene of general enthusiasm followed the presentation, all the managers present shaking hands with Mr. Elliston and congratulating him heartily; and Mr. Alexander moved an informal vote of thanks to Mr. Chute for suggesting the idea of the testimonial.

Hana, the theatrical photographer, of Bedford-street, has taken an excellent photograph of the cup. No doubt the signatories will be glad to have copies.

INSCRIBED CUP PRESENTED TO MR. J. F. ELLISTON, JULY 25TH.

THE MOODY-MANNERS COMPANY.

On Tuesday, July 23, the Opera, in Four Acts, by Mozart, entitled

"THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO."

Figaro .....MR. LEWYS JAMES
Dr. Bartelo .....MR. CHARLES MAGRATH
The Count Almaviva .....MR. WILLIAM DEVER
Don Basilio .....MR. H. BAILEY
Antonio .....MR. E. G. RENSHAW
Cherubino .....MLLE. ZÉLIE DE LUSSAN
Marcellina .....MISS M. BAKER
Barbarina .....MISS HARROW
The Countess Almaviva ....MISS KATE ANDERSON
Susanna .....MME. FANNY MOODY

It seems more than passing strange that Mozart, even after the production of *The Marriage of Figaro* on May 1, 1786, should be "still obliged to give lessons to earn a trifle," as he himself expressed it. At Prague, soon afterwards, the opera was given, and honour was done to the composer by an aristocratic musical amateur, who placed his house at Mozart's disposal. The inhabitants of Prague had gone mad over the opera, and at a concert the brilliant young composer kept an enthusiastic audience in ecstasies of admiration by improvising, finishing with variations on Figaro's famous air, "Non più andrai." How delightful it is to listen to the rich fount of melody which Mozart poured out in the first of his masterpieces, and the Moody-Manners enterprise is to be heartily thanked for giving music-lovers an opportunity of again worshipping at the shrine of the Salzburg master. The opera was first produced in England on June 18, 1812, at the King's Theatre, Haymarket, in aid of the funds of the Scottish Hospital, among the performers being Catalani, Mrs. Dickons, Signor Naldi, and Fischer. A famous revival was that at Covent Garden in 1852, when Mme. Grisi played Susanna, Mlle. Alboni was the Cherubino, Signor Tamburini the Count Almaviva, and Signor Marini the Figaro. Mme. Vestris also put on the opera at Covent Garden in the early forties and appeared as Cherubino, Miss A. Kemble being the Susanna and Miss Rainsforth, the original Arline in *The Bohemian Girl*, the Countess. Thomas Holcroft had familiarised English audiences with the story of the opera, for he adapted Beaumarchais' *Mariage de Figaro* under the title of *The Follies of a Day*, performed at Covent Garden on Dec. 17, 1784.

The representation on Tuesday of the famous opera at the Lyric had all the care and attention to detail which are such noticeable features of the Moody-Manners enterprise, and a cast of considerable strength, accompanied by an orchestra that played *con amore*, gave complete satisfaction. Miss Fanny Moody was in excellent voice, and realised the beauty of the music by the charm of her singing. In the concerted pieces she was specially brilliant, and a triumph was secured in the air known in Italian as "Deh vieni non tardar," which might have been repeated, so exquisitely was it rendered; but the *bis* was wisely declined. It was not only in her singing, but in her acting, that Mme. Moody captivated the house, and her coquetry and sauciness were irresistible. Miss Rosina Beynon was originally down for the part of Cherubino, but was unable to appear, and at the last moment Miss Zélie de Lussan literally, as well as figuratively, stepped into the "breach." A fascinating impudence characterised Miss de Lussan's rendering, and she was encored in "Voi che sapete," to which her finished vocalisation did complete justice. Mr. Lewys James made a lively and amusing Figaro, and gave "Non più andrai" with admirable point and emphasis. Miss Kate Anderson, as the Countess, sang "Dove sono" with much expression; Mr. Charles Magrath as Dr. Bartolo added to the humour of the representation; and Mr. William Dever displayed his well-known ability in the part of Count Almaviva. Mr. H. Bailey made an amusing Don Basilio, Mr. E. G. Renshaw a sufficiently droll Antonio, Miss M. Baker sounded the humorous possibilities of Marcellina, and Miss Harrow was a promising Barbarina. Signor Romualdo Sapio conducted with zeal and discernment.

A NUMEROUS audience assembled at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle, on Wednesday, on the occasion of a complimentary performance and presentation to Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe, who for fifteen years has ably fulfilled the arduous duties of manager of the house. A long programme, including many prominent variety artists, was submitted. At an interval the Lord Mayor of Newcastle (Councillor J. M. Oubridge), presented to Mr. Sutcliffe a beautiful silver épergne and a cheque for a handsome amount. The Lord Mayor referred to Mr. Sutcliffe's continued endeavours to provide the highest class of theatrical entertainment. Mr. Sutcliffe expressed the pride he felt at all who had patronised the testimonial, and thanked them individually and collectively. He concluded by hoping that the friendship that had hitherto existed between the public of Newcastle and himself would continue for many years.

HANDEL'S score of "The Messiah" was sold at Sotheby's on the 19th inst. for £100. The version is that belonging to the late Otto Goldschmidt, the husband of Jenny Lind, and is the third known in the handwriting of J. Christopher Smith, the composer's amanuensis. C. von Weber's autograph score of the overture to *Oberon*, on six pages, together with two drawings, one of Weber's head, realised £59; three small fragments of Mozart's writings, including part of a fugue in E flat, went for £31; Beethoven's sketch of the coda of the scherzo of the Ninth Symphony for £26, and a set of eight letters written by Wagner to Heinrich Moritz in 1851-3 brough £46.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

There is a sound programme this week at the Holborn Empire, the different items being of a sufficiently varied and interesting character to fit in with almost every individual predilection that could be said to exist in regard to music hall entertainments. Mr. Billy Williams, in his blue velvet suit, his face wreathed in a series of smiles that really won't come off, entertains the house hugely with his song, which tells all about the "Only bit of English" that he has. He explains that all his household goods have been made in foreign countries, mainly in Germany. Even his corn comes from Russia and his batter from Denmark. And the only bit of English that he has left is his baby boy. The jocular, good-humoured manner which Mr. Williams sustains during the rendering of this song finds a similar fancy in the minds of the audience, who hugely enjoy the turn. Mr. Arthur Croxon provides plenty of amusement in his imitations of children at an evening party. In fact, this week's list of attractions at the Holborn Empire might almost be called a children's bill, for we have Denton and Rowland's clever company of juveniles, including Miss Marjorie Lawrence, in *The Punch and Judy Girl*, and Harvey's American School Children in song and dance. All these youngsters seem to be extremely well trained. Harvey's children have some very pretty vocal numbers, notably "School days," "Bessie and her little brown bear," "Fatherland," and "Sailing," each of which is sung and chorused in excellent style. Gardiner and Wright contrive to be most comical in their "spectacular fantasy" *Winning a Queen*. The absurdities of the act cannot fail to excite merriment. Miss Isabelle Dillon makes herself popular with her "Pansy" verses, the chorus of which is sung by a child in the wings; and Mr. Billy French contributes a particularly smart dance. Miss Mollie Seymour seems to be quite a versatile young lady, for she sings extremely well the ditty, "May from Maida Vale," and treats us to skilful interpretations on the violin of Irish compositions. The Yin Lian Family appear in their really marvellous Risley act, their jumping and acrobatic feats being altogether astonishing. Mr. Arthur Woodville, the swell comedian, has a capital number in "I wish I were you," and the Kirbys cause laughter with their comedy act. Miss Olive Lenton, the Australian comedienne, who is seen in a most dazzling costume, comes in for a goodly share of favour for a very enchanting rendering of "Sylvia" and her delightful dancing. Les Martineks furnish some smart speciality business in their act in which one of the partners assumes the rôle of a doll and enacts it in realistic fashion. The Imperial Bioscope brings down the curtain with a vivid and attractive series of pictures illustrative of the Victoria Falls in Rhodesia. Mr. Claude Marner, the manager here, and Mr. William A. Salmond, the acting-manager, are in evidence in the front of the house, and the orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. James Sale.

THE EUSTON.

A generous measure of variety is always to be discovered in the schemes of amusement associated with this popular house, in the neighbourhood of the great London termini in the Euston-road, and, in spite of the fact that we are now getting the summer weather that has been so long delayed, Manager Fred McAvoy is blessed with two large audiences every evening. It is supposed that the craze for the undraped is fast dying down; but the attitude of the Eustonians towards the Countess Romanow, who produces a series of poses under the title of "Iris," created some doubt in the mind of the writer as to the truth of this contention, for the beautiful Russian fugitive is much applauded in her realisations of "Vanity," "The Bathing Girl," "Venus de Milo," and "Rock of Ages." During the intervals between the pictures, the Bioscope portrays an episode in the life of the Countess, showing the circumstances which caused her to go on the stage—a matter that does not interest the audience in the least, but the lady's poses are in high favour. Early in the evening, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Melford set the audience laughing with the highly amusing episode, *Non-Suited*. The barrister is a modern Buzfuz, and the way he curls up a pale young curate, who is seeking damages for breach of promise, rejoices the hearts of gods, pit, and stalls. Mr. Melford is extremely funny, and he is quite adequately supported. A delightful vocalist is Miss Margaret Ashton, whose fascinations in a principal boy's dress are irresistible. She sings with culture and charm "The lily and the rose," and then breathes inspiring sentiment, international friendship, and brotherhood in the song "When Tommy Atkins marries Dolly Gray," a most enjoyable number, with a refrain that champions "Hands across the seas," and stirs the patriotic pulse at the same time. It should go far in its career of popularity.

Lady Julia, the ape with a human brain, has been found amenable to training, and eats, drinks, and smokes at the invitation of its owner. The animal also shows its intelligence in posing in costume, and finally, putting on a nightgown, jumps into bed. The show excites much curiosity and interest. Harry Carsdale, probably the oldest mimic of animals on the stage, repeats his success here as a farmyard mimic, and his imitations lose nothing by his dialect. Other variety turns are contributed by Robins and Collier, in the comedy scena, *The Lady and the Porter*, and by Master Harry Clark, pocket comedian.

A dramatic and realistic one-act play is the description of *The Great Poison Case*, which recounts an incident in the life of Barbara Merrick, a nurse, who is tried at the Assizes for the murder of a patient by arsenic. The chief witness against her is Dr. Richard Floyd, who is the real culprit. The scene is the court of justice, and the spectacle of the cowering wretch in the witness-box under cross-examination is made extremely agonising and painful by the powerful acting of Mr. C. W. Somerset, who is playing, at the Euston, his original part of Dr. Floyd, in which he scored such a hit on the production of *Her Advocate* (from which *The Great Poison Case* is taken) at the Duke of York's. Mr. Somerset takes infinite pains, and his picture of remorse is wonderfully convincing and awe-inspiring. He receives excellent support from Messrs. Haynes-Seymour, M. A. Wetherell, Cameron Carr, and Misses Katherine Romsey and Agnes Russell. The programme is completed by Ruffell's Bioscope.

THE SURREY.

The cosy interior of the Surrey is twice nightly packed with an audience that any manager might be proud of, and the thorough understanding that exists between Mr. Charles Craig, the acting-manager, and the Surreyites is eloquent of the efficiency of that gentleman. Topping the current bill is Fred Karno's company of comedians in his screamingly funny absurdity, *The Smoking Concert*. The sketch provokes such hearty laughter that one has neither the time nor the inclination to dwell upon the absurdity of the situations. In direct contrast is the tragic incident presented by Mr. Leonard Mortimer's combination, entitled *A Man with a Fortune*. Set in three scenes, it is a powerful dramatic story of crime, which is untangled by the untiring efforts of Luxmore, the detective, a character admirably depicted by Mr. Harry McClelland. Miss Helena Walbran as the persecuted wife, Hetty Dawson, imbues her part with deep womanly feeling. As her husband, Tom Dawson, Mr. Herbert Pearson is manly, earnest, and convincing; Mr. Albert Guyon as the villain, Jenson Wayne, is decidedly good. The comedy part is safe in the hands of Mr. Charles Ludlow as the chauffeur, Dicky Dunlop; while Miss Guinevere Shelton as the old toll-house keeper gives a clever performance.

Among the variety turns unqualified praise is due to the Merrions, who appear as the eccentric tailors and also as music-sellers, who are able to illustrate in character any song in their stock. They are a merry band indeed, and well merit the appreciation their efforts evoke.

Mr. Frank Seeley is a droll comedian, and his burlesque character of Cinderella keeps his audience well amused; while his second effort, "I'll never forget the day," is full of unctuous humour. Learto and his highly-trained and intelligent canine companion, Babs, give a novel and amusing entertainment. One hardly knows which deserves more praise: the master, for the music which he produces from babies and pigs, or his sagacious little terrier, who assists him in playing a solo on the bells and dances an Italian fandango. Stuart and Evans, as humorous patterers, dancers, and singers, bid fair to make the renown they ask for in their opening duet. Will Thompson is the fortunate possessor of a good voice, and gives a spirited rendering of his ballad "Return." The Almas submit a daring hand and head balancing turn, the final feat of one performer, who stands on his head on the top rail of a pyramid of chairs reaching almost to the top of the proscenium, holding the audience in breathless excitement. Hardie Palm has a good medley song in "Good-bye." Florence Schubert's shapely figure is set off to the best advantage in a charming fancy costume of white, while her rendering of "Young man, you'll do," and her medley of Scotch songs, finds much favour. Jessie Gourlay sings admirably to harp accompaniment "Good-bye for ever" and "The Carnival," and is rapturously applauded. An agreeable ending to a most enjoyable evening is Raymond's splendid film depicting the life-drama of "The Twin Sisters."

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

In spite of the numerous counter attractions close at hand, this place of amusement still continues to hold its own, and is exceedingly well patronised each night at both performances. An interesting programme is being placed before the patrons this week. Frank and Free, a couple of comedy artists, provide plenty of fun of an acceptable type, and their advice to married couples keeps the audience in a very happy state of mind. Much praise is due to Miss Bertha Winder for her contribution. She is correctly termed the original dancing marvel, for in spite of her still tender years her ability in her particular line of business is very marked.

A humorous playlet, entitled *Cockey*, is provided by Mr. Picton Roxborough and Miss Fanny Wright. The piece deals with the misunderstandings which arise from the existence of a cat and parrot, which, bearing respectively the names of a female and a male, are thrust into the family circle. This amusing episode is well received. The comedy element is very evident in the turn provided by Dale and O'Malley, whose jokes are original and whose method is exceedingly quaint. Laughter of a side-splitting nature is created by this amusing couple, and they thoroughly deserve the appreciation shown to them. Hallam and Stanton appear in a musical comedy sketch of much interest. Their vocal efforts are of a high order of excellence, and the lady contributes a truly harmonious rendering of the song "In Dreamland." Mr. Frank Harwood sings a couple of songs in good style. His first, "Rowing to Hampton Court" is tunefully delivered, and the second, of a more serious nature, is sung with skill. Mr. Harry Leybourne, the popular mimic, is specially successful in his efforts to amuse. He cleverly takes off various people who have appeared at a certain concert, and both in style and voice he is interesting. He quickly changes his costume in full view of the audience to that of a lady ballad vocalist, and is deserving of much praise for his performance.

D'Arc's Marionettes provide plenty of amusement to young and old alike. Different music hall artistes are impersonated by these dolls with faithful accuracy in every direction. A lady and gentleman are responsible for the voices of the artists, whose style and mannerisms are wonderfully reproduced. No effort has been spared to make this turn what it is—a complete success. The entertainment concludes with a series of interesting pictures shown by the Imperial Bioscope. Mr. George L. Wilson, the courteous and energetic manager here, makes the comfort of the audience his first consideration.

EMPIRE, CAMBERWELL.

Mr. Jesse Sparrow and Mr. Harry Bawn persent a weekly bill of such excellence and variety that this cosy little Empire on Denmark Hill is packed twice nightly. The *pièce de résistance* of the current bill is the absorbing and exciting sketch played by Mr. Allan Holt's carefully-selected company, entitled *A Society Woman*, in which the essentials of a five-act drama are contained. Each of the characters well earned the appreciation bestowed. Most of the hard work falls to Miss Grace Lester, who as Lady Phyllis imbues her part with a womanly tenderness and charm that is beyond all praise, while her fight with the villain must be a great strain on her physical resources. As Lord Angus, Mr. Jack Denton does not spare himself in the final scene, and comes through a trying ordeal with flying colours; Mr. W. Bentley as Ralph is manly and earnest; while Mr. Webster Parte as the Constable, Miss May Seymour as Jane, and Miss Ella Gillette as the child Gerald fill their respective parts with care.

Another capital entertainment is that provided by Miss Kitty Glover and company in a farcical comedy sketch, entitled *Mr. There's Heir*. A "slavey" called Slops has invested in two German lottery tickets, one in her own name and the other in that of the young artist-lodger, Charles Dare, and much fun and confusion arises when the winning list is published stating that Charles Dare is the winner of £500 with his ticket No. 1,033. When the agent arrives with the welcome news, Dare thinks he must have purchased the ticket and forgotten it. The amount comes most opportunely, for it will enable him to fight the probate of his father's will, which his brother opposes, and give him a fortune of £50,000. Slops, realising that Dare thinks the money his, determines to let him have it; but Dare falls across Slops' private box, and discovers the lottery tickets therein, one in his name and the other in that of the faithful Slops. He is struck with remorse at his unkind treatment, and apologises; but all is set right when news comes that Dare's brother, on hearing that he meant to fight for his rights, has left Dare to the possession of the £50,000. As Slops, Miss Glover gives a sketch for which there can be nothing but praise, while her two male companions tender her such loyal assistance that renders success assured.

Billie Burford, with her Gibson-like figure, excellent voice, and catchy, tuneful songs, "The honeymoon under the sea" and "A little help is worth a peck of pity," gains vociferous applause; Miss Cissie Dryden in her song "Wouldn't you like me to love you?" is decidedly chic and fascinating; Rowland Hill is quaint and grotesque in his patter song and female impersonation as "The Catch of the Season"; Little Victoria, in her songs and dancing, gives great promise of a bright future; Miss Thérèse Herve, as a special extra turn, charmed her audience with her admirably rendered song "It's you, you, you"; and others who add to the enjoyment of the evening are Chas. Wilson, a marvellous jumper; the Bombay Troupe of dancers; the Royal Delomes, energetic and clever clog-dancers; the Matulla Troupe of skilful jugglers, in a very pretty scena; and Jeapes' Empire pictures.

Mr. Syd Herman, the popular Hebrew comedian, will shortly produce a new scena, entitled *The Israelite*.

PARIS VARIETY GOSSIP.

The case of the Isola Bros. and Paul Ruez has taken a strange turn. The Isolas having become the Directors of the Opera Populaire, or opera at popular prices, at the Gaîté, which is a Government theatre, are debarred from running any other theatres. The bankruptcy of Ruez has, therefore, been annulled; so, to all outside appearances, everything will go on as before. We use the phrase "to all outside appearances" advisedly, as it is difficult to believe that the Isolas would let three halls like the Folies-Bergere, Olympia, and Parisiana go from their keeping without at least some compensation.

The Moulin Rouge, under its new management, opened on Thursday with the *Revue de la Femme*. In the cast are to be seen Miles Allems, Mealy, Miss Lawler, MM. Morton, Sinoël, Carlos Avril, and Berthez.

A new number in the bill of the Alcazar d'Ete is Miss Ethel Whiteside and her Piccaninnies. Vasco, the mad musician, seems to be creating quite a sensation here.

The Châtelet will commence its coming season with a new fairy play called *La Boite à Malices*, and later in the season M. Fontaine will mount a revue called *La Revue du Châtlet*.

There is now talk of turning the Casino de Paris into a high-class concert house on the lines of the Queen's Hall, Langham-place, Regent-street.

The principal cinematograph operators of France have decided to form a syndicate for the protection of their professional interests. At present their headquarters are at 1, Boulevard des Italiens.

Mr. W. Gerson, late of the Cirque Becketow, has taken over the old International Variety Agency which was founded by C. M. Ercole nearly twenty years ago, and which has for the last year or so been carried on by M. Louis Martin. The business will still be carried on at the same premises, 22, Chaussée d'Antin.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

Miss Alice Lloyd, fresh from her American triumphs, is well remembered as the Stratford pantomime Cinderella of a year back, and she is most cordially welcomed. Dainty, bright, and vivacious as ever, and, if possible, in better voice, her success is instantaneous with her first song, "May," which suits her admirably. She is also heard in "The Tourist and the Maid," which piquantly tells of an arch maiden who is quite capable of looking after herself. In what might be termed a rather "daring" but distinctly chic bathing costume the singer next appears in a very "taking" ditty, "You splash me and I'll splash you," which fairly brings down the house. The McNaughtons are also firm favourites at Stratford, and they make their entrance to rounds of applause. Two cross-talk comedians who play into each other's hands better than Fred and Tom McNaughton do are not on the vaudeville stage, their well-contrasted styles and genuine means of extracting mirth being sufficient to raise a smile from a stoic. Miss Victoria Monks quickly wins her way into popularity when she sings "London Town," and she is equally successful in "Leaving Him," sung in particularly her own style, and the vociferous applause which results renders a third number imperative. This time "Moving Day" is given, and the blend of humour and pathos is most acceptable. E. Rousby's "Around Paris" is a novel and artistic exhibition of the wonders of electricity. J. W. Rowley scores heavily with "Paddle your own canoe," as well as in a "dame" song, "No business of mine," afterwards delighting the audience with an old-time favourite, "A Fairy Night." Charles Whalen and Carrie West are an extremely smart comedy duo, who provide some merry moments during their occupancy of the stage, Mr. Whalen's dexterous dancing being particularly good. Park's Eton Boys well maintain their reputation as vocalists, and the Legay Quartette of Parisian Dancers supply a skilful exhibition of the terpsichorean art. Miss Ella Dean creates a favourable impression with a vocal contribution which her fine contralto voice does full justice to. On the night of our visit an "extra turn" in Parker and Parr, duettists, was in the bill. Their voices are falsetto and light baritone respectively and both sing admirably, but their first contribution would have been better if given in character instead of evening dress. Their next item is an amorous declamation to a fair charmer, and in this they are assisted by a lady confederate in one of the boxes. The Bioscope Pictures are always in favour here, and this week's series, including views of the Great Victoria Falls, are watched with keen interest. The current programme opens with the overture from *Zampa*, expressively played by the orchestra under the skilful guidance of Mr. Augustus Greco.

In the absence of the popular acting-manager, Mr. T. S. Mayne, who is enjoying a well-earned rest at Felixstowe, Mr. J. Christie is taking charge in his customary zealous manner, and he is ably assisted by Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.

HORACE WHEATLEY IN LIVERPOOL.
THOUSANDS OF ADMIRERS.
LYRIC.

The chief attraction in this week's Lyric programme is the fact that it affords the theatre-goer an opportunity of renewing his acquaintance with that prime old favourite, Mr. Horace Wheatley. In recent years there has grown up a disposition to quarrel with what is known as the "stage Irishman," on the ground that he is not only unt ue to life, but gives, as a rule, a degraded idea of the national character. Mr. Wheatley's personation of Hibernian character may be no more faithful to the original than the average stage coon is to the original denizen of the plantation. That is a point which may be left to others, but at any rate the Wheatley Irishman is a real good fellow and honestly amusing to have thousands of admirers whom, to judge by last evening's reception, he still retains.—The Liverpool *Daily Post and Mercury*, July 23, 1907.

Mr. Fred Eustace will play his ever-popular sketch, *Our Curate*—now in its fifth year of success—on Aug. 5, at the Hippodrome, Poplar (late the Prince's Theatre).

At the Ilford carnival in aid of the Hospital Fund, Mr. H. A. Langlois performed the remarkable feat of walking five miles made up as the Giant.

Mr. Harry Burns, the world-renowned popular variety agent, has once again returned home safe and sound from his Continental tour. He was accompanied by his charming wife, Miss Helen Charles, the celebrated society entertainer.

The 521st meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held at the offices of the Association on Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Charles Coborn in the chair. Messrs. Fred W. Millis, Lieut. Albini, John Alexander, C. C. Bartram, Bob Hutt, and G. H. Smythson were among those present. Mr. Tyson, of the Hotel Majestic, Barrow-in-Furness, was appointed agent of the Association. The secretary reported the result of his visit to Cardiff, and was thanked by the Committee. Thirty-three new members were made, the total receipts amounting to £37.

"HER CONVICT LOVER."

Sketch, in Three Scenes, by Arthur Jefferson, Produced at the Camberwell Palace on Monday, July 22.

Lady Hilda Franklin ....Miss Eugenie Magnus
Frank Atherton .....Mr. Fred Terris
Dennis O'Neil .....Mr. Dan F. Roe
Luke Desborough .....Mr. Charles Boult
Silas Leach .....Mr. Arthur Gilroy
Police-Inspector Yates .....Mr. Murray
P.C. Smith .....Mr. G. Saunders

Melodrama and moving pictures are effectively combined in the new sketch from the prolific pen of Mr. Arthur Jefferson, which was introduced to London on Monday. Many thrills are provided by the plot, which tells of the hero falsely accused and the heroine persecuted by villainy, while a series of cinematograph films furnishes an exciting finish to the dramatic story. The evil genius of the piece is the despicable Luke Desborough, who covets the fortune of Lady Hilda Franklin, whose father he had murdered some years previous. Desborough had a formidable rival in Frank Atherton; but he has disposed of him by fixing upon him the responsibility of the old man's death and getting him convicted of manslaughter. Frank, however, escapes from gaol, and arrives at Lady Hilda's house in time to prevent Desborough from administering a drug to the young girl in order to get her to sign her fortune away. Desborough summons the police to recapture Frank, but a Jewish moneylender, an accomplice of Desborough, who has got possession of a confession of the murder from the real culprit, offers to befriend Frank, and advises him to take refuge in the bank close by. His object is to tighten the fetters which already bind Frank to prison, but the scheme is discovered by an Irish serving man named Dennis O'Neil, who hides in a large chest in the bank vaults. The Israelite enters, and induces Frank to walk into the strong room, but Dennis springs out and quickly huddles the scoundrel into the box, after possessing himself of his coat. He gives the prearranged signal, and when the police enter they are sent blundering into the cellar beneath, while Frank makes good his escape. The further adventures of the hero are vividly depicted on the biograph, by means of which Frank is seen travelling by train to London, accompanied by the devoted Dennis, who in the course of the journey discovers in the pocket of the purloined overcoat the confession of Desborough's guilt. The journey to the police station and the subsequent arrest of the real criminal are shown, and the series is concluded with the felicitous picture of the wedding of Frank and Hilda. The sketch, which created unbounded interest and was enthusiastically received, had adeqnate representation. Mr. Fred Terris bore himself bravely as the escaped convict, and acted with force and energy; and Miss Eugenie Magnus played with emotional power as Lady Hilda. Mr. Dan F. Roe established himself as a favourite in the part of the jovial Irishman, Dennis O'Neil; Mr. Charles Boult cleverly portrayed the evil propensities of Luke Desborough; and Mr. Arthur Gilroy gave a sound sketch of Silas Leach.

Prominent among the varieties which Mr. P. A. Lennon presents to excellent houses is Mr. Phil Ray, who keeps the audience in a state of hilarity by his broadly comic effusions. Fred Curran develops a quaint style as a comedian; and to Abel and Welsh, Continental grotesques, much merriment is due. The Ten Dixie Girls, a leading spirit of whom is Miss May Carter, supply an exhilarating scena, in which the singing and dancing of the "Silver Coons" are interrupted by the arrival of a lady from the moon, who takes part in the revels. The interlude is a very pleasing one, and gains great favour. A clever ventriloquial show is given by Mr. Bert Williams; little Ina Lorrimer does some neat dancing in Scottish costume; interesting pictures of the International Horse Show are given on Vernon's Bioscope; and the programme is completed by Miss Sadie Simpson, the bright comedienne and clever dancer; Newham and Latimer, and Miss Jenny Johns, the "Seaside Girl."

"MUTINY."

Sketch, in Three Scenes, by Frank E. Burdett, Produced for the First Time in London at the Queen's Palace, Poplar, on Monday, July 22nd, 1907.

Lieut. Manley .....Mr. John Davidson
Nebu Singh .....Mr. Villiers Stanley
Terry O'Brien .....Mr. Cecil Morand
Asfinger .....Mr. Arrach Saumy
Kitty .....Miss Marion Mayne
Ghuznah .....Miss Melrose Millett

Mr. Frank E. Burdett is to be congratulated upon his military sketch, *Mutiny*, in which the plot is deftly arranged and well worked up to an exciting termination. Nebu Singh, a leading rebel in the Indian Mutiny, is determined to destroy the English camp, principally because Ghuznah, a native maiden who is in love with Lieut. Manley, refuses his advances. After Nebu Singh has made several futile attempts to injure both the girl and the lieutenant, he finally arranges all preparations for the destruction of the camp, and with that view has a large gun directed towards the ruined Mosque where the women and children are situated, intending in the meantime, at a certain signal, to have Lieut. Manley disposed of. The foul plot being discovered, the treacherous Nebu Singh is after some exciting incidents ultimately shot at the cannon's mouth. Mr. Frank E. Burdett has brought together an excellent company, who have been well-rehearsed, while the admirable scenery and the costly Oriental effects contributed largely to the general effect. Mr. Villiers Stanley worked hard as Nebu Singh, and presented a characteristic interpretation, while Mr. John Davidson soon became a favourite as the cool and intrepid Lieut. Manley. Mr. Cecil Morand as Terry O'Brien was natural as the good-hearted Irishman, being ably supported by Miss Marion Mayne as the zealous Kitty. Miss Melrose Millett was duly impressive as Ghuznah, and gave an interesting performance.

MARIE LLOYD
AT IPSWICH.
A PACKED HOUSE.

A packed house at the Ipswich Hippodrome welcomed "the one and only" Marie Lloyd on Monday night, and demonstrated its delight with her wonderfully *chic* performance in no uncertain manner. As all the world knows, Marie Lloyd is somewhat daring in her topics; but whether she is singing or talking—confidentially—to the audience, her cleverness and smartness as an artist is indisputable. The great clearness with which she speaks makes it a pleasure to listen. No one says, "What was that?" when Marie Lloyd sings a song; like Dan Leno—and the Hottentot that she so roguishly imitates—she "gets there" every time. Her realisation of every kind of person that she names in the course of her varied répertoire is one of her great achievements. It is not always that the programme of any house of entertainment speaks the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; but in describing Marie Lloyd as "Queen of comediennes," there is no exaggeration.—*Evening Star*, Ipswich, July 23, 1907.

Mr. A. Phanto (the Phantos) has just sold his well-known winning bulldog, Roundhill Doctor. The animal has won at every show at which he was exhibited, and is a well-known dog. He sailed on the Empress of Britain to Montreal, Canada, on Friday, the 19th. This makes the sixteenth bulldog Mr. Phanto has shipped abroad.

ON THE ROAD, JULY 29

A Girl Redeemed from Sin.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
An Unwedded Wife.—T. R., Batley.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Bridlington and Saltburn.
Branded Woman.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Chinese Honeymoon (Bode).—Douglas.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—T. R., Windsor.
Destroyer of Men.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
D'Oyly Carte Opera.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Eve of Her Wedding.—Star T., Liverpool.
Girl from Japan.—T. R., Windsor.
Heart's Desire.—Prince's T., Preston.
Her Luck in London.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Her Marriage Vow.—Theatre Royal, Blyth.
Her One Great Sin.—T. R., Sunderland.
His Sister's Honour.—T. R., Smethwick.
Honour Thy Father.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
Importance of Being Earnest.—Swansea.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Public Hall, Bathgate.
Leah Kleschna.—Worthing and Weymouth.
Lion and the Mouse.—West Pier, Brighton.
Love that Women Desire.—O H., Coventry.
Lucky Durham.—Weymouth and Worthing.
Man's Enemy.—T. R., Sheffield.
Midnight Wedding.—T. R., Scarborough.
Monckton Hoffe Comedy Co.—Swansea.
Monte Cristo.—Victoria T., Ramsgate.
My Darling.—Grand T., Southampton.
My Sweetheart.—P. O. W., Mexboro'.
New World.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
Power of Gold.—Aberystwyth.
Prince of Pilsen (Harriss).—Londesboro' T., Scarborough.
Prodigal Parson.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
Raffles.—Dover and Herne Bay.
Royal Divorce.—O. H., Cork.
Second to None.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Court T., Wigan.
Superior Miss Pellender, The.—Tunbridge Wells.
Tommy.—Harrogate and Whitby.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—New T., Oxford.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harrington).—Weston-super-Mare.
Under the Russian Flag.—St. James's T., Manchester.
What the Butler Saw.—Buxton and Harrogate.
When a Man Hates.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
When the Lights are Low.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
When We Were Twenty-one.—Torquay.
Why Men Love Women.—Grand T., Brighton.
Woman from Scotland Yard.—P. O. W., Salford.
Woman Pays.—Prince's T., Preston.
World's Great Snare.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
You Never Can Tell.—Herne Bay and Cromer.
£1000 Reward.—Grand T., Brighton.

THE ELLIOTTS AND SAVONAS
IN NEWCASTLE.
MUSICAL MARVELS.
THE EMPIRE.

The Elliott Savonas, described as musical marvels, a title which their act somewhat justifies, top the bill at this house in a creation entitled "The Palace of Orpheus." The god of music could scarce have envied a richer abode than that put on the halls to-day at a cost of some £2,000. For novelty and daring beauty it is a piece of delightful work.—*Newcastle Daily Chronicle*.

The staff of the Leicester Pavilion Theatre had their annual outing on Sunday, when a large company proceeded by brake, motor, and cycle to historical Market Bosworth, fourteen miles from Leicester, the scene of the famous battle and death of Richard the Third. Here are also situated the well-known mansion and park of the Dixie family. After an exhilarating journey, a most sumptuous dinner was served at the Dixie Arms Hotel. Mr. Joe Lawrence, who occupied the chair, proposed the health of Mr. Macnaghten, who, he said, would be pleased to hear of the good time they were having. The toast was received with musical honours, as was also that of Mr. Fred Baugh. The members of the party then indulged in rambles to various places of interest. An excellent tea was served at five o'clock, and, after a terrific storm, Leicester was safely reached at nine o'clock. The company numbered upwards of sixty, and the arrangements were well managed by Mr. Joe Lawrence.

The following amounts have been collected for the Music Hall Home by the Harvey Boys:—D. Harvey, 1s.; F. Harvey, 1s. Frank Folloy, 1s.; Mrs. D. Harvey, 1s.; Bob, 1s.; Sam Vincent, 1s.; Ben Albert, 1s.; Keir and Kempton, 1s.; Chas. Coverdale, 1s.; Leo Derender, 1s.; Sylvester, 1s.; J. K. Newsome, 1s.; Maurin, 1s.; Rose Elliott, 1s.; Mon. Bentley, 1s.; total 15s.

Miss Daisy Dormer is making a big success at the Tivoli with her two numbers, "I wish I were you" and "I'm going, I'm going—I'm gone." She is also scoring with "I want a girl" at Balham. Next week Miss Dormer will sing a new song, entitled "Out in Manilla." The charming coon artist will leave London on Aug. 5 to fulfil four special starring engagements in the provinces, after which she will return to town till the pantomime season at Glasgow claims her services as principal girl at the Theatre Royal.

Miss Lil Hawthorne's songs fairly caught on during her recent engagement at Douglas, Isle of Man. No matter what part of the island you went, you could hear the crowds either whistling or singing "Bye-bye, my sailor boy," "Mary's a grand old name," and "My castle in Spain."

Mr. Alec Hurley, the famous coster comedian, will present on Monday his new song-scena, *The Coster's Beanfeast*, at the Hackney Empire. The scene depicted faithfully represents a certain phase of cockney life, and the company engaged by Mr. Hurley being Londoners to a man and woman, every justice is done to the remarkable characteristics of London's poorer classes.

Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the Staffordshire Factory Nightingales, have, during their two weeks' rest at Wolverhampton, where they reside, received many contracts from two well-known London agencies. They resume business on Monday at the Hippodrome, Preston.

Miss Zona Joy has been compelled to refuse a tempting offer for abroad owing to pantomime arrangements that cannot be altered.

Intending holiday-makers may be well advised to secure a copy of the admirable Tourist Guide to the Continent, published by the Great Eastern Railway Company, in which descriptive accounts of all the places of interest in Holland, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, and other countries are contained. The book is admirably printed, and is embellished by beautifully-toned illustrations of great Continental cities, as well as maps of historic resorts. It is edited by Percy Lindley, and published at 6d.

A grand smoking concert was given on the 17th inst. by the Ventnor District Urban Council to the delegates of the same community from all parts of England and Wales. Nearly every town of importance was represented, the visitors numbering 400.

Mr. F. V. St. Clair has produced "The Peace Congress," a number reminding us of his former successes in this class of song. Mr. Albert Williams, the comedian of Mount and Williams's sketch company, has produced a fine comedy number from Mr. St. Clair's ever-busy pen. It is entitled "My wonderful lamp."

Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate are combining business with pleasure at Brighton next week, whither they go, by special invitation from Miss Marie Lloyd, to equip England's queen of comedy with a record répertoire of new songs, wherewith to conquer America when she goes to the land of Uncle Sam in September.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. T. NIBBET (Liverpool).—*Lady Madcap was originally produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre on Dec. 17, 1904, with Mr. G. P. Huntley as Trooper Smith and Mr. George Carroll as Corporal Ham. Miss Adrienne Augarde was the original Lady Madcap. Mr. Edmund Payne was not in the cast, as he was in* The Orchid *at the newly-opened Gaiety at the time.*

ELLA FOSTER.—*The Royal Victoria Coffee Tavern or the New Victoria Palace is the latest name of the house originally called the Coburg, opened on May 11, 1818, and so named in compliment to Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg, afterwards King of the Belgians. The venture was the project of Mr. Joseph Glossop, who had partners, but at the end of the second year became sole lessee. Harry Kemble, the nephew of the illustrious John Kemble, played there. During the first season twenty-four pieces were produced there. We cannot say whether the house had a Royal box. There were two tiers of boxes, so in all probability it had.*

G. COTTON (Peckham).—*The Editor of* THE ERA *in 1839 was Mr. Leitch Ritchie.*

M. STANLEY CLARK.—*We have made exhaustive inquiries and have instituted a search, but are unable to give any information about an adaptation of Ouida's "Strathmore." It might have been a tentative and unsuccessful production. We are still inquiring, and will give you in this column any information that comes to hand.*

W. TIMPERLEY (Llandudno).—*A Message from Mars is the correct title of Mr. Richard Ganthony's play, produced at the Avenue, with Mr. Charles Hawtrey in the leading part.*

CONVILLE (TEMPLE-ROW, BIRMINGHAM).—*Sir Henry Irving at the time of his death was sixty-seven. His elder son, Henry Brodribb Irving, was born in London on Aug. 5, 1870, and his younger son, Laurence Sidney Irving, on Dec. 21, 1871. H. B. is married to Miss Dorothea Baird, the original Trilby on the English stage; and L. S. to Miss Mabel Hackney.*

E. M.—*Sir Henry Irving was originally the chief actor under the Bateman management at the Lyceum, when that theatre was taken over in September, 1871, by Colonel H. L. Bateman. The Lyceum passed under Sir Henry's own management on Monday, Dec. 30, 1878, when* Hamlet *was revived, Miss Ellen Terry making her first appearance at the house in the character of Ophelia.*

FRANCIS.—*We know nothing of the gentleman you name. The European representatives of the firm are advertised as Mr. H. H. Feiber, Mr. H. B. Marinelli, and W. Passpart. If you write to Mr. H. B. Marinelli, 29A, Charing Cross-road, W.C., you will obtain correct information.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

CHIRGWIN.—July 20, at "Easdale," Leigham Court-road, Streatham Hill, the wife of G. H. Chirgwin (the White-eyed Kaffir), of a daughter.

HAYE.—On the 22nd inst., at 43, Old Kent-road, S.E., the wife of Ernest Attenborough (Helen Haye) of a son.

HOFFMAN.—July 21, the wife of Maurice H. Hoffman (Miss Ethel King), of a daughter.

MUSSETT.—July 23, the wife of Chas. Mussett (late manager Empire, Glasgow, and now ahead for Mr. R. G. Knowles), of a daughter.

RALEIGH.—July 21, at Aylesbury, the wife of Frank F. Raleigh (Katherine Harrowby), of a boy. Both well.

ROKEBY.—July 22, at the Private Nursing Home, 10, Holles-street, Dublin, the wife of Mr. William Rokeby (Miss Florence Moore), of a son.

MARRIAGES.

NEWSOME—ATKINSON.—July 12, at 96, Hilltown, Dundee, James Lorrie Newsome to Charlotte Emily Atkinson, professionally known as Lottie St. Clair.

STRINGER—QUIPP.—July 20, at Strand Registrar's, John W. T. (manager Rosen and Bliss), late of Manchester and Sunderland, eldest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Stringer, to Ethel Constance, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Quipp, The Castle, Lincoln.

ANNIVERSARY.

CAMERON—DONOVAN.—On July 29, 1900, at St. Gregory's Roman Catholic Church, Longton, Walter Morton Cameron to Winnie Donovan.

THOMAS.—Second anniversary of marriage, July 18, of Towyn Thomas, to Miss Sylvia Staurenghi, Cape Town, at Parish Church, Stapleford, Notts.

DEATHS.

AUBREY.—July 21, at Mount Pleasant, Llandudno, Nellie Rosie, the beloved daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stan. Aubrey, aged 13 months, of pneumonia.

BOTHAM.—July 21, at his residence, 44, Osmond-road, Hove, Clayton Botham, formerly a director of the Empire, Brighton.

BURRIS.—July 17, after a long illness, Robert Burris, scenic artist.

CHISHOLM.—July 20, at Lewisham, peacefully after long and painful illness, James David, father of Arthur A. Chisholm, aged 75 years.

IN MEMORIAM.

SCOTT.—In loving memory of Ellen Scott (Mrs. John Scott), who departed this life July 24, 1906. Deeply mourned by her never forgetful husband, sons, and daughters.
We trust the company of angels are blessing thee on high.
When the needy on earth asked alms, you always made reply.
Many travellers you have succoured: they sing their hymns of praise.
To our lamented mother our melody we raise.
When with us in life, our lot was one of gladness;
But now with us no more, our lot is one of sadness.
Dominus vobiscum.

WEEKS.—In loving memory of Mr. Frank Weeks, late manager South London Palace, who died bravely fighting his last fight, July 29, 1906, aged fifty-six years. Deeply regretted by all who knew him, for he was a soldier and a man. Sleep on beloved, and take thy rest.—MILLIE.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.
No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list

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Adeles, The
Adrinne, Mona
"Alec"
"Amurat," The Great
Anderson, Mr. Max C.
Armadale, Mr. E. H.
Athas and Collins
Atwill, L.
Balfe, Mr. M. W.
Barker, Mr. John
Barrett, Mr. W. Burgess
Best, Mr. C.
Biddall, Brothers
Birmingham, Mr. Peter
Bosanquet, Mr.
Boucicault, Miss Nina
Bown, Mr. Clifford
Braithwaite, Miss L.
Brennand, Mr. R.
Brooks, Mr.
Brown, Mr. C. Rae
Bruce, Mr. W. Arthur
Butler, Mr. Alec
Burgon, Mrs. W.
Campbell, Miss A. E.
Calham, Mr. Norman
Callan, Mr. John
Carsoll, Mr. J. P.
Carte, Mr. Chas.
Carrol, Miss B.
Carter, Mr. Chas.
Cee Mee Family
Cochrane, Master J.
Coleman, Miss Amy
Combes, Mr. Arthur
Cooke, Miss A.
Cooper, Miss Kitty
Costello Bros.
Courtnedge, Mr. Robert
Crecuner, Mr. Augustus
Curre, Mr. Carne
Dagmar, Mr. Harry
Daly, Mr. Chas. M.
Danby, Mr. Frank
Dante, Mr. G. W.
Dene, Mr. F.
Dolf, Mrs.
Dunford, Mr. Harry
Edouin, Mr. Willie
Ellery, Mr. John
Elton, Mr. S.
Elton, Mr. F.
Elton, Mrs. Fred
"Eno"
Ernesto, Sisters
Esdale, Mr. W. F.
Estell, Mlle. E.
Finch, Miss Flora
Florence and Lillian
Florizell, Miss
Fordyce, Miss Vera
Foxwell, Mr. Harry
Girdlestone, Miss Madge
Glendinning, Mr. John
Gordon's Sketch Co.
Grey, Miss Zenia
Haddon, Miss Blanche
Hall, Mr. G. Edward
Hampel, Mr. A.
Harrison, Mr. F.
Harrison, Mr. J.
Hazel
Herman, Mr. Syd.
Hertie, Mr. Frank
Hindle, Mr. Joseph
Hocking, Mr. Edgar
Hoffe, Mr. Monckton
Holman, Miss Lolo
Hyland, Mr. George
Ishmael, Prince
Jolly, Mr. Laffan B.
Kendal, Mr. W. H.
Kingston, Miss G
Kitts and Bellamy
Konrad, Mr. E.
Kramer, Mr.
Laird and Leslie, Messrs
Lake, Mr. Frank
Lane, Mr. Jack
Lawton, Mr. Frank
Lee, Mr. Robert H.
Letters, Mr. W.
Lindley, Miss Beatrice
Lloyd, Mr. Fred
Lorraine, Mr. D.
Lorraine, Mlle.
Louke, Miss A.
Mallalier, Miss Mary
Martin, Mr. Stafford
Marvello, Mr. H.
Massey, Mr. Davis
Matafar Troupe
Maville, Mr.
McAllister, Mr.
McIntosh, Miss M.
Meharry, Mr. Houston
Mellon, Mrs. Alfred
Morton, Miss Effie
Mussett, Mr. Chas.
Natalia, Mdme.
Nicholls, Mr. Harry
Ottawas, The
Payne, Mr. B. Idean
Peach, Mr. G. R.
Pollock, Mr. Allan
Proctor's Circus
"Quiade"
Rafalewski, Mr.
Randall, Mr. Harry
"Rebla"
Reed, Mr. Fred
Revell, Mr. Harry
Roadnight, Mr. C. A.
Robbins, Miss Dot
Rooney, Mr. M. J.
Royale, Miss J.
Sacha, Madame
Sauteron Wonders
Seigenberg, Miss Lottie
Smith, Mr. C. G.
Sports, The Two
Stamford, Mr. Gordon
Stanley's Urchins
Street, Mr. Fred
Taylor, Mr. Geo.
Tearle, Mr. Edmund
Thomas, Miss Amy
Thomas, Mr. Dan
Thornburn, Mr. Chas.
Transfields, Mr.
Vernon, Miss H.
Vestrucker, Mr. H.
Warner, Miss F.
Warren, Miss L.
Waterfield, Mr. Chas.
Watson, Mr.
Webster, Mr. G. H.
Wood, Mrs. John
Wynne, Mr. E. S.
Young, Mr. James
Zalvar, Mr. C.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Charles Collette—Saturday, July 27.
Olga André—Saturday, July 27.
Fred Bentley—Saturday, July 27.
Percy Boucher—Saturday, July 27.
Nellie Marler—Saturday, July 27.
Carmen Amoros de Caicedo—Saturday, July 27.
Alf Robini—Saturday, July 27.
(Miss) Ray Ford—Saturday, July 27.
Mary Anderson—Sunday, July 28.
Kate Phillips—Sunday, July 28.
Lillian Russell—Sunday, July 28.
Marie Kendall—Sunday, July 28.
Barton McGuckin—Sunday, July 28.
Will Poluski—Sunday, July 28.
Will Onda, jun.—Sunday, July 28.
Harry Freeman—Monday, July 29.
Agnes Imlay—Monday, July 29.
Richard Cowell—Monday, July 29.
Fred D. Harris—Tuesday, July 30.
Clare Manifield—Tuesday, July 30.
(Miss) Sydney Fairbrother—Wednesday, July 31.
Flora Hastings—Wednesday, July 31.
Marie Thornton—Wednesday, July 31.
Marion Fitzgerald—Wednesday, July 31.
E. Story-Gofton—Wednesday, July 31.
Winifred Emery—Thursday, Aug. 1.
Alfred F. Robbins—Thursday, Aug. 1.
Sydney Brough—Friday, Aug. 2.
Laura Caicedo—Friday, Aug. 2.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

Agreeably with what has become an invariable custom, the best talent available is provided for the delectation of the numerous patrons of this hall, and the crowds that nightly fill this commodious house testify that the fare placed before them is highly appreciated, while the comfort of all is well looked after by the genial manager, Mr. A. W. Deer. The shield presented by *The Era*, and won at the recent sports by a team representing the staff of this theatre occupies a prominent position in the vestibule, where all and sundry can view and admire.

Figuring largely in this week's bill are Mr. Geo. D'Albert and Co., in a dramatic episode, entitled *'Tis never too late to mend*, a playlet founded on Mr. Charles Reade's famous novel. The chaplain of the prison, cleverly represented by Mr. Geo. D'Albert, while endeavouring to prevent the escape of one of the convicts, who turns out to be his own brother, is accidentally shot by one of the warders. The scene portraying the quarries is realistic and well-executed. Mr. Harry Tate's company in *Motoring* keep the house in roars of laughter. A flattering reception is bestowed on "Mr. C," who tells some very amusing stories, and is gifted with an excellent tenor voice which he uses with fine effect, a song he sings in "falsetto" being well rendered. Miss Maud Courteney is also a good story teller and singer, and in a tuneful song is assisted by "Mr. C" stationed in the balcony. The Korseys introduce a novel instrument, consisting of twenty-five various sized revolving discs on which are strung wires, their playing on which is greeted with hearty applause. Mr. George French, a character humorist and descriptive comedian, keeps the audience amused, especially in the song "Out of the working classes." Ada Cerito is a clever comedienne, her song, "You're not the only, only girl," set to a catchy refrain, being heartily taken up by the audience. Her second effusion, in which she describes the consequences of her husband being a football devotee, produces much laughter. There is also a lively time when Woodhouse and Wells hold the boards, their patter, song, and dance meriting hearty approval. Nellie Emerald, a noteworthy comedienne, and the Imperial Bioscope, with two amusing films depicting the Heiress Cook and the Smoking Chimney, bring the programme to a happy conclusion.

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER, BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Chapter I
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.

Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.

Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.

Chapter IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.

Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
The "Era Annual" for 1907 is now out. It is full of good things, and will be eagerly perused by all who are interested in dramatic and musical affairs and personnel. Portraits of, and original contributions by, several public favourites and managers appear, including Miss Ellen Terry, who tells "How I Spend My Day"; Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Charles Collette, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Matthew Brodie, Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Edith Cole, and Mr. Tom Craven. There is, in addition, the usual store of miscellaneous theatrical information which is indispensable to all who are interested in stage matters.—Liverpool Post, Jan. 26.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
A capital shilling's worth is the "Era Annual," with its valuable lists of new plays produced during the year in London, the provinces, Berlin, and Paris. It contains, also, many readable articles by stage favourites, notably a characteristic contribution, "How I Spend My Day," by Miss Ellen Terry.—Daily Express, Feb. 2.

Shakespeare said—
"THERE'S THE RUB."
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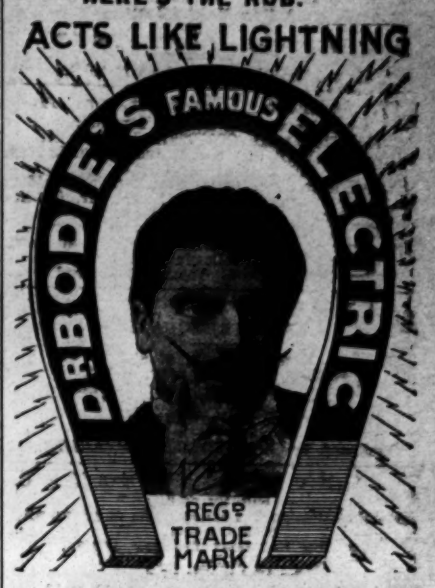
"HERE'S THE RUB."



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I, GUS HARRIS (trading as Gus Harris and Co.), hereby apologise to Messrs. W. H. BROADHEAD and SON, of Manchester, for having broken my Contract with them, by failing to appear at the Salford Hippodrome, on the 27th May, 1907, in consequence of which they were put to considerable expense, and for which an action is now pending to recover damages, and Messrs. Broadhead and Son have agreed to forego their claim against me for the said damages, and to accept this apology and costs, I hereby express my sincere thanks, and admit they have acted towards me in a very generous manner, and I agree to pay the Solicitors' costs, and costs of publishing this apology.
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PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TERM OF PATENT.
In the Matter of LETTERS PATENT granted to WILLIAM FRIESE GREENE, of 203A, WESTERN-ROAD, Brighton, in the County of Sussex, Photographer, and bearing date the 29th day of November, 1893, and No. 22,954.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the said WILLIAM FRIESE GREENE is the INVENTOR and PATENTEE of the MASTER PATENT for ANIMATED PHOTOGRAPHY, and that on the 28th day of May last the said Inventor and Patentee Petitioned the Lords of His Majesty's Privy Council Praying that the term of the said LETTERS PATENT may be Extended, also giving notice in certain Newspapers and the *London Gazette* of such Prayer and Petition, and inviting any and all Persons desirous of opposing the said Petition to enter a Caviat to that effect at the Privy Council Offices on or before the 17th day of July, 1907.
THAT on the 3rd day of July last the said Petitioner and Patentee was commanded by their Lordships of the Judicial Committee of His Majesty's Privy Council to appear before their Lordships upon the matter.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all whom it may concern that the above-mentioned Petitioner and Patentee, after advertising in accordance with instructions requisite by the Patent Designs and Trade Marks Act of 1883, Section 25. It is the intention of the said Inventor and Patentee to Petition the Lords of His Majesty's Privy Council Praying for an Extension of the term of the said Letters Patent.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 7th day of September or on such subsequent date as His Majesty's Judicial Committee may fix for hearing the matter of the said Petitioner, any and all Persons desirous of being heard in opposing the said Petition may enter a Caviat to that effect in the Privy Council Office on or before the 7th day of September next.
Dated this 20th day of July, 1907.
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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JULY 27, 1907.

THEATRICAL TRUSTS.

The mystery which still surrounds the intentions of the enterprising firm of KLAW and ERLANGER respecting an alleged theatrical or variety "Trust" in Europe still remains unsolved; and the report that the large capital of twenty millions has been devoted by a syndicate to this extraordinary object adds to the curiosity created by the rumour. Accounts of the projects of American speculators have to be taken with the proverbial grain of salt; but the success of the Theatrical Trust in America and the wide scope of its operations make anything in connection with Transatlantic finance possible. The latest information on the subject is supplied by Mr. LEVY MAYER, the legal representative of the firm of KLAW and ERLANGER, who has been interviewed immediately on his arrival in Plymouth on the Kronprinz Wilhelm. He states that the business that he has in hand for his clients is entirely separate from what is known in the United States as the United States Amusement Company, and from the so-called Theatrical Syndicate.

The object which Messrs. KLAW and ERLANGER have in view is the purchase of "theatrical royalties" in various parts of Europe and the United States. These "royalties" are not, as would be imagined, authors' fees, but playhouses, which are to be "conducted on the American system." Messrs. KLAW and ERLANGER "desire to control the pick of the profession, and to have under their direction the best artists in the world; in short, to have at their disposal the very best that money can secure."

The idea of all the best actors and actresses in England and on the Continent being under the "control" of Messrs. KLAW and ERLANGER is, at first sight, somewhat startling; but there is nothing impossible in it, though the attainment of the result would certainly take time. We have an "object lesson" on the subject in the United States, where the Theatrical Trust controls the greater number of the "provincial" playhouses. Putting the natural prejudice against the Trust system in Art matters aside, we find that the American Theatrical Trust works better than might have been expected. Mr. E. S. WILLARD, who has travelled a great deal in the States, speaks highly of the convenience of dealing with it when on tour. But the most curious result of the Trust domination is the character of many of the plays produced. The "advanced" drama with an ethical purpose is more common in America than it is in England, where its production is chiefly confined to the performances of private societies. This, however, is not due to the influence of the Trust. Sharp men of business as its magnates are, they simply supply the national demand; and if the Americans are more curious and more catholic in their tastes than we are, the fact has nothing to do with the existence of a "combine." But we have to remember that the ground covered by travelling companies is much larger in America in proportion to the amount of original production, while a great deal of the latter is imported from countries not yet in the grip of the Trust.

The tendency of the time is undoubtedly towards the wholesale organisation of all manufacture. In the times of CHIPPENDALE and HEPPLETHWAITE, beautiful furniture was made which held together till the last stick of it was destroyed. Then came the epoch of large furniture factories, in which everything was made by machinery; followed by a revolt so strenuous that every bit of "old furniture" in the country was bought up, and the manufacture of "antique" chairs and tables had to be commenced to meet the demand. The tendency of wholesale control is to depress individuality and to cause the degeneration of Art. As Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM says, "Art cannot be developed by trusts in the same way that it can be, and is, by individual exertion, where personal ambition comes in, and, if you like, personal vanity." We see the effect already in America. Where is the American actor who holds the position of BOOTH or FORREST? Where is the American playwright who can be compared to Mr. PINERO or Mr. H. A. JONES? What are the American plays that rank with such pieces as *Nero* and *His House in Order?* In the lighter forms of entertainment, which are more a matter of manufacture, and can be, to a great extent, turned out *ad. lib.*, the output, on a purely business basis, may be satisfactory; but nothing even approaching a masterpiece can be produced in such circumstances. The American play-market is chiefly supplied by importations. The tours of our actors in America are nearly always successful; but all the goodwill in the world cannot blind us to the fact of the moderate prosperity of many of our visitors from across the Atlantic. The existence of a national drama depends upon the encouragement of individual exertion. It is not enough that an artist should feel himself "in comfortable circumstances." What he wants, if he has the soul of an artist, is what used to be called Fame. He wants the general acknowledgment of his genius; the applause of his fellow-men—and women. It is a common practice of the artist to conceal this feeling behind a mask of mercenary motive, so as to protect himself from the ridicule of the average Philistine. But nothing is more certain than the power of personal vanity and its overmastering influence on the actions and efforts of men. So far as a trust tends to crush and kill this feeling, and to make the artist a mere machine working under the "control" of, and for the benefit of, a "syndicate" of capitalists, it injures Art, and finally reduces it to bankruptcy. Nothing is ever done well under the sole influence of what CARLYLE calls the "cash *nexus*." The English stage is, and always has been, rich in individuality. Actors like Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM, Mr. BEERBOHM TREE, Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER, Mr. CYRIL MAUDE—indeed, all our leading actors of to-day—stand out distinctively as individuals. Authors like Sir W. S. GILBERT and Mr. BARRIE are equally "original." All interesting Art is full of *character*. We should postpone to the last possible moment the time when Mediocrity and Manufacture shall give the tone to the English stage, and a short-sighted commercialism shall crush out all but the lower and cheaper forms of artistic effort.

THE HIPPODROME.

Miss Alice Norton has discovered a powder by the instrumentality of which she is able to manufacture rubies. She is exhibiting her most interesting process at the London Hippodrome. Despite her English name, Miss Norton has some difficulty in expressing herself in that language, as she was born and educated in Vienna. Throughout the German Empire lady chemists are fairly plentiful, and are employed in factories where any chemical preparation is used in the manufacture of goods. So Miss Norton became a student of chemistry when seventeen at the Zurich Polytechnic. She studied for seven years under Prof. R. Pictet, who discovered liquid air. It was only last November that Miss Norton discovered the secret powder that enables her to make precious stones of the requisite hardness. She takes a quantity of ordinary London clay and places it in a great crucible made of magnesium. She next adds chromic acid in given quantities and then a powder, the composition of which is only known to herself. A temperature of 5,000 Fahr. is generated. This first boils the mixture and then bakes it, for within five minutes a mass of quartz is formed that requires a heavy hammer to break it. In this mass of quartz a large number of rubies of varying sizes are found, and there is an eager demand for Miss Norton's gems when she distributes them. The turn is highly interesting.

A novelty first introduced to the London public on Monday by Mr. Fred Trussell is found in the Black Hussars, a troupe of fourteen, who come from the States. The marches played are of the Sousa type, and the team play with precision and tunefulness, and though the act is described as the "Bass Drum Trust," there is not too much trust in that instrument.

Zuyder Zee, the farcical Dutch sketch, has been pulled together since the night of production. The ice and water carnivals produce hearty laughter, and in the conspiracy of fun Hess and Lisbon are agreeably prominent, as well as the Ashley Team, the Snow Family, and the Four Figaros. Miss May Moore Duprez's Greta has become quite a favourite Hippodrome heroine, and the doings of Mr. Tom Shale, Mr. J. H. Milburn, and Mr. Bert Gilbert supply the droll essentials of a spectacle that does immense credit to the inventive genius of Mr. Frank Parker, who has been ably backed up by Mr. Bruce Smith in the scenic department. The picturesque dresses are by Morris Angel and Son, and Willie Clarkson has done the wigging.

Of the variety items, none is more attractive than the act of Alfred Loyal, who has one of the cleverest performing black poodles that it has ever been our lot to witness. This dog, with wonderful aplomb and smartness, somersaults from a spring plank over a horse's back and over the heads of seven men. He replies to his master's question, "Are you ready?" with a gentle bark, and thoroughly enjoys his work. Lloyd's Siberian greyhounds also submit a clever performance, which is presented by Paulin Viola and Nellie Lloyd; the Trafnell Family sustain their well-known reputation as acrobats; Leonard Gautier's performing ponies are pretty little creatures; and Tofts' statuary, Leipsig (conjurer), the Macarte Sisters, and Paul Conchas are also in the bill, which is further diversified by the American Bioscope and the Chronomegaphone.

THE Music Hall Home is in a flourishing position; considerably better, in fact, than it has been since its commencement, and Mr. Harry Barnard, the chairman, voices the thanks of the committee to those ladies and gentlemen who have so generously contributed towards its support. The New Year appeal in our columns has had a very satisfactory result, for which the committee tender their thanks to the organising efforts of Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, the hon. treasurer. The M.H.A.R.A., by a handsome donation of a hundred guineas, and the committees of the Liverpool Gala (£40), the Belfast Theatrical Charity Fund (£10), and the Birmingham Charity Sports (£10) have also recognised, in a kindly, practical way, the usefulness and importance of the charitable work of the Home, which has now a balance of over £400 to its credit. The general meeting will be held at the Camberwell Palace on Tuesday next, at 3 p.m., when all connected with the music hall profession are cordially invited.

THE first performance of a bright little sketch, in one scene, entitled *A Little Piece of Cake*, by Max Rae and Leo Diensis, took place this week at the Ealing Hippodrome, where it was extremely well received by an appreciative audience. It was cleverly rendered by Miss Aimée Fowler (Meg), Mr. Reginald Herbert (Bobbie, her fiancé), and especially by Miss Nancy Borrett, who, as Meg's mother, acted in admirable fashion and danced well. The music is from Mr. Louis Hillier's skilful pen, and besides the above-mentioned dance, we noticed a bright Spanish bolero (Miss Fowler) and a capital love-song, "Heart's roses" (Mr. Herbert). The artists were recalled several times.

MR. CHARLES MUSSETT is the happy father of a little girl presented to him on Tuesday. Mr. Mussett was lately the manager of the Empire, Glasgow, and is now hustling ahead for R. G. Knowles.

AT the Hippodrome, Putney, during the present week, a clever and funny act is being given by Les Ralli. The antics of the monkey are absolutely lifelike, and must be the result of a close study of nature on the part of the performer. It certainly compares most favourably with those clever artists who have passed away—Chas. Lauri and James Dubois.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, Mr. Percy Harris (chairman) presiding.

"PARIS IN LONDON."—ANOTHER OFFER.

The Improvements Committee brought up a report with reference to a proposal for an option of a lease for ninety-nine year, at a rent of £55,000 a year, of the central portion of the crescent site formed in connection with the Holborn to Strand improvement. The site has an area of about 124,000 square feet, and lies between Aldwych and the Strand. The proposal has been made by M. Ernest Gerard on behalf of a syndicate who have prepared a scheme for developing the site as a whole. On the central portion, with a frontage to Aldwych, it is proposed to erect a stone building of commanding architectural features. This building will contain large galleries, for use in connection with a permanent exhibition of arts and manufactures; it will also contain a theatre, a concert hall, and a restaurant, with courts around. In the theatre such facilities for refreshment will be provided as are usually allowed in theatres licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. The lease will provide that these facilities will be afforded only while performances are being given in the theatre, and that they will be in strict accordance with the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain governing such cases. The Committee considered that the acceptance of the present offer would have a beneficial effect as regards the disposal of the Council's remaining surplus land. The cost of the new buildings is estimated at £500,000; and it was proposed that the rent for the first year be a peppercorn, for the second year £13,750, for the third year £27,500, and for the fourth year £41,250.

Sir John Benn, M.P., said he saw no reason for opposing the recommendation of the Committee in favour of accepting the proposal, provided that no saloon bars were permitted in the building.

In response to a suggestion by Sir Melvill Beachcroft, Lord Elcho, chairman of the Improvements Committee, agreed to make it a condition precedent to the taking up of the option by M. Gerard that the deposit of £5,000 should be paid within fourteen days.

With this alteration the recommendation was then agreed to.

LIVING STATUARY.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported as follows:—The management of the Oxford Music Hall have asked us whether the resolution of June 25, 1907, "That the proprietors of London music halls and other places of public entertainment be informed that, in the opinion of the Council, the continuance of living statuary exhibitions is undesirable," applies to the exhibition known as Dr. Angelo's Living Porcelains, now being given at the Oxford Music Hall. From a report which has been made to us, it appears that this exhibition is free from anything undesirable. The Committee accordingly recommended that the resolution of June 25 do not apply to the performance in question.

The Hon. H. Lygon asked the Chairman (Mr. Greenwood) if he was perfectly sure there was nothing libidinous about the "Porcelains."

The Rev. Stewart Headlam inquired if the Bishop of London had given his sanction to the performance.

Mr. Greenwood said he had not visited the entertainment himself, but he had caused one of the Council's inspectors to do so; and it was upon his report that the Committee's observations were made. The officer stated that in his opinion there was nothing in the "Porcelains" to which the Council could take exception. They were representations of well-known figures. He was not able to say whether the Bishop of London had seen the show.

The recommendation was then adopted.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE.

The Committee reported that the Council on Nov. 25, 1905, and Oct. 16, 1906, approved drawings submitted by Messrs. F. Matcham and Co., on behalf of Moss' Empires, Limited, showing the arrangements proposed to be adopted in the erection of a music hall, to be known as the Finsbury Park Empire, on a site at the junction of St. Thomas's-road and Prah-road, Finsbury Park. Application for a music and dancing licence for the premises was made at the Licensing Sessions in 1905 and 1906, but was refused. Messrs. Matcham and Co. state that their clients propose renewing their application at the Licensing Sessions to be held in November, 1907, and they ask the Council to renew its approval of the drawings in question. The Committee considered that the request might be complied with, and recommended accordingly, the necessary certificate to be granted on the Council being satisfied that the premises have been completed in accordance with the drawings referred to, and also that certain specified conditions have been complied with.

Agreed to.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

The Committee reported that they had considered a drawing, submitted by Messrs. Wylson and Long, showing the proposed reseating of the balcony and gallery of the South London Music Hall, and in connection therewith, the covering of the flooring and risers with hard wood, in order to comply with certain of the suggestions of the Council for the structural improvement of the premises. The Committee recommended that no objection be offered to the proposals, subject to a sufficient number of steps being provided, in order to make up the difference in levels between the prompt and the o.p. sides of the gallery.

The recommendation was approved.

WALWORTH EMPIRE.

The Committee had also considered the drawing submitted by Mr. J. F. Parker, showing the arrangements in connection with the provision of two exit doors from the stage and dressing-rooms, and of two fire-resisting rooms, intended to enclose the dressing-room space at the Walworth Empire, Montpelier-street, Walworth, and recommended that no objection be offered to the proposals, provided that certain specified condition be complied with.

Agreed to.

LICENSING ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Committee brought up a report having reference to Nos. 7 and 13 of the licensing orders as to music, music and dancing, and also stage plays licences. They recommended the withdrawal of these two orders and the substitution of new ones, as they considered it undesirable to prescribe the papers in which advertisements of applications should be advertised; and as it was important that notice of any intended application for a new licence, or for the removal or modification of the conditions attached to an existing licence, should be given in the locality in which premises were situated, the Committee were of opinion that applicants should be allowed to advertise in local newspapers.

Approved.

THE CRITERION.

The Building Act Committee recommended that consent be given to the erection of an iron or glass shelter in front of the Criterion Theatre and the Criterion Restaurant on the southern side of Piccadilly, as shown on the plans dated July 15, submitted with the application of Messrs. W. Woodward and Sons, on behalf of Messrs. Spiers and Pond and Sir Charles Wyndham, such consent being subject to the usual conditions.

Agreed to.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—In your notice for *Satan's Angel; or, The Betrayer*, you mention in to-day's issue Miss Freda Sharlotte as Cora. The part was played by yours faithfully, MABEL WYNN, Queen's Music Hall, Poplar, July 20, 1907.

MR. TATE'S "MOTORING."

INJUNCTION FOR INFRINGEMENT.

A case which lasted for two days was heard before Mr. Justice Phillimore in the King's Bench Division, on Monday and Tuesday, when Mr. Harry Tate, the well-known comedian, and proprietor of the sketch, entitled *Motoring*, brought an action against Mr. William Fullbrook, claiming an injunction of an infringement of his rights, the allegation being that the defendant produced, under the title of *Astronomy*, a sketch which was an imitation of *Motoring*. The result was that judgment was entered for Mr. Tate for the nominal damages of forty shillings and costs, and his Lordship granted an injunction in the terms asked for.

Mr. McCall, K.C., and Mr. Turner (instructed by Messrs. Burton, Yeates, and Hart) appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. Hohler, K.C., and Mr. G. A. Scott (instructed by Messrs. Amery, Parkes, and Co.) were for the defendant.

Mr. Harry Tate, in answer to questions put by his counsel, stated that his sketch, *Motoring*, was first of all a speciality in a pantomime, which was produced at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, on December 26, 1902. On the following June 25 he registered the title. Since 1902 he had played this sketch both in London and the provinces, with success. The defendant was in his employment from the termination of the pantomime.

On January 21, 1907, he wrote to the defendant:

DEAR FULLBROOK,—Do you think you are playing the game? I refer to your show in pantomime, in which you have stolen all my business from my different numbers. I should like to know what you have to say in the matter.—Yours faithfully,
HARRY TATE.

Fullbrook replied as follows:—

DEAR MR. TATE,—Your letters to hand. I did not think there was any need to answer. Am playing a little number of my own, and fail to see where the seriousness of the matter comes in.—Yours faithfully,
W. FULLBROOK.

On January 29 he wrote in answer:—

DEAR MR. FULLBROOK,—In answer to yours: You fail to see where the seriousness comes in. I will explain. I produce numbers and also pay royalties. Some are successful, some are not; and it is a big drain on my purse to find such numbers. Those that are successful are my living. The following are what you term your own:—

(1) To start with, you adopt my make-up.
(2) You work my cracker business, taken from *Motoring*.
(3) You take my boy (Charley Williams), and place him the same as in *Motoring*.
(4) You have the walking race across, taken from *Motoring*.
(5) You have the tramp, who has "walked all the way from Manchester, &c.," taken from my *Gardening* sketch.
(6) You have the son, as in *Motoring*, excepting that he says "dada" instead of "papa."
(7) You have the golfer walking across and hitting you with his golf club, as in my sketch, *Golfing*.
(8) You change hats with the kid, as in *Motoring*.

Are these your own?

I have always considered you a man above this kind of thing, and I am now asking you in all seriousness to stop it.

If you have anything of your own, and I can do anything for you, I shall be only too pleased, as I have no grievance against you whatever; but I am not going to allow you or anyone else to work my business without taking action in the matter.—Yours faithfully,
HARRY TATE.

Describing his own and the defendant's sketches, Mr. Tate said: In *Motoring* I have a motor-car, with a chauffeur, and a man at the side who hollows out, "Where are you going to?" I say, "I am going down to Portsmouth." I tell him that the distance is ninety miles. He asks how long it will take to do the journey. I say, "It will take half an hour—I don't think." Then the car explodes, and we get out and repair it. A little boy comes along with a mouth organ. The defendant has a telescope upon the stage, and he does a little dialogue. He is dressed exactly the same as I am. As soon as he starts to work on the telescope he begins to do the same business as I do in *Motoring*. The small boy comes on with a mouth organ and sometimes with a tin whistle. My small boy bends down and looks underneath the car, and in the defendant's piece the boy gets under the sticks of the telescope. The two boys are also told: "Get out of the way. Tell your mother I hate the sight of you." In the telescope piece the son comes on in the same make-up as my own boy, and he uses the same words. In both pieces the boy is pushed over. In the defendant's sketch there is precisely a similar character to my drunken man, both wearing a muffler. A man goes across and throws a penny on the stage in my sketch, and it also occurs in the defendant's. The phrase "I don't think" occurs several times in my sketch, and it is also used in the defendant's piece.

Proceeding, Mr. Tate said that the curtain went down on a fight in each sketch, and each lasted about twenty-five minutes. When he visited the Holloway Empire and saw *Astronomy*, the defendant addressed the audience thus: "Ladies and gentlemen—I will give you an imitation of Mr. Harry Tate." He spoke to the defendant the same night, and told him that he was acting in a very bad way, as he (Mr. Tate) was engaged to apear at the Holloway Empire six weeks later. Both he and the defendant were booked for the Stoll tour. The defendant's sketch had interfered with his business to the extent that he did not get as many laughs as he used to get, and there was a difficulty in getting dates.

Cross-examined, the plaintiff stated that the defendant asked for a cheaper price than he did. The defendant had preceded him on the Stoll tour, and he (plaintiff) felt "weak" all round the tour. The manager of the Holloway Empire (Mr. Adams) had said to him, referring to the fact that Fullbrook had been before him with the sketch, *Astronomy*, "It's a crib and a bit rough on you." A similar remark was made by the manager of the Shepherd's Bush Empire. *Motoring* had been running since its production at Leeds pantomime, and he had employed Fullbrook to take his part in a separate company on tour, which went under the name of "Harry Tate's Company." He had never billed Fullbrook as "Harry Tate." In both his and the defendant's piece there was a knock-kneed boy who made a noise with his mouth and caused a cracker to explode. Sometimes in the defendant's piece the word "absolutely" was substituted for "I don't think."

Mr. Harry Masters, Mr. Harry Kennedy (plaintiff's manager), Mr. Logan (of Liverpool), Mr. Wilson Hallett, Mr. Ernest Cadle, Mr. Fredk. Wilson (stage-manager, Holloway Empire), and Mr. Walter Pink (who wrote the sketch from a skeleton supplied) all gave evidence in support of the plaintiff's case.

Mr. Hohler, K.C., took up the examination of his client on the second day, and the defendant's evidence amounted to a denial of all that the plaintiff and his witnesses had alleged. The boy in his sketch did not use the phrases complained of, nor was there a drunken man. He himself had assisted in building up the sketch, *Motoring*.

Mr. J. Elliston, the managing-director of the Grand Theatre and Theatre Royal, Bolton, said he had had both the plaintiff and the defendant in his theatres, he had seen both sketches, and did not consider there was any greater similarity between them than there was between the majority of pieces of that class.

Mr. Fredk. Baugh, general-manager for Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Mr. Maurice Voiny, business-manager of the Standard Music Hall, Pimlico; Mr. Thomas Claxton, agent; Mr. George Sheldon, author, composer, and theatrical-manager; and Mr. J. J. Jordan, comedian, were of the opinion that the defendant had not copied the plaintiff's work.

After listening to arguments by counsel, Mr. Justice Phillimore said that in some French and other plays brought over to this country the whole plot was conveyed by gesture, and his Lordship, in giving judgment, said he thought there had been an imitation by defendant of plaintiff's sketch, and granted the injunction asked for restraining defendant from producing *Astronomy* in such a way as to infringe plaintiff's rights. Defendant must alter his piece in such a way that it was no longer an imitation. On the points of law raised, his Lordship said he was of opinion that *Motoring* was a dramatic sketch within the meaning of the Act, and that plaintiff was rightly registered as the author.

Judgment was given for forty shillings damages, with ordinary costs.

Stay of execution, in view of appeal, was refused.

"THE RING BETWEEN."

Sketch, in One Scene, by William Felton, Produced at the Middlesex Music Hall, on Monday, July 22.

Sir David Denham .....MR. WILLIAM FELTON
Leon De Roche .....MR. MARTIN SANDS
Matthews .....MR. EDWARD DE VERE
Margery Faversham .....MISS HILDA GREY
Stella .....MISS GERALDINE MONTROSE

A problem playlet made its appearance at the Middlesex on Monday, when Mr. Wm. Felton's latest work was produced. The little piece has some thrilling episodes, and a dramatic dénouement is reached. Mr. Felton touches upon the sins of a section of society, and draws a sharp distinction between the justice meted out to the erring woman and that allotted to the equally culpable man. Excuse for the title is evidently given by the electric bell which is attached to the flat of a certain Stella, and which sounds at momentous parts of the proceedings. The lady is expecting a visit from her lover, Sir David Denham, a Cabinet Minister, who is about to marry the youthful Margery Faversham, and has come to bid his mistress good-bye, and to settle an annuity upon her. Stella clings to the hope that Sir David will, after all, remain faithful to his old love, and has contrived that Margery shall be present unseen at the interview, and thus be deterred from marrying David—a scheme which fails in its object. Stella has an accomplice in an adventurer named Leon De Roche, who is anxious to secure a dispatch which Sir David carries with him, and urges Stella to obtain possession of it, promising to make her his wife. Stella succeeds in getting the dispatch from Sir David, and hands it to De Roche, but the baronet, discovering his loss, returns and entreats Stella to restore the document, pleading that if the papers were to fall into the hands of a foreign power a terrible European war would be precipitated. Stella is obdurate until Sir David refers to the wife and family of the man who had just promised her marriage. She at once decides to return the dispatch, and scarcely has De Roche given it up than he is killed by a bullet from Stella's revolver. Sir David leaves with a few parting words of advice, but Stella goes into an adjoining room, and a pistol shot rings out, telling the awful tale of self-destruction.

The sensational effect of the piece was thoroughly maintained by the company to whom its interpretation was entrusted. The author himself acted with quiet dignity in the part of the Cabinet Minister. Mr. Felton's elocution is admirable, and he gave emphasis to every point in the dialogue which fell to him. Miss Geraldine Montrose exhibited tragic power in the rôle of the unfortunate Stella, giving vivid expression to the vindictive tirades against the social conventions which are liberally provided in the piece. Mr. Martin Sands made the most of the unscrupulous Leon De Roche; and the small part of Margery was gracefully played by Miss Hilda Grey.

"MY LADY'S CHAMBER."

A Comedy Sketch, by R. Royston-Dene, presented at the Bedford Music Hall, Camden Town, on Monday, July 22.

Lord Newcombe .....MR. R. ROYSTON-DENE
Lady Barrington .....MRS ROYSTON-DENE
Rosetta .....MISS SHEELAH DESMOND

Mr. Royston-Dene gives us some very amusing "situations" and some very amusing "lines" in this comedietta, which has proved highly entertaining to audiences at the Bedford this week. Lord Newcombe contrives to gain admittance to the private chambers of Lady Barrington, and when her ladyship's maid has retired from the room he locks the door. Of course, Lady Barrington is indignant at his intrusion, and threatens to send for the police, but he reminds her that it is half-past eleven at night, and that, further, he is intent on very serious business with her. What does he want? Well, he would remind her ladyship that some time previously she stole a letter of his which concerned his conduct with a certain young lady. And he would further remind her ladyship that she has on numerous occasions extorted blackmail from him under threats to disclose the contents of the precious missive. He has now come to claim that letter, and to compel her most amiable ladyship to address to him a few affectionate lines in which she shall protest her undying love for him and her desire for an assignation. Lady Barrington's fury now knows no bounds. She batters impotently on the locked door; she employs all manner of threats, but to no purpose. His lordship is impervious to all her ranting and raving, and realising that it will be impossible to move him, her ladyship unwillingly falls into line with his wishes, gives him back the stolen letter, and writes, at his dictation, one that compromises herself. Her maid, Rosetta, is heard knocking at the door. Hastily Lord Newcombe dons an old dress, a "fringe," a veil, and a bonnet belonging to her ladyship, who introduces him to her maid as an estimable lady of her acquaintance. Rosetta once more leaves the room, and then Lord Newcombe destroys the objectionable letters.

Mr. R. Royston-Dene enacts the rôle of the implacable, imperturbable Lord Newcombe in a manner that at once stamps him as an actor of considerable culture and histrionic ability. As Lady Barrington Mrs. Royston-Dene treats us to a really commendable study of a woman at bay, who finds, after all, that all her artifices pale and become absolutely futile when waged against the cool determination of a man. It is a clever bit of acting. Miss Sheelah Desmond cuts a very pleasing figure as Rosetta.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS has been celebrating its past by a very fine pageant. Its name once gave that persistent joker and wit, the late Johnny Toole, a chance of playing off one of his practical jokes. He was travelling on the Great Eastern line from Ipswich to Cambridge. The train was a slow one, and the journey, in consequence, very tedious. When Bury St. Edmunds was reached the comedian was thoroughly wearied out by the length of time the train was delayed at the station. Calling a porter, he asked in a very bland manner for the stationmaster, who, all politeness, bustled up to the door of the carriage in which sat Mr. Toole, looking as solemn as a judge. "What is it, sir?" asked the official. "At what time is the funeral to take place?" inquired Mr. Toole. "Funeral, sir? Whose funeral?" inquired the now wondering stationmaster. "Whose funeral!" continued Mr. Toole; "why, have we not come to Bury St. Edmunds?" Exit stationmaster in a huff.

THE Idania Troupe of Lady Acrobats, who made their first appearance in England at the Palace, Attercliffe, with such emphatic success last week, were brought over from Berlin by that enterprising variety agent, Mr. Charles Deetrich, of Liverpool.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

MR. THOMAS BARRASFORD will open his new house in Brussels under the title of the Alhambra on Oct. 15. The establishment will be run in connection with his Paris Alhambra, which is as popular and as cosmopolitan an amusement temple—both in respect of its audiences and its companies—as any in Europe. There is no immediate prospect of the tentacles of any Klaw or other American trust getting hold of it.

MR. HAYDEN COFFIN, having made the plunge into variety at the Palace, has decided to accept an offer from Mr. Oswald Stoll to tour the Moss-Stoll Empires, and will sing both at the suburban and provincial houses owned by that leviathan combination. The popular baritone will make his first appearance at a Stoll house on August Bank Holiday. His répertoire will consist of such popular numbers as "Tommy Atkins," from *A Gaiety Girl*, "The Village Blacksmith," and possibly "To Anthea."

MISS DENISE ORME'S appearance at the Palace has caused some scribes to announce her début in the variety theatres. She accomplished this at the Alhambra, where she appeared for one week in July, 1905, previous to her appearance as one of the "Little Michus" at Daly's. Miss Orme's quiet, artistic style is much appreciated by Mr. Alfred Butt's patrons.

MISS VIOLET LLOYD, who has played lead at the old Gaiety with Mr. George Edwardes—notably in *The Runaway Girl*—has been secured by Mr. Alfred Butt for the Palace next month. Miss Lloyd, who is a cousin of Miss Lydia Thompson and Miss Violet Cameron, recently became the wife of Mr. Horace Lane, brother of Miss Grace Lane. Miss Lloyd appeared with her husband in *The Dairymaids* at the Apollo.

THE genius of Clarkson is known to the hemispheres. Sarah of the golden voice has acknowledged its æsthetic power, and now Willie has been gladdened by the following graceful tribute from Yvette Guilbert:—"Mon cher Monsieur Clarkson,—Grâce à vos perruques une seconde jeunesse nous revient. Vous êtes le plus grand collaborateur à la beauté féminine. Toute ma gratitude, (signed) Yvette Guilbert." This may be translated as follows:—"My dear Mr. Clarkson,—Thanks to your wigs our second youth returns to us. You are the greatest collaborateur in feminine beauty. Accept my gratitude.—Yvette Guilbert."

MR. HARRY TATE'S success in his action for infringement in the High Court on Tuesday will, it is to be hoped, act as a salutary warning to the crowd of imitators. What strikes the casual reader of the report is the ready understanding of the case by Mr. Justice Phillimore, who took a common-sense view of it. Mr. Tate pays royalties for an act that, according to expert evidence, has been copied in all important particulars by another, and this is very rightly regarded as an infringement to be stopped by legal process. The decision should have a wide-reaching effect, and prevent the practice of pirating, which is far too prevalent in the profession, besides giving a legal status to a theatrical act.

THE Dublin *Saturday Herald* of the 20th inst. has the following extraordinary item of news:—"Lovers of music will be pleased to hear that Miss Peggy Pryde, the popular London comedy artist—who, by the way, is a daughter of the famous Swedish nightingale, Jenny Lind—is also billed for the Empire next week"!

THIS statement is quite equalled in its veracity by the annexed extract taken from *The Variety Theatre Annual*, edited by Jules Inger. Speaking of the late Miss Jenny Hill, this chronicler writes that Mr. Maurice De Frece discovered her whilst she was appearing at a small music hall in a country town, *and afterwards married her daughter, Miss Peggy Pryde.*

THERE are other glaring inaccuracies in the volume. The late Mr. John H. Jennings is spoken of as the "proprietor of the Oxford for a number of years, and sold his interest to Mr. James Kirk." Uncle John, as his friends used to call him, would have fulfilled the chief ambition of his life had he succeeded in becoming proprietor of the hall that he had managed successfully for so many years. When its nineteen years' lease was sold to Mr. James Kirk on Oct. 28, 1890, for £27,100, it was an open secret that J. H. J. was the only opponent of the purchaser. Mr. Jennings could not sell an interest that never was his.

WE are also informed that Charles Godfrey first produced *On Guard* at the Paragon. That fine hall was not built until 1885—some three years after the famous sketch first saw the footlights.

AUTHORS of considerable eminence are now being pressed into the service of the variety theatres. George R. Sims, W. W. Jacobs, Alfred Sutro, the late Mr. James Davis, Charles Hannan, author of *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*, have all been represented in sketches and episodes; and now we hear that Mr. Keble Howard, the author of that silhouette of suburban society, "The Smiths of Surbiton," has prepared a piece for the Palace Theatre, in which both Mr. Courtice Pounds and his sister, Miss Louie Pounds, will appear. The name of it is to be *Charles, His Friend*. With two such talented vocalists in the cast it is hardly necessary to say that the piece is musical. Mr. Hermann Finck is responsible for the score.

MISS HENRIQUETTE MAUDE'S triumphal progress through the provinces with her sketch—describing her tour round the world, and her recitation of "Lasca" in cowboy costume—still continues. At Carlisle a man brought a pair of beautiful horses to the theatre as a gift for her, and she was sorry to have to decline her handsome present. At Hull Miss Maude kicked off the football for the local theatre team; and in one large town the management of the hall issued a card on which was printed a "limerick" about Miss Maude, the audience being invited to invent a last line.

MR. HARRY NICHOLLS will produce at the Metropolitan as a sketch *The Electric Man*, comedy, by Charles Hannan, author of *A Cigarette-maker's Romance*. The piece was originally produced at the King's, Hammersmith, in the spring of 1904, and was seen during the autumn of last year both at the Shaftesbury and Royalty Theatres. Mr. Nicholls will be supported by Mr. Loring Fernie, Mr. Thorpe Tracy, and Misses Beatrice Fitzgerald and Amy Truman. The sketch will also be seen at the Chelsea Palace.

THE Rev. J. Stephen Barrass, rector of St. Lawrence Jewry, Gresham-street, E.C., has accepted the post of hon. chaplain for Central London to the Actors' Church Union. The district includes all the leading West End theatres and halls. The object of the Union is to unite in religious work and life the men and women members of the Anglican communion who are engaged upon the theatrical and variety stage. Mr. Barrass will gladly furnish information respectnig the Union to members of the profession who wish it.

CRUIKSHANK, the clown, who appears to great advantage in his musical speciality act, which is interspersed with a number of good stories, comes of a very old circus family, and has practically been before the public since he left the cradle. He is a son of the celebrated clown of the same name.

WE understand that the Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Ltd., have taken over the Tivoli, Park, and Paddington, formerly under the control of The Palaces, Ltd.

MR. WILL HOWGATE, the popular actor-manager of the Royal Varieties, Oldham, was presented on Monday last with a travelling-bag, dressing-case, and a purse of gold by Alderman Sixsmith on behalf of a few of his private and professional friends, as a mark of their esteem and good wishes.

SINCE Dot Stephens's reappearance on the stage after her marvellous recovery she has been the recipient of what can only be termed one continuous ovation. At Walsall every night the stage-door was thronged by enthusiastic admirers, who shouted "Good luck!" and on the Saturday it is said that there was never such a crowd as that which escorted her from the theatre, bidding her good-bye. Such-like scenes have been repeated at Bordesley Palace, in Birmingham; and this week, at Carlisle, Miss Stephens has again been the cynosure of all eyes.

MR. W. J. CHURCHILL'S enterprise at that delightful Welsh resort, Llandudno, is responsible for a fine minstrel troupe, numbering nearly a score of first-rate performers, including a double quartet and a double set of comedians. Visitors to the Happy Valley, near the Great Orme, are able to listen to harmonious glees, tuneful songs, amusing jokes, and interesting sketches, and to witness capital dancing, and fun and laughter prevail. The first vacant date of Mr. Churchill's company is Oct. 14.

ON Sunday Mr. Clayton Botham, whose name had long been prominent in Brighton, and also in Keymer, where he resided for many years, passed away on Sunday at his residence in Osmond-road, Hove, after a painful illness extending over some weeks. He was at one period associated in an important degree with the entertainment life of Brighton, having joined his brother in the raising of the Empire music hall from the modest little Oxford music hall, to the possession of which they had succeeded on the death of their mother.

THE Botham family had for a quarter of a century been associated with music-hall enterprise in Brighton, when on the site of the old Oxford in the town there arose in August, 1892, the new Empire. We may recall the fact that the Oxford, Brighton, was burnt down on March 20, 1867, when a Mr. E. N. Cruse was proprietor. The size and importance of the place may be gauged by the fact that the proprietor was only insured for £300. When a new hall was rebuilt in 1868 Mr. Botham, sen., was the proprietor, and at his death the establishment was carried on by the widow and the sons.

THE late Mr. Clayton Botham was a warm supporter of deserving movements, and also followed with interest the progress of local affairs in the district, and his advice was freely welcomed in many influential quarters. On the Keymer Council he rendered much valued service, and his worth found recognition in his unanimous election as chairman, a position he resigned this year on removing to Hove. He was persistent in placing before the public two projects which he thought of public utility—one for making a new pass over Clayton Hill at a lower level than the present road, and the other for making Shoreham Harbour a yachting centre by improvement of the lagoon at the Aldrington end. He was for a time the Keymer representative on the Cuckfield Board of Guardians and Rural District Council. He was chairman of the Keymer Flower Show Committee. The interment was in Brighton and Preston Cemetery, on Thursday.

THE directors of the Manchester Hippodrome and Ardwick Empire, associated with the Moss and Stoll enterprises, are recommending a dividend for the half-year at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax. This will absorb £4,500. £2,902 is to be carried to the reserve, making with the former leasehold reserve of £1,098, now no longer required, a total reserve of £4,000. The balance of £1,483 is to be carried forward, subject to the managing-directors' remuneration for the year.

INTERIM dividends at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum have also been declared by the Hackney and Shepherd's Bush Empires, and the Leicester Palace.

THE health of Mr. J. W. Chapman, the genial managing director of the Grand and Empire, Doncaster, has not, for some time at least, been of that robust character that his friends desire. During the past few days, however, more reassuring accounts have been received, and it is gratifying to learn that his condition is giving rise to less anxiety.

MISS MAUDE MURRAY was doing her aerial serpentine dance at the Hippodrome, Aldershot, on Tuesday night, when suddenly the rope attached to the wire broke, and she fell with a thud upon the stage. Both her ankles were injured, but, though suffering intense pain, she was able to appear before the curtain, and thus appease the natural anxiety of the audience. On Wednesday night she could not do her turn; but, thanks to the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Sounes, who obtained for her skilled surgical attention, she has been able to fulfill her engagement to the end of the week. Mr. Clarence Sounes had a new rope fixed, and tested it himself on Wednesday.

AN extraordinary incident happened at the Prince's Theatre, Llandudno, on Monday. On the descent of the curtain at the first house on that evening, Mr. J. Ritson, the manager, appeared on the stage, and announced that he was guaranteed that all the artists were first class, but he thought the audience would agree with him that such was not the case. Under the circumstances, he should refuse to allow the appearance of any of them, excepting the Musical Palmers. The programme for the second house and for the remainder of the week would therefore consist of the Parisian Animated Pictures and the Musical Palmers, whose turn had previously been heartily received.

MR. FRANK REED, the popular musical director of the Palace, Southampton, who severed his connection with that establishment on Saturday last to take over a similar post at the Grand, Clapham, was the recipient of a very handsomely-chased silver cigar-case, subscribed for by the members of the Palace orchestra. Mr. Trussell made the presentation in a few well-chosen remarks, and wished Mr. Reed every success in his new sphere. The ladies and gentlemen appearing at the Palace last week also presented Mr. Reed with a silver cigarette-case.

MR. EDWARD FOSTER, the resident-manager of the Bordesley Palace, is rusticating at a farm just about three miles out of Ross, Herefordshire, where the cider comes from. He is revelling in the beautiful scenery on the banks of the Wye in peaceful surroundings, where patrons cease from troubling and the telephone is at rest.

"SCENES FROM FAMOUS PLAYS," a series of striking and up-to-date dramatic excerpts, was produced on Monday at the Tivoli, Manchester. Put on and played as it is by Mr. George Langdon and his capable company, there should not be much fear of vacant dates.

THE Poplar Hippodrome, formerly the Prince's Theatre, which was opened by Mr. Clarence Sounes on Boxing Day, 1905, is to be started on August Bank Holiday with a twice-nightly variety programme. The house will be booked in conjunction with others on the Gibbons circuit.

THE plans for the alteration of Hengler's Circus, submitted by Mr. W. Hancock, of 13, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, were on Tuesday approved by the L.C.C. They comprise handsome stables, a new Royal box, and ten other private boxes. The structural alterations will facilitate the presentation of first-class circus performances, and there will be a rearrangement of the lighting. The whole of the work, including the entire redecoration and refurnishing, has been undertaken by Messrs. A. R. Dean, Ltd., of Birmingham.

HENGLER'S CIRQUS will reopen in October, when Beketow's Grand Circus from Budapest will make its first appearance in England. The famous house in Argyll-place has always had a cosmopolitan reputation, and Beketow's will be only one of many similar combinations that have made it their London home

THE M.H.A.R.A. outing on Sunday (to-morrow) will include an up-river voyage to Wallingford, Berks, with lunch and dinner en route. The train leaves Waterloo at 8.45 a.m., and the inclusive charge is £1. Tickets may be obtained at the M.H.A.R.A.'s offices, Wellington-street.

THE Grand Order of Water Rats will have its annual up-river outing on Sunday, Aug. 18, when a large party is expected on the launch, that will voyage through some of the most beautiful reaches of water bordered by picturesque Bucks and Berks.

MR. WHIT CUNLIFFE a few days since was literally the hero of a startling incident, which, but for him, would have had a tragic dénouement. He was rowing across the stream from his bungalow at Penton Hook, accompanied by a lady, and had neared a landing-stage, when the clatter of horse's hoofs was heard, and, looking up, Mr. Cunliffe beheld with horror some distance up the road a maddened horse, with cart attached, coming full-pelt towards the spot at which the comedian was about to land. The driver of the cart was making frantic attempts to free his wrists from the reins, but in vain, and horse, cart, and man tore headlong into the river. Mr. Cunliffe, who had just the time and the presence of mind to back his boat away from the spot before the plunge, was instrumental in rescuing the man in an unconscious condition. The horse was drowned.

THE Alhambra annual outing took place on Sunday. Starting from Waterloo for Guildford, the party had a most enjoyable lunch at the Lion Hotel, and afterwards a most pleasant drive to Godalming and back. Then they dined. Speeches were made at the dinner by Mr. George Scott and Mr. Harry Woodford, also by Messrs. Corrick and Roberts, and Mr. Alfred Oxley, the veteran of the staff, who was the subject of many congratulations, this being his forty-third year at the Alhambra. After dinner, on the proposition of Mr. George Scott, a collection was made on behalf of the Children's Cripple Fund, which realised over £5.

THE Chelsea Palace staff outing will take place to-morrow, when a voyage to Margate by the Palace steamer Koh-i-noor will be undertaken. Lunch will be eaten on board, and will be presided over by Mr. Norman Berlin, the manager, who is in command at the hall during the prolonged absence of Mr. Edward Swanborough.

MR. JOHN LAWSON will appear at the New Cross Empire during the coming week in a répertoire of three sketches, namely, *The King's Minister*, *The Monkey's Paw*, and *Humanity*. Without a doubt these are three of Mr. Lawson's finest sketches, and the Novocrucians will have the pleasure of witnessing three excellent character studies. Special scenery has been prepared, and each episode will be mounted in that lavish manner for which Mr. Lawson is celebrated.

MR. TOM LEAMORE, who is making a big success on tour, will return to the London halls on August Bank Holiday with two new songs: "When I am an angel in the sky," written and composed by himself, and another one, from the pen of C. Collins and Nat Clifford, entitled "Don't cry, dada," the chorus of which is likely to be whistled and sung all over London.

MISS ELSIE ENRY, that young and clever comedienne who of late has been making rapid progress in the music-hall profession, has decided to change her name. On and from this date Miss Enry adopts the name of Elsie Kerry, she having discovered that the name of Enry presented many difficulties of spelling and pronunciation. Miss Enry has made a hit with her Irish, coon, and Dutch ditties at the Granville, Walham Green, this week. She will next be seen under her new name at the Empress, Brixton.

A NEW sketch, entitled *Edmund Kean*, by Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova, will be produced next week at the Hackney Empire. It is based on the events which occurred on that memorable Jan. 26, 1814, when Edmund Kean came from the Theatre Royal, Exeter, to his one rehearsal of Shylock which was to make his reputation. At that rehearsal, as readers of theatrical history will remember, all the actors reviled him and did their best to destroy all his effects by refusing to carry out his wishes, which were opposed to tradition. These events form the background of the sketch, which introduces the Revenge Scene from *The Merchant of Venice* as part of the action of the play. The cast will be as follows:—Edmund Kean, Mr. Frank Cochrane; Barrymore, Mr. Robert Forsyth; Harry Shuter, Mr. Cecil Brooking; Chas. Dunstal, Mr. Leslie Palmer; and Thomas Smedley, Mr. George Ingelton.

THE staff of the Royal Albert Palace, Canning Town, had their annual outing—the first since Mr. Arthur G. H. Hunt became proprietor of this hall—on Sunday, when a jolly party of fifty started from Canning Town at nine o'clock a.m. and boarded the train at Stratford Main for Clacton-on-Sea, which place was reached at a quarter past eleven. After the "air" had been taken in a saunter around, the whole company assembled at the Osborne Hotel for dinner, the chairman, of course, being Mr. Hunt. The loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the chairman expressed his delight at seeing so many of his staff present. It was the first occasion on which they had had an outing, and he sincerely hoped it would not be the last. The toast of "The Visitors" was proposed in a capital little speech by Mr. Alfred Levy, the vice-chairman, who echoed Mr. Hunt's sentiments. Mr. W. Hill suitably responded.

MR. F. SIMPSON, in giving "The Staff," paid a high compliment to the efficiency of the employees of the Royal Albert, and remarked that they were fortunate in having a "governor" who was in every way considerate, and who took an interest in the personal welfare of his subordinates. Mr. J. Stickels replied for the staff, and as a mark of their esteem presented Mr. Hunt with a handsome silver-mounted umbrella, which bore the following inscription: "Presented to Arthur G. H. Hunt by the staff of the Royal Albert Palace, July 21st, 1907." The afternoon was spent, according to individual predilections, in walking, driving, and sailing trips, and, after a most enjoyable day, the homeward journey was started at a quarter past eight.

LITTLE TICH has been looking up his numerous friends in Paris, and after a pleasant time goes to Blackpool on Monday for a week. He returns to the Oxford on August Bank Holiday, being one of the numerous stars secured by Mr. Blyth-Pratt.

HYMACK is the stage name of a Scottish actor, who has worked out an entertainment that is as mystifying as it is amusing. How he manages to change his gloves, ties, flowers, and sticks in full view of the audience is nothing less than marvellous. Mr. Hymack is an actor with plenty of experience, for he has served many engagements with Wm. Gillette and Mrs. Patrick Campbell, and has toured the world over. It took him five years to perfect the feats he now accomplishes.

"CYCLING IN EXCELSIS" is the title under which a new and thrilling bicycling act is billed at the London Pavilion for Monday next. The daring wheelmen who are on that occasion to make their first appearance in England are called the Three Röhrs. The chief of the band is one Charles Röhrs, and it is he who, in the culminating moments of the act, dashes round the interior of a revolving globe.

QUITE recently we witnessed a new production, *Outflanked*, introducing Mr. Henry Coutts, a protean artist of considerable ability. Never was the word "refreshing" more appropriately used than in connection with this act. Audiences become deeply interested in the novel situations, illustrated by specially painted scenery and superb electrical effects. Mr. Henry Coutts is a new star in the firmament, and one likely to be very popular. So delighted was Mr. Albert Bushell with the act as his top of the bill, that he has booked it for three return dates at a substantial increase.

MR. LEONARD MORTIMER, who so successfully ran the Variety Theatre, Hoxton—a year or so ago under the name of the New King's Theatre—has purchased the remaining nine years' lease, and, with the policy of a "clean sweep," engaging an entirely new stock company of actors and actresses new to the neighbourhood, having the theatre thoroughly renovated, and staging the plays in the same first-class style for which he is justly famous in the variety theatres, he hopes to build up the fortunes of the old house again. Relying on his local popularity, he is calling his property Mortimer's Theatre, Hoxton. He intends opening the theatre on Saturday, Sept. 7. Mr. Hal Brough will be his acting-manager.

MR. J. G. GRAHAME'S very successful sketch, *The Yellow Fang*, is the star attraction at the Euston next week. Since its last London appearance a slight alteration has been made, but the original strength, novelty, and atmosphere remain. It has been rebooked by Mr. Stoll for a long term.

THE native choir from Jamaica are still extremely successful wherever they go. Her Royal Highness Princess Henry of Battenberg and party attended their performance on Tuesday afternoon last at the Pier Pavilion, Southampton, and expressed her very great delight at their original and unique entertainment. Last week, their first performance at the Victoria Pier Pavilion, Folkestone, was attended by the Mayor and members of the Corporation, who welcomed the survivors of the earthquake to Folkestone. The Pavilion was crowded at every performance, and on Saturday last there was a public presentation to all the ladies and gentlemen of the company.

MR. JOHN W. T. STRINGER, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Stringer, a well-known name in the theatrical annals of the North, was married on Saturday last to Ethel Constance Quipp, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Quipp, the Castle, Lincoln. The bridegroom is the manager for Messrs. Rosen and Bliss, the well-known agents and proprietors.

THE huge staff of the Empire took its annual outing on Sunday, and put in some capital sports at Streatley, returning to the Caversham Bridge Hotel, Reading, for a big banquet, covers being laid for nearly 200. The beautiful prizes were presented to the winners by Mr. H. J. Hitchins, the manager, who occupied the chair, being supported by Mr. A. Aldin, the acting-manager, who acted as Judge, and Mr. Spencer Barry, the stage-manager, who acted as starter, in the sporting events. Well-known theatrical folk were present. The contests between the "front" and "back" of the house reflected the greatest credit on the sporting side of the theatre, and a highly-successful day was spent. Many of the company reached the ground by motor cars.

BEFORE his Honour Judge Parry at the Manchester County Court, on Wednesday, John Fenton Williams, a tent and sail maker, of King-street West, Manchester, sued Harry Leslie, the well-known entertainer, for the balance of the price of a canvas tent known as the Rusholme Pavilion. Defendant counter-claimed £50 damages for an alleged breach of contract by the plaintiff in supplying defective canvas, through which he said he had lost £30 in profits and had to pay £20 for repairs. Mr. Brocklehurst appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Gibbons for the defendant.

MR. HARRY LESLIE said that a large number of his regular patrons had stayed away from the pavilion because of the rain coming through the defective roof. Several of the latter were called, and one gentleman said that he had been compelled to sit during a performance with his umbrella up. His Honour found that the sewing was badly done, but the tent was not wholly defective, and Mr. Leslie would have to pay the contract price. Therefore, on the claim there would be judgment for the plaintiff for £30 15s. On the counter-claim there would be judgment for Mr. Leslie for £21 and costs.

THE Chelsea Lodge (3098) held its regular meeting at the Town Hall, Chelsea, on Friday, the 19th, and notwithstanding the absence of several of the appointed officers through being engaged at too long a distance to admit of their returning in time to appear at their various theatres, a large amount of work was done. The lodge was opened punctually by Serpentello, the W.M., supported by Albert le Fre, I.P.M., Wolfe S. Lyon, treasurer, C. J. Doughty, secretary, Harry Bawn, S.D., and Angelo Asher, organist. The absent officers' positions were filled by Wolfe S. Lyon, S.W., Douglas White, J.W., W. Permane, J.D., and Atlas, I.G. The W.M. initiated Messrs. Harry Kato, Ted E. Box, Monte Bayly, and Tom Mellor, after which he passed Messrs. Ian Colquhoun, J. L. Graydon, and C. H. Burton. Bro. Albert le Fre then occupied the chair, and raised Messrs. R. E. Wilding, Dan Lipton, and Tom Parker. The members present, in addition to those taking office, were Messrs. James W. Mathews, Fred Neiman, Dan Lipton, Fred MacNaughton, J. B. Helm, Herbert Austin, T. Parker, Karl Hooper, and Fred Clay. As visitors there were Messrs. Frank Lister, Henry Ray, C. Smythson, Nelson Jackson, W. H. Spurgeon, D. L. Oliver, H. Chenery, and J. T. Gaffney (of the Claremont Lodge, South Africa.

MEMBERS and visitors adjourned to the Six Bells, where a pleasant hour was spent. During the time the lodge was in session a telegram of sympathy and expressions of hearty wishes for a speedy recovery was sent to Albert Christian. That gentleman has since called upon the treasurer to express his thanks for the kind sentiment conveyed in the message.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, President of the Associated Board of the R.A.M. and the R.C.M., has graciously accepted a beautifully bound copy of "The Irregular Scale Practice," which constitutes No. 4 of Messrs. Francis and Day's High School edition of text-books for the piano, which began with "The Complete Scale Manual for the Pianoforte." Mr. J. Simpson, the compiler of these useful standard works, which comprise six volumes, has earned the gratitude of all students of music, and M. Paderewski has expressed his high appreciation by giving special permission for the section under notice to be dedicated to himself.

ON Bank Holiday, at the Oxford, Miss Annie Purcell will again delight London audiences with Wilmott and Darewski's "In the Valley of Switzerland." These well-known writers, in conjunction with T. M. Down, have also fitted to a nicety Miss Lily Burnand with a song which, in the provinces, has taken houses by storm, and is entitled "Under the lilac tree," published by Messrs. Francis and Day; this also is likely to be heard at the Oxford on the Feast of St. Lubbock.

MR. WHIT CUNLIFFE has just placed with Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter a song specially written to suit his striking style, entitled "Meet me down at the corner at half-past eight." This number, which is a fine example of the work of Charles Wilmott and H. E. Darewski, jun., will be produced at Edinburgh primarily.

ADVICES from Johannesburg to Messrs. Francis and Day state that "The husking bee" cake-walk, a publication of the firm, is one of the biggest successes ever known at the Cape. It is by T. W. Thurban, who was responsible for another famous cake-walk, "The Brooklyn" to wit. Miss Lily Lena has caused a furore also in Jo'burg, having to sing no fewer than seven or eight songs nightly. She returns to England in September.

MR. TOM COSTELLO, whose "Sheeny coon," by Harry Castling, is still remembered with hilarity, will soon add to the number of his celebrated character songs a ditty, entitled "Solomon's Bride; or, I'm going to be married to-day." It is by Arthur Branscombe, author of the successful play *Morocco Bound*, Mr. Costello himself having composed the melody. Messrs. Francis and Day have the song in the press, and it will provide a strong comic contrast to his powerful miner song by Leigh and Pether, entitled "For Auld Lang Syne," which has just been included in the "Sixpenny Pops."

NEW songs in the press shortly to be issued by Messrs. Francis and Day are:—"Have you seen my Johnny in his uniform?" by F. J. Barnes and R. P. Weston; "Don't go until the rain stops," by G. A. Stevens; "It's good-bye to sunshine when it's good-bye to you," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford; "Good—for nothing!" (sung by Johnny Warman), by F. W. Leigh; and a charming song by Edward St. Quentin, entitled "Wake me again," the words by Margaret Astrop.

YET another great success in chorus songs has just been issued by Mr. "Sixpenny Pops" Smith in the series from which he derives his sobriquet, it being Mr. George Lashwood's "In the twi-twilight." Messrs. Francis and Day are also bringing out in like form "All the days of the week" and "Happy Land."

MISS FLORRIE GALLIMORE is now busily engaged in studying three new songs which will shortly be published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company, viz.:—"Dear little Tyrolese," by Harrington and Tate; "I'm going to try my luck in London," and a motto song by a new author, Mr. Harry Marlow. Miss Gallimore anticipates a big success with all three of these new numbers.

MISS FLORRIE FORDE and Miss Ella Retford continue to win laughter and applause for that quaint and catchy chorus song, "Has anyone seen a German band?" Pantomime producers have already started to secure the same for their forthcoming productions. No less than four applications were received during the past week by the Star Music Co., who are giving a limited number of music-hall permits for this big winner.

MR. GEORGE LEYTON has surpassed himself in his excellent rendering of Edgar and Lyle's dashing light comedy song, "You can't do without a girl." Principal boys and light comedians should make a mental note of the fact that the Star Co. have selected this as one of their few extra-special pantomime numbers. It is a big hit at numerous alfresco concerts.

A. E. RICK and Maurice Scott have "struck ile" with their melodious "Swing me higher, Obadiah." The chorus has that simple, but convincing, catchiness about it that an audience find irresistible. This is another of the Star Co.'s certs.

MISS GLADYS HUXLEY has, during the past two weeks, been causing a sensation at the Ealing Hippodrome and the Duchess, Balham, with a new song, "I've got a spooney-ooney feeling." Messrs. Mills and Scott are the fortunate writers. The song is No. 39 on the Star Co.'s catalogue.

MR. WHIT CUNLIFFE, the popular comedian, is producing a new song at Edinburgh Empire next week, entitled "Meet me down at the corner at half-past eight." It is a very bright number, with a delightfully simple, easy, and catchy chorus, and was specially written and composed for him by the well-known writers Charles Wilmott and Hermann E. Darewski, jun., who wrote George Lashwood's great chorus song, "In the twilight."

MISS MAUD ESMOND has made a very great hit at all her engagements with the charming new song, published by Mr. David Day's firm, entitled "My beautiful Avon rose," by J. F. Lambe and T. W. Thurban.

MISS BESSIE BUTT has been knocking 'em at the Stoll suburban halls with Mills and Scott's new haunter, "Pretty little maid of Norway," and judging from present results this number is likely to be one of the most popular issued by the Star Publishing Company. The number will be heard in the West-end shortly, when Miss Butt opens at the Tivoli, at which hall she will also introduce "Cherries are Blooming," which is causing a run on cherry trimmings for ladies' hats.

IN addition to the budget of new songs with which Messrs. Harrington and Tate have recently equipped Miss Vesta Victoria, that talented lady has just accepted from the same prolific author and composer two new numbers, entitled "I'm a lady" and "She'd never been away before." She has also placed a commission for three other distinct character-songs with the same firm, and purposes producing all these numbers in America when she opens there in September with Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger.

MESSRS. JOHN P. HARRINGTON AND JAS. W. TATE have during the past week been busily engaged in fitting Miss Claire Romaine with a new répertoire of songs for her forthcoming American campaign, three notable items in which are "Hurry up, William," "He's jest the bloke for me," and "What little Willie wants to know"; while her husband, Mr. Edgar Romaine, who accompanies her, will produce in America two numbers from the same pens, to wit, "When you're up" and "Come in the corner, Lucy."

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR AUGUST.

ENGLAND.

Aug. 1. Burnham (3,000)
Aug. 2. Dartford (18,700)
Aug. 2. Kingston-on-Thames (34,400)
Aug. 2. Ludford (714)
Aug. 3. Baslow (1,000)
Aug. 3. Castleacre (1,600)
Aug. 3. Calow (611)
Aug. 3. Calver (374)
Aug. 3. Curbar (794)
Aug. 3. Froggatt (84)
Aug. 3. Greenhill (525)
Aug. 3. Hanley (61,500)
Aug. 3. Hetwood (25,000)
Aug. 3. Longton (36,000)
Aug. 3. Marple (5,100)
Aug. 3. Mellor (1,384)
Aug. 3. Milnrow (5,100)
Aug. 3. Redditch (11,300)
Aug. 3. Royton (13,000)
Aug. 3. Swadlincote (18,000)
Aug. 3. Whitefield (11,500)
Aug. 5. Accrington (430,000)
Aug. 5. Bicester (3,300)
Aug. 5. Bilston (24,000)
Aug. 5. Birkenhead (111,000)
Aug. 5. Blackheath (21,000)
Aug. 5. Brigg (3,200)
Aug. 5. Cheltenham (49,600)
Aug. 5. Clevedon (6,000)
Aug. 5. Calverley (2,575)
Aug. 5. Doncaster (29,000)
Aug. 5. Evesham (7,100)
Aug. 5. Fleetwood (12,000)
Aug. 5. Garston (17,300)
Aug. 5. Hampstead Heath
Aug. 5. Haslingden (18,500)
Aug. 5. Hendon (Welsh Harp) (17,000)
Aug. 5. Hunslet (66,000)
Aug. 5. Ilkley (7,500)
Aug. 5. Jarrow-on-Tyne (31,300)
Aug. 5. Kenilworth (4,500)
Aug. 5. Malvern (16,500)
Aug. 5. Manningham (49,051)
Aug. 5. Milnbridge (4,952)
Aug. 5. Morecambe (12,000)
Aug. 5. New Brighton (10,000)
Aug. 5. Newcastle-on-Tyne (214,803)
Aug. 5. Newmarket (10,700)
Aug. 5. Northampton (87,000)
Aug. 5. Otley (8,800)
Aug. 5. Portsmouth (189,000)
Aug. 5. Reigate (26,000)
Aug. 5. Richmond (Surrey) (31,000)
Aug. 5. Ripon (8,200)
Aug. 5. Rodley (2,100)
Aug. 5. Ryde (11,000)
Aug. 5. Salford (Trinity Market) (221,000)
Aug. 5. Seaham Harbour (10,200)
Aug. 5. Southport (48,400)
Aug. 5. South Shields (97,300)
Aug. 5. Stafford (20,275)
Aug. 5. Stanningley (5,579)
Aug. 5. Taunton (21,600)
Aug. 5. Tewkesbury (5,400)
Aug. 5. Tunbridge Wells (33,400)
Aug. 5. Wanstead Flats (9,200)
Aug. 5. Wombwell (13,500)
Aug. 5. Wormwood Scrubs
Aug 5. Wyke (5,936)
Aug. 6. Stoke-on-Trent (50,500)
Aug. 6. Tanhill (8,200)
Aug. 7. Boston (15,700)
Aug. 8. Astwood Bank
Aug. 8. Brighouse (10,750)
Aug. 8. Crabb's Cross (4,560)
Aug. 8. Lindfield (2,300)
Aug. 10. Barlow (1,110)
Aug. 10. Bolsover (3,752)
Aug. 10. Cheetham Hill (35,000)
Aug. 10. Cowhill Wakes
Aug. 10. Denton (9,358)
Aug. 10. Denholm (3,239)
Aug. 10. Earlestown (8,000)
Aug. 10. Hazel Grove (6,000)
Aug. 10. Hyde Wakes (23,000)
Aug. 10. Littleboro' (9,687)
Aug. 10. Stockport (70,000)
Aug. 10. Taxell or Whaley Bridge (1,549)
Aug. 10. Wessington (614)
Aug. 10. Whitwell (1,924)
Aug. 12. Drypool (Hull) (32,000)
Aug. 12. Eccleshill (8,500)
Aug. 12. Horncastle (4,500)
Aug. 12. Kirkstall (4,000)
Aug. 12. Mitcham (12,000)
Aug. 12. Rawdon (3,110)
Aug. 12. Silsden (4,000)
Aug. 12. Sowerby Bridge (11,600)
Aug. 12. York (75,660)
Aug. 13. Highworth (2,500)
Aug. 15. Gildersome (3,200)
Aug. 15. Lelant (1,810)
Aug. 15. Padiham (12,200)
Aug. 15. Queensbury (6,812)
Aug. 17. Ashbourne (4,750)
Aug. 17. Ashton-under-Lyne (40,494)
Aug. 17. Droylsden (13,500)
Aug. 17. Glossop (6,000)
Aug. 17. Middleton (13,000)
Aug. 17. Mottram (4,650)
Aug. 17. Rochdale (74,000)
Aug. 17. Shaw (5,000)
Aug. 19. Barnsley (40,000)
Aug. 19. Bowling (27,500)
Aug. 19. Guiseley (4,300)
Aug. 19. Horsforth (3,900)
Aug. 19. Lowmoor (2,397)
Aug. 19. Long Eaton (13,000)
Aug. 19. Yeadon (7,800)
Aug. 21. Birstall (6,750)
Aug. 21. Great Harwood (12,000)
Aug. 21. Hartlepool (22,800)
Aug. 21. Stonehouse (1,800)
Aug. 22. Bracknell (2,200)
Aug. 22. Crediton (4,000)
Aug. 22. Ipswich (66,600)
Aug. 23. Skipton (10,800)
Aug. 24. Darlaston (15,400)
Aug. 24. Darley (2,725)
Aug. 24. Eyam (1,423)
Aug. 24. First Lee Fair
Aug. 24. Newton Heath (30,000)
Aug. 24. Oldham (150,772)
Aug. 24. Prestwich (11,600)
Aug. 24. Saddleworth (4,256)
Aug. 24. Whittington (3,730)
Aug. 26. Beeston (30,000)
Aug. 26. Bingley (9,261)
Aug. 26. Bakewell (3,500)
Aug. 26. Halton (916)
Aug. 26. Hinckley (11,300)
ug. 26. Hooley Hill
Aug. 26. Irlams-o'-th'-Height (5,000)
Aug. 26. Pudsey (17,585)
Aug. 26. Shaftesbury (3,000)
Aug 26. Shrewsbury (27,000)
Aug. 26. Strood (10,000)
Aug. 26. Watchet (2,000)
Aug. 27. Romsey (4,200)
Aug. 28. Bradford-on-Avon (4,500)
Aug. 28. Ilminster (2,300)
Aug. 29. Cleckheaton (12,000)
Aug. 31. Chorley (27,000)
Aug. 31. Delph (5,000)
Aug. 31. Eccles (35,000)
Aug. 31. Gorton (48,000)
Aug. 31. Hucknage-with-Huckwaite (5,000)
Aug. 31. Killamarsh (3,211)
Aug. 31. Poynton (2,400)
Aug. 31. Southgate (15,000)
Aug. 31. St. John's Chapel (1,400)
Aug. 31. Westhoughton (9,356)
Aug. 31. Wilmslow (6,683)

SCOTLAND

Aug. 1. Kirkcaldy (22,347)
Aug. 3. Paisley (79,355)
Aug. 5. Kelso (4,006)
Aug. 6. Alyth (3,000)
Aug. 6. Cupar (4,511)
Aug. 10. Hawick (17,803)
Aug. 14. Alloa (11,417)
Aug. 21. Irvine (9,603)

WALES.

Aug. 5. Cardiff (164,000)
Aug. 5. Merthyr Tydfil (26.000)
Aug. 5. Mold (4,000)
Aug. 5. Newport (Mon.) (67,000)
Aug. 7. Swansea (90,423)
Aug. 16. Malpas (Mon.) (436)

The Fight for Mitcham.

Owing to the postponement of the meeting of the Mitcham Conservators from Saturday last until to-day, July 27, there has been an unfortunate delay in considering the terms of the new proposals of the Showmen's Guild, submitted on Friday last to the Board of Conservators. We hope to be able to give our readers definite news as regards the coming fair on Aug. 12 in our next issue. The rousing of Mitcham is an accomplished fact, and the champions of the rights of the people are gaining important recruits every day. The last to declare himself on the people's side is H. M. Hiles, Esq., member of the Surrey County Council. This gentleman has thrown himself whole-heartedly into the thick of the fight, and has joined the sturdy band of workers so ably led by Councillors Dant and Baker.

Stalybridge Wakes.

This capital Lancashire fixture had, as usual, a large number of high-class attractions—Colonel Clark's Coliseum of animated pictures and varieties, Captain Payne's bioscope, with up-to-date films, &c., and three or four side shows. The machine novelties were a big list, and included motor cars, switchbacks, galloping horses, racing birds, steam yachts, bicycle track, big boats and swings, by P. and J. Collins, James Hibbert and Sons, T. Hurst, T. Wingate, and W. Mitchell; shooters, throwing games, and varieties, by Burton, Jewell, Cornwell, Cordwell, White, Ingham, Thomas, H. Thomas, and others.

Rothesay, Scotland.

The show and fair-ground novelties at this fair were Salvona's circus, Testo's cinematograph theatre, Wood's school of boxers, Wilson's switchback motors, Hobday's galloping horses and steam swings, big boats, and manual swings; shooting saloons, ranges, and throwing games, by Fox, Dobbin, Shearen, Gow, and others.

Guild Subscriptions, 1907.

Per Rev. T. Horne:—Goldthorpe Marshall, £1 1s.; Abraham Gledstone, £1.

SHOWMEN'S GUILD AT DEWSBURY FEAST.

The large gathering of showpeople at the meetings on the feast-ground, held in E. Farrar's cinematograph theatre, bears eloquent testimony to the awakened interest in the work of the Vandwellers' Society. The chair at the business meeting in the afternoon was taken by Mr. James Monte, who was supported by the Rev. T. Horne, organising chaplain, H. Ashington, V.P., E. Farrar, A. Tyler, J. Relph, C. Relph, D'Osta, R. Monte, Wm. Turner, J. Dobson, D. Lorenzo, A. Rhodes, Wm. Holdsworth, J. Frampton, A. Lillingston, T. Farrow, W. Shaw, C. Jameson, S. Doubtfire, Wright, Barker, J. Stiff, W. Bassett, A. Richards, J. Priest, W. Westray, G. A. Howden, F. Hilton, H. Harrington, T. Hutchinson, R. H. Williams, H. Waddington, J. Young, W. Harrington, jun., W. G. Haslam, C. Smith, and Mesdames E. Farrar, J. Cooper, and B. Howden, with a large number of the employees of the various concerns.

The Chairman's Introduction.

Mr. Monte, from the chair, briefly referred to the general object of the gathering—to hear and to understand more about the Guild and its work of trade defence. Their reverend friend, Mr. Horne, was there for that express purpose, and he had great pleasure, without any further ado, to ask Mr. Horne to deliver his address. (Applause.)

The Work of the Guild.

For well nigh twenty years, Mr. Horne said, the old Vandwellers' Society, popularly known as the Showmen's Guild, had been engaged in a crusade against the narrow-minded and puritanical sections of society, who had been trying to injure and to penalise the show business. He briefly detailed his own connection with the movement since its inception in 1889. How he had been compelled to stand out and to declare his faith in the moral and religious character of the men and women of the fair-ground. That phase of his early work was now "ancient history," but it was largely written on the pages of their corporate life during the past decade or more. He reminded them of the attacks on their life and work. These attacks were divisible under five great departments of their enterprise: (1) They had maintained the security and the sanctity of their home life. The home on wheels was subjected to all the sanitary and moral laws that governed all other homes, whether in city or village, and no more. They needed no more; they desired no less. (Cheers.) (2) Their children had now the same educational facilities as the children of town-dwellers. But he reminded them that this was not until the year 1893. Up to the Education Code of that year the school doors of the nation were practically shut against the showman's child. (Shame.) Yes, it was a shame, and so serious was this disadvantage their society brought the matter before the then Education Minister—the Rt. Hon. Arthur Dyke-Acland—who recognised the injustice, and so altered the Code that the attendance of casual children at any national school, if they only attended a day or two, increased the grant-earning power of the school; and so the Guild, in the interest of child life, threw open the schools. (Great applause.)

Free Trade in Fairs.

(3) Their Parliamentary trade defence work had secured them the recognition of free trade and no corporation monopoly in fairs. Great towns like Halifax, and corporations like Rotherham, Hyde, Colne, Eccles, and Rawtenstall, had sought monopoly powers in Private Bill leigislation, and in every case their society had been successful in defeating these public bodies. (Cheers.) Let them realise the seriousness of their position as traders had these powers been obtained against them. They had not only to defend existing fairs, as they were now doing at Mitcham and Burslem, but they had to secure the right to open up new fairs in new centres of industrial life. There were counties in the South of England where the fairs had gone down. Why? he asked. Only because the people had had to follow the work. The great industrial belt of this country, stretching from Leicester to Newcastle-on-Tyne, was peopled by millions of workers, who had to follow the changing conditions of trade and employment. Here, in these busy hives of human life, the showman had to create new fairs. (Applause.) Their society, he said, had spent thousands of pounds in Parliamentary defence and in other ways to secure to showmen the right to develop his trade and business without let and hindrance from any public body, however powerful.

No Legislative Restrictions.

(4) They had secured the same important constitutional principle for their trade as governed all other trades—that no legislation was permissible by Private Bills "in restraint of trade." Any legislation in restraint of trade must be by Public Bill, and must be introduced by the responsible Goverment of the day. (Great applause.) These were the four points of their charter of industrial freedom. This had been the outcome of their organised work for shows and showmen. They must not forget that in maintaining their fairs, in increasing their fairs, they were doing a great work for the people of the Empire. The showmen were the avowed and accepted champions of the fairs and holiday rights of the British people. This was no small work, and it won for them the sympathy and support of the great mass of the people.

Trade Defence Not All.

(5) They had other work to do, of equal moment with all that had gone before. They stood banded together for the important work of elevating and of still further popularising open-air amusements for the people. "Advance" was on their shield, as well as "Defence." They claimed to-day to have better shows and vastly more of them—more fairs and vastly better supplied than ever existed in the changing conditions of the national life. (Cheers.) They were craftsmen of a trade guild as old as British history, and even before settled civil life began. They had no need to be either ashamed of their place in the national life nor of their present ability to justify to the full their character as citizens or their life and work in the Empire. (Loud and continued applause.)

Why They Should Join the Guild.

He longed to see the whole body of fair-ground workers on the members' roll of their Guild. He was so strongly convinced of this that he was making a pilgrimage of the British fairs this season to bring the work of their Guild before the whole Showman World. Great trade societies like the Miners' Federation, the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, the cotton workers, and other organised industries, were powerful because of their unity, solidarity, and the vast numbers in their societies. Let them emulate these bodies, and show by the number on their members' list the reality and strength of their organisation. (Cheers.)

Mr. James Monte then asked for new members, or, failing membership, let them subscribe; the secretaries of the meeting were now ready to secure names and subscriptions. After what they had heard, could they for one moment doubt the urgency and the importance of the work that the old society of the vandwellers was doing? (Applause.)

Mr. Horne moved the usual complimentary votes to the proprietors of the show and to the chairman. These were passed with acclamation.

The secretaries, Messrs. Tyler, Smith, and Bassett, then proceeded to enrol the following members, and to register the following subscriptions:—Members, 1907.—A. C. Tyler, 10s. 6d.; S. Doubtfire, 7s. 6d.; T. Frampton, 7s. 6d.; W. Priest, 7s. 6d.; A. Lillingston, 7s. 6d.; C. Jameson, 7s.; W. Turner, 5s.; W. Barker, 5s.; H. Ashington, jun., 5s.; F. Hilton, 5s.; G. Relph, 5s.; W. Holdsworth, 5s.; A. Rhodes, 5s.; D'Osta, 5s.; Mrs. J. Cooper, 5s.; A. Richards, 5s. Subscription, 1907.—Relph and Pedley, 10s. 5d.; Monte Bros., 10s. 5d.; Enoch Farrar (second sub.), 5s.; T. Farrow, 2s. 6d.; J. Dobson, 2s. 6d.; W. Shaw, 2s.; J. Stiff, 2s.; J. Wright, 1s.; D. Lorenzo, 1s.; A Friend, 1s.; A Friend, 1s. Members, 1907.—Per Rev. T. Horne, G. A. Howden, 10s. 6d.; John Seed, 5s.

The Guild Service.

In accordance with the Guild's methods of work, the evening meeting was the service of the Guild, and took place in E. Farrar's show pavilion. The proprietors, Messrs. Farrar and Tyler, Mrs. Farrar, and the whole of the working staff, rendered all possible assistance, and the theatre made an excellent chapel of ease to the parish church on the fair-ground, and right well did the show folk avail themselves of it. The booth was lit up by powerful electric arc lamps. The crowded congregation joined most heartily in the service, the singing being led by the choir boys from the parish church and from St. James's Church. The Vicar of Dewsbury (the Rev. R. C. M. Harvey) took the service, and the Guild chaplain preached an impressive sermon on "The Fatherhood of God." The Mayor of Dewsbury (Alderman Parr) was in the congregation, and at the end warmly congratulated the chaplain on the service and wished him God-speed in his work for showpeople.

At the close of the service the principal showpeople were introduced to the Vicar and to Mrs. Harvey. The Vicar has kindly undertaken to act as hon. local chaplain to the Guild.

NEW RAILWAY RATES

FOR SHOW VANS, ROUNDABOUTS, AND FAIR-GROUND CONCERNS.

One of the most signal triumphs for trade combination in the Showman World has been officially announced this week. Early in April this year, at the very beginning of the fair-ground season, showmen, roundabout proprietors, and fair-ground traders found themselves threatened with a proposed new scale of charges for their concerns by the whole of the railway companies.

Enormous Increase.

Contrasted with the rates for the past twenty years and more, the new rates would have meant an all-round increase of 50 per cent. Instructions were issued to traffic managers and stationmasters to charge showmen on this enormously-increased scale, and one roundabout proprietor in the North found himself penalised on one journey of his machines alone to the extent of £50 more. He paid it of course, but under strong protest.

The Protest of the Organised Showmen.

The alarm was sounded in *The Era*, and the showmen, through their trade societies, took immediate steps to bring their grievances before the combined railways. The combination of the railways was met by the showmen's trade combination. Here we particularly want to emphasise the value of trade defence, and the value of having a strong organisation, with committees of the best experts in the business, always ready to deal with emergencies.

The committee of the Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union contains amongst it best-known and most expert members men who learnt the advantages of trade combination in committee work and in public work for the parent society of all show trade organisations—the United Kingdom Showmen and Van Dwellers' Protection Association, universally known as "The Guild." This schooling in the management of their own affairs, and the necessary handling of public and private meetings, deputation work to great corporations and to high Parliamentary officials gave such showman leaders as Thomas Hurst, George Green, P. Collins, and the younger men like Goldthorpe, Marshall and H. R. Hibbert, the experience to prove their administrative talent and their earnest zeal in good work for their fellow showmen of the Empire. One more point of interest in this relation is the fact that the leading men in both societies are the same, and that on all questions of broad and general interest, and also of general good to the whole showman world, all the societies stand together, speak and act together, for the common good. Yet such is the perversity and the narrow-mindedness of some critics that this work, done for the general good of all alike, has been held up to scorn and reprobation.

What Was Done.

Immediately both the committees of the Union and the Guild set to work. Joint conference led to joint action. Here again we must point a telling truth—that having two societies is of immense value: each with its own sphere of work, yet on all important questions working in harmony. Necessarily the Guild is the best society to deal with Parliamentary or public propaganda work. On the other hand, the society to deal with powerful trading corporations and companies like our railways is the trade union that contains amongst its members the greater number of the customers of the railway in the show business.

The Deputation to the Clearing House.

After correspondence with the secretary to the railway companies at the Clearing House, Euston, it was agreed that a deputation of twelve representative showmen traders and customers of the railways should confer with the traffic managers at the Clearing House on May 9. This was done, and the points at issue, from the showmen's side, were admirably stated by Mr. George Green, president of the Union, and a vice-president of the Guild. Mr. Green's admirable and convincing statement of the show-traders' case is fully set out in detail in the circular of the Union signed by the secretary, and published in full by us in our last issue.

Mr. Green pointed out that the new rates would so cripple the business that it would be impossible to carry it on with such excessive charges. He showed clearly that one roundabout, even if it took a dozen trucks to convey it, should be recognised and carried as one consignment, and that it was practically bad business to attempt any hard and fast rule of equalising weight between truck and truck.

Another telling point in his argument was, that on the old rates the whole business of the fair-ground, as we know it now, had been built up, and that to disturb so large a volume of paying traffic would be not only bad for the show people, but would be bad for the companies.

He showed, to quote his own words, "that we load and unload our own vehicles, only asking you for assistance in strapping and shunting; we prefer to do this, as our men are accustomed to it, and it is a part of their work. We also provide our own tarpaulins, our own levers for moving the vans, and everything necessary to enable us to deal rapidly with the loading and unloading of the traffic. These necessary accessories, including the vans for carrying the roundabouts, represent two-fifths of the total weight carried." This is, we think, a very strong point, and must be unique in the trading world; and, again: "There need be no empty carriages or vehicles hauled, as the exact number are ordered, enabling the companies to provide exactly the number required. There is also the fact that our moving day is usually in the middle of the week, when, we understand, there is not the same demand for carriage trucks.

"This is a creative traffic, and it is questionable if there is any other business that creates such an increase in the number of excursions and passenger traffic. Take Hull Fair, Nottingham Goose Fair, Birmingham Onion Fair, and scores of others. Tens of thousands of excursionists visit these places at fair time, and if there were no fairs there would be no excursions to these places."

Pleasure and Holiday Traffic.

We know, because we have taken pains to get at the facts, that the fairs, feasts, and wakes have created the vast volume of holiday and pleasure traffic that makes so great a factor in the paying revenues of the railways, that instead of Mr. Green's modest estimate of ten of thousands of pleasure excursionists; hundreds and thousands of thousands is nearer the fact; that not only has the fair created the holiday, but that the fair in thousands of centres of busy life to-day is the only safeguard of the people's holidays. Without a fair no holiday is a safe generalisation.

The Old and the New World.

American railways have grasped this great economic truth, and in most cases where fairs are now being created in the American States the railways, as a business move, have carried the shows to the newly-made fair for nothing, realising their profits on the passenger and extra goods traffic the fair and its incidence generates. America, with its State exhibitions, its State fairs its town and street fairs, is endeavouring to create the very business that some of our railway companies and our corporations think a dying industry or negligible quantity. We only point out these facts now in order to fix in the mind of the showman reader the commanding importance of trade defence—and of trade advance. We also wish to congratulate the railway companies upon the way they have treated the showmen.

Also we rejoice that the persistent ventilating of the just demands of this industry of the fair-ground for reasonable treatment, that this paper has consistently maintained, and that the organised showmen have strenuously fought for, has met with a generous recognition at last and a fair amount of success. The new demand of the railway companies would have so crippled the business that, in self-defence, showmen would have sought other means of transit. That has, however, been happily avoided, and the compromise (which was the direct outcome of the conference at the Clearing House on May 9) is embodied in the new scale of charges, which will come into force on Sept. 1.

The New Rates.

This scale of charges is known as "The Scotch Rates for Show Traffic," and it is satisfactory that amongst other advantages it equalises the rate for the United Kingdom, and that it is the extension of the Scotch system to the English lines, and in that sense is not a new rate, but the general application of one already in practical existence. Briefly, it is as follows:—

For show caravans, roundabouts, and fair-ground goods, above 50cwt. By special, passenger, or by goods trains:

1. Above 2 tons 10cwt., and not exceeding 3 tons, 6d. per mile per truck.
2. Above 3 tons, and not exceeding 5 tons, 7d. per truck per mile.
3. Above 5 tons, and not exceeding 7 tons, 8d. per mile.

Above 7 tons by special arrangement, the minimum journey to be fifteen miles, and in all cases actual weight is to be taken.

We sincerely hope that this amicable settlement will be not only satisfactory to the show traders, but that, having been brought into closer business relations, both parties will endeavour to go forward in the fostering of a great industry, that is not only a vast commercial enterprise, but is closely connected with so many other trades and businesses.

Combine! Combine! Combine!

Our final word to every showman is: See the advantages of unity, of combination, and of solidarity, and support the societies that defend you at all points of attack. Let the selfish ones and laggards learn the lesson set out above of the priceless value of unity, and see to it that they speedily recognise their duty, and support their trade societies.

MITCHAM FAIR.

At a meeting of the Parish Council at Mitcham on Thursday last, President, Mr. A. Dendy, resolutions were moved by Mr. Charles Dant, and seconded by Mr. W. M. Bland. The resolutions were as follows:—

"That this meeting of the electors of the Parish of Mitcham, constitutionally assembled, expresses its strong disapproval of the action of Mitcham Parish Council in seeking to bring about the abolition of Mitcham Charter Fair, and desires to record that any attempt to abolish the fair would be contrary to the will of the people."

"That it be an instruction to the Clerk to the Parish Council to forward this resolution to the Home Secretary."

The following resolution was also proposed by Councillor Dant and seconded by Councillor Bland:—

"That this meeting of the electors of the Parish of Mitcham, constitutionally assembled, desires to see the removal of Mitcham Fair from the Fair Green to a more suitable site on Mitcham Common, if the same can be effected without prejudice to the rights granted under the Charter. That it be an instruction to the Clerk to the Parish Council to forward this resolution to the Home Secretary and to the Board of Conservators of Mitcham Common."

Amid loud cheers, the resolution was carried, only four opposing.

The opinion of the electors of Mitcham on the important fair question has thus been obtained without putting the parish to the expense of a poll.

KINEMATOGRAPHY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Noting the keen interest *The Era* has taken in the kinematograph world ever since its introduction, I would like to invite discussion in your columns as to the merits of immediate steps to be taken to preserve, by Government aid, the negatives of important films of functions in which his Majesty King Edward is personally interested. In fifty or a hundred years' time these films should prove priceless gems to the British nation.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN FULLER, JUN.
(New Zealand.)

Imperial Hotel, Russell-square, July 25.

The White City, Old Trafford.

This district appears to have been, during the last few days, more favoured by the weather than more southern parts of the country, and this amusement park has had large numbers of visitors. There is always something new, and on the 23rd inst. the annual rose show was held in the large room, and was understood to be even more successful than in former years. The figure eight gravity railway, the great water chute, fun factory, dragon slide, mystic rivers, racing cycles, haunted chamber, the miniature railway, spider's web, air ships, jungle and Bisley rifle ranges, and the numerous games of skill, including that of box ball, are all doing excellent business. One of the chief pleasures is to listen to the music provided this week by the band of the 1st Battalion Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, George Frayling bandmaster.

The Guild at Manchester.

The organising chaplain of the Showmen's Guild will assist the hon. local chaplain (the Rev. H. Norburn), at the Guild Service, at Longsight Wakes, on Sunday (to-morrow), at eight in the evening. The meeting will be held as usual in the Parish Room, close by the fair ground. There will be an afternoon meeting at 3.30 for showpeople only, on the Wakes ground. See advertisement for full particulars.

FILM GOSSIP.

Pathé Frères.

Again we have to congratulate Messrs. Pathé Frères upon a cinematographic production which for ingenuity of conception and daring in execution would be hard to beat. We refer to their latest film, which is entitled "The Aeronaut's First Appearance." A balloonist, evidently a novice, ascends in his ungainly vessel towards the heavens, and apparently is soon in difficulties. He drops his anchor, regardless of the consequences. The huge iron hook smashes into a kiosk, hoists it up in the air, and then lets it fall, shattered, to the ground, to the indignation of the newspaper seller and the gendarmes, who engage in furious pursuit. The balloon continues on its career of destruction; it hauls up human beings, cycles, carts, perambulators, &c., dropping them all to terra firma with disastrous results. Then the powerful cage comes in too violent contact with the roofs of dwelling-houses, scattering chimneys, slates, and bricks helter-skelter, and considerably frightening the astonished inmates, who cling to one another in fear and trembling. This means, of course, a considerable addition to the already large number of pursuers, and the balloonist is finally run to ground near to the gasometer from whence he started. The aeronaut gets rather roughly handled at the close, and is finally left in possession of a wrecked air-vessel and a variety of articles he had himself contrived to damage during his adventurous trip. The film is one that should be in much request.

"The Servant Hypnotist" is another capital Pathé subject. A bachelor announces to his housekeeper that he is about to enter the bonds of holy matrimony, and the servant, fearing that he will lose a very comfortable situation when his master marries, hypnotises him and compels him to indulge in a host of absurd antics at the house of his fiancée when the time comes for the arrangement of the agreement between the respective parents. Of course, everybody thinks he has become insane, and the engagement is broken. Later we witness the uncontrollable joy of the servant who has been responsible for this little contretemps when the bachelor returns to his old rooms.

Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd.

As usual, this firm is not behindhand in the publication of new and interesting films. They have just issued one, called "Poor, but Honest," a pathetic drama which introduces several charming views of modern Paris. Under a bridge of the Seine several vagrants have spent the night. One, attired in a frock-coat and little else, attracts attention as, haggard and hungry, he visits various high-class restaurants in search of food. A lady, who is accompanied by a little girl, drops her purse, which the vagabond recovers, and is about to hand to its owner, but his action is misinterpreted, and she gives him in charge of the police. At the police station he is accused of the theft, but, after explanations, is set at liberty. Subsequently the lady and her daughter are seen occupying a carriage, the horse attached to which takes fright and bolts. The vagabond succeeds in stopping the horse, but is injured in doing so. He is taken to a surgery and recovers, when the lady recognises the vagrant she had given into custody. She now gratefully presses her purse upon him, which he accepts, but, recognising the donor, he dashes the purse at her feet. Before the Louvre, the poor man receives two sous for opening a cab door. With this he purchases a morsel of bread. Passing the Place du Carousel, he sees a poor child weeping on the steps. She tells him of her hunger, whereupon he divides his piece of bread with her. The series concludes with a beautiful picture of the vagabond making his bed of newspapers on the cobble stones by the side of the Seine.

"The Gipsy's Bride," also a little drama, has just been issued by the Urban Company. The play opens with a charming scene of a gipsy encampment in the heart of a forest. A gipsy, his young bride, and three male companions take their musical instruments and depart for a neighbouring village, where a fair is in progress. After playing and singing, the gipsies pass from table to table collecting the gifts of their audience. A young man becomes enamoured of the gipsy bride, and seizing an opportunity abducts her, and carries her off in a motor-car. The gipsies, following up the clues, arrive at a country mansion whither the girl has been taken. In the grounds they are discovered by the park-keepers, and a fierce fight ensues, in which the keepers are overpowered and bound. The gipsies then effect an entrance into the house. Inside, the abductor is forcing his attentions upon the unwilling girl. The door suddenly flies open, the pursuing party enter, and the girl is released. The spurned suitor is not satisfied. He offers to fight for the girl, and next we see the park lit by flaming torches held by the gipsy band, while two principals engage in a duel. Swords are the weapons used, and pretty play is witnessed before the wealthy suitor is vanquished and the gipsy bears away his bride.

Vitagraph Co.

This firm offers an extremely entertaining film in "The Wrong Flat." In their cosy rooms, Bilkins and his wife are preparing for dinner. The servant brings in the various dishes, and Bilkins starts carving the turkey. His efforts to dismember the bird prove futile, and the girl is called in for an inquisition. Verdict, guilty and discharged. Thoroughly disgusted, Bilkins leaves his apartment. In the flat below Jenkins and his wife are seen discussing the advisability of repapering their rooms. Jenkins leaves to purchase the paper. Upon his return Jenkins, by mistake, enters Bilkins' rooms. He prepares to paper the walls before his wife returns. Paste is spilled over the chairs, carpet, and himself, and later he has an accident with the paste pail. Further complications ensue, but eventually all characters meet in Bilkins' room and explanations ensue.

Ruffell's.

Ruffell's have an operator in Central Africa collecting a series of pictures of the Stanley country. We have no doubt that in due course we shall witness some very instructive and attractive photographs from that region. Ruffell's special projector is giving great satisfaction wherever it is in use, and very steady pictures are obtained by it.

Walturdaw Company.

The Goodwood Cup.—The Walturdaw Company has secured the sole rights to take photographs at the race on Wednesday for the Goodwood Cup. On the same evening the pictures are to be shown at the Palace Theatre. It is expected that the length of the film will be 300 feet.

The Walturdaw's Cinematophone increases its popularity as it increases its age. Among the latest productions in this line are some wonderfully realistic singing-pictures of *The Yeomen of the Guard*, including "Were I thy bride," "Hereupon we're both agreed," "When a wooer goes a-wooing," and the grand finale of the second act, with solo and chorus. The company has several song-pictures which should find favour with showmen, notably "What d'yer want to talk about it for?" "It's a different girl again," "Riding on top of a car," "Waiting for him to-night," "We all walked into the shop," and "They can't diddle me."

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Jan. 27, March 2, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Sept. 16, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9,
Feb. 10, March 2, 9, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 20, Feb. 3,
March 2, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 10, 24, April 6, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 13, 20, on
(Panto. Required).
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21 (3 nights each),
Xmas week, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for HUDDERSFIELD, Sept. 2; WOLVERHAMPTON, Sept. 16.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, 1907, Aug. 12; 1908, April 27, May 11, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, 1908, April 6, onwards.
Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole T., Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, Sept. 23, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, Dec. 9, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Oct. 21, Nov. 11, 25, Dec. 9, 16, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 (three nights only).
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for the week Oct. 28.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

HOWARD AND WYNDHAM, LTD.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Sept. 23, 30, and Oct. 14, Glasgow.
Address, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,

Aug. 5, Aug. 5,
Aug. 12, Aug. 12,
Aug. 19, Aug. 19,

Wire,
R. C. BUCHANAN,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

THE KING'S THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Edinburgh's New Palatial Playhouse.
The Premier Theatre of the Capital.

WANTED, Known, owing to Change of Arrangements, a few early Autumn Dates are available for first-class attractions.
Wire,
R. C. BUCHANAN,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Sept. 9, at the Court Theatre, Liverpool. Vacant through transferring to oblige.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR,
24A, Regent-street, London, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Sept. 2, 30, Oct. 7 and 21, and 28.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR,
24A, Regent-street, London, S.W.

ROYALTY THEATRE,
MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Sept. 23.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Musical and other London Attractions, Sept. 9, 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 25, and Xmas Panto. FRED GRANVILLE, T. R., Hyde.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-class Attractions for Sept. 2, 16, and 23,
Oct. 14,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, Musical preferred, Aug. 12 (reopening), 19, Sept. 2, on, with exceptions.
Address, W. B. POTTS.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Theatre Royal, Birmingham, Oct. 21, and Nov. 18. Apply, TOM B. DAVIS, Lyric Theatre, London.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, GRAND THEATRE, HULL, Sept. 2;
THEATRE ROYAL, BRADFORD, Sept. 23;
THEATRE ROYAL, MANCHESTER, Sept. 30.
Apply to JOHN HART, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

GRAND THEATRE, DOUGLAS
WANTED, First-Class Musical Play, or other Attraction for the Season, date Sept. 16.
Address, JAS. BUCK, 30, Brown-street, Manchester.

WANTED, through Transfer, Strong Attraction, Sept. 16, Musical preferred.
MASTERMAN, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

WATERLOO THEATRE, WHITBY.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Julian Bainbridge.
Centre of Town; Electric Light; New Stock of Scenery; Permanent Orchestra. July 29, the Latest Musical Comedy, "THE DANCING GIRLS OF SPAIN."
WANTED, Cos. Aug. 29, 3 nights, onwards. Good Drama entertained. Bookings include "His House in Order," "Lights Out," &c.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, For Sept. 9, Dec. 2, 16, 30.

Apply,
JAMES KIERNAN, Manager and Owner.

CRITERION THEATRE, WORKSOP.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for last three nights of each week; Share or Rental.
S. GOODMAN, Proprietor.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant Dec. 16, onward (with exceptions).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant July 29, Aug. 19, Nov. 11, onward (with exceptions).

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant Aug. 5, 19, onward (with exceptions).

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY,
Vacant Sept. 2, 9, 30, onward (with exceptions).

THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY DOCK.
Vacant Feb. 10, 24, onward (with exceptions).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH,
Vacant Aug. 12, 26, onward (with exceptions).
(Last three nights of each week.)

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Sept. 2, 30, onward (with exceptions).

ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
MR. and MRS. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The Only Theatre in the Town allowed to Advertise on the Electric Cars.
Now in Course of Rebuilding.
The Seating Capacity of each part of the House is being Largely Increased.
The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
Autumn Bookings include "The Dairymaids," Mr. James Welch's Co. in "When Knights Were Bold," Miss Annie Hughes in "Tommy," Mr. Norman Macowan in "Monsieur Beaucaire," "The Little Stranger" (including Master Edward Garrett), "A Trip to the Highlands," Mr. Bannister Howard's No. 1 Company, "The Eternal City," Mr. Walter Maxwell's Co., "The Lion and the Mouse" (third visit), Mr. Charles Cartwright and Co., "In the Bishop's Carriage," Mr. Frederick Mouillot's Co., including Miss Decima Moore, in "The Truth," and other of the Principal Attractions Touring. Mr. Percy Hutchison's No. 1 Company, "The Stronger Sex," Mr. Brandon Thomas' No. 1 Company, "Charley's Aunt," Mr. Walter Melville's Drama, Mr. Frank Lindo's "Home Sweet Home," Mr. Morton Powell's Companies," &c., &c.
WANTED, Exceptional Attractions, for Sept. 2, 16, Nov. 25, Dec. 30, onwards.
CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H.M.T., Barrow.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
WANTED, good Companies, three nights per week throughout the winter season. Good Pantomime required, in conjunction with Bridlington. Aug. 29, 30, and 31 vacant through cancelling of tour.
DUMFRIES AND HAWICK THEATRES.
Wanted, good Company for opening Date, Aug. 12 or 19, 3 nights each Theatre;
Sept. 30, Oct. 28, Nov. 25, and on, vacant.
OPERA HOUSE, DERRY.
Vacant Aug. 19, and on.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Aug. 19 (through obliging a Manager), to preceed Mr. Leonard Boyne, in "Raffles"; also Dec. 9, 16, Jan. 20, 27, and onward, with exceptions.
ALBERT JACKSON, 57, Chancery-lane, W.C.

GRAND THEATRE & HIPPO., STALYBRIDGE.
Twice Nightly. Lessee and Manager, James Fioni.
WANTED, Attractions, Aug. 19 and 25. Only running 3 dates in the year for Plays, the remaining dates being devoted to Variety. Good Shows will do Big Business. Apply JAMES FIONI, 21, Norton-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, Fioni, Liverpool. Telephone, 1686 Royal.

THEATRE ROYAL, CROYDON.
WANTED, Good Drama for Aug. 19.
Apply, SAMUEL JAMES, Warwick House, 8, Warwick-court, Gray's Inn, London, W.C.

KING'S HALL THEATRE,
SKEGNESS.
Now in Full Swing.
WANTED, High-class Dramatic Companies and Variety Combinations.
Aug. 14, 15, 16, 17; also Sept. 2, onwards.
Share, or Rental.
Address HENRY ROWLEY (proprietor) as above.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Sept. 9, Oct. 7, on, Grand, Chorley; also Sept. 23, on, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Companies, Aug. 12, 19, and Dates on. Change of bill preferred. Now booking Autumn. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Comedy Companies, Touring Scotland, to book Theatre Royal, Inverness, N.B. Vacant dates Sept., onwards. Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, Sound Attractions, Aug. 19, 26 (Musical), Sept. 16, 30 (?), Nov. 25, onwards, with exceptions. Apply, SHERWOOD and Co., Theatre, Wakefield.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 18, Dec. 2.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23.
Apply,
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 2 and 9.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12 and Dec. 2 and 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Dec. 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

FRED MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Nov. 18 and 25.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Dec. 9, 23, 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 23, Jan. 6, 13, Feb. 3, 17, March 2, 23.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, London, S.E.

THEATRES WANTED.

JERRARD GRANT ALLEN'S COMPANY,
in a New Play,
in Four Acts,
entitled
"THE KNAVE OF HEARTS."
By Gladys Unger.

The Cast includes
MR. H. A. SAINTSBURY,
MR. LEON M. LION,
MISS NINA SEVENING,
MISS HAIDEE WRIGHT.

Special Printing.
by
David Allens, Ltd.

Everything Carried.

WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 9, 16, 30, and onwards,
with exceptions.

Address,
JERRARD GRANT ALLEN,
KING'S THEATRE,
GLASGOW.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 30 and Oct. 28, in First-class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, weeks of Sept. 16 and Dec. 23.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"
and
"THE OCTOROON."
The Company is one of the best which has been seen in Birmingham in the evergreen drama.—"Birmingham Gazette.
WANTED, Theatres, for the above.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY and
MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO., in
the highly successful Comedy,
"MY WIFE," "MY WIFE."
Now playing to crowded houses at the HAYMARKET THEATRE, LONDON.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Aug. 26, Sept. 16, 30, Oct. 14, 28, and Nov. 11.
Add., Mr. SILVANUS DAUNCEY, 22, Charing Cross, S.W.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Sept. 9, Oct. 7, Nov. 11 and 25.
Xmas Week Vacant.
Communications to GEORGE KIRK,
Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

"SAVED FROM THE SEA."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
Everything carried.
Bookings include Prince's, Portsmouth; Alex., Hull; Court, Warrington; Rot., Liverpool; Col., Oldham; Alex., Sheffield; Met., Devonport; Alex., Birmingham.
WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 9, Xmas Week,
and Spring, 1908, with various exceptions.
Apply, SAMUEL JAMES,
Warwick House, 8, Warwick-court,
Gray's Inn, W.C.

"THE LOVE THAT LASTS FOR EVER."
By Edward Thane.
WANTED, Sept. 16 (?), Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 4, 18, Dec. 2 (?), Xmas Week.
Clear Stage only required.
Apply,
SAMUEL JAMES,
as above.

"AS GOOD AS GOLD,"
by Fred S. Jennings.
Everything Carried. Clear Stage only Required.
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 14, 28, Nov. 11, 25, Xmas Week. Apply, SAMUEL JAMES, as above.

HERBERT RALLAND'S COMPANY.
"MICE AND MEN."
"MICE AND MEN."
"MICE AND MEN."
Powerful Company of London Artists.
Everything carried. New scenery and dresses.
Tour opens Sept. 2.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
Add., 3, North-place, Brighton, until Aug. 17.

MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S CO.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, for the above attraction.
Address, ARMADALE and WARREN,
Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Oct. 14, through transferring, Good Theatre for the Enormous Success, "A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
F. G. KIMBERLEY, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, for "Under Two Flags," Sept. 2, 23, 30, Nov. 4, 11. MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, Regent's Park.

THEATRES WANTED.

"HOME, SWEET HOME."
by Frank Lindo.

The Greatest of all Domestic Dramas.
WANTED, Good Theatres for few remaining Dates.
Notice
On Monday next, at the
Theatre Royal, Leeds,
Mr. Frank Lindo will celebrate the
ONE THOUSANDTH PERFORMANCE.
Mr. Frank Lindo,
Miss Marion Wakeford,
and Full Company.
Magnificent new plant of printing by David Allens.
Only Vacant Dates this year,
Nov. 18
and
Nov. 25.
Fast filling Spring and Autumn, 1908.
Booked and re-booked at all the Best Theatres.

Managers wishing to secure this Great Attraction, kindly address,
FRANK LINDO, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

The New Comic Opera,
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT,"
A Story of 1805, Nelson's Glorious Days.
WANTED, Sept. 16, North, and few later, including Big Theatre, for 6 or 12 nights, Christmas. Now fast filling Spring and Autumn, 1908. A Sterling Attraction. A Money-maker, with a First-class London reputation. Everything carried. Clear stage only required. West-End Cast, London Opera Chorus. Everything done to command Success. Mrs. ANN HUGHES, Solattyn, 38, Thurleigh-rd., Balham, London, S.W. Cast and samples of printing on application.

ALEX. C. GRANT'S COS.
"THE WOMAN FROM SCOTLAND YARD."
WANTED, for this Established Success, Oct. 7, 28, Nov. 4, 18, 25.
Splendid Scenery and Special Pictorials.
Ask Mr. Dottridge what he thinks of the Show this week.
Tuesday Night better than Monday by several Pounds.
This shows the Drawing Power of the Show.

"A MASTER OF MILLIONS."
Wanted, Spring Dates, for this Magnificent Production.
All Scenery Carried.
Cast of Seventeen Artists.

This, Empire, Oldham; next, P. O. W., Salford.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Aug. 12, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 21.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 21, Dec. 2, 23.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

Mr. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"THE BEST OF HER SEX."
The Dramatic Success of 1907. First-class Company of recognised Artists, including Miss Dora Price.
WANTED, Aug. 19 (between Grimsby and Leicester), Sept. 9, 30, Oct. 14, and on, with exceptions. W. A. ARMOUR, to-day, Hippo., Mansfield; next, T. R., Aston.

Miss DOROTHEY CACEY'S CO.,
"WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE"
and
"A COUNTRY MOUSE."
WANTED, Aug. 5,
Bank Holiday.
Wire at once,
FRANK NELSON,
Opera House, Torquay.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE LOVE OF A LIFE."
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 16, and on, with exceptions.

"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
Wanted, Aug. 26, Sept. 9,
and on, with exceptions.

JOHN B. SHINTON,
Address (Rehearsing), Star Theatre, Liverpool.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Aug. 12, 26.
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
Theatre Royal, Windsor.

See Companies' Advertisement, page 2.

WANTED, Oct. 14, through transferring, Good Theatre for the Enormous Success, "A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
F. G. KIMBERLEY, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

MR. THOMAS SIDNEY'S CO. in
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, Dates. Mr. Sidney is desirous of filling Aug. 26, Sept., and onward.
Address, SIDNEY, Kursaal, Bexhill (3); T., Dover (3).

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY and
MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO., in
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Aug. 19 (3 nights) (North), and Sept. 9 (3 nights) (South).
Add., Mr. SILVANUS DAUNCEY, 22, Charing Cross, S.W.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Renowned Attraction, Good Theatres for weeks of
Aug. 19, 26,
Sept. 2, 9,
Oct. 28.
Wire, RENAD, 124, Barnard-road, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for "THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH,"
Oct. 21, Nov. 18 (South), Jan. 20.
"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL,"
Oct. 7, 14, 21, all Nov.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

Mr. ARTHUR BOURCHIER'S CO.,
"THE MORALS OF MARCUS."
WANTED, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, and Nov. 14 (three nights). Address,
Mr. M. V. LEVEAUX, 22, Charing Cross, S.W.

MESSRS. ELLIMAN'S ENTERPRISES.
"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, and several important Autumn and Spring dates, for above successful production. Also Xmas and New Year vacant. Re dates G. M. HURST, O. H., Workington; next, Gaiety, Leith; or en route.

SIDNEY RENNEF'S COMPANY.
"LOVE RULES THE WORLD," by T. G. Bailey.
WANTED, Theatres, Christmas and New Year, and various dates, onward. Splendid printing, eight special scenes carried. One of the most successful productions of 1907. G. M. COPPING, T. R., Great Yarmouth.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S CO.
Note the Cast—the Strongest Touring.

Mr. Frank Petley	Miss Lilian Ross
Mr. Walter Steele	Miss Gertrude Price
Mr. Ed. Lowrie	Miss Isabel Hunt
Mr. Cowell Clarke	Miss Mabel Ronald
Mr. F. Wybert Clive	
Mr. Ed. Jeffs.	

&c.
Everything Carried. Printing Unequalled.
Always a Sure Draw.
WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, 16, Oct. 7 and 14.
Apply, WALTER STEELE, Manager. To-day, Prince's T., Bradford; next week, Palace T., Newcastle.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
The Latest Successful Musical Comedy.
Special New Scenery. Gorgeous Costumes.
New Printing by Allens.
Splendid Cast of well-known Artists, including
Mr. Walter Champney, Mr. Ralph Lynn,
Miss Florence Watson, and Miss Ethel Dunford
Full London Operatic Chorus,
under the direction of the composer,
Mr. Albert E. Wilson.
WANTED, for this Great Attraction,
Aug. 26, Aug. 26, Aug. 26
Aug. 26, Aug. 26, Aug. 26
(to follow Opera House, Leicester).
Also Sept. 16 (to follow Merthyr),
Oct. 7 (to precede Glasgow).
Wire re Aug. 26.
Wire re Aug. 26.
HAMILTON BAINES, c/o Harold Hales, Burslem.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, Sept. 2, follow Preston (return); Oct. 14 and 28,
Nov. 4 and 25.
Oct. 14, 28, Nov. 4, 25.
Fast Booking Spring, '08.
Cast, scenery, and printing A1. Refer.
FRANK AYRTON,
Coliseum, Aberystwyth (Return).

THE PREMIER SHAKESPEAREAN CO.
Third Year of Tour.
ALLAN WILKIE.
WANTED, Sept. 30 (North or Midlands), Nov. 4 (Midlands).
Also various Spring Dates, and Autumn, 1908.

The Largest and Finest Plant of Pictorial Printing of any Company in the World.
ALLAN WILKIE,
Opera House, Buxton.

ALFRED B. CROSS' TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, and Few Later,
"DIVORCED,"
a New Powerful Domestic Drama; also
"DAVID GARRICK,"
if Required. Both Solid Successes.

110, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool (Vacation).

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Sept. 30, Oct. 7,
Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 16,
Dec. 23, 30
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1908.

July 29, Grand, Brighton.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
"THE OCTOROON,"
"THE SHAUGHRAUN," and
"THE HEART OF A HERO."
The Finest and Biggest Money-drawing Dramatic Attraction Touring. Each a Perfect Production.
WANTED, Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 16, onwards. Apply at once,
CHARLES DRAYCOTT, next two weeks, T. R., Aston.

"HER MARRIAGE VOW."
"HER MARRIAGE VOW."
WANTED, Sept. 30, to follow Cambridge, Oct. 7, 14, 21.
Managers Invited to Send their Open Dates for this Complete Attraction, Star Cast,
Absolutely Everything Carried.
GARSIDE and KNOWLES, T. R., Blyth.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, Sept. 2, for this Great Drama, Pathos and Comedy Combined. Picturesque dresses, powerful company, magnificent pictorials and dresses. Refer Alexandra, Hull, this week.
F. G. KIMBERLEY, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Sept. 30, between Glasgow and Manchester.
DICKIE CLARE, T. R., Macclesfield.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 2, 23, Oct. 7,
to follow T. R., Stratford, E.
Miss Edith Blande as Ninon.
A clear stage only required.
HARRY FOXWELL, Dalston Theatre, London, N.E.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, Oct. 21, 28, Xmas.
FRED BULMER, c/o "The Era" (Vacation Address).

"A WIFE'S TRIUMPH,"
and Répertoire of Five Other Plays if Required.
WANTED, Aug. 5 (South or Midlands) for this Sure Draw, Oct. 7 and Nov. 18 also open.
A Recognised Company of All-round Excellence.
Wire for Aug. 5,
ERNEST R. ABBOTT, East Oxford Theatre, Oxford.

"A BROKEN HEART."
WANTED, Big Theatre, Sept. 2,
only vacant date this year.
The Greatest Domestic Play Touring.
Refer F. Laidler, Esq., Prince's T., Bradford, where boards were out Saturday "House Full."
Every Scene and Property Carried.
Spring and Autumn, 1908, fast filling.
HARRY FOXWELL, Dalston Theatre, London, N.E.

By arrangement with Mr. George Aelxander,
"LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN,"
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST,"
by Oscar Wilde.
WANTED, Aug. 19, also Sept. 16 (North).
MONCKTON HOFFE,
to-day, O. H., Southport;
July 29, Grand, Swansea.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES CO., LTD.
"FAIR ONE WITH GOLDEN LOCKS."
WANTED, Good Theatre, North, Feb. 3 (only vacant date). STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

Pantomimes. Pantomimes.
WANTED, Known, Managers of Theatres with Money-holding Capacity and with Vacant Dates for really First-class Pantomime, will oblige by communicating with J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

WANTED, Oct. 14, through transferring, Good Theatre for the Enormous Success, "A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
F. G. KIMBERLEY, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Principal Musical Attractions, Aug. 12, 19, 26, and onward, with exceptions. Communicate,
CHAS. MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
Complete Production Carried.
WANTED, Weeks of Aug. 19, Oct. 21, Nov. 11 and 18.
JAMES HARE, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

MISS ROSE MONCRIEFF'S CO.
"THE CURATE."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 14, 21, and Xmas. Entire Production Carried.
Address NEWMAN MAURICE, Lyric, Hammersmith.

WILLIAM HOLLES AND NANNIE GOLDMAN'S CO., in Arthur Shirley's Great Domestic Drama.
"THE STEPMOTHER."
WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 21, 28.
Wire, WILLIAM HOLLES, T. R., York.

WANTED, Oct. 14, through transferring, Good Theatre for the Enormous Success, "A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
F. G. KIMBERLEY, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."
WANTED, Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30.
Address,
FRED ACTON, T. R., Edmonton, N.

WANTED, Sept. 9, 23, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, 25, and Xmas, for Clarence Corri's "Dancing Girls" and "Office Hours."
Full Co. Special Scenery.
Wire HALDANE CRICHTON, Londesboro' T., Scarboro'.

WANTED, for "The Woman Pays," Oct. 14, North, Nov. 11, and Dec. 23.
F. M. THORNE, Prince's Theatre, Preston.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, having Large Stage and Large Holding Capacity, for Production, Christmas and New Year's weeks, of
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Latest and Up-to-date Pantomime,
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
Can play two houses nightly if required.
Only Vacant Dates.
Managers in want of a Money Magnet for these Holiday weeks, secure this Gigantic Attraction.
A Sure Success.
Address,
JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

A. J. HARDING and CHARLES R. HANN.
Autumn and Spring Tour of
FRANK DIX'S
"DELIVERED FROM EVIL,"
A Social Drama, in Four Acts.
Entirely new Scenery. Printing by Allen's.
Enormous success of First Tour.
T. R., Bristol, production April, 1899.
O. H., Leicester; Star, Liverpool.
T. R., Cardiff; T. R. Croydon, &c., &c.
Tremendous success. Excellent business.
Created a furore everywhere.
This Drama will be interpreted by a Strong Cast of Sterling Artists.
Many thanks to Messrs. Lester Collingwood, John Hart, Geo. Testo Santé, Snelson, Fred Granville, and James Alexander, for offers.
"DELIVERED FROM EVIL."
"DELIVERED FROM EVIL."
"DELIVERED FROM EVIL."
WANTED, Dates, Aug. 5, 19, Sept. 9, and on, with exceptions.
A. J. HARDING,
Bedford Club, Bedford-street, W.C.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, good Theatres, Sept. 2, 16, Nov. 4, 11. HENRY L. OSMOND, wire, Barrow; write, T. R., Bristol.

"VENGEANCE OF WOMEN,"
"VENGEANCE OF WOMEN,"
By F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, Theatres,
Oct. 21, 28, on.
Cast, Scenery, and Printing Second to None Touring.
F. E. CHABOT,
Green's Hotel, Paignton.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COS.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, South or Midlands, Sept. 16, Nov. 11, and onwards, with exceptions. WALTER BAYLISS, 29, Winifred-grove, Clapham Common, S.W.

PANTOMIME.
WANTED, Theatre, month or longer, at Christmas, for First-class Production. G. BRYDON PHILLIPS, 4, Chandos-place, The Parade, Broadstairs.

"WANTED BY THE POLICE."
WANTED, Sept. 9 and 16 (follow Star, Swansea), Oct. 14, 21, and 28 (follow Birmingham, &c.), Nov. 4, 18, and 25. Specially cut pictorials, new scenery, and powerful Co. HERBERT BARRS, T. R., Cardiff.

"A MOTHER'S LOVE."
This Money-making Attraction,
WANTED, Aug. 12, Aug. 26.
Aug. 12, Aug. 26.
Wire, FRED. L. CONNYNGHAME, Grand T., Newcastle-on-Tyne; write Court T., Bacup, Lancs.

WANTED, Big Theatre at Xmas (certainties not entertained) for Walter Howard's Drama, "Second to None." Coms., WARD, P. T., Portsmouth.

WANTED, Oct. 14, through transferring, Good Theatre for the Enormous Success, "A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
F. G. KIMBERLEY, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Hybert's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" fit-up Tour, Artists for Principal Parts; clever child for Eva; coloured singers. Lowest terms, references, open Sept. JOSH. HYBERT, c/o Creber, printer, Plymouth.

WANTED, "Private Secretary" Tour, gentlemen for Spalding, must be short; Harry and Gibson, tall; lady for Eva. Send photo, height, references, lowest terms, E. C. STAFFORD, West Runton, Norfolk.

WANTED, Musical Comedy (Panto. to follow), Smart, Attractive Young Ladies, desirous of chorus, experience unnecessary, but must reside in London. No agency fees or premiums. Full particulars, stamp for appointment, MANAGER, 34, Stockwell Park-road.

WANTED, for Mr. Norman V. Norman's Tours, two Ladies and one Gentleman, to play small parts, understudy, and walk on, in Mr. Norman's Répertoire Co. W. HOWARD ASHLEY, Managers' Club, Savoy Mansions, W.C.

Mr. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S TOURS.
WANTED, Gentleman to play Responsible and Juvenile Parts; also Character and Responsible Parts; and Lady and Gentleman to Understudy and Play Small Parts. W. H. ASHLEY, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

MORTIMER'S THEATRE,
(late New King's T.), Pitfield-st., Hoxton, N.E.
Proprietor and Manager, Mr. LEONARD MORTIMER.
Acting-Manager, Mr. Hal Brough.
Drama Twice Nightly. Change Weekly.
The above Theatre (entirely de-decorated and to be run on First-class lines) re-opens Sat., Sept. 7, '07.
WANTED, full Stock Co of Young Actors and Actresses likely to become popular favourites. Artists who will take as much trouble to retain their engagements as they generally do to obtain them only required. Dress well, work well, thorough studies. Permanent engagement for earnest workers. Photos, age, height, refs., actual lowest terms (rehearse week previous). Letters only, LEONARD MORTIMER, Highbury, 162, Clapham-road.

"WHEN OTHER LIPS."
WANTED, Robust, Sympathetic Man, look 40, First-class Comedian, Sing and Dance preferred; Comedy Old Man and First-class Carpenter. Rehearse Aug. 12. Application not entertained unless accompanied by terms, photos., last 2 refs. with addresses. JONES, 55, James-street, Oxford.

"A WOMAN'S PAST."
WANTED, First-class Juvenile Man, also Heavy Lady and Gentleman; all tall, dress exceptionally well. No joints.
Photos., terms, and fullest particulars, to WARDEN and SANDFORD, Hotel Metropole, Blackpool.

WANTED, tall Juvenile Gentleman, Leading Lady. Terms, height, references. Also Wardrobe Mistress. MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, Regent's Park.

"THE PRODIGAL DAUGHTER."
WANTED, through sudden illness, an experienced man for the part of Sir John Woodmere, to rehearse Monday. Wire, BEBB, 6, Pendle-street, Nelson, Lancs.

WANTED, to Open Aug. 5, rehearse week previous, London Gent., for Heavies; also Char. Actor. Letters only. FRED EUSTACE, 3, Evandale-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, for Special Week, Manchester, Aug. 5, Comedian, for Septimus Pontifex, "Brixton Burglary." H. V. NEILSON, Queen's, M'chester.

WANTED, First-class Irish Comedian (must be well known) for Special Production London, Tour to Follow. Letters only.
G. SEYMOUR, 25, Upper North-street, Brighton.

FRANK J. PITT and CHAS. HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED (through releasing), a Short Comedian for Dick; must Sing and Dance; rehearse Brighton, July 30. Age, height, photos. (most essential), last two refs.; and lowest terms, this, T. R., Croydon; next, Grand, Brighton.

WANTED, for Glossop-Harris Répertoire, Two Gentlemen for Small Parts. Call, 9z, Hyde Park-mansions, between 10.30 and 11.0, Monday.

WANTED, Autumn Tour of "Delivered from Evil," gentleman for utility and lady for light comedy. Will Mr. Jack Vero wire address? A. J. HARDING, Bedford Club, Bedford-street, W.C.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, a Gentleman for George Harris. Terms, Photo, Reference, Height, Age, full particulars. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Knightston Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Character Actor to Double; also smart Baggage-man to speak lines; both must be tall. Rehearse Monday; long tour. Call to-day, from 11 till 1. ERNEST CHESNEY, 8, Iffley-road, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Character Actor, for Pathetic Negro Song and Dance, rehearse Monday. EDWARD MARRIS, Empire, Southend; next, Leigh, Lancs.

"A GIRL REDEEMED FROM SIN" CO.
WANTED, to Rehearse Aug. 8, Char. Old Man, for powerful and sympathetic part. Photos. (essential), refs., and terms, to GEOFFREY FULTON, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

WANTED, Immediately, Experienced Actor, to play important part in
New Sketch for Halls.
Own Scenery and Electrical Effects.
New and Novel Idea Altogether.
Everything ready and paid for.
Applicant must be 5ft., and be prepared to invest £50 at least.
Leading Lady also required, must be young and smart, and a gentlewoman.
Preference given one willing to invest.
Address, Box 5,169, "The Era."

WANTED, for Sketch, good Light Comedian, robust Character Comedian, and pretty Juvenile Lady, for Light Comedy. Terms, height, references, and photos. A. M. LODER, Opera House, St. Helens.

WANTED, Gentleman and Lady, Amateurs, Gent. to learn duties Act.-Man. and Understudy, Lady small part and Understudy; thorough tuition; long tour booked; reliable management. Refs. given and required. AUGUSTA TULLOCK, O. H., Workington.

"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
WANTED, Known, Vacancy occurs for a First-class High Soprano Chorister. Call to-day, between 12 and 2, on, Mrs. ANN HUGHES, Stanley Hall, opposite Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction. Also Wanted, smart Youth, accustomed to Theatres, to wear Uniform, make himself useful. Apply by letter to Mrs. ANN HUGHES, 38, Thurleigh-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, a Heavy Contralto, must be good Soloist, and well up and able to line in part-music, read well; one used to Musical Comedy preferred. Apply, with song, at eleven o'clock Monday next, to WALTER GEORGE, c/o Messrs. Cramer, Regent-street, London.

WANTED, a Reliable Bass or Heavy Baritone, must be good soloist and sight-reader, well up in part-music, one used to Comic Opera or Musical Comedy preferred. Apply, with song, Monday, at eleven o'clock next, WALTER GEORGE, c/o Messrs. Cramer, Regent-street, London.

WANTED, Good Baritone, at once; also Contralto; first-class al fresco. Send photo., répertoire, references, and actual lowest terms, CHARLES ELDERTON, Whitley Park, Whitley Bay.

WANTED, twenty Smart Girls, for Chorus, rehearse and open in London, everything found, salary guinea per week, if really pretty and refined; experience unnecessary. Age, height, &c., SCENA, 27, Almeric-road, Battersea Rise.

WANTED, Known, Call, "Prodigal Daughter." All Members Engaged please assemble on stage, 11 o'clock, Monday, July 29, at Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.
No excuse.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Lady Dancer would give her services to Actress or Actor in return for a home, while out of Engagements; domesticated and very high-class cooking. Box 5,099, "The Era."

WANTED, Known. A gentleman of small private means, who has played Juvenile Lead in London, and since entertained audiences alone with recitations, is anxious to join company.
R. O., Buckingham House, Malvern.

WANTED, by Young Man, age 20, Shop in Dramatic, Comedy, or Sketch Co. Height 5ft. 4in., willing to assist, not afraid of work. A. P., 108, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

WANTED, by Young Lady, refined Vocalist and 'Cellist, Engagement, August, in Concert Party or Quartette. Apply, Box 5,165, "The Era."

WANTED, by Tenor (Pianist), Engagement, Aug. 5.
Address, 11, Lambourn-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Mr. William D. Vincent, Tenor, at Liberty, Concerts, &c., Town or Seaside. 167, Tachbrook-street, Belgrave-road, S.W.

WANTED, by Pianist-Humorist, Engagement, large rép.; 10 years' experience Al-fresco; world's record holder; young, single. MCMEEKIN, 30, Inge-street, Birmingham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists, for London and Provinces. Write or call. THE NEW MUS. COM. AND CONCERT ARTISTS' Agency, 16, Green-st., Leicester-square.

WANTED, Good Tall Chorus and Show Ladies for Panto. Photo, references, &c., to
E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, for Glossop-Harris Répertoire, Scenic Artist, for two weeks, from Aug. 12. Apply, 9z, Hyde Park-mansions, between 4 and 5. Monday.

WANTED, First-class Scenic Artist, for Circus Season, at John Henry Cooke's Circus, Edinburgh. Send references and sketches to JOHN HENRY COOKE, 1, Lochrin-place, Edinburgh.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams "Theatrical."

WANTED, Theatrical Contracts, Fit-ups, Repainting, Properties, &c. Call or write, W. HENRY, Scenic Artist, 104 Loughboro'-park, Brixton.

WANTED, Engagement, Scenic Artist. First-class references. Late T. R., Plymouth, and Oldham. Address, PEDGEON, 22, Hoe-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, town or provinces. Refs. Address, 40, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery. Bright and effective scenes at very lowest prices. Carlyle Scenic Studio, W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-road, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
WANTED, well-known Producer, to Produce the above Musical Comedy, commencing Sept. 2, for 3 weeks. Money no object to the right man. Full particulars to J. W. CORDINER, Theatre Royal, Windsor.

WANTED, Director, for a Theatre Company doing Good Business.
Qualification 500 shares.
Address,
Box 5,180, "The Era."

WANTED, New Pavilion, Abertillery (twice nightly), Stage-Manager to Bill and generally useful. Terms and full particulars, E. PRYCE, Manager.

WANTED, Young Assistant Acting-Manager, Typist preferred, to understudy and play small parts. CROSS, Manxman, 110, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, First-class Advance Agent, for High-class Vaudeville Company, tour commencing Sept. Apply, L. WARREN, 77, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff.

MORTIMER'S THEATRE,
(late New King's T.), Pitfield-st., Hoxton, N.E.
Proprietor and Manager, Mr. LEONARD MORTIMER.
Acting-Manager, Mr. Hal Brough.
To Touring Managers, London and Provincial Authors.
WANTED, to Hire (one week each play) MS. of strong Provincial and London Dramas, with good printing, full parts, band parts, and plain script, plots, &c. Theatre being small only moderate fees can be paid. Cheques payable on receipt of MS., &c., &c. Three weeks before date arranged for production, kindly send synopsis of plot, scenery, and day bill, and quote lowest fee expected. LEONARD MORTIMER, Highbury, 162, Clapham-road, S.W.

CROWN THEATRE, PECKHAM.
WANTED, a thoroughly experienced Electrician; one used to Theatre. Write, giving experience and references, to the Manager, CECIL PAGET...

GRAND THEATRE, NELSON.
WANTED, Good Resident Carpenter, with own tools, to open immediately. None but really first-class men need apply. Write, stating terms, age, and if married, to GEORGE E. MUDD, Business-Manager.

WANTED, Stage Carpenter, for Royal Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd. Apply, with references, to C. TRENCHARD, Manager, Theatre, Pontypridd.

WANTED, at Once, Steady, Reliable Man as Bill Inspector, to travel. Age, lowest wages, references. MANAGER, 78, Suffolk-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Bill Inspector, to combine Billing. Terms and references,
LLOYD CLARENCE, New Theatre, Consett.

WANTED, Quick Assistant, for Architectural Work. State wages, and apply,
FRED BRYER, 45, Oriel-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Wardrobe Mistress, take entire charge; long engagement; must understand Cutting and Making. First-class references required, abstainer preferred; also good Baggage-man. Box 5,184, "The Era."

WANTED, Effect Workers and Window Billers. Steady men only. Wages, particulars, references to MANAGER, 78, Suffolk-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement in a sound and highly respectable undertaking, by a thoroughly experienced General-Manager and Secretary (Theatre, Variety, Gardens, &c.); good organiser of entertainments, energetic and thoroughly reliable; Society's guarantee. Liberty Sept. Moderate Salary References of the best. Address Box 5,153, "The Era."

WANTED, a Situation as Stage-Manager or Electrician. Six years Music Hall experience, and 9 years Electrical knowledge. Over 5 years in last situation. Age 25, abstainer.
J. D. L., 180, Lambeth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Acting or Resident Management, Young, Smart, Experienced, all Branches, Expert Accountancy. Bars, Highest References. Box 5,181, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, by young late London General Manager, position as Manager, Music Hall, or Theatre. 1, Albert Palace-mansions, Battersea Park, S.W.

WANTED, Management, or Acting ditto, Theatre, Hippo., 19 years' London and Provincial, Bars, Bookings, Books, &c. LEWIS, 36, Brunswick-street, Horwich.

WANTED, Management Small Music Hall, experienced; can put in Bioscope outfit, work same. J. MARTIN, 198, Roslyn-road, Avenue-road, London.

WANTED, Engagement, as Manager, Roller Skating Rink; good references. E. A., 55, Averill-street, Fulham.

WANTED, Engagement, by S. C. Bonner, Working Agent in Advance, Theatre or Fit-up, last four years with New Century Pictures. 62, Pear Tree-road, Derby.

WANTED, by Mark-Master Carpenter, Situation. Jack Howgego, late Master Carpenter Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Practical bench hand; tour or resident. Address, c/o 6, Co-operative-st., Thornaby-on-Tees.

WANTED, Engagement, as Billposter, Advance Agent, or Bill Inspector, in London, Provinces, or Abroad, four years in last situation, late with Markillie, Peckham, Theatre Royal, Lyceum Theatre, and B. P. Co., Sheffield, Hiram Long, Willing's, Ltd., Wombwell's, &c., &c. ARNOLD RIEDEL, c/o Mr. Newton, 19, Furley-st., Peckham, London, S.E.

WANTED, by a Young Man, age 19, position as Box Office or Secretary, Theatre or Music Hall; 4½ years' experience; good refs.; London preferred.
Apply, Box 5,174, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED (re-opening of West Bromwich Hippodrome, Aug. 5), First-class Conductor to supply Band. Apply ALBERT WITHERS, Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Musical Director (Violinist), for Hippodrome, Douglas, open Aug. 5; one show daily. Terms, age, and experience, to A. DOUGLAS WILLCOX.

WANTED, Leader, First and Second Violins, 'Cello, B flat Trombone; must be good. State salary; few days' silence polite negative. Copy references. CONDUCTOR, Royal and Prince's Theatres, Manchester.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, First-class First Violin; permanency. Write, stating previous engagements, age, references, salary, when at Liberty,
CHARLES GODDARD, Musical Director.

WANTED, New Pavilion, Abertillery, First Violin and Clarionet. Join Aug. 5. Terms and full particulars E. PRYCE, Manager.

WANTED, Violinist, Cornet, also Flute-Piccolo, to open Monday next, Llandudno. Send terms, &c., to MANAGER, 3, Drury-lane, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Solo Cornet, also First-class Flute and Piccolo; sobriety indispensable. Apply, AMBROSE MABBETT, Conductor, New Theatre, Cardiff.

OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
WANTED, experienced Cornet, to open Aug. 5. Apply with lowest terms and references, to H. E. BARNETT, Manager.

WANTED, for Tenting, Solo Cornet; also Drums; through misunderstanding; 30s. each weekly. Apply M. CORBETT, 6, Gomm-road, Rotherhithe, London.

WANTED, good experienced Cornet, join immediately. State experience, age, and absolute terms, to CHARLES DARE, Minstrels, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, good Cornet Player, immediately, for eight weeks.
HAGUE, Opera House, Spa, Bridlington.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First Cornet and Trombone. Apply, stating age, references, and salary required, to
T. G. MORTON, Empire Theatre, Leeds.

WANTED, Poole's Myriorama (through disappointment), for tour, commencing Sat., Aug. 3, at Alexandra Palace, London, Solo Cornet, also Trombone, sober and competent, and assist with fittings when travelling. Terms and refs., HARRY STEWART, 5, Buckingham-rd., Wood Green, London.

POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, to open for Long Tour, Solo Cornet, commence Aug. 5, Devonport; must assist fittings and wear evening dress. Apply, CHARLES POOLE, Abbey Row, Malmesbury, Wilts.

WANTED, First-class Cornet, open Aug. 5. Steady and attentive to business. Lowest terms and refs. CONDUCTOR, Majesty's Opera House, Carlisle.

WANTED, for Howard and Wyndham's Theatres, Glasgow, Solo Clarionet, Oboe, Second Horn. Only first-rate men need apply to ALFRED CARPENTER, Managing Musical Director, King's Theatre, Glasgow.

GRAND HIPPODROME, WIGAN.
WANTED, Good Clarionet, also Drummer, used to tympanis, to open Aug. 5; must be steady, and used to variety business. Add., WORSWICK.

WANTED, Solo Clarionet immediately, for six weeks, String Band. State age, experience, lowest terms, GREENHEAD, Orchestra, Minehead, Somerset.

WANTED, for Town Band, North Berwick, to finish season, Clarionet, Flute, and Piccolo. Open Monday. Terms, shares. H. ADAMS, c/o Mrs. Gray, 4, Market-place, North Berwick, N.B.

LORD JOHN SANGER and SON'S, LTD., ROYAL CIRCUS.
WANTED, Double Bass, to combine Brass, for Parade. Join Aug. 5. Salary 32s. 6d. Address BANDMASTER, Sangers, Ltd., Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, for Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton, First-class Double Base, open Aug. 5. Apply, with last two references, age, and absolute lowest terms, MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

WANTED, Double Bass (combine brass), Drums and Effects, Euphonium, or Trombone, for Circus, Tenting Season. Apply, AUGUSTE DENTON, Mus. Dir., 86, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, for Seaside Engagement, Lady Double Bass or 'Cellist, able to sing.
Box 5,172, "The Era."

WANTED, Competent Trombone Player, Theatre Royal, Dover, to commence Aug. 5, 1907. J. CARTMELL, Musical Director, 274, London-road, Dover.

HIPPODROME, MAIDSTONE.
WANTED, to Open Aug. 5, Trombone, used to Variety. State lowest terms to C. J. LOMAS, M.D.

WANTED, Trombone, Clarionet, Violin, Nine Weeks. Town Band, Llandudno. Address DENBIGH COOPER. Good Drummer write.

WANTED, Trombone, must be First-class. Lowest terms, permanency if suitable. Open July 29. Wire, HINCHCLIFFE, Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, Bombardon, Double Drums, for Circus.
BANDMASTER, 21, St. Margaret's-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, for Beaumaris Pier,
'Cello and Flute.
Aug. 5 to Sept. 7.
Terms and references,
HILLS,
3, Plascock-terrace, Church-street,
Beaumaris, North Wales.

WANTED, good reliable 'Cello, to commence Aug. 5. Apply, with terms and references, to J. W. Gleghorn, Musical Director, Palace, Sunderland.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, good Flute, also good 'Cello, to open Monday, Aug. 12; must be well up in Operatic Music. Address, with lowest terms and references, FRED TAYLOR, Conductor.

WANTED, Solo Flute and good Double Bass players from Aug. 13, for small orchestra which travels fortnightly throughout the year. State age and references. W. SCHOTTLER, Musical Director, Bath.

WANTED, at Once, good Flute and Piccolo, for Promenade Military Band, till Sept. 28. Terms, ROWE, Durban House, Queen's-road, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Pianist, to go to America, to lead when no piano in orchestra, for Jewell's Mannikins. Playing only in the biggest vaudeville houses. Must be steady and reliable, and of good appearance. One or two weeks in each city. Must assist in fixing. Good wages, no lay-offs, and contract for not less than twelve months. Address, JACK E. SQUIRES, High-street, Halesowen, Birmingham (who has just returned after being with Mr. Jewell four years).

WANTED, Pianist, Sopranos, Soubrettes, Humorists, Tenors (double handed preferred); also Specialities suitable for Pier. All must be refined. Open Aug. 5. Age, photo, terms. DROLLS, 42, Newcomen-street, Redcar, Yorks.

WANTED, good Pianist, used to Pictures. Open Aug. 5. Full particulars (no wires) to MANAGER, 78, Suffolk-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, thoroughly used to Variety Business, lady or gentleman; lowest summer terms and references. SOUNES, Hippodrome, Aldershot.

WANTED, at Once, good Pianist, also Clarionet; must know Variety. State age, refs., and lowest terms, CONDUCTOR, 28, Victoria-road, Margate.

WANTED, Pianist (really good Orchestral); permanency (all year round). Terms and refs. to W. HARTLEY, Mus. Dir., Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Pianist (Conductor), Grand, Chorley, Aug. 5; also Violin, Grand, Radcliffe. Lowest Terms, references, first letter. SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, for Stock Business; must have own dramatic music, open Aug. 5. Age, refs., lowest terms, GEO. H. PITT, Star Theatre, Swansea.

WANTED, good Lady Pianist, to do turn for Al-fresco. MARTIN MARKS, Merry Mascots, North Berwick.

WANTED, Pianist, for Scotch Tour, commencing Aug. 12. Address, ORMONDE, 5, Murieston-place, Edinburgh.

PIER PAVILION, PENARTH.
WANTED, Rehearse July 30, open Aug. 5, possibly sooner, First-class Pianist, sight reader from one-line copies and transpose. OSCAR MILLS, Palace, Chelsea, to-day; after, as above.

WANTED, immediately, experienced Orchestral Double Drummer, Glockenspiel, Effects, middle September, with Tympani preferred. Lowest. CONDUCTOR, 1, Albert-square, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Drummer and Tympanist; must be experienced in Variety Business; to open Aug. 5. Apply, W. LEECH, Manager, Empire, Ashton-under-Lyne.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
WANTED, Drummer, used to Variety Business, to open Monday, July 29.
Apply, with references, lowest terms, &c., to MANAGER.

WANTED, First-class Musicians, Musical Duties Only, String Players and Pianists, for White Star Mediterranean Service (single men preferred). State age, experience, and names and addresses of two references for character and ability. Engagements commencing Aug., Sept., and Oct., for about 10 or 12 months. Also a Few Vacancies on Cunard and White Star North Atlantic Service in Sept. and Oct. Permanencies. MR. CHARLES WM. BLACK, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Full Orchestra, for Suburban Music Hall; two houses nightly. Terms and references to Box 5,168, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Lady Orchestral Instrumentalists, experienced. Good Leader write. Apply Miss WATSON, 137, West End-lane, N.W.

WANTED, immediately, for Long Engagement, Smart Lady Orchestral Players, all Instruments. Write, C378 Shelley's, Gracechurch-street, E.C.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Well-known Musical Director, Violin, Composer, Arranger, at Liberty after Aug. 10. Apply, Box 5105, "The Era."

WANTED, by Benjamin Parks, Engagement as Musical Director (Violinist) or Conductorship, Variety or Dramatic. BENJAMIN PARKS, Conductor, Hippodrome, Southampton.

WANTED, Known, experienced Conductor, from a First-class Music Hall, is now at Liberty. Box 5177, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by first-class Variety Conductor (Violinist). Highest London and Provincial References. Open at once. Can supply First-class Orchestra, excellent Library. SEVINGLER, Conductor, 7, Madoc-street, Llandudno.

WANTED, by First-Class English Violinist and Conductor, well experienced in hotel, café, concert and theatre work, permanent engagement in South Africa; highest references for ability and character. Address, GEORGE S. CRICHTON, Musical Director, North British Station Hotel, Edinburgh.

WANTED, by First Violin, Engagement, or Deputising. Write, VIOLINIST, 6, Sharples Hall-street, Primrose Hill, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Violinist, Summer; 10 years' experience Variety or Theatre. A. S., "Marmion," Summer-road, East Molesey, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, good Violinist, Open for Engagement, First or Second; aged 23. Address, stating salary, G. WHARTON, 7, Rillington-street, Armley, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, First or Second Violin; young and reliable. Address, VIOLINIST, 32, Princes-road, Richmond, Surrey.

WANTED, by First-class Violinist, engagement or single dates and deputising.
A. R., 13, Heathcote-st., Mecklenburg-sq., W.C.

WANTED, by Cornet, Military and Orchestral experience; Shorthand and Typist, with a Knowledge of Book-keeping, Shorthand 110, Typing 60 words a minute. A permanency. A. P., 70, Wessex-buildings, Wedmore-st, Holloway, N.

WANTED, by Cornet, at Liberty any Bus. First or Second.
Address CORNET, 198, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, experienced, Theatre or Variety; near London preferred. P. WATSON, 11, Borthwick-road, West Hendon, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, at Once, by Cornet, First or Second, any Business, through sudden closing of the Municipal Band. PILLING, 5, South Kinmel-street, Rhyl.

WANTED, Engagement, or Deputising, Solo Cornet. Orchestral or Military. Experienced, competent, reliable. MUSICIAN, 249, Southwark Bridge-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced Cornet, Liberty Aug. 5, good Theatre and Mus. Hall. H. T., 65, Washington-avenue, Manor Park.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Clarionet, at Liberty Aug. 3; thoroughly experienced; highest refs. G. CLARKE, Lonsdale Band, Jephson Gardens, Leamington.

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Double Bass (4 string), any Business; 15 years' experience, London or Suburbs. VINCENT, Chelsea Palace.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, any line, experienced.
WIGLEY,
Foster-road, Formby, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, good Bassoonist, Open for Engagement, aged 21. Address (with salary given), W. WHARTON, 7, Rillington-street, Armley, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, Contra Bass player. Reliable and thoroughly practical, any business. Good refs. Address W. FURNIVAL, 35, Owen-road, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, by Solo Euphonium, Engagement, Seaside, from four to six weeks; available Monday, Aug. 5, 1907. PARKS, 9, Queen-street, Cirencester.

WANTED, Known, First-Class Trombone, at liberty any business; abstainer; first-class offers only. Box 5182, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLS, 37, Great Percy-st., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced 'Cellist, Orchestral or Variety; steady and reliable; good reference. Apply, 'CELLIST, 46, Millgate, Stockport.

WANTED, by experienced Lady 'Cellist, Engagement for month or six weeks, from Aug. 1. Box 5,173, "The Era."

WANTED, Permanent Engagement by High class Oboeist, Theatre Experience, Total Abstainer. State Terms. OBOE, 69, King-street, Peterhead.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Flute and Piccolo, orchestral or variety. Good refs. FLAUTIST, 13, John Campbell-rd., Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by N. Robinson, Pianist, Arranger, through disappointment, any Bus.; steady, reliable, good reader; excel. refs. 17, Habberley-street, Kidderminster.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Pianist-Conductor. Just finished 18 months' Eastern Tour with Répertoire Musical Comedy Co. Good library and references. Arranger. E. CUTTING, 477, Green-lanes, Harringay, N.

WANTED, Known, Pianist and Accompanist requires position in High-class Vaudeville Company. Good sight-reader, and artistic.
Reply, with full particulars, to
Box 5,175, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer, in every Business. THRAWL, St. Bl. F, 134, Commercial-street, Aldgate, E.

WANTED, Known, Scarlet Imperial Band (from five performers). Disengaged during vacation, Aug., Sept. Seaside or Town. Exceptional references; latest music. BELFORTER, 28, Gerrard-street, W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, Quartet disengaged autumn. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Engagement, by really good Orchestra of 14, for Concert, Drama, Variety. Up-to-date Library. Address, Box 5,170, "The Era."

WANTED, by Small Band, Strings and Piano, Holiday Engagement for month of August, Ladies and Gentlemen; Brilliant Solo Artists (Instrumental and Vocal); excellent Press Notices, references. Apply; Mr. W. TROWELL, 11, Lancaster-road, Brighton.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, the World's Fair, Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, Leesee and Manager, Mr. T. E. Read, has arranged with E. H. Bostock, Esq., of the Zoo, Glasgow, to supply a First-class Circus Company, with an entire change of programme weekly. Specialities and Novelties having Vacant Dates commencing Dec. 26, 1907, until Feb. 8, 1908, should communicate to E. H. BOSTOCK, Esq., Zoo, Glasgow. (Silence a polite negative).

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S
ROYAL CIRCUS,
EDINBURGH.

WANTED, for the Forthcoming Winter Season, Riders (ladies and gentlemen), Performing Horses, Gymnasts (Aerial), Acrobats, Clowns (with new entrées), Leader and Full Orchestra, Grooms with own boots and breeches, experienced Circus Property Man, and First-class Scenic Artist; also Wardrobe Mistress and thoroughly experienced Bill Inspector.
Wanted, Strong Top of Bill Turns. All Artists must be new to Edinburgh.
Silence a polite negative pro tem.
Address, 1, Lochrin-place, Edinburgh.

GILLENO'S CIRCUS, WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER.

WANTED, Circus Artists, in all Lines, those doing Two Acts preferred. Present and future dates. Low terms absolutely essential. Address, with full particulars, to CHAS. POWELL, Manager.

WANTED, Knockabout Talking Clown, with Entrees. Al Fresco. Sharing season, just commencing; open at once. BUER, 2, Regent Cottages, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Knockabout Bar Performer. Address, full particulars,
LE MARE, 79, Burlington-st., Oxford-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, a Trampoline Tumbler, or one willing to learn. All particulars to SAMUELS, 10, Naylor-road, Peckham, London, S.E.

WANTED, a Lady, to Make Parachute Decent, August Bank Holiday; experience unnecessary. Box 5,185, "The Era."

ALEXANDRA'S CIRCUS. TENTING SEASON.
WANTED, a thoroughly sober Stud Groom; must be able to doctor horses, and early riser. Apply, Circus, Grays, Essex, Saturday; after, c/o J. MOORE, 8, Rupert-court, Piccadilly Circus, London. Letters only. A couple of good Tenting Grooms can open at once.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Tudor's Four Ponies. July 29, Foresters', Mile End; Aug. 5, Albert Palace, Canning Town. Agents should see this Act. Address as above.

WANTED, Aug. 5 and 12, by the Rizareli—Recars, Lady Gymnasts and Acrobats. Two distinct acts. 3, Bowden-street, Stockport.

WANTED, by Bodey Bros., Comedy Three-bar Experts, Galas, to follow, Reading Fête, Aug. 3, and Alexandra Palace, London, Aug. 5. 10, Fillwood-road, Fishponds, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, The Maros. This, Theatre, Windsor; Monday, Hippodrome, Scarboro'. Free for Galas, Aug. 5, 7, 8, 9. Aug. 6, Yeovil.

WANTED, Aug. 5, 12, by Los Granadas, World's Greatest Trampolin Novelty. A notable impression on any programme. 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Knotella, Contortionist, Dancer, &c., Liberty Fêtes, Galas, &c. 208, Wandsworth Bridge-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Aug. 5, Zarinella, Comedy Contortionist and Equilibrist. This week, Galas; next, Return, after one week's absence, Palace, Tottenham, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by young Comedy Three-bar Performer and Knockabout; join Troupe or Partner. Apply, JOLLY, 13, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and HIPPODROME, BARRY DOCK.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.
No wires, please.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

VICTORIA THEATRE, WEST STANLEY, CO. DURHAM.
Proprietor, Mr. T. C. MAWES.
General-Manager, Mr. HENRY E. KAUFFMAN.
WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Aug. 5, 12, and on; also Big Specialities and Star Attractions. Salary or share. Address, H. E. KAUFFMAN.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Monday, Aug. 5 and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, for Town, North. Address, lowest terms, &c., GREAT HUGHES, 63, Belmont-avenue, Blackpool.

WANTED, Variety Artists, of every description. Nothing too big. Big acts on shares. Wire for Monday, July 29, Aug. 5 and 12, HUGH DEMPSEY, Marine Grounds, Whitstable. Wire, Wire.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all lines, for Queen's, Castleford, Aug. 5 and 12. Those written before please write again. Silence polite negative pro. tem. State lowest terms (small town) to
BEANLAND and EMERSON.

WANTED, Variety Artists for Mammoth Show and Gala, at King's Lynn, on Aug. 26. Apply Herr PAREZER, Hippodrome, King's Lynn.

WANTED; Variety Artists, in all Lines, Aug. 5, and onwards.
Apply A. E. PICKARD, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, all kinds Variety Artists. Will see any Artists working if time sent.
RICHARD CASS'S Agency, 9, Mundania-rd., Peckham.

HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY,
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.
WANTED, for Glasgow, Greenock, and district, Star Artists in all Lines.
Empire, Greenock, Reopens Aug. 19.
Address, this week,
Norfolk Hotel, Surrey-street, Strand.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Glasgow Concerts. State absolute lowest. THE SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms.
ANDERSON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

PIER PAVILION, PENARTH.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, used to First-class Al Fresco. OSCAR MILLS, as above.

WANTED, First-class Artists, from Aug. 26, for Circus and Hippodrome, Rochdale; also Bioscope for Season. Mr. JACKSON, Empire, Leeds.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, for Manchester, Sheffield, Dewsbury, Liverpool, Lancaster, Bolton, Rochdale, Morecambe, Yarmouth, Dublin, Belfast, Cork, Hull, Birmingham, London, South Wales, Scotland. Terms, Bookings, Lithos., Photos.
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Tels., "Stebbing, Manchester." 'Phone 09261.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, Two Weeks, Aug. 5, 19, 26, Sept. 2. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin. Good Living Freaks open at once.

WANTED, Smart, Refined Variety and Al Fresco Artists. Terms must be low; money sure. All coms., FONTAINBLEAU, Geisha Gardens, Rhyl.

WANTED, First-class Artists only, for First-class Variety Theatres, immediate and future dates; also Pantomime.
JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal. Reichen's Dogs Wire Address. Contracts Waiting.

DEBTRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
31, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED.—First-class Artists in all Lines are invited to communicate for immediate and future Dates and Full List of Bookings.

WANTED, good Artists, All-round Doubles doing Singles; good Singing and Dancing Sisters. C. HARVEY, Royal Scots' Greys Theatre, Tidworth, Hants.

PAVILION, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines. Aug. 5, onwards. PRINGLE, Pavilion, Sunderland.

WANTED, Aug. 12, on, First-class Artists, in all lines, North. Apply, with lowest terms, GEO. ZALVA'S Agency, The Hippodrome, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Refined Al Fresco Artists, open Aug. 5, including good Baritone and Tenor, Soprano or Contralto (good pianist preferred), Light, Low, and Eccentric Singing Comedians, all well up in concerteds and good repertoires. Lowest terms for long engagement. SANSOME, 368 Moss-lane East, Manchester. Open to buy good acetylene lamp, cheap for cash.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Hull and Wakefield. Full particulars to ALFRED SELWYN, Collins's Music Hall, London, N.

WANTED, good Versatile Artist, Al-Fresco, one used to Business, can open Monday. Terms, shares. Wire, LITHO's Pierrots, Felixstowe, Seventh Season.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Something New and Up-to-date,
Novelties and Sensational Acts,
For Immediate and Future Dates, for
London, Liverpool,
Birmingham, Leeds, Newcastle,
Glasgow, Belfast,
Dublin, Manchester, Bolton,
Wolverhampton, Oldham,
Hartlepool, Shields, Barrow,
Carlisle, Darlington,
Hull, Middlesbrough, Stockport,
Blackpool, Morecambe,
Brighton, Boscombe, Margate,
Portsmouth, Southampton,
Bath, Lincoln, Leicester, Bradford,
Halifax, Sheffield, Blackburn,
Lancaster, Stockport, Burnley, Derby,
Attercliffe, Stoke, Grimsby,
St. Helens, Accrington, Warrington,
Bury, Hanley, Stockton, &c., &c.
Send at once terms, dates, and lithos.
Those having a good act can rely on getting Immediate Work.
WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
Telephone, 09144.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
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WANTED, Artists and Agents to Note.
All Contracts
on Behalf of the Above Company
will in future be signed by
Mr. S. T. NEWSOME,
who alone is authorised to sign.
Artists Holding Contracts
are requested to apply immediately
for Confirmation of Dates
to
S. T. NEWSOME,
Hippodrome,
Coventry.

N.B.—All Bill Matter to be addressed to
THE MANAGER,
Hippodrome,
Coventry.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, for Aug. 5, 12, and 19,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for smaller items.
Can always fix Big Numbers,
any odd weeks.
CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Aug. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 7, Big Drawing Stars.
GEO. AYTOUN'S Agency,
120, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.
Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1949 Hop.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Show Turns, for Matinée at London, Shoreditch, Aug. 7, 1907. Apply to SAM HART, Agent, 7, Lancaster-house, Rushcroft-road, Brixton.

DREW BAYLEY AGENCY.
WANTED, Aug. 5 and 12, for Perth, Big and Small Turns. Also turns for the North coming this way write at once.
DREW BAYLEY, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

NEW PAVILION, ABERTILLERY.
WANTED, the Greatest Comedy Acts, &c., in the profession, for Aug. 5, and onwards. All billing matter direct to Manager, E. Pryce. All communications to LEO FRITZ'S Variety Agency, Glenshaw-mansions, Brixton, S.W. 'Phone, 457 Brixton. Telegrams, "Evelyncia, London."

WANTED, for Gloucester, Porth, Worcester, Barry Dock, Abertillery, Variety Acts, must have Full Bookings, Towns. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, good Variety Acts, all Lines, Aug. 5. Comedian write. State actual lowest. Near Newcastle. ELKIN DAWSON, Lonsdale-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Musical Act, open Monday, Pier Pavilion, Scarborough; also Serio Dancer. Wire quick, Alexandra, Gaiety, Blyth. Letters, King's Theatre, Gateshead.

WANTED, Star Acts of every Description, for Ireland and the North.
Say where can be seen and absolute lowest.
CAVILL'S Agency,
127, Clapham-road, London, S.W.
Tele., "Dramatical, London." 'Phone, 1025 Brixton.

WANTED, Talent, all Lines, immediate Dates. DUNDAS'S Agency, 52, Rosthwaite-road, West Derby, Liverpool.

WANTED, big Tops, bigger the better, for Sept. 2, 16, and 30 (North). Full Bookings, &c., to FRANK LYNNE, Tivoli, Dublin.

WANTED, Variety or Pierrot Combinations, for Al Fresco Performances at Wardown Park, Luton, Aug. 12, onwards, Sharing Terms only. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Absolutely the Cream of the Profession.
Immediate Dates Onwards.
Artists with Odd Vacancies send them in.
I am not barred in bookings at any Hall in England.
Star Artists, with Drawing Powers, requiring odd weeks at Towns not barred by any of the big Tours, will find it advantageous to communicate.
Artists at liberty Monday next through any disappointments, &c.,
You are never too late to fix.
Post your full list of bookings and Absolute Lowest, in the first instance.
This is essential.
No Act Booked unless personally seen.
But journey no object with view of securing the Right Parties.
Remember, if you have any Vacancies, communicate at once, with full particulars.
HARRY BURNS'S Agency (Established 1895)
(Sole Proprietor, Harry Burns),
Head Office:
Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.
Telephones, 0231 and 0231A.
Telegrams, "Burns, Empress, Hartlepool."

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address until Wednesday, Albert Hall, Southport. After, "Era" Office. Luis Hardt, Rebla, Eno, Boston Twins, Tom Moore, Merriman, communicate.

WANTED, Novelties in all Lines.
PAPA BROWN,
Royal Agent,
Empire, Portsmouth.
Matinées, Goodwood, Daily,
"Down with the Agents."

PALACE T. OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.
Booked in Conjunction Leamington, Rugby, Birmingham, Manchester, &c.
WANTED, Aug. 5, on, Novelties, Continental Specialities, Serios, Comedians, Comedy Double Acts (doing singles). Lowest terms, lithos. (if any), WM. B. BOSTOCK, General-Manager.

WANTED, Big Specialities, Sharing Terms, July 29, and on. Variety Artists, Serios, Sisters. Write CAVE, Grand Theatre Gardens, Mansfield, Notts.

HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
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HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Specialities.
Illusions, Animal Shows.
Full Bookings,
with Lithos. and Terms to
233, Kennington-road,
London.

WANTED, Good Specialities, Aug. 5 and on, for Carl and Carr's Great Al-Fresco Entertainments. Victoria Park, Devonport.

WANTED, Sept. 16, week, onwards, Novel Speciality, Sensational or Spectacular, Comedians, Trio of Dancers, Artists, all Lines. Sample lithos., terms, BURTON'S Agency, Fargate, Sheffield.

WANTED, for Best Theatres in France, commencing Sept. 1, onwards, all kinds attractions, big specialities, comedy acts, sisters, troupe of ladies; must be first-class, and new for the following places, namely:—Paris, Marseilles, Toulouse, Nice, Toulon. Money no object.
Good Acts can have Two Months sure.
Send full particulars, with photos. and lithos., to
C. CLIQUOT,
Carlton Theatre, Saltley, near Birmingham.

WANTED, Good Doubles, doing Singles, Good Serios, Comedians, &c., immediate. HARRY SAUNDERS, Variety Agent, Tintern Villa, Aldershot.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
of
MATLOCK BATH
PLEASURE GROUNDS.
WANTED, for the Promenade, Matlock Bath, for August Bank Holiday Week, a Small Troupe of Pierrots; also Vocalists for Band Stand for same week.
Apply, stating terms, to WM. JAFFREY, Council Chambers, Matlock Bath.

WANTED, Aug. 5, weekly onwards, Comedy Quartettes and Comedians. Only those with extensive répertoires need apply. FORSYTH, Band Stand, Bognor.

WANTED, Comedienne, for Special Week, Aug. 12, London, good figure essential, tour pending. Apply personally, with recent photo in tights if possible, to-day (Saturday) 2.30 p.m., SKETCH MANAGER, Percy Hall, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road.

WANTED, Young Lady Vocalist for Picture Songs. Send photo, répertoire, lowest salary for tour. Open Aug. 5. MANAGER, 78, Suffolk-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, a Girl between 15 and 17, height about 5ft., with a good knowledge of dancing, willing to learn gymnastics. Good wages. Apply Monday, 14, Yerbury-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, tall Young Lady, for Model in "Sally in Our Alley." Send photos.
SECRETARY, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Young Man, for Music Hall Sketch, to take care of Baggage and play small part; must be about 5ft. 7in. tall; four months in London.
Address, JOHN CARNEY, Clipper Office, 48, Cranbourn-street, Leicester-square.

WANTED, immediately, Lady Wrestlers; long engagement. Send photos. Prof. S. SOICER, Fairy Archipelago, Crystal Palace, London.

WANTED, good-class Robust Tenor, also Descriptive Vocalist; must be young, smart, and refined. Experience and lowest terms, MANAGER, Dare's Minstrels, Colwyn Bay, North Wales.

WANTED, for High-class Al Fresco Concert Party, Refined Comedian. Must have good répertoire, used to concerted items, gentlemanly appearance. Photo, lowest terms, age. ROYAL MAGNETS, Barmouth, North Wales.

WANTED, smart 5ft. 10in. Comedian, slight figure; able to Book, and Play in Sketch, on Halls. Photo., age, refs., salary, &c., to H. L., 109, Clifton-road, Blowick, Southport.

WANTED, refined Al-fresco Comedians. Amateurs save stamps and expense. Absolute lowest for season. GRAPHO and JACKSON, Abington Park Hotel, Northampton.

WANTED, Comedians, Baritones, Soubrettes, Al Fresco, Refined. Send photos, &c., to FRED FOWLER, Arcadia, Roker, Sunderland.

WANTED, a Gentlemanly Humorous Comedian, to Support Edie Casson in her refined Sketch, Principal Halls. Address, G., 136, Lord-street, Southport.

WANTED, Refined Humorist and Lecturer. State lowest for Picture Tour. Open Aug. 5. MANAGER, Pictures, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, a Young Man that can tumble, for Comedy Act. Age, height, tricks, and salary to Box 5183, "The Era."

WANTED, a good Cockatoo Show, or other Speciality, Aug. 5, or later, for two weeks, twice daily.
DAVID THOMSON, Beach Pavilion, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Very Tall Man, own Uniform; also couple of men with Pierrot costumes, for billing, &c. LESLIE, Victoria Hall, Rhyl.

WANTED, Experienced Operators, used to Long Shows, Lime and Electric, all Currents. Full particulars, wages, experience, references first letter. No wires or interviews. PICTURES, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Aug. 5, Bioscope, Latest Films, one week, probably longer. Lowest terms. Variety Artists write. Doubles doing single. BREAMER, Alexandra Theatre, Pontlottyn.

WANTED, to open Aug. 5 (South), First-class Operator; must be thoroughly used to alternating and direct currents, also Lime; a long engagement to practical man. Lowest terms, refs., and full particulars, first letter, ANDREWS, 9, Edgcumbe-ter., Stonehouse, Plymouth.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Proprietors and Managers to Know that the Biggest Novelties and Continental Specialities can be secured on the shortest notice by wiring to DEBTRICH'S Vaudeville Bureau, 31, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Proprietors and Managers requiring Big Attractions, Reliable Acts, the Best Talent quickly, communicate DEBTRICH'S Vaudeville Bureau, 31, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known. Wanted, Known.
Lilith, the Mysterious,
in Her Beautiful Palace of Roses.
Always a Sure Drawing Card.
Also Lilian Warren's Vocal Pictures.
with splendid Dissolving Effects.
Liberty Aug. 5, 26, Sept. 30.
Proprietors and Managers requiring a sure draw should secure Lilith. July 29, Palace, Blackpool. Permanent address, 77, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Miss Dagmar De Ropp, Serio-Dancer, Few Vacant Dates, Splendid Dresses, Songs. Small Terms for Al Fresco. Address, Box 5145, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Norah Drew, for Monday next, also for Aug. 5, Character Comedian and Quick-change Artist. Great Success. Wire, Hippodrome, Hastings.

WANTED, Known, Gertrude Martini, now eleventh week with Charles Parker's K.K.K.'s. Thanks for offers for panto., still vac., second boy. This week and next, Clarence Pier, Southsea.

WANTED, Known, Lily Hayes, Comedienne and Dancer, thanks numerous Offers for Panto., but settled with E. Dottridge, Esq. This, return, Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, by Nellie Nora, Instrumental Act, Vac. Monday, also Aug. 5, 12. Big success Pier Pavilion. Wire, 36, Salop-street, Penarth, South Wales.

WANTED, Monday next, by Lil Dresden, Characteristic Vocalist; also Ray Thorne, Comedienne and Dancer. A Big Success. Wire, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, by Billy Dewey, the Crazy Coon Comedian with a Powerful Voice, direct from America; New Songs; Latest Rag and Buck Dancer. Gallery's Favourite ('nuff said). Disengaged. Wire for Monday. DEWEY, 52, Nelson-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Harry Bentley, Comedian, Monday and Aug. 12. Big Success Hippo., Salford. This, Wire 44, Alton-st., Queen's Park, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Neville Delmar, The Whistling Dandy. Pantomime fixed, Abanazer. Few vacancies, Oct. and Nov. All coms., 3, Nicolas-mount, Hornsea, Yorks.

WANTED, Monday next, by Frank Coyle, the Celebrated Comedian. A Sure Success. Wires, 160, Woodhouse-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Aldro Lukos, Man Monkey Speciality, Success C T., Aldershot. Next week, return, Palace, Tottenham. Liberty Aug. 5, onwards, Galas, &c.

WANTED, Monday next, also Aug. 5, by Syd Herman, Hebrew Comedian. A brilliant Hit here. Wire, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, by Frank Newbury, Vocalist, Whistler, and Mimic, Monday next, onward, exceptions, suitable piers and al-frescos, instantaneous success. Wire, wire, wire, NEWBURY, Royal Oak Hotel, Ramsgate.

WANTED, by Fred Hadley, Comedian and Dancer, late of Catlin's Scarborough Pierrots, at Liberty Monday, Al-fresco. Wire, Grand Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, by Percy Upton, Droll Comedian, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 16, also Vacant Pantomime. All communications to 52, Bolton-road, Stratford, Essex.

WANTED, Known, De Ora, Modern Gymnastic Speciality. Immense success, Harry Marvell, Esq.'s new Tower Pavilion, Portobello; repeated same at Blairgowrie Games, July 23, for R. M. McMillan, Dundee, July 31, Gala, Lamberhurst, Kent; Aug. 5, Brandon, Suffolk; vacant remainder of Bank Holiday week, and Aug. 12. Communications, en route. Mexican Mac and J. H. Kavanagh send address.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, Hoop Juggling Expert. Immediate vacancies.
Perm., 153, Brunswick-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Edward Mortimer, the Lightning Sketcher and Humorous Entertainer, can accept a few pier engagements. 32, Broadway, Wimbledon, S.W.

WANTED, Aug. 19 (South), also Sept. 15, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist. Two smart acts. Monday, Argyle T., Birkenhead.

WANTED, Known, William Lorenzi, of Sisters Phillips and Brothers Lorenzi, Comedian, Pantomimist, and Knockabout, is at Liberty to join Sketch Troupe; steady and reliable. All coms. to 34A, Bury New-road, Bolton.

WANTED, by Rozel, Sensational Speciality Act, Aug. 5, 12, 19. July 29, Hippo., Scarboro'.

WANTED, Aug. 12 and 19, E. Sinclair, Juggler, Baton, and Club Manipulator, to follow Victoria Park, Plymouth. Post Office, Durham.

WANTED, Monday next, also Aug. 5 and 12, by Morimura and Miako, wonderful Japanese Conjurers. A Complete Whirl of Wonderful Tricks. Concludes to-night Palace, Attercliffe. Monday, 16, Osborne-street, Seedley, Manchester. Wire.

WANTED, July 29. Wire Summer Gardens, Bridlington. Kyoto, the Original Comedy Japanese Pot-pourri Act. May Geraldine, Comedienne and Dancer.

WANTED, Sept., and on, Alonzo, the Human Anvil, and Melini, Queen of Strength. Success everywhere. Touring Scott's Circus. Address, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Stephen Blythe, Comedian, and Olga Fane, Contralto. At Liberty Monday next; also Aug. 5 and 12. Wire or write, 4, Cobden-place, Leeds.

WANTED, Aug. 5, 12, Charley Dixon, Comedian, Dancer; Kate Lynd, Comedienne. Two good distinct acts. Letters, 69, Roan-street, Greenwich.

WANTED, Aug. 12, onwards, by Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers, and Alvar, Daring Gymnasts. Next, Empire, Cleethorpes.

WANTED by Harry Keeble, Comedian and Vent.; also Gladys Wells, Comedienne; three good acts. Immediate dates. Monday, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Monday, also Aug. 5, by Cadogan and Wingrove, "A Clerical Complication" (Muir and Bartleit's). 9, Cambridge-rd., Battersea Park, S.W.

WANTED, Aug. 12, by John Wills and Bessie Mackenzie. Operatic Duettists. 17, Pevorell Park-road, Plymouth. Aug. 5, Hippo., Hastings.

WANTED, Known, Phinas and Aida, Original Revolving Act, Always Up-to-date, on Tour. P. A., 3 Pitts, Broadhalgh, Rochdale.

WANTED, Monday, also Aug. 5, Didie and Kate Godfrey; Musical Act, Funny Smart Show. Wire, Hippodrome, Sheerness.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Jimmy Green, Comedian, May Mayne, Comedienne and Descriptive Vocalist, Monday; also Aug. 5. Wire, 2, Court Well-lane, Sheffield.

WANTED, Monday next, also Aug. 5, The Percys (Harry, Lillie), Duettists, Dancers, Speciality Performers. Reliable Act. Wire Empire Music Hall, Hull.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, Lady and Gent, Gymnastic Pot-pourri Act, free 29th, Aug. 12. Wire, 120 Rusholme-road, Manchester; after Sunday, G. P. O., Leeds.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, Musical Clowns, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9.
Address, Empire, Sunderland..

WANTED, Known, Rich and Rare, in great Comedy Act. Liberty for Panto. E. R., Principal Boy, and H. R., Comedian or Dame. Now 6th week Pavilion, Stalybridge, Lancs.

WANTED, Monday next and Aug. 5, North, by Lee Rubens, "The Two Merry Vagabonds" (own scena). Wire, to-day only, Palace, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Two Westwoods, Patter Comedians, with Big Speciality. At liberty for Galas Aug. Bank Holiday. Add., 31, Roderick-road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

WANTED, Aug., four weeks, by Gravetta and Parr, new Pot-pourri Act; two shows if required. Halls or Al-fresco. King's T., Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Gibbon and Bell, Novel Equilibristic Acrobatic Speciality. Enormous Success, Barnard's, Chatham, want Aug. 5. Few immediate vacancies. Bookings include Morecambe, Merthyr, Darlington, Burnley, Gloucester, Oldham, Birmingham, Leeds, Camberwell, Reading, Wilmot Circuit, Rochdale, &c. Wire, 38, Ivydale-rd., Nunhead, S.E.

WANTED, Known, the Collier and Child (Retsell and Myra), thought transmitters, are making a bigger success than ever on their first appearance in a circus ring. The biggest success of the season. Not yet settled Bank Holiday. For something different to anyone else, wire, Hippodrome, Yarmouth.
First-class Halls or Hippodromes only.
Thanks to WILL DALTON for Four Contracts this week.

WANTED, July 29, Aug. 5, by Los Granadas, in their own Trampolin Novelty "Sensational Happenings Outside an Hotel." Address see Cards.

WANTED, Monday, by The Fordyces, and Little Frankie, two great acts. Starring, Temperance Hall, Merthyr. Wire.

WANTED, Aug. 19, Two Distinct Acts, Zancig, Thought-Reading and Conjuring. The only open date this season. LENTON and BERTRAM, 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, Known, Craig, Roze, and Craig, Vacant Monday next; Two Distinct Acts. Palace, Douglas.

WANTED, Known, Three Martinettes, Comedians. Vacant Aug. 5, on, Home or Abroad. Comedy, Gala Acts. Hippo., Bury; Monday, Hippo., Preston.

WANTED, Monday, also Aug. 5, 12, 19, on by Chant and Chant, Refined Vocal Comedy Duo. Wire, 87, Woollaton-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, July 29, Aug. 19,
by the Albano Troupe.
The Greatest Refined Musical Act.
See Cards.

WANTED, Known, Gentrys, Vacant Aug. 5 and 26, in their New Novelty Comedy Act, "Bits." Communications, Empire, York.

WANTED, Known.—What a Draw Four Cecilians are! Storming Palace, Porth, this week. Vac. July 29, Aug. 5. Don't want the earth.

WANTED, Known.—What a Draw Cecilians are! Three Smart Young Ladies, one Gent; fine stage appearance. 120, Victoria-dwellings, Clerkenwell, London.

WANTED, Monday next, also Aug. 5, Abadaroffs (five), Comedy Act, Prehistoric Funneries. Wire, permanent add., 95, Stretford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Wulfrunas, Three Ladies, Four Gentlemen, Comedy Acrobats, "Fun in a Café," own Scenery and Effects. Liberty Monday next, also Aug. 12. Address, 22, Ashted-row, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday next, also Aug. 12, by Billy Ross and Co., Greatest Comedy Act on the Stage. Wire, Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, "The Galley Slave," Topping the Bill. This, Palace, Bow; next, Foresters'. Vac. Aug. 5, and various on. Coms., HOWELL WEBB.

WANTED, Aug. 5, 19, Sept. 2, "Muldoon's Picnic," bang up to date, excellent specialities. Wire, FRANK GALA, Empire, Southend.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Celebrated Lion Show, Aug. 19, 26,
Sept. 2 and 23.
Communications, week, July 29,
Palace Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, Known, Alice Fontainbleau's Canine Marvels, and her renowned Rolling Globe Performance. Vac. for Galas, July 29, Aug. 12. Add., Geisha Gardens, Rhyl.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus. Ponies, Donkeys, Goat, and dogs. Will be at liberty Oct. 21 and 28, also Nov. and Dec.
All coms., C. CABAN,
Caban's Circus, Palace Gardens, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Gilbert's Dog and Cat Circus, Liberty Sept., on, with exceptions. Success everywhere. July 29, Floral Pavilion, Bridlington.

WANTED, Known, Twins, Perfect Doubles, at Liberty; just finished West-End Engagement; good opportunity for Novel Sketch. TERRY, 261, Kennington-road.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Man, smart, good appearance, to take Small Part; also capable of Electric Lighting for Show. Terms nod. MURRAY, 70, Ballater-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, who can tumble and dance, wishes to join sketch or comedy act. Apply, Box 5,186, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Barlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Travers' Bioscope, at Liberty, Moderate Terms, Latest Films. TRAVERS, 154, High-street, Clapham, S.W. Telephone 1412 (Battersea).

WANTED, by Fontain's Mannikins, and Laurier's Comedy Conjurers, Monday next, also Aug. 5; one or both acts. 125, Kent-street, Grimsby.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World.
If you want to Buy or Sell
Anything Connected with the Business,
Consult TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept.,
"The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.
Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Known, .22 "R" and "D" cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters, Pistols, and all repairs done. GREENS, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, London, is the Cheapest for Secondhand Watches, Jewellery, &c. Metal Watches, 1s. 9d.; 2s., 2s. 3d., 2s. 6d.; Silver, 3s., 3s. 3d., 3s. 6d., 4s.; Levers, 5s., 6s., 7s., to 10s. Assorted Parcel of 800 and 935 Watches, 3s. 6d. each.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, &c., Self-acting Piano Organ, by Rossi, splendid condition, 2 barrels, sacrifice £10; also small pipe organ, 30s. MASON, 17, Settles-street, E.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, and Stallholders, to Know that they can have Ground on Reasonable Terms, at what will, without the slightest doubt, prove to be the Record Success in the Annals of British Showmen's History, of this and many past and coming Centuries.
The 700th Anniversary of the Foundation of the City of Liverpool.
Grand Pageant and Fêtes, arranged by His Worship the Lord Mayor and the Corporation of Liverpool.

P. and J. COLLINS have succeeded in securing from Aug. 3 to Aug. 10, the whole of the Liverpool Parks and Corporation Open Spaces, viz., Sefton Park, Wavertree Park, Walton Hall Estate Ground, and Newsham Park, where up-to-date Monster Fun Fairs will be held.
All the Greatest Outdoor Amusement Attractions have been secured.
Bostock and Wombwell's famous Menagerie, the Travelling British Zoo.
F. Collins's Grand Cosmograph, the Talking and Singing Living Pictures.
Wonderland, with its New Ideal Orchestra, and grand display of Thousands of Vari-coloured Electric Fairy Lights.
An unrivalled display of Electric Fireworks.
All the Best British, Continental, and American Novelty Exhibitions.
P. Collins's Patent Switchback Motor Car Track.
Rollicking Giant Roosters, and Helter Skelter Lighthouse, or Dragon Slide.
J. Collins's Unrivalled Electric Jumping Horses, Giant Steam Yachts, the Razzle Dazzle and Japanese Air-ship, and a Host of other Novelties.

The City of Liverpool will observe this week as a General Holiday.
His Majesty's Channel Fleet will anchor in the Mersey.
Numerous Excursion Trains and Steamers will run daily into Liverpool from all parts of Britain.

All persons requiring Ground or Spaces for Shows, Games, Stalls, &c., address, with full particulars, the sole Lessees, P. and J. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall. Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall." 'Phone, 80 Walsall.

WANTED, Showmen, Stallholders, and other Fair Travellers, to know that I have Spaces to Let at Liverpool Park Pageants, Aug. 3 to 18, Crewe Hospital Fête, Aug. 10, Bloxwich Grand Fête and Gala, Aug. 16 to 20, Darlaston, Oldbury, Netherton, Wednesbury, Willenhall, Brierley Hill, and others to follow, up to the Great Birmingham Onion Fair, commencing Sept. 25, West Bromwich, Smethwick, and Leicester October Fair, commencing Oct. 10.

P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall. Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall." 'Phone, No. 80, Walsall.

BLACKPOOL SANDS.
WANTED, Known, the South Shore Pleasure Beach is the only site in Blackpool for Open-Air Attractions.
The grounds are forty acres in extent, right on the sea front, and are situated immediately next the Promenade at the Electric Tramway Terminus. From April 1 to Dec. 31, 1905, 4,000,000 passengers were carried on these tramways. The permanent attractions now include the "River Caves of the World," "Maxim Flying Machine," "Sea Circus," &c. Great Canadian Water Chute and Scenic Railway from Coney Island now being erected for this season. For sites and concessions for really good Novelties apply personally. Office on grounds. Letters only, 14, Balmoral-road, Blackpool.

SCOTLAND.
WANTED, Known, Alloa August Fair. Running till Wednesday, Aug. 14. Ground to let for Shows, Roundabouts, Stalls, &c. Apply Mr. JOHNSTON, Burgh Chambers, Alloa.

WANTED, to Let, Land for Stalls and Shows. Apply, JOHN HARDMAN, Manager, Starr Estate Fairground Co., 16, King-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Great World's Fair, Ballot Box Pleasure Grounds (near Ealing), Bank Holiday. Acres of Space to Let for Attractions. PROPRIETOR.

WANTED, Known. All Parties requiring ground for all kinds of Amusements for all the Devonshire Regattas (Exeter Regatta, Aug. 3, Dawlish 8th, Babbacombe 9th and 10th, Teignmouth, Paignton, Brixham, Torquay, and Dartmouth, all en route) apply W. C. and S. HANCOCK, Fairground Kingsbridge (Saturday); Seaton all next week.

WANTED, Known, I have still Ground to Let, for one Riding Machine, at Dartford Fair, Aug. 1, 2, and 3, 1907, Switchback preferred.
Also, owing to unforeseen circumstances, Mr. A. Ball will not be able to attend with his new show, therefore I have Ground to Let for Cinématograph Show, 50ft. to 60ft. frontage. Applications to CLASPER, 26, Batsford-road, St. John's, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Ground to Let, for Beache's Grand Carnival, to be held in the Central Cricket Grounds, Hastings, commencing Sat., Aug. 3, until Aug. 10. Large open-air attractions on the slanting wire, high wire walking, &c. Admission to grounds free. Also Sandwich Regatta, and other places to follow. Also wanted Smart Manager for Cinematograph Exhibition. Address, BEACHE'S CARNIVAL, Eastbourne.

WANTED, to Let on Hire or Share, Set Distorting Mirrors, Exhibitions, &c. Address, Box 5171, "The Era."

WANTED, Helter Skelter and Swing, on Hire or Purchase. Spaces to let; finest position in London. J. HALL, 102, Old Kent-road.

WANTED, Midget Roundabouts, Swings, Small Games, Shooters, and Joints of all Kinds, for Norton Feast, Bank Holiday Week. Address, SAMSON, Wonderland, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known.—As it does not appear to be generally known that we control the British Patents covering the "Mills" Slot Bag (or Ball) Puncher, we now publish the fact, and give Friendly Notice that we shall rigidly maintain our rights therein.—MINERVA AUTOMATIC CO., 14, Charterhouse-buildings, E.C.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Auctioneers, to Know.—For cash only, my New Price List. Ready for you to Sell. Silver English Capped Lever Watches at following prices: 7s., 7s. 6d., 8s., 8s. 6d., 9s., 9s. 6d., 10s., 11s., and 12s. each, splendid goods. Silver Geneva Watches, 800 and 935 silver (assorted) at 3s. 6d. each. Market Workers should buy my 6s. and 6s. 6d. English Lever Watches; also my 3s. and 3s. 3d. Silver Geneva Watches. C. G., CLICHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, our new Intense Flame Arc Lamps are the best for Showmen. SIMPKIN, WILKINSON, and GIBSON, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, to Fair-keepers, &c., Stacey and Co., Showmen's Stores, Settles-street, London, E. Best House for Shooting Range Specialities, Fair Goods, &c.

WANTED, Novelties for Four of the Best Shops in London, present and future dates. Now booking up for Winter months. Good Doorsman write in. PROPRIETOR, 100, Lower Marsh, Lambeth, London.

WANTED, at Once, Novelties, Freaks, and Attractions of all kinds for Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, and Aberdeen. STEWART'S Waxwork, High-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Novelties and Living Freaks, for Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen. F. BURNESTE, Waxwork, Cowcaddens, Glasgow.

WANTED, immediately, Novelty for Side-show, Mirrors, Freaks, or any Money-maker. Will purchase or share. Full particulars, apply, MORRISSEY, Nunnery Mill Cottage, Douglas.

WANTED, for South America, offers of First-class Side Shows for large Variety Theatres. Apply Box 5127, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Good Knockabouts, Lady Paraders, Tumbling and Bending Acts, anything that can be done on Show Front Parade, Money no Object to the Right People, must be Clever and have Good Appearance, with or without Dresses. If necessary, fares arranged. Wire Terms and Particulars, W. BIDDALL, Electric Exhibition, Epsom, Saturday; Summerstown, Tooting, Monday and Tuesday.

WANTED, Lady Phrenologist, Samuels' Exhibition Palace, 6, Henry-street, Dublin, on shares; splendid position. Open immediately.

WANTED, for McLoud's New Waxworks, Lady or Gentleman Character Reader; can open at once. Apply, 2, Crellin-st., Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, good Hypnotic Subject, genuine, travel with show; good shop for good man. BURGESS, 11, Cambridge-road, Morecambe.

WANTED, at Sport-Land, 571, High-road, Leytonstone, Tattooist, on Sharing or Rental terms; also Automatic Piano, on Rent.

WANTED, good steady Doorsman, Aug. Bank Holiday, Alexandra Palace; if suitable, longer engagement. Address, Prof. CHARLES, 56, Longfellow-road, Gillingham, Kent.

WANTED, an Assistant, to Sell Daisy Embroidery Needle, for Summer Season at Seaside; must be experienced. Apply, Box 5,176, "The Era."

WANTED, for Davis' Pictorial Enterprises, commencing Aug. 5, competent Bioscope Operator, Vocalists, and Pianist-Vocalist; Doorsman, to assist with billings; good Advance Agent. Apply, letters only, 45, Wordsworth-street, Sefton Park, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Harmon's Royal Marionettes, Bioscope, also Punch and Judy, three distinct shows, separate or combined, open Aug. and Sept. 325, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, that Bounds's No. 1 Show, the Bear Lady, arrived from Germany 22nd, and is now at Mr. Humber's Waxworks, Aberdeen, for four weeks, and doing good business. After that, Mr. Pickard's Waxworks, Glasgow, Aug. 19 till Nov. 17. First Open Date Feb.
Mrs. A. L. BOUNDS, Humber's Waxworks.

WANTED, by Character Reader (well known, good notices), Engagement. Half shares preferred. Write 86, Ballymagee-street, Co. Down, Ireland.

WANTED, Auctioneers, to Know that Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is still forging ahead with his up-to-date Lines in Jewellery, Clocks, Fancy Goods, &c. New Catalogue, containing over 2,000 illustrations, now ready.

WANTED, Known. To Showmen, Seaside Amusement Caterers, Theatre Proprietors. For sale or hire, half horse-power traction engine, in thorough working order; also large sleeping van, on springs and wrought iron wheels. W. REYNOLDS, Engineer, Bedford.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

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WANTED, to Sell, Automatic 1d. in Slot, Grand Orchestrion, 16 Tunes, perfect condition; suitable for Concert or Ballroom. Cost £125. What offers? On view. PLEASURE LAND, Brixton Station, S.W.

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WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every Description; best and cheapest. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines, Large Assortment, Genuine Bargains. Postcard 30s., Sweetmeat 20s., Electric 30s. Photo, character, &c. MASON, Settles-street, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Six Electric Halfpenny-in-Slot Columbia Phonographs, in perfect condition. Cost £15 each; take £6 each, or exchange for large slot machines, athletic or strength preferred. 33, Lime-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Electric Targets, Running Animals, Flying Birds, for Jungle Rifle Ranges. Write MINIATURE TARGET APPARATUS CO., LTD., 41, Newington-butts, S.E. Telephone 2747 Hop. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class Waxwork, Museum, and Picture Gallery, complete as going concern, or removed. Unique Life-sized Moving Figures, Penny Drops, Orchestrion, &c. Particulars, MANAGER, Waxwork, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Barrel Organs. Prices reduced for marking and repairs from now to Xmas.
Organ lent free whilst your own repaired.
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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
Another book which calls for attention is that excellent and almost indispensable work of reference, "The Era" Almanack and Annual. In this handy shillingsworth one has a complete record of the past dramatic year, and the arrangement is so admirable that no time is lost in finding the desired subject, title of play, revival, or new production, and all that appertains to the drama of the year. The same remark applies to the information concerning the stages of Paris and Berlin; and I should like to see next year the American stage included, because it is becoming so intimately allied with our own, by reason of the production of plays, the interchange of actors, and the comprehensive interests of managers. In addition to the solid pages of facts, there are included short tales and stories by well-known actors and actresses, and altogether the book is one which should find its way into the hands of all genuine lovers of the drama.—Morning Advertiser, Feb. 23, '07.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for 1907 is out, published from the offices of "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. It is the usual complete record of doings in theatreland during the past year, and possesses a live interest in the number of excellent personal contributions by well-known managers, authors, actors, and actresses of the day.—Sportsman, Jan. 22, 1907.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
That invaluable annual, "The Era" Almanac, has just made its appearance for 1907. In addition to its usual record of the important productions and revivals of the past twelve months in London and Paris, there is a series of bright contributions by Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Edward German, Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Charles Collette, Miss Alma Murray, and other well-known members of the profession.—Sunday Times, Jan. 27.

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"The Zuyder Zee," "The Globe of Life," Four Magnanis, Macarte Sisters, Black Hussars, Clown Pinta, Leipzig, Paul Conchas, Leonard Gautier, Johnny Watson's Dogs, Alf. Loyal, Chronomegaphone.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30, for:—
"The Duchess of Tooting," Bertha Stuart, Lloyd's Wolfhounds, J. B. Preston, "Aunt Matilda," Lily Burnand, Eric, Whit Cunliffe, Bioscope, Five Osranis.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
"Sergeant Brue," Bioscope, Ross and Lewis, Alice Maydue, Miles Stavordale Quintette, Dusty Rhodes, Lottie Govell, Illustrated Song, Tom Woottwell, Salerno.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
The Poluskis, Emmie Ames, Moulier Sisters, J. T. McMillan, Davis and Gledhill Trio, Dida, Olive and Owen, Bioscope, Harry Bancroft, Carter-Livesey and Co.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
Ten Loonies, Bioscope, Starr and Leslie, Grace Merton, Menotti, Mount and Corelli, Chas. Clark, Maud Courtney, "Mysterious Mr. C.," "Prince of Monte Carlo."

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Karno's "Tragedy of Errors," Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, J. W. Rickaby, Will Cornish, Boccaccio Minstrels, Millie Lindon, Imperial Russian Troupe, Bert Woodward, Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Ernest Shand, Dot Hardy, Arabella Allen, Mlle. Von Etta, Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten, Narow Bros., Frasettis, Twin Bros. Dean, Powell's Marionettes, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Darnley's "The Skirmishers," Herbert Rule, Twin Andersons, Jackson Family, Vanando, Victor Travers, Ted and May Hopkins, Venie Clements, Millie Howell, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Fanny Fields, Bioscope, San Tan Girls, Gus Dallon, McConnell Trio, Gus Garrick, Sidy Nirvana, Mabel Bright and Co., Gasch Sisters, Bily Adair, Fulbrook and Co.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
A. Jefferson and Co., in "Her Convict Lover," Bioscope, Howard and Collinson, Harry Freeman, Signor and Mme. Borelli, Cecile and Francois, Madge May, Little Ganty.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
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Rehearsal at 2, for:—
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EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
The Boissetts, Bioscope, Talbot and Pearce, Chas. Coborn, Musical Johnstons, Frank Cumminger, Lina Verdi, Harry Simms, Elsie Claire, Arthur Playfair and Co.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"The Typhoon," Bioscope, Henderson, Collins and Rice, Peggy Pryde, "Kiss your Father," Montague Bros., Guy Ryder, Jordan and Harvey.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Alec Hurley and Co., Erik Bros., Haley's Juveniles, Culpitt, Madge Osmond, Cruikshank, Hymack, Bioscope, Cordova, Jack Pleasants.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
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EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
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EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
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EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
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EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
"Casey's Court," The Anartos, Ben Albert, Edie King, Pat Rafferty, May Henderson, Ryder Slone, Boy Glenn, Marie San Toi and Co., Lauder's Chronomegaphone.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for:—
George Lashwood, Austin Rudd, Baker and Balfe, Rosie Archer, Ella Shields, Farley, Rennie, and Farley, Ruby Dahl, Bioscope, St. Clair Bros.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Fred Lindsay, Bioscope, Lowell and Lowell, Millie Hylton, R. H. Douglass, Binns and Binns, Fielding and Hull, Rossi Ashton, Tom Foy and Co., Mabel Sinclair.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
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Rehearsal at 1, for:—
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Rehearsal at 2, for:—
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IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

NOTICE.—Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities.

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"IN THE TWI-TWI-LIGHT" (C. Wilmott and H. E. Darewski, jun.), and "OH, FOR A NIGHT IN THE WEST" (E. W. Rogers), Sung by George Lashwood.

"THE NORTH WIND AND THE ROSE" (F. R. Westbarr and H. E. Darewski, jun.), and "CIGARETTE" (C. H. Taylor and H. E. Haines), Sung by Miss Hilda Jacobsen.

"HERE COMES THAT GEORGIA MINSTREL BAND!" (Edward Rose). Sung by the Fourteen Black Hussars.

"FOR AULD LANG SYNE" (F. W. Leigh and H. E. Pether), and "THE TENBOB RISE" (Bateman and Bennett Scott), Sung by Tom Costello.

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"MAY" and "THE TOURIST AND THE MAID" (G. Arthurs and O. Powell). Sung by Miss Alice Lloyd.

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CALLS for MONDAY, JULY 29, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

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ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.
Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Carlotta De Yonson and Co., Charles Austin, Ethel Yorke, Harry Welford, T. W. Barrett.

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All Scene and Property Plots of sketches, scenas, &c., must be sent to Foresters' fourteen clear days before opening.
All artists carrying scenery must have same fireproofed in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
Artists please note that when stage staff are required on Sunday, according to the "award" their time must be reckoned from that given in "call."
In cases of emergency after office hours, Mr. Baugh may be consulted at the Foresters' Theatre, Cambridge-road, E.
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CALLS.

FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, JULY 29, 1907.

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PALACE, BLACKBURN.
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PAVILION, LEICESTER.
(Closed.)

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"A Soldier of France."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"The Heathen and the Christian."

THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.
"Home, Sweet Home."

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Picture Entertainment.

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will open in September.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, BURNLEY
will open in December.

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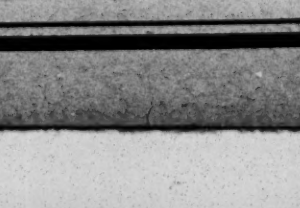

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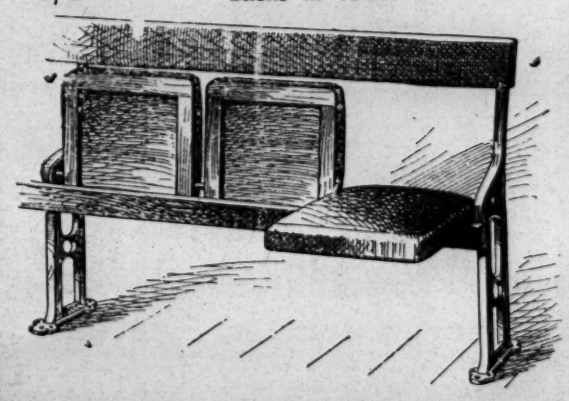

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—The autumn season began with the production of *The New Boy*, which still proves intensely amusing. Mr. Leon M. Lion gave an exceedingly funny delineation of the title-character, and Mrs. Kennick was impersonated most effectively by Miss Katherine Harrington. Mr. Harry Ashford made an exceptionally good Dr. Candy, and Mr. George De Lara was conspicuously successful as Felix Roach. Mr. Stanley Logan was requisitely vigorous and truculent as Bullock Major; Miss Nellie Kedwood was very charming as Nancy Roach; and Miss Beatrice Manning was delightfully piquante as the maid Susan. The farce is preceded by a clever little piece, *Meg the Mobswoman*, which is written by Mr. Leon M. Lion.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, The United Company Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Mr. Jack Lorimer's popularity increases with every visit. His talents as a comedian, particularly of the Scottish variety, are of the very highest order. The Creo Brothers are exceptionally clever acrobats; Garlain gives a good ventriloquial turn; Phern and Phern appear with great success in a musical turn; La Belle Rosa is enthusiastically applauded as a solo instrumentalist; Professor Anderson mystifies his audiences with some deft conjuring; Collin and Irene also greatly puzzle the house in their second-sight act; Espinosa and Neilson are expert burlesque dancers; and Joe Mac dances cleverly and pattera humorously. The Bioscope pictures are amusing.

ABERYSTWYTH. — COLISEUM. — On Monday and two following evenings Mr. Frank Ayrton's company occupied the boards with the popular drama, *The Power of Gold*, when there were crowded audiences. The acting throughout is excellent, especially that of Miss Amy McNeill, in the chief rôle of Lady Brandon.

ALDERSHOT. — HIPPODROME. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—The sensational sketch, *A Club Raid*, is realistically played by Mr. Jack Collinson's company; another laughable sketch is *Topsy-Turvy School*, a screaming absurdity in which a troup of trained children appear, led by Jimmy Green; Eva Hope and company appear in dialogues selected from the works of Charles Dickens; Will Crackles is exceedingly funny; and J. W. Witt gives neat exhibitions of a dance as executed by the various members at a party; Hilda Mascott, a speciality dancer; Syd. McMahon, a tenor vocalist; and the Sisters Brooklands, duettists and dancers, are also here.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Valentine Beadon's company is here, with *The Best Must Win*. The leading male rôle is that of Paul Dumaresq, a lieutenant in the French army, and this part is very ably sustained by Mr. Sydney C. Cranston; Mr. Graham Woods figures prominently by his powerful delineation of "The Panther"; Miss Marie Robson finds plenty of scope for her dramatic ability and skill in the portrayal of the dual rôles of Therese Dumaresq and Lucille La Fanche; Miss Daisy Humphreys also gains applause for her finished portrait of Denise Dumaresq. There are two minor female rôles admirably filled by Misses Dorothy Laine and Madge Palmer. Justice is done to the "Panther's" satellite, Juan Minos, by Mr. Harold Turner; and to other characters by Messrs. Valentine Beadon, H. Wisden, Wilson, Tyler, and H. Monti.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—Heading the bill here for the week is Jock McKay, the funny Scottish comedian, full of the humour reminiscent of the land o' cakes; Jean Seul astonishes and baffles with his act of illusion and mystery; Maxford and O'Neill, in their budget of funny songs, sayings, and jokes, keep the audience in a merry mood; Lillie Dene and Chas. Dawson appear to great advantage in their side-splitting skit, *Stage Aspirants*; and Hyde and Cody are eccentric acrobats. Messrs. Dooley and Seymour's company appear in the musical comedy, *A King for a Day*. Thirty minutes is occupied in the performance of this piece, and some really interesting musical and other items are crowded into that space of time by the actors. The performers in the comedy are Mr. Fred Brampton, as the Hereditary Prince of Polignac, the King; Mr. Harry Buss as Septimus Tupper, an Englishman on holiday; Mr. Robb Barbour as an obliging waiter; Miss Edith Barrett as Eliza Remnant, the last of the autumn stock; and Miss Molly Wolstenholme as Eliza Remnant, her neice, as the latest spring fashion. There is an operatic choir of twenty voices. The Bioscope pictures conclude.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chris. A. Wordsworth.—Picture entertainments are still the attraction here, with illustrated songs contributed by Miss Nellie Burke.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bert Lester.—Mahatma, assisted by Prof C. N. Steen, gives most astonishing and mystifying exhibitions of second sight. Other interesting turns are furnished by Blarney and Kennard, in a refined comedy act; Mr. Cris Van Bern, a comedian with new and novel methods; Osmond, whose eccentric musical act wins much applause; Mr. E. C. Clayton, with an interesting selection of pictures; Mr. Will Lynn, character vocalist; Mexican Mac, assisted by Mlle. St. Claire, in a clever exhibition of shooting; and Mr. J. H. Darnley and company, in *What a Night!*

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—After being open continuously for a twelvemonth, this popular hall is closed for one week for redecoration and cleaning, in preparation for the autumn season, to commence next Monday.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Gaumont's Chronophone, which is attracting large audiences here this week, is pronounced by all as a wonderful novelty. Life-like and life-sized pictures of famous artists appear, and the singing which follows is delightful. This show commenced on Monday night, and is being continued twice nightly throughout the week. The programme includes the "Miserere" scene from *Il Trovatore*, and many other clever pictures, notably a lengthy film of the Oxford Pageant.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—This week's play is *A Trip to the Highlands*. Miss Isa Bowman appears with great success as Miss Winnie Brown-Windsor, a rôle she invests with rare charm. Miss Bowman, during the course of the piece, assumed various disguises with completeness, while her singing and dancing were decidedly clever. Mr. Wal Croft was simply inimitable as the MacMutchkin, his humour being quite irresistible, and honours are also due to Mr. Frank Barclay, a versatile comedian who, as the Hon. Frederick Lackington, achieved a big success with his acting, while his songs afforded much pleasure. Mr. Wellesley Smith was all that could possibly be desired as Viscount Lackington, and the rôle of Sir Septimus Brown-Windsor was quite safe in the hands of Mr. George A. Fox, his unexaggerated impersonation gaining the highest approval. As Dexter, the detective, Mr. Harry A. Gribbon was good; and Mr. Willie Scott could not easily be excelled as Timmins. Miss Nellie Burdette was a vivacious Fanny Flounce; Miss Grace Desmond appeared to much advantage as Miss Araminta Brown-Windsor; and Miss Grace Olivia was quite equal to the small part of Flora. The Tricky Trio, speciality dancers, headed by dainty Dolly Lancaster, assisted materially with their fine exhibition of the terpsichorean art.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Miss Marie Dainton tops the bill, and this accomplished comedienne and mimic has been most successful. A great reception has been extended to the Daunton-Shaw Troupe, their cycling feats being quite surprising; and the Tally-Ho Trio, established pantomime favourites here, gain a great reception fully deserved; Mr. Harry Brown is paying a welcome return visit, his songs and dances affording much pleasure; and Les Belles Americaines, lady vocalists and smart dancers, furnish a delightful performance; Mr. L. B. Athol appears to the utmost advantage in his scena, "Dreamland," which is certainly a feature of the bill; and others appearing are Miss May Nowall, vocalist; Hans and Lux, whose patter is very funny; and the Palace Pictures.

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Van Biene tops the bill with the one-act playlet, *The Master Musician*, which affords him much scope for his wonderful violincello solos. Dean, Tribune and company present the funny sketch *Applicants*, in which Mr. Tribune assumes several distinct characters with great celerity and *éclat*. Mlle. De Rose's fine voice has been heard to great advantage in "Terry" and other songs; the Two Dixons, bâton swingers and banjo song and dance artists, are certainly very smart; and Mr. J. H. Hawtrey, actor-vocalist, has gained unbounded applause. Also here are the Three Laurels, in their smart ping-pong table act; Meier and Mora; and the Hipposcope.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The Craggs appear in *Billy*, which affords them much scope for their well-known daring acrobatic performance. Mr. Horace White, ventriloquist, returns with his capital entertainment, which has been voted very successful; the American Comedy Four combine mirth with harmony, and their items have been greatly appreciated. A hit has been made by Les Strads in their musical sketch, *The Night before the Concert*, and much fun has been created by Bell and Butt in their novel act, *Fun in a Garden*. The Horsley Brothers have amused with their boxing act; and Frank Halter and Marie Ray gain much commendation for their comedy act. The programme is completed with Mr. Mark Merry, comedian.

Birkenhead.—New Theatre Royal. — Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Hardie Von Leer's *Two Little Vagabonds* company is here. The title-rôles are admirably enacted by Miss Winifred Williamson and Miss Ethel Frances Greene; Mr. Arthur E. Melbourne is a commendable George Thornton; Mr. Fred Bell is a good Captain Darville; Mr. Dunstan Haye is an efficient John Scorth; and the rascalities of Bill Mullins are forcibly illustrated by Mr. Lionel Ellis. Miss Georgina Wynter, an excellent emotional actress, is highly popular as Marion Thornton; Miss Violet Vivian is a capital Biddy Mullins; Mr. Harry G. Wright is amusing as the Cough-drop.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Quite a delightful turn is that furnished by the Primrose Quartette of vocalists; the Eight of Hearts, a clever combination of song and dance artists, are also favourites; and Dainez's Circus is an excellent exhibition of animal training. Baker and De Sales, American comedy artists; the Brothers Brasso, acrobats; Prof. Hulbert, ventriloquist; Mr. Frank Leslie, comedian; the Three Royal Temples, vocalists; Mons. de Lil, illusionist; and Brown's Royal Bioscope, complete.

Olympian Gardens, Rock Ferry.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton.—The popularity of this clever pierrot troupe continues unabated.

The Palace, New Brighton.—Manager, Mr. William Holland.—Hales's novel system of world-touring continues to attract much patronage on the part of the visitors to the Tower.

Birmingham.—**Alexandra Theatre.**—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*The World's Great Snare* is presented here by the author, Mr. W. Alexander-Dallas. Mr. Leonard Williams as the U.S. scout, Royal Keene, leaps into instant favour with his bold and vigorous style; Mr. Fellows Bassett acts with clever discrimination as the renegade, Lascelle La Mort; Miss Lallie Forsyth calls for much praise as Wild Rose; and Star Eye, the Indian chief's daughter, is lifted into due prominence by Miss Kitty McPherson. Other parts are successfully enacted by Mr. Stewart Quartermayne as Sir Vivian Ashley, Mr. Fred Lillywhite as Ronald Granville, Mr. George Scully as Hans Von Vinck, Mr. Hyland O'Shea as Patrick Maloney, Mr. Theodore Hill as Red Heart, Mr. Maurice Jones as Moses Levey, and Miss Doris Cameron as Louise Granville. The two chiefs, Yellow Hair and Scar Face, are well exploited as the Pawnee Indians, Antelope and Running Deer.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Kennedy's Komiks continue to flourish here; Mons. Cliquot, at the top of the bill, amazes everyone with his extraordinary sword-swallowing feats, &c.; Freddy Marston as a comic singer has proved eminently successful; Lily Oliver gains flattering opinions as a sentimental singer; Clem Lisbon vouchsafes a clever skating and singing turn, in which appears an intelligent canine assistant; Melvin and Max introduce several coon songs and dances with a great amount of success; Florrie Wright's vocal efforts are received with pleasure; T. W. Lenner is a vocal comedian of much merit; and Vesta, the marvellous female impersonator, appears in a number of highly successful creations.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*The Best of Her Sex* appears here with Mr. William A. Armour's company, who meet with a triumphant reception nightly. Mr. Armour himself essays the rôle of Philip Faringdon, with every degree of success; Mr. Wilfred Protheroe makes a powerful character of the villain, Leslie Verney; Miss Dora Price's portrayal of Vera Delorme is clever and enthralling; and Miss Ina Grant's conception of Ruth Raeburn is natural and sympathetic; Mr. Cole Aspinall proves an able representative of the Rev. Stephen Maxwell; Mr. H. De Ville makes an effective study of the villain's accomplice, Jake Smith; Mr. Herbert J. Walton is successful as Sir Stanton Faringdon; Mr. Herbert Ashton is commendable as Simon Downy; Mr. Fred Rignold's efforts as P.C. Peter Jorkins are full of clever humour; Mr. Horace Buckley scores as Holy Joe; Miss Nell Ingram supports well as Polly Perkins; and Miss Lillian Rose shines as Little Phil.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Happy Fanny Fields heads the bill this week, and her quaint and original humour ensures her a hearty reception; a charming series of poses, enlivened by colours, is presented by Mlle. Sidy Nirvana; Mabel Bright dances and sings with invigorating brightness; and the Sisters Gasch give a clever acrobatic turn. Other excellent items are provided by the McConnell Family of comedy sketch artists, Ten Sau Sau Girls, vocalists and dancers, Gus Dallon, comedian, Gus Garrick, in "Music Hall Tit-Bits," and Eily Adair, comedienne and dancer.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Comedy tops the bill this week in the person of the droll John E. Coyle; John Kurkamp, equally good in his own way, receives his due share of applause; Blake and Granby are at their best in a smart little doulogue, *The Man in Possession;* and Harry Thurston in a monlogue, *The Silver King*, is also very funny; Hayman and Franklin, the American Hebrew impersonators, give a performance of much merit; and Mac Walten, who is a sort of travelling marine store, also contributes to the entertainment.

Gaiety.—General Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Frank Lister and company, in a dramatic episode, entitled *No. 99*, greatly interest crowded houses; the Two Cabiacs, comedy acrobats, give a novel performance; and Frank Bertram's company, in a comedietta, *The Chaperone*, cause considerable fun; the Cecilias, instrumentalists, from the Alhambra, are very good; while Bishop and Vale do some clever knockabout business; Major Moss and Lou, in a vocal scena, are also in the programme.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—*Her Convict Lover*, a sketch which appeals to the majority of music-hall patrons, is cleverly staged by Arthur Jefferson, and the cast is in proficient hands. Little Ganty, who is known as the Little Lump of Fun, keeps the house in roars of laughter; Madge May has an excellent reception for her clever singing and dancing; and Howard and Collinson, in *The Porter and the Parcel*, are a distinct success; Cecile and Francois are responsible for a clever acrobatic performance; the entertainment of Signor and Madame Borelli is most amusing; and Harry Freeman is entertaining.

Blackburn.—New Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Miss Emma Litchfield's company, in the drama *A London Actress*, are playing to good audiences here.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Mr. Fred Karno's latest production, *The Bailiff*, was seen for the first time at this house on Monday, and proved as big a success as many of the older farcical absurdities with which the name of Karno is associated. The life and soul of the piece is Mr. Fred Kitchen, whose amusing impersonation of Sergeant Lightning on previous visits have gained him much popularity in Blackburn as elsewhere. As the Bailiff he is as funny as ever. This latest character gives him plenty of opportunities, and, needless to say, he takes the fullest advantage of them, and he keeps the house continually laughing from beginning to end. Albert Bruno, Herbert Sandbeck, Harry Laffo, Ellie Buxton, Kate Forster, Jessie Cramonde, and Aggie Morris fill the remaining parts well. There are several other good turns this week, including Roglas, comedy juggler; Dardon and Iris, speciality dancers; Mlle. Lumiere, in her fairy grotto; Josh Dixon, comedian; and Lynch, dancer.

Blackpool.—**Her Majesty's Opera House.**—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. James Welch and company is meeting with the most cordial reception here this week with *When Knights Were Bold*. The principal success is won by Mr. Nelson Keys in the part of Sir Guy de Vere, who creates endless merriment. Mr. Augustus Symonds as Isaac Isaacs and Mr. Talbot Homewood as Wittle contribute clever studies, and Mr. Thomas Paunceforte, who plays the part of the Hon. Charles Widdicombe, acts well and sings well. Misses Violet Graham, Eva Leonard Boyne, and Emilie Polini are the principal ladies, and are most efficient in their work.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*Robin Hood*, played by Mr. Lewis Waller's company, is attracting big audiences here this week. The title-rôle is gallantly essayed by Mr. Ethelbert Edwardes, and Miss Fyfe Alexander imparts grace and charm to the part of Lady Marion. Mr. Leslie Rea gives a good account of Little John, and Mr. Augustus Wheatman makes an excellent Friar Tuck.

Palace Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Little Tich and Neil Kenyon are the star artists here this week, whilst other turns are supplied by Lilian Warren, the pictorial songstress; Fred and Maud Vypond, society entertainers; Sisters Hall, vocalists; Allis and Cassali, in a musical sketch; Sisters Amaranth, acrobatic dancers; Master May, boy vocalist; and the Mysterious Lilith.

Bolton. — **Theatre Royal, Ltd.** — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—Mr. Augustine Knight and his company are this week presenting the romantic drama, *The Assassin*. Mr. Knight himself shows considerable ability in the unenviable part of Prince Demetri; and Miss Ella Vane displays great histrionic powers as the Countess Wanda, the assassin. Good work is done by other members of the company in smaller parts.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon. — This house was reopened on Monday after a short vacation, on the two-performances-a-night system. Jan Rudenyi, the Hungarian actor-violinist, assisted by Mr. John D. Saunders and Miss Dora de Winton, appear in a musical romance, entitled *The Power of Music*, and for his artistic performance on the violin receives many encores. Some clever feats are gone through by Arthur Kenny, sensational cyclist; Mlle. Ada Gatley, in addition to clever juggling, gives a smart performance on the swinging wire; the Bros. Carpos are a couple of clever acrobats; the Saletos give a marvellous and refined head and hand balancing act; and other turns are the Bros. Barker, comedians and patterers; charming May Lilian Levey; the Belmore Sisters, comediennes and expert dancers; and T. W. Rawson and Lily Bertram, in a sketch entitled *The Would-be Actors*.

Boscombe.—**Hippodrome.**—Proprietors, Messrs F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—G. H. Chirgwin is appearing with great success; Little Clif is paying a welcome return visit; Carney and Armstrong, comedians, submit some funny limericks; Gladys Mavius, coon comedienne, appears to advantage in a clever dance; Victor Courtney presents a musical items, "Boots at the Piano"; Kendrick and Laura, society entertainers, provide an acceptable turn; Madge Daly, burlesque artist, is much applauded; the Hippo pictures are as entertaining as ever.

Bradford.—**Prince's Theatre.**—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—*In the Shadow of Night* is played by a company under the able management of Mr. H. Dobell Lyle. Mr. Lyle as the persecuted Gordon Allington wins much distinction; and the villain, Clifford Yorke, is effectively represented by Mr. R. Thomas; the heroine of the story, Violet Kingston, affords Miss Elsie Wallace excellent scope; as Bob the tramp, Miss Phyllis French scores a distinct success; in the dual rôle of Joe Jackson and the Rev. Nathaniel Hope, Mr. Cecil Raymond is humorous; Miss Tina Shaw is bright as Molly Woodstock; Tom Nainby is capitally played by Mr. H. Belmore; and Mr. W. Hayward does well as Jake Grudgewell.

The Empire.—Moss's Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Lockhart's elephants are a big feature of the programme; an artistic and delightful entertainment is submitted by the accomplished musicians, Roma and Romani; *My Pal Jerry* is presented by Lew Lake and a numerous company; Lieut. Travis gives a ventriloquial entertainment of much merit; Harry Bedford's comedy and dancing are very good; Griff entertains the audience with his clowning and jokes; Julia Kent and Alex. Keith are very funny in a comedy duologue, and the Dieppe Motor Races are shown by the American Bioscope.

Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—"The Strassburger's Midgets," with their vocalism, globe-rolling, wrestling, and weight-lifting, are arousing much curiosity and interest; Royston and Royce submit good comedy, whistling, and dancing; in their capital protean sketch, *An Anglo-American Alliance*, Wilton Heriot and company are responsible for an attractive entertainment; the accomplished violinist, Edmund Bosanquet, submits a finely-executed solo, and introduces the novel instrument bearing his name; in a well-acted sketch, *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*, Whimsical Walker is very amusing as the burglar; Libby Blondelle, a very charming comedienne, has valuable vocal aid from a quartette of four "Johnnies" in the audience; excellent singing by The Elgars wins applause; and there are come capital pictures shown by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

Bridlington.—**New Spa Theatre and Opera House.**—Proprietors, The New Spa and Gardens, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Henry Hague.—As described on another page, the first company to occupy the boards of this handsome new theatre was Mr. Chas. Macdona's principal company, in *The Girl from Kay's*, who opened on Monday evening for their autumn tour. Miss Mavis Hope, as Nora, sang her songs with rare grace and expression; as Ellen, Miss Irene Vere quickly danced herself into favour; and Miss Jessie Fraser, as Winnie Harborough, was quite irresistible in her portrayal of the Girl from Kay's. Miss Marie Shields was a capital Mrs. Chalmers; and the young ladies who took the parts of Nora's bridesmaids and the assistants from Kay's were a most efficient bevy of artists. Of course the bulk of the work amongst the gentlemen is that allotted to Max Hoggenheimer, and that capital comedian, Mr. Johnny Scholefield, who seemed to revel in the part, kept the audience in roars of laughter. Mr. Herbert Franklyn's portrayal of Harry Gordon was most effective; as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle, Mr. Geo. H. Liot created no end of fun; Mr. Arthur Jackson as Quench, K.C., and Mr. Archer Brown, as Chalmers, were admirable in their portrayal of the parts; and Mr. Claude Dampier gave a broadly humorous rendering of the part of Joseph, the hall porter at Flacton Hotel. The musical part is under the most efficient conductorship of Mr. W. H. Eveleigh, who has secured a most efficient orchestra; and Mr. Macdona has done wisley in placing the business arrangements in the hands of Mr. Percy Hart.

Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—In the Floral Pavilion, Mr. Joseph Sainton and his finely balanced municipal orchestra are delighting large audiences with their excellent and varied programmes of music. Miss Annie Bartle, a charming and popular soprano, is the special vocalist at the promenade concerts. In the Grand Pavilion crowded audiences assemble to hear the Flockton-Foster Entertainers, and see the clever performances of Mr. Bert Gilbert's well-trained dogs and cats. The Loyal Dominion animated pictures are also a great attraction.

Royal Victoria Rooms.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company are occupying the boards the first three nights of the week, playing *The Taming of the Shrew*, *As You Like It*, and *Macbeth*. In *The Taming of the Shrew*, Mr. Frank Darch as Petruchio, Miss K. Stocks as Bianca, and Miss Clarissa Selwynne as Katherine did excellent service. Mr. John Cairns was a fine Baptista; Mr. Otho Hazlewood as Vincentio, Mr. Charles Mansell as Lucentio, and Mr. Ernest Bodkin as Pedant were all well placed. Miss Kate Plinge did well as the widow, and Miss Agnes Ray made a good servant.

New Spa and Gardens.—Manager, Mr. Henry Hague.—The Imperial Viennese Band, under the conductorship of Herr Simon Wurm, are a great attraction; Miss Grace Nicoll, prima donna, from the Carl Rosa Opera Company, is delightful in her splendidly rendered songs, and the audiences are always charmed by her vocal efforts; Mr. Surrie Lindon and his company of entertainers draw large audiences.

The Palace.—Lessees, Messrs. J. W. and W. H. Delmar. That clever combination the marvellous Elliotts and Savonas are exhibiting their wonderful skill as trick cyclists and expert musicians. The Parisian animated pictures are also very popular.

Summer Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Danton. —This week some capital vaudeville programmes are arranged. For one evening we had an old-fashioned negro minstrel entertainment.

Brighton.—**Theatre Royal.**—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl.—Miss Violet Osmund's company opened here on Monday with *The New Barmaid*. Miss Clara Beck gave a charming enactment of Ethel Joy, the new barmaid at the Owlett's Club; Miss Violet Osmund achieved great success as Dora Heather; Mr. James Hawkes was admirably suited as Captain Lovebury; Mr. Frank Collins's Colonel Claymore and Miss Mabel Harrison's Lady Moulton were well played; Mr. Alexander Loftus was highly amusing as Bertie White, and was splendidly supported in the light comedy element by Mr. James Grant as William White, and Mr. Charles Adeson as Mons. Bonsor. Miss Grafton was effective as Brenda Louth, and the remaining characters were satisfactorily sustained. The choruses were well sung, and the duties of conductor were in the able hands of Mr. E. W. Vaughan.

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—A company under the direction of Mr. Walter Howard is here this week with *Why Men Love Women*. Miss Ellen Snow submits a very fine impersonation of Violet Livingstone; Mr. Hilliard Vox gives a capital portrayal of Gerald Fielding; Mr. Lionel Gadsden acts with marked ability as Captain Staniloff; Mr. Gerald Kennedy's Maharajah is well played; Mr. Arthur Radford acquits himself admirably as the Rev. Arthur Grey; Mr. Martin B. Pedler is entertaining as Lieut. Tommy Fitzherbert; and much amusement is afforded by Mr. Harwood Roberts (Orlando Figging), Miss Nita Owen and Miss Freda Vaughan (Birdie and Baby), and Miss Mildred Eversleigh (Mrs. Figging).

Alhambra.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—Marie Lloyd is enthusiastically received in her latest successes; George Mozart is as entertaining as ever; Dora Lyric is a charming comedienne; Fyne and Henley are diverting as the dude and the coster; Arthur Boyne, comedian, affords much fun; George Adams, a New Zealand baritone, sings in excellent style; Lady Silva Martin submits a good turn with her Arabian mare and leaping boarhounds; Max Merlin, "the crocodile and the demon," is well received; Ella Lane is a dainty comedienne; and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting and amusing.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—An excellent programme is sustained here this week. Kitty Gordon wins enthusiastic applause for her highly artistic vocalisation; Mr. John Tiller's company gives a bright and amusing performance of the musical comedy extravaganza, *A Trip to Paris;* Larola, "the clever man with funny ways," is very entertaining; Stewart and Morgan are effective in their vocal speciality, *Return to Ireland;* Raie Walters, "the fishing maid," is a pleasing singer; Charles Faning, comedian, sings and patters admirably; Rose Cabani is a clever comedienne; and the Barrascope pictures are interesting.

West Pier.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company is here this week with *The Lion and the Mouse*. Mr. Leslie Carter gives a masterly portrayal of the lion of finance, John Burkett Ryder; Miss Christine Silver as Miss Shirley Rossmore, the mouse, submits a delightfully winsome impersonation; the haughty secretary has an excellent exponent in Mr. A. W. Bascomb; Mr. Gordon McLeod is capitally suited as the young lover, Jefferson Ryder.

Palace Pier Theatre.—Mr. Charles Carey's company in *After the Ball* is here. Mr Arthur Godfrall, as the Corsican Prince, is highly effective: Mr. Edwin F. Fysher as the Duke of High Brooms makes a decided hit; Mr. Bruce Lindley is thoroughly suited as Pelham Parker, M.P.; Miss Sadie Neville gives a charming representation of Betty Flint; Miss Rosemary Rees is a refined and pleasant Ena Gravity; and Miss Beryl Graham does well as Lady Lotis Gravity. Miss Madge Lacey (the Corsican Princess) dances herself into great favour.

Bristol. — **Theatre Royal.**—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—Miss Winifred Chalmers's company is here with *The Master Criminal*. Miss Chalmers acts with considerable skill and power the difficult part of Cecile; Mr. Henry L. Osmond is consistent throughout as Telford Lestage; Mr. H. C. Macartney is successful as Philip Manners; Mr. J. C. Carlyle gives a good exposition of the detective, Ben Beaudy; Miss Kate Somerville is pleasing as Mabel Manners; and Miss Nellie May is smart and attractive as Peggy Perks. Others successful in their respective parts are Miss Alice Lloyd, Messrs. Willie Black, Walter Rousby, Russell Yorke, W. R. Somerville, and Little Lizzie Power.

Palace. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Chung Ling Soo, the well-known Chinese juggler, is here for the week, supported by his capable company; Bob Hamilton, Scottish comedian, obtains considerable applause; Frank Keegan and company present an amusing bicycle absurdity; Ida Ross, Tyrolean vocalist, has a pleasing voice, which she uses to advantage; Starr and Jerome are clever step-dancers; Carozi and Keith excel as comedy jugglers; the Zerbinis play remarkably well on various instruments; and Kathleen Cogan is decidedly pleasing, both as a singer and dancer. Animated pictures, projected by Vernon's Bioscope, conclude the entertainment.

Empire.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Herbert E. Terry and company are presenting here a fine dramatic sketch, entitled *Retribution;* Alfred Lister and Florence Wakeman are successful in their amusing duologue, *A Restaurant Episode;* Geoffreys and Benson score with a duologue, in which the lady evinces considerable skill as a low comedy artist; Mlle. Pollo presents a clever gymnastic turn on the trapeze; W. H. Downs sings with his accustomed skill in his speciality, "The Darkey's Dream"; Vera Mayne, vocal comedienne, is successful; Milner Verren displays a fine falsetto voice to much advantage; and Flo Cecil both sings and dances in excellent style. The performance concludes with animated pictures.

Broughton.—**Victoria Theatre, Ltd.**—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—In another column is noticed the production of a new one-act piece called *Brother Bill*. The remainder of the programme was filled with some excellent animated pictures in colours by Films, Ltd., and some good songs by Miss Marie Montague.

Burnley.—**Empire Theatre of Varieties.**—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner. — A turn of skilful and smartly-done tricks is that of Paulton and Dooley, comedy cyclists. Chanti, in his extraordinary quick changes and clever dancing and beautiful mechanical scenery, is appreciated, as in previous visits, and the Mayfair Comedy Quartette sing creditably, introducing some very funny antics. H. O. Wills, as a comedian, becomes at once a favourite; the Three Transfields are good instrumentalists; George Edney, in patriotic songs, is capital; and the Lovelaces are well received for their excellent vocal performance. A Drama of the Riviera is the title of a realistic picture by the Empire Theatroscope.

Burton-on-Trent. — **Opera House (New Hippodrome).**—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Waller.—A good array of talent is here this week, consisting of Picitt and Lizette, illusionists and pantomimists, in a clever exhibition; Vendome and Chase, society entertainers and dancers; Rose Waller, comedienne; Mr. G. W. Foster, up-to-date comedian; Fred Squire, mimic and impersonator of star artists; Alfonzo, feet equilibrist and tranka wonder; Nelson Hardy, ventriloquist; and the Operascope.

Bury (Lancs).—**Circus of Varieties.**—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Marks.—Some beautiful pictures are put on the Ottograph here this week. Scenes of Venice and Ireland, and others of a comic character, include A House of a Different Colour, Greengood's Men, Curing the Blind, &c. At intervals songs are given by Wee Jessie, and Sadler and Ross, comedians.

The Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—A good programme includes the Bros. Redmonds, comedians and acrobats; R. Cameron Matthews comedy company, in *The Honeymoon Baby;* the Tossing Austins, capital jugglers; Hilda Leigh and company, in a comical sketch, entitled *The Captain's Daughter;* Lily Eyeton, vocalist; the Sivanees, comedians; and the Elvio Trio of clever comedians.

Buxton.—**Opera House.**—Proprietors, Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—For the first three days of this week we had Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche, in *What the Butler Saw*, and good audiences have been the rule. Mr. Charles Fawcett gave us a typical happy-go-lucky Irishman as Jack Barrington; and Mr. Cyril Harrison played enthusiastically as Sir Charles Foden. Mr. George Ascot was decidedly peppery as General Dunlop; and Mr. H. H. Rignold was most amusing as Weinstein. Mr. Leo St. Clair was a capable Sydney Clifford; and Mr. Hornby Warburton was capitally placed as Vere de Bogym. Mr. Roy Byford was a most amusing Professor Stale; and Mr. Raymond Dudley played the small part of Dr. Clayton ably. Mr. Lionel Rignold's Pink was as bright and humorous as ever; Miss Elenor Gilbart made Miss Foden a very vinegary old lady; Miss Jenny Wigney was a pleasing Nora; Miss Dorothy Hart and Miss Betty Stannard played nicely as the Misses Dunlop; Miss Doris Hunt was well suited as Mrs. Fleming-Smythe; Miss Julie St. George was very diverting as the vulgar Mrs. Hake; and the smaller parts were admirably played. Miss Ada Blanche as Mrs. Barrington was delightfully droll, and pleased the audience immensely. For the end of the week *The Belle of Mayfair* was billed.

Cardiff.—**Theatre Royal.**—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Redford.—*Wanted, by the Police* is presented very successfully by Mr. H. Barre and Co. Mr. Barrs appears in the rôle of Nunkey Snarl, and submits a most interesting delineation. The villainies of Richard Crawford are ably reproduced by Mr. Ronald Grahame; Mr. W. Collins as Philip Stanhope seems quite at home in the part; Mr. Edward Cheetham gives a good character-sketch of the cashier, Underwood; and Mr. Duncan Bell as Dr. Foster portrays the part with due consideration of the dignity required. A painstaking heroine is found in Miss Dorothy Oswald; and the part of Florence Fordyce is in the able hands of Miss Edna Hana. Comedy is provided by Miss Maudie Vincent as Molly and Mr. James F. Firth as Charley.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—A decidedly interesting turn is provided this week by Miss Alice Norton, who claims to manufacture rubies and sapphires in full view of the audience; her experiments with "Liquid Light" are also amazing and wonderful. Ed. E. Ford, described as the Australian sundowner, on Monday night made a great hit, his comical facial expressions causing roars of laughter; Russel Wallett also proves himself very entertaining in song and patter, a special feature being his faultless "make up" as a female; Harry Rochez's ponies and dogs, in their unique circus act, are indeed a masterpiece of animal training and intelligence; the "Casey Army" is as amusing as it is absurd; Rich and Rich are quaint patter comedians and clever dancers; and Charles Parker's Six Æolians, in a refined vocal and dancing entr'acte, are very entertaining; a short turn is provided by Elsie Roby, as *The Slavey at Home*. The usual Bioscope picture concludes.

Carlisle.—**The Palace.**—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Apollo gives wonderful exhibitions of strength. Arthur Gill, a clever mimic, is paying a return visit, and is as amusing as ever; the Phydoras combine eccentric music with smart acrobatic work, and are deservedly popular; Gus Hindell, comedian, has a smartly-worked scena, in which he shows how the boys of to-day are the men of to-morrow. Miss Alice Blandford possesses a nice voice, which she uses with considerable skill and effect; and the Sisters Brenton contribute a lively and clever dance. One of the most interesting items on the programme is an exhibition of ju-jitsu wrestling by Hirano and Miss Merano San. Some fine pictures by the Pepiscope conclude.

Castleford.—**Queen's Theatre of Varieties.**—Proprietors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will. H. Emerson; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Travis.—An entire change of programme is being submitted here this week. Miss Marie Bruce, in illustrated songs, sings in a very effective and taking style, and is thoroughly appreciated; Mr. Alec Arthur, character actor and tenor vocalist, is well received; the Loyal Dominion Company's animated pictures are exceptionally good this week, and are proving a powerful attraction.

Chatham. — **Theatre Royal.** — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard.—Closed. Re-open on Monday next with *Mr. Popple*.

Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—The Three Sisters Urma top the bill here, and give an admirable display on the triple trapeze; Bessie Knight is a pleasing little singer of coon songs; the Cosgans give song, dance, and acrobatics; George Prince scores with his old favourites, "It's the sun that brings 'em out," "Udali," and a ditty new to Barnard's patrons "The Ruins of Pompeii"; Shirley and Ransome's coster episode is entitled *'Arf a Quid*, and proves highly entertaining; the gentleman partner of the Almas performs some daring feats; Tod Lowen's songs go well; Lacey's Erascope projects a very amusing film, *Too Much Mother-in-Law;* and a very warm reception is given to the Melody Comedy Four.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties. — Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries.—Here we have Charles Rutland, comedian; Kenneth and Kane, a hardworking and successful comedy duo; Beaty and Blanche, vocalists and dancers; Billy Williams, with a neat and original parody on "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut." Mark Adams, in his latest vocal scena, *The Wanderer*, which finds much favour; Clack and Clack, in barrel-jumping act; Millie Payne, with popular ditties; Tom and Marie Montrano, in *Do You Reverse?* and the Edisonograph.

Chester.—**Royalty Theatre.** — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Palles and Cussick are amusing in their speciality, *The Funny Side of Life;* the Steinway Glee Singers gain a good reception for their glees and solos; Lily Hayes does well in song and dance; Mint and Mart appear in a paper-tearing act; Ray Maskell's singing and dancing create a favourable impression; Harry Vardon is a good ventriloquist; and Dick Bradley, trick cyclist, and Vernon's Bioscope, complete the bill. A new march, entitled "Cestria," by the recently-appointed musical director (Mr. R. Beaumont), is played by the orchestra.

Clacton-on-Sea.—**Palace, Ltd.**—Managing Director, Mr. P. W. Willard.—The Cullane Trio give a bright and amusing turn, which includes some comic boxing. Other turns include Percy Mayea, smart impersonator and dancer; Ida Kathrena, the Dolly Girl, in a toy-shop act; Walter Curtis, comedian; Henry Bekker, smart conjurer; Grant and Allen, in a burlesque act; the Risto Bros., a couple of smart grotesques; Katherine Radford, character vocalist; and Ethel Doré, comedienne and dancer. The band, under the direction of Mr. Algernon Clark, does extremely well.

Westcliff Gardens.—Proprietors, Messrs. Graham, Russell, and Bentley.—Miss Gertrude Shimpton is the lady singer this week; James Davis, tenor, and P. Gorton Young, baritone and silver hand-bell soloist, are also in the bill. The three proprietors are, as usual, their own comedians.

Operetta House.—Licensee, Mr. Fred Williams.—Mr. W. F. Jury continues to run his animated picture shows here.

Pier Pavilion.—Lessee, Mr. Harold Montague; Manager, Mr. E. J. Barrett.—The Willow Pattern Serenaders are giving bright and amusing little shows to good houses; the troupe is made up of Mesdames Amy Brook, Zoe Styles, and Mildred Parr, and Messrs. Conan Smart and Arthur Chenery. Joad Heteb, the Egyptian illusionist, is also in the bill.

Colchester.—**Hippodrome.** — Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Fred Ginnett and company tops the bill this week in the attractive sketch, *Dick Turpin;* Atlas, Vulcana, and the Sisters Atlas provide an interesting turn; Kloof and Ramsey are a comedy couple with original ideas; Amy Russell is a most successful vocalist; Johnny Worman comes back to the mat in approved style; and Evelyn Beresford displays her wealth of hair, and sings in a charming manner. Mr. Amos Parker, the musical director, is loudly encored for a violin solo, and his interval and picture music forms a distinct and pleasing feature.

Colwyn Bay.—**Public Hall.**—Lessee, Mr. Chas. R. Chaplin.—On Thursday last week Mr. Wylie Thompson and company commenced a three nights' engagement with *A Fool's Paradise*. Mr. Cecil Wynne was exceptionally clever as Sir Peter Lund, M.D., F.R.S.; Lord Normantower was excellently portrayed by Mr. Arthur Claremont; chief honours must go to Miss Florence Radcliffe, who acted with great feeling as Kate Derwent; Mr. J. Henry Twyford as Philip Selwyn was good; and the same may be said of Miss Laura Hansen as Beatrice, his wife. The youthful lovers of fifteen and sixteen caused much merriment, this being entirely due to the portrayal of Miss Hilda Stericker and Mr. Wylie A. Thompson. *The Pick of the Bunch* opened on Monday for three nights. Miss M. Sadie as Nancy caused roars of laughter; as Ruth Gay, Miss Eva Ellis captured the hearts of all; Nellie Mather was in the capable hands of Miss Madge Christopher; Halliwell Menit could not have had a better exponent than Mr. Algernon W. Lee; whilst as Colonel Joseph Menit, Mr. Percy Baverstock was one of the successes of the piece. Mr. Norman Bowyer was a capital dude. The specialities included the Lannons, champion pedestal dancers; Miss Lottie Stone's Troupe of dancers; specialities, and the Hydro Girls.

Cork.—**Opera House.**—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—*A Royal Divorce* is here. Mr. Frederick Victor gives a very powerful and clever rendering of the part of Napoleon; Miss Edith Cole as Josephine acts with appealing power and much grace; Mr. Tom Robertson as Talleyrand fills the part to perfection; Mr. Alfred Grenville is capital in the part of General Augereau; Miss Helen Richmond is a dainty Stephanie; and Miss Agnes Imlay as Marie Louise is most successful.

Coventry.—**Opera House.**—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*The Span of Life* is drawing large houses this week. The chief part of Richard Blunt is taken by Mr. Arthur Chisholm, who well earns the success he achieves. The scheming Dunstan Leech is ably portrayed by Mr. Sanderson Moffatt; Mr. Walter Dale and Mr. Lion Arnscliff arouse considerable amusement as Nutty Brown

provide a laughter-provoking vehicle in their comedy act, *Music Mad*; the Tiger Lily proves her claim to be reckoned on as a startling acrobatic dancer; Vernon's Bioscope continues to be a fine attraction. In the daytime Sydney Leighton's Bohemian Players give al fresco entertainments in the beautiful grounds connected with this pleasure house.

Derby Castle, Ltd.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly. — Miss Hetty King's appearance is the signal of vociferous applause, and her turn secures innumerable encores; the Selbinis, with their acrobatic and trick cycling feats, find many admirers; Mlle. Leola's juggling act, in which she is assisted by Master Ernie, is entertaining; Miss Jennie Hartley makes a hit with her patter and dancing; Sylvo is a comedy juggler who is really funny; and Mr. Albert Whelan as an entertainer maintains his reputation. Texas Hattie also gains applause in her difficult feat of throwing somersaults while playing the violin; other attractions at Derby Castle are Harry Wood's orchestra, dance competitions, and interesting side shows.

The Hippodrome.—Sole Director, Mr. F. J. Connor.—The principal item here this week is supplied in Ara, Zebra, and Vora, in their successful novelty, *Indian Pastimes*, in which one of the chief actors is the talking parrot, Coochoo; Mozetto as a juggler gives a neat and dexterous interlude; Mr. Henry Rayley, a vocalist of power, makes his first appearance, and pleased his auditors; other artists repeat the success obtained last week.

Mr. Frederick Buxton's Pierrots and Tea Village secure a gratifying share of patronage.

Mr. Charles Dare and his burnt cork comedians are reaping golden opinions on Douglas Head. Mr. Dare, in addition to his undertaking on the Head, runs the Empire Theatre with a variety programme, and two houses nightly. The show has been well patronised, and Messrs. Charles Santon, Harry Plant, Philip Percival, Stanton Mills, and the excellent animated pictures form a pleasing programme.

Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrot Troupe attract large crowds of spectators to Onchan Head.

Mr. Tom Isherwood's combination on the Band Stand Promenade stand well in popular favour. The attendances are large, and their efforts are rewarded with applause.

DOVER.—**Theatre Royal, Ltd.**—Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—The visit of *Raffles* on the first three nights of the week attracted large audiences. The name part was played by Mr. Reginald Dance with ease and polish, and Miss Katie Yates was an entirely charming Gwendoline Conran. A clever and distinctive piece of work was Mr. Edward Irwin's impersonation of Mr. Curtis Bedford, and the manly qualities in the character of Harry Manders were convincingly assumed by Mr. Brisco Owen. Mr. C. Rivers Bertram was excellent as Crawshay, Mr. Stanley Lathbury played Lord Amersteth with considerable skill, and the light touch of comedy necessary to the part of Lord Crowley was effectively contributed by Mr. Laurence Grove. Miss Mildred Orme, a handsome and stately Lady Melrose, and Miss Frances Titheradge, a captivating Lady Ethel, work well; and Miss May Brooke's agreeable portrayal of Mrs. Vidal is notable. Miss Rita Ward, a daintily chic Marie, and Mr. Oswald Griffiths, a dignified Goldby, complete the cast. The play was preceded by a one-act comedietta, entitled *Jerry and a Sunbeam*; and Mr. Thomas Sidney and company, in *The Marriage of Kitty*, were billed for the latter end of the week.

The Palace and Hippodrome.—Barrington, the expert pianist, tops the bill, and receives a gratifying reception; Mabel Le Roy, an excellent vocalist, and Violet Edmund, comedienne, score well; and an amusing turn is given by Chris Baker. David Davis is a wonderfully clever mimic and whistler; Hyram Travers also makes a hit; and Frank Hardie's company, in the *Madman's Revenge*, a powerful sketch, concludes.

The Pavilion, Promenade Pier.—The Stanford Concert Party, who are paying a return visit here this week, include Mr. Fred Hudson, a good baritone; Mr. Ivor Warren, a delightful tenor; Miss Hilda Hudson, soprano and comedienne; Miss Nellie Nutt, contralto and pianist; and Mr. Harry Penton, a talented humorist.

DUBLIN. — **Empire.**—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allan; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The World's Championship Wrestling Tournament is the principal attraction. A charming little sketch by Fred Bowyer, entitled *The Little Stowaway*, is warmly applauded; and Dan Leno, jun., makes a decided hit. Continuous laughter follows the songs and patter of George Formby; and the vocal turn of Ellis Barrieton is highly popular. The Norman-Leonard Trio perform some musical selections on different instruments in a clever manner; and Maud Mortimer, ballad vocalist, is nightly encored. James Stewart is delightfully amusing in his pianoforte sketches; and Johnny Danvers, vocal comedian, is scoring a success. The Empire pictures are interesting.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Brothers Artois, in a clever comedy bar act, create considerable amusement; Osborne and Brookes' sketch, *Partners*, proves most enjoyable; Johnson and De Vere do well in a wire and cycling potpourri act; Lillie Soutter, character comedienne, is accorded a hearty reception; and the Le Cren Trio at once prove popular. Snowball and Miss Dolia, comedy artists, score; as does also Ormond Carton, lightning cartoonist. Frank Lynne is a capital character comedian; Effie Stuart is a dainty comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope is also an attraction.

Pavilion, Kingstown.—Manager, Mr. Fred R. Heley.—"The Tourists" concert party consists of Miss Maggie Bowman, a dainty singer and dancer; Mr. Tom J. Morton, a clever comedian; Miss Pauline Hague, charming ballad vocalist; Mr. Yorke Hatton, baritone vocalist; and Miss Constance Upton, solo pianiste, all of whom acquit themselves satisfactorily.

World's Fair and Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—This week we have Sylvia Spiers, coon vocalist and dancer; Bell and Bell, sketch artists; Harry Tremaine, impersonator; Annie Hall, ballad vocalist; Little Dandy, character and descriptive vocalist; and the cinematograph.

Samuel's Exhibition Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels. The artists this week are Reuben Payne, eccentric comedian; Violet Hall, ballad vocalist; George Howard, tenor vocalist; May Danvers, chic comedienne; Frank Stevens, society humorist; and the Harold Comedy Sketch Company, in their laughable farce, *The Miser's Hoax*.

Irish International Exhibition, Ball's Bridge.—The Alexandroff Troupe of Russian singers and dancers, in a scena entitled *Sunday Morning in Russia*, are a new addition this week, and are well patronised. Films, Ltd., are displaying some of the latest pictures with great success; the band of H.H. 2nd Life Guards (conductor, Lieut. Charles Hall) and the Austro-Hungarian Orchestra (Herr E. Meier) are performing delightful selections, which are warmly appreciated; Ludwig's ballad concerts and the organ recitals by Mr. Brendon Rogers are also being well attended.

DUMFRIES.—**Theatre Royal.**—Lessee, Mr. Payne Seddon.—The theatre reopened this week with Mr. Arthur A. Horner's company, the first three nights of the week with *Walker, London*. Barrie's comedy had a good reception, the house being crowded. Mr. Edward A. Coventry was well placed as Jasper Phipps, Mr. W. Kene Hammersmith was successful as Renard Von Burg, Mr. Harry Glenney was very good as Kit Upjohn, Mr. Forrester Harvey made a capable "W. G.," Mr. Arthur Flinders as Ben was excellent, Miss Jennie Douglas Hicks was seen to advantage as Sarah Rigg, Miss Ruby Wyndham was quite at home in her part as Mrs. Golightly, Miss Ethel Crawford as Bell Golightly was well suited, Miss Ruhamah Catton was capital as Nannie O'Brian, and Miss Ethel Stanley was well placed as Penny.

DUNDEE.—**Palace Theatre.**—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam McIntosh.—This popular house reopened for the season on Monday night, when Dr. Walford Bodie appeared. The huge audience was kept in continual amazement by the daring and clever work of the doctor, the manner in which he played with the deadly electric current, and his manifestations in hypnotism, being all of a wonderfully enthralling nature. The doctor is supported by a high-class company of artists. The Tokio Troupe give a remarkable acrobatic turn, and they are loudly applauded; Tom N. Mills, as an actor vocalist, scores well; Three Sisters Holman are clever vocalists and dancers; Mlle. Lilliele Breton is a charming trapeze artist; Helen Henri, ballad vocalist; Little Dolly Robson, the Coatbridge child wonder; the Musical Acmes, and Belford and Mars, duettists, complete a good bill. Packed houses have been the rule.

New Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Drama gives place to varieties here this week. The top-liner here is Professor Alex, Anglo-American hypnotist and magnetic healer, whose demonstrations in hypnotism are of the marvellous order. The absurd antics of the subjects while under the influence kept the house in great merriment; W. J. Williams and Tom Warden, in an Irish vaudeville act, *Mr. Dooley*, are smart and very amusing; Sisters Terry, comediennes and dancers, old favourites here, are very well received; Jack Easy is a very funny Scotch comedian; Field and Lewis, burlesque artists, create roars of laughter, their skit on the modern drama being particularly good; the Brennans command applause for their smart dancing; while Bu-Val, in his concertinacalities, took well. The Electro-Motorscope shows some excellent films.

Empire Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—The 20th Century Animated Picture company pay a welcome return visit here, and submit films of a high-class order. There are also pleasing varieties, including Miss Louie Bright, a good serio and dancer; and Capita, with his clever marionette show.

EASTBOURNE.—**Devonshire Park Theatre.**—**Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clarke.**—Mr. Arthur Hardy's company is here in *Beauty and the Barge*. Mr. Blake Adams gives a very fine and clever performance in which, as Captain Barley, he never misses a laugh or a point; Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu is a smart and manly Lieut. Boyne; Mr. Atheling Farrar is a forceful Major Smedley; Mr. Fred Knight looks and acts with fine effect as Tom Cod; Mr. Horace Kenney is a sympathetic Augustus; Mr. Charles White a capital John Dibbs; and Mr. Ewart Drake an active and lively George Porter. Miss Mary Pemberton is a charming, girlish, and vivacious Lucy Dallas; Miss Dido Drake is a very attractive Ethel Smedley; Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite displays her excellent gifts as Mrs. Porter; Mrs. Smedley is well played by Miss Mona Robin; and Miss Kate Osborne does capitally as Mrs. Baldwin.

Pier Pavilion.—**Manager, Mr. George Hayes.**—Mr. Mouillot's company is attracting very good houses here with *The Girl Behind the Counter*. Mr. Arthur Cartwright sings and acts with excellent effect as Charles Chetwyn; Mr. Ellis Holland is a very droll and humorous General Willoughby; Mr. Howard Cridland introduces very much fun into the part of Cushington; M. Jules Charmettes is a very real M. Duval; Mr. Frederick Park is a funny, genial Adolphus; Mr. Geoffrey Allsopp is a sufficiently fierce Rudolph; Mr. A. M. Moore is a great success as the Waiter; and Mr. W. Amery is a very good Joseph. Miss Nora Brocklebank sings charmingly as Winnie Willoughby; Miss Florence Lee is a bright, captivating Millie; Miss Doris Langdon is a vivacious Ninette; Miss Irene Lavington a smart Suse; Miss Winnifred Knightly a dignified Lady Willoughby; and other parts are in capable hands. Messrs. Arthur and Mills' Pierrots, under the management of Mr. Bert Meredith, are giving daily entertainments here. Miss Edith Blanchard again returns to charm her audiences with an exceptionally fine and powerful contralto voice; Mr. Bert Meredith is a very clever banjoist and genial humorist; Mr. H. V. Crofton is a cultured baritone vocalist; Mr. Ronald Bagnall gives bright sketches at the piano; Mr. Charles Berkeley is a comedian and dancer of much ability; and Miss Nina Lerenza is a versatile lady, who is a pianist, vocalist, and mandolinist.

The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—Miss Florrie Gallimore rapidly gains the hearty approval of the audience, her songs being smartly and cleverly rendered; Mr. Harry Lamore is a very clever juggler, with a novel and original method; the Three Rintos are remarkably smart acrobats and contortionists; Mr. Herbert Bates uses a fine tenor voice with good effect; Miss Josie Delaine is a vocalist and one of the most dainty of dancers; the Three Dares are expert musicians; and the Sisters Bartholomew are a capital pair of duettists.

Floral Hall.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. E. A. Brown.—In a part of the grounds here a series of pastoral concerts are being given several times daily by Messrs. Murray King and Clark's "Dutch Dolls." The clever juveniles who compose the "dolls" are dressed in Dutch costume, and display much talent in the way they give songs, both grave and gay, and musical sketches. Master Bernard Crook, Miss Josephine Crook, and Master Alfred Morris may be singled out as worthy of particular praise.

EDINBURGH.—**Royal Lyceum Theatre.**—**Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.**—A return visit of *The Dandy Doctor* comes in good season, and Mr. Edward Marris's Musical Comedy Company has afforded enjoyment to large summer audiences. Miss Florence Smithers is foremost in the success of the low-comedy element by her clever impersonation of Jane; and Miss Ethel Ward wins unbounded favour by the charm and brightness of her acting in the rôle of Ivy Pendred; while Miss Joan Harcourt, Miss Lilian Drake, and Miss Rosie Chandler play well their respective parts of Miss Vandyke, Miss Loraine, and Marie Merton. As Melchisadeck Brown Mr. William Rokeby misses none of his mirthful opportunities; Mr. Herbert Pearce is an excellent Colonel Pendred, with Mr. Leslie Winter and Mr. Walter Nugent both good as Arthur Vandyke and Bertie Bolingbroke; and Miss Dolly Payne a smart young Buttons. Mr. Drycoff and P.C. Quick find capital exponents in Mr. Owen Dacroy and Mr. H. Turner. The tour is under the management of Mr. Eade Montefiore.

Theatre Royal.—**Managing-Director, Mr. F. W Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.**—The programme this week includes Mr. Arthur Rigby, a comedian who possesses the happy gift of being always able to compel the laughter of his audience; Miss Helen Martin, a ballad vocalist with a cultured voice, is repeatedly recalled for her delightful rendering of several tasteful songs; Windermere and Manfield are bright and lively in an entertaining sketch; Mr. Mark Leslie, the "Swell Coon," is a clever, agile dancer; the Lillian Brothers perform with grace and dexterity a number of acrobatic feats; and Mr. Leslie Curtis presents amusing sketches of coster character. A performance which arouses the enthusiasm of the audience is given by Kartelli in his act on the slack wire; a number of lads, "The Boy Army," go through a series of pretty movements on horseback; and the Royal Bioscope, which shows several beautiful films, complete an excellent bill.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—Mr. Sydney Bacon's combination of artistes, including Mr. Stephen Adeson, make a hit with their bright musical comedy sketch, *The Duchess of Tooting*. *Aunt Matilda*, produced by Frank Elliston and company, is a very diverting performance; and the topical songs of Mr. Whit Cunliffe are of an exhilarating character. Eric imparts some freshness and novelty into an amusing ventriloquial act; Miss Lily Burnand, the burlesque comedienne, is an outstanding attraction, with several new songs; Miss Bertha Stuart proves herself an exceedingly expressive and charming vocalist by her artistic rendering of several Scottish ballads; the native comedian element is admirably developed by Mr. J. B. Preston; the Five Osranis present a clever pantomime entertainment; and an interesting exhibition of high and long jumping is given by Lloyd's Siberian wolfhounds. Bioscope pictures complete a good bill.

FALKIRK.—**Town Hall.**—The theatrical season opened on Saturday, when Mr. Durward Lely and company gave a delightful production of the dramatised version of *The Bonnie Brier Bush*. Mr. Lely, as the minister, displayed an intimate knowledge of the part, and his singing was frequently encored; in the part of Lachlan Campbell, Mr. John Clyde played artistically; Mrs. Lely acted with grace and charm the part of Kate Carnegie. It is interesting to note that both Mr. Lely and Mr. Clyde had a son in the caste. The former acted very well as Lord Hay; while the latter as Tammas was in every way adequate to the part. Mr. Joseph Barker was an effervescing Posty; and Mr. Lowe Mackenzie as the old Scottish doctor was highly entertaining. Miss Lena Levenstone proved to be well chosen for the part of Flores; and Miss Winifrid Willard was a winsome and sprightly Annie; Miss Mary Allan (Mrs. Clyde) as the motherly and kindly-hearted Margit Howe, acted agreeably.

The Falkirk Al Fresco Party (Mr. Collingwood Hope's Entertainers) give delightful entertainments nightly to big business. In addition to a capital series of variety turns, some rare cinematograph films have been shown with wonderful clearness in the open air. Mr. Hope's company includes Mr. J. Curtis, Scottish comedian; Mr. J. H. Carney, humorist and quick-change artist; Mr. Wallace Muirhead, Scottish tenor; and the Sisters Henrietta and Selina, vocalists, instrumentalists, and dancers.

FLEETWOOD.—**Queen's Theatre.**—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry J. Snelson.—The Royal Court Pierrots are here in new songs and concerted numbers; Mr. Jack Cardiff is an efficient stage-manager, and has hit the popular taste with his songs; Mr. Frank Shepherd is very well received, and he and Mr. Jack Cardiff are generally encored for their comedy duets; the Sisters Coyne are smart as duettists and dancers, and Miss Florrie Coyne gives a violin solo in accomplished style; Miss Edith Fay is a clever comedienne; Mr. Arthur Challier acts as accompanist in finished style. The second half of the programme is taken up with *Muldoon's Picnic*, the characters being sustained by Mr. Billy Bland, who takes the part of Mulcahy to the life, Mr. Jack Cardiff as Muldoon, Miss Carrie Nono, Mr. Frank Shepherd, and Mr. Vincent Harvey.

Beach Pavilion.—Astley's Comedy Cadets are performing to large audiences. The following artists appear: Brothers Astley, comedians; Mr. Will Hee and Mr. Alf. Millard, comedians; Mr. Sten Liddard, who is very popular in his baritone songs; Miss Lloyd Jeffries, comedienne; and Mr. John Kershaw, accompanist.

Marina Pavilion.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Harry J. Snelson.—The Merry Madcaps appear twice daily, and are drawing good houses; Mr. Billy Bland is a favourite in his humorous songs, and he and Miss Carrie Nono take very well in their comedy acts; Mr. Vincent Harvey is a good comedian; Mr. George Ogden is another comedian who is well received; and Miss Jessie Anderton, besides acting as an efficient accompanist, uses a good soprano voice to effect in some well-known songs. A series of first-class animated pictures bring an excellent show to a close.

FOLKESTONE.—**Pleasure Gardens Theatre.**—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company in *Mr. Popple* was here the first half of this week. Mr. Edwin Brett was a diverting Freddy Popple; Mr. Tom May made a decided hit as Platt; Mr. Francis Rayne sang well as Kenyon; Mr. Ryton Hoare was very good as Norman Popple; Mr. Sydney Courtenay and Mr. Henry Chichester were efficient as Hennay and Doring; Miss Emmeline Orford was quite successful as La Bolero; Miss Raynor Golden was a natural Violet Brinton; and Miss Norma Morra, as Louise, acted and sang in a vivacious manner. *The White Chrysanthemum* was billed for the last three nights of the week.

Leas Pavilion.—Manager and Musical Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—An entire change of programme is submitted here this week. Miss Elsie Elgar, soprano, is heard to advantage in several charming songs; Miss Evelyn Harrison sings in clever style to her own violin accompaniment: Mr. Leonard Harris tells some smart stories; Mr. Bertram Banks scores a success with his living marionettes; and the Pavilion Bioscope, with some excellent films, is a special feature.

Victoria Pier.—Manager, Mr. Robert Forsyth.—The Rhondda Valley Glee Singers are the possessors of fine voices, which they use with excellent effect and gain enthusiastic applause; Mr. William Miles is clever both as a raconteur and zither soloist; Mr. Tom Taylor, a local favourite, is recalled again and again; Miss Francis Toft renders some trombone solos in capital style; and Miss Zette Handel's Orchestra contributes its share to an enjoyable programme.

GATESHEAD. — **King's Theatre.** — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—Mme. Irma Geasen, with her "living statuary" in bronze, is greatly relished; Bellonini's Cockatoos form an interesting turn; Molly Woolstenholme, an operatic vocalist, is a huge success; Cosgrove and Burns, a pair of original and very entertaining duettists, find the maximum amount of favour; Scottie's Waifs and Strays depict the humorous and pathetic sides of life in London streets in some well-arranged songs; "Whizzing the Whirl," a pillow fight on a revolving pole; Harry Taylor, comedian; and the the usual Pictures are also in the bill.

Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Miss Loie Esmond's company, in *The Sorrows of Satan*, is here. Prince Lucio is in the very capable hands of Mr. Edward Neville; Mr. F. Douglas Howard is seen to the utmost advantage as Geoffrey Tempest; Miss Loie Esmond's depiction of Diana Chesney is worthy of the highest praise; Lady Sybil is well embodied by Miss Rosie Neville; and Miss Eunice Udall makes the most of her opportunities as Mavis Clare.

Queen's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—In addition to the New York Picture Company's films, we have Master Harry George showing here.

Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Asting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—Mr Chas. Macdona's chief company, on a three days' visit, opened its tour here on Monday, in *The White Chrysanthemum*. Mr. James Graydon gave a quaint impersonation as Sin Chon, and was very successful; Miss Muriel George as Sybil made a dainty Japanese maiden; Miss Dorothy Sephton was a fascinating Betty; and Miss Rosa Sullivan Keys was a prepossessing Cornelia, scoring both in song and dance. Mr. Florence acted well as Lieut. Armitage, and sang acceptably; Mr. Victor Kerr as Lieut. "Chippy" Belmont did well; Mr. James Dallas was a merry Private Perks; and Mr. J. T. McCallum as the amorous Admiral was very amusing. Another of Mr. Chas. Macdona's companies is billed for the remainder of the week, in the musical play, *Mr. Popple, of Ippleton*.

Pavilion Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—The United English Opera Company, under the direction of Mr. F. S. Gilbert, is paying its fifth annual visit here, and opened on Monday in the *Daughter of the Regiment*. Tony was finely played by Mr. F. S. Gilbert, who was in excellent voice; Miss Doris Gilbert filled the rôle of Marie with distinct success, her singing being deservedly well applauded; Mr. J. Kneale Campbell as Sergeant Sulpice was well placed; the Countess had a graceful exponent in Miss Evelyn Gilbert; enlivening humour was produced by Mr. H. Blagrane as Buno and Miss Kate White as Babette. The other works announced during the week were *Maritana, Il Trovatore, The Bohemian Girl*, and *Faust*.

In the Pier Band Kiosk Mr. Wallis Arthur's company, "The Lieutenants and the Maids," continue their enjoyable *al fresco* concerts every evening and on three afternoons, the other three matinées being given in the St. Leonards' Gardens.

GLASGOW.—**King's, Ltd.**—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—The amusing comedy, *My Soldier Boy*, is being presented here this week by Mr. M. Russell Rosse s company. As Montagu Mendle, Mr. Dallas Welford is highly diverting; in the part of the fiery Colonel Roscoe, Mr. Clavering Craig acts with capital effect; good character acting is also seen in the Toddenham of Mr. Norman Clark; the part of Captain Cullender is adequately filled by Mr. Stuart Black, and the other young officer, Allison, is suitably represented by Mr. Dudley McLeod; whilst the rôle of Private O'Docherty is smartly played by Mr. George Mudie, jun.; Miss E. Nolan O'Connor gives a graceful and winning portrayal of Lydia Mendle; Miss Rachael de Travis is well suited as Mrs. Morrison; the Geraldine Morrison of Miss L. Kingston is an attractive rendering, and Miss Kitty Naughton is good as Martha.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—*The Plucky Nipper*, presented by Miss Bonwin Carlton's company, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Sidney Moore is a convincing Captain Frank Leslie, and the part of Ina Fenwick is sympathetically sustained by Miss Esther Lamont. Mr. Edward Surrey's interpretation of Bill Burgess is a clever piece of acting, as also is the Richard Vanbrugh of Mr. William Brenner; and Mr. H. J. Butler as Colonel Fenwick and Mr. Claud Kingston as Henry Paget also appeared with much acceptance. Miss Bonwin Carlton as Polly Hithard and Mr. Dan Rogers as Tommy Atkins keep the house in good humour. The Daisy Paget of Miss Kitty Maynard gave satisfaction.

Empire, Ltd.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—*Sergeant Brue* in a condensed form is the big item here, and makes an enjoyable sketch. Arthur Reynolds as the Sergeant and Maitland Marler as Cookie Scrubbs are responsible for the humorous element. Salerno, the juggler, is here again after a lengthy absence, and his feats are neater and more ingenious than ever; Dusty Rhodes, the American patterer, is one of the best turns on the bill; Tom Wootwell comes provided with several new and smart songs in his best style; the Miles-Stavordale Quintette repeat their previous successes as musicians; Alice Mayduo gives a clever bit of low-comedy acting; Gracie Moore contributes an illustrated song; Lottie Govell shines in song and dance; Ross and Lewis are smart American artists; and the Bioscope is well up to date.

Zoo-Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—A good company here is headed by the Polnski Brothers, who prove as funny as ever in their eccentricities. Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery in *The Would-be Actors* also prove to be strong favourites. A clever illusion, Dida, presented by Lewis de Burgh, creates much wonder. The Davis and Gledhill Trio of Cyclists arouse considerable enthusiasm in their ingenious racing-track feats; Olive and Owen make a decided hit with their *Roadside Tinkers* scena; Moulier Sisters are clever and daring performers on the horizontal bars; Emmie Ames has a clever speciality song, "Emmie's Christmas Tree"; J. T. McMillan, in eccentric Scotch songs; Harry Bancroft, comedian; and the Bioscope complete an excellent programme.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Joe Elvin and company, in the amusing sketch, *The Bookie*, win hearty and deserved applause, and A. Bokou, a juggler and balancer of much originality, who foots the bill, is much appreciated. Alec Kendall is a big success in patter and song; Annie Casey, a chic comedienne; and the Ellimans, in a fine musical act, are features in a good programme, to which Martine and Son, in song and picture, also contribute. Keith and Merson make a hit in *The Meet*, in which they patter well and give a unique athletic display, and Charles Chard is a good comedian. Large houses are drawn nightly.

Palace.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Walden; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—George Gilbey, comedian, is the outstanding attraction, and worthily upholds his reputation; Lowenwirth and Cohen, Hebrew comedians, are retained for another week. The programme also includes Mark Henton, comedian; Terry and Bentley, comedy artists; Dunningarto, conjurer; Francini, Ollom, and Page, instrumentalists and tumblers; J. H. McCann, comedian and dancer; and the Bioscope, with an interesting set of pictures.

Coliseum, Ltd.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Lots of mirth is provided by the Ten Loonies in their musical sketch, and several finely-played selections prove them to be thorough musicians. Harry Roxbury and company in *The Prince of Monte Carlo* also add much to the enjoyment of the large audiences. Menotti, the wire-walker, proves as wonderful as ever in his daring feats on the running wire; Mysterious Mr. C. gives an extremely smart turn, with clever and up-to-date patter; Grace Merton sings "Dear Heart" with excellent effect; and enjoyable songs are contributed by Maude Courtenay. Mount and Corelli, in a musical sketch, *The Master and the Maid*, take well in songs and dances; Charles Clarke gives an amusing "scene-shifter" song; and the Bioscope shows the latest films. Starr and Leslie take well in a clever speciality act.

Gaiety, Ltd.—General Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Beatie Foster's low-comedy songs are excellent, and she gets a capital reception. The other entertainers include the Three Coopers, in vocal harmony; Lib Hartley, comedienne; Lily Hales, the "Queen of the Wooden Shoes"; and Wallace Whitney, a capable comedian; while the Scotch element is to the fore with Donald MacDougal, a witty comedian. The Bioscope pictures are as popular as ever.

Britannia.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—Miss Dahlia, Continental gymnast, gives a neat turn here. George Glenville, comedian; and W. H. Smart, comedian and dancer, both contribute good items. The lady artists are Kitty Lavigne, topboot dancer; little Mattie Carson; and Carrie Bernhard, comedienne and dancer. The Panopticon continues to draw well with its permanent attractions.

GLOUCESTER.—**Palace.**—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole.—The programme is this week contributed to by Oliver Conroy, comedian, who makes a decided hit; Cyrus Dare, humorist and child imitator, has also a capital reception; and Mr. E. W. Selman proves a strong comedian; Miss Ivy Gallard, comedienne, is successful, as also is Miss Olive Armidale in the same line of business. Prince Ishmael and Mlle. Valeria present a smart Hindoo illusionist act, and the Brothers Adderley are expert duettists and musical mimes. An interesting turn is provided by Kiaro, marvellous hand jumper and pyramidist, and Miss Nell Cotter also appears. Mr. Harry Grey enlists the aid of the cinematograph in an eccentric turn of much merit.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — **Royal Aquarium.**—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's company is here with *The White Chrysanthemum*. The principal parts are taken by Mr. Will Jordan as Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage, Mr. Lawrence Goff as Lieutenant Reginald Armitage, Mr. Erskine Lang as Lieutenant Chippendale Belmont, Mr. Frank Weir as Sin Chen, Mr. Herbert C. Walton as Private Perks, Miss Blanche Astley as Cornelia Vanderdecken, Miss Maude Duval as Netty Kenyon, and Miss Pauline Potter as Sybil Cunningham.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company is here with *Sunday*. In the title-rôle Miss Nita Fagdon is simple, natural, and winsome. Mr. Leonard Pagden, first as Arthur Brinthorpe and then as Colonel Brinthorpe, proves himself a capable actor, and his earnestness and manliness in the latter rôle win hearty approbation; Tom Oxley is capitally represented by Mr. William H. Brougham; and Towzer, Davy, Lively, and Jacky find excellent exponents in Mr. Sidney Rennef, Mr. James Hussey, Mr. Alex. Alves, and Mr. Thomas Dixon. Miss Rosalind Ross is effective as Mrs. Naseby.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—Signor Volpe's Royal Italian Circus is paying a return visit, and the animals participating in the programme evidence marvellous intelligence and go through their turns with wonderful precision. The clowns, Piccolo and Fiori, provide unlimited amusement in their comic interlude.

Britannia Pier Pavilion.—Managing Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—Miss Billie Barlow, the popular comedienne, is scoring here with "On the Go" and "Nursie." Charles Ulrick, the Barrel King, is giving his remarkable tranka act; Tony Iveson, the Ragman at the Piano; Steve Cooke, comedian; York, Mac, and York, in scena, *Widow Mac's Troublesome Boys*; Little Don, the "Quaint Oddity"; and Miss Beatrice Vernon, a vocalist of much merit, are also appearing. Mme. H. E. Anglers' Ladies' Pompadour Band continue in the bill, and G. W. Houghton is giving his daring high-diving exhibition.

Wellington Pier Pavilion.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge. — Sydney's James's Royal Strolling Players form the attraction here this week, and with music, humorous songs, duets, trios, concerted pieces, dances, and sketches provide a capital entertainment. The artists include Mr. Sydney James, society entertainer; Miss Madeline Rossiter, comedienne and dancer; Mr. G. W. Desmond, humorous vocalist and eccentric dancer; Miss Seymour James, comedienne and dancer; Mr. Alexander Chentrens, baritone; and the Sisters Marion, juvenile duettists and dancers.

GREENOCK.—**Pavilion, Ltd.**—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—Excellent turns are given by Harry Edson, in a clever performance with a couple of well-trained dogs; Pete and Minnie Lee, who are to be congratulated upon their success in *The Scotchman's Visit to London*; the Sisters Clifton, duettists and dancers; George Rae, Scottish comedian; the Brothers Harrison, comedians and patterers; and the Paviscope, with interesting pictures.

GRIMSBY.—**Prince of Wales Theatre.**—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's drama *When the Lights Are Low* is here. Mr. George Daiper presents a manly figure as Guy Goldsworthy, whilst his less scrupulous half-brother, Roland Goldsworthy, is suitably portrayed by Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan. Mr. Lance Usher contributes some good character-acting as Ikey Isaacson; Miss Amy Ellam accomplishes excellent work as the adventuress, Violet Christie; whilst in the highly-contrasting character of Nan Christie, Miss Violet Carlyle is equally good, and the part of Stella is prettily played by little May Ediss. There is an abundance of comedy provided by Mr. Russell Bogue, Mr. Francis Serle, and Mr. James E. Abbott, as three eccentric soldiers, and Miss Cissie Podmore as Kathleen Kerry.

The Palace. — Proprietors, the Grimsby Palace Theatre and Buffet Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—A miniature drama, *The Red Letter*, is attracting much attention. The principal parts are taken by Miss Lily Pearl, Mr. H. Leslie Bell, and Mr. F. Wilson. Troba gives an interesting display of juggling; the Brothers Zampah, a couple of one-legged artists, give a remarkable performance of jumping and acrobatic work; Harry Wenburn is a successful comedian; the Ringling Trio combine comedy with gymnastics; Babs Lloyd is a clever juvenile dancer; and Minnie D'Aubyn, comedienne, and the Two Sparks, duettists and dancers, also contribute interesting turns.

The Empire, Cleethorpes. — Proprietor, Mr. J. Carter-White.—Florence and Lillian are delighting the audiences with their skilful and artistic musical speciality; a clever exposition of thought-reading is given by a miner and his daughter; Madge Northcotes is a pleasing balladist; Ruby Norton sings popular songs; Alvar is a clever gymnast; Will and Rose give a performance embracing conjuring, contortionist, and acrobatic feats; and Ellis and Walker introduce good songs and patter.

GUERNSEY.—**St. Julian's Theatre.**—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris.—On the 25th ult. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sugden and company opened a three nights' engagement. On Thursday *Wheels Within Wheels* was presented, under distinguished patronage. Mrs. Charles Sugden received an ovation upon making her appearance as Mrs. Bulmer, a part which she cleverly handles in her own particular way; Mr. C. Sugden was highly successful as Lord Eric, his acting being perfectly natural and free from restraint; Mr. Ashton Pearse rendered admirable support as Egerton Fartrey. The piece concluded with *Sal Hawkins*, in which Mrs. Sugden again displayed high histrionic ability. *Camille* is also in the bill.

HANLEY. — **Grand, Ltd.**—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—At the head here this week is G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, who scores successfully in his highly interesting items; a dramatic episode, entitled *The Light at the Window*, is admirably enacted; Chas. Morritt returns with his illusions, hypnotism, &c., and on Monday put a man in a trance for the week; an item of special interest is a picture by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, entitled Preseverance Rewarded; Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic does well, his impersonations being admirable; the Three Panamas, in their acrobatic tumb

as Doris Fane; and Mr. Stuart Lomath covers the clerical cloth with much merit. There is a strong comedy element ever present.

Hull Empire.—Captain Devereux's comedy troop of four-footed canines is loudly applauded by large and enthusiastic audiences here this week, the programme for which also includes Hoozee, Gladys Wells, Johnny Thompson, Billy McKeever, and Ada McGovern, Harry Keeble, and Renson and Waite.

Hull Circus.—Animated pictures are still running here.

IPSWICH. — Hippodrome. — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Four Flying Eugenes head the bill this week, and the marvellous gymnastic feats of the clever quartette are received with a furore of applause. Other engagements include Marie Empress, a pleasing comedienne; the Finans, in a comic sketch called *The Fire Station*; the Wartenberg Brothers; Francis Hanlon, dancer and singer; Hall and Earle, eccentric contortionists; and T. Erlanger's comedy company, who appear in a pretty comedy sketch, entitled *The Peacemaker*.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Rex Sugden.—The attraction this week is a first-class company with a first-class drama, entitled *The Bonnie Brier Bush*. Mr. W. Mollison as Lachlan Campbell proves himself a very capable actor. Mr. Mackersy closely approaches perfection as William McClure, and the part of Lord Hay is done full justice to by Mr. Archie W. Chappell, Mr. Henry Odea is life-like as Rev. John Carmichael, and Mr. Alec F. Thompson causes much amusement as Archibald McKittrich, the mail carrier. Miss E. McNay is charming as Flora Campbell, and Miss Elsie Vron makes a neat Kate Carnegie.

JERSEY. — Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. E. Marris.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sugden are paying a visit here this week. On Monday and Tuesday *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* was given. Mr. Ashton Pearse as Aubrey Tanqueray showed considerable dramatic ability; Mr. Charles Sugden was good as Caley Drummond; Miss Palmer was a pleasing Ellean, and Mrs. Charles Sugden as Paula once m re proved herself an excellent emotional actress. Wednesday, when *Wheels Within Wheels* was staged, was a command night, the performance being given in the presence of His Excellency Major-General H. S. Gough, C.B., C.M.G., Lieut.-Governor, who was attended by the offers of the regiment in mess dress. *La Dame aux Camellias* was billed for Thursday and Friday.

Horseshoe Quarry.—Mr. Edward Marris's Pierrots and Veroniques are still a great attraction here. Pretty Miss Elfie Vincent gains numerous encores for her dainty dancing, and Little Keeno is as funny as ever.

Triangle Park.—The Gaieties, under the direction of Mr. Wilson James and Mr. C. Charles Conyers, bring their visit here to a close this week.

Oddfellows' Hall.—Gale and Polden's animated pictures, entitled "Life in the King's Service, Afloat and Ashore," opened here on Monday evening. Miss Maudie Wright is the vocalist, whilst Facio gives some chapeaugraph impersonations and ventriloquial sketches.

LANCASTER.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. W. J. Ferguson and John Porter.—Dandie George and his canine companion, Rosie, give a smart performance; Julian Mack, as the Suffragette, causes roars of laughter; the Howards supply a musical sketch, *Military Mad*, in good style; and Susie and Protti, speciality dancers, have a capital reception. Corman's Juveniles also come in for rounds of applause; whilst Vera Stuart, vocalist, and Lillie Lassah, comedienne, furnish attractive turns.

LEEDS.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Mr. Frank Lindo celebrated at this house on Monday the 1000th performance of his clever play, *Home, Sweet Home*, and a big house greeted the popular author with his effective personation of Stephen Armitage. Miss Marion Wakeford, a talented young actress, gives admirable support in the rôle of Joan; whilst the Misses Daisy and Ray Rochefort, in the respective parts of Dora and Sybil Fay, also merit high praise. Mr. Lawrence Doyle acts with conviction the part of David Armitage; and Mr. Gerald Gamber wins approval for his personation of the Duke of Ancaster.

Empire, Ltd.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—A diverting military burlesque, *The Skirmishers*, played by Herbert Darnley's company, is a leading item of entertainment this week; a fine musical turn by the Jackson Family is a pleasing feature of the bill; Ted and May Hopkins present a phase of Welsh love-making, which is full of humour; Victor Travers compels much laughter with his smart eccentricities; Venie Clements is a charming and popular comedienne; the Twin Sisters Anderson are doing their skipping-rope and other specialties with good success; whilst Herbert Rule, comedian, Millie Howell, vocalist, and Vanando, novelty ventriloquist, are other popular items of a strong programme.

Hippodrome. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—A thrilling display is that of La Diabelo, who tops the bill here this week, and his daring feats arouse manifest enthusiasm; extravagant comedy is dispensed by Bob Hult and Co., in *Welcome Home*, and the item is popular; Gus Harris, Hebrew comedian, is smart and entertaining; Tom E. Hughes is also well liked in the comedy line; the Kurios submit an original humorous medley, which proves vastly popular; a novel acrobatic speciality by the Richards Trio goes well; the Musical Schaffers present their capital musical act; those popular comedy specialists, Bennett and Martell, are again having a good week; and the Stebbings Troupe, in original speciality, Maude Vera, coon specialist, and Mons Selbo, novelty juggler, also win applause.

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Always a favourite here, George D'Albert is achieving big success with a capable company in a dramatic sketch, which is well to the liking of full houses; Tom Kelso and company are at the foot of the bill with a comedy absurdity; Austin and Cowan are scoring their usual vocal success; Edna Latonne, in pleasing vocal contributions, is a notable favourite; Souplessi, the expert contortionist, is giving exhibitions; Andrew Raby proves a popular comedian; and Boden and Bell, in vocal renditions, are also successful.

LEICESTER. — Palace Theatre, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Mr. George Lashwood is receiving a magnificent reception here in his new songs, which he renders with a buoyancy and "go" that carries the audience with him. Ella Shields is a coon vocalist whose vivaciousness and smartness earns for her a gratifying reception; Austin Rudd scores in humorous song and parody; Rosie Archer goes through some remarkably clever mimicry of various stars at the piano; the St. Clair Bros. are skilful comedy knockabout cyclists; Farley, Rennie, and Farley create great merriment in their speciality act, *Fun at a Railway Station*; Ruby Dahl works her merry life-sized mannikins in a smart manner; and Baker and Balfe are masters of the xylophone, the former also being an accomplished dancer. The bioscope depicts the Great Victoria Falls, Zambesi River, Rhodesia.

LEITH. — New Gaiety Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Interest is well maintained in the naval drama, *The Hero of the Flag*, played here by Mr. Edward McLean's company to good houses. Miss Amy Randolph enacts the rôle of Mabel Forrester with much charm and fascination; and Miss Nellie Lauraine is successful in the trying part of Ruth Clifford. Very acceptable comic relief is afforded by the Johnny Truckle and Jenny Stubbs of Mr. George Parrish and Miss Nellie Hook; while the more serious work is capably sustained by Mr. McLean as Jack Lawrence, Mr. Magill Martin as Captain Hilliard, and Mr. Charles F. Johnson as Stephen Clifford; and the villainy of Paul Mansfield, characteristically portrayed by Mr. Midgeley Russell, wins the hearty execrations of the gods. Some realistic stage effects are provided.

LLANDUDNO.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—W. Payne Seddon and George Robertson's company appeared here for three nights in the evergreen *Charley's Aunt*. Stephen Spettigue is in the hands of Mr. Percy Tyler; Colonel Sir Francis Chesney being undertaken by Mr. Edward Christopher. Mr. Dudley Stuart gives a capital portrayal of Jack Chesney; Mr. Cecil D. Brymer being good as Charley Wykeham. Mr. Tom Macfarlane as Lord Fancourt Babberley acquits himself excellently in his dual rôle; Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez is charmingly played by Miss Grace Baring; Miss Sybil Greig (Amy Spettigue), Miss Edith King (Kitty Verdun), Miss Norah Johns (Ela Delahey), and Mr. W. J. Coyle (Brassett), are well placed. For Thursday, Friday, and Saturday *His House in Order* was announced.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. R. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—A variety entertainment is provided here for the week, consisting of the animated Parisian pictures, &c. Mme. Telka, ballad vocalist, contributes some very pleasing songs in excellent style, and is well received; Dean and Dawson, in their sketch, *At the Call Office*, are very funny, and introduce Dody Morris, the unbeaten middle-weight champion of England; Wyllie, the clever tramp musician, completes a good bill.

Happy Valley.—Lessee, Mr. W. J. Churchill.—Mr. Churchill's minstrels are in full swing, and the attendances are enormous daily. Amongst the artists are Messrs. John Callan, Frank Wear, G. Edwards, Fane Aubury, R. Churchill, Tom George, and the proprietor, Mr. Churchill, who is a host in himself. The vocalists are Messrs. Frank Wade, T. Jenner, W. Atikison, and Dawson. Tom McKay is a lightning painter, and Will Franks is the interlocutor.

Pier Head Pavilion.—Local Manager, Mr. A. R. Sutcliffe.—Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's pierrots programme this week is headed by the ever-popular comedian, Mr. Charley Harvey, who keeps the audience in fine humour; Miss Winifred Norman reappears in songs, and her dances are heartily applauded; Mr. A. R. Sutcliffe, the refined comedian, scores as usual; Miss Iris Banfield sings sweetly, and finds favour; Mr. Jack Hughes renders his bass songs in excellent style; and Mr. Clifford Grey, patter comedian, is original.

LIVERPOOL.—Shakespeare Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. E. Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—For one week, prior to the opening of the regular season here, Mr. R. G. Knowles and his vaudeville company have occupied the stage of this theatre, and good business has resulted. The popular comedian came in for a cordial welcome, and afforded his hearers every pleasure as a humorous lecturer. Afterwards Mr. Knowles appeared in his well-known garb, and rendered several songs. Among his supporters were Miss Dora Kingsley, whose charming voice was heard in acceptable numbers; Captain Taylor and his amusing baboons; Deranda and Green, a couple who caused continuous laughter; Morris Cronin and troupe, with their remarkable juggling; Miss Odeyne Spark, an able comedienne; Miss Rachel Lowe, a singer of novelty songs; Marba and Verity, with mirth and melody; Richard Corbin and his smartly-trained dogs; Spissell Bros. and Mack, who presented a laughable sketch, entitled *Ructions in a Restaurant*; the Sisters Wheller, duettists and dancers; and Dave Garter, vocalist.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The "Royal" Stock Company, playing here during the last fortnight whilst their home in Breck-road is being refurbished, have afforded every satisfaction. This week *A Life's Revenge* has held the stage. Mr. Sidney Grant made a powerful Prince Strogoff; the sympathy of the audience was earned by Mr. Harry Tresham as Paul Starovitch; Mr. Robert Wilton afforded satisfaction in the rôle of Nicholas; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood well suited the part of Colonel Tumbleoff; Mr. Francis E. Wybert made an excellent Clarence Chesterfield; and other parts were in the able hands of Miss Florence Palmer, Miss Beryl Ravenswood, Mr. E. D. Allen, Mr. Leo Montgomery, Miss Florence Cameron, and Miss Cecilia Crawford.

Lyric.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The always-welcome Brothers Luck, with their pantomime burlesque, *Blazes*, have convulsed audiences with laughter; daring and clever work as equilibrists came from the Three Seabournes; the smart conjuring by Adam and Hall was witnessed with delight; in his burlesques of vaudeville Arthur Goodman showed great capability; Miss Gibson Pearl was a dainty soubrette and dancer; Ouida Macdermott had several acceptable songs; a gratifying reception was accorded to Arthur Albert for his taking songs; and Ruby Emmerson, a neat comedienne, also appeared.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*The Eve of Her Wedding*, presented here this week by Mr. Wilson Benge's company, has been favourably received. Mr. Benge acted with effect the difficult part of George Tremain; Miss Sadie Smith pleased immensely as Mavis Leverton; Mr. Arthur Keand did well as Squire Leverton; Miss Adeline Raby powerfully portrayed Renie de Telle, the adventuress; credit is due to Mr. Charles H. Gallier for able work as Dick Leverton; and worthy support was given by Miss Violet R. M. Leslie, Mr. Charles Digby, Mr. David Beattie, Mr. Charles Groves, jun., and Mr. Albert Sefton.

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Big business has been done at this popular resort. Top of the programme is the ever-popular Vesta Victoria, whose reappearance, since her American tour, aroused much enthusiasm; Gipsy Woolf, and her Six Sunbeams, with *The Mermaid of Margate*, provide a smart trifle that is richly enjoyed; Frank Cass affords every satisfaction with his merry ditties; the able impersonations of Max Waldron proves one of the best items of the evening; funny and expert juggling is furnished by the skilful Wallys; the Three Sisters Silcott delight everyone with their singing and dancing; B. Croker has several good songs; Walton and Lester, with their comedy conjuring, please immensely; and Mollie Doon, a dainty comedienne and dancer; and Maud Esmond, refined burlesque artist, are also in the list.

Park Palace.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.—The stock company here this week have played *East Lynne*, Mr. Albert Sember being the Archibald Carlyle, Miss Nelson-Ramsey Lady Isobel, and Miss Lilian Burns Barbara Hare.

Haymarket.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Good business continues to be done here. Harry Calden and company being a strong attraction with the sketch, entitled *A Human Fiend; or, I Will Repay*. Wat Tyler, with acceptable character songs, gives satisfaction; the Sisters Overton (Louie and Ethel) as coon delineators sing and dance in good style; and Phyllis Lawton also sings and dances tastefully.

Westminster.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Principal here this week are the marvellous Pardoes; the Jollions gave a smart scena, *The Spider and the Fly*; Mlle. Sara's marblesque trio proves interesting; Sam Shipley is a quaint comedian; some remarkable work on the horizontal bars is performed by the Three Eltons; Lottie Holland has some popular songs; and Frank Whiteley, negro comedian, also appears.

Olympia.—District-Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—The remarkable spectacular work, *The Typhoon*, has proved a strong card. Included in the company are Cecil Morton York, Jim Bond, Harrison Brockbank, J. G. Grahame, John Power, and Lola Patey. Jordan and Harvey, Hebrew comedians, prove irresistibly funny; the popular Peggy Pryde meets with a cordial greeting; a particularly neat classical sketch, *The Sculptor's Dream*, is submitted by the Montague Bros.; endless mirth follows the amusing rhyming of Collins and Rice; Martin Henderson, the blind performer on the concertina, and pianist, gains the closest attention; laughter, loud and long, is aroused by Lonnen Meadows and company, with the farce, *Kiss Your Father; or, The Irish Doctor;* and Guy Ryder proves an able siffleur, vocalist, and mimic.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Top of the bill here this week are the lively Boisset Troupe with *The Bricklayers*, and merriment has been fast and furious. Another big line is *527, Finsbury*, a smart sketch well handled by Arthur Playfair, Constance Hyem, and W. Rogers; the Musical Johnstons give an admirable sample of xylophone playing; Charles Coborn is welcomed in his latest songs; Talbot and Pearce have a delightful Japanese musical duologue, *Yo San;* loud applause greets the clever sand-dancing by Frank Cumminger; and the list also contains the names of Lina Verdi, mimic and comedienne; Harry Simms, comedian; and Elsie Claire, soprano.

Tivoli, Ltd.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Foremost here this week is Lydia Yeamans, whose merry musical pot-pourri, *The Wrong Organ*, in which she is assisted by Mr. Frederick J. Titus, proves exceedingly enjoyable; Ike and Will Scot, as comedians and dancers, need a lot of beating; the Lorrisons arouse a deal of laughter; Dave Miller, Irish comedian and dancer; affords every satisfaction; Cole and Rags present a smart speciality turn; the Barton and Franklyn Trio give a pleasing musical act; and also in the bill are Tiny Arnold, and Jack Crawley, with his regimental smoking concert.

Roscommon.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Success has attended the experiment introduced here last week of abandoning variety for two houses per night drama. Mr. Percy Boucher, already a prime favourite, has this week presented *The Mysteries of London*, in which he is assisted by a capable company.

LOWESTOFT. — Marina. — Managing Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Mr. Robt. Macdonald's company commenced its summer tour here this week in *The Dairymaids*. Especially prominent is Miss Empsie Bowman, who scores heavily in a delightful rendering of Peggy. Lady Brudenell finds a charming exponent in Miss Molly Tremaine; and her ladyship's nephews are capitally interpreted by Mr. Richard Telford and Mr. Robt. Bottomley. Messrs. Victor Huntley (Capt. Leverton) and A. Gordon Begg (Dr. O'Byrne) are both admirably placed; and considerable amusement is afforded by Mr. Dan Aga (Joe Mivens), who proves himself a really clever comedian. Other parts in the lengthy cast are sustained with credit, the "Sandow Girls" being charmingly represented.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. F. Freeland.—The strong programme which is presented this week to large and delighted audiences includes Duncan's Scotch Collies; Max Gruber and his performing elephant, horse, and pony; Rabbit, a local favourite; Little Pimple; Four Rosairies, acrobats; Miss Duchess Powell's performing animals; Tony and Novel, Russian equilibrists; Almero, man monkey; Three Boleros, bar performers; Madam Stella, with her boxing ponies; Maud Ford, comedienne; Margantini and company, in their bull-fight; and the MacGregors, musical entertainers.

South Beach Pavilion. — Proprietors, The Lowestoft Corporation; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Luxton. — Good business is the order in the South Pavilion. Charles Capper, the melodious whistler, joins the company this week, and is a favourite; Charles Kay, the typical topical talker, has established himself in popularity; "Auntie Lou at Bakerloo" and "The Muddled Melody" are his great hits. Bod José is a funny little comedian; Humphrey Bishop is in fine voice; as also is Guy Carlton (tenor); Fanny Chetham charms all with her sweet singing; Madge Campbell is a dainty comedienne; and Frances Roscorla scores well.

Sparrow's Nest Pavilion. — Proprietors, The Lowestoft Corporation.—Patrick Kirwan's Idyllic Players, in their Shakespearean répertoire, are drawing good houses.

MANCHESTER.—Royal Osborne Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. Geo. Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company, in the successful drama, *Her Luck in London*, is here. Miss Mary Neil has a strong part as Nellie Harborne, and plays it wells; Mr. S. Langton gives a good interpretation of the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor; as Richard Lenowen, the Lounge proprietor, Mr. Geo. Heath is seen to great advantage; while Mr. Tyrone Power as Stephen Harborne, and Mr. Douglas Tremayne as the Rev. Lionel Strong, both add appreciably to the interest of the play. Miss Florrie Groves is very entertaining as Maud Gladys Shovepenny; Miss P. Hodson gives a clever depiction of Angelina Plantagenet; Miss Marie Clavering makes an acceptable Madame Gabrielle; and Miss Frances Bruce plays skilfully as Lilian Harborne.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Maurin's marvellous fountains are a highly effective electrical display; Gustave's Royal Pierrots submit a capital entertainment; the Emmell Comedy company introduce an amusing sketch, *My Statue of Grace*, the cast including Adela Levey; the Napoli Sextet sing well; Bianslie is a clever equilibrist; enjoyable music is offered by the Musical Keiths; and other good turns are Madge Allen, vocalist and dancer; Laura Muriel, comedienne; and Conn and Davies, comedians and dancers.

St. James's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—The Thacker Dramatic Company are here in *The Golden Chance*. Mr. J. H. Darnley has a strong part as Arthur Hastings; Mr. Fred L. Witherman is well suited as Stephen Clinton; Miss Kate Bruce does very well in the dual rôle of Veva Zac and Mother Hawk; and Miss Helen Treves makes quite a success of the part of Lydia Hastings.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Mrs. Fred J. Kirke's company pay a return visit with *In Old Madrid*. Mr. Leslie Austin and Miss Marie L. Ellis have the principal heroic parts in hand; and others who acquit themselves creditably are Mr. George Willis (a capital Mendozo), Mr. Walter T. Hybert, and Mr. Charles Burns. The Misses Gertie and Daisy Gaye dance well.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Fred Lindsay, the wonderful whip expert, astonishes the audience; and Tom Foy and company, in *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, are received with roars of laughter. Also prominent is Millie Hylton, who gives selections from her latest successes in her well-known excellent style. Capital turns are added by Binns and Binns, the mirthful musicians; R. H. Douglass, monologue artist; Fielding and Hull, in vocal medleys; Lowell and Lowell, acrobats, jugglers, and dancers; Mabel Sinclair, an accomplished lady ventriloquist; and Rossi Ashton, in a song sketching act. The Bioscope depicts The Smoking Chimney.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Still; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Harry Tate, the well-known comedian, is very much to the front here this week, in his vastly amusing skit, *Fishing*, ably supported by a good company. Winifred Hare charms, as usual, with several delightful songs; and Ella Retford is a remarkably neat dancer; Arthur Jefferson's farcical comedy, *Home from the Honeymoon*, is presented in fine style, by a capital company; Francis, the cannonball king, smartly assisted by Alfred, provides an excellent turn; Anna Kenwick dances well; Mlle. Ameda is a clever contortionist and foot equilibrist; Boswell's Stage Circus is an entertaining show; and Spry and Austin, the popular vaudeville artists, make a decided hit; Miss Gertrude Howarth, of the choir, sings "Angus McDonald," in first-rate style, and is loudly applauded; and interesting pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

King's (Longsight).—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor.—The Waldrons, in their original absurdity, *The Silly Burglar*, are very amusing; La Troupe Espagnole Juanitos provide a first-rate turn; the Yorkshire Meisters are good singers; and excellent are the Four Netherlands, in their singing and dancing act. Other capital items are offered by J. Koffer-Reynolds and company, in *Conscience;* Gravetta and Parr, in double pot-pourri act; Ella Beaumont, comedienne and dancer; and Georgina Leonard, burlesque artist. Pictures complete.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr Tealor Wade.—Joe Peterman and an excellent company top the bill here this week, in a delightful musical extravaganza, entitled *The Belle of the Orient*, and are very successful; Brinn, in his scena, *Pastimes on a Battleship*, toys with machine guns, cannon-balls, shells, &c., in a surprising and unique fashion; Tom Leamore, the well-known eccentric comedian, sings two funny songs, and adds a most amusing dance; Mr. and Mrs. Payte are very good in a sketch, *Also Ran;* and the Paolias are seen to advantage in their artistic athletic speciality. A smart act is gone through by the Resuas Trio, wire equilibrists; whilst good turns are furnished by Leah Adell, in a charming vocal scena, "Cinderella's dream"; the Sisters Charnley, duettists and dancers; and Ted Cowan, quaint comedian. The animated pictures are good.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Mr. John Le Hay, the well-known London comedian, is scoring here this week, in his excellent farcical and musical episode, *Poor Beggar;* pretty Maie Ash is a very graceful dancer, and is altogether charming in her delightful vocal song scena, *Mr. Gollywog, Good-Night*, nicely assisted by children of Stedman's chorus; Helen Charles contributes a clever and entertaining turn in pleasing style; the Digby Girls are good international singers and dancers; Kathleen Gray, comedienne, sings and looks well; Teddie Rose and May Maidment, as the shoeblack and the serio, are excellent; much amusement is caused by Tom Haverley and Will Homer, in their comedy act, *The Whimsical Waiter;* and smart turns are also offered by Percy Clifton, comedian, and Wal Philips, comedian.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Herbert Darnley's company of clever comedians are here in a bright and tuneful musical comedy skit, *The Sandow Girl:* Perrette and Mona introduce smart singing and dancing in their quick-change act, *Teasing the General;* Marguerite Ismay and juveniles are good; the Irving Trio sing and dance well; and Las Sados, in a juggling act, performs smartly. George Westland, Scottish comedian, is well received, as also are Connie Mascot, comedienne and dancer, and Charles Rowen, a quaint comedian. Interesting pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay.—Alfred Graham's troupe of juveniles, who are pleasing singers and dancers, head the bill here this week, with much success; Goggins and Davies, the versatile comedy acrobats, cause endless amusement; Hilton is an excellent ventriloquist; and the Moules are good in bone solos. Good turns are also those of Mi Narome, comedienne; Allen and Hall, comedians; Tip and Top, capital comedy acrobats; Jack Mansfield, dialect comedian; and Eva Chadwick, a pleasing ballad vocalist.

The White City (Old Trafford).—Managing-Director, Mr. John Calvin Brown; Assistant General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Ellis.—Simbri, the Indian illusionist, is here again, in the Doge's Palace Theatre, and the Pierrots also draw in the Bijou Theatre; Gileno's American Circus continues to draw enthusiastic audiences. Among the new attractions are Professor Williams and his troupe of real niggers in plantation pastimes.

MANSFIELD.—Hippodrome.— Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—During this week Mr. Stanley Carlton's company in *A Secret Wedding*, has been the attraction. As Herbert Hartington, Mr. Stanley Carlton displayed marked ability; Mr. E. Rayson Cousens was capable as Edgar Hartington; and Mr. John Worth gave a finished rendition of the rôle of Ben Drummond. In the exacting part of Grace Edmondson, Miss Rubie Maude showed great histrionic power; and Miss Maude Steeple gave a good portrayal of the rôle of Jack (a waif). The comedy element was creditably sustained by Mr. Edgar Morgan as Billy Barton and Miss Susie Beaven as Polly. The houses have been good.

Grand Theatre and Gardens.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Capt. Cecil Clayton.—Farren's Merry Mascots are still the attraction here, drawing good houses.

MARGATE.—Theatre Royal.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wallis Clark.—Mr. A. Austin Leigh's company opened here on Monday evening for three nights, in *The Tyranny of Tears*. He has been seen to advantage in the rôle of Clement Parbury. Excellent support was given by Mr. Lemmon Warde as George Gunning, Mr. H. G. Mason as Colonel Armitage, Miss Lilian Rogers as Mrs. Parbury, Miss May Saker, who effectively played Miss Hyacinth Woodward, and Miss B. McIntyre, who was charming as Caroline. For Thursday evening and the two remaining nights in the week Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, in *Peter's Mother*, were billed.

Margate Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—Harry Champion is the star turn, and his reception nightly has been a most enthusiastic one; a very smart balancing and acrobatic turn is provided by the Three Newsomes; Peggie Lennio and Walter Hast score a success in their poetical fantasy, *The Sea Nymph;* and the Maples prove exceedingly amusing in their comedy act, *How to Treat a Burglar*. The Brothers Horne, in their sketch and clever exhibition of eccentric boxing, provoke considerable laughter; Flo Somers, comedienne, and Harry Conlin, comedian, also contribute their quota to the programme, which concludes with some amusing pictures.

Hall-by-the-Sea. — Sole Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. Evans.—The contributors to the concert are Lady Mansell and Juveniles, in *A Concert Rehearsal;* Venito, character vocalist; Haverley's American song illustrators; the Prince Milner Trio of equilibrists; H. R. Friscari's hat manipulating and juggling; the Sisters Love, duettists and dancers; and Virto, champion coach-horn player and versatile instrumentalist. Each turn has been accorded a full measure of well-deserved recognition and hearty applause.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—*At the World's Mercy*, presented by Mr. Carr Loates's company, is here for the week. As Captain Manley, Mr. Fred Alerth creates a favourable impression; and Mr. Carr Loates is good as Jabez Barber. Mr. D. G. Knight makes an excellent Morris Goldstein; and Mr. W. H. Irving is successful as Slouching Sam. Mr. Jess Boxer as Charlie Smart, and Miss Cissie Milford in the dual rôles of Skittles and Kitty, are responsible for much amusement; as Alice Lloyd, Miss E. Bell is effective; and Dot has a pleasing representative in Miss Marion Ryder.

Temperance Hall.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price. — The Biograph pictures still attract good houses. Variety turns are submitted by Frank Sauteron, jumper; Will Hughes, the boy coon; Frances Stanley, serio and dancer; and the Sisters Henderson, in musical specialities.

MEXBOROUGH.—Prince of Wales's Theatre. —Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton. — Mr. Sydney Spencer's company are here in *My Sweetheart*. Mr. Ed. Rawlinson is a capital Tony Faust, his singing and acting being equally acceptable; Mr. W. Heilbronn plays cleverly the rôle of Harold Bartlett; the Dr. Oliver of Mr. Val Gully is a well-studied rendering; while the Dudley Harcourt of Mr. Frank Wilson is a thoroughly entertaining impersonation. Miss Lizzie Hall is delightful in the character of Tiny, her vocalisation being exceptionally good and her dancing cleverly executed. Miss Tereza Haynes is an excellent Mrs. Fleeter; and Miss Fanny Olive is well placed as Mrs. Hatsell.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company are here in *The Face at the Window*. Mr. Gilbert Hall, in the character of the evil schemer, Le Loup, gives a strong, well balanced and altogether satisfactory performance. The character of Paul Gouffet, a detective, is well delineated by Mr. T. W. Dunscombe, and Lu Pinau finds a capable exponent in Miss Marie Tennant. Henry De Brisson, a wealthy banker, is in the capable hands of Mr. Alfred Warne; and as his daughter, Miss Mary Barrett is exceedingly good. Mr. Fred Comber is good as Lucian Courtier, Mr. Alan Hinesen as Peter Pottleberg, Mr. George Phythian as Le Blanc, and Miss Gladys Newcombe as Babette are all that can be desired.

Opera House.—Proprietors, the Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Ker-Chatto.—Closed.

Empire Palace.—Managing Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges.—Alice Hollander, the Australian contralto, scores a great success here. France and Stewart create roars of laughter in their sketch, *100 to 1 Chance;* and Dora Martini is a most daring and graceful gymnast. The Three Cape Girls are excellent comediennes and long-boot dancers; and Rex Fox provides a most clever ventriloquial and musical act on the wire. Francis Manners pleases, and other turns are given by Will Poluski, jun., comedian, and Rezene and Robini, gymnasts.

Oxford Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—Fred Moile and E. D. Nicholls and Co. pay a return visit to Middlesbrough this week, and cause much merriment in their comic tragedy, *The Battle of the Bells*. Harry Nelson, a great favourite, causes much laughter, and the Brothers Eugenie give a clever weight-lifting turn. Alf Ripon is an excellent ventriloquist, and Ted Waite, comedian, does well. Burns and Bentley, vocalists and dancers, please, and Rose Elliot, vocalist, and Jennie Johns also add to the programme.

MORECAMBE.—Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. C. M. Julian.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company is presenting the romantic drama, *The Breed of the Treshams*. Mr. Sydney Bland appearing with success as the Rat. Miss Grace Harlington is effective as Batty; Mr. J. Benson North, in the thankless character of Clement does very well; and the Hon. Francis Tresham is admirably portrayed by Mr. Robt. Noble. Mr. Alfred Holles is a dignified Viscount Dorsington; Miss Mildred Hodson charms all with her performance of Margaret; and all the remaining parts are well filled.

Winter Gardens.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco are heading the bill here with their most attractive feast of magic, and huge audiences have applauded to the echo. Ernest Montefiore presents a pathetic scena, *The Little Colonel*, in which Lilian Rose proves herself a child actress of remarkable ability; the Columbia Comedy Trio are excellent in harmony and comedy; and the Two Cymros are Welsh duettists of worth. Other interesting items are provided by De Vere and Kenwick, burlesque pictures and popular songs; Claude Feldman's Juveniles, in song and dance; Bonette and Corrie, comedy jugglers; and Selby and Myers, patterers and singers.

Alhambra Palace. — Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—The Pichel Family of Continental acrobats have proved a big success at this house during the week, and equally popular have been Jimson's sketch, *The Burglar's Surprise*, introducing cleverly-trained dogs; and the Banzai Troupe of Japanese acrobats, contortionists, &c. Percy Curry, comedian, has made plenty of fun; and Little Alice Maude impersonates popular artists with great success. There are also in the bill Drum and Major, comedy merchants; Rappo and Ella, equilibrists; the Custances, in *A Game for Two;* and Edie Endon, comedienne and dancer.

Central Pier.—Manager, Mr. E. Hill.—The Sivronis have a smart turn here in *Opera Gone Mad*, and which "catches on" with all. The Three Merrills are exceptionally smart as comedy cyclists; and the tumbling and table-jumping of Vincaid is of a high order. Conway and Garland are amusing in their sketch, *Left in Charge;* and Mlle. Onva, on the silver wire, gives a pretty act. The Edgertons are accomplished gymnasts; Claire Greta does well in her songs and Spanish dance; and Fred Elton gives a neat entertainment in the act, with specially-painted scenery, *On Board an Allan Liner*.

West End Pier.—Secretary, Mr. J. Bastow.—Fasola, with his Indian magic and other illusions, has been occupying the chief position here. The vocalists have been Miss Irene Ainsley, the possessor of a beautiful mezzo-soprano voice, and a protegée of Mme. Melba, and Mr. H. Halstead, tenor.

MOTHERWELL. — Town Hall. — Mr. W. T. Bushbury's company is here in *Second to None*. Mr. James Stillwell is decidedly good as Captain Mannering; Mr. William Cassiden submits a fine rendering of the rôle of the elderly soldier, Colonel Greystone; Mr. Arnold Harley is a manly and convincing Harry Wilding; his brother, Frank, is excellently enacted by Mr. Malcolm Cumming; and Mr. T. B. Brabazon submits a carefully-studied piece of character-acting as Sergeant Horseman. The comedy element is in the capable hands of Messrs. Warren and Harding as Joe Ruggles and Private Flutter; Miss Norma Dumayne admirably sustains the sympathetic rôle of Nell Greystone; and

musical act, earn much applause; Stelling is another good turn, and his dog is a capital canine comedian; Little Dot Moss is a comedienne with a future; Kate Traill entertains at the piano excellently; and Will Driscoll is very good as a swell comedian and dancer. Almon is a clever upside-down artist; the Dottioscope concludes.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall. — Gaumont's "Life of Christ" and other pictures, both humorous and pathetic, are still being shown by the Bioscope. Other turns include Aminia Renden, in illustrated songs; Chas. Lestree, a smart juggler; and Harry Fife, comedian.

OXFORD.—EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessee, Miss Winifred Stuart; Managers, Mr. Frank Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company is here with *The House of Shame*. Mr. Abbott achieves distinct success with his powerful and very capable rendering of Berkeley Hilderson, and has a good reception; while Mr. W. H. Carbois is good as Kingsley Hilderson; and Mr. Frank Stephens gives a sympathetic portrayal of Barry Hilderson. As Everard Hilderson, Mr. John Lester is particularly well suited; Mr. Edwin Keene shows considerable sense of humour with his laughable performance as Morris, and is greatly assisted in the fun created by Miss Marjorie Tennant as Mrs. Manx and Miss Marion Holly as Eliza. Miss Louise Gilmore is stately as Penelope Hilderson; and Miss Ada Abbott sustains Barbara Linley with marked ability.

Lord John Sanger's Circus gave two performances in the Abingdon-road here last Saturday. There was a capital attendance at the evening performance, when an excellent programme, which embraced such interesting items as Coleman and company in their great elephant act, La Belle Fondanis in an up-to-date wire act, the Maro Troupe of acrobatic equestrians, the Airlees in their top storey act, and Cyclo, the strong man, who allows a real motor car, laden, to be driven over his body, met with a most hearty reception.

PAISLEY.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock: Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—In evidence here this week are Wilbur Hill and Willette Whitaker, delightful singers and instrumentalists; the Three Bounding Pattersons go through some astonishing gymnastic business; the Meeleys, in a comedy act, *A Merry Tramp*, have a hearty reception; the Sisters Currie and Wally Scott present a very entertaining number; Joe Humphreys, comedian, pleases immensely; R. A. Speedwell scores a success as a lightning portrait painter; Alf Walker, negro comedian, is vastly amusing; Harry Tomps proves popular as a comedian and concertina player; and the Hippodrome Bioscope completes a capital programme.

PLYMOUTH.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The well-known and versatile Miss Florrie Forde is here, her songs catching on immensely. The Abdullah Arabs go through their popular tumbling feat with energy; Slippere, the blind musician, is warmly applauded for his touching item; Coram's ventriloquial turn is far above the average in this business; Geraro and Theol appear to be composed of elastic judging from their marvellous contortions; and Emma Don's comedy team are a very funny troupe. The remaining contributors are Evie Hamilton, and Carr and Rose.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company, with *Florodora*, is having a prosperous time here this week—Mr. Fred Eastman enacting the rôle of Anthony Tweedlepunch to the liveliest satisfaction of the audience. Cyrus W. Gilfain is excellently well played by Mr. Esmond Russell; the part of Frank Abercoed, in the hands of Mr. J. B. Fox, is a great success; Mr. Harold Perry plays Captain Donegal in capable style; and Mr. Roadnight does very well as Leandro. Dolores is effectively acted by Miss Maisie Ellinger; Miss Marion Armytage, as Angela Gilfain, is charming, dancing and singing very ably; and Miss Edith Housley portrays Lady Holyrood with fascinating smartness.

PRINCES THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. Walter Howard's stirring and romantic military drama, *Second to None*, is being presented here this week by Mr. Edward Ward's principal company. Miss Ward, as the heroine Nell Greystone, plays sympathetically and well; Mr. Jerrold Heather ably impersonates the character of Harry Wilding; the rascally Captain Phillip Mannering is powerfully taken by Mr. Alfred Brandon; Mr. C. W. Spencer as Sir Reginald Greystone, V.C., plays with sustained ability; Mr. J. G. Main is excellent as Sergeant Jack Horsman; Miss Violet Ennis Lawson makes a satisfactory May Greystone; and Miss Maudie Grayson as Norah, and Mr. Charles A. Preece as Private Flutter, are amusing in their respective rôles.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Capt. Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Dan Crawley is the quintessence of quaintness, keeping the audience in roars of laughter; Edgar Budden, bone soloist and skate dancer, is clever; Alice Maple, comedienne and danseuse, is smart in her work; Wyndham and Waters, in sketch *The Professor and his Pupil*, are diverting; Rosie Lloyd scores immensely in her well-chosen numbers; Three Sisters Kilner, vocalists and acrobatic dancers, are a sprightly trio; the Debreans, in fanciful Japanese and skiographic act, meet with due reward; Franco Piper has very hearty recognition for his clever manipulation of the banjo; Millie Denham, a taking soubrette; Charles Ridgwell, characteristic comedian; Bros. Idento, comedy jugglers; and Payne's pictures finish up a capital entertainment.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—The bright star this week here is Miss Evie Greene, who gives three popular selections from her répertoire in faultless style, and receives a tremendous greeting from a house packed in every part; Natalia and Diana, aerial gymnasts, are a dainty and daring pair of clever artists; Little Salvino is a clever juvenile instrumentalist; Luis Hardt, the Mighty Atom, with some wonderfully striking feats of strength, gains applause; Pasquali Bros. are head and hand balancers of excellent quality; Mr. Hal Forde is popular, and highly amuses with his patter; Mr. Tom Costello well sustains his reputation; Miss Carlotta Levey sings with admirable effect; and the Hippodrome pictures fill the programme.

RAMSGATE. — AMPHITHEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Charles Macdona's company in *The Gay Parisienne* is here. Mr. Will Harman has done excellently in the part of Ebenezer Honeycombe; while Mr. Shirley Lea has appeared to distinct advantage as the bellicose Major Fosdyke; Miss Holford Beringer has capably sustained the character of Mrs. Honeycombe; Miss Alice Nixon is thoroughly charming as Julie Bon-Bon; while the part of the jealous M. Pompier is handled in capital style by Mr. Charles D. Cleveland. Miss Madge Soutter is a distinct success in the amusing part of Ruth; Miss Adeline Burgon (Norah) and Mr. E. F. Gwynne (Tom Everleigh) contribute to the success of the performance. The Imperial Glee Singers are heard to advantage during the show.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.—Mr. Junius Booth and company are staging *Monte Cristo;* as Edmond Dantes, Mr. Booth gives a fine dramatic presentation of the character of the wronged man, and Miss B. Doyle makes a capital study of the part of Mercedes. Mr. Beckett Bould does admirably as M. Nortier; and Messrs. A. Bowerman (Danglers), C. W. Crowe (Mondego), and Walter Huron (Villefort) render excellent service. Mr. Fred Martin most capably sustains the rôle of the prisoner, Abbé Faria; and Mr. Percy Braithwaite (Caderousse) and Miss Alice West (La Carconte)provide the play with requisite humour; Sophie Danglers finds an efficient representative in Miss Doris Dallimore. At the Royal Victoria Colonnade on Monday afternoon, Herr Sacco, the well-known fasting man, commenced a thirty-eight days' fast.

RHYL.—TOWN HALL.—On Friday and Saturday last Mr. Payne Seddon's company was here in *Charley's Aunt*. Mr. Tom Macfarlane sustained the part of Lord Fancourt Babberley in a lively and energetic manner; Miss Grace Baring was eminently suited with her part as Donna Lucia D'Alvdorez; Mr. E. Christopher earned many a hearty laugh with his clever and humorous performance of Charles Wykeham, and he was well supported by Mr. Basil Lynn as Jack Chesney. Other parts were well played by Misses Sybil Grieg, E. Holker, Nora Johns, Messrs. Percy Tyler, T. S. Stewart, and W. A. Stoltuck.

QUEEN'S PALACE.—General Manager, Mr. Fred Benton.—Dancing competitions are a great attraction here, new dances being invented by Professor Finigan. The variety programme is contributed to by Alf Gibson, comedian; Robb Gilmore, an old Rhyl favourite; Vokes and Marshall, in their musical act; and Little Mamie, international dancer.

NEW AMPHITHEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—This week's programme comprises Jock Whiteford, Scotch comedian; Wee Mona Vivian, comedienne and dancer; Arthur Aldridge, tenor; Fred Barnes, comedian; C. D. Reekie, Jack Macdermott, and Forshaw Kershaw, solo pianist.

BIJOU PAVILION.—Leonard Rayner's company are giving a series of concerts here. May Seiber, contralto; Ruby Rayner, contralto; T. Collins, entertainer; Arthur Hytch, solo violin; and W. W. Randall, accompanist, are all well received. At the Central Hall Mr. A. Cheetham's display of pictures includes many favourite films. Animated pictures are also shown at the Victoria Hall by the Australian Bioscope Company, and are of a very good standard. In the bandstand on the West Promenade Gilbert Rogers' troupe of Jovial Jesters draw large crowds each evening, and the entertainments are thoroughly enjoyed.

ROCHDALE.—CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Smith and Co.—Pringle's North American Animated Picture Company seems a fixture here. Some really fine pictures are shown, and thoroughly enjoyed by good houses. Signor Bandoni, concertina king, and Sandov, strong man, appear with success at intervals.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—The Martialo Trio perform astonishing feats of balancing; Goodfellow and Gregson submit an amusing turn; Marie Blythe is a popular vocalist; Billy Richardson's stump oration creates roars of laughter; and Zanfretta and Napio, musical eccentrics; Fred Hollam, comedian; and the Bioscope pictures complete the programme.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Woman from Scotland Yard* is presented by Alex. C. Grant's company. Miss Eveleen Clive as Edith Mayne, the female detective, is seen to advantage; Paul Obanoff is well played by Mr. Alex. C. Grant, and Mr. George Edwin Clive portrays the brave Harry Stanhope with vigour. Mr. J. L. Schofield's personation of Ivan Vassilietch is capital; Algernon Fitzmaurice (a dude) is a good bit of acting by Mr. Walter Clarke; the onerous part of Lady Mary Stanhope has full justice done to it by Miss Mildred Howard; Mr. R. Cromwell, as the jolly coastguard, Jack Brown, and Miss Dorothy Wilkinson as Mary White are responsible for much laughter.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Closed for alterations, &c., till Bank Holiday.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Ajax and George, in their novelty act, *A Scene on Board*, head a good bill this week. Milsted and Bell (Emmie and Joe) give a pretty musical comedy scena, *The Belle of Arizona;* Clotilde and Musto, with their French cockatoos and parrots; Will Sullivan, comedian; The Victorians, harmonising vocalists; and Gladys Silvester, Fletcher Sansome and company in their farcical musical episode, *The Girl and the Tutor*, also appear.

STRETFORD PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Sidney Weatherhilt; Manager, Mr. Fred Erick.—J. W. Riley's Combination furnish a pleasing entertainment this week. Among those contributing are J. W. Riley, conjurer; Miss May Valentine, soprano vocalist; Mme. Mazette, mandoline and banjo soloist; Ernest Barton, tenor; Tom Smith, baritone; Stanley Shaw, humorist; Frank Cuthbert, comedian; and James Hurst, instrumentalist.

SCARBOROUGH.—THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—The star turn here is the Dayton Family of ten acrobats, who have had a most flattering reception. Rozel, on the slack rope, gives a most daring exhibition; the Milfords, in their triple trapeze act, are very popular; as are also the Marios, on the horizontal bar. Mr. Wilkie Lloyd shows extraordinary abilities as a horseman; as a musical clown Dan Gregory knows how to keep the house in a good humour; Harry Frisky has always something new in juggling; Mlle. Convere and her performing horse add considerably to the attractiveness of the entertainment; the Royal Bioscope has a good supply of films.

THE AQUARIUM.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Mr. H. Bradshaw has a capital tenor voice; Sam Redfern is a clever black-faced comedian; as illusionists the Kinnards do well; the Three Cheers and their performing cats have a pleasing show; Lilly Laurine is an instrumentalist of ability: Miss Flo Florence, vocalist, sings well; Canard is keenly appreciated; and J. Hegarty, comedian, appears with success; Wee George Wood is quite popular; and Mlle. Marie Levante's orchestra of ladies and Vernon's Bioscope are admired.

SPA THEATRE.—Proprietor, the Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. Fras. Goodricke.—*The Morals of Marcus* is here this week, well acted by Mr. Bourchier's company. As Sir Marcus Mr. G. H. King is excellent; Miss Hilda Anthony as Carlotta is delightfully pleasing; as Judith Mainwaring Miss Joan Burton is admirably adapted for the part; and Mr. Rd. Neville as Sebastian Pasquale is realistic.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs. Henry Mayhew; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—*The Midnight Wedding* is here. Mr. Alfred Paumier appears as Paul Valmer and Miss Annie Saker as Princess Astrea. In such capable hands the leading parts are effective.

LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Son; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—*The Prince of Pilsen* is here. Mr. Harry Kilburn as Hans Wagner is very funny; as Mrs. Maddison Crocker Miss Sophie Harris sings and acts well, and is applauded; as the genuine Prince Mr. Frank Crump is pleasing, with a good voice; Mr. Bernard Russell as the Earl plays a difficult part admirably; as François Mr. Ernest Gifford displays ability; Miss Connie Leon as a French Maid sings and dances well. The orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. Albert Vernon.

SHEERNESS.—THE HIPPODROME. — General-Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—Amongst the prominent items of a well-arranged programme are Spry and Monti, comedy artists, who gain hearty applause for their efforts; Allsopp and Beckwith, comedians, are responsible for some smart patter; Rosie Loader, musical mimic, is encored for her unique act; Cliff and Kean, comedians and dancers, are received with favour; Flo Rout, comedienne, sings in pleasing style; Ina Lorrimore, a juvenile Scotch comedienne, wins applause; and Mdlle. Lucretia, burlesque actress, is deserving of praise. Animated pictures are also included in the bill.

SHEFFIELD. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*Man's Enemy* is again performed here to appreciative audiences. A good company is headed by the popular artist, Miss V. St. Lawrence, who acts with her accustomed power and ability as the beautiful but scheming Sarah Drake; Mr. Weldon Atherstone as Tom Drake is first-rate; and others who do loyal service are Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby, Mr. N. A. Overton, and Mr. Fred Owen, who causes considerable amusement as Isaacs, an eccentric Jew.

ALEXANDER THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The sensational drama, *A Destroyer of Men*, is being performed to large audiences this week, by Mr. James Hare's company. As the fascinating adventuress, Oga Countess Starevitch, Miss Irene Clifford is the embodiment of feminine grace and elegant villainy; Mr. James Hare is a manly and sympathetic representative of Carl Mischla; and the other characters are carefully played by Messrs. C. P. Wentworth, Hill Cremer, Ross Warren, Chas. Buchell, Charles Coventry, Arthur Swain, Arthur Conroy, Alfred Minns, Miss Emmie Barton, and Miss Alice Buckland.

EMPIRE PALACE—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Mr. Fred Karno's company opened on Monday, in the new farcical serio-comic sketch, in three scenes, *A Tragedy of Errors*. The piece was smartly performed, and the scenery and dresses were artistic. Other turns billed are Mr. J. W. Rickaby, a diverting vocal comedian; Bert Woodward, a clever trick cyclist; Mr. Fred Poplar, comic; Mr. Will Cornish, instrumentalist; the Imperial Russian Troupe of singers and dancers; the Boccacios, troubadours; Miss Kitty Wager, Miss Milly Engler, and Miss Louie Tinsley in *Beauty and the Burglar*, and the animated story pictures, The Struggle for Life.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—Engaged here are Mr. Will Farrell, Vere and Royal, Miss Marie Towers, and the Four Herberts. In addition, a dramatic episode, entitled *Dr. Parker*, and the laughable absurdity, *The New Curate*, are played.

CENTRAL HALL.—Variety artists and the Bioscope, with up-to-date films, still attract good audiences.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—Miss Marie Studholme and company are here in *My Darling*, Miss Studholme's rendering of the part of Joy Blossom being admirable. Miss Ethel Negretti sings and acts well as Daphne Bell; Miss Alice Barth (Lady Heldon), Miss Watt Tanner (Mrs. Pomeroy P. Green), and Miss Edyth Goodall also win well-deserved appreciation. Mr. J. F. McArdle is very funny as Sir Henry Heldon; and Mr. Tom Graves scores as Oddy. Mr. R. A. Hale (Hon. Jack Hylton) and Mr. Alexander Chentrens (M. le Blanc) both sing splendidly. The solo dances by Mr. Frank Hector are very popular. Mr. Chas. A. Wenman is the stage-manager; Mr. Thos. M. Tunbridge, Mus. Bac., Oxon, the musical director; and Mr. Chas. Thorburn, the experienced general-manager of the company.

PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wm. Trussell.—Miss Dolly Elsworthy, successfully appears here as Nell Gwyn in the historical play, *The Orange Girl*. Will Van Allen, the musical tramp, is very popular; and Launceston Elliott, the British Hercules, gives a very strong turn. The Sisters Jonghmans are excellent vocalists; Frank Couch, a quaint comedian; Lottie Bray, comedienne and dancer. Bert Swan and Marie Vesta are here with *In Nelson's Days*. Both artists work hard from start to finish, singing, dancing, and acting in artistic style. Their nautical patter and duet, "The Captain and the Ship," is very smart, and the special scenery greatly adds to the effect. Both artists are clever dancers.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; Gen.-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. F. Howell.—Harry Randall is here, his "Mr. Tootle" and other comic ditties bringing down the house; Lawrence Barclay is a popular comedian; that quaint comedy couple, Ross and Grayson, excel in a mélange of music, singing, and dancing; Chas. E. Colby and Lily E. May, in their ventriloquial and dancing doll act, are very smart, and win golden opinions; Johnson and Pelham, in their ball-punching act; the Sisters Melba, juvenile duettists; Alexandra Edwin, ballad vocalist; Evelyn Taylor, comedienne; and Maxey and Pete, cycling comedians, complete a capital bill of fare.

PIER PAVILION.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait.—Mr. Chas. Parker's Æolian Opera Singers are appearing here. The party includes Miss Lilian Payne, whose songs at the piano are admirably rendered.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—THE THEATRE.—Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—*The Cingalee* is presented by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. Special mention should be made of the additional chorus and special orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Allan Gray. The *pas seul* in Act 2 by Miss Violet Hope is executed in a finished and masterly style; Mr. Tom Payne, in his inimitable portrayal of Chambhuddy Ram, from the very commencement fairly captivates all by his comicalities, and his singing and dancing makes him a comedian of no mean repute. Peggy Sabine is indeed a humorous character entrusted to Miss Lydia Flopp; Miss Aimee Roberts impersonates Nanoya, the Cingalese girl, very tastefully, while her songs were well rendered; Miss Coral Mansell, as Lady Patricia Vane, is pleasing, and gains favour for her singing; Mr. Wilfrid Heath well portrays the chief character of the piece, Harry Vereker, whose tenor selections are rendered with power and effect. Messrs. Milroy Cooper as Boobhamba, W. J. Austin as Bobby Warren, and Frank Sutton as Sir Peter Loftus are worthy exponents, all winning praise for singing.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. E. T. J. Bacon.—Miss Marie Wilton, comedienne and danseuse, with Miss Maud Wilton, a youthful prodigy, win distinction and favour; Professor Garford, a clown with wonderful performing dogs and pigeons, proves most entertaining; Mr. Will Crackles is pleasing to a degree as a comedian; good bass songs are rendered in fine voice by Mr. Wilfred, and he well merits a hearty reception; Amurat gives a highly-delightful turn as a great musical athlete, whose ingenuity arouses much enthusiasm; the Nine Cotton Coons, supported by Uncle Zach (Mr. Charles Cornish), make their appearance for the first time of this season as the ballet, whose "Plantation Frolics" add considerably to an already excellent diversified programme. The Bioscope, with its weekly change of pictures, is also a pleasing feature, while dancing has hosts of adherents. Mme. Rosetti's Eight English Belles make their first appearance in the Café Chantant, where they submit a special society programme.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—The Gallimore San Francisco Minstrels are pronounced a talented troupe; Mr. Geo. A. Kirby is an able interlocutor, while the songs, dances, &c., gain many and hearty recalls. The second part of the programme is even more successful, some of the musical selections being very comical. Mr. Arthur Gallimore, who imparts wonderful vigour in his songs and dances, capitally maintains his reputation; Miss Alma Priestley also sings and dances with equal success; Mr. G. A. Richins is a no mean exponent of farmyard imitations, and his efforts arouse great hilarity. The Four Scoreys fairly captivate in their clever rendition of "Hôtel de Music," and the programme concludes with a pantomime sketch by the Gallimore Trio. On Thursday and Friday afternoons Mr. Albert Chevalier and company gave special matinées.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS. —Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.—*Charley's Aunt* is being presented by Mr. Brandon Thomas's company. Mr. Thomas submits an admirable portraiture of Col. Sir Francis Chesney, and Mr. Spencer Trevor depicts the part of Lord Fancourt Babberley with irresistible humour; Jack Chesney is capitally impersonated by Mr. Hastings Lynn; Mr. Richard B. Mason enacts the rôle of Charley Wykeman with excellent effect; Mr. Walter Beaumont plays Stephen Spettigue with quaint humour; the college scout has an excellent representative in Mr. Sydney Compton; and the female parts are charmingly and piquantly portrayed by Miss Sylvia Morris, Miss Grace Russell, Miss Amy Harpwaye, and Miss Lena McNaughton. The piece is preceded by Mr. Brandon Thomas's playlet, *The Lancashire Sailor*.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Coulson.—*Under the Czar* is being played to good houses by Mr. Fred Jarman's company, under the direction of Mr. Wilson Howard. Nicolas Yeroslaff is ably portrayed by Mr. W. Howard; Mr. Wm. Matthews invests the part of Kovesky with the necessary amount of ferocity; Mr. Gerald Smythe is good as the English Captain; and the same may be said of Mr. G. H. Doyle as Count Nesseldorf. The heroine Sonia is forcibly and charmingly delineated by Miss Carlotta Anson. The comedy element is adequately rendered by Mr. Percy Dawsone as Paul Ignat, Mr. C. Vellender as Alexis Petroff, Miss Madge Clare as the Gipsy, and Miss Violet Vivienne as Siomka. The piece is well staged.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—The chief turn is La Milo, and large audiences are delighted with her artistic poses; a clever mimic is Ray Wallace, who was enthusiastically received; Walter Munro scores heavily; picturesque dancing is contributed by the Caselli Sisters; and other good items are Katie Marsh, actress, vocalist, and dancer; Harry Wheldon, comedian; Josie Mooney, comedienne and dancer; George Bendon, the white coon; and the Bioscope.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. —Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—*The Blind Foundling*, as presented by Mr. Harry Tilbury and company, has been a source of pleasure to large audiences here this week. Mr. Chas. H. Phelps gives a meritorious impersonation of Gerald Dalton, and as Parson Ray Mr. Frank Harvey plays with feeling; Mr. Horatio Sinclair's acting as Mark Redman is impressive; mirth provoking is Mr. Harry Tilbury as Dick Bobbins, Esq.; Mr. John Byron is amusing as Algy; and Miss Millie Doris pleasingly fills the character of Winnie Dobbs. Miss Belle Tilbury acts ably as Isabel; Miss Aline T. George is praiseworthy as Viola Waterford; Miss Ivy Rochefort making a charming fairy.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Chief among the capital company appearing here this week are the Schievonis Troupe, clever and amusing acrobats; Marie Jones displays her versatility in a quick change duologue, *The Way to Win a Bet*; genuinely amusing are Otto and Olga, instrumentalists and mock operatic artists; the Stavordale Quintette, in their banjo and harp speciality are exceedingly pleasing; Smarte Brothers, acrobatic eccentrics, are smart in a marked degree; Ada Whitton is an entertaining burlesque artist; Marcus Boyle, character comedian, is very successful; and Hastings and Fields are capable comedians and dancers.

SUNDERLAND.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Miss Lydia Donavan's *Her One Great Sin* company is here. Miss Donavan taking the leading rôle of Grace Warhurst. She is adequately supported by Mr. G. Edward Hall as Reuben Warhurst, Mr. Cecil Newton as Arnold Thornhill, Mr. Fred Hodson as Jerry Jumble, and Mr. Chas. E. Lambert as Dan Hundle.

EMPIRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Harry Lauder holds premier position on the bill. His "Very Kind to Me, or the Tailor's Widow" is a real creation, and a decided acquisition to his répertoire. Another turn of exceptional merit is Rapoli's clever juggling and billiard cue and egg balancing. The Brothers Webb, in their musical clowns' entertainment, are also far above the average. The bill also comprises items by Chas. Vincent, comedian; Connand Conrad, the quiet burglar; Chas. R. Whittle, the quaint comedian; Frank Bernard and company in *Hello!* sketch; David Poole, ventriloquist; Leonie Dixon, soubrette and dancer; and the Bioscope pictures.

THE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Managers, Messrs. Alf Browne and Syd. B. Stringer.—The famous juggler and balancer, Paul Cinquevalli, goes through a really clever performance in a manner that is highly appreciated by his audiences, receiving recall after recall. Gitten's Condensed Operas by an able quartette of singers form an agreeable turn that is most enjoyable; Stegley and Dowton, in what is aptly described as a "Potpourri of burlesque movements"; Belle Harcourt, comedienne; Helm and Cozens, in *The Doctor and the Patient;* Barney Vox, ventriloquist; Wright and Lawson, acrobatic contortionists and dancers; and the Palace pictures complete a diversified programme.

SWANSEA.—THE GRAND.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—*The Importance of Being Earnest* is well presented at the Grand this week by Mr. Monckton Hoffe's company. Mr. H. Lane-Bayliff as John Worthing, M.P., acts with rare ability throughout; and Mr. Monckton Hoffe as Algernon Moncrieff takes the fullest advantage of his opportunities. The Rev. Canon Chasuble, D.D., is in the capable hands of Mr. Ralph Hutton; and Mr. Arthur Forbes Watts as Merriman, and Mr. A. W. Baker as Lane are also successful. Miss Maude Henderson's impersonation of the aristocratic Lady Bracknell was remarkably clever; and the same remark applies to Miss Lydia Busch's interpretation of the Hon. Gwendoline Fairfax; Miss Nora Hoffe as Cicely Cardew was really charming; and Miss Amy Lloyd Desmond was seen to great advantage as Miss Prism. *The Importance of Being Earnest* is preceded by *A Breezy Morning*, in which Mr. A. Fitzmaurice and Miss Ella Kitson are par excellence.

THE STAR.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. J. Powell.—Mr. Geo. Henry Pitt's talented répertoire company occupy the Star this week with *Drink*, and draw big houses. Mr. Pitt's impersonation of the drunkard Copcaw is a powerful one, and Miss Bessie Ellis is a lovable Gervaise. As the virago Virginée, Miss B. Maitland was excellent; the Lantier of Mr. Herbert Sinclair is a capital impersonation; as is also the Gouza of Mr. Barnett Lando; as Mebbots, Mr. Newton Pearce is one of the successes of the night. The rest of the cast is in capable hands.

THE EMPIRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—Bella and Bijou are as great a success here as ever; Le Berat, the mystic fire-maiden, is seen in some wonderful dancing. *The Coastguards*, a comedy act by Drew and Alders, goes right home; J. W. Hall receives his old-time welcome; the Jackley Trio do some extraordinary things in their acrobatic speciality; Marco, the boy juggler, does a clever turn; George Reeves mimics Napoleon, and does an acceptable conjuring burlesque; the Sisters Poole are a couple of excellent society entertainers; and the Bioscope pictures are very fine.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Miss Dorothy Cacey's company is here in *When We Were Twenty-one*. In the leading character of Richard Carewe, Mr. Riddell Robinson displayed force and ability; and Mr. Cyril Fairlie acted with naturalness and sincerity the part of the Scapegrace Son. As the Firefly, Miss Dorothy Cacey showed a complete mastery of the rôle, and was deservedly applauded; Miss Helena Millais made a fascinating Phillis; Mr. Frank Powell was very good as the Soldier Man; Mr. Edgar J. Coine was excellent as Waddles; and Mr. F. Chas. Poole was commendable as the Doctor.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—An excellent company, calling themselves "The So and So's," is providing the amusement here this week. Miss Maude Davis has a sweet soprano voice, and she is frequently encored. Miss Annie Lang gives some clever speciality dancing, and is a great favourite; Miss Gwynneth Power is very dainty and pleasing in her various items; and Miss Dorothy Edwardes does well at the piano. Mr. Harry Quiningborough introduces some new and amusing songs and monologues; and Mr. Ernest Thiel is meritoriously applauded for his songs at the piano. Mr. Stuart Alexander, the popular tenor, sings most acceptably, and is encored nightly.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Welton Dale.—*The Superior Miss Pellender* is presented by Mr. Fraser Brunner (who plays with much humour the part of the bashful suitor), supported by an excellent company, in which Miss Queenie Fraser Brunner, as the very superior daughter, and Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh as her mother, keep the audience in continual merriment. The other members of Mrs. Pellender's family are represented with real comedy by the Misses Marie Ault and May Staples and Mr. Ellis D. Carlyle, while other parts are successfully undertaken by Miss Marie Longden and Mr. W. H. Gainsford. A curtain-raiser, *The Man of Venegance*, an episode of the Frencsh Revolution, meets with success.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA. — Proprietor and Director, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—The principal attraction here this week is the engagement of "The Gems," which comprises Wallace Kennedy, tenor; Ernest Atwell, baritone; Kenna Lawson, humorist; Edgar Hulland, pianist; Nessie Walker, soprano; and Olive Mortimer, contralto; a combination that submit a most diversified as well as an exhilarating entertainment. Carl du Verne's magical illusion also finds favour, and a special feature is being made of the Bioscope pictures, depicting by a most interesting series the laying of the Capetown to Cairo railway track. The Palace new orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Edwin Thornton, continues to render a splendid selection of popular and classical compositions.

WAKEFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Manager, Mr. Sidney Tolfree.—Mr. Lewis Gilbert and company achieve a success in their stirring sketch, entitled *Kidnapped*, in which Mr. Lewis Gilbert acts with dramatic force. Miss Agnes Molteno, operatic vocalist, presents a vocal scena with living tableaux, and makes a big hit; the Voldam Bros., Dutch acrobats, are clever; Mr. Henry Hilton, illusionist, is smart; Miss Norah Stockelle is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Mr. Sam Spira, society entertainer, evokes hearty applause; Wilman contributes an excellent musical performance; and Miss Ida Thompson, Dutch comedienne, is pleasing.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Heading the bill here this week is Joe O'Gorman, the witty raconteur, who meets with a good reception; others are Nellie Martell, comedienne and dancer; Godfrey James, the singing collier; the New York Nippers, in *Fun Before Bedtime;* Forest and King, "two pieces of elastic"; Cleland, expert juggler; Foreman and Fannan; and the American Bioscope.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES —Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—During a fortnight's vacation this house has undergone a thorough renovation, and the habitués were loud in their praises on Monday night at the many improvements effected. Messrs. A. R. Dean, Ltd., of Birmingham, have refurnished the house throughout, and the new tip-up chairs and beautiful upholstering is a special feature. The management certainly won unusual approval on Monday night, for on all sides one could hear favourable comment. A good company delighted all. Cline and Clark are really smart black and white artists; Zeta Grey and company score well in the musical scena, *The Lancashire Lass;* others are Halma, a smart juggler; Dolly and Elsie, clever juvenile comediennes; Bessie Baines, a dainty artist; Johnson and Bert, good sketch artists; and the Dancing Gilberts, unique dancers.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Fred Karno's *Mumming Birds* is greeted with one continual roar of laughter, as also are *The Early Birds*. Mr. and Mrs. Lucas are delighting all with their splendid rendering of *Scenes from Dickens;* the Sims are loudly applauded in their dainty scena, *From School to Stage*, their dancing being exceptionally good; Dan Hendy, comedian, and Cissy Thompson, comedienne, contribute amusing numbers; and Raymond's Biotableaux are much appreciated.

PIERROTS.— SEATON CAREW affords great attraction this season, owing to the stand of the Cousin Tommy Troupe of Pierrots, which consists of Tom E. Odlin, comedian; Rose Daulby, an excellent vocalist; Harry Massey, vocalist; Arthur

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, July 25.—On Tuesday last the little concert-hall in the Conservatoire was filled with the same crowd we see when the competitions are in full swing. There were the fat papas and pompous mammas of the pupils; the latter's friends; the ubiquitous society loafers; actors and actresses; and the poor overworked theatrical critics, who, somehow or other, can never take a holiday. But the before-mentioned papas and mammas did not wear an anxious look like on the days when their darlings have to appear before a critical jury. As to the darlings themselves, they laughed and looked happy. And no wonder, for the ordeal they had to undergo was of a rather pleasant order. They were summoned to receive the prizes awarded to them last week; and these awards did not consist solely in medals, there were also money prizes. "Oui, ma chère!" I heard a buxom lady remark to her neighbour, in true Montmartre slang, "il y aura de la bonne galette!" This "bonne galette" included a sum of £140 to purchase a harp. The lucky recipient was Mlle. Emilie Delgrado-Perez, a splendid young artist, who had secured a first prize. Others received sums varying from £20 to £40. These functions are generally presided over by the Secretary of the Fine Arts Ministry, but M. Dujardin-Beaumetz was unable to attend, and M. Fauré, the director of the Conservatoire, espying M. Camille Saint-Saëns, asked him to take the chair, whereupon M. Saint-Saëns made a wry face. Taking the chair means making a speech, and the veteran composer is not an orator. But he got well out of the difficulty. "My friends," he said, "tell me that I can only be eloquent at the piano. Not being seated at my instrument, I will not attempt the impossible. For all that, I am not sorry to find myself here. I love the Conservatoire, where I have had some excellent pupils, foremost among them M. Gabriel Fauré." M. Fauré smiled, M. Saint-Saëns smiled, the public smiled and applauded, and the pupils cheered. Then came the entertainment. All the prize-winners came forward in their turn, and each sang something, played something, or recited something. And the people in the hall showed their friends all the celebrities, not forgetting, of course, an official—whose name I have forgotten—but who is the man who receives more kisses than any other person in the French Republic. That official is neither young nor handsome, but as he is in the secret of the gods, he knows a quarter of an hour before the official announcement to whom prizes have been awarded; and the least a young lady can do when he whispers to her that she has received an award is to kiss him—and she does it. In fact, it has become a time-honoured custom.

Everybody remembers Auguez, the famous operatic singer, who for many years was a great favourite with the Paris public. A few years before his death he insured his life for £1,000 in the name of his children. As, however, he left many debts, several of his creditors attached the life-policy money, which they said, formed part of the estate. The case was fought out in one of our law courts, and the Court decided against the creditors. "If a man," said the judge, "is heavily in debt, the only way for him to provide for his family is to insure his life. It is even his duty to do so. This decision has given great satisfaction.

"La Maitresse de piano" will be the first novelty at the Sarah Bernhardt's next season. The play, by MM. Félix Duquesnel and André Barde, will be in five acts and six tableaux, preceded by a prologue. The principal rôles will be played by Mlle. Gabrielle Dorziat, and MM. Maurey and André Hall. Possibly, too, Mme. Augustine Leriche will form part of the cast.

The death of M. Mangin has left the post of chef d'orchestre at the Opéra vacant. There were many candidates, but they disappeared one after the other, well knowing that they would have but little chance against MM. A. Catherine and A. Bachelet. Both these gentlemen have for a great many years been directing the chorus. There are never less than three chefs d'orchestre at our Opéra.

Béranger, the lyric poet, died in 1857, having flooded France with his sentimental songs, which were immensely popular. To-day they are too old-fashioned; but the name of Béranger is still reverenced throughout France. It was known that the poet had several times tried his hand at writing a play, but it was supposed that he had torn up these attempts. Not long ago, however, somebody unearthed a one-act comedy by Béranger, called *Le Paresseux*. The news created a certain amount of sensation, and the MS. having been handed to M. Claretie, it was decided to produce the work at the Comédie-Française. All this was done in the first burst of enthusiasm. When M. Claretie went more carefully into the matter he found that the production would be fraught with difficulties. The piece is interlarded with songs, and although several members of the company have what is commonly called "a voice," it was questionable whether they could be prevailed upon to render, say, "Le Vieil habit," "Le Dieu des bonnes gens," or "Le Grenier." To the great disappointment of Béranger's admirers, M. Claretie has decided to postpone the production of *Le Paresseux*, and it is more than doubtful whether it will ever take place.

The great novelty at the Nouveautés, this year, will be *La Cabotine*, a four-act farcical comedy by MM. Tristan Bernard and Athys, wherein MM. Baron *fils* and Girier will make their début at this house.

On the 31st inst. MM. Hertz and Coquelin withdraw from the Gaîté management, and MM. Isola will take possession of the place. The Gaîté will be transformed into a popular lyric theatre, and on the before-mentioned date it will be handed over to the workmen to make the necessary embellishments.

There will also be several changes of management in the music-hall world. Thus, at La Scala, M. Paul de Fallois has resigned his post, and will be replaced by M. Léon Lecointre. This gentleman promises us several revues, the first from the pen of MM. Léon Nunés and Frabrice Lémon.

The Casino de Paris—as has already been reported—will be turned into a concert hall for symphonic music.

As to the Moulin Rouge, which, during the summer months has been let to MM. Leclerc and Brouette, it will probably pass, in October prox., into the hands of M. Aumont, the ex-manager of the Théatre Aumont, in Moscow.

Mlle. Helene Dutrieu is a talented little actress. She is also young and pretty. But she discovered that it is difficult for a débutante to "make her expenses" on the stage. So she became an acrobat and had a decided success as "The human arrow," and "The winged motor"—this time the young lady could not complain of the salary. For all that, she was not happy. The performances were perilous, and, having nearly met with an accident, she turned her back on acrobatism, and has once more joined the regular stage. She has just signed an engagement with M. Champavert, of the Comédie-Royale, and the terms are, I understand, satisfactory.

M. Paul Clerget, the well-known actor, who, by the way, speaks English like an Englishman, has left for London to engage two English artists for the new work to be produced at the Tréteau-Royal. We tried hard to learn their names, but M. Clerget informed us that it was a great secret, and would prove a pleasant surprise. *Nous verrons!*

A miserable scoundrel sent a telegram to M. Affre, the popular baritone, informing him that Mme. Affre, enjoying her holidays at Cabourg, had suddenly died. That same evening Mme. Affre received a wire announcing her husband's death. It gave them both a terrible shock, but the fraud was soon discovered, and the authorities are trying to find the perpetrator of this mischievous act.

PARIS, Thursday, Aug. 1.—An interesting case, wherein the cinematograph appears as defendant, will soon be brought into one of our law courts. It is an action brought by the heirs of Gounod, Michel Carré and Jules Barbier, against two cinematographic theatres who are producing the entire opera of *Faust*. The before-mentioned gentlemen claim heavy damages, and the Authors' Society demands royalties. Thus far the cinematographs have been exempt from any tax beyond a nominal sum for which they secured the rights to give scenes from well-known works. The offending theatres, however, perform *Faust* in its entirety, and those who bring the action want to prove that, inasmuch as in these performances there is scenery and there are personages, they ought to rank with ordinary playhouses and pay the same royalties. The owners of the cinematographic shows treat the affair as a joke. Our personages, they say, are unreal, and so is our scenery. The whole thing is an optical illusion, and yet Gounod's heirs expect us to pay from 10 to 15 per cent. royalties on these performances! It is absurd, and if the Authors' Society had not interfered no fuss whatever would have been made. But the society is so greedy that it instinctively holds out its hand whenever it thinks there is something to grab.

It is a popular belief that the members of the "profession" do not live long. A few weeks ago, when we carried a poor actress to her last resting-place, someone remarked that she, too, had paid the usual penalty. The lady had died from appendicitis. When Alfred de Musset wrote his famous strophes on Mme. Malibran's death he also pointed out that she was the victim of her art. Actors and actresses know better. They are aware that their calling is not dangerous as far as their health is concerned. The following list—although very incomplete—will confirm this: Derval, the famous actor, was 90 when he died; Mlle. Clairon departed this life at 79; Déjazet at 78; Bouffé at 88; Mme. Dorus-Gras at 91; Mlle. Rose Dupuis at 90; Frédéric Lemaître at 76; Laferrière at 76; Geffroy, of the Comédie-Française, at 91; Lafont at 72; Lhéritier at 76; Hyacinthe, famous for his talent and his long nose, at 73; Chollet, who created Le Postillon de Longjumeau, at 89; Latouche at 81; Lacressonnière at 73; Rénier at 75; Ravel at 76; Mme. Arnould-Plessis at 74; Gilbert Duprez, the celebrated tenor, at 90; Delaunay, at 79; Got at 77; Talbot at 84; and, recently, Mme. Marie Laurent at 78. This short list only comprises celebrities, but there are hundreds of unknown artists who have lived to a very old age, and to their last day enjoyed excellent health.

Two years ago we announced in these columns that the Théâtre des Nouveautés, situated on the Boulevard des Italiens, between the Rue Taitbout and the Rue du Helder, was to be demolished, and that M. Antoine intended to erect on the site a playhouse on a new and approved plan. Events, however, took a different turn. M. Antoine became manager of the Odéon, and the Nouveautés has received a further lease of life of four years. This allows M. Michaud to launch a few more novelties, the first of which will be MM. Tristan Bernard and Alfred Athys' comedy *La Cabotine*, with MM. Germain, Colombey, and Landrin, and Mmes. Paulette Del Bays and Jenny Rose in the principal rôles. This will be followed by *Diz Minutes d'auto*, by MM. Georges Berr and Pierre Decourcelle, wherein M. Noblet will impersonate the chief part.

In the theatrical world it has been a matter of surprise that M. Huguenet, one of our best actors, has not been engaged at the Comédie-Française. He was proposed several times, but for some unknown reason the negotiations always came to an abrupt end. To-day I hear that M. Huguenet's engagement is an accomplished fact. He will interpret there *Le Secret de Polichinelle*, by M. Pierre Wolff, which has had such a successful run at the Gymnase.

The novelties at the Odéon next season will be first, a piece by M. Gustave Geffroy that plays during the Commune, with Mme. Suzanne Desprès in the principal rôle. Next, a comedy by MM. Alexandre Bisson and Berr de Turique. Then *Ramuntcho*, by M. Pierre Loti; and, finally, *Son Père*, by M. Albert Guinon.

Mme. Damala, widow, was the prosecutrix in a case of libel against a man called Lacotte, editor of a small periodical called *Les Guêpes*. The lady thus legally described was no other than Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, who is entitled to our thanks for having come forward and brought her detractor to justice. For some time Mme. Bernhardt, having been reviled in that scurrilous sheet, *The Wasps*, treated these attacks with the contempt they deserved. In the end, however, she was compelled to take action. The editor was sentenced to a week's imprisonment, with the benefit of the First Offenders Act, to a 50 francs fine, and to pay Mme. Bernhardt 500 francs damages. Had the affair been brought into an English Court that editor would in all probability be picking oakum at the present moment, and continue to do so for a considerable time.

Among the new works to be brought out at the Opéra-Comique next season will be *Le Chemineau*, by M. Xavier Leroux, and *L'Histoire de Tristan*, by M. Debussy. The later production has nothing in common with Wagner's work.

M. Henri de Fleurigny is putting the finishing touches to a three-act comedy in blank verse, called *Les Deux Langages*. It will probably be produced next year at one of our Boulevard theatres.

MM. Louis de Gramont and Jean Thorel have written a libretto taken from Gérard Hauptmann's *Hannele Mattern*. M. Camille Erlanger has set it to music. Many years ago the play was brought out at Antoine's, but it did not appeal to the Paris public. It, therefore, is more than probable that the musical drama will see the footlights in Germany before it is produced on a Paris stage.

M. Alphonse Franck intends to reopen the Gymnase with *Josette*, which, after an eight months' run, still drew crowded houses. He then promises us *Le Joujou Tragique*, by Mlle. Jehanne d'Orliac, a young lady of about twenty. The scene is laid in Venice, and Mlle. Polaire will be one of the attractions in the new piece. M. Franck expects great things from the work that comes next on the list, *L'Eventail*, by MM. Robert de Flers and Gaston de Caillavet. We will also have *Le Mariage de Jacqeline*, by M. Paul Gavault, and *Le Faux-Pas*, by M. André Picard.

THE STRIKE IN BELFAST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I should advise all artists visiting Belfast to apply for a permit to the Secretary of the Strike Movement, and inform him when they intend leaving Belfast, either by boat or rail, or else they may have the unpleasant experience of not being able to get their luggage on board. I heard of one case where the artists could not get their stuff on board, and actually could not open on the Monday. I give you the information for what it is worth; only it is better to be on the safe side, for I have been informed that the precaution is absolutely necessary.—Yours faithfully,

AUGUSTE VAN BIENE.

Grand Central Hotel, Belfast,
Aug. 1, 1907.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught and Prince Arthur of Connaught witnessed the performance of *My Wife* at the Haymarket Theatre on Saturday evening.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, June 18.—*The Colleen Bawn*, at the Palace, uses all of Mr. Charles Holloway's capable company in rôles to which they are accustomed to appear, and Mr. J. P. O'Neil is a typical Irishman as Myles-na-Coppaleen, and Miss Beatrice Holloway revels in the loving and ill-used Eileen O'Connor. Mr. J. P. West is an old-time Danny Mann ripened by long experience; and a better Father Tom than that of Mr. J. Hesford has not been seen for years. Mr. Robert Inman as Hardress Cregan and Mr. Godfrey Carr as Kyrle Daly are both sufficient. Miss Alice Deorwyn knows just how to act Sheelah to the life; and Miss Rose Conroy is a youthful Mrs. Cregan. Ann Chute has a very capable representative in Miss Mabel Russell, worthy daughter of clever parents. The scenery is excellent.

"The Spring Chicken," at Her Majesty's, is drawing very big business, and *The Squatter's Daughter* makes money for Mr. Anderson at the Criterion.

The Tivoli has a great attraction in the Great Carlton, whose legerdmain, performed in black skin tights, is marvellously clever. Miss Eileen Lyons, a young mezzo-soprano from the daughter State of Victoria, and Miss Marorie May, a serio-comic singer from the same State, both created a very favourable impression. All the artists previously noted are still in Mr. Harry Rickards' bill, and the business is good.

Miss Marie Hall, the youthful violinist, brought out by Messrs. J. H. and Nevin Tait, roused great enthusiasm at the Town Hall on the 15th, the vast audience shouting applause and compelling the talented young lady to play the "Traumerei" three times before anyone would leave the hall. Her Excellency Lady Northcote and the Governor remained till all was over. Miss Louie Basche, pianiste, also created a sensation by her fine playing.

Mme. Albani is here again, and with her are associated the English tenor, Mr. William Green, Miss Mildred Jones, contralto, Mr. Haydn Wood, violinist, Miss Myrtle Meggy, the Sydney pianist (just returned), and Mr. Theodore Flint, concert director and accompanist. The first concert, last night, attracted a brilliant audience, both Government Houses—Federal and State—sending large contingents, and the Army and Navy supplied a lot of officers.

SYDNEY, June 25.—*The Spring Chicken* is drawgood houses delighted with Miss Florence Young, Miss Clara Clifton, Mr. George Lauri, Mr. Reginald Roberts, Mr. W. S. Percy, and every member of Mr. J. C. Williamson's excellent all-round company. Mr. Gerard Coventry has charge of the production, so that the London traditions are faithfully followed.

"The Squatter's Daughter" serves Mr. William Anderson's purpose so well that his Criterion bill will not be changed for some time to come.

Mr. Charles Holloway is finishing his season at the Palace Theatre with a revival of *Two Little Vagabonds*, in which Miss Beatrice Holloway, as Dick, and Miss Mabel Russell, as Wally, have made enviable reputations. Miss Alice Deerwyn, as Barbara Scarth, and Mr. Robert Inman, as George Thornton, unite with Mr. George Cass, as Captain Darville, in completing an excellent coterie of principals.

The Tivoli added Mr. V. L. Granville, a very clever impersonator, to its list, which now includes "The Great Carlton," Fred Hartley, the juggling schoolboy, Tom Dawson, Leonard Nelson, Graceful Gracie Graham, the Four Rosebuds, Pechow's Cats, and many more of Mr. Harry Rickards' well-chosen artists.

Miss Marie Hall has drawn capital audiences in spite of continuous rain. Her last violin recital, under the direction of Messrs. J. and Nevin Tait, will be given this evening. The young player will long be remembered for rousing such enthusiasm in a city absolutely devoted to musical comedy and other vaudeville entertainments, and Miss Louie Basche, by her solos and accompaniments, has won many admirers.

Mme. Albani came back to us this week in better form and voice even than on her last visit. The evergreen and ever-vivacious favourite of royalty drew all the fashion that we can boast of—Lady Northcote, the Governor, Admiral, General, Judges, and "all who are who." Mr. William Green, recovering from a Melbourne catarrh, proved himself worthy of his reputation, a pure tenor well taught and full of artistic enthusiasm. Miss Mildred Jones, a very fine contralto, sang once at the first concert, on the 17th, when she was taken seriously ill with an internal chill, and now lies in a private hospital. Miss Myrtle Meggy, a Sydney pianist, returned from European study well equipped and warmly welcomed. Mr. Hadyn Wood, violinist, is as good as one wishes to hear, and Mr. Theodore Flint is a revelation of what a conscientious accompanist can do to secure a general success for a concert. He approaches nearer to our Mr. J. Edward Tykes than any other visitor.

"Lady Nora" is the name of a new and original comic opera, composed by Dr. C. W. MacCarthy, of this city, and father of Miss Maud MacCarthy, the clever violinist, now in England. A copyright performance in the shape of an undress rehearsal was given at Her Majesty's Theatre on the afternoon of the 22nd. The lyrics are by Dr. MacCarthy and the dialogue by Mr. Harry Taylor.

West's pictures are turning folk away over and above the capacity of the Lyceum every night. We have also Empire Pictures coming to the Palace, Leslie Harris to the Town Hall, Clay's Vaudeville, the National Amphitheatre with fine vaudeville companies, the Hippodrome with melodrama, the Oxford Theatre with the *Thaw Trial*, and the American Picturescope at the Victoria Hall. All these are well patronised in spite of the incessant rain.

MELBOURNE, June 25.—Princess Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson.—This popular theatre was reopened on Saturday by Mr. Williamson's comedy company in *The Blue Moon*. Mr. Victor Gonriet acted ably and well; Mr. Gonriet's comedy was capital. Miss Amy Murphy undertook the leading part with satisfactory results; she has a fine fresh voice. Mr. Harold Parkes as Private Charlie Taylor deserves special praise. The mounting was good, and the chorus singing excellent. Mr. Alfred Moulton was an energetic conductor of an efficient orchestra.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Bland Holt; Business-Manager, Mr. Simonsens.—*In London Town* has proved highly successful here.

Bijou Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. Sullivan, Harriss, and Wood.—*For Her Children's Sake* is a great success here.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—New arrivals here are Messrs. Jarvis and Campbell, eccentric jugglers and hoop manipulators; and Master Joseph Dewhurst, a clever boy soprano. Messrs. Graham and Dent present a new one-act comedy, entitled *Packing Up*, which evokes much merriment; the Svengali Troupe are as mystifying as ever; Miss Bijou Russell, with her clever dancing and quaint singing has made herself a favourite; and new items are introduced by Mr. Sam La Mert, Miss Fanny Powers, Nellie Kilburn, Fred Black, Harold Reeves, Irving Sayles, Alice Fane, the Two Driscolls, the Gibson Girls, Adrian Amadio, Ruby Tointon, and Jack Willis.

Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Joe Solomons.—The Cinzerellis Brothers and their clever dog Toby introduce a new act; Frank York appears in a farce; and interesting items are contributed by Clara Keating, Walter Melrose, Ruby Chrystal, Fred Ireland, Ada Anderson, and Fred Champion.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The staff of the Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor, journeyed by brakes to Barnard Castle on Sunday last. The party was under the guidance of their esteemed manager, Mr. David Collins, who received valuable assistance from Mr. C. Seaton (scenic artist) and Mr. Horton (musical director). This was the first time anything of the sort had been attempted by the Cambridge management, and the treat was greatly relished. A halt was made at the pretty village of Staindrop, which nestles beneath the shadow of the baronial towers of Raby Castle, of which the party had an excellent view from the road on their way. On arrival at Barnard Castle the party were photographed, and subsequently sat down to dinner at the Three Horse Shoes Hotel, where justice was done to an excellent repast.

The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were honoured, after which Mr. David Collins proposed the health of Mr. Hugh Robertson, the proprietor, and success to the theatre, which, on being seconded by Mr. Horton, was received with acclamation. Councillor W. Birchall responded in very eulogistic terms for the guests. All the chief places of interest in and around the ancient town were visited, and an enjoyable time spent. After tea the return journey was commenced, and the drive back through the beautiful country lanes in the gloaming was enjoyed by all.

The stage staff of Wyndham's took their annual outing on Sunday to Burnham-on-Crouch. The morning was devoted to yachting, and then dinner, which was provided at the Old Ship, was done full justice to. Mr. W. Harberd, assistant stage-manager, presided at the table, assisted by Mr. C. Entwistle (master carpenter to J. Welch, Esq.). The success of *When Knights Were Bold*, coupled with Mr. Welch's name, was drunk with musical honours. The party then went for a drive, and came back to tea, arriving back at Liverpool-street at 9.45.

The annual outing of the staff of the Queen's, Poplar, took place on Sunday, when a party numbering over thirty left Liverpool Street in a special saloon cariage at nine o'clock for Clacton-on-Sea, arriving at their destination shortly before eleven. During the morning sea-bathing and rambles along the cliffs and promenade were indulged in, and punctually at one o'clock everyone sat down to a sumptuous repast at the Brunswick Hotel, under the chairmanship of Mr. Lew Abrahams. After the usual loyal toasts, the health of the proprietors, manager, and staff was proposed by Mr. Edward King, and happily responded to by the chairman.

Mr. Morris Abrahams also very feeling spoke of the good relations existing between the management and the staff, and stated how pleased both he and his brother, Mr. Ben Abrahams, were to be present on these important occasions. The toast of the visitors was proposed by Mr. E. Maynard, and a suitable reply given by Mr. Dickenson, while the health of the chairman was drunk amidst enthusiasm. After dinner the party separated for drives to St. Osyth, Frinton, New Holland, &c., returning to the hotel for tea at 5.30, and leaving Clacton-on-Sea at 8.20, after having spent a delightfully enjoyable day. Congratulations were expressed on all sides at the excellent arrangements made and carried out by the energetic committee (Messrs. E. Garritt, E. Maynard, W. Prince, and C. Chappell), and the onerous duties of secretary were successfully performed by Mr. Fred Brown, jun.

The annual staff outing of the Sheffield Empire Palace staff took place on Sunday last. The party, numbering over fifty, left the Empire at 9 o'clock in eight carriages, accompanied by Mr. Dunbar, their popular manager, for a drive to Monsal Dale, viâ Froggett Edge. After a capital dinner at the Monsal Head Hotel, the party went for a walk through the splendid dale to Ashford-on-Water, where they were met by their carriages for the trip home viâ Baslow, arriving at the Empire at 9.30 after a most enjoyable day.

Mr. H. Hallifax Wells, who succeeded the late Mr. G. A. Payne as managing-director of the Canterbury and Paragon Theatres, presided at the dinner of the combined staffs of those two establishments at their annual outing on Sunday at Clacton-on-Sea. Addressing the festive company at the tables, Mr. Wells said that he could assure everyone present that it had been with the greatest pleasure he found himself able to join them in their outing. Only a few months since nothing had been further from his thoughts than finding himself in his present position. He had been a director of their company for sixteen years, and, of course, in that time had gained some knowledge of the conduct of their houses; but he had never dreamed—lawyer as he was—of becoming their managing-director. But the lamentable loss of their old colleague, Mr. Geo. Adney Payne, led his fellow-directors to ask him to assume the managing-directorship, and, after due consideration, he felt that perhaps it was his duty to do so.

Continuing, Mr. Wells remarked that of late the Canterbury and Paragon had been conducted under great difficulties. They had had the London County Council's requirements to face at a cost of something like £10,000. Then there had been the artists' strike. But now, having met all requirements in those respects, they were hoping to be left in peace, and to be able to resume the earning of at least a small dividend for their shareholders. It should never be forgotten that in theatrical matters it was essentially a case where capital and labour must work together. If capital was not forthcoming to provide and maintain the theatre he need hardly add that artists and a staff would scarcely be necessary. In conclusion, he thanked the staffs for their hearty co-operation and loyalty in respect to their work at both houses, and assured everyone of them that he would ever be ready to consider sympathetically any reasonable request placed before him.

Mr. Fred Miller (general-manager of the Canterbury and Paragon), Mr. Charles Beecham (manager of the Paragon), and Mr. W. S. Wheeler officiated as vice-chairmen, and mine host of the Osborne Hotel placed a very enjoyable repast before his guests. Mr. Harry Harris proposed the toast of "The Directors, Management, and Staffs of the Canterbury and Paragon Halls," and Mr. Fred Miller, in responding, said it was with the greatest pleasure he found the staffs of the two houses joined for the purposes of that day's excursion, for it showed a sense of cordiality and good fellowship between them that was both pleasant and desirable. As they all knew, since their last annual outing they had had the misfortune to lose their old and greatly-respected chief, Mr. Geo. Adney Payne; but of one thing he felt sure—that under the guidance of their esteemed new managing-director, Mr. Wells, whom they were so glad to find with them that day, the Canterbury and Paragon would progress successfully.

Messrs. Charles Beecham and W. S Wheeler, speaking for the Paragon, re-echoed Mr. Miller's sentiments, and Mr. David Cowis spoke similarly on behalf of the Canterbury. Altogether, a very enjoyable day was spent at Clacton, and the whole party of eighty returned to town about half-past ten in the best of spirits. Mr. Fred Miller was accompanied by his daughter, Miss Marie Miller; Mr. Charles Beecham by Mrs. Beecham; and Mr. W. S. Wheeler by Mrs. Wheeler. There were also present Mr. Arthur Grimmet, musical-director at the Paragon; Mr. David Cowis, stage-manager of the Canterbury; and Mr. J. Alexander, stage-manager of the Paragon. Several of the foregoing, together with Messrs. G. Bailey, H. Raphael, H. Lamerton, J. Taylor, and others formed the joint excursion committee. The staffs were joined by a few friends as visitors, among whom were Mr. I. Isaacs and Mr. Harry Harris.

Mr. Albert Bushell, of the Gaiety, Birmingham, conducted a highly successful outing of his staff and friends on Sunday, July 28. The popular general-manager was supported by Mrs. Bushell, who materially assisted her husband in catering for the physical and "spiritual" wants of the party. Among the personal friends present were Mr. and Mrs. Matcham (Empire), Mr. Lester Collingwood (Alexandra Theatre), Mr. Edward Foster (Bordesley Palace), Mr. P. D. Elbourne (Hippodrome), Prof. Hubbard, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Willmott, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wallis, Mr. Johnson (the Diamond King), and Mr. G. H. Simkins (alias T-rat). A special train conveyed the party of 120 to Worcester, where a comfortable river steamer awaited them. A charming trip down the loveliest part of the Severn brought the pleasure-seekers to the Lower Lode, Tewkesbury.

A sumptuous dinner was served by Host Young. After the toast of the King had been enthusiastically drunk, Mr. Matcham proposed the health of the chairman in a felicitous manner, laying stress upon the friendly relations existing between the various local managers, and the toast was received with musical honours. Mr. Bushell replied in a humorous vein, Mrs. Bushell emphatically declining to accede to the suggestion that she should respond on behalf of her spouse. After dinner the majority witnessed or participated in the Gaiety fishing contest. With such a keen angler at the helm of the Gaiety, it is small wonder that his staff are fishermen to a man, and keen excitement prevailed during the landing of "monster" roach and eels. After partaking of a capital tea, the party re-embarked on the good ship Avonmore Castle, and the return journey to Worcester was enlivened by songs by Little Dando, and music from a capital little orchestra under the direction of Mr. Camp, the Gaiety conductor, and so home after a splendid day.

The staff of the Brighton Hippodrome had their annual outing on Sunday, 28th ult., when they proceeded in wagonettes to Angmering. After seventeen miles' beautiful drive they dined at the Red Lion Hotel, and spent the afternoon in lovely walks in the neighbourhood.

The Southend Empire Theatre staff had its second annual outing on Sunday. Every detail of the arrangements was admirably carried out by Messrs. F. Gaydon and P. Chadwick, steward and treasurer respectively. The company made a pretty punctual start from the Old Ship Hotel, Marine Parade, and travelled by coach to Maldon, by way of Hadleigh, Battlesbridge, and Bicknacre. Mr. Conquest presided at the dinner, after which the loyal toasts were honoured, and in a short speech the chairman expressed his sense of high appreciation of the staff and their work during the year, as well as the ease and smoothness with which affairs went on on both sides of the curtain. Before the enjoyable day came to a conclusion Mr. A. J. H. Prevost, director of the theatre, voiced the acknowledgments of the tourists to Messrs. Gaydon and Chadwick, the former briefly responding.

The Newcastle Empire staff, with their families and friends, to the number of about 120, had their annual outing on Saturday last, when they made Shotley Bridge their rendezvous. The company dined at the Crown and Swords Hotel, Mr. Richard Thornton presiding, then adjourned to the Spa Grounds, where a programme of sports took place. Mr. Thornton presented the prizes to the successful competitors.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

DURBAN, July 3, 1907.—The theatre here is occupied by the Wheelers' company in *The White Chrysanthemum*. Miss Mamie Brickwell as Sybil Cunningham captivates all by her charming singing and graceful acting; Mr. Frank Green's fine voice is heard to advantage in the rôle of Lieut. Reginald Armitage; Mr. David Millar makes a great hit as Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage; Mr. Arthur Lacely as Lieut. Chippendale Belmont causes roars of laughter. Merriment is created by Mr. Bert D'Arcy as Sin Chong; Miss Alice Pollard as Cornelia Vanderdecken is chic and dances delightfully; in Miss Lottie Sargent the part of Betty Kenyon has a charming interpreter.

CAPE TOWN, June 26, 1907.—Opera House.—Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler; Sub-Lessees and Managers, B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Wyburd.—After a most successful week with *La Belle Marseillaise*, Mrs. Brown Potter presented on Monday evening to a crowded and enthusiastic audience Sardou's famous tragedy *La Tosca*. It is now fifteen years since Mrs. Brown Potter last staged the play in Cape Town in the ill-fated Exhibition Theatre, in which she had the misfortune of being burnt out. Mrs. Brown Potter's Floria Tosca was exceedingly powerful; Mr. A. G. Poulton did well as Baron Scarpia; Miss Price Owen made a handsome and acceptable Queen Maria Carolina; and Mr. C. A. Doran was eminently successful as Mario Cavaradossi. Mr. Esme Stuart was good as Cæsare Angelotti; and Miss Louie Emery and Mr. C. A. Daly played well the small parts of the Princess Capricolla and the Marquess Attavani.

Tivoli Theatre of Varieties.—Lessees, The Empire Theatre, S.A., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Edgar Hyman; Business-Manager, Mr. A. C. Hyman.—Miss Selma Braatz is a juggler of the first water with billiard balls, top hats, knives, forks, and furniture; she keeps the audience amazed. Another turn which proves decidedly popular is that of Kline and Clifton, in a humorous sketch entitled *The Dummy's Holiday*. Kelly and Agnes, in their sketch *The Tramp and the Soubrette*, keep the audience in shrieks of laughter; Miss Violet Grazia, burlesque artist, sings several songs with exceptional merit; Curtis and Vanity, American comedy artists, prove acceptable; Miss Flo Challis, contralto, wins fresh laurels; the Sisters Warner continue to attract with their eccentric dancing and clever songs; the Romanis present a unique musical turn, and are vociferously applauded. A fine set of pictures is shown by the Tivolioscope.

The Wheeler Musical Comedy are playing to good business at the Theatre Royal, Maritzburg.

Mr. Alfred Woods and Miss Maude Williamson, supported by an excellent company, are doing big business under the management of Messrs. B. and F. Wheler at His Majesty's Theatre, Johannesburg.

Mr. Leonard Rayne's new dramatic company are appearing at the Opera House, Port Elizabeth.

Mark Hambourg, the celebrated pianist, opened at the Wanderers, Johannesburg, on the 30th ult., under the management of Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler. Over 3000 people were present at his first recital.

Miss Irma Lorraine, in statuary poses, continues to attract crowded houses at the Empire Palace, Johannesburg.

THE ACTORS' UNION.

Rehearsals were responsible for the unusually small attendance at the weekly meeting of the Actors' Union, which took place at the Bedford Head Hotel on Tuesday. Among those present were Messrs. Fred Bentley, Edwin J. Collins, H. Tripp Edgar, Edward Chester, Frederick Loyd, E. Howard Templeton, Jack Collinson, Edward Mervyn, Arthur St. John, Dare Austin, H. Carlyle Pritchard, E. Y. Rae, Harry Paulton, jun., Cecil Dashwood, J. W. Braithwaite, Grahame Herington, G. A. Seager, Alfred Richards, Francis Chamier, Orlando Barnett, Cecil G. Calvert, Roy Barraclough, Charles G. Norton, J. M. Troughton, Edward Boddy, Edward Sidney, Alfred Tate, and Albert Hayzen, and Misses Louise L'Estrange, Gertrude Tate, Millie Vere, Kitty Marian, Florence Creagh, Nelly Howitt, Mary Bessle, Dot Seilby, Hylda Denison, Winnie Hanley, Marian Bird, Amy Fanchette, and Mabel Selwyn.

Mr. W. Ruddle Brown was voted to the chair, and began by saying that many of their members were rehearsing, and that it looked as if they of the Actors' Union were particularly favoured in the matter of getting engagements. He informed the meeting that at the invitation of Miss Gertrude Kingston a conference of representatives of the Council of the Actors' Association and of the Committee of the Actors' Union was held at 24, Victoria-square, with a view to discovering whether it was possible to take concerted action in matters affecting the dramatic profession. After a lengthy discussion, the aims and objects of the two bodies being evidently identical, it seemed desirable whenever possible that the two societies should afford each other mutual support when dealing with questions affecting the actor's welfare. Mr. Brown added that it was a very good move, and he hoped that they would have one solid body of actors and actresses. He read a letter from Mr. Pete Curran, the M.P. for Jarrow, accepting the position of honorary trustee to the Union. Mr. Brown referred to some corespondence in the Press with regard to ladies on the committee, and said the matter was decided in the negative by a majority of five, which included several ladies. He repudiated the statement by Mr. Cecil Raleigh that there was a sketch artists' clique in the Union. He himself was a sketch artist, but he knew of no clique.

Mr. H. Tripp Edgar took exception to the statement in a contemporary that they did a great deal of talking, but did not seem to do much work. He pointed out that the committeemen put in something like thirty hours a week—an average of five hours a day. Objection was sometimes taken to the name of Actors' Union, as it smacked of the "warkhouse"; but he would remind them that there was the Legal Union, the Church Union, and many others which bore the same description. Had a name ever altered or determined the policy of an organisation? What did it matter so long as their principles were correct? Referring to the statement read by Mr. Brown with regard to the meeting of the representatives of the A.A. and the Actors' Union, Mr. Edgar said the Reform Party of the A.A. were trying to do their best, as they of the Actors' Union were trying to do their best. They were with them, but not of them, and no amalgamation could possibly take place until the Association's house had been set in order. They could not expect the Union to go to them in a sound position while the Association was in an unsound one. He doubted the logic of those who opposed the £2 minimum. The people who now went against the proposal would be better off if the minimum was established, and if it was not their position would be no worse. Was the actor to be the only person who was not to get his price, and was the manager to be the only employer to be exempt from paying for value received? It was only by combination that they would get their true value. It had been stated that an actor had received 27s. 6d. per week and had worked only ten minutes a night in a sketch, which, it was asserted, was at the rate of 10s. per hour. The person who made the statement had evidently never heard of the suggestion that time means money. No credit was given for the time taken up in travelling to the theatre, nothing for waiting between the first and second house and the cost of the necessary refreshments. How did it work out then? Not at 10s. per hour, but exactly 11d. per hour—a trifling discrepancy of 9s. 1d.

Mr. Francis Chamier also dissected Mr. Raleigh's statement that the Union was in the hands of a music hall clique, and demanded to know who was the claque. The mention of the word "strike" had done an incalculable evil. They could not get people to understand that a strike meant that they would have to give up their living and that of their wives and children. If any of them went out on strike, as Mr. Raleigh apparently wished them to do, no sensible businesslike or logical actor or actress could justify it. They would act diplomatically, and keep strikes in the background. If Mr. Raleigh would only throw aside his egoism and help them as he helped the provisional committee he would be welcome; but he was not wanted to organise a reform party in their Union. Let them pay no attention to Mr. Raleigh, but ask him to go there and meet them face to face, and if he could prove his statements they would join him.

Mr. E. J. Collings said the first thing was to get a powerful Union as regards numbers. The Union was formed in March—during the worst time of the year—but they already numbered close upon 500. He hoped before Christmas they would reach close upon a thousand. They were a democratic Union, not governed by any clique or party, and they would kick against anyone who endeavoured to lead them by the nose. They should push the work of the Union forward, their motto being "The greater good for the greater number."

Mr. C. G. Calvert said managers realised that they were working in the best interests of theatrical business, and that they would benefit by the improved performances which were one of the results of the Union's work. They would welcome Mr. Raleigh's help as an individual but a dictator they did not want. He urged them to have patience, and not to be led into instituting reforms which would fail. He hoped those who were going into the provinces would send back good returns. Let them get their numbers up.

Mr. Fred Bentley said he had been trying to do a lot of "spade-work" in the provinces, but he was appalled at the absolute deadness which existed, and people at length began to call it a London Union. The provinces appeared to be very lackadaisical and without the slightest wish to better their condition. As a piece of good news, he added that recently three Union members took part for the first time in a music hall sketch, and at the end of the week the manager came to the dressing-room and, before the rest of the artists, said: "My sketch has never been played as well as it has been this week, and I owe a deep debt of gratitude to the Actors' Union for the three members they sent down, who built up my show." That was one of the best advertisements they could have.

Mr. Arthur St. John also spoke, and the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Mr. Chamier announced that he was going next week to Manchester, and would endeavour to organise a meeting there.

MISS KINGSTON AND THE A.U.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA

Sir,—May I, through the medium of your valuable paper, say that Miss Gertrude Kingston has not resigned her membership of the Actors' Union?—Yours faithfully,

KENNETH BLACKMORE, Secretary,
49, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.,
July 26, 1907.

EDMONTON THEATRE REOPENING.

For months past improvements and alterations have been going on at the Theatre Royal, Edmonton. The theatre has been entirely reconstructed internally. The old gallery has been removed, and a new one, constructed on the cantilever principle of steel and concrete, has taken its place, containing four rows of circle seats, upholstered and provided with backs. At the rear of the circle seven rows of gallery seats are arranged, the whole having a clear and uninterrupted view of the stage. The ground floor is divided into stalls, pit stalls, and pit, and the seating is so arranged that the occupants of every seat can see the performance. There are seven exits from the various parts of the theatre, and all the staircases throughout are of fireproof construction. The doors open out and are fitted with automatic fastenings. The proscenium wall has been rebuilt, thus forming a complete separation between the stage and the auditorium, the small openings in this wall being fitted with iron doors, and the proscenium opening fitted with an asbestos and iron curtain. The dressing-rooms are now placed below the stage, an arrangement which admits of the stage being greatly increased in size, and places the dressing-rooms in a separate and distinct fireproof block with independent exits apart from the stage. The dressing-rooms are well lighted and ventilated and fitted with hat and cloak pegs and dressing-tables. Fire hydrants are fixed on the stage and on each floor in the auditorium, and fire buckets are placed in convenient positions. Large ventilators have been formed over the stage and in the ceiling of the auditorium, and a complete system of ventilation has been installed. Externally the elevation to Angel-road has been heightened, and the whole of the front and side covered with rough cast relieved with red brick and tiles, and the woodwork painted green. Over the main entrance is a new canopy sheltering the principal entrances to the stalls, pit stalls, and pit, which are approached through polished oak doors and leading into a vestibule, the floor of which is paved with mosaic. The whole of the reconstruction has been carried out under the supervision of Messrs. Frank Matcham and Co.

On Thursday the reopening took place, when the Rev. H. E. Bird, vicar of St. John's, Upper Edmonton, addressed the audience from the stage. He said it was a real happiness to him to be present, and give his approval to the drama. They might honour God in their pleasure as well as by worship, if they took their pleasure in the right way. The reverend gentleman's remarks were loudly applauded. The piece announced for performance was *A Warning to Women*.

"THE A.A. AND THE A.U."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Mr. Raleigh's adherence to trade unionism has caused him to be ejected through the newest egress of the Actors' Union. Mr. Robson Paige, a supporter of democratic policy, has been anathematised into following his departure. Miss Syringa (Mrs. Paige) has been refused admission because she was "not in sympathy with the rules." Miss Violet Russell, who favoured the original programme, had her membership cancelled. I have been censured by Mr. Chamier for availing myself of the courtesy of the Press to reiterate trade unionism for the Union.

Let members ask themselves the cause of these effects. Is it not that most of us are afraid of trade unionism? We agree that there is something fundamentally awry in the theatrical system, we subscribe laudable sixpences and intentions to set it right, but we pale beneath our grease-paint at the notion of trade unionism. It conjures up visions of grimy persons wrestling with chunks or iron, and we evade the fact that it is the only solution to the problem. I assert emphatically that by no other means in our power can we reach the root of existing evils. Coquetting with half-measures is waste of time, effort, and money. There has always been opposition to trade unionism, which has had to be lived down. Its introduction into the theatrical profession is pioneer work on practically unbroken ground. Are we going to drift indefinitely and leave the inevitable establishment of it to our children, or are we going to pave the way to better conditions for them? Let the Association and the Union put aside all other considerations, and unite on these definite points:—

1. The accumulation of a reserve fund to be utilised, if necessary, to enforce a minimum wage.
2. A committee of actors and actresses with democratic views, to represent artists in licensed theatres.

Will those who favour this suggestion let me have their names? If anyone desires to test the resources of opprobrium in the vocabulary of the opposing section, let him declare himself the founder of the Union Reform Party. If no one bites at this invitation I will endeavour to ascertain them.

I am confident that if a large number of artists who now look askance at both societies could see them united on these points they would say, "Here is something definite. Come on, boys; let us do our little bit towards improving the profession which is our livelihood, and will be the livelihood of those who follow us."—Yours faithfully,

NORMAN TOWERS,
8, Argyle-street, Brighton.

His Majesty's Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, has during the last three weeks undergone entire reconstruction. The whole of the old interior has been cleared out, the greater portion of the roof raised, the floor dropped, and the gallery and circle reconstructed on the cantilever system. The whole of the house has undergone a transformation, the decoration being carried out in a free Renaissance style, and no pains have been spared to make the theatre one of the handsomest in the country.

At the Darlington Police Court, on Tuesday, John Turner, scenic artist, of Manchester, was summoned by Mr. James Bell, manager of the Darlington Theatre Royal, under the Employers and Workmen Act for damages for breach of agreement. It was stated on behalf of the complainant that the defendant was engaged as scenic artist at £2 10s. a week to paint special scenery for a particular production by a specified date. Suddenly one day, without any warning, he disappeared, and would not come back. The claim was for two weeks' wages, which the plaintiff was entitled to in lieu of notice. The man had also received 10s. 9d. for wages in advance, and the balance of the claim was general damages—in all £10. The Bench made an order against defendant for the payment of £10 and costs.

In the Court of Bankruptcy on Wednesday, an application for discharge was made by Charles Baker Cochrane, theatrical and music-hall agent, of John-street, Adelphi, W.C. It appeared that he commenced business in May, 1900, and that in October, 1902, under the management of himself and another person, two plays were unsuccessfully produced at the Royalty Theatre. The unsecured indebtedness was estimated by the Official Receiver at £1810, and the assets had so far realised £1 6s. 10d. only. His honour suspended the order of discharge for two years.

Makes the Skin as Soft as Velvet.—Beetham's "Larola" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, irritation, tan, &c., and Keeps the Skin Soft, Smooth, and White at all Seasons. Invaluable for the Complexion, Delightfully Cooling and Refreshing after golfing, cycling, motoring, tennis, boating, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

"THE STORMY PETREL."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by W. Strange Hall,
Produced at the King's Theatre, Glasgow,
on Thursday, July 25.

Admiral Heathersea, C.B.....Mr. Leon M. Lion
Vivien .....Miss Nina Sevening
Frances Weir .....Miss Katherine Harrington
Sir James Newburgh..Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw
Dr. Stevens .....Mr. Wm. J. Rea
Dr. Tom Morland .....Mr. T. Laurence Jowitt
Rev. Edward Ellice .....Mr. Stanley Logan
Louie .....Miss Nell Douglas
Jacob Bastock .....Mr. Harry Ashford
William .....Mr. George de Lara
Peter Turrock .....Mr. A. Corneille
Henry Swayne .....Mr. M. A. Scott

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This new comedy was accorded a very hearty reception, and the author and Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen, who produced the play, were called at the end. The plot turns on the efforts of a dogmatic old retired Admiral to rule the villagers, clergyman, doctor, &c., who reside on his estate, as if he were aboard his own ship, and the result is naturally rank mutiny. He annoys the villagers by closing the Lord Nelson Inn, then further enrages them by ordering their attendance at church every Sunday. He allots his daughter Vivien in marriage to a cynical squire, Sir James Newburgh, in spite of the fact that her affections are already given to Dr. Tom Morland; and when he finds himself opposed in every direction he orders out of their respective houses the doctor, the clergyman, and even his stepdaughter, Frances Weir, the "stormy petrel" of the story, so named by the Admiral, as her advent always coincides with a domestic storm—not unnaturally, seeing that she is a young woman of strong and independent views, and opposes the Admiral's crack-brained schemes at every turn. The eviction gives opportunity for a very picturesque third act, where those who have been turned out are seen camping on the village common, in tents and a living caravan, and here they remain until the Admiral capitulates and withdraws his autocratic demands.

The story is well told in clever dialogue without any straining after effect, and the various characters are skilfully defined. The fiery old sea-dog, though a familiar stage type, was represented with many clever and original touches by Mr. Leon M. Lion. As Frances Weir, the stormy petrel, Miss Katherine Harrington was particularly well placed, and the audience were most hearty in their appreciation of her efforts. Her stormy scenes with the Admiral and her wordy duels with Sir James Newburgh were excellently done. From her early-expressed determination to prevent the marriage of her step-sister, Vivien, with Sir James she carries on a clever war of wits with that gentleman, until he finally induces her to marry him herself, and so make her sister's love affairs easy of solution. As Sir James Newburgh Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw was particularly good, and his easy, confident, and masterful style and cynical good humour made the part one of the successes of the evening. For the younger pair of lovers Mr. T. Laurence Jowitt (a Glasgow amateur of much promise) as Dr. Tom Morland made a good impression; and his sweetheart, Vivien, was played by Miss Nina Sevening, who on this occasion made her first essay out of musical comedy. The part is not a heavy one, and Miss Sevening acted it with grace and charm. As the outspoken clergyman Mr. Stanley Logan was good, and Mr. William J. Rea ably played the rôle of Dr. Stevens, their respective "scenes" with the Admiral being first-rate. Mr. Harry Ashford gives a touch of rich humour to the old gardener Jacob Bastock, and also ably doubled the part of the bucolic villager with a grievance. Mr. George de Lara as the Admiral's servant and Miss Nell Douglas as Louie had some amusing comedy scenes; and Mr. A. Corneille and Mr. A. Scott as villagers completed a good cast. The author of the play, Dr. Hall, formerly of Wigan and now resident near London, has written for the stage before, a clever one-act play of his (in conjunction with Mr. Leon M. Lion) having been in the King's bill this week. The new play is his first long contribution, and his future efforts will be followed with interest. The first two acts of the play take place in the Admiral's garden, a cleverly-set scene, but the admiration of the audience was heartiest for the clever camping-out setting of the third act. At the fall of the curtain calls of author brought forward Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen, who thanked the audience in a few words and introduced the author, who contented himself with bowing his acknowledgments. The play was produced by Mr. Leon M. Lion for Mr. Allen, and the stage-management was ably looked after by Mr. George de Lara.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, July 29th, the Drama, entitled
"A WOMAN'S PLUCK."

The engagement of Mr. James Willard's company in his own drama, *A Woman's Pluck*, is a decidedly good one. This play loses nothing by repetition, for it is unique in its style. As Grace Daremont, the lady who is so handy with the gloves, Miss Marion Fawcett gives a very forcible piece of acting, and plays with great spirit. Mr. Austin Mortimer plays the rascally Dick Darrell with a very sure hand, and one is almost compelled to feel a certain admiration for a scoundrel who, bad as he is, keeps the game going steadily and when beaten in one way embarks on another. Mr. Harry Emmerson is very good as the old blind basket-maker, Matthew Pope; while Mrs. Pope is played in a very quiet manner by Miss Elsie Mailland. The Popes' adopted daughter is very sweetly and prettily played by Miss Dolly Gilroy, who makes quite a charming young heroine; while her artist lover, Winston Dale, is portrayed in a most fresh and manly fashion by Mr. Matthew Boulton. Mr. J. P. Dryden appears in the dual rôle of Mark Scanlon, and afterwards as Ian Daremont, with marked success. Mr. Dicky Bird and Miss Fanny James are most amusing as the showman and his wife, and cause many laughs during the play. Mr. Arthur Temple is good as Sir Noel Fordyce; and Mr. Herbert Claremont is excellent as the old sportsman, Sir John Daredevil. Miss Kitty Johnstone is very smart as Sir John's mischievous grandson Bertie; Mr. Higham Twyson makes a decidedly acceptable Rev. John Raymond. Among the other characters we would mention the Lady Daredevil of Miss Nora Kingsley and Miss Daisy Dale as Lotty Maynard; while the remainder are very well played. The play is capitally mounted, and replete in every detail down to a motor-car. Mr. Harry Emmerson looks to the stage and also business-management for Mr. James Willard.

Mr. Herbert Jay's Concert Party, the Masqueraders, is proving a big draw at Felixstowe. Mr. J. Wellesley Lynn, the well-known entertainer, owing to his great success, was retained another week, his two sketches, *Art v. Heart* and *The Limerick Bride*, were real hits. In the latter, Mr. Robert Selby scored first honours. Mrs. Lynn is shortly producing a most thrilling and dramatic incident from the pen of her husband, which will be the most sensational thing of its kind ever seen on any stage. Special scenery has been painted by Mr. H. G. Wallis, electrical effects by Hellyar and Co., mechanical effects by Messrs. Dexter and Snow.

Mr. Harry Hunter, the popular manager of the New Theatre Royal, Leamington, has been transferred to the managership of Mr. Milton Bode's County Theatre, Reading.

NEW SPA THEATRE, BRIDLINGTON.

On Monday evening Mrs. Beerbohm Tree opened the above theatre, which the Spa Company have erected to take the place of the building which was destroyed by fire last autumn. A large and fashionable audience had assembled when the chairman of the directors, Mr. M. Whitaker, came on the stage, accompanied by His Worship the Mayor of Bridlington (Alderman Sanedon), Mr. W. S. Walker (the architect), Mr. Henry Hague (secretary and manager of the Spa), and Mrs. Tree, who had as companion Miss Agnes Nicholls. Mr. Whitaker gave a brief introductory address, and was followed by the Mayor, who expressed the obligation the town was under to Messrs. Whitaker Bros. for their enterprise in beautifying and adding to the attractions of Bridlington, and also complimented the architect upon the beautiful building he had designed. He hoped that the audience assembled that night was a good augury for the success of the new enterprise.

Mr. Walker expressed his thanks for the compliments paid him. If he had not been well backed up by the directors and their highly-efficient manager, Mr. Hague, he would not have been able to provide such a handsome building.

Mrs. Beerbohm Tree, who was received with the utmost enthusiasm, said: Mr. Mayor, ladies, and gentlemen,—Accustomed as I am to public speaking, I am not accustomed to make a speech, and, like the Irishman, when I start to speak I'm dumb. (Laughter.) But it would be unpardonable of me if I did not say something on this auspicious occasion. I heartily congratulate Bridlington on the splendid theatre which has been erected in its midst, and which is entirely due to the pluck and enterprise of Messrs. Whitaker Bros. Having examined the theatre, I must express my profound admiration for the beautiful building, the commodious stage, perfect "line of sight," and, more important still, its well-arranged exits and entrances—so necessary for the peace of mind and safety of those who in the future will visit it. I know that last year had been adverse, owing to the unfortunate and mysterious destruction of the old theatre by fire, the cause of which "Mr. Sherlock Holmes" in the person of Mr. Hague—(laughter)—was trying to elucidate. Thanks to the energy of Messrs. Whitaker, it had seemed, like the fabled Phœnix, to rise from its own ashes, but it had risen a still finer bird, with brighter plumage, capable of higher flights, and I hope it will be a source of blessing and of pleasure to those who use it. I have noticed the development of the south side, which a very few years ago consisted largely of waste land, but which is now a valuable asset to the Corporation of Bridlington. Speaking for myself, I am exceedingly grateful for the new theatre; a building so perfectly suitable for the highest productions cannot but add to the dignity and honour of my profession. I have received a letter of congratulation from Mr. Tree, expressing the hope that he may one day bring His Majesty's Theatre company to the new theatre. I wish it every success and prosperity in the future. I do not know whether she who performs the ceremony of opening a theatre should be called its godmother; if so, I should like to be called its fairy godmother, so that I may launch it with every blessing. Mr. Hague might then be Oberon and myself Titania. In conclusion, Mrs. Tree quoted the last passage of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and on reaching the words "Hand in hand with fairy grace" she caused loud laughter and applause by extending her hand to Mr. Hague and asking the audience if they saw the "fairy grace," a joke which was quickly seen by the audience; and she then wound up by repeating the couplet, "Hand in hand with fairy grace will we sing and bless this place."

Miss Cissy Whitaker, daughter of the chairman of directors, then presented Mrs. Tree with a massive and handsome bouquet, and the same compliment was paid to Miss Nicholls by Mr. Hague. The curtain was then raised, revealing the handsome stage, on which was charmingly grouped the members of Mr. Charles Macdona's *The Girl from Kay's* company, who are engaged for the first week of the new venture. The orchestra, under the baton of Mr. W. H. Eveleigh, struck up the first notes of "God Save the King," and Miss Agnes Nicholls sang the first verse as a solo, after which the whole audience took up the air and gave it with an effect which tested the capabilities of the new theatre for carrying a volume of sound. The curtain was then rung down, and on it being again raised, Mrs. Tree came forward and recited "Lorraine, Lorraine, Loree" and "Young Lochinvar." The applause was so prolonged that she again appeared, and gave an amusing little sketch.

Mr. Hague has received letters and telegrams expressing good wishes for the success of the new theatre from a large number of brother managers and eminent actors, including Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Edward Compton, and Mr. Charles Macdona.

The theatre has been built to the design of Mr. W. S. Walker, F.R.I.B.A., of the firm of Messrs. Brodrick, Lowther, and Walker, architects, Hull, and will hold about 1,400 persons. It is designed in the Italian Renaissance style of architecture, simply and broadly treated, a dignified and imposing effect being obtained without an undue use of ornament or decoration, and it undoubtedly reflects the greatest credit on its designer, under whose supervision the whole of the work has been expeditiously carried out, Mr. W. Spink and Messrs. Sampson and Siddall, the building contractors, having carried out their work with every satisfaction. The theatre is divided into stalls, pit, grand circle, and upper circle, is most handsomely appointed, and is illuminated throughout by electricity, the contract for which was placed with the well-known firm of Messrs. A. C. Dickins and Co., of Northampton, who have carried out their work most effectively. The theatre will afford the residents and visitors an opportunity of witnessing first-class dramatic productions, musical comedy, &c., under the most perfect and comfortable conditions as regards a "perfect line of sight," and seating accommodation far superior to anything hitherto seen in Bridlington.

The stage is a very commodious one, and capable of accommodating the largest theatrical production travelling, whilst ample dressing-room accommodation is afforded for the largest and best of companies. The stage dimensions are:—Opening, 30ft. wide by 35ft. deep; 27ft. high; total width, 55ft. 6in.; height under fly galleries 23ft.; 34ft. to grid.

"STRATHMORE" ON THE STAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In your "Answers to Correspondents" I note an inquiry *re* Ouida's "Strathmore." I purchased a dramatic version of the novel, called *Wrath*, in 1881, and it was produced at the Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, in 1882, with Miss Amy Steinberg and Edward Sass in the leading parts, and afterwards played at the Standard Theatre under my management. The drama was written by C. H. Stephenson (the original Father Tom in *Colleen Bawn*).—Yours faithfully, JOHN DOUGLASS.

Green Room Club, 46, Leicester-square, W.C.
July 31.

Mr. Acton Bond has been specially engaged to play Clancarty with Mrs. Russ Whytal on her forthcoming tour of the principal cities, commencing at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle, on Monday.

ROYAL OPERA SEASON.

With the performance of *La Bohème*, honoured by the presence of Her Majesty the Queen, Princess Victoria, the Duke of Connaught, and Prince Francis of Teck, the Grand Opera Season at Covent Garden for 1907 ended. Although the past season, one of the longest on record, has not been eventful in the production of new works, Catalani's *Loreley* being the only absolute novelty, it has been remarkable for the number of fine performances given of the older operas and the magnificent mounting and brilliant representation of operas that have not been heard for years, such as Ponchielli's *La Gioconda* and Giordano's *Fédora*. The new opera *Loreley* achieved only a moderate success, but so beautiful was the scenery and superb the acting and singing in *La Gioconda* that it aroused considerable interest. An excellent performance of *Andrea Chénier*, produced late in the season, was also given. In May two complete cycles of *Der Ring des Nibelungen* were given with the greatest success under the direction of Dr. Hans Richter, who also conducted *Lohengrin*, *Der Fliegende Holländer*, *Tannhäuser*, and *Die Meistersinger*. An important feature in the first cycle was the successful appearance of six English singers—Mesdames Kirkby Lunn, Agnes Nicholls, Edna Thornton, Gleeson White, Gertrude Lonsdale, and Maud Santley, and the American artist, Mr. C. Whitehill, an excellent exponent of the part of Wotan. *Die Meistersinger* was given three times, *Tannhäuser* three, *Der Fliegende Holländer* three, and *Lohengrin* two. But Puccini's *La Bohème* was given eight times, *Madama Butterfly* seven, and *Tosca* four times; *Traviata* was sung on five occasions; *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Rigoletto*, and *Pagliacci* four each; three excellent performances were given of *Hänsel und Gretel* and three of Mozart's early opera *Bastien and Bastienne*; *Carmen*, *Aïda*, *Lucia*, *Il Ballo in Maschera*, *Andrea Chénier*, *Loreley*, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* were performed twice each; while only one performance was given of *Faust*. In the list of artists who appeared during the season Mme. Melba, through indisposition, was unable to sing so often as her host of devotees could have wished; but Signor Caruso, fortunately in excellent health, has not spared his magnificent voice in the cause of art, and his triumphs this season have been conspicuous. Mlle. Destinn also has greatly advanced her position by her successes in *Aïda*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Der Fliegende Holländer*, and *Pagliacci*; and the welcome reappearance of Fräulein Selma Kurz was accentuated by her brilliant singing in *Lucia* and *Il Ballo in Maschera*. Mme. Donalda, Mlle. Scalar, and Mme. Giachetti have each increased their already great reputations; while Mme. Kirkby Lunn has sung admirably. A newcomer, Signor Bassi, sang with marked success, and Signor Bonci's return to Covent Garden was very welcome. Other artists who have greatly strengthened the company are Signor Scotti, Signor Sammarco, M. Gilibert, M. Journet, Signor Scandiani, M. Marcoux, and Signor Zucchi. The artists who successfully appeared in the Ring performances were Frau Gulbranson, Frau Fleischer-Edel, Frau Knüpfer-Egli, Herr Kraus, Herr Jörn, Herr Van Rooy, and Herr Zador. The conductors were Dr. Richter, Signor Campanini, Mr. Percy Pitt, and Signor Panizza, and the scenic artists, stage-manager, chorus, and orchestra deserve special mention.

Mr. Frank Rendle, with Mr. Neil Forsyth manager and Mr. Percy Pitt musical director, announces that the Grand Opera Syndicate will on Oct. 3 give an eight weeks season at Covent Garden. With the exception of Mme. Melba, most of the famous artists, including Signor Caruso, will be engaged for the autumn season, and it is the desire of the syndicate that British instrumentalists shall be engaged for the orchestra. Signor Panizza and Signor Serafin will be the conductors, and the prices of admission will be about half those charged during the Grand Season.

"BROTHER BILL."

A Farcical Domestic Comedy Sketch, in One Act,
by J. Fred Watson, Produced at the
Victoria Theatre, Broughton, on Monday, July 29.

Dickory Dock .....Mr. Edwin Garth
Cackles .....Mr. Hardy Macro
Telegraph Boy .....By Himself
Mrs. Dickory Dock .....Miss Pattie Hastings

The scene opens in the kitchen of the house of a mechanic, Dickory Dock, who appears to be very fond of parting with a good proportion of his wages at the Green Dragon public-house, and his wife is discovered preparing a meal for him and soliloquising on his lateness in getting home. A stuttering village postman comes in with a bundle of letters, and, after going through several addresses, finds he has none to leave. She runs him out, and he returns with one for the husband, which he proposes to take to the Green Dragon and deliver it to Dickory, who he says is there. Mrs. Dickory Dock snatches the letter from him, and finds that it is from her husband's brother, Bill, who had not been heard of for a considerable time, and who had become rich. He states that he is coming to see them, and if he finds them living happily he will start them in a small shop with £100, but if he finds he cannot come he will telegraph them. The husband arrives, and, after being upbraided for his delay, is shown the letter. He hands over to his wife some money, and they agree to give Brother Bill a fitting reception. While the wife is out shopping the husband makes all sorts of mistakes, and ruins the cooking. She returns, and soon after she discovers the hopeless state of the proposed dinner a telegram arrives from Brother Bill saying that he finds he is unable to come, but the £100 will be sent.

Mr. Edwin Garth as Dickory Dock keeps the house in roars; and a most comical stammering, gossiping postman is presented by Mr. Hardy Macro. Miss Pattie Hastings cleverly sustains the part of the wife.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, July 29, the Eccentric Comedy, in
Three Acts, by W. Kingsley Tarpey, entitled
"THE AMATEUR SOCIALIST."

There was a fairly good audience at the Kingston Theatre on Monday night, when the doors were re-opened, after having been closed for a fortnight for cleaning and redecoration, for the production of the above play from the Criterion. It was the first of a number of successful bookings of first-class plays which Mr. Peter Davey, the enterprising managing-director, has arranged. The play was well received. Mr. George Mudie, an old Kingston favourite, sustains the title-rôle as Sir Hubert Pennefeather, Bart., and the part of the eccentric autocrat loses none of its attractiveness in his hands. Mr. E. Y. Rae also appears with success in his original part of Sergeant Fell. Miss Marie Hudspeth appears as Lady Pennefeather and Miss Edith Deverell as Evelyn Rivers, and both acquit themselves with distinction. Valuable assistance is also given by Mr. Bruno Holmes as Inspector Bott, Mr. J. W. Deverell as Spencer Pennefeather, Mr. Percy Carlton as the Hon. Phillip Wykeham, Miss Gladys Marris as Cora Moberley, Mr. Jas. Martin as Mr. Moberley, and Miss Ada Gordon as Lady Mabel Wrothesley. Following the comedy, which was admirably mounted, was presented a series of living pictures by the Jeapes's Animated Graphic Co., including pictures of Kingston Regatta.

Two specialities from the Parisiana Theatre, Paris, have been obtained for the revival of old-fashioned pantomime to be presented at Christmas by Mr. Maundy-Gregory. The revival of a real old pantomime with its ballet, transformations, and harlequinade complete will no doubt be heartily welcomed.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal have become patrons of the local golf club at Filey, where their charming marine residence is situated, and have presented a silver cup for competition. The cup was won for the first time this week, and at the subsequent ceremony Mr. Kendal said he regarded the game as an admirable one, as it exercised the brain and muscle and promoted good-fellowship. Mrs. Kendal, who made the presentation, admitted that she knew nothing about golf personally, but she understood that it was a game which was highly commended by excellent mothers, who claimed that it made their daughters so tired that when they got home they went straight to bed.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree, after a more than usually arduous season, is taking holiday at Marienbad, to which salubrious spot Mr. Charles Hawtrey Lowenfeld and Mr. Richard Warner, the well-known variety agent, are also resorting. Mr. George Alexander will find relief from all-night sittings of the County Council in a tour of Switzerland and France, and Mr. Lewis Waller will revel in the excitements of a motor run in the latter country. Miss Marie Tempest has chosen for her vacation the favourite town of Dieppe, from which Miss Constance Collier has just returned.

Mr. Edward Terry's annual provincial tour will commence on Monday at the Grand Pavilion Theatre, Bridlington. His répertoire includes *Liberty Hall*, *The Magistrate*, *Sweet Lavender*, *The Passport*, and many of his well-known successes. The company supporting Mr. Terry will comprise Misses Marian Ripley, Evelyn Ormonde, Ruth Nightingale, Agnes Knights, Eugénie Vernie, and Ella Dixon, and Messrs. Thomas Holding, Percy Crawford, B. A. Pittar, Charles B. Bedells, William Dexter, and George Byrne. Mr. H. A. Samson will be the stage-manager, Mr. Percy Barrow the advance representative, and the business-manager Mr. A. Græme.

The ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Gaiety Theatre, Ltd., will be held at the theatre on Wednesday, at noon. In their report the directors state that the gross profit for the year amounts to £8,519 15s. 11d., which, with the sum brought forward from 1906, viz., £1,102 2s. 8d., makes a total of £9,621 18s. 7d. to be dealt with. They regret that the play *The New Aladdin* resulted in a heavy loss, and that it was also necessary to close the theatre during the months of July, August and September, but they congratulate the shareholders on the very successful production, *The Girls of Gottenberg*. In view of the adverse conditions, they have decided not to recommend a dividend for the year under consideration, but to utilise £7,240 17s. 10d. of the £9,621 18s. 7d. referred to in writing down the asset "stage properties," and also to apply the "reserve" account, £12,017 4s. 2d., for the same purpose, carrying forward the balance of £2,381 0s. 9d. to the credit of next account. Mr. George Edwardes is the retiring director, but is eligible, and offers himself, for re-election.

The statement that Mr. George Alexander and Mr. E. H. Sothern were to play together in each other's companies has been denied by the latter gentleman, who has sent to the New York papers a letter which says that the rumour was perhaps the outcome of some idle conversation, but had no foundation in fact. "Mr. Alexander," writes Mr. Sothern, "has been caused considerable annoyance by the publication, and has written to me to ask me to deny that any such arrangement was suggested by him. It has recently been repeated that I was approached on this matter while in London. Mr. Alexander did not approach me, nor did I approach him, and I deeply regret that he has been caused any annoyance."

Mr. Charles Manners, whose series of operas in English is such a welcome feature of the present season in London, recently paid a visit to the Paris Opera Comique, where *Madama Butterfly* was being played, in order to pick up as many hints as possible for his forthcoming production of the work at the Lyric. By combining the knowledge thus acquired with that which his visits to Covent Garden have afforded him, together with the exercise of his own experience and enterprise, Mr. Manners may be trusted to achieve something which his patrons will greatly appreciate.

Miss Olga Nethersole, during her last tour of the United States, interested herself in the Juvenile Courts of America, and collected official reports of the work done. Before leaving London for Scotland, the popular actress was received at the Mansion House by the Lord Mayor, to whom she submitted the results of her inquiries, which are so favourable that she has high hopes of seeing the same methods adopted in Great Britain.

The late Miss Maria Daly appointed Mr. Chas. J. Davies, the secretary of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, the executor to her will. Miss Daly and her mother had been the recipients of great benefits from the Royal General Theatrical Fund, and to mark her gratitude Miss Daly has, by her will, enriched the fund to the extent of £700. Miss Daly expressed the hope that beneficiaires of the fund would copy her example and leave bequests to the fund whenever possible. Mr. Davies, as executor of the will, has handed over to Mr. Terry, the treasurer of the fund, the amount realised from Miss Daly's estate.

Mr. Cyril Maude will himself take the part of Peter in his forthcoming production of Gaston Mayer's version of *L'Anglais tel qu'on Parle*, which is to be called *French as He is Spoke*. Mr. George Shelton, for whom the part was originally designed, has unfortunately fallen a victim to a nervous breakdown, and has been obliged to relinquish the rôle. The little piece, which will be put in front of *The Earl of Pawtucket* at the Playhouse towards the end of next week, will be further sustained by Messrs. D. J. McCarthy, Ernest Mainwaring, John Harwood, A. G. Onslow, and W. Blair, and Miss Madge Titheradge and Miss Kate Harwood. Mr. Shelton is also out of the cast of *The Earl of Pawtucket*, and his part of Silas Hooper is being played by Mr. Dore Davison, that of Crennan falling to Mr. Charles Hampden.

Mr. Martin Harvey has followed up his enterprise in commissioning Mr. Stephen Phillips to make a new adaptation of Scott's "Bride of Lammermoor" with an equally interesting design, and has induced Mr. W. L. Courtney to utilise his graceful pen in the preparation of a play embodying the pith of the two dramas of Sophocles, *Œdipus Rex* and *Œdipus Coloneus*, an English version of which, it would seem, has not been seen in England for upwards of 200 years. No attempt will be made to reproduce the characteristic features appertaining to the drama of ancient Greece, but every opportunity for scenic display will be taken in the setting of the work.

The last performance of *Divorçons* at the Duke of York's Theatre was received with much applause by a full house, and the enthusiastic reception given to Miss Grace George at the fall of the curtain clearly expressed how much London desires to see more of her art. Miss George was presented with a large wreath of laurels. She sailed for New York on Thursday by the White Star liner Cedric, by which vessel the company also travelled.

Mr. Charles Manners has determined to extend to London the scheme he recently started in the provinces, by which the services of local operatic societies are employed to enhance the performance of various works. Accordingly during the week commencing August 12th, the Moody-Manners Opera Company, now performing at the Lyric, will be augmented by sixty members of the Sheffield Opera Society, who will swell the chorus in *Tannhäuser*, *Lohengrin*, *Aida*, and *Faust*. Mr. Manners suggests that a similar society might be started in London, and offers to lend, free, two or three of his best principals and a stage manager, so that the promoters would be relieved of any excessive outlay.

Mr. Hall Caine's new version of *The Christian*, with which Mr. Wentworth Croke opens his season at the Lyceum Theatre, in conjunction with Messrs. Henry R. Smith and Ernest Carpenter, will be produced on Saturday evening, Aug. 31. Mr. Ernest Carpenter will be the producer. Mr. Henry W. Garrick, formerly of the London Hippodrome, has been appointed Press representative at the Lyceum for the run of *The Christian*.

"The Sins of Society" is to be the title of the autumn drama at Drury Lane, rehearsals for which begin next week. The authors, Messrs. Cecil Raleigh and Henry Hamilton, have taken up the question of "bridge" and its influence upon fashionable society, but the action of the play is not confined to London. The second act is laid outside Windsor Castle, and includes realistic river scenes, while one of the most impressive incidents takes place on the racecourse at Longchamps, for which a dramatic episode is reserved. The majority of the cast, in which Miss Constance Collier, Miss Fanny Brough, and Mr. Albert Chevalier figure, have already been given in this coloumn.

A very interesting discovery has been made among a collection of old pictures in a historic house in Marylebone. It is a water-colour painting of Edmund Kean in the character of Richard III., and is signed "M. Myers." It is on stiff card, now yellow with age, and on the back in firm, distinct, well-preserved handwriting is the inscription: "February 28, 1815. Kean in the character of Richard III." The portrait itself is strong and carefully executed, the facial expression being thoughtful and determined. Black hair in ringlets falls on the shoulders, the brow is broad and massive, eyebrows have a frown and with indications of deep mental working, while the nose is long and strongly marked. The eyes are keen and penetrating, retreating under the brow—a sure sign of an active mind, thoughtful mood, or intellectual aptitude. The mouth is full, rather broad, shut, and the lower lip being ample and protuberant, would indicate, according to Lavater's teaching, the generous and impulsive disposition that the famous Shakespearean possessed. Rich ermine surrounds the head, surmounted by the crown, which has three frontal enrichments. Shoulders and bust are merely sketched in. The portrait will be offered for sale, and, no doubt, some collector of dramatic curios will be glad to secure it.

Some magnificent modern ladies' costumes are seen in *The Eighteenth Century*, at the St. James's, Mr. Edward Compton having secured the services of Mme. Pacard, of 16, Brook-street, W., to design and make them. Miss Grace Lane, who takes the principal part of the heiress, wears a white striped satin Ninon evening dress, with upright band in the skirt of sequin Cluny lace, and white tulle bodice with draped fichu of striped Ninon, outlined with silk and iridescent bugle fringe. The inner vest is of sequin lace, back and front, and the shell-shaped white tulle sleeves are outlined with fringe. Her morning frock is of pale rose pink linen, with embroidered panels. The bodice is of white muslin worked with pink spots and shoulder-pieces of embroidered pink linen. A narrow black satin tie, embroidered in pink and gold, forms an elegant finish to the costume.

Miss Suzanne Sheldon, who takes the part of Lady Anthony, looks charming in a dull, burnt orange chiffon pleated dress, with gold lace, and vest and inner sleeves of ruched pink tulle. Her morning frock is of heavy cream Shantung silk, with scarlet silk belt and satin tie to match, embroidered with black French knots.

Miss Relph's dress is of silver grey Ninon, with the draped bodice-top of Tambour lace over blue chiffon, held in place by bands of oxydised and iridescent trimming studded with turquoises; the sleeves are of blue tulle. Her morning frock is of tussore, inlet with waved bands of filet net, with narrow piping of chestnut-brown silk, the top part of the bodice, sleeves, and neck being all cut in one piece of Valenciennes lace.

Miss Marion Ashworth wears a moonlight-blue satin evening gown, with sleeves and vest of tiny frills of white Valenciennes lace, with bugle and pearl trimming and large black rose in front of the bodice. Her morning gown is of amethyst colour Shantung silk, with white embroidered collar, which ties at the throat, and cuffs of the silk embroidered in darker shades.

Mr. Wentworth Croke has specially engaged Miss Grace Lester to create a character part—that of Black Meg—in Mr. Hall Caine's new version of *The Christian* at the Lyceum Theatre. The production is fixed for Aug. 31.

A double performance will distinguish the last night of the present season at the Savoy Theatre, which will be reached on Saturday, Aug. 24. The performance will begin at 4 p.m. with the first act of *The Yeomen of the Guard*, followed by the second act of *The Gondoliers*. There will then be an interval from 6.45 until 8 p.m., when the second act of *Patience* will be given, and afterwards the first act of *Iolanthe* will be presented. At the fall of the curtain the National Anthem will be sung by the whole company, accompanied by the orchestra of the Savoy Theatre and the military band of *Iolanthe*.

Miss Edna May has been chosen Queen of the Ka-noo-no Karnival, which is to be held in her home city of Syracuse, New York, next September. Miss May was born in Syracuse, and lived there until she went on the stage to win fame in *The Belle of New York*. It is understood that Miss May will not refuse the highly-sought honour, and that she and her husband, Mr. Oscar Lewisohn, will go to America to take part in the carnival, which is held during State Fair week.

The time for the lodging of claims for compensation for loss of life consequent upon the stranding of the Berlin at the Hook of Holland has been extended by the Court till October 30 next.

In the Court of Chancery on the 26th ult., application was made on behalf of the Waldorf Theatre Syndicate (Limited) for an interim order for the appointment of a custodian of the theatre and for leave to serve notice of writ out of the jurisdiction of the court. Defendant, it was stated, was the lessee of the theatre, and resided in New York. According to the affidavits the lessee had carried on the theatre up to July 19, on which day his agent left the key at the office of the syndicate with the intimation that the lessee intended to have nothing more to do with the theatre. They now wanted an injunction to restrain the breaches of the lease, an order for the interim custody of the property, and damages and costs.

Mr. Leonard Boyne will start his autumn tour of the phenomenally successful *Raffles* on August 5th. The towns to be visited take in Liverpool, Bristol, Hull, Manchester, and Birmingham, and among the suburban theatres included in the tour will be the Borough, Stratford, and the Coronet.

Miss Topsy Sinden reappeared at the Gaiety Theatre on Monday. She was warmly welcomed, and her dances were appreciated and encored. She had another striking dance inserted on Friday in *The Girls of Gottenburg*.

Mr. H. A. Saintsbury is under contract to Mr. Maundy-Gregory, who however has received a request from a brother manager to allow him Mr. H. A. Saintsbury's services for a period. Nothing definite has yet been settled.

Genuine old-fashioned pantomime is to be revived this year in the provinces. Mr. Maundy-Gregory is convinced that there is room now for the legitimate pantomime with its ballet, telling an entirely different story, and the whole a reminiscence of old-time Christmas fare.

Miss Maud Fealy, the clever young actress who occupied the distinguished position of leading lady to Sir Henry Irving during the latter part of the great actor's career, was married to Mr. Louis F. Sherwin at Denver, U.S.A., on July 15. The bride, who was born in Memphis in 1883, made her first appearance in England in the part of the heroine, Alice Faulkner, in Mr. William Gillette's production of *Sherlock Holmes* at the Lyceum in 1901. Later she became a member of Mr. E. S. Willard's company, her engagement with Sir Henry Irving beginning in 1904. Mr. Sherwin, who is an Englishman, is the dramatic critic of a Denver newspaper.

Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl, who has for the past five years been assisting his father in the management of the Theatre Royal, Brighton, has been engaged by Mr. Percy Hutchison as business-manager for his *Peter's Mother* Midland company, which opened in Margate on Thursday.

Baron Harriss's *Prince of Pilsen* company had a distinguished patron the other day, when the merry musical comedy was witnessed with obvious delight from a private box by Mr. Hall Caine. Subsequently the gifted author found his way behind the curtain and congratulated Miss Sophie Harriss upon the merits of her performance and the general excellence of the production.

The British Empire Shakespeare Society is growing rapidly in numbers and importance, as is indicated by the inauguration of an annual general festival, the first being fixed at Stratford-on-Avon during the first week in October, when four performances of *The Merchant of Venice* will be given at the Memorial Theatre—in the evenings of the 1st and 3rd, and in the afternoons of the 2nd and 4th. The cast, which will be a double one and is being arranged by Mr. Acton Bond, is to be entirely composed of amateur members of the society from all parts of the kingdom.

The following awards were made at the conclusion of the Midsummer term of the Royal College of Music on Saturday last: Council exhibitions—Singing, Beatrice B. Smith (£6), Fannie Zausmer (£7), H. Dilys Jones (£15), Hilda M. Wright (£7), Maud E. Wright (£9); violin, Evelyn M. Pickup (£6). The London Musical Society's prize for singing (value £3 3s.) went to F. Geraldine B. Wilson; Messrs. Hill and Sons' violin prize to Marjorie K. Beer (scholar); the gold medal presented by Rajah Sir S. M. Tagore of Calcutta (for the most generally deserving pupil) to Arthur R. C. Beckwith; the Lilian Eldée Scholarship for female singers to Doris E. Simpson (A.R.C.M.); the Liverpool Scholarship (subject to confirmation by the Council) was awarded to Eugène A. Goossens (violin); and the Savage Club Exhibition to Mary M. Bond-Andrews (singing).

Counsel read affidavits, from which it appeared that the theatre had been left unsecured, that the police had found three or four persons on the premises and had removed them. There was also no fireman left on the premises, which was a breach of the County Council's regulations, and, consequently, endangered the licence of the theatre. It was necessary that a caretaker and fireman should be on the premises, and that the water which accumulated in the theatre should be pumped out every two or three days. His Lordship said he would not grant an injunction. He would consent to a custodian of the property until the second motion day of the next sittings, and give leave to serve the notice of the writ out of the jurisdiction of the court.

Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's autumn tours of the *Silver King* commence next Monday at the West London, and New Theatre, Cardiff, respectively. The twenty-sixth year of the tour of this popular drama will thus be inaugurated.

The New Royal Theatre, King's Lynn, re-opens on Bank Holiday, when Herr B. Pareezer will present a strong variety programme, which will run the week. Later in the season the bookings will be made in conjunction with those for the theatre at Bury St. Edmunds, the companies appearing the first three nights at Lynn, the remaining three at Bury. Theatrical plays will also be booked as opportunity serves.

The beautiful grounds of Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield, presented a brilliant appearance on the 25th ult., when the local members of the British Empire Shakespeare Society acted *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, under the direction of Miss May Gladwin, a talented local artist and amateur actress. The stage was simply but tastefully arranged, and the costumes were effectively displayed by the background of foliage. The appointments, &c., were lent by the Lyceum management. Miss May Gladwin acted in a graceful and refined manner as Julia, and Miss Helen Roberts was a lively Silvia. Dr. Dakin Mart proved excellent as Valentine, and the other characters were adequately represented. At the conclusion, the Bishop of Sheffield, the president of the society, expressed the thanks of the audience for the delightful performance, and bestowed warm approval of the efforts of Miss May Gladwin, to whom a bouquet was presented by Mrs. Gardner Harrison.

Mr. Leonard Pagden was accorded a complimentary benefit on the 26th ult. at West Pier, Brighton, the occasion being his 367th performance on that Pier. After his own very successful season with *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, he has now commenced his third year with Mr. Louis Calvert's *Sunday* company.

Several weeks ago mention was made in these columns that the Liverpool Royal Court Theatre was, during the "close" season, undergoing considerable renovation and decoration. Mr. Robert Arthur has done the work exceedingly well, and when, on Monday next, the public gain admission to witness the opening season's production, *Beauty and the Barge*, they will certainly be agreeably surprised by the elegance of the interior. In the entire re-seating of the floor of the house tip-up easy chairs have taken the place of the old hard seats in the pit-stalls, a popular part. On Monday a booking innovation comes into force. In future the pit-stalls are to be reservable on the day of performance only. This is a novelty in Liverpool, and is being introduced by Mr. Arthur Lawrence, Mr. Robert Arthur's popular acting-manager.

Death has this week robbed us of one of our oldest actors in the person of Mr. George Yates, who passed away at Dalston in the early hours of Tuesday morning last at the advanced age of eighty-one years, after a severe illness borne with exemplary fortitude. Mr. Yates, whose real name was George William Cleghorn, began his career at Cardiff with Miss Amy Sedgwick and Mr. J. Carter Edwards. He always took heavy parts, and had played seconds to such stars as Charles Matthews, Charles Kean, James Anderson, the Wigans, and Mlle. Beatrice. He was for nearly thirty years a member of the company at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End.

In the sixties he played heavy leading business for seven years with Mr. Chute's stock company at Bath and Bristol, and was for a long period with Mrs. Nye Chart at Brighton. Among distinguished performers with whom Mr. Yates was associated in the course of his long career were Miss Ellen Terry, Mrs. Kendal, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Vezin, Mr. Charles Coghlan, Miss Desborough, and many others. Included in his most notable impersonations were those of Mephistopheles in *Faust*, and Jacob M'Closky in *The Octoroon*. In *Dan'l Druce* and a round of Shakespearean lead he was a great success in South Africa, whither he went with Captain Disney Roebuck in 1876 and remained for two years.

The veteran actor, who had passed his fifty years of service on the stage, was greatly respected, and his widow, Mrs. Harriett Clifton Yates, who is herself well known in the profession, will have the sympathies of all in her bereavement. The deceased leaves an only son, Mr. George Clifton Yates, also to mourn his loss. The funeral was announced for yesterday (Friday) at Abney Park.

Mr. Joseph Hatton, the well-known journalist, novelist, and dramatist, who died at his residence, in St. John's Wood, on Wednesday morning, in his sixty-sixth year, was connected with the stage by the dramatisation of his novels, "Clytie" and "When Greek Meets Greek," and by his plays, *John Needham's Double*, *Liz*, *A Daughter of France*, a version of *Jack Sheppard*—in which Mr. Weedon Grossmith appeared at the Pavilion Theatre—and an adaptation from one of Mark Twain's novels, called *The Prince and the Pauper*. In the last-named piece his clever daughter, Miss Bessie Hatton, appeared with success. Mr. Hatton produced in America a dramatic version of Nathaniel Hawthorne's "Scarlet Letter," and was the author of "With Irving in America" and "Reminiscences of J. L. Toole." He gave readings from his works both in England and America.

Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Ellaline Terriss have returned to town and are busy with rehearsals of the new musical play, at present entitled *The Gay Gordons*, which is due at the Aldwych next month. The book is by Mr. Hicks himself, the score by Mr. Guy Jones, and the lyrics by Mr. A. Wimperis and Mr. C. H. Bovill. In addition to Miss Terriss and Mr. Hicks, the cast will include Messrs. William Lugg, Fred Emney, Lawrence Caird, and A. W. Bascomb, and Misses Rosina Filippi, Barbara Deane, Sidney Fairbrother, Zena Dare, and Maudi Darrell.

Rehearsals of Mr. Laurence Binyon's new poetical play *Attila*, with which Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton start their season at His Majesty's on Wednesday, Sept. 4, have begun in earnest. Their revival of *As You Like It*, which will be seen at a subsequent date, will be strengthened by the engagement of Mr. Courtice Pounds for the part of Touchstone, "with songs," Mr. Asche himself will play Jacques.

Two novelties are promised during the season of Italian opera which begins at Covent Garden on Oct. 3—*Siberia*, by Giondano, the composer of *Andrea Chenier*, and *Germania*, by Franchetti. Other operas to be given in the course of the autumn include *Adriana Lecouvreur*, *Aida*, *Carmen*, *Don Giovanni*, *Faust*, *Fedora*, *Gioconda*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Manon Lescaut*, *Pagliacci*, *Mefistofele*, and *La Tosca*.

The Leeds Triennial Musical Festival, which enjoys the patronage of the King, will extend from Oct. 9 to 12 inclusive. Among the novelties will be a *Stabat Mater* of Stanford, and the feast of melody will include selections from Handel, Mozart, Wagner, Beethoven, Brahms, Elgar, and Schubert, as well as numerous works of modern composers. The vocalists will be Miss Agnes Nicholls, Miss Perceval Allen, Mrs. Henry J. Wood, Miss Marie Brema, Mme. Ada Crossley, Mme. Kirkby Lunn, Mr. Ben Davies, Mr. Spencer Thomas, Mr. Gervase Elwes, Mr. Plunket Greene, Mr. Herbert Brown, and Mr. Ffrangcon Davies. Charles V. Stanford will conduct, and there will be a band and chorus of 450.

Miss Louisa Peach, for so long the popular leading lady at the Britannia, will appear at the Dalston Theatre next week in the principal part in *A Broken Heart*, for which she has been specially engaged by Mr. Harry Foxwell.

We learn with regret of the death, in Boston (Mass.), U.S.A., of Mr. Alfred George Slade, who was at one time manager of the Royalty Theatre, London, and also served in a similar capacity at the Bostock Hippodrome, Paris. The deceased, who died in hospital of typhoid fever on July 5, leaves a widow, who is at present at Coney Island, New York, where communications addressed care of the Bostock Arena will find her.

Mr. Charles Howard, late manager of the Eden Theatre, Brighton, and the Theatre Royal, Hanley, and for many years with the late Gilbert Tate, has been engaged by Mr. Robert Croesman as business-manager with *Sergeant Brue* on its autumn tour, commencing on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Hull.

Miss Edith Cruikshanks has rejoined Mr. George Dance's *Beauty of Bath* company, and will resume the part of Mrs. Alington on the opening night of the autumn tour at Scarborough on Monday. Since the termination of Mr. Dance's spring tour, Miss Cruikshanks has been appearing with Mr. John Lawson in the *King's Minister* and other sketches in which that gentleman is interested, and has met with every success.

Mr. Fred W. Permain, having concluded his engagement as Squire Chivy in *Garrick* and Simeon Strong in *The Idler*, is now playing in *A Night Out* at the Criterion, under Sir Charles Wyndham's management. He has been engaged by Mr. John Hare as stage-manager for his farewell autumn tour.

Mr. Allan Wilkie commences his third year of tour on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Bolton, supported by an experienced company of thirty artists. Mr. Wilkie's répertoire is a most extensive one, as it not only comprises the works of Shakespeare, but includes the fine old English comedies and standard dramas, thus forming a combination that should prove particularly attractive to all classes of playgoers. In the course of his tour Mr. Wilkie will appear at Manchester, Leeds, Bradford, Dublin, and other important dramatic centres.

"Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," with Mrs. Madge Carr Cook and the entire American company, will be transfered to the Adelphi Theatre on Monday, Sept. 2, which date will coincide with the 150th performance of this amusing and successful comedy. Meanwhile *Mrs. Wiggs* is still playing to record houses at Terry's.

The following awards have been made at the Royal Academy of Music:—The Goring Thomas Scholarship (for dramatic composition) to Louisa Emma Lomax, of Brighton; the Schloesser Prize (for pianoforte accompaniment) to Sam H. Braithwaite, of Egremont, Cumberland; the Julia Loney Prize (for harp playing) to Lilian Hawkins, a native of Bristol; the Frederick Westlake Memorial Prize (for pianoforte playing and sight reading) to Victor G. Booth, of New Zealand; the Macfarren Gold Medals (for pianoforte playing) to Myra Hess, of London, and Victor G. Booth; the Charlotte Walters Prizes (for elocution) to Mary E. Harrison and Elsie St. David Williams; the Annie E. Lloyd Exhibition (for singing) to Mary Fielding, of Batley; the Parepa Rosa Prize (for Basses) to F. Percival Driver, of Leicester; the Swansea Eisteddfod Prize to David Evans, of Aberystwyth; and the Hannah Mayer Fitzroy Prize (violinists) to Henry O. Parsons.

Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Leveaux will send two companies into the provinces with *The Walls of Jericho* this autumn. Both combinations commence operations on Monday, the North company at the Opera House, Cork, and the South at the Devonshire Park, Eastbourne. Mr. Dauncey and Mr. Leveaux have added to their responsibilities by acquiring from Mr. Frederick Harrison and Mr. Michael Morton the entire suburban and provincial rights, with the exception of six large towns reserved by Mr. Harrison, of the highly-successful comedy *My Wife*, now playing to crowded audiences at the Haymarket. Mr. Dauncey and Mr. Leveaux will send *My Wife* on tour with a first-class company and production early in September.

The wedding took place at St. Mark's, Kennington, on Saturday of Miss Florence Bartle, sister of Miss Gladys Bartle-Frere and Miss Marie De Roos, to Mr. Edgar W. Harris, a solicitor, of Stockwell Park-road. The bride is the third daughter of the late Rev. Dr. Bartle, DD., D.C.L., of Birkdale Park, Lancashire, and niece of the late Lady Wishart, of Edinburgh and Countess de Baldie.

Mr. T. Henry Twyford, who has just concluded a tour with *A Fool's Paradise* and *The Glass of Fashion*, is now rehearsing for pastorals and making arrangements for a dramatic reading of a fine old play, entitled *John of Hapsburg*.

At the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, on Saturday, Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty terminated a fifty-two consecutive weeks' tour with their successful play, *An Unwedded Wife*. The next tour starts early in September, and will end at Grimsby, Christmas, 1908. The bookings for spring and autumn dates are already far advanced, as the play has been re-booked at the principal theatres already visited.

Miss Florence Glossop-Harris starts her second tour on Bank Holiday, and intends to go right on until the spring. Her répertoire includes *As You Like It*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Much Ado*, *Camille*, and a very fine revival of the Drury Lane drama *The Royal Oak*. Every care is taken to make each production as perfect as possible. Miss Glossop-Harris having personally directed the making of the entire wardrobe, which is her special pride.

Mr. Alfred Northway and Mr. W. V. Garrod's triple bill, consisting of *Delicate Ground*, *Still Waters Run Deep*, and *A Regular Fix*, drew such a large house and was so enthusiastically received at the West London Theatre on the 26th ult., that Mr. Bailey is arranging with them to return and present the same programme for an entire week. The production of *The Prodigal Parson*, under the same management, is as successful as ever. The seventy-seventh week of an unbroken tour has now been reached, and advance bookings extend twelve months ahead.

Miss Louie Adair, who has been playing entire lead during the ten weeks' summer season at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, has been the recipient of some very pretty presents and flowers. Miss Adair has won golden opinions for her clever work, and has been re-engaged by Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett for a further two weeks.

A new musical comedy, entitled *The Scarlet Patrol*, the book by Owen Trevine and St. John Hamund, with music by the former, will be produced at the Kingston Theatre on Monday, Aug. 26. The cast will include such well-known artists as Mr. Leonard Russell, Mr. Arthur Stigant, and Miss Elise Cooke, and there will be a trained chorus of thirty. The comedy will be produced by Herbert Cottesmore, of the Shaftesbury and Vaudeville Theatres, and will be stage-managed by Mr. St. John Hamund. An excellent tour of the new production has been booked by Mr. C. St. John Denton.

Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's *Under Two Flags* company, now in its sixth year of tour, will reopen the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, this evening. Their *At Cripple Creek* company will be the holiday attraction at the Theatre Royal, Hanley, thus paying its third visit within sixteen months; and their new play, the American success, *For Her Sake*, will form the attraction at Fulham during the holiday week.

Mr. Frank Adair is to be congraulated on his work during the stock season at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, this summer. Every play produced under his direction proved successful, and in several instances the pieces ran for two weeks. Mr. Adair has been the recipient of many letters from the residents of Clapham congratulating him on his work.

Mr. Wellesley Draper has been re-engaged by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow for the tour of their new Russian drama, *For Her Sake*, commencing at the Grand, Fulham, on Monday.

Miss Maude Stewart Drewry has been engaged by Mr. Wentworth Croke to play the parts of Thora and Elim in their autumn tour of *The Prodigal Son*, commencing Aug. 12, at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham. Miss Drewry played the part of Thora with great success in South Africa, being specially engaged by Mr. Leonard Rayne for his production of the play in Cape Town.

Mr. J. A. E. Malone, whose business is increasing by leaps and bounds, is no longer able to represent the London interests of Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler. Mr. T. B. Young will, therefore, now represent the South African firm, his address being Daly's Theatre.

Mr. Frank Beresford has been engaged by Mr. Wentworth Croke to star as John Storm on his forthcoming tour of *The Christian*, commencing on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham.

Miss Violet Ellicott, who has just concluded a starring engagement in *Tom, Dick, and Harry*, has been secured by Hardie and Von Leer to play Marion Thornton in *Two Little Vagabonds* No. 1 company, opening at the Coronet Theatre on Monday. Besides being asked to play her old part of the "female swindler," which she created and played with conspicuous success for sixteen months, Miss Ellicott is also offered a re-engagement for the winter in *Tom, Dick, and Harry*, and will probably be seen in the West End in the spring in a new production.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Christie Murray's Début.

The late David Christie Murray, prolific novelist and charming essayist, whose much-regretted death took place on Thursday last, at the age of sixty, made his first, and possibly only, appearance as an actor in his own comedy-drama, in three acts, entitled *Ned's Chum*, which was tried for a single night at the Globe Theatre in the August of 1891. In some points his performance revealed his inexperience, and he was, naturally, rather nervous; but it was on the whole decidedly creditable and promising. Mr. Murray repeated his attempt when *Ned's Chum* was put on for a week at the same theatre in the year after; and his impersonation was found to be considerably improved.

Escape from a Would-be Actor.

"Reynolds'" has an anecdote which needs substantiation, but is worth quoting for its cleverness. The writer says:—Mr. George Alexander is much troubled by amateurs, who believe themselves born for the stage, and who come to him for advice. One of these, the scion of a noble family, whose talent is patent only to himself, was continually pestering Mr. Alexander, and various were the ruses which the latter adopted to evade him. Walking along the Strand one day Mr. Alexander espied the would-be actor hurrying towards him. There seemed to be no way of escape. A barber's shop, however, was at hand, and into this Mr. Alexander dashed. To the astonishment of the proprietor and his assistants, he seized an apron that lay on a chair, tied it round him, and commenced to lather one of the customers assiduously. Meanwhile his tormentor entered the shop, and looked round. "Pardon me," he remarked to the proprietor; "I thought I saw Mr. Alexander come in here, but I must have been mistaken," and out he walked, much to the manager's satisfaction.

Criticism at the Cape.

South African criticism is evidently inclined to be florid. A recent notice in a Cape Town paper of Mrs. Brown Potter's performance in *La Belle Marseillaise* reads as follows:—"Care has not passed this magnificent actress by. She has had her full meed of tears and grief, and yet with the braverie that belongs to her great race, she can eat her tears and rejoice. . . . So long have we been listening to mediocrities that the genius of Mrs. Brown Potter is like a breath of spring. Her wonderful personality pervades everything. She clears up the fog with a decisive motion of her hand. When one sees her one forgets melodrama and the turgid sentimentality of a fast-dying day. The lithe, swift body conforms to every feature of the play, and the clear, beautiful tones redeem the playwright's inconsequences."

Mrs. Tree as Titania.

The *Yorkshire Evening Post* says:—"The manager of the Bridlington Spa had a difficult part to play on Monday night. Mrs. Beerbohm Tree, who was opening the new theatre, said she presumed that the part she was playing was that of a godmother. Perhaps Mr. Haigh, she continued, referring to the gentleman in faultless evening dress beside her, was a sort of godfather. Mr. Hague might be Oberon and she Titania. So having arranged her cast, she recited some beautiful verses from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and coming to the line, 'Hand in hand with fairy grace,' she extended her hand to the blushing manager, and slyly asked the audience if they saw 'the fairy grace.'"

Not for Repose.

The *Morning Leader* says: *The Era* has this advertisement—"Wanted, to sell, 181 orchestra stalls and 156 dress circle stalls of the Savoy Theatre. Frames black wood, with seats covered peacock blue plush. Secretary, Savoy Theatre, London." But the rumour is untrue that the seats covered in peacock blue plush are to be replaced with uncovered wooden substitutes, fitted with high, straight backs, and warranted hard, in order to assist the student of the Shavian drama, shortly to be installed on those classic boards, in his battle with sleep.

H. A. Jones on America.

"Of course," says Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, in an interview in the *Daily Chronicle*, "people will say that I have personal reasons for praising America. I most certainly have. None the less, it would be my conviction anyhow that there is more life, more vigour, more relation to actuality and the national character about the stage in America than there is over here just now. The drama is more part of the people's existence, and, good or bad, they take it more seriously. I don't contend that at this moment America is producing better plays than we are. But it will, if things go on as they have done. These dramatic classes, for instance, that have been started at the American universities are by no means mere crankish, pedantic affairs. They are most sensibly conducted. They will not make playwrights, of course. But if there are any young fellows with the heart of the thing in them these classes will bring them along and save them years of unacted, barren failure.

A National Theatre.

"Moreover, I would still wager that New York gets its national theatre long before London does. There was, I happen to know, a considerable deal of truth behind the rumours of the 'millionaires' theatre' for which is was proposed to entice Mr. Granville Barker over the Atlantic as producer. I understand, too, that the scheme is to be gone on with.

The Trust System Commended.

"As for the £20,000,000 trust, of which there has been so much talk during these past few days, I cannot see that there is anything to fear in it. Great art though it is, the drama must be conducted upon business methods. Under the present circumstances practically every new play of any ambitions costs its £1000 a week. Accordingly, anything that makes for more competent business-management must have a good effect. So far as I can see, the long run system—which is the fruit of so many evils—might be less necessary under a big trust than under a smaller speculator who needs to make his immediate profits. From the purely artistic point of view, I don't think there would be much change—at any rate for the worse—if the trust did come. Anyhow, you have the curious fact that until the trusts arrived the American drama was but a poor thing. Now it is showing genuine vitality.

"Michael and His Lost Angel."

"The failure of *Michael and His Lost Angel* at the Lyceum in 1896," said Mr. Jones, "was the cruellest blow I ever had. It kept me back for years. If it had succeeded I should have done, I think, better as well as more serious work since. Still, I have not finished yet. I might tell you now that *Michael and His Lost Angel* was originally offered to Sir Henry Irving and Miss Ellen Terry."

Dramatic Statistics.

In regard to the theatrical year 1906-7, says the *Daily Mirror*, while commercially it was a success, comparatively few new plays were staged, as will be seen from the following list; Plays of two or more acts, forty-four; one-act plays, twenty-three; musical plays, thirteen; revivals of plays, twenty-one. No fewer than eleven of the plays new to London were of American origin, viz.: *The Prince Chap, Mrs. Temple's Telegram, Julie Bonbon, Dorothy o' the Hall, The Truth, Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch, Brewster's Millions, Strongheart, The Last of His Race, In the Bishop's Carriage*, and *The Earl of Pawtucket*. Of the twenty-three one-act plays, five were written entirely by ladies.

"THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY."

A Fantastic Play, in Three Acts, founded on a Comedy by Edward J. Malyon and C. James, Produced at the St. James's Theatre on Monday, July 29.

To-day and To-morrow, 1906.

Nicholas, Ninth Earl of Laidlaw ..... Mr. Edward Compton
Mr. Dormer ..... Mr. Eric Lewis
Wilfrid Gaunt ..... Mr. Charles Groves
Colonel Colby ..... Mr. E. M. Robson
Sir Vincent Warrilow ..... Mr. G. Wallace Johnston
Hon. Algernon Pinkerton ..... Mr. Benedick Butler
Rupert Trevor ..... Mr. Henry Ainley
Warne ..... Mr. Philip Gordon
Charles ..... Mr. Reginald E. Besant
Lady Antony Frayle ..... Miss Suzanne Sheldon
Dolly Laidlaw ..... Miss Phyllis Relph
Mary Molyneux ..... Miss Marion Ashworth
Stacey Trevor-Coke ..... Miss Grace Lane

Yesterday, 1745.

Nicholas, Fourth Earl of Laidlaw ..... Mr. Edward Compton
Dormer ..... Mr. Eric Lewis
Admiral Gaunt ..... Mr. Charles Groves
General Colby ..... Mr. E. M. Robson
Captain Warrilow ..... Mr. G. Wallace Johnston
Lieutenant Pinkerton ..... Mr. Benedick Butler
Ensign Rupert Trevor ..... Mr. Henry Ainley
Sergeant of Grenadiers ..... Mr. Reginald E. Besant
Warne ..... Mr. Philip Gordon
Pompey ..... Miss Dolly Stamp
Lady Anthony Frayle ..... Miss Suzanne Sheldon
Dorothy Laidlaw ..... Miss Phyllis Relph
Lady Mary Molyneux ..... Miss Marion Ashworth
Mrs. Dormer ..... Miss Marie Hassell
Anastasia Coke ..... Miss Grace Lane

The origin of *The 18th Century* is an anonymous play called *To-Morrow*, which was produced at the Paisley Theatre in the February of 1904. The authors of the present piece are apparently indebted to this drama, which is now announced as by Edward J. Malyon and C. James, for the central idea of their drama, *To-Morrow* being the property of Mr. Edward Compton, who opened his season at the St. James's on Monday evening. *The 18th Century* is divided into three acts and four scenes. In the first scene we gather that Nicholas, the Ninth Earl of Laidlaw, is engaged to a young heiress named Stacey Trevor-Coke, a fresh and simple-minded young girl whose purity and simplicity are in strong contrast with the wanton freedom of Lady Antony Frayle, whose husband is abroad, and who in his absence is "carrying-on" with Nicholas. Stacey feels that the union into which she is about to enter is a cold and heartless one, and in an interview with the Earl she endeavours to place matters upon a higher footing. But Nicholas gives her his cynical view of marriage, and tells her that she must expect him to go his own way, while he, on his side, will allow her to go hers. Stacey's remonstrances, however, make an impression on Nicholas, and he broods over them alone. Then his thoughts go back to the ancestors from whom he inherits his vices, and he apostrophises them *en masse*. One of the pictures on the wall drops from its nail, and in a hole is found a philtre by which the Earl and his valet are suddenly "switched back" into the eighteenth century, the other characters in the first scene also being duplicated in the second. Stacey becomes Anastasia Coke, beloved by Ensign Rupert Trevor, and forced into marriage with Nicholas by her two guardians. Lady Anthony Frayle, whose husband the Earl, it appears, has slain in a duel, is indignant at the proposed union; and, being scorned by Trevor, urges Nicholas to kill him; while Anastasia implores the Earl to spare the man she loves and release her. The Earl's better nature makes him consent to the girl's requests; but he is so sorely affronted by the Ensign that a combat takes place in which the latter is slain, the horrified Laidlaw and his valet drinking an antidote and returning to contemporary life quite cured of any illusions as to the advantages of life in the eighteenth century. Taught by his experience in the other world, Nicholas returns to present-day life a changed man, and is able to reassure his betrothed as to their future.

The acting was excellent. Mr. Edward Compton, who is always at his best in an eighteenth-century part, appeared with equal ability as the modern and the ancient Earl. In the first act, as the cynical and self-indulgent Nicholas, he treated the scenes between the Earl and the unsophisticated Stacey Trevor-Coke with all the ease, acuteness, and gracious tact that were required, the dashes of more serious expression being put in with the practised hand of an experienced and accomplished artist. Mr. Compton cut a very elegant figure in the attire of the eighteenth century, and his expression of the stormy impulses of the Earl's dissolute ancestor was very intense and vigorous. Altogether, Mr. Compton may be credited with an impersonation of remarkable merit, which will add greatly to his high and well-won reputation. The fact that such a consummate artist as Mr. Eric Lewis was cast as Mr. Dormer shows how liberal Mr. Compton was in collecting his company, and it need hardly be said that Mr. Lewis made the most of the part. He was the essence of polished valetdom, and the delicate comedy of the impersonation was extremely effective, Mr. Dormer's embarrassment when pursued by his ghostly wife being excessively amusing. Mr. Charles Groves and Mr. E. M. Robson worked together well as the two guardians, their angry altercations and repeated reconciliations being carried out with admirable heartiness and vigour. These two sound and experienced artists supplied character-sketches of genuine value and excellence. Mr. G. Wallace Johnston played neatly and crisply as the Warrilows; and Mr. Benedick Butler as the Honourable Algernon Pinkerton of the one age and the Lieutenant Pinkerton of the other was equally alert and effective. Mr. Henry Ainley looked as picturesque in the evening dress of to-day as in the regimentals of an officer of 1745; and in the latter displayed an amount of fire and passion which made his performance a memorable one. Mr. Philip Gordon, with a good make-up, rendered Warne a distinct and diverting personage; and Mr. Reginald E. Besant did good work as Charles. Miss Suzanne Sheldon was quite up to date as the Lady Antony Frayle of the first scene of the piece, and as the amorous and vindictive demi-rep of the eighteenth century Miss Sheldon acted with a remarkable amount of energy and expression, her depiction of the impetuous passion of Lady Anthony being full of power and intensity. Miss Phyllis Relph was smart and bright as Dolly Laidlaw; Miss Marion Ashworth hit off the characteristics of Mary Molyneux cleverly; and it would be difficult to overpraise either Miss Grace Lane's Stacey Trevor-Coke or her Anastasia. The leading characteristic of both was a chaste and refined delicacy and charm as rare as they were pleasing and prepossessing. The winning grace of the ingenuous Stacey and the sentimental artlessness of Anastasia were only variations in the same key of exquisite maidenhood. Miss Marie Hassell played the buxom housekeeper of the old abbey very spiritedly and with an acceptable sense of humour; and Miss Dolly Stamp was efficient as the Black Page.

An important feature of the production was the scenery by Mr. Joseph Harker. Nothing could have been better than the way in which the changes were worked, and the first set was especially artistic. The dresses were very handsome and elaborate, and the incidental music, arranged by Henry W. May and H. E. Loseby, was judiciously prepared, Mr. R. M. Crompton's gavotte being an agreeable and enlivening composition. *The 18th Century* had a cordial reception, and a few well-chosen words from Mr. Compton brought the evening to a cheerful close.

"A NIGHT OUT" REVIVED.

On Tuesday, July 30, at the Criterion Theatre, revival of the Farcical Comedy, in three acts, by Georges Feydeau and Maurice Desvallières.

Joseph Pinglet ..... Mr. George Giddens
Paillard ..... Mr. Bertram Steer
Mathieu ..... Mr. Frederick Volpé
Maxime ..... Mr. George Desmond
Brochard ..... Mr. Reginald Walter
Boulot ..... Mr. Lawrence White
Bastien ..... Mr. F. W. Permain
Ernest ..... Mr. Geoffrey Saville
Botticelli ..... Mr. P. L. Julian
Marcelle ..... Miss Marguerite Leslie
Angelique ..... Miss Alice Beet
A Lady ..... Miss Millicent Forsyth
Victorine ..... Miss Frances Vine
Hyacinthe ..... Miss Nell Toller
Violette ..... Miss Violet Hollom
Rose ..... Miss Leonora Caldwell
Margerite ..... Miss May Hollom

Mr. Charles Klein's adaptation of MM. Georges Feydeau and Maurice Desvallières's farce *Hôtel du Libre Exchange*, revised by Mr. Seymour Hicks, was presented at the Vaudeville Theatre, in the April of 1896, with Mr. George Giddens as Joseph Pinglet, Mr. Charles Sugden as Paillard, Mr. William Wyes as Mathieu, Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald as Maxime, Miss Fannie Ward as Marcelle, Mrs. Edmund Phelps as Angelique, and Miss Pattie Browne as Victorine. It is doubtful if serious criticism is applicable to such a piece of exquisite absurdity; at any rate, it would be superfluous at this date, in face of the inextinguishable laughter that greeted the play night after night for a year and a half after its production at the Vaudeville. The revival at the Criterion Theatre on Tuesday was received with an amount of favour which showed that the piece had lost nothing of its laughter-provoking power. Nothing could be better in its way than the Joseph Pinglet of Mr. George Giddens. He has a style and an individuality entirely his own; and, in this particular part, both are very valuable. From first to last his reading is in the truest vein of comedy. The personality of the little builder is distinctly defined, the habitual demureness of the individual being finely contrasted with the impulsive effusiveness which he develops under the influence of amorous emotions. From first to last Mr. Giddens's Pinglet is kept in the same key of dry and quiet drollery. Even the extravagant "business" of the rôle is never overdone; and in the wildest scenes of farce Mr. Giddens's practised art enables him to subject his most irresistible absurdities to the most artistic control. So entirely intelligent and natural is the impersonation, that the practical fun in the Hôtel Mascotte seems as unforced and "inevitable" as the more restrained humour of the henpecked husband in the first division of the piece. Mr. Giddens's Pinglet has lost none of its many excellent qualities; and it was received at the Criterion on Tuesday with all the enthusiasm which greeted it at the Vaudeville in 1896. Mr. Bertram Steer is a most agreeable representative of Paillard, his bright, breezy, and excellent style and appearance commending him to the audience from the first. His quick and vivid conception of the character greatly increases the "conviction" created by the performance generally. Mr. Frederick Volpé is irresistible as Mathieu, the "dunder-headed" amiability of the elderly widower being suggested with a reality and humour that are worthy of the warmest praise. Aided by an effective make-up, Mr. Volpé's performance is one of the most amusing in the cast. Mr. George Deamond gives a very satisfactory depiction of the studious "hobbadehoy" Maxime; and Mr. Reginald Walter is official propriety itself as the stern and upright Inspector of Police. Mr. Lawrence White is unimpeachable as the elder waiter, and plays the part with commendable care and cleverness, and Mr. F. W. Permain supplies a neat sketch of the younger waiter, Bastien. Mr. Geoffrey Saville does useful work as Ernest; and Mr. P. L. Julian contributes a most picturesque and emphatic interpretation of the rôle of Botticelli. Miss Marguerite Leslie's handsome figure and general attractiveness make her a most acceptable exponent of the character of Marcelle; and she acts with much intelligence and expressiveness. Miss Alice Beet gives a thoroughly incisive and alert embodiment of Angelique, sharp and clear, but not in the least overdone; and Miss Millicent Forsyth makes a fine appearance as A Lady. Miss Nell Toller, Miss Violet Hollom, Miss Leonora Caldwell, and Miss May Hollom are a delightful bevy of daughters; and Miss Frances Vine endows Victorine with all the necessary dash and artfulness. The production, under the direction of Mr. George Giddens, went with a swing and a spirit which were irresistible; and the laughter which the farce evoked was sufficient testimony to the complete success of the experiment.

DEATH OF JOSEPH HATTON.

We regret to announce the death on Wednesday, at the age of sixty-six, of Mr. Joseph Hatton, who was the son of Francis Augustus Hatton, the founder of the *Derbyshire Times*. He came to London in 1868 to conduct the *Gentleman's Magazine*. For some years he acted as special correspondent in Europe of the *New York Times* and *Sydney Morning Herald*, and he represented the *Standard* on a special mission to America. Sir Henry Irving and J. L. Toole were among his dearest friends, and he prepared Irving's "Impressions of America" and Toole's "Reminiscences" for the press. His novels "Clytie" and "When Greek meets Greek" were dramatised; and he also wrote the following plays: *John Needham's Double, Liz, A Daughter of France*, a version of *Jack Sheppard* produced at the Pavilion Theatre, with Mr. Weedon Grossmith in the leading part, and *The Prince and the Pauper*, adapted from Mark Twain's book. He was the author of a dramatic version of Hawthorne's "Scarlet Letter," which made a success in America. His gossiping "Cigarette Papers" in the *People*, of which he was the editor, were widely read. Joseph Hatton was in his early days an officer in the Volunteer Artillery, and his interest in the Volunteer movement was long maintained. Miss Bessie Hatton, the younger daughter of the deceased, was educated at a convent school in the Ardennes and Bedford College, London, and commenced the study of her future profession under Mrs. Chippendale. She made her first London appearance in 1889 at the Globe, with Richard Mansfield, playing the Prince of Wales in *Richard III.*, afterwards playing Gennarino in *La Tosca*, with John Hare at the Garrick, appeared at the Shaftesbury as Lady Eve in Henry Arthur Jones's *Judah*, and went to America during her father's visit to the States, and repeated with E. S. Willard her impersonation of Lady Eve. On returning to London she enacted the dual rôle of the Prince and the Pauper in her father's dramatisation of Mark Twain's famous romance, and afterwards played François in *Richelieu* at the Lyceum with Sir Henry Irving. She was the Lucy White in the London production of *The Professor's Love Story*, with Mr. Willard, at the Garrick. She is an accomplished authoress.

MR. BOURCHIER AT THE GARRICK.

Mr. Bourchier, in answer to repeated calls and a demand for a speech, at the conclusion of the performance of *The Walls of Jericho*, at the Garrick Theatre on the 26th ult, said: Ladies and gentlemen, it would be very ungrateful were I to let you go this evening without thanking you sincerely for the liberal support you have extended to us for the past twelve months. Not even the hot weather has been able to loosen the cement of your favour towards Mr. Sutro's famous *Walls of Jericho*. But, ladies and gentlemen, some of the original stones in these walls need to be freshened by the process of a little rest. After a brief holiday we propose, in the early autumn, to pay a visit to our friends in the provinces, and we shall take to them some nine plays, our repertory being a versatile one ranging from grave to gay, and including, besides *The Walls of Jericho*, two plays of Shakespeare (*The Merchant of Venice* and *Macbeth*), *The Duel, Doctor Johnson, The Arm of the Law*, and *The Bishop's Move*. In the course of our wandering we shall produce, in Manchester, a new play called *Simple Simon*, written by Murray Carson and a lady whose name will be new to you—Miss Norah Keith. Although out of sight, we shall not be idle, and may we hope that we shall not be entirely out of mind? On our return we hope to give some performances of *The Arm of the Law* and *The Bishop's Move*, and the encouragement which you gave last winter to our series of matinées of *Macbeth* has emboldened us to put that play into our evening bill. About Christmas time also we shall give some matinées of *The Merchant of Venice*. How long it will be before we meet again will depend upon my friend and colleague, Sydney Valentine, whose comedy of English rural life, written by himself and Mrs. Blundell, entitled *Fiander's Widow*, is now in active preparation. That you will extend to him a very full measure of your favour both as actor and author is my most earnest hope. If you read the daily papers you will learn that there are voices in the air, disturbing the theatrical firmament, and they utter the awesome word "trust." A few days ago an interviewer sought me out—from under a motor-car beneath which I had crawled for refuge—and plied me with questions. When I informed him that I believed in the theatrical trust as the foundation of all theatrical stability he became voluble indeed, entreating me to tell him the names of my fellow-directors, or the theatres we control, the authors and actors we meant to crush, our capital, and so on. When he ceased, I assured him that the one trust in which I put my whole faith is my confidence in the judgment of the British public, without which no theatrical enterprise, however ambitious, can hope to succeed. It gives me much pleasure to announce to you that my next season's work will include a play founded upon Sir Gilbert Parker's most popular novel—one that his publishers tell me has been read by millions—"The Right of Way." I deem myself fortunate that Sir Gilbert has handed me a dramatic presentation of Charlie Steele which I venture to hope will win your favour when he "struts and frets" upon this stage. Permit me, on behalf of my wife, my company, and myself, to bid you au revoir.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The usual weekly meeting of the Actors' Association was held at 10, King-street, Covent Garden, on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. H. Athol Forde (chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), and Messrs. Arthur Applin, Cecil Brooking, Fredk. Morland, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). As there was not a sufficient number to form a quorum at 2.45, those present formed themselves into a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee. Mr. Athol Forde was elected chairman, and the business of the agenda was proceeded with.

The hon. solicitors reported an interview with a member and stated the particulars of her claim, and they were requested to write for payment. The hon. solicitors stated they had interviewed a member as to her claim under her contract with a manager. She attended before the Council and stated the nature of her claim, but the Council were of opinion that she was not entitled to damages for breach of contract, inasmuch as she rehearsed on approval. The hon. solicitors reported they had written to a former member's solicitor in reply to his letter, declining to give any information or do anything in the matter.

A member attended before the Council and stated the nature of his claim, he having been engaged to play in a sketch, and after rehearsal, dismissed. The hon. solicitors reported they had written claiming damages, and were requested to write again and issue summons if necessary.

The hon. solicitors reported they had had an interview with a member and written another letter on his behalf but had not received any reply. They also reported they had written on behalf of two members as to their claims against a manager, and had received a reply, copies of which they had forwarded to the members in question. The hon. solicitors referred to the correspondence they had had with a member as to his contract with a manager respecting arrears of salary due to him. They were requested to write to the manager making the necessary claim, and afterwards report to the Council.

It was agreed that the offices should be closed next Monday, it being Bank Holiday. The secretary stated that the premium required by the Sun Insurance Office for insurance of the staff was £1 1s. 3d. He was directed to effect the insurance.

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Herbert Blackmore, the secretary of the Theatrical Managers' Association, acknowledging receipt of letter and enclosure upon the subject of the "Minimum or Living Wage," and stating that he expected to bring it before his Council shortly.

Dr. N. I. Spriggs, of Shrewsbury, was elected an hon. medical officer to the Actors' Association.

The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was given, and it was agreed that future meetings of this committee be postponed until further notice.

Two former members were reinstated.

LYRIC THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The advertisement which my directors instructed me to insert in your issue of last week seems to have caused some misunderstanding. The position of affairs in respect to the Lyric were as follows:—

The London County Council some months ago served notices requiring most extensive alterations, such as a new staircase from the very top floor of the dressing-rooms to the street, new staircase from the gallery, new exit from the pit, a reconstruction of the whole of the dress circle, and a new staircase and exit from same, together with some three dozen other requirements.

About a month ago the Council served a further notice, requiring a complete re-wiring of the theatre.

There was at this time some rent owing, and it meant my directors either finding a large sum of money for the alterations or letting the freeholder take possession for rent.

They chose the latter course. The theatre had been run at a serious loss, and they did not feel justified in bolstering up a property of which they had only eighteen months' lease to run.—Yours faithfully,

SAMUEL JAMES.

Warwick House, 8, Warwick-street,
Gray's Inn, W.C., Aug. 1, 1907.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught visited the Gaiety Theatre on Monday evening, and witnessed the performance of *The Girls of Gottenberg*.

THE MOODY-MANNERS COMPANY.

On Saturday, July 2, at the Lyric Theatre, the Opera, by Wagner, entitled "TRISTAN AND ISOLDA."

Tristan ..... Mr. Joseph O'Mara
King Mark ..... Mr. Chas. Magrath
Kurvenal ..... Mr. William Dever
Melot ..... Mr. T. C. Fairbairn
Shepherd ..... Mr. V. Brodo
Steersman ..... Mr. J. Johnstone
Brangana ..... Miss Toni Seiter
Isolda ..... Mme. Fanny Moody

The advent of Mr. John Coates on Friday evening, the 26th ult., in the character of Lohengrin, lent additional interest to the representation of that popular work by the Moody-Manners company, and the English tenor received a hearty welcome from a large house. Since he first appeared at the Globe Theatre in the short-lived *The Gay Pretenders* some few years since, Mr. Coates has studied to much advantage, and his reputation, deservedly high as it is, has not been gained without strenuous work. Like the late Sims Reeves, he started his career as a baritone; but in the heyday of the former artist the difficulties of opera were not so great as they are now; and English tenors then had not the cadences of Wagner to contend with. In the character of the Knight of the Swan we doubt if we have a native-born tenor that is so well suited, and from his first entry as the chivalrous champion of Elsa he quite gripped the idiosyncracies of the part. Dignified and gentle in his bearing towards Elsa in the Courtyard scene, he became more impassioned in the long duet in the third act; and the proclamation of his identity and the final departure set the seal upon his triumph. It might have been objected, perhaps, that so ethereal a being as Lohengrin would scarcely have displayed so much fury in the killing of Telramund, but this is hypercriticism. The house acclaimed its pleasure at the fine singing of the artist at every opportunity, and we cannot but regard the engagement as a fortunate one. Mme. De Vere's Elsa was another completely satisfying impersonation. Her purity of voice was exemplified, especially in the beautiful music of the dream, and also in the solo on the balcony. The *messa voce* effects were charming, and the intonation true. The portrayal was always sympathetic and tender. Mr. Lewys James as Frederick of Telramund made a truculent figure of this recreant Knight, singing the music admirably; Miss Toni Seiter's Ortrud lacked none of the qualities of hate, and was a sinister and interesting personage throughout; and Mr. Charles Magrath's King had weight, dignity, and sonority, Mr. Eile completing the cast very ably as the Herald. The chorus may specially be commended in the Wedding music, and the band, under Signor Sapio, played the prelude to the third act with fine tone and precision.

Music lovers, who were not limited to those who come under the specific category of "Wagnerians," flocked to the Lyric Theatre on Saturday for the production in English of Wagner's *Tristan and Isolda*. And, indeed, it can be said that Mr. Charles Manners and Miss Fanny Moody have done a great deal to popularise this very delightful opera. The only frequent performances of this work have hitherto been left to German artists, and the contrast to their unvarying interpretations afforded by the freshness and purity of the English voices and their method of attacking the phrases has been much commented upon. As to the orchestra, one cannot too highly commend the manner in which, under Herr Eckhold's excellent conductorship, it carried out its share of the work. The orchestration is of great importance in *Tristan and Isolda*, and a splendid—and successful—attempt was made to preserve in the musical scheme the proportion between the voices and the instruments.

Mme. Fanny Moody created a most favourable impression by her interpretation of the part of Isolda. The freshness and beauty of her voice was, if anything, enhanced by a variety of explanatory gestures and facial expressions. Whatever impression the composer may intend to convey to his hearers is always accentuated by the method and abilities of the performers, and in this respect Mme. Fanny Moody beautifully illustrated the changing moods of Isolda as bitter hatred gave way to ardent love. Rarely, perhaps, has this artist appeared to greater advantage and demonstrated the fact that this country is not absolutely dependent on foreign talent. In the Liebestod she exhibited a smoothness and delicacy of feeling which called forth the warm approval of the audience. Mr. Joseph O'Mara as Tristan was greatly helped by his considerable histrionic gifts. In the love scene, however, he seemed to lack responsive power, but there is no question that what was really a very conscientious rendering of a difficult part will improve with repetition. Mr. William Dever looked the part of Kurvenal, and he possesses a fine voice. Mr. Charles Magrath made an excellent King Mark, his voice showing a considerable degree of flexibility and resonance. Miss Toni Seiter was well suited to the part of Brangana, while Mr. T. C. Fairbairn, Mr. V. Brodo, and Mr. J. Johnstone gave careful renderings of the parts of Melot, the Shepherd, and the Steersman respectively.

On Thursday the Moody-Manners company gave, for the first time in London, a very adequate interpretation of Verdi's *Aida*. The cast included Mr. O'Mara as Radames, Mme. De Vere Sapio as Aïda, Mr. Macgrath as the King, Miss Toni Seiter as Amneris, Mr. Lewys James as Amonasro, and Mr. Manners as Ramphis. The audience was very enthusiastic, and at the close, after many recalls, Mr. Manners thanked the audience for their support, upon which he said really depended the success or failure of an endeavour to give permanently performances of grand opera in English. "It only rests with you to give me your support," said Mr. Manners, and the audience answered "We will."

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

Miss Marguerite Leslie as Mrs. Paillard in *A Night Out* at the Criterion has some very elegant dresses, amongst them a white evening tulle gown showered with silver and mounted upon pink tulle. The silver is becomingly arranged in stripes and a deep band of silver embroidery edges the skirt. Her hair is filleted with an old rose ribbon caught up by a jewelled comb, and Miss Millicent Forsyth, who plays "A Lady," wears a smart pale blue net toilette bordered with roses embroidered in floss silk, intertwined with ribbon and handsome white lace *à jour*. Over her shoulders is a wide plum-coloured scarf of unadorned taffetas, threaded through a diamond heart-shaped buckle at the back. A purple hat is decorated with roses to match.

Miss Marguerite Leslie's dress in the last act is a morning costume of Dresden blue marquisette. The four daughters of the notary, Mr. Mathieu, make attractive appearances in their white, be-ribboned *robes-de-nuit*.

The Earl of Rosslyn, against whom a decree of divorce was recently granted in the Scottish Court at the instance of his wife, has instructed his solicitors to enter an appeal.

Torquay Theatre was reopened on Monday, after extensive renovation, the theatre being rendered much more attractive both inside and out. The foyer and vestibule have been repapered with a rose-tree freize, the woodwork being treated with white enamel and gold-painted. The upper circle and pit stalls have also been re-upholstered, and the general appointments brought up to date under the able supervision of Mr. W. H. Mortimer, the managing-director.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE ALHAMBRA.

The "Urbanora" animated pictures still remain one of the most appreciated items in the Alhambra's fine programme, an especially interesting and clear series of films being those representing incidents in connection with the Launching of H.M.S. Bellerophon at Portsmouth Dockyard on July 27. The preparations for the releasing of the biggest warship in the world are graphically depicted. H.R.H. Princess Henry of Battenberg is seen cutting the cord, and as the mammoth vessel gradually slides into the water to the strains of "Rule Britannia" the enthusiasm of the audience is loudly expressed. Another fine set of pictures are those illustrative of Mr. Carl Hagenbeck's famous wild animal park at Stellingen, Germany. The animals are seen in the enjoyment of their semi-freedom in apparently natural surroundings, and the many films shown are both interesting and amusing. The Gipsy's Bride is an exciting little drama, and The Short-Sighted Cyclist is a most amusing and ingenious comic series, laughter being continuous throughout its representation. Another favourite turn is the exceptionally smart acrobatic and Risley act given by the Yiulians Family, the clever troupe all being expert and finished performers. The bearers toss about and catch the lads with wonderful precision and apparent ease, the youngsters seeming to thoroughly enjoy the exercise. All are enthusiastic workers, and their act, which includes somersaulting, hand and head balancing, and other feats most difficult of accomplishment, is certainly one of the finest on the stage.

Canine intelligence largely developed is seen in the highly-trained troupe of Chihuahua dogs from Mexico exploited by Miss Rosina Caselli. Making their entrance in a miniature motor-car, the tiny canines soon get to work, performing many of the tricks executed by human gymnasts, walking across a narrow stick, balancing themselves on their front legs, turning somersaults, and many other difficult feats. At the conclusion they again all mount their car, and, unaided, drive it off the stage. But a serious breakdown occurs, and one of the smallest of the troupe is seen harnessed to the front of the car, the other jolly dogs all pushing behind, a laughable termination to a most enjoyable act, upon the success of which Miss Caselli is to be congratulated. An entertaining ventriloquial act is that submitted by W. E. Whittle, who represents President Roosevelt on the field of battle. He gives a good imitation of the crying of a very young infant, and the conversation between the ventriloquist and his knee figure is frequently punctuated with laughter. The Four Black Diamonds are vocalists, comedians, and dancers, who secure abundant applause with a well-diversified and smartly-worked act. One of the quartette employs a fine voice in his rendering of "Dinah," and the snatches of song, excellent dancing, and comic business introduced by these drolls all prove most entertaining.

The Zancigs are in the last week of their return engagement at the house where they gained so much renown, and their exhibition is as mystifying and successful as ever. The wonderful electrical effects employed in the divertissement *Electra* are a source of keen delight to the audience, the brilliant and tastefully-aranged finale calling forth the loudest applause; and the expressive miming and perfect dancing of the principals and the many beautiful stage pictures shown in the grand ballet *Queen of Spades* should prove an attraction for months to come. Vanola, Mexican antipodist, and the finely-played orchestral selection, "Lucia di Lammermoor," also add to the enjoyment of the audience.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

An exceptionally strong programme is attracting crowded houses to this popular house this week, "Standing-room only" being its rule before the curtain rises. A company which includes Victoria Monks, Alice Lloyd, and the McNaughtons must certainly be considered attractive. Victoria Monks contributes a couple of old favourites in "London town" and "Moving day," the choruses of which are taken up by the whole house, and also a new song, entitled "I'm leaving home." The latter is a typical "Victoria Monks" item, and to say that almost sufficeth to convey the fact that it is extremely good. Victoria Monks well deserves her popularity. Alice Lloyd, fresh back from her great success in America, sings "May of Mayfair," a catchy number which we have heard her sing before, and two new songs, "The simple maid" and "Splash me." Miss Lloyd's manner is very neat and dainty, and her songs are always excellent. "The simple maid" is delivered almost as a recitation, and is quite a clever little trifle; whilst "Splash me" is of a more robust type, but almost equally as ingenious. For this last item Miss Lloyd appears in a dainty pink bathing costume, and has a special back-cloth which gives to the song the effect of being sung on a pier. The McNaughtons, whom we are to lose after Christmas (together, of course, with Alice Lloyd) for a period of at least five years, America having proved so attractive, are meeting with their usual great success. No matter how *blasé* one may feel, the McNaughtons are always so clever and original and genuinely funny that they simply compel laughter. These three items, however, are by no means the only attractions at Shepherd's Bush this week. We have that sterling comedian J. W. Rowley, for whom audiences always seem to feel an affection. Mr. Rowley sings "Paddle your own canoe," sung as an old woman, and winds up with "A shady lane." The Legay Quartette of Parisian dancers contribute an excellent turn; and Ella Dean proves herself the possessor of a charming contralto voice. Charles Whaler and Carrie West appear in a comedy turn entitled "Walk with us," which consists of amusing patter and unusually smart dancing; and Park's Eton Boys provide a most pleasant *quart d'teure* by some very fine singing. A novelty which is most interesting is E. Rousby's "Around Paris: An Electrical Review of Reviews." The apparatus used is most ingenious, and the colour effects obtained extremely beautiful. The programme is completed by the American Bioscope with a series of pictures entitled "Curing a Jealous Wife." Mention, however, should certainly be made of the excellent orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Henry W. May. The popular Mr. B. G. Maclachan continues as acting-manager, with Mr. Jess Smith as assistant.

THE GRAND, CLAPHAM.

The weather, which may well be said to "top the bill" during the summer months, has this year been exceedingly kind to music-hall managers, and the capital houses that usually congregate at this hall at present show little, if any, signs of falling off. For this week a very interesting programme has been arranged, and is being received with every sign of approval. Mr. Fred Herbert, who is the possessor of a fine voice, which he knows full well how to use, gives a song about John Bull and Britannia, and afterwards sings in capital style "Home, sweet home," his reception being most flattering. A prominent place in the evening's amusement is taken by Mr. George Newburn, the popular mimic, who is giving a series of impersonations of the voices and mannerisms of several of our leading variety artists, including Mark Sheridan, Walter King, Harry Lauder, and George Lashwood in his famous "Latchkey" song. The Sisters Edwards are a couple of dainty comediennes, whose singing and dancing is much admired. The Soisloffs, who are described as cosmopolitan dancers, introduce with considerable effect several novel and clever items, and are liberally rewarded.

Mr. Arthur Woodville, a swell comedian, gives in capital style "Courting" and "I wish I were you." He brings his turn to a conclusion with some neat and clever dancing, and the applause he gets is well earned. Louise Zetland, a charming vocalist, who uses her voice with excellent effect, sings "Just idle dreams" and "Sing me to sleep," and on concluding has many times to come before the curtain to bow her acknowledgments. Gladys Huxley, a charming comedienne, is singing a couple of capital numbers, that entitled "I've a spooney-ooney feeling" being very much to the liking of Claphamites. Mooney and Holbein give a novel and entertaining turn, the gentleman being very funny. Clever dancing is not the least pleasant feature of this turn, and the lady uses her voice with no little effect. They completely succeed in holding the house whilst they are in possession of the stage, and it is some time before the audience will let them go.

Winning a Queen, a spectacular fantasy, is being presented by Gardiner Vincent and company, who are achieving considerable success. The "comedy merchant," who is the life and soul of the whole thing, works throughout with a will that in itself would be sufficient to ensure success, and his efforts to amuse never fail. A pleasant evening's amusement is brought to a conclusion with some interesting pictures on the Bioscope, the series depicting Belgian scenery being followed from start to finish with much interest. The orchestra, who have a new conductor, play well together, and Mr. Harry Ketteman, the energetic manager, does everything possible for the comfort of his patrons. This week he has lost his acting-manager, Mr. P. H. Gallagher, who has left in order to superintend operations at the New Poplar Hippodrome, which, all being well, is to reopen on Monday.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

The high standard so long sustained at this popular hall is being well maintained this week, for which a very interesting programme is provided. The top of the bill is occupied by Mr. Alec Hurley and company in *The Coster's Beano*. Needless to say, the popular artist gains a wholehearted welcome on making his appearance, and works hard and with success. Mr. Hurley is provided with three or four good songs, of which, perhaps, the best is a sentimental ditty sung to his girl, and a large number of auxiliaries, together with the assistance of the lady who plays the "donah," enables the trifle to make no uncertain bid for popular approval. The mounting is on a very complete scale, and Mr. Hurley gained a well-merited and enthusiastic call at the close. The other star turn is Mr. Hymack, the "Chameleon Actor." His performance is certainly remarkably clever and mystifying, and the originality of his show certainly deserves the hearty call bestowed upon it.

Another item of distinct interest is the production of a new sketch, entitled *Edmund Kean*, of which Miss Alicia Ramsay and Rudolf de Cordova are the authors. The motif of the play is concerned with the events in the Green Room of Drury Lane Theatre after the rehearsal of *The Merchant of Venice*, with which Kean made his first appearance the same evening and scored his histrionic triumph. We are shown the bitter jealousy that animated the members of the "Lane" company at being compelled to support the unknown and insignificant-looking actor from Exeter, who presumed to give them stage directions. The gibes and sneers go on until Kean, worn out and over-wrought with the strain on him, collapses and begs them to be a little merciful if only for the sake of his wife and child, who are starving. This confession astounds and shames the company, who, profuse in apology and eager to atone for their uncharitable behaviour, insist on going through a portion of the play to improve the evening's performance, and forthwith they proceed to rehearse the first scene of the third act, the curtain falling on their toasting of Shylock and his assured triumph. The authors have written a play of great interest, skilfully constructed, with dialogue of a high level. Mr. Frank Cochrane, as Kean, presented an excellent study of the great actor. His make-up was realistic, and his acting, during the rehearsal particularly, merits nothing but praise. Mr. Robert Forsyth, as Barrymore, is also to be congratulated. His portrayal of the splenetic and embittered old actor was of great value to the production. Mr. Leslie Palmer, as Schuler, was good as the bumptious young actor; and Mr. G. Ingleton, as Smedley, played a more sympathetic rôle with success. A very good thumbnail study of the old attendant was submitted by Mr. Charles Booking. Altogether, the play should command complete success.

The Eriks, head-balancers, give a smart and skilful performance that was well received. Haley's Juveniles submit a pretty and attractive turn of song and dance, to which several of the youngsters contribute. Dot and Spot, two very young entertainers, billed as the youngest duettists, render "Life's dream is o'er" very creditably, and gain an enthusiastic call. Jack Pleasants, a comedian, establishes himself a great favourite with his first song, "I'll get cross, Arabella," and his second, "I hadn't been in lodgings before," suits his quaint style admirably. Madge Esmond, a juvenile impersonator, gives a capital portrayal of a public school-boy. Cull Pitt, who submits a turn comprising seight-of-hand character impersonation, gives a good performance; and Cruikshank, the clown, tenders his well-known turn of patter and song with gratifying results. The Bioscope is good, and Mr. Johnston's orchestra is still an agreeable aid to the evening's enjoyment.

ROYAL ALBERT.

Although the week immediately preceding the most popular Bank Holiday of the year might not unreasonably be used as an excuse for "putting anything on," Mr. Arthur T. H. Hunt, at the Royal Albert, does not treat his patrons in that spirit. There is nothing of a makeshift nature in the programme he presents this week, and it would do credit to any six days in the year. Mr. J. Stark and his well-drilled orchestra lead off with a rousing overture, after which the audience settle down to the discussion of the generous menu. From the artistic point of view, perhaps, the best "course" is the well-known episode, *The Man in the Street*, by Mr. Louis N. Parker. This piece, written as only an author of Mr. Parker's experience could write, with a sense of characterisation that is sometimes wanting in these trifles, may be described as an object-lesson in the art of short pieces. The story of the young artist, wanting a model for his picture, who discovers a "man in the street" playing a flute, and invites him to "sit" for him; the discovery that the poor, drink-sodden wastrel is his wife's father; the braggadocio of the old sport and his departure (on an allowance) so as not to interfere with his daughter's hopes and happiness, is graphically told. The play is charmingly acted by Mr. Nevill Graham and company. Mr. Graham himself gives an artistic portrayal of the broken-down Jabez Gover; Mr. W. Wallace Aston is a fine, manly representative of the young artist, Philip Adan; and Miss Lilian Earle is agreeable as the young wife, Minnie. The mingled comedy and pathos of the play appeal strongly to the audience.

Another sketch of a widely different character is *How to be Happy Though Married*, performed by F. Wright Aitken and his company. This amusing farce, dealing with a henpecked husband and an overborne wife, affords the four characters ample scope for humorous acting, which is taken advantage of to the full by the two ladies and two gentlemen comprising the cast. Miss Ada Parker, a young, pretty, and talented songstress, sings sweetly, "I love you," followed by another ditty of the "Coon" description and a clever dance. Devon and Earle, American novelty and expert dancers, certainly deserve the applause which greets them, their dancing being wonderfully brisk. A popular turn is that of Master Charlie Carr, a clever juvenile with a pure voice. The boy first sings "I wish I were you" and "Cheyenne," and in both scores a success, while his dancing is exceedingly neat and clever.

The Sisters Allen contribute capital duets and some spirited dancing. The easy, unaffected style and fine voice of Mr. A. E. Clifford make a great impression in "I'm wearing away my heart for you," which is rapturously received. Mr. Ben Jackson soon makes himself a favourite as a banjo-magician and trick soloist. Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope show some excellent films. Mr. Alfred Levy, the Assistant-Manager and Secretary, is on the alert during the evening, and the stage management of Mr. A. G. Everitt is perfect.

BRITANNIA THEATRE.

A first-class programme is submitted at the Britannia this week, and the principal item of interest is Mr. Arnold Bell's company in that evergreen Irish drama, *The Colleen Bawn*, submitted by artists of good all-round merit. Mr. Bell himself undertakes the principal character of Myles na Coppaleen, and well does he come through the ordeal of playing this difficult part twice nightly. He is ably supported by Miss Frances Campbell, who plays very charmingly and naturally the part of Eily O'Connor; Mr. Claude Haviland submits a clever performance as Hardress Cregan; the villainous hunchback, Danny Mann, of Mr. J. P. Kennedy is a well-thought-out character study; Kyrle Daly is ably played by Mr. F. C. Robson; and an excellent Father Tom is presented by Mr. A. T. Lennard, who makes an ideal parish priest. Mr. Corrigan is in the capable hands of Mr. Billy Ross; Mesdames Cregan and Sheelah are ably represented by Miss Norah Carome and Miss Lillian Woods; and Anna Chute is capably handled by Miss Violet Campbell. The drama is well mounted and magnificently dressed. Mr. Fred Southern and his capable company, presenting *The Private Hotel*, cause incessant laughter. Mr. Southern as the burglar who breaks into a private asylum and is persuaded to remain is the means of enabling the audience to indulge in merriment by the predicaments he is forced into in endeavouring to humour the patients in their peculiarities, and certainly deserves the title of "a hundred laughs in twenty minutes." He is well supported by Messrs. Percy Emery, Chas. Ashwell, and Frank Delmere, Miss Sadie Southern, and Miss May Emery. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux throw some amusing and interesting pictures on the screen.

THE FORESTERS'.

Patrons of this cosy establishment are this week enjoying a very interesting programme, the variety shown therein being particularly marked. The item occupying premier position is Mr. Howell Webb's dramatic sketch by Myles Wallerton, entitled *Galley Slave*. The principal character is Henri Piton (known as the worst man in France), who escapes from prison and takes refuge in the house of Mme. Ducharme. The lady willingly shelters him, owing to the fact that her husband is undergoing imprisonment for a crime of which he is guiltless, and not having the necessary money, the wife is powerless in her efforts to obtain her husband's release. During the conversation that takes place between the convict and the adopted daughter of Madame, he discovers she is his own child, who has been cared for by his benefactor, the husband now in prison. The convict, reflecting on his own evil life, determines, for the sake of the girl, to give himself up, although it means his death, so he instructs Margot, the servant, to give information to the police, and the reward that is offered for him will pay for the release of Ducharme. The police arrive and re-capture him, and his death by shooting concludes a thrilling dramatic incident. The Galley Slave is well played by Mr. Howell Webb, and the character of Margot is capitally sustained by Miss Emily Barton; Miss Magdalen Moore and Little Mabel Rose, as the mother and adopted child, act admirably; Mr. Charles Bennett, as Sergeant Debroche, is all that could be desired.

Mr. Frank Seeley, the eccentric comedian, delights the house with his "Cinderella" song, in which he tells, in some droll patter, how he went to the ball, and concludes with a number in his own well-known style, "I shall never forget the day." Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, in a comedy sketch, *Coming Home*, are highly amusing, the funny business of Mr. Leonard as the drunken husband, in which he is admirably supported by the lady, causing shrieks of laughter, and at the finale they are rewarded with a well-deserved round of applause. Messrs. Stidder and Dunbar supply a very good musical scena, the antics of the gentleman whilst accompanying the lady on the piano keeping the audience in excellent humour. His speciality is that of playing "Eileen Allanah" on the violin, while in a tableau erected on the stage the lady is shown as the Irish colleen celebrated in the popular ballad.

George Antil, "the eccentric shadow," sings in fine style "I've been over the sea," and his second item, "You have been carrying on," intermixed with some funny business and gags, obtains a worthy reception. Miss Joan Deering plays the violin tastefully, her rendering of "The children's home," dressed as a little waif, being particularly good. The Two Wiltons, song and dance artists, give "I want no other little girl" and a smart military number, "Captain Epha Sapha Sampson," finishing with a neat dance. Learto, with his dog Babs, provides an interesting interlude, the readiness with which the canine executes his duties showing the wonderful care and patience which must have been exercised in his training. He also plays some novel musical instruments. Elton and Elma give a clever exhibition on the triple bar, the eccentricities of the gentleman securing many hearty laughs. Hardie Palm, comedian, sings effectively a "Good-bye" song. Mr Anthony Antil deputised for Hal Chapter, and gave some clever farmyard imitations. Two highly interesting films are given on Raymond's Bio-Tableau, viz., A Victim of Science and Father Buys a Ladder, the farmer being particularly good. Mr. Carl Hamlin is again in charge of the orchestra, which is everything that could be wished. Mr. Cochrane is, as usual, very busy, but none the less genial.

TIVOLI, LIMITED, MEETING.

Mr. Henry Tozer, who presided at the sixteenth annual meeting of the Tivoli (Limited), held at the Tivoli Theatre, Strand, on Thursday, said the year had been remarkably eventful. The exceptionally hot summer it commenced with—which always meant small audiences—was followed by a promising winter season, unfortunately cut short by the strike of January and February. Then in May they had a great misfortune in the untimely death of Mr. George Adney Payne. Notwithstanding adverse circumstances, they were able to present a very satisfactory dividend and exhibit a materially strengthened financial position. Many wild statements were made with reference to the strike, but what had been accomplished by the award was that conditions of employment and engagement had been more clearly defined and systematised, and the conditions of contracts had been made more homogeneous. So far as the Tivoli was concerned, no new disabilities had been imposed, and no increases of wages had been demanded. The Tivoli, though closely surrounded by entertainment competitors, was firmly holding its own, due in some measure to its being allied to the strong organisation which the board's connection with other music halls had enabled them to establish. With regard to the accounts, the balance-sheet showed that the net profit for the twelve months ended on June 30, 1907 (after providing for £5,683 10s. interest on the mortgage and debentures), amounted, with the balance brought forward, to the sum of £14,049 3s. 2d. In January last an interim dividend of £4 per cent. (less income tax) was paid. The directors now recommended the payment of a further dividend of £6 per cent. (less income tax) for the half-year ended June 30, 1907, together with a bonus of 2s. per share (free of income tax), equal to £12 per cent. for the year. The directors proposed to deal with the surplus by applying £5,000 to the General Reserve Fund, making the fund £15,000. Mr. Tozer concluded by moving the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Henry Sutton seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. H. H. Wells proposed the confirmation and re-election of Mr. Walter Payne as a director, which was seconded by Mr. Hugh Astley, and agreed to unanimously.

An additional sum of 500 guineas was voted to the directors for their services during the past year.

PLYMOUTH STAFF OUTING.

The fourth annual outing of the New Palace Theatre, Plymouth, staff took place on Sunday last, when a party numbering seventy thoroughly enjoyed an excursion to the Cornish Riviera. The trippers, under the charge of Mr. J. Field (manager), embarked in specially-reserved carriages at Millbay Station at 7.40 a.m., and proceeded by G.W.R. to Truro, breakfast being served en route. From Truro the party were conveyed to Malpas in carriages, the drive through the cathedral city and along the banks of the River Fal being exceedingly pleasant. At Malpas the steam-yacht New Resolute awaited the party, and in this the journey was continued to Falmouth. Disembarking at Falmouth Pier, a move was made to the Royal Hotel, where an excellent dinner was served. The party then drove round Pendennis Castle, and thence, *vid* the coast drive, to Swan Pool. Alighting at the Strand, the return journey was commenced, the River Fal again being negotiated as far as Malpas, where carriages were in waiting for the run to Truro Station. Tea was partaken of on the journey to Liskeard, at which town an hour was agreeably spent, the party finally reaching Plymouth in time to toast the health of the manager. Those responsible for arranging the "annual" were Mr. J. Field (chairman), Mr. S. Kitt (hon. treasurer), Mr. R. W. Grey, and Messrs. R. Clarke and W. Trace. Mr. J. Creber, Mr. R. F. Davis, and Mr. J. Thomas also attended the outing as guests.

STAFF OUTING, PLYMOUTH NEW PALACE THEATRE, JULY 28.

THE BARRING CLAUSE.

Mr. Harry Mountford, at Westminster on Monday, sued the Manchester Palace of Varieties for damages for breach of contract. He entered into a contract to appear at the Palace at £22 10s. a week. He was told that the contract did not bar the Tivoli, Manchester, and he appeared there; but afterwards the defendants refused him permission. The defendants admitted the breach of the contract, but asserted that another date was offered plaintiff, who did not accept it. The question, therefore, was one of costs. Mr. Mountford said he could not accept the other date offered him as he had booked an engagement with the Regent, Salford, which barred him from the Palace. Mr. Storey Deans: Don't you know that the Regent and the Palace don't bar each other?—No, certainly not. Why did you not apply to Mr. Turner, of the Regent, for permission?—Well, I never heard of a manager alowing a man to finish up in one hall on the Saturday night and start a fresh engagement in another hall in the same town on the Monday. Mr. F. Gerald (late Secretary of the Variety Artists' Federation) and Mr. C. Butler (Secretary of the Legal Committee) gave evidence as to the custom of the profession with regard to the barring clause. Mr. Wilberforce Turner, manager of the Regent, Salford, said that plaintiff had no contract with him. He admitted certain correspondence relative to an engagement, but said that no contract was binding unless made out on one of the printed forms of contract. Mr. de Frece, of the Palace Theatre, having expressed his willingness to book the plaintiff for Aug. 12, his Honour did not enter judgment, expressing the opinion that plaintiff was entitled to judgment, with costs. The case was adjourned until October before judgment was entered, in order that plaintiff might carry out the engagement.

Mr. Charles Coborn has found a "winner" in the shape of a song upon the tear-compelling subject of "Onions." He produced it for the first time recently at the Empire, Newcastle, when it scored an immediate success. He says that he remembers nothing to equal it in its quick reception by the public since "Two lovely black eyes."

ON THE ROAD, AUG. 5.

A Girl Redeemed from Sin.—Q. T., Farnworth.
Assassin.—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
At Duty's Call.—East Oxford T., Oxford.
Belle of Mayfair (Howard).—O. H., Jersey.
Belle of New York (Howard).—Portsmouth.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Berwick-on-Tweed.
Branded Woman.—Grand T., Radcliffe.
Breed of the Treshams.—Royalty, Barrow.
Bulmer, Mr.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Chinese Honeymoon (Bode).—O. H., Southport.
Christian, The (Croke).—T. R., Birmingham.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Pier Pavilion, Southend.
D'Oyly Carte Opera—Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.
Earl and the Girl (Howard).—Weston-super-Mare.
Eve of Her Wedding.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Face at the Window.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
Female Swindler.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Florodora (Howard).—T. R., Plymouth.
Girl from Japan.—Pier Pavilion, Southend.
Grip of Iron.—T. R., Merthyr.
Heart's Desire.—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Her Lost Self.—T. R., Leicester.
Her Luck in London.—Prince's T., Accrington.
Her Marriage Vow.—T. R., Blyth.
Her One Great Sin.—T. R., Sunderland.
His House in Order (N.).—Grand T., Llandudno.
His House in Order (S.).—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Honour Thy Father.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
John Glayde's Honour.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Boness and Leven.
Leah Kleschna.—Theatre Royal, Crewe.
Lion and the Mouse.—County T., Bedford.
Little Breadwinner.—T. R., Bristol.
Love that Women Desire.—O. H., Coventry.
Man's Enemy.—New Theatre, Consett.
Manxman.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Master Criminal.—T. R., Shrewsbury.
Midnight Wedding.—Queen's T., Longton.
Mollison, Wm.—Court T., Warrington.
Monckton Hoffe Comedy Co.—Grand T., Hull.
Monte Cristo.—Theatre Royal, York.
My Darling.—Theatre Royal, Brighton.
My Sweetheart.—P. O. W., Salford.
Peter's Mother (N.).—West Pier, Brighton.
Peter's Mother (M.).—Deal and Herne Bay.
Power of Gold.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Prince of Pilsen (Harriss).—Eastbourne, Hastings.
Prodigal Daughter.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
Prodigal Parson.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
Proof.—Victoria Theatre, Broughton.
Raffles.—King's Theatre, Gainsboro'.
Royal Divorce.—T. R., Dublin.
Second to None.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
Sentenced for Life.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Shulamite, The.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
Silver King (Howard).—T. R., Ryde.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Soldier of France.—T. R., Barnsley.
Stronger Sex (N.).—Spa T., Scarborough.
Terry, Edward.—Bridlington and Whitby.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—New T., Oxford.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—King's T., Sunderland.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.).—Coronet Theatre, W.
Tyrant, The.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harrington).—T. R., Cardiff.
Under the Russian Flag.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Village Blacksmith.—O. H., Northampton.
What the Butler Saw.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
When a Man Hates.—Wellingborough.
When the Lights are Low.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
When Woman Hates.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Wilkie Allan and Co.—T. R., Bolton.
Woman from Scotland Yard.—T. R., Stratford.
Woman Pays.—Prince's T., Preston.
World's Great Snare.—O. H., St. Helens.
Worst Woman in London.—Met. T., Devonport.
You Never Can Tell.—Skegness and Hunstanton.
Youngest of Three.—T. R., Belfast.
Young Lieutenant.—T. R., Peterborough.
£1000 Reward.—Grand T., Brighton.

THE METROPOLITAN.

Mr. Harry Nicholls, the popular comedian, elected to make his appearance on the variety boards in a condensed version of *The Electric Man*, a comedy by Charles Hannam which achieved considerable success at the Royalty and Shaftesbury Theatres in the later part of last year. There was plenty of laughter during the representation of the sketch at the Metropolitan on Monday, mainly the result of the amusing situations which arise out of Walter Everest being mistaken by his friends for the "electric man"—a wonderful animated figure he has made exactly resembling himself. The frequent brief appearances on the scene of the "electric man," and his riotous behaviour "off" also made for merriment, and when the sketch has been still further "cut" and played closer, which is sure to come with repetition, it will be funnier still. Mr. Harry Nicholls repeated his amusing and clever impersonation of Walter Everest and his electric double, and was especially entertaining in his representation of the comic bewilderment of the inventor when mistaken for the figure. The quick changes from one character to another were adroitly managed, and the performance throughout was a most successful one. The support accorded the chief actor was excellent, the lady who impersonated Everest's much-harassed landlady contributing considerably to the merriment of the farce, and the other parts were all capably enacted.

In the variety portion of Mr. Gros's entertaining programme a decided success was made by Marstro and Oretta, a pair of smart equilibrists and jugglers, whose work called forth the loudest of applause. The male of the duo did some exceptionally clever hand-balancing and somersault throwing, and his accomplished lady partner supported a large billiard-table on her body, while Marstro balanced himself on his hands on two billiard balls placed upon a couple of cues. Miss Mary Glenn, Scotch character vocalist, was loudly acclaimed for her fine rendering of "Caller Herrin'" and another popular number. Mr. Edgar Romaine appeared as a smart young motor enthusiast seeking a lady companion, and also gave a catchy ditty concerning "Angeline," "a naughty girl with a baby curl," both songs meeting with evident approval. Miss Lily Langtry, the popular and sprightly comedienne, contributed a couple of amusing songs, the one concerning a "trip upon the ocean" being an especially laughable number; and Mr. Jack Dawe's impersonation of a broken-down swell was decidedly funny. Mr. Walter Wade cut a droll figure as the "Irish octoroon," and evoked merriment with his funny patter, his singing of "Mona" calling forth some of the loudest applause heard during the evening.

Hardeen, the "handcuff king," had apparently little difficulty in releasing himself from a number of pairs of "bracelets" supplied by members of the audience anxious to test his skill, his exhibition throughout proving most interesting. No more attractive or clever dancing turn is to be seen than that given by My Fancy, who was accorded her usual enthusiastic reception; the Merry Maids appeared as five fascinating Dutch girls, and also pleased in their "Buttercup" song and dance; and Miss Esta Stella repeated her dainty "Military maid" song and dance, an item which was loudly applauded. Some pleasing vocalism and violin playing were contributed by a young lady in a "musical sensation," *The Magic of Music*; and other appreciated items were given by Mr. Russell Brandon, the wonderful dancer; Mr. Tom Leo, comedian; Bugler Carr, equilibrist and musical puzzle; the Jansons, in a most attractive and clever gymnastic act; and Jeapes's animated Graphic.

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Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Randal Wilson.—The White Rose *was produced at the Adelphi Theatre on April 23, 1892. Founded on Walter Scott's "Woodstock," by George R. Sims and Robert Buchanan, the play represents Cromwell in a more than usually favourable light. Mr. Charles Cartwright played the Protector, and Mrs. Patrick Campbell gave promise of subsequent triumphs in the part of Elizabeth Cromwell. The rest of the cast was as follows: Colonel Markham Everard, Mr. Leonard Boyne; Colonel Yarborough, Mr. Geo. Cockburn; General Harrison, Mr. R. Davis; Mr. Bletson, Mr. H. Cooper, jun.; Captain Pearson, Mr. Howard Russell; Joseph Tomkins, Mr. Charles Collette; Ezekiel Robins, Mr. F. T. Lingham; Ephraim Wood, Mr. W. Northcote; Habakuk, Mr. E. Saxon; Corporal, Mr. F. Anderson; Charles Stuart, Mr. Fuller Mellish; Sir Harry Lee, Mr. J. D. Beveridge; Albert Lee, Mr. Matthew Brodie; Roger Wildrake, Mr. Charles Dalton; Joliffe, Mr. Arthur Leigh; Jeremiah Holdfast, Mr. Lionel Rignold; Landlord, Mr. H. Cooper; Alice Lee, Miss Evelyn Millard; Phœbe Mayflower, Miss Clara Jecks; Maid at Inn, Miss Alice Bronse; and Milkmaid, Miss Vizetelly.*

T. Hopcutt.—*The Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, was originally opened by Mr. H. J. Leslie on Dec. 17, 1888 with the opera* Dorothy, *transferred from the Prince of Wales's.*

Vernon H. Ryde.—(1) The Bells *was produced at the Lyceum on Nov. 25, 1871.* (2) *There is every reason to believe that the credit for having first introduced the electric light to the streets of London belongs to the late Mr. John Hollingshead, who in 1878 imported the necessary machinery from Paris, and placed a number of Lontin arc lamps outside the Gaiety Theatre. The generator was lodged in a neighbouring newspaper office and worked by a steam-engine, the wires being carried underground to the theatre. The experiment, which was begun on Aug. 2, lasted for about nine months, and furnished a bold advertisement for the theatre.*

H. Rogers.—A Man in a Thousand, *by Clarence Burnette, was produced at the Theatre Royal, North Shields, on Aug. 11, 1890. The principal part of Owen Penrose was played by the author, and the rest of the cast consisted of Messrs. Sidney Halling, Gerald Washington, John Cullen, Clark Nicholson, Edward Price, Charles Abbott, G. Goodman, and J. Hammond, and Misses Ellen Cranston, Louise Gilmore, and Lucy Fairleigh, Mrs. Sidney Halling, and little Daisy Halling.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Ronald.—July 28, the wife of Tom Ronald, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Bodie—Adams.—At the North Parish Church, King-street, Aberdeen, on the 25th ult., by the Rev. Jas. Ray, James Cooke Bodie, civil engineer (brother of Dr. Walford Bodie), to Maggie Adams, eldest daughter of Wm. Adams, Esq., Aberdeen. American and Australian papers please copy.

Harris—Bartle.—July 27, at St. Mark's, Kennington, Edgar W. Harris, solicitor, of Stockwell Park-road, S.W., to Florence Bartle, third daughter of the late Rev. Dr. Bartle, D.D., D.C.L., of Birkdale Park, Lancashire.

Sherwin—Fealy.—July 15, at Denver, U.S.A., Louis F. Sherwin, dramatic critic, to Maud Fealy, actress.

Taunton—Higham.—On July 27, at St. Michael's Church, Stockwell Park-road, S.W., Captain Leonard Maxwell Taunton, to Louise Marion Frederick Higham, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Higham.

DEATHS.

Bastable.—July 29, at Folkestone, Kent, Mrs. Bastable, daughter of Mrs. Reader, of "Buff Bill" fame. Interred at Folkestone Cemetery.

Cleghorn.—July 30, at 6, Albion-terrace, Dalston, after a severe illness, George William Cleghorn (George Yates), the dearly beloved husband of Harriett Clifton Yates, aged 81. Deeply mourned as their dearest and best by his widow, his only son, George Clifton Yates, and his step-children, Nelly, John, and Clara Clifton.

Ferrier.—July 23, at Glasgow, Jessie Ferrier (Louie Lindon), aged 20.

Hatton.—July 31, at 15, Elm Tree-road, St. John's Wood, Joseph Hatton, novelist and playwright, aged 68.

Slade.—July 5, in Boston (Mass, U.S.A.) Hospital, of typhoid fever, Alfred George Slade, formerly manager Bostock Hippodrome, Paris, and Royalty Theatre, London.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Christine Nilsson—Saturday, Aug. 3.
Algernon Syms—Saturday, Aug. 3.
Joan Wellman—Saturday, Aug. 3.
Ida Millais—Sunday, Aug. 4.
Charles Coborn—Sunday, Aug. 4.
Kathleen Stuart—Sunday, Aug. 4.
Jennie Maynard—Monday, Aug. 5.
H. B. Irving.—Monday, Aug. 5.
Marie Illington—Monday, Aug. 5.
Ernest Rees—Monday, Aug. 5.
Minnie Bell—Tuesday, Aug. 6.
Frederick Wright, sen.—Tuesday, Aug. 6.
Huntley Wright—Wednesday, Aug. 7.
W. Lovel Hurt—Wednesday, Aug. 7.
W. Haverley—Wednesday, Aug. 7.
Wallace Erskine.—Thursday, Aug. 8.
(Mrs.) Cecil Raleigh—Thursday, Aug. 8.
Helena Head—Thursday, Aug. 8.
M. A. Victor—Friday, Aug. 9.
Sydney Barraclough—Friday, Aug. 9.
Otho Stuart—Friday, Aug. 9.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

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Angeline, Mdm.
Armadale, Mr. E. H.
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Atwill, L.
Balfe, Mr. M. W.
Bard, Mr. Wilkie
Barker, Mr. John
Barrett, Mr. W. Burgess
Best, Mr. C.
Biddall, Brothers
Bioletti, Mr. Pascoe
Bosanquet, Mr.
Boucicault, Miss Nina
Braithwaite, Miss L.
Brooks, Mr.
Brown, Mr. C. Rae
Bruce, Mr. W. Arthur
Buoganie, Mr. J.
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Cooke, Miss A.
Cooper, Miss Kitty
Courtnedge, Mr. Robert
Crecuner, Mr. Augustus
Crichton, Mr. H.
Curran, Mr. Fred
Dagmar, Mr. Harry
Daly, Mr. Chas. M.
Danby, Mr. Frank
Dante, Mr. G. W.
Darnley, Mr. J. H.
Dene, Mr. F.
Dolf, Mrs.
Dunford, Mr. Harry
Edouin, Mr. Willie
Ellery, Mr. John
Elliott, Mr. Percy
Elton, Mr. Fred
Elton, Mr. Stansfield
"Eno"
Ernesto, Sisters
Estell, Mlle. E.
Finch, Miss Flora
Florence and Lillian
Florizell, Miss
Forrester, Miss M.
Fossett, Mr. R
Foxwell, Mr. Harry
Fraser, Mr. T. Edward
Gardener, Mr. J. Rufus
Gardner, Mr. Peter H.
Girdlestone, Miss Madge
Gordon, Mr. J. B.
Grey, Miss Zenta
Haddon, Miss Blanche
Hall and Wilson
Hall, Mr. Tom
Hampel, Mr. A.
Harrison, Mr. F.
Harrison, Mr. J.
Hayden, Mr. Billie
Hazel
Hertie, Mr. Frank
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Lehmann, Miss Rosa
Leslie, Miss Fannie
Lindley, Miss Beatrice
Lloyd, Mr. Fred
Lorraine, Mr. D.
Louke, Miss A.
MacLaren, Mr. Ian
Martin, Mr. Stafford
Martyn, Master Paul
Marvello, Mr. H.
Massey, Mr. Davis
Matafar Troupe
McAllister, Mr.
McIntosh, Miss M.
Meharry, Mr. Houston
Metcalfe, Mr. Hugh
Morgan, Miss Annie
Morton, Miss Effie
Morton, Mr. John
Mussett, Mr. Chas.
Natalia, Mdme.
Nicholls, Mr. Harry
Payne, Mr. B. Idean
Peach, Mr. G. R.
Pongoula, Mrs. J.
Pritchard, Mr. Tom
"Quiade"
Rafalewski, Mr.
Randall, Mr. Harry
Rean, Mr. Clifford
"Rebla"
Revell, Mr. Harry
Roadnight, Mr. C. A.
Rogers, Mr. E. W.
Rooney, Mr. M. J.
Royale, Miss J.
Saka Bonas, The
Sauteron Wonders
Smith, Mr. C. G.
Sports, The Two
Stamford, Mr. Gordon
Stanley's Urchins
Stansfield, Miss M.
Street, Mr. Fred
Taylor, Mr. Dave
Taylor, Mr. Geo.
Tearle, Mr. Edmund
Thomas, Mr. Dan
Ti Tar, Mr. Ma
Turner, Mr. B.
Vernon, Miss H.
Warner, Miss F.
Webster, Mr. G. H.
Wesley, Mr. W. G.
Woellhaf, Mr. F.
Wood, Mrs. John
Wynne, Mr. E. S.
Young, Miss E.
Young, Mr. James
Zalvar, Mr. C.

CHELSEA PALACE.

New applicants for public approval were mingled with established favourites in last week's bill at Mr. Henri Gros' fine hall at Chelsea, and large audiences were thoroughly delighted. An early appeal was made with satisfactory results by Mr. Harry Harris, who gives vocal presentments at the piano of Messrs. Alec Hurley, Sam Mayo, and Gus Elen with no little truth to the originals, as well as reproductions of an ocarina and a street organ, which excite admiration. Imitations of a more elaborate description were supplied by Miss Marie Dainton, who, deserting musical comedy for the time, has returned to her old love and to the business which first won her fame. Miss Dainton's personality is in itself delightful, but when she converts it to the representations of various stars of both the dramatic and variety firmaments she is irresistible. Her reproduction of Miss Evie Greene in a song from *A Country Girl* is superb, and no less admirable is the imitation of Miss Vesta Tilley in "Following in father's footsteps," or the foreshadowing of Miss Connie Ediss on the concert platform rendering "Sing me to sleep." Enthusiastic recalls are the result, and Miss Dainton is fain to respond with a travesty of Miss Marie Lloyd singing "Every morn I bring thee violets."

A clever little comedy incident, called *On the Stage*, involves the appearance of Counsell and Mills in a coon duet and a mock melodrama which creates unlimited laughter, the "effects" introduced being decidedly novel. The Wynfords make an earnest effort to substantiate their title of "champion jumpers of the world" in a series of leaps over chairs and tables and in all sorts of precarious positions; and atheletic marvels are also found in the Three Braggs, who accomplish numerous head-to-feet balancing feats, in the course of which one man, lying prone on the stage, is raised and maintained in a horizontal position by the heads of his companions.

A comedian of the lighter kind was found in Mr. Fred Lester, who made fun of our American cousins who affect the London on "Fifth Avenue," and of the millionaires' daughters who capture the English earls. A ballad with a tuneful chorus also gives opportunity to Mr. Lester to exercise an admirable voice. Mr. Lloyd Morgan, who recently deputised at Chelsea, renewed his success then made in a couple of well-rendered songs of a topical kind, his "Capital" ditty again provoking enthusiasm. *The One Too Many*, which had its first production at this hall some years ago, was again presented by Mr. Percy Murray with all the wealth of scenery and the dramatic ability which originally distinguished it; and the programme was also contributed to by Little Alice, comedienne and dancer, and Mr. Ernest Ball, the popular descriptive vocalist. Mr. J. Norman Berlin oversees the entertainment with his customary tact and courtesy, and Mr. Angelo Asher's experienced bâton leads the orchestra successfully through its exacting duties.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

July 2. Nellie Moon.
,, 3. Professor George Milner, aged 84.
,, 5. Maria Ann Donald, aged 79.
,, 5. Alfred George Slade.
,, 8. Prof. Carl Howlett, aged 48.
,, 11. Mrs. Jesse Williams.
,, 14. F. J. L. Scoble (Fred Locke), aged 55.
,, 15. Mrs. Transfield, aged 75.
,, 17. Robert Burris.
,, 20. James David, aged 75.
,, 21. Nellie Rosie Aubrey, aged 13 months.
,, 21. Clayton Botham.
,, 23. Jessie Ferrier (Louie Lindon), aged 20.
,, 29. Mrs. Bastable.
,, 30. George William Cleghorn (George Yates), aged 81.
,, 31. Joseph Hatton, aged 68.

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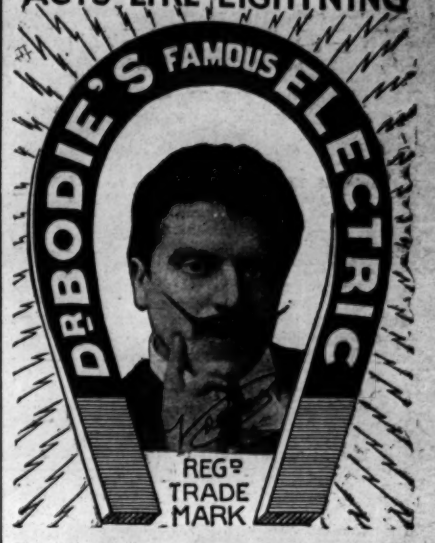

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Thursday Morning.—Symphonic Cantata, Stabat Mater—first performance (Stanford); Scenes from "Olav Trygvason" (Grieg), conducted by the Composer. Evening.—Overture, "Die Meister singer" (Wagner); Folk Songs, New (Rutland Boughton); Ode, New, "Intimations of Immortality" (Arthur Somervell); Song for Chorus and Orchestra (R. Vaughan Williams); Walkürenritt and Finale of Siegfried (Wagner).
Friday Morning.—Oratorio. "The Kingdom" (Elgar), conducted by the Composer; Symphony in C (Schubert). Evening.—Requiem (Mozart); Poem for Chorus and Orchestra, "Sea Wanderers" (Granville Bantock); Symphony, No. 8 (Glazounow).
Saturday Morning.—Mass in B minor (Bach). Evening.—Overture, "Hebrides" (Mendelssohn); Eight-part Motet, "The Spirit also helpeth us" (Bach); Dramatic Song, "Vätergruft" (Cornelius); Songs (Grieg); Concerto for Pianoforte (Grieg); Overture, "Leonora," No. 3 (Beethoven); Five Songs of the Sea (Stanford); Ode, "Blest Pair of Sirens" (Parry).

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1907.

DICKENS AS AN ACTOR.

There was something very appropriate in the opening of the Pickwick Exhibition at the New Dudley Gallery last week by Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR. Mr. O'CONNOR will be greatly remembered by posterity as the author of the "Biography of Lord Beaconsfield," one of the most searching indictments of a leading politician by another which was ever published in the English tongue. But in "Gladstone's House of Commons," and, above all, in the wonderful papers which he contributes weekly to his own paper, Mr. O'CONNOR shows the prime faculty of CHARLES DICKENS—the power of instant and intense vision, and of the reproduction of the exact sensation in print. It was said of DICKENS that when he walked up a street every person he met and every article in the shop-windows were "snapshotted" by his glance; and Mr. O'CONNOR has the same faculty of seeing, remembering, and describing which was the gift of the great novelist.

It is not generally known that CHARLES DICKENS, early in life, thought seriously of going on the stage, and wrote to the stage-manager of Covent Garden Theatre asking for an engagement. "I told him," said DICKENS, "how young I was, and exactly what I thought I could do; that I believed I had a strong perception of character and oddity, and a natural power of reproducing in my own person what I observed in others." For three years he worked at preparing himself for the boards, going to a theatre every night to study acting, and practising for six hours a day, shut up in his own room, or walking in the fields. His first recorded connection with (amateur) theatricals was in 1842, when, on his first visit to America, he took part in some performances at Montreal. The pieces selected were *A Roland for an Oliver*, *Past Two O'Clock in the Morning*, and *Deaf as a Post*. DICKENS all his life was more or less "stage-struck." In 1870, when walking near Westminster Abbey with Mr. CHARLES KENT, he asked his companion, "What do you think would be the realisation of one of my most cherished day-dreams? To settle down for the remainder of my life within easy distance of a great theatre, in the direction of which I should hold supreme authority." In 1847, at an amateur performance at the Haymarket Theatre for the endowment of a perpetual curatorship of SHAKESPEARE'S house at Stratford, DICKENS appeared as Captain Bobadil in BEN JONSON'S *Every Man in His Humour*, and also as Flexible in KENNEY'S farce of *Love, Law, and Physic*. He distinguished himself chiefly in the functions of manager and stage-manager, in which he was indefatigable. In connection with the curatorship he played Justice Shallow to MARK LEMON'S Falstaff in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. His make-up was so complete that it entirely disguised his identity for several moments after his first entrance; and his simulation of the senility of the character was excellent. His delivery of Bobadil's boastful speech, explaining how he would despatch hundreds of the enemy, was most graphic, DICKENS "rattling the words off while doing an invisible sum of addition in the air, and scoring it conclusively with an invisible line underneath." He was less successful as Lord Wilmot in LYTTON'S comedy *Not So Bad as We Seem*, which was performed at Devonshire House in 1851 before the Queen and Prince ALBERT. His bearing on the stage, and the tone of his voice, were too hard and rigid for "a young man at the head of the mode," and he dressed the part badly. In *Mr. Nightingale's Diary*, given on the same occasion, DICKENS appeared in five different characters—Sam Weller; a voluble barrister; a hypochondriac; Mrs. Gamp; and a ninety-years-old sexton; and took part in a vigorous broad-sword combat. But DICKENS'S "great success" was made in some semi-private theatricals at Campden House for the Bournemouth Sanatorium for Consumptives. In these he enacted, in WILKIE COLLINS'S play *The Lighthouse*, an old man who believes himself to have been the passive accomplice in a murder, and is tormented by his imagination into a confession to his son while they are both imprisoned in the lighthouse by bad weather. DICKENS was able in this part to impress such good judges as HENRY MORLEY and CARLYLE, the latter comparing his weird picturesqueness to the famous figure in NICHOLAS POUSSIN'S "Bacchanalian Dance" in the National Gallery. The rôle was afterwards played by ROBSON at the Olympic. Another triumph was DICKENS'S embodiment of the leading character in COLLINS'S *Frozen Deep* at DICKENS'S house in 1857, and afterwards at the Gallery of Illustration before the Queen and the Royal Family. Mrs. HENRY COMPTON (Miss Emmeline Montague), one of the best actresses of her day, used to say that, in playing with DICKENS in an amateur performance, she always felt that she had by her side an *actor*. In his speech at the first anniversary festival of the General Theatrical Fund Association in 1846 DICKENS said: "I tried to recollect, in coming here, whether I had ever been in any theatre in my life from which I had not brought away some pleasant association, however poor the theatre, and I protest, out of my varied experience, I could not remember even one from which I had not brought some favourable impression. . . . The art of the actor excites reflections, sombre or grotesque, awful or humorous, which we are all familiar with. If any man were to tell me that he denied his acknowledgments to the stage, I would simply put to him one question—'Whether he remembered his first play?'"

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

LONDON.

JULY 2. *The Stratagem*, comedy, in one act, adapted by F. Kinsey Peile from the German of Emil Pohl—Court.
" 5. *The Desperate Duke; or, The Culpable Countess*, burlesque drama, in one act, by Robert Marshall and Alfred Sutro—Theatrical Garden Party, Chelsea Hospital Grounds.
" 9. *Her Nameless Child*, drama, in four acts, by Madge Duckworth and Ridgewood Barry (originally produced at the Metropole Theatre, Devonport, July 9, 1906)—Shakespeare, Clapham.
" 15. *The Song of the Torch*, drama, in four acts, by Ion Perdicaris—King's Theatre, Hammersmith.
" 15. *The Little Mother*, drama, in four acts, by Gordon Holmes—Shakespeare, Clapham.
" 15. *The Branded Woman*, drama, in four acts, by F. Wybert Clive (originally produced at the Gaiety Theatre, Burnley, Aug. 7, 1905)—Royal, Stratford.
" 22. *Her Answer*, musical duologue, written by S. J. Adair Fitzgerald, music by Napoleon Lambelet—Coronet.
" 23. *The Second Mrs. Grundy*, comedy, in one act, by Barton White—Royalty.
" 25. *Charlie the Sport*, play, in one act, adapted by Michael Morton from the French of Tristan Bernard—Haymarket.
" 29. *The 18th Century*, play, in three acts, founded on a comedy by Edward J. Malyon and C. James—St. James's.

REVIVALS.

JULY 2. *Medea in Corinth*, play, in three acts, by W. G. Wills (originally produced at the Lyceum Theatre, July, 1872)—Court.
" 4. *Monsieur Beaucaire*, comedy, in four acts, by Booth Tarkington and E. G. Sutherland (first produced in London at the Comedy, Oct. 25, 1902)—Lyric.
" 15. *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, opera, by Nicolai (originally produced in English by the late Carl Rosa in Aberdeen) (Moody-Manners Company's season)—Lyric.
" 23. *The Pocket Miss Hercules*, farce, in three acts, by J. Storer Clouston (originally produced at the New Royalty Theatre, June 28, 1907)—Royalty.
" 23. *The Marriage of Figaro*, opera, in four acts, by Mozart (first produced in England on June 18, 1812) (Moody-Manners Company's season)—Lyric.
" 30. *A Night Out*, farcical comedy, in three acts, by Georges Feydeau and Maurice Desvallières (first performed in English at the Vaudeville Theatre, April 29, 1896)—Criterion.

PROVINCES.

JULY 1. *Love Rules the World*, drama, in four acts, by T. G. Bailey—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
" 1. *Such a Nice Girl*, musical absurdity, in two acts, book by Frank Stanmore, music by E. Paschall—Theatre Royal, Worthing.
" 1. *The Light of the World*, drama, in four acts, by May Irene Wright—Theatre Royal, Darlington.
" 1. *The Girl Who Married for Money*, drama, in four acts—Castle Theatre, Neath.
" 4. *England: A Play Without a Plot*, play, in one act, by Norman Roe—Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate.
" 8. *The Heathen and the Christian*, drama, in four acts—St. James's Theatre, Manchester.
" 8. *Wanted: James Burton*, dramatic episode, in one act, by J. Herbert Jay—Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate.
" 22. *The Lady of Haigh; or, A Wife's Repentance*, romantic historical play, in four acts, by Alard Bensell—Royal Court Theatre, Wigan.
" 22. *The Blue Monkey*, musical farce, in two acts, book by Walter R. Flint, music by H. Wilkinson, A. Taggart, and others—Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton.
" 22. *The Lonely Life*, play, in one act, by Alfred Sutro—Queen's Theatre, Manchester.
" 22. *The Reckoning*, play, in one act, by Stanley Houghton and Frank G. Nasmith—Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

PARIS.

July 5. *L'Amour aux Castagnettes*, operette, three acts, by Léon Rabbe and Moncousin, music by Marius Lambert—Théâtre des Arts.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The London County Council held their last meeting prior to the summer recess at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, on Tuesday, Mr. H. Percy Harris (Chairman) presiding.

GREAT QUEEN-STREET THEATRE.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that they had considered drawings submitted by Mr. F. W. Foster, showing certain alterations proposed to be made at the Great Queen-street Theatre. The alterations in question consist of the provision of a new stalls buffet; the enlargement of the orchestra; and the re-arrangement of the steps and alteration of the screen doors in the entrance vestibule. The Committee recommended that no objection be offered to the arrangements shown on the drawings submitted by Mr. Foster, provided that certain stated conditions were complied with.

Agreed to.

PROPOSED KILBURN THEATRE OF VARIETIES.

The Theatres Committee reported that the Council on Jan. 22 last approved, subject to certain conditions, drawings submitted by Mr. W. G. R. Sprague, of a music hall proposed to be erected at the junction of Kilburn High-road and Kilburn Priory. In consequence of an alteration which it has been found necessary to make in the line of frontage of the proposed premises, Mr. Sprague had submitted an amended set of drawings, which showed certain slight deviations from the drawings previously approved. The Committee recommended that, provided the works shown on the ten drawings, as altered in red, submitted by Mr. Sprague with regard to the proposed music-hall, be commenced within six months, the Council will be prepared to grant a certificate under Section 12 of 41 and 42 Vict. cap 32, to the owner of such building, on being satisfied that the premises have been completed in accordance with the drawings referred to, and the regulations of the Council, and that certain stated conditions have been complied with.

Adopted.

THE OXFORD.

A recommendation by the Committee that no objection be offered to the arrangements shown on a drawing submitted by Messrs. Wylson and Long, showing certain alterations to the electric intake chamber at the Oxford, subject to the door of the chamber being made self-closing, was also agreed to.

The Council adjourned at 2.15 a.m.

"TIGER CAT."

A Dramatic Sketch, by William Fenton,
Produced at the Middlesex on Monday, July 29.

Jack Neilson .....MR. WM. FELTON
Hans Muller .....MR. FRED DOBELL
Tiger Cat .....MISS WOOLGAR MELLON

The scene in this, Mr. Felton's latest sketch, is, we are told, laid on an ostrich farm sixty miles from Pretoria. Here Hans Muller and Jack Neilson are living in partnership. On the farm is a young female servant, called Tiger Cat, who is frequently ill-treated by Muller. Jack has taught the girl, among other things, to read, and she has grown to love him. He comes into a considerable fortune, and is about to start for England. Tiger, of course, is nearly heartbroken at the thought of separation from him, and she tells him, as they say good-bye, that her mother was an Englishwoman and her father a Boer. Her father ill-treated her mother, who went to live among the Kaffirs, and Tiger was brought up among them. From a picture which the girl shows him Neilson realises that Muller is the girl's father, but does not reveal his belief to her. Neilson subsequently severely criticises Muller for his conduct towards his own daughter. Neilson, at the same time, refuses to enter into further speculations with his partner and departs. The Boer orders Tiger to bring him his rifle and whip, his intention being to follow Neilson and kill him. There is a violent scene between father and daughter, and for the sake of the man she loves Tiger shoots Muller with fatal effect. The report of the firing of the revolver has been heard by Neilson, who returns to see what has happened.

That sound old actor, Mr. Fred Dobell, presents a striking portrayal of the brutal Boer farmer. Miss Woolgar Mellon is seen to considerable advantage in the intensely dramatic and pathetic scenes in the playlet; and Mr. William Felton is to be commended for his characterisation of a vigorous young Englishman.

"HER DEVONSHIRE DAD."

Sketch, in One Scene, by Victor Widdicombe,
Produced at the Canterbury Theatre of Varieties on Monday, July 29.

Mr. Dovey.....MR. VICTOR WIDDICOMBE
Alice .....MISS CLARA RUSSELL
Gerald .....MR. ARTHUR BOWYER

Save for a brief moment of sentiment at the close, laughter is provoked by every line and episode of the above sketch, which on Monday introduced the well-known actor Mr. Victor Widdicombe to the music-hall stage in the capacity of author and actor. The countryman in London is a familiar figure enough, but there is a certain freshness about the old Devonshire farmer, Mr. Dovey, that makes him very welcome. He comes up to London to visit his daughter Alice, and Gerald, her husband, who occupy a flat at Earl's Court and figure in society. The young couple are on the point of going out to dinner at the Carlton Hotel when the old man bursts in upon them attired in coat and trousers which have seen better days. His son-in-law and daughter are horrified when Mr. Dovey insists on accompanying them to dinner, and hasten to cancel the engagement. Learning that it is his appearance that prevents them from taking him with them, the old farmer overwhelms his daughter with reproaches, but disappearing for a few minutes, returns in all the glory of evening dress and declares that he has been "spoofing" them. The author bore the brunt of the piece in the part of the volatile old farmer, and crowded into his impersonation many realistic touches. Though himself a Devonian, Mr. Widdicombe wisely refrained from making the dialect too broad, and the droll lines of the part were rendered with every effect. The scene where the old man takes his daughter to task for being ashamed of her father is very touching, while the line which declares that "If more hands were used for tilling the ground it would be far better for Old England to-day" was cordially endorsed by the audience. The smaller rôles were effectively sustained by Miss Clara Russell, who made a smart and refined Alice; and Mr. Arthur Bowyer, who gave a comic exposition of the foppish young husband. The piece was warmly received, all parts of the house joining in the enthusiasm with which Mr. Widdicombe was recalled.

"EDMUND KEAN."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I learn that a new sketch, entitled *Edmund Kean*, has been written by Miss Alicia Ramsay and Mr. Rudolph de Cordova, and is to be produced next week at the Hackney Empire. I wish to state that three months ago I completed a sketch on the same subject and with the same title, which I submitted to several managers.—Yours faithfully, LOUIS COHEN,
Eccentric Club, Piccadilly Circus, W.,
July 26.

DURING the three weeks Miss Julia Neilson was absent from the cast of *The Scarlet Pimpernel* her part was successfully played by Miss Miriam Lewes.

QUALIFIED CINEMATOGRAPH OPERATORS.

The problem of the unfit has from time immemorial been a thorn in the side both of employer and employed in trades of every description, and now that cinematography has taken such a prominent place among modern industries, the need for some sort of test of efficiency is manifest. By the present process of selection the maker is practically in the hands of the operator, who may or may not be a qualified man, and whose incapability might precipitate a catastrophe of far-reaching effect. To entrust a machine that requires such delicate handling to incompetent hands is to court disaster which would reflect, not only on the maker, but on the place of entertainment where the exhibition was being held, and thus do material injury to his business. Hard and immovable rules and regulations have been framed by the various councils, in the interests of public safety, but the vital point—that of ensuring that the machine shall be worked by a competent man—remains unheeded.

It has been left to the makers themselves to establish the principle, and the past week has witnessed the issue of a handbook by the Kinematograph Manufacturers' Association of Great Britain, which aims at the examination and certification of operators and exhibitors. With the assistance of the Northampton Polytechnic Institute of London and the leading cinematograph exhibitors, the association has outlined a scheme by which their object seems in a fair way of accomplishment. As a result of their labours a practical examination will be held in London at the institute above-mentioned on Oct. 15 next and following days. The examination will be under the control of a committee comprising three leading film manufacturers and three representatives of the institute. They have appointed independent practical examiners, and under their instruction the candidates will fix up and operate a projector under working conditions. Verbal questions will then be put, and the candidates who satisfy the examiners that they are competent will be granted certificates to that effect. Two grades of certificates will be provided, the more advanced of which are recommended to exhibitors and employers of operators.

The advantages to be gained by successful competitors are the entry of their names on a register to be circulated annually among all interested in the engaging of exhibitors or operators, the ability to produce a certificate when soliciting engagements, and the incalculable advancement of their own position and that of the business. The subjects of the examination, as will be seen by the syllabus below, are difficult and comprehensive, and will include the regulations of the London County Council, who, it is anticipated, will eventually recognise the certificate and examination officially. A small fee is to be charged for the examination, the expenses of which will be borne by the association, and for the same fee candidates who require instruction will be admitted to classes at the Northampton Polytechnic Institute.

The joint-committee of the Kinematograph Manufacturers' Association and the Northampton Polytechnic Institute is as follows:—Appointed by the Association: Messrs. A. C. Broomhead (of Gaumont and Co.), Robt. W. Paul (head of the well-known firm of that name, and J. D. Walker (of the Walturdaw Company). Appointed by the Institute: Messrs. D. Buckney, A. B. Kent, J. H. Polak. Examiners for 1907-8: Messrs. Nevil Maskelyne and S. D. Chalmers.

FOR A PRELIMINARY CERTIFICATE.

FILMS.—The inspection, repair, joining up and registration of films; care of films, and the effect of heat, dryness, moisture, or grease.

ILLUMINATION BY GAS.—Precautions for safety in dealing with compressed gases, and regulations for transit by railway.

Detection of leakage of gas.

Method of adjusting the jet in the lantern; possible emergencies and precautions to be taken.

Or

ILLUMINATION BY ELECTRICITY.—Method of trimming and setting the lamp for direct or alternating current.

Method of connecting up the circuit, and direction of current through lamp.

Use of fuses, and regulations respecting position of resistances.

OPTICAL PRINCIPLES.—The choice of objective lens and screen distance for animated and lantern slide pictures of given sizes.

Cleaning and care of lenses and their correct replacement in the mounts.

The effect of heat on the condenser and film.

Improvement, by correction and adjustment of the optical parts, of the illumination on the screen.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND REGULATIONS.—Regulations of the London County Council.

Effect of heat from the illuminant, and the use of the safety shutter.

Effect of accidentally stopping machine or breakage of working parts.

EXHIBITING.—Choice of position for the Kinematograph.

Methods of setting-up and fixing the screen and machine.

Lighting-up and placing the film in position.

Centring of animated and still pictures on the screen.

Judgment of the speed of projection.

Use of title slides and prevention of condensation of same.

Particular attention will be paid to the skill and smartness of the operator.

FOR A HIGHER CERTIFICATE.

The following, in addition to the subjects for the Preliminary Certificate:—

The properties of celluloid, with special reference to its inflammability.

The properties of Oxygen and hydrogen, and methods of generating oxygen, obtaining current proportion of mixture, and the nature of dangerous mixtures, the principles and use of pressure gauges and regulators. Computing the quantity of gas in a cylinder by the indication of the gauge.

Effect of modifying the nipple of jet and the pressure on consumption and candle power.

The choice and properties of lime cylinders.

Resistances required for various circuits for arc lamps.

Relation between the sizes of carbons and current.

Use of choking coils for alternating current.

Precautions to be taken in connecting-up and possible emergencies.

General forms of condensers and objective lenses.

Function of the condenser and choice of condenser for various conditions.

Arrangement and adjustment of the optical parts.

The concentration of heat at the focus and means of absorbing heat.

The position of lantern and kinematograph objectives in relation to the focus of the condenser.

Judgment of brilliancy and evenness of the illumination on screen.

The nature of screen materials.

Special rules of the Fire Insurance Companies for kinematograph installations.

The selection of title slides and the writing of temporary slides.

It should be added that candidates who are accustomed to motor-driven kinematographs may request to be examined specially with reference to same, and candidates who desire may be examined on the methods of comparing the candle-power of illuminants.

Candidates may be expected to satisfy the examiners of their capabilities to deal effectively with an emergency.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

AMONG the new songs emanating from Messrs. Francis and Day which have been taken up by the music-sellers with avidity during the week may be mentioned Mr. Tom Costello's great chorus number, by Leigh and Pether, "For Auld Lang Syne," which is No. 327 of the "Sixpenny Pops," and "Under the Lilac Tree" (Miss Lily Burnand) and "Lavender" (Miss Mabel Green), the two latter by Charles Wilmott and Herman E. Darewski, jun. Mr. T. M. Down collaborated with Mr. Wilmott in the "Lilac Tree." The genial Wilmott, according to latest advices, is picnicing at Pevensey and taking his ease at Eastbourne.

MISS CHRISSY BELL, a dainty artist who attracted attention in *The Belle of Mayfair*, has been doing exceedingly well at the South London with Messrs. Francis and Day's songs, "I want a little man like you" (Kennedy Russell) and "The Fisherman's Daughter" (Wilmott and Darewski, jun.).

IN all likelihood that charming and dainty comedienne, Miss Amy Clevere, will be heard on Monday, in town, in a song entitled "Holding Hands," by Norworth and A. Von Tilzer, which number has been published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MISS VIOLET STOCKELLE, a sister of Miss Daisy Dormer, will produce at Walthamstow on the 12th inst. a new song of the greatest promise, entitled "Won't you come beneath my parasol?" from the joint pens of J. F. Lambe and T. W. Thurban.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD has experimented with quite a number of songs during the past few months, but it has been left to A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, the writers of his famous "Girl wanted there," to fit him with the biggest comedy number he has exploited for a considerable time. The title of the song is "Oh! the merry widow," and the chorus is irresistible. The Star Co. are the publishers.

MISS CHUMMIE LA MARA is another English artist to make a hit in New York. She had a most flattering reception, and was enthusiastically recalled for her songs, "Sailing in my balloon," "You can't do without a girl," and "Swing me higher, Obadiah," three of the Star Company's publications, going splendidly.

THE success of John Tiller's season, both at New Brighton and Blackpool, is being made with "Yucatan," a Mexican song with a most catchy and lively refrain. This ditty, which is by A. E. Sidney Davis and Sydney Baynes, is published by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, who anticipate it being sung in a large number of pantomimes.

MISS LILY BURNAND has scored heavily with her new song "Spooning under the lilac tree," for which she has had a special dress and hat designed covered with lilac. The dress, which is very lovely, was made by one of the best Parisian costumiers, and cost nearly £100. The song is by those clever writers, Charles Wilmott and T. Drou, and the music by Hermann E. Darewski, jun. Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter will shortly publish this delightful number.

"MR. DONAH."

A Comedy Sketch, in One Scene, by J. F. Brandon, adapted from a story by Tom Gallon.

Sir Leopold Kershaw .....MR. FRANK LESLIE
His Son .....MISS MAUDIE HARRIS
His Butler .....MR. EDWARD DAVY
Sam Dockery .....MR. J. F. BRANDON

This playlet has been adapted from one of Mr. Tom Gallon's stories, and in its dramatised form, and as acted by Mr. J. F. Brandon's company, proves interesting to a high degree. The piece is written around an episode in the life of a man of the lower class—Sam Dockery. To earn an honest living he is obliged to sell cabbages in the street, and whilst earning his daily bread in this manner he is accosted by a youngster, a boy from a much higher sphere of life. The boy hears Sam Dockery refer to his wife as his "donah," and misunderstanding what is intended to be conveyed, accepts the pronoun as the name of the coster, and thereafter calls him "Mr. Donah." The lad gives Mr. Donah an invitation to his father's house to supper, which the coster accepts; and whilst proving that his appetite is of no mean order, suddenly recollects that he has a child at home ill and starving. Filled with a feeling of remorse at having tasted food himself whilst his child is in want, he hurriedly takes his departure. When all is quiet and the youngster is day-dreaming in the chair Mr. Donah returns, with the idea of taking some of the valuables he has seen, but is caught in the act by the boy's father, an elderly gentleman and a member of the Bar. After a touching statement by Mr. Donah explaining why he wished to possess himself of articles which were not his own, he is forgiven by the boy's father, who is a firm believer that "all men are brothers."

Mr. J. F. Brandon as Sam Dockery gave us a really lifelike study of a coster, his portrayal of the rôle being extremely affecting at times. Miss Maudie Harris was sympathetic and boyish as the son of Sir Leopold Kershaw, the latter part being played with dignity and ease by Mr. Frank Leslie. Mr. Edward Davy caused much amusement by his assumption of the absurdly stately butler. Much appreciation was shown at the conclusion of the performance, and the little playlet should prove an interesting and attractive addition to any variety programme.

MISS BERTHA STUART, who is on the Moss Stoll tour, and bottoms the bill this week at the Empire, Edinburgh, opens in London on Monday for an engagement of twenty-three weeks. She will appear shortly at the Tivoli, where she made such an excellent impression on her last visit.

THIS week at the Pavilion Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Tom Leamore, with funny patter and eccentric characters, scores a great success. With vocal imitations of birds and beasts, Mr. Gilbert Girard gains well-deserved plaudits, whilst Cullen and Carthy, supplemented by Little Cluley, prove very amusing. A sensational "looping the loop" act is given by Le Diabelo; and also creating sensation is the slack-wire performance of Kartelli. Combining comedy with tumbling, the Schiavonis prove quite ingenious. Others meeting with favour are the Floradora Girls, the Stebbings, and Miss Mary Ambrose.

MISS YOUNGE (afterwards Mrs. Pope) was above the middle height, and altogether finely formed about the neck and shoulders; there was a roundness and precision in her speaking, and her manner was commanding, and though her face was not handsome, it was expressive. She was so very successful in her first appearance that her salary was raised, after a night or two of acting, to £3, and at the end of the season to £5, unsolicited! On June 8, 1776, Garrick played Lear; it was the last night but one of his appearing on the stage; the curtain fell in the usual way with his hand locked in Miss Younge's, who played Cordelia. In that way he led her into the green-room, and recollecting that his next performance was to be his last, he said with a sigh, "Oh, Bess! this is the last time of my being your father; you must now look out for someone else to adopt you." "Then, sir," said she, falling upon her knees, "pray give me a father's blessing." Raising her up, he said, "God bless you!" and adding to the performers (who had crowded round them) in a faltering and affectionate tone, "God bless you all!" hurried out of the room. Mrs. Pope used to relate this with great pleasure, but seldom without shedding tears.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. George Robey has been relating to an interviewer that his first real stage experience after an era of smoking concerts was at the now defunct Aquarium with Kennedy, the mesmerist. George was one of the subjects, and under the "fluence" was supposed to sing comic songs. His real ability as a comedian was discovered, and Mr. Charles Brighton, manager of the Oxford for Mr. Jas. Kirk, paid the coming comedian a salary as a stock turn, and lent him out occasionally. Mr. Robey has two boys, of whom the eldest is exactly like his mother, Miss Ethel Haydon, a former Gaiety girl, the original Favorita in *The Circus Girl*.

Mr. Harry Hart, who is the oldest living English music hall proprietor, owned a hall at the time of Balaclava, and in turn ran the Raglan, the Montpellier, the Sun, and the Bedford. He it was who originally told the story of a visit to the old Oxford years ago, in the dog days when the heat was terrific. "Where's all your people gone?" said Harry to Manager Jennings, surveying rows of empty seats. "Shooting, I suppose," replied Mr. Jennings. "Well, mine have all gone hopping," was the short but dry comment of the Walworth proprietor.

Mr. Charles Collette, who has concluded a successful engagement in *The Bishop's Carriage* at the Aldwych Theatre, will commence a month's return visit to the London Pavilion on Monday, when, supported by Miss Joan Derry, he will produce a new sketch by Herbert C. Sargeant.

Mr. Bransby Williams is nearing the end of his Moss and Stoll tour, finishing next week at Birmingham. He has been most successful, having changed his programme nightly, and given two nights a week up to Shakespearean studies. He has also added a study of Othello, which has made an excellent impression. In this Mr. Williams is correctly dressed in less than one minute, and it is considered one of the most powerful studies he has yet presented. He has signed for two more tours with Mr. Stoll. He sails for New York in September, and is giving a week of one-night recitals shortly in the North. Mr. Williams provided a successful high-class recital at Harrogate last Saturday.

The Music Hall Ladies' Guild offices are closed during the month of August. The committee hope to welcome, early in September, the members at the new offices of the Guild, at 2, York-street, Covent Garden. The secretary desires to thank Miss Bertha Graham, Mrs. Swatton, and Miss Lil Hawthorne for parcels of clothing.

Miss Winifred Hare, who will on Monday evening, at the Oxford, again delight Londoners with Bryan Kendis and Paley's "Cheer up, Mary!" had an exciting experience at Johannesburg on the occasion of her recent visit, an experience that vividly recalls Poe's "Murder in the Rue Morgue." The popular lady, at the close of an eminently successful evening at the theatre, had retired for the night, and the weather being extra warm, had left her bedroom window open. She was awakened by a noise, and was horrified to see in the faint light a dark figure at her dressing-table and the reflection of two eyes in the glass that glowed like live coals. In her alarm she called for help, and, sweeping some trinkets from the table, the figure instantly made for the window and disappeared. Aid was quickly forthcoming, and a revolver shot at a dim figure endeavouring to scale a wall brought the police, who captured two men and the trained ape they had employed to rob houses in the vicinity. Upwards of a hundred thefts were proved against the precious pair, who are now in durance vile.

The Terriers' Cricket Club played a match at Freeman's Ground, Champion-hill, on Wednesday, against Jake Friedman's XI. (return match), Hagger knocking up 109, Stebings 79, and Tony Pearson 65. Garbett, Clements, Martin, and D. and Jake Friedman helped to increase the total, the match being eventually won by 62 runs. On Wednesday, at the same grounds, the Terriers will play F. C. Barker's Selbornes, and on Aug. 14 Sammy Salter's Terriers will meet W. Willson Hercules XI. The hon. secretary is awaiting Sam Mayo's return match, if he will fix a date, and offers from others will be attended to. The secretary's address is:—Capt. Ben Woodger, Terriers' Cricket Club, Metropole Hotel, Denmark-hill.

Various inaccurate accounts have been published of the accident by which Hasselmann, the assistant of Miss Ella, the well-known lion-tamer, met his death at Gloucester on Sunday evening. Miss Ella's lions, which have been this week on view at the King's Theatre, Gloucester, are confined in four cages, which stand on the stage facing the auditorium, three containing five magnificent lions and a lioness, and the fourth holding a trio of cubs. The lion Gundar, which was the cause of the death of Hasselmann, is one of the largest and most beautiful of Miss Ella's beasts and the most docile and well-trained lion she possesses, and on more than one occasion he has saved her life, so that whenever she is training a new animal this lion is always in the cage with her. Should she be attacked or threatened, Gundar has always come to her help and acted in the rôle of a protector.

On Sunday evening Hasselmann was left in charge of the lions, and allowed Gundar to pass into the stage dressing-room whilst the other occupant of the same cage was transferred to another cage. The empty cage was then moved to the dressing-room door, which had been closed in the meantime, and, after Hasselmann had entered the room, was pushed close up against it to prevent the lion's escape, whilst Frank Huggins, a theatre assistant, mounted the top of the cage and lifted the iron entrance. Hasselmann got behind the lion and drove him to the entrance of the cage, but he apparently preferred the freedom of the dressing-room, and stood outside the iron bars. The unfortunate man did his best to drive the beast into the cage, and at last picked up a chair and threw it, hoping to frighten the refractory animal into obedience. But beyond smashing the chair the lion took no notice.

Thereupon Hasselmann hurled a second chair, and then the tragedy occurred. Gundar rushed at the assistant, who grappled with him, forcing his arm under its jaw to protect himself from its fury, but the lion struck him to the floor with its paws, and stood over him, having first inflicted terrible injuries to the back of his head and lower part of the body. Miss Ella, who was summoned, fired blank cartridges at the lion without effect, and it was not until the fire-hose was brought to bear that the beast was driven back into the cage. When Mr. Poole, one of the proprietors of the theatre, entered the room he found Hasselmann dead. At the inquest, which was held on Tuesday, the medical evidence showed that death resulted from shock and loss of blood. The jury returned a verdict accordingly, and found that no one was to blame. Hasselmann, like Mrs. Jensen (Miss Ella), is a native of Germany.

The cricket team representing the Palace Theatre continue to pursue their successful career. On Wednesday last the Motor Club eleven met Count Hollander's team at the Grange, Acton. For the winners, who scored 172 runs, Count Hollander made a respectable total of 42, and Mr. P. Houghton 57. For the Motor Club Mr. C. Jarrott scored a capitally played 35, Mr. C. Sanders 19, and Mr. P. Piggot 16.

Messrs. Leonard Mortimer and Maurice Hoffman inform us that the first meeting of the Sketch Managers' Protection Association will take place on Sunday evening at the Hummum's Hotel, Covent-garden, at 7 p.m.

Mr. W. J. Churchill (Uncle Willie) was in evidence at the Llandudno Regatta on the 26th ult., being the donor of a handsome silver cup, valued at eight guineas, for the swimming race confined to the boatmen of Llandudno.

Mr. R. G. Knowles will make his début as a Sunday lecturer at Brighton on Sunday at the New Pier, when he will talk about his trip to South Africa, its occupants, their doings, what they are going to do, and what he (Mr. Knowles) did and saw. The lecture is illustrated by still and moving pictures, most of which have been taken by the lecturer himself.

Mr. Harry Bowerman, the popular manager at the Gaiety, Glasgow, is now on a well-earned holiday, after a very successful season, which was continued right through the summer months. This is the first time this theatre—late the Tivoli—has kept open continuously.

Kyoto, the original one, was recently presented with a beautiful amber and calabash pipe and pouch by the proprietors, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton, of the Summer Gardens, Bridlington, after his clever speciality in the Palace scene of their burlesque, *Cinderella Pantomime*.

The new name of the Holbeck Theatre, to be reopened without any formal ceremony as a music hall by Mr. Fred Wood on Monday, is to be the Queen's Theatre and Palace of Varieties. It is a combination of the older Queen's and the later Palace. There will be two shows a night, and the prices will be reduced to 2d., 4d., and 6d. At Christmas it is Mr. Wood's intention to run a pantomime, and after that the building will revert to theatrical purposes for the production of comedies and lighter dramas.

The Jackson Family, the well-known musicians, will shortly take the Circus and Hippodrome, Rochdale. It is intended to pull down the present structure and rebuild a handsome and up-to-date place of amusement.

The friends of Miss Ethel Lonsdale, sister of Lily Lonsdale and Ernie Myers, will be sorry to hear she has been seriously ill at her home in Derby. She is now slowly recovering, and after a few weeks' rest in Southport hopes shortly to resume work.

The Musical Palmers write us to say that the combination at the Prince's Theatre, Llandudno, which came to such an abrupt termination, was not supplied by them, they being engaged the same as the rest of the company. They, however, wish to thank the management for retaining their services to appear, with the Animated Pictures, for the rest of the week. This week the Musical Palmers have been starring at the Crystal Palace Café Chantant, and next Monday open at the Palace, Clacton-on-Sea.

The genial and popular manager of the Summer Gardens at Bridlington, Mr. Charles Beanland, will take his fourth annual benefit on the 9th inst., when there is no doubt the large audience which is certain to assemble will be treated to a very liberal programme.

The Corporation of Brighton has arranged for Mr. Louis Weirter's water-colour impression of "A Matinée at the London Hippodrome" to be shown at their forthcoming autumn exhibition. This picture attracted the notice of the Prince of Wales on the occasion of his visit to the Royal Society of British Artists a short time ago.

The Newcastle Watch Committee having received notice from the local Vigilance Committee that an exhibition of living statuary by the Seldoms was advertised to be seen at the local Pavilion Theatre, the chairman of the Watch Committee, Alderman Goolden, the vice-chairman, and the Chief Constable visited the exhibition on Tuesday afternoon.

At a meeting of the Watch Committee on Wednesday Alderman Morton moved that the committee was of opinion such exhibitions were not desirable, and that a request should be sent to the Town Improvement Committee to take action to prevent any further exhibitions. On a vote being taken the motion was defeated, only four voting in its favour. Councillor Lunn proposed that the committee should take no action in the matter, but that the Chief Constable should be instructed to keep a sharp watch on exhibitions of the kind in future. The chairman declared Mr. Lunn's amendment carried. The subject was afterwards brought before the Town Improvement Committee, but it was agreed, with one dissentient, that the committee should proceed with the next business.

That most amusing sketch, *My Statue of Grace*, written by Mr. Alfred M. Loader, and played by the Emmett Comedy Company, is making a big reputation in the provinces, and will be seen in London before long. Miss Adele Levey, in the title part, is making a popular success. Her make-up is that of a classical figure with a "wealth" of drapery. Mr. Loader has written a sketch for the Riant Comedy Company, entitled *Losing a Tooth*, which will be produced at an early date. A number of weeks have been booked for it already. Both these companies have a smart agent in Mr. Will Dalton.

John Lawson is appearing at Stoll's Empire, Stratford, in a répertoire of four sketches, and will reproduce his great illusion sketch, *Mr. Todd of London*, for Saturday night only. In this Mr. Lawson sustains the dual rôle of Mr. Todd and Vanderdecken—the Man with Blue Heart.

At the Belfast Assizes, on the 24th ult., Michael Elliott, tobacconist and hairdresser, appealed against the decision of the Belfast Recorder dismissing on the merits an action brought by him against the Belfast Royal Hippodrome, Limited, for £19 19s. damages. The action was brought for breach of contract on the part of the company in refusing to permit the appellant to witness the performance at their theatre in Great Victoria-street on June 19. Elliott displayed the Hippodrome bills in his shop window, and in consideration of this received a pass which he used in going in to see the performance. On the evening in question, when proceeding up the stairs at the theatre with his wife to show his pass and go in, he was stopped, and in consequence of what took place he bought two tickets. Before he had time to reach the top of the stairs with his tickets he was ordered to go about his business, and he went out of the building.

For the defendants it was contended that Elliott was under the mistaken idea that his pass entitled him to take two people into the theatre, whereas on the night in question it was only available for one. When this was pointed out to him he threw down the pass, said it was a fraud, and went out. He had never been stopped in going into the theatre, and the 2s. which he had paid for the tickets had been returned to him. His lordship said that was an action for breach of contract. He held there was a contract, that it was broken, and that the plaintiff was entitled to damages. He would give the fullest measure of compensation possible—8s. damages and 7s. 5d. costs.

We are pleased to learn that "My Fancy" has quite recovered from her recent indisposition, and has been charming audiences at the Metropolitan with her novel dancing sensation. By the way, the line "business representative Will Oliver," which got placed in "My Fancy's" advertisement last week, was a printer's error. Of course, it is well known that Harry Bawn is the agent for all of "My Fancy's" engagements.

A meeting of the Shareholders' Investigation Committee of the London Coliseum was held at Cardiff on Wednesday, with Mr. Edward Nicholl in the chair. We understand that Mr. Gillespie, the joint liquidator, attended and explained the scheme of reconstruction. The proposal is to sell all the assets of the company to a syndicate at the price of £193,234, payable £31,000 in cash and the balance by allotment to stockholders of First Debenture Stock to be created by the syndicate of amounts equivalent to those now held by stockholders of the present company, and by the issue of £47,259 Second Debenture Stock of the syndicate to the present second mortgagees. The cash to be paid by the syndicate will be applied in payment of amounts borrowed by the receiver, and any other sums that may be payable in priority to the First Mortgage Debenture Stock. The Investigation Committee discussed these proposals for over an hour, and their decision, which it is understood is very favourable, will be submitted to a meeting of the First Debenture holders on Aug. 7.

Artists who are in town, and who are willing to appear at W. B. Fair's benefit, on Thursday, Sept. 5, at the Holborn Town Hall, are invited to send their names to Alfred Davies, 25, Wellington-street, Strand, who is arranging the event.

Miss Nellie Randall, an exceedingly accomplished comedienne, is giving a good turn at the Queen's, Poplar, this week, where her charming singing and dancing attract much attention, while her handsome costumes are the subject of great admiration.

Miss Florrie Forde is having a most successful tour with four of her finest songs. The management of the Palace and Derby Castle, Douglas, Isle of Man, after her success with them wanted her to return for another two weeks in September, but, owing to bookings, she could not do so.

The Five Whiteleys had a big send-off last Friday from St. Pancras *en route* for Australia. Amongst those at the station were Mr. E. Dane, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Cleverland, Fred Phillipi, W. E. Voldam, and John Delevanti. The Terriers were represented by William Welsh and Harry Lester, Secretary.

At the Stratford Empire this week Mr. Henry Coutts, with his marvellous lightning change performance, has astonished the audiences, and has won many recalls.

The Snow Family, expert and grotesque skaters, finish to-night a most successful engagement at the London Hippodrome. Owing to previous contracts they are unable to accept Mr. Stoll's offer to remain longer.

Miss Iris Hoey, whose unfortunate misadventure has brought her so prominently into notice, made an appearance on the variety stage at the Palace Theatre on the occasion of the Emily Soldene matinée last November as the heroine of a lurid little sketch by the lamented Jimmy Davis—the last stage work of his that was produced. Mr. Holbrook Blinn was also in the cast.

Mr. Francis O'Flynn's clever banjo playing has been greatly appreciated at the Middlesex this week. He is an accomplished musician, whose style and execution are alike admirable. He opens his little "act" with an inspiring American march, then plays one of Sarasate's favourite violin solos, "Hauser Hungarian Rhapsody," proceeds to give a medley, in which he introduces voice effects, and concludes with a fantasia on "The old folks at home." Altogether, Mr. O'Flynn furnishes a most agreeable entertainment.

Mr. H. E. High, the "Swank comedian" and crazy skater, will open at the Hippodrome on Monday for the run of the *Zuyder Zee*.

Miss Margaret Ashton brings to a very successful conclusion this week her month's engagement at the Oxford. The popular American soprano, who is appearing at several of the suburban halls prior to her engagement at the Tivoli for September, has been greatly gratified by the reception awarded to her songs—"When Tommy Atkins marries Dolly Gray" and "Don't forget, Mignonette."

Enthusiasm is aroused early in the evening at the London Pavilion, where Graham, "the Human Marionette," is giving his exhilarating entertainment, which he calls "The Music Hall of a Bygone Age." On an elegant minature stage diminutive figures, surmounted by the performer's head, are made to represent old-time favourites at the halls. In front of the orchestra sits the chairman—"good old Rouse"—who plies his hammer energetically and joins vociferously in the chorus. His first announcement is that of "Lord" George Leybourne, and on comes that celebrated personage to sing "Champagne Charlie." Then appear in quick succession the Great Vance, Arthur Lloyd, and Herbert Campbell, in songs associated with their fame.

Comedians who are still happily with us are found in the impersonation of Charles Coborn, in "The man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo," and W. B. Fair, who is presented in his song, "Tommy make room for your uncle." The present generation of music hall lovers will hardly be concerned as to the fidelity of most of the impersonations, but they are well able to compare with the original the imitation of Harry Lauder, in which quite a striking likeness is attained. Though worked on a well-known principle, the show has many novel features, and much laughter is occasioned by its drollery.

Mr. Alfred Butt will present a particularly attractive holiday programme at the Palace Theatre on Monday. One of the chief features is a production of a novel musical number or happening entitled *Charles, His Friend*, by Mr. Kebel Howard, with music by Messrs. Herman Finck and Howard Samuels. The cast includes Mr. Courtice Pounds and his gifted sister, Miss Louie Pounds. The MacNaughtons return to make what will prove their farewell to English audiences, as they have contracted to appear in America continuously for the next few years. Miss Violet Lloyd, who appeared with great success in *Mr. Popple*, will make her first appearance on the variety stage with some new songs, and Mr. Walter C. Kelly, the American Irish entertainer, has considerably amplified his extremely funny sketch of Southern American types. Other turns on the programme comprise Mlle. De Dio, with her artistically illuminated dances; Miss Denise Orme, with new songs and accompanying herself on the violin; Sharp Brothers, a clever pair of coloured comedians and dancers; and Les Fleury Duo, who have made an extraordinary success with their quick-change sketch, which comprises twenty-four distinct characters in twenty minutes. On the Bioscope will be seen some new pictures, the latest edition being an extremely diverting film showing the amusing adventures of two young gentlemen in a balloon.

Mr. Davis Day's London representative at the halls has been trying lately to emulate the famous bird of Sir Boyle Roche. Within the span almost of a few hours he was seen talking to his old friend and adviser, Fred Williams, at Clacton; was observed gazing with a wistful eye (and without his rod) at the high tide at Hastings; was taken to task with mock indignation by Fred Herbert on the Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth, and accused of "shadowing" the burly topical vocalist; was "discovered" by Edgar Curtis in the rear of the bandstand concert outside the Granville at Ramsgate; was overheard discoursing on nomenclature in Charing Cross-road; and was late at night at the Metropolitan seen discussing with George Barclay a forthcoming song of the "Liza Johnson" class for Miss Kate Carney.

Her Majesty the Queen honoured the Palace Theatre with a visit on Saturday evening, and was accompanied by H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, Princess Victoria, and the Duke of Sparta. The Royal party arrived quite early and remained until the conclusion of the Bioscope programme, and appeared much interested in the picture depicting their Majesties' visit to the Dublin Exhibition. This is the second occasion on which the Queen has honoured the Palace with a visit under the present management.

The Bank Holiday bill at the Tivoli will include Harry Lauder, with a new song, entitled "Rob Roy McIntosh"; Dr. Angelo's living representation of porcelains; Wilkie Bard, Alice Pierce, Harry Tate, Clarice Mayne, Will Evans, The Griffiths Bros., Duncan and Godfrey, and Herbert La Martine.

The holiday bill at the Canterbury will include Little Tich, Miss Winifred Hare, the Morton Comedy Trio, Flo Challis, Dave Carter, (Irish tenor), Harry Tate in *Motoring*, Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, Harry Champion, Charles Fanning, Alice Pierce, Kelly, Gillette, and Bart, the Four Eugenes, the Melroses, Major Newell, the Great Northen Troupe, and Cinquevalli.

A most charming little operetta-scena was produced on Monday last at the Paragon, entitled *Adrienne*, an episode in the life of Napoleon. Napoleon acts as benefactor to a lady and her child, who are practically starving, the husband having deserted them. The wife becomes the pet of the Emperor, who vows he loves her better than his Josephine. He also expresses his admiration for her in two songs, capitally sung, entitled "Once" and "In the hush of the summer time." The husband unexpectedly returns, much to the sorrow of the wife, and obtains the information that the lovers are going to a ball together. The husband decides to shoot the Emperor at the meeting-place of the pair, but the wife unfortunately arrives first, and, wearing a black domino over her ball dress, is mistaken for the proposed victim and killed in his stead. Mme. Mellor as the wife acted admirably throughout, and the characters of Napoleon and the husband were well sustained.

The following artists will be found in the August Bank Holiday programme at the Royal Standard Theatre of Varieties:—The Gothams, Ernest Montefiore and company in *The Little Colonel*, Geo. d'Albert, Sinclair's Four Radiums, Hallam and Stanton in *A Broken Journey*, Nipper Lupino Lane, Cullane Trio in *The Ladies' School*, Dene and Dawson in *Stage Aspirants*, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Leonard in *Coming Home*, Harry Martell, Sterling and Wright, Minnie Kirby, Cotton and Sands, David Davis, Sisters Le Fleur, and Mollie Devon.

At the Metropolitan Music Hall, on the 12th inst., will be produced an entirely novel sketch, entitled *A Japanese Revenge*, by Cecil Newton, adapted from a short story by Sir A. Conan Doyle, which Sir Arthur kindly gave Mr. Newton permission to prepare for the stage. The company is under the direction of Mr. Ferdinand Conti, and includes Mr. J. Nelson Ramsay and Mr. Cecil Newton. Special music has been written by Mr. W. H. Hewlett, the composer of "Pan and the young shepherd."

The Chelsea Palace of Varieties bill for Bank Holiday includes the name of Florence St. John and company in *Quits*, Rauschle, Carlotta Levey, C. Emlyn Jones in *The Daughters of Britain*, Clarice Mayne, Henri Bekker, Jeapes' Animated Graphic, G. H. Chirgwin, and Daisy Stratton.

The Bank Holiday bill at the Metropolitan includes Mr. John F. Preston with his company in *Rogues of the Turf*, Lily Flexmore, the Delomes, Annie Laurie, Jeapes' Graphic, Millie Hylton, Leo Dryden, Clarice Mayne, C. St. John Denton and Geo. Rowland's company of juveniles in *The Punch and Judy Girl*, Dan Crawley, Emlyn Jones Quintette, Major Newell, Edie Veno, Tatten Hall, Anthony, and Jack and Evelyn, the popular comedy duo, in their funny incident, *Come into the Office*.

"The Unwritten Law," produced by John Lawson last May at the Holborn Empire, will be presented at the Collins's on Monday. The cast is of exceptional strength, including Mr. Arthur Royston as the Empire Builder; Cecil du Gue as the Diamond Digger; Mr. Richard Bosco as the Bad Boy; and Miss Buena Bent as the Country Girl. In the first scene Miss Bent will introduce a special dance. The Café Chantant will be one of the biggest sets seen for some time on the music hall stage.

At Westminster, on the 26th ult., Austin Millais, a music-hall artist, proprietor of a show called "Venus," sued Mr. Elliston, of the Bolton Theatre of Varieties, for breach of contract. The plaintiff signed a contract for £20 a week to appear at the Bolton Theatre of Varieties on May 24 last. He was subsequently told that he could not appear, as the performance was objected to by the public authorities. When the contract was cancelled he offered to do a "turn" called *The Stolen Duchess*, which was refused.

Cross-examined by Mr. Collins, plaintiff maintained his performance could not be called "living statuary." Did not your contract say "statuary"?—Yes. Did you ever intend to exclude statuary?—Well, I should say yes. Is not "Venus" a nude act?—No. Has the lady ever played statuary?—Yes. Do you say that a person with a coating of paint is not nude?—Well, it all depends. Judge Woodfall: What distinction do you draw between a nude living picture and a living statue?—Well, one poses on a coloured background, with coloured paint or enamel and sometimes drapery, while the statuary is white and quite nude.

In cross-examination the plaintiff stated that "Venus" gave representations of "The Bath of Psyche," Canova's "Venus," "Venus of the Mirror," "The Sleeping Venus," "The Message of Love," "The Acceptance," &c. Mr. Goodson, of Day's Agency, said that the performance consisted of a lady covered with pink enamel giving representations of the pictures and statues mentioned. Mr. Elliston, the managing-director of the Bolton Theatre of Varieties, said he understood the "turn" was "à la Milo, nude figures." The turn was billed extensively, and, as a result, he received communications from the Mayor of Bolton and the chief constable, and he had to cancel the contract. His Honour, in giving judgment, said for the defendant to escape from his legal liability he must show that the public authorities had objected to the performances. But there was no such evidence before him, and he found for plaintiff, with costs.

On and after Monday the admissions to the Alhambra Theatre Gallery and Amphitheatre will be restored to their former prices: 6d. to the Gallery and 1s. to the Amphitheatre.

Miss Louise Higham, daughter of Mr. Fred Higham, the well-known variety agent, was married on Saturday morning at St. Michael's Church, Stockwell, to Captain Leonard Maxwell Taunton, of Brighton.

Mr. George Lashwood will conclude this evening ten-week engagement with Mr. Oswald Stoll. Mr. Lashwood has occupied the stage for forty minutes at each performance, and has made a great success. He will cross the Channel on Sunday, and will then motor through France and Switzerland, returning in about three weeks, and commencing on the Stoll tour early in September. His engagement will last until Christmas, when he will appear in the pantomime at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, with a capital budget of songs.

Miss Dolly Harmer made such a hit on her opening night in Cape Town that her engagement has been prolonged.

Mme. Natalia, who is again drawing good houses at the Royal Standard Theatre, Victoria, this week, is undoubtedly entitled to claim premier honours in England as a contralto vocalist. Her rendering of "Lead thou me on," "Lovely spring," and her *pièce de résistance*, the scena, "Love's Rosery," are especially worthy of mention, and the management must be congratulated for having secured her valuable services.

Miss Annie Laurie was so successful in Australia that she was re-engaged for a second term of eight weeks, making twenty-four in all. She played fourteen consecutive weeks at Sydney. This lady opens at the Metropolitan and Islington on Monday, through the agency of Mr. Tom Pacey.

The Prince's, Poplar, is closed this week for alterations and renovation, preparatory to reopening under the title of the Poplar Hippodrome, on August Bank Holiday, with a twice-nightly variety programme.

A contributor writing in the *Royal Magazine* over the pseudonym "Tights," in some interesting reminiscences speaks of Lulu, the gymnast, as a girl. In making this statement he falls into error, as it is well known that Farini, who brought out Lulu, thought it astute showmanship to proclaim the boy a girl, and thereby give an increased value to the intrepidity and skill of what was then regarded as an extraordinary performance.

Mrs. John Lawson, by special request, will be playing *The Devil's Sunday* at the Palace, Camberwell, and *Sally in Our Alley* at the Hippodrome, Crouch End, Monday next. This talented lady will produce a new episode in London at the end of September.

A reception was held at Zimmer's Café, Third Avenue, New York, on the 22nd ult., in honour of Miss Chummie La Mara, who had just made such a success at Tony Pastor's Theatre. The chair was taken by J. Donegan, of the Dunedin Troupe, supported by Mrs. Donegan, Chummie La Mara, Will Sergeant, A. J. Bernhardt, and a host of friends from the Teutonic. Healths and toasts were given, and a very enjoyable time was spent.

The programme at the London Hippodrome will be strengthened for Bank Holiday week by Salerno, the famous juggler; Lockhart's elephants, and the Macarte Sisters in a new musical scena, *The Land of the Lotus*. The final week's stay of Albert Toft's statuary is also announced. The skating carnival, *Zuyder Zee, the* fourteen Black Hussars, the Globe of Life, Clown Pinta and his military geese, and the four Magnanis, the most extraordinary barbers in the world, are still retained.

Miss Daisy James has made her first appearance at the Opera House, Philadelphia, and has scored an unqualified success. She is, says the *North American*, "a winsome and graceful comedienne, with great daintiness of person and manner," and won the entire appreciation of the audience. Miss James was kept singing until compelled to beg the audience to give her time to prepare more songs. She will be retained for as long as her engagement in England will permit, and will return to New York later.

Mr. J. W. Winton will sail for America per the Adriatic on the 27th ult., to fulfil a twenty-five weeks' engagement with Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger. Mr. Winton will return to England in April to carry out engagements cancelled in this country, including a season at the Alhambra.

The holiday programme of the Empire Theatre will include Mr. Fred Emney, Mr. Harry Grattan and company, in their clever and delightfully humorous sketch, *Man, the Brute*. This sketch has been played with invariable success during the past few weeks, and will now form one of the principal features of the Empire programme. Maceo and Fox, two very clever nigger singers and dancers; and Botello and Virginia, the acrobats, are also added to the programme. A new biograph picture at the Empire shows how a car is built. The various parts of the car are brought on in their crude state, are fitted together, and in a few moments the motor is careering on its way down the road.

Mr. Henry Coutts produced on Monday, at the Stratford Empire, a sketch entitled *Outflanked*, which proved of considerable interest by reason of the amazingly rapid changes of dress and make-up assumed by Mr. Coutts. First he appears in regimentals as Sergeant Tom Willoughby, makes love to a barmaid, and, when her back is turned, effects an instantaneous metamorphose to "Claude Duval off to a ball." Sergeant Willoughby having gone away without paying for his drink, the barmaid, of course, is somewhat perturbed. "Claude Duval" has some liquid refreshment, and then he disappears quite as suddenly as the gay and gallant sergeant. "Weary Willie, the would-be toff," takes his place, chats with the girl, plays the same trick on her—exit Weary Willie, enter Sandy Macpherson. Similarly exit Macpherson, enter Sarah Blobbs; enter "Miss Birdie Gusher, of eighteen summers," exit; re-enter Sergeant Willoughby, who makes known to the barmaid his impostures, and pays up. Mr. Coutts acted in characteristic fashion in each of his different rôles, and he was ably supported by Miss Dot Kemp as the barmaid and Mr. Louis du Cane as a Captain Giles. The trifle was exceedingly well received.

At Marylebone Police Court on the 26th ult. Mrs. Marie Allen applied to Mr. Paul Taylor to assist her in tracing her husband, Harry Allen, for over ten years sergeant-attendant at the Metropolitan Theatre of Varieties, who has been missing since the 12th ult. On the morning of that day they visited a friend at Ewell. On returning to London, he ran away from her in Ranelagh Road, and from that time she had seen nothing of him, receiving from him, however, an extraordinary letter. Mrs. Allen gives the following description of her husband: Height, 5ft. 10in.; very stout; age forty-one, but looks older; very fresh complexion, high forehead, double chin, thick, tawny moustache, brown eyes, and a scar on the right cheek nearly an inch long. He was wearing a new dark grey suit with a faint strip, black bowler hat, stand-up-turn-down collar, black tie, and brown boots.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Fairs Ahead.

The fairs ahead for next week are: Accrington, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Bicester, on the London and North-Western; Bilston, on the Great Western; Birkenhead, on the London and North-Western and Great Western; Blackheath, on the South-Eastern and Great Northern; Brigg, on the Great Central; Cheltenham, on the Great Western, Midland, Midland and South-West Junction; Clevedon, on the Great Western; Calverley, on the London and North-Western; Doncaster, on the Great Northern, Great Eastern, Great Central, Midland, Lancashire and Yorkshire, and North-Eastern; Evesham, on the Great Western and Midland; Fleetwood, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire and North-Western; Garston, on the London and North-Western and Cheshire lines; Hampstead Heath, on the North London, Metropolitan, and District; Haslingden, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Hendon (Welsh Harp), on the Midland; Hunslet, on the Midland and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Ilkley, on the Midland and North-Eastern; Jarrow-on-Tyne, on the North-Eastern; Kenilworth, on the London and North-Western; Malvern, on the Midland and Great Western; Manningham, on the Midland; Milnsbridge, on the London and North-Western; Morecambe, on the North-Western and Midland; New Brighton, on the Wirral; Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the North-Eastern and North British; Newmarket, on the Great Eastern; Northampton, on the North-Western, Great Northern, London and North-Western, and Midland; Otley, on the Midland and North-Eastern; Portsmouth, on the London, Brighton and South Coast and London and South-Western; Reigate, on the South-Eastern; Richmond (Surrey), on the South-Western, North London, Metropolitan, and Metropolitan and District; Ripon, on the North-Eastern; Rodley, on the Midland; Ryde, on the Isle of Wight, Isle of Wight Central, London, Brighton, and South Coast, and London and South-Western; Salford (Trinity Markets), on the Lancashire and Yorkshire and London and North-Western; Seaham Harbour, on the North-Eastern; Southport, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire, North-Western, and Cheshire lines, and Great Central; South Shields, on the North-Eastern; Stafford, on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, and North Staffordshire; Stanningley, on the Great Northern; Taunton, on the Great Western and Midland; Tewkesbury, on the Midland; Tunbridge Wells, on the South-Eastern and London, Brighton, and South Coast; Wanstead Flats, on the Great Eastern; Wombwell, on the Great Central and Midland; Wormwood Scrubs; Wyke, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Stoke-on-Trent, on the North Staffordshire; Tanhill Wakes, Boston, on the Great Northern; Astwood Bank, on the Midland; Brighouse, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Crabbs Cross, on the Midland; Lindfield, on the London, Brighton and South Coast; Barlow, on the Midland; Bolsolver, on the Midland; Cheetham Hill, on the London and North-Western and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Cowhill Wakes; Denton, on the London and North-Western; Denholm, on the Great Northern; Earlestown, on the London and North-Western; Hazel Grove, on the London and North-Western; Hyde, on the Great Central; Littleborough, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Stockport, on the North-Western, Midland, Cheshire lines, Great Western, Great Central, Great Northern, and Midland; Taxell, or Whaley Bridge, on the London and North-Western; Wessington, on the Midland; Whitwell, on the Midland and Great Central; Kelso, on the North British and North-Eastern; Alyth, on the Caledonian; Cupar, on the North British; Hawick, on the North British; Cardiff, on the Great Western, Rhymney, Taff Vale, and London and North-Western; Merthyr Tydfil, on the Great Western, North-Western, Taff Vale, Brecon and Merthyr, and Cambrian and Rhymney; Mold, on the London and North-Western; Newport (Mon.), on the Great Western, London and North-Western, Brecon and Merthyr; and Swansea, on the Great Western, London and North-Western, Midland, and Swansea and Mumbles Railways.

The Rev. T. Horne's Visit to Yorkshire.

In accordance with a promise given to the Yorkshire showmen at the annual meetings in Manchester and London, the organising chaplain will visit two of the most important Bank Holiday fairs in Yorkshire. He hopes to be able to address the showmen at Hunslet Feast, Leeds, in the afternoon of to-morrow (Sunday), and in the evening of the same day to address the showpeople on the feast ground, Manningham, Bradford. He proposes to speak at both gatherings on the objects and work of the Showmen's Guild, and he sincerely trusts that the members of the committee in Yorkshire and all friends of the show business will rally round him in this effort of his to arouse interest in the trade-protection work of the Guild.

Shipley Feast.

At this first class fixture on the Yorkshire round there were four big cinematograph shows, the concerns of Messrs. Tuby, Monte Bros., Relph and Pedley, and Howden. Amongst the sideshows was C. Relph's freak museum. The motor-cars, ostriches, steam yachts, and steam swings were those of Messrs. Tuby, Marshall, Redfern, Waddington, and Corrigan; big boats and park swings by Messrs. Fisher, Redfern, Cooper, and Hughes; slipping-the-slope towers by Houldsworth and Corrigan. The other novelties were shooting concerns by Richards, Ratcliff, Burgess, Barker, Illingworth, and Whatmore; and throwing games and other varieties by Doubtfire, Sutherland, Hyde, Walker, Houldsworth Bros., Whatmore, Webb, Ratcliff, Holt, and other caterers.

Bilston Wakes.

For the people's open-air amusement at this fair the following shows and amusements were provided:—Sagar's premier living picture theatre; P. Collins's Australian giant children show (the Westwood Family); P. Collins's racing motors, No. 2 set; Dobson's shooting saloon; A. Powell's varieties; Wm. Chaplain's juvenile roundabout, throwing games, and varieties; football penalties, throwing games, coker sheets, and variety stalls by Humphries, Cooper, Winsper, Turner, and Stokes; and park swings by Humphries; altogether forming a capitally-arranged and well-patronised fair.

King's Visit to Mr. de Rothschild.

The *News of the World* says that the King paid a flying visit to Halton House, Mr. Alfred de Rothschild's residence in Bucks. One of the most interesting things King Edward saw there was the private circus which Mr. de Rothschild has lately established at Halton. A path from one of the lawns leads into a circle hidden from the general view by a thick wall of firs and greenery. An inner circle is railed off and fitted with all the trappings of a first-class circus and a miniature steeplechase combined. In the centre and all around are tall electric lights, which throw a light equal to day when night performances are required. But it was the animals, whose acrobatic skill is almost human, that interested the King most. There are eight ponies, smaller than Shetlands, two gazelles, a donkey, and two small dogs, one of which—a fox terrier—is equally accomplished as a jockey and an acrobat. The King spent a considerable part of the afternoon examining the animals, watching their capers, and noting with satisfaction, which he did not hesitate to express, the comfort of their villa residences at the back of the circus.

We regret to record that Mrs. Bastable, daughter of the late Mrs. Reader, of "Buff Bill" fame, died at Folkestone on the 29th ult. The deceased lady was interred at the local cemetery.

THE FIGHT FOR MITCHAM FAIR.

We regret to inform our readers that, despite the manifest wish of the people of Mitcham to retain their ancient charter fair, that the Board of Conservators for Mitcham Common Lands will not afford facilities to the people whose interests they elected to serve, in the face of the public opinion and the awakened interest in the people's rights that recent events have so plainly demonstrated. The conservators as a body, like the Bourbon Kings of France, "Never learn, never change."

The Flouting of Public Opinion.

Public meeting after public meeting has been held. The People's Rights League, led by Councillors Dant and Baker, have constitutionally voiced and interpreted the will of the people, yet the conservators refuse the express wishes of their constituents. The parish council is ready to accept the declared will of the people, but not so the conservators. With them it still remains the interests of the few and not the interests of the many. We venture to remind these "Bourbons of Mitcham" that the will of the people shall prevail, and that one by one these despots shall be pulled down from their throne. When public servants arrogate mastership over the people, then we have the beginning of the end. Though

"The mills of God grind slowly,
They grind exceeding small."

We have no doubt as to the ultimate issue of the struggle. If the conservators will not change, the people will change the conservators. Then shall right prevail against might, and the people come into their inheritance.

The Showmen and the Coming Fair.

For the past two months the organised showmen have laboured for a peaceful and a practical termination of the question at issue between them and the conservators, and although the last word is that the conservators refuse facilities, we are not even yet at the very last word. Nor are the "resources of civilisation" helpless in the matter. There is still the open door, but the conservators do not hold the key of that door; the conservators have shut their own doors for the present. Now the showmen turn to the owners of the fair rights—that is to say, the marketable property—the right of the Lord of the Manor or his assignee to draw tolls on the fair green for the days of the fair.

Who Owns the Fair Rights?

As disclosed in the statement of claim of the plaintiffs in the High Court action for trespass against Messrs. Ball, Hill, and Wilson, certain gentlemen purchased the franchise of the fair. These gentlemen purchased these valuable trading rights from the widow of the late owner, Charles Bailey, of show fame. It has complicated the issue extremely that these men were at the moment of purchase not only conservators, but in the case of two of them members of Mitcham Parish Council, the third being the vestry clerk, and the fourth, at the time of purchase, an alderman of the Surrey County Council. If the issues were not so serious to the parties interested it would be a fit theme for the satirical humour of Sir W. S. Gilbert. We give one example of the topsy-turveydom of Mitcham public life. This is true to fact. Mr. Blank is a parish councillor; he is also a conservator, and, more yet, for he is a joint owner of the fair franchise. Now see how it works. As councillor he petitions himself, as conservator, to try and abolish the fair. As a conservator he cannot do it without the consent of himself as owner of the franchise. So Mr. Blank acts in all these three capacities, and the Home Secretary is asked to abolish the fair because Parish Councillor Blank, Conservator Blank, and Franchise Owner Blank are all agreed, and therefore away with the fair.

Some Serious Considerations.

It has long been a rule of public life that no man having a monetary interest in questions before a public body shall take any part in the settlement of any matters in which they are so implicated. Why have the owners of the fair franchise taken part in the abolition movement? Who instructed the owners of the franchise to purchase the rights, and for what end and purpose? Why do these gentlemen still hold the franchise, and why do they not pass it over to the parish council? These are questions that will have to be answered, and all the devious methods of these abolitionists must come out into the light. They must not impose their will upon the people. The time has come to clear up all this uncertainty. The people are certain in their demand; they want the fair; they want it removed to a better site if they can get it; but if not, they want such a fair as they can get on the old fair green.

In view of the new date of this year's fair the Showmen's Guild sent the following proposal to the conservators, after full consideration in committee:—

The Guild's Proposals.

July 19, 1907.

TO THE CONSERVATORS OF MITCHAM COMMON LANDS.

Gentlemen,—The Executive Council of the above society desire, in continuance of their former communications to you *re* Mitcham Fair, to submit the following additional points for your consideration:—

1. That in view of the plébiscite of the electors on the question of the retention of the fair and its possible removal to a more suitable site on lands under your control, or that of the parish council, by arrangement with you, that it would be advisable to make provision for the ensuing fair—Aug. 12 and the two following days.

2. The Showmen's Guild will undertake, if the conservators so desire, the entire management and control of the fair and the entertainments, that all necessary guarantees may be given to you as regards the conduct of the fair.

3. This society, acting for the organised showmen, will undertake to accept the vote of the electors, and, in the event of that vote being adverse to the retention of the fair, will co-operate with the conservators in carrying out the will of the people.

4. We ask and recognise that it would be a favour on your part to grant us for the ensuing year the use of that portion of the common known as the Three Kings. We also admit that in granting us this favour for this year only that the concession is without prejudice to your rights to withdraw the same, and we also will accept, in the present emergency, any other site suitable for our purpose under your control.

Soliciting the favour of a speedy reply,
I beg to remain,
Your obedient servant,
T. HORNE
(for the Executive Council).

The Conservators' Reply.

A meeting of the conservators ought to have taken place on the 20th, but it was postponed until the 27th, and it reads as follows, the reply being sent by Mr. Foss, who has shown every possible courtesy to the Guild in the matter all through the negotiations:—

MITCHAM FAIR.

Dear Mr. Horne,—The meeting of the conservators was held on Saturday afternoon, but I was unable to write in regard to it that day. The conservators went very carefully into the matter, but they have no power under their scheme to transfer the fair franchise from the fair green to any other quarter, as they thereby would be infringing the rights of several other parties, who would be able to complain if the suggested site were used for fair purposes. They therefore are compelled to refuse to allow the ground at the Three Kings Pond to be used, and they must adhere to their old course of action, viz., to do their best to prevent persons unauthorised by the owners of the franchise from occupying sites on the fair green without arrangement with them and without payment. Yours very truly,
F. FOSS.

The Guild Chaplain's Answer.

Dear Mr. Foss,—I am much obliged to you for the trouble you have taken in the matter that has brought us together. I can quite appreciate the difficulties that have influenced the conservators in their decision. I know (and have always acted within that knowledge) that to remove a fair is as difficult (technically) as to abolish one. The difference in the case of Mitcham is this—that the people want removal, the showmen want removal, and the Home Office will regard with favourable mind any proposal for that solution of the trouble.

Now comes my suggestion to the owners of the franchise (I understand that you are one of them). Use your legal right to hold the fair on the fair green for this year pending other arrangements. Ask the Guild to make you an offer for the available sites. We will give every possible assistance, and all guarantee for good shows, &c. I suggest a scale of tolls like the L.C.C., or, if you like it better, the tolls as collected by the late Frank Bailey. What think you?

Yours ever, for God and good,
T. HORNE,—
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
July 30, 1907.

The Reply of the Franchise Owners.

Dear Mr. Horne,—I have your letter of the 30th inst. The owners of the franchise are particularly anxious not to use their legal right to hold the fair, and they all of them feel that the Fair Green is unsafe and unsuitable for the fair. It would be impossible for them to come to any arrangement for letting their rights, and I am afraid that it will be necessary for the Conservators to take the same steps as heretofore, which, of course, I regret very much.—Yours truly, FREDK. FOSS.

The Rev. T. Horne, the Showman's Guild,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
July 31, 1907.

Railway Rates.

In the special article dealing with this subject upon general lines last week there were several points of great concern and value to showmen that we did not touch upon. For instance, taking the very safe estimate of the money spent by showmen with the various companies at £100,000 per annum, the immediate saving to fairground traders amounts to £25,000. The organised showmen had every right to be alarmed at the astounding nature of a proposed scale of charges that would have increased the cost of the transit of their goods £50,000 per annum. They had every reason and justice on their side when they approached the railway companies and asked for a reconsideration of the exorbitant proposals. Showmen were justified in pointing out, as business men, that their trade could not possibly stand the strain of so great an increase in working expenses. They were justified in warning the railway companies that the important industry of the fairground would not submit to be crushed out of existence by such exorbitant charges as the first proposals of the railways indicated. Mr. George Green, in his able statement of the showmen's case at the Railway Clearing House, Euston, and again in the circular issued by the organised showmen to the traffic-managers, pointing out that the showmen, in the event of the railways not acceding to the moderate demands of their customers for a more reasonable tariff, would be obliged to take their concerns by traction engine or by Renard Road Train from fair to fair, undoubtedly carried conviction.

Other Large Interests Involved.

"The Era" from time to time has clearly set out the tremendous importance and yearly increasing value of the holiday resorts and pleasure passenger traffic that the show business has created, fosters, and protects. That great fairs like Nottingham, Hull, Peterborough, Oxford, Exeter, and other towns, with their hundreds of thousands of passengers either going to the fair or availing themselves of the holiday created by the fair to go to the seaside, testifies to the immense value of the volume of trade that the fairs bring to the railway companies. We ventured last week to congratulate the combined railway companies on the amicable arrangement they have effected with their showmen customers by their adoption of the Scotch rates on English lines. We are justified also in urging the showmen to still further strengthen and perfect their trade organisations. The brilliant victories of the Showmen's Guild in Parliamentary defence work, the public propaganda for the preservation of the people's fairs, and the equally successful work of the Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union in dealing with corporations and with the railway companies demonstrates beyond all doubt and cavil the paramount necessity of continued support to their trade societies. We sincerely hope that the day is not far distant when the separate organisations will be either effectively consolidated or amalgamated, that the burden of financial responsibility will be readily and intelligently borne by all the traders great and small who earn their livelihood on the fairground.

South Wales Notes.

Stoll's Panoptican, at Cardiff, has a very attractive programme, several new pictures being shown. Mme. D'Arc's waxworks has a number of new features added. Tenby had delightful weather for the summer fair. Messrs. Hy. Studt and Son supplied the chief attraction, their new motors being well patronised. Pontypridd has an attractive holiday programme. Messrs. Wadbrooke and Dooner, of bioscope fame, are advertised with entirely new numbers.

Mountain Ash will be visited by Messrs. Crecraft, who promise a good bill of fare. Merthyr Vale has Mr. Haggar, jun., who has paid a successful visit in the district. Mr. E. Danter's new bioscope has been in the Monmouthshire district, with gratifying results. Messrs. Ford's galaxy of amusement are on a visit at Pontypridd.

Barry Dock still has the popular Mr. John Johnson. Several novelties are promised for the holidays. Brynmaur retains Messrs. Johnson, of Prince of Wales fame, who give some very attractive performances, which draw good audiences. At Penarth Mr. Ted Ebley is on a short visit, and is meeting with deserved success.

Bramley Feast.

Here the entertainers were:—Tuby and Sons, with their cinematograph theatre; J. Crighton's cinematograph; Professor Gibson's occult show; Blakey's freak show; Laing's fine art gallery; motors, gallopers, flying motors, steam yachts, big boats, helter-skelters, and park swings by Messrs. J. W. Waddington, Redfearn, Cooper, Morley, Brooks, Hughes, and Corrigan; shooters, varieties and throwing games by Jameson, Radcliffe, Hughes, Hogg, Illingworth, Brookes, Webb, Wilden, Lewis Cooper, Walker, Hides, Crowther, and numerous other caterers.

Friends of Mr. Fred Lewis, late acting-manager with Mr. John Henry Cooke, will be sorry to hear that he has met with a serious accident. Mr. Lewis, who is at present touring Ireland with Buff Bill's Circus and Menagerie from America, received a severe kick from his horse which completely crippled him. In spite of intense pain, Mr. Lewis stuck to his post, and, notwithstanding the protests of his doctor, insisted, with characteristic pluck, in attending to his duties. It is gratifying to know that Mr. Lewis is now making progress towards recovery.

LONGSIGHT WAKES.

Manchester began this week its splendid circuit of Midsummer fairs. Longsight, fifty years ago, was a small village of a few hundred people on the high road between Stockport and Manchester. The fair was held in the one long, straggling street that formed the village. Longsight is now a thriving suburb of the great city of Manchester, and has an immediate population of 60,000, and a quarter of a million more people within a penny electric car ride—hence its business importance in the world of shows. This year there were two fair-grounds, but in such close proximity that for all business purposes they were one immense pleasure fair.

John Whiting, who for many years past has been the sole provider of the wakes, was this years supplemented by the enterprise of John Collins, upon whose new wakes ground the chief show and machine novelties were displayed. Owing to the rapid growth of the suburb as a residential district, the wakes ground used for some years past is now being covered by villa residences. Mr. John Whiting was driven this year into a much smaller and less suitable portion of open land on the same estate, just outside the building line. This pitch did not lend itself to the adequate display of many large concerns, and the wet weather was also a serious drawback, as Mr. Whiting's ground was in a hollow. The weather materially affected both grounds, yet on the whole the attendance of the public was larger than ever, and fairly good business was done.

John Whiting's Ground.

The chief attraction here was the veteran lessee's superb electric machine, the Japanese cars from Tokio, a show novelty so up-to-date and perfect in every detail, both mechanical and artistic, that it easily maintains a premier position in public patronage. Next in order of merit came Wm. Mitchell's racing cockerels, a high-class and popular machine novelty.

Florence's Circus.

This new and bright bijou circus is a decided acquisition to our popular fairs. The proprietress, Miss Florence, is the daughter of the world-famous "Felix, the musical clown," one of the patriarchs of the arena, and who, still hale and hearty after well nigh eighty years of a busy cosmopolitan life as a showman, took his part as bright and as clever as ever in the ring. Miss Florence, who gives the principal turn in the splendid programme of equestrian and ring novelties, is the intrepid young globe equilibrist who became famous by her marvellous feat of skill and endurance, journeying from London to Brighton on a ball. Her performance in the ring on the same ball includes the same startling feats of balance, juggling, and daring descent of a staircase that made her famous at the London Alhambra. Another star turn at this circus is Abex, the strong man, whose prodigious strength in weight-lifting out-Sandows Sandow, and marks him as one of our most marvellous athletes. There are equestrian turns, trained horses and ponies, and the inimitable Felix, the clown, as both jester and ringmaster by turns. We heartily wish every success to this excellent enterprise.

Ball's Midget Princess.

Next door to the circus was that gem of a ground-booth prodigy, E. Ball's Princess Lilliput. This charming and dainty atom of humanity held receptions daily.

Prof. Pearson's Boxers.

Fistiana still draws the manly and exuberant youth of our fair, and the school of boxers and athletes under Prof. Pearson included many local heroes of the fancy.

The Olla Podrida of the Wakes.

These included throwing games, juvenile roundabout, pannum stalls, dart and ring boards, penalty footballs, and various other novelties.

The New Wakes Ground.

Mr. John Collins had leased an admirable site for the wakes, and with his usual business acumen and enterprise gathered around him some of the very best concerns on the Lancashire round. Longsight has never before seen such an aggregation of high-class shows and machine novelties, and the people were quick to recognise and to appreciate such excellent catering for their amusement. Had the weather been better there is little doubt that the wakes of 1907 would have broken all previous records as regards business returns, as it undoubtedly has done as regards display and up-to-date show enterprise.

P. Collins and Son's Wonderland.

Right at the head of all cinematographs this concern maintains its proud position, both inside and out—the very best now exhibiting in this part of the country. The entertainment includes the latest and most refined films, living and speaking pictures, up to date.

Hodgini's Circus.

The Hodgini Family are famous equestrians and acrobats, and in their capital circus well maintain their reputation—an all-round excellent show. The equestrian turns by members of the Hodgini family and the capital company with them delighted the crowded audiences that patronised the circus. Feats of horsemanship, Risley and acrobatic turns, amusing clowns, and trained animals were the items of a delightful programme.

Wall's Midget Marvels.

That prince of the *entresol* show, Harry Wall, was one of the best patronised showmen at the fair, and deservedly so, for he provides the best and most interesting abnormals now travelling. The little people are prodigies of the most unique character. The exhibition in which they are shown is amongst the very best, brightest, and up to date of its kind. Nothing but the very best satisfies the proprietor.

White's Museum of Living Curios.

This kind of show is coming to the front, and White's museum of freak and nature marvels is a pioneer in this line of admirable exhibitions. The proprietor, Mr. White, is to be congratulated on the variety and interests of his exhibits and the perfect outfit of his show.

Roundabouts, Steam Yachts, &c.

The centre of the fair-ground was admirably planned to display the big crowd of machine novelties. These were P. Collins's No. 1 set of motors, the Gordon-Bennett race track (manager Mr. J. W. Hall), Mrs. W. Davies's ostriches and Cape Town ponies, J. Hibbert and Sons' racing cockerels and revolving chariots, J. Richards's steam yachts, Holmes's slipping the slope tower, J. H. Humphries' gem horses, and Montgomery's juvenile roundabouts.

Shooting Ranges and Batteries.

Hughes and Masters' range, Mrs. A. Jewell's two concerns, and galleries and ranges by Messrs. Burton, J. H. Humphries, and J. White.

Cokers, Dolly Frames, and Varieties.

These were provided by such well-known caterers as Clough, Jewell, Humphries, A. Whatmore, R. Dixon, C. Horton, J. Leonard, Cordwell Brothers, Richmond, Bettomy, Coats, Jepson, Smith, Montgomery, Harrison, and others, Barker's photo van, and R. Dixon, jun., Mulheson, and J. Montgomery's pannum stalls complete a list of fairground novelties that ranks with the best the country provides. We understand that the bulk of these novelties go to the Liverpool parks for the coming city pageant.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Haggar, jun., took their joint benefit at Neath on Monday. An old favourite, *The Dumb Man of Manchester*, was well staged, and Mr. Haggar and his talented wife had a very flattering reception. They resume their autumn season in October.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD AT MANCHESTER.

The organising chaplain of the Guild had a busy Sunday in Manchester on July 28. In the morning he preached at his former church of St. John the Baptist, Hulme. In the afternoon he visited most of the caravans on the two fair grounds at Longsight Wakes. In the evening he was the special preacher at St. Agnes Church, Hamilton-road, Longsight, the Parish Church of the fair. After evensong he preached again at the showmen's service in the Parish Room, a most suitable centre for the showpeople, being close by the fair.

At this service the Rev. H. Norburn, senior hon. local chaplain of the Guild, both took the service and read the lesson from Holy Scripture. The Guild chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne, in his sermon dwelt on the love of God as the incentive to and the bond of union in the Brotherhood of the Church. He applied the lesson to the special needs and temptations of a showman's life. The singing of the service was led by the choir boys of the parish. Several of the wardens and officers of the church, and many leading members of the congregation of St. Agnes, joined with the showpeople in the Guild service. A number of showpeople were at the Parish Church for evensong, and a great number came to their own special service.

At the end of the service the Rev. T. Horne (speaking to Guild members only) referred to the proposed Benefit to be taken from shows and roundabouts on the Tuesday in the Wakes week. This was heartily approved by all present. The rector, the Rev. H. Norburn, strongly urged showmen to support the good work of their own Guild. He instanced a striking local example of the benefit arising from having hon. local chaplains, who, from knowledge of their life and work, could defend them from the attack of ill-informed and prejudiced people. He trusted that their friend (and his friend) their good chaplain would be long spared to continue his work amongst them, and to a wider public for them.

Benefit for the Guild Funds.

Despite the fact that all the larger concerns on Mr. John Collins' Wakes Ground had already this season given benefit performances, either at Queen's-road or at Wrexham Fairs, the benefit idea was enthusiastically approved and carried through. From Mr. John Collins' machines at Queen's-road last Easter week the substantial sum of £10 was received; from J. Hibbert and Sons' machine £1; and from the providers of minor novelties—tenants of Mr. John Collins—£6 were taken in small subscriptions. From P. Collins' show and machines at Wrexham Fair £5 were taken as a benefit to the Guild Funds. In spite of the understanding that one show should only be expected to give a benefit once in a season, Mr. P. Collins, Mr. Hibbert, Mr. P. Collins, jun., and others determined to repeat their generous help, and to stand in with the others so that the benefit might be unanimous. The following appeal was placed on the front of each exhibition:—

The Showmen's Guild.—Organised for the benefit of all showmen. The entire proceeds of this performance will be given to the funds of the Guild.—Lord George Sanger, president; Rev. T. Horne, chaplain; Thomas Hurst, honorary secretary.

A similar placard was shown on each roundabout, the only material difference being that it stated that "All the takings of this machine for two hours to-night will be given to the Guild Funds."

The Result of the Benefit.

Mr. Fred Bibby (of J. Bibby and Co.) very ably assisted the organising chaplain in the pleasant duty of receiving and tabulating the results of the benefit performances at each concern. The separate amounts taken were as follows:—P. Collins' motor-cars, £2 2s.; P. Collins' Coliseum, £2 0s. 9d.; Mrs. W. Davies' gallopers, £1 8s. 9d.; Isaac Richards' yachts, £1 8s. 5d.; J. Hibbert and Sons' Bantams, 17s. 9d.; Harry Wall's Midgets, 12s. 4d.; Hodgini's Circus, 10s.; W. Holmes' slip, 5s.; White's Museum, 2s. 6d.

Subscriptions per Rev. T. Horne—J. Hibbert and Sons, £5; T. Worfolk, 5s. Per Mr. Whiting—C. Darwent, 5s.; J. Thorburn, 5s. Per Mr. Ashington—W. Bassett, 5s.; W. Blackburn, 5s.; H. Ashington, 5s.; Joseph Joy, 5s. Per Mr. Shaw—J. Moore, 5s.

DEATH OF AN OLD SHOWMAN.

A painfully sudden ending has come to the career of an old and most respected showman, Mr. Charles Parker, who for some months has been managing with great success the American Exhibition in Oxford-street, London. Mr. Parker, who was a truly energetic man, had attended to the exhibition, when a congested liver gave him trouble, and in a few days the illness terminated fatally.

Though of English birth, he early went to America, and there he saw such a development of show life that he always said the English had much to learn from their American brethren. Mr. Parker had been connected with the chief shows of America, and was a friend of Mr. Barnum, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Forepaw, and others whose exhibitions were the perfection of organisation. He had seen Mr. Keith, of America, rise from his five-cent show in Tremont-street, Boston, to be proprietor of eighteen of the best theatres in the land of the Stars and Stripes. Mr. Parker practically knew show business from A to Z, and he could tell the towns that were good for trade and the period of year to visit them. A talk with him was a lesson in showmanship, and he would not neglect a single detail. In the World's Fair, held at Chicago in 1893, he was in charge of a capital attraction, and saw immense profits secured.

With all his appreciation of American industry and energy and smartness, he nevertheless loved his own land, and so he often put in a month on our coast, while as to London as a show city, he considered it of the first importance. Buffalo Bill characterised London as a gold mine, and Parker practically endorsed the opinion of the eminent scout.

He was against shabbiness in show business, and there he was right, as in the street shows that Americans have opened in London there is smartness, decoration, liveried attendants, and abundant illumination. So people patronise them who never thought of paying the penny to see the fat lady in the shop. In his management of American shows in London streets Mr. Parker had found that the pennies and halfpence meant a splendid return, and, as he said, "Money is all over the place." He seemed good for many more years, but at the age of sixty-five he has passed away, and left the memory of a good showman with all those associated with him in providing public recreation. Several of his family remain in the business.

Salthorne Feast.

Here, to help the good people of this Yorkshire village to keep their feast right merrily, were the master fun-makers and the providers of the people's open-air amusements, H. Ashington, with the Marionette Répertoire Company and up-to-date animated and speaking pictures; Geo. Crampton, with steam roundabouts; Gray, with swings; Tomlinson, with rifle gallery; Blackburn, with coker sheet; and W. Bassett, with varieties.

Tipton Wakes.

Here were Sagar's palace of delight; Westwood, with the Colonial giant children; Cullis's fistic art pavilion; P. Collins's No. 1 racing motors; Mrs. Hayes's electric yachts and swings; Humphries' park swings and varieties; Chaplain's juvenile set and varieties; Dobson's miniature set and shooting range; throwing games and all the fun of the fair by Scarfe, Pouchery, Powell, Cooper, Hayes, Walton, Wagstaffe, and many others.

FILM GOSSIP.

Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd.

This firm has just issued a budget of good things. In continuation of their highly successful series of national pictures—Bonnie Scotland and Beautiful Erin—they now announce a production of a number of animated pictures of the principal beauty spots of North Wales. The pictures are complete in five series, each notable as illustrating all that is lovely and interesting in the portion of the Principality to which it applies. They were secured during the present season by a staff of experts under the personal supervision of Mr. Charles Urban, and by reason of their photographic perfection, choice of subjects, and comprehensive treatment, they should command a world-wide enthusiastic reception.

Majestic mountain scenery, peaceful lakes, turbulent rivers, romantic cascades and waterfalls, fairy glens, ravines, wild moor and cultivated lowland, historic ruins, castles, and city walls, industries, railway panoramas, and coaching tours—all form a sum of general interest, beauty, and educational importance equal to that of any previous series. In order to depict these scenes in anything approaching a satisfactory manner, the London and North-Western Railway Company was approached, and very kindly placed special facilities at the disposal of Mr. Urban. By this means some exceptionally fine railway panoramas were obtained, and, naturally enough, the Urban Company, as well as the general public, will feel grateful to the L. and N.-W. R. Company for its assistance in the matter. The entire series will also show the operations in the gigantic State quarries at Dinorwic, and scenes of the ascent and descent of Snowden. Marvellous atmospheric and mist effects have been introduced, and the total results secured fully demonstrate the enlightening value of the cinematograph.

Pathé Frères.

Pathé Frères can boast their fair share of novelties, and on Thursday afternoon we had the pleasure of witnessing several of these. One, entitled Modern Painters, is a particularly smart trick film. On the floor of a stage a couple of portfolios are seen to move along, apparently without human aid, to the centre of a small proscenium, where the flat covers fall back, and out jump two men attired in the careless style with which artistic people in the Quartier Latin have made us familiar. Immediately they set to work on the semicircular border of the miniature proscenium, and the result is astonishing, to say the least. A few dabs with the brushes and figures of beautifully dressed young ladies appear before us. Other figures appear and disappear with the same mysterious rapidity.

The Maniac Juggler is another capital Pathé production. It shows a juggler too palpably gone mad. He rushes through the streets and juggles with everything he can get hold of, much to the annoyance of people he meets. He is chased by a crowd of people, who eventually run him to ground and express their appreciation of his remarkable abilities. Spanish Picture Postcards introduces us to many beautiful parts of King Alfonso's dominions as well as to places of historical and romantic interest. The "argument" is this: A lady visits a picture postcard shop, and is shown a great variety of coloured illustrations. What is put before the lady is thrown on the cinematograph screen, and the effect is both pleasing and instructive.

Chrysanthemums is a magnificently-coloured Pathé film, in which splendid specimens of the flower are brought into use in different ways. A Case of Arson is a well-arranged series of photographic illustrations, which tell a very dramatic story. The evening and night "effects" are realistically brought out, and the film is one that should find a ready sale. Nurse's Strike is still another attractive Pathé subject, the title being sufficiently suggestive of its character.

Vitagraph Company.

Lost in an Arizona Desert, just issued by the Vitagraph Company, is a very tragic and realistic film. The opening scene shows a wide stretch of the burning alkali desert of Arizona. In the distance a man and a woman appear, and as they draw nearer it can be seen that they are carrying a little child about two years of age. They stumble along, evidently exhausted, and it is clear that they have lost their way. Stopping to rest, the man raises a flask to his lips, then (thinking of his wife) he overcomes the terrible craving and offers the flask to her. She shakes her head and points to the child. The man understands, and they raise the bottle to the parched lips of the little one, and then slowly and painfully resume their aimless wandering. At each step the unfortunate couple grow weaker and weaker, until finally the man sinks to the ground. With a despairing gesture he bids farewell to the woman and child, and expires. The wretched woman picks up the little child and drags slowly on. She has not gone far, however, when the terrible heat overcomes her and she falls lifeless. The little girl is too young to know that the mother is dead, but after failing to arouse her the child wanders away. A cowboy, riding along, catches sight of the emaciated figure of a woman, rides up, hastily dismounts, and upon finding that her life is extinct, reverently covers her with his blanket and rides away. A little further along he perceives the child, picks her up, and rides away. In the end the miners and cowboys at the camp adopt the child.

Father's Quiet Sunday, published by the Vitagraph, is intensely amusing. Paterfamilias is tired out with a hard week's work, and decides to rest all day on Sunday. He warns his wife, daughter, and servant to keep the house absolutely quiet while he sleeps. They leave, and father makes himself comfortable on the sofa, has just covered his face with a large handkerchief, and is preparing to enjoy a well-earned rest when a terrific noise causes him to jump up and he sees about a dozen boys having a parade and using tin-pans, drums, etc. He yells to them to be quiet, and is just dropping off to sleep again when a strenuous hammering occurs in the back yard. Every time he gets almost to sleep something happens to disturb him. The telephone rings and the servant knocks on the door to tell him about it. Daughter No. 1 plays the piano in the room on the right, while daughter No. 2 takes half a dozen of her friends into the room on the left and starts a phonograph. Four of his boon companions arrive, and commence a quiet little game of poker. This is too much for father. He hurries into the next room, and as the picture closes we see him sitting at the table joining in the game and apparently enjoying his Sunday rest.

The Vitagraph Co. is also responsible for The Window Demonstration. A window dresser is arranging a display of rainproof rubber coats and hats, and for this purpose has procured a dummy figure wearing the rubber garments. After having placed this figure he turns on a shower bath above the dummy, the water running off the coat and hat, showing that they are indeed waterproof. Next the window dresser brings in another dummy, which he places upon a pair of artificial legs. After uncovering same, it proves to be a female figure showing a new style of corset. As soon as the window dresser retires a remarkable change takes place in the male dummy. He begins to wink his eyes, his fingers twitch and his arms move in a jerky fashion.

Walturdaw Company.

Visitors to the Palace Theatre on Wednesday and Thursday evenings this week have been greatly interested in witnessing the Walturdaw Company's pictures of the races for the Goodwood Plate and Cup, the films being a particularly beautiful series. The company have sent down some of their most expert operators to Cowes for the purpose of taking pictures of the review of the fleet by the King and of the individual warships. Mr. J. E. Hutton, the winner of the first Brooklands motor race, has very kindly placed special facilities at the disposal of the Walturdaw people by allowing their photographers on board his motor boat. Everything that is of interest will be reproduced by the camera, and we are promised some very attractive numbers, which will be seen at the Palace on Monday.

AMUSEMENTS IN PIETERMARITZBURG.

PIETERMARITZBURG, July 5, 1907.—Scott's Theatre.—The Leonard Rayne Dramatic company is here this week with *The Bondman*. As Jason M. Leonard Rayne presented a thoroughly finished study; Michael Sunlocks was in the capable hands of Mr. A. E. Greenaway; Mr. H. C. Paine made a manly Adam Fairbrother; Mr. E. Burton Seymour as Governor Testa brought out the subtlety of the part; Father Ferratti had an able exponent in Mr. Charles Howitt. As Mrs. Fairbrother Miss Annie Leaf caused much amusement, and was ably assisted by Mr. C. Hermann Pullen as Grandfather. The Greba of Miss Gertrude F. Godart was a complete success. The staging was all that could be desired.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following abridged description is specially compiled for *The Era* by Messrs. Hughes and Young, registered patent agents and engineers, of 55-56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., from whom our readers may obtain information and advice free of charge:—

No. 8,248.—Theatrical appliance. M. Fortuny, 19, Boulevard Berthier, Paris.—This invention relates to a concave background for use on the stage for improving acoustic properties of buildings, and is formed by exhausted air spaces between two sheets of fabric, the inner of which is attached at its edges to a curved framework, the outer being attached to framework concentric with the former. Curved stays are provided to sustain the outer sheet and prevent it from coming into contact with the inner. The stays are attached to a web, so that they may be folded up when the background is not in use, thus enabling it to be drawn up into the flies. The air is exhausted by a fan. As a variation, the sheet can be attached to the walls of the building, utilising the same for the background.

CRICKET.

Hercules XI. v. Mr. S. Salter's "Terriers."

At Champion Hill Grounds on July 26 the Hercules XI. met and defeated Mr. S. Salter's "Terriers." The first four wickets put up a score of 139 runs, thanks to the fine stand by Messrs. Pye and Davis; the remaining wickets fell very cheaply, the collapse being brought about by the fine bowling of Johnson. The Terriers opened their innings disastrously, Davis taking a wicket in his first over, when the score registered 1. The batsmen that followed were none to confident, and only Messrs. Fossey, Barker, and Williams were able to reach double figures. Garbett took four wickets for 28 runs and Davis four for 30. Scores:—Hercules XI.: M. Danagger, 26; C. John, 16; A. Garbett, 10; W. Davis, 53; J. Pye, 30; G. Cook, 13; M. Cohen, 3; N. Smart, 4; A. Wellson, 3 not out; P. Bavin, 0; E. Peachey, 0; extras 8; total, 166. Mr. S. Salter's "Terriers": H. Stebbing, 6; S. Johnson, 0; F. Clements, 8; F. Fossey, 10; F. Barker, 12; B. Williams, 12; W. Dunkley, 1; A. Pearson, 2; Leon Bassett, 2; Tobey, 0; S. Salter, not out, 1; extras 5; total 64.

Kinross, Scotland.

For this fair the following concerns foregathered:—The cinematograph theatres of Mackney, Manders, and King; fistiana and athletic shows of Lavin and Steward; Wilmot's motors; Palmer's swings and shooter; the shooters of Rostron and Dawson; and Strand's varieties.

Mr. Alf. Ball, whose travelling variety show, The New Lyceum, is known throughout the country, has just finished a successful eight weeks' run at Tilbury. The latest acquisition of this enterprising showman is the largest orchestrophone in the world, built by Gariola of Paris, at a cost of £2,500.

This marvellous piece of mechanism plays everything, from grand opera to sacred songs. Last Wednesday and Thursday Mr. Ball devoted the whole of his proceeds to philanthropic purposes, Wednesday to the Protestant and Catholic missions, and Thursday to the Tilbury Cottage Hospital. On each night money was refused at both houses. Mr. Harry Banford, as stage-manager, had plenty to do, as, in addition to his own popular turn, he had the arrangements in hand. In addition to Mr. Ball's own company, consisting of Miss Lucy Gray, Miss Flo Radley, and Mme. Pauline (the smallest serio in the world), the following came over from Gravesend to lend their services to Mr. Ball:—Mr. Percy Wylde, Mr. H. C. Woodrow, Miss Flo Raynor, and Miss Annie Rave. Mr. Ball, jun., ably manipulated the bioscope with several up-to-date and popular films, and the enthusiastic audiences were well satisfied. The champion of Mitcham Fair is to be heartily congratulated on his enterprise.

Messrs. Bostock and Wombwell's No. 1 menagerie visits the Little Roodee, Chester, to-day (Saturday). Good business is sure to result, the show having been well advertised by the agent-in-advance, Mr. Arthur Dashwood. His catch poster, "Have you seen the devil?" has attracted great attention.

The Pavilion, Ventnor, has been recently rebuilt, and the transformation that has been effected is remarkable. The floor is now carpeted, and furnished with richly-upholstered easy chairs, and has the appearance of a large and luxuriously-furnished drawing-room.

Mr. Geo. Kirke, whose luck as a fisherman is still in, had a phenomenal catch last week near Bolton, when he secured one brace of 8½lb., several weighing 2lb. One day's basket alone amounted to over 30lb., and in the five days over 80lb. of fish were landed.

The holiday company at the South London Palace will include Tom Costello, Kahn and Kahn, Billy McClain, May Mars, George Newburn, Prof. Dunning, W. Lee and company, the Athos Troupe, Ruffell's Bioscope, and Alexandra Dagmar.

The Paragon Theatre of Varieties' programme for Bank Holiday includes Harry Lauder, Kitts and Windrum, Charlie Faning, Hughes and Elliott, Nat Clifford, Harry Tate, Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, the Glenroy Troupe, Dandy Victor, Clark and Hamilton, Tom Leamore, Clemart, the Sisters Allen, the Musical Jees, and Joe Elvin.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.
ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 28, Dec. 16, Feb. 10, 17, 24, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 24, March 2, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Dec. 16, Feb. 10, April 6, 13, May 11, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Jan. 27, March 2, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Sept. 16, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9,
Feb. 10, March 2, 9, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 20, Feb. 3, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 10, 24, April 6, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 13, 20, on
(Panto. Required).
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21 (3 nights each),
Xmas week, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for HUDDERSFIELD, Sept. 2;
WOLVERHAMPTON, Sept. 16.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, Sept. 23, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, Dec. 9, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Sept. 9, Oct. 21, Nov. 11, 25, Dec. 9, 16, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Sept. 2, 9, 16, 30, Oct. 7, 21 (three nights only).
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for the week Oct. 28.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions only, THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN, Oct. 21.
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH, Oct. 21, Nov. 28 (three nights).
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON, Nov. 25 (three nights).
Apply,
F. Mouillot, 1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, through transferring to oblige Managers,
First-class Attractions
for weeks of Sept. 2 and 9.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Sept. 2, 30, Oct. 7, and 21 and 28.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, London, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Attraction for Sept. 9, at Court Theatre, Liverpool; Vacant through transferring to oblige. Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, London, S.W.

THE KING'S THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Edinburgh's New Palatial Playhouse.
The Premier Theatre of the Capital.

WANTED, Known, owing to Change of Arrangements, a few early Autumn Dates are available for first-class attractions.
Wire,
R. C. Buchanan,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-Class Companies for Sept. 2 (?), 16,
Oct. 14,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Thos. Swinton.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, Musical preferred, Aug. 26 and Sept. 9. Apply, Hugh Robertson, Jarrow.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Theatre Royal, Jarrow, Musical preferred, for Nov. 4 and 11. Apply, Hugh Robertson, Jarrow.

THEATRE ROYAL, BELFAST.
WANTED, for Sept. 2,
First-class Company.
Apply, Warden.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Musical and other London Attractions, Sept. 9, 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 25, and Xmas Panto. Fred Granville, T. R., Hyde.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION & OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, First-Class Companies. Good supply of Stock Scenery, all the latest improvements in furnishing, lighting, and heating. For full particulars and sharing terms apply W. Payne, Resident-Manager.

WANTED, Attractions Touring Scotland to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, N.B. Vacant dates, apply to Manager, Cameron Burgess.

KING'S HALL THEATRE,
SKEGNESS.
Season now in Full Swing.
WANTED, High-class Dramatic Companies and Variety Combinations,
Aug. 19, and onwards; fast booking.
Share or rental.
Address, H. Lenton (Manager), as above.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Aug. 26.
Wire, Managing-Director, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH.
WANTED, First-class Company, Aug. 19, unexpectedly vacant. Flower Show week.
Moody, Lessee.

PARDOE'S THEATRE, MIDDLETON, LANCS.
WANTED, First-Class Drama, Sept. 2, 16. Good terms for good sound Attraction. Fullest particulars, W. Pardoe, Eden T., Bishop Auckland, co. Durham.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY & RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Sept. 30, on, Grand, Chorley; also Sept. 23, on, Grand, Radcliffe.
Address, Sante, Theatre, Radcliffe.

GRAND THEATRE, NELSON.
WANTED, through disappointment, First-class Company, Musical Show preferred, Aug. 19, Aug. 19. Only Vacant Date this year. Silence a courteous negative. George E. Mudd, Business Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.
The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The Only Theatre in the Town allowed to Advertise on the Electric Cars.
Now in Course of Rebuilding.
The Seating Capacity of each part of the House is being Largely Increased.
The Theatre will Re-open Aug. 5.
Autumn Bookings include "The Dairymaids," Mr. James Welch's Co. in "When Knights Were Bold," Miss Annie Hughes in "Tommy," Mr. Norman Macowan in "Monsieur Beaucaire," "The Little Stranger" (including Master Edward Garrett), "A Trip to the Highlands," Mr. Walter Maxwell's Co., "The Lion and the Mouse" (third visit), Mr. Charles Cartwright and Co., "In the Bishop's Carriage," Mr. Frederick Mouillot's Co., including Miss Decima Moore, in "The Truth," and other of the Principal Attractions Touring. Mr. Percy Hutchison's No. 1 Company, "The Stronger Sex," Mr. Brandon Thomas' No. 1 Company, "Charley's Aunt," Mr. Walter Melville's Drama, Mr. Frank Lindo's "Home, Sweet Home," Mr. Morton Powell's Companies," &c., &c.
WANTED, Exceptional Attractions, for Sept. 2, 16, Nov. 25, Dec. 30, onwards.
Calvert Routledge, H.M.T., Barrow.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
WANTED, Good Companies, three nights per week, throughout the winter season. Good Pantomime required in conjunction with Bridlington. Aug. 29, 30, and 31 Vacant through cancelling of tour.

DUMFRIES AND HAWICK THEATRES.
Wanted, Good Companies, Aug. 19 and 26, three nights each theatre;
Sept. 30, Oct. 21 or 28, Nov. 25, and on.

OPERA HOUSE, DERRY,
Vacant Aug. 26, and on.
W. Payne Seddon, The Spa, Whitby.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
Nov. 11, Dec. 30, Jan. 20, 27.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Dec. 2, 16.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, For Sept. 9, Dec. 2, 16, 30.
Apply,
James Kiernan, Manager and Owner.

CRITERION THEATRE, WORKSOP.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for last three nights of each week; Share or Rental.
S. Goodman, Proprietor.

WANTED, good Companies, three nights each, Aug. 22, 29, and Sept. 5. Xmas Vacant.
Selwyn Theatre, Wisbech.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, sound Attractions, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 16, 30 (?), Nov. 25, onwards. Apply, Sherwood and Co.

PAVILION THEATRE, GRAND PIER, WESTON-SUPER-MARE. Run on popular lines.
Can Stage the largest Production Touring.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Oct. 14 (3 nights) and on, with exceptions. Liberal terms given to right Cos. J. H. Stevenson.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for New Theatre, Consett, for Aug. 26.
Apply, Hugh Robertson, Jarrow.

WANTED, complete Pantomime, for Theatre near London, Dec. 23, Jan. 6, Shares or Certainty; also Musical Comedies or Light Plays. Send full particulars. Fred Durham's Agency, 1a, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres,
Nov. 18, Dec. 2.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23.
Apply,
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 2 and 9.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 12
and Dec. 2 and 23.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Dec. 23.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

FRED MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Nov. 18 and 25.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Dec. 9, 23, 30.
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 30.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 23, Feb. 3, 17, March 2, 23.
Douglas Bruce,
Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, S.E.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 30 and Oct. 28, in First-class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, weeks of Sept. 16 and Dec. 23.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"
and
"THE OCTOROON."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 26, Sept. 2.
The audience was profoundly moved last night, by some of the scenes to unrestrained merriment, by others to tears. No better holiday piece could have been secured.—Birmingham Post.
Charles Harrington, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Aug. 12.
Wire, J. W. Cordiner,
To-day, Theatre Royal, Windsor;
next week, Pier Pavilion, Southend.
See Companies' Advertisement, page 2.

Mrs. ANN HUGHES' CO.
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
the New Comic Opera.
Full cast, including

Miss Hetty Gale.	Mr. Harry Walsh.
Miss Katie Kyrle.	Mr. Leslie Austin.
Miss Marion Lewis.	Mr. Steane Louch.
Miss Kathleen Emmett.	Mr. Edwin Sykes.
Miss Ethel Robertson.	Mr. Leslie Hawkins.
Miss Lily Armstrong.	Mr. Llewellyn C. Hughes.
Miss Maggie Robertson.	Mr. L. A. Kilkenny.

&c.,
and London Opera Chorus of Picked Voices.
The Opera Produced by Mr. Charles Leverton.
Musical-Director, Mr. Alexander Humphreys.
Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.
WANTED, Sept. 16 and 23, and few later.
Communications,
Mrs. Ann Hughes, Aug. 5, T. R., Peterborough.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
Nov. 11, 18, 25.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates,
Sept. 23, 24, 25, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, 25.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth. Bolton.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates,
Sept. 2, 9, 23, Oct. 7, 28, Nov. 11.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Dates,
Oct. 7, 14, Dec. 23, Jan. 6, 13.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"LITTLE OUTCAST."
WANTED, Dates,
Dec. 23, 30, Jan. 6, 13.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. MORTON POWELL
in
a New Play.
WANTED, Dates,
Nothing Vacant till Easter.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE WOMAN WITH THREE HUSBANDS."
WANTED, Dates,
Jan. 6, 13, 20.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Sept. 30, Oct. 7,
Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 16,
Dec. 23, 30.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1908.
Aug. 5, Grand, Brighton.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Oct. 7, Nov. 11 and 25, Xmas and New Year's Week vacant.
Communications to George Kirk,
Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

MR. THOMAS SIDNEY'S CO. in
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, Dates. Mr. Sidney is desirous of filling Aug. 26, Sept., and onward.
Add., Sidney, Pier Pav., Herne Bay (3); Cromer (3).

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE LOVE OF A LIFE."
By Eugene Gotere.
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 16, and on, with exceptions.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
By William Hibbert
Wanted, Aug. 26, Sept. 9,
and on, with exceptions.
John B. Shinton,
Address (Rehearsing), Star Theatre, Liverpool.

"HER MARRIAGE VOW."
"HER MARRIAGE VOW."
WANTED, Sept. 30, to follow Cambridge, Oct. 7, 14, 21.
Managers Invited to Send their Open Dates for this Complete Attraction, Star Cast, Absolutely Everything Carried.
Garside and Knowles, T. R., Blyth.

Miss Winifred Maude's Company,
"THE SINS OF A CITY,"
by Nita Rae.
WANTED, Aug. 26 (follow Alex., Birmingham).
"THE CONVICT,"
by Fred Jarman.
Sept. 2 and 9.
Victor Du Cane,
Hotel St. George, Portland-street, Aberystwyth.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Renowned Attraction, Good Theatres for weeks of
Aug. 26,
Sept. 2, 9,
Oct. 28.
Wire, Renad, 12a, Barnard-road, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for
"THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH,"
Nov. 18 (South), Jan. 20 (Lancashire).
"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL,"
Oct. 7, 14, 21, all Nov.
Address, Ernest Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Aug. 26, and onwards, with exceptions, for Oscar Wilde's Brilliant Play,
"AN IDEAL HUSBAND."
West-End Company.
Ernest E. Norris, T. R., Manchester.

MR. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY.
"THE BEST OF HER SEX."
The Dramatic Success of 1907. A Veritable Triumph Achieved at Theatre Royal, Aston, this week.
Refer to Charles Barnard, Esq.
Miss Dora Price as Vera Delorme.
WANTED, Aug. 19 (between Grimsby and Leicester), Sept. 9 (follow Luton), and onwards, with exceptions. Wire for Aug. 19. William A. Armour, to-day, T. R., Aston; next, T. R., Dewsbury.

"WANTED BY THE POLICE."
WANTED, Sept. 9, 16, Oct. 14, 21, 28, Nov. 4, 18,
Emphatic success of this new Play of Novel Ideas, illustrated by magnificent pictorials and portrayed by an excellent company. Wires, Herbert Barrs, T. R., Cardiff. Letters, Metropole Theatre, Abertillery.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES CO., LTD.
"FAIR ONE WITH GOLDEN LOCKS."
WANTED, Good Theatre, North, Feb. 3 (only vacant date). Stanley Rogers, T. R., North Shields.

"A BROKEN HEART."
WANTED, Big Theatre,
Sept. 2.
Only Vacant Date this Year.
The Greatest of All Domestic Plays.
Harry Foxwell, Dalston Theatre, London, N.E.

"HIS SISTER'S HONOUR,"
by Eva Elwes.
WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, 21, to precede T. R., Leeds; acknowledged everywhere to be one of the finest all-round Dramas now touring.
Wire, E. A'Dell,
Pier Pavilion, Teignmouth, South Devon.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN E. TOMLINSON'S TOUR of Max Goldberg's Oriental Musical Drama,
"SECRETS."
WANTED, Theatres, for Aug. 26, Sept. 9, onwards, with exceptions.
This, Royalty, Barrow; next, Grand, Chorley.

ROSE MONCRIEFF'S CO., "THE CURATE."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 14 and onwards, with exceptions; entire production carried. Add., Newman Maurice, Brixton Theatre, S.W.

"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."
WANTED, Theatres for Oct. 14 (through obliging), Dec. 2 and 9.
Fred Acton, T. R., Edmonton, N.

By arrangement with Mr. George Alexander.
"LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN."
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST,"
by Oscar Wilde.
WANTED, at once, Aug. 19, also Sept. 16 (to follow Royalty, Glasgow), Nov. 4 and 18.
Monckton Hoffe, to-day, Grand, Swansea; next week, Grand, Hull.

"AN UNWEDDED WIFE."
WANTED, Good Theatre, Sept. 30 (through transfer), also Nov. 4 and 11, and Dec. 30.
Rebooked Alex., Hull; Alex., Birmingham; Grimsby, Salford, Aston, Smethwick, West London, Wolverhampton, Sunderland, &c.
J. Edward Whitty, T. R., Batley.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
The Latest Successful Musical Comedy.
Special New Scenery. Gorgeous Costumes.
New Printing by Allen and Sons.
Splendid Cast of Well-known Artists,
including
Mr. Walter Champney,
Mr Ralph Lynn,
Mr. Laurence Wensley,
Mr. Harry Fischer,
Miss Julia Bassett,
Miss Florence Watson, and
Miss Ethel Dunford.
Full London Operatic Chorus,
under the Direction of the Composer,
Mr. Albert E. Wilson.

WANTED, for this Grand Attraction,
Sept. 16, Sept. 16, Sept. 16
Sept. 16, Sept. 16, Sept. 16
(to follow Merthyr);
Also Sept. 23, Sept. 23,
Also Sept. 23, Sept. 23,
Oct. 7, Oct. 7, Oct. 7
Oct. 7, Oct. 7, Oct. 7
(to precede Glasgow).
Managers are requested to see this Attraction at the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, Aug. 5.
All communications,
Hamilton Baines, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

ALFRED B. CROSS' TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"

WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, and Few Later,
"DIVORCED,"
a New Powerful Domestic Drama; also
"DAVID GARRICK,"
if Required. Both Solid Successes.

Prince's, Blackburn, Aug. 5,

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY and
MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO., in
the highly successful Comedy,
"MY WIFE," "MY WIFE,"
Now playing to crowded houses at the
HAYMARKET THEATRE, LONDON.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Sept. 26 (three nights), Sept. 30, Oct. 14 (three nights), and Oct. 28.
Add., Mr. Silvanus Dauncey, 22, Charing Cross, S.W.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY and
MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO., in
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Aug. 19 (3 nights) (North), and Sept. 9 (3 nights) (South).
Add., Mr. Silvanus Dauncey, 22, Charing Cross, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, having Large Stage and Large Holding Capacity, for Production, Christmas and New Year's weeks, of
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Latest and Up-to-date Pantomime,
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
Can play two houses nightly if required.
Only Vacant Dates.
Managers in want of a Money Magnet for these Holiday weeks, secure this Gigantic Attraction.
A Sure Success.
Address,
James Kiddie, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.

WANTED, Managers to note Production of the new Romantic, Irish, Musical Legendary Play,
"ROLLICKING RORY,"
"ROLLICKING RORY,"
on Saturday, Aug. 3, at Theatre Royal, Preston, for seven nights.
Everything on a lavish West End scale.
Gorgeous Scenery and Costumes (the latter embracing two distinct periods, 1798 and 1813).
Fine Plant of Novel and Effective Printing, in striking contrast to anything else on the walls.

Managers are invited to witness this, the greatest Irish production ever sent on Tour.

Only vacant date this year, Nov. 18 (through transfer), between O. H., Blackpool, and T. R., North Shields.
Chalmers Mackey, Theatre Royal, Preston.

"THE VENGEANCE OF WOMEN,"
"THE VENGEANCE OF WOMEN,"
by F. A. Scudamore.

WANTED, for this First-Class Production, Oct. 21, 28, and on.
Scenery, Printing, and Cast second to none.
Address,
F. E. Chabot, Green's Hotel, Paignton, S. Devon.

Second Year of Tour.
"THE BRANDED WOMAN."
"THE BRANDED WOMAN."
MRS. WYBERT CLIVE'S CO.,
including
Mr. FRANK E. PETLEY and Miss LILIAN ROSS.
The Newcastle Daily Chronicle says: The company is fully proficient, the scenic effects are carried out on a gorgeous scale, and it has been the aim of the management to have the dresses and uniforms of the various characters in strict accordance with the custom of the country in which the plot is laid.

WANTED, for this great Attraction, Sept. 2, 9, and 16, and Oct. 7, and Xmas. Apply, Walter Steele, Manager, to-day, Palace, Newcastle; next, Grand, Radcliffe.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, Oct. 21, 28, Xmas.
Fred Bulmer, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
"A SISTER'S SIN."

WANTED, for this Great Attraction, Sept. 2, Sept. 2. Exceptionally strong company; magnificently dressed and mounted. F. G. Kimberley, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Big Theatre, Dec. 23, Stanley Carlton's Co., "A Secret Wedding." Cannot entertain certainties. Refer Mark Lorne, Esq., Mansfield. Address, Gaiety, Burnley.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."

WANTED, Good Theatres,
Sept. 2 and 23,
to follow Theatre Royal, Stratford.
Miss Edith Blande as Ninon.
Harry Foxwell, Dalston Theatre, London, N.E.

JERRARD GRANT ALLEN'S COMPANY,
in a New Play, entitled
"THE KNAVE OF HEARTS,"
By Gladys Unger.

WANTED, Sept. 9, 23, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Grant Allen, His Majesty's T., Dundee.

SIDNEY RENNEF'S COMPANY.
"LOVE RULES THE WORLD," by T. G. Bailey.

WANTED, Theatre, Christmas, and New Year, and Various Dates, onward, for this really Attractive and Wonderful Play; splendid printing; eight special scenes carried. A story of a mother's love and her son's devotion. G. M. Copping, T. R., Yarmouth; next, T. R., Sheffield.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH,"
by F. A. Scudamore.

WANTED, for these sure Attractions, Sept. 9, 23, Dec. 30. Frances Delaval, T. R., Leicester (third visit).

MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S CO.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."

WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, for the above attraction.
Address, Armadale and Warren,
Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour.

WILLIAM HOLLES AND NANNIE GOLDMAN'S CO., in Arthur Shirley's Great Domestic Drama.
"THE STEPMOTHER."

WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 21, 28,
Wire, William Holles,
Empire, Oldham.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."

WANTED, Sept. 2 and 9.
Fred Bulmer, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, for "The Woman Pays," Oct. 14, North, Nov. 11, and Dec. 23.
F. M. Thorne, Prince's Theatre, Preston.

WANTED, Theatres, Stanley Carlton's Co., "A Secret Wedding." Wire for Aug. 26. Everything carried, five full sets. This, Hippo., Mansfield; next, G. T., Burnley.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."

WANTED, Aug. 26 and Sept. 2, various onward dates.
A most desirable Attraction; perfect in detail; crowded with mystic and electric effects.
A plenitude of palms, shrubs, flowers, and cushions.
A powerful, massive two-manual Organ, exhibited, and played upon by Prince Lucio.
Now doing another excellent week at Gateshead.
Spring and Summer Tour has included:
T. R., York; T. R., Belfast;
T. R., Croydon; Grand, Walsall;
T. R., Cardiff; Grand, Blackpool;
T. R., Merthyr; T. R., Tonypandy;
T. R., Hanley; Carlton, Birmingham;
Grand, Hull; Grand, Nottingham;
T. R., Sheffield; T. R., Middlesbro'.
Only three weeks under £150 gross;
only one less than £100.
Managers of First-Class Theatres kindly note.
Most of our dates are booked through the courteous recommendation of one Manager to another.

Emphatic success, financial and artistic, of the Intensely Human Play,
"NANA," the rage of Paris.
Another beautifully-dressed and superbly-acted Production. One or two nights, as desired.
The brilliant young actress,
Miss Rosie Neville, as Lady Sybil, and Nana.

Loie Esmond, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Aug. 5, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow (re-opening).

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.

"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR,"
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

WANTED, through transferring, Oct. 14, for this great Play, only vacant date until New Year's week. Managers who have not witnessed this success are earnestly invited to do so next week.
One of the biggest money-makers touring.
Write, F. G. Kimberley, Grand T., Nottingham.

"SAVED FROM THE SEA."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
Everything carried.
Bookings include Prince's, Portsmouth; Alex., Hull; Court, Warrington; Rot., Liverpool; Col., Oldham; Alex., Sheffield; Met., Devonport; Alex., Birmingham.

WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 9, Xmas Week,
and Spring, 1908, with various exceptions.
Apply, Samuel James,
Warwick House, 8, Warwick-court,
Gray's Inn, W.C.

"THE LOVE THAT LASTS FOR EVER."
By Edward Thane.

WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 4, 18, Dec. 2 (?), Xmas Week.
Clear Stage only required.
Apply,
Samuel James,
as above.

"AS GOOD AS GOLD,"
by Fred S. Jennings.
Past and present bookings include Dalston, West London, Alex., Birmingham, P. O. W., Grimsby, P. O. W., Salford, T. R., Chatham, T. R., Smethwick.
Everything Carried. Clear Stage only Required.

WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 14, 28, Nov. 11, 25, Xmas Week. Apply, Samuel James, as above.

A. J. HARDING and CHARLES R. HANN.
"DELIVERED FROM EVIL,"
Greatest Moral and Social Drama of the Age.
By Frank Dix.
Cast includes
Edgar L. Hocking, William Allison, Sydney Teversham, Leo Whamboult, John Raymond, Rex B. Foote, and
CHARLES R. HANN.
Dorothy Haigh, Nora Hardy,
Nance Nicholls, and
MAUD BUCHANAN.

WANTED, Aug. 26, through obliging, Sept. 9 and on, with exceptions.

Wire, "Harding, Symplub, London."
A. J. Harding,
Bedford Club, Bedford-street, W.C.

JAMES HARE'S MASCOTTE.
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
By Sydney Spenser and Clarence Burnette.
Mounting and uniforms unsurpassed.
The Complete Production travelled.
Enormous Pictorial Plant, including Ten Double-crown Lithos.

WANTED, Aug. 19, Oct. 21, Nov. 11, 18, and Xmas. James Hare, T. R., Ilkeston.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
the great Domestic Drama,
by Frank Lindo.

WANTED, good Theatres, for few remaining dates, vacant Nov. 18 and 25,
only vacant dates this year,
fast filling 1908.
Address
Frank Lindo, O. H., Kidderminster.

WANTED, Sept. 2, 30, Nov. 4, 11, for "Under Two Flags" or "In the King's Name."
Mark Blow, T. R., Nottingham.

WANTED, Theatres, Stanley Carlton's Co., "A Secret Wedding." Vacant Aug. 26, Sept. 9, 23, precede Glasgow, and Dec. 23. Aug. 5, Gaiety, Burnley.

Miss EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANIES.
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."

WANTED, Aug. 12, 19, Oct. 7, on. Most Successful Novelty Drama. Excellent scenery, printing, and company. Stuart Cleveland, O. H., Doncaster.

MESSRS. ELLIMAN'S ENTERPRISES.
"A HEART'S DESIRE."

WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, and several important Autumn and Spring dates, for above production, Christmas and New Year vac. Coms., G. M. Hurst, Gaiety, Leith; or en route.

WANTED, Halls and Theatres, Sept. and on, for Pett's Unrivalled Animated Picture, Sketch, Concert, or Vaudeville Co., combined or separate, No. 1 Company, under the management of Mr. Fred Conway, Comedian and Expert Dancer. This week, Gaiety Theatre, Glasgow; next week, Gaiety Theatre, Dundee. Only large Halls and Theatres recognised. Sharing terms accepted. Per. address, J. M. Pett, 4, Fordel-road, Catford.

WANTED, Theatres and Halls, for the Australian Life-motion Picture Co.; Up-to-date Show, Refined Varieties. Offers. Kardoc, T. R., Dover.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR" CO.

WANTED, Entire Company (with exceptions) for above. Rehearse Aug. 13. Photos., references, absolute lowest terms, &c., to Stuart Cleveland, Opera House, Doncaster.

WANTED, Company, including good Chambermaid and Comedian; both sing and dance; with good refs. Also Bioscope Operator, with own machine and films; change weekly. F. H. Neville, 12, Bridport-street, Liverpool.

"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."

WANTED, for above, Lady, young and thoroughly expereinced, for Violet Meadows (title-rôle), must have trained voice and used to Musical Comedy. State correct age, height, enclosing last two refs. (which will be applied for), photos. (with stamped envelope for return), lowest terms, and address for next three weeks, to J. W. Cordiner, Pier Pavilion, Southend.

WANTED, Gentlemanly Heavy, Intense Character Heavy, Juvenile Lead (Clergyman), and clever Child (over 14), for good Company and long Tour. State qualifications and lowest terms. Address, Box 5,215, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman (joint), for Juvenile and Business Management; lady must be tall and dark, gentleman of good address and business capacity; both must be experienced, and dress well. Good salary and long engagement to suitable people. Address, Box 5,216, "The Era."

ARTISTS WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, First-class Juvenile Leading Man, for Jack Halyard; also First-class Heavy Leading Actor; through disappointment.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A WOMAN'S PAST."

WANTED, First-class Juvenile Gentleman, tall. Photos. (essential), terms, references, &c., Warden and Sandford, Hotel Metropole, Blackpool.

WANTED, two weeks, Aug. 19 and 26, (Provincial Music Halls), possibly longer, good Actor for Fussy Gentleman; must find smart summer suit; Bright Little Lady for Boy's part; Pretty, Tall Girl (with fashionable summer frock), to walk on. Terms, photos., &c. (letters only), Hodgson and Lowther, 4, Rushcroft-house, Rushcroft-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Gentleman, for Captain Leo, in "Village Blacksmith," tall, robust, heavy, rehearse Mon., 5th, near London. Particulars, Maggie Morton, Twickenham.

WANTED, good Gentlemanly Heavy (very strong part) and young Responsible Actor, to look 18. Helene Forest, 50, Elsham-road, Kensington, W.

WANTED, a tall Lady and Gentleman, to play Juvenile Leads in Military (Costume) Sketch for a few weeks; joint not objected. Letters, W., 132, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, for Sketch, rehearse London, Aug. 12, tall Juvenile Baritone, powerful voice; good knockabout Page; experienced man for Sultan and Comedy parts. Photos., particulars, Peterman, T. R., Edinburgh.

WANTED, for New and Original Musical Sketch, Powerful Dramatic Soprano or Mezzo; good voice and fine presence essential. Terms, height, age, experience, &c., to Box 5,203, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Tour of Well-known London Actor; a few Amateurs can be received in above Répertoire Co. Box 5,140, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman to Walk On, Understudy, and play Small Parts. Norman V. Norman, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

WANTED, immediately, several Ballad Vocalists (ladies), young, good voices. State range, age; send photo., lowest terms; long engagement if suitable. Manager, 1, Upper Duke-street, Manchester.

WANTED, really good Soprano, young and pretty essential; also good Baritone, must be used to Concerteds. Harry Marvello, Sole Proprietor, Tower Pavilion, Portobello, N.B.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by G. Leslie Buxton, Character Actor, drama or panto.; can combine acting-management. 98, Park-road, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Known, Mr. William D. Vincent, Tenor, at Liberty, Concerts, &c., Town or Seaside. 167, Tachbrook-street, Belgrave-road, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Edmund Sharp, Baritone, at Liberty, Concerts, &c., Town, Provincial, or Seaside. 162, Buckingham Palace-road, S.W.

WANTED, by a Gentleman, well up in Concert Work, a berth with first-class firm; exceptional abilities. Apply, Box 5,198, "The Era."

Wouldn't mind if he danced on my feet.

WANTED, Known, Young Man just completing prolonged course of Grotesque Dancing under private tuition of one of the best known past masters of the Art desires Engagement, Musical Comedy or Panto.
Apply, Box 5,189, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to Knson Trueman, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists, Principals, Chorus, and Specialities, for "SINBAD" and "WHITTINGTON" Tours. Xmas to Easter inclusive. Must send photo. Age, height, refs., and full particulars, to Harry Joseph, Pagoda, Littlehampton.

JAZON'S PANTOMIMES,
"ALADDIN," "CINDERELLA," and "CRUSOE."

WANTED, Artists Vacant for Next Season to communicate. Photos., references, and lowest terms. Also 100 Chorus Ladies.
Edwin C. Jazon, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.
Telegrams, "Stienberg." Telephone, 0494.
Mark envelopes, "Panto."

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Chorus, for Pantomime. Apply, New Mus. Com. and Concert Artistes' Agency, 16, Green-street, Leicester-square. (See Agents' Column.)

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Panto., Engagement, by Mark Daly, Scotch Comedian. Add., c/o Geo. Royle's Troubadours, Victoria Pier, Blackpool.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, with own brushes, to touch up Scenery. Terms, &c.,
Fred Eustace, Hippodrome, Poplar.

WANTED, Quick Assistant, for Architectural Work. State wages, and apply,
Fred Bryer, 45, Oriel-street, Liverpool.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Engagement, Scenic Artist, First-class references; late T. R., Plymouth, Oldham, &c. Pedgeon, 22, Hoe-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, town or provinces. Refs. Address, 40, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, to paint Scenery to enhance the attractions of your productions. See "For Her Sake," "World's Great Snare," &c. Carlyle Scenic Studio, W. B. Robinson, 170, King's-rd., S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE NEW PALACE, READING.

WANTED, to open September, experienced Stage-Manager and Carpenter. Apply, G. Howard Watson, c/o Stanhope and Co., 12, Buckingham-st., Strand, London.

WANTED, for Peterborough Hippodrome, good Stage-Manager, Window-Biller, able to use brush; also good Electrician and useful Staff.
Apply,
stating lowest wage, to
T. M. Sylvester, 217, Piccadilly, London.

WANTED, a Smart, Up-to-date Agent, for Musical Comedy Tour of about ten weeks, engagement to begin Aug. 19. State age, lowest terms, and last two references. An abstainer preferred. Address, Cooke, Grand Theatre, Nottingham. Silence a negative.

WANTED, smart Clerk and Bookkeeper (shorthand and typewriting essential), used to Music Hall or Theatre. Apply, stating age, references, experience, and salary required, to A. E. Pickard, Britannia, Glasgow.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, to open Aug. 19, a first-class Electrician.
Address, Warden, Theatre Royal, Belfast.

WANTED, Carpenter, for Tour
Full particulars to
Mr. R. A. Roberts, Empire, Coventry.

WANTED, for Fit-up Tour, open Sept. 9, week towns, Baggage Man, assist with fit-up and generally; single and steady preferred. Lowest terms, ref., Rochester, 13, Kelvedon-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Billposter, steady High-ladderman. Apply, giving reference, The General Billposting Co., Ltd., Clayton-street West, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, at once, a good Window-Biller, used to the brush, a week in a town.
R. Silvester, Assembly Rooms, Cork.

WANTED, a Young Man as Check-taker, Window-Biller, and to make himself useful, for the Pier Pavilion, Bognor. Benson, Lessee.

WANTED, Engagement, Acting or Resident Management, Young, Smart, Experienced, all Branches, Expert Accountancy, Bars, Highest References. Box 5,181, "The Era."

WANTED, by Electrician (9½ years' electrical experience), Engagement with Travelling Company or Theatre plant; excellent references. Electrician, 52, Chasefield-road, Tooting.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Master Carpenter, Theatre, Music Hall or Tour, by Practical Bench Hand; 20 years' expereince; first-class references. Taylor, 45, Kingston-road, Ilford.

WANTED, Engagement, Carpenter, four years Chas. Frohman's Companies, bench hand, resident or tour. S. Barnes, 39, Upcerne-road, Chelsea.

WANTED, Known, Amy Samwells, First-Class Wardrobe Mistress, shortly at Liberty. Address, care of Madam Hina, 1, Prima-road, Brixton, London.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, good reliable Young Leader, for J. Bannister Howard's "Belle of Mayfair" Co.; open Aug. 12. Apply, terms, references, age, G. B. Williams, this week, Guernsey; next, Opera House, Jersey.

WANTED, First-Class Conductor, Chorus and Show Ladies, for Pantomime. Photos, references, &c., to Ernest Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

THE NEW PALACE, READING.

WANTED, Musical Director, to open September. Apply, G. Howard Watson, c/o Stanhope and Co., Buckingham-st., Strand, London.

WANTED, at once, through disappointment, Musical Director (Vio), for New Pavilion, Abertillery. Terms and particulars, E. Price, Manager. Commence Monday, 5th.

WANTED, for the Peterborough Hippodrome, good Musical-Conductor, one not afraid of work; must be well up in the Variety business.
Apply,
with terms,
T. M. Sylvester, 217, Piccadilly, London.

WANTED, Musical Conductor, for a First-Class Provincial Variety Theatre, and also one for the Alhambra, Brussels; must speak French and English. Apply by letter to Thos. Barrasford, 11, Leicester-place, W.C.
Envelopes marked "Orchestra."

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.

WANTED, First Violins, Viola, Drummer, First and Second Cornet, Trombone, Flute, Clarionet, Bass.
All must be First-class.
To commence Aug. 5.
Apply by wire,
Sidney Arthur,
Palace and Hippodrome, Cardiff.

WANTED, for the Hippo., Darlington, open Sept. 2, First Violin, Bass, and Solo Cornet; must be first-class in Varieties. Address (letter marked "Orchestra"), Signor Pepi, Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, for Hamilton's Excursions, to commence Brixton, Aug. 26, First Violin and Solo Cornet, must be reliable. Eccleston, 286, New Hall-lane, Preston.

WANTED, for Poole's Myriorama, to commence Devonport, Monday, First Violin, salary 30s., for long Tour; must assist fittings and wear evening dress. Wire, Poole, Public Hall, Devonport.

WANTED, First Violin, to open at once. Terms and references to
Lloyd Clarance, New Theatre, Consett.

WANTED, a Second Violin, used to the Music Hall Business. Apply, stating references, &c., to D. J. Clarke, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First Violin and Viola, for few weeks. State absolute lowest terms. Open Monday. W. Russell, 37, Rainbow-hill, Worcester.

WANTED, Cornet, Violin, Double Bass, Flute, Piccolo, all to open Monday next, Llandudno; useless to apply unless thoroughly experienced. State age and salary. Wire to Manager, 3, Drury-lane, Liverpool.

WANTED, a thorough good Solo Cornet. Terms, 32s. 6d. Join at once; temperate man preferred. Address, Presto, G.P.O., Cinderford. Sat., Coleford, Mon.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Dublin, Solo Cornet, to open Aug. 12. Apply, with references, to John Moody, Musical Director.

HOWARD AND WYNDHAM'S THEATRES, GLASGOW.

WANTED, two Solo Cornets; only first-rate men need apply to Alfred Carpenter, Managing Musical-Director, King's Theatre.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Cornet Player; must be well up in variety business. Write salary required, references, C. B. Fountaine, Royalty Theatre, Chester.

WANTED, First-class Military Solo Cornet, London Parks, play every day. Highest character required. State age, late regiment, Box 5,217. "The Era."

WANTED, Cornet and Violinist, used to Variety business, open Sept. 9, fit-up tour, week towns; evening dress and assist generally; single and steady preferred. Lowest terms, ref., Rochester, 13, Kelvedon-road, Fulham.

WANTED, for Town Band, Cornet, Clarionet, Euphonium, and Drums, competent and steady men; shares, permanent. Phillips, Richmond-avenue, Southend, Essex.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.

WANTED, Good First Cornet,
to Open Aug. 5;
must be thoroughly experienced in variety business.
Wire, Conductor.

HIPPODROME, BLACKPOOL.

WANTED, for Monday next, competent Clarionet, to open at once, from Aug. 5 to end of September. Apply immediately to T. Campbell, Musical-Director. State lowest terms.

WANTED, good Clarionet, Second Violin; must be steady and used to Variety Bus. Lowest terms, &c. Chas. A. White, Pavilion, Greenock.

WANTED, Double Bass (combine Bombardon), also Drums and Effects, for Tenting Season. Apply, Auguste Denton, Mus. Dir., 86, Victoria-st., Grimsby.

WANTED, String Bass, commence at once, six weeks' engagement; 5 hours daily, no Sundays. Wire to Conductor, Esplanade Band, Rothesay, Scotland.

WANTED, Reliable Bass Player.
Apply, letter, Theatre Royal, Windsor.
Wires, Conductor, Bedford, Camden Town, N.W.

WANTED, at Once, French Horn, four weeks, Council Band, small military; must be competent. Terms, refs., Bellerby, Denebolme, Ilkley.

WANTED, to commence early in October, a Good 'Cello Player, thoroughly experienced in symphony concert work, thirty-two weeks' engagement. Apply, with references, to
Mr. Dan Godfrey,
Musical Director, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Viola, any Business; experienced. Disengaged Aug. 3.
Harry Oldfield, 10, Neate-street, Camberwell.

WANTED, 'Cellist, to open Aug. 5. Wire lowest terms for permanency. Drama.
Harding, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes, Lancs.

WANTED, for one week, Aug. 5, 'Cello, Flute, Cornet, Trombone, Drums, 50s. each and fare.
Val Marriott, Pier, St. Leonards.

H. M. THEATRE, DUNDEE,
Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur.

WANTED, for Aug. 5, competent Flautist, permanency to capable performer. Apply, stating age, references, and terms, to H. Everitt Losebt, Musical-Director.

WANTED, good Flute and Piccolo and Pianist, used to Variety, open Empire, Greenock, Aug. 19; references. Maitland Lacey, 14, Russell street, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

WANTED, Flautist, Trombone, to open Aug. 19; other instrumentalists required for the Circuit. Apply, stating age, terms, references, to Director of Music, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Drums, for Pool and Boscoe's Electric Coliseum, Tenting, 32s. 6d. weekly; open Aug. 13. Sat., Lahinch; Mon., Ennistymon; Tues., Lisdoon Varna. Apply, Finch, Leader.

WANTED, at Once, Double Drums and Effects, 'Cello, and Bassoon Player. Address, Manager, Hippodrome, Manchester, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Musicians, Musical Duties Only, String Players and Pianists, for White Star Mediterranean Service (single men preferred). State age, experience, and names and addresses of two references for character and ability. Engagements commencing Aug., Sept., and Oct., for about 10 or 12 months. Also a Few Vacancies on Cunard and White Star North Atlantic Service in Sept. and Oct. Permanencies. Mr. Charles Wm. Black, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

JOHN H. TOMKINSON'S ROYAL GIPSY CO.

WANTED, for season 1906-7, commence September, Lady Musicians, Violin, Cornet, Trombone, and Flute. Address, Tomkinson, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, the finest Bands, Hungarian, &c., to communicate with Harry Marvello, Sole Proprietor, Tower Pavilion, Portobello, N.B.

WANTED, Full Band, to Open next Monday, Aug. 5. Wire, lowest terms, Conductor Parks, Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM, FULBOURN, near CAMBRIDGE.

WANTED, three Male Attendants and Bandsmen, Pianist, Bombardon, and First Violin players preferred. Apply, stating age and height, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to the Medical Superintendent, at the Asylum.

WANTED, Full Orchestra, open Monday next. Wire, Swingler,
Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street,, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A Grateful Musician.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, Philip Germann, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Bandmaster, about to take his discharge from the Service, would be pleased to accept similar position in Volunteer, Police, Institute, School, or Works Band; extensive experience reed, brass, and orchestral combinations. Excellent references and testimonials.
Bandmaster, H.M.S. Africa, Channel Fleet.
Perm. Add., Bandmaster, 9, Doric-st., Cambridge.

WANTED, Engagement, by Well-known Musical Director, Violin, Composer, Arranger, at Liberty after Aug. 10. Apply, Box 5106, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Mr. Arthur Tate, Musical-Director (Piano), Liberty Aug. 12, concluding "Casey Court" Co. This, Empire, Nottingham; next, Empire, Newcastle.

WANTED, Engagement, Conductor or First Violin, any business, would teach Orchestral Band, where light employment found. Box 5,194, "The Era."

WANTED, by a First-Class Musical Director, from well-known Music Hall; highest references; London engagement preferred. Box 5,193, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, C. Wareham, Disengaged, late Leader, the Metropolitan, the Granville; Conductor, Richmond Theatre. Violin, Viola, Piano. 47, Black Lion-lane, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Well-known Conductor (violin), experienced all branches; also pianist; together or separate. Conductor, 141, High Albert-rd., Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Engagement, by Conductor or Pianist, al fresco or tour, any business. Wire, Lennox, Gt. Yarmouth; next, 115, Hanley-rd., N.

WANTED, Known, good Violinist, open for Engagement, First or Second; aged 23. Address, stating salary, G. Wharton, 7, Rillington-street, Armley, Leeds.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement or Deputising; young. Write, Violinist, 6, Sharples Hall-street, Regent's Park-road, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Violin and Viola Player, theatre, music hall, or deputising. Good refs. J. C. Jones, 44, College-st., Southampton.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Violinist; also Lady Pianist, combine other instrument. Highest refs., experienced all lines. Box 5,206, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, commencing September, Manchester district preferred; no Variety Work; can play Trumpet. C. Horkheimer, Peak Hydro, Buxton.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet (good), Military or String; sober and reliable; good refs.; disengaged Aug. 10. Address, Clarionet, 9, St. Paul's-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Situation as Clarionet, Dis. Aug. 5; 3 years Hippodrome. F. W. Butler, 43, Over-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, First-Class Clarionet, terminating season Leamington; could open Monday; thoroughly experienced; highest refs. Clarke, Lonsdale Band, Leamington.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Double Bass (4 strings), any Business; good refs; London or district. Vincent, 18, Fawcett-street, Chelsea.

WANTED, Known, good Double Bass; experienced in all Branches; Disengaged. Alex. Cooke, 6, Albert-mansions, Wirtemberg-street, Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Henry Levy, Double Bass, at Liberty for Theatre or Music Hall, undeniable references. 51, Grosvenor-street, Hull.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, good Bassoonist, Open for Engagement, aged 21. Address (with salary given), W. Wharton, 7, Rillington-street, Armley, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement by Double Bass, experienced in Theatre and Variety; refs. Address, Basso, 67, Albion-street, Halton, Hastings.

WANTED, by competent Trombonist, through disappointment; any Bus.; can join at once. George Nicks, 38, High-street, Ilfracombe, N. Devon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, steady and reliable; any business.
Trombone, 11, Como-road, Forest Hill, S.E.

WANTED, by Solo Euphonium, Engagement, Seaside, from 4 to 6 weeks; available Monday, Aug. 5. Parks, 9, Queen-street, Cirencester.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. Cassells, 37, Great Percy-st., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, by Lady 'Cellist, Engagements; experienced. Address, L. F. S., 133, Greenlanes, Clissold Park, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cello Player, good Artist; highest references; town.
F. D., 29, Addison-gardens, W.

WANTED, by 'Cello, thoroughly experienced, engt. as deputy, or for special weeks, opera, variety, or dram. Benson, Darlington-st., Wigan.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement by High class Oboeist, Theatre Experience, Total Abstainer. State Terms. Oboe, 59, King-street, Peterhead.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboeist. State terms.
W. Oakes, 31, Westminster-road, Chorley, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, with Oboe, used to Theatre and Music Hall. Terms and particulars to Gibbins, 76, Church-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, sharp or flat pitch; Orchestral or Solo. Colonieu, 31, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, N.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Arthur Creighton, Pianist, Disengaged; Variety or Classical; experienced; dep. or perm.; London district. Refs. 170, Walworth-road.

WANTED, a Berth in good Provincial Town, as Manager to a Piano and Music Firm; good Pianist, energetic man, life abstainer, married, 34, used to large business; Concert Work a Speciality. Splendid references. Apply, Box 5,199, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Pianist, by young Lady; good accompanist. Address, Miss B. Martin, 30, Huntsmoor-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Miss Constance Upstone, Solo Pianist and Accompanist. Tom Morton, Esq.'s, Company, "The Tourists." Aug. 5, De Valence Gardens, Tenby.

WANTED, by Soprano, Pianist, thoroughly experienced, recognised Artist, Engagement. Money sure, £2 2s. weekly. Attractive appearance. References, &c., Box 5208. "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer, in every Business. Thrawl-street, Block F 134, Commercial-street, E.

WANTED, Known, the Red Rose Orchestra (Manton-Myatt Family), just concluded eight months' close booking on the Continent; brilliant success, and offers of return engagements in every town visited, with highest references from first-class hotels; finish present season engagement October.

Permanent address,
28, Rosendale-road,
West Dulwich.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, Quartet disengaged autumn. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Engagement, by really good Orchestra of 14, for Concert, Drama, Variety. Up-to-date Library. Address, Box 5,170, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S
ROYAL CIRCUS,
EDINBURGH.

WANTED, for the Forthcoming Winter Season, Riders (ladies and gentlemen), Performing Horses, Gymnasts (Aerial), Acrobats, Clowns (with new entrées), Leader and Full Orchestra, Grooms with own boots and breeches, experienced Circus Property Man, and First-class Scenic Artist; also Wardrobe Mistress and thoroughly experienced Bill Inspector.
Wanted, Strong Top of Bill Turns. All Artists must be new to Edinburgh.
Silence a polite negative pro tem.
Address, 1, Lochrin-place, Edinburgh.

WANTED, for Sloan's Hippodrome, Guernsey, Riders, Bar Performers, Acrobats, Lady and Gentleman Singers, also a First-class Cinématograph; can open Monday; gas, not electric. Boats can be caught Southampton and Weymouth, 12.30 Saturday night. Artists need not lose time coming or going. Please state lowest terms in first letter. Address as above.

GILLENO'S CIRCUS, WHITE CITY,
MANCHESTER.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines of Circus business, now and later. Dates and lowest to Manager, Chas. Powell.

WANTED, good Knockabout Clowns, Benders, Posturers, Acrobats, Jugglers, useful Ground Acts, for Fair business. Terms low. Dennis, Circus, Hunslet, Leeds.

WANTED, for Small Gala, near Chesterfield, Aug. 14, Bar Performers, Gymnasts, Comedians; those doing double acts preferred. Wood, caterer, Whitehall-road, Bristol.

WANTED, Young Man, to Clown to Three-bar Act. Everything found.
State all particulars, Box 5213, "The Era."

WANTED, Bearer, Hand to Hand Work; also Youth, Hand Balancer, about 7st. 10, Ashgrove, Clifton-road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, a Young Man, sixteen to twenty, with knowledge of tumbling. All particulars, salary, &c., Box 5,212, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Man, as Second Mounter, for Acrobatic Business; smart Amateur as Improver might suit. Particulars to Box 5,195, "The Era."

WANTED, for Dog Show, a Groom, used to Dogs;
able to load and unload on rail
(without baggage-men);
sobriety indispensable, combined with
attention to business and civility.
This is a working groom's job.
Money always to time.
Particulars and wages, letters only to
Taylor, 19, Sea View-terrace, Sheerness-on-Sea.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Stage or Ring, Tudor's Four Educated Ponies, Aug. 5, Albert Palace, Canning Town. Agents should see this Act. Address, W. Tudor.

WANTED, Known, Lady Sylvia Martin, La Belle Equestrienne, with her wonderful Horse and Dogs, free (owing to mistake in booking) Bank Holiday week. Wire, Alhambra, Brighton.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes, Comedy Musical Comedian, Talking Knockabout Clown, free Aug. 12, home or abroad. Wire, Palace, Rhyl (third week).

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Knotella, Contortionist, Dancer, Liberty Fêtes, Galas, A. B. H., onward. Wire, 208, Wandsworth Bridge-road, Fulham.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, Lady Contortionist, Monday, Aug. 5, 26, Sept. 16, 23. Wire 62, Queen's-road, Hastings.

WANTED, Aug. 5, 12, and 19, the Alton Trio, contortionists; and Tella and Gardelle, gymnasts. Wire, 6, Victoria Pk.-rd., Hackney, London.

WANTED, by a refined young Girl, at Liberty to join good Troupe, has a knowledge of Trapeze, Wire-walking, and a knowledge of Trick Cycling, height 4ft. 10in., weight 7st. 4lb.; good figure and smart appearance. Violet Millar, 287, Kennington-road, Kennington.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, good Tumbler and Head Balancer, for Troupe, Sketch, or Partner. W. Delevanti, Eib Battenberg, Leipzig, Germany.

WANTED, Engagement by smart Acrobat; would join first-class Troupe Second Mounter, can Tumble, at Lib. F. Casino, 107, Middle-street, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Engagement, as Horse-Trainer or Stud Groom; 18 years with Prof. Crocker's Educated Horses. Wire or write, W. Utteridge, 33, Gladstone-street, New Hebburn, Durham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and HIPPODROME, BARRY DOCK.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.
No wires, please.
Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, all kinds Variety Artists. Will see any Artists working if time sent. Richard Cass's Agency, 9, Mundania-rd., Peckham.

SCARBOROUGH.

WANTED, Monday, Aug. 12, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to Kitchingman, Aquarium.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
SHIPLEY, YORKS.

WANTED, Variety Artists (Doubles doing singles), Novelties, Specialities. Absolute lowest terms from October, onwards. Popplewell and Illingworth.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Aug. 12 and onwards.
A. E. Pickard, Britannia, Glasgow.

HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY,
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, for Glasgow, Greenock, and district, Star Artists in all Lines,
Empire, Greenock, Reopens Aug. 19.
Big Tops Wanted for November, December.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Glasgow Concerts. State absolute lowest. The Scottish Musical Agency, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms.
Anderson's Agency, 5, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards. Apply, Mr. J. J. Scott,
Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, Two Weeks, Aug. 5, 19, 26, Sept. 2. Charles A. James, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin. Good Living Freaks open at once.

JAZON'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Artists and Novelties, all Lines, immediate dates, Windsor, West Bromwich, Cradley Heath, Sheffield, Barnsley, Manchester, &c. List of bookings and absolute lowest terms, Jazon, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
31, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED.—First-class Artists in all Lines are invited to communicate for immediate and future Dates and Forward Full List of Bookings.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.

WANTED, Artists, suitable for Concert Platforms, three Halls, one night only, Saturdays. Vacant dates and lowest terms to Wm. Biggam, 126, Rottenrow, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, Monday, people doing two Acts, for Cavalry and Army Service Theatres, brougham found. State when last here. Wire, Baker, 41, Union-street, Aldershot.

WANTED, First-Class Artists only, for First-Class Variety Theatres, immediate and future Dates, also Pantomime. Jess Verno's Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone 2076 Royal. The Four Ferganas please wire address.

WANTED, Greatest Artists in the Profession, to send full bookings, terms, lithos. Can find you work. W. Ainsworth, 72, Palmerston-terrace, Middlesbrough.

BEACH PAVILION, ABERDEEN.

WANTED, Artists for this handsome new Pavilion, twice daily (not open air), to join David Thomson's Pavilion Entertainers; must be clever and refined. David Thomson, 47, Union-grove, Aberdeen.

WANTED, for the New Tivoli, Hillsbro', Sheffield, Artists, all Lines, Aug. 12 on, twice nightly. Hall small. Terms must be in accordance. All correspondence to Burton's Agency, 5, Milner's-chambers, Fargate, Sheffield.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.

WANTED, small and good Turns in all Lines coming North now and on to write me, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Sensational Novelty Turns that can Draw, Scientific Boxer capable of competitions, Aug. 26, onwards. Forsyth, Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED, Star Turns only; early dates.
Geo. Aytoun,
120, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.
Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1949 Hop.

WANTED, for Paris, Marseilles, Nice, Entire Season of 1907-8,
the Biggest Acts in the Profession.
Nothing too big.
Must be first-class,
and new for above.
Particulars, with lithos., vacant dates,
apply to C. Cliquot,
Empire Theatre, Cradley Heath.

WANTED, to open Monday next and onwards, good Speciality Acts, with drawing powers, suitable for Al Fresco. Wire lowest terms, Sutherd and Hall, Entertainers, Ramsgate. Good Act can open Monday.

WANTED, for Gloucester, Porth, Worcester, Barry Dock, Abertillery, Variety Acts, must have Full Bookings, Towns. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

GAIETY THEATRE, BLYTH.

WANTED, for Various Dates, First-class Novelty Acts; share or salary; Variety Combinations, &c. G. E. Good, 10, Marine-avenue, Whitley Bay.

WANTED, for Aug. 12,
Specialities for Al Fresco.
Pulo write, Claude North, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Small Speciality, Monday next, North; also Good Bioscope, Aug. 8, 1½ hours' show. Smalley, Black Horse Inn, Tudhoe, Spennymoor.

WANTED, Three or Four Small Specialities, Gala, Aug. 14, near Liverpool. Address, Smalley, Black Horse Inn, Tudhoe, Spennymoor.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address next week, 100, Rochdale-road, Middleton, Manchester. After, "Era" Office, Luis Hardt, Rebla, Eno, Boston Twins, Tom Moore, Merriman, write.

PALACE T. OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.

WANTED, Aug. 12, on, Novelties, Continental Specialities, Serios, Comedians, Comedy Double Acts (doing singles). Lowest terms, lithos. (if any), Wm. B. Bostock, General-Manager.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
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WANTED, Artists and Agents to Note.

All Contracts
on Behalf of the Above Company
will in future be signed by
Mr. S. T. Newsome,
who alone is authorised to sign.
Artists Holding Contracts
are requested to apply immediately
for Confirmation of Dates
to
S. T. Newsome,
Hippodrome,
Coventry.

N.B.—All Bill Matter to be addressed to
The Manager,
Hippodrome,
Coventry.

HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Big Specialities, Jugglers, Novelties, Ballad Vocalists, &c.

Lowest terms
and
open time.

233, Kennington-road.

COLISEUM, ABERYSTWYTH.

WANTED, Special Attractions, for Aug. 19 and 20, Sept. 12, 13, 14. Wire, Phillips.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Top Liners, for Glasgow, write me at once, I can book you where others fail. Remember the man on the spot. 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, big Tops, bigger the better, for Sept. 2, 16, and 30 (North). Full bookings, &c., to Frank Lynne, Empire, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, for the New Hippodrome, Peterborough, opening Sept. 2, Variety of every description, good Comedians, Comediennes, Comic Sketches, Specialities, Animal Shows, and Sensational Attractions, good Musical Conductor, Stage Manager, Electricians, and General Staff, including good Window-Billers, must be able to use brush.

Notice to Artists: When stating terms, please note Peterborough is a small town, and big salaries cannot be entertained.

Other Halls are shortly coming under the same management, and Artists who favour Peterborough shall have first preference in other places.

Address,
T. M. Sylvester,
217, Piccadilly,
London.

WANTED, Variety or Pierrot Combinations for Al Fresco Performances at Wardown Park, Luton, Aug. 12, onwards; Sharing Terms only. E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, smart All-round Dancers, for London Troupe, immediately. Letters only, Geo. Norman, 10, Brighton-terrace, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, an Acrobatic Dancing Girl, about 5ft. high; long engagement, good wages. Apply, 14, Yerbury-road, Holloway, London, N.

Exceptional Offer.

WANTED, Amateur Lady or Gent.; good part in Big Sketch; tuition given; premium £50, paid back as salary £2 per week; best Halls.
A. Hurley,
Middlesex Varieties, Drury-lane, London.

WANTED, Lady Vocalist, for masked al fresco business; age about 30, good appearance. Box 5,219, "The Era."

WANTED, for Dare's Minstrels, Colwyn Bay, good Comedian; also Tenor and Specialities. Lowest terms, &c., to Charles Dare, Empire, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, for Chittock's Empire of Varieties, Portable, a Smart Comedian, do single and double turns, and work in Sketches; Hampstead Heath for Bank Holiday, Welsh Harp, Hendon, to follow.
Show Turns' fares paid to Hendon.

WANTED, a smart, genuinely Funny Comedian,
for a Music-Hall Sketch;
must be able to Tumble and Whistle.
Only those working need apply,
with full particulars, where they can be
seen performing, &c.,
to Box 5,210, "The Era."

"SWISS EXPRESS" CO.

WANTED, at Once, a First-class Knockabout Pantomimist. Full particulars and terms to C. and F. Renad, 12a, Barnard-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, good Comic Singer, two Lady Dancers and Singers, and Ventriloquist, for Hancock's Coliseum, to open at once; long engagement if suitable. Write or wire lowest terms to E. B. Jarvis, Manager, Hancock's Exhibition, Exeter.

WANTED, Baritone and Contralto, Sentimental and Humorous, by a Manufacturing Firm of Talking Machines who wish to obtain Records from First-class Artists.
State terms to "Disc,"
c/o Browns, 17, Tothill-street, Westminster.

WANTED, for Fit-up Tour, open Sept. 9, week towns, Gentleman to do two distinct Acts; drawing powers and refinement necessary.
Lowest terms, ref.
Rochester, 13, Kelvedon-road, Fulham.

WANTED, good cheap Comic Singer, open Monday next, Aug. 5, six shows, Theatre Royal, Darlington. Wire or write, Elkin Danson.

WANTED, good Humorists, Double Turns, and really Funny Comedians, Al-fresco Band Stand. Write or wire, Forsyth, Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED, good Al-fresco Comedian and Brilliant Soubrette; good voice. State ages, rep., photos.; refinement essential. Melville, Rathbone Gardens, Portobello.

WANTED, Boys, age 14 to 15, good voices necessary,
Apply,
Emma Don,
42, Western-road,
Ealing.

WANTED, Bioscope, commence Saturday, twice nightly; salary or share; Al-fresco; must have resistances for 460 volts. Pollinta's Marionettes, Waxworks, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Operator, for Fit-up Tour, open Sept. 9, week towns, supply own Machine, Sheet, up-to-date Films, Iron House, supply own gas or electric when required, forty minutes' show, able to do turn, single and steady preferred. Lowest inclusive terms, ref., Rochester, 13, Kelvedon-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Bioscope Operators, experienced lime and electric, at once. John C. Robertson and Co., 11, Wemyss-place, Glasgow.

WANTED, an Operator, at once, used to electric, gas, and ether saturator, a week in a town. R. Silvester, Assembly Rooms, Cork.

WANTED, Operator, with own Machine, latest films, cylinders, &c., open about Aug. 26. Reply, with lowest terms, &c., to Chas. Jackson, 40, West View-rd., Barrow.

WANTED, Operator, with own Machine and Films, to travel with cinématograph show; also a Knockabout, to make himself useful. Only those used to the business need apply. State terms and particulars.
T. Ward, 1, Osborne-road, New Brompton, Kent.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lolo, Charming Lady Gymnast and Teeth Speciality Artist; also Little May, in her graceful Contortionist and Acrobatic Dances; all silver-plated apparatus, beautiful stage fixtures, Liberty Dec. 16. Address, all letters, 127, Upperaughton-rd., Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, Managers in case of disappointment to wire "Stebbing, Manchester," or ring up 'phone 09261 Manchester. Edgar Stebbings, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, also 12th, by Marie Leonard, American Song Illustrator. Wire, 29, Ecclesburn-road, East Park, Leeds.

WANTED, by the Great
AMURAT,
the Musical Athlete. The only act of its kind. Wanted, Aug. 5, 12, 19, Sept. 2, 9, and 16. This week, immense success, Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea. Press Notice from Southend Echo of July 31, '07:—The Kursaal management have scored a distinct success in booking the great Amurat for this week. This artist is modestly described on the programme as "a musical athlete," but his performances are truly wonderful. Not content with breaking chains massive enough to hold the Kingfisher, he excels all his feats by lifting up bodily a piano and pianist, and balancing both on his chest, and then playing a trumpet solo. Wire, till Saturday, Kursaal, Southend; next week, 30, Little Newport-street, W.C. Permanent Address, "The Era."
Aug. 26, Hippodrome, Brighton.
Sept. 23, Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.
Sept. 30, Hippodrome, Exeter.
Oct. 7, Hippodrome, Exeter.

WANTED, by Billy Dewey, the Crazy Coon Comedian with a Powerful Voice, Direct from America; New Songs, Latest Rag and Buck Dancer. Disengaged. Wire for Monday. Dewey, 52, Nelson-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Fred Villars,
Refined Comedian, Aug. 5 and 12.
Wire, Hippodrome, Norwich.

WANTED, Known, Neville Delmar, The Whistling Dandy. Pantomime fixed, Abanazer. Few vacancies, Oct. and Nov. All coms., 3, Nicolas-mount, Hornsea, Yorks.

WANTED, Monday next, six or twelve nights, by Syd Godfrey, Expert Comedian and Mimic. Wire, 30, Grosvenor-terrace, Camberwell Gate.

WANTED, by Fred Hadley, Comedian and Dancer, late of Catlin's Scarborough Pierrots, Liberty Monday, Al Fresco. Wire, 44, Mawson-street, Ardwick Green, Manchester.

WANTED, Oct. 7, onward, with exceptions, Frank Newbury, Vocalist, Siffleur, Mimic, first vacancy. Hustling agent communicate, Royal Oak Hotel, Herne Bay.

WANTED, Aug. 5 and 12, by Syd Herman, Hebrew Comedian, in Song and Story. Empire Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, Monday next, onwards, by Aldro Lukos, Man Monkey, Swinging Perch and Tumbling Antics. Wire, Palace, Tottenham. After, 22, Osborne-terrace, S.W.

WANTED, by Acme, the Musical Clown, Aug. 5,
Al Frescos, Galas, &c., also 12th.
Address, The Palace, Dundee.

WANTED, Aug. 5, 12, 26, Sept. 16, onward, by the Great Original Kyoto, Comedy Japanese Contortionist and Pot-Pourri Act. A laughing and applauding hit. Also May Geraldine, with catchy Chorus Songs and Dances. Two Sure Hits and Distinct Acts. Wire, 45, Clarence-road, Bridlington.

WANTED Vokes and Marshall (Ned and Tessie), Comedy Musical Artists. Great Success, and Re-engaged after First Show. Third week, Palace, Rhyl; Liberty Aug. 12. Wire, Rhyl.

WANTED, Monday next, also 19th and 26th, by Ted Young and Ada Twibell.
Wire, 13, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Aug. 12 and 19 (South), by Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers; and Alvar, Daring Gymnast. Next, Galas. Wire, Empire, Cleethorpes. Write to 6, Dolly-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, Aug. 19 and 26, by The Moncktons, in screamingly funny comedy episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" 5th, Emp. Pal., Cleethorpes.

Vacant Bank Holiday.

WANTED, Known, the Collier and his Child—Retsill and Myra—thought transmitters, gave such satisfaction to George Gilbert, Esq., at Hippodrome, Yarmouth, that he immediately offered them two more dates. Thanks to the lady who gave Myra a diamond ring on Saturday night. Also thanks for offers, but still vacant Bank Holiday. Wire, Empire, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Monday next, also Aug. 19, The Percys (Harry, Lillie), Duettists, Dancers, Speciality Performers; reliable act. Wire, Empire Music Hall, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte, smartest of all Lady and Gentleman Gymnastic Acts, free Aug. 12.
Coms., 29, Cobden-place, Leeds.

WANTED, by Wisper, the Novel Comedy Juggler; also Beattie Bloom, Smart Serio. Aug. 19. Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Monday, also Aug. 12, by Cadogan and Wingrove, "A Clerical Complication" (Muir and Bartlett's). 9, Cambridge-rd., Battersea Park, S.W.

WANTED, Sept., and on, Alonzo, the Human Anvil, and Melini, Queen of Strength. Success everywhere; touring Scott's Circus. C/o "The Era."

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, Musical Clowns, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9.
Address, Pavilion, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, the Sefton Bros., Great Eccentric Posturing Comedians, at Liberty Aug. 12, Sept. 2, also Panto. Animal Parts a Speciality. This, Galas; next, Franklin's Gardens, Northampton. Address, 7, St. Martin's-place, Tennant-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Great Comedy Act; Terrific Success. This, Gaiety, Dundee; next, Central Pier, Morecambe. Vac., Aug. 12, wire.

WANTED, Known, Risto Bros., Refined Comedy Acrobatic Grotesques, at Lib. Aug. 5, halls, piers, galas. Wire, Pal., Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Aug. 5, by the Two Daniels, in their Big Four-number Variety Act. Wire, 20, Worcester-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, Aug. 5 and 12, by Gravetta and Parr, water spinners, jugglers, clay and sand modellers, double impersonations, al fresco or halls. King's T., Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, Milton Trio, Vocalists, Dancers, Paper Manipulators, concluding three months in London. Wires, 88, Kennington-rd., London.

WANTED, Aug. 5. 12, by Los Granadas, world's greatest trampolin novelty. A notable impression on any programme. 64, Upper Sutton-st., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Aug. 19, Two Distinct Acts, Zancig, Thought-Reading and Conjuring. The only open date this season. Lenton and Bertram, 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, Monday next, also Aug. 12 and on, the Original Arthur Saxon Trio, World's Wonders of Strength. Wire, Saxon, Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Aug. 12 and 19, The Rizarellis-Recars, Lady Gymnasts and Acrobats; two distinct Acts. 3, Bowden-street, Stockport.

WANTED, Aug. 12, by Scottie's Waifs and Strays, and "Whizzing the Whirl." Two Enormous Draws. Scottie, W. Pier Pavilion, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Three Martinettes, Comedy Artists, vacant Aug. 12, finish to-night ten weeks' Tour with Broadhead's. Monday, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Known, Wulfrunas (three ladies, four gentlemen), Acrobats, Lib. Aug. 5, Mononly, for gala. Wire, 6, Prince's-row, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Aug. 12, by Atlas and Vulcana Troupe (five), in greatest and most beautiful Act of all time. Conclude to-night Hippo., Colchester; Monday, Albert Hall, Southport.

WANTED, Known, The Four Scoreys, Musical Act, free Monday, Aug. 12.
Aug. 5, Operetta House, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Aug. 19, Sept. 2, 9, by the Great Albano Troupe,
the greatest refined Musical Act.

New Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Sept. 9, for Corri's "Dancing Girls" and "Office Hours." Wire, Haldane Crichton, Angel Hotel, Whitby; next week, Pavilion, Newcastle.

WANTED, Aug. 19, South, also Sept. 16, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart acts. Hippodrome, Norwich.

WANTED, Pauletti, Novelty Acrobatic Cyclist, the Man with the Funny Falls. Just finished ten galas for Geo. Burton, Esq. Next week, Aug. 5, Mansfield; 6th, Nottingham; 19th, Porchester Flower Shows. Free for Galas, one or two acts. Vacant for Halls, Sept. 23, onwards. Panto. settled; third year with same management. Per., 106, Bigland-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Aug. 5, 12, by The Betsons, Comedy Cyclists. 428, Gorton-road, Reddish, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show, Vacant Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 2, and 23.
All communications,
week, Aug. 5,
Hippodrome, Barry Dock, S. Wales.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus, Ponies, Donkeys, Goat, and Dogs, greatest show of its kind in existence. For vacancies, address all communications, C. Caban, Palace Gardens, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Famous Dog Show; the Four-footed Animals with the Human Brains, Liberty Sept. 3. Good lithos. Hippo., Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Alice Fontainbleau's Canine Wonders. Monday next, Gala, Ellesmere. Few Vac. Dates for Galas and Aut.. Coms., Tonycoed, Church-st., Rhyl.

WANTED, Known, Dwarf Comedian, open to join good sketch company, twelve years with well-known people. A. S., 55, Tivoli-rd., West Norwood.

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, by Bioscope Operator, Engagement, commencing Aug. 12, with machine and films if required, fully competent. Box 5,207, "The Era."

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World.
If you want to Buy or Sell
Anything Connected with the Business,
Consult Tom Norman, Auction Dept.,
"The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.
Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Known, .22 "R" and "D" cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters, Pistols, and all repairs done. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Simons, of 100, 101, 102a, Houndsditch, London, is the Cheapest for Secondhand Watches, Jewellery, &c. Metal Watches, 1s. 9d., 2s., 2s. 3d., 2s. 6d.; Silver, 3s., 3s. 3d., 3s. 6d., 4s.; Levers, 5s., 6s., 7s., to 10s. Assorted Parcel of 800 and 936 Watches, 3s. 6d. each.

WANTED, Known.—As it does not appear to be generally known that we control the British Patents covering the "Mills" Slot Bag (or Ball) Puncher, we now publish the fact, and give Friendly Notice that we shall rigidly maintain our rights therein.—Minerva Automatic Co., 14, Charterhouse-buildings, E.C.

WANTED, Auctioneers, to Know.—For cash only, my New Price List. Ready for you to Sell. Silver English Capped Lever Watches at following prices: 7s., 7s. 6d., 8s., 8s. 6d., 9s., 9s. 6d., 10s., 11s., and 12s. each, splendid goods. Silver Geneva Watches, 800 and 935 silver (assorted) at 3s. 6d. each. Market Workers should buy my 6s. and 6s. 6d. English Lever Watches; also my 3s. and 3s. 3d. Silver Geneva Watches. C. G. Clacher, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Showmen to Save Money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

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WANTED, Known, for Prompt Delivery of Future Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, and other Automatic Cards rely on the old firm. Kenyon, 21, King-street, Blackburn.

WANTED, for the
WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER,
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WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER,
a First-Class
Spectacular Production
of Great Magnitude,
to occupy one of the
Finest Sites in the White City.
Suitable for Open-air.
Large covered Grand Stand.
Accommodation for 2,000.
A splendid opportunity for a good Show.
THE WHITE CITY
is the most successful
Amusement Park in Europe.
In spite of fifty-three consecutive days
of the most inclement weather
ever known
at this period of the year,
THE WHITE CITY
has been visited by
576,000 delighted spectators
in nine weeks.
Just the place Manchester needed;
results prove it.

Wanted, Big First-Rate Trained Animal Shows.
Always Vacancies for
First-Class Side Shows.
Always required,
the best Doorsmen in the country.

Wanted, for WHITE CITY,
Venetian Fêtes, Gondolas, Gondoliers,
Lady Mandolinists, Guitarists, Banjoists, and
Chorus Ladies.

Send photos and lowest terms to
Ellis, White City, Manchester.

WANTED, to Travel with First-class Bioscope Exhibition, Contortionist, Bar and Ring Performers or Jugglers; anything suitable for good Parade; Smart Dog Show turn might suit; long and good shop for the right sort. All particulars and terms to W. Haggar, Royal Electric Show, Tenby, S. Wales.

WANTED, for Sydenham Great Charitable Fête and Carnival, Aug. 21, London, Switchback or Gallopers Helter Skelter, Bioscope, or any good Show. Shooters, Doll Frames, &c., &c.; also Wanted, things of all descriptions for Margate Carnival, Aug. 5 till 10. All applications for space to E. A. Gilley, Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate, Kent.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, for 1908. Apply,
A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, at Once, Novelties, Freaks, and Attractions of all kinds for Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, and Aberdeen. STEWART'S Waxwork, High-street, Edinburgh. Mrs. Pook write.

WANTED, Novelties and Living Freaks, for Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Aberdeen. FRED BURNETTS, Waxwork, Cowcaddens, Glasgow.

WANTED, Quick Showing Novelties, with good Flash, to open Bank Holiday, two shops in Arcade. Apply immediately, H. OLIVE, Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea, Essex.

WANTED, Hypnotic Subject (Lady or Gentleman), with or without experience.
PROF. FRICKER, 30, Margaret-st., Cavendish-sq., W.

WANTED, for Wadbrook's Royal Electrograph, one or two young lady Acrobatic Dancers; those used to Fair business send all particulars to Park Hotel Yard, Pontypridd.

WANTED, immediately, a thorough good Auctioneer, experienced in gold and silver trade. Apply, 14, Central-beach, Blackpool.

WANTED, smart reliable Man, used to Show business and Waxworks. Apply, stating age, references, experience, and salary required, to A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Coloured People, in all Lines, for White City. Open Monday, Aug. 5.
Wire, WILLIAMS, Coonville, White City.

WANTED, immediately, experienced Operator, must assist to build show; references required; good wages to first-class man. Silence a complete negative. ASPLAND'S Mammoth Show, Feast Ground, Stanningley; after Aug. 6, Feast Ground, Drypool, Hull.

WANTED, at once, two or three good sober men, well up in building and pulling down show, good shop to good men; fares can be arranged. Apply, PAYNE, Dreamland, Alton, Herts. Wire, Jarvis please write.

WANTED, Known, Bailey's Punch and Judy, Galas. Monday and Tuesday, Birmingham; Friday and Saturday, Swindon. Few dates open. Address, Buxton.

WANTED, Known, that Bound's No. 1 Show, "The Bear Lady," arrived from Germany 22nd, and is now at Mr. Humber's Waxworks, Aberdeen, for four weeks, and doing good business; after that, Mr. Pickard's, Exhibition, Glasgow, Aug. 19 till Nov. 17. First Spring Date Feb.

WANTED, Known, First-class Side-show, with good Drawing Powers, for Exhibitions, &c. At Liberty shortly. Box 5,190, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements by Palmist (young Lady). Terms 36s. weekly. Address, SCIENTIFIC HAND-READING, 30, Margaret-st., Regent-st., London, W.

WANTED, Known, to Amusement Caterers and others,
EARL'S COURT EXHIBITION.
The great production of the Japanese Village to be Sold, by private negotiation, or at the close of the Exhibition in mid-October, by auction, in detail. The Village includes some 4,250 square yards of scenery, twenty-six completely fitted Japanese houses, pagoda, the great temple, including the real gods, and other furnishings, the great Buddha 25ft. high, and a multiplicity of real Japanese accessories. Address, THE SECRETARY, London Exhibitions, Ltd., Earl's Court, London, S.W.

WANTED, Auctioneers, to Know that Simons, of 100, 101, 102a, Houndsditch, is still forging ahead with his up-to-date Lines in Jewellery, Clocks, Fancy Goods, &c. New Catalogue, containing over 2,000 illustrations, now ready.

WANTED, to Sell, lovely Pullman Living Carriage, rail or road, door in end, separate bedroom. Cost £200; price £55, as new. Box 5,196, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Handsome Road Living Van, in excellent condition, all inside fittings, Mollecope top, sleep 4. Bargain, 30 guineas. Photo., 6d. Seen by appointment. T. HARRISON, Coombs, Bakewell.

WANTED, to Sell, a Large Show, with 50ft. carved front, also five Waggons, complete. Particulars sent on receipt of stamped envelope. Owing to ill-health. Apply, Mrs. WALTON, 13, Crumbles-street, Meanwood-road, Leeds.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, new and secondhand one- to six-drawers Card Delivery Automatic Machines; marvellous money-takers. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Framed Photographs of Future Husbands, Wives, Babies, &c., for Automatic Machines, marvellous productions. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic 1d. in Slot, Grand Orchestrion, 16 Tunes, perfect condition; suitable for Concert or Ballroom. Cost £125. What offers? On view. PLEASURE LAND, Brixton Station, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, latest and best. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines. Postcard, 30s.; Name Stampers, £10; Punch Balls, £12; Sweetmeat, 20s.; Card Machines, &c. MASON, 17, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, a Freak of Nature, Calf born with Two Heads, Two Necks, and Two Tails.
Died after it was calved.
Add., P. CLEARY,
Claremorris, co. Mayo, Ireland.

WANTED, to Sell.—Showmen, Rifle Rangers, &c. Everything for the Fair; Specialities for Shooting Saloons, Ammunition, Targets, Glass, &c. STACEY and Co., Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Organ, small, suit Side-show, good order, 60s.; Self-acting Piano, £10; bargain. STACEY, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Waxworks, about 50 figures, good order, good clothes. Sacrifice £50, close offer. STACEY, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, to Purchase, or work on Shares, an Up-to-date Cinematograph Show, with or without Bioscope, as I have a Gaumont 1905 professional Chrono of my own, complete. Best Seaside Grounds in Ireland. Also, Wanted, to Buy for Cash, large Shuttered Booth, complete, must be cheap. Apply, WM. PIPER, Grand Carnival, Tramore, Co. Waterford, Ireland.

WANTED, on Shares, the Latest Penny and Halfpenny Slot Machines; also Cinematograph Films; must be up-to-date, for new concern about to open in important Provincial Town.
Box 5,211, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, Land for Stalls and Shows. Apply, JOHN HARDMAN, Manager, Starr Estate Fairground Co., 16, King-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Let, Ground for Ayr Races. All applications in writing. Small Stalls; rent in advance. Apply, G. GREEN, Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Let, Ground, for Beith Fair. All applications in writing. Small Stalls; rent in advance. Apply, G. GREEN, Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Let, Bloom's Market Grounds, fine position, West Stanley and Anfield Plain; vacant dates. STACEY, West Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Tenders, for the finest Winter Show Ground in England, from November, for 20 weeks, Brinkburn-street, Byker. BLOOM, Haughton, Darlington.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to every Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Known, Important, that the Next Meeting of THE BRITISH ROUNDABOUT PROPRIETORS AND SHOWMEN'S UNION will be Held at the American Bar, Liverpool, on Friday, Aug. 9, at 1 p.m., for the Discussion of Important Business.
(Signed), T. HURST, Secretary.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a complete COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES, FOR AUGUST.

ENGLAND.

Aug. 3. Baslow (1,000)
Aug. 3. Castleacre (1,500)
Aug. 3. Calow (611)
Aug. 3. Calver (374)
Aug. 3. Curbar (794)
Aug. 3. Froggatt (84)
Aug. 3. Greenhill (525)
Aug. 3. Hanley (61,500)
Aug. 3. Hetwood (25,000)
Aug. 3. Longton (36,000)
Aug. 3. Marple (5,100)
Aug. 3. Mellor (1,384)
Aug. 3. Milnrow (5,100)
Aug. 3. Redditch (11,300)
Aug. 3. Royton (13,000)
Aug. 3. Swadlincote (18,000)
Aug. 3. Whitefield (11,500)
Aug. 5. Accrington (430,000)
Aug. 5. Bicester (3,300)
Aug. 5. Bilston (24,000)
Aug. 5. Birkenhead (111,000)
Aug. 5. Blackheath (21,000)
Aug. 5. Brigg (3,200)
Aug. 5. Cheltenham (49,600)
Aug. 5. Clevedon (6,000)
Aug. 5. Calverley (2,575)
Aug. 5. Doncaster (29,000)
Aug. 5. Evesham (7,100)
Aug. 5. Fleetwood (12,000)
Aug. 5. Garston (17,300)
Aug. 5. Hampstead Heath
Aug. 5. Haslingden (18,600)
Aug. 5. Hendon (Welsh Harp) (17,000)
Aug. 5. Hunslet (66,000)
Aug. 5. Ilkley (7,500)
Aug. 5. Jarrow-on-Tyne (31,300)
Aug. 5. Kenilworth (4,500)
Aug. 5. Malvern (16,500)
Aug. 5. Manningham (49,051)
Aug. 5. Milnbridge (4,952)
Aug. 5. Morecambe (12,000)
Aug. 5. New Brighton (10,000)
Aug. 5. Newcastle-on-Tyne (214,803)
Aug. 5. Newmarket (10,700)
Aug. 5. Northampton (87,000)
Aug. 5. Otley (8,800)
Aug. 5. Portsmouth (189,000)
Aug. 5. Reigate (26,000)
Aug. 5. Richmond (Surrey) (31,000)
Aug. 5. Ripon (8,200)
Aug. 5. Rodley (2,100)
Aug. 5. Ryde (11,000)
Aug. 5. Salford (Trinity Market) (221,000)
Aug. 5. Seaham Harbour (10,200)
Aug. 5. Southport (48,400)
Aug. 5. South Shields (97,300)
Aug. 5. Stafford (20,275)
Aug. 5. Stanningley (5,579)
Aug. 5. Taunton (21,600)
Aug. 5. Tewkesbury (5,400)
Aug. 5. Tunbridge Wells (33,400)
Aug. 5. Wanstead Flats (9,200)
Aug. 5. Wombwell (13,500)
Aug. 5. Wormwood Scrubs
Aug 5. Wyke (5,936)
Aug. 6. Stoke-on-Trent (50,500)
Aug. 6. Tanhill (8,200)
Aug. 7. Boston (15,700)
Aug. 8. Astwood Bank
Aug. 8. Brighouse (10,750)
Aug. 8. Crabb's Cross (4,560)
Aug. 8. Lindfield (2,300)
Aug. 10. Barlow (1,110)
Aug. 10. Bolsover (3,752)
Aug. 10. Cheetham Hill (35,000)
Aug. 10. Cowhill Wakes
Aug. 10. Denton (9,358)
Aug. 10. Denholm (3,239)
Aug. 10. Earlestown (8,000)
Aug. 10. Hazel Grove (6,000)
Aug. 10. Hyde Wakes (23,000)
Aug. 10. Littleboro' (9,687)
Aug. 10. Stockport (70,000)
Aug. 10. Taxell or Whaley Bridge (1,549)
Aug. 10. Wessington (514)
Aug. 10. Whitwell (1,924)
Aug. 12. Drypool (Hull) (32,000)
Aug. 12. Eccleshill (8,500)
Aug. 12. Horncastle (4,500)
Aug. 12. Kirkstall (4,000)
Aug. 12. Mitcham (12,000)
Aug. 12. Rawdon (3,110)
Aug. 12. Silsden (4,000)
Aug. 12. Sowerby Bridge (11,600)
Aug. 12. York (75,660)
Aug. 13. Highworth (2,500)
Aug. 15. Gildersome (3,200)
Aug. 15. Lelant (1,810)
Aug. 15. Padiham (12,200)
Aug. 15. Queensbury (6,812)
Aug. 17. Ashbourne (4,750)
Aug. 17. Ashton-under-Lyne (40,494)
Aug. 17. Droylsden (13,500)
Aug. 17. Glossop (5,000)
Aug. 17. Middleton (13,000)
Aug. 17. Mottram (4,650)
Aug. 17. Rochdale (74,000)
Aug. 17. Shaw (5,000)
Aug. 19. Barnsley (40,000)
Aug. 19. Bowling (27,500)
Aug. 19. Guiseley (4,300)
Aug. 19. Horsforth (3,900)
Aug. 19. Lowmoor (2,397)
Aug. 19. Long Eaton (13,000)
Aug. 19. Yeadon (7,800)
Aug. 21. Birstall (6,750)
Aug. 21. Great Harwood (12,000)
Aug. 21. Hartlepool (22,800)
Aug. 21. Stonehouse (1,800)
Aug. 22. Bracknell (2,200)
Aug. 22. Crediton (4,000)
Aug. 22. Ipswich (66,600)
Aug. 23. Skipton (10,800)
Aug. 24. Darlaston (15,400)
Aug. 24. Darley (2,725)
Aug. 24. Eyam (1,423)
Aug. 24. First Lee Fair
Aug. 24. Newton Heath (30,000)
Aug. 24. Oldham (150,772)
Aug. 24. Prestwich (11,600)
Aug. 24. Saddleworth (4,256)
Aug. 24. Whittington (3,730)
Aug. 26. Beeston (30,000)
Aug. 26. Bingley (9,261)
Aug. 26. Bakewell (3,500)
Aug. 26. Halton (916)
Aug. 26. Hinckley (11,300)
ug. 26. Heeley Hill
Aug. 26. Irlams-o'-th'-Height (5,000)
Aug. 26. Pudsey (17,585)
Aug. 26. Shaftesbury (3,000)
Aug 26. Shrewsbury (27,000)
Aug. 26. Strood (10,000)
Aug. 26. Watchet (2,000)
Aug. 27. Romsey (4,200)
Aug. 28. Bradford-on-Avon (4,500)
Aug. 28. Ilminster (2,300)
Aug. 29. Cleckheaton (12,000)
Aug. 31. Chorley (27,000)
Aug. 31. Delph (5,000)
Aug. 31. Eccles (35,000)
Aug. 31. Gorton (48,000)
Aug. 31. Hucknage-with-Huckwaite (5,000)
Aug. 31. Killamarsh (3,211)
Aug. 31. Poynton (2,400)
Aug. 31. Southgate (15,000)
Aug. 31. St. John's Chapel (1,400)
Aug. 31. Westhoughton (9,356)
Aug. 31. Wilmslow (6,683)

SCOTLAND

Aug. 3. Paisley (79,355)
Aug. 5. Kelso (4,006)
Aug. 6. Alyth (3,000)
Aug. 6. Cupar (4,511)
Aug. 10. Hawick (17,803)
Aug. 14. Alloa (11,417)
Aug. 21. Irvine (9,603)

WALES.

Aug. 5. Cardiff (164,000)
Aug. 5. Merthyr Tydfil (26.000)
Aug. 5. Mold (4,000)
Aug. 5. Newport (Mon.) (67,000)
Aug. 7. Swansea (90,423)
Aug. 16. Malpas (Mon.) (436)

WANTED, Showmen, Stallholders, and other Fair Travellers, to know that I have Spaces to Let at Liverpool Park Pageants, Aug. 3 to 18, Crewe Hospital Fête, Aug. 10, Bloxwich Grand Fête and Gala, Aug. 16 to 20, Darlaston, Oldbury, Netherton, Wednesbury, Willenhall, Brierley Hill, and others to follow, up to the Great Birmingham Onion Fair, commencing Sept. 25, West Bromwich, Smethwick, and Leicester October Fair, commencing Oct. 10.

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'Phone, No. 80, Walsall.

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SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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WANTED, Known, the South Shore Pleasure Beach is the only site in Blackpool for Open-Air Attractions.
The grounds are forty acres in extent, right on the sea front, and are situated immediately next the Promenade at the Electric Tramway Terminus. From April 1 to Dec. 31, 1906, 4,000,000 passengers were carried on these tramways. The permanent attractions now include the "River Caves of the World," "Maxim Flying Machine," "Sea Circus," &c. Great Canadian Water Chute and Scenic Railway from Coney Island now being erected for this season. For sites and concessions for really good Novelties apply personally. Office on grounds. Letters only, 14, Balmoral-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, that I have Ground to Let at Hyde Wakes, commencing Aug. 9, for Shows and Stalls.
Apply,
P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.
Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."
'Phone, No. 80, Walsall.

PORTOBELLO, N.B.

WANTED, Showmen to know that I have Ground to Let, Harbour Green; best position. Immediate dates, to follow Murphy's Racing Motors, Baker's Steam Twin Yachts. Terms, H. MARVELLO, Proprietor, Tower Pav., Portobello.

WANTED, Hall or Shop Premises, for Medicine Sale. Terms and particulars to E., 152a, Seven Sisters-road, London, N.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street. Strand. W.C.

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WANTED, to Sell, Good Going Music Hall, in working-class District in Midlands; seats 3,000; large population to draw upon; excellent reasons for sale. Every enquiry courted. Large amount could remain at 4% Principals or solicitors only. Write, Box 4,950, c/o "The Era" Office.

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Reasonable mortgage can remain on at 4%.
The Hall is splendidly adapted for a Music Hall, and contains a set of Stage Effects.
Plans, photos., and further particulars, apply
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"Dear Sir,—I ordered the following advertisement to appear in your paper for two insertions.

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"Kindly do not insert my advertisement again, as the self-acting piano which I had to sell has been sold to Mr. Jack Woolf, of Wonderland fame, Whitechapel-road, E. I had also ten other applicants through my advertisement in 'The Era.'
Yours faithfully,
J. H. MEURICE.
"39, Argyle-square, W.C. Oct. 9, 1906."

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WANTED, to Sell, cheap for cash, Three Electric Battens, One Gas Batten, 30ft. long. WESTON, EMPIRE, Wolverhampton.

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, AUG. 5, 1907.

Wires: "Twigsome, London"

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

"The Zuyder Zee," Black Hussars, Gasch Sisters, Salerno, Lockhart's Elephants, Four Maguanis, Macarte Sisters, Ruby Dahl's Mannikins, "Globe of Life," Clown Pinta and Geese, Watson's Dogs, Chronophone, Toft's Statuary.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30, for :—
Craggs, Orpheus, Harry Weldon, Wilson and Waring, De Gracia's Elephants, Ray Wallace, Walter Munro, Alexandre and Hughes, Caselli Sisters, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Millie Engler and Co., Alice Norton, Carden and Haines, Lloyd's Wolfhounds, Gwladys Elvey, Poluskis, Arthur Playfair and Co., The Simms, Bioscope, Lottie Govell.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
The Eriks, Harry Simms, F. Elliston and Co., Cleland, Francis and Alfred, Martin Henderson, Illustrated Song, Bioscope, Chas. Whittle, Le Marin.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
G. H. Elliott, Miles Stavordales, Marconis, Effie Stewart, J. B. Preston, "Half a Dollar," Moulier Sisters, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Rochez' Monkeys.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Harriett Vernon, Victor Travers, Ella Retford, "My Pal Jerry," Rezene and Robini, Howard and St. Clair, Hartley Wonders, Maggie Walsh, Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Kent and Keith, Roma and Romani, "Kiss Your Father" Co., Will Cornish, Lieut. Travis, Boswell's Circus, Imperial Russian Troupe, Five Osranis, Peggy Pryde, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Australian Woodcutters, Millie Lindon, Dot Hardy, Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten, Ross and Lewis, Harry Bedford, Twin Brothers Dean, Bioscope, Rossi Ashton, Xoru.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Bransby Williams, Fred Elton, Eda Mardy, La Berat, "Would-be Actors," Rochez' Dogs, Hill and Whittaker, J. P. Ling, Bioscope, Fred Lindsay.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
George Kirk and Co., Frank Darwin, Gertrude Bradshaw, Kitty Wager, Chas. Fisher and Co., Six Lancaster Lassies, Fred Poplar, Bioscope, Binns and Binns.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
T. E. Dunville, Twin Andersons, McConnells, Eily Adair, Harry Freeman, Guy Ryder, Boccaccio Minstrels, Eight of Hearts, Whallen and West, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Brown, Le Clerq and Co., Jackson Family, Vanando, Will Poluski, jun., Mlle. Von Etta, Farley, Rennie, and Farley, "Casey's Court," Collins and Rice, Illustrated Song, Hilda Jacobsen.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Whit Cunliffe, Ellis Barrieton, Amy Marsden, Harry Edson, Tom Edwards, Mena Brae, "Home from the Honeymoon," Crown Trio, Bioscope, Mariedl.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"Typhoon," Maude Mortimer, Spry and Austin, Norman and Lennard Trio, Leonard Gautier, Geo. Formby, Jas. Stewart, Canty's Grotto, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Harry Grey, Boyd and Gilfain, Lyons Trio, Brothers Egbert, Kate Carney, Anna Kenwick, Alf Chester, Geo. Westland, Bertha Stuart, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Erik Bros., Culpitt, Madge Osmond, Cruikshank, Hymack, Jack Pleasants, Geo. Gray and Co., Illustrated Song, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
E. J. Sheldon, Lukushima Troupe, Beatrice Willey, Sisters Sprightly, Sisters Carina, O'Malley and Brown, Ginnett's "Dick Turpin," The Violas, Fred Keeton, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Fred Lincoln, the Smythsons, Sleeds Troupe, O'Gust, Eadie and Ramsden, Frank Couch, Gwennie Hasto, Illustrated Song, Bioscope, John Lawson and Co. in Répertoire.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Park's Eton Boys, Victoria Monks, J. W. Rowley, Ella Dean, Rex King, Le Gay Quartette, Clement Trio, Corcoran Brothers, Launceston Elliott, Bioscope.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, ST. MARY-STREET, CARDIFF.
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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Rich and Rich, Elsie Robey, Lowell and Lowell, Russell Wallett, the Æolians, Casey's Army, Bertha Palliser, Illustrated Song, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Drew and Alders, George Reeves, J. W. Hall, Bella and Bijou, Sisters Poole, Marco, Illustrated Song, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
The Delevines, Fanny Fields, Musical Johnstons, Gus Garrick, Geo. Doughty and Co., Bessie Butt, Huxter Bros., Bioscope, Hayden Coffin, Arthur Lennard, Lizzie Fletcher.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for :—
The Anartos, Ben Albert, Edie King, Pat Rafferty, Ryder Slone, Boy Glenn, Madge Grey, Tom Foy and Co., Jackley Trio, Lauder's Chronomegaphone.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Karno's "Bailiff," Cecil Bernard, Frank Cumminger, Ed. E. Ford, Ted and May Hopkins, Baker and Balfe, Bioscope, Elsie Clare, Jordan and Harvey.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 11, for :—
Eugene Stratton, L. W. Harris, Mount and Corelli, Percy Honri, Frank Bernard and Co., San Tan Girls, Lena Verdi, Illustrated Song, Bioscope, Sidy Nirvana. Extra Matinée Monday.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Geo. Robey, Ethel Haydon, the Leonards, Sisters Pine, Godfrey James, Sinclair and Parr, Marie Weston, Henry Coutts and Co., the Carmos, Minnie Merry, Bioscope.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Minnie Cunningham, Mark Merry, Lee Strads, Horsley Brothers, American Comedy Four, Rell and Butt, Pictures, Halter and Ray, Horace White.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Harry Roxbury's "Prince of Monte Carlo," Grace Merton, Johnny Danvers, Sisters May, Olive and Owen, Chas. Clark, Dan Leno, jun., "Dida."

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"Happy Holland," Kathleen Coghan, Chris Baker, J. A. Wilson, Pictures, Maude Laverne, France and Stewart.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Leipzig, Crissy Bell, Geo. Rennie, Sebastian King, W. J. Ashcroft, Almon, Kitty Clinton, Mark Adams and Co., Pictures, Harry Carlton and Co.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Joe Reichen's Dogs, Sanford and Lyons, Irene Rose, Rapoli, Frasettis, Rhoda Paul, Gus Dallon, Bioscope.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

ARTISTS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE THAT THE ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON, IS WITHIN THE AREA ABSOLUTELY BARRED BY US.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
H. E. Terry and Co. in "Retribution," Albert Whelan, Lily Burnand, J. Macauley, Millie Payne, Louise Zetland, the Zalskas, Borellis, Reilly and Templeton, Phillips and Terry, Theresa and May, Brothers Durant, Kenyon Musgrave and Co., "The Lady of the Bath," Pictures, Tom Costello.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Both Performances.
"Devil's Sunday," Will Evans, Leo Dryden, Woolmer Young, Sisters Warner, Lily Burnand, Millie Payne, E. Montifiore and Co., Lupino Brothers, Teresa and May, Two Bees, Pictures.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Selkirk and Co., Forest and King, Chas. Stevens, La Belle Nello, Ouida Macdermott, Janette Hall, R. A. Roberts, Bioscope, Chas. Coborn.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Boissetts, Alice Maydue, Rosa Loader, Menotti, Maud Courtney, "Mysterious Mr. C.," George Leyton, Bioscope, Mabel Sinclair.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

NOTICE.—Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose a stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.
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"TWO DIRTY LITTLE HANDS" (Cobb and Edwards), and "A TALE OF A STROLL" (B. Dougherty and J. H. Jerome). Sung by Maurice Farkoa.

IN THE VALLEYS OF SWITZERLAND" (Wilmott and H. Darewski, jun.). Sung by Miss Annie Purcell.

"CHEER UP, MARY!" (Bryan, Kendis, and Paley). Sung by Miss Winifred Hare.

"HOLDING HANDS" (Norworth and A. Von Tilzer). Sung by Miss Amy Clevere.

"HERE COMES THAT GEORGIA MINSTREL BAND!" (Edward Rose). Sung by the Fourteen Black Hussars.

"FOR AULD LANG SYNE" (F. W. Leigh and H. E. Pether), and "THE TENBOB RISE" (Bateman and Bennett Scott). Sung by Tom Costello.

"THE HOME THAT'S HOME FOR ME" (Leigh and Pether) and "THE SUNBEAM AND THE ROSE" (J. Thompson). Sung by Miss Ethel Haydon.

"MAY" and "THE TOURIST AND THE MAID" (G. Arthurs and O. Powell). Sung by Miss Alice Lloyd.

"MONA MAY" (Shelley and Bucalossi). Sung by Herbert Shelley.

"ALL ALONE IN OLD COLOGNE" (Murray, Leighton, and Hilbury). Sung by Miss Betty Green, at the London Hippodrome.

"MY CASTLE IN SPAIN" and "MY COSY CARAVAN" (Lawrance, Mellor, and Gifford), Sung by Miss Lil Hawthorne.

"READ BETWEEN THE LINES" and "THE ECHO OF AN OLD, OLD TALE." (Frank Leo). Sung by Miss Sable Fern.

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"Up We'll Go."
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MISS HILDA JACOBSEN.
"You Shall Live in a Chalet."
(MELLOR, LAWRANCE and GIFFORD.)

MISS FLORRIE FORDE.
"She's a Lassie from Lancashire."
(MURPHY, LIPTON and JOHN NEAT.)

MISS DAISY DORMER.
"I Wish I were You."
(COLLINS and CASTLING.)
"In Manila."
(ARTHURS and MURPHY.)

MISS MAUDE MORTIMER.
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Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not re-booked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follow:—

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Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, AND DISTRICT.
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N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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All Billing Matter for the undermentioned Theatres to be sent to the Secretary at above address. All communications as to engagements for the Theatres to be addressed to Messrs. ROSEN & BLISS, Variety Agents, 12 & 13, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, W.C.
Telegrams, "Twopence, London." Telephone No. 7623 Gerrard.
N.B.—INTERVIEWED BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS for MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Ten Loonies, Lola Dalby, Arthur Boyne, Three Sisters Jonghmans, The Danas, Oliver Conroy, Vernon's Bioscope, Rousby's "In Paris."

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Abdullah Arabs, Slippere, Gertie Gitana, Dan Conroy, Genaro and Theol Coram, Vernon's Bioscope, Florrie Forde.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Hackenschmidt, Jack Rae, Rose Elliott, Manson and West, Mersano, Espinosa and Neilson, Vernon's Bioscope, Ike and Will Scott.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
"De Biere," Harry Bent, Walker and May, Bandoni, Dusty Rhodes, Carlotta Lunn, Vernon's Bioscope, Bale Troupe.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
The Seven Savonas, Bros. Robson, Three Sisters McQueen, Wright and Lawson, Columbia Comedy Trio, H. Lamb, Belle Harcourt, Vernon's Bioscope, The Elliotts.

PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE.
The Creo Bros., J. P. Carroll, Steeley and Dowton, Lillie Hales, Joe Mac, Nellie Randall, Arthur Lynn, Phern and Phern, Vernon's Bioscope, R. A. Speedwell.

N.B.—Artists will oblige by sending billing matter punctually.

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The Hit of "The Zuyder Zee," LONDON HIPPODROME.
The Hit of "The Zuyder Zee," WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.
Also sung by Will Evans' Company, Misses Lena Verdi, Lilian Lee, Margaret Radcliffe, Blanche Vincent, Ethel Donna, etc., etc.

"WILL HE ANSWER 'GOO-GOO'?"
(Macdonald and Meher).
Sung by Miss Clarice Mayne (OXFORD and TIVOLI) nightly.
Sung by Miss Dorothy L. Clark at all her engagements.

"QUEEN OF OLD SAMARA."
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The Rage of England, America, and Australia.
Miss Bijou Russell's greatest success in Australasia.
Also sung by "Casey's Court" Company, Misses Lilian Lea and Margaret Radcliffe; all Paul Mill's Pierrot Companies, Adeler and Sutton's Pierrot Companies, etc., etc.

"ROSIE IS WAITING."
(Harrington and Tate).
Miss Gladys Mavius' Phenomenal Scoring-card.

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(Mellor, Lawrance and Gifford).
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CALLS. CALLS.

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, AUG. 5, 1907.

PALACE, DOVER.
Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Harry Wright, Peggy Fame, Nellie Gannon, Chas. Denton, Carlotta De Yonson and Co., Cliff and Kean, Melody Comedy Four.

ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.
Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Hal Chapter, Henri Cazman, Florence Yayman, Barrington, Esme Gordon, Sisters Desmond, the Rodways.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Pallister's Pictures, Wake and Dean, Lloyd Phillips and Co., Sisters Brenton, Ena Richards, Devon and Earle, G. H. Keith.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.
Sole Proprietor and Manager, RICH. WALDON.
Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.
CALL, Monday, Aug. 5, 1907.
Lottie Lennox, Ted Cowan, Ernesto, Arthur Slater, Katie Marsh, George Bendon, Franco Midgets, the Meelys, Arthur Rigby.
General-Manager, HARRY McKELVIE.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.
NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL, Monday, Aug. 5.
Company as Booked.
Artists requiring immediate dates, apply
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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual for 1907 will be cordially welcomed by the profession, as well as by all who are interested in the modern theatre and concert-hall. It contains some racy little sketches by Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Pollie Emery, Mr. Charles Collette, and other well-known artists; much useful information and many illustrations.—Leicester Daily Post, Jan. 23, 1907.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.

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Oakley House, Bloomsbury Street, W.C.
where please address all communications in regard to the PROFESSIONAL and PUBLICITY DEPARTMENTS of the Circuit.
Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen between the hours of 12 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

All applications for dates at the Theatres Royal, Rotherham, Chesterfield, and Leeds, to be addressed to the London Offices.
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All billing matter and notification of appearance, accompanied by samples of pictorial printing, must be sent in to the London Offices fourteen clear days prior to opening, or contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management.
All Scene and Property Plots of sketches, scenas, &c., must be sent to Foresters' fourteen clear days before opening.
All artists carrying scenery must have same fireproofed in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
Artists please note that when stage staff are required on Sunday, according to the "award" their time must be reckoned from that given in "call."
In cases of emergency after office hours, Mr. Baugh may be consulted at the Foresters' Theatre, Cambridge-road, E.
Telephone, 5954 Avenue.
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CALLS.
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, AUG. 5, 1907.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Gaumont's Chronophone, Dale and Vale, Gintaro, Rose and Maidment, Les Bollingers, Cambo, Beau-Ideals, St. Louis Pictures, Zeta Grey and Co., &c.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Libby Blondelle and Co., Alf. Ripon, Sisters Brooke, Bosanquet, McDonald and Huntington, the Elgars, Alfred Lester, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, The Juanitas, &c.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Strassburger's Midgets, Raglas, Horace and Olga, Milner Verren, Wilton Heriot and Co., Will Walton, Ada Martine, Russell Brandow, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Harry Allister, Lynch, Dardan and Iris, Cole and Rags, Two Sparks, Mollie Woolstenhulme, Harvey and Holt, Josh Dixon, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Max Darewski, Sisters Wheeler, Shirley and Ransome, Flockton-Foster Co., Bert Coote's Girls, Satanella Trio, Stewart and Evans, Virto, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Pallister's Pictures, the Four Herberts, Kemp and Harris, Marie Towers, W. B. Raby, Marie Neilson, Sketch, "Vengeance."

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Grand Variety Company.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"When London Sleeps."

THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.
"The Female Swindler."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
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PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Fanny Wentworth, Mac and Hill, G. W. Foster, Swan and Vesta, Lilian Lowe, Percival and Morley, the Six Idols, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, &c.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Clito, Will Bacchus, Royston and Royce, Whimsical Walker and Co., Sisters Morgan, Cissie Thompson, Story and Trigg, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, CARDIFF
Tiller's "High Jinks," Les Cabiacs, Maura, John Kurkamp, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON
will open in September.

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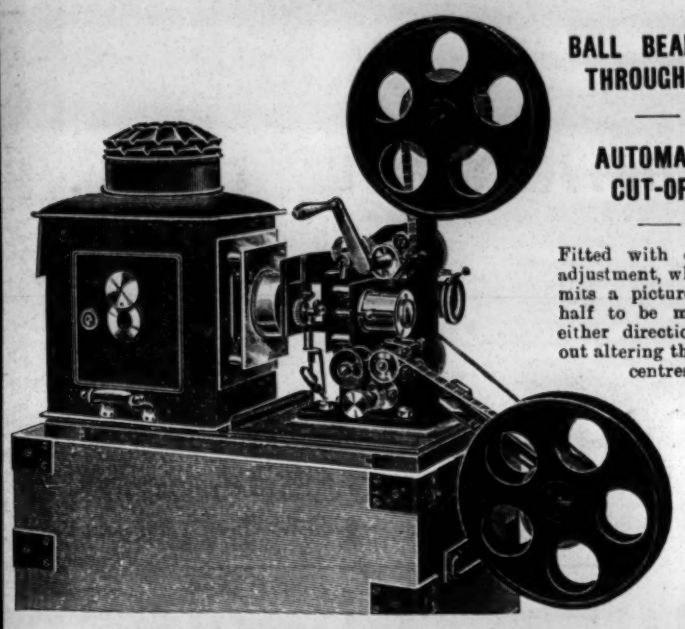

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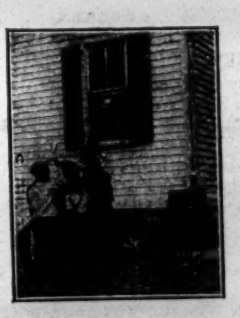

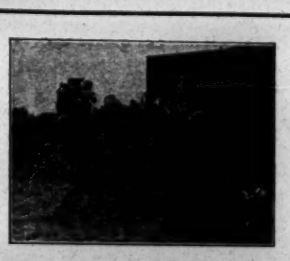

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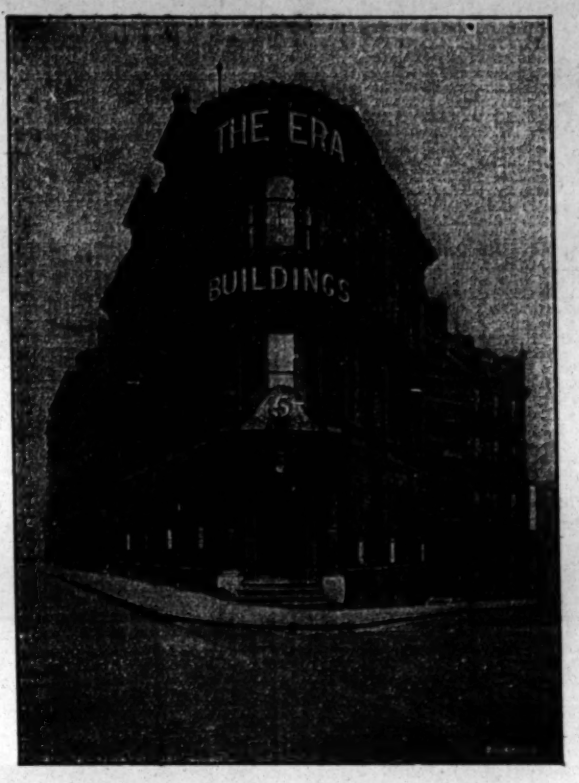

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

ABERDEEN.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*Walker, London*, is enthusiastically received this week. Mr. Edward A. Coventry plays dashingly as Jasper Phipps; Mr. W. Rene Hammersmith represents Renard Von Burg exceedingly well; Mr. Harry Glenney makes a hit as Kit Upjohn; and Mr. Forrester Harvey is an excellent "W. G." All the ladies play vivaciously, Miss Ruby Wyndham (Mrs. Golightly), Miss Ethel Crawford (Bell Golightly, B.A.), Miss Ruhamah Catton (Nancy O'Brien), Miss Ethel Stanley, and Miss Jennie Douglas-Hick each receiving unstinted applause from the audiences. *Walker* is preceded by Mr. Pinero's *Hester's Comedy*, which is admirably acted.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees, United Company Theatres, Ltd; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The great event of the week is the appearance of the Elliots and Savonas, whose performances are as noteworthy and as rapturously received as ever. Among other members of the company who appear with success may be noted the Brothers Robson, eccentric comedians and dancers; Wright and Lawson, acrobatic grotesques; the Three Sisters McQueen, harmonising vocalists; the Columbia Comedy Trio; Mr. H. Lamb, Scottish comedian; and Miss Belle Harcourt, comedienne.

Beach Pavilion.—Manager and Proprietor, Mr. David Thomson.—This admirable entertainment continues to be largely patronised. All the members of the company are possessed of high artistic talent. Among them are Mr. David Thomson, a Scottish comedian of rare ability; Miss Violet Davidson, Miss Minnie Osborne, and Miss Lottie Stewart (accompanist), and Messrs. Oswald Grey and Jack Belton. The singing is infinitely above the average, and the artists also act cleverly a number of smart and amusing sketches. Variety is lent to the programme by the entertaining conjuring tricks of Mervant and the melodious performances of Cambo, the "man-monkey," on a variety of musical instruments.

ABERTILLERY.—Theatre Metropole.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom.—A splendid attraction has been secured for the re-opening of this theatre for the season in Mr. Herbert Barrs and his powerful company, in *Wanted by the Police*. As Phillip Stanhope, Mr. W. Collins was seen to fine effect; whilst as the loving trusting wife Miss Dorothy Oswald elicited warm applause. Mr. Ronald Graham as Richard Crawford was excellent; Mr. Edward Cheetham as Silas Underwood is to the life; Mr. Herbert Barrs was admirable as Nunkey Snarl; Mr. Duncan Bell as Dr. Foster and Mr. G. Esdaile as P.C. Roberts were both capital; Miss Edna Hana as Florence Fordyce was excellent; Miss Maudie Vincent as Molly and Mr. James F. Firth as Charley Sparrow worked well and produced much merriment.

The Pavilion.—Lessees, Messrs. E. and H. Tilney; Manager, Mr. E. Pryce.—This house was opened on Monday night last for variety business with a specially attractive bill and drew crowded audiences. Miss Daisy Morell made a successful appearance, and elicited much applause for her singing and patter. The Villions gave a very clever turn with cycling and acrobatic feats, the lady's performance being wonderfully clever; the Avolos gave a startling and pleasing performance on the perpendicular pole; the Musical Keiths left nothing to be desired in their novel musical turn; Thornbury is a clever exponent of painting in sand, smoke, and oil; Miss Violet Nunn, a charming coon singer; J. C. Daniels, comedian and clog dancer; and a capital series of pictures on the bioscope complete.

ABERYSTWYTH.—Colisseum.—During this week Poole's ever-popular Myriorama and Animated Pictures, together with a number of variety artists, are drawing crowded houses. The entertainment throughout is excellent, there being not a dull moment from start to finish.

ACCRINGTON.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. G. Kirk's and Miss Mary Neil's company opened on Monday with *Her Luck in London*. Miss Mary Neil was most successful as Nellie Harborne; Miss Francis Bruce made a good impression as Lilian Harborne; Miss Florrie Groves was good as Maud Gladys; Misses Daisy Moss, Queenie Lamont, and Kitty Gerald, as the "Evening Stars," deserve praise. Mr. T. Power must be complimented for his performance as Stephen Harborne; Fitzgerald O'Connor was well depicted by Mr. Stephen Langdon; Mr. George was good as Richard Lenown; Mr. D. Tremain made an ideal Rev. Mr. Strong; and Mr. Bruce Chapman was well cast as Algie Kircumbele.

ALDERSHOT.—Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—Dolly Denton is a trim little comedienne and dancer, who sings "Down in the ocean" very nicely, and dances to perfection. Stelling and his canine comedian, Kiswaski, are a most entertaining pair; Newham and Latimer, burlesque artists, make a good hit in dance and song; on the wire Johnny Fuller is clever and swift, and he introduces a series of acrobatic tricks and dancing tit-bits; the charming Sisters Cora are seen to advantage in the duet, "Would you care if I left you?" and later in the coon song, "I'm going back to Borneo," both being exceedingly pretty dancers. "The Tired Comedian" is how the programme styles Harry Rogerson, and when he dances on to the stage with three legs he tickles the gallery; the Greyson Comedy Trio successfully appear in their original act, entitled *The Dummy*.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—This week we have a novelty drama, *The Life of a Showman*, the joint authorship of Messrs. Chas. Darrell and George Testo Santé. There is a big dramatis personæ, and the chief characters are enacted with a plentiful display of individual talent and skill by Mr. Chas. Osborne, as owner of a South African diamond mine; Mr. Morris Maudas, his Boer secretary, who ten years afterwards we find a rich English landowner; Mr. Edward Wooden, as chaplain to the mine, and subsequently as Vicar of Greenstreet. There are a number of other characters who figure prominently in the series of scenes, notably Mr. Frank Santé as a circus acrobat, and afterwards as the circus proprietor; and Messrs. C. Clements, J. G. Santé, Turner, Price, Porter, Sam, and others. The leading ladies of the piece are Miss Constance Medwyn as Agatha Winter, the supposed wife of the Boer secretary; Miss Lizzie Power, as Lynette, the acrobat's motherless daughter; Miss E. Bamford as Lena, the billposter's daughter; and Miss May Neilson as Angelina, a mountain of adipose tissue. Mr. Jose Santé proves an accomplished player of the violin in the first act. The famous Bros. Testo appear along with Comical Walker.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The Kurios, with their Komical Konception of Komicalities, introducing pantomime, art, mystery, &c., create abundance of merriment in the audience. Allen and Hall, comedians, appear in laughable sketch, *The Troublesome Scotty*; the object all through the absurdity is to provoke laughter. There is also the screaming absurdity, *The Captain's Daughter*. Hilda Leigh and Co., with Willie Leigh as Christopher Broom, enact the characters successfully; Chanti reappears with new business. He describes himself as the marvellous electrical, mechanical, protean artist; J. Ingram Howard and Dorothy Wallace keep the audience entertained with *Taming a Wife*. Pictures are shown of the Victoria Falls, &c. Other turns are May Newall, a dainty singer of charming songs; Chris Van Bern, in songs, "The surprise party," &c.; Lerna Lyle, singer of variety songs; and Maidge Allen, also a vocalist.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal, Lyd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chris A. Wordsworth.—So great has been the success which the picture entertainments have been accorded here that they are still being continued, with Miss Nellie Burke as vocalist.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bert Lester.—A big Bank Holiday audience filled this popular house on Monday evening. Mr. Frank E. Burdett's excellent company are deserving of high praise for the able manner in which they render the picturesque military sketch, *Mutiny* which was received with hearty applause. The Bohemians are instrumentalists and comedy artists of ability; Miss Lily Sharplin gives several imitations of music hall celebrities; the Three Ringlings are clever tumblers and cake-walkers on stilts; Mr. Edward Ind makes himself popular as a vocal comedian; the Paragon Trio contribute a pleasing item, their harmonising of popular songs being excellent; Mr. Clayton's pictures are up to the usual standard; and Mr. Charles Rowen, comedian, completes the bill.

Central Hall.—Lessees, Jasper Redfern, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. W. Holmes.—A programme of usual excellence is provided here this week, consisting of a selection of the latest pictures, embracing Carl Hagenbeck's Park at Hamburg, where wild animals are shown in their natural surroundings, "Lost in the Arizona Desert," and "A Sailor's Widow," the comic side being represented by "The Maniac Juggler" and "The Aeronaut's First Trip." In addition to the pictures there are several variety turns, contributed by Miss Lulu Smales, baritone vocalist; Mr. James Brady, character comedian; and Mr. Charles Coll, comedian.

BAGUP.—New Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood.—Miss Lois Du Cane's company is here in *The Heathen and the Christian*. Mr. Ernest G. Batley as Lord Allendale gives a forcible and telling performance; the part of Joshua Sampson is well taken by Mr. Beatty; Mr. Gerald Blake furnishes a good impersonation of Admiral Freehold; Mr. H. B. Lewis as George Beresford does full justice to the character; Mr. Sam Harcourt as Lung Hi is well placed. Miss Lois Du Cane as May Beresford delights her audience by her clever assumption of the character; and Miss Etty C. Murray as Mira Sampson displays much malignant intensity; Mr. A. Lawrence is amusing as Basle Lambe Gentle. The humour of the play is well sustained by Mr. Grey Leyton as the postman and Miss Eva Hope as Becky, a servant.

BARRY DOCK.—New Theatre and Hippodrome.—The above building was opened on Monday afternoon. The star turn was contributed by the Bentiago Troupe of acrobats, who are unquestionably smart; the Sisters Ford, dainty duettists and dancers, were much appreciated; Miss Kay Leonard, ballad vocalist, in her illustrated songs, gained rounds of applause; Charles Banks, comedian, was exceedingly popular; Billy Richardson, stump orator; the Great Montini, exponent of modern magic; Ray and Miles, comedy jugglers, also appear with success; and Craig, Rose, and Craig did a thrilling turn. The orchestra, conducted by Stuart M. Lane, R.A.M., gave every satisfaction.

BATH.—Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Crowded holiday audiences have attended the opening performances of the regular autumn season. Miss Fanny Wentworth, the popular lady entertainer is a shining light; the Six Idols sing and dance themselves into the good graces of the audience; G. W. Foster is nightly encored for his amusing songs and stories; Pollo Jerome, does wondrous feats upon a single trapeze; Swan and Vesta, in their prettily staged scena, *In Nelson's Days*, gain many adherents; Percival and Morley create plenty of laughter in their duologue, "Turtle Doves"; Mac and Bill, comedians, gain approbation; Raymond's Bio-tableaux, as usual, proves a capital finish to a bright bill. The new musical-director, Mr. C. Wright, is to be congratulated upon the improvement displayed by the orchestra.

Sydney Gardens.—Thousands of pleasure-seekers attended these delightful grounds on Monday, to enjoy the attractions provided by Mr. T. R. Gannon, who for the ninth consecutive time had charge of the fête and gala.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's principal company is presenting *The Lion and the Mouse* here this week. In his impersonation of John Burkett Ryder, the great and unscrupulous financier, Mr. Leslie Carter submits a powerful and finished study. Nothing but praise can be accorded to Miss Christine Silver for her graceful and finished portrayal of Shirley Rossmore. As Jefferson Ryder Mr. Gordon McLeod is a gallant, handsome, and determined lover; and Mr. Herbert Chown is quaintly humorous as the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley, John Ryder's secretary; Miss Evelyn M. Read is charming and vivacious in the part of Kate Roberts; and Miss Maude Townsend is clever and refined as Mrs. Ryder.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. H. F. Maltby and company opened here on Monday, in *The Youngest of Three*. Mr. H. F. Maltby, in his original character of George Wendover furnished an exceedingly skilful impersonation, and one that would, indeed, be difficult to excel; Miss Mara Maltby interpreted the rôle of Lucy Dulley in a most charming manner, her acting being all that could be desired; while the rôles of her sisters, Annie Dulley and Florence Dulley, were admirably sustained by Miss Daisy England and Miss Janet Hodson; Mr. Wyn Weaver deserves much cerdit for his excellent impersonation of Gerald Wendover; and Mr. Reginald Favell effectively impersonated Philip Radford; Mr. W. E. Passmore capably impersonated Samuel Johns; and one could not wish a better embodiment of the landlord, Joshua Pynne, than that submitted by Mr. F. Stuart Willson. Other rôles were capitally interpreted by Miss F. Hunter-Watts and Messrs. S. Porter, H. Fraser, &c. On Thursday, Friday, and to-night (Saturday), the new comedy *Sir George of Almack's*, by H. F. Maltby is billed. On Monday evening, a tragic episode, entitled *Hounslow Heath*, provided a good curtain-raiser, the various characters being well represented by Messrs. H. F. Maltby, W. E. Favell, W. E. Passmore, and Wyn Weaver.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The leading attraction here is provided by the Boy Army, a number of smart youths, who furnish a remarkably clever display of military accomplishments; Brinn furnishes a marvellous act of balancing, which has created a sensation; Miss Crissie Cross is a fascinating comedienne, her dancing being very neat. Others appearing are Otto Soupless; Miss Adelina Yohle, comedienne, who renders "Sing me to sleep" with taste and expression; Johny Walker, Scottish comedian; and the Palace pictures.

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Fritz, assisted by Mlle. Jeanette, performs some really marvellous illusions; the Bros. Artois appear in their well-known comedy bar act, which pleases everybody; and Mr. W. H. Downs, the Australian coloured ballad vocalist, renders some songs in a finished manner; Miss Flora Lumiere introduces some delightful dances, including her wonderful fire dance; the Three Coopers sing tunefully; and Miss Minnie Fenton is a very droll Scotch comedienne; Cecile and François appear in their smart acrobatic dancing act; and there are also Mr. James Kurry, comedian; Le Creu Trio, comedy artists; and the Hippodrome Pictures.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Lyd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—*The Prince of Monte Carlo* is played by Harry Roxbury and company. Mr. Roxbury's impersonation of P.C. Longfellow creates roars of laughter. A mysterious illusion, De Dia, is presented by Lewis De Burgh; and a hit has been made by Mr. Johnny Danvers, whose songs have been rendered in funny style; Miss Grace Merton, the "original and genuine street singer," takes well; and Mr. Dan Leno, jun., is certainly a very humorous comedian; the Sisters May are charming duettists and dancers; and also here are Mr. Chas. Clark, comedian, and Olive and Owen, the "roadside tinkers."

New Alhambra Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—During the recess this old-established and popular theatre has been redecorated, painted, &c., under the personal superintendence of Mr. Sinclair Neill, and the theatre certainly presents a very smart appearance. For the opening night, the sterling Russian drama, *Denounced*, was presented by the Alhambra Dramatic Company. Miss Nina Blake-Adams interpreted the rôle of Ogara Streloff with every element of success; and the villainies of Wolf Nicholai were powerfully depicted by Mr. Wilford Cheetham, the new "heavy" man of the company; Mr. Cyril Grier, in the leading rôle of Karl Petrovitch, furnished a very clever impersonation; Miss Kathleen Magee distinguished herself as Catherine Petrovitch; Mr. Elmore Frith deserves much praise for his impersonation of Michael Gortz; Mr. Tom H. Solly was exceedingly humorous as Boko Koffetoff; and Miss Mattie Crawford furnished a delightful impersonation of Katrinka; Mr. J. E. Davies was all that could be desired as H.I.M. the Czar; and Mr. Ed. Smythe was excellent as Ivan Nicholai. The Alhambra Bioscope, under the direction of Mr. H. Beckett, exhibited some most attractive pictures.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds' *Woman and Wife* company opened on Bank Holiday to a crowded house. In the course of a fine performance Miss Cissie St. Elmo is prominent by a clever assumption of Marcel Rigadout; Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds gives a capital rendering of Dick Seymour; Mr. Edwin Kisby is well suited as Pierre Crucru; and Miss Joan Pereira plays La Colombie with much effect. Other characters in a somewhat lengthy cast are all without exception well filled; and the Lottie Stone troupe of whirlwind dancers are also an acquisition.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Mr. George Gilbey, a great favourite at this hall, occupies the premier position here; the Picquays, clever acrobats, are also prominent; and an excellent company includes the Waldrons, in an amusing sketch, *Our Sammy*; Mr. Ted Karno and his comedians in a mirth-provoking interlude, entitled *The Dinner Hour*; Johnson and Bert, comic tumblers; Miss Gladys Mavius, coon vocalist; Mr. Alec Kendall, patterer; Miss Maude Vera, comedienne; Mr. Fred Curran, comedian; and an admirabl edisplay by the Brown's Royal Bioscope.

Olympian Gardens, Rock Ferry.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton.—A capital holiday programme is provided by Miss Elsie Steadman, comedienne; Mr. F. Hulme Sharpe, comedian; Mr. Alf Maynall, comedian; Mr. Austin Mahony, tenor; Mr. J. H. Scotland, basso; and Mr. Arthur J. Braddock, accompanist; and business is deservedly brisk.

The Tower, New Brighton.—Manager, Mr. William Holland.—This popular resort is doing capital business. Mr. John Tiller's spectacle, *Jolly Jack and Wonderland*, attracts hosts of admirers.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*The Christian*, presented in Mr. Wentworth Croke's well-known lavish style, ushered in the dramatic season here. Miss Daisy Scudamore has taken up the rôle of Glory Quayle with excellent and most praiseworthy results; Mr. Frank Beresford is to be complimented on his earnest and zealous acting as John Storm; Mr. Edward Ling's Father Lamplugh is a most capable piece of acting; Mr. Edwin E. Dering is an able representative of Archdeacon Wealthy; Mr. W. J. Butler adapts himself to the character of Lord Robert Ure with every success; and the remaining parts are in good hands, including Miss Molly Hayden as Mrs. Challender, Miss May Weir as Aggie Jones, Mr. Wilfred Noy as Horatio Drake, and Mr. Charles Hill as Parson Quayle. Miss Dorothy Milne scores as Polly Love.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*Veronique* commenced the season here, with Mr. Charles Macdona's company. Miss Mabel Lait, in the title-rôle, displayed powers of a fascinating and first-class order, and made herself a favourite at once; Mr. Daley Cooper as Coquenard once more convulsed his Birmingham admirers with his odd and droll manners of speech and action, till the house rang again at his merry antics; Miss Roberta Williams aided cleverly in the fun-making as his partner, Agatha; Miss Stella St. Audrie acted and sang prettily as Emerance; Miss Elsie Probyn did well as the niece, Denise; Mr. Arthur Stroud proved a gallant and melodious lover as Florestan, his reception being distinctly favourable; Mr. Oliver J. Round was indefatigable and always amusing as the bailiff, Loustot; and Mr. Sidney Bracy was alive to all his chances as Seraphin.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*The Power of Gold* is played by Mr. Frank Ayrton's company. That accomplished and favourite actress Miss Amy McNeill appears to advantage in the rôle of Lady Brandon; Miss Lily Prescott personifies the heiress, Meg Judson, in a most charming manner; Mr. R. F. Stacy is well placed, and very popular, as the hero, Paul Judson; Mr. George Lyttleton leaves nothing wanting in the character of the Malay doctor, Hadgi Zambra; Mr. Richard Harris makes an admirable Mark Harley; and the comicalities of Mr. Frank Ayrton as Sammy Smudge and Miss Madge Seymour as Norah Donnelly (their original parts) are a great support, and occasion the wildest diversion. Little Prudence as Paddy Blake, with song; Miss Hetty Laytine as Sister Marie, Mr. W. Victor as Peter Maguire, and others also shine in the play.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*Second to None*, the stirring drama of the Royal Scots Greys, is presented by Mr. T. Edward Ward's company. Miss Ward in particular has won admirationwith her soul-stirring acting as Nell Greystone; Miss Violet Ennis Lawson gives a brilliant portrayal of the sister, May Greystone; Mr. Jerrold Heather submits a commendably life-like present ment of Harry Wilding; Mr. Clifford Rean's merits as the brother, Frank Wilding, are well distinguishable; Mr. C. W. Spencer acts with soldierly dignity as Colonel Sir Reginald Greystone; Mr. Alfred Brandon bestows much thought and ability on the part of Captain Mannering; and other excellent support is vouchsafed by Messrs. T. G. Vane, J. G. Maine, C. A. Preece, Eric Wilde, Allan Carruthers, and Miss Maudie Grayson.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Prodigal Parson* resumed the dramatic season here on Monday, when Messrs. Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod's company played to a full house. Mr. Garrod came in for much sympathy as the ill-served but eventually righted parson, Tom Godley; Miss Bertha Kingston elicited the utmost admiration with her acting as the wife, Fern Godley; Miss Violet Jeffries made a pleasant impression as the child, Myrtle; Mr. Fred Beckett did all that was necessary with the rôle of Enoch Jaggins; Mr. George Allen supported ably as the brother, Ben Jaggins; Mr. Walter Vincent did useful work as the confederate, Ned Kettlepin; and Mr. T. Edward Evans was successful as the detective Markby. Mr. Owen Redmonde serves the piece well with his humorous play as Phil Drive; and Miss Sybil Hammersley is full of fun and vivacity as Mrs. Phil Drive. On Friday a triple bill was in force, consisting of *Delicate Ground*, *Still Waters Run Deep*, and *A Regular Fix*.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittle.—*A Modern Adventuress* is being performed by Mr. Lingford Carson's company. The play is produced under the direction of Mr. Charles Draycott, a sterling actor whose popularity in these parts is second to none. Mr. Draycott's study of the sculptor, Pietro Donelli, was watched with the keenest admiration, and his reception was great. Miss Muriel Thompson brings out the character of the adventuress, Violet Meredith, with matchless ease, and betrays the audience into frequent applause; Miss Rosa Mervyn makes a successful appeal as Vivette Delby; Mr. Arthur Mervyn proves a capital exponent of the husband, Harry Delby; Mr. Ernest J. Fare is very good as the villain, Wallace Danton; and Messrs. Eric Forth and H. Scotchard, as Walter Beal and Steve Meredith resectively, are both excellent. Mr. Will White as the Yorkshireman, John Crompton, and Miss Eva Norman as Sally Hodges, are very humorous and popular.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Bransby Williams again appears here in his representations of characters from the works of Shakespeare, Dickens, &c., and meets with his usual success. The next item of importance is that of Fred Lindsay, an Australian rancher, who accomplishes many marvellous feats with a whip; Livesey and Roseberry present an amusing sketch entitled *The Would-be Actors*; Le Berat is a clever serpentine dancer; Fred Elton, in his speciality scena, *On Board an Ocean Liner*, is exceptionally good; Hill and Whittaker are entertainers of a distinct type; and Harry Rochez, with his ponies and dogs; Eda Mardy, vocalist; and J. P. Ling, in a mimetic dialogue, complete an attractive programme.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A pretty little musical comedy, entitled *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*, in which the chief parts are taken by Arthur Watson and Flo Stanley, heads the bill here. The sketch also includes a goodly company of sailor lads and lasses, who are expert dancers. Gipsy Woolf and her Six Sunbeams appear in *The Mermaid of Margate*, which is very well received; John B. Coyle is here again, with new songs; Max Waldon introduces some clever studies as a female impersonator; the Coes give a refined musical turn; and the Wallys are particularly clever jugglers.

Gaiety.—General Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Crowded houses testify their approval of Lil Hawthorne, who is paying a welcome visit here this week. Foreman and Fannan, "the millionaires," give a clever parody on the Smart Set; Wyndham and Kitty appear in a novel wire act with a welcome supply of comedy; the Three Sisters Urma are smart trapeze artists; Lilly Langtry has a good reception, as also does Harry Leybourne, double-voiced comedian; Burg, Haud, and Wise give their musical comedy act; while Harry Wenburn, comedian, and several other good turns, complete the bill.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—George Kirk is paying a return visit here this week, with his talented company, in *Grip; or, The Fatal Hand*. Another capital turn is Chas. Fisher's Pocket Opera Co., in a charming song scena; the Six Lancashire Lasses give a capital exhibition of clog and other dancing; and Binns and Binns cause amusement in their own peculiar way. Frank Darwin, actor-vocalist, sings some songs for which he is well applauded; as is also Kitty Wager, a particularly neat comedienne. Fred Poplar is appreciated as a comedian; and Gertrude Bradshaw, a pretty singer, and the bioscope bring the show to a close.

Curzon Hall.—Mr. Walter Jeffs again opens his season here, with a fresh series of New Century pictures. By a wonderful combination of films, the audience is carried over the Atlantic, across the Continent, and through the very heart of California, the entertainment being further enhanced by the duets and song scenas of Mr. Richard A. Byland and Miss Violet Leslie.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Eden Theatre, Ltd.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—The Pardoes, who top the bill, work well together, and their comedy act, entitled, *Uncle and the Cannibal*, causes much laughter. Mlle. Sara's Marblesque Trio perform to perfection in their statuary tableaux turn, and Miss Lottie Holland, vocalist and dancer, deserves much praise, her turn being a very successful one; the Three Eltons, as well as being clever comedians, give a splendid performance on the horizontal bar; Frank Whitley, a negro comedian, has some funny songs, bone solo, &c.; Sam Shipley does himself justice in his song, "You can't push me over"; the Vanora Trio, of Continental musical and vocal fame, give a charming display; Miss Violet Rivers renders her songs in a most capable manner, and the programme is terminated by the Bioscope.

BLACKBURN.—New Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross and his company opened on Monday night with *The Manxman*, Mr. Cross being the Pete and Miss Minnie Waterford Kate Creegan. The play was to be repeated on Wednesday and Saturday; on Thursday *David Garrick* was given, and on Friday *Divorced*.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—The artists here are the Juanitas, Spanish acrobats; Libby Blundelle, American entertainer; Edmund Bosanquet, violinist; Mabel and Winnie Brooks, dancers; Alf Ripon, ventriloquist; Elgars, vocalists; Macdonald and Huntington, musical comedy artists; and Alfred Lester, comedian.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mrs. Patrick Campbell and company opened on Monday in *Magda*, when Mrs. Campbell played the title-rôle with lifelike realism; and Miss Stella Patrick Campbell submitted a clever study of Marie. Mr. Charles Garry appeared with much success as Leopold Schwartze; whilst Mr. Julian Royce as Hefterdingk and Mr. Alfred Goddard as Dr. von Keller also play their parts with credit and distinction. Miss Ivy Hertzog's representation of Augusta is likewise to be commended. *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* is being played during the latter part of the week.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sargenson.—*The Belle of Mayfair* is played by Mr. Milton Bode's company. Mr. Harry Parker as Sir John Chaldicott keeps the audience in a continual ripple of mirth, and is ably seconded by Miss Queenie Finnis as Julia Chaldicott; Mr. Fern Pounds is seen to advantage as Raymond Finchley; and Miss Aurelie de Loriere commands admiration as the Gibson Girl.

Palace Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The artists here this week are Nellie Wallace, the low comedy comedienne; Alf Gibson, the immobile one; J. W. Rickaby, the well-known burlesque comedian; the Brothers Redmond, acrobatic comedians; Frank Leon, dancer and quaint comedian; Hermann Melot, the great French conjuror; Burley and Burley, a pair of lively comedy acrobats; the Sisters Amaranth, acrobatic dancers; Pete and Juno, the coloured comedians; and the Three Laurels, in their speciality act on a ping-pong table. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope still shows the pictures.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. T. P. Duignan.—Charles Matthews, the famous jumper, tops this week's bill. Other artists appearing here are Gus Hindle, vocalist; Alice Maple, comedienne and dancer; Farr and Farland, comedians; Babs Lloyd, comedian; Barton and Franklin, in a musical act; W. G. Webber, a capital bass vocalist; Marie Gibson, comedienne; the Three Bordellias, gymnasts; and the Danbys, eccentric comedians and dancers.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Garside.—After a short vacation the above theatre re-opened on Saturday night for the season with Messrs. Garside and Knowles' company in *Her Marriage Vow*. In the portrayal of Gilbert Carlton, Mr. Edward Garside is well placed; to Mr. George Beverley every praise is due for a manly and well-studied performance of Ned Benton; Mr. J. Forbes Knowles found much favour as Duffy Dan; Mr. John W. Ryder gave a vigorous portrayal of William Walters. Hestor Norton, an heiress, was ably represented by Miss Nellie Shirley; whilst Miss Ruth Shepherd in the leading rôle of Kate Walton had a most enthusiastic reception; Mr. Dan Ryan as Larry Leary and Miss Nellie Garside as Maggie Clare were responsible for the humorous parts of the play.

The Gaiety.—Lessee, Mr. G. E. Good.—A good pictorial programme has been submitted here, augmented by variety turns supplied by Percy Slater, female impersonator, and others.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Wm. Tucker.—Winona, assisted by Captain King, rifle experts, form the attraction here, along with the pictures.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal, Lyd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and his répertoire company are appearing here. On Monday evening *David Garrick* and *The Bells* were staged, with Mr. G. Alexander Marsh as David Garrick, Mr. Allan Wilkie as Mathias, and Miss Carrie Baillie as Ada Ingot and Annette. During the week *The Merchant of Venice*, *Romeo and Juilet*, *Othello*, *Hamlet*, and *Richard III.*, have also been billed.

Grand Theatre, Lyd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Crowded houses have this week witnessed the unique entertainment presented by Talma, queen of coins, Servais Le Roy, king of conjurors, and Bosco, emperor of fun; the Brooklands, comediennes and dancers; Charles Vincent, comedian; Lorelle, in a novel speciality act; Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford, in their humorous musical duologue, *Getting Even*; George Antill, eccentric comedian; Lottie Siegenberg, in her original quick-change sketch, *The Mistress and the Maid*; Walter Wade, in his original scena, *Pasty Burke*; Jenny Reeves, comedienne; and Claire Beasy's highly trained cats.

BOOTLE.—Muncaster Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—After redecoration and alterations, which have improved the building considerably, this theatre reopened its doors on Monday evening with a stock company in *London's Curse*, which is given twice nightly. Mr. Albert Sember submits a fine piece of acting as George Montgomery; Mr. Stanley Gordon makes a capital Rev. Ernest Langton; Mr. Horace Denton acts with power and finish as Abraham Scroby; and as his accomplice, Marley, Mr. A. D. Adams is good; Miss M. Bradbourne is a sympathetic Mabel Montgomery; Miss M. Vaughton is charming as Lena Cameron; Miss Effie Macintosh is dainty and amusing as Lottie Smithers, and Mr. H. A. Allan as Mussells, and Mr. T. Tracey as Rory Drummond keep the audience in good humour. Other characters are very cleverly played.

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—The Tokio Troupe, a clever set of jugglers, present some original feats; F. St. Clair, topical vocalist, is well appreciated; Talberto and Douglas present a clever balancing turn, which is interspeted with an eccentric comedy act; Horace Wheatley, Irish humorist, is very successful, his dancing being greatly enjoyed; Vandinoff scores by painting pictures under different conditions; Frank Harwood, actor-vocalist, calls for much applause; Florence Deighton is a smart comedienne. The Hippodrome pictures maintain the usual interest.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—After being closed for a period of two months owing to alterations being necessary for the enlargement of the stage and dressing-rooms, this theatre reopened on Monday, when Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company presented *The Blue Moon*. The title-rôle was undertaken by Miss Clarice Lockstone, whose voice is admirably suited to the part; Miss Maude Aston as Millicent Leroy gave a most able representation, and obtained well-deserved encores for her songs; Miss Laura Leycester as Lady Augusta and Miss Marjorie Seymour as Ramah were very successful. The characters of Moolraj and Private Taylor were in the safe keeping of those two excellent actors Mr. Alfred Beers and Mr. Reginald Switz. The remaining parts were most capably filled, and special mention should be made of Mr. Alfred Clarke as Major Caillabone, Mr. J. Fraser as Capt. Ormsby, and Mr. Horace Manger as Bobbie Scott. Special praise must be accorded to Mr. Carlton Mason for his clever handling of the orchestra, which was augmented for the occasion.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—The regular dramatic season was commenced here on Monday night last by Mr. George Alexander's newly-organised company in Mr. Sutro's fine play *John Glayde's Honour*. There was a large audience, and the representation was received most enthusiastically. Mr. Philip Cuningham as the disappointed millionaire John Glayde submitted an impersonation of real strength and excellence; Mr. H. G. Bentley's Trevor Larode, the lover of Glayde's wife, was a cool, self-possessed effort; Mr. E. C. Vaughan played Howard Collingham (the latter's journalistic friend) very naturally; Mr. Cecil Bevan struck us as taking rather a gloomy view of the character of the humorist Christopher Branley; the blunt, alert, Michael Shurmur, Mr. Cyril Cattley, played satisfactorily; Mr. Frank Elton's Walters, the Waiter, was a well-studied character sketch; Miss Auriol Lee as the neglected wife Muriel Glayde was graceful, and powerful in the more impassioned scenes at the close of the play; Miss Beatrice Smith bore herself well as Princess de Castagnary; Miss Gwynneth Galton was excellent as Lady Larode; Dora Longman was charmingly played by Miss Mary Sumner; Miss Dorothy Moore-Lane did well as Mrs. Rennick. The play was beautifully staged, and the recalls were frequent.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl.—Miss Marie Studholme and company opened here on Monday evening, and have attracted large and delighted audiences. The musical comedy was superbly staged and dressed. Miss Marie Studholme submitted a charming and winsome portrayal of Joy Blossom; Miss Ethel Negretti, as Daphne Bell, displayed highly artistic vocalisation; Miss Stanley Ronalds acted with finish as Sylvaine; Miss Alice Barth proved highly entertaining as Lady Heldon; Miss Watt Turner as Mrs. Pomeroy P. Green was amusing; and Miss Edith Goodall sang effectively as Gabriel Renee. Mr. J. E. McArdle as Sir Harry Heldon, kept the house rippling with laughter with his dry humour; Mr. J. Robert Hale gave an excellent impersonation of the Hon. Jack Hylton; Mr. Tom Graves made a droll Oddy; Mr. Alexander Chentrens sang admirably as Maurice Le Blanc; and Mr. Frank Hector danced himself into great favour. The choruses were well sung, and the duties of conductor were carried out by Mr. Thomas M. Tunbridge, Mus. Bac. Oxon.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Messrs. Frank J. Pitt and Charles Halling's company is here this week with *£1000 Reward*. Mr. Valentine Henry is powerfully effective as Gilbert Lisle; Mr. Charles Halling submits a masterly impersonation of Vincent Rainsworth; Miss Lynn Darlington makes a charming Meg and sings in pleasing style; Mr. Frank J. Pitt is well suited as Fred Ingleford; Miss Daisy Halling is highly successful as Madame Sanson; Mr. Frank Dallas is a capital and amusing Inspector Gilbert; and entertaining representations are given by Miss Crissie Francesa (Kitty Springthorpe), Mr. Dick Seddon (Dick Springthorpe), and Mrs. Sidney Halling (Mrs. MacCarthy).

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is a capital company here this week. Alec Hurley, assisted by his coster comedians, submits a very amusing turn; Jessie Preston is a versatile and charming comedienne; Daisy Mayer, assisted by Paul Knox, gives coon stories with music in excellent style; the Carlyles are very clever dancers; Albert Letine's impersonations of female characters are admirable; George French is a capital character humorist and descriptive comedian; Marie Gros is a pleasing comedienne; Henry A. Moore, versatile actor mimic, wins applause; Walker and Lake are effective in extemporania; and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting and amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A very attractive programme is sustained here this week. Mark Sheridan, comedian, wins hearty applause with his capital songs and amusing patter; The Three Braggs are very smart and clever acrobats; Lamos and Montes are entertaining comedy acrobats; Jack Lorimer is a versatile comedian and eccentric dancer; Madie Scott, a gifted comedienne, is enthusiastically received; the Eight Lancashire Lads sing and dance themselves into high favour; Albert Wyndham and company are effective in the Shakespearean sketch *Clarence's Dream*; the Two Rubies are pleasing vocalists and dancers; Arthur Woodville is a diverting comedian; Wallace is a clever juggler; and the Barrascope pictures are amusing.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here this week with *Peter's Mother*. Mr. Percy Hutchison handles the part of the spoilt, selfish Peter with distinct skill; Miss Liliae Earle imparts sympathetic charm to her impersonation of Lady Mary; Mr. Alfred Bucklaw gives an earnest and convincing representation of John Crewys, Q.C.; and Miss Hilda Honiss is graceful and bright as Peter's sweetheart, Sarah. The remaining characters are ably represented, and the play is admirably mounted.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—The musical spectacle *Faust and Marguerite*, a version of the popular story by Mr. Joseph E. Cowell, is the chief attraction here this week. Mr. Cowell is highly successful in his enactment of Mephistopheles; Mr. J. R. Cunningham does well as Dr. Faust and the Young Gallant; Miss Lalla Cowell (Melrose) is admirably suited as Marguerite; Miss Emmie King as Siebel sings in pleasing style; while Mr. T. Ross (Valentine) and Miss Alice Murray (Dame Martha) are satisfactory. Dances by Miss Winifred Anderson, Miss Bertha Felsing, and Miss Dolly Glyde are praiseworthy. The programme closes with a screaming absurdity, which introduces the Melroses (Mat and Lalla) in their latest successes, *The New Page*, *The Naughty Dolls*, and *The Statue Ballet*.

BRISTOL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—*The Little Breadwinner* is being well played here by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company. Little Marjorie Laurence is in every way pleasing and effective in the title-rôle, Meg; Mr. H. B. Peppin makes an excellent part of Lord William Derington; Mr. Eric Maylie plays cleverly as Richard Laurence; Miss Janet Warden acts in sympathetic style as Margaret Daventry; Mr. Norman Hall is consistent throughout as Joseph Prior; and the comic parts of Bridget O'Flanagan, Bobby Trott, and Charles Prior are capitally taken by Miss Jenny Bostock, Miss Lissa Young, and Mr. Norman Hall. The play is staged with taste and liberality.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Louis Calvert's capable company is here with *Amasis*, the staging generally being on a very liberal scale. Mr. Rutland Barrington presents a capital exposition of Pharaoh; Mr. Lauri de Frece makes an amusing part of Sebak; Mr. Roland Cunningham is decidedly clever as Prince Anhotep; Miss Winifred O'Connor is in every way pleasing as Amasis, the Egyptian Princess; and Miss Mabel Burnege scores as her maid, Natis. All the other parts are in capable hands, and the chorus and augmented orchestra are effective.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—The Abdullah Arabs head the bill successfully, their feats of tumbling and pyramid-forming obtaining much applause. Florrie Forde, burlesque artist, is always a favourite here; and other turns meeting with approval are presented by Corani, ventriloquist; Gertie Gitana, vocalist and dancer; Dan Conroy, comedian; Slippere, blind musical entertainer; and Genero and Theol, equilibrists and contortionists; the performance concluding with interested animated pictures projected by Vernon's Bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Florrie Gallimore, burlesque artist, successfully presents a selection of her most popular songs, all of which are much applauded; Lawson and Namon amuse with their act, comprising comedy cycling, ball-punching, &c.; John Henderson and company have a good dramatic sketch, *Under the Maple Leaf*; and other effective turns are given by Cribb and Cribb, patter comedians; the Five Cadets, musical entertainers, &c.; Sterling and Love, in a vocal and instrumental act; Tom Hall, comedian; and Josie Delaine, comedienne. The performance concludes with animated pictures.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.—Superintendent, Capt. Villiers.—The attendance here was very large on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. The programme of the variety entertainment (provided by Mr. Tom Wood) included the Almo Troupe, triple bar experts; the Arnold Reneys, gymnasts; Ashley and Knight, knockabout comedians; La Belle Violetta and M. De Enri, wire performers; Albert Starkey, comedian; Mantell and Oval, comedy acrobats and contortionists; Newman and Latamar, bicycle polo and football players; Daisy Barker, serio and dancer; Paolias, juggler, &c.; and Brothers St. Clair, comedy knockabout trick cyclists. Mr. George Walker presided at the piano. Mr. Tom Weymouth's band played selections and for dancing. Fireworks were supplied by Messrs. Wilder, of Birmingham, and there was the usual Country Fair, amongst other attractions.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Mr. Edwin Garth (who has contributed much to the success of the new sketch, *Brother Bill*) had a good complimentary benefit on the 2nd inst., when in addition to the piece named, the audience were treated to acceptable turns by artists who gave their services on the occasion, including Marie Montague, comedienne and dancer; Pattie Hastings, comedienne; Teddy Lennon, eccentric comedian; Wilton Leslie, quaint comedian; Query Stratton, female impersonator; Ada Merry, comedienne; Brandon and Tayne, mirth merchants; Clement Thomas, ventriloquist, Marie Francis, and others. This week's attraction is provided by *Proof*, presented by Mr. and Mrs. Ian Maclaren's company. Pierre Lorance is ably sustained by Mr. S. Herbert Hamilton; Mr. Penn Hamilton is good as Lazare; Miss Thelma Kurz is a conspicuous success as Madeleine and afterwards as Adrienne; Mr. Carl Beechey as Chamboran and Mr. Bernard Elliott as Duke d'Auberterre are successful; Miss Alicia Raleigh creditably plays the part of Valentine; little Doris Denville makes a capital little Adrienne; Miss Elizabeth Dexter is a capable Mme. Depreis; Mr. G. Ridgway Thorne makes the most of his part of Victor De Langney; and Miss Beatrice Sinclair is worthy of special mention.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner. — This house reopened for the season to an excellent audience on Monday evening with Mr. John Leopold's clever company, in *The New Frivolity*. Mr. Watson Hume was decidedly funny as Oliver Buckwheat; Mr. A. Mordaunt created many laughs as Jules Vermiglio; and Mr. Willie Leopold as Sammy was quite a favourite. Mr. Tom Leopold introduced many good jokes as Professor Humble; Mr. Jno. Leopold, jun., made an acceptable Daniel Teething; and Mr. John Kelly was very good as Savory. Miss Amy Hall was a pretty Lucy; Miss Gladys Somers as Maud was most charming; and Madame Cobweb was ably represented by Miss Cathleen Cavanagh.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Most bewildering is the performance of the Okito Family, in a Chinese magical act, which is greeted with much applause; Stewart and Morgan, in a vocal scena, *Leaving Ireland*, in which are introduced many Irish melodies, are also the recipients of marked approbation; Tom Kelso and company are very funny in an absurdity, *The Silly Servant*; Nada Mosch, Australian vocalist, is very good; and Little Cliff greatly amuses with his grotesque dancing. Dolly Denver is a clever buck dancer; Alice Maude gives clever imitations of children; and Lady Julia, a very intelligent ape, gives a most interesting and pleasing performance. The Coiner's Daughter is the title of a very fine picture by the Empire Theatroscope.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE (NEW HIPPODROME).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Waller. The great holiday attraction here this week is *His House in Order*, by Mr. Geo. Alexander's capable company. Miss Grace Armitage Noble, who meets with an enthusiastic reception, presents an artistic study of the misunderstood wife. The dignified Filmer Jesson is admirably played by Mr. J. Edward Pearce; Mr. Stephen T. Ewart as Hilary Jesson gives a finished performance; a child actress of exceptional promise is Miss Victoria May Harris (Derek). The ultra-sympathetic Ridgeley quartet is successfully presented by Miss Blanka Stewart, Miss Augusta Haviland, Mr. Geo. Fitzgerald, and Mr. E. R. Hollway. Mr. Lloyd Lowndes (Major Maurewarde) and Mlle. Lilli Kear (Mlle. Thomé) complete an excellent cast.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS. — Proprietor, Mr. John Wood; Stage-Director, Mr. Gilbert E. Taylor.—This popular pleasure resort was packed on Monday, when three excellent concerts were given, encores being in great demand. The artists include Miss Irene Santley, Mr. Eric Vance, Mr. Walter Bates, Mr. Gilbert E. Taylor, Miss Annie Barton, Mr. Jack Clayton, and Mr. Allan Gordon (accompanist).

BURY (Lancs.). — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Marks. —After being closed eleven weeks, this house was opened on Monday with a capital variety performance. Since it was closed the building has been improved, decorated, &c., at a cost of £2,000. The artists this week include the George Bonhair Troupe of Risley acrobats; Jan Rudenyi, violinist, in a capital sketch, *The Power of Music*; Talbot and Pearce, in a Japanese musical duologue, called "Yo San"; Ruby Bijou, dancer; the Three Orros, on the silver chains; Harrigan and Holt, comedians; Carl Lynn, mimic; and Florence Esdaile, vocalist.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Marks.—The pictures this week represent the Passion Play, and are a splendid series. Other pictures include The Short-sighted Cyclist, The Smoking Chimney, The Window-Cleaner, &c. The variety turns are Miss Rose Harvey, vocalist; and Mr. Lade Henderson, vocalist.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead; General-Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—A good programme includes the Geni Family of acrobats; the Greys, soloists and duettists; Carney Bros. comedians; Marguerite Ismay and her white coons; Lottie de Abbey, character impersonator and vocalist; Will Sullivan, patterer; and Burns and Bentley, American dancers.

BUXTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—*The White Chrysanthemum* paid us its first visit on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday this week, and had a capital representation by Mr. Chas. Macdona's company. Mr. William Hartigan was a "peppery old salt" as Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage; and Mr. Victor Kahn played most acceptably as Reggie. Mr. Erskine Lang was eminently suited as Lieut. Belmont; and Mr. Frank Weir was very funny as Sin Chon. Mr. H. C. Walton had a most diverting character as Private Perks; Miss Blanche Astley was a very taking Cornelia Vanderdecken; and Miss Maude Duval was admirably placed as Betty Kenyon; Miss Pauline Potter was particularly successful as Sybil Cunningham.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Robert Redford.—Mr. Redford opened his autumn season on Monday night, with a welcome return visit of *The Silver King*, presented by G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's London company. The house on the opening night was packed with the usual holiday crowds, who did not fail to show their appreciation of this great drama. Mr. Herbert Ford undertakes the important part of Wilfred Denver in a thoroughly capable manner, delivering his lines with marked effect; Nellie Denver is sympathetically embodied by Miss Viola Holland; Mr. Franklin Graham, as the Spider is a cool and collected villain; and Miss Brinela Browne in the dual rôle of Olive Skinner and Pabitha Durden, submits capital impersonations; Mr. Tom Paulton, in the character of Daniel Jaikes is exceptionally good; Mr. Claude Vernon is successful as Corket; Mr. John Detliv as Elijah Combe; and Mr. John H. Manley as Cripps, present creditable delineations; while Mr. Allan Jeayes as Geoffrey Ware; and Miss Mabel Gardener as Mrs. Gamage, are deserving of praise.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—The boards are occupied this week by Mr. Chas. Harrington's No. 1 company, in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The well-known play is presented with additional attractions, including a grand plantation festival by real negroes and freed slaves, in which several variety turns are introduced with success. The whole of the numerous parts are in capable hands, and the piece has drawn capital houses during the holidays.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Lea.—Victoria Monks is making a great hit here, her convincing style and attractive manner making her songs exceptionally pleasing; Launceston Elliott is a marvel of strength, and uses none but living weights to demonstrate his athletic powers; Park's Eton Boys do much to deserve their title of champion boy singers of the world, their voices blending in pleasing harmony; another turn of special merit is the Legay Quartette of Parisian dancers; while J. W. Rowley, comedian, is an old favourite. C. Randolph King, Protean artist, Corcoran Bros., original musical ship builders, Clement Trio, in a novel flying trapeze act, Ella Dean, a charming contralto, and the Naval Review at Cowes shown on the Bioscope, complete an attractive entertainment.

CARLISLE.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mr. R. Stewart M'Kind; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—*Honour Thy Father* is here. Mr. T. Morton Powell has brought a strong company, and he has mounted and dressed the piece admirably. Mr. J. W. Evelyn as Gabriel Garth does some fine emotional acting; Mr. J. A. Wilson has a breezy manly style which exactly suits the character he portrays; Mr. Howell Travis, in the heavy part acts with appreciation; and Mr. Claude Merton, in the dual rôle of Job Merry and a lunatic, scores highly; Mr. Kenneth Black gives good support; and Mr. Fred W. Graham's amusing impersonation of Mike Copplestone creates roars of laughter and applause; Lillian Garth is excellently played by Miss Violet Hammersley, a sympathetic and clever actress.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Popi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Neil Kenyon heads the bill here, and his quaint humour is irresistible. Much disappointment was felt at the non-appearance of Daisy Dormer, who was indisposed, but a worthy and very capable substitute was found in Princess Pauline, a dainty comedienne, with good songs. Stylo's wonderful tricks must be seen to be credited; Robb Gilmore is funnier than ever. A clever and smartly worked sketch by Conway and Garland, a wonderful gymnastic display of the strong order, by Polo and Florence, and some nimble dancing by the Sisters St. Julian, have been much appreciated. The Pepiscope concludes with some attractive pictures.

CASTLEFORD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES. —Proprietors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will H. Emerson; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Travis.—Jack and Annie Chant are a merry couple, who infuse plenty of "life and go" into their songs and dances; Happy Attwood, a comedian, is received with much laughter and applause; Bishop and Vale, knockabouts, with songs and dances are an attractive feature of the bill; Miss Annie Rinder has a pleasing presence, and wins much favour in illustrated songs; Vosper, facial mimic and necromancer, is deserving of approval; La Diable Rouge, the mystic ventriloquist, is accorded a hearty welcome; Charles Lestree gives a smart exhibition of juggling; Billy M'Keever and Ada McGovern give a clever and neat exhibition of ball punching and club manipulating; and the Loyal Dominion co.'s animated pictures are the source of much interest and amusement.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—*Mr. Popple* is being played here by Mr. Chas. Macdona's company, under the management of Mr. Julian Graham. Mr. Edwin Brett in the title-rôle is deservedly popular; as La Bolero Miss Emmeline Orford scores a decided success; Miss Raynor Golder makes a pleasing Violet Brinton; and Miss Nora Morra is a lively and amusing Louise; the Platt of Mr. Tom May is a capital bit of work; and Messrs. Sydney Courtenay and Henry Chichester do well as George Hennay and Henry Doring respectively, the wives being ably represented by the Misses Ella Daincourt and Kate Graham Beck.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Phil Ray tops the bill here, and, as usual, convulses the audience with his patter; Simosa San interests all with her juggling act; Cissie Lupino is a neat transformation dancer; Smith and Johnson are on a welcome return visit; George Collins again makes a hit with "The fellows call me Jam"; Lacey's Erascope has a laughable film, The Armchair; also appearing are Lucy Coventry, serio and dancer, and the Kirbys, smart entertainers.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries.—The programme here includes Joe O'Gorman, Irish comedian; Piqno, gymnastic clown; James Lowry, the Newcastle singing furnaceman; Lena Brunton, comedienne; the Albert and Edmunds Troupe, in their farcical absurdity, *Two Up a Tree*; Billie Burford, comedian; the Brothers O'Gorman, vocalists and dancers; and a fresh series of pictures by the Edisonograph.

CHESTER.—ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Griff, the comedy juggler, is here this week, and is soon on good terms with the audience, his turn going better than ever; Mack Ollive also secures a hearty reception; the Carpos Bros. submit a clever mixture of acrobatism and sensational head and hand balancing; Marie Jones, a talented young actress, appears in a protean act, in which she makes a distinct hit; a smart eccentric comedian and dancer is found in the person of Will Freedo, who meets with considerable success; Vernon's Bioscope projects the miniature drama, "The Orphan Girl." Others contributing to the evening's amusement are Emil and Ediss, banjoists; Helen Macgregor, contralto; and T. C. Edwards, baritone.

CHORLEY (Lancs.).—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Hemingway.—This theatre was re-opened for the season on Monday, Mr. and Mrs. John E. Tomlinson's company presenting *Secrets*. As Ismallio, Miss Lizzie gave an exceptionally artistic performance, Miss Nellie Navarrro being decidedly successful as Zuelieka; and Miss Cissie Hartcourt capitally rendering Khassal Ki; Mr. John E. Tomlinson gave a strong impersonation of Ibramin Al Murad; Mr. Ernest R. Allen also doing well as the Hon. Cecil Cholmondeley; Mr. Wilton Richards was good as Nouredin Ali; and Mr. Reggie Brown effective as Lieut. Herbert Markham; Mr. H. C. Burt most capably undertook Khali; Mr. H. Woodin and Miss M. Palmer were bright and amusing as Peter Wilkins and Winnie Wilkins respectively.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—PALACE, LTD.—Managing Director, P. W. Willard, Esq.—The Five Musical Palmers top the bill here this week; and the rest of the company is made up of the Jimsons, in a novelty sketch, *The Burglar's Surprise*; H. J. Kishey, comedian; Zaro and Arno, comedy bar act; Adey Spencer, comedian; Daisy Palmer, dancer; and the Brothers Hayes, in a comedy act. Caban's Circus continues to give performances in the grounds, and also Norton Greenop's Lunar Sextette.

WESTCLIFF GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Graham, Russell, and Bentley.—In the company here are Miss Esther Franklin, contralto; Miss Rosa Dallow, soprano; Mr. James Davis, the well-known tenor; and Walter Rowley, the cartoonist. Mr. James Jefferson is the pianist.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Licensee, Mr. Fred Williams.—Mr. W. F. Jury continues to give his animated picture shows. Excellent business is being done.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Harold Montague; Manager, E. J. Barratt.—Mr. Montague is back here again with his Vagabonds, and giving his ever-popular show to good houses. The troupe is made up of Mesdames Olive Spark, Leslie Lulu, Marie Langmore, aond Ethel Mayaffre; and Messrs. Leslie Burgess, Claude Russell, and Harold Montague himself.

COLCHESTER.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—The premier turn for the holiday week is Abdy and Bushman's Canine Hippodrome, a particularly fine animal act; Martin Conway, with some very old favourites, goes in great style; Spangles and Sawdust give an exceptionally fine circus act; whilst Sydney and Maud Wood, on a return visit, dance in very dainty fashion; Nellie Chandos is as vivacious as ever; Marvelle and May present some highly-trained cockatoos and macaws; Chas. Lilburn scores with his nursery "props.," and May Barrett gives every satisfaction as a comedienne and dancer.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance. —The holiday bill of fare is being supplied this week by Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby, and his company in the melodrama *Man's Enemy*. Mr. Norman A. Overton is a manly Harry Stanton; and as General Sir Arthur Stanton Mr. William Jeans is very good. Mr. William Atherstone well maintains his reputation in the part of Tom Drake; and as Count Lanski Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby is really creditable. Fred Owen is funny as Isaac Barnett, and is ably assisted by Miss Eva Reed as Polly Harris. Misses Clare O'Sullivan and Evelyn Gelderd are worthy of mention in their respective parts of Grace Lisle and Mrs. Saunders; and as Sarah Drake Miss V. St. Lawrence thoroughly deserves the applause accorded her for her able personation of the part.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—*The Walls of Jericho*, by Mr. Alfred Sutro, is here this week. As Jack Forbisher, Mr. Wilfred E. Payne plays with great fervour and earnestness; as Lady Alethea Forbisher, Miss Dora Hole gives a finished rendering of the part; Hankey Bannister is capitally portrayed by Mr. E. Spencer Geach; Mr. W. Kingsford Pearce furnishes a fine study of the Marquis of Steventon; the Harry Dallas of Mr. Charles Fancourt is an excellent performance; Miss Elsie Rose (Lady Lucy Derenham), Mr. Gerald Henson (Lord Drayton), are capital artists. The present engagement is under the direction of Messrs. Sylvanus Dauncey and M. H. Leveaux.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. William Bennett.—*The Love that Women Desire* is being presented by Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, the author. As the heroine Sybil Thornburn, Miss Lalla commands the full appreciation of the audience, being ably supported by Mr. John Davidson, who gives an able rendering of Philip Cornaby; Mr. J. O. Stewart is a typical country squire; while his son is well represented by Mr. Oliver Rogers; considerable humour is imparted by Mr. J. W. Wilkinson, John Hignell, and Miss W. Barton, as P.C. Lowerburry, Dennis O'Rourke, and Patie Swift respectively. The other characters are suitably illustrated.

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—A good programme is provided here this week. Very smart are the Dayton Family in their acrobatic novelty, *Le Rendezvous*; another good turn is the performance of a troupe of birds, who do really wonderful things under the care of Madame Mazella; Messrs. Lee and Hanvaar give a good juggling turn; the Silvertone Quartette dance and sing well; Messrs. Sibb and Sibb are entertaining gymnasts; and other capable artists are Oliom and Page, and Miss Daisy Smith. The Bioscope shows some good pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance; Manager, Mr. K. Draco.—The holiday programme here includes Mr. R. A. Roberts, the protean actor, who impersonates eight characters with wonderful rapidity; Charles Coborn appears after a long absence, and his coster song wins loud cheers; Mr. W. Selkirk presents a juvenile spectacle, *The Handy Man*, assisted by Coventry children; La Belle Nello gives a remarkable exhibition as contortionist and balancer; other items are Janette Hall, who has a pleasing voice; Charles Stevens, character vocalist; Forest and King; and Ouida Macdermott, comedienne, the Bioscope pictures concluding.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—This popular playhouse opened the season on Bank Holiday before a large audience with Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company in *Leah Kleschna*. Mr. Wm. Clayton gave a brilliant rendering of Kleschna; Mr. William F. Grant played Paul Sylvaine in a masterful and easy manner; Mr. Hamilton Deane appeared with marked success as Raoul Berton; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid was well placed as Schram, and Mr. Charles Barrett gave a dignified portrayal of General Berton; Miss Bessie Rignold's performance of Leah will long be remembered as a superb piece of acting; Miss Violet Thorold was a dainty Sophie Champonniere; Miss Emmie Wallace a delightful Claire Berton, and Miss Ethel Russell a capital Mme. Berton.

CROMER. — TOWN HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Baring Brothers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Dudley Cranston.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company opened its tour here on Bank Holiday in *A Chinese Honeymoon*, which was received with marked enthusiasm by a packed house. Among those who won special favour were Miss Kitty Clayton as Fi-Fi, Miss May Davis as Mrs. Pineapple, Mr. Ernest Sefton as Mr. Pineapple, Miss Alma Bolton as Mrs. Brown, Mr. Lindsay Harman as Hi-Lung, Miss May Stevenson as Soo-Soo, and Misses Madge Davis and Sybil Ross as the Bridesmaids, Florrie and Violet. The scenery and dresses are all new.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Herrick.—Miss Marie Auckland's company in *Saved from the Sea* is here. Mr. David G. Noble gives a good rendering of Dann Ellington; Mr. George Wallace as Jim Weaver gives a capital portrayal; Mr. Frank Litchfield as Peter Scalcher is exceptionally good; Mr. E. Lodge Percy is well suited to the rôle of Richard Fenton; Mr. George K. Ashley deserves the highest congratulations in his representation of Jenkins; Mr. Arthur Talbot as Governor of Barchester Gaol is a prominent figure; and Mr. William Skelton as Billy Snooks is received with favour. Miss Mabelle Carr as Polly Blake earns distinction; Miss Rita Wallace plays the part of Jack Ellington in fine style; and the difficult rôle of Nancy Ellington is most admirably presented by Miss Marie Auckland.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—The holiday programme at this popular house includes Will English, the smart and interesting comedian; Gardiner and Vincent, in spectacular fantasy, *Winning a Queen*; Isabella Dillon, a neat vocalist; Walter King, a droll comedian; Fred Herbert, popular vocalist; the thought-reading dog, Pilu; Hunt and Thomas, in skit, *Her Birthday*; the Four Hearnes, clever comedy acrobats; Cliff Ryland, comedian; and the Imperial Bioscope.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Fitzgerald and his club juggling girls top the bill here; Pantzer and Renz, comedy acrobats, are extra; the Two Bendons do a very pleasing sketch, *That's How They Say Good-Night*; Miss May Yole is a refined vocalist; Miss Polly Adula is a clever comedienne and dancer; the Russells, with illustrated songs, are quite up to date; Mr. Will Vail gives great satisfaction; Mr. Hughes's codology is richly amusing.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—This house opened for the season this week with Miss Winifred Maude's company in *The Sins of a City*. Miss Maude gives a pleasing and sympathetic rendering as Seaweed; Mr. Victor Du Cane is a great success as the Jew, Levi; Mr. Wm. Bradford is capable in the heavy part of Ralph Blackwater; Mr. T. Arthur Ellis is responsible for a clever character study as the miser, Jasper Woodleigh; and as Donald McIvor, Mr. Leonard S. Harrison puts just the right amount of pathos into his work; Mr. M. Fenton acts well as Joe Woodleigh; and Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle makes the most of Sandy McDonald; Miss Marie Lyons achieves a success as Lesbia; while Miss Jenny Hackett creates roars of laughter as Midge. *The Stowaway* is also in the week's programme.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwards; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Charles Denley and Herbert Taylor.—The principal attraction here this week consists of H. Leslie Pearl and company in *The Red Letter*. The sketch is well mounted and capably presented. Another turn which is deserving of commendation is that of Troba, Continental equilibrist and juggler; the Wedburns, comic instrumentalists, keep the house in roars of laughter; Cline and Clark contribute some exceptionally clever dancing; the Sivanes prove themselves droll comedians; Wild, Willie, and West, the Bounding Navvies, in no way belie their designation; Montague Biggs is a clever female impersonator; Minnie D'Arbyn is an acceptable comedienne; and the Bioscope terminates with a unique film.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King.—Mr. J. H. Taylor's company in *The Worst Woman in London* drew a fine house to the Metropole on Monday. Miss Olga Andre played the title-rôle, and is no stranger to Devonport; her capable acting substantiated the high opinion her friends have of her. Miss Elizabeth Watkins did well as Ruth Milford; and Mr. George Gaisford worked hard as Jack Felton. The lesser parts were in very capable hands.

DONCASTER.—GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman. — This week we have Miss Emma Litchfield's company in *A Clever Impostor*. Mr. Stuart Cleveland gave a diplomatic and artistic account of himself as Manuel Teixeira; Mr. Sydney Bryant as Jim Brightside was excellent; the part of Matakan, an Indian, was well played by Mr. William Waring; Misses Isabel Singleton and Madge Trevelyan, who respectively assumed the rôles of Maisie and Margaret Grosvenor, receive worthy recognition; Miss Emma Litchfield enacts with delightful *naiveté* Sarah Ellen, a Lancashire lass, Molly O'Flynn from Killarney, and, lastly, old Rebecca, a Jewess.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—The attraction at Mr. Alfred Hemming's popular playhouse is Mr. George Dance's company in *The Catch of the Season*, which has drawn large and appreciative audiences. Mr. Frank Lincoln as the Duke of St. Jermyns is alert, and works hard to gain his points, singing and dancing with effect. As Lord Dundreary Mr. Tom Shelford evoked legitimate laughter. Miss Mona Mannering played prettily as Angela; the two sisters were realised dramatically by Miss Greville and Miss Carew; Miss Ernestine Walker contributed some dramatic moments as Lady Crystal. The chorus, dresses, and appointments were all that could be desired.

GAIETY THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—The attraction here is Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Zena Dare in a triple bill, *Papa's Wife*, *You and I*, and *Scrooge*. Miss Zena Dare sings with charm and dances with grace. Mr. Seymour Hicks presents a dashing portrait of Gerald Singleton in the first-named playlet; and in *Scrooge* his efforts are highly appreciated. Mr. William Lugg, a really fine actor of ripe experience, makes a ghost of importance; and Mr. J. C. Buckstone plays well as Bob Crackitt. The little piece is beautifully staged, and the concealed chorus of children has a fine effect. Miss Kate Butler is enthusiastically applauded for her songs.

THE PALACE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun. The Palace has been crowded to its utmost capacity. In addition to the elegant ball-room, with its fine floor and orchestra for dancing purposes under the direction of Mr. Harry Wood, Mr. Charles Fox, jun., presents a popular variety programme. Mlle. Leola's juggling is admired; the Tiger Lily acrobatic dance catches on; Datas, the Memory Man, puzzles all; the De Breans present a good show; and the Selbinis excite vociferous applause. Mr. Wilson Hallett's entertainment is refined and clever; while Mr. Ernest Shand, with his new and old songs, creates a furore. The Vernon Bioscope proves a pleasant interlude. Mr. Sydney Leighton's Bohemian Players are a distinct feature in the beautiful grounds of the Palace when fine, and in the Opera House if otherwise.

DERBY CASTLE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Kelly.—This popular place of amusement presents nightly a sea of well-pleased faces. The floor is in exquisite condition for dancing, and Mr. Harry Wood's orchestra discourses attractive music. The turns also are of A1 quality. Miss Hetty King has established herself as a favourite; Sylvo is a comedy juggler who is really funny; Texas Hattie's interlude on the tight-rope is daring and dexterous; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto present a cycle act which takes a lot of beating; the Mayvilles' Liliputian novelty act is clever; Mr. Herbert Clifton is a successful mimic; Vernon's Bioscope is also here. The Dance Competitions have proved a fine attraction.

HIPPODROME.—Director and Manager, Mr. F. J. Connor.—Crowded houses reward Mr. F. J. Connor's enterprising management at the establishment in Parade-street. This week, in addition to artists who have made a favourable impression on the visitors, some new turns are exploited with success. The Five Saxonias present a musical speciality which is well received; a really funny farce, *The Prince and the Tinker*, capitally played by the members of the company, excites uproarious laughter. Madame Thelma and Mr. Harry Groves stage a new sketch, *The Lady Thought

Beatrice Manning made a vivacious Susan. A tragic little curtain-raiser, entitled *Meg, the Mobswoman*, preceded the play, and Miss Katherine Harrington in the title-part proved herself to be an actress of great ability. Quite a feature was the excellent manner in which the pieces were mounted.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam McIntosh. — An excellent programme is placed before the audiences here this week. R. A. Speedwell, portrait painter, in his lightning sketches of present-day celebrities, is very much appreciated; Sisters Currie and Wallie Scott captivate the audience, their dancing being particularly smart; Nellie Randall, comedienne, is very popular, her catchy songs going down well with the audience; Phern and Phern are very entertaining in a novel musical act; Steeley and Dowton, comedy artists, are very clever; Joe Mac, an eccentric comedian, with some smart gags, is successful in tickling the risible faculties of the house; Little Hales gains applause as a vocalist and dancer; while Professor Anderson, in some smart conjuring feats, and Tom Garland, a first-rate ventriloquist, prove acceptable. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope shows some class films. Mr. McIntosh, the newly-appointed manager of the theatre, was last week presented by Dr. Walford Bodie with a gold ring, and gold brooch for his wife, as tokens of the esteem in which they are held by patrons of the house, and also as best wishes for a successful period of management.

New Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Professor Alex, the eminent hypnotist, is still here, and repeats his last week's success. He displays his abilities in such a manner as to excite wonder in the minds of his audience. Little Don, in his quaint oddities, is very funny; Joe Humphries makes a big hit, his song, "Actions speak louder than words," being vociferously applauded; Leslie H. Murray, as a magician, does many smart tricks, and completely mystifies his audience; Marie Winsome is a dashing male impersonator; Kitty Love is a refined comedienne, her songs seemingly being to the taste of her audience; Edgar and Morgan, duettists, in a pot-pourri of "coon" ditties, take well; and Crosby and Walker, comedians and patterers, are very smart. Some new and excellent films were shown on the Electro Motoroscope.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—The Twentieth Century Animated Picture Company entered on their second week here on Monday night. The pictures shown, all new to the audience, and of a varied nature, were received with enthusiasm. Especially was this so in the case of the picture illustrating all the episodes in the Thaw case. The variety turns include that popular comedian Johnny McElroy, who greatly amuses the audience with his funny songs; Miss Maude Le Ray is a charming comedienne; and the sketch company, in the screaming farce *A Milkman in a Fix*, taken part in by Mr. Johnny McElroy, Mr. Douglas Hutchins, Miss Dora Moorhouse, and Miss Maude Le Ray, create roars of laughter from start to finish.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Park Theatre. —Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark. —Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company, under the direction of Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux, has been appearing here in *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton does excellent and effective work as Jack Frobisher; Mr. Russel Barry is efficient as Hankey Bannister; Mr. Ben Lewin contributes able acting as the Marquis of Steventon; Mr. George Percy is a distinct and animated Hannaford; Mr. Eustace Burnaby is a smart and easy Harry Dallas; and capital assistance is rendered by Mr. Douglas E. Heywood as Renton, Mr. Hanworth Browning as Marchmont, and Mr. E. Coutts as Drayton. Miss Edith Cuthbert has changed her part of Miss Mornington for that of Lady Alethea, and in the latter character she attains considerable success; Miss Nona Wynne is a refined, fresh, and girlish Lucy; Miss Mabel Wynne is a very sympathetic Lady Westerby; Miss Pauline Straus works earnestly and elaborately as Miss Mornington; Miss Florence Steventon is a charming Lady Parchester, and good work is done by Miss M. L. Emden as the Duchess of Skye and Miss G. Merrick as Miss Wyatt. During the latter part of the week the English Opera Company under the direction of Mr. H. T. Friend, is billed to appear in *Faust*, *Maritana*, and *The Marriage of Figaro*.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Baron H. Harris's company has been appearing here in *The Prince of Pilsen*. Miss Sophie Harris, attired in beautiful costumes, is a smart, handsome Mrs. Maddison, and her songs are admirably rendered; Miss Ernestine Desborough as Edith Adams is possessed of a beautiful voice, and she is very bright and interesting; Miss Minnie Muir sings, acts, and dances in a most dainty and charming manner; Miss Connie Leon, pretty and pert, is a vivacious Sidonie; and Miss Mollie Wynne is a smart Jimmie; The really excellent comedy work of Mr. Harry Kilburn needs special mention, for as Hans Wagner he convulses the audience with laughter; Mr. Frank Crimp adds to a fine appearance capital ability, and he is well suited as Carl Otto; Mr. S. Linden Lang does excellently as Lieut. Wagner; Mr. Bernard Russell is a very satisfactory Arthur; and Mr. Ernest Gifford is an agile dancer and capable François. A large and tuneful chorus is under the direction of Mr. Albert Vernon. The Zancigs and a good concert party attracted a crowded house on Tuesday afternoon, when Mr. and Mrs. Zancig completely mystified the audience.

The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day. —Mr. John Terry and Miss Mabel Lambert use fine voices with splendid effect; Miss Dora Lyric is a handsome and popular singer; the Misses Florence and Lillian, musicians, win special praise for their exceptionally able work; Little Ganty keeps the house in roars of laughter; Alsopp and Reckwith are a capable comedy couple; Miss Flo Cecil sings and dances well; and Miss Madge May pleases as a comedienne.

The Floral Hall.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. E. A. Brown.—The Duke of Devonshire's orchestra continues its performances here; and Herr P. Tass, the conductor, is to be congratulated upon the very fine state of efficiency to which the orchestra has been brought. On Sunday afternoon and evening very large audiences assembled and showed evident pleasure and satisfaction at the interesting programme. Mr. McCormack sang very delightfully.

EDINBURGH.—Royal Lyceum Theatre, Ltd.— General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Carpenter.—The engagement of the D'Oyly Carte Company stands high in the estimation of Edinburgh playgoers, and on Monday last the company opened there with *The Mikado* before an audience which crowded the theatre from floor to ceiling. Mr. Charles R. Walenn, an original and quaint comedian, played Ko-Ko with unforced humour, and was more than once encored for his clever singing; Mr. Strafford Moss as Nanki-Poo acted with much *bonhomie*, and displayed a sweet and carefully-trained voice in his solos; that sound actor and popular favourite, Mr. Fred Billington, was in his old part of Pooh-Ba, and acted with unfailing humour; Mr. Leicester Tunks as the Mikado gave a skilful, artistic performance; and Mr. Leo Sheffield was entertaining in the part of Pish-Tush. Miss Hope Hastings was a bright, girlish Yum-Yum, acting gracefully and singing expressively; Miss Beatrice Meredith was an engaging Pitti-Sing, and shared in the applause that fell to the rendering of the concerted numbers; while Miss Mabel Graham was a pretty, effective Peep-Bo. Miss Theresa Rassam was, vocally and dramatically, a splendid Katisha. Mr. Fred Drawater as Go-To contributed his full share, with the members of the chorus, to a perfect *ensemble*. Mr. T. Silver deserves great praise for his ability as conductor. *The Yeomen of the Guard* was played on Tuesday, Mr. Walenn again distinguishing himself as Jack Point; and during the week the programme was varied with *Patience*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *After All* and *The Gondoliers*.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead. —The variety programme for the week has included Mr. Joe Peterman and his company in the musical extravaganza, *The Belle of the Orient*, which provides a very entertaining half-hour. The Two Alaskas contribute a novel and humorous acrobatic turn; Mr. J. T. Macmillan's bright style as a Scottish comedian ensures him a gratifying welcome; the Ottawas introduce a pleasing musical act with something new in the way of stage-setting; Reed and Stevens are happy in their farcical duologue, *Married or Photographed*; Caselli displays great skill as a banjo player; Miss Odeyne Spark and Mr. Charles Rose are both successful vocalists and dancers; Miss Kitty Malone makes a speciality of a Gibson Girl scena; and Bioscope pictures are an interesting feature in the bill.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole. —The Craggs give the leading turn here this week with their breezy comedy and acrobatic sketch *Billy*. Alexandra and Hughes, the popular comedians, make a welcome reappearance and provide good entertainment; and Mr. Walter Munro, an old friend and much-appreciated performer, revives pleasant memories with some of his former successes. Miss Ray Wallace gives her clever imitations of many music hall celebrities; the Caselli Sisters show to advantage as experi dancers; Orpheus introduces, with great effect, a musical scena, entitled *A Solitary Rehearsal*; Wilson and Waring appear successfully in a quick-change sketch, *A Bit of Nonsense*; Harvey's boy and girl troupe contribute a very pleasing turn of songs and dances; Mr. Harry Weldon scores with a selection of comic ditties; and De Gracia's elephant team of cricketers and football players show considerable enthusiasm as well as drollery in their sports. The aeronaut Bioscope pictures are of more than usual interest and very amusing.

EDMONTON.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Joseph L. S. Moss; Manageress, Mrs. Amelia H. B. Moss.—The theatre has been closed for the last ten weeks, and has undergone extensive structural alterations and decorations, which were described in our last issue. The piece selected for the opening night, Thursday, the 1st inst., was Mr. C. Watson Mill's *A Warning to Women*, of which Mr. Mill is the author. He himself played the leading part, and a fine performance it was. He was supported by a company of great excellence, and the scenery was very handsome. During the present week Messrs. Fred Acton and H. C. Nash's company is appearing in *Between the Lights*.

EXETER.—Theatre Royal.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—The theatre was reopened after the usual summer vacation by Mr. John A. Thomson's company in *Jane*. Miss Blanche Bayley played the name-part in an excellent manner; Charles was capitally portrayed by Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves; the rôle of William Tipson was successfully taken by Mr. Frank Medhurst; and Mr. Kershaw was depicted in happy style by Mr. John A. Thomson. On Tuesday Captain Marshall's farcical romance, *His Excellency the Governor*, was played by the same company. Mr. Robin Shiels made an exceedingly good Sir Montagu; Mr. W. H. Hargreaves was excellent as Captain Charles Carew; and Mr. Frank Medhurst as the private secretary was well placed. Miss Maude Fergusson as Stella de Gex was all that could be desired; and Miss Laura Walker was graceful and charming as Ethel Carlton. During the week Mr. Thomson's company also played *Facing the Music*, *David Garrick*, and *Lady Audley's Secret*.

FALKIRK.—The chief turn this week at Mr. Collingwood Hope's open-air entertainment is that given by Jack Sheppard and Miss Ruby Vesta, in their great trunk mystery. Mr. Hope's animated pictures are very fine, and give great delight to the large audiences.

GAINSBOROUGH.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Stear.—Mr. Reginald Dance's company opened here on Monday for three nights with *Raffles, the Amateur Cracksman*. Mr. Dance gives a clever rendering of the title-rôle; Mr. Ed. Irwin played the part of Curtis Bedford with marked ability; and the same remark may be applied to Miss Katie Yates as Gwendoline. Mr. Briscoe Owen, Mr. C. R. Bertram, Mr. S. Lathbury, and Misses May Brooke and Mildred Orme completed a capital cast. *Jerry and a Sunbeam* was played as a curtain-raiser. Scenery and mounting were excellent.

GATESHEAD. — King's Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—De Biere, an accomplished mystifier, is the "star" of an excellent holiday programme submitted at this house. The Bale Troupe of acrobatic cyclists go through a daring performance with success; Dusty Rhodes, a genuine comedian with a fine tenor voice, arouses enthusiasm; Walker and May, coloured comedians and dancers, are on a return visit and are heartily welcomed; Bandoni, described as "the one-man band," is appreciated; Harry Bent, mimic, Carlotta Lunn, comedienne, and pictures by Vernon's Bioscope complete a capital "bill."

Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Mr. Horace Stanley and company in the drama *Guilty Gold* provide the fare here. In his depiction of Harold Elmore Mr. Wallace Campbell is highly successful; Ralph Bartlett, the customary type of stage villain, is efficiently portrayed by Mr. Fred Wilberforce; a powerful impersonation of John Middleton emanates from Mr. David Curtis; Mr. Stanley fills the part of Septimus Sweet with success; a very sweet and girlish Elsie Middleton is presented by Miss Rosalie Heath; Miss Josephine Lee depicts Hetty Hoyle in a clever manner; Rhoda Hampton, the villainess, receives the best attention from Miss Effie Bartlett; a vivacious Nancy Bright is presented by Miss Kate Kilpack; and other parts are in the hands of capable artists.

GLASGOW.—King's, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Large audiences are greeting Mr. Edward Marris's company this week in *The Dandy Doctor*. Owing to the indisposition of Mr. William Rokeby the part of Mr. Brown, the millionaire, was played by Mr. Owen Dacroy, who evoked plenty of merriment. As Colonel Pendred Mr. Herbert Pearce causes roars of laughter; the Dr. Vandyke of Mr. Leslie Winter and Bertie Bolingbroke of Mr. Walter Nugent also adding to the fun. Miss Ethel Ward is a dainty Ivy Pendred, and sings her numbers sweetly; as Jane Miss Florence Smithers arouses shrieks of delight in her clever and comical performance; and the remaining characters are ably filled, the chorus doing their work well.

Grand, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Anthony. —*A Trip to the Highlands* makes an excellent opening attraction here after the summer vacation, and receives hearty welcomes from large audiences. Mr. Wal Croft as the Macmutchkin proves as funny as ever; and Mr. Willie Scott makes a first-rate Timmins. Miss Isa Bowman is bright and lively as Winnie, and her various songs and dances are given with much vivacity. Another clever artist is Miss Nellie Burdette, who as Fanny Flounce acts, sings, and dances with lots of sparkle and "go." Mr. Wellesley Smith is an impressive Lord Lackington; and the contrasting part of the soap-boiler, Sir Septimus Brown-Windsor, is cleverly played by Mr. James Somerville. Mr. Frank Barclay sings well as young Lackington; Miss Grace Desmond as Araminta, Miss Grace Olivia as the wife of Macmutchkin, and Misses Kate Robey and Clara Moore as a couple of young lovers, ably assist in the fun of the piece. As the detective Mr. Harry A. Gribben introduces some clever business, and makes a hit with a whistling solo. A bright chorus and Highland pipers and dancers give animation to the various scenes, and the views of Scottish scenery shown between the acts are much appreciated. A concession has been made to the patrons in the shape of allowing smoking in the auditorium.

Royal Princess's.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—This popular playhouse opened for the season on Monday with a very effective performance of *The Sorrows of Satan*, by Miss Lois Esmond's company. The rôle of Prince Lucio Kimanez was undertaken by Mr. Edward Neville, who gave a refined and expressive interpretation of the character; Mr. F. Douglas Howard was the Geoffrey Tempest, and succeeded admirably; Mr. Fred Cherry as Morris and Mr. Charles Ninian as Amiel supplied most of the humour of the piece; the parts of Lord Lynton and the Earl of Elton were ably filled by Messrs. Edwin Ramsdale and J. Le Fleming; the heroine, Mavis Clare, was undertaken by Miss Ethel St. Barbe, whose rendering of the part deserves praise; Miss Lois Esmond gave a characteristic impersonation of the American girl Diana Chesney; Lady Elton was well represented by Miss Rosie Neville; and Miss Cecil Byrne's Mrs. Grimbes was particularly good. *Two Soft* was played as a curtain-raiser. During the vacation the theatre has been handsomely decorated, and smoking is now permitted in all parts.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—*The Hero of the Flag* is presented by Mr. Edward McLean, whose company includes Miss Amy Randolph, who makes a fine impersonation in the title-part. Mr. McLean is seen to advantage in the fitting rôle of Jack Lawrence. Among others worthy of mention are Mr. Midgley Russell, Mr. Maurice Lambert, Mr. Arthur Newburn, and Mr. Magill Martyn. Miss Nellie Lauraine wins sympathy in the part of Ruth Clifford; and a pleasing spice of variety is lent to the play by some excellent light comedy work from Mr. Lewis Edmonde as Johnny Truckle and Miss Nellie Hook as Jennie Stubbs. The piece is capitally staged. The phonograph selections and the animated pictures continue to be much appreciated.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager Mr. J. H. Oakden.—This theatre reopened for the autumn season on Monday with Miss Bonwin Carlton's company in *The Plucky Nipper*, the cast being the same as at the Metropole last week. Miss Carlton as Polly, Mr. Edward Surrey as Bill Burgess, Mr. H. J. Butler as Colonel Fenwick, Mr. Sidney Moore as Capt. Frank Leslie, and Miss Esther Lamont as Ina Fenwick give clever renderings of the leading parts. Later in the week *The Old, Old Story* was given. Falling into line with the other drama houses, the Lyceum now permits smoking, and the innovation is likely to be popular here.

Empire, Ltd.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Manners.—Much interest is taken in the scientific novelty introduced by Miss Alice Norton, which consists of the manufacture of rubies and sapphires in full view of the audience. The Poluski Bros., an extremely funny couple, are great favourites; a clever sketch, entitled *327, Finsbury*, is presented by Arthur Playfair and Constance Hyem; the piece is cleverly acted, and met with a cordial reception. Millie Engler and company also produce a laughter-making sketch, entitled *Beauty and the Burglar*; Garden and Haines are a smart pair of Australian comedians; Gwladys Elvey interprets her songs in pleasing style; Lottie Govell is a sprightly dancer; the Simms dance and sing in an acceptable manner; and a very interesting turn is a troupe of Siberian wolfhounds.

Zoo-Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Constant Le Marin, the Belgian wrestler, is accounting for a large part of the excellent houses which are recorded this week. Gracie Moore sings a song and chorus pictorially illustrated; Erick, a ventriloquist, in clever and novel business, and Harry Simms, a smart light comedian, are both well received; C. R. Whittle, in several excellent songs, is heartily encored; Francis, the Cannon Ball King, and his very humorous assistant Alfred, and Martin Henderson, a blind concertina player, are also deservedly recalled. Cleland adds to the mirth of the evening in a funny juggling act; and Frank Elliston and company keep the house in a roar with the sketch *Aunt Matilda*. Willie's Dream and other good pictures on the Bioscope complete a first-rate programme.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Marie Dainton is starring here, and her impersonations of stage celebrities are wonderfully faithful. Roland, the Wizard, has some striking illusions, and altogether his turn is most mystifying; the Bros. Webb take high rank as musicians; Gus W. Blake and Maude Granby cause roars of laughter with their clever sketch, *The Man in Possession;* Alice Blandford is the possessor of a tuneful voice, and her songs are much enjoyed; Conan and Doyle as patterers are specially clever, and get a hearty reception; the Three San Remo Girls sing and dance with much vim and take well.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—A capital programme here this week includes the popular Lottie Lennox, whose catchy chorus songs are heartily enjoyed by the large audiences. The other artists are well received, excellent entertainment being provided by Ted Cowan, comedian; the Reignors, vocalists and dancers; Franco Midgets, a clever, amusing pair; Arthur Slater; Arthur Rigby, in *The March of the Married Men*, received with roars of laughter; Katie Marsh, vocalist and dancer, the Meelys, in their comedy act, and George Bendon, the White Coon.

Coliseum.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—G. H. Elliot, coon comedian, is an outstanding item of this week's programme, the large audience showing their approval by repeated recalls. Another turn that is highly appreciated is that by the Moulier Sisters, who give a capital display on the horizontal bars. Other notable artists in the programme include Maude Rochee, with her variety theatre controlled by monkeys; King Kingston, with illustrated songs; Effie Stuart, Scotch comedienne and dancer; W. A. Haines; Alan Borthwick and company, sketch artists; the Marconis, electric wonder-workers; Miles-Stavordale Quartette of instrumentalists, J. B. Preston, successful Scotch comedian, and the Bioscope with an up-to-date set of pictures.

Gaiety, Ltd.—General Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—A good programme is again submitted here. Tom Mills scores in his John Bull impersonation, a clever turn. Sisters Henderson are neat dancers and skilled musicians; Ryde and Beeman, as acrobatic tumblers, display much ability; Ella Duncarson's illustrated songs prove highly popular; Flo Velma as a male impersonator, Fred Alberto, comedian, and the Bioscope also furnish enjoyable contributions.

Britannia.—Proprietor and Director, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—The Rowntrees, comedy duo, are at the top of the bill here this week, and uphold the position with credit. The Morellis, clever musical speciality artists, were also specially favoured; and the programme is completed by Bennie, singing ventriloquist, Vesta Ray, comedienne, J. H. Bowman, comedian and dancer, and the Bioscope with several interesting pictures.

GLOUCESTER.—Palace.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—The renowned magician, Chung-Ling-Soo, is topping the bill here this week, and is supported by a strong company of artists, including Miss Cissie Curlette, comedienne; Bob Hamilton, Scotch comedian; Messrs. Starr and Jerome, clever dancers; Frank Keegan and company, trick cyclists; the Zerbenis, musical act; Carozi and Keith, comedy jugglers; Miss Ida Ross, Tyrolean vocalist; Tate and Tate, comedy trampolin act; and Miss Edie Anderson, chic comedienne.

GRAVESEND.—Grand Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. David Hart.—Judge's performing birds are accorded a hearty reception; Haverley and Homer, the dandy drolls, meet with much appreciation; Frances Manners is a really good ballad vocalist; whilst the Sisters Reno, the nonpareil transformation and acrobatic dancers, do extremely well. A really good turn is Mlle. Rhodesia, aptly named the lady Cinquevalli; the Donnells are expert dancers and admirable vocalists; and Charles Deane, fresh from Africa, in his latest success, "Follow the girls," scores immensely.

New Public Hall and Theatre.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. R. Feaver Clarke.—The National Animated pictures are located here.

Rosherville Gardens.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. E. Radcliffe.—Charles Bignall is the principal attraction, and has been drawing good audiences. There are also up-to-date side-shows and an Old English fair.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — Royal Aquarium.— Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.— Mr. George Edwardes's company is here in *See-See*. Mr. Tom Redmond is broadly humorous as Cheoo; Yen is played with ardent fervour by Mr. Alec Worcester, who sings effectively; Hang-Kee is a most amusing impersonation by Mr. Tom Nelldon; Mai-Yai is impressively depicted by Miss Nina Carlton; So-Hie is represented by Miss Gertrude Parker, who charms all with her dancing; Miss Nora Hersee is excellent as Lee; Miss Dorothy Firmin plays well as Humming-Bird; and See-See is a fascinating study by Miss Mysie Devine.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—The attraction here is Miss Louie Freear in the farcical absurdity, *Snooks*, in which she gives her inimitable impersonation of the slavey, Jemima. A variety programme is also provided. Miss Freear singing two songs, other artists appearing being Mr. Vivian Foster, Miss Belle Green, Mr. Edwin Bennett, and Mr. Ed. Brightwell.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.— The Royal Italian Circus is staying a second week, and extra turns are provided by Vasco, the mad musican; Alexandra and Bertie, in an aerial act; the clowns Piccoli and Fiori; and Nimble Nip and Wee Willie, in comic entrees.

Britannia Pier Pavilion.—Managing Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—The great attraction for the week is Mr. Arthur Roberts, the famous comedian, who, in songs and sketches, is delighting his audiences with his humorous delineation of character.

Wellington Pier Pavilion.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The Gaieties are paying a return visit, and their refined humorous entertainment proves a great attraction. In addition, the Ellimans provide a musical scena; the Sisters Marion sing and dance; new pictures are shown by the Bioscope; and Herr Delikat's Viennese Band gives, in excellent style, selections of music.

GREENOCK.—Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—An attractive company is headed this week by the Three Phydoras, who are accorded well-merited applause; the Factory Nightingales are also warmly greeted; whilst Martine and Son, illustrated picture artists, Harry Tomps, comedian and instrumentalist, Isa Stirling, vocalist, and Johnny Thompson, descriptive vocalist, all give turns that are much appreciated. The pictures displayed by the Paviscope are also good.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—*Under the Russian Flag* is the holiday attraction. Mr. Jack Haddon, under whose direction the company appears, achieves popularity as Captain Demetrius, and the brothers Michael and Ivan are excellently played by Mr. Jerrold Ord and Mr. Charles Stafford; Miss Marie Rayner vividly portrays the character of the adventuress, Luka Marischla; and others taking prominent parts are Mr. H. Naylor Grimson as Wolf Marischla, Miss Beatrice Balfour as Vera Vasiloff, Mr. G. C. Murray as General Romanoff, and Mr. W. Wilson as Colonel Souveroff; whilst the comedy is well looked after by Mr. Hal Forde as Peter Poluski, Mr. Templar Ellis as Alexis Skopolopki, and Miss Molly Hackett as Ogarina.

The Palace. — Proprietors, the Grimsby Palace Theatre and Buffet Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Sam Mayo's quaintly original humour is proving irresistible; a sketch, *The Peacemaker*, by W. T. Ellwanger, is brimful of engaging comedy; another sketch, *My Burglar*, presented by Thorpe and Lanne, is also a popular item; humour and skill are neatly combined in the cycling act by the Bros. St. Clair; the Bros. Harrison are amusing comedians and dancers; Tennis and Laune contribute pleasing duets; and Will Lynn, vocalist, and George Roper, comedian, also give good turns.

The Empire, Cleethorpes. — Proprietor, Mr. J. Carter White.—Frank Lynne is well maintaining his reputation as a humorist; Andre and Brenton appear in an amusing sketch, *Are Wives Dummies?* Percy Maye is a clever female impersonator; Hurman displays skill in the manipulation of clubs, hoops, &c.; O'Flynn is an accomplished banjoist; Cissie Parker contributes pretty illustrated songs; and Connie Clive is also a charming vocalist.

GUERNSEY.—Theatre St. Julian's.—Lessee, Mr. Ed. Marris.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company opened a three nights' engagement here on the 1st inst with *The Belle of Mayfair*. Mr. Sidney Burt is diverting as Sir John; Mr. Stephen Hall is well placed as the Earl; Mr. Michael Raven sings admirably as Hugh Meredith; Mr. J. Ravenscroft is well suited as Raymond Finchley; and Mr. Edwin Oxley cleverly depicts the Comte de Perrier. Miss Winifred Preece sings sweetly and is very chic as Julia; Miss Denny Fitzherbert is an effective Princess; a captivating Pincott is Miss Nancy York; and Miss Grace Mackay is clever as the Gibson Girl.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—This house was reopened on Monday by Mr. Chas. Macdona's company in *The Girl from Kay's*. Hoggenheimer would be a somewhat crude creation but for the droll manner in which Mr. Johnny Schofield assumes the rôle; Mr. Harry Franklyn made a dashing Harry Gordon, his singing in particular commanding great attention; quite a diverting representation of the foppish Hon. Percy Fitzthistle was submitted by Mr. George H. Liot; and Mr. R. Keith helped considerably to keep the fun going as the hall-porter. Of the ladies, Miss Jessie Frazer was delightful as Winnie Harborough, and sang the various items allotted her in faultless style; and Miss Barbara Evangeline worked dilligently as Jane. The chorus was under the able guidance of Mr. W. H. Eveleigh.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—The scenes depicted by the American Animated Picture Co. are both delightful and vivid, and evoke stormy applause. Bros. Brooks, comedians, create a favourable impression; as do the Sisters Brand, who sing a couple of songs and dance superbly; while a local illusionist in the person of Jack Brooks adds additional interest to the programme.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Ed. Harrison.—The Strassburger Midgets head the programme, with singing, dancing, globe-walking and wrestling; a clever negro comedian is Russell Brandon; gratifying ovations are accorded Milner Verren; other items being given by Ada Martine, a dainty dancer; Horace and Olga, in a miniature dog entertainment; Wilton Heriot and Co., in *An Anglo-American Alliance*; Will Walton; together with Raglas, juggler, and the Rayagraph.

HANLEY. — Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—*At Cripple Creek* is presented this week. Mr. Stanley Bedwell is once more seen as Joe Mayfield, and his interpretation is both manly and telling; as Martin Mason Mr. Eric Hudson is distinctly successful; Miss Nancy Roberts is a sweet and winning Belle Gordon, and Miss Agnes Verity as Dynamite Ann contributes a capital reading of the part; Mr. Will Hook once more scores success as Reggie Harwood; Miss Norah Dillon does well as Sarah Lively; Miss Daisy Carlton is all that can be desired as Little Tate; Mr. J. L. Leigh as Alvarez is well placed; and Mr. Reginald Harley-West as the Indian Wahkstan is particularly good; while Miss Hopkins acts and sings with success.

Grand.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—The bill of fare includes the Six Brothers Luck in their pantomimic absurdity, *The Demon of the Cellar*, which is highly amusing; the Ergotti and King Louis Troupe of Risley acrobats; the Three Royal Dreadnoughts, in shooting act; living pictures, "A Ba-be's picture postcard album; the Ashley Bros. in sketch, *Next, Please;* Conway and Leland; Annie Casey, and Charles Chard; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

HARTLEPOOL.—Empress.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—Harry Tate's *Fishing* heads the exceptionally strong bill here. The sketch is received with roars of laughter. *The African Gambols*, by Three Rio Tintos, evokes applause; an exceptionally funny tramp delineation is that by Kempton and Murdock; the up-to-date comedy acrobatic equilibrism of the Falcons is done with an alertness that is astounding; Sam Spira, a "comedy entertainer at the piano," evokes hearty laughter; Lizzie Hands, vocalist, earns favourable opinions; Maud Clifton, a refined vocalist and comedienne, makes a good impression; Spencer and Marks are to be congratulated upon their expert dancing; and the pictures are more than usually entertaining.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—On Thursday last week Mr. Charles Macdona's company played *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)*. Mr. W. J. Damant directed an excellent orchestra led by Mr. Tom Hilton; Mr. Edwin Brett played the title-rôle very amusingly, and his servant Platt was well performed by Mr. Tom May; Mr. Francis Rayne sang well as Jacques; Miss Emmeline Orford won success as La Bolero; and her maid Louise had a vivacious representative in Miss Nora Morra. On Monday a three days' visit was paid here by Mr. George Alexander's company in *His House in Order*. Miss Marie Polini secured a fine reception for her artistic rendering of Nina; Mr. Frank Fenton gave a masterly performance as Hillary Jesson, and was much applauded. The ladies were well placed: Miss Madge Johnstone as Lady Ridgeley, Miss Henrietta Leverett as Geraldine, and Miss Jean Cadell as Mlle. Thome; Mr. Cyril Harcourt finely impersonated Filmer Jesson, M.P.; Miss Maisie Richardson was natural as Derek Jesson; Mr. Richard Dalton made a capital Sir Daniel Ridgeley; and Mr. Frank Hill gave an admirable study as Dr. Dilnott. For rest of week *The Prince of Pilsen* (Baron H. Harriss's company) was billed.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties. — General-Manager, Mr. H. Vivian Fisher; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—A clever juggler, who is named on the bill "The De'il Himself," is applauded here; good dancing is done by Jeff Vendome and Lizzie Chase; Wilman is very expert on a variety of musical instruments; the quaint appearance of Rowland Hill and his funny songs and sayings keep the audience in good humour; some pleasing duets are sung by Wills and Mackenzie; a decidedly attractive and dainty comedienne is Miss Marie Empress; another well-appreciated turn is that of the Three Doreen Girls, who score a success with their singing and dancing; Sidney Dolf is an excellent vocalist, and his conjuring is very smart. Some new and original scenes are shown on the Hippodrome Bioscope.

Pier Pavilion.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. J. D. Hunter's character songs are as diverting as ever, and his amusing address as a lady suffragette delights the audience. Miss Fifi Gordon, vocalist and dancer, is good; the trick cycling by the Five Sisters Warwick is an attractive feature of the programme; Miss Louie Love, who has a remarkably good voice, sings some pleasing songs; Mr. Orville Pitcher, Ethiopian entertainer, delivers a laughable stump speech; Miss Beatrice Lindley wins applause by her vocalisation at the piano; the Herald Comedy Four introduce a quaint Indian scena consisting of harmony, comedy, and dancing; Mr. J. D. Hunter is associated with Mr. Chas. Hawker and Miss Louie Love in a humorous sketch, *Who'll Shut the Door?*. The Payne's popular Bio-Photoscope exhibits some admirable pictures.

Beach Concert Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. G. Blackmore.—Mr. Wallis Arthur's company here has had a fair share of the holiday visitors' patronage. Miss Marie Schultz proves a very capable comedienne; Miss Ada Gaskill's ballads are also an attractive feature; Mr. Alec Johnstone gains favour increasingly by his well-rendered songs; the character songs rendered by Mr. George Blackmore and Mr. Harry King are humorous to a degree. The same company give afternoon shows in the Alexandra Park.

Alfresco Concerts.—Alternately in the St. Leonards Gardens and the St. Leonards Pier Band Kiosk Mr. Wallis Arthur's second troupe, the Lieutenants and the Maids, provide attractive programmes. Miss Doris Lee and Miss Nellie Chamroux render their songs pleasingly; Mr. Robert MacLachlan proves a vocalist of excellent parts, and there is much whimsical humour in the singing submitted by Messrs. Harry Jeans, R. A. Innes, and Chas. Howard.

In the Alexandra Park on Wednesday the second of the season's Fêtes organised by the Entertainments Association was held. Stage performances under the direction of Mr. Gibbons included the appearance of himself and company in *Mad Music* and other pieces, performances by the Merry Magpies, and Mr. Wallis Arthur's company.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—This week we have *The Midnight Mail*, in which the chief interest is shown in the part of Brewer, as played by Mr. Evison. The hero has a sturdy exponent in Mr. George Harvard, who is excellently supported by Miss Ada Oakley as the heroine, Mr. Austin Mortimer as Royle, and Miss Mildred Carr as Nancy Brewer.

Hippodrome, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—De Wynne Brothers' clever hand-balancing arouses great enthusiasm; Burt Shepard is a marked success with his quaint musical humour; and other turns are a sketch, *The Stowaway*; A. G. Spry, comedian; Miss Adele Lincoln, comedienne and dancer;

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JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Rex. Sugden.—Miss Lydia Donovan's company is here this week with the excellent drama, *Her One Great Sin*, which is meeting with success. Mr. G. E. Hall gives a good account of the part of Ruben Warhurst; and Mr. Jack Armitage plays with force as Arnold Thornhill; Mr. Fred Hodgson causes much amusement as Jerry Jumble, and is ably assisted by Miss Nellie Lambert as Nancy Wimpenny; Miss Lydia Donovan gives a lifelike impersonation of Grace Warhurst; and Miss Maudie Lambert is very good as Gracie.

JERSEY. — Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. E. Marris.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company opened its autumn tour here to a typical Bank Holiday audience with the *Belle of Mayfair*. Mr. Sidney Burt is particularly well placed as Sir John Chaldicott; Mr. Stephen Hall ably portrays the aristocratic Earl of Mount Highgate; and Mr. S. Ravenscroft is successful as the Hon. Raymond Finchley; Mr. Michael Raven has a pleasing voice, and acts admirably as Hugh Meredith; whilst Mr. Edwin Oxlee cleverly enacts the part of the Comte de Perrier; Miss Winifred Preese as the Belle receives a warm reception; and the dainty dancing of Miss Nancy York as Pincott delights the audience; Miss Constance Stevens appears as Lady Chaldicott; Miss Denny Fitzherbert assumes the rôle of the Princess of Ehrenstein; and Miss Grace Mackay figures as the Gibson Girl. The chorus is well balanced, and the orchestra is under the control of Mr. Caffyn Baxter.

Horseshoe Quarry.—Mr. Edward Marris's Pierrots and Veroniques continue a great attraction here. Little Keeno concludes his engagement this week.

Triangle Park.—Over 2000 people passed the turnstiles here on Monday night, when the Sabots made their début.

Oddfellows' Hall.—Messrs. Gale and Polden's "The King's Service" pictures are doing good business here. They are to reproduce the Jersey Battle of flowers, which took place on Thursday.

KEIGHLEY.—Queen's Theatre.— Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall.—Mr. Sydney Bacon's *The Duchess of Tooting* company heads the bill here. Mr. Stephen Adeson creates roars of laughter; Mr. Henry Latimer renders good support; Mr. Frank Hertie puts plenty of vigour into his performance as Mr. Cash; Miss Josie Farrington sings and dances nicely; Mr. Melville Bickford presents the maniac, and his performance as the mad inventor is most thrilling; Miss Nina May possesses a beautiful, well-trained voice, and her songs are nightly encored; the Rosa Rice Quartette receive much applause. The performance is opened with a sketch, *Lost in a Fog*.

KENDAL.—St. George's Hall.—Joint Managers, Messrs. Butler and Chorley.—The season has opened here this week with the evergreen *Charley's Aunt*. Mr. Tom MacFarlane, who is paying a welcome return visit in the part of Lord Fancourt Babberley, well sustains his reputation, and is ably supported by Messrs. Cecil Brymer and Dudley Stuart. The other members of the company are quite up to their business.

LANCASTER.—Athenæum.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—After the usual summer vacation, this popular theatre re-opened on the 1st inst with a three nights' engagement of Mr. H. F. Maltby's company in the drama, *In Holy Orders*. The attraction this week is the comedy-drama *The End Crowns All*, produced by Miss Augusta Tullock's company. Miss Amber Wyville as Lolo Ivanwitch appears to special advantage, and sings well. Harry Danby is a capital John Jubbs, and Miss Augusta Tullock gives an exceedingly clever portrayal of Vera Romaine.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. John Porter and W. J. Fergusson.—The programme arranged here for the holidays includes the Garganis, acrobats; Arthur Stacey, comedian; May Marton, comedienne; W. H. Webb and Edna Branston, comedy artists; Brull and Hemsely; J. H. McCann, roller skate dancer; and the Madcaps; all of whom have a cordial reception. The Hippograph, with a new picture, Trapped by Pinkertons, is very good.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—After a prolonged summer recess, this premier theatre opened on Monday to a crowded and enthusiastic holiday house, the successful musical comedy, *The Girl Behind the Counter*, being the attraction.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Mr. Walter Melville's strong drama, *The Female Swindler*, is filling this theatre this week, the piece being well to the liking of the Royal habitues.

Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—Australia's famous axemen and treefellers, Jackson and Maclaren, are a leading line of entertainment here, and their expert and novel turn has aroused the liveliest interest. No more popular artist visits here than charming Millie Lindon, and her success this week is extraordinary; Carrie Laurie's Juveniles once more evince much ability in song and dance; the exhibition of mental telepathy by Xoru is a much-appreciated entertainment; little Dot Hardy is a juvenile artist of promise; Ross and Lewis are a pronounced success with humorous speciality; and other leading turns are supplied by Harry Bedford, the Twin Brothers Dean, and Rossi Ashton.

Queen's Palace. — Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—A hearty send-off was on Monday accorded this popular suburban house under its new proprietorate. Gorman's Juveniles prove a popular success in a vocal speciality; a dramatic sketch by G. Wordsley Hulse and company arouses the enthusiasm of the audience; those favourites, the Brothers Obo, are in evidence with clever business; Jimmy Shields, the one-legged comedian, makes a big hit; and clever turns are also submitted by Lilly Lassah, Bains and Reed, the Two Cromwells, and Julian Mack.

Hippodrome. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—Huge holiday crowds are entertained by Fred Karno's hilarious sketch, *Saturday to Monday*, several favourite artists being engaged in its presentation. A capable variety company supports, amongst whom the Dillons, Sisters Silcott, Valoni, Supter and Cook. Picitt and Lizzette, Brent Hayes, Mlle. Marjutti, the lissom lady, and Freddie French, are prominently successful.

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—An intensely amusing burlesque sketch, *No. 99*, is the big attraction here, and compels uproarious laughter; Diamond and Beatrice contribute a very fine musical turn, which is much enjoyed; the famous Athlones are having a good week; and Lillie Currie is also a popular contributor.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. Charles Hermann.—This handsome theatre re-opened its doors on Monday for the season, when the attraction provided was Mr. Fred L. Connynghame's company in the domestic drama, *A Mother's Love*, which received a good reception. The part of Matt Ruddock is played exceedingly well by Mr. Fred L. Connynghame, and both Miss Cecille Anson as Winnie Wingate and Mr. Arthur Rose as Paul Wingate are to be highly complimented. Miss Mabel Durham makes an excellent impression as Ellaine Mervin. Mr. Robert Gilbert is good as Geoffrey Mannering, and others who also give meritorious performances are Mr. Paul Palmer as John Corbett, Miss Bertha Christabel as Marjorie Wingate, Miss Dorothy Monkhouse as Mary Smart, Mr. S. Clifton as Ralph Mervin, Mr. E. Vicarson as Martin Yeast, and Mr. W. Barratt as Joe Jackson.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Huge holiday audiences are delighted with the bill here. The next best thing to seeing and hearing Harry Lauder himself is to witness Gaumont's patent Chrono-Megaphone. Tom Foy and company in their absurdity, *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, create uproarious merriment; the Jackley Trio score a well-deserved success with their clever acrobatic speciality, the whistling of George being remarkably good; the Anartos, musical comedy artists, are smart and mirth-provoking; Boy Glenn is a first-rate raconteur, who meets with a warm reception; Madge Grey is a clever dialect comedienne; Ben Albert, a comedian of ability, creates hearty laughter; Edie King is a versatile and smart dancer; Ryder Slone is a capital vocalist; and Pat Rafferty is also in the programme.

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Bousby.—The above theatre re-opened on Saturday night when Mr. Edward Marris's company presented the musical play, *Somebody's Sweetheart*. Mr. Cecil W. Parker gives a capital representation of Stanton Ashleigh, his singing being greatly appreciated. Miss Nora Milton is seen in a charming representation of Lulu; Mr. George Brentwood as Martin Blabbs has a part that suits him; Stephen Leverton has a capable exponent in Mr. Walter King; Mr. Frank Gala presents a clever study of Old Joe; Zora, a gipsy, is ably portrayed by Miss Lena Laton; Lem Lee is impersonated in good style by Mr. Percy Maitland; whilst Miss Dora Hargreaves deserves praise for her efforts as Miss Ainsley, and Miss May Norris effectively portrays Freddie Ashleigh.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Mr. Frederick Melville's interesting drama *The Ugliest Woman on Earth* has been the attraction this week. In a strong cast Miss Beatrice Homer plays the name-part with judgment and power; and Mr. Philip Darien acts with commendable effect as Jack Merryman. The unsympathetic rôle of Rose Courtenay is well rendered by Miss Nell Oliver; Miss Violet Macaree gives an artistic study of the Italian girl, Morita; the indispensable comic scenes are smartly presented by Mr. T. Eldin and Miss Nellie Jackson as Tubby Herrick and Aggie Brown. Tom Redvers, Dr. Carr, and Raggles find careful impersonators in Mr. H. Standing, Mr. Alfred E. Wood, and Mr. Wm. Wallace respectively. Mr. Leyton Chancellor and Mr. Leonard Thackeray impart suitable character to their interpretations of Horace Gold and Antonio Lucchesi; and minor parts are adequately filled.

LIVERPOOL.—Shakespeare Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. E. Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*The Lady Slavey* is played by Mr. Robert Crossman's company. Miss Winnie Volt makes a vivacious and lively Phyllis, dancing and singing in a manner that captivates her audience. Mr. Edmund Cooper causes endless laughter as Vincent A. Evelyn; Mr. Keino Johnston gave a clever conception of Major O'Neill; capital work is done by Miss Ethel Ford as Mlle. Pontet and Miss Amy Hilton as Mlle. Louise; the Misses Evie Anderson and Gladys Anderson ably represented the Major's daughters; Mr. Frank Henderson proved particularly good in the part of Lord Lavender; and the rôles of Flo Honeydew (Miss Rita Presano), Roberts (Mr. W. T. Thompson), and Bill (Mr. Paul Presano) were given with tact and point.

Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—A delightful presentation this week of *Beauty and the Barge* opened the dramatic season here. In the hands of Mr. Blake Adams the character of the fickle Captain Barclay lost none of its rich, rollicking humour; Miss Dido Drake proved very acceptable as Ethel Smedley; Mrs. Porter was judiciously handled by Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite; the nimble little landlord of the inn was played with rare humour by Mr. Ewart Drake; Mr. Walter Pemberton distinguished himself as the irascible Major Smedley; an excellent Tom Codd came from Mr. Fred Knight; into the rôle of Lieut. Boyne Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu infused a deal of spirit and vigour; and the remainder of Mr. Arthur Hardy's good all-round company lent valuable support. *Jerry and a Sunbeam* was the curtain-raiser.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*When the Lights are Low* has been presented by Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company. Foremost was Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan, who gave a fine reading of the part of Ronald Goldsworthy. Mr. Ernest Raymond's Admiral Goldsworthy was a smart piece of work; thanks are due to Mr. George Daiper for his telling picture of Guy Goldsworthy; Miss Violet Carlyle made a charming Nancy Christie; Miss Amy Ellam played Violet Christie with much effect; Miss May Ediss showed every intelligence as the blind child; and the comedy was well provided by Messrs. Francis Serle (Willie Wilkins), J. E. Abbott (Tim Wilkins), Russel Bogue (Donald Macpherson), and Miss Cissie Podmore (Kathleen Kerry).

Lyric.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Harry Brown, American coloured comedian and dancer, has delighted everybody with his efforts. Charles Serra gave a pretty posing act on a white column; Dorothy L. Clarke pleased immensely with her catchy songs; as comedy acrobats Hector and Paulus proved exceedingly diverting; Edie Gray and her white coons were a neat turn; Allis and Cassati gave a capital exhibition of singing, comedy, and dancing; Mezzetti and Mora performed some astonishing feats in the acrobatic line; and Maidie Rouse, comedienne and dancer, also appeared.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Harris Fineberg.—*The Price of Her Soul* has been here. Messrs. John B. Shinton and Alexander Greenwood sent a capital all-round company, who did justice to the attractive play. Mr. Shinton held the part of Lord Mandeville, which he handled with keen judgment; as Major Skoboloff Mr. Annesley Hely stood out with distinction; Mr. W. H. Melrose caused endless laughter with his Pat Murphy; Miss Kate Sydney acted with power as the adventuress, Olga; Miss Ada M. Ryder pleased greatly with her Countess Inez; the comedy was also well supported by Mr. Geo. Marriott, jun., as the Hon. Algy Fraser; and General Lanovitz found in Mr. Archie Gear a worhty exponent.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, the Granville Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Granville.—On Saturday evening last this fine building was re-opened under new management. Since it was closed, several months ago, the place has undergone a thorough cleaning, redecorating, and painting. *The Prodigal Daughter* was the initial work, Mr. Joseph Bebb putting on the fine old drama in excellent style. Miss Millie Ford sustained the title-rôle with every credit. Mr. John S. Haydon was unable, through illness, to appear as Sir John Woodmere, but Mr. John Mason, stepping into the breach at short notice, gave a most satisfactory picture of the distressed father. Mr. Leonard Attwell did good work in the rôle of Julian Belford; Mr. Fred Harker was happily placed as Harry Vernon; the heavy part of Maurice Deepwater was held most satisfactorily by Mr. Clifton Boyne; Mr. George Antley, in the part of Tom Blinker, displayed ability; the Lord Banbury pictured by Mr. Sydney Lynn proved exceedingly humorous; a clever character rôle was shown by Mr. Edward Lowrie as Miserable Jim; and Mr. John Belton made an efficient Mr. Gunn. Of the ladies, Miss Marjorie Davenport was a sweet Violet, and Miss Olive Lloyd proved acceptable as Dorcas. Messrs. Lowrie and Belton are to be commended for their excellent stage management.

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Foremost here this week is Evie Green, whose appearance in vaudeville has aroused a deal of interest. The able artist received an enthusiastic reception for her several songs. Miss Dolly Elsworthy's company, with *The Orange Girl* afforded much pleasure; the daring work of Le Diabelo on the revolving wheel was watched with breathless interest; Leah Adell had a neat song scena, *Cinderella's Dream*; a deal of amusement resulted from *A Game for Two*, a smart trifle offered by the Custances; as duettists and dancers the Sisters Wingrove showed to advantage; Harry Russon had some taking songs, and recited with effect; and others in the list were Charles Cavalli, ventriloquist; and McWalten, comedian.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—This popular place has, during the last fortnight, been renovated. On Monday evening the stock company resumed business with *The Scales of Justice*. Mr. Cecil Ravenswood played effectively as Admiral Duncan; Mr. Harry Tresham was a heroic Harry Maxwell; Mr. Sydney Grant did well as the villainous Antonio Cordova; Mr. Rolb Wilton was a funny Wilkins; Miss Florence Palmer tastefully presented the rôles of Mary and Jenny Maxwell; and Miss Beryl Ravenswood acted powerfully as Inez.

Paddington Palace. — Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr N. Edwards.—This place was opened on Monday under new management. The stock company have been giving *It's Never too Late to Mend*.

Park Palace.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.—This week the stock company, under Mr. Albert Sember, has been giving *Jane Shore*.

Haymarket.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company are this week giving *Shaun; or, The Dawn of Day*. Frances Milton has a number of popular songs; Mr. Wat Tyler, assisted by Little Graham, has a smart trifle, *The Poacher*; Harry Howell renders several taking songs; and the Bioscope has particularly fine films.

Westminster.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—The Czar's Royal Russian Troupe of dancers topped the bill here this week, their work proving very acceptable. Mexican Mac, assisted by Mlle. St. Clair, had an able shooting act; Osmond proved a funny musical comedian; the laughable talk and smart dancing of Joe Sadler and Bob Ross were received with pleasure; and others in the list were Ivy Aberdare, comedienne and dancer; and Lily Bell, with her vocal scena.

Olympia.—District-Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—*The Typhoon*, aquatic spectacle, puts in a second week; George Formby, a Lancashire humorist, causes a deal of laughter with his songs and stories; Leonard Gautier's novel animated toy-shop was thoroughly enjoyed; a pretty spectacle came from David Canty in the shape of an illuminated water grotto, into which Mlle. Da Silva is introduced; Spry and Austin presented a clever vaudeville turn; Miss Maude Mortimer's sweet voice was heard to advantage in several sentimental songs, her audience bestowing upon her rounds of applause; the Norman and Leonard Trio had an excellent musical sketch, *The Itinerant*; and Jas. Stewart, as the tramp at the piano, proved as funny as ever.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Whit Cunliffe tops the bill here this week, and has been delighting everyone with his capital songs, being compelled as an encore to give "It's a different girl again." The giantess, Mariedl, has proved an object of interest; Tom Edwards, the able ventriloquist, pleased with his dummy figure, Curly; a smart sketch, *Home from the Honeymoon*, came from Arthur Jefferson and company; the Crown Trio of vocalists had several acceptable pieces; Harry Edson's dogs created interest; and others in the programme were Ellis Barrieton, vocalist; Mena Brae, Scotch comedienne; and Amy Marsden, character comedienne.

Tivoli.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Principal here this week are the Six Brothers Luck with *The Demon of the Cellar*. The always popular Regan and Ryan are as funny as ever; the Sisters Aindow showed themselves to be able instrumentalist; Boden and Bell are clever juvenile vocalists and dancers; the Four Ramlos earned applause for their comedy work on the triple bars; Belle Braham presented popular illustrated songs; and also in the list were Haig and Novel, duettists; and Herbert Rule, comedian.

Roscommon.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Mr. Percy Boucher and his stock company here are this week giving *Riding to Win*. The change from variety to drama has been generally approved.

LLANDUDNO.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Mr. William Greet's company are appearing in *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr. Alfred Donohoe as Jim Cheese gives a capital portrayal, creating roars of laughter, and he receives excellent support from Miss Lena Hicks as Liza Shoddam. Mr. Robert Hyett as Dick Wargrave sings excellently; Mr. Roy Sydney as Hon. Crewe Boodle, is well placed; and Mr. Frank A. Wood in the blustering part of A. Bunker Bliss is capital. Downham is safe with Mr. Ernest A. Plumpton. Elphin Haye as performed by Miss Florence Wix is all that could be desired, and her songs are charmingly rendered, and find great favour. Miss Beatrice Anderson creates an impression as Mrs. Shimmering Black, and Miss Winnie Plumpton scores as Miss Virginia Bliss.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. A. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—A variety entertainment is again here for the holiday week, the top of the bill being *A Village in Dahomey*, the American star artist, Dinah Morris, appearing to great advantage with a first-class company. Other turns are Percy Upton, comedian; Maud Elliott, who sings well; De Voy and Cameron; Doris Middleton, with songs; Howard and Corelli; the Forsyths; J. H. Darnley and company, in *What a Night*; and Irene Herbert, contralto.

Pier Head Pavilion.—Local Manager, Mr. A. R. Sutcliffe.—Messrs. Adeler and Sutton have an extra attractive programme. Mr. Malcolm Scott in his latest creations is loudly applauded, and he is a great favourite; Miss Iris Banfield contributes new songs in most pleasing style; Mr. Arthur Sutcliffe, the refined comedian, is prominent as ever in song and patter; Mr. Tom Evans, the Welsh baritone, is heard to advantage; Mr. Tom Stuart, character actor, appeals to all, whether in comic song, musical monologue, or dramatic recitations; and Mr. Penyston Miles is a pianist of first-class ability.

Happy Valley.—Mr. W. J. Churchill's Minstrels continue to draw enormous crowds. The troupe is a first-class one, and Mr. Churchill is to be congratulated upon the success of his first efforts in this line.

LOWESTOFT.—Marina.—Manager, Mr. E. A. Smith.—*Raffles* is making a first visit this week. In the name-part Mr. Leonard Boyne submits a finished performance, and the part of Gwendoline Conran is cleverly assumed by Miss Maud Cressall. Mr. Arthur Willoughby does well as Lord Amersteth, while his sister (Lady Melrose) is finely interpreted by Miss Alys Rees. Curtis Bedford has a clever exponent in Mr. E. W. Thomas, and Mr. Lewis Edgard was well placed as Harry Manders. The tour is under the direction of Mr. Thos. McKenzie.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Frank Freeland.—A feature of the bill is the spectacle, *King and Country*, in which one hundred local children participate. Other items are provided by Li Chang Hi, Chinese conjurer; Luigi Salvino, boy instrumentalist; J. Yeldon, jockey act; Cordite and Buffalo, rope manipulators; Miss Duchess Powell's performing animals; Almero and Rabbit.

LYTHAM.—Pier Pavilion Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harrison.—The "Follies" have been delighting good houses here this week. The troupe is composed of Misses Effie Cook, Dollis Brooke, and Gwennie Mars, and Messrs. Dan Everard, Norman A. Blume, and H. G. Pelisser.

MAIDSTONE.—Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr S. Baskerville.—A good holiday bill is headed by Messrs. J. G. Johnson and company in the popular sketch, *Loyal Hearts*; the Alberto Troupe are very clever head and hand balancers and wire equilibrists; R. H. Douglass does well with his monologue act; Miss Elsie, a popular comedienne, in her scena, *Holly and Mistletoe*, scores heavily; Arthur J. Hill, a clever human marionette, and Fred Hallam, comedian keep the fun going; and others appearing are Mlle. Lucretia, speciality dancer; Lytton and Bland, duettists; and the Bioscope.

MANCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmundstone Shirra.—This theatre reopened on Monday with a performance of Oscar Wilde's play *An Ideal Husband* by Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company. A good audience was interested in the development of the story, and considerably amused by the shallow brilliance of the dialogue. Mr. Ernest E. Norris embodied the impossible Viscount Goring with distinct cleverness, and a smart depiction of Mrs. Cheveley was given by Miss Vera Beringer; as Sir Robert Chiltern Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn played with sincerity and power, and Miss Enid Ross presented Lady Chiltern in quite natural and excellent style; the Earl of Caversham was made interesting and amusing by Mr. Edward S. Petley; and others who acted acceptably were Miss Helena Parsons, Miss Carrie Lewis, Miss Bessie Harrison, and Mr. Harold Wagner. The play was well put on, and is produced by Mr. Ernest E. Norris.

Prince's Theatre. — Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—The reopening of this theatre was signalised on Monday by the staging of *Charley's Aunt*, with the author, Mr. Brandon Thomas, at the head of the cast. That the farce has lost none of its appeal was proved by the constant and hearty laughter of a large audience. Mr. Thomas played Sir Francis Chesney in his accustomed style, and Mr. Spencer Trevor is still in the rôle of Lord Fancourt Bubberley, which he renders to perfection; Mr. Walter Beaumont was amusing as Spottigue; Mr. Hastings Lynn and Mr. Richard B. Mason were capital as the undergraduates; Miss Lena McNaughton made a charming Donna Lucia; Miss Amy Brandon Thomas played very nicely as Kitty Verdun; and equally pleasing were Miss Sylvia Morris as Ela Delahay and Miss Grace Russell as Amy Spettigue; while Mr. Sydney Compton was successful as Brasset, the college scout.

Royal Osborne Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company are still delighting local audiences on the Broadhead circuit with their performance of the successful sensational melodrama *A Sister's Sin*, which is closely followed and enjoyed.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—The Three Sisters Tree are a big attraction here this week in their refined hunting episode, *Hunting*, and are well received; the Brontes are excellent in their duologue, *Stony Broke*; and Lambeth and Robertson are highly successful in a capital sketch, *Scots Folks' Wooin'*; the Edward Trio are good in a pathetic military scena, *The Wounded Soldier Boy*; Yorick and Yorick cause endless amusement with funny sayings and doings; and other smart items are offered by Jessie Jukes, comedienne and dancer; the Three Panamas, in clever acrobatic pot-pourri act; the Kimberley Boys, comedians; and Howard and Townsend, duettists; H. O. Wills, who figures on the programme, did not appear on the night of our visit, one Billy Farrell, from the King's, appearing with great success.

St. James's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—Mr. James Willard's company in the spectacular drama *In the Shadow of Night* are giving pleasure to good audiences here, the story being a strong one and the interpretation correspondingly good. Mr. Geo. Harvey as the Squire, Mr. M. Boulton as Gordon, his son, and Mr. D. Ferrers as Clifford Yorke all move with importance in the action, which is developed with equal vigour by the efforts of Miss Nina Westerleigh as Violet, the Squire's ward; Mr. Herbert Belmore as Tom Nainby is good, and strong character sketches of Grudgewell, the poacher, and Woodstock, the farmer, are contributed by Mr. William Hayward and Mr. James Ingledew respectively; while Miss Tina Shaw is engaging as Woodstock's daughter; Miss Phyllis French is excellent as Bob, the tramp; and Mr. Cecil Raymond makes an admirable Rector of Haxlemere. Other varied parts are well handled by the remaining members of the cast. The staging includes a real water-scene of the Thames at midnight.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Day.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company provide a strong attraction here in *A Fight for a Throne*, a capital play, very well staged, and equally well performed. Mr. Sam Arthur as Capt. Jack Fortescue, the hero, is very fine, and his achievement is well matched by that of Miss Elma C. Turner as Princess Esmee, the heroine. On the sinister side of affairs, Mr. Charles E. Linney is powerful as Otto, Prince of Weimar, and Miss Evelyn Robson is very good as Countess Lorenski of the secret police. Highly commendable also are Mr. Karl H. Edwards as Lieut. Rodna, Mr. W. S. Stevenson as the General, his father, and Miss Evelyn Marrable as Lady Pat, maid of honour to the Princess; while excellent fun is provided by Mr. Leonard Maitland as the Hon. Percy Fitzmaurice and Mr. Fred Danvers as Tom Ferrett, from Scotland Yard.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Enormous audiences are flocking here this week to see Fred Kitchen, supported by a capable company of artists, in Fred Karno's latest farcical absurdity, *The Bailiff*. This is one of the funniest Karno pieces yet seen. Next in importance on the bill are Jordan and Harvey, Hebrew comedians, who give a laughable and successful show; Ed. E. Ford, the Australian Sundowner, shows wonderful facial eccentricities in a bright comedy monologue; Baker and Balfe give a fine performance on the xylophone, followed by some clever dancing by the first-named; Frank Cumminger's sand dancing is marvellously expert; Ted and May Hopkins, the Cambrian duo, are novel and entertaining; Elsie Claire, soprano vocalist, sings charmingly; and Cecil Bernard, a versatile and promising boy comedian, completes a truly excellent programme.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Margan.—Eugene Stratton, the ideal coon delineator, is the star attraction here this week, and full houses are the rule. Some prettily arranged poses in colours are presented by Mlle. Sidy Nirvana and her horse, Loky, in a most effective and artistic manner; Frank Bernard and company are seen to advantage, and create much laughter in an absurdity, entitled *Hello!* Mount and Corelli are successful in their musical duologue, *The Master and the Maid*; Lina Verdi is a clever mimic and comedienne; Carter's Ten San Tan Girls, supported by Olive Carter and Theresa Bantini, are pleasing singers and dancers; L. W. Harris is a first-rate light comedian; and last, but certainly not least, Percy Honri charms with an excellent pot pourri of concertina solos, songs, and stories. Madge Robertson, of the choir, sings well, and "That Awful Sneeze" is a funny biograph film.

King's (Longsight).—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor.—Mr. Arthur Milton, of the famous Milton Rays, and company, are here this week in an amusing and well-staged burlesque, *Don Quixote*, introducing smart songs and dances. The cast, which is a lengthy one, includes, besides Mr. Milton, the following capable artists:—Messrs. Fred Russell, Joe English, Sandy and Carl, and the Misses Ethel Terrance and Marie Freeman. Other capital turns are those of One Billy Farrell, the popular coon artist; the Trenta-Novis Troupe in their great transformation gymnastic act; the Boston Twins, in enjoyable comedy act, entitled *Kiltland*; the Moules, bone soloists; and Gustave's Pierrots in a smart entertainment.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr Tealor Wade.—Apollo, that fine specimen of humanity, is astonishing the audiences here this week by allowing a motor-car laden with seven persons, the combined weight being two tons, to be driven over his body. The Melody Makers present with considerable success a phantom scena, *The Burglar's Dream*, introducing Daniel Llewellyn, the Welsh baritone; a remarkably clever cycle performance is gone through by the Daunton-Shaw Troupe; Morny Cash, "the Lancashire Lad," is a first-rate comedian; the Sivronis are very funny in a smart sketch; Windermere and Manifold are good comedy duologue artists; Les Belles Americaines are a quartette of singers and excellent dancers; and Vi Carlyle is seen in a pretty song-scena, "My Mountain Maid." The Palace Pictures are very funny.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Austin Rudd, who tops the bill here this week, is, as usual, vastly amusing, especially in his "Zuyder Zee" parody; Edith Muir and Hubert Bartlett and company are particularly good in that very funny sketch, *The Collar Stud*; and the Sousloffs, in their wonderful whirlwind dance fairly bring down the house. Other enjoyable turns are contributed by Florence Schuberth, burlesque artist; Arthur Wallis, in novel cowboy song-scena; Hettie Chattell, male impersonator; Pueblo and Cropp, in song and dance; Gicardo, juggler; and Archie Pitt, comedian.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Messrs. R. Cameron Matthews' capable company are to the front here this week in a pleasing pocket drama entitled *The Two Little Cracksmen*, and score a big success. *The Honeymoon Baby* is an amusing sketch, excellently played by Miss Maggie Byron, Miss Bessie Armytage, Messrs. R. C. Matthews, F. W. Needham, and Billy, the Baby. The Two Dixon Girls are charming song and dance artists, who also play the banjo well; the Sprees sing well in a delightful scena; Eva Chadwick, ballad vocalist, makes a decided hit; and good turns are also those of Maxford and O'Neill, patterers; Bert Danson, comedian; Drum and Major, comedy duo; and George Young, the blind musician, who sings and plays the concertina in a creditable manner.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay.—A very smart and pleasing act is given here this week by Tina Clementa, with her well-trained horse and dogs; J. Gar Kiddie and company present in a satisfactory manner a capital absurdity, entitled, *The House of Tinn*; Angelo is wonderfully clever as a lightning painter; Nellie Lewis sings with good effect, and is well received; Moon and Morris, comedians, are smart simultaneous dancers; an exceptionally amusing ventriloquial act is given by Gillin in a decidedly humorous way; Ajax and George are gymnasts of ability; and other good turns are those of the Victorians, harmonising vocalists; Will Doran and company, in an absurdity; and the pictures, "Too Fat at Forty."

MARGATE.—Theatre Royal.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wallis Clark.—For Monday and two following nights Mr. Robert Macdonald's company appeared in *The Dairymaids*. Miss Dolly Tremaine made a delightful Lady Brudenell, whose nephews, Sam Brudenell and Lieut. Brudenell, R.N., were capitally enacted by Mr. Richard Telford and Mr. Robert Bottomley; Capt. Fred Leverton was well represented by Mr. Victor Huntley; Mr. A. Gordon Segg was excellent as Dr. O'Byrne, R.N., and Mr. Dan Agar was exceedingly droll as Joe Mivens, A.B., the doctor's servant; Miss Empsie Bowman made an engaging Peggy her acting being crisp and her singing pleasing; Miss Annie Heenan was an attractive Helene; Miss Kitty Kirkwan doing exceedingly well as the austere Miss Penelope Pychase. For the remainder of the week Mr. Mouillot's company in *The Blue Moon* is announced.

The Hippodrome.—Joint Proprietors, Mr. Fred Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident - Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree. — On Monday Harry Randall had a tremendous reception, when he gave several of his old favourites; Charles Austin was also received with demonstrative enthusiasm, and kept his audience continually on the laugh; Goodfellow and Gregson, a clever comedy couple, are particularly funny, and caused endless merriment; the Fitzroys, dainty gymnasts, won plenty of applause, and the remaining contributors were Maudie Ford, comedienne; Carney and Armstrong, comedians; and Lil Estpin, who appeared as deputy for Daisy Davidson; and the Hippodrome Bioscope.

Hall-by-the-Sea. — Sole Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Evans.—On Bank Holiday Kathleen Marie, comedienne, coon impersonator, and dancer, was given a most cordial welcome; the Gallimore Trio (Arthur, Alma, and Harry), in their comic pantomime sketch, created hearty laughter; and Helene and Emilon, gymnasts, were loudly applauded for their smart performance; George B. Bohee, banjoist, plays as expertly as ever, and gains well merited recognition for an entertaining turn; Beatrice Renee, comedienne and sand dancer, gives a bright contribution; and the Markies display considerable skill as well as humour in their vocal and instrumental comedy sketch; the Brothers Zampah, one-legged jumpers and acrobats, are marvellously smart, and a decided novelty is introduced by Valvero, a crayon depicter of naval scenes.

MANSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—*The Sandow Girl* is meeting with great success here this week. Miss Victoria Charlton, a lady with a splendid physique and an excellent voice, appears to every advantage in the title-rôle, her numbers being invariably encored; Miss Hilda Blanche, in the rôle of Katarina, is all that could be desired, her voice being heard agreeably in all her songs; Miss Ray Fairfax gives a clever study of Vrow Winkhlim; the Rozaire Dancing Troupe, in their high-kicking and Dutch dances are clever; Mr. Joseph B. Montague as Higgins is delightfully fresh and keeps the fun going; Mr. J. C. Graves as Col. Carter well upholds his reputation; Mr. Frank Lilliput is clever as Winkhlim, and receives great appreciation; Mr. Frank Lennard is an excellent vocalist and makes a manly Capt. Karl; and Mr. Mark Sheridan, jun., and Mr. Bert Royston work well together, their business and dances being greatly applauded.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—*The Grip of Iron* has been presented by Mr. E. H. Knight's company. Mr. Fred Powell gave an excellent portrayal of Jagon, alias Simmonnet; Mr. Wallace Curnock was good as Paul Blanchard; Lorentz de Rebas was capably played by Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner; and Mr. Herbert Lewis was amusing as Loustalot; Miss Marie Fontaine deserves favourable mention as Cora; and Miss Florence Trevoir ably sustained the part of Sophie Blanchard.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Prince Ishmael, assisted by Mlle. Valeria, who head the bill, are much applauded for their mystifying entertainment. Other good turns are given by Cin Maree, a youthful contortionist; Winkler, Continental juggler; Ivy Gallad, comedienne and dancer; E. W. Selman, comedian; and Agnese and Arthur Lynch, in American picture songs. There is a fine display of animated pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. Lingford Carson and company are presenting *The Drama of Life*. Mr. J. Carson is prominent in a vivid portraiture of Harry Beech; Mr. Ed. M. Hamilton is a vigorous and impressive Walter Beech; Mr. Andrew Money and Mr. Geo. Vinning are successful in their respective rôles of Jack Lawton and Dave Crane; Mr. Joe Clyde plays capably as the detective, Brenton; while Mr. J. McWilliam is a most amusing Sir Dobson Wilde. Miss Kate Hallam plays with distinction as Sylvia Beech, imparting the requisite sympathy and grace; and Miss Marie Ramus is an excellent Lady Jane Wilde.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company, in *East Lynne*, are here. Into the character, P.C. Bullock, Mr. Alfred Tate introduces a good deal of humour; Miss Julie Kennard gives a pathetic and artistic representation of the dual rôle of Lady Isabel and Madame Bine; whilst the character of Archibald Carlyle is finely portrayed by Mr. Alfred Beaumont. The part of Francis Levison is in the capable hands of Mr. Harry Nunn; Mr. S. Goodwin as Lord Mountsevern and Miss Helen Lowther as Lady Mountsevern are exceedingly good, Miss E. Hardacre is pleasing as Cornelia Carlyle; and some clever juvenile acting is given by Miss Jessie Bayes and Miss Ethel Ray; Mr. C. Rutland as Richard Hare and Miss Edith Moss as Barbara Hare are all that can be desired.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, the Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—This popular place of amusement was re-opened on Monday night, when *The Officer's Mess* was presented by Mr. W. Perbyn Forster's company. In the rôle of Sybil Carruthers, Miss Edith Harmer is responsible for some charming singing and dancing; Mr. Tom E. Conover, in the rôle of Thomas Rugg keeps the house in a constant roar of laughter; and Miss Nellie Sheffield contributes some vivacious acting, her laughing song being especially good; Mr. J. Manville is capital as Sir Adalbert; and Mr. H. Vivian as Poorpoon is responsible for some good acting; Miss Clara Nicholls is pleasing as Lady Constantia; and Mr. Gedge Twyman is excellent as Capt. Melville; Mr. H. Carlyle Pritchard does full justice to the rôle of Antonio Wilkins; and Miss Millie Gordon is all that can be desired in her rôle.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges.—George Mozart is responsible for a good deal of mirth, his latest song, "The Mudlark Band," being popularly received; Marlow and Manton do well in a comedy sketch; and Phil Hermann is also exceedingly funny; Sterling and Revell prove to be a most eccentric pair of comedians; the Digby Girls provide a clever dancing turn; Esta Stella, comedienne and dancer, pleases; and other turns are provided by Mark Leslie, comedian, and Alice Digby, comedienne.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—W. J. Mackay and his company (including Elliot Ball, Edward Chester, Geo. Edwards, Miss Edith Hall, and Miss Francis Harrold) are responsible for an excellent presentation of the sketch, *Nell Gwynne*. J. Copeland and son give a clever clog dancing turn; and Percy Curry creates much laughter with his humorous songs and patter; Otta and Olga, comedy and mock operatic artists, provide a delightful turn; and Ethel Loftus is an attractive number. Other turns are provided by the Sisters Bartholomew, and Helen Martin, vocalist.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. C. M. Julian.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company in *Robin Hood* has proved a powerful attraction here this week. Mr. Ethelbert Edwardes is admirable as Robin Hood, looking the part to perfection; Miss Fyfe Alexander is charming as the Lady Marian; and other rôles are well sustained by Messrs. E. Belleden Clarke, H. A. Ball, H. Lesmere, C. Bruce Winston, Leslie Rea, Augustus Wheatman, and Henry Kerr, and Misses Madge Devereux and Barbara Hannay.

WINTER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—Morris Cronin and his troupe in a club manipulating act are fine; and the Kellino Family are the smartest of Risleyites; while the comedy acrobatics of the Rinaldos creates much amusement. The Soho Trio in coon dances are extra; and the other turns provided are Wylie's dog circus, Annie Nelson, soprano, Joe Conway, pocket comedian, Terry and Bentley, comedy act, and Harry Taft, comedian and whistler.

CENTRAL PIER.—Manager, Mr. E. Hill.—A good bill is headed by the Davies Trio in motoring in mid-air, a very exciting turn. *Three of a Kind* is an amusing trifle well presented by Abel and Arden, Ltd.; Marstio and Oretta are smart equilibrists; the Charnleys are good batonists and comediennes; Tom Moore is a capital comedian; Fannie Humber performs well on a variety of instruments; Fields and Lewis have a genuine comedy act; and J. Monks possesses a rare tenor voice.

WEST END PIER.—Secretary, Mr. J. Bastow.—Fasola's Indian magic and his latest illusion, *The Bridal Chamber*, are all excellent; Graham's imitations of favourite comedians are much appreciated; Nellie Moore impersonates such characters as Hamlet, Uriah Heap, and Gaspard with distinction; and Mme. Goodall, soprano, sings with success. The Blue Hungarian Band continues to draw appreciative audiences at the promenade concerts.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mrs. Russ Whytal is this week paying a return visit to Newcastle in a representation of the historical play *Clancarty*. The part of Lady Clancarty is ably taken by Mrs. Russ Whytal, who is fully equal to the heavy demands this exacting character makes upon her; Mr. Acton Bond as Lord Clancarty plays in a most gentlemanly fashion, and has deservedly a large share in the evening's honours; there is much to admire in Mr. Stratton Rodney's King William the Third; and full justice to a thankless part is given by Mr. J. J. Bartlett as Lord Spencer; while Miss Mabel Knowles supplies welcome vivacity and gaiety to the part of Lady Betty Noel.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche, supported by an excellent company, are telling good audiences *What the Butler Saw*. Miss Blanche plays the part of Mrs. Barrington with commendable skill and taste; and nothing better is imaginable in its way than the performance of Mr. Rignold as Pink, the butler.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. T. W. Rowe.—The presentation of the powerful drama *The Tyrant*, by a company under the direction of Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred C. Somerfield, is attracting considerable attention in Newcastle this week. The Tisbe of Mrs. Walter Bentley is a really excellent piece of work; and the polished and finished acting of the part, along with the powerful portrayal of Homodei, the avenger, by Mr. Somerfield, goes far in the way of rendering the performance so complete a success. In the title-rôle, Mr. Roy Fortescue is also good; and others accomplishing what is worthy of note are Mr. Ed. E. Louis, Mr. Ashmore Vincent, Mr. Percy Brown, Mr Wilton Drury, Miss Margaret Frame, Miss Lallah Shelton, and Miss Vida Hazlewood.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company are presenting the interesting drama *The Sin of Her Childhood*. Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam charms one and all with her fine impersonation of the leading part; and Miss Clara Santley also wins hearty applause. Messrs. Arthur Trail and Wilson Somers ably fill important rôles; and the remainder of the company take their subordinate parts in an accomplished manner.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. H. G. Wells.—A quaint and very humorous sketch is *Casey's Court*, the broad burlesque of a variety entertainment by a crowd of urchins proving immensely popular with large audiences; Miss Hilda Jacobsen, a former favourite with the George Edwardes' companies, makes a successful first appearance in Newcastle in vaudeville in her new operetta, *10 p.m.*; Mr. John Donald is seen to advantage in a Scottish scene, *A Merry Nicht*; the dancing of Will Poluski evokes much applause; and Farnie, Rennie, and Farley contribute a comedy act with many new features. Brown and Le Cierq present a mirth-provoking act; and other notable turns are the musical act of the Jackson Family, Mlle. Von Etta, Vanando, and Collins and Rice.

PAVILION THEATRE.—The Barrasford Co.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will. H. Boardman.—Miss Vesta Victoria, ever welcome to Newcastle, is alone sufficient in the bill of fare at this theatre this week to attract large audiences. In her songs, "Waiting at the church," "Man! man! man!" and "Poor John," this talented artist proves even more successful than in previous visits to the "coaly Tyne." Mr. Tom E. Hughes, with a capital song of the Leicester-square order, is also a great favourite; the Three Meers give a smart wire act; and others in the programme are Miss Ailsa Douglas, vocalist; Mr. Will Godwin, comedian; Fred and Louie Fuller, in a clever sketch; the Musical Schaffers, in *The Garden of Melody*; the Lavelle Brothers, comedy acrobats; and a musical sketch, *Office Hours*.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett.—This theatre opened for the season with Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company, in *The Village Blacksmith*. Kate Strong, the blacksmith's wife, is now played by Miss Maggie Edwards with telling effect and distinctive grace; and Harry Strong, their child, is cleverly played by Miss Bertha Hanbury.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans; Musical-Director, Mr. Walter Ashton.—Thoroughly renovated during the recess, this popular place of amusement re-opened on Monday with a programme of popular favourites, including Lillie Soutter, a character comedienne, highly favoured here; Fred Land, comedian; Harry Barclay, versatile comedian; Snowball and Miss Dolia, in their popular speciality act; Ted Thomas, a funny comedian; the Dancing Gilberts; the Brassos, comedy acrobats and trampolinists, who are responsible for some very neat work; and the Bioscope.

FRANKLIN'S GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Wainwright.—The Irthlingborough Town Prize Band has been specially engaged; whilst variety turns were provided by the Decars, amusing acrobats and tumblers; the Seftons, in a comic act, *Fun on a Table*; Titan, in feats of strength; Wyllie, in his adventures of a musical tramp; Bunsen and Burner, trick skaters; Mlle. Vandra, "juggling on the globe"; Serios, comic boxers; Riche and Ridge, in sketches; and the graceful performance of La Belle Tosca, on the silver wire.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—This place of amusement was re-opened under the above management on Monday evening, when Mr. F. B. Woulfe and Miss Ethel Griffies' company presented *Lady Godiva*, which was heartily greeted. As Tom of Coventry, Mr. F. B. Woulfe was responsible for an admirable impersonation; Mr. R. S. Innes was a capital Leofric; as Algar, Mr. Clifford Rean made a decided hit; Mr. A. Holland Day rendered good service as Unwolf; and Mr. Cecil Renton was all that could be desired as Edgar. As Lady Godiva, Miss Ethel Griffies achieved great success; Miss Theo Henries was an effective Lady Aldyth; and Miss Edith Lorraine made a capital Elfrida. *Jane Shore* was announced for last night (Friday).

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—A gratifying reception has been accorded the Musical Tritons, who present an enjoyable act. The Gentrys, in *Bits*, cause hearty laughter; Mr. Sam Hartley, a local contortionist, meets with well-deserved success; Miss Belle Oliver, serio, is warmly greeted; Miss Beattie Bloom is a pleasing comedienne; Wisper, comedy juggler, keeps the audience in good humour; and the Bio-Photoscope adds greatly to the programme.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. Golden.—This theatre opened on Monday night for the season with Poole's Myriorama. The pictures are excellent. Morritt, conjuror and illusionist, proves himself an artist of marked ability; while Mlle. Beulah gives an amazing exhibtion of telepathy. The Blind Man of Memory is a veritable encyclopædia of dates and figures, and is never nonplussed by the numerous questions asked by the audience; Salida and Vone were enthusiastically encored for their clever dancing, as also are the Veronas, who give a very dainty performance; in her illustrated song-scena Miss May Finch proves herself a vocalist of no mean order; Mr. Felix Somers gives a clever series of impersonations; Mr. Nat Abatt's descriptions of the pictures and quaint anecdotes are much enjoyed. Mr. Fred Mayer is the courteous manager for Messrs. Joseph Poole and Son.

THE PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Glanmore Jones.—Miss Phyllis Esdene's company of artists provide the programme this week. Messrs. H. Charles and company do well in a funny sketch, entitled *The Lunatics*; Miss May Mayne, serio and descriptive vocalist, sings in good style; Gladys Wells, the Yorkshire singing mill lass, meets with a hearty reception; and other items are given by Jimmy Green, comedian and dancer; Harry Keeble, versatile comedian; Guss Ford, entertainer;; Hoozie and his pierrot boy, ventriloquial entertainment; and the boy Hackenschmidt.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company opened here on Monday in *A Country Girl*. Miss Ellaine Thorne rendered Nan with much exquisiteness, and her songs were much appreciated; Miss May Rawlinson was most successful as Marjorie; Miss Nellie Deveney was good as the Princess; Miss Poppy Wilkinson acted well as Sophie, and her dancing won endless applause; Mr. Conningsby Brierley made much fun as Harry; Mr. Anthony Gordon was good as Geoffrey Chaloner; as the Rajah of Bhong Mr. Helier Le Maistre was excellent; Mr. Brown Elliott as Sir Joseph Verity and Mr. B. Bertram as Douglas Verity were successful in their respective parts; and Mr. George Stone deserves mention as Granfer Mummery. Under the direction of Mr. S. Clarke Richardson the chorus and piece in its entirety went with a swing.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt.—A good holiday programme is presented this week. Miss Santoi's company, in their exquisite costumes and their singing and dancing are very attractive; the Trapnell Family are clever acrobats, and their performance is unique; Salbo, king of clubs, does a very good turn, especially in his juggling act; Charles Mildare is well received for his imitations of birds; Professor Hulbert is excellent as a ventriloquist; Mons. De Lil as an illusionist is very good; Bennett and Martel create much amusement in their absurdity, *The Shipwrecked Mariners*; and Frank Cass is a favourite comedian. The Hippodrome Bioscope is excellent this week.

AGRICULTURAL HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—The Canadian pictures continue to achieve success here, and their exhibition is much appreciated.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—After the usual summer vacation this theatre reopened on Saturday evening last. During the holiday season it has been entirely re-decorated and renovated, and now presents a very pleasing and artistic appearance. The opening attraction is *Under Two Flags*, played by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's well-chosen company. Miss Molesworth as Cigarette sustains a difficult rôle with all the ease of a capable artist; and the powerful acting of Mr. Mark Blow as Bertie is deserving of all praise; Mr. Harry Benson has a congenial part as Rake, and together with Miss Kitty Douglas as Lavinia is responsible for songs and dances which relieve the intensity of the dramatic situations. The sinister Chanteroy is convincingly portrayed by Mr. Roy Jackson, and the Lord Rockingham of Mr. Austen Milroy is a carefully studied representation; Mr. Dermot FitzGibbon and Mr. Charles Brooke as Barklie and Lord Royellieu respectively make the most of small parts, and the acting of Mr. Fred Beck as the Jew moneylender Baroni realises to the utmost the despicable traits of the character; Miss Edith Coleman presents a charming picture as Princess Venetia, and acts very cleverly, whilst Miss Joan Stern does all that is necessary as Countess Olga and Miss Mabel Durrant makes a charming Lady Beatrice Guinevere.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—Under new management this house opened on the evening of Bank Holiday with *A Soldier's Honour*, by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley. The authoress, whose stage name is Miss L. Addison, assumes the rôle of the thief and adventuress, Cora Lee, and does full justice to it, being well supported by Mr. Arthur Pringle as captain of the thieves' gang; Mr. Clavering Craig, as the hero, Captain Deane, acts in a manly and enthusiastic manner; and a very careful study of a British officer is presented by Mr. G. Fulford as Captain Temple; the comedy of the piece depends very largely upon Jemima Eliza, a part in which Miss Edie Macklin demonstrates her ability to amuse. She is capably assisted by Miss Mona Gray as Gwendoline Temple and Mr. Howard Lyndon as Percy; a charming figure of the piece is Miss Violet Langley, who enacts the rôle of Doreen Illingsworth, and easily enlists the sympathy of the audience; whilst the part of Florence Deane is played in thorough fashion by Miss Sylvia Vickers; Messrs. Edward Bikker as General Rochester and Mr. Fred Angus as Holly both do well, and Miss Isa Lyndon succeeds excellently in the child part of Queenie Deane; Miss Eva Elwes as Fanchette makes the most of a small part, and Messrs. Vernon Cooper, Fred Newburn, G. Franklin, Alfred Thompson, and O. Myth complete the excellent cast.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—The principal attraction here is Mr. Hayden Coffin, the well-known musical comedy actor, who achieves a notable success at every performance; Happy Fanny Fields pays a welcome return visit, and amuses all the time she occupies the stage; an enjoyable sketch entitled *Captain Cupid* is presented by Mr. Geo. C. Doughty and Misses Phyllis Atherley and Lesley Adair; while the xylophone playing of the Musical Johnstons evokes spontaneous enthusiasm. Always a great favourite here, Arthur Lennard, with new songs and best old ones, presents a turn which strongly appeals to all sections of the house, while the quaint humour and rollicking fun provided by Gus Derrick cause much laughter; Huxter Brothers excel in the art of long-distance somersaulting; Miss Bessie Butt and Miss Lizzie Fletcher in songs and dance do well, and the knockabout sketch, *Flipp and Flopp*, by the Delevines, is as amusing and clever as ever. A capital holiday programme is brought to a conclusion by some good films on the American Bioscope.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—There was a good house on Saturday, and again on Monday, when this theatre was again open to the public. Mr. Bulmer's company appears in the drama, *Sentenced for Life*. Mr. R. Brancepath Neville as Sir Wallace Stillwell is seen to advantage; Mr. Louis Norman is a good Capt. Derrick; and Mr. Conrad Heywood as Lieut. Stillwell, Mr. Geoffery Sutherland as Rev. Martin Orris, are well placed. Some genuine comedy is interspersed by Mr. Harry Cooke as Percy M'Gantle. Mr. H. P. Warburton as Bill Sharkey, and Mr. R. Jedroyd as Toby.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Wm. Holles and Nannie Goldman and company are here with *The Stepmother*. Miss Goldman appears as Danny, and her acting is greatly appreciated; Mr. Holles as Bod Bristow gives a manly protrayal of a bluff sailor; Miss Winifred Symonds has little to do as Amy Bristow, but she does it very well; Mr. Arthur Rodney is a capable villain as Abraham Wiggins; and Miss Phylliss Manners ably assists him as Anna Vickers; while Mr. Wm. Macready is excellent as Luke Trixel; Mr. Murray Yorke is capital as David Blake; Mr. Fred Dark as Timothy Yapp infuses much humour in his acting of the part; and Miss Florence Harcourt as Johanna Jones gives great assistance; Miss Ida Taylor is very good as Clara.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—This popular drama house was re-opened on Monday evening, after having been re-decorated. *A Beautiful Fiend* is presented by Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company. Miss Sidney Crowe plays the part of Wanda Lubinoff in a splendid manner; her accomplice in villainy, Count Fedor Karoteff, being well acted by Mr. Harry C. Robinson; Mr. Oliver Birrell is a manly Paul Paulovitch; and Mr. Matt Russell is very good as Sergius Strogoff; Miss Violet Ingham as the persecuted heroine, is excellent; Mr. Harry Oates as Christopher Crackles causes much laughter; and Miss Annie Clunn as Patty Woodlands does much towards attaining success; Mr. W. Robinson Foulis is very good as Malachi; as is Mr. Julian Mitchell as Nicholi.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—G. W. Hunter earns several recalls for his humorous songs and patter; the Bros. O'Brien are experts on the triple bars; and gain much applause; Miss Agnes Molteno presents, with great success, a new scena (assisted by Mr. T. Edwards and company), entitled *A Dolly and a Coach*; the Meymotts (Harry and Ada) in a comedy sketch, *Semi-Detached*, earn much applause; Harry Nelson is a capital comedian; Miss Ida Thompson is very good in Dutch song and dance; Leo King is an actor-vocalist of merit; and a clever turn is provided by Marlo, boy juggler. The Royal Dottoscope concludes with an interesting picture.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Proprietors, Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt and company are here in *Two Little Sailor Boys*. The two little sailor boys are played in a natural and taking fashion by the Misses Effie D. Crawford and Beryl Mercer. Miss Blanche Steele acts with great power and fascination as the heartless mother, Lola Grey; Miss Alice Defoe plays the Admiral's daughter in a sympathetic, pleasing way; and Miss Lizzie Chanters is a bright and vivacious Lucy Wilson. Mr. H. E. Herbert gives a manly and convincing performance of Commander Noel Tregarthen; Mr. L. Clarke is well suited as the villainous Lieutenant Redstone; Mr. W. H. Hallatt gives a finished rendering of Captain Yorke; Mr. Forbes Harrison is a good Admiral Grey; Messrs. O. Power and T. E. Sinclair are highly amusing as Jack Jolly and Ben Baxter; and Mr. A. Horton acts with much success the part of Jim Royston.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill; Managers, Mr. Frank Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill.—Mr. John Gerant's company are presenting *At Duty's Call*. Mr. John Gerant gives a powerful and very realistic representation of Harold Allison; he is ably assisted by Mr. Harry Scott, who is manly and vigorous as Captain George Allison. Mr. Maurice Drew deserves praise for his careful rendering of General Gordon; Mr. Will Brenton is bright as Jack Spencer; Mr. Frank Caffrey scores with his humorous play as Terry O'Hallaron, and causes considerable amusement; Miss Lauri Ackland is bright and vivacious as Mary; Miss Beatrice Western is convincing as Salema; and Miss Lily Crammonde makes a graceful and charming Dora Drummond.

PAISLEY.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—For the fair holidays here a diversified entertainment is provided this week. Amy Anderson and company captivate all in their amusing acrobatic sketch, *The Banana Queen*; Cara Magda, lady gymnast, gains hearty applause for her efforts; Frank Coyle, comedian, is popular, and highly amuses with his répertoire of songs; Ethel Wilson, serio, sings with admirable effect; a turn of exceptional merit and one which affords intense enjoyment is the sketch, *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*, by Billy Howard and Katheryn Harris; Professor M'Cann's troupe of performing Irish terriers and jumping greyhounds go through a really clever performance; the Davis and Gledhill trio submit a wonderful exhibition of cycle and motor racing on their own patent track; and the Hippodrome Bioscope shows excellent pictures.

PERTH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—After a somewhat lengthy vacation, the theatre opened this week to an all-round excellent variety company, including such well-known artists as Belford and Mars, in comedy act; the Claires, burlesque artists; Capita, living marionette novelty; Katie Moore, the original Lady Major; Claro and Pastor, in their clever musical and dancing speciality; J. H. Kavanagh, the popular comedian; Sisters Clifton, coon singers and skipping-rope dancers; the Royal Quintette, Scotland's representative International dancers, in a new scene, with special effects.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*Florodora* is played by Mr. J. B. Howard's company. Mr. Fred Eastman as Tweedlepunch is an entertainment in himself; Mr. J. B. Fox has a magnificent voice, and is well suited to the part of Frank Abercoed; and Mr. Edmond Russell is a breezy Cyrus Gilfain. Miss Edith Housley is gay and vivacious as Lady Holyrood ;Miss Marion Armitage is dainty as Angela Gilfain; and Miss Maisie Ellinger is an admirable Dolores.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The Ten Loonies, in their mad musical sketch, entitled *Dotty*, create much merriment; Rousby's *Around Paris* company are also an attractive number and deservedly applauded; the Three Sisters Jonghman brought off a great success for their splendidly-harmonised vocal efforts; and Lola Dalby, comedienne, has a taking turn; Oliver Conroy, comedian, has made a distinct hit; the Danas Comedy Duo, Arthur Boyne, and Vernon's Pictures complete a good programme.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—*The Belle of New York* is here this week, Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company being responsible for its very able presentation to crowded houses. Mr. Paddy Dupres plays Ichabod Bronson in highly successful manner, getting all the fun possible out of the part; Harry Bronson is taken with great credit by Mr. Ernest Mozar; Mr. Frank Lawton delights the audience by his rendering of his original creation of Blinky Bill McQuirck; the polite lunatic, Karl Von Pimpernick, is well sustained by Mr. Joseph R. Tate; Mr. Alfred Sandoe as Doc Snifkins and Mr. Walter Uridge as Kenneth Mugg are humorous in their respective parts; and Messrs. Watts and Cody as the Twin Portuguese also contribute to the merriment. Miss Tessa de Alberti as the Salvation Army lassie uses her sweet and well-trained voice to excellent advantage; Miss Winnie Brown is an attractive Cora Angelique; Miss Olive Lenton is a dainty and captivating Fifi Fricot; and Miss Florence Hersee, who doubles the rôles of Kissie Fitzgarter and Mamie Clancy, is the very embodiment of vivacity.

PRINCES THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—For the Bank Holiday week Mr. Wilson Benge and company are presenting *The Eve of Her Wedding*, Mr. Benge giving an excellent portrayal of the philanthropic George Tremain; Mr. Albert Sefton enacts the part of Dean Clifton vigorously and well; Squire Leverton is played by Mr. Arthur Keand with capital judgment; Mr. Chas. H. Gallier as Dick Leverton is clever and successful; Mr. Chas. Digby is effective and amusing as Rudolph Earle; Giovanni is well taken by Mr. David Beattie; and Jack Herne, a cripple, is characteristically sustained by Mr. Norman B. Cannon; Miss Sadie Smith in the rôle of Mavis Leverton acts with great emotional power; Miss Adeline Raby as Renie de Telle is capital; and Miss Violet R. M. Leslie is an able Gwendoline Younger.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Capt. Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—A long and well-selected programme is being presented here. Bob Hutt and company, with their screaming absurdity, *Welcome Home*, top the bill, causing plenty of laughter. The Sisters Florence are a capable pair of dancers and duettists; Mlle. Zelda submits an expert musical mélange; Pete and Minnie Lee have a capital sketch. *The Scotchman's Visit to London*; Fox and Melville are excellent illustrated song artists; Rosie Coleman, soubrette and danseuse, is smart and up-to-date; Les Uniques in gymnastic pot-pourri are a clever and graceful trio; Two Bostons, novelty showmen, score a hit; Harry Conlin, eccentric comedian, with his funny patter and songs, is entertaining; and Fraser and Haley, contralto vocalists and dancers; Fyne and Hurley, in scena, *The Coster and the Dude*; and Payne's pictures, with new and quite up-to-date films, complete the bill.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager Mr. Nelson Barry.—The Lilliputian Wonders, Les Piccolinos, must be accorded pride of place here this week. This midget pair, with varied accomplishments, as acrobats, rifle shots, wire walkers, &c, are a great success, doing their business with wonderful ease and cleverness; Miss Evelyn Taylor, vocal comedienne, holds the house with her capable singing; Athas and Collins, in comedy duo, are smart dancers; Miss Alexandra Edwin is a very pleasing vocalist; Three Newsomes, acrobats, give a fine display, and gain much arpplause; Mr. Chas. E. Colby and Miss Lilly E. May, as the ventriloquist and his doll, are well received; Miss Rose Hamilton, comedienne, gains a recall; Mr. Lawrence Barclay creates roars of laughter by his quaint gags and dancing; Donaldson Bros., Ardel and Co., in their zoological comedy, meet with a hearty reception; and the Bioscope, with amusing pictures, complete the programme.

RADCLIFFE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—*The Branded Woman* is being presented by Mrs. F. W. Clive's company. As Philip Maurice, Mr. Frank Petley acts effectively and successfully; Mr. W. Conell Clarke makes the best of his many opportunities as Zarka, the hunchback, hypnotist, and murderer; and Mr. Walter Steele does well as Leon. Mr. H. Liddle, a street artist, sings very pleasingly; and Mr. Coward Lowrie is good as Louis Duroc. In the title-rôle, Miss L. Ross has met with success; and Misses Rose Franklyn, Alice Campbell, Isabel Hunt, and Gertrude Price act acceptably.

RAMSGATE. — AMPHITHEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—At the Amphitheatre on each evening of the week Mr. F. S. Gilbert, the well-known tenor, and the United English Opera Company have been appearing in a répertoire of old favourites. Mr. Gilbert's voice seems to have lost none of its tone since the days when he used to frequently appear here with the late Mr. Arthur Rousby; and Miss Doris Gilbert gives distinct evidence that she possesses a good share of her father's vocal talent. The baritone parts are interpreted with excellent effect by Mr. G. Kneale Campbell; while Miss May's singing in leading parts is the subject of very high praise. Mr. F. C. Silverstone, Miss Evelyn Gilbert, and Mr. W. Newby are seen and heard to considerable advantage. On Monday evening *The Daughter of the Regiment* filled the bill; on Tuesday *Faust* was interpreted in capital style; *Maritana* was put on on Wednesday; with *Il Trovatore* on Thursday; *Faust* on Friday; and *The Bohemian Girl* on Saturday.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee, Mr. Jules Richeux.—Mr. Fred Karno's comedians have been appearing in *His Majesty's Guests* with marked success. Mr. George Hestor is most diverting as Sergt. Lightning; Mr. Harry Howe is capital as Bunker; and Mr. Tom Manardo decidedly smart as Selina. Miss Lenora Castelle is quite at home in the rôle of Lady Maude Easem. The "Burglars' Chorus" and the other musical numbers which are given during the course of *His Majesty's Guests* go with a swing.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode.—This elegant theatre was reopened on Bank Holiday after a week's closing for redecoration. Mr. Fred Karno's vaudeville company appear very successfully in *Mumming Birds* and *Early Birds*. Percy Hannam, the boy baritone, sings in good style; Cissie Esdaile is a dainty comedienne and dancer; the New Macs are very amusing in knockabout business; Frank Boyce, the versatile comedian; Dan Hendy, eccentric acrobatic comedian; and D. W. Watson, one-armed cornet soloist and post horn champion, contribute acceptable turns, and the entertainment closes, as usual, with some excellent pictures on the Imperial Bioscope.

RHYL.—QUEEN'S PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Fred Benton.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's company in *The Toreador* opened here on Monday. Miss Gertrude Simpson's portrayal of Dora Selby is a most artistic performance; Mr. Robert Rous as Sammy Gigg is very amusing; Miss Marie Beresford sings and acts well as Nancy Staunton; Miss Leah Howard plays Susan in lively and agreeable style; Mr. Leslie R. Cathie as Sir Archibald Slackett is all that can be desired.

NEW AMPHITHEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—Charlie Harvey has been very successful here; Wee Mona Vivian sings and dances with great vivacity; Arthur Aldridge's efforts are deservedly appreciated, his song "The Trumpeter," calling forth loud applause; Lilian Barnes, with a capital selection of songs, has become a great favourite; Fred Barnes, comedian, has a good reception; Jack Macdermott contributes several good songs, his ditty "Obadiah" being perhaps his best. Forshaw Kershaw, with his musical monologues, is in great favour.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—The reopening was inaugurated by the presentation of *Lucky Durham*. Mr. Edmund Kennedy portrayed John Durham with a power and passion that held his audience spellbound; Mr. Arthur Leigh as the spendthrift, Reggie, was heard to great advantage; Mr. T. Renard Lockwood acted the part of Lord Mountfallon with conspicuous ability; Mr. A. E. Walker as Mr. Vallerton was in every way a distinct success; Miss Alice Esther Belmore acted with sweetness and charm as Helen Vallerton; Miss Rosabel Dodd was lifel

character-sketch was the Horatio Fane of Mr. George Herbert; and Mr. Barry Lupino displayed the family talent as a comedian and pantomimist as Simpkin. Mr. Percy Shaw was firm as the detective, Dick Delver; Mr. Fred Garton was a dramatic Montague Blair; and other successful impersonations were Mr. L. Calthorpe's Abney Stone, Mr. Wilson Lowther's Mr. Tightfist, Miss Doris Lorraine's Doris Fane, Miss Ellen Owen's Maria, Miss May Lupino's Peggy, and Miss Nelly Wilson's Mrs. Eastman.

Empire Palace.—Proprietors, The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Packed and enthusiastic houses have been the rule this week. The big line on the bill is *My Pal Jerry*, a serio-comic drama in four scenes, which is the best thing the clever Lew Lake combination have yet done at this theatre. Miss Harriett Vernon looks distingué in her expensive costumes, and she sings with her accustomed ease and sweetness; Miss Ella Retford is a piquant and vivacious vocalist and a smart dancer; Howard and St. Clair do a clever little farcical sketch; the Enyors are clever jugglers; Mr. Victor Travers keeps the audience in roars of laughter; and the programme is completed by Miss Maggie Walsh, the Hartley Wonders, and the Bioscope.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate.—Mr. Algernon Syms, supported by an excellent company, opened on Monday in the military episode *The Clash of Steel* and a comic sketch called *Sniped*. Other turns who successfully appeared were Devon and Earle, comedians; Mr. George Keith, vocalist, the Sisters Brenton, duettists, and Miss Eva Richards, comedienne.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Miss Winifred Chalmers' company is appearing in a version of *Oliver Twist*, and excellent studies are given by Mr. Henry L. Osmond as Bill Sikes, Mr. John C. Carlyle as Fagan, Mr. H. Gomer May as Bumble, Miss Nellie May as Mrs. Corney, and Miss Winifred Chalmers as Nancy. Miss Nellie Stephens as Oliver Twist won the appreciation of the large audience.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—This week Mr. George Dance's company is here with *The Lady Dandies*. Mr. O. E. Lennon is screamingly funny as St. Amour, and Malicorne is well played by Mr. J. E. Walker). Mr. Charles Hanbury (Lagorille) and Mr. Ripley Evans (Dorlis) both win instant favour, singing and acting in fine style. Mr. Tom Seymour is exceptionally good as Tournesol, and Mr. Tom Squire excellent as the Secretary to the Directors. Miss Maisie Gay revels in the character of Lodoiska, her delightful singing of "Ring-a-ring o' roses" being applauded to the echo. Miss Nancie Rossiter is a melodious Illyrine; Miss Peggie Primrose charming as Egle; Miss Nellie Taylor a piquant Madame Ragot; and Miss May Marshall excels as Liane. The merveilleuses are all most fascinatingly represented, and Mr. Otto Manns conducts most ably.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wm. Trussell.—Max Darewski, boy composer and conductor, is the principal attraction at this house. The Flockton-Foster Sketch Company are responsible for an entertaining trifle; Bert Coote's Yankee Doodle Girls dance delightfully; Virto is a versatile instrumentalist; and the Satanella trio of Continental acrobats are clever. Others who successfully contribute are the Sisters Wheeler, vocalists and dancers; Shirley and Ransome revel in their coster sketch, *Arf a Quid*; and Stewart and Evans are a couple of cross-talk comedians and patterers.

The Hippodrome.—Managers, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; Gen.-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—Marie Lloyd is starring here, and renders her songs with her usual success; Luis Hardt performs some wonderful feats of strength in his sketch, *Flights of Imagination*; the Pasquali Acrobats, head and hand balancers, are remarkably smart; Wyndham and Waters score in *The Professor and His Pupil*; Kendrick and Laura are a comedy couple who excel as dancers; Natalia and Diana, aerial gymnasts; Massona, juggler; and Ella Lane, comedienne and dancer, also appear with success.

Pier Pavilion.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait.—The Dagonets, a very fine combination of vocalists and society entertainers, directed by Mr. Joseph Blascheck, are proving a great attraction. They are all excellent singers, and Mr. Blascheck's monologues are very popular.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—Pier Pavilion.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. C. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—A more fitting attraction for the large number of holiday-makers than the musical comedy novelty, entitled *Dare-Devil Dorothy* affords could not be desired. Record attendances on Bank Holiday gave Mr. Henry Swinerd's company fine receptions. The play has new scenery, which is much appreciated, and special mention should be made of the musical items under the direction of Mr. Leslie Whitman. Mr. Walter Ashley, who gives a powerful and manly portrayal of Captain George Fielding, is even more prominent with good songs; Mr. Henry C. Ward creditably impersonates Captain Edward Dudley, while Mr. Dean Cliffe is humorous as Featherstone Haugh. Silas Crump endears himself to all by his drollery, so well asumed by Mr. Harry Ugar. Miss Nellie Harcourt shares chief honours as Judith; Miss Pauline Emeric well impersonates Ruth Montrose, and sings well.

The Kursaal.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—The Brothers Willis give gymnastic and bar performances in an easy and graceful manner that win unstinted applause; the Matulla Troupe demand close attention in their conjuring feats; Miss Gladys Clare pleases as a burlesque actress and soprano vocalist; Mr. T. W. Barrett is an eccentric comedian who pleases immensely; and Messrs. Geo. E. Estall and Johnnie Travers are no less entertaining as knockabout artists, whose patter, songs, and dances merit recognition. The Two Pensacolas, in their scena, *Uncle Pete's Return*, give capital characterisations; a vigorous and amusing troupe are the Nine Cotton Coons, including Mr. Charles Cornish, and their presentation of *Plantation Frolics* by the Juvenile ballet is both attractive and good. An entirely new series of pictures on the bioscope is another popular item. The retention of Madame Rosetta's Eight English Belles for the Café Chantant assures a splendid following. Smart, active dancing by the Misses Mabel and Lillie Blake are worthy specialities. On Tuesday a special attraction was the flying visit of Mr. George Robey and party, an excellent programme being given for this matinée.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House, Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens, Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Mr. Milton Bode' company in *A Chinese Honeymoon* is here. The part of Mr. Pineapple is very ably depicted by Mr. George Rydon; Miss Gwennie Harcourt is a chic and vivacious exponent of Fi-Fi; Mrs. Pineapple has a very capable representative in Miss Rosie Begarnie, whose singing was warmly applauded; Mr. Rudolph Kloss protrayed the character of the Emperor with excellent effect; Miss Elsie Skillings as Princess Soo-Soo was very successful, both histrionically and vocally.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Coulson.—*A Woman's Pluck* is being presented here. The leading part of Grace Daremont is splendidly portrayed by Miss Marion Fawcett; Dick Darrell, the man with a past, is well accounted for by Mr. Austin Mortimer; and the same may be said of Mr. Matthew Boulton as Winstone Dale. Mr. J. P. Dryden plays the dual rôles of Mark Scanlon and Jim Daremont in good style; and Miss Dolly Gilroy as Jessie Pope, the heroine, is in great favour. The comedy parts of this piece are very strong, being Mr. Dicky Bird as Roger Pippin, Miss Fanny James as Ophelia Pippin, his wife; and, in a different vein, Mr. Herbert Claremont as Sir John Daredevil and Miss Kitty Johnstone as Bertie Daredevil.

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—The top of the bill is a delightful musical extravaganza, entitled *Happy Holland*, in which Jake Friedman and company appear with undoubted success. Mr. Friedman's quaint humour, Miss Florence Hanton's piquant acting, the tuneful music, good jokes, and pretty dancing are all admirable. France and Stewart give a lively American racing comedy-scena; J. A. Wilson and dog Towser are well received; Kathleen Cogan, comedienne and dancer; Chris Baker, comedian; and the Bioscope complete.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Mr. Percy Norman's company is here in *A Woman Worth Winning*. Mr. A. B. Mackay, the writer of the play, as General Borinsky, makes the most of his chances; as Roma Pauloff, Miss Cissie Bellamy, submits a highly romantic sketch of this much-persecuted damsel; Mr. Percy Horton's tall, manly figure lends dignity to the rôle of Fergus Lovinsky, which he assumes with considerable credit; Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh, as Ivan Bardoff, affords a capital bit of character acting; Messrs. E. Hall Eldon and E. Kendrick and Miss Ada Mackay are a trio of capable comedians, and they fill the parts of Bertie Scribbles, Peter Popples, and Katerina Kloss with much success.

STAFFORD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—Miss Glossop-Harris and company present the historical drama, entitled *The Royal Oak*. Miss Glossop-Harris enacts the rôle of Mildred Clavering with much charm and fascination; Miss Gertrude Guilbert is an effective Lady Cholmondeley; and Miss Kate Turner is highly successful as Patty Woodroffe. As Charles II., Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., gives a highly finished performance; the character of Dorean Cholmondeley is well delineated and ably sustained by Mr. Aubrey Mather; Sir Bevis Cholmondeley finds a capable exponent in Miss May Maddison. The drollery of Mr. Edward Landor as Walk-in-the-Way Dearlove is highly appreciated; and the villainy of Colonel Anchitell is characteristically portrayed by Mr. Percy H. Vernon.

STALYBRIDGE.—Grand Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Fioni; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—The programme includes Marie D'Alcourt and John Whelan in excerpts from grand opera; Fayre and McHenry, comedians and dancers; Maston, mimic; the Comerfords, comedy acrobats; the Halls, speciality artists; Atilla Bros., of the Samson tribe; J. H. Greener, the singing pit-lad; and Billy Ross and company in a speciality, *A Hot Member*.

ST. ANNES-ON-SEA.—Pier Pavilion Theatre.—Lessee of Entertainments, Mr. Harry Leslie.—The holiday attraction here has been the "Follies." Packed houses witnessed each performance of this clever and refined troupe, the audiences being specially pleased with the burlesques of grand opera, comic opera, a French wordless play, and several styles of national dancing and music.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—General Manager, Mr. A. McLeod Loader.—*The World's Great Snare* is presented by Mr. Alexander Dallas' company. Miss Lallie Forsyth plays the part of Wild Rose very effectively, and Miss M. Cameron was excellent in all she did. Mr. L. Williams made a manly scout of Royal Keene, and Mr. F. Bassett earned the usual compliments paid to the villain. The comedy is in the very capable hands of Mr. Lester Howard as Hans Von Vinck, Mr. Hyland O'Shea as Pat Maloney, and Mr. Maurice Jones as a Jewish moneylender.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic Carnell.—Mr. Sid Cotterell and company head the bill with a most amusing sketch, entitled *The Substitute*. Derenda and Green give a smart exhibition of juggling; the Smarte brothers are clever tumblers; Jack Crawley is artistic in his unique entertainment; Miss Effie White produces a most effective spectacle in *The Spirit of the Cave*; Tom Leo is to the fore with a new song, "Too lazy to live," and Miss Ruby Emmerson is a dainty comedienne.

ST. LEONARDS.—Pavilion Theatre.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—*The Gay Parisienne* is being presented here by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. Miss Alice Nixon in the title-part is very captivating; Mr. Shirley Lea is excellent as Major Fosdyke, and with Mr. Will Harman as Ebenezer Honeycombe creates great amusement; Tom Everleigh is capitally sketched by Mr. C. H. Biddulph; and Hans is well represented by Mr. J. Fitzjames. A typical waiter is Mr. Bloomfield Jones as Fritz; the gendarme has an excellent exponent in Mr. Richard Rose; the quartettes and songs are delightfully rendered by the Imperial Glee Singers, Messrs. Jones, Rose, Gwynne, and Fitzjames.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—*The Assassin* is played by Mr. Augustine Knight and company. Mr. Augustine Knight as Prince Demetri gives an effective portrayal of the character; and Ivan Ipanoff is impersonated in manly style by Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson; Mr. Edwin Jenner's acting as Captain O'Neil is delightful; Mr. Edward Swinton amusingly fills the part of Baron Alphonse; Duke Karl has a capable representative in Mr. Theo. Balfour; Miss Ella Vane acts powerfully as Countess Wanda; and very pleasing is Miss Hettie Senior as Connie Jonathan.

Empire.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—The Three Merrills' entertainment is amusing and clever; Brady and Johnson are a great success in their laughable sketch, *Turning the Tables*; the Lannons gain much applause by their ability as clog dancers; a distinctly pleasing musical entertainment is given by Blanche and Powell; Shirley Liggins and company, comedy artists, in *Farmyard Pastimes*, are well received; and Fred Mason, whistling comedian; Nellie Walton, vocalist; and Marie St. John, serio, make up the remainder of the programme.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Hippodrome Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Robt. A. Nicholson; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—Sammy Shields, the Scottish comedian, causes great amusement as a football spectator; Seeley and West are greatly appreciated in their musical comedy act, and a cordial reception is accorded the Pichel troupe of acrobats and tumblers. Sisters Terry are artists of a high order; and Gena Manon is well received for her rendering of national ballads; the Albano troupe of instrumentalists display great musical skill, and are greatly appreciated; Halma is a clever juggler, and Harry Leaton is well received for his descriptive songs. The pictures conclude.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—Radford and Valentine head the bill this week, and cause great fun as the "maniacs of mirth"; Austin and Cowan are old favourites here, and popular as ever; Ted Waite is a very droll comedian, and Walter Stanley is very funny in his humorous songs; Bros. Eugenie are sensational heavy weight lifters, and Takio is very interesting as a mimic of sounds; Will H. Fox causes great amusement as a trick pianist. The pictures are very amusing.

STOKE.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—The Three Demons contribute a novel cycle act, which is both daring and clever; the Steinway Quartette submit a vocal turn, their duets, trios, and quartettes being deservedly encored; Kenneth and Kane in their duologue are capital; Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, in a clever sketch, are seen in some exceedingly smart dances; Sargeant Mumford on the slack wire is excellent; Ormonde Penstone in a conjuring turn is exceptionally clever; Harry Luck is a lively comedian; and the Henries are capital jugglers. The pictures are excellent.

SUNDERLAND.—King's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Stevens; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Carlo.—After a short vacation during which the new theatre has been renovated, the management opened with the popular *Two Little Vagabonds*, with Miss Winifred Williamson and Miss Ethel Frances Greene as Dick and Wally respectively, both playing with smartness and ability. Mr. Arthur E. Melborne as George Thornton is fully equal to the requirements of the part; Mr. Fred Bell is successful as Captain Darville; and Mr. Dunstan Haye creditably delineates John Scarth; Mr. T. Lionel Ellis's impersonation of Bill Mullins, the Gaffer, is good; admirable assistance being given by Mr. Stanley Field and Mr. H. G. Wright as Dido and the Coughdrop respectively. Miss Georgina Wynter is admirable as Marion Thornton; and Miss Madge Jeverne is clever as Barbara Scarth; Miss Lydia Bell renders service as Sister Randall, and Miss Ada Matt does what is necessary as the maidservant; whilst Miss Violet Vivian is responsible as Biddy Mullins.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Mr. Lingford Carson's *The Power of the Cross* is here this week, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Gilman. Mr. Geo. A. De Gray in the satanic character of Baron Wolfa Curzola, plays with considerable acumen; Mr. Henry Danson represents Gerald Fairfax; and Mr. A. J. Haviland is responsible as Dr. Fairfax; Mr. J. S. Chamberlain enlivens the proceedings as Timothy O'Dowd; and Mr. A. Hall Menzies enacts the part of Benjamin Hawke of shady renown. Miss Ellis as the adventuress, Rita Lascelles, plays with considerable credit; Miss Marie Menzies as Margaret Seaton soon finds favour; and Miss Phyllis Vaughan is a charming Blanche Kingsley; whilst Miss Etta Turner leaves little to be desired as Dolly Gray.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richd. Thornton.—Bank Holiday saw this house reopened for a short season, the attraction being Mr. J. H. Tindle's Animated Pictures with an excellent and diversified selection of subjects.

Empire of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richd. Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Eeden.—The Boisset troupe are here in their rough-and-tumble *Bricklayers* sketch; George Leyton, the actor-vocalist, scores a big success in his dramatic scena, *The Wreck of the Birkenhead*; Maude Courtney, the American girl, goes very well; the Mysterious Mr. C. sings and talks himself into favour; Alice Maydue is a popular turn; Menoti, the flying cyclist, is truly a "whirring wonder"; Mabel Sinclair, the lady ventriloquist, is unique; and Rosa Loader is amusing as the musical slavey. Bioscope pictures are also included in the bill.

Palace of Varieties.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Alf. Browne and Syd. B. Stringer.—The great and only Hackenschmidt heads the bill with his invincible wrestling. Mersona, a coin and card manipulator, is remarkably smart; Manson and West appear in an interlude, *Telling the Tale*; Jack Rae, the man with the hat, is both amusing and clever on the swinging rings; Espinosa and Neilson are a couple of exhilarating dancers; Ike and Will Scott are a brace of amusing comedians; and Rose Elliott, a descriptive vocalist, is high in favour. The usual show of pictures form an agreeable finale.

SWANSEA.—The Grand.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company opened on Monday with *Driven from Home*. Mr. Felix Pitt as Anthony Raybrook proved himself an artist of great talent; Mr. Arthur Dualey's impersonation of the outcast, Willie, was a fine one; as Geoffrey Waring, Mr. Charles Burden acted with consummate skill throughout; whilst as the persecuted Walter Hatherleigh Mr. Francis Everard was very efficient. Mr. Cornwall as Jabez Thomas gave a good account of himself; the comic element was well sustained by Mr. Fred C. Imbert, who, as John Anderson, was really funny; Miss Muriel Dean soon established herself a warm favourite by the sympathetic manner in which she played the part of the heroine; Miss Susie Bevan was admirable as Margaret Bailey; whilst the parts of Fanny and Polly were successfully taken by Miss L. Ingles and Miss Madge Muriel, as, indeed, were all the others.

The Star.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. J. Powell.—*In a Woman's Grip* has been played here, Mr. Andrew Melville giving a characteristic impersonation of Joe Butters in that interesting drama. Mr. Melville was admirably supported by Miss Rose Ralph, Miss Kate Welfred, and Mr. Percy Dawson.

The Empires, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—Pride of place is occupied by *The Casey Army*, which has become most popular. Russel Wallet is new here, and will be heartily welcomed next visit; Elsie Robey is as great a favourite as ever; the Six Æolians are a distinctly clever troupe of singers and dancers; Rich and Rich are as funny as ever; Charles Roberts, in American song-pictures, is very acceptable; Bertha Palliaser and Edith Maynard are tuneful duettists; and Lowell and Lowell do well as grotesque acrobats. The Bioscope pictures are interesting.

SWINDON.—Mechanics' Institution, Large Hall.—Secretary, Mr. H. J. Southwell.—*The Convict's Daughter* is presented by Mr. Frank Bertram's company. Mr. Bertram is seen to excellent advantage in his well-known rôles, and gains pleasing support from Miss Maud Beard as Marian Thorne; Miss Lilias Deane as Edith; Mr. Walter Graham as Harold Trevelyan; and Mr. Escot Robson as Jasper Thorne.

TONYPANDY.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Councill.—*As Good as Gold* is played by Mr. Samuel James's company. The chief honours lie with Mr. Jackson Hayes, who takes the part of Mark Williams with great success; Mr. Arthur Hunt is excellent as Lieut. Stanton; Mr. Clinton Baddeley scores heavily as Sir Richard Wharncliffe; Mr. Herbert Fuller is extremely funny as Horatio Spankes; Miss Agnes Collier makes a dainty Nora Williams; and Miss Melrose Millett shines in the difficult part of Kate D'Arville.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Thomas; Stage Manager, Mr. D. Armstrong.—On Monday evening the above hall was again opened, the boards being occupied by Mr. J. Brown's combination, under the management of Mr. Arthur Ely. The Aspiote Troupe of Statues have had a capital reception; the Atories are also a prominent item on the programme; Mr. Arthur Eloy, the "racing comic," is extremely funny; other artists are Miss Rose Gaston, Mr. Joe Haymen, Miss Susie Marney, Mr. Jack Dawe, and the Idento Brothers.

TORQUAY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. A. Pearse.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company in *A Country Girl* had an enthusiastic reception on Monday. Mr. Arthur Staples as Barry and Miss Gipsy Touzeau as Sophie acted and sang splendidly together; Mr. Martin D. Pitts made a fine Geoffrey Challoner, and Miss Gladys Christoe was a very pleasing Marjorie; whilst Miss Blanche Lynn was immensely popular as Nan; Miss Poppy Dale sang exceedingly well as the Princess of Bhong, and Mr. Bernard Vaughan made a capital Rajah.

Princess Pier Concert Hall.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—The Bank Holiday attraction here was the M.A. Concert Company, under the direction of Mr. Adolph Fowler. Miss Norman Grant gives some pleasing comedy songs, and soon becomes a favourite; and Miss Nellie Beare also sings very acceptably; Miss Gwendoline Phillips renders some good selections; and Mr. Leonard Gowings is an excellent tenor. Mr. Adolph Fowler's deep bass voice is much appreciated, and Mr. Fred Stephens is a clever humorist.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—Opera House.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Welton Dale.—Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company in *The Duchess of Dantzig* commenced what promises to be another successful tour here on Bank holiday, when the company had a most enthusiastic reception. Miss Georgina Helmar plays the title-rôle with the greatest verve, and also proves a skilled vocalist; Mr. Frank Bradley does well in the difficult part of Napoleon; Mr. Marshall Vincent takes the part of the Marechal in excellent style, and Mr. Ernest Cossart is responsible for some capital comedy as Papillon; Miss Zena Collings makes a favourable impression as Mlle. Renée; the Misses Edith Vogne and Maude Merrique successfully impersonate the emperor's sister and Miss Alice Hamilton is a meritorious Empress Josephine; Mr. Sidney Bracey, as the Vicomte, and Miss Sophy Grundy, as Lisette, deserve special mention. The full chorus, under the direction of Mr. J. M. Hutcheson, put in some excellent work.

TYNEMOUTH.—Palace-by-the-Sea.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—An admirable programme is submitted this week to crowded holiday audiences. Nellie Ganthony, in her bright musical sketches, proves a humorist of great ability; the Four Jumels, in their musical novelty, provide a popular item; Williams and Warden, comedians, are most amusing; Peter Bermingham, billed as the "Bloom of the Thistledown Comedians," is a lively and exhilarating Scotch song and dance artist; and the Palace pictures come as an agreeable interlude.

WAKEFIELD.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Miss Ida Millais and company are here with the drama *No Man's Land*. The part of Harry Oakands is ably and forcibly filled by Mr. Henry Herne. Mr. Herbert Cecil does good work as Silas Moore; Mr. William Mallalieu is seen to advantage as Dr. Buxton; Mr. Alf. Lytton figures prominently as Mat Marsden; and sterling work is rendered by Mr. Henry Carlisle in the dual parts of Gilbert Bathurst and Captain Norman Bathurst. Mr. Charles M. Daly is capable as Solomon Jacobs; Mrs. Mallalieu is successful as Mrs. Poodle; Miss Dora Hillstrom is quite suited as Bessie Poodle; and Miss Ida Millais proves immensely popular in her clever rendering of Mary Bathurst.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Countess Olga Romanow appears in a series of beautiful poses in antique and modern statuary. Miss Eva Hope and company in scenes from Dickens' works score a decided success; the Topsy-Turvy School is a clever combination of juvenile talent; the Three Pirmans give a smart gymnastic display; great excitement is caused by the Collinson combination in their dramatic sketch, entitled *A Club Raid*; Hilton Scotch, ventriloquist, finds great favour; and Hilda Mascott dances well.

WALSALL.—Her Majesty's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Joe Meichen presents his capital dog show. Other items include Les Frasettis, violin, harp, and xylophone soloists; Irene Rose, an attractive comedienne; Sanford and Lyons, cross talkers and dancers; Rapoli, with his successful juggling; Gus Dallon, with songs; Rhoda Paul, in a pleasing turn; a musical incident, *The Schoolboy's Dream*, specially written and composed by Harry Dacre; and an excellent series of Bioscope films.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. Whitmore Ledger and company are appearing with *A Nobleman of Nature*. Mr. Howard Coveney is highly successful in the part of Prince Ivan; Mr. Whitmore Ledger does well as Paul Berndoff; and Miss Hettie Jeffries plays the part of Vera charmingly. Other characters are well sustained by Mr. Dan Mining, Mr. David Urquhart, Mr. Charles Cameron, Mr. Alfred Neeson, Master E. Edwards, Miss Dot Russell, Miss Alvina Mining, and Miss Muriel Tahourdin.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court Theatre.—Description of new playhouse and opening dealt with in another column.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Waters; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—The Three Seabournes are at the top of the bill here this week, and they are really wonderful head and hand equilibrists. Gus Harris, an old favourite here, is again well received; Mimette Maude is a charming comedienne; and Cora Duncan and Albert Brasque score well in their sketch, *A Society Butterfly*. Phil Bransby is a clever coster comedian; and Keith and Merson are seen to advantage in the absurdity, *The Merry Huntsmen*; Dave Miller's Irish songs are well encored, and the Bioscope pictures are a beautiful collection.

Parr Hall.—Lessee, Mr. J. Lyon Whittle.—Mr. Joshua Dyson's Gipsy Choir and Dioramas are the holiday attraction here this week, and the delightful singing and beautiful pictures have again been responsible for good business.

WEDNESBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Kuner.—Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly's company in the successful drama, *The Trail of the Serpent*, is drawing packed houses here this week. Mr. Henry K. Penn submits an excellent rendering of Sir Gerald Kingston; whilst the part of his son, Gerald, is effectively portrayed by Mr. Henry G. Thomas. Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly makes the most of his opportunities in his interpretation of Ralph Hammond; the rôle of Will Higgins is left to the safe keeping of Mr. F. Godfrey; and as Ginsy Jack, Mr. George Porteous leaves little to be desired. The important part of Rachael the Gipsy is characteristically presented by Miss Nana Cameron; Miss A. Rippon makes up well as Ethel Maynard; and in the rôle of Rose Wilson, Miss Jennie Risley evokes loud applause. The scenery and effects are excellent.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Morimura, the Japanese conjuror, presents a whirl of wonderful tricks; Miss Nellie Dunbar makes a charming comedienne; George Bernard submits some smart songs; the Walton Duo give a dainty dancing act; the Fimans create roars of laughter in their speciality act, *The Fireman*; Ernie Owen contributes some very comical songs and business; Monti Santos is decidedly smart with his society juggling; Rene and Smith are entertaining; Lambert and Hands provide an interesting turn of duet singing; Arthur Richards is all that could be desired as a character comedian, and some capital pictures are depicted by the Chronoscope.

The New Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Albert Withers.—The Brothers Horne, in their comedy boxing sketch, cause roars of laughter; Mona gives some smart dancing; Ada Gatley contributes a very graceful wire act; a clever musical turn is that of the Four Cecilians; Amy Russell submits a strong soprano voice, and sings very pleasing songs; a comedy triple bar show is given by the Two Walonells; Walter Emerson shines in his clever songs and patter, and a series of smart pictures are shown on the screen.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Julius Simpson.—Mollie Wolstenhulme, operatic vocalist, is flatteringly received here. Josh Dixon keeps his audience in hilarious mood; Lynch, "the man with the educated feet," astonishes all by his performance; the exhibition by Cole and Rags, juggling experts, is one that justifies their title. Harry Allister's character impersonations are well conceived and carried out; Darian and Iris, speciality dancers; the Two Sparks, duettists and dancers; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux conclude the programme.

Grand.—Messrs. Elliman's No. 1 company opened here on Monday with *A Heart's Desire*. Mr. Frank V. Fenn gives a powerful rendering of the character of Jim Denman (Lord St. Ives); a capital representation of Oiya, a native half-caste, is given by Miss Ethel Tooney; the rôle of Eric May is safe in the experienced hands of Mr. Eddie Vane. The lighter vein is judiciously supplied by Mr. S. Claydon as Hon. Bertie Beresford and Miss Amy Dalby as Hon. Elsie Beresford, and success is achieved by Miss Ella Seton as Gwendoline Ross.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's *The Earl and the Girl* company is here. Miss Dorothy Dempster makes a sweetly pretty Elplin Haye, her acting and singing being quite above the average. Miss Daisy Lake gives an artistic impersonation of Daisy Fallowfield; Miss Ada Waugh is decidedly good as Liza Shoddam; Miss Violet Campbell as Mrs. Shimmering Black and Miss Viola March as Miss Virginia Bliss are both excellent; Mr. Bert Beswick is an extremely droll comedian, and keeps the house convulsed with laughter as Jim Cheese; Mr. Cecil Lloyd works indefatigably as Dick Wargrave; and Mr. Arthur Radcliffe makes the most of the part of the Hon. Crewe Boodle. Mr. Charles McCann deserves the highest encomium for his interpretation of Downham; and Mr. Vincent Young gives a quaint portrayal of Mr. Talk. Mr. Harold Cotter does good work as A. Bunker Bliss. Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here for the last three nights in *Are You a Mason?*

Grand Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—The Dandies are here once more, and on Monday were very cordially received. Miss Josephine Gordon's rich and powerful voice was heard to advantage in "May Day"; Miss Mabel Carlton's coon song and dance, "Going, going, gone!" was loudly encored; Mr. Henry J. Comer put much dramatic expression in his song "The wreck of the Hesperus"; and Mr. Stephen Fitzgerald's musical monologue, *The 11.69 Express*, proved very funny. Mr. Frank Leus showed some excellent pictures on the Bioscope; and Herr Julian Kändt's Austrian Blue Band is a great attraction.

WEST STANLEY.—Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Raws; Responsible Manager, Mr. H. E. Kauffman.—Smiler Lee is an irresistible comedian; and another equally mirthful turn is furnished by Milsted and Bell in a musical scena, *The Belle of Arizona*. Ada Kingsley is a charming comedienne and singer; Stane gives a clever musical act; Leo and Roland are skilful; the Sages are responsible for some neat dancing and burlesque business; and the Bioscope with up-to-date films concluded a strong programme.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Morton Powell's company in *The Woman Who Gambles* opened here on Monday. Mr. G. Steele gave a capital representation of Count Otto; Miss Lillian Harries made a powerful impression in the title-rôle; Mr. Percy Ballard as Baron Gratlaw proved himself a capable actor; Mr. Reginald Fox presented the rôle of Lieut. Carl in talented style; Mr. E. H. Clarke as M. Stambuloff was a typical Chief of Police; Mr. Gibson cleverly handled the part of M. Koska-Marionavitch; Mr. O. Carlton was very good as the Hon. Bertie Bray, as were also Mr. Arthur Brandhurst, Mr. Walter Pratt Carr, Mr. Gilbert Dance, and Mr. Richard Hutton in their respective rôles. Miss Lily Malvern gave a well-studied sketch of Stella Malahoff; Miss Lillian Rignold made a smart and effective Mlle. Lila Zeyelda; Miss Brenda May submitted a fine impersonation of Zanetta; and Miss Dora Pass showed to advantage as Cora Goudhart.

WHITBY.—Spa Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Payne Seddon.—During the first half of this week Mr. F. R. Benson's company has presented *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Rivals*, and *Macbeth*.

Temperance Hall.—Mr. George Grossmith had an enthusiastic gathering here on Monday night. He was assisted by the Misses Dorothy D. Egville, Dorothy Scott, and Bernadette Rawstron.

Waterloo Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Julian Bambridge.—*In Old Madrid* and *The Naval Detective* have been the attraction at this theatre during the week.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Jas. Keddie.—The theatre re-opened for the season on Monday evening, when an audience of holiday dimensions assembled, and greeted warmly Mr. H. Theodore's company in *The Shulamite*. Mr. Scott Leighton, in the part of Simeon Krillett, acted with fine force, his reading of a part affording much opportunity being very clever. Mr. Bartlett Garth was very good as Robert Waring, and won the sympathy of his audience. Perhaps the chief honours of the evening went to Miss Ella Thornton, whose acting as Deborah Kirllett was impassioned and forceful. Mr. Geo. Rammel gave a sound performance as the good-natured Jan Vanderberg; Miss Corona L'Estrange submitted an excellent rendering of the complex character of Tante Anna Vanderberg; and Miss Nellie Fancourt was capital as the vivacious Khosi. The irrepressible Klass found a capable exponent in Mr. Albert Rogers; and in the smaller parts Mr. Henry Beaumont, Miss Empsy Hawkswood, and Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff were good. The mounting of the play was excellent in every way.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—This week we have Mr. Walter Melville's play, *The Soldier's Wedding*. Mr. Wingold Lawrence as Jack Brown and Mr. Beresford Whitcomb as Col. Jas Graham most capably present their respectives rôles; and Miss Marie McAuley as Julie de Beauvrais, Miss Jessie Winter as Nancy Lee, and Miss Ettie

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, August 5, the Drama, entitled "THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."

After a recess of a few weeks, this theatre opened its doors again with a matinée on Monday. The first performance was very well attended, but in the evening the house was a "bumper," similar results being attained throughout the week. Mr. Walter Melville in *The Girl who took the Wrong Turning* has woven a powerful and convincing story, which is admirably interpreted by his talented company. Mr. Roy Redgrave and Miss Rona Merrick are to be congratulated on the fine portrayals they give, the many touching incidents which occur throughout the play being acted by them with much care and feeling; Mr. Willie Reid, as Johnny Walker, keeps the audience continuously amused in a perfectly legitimate manner; whilst Miss Marie Kildare, as Poppy Slater, afterwards Mrs. Johnny Walker, also causes considerable laughter in her scenes with Mr. Reid; Mr. Sydney Sarl is singularly happy in his portrayal of Bill Slater; and Mr. Frank Robertson's performance as the cruelly misjudged Jack Fenton is very effective; Messrs. John Wilson and T. Brackley give typical embodiments of Lord Sumner's stable employees, Joe Fletcher and Peter; Mr. Frank Burnette is well placed as Graham, the old roue; and the same may be said of Messrs. Alexander, Hermon, and Lacey as Davis, Dough, and Taxes; Mr. Walter Thornton does not spare himself in depicting the heartless cruelty and villainy of Richard Fenton, and thoroughly earns the execrations of the audience; Mr. Kenneth Black makes the most of his opportunities at the commencement of the play as Richard Fenton; and the rôles of John Matthews and Maggie, his servants, are capably presented by Mr. C. Carter and Alice Benton; Mr. Royce Carlton gives a pleasing sketch of P.C. Sharp, "not a bad sort"; and Mr. C. Lacey commendably performs the part of Hoppit; Miss Nannie Meade's presentment of the part of Vesta Le Clere is full of dramatic intensity, and the greatest praise is due to her; Miss Hilda Baynton sustains the rôle of Lucy Coventry with conspicuous ability, and completes a cast admirable in all respects. The scenery and mounting are excellent, and Leicester Square and the Old Home at Newmarket, both beautiful sets, may be singled out for special mention. Mr. Bert E. Hammond is the business manager. The entr'acte and incidental music is performed by the Marlborough Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. C. Alcock.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, August 5, the Drama, entitled "THE FATAL WEDDING."

Mr. Bert Coote's company, under the direction of Mr. Percy Williams, is filling the Bank Holiday bill at this theatre, and is attracting audiences as large and enthusiastic as on previous occasions. The children's scene is a never-failing draw, and the youngsters are entertaining, the most popular perhaps being Dot Jeffries, a diminutive young artist who sings in fine style; Tom Grice is a youthful and clever clog dancer; Miss Marie Wilson sings "Apples" very prettily; and Hetty Kelly is very dainty in her song about Bridget; Dorothy Pain has a very sweet voice, with which she sings "Killarney" charmingly. Of the characters in the drama, first mention is due to the little mother of Miss Marie Wilson, a bright child actress, who plays the part most amusingly, and becomes a huge favourite with the audience; Miss Ethel Kay is decidedly good as the sorely-tried Mabel Wilson; and Howard Wilson is admirably embodied by Mr. Cecil A. Melton, who enacts the role in a polished manner; Mr. Henry W. Hatchman is good as Robert Curtis, and is remarkably genial for a villain; and Cora Williams, the adventuress, is skilfully depicted by Miss Gertrude Harrison; Toto finds an amusing delineator in Mr. Charles Locke, who raises many laughs by his quaint antics; and Miss Ethel Sargient gives a diverting portrayal of the kind-hearted Bridget; Mr. Cyril Melton, who stage-manages with success, enacts the character of Schwartz in quaint and original style; Mr. Frank Ashley does well as O'Reilly. The play is capitally mounted, and the orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. W. Devin, renders great assistance, especially in the children's scene.

CORONET.

On Monday, August 5, "TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

Bank Holiday audiences at the Coronet have this week been regaled on the woes and adventures of *Les deux gosses*, as described by Hardie and Von Leer's company, and all lovers of melodrama pure and simple have shed a silent tear over the trials and tribulations of all the good people in the play. The David and Jonathan of the piece, or to speak more by the card, the Dick of Miss Marjorie Murray and the Wally of Miss Josie Bertram, are delightful impersonations, and present a vivid character contrast between the pale and puking, but intensely high-spirited, Wally and the merry, robust, stout-hearted Dick; Mr. Jno. F. Traynor, as Gaffer Mullins, is a truculent scoundrel of the deepest dye, a most unpleasant person; Miss Marie Pritchard, as the bibulous Biddy Mullins, acts with spirit; Miss Violet Ellicott is very charming and pathetic as Marion Thornton, and wins the sympathy of the audience for this long-suffering heroine; Miss Rosslyn Vane acts agreeably as Barbara Scarth; and Mr. Wilson Coleman is a fine, manly George Thornton; Miss Lenna Vernon undertakes the rôle of Sister Randall; Miss Douglas Cecil, as Captain Darville, is well "in the picture"; Messrs. Frank Gordon and Fred. Archer, as Dido Bunce and the Coughdrop, act well; and Mr. Edmund Cuthbert deserves mention as Leeson. Mr. W. T. Harris and Mr. Chris. Mason undertake the duties of stage-manager and business-manager respectively for Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 5, the Drama, entitled "IN HOLY RUSSIA."

Mr. H. B. Brandreth, the enterprising manager of Mr. Robert Arthur's Kennington Theatre, exercised a wise discretion in arranging for *In Holy Russia* as the attraction for the August holiday-week. The play is of the class which appeals with irresistible force to the varied emotions of a holiday audience, and on Monday night it held a crowded house enthralled. The story is chiefly centred in political affairs in Russia, and around the persecution of the Rubinoffs, and the ultimate punishment of their persecutors, the Natolskis, is woven a plot which contains many strong dramatic situations, full advantage of which is taken by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's capable company. The staging is excellent, the second and third acts especially containing fine scenic effects. Chief honours are carried off by Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy as Renee Rubinoff, the heroine, who is only just saved from assassinating the Czar by the intervention of Sir Harry Beresford, the British Ambassador, who falls in love with her. Mrs. Cassidy is a powerfully dramatic actress, and scores a veritable triumph. Mr. Frank Copeland is an excellent Ambassador; and Mr. Ralph Leslie does very well as Count Gregori Petrolski, the people's friend, who is chiefly instrumental in circumventing Mme. Natolski, the latter difficult rôle being ably assumed by Miss Alice Marsden, who is an artist of considerable power and talent. Mr. Frederick Lloyd as Michael Natolski, and Miss Agnes Durham as Natalie Natolski, enact their respective parts in creditable fashion; and Mr. Carl Rovinelli gives a clever character study of the Nihilist leader, Laurice Steragoff. The comedy side of the piece is well supplied by Mr. Arthur Stratton as Colonel Richard Forrest and Mr. J. Rice Cassidy as Micky Nolan, his servant. Both are comedians of undoubted merit, and when they are about merriment reigns supreme. Mr. Robert Cockcroft makes a stately and dignified Czar; and Mr. Joe Cuthbertson is alert and resourceful as Chief of the Russian Police. Miss Florence Creagh is clever as Catska Lavotski, the police spy; and Miss Annie Dudley deserves a word of praise for her Mrs. Richard Forrest. Other characters are well taken by Mr. James Kay, Mr. Jerold E. Reed, Mr. Edwin Vernon, and Mr. Alfred Lewis.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, Aug. 5, the Drama, entitled "THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."

This theatre has reopened its doors after the summer vacation, and the Messrs. Melville, who still continue to direct the destinies of the house, selected the above drama, which so far had not previously been seen here. Mr. Melville, like his brother, is a dramatist with a purpose, and this play of his serves to point out possible consequences of intemperance, not only in a present generation, but in a future one. He is no half-hearted workman, and so we get a succession of pictures, all of an exciting and interesting nature, that succeeds in holding the attention of the audience from start to finish. Miss Marion Denvil, who plays the beauty, invests the part with a refined style, and quite realises the character of the unsophisticated country girl. Her entrance was the signal for a demonstrative greeting, and floral expressions of regard were also handed over the footlights. Miss East Robertson as Delilah enacted the heavy rôle with conviction, her performance being altogether commendable. Miss Mattie Everett as Mimi, in a comedy rôle, had little to do, but did that little well. Mr. Ashley Page as Barrymore, the "beast," scored a distinct hit, and his reception on making his first entry proved the regard which local audiences have for him. His portrayal of the son of a degenerate father is well conceived and as cleverly depicted, and his success was never for a moment in doubt. Mr. Edward Thane as the Earl presented a character study of great merit, his acting in the earlier portion of the piece being of an especially high order. Mr. D. C. Aubrey as Denver played the heavy part in his usual accomplished manner, working hard and successfully. Mr. Johnny Chippendale as Chicken did well in the comedy rôle, making the most of his opportunities. Mr. Eric Campbell as Sampson gave one of the best performances of the evening. His stalwart physique enables him to look the fighting-man to the life, and his equally robust acting completed a valuable piece of work. Mr. John Sargent as Soans submitted a study of a surly ruffian that was well done; Mr. F. L. Lawrence as the Priest was commendably impressive; and Mr. Gerald Morgan was amusing as the Landlord. Mr. Frank Harrison was satisfactory as Mr. Sharp; and a large number of smaller parts were adequately dealt with by the remaining members of the company. A very great deal of care has been taken with the production, and the mounting is a very good example of scenic art, real birds and rabbits being utilised to assist the realism of A Woodland Glen. Mr. Gliddon's orchestra contributes agreeably to the pleasure of the evening, and Mr. Gallagher, the acting-manager, is courteous and attentive in the front of the house.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Aug. 5, the Drama, entitled "A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

No better Bank Holiday attraction could have been provided than the above exciting play, which on Monday last filled the Crown Theatre with a packed audience. Mr. Walter Melville's company gives an admirable interpretation of his drama. That accomplished actress, Miss Hilda Beverley, renders the part of the poor dipsomaniac, Barbara Wade, with much power and artistic skill. Her acting in the scene in Hyde Park in the third act is very fine. The actress has not a word to say, but her varying emotions are wonderfully delineated by artistic facial expression. As the old farmer, John Meadows, Mr. Charles Tranmore makes a great success, and his bluff and hearty style render the character very popular. Miss Isla Garnet Vayne is a sweet and sympathetic Constance Cornell; and Nellie Meadows is very well enacted by Miss Florence Kelsey, who is unsparing in her rendering of the villainous aspect of the character. Mr. Wilson Gunning makes the most of the rôle of the hero, Jack Livingstone; and Mr. Cyril Vernon plays well as the true-hearted Dr. Weston. Miss Fay Garnet Vayne is appropriately pert as the housemaid, Tilly Vane; and Mr. Fred Ingram causes much laughter as the clumsy Toby Turvey, who is a jack-of-all-trades. Mr. Gerald Jordan is excellent as the gentlemanly scoundrel, Cuthbert Lumley; and his accomplice in villainy, Luke Ramsden, is well interpreted by Mr. Fred Withers, who also acts as stage-manager. The scenery and effects are furnished with the care and completeness which are always to be expected from the Messrs. Melville.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 5, the Drama, "MAN TO MAN."

The popular stock company opened their season at the above house on Monday last, when the drama, *Man to Man*, was presented. The play is full of thrilling incidents from start to finish, and is well acted throughout. Mr. Wilfred Forster gives a fine and impressive impersonation of the sorely-tried hero, George Gordon; and Mr. F. W. Waller is quite at home in the character of Matthew Ellerton. The villainous Richard Ellerton finds an able representative in Mr. Ellis J. Preston; and Mr. Horace Pellock makes an excellent Rev. Philip Ormond. Messrs. Teddy Coleman and Chas. A. East, in the characters of Samuel Plumtree and Bill Burkley, supply the humorous element of the play, in which they are assisted by Miss Blanche Stanley as Miss Lavinia Dove. Miss Bernice Fielding puts just enough hatred into the character of Gipsy Mudge; and Miss Katherine Clarke is a sweet and pathetic Ethel Maythorne. Miss Irene Ross is responsible for a fine piece of acting as Ned Doyle. The drama is well staged. The general-manager, Mr. W. H. Pease, promises some strong dramatic attractions during the coming season.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 5, the Drama, by Chas. E. Clarke, entitled "A BROKEN HEART."

The Dalston Theatre reopened on Bank Holiday, after complete renovation and redecoration, and it now takes its stand among the most handsome playhouses in suburban London. On this occasion and during the week Mr. Harry Foxwell's company appeared in the drama, entitled *A Broken Heart*. The production is noteworthy if only for the excellent acting, while the scenery calls for more than passing mention. The leading characters in the drama are John Barnard, a master blacksmith (Mr. Harry Cullen Ford), and Mary Barnard (Miss Lilian Herries), and both parts are played with an earnestness and intensity which secures the attention of the audience from start to finish. Mr. Barnard, it should be added, makes an ideal manly blacksmith; while Miss Herries, as the wife who endures a world of trouble and injustice, becomes a decided favourite with the audience, owing to her sympathetic acting. The villainous element is copiously supplied by Mr. Scott Leighton as Stephen Raylton and Mr. Charles Vivian as Gashgills, who is correctly described as a "social terror." Miss Maud Stuart appears in the dual rôle of Miss Grace Fanshawe (a lady of fortune) and Mrs. Kellett. An acceptable sketch of a comfortable provincial woman is provided by Miss Helen Graham as Mrs. Barnard; and Miss Florrie Sorsby as Little May is, by her pathetic rendering of the character, responsible for many a damp eye. The cast also includes Miss Nancy Mitchell, Messrs. Will Lindsay, D. Pitt, G. Addison, C. Grant, H. Tait, G. Ford, and H. Alexander. The work of decoration, which has been going on during the time that the house has been closed, and has involved the expenditure of hundreds of pounds, has resulted in a transformation. The combination of gold, white, and salmon lend to the interior a bright and cheerful appearance, while just a sufficient idea of warmth is conveyed by the crimson upholstery. Various improvements have been made in the all-important matter of lighting, and, altogether, the lessees and managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton, can lay claim to running one of the handsomest theatres in suburban London. Mr. W. R. King is still the courteous business-manager of the house.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, Aug. 5, the Drama, entitled "BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."

An extension of the business of Messrs. Melville has been made this week, a lease of the Brixton Theatre having been taken by the enterprising firm, who reopened the well-appointed house on Monday with *Between Two Women*, a play from the pen of Mr. Frederick Melville, which has enjoyed a large measure of prosperity since its production at the Terriss Theatre in the autumn of 1902. The inauguration has been marked by closely crowded houses, whose attention has been fixed upon the thrilling incidents of the piece. The lead is taken by Mr. Ernest Owttrim, whose dramatic skill and finished elocution is brought to bear with excellent results in the part of Harry Millard. Mr. Owttrim waits his chances with artistic restraint, and does them full justice. A youthful appearance and graceful style give agreeable distinction to the Violet Thornton of Miss Louise Hampton, whose emotional acting wins widespread sympathy for the heroine. Miss Leah Marlborough, tall and slender, revels in the wickedness of Carmen de Savereaux, who, however, is brought to repentance in the last act through the interposition of her blind son, a part touchingly played by Miss Lulu Bowes, who, in the course of her performance, sings Chirgwin's popular song "The blind boy." The callous heartlessness and duplicity of James Durward are brought out with intensity by Mr. Fred Morgan, and the coarser villainy of his friend, Major Strangeways, is boldly and bluntly presented by Mr. Archibald McLean. A favourite character of the piece is the Rev. Philip Carton, played with rare force and earnestness by Mr. Douglas Vigors; and Mr. Lionel Arthur is vigorously expressive in the rôle of Earl Millard. Many diverting episodes enliven the evening, most of them being sustained by Mr. Newman Maurice, whose acrobatic antics in the draper's shop keep the house in a continuous roar of laughter. Assistance in the mirth department is derived from Miss Lucy Beaumont, who makes a vivacious Polly Popp, and the brusque Mr. Jorkins as played by Mr. N. Graham is responsible for no little merriment. As the lady customer at the stores, Miss Sybil Hare goes through her ordeal with exemplary fortitude, and makes the most of practically a "thinking" part. Mr. J. W. Walters, as Jacques Spado, and Mr. Harry Bristow, as Dick Burgess, give characteristic impersonations. The new lessees have done wisely in retaining Mr. R. W. Allum, a gentleman long popular at the theatre, whose services in a managerial capacity are of the utmost value.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, August 5, the drama, entitled "THE BANK OF ENGLAND."

A typical Bank Holiday audience at the Royal County Theatre on Monday evening witnessed the first of six performances of this exciting play, which was received with every mark of approval. The leading rôle of the Sherlock-Holmes detective-wizard was portrayed by Mr. Frank Harding, an old favourite with Kingston playgoers, who met with a hearty reception; Miss Eva Bevington, another favourite locally, was cast as Aminta J. Beane, a part that she filled with marked success; a meritorious performance was also given by Miss Ivy Williams as Sylvia Barraclough; whilst valuable assistance was rendered by the Misses Madge Marley and Jessie in the parts assigned to them; Mr. Lionel D'Aragon proved a capable villain; Mr. T. P. Haynes was good as Gordon Isaacs; and the low-comedy work of Mr. Archie Selwyn, as the Hon. Bertie Burlington, created much amusement.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, Aug. 5, the Drama, entitled "HER ROAD TO RUIN."

A capital holiday attraction is found in Mr. Frederick Melville's interesting drama, *Her Road to Ruin*. Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville are two of the most successful melodrama writers of modern days, and this piece, from the pen of the latter gentleman, has shown itself to be quite up to the usual standard of excellence. The play is well staged and mounted, the acting is all that could be desired, and the production is finding immense favour during the present week. Mr. Robert Faulkner supplies a well-conceived delineation of Frank Temple, and proves himself to be possessed of more than average ability. Mr. J. Knox Orde scores a brilliant success as Tom Wells; he is manly and impressive throughout, and quickly establishes himself a firm favourite. Mr. Alex. Bradley plays the part of Phillip Hardy with vigour, and imbues the character with the due amount of villainy. He works hard and well, and his efforts help much towards the success of the piece. Mr William Lynton affords satisfaction as Mr. Derwent, a solicitor; and Mr. William Brooke is all that could be desired as Inspector Homewood, of Scotland Yard. Mr. F. C. Brooke supplies a particularly good impersonation of Dicky Gerald; and the efforts of Mr. Arthur Byron as Billy Boots are much appreciated. Mr. Thomas Henry suitably portrays Bill Grimes; and Mr. Ernest Stidwell must be complimented on his performance as Sir John Lewis. The rôle of May Willoughby is successfully undertaken by Miss Alice Bowes, to whom praise is due. Mr. Victor R. C. Moors submits a fine study of Charles Cholmondeley, a ne'er-do-well, and makes as much as possible out of the part. Mr. Dane Clarke plays with skill as the Bishop, his reading showing careful study. Lifelike portrayals of female gaol-birds are given by Miss May Mordaunt, Miss Jessie Stevens, Miss Mary Halstead, and Miss Lucy Bentley respectively; and Miss Marie Wright is in every way suited to the rôle of Jennie Crackling. Miss Nellie Bonser copes successfully with the difficulties of the part of Mary Dawson, and her work is greatly approved. Miss Eva Moss as Jess Willoughby is seen to great advantage. The play is produced under the personal supervision of the author, Mr. Frederick Melville, while Mr. H. A. Chappell still discharges his duties in front of the house with ability.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Aug. 5, the Drama, entitled "THE SILVER KING."

No more potent holiday attraction than *The Silver King* could have been provided by Mr. Wm. Bailey for the large number of playgoers who patronise his theatre, many regularly paying a weekly visit. Plenty there must have been in the large assemblage on Monday night who were familiar with this always popular play, but their interest in it was evidently as keen as ever, frequent outbursts of enthusiasm being evoked by the many exciting situations it contains, notably in the scene at the end of the fourth act, in Black Drake Wharf, where Denver at last learns who really was the murderer of Geoffrey Ware. Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford, who have been touring the piece now for a number of years, are again responsible for the representation—an excellent one in every respect. The part of Wilfred Denver, a character which will always be associated with the lamented Wilson Barrett, had a painstaking and quite competent representative in Mr. Fred D. Daviss, especially impressive being his acting in the scene in Nellie Denver's cottage, where he learns from his little daughter that his wife and children are almost starving. His elocution and bearing were alike excellent, and his impersonation throughout gave every satisfaction. Miss Adah Barton made a decidedly favourable impression by her pathetic portrayal of Nellie Denver, the sorrow and despair of the long-suffering and loyal wife and mother being naturally depicted, and her performance throughout being an unexaggerated yet always impressive one. The part of Captain Herbert Skinner ("the Spider"), a character on which so many modern melodramatists have fashioned their frock-coated scoundrels, had a convincing and polished representative in Mr. L. St. George Lowther, the callousness of the villain being admirably suggested in his scenes with Olive Skinner, a rôle that was most adroitly handled by Miss Elizabeth Temple. One of the most popular personages in the play is always the kind-hearted old servant of the Denvers, Daniel Jaikes, and the part was done every justice to by Mr. Edward J. George, whose impersonation throughout was a most finished and easy one. The house was frequently moved to mirth by the many quietly humorous remarks of dear old Daniel, and his scene with Tabitha Durden, a "kittenish" old dame whom he calls a "female Henry VIII." evoked loud laughter. Mr. George Belmore as the "tricky" and flash Henry Corkett submitted a smart and praiseworthy performance; Mr. Harry Bristow was a forcible representative of Cripps; Elijah Coombe was skilfully enacted by Mr. Arthur Wright; the detective, Samuel Baxter, was ably played by Mr. Byron Pedley; Miss Flossie Hale Daviss made a bright and intelligent Cissie Denver; and the numerous other parts were all in competent and careful hands.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Aug. 5, for the first time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, by George Edwin Clive and Alex. C. Grant, entitled "THE WOMAN FROM SCOTLAND YARD."

Recently produced at Manchester, *The Woman from Scotland Yard* is within hail of "headquarters" this week, and the habitués of the Stratford Theatre Royal are making her acquaintance with signal warmth. For the piece is well written, there are many original and thrilling situations, and the story never lacks continuity.

Edith Mayne is a detective by heredity. Her father was killed "in harness," and, as she explains, she espouses her profession from a natural inclination. Her mission takes her to the coast of Devon to keep an eye on the arch-schemer Paul Obanoff. Paul Obanoff is no ordinary type of man. In the pay of the Russian Secret Service, he is a fluent, courtly, much-travelled adventurer, who sticks at nothing to further his own ends. He has no time for *les affaires de cœur*; women to him are only "useful tools." Obanoff is down to see Lady Mary Stanhope, now the wife of Sir James Stanhope, but formerly Marie le Rouge, a Continental *demi-monde*. Paul Obanoff wants money, and to this end Sir James is "got rid of." About this time Harry Stanhope, his son, arrives at the village. Harry is an independent, fearless, young man, and has made his own fortune in Australia. As they were not on too friendly terms, Harry is accused of his father's murder, but the female detective clears him, and sets herself the task of finding the real murderer. Possessed of Sir James Stanhope's fortune, Lady Stanhope is now a rich woman, and Obanoff requires a share of the spoils. He doesn't desire the hand of his accomplice. "A sack tied round with a piece of string" is his terse and ungallant description of a woman. And it is just as well, for Lady Stanhope has fallen desperately in love with the frank and fair Harry. Of course her affection is repulsed. Harry "has his doubts" about his stepmother; and, besides, he is smitten with the dainty detective. In this case the affection is mutual, and Edith Mayne soon gives proof of her loyalty to the man she loves. Harry has an uncle, Ivan Vassilletch, the head of a band of Polish nihilists in London. A secret meeting of much moment is arranged, and Harry, as a sort of outside member, is present. So also is Paul Obanoff, disguised as the dumb man who was to have taken important despatches to Russia. His disguise is penetrated by the band, and the traitor is condemned to be shot, it falling to the outside member's lot to carry out the sentence. Then we see the novelty of virtue aiding villainy, for Edith Mayne has somehow gained access to the room, rescues the villain at the pistol's point, and when afterwards remonstrated with exclaims to the assembly, "I have saved the man I love from murder." It was a tight corner for Obanoff, but he is not yet out of the female detective's hands. To further her plans she engages herself to Lady Stanhope as parlour-maid, and, effectively disguised, she tells Paul Obanoff she has heard that the murderer of Sir James left a blood-stained finger-print behind, much to the villain's discomfiture. It is this finger-print which is Obanoff's final undoing, for Edith manages to get another impression of his thumb on to a glass. But this is anticipating. Obanoff first gets Harry Stanhope into his power, and he is dragged to a dungeon and chained to a post like a vicious felon. Here he is visited by Lady Stanhope, who renews her unwelcome protestations; but Harry is still "not having any," even flogging from a Russian knout with eventual prospects of death being preferable. How Edith Bland appears on the scene and the two women engage in a deadly struggle in which the adventuress is worsted, and how the police appear on the scene and arrest Obanoff for murder are incidents which quickly follow, and the curtain falls on the prospective alliance of Harry and Edith.

The representation of the piece by Mr. Alex C. Grant's company is in every way creditable, and it is mounted most appropriately. Mr. Alex C. Grant makes Paul Obanoff a suave, cynical, calculating miscreant, who has all the outward appearance of a polished gentleman, and his performance is rendered notable by it being an "accent part." Mr. George Edwin Clive is a fluent and buoyant representative of Harry Stanhope, and he is seen to advantage throughout. Miss Eveleen Clyde, as Edith Mayne, the woman from Scotland Yard, would be far too charming a detective to deal with hardened ruffians, but she possesses an excellent delivery and style, and achieves much success in the part. Miss Violet Crauford very cleverly realises the part of the adventuress, Lady Stanhope, possessing a fine stage appearance, and playing with admirable restraint in this rather unthankful rôle. Mr. John L. Schofield plays with ease and dignity as Ivan Vassillitch; Mr. Frank Lester ably represents Sergius Strogoff; Mr. James Baron makes an alert Inspector Marsh; Mr. Charles Graham is Sir James Stanhope; and minor parts are represented by Mr. Arthur E. Kents, as a waiter; and Mr. John Roberts, Mr. Frank Congreaves, and Mr. Ernest Faulkener. The "comic relief" is well sustained by Mr. Walter Clarke, who is decidedly clever as the inane Algernon Fitzmaurice; Mr. Robert Cromwell, who is always amusing and entertaining as Jack Brown; and Miss Dorothy Wilkinson, who makes a very sprightly and prepossessing Mary White.

THE ACTORS' UNION.

LONDON.

Mr. H. Tripp Edgar presided at Tuesday's meeting of the Actors' Union, held at the Bedford Head, Maiden-lane. Others present were:—Messrs. Edwin J. Collins, M. Anderson, D. Gunn Murray, E. Howard Templeton, Jack Collinson, J. L. Shine, Richard Cowell, J. W. Braithwaite, Cecil G. Calvert, Robert M. Taylor, Frederick F. Loyd, C. Dashwood, Harry Paulton, jun., John M. Troughton, E. T. Rae, W. Ruddle Brown, Alfred Richards, Dan F. Roe, Frank Coston, Mrs. Eva Booth, Mrs. L. L'Estrange, Misses Lucy Sibley, May Conrade, Kitty Marion, Mary Bessle, Lena Delphine, Gladys Ffolliott, Marion Bird, Florence Creagh, G. Trewman, Adelaide Gracey, and Edith Chalmers.

The CHAIRMAN, referring to the paucity of members present, said it was a good sign, as it meant that many were fulfilling engagements. It would, too, disabuse people's minds of the idea that those who belonged to the Actors' Union were out-of-works. The Union existed for the purpose of bringing about a better and a higher tone in the drama, to open it to the respectable and the intelligent, and to close it to the ignorant and the degenerate. He cast ridicule upon the recent statements in the *Referee* on the subject of the Union, and also upon Mr. Cecil Raleigh's statement that he (Mr. Raleigh) was opposed to women acting on the committee. On another point, the Union had secured at their offices over fifty engagements for actor-unionists, and they were also supplying an entire company to go on tour. He (the chairman) desired to correct a mis-statement made by Mr. Raleigh, who had said that Mr. Orlando Barnett had resigned from the committee. That was quite untrue. Mr. Barnett had been invited to take a seat on the committee, but he had found that he could not undertake the duties, owing to his going on tour. It was pleasant to be able to announce that Mr. Pete Curran, M.P., who represented, as chairman, a body of 6,000,000 trade unionists, had been secured as honorary trustee of the Actors' Union. The committee had approached other members of Parliament in order that their funds might be in suitable hands.

Mr. J. L. SHINE said that in his opinion the Actors' Union must be a trade union. It should be a considerable help to the managers as well as the actors, because of its influence for good on the latter. The question of a minimum wage was receiving the very careful attention of the committee, but the problem would really have to be decided by a vote of the entire membership. He thought that engagements should be made through the Union, and actors should not be compelled to wait like suppliants outside an agent's office. He did not agree with an amalgamation with any other association that was not a trade union.

Mr. CECIL CALVERT remarked that no complaints had come from managers as to the artists who had been engaged through the Union. In regard to the amalgamation of the Union with the Actors' Association, several members of the committee of the latter body had had a pleasant conversation with the Union committee, but nothing would be done without the entire approval of the members of the Union. It was desirable that meetings should be held in every town in the provinces if they could possibly be arranged.

Mr. FRED LOYD said that he had found that the great stumbling-block in the way of getting recruits was the £2 a week minimum salary. He thought that choristers should be invited to become members and sought after.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Decisive action, when one has grown accustomed to protracted periods of speculative theory, come as rather a shock. The A.A. has appointed a Minimum Wage Committee. This is one of the first steps the A.U. should have taken. Individual opinion fixes a minimum wage at varying amounts, and the A.A. is wise in following the precedent of most trade unions, that of inquiring into salaries and conditions as data from which to deduct the standard for a fair subsistence wage. Those who will devote a penny stamp and ten minutes' concentration on the recital in writing of their past and present theatrical triumphs, from a monetary and number-of-weeks-engagement-in-the-year point of view, in response to the A.A.'s request for information may feel virtuous over a duty performed in helping to bring this important matter to a satisfactory issue.

The response to the suggestion of forming an A.U. reform party carries conviction that there is an hitherto unsuspected number of artists capable of probing a little below the surface of economic conditions, and, as a consequence, willing to support a democratic programme. As doubtless letters to the Press are read by only a minority, I will repeat the gist of the suggestions made last week:—

"That the Association and the Union put aside all other considerations and unite on these definite objects:—

1. The accumulation of a fund to be utilised, if necessary, to enforce a minimum wage.
2. A committee of actors and actresses, with democratic views, to represent artists in licenced theatres.

"Will those who favour this suggestion let me have their names?"

Those reactionaries who uphold a system which permits bogus managers to pay artists an irregular—or at best, less than a fair subsistence—wage, on the plea that they provide employment for those who would otherwise have no work at all, must bear in mind that it is equivalent to upholding "sweated industry" in a trade.

Under a minimum wage system, managers will choose the best available value for their money, and the unemployed will then chiefly consist of the "unemployable," who at present undersell legitimate artists, and are almost as real an evil as the amateur.—Yours faithfully,

NORMAN TOWERS.

1, Cromartie-road,
Crouch End, N.

THE ARTHUR VERNE FUND.

Subscriptions already received:—

	£	s.	d.
Henry Swinerd	5	5	0
J. W. Cordiner	5	5	0
Messrs. Power and Kirby's Co. (per Martin Comstock)	2	10	6
Horace Stanley	2	2	0
Sam Livesey	2	2	0
Dan Roylat	2	2	0
The Tyrant Company (per Roy Fortescue)	1	16	6
Nellie Harcourt	1	1	0
George Brooks	1	1	0
Lyn Harding	1	1	0
G. Howard Watson	1	1	0
Mrs. Hy. Mayhew	1	1	0
George Arliss	1	1	0
Queenie Leighton	1	1	0
Lodge "Star," No. 219, Glasgow	1	1	0
Charles Barnard	0	10	6
H. E. Angless	0	10	6
Lester Collingwood	0	10	0
Walter H. Nightirgale	0	10	0
James P. Moore	0	10	0
Bert Edwards	0	7	6
Deane Cliffe	0	5	0
W. C. H.	0	5	0
Arthur Hartley	0	5	0
Walter Ashley	0	5	0
Henry C. Ward	0	5	0
Marie Vere	0	5	0
W. E. Mowbray	0	5	0
T. F.	0	2	6

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

The funeral of the late Mr. David Christie Murray, whose death we announced in our last issue, took place at the Hampstead Cemetery on Saturday, the interment being made in the highest part of the cemetery, close to the graves of Sir George Macfarren, Mr. Hayden Parry, and Mr. Joseph Maas. The coffin bore the inscription: "David Christie Murray. Died Aug. 1, 1907. Aged 60 years." A large gathering assembled at the graveside, among the mourners being Mr. John L. Shine. The numerous wreaths included one from Mr. George R. Sims.

Mr. Martin Harvey had a surprising experience near Cromer the other day. He is spending his holiday within hail of that favourite resort, and, accompanied by a number of friends, was motoring from Yarmouth. The party occupied two cars, and were travelling at a good pace, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey being in the second vehicle. An old dame, with her face buried in a blinker-like sunbonnet, at the first "toot," moved well out of the way, but failed to notice that a second car was coming up. In fact, Mr. Harvey's chauffeur first saw the old woman when about six or seven yards from her.

With a turn of the wheel which nearly threw the car into the air, he just managed to evade her, but the escape was so close that Mr. Harvey told the chauffeur to pull up, and got down with the object of reassuring the poor woman, who was, as she put it, "all of a trimble." Mr. Harvey soon managed to calm her, and was about to make generous amends for her fright, when he was astonished beyond measure to hear her say: "Why, it's Master Jack!" Mr. Harvey turned sharply round and looked the old lady fairly and squarely in the face, immediately afterwards ejaculating "It's Martha!" in tones of amazement. Martha was a trusted domestic who was for a long period associated with the popular actor of to-day when he was John Martin Harvey, a bright, imaginative Wyvenhoe boy. Subsequently Martha's cottage near by was the scene for upwards of an hour of much merry recollection of long gone days.

At the annual meeting of the Gaiety Theatre Company, Ltd., on Wednesday, Mr. George Edwardes, in moving the adoption of the report, said when the *Spring Chicken* concluded its run last year they were compelled to close the theatre, for it would have been suicidal to have produced a new piece in July or August. When they were ready to produce their new play two of their star artists were unable to appear. Delay was also caused by the breakdown of the health of Mr. Lionel Monckton. Under the head of "stage properties" they brought forward from last year £15,760, after writing off £8000 for depreciation. To this had been added during the current year the whole cost of *The New Aladdin*, bringing this asset up to a total of over £29,000. It was deemed wise to utilise the amount of the reserve, £12,017, which was originally set aside out of profits, and also £7240 from gross profit, thus reducing the figure to an exceedingly low one. *The Girls of Gottenberg* was still pursuing a successful career.

In the course of a discussion which followed, Mr. Mackenzie observed that although his income this year had been diminished by several hundred pounds, he believed that the directors had done their very best in the interest of the shareholders. It was not always possible for even the very best men to always gauge what the public exactly wanted in the matter of entertainment. The shareholders must remember they had earned about six times the amount they would have earned had their money been invested in Consols. In his opinion they had been suffering from too much prosperity, and now that they had had a set-back it would have the effect of stimulating the board. He had no reason to doubt that they would have a big dividend next year. The directors had done very well for the shareholders up to now. They were experienced men, and to make any alteration in the constitution of the board would, in his opinion, amount to a vote of want of confidence.

Miss Wynne Matthison, the charming young actress who is so rapidly attaining a position among foremost actresses, is the object of an eloquently appreciative article by Mr. Percy Burton in the Holiday Number of *Cassell's Magazine*. "Miss Matthison," declares Mr. Burton, "is not more attractive on the stage than she is in the sympathetic surroundings of her home life with Mr. C. Rann Kennedy, her guide, philosopher, and husband. Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy are intellectual without being pedantic. Books are their constant companions. Along the top of one well-filled bookcase runs a quotation from Æschylus (for Mr. Kennedy comes of a long line of Greek scholars), while over another is a Shakespearean inscription in the old folio spelling, 'The Mistris which I serve quickens what's dead.'"

A fund of anecdote is possessed by Miss Matthison, who thus tells of her début in *The School Girl* at Blackpool. "I was told that I had to sing contralto and be small, while, by nature, I possessed neither qualification. Hence the necessity for art and artfulness. I was also given the sage advice, 'Don't let anybody know you are a beginner.' I acted up to this successfully through the rehearsals, but on the opening night while I was dressing with two ladies, the call-boy came round, and taken by surprise, I inquired ingenuously, 'Oh! do they come and call us?' And the secret of my novitiate was no longer mine and the manager's."

"Touring," continues Miss Matthison, "was by no means a bed of roses. I remember when in the last-named play we were touring the 'seconds' and 'smalls,' as we aptly term them in theatrical parlance, we came to a small Lancashire town very late one Sunday night. Three other companies had arrived, and rooms were not to be found anywhere for us. We were in despair. At last my girl-friend and I met the acting-manager and another member of the company, who generously offered to give us their lodgings, such as they were. There was nothing to do but to accept, and they turned out into the street."

Miss Matthison pays an eloquent tribute to the memory of Sir Henry Irving. On her first appearance as Portia, she was naturally very nervous in following so great an artist as Miss Ellen Terry, and in her scene with Shylock at the trial she unconsciously held the deed upside down. Irving at once, with his regard for detail, observed this, and interpolated a remark into the middle of his speech, thus:—"Is it so nominated (you've got the bond upside down, my dear; the red seal comes at the bottom) in the bond?"

Irving's last night in *Becket* at Bradford, on Oct. 24, 1905, arouses painful memories. Miss Matthison was playing Rosamund, and she recalls how, at the termination of the scene in which he rescued her from Queen Eleanor, Irving kept on muttering "Poor soul! Poor soul! Poor soul!" long after the curtain had fallen, and in the last scene of all, when parting from him, she, in her nervousness, said, "And so *farewell*," instead of "And so return." "Little did I think that it would be the last word I should speak to him," said Miss Matthison, with infinite pathos.

Another surgical establishment has benefited under the will of the late Mr. J. L. Toole, at whose wish certain funds not otherwise disposed of are to be devoted to charitable institutions. Acting under their powers, therefore, the executors have allocated £200 to the City of London Truss Society.

The Secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund has received the sum of £1 15s. 8d. from Mr. Edward Cadman, of the Grand Theatre and Opera House, Leeds, the amount having been collected from professionals visiting the theatre.

Miss Lena Ashwell will start her enterprise at the Kingsway, as the Great Queen-street Theatre is to be called, early in October with a new play, by an anonymous writer, entitled *Irene Wycherley*. The piece presents a powerful study of a woman forced by the brutality of her husband to leave him, a tragic denouement being reached when the two are by accident brought together again. Miss Ashwell, it may be added, is sufficiently well equipped with new pieces to enable her to put public taste fully to the proof.

Meanwhile the Kingsway is in the hands of workmen, who have already done wonders in the little theatre, which is fast assuming a very pretty appearance. White, with gold scroll-work, is to be the prevailing colour, a contrast being effected by the carpets, hangings, and seats, which are all to be in red. The large foyer is being converted into a pleasant lounge for visitors to stalls and dress circle, the spacious entrance hall has been greatly improved, and there is every indication that the theatre will be among the cosiest and best appointed in the metropolis.

Mr. Henry Ainley will be the Orlando of Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton's forthcoming revival of *As You Like It* at His Majesty's. Mr. Laurence Binyon's poetical play, *Attila*, is now in full rehearsal, the cast including, in addition to Mr. Asche and Miss Brayton, Miss Mary Rorke, Miss Irene Rooke, Mr. J. Fisher White, Mr. H. R. Hignett, Mr. Alfred Brydone, Mr. G. Kay Souper, Mr. R. Ian Penny, and Mr. Godfrey Tearle.

Miss Helena Millais, who has just concluded a highly successful engagement as Phyllis in *When We Were Twenty-One* and in the title-rôle of *A Country Mouse*, has been re-engaged by Mr. C. F. Cooke to play Constance in *The Trumpet Call* at the County Theatre, Kingston, on the 19th inst.

A new play entitled *The Idol of Paris*, by Chas. Darrell, is to be produced on Monday at the Opera House, Middlesbrough. The piece will be played by Mr. Charles Bell's company, with Miss Annie Bell in the title-rôle.

At the Marylebone County Court on Wednesday the action against Miss Kitty Malone, which was adjourned at the judge's suggestion three weeks ago, was withdrawn. A letter from the Maida-vale hairdressers who instituted the proceedings to recover payment for a "transformation," was handed to his Honour, in which apologies were offered to Miss Malone for the mistake made. It had been found that the "transformation" was for a sister, although the name of Miss Malone had been given. Mrs. Mary Malone said that her daughter Kate was at present performing in Edinburgh, but she had never had need of such a thing as a "transformation," adding: "She has plenty of hair of her own, your Honour, I can assure you."

The beauties of the Metropolis will be appreciably enhanced by the new theatre in Shaftesbury-avenue, which will be ready for opening within a week or two. It is built of white stone, and closely resembles its neighbour, the Hicks Theatre. The vestibule is in the style of the Italian Renaissance, and has a white marble staircase and elegant ormolu balustrades. The auditorium is decorated in cream heavily traced and moulded in gold, and cluster lights of beautifully-worked brass hang from the ceiling along the top of the proscenium opening. From the centre of the ceiling is suspended an immense cluster, also embellished with richly-moulded brass, and a myriad electric globes are dotted all over the biulding. There are only two tiers, and not a single pillar exists to interfere with the view. The stage opening is 30ft., the width from wall to wall being 40ft. and the depth 70ft.

The Haymarket Theatre, where *My Wife* is proving powerfully attractive, has lately enjoyed distinguished patronage. Recent visitors have included the Duke and Duchess of Argyll (Princess Louise), the Grand Duke Michael of Russia and the Countess Torby, Prince Francis of Teck, and Prince Mirsky.

The Muncaster Theatre, Bootle, was on Monday last opened with a stock dramatic company, under the direction of Mr. Fred. Willmot, the piece selected being *London's Curse*. Formerly a full night's drama was given, but it is intended to try the two houses per night system, which is now observed in four Liverpool houses previously devoted to variety.

Mr. Clive Currie will make an interesting experiment at the West London Theatre on Monday, when he will present *The Taming of the Shrew*. Mr. Currie will himself take the part of Petruchio, and Miss Emil Leslie that of Katharina, and the cast will also include Messrs. T. P. Haynes, F. Cremlin, Robert Atkins, W. St. A. Bently, Fred Morland, E. H. Brooke, and E. E. Hine, and Misses Lorna Lawrence, Rose Matthews, and Mary Deverell. Shakespeare's comedy will be preceded each evening by Louis N. Parker's one-act play, *The Man in the Street*.

Mr. Owen Dacroy, the business manager for *The Dandy Doctor*, was called upon, at short notice, to play the part of Brown at the King's, Glasgow, on Monday, owing to the illness of Mr. W. Rokeby. Mr. Dacroy was highly complimented on his efforts in the part in which he has appeared throughout the week.

Miss Constance Elgin has been engaged by Mr. Van Biene to play the Duchesse de Vervier in his forthcoming tour of *The Broken Melody*.—Mr. Philip Leslie is now playing Tommy Smith in *Brewster's Millions*, at the Hicks Theatre.

Mr. Charles Hermann, who originally brought *Uncle Tom's Cabin* from America in 1878, has been appointed by Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton as business-manager of the Royal Opera House, Leicester, in succession to the late Mr. Henry Dundas. Mr. Hermann is no stranger to Leicester, as he has visited both theatres many times in a managerial capacity and with his own companies.

Puccini's opera, *La Bohème*, was given in English for the first time in London on Wednesday, and proved another triumph for the Moody-Manners Opera Company, which is doing such admirable work at the Lyric. New scenery and costumes were provided for the production, and the ensemble was magnificent. Mme. De Vere Sapio sang the title-rôle, and achieved a pronounced success, and Mr. Joseph O'Mara gained fresh laurels in the part of Rudolph, singing throughout with grace and impressiveness. Mr. Lewys James, as Marcel, the painter, and Miss Hilda Moody, as Musetta, were heard and seen to advantage, and Mr. William Dever and Mr. Charles Magrath again proved their sterling gifts of melody in their respective parts. Signor Sapio conducted with his usual distinction.

"The Christian," as re-written by Mr. Hall Caine, is to be produced at the Lyceum on the last day of the month. The new *Christian* is much simplified as a dramatic work, being now in four acts of one scene each. It also includes some new characters, in which a resemblance to a venerable ecclesiastic who has made a deep impression by his denunciation of the sins of Society and that of a well-known lady who has been active in the women's movement may be traced. The principals of the cast will be Messrs. Matheson Lang, A. B. Imeson, Eric Mayne, Frederick Ross, Walter Russell, and Frederick Moyes, and Miss Keith Lytton, Miss Valli Valli, Miss Grace Lester, and Miss Alice Crawford.

Mr. John Hart's production of *As You Like It*, at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, on Monday, will run for three weeks. Mr. Gerald Lawrence will be the Orlando and Miss Fay Davis the Rosalind. In the cast will also be Messrs. John Nesbitt, Francis Chamier, Charles Garth, James Hearn, Frank Western, Fred Percy, Lionel Belmore, Reginald Blott, Orlando Barnett, Harry Paulton, Stockall Ward, Duncan Garron, and L. H. Humbleton, and Miss Valerie Salberg, Miss Frances Welstead, and Miss Violet Chamier.

Mr. Frank Adair, who has carried through a most successful stock season at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, was the object of a pleasing testimonial at the concluding performance, when, in the presence of an enthusiastic audience, he was presented by the members of the company with a pair of solid silver backed hair-brushes. In making the presentation Mr. Wingold Laurence, in a neat speech, testified to the esteem in which Mr. Adair was held by those under his command.

Miss Violet Ellicott, whose performance of Marion Thornton in Hardie and Von Leer's principal company of *Two Little Vagabonds* at the Coronet Theatre has been so favourably reviewed, was on Thursday evening the pleased recipient of a handsome diamond ring from an anonymous donor, as a token of appreciation of her acting. According to the wording of the accompanying letter, the gift appears to emanate from a visitor from the States.

Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee has been specially engaged by Mr. William Greet for the part of Marcus Superbus in his autumn tour of *The Sign of the Cross*.

A neat little advertising novelty is being used in connection with *Lights Out* on tour. Mr. Willard, Mr. Maundy-Gregory's advertising manager, takes round with him several portable electric signs, which, when placed in shop windows, illustrate the inscription of "lights out" in the most convincing manner by disappearing and reappearing *ad infinitum*.

Cordial congratulations are extended to Miss Nellie Clyde, who was married on Saturday to Mr. Charles Robertson Gibbon, son of the late Charles Gibbon, the novelist. The bride in private life was Miss Eleanor Amy Boughton, and is the daughter of Mr. J. W. Boughton, the popular licensee and manager of the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

"The Three Kisses," the romantic musical play by Leedham Bantock and Percy Greenbank, with lyrics by Percy Greenbank and music by Howard Talbot, is due at the Apollo on Wednesday, the 21st inst. Included in the strong cast are Messrs. Walter Passmore, Charles Angelo, Walter Hyde, Lionel Mackinder, Albert le Fré, Arthur Williams, and Willie Warde, and Misses Ethel Irving, Coralie Blythe, Celia Palo, and Kitty Gordon.

Miss Florence Bentley has made a great success in *The Tyrant* at the Palace Theatre, Newcastle, and has been warmly complimented by Mr. F. C. Somerfield, the author. Miss Marie Dagmar has sent Miss Bentley the following wire:—"My best thoughts are with you and for your success to-night. I am sure you will succeed."

Mme. Sarah Bernhardt is on a visit to Aix-les-Bains. According to the local papers, the famous Parisienne is contemplating the selection of a site for a villa on Roc Chère, a mountain overlooking the town of Annecy, where she intends to live in retirement after leaving the stage.

Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw is at the Kursaal, Bexhill, this week with *The Stormy Petrel*, which achieved such a pronounced success on its production at Glasgow, on the 25th ult. Included in the strong cast are the Misses Nina Sevening, Lillias Waldegrave, and Mr. Ivan Berlyn.

A "new dramatic variety entertainment" is the promising title given to the performance which will be presented at the Grand, Fulham, next week by Mr. C. W. Somerset and Mr. Fred Storey. The programme will consist of "a complete and sensational drama, in one act," entitled *The Great Poison Case*, played by Mr. Somerset and Miss Agnes Russell, a scene from *The Merchant of Venice*, with Mr. Storey as Shylock and Miss Edith Forde as Portia; a comic sketch, entitled *The Glazier*, and a scene from *Rip Van Winkle*, with Mr. Storey in his well-known impersonation of Rip.

A correspondent writes to call our attention to another play in which the late David Christie Murray was concerned, viz., *George Garth*, written by Murray in collaboration with his brother Henry and Mr. John L. Shine. It was produced at the Grand, Fulham, on July 28, 1902, with Mr. Charles Glenney in the principal part.

Mr. Clement Locknane was taken suddenly ill during rehearsal for Mr. Seymour Hicks's South American tour, and is now confined to his room. Though much improved, Mr. Locknane will unfortunately be unable to fulfil the duties of musical director. We wish him a speedy recovery.

A billiard match between members of *The Prodigal Parson* company and *A Soldier's Honour* company took place at the Criterion Hotel, Wolverhampton, on Aug. 3. In the result, *The Prodigal Parson* made 452 and *A Soldier's Honour* 311. The individual scores were:—Beckett, 150; Fulford, 63; Remonde, 151; Pringle, 110; Garrod, 151; Fulford (sen.), 138.

The men of the Channel Fleet at Liverpool have during the week been invited in large numbers to the various places of entertainment in the town. The houses thus according hospitality to our Blue-jackets included the Royal Court, the Shakespeare, the Hippodrome, the Olympia, the Lyric, the Tivoli, and the Empire.

Mr. Martin Adeson will be principal comedian with Mr. Seymour Hicks's travelling musical comedy répertoire. He returns to England in time for pantomime.

Mr. F. R. Benson has brought to a successful issue another imposing display, the final performances of the Isle of Wight pageant taking place at Carisbrooke Castle in the presence of a vast crowd. At the evening performances a large party occupied the Royal pavilion, including Princess Henry of Battenberg and her three sons, Princess Christian, Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, Princess Patricia of Connaught, Prince Arthur of Connaught, and Prince Edward of Wales. Living pictures, sustained by nearly 1500 performers, presented a brilliant spectacle with limelight effects. Mr. Benson, master of the pageant, was the recipient of hearty congratulations upon the success attained.

The English version of *Madama Butterfly*, for the perfect rendering of which Mr. Charles Manners has been at infinite pains, will be produced at the Lyric on Friday. The other operas presented by the Moody-Manners company next week have all been before presented this season, and will consist of *Aïda* on Monday, to be repeated at the Wednesday matinée, *Faust* on Tuesday, *Tannhäuser* on Wednesday, *Lohengrin* on Thursday, *The Marriage of Figaro* at the Saturday matinée, and *Il Trovatore* in the evening. Sixty members of the Sheffield Amateur Opera Society, it should be noted, will augment the chorus in *Faust*, *Lohengrin*, *Aïda*, and *Tannhäuser*.

The Queen was a contributor to a Shakespeare memorial which has been erected in the Knights' Hall at Kronberg Castle, Elsinore. The memorial takes the form of a statue of the poet, modelled by the Danish sculptor Hasselrüs, and was unveiled on Tuesday. The pedestal bears the following inscription, which has been approved by Queen Alexandra:—"Three hundred years after Shakespeare wrote his *Hamlet*, and in the year when the Danish-born Princess Alexandra was crowned Queen of Great Britain, it was resolved to erect this monument, 1602-1902."

Messrs. H. and M. Rayne, the well-known manufacturers and importers of stage requisites, have issued an eight-page illustrated price list, which is not only useful to intending customers, but is in itself a pretty and interesting pictorial publication.

Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen has made an arrangement with Mr. Maundy Gregory whereby Mr. H. A. Saintsbury will play the leading part in Mr. Allen's forthcoming tour of Miss Gladys Unger's play, *The Knave of Hearts*.

A fine exhibition of the art of golf was provided at the Mid-Surrey Golf Club, Richmond, on the 1st inst., when Messrs. Arthur Hatherton and Norman Salmond, the well-known actors, were opposed in a four-ball foursome by Messrs. Holland and Martin Thomas. The score was as follows:—Out: 4, 4, 4, 4, 3, 4, 4, 3, 4—34; in: 4, 3, 4, 2, 5, 4, 4, 5, 4—35. Total 69. After being 2 down at the turn, Hatherton and Salmond won by 2 holes.

Miss Laura Hansen has been kindly released by Mr. Morton Powell, with whom she has played the lead in *When It Was Dark* for one week, to enable her to join Miss Olga Nethersole for her forthcoming American tour. This is not by any means Miss Hansen's first visit to America, as she acted seconds to Miss Ada Rehan in Shakesperean plays some years ago throughout the States. During that period, it may be recalled, she was "lent" by the late Augustin Daly for several weeks to play Louise to Miss Nethersole's Frou-Frou.

The Liverpool Royal Court Theatre, which opened its season on Monday last, has been charmingly redecorated and relighted, while the new scheme of booking, under which the pit stalls can be secured in advance on the day of entertainment, has proved popular. Another innovation is the introduction of an immense gramaphone, which is used to while away the time before the rise of the curtain.

"The Private Secretary," under the sole direction of Mr. Eugène C. Stafford, starts its twenty-fourth year of tour at Weymouth on Sept. 12. The occasion will be marked by the engagement of Mr. David James, who will, for the first time, impersonate the Rev. Robert Spalding, a part which should fit this quaint comedian like the proverbial glove. Mr. W. Hargreaves will continue his masterly performance of the choleric Mr. Cattermole, and a particularly well-chosen company of clever artists will render support.

Mr. Richard Green and family are enjoying a holiday at Kingsgate. Besides engaging Mr. Green for the Promenade Concerts, Mr. Newman has also secured the popular vocalist for Queen's Hall on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 3.

Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler's business will be conducted until further notice by Mr. T. B. Young, who is at present on a visit to London. During Mr. Young's stay in this country letters addressed "Care of Daly's Theatre" will find him.

A great attraction will be supplied at the Kennington Theatre for the week beginning Aug. 19, when Mr. Wentworth Croke will present Hall Caine's stirring drama, *The Prodigal Son*, with all new scenery, dresses, and effects. No expense has been spared in securing a first-class company.

Mr. Lingford Carson's play, *The Drama of Life*, began its autumn tour at Mexboro' (the scene of its original production) on Monday before an audience which filled the theatre from floor to ceiling. By special request of the local management, Mr. Carson himself appeared as Harry Beech, his original part, and was supported by an excellent company, headed by Miss Kate Hallam. The dresses are exceptionally pretty, and with the new scenery and electrical effects a charming stage-picture is made. The tour is under the personal management of Mr. Edward van Biene.

Mr. Allan Wilkie has met with great success at the Theatre Royal, Bolton, this week, the efforts of the popular actor and his talented company being received with enthusiasm by crowded houses.

At the West Bromwich Police Court on the 1st inst. application was made by Mr. J. S. Sharpe, on behalf of Mr. Albert Withers, the lessee of the new Hippodrome, Carter's Green, West Bromwich, for a licence for the performance of stage plays. It was explained that the place, which had only been in existence twelve months, was a temporary building, and cost £3000, exclusive of the land. The building would provide accommodation for 1856 persons. It was well apart from other property, and in case of fire there was ample provision for exits. Mr. Graham Milward, who opposed on behalf of Messrs. Hardy and Thomas, lessees of the Theatre Royal, urged that a temporary building of wood was not likely to be so safe as a permanent one, and the Bench eventually declined to grant the application.

The King has witnessed twenty-two plays in England during the season which is now ending. They were:—*His House in Order* (St. James's), *The Bondman* (Drury Lane), *The Merveilleuses* (Daly's), *Peter's Mother* (Wyndham's), *The Dairymaids* (Apollo), *The Man from Blankley's* (Sandringham), *Robin Hood* (Windsor), *The Morals of Marcus* (Garrick), *Toddles* (Wyndham's), *Le Voyage de M. Perrichon* (New Royalty), *Education de Prince* (New Royalty), *The Stronger Sex* (Apollo), *When Knights were Bold* (Wyndham's), *Le Maître de Forges* (New Royalty), *Les affaires sont les affaires* (New Royalty), *L'Age Difficile* (New Royalty), *Sixes and Sevens* (Marlborough House), *The Impudence of the Creature* (Marlborough House), *The Merry Widow* (Daly's), *The Corsican Brothers* (Adelphi), *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past* (Vaudeville), and *My Wife* (Haymarket).

The question: Should a novelist be his own dramatist? is discussed in a talk in the *Book Monthly* with Mr. W. J. Locke, the author of *The Morals of Marcus*. "If," says Mr. Locke, "a novelist has some dramatic faculty, he is certainly the man to dramatise his own story. He knows what he wants to be at, the inside of his characters. Only, if the novelist has not the dramatic instinct, he will simply write a dramatic illustration of his book." That, as Mr. Locke points out, is obviously a different thing from a drama.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Ellen Terry and Henry Irving.

"One very foggy night in December 1867—it was Boxing-day, I think—I acted for the first time with Henry Irving," writes Miss Ellen Terry in this week's *M.A.P.* "This ought to have been a great event in my life, but at the time it passed me by and left 'no wrack behind.' Until I went to the Lyceum Theatre Henry Irving was nothing to me, and I was nothing to him. I never thought he would become a great actor. He had no high opinion of my acting. He has said since that he thought me at the Queen's Theatre charming and individual as a woman, but as an actress hoydenish. I believe that he hardly spared me even so much definite thought as this."

Moral, but Varied.

"In my coming play at Drury Lane," says Mr. Cecil Raleigh in the *Chronicle*, "Mr. Hamilton and I have tried to deal with a great national vice from the standpoint of the reasonable citizen. Strangely enough, both Mr. Hamilton and myself, poles apart though we are in political creeds—he being a regular Cavalier at heart—agree completely in our detestation of gambling in all its forms—the turf, the card table, and, not least, the Stock Exchange. To me it seems ridiculous that the mere gambling that goes on in the Stock Exchange should be shielded by the name of finance. Why not just set out some roulette tables in St. Paul's Churchyard, and be honest about it?"

"However that may be, in *The Sins of Society* we shall strive to show, with the inevitability of a Greek tragedy, the downfall of a typical English society woman through gambling. She begins in a small way with a game of bridge. With ruthless certainty she falls deeper and deeper into debt, disgrace, and, finally, dishonour. Our hope is that the play may teach, like *Drink*, a great moral lesson. And the play as such will be made, of course, as exciting and as varied as possible, and as fine a spectacle as Drury Lane can present. But behind it all there will be the larger purpose that I have explained."

Mr. Raleigh's Career.

Mr. Raleigh, says the same article, was born in Monmouth, but his earliest memories are of Epsom. His father, who had been a doctor and a crack steeplechaser, gave up his profession for the Turf, built the Pitt Place stables, and trained horses for many famous people. Among them was the late Duke of Hamilton, who used to preserve one of the future dramatist's baby teeth as a keepsake. Of Mr. Raleigh's subsequent adventures the tale would fill volumes—how he toured in the chorus of a comic opera company, of which he was the only member who could draw his stageword; how he became acting-manager to a conjurer; how, being always fond of boxing, and something of an expert himself, he became secretary of the Pelican Club. His Socialistic proclivities, on the other hand, he dates back to his boyhood, when he appeared in some amateur theatricals in which Mr. H. M. Hyndman took part.

French Actors in Hospital.

The Comédie-Française, says our Paris correspondent, intends to produce *Le Mariage d'Agnès*, founded on the novel by M. Claretie, that deals with the terrible year 1870, when the House of Molière was turned into an infirmary, where those wounded during the siege of Paris were tended. The new piece has a simple and touching story. André Morère and Simone Aubry fell in love with one another, and their wedding day is fixed when the Franco-Prussian war breaks out. André enlists; he is carried, wounded to death, to the infirmary of the Comédie-Française, and, with a supreme effort, slips a ring on the finger of Simone. Monsieur Emile Bergerat, the well-known playwright, who remained in Paris during those troublous times, has just related some of his curious experiences there. The famous Comédie-Française ambulance, he says, was in the long foyer that looks out on to the Place du Palais-Royal. There were about twenty beds, placed between the busts of the departed authors who line the walls. And this gave rise to a curious incident. At that time M. Edouard Thierry was manager of the Théâtre Française. Very religious, not to say bigoted, he was afraid that the grinning head of Voltaire—the scoffer and blasphemer, as he put it—might give offence to the pious. He therefore took a huge white sheet, and with his own hands wrapped it round the celebrated work by the sculptor Houdon. Jokes of every description were levelled at him. But he weathered the chaff; and Voltaire's head remained hidden from view until the war had come to a close. It must, however, not be imagined that the German shells and the nursing of the wounded interfered with the business of the House.

Reading Under Difficulties.

The performances went on uninterruptedly, and M. Bergerat one afternoon read out to the members of the committee his new play, *Le Maître d'école*, whilst the French and the enemy's guns were booming in the distance. The ladies on the committee were Mmes. Favart, Madeleine Brohan, Jouassain, Emilie Dubois, Edile Riquer, and Victoria Lafontaine. They liked the play, but even if they had not, M. Bergerat was certain of their support. He had allured them, and the means he had employed were irresistible in a besieged city, when dogs were afraid to show themselves in the streets for fear of being turned into food. M. Bergerat had unearthed a beautiful Dutch cheese, and offered it to Mme. Emilie Dubois, who had pronounced it "a dream." As to Madeleine Brohan, he had presented her with a succulent quail-pie that drew tears from that lady's eyes. And as she had shared it with Mlle. Jouassin, the wily Bergerat had killed two birds with one pie. The piece was a success.

A Blunder Corrected.

My attention, says our correspondent, has been drawn to an article in a London review which contains the astounding statement that according to the new regulations no foreigners are admitted into the Conservatoire. I cannot understand how the writer could have made such a foolish mistake. The rules referring to strangers have not undergone any change. The latter are admitted as before, but their number is limited in order to prevent the native element from being crowded out. As to competitions, prizes, etc., strangers enjoy the same privileges as French pupils. Almost needless to say, the tuition is free. Foreign pupils have to produce their parents' marriage certificate, and a document showing they have been vaccinated.

The Elizabethan Theatre.

There is spade-work to be done near home, says Mr. William Archer in the *Morning Leader*. To give one instance out of many: The very important question of the structure and methods of working the Elizabethan Theatre would almost certainly be elucidated by a systematic search in the Record Office. Learned Germans and Americans are always writing treatises on this subject, and eagerly maintaining contradictory conjectures. The data we at present possess are quite inadequate to the solution of several problems which have more than a merely antiquarian interest; for until we thoroughly understand the theatre for which they wrote, we cannot read the Elizabethan dramatists with complete comprehension.

"FOR HER SAKE."

Drama, in Four Acts, by William L. Roberts and Ben Landeck, Played, for the First Time in London, at the Fulham Theatre, on Monday, Aug. 5.

Prince Vladimir Walanoff..MR. WELLESLEY DRAPER
Gregorvitch .....MR. BERNARD MERVYN
Nicholas Nicholoff ..MR. CHARLES E. JOHNSON
General Pauloff .....MR. MILLAR ANDERSON
Lieutenant Rostow .....MR. ALBERT SINCLAIR
Lord Chumley Hargraves .....MR. FRED BECK
Ivan .....MR. FRED HILLIARD
Patrick .....MR. SYDNEY BENSON
Rensenski .....MR. HENRY RUSSEL
Paulanoff .....MR. T. SHARP
Libinski .....MR. F. LEYLAND
Zouroff .....MR. FRED SCOTT
Sergius .....MR. C. STEVENS
Princess Natacha Walanoff..MISS DORIS GILHAM
Miss Phyllis Gray..MISS GERTRUDE NETTERVILLE
Amelia Jane .....MISS MAIMIE RANDALL
Olga .....MISS MABEL MANNERING

For Her Sake was first presented to the public at the Opera House, Cheltenham, on April 19 last. The piece is full of exciting and thrilling situations, the characters are boldly drawn, and the dialogue is always eloquent and straight to the point. *For Her Sake*, therefore, has all the primary requisites for success in the suburbs and the provinces.

The story deals with the loves of Prince Vladimir Walanoff, a Captain in the Russian Army, and Olga, a serf, who has been educated above her station by Vladimir's proud mother, the Princess Natacha Walanoff. The Princess is bitterly opposed to the marriage, another obstacle to which is the fact that Olga's father murdered the Prince's father, and that Vladimir has sworn to hunt down the murderer and avenge his parent. The Prince, however, is determined to marry Olga, but at his mother's demand he agrees to wait a year before wedding her. In the Prince's absence in Poland with his regiment, the Princess sells Olga to a serf, who is endeavouring to take advantage of his proprietorship, when a police spy, named Gregorvitch, who poses as an anarchist leader, appears on the scene. Gregorvitch, who was brutally flogged by Vladimir's father, wants to revenge himself on the son, and has brought a party of soldiers to surround Ivan's house and shoot down Vladimir when he arrives, he having broken out of barracks against orders on learning of the sale of his sweetheart, and thus rendered himself a deserter. Ivan, returning to the room, puts on the Prince's cloak, which the latter has left on a chair, goes out, and is shot by mistake, Vladimir escaping at the end of the act. In the third, which takes place at Gregorvitch's house in St. Petersburg, the spy informs Olga of the fact that her father was the murderer of the late Prince, and half-persuades her to relinquish her lover. But when Vladimir is captured and is about to be sent to Siberia for deserting his regiment, and Gregorvitch asks the girl to choose between living in luxury as his mistress and accompanying the Prince across the Steppes, Olga chooses Siberia, where she and Vladimir arrive in the last act, to find Gregorvitch, now Governor of the sulphur mines, ready to treat them with the greatest severity. In this last act cruelties are rife. Nicholoff, an old servant of the Princess's, is beaten and branded on the back; and Olga is tied up and is about to be knouted, when a Russian General arrives with authority from the Czar to depose the inhuman Governor, who is shot by Nicholoff as he—the spy—is attempting to escape, the Princess repenting and giving her consent to the union of Olga and her son.

For Her Sake was remarkably well acted at the Fulham Theatre on Monday by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company; indeed, the thoroughness and vigour of the performance would have made even a less strong and spirited piece acceptable. Particularly firm and forcible was Mr. Bernard Mervyn's Gregorvitch. Mr. Mervyn had the advantage of a deep, mellow, and sonorous voice, and he used it to marked advantage throughout. There was nothing half-hearted or wavering in the villainy of Gregorvitch. It was remorseless, thorough, and emphatic. The dominating influence of the "police spy and traitor," his devilish cunning, and his savage hatred, were depicted by Mr. Mervyn in a most impressive and effective manner, and he may certainly claim to have made himself the central figure in the production, full as it was of earnest and energetic creations. Amongst the latter, we may mention Miss Doris Gilham's Princess Natacha Walanoff. The Princess's hostility to her son's proposed marriage was represented by Miss Gilham as a "ruling passion" always fermenting in the Princess's mind, and the way in which she lashed herself into fury at the idea of her position in her household being usurped was full of fire and power. As a depiction of sustained and active animosity, Miss Gilham's rendering was highly to be commended. The rôle was not a sympathetic one, but she certainly made it immensely important, aided as she was by a good presence and some handsome costumes. Mr. Wellesley Draper as Prince Vladimir Walanoff acted with all the necessary impulsiveness and effusion, and made a gallant lover and a dashing and daring hero; and Miss Mabel Mannering played Olga with grace and tenderness, intensity and emotional power. She rose to the occasion in the more passionate passages of the part, and showed talent and originality whenever she had an opportunity. Mr. Charles E. Johnson contributed a broad and strong depiction of the sorely-tried Nicholas Nicholoff, and his acting in the last division of the piece was deeply thrilling and affecting, his representation of hopeless and desperate distress being really heart-rending. Mr. Millar Anderson supplied a quaint and comical exposition of the amorous old General Pauloff; and Mr. Albert Sinclair endowed Lieutenant Rostow with military stiffness and density. Miss Gertrude Netterville was a buxom and humorous Phyllis Gray; Mr. Fred Beck made quite a hit by his droll embodiment of Lord Chumley Hargraves, his interpolated song taking remarkably well, and his comic characterisation being keenly appreciated. The broader relief was supplied by Miss Maimie Randall as Amelia Jane and Mr. Sydney Benson as Patrick. Miss Randall's maid was extravagantly funny; and Mr. Benson's Irish character and brogue were excellent. Both artists rendered themselves great favourites. Mr. Fred Hilliard made the most of his opportunities in the brief but important part of Ivan, the evil passion of the serf being shown in the most vivid colours; and minor rôles had satisfactory representatives in Messrs. Henry Russel, T. Sharp, F. Leyland, Fred Scott, and E. Stevens. The scenery, which was carried by the company, was adequate, and the piece had evidently been well rehearsed, uproarious applause being heard at the end of each act. With so popular audiences, *For Her Sake* should always be effective.

"UNDER THE STARS AND STRIPES."

A Military Musical Drama, in Four Acts, by Arch. Cunningham, Produced, for the first time on any stage, at the Theatre Royal, Tyldesley, on Saturday, Aug. 3.

Rex Graham .....MR. DONALD A. CAMERON
Colonel Jules Vermond ..MR. EDWARD AVINALL
Captain Jack Deane .....MR. WILSON BLAKE
Bertie Dimple .....MR. CHARLES V. CHARLES
Silas G. Strang .....MR. SYDNEY MILTON
Sheriff McCabe .....MR. W. S. STEVENS
Sergeant Wilson .....MR. WM. MOODY
Corporal O'Brien .....MR. HARRY KAY
Private Linwood .....MR. J. STORM
Private Kelly .....MR. A. CAMPBELL
Private Smith .....MR. C. LIBELL
Private Massey .....MR. P. HARDY
Luke .....MR. WM. BRADSHAW
Tim .....MR. H. LEIGH
Mark .....MR. V. DAWSON
John .....MR. WALLWORK
Matthew .....MR. THOS. GLASSE
Mabel Graham ....MISS CHRISTINE ERRINGTON
Mildred Molineaux ....MISS FLORENCE CAMERON
Marie Murray .....MISS CHERRY VEHEYNE
Sylvia Rosmer .....MISS STANLEY BURT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The period of Mr. Cunningham's play, *Under the Stars and Stripes*, which was produced at Tyldesley on Saturday last before a large audience, is that of the disruption between the Southern and Northern States on the question of the emancipation of the blacks. The story opens at the house of Rex Graham, proprietor of the Doloroso plantation, South Carolina, some little time before the declaration of war. At hand, on friendly terms, are Colonel Jules Vermond, in command of the Northern Scouts; Captain Jack Deane, attached to the same regiment; and Bertie Dimple, whose vocation is that of a war correspondent, combined with an aptitude for poetry, general literary work, and an amusing self-conceit. Sylvia Rosmer, the companion of Graham's sister, is about to leave the plantation, and seeks from Graham a written testimonial of efficiency, to enable her to enter service elsewhere. Graham writes the testimonial reluctantly, and in the writing brings home to himself the fact that he is in love with Sylvia and cannot let her go. He makes a declaration of his feelings, to which Sylvia responds as he desires. It is during the course of this love episode that the evil element makes its appearance. Colonel Vermond looks in at the door, silently and portentiously. The nature of Vermond is soon manifest. Finding himself alone with Marie, a pretty servant, he makes villainous overtures, against which, however, the girl is heroically proof. Next, on the appearance of Silas Strang, the overseer of the plantation, some ugly reminiscences of his past life are touched upon—notably the murder of Judge Rosmer, for money, many years ago, a crime in which Strang was an accomplice. Underneath the Colonel's demeanour, his object is to marry Graham's sister, Mabel, whose affections are fixed upon Captain Deane. As a means towards coercing Mabel, over whom Sylvia Rosmer is assumed to have some persuasive influence, Vermond conceives an elaborate imposition upon the latter. He tells Sylvia the story of her parents (whom she has never known), foisting himself, a confessed degenerate and a criminal, living a double life, upon her as her father. Sylvia finds it hard to believe, but will not lend herself to his scheme for gaining Mabel Graham's money by marriage. Baffled and angry, Vermond thereupon casts at her with terrible force the statement that her mother was one of his own slaves, and that therefore he can claim his daughter as an octoroon. To do so would, of course, expose himself; but the imputation of black blood in her veins, and what it all means to her, is enough for Sylvia. The scene is extraordinarily well written, and it comes in strong contrast to the love episode, which it must needs annul, until time and events clear up the fraud. On the same night, Vermond instigates a quarrel between Captain Deane and Rex Graham, and a duel with swords ends in the apparent death of the latter. Pretty mischief for getting Deane out of the way. But while Strang and Vermond are off for the Sheriff, Graham's sister contrives to place the remorseful Deane, her lover, out of danger. The action is then carried into the period of the war. Rex Graham, recovered from his wound, and having an important letter for Captain Deane, whom he has never ceased to regard as a friend, in spite of their ill-judged quarrel, makes his way disguised into an encampment of the Northern Scouts. He is discovered by Vermond, and condemned to be hanged as a spy. From this end, however, Deane saves him, and is himself condemned in his place. The episode of the soldiers ordered by Vermond to fire on Deane is highly dramatic. At the word "Fire!" down go the muskets. Vermond shoots one of the soldiers dead, and repeats his orders—"Present, Fire!" But at the word again down go the muskets. It is obviously a dogged refusal for which each man is prepared to pay the penalty. An attack of the enemy puts an end to the situation, from which Deane thus fortunately escapes. In the meantime, while the game was yet in his hands, Vermond has sent Sylvia Rosmer—whom we see now as a Red Cross nurse—to Dolorosa, with a message to Mabel Graham that she shall barter her hand in marriage for the life of her brother. Such a crisis for Mabel is now, however, divested of its pangs, and, indeed, the overthrow and exposure of Vermond are imminent. The upshot takes place at the plantation, a last dangerous act of the Colonel being defeated by a subterfuge of Bertie Dimple, whom Vermond has picked up for his purpose in the disguise of a curate. Strang, the overseer, shares the Colonel's discomfiture, and confesses the true parentage of Sylvia. After this, nevertheless, Vermond makes a desperate attempt to turn the tables. A shooting duel in the dark between Graham and the Colonel, the latter being killed, makes a weird and sensational conclusion.

The quality of the dialogue, which is a cut above that of ordinary melodrama, was well matched by the quality of the acting. Miss Stanley Burt as Sylvia Rosmer showed herself capable of great things in the way of emotional acting, her scene with Vermond in the first act being especially strong and convincing. Mr. Edward Avinall's depiction of Vermond was firm, natural, sinister without being stagey, and distinguished by a clear and vigorous enunciation; a fine, outstanding piece of work. As Captain Jack Deane, Mr. Wilson Blake also contributed a distinctly good impersonation, open, sincere, heroic, and engaging in appearance. Miss Christine Errington added an effective delineation of Mabel Graham, making the most of her emotional opportunities. Mr. Charles V. Charles as Bertie Dimple gave a clever and amusing character sketch; and was excellently supported by Miss Cherry Veheyne, a dainty little comedy actress, as Marie, the maid. As Rex Graham, Mr. Donald A. Cameron acted capably; and a characteristic impersonation of an overseer was given in good style by Mr. Sydney Milton as Silas Strang. Among the minor parts, that of Corporal O'Brien was well done by Mr. Harry Kay.

The action is interspersed with a variety of musical numbers, and a music-plot of distinct merit, by Mr. Douglas Alexander, accompanies the dramatic theme. A word of praise should be added for the war-scenery of Mr. Charles Herrald. Altogether, the play is a well-written and effective addition to current successful drama of its kind.

A COPYRIGHT performance of a new play, entitled *John Bull at Market*, by E. W. A. B. Stoton, took place at the East Oxford Theatre, Oxford, on Friday, Aug. 2.

"ROLLICKING RORY."

Romantic Irish Legendary Play, in Three Acts, Produced, for the first time, at the Theatre Royal, Preston, on Saturday, Aug. 3.

Rory O'Donohoe .....MR. CHALMERS MACKEY
Stephen D'Arcy .....MR. DAVID M'FARLANE
Captain Ashleigh .....MR. ST. JOHN STUART
Shaun Brady .....MR. HAUGHTON MACAULAY
Mr. Callaghan .....MR. HENRY SAINSBURY
Sergeant Slow.....MR. LAWRENCE SULLIVAN
Drummer Dobbs .....MR. GEORGE DANSON
Fifer .....MR. JOSEPH HEALY
Private Mason .....
Rosie Callaghan .....MISS NANA FLENSBURG
Peggy O'Moore .. } MRS. CONSTANCE BELLAMY
Queen of Fairies.. }
Mrs. O'Donohoe ..... MISS ADELE LIDDON
Mary Maloney .....MISS KATHLEEN O'MARA
Little Rosaleen .....LITTLE DOROTHY
Desmond Fitzgerald .....MR. CHARLES HOMER
Mr. Burke .....MR. JOHN NEVILLE
Corporal Swift .....MR. STANLEY HIRST
Fairies .....{MISS KATHLEEN O'MARA, MISS MARIE FLENSBURG}
Mrs. Ashleigh ..... } MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY
Rosaleen Ashley .... }

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A large house gave the above new play a hearty reception on Monday. The piece, which went very well at its first performance, is evidently designed with a view to giving Mr. Chalmers Mackey plenty of opportunity to introduce an abundance of bubbling Irish humour in the part of Rory O'Donohoe. It is gathered in the first act that Stephen D'Arcy, a moneylender, while professing friendship for Captain Ashleigh of the Royal Irish, formerly loved Ashleigh's wife, and to revenge himself upon the family, is concocting a plot, with the aid of Shaun Brady, his assistant, to kidnap Rosaleen, the Captain's child. The plot is discovered by Rory O'Donohoe, who is hanging about the Captain's house, and a struggle ensues. Brady manages to get away with the child, which so affects Olive Ashleigh that she dies of shock.

The story is taken up fifteen years afterwards, when Rosaleen, grown to womanhood, is now known as Stephen D'Arcy's daughter. She is loved by one Desmond Fitzgerald, a young Irish patriot, for whom D'Arcy also professes friendship, but in the meanwhile is betraying him, and eventually gets him proscribed and outlawed, with a price upon his head. D'Arcy lays a plan for the capture of Desmond at Rory's house, but the two men who proceed to execute the warrant of arrest are tricked by Rory's wife, Rosie, and enmeshed in a fishing-net and soundly belaboured. D'Arcy turns Rory off the estate for this, but it is suddenly discovered that Grace D'Arcy is in reality Rosaleen Ashleigh, and the whole of Stephen D'Arcy's nefarious deeds are brought to light, while Desmond Fitzgerald returns to his estates, and Rory to his cottage.

The acting of the piece was excellent throughout. Mr. Chalmers Mackey, in the part of Rory, was the life and soul of the piece from beginning to end, his quaint philosophy, uttered in a delicious brogue, fitting the character to perfection, and while he was on the stage the house was kept constantly in a roar. It must be added that he was charmingly supported by Miss Nana Flensburg as Rosie. Miss Flensburg acted prettily, and while forming a foil to Mr. Mackey's humour, put a lot of personality into her own part. A word should be said for her singing of "Rory O'More," in the second act, and also for Mr. Mackey's renderings of "An Irish Relic" and "Mickey Maginn." Mrs. Chalmers Mackey doubled the parts of Olive Ashleigh, in the first act, with that of Rosaleen in the second. She had little to do in the first-named part, but was graceful and dignified as Rosaleen. Mr. St. John Stuart was good as Ashleigh; and Mr. David Macfarlane as D'Arcy made the most of his opportunities. Mr. Charles Horner played Desmond Fitzgerald in manly style, and gave a good conception of the part, also singing "The harp that once through Tara's halls" and "Sentenced to death" admirably. Miss Adele Liddon as Mrs. O'Donohoe and Mr. Henry Sainsbury as Mr. Callaghan were responsible for a delightful bit of comedy in the first act; while Mme. Constance Bellamy as Queen of the Fairies gained much acclamation for her singing of "Of the wood," in the scene at the Fairy Rath. Mr. Haughton Macaulay was good as Shaun Brady, especially in the first act; and the small parts were well filled. The staging of the play was excellent, the scenes of Captain Ashleigh's House in the first act, and the Fairy Rath in the third, being of great beauty. The costumes were also all that could be desired.

DEATH OF MISS GRACE ARMYTAGE.

We record with regret the death of Mrs. Campbell Bradley, professionally known as Grace Armytage, who passed away on Sunday last at 16, Park Mansions, St. John's Wood. The deceased artist was a daughter of the late George Armytage Cooper, and was married in 1866 to Henry C. Sanders, who was associated with the late Sims Reeves, Henry J. Leslie, and many others in the musical world of those days. On her husband's death Miss Armytage gave up management and devoted herself to light opera, playing leading parts in *Les Cloches de Corneville* and similar operas for some years. In 1884 she married the late Mr. Campbell Bradley, who was a well-known and respected member of the profession.

During recent years, in addition to touring with her own companies, Miss Armytage took part in a number of London productions, amongst her many rôles being those of Mrs. Fretwell in *Sowing the Wind* and Mrs. Cross in *The Idler*. In the course of a varied career Miss Armytage appeared with Mr. John Hare in *The Master*, with Mr. Alexander in *The Wisdom of the Wise*, and with Mrs. Patrick Campbell in *The Whirlwind*. Her last appearance was at the Vaudeville a short time back as Mrs. Bates in Mr. Louis N. Parker's one-act play *Jemmy*, which preceded *Mr. George*.

The lamented actress was a reliable and sympathetic artist, and was beloved by all with whom she came in contact. Her loss is mourned by two sons and a daughter, the last-mentioned being well known in the profession as Grace Armytage Noble. The funeral was announced to take place at Kensal Green yesterday (Friday).

DR. JOHNSON'S opinion of Garrick is on record, and what Garrick felt on first seeing Pope he has himself told us: "When I was told that Pope was in the house I instantly felt a palpitation at my heart, a tumultuous, not a disagreeable, emotion in my mind. I was then in the prime of my youth and in the zenith of my theatrical ambition. It gave me a particular pleasure that Richard was my character when Pope was to see and hear me. As I opened my part, I saw our little poetical hero dressed in black, seated in a side box near the stage, and viewing me with a serious and earnest attention. His look shot and thrilled like lightning through my frame, and I had some hesitation in proceeding, from anxiety and from joy. As Richard gradually blazed forth the house was in a roar of applause, and the conspiring hand of Pope shadowed me with laurels." Sir Joshua Reynolds when a youth saw Pope at an auction-room. He was, he told Malone, "about four feet six inches high, very hump-backed and deformed; he wore a black coat, and, according to the fashion of that time, had on a little sword. He had a large and very fine eye and a handsome nose; his mouth had those peculiar marks which are always found in the mouths of crooked persons, and the muscles which run across the cheek were so strongly marked that they seemed like small cords."

COURT THEATRE, WARRINGTON.

Mr. William Mollison struck the right key-note on Monday evening when he said that Warrington owed a debt of gratitude to Messrs. Johnson and Potter, the proprietors of the Royal Court Theatre, Warrington, for erecting such a beautiful playhouse in their midst. It is barely seven months since the Rylands-street house was burnt almost to the ground, but the order of despatch has been so cleverly administered that few were prepared for the erection of such a fine temple in their midst. There were many congratulations on Monday, and on all sides could be heard praises.

The theatre has a long frontage to Rylands-street, and here are situated all the public entrances under a verandah extending the whole length of the building. In the centre of this frontage is the grand entrance to the stalls and pit stalls, and on the left the entrances to the pit, circle, gallery, and back of pit. On the right is an early door communicating with all parts of the house. The auditorium, or public portion of the theatre, is divided on the ground floor into pit, pit stalls, and orchestra stalls. Over the pit is the lower circle tier, and on the top a large gallery specially arranged in its seating so that all occupants can have an uninterrupted view of the stage. There are also four private boxes.

Numerous exits are provided to all parts of the theatre, and as the building is isolated, there is no difficulty in the audience getting out quickly in case of emergency. In the main entrance is the box-office, and inner-vestibule doors lead to the crush room. The orchestra floor has been sunk 18in. below the level of the stalls, from which it is screened by brass rails and curtains, and the pit floor, being on the rake or incline, gives the audience an uninterrupted view of the stage. The proscenium opening dividing the stage from the auditorium is provided with a fire-resisting curtain. The stage, which is lofty and well lighted, contains the usual fly galleries and grid, approached by a spiral staircase. The stage is fitted up with all modern appliances suitable for the best productions, and it has the usual property rooms adjoining. The corner of the Rylands-street and the side street is devoted to three storeys of dressing-rooms, fitted with lavatories, dressing tables, &c., and there are the usual conveniences on each floor. These rooms are approached by a fireproof staircase leading direct to the stage and entrance. Bill-posting, storage, and other rooms are also provided, including the manager's office, which is situated adjoining the early door.

The catering for the audience is provided for by a stalls and circle refreshment-room, situated on the right of the main crush-room (but approached only by the stalls), and there is also a bar at the rear of the pit in the basement. All the public staircases are fireproof. An electric plant and gas engine are provided in a fireproof room in the basement, and the whole of the theatre, including the stage, is lighted by electricity, with a complete system of gas lighting provided for in case of emergency. In the centre of the elliptic dome of the auditorium ceiling is a sunburner which acts as an exhaust ventilator, and lights up the whole of the auditorium with gas if required. The decorative treatment of the interior has had careful consideration, and is worked out in shades of salmon pink and red, relieved with gold, while the upholstery and hangings are in deep crimson. The doors, screens, and dados of the main entrance, which are in mahogany, and the mosaic floor and tiling are in harmony with the general scheme of decoration. The decorative figure subject over the proscenium opening has been specially painted for the theatre, likewise all scenery, which is composed of some very pleasing sets. For the cold weather a system of heating by hot water is provided, and all the dressing-rooms are heated by pipes, which will also serve as drying rails.

The whole of the works have been designed and completed in just over six months.

The architect for the whole of the works is Mr. F. Bennett Smith, F.R.I.B.A., of Manchester. The acting-manager is Mr. Fred J. Reece.

Prior to the performance of *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*, by Mr. William Mollison's company, the band struck up the National Anthem, and on the popular actor making his appearance, he was most heartily received. His portrayal of Lachlan Campbell was an ideal study. He was ably assisted by Miss Evelyn McKay, as Flora Campbell; Mr. Kindale Chalmers's Tammas Mitchell was a smart study, and there was an air of refined dignity about Mr. Whitford Kane's Earl of Kilspindie; Mr. Archie W. Chappell, as Lord Hay, was well cast; and as Sandy McPherson Mr. MacLaren was excellent; Mr. W. A. Mackersy was a typical Scotch doctor; and Mr. Henry O'Dea, as the Rev. John Carmichael, looked every inch a cleric; Mr. Alec. F. Thompson, as Archibald McKittrick pleased greatly; Miss Josephine Woodward, as Margaret Howe, was duly matronly; and Miss Elsie Vron was a charming Kate Carnegie. Miss Edith Blair Staples, as Annie, and Miss E. Hermina Black, as Geordie, both did well. The staging was good, and the performance was loudly applauded.

After the fall of the curtain on the second act, Mr. Mollison congratulated the town and the proprietors on the splendid theatre. Special reference was made to the magnificent accommodation behind the curtain. Mr. Mollison concluded:—"God bless your theatre, may it prosper."

"THE CHRISTIAN."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—There appears to be some misconception as to our production of *The Christian* here. We should like it to be clearly understood that the control of this theatre, both as regards the general-management and the casting and production of plays, is in our hands, and will always remain so, as long as we direct the fortunes of this house. As regards *The Christian*, Mr. Wentworth Croke becomes associated with us by reason of his holding the rights of the play.—Yours faithfully,

ERNEST CARPENTER,
HENRY R. SMITH.

Lyceum Theatre, Aug. 7, 1907.

"EDMUND KEAN."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

DEAR SIR,—Will you allow us to state, in reply to Mr. Louis Cowen's letter, that our play of this name was written eighteen months ago.—Yours faithfully,

ALICIA RAMSEY,
RUDOLPH DE CORDOVA.

4, Greencroft-Gardens, South Hampstead, N.W.,
Aug. 8, 1907.

MR. LOUIS J. BEARD, the popular manager of the Grand Theatre, Luton, was given his second annual benefit on the 1st inst., and a most successful evening was secured. Amongst those who contributed to the entertainment were Mrs. Beard, who gave the mad scene from *Lucia di Lammermoor*, and aroused considerable enthusiasm. Mr. Farren Soutar and Mr. S. Walsh came down specially from London to support their old friend, and gave an amusing duologue, "He that Hesitates." Mr. Walsh also gave an amusing musical recitation, and Mr. Soutar a recitation, and as an encore gave another duet. Amongst the other artists who should be mentioned were Miss Lucy Lever, who gave a solo from *Maritana*; and Miss Scarth Dixon, a local singer, who rendered two ballads effectively. During the evening a case of pipes was handed to Mr. Beard by the staff.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, AUG. 8.—Messieurs et Mesdames les choristes have formed a syndicate. The worm has turned. Nobody has heeded their complaints, and now they are trying to help themselves. They are treated with disregard, and yet they are a necessary body. What would we do without a chorus? Fancy an opera or operette without mousquetaires, sailors, or countrymen, drinking, or making love to the pretty village girls! Any work, no matter how good, would fall flat without a chorus, for the audience wants to listen to their drinking songs, and see them raise to their lips the gilt cardboard goblets that contain no nectar, not thinking that to a thirsty man this means torture. But Messieurs les choristes do not complain about that. Their grievances lie deeper. They have held meetings, and, by taking joint action, have already obtained some kind of redress. At one time, especially in the provinces, when a new piece was produced it was customary to engage a certain number of men and women to constitute the chorus, and for several weeks they had to rehearse without receiving any pay. Then, the day before the première, they were informed that, for reasons of economy, the management had decided to dispense with the greater part of the chorus. This is no longer possible, inasmuch as the managers cannot now treat with them individually, but must apply to the syndicate. There are, however, other wrongs to be set right. Thus, according to a law passed last year, every manager is bound to insure the whole of his staff against accidents, and several managers in the provinces make their staff pay for the insurance premium by compelling them to sacrifice two days' pay. Yet, by doing so, the managers infringe the law, which distinctly states that these premiums are not to be charged to the employee. But the great culprits are the theatrical agents. If what I have been told is true, some agencies certainly resort to shocking practices. Thus, for reasons on which I would rather not dwell, they sign an engagement with the wife, who is sent to one watering-place, whilst her husband is booked to another. Nothing more nor less than the white slave trade. It is just possible that there is a little exaggeration in some of these statements, but if only half their grievances are true Messieurs les choristes are justified in trying to improve their not enviable lot.

I AM sorry to have to chronicle the death of Mme. Mathilde Cochard—"la grosse Mathilde," as she was commonly called, not only by her friends, but by the public, with whom she was a great favourite. Born in 1836, she made her début in Lyons, and as she showed a great aptitude for funny rôles, she soon secured an engagement at the Palais-Royal, where she appeared in almost all the new creations. At the Variétés she played an important part in *Le Premier Mari de France*, and in other creations at that house. Her last appearance in public was in a revival of *Mamzelle Nitouche*, and for the last ten years she lived in retirement on her property in Seine-et-Oise.

WE have also to deplore the death of M. Noizeux, a splendid actor, who created the rôle of Lord Amertess in *Raffles*, now running at the Réjane Theatre. An attack of pleurisy carried him off at the age of thirty-four. In 1895 he was engaged at Antoine's, whence he went to the Porte-Saint-Martin, where he appeared in *Cyrano de Bergerac*. At the Renaissance we saw him in *La Châtelaine*, *L'Adversaire*, and *Cinquebille*. Mme. Réjane, who greatly appreciated M. Noizeux's talent, at once engaged him when she opened her new house. The young artist's death is deeply deplored in the theatrical world, where he had many friends.

THE Opéra-Comique will reopen on Sept. 1. M. Carré has, I am told, asked M. Xavier Leroux, the composer, to set to music a new work, called *Pierre-le-Véridique*, but M. Carré will first produce *Le Chemineau*, by the same author.

To miss securing a first prize for comedy by only one vote is ill-luck. It happened to Mlle. Simone Frevalles at last month's Conservatoire prize competition, and she was all the more disconsolate as the great success she scored with the public caused her to expect a "premier prix." To-day, however, she is happy, for she has just been engaged by M. Antoine for the Odéon.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Association was held at 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C., on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. Fredk. Morland (chairman), Messrs. Cecil Brooking, C. F. Collings, H. Athol Forde, Roy Horniman, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary).

The minutes of July 16, 23, and 30 were read and confirmed. The Secretary stated that the hon. solicitors would not attend the meeting that day and they had nothing to report. Mr. Fred Grove was elected as a member of the Council to take the place vacated by Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore.

The Chairman read a letter addressed by Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree to the secretary. The secretary was directed to acknowledge the receipt of the communication, and to state that it would be handed on to the "Minimum Wage" committee.

The Secretary reported that in accordance with the articles of association—seventy days having expired since they came into operation, May 27, 1907—he had removed fifteen names from the register, those still remaining on the list of unpaid subscriptions representing members abroad. The Council, having considered the question, instructed the secretary to write to certain of these late members acquainting them of the fact of their names being struck off the register and suggesting their reinstatement.

Dr. Pern, of 86, Osmaston-road, Derby, was elected as an H.M.O. to the A.A.

The Chairman read a letter from Miss Georgina Hamilton resigning her seat on the Council, and the "Social" and "Commissioners" committees. The secretary was directed to thank the lady on behalf of the Council for her services in the past, and to express their deep regret that circumstances had arisen necessitating the tendering of her resignation, which was accepted with reluctance.

One former member was reinstated. The Suggestion Book was considered and an entry made.

PRESENTATION.—At the Royal, Peterborough, on Tuesday, Mr. Charles Leverton was the recipient of a substantial cheque as a token of esteem and regard from the members of Mrs. Ann Hughes' *Young Lieutenant* Opera Company, for the successful reproduction of which he was responsible.

AT the Newport Lyceum this week Messrs. W. H. Hallatt and Walter Howard's company is appearing in *Her Love Against the World*. Mr. Howard appears as Eric, and gives a fine performance; Miss Grace Haywood is a dignified Princess Iris; and Miss Rossie St. John as Nello shows talent. Mr. Mayor Cooke as Prince Ulric is effective; the Prince of Othmar of Mr. Ronald Bayne has grace and refinement; and as Prince Maurice of Saxonia, Mr. Fred Emery is decidedly successful. Miss Evelyn Hope does well as Sheelah, and humour is supplied by Messrs. H. B. Lowe and R. Webb and Misses Hettie Ferguson and Lizzie Lennon. At the Empire, Bella and Bijou, in *The Suffragette*, keep the house in a roar; Geo. Reeves is a comedian of ability; and the Sisters Poole, society entertainers, deserve recognition. J. W. Hall is a quaint comedian; Marco, boy magician, does excellently; and Dun and Alden, in the comedy act, *The Coastguards*, convulsed the house. Stanley Britt, in illustrated songs, and the American Bioscope complete the bill.

CHARLES KEAN AT WORK.

MR. JOHN COLEMAN, in "Fifty Years of an Actor's Life," gives an interesting account of the methods of the Keans. He says:—

These distinguished people were then at their zenith. Excepting Charles Mathews and Mario, they were the least bumptious and affected people in the artistic world. In society they were affable and approachable; and in the theatre, although strict disciplinarians, they were amiable and complaisant. He would have been a bold man, however, who attempted a liberty with Charles Kean, for most assuredly the hand of iron would have been immediately felt through the glove of velvet. It was not customary then to travel, as is now the case, with an entire company; hence our labours during this engagement were absolutely Herculean.

Looking back on Kean's programme, even after all these years, its extent and variety amaze me. During the eight or nine nights of their engagement, they produced *Richard, Hamlet, Macbeth, Othello, Love, Much Ado, Money, The Gamester,* and *The Wonder;* the last two for their benefit. Of course, these works could never have been got through at all save for the fact that Mr. and Mrs. Kean did not require to rehearse their own scenes (i.e. scenes which were entirely confined to themselves), and had not the majority of the company been experienced and accomplished actors.

It was terrible drudgery, however, for every one, from the stars downwards. Our rehearsals commenced daily at ten and lasted until four, and sometimes even later. By the time we got home to "tea dinner," and had arranged our "properties," etc., it was almost time to get back again to commence the performance. It was a labour of love, however, to do whatever we could to help the Keans, not only because it was our duty, but because they made our duty delightful by their grace and charm of manner. I have met persons since, and in high places too, who rarely attended a rehearsal, or, if they did, would keep an entire body of people waiting for an hour or two, and when at length they put in an appearance, never deigned to offer an apology for their insolence. Obviously this sort of thing could only obtain through the supineness of managers or the servility of actors, who, by their sycophancy, condoned this social indignity and artistic outrage.

The Keans were, however, the first on the stage at rehearsals, and the last to leave it. As for me, I didn't want to go home, morning, noon, or night. I never left the wings for a single moment. My delight was unbounded, and my pleasure enhanced by my wonder, as I beheld each play take form and shape beneath the master-hand. The process reminded me of the story in "The Arabian Nights" where the imprisoned Genie emerges from an iron pot on the seashore, and dilates into the form and proportions of a Colossus. It seemed to my inexperienced mind simply amazing that one head could not only contain the flood of knowledge which Kean poured forth on every subject connected with the text, the costumes, and the "business, but that at every interval occasioned by the setting of a scene, etc., he could unbend and tell the most amusing stories with the greatest zest.

Both he and his wife were capital *raconteurs,* and we were eager and delighted listeners to their overflowing *répertoire* of original and amusing experiences. Their regard for each other was beautiful to witness: he was profoundly attached to her, and she idolised him.

She used to say with the most perfect *naïveté,* "When my Charlie was a boy, he was the ugliest lad I ever met: but I could never see his ugly face for his beautiful gig lamps of eyes." To which he responded, "And I could dever see yours, Delly, because of your beautiful *dose.*" "And you could not see much of that, dear, for I was always falling down and breaking it and coating it with scale armour."

That nasal organ must have had an Antean quality of recuperation, inasmuch as its contact with its mother earth had apparently not reduced its somewhat exuberant dimensions by the breadth of a hair.

Although approaching maturity, Mrs. Kean was a finely-preserved and splendid woman of more than middle height. Certain natural advantages, in which she took a not altogether inexcusable pride, were very conspicuous in Rosalind, in Viola, and in Ion, in all of which parts she still presented a comely and statuesque appearance. A well-shaped head was covered with a profusion of light brown hair; delicately pencilled eyebrows surmounted large, beautiful hazel eyes; while her well-cut ruddy lips set off to advantage two rows of dazzling white teeth; and, to crown all, "her smile was sunshine and her voice was music."

As to Kean's *personnel,* his face was merely redeemed from being positively ugly by the splendour of his eyes. His head was large and covered with a thatch of very coarse straight black hair, which he wore very long. His brow was majestic and imposing. His mouth and chin were firm and well cut; but his nose was of so irregular an order that I really do not know how to describe it. Although his figure scarcely approached the middle height, it was so muscular, so symmetrical, and so admirably balanced that one ceased to wonder at his being captain of his crew at Eton. His neck was like a pillar of ivory, his chest was broad and expansive, his waist slender, while his legs—well, they were more elegant than sturdy, with perhaps a slight suspicion of the parallelogram inherited from his father.

Charles moved with ease, grace, and distinction, and, despite his plebian features and his long hair at all times and in all places impressed one with the idea that he was a gentleman. I was particularly struck with this distinguishing and all-pervading characteristic in his Evelyn. In parts of this character Kean succeeded, despite of nature, for he had a kind of frog-in-the-gutter voice, and usually spoke as if he had a cold in the head; besides which, he had two or three vocal eccentricities, which he could never surmount or even control. For instance, he could not pronounce the consonants "m" and "n."

In the first scene with Jarvis in *The Gamester* he begins by inquiring, "Well, Jarvis, what says the world of me? I'll tell thee what it says. It calls me a false friend, a faithless husband, a cruel father—in one short word, it calls me Galester!" In Shylock he was wont to say:

"You take *by* life
When you do take the beans whereby I live."

But his most unfortunate slip occurred in the last line of *Money,* where Evelyn says that, in order to enjoy the good things of life, we require "plenty of money." In this situation Kean always brought the curtain down with a roar by sarcastically remarking that the one thing necessary to complete our happiness is "plenty of *putty!*"

Despite these drawbacks, he was so earnest and sympathetic, so graceful, so picturesque, and, above all, so gentlemanly, that he rarely or ever failed to hold his audience. As for myself, being a youthful iconoclast, I was more impressed by his delightful personality and his remarkable skill as a stage manager than by his ability as an actor.

He opened in Cibber's adaptation of *Richard III.,* the costumes, arms, and armour of which he brought from Drury Lane, and very authentic and splendid they were. We had only one rehearsal of this play, and from ten in the morning until six at night he never left the stage, nor did we either. Richard was said to be his "crack" part; but I had the audacity and the bad taste to think it a "penny plain and tuppence coloured" performance. Yet how admirably he commenced it! Indeed, up to the end of the second act he was natural, refined, elegant, and insinuating. After that, it was all scowl and shrug, start and strut, fret and fume. His mixture of shout and shriek of exaggerated grimace and gesture, in the "Flourish trumpets! Strike alarum drums!" speech reminded me more of Mr. Punch's *rooty toot* than the tone of high command of the last of the Plantagenets. Yet in the very same scene his

"Off with his head! So much for Buckingham!" was the perfection of stage trickery. Then he fought like a bull-dog and died like a Briton, and brought the curtain down with thunders of applause.

His Macbeth had splendid and picturesque moments, more especially in the last act. During the performance of this play, Rickards, who afterwards became a popular star at the minors, enacted Seyton. Being "a fellow of infinite jest," he was occupied in telling funny stories in the green-room when he ought to have been on the stage in the fourth act. There was a "dead stick," and Kean was furious. He prowled up and down the stage like a tiger, growling, "Where is the brute? Send him on, that I may kill him!"

After a prolonged delay, Mr. O. Seyton appeared.

"What's your Grace's will?" he inquired in great trepidation.

"Saw you the weird sisters?" fiercely inquired Kean.

To which Seyton ought to reply, "No, my Lord." But with a desire to make matters agreeable to the irate tragedian, he replied, "*Yes,* my Lord!"

Quite taken off his balance, Kean gasped, "The d——l you did! Where are they, then?"

Utterly unmanned, the wretched Seyton replied, "I'll show your Majesty if you'll deign to step round the corner!"

Of course, not another word of the scene could be heard; but when they made their exit, Kean let fly and anathematised Seyton.

That gentleman was, however, equal to the occasion.

"Although I admit that I am to blame," said he, "yet the fault was yours, sir."

"*Bine,* sir—bine!"

"Yes, sir. I was standing at the wing looking at the scene, when you magnetised, dazzled, and blinded me by the effulgent light of your eyes."

"Bless my soul! you don't say so?"

"Yes indeed, sir."

Kean, whose weak point was vanity, relaxed into a smile as he replied, "Well, don't do it again, dear boy, because you flummuxed me, and I can't bear to be flummuxed."

THE staff of the Palace Vaudeville Theatre, Southampton, spent a delightful day on the Thames on the 2nd inst. The party, which numbered about seventy, travelled from the Docks Station in two spacious saloons that were attached to the Waterloo express, and detrained at Surbiton, where a special tramcar was in waiting to convey them to Teddington, their headquarters for the day. A ten mile ride through a pretty district afforded a pleasant first-impression of the neighbourhood. Luncheon was served in a marquée on the lawn of the Clarence Hotel, a charming and excellently appointed hostelry, of which Mr. R. Judd Green, an old Southamptonian, is now proprietor. Boating took place under most favourable conditions. Later on a sports programme was carried out very successfully by Mr. J. E. Mortimer, the various events creating much amusement. Dinner was served at six o'clock, and at its conclusion a short toast list was negotiated. The chairman (Mr. W. Trussell), in proposing "The Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit," expressed Mr. Macnaghten's regret that he could not be present, and added that their chief, however, wished them a most enjoyable day. But for Mr. Macnaghten, proceeded the chairman, the outing would not be possible, because he very kindly gave the hall, and at some sacrifice to himself, for a matinée on behalf of the fund. The toast was greeted with enthusiasm, the company according Mr. Macnaghten musical honours. The chairman afterwards submitted "The Staff," bearing personal testimony to its efficiency and loyalty, and to the harmony that existed between the different branches. He referred to the promotion of Mr. Bradbury (who is now manager of one of the other halls on the circuit), and Mr. Waddop (leader of the orchestra), and welcomed Mr. Miller (the new assistant-manager) and Mr. Morris (the new musical director) as members of the staff. Mr. G. Gear proposed the health of the chairman, and the reception accorded the toast was eloquent evidence of the popularity of its subject. Mr. Trussell made a brief response, and afterwards gave "The Visitors," Mr. Mortimer responding. Shortly after eight o'clock the party left Teddington, and reached home at midnight.

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HERMAN MERIVALE AND THE TERRYS.

"Of all the actresses of my English day," says the late Herman Merivale, in "Bar, Stage, and Platform," "to the end Kate Terry, with Helen Faucit her forerunner, will remain my favourite and first choice. Both reached their greatest fame at twenty-three. The acquaintance thus begun in behind-the-scenes boy-and-childhood grew into a very close and loving friendship with her family, and led to my playing many parts as an amateur with her and the still younger Nelly, who by right of her adorable impulse was to grow into the first stage-favourite of the town, in the years then hidden in the folds. Her first I saw as 'Puck'—a child—rising through the stage upon a toadstool, like incarnate mischief. And I think that the feat has lent a kind of Pixie-flavour, ever since, to all the scenes of comedy that she has played. Both Kate and she commingled tears and laughter charmingly. But Nelly's gift was laughter. Kate's was tears. Infinitely funny were many of the stage adventures that we all had together. Too many for a record that must cover so much ground. But one was memorable. We played for some distress about something that was going on in Lancashire. I think it had to do with cotton and the American war. Anyhow, it was one of those charitable calls for self-sacrifice which the amateur actor always feels so acutely. Our theatre was a big theatre. For, to rise to a great occasion, our committee took Covent Garden. And our play was a small play, meant for a small stage. It was *The Lighthouse,* a thrilling little melodrama by Wilkie Collins. And Palgrave Simpson and I enacted the two Gurnocks, father and son. And the curtain rose on the first act, and discovered us with our two heads in our four hands, on the two opposite ends of a sea-chest, cut off from 'land' in a lighthouse, and starving by our two selves. My part was the inevitable 'young first,' for which, in days of romantic slimness, I was always cast. Therefore it was a very bad one. But through an awkward failure on the author's part, I never left the stage for a minute through the whole play. We had not had a single rehearsal in the big house, to accustom us to the size, and when the curtain rose, the public, who had not seen our charitable intentions in a proper light, filled at a liberal guess, about one-tenth of it. I gazed upon the sparsely populated district as I raised my head, and spake. If I had not in those days learned to modulate my voice, I was possessed at all events of what is called an organ. To be heard on the stage is everything. And I wish that a few more players thought so nowadays. So I projected my young chest, inflated my young lungs, and, fixing with my eye the farthest-off straggler whom I could dimly discern in the gloom (after a piece of advice once given me by Alfred Wigan) I intoned as through a fancy speaking-trumpet: 'I've had no food for many days, and I'm so weak that I can scarcely speak.' My spirit must have prevailed over my flesh: for my little all all heard me.

"Later on came my climax in that strange ordeal of discomfort. I had to open a bay-window, and the sea was to dash in. It was to be soap-suds by a new invention, with a great deal of wind. Through the bay the ocean was expected to enter. I went towards that window. The bay was still there, but the soap-suds were gone. 'Look out for the dash of the spray, Martin,' said my father Aaron. So I did; but it wasn't there. 'Much wind but no soap-suds,' thought I. I must pretend. So I retired into the bay out of sight of the audience, to come back pretending. But as I did so an ancient woman rose behind that window, with a huge wooden bowl in her hands, having entirely missed her cue. And without a moment's warning she hurled the whole contents into my face. The audience didn't see it. Nor did I. Blind, spluttering, choking, staggering, I got back to my seat just as my sweetheart Kate Terry arrived in a boat to save me. She rushed upon her Martin to enfold him in a stage embrace. All I could do was to croak out in the hoarsest tones, under what breath that dash of the spray had left me, 'For the Lord's sake don't kiss me! I am only soap.'"

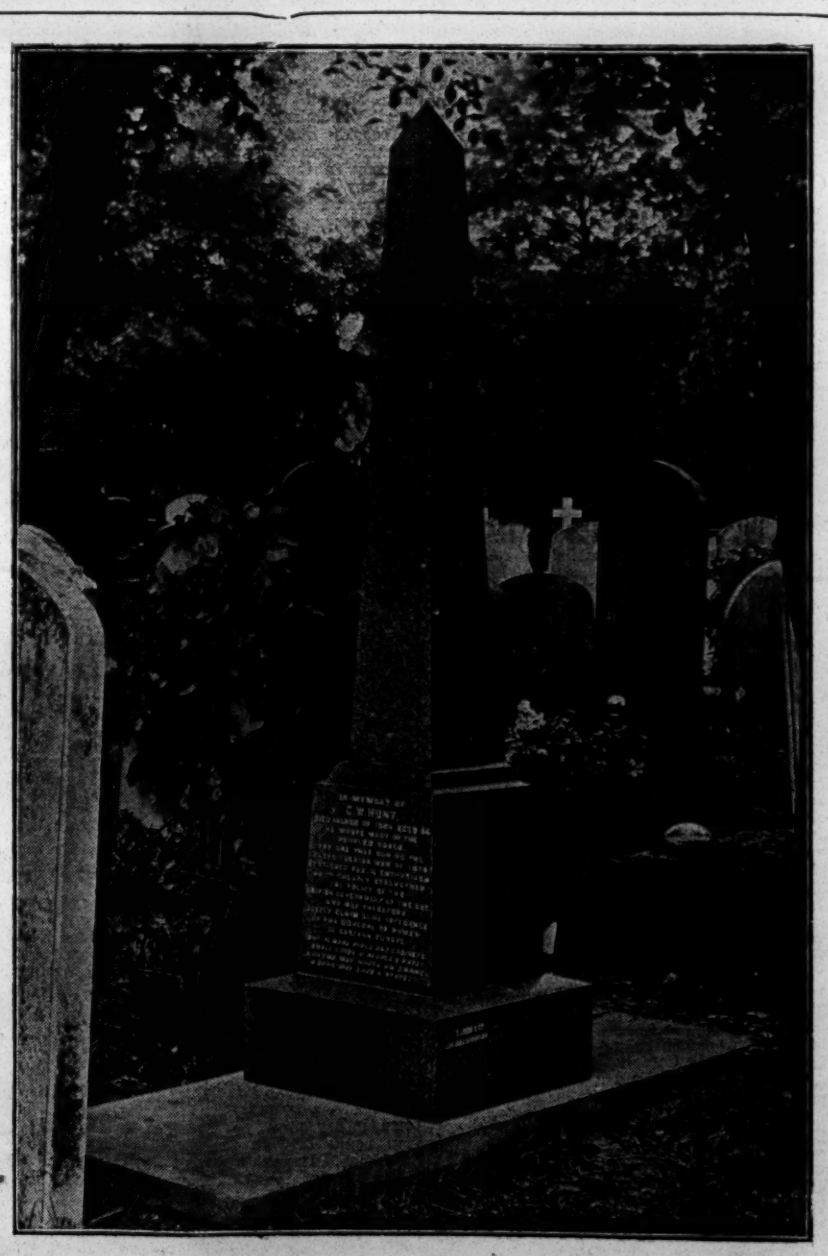
MR. BANNISTER HOWARD will reopen his dramatic season at the Crystal Palace Theatre on Sept. 9 with *Veronique.* If the enterprise meets with the same success as it did last year Mr. Howard's efforts will be well repaid.

MR. RICHARD TERRY, organist of Westminster Cathedral, says the report that Dom Perosi, the well-known master of the Sistine Choir in Rome, will visit England this year to observe the working of the Roman Catholic Church music at Westminster Cathedral and elsewhere, is incorrect. In a letter to Mr. Terry, the famous maestro states that his visit cannot take place until next year.

JOHN LAWSON.

I am a firm believer in advertising. If I earned £1000 a week I would spend half of it in advertising.—John Lawson.

Address, 49, Binfield-road, Stockwell, S.W.



IN MEMORY OF THE LATE G. W. HUNT.

"We don't want to fight,
But, by Jingo, if we do."

The above is an illustration of the monument which has been erected to the memory of Mr. G. W. Hunt. As a writer of popular songs in the early days of the music halls Mr. G. W. Hunt became famous. Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era,* became treasurer of a fund for the erection of a memorial to the song writer's name. In this movement the members of Mr. Hunt's family joined, also a few of his old friends, amongst whom were Mr. Harry Rickards, Miss Fanny Leslie, Mr. Harry Randall, Mr. Felix McGlennon, and Mr. Charles Wilmott. The following words, which emanate from the Nibs, are inscribed on the obelisk:—

"IN MEMORY OF G. W. HUNT.

"He wrote many of the People's Songs, and one that during the Russo-Turkish War of 1878 so stirred public enthusiasm as to greatly strengthen the policy of the British Government of the day, and may, therefore, justly claim some influence on the disposal of power in Eastern Europe.

"Not always Kings and Cabinets
Shall guide a people's fate;
A rhyme may wreck an Empire—
A song may save a State."

ON THE ROAD, AUG. 12.

ASSASSIN.—Opera House, St. Helens.
AT DUTY'S CALL.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
AT THE WORLD'S MERCY.—O. H., Coventry.
BEAUTY AND THE BARGE.—Newcastle.
BELLE OF MAYFAIR (HOWARD).—T. R., Ryde.
BELLE OF MAYFAIR (BODE).—Grand T., Douglas.
BELLE OF NEW YORK (HOWARD).—T. R., Brighton.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Alnwick and Selkirk.
BEST MUST WIN.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
BEST OF HER SEX.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
BRANDED WOMAN.—Theatre Royal, Hyde.
BREED OF THE TRESHAMS.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
BULMER, MR.—Alexandra T., Hull.
CASSIDY J. RICE.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (BODE).—T. R., Huddersfield.
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE).—Queen's T., Manchester.
CINGALEE.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
CONVICT'S DAUGHTER.—T. R., Kidderminster.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
DRAMA OF LIFE.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
DUCHESS OF DANTZIC.—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
EARL AND THE GIRL (HOWARD).—Barnstaple and Exmouth.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—T. R., Sheffield.
FALSE WIFE.—Prince's T., Bradford.
FATAL WEDDING.—Coronet Theatre, W.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—Theatre Royal, Rotherham.
FLORODORA (HOWARD).—Prince's T., Bristol.
FOR HER SAKE.—Palace Pier, Brighton.
GIRL FROM JAPAN.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
GIRL FROM KAY'S.—Pier Pav., Eastbourne.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS.—Boro' T., Stratford.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
GRIP OF IRON.—O. H., Northampton.
GUILTY GOLD.—T. R., North Shields.
HEART'S DESIRE.—Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—Theatre Royal, Leigh.
HER MARRIAGE VOW.—T. R., Blyth.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—East Oxford T., Oxford.
HERO OF THE FLAG.—Dumfries and Hawick.
HIS HOUSE IN ORDER (N.).—Whitby.
HIS HOUSE IN ORDER (S.).—T. R., Worthing.
HOME, SWEET HOME.—Broadway T., Deptford.
HONOUR THY FATHER.—Athenæum, Lancaster.
IN OLD MADRID.—Seaham Harbour.
IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT.—P. O. W., Salford.
JOHN GLAYDE'S HONOUR.—Theatre Royal, Bradford.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Montrose and Brechin.
LEAH KLESCHNA.—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
LIFE OF A SHOWMAN.—Grand T., Radcliffe.
LIGHT OF THE WORLD.—T. R., Colne.
LION AND THE MOUSE.—O. H., Torquay.
LITTLE BREADWINNER.—King's T., Manchester.
LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE.—T. R., Ton-y-Pandy.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
MAN'S ENEMY.—Theatre Royal, Blyth.
MANXMAN.—Victoria T., Burnley.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—Theatre Royal, Halifax.
MOLLISON, WM.—Opera House, Southport.
MONCKTON HOFFE COMEDY CO.—Grand T., Swansea.
MONTE CRISTO.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
MORALS OF MARCUS.—T. R., Gt. Yarmouth.
MOTHER'S LOVE.—T. R., Stratford.
MR. POPPLE.—Victoria T., Ramsgate.
MY DARLING.—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
ONE WOMAN'S WICKEDNESS.—Lyceum T., Govan.
PETER'S MOTHER (M.).—Whitstable and Dover.
PETER'S MOTHER (N.).—West Pier, Brighton.
PETER'S MOTHER (S.).—O. H., Buxton.
POWER OF GOLD.—Colosseum, Oldham.
PRICE OF HER SOUL.—H. M. T., Barrow.
PRINCE OF PILSEN (HARRISS).—Folkestone and Worthing.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
PRODIGAL SON (CROKE).—T. R., Birmingham.
PROOF.—Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
RAFFLES.—Pier Pavilion, Lytham.
ROLLICKING RORY.—Royal Court T., Wigan.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
SECOND TO NONE.—Grand Theatre, Brighton.
SECRET WEDDING.—T. R., Leicester.
SENTENCED FOR LIFE.—Alexandra T., Hull.
SHULAMITE, THE.—Grand Theatre, Nelson.
SILVER KING (HOWARD) (N.).—Isle of Wight
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—T. R., Sunderland.
SOLDIER OF FRANCE.—Grand Theatre, Chorley.
SOLDIER'S HONOUR.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
SOMEBODY'S SWEETHEART.—O. H., Leicester.
STILL ALARM.—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
STRONGER SEX (N.).—Court T., Liverpool.
SUNDAY.—King's T., Sunderland.
SWISS EXPRESS.—T. R., Chatham.
TERRY, EDWARD.—Assembly Rooms, Saltburn.
TERRY, MISS ELLEN.—Margate and Tunbridge Wells.
TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS.—T. R., Worcester.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS (N.).—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS (S.).—Terriss T., Rotherhithe.
TYRANT, THE.—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH.—Motherwell.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Lyceum T., Crewe.
WALKER, LONDON.—H. M. T., Dundee.
WALLS OF JERICHO (N.).—Colwyn Bay and Llandudno.
WALLS OF JERICHO (S.).—T. R., Middlesbro'.
WARNING TO WOMEN.—T. R., Bolton.
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW.—King's Theatre, Glasgow.
WHEN A MAN HATES.—T. R., Ilkeston.
WHEN IT WAS DARK.—T. R., Darlington.
WHEN LONDON SLEEPS.—T. R., Birkenhead.
WHEN WOMAN HATES.—Theatre Royal, Scarborough
WILKIE ALLAN AND CO.—Court T., Warrington.
WOMAN WORTH WINNING.—New T., Consett.
WORLD'S GREAT SNARE.—Grand T., Glasgow.
WORST WOMAN IN LONDON.—T. R., Cardiff.
YOU NEVER CAN TELL.—Exeter.
YOUNGEST OF THREE.—O. H., Londonderry.
YOUNG LIEUTENANT.—O. H., Wakefield.
£1,000 REWARD.—Metropole T., Abertillery.

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Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

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The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

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The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

LICENSEE. — *You require a music and dancing licence for the variety entertainments. This is not covered by the dramatic licence.*

ARTHUR WILLIAMS.—*The title-rôle of the opera,* Belphegor, *produced at the Theatre Royal, South Shields, on Oct. 26, 1889, was played by Mr. Arthur Rousbey. We are unable to give the full cast, but other parts were thus allotted:—Madeline, Mme. E. Valdini; Henri, Miss Mary Clarke; Zephyrina, Miss Agnes Molteno; and Hercule, Mr. J. Pattison.*

E. M.—*The Royal Aquarium, Westminster, was closed on Jan. 10, 1903.*

S. HATHERELL.—*Mr. W. J. Ashcroft, long and widely known as "the solid man," has frequently appeared in London. He is happily still in the land of the living, and in the enjoyment, moreover, of robust health.*

ALBERT H. GAUTHORP.—*The song "Queen of my heart" was introduced into the opera* Dorothy *by Mr. Hayden Coffin on its transference to the Prince of Wales's on Dec. 20, 1886, following its production at the Gaiety Theatre on the previous Sept. 25. The song referred to was originally sung on the concert platform, but we cannot give the precise date of its first rendering in public.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

ANTHONY.—At 578, Pollockshaws-road, Glasgow, the wife of George Anthony, assistant-manager of Empire Theatre, of a son. Both well.

COLLINS.—Aug. 7, at 14, Pennard-road, Shepherd's Bush, W., wife of Will Collins (Stoll-Moss Empires), of a daughter.

EDNEY.—On July 25, 1907, Mrs. Roy E. Brace (Rosie Edney, of Edney and Wade, and late Sisters Clive), of a fine daughter. Mother and baby doing well.

MARRIAGES.

GIBBON—BOUGHTON.—On Aug. 3, at St. Clement Danes Church, by Rev. J. J. H. Septimus Pennington, Charles Robertson Gibbon to Eleanor Amy Boughton, daughter of J. W. Boughton, Esq., of Portsmouth.

KIMBERLEY—DOVE.—On Aug. 4, at the Old Church, Walton-on-Naze, Brook Kimberley (of Kimberley Boys) to Ethel Dove.

MARTIN—MILLER.—Aug. 4, at Knowle, Bristol, George Martin to Ethel Mary Miller, both of *The Toreador* company.

DEATHS.

CAMPBELL-BRADLEY.—On Aug. 4, at 16, Park-mansions, St. John's Wood, Grace Armytage, daughter of the late Geo. Armytage Cooper, widow of the late E. Campbell-Bradley. Interment at Kensal Green.

GIBBS.—On Aug. 3, Mrs. Abigail Gibbs, my dear mother, passed peacefully away, aged 80 years. —Joseph Gibbs (Frank Harwood). Interred in family grave at Yardley Cemetery.

PILLING.—On July 28, suddenly, at his residence, Mr. Pilling, formerly a musical director. Buried at Colne, Lancs. Leaves wife and family.

RIDGWAY.—June 18, John Ridgway, of the celebrated Ridgway Family, at Monte Video, aged 62. Foreign papers please copy.

TICKTON.—July 23, '07, Dick Tickton, comic and topical vocalist, aged 58 years. Interred at Islington Cemetery, Finchley. Leaving four young children, now without father or mother, to mourn the loss.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

F. Booth Conway—Saturday, Aug. 10.
Richard Vane—Saturday, Aug. 10.
Melville Bickford—Saturday, Aug. 10.
E. W. Royce—Sunday, Aug. 11.
Becky Elliston—Sunday, Aug. 11.
Alice Thornton—Sunday Aug. 11.
Ada Twibell—Sunday, Aug. 11.
Lewis Marcus—Sunday, Aug. 11.
Mary Collette—Monday, Aug. 12.
Sid. Cotterell—Monday, Aug. 12.
Beryl Mercer—Tuesday, Aug. 13.
Louisa Peach—Tuesday, Aug. 13.
Rose Cazalet—Wednesday, Aug. 14.
Ambrose Manning—Wednesday, Aug. 14.
Bransby Williams—Wednesday, Aug. 14.
Phyllis Dare—Thursday, Aug. 15.
Albert Ward—Thursday, Aug. 15.
George Brooks—Friday, Aug. 16.

MARK HAMBOURG, the great pianist, opens at the Wanderers, Johannesburg, on the 21st inst., for three farewell recitals. He is under the management of Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler.

INDISPENSABLE! Rayne's "Pocket Date Book." Contents: Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various music halls at a glance. Will tell if one hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety. All about artists' luggage, list of clubs, information about stamping contracts, foreign money table, London music halls and theatres, their telephone numbers, list of brougham proprietors, list and address of photographers, size of theatrical printing paper, names and addresses of theatrical railway managers, &c. Price 1s., post free. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. "THE ERA" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

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Bard, Mr. Wilkie
Barker, Mr. John
Barker's Royal Circus
Barrett, Mr. W. Burgess
Beckwith, Miss
Best, Mr. C.
Biddall, Brothers
Blanche, Mr. George
Bourne, Little Titch
Braithwaite, Miss L.
Brammal, Mr. H. E.
Brooks, Mr.
Brown, Mr. C. Rae
Buoganie, Mr. J.
Burgon, Mrs. W.
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Wyville, Miss Amber
Young, Miss E.
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BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, Aug. 5, the Play in five acts, by F. C. Burnand, entitled "PROOF; OR, A CELEBRATED CASE."

After being closed for a week, this handsome theatre reopened on Monday for the autumn season, which was inaugurated by the revival of the ever-popular play, *Proof*, in which Mr. Louis Calvert makes a very welcome re-appearance. This sterling actor imbues everything he does with his own powerful and striking personality, and imparts a vitality to Pierre Lorance that is quite irresistible. The bursts of spontaneous applause that greeted the situations were loud and prolonged; and these were won by the really admirable acting of the chief artists, and not by sensational effects. Mr. Cecil Calvert's Chamboran was a capital performance full of dry humour, always artistic, and never exaggerated; Mr. S. A. Cookson presented a clever portrait of Lazarre; the Victo De Launay of Mr. R. Fielding was very good; Mr. H. Tripp Edgar as the Due d'Aubterre once more proved himself an able and conscientious performer. Mr. Ernest Allardyce (Captain), Mr. Sidney Hallows (Seneschal), Mr. R. Davis (Sergeant), Mr. George Kane (Corporal), and Mr. Belton (Joseph) were all good in their respective parts. As Mme. Deprets Miss Ada Mellon was admirable, her performance being one of the best efforts of the evening. Miss Maimee Murry was an impressive and dignified Duchesse d'Aubterre; Miss Beatrice De Burgh was all that could be desired as Valentine, and in the great scene with her supposed father rose to marked excellence, and was, with Lazarre, warmly recalled at the end of act. Miss May Chevalier, first as the ill-fated Madelaine and afterwards as Adrienne, made a very decided hit by her charming and sympathetic performance, the difference between mother and daughter being cleverly conveyed. The remaining female parts were in the capable hands of Miss Amy De Burgh, Miss Jessica Black, Miss Ethel Bird, and Miss Kate Ruskin. Mr. William Giffard is the popular General-Manager, and Mr. T. N. Walters the courteous Acting-Manager for Mr. Louis Calvert.

AT a certain card-party, its principal attraction was Mrs. Clive, the celebrated actress, who, having retired from the stage on a handsome competency, rented a villa on the bank of the Thames of Horace Walpole. Owing to her amazing celebrity as a comic actress, and as during her long theatrical career calumny itself had never aimed the slightest arrow at her fame, honest Kitty Clive (for so she was familiarly called) was much noticed in the neighbourhood. Yet from her eccentric disposition, strange, eccentric temper, and frank, blunt manner, Mrs. Clive did not always go off with quite so much *éclat* in private as in public life, particularly if she happened to be crossed by that touchstone of temper, gaming. Quadrille was proposed, and all immediately took their stations. I soon observed Mrs. Clive's countenance alternately redden and turn pale. At last her Manille went, and with it the remnants of her temper. Her face was of a universal crimson, and tears of rage seemed ready to start into her eyes. At that very moment, as Satan would have it, her opponent, a dowager, whose hoary head and eyebrows were as white as those of an Albiness, triumphantly and briskly demanded payment for the two black aces. "Two black aces!" answered the enraged loser, in a voice rendered almost unintelligible by passion; "here, take the money, though instead, I wish I could give you *two black eyes, you old white cat!*"

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.
Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.
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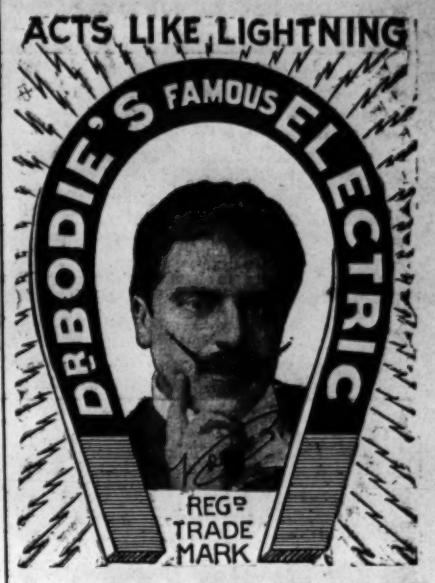

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual for 1907 is up to its usual standard—in fact, it is, if possible, smarter than ever. There is an excellent budget of articles from the pens of Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Cicely Richards, Miss Pollie Emery, Messrs. Frank Cooper, Arthur Collins, Charles Collette, Frank Curzon, Edward German, Cliff Ryland, and many others. The illustrated obituary, the alphabetical list of plays produced in London and the provinces, and all the other valuable features of the Annual are as complete as ever, and make this handbook extremely useful not only to members of the profession, but to the infinitely wider circle interested directly or indirectly in the drama.—Whitehall Review.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual deservedly ranks high as a record of the passing theatrical show. The new issue, in a comprehensive survey of the drama, mentions in proper order all the productions and revivals of the year, both at home and abroad and gives a list of the theatres and music halls of the United Kingdom, with the names of their respective managers. The lighter side of the publication, to which many well-known managers and performers contribute, is of exceptionally high literary merit.—Morning Leader, Jan. 21, '07.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
Once more, stuffed with good things, "The Era" Annual appears from its office at 5, Tavistock-street. The edition for 1907 is as nicely got up as its predecessors, and, in addition to a calendar and other theatrical memoranda, contains two lists of the year's productions, one arranged under the names of the theatres and the other alphabetically. In addition there are a number of striking or humorous contributions by leading actors and actresses—Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Charles Collette, Miss Alma Murray, and Mr. John Lawson are among those who have contributed bright experiences to this up-to-date shilling theatrical handbook.—Star, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
A compendium of great value to all interested, professionally or otherwise, in music and drama is "The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual, the issue for 1907 of which has just been issued (London: 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, 1s.). Especially attractive are the stories told by some twenty artists, whose photographs and autographs are included.—Glasgow Herald, Jan. 31.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for 1907. 1s. "Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C. Once again this useful publication comes out with its useful tabular information concerning things dramatic, such as the date of the production of new plays and important revivals produced at the London, provincial, and Paris theatres. In addition are many portraits and short stories given over the signatures of many prominent theatrical and music hall people, and a variety of other interesting matter.—Financial Times, Jan. 21, '07.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1907.

AN ENGLISH CONSERVATOIRE.

The summer term of the Academy of Dramatic Art has closed, and the pupils and teachers are enjoying a well-earned holiday, with the agreeable feeling of duty well performed and success attained by earnest effort. The gratitude of all connected with the profession is due to the Council of the Academy. Nothing but real devotion to the art which they love could have induced gentlemen like Sir SQUIRE BANCROFT, Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER, Mr. FORBES-ROBERTSON, Mr. CYRIL MAUDE, Mr. ARTHUR BOURCHIER, Mr. PINERO, and Mr. J. M. BARRIE to give their time and attention to a scheme like this, so difficult to organise and to carry out. The obstacles in the way of the establishment of a dramatic school in London have always been evident to us, and we have not shrunk from stating them. Many years since, when the unfortunate experiment in Argyle-street collapsed, we pointed out that the *sine quâ non* for the existence of a school of acting on the lines of the Paris Conservatoire was the personal co-operation and active interest of the leading London managers. A great inducement that is held out to the pupils at the Paris school is that success in its classes entitles the pupil to an appearance at the Comédie Française. Without claiming any such right for the triumphant aspirants at the Academy of Dramatic Art, we may at least feel certain that the advent of any remarkable talent to that establishment will not pass unnoticed by our active and alert *entrepreneurs*. Young actors and actresses of promise are not so numerous that the managers can afford to lose any chance of discovering them; and it cannot be now said that histrionic genius is "born to blush unseen, and waste its sweetness" in private life for want of training and subsequent introduction to the "powers that be."

The work done at the School has been performed without any flourish of trumpets, and without mercenary or personal aims. When we think of the numerous claims on the time of such celebrities as Sir SQUIRE and Lady BANCROFT, Mr. JOHN HARE, Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER, Mr. FORBES-ROBERTSON, Mr. CYRIL MAUDE, Miss WINIFRED EMERY, Mr. ARTHUR BOURCHIER, and Mr. PINERO, the deep interest taken by them in the School is proved by the fact that, from time to time, they have given "special rehearsals" to the students in the same honorary way as that in which instruction is given by Royal Academicians in the Royal Academy Schools. The amount of nervous energy expended in rehearsing a play or part of a play conscientiously is great, even with actors and actresses who know their business thoroughly. In the case of comparative novices, who have still much to learn, the task is both strenuous and fatiguing. The art of teaching acting is an extremely delicate and difficult one. To inspire the sluggish with ardour, to restrain the undisciplined energy of the excitable, and to inspire all with high aims and an ardent desire for perfection is a power not granted to all, and the fact that leading actor-managers are willing to exercise their abilities in this direction without hope of gain, and certainly without any self-advertisement or public display, shows how seriously the magnates of the dramatic world have grasped the situation and its necessities.

A point which we have always endeavoured to drive home in the past has been the absolute necessity of there being some method of selection of pupils, and some power of rejection of the obviously unprepared and unfit. The desire of many of our young men, and more especially of our young women, to "go on the stage" almost amounts to a mania. Large sums are offered as bonuses to those who will introduce individuals to the stage; but, unfortunately, the power to pay for the coveted connection is not always united with the qualities which make for dramatic achievement. About the time of the Argyle-street experiment already referred to, we obstinately insisted on this power of selection as one of the necessities of any great Dramatic School. By "entrance examinations" the Council of the Academy of Dramatic Art have detected the unfitness of a large number of candidates; as much as £500 has been refused in fees by the examiners, and fifty per cent. of the candidates have failed to pass the tests for sufficient qualification for stage work. The fact that such a large sum was rejected for sound reasons shows the uprightness of its management, and proves how pure are the methods of the Academy, and how free from the influences of favouritism or greed.

There never was a time when tuition for the stage was more necessary than at present. It is a truism that, with the decay of the stock company system, and the substitution for it of travelling companies with long runs of popular pieces, the opportunities offered to novices for practice in the rudiments of their calling have been greatly reduced. But, as Mr. EDWARD COMPTON pointed out the other day, the stock company system, whatever it was at best, was not, at worst, an unmixed blessing. Of course, all teaching is but a preparation for the practice of the art on the public stage; but it may well be doubted whether a course of private work under the guidance of such accomplished instructors and instructresses as Miss BATEMAN, Mr. HENRY NEVILLE, Mr. BEN GREET, and Mrs. S. BRERETON DOUGLASS be not a better training for the higher kind of acting than the hasty rehearsal and mindless drudgery which distinguished the second-rate stock company of the last generation.

REOPENING OF LEICESTER THEATRE ROYAL.

Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton, the lessees of the Theatre Royal, Leicester, by far the oldest place of entertainment in the town, have taken the opportunity to overhaul and redecorate the building, which presented a bright appearance at its reopening on Monday. The vestibule has been completely transformed, the colours here being white and red, with fanciful figures running round the top. The crush entrance, with its magnificent large statue in white of the God of Music, is done in red, gold, and blue, and the same colour scheme is utilised in the corridors on either side. The appearance of the auditorium has been entirely changed. The pit looks extremely well in blue, white, red, and gold, the two statues in the alcoves on either side of the stage being white. The dress circle is in four colours, with the ceiling over the top in blue, picked out in two shades of red, the panelling being done in blue, and the side circles being in the same colours, with red plush panelling. The front running round the circle is handsomely done in blue, gold, light brown, and red, the proscenium having a replica of the colours found here, which make a harmonious whole. The amphitheatre and gallery have also had careful attention paid to them. The dome follows the same scheme as the other parts of the auditorium, and is embellished by figures of old masters. The stage has had a thorough overhauling, and the entire theatre has been cleaned from the grid to the floor. The improvement throughout is marked, and congratulations are due to Messrs. Bode and Compton, and their business-manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont, who has been assiduous in his attentions.

The attraction provided for the opening night was Miss Frances Delaval's company, in the sensational melodrama, *The Biggest Scamp on Earth*, followed on the last three nights of the week with *Her Lost Self*. A capital audience assembled, and gave Miss Delaval and her excellent company a good send-off on the commencement of their tour. As Naomi Belvedere, the music hall star, Miss Frances Delaval was conspicuously successful, and in the title-rôle Mr. Frederick Scarth displayed his histrionic abilities in a manner which left nothing to be desired. Both Miss Rose Vernon Paget as Mother Hawk and Mr. A. Lubinoff as Napoleon Hawk were good. Mr. George Harvey made an excellent impression as Vivian Wakefield, as also did Miss Eleanor Glover as Irene May. Mr. Fred Gresham as Rufus Liggins, Miss Kate Gurney as Molly Sterling, and Mr. Laud Stillwell as Joe Piper, created much merriment in the comedy parts. Tiny Carrie Johnson was seen to advantage as Bobby, the disowned; and Mr. Leslie York was capital as Sir Aubrey Knight. The play is adequately staged.

Rid of the Rats.

THE late Mr. Joseph Hobson, the proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Leeds, was a very wealthy man, so much so that he lent considerable sums of money to the corporation of that city. But although rich he, like John Gilpin's wife, had a frugal mind. His theatre, like many others, was swarming with rats, and to minimise the rodentian evil the services of a rat-catcher were enlisted. This was done, and when after some days and nights some hundreds of rodents had been captured, the man applied for his money. "I hear," said careful Joseph, "that you sell these rats to dog-fanciers for rat-pit entertainments. Is that so?" "Aye, mesthur; that's quite reet," replied the man. "Well, then, it seems to me that if I pay you for catching them you're being paid twice over! They're *my* rats, don't you see?" Remonstrances and arguments were in vain, and were cut short by his getting in his cab and driving off, leaving the rat-catcher, with his prey, in cages, on a long barrow, in the street. But not for long did this Pied Piper of Leeds hesitate; for, walking up to Joseph's private house, with his assistant following him with the rats, he soon arrived and again demanded payment. He was threatened with the police, and was told again that "the rodents were his—Hobson's—property!" "Varra weel," said the exasperated rat-catcher, "if they're thine, thou canst hev them"; and letting them loose they promptly took refuge in the basement of the private house.

THIS same Theatre Royal, Leeds, was next door to a music hall, and both were owned and worked by this same Joseph Hobson. When he first began theatrical management he was profundly ignorant of its mysteries, and when Barry Sullivan came to play *Hamlet* he watched the rehearsal with great interest. At night he sat the first act out, but thought it "dullish like," and going out next door to the music hall said to James Ellis, his manager: "Jim, how mony moar turns has this Sullivan to do?" "Turns, guv'nor? You mean acts, don't you?" "Aye; same thing—same thing!" "Oh, he has four more acts to do," said Ellis. "Has he, by gum! I'm sorry to hear it. Eh-h! but it's awful slow work, this Shakespeare," said the manager. Then, as an idea struck him, "I say, Jim. Thou knows that theer play scene they rehearsed to-day? Weel, when it cooms on send 'em in a couple of 'knockabouts' and a juggler, just to wakken things oop a bit!"

EVERYTHING we hear of Foote, says Mr. Percy Fitzgerald, is in keeping. Behind him, on the Irish stage, he had left recollections of his harsh voice, his wink, and the smile that fitted "one corner of his mouth." The Irish players noted the theatrical selfishness with which he would never "give or take," never once thinking of his fellows when in the presence of the audience, but trying to engross all the applause and attention. Even in acting this spirit made him always turn his full face to the audience, and never address his brethren. There was something gratuitous even in the manner of his buffoonery, as though he would have liked to *know* that it went home and annoyed the object of it. One instance, not hitherto known, is very characteristic. He was very pressing with the actor Sheridan to come to his theatre and see a new piece, placed him in a conspicuous box, and in the front row. He also got Sheridan's family to attend. The actor's amazement and anger may be conceived when he found that he had been brought there to see a picture of himself, and that all the audience recognised him and his known peculiarities in Peter Primmer.

SINCE the commencement of the summer vacation the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, has changed hands, and is now under the control of the Royal and Grand Theatres, Ltd. The new syndicate have wisely retained the services of Mr. J. Langdon Lee as resident-manager.

PROFESSIONAL JEALOUSY.

The late Johnny Toole, in Mr. Joseph Hatton's reminiscences, relates that the jealousies in the profession of the stage are not more serious than the jealousies in other walks of life; but they are sometimes more inconvenient, if not more amusing.

"Years ago at Newcastle-on-Tyne, when I was on tour with *Dot* and other attractive plays, Irving playing John Peerybingle and Brough Tackleton, we were considerably upset one evening, after the second act of *Dot*, with the announcement that the lady who played Bertha, the Blind Girl, had been taken suddenly ill, and could not finish the piece. She lay in her dressing-room in a dead faint, and although at the outset of her illness she had spoken and said she could not go on again, nothing now had any effect upon her. We sent for a doctor, and in the meantime set about trying to fill her place. The part ought to have been understudied, but it was not; there was a lady in the company who was not playing that night; she happened to be in front with her husband. She was sent for. I asked her to go on for Bertha, and said I would give her the words as we went along. In the first place she said nothing would induce her to do anything for the lady who was ill; but there was nothing in the world she would not do for me.

"At the same time, she would consent to do nothing but read the part. I pointed out to her how absurd it would be for a blind girl to read a part. Irving, in a quiet way, said it would certainly be a novelty. However, she was obdurate, and Irving made the announcement to the audience that the lady who had played the blind girl had been taken suddenly ill; and, under the circumstances, Mis So-and-So had kindly consented to read the part. The audience applauded, and seemed quite satisfied. Irving came from the front of the curtain, remarking that it was, to us a classic phrase, 'a rum go'; but it was a much rummer go than any of us foresaw.

"Under treatment the fainting lady came round, and the moment she learned that her rival was going on in her place, she leaped to her feet and emphatically said, 'Never, never!'

"I was on the stage as Caleb Plummer, and of course knew nothing of this; but when the time arrived for the pathetic entrance of the girl to myself and Dot, I heard quite a disturbance at the wing; the audience heard it too.

"'You shall not go on.' 'I must.' 'You shall not, I say!' 'But I have been announced.' 'I don't care; I am better, and I am going on!'

"Then there was something like a scuffle, and the original blind girl, for whose illness we had apologised, came bounding on with a look of defiance in her very widely-opened eyes. The audience laughed heartily and applauded vociferously, and when the baggage began to speak I believe she winked at the house, as much as to say, 'They don't get over me'; and the play went on. I need not say the spirit and intention of the scene was spoiled; but the audience was very good, and, after all, it was better to play the scene anyhow than have the blind girl read it. And as I said, although 'the good Samaritan' would do anything for me, she would not for anyone in the world walk on for a part she did not know without the book, though she had seen it played scores of times."

THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH.

Extensive alterations and improvements have been carried out at the Theatre Royal, Bournemouth. Mr. David Allen, the proprietor, and Mr. Frederick Mouillot, the lessee, have long since recognised the desirability of extending the theatre, and, after some negotiation, the proprietor was able to acquire at considerable expense the extensive property known as Cramond Hall, immediately adjacent to the theatre on the Richmond Hill side.

Messrs. H. E. Hawker and Mitchell were consulted, and plans were prepared by which the whole of the purchased property might be utilised. These were carried out in the short space of eight weeks. The improvements behind the curtain are extensive. The whole of the old dressing-rooms have been demolished and the space thrown into the stage, which will now have a width of 45ft., and a depth of 36ft. from the electric floats to the back wall of the structure, while the height from the stage floor to the "grid" is some 50ft. The stage in its extended form will, it is estimated, take the widest scenes now carried by the largest companies. A new and commodious scene dock has been constructed on the site of the old small and inconvenient one hitherto doing duty, and several rooms of the Cramond Hall have been fitted up as comfortable dressing-rooms, with every appliance, conveniences for making-up, etc., and lit by electric light. New rows of "battens" for the electric light and for gas have been added. More seating accommodation in the pit and balcony will be provided by an alteration in the passage ways. All staircases are of steel and concrete, and practically fire-proof. In future the admission to the stalls, dress circle, and the more expensive seats in the theatre will be on the north side of the existing building, the present entrances being only used for pit and gallery, while four additional emergency exits will be provided.

In the house at the Yelverton-road end of the theatre, and between that and the Albert-road end, will be constructed a large hall or lounge, from which there will be approaches to the principal parts of the theatre. This hall will be practically 50ft. square, with a gallery all round on a level with the theatre balcony. It will be erected in the Old English style, with oak panelling, and will be sumptously furnished. It will not only serve, together with another apartment above, as a lounge and smoking-room, but will be available for meetings, afternoon teas, and conversaziones. The theatre was reopened on Bank holiday.

MRS. GARRICK died in 1822, and we find the following notice of her death in a contemporary journal: "On the 16th of October, died at her house on the Adelphi-terrace, the relict of the British Roscius, in her ninety-ninth year. Her maiden name was Violetta, and she was a native of Vienna, where she was a dancer highly admired. Mrs. Garrick was remarkably beautiful in her face and person, and till her death she retained that erect deportment which she derived from her original profession. She was married to Garrick in 1749, and survived her husband forty-three years and upwards, he having died in 1779. Mr. and Mrs. Garrick were a very happy couple, and enjoyed the highest society in the kingdom till the close of his life; and it is remarkable that, during the whole period of their marriage, whatever invitations they received, or excursions they took, they never once slept asunder. By the death of Mrs. Garrick the library of the British Museum will be further enriched by the addition of her husband's valuable collection of old English plays, besides which the celebrated statue of Shakespeare, by Roubilliac (of which the one over the fireplace in the rotunda of Drury Lane Theatre is a cast) will grace the hall of that national establishment. The chair, too, made from Shakespeare's mulberry tree will also, it is supposed, be there deposited. It is richly carved, and would, if put up to auction, fetch an enormous price, as would, doubtless, many other articles of *virtù*, as having once belonged to the 'best living commentator' on the works of the Bard of Avon. Among these must not be forgotten four originals by Hogarth, of the Election. Mrs. Garrick was interred in Westminster Abbey, close by the remains of her husband, on the 25th of October."

THE BRUM STAGE AND STAGERS.

In his recollections of the Birmingham theatres Mr. T. Edgar Pemberton writes: Those were busy theatrical days in Birmingham (1863), for there then also existed "The New Adelphi Theatre" in Moor-street. The only thing that I have to record in connection with this short-lived establishment is that in it, in a small character in the delectable drama of *Sweeney Todd; or, The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, Mr. Kendal made what was practically his first professional appearance. Twenty years ago this now popular and most successful actor-manager took me, during one of his Birmingham engagements, to look at a dingy little house in Prince's-street, Hick's-square (hard by St. Bartholomew's Church), in which he, in the *Sweeney Todd* days, lodged, and he told me how he and Squire Bancroft (who was then a minor member of the stock company at the Theatre Royal) celebrated on a memorable Saturday night a rise of salary by a beefsteak supper at a modest hostelry in Bristol-street, close to which the future Captain Hawtree made his home. Nowadays, Mr. Kendal has his mansion in Portland-place and his country house at Filey, on the Yorkshire coast; and Sir Squire Bancroft divides his time between Portman-square and Switzerland.

During the year 1863 I saw Charles Kean play Hamlet at the Theatre Royal, and I believe (with shame and contrition let me confess it) that in my youthful mind I compared the impersonation unfavourably with Stoyle's rendering of Puss in Boots; and on the same boards I witnessed Robson's marvellous assumption of the character of Sampson Burr in *The Porter's Knot;* but the treat of the year to me was the appearance of Sothern, at Mr. Swanborough's establishment, as the then world-famous Lord Dundreary. Poor Sothern! I happen to know that he was deeply moved at the tremendous reception that awaited him in the town in which he had once—when on the very threshold of his professional career—nervously played on the stage of the Theatre Royal—for the benefit of his early friends, Mons. and Mme. Gilmer [the father and mother of Albert Gilmer, of the Palace, Stoke Newington] the part of Frank Friskley in the time-honoured farce *Boots at the Swan*. "What a difference between then and now!" I heard him say. "I was offered 30s. a week to stop, and often during my American troubles and trials, and before Dundreary stepped in to make things smooth for me, I have cursed myself for refusing my Birmingham certainty. Now packed houses, handsome profits—and columns in the newspapers." How much importance Sothern attached to that early Birmingham experience of his will be judged from the fact that, when he first made his appearance as Dundreary at the Haymarket, he announced himself as "formerly of the Theatre Royal, Birmingham." My next pantomime was (at the Royal) *The Queen of Hearts and Her Wonderful Tarts*—and a delightful one it was. Harry Beckett was the Queen, John Barton the King, and Miss Alice Dodd, Colin. Yes, it was a good old style pantomime, in which a few really good "principals" did the work, and the subordinate parts were played by competent enough people. As the Queen and Knave Harry Beckett and Brinsley Sheridan were capital, really acting their parts, and thus endowing them with an importance not often known in pantomime.

Although I have made mention of Squire Bancroft's early connection with the Theatre Royal, I cannot say that I have any vivid recollection of his acting in any particular part. In his own most interesting memoirs he has recorded how he commenced at a salary of a guinea per week, and first appeared under a big mask as a courtier in the pantomime. Very likely I saw, and was duly impressed by him in that character. Also he has told us how on Saturday nights he was called upon to play in such venerable dramas as *The Bottle, The Lonely Man of the Ocean, Susan Hopley*, and *Thirty Years of a Gambler's Life*, in which he appeared as "the perpetrator or victim of a wide range of the vilest crimes."

At about this time, and for many succeeding years, Walter Montgomery (the ill-fated Walter Montgomery, who died by his own hand two days after his marriage in 1871) was immensely popular on Birmingham boards. His was the first Claude Melnotte that I saw, and a fine, fervid piece of acting it was, instinct with conviction, and from first to last manly and picturesque.

Of the performances of Mr. T. C. King in those days I need say little, for are they not still as familiar amongst us as household words? And yet must I place on record the delight with which I witnessed his acting in *Ingomar, The Stranger*, and—more than all, I think—that almost forgotten play, *The Brigand*. Miss Cleveland, too (afterwards Mrs. Arthur Stirling), and an admirable "leading lady," is another bright recollection of that period.

Then the brothers Harry and Charles Webb. What an ample entertainment was theirs! *The Courier of Lyons* and *The Comedy of Errors* on the same evening! Dubosc and Lesurques, the two Dromios—French adapted melodrama and Shakespearean farce—in the same bill, and both admirably done. In later years Sir Henry Irving, by doubling the two parts and by admirably mounting it, in a measure idealised the first-named piece under the name of *The Lyons Mail*, but I still have a kindness for its rendering by the Webbs. Concerning *The Comedy of Errors* as handled by these clever comedians I may tell an anecdote.

The Brothers Webb were once engaged to play the two Dromios in *The Comedy of Errors*, when Charles, missing his train, had to telegraph to Harry (this episode, by the way, is not identified with the Birmingham Theatre, but considering the popularity that the Webbs once enoyed here, it has some local interest), to the effect that he could not appear on the stage until about the time that the curtain might be expected to fall. Now, it will be remembered that Dromio of Ephesus does not meet Dromio of Syracuse until the final scene of the play, and, grasping the situation as a true actor should, Harry Webb played the two parts all through the piece—took care that the waits between the acts were as long as the audience would allow them—and, at the end of the comedy—just at the right moment—had the satisfaction of standing face to face with quickly-dressed and hastily made-up Brother Charles. This, of course, was no very great achievement; the pith of my story lies in the fact in the next day's newspaper (I am glad it was not a Birmingham one) the local critic sneered at the preposterous notion of the brothers *considering themselves like each other*. "A mere tyro," he declared, "could at any moment have seen which of the two occupied the stage!"

At the Theatre Royal in 1864 I first saw Mr. J. L. Toole, who was then accompanied by that quaint actor the late Paul Bedford. Their repertory was a varied one, but the piece that is most vividly impressed upon my memory is the good old farce of *The Area Belle*, in which the two—the one as a stumpy blue-uniformed policeman, and the other as the tall, red-coated grenadier—used to sing their then popular and whimsically-entitled medley, "The Paul-y-Toole-y-Technic."

It was in this year, too, that Miss Bateman first appeared amongst us in her famous character of Leah. She played to packed houses, and was supported by that conscientious and deep-voiced actor Mr. T. Swinburne (who subsequently did some good work with Sir Henry Irving at the Lyceum) and Mr. Jordan.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

EMILE AUGIER.

The older French critics, says M. Auguste Filon, in "Modern French Drama," distinguished three kinds of comedy, the comedy of character, the comedy of manners, and the comedy of intrigue, instanced as it might be in *L'Avare, Les Fâcheux*, and *Les Fourberies de Scapin*. You will find this distinction constantly made use of by Désiré Nisard in his "Histoire de la Litérature Française, which in 1860 was still the law and the prophets. Scribe had amalgamated these three forms of comedy with the *bourgeois* drama invented by Diderot, and made an actual reality by Sedaine. The first act was to be given up to explanation, with a final scene in which the action opened; then after oscillating between good and evil fortune, like a game of chess in which the chances are evenly balanced, the fourth act—as a rule the *Acte du Bal*—crowded the stage with supers and culminated in some scandal, a duel, or a similar event in prospect. The fifth act put everything straight, and ended with a proper distribution of rewards and punishments. The first act was invariably bright; during the succeeding acts the action passed from comedy to drama by imperceptible gradations, and the final note was a note of tender, or playful, serenity, a feeling of having had a lucky escape—something like the famous verdict: *Not guilty, but don't do it again*. It was left to psychology and social satire to clothe the bones and muscles of the play with living flesh, and to convert it into a unity. If the comedy of manners and the dramatic intrigue fell apart, the play had failed; if the two elements were perfectly fused, the play was a good one. There was no other criterion.

It would convey an incomplete idea of the somewhat trivial complexities of this method if I omitted to mention that each act had to contain at least one great scene, composed according to certain fixed rules. The play arose out of the development of one or more characters acting upon each other, the scene out of the development of a situation. The scene, like the play itself, had its working up, its catastrophe, and its conclusion; it was, as it were, a complete and separate creation within another creation, a work of art included in another work of art, just like those delicate lace-like ivory cups that Chinese sculptors carve and fit one within another in a diminishing series.

Even that is not all, for there is the parallel intrigue, which Scribe had borrowed from the Romantic drama, or, if you prefer it, the Shakesperian drama, and adapted to his own purposes. This second intrigue, sad if the first was gay, or gay if the first was sad, might recall the first by way of refutation or parody, contrast or reflection; it might transpose it into another key, or it might take a directly contrary line. The two parallel intrigues began by being perfectly distinct, and ended by converging and contributing each their share to the dénouement. If all the threads were not gathered up, the critics counted the author a novice ignorant of his trade, and sent him back to study good models.

Augier and Dumas had nothing to urge against such an arrangement. This form suited them as well as any other for conveying their ideas. Besides, they saw one thing clearly which escapes our younger writers for the stage, namely, that intrigue is not only indispensable to the spectator's amusement, but that it is of the very essence of psychological development. Characters cannot be studied in repose like insects under a microscope. They have not even arrived at self-consciousness, they might almost be said to have only a provisional, potential existence, until the moment when they come into contact and into conflict with events or with other characters. I will take a striking example. The drama of the French Revolution threw into relief thousands of existences which, without it, would have passed into nothingness and oblivion. If there had been no revolution, Collot d'Herbois would have remained a mere strolling player; Marat a veterinary surgeon; Legendre a butcher; Chabot a Capuchin friar; Hoche a sergeant of the guard; Fouché would have been whipping the little scholars of the Oratorians; Talleyrand reciting the Mass without a particle of faith in it; Robespierre and Carnot, the one a third-rate lawyer and the other an obscure captain, would have gone on exchanging trivial verses in the Academy of the Rosati; Bonaparte, put on half-pay because of his evil reputation, would have died of fever in a corner of his native island, remembered only as a troublesome neighbour, a somewhat undisciplined officer, and a rather ridiculous author. But the drama in which their lot was cast revealed to us their power for good or evil. So, too, with an imaginary drama. As long as a human being has been neither loved, betrayed, nor given cause for jealousy, as long as he has never been called to be the ruin or the salvation of other human beings, to fall or to retrieve a fall, to pardon or to take vengeance, it is useless to study him, he is nothing but a blank page.

Augier and Dumas were willing, therefore, to accept Scribe's conception of dramatic form. Superficially their plays do not differ sensibly from his, but what is primary with them was only accessory with him, and what he employed as means to an end became with them an end in itself. Scribe gave us studies of character and pictures of manners for the sake of writing plays; Augier and Dumas wrote plays for the sake of studying character and painting manners. Thence it was but a step to what we call in modern parlance the "problem play." Augier never took the step; he never ventured beyond political and social satire.

BENSLEY, the veteran actor of the eighteenth century, had been in the Army, and when he thought proper to unbend from his dignified stateliness was prone to the relation of his moving accidents by flood and field. Whenever the name of any foreign station occurred in conversation, Bensley would exclaim, "I was there in —— such a year, and served under (such a general) as lieutenant, &c., &c. C. Bannister (against whose punning propensities Bensley waged war) had noted down all these assertions for many months, and on one particular evening, after a coolness for some days between the tragedian and himself, proposed his health in the following words: "Gentlemen, I rise to drink the health of one who has sought the bubble reputation even in the cannon's mouth; who, quitting the field of fame, bespoke her trumpet to bray forth his eulogies in the path of the drama. The *scenic* powers of my friend Mr. Bensley you all know, you all appreciate" (loud plaudits, and Bensley, overcome by gratitude, fervently squeezing Bannister's hand); "but, gentlemen," continued the relentless humorist, "it is as a defender of his country that I rise to drink his health; he has fought, he has bled for Old England!"—(tremendous applause, and Bensley bowing his acknowledgments). "He was a captain in the — regiment at Calcutta —— in ——. He was at —— in ——. He led the forlorn hope at —— in 17.—" (Here B. enumerated all the places Bensley had ever mentioned in his moments of exhilaration, to the tragedian's dismay.) "Gentlemen," concluded Charles, "my friend's age is but forty-six; he has been twenty years on the stage. I find, therefore, by accurate calculation, that he must have carried a pair of colours when only eighteen months old—an instance of precocity, power, and courage unexampled in the history of the world." Poor Bensley took this *exposé* so much to heart that he never afterwards appeared in the room.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Arthur Roberts, Miss Ruby Celeste, and a chauffeur were travelling in a motor-car through Southwold to Yarmouth last Sunday, when the car came in collision with a brake. Miss Celeste received serious injuries to her head, and was taken in an unconscious state to Southwold Hospital. Since then she has only had short periods of consciousness, but the doctors think that there is hope of her recovery. She is suffering from a fracture of the right jaw and considerable bruising of the head and face.

Mr. George Adney Payne, the eminent music-hall proprietor and manager, who died on May 15, last, aged 60, as the result of a motor-car accident, left estate now valued for probate at £48,286 gross, of which £28,827 is net personalty. Letters of administration were granted yesterday to Mr. Walter Payne, barrister-at-law, by direction of Mr. Justice Bucknill, pending litigation touching the validity of the will asserted to have been made by the deceased on May 19, 1904. The case is known as Payne and another v. Payne.

Mr. Frank Dean presided at the meeting of the debenture-stockholders of the London Coliseum (Limited), held on Wednesday on the premises in St. Martin's-Lane, and among those present were Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Matcham, Mr. Tom Shaw, Mr. F. W. Wyndham, Mr. C. Alias, Mr. C. H. Rundell, solicitor, and Mr. H. S. Metcalfe, one of the joint liquidators of the company.

Mr. Rundell stated that a scheme had been prepared providing for the formation of a new syndicate to purchase the theatre and surrounding properties, which was intended to have an ordinary capital of £44,000, out of which £31,000 should be paid as cash consideration for the purchase. This cash would be applied in paying the various sums which had been borrowed with the sanction of the debenture-stockholders and the other sums which ranked prior to the debenture-stock; also the interest due to the debenture-stockholders and the second mortgagees, and the costs of the debenture action. The capital left after making this payment would allow ample working capital, after providing for the expenses of floating the company.

The new company would also issue first debenture stock for amounts equivalent to those now held by the stockholders, and second debenture stock equal to the principal amount now owing to the second mortgagees, and arrangements had been made for the second mortgagees to accept the same in lieu of the second mortgage. It was intended that the theatre should be reopened on more conventional lines than formerly, and that one afternoon and one evening performance only should be given each day, at popular prices, with a change of programme every week. Experience had shown that there was every prospect of success on such lines. It would be seen that the new syndicate would have the advantage of the large sum expended on the property, and it was intended to give preferential allotment to those creditors and shareholders of the present company who were desirous of subscribing. A large number of the stockholders, representing a considerable amount, had signified their assent to the scheme.

The Chairman then moved the following resolution: "That this meeting of the holders of the first debenture stock, secured by the trust-deed dated Dec. 5, 1902, and made between London Coliseum (Limited) of the one part, and Horace Edward Moss, James William McCraith, and Ivor Vachell of the other part, hereby resolves, as an extraordinary resolution, as follows: 'The contract dated July 23, 1907, between the trustees of the said trust-deed of the one part, and Oswald Stoll, on behalf of a syndicate to be formed, of the other part, is hereby approved, and the trustees are requested to take such steps in the action re London Coliseum (Limited), Moss v. London Coliseum (Limited), as may be necessary to obtain the confirmation by the Court of such contracts, and to carry the same into effect.'" The resolution, which was seconded by Mr. F. W. Wyndham and supported by Mr. Oswald Stoll, was carried unanimously.

Mr. Fred Trussell, the manager of the London Hippodrome, in company with Mrs. Trussell, will sail on the Irma for the Arctic Circle on Tuesday, *viâ* the fjords of Western Norway. Mr. Trussell anticipates making a valuable addition to his store of photographs of various out-of-the-way places, and nooks, and corners of the world. Last year, it may be remembered, Mr. Trussell visited Morocco, and the photographs he took then have been used for newspaper illustrations of the places where the recent trouble has taken place.

Through the death of a relative some years ago Mr. Joseph Chamberlain became the proprietor of the Alhambra Music Hall in Brussels. This property has now been sold to Mr. Thomas Barrasford, who takes possession in October. Mr. Barrasford also owns the Alhambra in Paris, and is the managing-director of the Brighton Hippodrome.

The profits of the Palace Theatre for the financial year, ending July 26, 1907, amount to £21,352, showing an increase over the preceding year of £16,535. After writing off £4,799 for extraordinary expenditure in connection with the L.C.C. alterations, &c., the directors propose to pay a dividend of 12½ per cent., and carry forward £15,500 to next year's account.

The popular Palace Girls will return to the Palace next week after their holiday in Paris. Whilst in that gay city the girls have improved and added to their stage wardrobe a large number of new and expensive dresses. Mr. Alfred Butt journeyed specially to Cowes to superintend his bioscope operators in their efforts to secure a set of animated pictures of the Royal Naval Review. Judging from those at the current exposition, the selection was extremely judicious. The films comprise the inspection of the Home Fleet by H.M. the King, a panoramic view of Cowes Roads, the miscellaneous shipping, and the Royal yacht. Mr. Courtice Pounds, with whom is his gifted sister Louie, remains in the bill; Miss Violet Lloyd is singing "Men in America" and "My little Kate"; and Mr. Walter Kelly will next week introduce several new characters into his Southern American sketch.

Mr. Matthew Brodie will start his autumn tour with *The Drummer of the 76th* at the Palace, Bristol, on Monday. This sketch has proved successful everywhere, having been played four weeks in Glasgow and twice each in Manchester and Liverpool within seven months. Mr. Oswald Stoll has re-engaged Mr. Brodie for all the Moss Empires next year with a new playlet. He intends engaging another Napoleon and still running *The Drummer*.

Mr. Willie Frear, the originator of "Frear's Frivolities," is spending a holiday in Jersey. He has just concluded his third tour round the world. Mr. Frear has appeared before a very large number of potentates in all parts of the globe, having performed in no fewer than forty-three countries during the past sixteen years. He was decorated by the Sultan of Turkey for his performance in Yildiz Kiosque, Constantinople.

Mr. Robert Arthur has arranged with Mr. C. W. Somerset and Mr. Fred Storey to present at the Fulham Theatre next week an attractive programme in the shape of a dramatic variety entertainment, including *The Great Poison Case, The Merchant of Venice, The Glazier*, and *Rip Van Winkle*. Interludes will be supplied by Miss Enid Lawrence and Mr. A. C. Max. A matinée is announced for Wednesday.

Mr. Harry Rickards has secured the Fleury Duo, who are at present appearing at the Palace Theatre in their revue, *Paris Types*.

We are sorry to hear that Mr. Fontain, of Les Fontain's Marionette Palace and the Deroys (Horace and Alice), Continental comedy conjurors, is lying dangerously ill at Grimsby from the effects of a paralytic stroke, and is not expected to recover. Any financial help which friends may offer will be thankfully received by Mr. J. Carter White, of the Empire, Cleethorpes.

One of the latest additions to Blackpool's numerous palaces of pleasure bears the ornithological title of "The Canary Cage." It is owned by a well-known theatre proprietor, whose establishment is in the immediate vicinity. He is now, however, venturing into the variety world, and, by way of experiment, is this week testing the drawing powers of the latest living pictures, which have been supplied by the Chas. Urban Trading Co.

The Three Sisters Urma, triple trapeze artists, after concluding their engagements with Mr. Stoll at the Empire, Sunderland, will sail for New York, per ss. Adriatic, on the 28th inst., to commence an extended tour with the Western Vaudeville Association and Orpheum Circuit, their first appearance in America being at the Majestic Theatre, Chicago, on Sept. 9. They have been booked through Marinelli's Agency.

Mr. Sam McIntosh, who for a number of years has acted as stage-manager of the Palace Theatre, Dundee, has been appointed manager there in place of Mr. E. J. Dexter, resigned. On Saturday evening Dr. Bodie, who has been appearing during the week, appeared before the large audience which filled every part of the house, and introduced Mr. McIntosh, and took the opportunity of asking Mr. McIntosh to accept a gold ring, and a gold brooch for Mrs. McIntosh, wishing him every success in his new sphere.

We regret to learn that Alf. Robini, of Rozene and Robini, is unable to resume the Stoll tour at present, having on the 31st ult., at the Empire, Middlesbrough, sprained a muscle of his right arm. He is still under medical treatment.

Miss Lizzie Hands made her first appearance at the Empress, Hartlepool, on Monday, as a single turn, and was such a success that Mr. Harry Burns booked the lady for two return dates.

Miss Ra-Leslie will be obliged to leave town for three weeks on the 12th inst., to fulfil engagements in the provinces. Then she will return and commence rehearsals for her forthcoming production. She will play principal boy at the Princess's Theatre, Glasgow, at Christmas, being specially engaged by Mr. Richard Waldon. After that, Miss Ra-Leslie goes to Australia.

Miss Leah Adell, at the Hippodrome, Liverpool, this week, has made another big success in her vocal scena, *Cinderella's Dream*. The music and her novelty of quick changing is quite original. Miss Adell's voice is a pure soprano, and is heard to great advantage in this scena. This talented little lady is the daughter of Henry de Frece.

Mr. Walter Howard's concert party, the Jollity Boys, have been a great success this season at Bognor.

Les Valdos, the eccentric motor 'bus men, after concluding a three months' successful engagement in London, will open on Monday at Southport, and will tour the provinces until Christmas, when they will appear in pantomime, with Mr. John Hart, this being their fifth consecutive year with him.

The New Theatre and Hippodrome, Barry Dock, was opened on Monday with a matinée performance. A good variety programme was presented. On Friday Mr. Carlton held an "At Home" at the theatre, and a representative gathering assembled, and pronounced the place a credit to the enterprise of Messrs. Tours.

Mr. Harry Leslie, the popular lessee of the entertainments on the Pier at St. Anne's-on-Sea, had his benefit on the 9th inst. A capital programme was provided by the Cadets, assisted by a host of other artists, and was well received by the audience.

Barney Armstrong, after a most successful run in town, commences a short provincial tour on Monday, opening at the Empire, Wolverhampton, returning in November to open at three halls. He has been busy this week, working six turns nightly.

Mr. Reginald Leyland's Vaudeville Concert Party, nightly wins enthusiastic applause at the Round Gardens, Walton-on-the-Naze. Mr. H. A. Wightman, the popular piermaster at Walton, recently booked them for the Pier Pavilion there, and, owing to their success, made arrangements for their appearance at the Round Gardens also. The party consists of Miss Clarisse Heney, Miss Cora Moore, Master Reginald Leyland, Mr. Le Neve Jekyll, and Mr. Reginald Leyland.

Miss Bessie Butt was unfortunate enough to contract a rather sharp attack of influenza, which prevented her from fulfilling her engagement at the Empire, Nottingham, this week. She hopes to be well enough to open at the Tivoli on Monday. By the way, how is it that this clever little lady is still free for pantomime? Her Birmingham triumphs of last season should have been sufficient to recommend her to any manager's notice.

On Wednesday last at the Royal Hippodrome, Liverpool, an interesting presentation was made to Mr. Walter Hassan, the popular and courteous local manager, by the staff and a few friends. It took the form of a handsome marble clock, two side ornaments, and a cheque. Mrs. Hassan was presented with a beautiful dressing-case, and Miss Hilda Hassan with a case containing a silver knife, fork, and spoon.

On Monday evening, at the close of the second performance at the Empire Theatre, Glasgow, Mr. George Manners, manager of that house, presented to Mr. George Anthony—who has been second in command there for some years, and who is resigning his position with the Moss' Empires, Ltd., to undertake the management of the Grand Theatre, in Glasgow—a very handsome gold watch, with monogram outside, and the following inscription within the case:—"To George Anthony, Esq., from the entire Staff of the Empire Theatre, Glasgow, as a token of goodwill and esteem." (August 5, 1907.) In addition, a gold chain, with brooch of sapphire and pearls, was asked to be accepted by Mrs. Anthony, who, as Miss Beatie Edmunds, is well-known in the profession. As Mr. Manners explained, a purse of gold will further be presented, all the subscriptions promised not having yet been received. In a telling speech, Mr. Manners, on behalf of staff and numerous friends, wished Mr. Anthony God-speed in his new undertaking.

Mr. Oswald Stoll has issued a circular letter advocating the acceptance of a scheme for the formation of a syndicate to take over the London Coliseum, with an ordinary capital of £44,000, and first debenture stock for amounts equivalent to those now held by the stockholders, and second debenture stock equal to the principal amount now owing to the second mortgagees. It is proposed to open the theatre as early as possible on popular lines, and that there shall be one afternoon and one evening performance only. The proposed directorate includes Mr. George Dance, Alderman Carey, of the Hackney, Shepherd's Bush, and other Empires, and Mr. Stoll as managing-director.

Mr. Herbert C. Sargent, the author of *Belinda and the Burglar, That Lovely Liar*, and *The Brute Simmons*, has scored a big success at the London Pavilion with a bright and original sketch, *Pyjamas*, admirably played by Mr. Charles Collette and Miss Joan Derry.

That genuinely comic sketch, *Man the Brute*, has occupied a prominent place in the comprehensive Empire programme throughout this week, and has proved as magnetic as ever. Every taste is catered for in the present programme. The motorist can watch the actual building of a car on the Biograph, and the naval expert can enjoy the fine picture of the Dreadnought. For the cyclist there are the brilliant Barber-Ritchie Trio, and for the musician the Adelmann Trio make music out of firewood, and the Maisanos evoke it from tables and chairs.

The performances at St. George's Hall drew crowded houses on Bank Holiday, the attractive programme being heartily appreciated. Amongst the items were the sketch entitled *Spectres of the Sanctum*; Mr. Barclay Gammon and a piano; Joad Heteb, the Egyptian necromancer and wizard of the Sphinx; Mr. Karl Germain's conjuring, and the Biograph.

The usual monthly meeting of the Committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held at the York Hotel, on Wednesday, at 2 p.m.

The Balkan Exhibition at Earl's Court attracted thousands on Bank Holiday. The music of H.M. Grenadier Guards and two other leading military combinations gave great delight. "Old Japan," in the Empress Hall, was a very popular show. The theatre in the Balkan Village, the Pygmies, the Wheel of Avernus, and Harry Loftus's band of pierrots, all had crowded audiences; and Pharos the Egyptian, the helter-skelter, the giant chute, the flying machine, and the Balkan stalactite caverns, were visited and enjoyed by hundreds.

Mr. R. G. Knowles gave his first humorous Sunday lecture in England at the Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton, last Sunday evening, and for an hour and a half kept his crowded audience delighted and amused while he gave details of his recent visit to South Africa. Instead of donning his battered hat, frock coat, and white duck trousers, he appeared in conventional evening dress, but his quaint, dry humour, native wit, spasmodic movements of the arms, and his many other eccentricities were happily not put aside. The lecture was illustrated by beautiful bioscope coloured views, and unique motion pictures replete with charming effects. His graphic descriptions of the long series of pictures thrown upon the screen, his clear enunciation and thoroughly artistic diction, and his funny stories, abounding with wholesome humour, were in the highest degree entertaining.

But while the house, during the greater part of the lecture, rippled with laughter, there were occasions when Mr. Knowles touched chords of the tenderest emotion, and compelled the silent and deeply sympathetic attention of his audience. After a preliminary picture of Mr. Knowles in his dressing-room, preparing, in response to the call-boy, for his lecture, the raconteur opened with descriptions of scenes in Ireland, including the visit of their Majesties the King and Queen to the Emerald Isle. These were followed with snapshots of English life in London, and the departure from Southampton. The eccentricities of his fellow passengers were very happily described; the beauties of Madeira were portrayed; and on the continuation of the sea voyage, the sports on board, and the concert, presided over by the embarrassed chairman, were submitted with telling effects.

It was in this scene that Mr. Knowles showed himself a master of deep, tender pathos by his recital of a poem descriptive of the funeral of a little negro child. The arrival at Cape Town, at Kimberley, and at the Matoppas, with Cecil Rhodes's tomb, were ably depicted. Then came the Zimbabwe Ruins, the only evidence of an ancient civilisation in South Africa, and a splendid series of pictures descriptive of the Victoria Falls—double the width and almost three times the height of Niagara—and the Zambezi River, which feeds the falls. Beira, with its peculiar street-car system; Johannesburg, the "Golden City"; and the "dance of the darkies," in which hundreds were engaged, brought the lecture to a close. Mr. Knowles achieved a triumphant success, and was recalled again and again on his retirement from the platform. The lecture was given under the direction of Mr. H. Bernhardt.

The Florodora Girls bottom the bill at the Royal Albert, Canning Town, and score a great success, causing boundless amusement in their novel musical comedy, entitled *Two's Company, Three's None*.

Mr. John Lawson reproduced *The Unwritten Law* on Monday, at Collins's, Islington. The sketch has an excellent cast, which includes Arthur Royston, Fred W. Paull, Cecil Du Gue, and Miss Buena Bent. Its drawing powers have not diminished, as is proved by full houses. Miss Bent now introduces a special dance in the first act. This episode will be seen at the new Hippodrome, Poplar, next week.

Mr. Henry Carlton, the popular young comedian, in his comedy successes, *One Night Only, The Window-Cleaner*, &c., has been booked by Mr. Tom Shaw with Mr. Oswald Stoll for dates running well into 1909.

Admiral Sir John Fisher occupied a box at the Alhambra on Thursday evening, and witnessed the magnificent series of Urban pictures of last Saturday's naval review. At the conclusion he remarked to Mr. Alfred Moul, the chairman, and Mr. George Scott, the general-manager, that they were the finest sea pictures he had ever seen.

In the Court of Bankruptcy on Tuesday the case of Herbert Clark, music hall artist and music publisher, late of Cranbourne-alley, and since of Charing Cross-road, came before the Court upon an appointment for public examination. The unsecured liabilities were returned at £880, and there appeared to be no available assets. The debtor attributed his failure to losses incurred through the music hall strike, which caused his business as a publisher to fall off, and to his inability to obtain professional engagements in America, to which country he subsequently went. It was also due to losses by betting (£300), and to heavy expenses in connection with the illness of his wife. The examination was closed.

PARIS VARIETY GOSSIP.

The Revue at the Folies Marigny closed last Wednesday night, and the programme is now composed entirely of big variety turns. Miss Saharet is here for her second month, a fact which says much for the lady's success. Mr. Horace Goldin is a new-comer to the Marigny programme, and his act is little short of marvellous. His creation of "My Lady's Boudoir" from what is apparently "thin air" is certainly a very fine illusion.

Reed Pinaud and his company are back again with a new pantomime, which deals with life in the London slums. The first scene represents a street on Saturday night and the second a doss-house. Mr. Fred Evans, in the character of a Fagin-like old clothes man, and Mr. Albert, whose funny antics do much for the success of the show, distinguish themselves in this capital company. Another member of Mr. Pinaud's company is Mr. Joe Clark, who was seen as one of the Baron's flunkies in the Paris production of *Cinderella* at the Porte St. Martin last year.

Other excellent shows on the Marigny bill are the Willy Brothers, the Duo Paulus, the Maxinis, and Zertho with his trained dogs.

Miss Lawler has scored another success in the new Revue at the Moulin Rouge. She makes two very good appearances, one as a Lifeguard and the second as a young Englishman in Paris, in which she and Mlle. Mistangette do a very funny and eccentric dance.

M. Flers has registered yet one more big success with his revue, *Salu . . . e!* at La Cigale. He is, without doubt, the leading revue-writer of the day. His *Revue du Centenaire*, which was the success of last season, will be revived for the opening of the Variétés in September.

Gaby Deslys has left the cast of the Revue *Tu Veux Rire* at the Ambassadeurs.—Mayol made his reappearance on Aug. 1.—On the new bill at the Alcazar are Kelley and Ashby, Auto and Mobile, Dranem, and Polin.

The Châtelet opened on the 9th with a revival of *Les Pilules du Diable*. The new production, *Le Boite à Malices*, will not be produced until later on in the season.

Mr. Isidore Witmark, of the house of Witmark and Sons, who was in Paris last week, had just arrived from Germany and Austria, where he had been visiting the long chain of Continental houses which are connected with the mother house in New York. "Our last, but which will in a short time be by no means the least of our many branches," he said, "is here in Paris."

Mr. Charles Best is working the Printania with his new show, *Macbunker the Mountebank*.

Mrs. John Lawson is playing this week at Crouch End, and the Palace, Camberwell. At the former house *Sally in Our Alley* is the attraction, and crowded houses have been drawn. The setting of this sketch remains on the same liberal scale. Next week Mrs. Lawson will be seen at the Empress and South London in *The Devil's Sunday*.

Mr. Sidney Bacon's clever and amusing sketch, *The Duchess of Tooting*, will return to London on Monday, opening at the Hackney Empire.

The Crown Prince of Servia paid two visits to the Balkan Exhibition at Earl's Court on Wednesday. The first visit was in the morning. At half-past eight in the evening he returned with his aide-de-camp and Mr. Gruitch, the Servian Chargé d'Affaires. The chute gave the Prince intense amusement, and he went down it twice.

Mr. Tom Fancourt and Miss Jennie Rubie are scoring a great success this week at the Queen's, Poplar, with their high-class comedy act, *Nipper the Messenger Boy*.

The overhauling and redecorating of the Hippodrome is about to absorb £1,500 worth of gold leaf, 24,640lb. of white lead, 18,000 yards of velvet, 3,000 square yards of carpeting. The men who are to renovate the ceiling will work on a staging slung from the roof, and as there will be no noise connected with the painting operations, it will be possible to carry these on during the performances. Travelling cradles will facilitate the work round the circles, and there will be employed about five hundred men. The whole of the interior is dusted over once a week, but this is the first time the management have had to redecorate the place. The gold paint and the draperies have lasted wonderfully well, considering the deleterious effects of smoke and fog.

The Miltons, skaters, have been engaged by Mr. Oswald Stoll for the run of *The Zuyder Zee*.

"First catch your funny story," Mr. R. G. Knowles writes in this week's *Pearson's Weekly*, "and the next chunk of advice I have to throw at the would-be story-teller is to develop his powers of observation and exercise them on the daily life of our wonderful world. Mind you, the picture will seldom be ready for exhibition. You will have to work it up, perhaps repaint it altogether. In other words, you will seldom hear a story or witness an incident that you can tell or describe right away. For one thing, success as a story-teller depends quite as much on the way you tell a story as on the story itself. You may overhear or be told a good story, but before you can use it you must adapt it to your own personality."

Miss Daisy Dormer was compelled to give up work last week by her doctor's orders, but hopes to resume business on Monday.

A calculator has been analysing the bills of thirty-six variety halls controlled by Moss's Empires, Limited, for the present week. They contain thirty-seven sketches, about the same number of bioscope turns, and 136 "specialities." The entertainments last altogether sixty-three hours (two houses a night), and 324 items are staged. Of these only 115 are "comedians, comediennes, or ballad vocalists," and they fill merely a fifth or so of the total time occupied.

Cliff Ryland deputised this week at Croydon for Miss Alice Lloyd, who was taken suddenly ill, and also worked the Duchess, Balham, the same night.

An appeal is being made on behalf of an old performer, Mrs. Maud Rankin, of 12, Albert-street-place, Albert-street, Belfast. Her arm was broken in a street accident two months ago, and being unable to work, she is now destitute. She was better known for many years as "Miss Maud Burton," a very popular vocalist in the provincial music-halls, and was the wife of the late Tom Rankin, of Finlay and Rankin, negro comedians. She came to Belfast five years ago, with a sick husband to nurse, and he became totally blind. All their hard-earned savings went long before her husband's death, which occurred last January. She had been working in a warehouse right up to the time of the accident. Any inquiries or offers of assistance may be made through Mr. and Mrs. Patrick (late of the Buffalo Music Hall), at the Central News Agency, Skipper-street, Belfast.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

The latest addition to the "sixpenny pops" issued by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter is Frank Leo's popular song "You—you—you," sung by Wilkie Bard with such extraordinary success just now at foremost London halls.

Amongst Francis and Day's song novelties, recently published, are "All alone in old Cologne," by Murray, Leighton, and Hilbury, sung by Miss Alexandra Dagmar, and also by Miss Betty Green, at the London Hippodrome; "Molly Molyneux," by Edward Montagu, sung by Miss Maudie Darrell, at the Vaudeville Theatre; "If the man in the moon were a coon," written and composed by Fred Fischer, and sung by G. H. Elliott at the Oxford; "My Irish Rosie," by the writers of "Bedelia" and "My Irish Molly," of which a revised English version is now ready; "I'll tell Tilly on the Telephone," sung by Miss Dora Lyric, for which a few conditional permissions will be granted; "Cheer up, Mary," the great march song of the year, sung by Miss Winifred Hare; "When you know you're not forgotten," sung by Dave Carter, the celebrated Irish tenor; "There's a black man coming down the chimney," Murphy and Lipton's latest "Bogie Man" song; and "Soon I'm leaving Dublin Town," Lawrence, Mellor, and Gifford's Great Seaside Hit.

Mark Sheridan, ever on the alert for a real pantomime stormer, has secured, and arranged to specially feature, George Lashwood's great success, "Oh! the merry widow." The writers of this winner, Mills and Scott, have in hand for the genial Mark a big comic number on the subject of "Limericks." The Star Company are now booking panto rights for "Oh! the merry widow."

Miss Dora Lyric, who has been so successful with Mills and Scott's compositions, has just secured the prior rights of a splendid march-chorus song by these writers entitled "When the lilac blooms in springtime." This promises to be another "All that glitters," and is issued by the Star Music Company.

Whit Cunliffe has at last discovered the successor to "Hello, hello, hello," and, incidentally, it is by the composer of that still raging success, who, in conjunction with Mr. A. J. Mills, has fitted Whit like a glove. The simple title of the new torture is "Oh!!! the steamer!" but there is a bunch of accent on the "OH!" The Star Company will issue this number immediately.

Charmingly rendered by that delightful artist, Miss Dora Lyric, at the Alhambra, Brighton, Bennett Scott and A. J. Mills' beautiful song of sentiment, "Somebody cares for you," literally took the house by storm, and it is now the most popular chorus in Brighton with the "man in the street." This charming song is practically ubiquitous at the seaside just now, being featured by every pierrot troupe of note throughout the country, and its publishers, the Monte Carlo Publishing Co., anticipate record sales for this song in the near future.

Although the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s catalogue of "Sixpenny Successes" now aggregates some eighty odd numbers, it is a noteworthy fact that No. 1 on their list, viz.: "His country, King, and girl," has recently "caught on" phenomenally in Australasia, so much so that by the last mail therefrom the Berners-street firm received a large order for copies of that tuneful and taking semi-patriotic song.

From Whitley Bay, via Mr. Medley Barrett, comes the intelligence that no less than six of the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s songs, viz., "Queen of old Samara," "Rosie is waiting," "Somebody cares for you," "Pyramid girl," "Come and make a fuss o' me," and "Skyland," have all caught on with no uncertain "catch." Actions speak louder than words; and the fact that Mr. Medley Barrett's information was accompanied by a very substantial order for copies of all the songs enumerated speaks volumes.

Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate, after a most enjoyable stay in Brighton for the Goodwood week, where they were recipients of the hospitality of Miss Marie Lloyd, who entertained them right royally, personally conducting them in her splendid Daimler car to all the beauty-spots of special interest in that charming locality, have returned to town and the Monte Carlo Publishing Co., veritably "fit as fiddles" and eager for the fray—that is to say, the mimic warfare in which "ink-slinging" plays so prominent a part.

Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate, who are fixing Miss Marie Loftus with her entire new répertoire for her impending South African engagement, have this week supplied this charming artist with four new character studies, entitled "The old maid," "The garter," "Why did the gentleman fish?" and "A spotless reputation." Miss Loftus will make a speciality, the week after next, in Dublin, of a new and delightful country girl's song, racy of the soil, entitled "Devonshire cream," by the same author and composer.

Miss Marie Lloyd, who achieved a phenomenal success at the Alhambra, Brighton, during Goodwood week, with Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate's perennially fresh song, "The customs of the country" which she has this week duplicated at Southampton, will shortly produce a specially-written new character-song from the same prolific pens, entitled "It's your own look out"

The success of Mellor Lawrance and Gifford's new creation, "Soon I'm leaving Dublin town," at Sheerness-on-Sea, Dunoon, Ayr, and Prestwell, has caused many enterprising *al fresco* proprietors and managers to introduce the same number with considerable success. The song has a lilting chorus, and is already being talked about as the greatest song of the year in the Great Metropolis, and pantomime producers are wisely securing the song with the same promptitude as they seized the "Wooden Hut" song of the same firm.

Barney Armstrong is the happy possessor of two new songs by Glover Kind, "Something's gone wrong with my band parts," and "Why do they call me an extra turn?" Many inquiries have already been made for the former song for pantomimes, but Mr. Armstrong will not dispose of either for big towns, where he is likely to appear in the beginning of 1908. He has fully registered both numbers.

Visitors to the Crystal Palace whose ideas of amusement run in the direction of variety turns will be able to spend an agreeable hour in Mr. J. Bannister Howard's café chantant, Mr. J. E. Sharpe being the manager. Two shows are given daily, and here will be found the Four Watsons, the well-known entertainers, in their delightful vocal and instrumental speciality act, in which the mandoline, guitar, violin, concertina, harp, and banjo are brought into excellent use. Then there are Miss Joan Deering, the charming and talented vocalist, who accompanies herself on the violin; Mr. Harry Hillier, the refined vocalist, instrumentalist, and scientific paper-manipulator; Miss Blanche Marion, the gifted and dainty comedienne and dancer; and Mr. Walter Stanton, the well-known vocal comedian and mimic, whose imitations of farmyard denizens are so justly celebrated.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PALACE.

Rich reward is reaped at the Palace, where Mr. Alfred Butt's attractive bill is nightly drawing overwhelming audiences. The programme has an abundance of novelties, chief interest being centred in the appearance of Mr. Courtice Pounds in a "musical happening," by Keble Howard, with music composed and arranged by Herman Finck and Harold Samuel, entitled—

"CHARLES, HIS FRIEND."

Mrs. Gilliland (Lulu).....MISS LOUIE POUNDS
Barbara ..... MISS PEARL KEATS
Peter Ward ..... MR. J. COOKE BERESFORD
Charles ..... MR. COURTICE POUNDS

As a medium for the display of the versatility of the popular vocalist-comedian the operetta is alone welcome, but there are also contained in the sketch a number of smart lines that add considerably to its value, while the music with which the piece is embellished is light and graceful. A rich young widow contemplates a second marriage, but yearns for a husband with the artistic temperament, disdaining the wooing of a devoted young stockbroker, named Peter Ward. Lulu advertises accordingly, with the result that her brother, Charles, returning home from a long stay abroad finds his sister's house besieged by a crowd of singers, musicians, and other claimants for her hand. Charles learns from Peter the reason of the clamour, and determines to save his sister from the band of fortune hunters by impersonating a number of the suitors. His first essay is that of "Signor Sapolio," an Italian "primo tenore," who pleads his cause in impassioned melody. Lulu is inclined to accept him, until he demands to know the amount of her income, when the young lady grows righteously indignant and orders him out. The next visitor is a burly country bumpkin, who brings his son as a candidate, and the lad failing to sing, his father obliges with a "stave." The lady, however, thinks she would prefer a Londoner, and the yokel gives way to a French artist, who becomes so ferocious in his wooing that he has to be removed by the police. The young lady has by this time had enough of the "artistic temperament," and tells her maid to order the crowd away; but one other applicatn, a bearded Colonial, is permitted to enter, and he takes his seat at the piano and sings "I'll sing thee songs of Araby" with such artistic effect that Lulu is enraptured, until she penetrates his disguise and discovers that he is her brother. Lulu is at first indignant, but when she learns that it was her lover, Peter, who had impersonated the younger yokel, she realises that he too is an artist and accepts his suit.

The varied assortment of characters were impersonated by Mr. Pounds with irresistible humour, his travesty of a tenor being remarkably droll. His tuneful voice was best employed in "I'll sing thee songs of Araby," his tasteful rendering of Clay's charming ballad being loudly applauded. Miss Louie Pounds was a fascinating Lulu, investing her difficult character with many shades of expression; Mr. J. Cooke Beresford rendered invaluable assistance in the part of the young stockbroker, to whose share much of the laughter fell; and Miss Pearl Keats, as a vivacious maid, aided in the success which was attained.

A welcome début in vaudeville is made by Miss Violet Lloyd, who has a lilting song in "Man from America," and displays her talents as a comedienne in "My little Kate," a whimsical composition rendered with many droll affectations. Miss Denise Orme, another theatrical favourite, also graces the Palace stage, and with her songs, to which she supplies her own accompaniment, gains the warmest applause. In Braga's popular Serenata, which she plays on the violin, with her own vocal accompaniment, she is very effective, the violin rivalling the voice in purity of intonation. The Sharp Brothers, coon impersonators, are deservedly successful in some marvellously clever step-dancing; and Cyril Clensy and Frances Knapstowne give impersonations of well-known stage favourites. Mlle. De Dio repeats her wonderful serpentine dancing; Les Fleurys continue to present their Paris types to perfection; Mr. Walter Kelly again gives his engrossing and amusing study of Virginian life; and the programme, which is contributed to by Mr. Tatten Hall, comedian; Miss Jennie Johns, comedienne; and El Trio Tampico, Mexican Troubadours, is completed by the bioscope, in which pictures of the Royal Naval Review, the Motor Grand Prix at Dieppe, and the Goodwood Cup are displayed, the realistic and sensational pictures being enthusiastically applauded.

LONDON PAVILION.

A pleasant and amusing "roadside episode" is that by Mr. H. C. Sargent, entitled—

"PYJAMAS."

Digby York ..... MR. CHARLES COLLETTE
Ethel Fane ..... MISS JOAN DERRY

Pretty Miss Ethel Fane runs away from her home disguised in her brother's knickerbocker suit. The reason of her going is that she has been "condemned" by designing parents to marry someone she has never seen. She finds her way to a roadside hotel, where a gentleman takes compassion on her, and, as her clothes are wet, he lends her a pair of pyjamas while the cycling suit is being dried before the fire. But Ethel does not appear willing to appear in such a scanty habiliment in the presence of a gentleman whose sex she has usurped for the time being. She borrows his overcoat, but he demands it, as he is going out into the rain himself. She endeavours to secrete herself under the table, and, of course, it is not long before he discovers that she is not a young man but a young woman. Furthermore, he finds that he has fallen in love with her, and she with him. And when she is told that he is the very man whom her parents wish her to marry, the very man she is supposed to be running away from, she, of course, promises to go back home and to carry out the desire of her family. Mr. Charles Collette, as the man, acts in a quiet and perfectly natural manner, never for one instant carrying himself away into the heights of boisterous farce to which such a part as this lends itself. One can always rely on Mr. Collette for good sterling comedy, and this is what we get in his characterisation of Digby York. Miss Joan Derry cuts a pretty figure as the sham young gentleman, and her work shows a keen appreciation of the humours of the part.

Mr. Albert Le Fre affords abundant proof of diversified abilities in his novel mélange and song, entitled "That's what you see on the halls," for he can juggle, do acrobatics, illusions, &c., with remarkable aptitude for each science or art. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden make merry with their successful farce, *Settled Out of Court*, and Mr. Kit Keen submits a most attractive comedy and "bone soloist" turn. Mr. Tom Costello wins still further laurels with his latest chorus song, "For old lang syne"; and Tom and Marie Motrama create considerable amusement in their musical and comedy act. Mr. Louis A. Simon and Miss Grace Gardner and company appear in a laughable farce, *The New Coachman*, by Miss Gardner. The scene is the college room in a fashionable New York hotel. The apartment in question is being occupied by one, Jack Devoe, who has had a heavy night, and is now sleeping off the effects of strong liquor. To his room there come, in mistake, a married couple, the husband leaving his wife in charge. Jack, who has been expecting a visit from a young lady and her mother, soon commences a flirtation with the unknown visitor, and she, expecting the arrival of a new coachman, mistakes him for the jehu, he having previously hastily discarded his wine-soaked evening dress for an old suit. What follows is extremely entertaining, and eventually the husband returns to find out that they have taken the wrong rooms. Mr. Louis Simon causes great hilarity by his antics in the rôle of Jack Devoe, and really shows much agility in jumping up and down a ladder. Miss Grace Gardner, as the wife, and Mr. Charles H. Stevens, as the husband, and Miss Lena Denton, as a maid, all enter heartily into the spirit of the little piece. Mr. Hal Forde has a capital number in "That's the girlie for you," in which he is assisted by a couple of charming young ladies, one appearing as a Gibson Girl and the other as a Sandow Girl. Mr. Forde's other song, "Get another little girl instead," also finds much favour. The three Röhrs present their daring cycle act, in which they travel at an enormous speed around a circular framework. Miss Dolly Golden is seen and admired in her smart speciality dances, and Mlle. La Sallandri and Mons. Albertini demonstrate their remarkable talents in the direction of "dumb-show," acting in a pantomimic sketch, *The Bohemian Girl*, the dances directed by Mlle. Sandrini, première danseuse at the Grand Opéra, Paris. Miss Emilie Hayes delights everybody with her vocal efforts; and Nipper Lupino-Lane, the juvenile comedian, as usual, comes in for his share of applause. Mr. Edwin Boyde sings a most amusing parody on "In the shade of the old apple-tree," which is hugely enjoyed; and Miss May Henderson, the dusky comedy queen, is as pleasing as of yore. Mr. Harry Ford has many mirth-provoking lines in his song, "I wonder," and the ditty concerning the posting of a letter. Kartelli astonishes the audience by his sensational balancing act on the high wire; the Vernon troupe are expert xylophonists; and Dome gives us a mixture of fun and clay modelling.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

The holiday programme here is of the usual excellence and length. It is headed by Mr. Fred Ginnett's always popular *Dick Turpin*. The story is told clearly and graphically, and is followed with unflagging interest. The familiar characters are well interpreted by Mr. Fred Ginnett as Dick Turpin; Mr. George Jennings as Tom King; Mr. C. Barello as Simon Sharpscent; Mr. Alfred Burgess as Sammy; Mr. Arthur Medwin as Jerry; Mr. J. F. Ginnett as the Knight of Malta; Mr. Gubby as Luke; Mr. Bartlett as Tim; Mr. Bailey, Mr. Edwards, Mrs. Ginnett, and Mrs. Jennings. The beautiful and wonderfully-trained Black Bess is the great feature of the performance, and there were many wet eyes among the audience when the faithful companion of Dick's adventures died. The Lukushimas, Japanese entertainers, including Otara San, gave proofs of their wonderful skill, and were greeted with warm applause. Miss Beatrice Willey is a delightful artist, and an accomplished vocalist. Young, attractive, and most daintily attired, she made a very pleasing impression with her rendering of a medley on old flower songs, including "I know a bank," "The last rose of summer," "Sweet violets," and the "Dear little Shamrock." The Three Sisters Sprightly did well in their "Dutch Trio" and "Golfing." The Carina Sisters proved themselves skilful musicians by their clever performances on piano, violin, and other instruments; Messrs. O'Malley and Brown caused much merriment with their comedy sketch, entitled *You're Still a Friend of Mine;* Mr. Fred Kelton, a clever character comedian, sang his two songs, entitled "I did not get there in time," and "I'm not supposed to know what I'm about" in a style to win much laughter from the audience; Mr. E. J. Sheldon, the whistler-vocalist, made an excellent impression by his smart little turn; the Violas gave their interesting thought-reading entertainment, and the lady most cleverly answered the difficult questions put to her, much to the amusement and wonderment of those present; the Urban Bioscope exhibited some new and interesting pictures, those of the Channel Fleet at Cowes being particularly good. This was the closing item of a capital bill, which included some excellently-rendered music by the Empire Orchestra, so ably conducted by Mr. Louis la Rondelle. Mr. Ernest Bridgen looks well after the comfort of visitors in front of the house, and has won hosts of friends during his term of management here.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

Business has been quite up to the mark, the splendid programme arranged for the holiday week having drawn excellent houses. Prominent amongst this week's visitors are Mr. Harry Rickards, who, I presume, is on the lookout for talent for his numerous establishments at the Antipodes. After a spirited march by way of an introductory overture, the curtain rings up, and Minnie Mace appears in an Americanised song of a certain Mr. Dickens, a dark-complexioned individual, supposed to have a strong partiality for chickens. Miss Mace has plenty of vivacity, and finishes up her turn with a grotesque dance. Percy Farrimond is described as the original Lancashire singing collier, and he wears the typical suit, blue shirt, etc., and swings a Davy lamp in his hand. Without any hesitation he tackles the soldiers song from *Faust*, and brings down the house by his exceptional range of voice and clear enunciation. "By the Banks of Loch Lomond," his second selection, is exceedingly well rendered, and as liberally applauded. Mr. Victor Courteney, at the piano, shows his skill by a clever rendering of one of Tito Mattei's masterpieces, after which he gives sundry imitations, intersecting his playing with interesting and amusing dialogue, and finishes by an accompanied recitation, in which he refers to numerous plays admirably strung together. Messrs. Claff and Maguire next present a musical extravaganza, entitled *The Demon and the Fairy*, which serves to introduce pleasing songs and duets, and incidentally a pretty setting and effective dresses. The programme contains only one instrumental turn, but it is one of the very best, that of Elton and Edwin, banjoists. A well played march is followed by an exceedingly clever rendition of a rhapsodie by Miss Elton, after which the charming "Poet and Peasant" overture is played as a duet. The marvellous fingering of these two experts is greeted with much applause. The "gem turn," however, is that of the Harmony Four, whose capabilities are so well known as not to require particularising. Roars of laughter follow the quickly-recurring comicalities, and time after time the mirthful quartette had to bow their acknowledgments before they were allowed to depart. Mr. Tom Collins, the "swell comedian," neatly dressed in a purple suit and very shiny "tile," sings a couple of songs in his best style; and Miss Venie Clements, in a charming dress of blue, tells of certain arguments which were brought to a close, afterwards bringing her turn to an end by recounting sundry stories of children, in which her clever powers of imitation are fully displayed. Mr. H. Wallace Aston, Miss Lilian Earle, and Mr. Nevill Graham present Mr. Louis N. Parker's sketch, *The Man in the Street* very cleverly, Mr. Nevill Graham's portrayal of the street musician being exceptionally good. The sketch is nicely mounted. The Imperial Bioscope pictures, illustrating the faithfulness of the blind man's canine friend, are very pleasing, and conclude an exceptionally good and varied programme.

THE AWARDS. The three interim Awards and the final Award, corrected and revised by George Ranken Askwith, Esq., the official arbitrator appointed in the Music Hall Dispute, may be had in pamphlet form at "THE ERA" Offices. Copy, including postage, three-half-pence. Address: The Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CHAT WITH FLORRY COOPER.

Miss Florry Cooper, who is now pretty well known to the frequenters of music halls by reason of her sweet singing of refined songs, can scarcely yet boast of a five years' connection with the stage. It was less than that period ago that, at a benefit given in honour of her mother, she sang her first song in public. Rather, it should be said that it was the refrain to Miss Fanny Robina's well-known ditty "Baby Boy," and Miss Cooper sang that refrain from a position of considerable eminence in the gallery. Some little time later she made her début on the stage at the Paddington Palace, Liverpool, when her enchanting rendering of "Dear little Shamrock" brought a crowded audience to her feet. About this period she also had a song concerning a bootblack, during the performance of which she appeared in the familiar red coat of the "Shine, sir?" boys. She recollects that when she got that coat Mr. Witty Watty Walton decided that it was far too clean for the character, so, in order to give a touch of realism to the sartorial portion of her make-up, he wiped the floor with the too beautiful and too respectable red coat.

Miss Cooper considers that she first began to feel thoroughly on her feet with her "production" of a song by Mr. Walter Hastings, entitled "The forger's child," which tells a somewhat pathetic story. It is this: A trusted employee has forged his master's name on a cheque, and a detective has been called to arrest him. The forger's child, however, pleads with the employer not to charge her father, and she herself will repay him when she grows up. Years after the employer becomes bankrupt, and is agreeably surprised when, in the midst of his troubles, a young lady walks into his presence and hands him a cheque for a handsome amount. This song was specially written for the gifted young artist by Mr. Hastings. Another number with which Miss Cooper won popularity was "Asleep in the deep," a baritone song.

At present Miss Cooper, who is the fortunate possessor of a most pleasing personality, is to be seen in the halls attired in rose-pink knickerbocker costume, which becomes her exceedingly well. The young lady imparts some sound advice in a few verses which tell us to "Smile, smile, smile," no matter what trouble there may be, or how sad one may really feel at heart. The song proves quite to the liking of the listeners in the auditorium. We next get a sympathetic rendering of "The stars are angel faces," written by Mr. Harrington and composed by the late George Le Brun. In this Miss Cooper tells the story of a little girl who has lost her mother, and who has been led to believe that, as the song says, "the stars are angel faces." So, naturally, the child worships the tiny twinkling constellations in the heavens, and wishes her father to point out the star which is her mother's face. Miss Cooper most feelingly renders the lines both

[*Photo by Reed.*
MISS FLORRY COOPER.

of this and her previous number, her enunciation being particularly clear and distinct.

The subject of this sketch will shortly be heard in a new song, "In the camp fire's glow," to which the music has been composed by herself and the words contributed by Mr. J. Brownson.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

Mr. John C. Coe, and his able manager, Mr. Lewis Vincent, are giving their patrons an excellent holiday programme this week, and crowded houses are the result. Jack and Evelyn, in their dialogue, "Come into the Office," are proving exceedingly popular, Jack being a really clever comedian. Miss Carlotta Levey, a great favourite in Hammersmith, gains much applause with her songs, "Man and wife should always pull together" and "He was one of the boys." Haley's Juveniles, consisting of about fifteen girls and one boy, gave a particularly pretty performance embracing several songs and some very clever dancing, barefoot and otherwise. The effect of their last dance, with the aid of strips of various-coloured muslin, was most pleasing. Another good turn is the Vivianas, with *The Toy Shop*. Mr. Hal Forde gives two songs on the subject of "Girls," each selection having a good chorus, and going well.

Miss Rosie Archer is a capable mimic, her imitation of Marie Lloyd being very good. Miss Rosie Revell is a clever child, and sings her Dutch and coon songs well. Happy Tom Parker is a comedian of much ability, the effects gained in his songs, "She's losing them one by one" and "Stop, stop as you are," being broadly comical. For those who want boisterous fun, the turns of the Four Burnells, in the sketch, *On the Links*, and Johnny Alexander and company, in *Our Lodger*, are just the thing. Ross and Grayson also contribute largely to the amusement of the evening by their piano playing extraordinary. Mr. Harry Rogers and company give a dramatic episode, entitled *Told in a Flat*. Miss Julia Feaviour, comedienne, and Mr. Harry Cotton, comedian, are both good. The Edisonograph completes the programme with an excellent series of films.

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"A TRAGEDY OF ERRORS."

A Comedy Sketch, in Three Scenes, by Leonard Durrell and Fred Karno, Produced at the Holborn Empire, on Monday, Aug. 5.

Henry Wrighton .....MR. ROBT. WHYTE, JUN.
Herbert Fellowes .....MR. BENSLEY EVANS
Butler .....MR. JAMES FLETCH
Waiter .....MR. HARRY LE FRE
Lucy Gray .....MISS GLADYS GRENVILLE

A Tragedy of Errors is quite an hilarious trifle. There is more of comedy than of tragedy in it, as of all Mr. Fred Karno's productions. Henry Wrighton and Lucy Gray are betrothed, but in consequence of his losses in the city and elsewhere Wrighton decides to commit suicide. He takes up a revolver, but cannot quite make up his mind as to the position he shall assume while performing the terrible deed. His sweetheart and his friend, who enter, suggest other means of dissociating oneself from this world, such, for instance, as poisoning. An apparent attempt is made in this direction, but it only ends in amusement. It should be mentioned that Wrighton has previously left—in the event of his death, of course—his worldly possessions to his sweetheart, and has absolved Fellowes from any participation in the bringing about of his death. While in an hotel in Paris he receives a telegram to the effect that all his Stock Exchange dealings have turned out splendidly, and as some of his shares have gone up by leaps and bounds he is advised to sell, which he does. He learns that Fellowes, Lucy Gray, and a butler are after him, and he proceeds to Constantinople, where he orders ten rooms at an hotel, so that he may not be annoyed by guests occupying rooms on either side of his. He tries, too, to disguise himself, but somewhat ineffectually. The various members of the pursuing party are disguised, too, in Eastern costumes. Wrighton, for some reason, has the notion that they intend to kill him, and he is extremely cautious about eating and drinking. However, after a good deal of merriment has been caused, misunderstandings are cleared up, and the lovers are united. Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., cuts an amusing figure as the nerve-stricken Wrighton; and Mr. Bensley Evans as Herbert Fellowes, Mr. James Fletch as the Butler, and Mr. Harry le Fre as the Waiter contrive to be exceedingly comical. Miss Gladys Grenville is pleasing as Lucy Gray, and acts with a good deal of natural charm.

CROUCH END HIPPODROME.

This popular variety house continues to flourish, a happy state of affairs scarcely to be wondered at when a good seat and a really good entertainment is secured by the low prices of admission. The entertainment put forward by the manager, Mr. H. de Groot, will compare very favourably with those submitted at more palatial establishments, and the holiday crowds that have besieged the doors this week have not been half-hearted in their expressions of approval of the generous scheme of amusement provided for them. Before and during the overture a series of interesting advertisement pictures are shown. The overture and accompaniments are performed with skill under the direction of Mr. J. H. Hutchison. Miss Connie Milton sets the ball rolling with her song, "Only a dream," which she renders in good style, and, as a second contribution, gives two capital impersonations, firstly of Miss Bessie Wentworth singing "Santa Claus," and secondly of Miss Vesta Victoria with "Waiting at the church," the chorus of which is lustily taken up by the audience. She is enthusiastically received. Miss Milton is as pretty as she is accomplished. The success of Vere and Royal is emphatic. They effectively burlesque the vagaries of "First and third class" in song and patter; and their concluding item of the coster boy and girl with their trap and "moke" provides plenty of legitimate fun, and evokes thunders of applause. Master C. Carr is an intelligent youngster, and is the recipient of much applause for his songs, "I wish I were you" and "Cheyenne," and he is none the less successful with a cleverly-executed dance. The Sisters Barrie, operatic vocalists, sing "Eileen Alannah" and "Life's Dream is o'er" with much success; and Mr. C. H. Charlton varies the programme with some excellent conjuring. He introduces a magic kettle, from which he supplies the audience with all the drinks one can order "over the bar," including whiskey, brandy, rum, chartreuse, port, and sherry. Mr. L. Athol, funny, yet refined, proves himself immensely popular at the Hippodrome, where his songs are received with warm favour. His first, "We all come into the world with nothing," combines fun and good sentiment; and Mr. Athol has a great success in his second song with a refrain beginning "There's the kettle a-gaily singing." Miss Queenie Essex, a great favourite here, sings about "Polly," a young lady who, if she goes to Rome, "does as Rome does," and is heard to advantage in "Dear Heart." The Ongars first render a coon song, entitled "Charity begins at home," after which they contribute a series of national dances, a feature of which is their quick-changing. They are bright and agile, and their costumes are typical of the countries represented. The little comedy drama, entitled *My Landlord*, presented by Lew Lake's company, provides an interlude of reckless farce that is punctuated with loud laughter; and Mrs. John Lawson and company are appearing here with considerable success in *Sally in our Alley*. No programme is complete nowadays without the Bioscope, and the series of animated pictures presented here is much appreciated.

THE ELLIOTTS AND SAVONAS.

TREMENDOUS SUCCESS
AT THE PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.

ELLIOTTS AND SAVONAS.

It may be questioned whether a more brilliant display than that given by the Savonas in the Palace Theatre last night is to be seen at present on the variety stage. Nothing could be at the same time more elaborate and more tasteful than the spectacle presented when these famous artists, in their eighteenth century costumes, appeared amid a dazzling profusion of vari-coloured lights, and proceeded to give a series of delightful musical selections on a host of instruments, many of them of an entirely novel character. The versatility of the Savonas is perfectly marvellous, and of them it may truly be said that they touch nothing that they do not adorn. An element of refined comedy pervades the whole performance, and imparts an added attraction that was highly appreciated by the delighted audience that filled every part of the Palace last night. The Savonas were applauded to the echo, and the general verdict was that, admirable as have been their previous appearances in Aberdeen, they are now actually better than ever. The other outstanding event of this week is the wonderful performance by the Elliotts, whose cycling feats excited the highest admiration. Nothing could surpass the dexterity and agility of these acrobatic wheelmen, whose engagement thus early in the season affords a gratifying indication of the well-directed enterprise of the management. Apart from the Savonas and the Elliotts, the company is one of general excellence, and the whole entertainment is enjoyable in the extreme. It may be noted that a special performance will be given on Saturday afternoon, and young folks could not have a greater treat than is implied in a visit to the Savonas and the Elliotts.—*Aberdeen Daily Journal*, Aug. 6, 1907.

NEW PALACE AT CARDIFF.

UNDER the name of the Palace and Hippodrome, the building formerly known as the Grand Theatre and the King's Theatre, Cardiff, was opened on Monday as a variety hall by Mr. Frank Macnaghten, on the two-houses-a-night system. The old drama house has been entirely done away with, and its place taken by a palatial and tastefully decorated hall, the stage front and ceiling being treated in pale pink, ivory-white, and gold. Sixpenny seats, upholstered in crimson pegamoid, cover the whole ground floor from the entrance to the orchestra rails, and the whole of the pit floor is covered with cork linoleum. The circle, admission to which is 1s. 6d., has new tip-up chairs upholstered in plush. The boxes have been done away with, thus greatly extending the accommodation in this part of the building. The balcony, which slopes upward behind the circle, is, like the latter, upholstered in the most luxurious and comfortable style. The gallery affords ample accommodation, good sitting room and an uninterrupted view of the stage being ensured. The electric lighting installation is practically all new, and the preventives against fire are of the latest type.

The performances on Monday were attended by enthusiastic audiences, who marvelled at the wonderful change Mr. Macnaghten has made. Mr. John Tiller's company, in a musical burletta, entitled *High Jinks*, occupies a large share of the bill; the large company, including the comedian Mr. Bob Selvidge, make the turn most successful. The American singing conductor, Kurkamp, makes his first appearance in Cardiff, and, with his harpist, Chapman, proves a distinct draw. The marvellous Mexican, Maura; Les Two Cabiacs, French comedy acrobats; and Raymond's Biotableaux are the other names on the bill, the whole performance being a varied, attractive, and novel one.

During the interval Mr. Macnaghten made a neat opening speech, and introduced his manager, Mr. Arthur Burton. For the admirable arrangements made credit in a large measure is due to Mr. Sidney Arthur, the special representative of Mr. Macnaghten. Many congratulatory telegrams were received, among them being one from Miss Victoria Monks, which read as follows:—"Not because it's customary, but because I mean it, wish you every success in your new undertaking. Am sure the entire music hall profession, of whom you have always been a friend, join me in wishing you the same jolly good luck."

After the second house, a number of public men were invited by Mr. Macnaghten to supper at the Royal Hotel to celebrate the opening of the new place of amusement. Mr. Macnaghten was in the chair, and was supported by the Rev. J. Baker (Canton), Miss Victoria Monks, and several local councillors. Councillor J. Stanfield proposed "Success to the Macnaghten circuit," the chairman responding, and the toast of "The Artists" was given by the Rev. J. Baker.

REOPENING OF PAVILION, LEICESTER.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten is deserving of all praise for the artistic manner in which the redecorations and other alterations have been carried out at his Leicester house, which has become immensely popular since his advent as proprietor. The scheme of redecoration throughout the building has been completely changed. The main entrance has a striking alteration, being treated entirely in white enamel, with a large number of white electric bulbs running round the top. Within the hall the colouring is charming, shades of green, white, and gold being artistically mingled. The dome, proscenium, and front of the balcony have had particular attention. The ceiling is worked out in a very pretty style, with flowers and flying dragons, and eight handsome electroliers have also been introduced. The circle panellings and ceilings are done in green and white, relieved with gold. The seating has also been renewed. The balcony-front is delicately done in a light green, gold, and white, as is also the proscenium, a vast improvement being particularly noticeable here. The electric lighting is also a feature calling for commendation. The pillars of the boxes on either side are worked out in an attractive and pleasing style, and new curtains to match have been added. The grand saloon-bar on the floor is done entirely in white and blue, while the balcony bar is treated in white enamel. The alterations have been carried out under the personal supervision of Mr. Joe Lawrence, the courteous acting-manager. Mr. Lawrence, who is an adept as an electrician, has also introduced a new, powerful electrical installation, which also runs under the stage, and can be used when required.

The current bill is headed by Deane-Jennings's company, who are presenting with great success the exciting tabloid drama, *Vengeance*, the various characters in which are adequately portrayed. Another special attraction is the Four Herberts, the jolly Californian farmers, who are very good in their farm funniosities. Walter H. Pallister's bioscope pictures are extremely popular. Others who are responsible for entertaining turns are Kemp and Harris, vocal comedians; Marie Neilson, comedienne and dancer; W. B. Raby, comedian; Stuart and Stuart, comedy artists; and Marie Towers, comedienne and dancer.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

To enumerate the attractions provided for the huge number of visitors assembled here on Monday last would be a difficult task, for, from the opening to its closing, some form of amusement was provided on every hand—bands of music everywhere, side shows to suit all tastes, fair ground, the exhilarating switchback, the amusing Geisha Boys, a good troupe of white minstrels, Captain Henry's astonishing tales of past exploits, and his present zoological collection, were items that helped to swell a gigantic programme.

In the Central Hall three variety entertainments were given. Mr. D. F. Flynn contributed well-selected numbers for his proficient cornet solos; Felix Farrell caused considerable amusement as a comedy juggler; and a mechanical donkey, manipulated by Funny Beano, added to the fun. A prettily arranged nautical ballet, *Sailors Ashore*, and other dances, called for favourable comment. The La Dor Troupe, lady and gentlemen acrobats, introduced their clever feats; and a young lady and youth, on the rolling globe, called the Two Clarkes, met with a good reception. The Bodey Brothers submitted a smart turn with their comedy bar speciality; Sill and Sillcott rendered admirable assistance with their comic skit, *Lively Luggage*, and received a perfect ovation; and the Matadores appeared in their farce, *The Spanish Bull Fight*.

A parachute descent in the afternoon, followed later by a balloon ascent, were under the management of M. Auguste Gaudron. A fine pyrotechnic display was given by Messrs. James Pain and Son on the lake island. The theatre is occupied this week by Mr. Chas. W. Poole's Royal Myriorama, a return visit of which was justified by the flattering results attending their last. The variety artists engaged were all extremely popular, and the animated pictures introduced with this show brought it thoroughly up to date.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906. Effect on Theatres and Music Halls. By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor. Price, 6d. Published at "THE ERA" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Fairs Ahead.

The fairs ahead for next week are:—Drypool (Hull), on the North-Eastern and Great Central; Eccleshill, on the Great Northern; Horncastle, on the Great Northern; Kirkstall, on the Midland; Mitcham, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast; Rawdon, on the Midland; Silsden, on the Midland; Sowerby Bridge, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; York, on the North-Eastern, Great Northern, North-Western, Great Eastern, Midland, and Great Central; Highworth, on the Great Western; Gildersome, on the Great Northern; Lelant, on the Great Western; Padiham, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Queensbury, on the Great Northern; Ashbourne, on the London and North-Western and North Staffordshire; Droylesden, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire and London and North-Western; Glossop, on the Great Central; Middleton, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Mottram, on the Great Central; Rochdale, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Shaw, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Alloa (N.B.), on the North British and Caledonian; and Malpas (Monmouth), on the Great Western.

Dartford Fair.

At this suburban London fixture were a great number of the amusements and entertainments we have chronicled as being at Hampstead Heath, Wormwood Scrubs, and Wanstead Flats. The principal shows were W. Biddall's royal bioscope, Biddall Bros. cinematograph theatre, Birch's two ground booths, the midget marvels, and the fat lady, and Sol Elliott's school of boxers.

Stanningley Feast.

The principal attractions here were Ben Howden and Son's superb coliseum of cinematography, with Gaumont's talking pictures; Mrs. H. Waddington's steam roundabouts, Gledstone's bazaar, Mrs. Hughes's gem swings and varieties, Mrs. Illingworth's throwing games, Vanner's coker sheet and bottle breakers, Mrs. Seed's varieties, and other amusements.

Paisley Fair.

All the best shows on the Scotch Round were found at Paisley for the Bank Holiday, which coincides this year with the fair date. The cinematograph shows were those of George Green, McIndoe's (A. Henderson, manager), W. Clark, jun., and W. Wilson. The ground booths were those of J. Howard, Styles, and Professor Wood. Motor-car sets, galloping horses, steam horses, ostriches, steam yachts, and steam swings by George Green, John Wilmot, Peter Swallow, John Wilson, J. Wingate, and Mrs. Howard. Manual swings by P. Swallow and J. Wilmot, jun. Shooting concerns by J. Day, Robert Stephenson, H. Irvine, T. Newton, J. McIndoe, W. Merrick, and coker sheets and throwing games by E. Sherran, C. H. Ross, J. Blockley, J. Blake, R. Clayton, E. Matchett, J. Hunter, E. Stephenson, J. Anderson, J. Talbot, C. H. Ross, and James Graham.

We understand that the marriage has been arranged, and will shortly take place, between Mr. Wm. Ball, son of Alf. Ball, of bioscope fame, and Mlle. Olga, the charming trapezist, who has been for some time past a member of the variety company travelling with Ball's bioscope exhibition.

Jacob Studt's Bioscope at Oxford.

The great fun fair at Oxford drew a large and orderly, well-dressed crowd on Bank Holiday, thanks to the fine weather which prevailed. The centre of attraction was Mr. Jacob Studt's new palace of varieties, where continuous performances were given throughout the day to crowded and delighted audiences. At no show can a grander array of talent be seen than upon the elegant and chastely-decorated outside verandah erected beneath the portrait of Jacob Studt. The artistic and clever troupe of lady dancers known as the Six Palace Girls are an attraction in themselves, and are the pick of the best theatres in England. With a répertoire of thirty-five distinct dances, with appropriate dresses and accessories for each, the eyes of the public are feasted with a constantly changing programme, which they are not slow to appreciate. Messrs. Florence and Tom give a clever pedestal dance and song; Mr. Ashmore is a fluent cicerone; and the genial and courteous Sidney Russell is a business-manager of the highest degree, who has Mr. Studt's best interests at heart. There were innumerable riding machines and side shows. The show was continued throughout the week.

Mr. Jacob Studt had the gratification—with the approval of the Mayor—of showing the pictures of "The Passion Play" at Oxford last Sunday evening. There was a large attendance, who witnessed each scene and tableaux in a most reverent spirit. The Rev. Thomas Horne had received an invitation to be present, but owing to prior engagements was unable to attend. The proceeds were handed to the City Police Orphanage Fund.

Studt's electric motor cars, galloping horses, and bioscope, Harry Jennings's electric roundabouts and cinématograph, Marshall Hill's switchback, hurry-scurry tower, and side shows, and Heal's switchbacks are visiting the many fêtes and galas held around Bath and surrounding district during this and next week.

Hastings Bank Holidays.

The Cricket Ground is occupied by Beach's Carnival and Old English Fair, and has attracted large numbers of the holiday folk. The orchestrion is a really musical instrument, and enhances the gaiety of the throng attracted by the clever performance of Alvante on the trapeze and slanting wire. The revolving wheel and swing boats do good business, besides which there are Edwards's shooting saloons, electric bioscope exhibition, washer throwing, cokernut shies, pipe saloons and striker, and whoa emmas.

In the Ore Valley is Hastings and Whayman's Fun Fair, in which Mr. William Bedford's remarkable freak horse, Wee Macgregor, attracts much pleased comment, from its diminutive size and excellent condition. Lorenzo, on the high mast, gives a skilful performance; the Royal Dreamland Bioscope exhibits remarkably good pictures; the electric Venetian gondolas please many, and the grounds are well lit by their own portable electric light engine.

Manchester.

White City (Old Trafford).—Managing-Director, Mr. John Calvin Brown; Assistant General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Ellis.—Enormous crowds have taken advantage of the lovely weather this week, and several novelties are added. A water gravito, called "Fun at a Riverside Inn," which is very funny, was added on Monday afternoon. The new cycle racing is a welcome addition this week. Prof. Williams and his troupe of real American niggers, Simbri the illusionist, the Zingari Pierrots, Milton's Marionettes, Hale's Tours of the World, Louis Tussaud's panopticum, and the other varieties, are well patronised. Gilleno's Circus is doing well also, with Mr. Charles Powell an excellent ringmaster, and the clowns, Little Stevo and Funny Danny, and the Spangalettis, with their troupe of performing dogs and baboon, and equestrian acts by Mr. Harry and Mr. Stephenson. Overflowing houses were all over the place on Monday.

The utmost resources were taxed on Monday, and all records were broken with regard to every form of amusement provided here. The great water chutes were continually going; the figure eight gravity railway, the dragon slide, the mystic rivers, and the many other riding devices, and the numerous games of skill were much in request, but people had to wait for their turns. The refreshment department stood the strain well, and general satisfaction reigned.

Countless thousands have during the week poured into Liverpool from all parts of the country to witness the magnificent pageant commemorative of the city's seven-hundredth birthday. Taking advantage of the occasion, Mr. John Collins had a mammoth "fun city" in Sefton Park and other centres. Bostock and Wombwell's menagerie also spread their tents about, and business everywhere was immense.

Salisbury.

The Butts.—The visit of Lord John Sanger's circus proved most successful, almost every seat in the huge tent being occupied. The long and varied programme was given in splendid style, and was received with loud applause. One of the most interesting items was that given by the troupe of elephants; a very smart turn was given by La Belle Fordants, in their musical wire act; the Mars troupe of equestrians gave an exhibition of acrobatic riding; the Airlees gave a thrilling trapeze act; in the spectacular part, *Nero*, some very clever turns were provided; and Cyclo proved a strong turn in his feats of strength of balancing two ponies for see-saw, and also allowing a motor car to be driven over his body, loaded with human freight.

Hanley Wakes.

A goodly crowd of high-class shows and machines were gathered together at Hanley for the Wakes. Sagar's palace of delight and variety theatre, Professor and Mme. Haydn in their mental telepathy demonstration, E. Ball's midget lady, and the boxing booths of Hughes and Cullis were amongst the shows. P. Collins's No. 2 set racing motor-cars and racing cockerels, Messrs. Dobson and Wright with shooters, novelty stalls by Messrs. Jewell, E. Humphries, Cordwell, Birch, Hughes, Dobson, and many others. Throwing games and coker sheets by Messrs. Mullett, Turner, Goodreds, Husban, and a photo booth by J. Turner. The fair was attended by immense crowds from all parts of the potteries.

Mossley Wakes.

Here were Col. Clark with coliseum; James Leo, illusionist, with the fairy head mystery in the pagoda of the willow-pattern plates; J. Hibbert and Son's machines, the gallopers and steam horses; Hurst's racing birds; Wm. Mitchell, jun.'s, motors; Harrison's helter skelter; and Hibbert's and Shuttleworth's swings; shooting ranges, bottle batteries, and varieties by Dearden, Wood, Moses, Thomas, A. Thomas, H. Thomas, R. Ingham, and others.

Tuby and Son's Coliseum.

This splendid theatre was at Silsden for a few days' season, on its way to Featherstone for the coming feast.

Alfreton Fair.

Here were Dr. Lawrence with living picture and marionette theatre, Sedgemoor's novelty booth, and Hall and Proctor with fairground varieties.

Tenby Fair.

The big show here was Haggar's bioscope. The machines were those of John Studt and Boswell. Other fairground attractions by the Boswell family and local caterers.

Kilmarnock Fair.

The shows at this important Scotch fixture were those of Messrs. G. Green, McIndoe, and Professor Moore. The machines were those of the Wilmot family, George Green, J. Howard, and Robert Stevenson. The minor novelties, shooters, throwing games, stalls, &c., were provided by Messrs. Newton, Stevenson, Merrick, Sheeran, Irvine, McPherson, Dow, Goldberg, and local traders.

Bank Holiday at Farnworth Castle.

A splendid array of talent was en évidence at this popular resort on St. Lubbock's Day. The band of the Royal Marines (Chatham) (leader Lieut. J. Wright), gave a grand selection of music. The al fresco variety stage was an immense success. The various items of a thoroughly good programme were by the Incomparable Zeens, on the flying Roman rings; Vito, equilibrist and juggler; the Euclids, double trapeze artists; the Hamilton Comedy Duo, in speciality turns; Sergt.-Major Williams's trained dogs, and Hartman's Punch and Judy show. The pyrotechnics at the end of the day were by C. J. Brock and Co., of London.

Cheetham Hill Wakes.

This excellent suburban fair in the Manchester circuit follows Gorton Brook, where many of the shows and machines from Longsight Wakes have been keeping Bank Holiday. The principal concerns on Mr. John Whiting's round are with him at Cheetham Hill, and will now continue on the Manchester round until the end of September.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD IN YORKSHIRE.

The organising chaplain of the Guild was at two important Yorkshire fairs on Sunday last, at Hunslet, Leeds, and at Manningham, Bradford. The Hunslet meeting was in Murphy's new show, kindly lent by the proprietor, Mr. G. C. Campbell, manager, making all forward arrangements. Owing to the shortness of the notice, only a few showmen attended, but in other respects the conference was of value and great interest. The evening meeting at Manningham Feast was in Crighton's cinématograph theatre, by kind permission of the proprietor, and was fairly well attended, and great interest displayed in the work of the Guild.

At the Hunslet meeting Mr. B. Howden, V.P., was chairman, and strongly commended the Guild to his brother travellers. At the Manningham gathering the meeting began without the formal election of a president, Mr. Goldthorpe Marshall being expected to attend and preside. This he was able to do before Mr. Horne had been long engaged with his address.

The Guild Crusade.

The organising chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne, explained the Society's important trade defence work, both amongst showmen proper and the public of the country. He strongly urged great unity and more ready financial response to the call of the Guild Executive.

The chaplain dealt with at length the present crisis at Mitcham, and the need for vigorous and constant vigilance to preserve their domestic life and the business interests from vicious or from ignorant attacks. Both addresses were listened to with the greatest possible interest and attention, and several new members were enrolled. Amongst the speakers taking part in the conferences were Messrs. Campbell, Gibson, Ruby, Westray, Corrigan, Dobson, Goldthorpe Marshall, Fawcett, Radcliffe, Lloyd, and Baines.

Guild Subscriptions, 1907.

Per Rev. T. Horne:—C. H. Dobson, 10s.; J. Corrigan, 10s.; Prof. Ruby, 7s. 6d.; G. C. Campbell, 5s.; B. Howden, jun., 5s.; J. Lloyd, 5s.; W. Radcliffe, 5s.; W. Fawcett, 5s.; H. Baines, 5s. Per Mr. Wm. Chaplain:—H. Wilden, 5s. Per W. Shuttleworth:—Mrs. Ormrod, 5s. Per Mr. Cornwell:—Lionel Pablo, 5s.

BRITAIN'S HISTORIC FAIRS.

By the Rev. T. Horne.

DEWSBURY FEAST.

Always on the Sunday nearest to the Festival of St. James has Dewsbury held its annual feast or fair. There is a curious archæological surmise for its occurrence at this date. The parish is not dedicated to St. James, but to All Saints (originally All Hallows); why, therefore, is the feast kept in connection with the festival of St. James? Here comes the bit of archæological lore. Dewsbury is an old Saxon Church foundation; here St. Paulinus, who spread the gospel in these wilds of Yorkshire, preached, and it is said actually made Dewsbury the centre of his missionary enterprise. With Paulinus was closely associated a local saint known as "James, the Deacon." From the point of view of the Church historian, it is of great interest that Dewsbury has through all the long ages of its past church life identified its local feast with the name of "James"—not James the Apostle, but James the Deacon of the early British Church. This local saint having no festival in the Church calendar, it was quite natural for the people to associate him with his great namesake the apostle, and to keep the feast of their local saint on the festival of his great prototype—the Sunday nearest the festival fixing the actual day of the feast—this being the invariable rule that governs all fairs with ancient church origin.

There are precious early Saxon monuments in the old church. "The Dewsbury stones" take the student back to the middle of the seventh century, and there are portions of the present fabric of the twelfth century. It is a delightful specimen of a well-restored and well and reverently kept parish church, and we felt it no small honour to be invited to preach to Dewsbury people from its historic pulpit.

Dewsbury is the centre, the heart of an enormous working population, hence its importance in the yearly round of Yorkshire fairs. It is belted by other towns like Batley, Mirfield, Thornhill, Raventhorpe, Wakefield, Horbury, Heckmondwike, and in fact you cannot travel many miles without coming into other large centres of human life and industry. From two to three hundred thousand people are within easy access of Dewsbury Feast, and they know it, for in they come in their multitude to crowd the fair ground.

The Entrance Avenue.

From the Market Square to the feast ground—a distance of a quarter of a mile—there is one long avenue of stalls, bazaars, and other feast ground novelties. Here were the industrious handsellers, penny-novelty merchants, astrologers, phrenologists, and the persuasive vendor of the almighty pill. Here were that special features of Yorkshire and Lancashire fairs—the toy and fairings bazaars. These stretched in unbroken line for five hundred feet; a sight you can only see at great centres of life like this. This fairy land of toys included the well-known bazaars of Messrs. Gladstone, Howorth, and Seed. There were also in this wonderful avenue over twelve pannum stalls, where gingerbread, brandy snap, and Barcelona nuts were purveyed, to the delight both of old and young. One hundred feet in length of pannum stalls and wagons, the concerns of Wright Bros., Holdsworth, and others. Here, too, were jewellery stalls, ice cream barrows, refreshment stalls, weighing and measurement machines, small throwing games and dart and ring boards.

The Vast Feast Ground.

Admirably set out by that clever Corporation official, Mr. J. E. Mountain, Market and Fairs' Superintendent, who has the eye of showmen for bold and broad effects, it lies four square—two lines of shows and two lines of shooters, throwing games, and stalls. In the centre of the quadrangle a score and more of machine novelties, big and little. Our first sight of the feast was from the vantage ground of the footbridge that spans the railway close by the ground. Oh, the splendour of it; the joy, the music, and the light of it! What a galaxy of whirling colour and electric lamps; and then, greatest joy of all, the intense throbbing human life of it. Verily and indeed the people at play.

The Shows—Great and Small.

Ben Howden and Son's new Cinematograph Theatre, Randall Williams' (Monte Bros.) cinematograph, Enoch Farrar's cinematograph, Relph and Pedley's cinematograph—all these with talking pictures as well as the best up-to-date films, Chipperfield's Menagerie, Professor D'Osta, from Coney Island, New York, with Madame Zelra in mental telepathy, and the Wrestling Bear, Captain Priest with performing seals, and his No. 2 show, the Armless Mexican Prodigy, W. Westray's Freak Museum, C. Relph's "Willow Plate" Exhibition of live marvels, and Hilton's model exhibition—an array of show novelties second to none in the world of fairs.

The Riding Machines and Swings.

Goldthorpe Marshall's motors, Aspland's (B. Howden and Sons) motors and juvenile set, P. Collins's ostriches (manager, Mr. Mullett), J. E. Waddington's racing birds, R. Holdsworth's Alpine glissade, Mrs. H. Waddington's switchback, G. Redfearn's flying motors, W. Shows and J. Corrigan's steam swings, R. H. Williams's tunnel railway, Leiske's Eiffel Tower overboats, Richards's big boats, and park swings by Proctor, Redfearn, and Fisher. Juvenile motor-cars, horses, and gem swings by J. Gavan A. Barker, C. Blake, J. H. Seed, jun., Johnson, Thomas, and Turner.

Shooting Ranges and Throwing Games.

The shooters were those of J. Holdsworth, J. H. Seed, A. Richards, C. Blake, G. Vanner, A. Rhodes, and E. Brannan; the variety frames, football penalties, dolly frames, coker shies, ring and dart boards, were seventy in number, and amongst the leading firms were those of Messrs. Powell, Blake, J. Rhodes, Vanner, Turner, Brannan, Gething, Fisher, Holdsworth, Doubtfire, Jameson, Marks, Jacques, W. Steward, and many others.

The New Cinematograph Theatre.

The principal attraction (and deservedly so) of the fair was the superb new show of B. Howden and Sons (G. A. Howden, acting-manager). The commodious pavilion is a marvel of comfort, as regards its seating accommodation, and a marvel of artistry as regards the rich inside decorations, the auditorium being 64ft. back and 40ft. wide. The superb organ front is the latest masterpiece from the atelier of Messrs. Gavioli et Cie, Paris, and is rich in carved work and glorious in gold bronze. The floriated carving is of the most exquisite beauty, the organ being embedded under the centre panel, and is displayed in a novel scheme of golden pipes, flanged by miniature Corinthian pillars. Above the organ is a bold emblematic design, "The Sun in Mid-day Glory," with radiant corona of golden light. Behind this is a mythological painting (in panel), "Cupid and his attendant cherubs." To the right and left of the organ centre panel are heroic figures representing "Peace" and "Prosperity," each bearing aloft a corona of electric lights. The other life-sized figures on the extreme wings of the front are vestal virgins, each bearing crowns of light, the mythological pictures in these side panels being scenes representing "The Cry of the Sirens to Ulysses." The whole scheme of decoration is most exquisite in taste, and suggestive of the highest possibilities of the artists' skill. At the extreme wings of the front are the two entrances to the theatre, golden fretwork in the dome of each entrance, and most tasteful draping of rich blue plush velvet. The front is forty feet wide, and is twenty-three feet in height. The electric light installation is of the very latest and best character. On the outside parade are eight powerful arc lamps and 50 parti-coloured lights (embodied in the decorative scheme of the artistic front). The lighting scheme inside is one of the most effective we have ever seen—cross garlands of electric lamps all meeting in the centre of the richly-decorated pavilion. One hundred and fifty separate lights are utilised in this novel scheme of interior lighting. Messrs. B. Howden and Sons are to be congratulated on their new and up-to-date enterprise, and Messrs. Gavioli et Cie and their London agents, Messrs. Chiappa and Co., must be warmly praised for the magnificent work of art they have executed to B. Howden and Sons' order. From beginning to ending the cost has exceeded five thousand pounds.

BANK HOLIDAY FAIRS IN LONDON.

An abounding capacity for play is one of the great characteristics of London. It is this joy of life that prevents the average Londoner from sinking under the heavy and constant strain of the daily work and commerce. To the student of human nature London at play answers many of the difficult problems of town life. It is quite true that you do not know your London until you have seen that wonderful comradeship of social help and enjoyment that marks the open-air amusement of the people in London Parks, its open spaces, and its breezy Heaths and Common Lands. The Parks and the open Commons are sometimes called the "Lungs of London," but they are more than "lungs," they are in a real sense the open theatre of the common life.

The Fair at Hampstead Heath.

One hundred thousand people who did not or could not go to the seaside, found full enjoyment on Hampstead Heath. In the very early morning these pilgrims of mirth began their journey to the breezy Heath Land by 'bus, tram-car, motors, the tube, or railway. Hampstead-road was thronged with sturdy pedestrians who either despised the rapid transit of car and tube, or were determined to husband the few pence at their disposal for the shows and entertainments on the Heath. It was a merry, perspiring crowd, and it did one good to see the hearty enjoyment of these pilgrims to the Fair. When the village was reached (and even before you gained the Common) there was a fair in a most suitable ground close to Hampstead Station. This fair is under the banner of Fred Gray, one of London's most enterprising showmen, and with him were associated J. Manders, and several notable caterers of minor amusements. Fred Gray exhibited three large machine novelties—the switchbacks, galloping horses, bicycle track, and provided shooting ranges, swings, and varieties. Mr. Manders's exhibits included the up-to-date coliseum of living pictures and slipping the slip tower. J. Sanders exhibited throwing games, dolly frames and stalls. Arthur Burgess joined this merry crowd after Monday's big business on the Heath with his celebrated variety amusements from Olympia.

The Great Entrance Avenue.

The Heath is traversed by an immense footway known as "The Horseshoe Walk," the centre of the horseshoe being one of the dips or valleys of the Heath. One side of the Horseshoe Walk forms the entrance avenue to Showland, the bend of the shoe being fully occupied by the crowd of novelties and entertainments at "The Vale of Health" Fairground. As you enter the immense avenue from the village road you at once perceive the careful provision of the London County Council for the possible emergencies and for the proper handling of a great crowd. Here are set out in readiness the ambulance tents, the horse ambulance, the fire preventive and rescue appliances. There are large temperance refreshment tents providing wholesome food and drink at the people's prices. After this colony of ready help and refreshment, we enter the long, long row of throwing games, cocoanut sheets, shooting galleries, bazaar and novelty stalls, juvenile roundabouts, gem swings, overboats, peep shows, variety stalls, &c., &c. The principal shows and concerns at this part of the fair were Buckley's trained animals, Wilson's fine art gallery, Swales Forrest's overboats, gem horses, and varieties. Amongst the prominent providers of minor amusements were Boldsworth Bros., Forrest Bros., the Spencer Family, S. Jones, Purchase, and T. Miller.

Harry Cox's Ground, "The Vale of Health."

This pitch is the very centre of the Fair (or, as we have termed it, the bend of the horseshoe). Mr. H. Cox provides the permanent attractions at Hampstead Heath, and these include a superb set of galloping horses, three sets of swings, and the big wheel overboats. Close to Mr. Cox's aggregation there are at Bank Holiday times splendid additional amusements—swings, throwing games, varieties, and the hundred and one attractions of a carnival fair. Amongst the principal providers of these entertainments were Cobbett, Rollings, Birch, Simpson, T. Manning, and Stepwood.

The Battery Fairground.

This excellent pitch within easy reach of Jack Straw's Castle was fully occupied by shows, machine novelties, and variety stalls. Biddall Bros.'s royal cinematograph, J. Chittock's Metropolitan cinematograph, F. Wilson's cinematograph, Sol Elliott's boxing booth, J. Wilson's gem motors and varieties, and Brown's railway track were the principal exhibits on the ground.

Over 200 separate stalls providing for the entertainment and refreshment of the people lined all the great approaches to the Fair, and although there were 100,000 people at play, the report from the L.C.C. officials, and from the police in charge of this vast crowd is that not a single case of either rowdyism or drunkenness occurred to mar the festival of London's busy workers at play on Hampstead Heath.

Wanstead Flats.

The fairground at the gate of Epping Forest is the best open-air carnival London provides. To this fair the workers of the busy East-End come out in their thousands—all sorts and conditions of people, all nations, old and young alike—to see and to join in all the Jolly Fun of the Fair.

The Entertainments Great and Small.

Wm. Alf. Ball's superb new show, the electric Gavioli organ and artistic front was the big event of the fair. Closely following Ball's show in public esteem was Thurston's coliseum of animated photography. The big concerns were Forrest's wheeling the whirl, the Japanese ships in the air, H. Forrest's amusements, Thurston and Son's motor-car set, horses, and helter skelter.

There were long avenues of throwing games, dolly frames, and other stalls and varieties.

At Wormwood Scrubs

Were Beach's steam horses, aerial flight, shooter, and varieties; Harness's big switchback; a great and varied array of fairground novelties, stalls, games, and varieties.

Indispensable! Rayne's "Pocket Date Book." Contents: Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various music halls at a glance. Will tell if one hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety. All about artists' luggage, list of clubs, information about stamping contracts, foreign money table, London music halls and theatres, their telephone numbers, list of brougham proprietors, list and address of photographers, size of theatrical printing paper, names and addresses of theatrical railway managers, &c. Price 1s., post free. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

THE FIGHT FOR MITCHAM FAIR.

As regards the legal abolition of Mitcham Charter Fair (due to commence on Monday next, Aug. 12), the position of affairs is the same as last year, and, indeed, as it has been since the time of its foundation by Royal Charter. It is a legal fair, and until the Home Secretary, in conformity with the abolition of Fairs Act, signs the order of abolition, all its rights, privileges, exemptions, and sources of revenue remain intact.

What is a Fair Franchise?

It is the right of the people of the district to have and to frequent a certain place on fixed days to enjoy and to trade at the fair. It sometimes means that the Lord of the Manor, or the town authorities, have rights of tolls and control as to the order or arrangement of the fair. Besides the people's rights, there are well-defined accustomed rights of the traders and showmen attending the fair. All these interests are reciprocal, and it is always difficult to sever them.

What Has Happened at Mitcham.

Certan interested parties (an extremely small section of Mitcham residents) took upon themselves to promote a movement to abolish the fair They sent up a petition last year to the Home Office, asking for an order of abolition. Counter petitions from Mitcham traders and from the Showmen's Guild followed, and the result was that the Home Secretary refused to abolish the fair. The position to-day is that the Home Secretary *still refuses to grant an order of abolition.*

What the Abolitionists Did.

They presumed to do on their own authority what the constitutional authority had refused. The Conservators of Mitcham Common, acting with the present owner's of the Lord of the Manor right to demand tollage from tenants of the Fair Green, issued a notice refusing to let tenants ground to carry on the fair, and that, we understand, is their fixed policy this year. This extremely autocratic action, if allowed to succeed, would mean the practical end of the fair, and the deprivation of both traders and frequenters of the fair of their time-honoured rights and privileges.

Shall the Will of the People Prevail?

As soon as Mitcham people realised that their ancient charter rights were being filched from them, their indignation was most warm and unmistakable. Public meeting after public meeting have been held, all unanimous in their determination to preserve their charter rights. The election of a new Parish Council this year introduced a more democratic spirit into Mitcham public life. Councillors Dant, Dale, Baker, and Dr. De Caux, with several other prominent men, saw the injustice of the abolition movement, and a People's Rights League was formed to ventilate the question. This purely spontaneous and local movement so voiced public opinion that at a properly convened Parish meeting the abolitionists were routed, and the following resolutions carried with but four dissentients:—

1. "That this meeting of electors of the parish of Mitcham, constitutionally assembled, strongly disapproves of the action of the Mitcham Parish Council in seeking to bring about the abolition of Mitcham Charter Fair, and desires to record its opinion that any attempt to abolish the fair will be contrary to the will of the people. And that it be an instruction to the Clerk of the Parish Council to forward this resolution to the Home Secretary."

2. "That this meeting desire to see the removal of the ancient Charter Fair from the Fair Green to a more suitable site on Mitcham Common if the same could be effected without prejudice to the rights granted under the Charter, and that a copy of the resolution be forwarded to the Home Secretary and the Conservators of Mitcham Common."

Speaking to the first resolution, Mr. Councillor Dant (vice-chairman of the Parish Council), in a most able defence of the fair, remarked that it had been said it was inconsistent of him as a Christian worker to advocate the retention of the fair. He didn't care a rap about that statement; he had a conscience of his own and intended to use it, and he asserted that they were not going to bring about the wholesale improvement of the people by throttling their amusements. Instead of abolishing the fair, let them mend it, let them improve it all they could, and if he succeeded in passing the resolution he had read he had another one to propose, aiming at the improvement of the fair and its removal to the Three Kings Common. For what did the common exist if not for the benefit of the people?

The Present Attitude of the Abolitionists.

In the face of the vote of the people, it is almost incredible that gentlemen holding office on a public body "to conserve and preserve the rights of the people" should set their individual will against the declared mind of their constituents. That, however, is how the matter now remains.

The owners of the Fair Franchise of the Lord of the Manor refuse to exercise their rights. The Conservators are joining with them, and overstrain their powers to deprive the people of their pleasure fair and annual holiday, and to seriously injure the business and livelihood of Metropolitan showmen and fairground traders. This gross abuse of their office can only end in the sovereign will of the people asserting itself, and driving from place and power these autocratic despoilers of the people's pleasures and open-air amusements.

The Guild's Work at Mitcham.

For over twelve months past the Executive Committee of the Showmen's Guild have strenuously laboured for a peaceful termination of the struggle for the showmen's rights at Mitcham. Writing to the Parish Council on June 29, the Guild secretary said that: "On behalf of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain, a society which includes the principal show tenants and fairground traders frequenting Mitcham Fair, I have to add that this society is now prepared, in the interests of the tenants of the fair, to give the Parish Council, the Board of Conservators, and the present holders of the Franchise full guarantees that if the fair is continued on the suggested site (Three Kings' Common) that only such shows and amusements as shall meet with the approval of the joint authorities shall open at fair time, that the fairground itself shall be left clear from all litter, or possibly objectionable matter, and that, in every respect, good rule and order shall be maintained."

Petitioning the Conservators on the same date the Guild Executive offered to join the Conservators in a friendly conference to promote the removal and the betterment of the fair, the material clause in that petition was:—

"The expression of public opinion against the abolition of the fair, and in favour of the transfer from the congested area of the ancient Fair Green to the Three Kings' Common, is being supported by a numerously-signed petition to the Home Secretary, now in process of signature. We are, therefore, induced to ask, in the face of such a volume of public opinion, whether the time has not arrived for recognising that the abolition of the fair is not in accordance with the wishes of the people, and that the time has arrived for considering the advisability of removing the fair to the suggested site, that it may be continued under such conditions of local control as may obviate some of the objections that have led to the cry for abolition."

Here was a golden bridge for the Conservators to walk over. Here was their opportunity of putting themselves right with the people. But they refused.

The Parish Council, by its final court of appeal—a legal parish meeting—did put itself right; but not so the Conservators.

The Guild and the Franchise Owners.

Up to this day week high hopes were held that actual owners of the Lord of the Manor Tollage Rights would save the situation by recognising the just demands of the people. But no! The final word was a blank refusal; the Franchise will not exercise their franchise, and so the issue goes back again to the people whom these gentlemen are determined to deprive of their fair; the organised showmen, too, must go back to the people—only with this mighty difference, the showmen are fighting for the people and with the people.

Lord George Sanger on the Issue.

Writing on the question to the people of Mitcham, the veteran showman said: "We have already seen the many links that Mitcham possesses of the grand and glorious past in this ancient Charter Fair. That fair must be preserved, and it is to the people of Mitcham that we—the showmen of the Empire—look, not only for its maintenance, but for its continuance under such better and more modern conditions that will extend its usefulness and increase its prosperity. To the showmen, as a veteran and a father in their midst, I say that they must meet the abolitionists with a determined and stubborn resistance. Their cause is honourable and just, and I feel convinced that the general public, not only of the locality itself, will be with them, but that the sympathy of the show-loving people throughout the Empire will be extended to the movement that endeavours to preserve to people and showmen alike the old-time fair of 'Lavender Land' at Mitcham."

The Guild has offered to co-operate with the owners of the franchise, with the conservators, and with the parish and county authorities, to promote the improvement and the permanence of the People's Fair at Mitcham.

We can only add that if the abolitionists persist in their unpopular course, that sooner or later a vote of the people will relegate them to the obscurity of private life, and to the public opprobrium they so richly deserve.

HOLIDAY FAIRS IN YORKSHIRE.

Hunslet Feast, Leeds, and Manningham Feast, Bradford, always fall on the August Bank Holiday, and, therefore, may be taken as examples of the adaptation of old fair to modern needs. Hunslet, with 100,000 people to draw upon in its immediate neighbourhood, and another 200,000 within a radius of a mile, is from all points of view a splendid centre for a fair. The fairground is the spacious Hunslet Moor, one of the lungs of Leeds, in every way an ideal open space and playground for the people. Mr. William Murphy, the enterprising lessee of the ground, assisted by his most capable manager of grounds, Mr. Gledstone, arranged the fair in splendid order, the shows, machines, and other novelties being displayed to the best advantage.

Shows, Menageries, Circuses.

Texas Bill's menagerie and Cowboy ranche, with its marvels of Nature and Texan experts; Westray's museum of freaks, and Blakley's exhibition of living curios, supplied the lovers of zoology with abundance of interesting and rare animals, birds, and creeping creatures.

Wm. Murphy's New Show.

This thoroughly up-to-date cinematograph theatre, with its superbly beautiful organ front by Gavioli et Cie., of Paris and London, was the centre of attraction and the big draw of the feast, under the able management of Mr. G. C. Campbell, who has under him a most capable company. The performances proved to be just what the people delight in; the best of films, ably described and illustrated by Mr. Campbell himself. The outside parade and variety turns were immensely popular, and in every sense Mr. Murphy is to be congratulated on his latest venture in the world of shows.

Dennis's Circus of Variety.

This very popular Yorkshire show well maintained its popularity for acrobatic and equestrian turns and the ever fresh business of the sawdust arena, being met with deserved applause and most liberal patronage.

Professor D'Osta and Mme. Zelva.

These specialists in mental telepathy astounded the people of Hunslet by their expert mind transference, the Professor keeping up a running fire of questions, and Mme. Zelva reeling off the answers with equal rapidity and most marvellous accuracy. This show, both inside and out, is a model of up-to-date fitness and taking originality.

Professor Ruby's X-Rays.

La Morte, the X-rays illusion introduced by Professor Ruby, is a capital show, and draws as well as ever. Both Mme. Ruby and the Professor maintained their well-won reputation with this perfectly equipped and scientific exhibition.

Professor Gibson's Occult Mysteries.

This capable showman, assisted by his talented son, "Little Twitch," keeps well to the fore in their second sight and other mysteries of black and white magic.

The Athletes and Boxers.

"Strong Man" Weston, with his school of boxers, gave capital exhibitions of fistiana and physical culture.

Roundabouts, Swings, &c.

Chief amongst these being the lessees Mr. Wm. Murphy's grand set of motor-cars, P. Collins's giant roosters, Ben Howden and Son's racing motors, Redfearn's flying motors, Corrigan's new concern, the Alpine glissade, R. H. Williams's tunnel railway, T. Burgin's steam swings, Lieske's big wheel, Corrigan's steam swings, Dobson's flying ships, Morley's steam swings and gem horses, motors and swings by Cooper, Gledstone, Seed, Johnson, and Waugh; manual swings by Messrs. Fisher, Morley, and Dobson.

Shooting Ranges and Batteries.

These were provided by Messrs. Dobson, Seed, Richards, and Jameson.

Throwing Games and Variety Stalls.

Two sides of the immense quadrangle of the feastground were taken up by coker and Emma sheets, football penalties, dolly frames, ring and dart boards, bazaars, pannum stalls, striking machines, and other fairground varieties. The caterers and stallholders were Messrs. Ashcroft, Campbell, Marks, Hyde, Crowther, Jameson, Dobson, Corrigan and Sons, Wright, Seed, Lee, Hartley, Riley, Morley and Son, Vanner, Crowther, Veti, Fisher, Johnson, Steward Peters, Cookshow, Gallagher, Towers, Jameson, Cooper, Richards, B. Walker, Waugh, Thomas, A. Radcliffe, Jacques, T. Burgin, and others.

Manningham Feast.

This popular suburb of Bradford is not so fortunate as Hunslet in having a grand moor on which to hold its feast. It is like Hunslet in every other respect. There are vast multitudes of people to appreciate the fair, and they welcome the advent of the shows at the Feast of Manninghamtide. Every available yard of the possible ground space was fully taken up by the grand array of show and machine novelties.

Shows and Big Machines.

Chipperfield's menagerie, E. Farrar's coliseum of animated pictures, J. Crighton's living picture theatre, Goldthorpe Marshall's motor-cars, F. W. Waddington's motor-cars, racing cockerels, and steam yachts, and Amos's steam swings.

Shooting Concerns and Minor Varieties.

Winchester ranges and batteries by Messrs. Holdsworth, Thompson, and Radcliffe; juvenile sets of gem horses and swings by J. Gavan; striking machines by Messrs. Joy, Radcliffe, Thompson, and Basker; pannum stalls by Messrs. J. Holdsworth and Wright and Company; throwing games and coker sheets by Messrs. Rhodes, Turner, Fawcett, Thompson, Joy, Powell, R. Holdsworth, Jameson, Barnes, W. Holdsworth, Riley, and A. Rhodes.

PATHÉ FRÈRES.

CHAT WITH MR. C. IVATTS

Mr. Cedric Ivatts, joint-manager with Mr. Henry Courant of the London, British, and Colonial business of Messrs. Pathé Frères, the famous manufacturers of the cinematograph films and machines, is a most interesting personality and a thoroughly business man. Mr. Ivatts attends to the animated picture department and Mr. Courant to the phonographic side. The firm is undoubtedly one of the biggest in this particular line in the world, and at its head is Mr. Charles Pathé, who has been actively associated with cinematography since its creation. Mr. Pathé has himself been a showman, and, therefore, thoroughly understands their requirements and the public to which they appeal. Pathé Frères started in a very modest way, and they now employ over 3000 workmen. In their colouring department alone there are 900 girls, who are exclusively employed in colouring Pathé films. It is Mr. Ivatts' opinion that within a comparatively short time all films will be coloured, and a long-felt want will thus be filled, to the general advantage of the industry. Pathé's colouring in done mechanically, and thus the firm is able to put this, their latest development, on the market at a moderate cost. Until almost recently the colouring was done by hand, a method which proved very expensive. Pathé's *magnum opus* in the coloured film class is a series called The Passion Play, and forms a most beautiful subject.

The Pathé factories are situated at Joinville-sur-Seine and at Vincennes. They cover an area of over 25,000 square metres, and are practically surrounded by the river. It was found necessary to secure such a site as this, owing to the fact that the authorities had indicated that it was highly desirable that the Pathé buildings should be isolated from other houses and factories, owing to the risk of danger from fire resulting from the storage of an immense quantity of celluloid, one million feet of which, Mr. Ivatt informs us, is always kept in stock. The firm possesses three theatres. One, at Vincennes, is a miniature Crystal Palace, the roof, which is 60ft. from the ground, being of cathedral glass. On the various floors are to be found services of painters, stage-managers, decorators, costume designers and makers, &c. Another handsome huge glass edifice is the theatre at Montreuil-sous-Bois, where many of the staging effects and scenes are arranged. Five hundred horses can be accommodated on the ground floor, and there is a huge water tank, worked by hydraulic pressure, on the principle of that at the London Hippodrome.

At Belleville the cinematograph machines, &c., are manufactured, and here it may be mentioned that the Pathé projector has a world-wide reputation for steadiness. They are bringing out a new machine on the same principle as their No. 2, but more adaptable for showmen's purposes. Several improvements on previous models have been effected, and the up-to-date machine, which

[*Photo by McNabb.*

MR. C. IVATTS.

is to be sold at £28, will be ready in a week or so.

Mr. Ivatts travels a good deal about the fairs which are held in all parts of the United Kingdom, and he has made many friends among the showmen. He tells us that nothing gives him greater delight than to have a chat over a cup of tea in one of the caravans. Recognising what has been done in America with the five-cents cinematograph theatres, the Pathé Frères have followed on this example, and have persuaded many showmen to open places in Paris on the same principle. Mr. Ivatts considers that it is a matter of surprise that no one has yet been enterprising enough to do the same thing in our big English centres. In New York there are seventy-five of these animated picture establishments. They are open all day, and visitors can stop as long as they like for one payment. For originality of conception and daring in the carrying out of ideas for living pictures, Messrs. Pathé Frères occupy an exalted position among cinematograph merchants. The film industry has steadily improved and increased since the advent of this firm, who, by the way, were the first to reduce the price of the films to fourpence per foot. They have found that this year there has been a greater demand for cinematograph pictures than at any previous time in the history of the business, the month of July having been a record for them in this respect.

THE REV. T. HORNE will address a gathering of London showmen on the work of the Guild on the afternoon of Mitcham Fair Sunday, at five o'clock, in Ball's Show. This gathering is for show people only. Questions of great importance will be submitted to the meeting.

MR. ALF. BALL, who is under an injunction of the High Court not to draw on Mitcham Fair Green without the consent of the owners of the Franchise, will be at Mitcham this coming Fair week. He has been fortunate enough to secure an excellent site in close proximity to the Fairground—facing the main street—and will open his new and perfect show on Saturday, and continue to show for the Fair day.

WILLISSON'S CIRCUS is appearing at Pietermaritzburg, and playing to fair business; and Woolfram's Royal Bioscope and variety company are at the City Hall of the same town.

"THE SHOWMEN'S YEAR BOOK" for 1907. Edited by the Rev. T. Horne. Entirely rearranged, corrected, and enlarged; 100 pages. Price 1s. Principal contents: "British Shows and Showmen," Constitution and Rules of the Showmen's Guilds," "Lists of Fairs," "Local Feasts and Wakes," "Synopsis of By-laws," &c. Invaluable to all who follow the fair. Sold at "THE ERA" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.C.

CHAT WITH MR. MORRIS ABRAHAMS.

Mr. Morris Abrahams, the able assistant-manager of the Queen's Palace of Varieties, Poplar, might be said to have been born in the business. He is a son of Mr. Michael Abrahams, one of the proprietors of the Queen's, the other proprietor being Mr. Frederick Abrahams, an uncle of the subject of this sketch. Mr. Morris Abrahams has already furnished undeniable evidence of his ability to "follow in his father's footsteps," as Miss Vesta Tilley would say, and we have no doubt that in time he will become one of the most popular personalities in the music hall managerial sphere. At present he is well under thirty years of age, and as he has already done much towards winning his laurels—for he has shown great aptitude for the profession which he has adopted, is a strenuous worker and conscientious in everything that he undertakes—one need have no fear as to his future.

His duties in connection with the Queen's Palace

MR. MORRIS ABRAHAMS, JUN.

of Varieties, Poplar, are those of assistant-manager. He attends to the financial side of what is an important business enterprise, and he spends every evening looking after the comfort of his patrons. During the absence from the hall of Mr. Jack Woolf, the general-manager, Mr. Abrahams takes full control, and he is at the establishment from the time the curtain goes up until it is dropped at the conclusion of the second house. He is on the best of terms with the visitors at the Queen's, and what perhaps speaks even better in his favour is that he is highly esteemed by the staff of the theatre. Ample proof of this came in quite an unexpected manner at the first anniversary celebration on April 16, when Mr. Morris Abrahams was presented with a gold watch, which bore an inscription as follows:—"Presented to Morris Abrahams, assistant-manager and treasurer, as a token of respect from the staff and a few friends on the first anniversary of the Queen's Palace, Poplar, April 16, 1907." At the same time, Mr. Abrahams was the recipient of a handsomely-mounted portrait of himself.

It is of interest here to mention that Messrs. Frederick and Michael Abrahams are the oldest music hall managers in London. They are the sons of Mr. Isaac Abrahams, who half a century ago was proprietor of the Polytechnic Music Hall in Manchester, and it was from that establishment that the two brothers commenced their career in the profession. Mr. Fred Abrahams served an apprenticeship in the orchestra, and, acquiring much knowledge of variety affairs, he became his father's manager in one department, while his brother Michael controlled another department. Mr. Fred Abrahams in the course of things got married, and settled down for a time in Nottingham, where he rebuilt an old music hall, re-christening it the Polytechnic. He then joined his brother Morris in the management of the old Effingham, when Mr. T. Abrahams, after parting with his brother Morris, took the Oriental. At that time Mr. Michael had the Apollo, in Hare-street, Bethnal Green. Later, Mr. Fred Abrahams came to Poplar, and took possession of a small hall known as the Oriental, which has now blossomed forth into a good-sized and responsible place of entertainment under the name of the Queen's Palace of Varieties. It is the oldest place of amusement in the neighbourhood. The Brothers Abrahams have held the place for forty years, and it is now their own freehold property, along with the surrounding land. A great number of artists who subsequently became "stars" were given a kindly help up the ladder of success at the Queen's.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

No change has been made at present in the name of this commodious establishment, which opened on Monday night for the season with two variety performances. At both houses crowded audiences enjoyed the excellent programme provided by the management for the delectation of their patrons. Well-rendered selections were given by a large and capital orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Macdonald, and Mr. Percy H. Gallagher brought his experience to bear in the managerial arrangements with his usual courtesy and attention, while the genial and popular manager, Mr. C. Melville Lurring, supervised the whole with his customary ability. The short play, *Our Curate*, with its scenes of vigour and sensation, claims undivided interest, and gives good opportunity for Mr. Fred Eustace to display his ability in the title-rôle, while the support accorded him by a numerous company was in every way sufficient. The eccentricities of Mr. Will Evans are a source of much amusement, and his song, "Down at the garden gate," causes roars of laughter. The fine voice of Miss Mary Glenn is heard to advantage in "Caller herrin'," and the animal imitations of Mr. Harold Hughman, particularly that depicting a dog fight, are exceedingly good.

Mr. Harry Anderson is always a favourite turn, and his items, "Treasure" and "My new pal," are well received. The Two Bees gain applause for their topical allusions in "The man in the moon"; and Messrs. Hall and Earle provide a clever interlude with their acrobatic feats, while their "business" is very droll. Miss Jessie Merrilees charmingly sings, "A man, a maid, a moon" and "Take a sail in my boat"; and Mr. Leo Fell finds considerable favour for his marvellous imitations of various musical instruments, including the xylophone and bamboo bells. An improvement is now seen in the front of the house staff, who present a very smart appearance in their new uniforms of blue and black with gold trimmings.

FRANK E. FILLIS'S gigantic circus and menagerie is playing to record business at Beaconsfield. His star attraction is La Belle Nila, in statuary poses in a lion's den.

PROVINCIAL MANAGERS.

MR. SAMUEL LLOYD, PAVILION, GLASGOW.

The height of success to which this popular hall has attained in Glasgow has had the effect of bringing the name of Mr. Lloyd, the energetic general-manager, prominently before the public. Mr. Lloyd is at all times a busy man, but he spared our representative an hour to give, in tabloid form, the essential details of his managerial career. A native of Birmingham, he first dabbled in things theatrical about twenty-five years ago, beginning as an amateur, and finally adopting professional management as his *métier* in 1888. In 1890 he started that famous combination Mme. Lloyd's Choir, with his wife as principal vocalist, and as conductor Mr. Howard W. Galpin, who is now at the Pavilion in a similar capacity. At this time Mr. Lloyd had on the road seven variety companies, and a special summer tour of "flying matinées" with a recital party headed by Mr. Arthur Roberts. Mme. Lloyd's choir was from the first a great success, and the prosperity enjoyed by the combination in England suggested an invasion of Scotland. Accordingly the company, thirty strong, reached Carlisle on their first northern tour. The stationmaster at the Citadel Station, when he heard their outlined route, gave them absolutely no encouragement, and hoped they had enough money to take them home again, as they would never draw it in Scotland. He proved, to some extent, a good prophet, for although the choir were successful in some of the towns visited, the tour resulted in a loss of some hundreds of pounds. Nothing daunted, Mr. Lloyd, two years later, again decided to try his luck in Scotland. On this occasion almost the entire choir protested, but the manager remained firm, and the second Scotch tour was started. It proved a success from the first, and Mr. Lloyd not only recouped all his previous loss, but finished £300 to the good. It was on this tour he had the good fortune to meet Mr. Walter Freer (now manager of the extensive series of Corporation Saturday Recitals in that city), and it was this gentleman who induced Mr. Lloyd to venture into Glasgow and the larger Scotch towns. This proved the forerunner of many pleasant engagements in the North, and they recall with pride the fact that Lloyd's Choir holds the record for the largest drawings at a Glasgow Corporation recital. In these days Mr. Lloyd was proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Eastbourne, and had his home in that popular resort for years.

In 1905 Mr. Lloyd was engaged to boom a special production of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Grand, Glasgow (previously given at the Queen's, Manchester). In the midst of his duties Mr. Lloyd was asked by the directors of the Glasgow Pavilion to take over the control of this variety house. He accepted the commission, and in a few weeks Mr. Lloyd soon demonstrated that the star of the

[*Photo by Langfier.*

MR. SAMUEL LLOYD.

Pavilion was in the ascendant. Much-needed reforms were instituted. The leading artists in the profession were in succession seen at the Pavilion, and the result was the development of a strong *clientele*, who, by their steady support, show their appreciation of these improvements. The financial aspect of the case is to be noted in the steadily-increasing dividends and in the value of the shares. Before Mr. Lloyd took over the management pessimistic shareholders were offering their £1 shares at half-a-crown; these are now quoted on 'Change at 31s. 6d., and not easily got even at that. One decided factor in Mr. Lloyd's success is the thorough grip of details which is manifest in all his dealings, and another is the working of the staff. Absolute fidelity to all orders is demanded, and the slightest breach of faith or appearance of incivility entails dismissal. The result is seen in the efficiency of all the employees, and yet this firm control does not detract one iota from the good feeling existing on both sides, as witness their many harmonious meetings at suppers, dances, picnics, and kindred functions; while the presentation to Mr. Lloyd at Christmas of a beautiful diamond ring, subscribed by the staff, was evidence of the admiration felt by the Pavilion employees for the manager who has raised this hall into the front rank of Glasgow places of amusement.

PAEGEL'S CIRCUS is drawing crowded houses at the Bluff, Durban, and its patrons have every reason to be pleased with the varied and edifying amusement Herr Paegel provides. The Flying Eugenes give a thrilling aerial performance; Mr. E. Shand submits a clever exhibition of equipoise on frail structure; and Miss Alice Montgomery creates roars of laughter with her baby elephant Mary. Mme. Paegel's troupe of wild animals holds premier place in the programme; Len Pedro, screen and barrel spinner, is exceedingly clever; and Miss Montgomery is the personification of grace on horseback. Herr Paegel continues his tremendous feats of strength; the Three Pedroes give a striking and novel gymnastic display; Mr. A. Cooke and Miss Ada Montgomery present a double act of daring horsemanship; Prince, the Blondin tiger, continues his tight-rope walk; and Coco and Chico and Carl North, in their clown interludes, keep the audience in roars of laughter.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906. Effect on Theatres and Music Halls. By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor. Price, 6d. Published at "THE ERA" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

FILM GOSSIP.

Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd.

THIS week the Urban Company is to be congratulated upon one of its greatest achievements—indeed, one of the greatest achievements in cinematography. We refer to the magnificent series of pictures of the Review by the King of the Home Fleet last Saturday.

THE pictures show the whole of the ships of the Fleet, manned and flag-bedecked, waiting for the supreme moment to herald the arrival of His Majesty. We witness a superb panorama of the huge armada in the Solent, and we are given views of the Admirals and staff, officers and crews, the passing of the Royal yacht, and the saluting operations. The deck of the Dreadnought presents an animated spectacle as the King and Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales pass along the gangway, and the officers are presented to His Majesty. Other scenes como quickly before us—the Dreadnought steaming fifteen knots, the preparations for firing the big guns, the guns' crews entering the barbette, range-finding, record-breaking for rapidity of fire, and for hitting power, collecting the targets and hoisting them on the deck of the Dreadnought for exhibition to the Fleet, and a portrait of the King congratulating Admiral of the Fleet Sir John Fisher on the achievement of the ship, the guns, and the men.

THE LADY GODIVA PAGEANT AT COVENTRY.—The Urban Company secured advantageous positions along the line of route of the Lady Godiva pageant at Coventry on Wednesday, and the results of the operators' work were much admired at the Alhambra on Thursday evening. One begins to wonder where the ingenuity and enterprise of the Urban Company will not lead them.

"URBAN Bioscopes and Animated Picture Accessories." This is the title of a handsomely got-up little booklet, which contains illustrations and prices of Urban Bioscope cameras, special lenses, film perforators, printing machines, developing frames and troughs, film-winders, lanterns, arc-lamps, electric switches, projectors, and, in fact, the most complete outfit anyone showing animated pictures, either publicly or privately, could desire. There are sixty-eight pages of what may be termed photographic educational matter, and no manager or showman should be without it.

Pathé Frères.

"PROLIFIC in ideas and energetic in the carrying out of them" might appropriately enough be the motto of the Pathé Company. This week there are seven new films to speak about. Perhaps the most amusing is "The Rival Sisters." Two women, one young and pretty and the other of a doubtful age and doubtful appearance, fall in love with the same man. The parents in France practically arrange the marriage of their children, and the parents of the girl decide that the young man must wed the elder daughter. He, of course, is very much disinclined to do anything of the sort, as he is genuinely in love with the younger girl. He leaves a note outside her window, saying that he will have a motor ready at a certain time, and will take her away with him. The elder sister gets the note, and, attiring herself in motor garb and hiding her features behind veils, she allows herself to be lovingly carried off. He gives her all the kind attention that a lover should, but is very much disgusted when, at a restaurant, she removes her veil and discloses her identity. Furiously he drives her back home and claims the real sweetheart.

TRAVELLING IN SWITZERLAND brings before us many beautiful and picturesque scenes of the land of the snow-clad Alps, and the series is not only extremely attractive and interesting, but also has its instructive side. "The Children's Reformatory" is another Pathé success. It throws a sidelight on the life history of a boy who loves his mother, steals a loaf of bread, is sent to a reformatory, is badly treated there, escapes, and is finally taken charge of by a kind-hearted old gentleman, who finds the lad a home in his own house and educates him. The dissolving portrait of the boy's mother set in the general scheme of pictures is realistically ghostly.

MESSRS. PATHE are also to be congratulated on a clever trick film, "The Cigar Box," which shows a handsomely-chased gilt receptacle for cigars, the lid of which disappears mysteriously, and then fall back the hexagonal sides of the box. Five cigars are seen, and these are suddenly transformed into girls who dance bewitchingly before us. The box opens and shuts, reopens and shuts again, with similar results, the figures being most artistically and beautifully coloured. "The Robber Robbed" shows how a thief entered a gentleman's rooms, undressed himself with a view to putting on better clothes which he saw lying about, placed his watch on the table during these preparations, hid himself under a mattress on hearing someone enter, and had the great discomfiture to find, when the visitor had departed, that he was also of the light-fingered class, and had removed the clothes and watch of burglar No. 1. How the latter is arrested and dragged through the streets in a sack forms an intensely laughable picture. Other capital Pathé productions are "The Half-Caste's Revenge," a tragic story, and "The Lost Umbrella," a comic item.

Vitagraph Company.

THIS firm promise some good things for next week, and among their forthcoming works will be an exceptionally fine production which has been obtained with great difficulty.

THE Liverpool Empire on Wednesday night showed an excellent film of the grand pageant which has for several days taken place in the city, commemorative of the granting of the Charter in 1207.

Walturdaw Company.

COVENTRY PAGEANT AND NAVAL REVIEW.—This firm has been fortunate in securing a particularly good series of photographs of the Coventry Pageant, with some close pictures of La Milo as Lady Godiva. We saw this film yesterday, and can commend it to the notice of our readers. Messrs. Walturdaw were also represented at the Naval Review, and on Monday at the Palace exhibited photographic panoramas of the Fleet, with large views of the individual ships of the larger size. The pictures of the Dreadnought are really admirable, as they show every part of the huge vessel that could be seen from a launch which made a détour round the sides of the man-o'-war.

THE Walturdaw Company are now pretty well "at home" in their additional premises, and we are informed that it is their intention to take pictures of every event of topical interest.

THE AWARDS. The three interim Awards and the final Award, corrected and revised by George Ranken Askwith, Esq., the official arbitrator appointed in the Music Hall Dispute, may be had in pamphlet form at "THE ERA" Offices. Copy, including postage, three-half-pence. Address: The Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CAPE TOWN, July 3.—Opera House.—Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler; Sub-Lessees and Manager, B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Wyburd.—On Monday Mrs. Brown Potter's company presented *Camille* here. As Camille Mrs. Potter gave another striking proof of her talent; Mr. C. A. Daly was very satisfactory as M. Duval; Mr. Herbert Maule and Mr. Harold Carfax were admirable as Gaston Kieux and Comte de Varville; and Miss Louie Emery was efficient as Mme. Prudence; Miss Price Owen made a dainty and discreet Nanie. The remainder of the cast was carefully selected. The dressing and mounting were excellent. On Independence Night, July 4, Mrs. Brown Potter presented *Charlotte Corday*, by command and in the presence of His Excellency the Governor and suite, the American Consul, Mr. Lay, and staff.

CAPE TOWN, July 10. — Opera House (Sole Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler; Sub-Lessees and Manager, B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Wyburd). — Mrs. Brown-Potter and her company produced Sheridan's *School for Scandal* on Monday. The change from tragedy to comedy well illustrates the versatile nature of Mrs. Potter's genius, and as Lady Teazle she scored a triumph. The Charles Surface of Mr. Esme Percy was most convincing; Mr. J. J. Daly made a very capable Sir Peter Teazle; Mr. Charles Doran was admirable as the smooth-tongued Joseph Surface; Mr. A. G. Poulton as Sir Oliver Surface took the part to the life; and Mr. Herbert Maule as Sir Benjamin Backbite, Mr. F. Trumper as Sir Harry Bumper, and Mr. C. T. Doe as Crabtree were all good. Miss Louie Emery as Lady Sneerwell and Miss Price Owen as Mrs. Candour were admirable.

Tivoli Theatre of Varieties (Lessees, The Empire Theatre, S.A., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Albert Hyman).—The leading feature of the bill this week is the much-discussed statuary artist Miss Irma Lorraine, in a series of artistic reproductions of the world's most famous masterpieces. Another prominent item in the evening's entertainment is the extraordinary clever turn of the Cole De Losse Duo, who give an exhibition of daring and interesting humorous slack-wire feats. Miss Dolly Harmer sings a number of songs with a catchy chorus, and was deservedly encored. Mr. Marriott Edgar, the man in red, is an old favourite here, and his various songs were received with applause. Miss Millie Williams, a *chic* comedienne, sings several songs in a pleasing manner, and does some dainty dancing. Miss Selma Braatz, the clever lady juggler, continues to delight; and Les Romanis again create hearty applause with their novel musical act. Miss Violet Grazia sings several new and pleasing ballads; and the Tivoliscope, with new pictures, concludes a programme of all-round excellence.

JOHANNESBURG, July 10. — His Majesty's Theatre (Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler; Sub-Lessees and Manager, B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. P. F. Thompson).—On Monday, July 8, the Wood-Williamson Dramatic Company presented *The Silver King* to a large and enthusiastic audience. Mr. Alfred Woods gave a powerful representation of Wilfred Denver, his acting being very realistic. Miss Maud Williamson as Nelly Denver gave an admirable representation of the part. Mr. Julius Royston as Daniel Jaikes, the faithful old retainer, supplied one of the most convincing pieces of acting in the play. Mr. Horace Hunter was excellent as Spider, the gentleman villain; Mr. Hilton Warde was a capital Corkett; Mr. George Thorne was sufficiently suave as Eliah Coombe; and Mr. George Capper and Mr. J. C. Morris were excellent as the Detective and Geoffrey Ware. A word of praise is due to the clever acting of Miss Kate Nathan and Master Pitt as Wilfred Denver's children.

Empire Palace (Proprietor, The Empire Theatre, S.A., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Edgar Hyman).—The new company which was introduced to the large audience at the above handsome and commodious theatre of varieties on the 9th inst. included Fred Niblo, described simply as a humorist, who kept the house in a roar of laughter; another notable turn was Grey and McCarty, comedy acrobats, who give a decidedly new and quaint exhibition of knockabout dancing; Miss Josephine Cohan, a dainty American comedienne, contributes pretty songs and dances; Billy Hobbs, coon artist and dancer, furnished an excellent entertainment; Miss Billy Millard, a dashing soubrette, sang several songs with ability; La Sylphe created roars of applause with her bewildering and beautiful dances; Holden Mannikins, in an entirely new show, earned a hearty reception; Newhouse and Ward, comedians and cyclists, introduced a good deal of new and humorous business; the Jagos contributed an eccentric sketch; and the Bioscope concluded the evening's entertainment.

DURBAN, July 10.—Theatre Royal (Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler).—Messrs. Wheeler's new musical comedy company produced on Monday, for the first time in Durban, the Oriental opera *The Blue Moon*, and the large audience testified ample appreciation. Messrs. Wheeler's artists are new to Durban, but they display considerable ability. The Oma of Miss Mamie Brickwell was excellent, both histrionically and vocally; Miss Lottie Sargent made a vivacious and dainty Millicent Lerony; and Miss Mabel Medrow was an imposing and fascinating Lady Brabashan. Mr. Tim Ryley gave an eminently clever portrayal of the genial and humorously brusque Major Vivian Callabone; Mr. Frank Greene made a handsome and dashing Captain Jack Ormsby, his excellent baritone being heard to distinct advantage; Mr. Alfred Leslie as Bobby Scott filled his part admirably, and was ably supported by Miss Alice Pollard as Evelyn Ormsby. An intensely humorous Private Charles Taylor was Mr. Edward D'Arcy; and the stolidity of Mooray was well brought out by Mr. Arthur Laceby, who adds greatly to the success achieved.

I regret to record the death of Mme. Victor, who passed away at Bloemfontein on the 9th inst. She was well known to the public as Mme. Rezzini, slack wire performer, from Cook, Fillis, and Texas Jack's circus.

Mr. Leonard Rayne's new London dramatic company opens by arrangement with Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler at His Majesty's Theatre, Johannesburg, on the 22nd inst., with Hall Caine's *Bondman*.

Indispensable! Rayne's "Pocket Date Book." Contents: Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various music halls at a glance. Will tell if one hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety. All about artists' luggage, list of clubs, information about stamping contracts, foreign money table, London music halls and theatres, their telephone numbers, list of brougham proprietors, list and address of photographers, size of theatrical printing paper, names and addresses of theatrical railway managers, &c. Price 1s., post free. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

The Awards. The three interim Awards and the final Award, corrected and revised by George Ranken Askwith, Esq., the official arbitrator appointed in the Music Hall Dispute, may be had in pamphlet form at "The Era" Offices. Copy, including postage, three-half-pence. Address: The Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.
ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

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"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 28, Dec. 16, Feb. 10, 17, 24, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 24, March 2, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Dec. 16, Feb. 10, April 6, 13, May 11, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Jan. 27, March 2, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Sept. 16, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9 16,
Feb. 10, March 2, 9, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Sept. 2, Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 20, Feb. 3, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Dec. 2, 9.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 16, Jan. 13, 20, on
(Panto. Required).
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21 (3 nights each),
Xmas week, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for HUDDERSFIELD, Sept. 2; WOLVERHAMPTON, Sept. 16.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
1908, April 27, May 11, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
1907, Sept. 23; 1908, April 13, May 4, onwards.
Address, Sidney Bacon, Metropole T., Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Sept. 23, Oct. 21, 28, Nov 4, Dec. 9, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Oct. 21, Nov. 25, Dec. 9, 16, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Sept. 2, 9, 16, 30, Oct. 7, 21 (three nights only).
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Attraction, for the week Oct. 28.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, through transferring to oblige Manager,
First-Class Attraction,
for week of Sept. 9.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

THE KING'S THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Edinburgh's New Palatial Playhouse.
The Premier Theatre of the Capital.

WANTED, Known, owing to Change of Arrangements, a few early Autumn Dates are available for first-class attractions.
Wire,
R. C. Buchanan,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
Vacant Sept. 2, Sept. 2,
Sept. 30, Sept. 30,
Oct. 21, Oct. 21,
Nov. 11, 18, 25, Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
R. C. Buchanan, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM,
Vacant Sept. 30, through obliging Manager.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Company.
Apply, with full particulars,
Hatton Wharton, Cranbourn-mansions.

GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Lessees and Managers, Brooks and Woodbridge.
WANTED, No. 1 Attraction only, for Sept. 9.
(Vacant through obliging Mrs. Weedon Grossmith).

Managers of High-class Companies wire,
E. Oswald Brooks, Resident Partner.

THEATRE ROYAL, SHREWSBURY.
WANTED, Company, Sept. 2 and Sept. 9. Only First-class Companies Entertained. Musical Comedies preferred. Write, W. C. Dornton, Business-Manager.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
WANTED, Good Attraction, Sept. 23.
Address,
Charles M. Julian, General-Manager.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, For Sept. 9, Dec. 2, 16, 30.

Apply,
James Kiernan, Manager and Owner.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH.
WANTED, First-class Company, Aug. 19, unexpectedly vacant. Flower Show week.
Moody, Lessee.

BRIDLINGTON OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, good Musical Play or other really First-Class Attraction, for Sept. 5, 6, and 7, not Drama. Henry Hague, General-Manager.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Theatre Royal, Birmingham, Oct. 21 and Nov. 18. Apply, Tom B. Davis, Lyric Theatre, London.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Attraction (Répertoire invited), Sept. 9, transferring to oblige. E. H. Page.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Musical and other London Attractions, Sept. 9, 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 25, and Xmas Panto. Fred Granville, T. R., Hyde.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good Companies, Sept. 16, 30, Oct. 21, on.
A. D. Vernon.

CRITERION THEATRE, WORKSOP.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for last three nights of each week; Share or Rental.
S. Goodman, Proprietor.

WANTED, A1 Attractions, Aug. 19 (re-opening), Sept. 2. Oct. 14, 21, 28, on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. Potts, Opera House, Dunfermline.

DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 16, Oct. 17, Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25, Dec. 9, 16.
Address, King, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 9 and 16, sharing terms; also Nov., onwards, with exceptions. W. Payne, Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant Dec. 16, onward (with exceptions).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant July 29, Aug. 19, Nov. 11, onward (with exceptions).

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant Aug. 5, 19, onward (with exceptions).

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY,
Vacant Sept. 2, 9, 30, onward (with exceptions).

THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY DOCK.
Vacant Feb. 10, 24, onward (with exceptions).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH,
Vacant Aug. 12, 26, onward (with exceptions).
(Last three nights of each week.)

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Sept. 2, 30, onward (with exceptions).

Wanted, good Pantomimes, Xmas, onward.

Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.
The Leading Theatre of the Town.
The Only Theatre in the Town allowed to Advertise on the Electric Cars.
The Seating Capacity of each part of the House has been largely increased.
Brilliant Opening Aug. 5.
Autumn Bookings include "The Dairymaids," Mr. James Welch's Co. in "When Knights Were Bold," Miss Annie Hughes in "Tommy," Mr. Norman Macowan in "Monsieur Beaucaire," "The Little Stranger" (including Master Edward Garrett), "A Trip to the Highlands," Mr. Walter Maxwell's Co., "The Lion and the Mouse" (third visit), Mr. Charles Cartwright and Co., "In the Bishop's Carriage," Mr. Frederick Mouillot's Co., including Miss Decima Moore, in "The Truth." Mr. Percy Hutchison's No. 1 Company, "The Stronger Sex," Mr. Brandon Thomas' No. 1 Company, "Charley's Aunt," Mr. Walter Melville's Drama, Mr. Frank Lindo's "Home, Sweet Home," Mr. Morton Powell's Companies," &c., &c.
WANTED, Exceptional Attractions, for Sept. 16, Nov. 25, Dec. 30, onwards.

Calvert Routledge, H. M. T., Barrow.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
Proprietor, Albert Smith. Holding capacity, 3,500. One of the most Handsome and Best-equipped Theatres in the North. Actual Bookings include:—
Mr. Percy Hutchison's No. 1 Co. in "Peter's Mother," Mr. Chas. Macdona's No. 1 Co. in "The Girl from Kay's," Miss Decima Moore in "The Truth," Mr. George Edwardes' No. 1 Co. in "See-See," Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and Co. in "The Royal Oak," The D'Oyly Carte Principal Répertoire Co., The No. 1 Moody-Manners Opera Co., "The Stepmother," Mr. Geo. Alexander's No. 1 Co. in "His House in Order," Messrs. Walter and Fredk. Melville's Dramas, The Middlesbrough Amateurs in "The Mikado," "Mr. Smith," Mr. Chas. Macdona's No. 1 Co. in "The Country Girl," Miss Marie Studholme in "My Darling," &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 21 (unexpectedly vacant), Dec. 2, 9, 16, Feb. 24, March 2, 9, 16, 30, April 6, 20, and on, with exceptions. All communications, Jno. Ed. Towsey, Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough. Telegrams: "Magnet, Middlesbrough." Nat. Tel. 413, 426, 500. Silence a polite negative.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, Aug. 26, Sept. 9, Oct. 7. Apply
Hugh Robertson, Jarrow.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, ACCRINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Musical Comedy, Sept. 2.
Jos. B. Ormerod.

WANTED, Attractions Touring Scotland to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, N.B. Vacant dates, apply to Manager, Cameron Burgess.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS, THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical preferred, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16 (?), Nov. 11, Dec. 9, Jan. 13, onwards. All three nights.
Apply, Auguste A. Peuleve, Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, NELSON.
WANTED, through disappointment, good Company, Musical Comedy or First-class Drama, Aug. 19, Aug. 19.
Silence a polite negative.
George E. Mudd, Business-Manager.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Oct. 14, on, Grand, Chorley; also Sept. 30, on, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, Sante, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Companies, Aug. 19, Sept. 2, and on, Musical Comedy or Drama, with change of Bill preferred. Elphinstone, Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Musical Attractions, Aug. 26, Dec. 2. Vacant Dec. 9, 16; Jan. 20, 27, Panto.
Sherwood and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Sept. 2 and 30, Oct. 7, 21, and 28, Nov. 18.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

PAVILION THEATRE, GRAND PIER, WESTON-SUPER-MARE. Run on popular lines. Can stage the largest Production touring.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Oct. 14 (three nights), and on, with exceptions; liberal terms given to the right companies. Address, John H. Stevenson.

NEW TOWER PAVILION, PORTOBELLO N.B. (2 miles from Edinburgh; cars pass doors every two minutes).
WANTED, Oct. 21, onwards, the very best Dramatic and Musical Comedy Cos. Hall seats 1,000; stage 50ft. by 22ft., proscenium opening 22ft.; electric light throughout; electric projectors, and four stage plugs. Everything up-to-date. Bookings in conjunction with Opera House, Dunfermline. Easy journey; 3 nights each town.
Address, Harry Marvello, Sole Proprietor.

TOWN HALL, ILFORD.
Population of district, over 100,000.
WANTED, First-class Musical Comedy, for Xmas week, commencing Dec. 26, 27, and 28, six performances. Apply, A. E. Abrahams, 26, Great Eastern-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Well-known Concert Parties, or Fit-up Company, for Ryde Pier Pavilion, Aug. 19 and 26 weeks.
Jay, 10, Jermyn-street, S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

LINGFORD CARSON'S CO.
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, for this Well-known Money-maker, Sept. 9, Oct. 7 and 14.
Sept. 9, Oct. 7 and 14.
Geo. A. De Gray,
Aug. 12, Royal Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 23, precede Glasgow, for Stanley Carlton's Co., "A Secret Wedding," by Edward Darley and Fred Benton. Wire, Aug. 26, Royal, Leicester.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 2.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23.
Apply,
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 9, 23.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 2, 9, and 23.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 25, Dec. 2 and 23.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

FRED MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Nov. 18 and 25.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 23,
March 2, 23.
Douglas Bruce, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Dec. 9, 23, 30.
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 21, Nov. 4.
Andrew Melville, Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 21, Dec. 2, 23.
Andrew Melville,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 30 and Oct. 28, in First-class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, weeks of Dec. 23 and 30.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"
and
"THE OCTOROON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 2, 9.
The audience was profoundly moved last night, by some of the scenes to unrestrained merriment, by others to tears. No better holiday piece could have been secured.—Birmingham Post.
Charles Harrington, Theatre, Pontypool.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Oct. 28 and Dec. 9.
J. W. Cordiner,
Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.
See Companies' Advertisement, page 2.

MR. THOMAS SIDNEY'S CO. in
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, Dates. Mr. Sidney is desirous of filling Aug. 26, Sept., and onward.
Add., Sidney, Prince's, Llandudno, (3); P., Rhyl (3).

WANTED.—Messrs. Lionel Glenister and J. Wood Ingram present
MISS KATE CUTLER.
Only vacant dates, Sept. 23, 30.
Address,
Wood Ingram, Duke of York's Theatre.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.,
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR,"
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Enormous business this week at G., Notts, refer. Guaranteed to be one of the finest dressed and mounted Plays ever Toured; exceptionally strong cast.
WANTED, Theatre (through transferring), Oct. 14, only vacant date this year; now arranging Spring, 1909. Wire for Oct. 14 to F. G. Kimberley, G. T., Notts; next, P. T., Blackburn (holiday date).

Mrs. ANN HUGHES' COMPANY,
in the New Comic Opera,
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
The Latest Opera Success.
WANTED, Sept. 16, between Glasgow and Manchester, Sept. 30, and few later.
Managers are cordially invited to come and see this Magnificent Production.
Absolutely everything carried.
This, Royal, Peterborough; next, O. H., Wakefield.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
LOUIE FREEAR
in
"SNOOKS,"
Aug. 15, 21, 29, 30, and 31, Sept. 12, 16, 17, Midlands or North.
Wires, "Yokefellow, London," or Charles, 28, Shakespeare-road, Herne Hill.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 21,
Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 16,
Dec. 23, 30.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1908.
Aug. 12, Metropole, Abertillery.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Renowned Attraction, Good Theatres for weeks of
Sept. 9, 23, 30,
Oct. 7, 21, 28.
Address, C. and F. Renad, Theatre Royal, Chatham.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Oct. 7, Nov. 11 and 25, Xmas and New Year's Week vacant.
Communications to George Kirk,
Prince's Theatre, Preston.

"UNDER THE STARS AND STRIPES."
A New American Military Musical Drama.
WANTED, Aug. 19, Aug. 19, Aug. 19.
Splendid plant of printing.
Correct dresses and properties.
Specially composed music.
Scenery by Mr. Charles Herrald.
Address, Cameron and Alexander,
Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY.
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, Aug. 19, Oct. 7, on, with exceptions.
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
the successful Novelty Drama.
Stuart Cleveland, Opera House, Doncaster.

SIDNEY RENNEF'S COMPANY.
"LOVE RULES THE WORLD," by T. G. Bailey.
WANTED, Christmas and New Year's Week, and Dates onward; must be Big Theatre; Eight Special Scenes carried. G. M. Copping, T. R., Sheffield; next, King's, Sunderland.

"HER MARRIAGE VOW."
"HER MARRIAGE VOW."
An Emphatic Success.
Refer A. C. Moody, T. R., Blyth.
WANTED, Sept. 30, to follow Cambridge, Oct. 7, 14, 21.
Every Artist guaranteed, ten years' experience.
Absolutely everything carried.
Garside and Knowles, T. R., South Shields.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, Aug. 26 and Sept. 2, various onward dates.
A most desirable attraction, perfect in detail, crowded with mystic and electrical effects.
A plenitude of palms, shrubs, flowers, and cushions.
Powerful, massive, two-manual organ.
Another Triumph at Princess's, Glasgow.
Specially selected to reopen Mr. Waldon's beautifully redecorated house. Opened to a magnificent house Monday. Tuesday a drop of 18s. only. Wednesday £7 better than Monday. The business can only be described as glorious. The Box-office tells the tale.
Refer, by permission, to Mr. Rich. Waldon.

Refer Messrs. C. J. Imeson and Sidney Bacon, also by courteous consent.
We never quote a reference unless authorised.

One of the most wonderful effects of imagination ever evolved. The central figure is of course Prince Rimanez, and in the hands of Mr. Edward Neville all the varying shades of sarcasm, bitterness, evil, and, at times, tenderness, of this weird yet exquisitely fascinating character are wonderfully and most effectively portrayed. The scene with the Prince at the organ was very fine, and the audience would willingly have had more of this. . . . Lady Sybil Elton, so held in the thrall of Lucifer, was exceedingly well rendered by Miss Rosie Neville.—Glasgow Times, Aug. 6.

Emphatic success, financial and artistic, of the intensely human play,
"NANA."
The rage of Paris. Played one or two nights, as desired. The brilliant young actress, Miss Rosie Neville, as Lady Sybil and Nana.
Wire re Aug. 26,
Loie Esmond, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.
Aug. 12, Theatre Royal, Norwich.

Messrs. SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE LOVE OF A LIFE,"
by Eugene Gotere.
WANTED, Sept. 2, Sept. 2, Sept. 2, and on, with exceptions.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL,"
by Wm. Hibbert.
Wanted, Aug. 26 (?), Sept. 2, and on, with exceptions. Thanks several Managers for Offers. We tour a First-class Show, and must have equitable terms.
John B. Shinton,
to-day, Star, Liverpool; next, H. M., Barrow.

ALFRED B. CROSS' TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, and Few Later,
"DIVORCED,"
a New Powerful Domestic Drama; also
"DAVID GARRICK,"
if Required. Both Solid Successes.

Victoria T., Burnley, Aug. 12.

"THE BRANDED WOMAN."
"THE BRANDED WOMAN."
MRS. F. WYBERT CLIVE'S CO.,
including Mr. Frank E. Petley and Miss Lilian Ross. Now in second year of Tour.
WANTED, for this brilliant Attraction, Sept. 2, 9, 16, and Oct. 7. Company second to none. Gorgeously mounted, and 300 Sheets of Pictorials, without a repeat. Apply, Walter Steele, to-day, Grand T., Radcliffe; next, T. R., Hyde.

Second Year of Continuous Tour.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
"THE CONSCRIPT."
The greatest of all Russian Dramas.
Still playing to crowded and delighted audiences.
WANTED, good Theatres, Sept. 2, 9, and 23.
Apply, Walter Steele, to-day, Grand T., Radcliffe; next, T. R., Hyde.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
by Frank Lindo.
WANTED, good Theatres, for remaining Dates, Nov. 18 and 25.
Fast filling Spring and Autumn, 1908.
Mr. Frank Lindo, Miss Marion Wakeford, and full Company.
Address,
Frank Lindo, Theatre Royal, Stockport (return).

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY and
MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO., in
the highly successful Comedy,
"MY WIFE," "MY WIFE."
Now playing to crowded houses at the HAYMARKET THEATRE, LONDON.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Sept. 26 (three nights), Sept. 30, Oct. 14 (three nights), and Oct. 28.
Add., Mr. Silvanus Dauncey, T. R., Middlesbro'.

MESSRS. ELLIMAN'S ENTERPRISES.
"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, for this Great Attraction, doing tremendous business this week at West Hartlepool. Refer H. E. Feather, Esq., or any manager where we have visited. Several Autumn Dates, Christmas and New Year also Vacant. Communications, G. M. Hurst, this, Century, Motherwell; next, Metropole, Glasgow; or en route.

JAMES HARE'S MASCOTTE.
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
The complete Production travelled.
WANTED, week of Oct. 21.
James Hare, to-day, Ilkeston; next week, Gaiety, Burnley.

WANTED, Big Theatres, Aug. 19 and 26, for "The Cry of the Children," enormous draw.
Alexander, North Pier Pavilion, Scarborough.

ROSE MONCRIEFF'S CO.,
"THE CURATE."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 14 and onwards, with exceptions; entire production carried.
Address, Newman Maurice, Brixton Theatre, S.W.

WANTED, Theatre, for Aug. 26, for Stanley Carlton's Co., "A Secret Wedding." Refer J. Culcen, Esq. This, Burnley; next, T. R., Leicester.

WANTED, for Walter Howard's Latest Play, "Second to None," important theatre, Xmas, sharing terms only. Coms., T. E. Ward, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

FLORENCE GLOSSOP-HARRIS REPERTOIRE.
WANTED, for Shakespearean Répertoire and the Drury Lane Drama, "Royal Oak," Oct. 7, 14, 21, and 28, Dec. 16 and on, with exceptions.
Claude E. Wallis, G. T., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Dates, Sept. 2, and onward, for Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner, with London Co., in "Camille," including Mr. Walter Maclean.
Address,
Theatre Royal, Ryde, I.O.W.

WANTED, for "The Woman Pays." Oct. 14, North or Scotland, Nov. 11 (L. and Y.), and Dec. 2, 23, 30. F. M. Thorne, Prince's T., Preston.

WANTED, Theatres, for Miss Frances Delaval's Co., "Her Lost Self," by Nita Rae; "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore. Vacant Sept. 9. Wire, to-day, T. R., Leicester; Aug. 12, Metropole, Devonport (third return).

WANTED, Known, "Her Lost Self," by Nita Rae; "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore. Tremendous success of third return to Leicester. Want Sept. 9, 23. Wire, to-day, Frances Delaval, T. R., Leicester; Mon., Metropole, Devonport.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, Oct. 21, 28, Xmas.
Fred Bulmer, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Sept. 2 and 9.
Fred Bulmer, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 7, Nov. 4.
Fred Bulmer, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, good Theatres, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 16.
Henry L. Osmond, T. R., Shrewsbury.

"HER MOTHER'S SIN."
WANTED, good Theatres, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, Oct. 21 and 28, Arthur Shirley's Latest Domestic Play. Henry L. Osmond, T. R., Shrewsbury.

"THE HERO OF THE FLAG."
WANTED, Aug. 19, Aug. 19. Aug. 19, Sept. 2, and few later. Wire, wire, wire, Edwd. McLean, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow; next, Dumfries (three), Hawick (three).

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
Managers Note
Production of New Play,
"ROLLICKING RORY,"
"ROLLICKING RORY,"
"ROLLICKING RORY,"
"ROLLICKING RORY,"
"ROLLICKING RORY,"
"ROLLICKING RORY,"
"ROLLICKING RORY,"
"ROLLICKING RORY,"
"ROLLICKING RORY,"
A Rollicking Roaring Success.

Mr. Pritt, Manager of the T. R., Preston, in an unsolicited letter, says:—
Staging magnificent.
I never saw more charming scenery.
Costumes artistically conceived.
General effect perfect.
Success clearly proved by
Unstinted applause and
Cheers of delight.
Predict you will make more money than with "The Wearin' o' the Green."

We anticipated a Success,
But not such a brilliant Triumph.
Scenery and Costumes the talk of Preston.
Choice of Dates offered for return.
Only one vacant date (through transfer) till beyond New Year.

WANTED, Theatre, Nov. 18, vacant between H. M., Blackpool, and Shields.
Now Booking Spring, 1908.
Pleased to hear from Managers of No. 1 Theatres
Willing to give No. 1 Terms to
No. 1 Company
Playing a No. 1 Success.
CHALMERS MACKEY, Royal Court Theatre, Wigan, Aug. 12, six nights.

"DAVID BALLARD,"
"DAVID BALLARD,"
"DAVID BALLARD,"
a Play in three Acts,
by Charles McEvoy.

WANTED, Dates for the above, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 11 (North), and onwards.
Also several Dates in Spring, 1908.
Also,
"THE FANTASTICKS,"
"THE FANTASTICKS,"
translated by George Fleming from Rostand's "Les Romanesques."
"WIDOWERS' HOUSES,"
"WIDOWERS' HOUSES,"
by George Bernard Shaw.
The above Plays can be played separately or as Répertoire.
Apply,
B. IDEN PAYNE, Midland Hotel Theatre, Manchester.

"THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD."
"THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD."
"THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD."

WANTED, Sept. 9 and 16, for this enormous Attraction, a Roman Religious Play. "And the people that walked in darkness have seen a great light." Full Choral Effects; powerful Company of twenty Artists.

F. B. WOULFE, Theatre Royal, Colne.

WANTED, Big Theatre, for Aug. 26, Stanley Carlton's Co., "A Secret Wedding."
Next, T. R., Leicester.

HARTWELL J. KIRBY'S CO.
"MAN'S ENEMY; or, THE LOVE THAT WON."

Acknowledged to be one of the Best Melodramas now Touring.
Company Second to None, including the Favourite Actress Miss V. St. Lawrence.
WANTED, Dates, Sept., Oct., Nov., and Dec. This week, T. R., Consett; next, T. R., Blyth.

Coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."

WANTED, for Lingford Carson's No. 1 Co., Sept. 23 (North), Oct. 14 and 28 (Midlands), a First-Class Attraction, for best Theatres only. Address, EDWARD VAN BIENE, General-Manager, His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen.

By Arrangement with Mr. George Alexander.
"LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN,"
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
By Oscar Wilde.

WANTED, Immediately, Aug. 26, unexpectedly vacant, between Queen's, Manchester, and Gaiety, Dublin; also Sept. 16 (to follow Royalty, Glasgow), Nov. 8, 18, and Spring. MONCKTON HOFFE, to-day, Grand, Hull; next, Grand, Swansea.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, Oct. 14, 21 (Midlands),
Oct. 14 and 21,
Nov. 4 and 25,
Oct. 14, 21, Nov. 4, 25.
Fast Booking Spring, '08.
Cast, Scenery, and Printing A1. Refer.
FRANK AYRTON,
Colosseum, Oldham.

"BENEATH THE STARS."
"BENEATH THE STARS."
An Enormous Dramatic Success.

WANTED, Aug. 26 (follow Bilston), Sept. 2, intermediate dates on, for above emphatic success. All special scenery carried, magnificent pictorials (all full-coloured), strong company. Produced here last Monday. Terrific success. Everything sound; no trouble. Refer, Refer, Refer, before booking. Wire for Aug. 26, Sept. 2, COLEMAN DAVIES, Saturday, Queen's, Fleetwood; next week, T. R., Wednesbury.

WANTED, Theatre, for Stanley Carlton's Co., "A Secret Wedding," Vacant Aug. 26, Aug. 26, Aug. 26. This, Gaiety, Burnley; next, Royal, Leicester.

MR. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"THE BEST OF HER SEX." The Dramatic success of 1907. Another enormous hit at Theatre Royal Dewsbury this week. Refer to J. Herbert Asquith, Esq. Miss Dora Price as Vera Delorme.
WANTED, Sept. 9 (follow Luton), 16 (three nights, precede Crewe), 30, Oct. 14, and onwards with exceptions. Christmas vacant. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, to-day, T. R., Dewsbury; next, Prince of Wales' Theatre, Grimsby.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S CO'S.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 16 (South), Nov. 11, 25, and on, with exceptions. WALTER BAYLISS, 29, Winifred-grove, Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for
"A MOTHER'S LOVE,"
Aug. 26,
Aug. 26,
Between Portsmouth and Manchester.
Sept. 30,
Sept. 30,
Between Manchester and Newcastle.
Address, FRED L. CONNYNGHAME.
This, O. H., Leicester; next, T. R., Stratford.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES CO., LTD.
"FAIR ONE WITH GOLDEN LOCKS."

WANTED, Good Theatre, North, Feb. 3 (only vacant date). STANLEY ROGERS, T. R., North Shields.

"WANTED BY THE POLICE."

WANTED, Sept. 9, 16 (follow Swansea), Oct. 14 21 (follow Birmingham, &c.), big opening Monday, and Tuesday £4 better, despite big opposition. Wires. HERBERT BARRS, Abertillery; Monday, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Sept. 2, 23, 30, "Under Two Flags; or "In King's Name."
MARK BLOW, T. R., Hanley.

WILLIAM HOLLES AND NANNIE GOLDMAN'S CO., in Arthur Shirley's Great Domestic Drama.
"THE STEPMOTHER."

WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 21, 28.
Wire, WILLIAM HOLLES,
Grand, Walsall.

"THE HONEYMOON."
The Funniest Musical Play on Record.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 23 (North), Oct. 21 (Lancs).
Rapidly Booking Spring, 1908.
Add., GILBERT PAYNE, North-st., St. Andrews, N.B.

MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S CO.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."

WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, for the above attraction. Address, ARMADALE and WARREN, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
The Latest Successful Musical Comedy.
Special New Scenery. Gorgeous Costumes.
New Printing by Allen and Sons.
Splendid Cast of Well-known Artists, including
Mr. Walter Champney,
Mr. Ralph Lynn,
Mr. Laurence Wensley,
Mr. Harry Fischer,
Miss Julia Bassett,
Miss Florence Watson, and
Miss Ethel Dunford.
Full London Operatic Chorus,
under the Direction of the Composer,
Mr. Albert E. Wilson.

WANTED, for this Grand Attraction, Sept. 16, Sept. 16, Sept. 16
Sept. 16, Sept. 16, Sept. 16
(to follow Merthyr);
Also Sept. 23, Sept. 23,
Also Sept. 23, Sept. 23,
Oct. 7, Oct. 7, Oct. 7
Oct. 7, Oct. 7, Oct. 7
(to precede Glasgow).
Terrific Success at Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.
This Wolverhampton; next, Shrewsbury.
All communications,
HAMILTON BAINES, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

"SAVED FROM THE SEA."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
Everything carried.
Bookings include Prince's, Portsmouth; Alex., Hull; Court, Warrington; Rot., Liverpool; Col., Oldham; Alex., Sheffield; Met., Devonport; Alex., Birmingham.

WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 9, Xmas Week,
and Spring, 1908, with various exceptions.
Apply, SAMUEL JAMES,
Theatre Royal, Croydon.

"THE LOVE THAT LASTS FOR EVER."
By Edward Thane.

WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 4, 18, Dec. 2 (?), Xmas Week.
Clear Stage only required.
Apply,
SAMUEL JAMES,
as above.

"AS GOOD AS GOLD,"
by Fred S. Jennings.
Past and present bookings include Dalston, West London, Alex., Birmingham, P. O. W., Grimsby, P. O. W., Salford, T. R., Chatham, T. R., Smethwick.
Everything Carried. Clear Stage only Required.
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 14, 28, Nov. 11, 25, Xmas Week. Apply, SAMUEL JAMES, as above.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, Sept. 16,
for John Hart's Manchester Production of
"As You Like It."
Apply, JOHN HART, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

WANTED, Aug. 26, Stanley Carlton's Co., "A Secret Wedding." Refer J. Culeen, Esq. Wire for Aug. 26, Royal, Leicester.

WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 26, onwards, R. Pender's Company, twenty-five Artists, in Hickory Wood's latest success, "The Golden Goose," Musical Burletta, in two Scenes, and seven Variety turns. Wire, 20, Temple-street, S.E.

ARTISTS WANTED.

MR. GERALD LUKE'S
AMATEUR LIGHT OPERA CO.
"FLORODORA," two performances at the Byfield Hall, Barnes, in October.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen, with good voices (amateurs), for small parts and Chorus; excellent opportunity for a thorough training in Comic Opera. Voice trial and interview by appointment. 33, Cambridge-road, Gunnersbury, W.

WANTED, immediately, for Musical Comedy, Principal Baritone, Comedian, and Soubrette, for Tour abroad; First-Class Artists only need apply. Artists holding engagements please state where performance can be seen.

Apply by letter to
ALFRED DOVE,

Box 5,245, care of "The Era,"
giving all particulars.

G. CARLTON WALLACE'S CO.
"THE LANCASHIRE LAD."

WANTED, for Production and Tour, commencing Sept. 16, First-Class Artists, for the following: Leading Gentleman, Heavy Lady, Heavy Gentleman, Light Comedienne (really good song and dance). Intense Character, also several good Responsibles. Recent photos. and full particulars, c/o Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for Autumn Tour, good responsible Gentleman, young; also very tall Gentleman, for elderly Aristocratic part (Comedy); Baggage Man; no other vacancies. Letters, first instance, with actual height, photo., and lowest terms, RUSSELL NORRIE, Vaudeville Theatre, W.C.

WANTED, Musical Comedy Artists, for India, starting late October. Apply immediately. Also for Australia, Tall Juvenile Man, not singing; must have Irish brogue. Also Tenor Choristers, for provincial tour, immediately. Prima Donna, for Australia; must be young, pretty, and have an exceptional voice. Apply C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, Artists, for Sketch Production, London, one week. Lady for Low Comedy; must be a big woman, not tall. Lady for ditto Old Woman, slight. Boy, to look about 10, experienced, joint with either preferred. Smart Lady for small part. Experienced Artists only dealt with. Full particulars for appointment, enclosing photos., which will be returned. H. F., Empire, Camberwell.

WANTED, young, pretty, and refined Actress (Soprano), for Musical Comedy; two pretty Acrobatic Dancers, must be 5ft. 5in. in height (girls with voices preferred); also tall, graceful Chorus and few Show Ladies. Photos. (which will be returned), references, and absolute lowest terms, Messrs. COWPER SMITH and D. PAYNE, Ashcroft, Elmfield-road, Bromley, Kent.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."

WANTED, First-Class Leading Man (tall), Ripe Comedian, and Comedy Old Woman (latter with child over 14 for Waif), and two tall Responsible Men, rehearse Aug. 26. Send height, age, last two references, where not known, with addresses for two weeks to Box 5,238, "The Era."

"NO MAN'S LAND" TOUR.

WANTED, Powerful Leading Character Actor and Young Actor, for Comedy Boy, to rehearse 19th; also Gentlemanly Comedy Old Man, to rehearse 12th. HENRY HERNE, 18, Howard-street, Wakefield, till Sunday; then, P.O.W. Theatre, Mexboro'.

"END CROWNS ALL" CO.

WANTED, at Once, Robust Character Actor; must be tall, for small declamatory part; also responsible Lady for small Comedy part. Rehearse Monday, Barrow. Wire, terms, references (which will be wired for), height, &c., TULLOCK, Athenæum Theatre, Lancaster; next, Royalty, Barrow.

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."

WANTED, to rehearse 15th, a tall, Robust Gentleman, for small part. State lowest salary, also age, height, experience, and enclose photo., to BERTRAM, H.M.T., Carlisle.

WANTED, rehearse, Aug. 19, Dalston, Gentleman for Strong Acting Part, supposed to be forty-five years of age; must also take charge of company. SAMUEL JAMES, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

THE IAN MACLAREN SHAKESPEAREAN AND OLD ENGLISH COMEDY CO.

WANTED, Strong Tall Juvenile Gentleman. Age, references, photos., terms, &c. Letters only. Steeton High Hall, near Keighley.

"A SECRET WEDDING."

WANTED, good Juvenile Leading Man; part twelve pages, but important; only experienced Artists apply. Full particulars, STANLEY CARLTON, T. R., Leicester.

WANTED, Gentleman, for French Tour, able to speak language fluently, starting in September. MANAGER, The Baths, Ogleforth, York.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Good-looking Juvenile Actor, with rich baritone voice; also Light Eccentric Comedian (a Gentleman), to sing and dance; also Good Pianist-Conductor. Latter wire immediately.
CHARLES CAREY,
Palace Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, to Rehearse Shortly, Gentlemanly Heavy; must be 5ft. 11in. Also Tall Utility Gentleman. Apply, with full particulars, &c., Box 5,248, "The Era."

WANTED, Gentleman, for A1 Dude Part.
Box 5,250, "The Era."

WANTED, smart responsible Man, for small but important parts; tall. Send height, age, &c., MANAGER, 20, Parliament-street, Stockton.

WANTED, Young Comedian, rehearse at once.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Junction Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, a refined Young Lady, Certified Teacher of Pianoforte, Harmony, and Singing, for an up-to-date Academy of Music. Photo., with two references, A. GODFREY, 24, Wingfield-road, Stratford, E.

ROYAL IMPERIAL ENTERTAINERS.

WANTED, owing to extension of season, good First-Class Baritones, Sopranos, Contraltos, must be good, used Al Fresco preferred, gentlemen, Straight Man, Sketches, conscientious workers, and those who do not obtain Contracts by misrepresenting only. Photos., particulars, MANAGER, 98, St. Heliers-road, Cleethorpes. The Grays write. Suitable people twenty weeks next year.

WANTED, experienced Tenor and Bass, for High-class Sextet; also brilliant Lady Pianist, must be good dancer, must be young and good musician. Call, THE NEW MUSICAL COMEDY AGENCY, 15, Green-street, Leicester-square, W. (See Agents Column).

WANTED, Girls, with good voices. Apply, 3 p.m., Monday.
19, Chenies-street, Tottenham Court-road, W.C.

WANTED, twenty-five Young Ladies, Dancers, for England.
Apply, SHERRK and BRAFF, 17, Lisle-street, W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Petite, Chams., Low Comedy or Straight Parts, or Children's Parts; Sing and Dance; for Autumn. Open for Panto., Sing and Dance. Box 5,227, "The Era."

WANTED, by G. Leslie Buxton, Character or Juvenile, Drama, Comedy, or Panto. Immediate offers invited. Emp., Douglas, Isle of Man.

Wouldn't mind if he danced on my feet.

WANTED, Known, Young Man just completing prolonged course of Grotesque Dancing under private tuition of one of the best known past masters of the Art desires Engagement, Musical Comedy or Panto.
Apply, Box 5,189, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, William D. Vincent, Tenor, at Liberty Sept. 3, concerts, town or seaside. 167, Tachbrook-street, Belgrave-road, London, S.W.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Principals and Chorus for Pantomime. Call or send particulars, photo., terms, &c., to THE NEW MUSICAL COMEDY AGENCY, 16, Green-street, Leicester-square, W. (See Agents Column).

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 35, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

MILTON RAY'S COMPANIES.
"DON QUIXOTE."

WANTED, Principal Girl; must be good Vocalist, and young, to open at once. Address, photo. and particulars, to ARTHUR MILTON, 102, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

WANTED, tall Chorus and Show Ladies, for Pantomime. References, terms, &c., to E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, also smart Dancers, for Pantomime, Christmas. Send full particulars, HENRY CURWEN, 32, Devonshire-street, All Saints, Manchester.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Allen Amber, Panto., Dame or Page, last year Ugly Sister with Charles Chard's "Cinderella." Add., White Stars, Cleethorpes. Fourth season here.

WANTED, Pantomime Engagement, Ethel Hadie and George Hall, Principal Girl, Comedian, Stage or Assistant Management, also Comedy Musical Act. Photos., refs. GEORGE HALL, Al Fresco Pavilion, Keighley-road, Bradford.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, to paint Scenery to enhance the attractions of your production. Lowest prices. Brilliant effects. See "For Her Sake," "World's Great Snare," &c. W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-road, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Scenic Artist, First-class references; late T. R., Plymouth, Oldham, &c. PEDGEON, 22, Hoe-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, town or provinces. Refs. Address, 40, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, by Alfred Ford, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract Work, town or provinces. 110, Wenlock-street, New North-road, Islington.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Smart Stage-Manager, Bill Inspector, used to two houses a night, must be sober, of good character, and not afraid of work. State age, height, wages wanted, and addresses for last three references, which will be applied for, endorsing envelope, "Stage-Manager." THOS. A. EVANS, Manager, Palace of Varieties, Northampton.

WANTED, Gentleman, as Acting-Manager for Music Hall in Provinces; must be energetic and experienced. State age, weekly salary required, and full particulars. Only those whose characters will bear strictest investigation need apply by letter. Box 5,239, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Business-Manager or good Agent, for the Original Arthur Saxon Trio's new Act. Communications to 56, Upper Brook-street, Manchester.

WANTED, First-class Producer, for small one-act plays and sketches.
A good position assured to the right man.

Write fully, in strict confidence, to
Box 5,249, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

A FILMS AGENCY.
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WANTED, a Gentleman, who is thoroughly conversant with every detail of the Film Trade,
and who has a good Connection among the Buyers in London,
to act as Agent
for a well-known Film Manufactory.

Proper Security must be given.

Applications to be addressed to
NORDISK FILMS CO., Frihavnen, Copenhagen.
NORDISK FILMS CO., Frihavnen, Copenhagen.
NORDISK FILMS CO., Frihavnen, Copenhagen.

WANTED, Smart Clerk and Book-keeper (shorthand and typewriting essential), used to music hall or theatre, abstainer preferred. Apply, stating age, experience, references, and salary required, to A. E. PICKARD, Esq., Britannia, Glasgow.

THE LEO VINT'S ORGANISATIONS.

WANTED, to open at once, smart, energetic Advance Agent (working Agent), Second Assistant Agent allowed, must be used to Public Hall working, large and small towns. State age, experience, last two references (with addresses where same can be confirmed), and lowest terms for permanent engagement; must have experience in all branches of Advance duties, must use sticks, newspapers, &c. LEON VINT, Esq., 3, Horn-hill, Millom, Cumberland, until Wed., Aug. 14.

WANTED, a few good Bill-Posters, must be used to shopping. State age, experience, references, and salary required (abstainers essential). A. E. PICKARD, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Billposter, practical and reliable, competent with horses. State wages and particulars. MEXBORO' BILLPOSTING CO.

"A FALSE WIFE" TOUR.

WANTED, Tall Baggage-man; must be able to play part.
Rehearse at once.
References and particulars to
F. MARRIOTT WATSON, Prince's T., Bradford.

WANTED, open immediately, thoroughly reliable Baggage Man.
Last references.
F. CLIVE ROSS, Spa Theatre, Scarborough.

WANTED, for Joseph Poole's Myrioramas, Picture Workers, Window Biller, Baggage-men; join at once. J. WOLSELEY POOLE, Town Hall, Pwllheli.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First-Class experienced General-Manager, for Theatre, Concert, Gardens, Variety, &c., permanency, good organiser, accountant. Terms moderate; highest references; Liberty Sept. Address, Box 5,243, "The Era."

WANTED, by Miss A. Bence, late Secretary to the late Sir Augustus Harris and Mr. Arthur Collins, Drury Lane Theatre, Secretarial and Managerial appointment; would act at night; big soprano voice; London or country.
Address,
c/o Mrs. G. Griffiths, 11, Sinclair-road, Kensington.

WANTED, Engagement, Working Advance Agent, thorough experience, any business; join at once, distance no object. HARCOURT, 219, Folkestone-road, Dover.

WANTED, Engagement, good Window-Biller; would assist Agent or Props, make myself useful during daytime. Address, PROPS, 55, Denman-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged in two weeks' time, Two Strong Youths, 20, 24, Baggage, Billing, Posting, Limes, Props. Joint, 40s., workers, respectable. Box 5,237, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Assistant to Entertainer, Company, Theatre, any kind of Show, &c., age 24, 6ft., smart, good references and experience. WILLIAM, 12½, Fisher-street, Kingsway, London, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Amy Samwells, First-Class Wardrobe Mistress, shortly at Liberty. C/o MADAM HINA, 1, Prima-road, Brixton, London.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for Circus and Hippodrome, Rochdale, Leader, Piano, Bass, Flute, Cornet, Trombone, and Drums. Open Aug. 26. Apply, JACKSON, 23, Spring Valley-gardens, Edinburgh. After Aug. 15, 99, South-street, Rochdale.

WANTED, Musical-Director (Pianist), experienced in writing and teaching four-part harmony, open Monday. CADLE, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Leader, First Violin, Drums, own Tymps (Glockenspiel, Xylophone, if possible), open at once. Age, refs., F. BRAHAM, Regent Theatre, Salford.

WANTED, Leader; must understand music hall business. Apply, stating full particulars, D. J. CLARKE, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

C. W. POOLE'S IMPERIAL MYRIORAMA.

WANTED, immediately, competent Musical Director (Violin), Bass, and Clarionet; must provide evening dress and assist with fittings when travelling. State terms and forward copies of references to C. F. COUPER, Oddfellows' Hall, Jersey, C.I.

WANTED, for a First-class Suburban Music Hall, a Musical Director, who must be a first-class violinist and capable conductor.
Apply, stating lowest terms, with copies of references, to
Box 981, c/o WILLING'S, 125, Strand, W.C.

PALACE, KILMARNOCK.

WANTED, to complete Orchestra, First Violin, Bass, Cornet, Drums, Piano, commence Sept. 2. Lowest terms, copy of latest references, to J. CUMMINGS, 97, Whitevale, Dennistoun, Glasgow.

WANTED, First Violin, Second Violin, Oboe, Drums, Clarionet, Viola. Address,
MANAGER, Hippodrome, Manchester, S.W.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Belfast, good First Violin, to open Monday, Aug. 19.
Apply to EDGAR HAINES, Conductor.

WANTED, good First Violin, to join at once; also Second Cornet, to play alternately with First; season to Oct. 5, to commence Sunday, Aug. 18. References, MICHAEL CONNELLY, Musical-Director, Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Second Violin Player, for Nine Months' Tour.
Apply, ST. CLAIR,
Stage Door,
Lyric Theatre, London, W.

WANTED, Violin Leader, to open Monday, Aug. 19. C. MEEK, Manager,
Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, for one week (D'Oyly Carte's), commencing Sept. 2, First-Class Violin, Clarionet, Oboe, Bassoon. Lowest inclusive terms to MANAGER, Grand Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Leading Cornet, salary £2 per week; and Second Cornet, 32s. 6d. per week; money sure; must be steady; join at once. Monday, Kilkenny; Tuesday, Kilmacow; Wednesday, Tramore, Ireland.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, for Theatre Royal, Dublin, good and comfortable Engagement for First-class Performer. Apply, with references, to JOHN MOODY, Musical-Director.

WANTED, Second Cornet, four weeks' engagement, commence Monday, 19th, 5 hours daily. Terms, refs., to CONDUCTOR, Esplanade Band, Rothesay, Scotland.

WANTED, good sober Solo Cornet, 32s. 6d.; Solo Trombone, 30s.; commence Monday. Address, COOK, Fossett's Circus (Sat. and Monday), Merthyr Tydvil.

WANTED, immediately, Solo Cornet, also D. Drummer and Tympanist; must be experienced in Variety. Wire, W. LEECH, Manager, Empire, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, for Lord John Sanger and Sons', Ltd., Royal Circus, good Solo Cornet, salary 35s., to join at once. Address, BANDMASTER, Sanger's, Ltd., Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, immediately, for Yarmouth, good Orchestral Clarionet, five weeks; also First-Class Pianist and 'Cellist (playing other instruments preferred), for Johannesburg (Africa), six months, must stay twelve months if required, leaving England Sept. 21. Send lowest. DELIVAT, Wellington Pier, Yarmouth.

WANTED, four string Bass, Violins, Clarionet. Wire,
COOPER, Town Band, Llandudno.

WANTED, for Bostock and Wombwell's Royal No. 1 Menagerie, competent Bombardon Player. Address, MILLS, Leader, Saturday, Sefton Park, Liverpool; Monday, Widnes; Tues., Warrington.

THE OXFORD, W.

WANTED, First Horn and Second Violin, to open at once. Others write in. All must be well up in variety business. State age, terms, and references to W. BURGESS, Musical Director.

WANTED, reliable Second Horn, Southport Corporation Band, five weeks, commencing Aug. 25. Terms 47s. 6d. per week. Apply, HORN, 97, Cemetery-road, Southport.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Managing-Director, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR.

WANTED, through disappointment, competent Oboe Player, to commence Aug. 26, or earlier. Former applicants please write. Address, with references, &c., J. O. SHEPHERD, Musical-Director.

GRAND THEATRE, HULL.

WANTED, to commence on Aug. 26, a good Oboe Player; must be a good reader, and used to Opera. Lowest terms and references to LOUIS HERMANN, Mus. Dir.

WANTED, reliable 'Cello, Viola, and Double Drums; open at once. Wire lowest terms, &c., J. A. GARDNER, Grand Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, good 'Cello Player.
References and terms to MANAGER.

WANTED, 'Cellist and First Cornet, to open Monday next, Aug. 12. Wire,
SHERWOOD, Theatre, Wakefield.

WANTED, Viola, any Business; experienced. Disengaged Aug. 3.
HARRY OLDFIELD, 10, Neate-street, Camberwell.

WANTED, Flute, Piccolo, Double Bass, open Monday, Llandudno. Send terms,
MANAGER, 3, Drury-lane, Liverpool.

THE EMPIRE SERENADERS.
Proprietors, The Empire Concert Co., Ltd.
General-Manager, Mr. Wilfred Marshall.

WANTED, First-Class Pianist, sight reader, youth, refinement, and experience in the highest type of Al Fresco imperative; no collecting. Photo, lowest terms, and two recent references, to WILFRED MARSHALL, Hippodrome, Llandudno.

WANTED, Pianist, for Wadbrook Royal Electrograph and Palace of Varieties, able to read first sight. Syd Mumford write. Wadbrook, Maesteg, Glam.

WANTED, Pianist, used to Al Fresco. Lowest terms and particulars,
LOUIS BEARD, Grand Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, Pianist, must be First-Class (Vocalist preferred), young, gentlemanly, good appearance imperative, open Aug. 19. Photo. and full particulars, HARRY RUSSELL, Hornsea, Yorks.

WANTED, First-Class Pianist, Al Fresco, able to read and transpose at sight. Lowest terms, refs., WOOD, Zoological Gardens, Stapenhill, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Pianist, to Combine other Instrument; Trombone; open Aug. 19, King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy. Terms, refs., age, to DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Pianist, to travel with Auction Mart; must be a good Player, and read at sight. References required. Those used to the business preferred. ROWLEY, 16, Waterloo-road, Freemantle, Southampton.

WANTED, reliable Pianist, for T. R., Windsor (once nightly); also good Cornet, for N. London (twice nightly); experienced in variety. Apply, lowest terms and refs., to CONDUCTOR, 6, Albany-road, Windsor.

WANTED, a Pianist, to Conduct, must be able to arrange Band Parts; a long tour for steady man.

Lowest terms to
W. J. CHURCHILL,
Llandudno.

WANTED, for Pool and Boscoe's Electric Coliseum, Drums, Tenting, open 13th; Drums found. Apply, LEADER, Sat., Athenry; Mon., Ballinasloe; Tues., Banagher, Co. Galway, Ireland.

WANTED, to open Aug. 12, good Double Drummer and 'Cellist; permanent if suitable. Wire, ALBERT CATT, Conductor, Hippodrome, Hastings.

WANTED, Double Drummer; must be used to Varieties, and thoroughly steady and reliable, to open Aug. 12. JAS. HOWARTH, Conductor, Empire, Edinburgh.

WANTED, First-class Drummer, also Cornet Player, for permanency.
Address, with terms and references,
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Musicians, Musical Duties Only, String Players and Pianists, for White Star Mediterranean Service (single men preferred). State age, experience, and names and addresses of two references for character and ability. Engagements commencing Aug., Sept., and Oct., for about 10 or 12 months. Also a Few Vacancies on Cunard and White Star North Atlantic Service in Sept. and Oct. Permanencies. MR. CHARLES WM. BLACK, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Full Orchestra, including Pianist (Lady or Gentleman), for four weeks' extension of season, Droitwich Brine Baths, open Aug. 26, probably engagement following. Otto Bayer and Griffiths write. Age, refs., lowest terms, RUSSELL, Conductor, Rainbow Hill, Worcester.

WANTED, for Picture Show, Ladies' Orchestra, consisting of Bass, Drums, First Violin, Cornet, and Piano; six months one town; commence Tour Sept. 2. J. CUMMINGS, 97, Whitevale-street, Dennistoun, Glasgow.

WANTED, several reliable Instrumentalists, State experience. ROBERT J. MCDERMOTT, Musical Director, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street,, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, permanent Engagement, by smart young Conductor, any business; total abstainer, vast experience; splendid library; married; highest refs.; everything up to date; evening dress if required. Apply, Box 5,221, "The Era."

WANTED, by Conductor, experienced, Post in good Provincial Theatre; excellent references; Seaside preferred. Box 5,232, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Post, as Conductor or Leader, good London theatre; 9 years' experience; good references. Box 5,231, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Reuben Hodges has resigned as Conductor at the Grand Theatre; held position nine years. Wanted, Engagement as Conductor or Musical Director. Address, 4, Belperrd., Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement by Musical-Director, Violinist, over three years present engagement; excellent references; steady and reliable. Goddard, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, by Young Lady Violinist, Re-engagement as Répititeur and Soloist; excellent refs. Miss Wilkinson, Sutton Lodge, Great Sutton, near Chester.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Lady Violinist (medallist), for September; would join Orchestra; Manchester district preferred. Box 5,220, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement in Ladies' Orchestra, as First or Second Violin.
Miss Hilda Pratt, Park-street, Chatteris, Cambs.

WANTED, Engagement, First Violin, in London Theatre or Music Hall Orchestra. C. H. Moore, Grove Cottage, Basildon, near Billericay, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Young Violinist (lady) would like to join First-class Concert Touring Party as Solo Violinist. Write, Box 5,224, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady Violinist. Musician,
47, Carter-terrace, Greenheys, Manchester.

WANTED, through disappointment, by Violinist (reader), doing clever trick turn; also Banjo Speciality, engagement, any business. Llewellyn, 8, Tangier-place, Tangier-lane, Eton, Windsor.

WANTED, by Clarionet (good), Engagement, permanent, Orchestral or Military; strictly temperate and reliable; excellent refs. Box 5,234, "The Era."

WANTED, by Clarionet, week or two at Seaside; anyone wanting to come to town could exchange. 21 Eversleigh-rd, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Double Bass (4 strings), any Business; good refs.; London and Suburbs. Vincent, 18, Fawcett-street, Chelsea.

WANTED, Known, shortly at Liberty, Bass (string) and Cornet, jointly or otherwise; experienced, any bus.; perm. preferred. Add., C/o Musical-Director, Palace, Aberdeen.

WANTED, by experienced Trombone, Engagement, Military or Orchestra; could also manage Second Violin; good references. T. Morris, 28, Poplar-avenue, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Bombardon (E Flat), reliable, good refs.; open for deputising in town. Address, 142, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. Cassells, 37, Great Percy-st., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Young 'Cellist desires change; thoroughly experienced, good refs.; present 'Cello First-class Music Hall, North preferred. Box 5,228, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, from Sept. 1, Engagement, 'Cello and Clarionet. Excellent references. 'Cellist, 23, Dorset-road, Littlehampton.

WANTED, by Solo 'Cellist, Engagement in High-class Hotel or Café Orchestra. Highest references. Address, 'Cellist, Box 5,235, "The Era."

WANTED, Permanent Engagement by High class Oboeist, Theatre Experience, Total Abstainer. State Terms. Oboe, 69, King-street, Peterhead.

WANTED, Engagement or Deputising, by Flautist and Piccolo Soloist; experienced, any business; good refs. Flautist, Anglesey Villa, Grunesian-road, Finchley.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Sydney Grahame, solo pianist, conductor, Dis. Aug. 12, variety, pictures, or any business. Address, Golden Lion Hotel, Ludlow, Salop.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Arthur Creighton, Pianist, Disengaged; Variety or Classical; experienced; dep. or perm.; London district. Refs. 170, Walworth-road.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist (27), Orchestra or Accompanist, London preferred. B. W. Lefevre, 12, Soho-st., Oxford-st., London, W.

WANTED, for First-class Piano, Violin, and 'Cello Artists; together or separate. F. D., 29, Addison-gardens, W.

WANTED, Engagement, or Deputy, Tymps, Double Drums, &c., any business. Refs. Address, Jas. Rogers, 42, Cambridge-st., Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, Quartet disengaged autumn. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Engagement, by really good Orchestra of 14, for Concert, Drama, Variety. Up-to-date Library. Address, Box 5,170, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Tudor's Four Educated Ponies, at Liberty for Stage or Ring. A Big Speciality for Galas and Pantomime. Wire or write, Albert Palace, Canning Town, E.

WANTED, Known, Senorita Rosa Montero, the Famous Haute Ecole Rider and Horse-Breaker, now appearing with great success at F. J. Connor's Hippodrome, Douglas, I.O.M., is at Liberty for the Winter Season.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes, Comedy Musical Talking and Knockabout Clown; good in Pantomimes. Liberty for Winter Season. Address, Palace Theatre, Rhyl.

WANTED, Engagement, Mora, Singing, Talking, Musical Grotesque or Agent, Manager, Ringmaster, not afraid of using Brush. Address, Beach, Littlehampton.

WANTED, by De Ora, Speciality Gymnast, Aug. 12, tremendous success Brandon Flower Show. Communications, P.O., Brandon, Suffolk.

WANTED, Known, Three Parzones, Comedians, Vacant Aug. 12, on. Comic acts for pantomimes. Empire, Wrexham. Sunday, 27, Sidney-street, Manchester

WANTED, Aug. 12, 19, Attilla Bros., the Original Roman Gladiators and Classical Strength Act. For a Sure Draw, wire, Hippodrome, Stalybridge

WANTED, Pauletti, Acrobatic Cyclist, Big Success, Mansfield, Nottingham, and Porchester Flower Shows. Next, Normanton Galas. Address, Rifleman Inn, Kirkwhite-st., East Nottingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and HIPPODROME, BARRY DOCK.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.
No wires, please.
Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

VICTORIA T., WEST STANLEY, CO. DURHAM.
Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Rawes.
General-Manager, Mr. Henry E. Hauffman.
WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 2, and on; also Big Specialities and Star Attractions. Share or salary. Address, H. E. Kauffman.

HENGLER'S CIRCUS,
GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists, free Monday next, Aug. 12.
Wire lowest terms to
Mr. Hengler, as above.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Monday, Aug. 19, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to Kitchingman, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Aug. 19, and onwards.
A. E. Pickard, Britannia, Glasgow.

GLASGOW.
WANTED, First-Class Variety Artists, for Combination, week of Dec. 30. State lowest terms, and when last in Glasgow.
C. B. Cochran, 17, Lisle-street, London, W.

WANTED, Variety Artists for Aug. 19 and on.
John Orton Hayes,
People's Theatre, Wells, Somerset.

WANTED, Variety and Speciality Artists, six nights, Monday, April 19; must be good and cheap. James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Variety Artists of every Description, nothing too big, big Acts on Shares, wire for Monday, Aug. 12, 19, 26. Hugh Dempsey, Marine Grounds, Whitstable. Wire, wire, wire.

HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY,
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock.
WANTED, for Glasgow, Greenock, and district, Star Artists in all Lines,
Empire, Greenock, Reopens Aug. 19.
Big Tops Wanted for November, December.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists all Lines, Aug. 19, onwards. Lowest terms, bookings.
Stars with odd weeks vacant write.
Nothing too big; nothing too small if good.
Edgar Stebbings,
23, Egerton-street, Manchester.
Tels., "Stebbing, Manchester." 'Phone 09261.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Glasgow Concerts. State absolute lowest. The Scottish Musical Agency, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
WANTED, Artists, suitable for Concert Platforms, three Halls, one night only, Saturdays. Vacant dates and lowest terms to
Wm. Biggam, 126, Rottenrow, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms.
Anderson's Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, Two Weeks, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 2. Charles A. James, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin. Good Living Freaks open at once

WANTED, Artists, all Lines. Write, stating absolute lowest terms and vacant dates, Bob Graham, Variety Agent, 15a, Electric-av., Brixton.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, now and later. Dates and lowest to Manager, Chas. Powell, Gilleno's American Circus, White City, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, for weeks of Aug. 19, 26, for combination, North. Absolute lowest. Abel and Welsh, Hippodrome, Belfast.

WANTED, Greatest Artists in the Profession, to send full bookings, terms, lithos. Can find you work. W. Ainsworth, 72, Palmerston-terrace, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, First-class Artists only, for First-class Variety Theatres, immediate and future Dates, also Pantomime.
Jess Verno's Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone 2076 Royal.

WANTED, all-round Artists, doubles doing singles, good singing and dancing sisters. Lowest terms, C. Harvey, Royal Scots Greys' Theatre, Tidworth, Hants.

WANTED, Artists, for Herne Bay, Aug. 26. Address, Chas. Coborn, Ardwick Empire, Manchester. Till Sunday morning, Empire, Coventry.

WANTED, Stars and Novelties for W. Bromwich, Windsor, Manchester, Barnsley, Sheffield, &c. Good Top for Aug. 19 wire. Full list bookings and lowest terms. Jazon, T. R., W. Bromwich. Telegrams, "Stienberg." Tel. No. 0494.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to Brooke's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

STALYBRIDGE HIPPODROME.
WANTED, Turns for Aug. 19 and 26.
James Fioni's Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Variety Turns, Monday onwards.
Address, Pictures, Tivoli, South Shields.

WANTED, Star Turns, Aug. 19, 26. Geo. Aytoun, 120, Kennington Park-road, S.E. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone 1949 Hop.

DUNDAS'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Talent, all Lines, Aug. 19 and on, First-class Specialities and Comedy Acts, for Glasgow and Manchester. 62, Rosthwaite-road, West Derby, Liverpool.

WANTED, Variety or Pierrot Combinations, for Al-Fresco Performances at Wardour Park, Luton, Sept. 9, onwards. Sharing terms only.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Variety Combinations, shares or percentage. C. Harvey,
Royal Scots Greys' Theatre, Tidworth, Hants.

WANTED, for Immediate Dates, Dramatic Sketches, big and little. "Retribution" Co. write. Lowest terms, full bookings, Gannon, Westgrove, Bristol.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
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COVENTRY HIPPODROME.

WANTED, Artists and Agents to Note.

All Contracts
on Behalf of the Above Company
will in future be signed by
Mr. S. T. Newsome,
who alone is authorised to sign.
Artists Holding Contracts
are requested to apply immediately
for Confirmation of Dates
to
S. T. Newsome,
Managing-Director,
Hippodrome,
Coventry.

N.B.—All Bill Matter to be addressed to
The Manager,
Hippodrome,
Coventry.

HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Aug. 26, and onward, Specialities,
with good printing.
Big Cycle Act
can have ten weeks right away.

Full particulars where to be seen working.
Terms, &c., to
233, Kennington-road.

PALACE OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.
Booked in conjunction, Leamington, Rugby, Birmingham, Manchester, &c.
WANTED, Aug. 19, on, Specialities, Novel Acts, Serios, Comedians, Double Acts (doing Singles). Lowest and lithos., Wm. B. Bostock, General-Manager.

WANTED, strong Speciality, for Tour of good Theatres and Halls, with powerful Combination, under live management, on Sharing terms. Something new to Provinces preferred. Also few useful Turns. Send vacancies, sample printing, and full particulars, Manager, 16, Liverpool-street, Argyle-square, London, W.C.

HENGLER'S, GLASGOW, PICTURE SEASON.
WANTED, to open Monday next, two First-Class Specialities and three other First-Class Variety Acts; must be absolutely refined. Wire lowest, Zalva's Agency, Scarboro'. Telephone 288.

NEW PAVILION, ABERTILLERY.
WANTED, the Greatest Acts in the Business for above, Bigger the Better, all Lines, for immediate Dates. Artists booked at Gloucester and Porth can have above to follow or precede. Special Notice.—Bill matter to be sent direct to the Manager, E. Pryce. All particulars respecting Engagements to be made to Leo Fritz's Variety Agency, Glenshaw-mansions, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone, 457 Brixton. Telegrams, "Evelyncia, London."

WANTED, for Gloucester, Porth, Worcester, Barry Dock, Abertillery, Variety Acts, must have Full Bookings, Towns. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

PALACE, KILMARNOCK.
WANTED, Sept., onwards, good Comedy Acts all Lines. Absolute lowest, once nightly, to J. Cummings, 97, Whitevale, Dennistoun, Glasgow.

WANTED, Acts, all Descriptions. Contracts await Angeline, Sisters Nella, and Velasco. Wire addresses, Dan Noble's Agency, 31, Melbourne-st., King's Lynn.

WANTED, for France (all dates), the Biggest Acts in the Profession.
Apply, C. Cliquot,
30, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, for Gaiety Theatre, Blyth, First-class Novelty Acts, share or salary; Variety Combinations, &c. G. E. Good, 10, Marine-av., Whitley Bay.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address next week, 100, Rochdale-road, Middleton, Manchester. Rebla, Eno, Tom Moore communicate.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Top Liners; if good, sure bookings; also Turns in all Lines write at once. The Man on the Spot, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, big Tops, bigger the better, for Sept. 2, 16, and 30 (North). Full bookings, &c., to Frank Lynne, Empire, Liverpool.

PIER PAVILION, DOVER.
WANTED, First-Class Costume Concert Parties, for Sept. 2 and 16.
Apply, F. C. Dew, Theatre Royal, Dover.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Spennymoor, for Monday next, and onwards, Singers, Dancers, Comedians, and Novelties of every Description.

Any Act that can be done
either in Ring or on Stage.
new to Spennymoor.

Artists, when writing, please state when last here.

Artists in the habit of signing contracts
and then not appearing, don't write any more.

Proprietor and Manager,
Leoni Clarke.

TOWN HALL, EAST HAM.
Population of district, 250,000.
WANTED, First-class Cinematograph Entertainment, with Pantomime Subjects; also a few good turns for 9 nights and 6 day performances, commencing Boxing Day. Apply, A. E. Abrahams, 26, Great Eastern-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, for September, Good Ventriloquist; must have good figures, and able to do twenty minutes' show, to assist animated picture show. Good engagement to one who can change and run three weeks each place. Preference given to one who could also find bioscope and operator. Lowest terms and full details by letter,
Box 5,247, "The Era."

WANTED, for Gala, Chesterfield, Aug. 14, good Bar Acts, Gymnasts, Comedians, and Novelties. Lithos., terms, Wood, Caterer, Alpine House, Whitehall-road, Bristol.

WANTED, for Music Halls, commencing Sept. 9, probably sooner, tall Light Comedian, must be quick and smart, able to use sword preferred; also tall Light Comedy Lady, slim, must have powerful voice and look well in gentleman's evening dress, à la Miss Hetty King. Lowest terms, references, and photos., to T. E. Conover, care of Forster, 11, Buckingham-street, Strand, W.C. Interview by appointment only.

WANTED, Comedians, also Quartette, also four Choir Boys, with good voices, for Churchill's Happy Valley Minstrels.

Lowest terms to
Churchill, Llandudno.

WANTED, for Comedy Act, short Low Comedian, for principal part; also Light Comedy Lady, good Dancer. Full particulars, Manager, 20, Graham-road, Chiswick, W.

WANTED, to Open Monday, Good Comedian, with refined al fresco répertoire. Terms, £2, seven weeks' engt.. Wire, McLaren, Pal., Rhyl.

WANTED, Funny Comedians, Specialities, and Sensational Novelties, for immediate dates. Forsyth, Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED, open Thursday, refined Low Comedian, for Concert Party, open air. Photos., répertoire, &c., Herbert Dickeson, 27, Bicton-st., Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, to open Monday, at Weston-super-Mare, good Straight Man, for Sketches, with Speciality; also a First-Class Comedian, Al Fresco. Turns known to Fred Terry or Jess Temple communicate. Six weeks certain to suitable people. State terms, &c., to Jess Temple, Globe Hotel, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Boys, 14 or 15 years old, must have good voices.
Apply to Miss Emma Don,
61, Holland-road, Brixton.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, at once, Assistant, small, about 14, good home, with well-known Conjurer.
Curtis Leo, Chappell's Concerts, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, good one hour's Picture Show, Aug. 26, week, Theatre, Macclesfield.
Address, J. Almo, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, First-Class Operator, own machine, six months certain, good money to right man; references required; electric and lime. Seaton, Post Office, Buxton.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, with First-Class Machine, latest Films, 1½ hours' Show. Full particulars, Box 5,244, "The Era."

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lolo, charming lady gymnast and teeth speciality artist; also Little May, in her graceful contortionist and acrobatic dances; all silver apparatus, and lovely stage fittings; Lib. Dec. 30. Address all letters, 127, Upper Aughton-road, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, Aug. 19, for Adele Levey and Co., in "My Statue of Grace." This week, Usual Success, Alhambra, Morecambe; next week, Hip., Preston. Acknowledged to be the most Original and Laughable Sketch of the Season. Wire or write, Emmell Comedy Co., Hippodrome, Preston.

WANTED, Monday next, by Marie Leonard, American Song Illustrator. This week, big success Hippodrome, Barry, Wire.

WANTED, Known, Lady Sylvia Martin, La Belle Equestrienne, with her wonderful Horse and Dogs. A triumphant success Brighton Alhambra; free Aug. 26 to Sept. 16. Address, 8, Templeton-place, Earl's Court.

WANTED, by Babs Lloyd, Star Artist; also Nellie Vance, Comedy Artist, Aug. 19, 26. Hippodrome, Blackpool. Monday, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

WANTED, by the Sisters Terry, Premier Comediennes, Aug. 19, 25, Sept. 9, 16. Address, this week, Albert Hall, Southport.

WANTED, by Sisters Beatrice, Duettists and Expert Dancers, Monday next, also Aug. 19. Wire or write, 12, Florence-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, Known, Neville Delmar, The Whistling Dandy. Pantomime fixed, Abanazer. Few vacancies, Oct. and Nov. All coms., 3, Nicolas-mount, Hornsea, Yorks.

WANTED, Monday next, by Percy Johnson, an Original Comedian. Panto. 1907 and 1908 Milton Bode, Esq. Wire, 25, Poole-st., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, by Mons. Savarro, Bird Mimic; also Equilo, Chair Equilibrist; Monday next, also 19th. Wire for Monday quickly, Hippodrome, Kidderminster.

WANTED, Known, Pat O'Connor, comedian and champion all-round dancer, bar none. Enormous success, last week, Grand Theatre, Manchester. This week, Public Hall, Barnsley. Aug. 12, Central Hall, Sheffield. Lib. Aug. 19. Address above, or 7, Poplar-st., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, by Fred Hadley, Comedian and Dancer (late of Catlin's Scarborough Pierrots), Liberty Monday, Al-fresco. Wire, Victoria-arcade Pierrots, Buxton.

WANTED, Monday next, onwards, by Aldro Lukos, Man Monkey, Speciality, introducing Swinging Perch Act and Tumbling Antics. Wire, 22, Osborne-terrace, London, S.W., wire.

WANTED, Aug. 19 and 26, also all Sept., by the Great Li Chang-Hi, Chinese Conjurer. Enthusiastic reception, Hippo., Lowestoft; next, Hippo., Sheerness.

WANTED, by Lieut. Albini and his Charming Ladies, "Sailor and His Lass" mystery, Aug. 12 and 19. Sensational act. Wire, Hippodrome, King's Lynn, till Monday morning.

WANTED, Engagements, Halls, Galas, Picture Shows, Landor, Acrobatic, Bending, Comedy Speciality, vacant Monday, on. C/o Temple, 9, Wilford-grove, Nottingham.

WANTED, Aug. 19, 26, &c., The Moncktons (Fred and Lillie), in latest Screaming Success, "Are Wives Dummies?" This, Empire, Cleethorpes (third return). Complimented by Carter White, Esq. Grimsby News, Aug. 6, 1907:—At the bottom of the bill, comedy is again to the fore. the Moncktons appearing in a screamingly funny episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" This is a piece of pure, unadulterated foolery, being highly amusing, and keeps the house in a continual roar of laughter, the two artists responsible for the sketch being distinctly clever. 12th, Opera House, Workington. Specially re-engaged by the Great Elliotts and Savonas.

WANTED, Aug. 12, 26 (South preferred), wire, 45, Clarence-road, Bridlington, the Great Kyoto, Japanese Pot-Pourri Act and Contortionist; also May Geraldine, with catchy Chorus Songs and Dances.

WANTED, Known, Vokes and Marshall (Ned and Tessie), Refined Comedy Musical Artists. Third week, Palace, Rhyl. Liberty Aug. 12. Wire, Rhyl.

WANTED, Aug. 19 and 26, by Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers, and Alvar, Daring Gymnast; two acts, three people. Next, Theatre Royal, Windsor. Note.—New perm. add., 4, Primrose-place, Newtown, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday, by Sandes and Vincent (Will and May), great comedy legmania act, singles if wanted. Wire, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, Monday next, and 19th, Sardous, illusionists, marvellous mystifiers; also Marie Riviers, popular comedienne. Wire, 1, Lilly-villa, Reservoir-rd., Whitstable.

WANTED, Monday next and onwards, by Wills and Mackenzie, Operatic Duettists. Wire, Hippo., Hastings. Monday, 36, Webb's-road, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Great Comedy Act, Vacant Monday next. Wire, Central Pier, Morecambe. A Star Turn, sure success.

WANTED, by The Decars, Sept. 2, 9, 16 (North preferred) for their Great Comedy Acrobatic Animal Act, "Off to the Races," introducing the Cleverest Performing and Bucking Donkey in Europe. Original Refined Comedy and Acrobatic Tricks that no other duo dare attempt. This week, Big Success as usual at Northampton and Swindon Galas; next, Pavilion, Abertillery.

WANTED, cheap, Specialities, Monday, onwards. Wire, Carl and Carr, Victoria Park, Devonport. Wire, Wire.

WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, by the Bros. Webb, Musical Clowns.
Communications, Gaiety, Birmingham.

WANTED, 19th and 26th, by Gravetta and Parr, water spinners, jugglers, clay and sand modellers, double impersonations. 8, Clare-street, Halifax.

WANTED, by Chant and Chant, the refined Vocal Comedy Duo, Aug. 26, on; last turn and hit of programme here. Queen's, Castleford; next, Hippo., Wakefield.

WANTED, Known, Risto Bros., Novel Acrobatic Grotesques, at Lib. Aug. 12 and 19, halls, piers, galas. 783, Old Kent-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Ranée and Rajah, Anglo-Indian, Mystical Mystics, vacant Sept. 9 and on; good staging, &c. Perm. add., 38, Dawes-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Aug. 19, Sept. 2 and 9, by the Albano Troupe, the greatest refined Music Act.

The Empire, Rochdale.

WANTED, Aug. 12, 19, and onwards, by the Original Arthur Saxon Trio, new Act. Wire for Monday next. Saxon, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Aug. 19, Two Distinct Acts, Zancig, Thought-Reading and Conjuring. The only open date this season. Lenton and Bertram, 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Three Martinettes, Comedians, Vacant Aug. 12, on, home or abroad. This, Emp., Wrexham; Sunday, 27, Sidney-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, the Rizarelis-Recars, lady gymnasts and acrobats, two acts, Vac. Aug. 19, only vac. date this year. 3, Bowden-st., Stockport.

WANTED, Aug. 12, by Los Granadas, world's greatest trampolin novelty. A notable impression on any programme. 64, Upper Sutton-st., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday next, also Aug. 19 and 26, by Titan, Telka, and Wyllie (three acts), Strong Show, Musical Act, and Ballad Vocalist. Wire for Monday, Titan, 61, Newland, Northampton.

WANTED, Known, what a draw! Four Cecilians are packing Hippodrome, West Bromwich this week; make enquiries; next, Collins's, London, vacant Aug. 19, 26. Notice.—Do you want packed Halls? Try Four Cecilians, best all-round Turn on Variety Stage.

WANTED, Known, Harry Henré, World-famed Young Juggler, this Hippo., Stoke; next, P., Attercliffe; Vac. Sept. and Oct., 1907, through postponement of Continental Dates. Offers invited. Just finished thirty weeks with Barrasford's, Macnaghten's, &c.

WANTED, Aug. 19 and 26, Ernie Leech, with his refined ventriloquial scena, introducing quartette in four distinct voices. Piers, Pavilions, &c. Only vacancies until 1908. Five consecutive seasons. North Pier, Blackpool. Wire, perm., Angel Hotel, Crewe.

WANTED, A. Trillo, Royal Ventriloquist, at Liberty Monday next, only vacancy this year. Wire, two drawing acts, wire, Queen's Hall, East Grinstead.

WANTED, Monday next by Gilroy (Ventriloquist) and Boston Bioscope; everything up-to-date, clean, and refined. Al Fresco preferred, well up in gags and sketches. Wire for Monday, Gilroy, Ventriloquist, Dunoon.

WANTED, by Alpho, the young Novelty Ventriloquist, with Tommy, the Farmer's Boy, Monday next, through disappointment. Wire, Hippo., Dewsbury, or Stebbing, Manchester.

WANTED, Aug. 19, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist), two smart Acts. Wire offers. Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, by R. J. Golding, Ventriloquist and Illusionist. Aug. 26 and Sept. 9, on, Al Fresco, &c. Perm., 32, Courtenay-rd., Walthamstow, London.

WANTED, Known,
Geo. M. Schilling, who has walked round the world, Vacant Sept., onwards, for his Great Chinese Dramatic Sketch, "In the Nick of Time," introducing the Struggle for Life and the Great Knife Fight. Entire scenery carried. Address, Palace Theatre, Rhyl.

WANTED, Aug. 19, 26, for Matt Wilkinson's Comedy Duo, "French Flirtation"; also Violet Beatrice, Male Impersonator. 157, Silver-street, Edmonton, N.

WANTED, Aug. 12, 19, and 26, by Tom Kelso and Co.'s Comedy Sketch, "The Silly Servant." Last week Bottoming the Bill Var., Leeds, and received two returns. Starring this week Empire, Burnley. Special D.C. out on Tuesday announcing the above as one continual roar of laughter from beginning to end. Wire, Burnley, Saturday; after, 10, Crossland-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Monday, also 19th, by Billy Ross and Company, greatest Comedy Boxing Act on the Stage. Wire for draw, Hippodrome, Stalybridge.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Funny Dogs, the Troupe of Four-footed Animals with Human Brains, the Show that takes the audience by storm everywhere, always successful, Liberty Sept. 2. Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, Known, Fontainbleau's Troupe of Canine Marvels, Tremendous Success Monday last, Grand Fête, Ellesmere. Highly complimented by Committee. Returned to Rhyl, where my little Doggies are the Talk of the Town. Few Autumn and Winter Dates Vacant. Communications, Tynycoed, Church-street, Rhyl.

WANTED, Known, Gilbert's Dog Circus, including sensational diving dogs. Success everywhere. Lib. Sept., on. Perm. Add., 74, Boyson-rd., Camberwell, London.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, tall, good Knockabout, sixteen years in the business, speaks three languages, wishes to join Show as Knockabout or Pantomimist. Coms. to Box 5,222, "The Era."

WANTED, to join an English or American Acrobatic Team, as a First-Class all-round Tumbler, Comedy or Straight. M. Tumbler, Schönbrunerstrasse 275, Viena XII, Bz. Austria.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Pantomimist and Comedy Acrobat.
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WANTED, Known, Travers' Bioscopes, at Lib. Moderate terms; latest Films. Travers, 154, High-street, Clapham, S.W. Telephone 1412 Battersea.

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, by First-Class Modern Bioscope, up-to-date Engagements, twenty to sixty minutes, Song Illustrators, lime and electric. The Cantorions, Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

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WANTED, Known, .22 "R" and "D" cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters, Pistols, and all repairs done. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Simons, of 100, 101, 102a, Houndsditch, London, is the Cheapest for Secondhand Watches, Jewellery, &c. Metal Watches, 1s. 9d., 2s., 2s. 3d., 2s. 6d.; Silver, 3s., 3s. 3d., 3s. 6d., 4s.; Levers, 5s., 6s., 7s., to 10s. Assorted Parcel of 800 and 935 Watches, 3s. 6d. each.

WANTED, Known.—As it does not appear to be generally known that we control the British Patents covering the "Mills" Slot Bag (or Ball) Puncher, we now publish the fact, and give Friendly Notice that we shall rigidly maintain our rights therein.—Minerva Automatic Co., 14, Charterhouse-buildings, E.C.

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Cinématograph Showmen.
WANTED, Known, any of the above with vacant dates will hear of important openings by communicating with
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195, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's Painting undertaken. Oil Paintings, Scenery, Letter Cloths. Rocne, Artist, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, London, S.E.

WANTED, Wireworkers to note, B. Crowe is making Wire or Pearl Name Brooches, 4s. 6d. doz. Sample, 6d. 54, Layton-lane, Blackpool.

MANSFIELD FETE, AUG. 24.
WANTED, Switchbacks, Gallopers, and all kinds of amusements, for a big fête, to be held at Mansfield, Notts, on Aug. 24. Attractions include balloon and parachute, stage performances, fireworks, bands, &c. Apply at once to Capt. Clayton, Managing-Director, Grand T., Mansfield.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, for Gala, at King's Lynn, Aug. 28, Roundabouts, Helter Skelter, all kinds of Side Shows. Apply, HERR PARENEER, Hippodrome, King's Lynn.

WANTED, Helter Skelter, Booth, and few other things; must be cheap; also Palmistry, Tattooing, Phrenology. J. HALL, 44, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Refined Quick-showing Novelties, on shares; also tall Military Doorsman, good voice. State if uniform. DELMAR, Cosy Corner Gardens, Folkestone.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties for 1908. Apply,
A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Twigdon's Show, a competent Player for American Organ, an Assistant Doorsman, and Two Lady Dancers; a comfortable and long engagement at top wages to suitable people. Apply,
Wakes Ground, Clay Cross, Derbyshire.

WANTED, smart Girl, for Shooting Saloon; must be experienced, and understand Winchester Rifle. State wages required. 23, Herbert-grove, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, a competent Auctioneer, to work on commission; a splendid opening for an energetic man. Wire or write, BRITISH AUCTION SYNDICATE, Hutton House, 26, High-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Tattooer, Stamp Photos., or other Novelty, for good shop. Shares or rental. Jolly Land, 551, Holloway-road, N.

WANTED, Comedian and Planksman, to travel with Auction Mart. References required. ROWLEY, 16, Waterloo-road, Freemantle, Southampton.

WANTED, Doorman, tall, wear uniform, and make himself useful. State height, build, and salary. MANAGER, 3, Drury-lane, Liverpool.

WANTED, Hypnotic Subjects, Ladies or Gentlemen, with or without experience. Apply, PROF. FRICKER, Hypnotist, 30, Margaret-street, Cavendish-square, W.

WANTED, Known, that Bound's No. 1 Show, "The Bear Lady,"
arrived from Germany,
and is now at Mr. Humber's Waxworks, Aberdeen, for four weeks, and doing good business;
after that, Mr. Pickard's Exhibition, Glasgow, Aug. 19 till Nov. 17.
Dec. 10, at Stewart's Waxworks, Edinburgh, for four weeks.

WANTED, at once, a capable and responsible man as Working Manager, for a Switchback, one able to control his men, with knowledge of electric light and able to take full charge of machine, can secure a comfortable and lucrative engagement; also Wanted, for same Machine, six good Frame Men, top wages paid; and a good Centre Engine-driver can write in.
Apply,
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The grounds are forty acres in extent, right on the sea front, and are situated immediately next the Promenade at the Electric Tramway Terminus. From April 1 to Dec. 31, 1905, 4,000,000 passengers were carried on these tramways. The permanent attractions now include the "River Caves of the World," "Maxim Flying Machine," "Sea Circus," &c. Great Canadian Water Chute and Scenic Railway from Coney Island now being erected for this season. For sites and concessions for really good Novelties apply personally. Office on grounds.
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WANTED, to Let, Land for Stalls and Shows. Apply, JOHN HARDMAN, Manager, Starr Estate Fairground Co., 16, King-street, Blackpool.

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WANTED, to Let, Ground for Shows, Pipe Breakers, and Stalls, Hospital Fête, Twickenham, next Wednesday. Apply, PRINT'S Roundabouts, Hampton, Middlesex.

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WANTED, to Sell, set of Auction Vans, Telescope, in four loads, Tent, Boards, Gas, Ropes, &c., everything equal to new; one of the best lots on the road. To be sold cheap to a quick buyer. Part of purchase-money can remain.
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WANTED, to Sell, Quantity of Pierrot Costumes, about 40, including Hats, complete, cheap, almost new. Box 5,202, "The Era."

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Alexander, Mr. Alex.	June 2, 1906.
Alexandra, Late Miss Ada	March 23, 1907.
Anderson, Late Mr. Reddick	Jan. 19, 1907.
Ashcroft, Late Mr. W. E.	October 27, 1906.
Ashton, Mr. George	May 5, 1906.
Ashton, Miss Margaret	September 1, 1906.
Atkin, Late Mr. John A.	Jan. 5, 1907.
Ball, Mr. Alf	September 1, 1906.
Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barclay, Mr. Arthur J.	May 26, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barnett, Mr. Orlando	October 6, 1906.
Beatty, Miss May	November 10, 1906.
Beecham, Mr. Charles	Dec. 22, 1906
Bent, Miss Buena	April 6, 1907.
Bentley, Mrs. Walter	July 20, 1907.
Bertoldi, Late Miss Ena	April 7, 1906.
Bolder, Mr. Robert	July 20, 1907.
Bordin, Signorina Maria	September 15, 1906.
Brandram, Late Miss B.	March 2, 1907.
Brickwell, Miss Mamie	Nov. 24, 1906.
Brookfield, Mr. Charles	Dec. 22, 1906.
Brooks, Mr. George	Dec. 29, 1906.
Bruno, Mr. Albert	Feb. 23, 1907.
Burns, Mr. W. C.	Feb. 2, 1907.
Burton, Mr. John	March 10, 1906.
Butt, Mr. Alfred	August 25, 1906.
Callaghan, Mr. T. C.	Feb. 23, 1907.
Camp, Late Mr. Jack	April 6, 1907.
Cannon, Miss Mayme	July 13, 1907.
Carter, Late Mr. John	July 13, 1907.
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	March 3, 1906.
Cellier, Miss Marguerite	May 26, 1906.
Chappell, Late Mr. James	Feb. 2, 1907.
Cinquevalli, Mr. Paul	May 5, 1906.
Clancarty, Late Lady	Jan. 5, 1907.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Collins, Mr. Patrick Ross	March 16, 1907.
Collins-Rolfe, Mr. Arthur	April 13, 1907.
Conquest, Mr. Arthur	May 26, 1906
Cooper, Mr. Charles K.	Feb. 23, 1907.
Coote, Mr. Bert	June 16, 1906.
Cotterell, Mr. Sid	July 14, 1906.
Courtice, Mr. Thomas	Dec. 22, 1906.
Cox, Mr. Ernest H. G.	Feb. 23, 1907.
Craston, Mr. Charles	Feb. 2, 1907.
Craven, Mr. Tom	Dec. 15, 1906.
Crisp, Late Mr. Henry	May 26, 1906.
Cooke, Mr. Stanley	March 30, 1907.
Curry, Late Mr. H. J.	April 27, 1907.
Dashwood, Mr. Arthur	July 20, 1907.
Denton, Mr. Jack	Feb. 2, 1907.
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Edmonds, Late Mr. E.	May 4, 1907.
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Feidman, Mr Bert	June 15, 1907.
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Fox, jun., Mr. Charles	July 13, 1907.
Francis, Mr. Nelson	May 4, 1907.
Fuller, Mr. John, jun.	July 27 1907.
Green, Mr. Richard	Jan. 19, 1907.
Guy, Miss Gladys	Jan. 26, 1907.
Hales, Mr. T. G.	April 6, 1907.
Hall, Late Mr. Owen	April 13, 1907.
Hamilton, Late Mr. Wm.	April 20 1907.
Hanlon, Late Mr. Bob	July 6, 1907.
Harris, Mr. Thomas	February 24, 1906.
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Hitchens, Mr. H. J.	September 8, 1906.
Howard, Mr. J. Bannister	July 20, 1907.
Hunter, Late Mr. Harry	October 20, 1906,
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Jackson, Mr. T. Elsis	July 27, 1907.
Jerrard, Late Mr. J. F.	April 28, 1906.
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Knowles, Mr. J. Forbes	July 7, 1906.
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Lamonte, Miss Syria	November 10, 1906.
Lancaster, Miss Nora	Feb. 2, 1907.
Lauri, Mr. Edward	July 28, 1906.
Lazarus, Mr. A.	May 5, 1906.
Leitch, Late Mr. George	May 25, 1907.
Le Roy, Servais	June 23, 1906.
Lewes, Miss Miriam	June 16, 1906.
Leyton, Mr. H. Lawrence	Feb. 2, 1907.
Livermore, Late Mr. L. C. J.	October 13, 1906.
Livesey, Mr. Carter	March 24, 1906.
Loftus, Miss Kitty	June 8, 1907.
Lugg, Mr. William	October 6, 1906.
Macmillan, Mr. J. T.	May 26, 1906.
Maude, Mr. Cyril	June 2, 1906.
Maynard, Miss Jennie	March 23, 1907.
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Miller, Late Mr. Kennedy	March 10, 1906.
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Milstead, Mr. Robert	Dec. 22, 1906.
Montague, Mr. Harold	Feb. 23, 1907.
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Morris, Miss Sylvia	October 6, 1906.
Morrison, Mr. Graham	June 22, 1907,
Munroe, Mr. Walter	June 3, 1907.
Murray, Miss Alma	August 25, 1906.
Murray, Miss Lillian	October 6, 1906.
Murielle, Miss Gracie	April 6, 1907.
My Fancy	February 24, 1906.
Nicholls, Mr. Harry	Feb. 23, 1907.
Norman, Mr. Percy	July 28, 1906.
Norris, Mr. Ernest B.	July 28, 1906.
Palmer, Miss Ada	November 3, 1906.
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Phelps, Late Mrs. Edmund	Jan. 12, 1907.
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Renee, Mlle.	June 2, 1906.
Rickards, Mr. Harry	July 13, 1907.
Rind, Miss Kathleen	October 6, 1906.
Ronald, Mr. Landon	Dec. 8, 1906.
Ross, Miss Adelaide	May 26, 1906.
Ross, Miss Irene	May 5, 1906.
Saintsbury, Mr. H. A.	September 15, 1905.
Saker, Miss Annie	March 3, 1906.
Sargent, Mr. Frederick	April 7, 1906.
Scott, Mr. Bennett	May 4, 1907.
Sheridan, Late Mr. J. T.	Dec. 8, 1906.
Sheridan, Mr. Philip	March 24, 1906.
Shirley, Mr. Arthur	March 3, 1906.
Smith, Mr. Aubrey	Jan. 19, 1907.
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Wright, Mr. Stewart D.	Nov. 17, 1906.
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Rehearsal at 2, for :—
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E. J. Sheldon, Lukushima Troupe, Beatrice Willey, Sisters Sprightly, Sisters Carina, O'Malley and Brown, Kate Carney, The Violas, Fred Keeton, Bioscope.

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Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Herr Rousby, The Leonards, Sisters Pine, Tom Parker, "Moving In," The Uniques, Marie Weston, Ted E. Box, Bioscope, Florence St. John.

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Park's Eton Boys, Victoria Monks, J. W. Rowley, Ella Dean, C. Randolph, Rex King, Le Gay Quartette, Corcoran Bros., Launceston Elliott, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Rich and Rich, Elsie Robey, Lowell and Lowell, Russell Wallett, Nelly Beryl and Co., Illustrated Song Bioscope, Sidy Nirvana.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Drew and Alders, Geo. Reeves, J. W. Hall, Bella and Bijou, J. P. Ling, My Fancy, Chas. Fisher and Co., Six Lancashire Lassies, La Berat, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for :—
Arthur Lennard, Lizzie Fletcher, The Delevines, Hartley Wonders, Maggie Walsh, Bert Woodward, Bioscope, "The Spy," Simms and Simms, Mabel Bardine and Co.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Australian Woodcutters, Jas. Stewart, Maude Courtney, Mysterious Mr. C., Pat Rafferty, The Anartos, Chas. Coborn, Edie King, Bioscope, Ellis Barrieton.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 11, for :—
Alice Norton, Ben Albert, Cissie Curlette, Canty's Grotto, Ruth Lytton, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Horace White, Arthur Playfair and Co., Toft's Statuary.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Fred Lincoln, The Smythsons, Sleeds Troupe, O'Gust, Eadie and Ramsden, Ferguson and Mack, Ina Lorimer, Bertha Stuart, Fred Lindsay, Bioscope, John Lawson and Co. in Répertoire.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Prince of Monte Carlo, Chas. Clark, Spry and Austin, Grace Merton, "Dida," Sisters May, Olive and Owen, Pictures, Miles Stavordale Quintette.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Minnie Cunningham, Eric, Sibb and Sibb, Lily Burnand, J. B. Preston, Carden and Haines, Maud Vera, Frank Elliston and Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Jackson Family, Vanando, Collins and Rice, Pictures, Nell Emerald, Gus Garrick, Three Cape Girls, The Falcons, Bouncing Dillons.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Eight 'Varsity Girls, Florrie Robina, Stidder and Dunbar, Mysticus, Tony Iveson, Pictures, Yeotha, Frazer and French, Florrie Cooper, Horace Pollock and Co.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Lil Hawthorne, Fred Curran, Bioscope, Juanitos, Frank Darwin, Gertrude Bradshaw, Marco, Henderson.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Will Evans, May Henderson, Kelly and Agnes, Edwin Barwick, Woolmer Young, Letine, Chas. Butler, Maude Forde, Ouida Macdermott, Minnie Fisher, Fraser and French, Stewart and Morgan, De Vere and Kenwick, Northern Troupe, Pictures.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Both Performances.
Little Stowaway, Annie Purcell, King's College Boys, Albert Le Fre, Geo. Ridgewell, Letine, The Raies, Emma Don and Co., Bros. Durant, Pictures.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Flo Esdaile, Chas. R. Whittle, Geo. Kirk and Co., Fred Elton, Carl Howard, Chas. Dillon, Sisters Simms, Bioscope, Clement Trio.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"Happy Holland," Lloyd's Siberian Wolfhounds, Sanford and Lyons, Irene Rose, Alice Blandford, Brown and Le Clerq, Effie Stuart, Fred Hastings, Delomes, Bioscope.

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Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

Notice.—Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

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"TWO DIRTY LITTLE HANDS" (Cobb and Edwards), and "A TALE OF A STROLL" (B. Dougherty and J. H. Jerome). Sung by Maurice Farkoa.

IN THE VALLEYS OF SWITZERLAND" (Wilmott and H. Darewski, jun.). Sung by Miss Annie Purcell.

"CHEER UP, MARY!" (Bryan, Kendis, and Paley). Sung by Miss Winifred Hare.

'HOLDING HANDS" (Norworth and A. Von Tilzer). Sung by Miss Amy Clevere.

"HERE COMES THAT GEORGIA MINSTREL BAND!" (Edward Rose). Sung by the Fourteen Black Hussars.

"FOR AULD LANG SYNE" (F. W. Leigh and H. E. Pether), and "THE TENBOB RISE" (Bateman and Bennett Scott), Sung by Tom Costello.

"THE HOME THAT'S HOME FOR ME" (Leigh and Pether) and "THE SUNBEAM AND THE ROSE" (J. Thompson). Sung by Miss Ethel Haydon.

"MONA MAY" (Shelley and Bucalossi). Sung by Herbert Shelley.

"ALL ALONE IN OLD COLOGNE" (Murray, Leighton, and Hilbury). Sung by Miss Betty Green, at the London Hippodrome.

"MY CASTLE IN SPAIN" and "MY COSY CARAVAN" (Lawrance, Mellor, and Gifford), Sung by Miss Lil Hawthorne.

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N.B.—INTERVIEWED BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

CALLS for MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.

Neil Kenyon, Lyster and Cooke, Robert Williams, Gertie Gitana, Burt Shepard, Society Quartette, Dan Conroy, Vernon's Bioscope, Athas and Collins.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.

The Ten Loonies, Jennie Lee, Pyck Tholl and Taylor, Gracie Lawn, The Three Romas, Sisters Jonghmans, Vernon's Bioscope, Matthew Brodie and Co.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.

W. J. Ashcroft, Natalia and Diana, Harry Bent, Coram, Earle and Melville, Dusty Rhodes, Carlotta Lunn, Pasquali Bros., Palace Pictures, Norman and Leonard Trio.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.

John E. Coyle, Sisters Brand, Lorne and Rene, Casella, Rose Elliott, George Antill, Brothers Brooks, Vernon's Bioscope, Valvero's Naval Bombardment.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.

Maritana Opera Co., Steeley and Dowton, Dot Stephens, Mersano, Griff, Rose and Maidment, R. A. Speedwell, Nellie Randall, Vernon's Bioscope.

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Columbia Comedy Trio, Cosgrove and Burns, Barney Vox, Belle Harcourt, Talbot and Pearce, Jack Rae, Wright and Lawson, Vernon's Bioscope, Bob Hamilton.

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CALLS. CALLS.

THE VAUDEVILLE SYNDICATE,

CALLS FOR MONDAY, AUG. 12, 1907.

PALACE, DOVER.

Raymond, Ethel Arundel, Hal Chapter, Henri Cazman, Florence Cazman, Fred Southern and company, the Maynards, Duavolo and Luna.

ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.

Raymond, Stacey and Williams, Harry Wright, Nellie Gannon, Peggy Fame, Chas. Denton, Eldra and Dog, Kavados, Flo. Melville.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.

Kemp and Harris, Raymond, Lloyd Phillips and company, Marie Neilson, Chris. Baker, Dale and Vale.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.
NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL, Monday, Aug. 12.
Rehearsal 12.30, C. Emlyn Jones and The Daughters of Britain, Lil O'Gorman, Helene and Emilon, Harry Bentley, The Prince Milner Trio, Nellie Nora, New Operascope, Blanche and Diacoff. Artists requiring immediate dates, apply H. PERCIVAL YOUNG, Sole Booking Representative, Shakespeare Theatre Offices, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
To anyone connected with the stage, from the call-boy to the "star," and from the electrician to the manager, the "Era Annual" makes an appeal which it is very hard to resist. The number of stories and anecdotes contributed by well-known members of the theatrical profession are always bright, breezy, and fresh, and, as usual, the photographs are excellently reproduced. The calendar is arranged so as to give an interesting theatrical event, with the year of occurrence, for every day in the year. The tables of plays produced at the various London and provincial theatres provide an interesting story of successes and failures, and in every respect the Annual for 1907 is well up to the usual standard. It is published at one shilling by "The Era," at 5, Tavistock-street, London.—Dublin Express, Jan. 26.

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Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies, can be seen between the hours of 12 and 4 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

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All billing matter and notification of appearance, accompanied by samples of pictorial printing, must be sent in to the London Offices fourteen clear days prior to opening, or contract may be cancelled at the option of the Management.
All Scene and Property Plots of sketches, scenas, &c., must be sent to Foresters' fourteen clear days before opening.
All artists carrying scenery must have same fireproofed in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
Artists please note that when stage staff are required on Sunday, according to the "award" their time must be reckoned from that given in "call."
In cases of emergency after office hours, Mr. Baugh may be consulted at the Foresters' Theatre, Cambridge-road, E.
Telephone, 5954 Avenue.
Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London."

CALLS.

FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, AUG. 12, 1907.

PALACE, BRADFORD.

George Mozart, Kitty Clinton, Andie Burn, Bert Weston, Lang and Beal, Raglas, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, &c., &c.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.

Strassburger's Midgets, Russell Brandow, Leah Arden, Les Bollingers, Beau-Ideal Juveniles, Gintaro, Cole and Rags, Brayne and Lloyd, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, HALIFAX.

Alfred Lester, Tom E. Hughes, Cambo, Frank Maura, the Elgars, Harry Allister, Les Cabiacs, Josh Dixon, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.

Gaumont's Chronophone, Harry Simms, Horace and Olga, Mlle. De Rose, Walter Stanley, J. H. Hawtrey, the St. Louis Pictures, &c., &c.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.

John Kurkamp, Spangles and Sawdust, Robertys Family, Williams and Warden, Vaughan Williams and Co., the Six Idols, Lilian Lowe, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.

Wake and Deane, Pictures, Ena Richards, "The Clud Raid," "Topsy Turvy School," Eva Hope and Co., Lomas.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.

"The Female Swindler."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.

Variety Company.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.

"Driven from Home."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.

Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.

Picture Entertainment.

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PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.

Marba and Verity, W. B. Raby, Sisters Brooke, Aida Martine, Bert Terrell, Harvey and Holt, Clown Barker, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, CARDIFF

Tiller's "Trip to Paris," Vera Mayne, Fanny Wentworth, Stuart and Evans, Colby and May, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON

will open in September.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, BURNLEY

will open in December.

PALACE, BOW.

Matinée every Monday.
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Matinées Monday and Thursday.
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SADLER'S WELLS.

Matinée every Monday.
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Matinée every Monday.
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"ALL ALONE IN OLD COLOGNE."
(Murray, Leighton, & Hilbury).
Sung by Miss ALEXANDRA DAGMAR.
Also sung by Miss BETTY GREEN, at the London Hippodrome.
Band parts Now Ready.

"MOLLY MOLYNEUX."
(Edward Montagu).
Sung by Miss MAUDIE DARRELL, at the Vaudeville Theatre.
An Ideal Number for Seaside Soubrettes.

"IF THE MAN IN THE MOON WERE A COON."
Written and Composed by Fred. Fischer.
Sung by G. H. ELLIOTT, at the Oxford.
THE COON SONG OF THE YEAR.

"MY IRISH ROSIE."
THE RAGE OF AMERICA.
By the Writers of "Bedelia" and "My Irish Molly."
REVISED ENGLISH VERSION NOW READY.

"I'LL TELL TILLY ON THE TELEPHONE."
Sung by **Miss DORA LYRIC.**
A few conditional permissions will be granted for this Great Chorus Hit.

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The Great March Song of the Year. Sung by **Miss WINIFRED HARE.**
Write for permission and Band Parts.

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Sung by **DAVE CARTER,**
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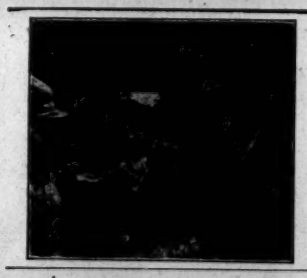

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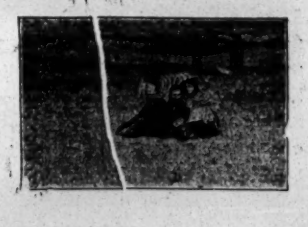

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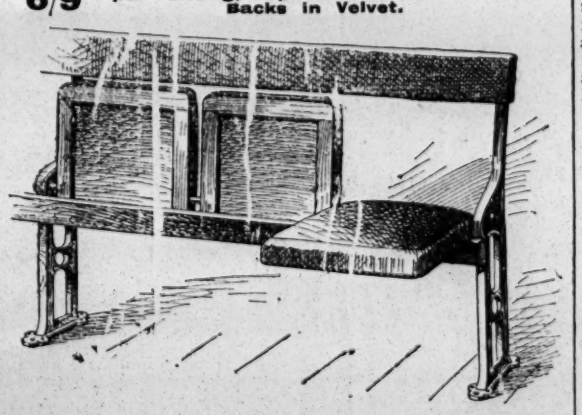

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POOR OLD ENGLISH DRAMA!

A vigorous attack on the English drama is made in the current number of the *North American Review* by Mr. Henry A. Beers, Professor of English Literature at Yale University. In the course of his diatribe Mr. Beers declares that "about 2,400 plays were put on at London theatres between 1830 and 1900, and it would be hard to pick out a dozen of them which have become a part of English literature." Next to the French theatre, he goes on to say, "the most abundant feeder of our modern stage has been contemporary fiction. Nowadays every successful novel is immediately dramatised. This has been the case more or less for three-quarters of a century. The Waverley Novels were dramatised in their time, and Dickens' stories in theirs. The dramatised novel seldom means a good play, this is to say permanently good, though it may act fairly well for a season. One does not care to read the stage version of 'Vanity Fair,' known as *Becky Sharp*, no more than one would care to read *The School for Scandal* diluted into a novel. The dramatist conceives and moulds his theme otherwise than the novelist. 'Play-writing,' says Walter Scott, 'is the art of forming situations.'

"The poverty of the English stage during these late centuries in work of real substance and value is the more striking because there has been no dearth of genius in other departments. There have been great English poets, novelists, humorists, essayists, critics, historians. France has never lacked dramatists. Talent always, and genius not unfrequently, have been in the service of the French theatres. In Germany the case has been the same, and this is because both the Germans and the French have taken the theatre seriously. Their actors have been carefully trained, and their audiences intelligently critical; their playhouses in part maintained by the Government subventions as institutions importantly related to the national life.

"It is not that English men of letters have been unwilling to contribute to the stage. On the contrary, they have shown an eager, although mostly ineffectual, ambition for dramatic honours. In the eighteenth century it was wellnigh the rule that a successful writer should try his hand at a play. Addison did so, and Steele, Pope, Gay, Fielding, Johnson, Goldsmith, Smollett, Thomson, Mason, Mallet, Chatterton, and many others who had no natural turn for it, and would not think of such a thing now. In the nineteenth century the tradition had lost much of its force; still, we find Scott, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, Tennyson, Thackeray, Browning, Matthew Arnold, Swinburne, all using the dramatic form, and some of them attempting the stage. Charles Lamb, one of the most ardent of playgoers and best of dramatic critics, was greatly chagrined by the failure of his farce, *Mrs. H——*. Dickens was a good actor in private theatricals, and was intensely concerned with the theatre and the theatrical fortunes of his own dramatised novels. So was Charles Reade, who collaborated with Tom Taylor in a number of plays, and whose theatre-piece, *Masks and Faces*, was the original of his novelette, "Peg Woffington"—*vice versa* the usual case. More recently we have seen Stevenson and Henley collaborating in three plays, *Deacon Brodie* and *Beau Austin*, performed at London and Montreal in 1884-87, and *Admiral Guinea*, shown at the Haymarket in 1890; the first and third, low-life melodrama and broad comedy, of some vigour but no great importance; the second, an unusually good eighteenth-century society play. Most certainly these experiments do not rank with Stevenson's romances or Henley's poems. Another curious illustration of the attraction of the dramatic form for the literary mind is Thomas Hardy's *The Dynasts* (1904), a drama of the Napoleonic wars, projected in nineteen acts, with choruses of spirits and personified abstractions; a sort of reversion to the class of morality and chronicle play exemplified in Bale's *King John*. Mr. Hardy is perhaps the foremost living English novelist, but *The Dynasts* is a dramatic monster, and, happily, a torso."

Mr. Beers divulges what he considers is the secret of stage success. It lies, he thinks, "in simplicity and directness of construction, unrelaxing tension, quick movement, and an instinctive seizure of the essentially dramatic crises in the action. In a word, the thing has 'go'; lacking which, no cleverness of dialogue, no epigrammatic sharpness of wit or delicate play of humour can save a comedy; and no beauty of style, no depth or reach of thought, a tragedy. Hence it is pertinent to remark how many popular playwrights have been actors or in close practical relations with the theatre. In the seventeenth century this was a matter of course. Shakespeare was an actor, and Molière and Jonson and Marlow and Greene and Otway, and countless others. Cibber was an actor and stage-manager. Sheridan and both Colmans were managers. Garrick and Foote wrote plays as well as acted them. Knowles, Boucicault, Robertson, Pinero, and Stephen Phillips have all been actors. Conceded that this professional point of view has been rightly emphasised, yet before the acted drama can rank as literature, or even hope to hold possession of the stage itself for more than a season, it must stand a further test. It must read well too. If it is no more than an after-dinner amusement, without intellectual meaning or vital relation to life; if it has neither strength nor truth nor beauty as a criticism of life, or an imaginative representation of life, what interest can it have for serious people? Let us stay at home and read our Thackeray."

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MR. EDMUND TEARLE and a talented company are at the Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, for six nights, presenting *The Three Musketeers*, *Othello*, *Ingomar*, *Julius Cæsar*, and *Hamlet*. Mr. Tearle, who had a flattering reception, performs the principal parts of each drama, and is ably supported by Miss Kate Clinton. The company includes Mr. V. Crabtree, Mr. E. Gragan, Mr. W. J. Meller, and Miss Esther Tearle.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—*The Drama of Life* is played this week by a powerful all-round company. Mr. Algernon J. Hicks ably takes the hero part of Harry Beech; Mr. Edmund Hamilton makes a first-rate villain as Walter Beech; and Miss Kate Hallam plays artistically the difficult part of Sylvia Beech. Miss Amy Ross-Clyde achieves success by her portraiture of Betty Black; Miss Marie Ramus gives a clever presentation of Lady Lane Wilde; Mr. J. B. Dawson is exceedingly amusing as the amateur detective; and Miss Cissie Carter personates Master Robert Beech charmingly. All the other parts are well filled.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees, The United Company Theatres, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The most interesting engagement this week is that of Miss Dot Stephens, a lady possessed of a very fine voice, which she uses to the best advantage. This clever and winsome young actress also accompanies herself on the piano, and her efforts are rewarded deservedly with the unstinted applause of the audiences. The Maritana Operatic company on Monday gave a most enjoyable rendering of the piece from which they take their name. The principals, who all have an enthusiastic reception, are Miss Evelyn De Lara (soprano), Mr. Albert Chapman (baritone), Miss Elsie Weston (contralto), and Mr. Frank Pemberton, the director of the company (tenor). In every respect the opera was delightfully presented. Among the other clever turns are those of Mersano, with his marvellously smart coin and card tricks; Griff, assisted by George, in an amusing "hoop" act; Chameleon, a bewilderingly clever quick-change artist; and Mr. R. A. Speedwell, a really gifted lightning portrait painter and a remarkably fine colourist. The Bioscope series, A Struggle for Life, proves highly interesting. The company all round is the strongest that has appeared at this theatre for a very long time.

Beach Pavilion.—Proprietor, Mr. David Thomson.—Mr. Thomson varies his programme most agreeably from week to week by an almost entire change of business and the engagement of other artists. Among the newcomers this week are the famous violinist, Scott-Skinner, who is rapturously applauded, and Mr. George Park, a local baritone vocalist of note. As usual, Miss Minnie Osborne and Mr. Oswald Gray have to respond to numerous encores; while Mr. Thomson and Mr. Jack Belton are equally successful in supplying the humorous element. The chorus contributes some excellent work, particularly at the opening with "Coonville's cullud band."

ABERTILLERY.—Theatre Metropole.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom.—Messrs. Pitt and Halling's company is here this week in a splendid representation of *£1000 Reward*. Mr. Fred Wilberforce, as Gilbert Lisle, and Mr. Charles Halling as Vincent Rainsworth, give splendid impersonations. Mis Daisy Halling, as Mme. Sanson, is excellent; Mr. Frank I. Pitt is thoroughly at home in the part of Fred Ingleford; Miss Lyn Darlington, as Meg, is very pleasing, her singing eliciting much applause; Mr. Frank Dallas is very successful and amusing as Inspector Gilbert; and Mr. Joe English as Dick Springthorpe, Miss Crissie Francess as Kitty Springthorpe, and Mrs. Sydney Halling (Mrs. McCarthy) are entertaining.

Pavilion.—Lessees, Messrs. E. and H. Tilney; Manager, Mr. E. Pryce.—Herr Fritz, illusionist, tops the bill this week, his wonderful turn gaining much applause. Souplessi is a clever contortionist. The Decars appear in a very amusing sketch, *Off to the Races*. Katie Eplett, comedienne; Agnes Lynch, in song scena; Ward and Wylie, Frank Lara, the tale teller; and the Sisters Ford, duettists, complete the bill.

A new cinematograph and variety show is now showing at Abertillery. The owner, Mr. E. Danter, has a capable manager in Mr. Thomas Oxford, and the crowded houses being drawn seems to justify the enormous expense Mr. Danter has gone to. He has secured some splendid films, notably the Struggle for Life, The Slave's Love, and others.

ACCRINGTON. — Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker.—An excellent bill is provided at the above hall. Topsy and Usher tops the bill, and gives a really good account of themselves; Cozars are also very fine and are well received; Effie White in her kaleidoscope is pretty and interesting; Meter and Mora are good; Bonetti and Corri are appreciated; Hector and Paulus are clever; D. Miller is a good Irish comedian; and the Bioscope concludes a good show.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Messrs. Battersby and Chesney's company opened here on Monday with the *King of Crime*. Mr. Henry Bedford gave a perfect rendering of the part of Ronjarre; Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes was good as Simon; Louis Mascarot was cleverly depicted by Mr. A. Robinson; Mr. Bob Anderton must be complimented upon his Mick Maloney. Henriette was a scholarly performance by Miss F. Hilton; Miss Grace Eveyln was well cast as Mima Patenlair, and the rest of the parts were in capable hands.

ALDERSHOT.—Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin.—There is a capital programme provided here this week. Miss Blanche Marion is an expert dancer; the Brothers Idinto score a complete success with their juggling speciality; the Days as second-sight seers are wonderfully clever; Miss Joan Deering is a charming vocalist and violinist, and is enthusiastically received; Violete Gibson and her White Coons are clever dancers; the Weimars give a variety entertainment with numerous instruments; and Mr. Weimar, in song, tells the story of Lord Roberts' march to Kandahar, in which he took part.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—Will Freedo, comedian and expert dancer, is remarkably nimble of foot, and sings his Scotch ditty admirably; the Sprees (Dorothy and Joe) appear in a song and patter scena with good effect; Miss Ada Grey, soprano, sings with artistic effect; a laughter-provoking turn is that of the Elvio Trio, in the up-to-date absurdity, *Those Troublesome Slaveys*; Captain Roberts, the strong man, with his two diminutive acrobatic soldier-boys, is a really good turn; Lambert and Robertson introduce their sketch of *Scotch Wooin'*, and Miss Lambeth renders very effectively "Annie Laurie" and other ballads; Tip and Top are also good as comedy acrobats in "Funniosities"; Ajax and George, midshipmen, introduce a really clever gymnastic novelty-act, and a funny absurdity, entitled *The House of Tinn*, is played by Mr. J. Gar Kiddie and company. The Bioscope pictures the troubles of the fat man.

ATTERCLIFFE. — Theatre Royal, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaughten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chris. A. Wordsworth.—An entire change of pictures here this week is drawing crowded houses, whilst an additional attraction is the charming illustrated songs by Miss Norah Desmond.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bert Lester.—The principal attraction in this week's excellent programme is furnished by Mr. W. T. Ellwanger's comedy-sketch, entitled *The Peacemaker*, which is smartly written, and embraces many laughter-provoking situations which are highly appreciated. The company includes Mr. W. T. Ellwanger, Mr. Alfred Wellesley, Miss Marion Mathey, and Miss Beatrice Webb. Miss Minnie D'Aubyn, the charming burlesque and comedienne, had a hearty reception on her welcome re-appearance; the Musical Keiths (lady and gentleman) contribute a pleasing musical turn, also a spirited dance, for which they receive hearty applause; the Brothers Harrison make a big hit as comedians and dancers; Mr. Montague Biggs is an ideal female impersonator, and his efforts brought forth loud applause; Mr. Clayton's Attergraph pictures include A Drama of the Riviera; the Henres give a smart juggling act; and Mr. George Grenville, versatile comedian, is well received.

Central Hall.—Lessees, Jasper Redfern, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. W. Holmes.—The pictures here this week are highly interesting, and as usual drawing large audiences. Amongst the most noteworthy are A Case of Arson, the King inspecting the Dreadnought, the Coventry Pageant, with La Milo, and the Making of a Cricket Bat. The vaudeville entertainment is contributed to by Dan Leno, jun.; Mr. Harry Zetter, a versatile comedian; and Mr. J. Graham, a clever humorous ventriloquist.

BACUP.—New Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell's Juvenile Pantomime company is here this week with *Sleeping Beauty*. Miss Dolly Dodds makes a charming Beauty; Miss Kitty Trewhitt is vivacious as Prince Florizel, and contributes a number of excellent songs; Miss Mona Townshend looks well as the Valet; Miss Addie Gibson makes a pretty Fairy, and sings sweetly; the Queen and Asbestos, Beauty's maid, are drolly played by the Brothers Armstrong; Pat Sloan and Master S. Jefferson, as Julius Cæsar and Ebenezer, are highly amusing; Mr. Will Orston gives a good account of himself as Father Time; Miss Beattie Townshend, as the Witch, makes the most of her small part; Wee George Wood, the marvellous boy-comedian, as Betty Dalrimple, gave a marvellous performance, and his power of mimicry was great. The specialities include La Bella Anette, solo dancer; the Margueritta Quartette of dancers, and Wee George Wood, comedian and mimic.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stone.—Miss Augusta Tullock's company in *The End Crowns All*, is here. She herself does remarkably well in the difficult part of Vera Romaine, and Mr. Roy Milton is a successful Prince Borinsky. Lord Arthur Lyndhurst is well done by Mr. Arthur Plummer; Enid Romaine is nicely played by Miss Cora Linda; the Ivan Spava of Mr. Hugh Travers and the Lola Ivanwitch of Miss Amber Wyville are very entertaining; and the comedy parts of the Rev. Samsone Gone, John Jubbs, Birdie Going, and Mrs. Cleo Jubbs are humorously done by Mr. Wm. de Lacy, Mr. Harry Danby, Miss Gladys Maye, and Miss Nellie Fern respectively.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Messrs. Shinton and Greenwood's company in *The Price of Her Soul* is here. The former as the hero, Lord Mandeville, is admirably adapted for the rôle and is eminently successful; while Mr. Annesley Hope makes an admirable exponent of Major Ivan Skoboloff. Miss Ada M. Ryder is conspicuously successful as the Countess Inez Steinmetz; and in their parts Mr. W. H. Melrose and Miss Lizzie Moorley provide much humour.

Tivoli.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Laban.—The top of the bill is Hirano, accompanied by Miss Merano San, the lady champion Ju-Jitsu wrestler. They give a fine exhibition of their style of wrestling. The Phydoras are very clever in their eccentric musical act; Serpentello is a contortionist of the first rank; Princess Pauline is a most pleasing comedienne; and Rell and Butt are very good in their novel act, *Fun in the Garden*, the patter and dancing being very clever. The Sisters St. Julia sing and dance excellently, and are well received; and Rudge Wentworth gives a nice refined society entertainment.

BARRY DOCK.—Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton.—This newly-opened place of amusement is nightly gaining in popularity, and large audiences are appreciating the capital bill of fare provided by the enterprising manager, Mr. Carlton. The Continental comedy gymnasts, the Avolos, head the bill, and are enthusiastically applauded; the Swift Trio of cyclists evoke universal commendation; and the Lancashire Harmony Quartette of singers are excellent in their vocal speciality; Miss Gertrude Lovell is a refined vocalist, with a good voice; and Alfred Boyne is very amusing in his laughable turn; Kiaro, hand balancer, Charlton, conjurer, and the Electric Bioscope, complete a splendid evening's entertainment.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—This house reopens for the autumn season on Monday next with *East Lynne*.

Palace Theatre. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth. — Mr. Schuberth has control of a splendid bill this week, in which those cultured singers and dancers, the Six Æolians, win even greater favour than ever upon returning to the scenes of former triumphs; Whimsical Walker and his juvenile lady companion gain emphatic approval for their interesting episode, *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*; Story and Twigg create immense hilarity in their acrobatic act, *An Entente Cordiale*; an old friend is Virto, whose musical act is always worth listening to and highly popular; the Sisters Morgan are excellent vocalists and dancers, and secure plenty of applause; Cissie Thompson, comedienne, has two capital songs in "Iris" and "Forgotten"; Stuart and Stuart display acrobatic agility and smart dancing; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux remain a special feature.

BEDFORD. — Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Sidney Grundy's *A Bunch of Violets*, which was presented at the above on Monday night, is the first of a series of plays which Mr. Norman Macowan and his London company are presenting here during the next month. Mr. Norman Macowan as Sir Philip Marchant, the money-making baronet, was excellent; and Miss Violet Sterne portrayed Lady Marchant with much delicacy and pathos; Miss Lester Stephens was a capital adventuress; Miss Mary Masters played naturally the part of Violet. Mr. Murray was good as Lord Mount Sorrell; and the part of Jacob Schwartz was cleverly interpreted by Mr. B. Copping; Mr. R. Entwistle was a capital Harker, and Mr. S. R. Palfrey was bluff and hearty as Mark Murgatroyd.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company opened here on Monday with *A Royal Divorce*. Miss Edith Cole, a charming actress, delighted all with her finished impersonation of Josephine; Mr. Frederick Victor would indeed be difficult to excel as Napoleon; and a skilful impersonation of the the Marquis de Beaumont was submitted by Mr. Frank Stone; Mr. Tom Robertson furnished a powerful impersonation of the scheming Talleyrand; and Mr. Alfred Grenville was all that could be desired as General Augereau. Miss Agnes Imlay is worthy of much praise for her interpretation of Marie Louise; and Miss Helen Richmond was a vivacious Stephanie de Beauharnis; Mr. George Hudson made the rôle of Grimaud sufficiently humorous; and the little King of Rome could have no better representative than Miss Ethel Love; Mr. St. George Frere's impersonation of Marshal Murat was in every sense effective; and other rôles were satisfactorily sustained by Miss G. Entwistle, Miss Violet Hudson, Miss Marie Johns, and Messrs. W. Robbins, C. Jackson, &c.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—What is described as the perfection of living statuary, The Seldoms, top the bill, and present their artistic representations, which have met with a good reception. Mr. Arthur Rigby, a big favourite in Belfast, supported by his company, appears in *The March of the Married Men*, which is undoubtedly very funny; and a hit has been made by the Sisters Aindow in their refined musical act; the triple-bar act of the Four Ramlos is undoubtedly very smart, and the perfection of dancing is exhibited by Susie and Protti, aptly described as terpsichorean marvels; Haig and Novel's tumbling act is worthy of high praise; and also here are Miss Maud Beaumont, a delightful comedienne; Windermere and Manifield, comedy duologue artists; and the Palace Pictures.

Royal Hippodrome.—Maraging-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The chief feature of the week's bill is the entertainment provided by Wilbur Hill and Willette Walker, vocalists and instrumentalists, who made an enormous hit on Monday. Miss Maud Rochez introduces her well-trained monkeys, whose feats are really remarkable; the Mysterious Lilith appears in her remarkable performance which is quite a feature of the bill; Miss Lilian Warren, illustrated song artist, gains much approval for her fine vocalism; and a hit has been made by Miss Emmie Ames, a delightful comedienne; Mr. Harry Bancroft is a good vocalist; and Abel and Welsh are very funny eccentrics. Also appearing are Wallace Whitney, character comedian; Bros. Lilian in their chain act; Miss B. Foster, comedy artist; and the Hipposcope Pictures, which are always so attractive.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Miss Minnie Cunningham, a great favourite here, tops the bill, and has been vociferously encored. Frank Elliston and company create much mirth with their funny sketch, *Aunt Matilda*. Miss Lily Burnand, a charming comedienne, repeats her former success in her clever renderings of catchy songs; and the smart gymnasts, Sibb and Sibb, meet with a good reception; the ventriloquial act submitted by Eric has much to commend it; and Mr. J. B. Preston's Scotch songs have been vociferously encored. Garden and Haines, Australian vocal entertainers, and Miss Maud Vera, the little lady with the big voice, complete the programme.

New Alhambra Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic company produce this week the sterling comedy drama, *First Class*, by F. A. Scudamore, which has created an instantaneous success. Mr. Fred Terriss made his début on Monday as the new leading man of this company, and in the rôle of Jack Stroud acquitted himself with every possible distinction. Miss Nina Blake-Adams shared the honours by her clever conception of the part of Peggy, playing with rare judgment; the villainies of Lewis Montford were luridly depicted by Mr. Wilford Cheetham; and Mr. Cyril Grier appeared to much advantage as Dan, his acting being quite beyond reproach; Miss Kathleen Magee is worthy of high praise for her finished impersonation of Mildred. The humour of the piece was in the safe hands of Mr. Thomas H. Solly, who was decidedly funny as Nosey; and Miss Mattie Crawford furnished a charming interpretation of Florence; Mr. Elmore Frith, an experienced actor, was all that could be desired as Howard Franklin; and Miss Alice Clarke acquitted herself well as Mrs. Stroud; Mr. Ed. Smythe was quite capable as Philip Roscoe.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Musical-Director, Mr. J. E. Machin.—*The King of Crime* was the drama selected to reopen this theatre for the season, the piece being presented by Messrs. Battersby and Chesney's company. The Al-Fresco Pavilion, in adjoining grounds will now be closed, and to celebrate the past successful entertainments of the Pierrots, a fête has been held, which included a comedy cricket match, sports in great variety, and a fancy dress ball.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mr. Lester Collingwood's *When London Sleeps* company is on a welcome return visit, and meets with unequivocal success. Miss Mabel Scudamore wins general admiration by an unaffected and telling performance of Queenie Carruthers; Miss Lilla Wilde gives a careful and effective rendering of Hilda Carode, the adventuress; Mr. Richard Ferris works hard and with distinction in the unpopular rôle of Captain Rodney Haynes; and Mr. Edward E. Ashby appears to advantage as David Engleheart; the lighter passages of the play are admirably supplied by Mr. D'Arcy Kelway as Sammy Blythe; Mr. Frank Howard as the Hon. Bertie; and Miss Emmeline B. Lewis as Carrie Jones; Miss Bella Power is amusing as Signorina Jones; and Mr. Ernest E. Edwards an efficient Mr. Furnaby Fuller; other characters are well sustained; and the piece is produced with Mr. Collingwood's well-known care of detail, and large audiences have ruled during the engagement.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Few greater favourites visit this hall than Mr. Whit Cunliffe, the popular comedian, who is again meeting with unabated success; Miss Carrie Laurie's troupe of clever juveniles are also a leading feature; and Verno and Voyce, in their entertaining sketch *King of the Clouds*; Mr. Leoni Dixon, dancer; Miss Jeannie Reeve, comedienne; Miss Lily Langtry, comedienne; Mr. Fred Land, comedian; Mr. Jack Easy, Scotch character comedian; and Brown's Royal Bioscope also afford attractive turns. Mr. Ernest Denney is musical director.

Olympian Gardens, Rock Ferry.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton.—A very liberal programme introduces Mr. Jock Whiteford, the popular Scotch comedian; Mr. J. W. Hughes, bass; Mr. Perci Galino, musical comedians; McLeon Trainor, comedian; Mr. Arthur Aldridge, tenor; and Mr. Pennyston Miles, accompanist, who present a most enjoyable entertainment.

The Tower, New Brighton.—Manager, Mr. William Holland.—The various and humorous attractions command extensive patronage.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Mr. Wentworth Croke has followed up the success of *The Christian* here with that of *The Prodigal Son*, which he plays with all the original effects and a powerful cast. Mr. Henry Watson acts admirably in the titular rôle, and does all that is possible to make the part popular; Mr. Hugh Montgomery brings out all the good in the unselfish Magnus, and his reception is deservedly great; Mr. Richard A. Greene is applauded for his dignified speech as the Governor; Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood supplies a vigorous impersonation of the Factor; Miss Maude Stewart Drewry is pathetic as Thora and winsome as Elin, winning the highest of encomiums in both parts; Miss Margaret Murch is highly successful and alluring as Helga; and Miss Marie Harcourt gives due emphasis to the quaint lines and gestures of the aunt, Margaret; Miss Barbara Gott is also very successful as Anna.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—Mr. James Welch's company is here in the famous farce, *When Knights Were Bold*. Mr. Nelson Keys is given the task of portraying the rôle of the little baronet, Sir Guy de Vere, which he invests with all its humorous characteristics; Miss Emilie Polini as the maiden with romantic views, Lady Rowena, plays most charmingly; Mr. William Lockhart's Rev. Peter Pottleberry is one of the best-drawn characters in the farce; and Mr. Augustus Symonds as Isaacson, Mr. Thos. Pauncefort as Widdicombe, Mr. Charles Ommanney as Sir Brian, and Mr. Talbot Homewood as Wittle, leave no fault to find; the Misses Marjorie Chard, Lena Flowerdew, Vera Herbert, Eva Leonard Boyne, Violet Graham, and Nannie Hume are able and comely supporters. A duologue, *The Miller*, precedes the farce.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is meeting with much support here in *The Broken Heart*. To Mr. Harry Cullenford is assigned the part of the master blacksmith, John Barnard, in which his manly and intense style of acting makes a great hit; Miss Louise Peach shares in the favour with her sympathetic portrayal of the wife, Mary; Mr. Scott Leighton acts with a practised air as the villain, Stephen Raylton; and Mr. Charles Vivian is a powerful second as Cash Gills; Miss Maud Stuart displays much ability in the dual rôle of Miss Grace Fanshame and Mrs. Kellett; Miss Florrie Sorsby scores with her pathos as Little May; and the rôles essayed by Miss Nancy Mitchell, Miss Helen Grahame, and Mr. Will Lindsay are ably sustained.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Mr. Charles H. Lester's company takes the stage here in *The Bank of England*. Mr. Lester's contribution to the play as Sherlock Holmes is a ripe and fascinating performance, he having by this time played it over eight hundred times; Mr. Clifton Earle brings much skill to bear on the part of Stephen Hartley; Mr. J. H. Firman is well equipped for the rôle of Sir Sidney Barraclough; Mr. F. Ernstone is placed to advantage as Godfrey Dane; Mr. Harry T. Wood affords satisfaction as Eric Dane; Mr. Edmond O'Grady plays in a meritorious style as Gordon Isaacs; Mr. C. F. C. Berridge gives a clever touch of humour to the rôle of the Hon. Bertie Burlington; Miss Lallah Davis is quite a popular party as Aminta J. Beane; Miss Dorothy Riddell puts a graceful portrayal of Sylvia Barraclough to her credit; and Miss Lydia Hart as Margaret Dane, Miss Annie Thomas as Lucy Lockett, and Mr. Victor Leclere as Tommy Sprouts succeed; Mr. Will Whitaker's whistling solos and songs as Jeames are much appreciated.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Miss Lois Du Cane and company appear here in *The Heathen and the Christian*. Miss Du Cane's acting as May Berresford is instinct with charm and individuality; Mr. Ernest G. Batley invests the part of Lord Allendale with many clever character touches; Miss Ethyle Murray as Mira Sampson plies the rôle of adventuress with powerful effect; Mr. Sam Harcourt acts with clever realism as the villainous Lung Hi; Mr. Bruce Methyen as the co-villain, Li, is also most excellent; Mr. Harold B. Lewis displays all the popular qualities of a hero as George Beresford; Mr. Gerald Turner makes a capital Admiral Freebold; and Messrs. Arthur Lawrence, Fred Waring, W. Clare, Harold Garthorne, Robert Mayne, and Cecil Noble all deserve mention; Miss Rose Leyton is to be commended for her clever and sprightly acting as Becky.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittler.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and L. Maitland's company present *The Coal King* for this week's attraction. The title-rôle, Sir Reginald Hartford, is splendidly undertaken by Mr. Ernest Rivarz; the hero, Tom Roberts, scores in the hands of Mr. Sidney Leyton; the villain, Walter Hartford, is convincingly portrayed by Mr. W. P. Mansfield; and the heroine, Grace Shirley, is represented with infinite charm by Miss Dorothy Clifton; Mr. Alfred Terriss yields a rare amount of fun as Jim Williams; Miss Winifred Love is another welcome diversion as Araminta Green; Miss Sinna St. Clair contributes a clever sketch of "Mad Ann"; and Messrs. Frank Dalton, A. J. Williams, and Harry Nelson are prominent. The visit of *The Coal King* will also be remembered for the four half-tons of coal given by "Tom Roberts" to the four most deserving persons in the locality.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Prominence is this week given to the Chronomégaphone, an instrument constructed on the gramophone principle. The songs made famous by Harry Lauder are rendered, accompanied by animated pictures of that well-known comedian; Queenie Leighton pays a welcome return visit, and sings a number of her latest successes, which are very acceptable; Menotti described as "the Stockholm Wonder," introduces a new cycle track, an endless wire which travels at a high speed, and on this he rides at the rate of forty miles per hour—in addition, he is an expert rifle shot, performing clever feats whilst balancing himself upon a chair tilted upon its two back legs. Alice Maydue is as vivacious as ever; she brings new business, and her skit on the melodrama is very clever. Tom Foy and company present *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, which is exceedingly amusing; while Rhoda Paul is seen in a musical sketch entitled *The Schoolboy's Dream*; Leonard Gautier strikes a novel note with his scena, *An Animated Toy Shop*, in which the toys are represented by cleverly-trained ponies, who act as rocking-horses, nurses, etc; Olga and Elgar, in *The Singer and the Skylark*; Boy Glen, raconteur; and Ryder Slone, comedian, complete an attractive bill.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Vesta Victoria makes her first appearance here this week after her American tour. She sings several new songs, and gains repeated calls; the Eight Lancashire Lads figure next with an exceedingly smart show of clog dancing; for lovers of excitement we can recommend Le Diabelo in a nerve-shaking act inside and outside a revolving wheel, and to finish his performance the daring rider dashes down a steep incline into a net; Albert Wyndham and company in a Shakespearean sketch present some very fine scenes, as also do the Custances, in a pretty comedietta, entitled *A Game for Two*; Mlle. Rénee deserves mention for her skilful manipulation of various instruments; and so do Picitt and Lizette in their illusory extravaganza, *The Crazy Cook*; while to complete we have Smart Bros., Terry and Bentley, Maidie Scott, and the Sisters Wingrove.

Gaiety.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The clever gymnastic work of Rio Bros. was met with well-deserved applause on the occasion of their visit here this week; notable among the artists appearing is Miss Marie Wall, who has lately been with the Lytton Pierrot Troupe of this town, and who makes her first appearance here this week; she has a well-trained voice, and should have a good future before her; the laughable display of Schiavonis Troupe caused some amusement; while Fyne and Hurley, in their original coster sketch, prove as popular as ever; Hetty Chattel, in her character acting, gives a very pleasing turn; and Lizzie Wood, comedienne, is really good; the Bros. Webb, musical clowns, prove themselves talented musicians; and the Bros. Ashley again present their amusing sketch, "Next, Please"; as a finish the Knick-Knacks give a smart show of dancing, in which they are specialists.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—*La Vivandière*, an exciting episode founded on "Ouida's" famous novel, "Under Two Flags," is accorded the premier position this week. Miss Isabel Derry plays the part of Cigarette La Vivandière with much grace and sympathy, being supported by an able company; two trained horses make the performance additionally attractive. A novel turn is provided by Hermann Melot, an expert conjurer; his flag tricks are particularly good, and the bonbons produced from the atmosphere create for him much popularity. La Belle Nello is a very clever artist, and as a hand-balancer and contortionist shows considerable skill; Marie Burnett, Guy Ryder, and Charles Stevens are also responsible for appreciated turns.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — Eden Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. Valentine Beadon's company, in *The Best Must Win*, is here this week. Mr. Sidney C. Cranston as Paul Dumaresq plays in a most painstaking manner; Mr. Ed. M. Heanley as the Marquis de Marcel, alias "the Panther," gives every satisfaction; and Juan Minos is safely entrusted to Mr. Harold Turner; the Sabretache of Mr. Valentine Beadon is most pleasing; and as Denise, Miss Daisy Humphreys does well; Miss Cicely Desmonde in the parts of Therese Dumaresq and Lucille La Fanche deserves every praise; Jacques Courcel and Suzette are drolly presented by Mr. Herbert Woodin and Miss Madge Palmer; and La Marquise de Marcel is creditably sustained by Miss Dorothy Laine.

BLACKBURN. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—This popular house reopened on Monday with Mr. Charles Macdona's company in *The White Chrysanthemum*. Miss Pauline Potter was announced to play O San, but it was stated that through illness she was unable to appear. The part was taken at very short notice by Miss Bradfield, who, though palpably nervous, acquitted herself well, and gave a winsome representation of the part. Another success is Mr. Victor Kahn, who as Lieut. Reginald Armitage does well; Mr. Erskine Lang as Lieut. Chippendale Belmont is very clever, and he makes the hit of the evening with his song "I often wonder how it's done." Sin Chon, the Chinese cook, and Private Perks are well played by Messrs. Frank Weir and H. C. Wolton; while Miss Maude Duval as Betty Kenyon is good; and Miss Blanche Ostley as Cornelia acts very prettily. The chorus and orchestra are satisfactory, and the staging of the play is very well done.

New Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in *A Soldier's Honour* are appearing here to crowded audiences.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—The artists who contribute to an excellent entertainment this week include the Strassburger Midgets; Claude Feldman's troupe of prize juveniles; Leah Arden, vocalist; Russell Brandow, coloured comedian and dancer; Cole and Rags, eccentric jugglers; Les Bollingers, rag painters; Guitaro, Japanese juggler; and Brogue and Lloyd, in their comic sketch, *The Tree of Truth*.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone. — The greatest enthusiasm prevails here this week, owing to the fact that Mr. Seymour Hicks and company are in possession. Three playlets are performed each night, and all are presented in a manner that is well-nigh faultless. *Papa's Wife*, with Mr. Hicks as Gerald Singleton, Miss Zena Dare as Kate Weatherby, and Mr. J. C. Buckstone as William, is the curtain-raiser. Then comes *You and I*, in which Messrs. Tom Terriss, Laurence Caird, Zena Dare, and Florence Lloyd take part; and, finally, *Scrooge*, with Mr. Hicks in the title-rôle.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Mr. Robt. Courtneidge's company is packing this theatre nightly with *The Dairymaids*. Miss Phyllis Dare makes the most winsome Peggy it is possible to imagine; and Mr. E. Statham Staples finds great favour as Sam Brudenell. Miss Edith Blanche plays Lady Brudenell with becoming grace; and Mr. Harry Dent scores a great success as Joe Nivens, A.B. The play is exceptionally well mounted.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby's company has occupied the stage here with the popular melodrama, *Man's Enemy*, and has met with a flattering reception. In the leading rôle of Harry Stanton, Mr. Norman A. Overton won much favour; whilst the General Sir Arthur Stanton of Mr. William Jeans left nothing to be desired; Mr. T. Weldon Atherstone as Tom Drake was much in evidence; Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby as Count Lanski gave a creditable performance; the Isaac Barnett of Mr. Fred Owen was very funny, able assistance being given by Miss Eve Reed as Polly Harris; the Sarah Drake of Miss V. St. Lawrence won hearty plaudits for an artistic and well-studied performance. The minor parts were in able hands, and the staging and mounting left nothing to be desired.

The Gaiety.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. G. E. Good.—At the top of a popular programme we have Bandoni, the one-man band, who obtains a hearty reception; Bert Crosby proves a successful comedian and dancer; the Two Nellsons, duettists and dancers, are warm favourites; and the Bioscope displays popular pictures.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Tudor.—A good pictorial entertainment continues to draw large audiences to this popular resort.

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—Luis Hardt, otherwise "the mighty atom," is paying a return visit with a splendid display of muscular endurance; the setting of the performance is quite original. Donaldson Brothers and Ardell are affording much amusement in their zoological pantomime comedy in two scenes; Gregson and Goodfellow, a comedy pair, give a brisk miscellany of patter, singing, and dancing; the Fitzroys also form a leading attraction in this artistic and daring gymnastic display on the trapeze and rope; Massona, juggler, is very clever and amusing; Alexandra Edwin, vocalist, and Lester May, comedian, also deserve mention. The Bioscope pictures are well up to their usual standard.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. George Dance's company in *Miss Hook of Holland* is playing to phenomenal business this week, "House full" boards being exhibited each evening. Mr. Fred Winn as Mr. Hook, and Mr. Fred Lyne as Simon Slinks, are exceedingly droll, and thoroughly sustain the interest which belongs to their respective parts; Mr. Percy Carr's voice is heard to advantage as Van Vuyt; and Messrs. T. J. Bolesworth as the Captain, Courtney Comber as the Lieutenant, and H. S. Gray as Hendrick, render excellent support; the title-rôle is undertaken by Miss Maggie White, who does full justice to the character; and as Thekla Miss L. Hildroe is most successful, obtaining well deserved encores for each of her songs; Miss Trixie Snowdon as Gretchen, and Miss Rita Evered as Mina, share in the success. Mention should be made of the valuable services rendered by Mr. Knight Pearce, the musical conductor.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—We are having yet another visit from *Charley's Aunt* this week, and Mr. Brandon Thomas (the author) and his smart company are received with the customary uproarious laughter and marks of approbation. Mr. Thomas himself retains the part of Colonel Sir Francis Chesney; Mr. Walter Beaumont is amusing as the solicitor Spettigue; the undergraduates, Jack Chesney and Charley Wykeham, played respectively by Mr. Hastings Lynn and Mr. R. B. Mason, are a lively pair; as Lord Fancourt Babberley Mr. Spencer Trevor is exceedingly droll; Mr. Sydney Compton is capital as Brassett; there is charm and dignity in Miss Lena

McNaughton's impersonation of Donna Lucia, and Miss Sylvia Morris as Ela Delahay, Miss Grace Russell as Amy Spettigue, Miss Amy Brandon Thomas as Kitty Vérdu are a charming trio. The comedy is preceded by *A Highland Legacy*, a smart and well-constructed curtain-raiser by Mr. Thomas.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—The first production here of Mr. F. Marriott-Watson's original and ultra-sensational drama, *A False Wife*, is meeting with unqualified success at the hands of Mr. Laidler's appreciative patrons. The piece, which is finely staged, teems with incidents of the "thrilling" order, some of them being weird in the extreme. The company engaged on the representation is an able one, and in the title-rôle Miss Florence E. Florence distinguishes herself as an emotional actress of great power and skill, and she has fine support from Mr. Hilton Morgan as Ben Rattler; Mr. Allen Charles as a Village Constable; Mr. Marriott-Watson as the French adventurer, Jean Bernand; Mr. G. Langham as Sir Colin; Mr. F. H. Constable as the hero, Lieut. G. Mansfield; Mr. Owen Edwin as the mad wizard Zorak; and Miss Annie Hylton as Agnes Wyland; Miss Ivy Chandos as Bessie Blazer; and Miss Flo Morgan as Sarah Bernsthein.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—The famous Tyrolean giantess Mariedl is the gigantic attraction here this week, and the remarkable lady is an object of much interest and curiosity; Harry Cadle's knockabout absurdity *The Casey Army*, with its company of precocious urchins, contains fun of a broad and boisterous type; Janette Hall, the lady baritone, is the possessor of a phenomenal voice; Lina Verdi, a dainty comedienne, is a good mimic; Maude Mortimer, comedienne, sings in a pleasing style; Powell's Marionettes supply a very clever, amusing, and bright entertainment; the Three Rubys are smart acrobats and trapeze performers; Frank Cumminger earns applause for his clever and eccentric sand dancing; Ross and Lewis, in a quaint sketch, *Fits and Misfits*, are responsible for some eccentric dancing; and the American Bioscope shows an interesting picture.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Comedy is the prevailing element here, and George Mozart, with his quaint humour and his jokes and instrumentalism, is well to the fore; Bert Weston sings some good songs, and is very amusing as a raconteur; Lang and Beal are a smart pair of musical knockabout comedians; Andie Burn, as "the broken-down millionaire," contributes an amusing dance; Kitty Clinton is an engaging and chic comedienne; roars of laughter greet Raglas in the performance of his original comedy juggling feats; the Sisters Valmore submit a neat duet and dance; and good pictures are shown by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

BRIDLINGTON.—NEW SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Gen.-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company opened here on Monday with that charming musical play, *The Toreador*, and a very fine rendering of the piece was given. Mr. R. Davison, as Pettifer, proved himself a finished and versatile artist; Mr. Leslie R. Cathie, as Sir Archibald Slackett, and Mr. J. H. Willis, as Augustus Trail, were admirable exponents of the parts; Mr. W. Strong as Cargola, the Toreador, used his powerful and well-trained voice to great advantage; Mr. Henry Arthur was at home in his character of the Governor of Villaya; Mr. George Martin was a "villainous" Rinaldo, the Carlist; as the Tiger Sammy Grigg, Mr. Robert Rous kept the house in constant merriment at his many amusing antics as the sham Toreador; Mr. Daniel Maston as Moreno, Mr. Arthur Penborn as the Bandmaster, and Mr. Harry Playfair as Mr. Probitt were very good. Miss Leah Howard showed to advantage as Susan; Miss Gertrude Simpson was charming in the part of Dora Selby; Miss Marie Beresford's rendering of Nancy Staunton was most welcome, her admirable voice being heard to great advantage in the numbers allotted to her; as Mrs. Malton Hoppings Miss Laura Wright was an attractive widow; and Miss Ivy Moore gave just the right touch to the Spanish Donna Teresa, her singing delighting the audience. The other ladies of the company were all well up in their parts, and the piece was beautifully staged and dressed. For the second half of the week Mr. William Greet's company was announced in *The Earl and the Girl*.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The crowded audiences which assemble on the Parade are enthusiastic in their reception of the various artists who take part in the promenade concerts under the popular conductor, Mr. Joseph Sainton. Mr. Sainton, in addition to his duties as conductor of the orchestra, occasionally gives the audience a taste of his musical abilities as a pianist, and the other night he gave one of Mendelssohn's concertos with orchestral accompaniment. Prominent amongst his soloists, too, is Mr. Albert Sunt, a clever 'celloist. The vocalist this week is Miss Emily Breare, a pleasing soprano. In the Grand Pavilion the Flockton-Foster Entertainers attract crowded audiences. Miss Haidee Voorzanger, a remarkably talented child violinist, delights with her finely-rendered solos. The Loyal Dominion Animated Picture Company are showing some of the latest and best of both scenic and comic films, which meet with great approval. For Wednesday evening Mr. W. Payne Seddon and Mr. George Robertson's company were announced in the laughter-raising *Charlie's Aunt*.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—The vocalist at the promenade concerts this week is Mr. Dan Billington, the great Yorkshire baritone, whose songs are rendered with admirable effect, and he is enthusiastically applauded. The Lindon Vaudeville Entertainers are still drawing large crowds to their capital entertainments. On Wednesday there was a grand gala and fireworks display in the Gardens, when Messrs. Pain and Sons gave one of their admirable displays of pyrotechny, and the grounds were brilliantly illuminated.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath and Dainton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—The fourth annual benefit of the manager of this popular resort took place on the 9th inst., when a bumper house testified to the esteem in which he is held by visitors and townsmen. A proof of this was afforded by the presence of the Mayor of the borough, who made a short speech, congratulating Mr. Beanland upon the great respect in which he is held by the lovers of amusement. Messrs. Coda and Denton gave their amusing interlude, *Fishing*. George Hyam was capital in his character-songs; Miss Madge Goodall's song and dance, and Miss Marie Farren in a Dutch song and dance, were both equally well received; Mr. Will Erardo, the harpist of the troupe, gave one of his finely rendered solos; Mr. J. Bath showed his talent as a novel paper manipulator; Miss Bertha Frey gave an amusing song; Mr. Bob White was effective in his character singing; Mr. Syd. Myra, who was appearing at the Grand Pavilion, gave a clever magical act accompanied by his dog Nell; and Mr. Harry Collard, from the Lindon Entertainers on the Spa, kindly acted as accompanist. The troupe gave a capital finish to an enjoyable evening's amusement by playing their screaming sketch, *Uncle Ebenezer*. During the evening Mr. Beanland was the recipient of a large number of handsome and valuable presents from his friends, and returned his thanks to the audience and his many friends for their appreciation of his work.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licencee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl.—Mr. George Musgrove's company opened here on Monday with *The Belle of New York*. Miss Tessa de Alberta gave a charming enactment of the title-rôle, and sang delightfully; Mr. Paddy Dupres was an entertaining Ichabod Bronson; Mr. Ernest Mozar was capitally suited as Harry Bronson; Mr. Alfred Sandoe as Sniffkins, and Mr. Walter Uridge as Mugg, were very amusing; Mr. Joseph R. Tate played effectively as the "polite lunatic"; Mr. Frank Lawton, as Blinky Bill, whistled himself into great favour; Miss Florence Hersee, as a Pell-street girl, proved very vivacious; and the choruses were well sung.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company is here this week with *Second to None*. Miss Ward submits an admirable impersonation of Nell Greystone; Mr. Jerrold Heather makes a manly and popular Harry Wilding; Mr. C. W. Spencer is dignified as Sir Reginald Greystone, V.C.; Mr. Alfred Brandon displays convincing acting as Captain Mannering; Miss Violet Ennis Lawson is a pleasing May Greystone; and much amusement is afforded by Mr. T. G. Vane as Lieutenant Archie Ballater; Mr. Charles A. Preece as Private Flutter; Mr. Alan Carruthers as Joe Ruggles; and Miss Maudie Grayson as Norah.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is a capital company here this week. Dutch Daly's concertina solos and patter are as popular as ever; the Five M.P.'s (the Musical Palmers) are warmly received; Bob Hutt and company are entertaining in a musical production, *Welcome Home;* Daisy Palmer displays artistic vocalisation; George Prince, the "crazy comic," is a great favourite; Kisbey is a capital dancer; Adey Spencer gives a good turn with her clever imitations on the piano; Walker and Lake are droll cross-talk comedians; Lily Flexmore's skilful contortions, dancing, and singing win cordial applause; Geoffreys and Benson submit a bright duologue; and the Alhambrascope Pictures are interesting and amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A high-class programme is sustained here this week. Chung-Ling-Soo, Chinese magician, fairly bewilders the audience with his amazingly clever feats; Max Waldon is a clever female impersonator; R. H. Douglas is a very taking monologue artist; Beatrice Croker is a charming vocalist; Gipsy Woolf and her Six Sunbeams achieve great success in the musical item, *The Mermaid of Margate;* Will Vay's Juveniles are effective in the scena, *Life in the Slums;* the Stebbings, in a conglomeration of comedy and skill, are cordially received; and other pleasing turns are given by the Lupins, in the extravaganza, *Cinders;* Billy Burford, vocal comedian; the Walleys, comedy and expert jugglers; and Rappo and Ella, society gymnasts. The Barrascope pictures are amusing.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here this week with *The Freedom of Suzanne*. Miss Nancy Beresford, in the title-rôle, achieves success; Mr. Percy Hutchison gives a masterly impersonation of Suzanne's husband; Mr. F. G. Thurstan is effective as the old uncle; Miss Annie Stallman is a typical mother-in-law; Mr. Charles Harley's Sir Horace Hatton and Miss Hilda Honiss's Lady Isabel Bury are well played, and the remaining characters are in able hands.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company opened here on Monday with *For Her Sake*. Miss Doris Gilham as the Princess was highly successful; Mr. Fred Hilliard was forcible as Ivan; Mr. Wellesley Draper and Miss Mabel Mannering made an interesting pair of young lovers; Mr. Bernard Mervin was seen to advantage as the scheming Nihilist; and comic relief was afforded by Mr. Sydney Benson and Miss Maimie Randall, the Irish coachman and maid respectively.

BRISTOL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—Mr. Mark Blow and Miss Ida Molesworth's company is here with the interesting drama, *At Cripple Creek*, the staging of the play being liberal and effective. Mr. Stanley Bedwell acts in convincing style as Joe Mayfield; Mr. Will Hook is amusing as Reggie Harwood; Miss Daisy Carlton is successful as Maggie Mason, Mr. Hook and Miss Carlton obtaining much applause for their song and dance; Miss Nancy Roberts is pleasing as Belle Gordon; Mr. Eric Hudson acts effectively as Martin Mason; and other parts are carefully taken by Messrs. J. L. Leith, Reginald Harley-West, Roy Tracey, Charles Watson, Tom Sharp, Alfred Cooper, Edward Rochester, Miss Agnes Verity, Miss Norah Dillon, and Miss Rosie Hopkins.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—*Florodora* is being played here by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 Company, the musical comedy being well staged. Miss Maisie Ellinger is pleasing as Dolores, she being also an excellent vocalist; Miss Edith Housley presents a charming exposition of Lady Holyrood, her songs being tastefully rendered; Miss Marian Armytage is successful as Angela Gilfain; Mr. Fred Eastman makes a capital part of Tweedlepunch, he is always amusing, and wisely avoids overdoing it; Mr. J. B. Fox both acts and sings well as Frank Abercoed; Mr. Edmund Russell does all that is possible with Cyrus Gilfain; Mr. Harold Perry is satisfactory as Captain Arthur Donegal; and Mr. Charles Roadnight makes a good character part of Leandro. The chorus is strong and efficient, the augmented orchestra does good work under the direction of Mr. Hubert Sullivan Brooke, and special dances are given by the Misses Maudie Brock, Dorothy Mason, Daisy Gayley, and Emmie Oxley in approved style.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—The Ten Loonies are highly successful with their eccentric musical sketch, *Dotty*, the Loonies being appropriately described as "mad musicians." Matthew Brodie and company score in a dramatic sketch, entitled *The Drummer of the 76th*, the same being staged in good style; Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, American comedians, both sing and dance well; Gracie Lawn, comedienne, does a pleasing turn of song and dance; the Three Lomas present a good gladitorial act; the Sisters Jonghmans, vocalists, are appreciated; Jennie Lee is a successful vocalist and dancer; and the performance concludes with Vernon's animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—William Hazell, champion wrestler of Bristol and West of England, is here for the week, and offers £20 to anyone who can defeat him in fifteen minutes, and £10 to any man he fails to throw in the same space of time, no one being barred, and champions especially invited. Bouts take place at each performance, much excitement prevailing. Sylvesta, assisted by Miss Vera de Courtney, gives a good exposition of his skill as an illusionist; Clifford a juvenile, is successful in song and dance; Wakomie Brothers are versatile instrumentalists; Victor Newman, character impersonator, obtains considerable applause; the Rio Tintos present an amusing act, entitled *African Gambols;* Arthur Gill has an extraordinary voice, as exemplified in his rendering of the four parts in the glee, "Hail smiling morn"; Ethel Donna is a smart comedienne and dancer; and the Sisters Harte are acceptable duettists and dancers. The performance concludes with animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Abundant evidence was furnished on Monday evening that the sultry weather and outdoor attractions did not weigh against *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*, as the house was packed when Walter Melville's company commenced a week's engagement. Mr. Roy Redgrave as Willie Mason is an excellent British tar; Bill Slater is an able performance by Mr. Sidney Sarl; Mr. Frank Robertson is very successful as Jack Fenton; Mr. Willie Riéd as Johnny Walker and Miss Marie Kildare as Poppy make the most of their opportunities, causing the audience at times to scream with laughter; Miss Nannie Meade skilfully enacts the rôle of Vesta La Clere, and she and Mr. Walter Thornton, as James Harcourt, constitute a smart pair of unscrupulous schemers. Richard Fenton is in the able hands of Mr. Kenneth Black; Lucy Coventry is a pleasing character played in excellent manner by Miss Hilda Baynton; Miss Rona Merrick as Sophie Coventry, the wayward, foolish girl, had a powerful grasp of the necessities of the character, and worked hard and successfully. Numerous minor parts are well filled, and the scenery and staging are excellent.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*The Manxman* is being presented by Mr. Alfred B. Cross's company. Mr. Cross gives a remarkably good portrayal of Peter; Miss Minnie Watersford is seen at her best in the character of Kate; Mr. E. W. Cudd takes the part of Cæsar Cregeen with great advantage; Phillip Christian is smartly undertaken by Mr. Sidney C. Kearns; and Miss Christian is the work of Miss Phyllis Noell. Ross Christian (Mr. Richard Brenan), Monty Missit (Mr. Smith Neill), and Professor Mawley (Mr. F. Lynton), are all extremely well portrayed, and other characters are ably undertaken.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A most musical programme is given here, at the head of which are the Melody Makers, six in number, who are accomplished pianists and singers, four pianos being brought into use; Miss Agnes Molteno presents a really fine turn, *An Old-time Romance; or, A Dolly and a Coach*, in which she is charming assisted by living tableaux; smart military tactics and drills, including wall-climbing, is cleverly exhibited by the Tennessee Guards; the Three Sisters Silcott are also clever in song and dance; Phern and Phern present a pleasing musical turn on uncommon instruments; Harry Taylor as a Jew contributes a funny song; and Denby and Dent are good in duets and patter. The launch of the Bellerophon is illustrated by the Empire Theatroscope.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE (NEW HIPPODROME).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Waller.—Blanche and Diacoff, cycle experts, give a really wonderful exhibition; the gymnastic performance of Helene and Emilon is watched with intense interest; the Prince Milner trio is extremely clever with wire and hoop; some splendid part singing is given by C. Emlyn Jones and the Daughters of Britain; songs by Lil O'Gorman and Harry Bentley, instrumental music by Nellie Nora, and pictures by the Operascope conclude an exceptionally good bill.

BURY (Lancs.).—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Marks.—Hilda Jacobsen, the Manchester pantomime favourite, sings well-selected songs very charmingly. Other turns are Ted Karno's comedians in their absurdity, *Dinner Hour;* Walter Wade, comedian; Ormonde Penstone, conjurer; Nash and Noel, comedians and dancers; Baker and Balfe, xylophone players; Austin and Cowan, vocalists; and Elsie Nore, vocalist.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Marks.—The exhibitions of pictures are very good this week, and include "The Dieppe Motor Races," "By the Hand of the Enemy," "Father's Quiet Sunday," &c. The variety turns are Marcus Boyle, comedian, and Ada Whitton, a pleasing singer.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. W. Broadhead, jun.—The programme at this hall includes the Zerbinis Troupe of Continental musicians; Billy Farrell, coloured comedian; Lady Julia, "the ape with the human brain"; George Young, a blind concertina player; the Dixon Girls, singers and dancers; the Boston Twins, in a musical comedy, entitled *Kiltland;* and Howard and Wallace in a laughable sketch, entitled *Training a Wife*.

BUXTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—Mr. Charles Macdona's Company in *A Country Girl* was the attraction at the Opera House for the first three days this week; Mr. Macdona sent us a really excellent company and the play was thoroughly enjoyed. Mr. Anthony Gordon was successful as Geoffrey Chaloner and Mr. Helin Le Maistre used his admirable voice with good effect as Rajah of Bhong; Mr. Brown Elliott was a most suitable Sir Joseph Verity, and Mr. Besley Beltram played neatly in the character of Douglas Verity. Mr. George Stone was the Granger Mummery, and an exceedingly humorous Barry was provided by Mr. Conningsby Brierley. Miss May Rawlinson sang very nicely as Marjorie Joy, and Miss Nellie Deveney was loudly applauded for her numbers, receiving an enthusiastic encore for "Under the Deodar"; Miss Poppy Wilkinson was a sprightly Sophie, and Miss Ellaline Thorne was a delightfully piquant Nan; the piece is beautifully mounted and dressed; for the last three days we have Mr. Percy and Miss Emma Hutchison's Company in *Peter's Mother*.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—The second week of Mr. Redford's session was opened on Monday night by Miss Decima Moore and London company in *The Truth*, the delightful comedy in four acts. The piece is exceedingly well staged, and the dresses throughout are a pleasing feature. The principal part of Becky Warder is undertaken by Miss Moore, who was accorded an unusually hearty reception upon her first appearance. Miss Moore's delineation is all that could be desired, her rendering of a decidedly difficult part stamping her as an actress of real merit. Miss Moore is ably supported by Mr. Robert Minster, who, as Tom Warder, fills the part with much skill. His impersonation is, indeed, a fine piece of acting. Mr. Hugh Ardale is also deserving of praise for his portrayal of Fred Lindon; while Mr. Arthur Hare, as Stephen Roland, could not be more suitably placed, his quiet but effective humour causing many a laugh. Another amusing rôle is that of Mrs. Crespigny, presented by Miss Elspeth Dudgeon, who displays remarkable histrionic abilities.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—*The Worst Woman in London* is again presented to Cardiffians by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's talented company. Miss Olga André is still in her original character of Frances Vere, and a more faithful impersonation could not be desired. Mr. George Gaisford, as Jack Felton, makes a fine and manly hero; and Miss Elizabeth Watkins is a capital Ruth Milford.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—Topping an attractive and varied bill this week is the clever actress, Miss Florence St. John, who, supported most ably by Messrs. Wm. Santer and H. V. Surrey, presents a capital farce entitled *Quits*. Herbert Darnley's company of comedians, in the screamingly funny skit *Moving In*, are another excellent sketch turn; while E. Rousby's electrical display Around Paris is certainly a novel and extremely pretty entertainment. Ted E. Box is undoubtedly a smart comedian, and "goes down" well with Cardiffians. Another pleasing merry-maker is happy Tom Parker, described as "a diminutive piece of eccentricity"; the Sisters Pine are particularly amusing in their comedy, *Maggie's Day Out*, in which they introduce a well-harmonised duet with much effect; Marie Weston adds to her attractions of good singing and step-dancing a little banjo playing; and The Leonards appear with much success in their original comedy act, *Point Duty*. The clever ladder acrobat, Les Uniques, and the Bioscope complete the programme.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—The Palace has entered on its second week, and from the large houses drawn there last week it seems safe to predict that this attractive house of amusement will gain great popularity in Cardiff. This week we have again Mr. John Tiller's elaborate sketch party as the "pièce de résistence," the skit produced being *A Trip to Paris*. The splendid company of capable artists, the brilliant scenery and costumes, and the laughable antics of the clever comedians all combine to make the sketch one of the finest ever presented in the principality. Other interesting turns are contributed by Fanny Wentworth, in her pianoforte sketches; Charles E. Colby and Lily May, in a remarkable ventriloquial entertainment; Stewart and Evans, comedians; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux with extremely interesting pictures.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—The first visit of *The Breed of the Treshams* forms a popular attraction this week, and crowded houses display the utmost enthusiasm at the able representation given by Mr. Frank Bertram's company. Chief interest centres, of course, in "The Rat," in which Mr. Sydney Bland achieves a distinct and freely recognised success, his acting in both the comedy and dramatic scenes being remarkable for its force and feeling; Mr. Robert Noble is a capital Cornet Tresham; and Colonel Hungerford has a soldierly and capable representative in Mr. Benson North; Clement Hungerford is played by Mr. Benson North with fine effect; as Margaret Hungerford, Miss Mildred Hodson acts with delightful freshness; and Miss Grace Harlington as the boy, Batty, scores a big success. The minor parts are in capable hands, and the piece is beautifully dressed and remarkably well staged.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The Kremka Brothers, who top the bill here this week, give an extraordinary display of ground tumbling and hand balancing, the neatness and smartness of their performance being thoroughly appreciated; return visits of Howard and Collinson, in their cleverly worked absurdity, *The Porter and the Doll*, and of Harrigan and Holt, smart patter and dance comedians, are deservedly popular; Chas. Serra gives quite a novel performance as an equilibrist; a popular turn is contributed by Miss Jennie Hartley, a delightful little soubrette; Maude McDonald, Scotch character vocalist, and Kathleen, a dainty little comedienne and dancer, are quite successful; and the Pepiscope has some fine pictures.

CARMARTHEN.—ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietors, Public Rooms Co.; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—Harold Wantage presented the successful musical comedy, *The Pick of the Bunch*, on Monday and Tuesday. The part of Halliwell Menit is taken with conspicuous ability by Mr. Algernon W. Lee; that of Colonel Joseph Menit being equally well performed by Mr. Percy Baverstock, who scores well with his witty sayings, as does Mr. Harold Wantage in the rôle of Martin. Miss Sybil Gwyn as Nancy (Menit's stepdaughter) is a thorough success, and the same may be said of Miss Madge Christopher as Nellie Mather, Miss Eva Ellis as Ruth Gay and Miss Marbette May as Wilhelmeina (Nancy's maid). The minor parts are also in good hands. The songs and choruses, under the musical direction of Mr. Harry Bolton, are fine; Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers scored heavily in their dances; and the "Dutch" and "Gollywog" children specialities prove very acceptable.

CASTLEFORD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Beanland and Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will H. Emerson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Travis.—The Wambas are exceedingly smart as comedy musicians and gymnasts; Morrelli and Mooir, in a novel act, create much fun; James Brady, eccentric comedian and joker, keeps the house in continual merriment; Alfonzo, feet equilibrist, is very smart with barrel and pole; Angelina in a delightful contributor, and gives a very entertaining performance as juggler; Miss Hanlon, in song and dance, is a very neat and pleasing performer; and in addition there is a sketch, entitled *A Woman of the World*, in three scenes, presented by Lancelot Usher and Ada Ellam, ably assisted by Dorothy Ruby, Gerald Glynn, Hughie Wilberforce, and George Daiper, which is much appreciated by the audience. The Loyal Dominion Company's pictures are a very fine selection, and create as usual much fun.

CHATHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—After an absence of about six years *The Swiss Express* is being presented at the Royal by the Messrs. Renad's company. Miss Celestine Brandon is a lively and popular Virginia; Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon is very amusing as Dr. Gondimar Gull; Messrs. Charles and Frederick Renad repeat their well-known impersations of the servants, James and John; while the dancing of the Palace Quartette adds considerably to the attractiveness of the entertainment.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—This week we have Julian Mack, an excellent patter comedian; Mlle. Rosa's clever canine hippodrome act; Seeley and West, in a very acceptable musical act; pictures by Lacey's Erascope; Frank Couch, in a somewhat uncommon turn; the Sisters Poole, vocalists and spirited dancers; Cyrus Dare, in some delightful imitations of children and their funny sayings; and Tiny Arnold, who gains unbounded applause for her singing and dancing.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. George Humphries.—Dick Graham and Minnie Wrenn each contribute a couple of well-rendered songs; Haverley and Homer, patter vocalists and dancers; and Ruby and Laws, comedy quick-change artists, score in their respective acts; Chas. Deane is on a return visit, making quite a hit in "Follow the tramlines," "A penny," and "Getting older." Mlle. Lucretia proves herself an expert dancer; while Charles Kitts and Rhoda Windrum fairly bring down the house by their amusing doings in their latest farcical absurdity, *The Cuckoo*, in which good assistance is rendered by Miss Vera Stuart and Mr. A. Gerrard. The Edisonograph has a realistic film, entitled The Dog Police of Paris, and an amusing one, Curing the Blind.

CHESTER.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Cestria, the acrobatic waiter, who was here with the Cattaneo Troupe a few weeks ago, is giving a single turn, and is meeting with a hearty reception; Stavordale Quintette with their extraordinary banjo playing are greeted with much applause; Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas are eminently successful in their series of charming "Scenes from Dickens"; Lambert and Hands display a couple of cultured voices in their new vocal scena; Joe Conway, pocket comedian, amuses with a couple of songs; Manson and West have a screaming farce in *Telling the Tale*, which, however, ends rather flat; the Sisters Darnton do well with harmonised songs; Sylvia Martin and Vernon's Bioscope complete.

CHORLEY (Lancs.).—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Hemingway.—Messrs. M. H. Glenville and Fred Osmond are to be sincerely congratulated upon the excellent mounting and dressing of the capital drama *A Soldier of France*, which is appearing here this week. Miss Hettie Lillwood, as Pauline Lorraine, displays exceptionally fine dramatic feeling and power; Rita being charmingly undertaken by Miss Dora Weber; Miss Jennie Clare is a decided success as the vivacious Margot; Mr. L. Aardale gives an artistic rendering of Corporal Jean; Mr. Edward C. Hobart capitally maintains the dual rôle of Captain Louis Lorraine and Lieut. Louis; Mr. Gibson Brooke gives a strong portrayal of the Duke d'Layal; Mr. Milner Nobel is a good Judas Delara; and much credit is due to Mr. Arthur Downes for a clever and really humorous intepretation of Sergeant Flange.

COLCHESTER.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fred Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager Mr. Ben de Frece.—The Piccolinos, midget athletes, are a really capital top of the bill, the versatility of their performance rendering it the more praiseworthy; Ernest Montefiore and company are here again with the dramatic and musical sketch *The Little Colonel*, and meet with the utmost approval; Cyril Carle, after a long absence, pays another visit, and his power as a descriptive vocalist is fully appreciated; Maggie Rimmer and Chrissie Bell each show to advantage as comediennes and dancers; Chas. Craston goes well with a couple of songs; and the reproduction of the recent great Horse Show at Olympia on the Bioscope concludes the evening's entertainment.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. Percy Norman and his admirable company are fulfilling a six nights' engagement here with the drama *A Woman Worth Winning*. Mr Sidney Barton as Czar Nicholas and Mr. Gilbert Standing as Amos Pauloff do justice to their respective parts; Mr. A. B. Mackay, the author, gives a creditable representation of General Borinski; and Mr. Percy Horton is a dignified Fergus Lovinsky. Mr. Cartage Caldcleugh is very good as Ivan Bardoff; and the comedy element is ably sustained by Mr. E. Hall Elden as Bertie Scribbles, Mr. E. Kendrick as Peter Popples, and Miss Ada Mackay as Katerina Kloss. Miss Cissie Bellamy plays the part of Roma Pauloff with commendable ability; and as Lota Kalnovky Miss Trixie Leighton is all that could be desired. Good houses have been the rule during the week.

COVENTRY.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Bennett.—*At the World's Mercy*, a comedy drama, is one of those pieces which always commands a good house, and this week is no exception. Miss C. Haughton capably performs the part of the heiress, Alice Lloyd; as the hero, Captain Frank Manley, Mr. Fred Aldworth is well received. The heavy characters are in the able hands of Mr. Carr Loates and Mr. S. D. Knight. Miss Cissy Milford appears in a dual-rôle as Kitty Knott and the stowaway, Skittles. Other well-played parts are Charley Smart (Mr. Jess Bixer), Llouchingham (Mr. W. H. Irving), Dan (Mr. W. Leonard), Miss Rouke (Miss M. Faller), Dot (Miss Marion Ryder), and Rosie (Miss A. Hunter).

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lennox Barry.—First on the bill comes Mr. Fred Karno's troupe of very clever comedians, who appear in a burlesque, entitled *Mumming Birds*, and keep the audience in one continual roar of laughter. Dandy George and his wonderful dog are a very good turn. The dog has been splendidly trained, and seems as intelligent as a human being; Tennyson and Wallis give a very fine turn as patter comedians, their programme being of a very high order; Sinclair and Parr receive plenty of applause for their topical songs; the Brothers Curran cause a good deal of fun in a comedy boxing act; Ernest Rees is a very popular comedian; Charles Lillburn is very successful as an eccentric; and the Bioscope ends a good evening's entertainment with pictures of the Lady Godiva procession.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance; Manager, Mr. K. Draco.—An excellent variety entertainment is being well patronised this week at the above house, the chief item being a clever sketch in four scenes, entitled *Grip, the Fatal Hand*. The title-rôle is ably portrayed by Mr George Langdon, who is supported by a well-chosen company. Fred Elton gives a refined speciality scena, *On Board the Ocean Liner*, some successful songs being introduced. Charles R. Whittle, light comedian, is enthusiastically received; the Clement Trio give a flying trapeze act, in which some clever feats are introduced. Other successful items are Flo Esdaile, vocalist; Charles Dillon, eccentric comedian; the Simms, lady vocalists and speciality dancers, and Charles Howard. A long Bioscope of the Godiva Pageant is given with success.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company, in *The Village Blacksmith*, is here this week. Mr. Sam Livesey's portrayal of John Strong, the blacksmith, is excellent; Mr. Joseph Carter gives a powerful rendition of Captain Leo; Mr. George V. Campbell appears to advantage as Billy Twig; Mr. Edwin Maydew, as Lucas Marler, is commendable; and Mr. Thomas E. Marshall is suitably placed as Jeremiah Parkins. Miss Bertha Hanbury is clever as the child, Harry Strong; Miss Maggie Edwards capably sustains the rôle of Kate Strong; Miss Crassie Le Grande plays feelingly as Ruth Parkins; Mr. T. C. Livesey is successful as Sal Parkins; and Miss Edith Gittens, as Martha Mopps, deserves mention.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Miss Bonwin Carlton's company is presenting *The Plucky Nipper* here for the first three nights of the week. Mr. Edward Surrey is capital as Bill Burgess, and Miss Bonwin Carlton gives a telling impersonation of Polly. The chief performers are backed up by a well-selected company, and their reception is gratifying. For the latter half of the week the Gilbert Opera company, in *The Bohemian Girl*, *Faust*, and *Maritana*, are billed.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Fred Karno's company is creating quite a furore in the amusing musical extravaganza, *The Dandy Thieves*; Josie Collins, daughter of the famous Lottie Collins, sings her songs to perfection; Dave O'Toole is a deservedly popular comedian; Boden and Bell, juvenile vocalists and dancers, win

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plaudits; Bliss and Bliss are clever comedians and dancers; Will Johnson, comedian, gains favour; the Three Grosvenors are brilliant vocalists; Eileen Barnard is commendable; and the Imperial Bioscope is greatly enjoyed.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mrs. Morton Powell's company is here in the new play, *When It Was Dark*. Mr. T. Morton Powell is very effective in the part of the Rev. Basil Gortre; Mr. Cuthbert Imrie is capital in the heavy lead, Constantine Schuabe; and as Sir Robert Llewellyn, Mr. Edward Valentine gives a splendid portrayal; Mr. Lionel West as Charles Gayfly plays cleverly; Mr. Ernest St. John, as the Rev. Mr. Byars, is excellent; Miss B. May as Gertrude Hunt plays with grace and refinement; Miss G. May as Minnie Golightly deserves great credit; Mrs. Morton Powell gives a charming delineation of Helena Byars.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F J. Robinson. —*A Beautiful Fiend* is this week presented by Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company. The title-rôle is in the very capable hands of Miss Sydney Crowe, and she is well supported in her villainies by Mr. Harry C. Robinson as Count Karateff; Mr. Oliver Birrell acts effectively as Ivan Paulovitch; Mr. Matt Russell is good as Sergius Strogoff; as Malachi Mr. W. Robertson Foulis is to be commended; and as Christopher Crackles Mr. Harry Oates is quite a host in himself; Miss Phyllis Brent plays with sympathetic charm as Nadine Karateff; and Miss Annie Clunn as Patty Woodlands does well.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Charles Denley and Herbert Taylor.—The bill this week is headed by the Warsaw Brothers, described as Australia's greatest comedy artists. Their musical scena, *The Bugler*, is decidedly amusing. Frank Burdett's military sketch, *Mutiny*, an episode of the Indian Mutiny, is well mounted, and the various characters are cleverly portrayed. Ringling Trio of American tumblers and cake-walkers on stilts are divertingly clever; Tennis and Laune are charming vocal comedians; Sargeant Mumford, the soldier wire-walker, gives a creditable performance; Harry Luck is a successful eccentric comedian; Walker and May, coloured duettists and dancers, are accorded a hearty reception; while the Bioscope is as usual well to the fore.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—Mr. Walter Howard's drama, *Her Love Against the World*, is presented here. The manly attributes of the hero, Eric, Earl of Strathmere, are finely limned by Mr. Walter Howard, whose physique and personality command admiration. He bears the brunt of the battle, and carries his audience in the hollow of his hand; Miss Grace Heywood bestows dignity and stateliness of action and mien in her rôle of the much-harassed Iris, Princess of Idalia, and her voice has a sympathetic inflection in complete harmony with the lines she speaks so well; Mr. Mayor-Cooke illuminates his part of Ulric, Prince of Ravensburg, conveying certain lights and shades of character; not less forcefully depicted is the character of Prince Othmar by Mr. Ronald Baynes. Miss Rosie St. John requires a special word of praise for her acting as the gentle, delicate, yet lion-hearted Nello, distinguishing for herself the infinite earnestness and consideration minutely visible in her exposition; Miss Evelyn Hope, as a female Machiavel behind the scenes, in the rôle of Shulah acquitted herself with convincing ease and effectiveness. The humorous antidote provided by the joint exertions of Miss Lizzie Lennon and Miss Hettie Ferguson as Katinka and Gretchen, and of Messrs. H. B. Lewis and J. Fulton Millar (Heinrich and Fritz Pimpernickle) caused no lack of laughter, much of which was loud and long. The topsy-turviness and labyrinthian tangle of the love affairs of the quartette is a facetious idea drolly worked out. The characterisation of the irascible, nevertheless leonine old veteran, General Gessler, as represented by Mr. Richard Webb, was as effective as it was conceived.

DONCASTER.—Grand Theatre and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Eva Chadwick, soprano vocalist, gives of her best, which is not insignificant; Cara Magda, lady gymnast, justifies her popularity; A. D. North, comedian, is convincing; Bello Ray, song illustrator, is unquestionably a charming songstress; T. W. Rawson and company, in *The Would-be Actors*, cause great merriment; J. G. Aitken, the canny Scot, is smart in humour and repartee, and weaves into his patter much that is sparkling and entertaining. The Royal Tokio Troupe, Japanese performers' pyramid acrobatic attainments are daring and skilful.

DOVER.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—*The Tyranny of Tears* was presented the first three nights of the week by Mr. A. Austin-Leigh and company. Mr. Austin-Leigh impersonated Clement Parbary with that ease and finish which marks the work of an experienced actor; whilst a portrayal of wonderfully skilful acting in an unsympathetic part was given by that charming actress, Miss Mabel Archdall, as Mabel Parbary; Miss May Saker made Hyacinth Woodward a typically bright, sensible, and prepossessing specimen of English girlhood; Mr. Lemmon Warde played George Gunning with much technical skill and powers of conviction; a capable study of Colonel Armitage was contributed by Mr. H. G. Mason; and Mr. E. Vernon made prominent by excellent acting the minor part of Evans. *The Tyranny of Tears* gave place on Thursday to Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *Peter's Mother*, it being the first visit to Dover of that popular play.

The Pavilion, Promenade Pier.—Lessees, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Dew. —The party of artists travelling under the name of the Kimonos Koncert Kompany are holding the boards this week. Mr. Owen Clark, a conjuror and illusionist of exceptional skill, makes his reappearance, and is heartily applauded for his clever work; Mr. Fred T. Daniels, a versatile humorist, causes much hilarity; and Mr. Lionel Vaughan is the happy possessor of a fine baritone voice; Miss Nellie L. Webber's soprano songs meet with appreciation, and the items rendered by Miss Carrie Fraser, entertainer at the piano, are among the most popular on the programme. Miss Agnes Beckwith and troupe of lady swimmers still continue to give their exhibitions of fancy and ornamental swimming in the sea daily, and also their graceful and remarkable performances in the Crystal Aquarium.

DUBLIN.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—The boards are occupied here this week by Mr. Louis Calvert's company in *Amasis*. Owing to illness Mr. Rutland Barrington was unable to appear, and Mr. Wingrove as Pharaoh gave a reading of the part, and did it very well; in the character of Sebak Mr. Lauri de Frece was exceedingly clever, and kept the house in a most humorous and hilarious mood throughout the opening; Miss Winifred O'Connor gave a charming portrayal of the Princess Amasis, and her excellent vocalism was warmly appreciated; as the Prince Anhotep, Mr. Roland Cunningham acted splendidly, and sang his music with great taste and ability; Mr. John Doran as Cheiro has also a nice tenor voice, which was heard to advantage; Miss Mabel Burnege acted and sang with pleasing effect as the Maid Natis; Mr. George Fox made an efficient High Priest Nebenchari; and the Ptolemy of Mr. Arthur Watts was a really good study; Mr. Frank Perfitt was capital as Psamtik; Mr. Earle Hopwood as Zopyrus, and Miss Muriel Seymour Hodges as Zereska, are also deserving of mention.

Gaiety Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—*The Lady Slavey* is being played here by Mr. Robert Crossman's company. Mr. Keino Johnston appears in his original character of Major O'Neill with great success; and Miss Winnie Volt makes a winsome Phyllis, and delights the audience with her songs and dances; Mrs. Edmund Cooper was capital, and created plenty of fun as Vincent A. Evelyn; Mr. Frank Henderson also attributes a good share of humour in his reading of Lord Lavendor; and as the major's daughters, Maude and Beatrice, the Misses Evie and Gladys Anderson fulfill their parts with great satisfaction; Mr. W. T. Thomson is very good and amusing as the Sheriff's Officer, and his mate, Bill, is ably presented by Mr. Paul Presano; Miss Ethel Ford and Miss Amy Hilton enact the rôles of Mlle. Poutet and Mlle. Louise in a clever manner; and Miss Rita Presano gives an effective portrayal of Flo Honeydew.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The chief item is presented by Mr. Harry Roxbury and company in a charming musical mélange, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, which elicits loud applause; Olive and Owen, the roadside tinkers, evoke roars of laughter, and Miss Grace Merton, the original street singer, is heartily recalled for her several contributions; a turn of exceptional merit is supplied by the Myles Stavordale Quartette of instrumentalists; and the Sisters May are great favourites, and come provided with good songs; Spry and Austin are paying a return visit, and their comedy turn is proving most enjoyable and popular; Harry Clark, comedian, makes a decided hit; an illusion, called "Di Da," presented by Mr. Lewis de Burgh, is a marvellous and truly mystifying performance, and the up-to-date picture of the Coventry Grand Pageant is also interesting.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Brothers Leslie, musical comedians, head this week's programme, and score heavily; the Three Pattersons are remarkably clever and diverting in their trampolin act; and W. H. Downs contributes his vocal numbers in an acceptable manner; Cecile and Francois, in their looping the loop dance, prove a popular attraction; and Minnie Fenton's songs are well received; the Three Coopers, harmonising vocalists, are heartily applauded; and Mark Leslie sings a capital song admirably; the comicalities of James Kurry, the pleasing wire and globe act of Miss Lockhart, and the Bioscope complete a good bill.

Round Room Rotunda.—The Irish Animated Photo company are paying a return visit here for a short season. In addition to the beautiful and interesting pictures shown, an excellent variety programme is presented, in which Miss May Durkin, a charming contralto vocalist, is heard to advantage in several vocal items; the favourite tenor, Mr. Patrick O'Shea, is recalled again and again; and Mr. Ralph Goggins, the popular guide, sings appropriate songs, which are well illustrated. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Henry Peters, plays some pleasing selections.

The Irish International Exhibition, Ball's Bridge.—The centre of attraction here this week is Mr. Nate Leipzig, whose reputation as a card and coin manipulator is well known; the Motorists' Concert Party, including Mr. Griffith Humphreys, Miss Cicely Gray, Miss Edith Eatherley, and Mr. Lester James, give entire satisfaction; the well-chosen selections performed by the Bands of the Coldstream Guards (Mr. J. Mackenzie-Rogan, conductor), and the 15th Canadian Light Horse (Mr. Fred A. Bagley, conductor), are heartily enjoyed and warmly appreciated; and the Cinematograph, by Films, Ltd., is always up to date with the latest events.

Pavilion, Kingstown.—Manager, Mr. Fred R. Heley.—Mr. Charles Parker's Koncert Komedy kompany are delighting large audiences here this week; Miss Rosa Rosetti shows remarkable skill as a solo violinist and as a soprano vocalist; Miss Lillie Blythe acquits herself with every credit; Mr. Laurie Wylie with his mimicking mannikins keeps the audience highly amused; Mr. Herbert Watt is a good baritone vocalist; and Miss Marie Cooper also sings well and scores successfully.

World's Fair and Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The programme of the current week includes Frank Dandy, descriptive vocalist; Sisters Taylor, duettists; Florrie Wood, comedienne; Harry Perval, eccentric comedian; the Two Belles, vocalists and dancers; Alice Taylor, ballad vocalist; and the Brothers Byrne, comedy sketch artists.

Samuel's Exhibition Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels. — Artists appearing here are Frank Stevens, society humorist; May Danvers, comedienne; George Howard, tenor vocalist; Violet Hall, ballat vocalist; Reuben Payne, eccentric comedian, and the Harold Comedy Sketch company.

DUDLEY.—Opera House.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Lingford and Carson's company under the direction of Mr. Charles Draycott opened on Monday night with *A Modern Adventuress*, in which Mr. Draycott, as Peitro Donelli, made a deep impression on his audience by the tragic intensity and fervour of his acting. Miss Muriel Thompson, as Violet Meredith, the adventuress, gave an excellent assumption of cold, callous villainy; Mr. Eric Forth's portrayal of Walter Beal (detective) bore the impress of distinct artistic ability; Mr. Will White, as John Crompton, made a good impression by his sympathetic earnestness; Miss Eva Norman, as Sally Hodges, is entertaining in the comedy scenes; Miss Rose Mervyn acts with touching pathos the part of Vivette Delby, and all other parts are excellently filled. *The Shaughraun*, *The Octoroon*, and *The Heart of a Hero* are billed for the remainder of the week.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. B. Peberdy.—A very enjoyable programme here this week includes Clare Greta, Spanish singer and dancer; the Markies in a musical sketch, entitled *From Pavement to Stage;* Adam and Hall, magicians; the Dancing Gilberts, Australia's idols; Gibson Pearl, soubrette and dancer; Maurice Lee, comedian; and Clara Victor, vocalist, and the Empire pictures.

DUMFRIES. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Payne Sedden.—For three nights this week we have Mr. Edward McLean's company in *The Hero of the Flag*. Mr. McLean is well placed as Jack Lawrence; Mr. Midgley Russell, as Paul Mansfield, plays in an efficient manner; Mr. Magill Martyn makes a capital Captain Hilliard; Mr. R. S. Townsdale, as Puncher Hinks, keeps the house in merriment; Miss Amy Randolph, as Mabel Forrester, acts her part in a charming manner; Miss Nellie Hook is well placed as Jenny Stubles; Miss Nellie Lauraine, as Ruth Clifford, is very good; and the rest of the company lend adequate support.

DUNDEE. — Her Majesty's Theatre. — Proprietors, the Robert Arthur Theatres Company, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. Arthur A. Horner's company is appearing here this week in *Walker, London*. As Jasper Phipps, Mr. Edward A. Coventry plays the part of the London barber in an intensely humorous manner; Mr. W. Rene Hammersmith, as the Austrian medical student, acts with dash and vigour; as "W. G." Mr. Forrester Harvey makes a most amusing boy; Bell Golightly, B.A., has a talented representative in Miss Katherine Parry; Miss Ruhamah Catton is an attractive Nancy O'Brien; Miss Jennie Douglas Hicks plays in dramatic style as Sarah Rigg, and Miss Ruby Wyndham is very good as Mrs. Golightly. In Mr. Pinero's comedy, *Hester's Mystery*, which precedes the play, Miss Douglas Hicks, Miss Catton, and Mr. Forrester Harvey act admirably.

Palace Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam McIntosh.—The Columbia Comedy Trio, who head the bill here this week, gain a huge success in their clever operatic and musical absurdity; Talbot and Pearce, in a Japanese musical duologue, entitled *Yo San*, provide quite a superior turn, their cultured voices blending harmoniously in a number of taking melodies; Cosgrove and Burns, smart and refined comedy duettists, are cordially received; Bob Hamilton, Scotch comedian, is very funny, and shows his versatility by the clever manner in which he manipulates the concertina; Barney Vox demonstrates his ventriloquial abilities in an unmistakable manner; Wright and Lawson, in their grotesque acrobatic feats, are much appreciated; Jack Rae, as a gymnast and hat manipulator, combines comedy and skill effectively; and Belle Harcourt is a pleasing comedienne. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope concludes an attractive programme.

New Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—This popular house of entertainment is again crowded nightly. One of the smartest turns seen here for some time is that of Sam Lowenwirth and Charles Cohan, Hebrew comedians, who arouse the enthusiasm of the house with their quips and sallies; the Silver Tone Quartette, four coloured gentlemen, render several plantation songs in pleasing style; Emmie Milstead and Joe Bell make a good impression in an elaborately mounted musical comedy scena, *The Belle of Arizona;* N. T. Kioto, Japanese equilibrist, astonishes the audience in some sensational balancing feats; Fred Alberto, comedian and dancer, with funny songs and patter, is entertaining, his dancing being also smart; Sisters Clifton, as duettists and dancers, take well, and other acceptable items are those submitted by Alf Walker, negro comedian; and Madge Bryde, comedienne, both being very good in their respective lines. The latest pictures are shown on the Electro-Motorscope.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—The Twentieth Century Animated Photo Company is still here, and large and appreciative audiences assemble nightly. Special mention might be made of "A Slave's Love" and "The Orphan Girl." The variety turns are Kitty Levigne, a shapely and sprightly serio; Harry Smart, a good comedian and dancer; and Nelly Gower, a sweet singer of sensible songs. On Wednesday night a benefit was given on behalf of a local horticultural society.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Park Theatre.—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is doing fine business here with *The Cingalee*. The pretty scenery, dresses, and staging generally deserve a special word of praise. Miss Aimee Roberts is a fascinating and pleasing Nanoya; Miss Lydia Hopp a fresh, pretty, and sparkling Peggy; Miss Coral Mansell, with a fine and cultured voice, is heartily applauded for her vocal work as Lady Patricia; and Miss Violet Hope, as Angy Loftus, introduces one of the particularly successful items of the evening with very graceful and accomplished dancing; Mr. Tom Payne, as Chambhuddy Ram, contributes laughs very liberally from his extensive stock of fun, and dances neatly and smartly; Mr. Wilfred Heath sings and acts with admirable effect as Harry Vereker; Mr. Milroy Cooper is a dignified Boobhamba; Mr. Frank Sutton a happy and genial Sir Peter; Mr. W. J. Austin a praiseworthy Bobby Warren; and the remaining parts in a long cast are worthily filled. An excellent chorus and orchestra are under the direction of Mr. Allan Grey, and Mr. Arthur Law Raynor is the courteous manager. Mr. George Alexander's company appeared during the later part of the week in *His House in Order*.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Crowded houses are attracted here by Mr. Charles Macdona's company in *The Girl From Kay's*. First honours fall to Mr. Johnny Schofield, who, in his own clever and funny style, makes the part of Hoggenheimer one of the most amusing seen here for a very long time. Mr. Herbert Franklyn sings capitally as Harry Gordon; Mr. G. H. Liot does well as Percy; Mr. Arthur Jackson and Mr. Archer Brown are satisfactory exponents of the parts Quench and Mr. Chalmers; and Mr. Claude Dampier adds to the duties of stage-manager some clever and diverting work as Joseph. Miss Jessie Frazer, very pretty and equally charming all she does, is an attractive Winnie Harborough; Miss Maris Hope sings sweetly and acts pleasingly as Nora; Miss Irene Vere, a graceful and capable dancer, is a bright Ellen; Miss Marie Shields a handsome and able Mrs. Chalmers; and the minor parts are in good hands. Miss Madge Carr Cook and the entire London company was billed to pay a flying visit here on Thursday afternoon with *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*. The St. Louis Pictures, under the management of Mr. W. Hook, are continued here daily with much success, and Messrs. Arthur and Mill's excellent Pierrots are drawing good audiences.

The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day. —The Herald Comedy Four are old favourites here, and again delight the audience in song and dance; Kahn and Kahn mystify and please in their conjuring and second sight act; Kempton and Murdock sing and dance well; Miss Marie Reeve is a decidedly popular success as a comedienne; Miss Vera Mayne does well in ballads; Professor Dunning is a good ventriloquist; Mr. Eddie Comet patters; and new pictures are added.

Floral Hall.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. E. A. Brown.—The illuminated fêtes are continued here with great success, and the Duke of Devonshire's Eastbourne Orchestra has established a reputation as being one of the finest in the provinces. On Sunday last the principals of the Carl Rosa Opera company were an additional attraction to a very interesting programme. Messrs. Murray King and Clark's Dutch Dolls, a band of clever juveniles, continue their daily performances here.

EDINBURGH.—Royal Lyceum Theatre, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Carpenter.—The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company began the second week of their engagement here on Monday, with the ever-popular opera *The Yeomen of the Guard*. The performance was extremely fine, alike by principals and chorus. Mr. Charles R. Walenn enhanced his reputation as actor and vocalist by a clever impersonation of Jack Point; Mr. Leicester Tunks was an impressive Sir Richard Cholmondeley; and Mr. Leo Sheffield, a meritorious Sergt. Meryll, sang with much taste. Mr. Strafford Moss showed his beautiful tenor voice to advantage in the rendering of the solos of the part of Colonel Fairfax; Mr. Fred Billington as Wilfred Shadbolt acted with his accustomed humour a character which he has made his own; Miss Hope Hastings played with freshness and charm as Elsie Maynard, singing also with feeling and expressiveness; Miss Beatrice Meredith as Phœbe acted with immense vivacity, and with a touch of pathos that was highly effective. Her voice is of admirable flexibility, and of excellent power, and she was loudly encored for her opening solo. Miss Therese Rassam's stately figure gave full effect to the part of Dame Carruthers, and she sang, as she always does, like a true artist; Miss Mabel Graham as Kate and Mr. Penderell Price as Leonard were exceedingly good; and the chorus sang with spirit and refinement. *Iolanthe*, with its graceful fancy, and flowing music, attracted a large house on Tuesday; and *The Mikado*, *Princess Ida*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *After All*, and *The Gondoliers*, which were also played during the week, provided a veritable feast to music-lovers.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead. —In this week's variety bill a strong turn is submitted by Brinn, who, in *Pastimes on a Battleship*, performs some remarkable feats with heavy guns and projectiles; Mahatma does some astonishing things in the Zancig line, naming numbers and cards, which she does not see, with great rapidity and accuracy; Sammy Shields entertains his audience so well with his *Spectator at a Football Match* that they reluctantly let him go; Miss Marie Dainton's artistic imitations of stage celebrities gain her repeated recalls; and Miss Ethel Walker proves herself a pleasing entertainer at the piano. The Voldam Brothers introduce some novelties into their eccentric acrobatic display; Mr. Sydney Dolf combines vocalisation with juggling in clever style; Mr. Harry Russon sings and recites in character very effectively; Mr. Harry Brown, a coloured comedian and dancer, helps to make everybody happy; and the Bioscope Royal pictures of the latest and most interesting events complete an attractive show.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—Mr. George Robey, a master of unforced humour, is no doubt largely responsible for the crowded audiences at the Empire this week, but the programme is otherwise of an agreeable variety. Miss Ethel Haydon, a graceful and cultured vocalist, delights everyone by her rendering of "Come back to Erin" and other ballads; Amy Anderson and company presents the exhilarating sketch, *The Banana Queen;* and Mlle. Von Etta gains enthusiastic applause for her clever quick-change and conjuring act. The Poluski Brothers evoke uproarious laughter by their excellent fooling in their sketch, *The Prevaricator;* and Farley, Rennie, and Farley manifest much ability as dancers in the farcical piece, *Fun at a Railway Station*. One of the most admirable turns is given by Mr. J. A. Wilson, who introduces one of the cleverest performing dogs that can be seen; Binns and Binns provide a lively musical sketch, comprising capital cornet and concertina solos, and much novel humorous business. The tasteful interpretation of "Killarney" by one partner is not, however, improved by the farcical efforts of the other performer. Miss Lottie Govell's turn is full of life; and the Bioscope completes a praiseworthy bill.

EDMONTON.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Joseph L. S. Moss; Manageress, Mrs. Amelia H. B. Moss.—The business since the opening of the new theatre has been excellent; in fact, the house has been crowded every night since the re-opening. On Monday, Aug. 12, Mr. Charles March and company presented *The Gamester of Metz*. Mr. March's treatment of his various characters is wonderfully clever, and he is ably and sympathetically supported by Miss Una Lawe, as Lucia Baldot. The comedy scenes are excellently presented by Miss Emma Victor and Mr. Arthur Brinklow, as Gwendoline Pearson and Peter Bunhild; Mr. John Burton puts clever work into the part of Ferdinand Du Basson; the Curé D'Artois and Martin, two old men, are cleverly depicted by Mr. A. Buckley and Mr. F. Grace respectively. Miss Norah Hastings deserves the highest commendation for her rendering of Countess Baldot. Other parts are capitally played by Messrs. Wilson Brash, W. G. Dudeney, Victor Knight, A. Danley, and John Westlow.

EXETER.—Theatre Royal.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—*You Never Can Tell*, Bernard Shaw's brilliant comedy, is being presented here this week in a capable style by Mr. E. Taylor Platt's company. Mr. Edmund Gwenn's reading of the part of the Waiter is an excellent piece of characterisation, and he preserved a happy medium between reality and burlesque; Miss Penelope Wheeler plays with excellent taste as Mrs. Clandon; and Gloria is rendered in graceful and sympathetic manner by Miss Mary Barton; Miss Amy Lamborn and Mr. Norman Page, as the young irrepressibles Dolly and Philip, add greatly to the piquancy of the production; Fergus Crampton, as depicted by Mr. Edmund Gurney, is a distinctly successful impersonation; Finch McComas is well represented by Mr. Trevor Lowe; Mr. P. Clayton Greene affords an exceedingly clever study of the rôle of Valentine; and the dogmatic K.C., Bohun, finds an able exponent in Mr. Lewis Casson.

FARNWORTH.—Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Morton Powell.—Mr. Jack Haddon's company is here this week with the well-known Russian drama, *Under the Russian Flag*. Mr. George Cecil Murray, as General Romanoff, gives a very clever and convincing performance of a by no means easy part; Mr. H. Naylor Grimson is a capable representative of the part of Wolf Marischla; and Messrs. Jack Haddon and Jerrold Ord stand out prominently with some excellent acting. The humour of the play is well looked after by Mr. Hal Forde, as Peter, and he succeeds in keeping the house in a continual titter whilst he occupies the stage. Miss Marie Rayner, as Luka Marischla, is to be commended for her splendid effort, and much of the success of the performance is due to her spirited rendering of the part. Miss Molly Hackett, as Ogarita, is a valuable asset to the humorous side of the piece, and her efforts are fully appreciated.

FLEETWOOD.—Queen's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Mr. Dickie Clare's company in *Lucky Liza* are here this week, and are doing good business. Miss Madge Brownie enacts the title-rôle splendidly, and keeps the house in a constant ripple of laughter while she is on the stage; her singing and dancing are alike excellent. Mr. Dickie Clare takes the triple parts of Silas Slim, the detective, the "darling" judge, and the French waiter. He is quite at home in each part, and as the judge especially creates roars of laughter. Mr. T. W. Benson makes a first-class barrister as Peter Pettitoe. Virginia Blatherwick is in the capable hands of Miss Vesta Brownie, who uses her excellent voice to great advantage. The company is a strong one, and includes Mr. J. P. Birrell as Paul Pettitoe, Mr. H. A. Griffiths as Biffins, Mr. A. W. Thompson as Barnaby Blatherwick; Mr. B. Collins as the Court Usher, Miss Victoria Carman as Sadie Potts, and Miss Helen Douglas as Marie Pettitoe. La Belle Trio give some smart dances.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Baron H. Harriss's company opened the first three nights of the week with *The Prince of Pilsen*. Mr. Harry Kilburn, as Hans Wagner, played in a lively and energetic manner; Miss Sophie Harris portrayed Mrs. Maddison Crocker in truly humorous style; Mrs. Frank Crimp, in the title rôle, was heard to advantage in his songs; Mr. Bernard Russell was very good as the Earl; Mr. Ernest Gifford, as François, played with ability; and Miss Conie Leon sang and danced vivaciously. Mr. George Dance's company, in *The Beauty of Bath*, were billed for the last three nights of the week.

Leas Pavilion.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—*The Gipsies and Their Jester* furnish a pleasing entertainment this week. Mr. Will Gane is a diverting comedian; Mr. Eric Davidson is responsible for some fine singing; Mr. Robert Tattersall has very hearty recognition for his clever conjuring and ventriloquism; Miss Florence Crofts scores in her well-chosen numbers; and Miss Muriel Fane sings in pleasing style.

Victoria Pier.—Manager, Mr. Robert Forsyth.—Miss Minni Letta's Sporting Girls have been engaged for another week. Miss Adela Milner plays 'cello solos in an able manner; Mr. Arthur Melrose is a capital whistler and comedian; Lulu and Dorothy win applause for their expert xylophone solos; Arthur and Ashby score in their several impersonations; Miss Cissy Trent is a *chic* comedienne; and Madame Ghita Corri is well received.

GATESHEAD. — King's Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager and Licensee, Mr. Harold Arnold.—The top line here this week is occupied by Mr. John E. Coyle, a comedian with business to suit both the classes and the masses. Valvero's Naval Bombardment is an excellent spectacle cordially received. A great success is achieved by Rose Elliott, a vocalist with acceptable songs, which are sung with admirable clearness; Caselli, a banjoist of rare ability, is highly praised; George Antill, a quaint comedian with some excrutiatingly funny leg-mania, is a favourite; the Bros. Brooks, comedy duettists and purveyors of genuinely funny gags, meet with approval; the Sisters Brand are dainty and refined duettists and dancers; Lorne and Rene in a Lancashire singing sketch, appropriatel entitled *Capital Versus Labour;* and the usual display of moving pictures are also in this excellent bill.

Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Mr. Junius Booth and company are here this week in *Monte Cristo*. Mr. Booth is worthy of the highest praise for his assumption of the rôle of Edmund Dantes; Miss B. Doyle plays the part of the Countess de Morcef in a manner which stamps her as an artist of great ability. The company is excellent all round.

GLASGOW. — King's, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—A hearty welcome is accorded Judge Parry's play, *What the Butler Saw*, on its second visit here, and Mr. Lionel Rignold as the irrepressible Pink, and Miss Ada Blanche as Mrs. Barrington come in for hearty applause for their well-played parts; Mr. Charles Fawcett is again the Jack Barrington, and is excellently suited as the easy-going, love-making Irishman; Mr. Cyril Harrison acts with due reserve as Sir Charles Foden; and amusing types of character are contributed by Mr. H. H. Rignold as the Jew, Weinstein, Mr. George Ascot as General Dunlop, Mr. Hornby Warburton as the amateur actor, and Mr. Roy Byford as Professor Shale. Mr. Leo St. Clair as Sydney Clifford, and Mr. Raymond Dudley as the Doctor, ably assisted. The ladies' parts were all cleverly acted, Miss Eleanor Gilbert as Miss Foden, Miss Jennie Wigney as Nora, Miss May Hart as the little girl, Sophonisba, and Misses Dorothy Hart, Betty Stannard, Doris Hunt, and Julie St. George, as society ladies, being all well placed. Miss Aggie Lambrer as Fanny, and Miss Mona Garland as Maria completed a first-rate cast.

Grand, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Anthony. —This week Mr. W. Alexander-Dallas is presenting his picturesque American drama, *The World's Great Snare*. The part of the hero, Royal Keene, is taken by Mr. Leonard Williams, who gives an excellent idea of the prairie scout; while the opposing character, Lascelle La Mort, is played on strong dramatic lines by Mr. Fellows Bassett; Miss Kitty McPherson is smart and winning as the friendly Indian maid, Star Eye; as the misguided white girl, Wild Rose, Miss Lallie Forsyth acts with much feeling; Miss Doris Cameron makes a ladylike Louise Granville; the Sir Vivian Ashley of Mr. Stewart Quartermayne is a good impersonation; a deal of humour is introduced by Mr. S. Lester-Howard as Hans Von Vinck, and Mr. Hyland O'Shea as Maloney; as Moses Levey Mr. Maurice Jones does well; other well-filled parts being the Red Heart of Mr. Theodoro Hill, and the Judge Grit of Mr. W. Lester Norton.

Royal Princess's.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company is here this week with *The Power of the Cross*. Mr. Geo. A. de Grey, the author, fills the important part of Bardu Wolfa Curzola, a character for which he is specially suited. Other parts are well filled by Messrs. Henry Danson, Alex. J. Haviland, John S. Chamberlain (the well-known Irish comedian), and Misses Josephine Colona and P. Vaughan.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson. —Mr. John Gerant and company opened here on Monday with the military drama, *At Duty's Call*. Mr. Gerant is powerful in his treatment of the part of Harold Allison; Mr. Harry Scott makes a manly and impressive Captain George Allison; Mr. Maurice Drew as General Gordon displays ability; and the Jack Spencer of Mr. Will Brereton is a clever sketch; Mr. Frank Caffrey plays effectively as Terry O'Halloran, his reading of the part being an unfailing source of merriment; Miss Lily Crommonde, as Dora, gives a performance that is most able; Miss Beatrice Western well sustains the rôle of Selema; and Miss Hettie Graham is a pleasing Mary.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—*His Dishonoured Wife*, by Harry Tilbury, has met with considerable success here. Mr. Tilbury is most successful as Mickey Doolan; the hero, Frank Lindon, is well presented by Mr. Chas. H. Phelps; Mr. Horatio Sinclair, as the rascally Lord Devant, and Mr. Bernard Webb as Luke Morris, between them earn the execrations of the house; Miss Bella Tilbury wins sympathy as Florence Lindon; Mr. A. George Fry is excellent as Neil Locksley; and special praise should be given to Miss Jessie Gillette and Miss Ivy Rocheforte.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—The Craggs, in their *Channel Queen* acrobatic sketch, cause roars of laughter, and display all their old dexterity and nimbleness; Bud Snyder again proves his wonderful command of the bicycle in the marvellous feats he accomplishes, and also introduces the thrilling sensation, the motor-car somersault in mid-air; Florence and Lillian, an extremely clever couple of lady instrumentalists, are heartily appreciated; Ray Wallace, at the piano, again proves with what fidelity she can imitate our best known music-hall artists; Jordan and Harvey, the Hebrew eccentrics, are extremely funny; Mabel Sinclair is a smart lady ventriloquist; Harry Weldon is a comedian of much originality; John Donald's sketch, *A Merry Night*, goes well, and the Bioscope shows a selection of new films.

Zoo-Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Hippodrome this week continues to prove a favourite resort, and "heavy" houses are the result. *Casey's Court* heads the bill of fare, and with Bob King as Mrs. Casey, the fun seldom is allowed to drop. The chorus is, indeed, a capital one. The Sisters Caselli, as duettists and dancers, provide an excellent little turn much appreciated; Adams and Ward are highly amusing in their comedy acrobatic sketch; another capital show is that of the Three Sisters Urma, whose trapeze and gymnastic act is truely described as refined and classical; Orpheus is well known in the city as an instrumentalist of high ability; Joe Reichen's Dogs exhibit sagacity which is indeed wonderful, and most creditable to their trainer; Jack Lane, described as "the Yorkshire rustic," is highly amusing, and his burlesque pianoforte "work" is indeed funny; Josie Mooney is a clever little comedienne; Walter Munroe, who is an old time favourite, is much in demand. The Bioscope terminates an excellent programme.

Pavilion, Ltd. — General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—A Parisian chanteuse, Mlle. Liane D'Eve, tops the bill here, and her clever turn is very warmly received; the Morris Cronin Troupe of jugglers, show both skill and daring in their varied display; Wylie's Circus is an enjoyable item, the training of the dogs being specially noteworthy; Ernie May

Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the factory nightingales, display their tuneful voices in a picturesque make-up; Josephine Stanton and Henry Hallam appear in a musical sketch, *A Suburban Villa;* Barton and Franklin are smart instrumentalists, and dance neatly; Katie Marsh is a popular artist; and the turn of Daisy Harcourt is also a very popular one.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Rich, Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Alfred Graham's juvenile troupe of national singers and dancers, conducted by Phil Rees, score an undoubted success in a pleasing mélange of mirth, song, and dance; Burke, Andrus, and Frisco create great fun with their wild absurdity, *London to Madrid;* Forest and King, an "elastic couple," and Ethel Dove, a comedienne and clever dancer, each provide pleasant entertainment, and a hearty reception is given Hargadon and Cole, who deputise in a good vocal and dramatic performance; *Other People's Babies* brings out Marlow and Manton, in an amusing domestic sketch; Burnetti, a quick-change artist, and able musician, deserves high praise; and the popular Frank Coyle, comedian, adds to his store of public favour. The Palace-cope pictures provoke much laughter.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—De Gracia's Elephants again display their wonderful docility and intelligence in cricket, football, and other games; Alexandre and Hughes, the clever musicians, are strong favourites here, and their combination of comedy and music goes better than ever; Huxter Bros. display wonderful agility as acrobats, their somersaults being a revelation; Howard and Harris, in their quaint act, *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*, add greatly to the hilarity of the evening; Will A. Fox, of "Paddywhiski" fame, has a new musical turn, which catches on immensely; Harvey's American boys and girls give a most enjoyable programme of song and dance items; Will Poluski, jun., a clever young comedian, Amy Marsden, comedienne, King Kingston, in illustrated songs, and the latest films on the Bioscope, also come in for hearty appreciation.

GAIETY, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—At the head of the bill here are the Sisters Currie and Wally Scott, who are worthy of the position. As dancers they are well above the average, and their "show" is, indeed, a capital one. Another turn of merit is that of Clare and Pastor, whose ability as instrumentalists and speciality dancers is of a high standard; Hastings and Fields also dance well; while the same may be said of the Brennans, whose efforts are appreciated; May Garry provides a pleasing turn. The bill also includes J. H. Harris, a Scotch comedian, with Irish songs.

BRITANNIA.—Proprietor, A. E. Pickard.—This week the Sisters Rosano are specially well received here in a smart singing and dancing turn; and equally cordial is the reception of the Rowntrees, as the *Alien and the Britisher;* Bobbie Dorris, in Ethopian comedy selections, Bennie, a good singing ventriloquist, and Johnnie Thompson, descriptive vocalist, each deserve and receive hearty applause.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—The Ergotti and King Luis troupe of Risely acrobats prove very clever and agile; Venturini introduces a good illusion, *So-da*, in which a lady is produced from nothing; Mr. Jack Foley amuses with a couple of songs; Harry Roley sings ballads in taking style; Miss Mill May and Theresa introduce a protean act which is much applauded; Mozzetto is an effective juggler, and has a droll assistant; Mr. George Edney, comedian and vocalist, is heard to advantage in descriptive songs; the Three Transfields, lady instrumentalists, play the xyplophone well; Miss Louie Hurman, comedienne, also contributes to the programme, which is concluded by a Bioscope display of the Coventry pageant and the King on H.M.S. Dreadnought.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Mouillot's company is here this week with *The Girl Behind the Counter.* Mr. Arthur Cartwright is a manly Charles Chetwynd, his songs winning many encores; Miss Norah Brocklebank, a charming Winnie Willoughby, sings delightfully; Mr. Ellis Howard contributes a quaint caricature as General Sir Wilkie Willoughby; Lady Willoughby is excellently portrayed by Miss Winifred Knightly; Mr. Howard Cridland is capital as the inane dude, Viscount Cushington; Mr. Jules Charmettes is an alert Mons. Duval; Millie Mostyn is admirably represented by Miss Florence Lee; Miss Doris Clanchy is a sprightly Ninette; Susie finds a clever representative in Miss Irene Lavington; Mr. Frederick Park is most amusing as Adolphus Dudds; and Mr. William Amey is a comical waiter.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Athur Bourchier's company, in *The Morals of Marcus*, forms the attraction for the week. As Sir Marcus Ordyne, Mr. C. H. Croker-King depicts the elderly philosopher most successfully; and Carlotta is played with charming freedom by Miss Hilda Antony. Other parts are well filled by Mr. Richard Neville, Mr. A. H. Leveaux, Mr. Frederick Jacques, Mr. Eric Ward, Miss Joan Burton, Miss Kathleen O'Connor, Miss Gladys Turnell, Miss Mary O'Neill, Miss Annie Windsor, Miss Edith Churchill, and Miss Evelyn Summers.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The Royal Italian Circus is still pleasing immense audiences, and the highly-trained animals under the direction of Signor Volpi go through their clever performance to the sound of continuous applause.

BRITANNIA PIER PAVILION. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—The Marvellous Howards are here this week with their mysterious entertainment of thought transmission and silent telepathy, and the word that precedes their name is the only one to use in reference to their feats. Miss Marie Empress, the clever comedienne, scores well; Harry Rogerson, the tired comedian, gives an original and clever act; C. H. Charlton, the conjuror, with his obliging kettle; Flo Somers, comedienne; and Ford and Hanson, the American Musical Millionaires, with their excellent fit-up, gain great applause; the Britannioscope animated pictures are capital; and Madame H. E. Angler's Ladies' Pompadour Band is also greatly in favour.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The great attraction for the week is supplied by the Zancigs, whose wonderful and mystifying performance wins unstinted admiration.

CHAPPELL'S PROMENADE CONCERTS.—These favourite out-door concerts find hosts of patrons, and capital programmes are provided. Mr. Harry Barker, the genial manager, enjoyed his fourteenth annual benefit on Thursday, his popularity being evidenced by the fact that all the reserved seats were booked far in advance. The artists appearing this week in addition to Mr. Barker are Curtis Leo, the magical marvel; Ada Victor, vocalist and dancer; Bros. Hannaway, patter comedians and dancing experts; Steve Cooke, character comedian; Ernest D'Almaine, tenor; J. H. Crew, eccentric comedian; Cigo and Rochelle, comedian and soubrette; Maie Duncan, comedienne; Bob Stephenson, "funedian"; Daisy Silcott, burlesque artist; Byden Currie, ventriloquial comedian; Leslie Reed, extempore artist; Jack Heath, eccentric comedian; and Henri Foden, hand jumper.

GREENOCK.—PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr Chas. A. White.—The Franco Midgets, boy illusionists, give an exceedingly clever and attractive performance; the Nettas, in their song scena, *Home Again*, make a big hit; Crosby and Walker are a pair of comedians and patterers who create hilarity; Ethel Wilson is accorded a hearty reception for her singing; Alpha is an expert hoop manipulator; Bert Bowden, comedian, is successful; and the performance concludes with new animated pictures.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—A new drama, *The Best of Her Sex*, is appearing here under the direction of Mr. William A. Armour, who himself takes the prominent rôle of Philip Farringdon. Miss Ina Grant is well fitted to the part of Ruth Raeburn; the contrasting characters of Leslie Verney and Vera Delorme are well taken by Mr. Wilfred Protherhoe and Miss Dora Price; Mr. Cole Aspinall is a popular figure as the Rev. Stephen Maxwell; Mr. Herbert de Ville accomplishes good work as Jake Smith; the comedy parts are amusingly played by Mr. Fred Rignold as P.-C. Jorkins, Mr. Horace Buckley as Holy Joe, and Miss Nell Ingram as Polly Perkins; and Miss Lillian Rose appears as Little Phil.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Grimsby Palace Theatre and Buffet, Ltd., General-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Captain Taylor's educated baboons are greatly amusing audiences here; Walton and Lester are a couple of diverting burlesque magicians; George French, comedian, is as successful as ever; Les Belles Americaines are pleasing vocalists and dancers; Les Zelovas give a smart equilibristic display; and others appearing are Kenneth and Kane, comedy duo; Florence Schuberth, comedienne; and Edward Ind, comedian.

THE EMPIRE, CLEETHORPES.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Carter-White.—Miss Helen Charles, a clever entertainer, gives a series of impersonations which are wonderfully accurate. The Gentrys contribute amusing patter, together with songs, dancing, and acrobatic business; Robb Gilmore is a funny diminutive comedian; Florence Hilton presents good male impersonations; Paul Frisko accomplishes extraordinary contortionist feats; Wisper is a smart juggler; and Beattie Bloom sings good songs.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN.—Lessee, Mr Edward Marris.—Mr. Fred Mouillot's company are here. *San Toy* was presented on Saturday. Miss Joan Ritz achieves success in the title-rôle by her clever acting and artistic vocalisation; Miss Florie Saunders depicts Dudley in a fascinating way; Miss Violet Kenyon is a pleasing Rose Tucker; the Six Little Wives are pretty and effective, Miss Ivy Proudfoot being good vocally; Mr. J. R. La Vane as Sir Bingo adds to the fun of the evening; Mr. A. J. Nicholls is a lively Emperor; Mr. Edward Carlton as Li creates roars of laughter by his clever eccentricities; Mr. Cyril Dane ably undertakes the rôle of Bobbie; and Mr. Lionel Braham as Yen-How does full justice to the part. The members of the strong chorus work well together. *The Geisha* is also in the bill.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company are here in *The Midnight Wedding*. Mr. Alfred Paumier's sterling histrionic efforts in the chivalrous rôle of Paul Valmar reached a high plane; Mr. F. W. Freeman had much to recommend him as King Leopold, his fine stage presence and strong declamatory powers offering him adequate assistance. Mr. Ernest E. Imeson, as Captain Rudolph Von Scarsbruck was praiseworthy; and able support was given by Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes as the treacherous Lieut. Strelsburg; Max, Otto, and Bobo kept the audience in exuberant spirits, these parts being whimsically enacted by Mr. James E. Page, Mr. Vernon Vane, and Mr. Algie Spalding. Miss Annie Saker was delightfully natural as Princess Astrea, especially in her scenes with Valmar; while Miss Ada Champion proved quite vivacious in the character of Kathie.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—The present is the last week of the American Animated Picture Company's stay here. A beautiful series of instructive scenes are being shown, and win applause and admiration from big assemblies. A mirth-provoking musical entr'acte by the Godfreys, in which some rollicking byplay is seen, amuses excellently; Harry Rickard, a local singer, is in great form, and sings "The Wolf" and "Drinking" extremely well.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Ed. Harrison.—That worthy exponent of comedy, Mr. Alfred Lester, makes a hit with *A Restaurant Episode;* Florence Wakeman being especially commendable as the customer. Some very painstaking impersonations are created by Harry Allister; Josh Dixon has quite a happy style; likewise Tom E. Hughes in quite a different vein; Frank Maura, a Mexican juggler, and the Elgars, in well-rendered Irish melodies, together with Les Cabiacs troupe of French acrobats participate in a good bill, of which the Rayograph is another feature.

HANLEY. — ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company opened here on Monday, in the romantic costume play, *In the King's Name*. Mr. Blow undertakes the principal character of Wild Darrell, and comes out well in the part; he is ably supported by Miss Ida Molesworth, who plays charmingly and naturally as Lady Alice Vernon; Mr. Austen Milroy contributes a forceful and telling representation of Claude, the Earl of Rockingham; as Hugh, Mr. A. C. Hardie scores successfully; as Gerald Winters and Hector St. Aubyn Messrs. Roy Jackson and Dermot Fitzgibbon contribute capital readings; Mr. G. M. Montanini submits a really clever interpretation of the Prince of Wales; Mr. Fred Prior does well as Roland; and the Corporal Sam Parsons of Mr. A. C. Holmes is amusing; Mr. Harry Benson in the comedy part of Timothy Gribble is well placed; and Mr. Edward F. Burton is seen to advantage as the innkeeper; Miss Kitty Douglas handles the part of Jenny admirably and with distinct success; and Miss Edith Coleman contributes a thoughtful portrayal of the Countess; Miss Joan Stern and Miss Lucy Goodwin do well in their respective parts.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—La Milo heads the bill, this being her first public performance following the histrionic Coventry procession. On Monday her classical poses were received with great enthusiasm; Miss Daisy Dormer returns in new songs, which are capitally rendered, her chic style and admirable dancing being much appreciated; Regan and Ryan provide a turn which is highly amusing, the cross-talk, dancing, &c., being capital; the Soho Trio in their drawing-room entertainment are excellent, one of the female members possessing a voice of rare quality; some clever dancing is also introduced. Fanny Humber is a musical comedienne of merit, her skipping-rope dance being decidedly clever; Arthur Croxon as an entertainer provides a smart turn, which is deservedly applauded; the Mezzettis, on the triple bars, are well to the front, some very clever feats being executed; Raymond's Bio-tableaux show some interesting pictures.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr Charles E. Scutt.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company paid its first visit to Hastings in the musical comedy, *The Dairymaids*, on Monday, and attracted a crowded house. Miss Vera Vere made a clever and attractive Peggy, and Miss Dorothy Ward was a pleasing Winifred. Much amusement was created by the easy jollity of Mr. John Osborne as Joe Mivens, who was associated with Miss Maude Denny as Eliza in some droll business; Mr. Langdon Bruce supplied a hearty and humorous impersonation as Dr. O. Byrne, R.N.; Mr. Clifford Seyler, as Sam Brudenell, and Mr. Richard Adams, as Lieut. Brudenell, provided much harmless fun by their female impersonations; Miss Mabel Younge had a pleasing style as Lady Brudenell; Mr. Arthur W. Asbdowne, as Captain Leverton, sang acceptably, as also did Miss Amice Grey as Helene; Miss Madge Avery played appropriately as Miss Pychase. The Gymnasium scene was much admired, and the chorus and augmented orchestra was directed by Mr. Albert Bartlett.

HIPPODROME AND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Vivian Fisher; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—This admirably arranged music hall is filled nightly, an excellent feature in its management being a constant change of attractions. Some realistic scenes are shown on the Bioscope; the Sisters Talli, in a dance scena, are greeted with encouraging applause; Mr. Will Toole has a good style of singing his varied songs; the eccentric comedian, Tom Cliffe, gives a clever and successful turn; the character songs of Miss Rose Hamilton are piquant and amusing; Alma Campbell achieves great success in her dancing; the comic effusions of the clever comedians, Harris and Worth, are much enjoyed; Charles Bignell proves himself a favourite here; the character vocalist, Nellie La Rose, has a pleasing voice, and sings in spirited fashion; and Pete and Minnie Lee present a laughable Scotch sketch which is well received.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—A remarkably clever turn is given by the Five Sisters Warwick in their trick cycling; Olley Oakley is very expert as a banjoist; some excellent sketches are furnished with great musical ability by Ernest Hastings on the piano; De Lilo and Metz introduce a pot-pourri act, the lady being a clever contortionist, and the gentleman is smart as a comedy juggler; violin solos by the juvenile Audrey Wykeham are much applauded; a good turn is given by the Haverleys, with their illustrations of American songs; the twin Sisters Love are charming duettists and dancers; Miss Bella Newstead is very popular, and renders her contralto songs in a pleasing manner. Payne's Biophotoscope exhibits some effective pictures. Harry Lauder appeared here on Tuesday at a flying matinée, and received an enthusiastic reception from a crowded house.

BEACH CONCERT PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Blackmore.—Miss Ada Gaskill deservedly retains her popularity for her well-rendered ballads, and Miss Marie Schultz and Mr. George Blackmore contribute humorous duets, which their audience greatly appreciate.

AFRESCO CONCERTS.—Additional to the *Lieutenants and the Maids* company performing at the St. Leonards Gardens and the Band Kiosk at St. Leonards Pier, the Borough Entertainments Association this week engaged the Band of H.M. 2nd Life Guards to perform in several parts of the borough and at the illuminated fête (the third of the season) at the Alexandra Park on Wednesday, when the massed bands of the Guards, the Corporation Town Band, the 1st Cinque Ports Rifles, Highland Pipers and Drummers, and Drum and Fife Bands performed Julian's British Army Quadrilles. Other attractions included dancing on the lawn.

ST. LEONARDS PAVILION THEATRE.—Pier-Master and Entertainment Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. William Fraser-Brunner and his excellent all-round company are holding the boards in the interesting and popular play, *The Superior Miss Pellender*. An excellent character sketch of the title-rôle is given by Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner, who assumes naturally the arrogance and disdain belonging to the part; Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh gives a thoroughly adequate interpretation of the affectionate mother, Mrs. Pellender; Miss Marie Ault's work is capital as the fretful Edith; Miss Marie Longden admirably plays the part of the Tomboy Nancy; and Noel could not be in better hands than those of Mr. Victor Garnet-Vayne. The small parts of Kit Baxter and his sister May are equally well sustained by Mr. Will H. Gainsford and Miss May Gordon; Mrs. Pellender's timid bachelor wooer, Tister, is acted with commendable naturalness and earnestness by Mr. William Fraser-Brunner.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh have brought once more into our midst Wilson Barrett's last play, *Lucky Durham*, and it is meeting with the same success which signalised its past appearance. All that staging and industry could do towards that end was done. In the title-rôle Mr. Ed. Kennedy does capitally, whilst the Helen Vallerton of Miss Alice Esther Belmore is a very fine piece of work. The Reggie of Mr. Arthur Leigh was a conspicuous performance; Mr. A. E. Walker was a commendable Mr. Vallerton; and Miss Lilian Mason an effective Mrs. Durham.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*An Ideal Husband* has caught the popular taste, possibly due to the excellent acting of Miss Vera Beringer, whose interpretation of her rôle is worthy her past record. As the statesman, that sterling actor, Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, is seen to very fine advantage; as the wife, Miss Enid Ross's work is distinguished by many fine touches; and as Viscount Goring, Mr. Ernest Norris has a rôle which he fills with much merit.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*Sentenced for Life* is a play admirably suited to the tastes of the patrons of this house. As Lieut. Sullwell, Mr. Conrad Heywood much distinguishes himself; whilst commendable work is done by his accuser, portrayed by Mr. Wm. Bradford. The Adele Gray of Miss Maud Warbuton was an excellent piece of acting; Mr. Harry Cooke contributes cleverly to the comic relief, his singing being no small feature of the play; and the cinematograph pictures add to the evening's enjoyment.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Mr. E. Hogan-Armadale, a leading actor of the late Sir Henry Irving's company, supported by other artists, gives a clever condensed version of *The Bells*. Ted Thomas has a good style as a comedian; Percy Curry's songs create much laughter; Bessie Willon and May de Rowse are two talented lady artists; and others include Fred Curran, the Sisters Bartholomew, and Harry Alaska's company.

THE EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Appearing here are Amurat, the musical athlete; Jennie Lynwood, a dainty comedienne; Chant and Chant, in pleasing vocal comedy; the Itrams, in a clever act; the Forestiers; Hilton, and Vincent Healey.

THE CIRCUS.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—Two hundred and fifty thousand people have visited this popular hall during the twenty-six weeks animated pictures have been running.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—This theatre re-opened on Monday evening after the summer recess with Mrs. S. Wybert Clive's company in the highly sensational drama, *The Conscript*. Being wakes holiday-week the theatre was crowded, and the play met with a most cordial reception. As Karl Truevitch, the conscript, Mr. Frank Petley submitted an excellent study; in the trying rôle of Ivan Manloff Mr. Cowell Clarke was excellent; as was also Mr. Walter Steele as Count Paul Hardiski; Doggervitch in the capable hands of Mr. Charles Coleman was a clever character sketch. The author took the part of Maxim Fredka with much distinction; Miss Lilian Ross, as Nadia Truevitch, Karl's wife, won the sympathies of the audience at once, and acted with admirable restraint. The humour was in the safe hands of Mr. Harry Liddle as Tretch Trotoff, and Miss Isabel Hunt (Wanda); these two with song and dance kept the audience in a roar of laughter. Other parts were capably interpreted by Messrs. Ed. Jeffs, James Holt, F. E. P. Case, Murray Maude, Harold Holmes, and Misses Cissie Reenan, Gertrude Price, and Olga Datre.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—Mr. Graham Arthur's company is appearing in the drama, *When a Man Hates*. Mr. Sylvesta Stuart is seen to advantage as Lawrence Hastings, whilst Miss Mabel Liston is effective as Lettie; Paul, the half-witted, is capitally portrayed by Mr. Herbert M. King; whilst Detective Smart loses nothing at the hands of Mr. Arthur P. Leo; Mr. Fred A. Lewis as Peter Simple is very amusing; and is worked up to in good style by Miss Jennie Hallworth as Dollie Dimple; Mr. W. Graham Arthurs works out cleverly the dark deeds of Pietro Danelli; and Miss Mamie Stuart gains much appreciation for her representation of Olga Gwynne.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Jim Morley.—The St. Aubyns, descriptive comediennes and dancers, have the premier place on the bill, and are deservedly applauded; Lilian Benton, serio, and Joe Wack, comedian, also appear.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—This theatre was opened for the season on Monday evening with *The Dairymaids*, played by Mr. Robert Macdonald's company. Miss Empsie Bowman created a favourable impression in the part of Peggy, her acting and singing being equally good; Miss Doris Dickens made a charming Winifred, showing herself to be an accomplished vocalist; Miss Annie Heenan, Miss Maud Lucy, and Miss Molly Tremaine each rendered good assistance to the success of the cast. Among the actors, principal honours fell to Mr. Dan Agar, a clever and amusing comedian, while Mr. Robert Bottomley was well fitted in the part of the Lieutenant; Mr. Richard Telford was an eccentric Sam Brudenell; while Mr. Victor Hunter and Mr. O. Gordon Begg were both capable artists.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—A varied programme this week is headed by the Trapnell Family, whose wonderful tumbling feats and evolutions were received with every sign of appreciation and repeatedly applauded. Other items include Frank Cass, a clever and versatile comedian; Charles Mildare, whose singing, whistling, and imitations of birds, &c., highly pleased the audience; Selbo exhibited some marvellous club-swinging; while Defil contributes some neat conjuring tricks; Bennett and Martell appeared as shipwrecked mariners, in a burlesque which caused roars of laughter; Professor Hulbert proved an accomplished ventriloquist; and Marie Santoi and her merry Japs have a welcome return visit in a sketch called *A Japanese Tea Garden*.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Rex. Sugden.—This week Mr. Morton Powell's company is here with *The Woman Who Gambles*. Miss Lillian Herries plays Natalie Steinback with much skill; Miss Dora Pass as Cora Gouldhart shows talent of a high order; Mr. Percy Ballard as Baron Cratzlaw acts powerfully; Mr. George Steele is a manly Count Otto; Mr. E. H. Clarke as M. Stambuloff is well placed; Mr. O. Edwin as the Hon. Bertie Bray, of the British Embassy, and Mr. Walter Platt-Carr as Peter Peteroff (a police spy) are humorous; and Miss Lily Malvern deserves special mention for her rendering of Stella.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. E. Marris.—Mr. Fred Mouillot opened here on Monday night with a particularly strong and capable répertoire company, when a bright and sparkling rendering of the new version of *The Geisha* was given. Miss Joan Ritz played and sang charmingly as O Mimosa San; Miss Florrie Saunders is a delightful dancer, and her Molly Seymour a piquant personality; Miss Violet Kenyon did well as O Juliette Diamant, and Miss Aubrey Ashton appeared as Lady Constance Wynn. Mr. Edward Carlton scored a big success as Wun Hi; Mr. Lionel Braham is a most imposing and amusing Marquis Mari; and Mr. Cyril Dane a breezy Reginald Fairfax. The chorus is specially sprightly and good-looking. On Wednesday *San Toy* was staged, and during the remainder of the week *A Greek Slave*, which is a great favourite here, was given.

HORSE SHOE QUARRY.—Mr. Edward Marris's Pierrots and Veroniques continue to draw crowded audiences. A new feature of the entertainment is a nightly prize of 10s. for the best last line to a daily limerick, whilst the performance winds up with scenes from last week's Jersey Battle of Flowers shown by the National Animated Pictures.

TRIANGLE PARK.—The Hollanders, a company of jolly little Dutch boys and girls, are appearing here this week.

ODDFELLOWS HALL.—Messrs. Gale and Polden, with the King's Service Animated Pictures, bring their visit to a close this week. Here also the Jersey Battle of Flowers and firework display is being shown.

KEIGHLEY.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall.—Leoni Clarke's rats, cats, mice, &c., give intense delight here this week, and great credit is due to Mr. Clarke in the training of his sagacious pets; another popular engagement is that of John Higgins, champion jumper, whose feats are really marvellous; Miss Edith St. Clare is an established favourite here, and the choruses of her songs are taken up with much gusto; Syd Herman scores immensely in his song scene, *The Hebrew and the Gentile;* McAskell is a smart conjurer, his drollery being also thoroughly appreciated; Bock Pylade illustrates the most famous men of the day in a highly commendable manner; Clarke and Glenney appear in the amusing sketch, *A Haunted House*, and are well received; Miss Flo Wood, comedienne, possesses a sweet voice; Lambert's Myriscope displays several fine pictures, including "A Trip to Niagara."

KIDDERMINSTER.—NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Tom P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—The boards are occupied this week by Mr. Frank Bertram and his excellent company, in *The Convict's Daughter*. In his various characters Mr. Bertram gives a clever and realistic display of acting. He is ably supported by Messrs. Edward de Vere and Herbert M. King, who are respectively excellent as Frederick Neville and Harold Trevalyen. Mr. Escot Robson is also good as Jasper Thorn; Miss Lilias Deane as Edith Neville's adopted daughter, and Miss Maud Beard as Marian Thorn, Neville's sister-in-law, ably portray their parts.

KILMARNOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Major Ward.—A large audience attended the opening of the theatre on Monday night for the season, and tendered a hearty welcome to old favourites and new faces in the comedy, *A Trip to the Highlands*. Mr. Wal Croft, as the Merry Macmutchkin, proved most worthy of his splendid reception; and Mr. Willis Scott, as Timmins, was funnier than ever; Miss Isa Bowman, as winsome Winnie, and Miss Nellie Burdette, as Fanny Flounce, captivated the house with their singing and dancing; Mr. Wellesley Smith made an aristocratic Lord Lackington; and Mr. James Sommerville a diverting Sir Septimus Brown-Windsor; Mr. Frank Barclay's singing in the character of young Lackington was frequently encored; Mr. Harry A. Gribben as Dexter was clever throughout, but especially so in a whistling solo; Miss Grace Desmond as Arminta, Miss Grace Olivia, as Mrs. Macmutchkin, and Misses Kate Robey and Clara Moore as a pair of lovers added much to keep the fun fast and furious. Highland pipers and dancers assisted greatly in maintaining the interest and animation of the scenes.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company is here with *Honour Thy Father*. In the rôle of Gabriel Garth Mr. J. W. Evelyn is greatly appreciated; Mr. T. A. Wilson makes a capital Jack Halyard; as Duncan Bly, Mr. Howell Travis is seen to advantage, and in the dual rôles of Job Merry and George Bloggs, Mr. Claude Merton is highly successful. Miss Winnie Donovan gives an excellent portrayal of Mercy Merry; Miss Kate Newton is an admirable Gertrude Garth, whilst Miss Lizzie Jacobs as Poppy Cornleigh and Miss Violet Hammersley as Lilian Garth do full justice to their respective parts. The staging and effects are excellent.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. John Porter and W. J. Fergusson.—Nellie Wallace, comedienne, heads the bill this week, and her reception each performance is great; Elton and Elma cause roars of laughter in their triple bar act, and the Jensons, gymnasts, are very smart; Claire Beasy's performing cats go through a remarkable performance, and Miss Edith Edon is a pleasing dancer; Arthur Albert, comedian; Bella Leaburn, comedienne, and the Hippograph complete.

LEEDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—An old and popular play of the kind best liked here is *Driven from Home*, and good business is to record for the visit of Mr. Andrew Melville's company. Mr. Felix Pitt acts with distinction the prominent part of Anthony Raybrook; Mr. Francis Everard presents a well-conceived portrait of Walter Hatherleigh; and an excellent and convincing study of George Clissold is contributed by Mr. G. Thorne. Much praise is awarded Miss Muriel Dean for her Laura Raybrook; Miss Madge Murdock makes a capital Polly; and the flower girl, Peggy, is most faithfully represented by Miss Florence Wilson. Mr. Arthur Dudley is also seen to advantage.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—A most welcome visitor occupies this theatre during this present week, Mrs. Patrick Campbell having a warm and enthusiastic reception on Monday, when *Magda* was presented, the talented actress being seen in her magnificent portrayal of the name-part. Miss Stella Patrick Campbell gave an artistic rendering of Marie, and her work promises well; Mr. Charles Garry was strong and effective as Schwartz; Mr. Julian Royce did good work as Heffterdingk; and Mr. Alfred Goddard was a distinct success as Dr. Von Keller. Miss Ivy Hertzog was a commendable Augusta. *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* and *Hedda Gabler* were also to be presented during the week.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Mr. T. E. Dunville reappears at the Empire, and his humorous contributions prove to the liking of big houses. Livesey and Rosebery, in a clever and amusing dramatic skit, win much applause; Peggy Pryde in low comedy must be voted a conspicuous success; the Jackley Trio are popular with their acrobatics and wonderful whistling; Lieut. Travis again presents his clever ventriloquial act in good style; Boswell's Circus is again here, and has lost none of its popularity; and Will Cornish, Ernest Tilbury, and Elsie Clare (soprano), all have a favourable reception.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—A diverting absurdity, *Blazes*, by that lively crowd, the Six Brothers Luck, helps largely to keep good houses in a merry mood; Derenda and Green are a success in some smart comedy and jugglery; Driscoll and Felino are doing a novel comedy act, which goes well; Alec Kendall and Harry Hale are comedians of merit; expert and graceful equilibristic feats, by Polo and Florence, are an acceptable feature; and Rica Vani proves a pleasing and popular vocalist.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler. — That accomplished musical comedy artist, Miss Evie Greene, made her début in vaudeville at this popular hall on Monday, and her fine rendering of some vocal items greatly pleased crowded houses. An entertaining comedy sketch, *Office Hours*, is cleverly presented by Corrie and Dereve's company; F. De Marce scores a success with his equestrian novelty; Fred and Louie Fuller are doing well with a pleasing song-scena; Ailsa Douglas enhances her reputation as a popular vocalist; and Will Godwin, Charles Cavalli, MacWalten, and Arthur Slater, the whistler in white, are also poular contributors.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Ella Shields tops the bill this week, and her turn is very favourably received; Morny Cash finds favour with comedy contributions; and Hans and Lux are doing a smart comedy interlude. Cline and Clark are a clever and up-to-date comedy duo; Walter Emerson makes a big impression; the Ellimans have a capital musical show; and other popular lines are Milner Verren, vocalist; and Lisle and Ford, specialty act.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. Charles Hermann.—We have as the attraction this week the entertaining musical play, *Somebody's Sweetheart*, which is presented in capital style by Mr. Edward Marris's combination. Mr. Marris is held in the highest respect in Leicester, of which town he is a native. Introduced into the play are some taking duets, trios, ballads, songs, dances, and mandoline solos, which add to its attractiveness. Miss Norah Melton sings, dances, and acts well as Lulu; Miss Lena Laton, as Zora, and Miss Dora Hargreaves, as Miss Ainsley, are both a success; and Miss May Norris as Freddie Ashleigh is good; Mr. Charles King is well placed as Leverton, the villain, being aided and abetted by Mr. Percy Maitland as Lem Lee; Mr. Cecil W. Parke is all that can be desired as Stanton Ashleigh; and as his valet, Martin Blabbs, Mr. George Brentwood raises plenty of merriment; Mr. Frank Gala gives a good sketch of the negro, Old Joe.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The boards are held this week by Mr. Stanley Carlton's company, who are presenting, for the first time locally, the drama, *A Secret Wedding*. Miss Rubie Maude, as Grace Edmondson, makes an excellent impression, and Mr. E. Raysons Cousens, as Edgar Hartington, also plays well; Mr. Stanley Carlton is good as Herbert Hartington; and others who deserve praise are Mr. Edgar Morgan, with songs and dance, as Billy Barton; Miss Maude Steeple, as the waif, Jack; Miss Nellie Freeland, as Polly; Mr. Charles Elvin, as Ben Drummond; and Mr. Fred Conway, as Constable Foot.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Topping this week's bill is Arthur Lennard, one of Leicester's primest favourites, who renders his songs in a manner which secures for him a most gratifying and thoroughly well-deserved warm welcome. Miss Mabel Bardine and company make a splendid impression in the sketch, *Nell of the Halls*, Miss Bardine being especially smart and versatile. Percy Forde and Edward Webb's company are presenting in a style worthy of all praise the

MAKES THE SKIN AS SOFT AS VELVET.—Beetham's "LAROLA" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Ent

thrilling dramatic episode, *The Spy*; the Delevines are again very popular in their clever and amusing acrobatic mélange, *Flipp and Flopp*; Simms and Simms are entertaining musical comedians; Bert Woodward does some clever feats with his cycle; Lizzie Fletcher is a capital comedienne; and the American Bioscope is depicting the Dieppe Motor Race. The Hartley Wonders and Maggie Walsh, who are on the programme, do not appear. In their place Nellie Elder, a capital comedienne, deputises, and gets a first-rate reception, her comedy being quite refreshing.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence.—The principal attraction here is the Collinson combination in Harry Pleon's realistic dramatic episode, *A Club Raid*, which is well-deserving of the success achieved. They are also presenting the mirth-provoking absurdity, *The Topsy Turvy School*, which introduces a number of smart youngsters. Eva Hope, a versatile actress, and her company is seen to considerable advantage in her original duologue from the works of the late Charles Dickens. Mabel Le Roy is a chic comedienne, and others entertaining are Lomas, the great man-monkey; Walker and Dean, argumentative comedians; Eva Richards, comedienne and dancer; and Hilda Mascotte, serio comedienne and dancer. Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope is still one of the hits of the programme with unique pictures.

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—*Her Forbidden Marriage* proves a strong attraction here, and Mr. Fredk. Melville's company work up the exciting incidents in a capital manner. Mr. Hy. Lonsdale gives a manly and highly effective portrayal of George Maddison; Miss Gertrude Bonser is most charming and effective as Lucy; Mr. Louis Hector is all that can be desired as Charles Devereux; Lady Lucretia Lancaster is capitally undertaken by Miss Gertrude Hunt; Miss Nellie Fletcher gives a life-like rendition of the Mother Superior; and a refreshing vein of humour running through the piece is effectively worked by Mr. Fred de Vere, as Timothy Tuttutt, his efforts being well seconded by Miss Sybil Hare, as Patty Lovejoy.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Mr. Walter Melville's production of *The Soldier's Wedding* has attracted large and appreciative audiences this week. The various characters in a long cast receive sound interpretation at the hands of an efficient company; and the scenic effects deserve very high praise. Mr. Wingold Lawrence appears with much acceptance in the leading part of Jack Brown; Mr. Beresford Whitcomb makes a fine, hearty Colonel Graham; while Mr. Frederick Biron is eminently successful as David Munroe. The scheming Charles Courteney and his accomplice, Julie de Beauvrais, are presented by Mr. Raymond Wood and Miss Marie McAulay in thoroughly realistic style, earning a full measure of complimentary execration; Mr. Fred Yarnold gives a good character study of an old farmer; Miss Georgie de Lara and Miss Jessie Winter win sympathy and favour as Peggy Munroe and Nancy Lee; and the lighter comedy vein is discreetly worked by Mr. A. Gambier Melford, Miss Ettie Carlisle, and Little Albert in the respective rôles of Tommy Spratt, Lizzie Walker, and Teddy Munroe.

LINCOLN.—Palace.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. G. D. Bradbury.—A strong bill is presented to patrons again, and Monday night's two audiences demonstrated entire approval of the programme. Clown Barker, who is assisted by Miss Rozsika, gives a novel and delightful trained animal show, and Martha and Verity appear with great success in a vigorous and clever dance and knockabout act. Very funny are Harvey and Holt in an entertaining scena, and W. B. Ruby scores as a singing comedian. The Sisters Brooke, in song and dance, are very popular; Bert Terrell's jodelling is very fresh and sweet; and Aida Martine's abilities as a comedienne are proved. Raymond's Bio Tableaux complete a big show.

LIVERPOOL.—Shakespeare Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. E. Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—A brilliant presentation of *Clancarty* has been given here this week by Mrs. Russ Whytal, the acting and the staging being all that need honestly be desired. As the sorely-tried wife Mrs. Whytal played with a delicacy and refinement that was pleasurable to witness; Mr. Acton Bond handled the part of Clancarty with careful reserve; a fine King William, watched with the deepest interest, came from Mr. Stratton Rodney; Miss Mabel Knowles emphasised all the points of Lady Betty, a delightful picture; Mr. Charles Combe was an excellent Earl of Portland; Mr. J. J. Bartlett did every justice to the rôle of Lord Spencer; and Mr. Arthur Burne showed ability as Lord Woodstock. Mr. Harry J. Crane is deserving of mention for his "Scum" Goodman.

Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Audiences here this week have appreciated *The Stronger Sex*, which made a first appearance in Liverpool. Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison certainly sent a capable company to present the play. Mr. H. J. Carvill acted admirably as the Hon. W. Barrington; Miss Hutchison proved a proved a pillar of strength as Mrs. Van Garkerken; Mr. George Rowlands made an excellent Oliver Thorpe; Miss Margaret Fareleigh did well as Mary Barrington; and strong support came from Miss Margaret Cavania (Joan Forsythe), and Mr. George Rowlands (Oliver Thorpe). The curtain-raiser was *Chalk and Cheese*.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*Woman and Wine* has been the attraction here this week. Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds afforded a clear presentation of Dick Seymour; Miss Cissie St. Elmo showed ability as Marcel Rigadout; Miss Violet Sims was an effective Mary Andrews; and support came from Miss Joan Pereira (La Colombe); and Miss Ethel Vinroy (Janet Marlow). The Lottie Stone troupe of whirlwind dancers were introduced into the third act.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*Sapho*, presented by a company under the control of Mr. Ernest R. Abbott, has been staged here this week. Miss Ada Abbott in the title-rôle gave a finely-drawn picture of the gay but repentant woman; Mr. Ernest R. Abbott afforded every satisfaction as Jean; Mr. Frank Stephens made a capital Uncle Ceasaire; Miss Marion Holly was a charming Lucy; an amusing Madam Hetlema came from Miss Marjorie Tennant; and Mr. Edwin Keene, as D'Arac, introduced some humorous specialities in the first act.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, The Granville Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Granville.—This week *A Heart's Desire* has held the stage here. Mr. Frank V. Fenn was the Lord St. Ives; Miss Ethel Tooney displayed ability as Olya; Mr. E. Vane did well as Eric May; Miss Ella Seton afforded every satisfaction with her Gwendoline Ross; and excellent comedy came from Mr. S. Claydon as the Hon. Bertie Beresford, and Miss Amy Dalby in the rôle of Elsie Beresford. The drama, which was under the direction of Messrs. Elliman, was well dressed and staged.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Gus Elen is the big line here this week. He has had a gratifying reception for his popular songs. *The Magic Carpet* was another principal item, the smartly-produced military mystery being supported by Mr. John Warren, Miss Mollie Wynter, and Messrs. Frank Norton, H. J. Collis, F. J. Fenn, and company. Dean Tribune and company gave a very funny sketch, entitled *Applicants*; the American Comedy Four caused a deal of amusement with their funny vocalisation; a clever performance on the bars was provided by the Moulier Sisters; Les Strads had a smart musical scena, entitled *The Night Before the Concert*; some sweet songs were rendered by Hilda Playfair; Mount and Corelli, society entertainers, submitted an acceptable musical duologue, *The Master and the Maid*; and Cecil Bernard, boy comedian, also appeared.

Tivoli.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Chirgwin made his first appearance at this popular place this week, and met with a hearty reception for his old and new favourites; Gladys and Alber presented a novel comedy act; as vocalists and dancers the Sisters Birke proved very acceptable; Gargani's comedy acrobatic act was exceedingly diverting; and the bill also contained the names of May Newall, vocalist; Allis and Cassetti, eccentric vocal comedy duo; Happy Attwood, and the Seabornes.

Lyric — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Crowded houses have been the rule here this week, due mainly to the presence of Hetty King, who had a cordial reception for her catchy songs. The Three Demons have given a marvellous and daring exhibition of cycle riding; a smart vocal comedy, entitled *Opera Gone Mad*, was provided by the Sivronis; Carl Lynn's clever mimicry of animals was loudly applauded; a neat act came from Selby and Myers, a lively pair of comedians; Beauty and Bounders submitted an acceptable musical comedy; and others in the list were Tom Leo, eccentric comedian; Tressie Lee, and Lucy Coventry.

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Prihcipal here this week are the Karno company (including Mr. Rolando Martin), in *Saturday to Monday*, which has proved as enjoyable as ever; the Three Braggs, excellent novelty acrobats, showed their clever act, *The Living Bridge*; roars of laughter followed the burlesque *Our Sammy*, produced by the Merry Waldrons; some expert work as instrumentalists was gone through by Newell and Niblo; a thoroughly enjoyable juggling turn came from Valoni; Rex Fox, with his ventriloquial and musical act on the wire, afforded every satisfaction; as a banjoist, Brent Hayes would take a deal of beating; and the capital programme was worthily supported by Millie Howell, comedienne; Tate and Tate, comedy trampolin acrobats; and Raie Walters, "the fishing maid."

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*The Danites* has this week been produced by the stock company here. Mr. Harry Tresham did well as Sandy; Mr. Sydney Grant acquitted himself in the rôle of the parson; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood handled the part of Hezekial Carter with care; and Mr. Robb Wilton caused much laughter with his Washee. Of the ladies, Miss Florence Palmer very creditably played Nancy Williams and Billy Piper; Miss Beryl Ravenswood was the Widow; and Miss Florence Cameron gave satisfaction as Bunker Hill.

Paddington Palace. — Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Edwards.—During the week *A Dark Secret*, by John Douglass, has been staged here by the Palace dramatic stock company. The principal rôles were ably undertaken by Messrs. Ernest Wingfield (Arthur Loates), Frank S. Strickland (Stephen Norton), Henry Hesslegrave (Jonas Norton), Francis E. Wybert (Martin Brook), the Misses Gladys Hastings Walton (May Joyce), Florence Barnes (Nellie Norton), Lena Nazeby (Mme. Fontaine), and Edith French (Bessie).

Park Palace.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.—Here the stock dramatic company have this week given *The Shaughraun*, Mr. Will Percy being the Conn; Mr. Hugh Carmichael, Harvey Duff; Miss Nelson-Ramsey, Clare Ffolliott; and Miss Florrie Hall, Moya.

Haymarket.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company remain here, playing this week *Port-light; or, a Sailor's Star*; Joe Hennessey shows ability as a club juggler; Jack Richardson is a smart comedian and dancer; Kosmo, the lightning oil-painter, executes some clever work; and the dancing of the Royal Victorian Boys is appreciated.

Westminster.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—A particularly pleasing exhibition of juggling and hoop rolling is given here by Atroy, who heads the bill; some capital work as an instrumentalist is executed by Violi; King Roy, coloured vocalist, renders several popular songs; screams of laughter follow the farce, *Hotel Comfort*, given by Onda's comedians; Lucy Coventry, comedienne and dancer, is pleasing; and the *Motor Maniac*, a sketch presented by Will Rain and company, proves highly diverting.

Olympia. — District - Manager. Mr. Albert Bulmer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton. — The aquatic spectacle, *The Typhoon*, has afforded general satisfaction, but is being withdrawn in this, its third, week, owing to other engagements. Tom Edwards and his ventriloquial figure Curly, raised many a laugh; a smart all-round entertainment was submitted by Ted and May Hopkins, the Cambrian duo; Francis, the cannon-ball king, assisted by Alfred, gave a good show; an amusing sketch, entitled *Beauty and the Burglar*, was provided by Mille Engler, Louie Tinsley, and company; juggling of a high order came from the two Cromwells; and also in the programme were Frank Lynne, humorist; and Mark Merry, quaint comedian.

Roscommon.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The stock dramatic company here, headed by Mr. Percy Boucher, is doing good business. This week *The Fatal Hour*, by H. G. Brandon, is being given, Mr. Boucher proving a humorous Walter Wallop; Mr. Mark Mills being Squire Henderson; Miss Lilian Beaumont, Olga Meredith; Miss Hazel Dent, Amy Henderson; Miss Enid Wilde (an excellent Ularlia S. Jones), and Mr. J. D. Geddes, Arthur Henderson.

LLANDUDNO.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Mr. George Dance's company appeared here for three nights this week in *The Catch of the Season*. Mr. Frank Lincoln, as the Duke of St. Jermyn's, is excellent, his comedy being good. As Lord Dundreary Mr. Tom Shelford could not be improved upon; Master Peter Grata, as Almeric Montpellier, sings and dances well; Miss Ernestine Walters, as Lady Crystal, is well placed; Miss Doris Greville, as the Hon. Honoria Bedford, sings beautifully, and is well received; Miss Emily Mellon, as Lady Caterham, shows great adaptability; and Miss Moya Mannering is all that could be desired. The chorus and scenic effects are excellent. For Thursday, Friday, and Saturday Mr. H. B. Irving is announced in *The Bells, Lyons Mail*, and *Charles the First*.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. A. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—Mr. Thomas Sidney and company occupied the boards of this theatre on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, with *The Marriage of Kitty*, preceded by the one-act play, *Twenty Years After*. Mr. Edgar Kent as Sir-Reginald Belsize, Bart., gives an excellent portrayal; Mr. Thos. Sidney is quite at home as John Travers; Miss Mary Thorne's interpretation of Kitty is excellent, and the part could not be in better hands; Miss Kathleen Russell as Madame de Semiano, enacts her rôle most skilfully, and her hysterical scenes are well played. For Thursday, Friday, and Saturday *The Walls of Jericho* is announced.

Pier Head Pavilion.—Local Manager, Mr. A. R. Sutcliffe.—This week The Gay River company reappear and play to enormous crowds afternoon and evening. Mr. W. H. Powell is capital in song and dance; Mr. Frank Dunlop creating roars of laughter with his drolleries and witticisms, his Welsh imitations affording endless amusement; Miss Mildred Bryan is in good voice, and Mr. Harrison Latimer scores heavily; Mr. Arthur Sutcliffe is as good as ever.

Happy Valley.—Mr. W. J. Churchill's minstrels continue to please old and young daily. It is the largest troupe that has ever occupied the Happy Valley, and reflects great credit on the proprietor.

Egyptian Hall.—Lessee, Professor Beaumont.—The White Coons, of which Mr. Albert Stern is the manager, continue to draw large numbers both afternoon and evening. The different items are all well rendered, and the proprietor deserves every success for his venture.

LUTON.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—The Frank Bateman dramatic company, under the direction of Messrs. St. John Medley and Pringle Roberts, is here this week with *No Wedding Bells For Her*. Miss Lizzie Montague puts all the "go" necessary into her impersonation of Lola Delaspierre, an actress; Mrs. Eastman, a landlady, is admirably portrayed by Miss Nellie Wilson; Miss Ethel Lawrence, as Doris Fane, an actress, is a great favourite; Mr. Barry Lupino, as Simkins, a nondescript, speaks for itself; Mr. Stuart Lomath, as Frank Hatherleigh; Mr. Percy Shaw, as Dick Delver, a detective; and Geo. Herbert, as Horatio Fane, an old actor, are in capable hands. The scenery and dresses are very effective.

MACCLESFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—During the vacation the popular proprietor of the Royal has been making elaborate improvements in the interior of the hall, and new seatings, painting, etc., have improved the place almost beyond recognition. Following on the opening week with *Lucky Liza*, Messrs. Cameron and Alexander's company have presented a military musical drama, called *Under the Stars and Stripes*, which was most enthusiastically received.

MANCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Mr. John Hart's revival of *As You Like It* at this theatre on Monday was attended with complete success from the point of view of the staging and the performance in general, as of the size of the audience that was attracted to witness it. It is, in fact, beautifully put on, and a graceful interpretation of the principal parts is assured by the presence of Miss Fay Davis in the cast as Rosalind—a very charming impersonation—and of Mr. Gerald Lawrence as Orlando, an easy and accomplished piece of work. Mr. James Hearn adds a fine delineation of Jaques, and Mr. Harry Paulton makes an excellent Touchstone; while Mr. Charles Garth as Amiens acts and sings well, and Mr. Lionel Belmore is a capable Oliver. Contributing to the pleasing effect, Miss Valerie Salberg as Celia, Miss Violet Chamier as Audrey, and Miss Frances Welstead as Phœbe are worthy of commendation; and all the minor parts are satisfactorily filled. The scenery is by Mr. W. T. Hemsley; the glees, &c., sung by a Manchester chorus, are by Sir Henry R. Bishop; and Mr. Edward German's music, played by an augmented orchestra, incidentally embellishes the text. The comedy is produced by Mr. Gerald Lawrence, and it is here for three weeks' run.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Much amusement was created here on Monday by the performance of *Our Boys* by Mr. M. Russell Rosse's company, including Mr. Thomas Thorne in his old part of Perkin Middlewick. Mr. Thorne's entertaining impersonation is capably supplemented by Mr. Harrington Fenton as Talbot Champneys, Mr. Charles Fairleigh as Charles Middlewick, and Mr. Norman Clark as Sir Geoffrey Champneys; while Miss Ruby Loncraine plays very nicely as Violet Melrose; a sympathetic delineation of Mary Melrose is given by Miss Marie Herbert; Miss Rachael de Travis is quite effective as Clarissa Champneys; and Miss Edith Hesketh's Belinda is good. Mr. Maurice Denham as Kempsey satisfactorily completes the cast.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—*A Fight for a Throne*, played by Mr. Lingford Carson's company, is here this week from the Grand Junction Theatre.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—At the top of the bill here this week is *A King for a Day*, a very smart sketch amusingly acted by an equally smart company under Messrs. Dooley and Seymour. Other capital items are Ada Fawn, the well-known comedienne; Horace Sade, an excellent dancer; the Yorkshire Meisters, in a good vocal act; Angelo, a marvellous lightning painter; Carney Bros., character duettists; Hyde and Cody, eccentric acrobats; and J. W. Gallagher, the "loose-legged" eccentric comedian.

St. James's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—Messrs. Reynolds and Thailler's combination of players are here this week in a triple bill nightly. The first piece is *Conscience*, depicting the wreckage of a magnificently-furnished drawing-room in a fight between the hero and the villain; the second is *Siberia*, a story of Russian barbarity; and the third is *The King of the Jews*, a spectacular, historical episode, A.D. 70. The principal players are Mr. J. Koffler Reynolds, Miss Maude Yarrell, and Mr. Austin Loraine; and the programme proves highly interesting and effective.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Mr. Frederick Melville's play, *In a Woman's Grip*, is the attraction here this week. It is well played by a clever company, principal among whom are Miss Rosa Ralph, who sustains a triple rôle in excellent style, and Mr. Andrew Emm, whose impersonation of the comedy part of Joe Butters is irresistibly funny. Mr. Percy Dawsone as Frank Haydon has important work to do, and so has Mr. Oswald Douglas as Maurice Stanton; and other essential parts are capably filled by Mr. Vernon Proctor as Sir Edward Merton, Mr. Fred A. Marston as Dick Langley, the prize-fighter, Mr. Herbert Vane as the mad doctor, and Miss Jessie Yatman as Lilian Farley. Many other parts are acceptably filled, and the play as a whole is interesting and enjoyable. The staging is particularly pretty.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Axemanship extraordinary is exhibited here this week, as chief attraction, by Jackson and McLaren, the champion tree-fellers of Australia. It is a novel and wonderful show. The Anartos, comedy artists, are also prominent and highly popular. A smart turn is added by Chas. Coborn, the well-known comedian; Pat Rafferty, the Irish comedian, is well received; James Stewart gives his excellent sketch of the tramp at the piano; a nice turn is submitted by Ruth Lytton, Scotch comedian; and a truly smart and enjoyable entertainment is provided by Mysterious Mr. C., who sings and talks in a manner well worth hearing. Besides these, Ellis Barrieton, vocalist, is well received; and some clever and dainty dancing is submitted successfully by Edie King, vocal comedienne and speciality artist. The pictures are good, as usual.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Miss Alice Norton is the top attraction here this week in her novel and scientific experiment of making "rubies" and "sapphires" in full view of the audience; Albert Toft's living statuary is wonderfully well done, and each figure is deservedly applauded. An exceedingly beautiful spectacle is the grand illuminated water grotto of David Canty, introducing with striking effect Mlle. Da Silva. Horace White is a first-rate ventriloquist; Maude Courtney, the American girl in song and story, is highly successful; Arthur Playfair and Constance Hyem are good in a racing sketch, *327, Finsbury*; Ben Albert, the logician, is capital; and Cissie Curlette is a pleasing mimetic vocalist. Miss Milly Dixon of the choir sings well "The scent of the lilies," an illustrated song; and a part-song by the Choir and Bioscope Pictures complete.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tealor Wade.—Excellent and well-received turns here this week are those of the Great Loland, in a series of illusions performed with neatness and finish; George Gilbey, of "Spouty the goal-keeper" fame; the Olympian Lady Ju-jitsu Troupe, exponents of the Japanese art of self-defence; and Mountford and Walsh, those delightful entertainers. Francini, Ollom, and Page are clever musicians and acrobats; Gladys Mavius is a neat coon dancer; Belle Braham is a popular pictorial songstress; Lozelle is an exceedingly smart gymnast; and other capital turns are offered by Helen Martin, vocalist; Herbert Rule, comedian; the Three Newsomes, very clever acrobats; and Crissie Cross, comedienne, who dances nicely. Pictures complete.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—That sterling actor, Bransby Williams, is here this week in selections from his popular répertoire, and his reception is deservedly great. Ethel Whitesides and her Mississippi Piccaninnies provide an excellent turn, her singing and dancing being very pleasing; Florence Burns and Jimmie Danvers are highly successful in a burlesque vocal act, Miss Burns being an excellent singer; Oliver Conroy is a very amusing comedian; Rita Rhylle sings and dances nicely; Ray and Calder contribute a clever turn with good dancing; Zaid's Troupe of Spanish Moors go through a wonderful performance; and smart items are those of George Victor, descriptive vocalist; and Flo Velma, burlesque artist. Animated Pictures complete.

King's, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company are the attraction here this week in that capital domestic drama, *The Little Bread-Winner*. In the title-rôle Little Marjorie Lawrence is highly successful; Mr. H. B. Peppin does well as Lord William Dorrington; and Mr. Eric Maylie is good as Richard Lawrence. Mr. Alfred Maurice in the heavy part is excellent; considerable amusement is caused by Mr. Norman Hall as Charles Prior; Miss Janet Warden scores as Margaret Daventry; and good work is also done by Miss Lissa Young and Miss Nellie Catlin. The remaining parts are in good hands, and the scenery is satisfactory.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—After a successful week at the King's, Longsight, Mr. Arthur Milton and his capable company are playing here to delighted audiences that funny burlesque, *Don Quixote*. The Brontes appear to advantage in an amusing sketch, *Stony Broke*; Will Doran and company provide plenty of surprises in an absurdity entitled *The Inventors*; the Rinaldo Trio perform some really clever acrobatic feats, and are also funny; Jean Seul, with his smart illusions, mystifies the audience; Preston Holmes, in a musical mélange, is good; and Jack Mansfield, dialect vocalist, pleases. "Daring Cavalry Feats" are shown on the Bioscope.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay.—A very sensational turn is given here this week by the Tom Davis' Trio in their motor-cycle act "Whirling the Wheel"; Mr. R. Cameron Mathews and company, including Miss Maggie Byron, are highly amusing in a farcical comedy, entitled *The Honeymoon Baby*. A clever turn is that of the Four Netherlands, singers and dancers; Kurwin and Bell are capital in a novel conception, *The International Club*, and are greatly appreciated; and a very smart acrobatic *pot-pourri* act is offered by the Three Panamas. Edwards and Espinosa are responsible for a good musical item; Mark Henton, comedian, is funny; Jessie Jukes is an expert dancer; and Keith and Merson's company in a farcical sketch, *Crossing the Alps*, cause some laughter.

MANSFIELD.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Mr. J. E. Tomlinson's company in *Secrets* are occupying the boards here this week, and are drawing good houses. Mr. Reggie Brown is a manly Lieut. Markham, his acting as the mute being very clever; as the Caliph Mr. William Richards displays considerable power; Mr. Ernest R. Allen is well placed as the Hon. Cecil Cholmondeley; in the rôle of Ibrahim Al Murad Mr. John E. Tomlinson shows great ability; in the part of Kasa Mesrour Mr. Lal Abdul Goodman is at home; and Mr. Will Bird is a typical rollicking Jack Tar as Breezy Bill; Miss Lizzie Palmer gives a finished portrayal of Ismalia, and quite touches the hearts of the audience; Miss Nellie Navarro, as Zuelika, plays the jealous woman to the life; Mr. George Whillis as Peter Wilkins, and Miss Madge Palmer as his wife, are responsible for a great amount of merriment. The singing is tuneful and the dancing graceful. The remaining parts are capably portrayed.

Grand Theatre Gardens.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Captain Cecil Clayton.—The Royal Star Pierrots conclude their engagement here this week. Good houses were the rule, and a very interesting programme was submitted, which was duly appreciated.

MARGATE.—Theatre Royal.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wallis Clark.—Miss Ellen Terry, who opened at Margate on Monday with *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*, has started with a three days' record attendance, and a send-off with which no artist should be dissatisfied. Each night, Monday to Wednesday, the old theatre has been packed to such an extent that standing room was difficult to secure. Naturally, the greatest interest centred in Miss Ellen Terry, whose unapproachable performance of the rôle of Lady Cecily Waynflete aroused the greatest enthusiasm. Mr. James Carew closely approached perfection in the part of Capt. Brassbound. The comedy portion of the play, which practically rests with Felix Drinkwater, is thoroughly sustained by Mr. George Elton. Other well-played parts were those of Sir Howard Hallum, by Mr. Rudge Harding; the Rev. Leslie Ranking, by Mr. Story Gofton; and Capt. Kearney, by Mr. W. T. Lovell. For the remainder of the week *The Duchess of Dantzic* is billed.

Hippodrome.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—Marie Lloyd, who heads the list this week, has had a remarkably favourable reception, her appearance at each performance being heralded by unrestrained applause, whilst her songs have given unbounded delight. Billy Williams has come to the front in public favour, his contributions eliciting well-deserved recognition. Among other contributors to an all-round enjoyable programme are the Sisters Melba, the sweet-voiced duettists; Little Salvo, a clever instrumentalist; Evelyn Taylor, comedienne; Hurman, juggler and hoop manipulator; and Sidney and Maud Wood, duettists and dancers.

Hall-by-the-Sea.—Sole Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Evans.—One of the best and most varied shows seen here this season is given this week. Elsie Vincent, comedienne and expert dancer, pleases all; the Bohemians, instrumentalists and comedy artists, are responsible for a good deal of laughter; Cissie Lupino, operatic character and speciality dancer, is good; and Vandinoff, assisted by Mademoiselle Louie, gives a rapid exhibition of crayon painting; other turns include Victoria Dagmar and her comedy assistant in her acrobatic display; Barney Stuart, character actor and mimic; Carl Rosine and Company, magicians; and the Four Aces, comedy acrobats, all of whom have been well applauded.

MEXBOROUGH.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Miss Ida Millais and company are this week presenting the drama, *No Man's Land*. Mr. Henry Herne gives an intelligent portraiture of Harry Oaklands; the Mat Marsden of Mr. J. L. Power is a powerful effort; Mr. Herbert Cecil skilfully depicts Silas Moore; Mr. Henry Carlisle cleverly interprets the dual rôle of Capt. Bathurst and Gilbert Bathurst; Mr. Edward Wilde (Dr. Buxton), Mr. Chas. M. Daly (Solomon Jacobs), and Mr. Alfred Byron (Thompson Poodle) perform their respective parts with skill. Miss Ida Millais combines grace and dramatic ability in the rôle of Mary Bathurst; Miss Emma Stockley is an excellent Mrs. Poodle; whilst Miss Dora Hilstrome is successful as Bessie Poodle.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson. — Mr. Arthur Bourchier's principal company pays a return visit here this week in *The Walls of Jericho*, which is admirably staged. Miss Edith Cuthbert as Lady Frobisher gives a capital rendition of a difficult part; Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton's impersonation of Jack Frobisher is a fine piece of acting, and Mr. Russell Barry is seen to marked advantage as Hunkey Bannister; Miss Nona Wynne is piquant as Lady Dereham; Mr. Edward Coutts is capital in the rôle of Lord Drayton; Miss Ormonde is good as Lady Westerby; Miss Pauline Straus is pleasing as Miss Mornington; Mr. Eustace Burnaby, as Harry Dallas, acquits himself with credit; and Mr. Ben Levin acts with distinction as the Marquis; Miss Florence Steventon is charming as Lady Porchester; and Miss Millie Emden as Duchess Skye, Miss Gladys Merrick as Miss Wyatt, Mr. George Percy as Bertram Hannaford, Mr. Douglas Heywood as the Hon. Wilfred Renton, and Mr. Hanworth Browning as Lord Marchmont are all that can be desired.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges. — Good houses are the rule this week, a capital programme being presented. Foreman and Fannan create roars of laughter with their songs and patter, and The Bensons are very successful in their comedy act, *The Page and the Maid*; Bosanquet, the famous violinist, pays a return visit and is well received; Marguerite Broadfoote pleases and Blake and Granby cause much laughter in their comedy act, *The Man in Possession*; Gicarde gives a clever display of juggling, and Price and Revost do well in their acrobatic turn; much appreciation is aroused by the Great Victoria Falls on the Bioscope.

Oxford Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—Gorman's Juveniles top the bill here this week, and score a great success in their scena, *The Waif*; the M'Connell Trio provide an entertaining musical and comedy turn, and Les Marsumas create roars of laughter in their absurdity, *The Navvy's Rest*; Geo. Bohanna is an excellent vocalist; and The Melroses please in their comedy duo; Webb and Branston, operatic duettists, do well, and other turns are given by J. W. Bray, comedian, and Emily Adair, comedienne and dancer.

MORCAMBE.—Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—Mr. William Greet's company in *The Earl and the Girl*, has proved a great attraction during the week, and it is certainly a fine production. Miss Florence Wix makes a charming Elphin Haye; Mr. Alfred Donohoe is remarkably funny in the part of Jim Cheese; Mr. Robt. Hyett makes a good Dick Wargrave; and Mr. Frank A. Wood has got the right idea of the part of A. Bunker Bliss; Miss Beatrice Anderson is excellent as Mrs. Shimmering Black. There is an excellent chorus, and the orchestra is under the direction of Mr. W. Stephenson.

Winter Gardens.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—Miss Daisy Jerome is making a hit here this week with her clever imitations and neat dancing. Some really wonderful juggling is executed by Rapoli; Chanti's fine quick-change work and exhibition of the styles of dancing peculiar to various nationalities are a prominent feature of the bill; the Three Meers, comedy wire performers, are amusing and clever; the Napoli Sextette (including Mr. John Lloyd, tenor) appear in a pretty vocal scena. Other turns include the Zaracs, in *Mashing the Barmaid*; the Ladderites, in a neat show; Harry Thurston, with a burlesque monologue, *The Silver King*; Corelli, smart conjuror; and Ted Waite, a quaint comedian.

Central Pier.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. E. Hill.—The Yiulians, risley acrobats, have proved a big draw at this house, and their business is certainly first-class. Maurin's fountains and living statuary, representing water nymphs, has been a very attractive turn, and the effects are certainly very lovely; Miss Marie Jones is a clever protean artist, and in her duologue with Ernest Munro, *The Way to Win a Bet*, she assumes six distinct characters, and makes eight complete changes. The Paolias are seen in a refined posing and athletic act; Nancy Renshaw is a good "negro" comedienne and bone soloist; Bessie Blackburn is the possessor of a well-trained soprano voice; Carr and Rose do good work in original operettas; and the comedy juggling and dancing of the Tossing Austins provides much amusement.

West End Pier.—Secretary, Mr. J. Bastow.—Mr. Walter George's company of entertainers, "The Smart Set," are attracting crowded audiences.

Albert Hall.—The Merrions are giving their well-known entertainment here, and they present a very acceptable programme of songs and sketches.

Alhambra Palace.—Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—Tina Clementa's trained horse and dogs have been a source of great pleasure to all during the week, and another big attraction has been the Trentanovi Sisters' clever gymnastic act. Much fun is caused by the Gregson comedy team; and Mike Cray and his wonderful dog Dooley come in for the customary successful reception; Lily Lonsdale, soprano vocalist; Judge's cockatoos, macaws, &c.; Vasey and Ramsey, dancers; St. Clair Brothers, football on cycles; Harry Nelson and Ernie Myers, comedians, are also in the bill.

MOTHERWELL.—New Century Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hales.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company is this week paying a return visit in *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*. Miss Beatrice Homer gives a powerful representation of the title-rôle, and Miss Nell Oliver plays with decided effect as Rose Courtney; while Miss Violet Macree renders with much pathos the tragic rôle of Moritu. Jack Merriman has a manly and convincing exponent in Mr. Philip Darien, and Mr. Edlin is mirth-provoking as Tubby Herrick, much assistance being given him by Miss Nellie Jackson as Aggie Brown; Mr. Leyton Cancellor is sufficiently villainous as Hubert Gold, his accomplice, Antonio Luchesi, being ably enacted by Mr. Leonard Hackeny. The minor parts are ably sustained, and the dresses and scenery are exceptionally good.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—The well known and highly popular comedy,

as Mrs. Porter, Miss Kate Osborne as Mrs. Baldwin, Miss Mary Pemberton as Lucy Dallas, and Miss Mona Robin as Mrs. Smedley, all of whom do full justice to their lines.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. Edward Marris's company appear here this week in the musical extravaganza, *The Dandy Doctor*. Miss Ethel Ward, possessed of a sweet and engaging presence and a nice voice, fulfils the rôle of Ivy Pendred with much acceptance; as Melchisedek Brown Mr. Owen Dacroz is very funny; and Mr. Herbert B. Pearce as the Colonel, Mr. Leslie Winter as Arthur Vandyke, and Mr. Walter Nugent as Bolingbroke take leading parts with great success.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Thos. W. Rowe.—A new spectacular drama, entitled *A Woman's Pluck*, is given able representation by a company selected by the author himself—Mr. James Willard. Miss Marion Fawcett gives a vigorous rendering of the part of the heroine, Grace Daremont, her exploits with the gloves being followed with interest; and amongst others acting with success are Messrs. H. Emmerson, A. Mortimer, A. Temple, M. Boulton, J. P. Drydon, and D. Bird, and Misses D. Dale, M. Smart, and E. Danby.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Miss Grace Warner and company appear here this week in a répertoire of plays, including *The Little Widow* and *Lady Audley's Secret*. On Monday evening Miss Warner, in the title-rôle of *The Little Widow*, played with abandon and frolicsomeness, delighting a large audience, while other parts were ably taken by Messrs. Gordon A. Page and W. Bretton, and Miss Anna Karri and K. Stewart.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. H. G. Wells.—With his chief songs, "Lily of Laguno," "The Love-sick coon," and "I may be crazy," and his dancing as pleasing as ever, Mr. Eugene Stratton again proves a great attraction this week. A laughable sketch is staged by the Five Osranis, a burlesque pantomime company, and the ponies and dogs' circus presented by Harry Rochez provide a very entertaining show; in illustrated songs Miss Marion Grace scores a decided hit, and a singer of no mean merit is Miss Rosa Loader, the happy slavey at the piano; a pleasing musical turn is contributed by Les Frasettis, violin, harp, and xylophone soloists; Dot Hardy appears in a funny character sketch, and L. W. Harris meets with success in a catchy song; Mr. Lonnen Meadows and company create roars of laughter in a sketch, *Kiss Your Father*.

PAVILION THEATRE.—The Barrasford Company; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Another Scottish comedian in Jack Lorimer, with versatile humour and able singing and dancing, thoroughly pleases his auditors and gains enthusiastic encores; a clever turn is given by Little Cliff, the boy artist, whose dancing is very grotesque and amusing; Radford and Valentine send the house into convulsions of laughter in their pantomime and humorous juggling tricks, and a short but brisk drama, *The Orange Girl*, is ably played by a company with Miss Dolly Elsworthy in the title-rôle; the Three Royal Temples, operatic vocalists; Ted Cowan, comedian; Gus Harris, Hebrew delineator; Freddie French, vocalist and dancer; and the Sisters Hall, vocalists, all provide capital entertainment.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett.—Mr. H. E. Knight's company in *The Grip of Iron* has proved a strong attraction this week. Mr. Fred Powell repeats with success his powerful assumption of Jagon, and is well supported by Mr. Wallace Curnock as Paul Blanchard, Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner as Lorentz de Ribas, Mr. W. T. Riley as Alphonse de Concon, Mr. John Brittain as Dodot, Mr. Herbert Lewis as Loustalot, Miss Maria Fontaine as Cora Simmonet, and Miss Florence Trevoir as Sophie Blanchard.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans; Musical Director, Mr. Walter Ashton.—Will Musgrove is a big favourite here, and has been rewarded with a capital reception for his well-rendered comic songs. The Three Ettenas (two ladies and a gentleman), give a clever performance on globes, &c.; Mona Macdonald is a bright and lively comedienne with some taking songs; Bert and Dora give a merry cross-talk and singing turn; Little Tichbourne, in big boots, sings and dances with success. The Sages in song and dance, the Sisters Belmont, Irish duettists and dancers, and the Palace Pictures by C. Vincent are well received.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Horace Stanley and company are here this week with *Guilty Gold*, which is received with much favour. The rôle of Harold Elmore is in the hands of Mr. Wallace Campbell, who gives a capital interpretation of the character; and Mr. Fred. Wilberforce, as Ralph Bartlett, is distinctly successful; Mr. David Curtis presents a satisfactory representation of John Middleton; and Mr. Horace Stanley is seen to advantage as Septimus Sweet; Mr. Dennis Clyde makes the most of Wm. Magga; Mr. Arthur E. Francis scores as Algernon Carruthers; and Mr. Gerald Bryne is successful as Martin Haldane; as Elsie Middleton, Miss Rosalie Heath gives a bright and interesting performance; and Miss Effie Bartlett makes quite a hit as Rhoda Hampton; Miss Josephine Lee is smart as Hetty Hoyley; and Miss Kate Kilpack is very pleasing as Nancy Bright.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Texas Hattie, the accomplished tight-rope artiste, meets with an enthusiastic reception here; the Sisters Russell are smart comediennes; and Messrs. Spencer and Marks, comedians, meet with much applause; Miss Lizzie Hand, comedienne, has many admirers; the Tiger Lily, acrobatic dancer, is worthy of praise, and Mr. Barry Stave, musical comedian, goes well. The Bio-photoscope is, as usual, greatly enjoyed.

NORTHWICH.—THE PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Glanmore Jones.—An excellent programme is provided this week by the Seven Star Cadets, who are without doubt a splendid combination. Their solos, duets, trios, quartettes, and choruses are all well rendered, and the voices blend beautifully. Mr. Alf. B. Millard is a first-class comedian and mimic; Mr. Edgar Clements is a very acceptable society entertainer; Mr. Fearon Fallows a good descriptive vocalist; and other items are supplied by Bert Dean, boy vocalist; Tom E. King, the little lump of fun; Witty Will White, a quaint comedian; and Mr. Arthur Bruce, who posseses an excellent bass voice, and is also an accomplished pianist.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Miss Louise Esmond's company, in *The Sorrows of Satan*, is here this week, and much appreciated. Mr. Edward Neville portrays the character of Prince Lucio with marked ability; Mr. F. Douglas Howard as Geoffrey Pernpeul is successful; and Mr. J. Le Fleming as the Earl of Elton and Mr. Charles Nemair as Amiel are excellent in their respective parts; Mr. Fred Cherry is amusing as Morris; Miss Ethel St. Barbe charmingly appears as Mavio Clare; and Miss Loie Esmond is equally attractive as Ciana Chesney, Miss Rosie Neville making an admirable Lady Sybil.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. N. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—A capital programme is presented this week. The Klein Family give a wonderful show as trick cyclists; Mendel, the blind pianist, always a favourite in Norwich, gains added popularity; Johnny Holland and company give an amusing sketch, *New Milk for Breakfast*; Jas. Agerstin and Annie Hartley are clever in their barrel act; Tom Moore is a capital comedian; Thornbury is good in his painting act in sand, smoke, and oil; and George Brooks is well received for his various songs. The Hippo Bio. is also good.

AGRICULTURAL HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—The Canadian pictures are still here exhibiting some very interesting and amusing pictures; Miss Florence Correll renders some pleasing ballads.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—A well selected company, under the auspices of Mr. Gerrard Grant Allen, presents the successful farce, *The New Boy*. Mr. Leon M. Lion is a comedian of a very high order, and revels in the opportunities afforded him in this play, and is well played up to by Miss Katherine Harrington, who as Martha demonstrates an exceptional capacity for comedy acting; Miss Nellie Redwood looks very sweet, and plays the ingénue part of Nancy Roach faultlessly; Mr. Harry Ashford, in style, manner, and appearance is eminently adapted for the rôle of Doctor Candy, and misses none of the many points of by-play which the part calls for; Mr. George de Lara fills the part of Felix Roach with commendable distinction, and Mr. William J. Rea does well as Theodore de Brizac; while Mr. Stanley Logan is good as Bullock, and the remaining small parts are fittingly taken care of by Messrs. M. A. Scott and W. Corneille and Miss Beatrice Manning. A very drmatic curtain-raiser by Leon M. Lion and W. S. Hall precedes the farce. It is called *Meg the Mobswoman*, and gives an excellent opportunity to Miss Katharine Harrington, of which she makes all possible use, being ably supported by Mr. Harry Ashford.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—Mr. Hy. Swinerd's company present the successful musical comedy, *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Miss Dorothy Desmonde, a bright and vivacious actress, fills the title-rôle in a most efficient manner, and is very ably supported by Miss Pauline Emerie as Ruth Montrose; very clever actresses and very sweet singers are Misses Mabel and Lily Blake, and they fill the rôles respectively of Polly and Rose Ann very ably; as Captain George Fielding, Mr. Walter Ashley has a very congenial part, and Mr. H. C. Ward does well as Captain Edward Dudley; while as Featherstone Haugh Mr. Dean Cliffe is thoroughly at home; Mr. William C. Hearson, Mr. Crossley Taylor, and Mr. Harry Ugar, by their entire appreciation of the comedy of the various situations add no little to the success of the piece; in Mr. Walter Boyce is found a thoroughly capable General Garston, and Miss Lily Harcourt makes excellent use of her opportunities as Judith. Some very clever specialty turns and tuneful vocal numbers are provided by Misses Desmonde, Harcourt, and Blake and Miss Pauline Emerie and Mr. Harry Ugar.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—A really artistic and at the same time amusing turn is presented by Bella and Bijou, whose appearance, singing, acting and comedy, are all of the highest order. The second attraction in an excellent programme consists of Charles Fisher's pocket opera company in a novel musical speciality, *The Music Masters*, in which splendid use is made of first-class opportunities by Messrs. Fisher and Dwyer, and Mlle. Lusano; a very quaint comedian is J. W. Hall, and his appearance always heralds an outburst of hearty laughter and applause, whilst very little if anything behind him in mirth-provoking ability comes George Reeves; My Fancy, billed as the "Queen of Sand Dancers," has every claim to the title; whilst the dancing of La Berat, as the mystic fire maiden, is in truth indescribable; Drew and Alders have a new sketch, *The Coastguards*, which, in the hands of these clever artists goes with a rush from start to finish; the Six Lancashire Lasses give a meritorious performance of clog dancing, whilst their singing is of exceptional power and sweetness. A good series of films on the American Bioscope concludes the programme.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—*The Prodigal Parson* is here on a first visit. Mr. W. V. Garrod as the Vicar of Grassleigh plays well; as Ben Jaggins, Mr. George Allen is well received; Miss Bertha Kingston as the Vicar's wife is successful, her musical numbers being given in a pleasing style; Mr. Paul Beckett's conception of Enoch Jaggins is good; the comic element is brought out fully by Mr. Owen Remond and Miss Sybil Hammersley as Paul Drive and Gretchen.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Fred Karno's vaudeville company is here in *Early Birds, Mumming Birds*, and a new sketch entitled *London Suburbia*. The artists work splendidly, and hearty laughter is provoked by the efforts of the popular comedians, who include Miss Ada Whitaker, Mrs. Amy Forrest, and Messrs. Syd Chaplin, Jim Russell, Johnny Doyle, G. Craig, and A. Forrest. Other turns include De Biere, in some marvellous mystical feats; Alfred Agoust, in Jugglomania; the Four Regals in feats of strength; Keith and Kent, a capital comedy duo; Cissy Esdaile, a dainty comedienne and dancer; and Ed. E. Ford, the Australian Sundowner, who causes hearty laughter.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Mr. Frank Ayrton and company are here with *The Power of Gold*. Miss Amy McNeill appears as Lady Brandon, and she acts in a powerful manner; Miss Lily Prescott plays well as the persecuted heroine; Little Prudence as Paddy Blake, with song, is very good; as is Miss Hetty Laytine as Sister Marie; Miss Seymour as Norah Donnelly and Mr. Frank Ayrton as Sammy Smudge are capital, and cause much hearty laughter with their acting and songs; Mr. R. F. Stacy is very good as Paul Judson; Mr. George Lyttleton as Hadgi Zambra infuses sufficient villainy into the part; Mr. Richard Harris as Mark Harley, a "wrong 'un," is also very good, and Mr. Frank Holyoake does well as Dr. Saunders, and Mr. W. Victor is good as Peter Maguire.

OXFORD. — EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill; Managers, Mr. Frank Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill.—Miss Lydia Donovan is presenting her company here this week in *Her One Great Sin*. Mr. Jack Armitage depicts the villain, Arnold Thornhill, with much vigour, and Mr. John Cecil gives a meritorious performance as the injured husband, Reuben Warhurst; Mr. Charles E. Lambert as Fan Hundle and Mr. J. Groudace as Jack Hundle are both highly successful. The honours of the evening undoubtedly fall to Mr. Fred Hodson, whose humorous antics as Jerry Jumble are the cause of considerable laughter; Miss Louie Walton does well as Bet Hundle; Miss Nellie Lambert is full of life as Nancy Winpenny; Miss Phyllis Damian is a realistic Charlie; and Miss Maudie Lambert a charming Grace; Miss Lydia Donovan deserves all praise for her sympathetic and capable rendering of Grace Warhurst, a character which she endows with charm and dignity.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Langdon Lee.—This week Mr. Charles Macdona's company presents *Veronique*. Mr. Daley Cooper, who is warmly received as Monsieur Coquenard, convulses the house with merriment; Miss Mabel Lait as Veronique acts and sings delightfully, and looks the part to perfection; Miss Stella St. Audrie as Countess de Champ d'Azur shows strong power of comedy; Miss Roberta Williams as Mme. Coquenard formed a good foil to her comical partner; Mr. Arthur Stroud as Florestan de Vallancourt, the *fiancé* of Veronique, sings charmingly; Miss Elsie Probyn (Denise), Mr. Sidney Bracey (Seraphin), and Mr. Oliver J. Round (Monsieur Loustot) contribute in so slight manner to the success of the piece, which is admirably staged.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Neil Kenyon, patter comedian, gives a very humorous turn, his stories being full of wit; Gertie Gitana is a graceful dancer, and possesses a voice of exceptional range; Lyster and Cooke play a number of novel instruments; Bert Shepherd gives parodies of well-known songs in a very funny maner; Athas and Collins give pleasure by their clever contribution; Robert Williams, sword expert, Dan Conroy, and the Society Quartette complete an excellent programme.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.—The sensational melodrama, *The Biggest Scamp on Earth*, is staged by Miss Florence Delaval's strong company. Mr. Frederick Scarth played the part of Derrick Knight, and Miss Frances Delaval the wife of Derrick Knight with great success.

PORTH.—THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—The turns appearing here are as follows:—The Westwoods, in a smart and daring cycle act; Snowball and Dolia, American comedy artists; Zanfretta and Napio, musical eccentrics; Moley Woolstenhulme, operatic vocalist; Prince Ishmael, magician, assisted by Mlle. Valeria; Cliff and Keanin, comedy and dancing act; *The Woman With the Red Hair*, played by Webster Lawson and Minnie Sadler; George Rapley, character comedian; Cim Maree, Indian contortionist; The Sivanes, dancers; and the Palace Bioscope.

PORTSMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Miss Marie Studholme, supported by an excellent company, is here this week with *My Darling*. Miss Studholme's reception on Monday evening by a house filled in every part was of a most gratifying description, and her impersonation of Ivy Blossom was a charming and vivacious performance; Miss Ethel Negretti as Daphne Bell was highly successful, singing her numbers in pleasing style; Lady Heldon was played with great cleverness by Miss Alice Barth; Sylvanie and Mrs. Pomeroy Green were effectively taken by Messrs. Stanley Ronalds and Watt Tanner; the Hon. Jack Hylton was well acted by Mr. J. Robert Hale; Maurice Le Blanc was sustained by Mr. Alexander Chentrens with distinction; Sir Henry Heldon was depicted by Mr. J. F. McArdle in a drily humorous manner; and Messrs. Frank Hector (Sir James Jagg), Tom Graves (Oddy), Archie McCaig (Spick), and others, all played their several parts in praiseworthy fashion. The scenery was effective and the dresses charming.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—The always popular drama, *The Silver King*, is being presented here this week by Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's London company. Mr. Herbert Ford, as Wilfrid Denver, plays naturally and with praiseworthy care; Nellie Denver finds a thoroughly capable and pathetic exponent in Miss Viola Holland; the gentlemanly scoundrel, Captain Skinner, alias "The Spider," is ably taken by Mr. Henderson Bland; the kind-hearted old servant Daniel Jaikes, is a conspicuous success in the hands of Mr. Tom Paulton; Mr. John Detliv is a capital Elijah Combe; and Mr. Edmund Beresford does well as Henry Corket. Miss Brineta Brown is excellent as Olive Skinner; Miss Marie Syndon does good work as Tabitha Durden, and Cissy is intelligently played by little Genna Lyndon. The numerous other parts are well sustained.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Captain Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Phil Ray, the popular patter comedian, is the chief attraction here for the week, and creates great merriment; Sisters Lavander are a bright and tuneful pair of duettists and dancers; Donnas Trio give a clever balancing trapeze act; the Firmans, in comedy scena, *The Fire Station*, are diverting; Herbert Madden is a vocal comedian of ability; Spry and Monti, in an effective combination of wit and humour, give a capital turn; Kittee Rayburn is smart, and scores well; Cissie Dryden, in scena, "Tommy with the Rifle," is well received; Elton and Edwin are exceedingly clever banjoists; Smith and Johnson, the cultured coloured couple, are as capable as ever; Payne's Bioscope supplies pictures of more than usual excellence; and Ethel Hillary, soubrette and danseuse, completes a long and successful programme.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Topping a capital bill here for the week, Mr. Alec Hurley, the artistic coster delineator, gives several of his well-known numbers, and supported by his company in an amusing sketch, *The Costers' Friendly Lead*, greatly amuses the audience; Miss Josie Delaine, in pretty song scena, does well; Mr. Will Driscoll is a diverting comedian and capital dancer; Miss Flo Cecil, comedienne and dancer, also does good work; Kendrick and Laura are clever entertainers; Mr. James Fawn is extremely popular, and Miss Florrie Gallimore sang with great effect; Tudor's ponies supplied an excellent turn, in lieu of Kartelli, wire equilibrist, who did not appear; Miss Florence Deighton, an agreeable vocalist, and the Hippo Pictures wind up a good all-round programme.

RADCLIFFE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—The proprietors own production, *The Showman*, has been the attraction this week. Mr. G. T. Santé being unwell, his son, Frank, takes the leading part, Brien Leader, and acts very creditably. The Circus scene and other excellent features introduced have been to the liking of large audiences. The company is an excellent one. Mr. C. Osborne is successful as Sir Noel; and Mr. M. Maud is an effective villain. Agatha Winter has an able exponent in Miss Medwyn; and the juveniles, Miss Lizzie Power and Master H. Warden, do excellently; Miss Bamford, as Brien's wife, and the humorous characters are also praiseworthy.

RAMSGATE.—AMPHITHEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Large audiences gathered at the Amphitheatre on the first three evenings of the week to witness splendid performances of *The Duchess of Dantzic* by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. Miss Georgina Delmar did well with the attractive part of Sans Gêne, and Mr. Frank Bradley scored a big success as Napoleon; the character of Marechal Lefebvre found a talented representative in Mr. Marshall Vincent; Mr. C. Burrunston Williams acted admirably as the young lover, Adhémar; Mr. Ernest Cossart was a most entertaining Papillon; Miss Daisy Kersey a charming Renee; and the other parts were skilfully sustained by the members of a strong cast. The interpretation of the principal musical numbers was received with unstinted applause. On Wednesday Mr. Wilson Benge's company commenced a three nights' engagement with the domestic drama, *The Eve of Her Wedding*, Miss Sadie Smith taking the principal feminine part—that of Mavis Leverton.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Ramsgate Coroporation; Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jules Richeux.—"Big business" has been the order here this week, Mr. Charles Macdona's company occupying the boards with the mirthful musical comedy, *Mr. Popple of Ippleton*. Mr. Edwin Brett has a first-rate reception from appreciative audiences for his clever assumption of the part of Freddy Popple, and Mr. Louis du Cane is an excellent Norman; Mr. Sydney Courtnay (George Hannay) and Henry Chichester (Henry Doring) contribute in large measure to the success of the production and other impersonations carried out in most satisfactory fashion are those by Mr. Francis Kayne (Jacques) and Tom May (Platt). Miss Emmeline Orford makes a great hit as the fascinating La Bolero, and the Misses Kate Graham Beck (Mrs. Doring) and Ella Daincourt (Mrs. Hennay) are excellent in their respective parts; Miss Raynor Golden (Violet Brinton) makes a most satisfactory appearance. The comedy is mounted in the best of style, and the production certainly bears the impress of general excellence.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode.—This week's attractions include the Edgertons, with a daring and sensational aerial trapeze performance; Mme. Rene, who shows dexterity as a juggler; Johnson and Bert, in a novel act, entitled *A Queer Customer;* the Sisters Varley, harmonising duettists; Roy Beavis, in some clever conjuring tricks; and Brady and Johnson, with their clever and amusing sketch, *Turning the Tables*. The Imperial Bioscope pictures are quite up to date, and include views of S. F. Edge's recent twenty-four hours' motor ride on the Brooklands track.

RHYL.—QUEEN'S PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Fred Benton.—*Raffles* is being played here by Mr. Reginald Dance's company, Mr. Dance giving a masterly impersonation of the title-rôle. Miss Katie Yates imparts sympathetic charm to her part of Gwendoline Conron; Mr. Edward Irwin acts with commendable effect as Curtis Bedford; Harry Manders has a clever exponent in Mr. Brisco Owen; Mr. C. R. Bertram is well placed as Crawshay; and Lady Melrose is finely interpreted by Miss Mildred Orme. Others taking prominent parts in the play are Miss May Brook, Miss Rita Ward, Miss Constance Hamilton, Mr. S. Lathbury, and Mr. Oswald Griffiths. For the latter end of the week Mr. Thomas Sidney's company, in *The Marriage of Kitty*, is billed.

NEW AMPHITHEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott. — The great event this week is the appearance of Malcolm Scott, whose quaint vocalism and mannerisms create roars of laughter; Tom Stuart again appears in his representations of characters from the works of Dickens, &c.; Harriet Greene, soprano; Percy Galino, comedian; Jack Macdermott, and J. A. Tunbridge, accompanist, are all successful.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*Sergeant Brue* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Robert Crossman sends a capital company. Mr. Arthur Reynolds is the life and soul of the comedy in the title-rôle; Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy is conspicuous in the part of Michael Brue; Mr. Chas. Sims is seen to advantage as Mr. Crank; and Mr. Maitland Marler is excellently placed as Crookie Scrubbs. Miss Daisy Dale is a winsome Aurora Brue; Miss Marian Hargrave a typical Daisy; and Miss Mary Hay a charming Lady Bickenhall.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Smith and Co.—Pringle's North American Animated Picture company is still here with fresh pictures, which are thoroughly enjoyed by good houses. Variety turns are submitted by Mlle. Florizel, contortionist and gymnast, and the Cymros, Welsh comedy duettists.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—The Albano Troupe head the programme here this week, their refined and tasteful performance of various musical instruments winning enthusiastic appreciation. The Two Errols submit some clever leaping; and other attractions include Olga and Ivan, quick-change dancers; Fred Mason, whistling comedian; Brothers Obo, comedians and patterers; Marie St. John, descriptive vocalist; Charles Vincent, comedian; and the Bioscope.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company is here with *The Female Swindler*. Mr. Joseph Millane gives a thoughtful rendition of the part of John Coulson; and Mr. Frank Woodville is smart as Abraham Mikestein. Mr. Henry Wright is very clever in the quadruple parts of the peer, Billy Binks, the Scotsman, and the Washerwoman; and Mr. D. Winstow scores as Detective Dixon; Mr. A. Kenyon Gray, as James Oliver, and Mr. Stanley Radcliffe as Geoffrey Warden are also deserving of mention; Miss Edith Gray is amusing as Mrs. Poppen, and Miss Jessica Ford is very smart as Mary Ann Mee; Miss Cecila Dare is pleasing as May Andrews, and Miss Madge Girdlestone gives a powerful portrayal of the rôle of Lu Valroy, the title-rôle.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Constant; Business-Manager, Mr. William Collard.—One of the most attractive engagements of the season here has just been completed with the visit of Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *The Belle of Mayfair*. The company is a very capable one. Mr. Stephen Hall fills the rôle of the Earl of Mount Highgate in smart fashion; Mr. Sidney Burt is greatly popular as Sir John Chaldicott; and Mr. S. Ravenscroft's singing and acting as the Hon. Raymond leave nothing to be desired. As Julia Chaldicott, Miss Winifred Preece performs with rare charm, and her graceful singing is encored; Miss Nancy York makes a sprightly Pincott; Miss Constance Stevens does admirably as Lady Chaldicott; Miss Denny Fitzherbert submits a telling impersonation of the Princess; Miss Grace Mackay brings down the house with her Gibson poses; Mr. Michael Raven sings with effect as Hugh Meredith; and Mr. Edwin Oxlee submits a typical Frenchman. The chorus sing remarkably well, and are ably directed by Mr. Caffyn Baxter.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. J. Herbert Jay; Manager, Mr. E. L. Furst.—This house is well maintaining its popularity, and the Pelicans again submit their interesting and diversified programme. Miss Nellie Bowman is prominent among a clever company. Mr. Arthur Roberts and his vaudeville company fulfil a three days' engagement this week.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*In the Shadow of Night*, with its exciting incidents, including a real water river scene at the end, is a great attraction. Mr. George Harvey presents the Squire, John Allington, with effect; Gordon Allington has a fitting exponent in Mr. H. Dobell Lyle, who creates a good impression; Mr. Charles Clifford's villain, Clifford Yorke, is a good piece of work; Mr. Wm. Hayward gives a clever study of Jake Grudgewell, a poacher; Mr. James Ingledew is a typical farmer as James Woodstock; Bob, a little tramp, is excellently played by Miss Phyllis French; and much sympathy is extended to Violet Kingston, ably presented by Miss Nina Westerleigh. Fun is contributed by Mr. H. Belmore as Tom Nainby and Miss Tina Shaw as Molly Woodstock, and by Mr. Cecil Raymond, who duplicates a postman and a parson.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—This pretty theatre looks exceedingly well after its renovation, in which much artistic taste has been displayed. Fred Kitchen as Perkins "in possession" in Fred Karno's latest creation, *The Bailiff*, is a great draw, and keeps the large house in roars. The company also includes Albert Bruno, Herbert Landeck, Harry Lappo, T. Ellis Buxton, Madge Rockingham, Jessie Crammonde, Aggie Morris, and Kate Foster, who give smart support. A clever vocal and instrumental comedy act by Sterling and Love (Leo and Addie) is enthusiastically applauded; Mack Ollive, assisted by Daisy Baldry, in his candy store whistling scena; Harry Fife, comedian; and Three Tivoli Girls, vocalists and dancers, also appear and give much pleasure.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—The Kurios, in their "Komical Koncoction of Komicalities," head the bill this week, and keep the house in roars of laughter; Drum and Major, in their comedy act, are much applauded; Gillis has a humorous ventriloquial performance; good business is done by the Columbia Coloured Coons, in their "plantation pastimes"; Howard and Townsend (Maude and Madge) have some pleasing duets; Lovelaces illustrated songs go well; and other good turns include Goggin and Davies, versatile comedy acrobats; Burns and Bentley, vaudeville artists and dancers; and the Moules, bone soloists.

STRETFORD PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Sidney Weatherilt; Manager, Mr. Fred Erick.—Good business is being done here this week, among the attractions being Zaxina, Leon and Leoni, and Mentis Bros.

SALISBURY.—COUNTY HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—Mr. Charles Macdona's chief company opened here on Monday for the first half of the week in *The Gay Parisienne*. In the title-rôle Miss Alice Nixon gives a very bright and winning representation; Miss Holford Beringer makes a capital Mrs. Honeycomb; Miss Madge Soutter as Ruth scored a huge success, and was loudly applauded; Mr. Will Harman as Mr. Honeycombe was very clever; and kept the audience in roars of laughter; Mr. Shirley Lea as Major Fosdyke was highly successful; Mr. C. H. Biddulph makes a good Barrister; Mr. Charles D. Cleveland as M. Pompier dances and acts in a very lively way; Mr. J. Fitzjames is well placed as Hans. The quartettes are faultlessly rendered by the Imperial Glee Singers.

MR. THOMAS FOSSETT'S CIRCUS is on tour in this district, and visited Tisbury Saturday, Dinton Monday, Hindon Tuesday, and is meeting with good audiences, the programme presented being very creditable to the performers, especially some smart juggling feats and the flying rings and trapeze acts. The horses and ponies were all in splendid style, and performed some wonderfully interesting turns.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Son; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—Mr. Wm. Greet's company is paying a farewell visit here with *The Earl and the Girl* for three nights. Mr. Wm. Stephens is in his old part as Jim Cheese, and is as good as ever; Mr. Thomas Kennard as Dick Wargrave sings delightfully and acts well; as Mr. A. Bunker Bliss, Mr. H. Courtin is admirable; Miss Chrissie Ralland as Elphin Haye has a sweet voice and a pleasing manner; and as Liza Shoddam Miss Jennie Richards has paid a great deal of attention, and is life-like in the part of a strolling player.

SPA THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. Fras. Goodricke.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company in *Robin Hood* opened on Monday. Mr. Ethelbert Edwards, in the title-rôle, gave a most commendable and masterly performance; Miss Fyfe Alexander as Maid Marian was very effective, Miss Barbara Hannay as Marian's maid, Adela, acted perfectly; the humorous part is well supplied by Mr. Augustus Wheatman; Mr. E. B. Clarke as Prince John was exceedingly good; Mr. H. Ellis Ball as Hugo de Longespee gave a capital performance; and Mr. H. Lasmere as Richard Cœur de Lion acted with great care.

THE AQUARIUM. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The vocalist for the week is Mr. H. E. Cookson, who has a delightful bass voice; the Arthur Saxon Trio is one of the most attractive turns seen here this season; Helm and Cozens' comedy act, *The Dr. and the Patient*, causes much amusement; G. W. Nicholson, the Yorkshire humorist, receives his usual welcome; Olive as a tramp on stilts supplies plenty of humour; the Maximillian Trio, equilibrists, are a centre of attraction; Hyman Long, musical comedian and illusionist, has always something original to say and do; Celest, in an original wire act, is up to the usual standard of excellence; Stilvo and a performing dog are well received; the Cheers and their performing cats are decidedly clever; the Calcotts, in musical scena, prove themselves to be accomplished artists; Prof. Jennion's electric fantoches gives his entertainment during the day, as does the Imperial Bioscope; and Mlle. Marie Levante's orchestra of lady instrumentalists.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Garside; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—*When Woman Hates* is being played here by Mr. Bulmer's company. Miss Chrissie Dunbar as Cora Daintry does full justice to the part; as Lieut. Rokeby, Mr. Fred Lloyd plays with rare force and earnestness; Miss May Gladys Hawthorn as his wife is vigorously expressive; Mr. Eustace Day as Godfrey Lawton does well; Mr. T. C. Glenville as Col. Hiram Vancutson is successful; Mr. Evan Rolan as Patrick O'Brien assists in the mirth department; and Little Ruby Sutherland as a child-actress is full of ability.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Geo. Zalva.—This is the second week of the production of the water carnival, or *The Village Wedding*, an aquatic entertainment produced in the arena. Harry Friskey, comedian and clown, is always a great favourite; the Florias, in their comedy wire act, are original and good; Mlle. Chlole Convere and W. Lloyd are still retained in the equestrian part of the programme; Mlle. Rosini and her toy menagerie are well received; and Hinton and Wootton play football on bicycles. There is a good series of animated pictures.

CARRICK'S PIERROTS, GRAND HOTEL SKATING RINK.—Large crowds are attracted here daily, and are treated to all degrees of variation in musical production, and all the latest songs are well sung by pierrots with well-trained voices.

CATLIN'S PIERROTS, NORTH AND SOUTH SANDS.—Mr. Catlin and his troupes are drawing immense crowds daily. Change of programme is given at every performance by artists of excellent abilities.

NORTH PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Will Ellerslie.—A capital programme is provided here, including a burlesque sketch, entitled, *The Romance of a Pudding*, in which Mr. Ellerslie appears. Waifs and Strays and Whizzing the Whirl are also produced. Prof. H. W. Pickles, conjurer and entertainer, also appears, with other artists, and concludes with animated pictures.

WESTBOROUGH.—Sacco is here doing a 52 days' fast. He is in his fourteenth day to-day, and is looking well, and seems likely to continue so.

SHEERNESS.—THE HIPPODROME. — General-Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—An entertaining programme here comprises Hayes and Merritt, in a series of skilful aer

mer, Miss Beatrice Smith's Princess de Castagnecy, Miss Gwenneth Galton's Lady Lerode, Miss Dorothy Moore-Lane's Mrs. Renneck, and Miss Mary Sumner's Dora Longman. The comedy was sumptuously staged.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company is doing good business here with *The Face at the Window*. Mr. Gilbert Hall is an actor of versatility and resource, and his assumption of the character of Le Loup is full of interest and dramatic surprises. Miss Mary Barrett is a graceful representative of Marie de Brisson; Miss Newcombe makes a pretty and sprightly Barbette; and the comic relief is supplied in abundance by Mr. Alfred Warne, as Peter Pattleberry. During the summer recess this theatre has been thoroughly overhauled and redecorated.

Alexandra Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The well-constructed and altogether admirable domestic drama, *The Midnight Mail*, was again played to a crowded and enthusiastic audience on Monday by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company. The scenery was artistic and the acting all round was quite up to the mark. Mr. George Harvard repeated his robust and natural performance of the foolish but ultimately reformed engine-driver, Harry Steyne; Mr. Donald Craig submitted a clever sketch of character as the Railway Director; Miss Ada Oakley won the warm sympathies of the house as the suffering but loyal wife, Mary Steyne; Miss Mildred Carr was excellent as Nancy; and all the other parts were well played. The railway scenes and the "ever-open door" episodes were loudly applauded.

Empire Palace.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The company this week includes Mr. Mark Sheridan, the favourite eccentric comedian; Little Ganty, a deserved local favourite, with new songs and gags; Miss Esta Stella, a bright, graceful, and piquant vocalist and dancer; Conn and Conrad, the "quiet burglars"; the Bros. Dean, dancers; Rossi Ashton, a smart sketchist, &c.; the American Bioscope, with dramatic films; and the popular Boissett Troupe, in their screaming pantomimic absurdity, *The Bricklayers*.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—The favourite actor, Mr. Algernon Syms, and Mr. N. Watts-Phillips's company are appearing to well pleased audiences in *Murder Will Out*, and a laughable farce. Other clever entertainers are Kemp and Harris, vocalists and patter merchants; Mr. Chris Baker, comedian; Dale and Vale, variety artists; and Miss Marie Neilson, serio-comic and dancer. In addition there are the popular grand animated pictures, gay, grave, and fantastic.

Central Hall.—Proprietors, The Jasper Redfern Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—Here are appearing Dan Leno, the son of good old Dan of that ilk; Harry Zetta, comedian; Mr. J. Graham, ventriloquist; supplemented by the usual pictures of current events, including the "Dreadnaught" Inspection, Lady Godiva's Ride at Coventry, &c.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—Presented by Mr. C. Hamilton Baines, Mr. H. Keates Hales' company is here this week with *The Pet of the Embassy*, a pleasing musical comedy brightly produced. Miss Ethel Dunford sings sweetly and acts gracefully in the title-rôle; Miss Florence Watson is attractive and tuneful as Dorothy Stanley; Miss Marion Ellis is clever and amusing as Mrs. Pamela Bung; Miss Marjorie Crofton as Maud is bright and successful; Mr. Albert E. Good is a very droll Palatine Brown; Mr. Laurence Wensley acts capably and sings with fine effect as Eric Brown; Mr. James Burt makes a creditable Horatio Jukes; Mr. Walter Champney is full of life and fun as John William Bung; Mr. J. H. Weekes merits considerable praise as François; Mr. Guy Blythe as Ali is a picturesque Indian messenger; and numerous minor rôles are all satisfactorily taken. The Embassy Dancers enliven the piece, and the chorus is powerful and well trained.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—The second visit of *The Blue Moon* is very successful, Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company being again responsible for the presentation. Miss Clarice Lockstone is a charming singer and actress, and wins golden opinions for her portrayal of Chandra Nil. Mr. J. E. Fraser plays the part of Jack Ormsby very cleverly; Mr. Horace Manger is very good as Bobbie Scott; and Mr. Alfred Clark gives a clever assumption of the part of Major Vivian Callabone; Mr. Alfred Beers scores a great success as Moolraj; and Mr. Reginald Switz is popular as Private Chas. Taylor; while Miss Ida Stratham is attractive as Evelyn Ormsby.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wm. Trussell.—John Kurkamp, the American singing conductor, and his harpist, Chapman, are very popular, their novel performance being well applauded. The Robertys Family of equilibrists are very smart, and give a strong show. Lilian Lowe is a capital vocalist; Spangles and Sawdust are agile gymnasts; and G. W. Foster, comedian; Williams and Warden, patterists and dancers; Six Idols, dancers; and Vaughan and Williams, in a farcical sketch, *Willie off the Yacht*, also appear with great success.

Hippodrome.—Joint-Managers, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—Sam Mayo is starring her, and his quaint songs are nightly received with enthusiasm. F. V. St. Clair extemporises on a variety of topics, and is immensely popular; Les Sousloffs are wonderful whirlwind dancers; Talberto and Douglas excel in an acrobatic speciality; Daisy Davidson sings beautifully; and others who contribute are Mr. and Mrs. Payte, in an amusing sporting trifle, *Also Ran*; Carney and Armstrong, comedy duo; and the Sisters Lytton.

Pier Pavilion.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait.—"The Gaieties," under the direction of Mr. Chas. Conyer and Mr. Wilson James, provided the entertainment on the opening three days of the week, and the "Scarlet Mr. E's" and their jester appeared with success during the latter three days. Mr. Walter Dowling, the jester, is a first-class comedian, and keeps the audience in roars of laughter with his funny sallies of wit and wisdom.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—Empire Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Mr. George Dance provided a really enjoyable attraction the first half of this week in *The Beauty of Bath*, and a strong company won golden opinions for their admirable presentation, which drew immense crowds. Some of the singing was received most rapturously, while the choruses gained their share of merit. Capital portrayals of Lieut. Richard Allington, R.N., and Mr. Beverley by Messrs. Andrew Higginson and Bay Russell provoked hearty laughter; Messrs Fredk. C. Leister and Reggie Grey were able exponents of Viscount Bellingham and Lord Quorn; Master Basil Clifford made himself very popular as Lemon Goodge; Miss Edith Cruickshanks as Mrs. Allington gave satisfaction; and Miss Ida Laurie caused great hilarity as Mrs. Goodge. The title-rôle was entrusted to Miss Gladys Guy, who endeared herself to all by a finished and graceful interpretation.—Mr. R. Macdonald's company is appearing in *The Dairymaids* for the remaining half of this week.

The Kursaal.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—Plenty of good amusement is again obtainable for this week, great interest being centred in the theatre, where the capital diversified programme gets a hearty reception. The chief attraction is undoubtedly the exceptionally clever and daring aerial flights by Aerian and Ostara, whose reputation of last season is more than maintained; the Nine Cotton Coons add to their two previous weeks' successes, their retention being most popular; Professor Garford is a funny clown, and amuses with his performing dogs and pigeons; Tricks shows much ingenuity as a magician, and both this turn and that of a similar nature given by Mr. A. W. Reed are well received; Les Fleurs, dainty soubrette dancers and singers, please immensely, as also does Harry Lynx, a popular comedian and dancer; Miss Rene Ring dances and sings well, and Bioscope pictures conclude, new films making a really enjoyable item. Mme Rosetta has been retained for the Café Chantant, where a creditable programme is provided by her Eight English Belles, assisted by Mr. Charles Cornish.

Pier Pavilion.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—This week's programme commences in the morning with beautiful animated pictures, which are produced by Pathé Frere's management, and are shown at intervals throughout the day. The programme has an additional attraction in the delightful music under the direction of the talented Miss Zoe Lynn. The special concerts of Sunday were contributed to by Miss Denise Orme, who proved highly entertaining.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Coulson.—Messrs. Garside and Knowles's company is appearing in the drama, *Her Marriage Vow*. Consummate ability is shown by Mr. Edward L. Garside in his impersonation of the villain, Gilbert Carlton. The heroine, Kate Walters, is artistically portrayed by Miss Ruth Shepherd. Hester Norton is adequately represented by Miss Nellie Shirley; Mr. George Beverley is a manly Ned Benton; Mr. J. Forbes Knowles, as Daffy Dan, depicts the character excellently. The light comedy of the piece is well accounted for by Mr. Wilford Bailey as Eben Chubb, and Miss Anna Beaumont as Almira. The broader comedy parts are well sustained by Mr. Dan Ryan as Larry Leary (with song) and Miss Nellie Garside as Maggie Clare.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, The South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—The head of the bill is the Jackson Family, in a refined musical act in which they use a variety of instruments in presenting excerpts from the masters. The bouncing Dillons give a good show, and there is a bouncing competition amongst amateurs, which causes much merriment. Gus Garrick contributes a versatile show, his music-hall tit-bits being clever. Collins and Rice are seen in a good comedy sketch. The Falcons are good acrobatic equilibrists. Vernando, the ventriloquial barber; Irene Rose, comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope, complete a good bill.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—One of the strongest attractions which has visited the Cambridge for a considerable time is here this week in the shape of *Two Little Vagabonds*, played by Hardie and Von Leer's company to crowded houses, and on Monday a large audience evinced the keenest interest and delight in the capable presentation. Miss Winifred Williamson as Dick and Miss Ethel Frances Greene as Wally are both seen to great advantage; Miss Georgina Wynter plays Marion Thornton with much histrionic ability; Mr. Arthur E. Melborne meets with much praise for his sterling assumption of the part of George Thornton; as Barbara Scarth Miss Madge Severne submits a really pleasing performance; Mr. T. Lionel Ellis appears with success as the Gaffer, and he is admirably supported by Miss Violet Vivian as Biddy Mullins, and by Messrs. Stanley Field and Harry G. Wright as Dido Bunce and the Coughdrop respectively.

STOCKPORT. — Theatre Royal and Opera House. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun.—*Home, Sweet Home* is the attraction for the Wakes week, and Mr. Frank Lindo and company have had a cordial reception from large audiences. A powerful impersonation of Stephen Armitage is given by Mr. Frank Lindo; as David Armitage Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle acts efficiently, and Mr. F. Miles Hodgson makes a thoroughly capable Lucas Lyle; Captain Gerald Gambier is a dignified Duke of Ancaster; Mr. Danvers a pleasing Dr. Granby; and Joan is sympathetically portrayed by Miss Marion Wakeford.

Empire. — Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—The premier position on the bill here is occupied by Arthur Watson, Flo Stanley, and their comedy company in an amusing sketch, *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*. Others appearing are The Cumberlands, in an exceedingly clever cycle act; Madge Grey, comedienne, a genuine favourite; Barrington, in his freak performance at the piano; Florence Schuberth, a charming burlesque artist; and Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls's company in *The Battle of the Belles*.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Hippodrome Theatre.—General-Manager, Robt. A. Nicholson; Assistant-Manager, Geo. Stainton.—An entire change of programme is presented this week. Mr. Wilson Howard presents the Anglo-Russian drama, *Under the Czar*. The play is exceedingly well staged, the costumes are new and elaborate, and no expense has been spared to make the drama a brilliant success. The principal characters are ably and well sustained, special mention being made of Mr. Wilson Howard's dramatic skill.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—Harry Tate's company in *Motoring* heads the bill this week, and provides great amusement; Rose Cabani is a very refined comedienne and dancer; and Harry Bedford is well received for his humorous songs. Pete and Juno, coloured comedians, are exquisite dancers; while Larolo is undoubtedly "a clever man with funny ways." The Three Orros present a smart acrobatic performance, and are greatly appreciated; Raleigh Abrahams and company provide a boxing absurdity, *Fun in a Pawnshop*, causing great amusement. The pictures are humorous and interesting.

STOKE.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—Troba, as an equilibrist and juggler, is remarkably smart, his assistant also is very clever; Wild, Willie, and West, the bounding navvies, provide a smart, clever, and amusing act; Thorpe and company are seen in a capital sketch, viz., *My Burglar*, which is well acted throughout; Wyndham and Waters, in their sketch, *The Professor and His Pupil*, are much appreciated; Lily Sharplin is a mimic of ability; the Paragon Trio sing well and harmonise nicely; Blarney and Kennard, in their turn, are smart, the trained dogs introduced are also good; Percy Johnson is a comedian of merit; the pictures are excellent.

SUNDERLAND.—King's Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Curlo.—A full house assembled on Monday night to witness the interesting play, *Sunday*, presented by Mr. Louis Calvert's capable company. Mr. Leonard Pagden submits a polished and natural interpretation of the dual rôles of Colonel and Arthur Brinthorpe; Miss Nita Faydon's delineation of the title-rôle is a very pleasing and well diversified one; Mr. Ernest A. Douglas enacts the part of Tom Oxley creditably; Mr. Wm. H. Brougham is a bluff and effective Towzer; Mr. Sidney Rennef is excellent as Davy; Mr. James Hussey's impersonation of Lively is all that could be desired; and Mr. Alex Alves is admirable as Jacky. Miss Rosalind Ross scores as Mrs. Naresby. The scenery and staging are adequate.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—A special visit is being paid here by Mr. J. A. Campbell's *The Sin of Her Childhood* company. Mr. Frank Liston gives a smart and gentlemanly rendition of Capt. John Thornton; Mr. Wilson Summers as the crafty Stephen Haysel is successful; Mr. Guy Hastings is excellent as the Rev. Alan Grey; Mr. Hugh Brady scores as the rollicking Barney O'Reilly; Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam plays with considerable power as Mary Haysel; Miss Nellie Ring sings sweetly as Hanuth Spry; and Miss Clara Santley's Maria Haysel is all that is desired.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Thornton.—Mr. J. H. Tindle's animated pictures continue to interest the Wear-siders in a gratifying degree.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Rich. Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—A well-diversified bill is headed by the bright operetta, *Happy Holland*, with Jake Friedman as the moving spirit, Jakey Oodlevasal; Miss Florence Hunton is smart and dainty as Gretchen, singing her various numbers pleasingly; Mr. John Tudor renders excellent service as Pa Pa; Mr. Wal Philips's Silas Slick has sufficient American flavour; Mr. Leigh Elliss is amusing as Alphonso; and Miss Daisy Nelson looks well as Mrs. Slick. Brown and Leclerq, in *Black Justice*, are irresistibly funny; Lloyd's fine Siberian wolfhounds do some high jumping; Alice Blandford, billed as the "New Zealand Nightingale," warbles to the satisfaction of all; and the programme also includes Fred Hastings, comedian; Effie Stuart, Scotch comedienne and dancer; the Delomes, duettists and dancers; Sanford and Lyons, comedians; Irene Rose, comedienne; and the Bioscope pictures.

Palace of Varieties.—Lessees, The United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Browne and Stringer.—The principal position is this week held by Mr. W. J. Ashcroft, the "Solid Man," who is most favourably received. The Norman and Leonard trio score a success in their musical sketch, *The Itinerant*. Dusty Rhodes is amusing; Carlotta Lunn, comedienne; Earle and Melville, comedians; Natalia and Diana, aerial gymnasts; Harry Bent, mimic; Beautiful Lilian, trick cyclist; and the Pasquali Brothers, smart acrobats, also appear.

SWANSEA. — The Grand.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswaid Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—Mr. Monckton Hoffe's company is heartily welcomed back to the Grand, where *Lady Windermere's Fan* is being presented in first-class style. Miss Lydia Busch enhances the reputation she made here a fortnight ago by her talented impersonation of Mrs. Erlynne; as the Duchess of Berwick, Miss Maude Henderson is delightful; as is also Miss Nona Hoffe as Lady Windermere. The doll-like Lady Agatha Carlisle is in the excellent hands of Miss Maina Hearne, who does full justice to the rôle; Lady Plimdale and Lady Jedburgh are efficiently played by Miss Amy Lloyd-Desmond and Miss Hyam Twyson; the Rosalie of Miss Ella Kitson being also good. Lord Windermere is admirably played by Mr. Monckton Hoffe, who has made himself greatly liked; Lord Darlington is realistically represented by Mr. H. Lane Bailiff; as is also Lord Augustus Lorton by Mr. Ralph W. Hutton. Mr. Eric Warwick shows real ability by his impersonation of Mr. Charles Dumby; Mr. Aubrey FitzMaurice as Mr. Cecil Graham is successful; and Mr. A. W. Barker as Mr. Hopper and Mr. Arthur Forbes Watts as Parker leave nothing to be desired. *Lady Windermere's Fan* is preceded by the farce, *Breakers Ahead*, played by Messrs. Aubrey FitzMaurice, Eric Warwick, and A. W. Barker, and Misses Ella Kitson and Maina Hearne.

The Star.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. F. Powell.—Excellent fare is provided at the Star this week by Mr. Whitmore Ledger's company, who appear in *A Nobleman of Nature* with success. Mr. Howard Coventry is eminently suited with his part of Prince Evan, the workman's friend; Mr. Whitmore Ledger is successful as Paul Berndoff; Mr. Dan Mining is the always thirsty Billy keeps the audience in excellent humour; Philip Hampton has a good impersonator in Mr. David Urquhart; Vera, Ivan's little friend, is charmingly impersonated by Miss Hettie Jeffries; as is also Olga, a Russian exile, by Miss Muriel Tahourdin. Mr. Arthur Gilroy, Mr. R. Murietta, Mr. Alfred Neeson, Master Ernest Edwards, Mr. Lawrence Genge, Mr. Chandos Delgado, Miss Dot Russel, and Miss Alvina Mining, in the dual rôle of Edith Nehludoff and Katusha Vodski, render adequate support.

Empire, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—Victoria Monks is here, drawing huge houses. Launceston Elliot is a phenomenon in the strong man line; J. W. Rowley still retains the affection of Swansea people, and does well; Park's Eton Boys give a very acceptable turn; and the Legay Quartet do some excellent dancing. C. Randolph King is a protean artist above the average; and Ella Dean is a contralto to be agreeably remembered. The Corcoran Brothers give an original musical turn; and excellent Bioscope pictures are shown.

TORQUAY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's principal company in *The Lion and the Mouse* visits Torquay for the first time this week, and a highly-appreciative audience greeted its opening performance on Monday. As Shirley Rossmore (the Mouse) Miss Christine Silver does admirably, introducing just that touch of sympathy and tact necessary for the part, and acting with true womanly instinct throughout. Mr. Leslie Carter gives an excellent impersonation of John Burkett Ryder (the Lion), the busy financier with little time to think of anything but making money; as Mrs. Burkett Ryder Miss Maude Townsend is also very good, and as Jefferson Ryder Mr. Gordon McLeod displays much talent. Mr. Alfred Hall as the ruined James Rossmore gives a touching rendering; Mr. Douglas West as Alfred Stott makes a characteristic lawyer; and the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley, a somewhat amusing part, is made the most of by Mr. Herbert Chown. Miss Evelyn M. Read is well placed as Kate Roberts, and J. Whitmore Roberts, M.P., is in the capable hands of Mr. John Wheatman.

Princess Pier Concert Hall.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—Mr. Percy Newport's London entertainers are here this week, and a packed house welcomed them on Monday evening. Miss Florence Bellamy is an excellent soprano, and Mr. Charles Dudley also provides some pleasing songs. Mr. Percy Newport is a good male soprano, and Mr. H. E. Williams has a tenor voice of good quality. The lighter element is provided by Mr. Herbert Lisle and Mr. W. W. Whitlock. The Bioscope also is very popular.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — Opera House. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Welton Dale. — Mr. Mouillot's company, in *The Blue Moon*, has been cordially received for the first three nights of this week. The fun of the piece is well sustained by Mr. Charles Stevenson as Private Taylor and Mr. Percy Cahill as the imposter Moolraj; Miss Nellie Lomas is a charming impersonator of the singing girl; and Miss May Audrey is a vivacious Millicent, the maid. Mr. Chas. Ross as the Major, Mr. Chas. Howard as Captain Ormsby, and Mr. J. E. Stevenson as the Journalist, are also responsible for some excellent comedy; and Miss Rose Helene as Evelyn Ormsby proves a very graceful exponent of the part. Mr. Robert Gray as the Prince and Miss Mary Glanbrane as the Aunt also do well. For the week-end, the visit of Miss Ellen Terry and her husband, in *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*, has created quite a record at the box-office.

TYNEMOUTH. — Palace-by-the-Sea.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Linden Travers.—At the Brighton of the North the season is at its full, and the management continue to provide excellent fare for its numerous patrons. Mr. Sydney James' musical comedy, *The Rustic Scholars*, takes first honours this week, and finds much favour, Mr. Harker Nicholls, as the eccentric schoolmaster, leaving nothing to be desired. Miss Maud Fitz-Stubbs, as the music-mistress, calls forth the plaudits of the house; Mr. Alfred Wootton excels as Willy; and Mr. Gilbert Fernie is most amusing as Tommy; whilst the Twins are admirably sustained by the Misses Aileen and Doris Woods. Amongst the varieties, special mention must be made of Charles Tilbury, baritone vocalist, who meets with a flattering reception; Nina Gordon, mimic, &c.; Silvo, with his musical glasses; and the "up-to-date" bioscope views.

WAKEFIELD.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mrs. Ann Hughes' company is presenting the new nautical comic opera, *The Young Lieutenant*. Mr. Leslie Austin both acts and sings capitally as Harry Summers, the young lieutenant; Mr. Harry Walsh is good as Dick Bouncer, and keeps the house in the highest spirits; Mr. Leslie Hawkins as Reginald Greenlaws, the Second Lieutenant, acquits himself well; Mr. Llewellyn C. Hughes shines as the Duke of Bowminster, and Mr. Steane Louch makes a capable Bill Barnacle; Miss Kathleen Emmett fills the part of Marjorie Mayfair with much charm; Miss Kate Kyrle as Dowager Lady Harlington and Miss Beatrice Balfour as Lady Evelyn Archer do well in their respective parts; Miss Marion Lewis is well placed as Mother Price, and Miss Hetty Gale gives a spirited and effective rendering as Polly, the maid of the inn.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Atlas and Vulcana, assisted by the Sisters Atlas, give a fine exhibition of strength, which earns deserved applause; the Coes appear in a pleasing musical act; Miss Dolly Denver, vocalist, is a clever dancer; Little Rose Pink, juvenile comedienne, displays ability in singing and dancing; Charles Lestree, juggler, performs some clever feats; Jordan and Marks, patter comedians, prove amusing; and Miss Anima Rinder delights with illustrated songs.

WALSALL.—Her Majesty's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Lil Hawthorne is a great attraction here this week. Marco, boy magician and illusionist, is very successful; Gertrude Bradshaw, soprano vocalist, makes a decided hit; a capital turn is given by Martin Henderson, blind musical genius, which adds greatly to the programme; Fred Curran, comedian, and Frank Darwin, actor-vocalist, are good; the Five Juanitas are a particularly clever troupe of Spanish acrobats. The animated pictures on the American Bioscope complete the bill.

Grand Theatre. — Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—William Holles and Nannie Goldman's company is appearing here in *The Stepmother*. Mr. W. Holles gives a capital rendering of Bob Bristow; Danny has an acceptable exponent in Miss Nannie Goldman; Miss Winifred Symonds makes a satisfactory Amy Bristow; the rascally Abraham Wiggins is powerfully taken by Mr. Arthur Rodney; comedy is introduced by Mr. Fred Clark and Miss Florence Harcourt; and Miss Phyllis Manners is well placed as Anna Vickers.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—A crowded house gave Mr. Allan Wilkie's répertoire company an enthusiastic reception on Monday night. *Hamlet* was the bill of fare, and a capital rendering of the Dane was submitted by Mr. Wilkie, his elocution being exceptionally fine. A graceful Ophelia was found in Miss Carrie Baillie; and Miss Mary Lovett was an ideal Gertrude. Mr. Alexander Marsh scored as the Ghost; and Mr. Paul Lovett as Laertes, Mr. John Paley as Claudius, and Mr. Ernest Digges as Horatio were all successful. A quaint reading of Polonius was submitted by Mr. George Munro. On Tuesday night Mr. Wilkie appeared with success as Shylock, with Miss Annie Baillie a delightful Portia. *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Corsican Brothers*, *The Bells*, *Othello*, and *Richard III.* are also billed.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Waters; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—The Three Royal Dreadnoughts are the chief attraction here this week, and their wonderful exhibition of the art of musketry has won for them universal approval; Mezzetti and Mora are smart bar performers; Arthur Goodman is an expert comedy juggler; and the Ottawas score in a novel musical act. Sadie Simpson is a dainty comedienne; the Le Cren Trio are clever burlesque artists; Irene Day sings and dances in charming fashion; and Edie Gray's White Coons are well received. The Royal Bioscope pictures are admirable.

WEST BROMWICH. — Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale. — A musical comedy sketch, entitled *The Decoy Duck*, heads the bill here, and is received with great applause; Ben Rodney presents some good songs; Dora Denmark is appreciated; the Waldorf Girls are deserving of credit for their smart song; a clever turn is submitted by Mike and Lena (Fred and Nellie); the D'Alvos are bright; Ben Jackson gives an interesting banjo solo turn; Harry Glyn and company, in *Black Justice*, create roars of laughter; Evasio proves himself a clever juggler; a very smart equilibristic display is that of Mephisto, who well deserves the applause accorded him; and the Palace pictures are again appreciated.

New Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Albert Withers.—A welcome return visit of the Six Brothers Luck, in one of their funny sketches, is paid here; Sadie Seymour submits a selection of good songs; the Donatos present a clever one-legged acrobatic turn; the Sisters Desmond score a well-deserved success; a novel comedy bar act is submitted by Zaro and Arno; the Four Jumels prove themselves talented instrumentalists; Harry Taft, the whistling tramp, who makes his first appearance here, causes roars of laughter; and the Hippodrome pictures are still a popular feature.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Mlle. De Rose, a popular favourite in the Pools, is a great attraction this week; her splendid baritone singing is much appreciated, and is accorded a well-deserved encore. Horace and Olga present a miniature dog show, which takes well, the tricks of the animals being cleverly done. An interesting item is that of Gaumont's Chronophone, which is introduced by the St. Louis Picture Company; Rastus and Banks are immensely popular; much hilarity is caused by Walter Stanley; J. W. Hawtrey, actor vocalist; Harry Sims, light comedian; and the St. Louis Pictures all take well.

Grand.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred E. Somerfield this week present to good houses *The Tyrant*, in which Mr. F. C. Somerfield gives a powerful and well-studied rendition of the rôle of the avenger Homodei; Mrs. Walter Bentley gives some most impressive acting as Tisbe. An excellent Angelo, the tyrant, is depicted by Mr. Roy Forteseue; and Miss Margaret Frame, a studious and accomplished actress, enlists all sympathy in her excellent rendering of the part of Lady Katherine.

Empress.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—Premier position on the list is accorded the Dayton Family, in their original acrobatic novelty, "Le Rendezvous." Their performance is splendidly worked, and is received with considerable applause; the comedy element introduced by the juvenile member of the troupe is exceedingly funny. Sinclair and Whiteford provide abundance of fun in their sketch, *Getting Even*, in which Fred Sinclair gives a marvellous impersonation of one of the gentler sex; Fred Herbert, a topical vocalist, is awarded a rousing encore; Harry Morris, comedian, scores decidedly in patter and mimicry. The refined instrumental dancing act by the Raymond Trio is well received. Success attends the illustrated songs by the Russells; as vocalists and dancers the Three Sisters Tree are remarkably clever and neat at their business; and some new pictures on the Bioscope are on the list.

Hartlepool Promenade.—The Red Rose Entertainers (Proprietor, Mr. Horace East) continue to be popular here. Special national performances have been provided, and have proved very successful. The military night provided a screamingly-funny sketch, *Rival Forces*, which was smartly played by Mr. Robert Lord, Mr. Frank Roy, and Miss Ruby Rosini. Other strong attractions have been some brisk sketchlets, written and produced by Phil Crotchet, which have taken immensely.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. M. Payne.—Mr. Norman V. Norman is presenting, for the first time in Weston, *Robin Hood*. The piece is powerfully cast, and on Monday met with a grand reception. Mr. Norman V. Norman's interpretation of the title-rôle surpasses everything this talented actor has shown us before; Mr. Alfred Gray's Richard Cœur de Lion is a sound piece of acting; the Lord Guy of Mr. Norman Leslie is a well-drawn character; Mr. Thomas Peter does good work as Sir W. Trusty; whilst Mr. Frederick Lock gives a fine impersonation of Little John. Friar Tuck is artistically portrayed by Mr. Francis Hope; and Mr. Chas. Casson Freer's Sheriff of Nottingham is worthy of commendation; Miss Beatrice Wilson looks remarkably handsome as Maid Marion, and her acting is an artistic treat; Miss Sybil Ruskin's Clarinda is deserving of nothing but eulogy; and Isabella is extremely well depicted by Miss Lucy Pritte-Lydd.

Grand Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. John Stevenson.—The Hollanders are the attraction this week, and are received most cordially. The contributors to the programme are all artists of exceptional talent, and were all loudly encored on Monday for their respective items. The pictures shown on the Bioscope by Mr. Frank Lens are received with marked enthusiasm; and Herr Kandt's Austrian Blue Band is well received.

WEST STANLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. John Leopold's company in the musical absurdity *New Frivolity* is paying a return visit to Stanley. The play is preceded by Mr. Leopold's latest production, *The Houseboat*. The various rôles are handled in an able manner.

Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Raws; General-Manager, Mr. H. E. Kauffmann.—The programme this week includes the Five Aradaroffs, prehistoric acrobats; the Kinnairds; Handel and Lee; the Lavelle Brothers; Miss Lillie Luraine; McCann's performing dogs; and the latest pictures on the Bioscope.

WEYMOUTH.—Royal Jubilee Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Hobbs.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company in *A Country Girl* paid a return visit for three nights on Monday, and had a splendid reception. Mr. Arthur Staples received a warm welcome as Barry, and Miss Gipsy Touzeau as Madame Sophie, won constant rounds of applause; Mr. W. O. Billington was extremely good as Sir Joseph Verity; as also Mr. M. D. Pitts as Geoffrey Challoner, and Mr. Bernard Vaughan as The Rajah; Miss Poppy Dale was very good as the Princess; and Miss Gladys Christoe, as Marjorie, was all that could be desired; Mrs. St. Quintin was most admirably played by Miss Florence Brewster; while the Nun of Miss Blanche Lynd was a charming representation of the character; Miss Enid Beverley's dancing was much admired. The piece is admirably staged; the dresses superb, and the chorus strong and well balanced.

WHITBY.—Spa Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Payne Seddon.—On Aug. 8 Mr. Edward Terry and his talented company appeared in the bright and witty play, *Liberty Hall*, which delighted all present; Mr. Terry scored a great success as the old bookseller, William Todman. Every member of his carefully selected company worked well together. On Aug. 9 and 10 Mr. Terry appeared in *The Magistrate*, and the ever-fragrant *Sweet Lavender* respectively. On Monday and Tuesday of this week, Messrs. Seddon and Robertson's company, in the farcical comedy, *Charley's Aunt*, drew good houses. On Aug. 15 Mr. Charles Macdona's company commenced a three nights' engagement with *The Toreador*.

Waterloo Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Julian Bainbridge.—*Lights Out* has drawn good houses during the early days of the week, and on Thursday, Aug. 15, Mr. Geo. Alexander's company in *His House in Order* commenced a three nights' engagement.

WORTHING.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. Geo. Alexander's company are here for the first three nights, presenting *His House in Order*. Mr. Frank Fenton gives a masterly portrayal of the character of Hilary Jesson; Mr. Cyril Harcourt as Filmer Jesson, M.P., is excellent; Miss Maisie Richardson does splendidly as Derek Jesson; Miss Marie Polini is thoroughly excellent as Nina, her perfect efforts meritoriously gaining unstinted applause. Miss Henrietta Leverett is thoroughly dignified as Geraldine Ridgeley; Miss Madge Johnstone does well as Lady Ridgeley; Miss Jean D. Cadell typically enacts the part of Mlle. Thome. The remaining charactcers are well placed. On Thursday, Baron H. Harris's company appeared in *The Prince of Pilsen*.

WREXHAM.—Empire.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. C. W. Collings.—The bill at hall is headed this week by Charles Dixon, the popular comedian and dancer, who makes a welcome re-appearance. He is well supported by Miss Ada Clare, a clever comedienne and dancer; the Izons, amusing comedy duettists; Miss Kate Lynd, in character songs; and the Forsyths, mirth-provoking mimics; the Empire Bioscope has new and up-to-date pictures.

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is here with *The Span of Life*, a drama not new to this city. Mr. Arthur Chisholm is manly and vigorous as Richard Blunt; a large amount of work falls upon his shoulders, but he surmounts all obstacles; Miss Ella Wilmer is a winsome Kate Heathcote; and Miss Phyllis Graham does full justice to a dual rôle; the villanies of Dunstan Leach are well accentuated by Mr. Sanderson Moffatt

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Aug. 12, the Drama, by Frederick Melville, entitled
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."

The average playgoer can invariably depend upon it that in a Melville play he gets plenty for his money. The plays are thoroughly effective, if at times improbable; the characters are always broadly drawn, and are either thoroughly good or ADD thoroughly bad; the sensational incidents cleverly worked up; and of comic relief there is an abundance. Given all these characteristics, it is no wonder that of all dramas now on the road the Melville répertoire is the most attractive and, what is more important, the most profitable. The aspect of the capacious King's Theatre bore good proof on Monday evening, the more popular parts of the house being packed. *Her Road to Ruin* was excellently received, the curtain calls being very numerous. Mr. Robert interprets the part of Frank Temple in manly fashion, and distinctly scores in his utterances and views on Christianity; as Tom Wells, the struggling journalist, Mr. J. Knox Orde is admirable; and Mr. Wm. Lynton is an efficient Mr. Derwent, the solicitor. The out-and-out rascality of Philip Hardy is rendered by Mr. Alex Bradley with complete success, his bearing in the most compromising of situations being delightfully cool; Mr. Wm. Brooke is a capable Inspector Homewood; Bill Grimes is well played by Mr. Thomas Henry; the Bishop is undertaken by Mr. Dane Clarke with exceedingly good effect; as Dickey Gerald, Mr. F. C. Brooke provides excellent fun, which is universally appreciated; Mr. Victor R. C. Moors' services are of real use as Charles Cholmondeley; Jess Willoughby gives Miss Eva Moss splendid opportunities for some impassioned acting, and she does not fail to take advantage of them, the result being complete success for her. A very dainty impersonation of May Willoughby is given by Miss Alice Bowes, who gains deserved approval; Miss Nellie Bonser as Mary Dawson, the girl from Lancashire, acts with power and expression, and earns great praise; a Hammersmith favourite is Miss Marie Wright, and it is needless to say that in her hands Jennie Crackling becomes one of the hits of the piece. The new scenery by Mr. H. K. Brown was much admired. The orchestra at the King's is noted for its efficiency, and the present week's programme of music, consisting of selections from *The Mikado*, *The Merry Widow*, *Coon-town Chimes*, *The Catch of the Season*, and *The Prince of Pilsen*, is well played under the direction of Mr. Harry Richardson. We are pleased to see that affairs in front of the house are still looked after by Mr. Frank Carlyon, Mr. Mulholland's energetic and capable manager.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Aug. 12, the Musical Comedy,
"THE WHITE CHRYSANTHEMUM."

Although a great number of people are in the habit, and have been for some time, of stigmatising the taste for musical comedy as merely a passing dramatic fashion, the fashion is taking a considerable time to pass away, and is proved by the continued support of pieces which are no longer novelties. A case in point is the most successful return visit of Mr. Chas. Macdona's company in *The White Chrysanthemum*. It goes without saying that Mr. Macdona's company is excellent, the scenery artistic, the dresses strikingly handsome, and that the piece goes with a swing from start to finish. Miss Muriel George vocally and artistically is a conspicuous success. Her graceful bearing also makes her Sybil Cunningham a very charming little lady. Her greatest vocal success is "The butterfly and the flower." Miss Dorothy Sephton gives evidence of having had much experience by the way she plays Betty Kenyon, her numbers being tunefully and artistically rendered; Miss Rosa Sullivan's sprightly comedy methods and good stage presence suit well the rôle of Cornelia Vanderdecken; Mr. John T. MacCullum, as the stern father Admiral Armitage, gives a capital presentation; and Mr. Melville Florance, as Lieut. Reginald Armitage, his son, is a distinct success. He has a voice of excellent quality which he uses to the best advantage, his enunciation being very clear. Mr. Victor Kerr causes no end of laughter as his droll companion, Chippie, and is encored several times for his quaint rendering of "I wonder"; Mr. Jamie Dallas affords an example of perfect comedy as Private Perks; and from Mr. James Graydon, as the Chinese cook, Sin Chow, comes dry humour, quaintly given.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Aug. 12, the drama entitled
"IN HOLY (!) RUSSIA."

Mr. J. Rice Cassidy and company are appearing here this week in a stirring play of Russian life of to-day, entitled "In Holy (!) Russia. It deals with Nihilism, and there is a very interesting, and at times exciting, story unfolded, which is followed with breathless interest. Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy, a most accomplished actress, who fills the rôle of Rénee Rubinoff, draws a most interesting picture of the falsely-accused girl, who escapes from Siberia, and it is chiefly around Rénee's exploits that the story revolves. As the faithful and quick-witted Irish servant Mickey, Mr. J. Rice Cassidy finds ample scope for his talents, and causes endless laughter by his witty remarks and genial manner. Colonel Forrest, better known as Uncle Dick, the old English warrior, who finds himself so suddenly burdened with a wife, is capitally played by Mr. Arthur Stratton, whose breezy way is exactly fitted to the part. Mr. Frank Copeland is good as Sir Harry Beresford, and Mr. J. Cuthbertson gives a striking picture of the Chief of Police. Mr. Ralph Leslie presents a fine delineation of the Count Petroski, and Steragoff is played in an earnest and forceful manner by Mr. Carl Rovinelli. Miss Florence Creagh deserves special mention for her clever assumption of the character of Catska Lavotski, a spy in the pay of the police. The treacherous Michael Natolski is well portrayed by Mr. Frederick Lloyd, and various minor characters are in each case suitably filled. The play is mounted in the best fashion and with great care, and the scenery includes several very fine sets. Mr. J. Rice Cassidy has the whole production under his personal supervision.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 12, the drama entitled
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

Mr. Bert Coote has presented *The Fatal Wedding*, by Theo. Kremer, for many years now, but, thanks to its many-sided nature and the excellence of the comic relief which brightens its melodramatic misery, it is likely to have many another anniversary. The variety business in Act III. is still going very strong, and considerable entertainment is derived from the following programme:—"Bridget" is sung by Hetty Kelly and chorus; Tom Grice, the youngest champion Lancashire clog dancer; "Apples," sung by Marie Wilson and chorus; Dot Jeffries, the well-known music-hall child artist, with "The Angel of My Dreams"; "Killarney," Miss Dorothy Pain; and "The Cake Walk in the Sky." Miss Marie Wilson also essays the rôle of Jessie, "the little mother," and gives a delightfully ingenuous and natural exposition of character. The part of the wealthy and weak-minded clubman, Mr. Howard Wilson, is capitally rendered by Mr. Cecil A. Melton. Mr. Henry W. Hatchman does well in the part of the insipid scoundrel, Robert Curtis, man about town and coiner. Mr. Charles Locke is exceedingly droll as Toto, the extraordinary French butler. Mr. Cyril Melton is distinctly good as the janitor of the tenement flats in New York; and Mr. Frank Ashley brings out the points well in the part of the tender-hearted "street god" O'Reilly, who must surely be a Scotsman! The part of the adventuress, Cora Williams, is painted in lurid tints and in most uncompromising fashion by Miss Gertrude Harrison. The part of the big-hearted, impudent cook, Bridget, is most laughably depicted by Miss Ethel Sarjeant; and the comic "business" between Bridget and Toto is very excellent fooling. Stedman's choir take part in the church scene in Act V. Mr. Percy Williams is business manager, Mr. Ernest Grant acting manager, and Mr. Cyril Melton is stage manager.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 12, the Farcical Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE SANDOW GIRL."

Mr. Herbert Darnley's company are appearing at the Dalston Theatre in his farcical musical comedy, the music of which is composed by Mr. Dudley Powell, and entitled *The Sandow Girl*. The scenery does Mr. Francis H. Bull infinite credit. Miss Victoria Charlton appears as the Sandow Girl, and sings one or two duets with Mr. J. C. Graves (who plays Col. Klarter), and these vocal efforts take remarkably well. Mr. Graves's impersonation of the Colonel has distinctive merits, his eccentricities producing considerable laughter. Mr. Joseph Montague, as Higgins, a broker's man, is a source of considerable amusement, and his rendering of the songs, "It's the walking that does the trick" and "A little bit of resin for the bow," take very well. In this song Mr. Montague has a snack or two at the North London Railway. Mr. Frank Leanad, who plays Captain Karl, sings, in splendid style, "As long as a man's a man," and Miss Hilda Blanch, who plays Katarina, sings, "Just a word of kindness" in a way that secures her an encore. The piece is performed with all due regard to "go" and effect, and it forms one of those hilarious entertainments that are just the thing for the present spell of hot weather.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, Aug. 12, the Drama, entitled
"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."

Mr. Walter Melville's play, *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*, is proving an attraction at the Standard this week. The drama is produced by Mr. Douglas Bruce's company, and the interpretation is worthy of warm praise. The scenic effects are good, and quite up to what might be expected in any of the pieces associated with Mr. Melville, whilst the staging leaves nothing to be desired. Mr. Charles Whitlock supplies a very effective portrayal of the Rev. Robert Everton, and discharges his duties with marked ability. As Jack England, the soldier hero, Mr. C. W. Standing is well to the fore. He plays with manly bearing and vigour throughout, and is a conspicuous success in the part. Humour of a broad character is supplied by Mr. Geo. H. Asquin as Dick Punch, every opportunity for fun being taken full advantage of. Mr. John Wilson is well placed as George Purvis; and Mr. Monson Thorpe is a very satisfactory Detective Weathersby. Mr. Frank Adair as Captain Geoffrey Caversham cleverly depicts the callous nature of the character, and plays throughout with his customary skill. Mr. Geo. Mitchell enacts with power and ability the part of James Sutton, a repentant forger. Miss Lydia Mannington ably portrays Marian Franklyn, a "London mystery"; and Miss Daisy Meynard is exceptionally well suited to the rôle of Isabella Jones. Miss Joan Ellis plays with charm as Rose Seymour, her performance showing decided ability. Much praise is due to Miss Ethel Bracewell for her powerful delineation of the title-rôle, Molly Vernon, her reading of an arduous part leaving nothing to be desired. The minor characters are adequately supported by other members of the company.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, Aug. 12, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Frank Lindo, entitled
"HOME, SWEET HOME."

Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company are appearing here this week in *Home, Sweet Home*, and give an excellent interpretation of this interesting play. Mr. Arthur Hinton presents an excellent portrait of Stephen Armitage, the fisherman hero of the pretty story. Mr. Frank Hudspeth brings his ripe experience to bear on the character of David Armitage, and the result is a mellow and cheery performance. Mr. Arthur Lowey depicts the pride and sorrow of the Duke of Ancaster admirably. Mr. Victor Millard exactly realises the part of Hon. Percy Ashfield. Mr. Travis Green gives a clever and convincing representation of Lucas Lyle. Mr. W. Levarno as Solomon Keary, and Mr. John Campling as Dick Redmayne, do all that is possible with their respective parts. Mr. Henry Millow is good as Dr. Granby. Miss Constance Cluer plays Sal characteristically. Miss Lydia Audre is a stately and impressive Lady Summerton. Miss Maudie Merrick plays Sybil Fay in a bright and pleasing manner. Little Dolly Turner is a natural and pretty representative of Little Dora. Miss Leila Zillwood presents Joan as a gentle, sympathetic heroine, who soon becomes popular with the audience. The scenery is realistic, and the performance is carefully stage-managed. During the evening the excellent orchestra, directed so well by Mr. Herbert Sprake, plays some bright and catchy music, including a selection from *Amasis*.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Aug. 12, the drama entitled
"THE SILVER KING."

Melodrama of the strongest type has for a long time ruled supreme at the Crown, and this week we have a choice dish in Mr. H. A. Jones' *Silver King*, which is considered by general opinion to be one of the best pieces of its kind ever written. The play has visited the Crown before, but its reception is as hearty as ever. Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company presents the play to the very best advantage. Mr. Fred D. Daviss gives a capital impersonation of Wilfred Denver, being especially fine in the wharf scene at the end of the fourth act. Miss Adah Barton gains the whole-hearted sympathy of the house for her pathetic delineation of the sorely-tried Nellie Denver. Mr. L. St. George Lowther makes a polished and duly cynical villain as Captain Herbert Skinner, alias the Spider; and the faithful Daniel Jaikes, a character rich both in humour and pathos, becomes a very convincing character portrait in the experienced hands of Mr. Edward J. George. That dreadful old reprobate, Elijah Coombe, is presented to the life by Mr. Arthur Wright, who stage manages the production; and the part of the more robust villain Cripps is well delineated by Mr. Frank Kingsley. Mr. Walter Anderson causes much amusement as the tipsy passenger; and Miss Flossie Hale Daviss displays marked ability as little Cissie Denver. Mr. George Belmore is excellent as Corket; and the detective, Sam Baxter, is smartly played by Mr. Byron Pedley. Miss Elizabeth Temple makes a good deal out of the rôle of Olive Skinner; and Mr. Edward Ouston, as Geoffrey Ware, well avails himself of his one chance in the first act. The other numerous characters are well played. The scenery and effects are quite adequate.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Aug. 12, the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, by Fred Bowyer and W. E. Sprange, Music by John Cook, entitled
"THE NEW BARMAID."

Mr. Peter Davey, the managing-director of the Royal County Theatre, made a happy choice when he selected *The New Barmaid* for the bill of fare at the riverside theatre this week. It was not the first visit of the play, but the audience at Kingston gave it as hearty a welcome as when they first saw it. It was presented by Miss Violet Osmund's company, which included that popular comedian, Mr. Alexander Loftus. Miss Osmund plays the part of Dora Heathur, in which she proves herself an artist of considerable ability. Mr. Loftus appears as Bertie White, and sustains with much success the lion's share of the humour of the play. Mr. James Grant appears as William White, and contributes substantially to the low-comedy business. Mr. Charles Adeson makes a capable Mons. Bonsor; Miss Clara Beck is a charming Ethel Joy; and Mr. James Hawkins acquits himself well as Captain Lovebury. Other members of the company who deserve more than passing notice are Miss Grafton as Brenda Louth, Miss Mabel Harrison as Lady Moulton, and Mr. Frank Collins as Colonel Claymore. The Sisters Dorothy and Lily English dance themselves into the favour of the audience. The play is produced under the direction of Mr. Loftus, and Mr. E. W. Vaughan proved himself a capable *chef d'orchestre*.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 12, the Drama, entitled
"THE STILL ALARM."

Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company are appearing at Kennington this week in Mr. Joseph Arthur's stirring play above named, in which the two beautiful trained horses "Pegasus" and "Bucephalus," and the greyhound "Laddie" are introduced. The scenery and effects, too, are particularly realistic, especially the set depicting The Central Fire Station, New York. Mr. Mathew H. Glenville, as the hero Jack Manley, earns the repeated plaudits of the audience, his manliness in face of adversity, coupled with his bravery as a fireman, appealing powerfully to all present. Side by side with Mr. Glenville's careful character study must be placed Mr. George Arthur's impersonation of the villain, John Bird, the repeated hissing from the gallery furnishing a testimony of his able management of a difficult part. Willie Manley, undertaken by Mr. Tom Beasley, arouses the merriment of the audience, particularly in his scenes with Carrie Wilber, his sweetheart. Mr. Fred Osmond, as the reprobate Doc Wilber, gives a careful sketch of the part; Mr. Lewis Gordon deserves much praise for his able interpretation of the rôle of Franklyn Fordham; Miss Frances Waring, as Elinor Fordham, plays effectively on the feelings of the house; Miss Jean Beresford, as Carrie Wilber, an "exponent of music-hall art," highly amused all present by her nonchalant way of dealing with her lover, Will Manley; Miss Mabel Veriton, in her character of Mrs. Manley, won high enconiums; Mr. Sutton Pateman gives a really clever impersonation of the part of Joe Jones, the typical New York Fireman, and succeeds in keeping the house vastly amused; Mr. Ernest Hamilton is seen to great advantage as Jenkins, his conception of the rôle being particularly fine, as are also those of Mr. Henry Smith and Mr. George Owens, as Hal Sleeper and Charlie White; Mr. Frank Wilson, as the Messenger Boy, is praiseworthy; and Messrs. Edwards, Tudnor, Johnson, Francis, and Varney all proved able firemen. The Central Brigade Quartette are in perfect form in their well harmonised part-songs.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 12, the Drama,
by Dion Boucicault, entitled
"THE STREETS OF LONDON."

A strong attraction is provided here this week in the above-named drama. As Gideon Hardman, the scheming banker, Mr. Ellis J. Preston plays with determination, taking full advantage of the many strong situations offered by this fine character; Mr. E. J. Waller, in the small but important character of Captain Fairweather, gives a typical representation of a bluff, kind-hearted old sea captain; Mr. Chas. A. East, as Badger, acts in his usual brilliant manner, quickly finding much favour; Mr. Edgar Coyne is easy as Paul Fairweather; and Mr. Teddy Coleman is responsible for an amusing character study of Mr. Puffy. Miss Blanche Stanley, as Mrs. Puffy, plays in a sympathetic manner; and Miss Katherine Clarke is a natural Lucy Fairweather. In the difficult character of Alida Hardman Miss Mildred Cottell is seen to advantage. Other minor characters are in safe hands. The drama is well staged, the fire scene in Act IV. being particularly realistic. Mr. W. H. Pease, the popular manager, is always busy looking after the comfort of his numerous patrons.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

The programme arranged for the benefit of the patrons of the Grand Theatre, Fulham, this week includes both drama and comedy. The first item is called *The Great Poison Case*, and consists of a strange incident in the life of Barbara Merrick, a hospital nurse, who has been accused of poisoning her benefactor. The part of the heroine is ably taken by Miss Agnes Russell. Dr. Floyd (the real culprit) is played by Mr. C. W. Somerset, who shows great skill in dealing with a difficult character. The principal scene is that of the trial of the nurse, and in it Mr. Wetherall, as Philip Ashton, counsel for the defence, and Mr. Carr, for the Crown, are both seen to advantage. The other important characters are those of Chief Justice Barrington, played by Mr. A. P. Lewis; Tom Amos, a constable, acted by Mr. H. Newman; and Sara Crewton, a wardress, for whom Miss F. Nelson is responsible. The audience is afterwards delighted with a production of *The Merchant of Venice*, in which Mr. Fred Storey, as Shylock, is seen to great advantage. Messrs. A. M. Stapley and Keith Frazer also do well as Antonio and Bassanio respectively. The ladies' parts are carefully taken by Miss Lilian Holmes and Miss Geraldine Somerset. Following this item is the French farce, *The Glazier*, which causes endless amusement. The programme concludes with *Rip Van Winkle*, in which Mr. Fred Storey repeats his clever assumption of Rip. Able support is given by Miss L. Holmes as Gretchen, Mr. A. M. Stapley as Derrick Van Beekman, and Mr. M. A. Wetherall as Cockles. The part of Meenie, Rip's daughter, is impersonated first by little Miss N. Thornton and then by Miss A. Russell. The rôle of Heindrick Vedder also requires two players, and is taken by Master Reg Connor and Mr. Keith Frazer respectively. Between the items the audience are entertained by songs excellently rendered by Miss Lawrence and Mr. Max.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, Aug. 12, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Frederick Melville, entitled
"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."

This week another of the many dramas by the Messrs. Melville occupies the boards. *Between Two Women* has long been very popular in the provinces, and it is not necessary to say anything in detail about it now. A very strong company has been engaged for the production. Mr. Chris Walker was dignified as the Earl of Millard, and acted with great power in the last scene of the third act. Mr. Ernest Owttrim as the Earl's son was excellent in a somewhat unconvincing part, and acted with sincerity. Mr. Fred Morgan as Durwood played the heavy lead in the conventional style, and is to be commended. Mr. Douglas Vigors as Carton acted a heroic part with just the right touch, and made a good impression. Spado found a capable portrayer in Mr. T. W. Walters, who displayed force; Mr. Herbert Goddard as Strangeways successfully presented the rôle of the unscrupulous officer; Mr. N. Graham as Jorkins did well in a small part; Mr. Harry Bristowe as Burgess portrayed an intense rôle very skilfully; and a feature of great interest in the performance was the appearance of Mr. Newman Maurice in the comedy rôle. Mr. Maurice, who was until recently the acting-manager here, received a great welcome on making his first appearance. He displayed his well-known gifts as a comedian to great advantage, working hard, and with the greatest success. Miss Lucy Beaumont as Polly proved an admirable ally in the comedy business, acting with spirit and go. Miss Lulu Bowes as the Blind Boy was quite excellent, giving a character study of great merit. Miss Louise Hampton as Violet is entitled to much praise for an artistic performance of much value to the production. Miss Leah Marlborough as Carmen depicted the rôle with effect and skill. Miss Sybil Hare, as the lady customer, did everything possible with her small part.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, Aug. 12, the Drama, entitled
"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."

The series of Melvillian melodrama is being maintained at the Brixton Theatre, which is this week devoted to *The Beast and the Beauty*, one of Mr. Frederick Melville's best efforts. Its drawing powers have been reflected at Brixton in large audiences, who have given proof of their appreciation in continuous cheers, frequently interspersed by laughter. The company engaged in the interpretation of the drama is admirably suited to the work. First honours fall to the long-popular Mr. Ashley Page, whose robust impersonation of Jack Barrymore, the Beast, is marked by many artistic shades of expression. The value of a long experience is seen in his reading of the part throughout, and in more than one scene he is responsible for a vigorous outburst that arouses enthusiastic cheers. The rôle of Violet, the "Beauty," is sustained by Miss Marion Denvil, who shared with Mr. Page many of the triumphs achieved in the more recent "stock" days at the Pavilion, Mile End. Girlish grace and dramatic skill are combined in Miss Denvil's performance, which awakens admiration throughout the house. Miss East-Robertson, another artist of wide experience, renders the rôle of Delilah Vane as malignant as needs be, and great is the resentment which she arouses among the virtuous playgoers. Mr. J. C. Aubrey gives many artistic touches to the villainy of Lord X, in whom the spirit of evil seems inborn, and revels in the ruin of which he is the author. A sound and experienced performer is found in Mr. John Sargent, who clothes the ruffianly Dick Soans with a comicality that gains a good many laughs. Similar results are obtained by the eccentricities of Mr. Johnny Chippendale as Tom Chicken, and the merriment aroused during the attempt by these two worthies to burgle a house is loud and incessant. Mr. Eric Campbell's stalwart physique is admirably adapted to the part of Ned Samson, the fighting man. The exigencies of the part require that the actor shall take hold of a couple of policemen and swing them round and round—a feat that is easily performed by the actor—who nevertheless gives proof of his emotional ability in the powerful scene with his false wife. Mr. Edward Thane realises the description of the Earl of Loman as the "prehistoric father," his lank and gaunt figure and eccentricities of speech and manner making his performance very striking. Miss Mattie Everett displays agreeable vivacity in the part of Mimi; Miss Maggie Lindsay is a typical French housemaid; Mr. F. L. Lawrence makes a stately and benign priest; the drolleries of a village landlord are well portrayed by Mr. Gerald Morgan; Mr. Frank Harrison ably enacts Mr. Sharp, the solicitor; Mr. Ernest Williams does well as a referee; and the realism of the ring is further sustained by Messrs. Bill Ruggles, T. Franks, Jem Dorsett, Will Costa, and Will Howard. Mr. Ben Brown is timekeeper, and Messrs James Peerless and W. Tempest officiate as judges.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Aug. 12, Shakespeare's Comedy,
"TAMING OF THE SHREW."

Shakespeare in Marylebone is something of a novelty, but the great artistic success scored by Mr. Clive Currie and his capable company should encourage Mr. William Bailey to foster his patrons' interest in the higher forms of dramatic art which is represented by the *Taming of the Shrew*. The warmest praise is to be given to Mr. Currie for his delightful impersonation of Petruchio. He spoke his lines with cheery abandon, yet with such convincing force that he had the house with him from start to finish. Miss Emil Leslie sustained Katharina with energy and skill. All her lines were excellently delivered, and her conception of the character was wellnigh perfect. Able assistance in the success of the performance was given by Mr. T. P. Haynes, who, with conspicuous ability, brought his ripe experience to bear on the part of Grumio; Mr. F. Cremlin was most effective as Baptista; Mr. Robert Atkins was agreeably free and easy as Lucentio; Mr. E. H. Brooke did ample justice to the rôle of Biondello; and Mr. W. St. A. Bentley, who appeared by kind permission of Mr. James Welch, enacted Hortensio with graceful gestures and pleasing affability. Miss Lorna Lawrence impersonated Bianca with coquettish artlessness; and other parts well played were Gremio, by Mr. Fred Morland; Tranio, by Mr. Esmond Egerton Hine; the Tailor, by Mr. Charles Bruce; the Widow, by Miss Rose Matthews; and the Servants, by Miss Rita Sponti and Miss Florence Barnett. The play was mounted and staged in faultless style, and the elocution of the respective members of this talented company was much above the average. The comedy was preceded each evening by Mr. Louis N. Parker's one act play, *The Man in the Street*, in which good work was done by Miss Rita Sponti as Minnie Adare; Mr. Esmond Egerton Hines as Philip Adare; and Mr. Robert Atkins as Jabez Glover.

THE MODERN PAGEANT.

There were Mr. Sneers long before Sheridan chose that particular name for the acidulated "critic" in his famous burlesque, and there are Sneers of the present day who will even speak disrespectfully of the National Anthem, the modern music hall, the "thin red line," the Labour Member, or other cherished "institutions." A writer in *London Opinion* has fallen foul of modern pageantry, with its open-air realisations of ancient history, organised by Mr. Louis N. Parker and others. But from the point of view of the theatrical manager these pageants should foster a taste for the drama, and the genuine nature of their attractiveness cannot be "railed off" by such lines as the following:—

O beadle, don your Sunday clothes,
Ye workhouse kids, your "bags,"
The Sunday school, its choicest hose—
Our village deck with flags:
Invite the old folk out to tea
(For cost, don't care a dump!);
It is the glad centenary
Of our old parish pump!

Then let the vicar play the fool,
The parish clerk the clown,
Let ladies ride in garments cool,
As in the larger town:
In this soft age of pure delight,
When strange things come to pass,
'Tis good to let the yokel write
Himself down just an ass.

So tramp along the village street,
With brassly blatant bands,
And revel in your own conceit
And cheer, and clap your hands.
The pageant is the modern way
To teach men what is what,
And tinselled Vanity's display
Condones its Tommy Rot!

THE King and Queen, together with Princess Victoria, visited the Playhouse on Monday, and witnessed the performance of *The Earl of Pawtucket*.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW.

REOPENED WITH "WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."

His Majesty's Theatre, on the Strand, was reopened on Bank Holiday, Aug. 5, and there was a well-filled house when the orchestra struck up the National Anthem, which was followed by an outburst of applause. It is three months since this home of amusement was closed for alterations. When one entered the theatre last night the thoughts of an entirely new theatre must have at once come into the mind. The interior has been so beautifully transformed that the theatre looks quite new, and hardly a memory of the late house remains. It is indeed marvellous what has been done in the time. To see the house as it stood before, and to take stock of the place now, one cannot really comprehend where all the space has been found. But the fact remains that a delightful transformation has taken place, and the theatre is indeed splendid. The whole of the interior of the theatre was first taken out, half the roof raised, and the floor dropped. The work of the steel construction was then commenced. Respecting the auditorium, a new gallery and circle, with boxes, take the place of the old. They are constructed on the most modern principles—the cantilever system—and the absence of pillars will be conspicuous to those who remember the theatre in its old form. Some have vivid recollections of those pillars. Tip-up seats are provided in the stalls and circle, and everyone in the circle—despite the latest fashion in ladies' hats—can view the stage well, the seats are so well arranged. The acoustic properties of the theatre are admirable, and all persons can hear in every part of the house. It is surprisingly interesting to find that there is not a "blind" seat in the house. The decorations have been carried out in a free Rénaissance style. The general scheme of colour is cerise, cream, and gold. The theatre has been reinstalled with electric light—the Tantalam system. The house has been reseated throughout with upholstered seating, and is covered with velvet, the colour of which sets the keynote to the whole of the decorations. The draperies of the stage and boxes are of richly-embroidered plush, which have been specially made to harmonise with the general colour scheme. The general effect is pleasing, and can be described as a very pretty theatre. The Barrow coat-of-arms occupies a prominent position over the stage. It will be at once noticed that a new curtain has been provided, which must have cost about £100. The work has been carried out by Messrs. Darlaston and Edwards, of Birmingham, and Messrs. England and Co., of St. Anne's, under the direction of the architect, Mr. Albert Winstanley, of St. Anne's, and Manchester. Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge are to be heartily congratulated on the success achieved. Mr. Routledge addressed the audience last night, and had a hearty reception. For the satisfaction of the most nervous people, he stated that if one thousand people sat on each single seat in the circle, the balcony would still be quite safe.

"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."

The attraction provided for the opening was the great comedy success from Wyndham's Theatre, London, *When Knights Were Bold*. Last night's performance was splendid, and the audience were kept in continual laughter all the evening. The farce is well written, and gives an abundance of scope. Of course, as in a majority of plays of modern times, much depends upon one person. In this instance the chief character is Sir Guy de Vere, Bart., a young baronet of ultra-modern ideas, who is in love with his cousin Rowena, a romantic young lady, who is always talking of "the good old days," when Sir Guy, trying to cure a cold with hot whiskey-and-water, falls asleep in the knights' room of Beechwood Towers, and is transported to "ye good old times." In immaculate evening dress, surrounded by friends, retainers, and fair maids, all passed backwards 710 years, and move in the garb and speak the speech of A.D. 1196. The fun increases at this point. The ludicrous situations and possibilities arising from such complications can be better imagined than described, but the climax is reached when Sir Guy is challenged by Sir Brian Ballymote to mortal combat for the hand of the fair Rowena. The little hero, donned in a suit of armour, opposing a veritable giant (in comparison), similarly clad, is very funny; but the absurdity is increased when the little man discards his armour and sword, and resorts to fisticuffs to vanquish his foe in armour. He triumphs, and thus ends the second act. The third act sees an awakening, but in order to cure his ladylove of her ridiculous ideas of "the days of old," he keeps up the character of a knight of old, as experienced in his dream, and thus brings about a happy termination to his love suit. In the part of Sir Guy we have the personality of Mr. Nelson Keys. He is a born comedian, and is the life and soul of the piece from beginning to end. Mr. Keys is continually on the stage, and one hardly realises the work he puts into the part. He simply revels in the extraordinary situations that abound. His success is due to his unflagging efforts. Miss Emelie Polini gives a sweet rendering of Lady Rowena, and her capital study of the good-old-time, romantic-struck lady calls for special mention. Miss Polini is certainly a talented actress. The remainder of the cast are also very good indeed. Mr. Charles Ommanney's Sir Brian, Mr. W. Lockhart's Dr. Peter Pottlebury, Mr. Augustus Synod's Isaacson, Mr. Thomas Pauncefort's Hon. Charles Widdicombe, and Mr. Talbot Homewood's Wittle are all very excellent impersonations. Then the other ladies are remarkably clever, Miss Marjorie Chard being a fascinating Miss Isaacson. The play is presented by a strong company, and is splendidly mounted; while the special music by Bucalossi is played by a capital orchestra, under the direction of Mr. F. J. Brockett. The duologue, *The Miller*, is given as a curtain-raiser each evening by Miss Eva Leonard Boyne and Mr. J. R. Gillespie. It was announced by Mr. Routledge that the next London attraction would be *The Truth*, with Miss Decima Moore in the cast.—*Barrow News*.

ACTORS' APATHY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—A special meeting of the Actors' Union was arranged to take place in Manchester on the 6th inst., "for all professionals, whether members of the Union or not." It was called for two p.m.—a generally convenient time—yet, notwithstanding the fact that notices were posted up on nearly all the Manchester theatre call-boards and other professional rendezvous, and a further postcard reminder sent out on the Monday night, only four members turned up! It was raining the early part of the day, but was quite fine two hours preceding the time advertised. Making allowance for rehearsals and unforeseen events keeping many away, there are still scores of people "out" in Manchester who could have attended.

Professor Huxley has said (I quote from memory), "In the game of Life the player on the other side is hidden from us, but we know to our cost that he is always just and never overlooks a mistake. It is for you to find out why your ears are boxed." It is not to be pretended that the Actors' Union is going to switch on an actors' millennium; but the A.U. still concerns the actor very much, and this utter indifference indicates the state of Denmark. The overcrowding, the underselling, the trickery, the bogus manager—all these are just what we deserve.—Yours faithfully,

J. TELLY DILLSEN.

Prince's Theatre, Accrington, Aug. 8.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Charles Wyndham, who was undecided whether to remove *A Night Out* from the Criterion to the New, or to produce there a German comedy which he has for some time had in reserve, has finally determined upon neither course, but has instead let the theatre to Mr. Desmond M. Raleigh, who will revive there early next month Horace Annesley Vachell's four-act play, *Her Son*, which had such a favourable hearing at its production at the Playhouse last March. Miss Winifred Emery will again be seen in her part of Dorothy Fairfax, while that of Richard Gasgoyne, formerly played by Mr. Maude, will be sustained at the New by Mr. Kenneth Douglas. Master Bobbie Andrews will once more be Min, and Miss Florence Haydon will repeat her assumption of Lady Helmingham.

It is understood that the name fixed upon for the new theatre at the corner of Wardour-street and Shaftesbury-avenue is the King's. It might very well be the Wardour, though that might cause confusion with the Waldorf; but why, since Mr. J. B. Mulholland has established in the West the beautiful King's Theatre, Hammersmith, should we have another house of the same name when there is a chance of honouring the gracious Consort who first won our hearts as "the daughter of kings across the seas"? We have had two Queen's Theatres in London, but none so worthy of the title as the new and magnificent house just built.

Speaking of the nomenclature of "the temples of Thespis" we are reminded that the theatre which has been rechristened The Kingsway by Miss Lena Ashwell was first known as the Novelty, then became the Jodrell, and later the Great Queen-street Theatre. There was some talk of calling it the Penley Theatre, but the favourite comedian relinquished the idea when he opened it with comedy in 1900.

Mr. Cyril Maude has acquired a play which will manifestly provide him with a part quite in his best style. The new piece is an adaptation from a three-act comedy, entitled *Médor*, by M. Henri Malin, produced at the Paris Gymnase in the autumn of 1897. Mr. Maude's part in the English version will be that of a timid, good-natured gentleman, who is engaged at Somerset House, and resides in a suburban villa. In his youth he had acted in the position of "fag" for a burly friend, and when in later life the two meet again the former relations are resumed. The bully is invited to his friend's house, where he takes up the old masterful sway, and the comedy that is likely to arise out of such a series of situations may well be imagined. Miss Alexandra Carlisle will have an important part in the piece, which is to be called *Fido*, and will be given at Tuesday and Friday matinées at the Playhouse during the autumn.

Puccini will be strongly represented on the Moody-Manners programme at the Lyric next week, and modern Italian opera will be strikingly exemplified by such works as *Madama Butterfly*, given for the first time in its English dress last night, and *La Bohème*. For the rest we are to have such perennial favourites as *Faust*, *Lohengrin*, *Tannhäuser*, and *Trovatore*.

Miss Maxine Elliott is assured of a cordial reception when she makes her reappearance in London on Monday, Sept. 9. She will open her season at the Lyric Theatre with Mr. H. V. Esmond's play, in four acts, *Under the Greenwood Tree*, which has for a sub-title that of *The Romantic History of Mary Hamilton*. The heroine of the play is a young woman of vast wealth, who, tiring of the follies of the fashionable set to which she is attached, seeks freedom amid the surroundings of a nomadic existence, and into this life of simplicity the author has succeeded in weaving the thread of romance. Among those who have been engaged for Miss Elliott's season are Mr. Charles Cherry, Mr. E. Maturin, Mr. T. Gideon Warren, Mr. Felix Edwardes, Mr. Tom Mowbray, Mr. W. J. Yeldham, Miss Mary Jerrold, and Miss H. M. Fraser.

Mr. H. B. Irving, who started his autumn tour this week, will make his first appearance as Louis XI. at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, during the week beginning Sept. 23. Mr. Irving's other plays from his late father's repertory include *The Bells*, *The Lyons Mail*, and *Charles the First*. The tour will also be marked by the production of two new plays—a one-act "historical farce," entitled *The Lion and the Unicorn*, and a four-act drama, called *Cæsar Borgia*, by Mr. Justin Huntly McCarthy.

Mr. Irving has also secured for eventual production a four-act comedy by Judge Parry and Mr. Frederick Mouillot, the authors of *What the Butler Saw*, founded on the career of Jonathan Wild. The famous thief-taker was burlesqued, we remember, by no less a public favourite than Fred Leslie, who appeared in the part at the Gaiety, and it is somewhat surprising to learn that Jonathan is to be "treated from an essentially comic standpoint." The situations of the new play are powerful, but each scene—even the last, which precedes Wild's execution—possesses the element of humour. The action of the first act is laid in a London street; the second passes in an old inn on the road to Harwich; the third takes place in the house of Jonathan's father; and the fourth in a Newgate prison cell.

In his selection of players for the production of *The Christian* at the Lyceum Mr. Wentworth Croke has taken note of the growing reputation of Mr. Matheson Lang by engaging him for the part of John Storm. Mr. Lang's parentage did not apparently encourage a stage career, for, like Mr. Walter Bentley, his father is a Scotch minister. After playing lead with Mr. F. R. Benson, he supported Mrs. Langtry both in this country and in America, and appeared with Mr. H. B. Irving in *The Jury of Fate* at the Shaftesbury. Going to the Adelphi, he was the Tristram to Miss Lily Brayton's Iseult. Previous to this engagement, however, he had the inestimable privilege of supporting Miss Ellen Terry, playing Benedick to her Beatrice. While with Miss Terry's company he met Miss Hutin Britton, whom he married in 1903. Mr. Lang has been a great success in Alfred Sutro's play, *John Glayde's Honour*, in which he played the impetuous lover, Trevor Lerode.

Miss Alice Crawford, another choice of Mr. Wentworth Croke's, is to play the difficult part of Glory Quayle. Miss Crawford has had considerable experience in the Shakespearean productions of Mr. Beerbohm Tree, and supported him in the recent revival of *Antony and Cleopatra*, in which she played the important part of Charmian.

Mr. Edmund Payne, who has been enjoying a holiday, will rejoin the cast of *The Girls of Gottenberg* at the Gaiety this evening, and will resume his original part of Max Moddelkopf.

Mr. Bernard Shaw's buoyant humour apparently does not desert him even in the face of imminent peril. He had an unpleasant experience recently at Llanbedr, Merionethshire, where he is spending a holiday. He and a friend while bathing were carried away by a current, which, however, took them safely to a sandbank. Mr. Shaw afterwards said he was utterly exhausted, and only kept on swimming as long as possible to "postpone the unpleasantness of being drowned."

Mr. Arthur Bourchier has selected Tuesday evening, the 27th inst., for the production of the new comedy of rural life, by Mr. Sydney Valentine and Mrs. Blundell, entitled *Fiander's Widow*. The cast will include Miss Miriam Clements, Mrs. Charles Calvert, Miss Maud Wynter, Miss Elfrida Clement, Mr. H. Nye Chart, Mr. Victor Widdicombe, Mr. Arthur Eldred, Mr. Frank Lacy, Mr. Edward Rigby, and Mr. Sydney Valentine. *Fiander's Widow* will be preceded by Mr. Eden Phillpotts's comedietta, *A Pair of Knickerbockers*, in which Mr. Charles Goodhart and Miss Pamela Gaythorne will appear.

The same evening witnesses the first performance at the Hicks Theatre, under Mr. Charles Frohman's management, of Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's four-act play, *The Hypocrites*, which achieved a brilliant success in New York, where it was accepted as one of the most notable of recent serious contributions to the American stage. The author relies to a large extent on George Meredith's axiom, "Expediency is man's wisdom; doing right is God's," and he seeks to illustrate it by means of a powerful and interesting story. The cast is rendered notable by the inclusion of Mr. J. H. Barnes, who of late has done such valuable work under Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker at the Court, and is sure of a hearty welcome on his return from his long sojourn in the States. Mr. Alfred Bishop, who has been released for the purpose by Mr. Cyril Maude, will also be of the company, which will further consist of Messrs. Chas. V. France, Vernon Steel, Arthur Lewis, Cecil Brooking, and Leslie Faber, and Misses Marion Terry, Viva Birkett, Winifred Arthur-Jones, Henrietta Watson, Doris Keane, and Irene Clark.

Smoking in theatres devoted to the drama is becoming very prevalent, and the permits seem to be so readily granted by local councils and corporations that the oft-urged complaint that in the solace of the weed the music hall patron has a great advantage over his theatrical brother will soon have no foundation in fact. At Edmonton, Brighton, Liverpool, Sheffield, Richmond, and other places the smoke test no longer makes people testy.

The latest house to which the privilege has been accorded is the Theatre Royal, Blackburn, where the Town Council has decided to allow smoking at all performances. The house was re-opened on Monday evening after being closed for the usual summer vacation. During the interval the theatre has been cleaned from floor to roof, and repainted, while an entirely new electric-light installation has been put in, including 190 additional lights for the stage and numerous new lights and switches in the auditorium. A new act-drop has also been fitted up. This is the work of Mr. F. G. Venimore, and there is a picture of Windsor Castle, inset in cream satin draperies with gold enrichments.

Mrs. H. Leigh, a comrade of Nellie Farren, has received the following from an unknown admirer:—"I met the other day an old chum—C. D. Leigh. What interested me more than a little in our chat was to discover that he was the son of Mrs. H. Leigh, whom old playgoers like myself will remember at the London theatres in the early seventies, particularly at the Gaiety—the old Gaiety, but then (alack! how the years pace along!) known as the new Gaiety—under John Hollingshead, who at the time of Mrs. Leigh's engagement put on some of the finest things in our great dramatic literature, with Phelps, Chas. Mathews, Henry Montague, Teddy Righton, J. G. Taylor, Constance Loseby, Miss Furtado (Mrs. John Clarke), and many others of the long or recent past. Mrs. Leigh was a favourite with them all, and particularly with us boys in the pit; for nothing ever came amiss to her, and she played everything in which she was cast with a steady, even ability, a fine humour, and a thorough conscientiousness. I well remember how she used to revel in her parts with Phelps, and how inimitably, for instance, she played up to his Falstaff—a very dry and subtle Falstaff—as Dame Quickly in *The Merry Wives*. And it is good news to learn that she is still alive, hale, and hearty, and occasionally revisits the glimpses of the footlights."

Mr. Martin Harvey has just concluded a delightful motor tour in Northern France, during which he has been partnered by Mr. George Frampton, R.A., the well-known sculptor.

Mr. Harvey's autumn tour of the provinces commences on Thursday at the Opera House, Buxton, the opening piece being *The Only Way*. Miss N. de Silva will, of course, be Mr. Harvey's chief supporter, and the company includes Mr. Fred Wright, sen., Mr. Charles Glenny, Mr. Patrick Alexander, Mr. Philip Hewland, Mr. Leonard Craske, Mr. Charles J. Cameron, Mr. George Cooke, Mr. Percy Foster, Mr. Alfred Mansfield, Mr. A. E. Raynor, and Mr. Vincent Sternroyd. Among the ladies of the company are Miss Coleridge, Miss Bessie Elder, and Miss Maud Milton. Mr. Alfred Rivers continues to be Mr. Harvey's stage-manager, whilst the direction of the stage is in the accomplished hands of Mr. H. J. Loveday. Mr. Frank B. O'Neill, of course, retains the position of business-manager, a post with which he has been identified for many years.

The répertoire this tour includes *Great Possessions*, *Hamlet*, *The Corsican Brothers*, *The Breed of the Treshams*, *The Only Way*, *Rouget de l'Isle*, *A Cigarette-maker's Romance*, &c.

After Buxton, visits in the following order will be paid to Harrogate, Nottingham, Hull, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, Birmingham, Cork, Dublin (three weeks), Belfast, Liverpool, Leeds, and the Coronet, Notting Hill.

One of Joachim's greatest friends in his youth was Schumann, who dedicated his beautiful D minor symphony to the violinist in these terms: "When the first tones of this symphony were conceived Joachim was a mere lad. Since then the symphony, and still more the lad, has grown. Wherefore I dedicate the former to the latter, if only in secret." Joachim still possesses the autograph score of this composition.

In 1899 Berlin celebrated Joachim's sixtieth anniversary in public with one of the most remarkable grand concert festivals ever held. Of the 200 instrumentalists in the orchestra, the whole of the 164 handling string instruments were either past or present pupils of the great master. In fact, violinists came from England and all over the Continent to take part in this remarkable jubilee.

Many honours were accorded Joachim in England. Cambridge conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Music in 1877, and Oxford in 1888. Glasgow University made him LL.D. in 1887. English admirers presented him with a Stradivarius violin, valued at £1200, in April, 1889, and in March, 1894, at the Grafton Galleries, he was the recipient of an address to mark the jubilee of his début in this country. In June, 1899, at a Philharmonic concert at Queen's Hall, he was handed a silver-gilt wreath in commemoration of the sixtieth anniversary or his first public appearance.

A new one-act play, entitled *The Royalist*, written by Mr. E. Oswald Brooks, the resident lessee and manager of the Grand Theatre, Swansea, will be produced, for the first time, on Sept. 5, when Mr. Brooks takes his annual benefit.

Mr. George Edwardes renewed his successes last week in the realm of sport. On Friday his three-year-old Raytoi won the Southdown Club Open Handicap of 150 sovs., and the following day at Lewes his two-year-old colt Danilo was victorious in the Mount Harry Selling Plate of 100 sovs. Both races were closely contested, the events being won by a head and a neck respectively.

Dr. E. Distin Maddick comments warmly in the current issue of *Pearson's Weekly* on the system that allows people to call themselves actors when they have no right to the title. "Let a man falsely describe himself as an ordained clergyman, a solicitor, or a doctor, and, whether he attempt to practise or not, he instantly becomes liable to heavy punishment," writes Dr. Maddick. "But any woman who finds herself in the dock can describe herself as an 'actress,' as so many of them do, and she not only commits no offence, but no one can say she is not an actress. In so far that the stage is open without fee, test, or examination of any kind to anybody, and in so far that the term 'actor' or 'actress' carries in itself no legal significance or status, as do the terms clergyman, solicitor, doctor, acting is not a profession, and actors and actresses are not professional men and women."

In connection with the neglected condition of Kate Vaughan's grave, Mr. Edward Terry writes:—"I was with poor Kate every day during her last illness until she died. She wanted for nothing that the loving attention of friends could provide. On a dreadfully stormy day she was lowered into the grave by six old comrades, of whom I was one. Before leaving Johannesburg I gave instructions for a memorial, and left a sum of money for the purpose. Some months after, in England, I received a photo of the cross, and was well satisfied with its appearance. I am sure any actor visiting Johannesburg would be only too pleased to take a few flowers as a tribute, and the Actors' Benevolent Fund for South Africa, which I helped to found when there, would keep it in order. At the same time, it must not be forgotten that the torrential rains will soon destroy a flower-decked grave and loosen the stones of any memorial."

The council of the Actors' Association have met with gratifying success in their endeavour to obtain a reduction of fees to members from golf clubs all over the kingdom. The Burnley Club replied that they would give facilities without any charge, and the same answer was received from the Cambridge University G.C. and the Folkestone G.C. The Blundell G.C. and Deane G.C. (Bolton) reduced their fees by one half, and many clubs have consented to allow the members of the A.A. to use their links upon payment of the nominal fee of 1s. per day.

Mr. Charles Manners, ever anxious to encourage native talent, is shortly producing Mr. Hermann Löhr's one-act opera *Sarenna*, the plot of which is simple and yet dramatic. The lyrics, by Avon Marsh, are far above the average. The opera is written for tenor, baritone, contralto, soprano, and bass. The composer is already favourably known to the public in connection with his songs, and in *Sarenna* he shows marked ability to write really dramatic music.

A copyright performance of Mr. Lawrence Binyon's play, *Attila*, which is to be produced by Mr. Oscar Asche on Sept. 4, took place on Thursday evening at His Majesty's. The author has gathered his materials chiefly from the records of Priscus, a Greek, who was despatched in 449 A.D. by the Roman Emperor on a mission to the Huns, and by whom Attila's appearance, manner and surroundings are vividly described. The principal ingredients in the play are composed of Attila's superstition, his desire to found a dynasty without which he could never hope to consummate the conquest of Rome, his profound affection for his young son, his infatuation for Ildico, the beautiful Princess of the Burgundian people, and the famous historical incident of the romantic passion conceived for Attila by the Roman Emperor's sister, Honoria, culminating in the offer of herself in marriage; but the pith of the play, as of the Germanic legends, lies in the shipwreck of Attila's ambitions on the Western conception, to which all his Oriental ideas were opposed, of the dignity of womanhood.

The Mansfield Grand Theatre will reopen on Aug. 26. During the closure many alterations and improvements have been effected.

At the Fulham Theatre next week Mr. Robert Arthur has arranged for the return visit of Mr. Bert Coote's principal company, in the celebrated play *The Fatal Wedding*, with the entire production as played at the Princess's Theatre.

The Bandmann Comedy Company appeared at Singapore on July 12 in *Lady Gorringe's Necklace*, and although this play is not quite new to the East, large houses were attracted. Miss Florence Hamer as Mrs. Gorringe played with distinction; Mr. Claude King as Captain Mowbray gave a convincing performance; Miss Violet Vorley as Isabel and Mr. P. Sanders as David Cairn were excellent; Mr. C. Bown was good as Colonel Jardine; and a really admirable rendering of the part of Mrs. Jardine was given by Miss Dorcas Corsbie. Mr. T. Peachey played well as Jernigan; Miss R. Spiers as Miss Potts, Miss Grenville as Hettie, and Mr. W. S. Butt as Charles, made the most of their parts.

Alberto Franchetti, the composer of *Christoforo Colombo*, produced at Genoa in 1892, will be represented during the autumn season at Covent Garden by his opera *Germania*, which was produced at Milan in 1902.

Mr. Geo. D. Day's company, *The Bondman*, with Mr. Frank Cooper in his original part of Jason, opened on Monday last at the Gaiety Theatre, Douglas, to a brilliant and most enthusiastic house. Appended, in round numbers, are the first four days' receipts, which certainly seem phenomenal:—Monday, £140; Tuesday, £182; Wednesday, £167; Thursday, £164.

Among the novelties to be given by Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker during their season at the Savoy will be a new play by John Galsworthy, entitled *Joy*. Mr. Galsworthy, it will be remembered, is the author of *The Silver Box*, which was produced at the Court in 1901, and revived in the spring of this year.

Mr. Maurice E. Bandmann, who has just returned to Calcutta, after having concluded arrangements in London for his forthcoming Eastern season, sends the satisfactory tidings that things are booming with him in the East. Mr. Bandmann now owns, or controls, a complete circuit of theatres in India and the Far East, and he is in a position to offer companies a twelve months' solid tour. He has also four companies of his own touring abroad this year.

Among the new operas that the Bandmann Opera company will produce in Calcutta this coming season are *Amasis*, *The Girls of Gottenburg*, and *The Merry Widow*, while the Bandmann Comedy company will shortly produce *The Walls of Jericho*, *The Morals of Marcus*, and *John Glayde's Honour*. Mr. Bandmann wishes particularly to warn artists against accepting engagements in India before making full enquiries as to the stability of the management they are going with.

Mr. Charles Manners, who is carrying on such enterprising work in the cause of English opera at the Lyric, has decided views with regard to "charity concerts." Nobody, he said, could accuse the musical profession of neglecting to use legitimate channels for dispensing charity, but a charity concert was not one of these—in many cases it was a cheap method of giving a swell "At Home." He gave as an instance the case of a charity concert at which—the artists giving their services free—the expenses totalled over £1000, the charity getting 30s. Music, he added, was as much the musician's livelihood as bricklaying was the bricklayer's, and the young musician who thought he improved his professional chances by singing for nothing and a free advertisement in a daily newspaper made a great mistake.

Miss Ellen Snow, who is one of the latest of young and accomplished actresses to venture into management on her own account, will appear at the Grand Theatre, Islington, on Monday, in a revival of the well-known play, *Why Men Love Women*. Miss Snow has already won golden opinions in the provinces with the excellent company she has chosen, and also on account of the complete manner in which the play has been staged. The author of the play is Mr. Walter Howard, whose *Midnight Wedding* is still drawing crowded houses to the Lyceum.

Mr. Jack Haddon and company will appear at the Shakespeare, Clapham, on Monday, in the romantic military drama, *Under the Russian Flag*, another play from the pen of the successful author, Mr. Walter Howard. Mr. Haddon started his autumn tour a few weeks ago in the provinces, and he has been highly complimented by various managers on the excellent way in which he has presented the play.

Influenced by the excellent results of the last visit of *The Prodigal Son* to his Kennington Theatre, Mr. Robert Arthur has arranged with Mr. Wentworth Croke to bring Mr. Hall Caine's play there for next week. The company is an exceptionally strong one, and some beautiful scenery has been painted by Mr. Ernest Howard. Later in the season (Sept. 9) Mr. Croke is also to present *The Bondman*.

A protean prodigy has been discovered in Italy, where Signorina Fatima Miris, aged 24, is creating a sensation by playing the whole of *The Geisha* singlehanded. She represents all the fifteen principal parts, changing her costume seventeen times, and at no time, it is said, is she off the stage more than five seconds.

Mr. G. Moreton-Williams, who recently concluded a second tour, playing his original part of Uriah Craven in Messrs. Warden and Sandford's *A Woman's Past* company, has been re-engaged by the same firm for the autumn tour of this piece.

During the summer vacation the Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield, has been cleansed, re-carpeted, and entirely re-upholstered. The proscenium and auditorium have been beautifully decorated, the chaste colour-scheme being suggested by the artistic manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont. The foyer, corridors, vestibules, and refreshment-rooms have also been attended to, and the stage has been thoroughly overhauled.

Miss Violet Osmond, after a short rest, is again appearing as Dora Heather in *The New Barmaid*, and has been meeting with a flattering reception this week at the County Theatre, Kingston.

The Theatre Royal, Lincoln, has been leased to Messrs. W. Payne-Seddon and Ernest Pope, who are now carrying out some structural alterations. The theatre will be reopened on Sept. 2.

Mr. Robert Arthur is about to try a new experiment in Liverpool. In order to test public opinion regarding the advisibility of establishing a stock company for the production of Shakesperean plays on an elaborate scale, such as obtained at Manchester, he has arranged to take over, for the week commencing Sept. 9, the entire combination of *As You Like It*, which was this week revived at the Theatre Royal in that city. Mr. Gerald Lawrence and Miss Fay Davis will be in the cast.

Miss Beatrice Wilson will play Esther Agle when Mr. Norman V. Norman presents Miss Gladys Unger's *Mr. Sheridan*, which had such a successful run at the Garrick. Mr. Norman himself will play Richard Brinsley, and other important engagements that he has made include Mr. G. T. Norman-Burt and Mr. Alfred Gray, who will play Lord Cray and Tom Sheridan respectively. Mr. Norman is having a special plant of printing for the play, which will be elaborately dressed and mounted.

Mr. Norman V. Norman gave a pastoral play in the Vivary Park, Taunton, last week, in aid of the Somerset County Hospital. The performance, which was attended by most of the leading residents of the town and neighbourhood, was very successful, the grounds being tastefully illuminated with festoons of coloured lights and lanterns.

"Second to None," Mr. Walter Howard's latest effort, will make its first appearance in London on Monday, when it will begin a week's engagement at the West London. The piece will be presented by Mr. T. Edward Ward's company.

Mr. Moncton Hoffe, who, by arrangement with Mr. George Alexander, is touring Oscar Wilde's two plays, *Lady Windermere's Fan* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*, has recently acquired the entire British rights of *Das Comedie der lugnenden Schauspieler*, by Moritz Blankenberg. The translation is in the hands of Mr. Arthur Forbes Watts.

"The King of the Huguenots," a romantic play by H. A. Saintsbury, of the time of the famous massacre of St. Bartholomew, is to be produced in the late autumn by Mr. J. Maundy-Gregory. The opera by Meyerbeer on the same subject is familiar to Covent Garden frequenters.

A good story is told of a visit by Joachim to Manchester. After a concert at which there had been enthusiasm rarely surpassed he was walking up and down the railway platform with a cigar. A respectable man, apparently a navvy in his best clothes, kept intently eyeing him. Presently the man came up, asked for a light, and got it. Looking Joachim full in the face, and tapping him on the shoulder, he remarked, "But Paganini was the man." "I never felt so small in my life," said Joachim.

"Miss Hook of Holland" continues her successful career at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, playing every night to crowded houses. The 200th performance was given on Thursday evening.

Mrs. Annie Bellew is giving up her association with the theatrical profession after eleven years' service as wardrobe mistress with Mr. W. W. Kelly. Mrs. Bellew intends to start house-keeping in Birmingham.

Mr. Sydney Spenser's theatre at Glossop reopens on Monday with *When London Sleeps*.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Outside Bailiffs!

Richard Craston, property master at the old Queen's Theatre, Manchester, was devotedly loyal to his employer, F. B. Egan. Once, when the broker's men were in, and on a Sunday night, "Dick" entered the theatre, by permission of the bailiffs, and wended his way to his room, which was immediately beneath the rat-holed and cracked floor of the stage-door entrance. Here he—by accident, of course—upset on a gas stove a couple of pounds of "villainous saltpeter" red fire, which, ascending to the olfactory organs of the men in possession, drove them into the street for fresh air, and to the corner pub for fresh beer. Dick immediately locked, bolted, and barred the door, thinking, with Gnatbrain in *Black-Eyed Susan*, that "a bailiff, like a snowstorm, is always best on the outside."

An Indignant Clown!

When Gomersal and Conquest took the Garrick Theatre, Leman-street, Whitechapel, they agreed to abide by a hard-and-fast rule, and that was that no free admissions were to be given by either. One evening, Paul Herring, the celebrated clown, asked to be passed in free. "I'm sorry," said Gomersal, who was in front, "but I cannot, Paul; it's against the rules; but, as I don't like to refuse an old friend, there's a shilling to pay with." "Thanks," said Paul. "What are you playing?" "*The Dumb Man of Manchester*, said Gomersal. "And who plays Tom?" "I do, of course." "And," said Paul, "do you think I'm going to pay a good, honest shilling to see you trying to struggle through a part like that? No; I'd sooner go and have a drink with it!" And he did.

Alexander and Shakespeare.

John Henry Alexander, the once well-known manager and comedian, of the old Theatre Royal, in Dunlop-street, Glasgow, whose tomb in that city, with its proscenium and fallen curtain—"Fallen is the curtain," &c., inscription—is one of the sights of the Necropolis there, was a warm-hearted, eccentric, pawky type of "Caledonia stern and wild." At the building of his theatre—"Ma Pawlace," as he termed it—he was asked by the builder as to the disposition of the busts of Shakespeare and Scott on the outside of the building. "Aweel, jeest put Shawkspeare on yin side, Scott on the ither, and, jeest to balance matters, put ma statue in the middle!"

A Cross Check!

Alick, senior, took checks in the gallery, and one exceptionally crowded night, having run short of these "pass-outs," he resorted to the expedient of chalking a cross on the backs of the boys, and husbanding the checks for the adults. This was good enough for the crowd of wee laddies who were waiting outside for gifts of "pass-outs." Chalk was easily procurable, and when the bona-fide check-holders returned there was no room for them.

A Storm-tost Mar-text.

A Mr. Kimber was an excellent stage-manager, and a man of infinite resource in times of difficulty. The piece was *The Tempest*, and the theatre the Prince's, Manchester. In the storm-tossed ship which commences the piece boys stood on the deck to represent the personages in the play, for the sake of perspective, the words of the piece being spoken at the side by the actors impersonating the characters. But these actors, being often late, Kimber used to cover their absence by speaking—or trying to—the lines of the author himself. For instance, he would deputise for one of the absent actors by shouting in the strident tones of the boatswain, "Yare, yare! Down with the topmast!" Then shouting to the company in the dressing-rooms, "You're all late; hurry up!" Then to the property man, "Work the thunder, and keep it up till they come!" Then reverting to Shakespeare, "Yare, yare! Lower, lower!"; to company, "I'll fine every one of you on Saturday!"; then harking back to the Bard, "All is lost! To prayers, to prayers!"; then improvising, forgetting that the ship was in mid-ocean, "Oh, gentlemen, let us all write home to our friends!"

To this Complexion!

Attention has been drawn to the neglect of Sarah Siddons's grave in Paddington Churchyard, and now comes the news from Johannesburg that Kate Vaughan's grave is shockingly neglected, and in no way worthy of one who so long graced the boards as queen of the terpsichorean art. "I visited poor Kate Vaughan's grave," writes a Johannesburg correspondent, "and found it in a shocking state of neglect! It is only a stone with a small cross, such as one would find on some child's neglected grave, with a small inscription giving the date of her death, and the following epitaph, 'One has to pass through life to reach eternity.' I tidied up the grave as much as possible, but it still presented a picture of the greatest desolation among the other well-kept graves around." Surely there are some frequenters of the Gaiety in the balmy days of the "Sacred Lamp," some lovers of dancing of which Kate Vaughan was so gifted and original an exponent, who would gladly contribute a small sum in order that her last resting-place might be worthy of a queen of dancers.

In Defence of Drama.

Mr. Hall Caine made further reference at Douglas, Isle of Man, on Wednesday night to the remark of an American professor that the English drama had been dead for 200 years. Addressing a theatre audience after a performance of *The Bondman*, Mr. Caine said: "The English drama is not dead, and is not dying. On the contrary, the old gentleman who was born before Shakespeare is still alive and fit, and likely to marry another wife, and have another large family. In other words, I think the English drama in the future will be the pulpit and platform of people from which great questions of life will be discussed, and that the theatre of the time to come will be a great forum, without ceasing to be a place of entertainment."

A Friend of Mendelssohn.

Music-lovers in general and frequenters of the now discontinued Monday and Saturday Popular Concerts will learn with great regret of the death of Dr. Josef Joachim. He was born in June, 1831, and was therefore in his seventy-seventh year. He commenced playing the violin at the age of five, and in his early artistic career was warmly encouraged by Mendelssohn, who accorded him the distinguished honour of accompanying him in 1843 at a concert of Mme. Viardot's in a Rondo of De Beriot's. He paid his first visit to England in 1844, making his professional début in London at Drury Lane Theatre, at a benefit of Alfred Bunn, on March 28 of that year. The sixtieth anniversary of his first appearance in England was the occasion of a very interesting concert at the Queen's Hall on May 16, 1904, when his own portrait, painted by J. Sargent, R.A., was presented to him by Mr. A. J. Balfour.

"The Sins of Society."

Mr. Arthur Collins writes in the *Express* on the Drury Lane autumn drama, *The Sins of Society*. "It must be supposed," he says, "that the drama is mainly composed of the unfortunate experience of a heroine who had been unlucky at bridge, or still more unfortunate in betting on horse races. Gambling, as in real life, leads the heroine into dire straits, almost verging on tragedy; but it is a mere incident leading up to grand situations which it has been my aim to illustrate scenically in a manner hitherto unknown even at Drury Lane."

"FRENCH AS HE IS SPOKE."

Comedy, in one act, adapted by Gaston Mayer from the French play, *L'Anglais tel qu'on le parle*, by Tristan Bernard, produced on Thursday, Aug. 15, at the Playhouse.

Peter ..... MR. CYRIL MAUDE
Monsieur Villiers .....MR. D. J. MCCARTHY
Charlie Lingard .... MR. ERNEST MAINWARING
Inspector of Police ..... MR. JOHN HARWOOD
Waiter ..... MR. A. G. ONSLOW
Policeman ..... MR. W. BLAIR
Rosine ..... MISS MADGE TITHERADGE
Hotel Manageress ..... MISS KATE HARWOOD

During his last stay in London M. Coquelin presented at The Royalty the excellent farce by Tristan Bernard, entitled *L'Anglais tel qu'on le parle*, and rejoiced his English admirers by his ingenious and clever impersonation of Eugène. The piece has now been adapted by Mr. Gaston Mayer, and was presented on Thursday evening at the Playhouse by Mr. Cyril Maude and company, as a prelude to the hilarious comedy, *The Earl of Pawtucket*, in place of the more serious piece, *The Drums of Oude*. As a curtain-rasier the success of *French as He is Spoke*—as the adaptation is called—was at once established, and it is probable that with repetition that success will grow. The days of a universal language are happily far distant, and our descendants probably will resent any evolution of tongues that robs them of the enjoyment that is to be derived from English misinterpretations of Gallic idioms, or vice-versa. Londoners will laugh over the mistakes made by Peter, who accepts an engagement as interpreter at the Avanta Hotel, London, his only qualification for the post being a colossal ignorance of any other language than his own. In the original it was Eugène's ideas of English that supplied the bulk of the fun. In the adaptation Peter's interpretations of French form a companion picture, and the chief characters, instead of being Parisian, are British. Of course, Peter makes a terrible muddle, and involves the characters in absurd situations. A runaway couple, Charlie Lingard and Rosine, arrive at the hotel, and are followed by the irate father of the girl, Monsieur Villiers. His anger startles the interpreter, who concludes that Villiers has been robbed of his pocket-book at the railway station, and sends for the police. Complications that ensue are eventually straightened out through Charlie Lingard himself becoming interpreter. The indignant father is called to explain the situation to the new interpreter, and then discovers the object of his search. Through the telephone it is announced that Charlie has been given a junior partnership in his firm, and *le père* Villiers readily consents to the marriage, forgiving the couple who have taken French leave.

Mr. Cyril Maude's quaint but effective method makes him a constant source of hilarity in the part of Peter, his facial expression being decidedly funny; a great hit is made by Mr. D. J. McCarthy, whose splenetic Frenchman (Villiers) reminds one of that excellent actor M. Marius, in a similar part. Higher praise would be impossible. Miss Madge Titheradge makes a fresh and ingenuous Rosine; Mr. Ernest Mainwaring is alert and breezy as Charlie Lingard; and to the success Mr. John Harwood, Mr. A. G. Onslow, and Miss Kate Harwood largely contribute. *The Earl of Pawtucket* pursues his light-hearted adventures to the accompaniment of laughter and applause, and in the name part Mr. Cyril Maude makes evident his wonderful versatility and adaptability.

AT the Workington Opera House this week Elliotts-Savonas' musical and variety performance is enthusiastically applauded by large houses. The Palace of Orpheus and the musical efforts of the Savonas give special delight. The one-act comedy, *Are Wives Dummies?* is ably enacted by Mr. Fred Monckton and Miss Lillie Monckton; Conan and Doyle, comedians and dancers, have a rousing reception; Miss Gertie Andrews sings tastefully, as also does Miss Florence.

THIS week, at the Theatre Royal, Whitehaven, Mr. Sidney and Miss Dora Dench's company is engaged in the drama *A Prince of Rogues*. Mr. Sidney Dorey has a capital part as Kenry, a detective; and Mr. L. Lawrence is a capable villain; Mr. Bert Dench is very amusing as Josh Buggins; and Mr. Robert Hall works hard as Frank Farrell; Miss Lorna Trehearne is good in the thankless part of Rita; and Miss Dora Dench is pleasing at Winnie Harwood.

NEW WEST-END PLAYHOUSE.

The very latest of the new West-End houses is nearing completion, and will be ready for opening by the end of September. The house is the sister one to the Hicks' Theatre, and is one of the two forming one block of buildings having frontages to Shaftesbury-avenue, Rupert-street, Wardour-street, and Upper Rupert-street, and comprising a large island site of about 25,000 superficial feet. Large shop premises occupy a portion of the centre of the site. The theatres have important corner entrances flanking on to Shaftesbury-avenue and Rupert-street, and Wardour-street respectively.

Mr. W. G. R. Sprague, who has designed the whole of the buildings for Messrs. Jacobus-Marler Estates, Ltd., has contrived to keep both the theatres absolutely different, both in the planning, details, and designing of the interiors, though the sites are practically identical in shape, the area of this latest theatre being somewhat larger. The theatre will be found to embody all that modern science and skill can do to make it perfect, both as to the comfort and convenience of the audiences and the requirements of the management. The principal entry is made through a semicircular lobby into a fine and exceedingly lofty crush-room, 24ft. wide and 24ft. in length, with a clear height of 21ft. A striking feature here is the fine white marble staircase directly facing one, the main landing above being arranged so as to form a projecting balcony in the room, whilst a handsome hammered-brass and ormolu grill balustrade adds to the effect. From this crush-room the better parts of the auditorium are quickly reached.

The auditorium is designed upon bold lines, and is 57ft. wide and 75ft. from the curtain line to back wall of pit. The construction is partly on the cantilever system, no columns being used anywhere. On the ground floor are stalls and pit. The first tier is the dress circle, above which is a large family circle or balcony; and above this, slightly set-up or raised, is a good gallery. The sighting of the house and acoustics are quite perfect from the most remote seat. It is estimated that the house can hold in money well over £300 per performance; but with even a much smaller audience, the auditorium will look cosy and well dressed, a point always appreciated by practical management.

The style of the decorative scheme throughout is Italian Renaissance, the groundwork of which is flatted gold, the relief modelling being ivory white, the colour scheme and draperies and upholstery being in a soft tone of eau de Nil green, with cherry-coloured silk shades to the electroliers and fittings. The building throughout is lighted by electricity, and the lighting is generally arranged to harmonise with the decorations. The heating is on the low-pressure system, and the stage is especially well provided with coils and radiators, so that the atmosphere in this part is pleasantly warmed before passing into the auditorium, thus obviating draughts, which often arise from lack of sufficient heat in this part. The stage and the auditorium are both well provided with hydrants and fire appliances, and the proscenium is fitted with a double asbestos and steel fire-curtain with water-sprays, in accordance with the London County Council's latest requirements. The dressing-rooms are provided in a separate block at the rear of the stage, and are fitted with hot and cold water supplies, heating, electric light, and all the latest modern accessories.

The various works have been executed by the following firms:—The general contract for the building—Mr. Walter Wallis, High-road, Balham, S.W.; decorations and furnishings—Messrs. Waring and Gillow, Sloane-street, S.W.; electric lighting—Messrs. Roger Dawson and Co., Ltd., Berners-street, W.; heating and hot-water supplies—Messrs. Strode and Co., Osnaburgh-street, N.W.; hydrants and fire-curtain—Messrs. Merryweather, of Greenwich-road, S.E.; stage and appliances—Mr. Darer, Pepys-road, Wimbledon, S.W.; steel construction throughout—Messrs. Smith, Walker, and Co., Tothill-street, Westminster; marble work of grand staircase, crush-room, and entrance—Messrs. Whitehead and Son, Kennington. Mr. George Webber has officiated as clerk of the works for the whole of the building, and Mr. William Wallis has acted as foreman.

MISS LOUISA PEACH, who was playing the leading part in *A Broken Heart* at the Dalston Theatre last week, was the recipient on the Saturday night of a handsome shower bouquet

THE ACTORS' UNION.

The usual weekly meeting of the Actors' Union was held on Tuesday at the Bedford Head Hotel, when the chair was taken by Mr. Fred Bentley, among those present being Messrs. George H. Child, E. Y. Rae, J. W. Braithwaite, Fred F. Loyd, D. G. Murray, Arthur Rose, Charles R. Hann, Wm. Allison, A. G. Harding, G. Trueman, Arthur Stratton, Robt. M. Taylor, H. Paulton, jun., E. Chester, R. C. Locke, G. P. Lester, Harry Bristow, and Leo Whamboult, and Misses Gladys Ffolliott, Kitty Marion, Adelaide Grace, Helene Forest, Louise L'Estrange, May Conrade, Mary Bessle, Grace Lester, Edith Chalmers, Florence Creagh, Alice Marsden, Nelly Howitt, Annie Warwick, Amy Coleman, Nancy Nevill, Ada Roscoe, Kate Lang, and Elizabeth Lang.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the meeting, said all the arguments had already been used so many times that he must be excused if he was a little bit tautological, but the subject of the Actors' Union was to him like the bay leaf, ever green and ever fresh. It was a story oft told that never grew stale in the telling. He was just as ardent and enthusiastic as when a long time ago he used to dream of a brotherhood amongst actors and actresses. He had seen years ago scenes that could never have been imagined—scenes of poverty, misery, degradation, to which noble men and women had sunk, after giving of their best for the amusement and enlightenment of the public. Had such a brotherhood as he alluded to been in existence, such things could never have occurred. The Actors' Union, therefore, was an absolute necessity, and their motto should be "One for all, and all for one." They had been attacked on all sides by open foes and traitorous friends, who seemed to consider them an "Aunt Sally" to be shied at. They talked about running with the hare and hunting with the hounds, but the allegory would not apply in this instance, because in the chase the huntsman and hounds ran straight, and the fox knew which way they were coming; but the enemies of the Union came at it on all sides. The people who wrote to the papers were not of them, and why should they attempt to please outsiders? He remembered a line in a play which he used to speak:—"If England be true to herself, no foe can work her evil." That applied in the same way to the Union. If they were true to themselves, no outsiders could do them damage, try as they may. They did not want to strike, and would not unless absolutely forced. They could not at present push are £2 minimum, but they were keeping it in the forefront. It was what the Union was established for. Many abstained from joining the Union on account of the £2 minimum, but the principle was not compulsory, and would never be enforced until they were strong enough. Some of the salaries paid by the smaller companies in the provinces were really wicked, one company in a certain seaside resort getting a salary of £30 gross during Bank Holiday week. He instanced the case of the Actors' Association in Germany, which numbered 6,000, and which was so strong that, before putting anything into effect, managers had to go to them and ask them if they agreed. England, to all actors the world over, was the Mecca of their hopes; it was the hub of the dramatic world, and if they all put their heads together there was no reason why they should not only rival the German Association, but top it.

MR. G. H. CHILD said they had eight items on their agenda, and if actors were in favour of one single item, they had no excuse for not joining. The Actors' Union was started because it was wanted. The Actors' Association was started because no such thing existed; but the A.U. was started not because no such thing existed, but because it was what was wanted. The A.U. hoped to do something for the right-minded actor and actress's welfare. No member, he was convinced, joined the Union for what he or she could get out of it, but in order to put the profession on a better footing. With regard to ladies on the committee it was hardly necessary to make a rule on the subject at all. Why not leave it an open question, and let ladies be nominated at the general meetings, and let the majority decide? They all felt that, at some time or other, amalgamation with the Actors' Association was bound to come. They ran practically on the same lines, and the friendly rivalry between the two bodies resulted in them both doing their best to get members. As an instance of the low state to which the profession had fallen, he related a case in which an American manager advertised for artists, and had any number of replies, one of which came from a lady, who wrote, "If you will find dresses I will come for 5s. a week." Such a thing would not be tolerated in America. Another manager advertised for a heavy man for the provinces, and had over three hundred replies, and out of those three hundred only one asked for more than £2 10s. With regard to striking, he did not suppose there was a member of the Union who would strike if he was told to, because he knew they did not join together in order to strike, but to be strong enough to make them think they could and would strike.

MISS FFOLLIOTT said it behoved every Unionist to refrain from asking very small salaries, as they were thereby going against their own interests. If only they would take heart of grace and ask more, the manager would realise that terms were going up. Whatever they asked, the manager would not have artists if he did not want them, and if they asked a small sum it was immediately thought that they judged themselves at that value. Let them demand a proper salary, and managers would begin to see the time had come to make an improvement. She had heard very good reports of the Union, and much satisfaction had been aroused at the number of engagements—fifty or more—that had been made through its medium.

In reply to a member, the chairman stated that their agency was not an agency pure and simple, but what they called an "open bureau." Facilities were afforded for entering the names and addresses of those out of engagement, and when a manager sent to the secretary for an artist, he asked every Unionist who came in if they knew of one, and if they did not he went out and found one. No charge whatsoever was made, except for the cost of a letter or telegram if either were used. He added that no engagement was ever negotiated under a salary of £2.

MR. LOYD asked by whom the idea that an actor worked only thirty weeks in the year was started? His own experience during the past five years showed an average of forty-two weeks in the year. He was speaking from the provincial point of view. If he could do that, why could not others?

The CHAIRMAN replied that there were more actors than shops to fill, and some only got ten weeks in the year. They had struck an average of the people in the profession, and they thought it was a fair estimate.

MR. LESTER said he was a non-member of the Union, but he had read every account which had appeared. He had formerly come to the conclusion that there was no unity among actors or actresses, and he was waiting to see how it turned out. He agreed with its principles, and had decided to become a member.

In answer to a member, the chairman said neither baggage-men nor carpenters had any right in the Union, even if playing parts. If any such had gained admission to the Society, it must have been during the early days, when less supervision was exercised. The chairman also announced that Dr. Marshall, of Douglas, had been appointed medical officer to the Actors' Union for that town, and that Mr. Horne, a dental surgeon of the same district, had agreed to attend to the teeth of members at a very reduced rate. They would be pleased to add other names to the list.

"PROOF."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA

SIR,—We shall be glad if you will correct an error made by your Broughton, Manchester, critic in his notice of above play in your issue of Aug. 10. The drama is being toured (as it has been for the past seven years) by—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM MACLAREN
LILY MACLAREN.

Gowanlea, Navarino-road, Worthing, Aug. 14.

MISS LOUIE WEST has been specially re-engaged by Sir Charles Wyndham to understudy lead in *A Night Out*.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE will present at the Broadway, New Cross, on Monday, Aug. 26, *The Bondman*, by Hall Caine, direct from Drury Lane, with all new scenery, dresses, and effects. No expense has been spared in securing a first-class London company. Miss Grace Chalmers has been specially engaged to play the part of Greeba. Mr. Wentworth Croke is also presenting on Aug. 26, at the Grand, Croydon, that other celebrated play by Hall Caine, *The Prodigal Son*.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Charles Darrell, produced at the Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough, on Monday, Aug. 12.

Flare-Flare .....MISS ANNIE BELL
H.R.H. Prince Sergius Zoreski
MR. ARTHUR MCCULLOCK
Phillipe D'Esterre .....MR. OTTO MINSTER
Gustave Langlois .....MR. NORTON SHIELDS
Theo Decline .....MR. CHRIS. ROBERTS
Guillame .....MR. GORDON ROBEY
Victor Cashelle .....MR. SIDNEY ARNOLD
Tartare .....MR. H. VYVIAN THOMAS
Bracqueth .....MR. GERALD TRAVERS
Rachel Bernhardt .....MISS ETHEL SELBY
Olympe Sosage .....MISS GRACE NOBLE
Madame Sancterre .....MISS ESTHER CARTHEW
Ann .....MISS ANNIE MEGSON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A very appreciative audience welcomed the initial production of the above new play, which—all things considered—went smoothly and satisfactorily. The drama is well written, and Mr. James Bell, by whom it is produced, is to be congratulated on the manner in which he has allotted the characters. The embodiment of the title-rôle is found in Flare-Flare, a music hall artist who is all the rage at the Crescendo Music Hall, Paris, where she is surrounded by the "smart set," amongst them being Phillipe D'Esterre, a man about town. Flare-Flare is so greatly attached to the man that, in order to save his life, which is threatened in consequence of his being unable to produce the money demanded by a Nihilist brotherhood to which he belongs, she sacrifices her honour. Before Flare-Flare arrives with the money which she has obtained from Prince Sergius Zoreski, the head of the Russian secret society, Phillipe D'Esterre, having received news that he has inherited a fortune, forthwith borrows the amount needed, and when "the Idol of Paris" arrives he casts her off, sternly rebuking her for her misconduct. Later Flare-Flare becomes still more popular under the name of Mme. Coralie, a prima donna, and in this character she arrives at the Château de Sancterre, where she is to sing for a charity. Here she unexpectedly encounters Phillipe, who is staying with his aunt, the hostess of the stately home, and his cousin, Victor Cashelle, who inherited from the same source and at the same time an equal fortune with Phillipe. The latter has quickly squandered his wealth, and has been befriended over and over again by his cousin. Victor, who has heard Coralie sing in Berlin, falls in love with her, and they become engaged. To frustrate their union Phillipe enters Caralie's bedchamber at night by means of a secret corridor, creates a disturbance, and arouses the house, whereupon Coralie is ordered from the Château. Victor, however, believes in her innocence, and marries her. She is again beset by Phillipe, who declares that he holds Victor's death warrant from the brotherhood—of which Victor is also a member—and in order to get possession of the document Coralie behaves in such a way as to be expelled from her husband's house. Ultimately Phillipe is found to be a traitor to the brotherhood and condemned to death. Victor hands him a revolver and Phillipe shoots himself. Flare-Flare returns just in time to prevent Victor committing suicide, and they are happily reunited.

Miss Annie Bell is admirably suited to the trying and difficult character which gives the play its name, her powerful and realistic acting commanding the highest commendation of her audience. In the thankless rôle of Phillipe D'Esterre Mr. Otto Minster is deserving of very high praise. He has a thorough conception of the character, and plays it well. Mr. Sidney Arnold as Victor Cashelle acts the part of a French aristocrat in praiseworthy style, and Prince Sergius Zoreski is portrayed in a stately manner by Mr. Arthur McCullock. Tartare, the younger brother of Victor, and his pretty little cousin, Ann, are capably impersonated by Mr. H. Vyvian Thomas and Miss Annie Megson respectively, much laughter being aroused by their droll antics. Rachel Bernhardt, a would-be actress, is amusingly portrayed by Miss Ethel Selby, as is also the part of Olympe Sosage by Miss Grace Noble; whilst as Mme. Sancterre, the hostess of the Château, Miss Esther Carthew is successful, and Mr. Norton Shields is a dignified family lawyer. Capitally staged, *The Idol of Paris* should take front rank among provincial attractions.

NEW SHAFTESBURY AVENUE THEATRE.

Proprietors: Messrs. JACOBUS-MARLER ESTATES, LTD. Architect: W. G. R. SPRAGUE

CHARGE AGAINST AN ACTOR.

At Darlington Police Court on Tuesday Charles Craston, actor, was charged with larceny of a manuscript book containing the part of the Rev. Basil Gortre, which he had filled in the dramatised version of Guy Thorne's famous novel, *When it was Dark*.

Mr. A. W. Smith, who prosecuted on behalf of T. Morton Powell, proprietor of the *When It Was Dark* company, playing at the Darlington Theatre Royal this week, opened by stating that when Craston was engaged it was specially mentioned that it was subject to a fortnight's notice on either side.

The company commenced the tour at Nelson, in Lancashire, last week, and Craston attempted to take his part, but he was not happy in it, was not letter-perfect, and did not "dress" the part properly.

On the Friday night he was given a fortnight's notice. He travelled from Lancashire to Darlington last Sunday, and on Monday interviewed Powell, and asked if he intended to withdraw the notice, but the manager refused.

Craston then declared that he would not go on again. Fortunately the manager was able to play the part himself, as nobody else would have been able to take it properly.

Before the performance Craston took away the basket containing his effects, and also took the manuscript part with the words of the Rev. Basil Gortre. He was charged with stealing that. The stage-manager asked him to give it up, but he said he would not.

Thomas Morton Powell, manager of the company, bore this out. He said that three weeks ago he engaged Craston to play the part of Basil Gortre. He was in Brighton at the time, and went up to London, and saw Craston at the Bodega. He was to receive four guineas a week.

"He asked how long the tour ran," continued Powell, "and I said we were like the brook, we ran for ever, so long as the tour would pay."

Every artist engaged by him was subject to a fortnight's notice on either side, and Craston understood this. He afterwards wired Craston from Brighton, engaging him.

Powell added that he was not present at Brighton, where the rehearsals took place, as he was away in Normandy on holiday. The value of the book nominally he had placed at 10s.

Cross-examined by Mr. J. F. Latimer for the defence, Powell said it was unusual for star artists to be engaged for a whole tour in the provinces.

He admitted that Craston rehearsed at Brighton at his own expense—that was customary—and that they had a good night at Nelson on the Saturday. Craston was not satisfactory, but the other parts were well sustained.

"Basil Gortre is the leading character in the whole of the play?" suggested Mr. Latimer.

"Not in our play," was the reply.

Edward Valentine, stage-manager, was asked by Mr. Latimer if he had a written contract with Mr. Morton Powell. After considerable verbal fencing with the solicitor he admitted that he told Craston at Brighton that he had not.

"Then why did you tell the Bench you might have, when you know you had not?" demanded the solicitor.

Arthur Clifton, business-manager, was also called, but the magistrates asked Mr. Smith not to labour the case too much, and he was allowed to stand down.

Detective Hedley said he arrested Craston the previous night, and charged him with stealing the book. He replied: "I did not steal it; I had it handed to me. It is in my bag at home. He can have it with pleasure."

Craston then went into the box, and said he had been an actor for seventeen years, having started with Mr. Beerbohm Tree's company in 1890. Mr. Morton Powell engaged him for the entire present tour, and held out the inducement that he had toured the piece for eighteen months, with only two weeks out.

"My playing went with the audience," continued Craston. "I had from thirty to thirty-eight rounds of applause from Monday to Friday night at Nelson, and on Saturday night I had forty-two."

He characterised Powell's statement that his playing was unsatisfactory as "a trumpery fabrication." The manager, by giving him notice, violated the agreement, and he would have been perfectly justified in not playing at Nelson on Saturday night. Mr. Powell was not there, so he waited until he had interviewed him at Darlington.

"I have been straightforward and manly," declared Craston, thumping the desk with dramatic force, "and perhaps that is why he did not understand me. There are so many sycophants in the profession."

"Don't make a speech, Mr. Craston," implored his solicitor.

The book of words, Craston then pointed out, was not amongst the things he took from the theatre. It was at his lodgings. "It is no use to me," he continued, scornfully. "Look at it—a penny exercise book."

Fortnightly engagements, he informed Mr. Smith, might be "all very well for small-part people." He admitted that Valentine asked him for the book in a friendly way. Powell had insulted him, and made a convenience of him; and, in a moment of anger, he made use of a remark that did not become him. They were only foolish words—he had no intention of destroying the book. He came to Darlington intending to play the part if he could come to an arrangement with Powell.

Mr. Latimer, in the course of his address to the Bench, pointed out that Craston was an actor of considerable experience, and of a fair reputation. He could produce any number of testimonials to his abilities and high character in the plays he had been engaged in.

There was a bona fide dispute as to the terms of the engagement. If that engagement was broken, he was justified by law in leaving immediately.

Craston was arrested in the Market-place the previous night, and, if it had not been for a good friend, would have had to pass the night in the cells. That friend had to deposit £20 with the police as bail.

Personally, he had never known an action in which use had been made of the criminal law in that way. It was a private dispute between two men. He might, under civil law, have wrongfully detained that book.

If he was found guilty of a common theft it damned and blasted his character. He raised the point of law that he was wrongfully charged. The charge was common larceny, whereas, if anything, it should have been "larceny as bailee."

The Clerk pointed out that he had not yet been charged, and Mr. Latimer observed that he ought legally to have been charged at the close of the evidence for the prosecution.

Finally he appealed to the Bench to do justice to Craston, who was entitled in civil law to keep the book until the dispute had been settled.

After a short retirement of the justices, the Mayor (Mr. T. Bates) asked if Craston was willing to give up the book, and Mr. Latimer replied that it had already been handed over to the police.

"Then we have decided to dismiss the case, and say he leaves the Court without a stain on his character," concluded the Mayor.

"I am obliged to your worships," observed Mr. Latimer.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

Mr. William Johnson, secretary N.A.T.E., has been appointed to represent that Society at the Trade Union Congress to be held in Bath, beginning on Sept. 2 and sitting the five following days. Mr. J. B. Williams will represent the Musicians' Union, and it is rumoured that the Actors' Union will be also represented.

A special report on the Award and the Arbitration proceedings is being issued this week by the Stage Employees' Society. Members of the staff in theatres and music halls may obtain a copy on application to the Secretary at 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

The Sports accounts, with names of those who sold tickets and the amount, is given in another column.

On Thursday last, Aug. 8, the employees of Mr. A. E. Pickard, Britannia Panopticon, Glasgow, held their second annual staff outing. It is generally the custom for these trips to be held on a non-working day, and Mr. Pickard, in closing his establishment for the entire day showed generosity, for, in addition to closing his house, the whole of the expenses incurred were borne by him. The company (employees only), which numbered 107, entrained at St. Enoch Station, Glasgow, in special saloon carriages, and proceeded to Robbie Burns country, the Auld Toon o' Ayr being the place settled upon.

On arrival, the Ayr Arms Hotel was made the headquarters for the day. During the forenoon several slight rain showers fell, but not enough to damp the ardour of the trippers in the slightest. Towards midday the weather cleared, and the remainder of the day was spent under the most favourable weather conditions. Dinner was served in sumptuous style, and the company was presided over by Mr. and Mrs. Pickard, the genial proprietor and his wife.

The customary toasts were pledged, and Mr. Pickard, in a well-chosen speech, thanked the staff for their untiring efforts to make the Old Britannia the gigantic success as it had been during the time of his proprietorship. Further, it gave him the greatest pleasure to see those of his employees who were with him on that day enjoying relaxation from work. A unanimous vote of thanks was passed by Mr. Edmunds, the manager to Mr. Pickard, for his generosity in providing such an enjoyable day's outing. After dinner the party visited all the places of interest in the home of Scotland's bard, viz., the monument to his memory and the cottage where he lived, and also the Auld Brig o' Doon. At each of these places all the members of the staff were photographed. Returning to the hotel, tea was served in good style, after which a hearty vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. Dickie), proprietors of the hotel, whose catering was of the very best. Glasgow was again reached shortly after ten o'clock.

Conferences on the Award are taking place between the Arbitrator and representatives of the Managers and the Employees' Association. On Tuesday a meeting was held in the Board of Trade offices between the Arbitrator, Mr. Henry Tozer, Mr. Walter Gibbons, Mr. Walter Payne, Mr. Rutland (solicitor to the Proprietors' Association), and Mr. William Johnson (general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical Employees). Mr. C. Jesson, L.C.C., secretary of the Musicians' Union, was also present. The Arbitrator deferred his decision on most of the points raised.

One question was settled. A complaint had been made that certain local managers were insisting upon their staff remaining until 12 o'clock midnight on Saturdays to help in removing, as part of the work of the show, the artists' scenery. It was stated by the manager alleged to be at fault that he had given explicit instructions that after the curtain was down and the stage cleared the work of the nightmen was at end, and that any work they did for the artists was at their own option. This statement was accepted as satisfactory to the employees. The question of the reinstatement of the men not yet absorbed was the most important of the questions discussed, and there is very strong feeling on the matter among the employees.

The second annual outing of the staff of the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, took place on Sunday last, and proved an immense success. Taking the 8.30 train to Penrith, the company adjourned to the Crown Hotel, where an excellent and well-served breakfast awaited them. After the repast the company took coach to Porley Bridge, and spent a most enjoyable time. Boating, swimming, and climbing the adjacent mountains were popular forms of recreation and amusement. Returning to Penrith, the company again sojourned to the Crown Hotel, and proved quite ready for the capital dinner provided for them.

Mr. A. E. Nicholls, the popular acting-manager, proposed "Success to the Firm," a toast which met with the utmost enthusiasm. Mr. Hinchliff, the musical director, proposed, in a neat and well-timed speech, the health of Signor Pepi, the managing-director, and the manner in which it was received left no doubt as to the feeling of the staff towards their courteous and able chief. Signor Pepi, who had motored over, replied, and considered the success of the Palace was due chiefly to the appreciation of their duties and loyalty of every member of the staff. After a visit to the numerous places of interest in the town the company returned home, arriving about 10 p.m., all thoroughly well-pleased with the delightful time they had spent.

The staff of the Holloway Empire had their annual outing on Sunday last, the place chosen for the present year being Margate. An exceptionally enjoyable day was spent, the party returning to Holloway about 11.30. A vote of thanks was returned to Mr. William Gazzard for the able and excellent manner in which he had catered for the comfort and accommodation of the employees and guests. Mr. C. W. Adams, the resident-manager, and Mrs. Adams were guests of the party.

MISS WINNIE VOLT IN DUBLIN.

A NEW COMEDIENNE.

A SWEET VOICE. COMEDY POWERS OF A HIGH ORDER.

Miss Winnie Volt, who undertook the title-rôle last evening, is a winsome young actress, possessing a sweet voice, comedy powers of a high order, and irresistible naïveté. She secured the admiration of her audience at the outset, and held it with increasing power till the end.—*Irish Times.*

ACTING, VOCALISM, AND DANCING WERE FASCINATING.

Miss Winnie Volt sustained the part of Phyllis—she did so superbly. Her acting, vocalism, and dancing were fascinating and of a high order. The pasages . . . were indescribably mirth-provoking.—*Freeman's Journal.*

ENTHUSIASTICALLY APPLAUDED.

The title-rôle was gracefully filled by Miss Winnie Volt, who as Phyllis—a sort of Cinderella of the family—acted, sang, and danced in quite a winning way. She was enthusiastically applauded, and well deserved the high opinions formed of her.—*Dublin Express*

"LIFE'S UNDERSTUDIES."

A novel, by Ina Rozant.

London: T. Sealey Clark and Co.

Sidelights are frequently cast upon the profession with more or less accuracy in novels which deal with the stage, but Miss Rozant gains the reader's confidence by prefacing her latest work with a phrase from the Scriptures:—"We speak that we do know and testify that we have seen." It may be hoped, nevertheless, that the moral code of touring companies rises superior to that of the *Hearts and Diamonds* company, with which the tale is chiefly concerned, and that delicacy in speech and manner is held in much higher respect. The novel is by no means a "one-part" story, but the interest chiefly revolves round Kate Daventry, the leading lady of a second-rate touring company, who years ago had been parted from her lover through a misunderstanding. Subsequently the young actress arouses the admiration of Bob Daventry, a member of the company, who, despite the fact that Kate has forfeited her honour, proposes to marry her and is accepted. Daventry loses his reason, and becomes an inmate of a lunatic asylum, and shortly afterwards Kate, who has given out that her husband is dead, meets her former admirer in the person of Vivian Blake, the proprietor of the *Hearts and Diamonds* touring company. The old lover renews his suit, but Kate refuses to be false to her husband. Years afterwards, when Miss Daventry has obtained a position as a London star, Bob Daventry recovers his reason and returns to his wife. He learns that Blake is still living, and realising that it is to that man that Kate's affections are given, determines to sacrifice himself by proving that his own marriage with her, which took place in Scotland, was illegal. He takes pains to find out that as the pair had only resided in Scotland a few days before the wedding, the ceremony was thus invalid, and in the end hands Kate over to Vivian Blake and emigrates. Probably the best written and certainly the most thrilling episode in the book is the account of the farewell between Kate and Daventry on the latter's departure for Australia. Kate accompanies Bob to the railway station and watches him as he falls in line with the crowd of passengers:—

"Save for the bright flush in his cheeks, he betrayed no sign of what she knew he was going through, and it struck the girl all at once as it had never done before, that, sane man, lunatic, or whatever he might be, first and foremost, Bob Daventry was a *man*. If there was one quality in a human being which appealed to Kate more than another, it was pluck, and for the next half-hour Vivian Blake and Cecil had for her no existence, but the whole essence of her being went out to the man who was taking himself for good and all out of her life because he loved her. The truth flashed suddenly into her mind as she stood there waiting, and watched the tall, thin figure and hunkered shoulders. He turned at last and looked into her speaking eyes, and for the first and only time in eight years the two really understood each other.

"They passed the barrier while the girl clung to the man's arm. The train was due to start in fifteen minutes. Passing right down the platform to the front of the train, where the crowd was not so great, the couple stood in front of a compartment where there were some vacant seats.

"When they stopped, 'Bob,' said Kate, with heaving breath, 'I'm coming out to you.'

"'No, Kitty, you're not,' very quietly. 'It's too late. This is good-bye. But thank God, you understand before we part. Kiss the little chap for me. I should like to have seen him again. I'm sorry you told him I was dead. S'sh! my dear! Don't break down now, for God's sake!'

"The girl's heart was full to bursting, but she controlled herself at once and did not cry. It seemed to be an altogether different man she was looking at to the old Bob of years ago.

"They stood in silence for some minutes, the man's arm around her shoulders.

"'I must be getting in, my dear,' he said presently. 'Good-bye, Kitty!'

"She raised her face to his, and for a few seconds upon that crowded London platform those two were lip to lip and heart to heart as they had never been before in all the long time they had known each other.

"'Take your seats, please! Take your seats!' came the loud sharp voice of the guard.

"The girl's arms fell limp away from Bob's neck, and he entered the carriage and sat down as quietly as if he had been going for a day's seaside excursion. She fastened her eyes hungrily upon his face, as with his old charming smile he apologised to a woman sitting next him for stumbling against her as he entered, then turned his look to Kate outside.

"'My God!' she muttered. 'My God! Don't let me break down till he's gone!'

"She looked and smiled at Bob, and he looked and smiled back at her.

"Five minutes before the train started.

"Sobs and kisses and sad good-byes around them both. Four minutes—three minutes—two minutes—one minute!—Great Heavens! would the guard *never* wave his flag?

"A man leaning from a railway carriage window and smiling with a wan, brave face.

"'Good-bye, little woman! Good luck!'

"A slender girl running along the platform and trying to keep up with a rushing train.

"'Good-bye, my boy! To meet again! Good-bye!' And then with wild, convulsive sobs, poor Kate broke down at last and cried as she had seldom cried before."

More than one chapter is devoted to an indictment of the theatrical agent, who is represented in a baneful light, and characteristic scenes of touring life, highly coloured, perhaps, form amusing reading. The story, though a little discursive, is well written, and has entertaining qualities that serve to keep the reader engrossed.

CRICKET.

Marlborough Theatre C.C. v. George Gray's Holloway Empire Eleven.

Played at Highgate Woods, Aug. 9. Scores:—George Gray's Eleven:—Gee, b Hotchkiss, 0; Vere, st Pattenden, b Hotchkiss, 0; W. Bailey, b Hotchkiss, 2; E. Beecher (capt.), b Hotchkiss, 14; Purdie, c Birch, b Hotchkiss, 2; Fouracre, b Sherwood Martin, 0; Grainger, b Sherwood Martin, 3; Softley, c Pattenden, b Robertson, 0; Black, not out, 0; Guzzard, b Hotchkiss, 0; Hughes, b Robertson, 1; extras, 5; total, 27.

Marlborough Theatre:—Sherwood Martin (capt.), c Bailey, b Hughes, 3; Hotchkiss, c and b Bailey, 61; F. R. Robertson, b Hughes, 51; Birch, c Bailey, b Beecher, 10; Pattenden, lbw, b Beecher, 6; Smitt, not out, 10; FitzGibbon, b Hughes, 13; Williams, b Hughes, 0; extras, 10; total for seven wickets, 164. Holden, Bourke, and Howard did not bat.

Marlborough Theatre C.C. v. Volta C.C.

Played at Tufnell Park, Tuesday, Aug. 13. Scores:—

Marlborough Theatre:—Sherwood Martin (capt.), lbw, b Curtis, 0; Hotchkiss, lbw, b Kidds, 28; FitzGibbon, b Vicary, 4; Pattenden, b Curtis, 23; Smith, c Read, b Kidds, 22; Thompson, not out, 12; Williams, not out, 27; extras, 9; total, 125. Bourke, Birch, Holden, and Bennett did not bat.

Volta C.C.:—Clifford, b Hotchkiss, 2; Kidds, b Hotchkiss, 12; Curtis, c Smith, b Hotchkiss, 0; McCabe, b Hotchkiss, 22; McLeich, b Smith, 0; Vicary, b Hotchkiss, 0; Rees, b Hotchkiss, 0; Gray, b Hotchkiss, 2; Remney, not out, 12; Newman, c Birch, b H. S. Martin, 1; Thompson, c Pattenden, b H. S. Martin, 0; extras, 5, total, 56.

THE MOODY-MANNERS COMPANY.

Mr. Charles Manners' experiment in bringing sixty-five of the Sheffield choristers to assist his present chorus at the Lyric Theatre is proving a great success, and the warm reception given to the representation of *Aïda* on Monday may be taken partly as a well-deserved compliment to the lusty singers of the Ridings. The impresario's real object in inviting them was to prove to the people of London that there was plenty of material in England for grand opera. These choristers have previously assisted the Moody-Manners Opera Company in the provinces, but this is the first time that any manager has brought a whole body of provincials and placed them on the boards of London. Mr. Manners tells us he is losing, but he always manages to make money in the provinces, and yet in London, where one would expect the demand to be greater, the public will not patronise English grand opera to anything like the same extent. For enthusiasm and heartiness the audiences at the Lyric are not to be easily excelled, and the rapt attention with which every note is followed betokens the enjoyment of every music-lover in the house. The performance of *Aida*, already referred to, was one of conspicuous excellence, and reached a standard that shed lustre on English lyric art. Mr. Joseph O'Mara as Radamès sang with considerable fervour and tenderness, being highly complimented early in the first act on his rendering of "Celeste Aida" ("Heavenly Aida"). Madame de Vere-Sapio, who seems to go from triumph to triumph, enchanted all by the purity of her singing of the difficult but always grateful music of the heroine—both artists receiving several calls after the magnificent love duet. Miss Toni Seiter, for whom an apology was made on account of a cold, warmed to her work as Amneris, and won a legitimate dramatic triumph in her expression of the despair of Amneris at the fate of Radames. Mr. Lewys James—whose make-up might have been better—was a dramatic and powerful representative of Amonasro; Mr. Charles Magrath was entirely satisfactory as the King of Egypt; and Mr. Charles Manners as the Priest was sonorous and dignified, his fine basso being heard with the greatest satisfaction.

Tuesday night's representation of *Faust* at the Lyric Theatre was made exceptionally interesting by the fine interpretation of the title-rôle by Mr. John Coates, who was enthusiastically applauded for his rendering of "O dwelling pure and lowly" in the garden scene. The Marguerite of Miss Kate Anderson was girlish, and she sang the music very prettily. Mr. Manners was again an admirable Mephistopheles, and Mr. Dene an exceptionally good Valentine. Mr. Harrison Frewin conducted. *Tannhäuser* was given on Wednesday evening, and *Lohengrin* on Thursday, with Mme. Sobrino as Elsa.

ACTORS v. AUTHORS.

Actors returned victorious from the field on Thursday, when their match with the Authors at Lord's resulted in the latter being defeated by sixty runs and half-a-dozen wickets. The literary side, who were captained by Major Philip Trevor, batted first, and scored a total of 253. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, a pillar of the M.C.C. provincial team, and the discoverer of Sherlock Holmes, was caught out for four, and Mr. E. W. Hornung, the well-known novelist, who had something to do with the creator of *Raffles*, cricketer and cracksman, went in last and carried out his bat for a modest seven. Major F. G. Guggisberg made a notable stand for the losers, and succeeded in passing a half-century.

Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, as in the recent match against the provincial players at the Oval, captained the Actors, for whom Mr. B. S. Foster, one of the famous cricketing family, scored 100. We are glad to find that Mr. V. O'Connor, who has always been a consistent scorer at Actors' matches, has returned to form, and contributed a well-played 51, his hits including six 4's. Mr. H. E. Pearce made a useful 39, and to the total of 253, which was made up in an hour and thirty-five minutes, Mr. H. Wilde and Mr. Aubrey Smith, neither of whom were out, contributed 48 and 15 respectively. The scores were as follows:—

Authors.

Sir A. Conan Doyle, c and b Egerton	4
Major F. G. Guggisberg, lbw, b Smith	56
Arthur Anderson, b Foster	22
C. C. Headlam, b Smith	29
A. H. Wood, b Smith	0
E. B. Noel, c Pearce, b Smith	17
A. A. Milne, st Knox, b Smith	5
Major Philip Trevor, b Smith	25
P. G. Wodehouse, b Wilde	1
P. Graves, c and b Smith	19
E. W. Hornung, not out	7
Byes 5, l-b 2, n-b 1	8
Total	193

Actors.

V. O'Connor, b Wodehouse	51
B. S. Foster, c Milne, b Wodehouse	100
H. E. Pearce, c Anderson, b Doyle	39
Oscar Asche, run out	0
H. Wilde, not out	48
C. Aubrey Smith, not out	15
Extras	0
Total (4 wickets)	253

D. Ferguson, A. S. Homewood, B. Egerton, P. F. Knox, and Henry Ainley did not bat.

ANALYSIS OF THE BOWLING.

Authors

	o.	m.	r.	w.		o.	m.	r.	w.
Egerton	4	1	12	1	Asche	3	0	12	0
Pearce	6	0	33	0	Smith	13.2	5	37	7
Foster	13	2	51	1	Wilde	7	2	15	1
O'Connor	4	0	25	0					

Egerton delivered a no-ball.

Actors.

Doyle	7	0	66	1	Wood	2	0	32	0
Guggisberg	5	0	60	0	Wodehouse	5	0	36	2
Graves	4	0	31	0	Noel	3	0	28	0

The proceeds of the match will, as usual, be devoted to the Actors' Benevolent and the Actors' Orphanage Funds.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—Sir Henry Irving.

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

The Awards. The three interim Awards and the final Award, corrected and revised by George Ranken Askwith, Esq., the official arbitrator appointed in the Music Hall Dispute, may be had in pamphlet form at "The Era" Offices. Copy, including postage, three-half-pence. Address: The Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ON THE ROAD, AUG. 19.

Amasis.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
Assassin.—Lyceum T., Newport.
At Cripple Creek.—Grand T., Brighton.
At Duty's Call.—New Gaiety T., Clydebank.
At the World's Mercy.—O. H., Dudley.
Beauty and the Barge.—King's T., Glasgow.
Belle of Mayfair (Bode).—Llandudno.
Belle of Mayfair (Howard).—Deal and Ashford.
Belle of New York (Howard).—Southampton.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Dunstable and Galashiels.
Best Must Win.—Queen's T., Fleetwood.
Best of Her Sex.—O. H., Wakefield.
Blue Moon.—Theatre Royal, Plymouth.
Bondman, The (Croke).—T. R., Portsmouth.
Branded Woman.—T. R., Edmonton.
Breed of the Treshams.—T. R., Jarrow.
Bulmer, Mr.—Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
Cassidy, J. Rice.—Coronet Theatre, W.
Chinese Honeymoon (Bode).—T. R., Birmingham.
Christian, The (Croke).—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Convict's Daughter.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
Dairymaids.—Gaiety T., Douglas.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
D'Oyly Carte Opera.—Royalty T., Glasgow.
Drama of Life.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Earl and the Girl (Howard).—St. Austell.
Face at the Window.—T. R., Bolton.
False Wife.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Fatal Wedding.—Fulham Theatre, S.W.
Female Swindler.—Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
Florodora (Howard).—New T., Cardiff.
For Her Sake.—Standard Theatre, E.
Girl from Japan.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
Girl's Cross Roads.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
Glossop-Harris.—Whitby.
Grip of Iron.—Miners' T., Ashington.
Guilty Gold.—Theatre, Leith.
Heart's Desire.—Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
Her Marriage Vow.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
Her One Great Sin.—Grand T., Radcliffe.
Hero of the Flag.—T. R., Blyth.
Hill-Mitchelson.—T. R., Leeds.
His House in Order (N.).—T. R., Yarmouth.
His House in Order (S.).—Amphi., Ramsgate.
Home, Sweet Home.—Alhambra, Stourbridge.
Honour Thy Father.—H. M. T., Barrow.
In the Shadow of Night.—Alexandra T., Hull.
John Glayde's Honour.—Grand Theatre, Hull.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Peterhead and Elgin.
Leah Kleschna.—Llandudno and Rhyl.
Light of the World.—King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
Lion and the Mouse.—T. R., Birkenhead.
Little Breadwinner.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Love that Women Desire.—T. R., Ton-y-Pandy.
Love of a Life.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Lucky Durham.—Rhyl and Llandudno.
Man's Enemy.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Manxman.—Theatre Royal, Exeter.
Midnight Mail.—Smethwick.
Midnight Wedding.—Grand T., Nottingham.
Mollison, Wm.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Monckton Hoffe Comedy Co.—Q. T., Manchester.
Monte Cristo.—P.O.W., Salford.
Morals of Marcus.—P.O.W., Grimsby.
Mr. Popple.—King's T., Hammersmith.
My Darling.—Eastbourne and Folkestone.
Peter's Mother (M.).—P.O.W., Birmingham.
Peter's Mother (N.).—Littlehampton and Bognor.
Peter's Mother (S.).—Cromer and Hunstanton.
Power of Gold.—Court T., Bacup.
Price of Her Soul.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Prince of Pilsen (Harriss).—O. H., Tun. Wells.
Prodigal Daughter.—Court T., Wigan.
Prodigal Parson.—Theatre Royal, Yeadon.
Prodigal Son (Croke).—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Proof.—Theatre Royal, Stanley.
Raffles.—Whitehaven and Kendal.
Rollicking Rory.—O. H., St. Helens.
Royal Divorce.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Second to None.—West London Theatre.
Secret Wedding.—Macclesfield.
Sentenced for Life.—St. James's T., Manchester.
Shulamite, The.—Wolverhampton.
Sign of the Cross.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Silver King (Howard).—T. R., Windsor.
Silver King (Polini) (N.).—O. H., Coventry.
Silver King (Polini) (S.).—Prince's T., Bristol.
Sin of Her Childhood.—T. R., West Stanley.
Soldier of France.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
Soldier's Honour.—Prince's T., Preston.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
Still Alarm.—Theatre Royal, Chatham.
Stronger Sex (N.).—West Pier, Brighton.
Sunday.—Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Swiss Express.—T. R., Croydon.
Terry, Edward.—Spa Theatre, Scarborough.
Terry, Miss Ellen.—Pleasure Gardens, Folkestone.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—Metropole T., Manchester.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—W. Hartlepool.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.).—Borough Theatre, E.
Tyrant, The.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Under the Russian Flag.—Shakespeare, Clapham.
Under the Stars and Stripes.—T. R., W. Bromwich.
Village Blacksmith.—T. R., Barnsley.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—Doncaster and Bridlington.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—T. R., Norwich.
Warning to Women.—Crown T., Peckham, S.E.
What the Butler Saw.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
When a Man Hates.—T. R., Consett.
When it was Dark.—T. R., York.
When London Sleeps.—T. R., Glossop.
When Other Lips.—East Oxford, Oxford.
When Woman Hates.—T. R., Rochdale.
Why Men Love Women.—Grand T., Islington.
Wilkie Allan and Co.—Prince's T., Accrington.
Woman from Scotland Yard.—Grand T., Walsall.
Woman Pays.—Prince's T., Preston.
Woman Worth Winning.—Coloseum, Oldham.
Woman's Past.—O. H., Perth.
World's Great Snare.—Alexandra T., Greenock.
Worst Woman in London.—T. R., Bristol.
Woulfe Reptr.—King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
You Never Can Tell.—Alexandra Hall, Ilfracombe.
Youngest of Three.—Theatre Royal, Preston.
Young Lieutenant.—O. H., Burnley.
£1,000 Reward.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

At the Council meeting of the Association, held at the offices on Tuesday, there were present: Mr. Fredk. Morland (chairman), Messrs. Arthur Applin, Cecil Brooking, C. F. Collings, H. Athol Forde, Roy Horniman, and Chas. Cruikshanks, secretary. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The hon. solicitors reported that they had had an interview with a member and advised her. The hon. solicitors also reported that they threatened proceedings unless a certain claim was settled, but had received no reply to their letter.

The secretary drew attention to the desirability of the Council considering matters in connection with the Agency Department. It was agreed that the discussion of the subject should stand over until next week, and a whip should be issued to the members of the Council. Mr. Arthur Applin stated that at the next meeting he should bring forward a proposition in connection with the question.

Miss Lucy Sibley was elected to fill the vacancy on the Council caused by the retirement of Miss Georgina Hamilton.

The secretary reported that in answer to the circular letter sent out to various golf clubs asking for reduced rates, he had received many replies. Some clubs offered free use of their links, and some were willing to reduce their fees by half for the benefit of the members of the A.A. Others offered a considerable reduction, while in some cases the fees were already too small to admit of abridgment. The secretary was directed to prepare a temporary list, showing the clubs who had agreed to reduce their fees, &c., such list to be exhibited in the general office.

The secretary stated he should be away from the next three council meetings, but in the meantime he would, according to custom, request the manager of the bank to honour Mr. Rivington's signature to cheques.

The report of the "Social" Committee was received, and the secretary was directed to ask the hon. secretary for some explanation as to the reason why the meeting fixed for July 19 last was abandoned or otherwise.

Maud Stuart and Edith Tasca Page were nominated for election to the A.A.

It was decided that a report should be prepared to be placed on the table at the next meeting, showing the number of managers who had applied to the Agency Department during the past twelve months, and the number of managers who had been supplied during the same period.

Two former members were reinstated. The Suggestion Book was considered, and an entry made.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

(We do not answer questions by post).

WM. PAYNE (Upper Woburn-place).—*We have no knowledge of what has become of the picture you mention. A hostelry has been established on the site of the old Coal Hole in the Strand, and possibly you might obtain some information thereat.*

T. R. L. (Elgin-avenue).—*Try Messrs. Ascherberg, Hopwood and Crew, of Regent-street, or Francis and Day, of Charing Cross-road, W.C.*

L. JANE (Plymouth).—"*A Fallen Star*" and "*The Bachelor*" *may be obtained of Mr. Albert Chevalier's publishers, Messrs. Reynolds and Co., of 13, Berners-street. "Devil-may-Care" has been recited by Mr. Bransby Williams, and he could tell you where the piece is published. A letter to him at our office would reach him.*

VON MEULEN (Brixton).—*The originals of* Les Petites Michus, *which was produced in Paris at the Bouffes-Parisiens on Nov. 16, 1897, were Mlles. Alice Bonheur and Odette Dulac.*

DAVID ANDERSON.—*We do not give the ages of professional ladies in these columns. Many of them have the secret of perennial youth, and curiosity concerning the year of their birth is rightly regarded by them as an impertinence.*

J. P. R. (Gower Place, W.C.).—(1) *Nearing the fifties;* (2), *over sixty. We cannot determine exactly, and we never make inquiries of such a private nature. A man's age is, after all, his own affair.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

REDFERN.—Aug. 12, the wife of Mr. W. S. Redfern, treasurer of the London Hippodrome, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

LEYTON—SPENCER.—Aug. 8, at Camborne, Cornwall, Harry Leyton to Mabel Spencer.

DEATHS.

DALY.—Aug. 7, at 27, Middle-street, Blackpool, Pattie Nolan (Mrs. Michael Hastings Daly), widow of the late Pat Rooney. R.I.P.

JOACHIM.—Aug. 15, at Berlin, Josef Joachim, violin virtuoso, conductor, and composer, aged 76.

MURRAY.—Aug. 1, David Christie Murray, journalist, essayist and dramatist, aged 60.

RYLAND.—July 27, in Pittsburgh, Pa., U.S.A., Ann E. Ryland, aged 79, the mother of Cliff Ryland. Deeply mourned. R.I.P.

STEVENSON.—On Aug. 14, at 47, College-place, Camden Town, N.W., James Stevenson, jun. Interred at Finchley Cemetery, Monday, 19th, 1 o'clock. Deeply regretted.

IN MEMORIAM.

DRESCHER.—Aug. 8, 1904, at Johannesburg, Transvaal, mother of Cleopatra and Bonita, and wife of Carlos.
Three years have passed, and how we miss her,
Friends may think the wound is healed;
But they little know the sorrow
That is in our hearts concealed.
She is gone, but not forgotten;
Never shall her memory fade.
Fondest thoughts shall ever linger
Around the spot where mother's laid.

GERETTI.—In loving memory of Amelia Adelaide Geretti, wife of Harry Geretti, who died Aug. 16, 1906, aged 56 years.
Gone! the one we loved the best—our mother.
None to fill the void—on earth there is no other.
How much we mourn our aching hearts can tell.
But God is good: with Him she's gone to dwell.

HAYNES.—Jenny Haynes, wife of Harry Wenburn, who departed this life Aug. 13, 1904. Interred at Abney Park, Aug. 20. R.I.P.

LAMBERT.—In affectionate memory of Winifred Mary, the beloved daughter of Ted and Emmie Lambert, who passed away Aug. 13, '06. Rest in peace, loved one.

LITCHFIELD.—In ever-loving memory of my dear father, Edward Carr Litchfield, who passed away Aug. 18, 1894. Never forgotten by his daughter, Em.

LLOYD.—In loving memory of Letitia Lloyd, who departed this life Aug. 8, 1902. Never to be forgotten by her loving father and mother, Thomas and Eliza Reynolds.

WALTON.—In heartbroken memory of our bonny baby (Leslie); birthday, Aug. 15; only child of Walter and Maude Walton (Walton and Lester).
"'Who plucked this lovely flower?.' 'I,' said The Master. And the gardener was silent."

WIDDICOMB.—In loving memory of Jarvis Widdicomb, who died Aug. 17, 1898. Never forgotten, dear, by your loving and now lonely wife, Lizzie.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Lilian Beaumont—Saturday, August 17
Gerald Blake—Saturday, August 17
Edward Boston—Saturday, August 17.
J. H. Clyndes—Sunday, August 18.
Edith Cruickshanks—Sunday, August 18.
E. Cowley-Polhill—Sunday, August 18.
Frank Denman Wood—Sunday, August 18.
Madge O'Neale—Sunday, August 18.
Dollie Hook—Sunday, August 18.
May Evans—Sunday, August 18.
Anna Rose—Monday, August 19.
Gwendolin West—Tuesday, August 20.
Audrey Canning—Tuesday, August 20.
Maitland Marler—Tuesday, August 20.
John Marx—Tuesday, August 20.
Marie Collins—Tuesday, August 20.
Marian Maple—Wednesday, August 21.
Adnam Sprange—Thursday, August 22.
Joe Bracewell—Thursday, August 22.
Calder O'Beirne—Thursday, August 22.
Sir A. C. Mackenzie—Thursday, August 22.
Charles J. Cameron—Thursday, August 22.
Willie Scott—Thursday, August 22.
Louise Moodie—Friday, August 23.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list

Alderton, Mr. Wilfred
"Alec"
Baife, Mr. M. W.
Bard, Miss Gracie
Bard, Mr. Wilkie
Barker's Royal Circus
Barrett, Mr. W. Burgess
Bartlett, Miss Rosie
Beardmore, Mr. J. P.
Beverley, Miss Hilda
Blanche, Mr. George
Bourne, Little Titch
Brammal, Mr. H. E.
Brown, Mr. C. Rae
Bruce, Mr. R. M.
Buoganie, Mr. J.
Burgon, Mrs. W.
Busta Ben Arabs
Butler, Mr. Alec
Calham, Mr. Norman
Cameron, Miss Violet
Campbell, Miss A. E.
Campbell, Miss Annie
Carey, Mr. Pat
Castle, Mr. Chas.
Chaplin, Mr. Sydney
Cliff, Little
Cohen, Mr. Sydney L.
Coleman, Miss Amy
Combes, Mr. Arthur
Crouste, Mr. E.
Dalrymple, Mr. Leonard
Daly, Mr. Chas. M.
Danby, Mr. Frank
Dane, Mr. D.
Danton, Mr. Richard
Deer, Mr. James D.
De Ora, Mr. Bob
Dover, Mr. Cliffe
Dunford, Mr. Harry
Edouin, Mr. Willie
Edwards, Sisters
Ellery, Mr. John
Elliott, Mr. Percy
Ernesto, Sisters
Espinosa, Mr. E.
Fairbanks, Mr. R.
Fawn, Miss H.
Fiennes, Mr. Sydney
Finch, Miss Flora
Florence and Lillian
Ford, Miss Ray
Fordyce, Miss Vera
Fraser, Mr. T. Edward
Gardener, Mr. J. Rufus
Gilman, Mr. Arthur
Girdlestone, Miss Madge
Gordon, Mr. J. B.
Gordon's Sketch Co.
Gregory, Mr. J. Maundy
Grey, Miss Zenta
Hamilton, Miss Evie
Hampden, Mr. Chas.
Harden, Mr. H.
Harrison, Mr. F.
Hastings, Mr. J.
Hayes, Mr. Brent
Hindle, Mr. Joseph
Holles, Mr. Alfred
Horne Bros.
Howard, Mr. J. Myron
Hyland, Mr. George
Ibrahim, Mr. M.
Jardine, Mr. Alec
Jolly, Mr. Laffan B.
Kardoc, Mr. Harry
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Lallen, Mr. J. P.
Lambe, Mr. J. F.
Lane, Mr. Jack
Lawton, Mr. Frank
Leamy, Mr. E. J.
Lehmann, Miss Rosa
Leslie, Miss Fannie
Levaine, Mr. Gus
Lewis, Mr. Ed.
Lindley, Miss Beatrice
Lloyd, Mr. Fred
Lloyd, Mr. H.
Lloyd, Mr. Henry King
Lorraine, Mr. D.
Lovel, Mr. Leigh
Lynne, Mr. W. V.
MacLaren, Mr. Ian
Marchant, Mr. Arthur
Martell, Mr.
Martin, Mr. Stafford
Marvello, Mr. H.
McIntosh, Miss M.
Milan, Mr. Denis
Morritt, Mr. Chas.
Morton, Miss Effie
Morton, Mr. John
Mumford, Mr. Syd
Nelson, Mr. Frank
Nicholls, Mr. Harry
Ord, Mr. S. D.
Phipps, Mr. John
Pongoula, Mrs. J.
Preston, Mr. John F.
Radcliffe, Miss F.
Rafalewski, Mr.
Randall, Mr. Harry
Rean, Mr. Clifford
Redgrave, Mr. Roy
Resna Trio
Revell, Mr. Harry
Roberts, Mr. Arthur
Rogers, Mr. E. W.
Rooney, Mr. M. J.
Ross, Mr. Billie
Royale, Miss J.
Rule, Mr. Herbert
Scott, Miss Vertta
Seaton, Dr.
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Smarte, Mr. R. J.
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Stansfield, Miss M.
St. Clair, Miss Edith
Stratton, Mr. E.
Street, Mr. Fred
Stuart, Mr. E.
Taylor, Mr. Geo.
Terry, Mr. Fred
Terry, Mr. Herbert E.
Thomas, Mr. Dan
Ti Tar, Mr. Ma
Vernon, Miss H.
Victor, Mr. Albert
Volter, Mr.
Walton, Mr. Tom
Warsaw Brothers
Waterfield, Mr. C.
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Welch, Mr. James
Wesley, Mr. W. G.
Wilson, Mr. Wm.
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Wynne, Mr. E. S.
Wyville, Miss Amber
Zalvar, Mr. C.

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CHESTER	9. 3
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YORK	7. 0
HULL	8.20
DARLINGTON	8.58
SCARBOROUGH	10. 5
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LEEDS (Central)	6.58
HUDDERSFIELD	7.37
BRADFORD (Exchange)	7.47
HARROGATE	7.50
HALIFAX	8.17
BURNLEY	9.28
LEICESTER	4.36
NOTTINGHAM	5.10
DERBY	5.35

AT the Pier Pavilion Theatre, St. Anne's-on-Sea, Mr. Leslie has made a popular booking in securing Mr. Chas. Macdona's company in *A Chinese Honeymoon*, which had a good reception from a crowded house. Deserving of special mention are Miss Kitty Clayton as Fi-Fi; Miss May Davis as Mrs. Pineapple; Mr. E. Sefton as Mr. Pineapple; Miss Alma Bolton as Mrs. Brown; Mr. Lindsay Harman as Hi-Lung; Miss May Stevenson as Soo-Soo, and Misses Davis and Ross as Florrie and Violet.

THE success of Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company at the Eastbourne Pier Pavilion in *The Dairymaids* on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday in last week was a record for that house, hundreds being turned away at each performance and the booking plan being closed each day some hours before the time of commencement.

MR. EDITOR, SIR,—Your Sheffield correspondent, in his notice of the Grand Hippodrome, alludes to my military incident, *Sniped*, as a comic sketch. I beg to say the performers did not play the piece as a "comic sketch," neither did the audience receive it as such.—Yours faithfully, C. CASE-HORTON, Aug. 10.

AT the conclusion of his *My Sweetheart* summer tour, at Salford on Saturday, Miss Lizzie Hall (Mrs. Sydney Spenser), who has been playing Tina, was the recipient of two handsome floral tokens from the members of the company, who also presented a valuable silver-mounted Panama cane and a large box of cigarettes to Mr. Spenser. The tour has been a happy and successful one all through, and at Salford the matinée on the 7th inst. was a record one.

AN adjourned sitting for public examination was held on Wednesday in the case of Arthur E. H. Eliot, described as of Onslow-gardens, S.W. The accounts showed liabilities £6,253, of which £2,653 was expected to rank, and no available assets. It appeared that the debtor had previously failed in December, 1895, and again in July, 1899, after having been for a short time lessee of a London theatre, and previously partner in a dental therapeutic business. From July, 1899, to June, 1901, he was engaged as an actor, and afterwards served in the South African Field Force. After hearing the debtor, and Mr. Frank Mellor on his behalf, his honour adjourned the sitting sine die.

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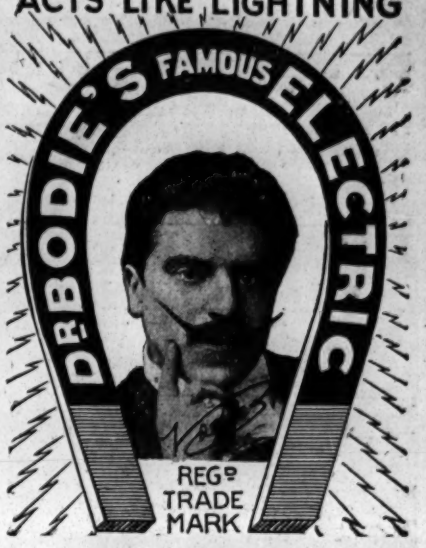

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
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CAUTION.
Re "The Mikado" and the other Operas by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan.
In an Action brought in the High Court of Justice by Helen D'Oyly Carte against the Lessee of the Broadway Theatre, New Cross, and the Royal Bio-Radioscope Company, in respect of the Exhibition or Performance of extracts from the operas, "The Mikado" and "The Yeomen of the Guard," in singing pictures by a cinematophone, an Order was, on the 31st July, 1907, made for an Injunction perpetually restraining the Defendants from representing or causing to be represented the operas called "The Mikado" and "The Yeomen of the Guard," or either of them, or any part thereof, and also from performing, or causing or permitting to be performed, the music of the said operas, or either of them, or any part thereof.
In another Action by Helen D'Oyly Carte against the Eastbourne Pier Company, Limited, and the St. Louis Animated Picture Company, in respect of similar performances of extracts from "The Mikado," in singing pictures by a chronophone, an Order was on the 31st July, 1907, made for an Interim Injunction restraining the St. Louis Animated Picture Company, until after the trial of the Action or until further order, from representing, or causing to be represented, the opera "The Mikado," or any part thereof, and also from performing or causing or permitting to be performed the music of the said opera, or any part thereof; and the Defendants, The Eastbourne Pier Company, Limited, also gave an undertaking in similar terms to this Injunction.
I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that the rights of public representation or performance of the music and words of all the operas by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan are reserved. Any public representation or performance of any of the operas, or portions of them, whether by gramophone or chronophone, or any other instrument reproducing records taken of the music and words of such operas, is an infringement of those rights.
AND I FURTHER GIVE NOTICE that proceedings will be forthwith taken against all persons giving, or assisting in giving, any such performance or representation of the words or music of such operas.
HELEN D'OYLY CARTE.
Savoy Theatre,
Dated this 1st day of August, 1907.

WARNING.
It having come to my notice that a Miss Mabelle S. Carr endeavoured to obtain an engagement with Mr. Samuel James, Theatre Royal, Croydon, representing that it was she who had played my parts with the following managements:—Messrs. Walter and Fred Melville, Mr. J. F. Elliston—I wish it to be known that I am in no way connected with her, and any Managers receiving similar communications will know how to deal with them.
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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.
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THE ERA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1907.

THE ACTOR'S HEALTH.

The excellent health which the actor usually enjoys is one of the best reasons for the popularity of the profession. When we contrast its statistics with that of many callings which have the reputation of being much less "trying," it is found that the actor enjoys remarkable advantages. Nor is this surprising when we regard the regularity of his hours of employment and their shortness. Practically, an actor is only occupied for four hours each day, and those the least valuable for the culture of physical well-being. He has to arrive at his place of business with all the punctuality of a bank-clerk, and can make certain of leaving it with much more exactness to the appointed hour.

Nor is an actor's calling in itself injurious to health. Nothing can well be a greater strain upon the nerves than the anxieties of a first night; but after a few repetitions the performance of a part becomes almost automatic; that is to say, the mind reproduces the impressions which it has received while the character was being created and conceived. We are sure that most actors will agree with us that the ordinary exertion of their faculties on the stage has, so far from an injurious, a beneficial effect on them. The combination of well-regulated excitement with a heated atmosphere is calculated to open the pores very freely indeed; and the amount of exercise taken in the course of an evening is considerable. It is a miracle that the actor does not catch cold more frequently in the course of his work; but it must be remembered that his transition from the dressing-room to the stage is short, and that all the time he is in a condition of nervous activity.

The actor, again, has the advantage of the active use of his lungs. The delivery of a number of sentences in a carefully pitched voice is a different thing from the ordinary languid drawing-room delivery: and as for the light comic-opera people, they are trained in the healthy exercise of the lungs. As an instance of what may be done by exercise, a well-known actress informed us some—we are not ungallant enough to say how many—years ago that she had lost the whole of one lung, and did not expect to live long. Anyone who looks on her comely and cheerful countenance and hears her voice on the stage can judge how false has proved her expectation.

But the actor's chief advantage on the side of health is the time he has at his disposal for its cultivation. Whether in London or the provinces, he has, when a piece is once in full swing, practically the whole of his day at his disposal. The only drayback is that he is always, more or less consciously, holding himself in reserve for the evening. SOTHERN did himself serious harm by combining hunting with acting, and perhaps Mr. LEONARD BOYNE will tell us how he manages to do it and always turn up so "fit." Milder games, like cricket and golf, seem, as the doctors say, to be "indicated"; and we are pleased to know that these are growing more popular with the profession yearly. Week by week we have reports of matches at one or other of these pastimes; and besides this, there is a vast amount of practice. Football, we notice, is also indulged in; but it is a question whether it does not take too much out of an artist, besides endangering his valued limbs.

The actor's health suffers most, perhaps, in the provinces. There is nothing more trying to the character than a round of these provincial places when once one knows them by heart. The "lions," which it was so delightful to see on one's first visit, have become absolute bores. Then there are the iron-manufacturing towns, where everything is encompassed with blackness; and the chemical towns, where everything smells of alkalies; and the stolid, sleepy agricultural towns, where everybody seems to be absent. Cannot something be done to make the lot of the travelling actor happier in the less agreeable times of the year? Would it not be possible to have an actors' club-room in at least each principal city to which admission might be gained either by a small yearly subscription or by a nominal payment on entering the town? All that would be needed would be a comfortable room, a billiard table, the daily papers, and a fire; the actor's natural geniality would do the rest. When we consider that there are often two or three companies in a town at one time it will be seen that the thing, if it were taken up by actors, might easily be done at a profit—or, at any rate, so as to make both ends meet.

Meanwhile, every young man who is thinking of "taking to the stage" should prepare himself seriously for facing the most difficult of its problems—its periods of enforced idleness. Every actor should have a hobby; and it is surprising what excellent facilities present themselves for cultivating these in provincial towns. Sketching is afforded admirable opportunities; the collector of old furniture and "curios" comes across rare chances in his travels; and all the minor hobbies may be pursued with pleasure and profit. A game we regret is less common than it used to be is that of skittles. And why should not every company have its lawn-tennis players, its players at bowls, and its croquet-ites? We feel certain that managers both of theatres and of travelling companies would find it to their interest to promote such enterprises by every means in their power. Members have too much time on their hands and too little outlet for the exuberant energies; and the more the latter can be employed, the greater the harmony in the company. Even as things are, the theatrical profession is noted for the longevity of its members. In France, at any rate, as our excellent Paris correspondent pointed out last week, actors and actresses die at advanced ages. DERVAL, the famous actor, was 90 when he died; Mlle. CLAIRON departed this life at 79; DÉJAZET at 78; BOUFFÉ at 88; Mme. DORUS-GRAS at 91; Mlle. ROSE DUPUIS at 90; FRÉDÉRIC LEMAÎTRE at 76; LAFERRIÈRE at 76; GEFFROY, of the Comédie-Française, at 91; LAFONT at 72; LHÉRITIER at 76; HYACINTHE, famous for his talent and his long nose, at 73; CHOLLET, who created Le Postillon de Longjumeau, at 89; LATOUCHE at 81; LACRESSONNIÈRE at 73; RÉNIER at 75; RAVEL at 76; Mme. ARNOULD-PLESSIS at 74; GILBERT DUPREZ, the celebrated tenor, at 90; DELAUNAY at 79; GOT at 77; TALBOT at 84; and, recently, Mme. MARIE LAURENT at 78. A similar list could easily be compiled from the English stage.

"THE CHRISTIAN."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—May I trouble your readers with a few words relating to my association with the Lyceum production of *The Christian*? They are as follows:

1. I hold the sole and exclusive licence of producing and representing the play direct from Mr. Hall Caine.
2. I supply and pay the salaries of a full and efficient company.
3. I supply all pictorial printing.
4. All announcements by my contract are to be as follows:—"Season by arrangement with Mr. Wentworth Croke."
5. I enter the Lyceum practically as a touring manager, as is now so often the case in London, by taking a percentage of the gross receipts, and paying all author's fees.

As to the reason of my association with the Lyceum management, as Messrs. Carpenter and Smith truly state, it is because I hold the sole performing rights of this play. I, therefore, cannot see a better reason for such association.

I shall be very much obliged if you will be so kind as to insert this letter.—Yours faithfully,
WENTWORTH CROKE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Our attention has been called to a letter from Mr. Wentworth Croke referring to our production of *The Christian*.

When he sends forth announcements stating it is "Mr. Wentworth Croke's season," it is imperative for us to at once contradict them, as they give such a false impression.

We must once more make it clear that the entire management of the theatre and the absolute control as regards the production and the casting of the play is in our hands, and Mr. Croke has no voice in these matters at all. The agreement provides that the play shall be cast and produced by Mr. Ernest Carpenter, subject to the approval of Mr. Hall Caine. It was only on this understanding that Mr. Hall Caine consented to the performance of his new version here, and had it not been that Mr. Croke held an agreement as regards the acting rights Mr. Hall Caine would have dealt directly with us. How in the face of this Mr. Croke can justify his announcement "Mr. Wentworth Croke's Season," or suggest that he is in the same position as a touring manager, passes our comprehension.

We very much regret this friction, but it has not been of our seeking. We could not allow the impression to go forth that we have in any way allowed the control of this theatre or its productions to pass out of our hands.—Yours faithfully,
HENRY R. SMITH,
ERNEST CARPENTER.
The Lyceum Theatre.

CHARITY MATINEES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With regard to above, I think there seems to be a good deal of misunderstanding. In contracts nowadays there is always mentioned one matinée free, or as I prefer to call it, the weekly charity matinée. Now, I maintain this matinée cannot be claimed unless six evening performances are completed in one week—in other words, in an incomplete or broken week. You cannot be expected to give one or two evening performances in a week and the free matinée. In a broken week the matinée counts as a seventh. One evening performance and one matinée would be two sevenths. Say a manager in a ten weeks' tour wanted to give four or five matinées in one week and only one or two night performances, claiming that he was entitled to ten matinées in the ten weeks, and he could take them as he liked. Perhaps some of your readers will spill a little ink on the subject. Apologising for taking up your valuable space, yours truly, X. P.

MR. CARLTON WALLACE'S company is paying a return visit this week to the Theatre Royal, Ton-y-pandy, with *The Love That Women Desire*. Mr. Jno. Davidson is seen to advantage as Philip Carnaby; Mr. J. O. Stewart does well in the character of Squire Abingdon; Mr. Oliver Rogers does justice to the part of Richard Abingdon; Mr. Jno. Hignett shows considerable sense of humour as Dennis O'Rourke, being well assisted by Miss Winifred Barton as Pittie Swift; and Miss Aimee Grattan-Clyndes is satisfactory as Madge Abingdon, Sybil Thorburn finding an efficient representative in Miss Lallah Stanhope.

THEATRICAL SPORTS, 1907.

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Donations to prize fund, advts. in programme	73	16	0
Sale of tickets before the day	43	4	6
Gate receipts and transfers	13	0	6
Sale of programmes	6	10	0
Entry fees	14	12	6
Discounts	22	3	4
	£173	7	4

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
Prizes purchased	64	14	6
Hire of ground, groundsmen, police, checktakers, handicapper fees, &c.	19	2	0
Refreshments, officials, stewards, &c.,	6	2	5
Hire of band	6	10	0
Competitors' numbers, flags, stationery, and postage	8	12	4
Bill distributing, hire of van, boardmen, and sundry services	15	13	0
Printing	26	4	9
	146	19	0
Balance for the Benevolent Fund	26	8	4
	£173	7	4

Subject to further receipts from promised donations.

The balance is the largest of recent years, and the committee desire to thank Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. F. H. Pedgrift (hon. treasurer), the ticket-sellers, stewards, the subscribers to the prize fund, donors of prizes, and all who contributed in any way to the success of the Sports.

The following is a list of the subscribers and ticket-sellers:—

	£	s.	d.
The Bodio Electric Drug Co.	4	4	0
Proprietors *Daily Telegraph*	3	3	0
Mr. W. H. Tilling	3	0	0
The Moss' Empires	2	2	0
Charles Urban Trading Co.	2	2	0
Sir W. S. Gilbert	2	2	0
Mr. Cyril Maude	2	2	0
Mr. Henry Arthur Jones	2	2	0
Miss Marie Tempest	2	2	0
Mr. Arthur Collins	2	0	0
Messrs. Elms, Lester	1	10	0
Sir Charles Wyndham	1	1	0
Mr. Arthur Bourchier	1	1	0
Miss Lena Ashwell	1	1	0
Mr. Frank Curzon	1	1	0
Mr. Arthur Chudleigh	1	1	0
Mrs. D'Oyly Carte	1	1	0
Miss Kate Compton	1	1	0
Mrs. C. Ellis Fredericks	1	1	0
Mr. Charles Frohman	1	1	0
Miss Adrienne Augarde	1	1	0
Miss Marie George	1	1	0
Mr. Martin Harvey	1	1	0
Mr. G. P. Huntley	1	1	0
Mr. E. Hart	1	1	0
Mr. H. B. Irving	1	1	0
Mr. William Greet	1	1	0
Mr. W. H. Kendall	1	1	0
Mr. J. H. Leigh	1	1	0
Miss Gertie Millar	1	1	0
Miss Eva Moore	1	1	0
Mr. Gaston Mayer	1	1	0
Mr. Michael Morton	1	1	0
Miss Julia Neilson	1	1	0
Mr. W. S. Penley	1	1	0
Mr. Alfred Sutro	1	1	0
Mr. H. Rayne	1	1	0
Lord George Sanger	1	1	0
Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree	1	1	0
Miss Ellen Terry	1	1	0
Mr. Fred Terry	1	1	0
Mr. Edward Terry	1	1	0
Mr. Charles Thorogood	1	1	0
Miss Ruth Vincent	1	1	0
Mr. J. C. Vedrenne	1	1	0
Miss Genevieve Ward	1	1	0
Mr. Lewis Waller	1	1	0
Messrs. Whitbread and Co.	1	1	0
Mr. Dion Boucicault	1	1	0
Miss Irene Vanbrugh	1	0	0
The Goswell Printing Co.	0	10	6
Mr. W. Lestocq	0	10	6
Miss Millie Legarde	0	10	6
Miss Zena Dare	0	10	6
Miss Phyllis Dare	0	10	6
Mr. G. Grant Allen	0	10	6
Mr. Cecil Paget	0	10	6
Mr. T. Richards	0	10	6
Mr. H. J. Brett	0	10	6
Miss Annie Hughes	0	10	0
Miss Nora Kerin	0	10	0
Mr. John Lawson	0	10	0
Miss Rozant	0	2	6
H. J.	0	2	6
Total	£73	16	6

Prizes were presented by:—
Lady Bancroft (silver mounted scent bottle).
Sir Squire Bancroft (egg cup and spoon with case).
Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander (a marble clock).
Miss Ada Reeve (a purse containing £1).
Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter (a marble clock).
H. Lazarus and Sons (a chair).
E. A. Taylor (oil-painting).
E. S. Willard (cut-glass spirit decanter).
Thomas Dewar and Sons, Ltd. (challenge shield).
The Era, Ltd. (challenge shield).
Mr. J. Cullen (a teapot).
Messrs. Gamage, Ltd. (a watch on stand).

TICKET SELLERS:—	£	s.	d.
Sold at Office	5	4	0
H. J. Powell (Hicks')	2	16	6
W. G. Farrell (Shaftesbury)	1	19	0
A. George (Lyceum)	1	18	0
C. Thorogood	1	17	0
A. Jones (Covent Garden)	1	16	0
G. T. Dalgarno (Empire)	1	12	0
W. J. Simpson (Ealing Hippodrome)	1	8	0
A. C. Simpson (Coronet)	1	5	0
J. Grant (East Ham Palace)	1	4	6
E. Rockett (Surrey)	1	0	0
E. Hook (Putney Hippodrome)	0	18	0
J. Cullen (St. James's)	0	18	0
J. Cunningham (Drury Lane)	0	16	0
S. Honor (Wyndham's)	0	16	0
J. Finnigan (Empire)	0	15	0
A Cordier (Daly's)	0	15	0
P. Sheridan (Crown, Peckham)	0	13	6
W. Rance (Covent Garden)	0	13	0
H. G. Brookes (Duchess, Balham)	0	13	0
E. Hook (Woolwich Hippodrome)	0	12	6
G. A. Poynton (Gaiety)	0	12	6
W. Hasthorpe (Grand, Clapham)	0	11	0
R. Rogers (Empire, Holborn)	0	10	6
A. E. Whale (Duke of York's)	0	10	0
G. Palmer (Paragon)	0	10	0
J. Simmonds (Court)	0	9	6
E. Stow (Savoy)	0	9	0
G. Bailey (New)	0	9	0
F. Meakins (Vaudeville)	0	9	0
C. Squires	0	9	0
E. Catlin (Surrey)	0	8	0
W. Beavington (Covent Garden)	0	8	0
G. Pickering	0	8	0
H. Porter (Criterion)	0	8	0
A. Palmer (Comedy)	0	8	0
A. Spaull	0	7	6
W. Marsh (Savoy)	0	7	0
W. Barbour (St. James')	0	7	0
A. Wright (London Pavilion)	0	7	0
G. Fuller (Grand, Croydon)	0	7	0
E. T. Cory (Vaudeville)	0	6	0
J. Elliott (Alhambra)	0	6	0
T. Devan (Oxford)	0	5	0
J. Phelps (Covent Garden)	0	5	0
P. Lavender (Grand, Fulham)	0	5	0
F. Campbell (Britannia)	0	5	0
C. King (Terry's)	0	5	0
H. Hildyard (Chelsea Palace)	0	5	0
W. G. Wilton (Vaudeville)	0	5	0
B. J. Taylor (Comedy)	0	5	0
J. Atterton (Wyndham's)	0	4	6
W. Max Joncke (Camden)	0	4	6
L. Solano (Cambridge)	0	4	0
J. Warner (Alhambra)	0	4	0
H. Bowmer (Gaiety)	0	4	0
W. C. Weaver (Lyric)	0	4	0
F. C. Farmer (Empire Theatre)	0	3	6
H. Morriss (Grand, Clapham)	0	3	6
G. Saunders (Borough, Stratford)	0	3	6
W. Pullinger (Garrick)	0	3	0
A. Earnshaw (Duke of York's)	0	3	0
E. Dawson	0	2	6
G. Lofton (Vaudeville)	0	1	6
A. Dudley (Wyndham's)	0	1	0
F. McMullen (Court)	0	1	0
Total	£43	4	6

DEATH OF JOACHIM.

THE musical world has lost one of its most distinguished figures in the death of Dr. Joachim, the world-famous violinist, who died in Berlin on Thursday afternoon after a brief illness. Stricken by paralysis a few days ago, the condition of the sufferer became rapidly worse, and he passed away at a quarter to two in the afternoon.

Dr. Joseph Joachim was born near Presburg, in Hungary, of Jewish parentage, on July 15th, 1831, so that he has died in his seventy-seventh year. He had hardly begun to talk before his musical talent showed itself in an attempt to pick out his elder sister's songs on a toy fiddle. Encouraged by these signs his parents spared no pains or money to give him a good education, sending him in the first place to old Serwaczynski, the director of the opera at Buda Pesth. Such good progress did he make that at seven years of age he won the approbation of musical critics by playing in public a difficult set of variations on a Schubert waltz. In 1841 he went to Vienna and studied successively with Miska Hauser, G. Hellmesberger, the elder, and Boehm.

At twelve years of age he was sent to Leipzig, where he received some invaluable advice from Mendelssohn, and in the following year, when he travelled to London, it was with a note of recommendation from the great master. His first appearance in this country was at Drury Lane on March 28th, 1844, at a benefit given to Bunn, the impresario. Two months later he played Beethoven's Violin Concerto at a Philharmonic concert with Mendelssohn conducting, when he was hailed with rapture. Adult violinists were dismayed at the intellectual difficulties of this composition, but the boy of twelve played it with such inspiration that the applause which broke from the audience at every rest in the solo part almost unnerved him. From that time the great violinist became a regular visitor to this country, and three years ago, on the occasion of his attaining the sixtieth anniversary of his appearance amongst us, was presented at the Queen's Hall, where a notable gathering, which included Mr. Balfour, had assembled, with his portrait painted by Sargent. On November 25th following his first appearance in England, Joachim took part in a performance at the Gewandhaus, Leipzig, of Maurer's Concertante for four violins with Enst, Bazzini, and David, all very much his seniors. He remained at Leipzig for several years, continuing his studies under Mendelssohn's powerful influence and studying with David most of the classical works for the violin.

In 1849 Joachim accepted the position of leader of the Grand Duke's Band at Weimar. Here he met Liszt, who had given up his career as a pianist and was conducting operas and concerts. The violinist had the privilege of being present at the first production of *Lohengrin*, under Liszt's direction, and subsequently he met Wagner, who ranked him next to his friend Liszt as an artist. Joachim, however, had not much opinion of Liszt as a composer, and when Wagner also had criticised and attacked Mendelssohn in a pamphlet on "Judaism in Music," Joachim was annoyed, and his influence was thrown into the scale against that of Wagner in the upholding of the ideals of classical as against that of modern music. Another great master with whom Dr. Joachim came much into contact was Schumann, whom he had known since his youthful days. It was at Schumann's house that Joachim was paid a compliment by the celebrated composer. The two were sitting together one lovely evening watching the stars come out against the deepening blue of the sky. "I wonder," said Schumann, "whether beings exist up there who know how beautifully a little boy here below has just played the 'Kreutzer Sonata' with Mendelssohn."

Schumann was always kindly disposed towards the young violinist. In the year 1853 he went to Düsseldorf to play at a concert, and was greatly delighted at receiving a token of regard from the illustrious composer, couched in the kindest terms. It was a sonata composed by Schumann in conjunction with Dietrich and Brahms, and the inscription on the title-page was to the following effect: "In anticipation of the arrival of our honoured and beloved friend, Joseph Joachim, this sonata was written by Robert Schumann, Albert Dietrich, and Johannes Brahms." Needless to say Joachim preserved this as one of the greatest treasures of his early life.

After leaving Weimar, in 1854, Joachim became conductor of concerts in Hanover, where he married Amalie Weiss, the well-known and justly celebrated contralto singer, who predeceased him about eight years ago. In 1869 Joachim became a member of the Senate of the Berlin Academy, and was nominated Director of the School of Instrumental Music, in the newly-established conservatoire in that city. In 1877 he was given the Hon. Mus. Doc. Degree of Cambridge; Oxford followed in 1889 with the Hon. D.C.L. Degree. He was also an LL.D. of Glasgow. In 1882 he became conductor of the Royal Academy of Music in Berlin.

Dr. Joachim was also a successful composer, his best known works being those for his own instrument, the violin, the most notable being the Hungarian Concerto, on melodies resembling those played by gipsies, and heard in Joachim's boyhood. In addition to a long list of compositions for the violin, Dr. Joachim has also composed several charming Hebrew melodies for the viola and the piano. The world-famed Quartette, founded by him at Berlin in 1869, occupied a supreme position in the world of chamber music. During the whole of the time that the Quartette has been in existence Joachim occupied the post of leader and first violin. The Quartette was not heard in England till 1900, but the popularity of the combination was no less pronounced than in other parts of Europe. Like the truly great, Josef Joachim died a poor man. His body lies in the Royal Academy, at Berlin, of which institution he was president, and there also a memorial service will be held.

OWING to a programme error, the name of Miss Lillian Herries was associated with the part of Mary Barnard in our notice of *A Broken Heart* at Dalston Theatre last week. Miss Herries left *A Broken Heart* company in April, and since then has been appearing with Mr. Morton Powell as Countess Natalie Steinbach, the title-rôle in *The Woman Who Gambles*.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Aug. 15.—The open-air playhouses—"Théâtres de la Nature" as we call them here—are becoming more and more patronised by those who dread stewing in a hot theatre, but who enjoy listening to a good play in a seat shaded by trees. The Théâtre de la Nature in Cauterets has just made a hit with *La Velléda*, a four-act piece in verse by M. Magre, although it cannot be denied that the artistic manner in which it was mounted contributed in a large measure towards its success. At the back of the stage is a mountain, and the stage scenery is so arranged that it blends with the surrounding trees and hills. The effect is truly magnificent, and nothing finer can be imagined than the appearance of Aphrodite on the before-mentioned mountain, with the white robes of the priests among the trees. The story is founded on Chateaubriand's "Martyrs," except that the author shows us two goddesses, Aphrodite, the goddess of love, and the goddess of Goodness, hitherto unknown to man. Both want to sway the sceptre, and Velléda dies, because she believed in Love. The work, which created a deep impression, was admirably acted by Mlle. Brille, a pathetic Velléda; by M. de Max, excellent in the rôle of an old woodcutter; and by Mmes. Faber and Mancini and MM. Soubé and Dupont.

As a proof of how these Théâtres de la Nature find favour with the public, I can mention that the famous Arènes de Lutèce will be turned into an open-air playhouse. The place is well known to English visitors to Paris. It is a Roman amphitheatre, discovered more than a year before the Franco-Prussian war. The Rue Monge was being pierced on the flank of the old University quarter, when the workmen, in digging the foundations of the new houses, laid bare old walls and a Roman arena. This was during the Second Empire, when everybody connected with Napoleon the Third's Court speculated in land. And for this reason the petitions of the antiquarians were disregarded, and the excavations were stopped only after one-half of these old remains had been brought to light. The speculators were jubilant, but some of the papers of the day protested against what they called an act of vandalism. But even this "half arena" is very big, and capable of seating something like three thousand people. M. Camille de Sainte-Croix, one of our most distinguished authors and dramatists, hit upon the happy idea of turning the old Roman amphitheatre into an *al fresco* playhouse; and the Municipal Council of Paris has granted him the concession to give performances there during the summer months. The place has, of course, to be put into thorough repair, which will require a not inconsiderable outlay of money. But, when thrown open to the public, it will prove one of the attractions of the capital. On account of its size, comedies cannot be produced there, but the Arènes de Lutèce will lend themselves admirably to spectacular plays.

M. MARCELIN DUCLOS, one of the prize-winners at the recent Conservatoire competition, has just been engaged by M. Gailhard, and will make his début in *Rigoletto* in the rôle of the jester, which secured him the first prize.

"LE CREPUSCULE DES DIEUX" will be the first important work produced at the Opéra under the new Messager-Broussan management. MM. Busser and Rabaud, the chefs d'orchestre, have started for Munich, where, by special favour, they will be allowed to attend the rehearsals of the beforementioned work, directed by M. Mottl.

A COUPLE of weeks ago we announced in these columns the engagement of Mlle. Jane Margyll at the Opéra. To-day it is with the utmost grief that I have to announce her death. Young, talented, sweetly pretty, this charming artist is also a victim of the dreaded appendicitis. Mlle. Margyll made a brilliant début at the Opéra-Comique in the rôle of Santuzza. From there she went to the Gaîté, managed by MM. Isola, where she appeared in *Hérodiade*. Two years ago she was engaged by M. Gailhard; and the new management was only too happy to retain her services. She will be deeply regretted by all her friends.

THE ambition of every French actress when she retires from the stage is to own a small country-house where she can grow flowers. Unfortunately, this ambition is not always gratified, for which reason the famous Actors' Home in Pont-aux-Dames has been founded, where at the present moment there is not a place vacant. For all that, no French actress ever dreams of emigrating, even should there be an opening for her in a strange country. She is rooted to her native soil. Yet I have come upon an exception. Mme. Rose Marie, widow of the well-known actor Boccage, and at one time a favourite actress, followed the advice of her friends and went to Brazil. This happened many years ago; and to-day she is at the head of an important hotel in Rio de Janeiro, and, as my informant puts it, "making a big pile." *Tant mieux!*

THE heat has proved too much even for *Raffles*. Mme. Réjane has wisely closed her house, with the intention of reopening it in the first week of September, of course with *Raffles*, which, for some mysterious reason, many of the good Parisians pronounce "Raphaels."

COQUELIN AINE, now touring in South America, will be back in Paris in the month of October. By that time M. Victorien Sardou will have finished the new piece he is writing for the Porte-Saint-Martin. It will be an historical work, for Mme. de Montespan and the woman Voisin are introduced therein. But M. Sardou, following Dumas the Elder example, takes such liberties with history that the uninitiated must not accept these "historical personages" without a grain of salt. For the benefit of those not familiar with French history, I therefore mention that La Voisin was one of the most horrible women on record. Soothsayer and cartomancienne, she sold poison to those who wanted to rid themselves of troublesome relatives. She was burnt in the year 1680, but not before she had compromised half the ladies and gentlemen of Louis XIV.'s Court. An important rôle in the new play has been assigned to M. Coquelin, and another to Mlle. Gilda Darthy, whom we shall be glad to welcome once more on the boards of the Porte-Saint-Martin.

APROPOS of M. Coquelin, I hear that there is a feud between him and M. Rostand, the author of *Cyrano*. It is all about the piece *Chantecler*. There were rumours of M. Coquelin playing the chief part in the disguise of a cock. But M. Rostand is erratic. He has altered his mind, and the monarch of the farmyard has been relegated to the background, and with it M. Coquelin. The bird has been replaced by a nightingale, which means that for the moment *Chantecler* is held in reserve for Mme. Sarah Bernhardt. I say "for the moment," because M. Rostand may—and will—probably alter his mind a few times before the work sees the footlights, supposing this interesting event ever takes place.

GORKI'S *Dans les bas-fonds*, which had an unprecedented success in the Fatherland, fell wofully flat in Paris. M. Halperine-Kaminsky, who translated the work into French, intends now to introduce us to another Russian dramatist, Léonide Andréef, the author of *Sawwa*, which, in the French version, will bear the title *La Terre nue*. It will probably be produced at the Théâtre de l'Œuvre.

"LE TOUR DU MONDE D'UNE MIDINETTE" is the title of a musical play by MM. Pierre Decourcelle and Louis Varney, to be brought out in the course of next season.

THE Prince of Wales and Prince Edward of Wales witnessed the performance of *The Merry Widow* at Daly's Theatre on the 9th inst.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Gus Elen will sail from Liverpool for New York on Thursday by the liner Baltic. This week he has been delighting Liverpudlians with a nightly change of répertoire, and both his present and past successes have been appreciated in the most hearty fashion. Mr. Elen has been the recipient of many letters from his admirers, containing not only the most flattering testimonials to his talent, but heartfelt wishes for his success across the sea. Costerdom has been idealised for the Yankee by Mr. Albert Chevalier. Mr. Elen will represent the merchant of the gutter in his habit as he lives, moves, and has his being. We join his many friends in wishing him *bon voyage*.

Mr. Bransby Williams is making flying visits to ten different towns next week, giving recitals at each of them. After this strenuous labour, in which, of course, the young actor delights, he will join his family at his seaside home, Elsinore, near Selsey Bill, for two weeks. He will shortly be visiting America, where he has had many flattering offers to stay, but is unable to accept them in consequence of his contract with Mr. Stoll at the Hippodrome at Christmas, and other numerous engagements.

Mr. H. G. Pelissier and his companions, known as that popular coterie The Follies, are coming early in September to Terry's, where laughter has ruled during the last few months with the culture of *Mrs. Wiggs's Cabbage Patch*. Mr. Pelissier promises us another travesty of *Hamlet*, and though we are prepared for something fresh and funny, we shall be surprised, indeed, if we get anything so truly quaint and humorous as Sir W. S. Gilbert's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern*. From past experience of their operatic skits we should derive much hilarity from the Follies' parody of Tschaikowsky's overture "1812," which is also promised.

"Humanity" Lawson, always a great favourite with Hackney audiences, will go one better next week by presenting his three great successes, *Humanity*, *The King's Minister*, and *The Monkey's Paw*, during the week at the Empire. All Mr. Lawson's sketches are elaborately mounted. The gowns the ladies wear are by Worth, of Paris, and the furniture used is valued at £300.

Some years ago there arrived in London a clever trio known as the Sisters Hawthorne, who gave us that dainty fancy, *The Willow Pattern Plate*, at the Oxford. Two of the sisters have for a long time confined their activity to the American stage; but the third, Miss Lil Hawthorne, stayed in England to acquire greater fame on her own account. She is no stranger to Hackney, where on her last visit it will be remembered she especially distinguished herself by use of an expedient which has been copied far and wide. What time she sang "Rosie O'Grady," a fresh, boyish voice would respond from the gallery with an unexpected chorus.

Mr. Frank Parker, the stage director of the Hippodrome, has been telling an interviewer how the redecorations of that magnificent building are to be accomplished. "The men who are to renovate the ceiling," he said, "will work on a staging slung from the roof, and as there will be no noise connected with the painting operations, we shall be able to carry these on during the performances. Travelling cradles will facilitate the work round the circles, and we shall be employing about five hundred men." The quantity of material to be absorbed in the process will include £1500 worth of gold leaf, 24,640lb. of white lead, 18,000 yards of velvet, and 3000 square yards of carpeting.

The fourteenth ordinary general meeting of the Palace Theatre shareholders was held at the theatre on Thursday. The report showed a profit for the year ended July 26 of £21,352. This sum is reduced to £16,552 15s. 6d. by extra expenditure in connection with the L.C.C. alterations, &c., but is increased to £26,750 by the amount brought forward from the last account. The directors propose to pay a dividend of 12½ per cent. for the year, and to leave £15,500 to be carried forward.

At the meeting Mr. T. Ernest Polden, in moving the adoption of the report, said that the high position that the Palace had reached had been more than maintained during the past year. It was a unique fact that during the present management they had had the honour of a visit from His Majesty the King, and on two occasions from Her Majesty the Queen and the Prince of Wales. They thought it was a singular compliment that Her Majesty the Queen should have visited this theatre twice almost within a year, and, were it necessary, it was corroborative of the fact (of which they had always boasted) that the Palace was a house to which ladies could always come without the slightest fear of meeting with anything offensive or vulgar. Sir John Runtz thought the directors had adopted the proper course by strengthening the reserve, and thereby preparing for the rainy day which he hoped would not come. Sir E. Galsworthy remarked that the management of the company had been excellent.

Mr. Tom Jones, the original Welsh comedian, has just returned from his holidays, having spent an excellent time in Germany, Denmark, and Sweden. Curiously enough, his knowledge of Welsh helped him considerably in these countries. Mr. Jones has been secured by Mr. Oswald Stoll, and opens at Newport on Sept. 2.

Miss Jessie Preston will shortly produce three new songs, "I can't forget auld Reekie," published by Francis, Day, and Hunter (the march song of the year), and "Maggie Schneider," both by J. F. Lambe; also "Wee Willie Winks' sister," a reply to Harry Lauder's "Saftest o' the family," written for the old Glesca lassie by the great comedian himself.

Striking novelties will be added to the Empire programme on Monday. These include Mr. Charles Reinsch, the Tabarino Trio, and the Three Meers. Mr. Reinsch, who comes with a great Continental reputation, will introduce a novel horse and dog act, in which several highly-trained animals will take part. The Tabarino Trio provide a high-class vocal entertainment, while the Three Meers, whose names are already famous in the variety world, will present a novel comedy performance. *Sir Roger de Coverley* and the amusing sketch, *Man, the Brute*, still remain features in the programme.

One of those unexpected incidents that sometimes occur in theatres happened at the Hippodrome on Tuesday afternoon last. Powell's ponies were going through their act, when the Hippodrome black cat unexpectedly sauntered into the ring. At once the animals ceased their performance, and stared with amazement at the intruder. Miss Powell endeavoured to get the ponies to go on with their show, but all to no purpose. The cat had entirely upset the routine of their performance, and they struck work at once, with the result that the act had to be brought to an abrupt termination.

Owing to the success of the Sunday Concerts at the Britannia, Messrs. Macnaghten and Barrasford have been enabled to arrange for about 1000 of the poor children of Hoxton for a day's outing. It is proposed to take them for a drive into the country, give them a good meal, and arrange sports, etc., for their amusement. The first contingent will go on Sunday, Aug. 25th.

Mr. Charles Mussett sails for New York next Wednesday, per White Star liner Majestic, from Southampton.

Mr. Thos. F. O'Brien, who was for over ten years connected with the Opera House, and has now been appointed manager of the Palace Theatre, Cork, was on Saturday evening made the recipient of a valuable gold watch—a presentation from the manager and staff of the Opera House. Mr. John Horgan bore tribute to Mr. O'Brien's excellent qualities, and Mr. O'Brien, in reply, thanked his friends for their kindness, and acknowledged the pleasant years he had spent while associated with the Opera House.

Mr. O'Brien has already taken over the management of the Palace Theatre, which reopens on Sept. 2 with a programme of exceptional variety and strength. Since this popular place of entertainment closed it has been redecorated, reupholstered, and altered, and improved in many ways.

Mr. Charles Beanland, manager of the Waterloo Pierrots, took his fourth annual benefit at the Summer Gardens, Bridlington, on Friday, Aug. 9, when the Mayor and Mayoress and Deputy-Mayor were present. The Mayor, in a speech, referred to Mr. Beanland in glowing terms. Amongst the numerous presents received by the beneficiare were a beautiful silver-mounted umbrella, a case of pipes, a cigar case, a cigarette case, and a box of cigarettes, &c. It was a record house, admission being refused before 7.30.

Miss Lillie Lassah, the rising young serio, who made such a success at the Crystal Palace pantomime last Christmas, has been engaged by Mr. Bannister Howard to play the principal boy in his forthcoming production of *Aladdin* at Plymouth, and thence to Bath. This young lady has been making great headway in the provinces lately, return dates being given to her wherever she has appeared.

Miss Maude May Murray appeared at the Hippodrome, Barry Dock, on Monday last for the first time since her accident, and Mr. Arthur Carlton was most careful to secure a special wire, which worked perfectly, consequently a brilliant success was secured, and the audience became most enthusiastic.

Mr. H. A. Moore, the well-known mimic, has recovered from his severe illness, and has been combining business with recuperation at Brighton prior to his current town engagement. In addition to the mimetic portion of his entertainment, he has successfully exploited two new monologues from his own pen, entitled respectively *Jack and Joan* and *My Lady's Face at the Window*.

Hamilton, Lanarkshire, will shortly be in possession of a Hippodrome. Plans for a new building to be erected in Townhead-street have been lodged for disposal by the Hamilton Dean of Guild Court. The plans, drawn by Mr. Gavin Paterson, architect, Hamilton, show an up-to-date theatre and music hall, designed on lines similar to the one recently erected in Paisley by the same proprietor (Mr. Bostock).

At Liverpool Police-court on Thursday, Mr. Gunnar Gooes, licensee of the Theatre Moderne (formerly Parthenon), in Great Charlotte-street, was fined 20s. and costs for permitting a girl under the age of 14 years to appear on the stage after nine p.m. without having obtained a licence. The defence was that the child's age had been wrongly stated to the management. The mother of the girl was fined 5s. and costs for permitting her to appear without a licence.

Mr. George Anthony was presented on Monday through Mr. George Manners, manager, with a very handsome gold watch, and a gold chain with brooch of sapphire and pearls was handed to Mrs. Anthony (Miss Beattie Edmunds). Mr. Anthony is resigning his position with the Moss and Stoll administration to undertake the management of the Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

At the Grimsby County Court on Thursday the jury awarded £150 damages to Mrs. Sarah Rushbrook, a Hull widow, for the loss of her only son, who, whilst acting as stage manager at the Grimsby Palace Theatre of Varieties, was killed by being struck by the falling fireproof curtain during a sacred concert on Feb. 10. Whilst deceased was lowering the curtain the weights broke, and the defence suggested that the accident was due to his negligence.

The popular "Pimple" is still carrying on with unimpaired vitality the well-known troupe, "Tom White's Arabs," of which he has been a member over eighteen years. Yesterday, it may be recalled, was the seventh anniversary of the death of Mr. Tom White, the founder of the troupe.

Mr. Julius Simpson, manager of the Palace Theatre, West Hartlepool, took his benefit on Wednesday evening, by the kind permission of Mr. Frank Macnaghten. During the evening Mr. Harry Burns, who was heartily received, presented a cheque for £20 to Mr. Simpson. It had been subscribed, he said, by the Mayor, a number of friends, and the music hall managers in the district. He hoped Mr. Simpson would remain here for many years to come. Mr. Simpson, who was received with cheers, briefly thanked the subscribers for the gift. He was presented with other gifts from the staff and from the members of the A.O.D., which he suitably acknowledged.

The magnates of Coventry are said to be disappointed over the result of the Lady Godiva procession, in which La Milo figured, only £260 having been collected in the streets for the hospital, instead of an anticipated £1,000.

Several papers state that in the pageant at Coventry a Belgian horse was supplied for Godiva. The animal was one of Mr. T. G. Hales's white horses from his Russell-street stables, which are kept purposely for his various contracts.

A new and beautiful entertainment, entitled *Unicum*, is being enacted by Mabelle and Victor Mora, and is eliciting great admiration. The scene presents at the opening a drawing-room, where a trombone duet is played by a lady and gentleman. Subsequently the scene changes into a lovely flower-garden, in which the two performers indulge in musical lawn tennis, after which a saxophone solo is rendered by Miss Mabelle. The scene finally changes back to a drawing-room, and both performers join in a selection on an instrument with the inspiriting title of "Electric Sparkophone."

Dr. Walford Bodie has been spending a short holiday at his Highland home, the Manor House, Macduff. He has just finished two weeks at the Palace, Aberdeen, and one week at the Palace, Dundee, where he has broken all previous records. The Doctor opens on Monday at the Star Theatre, Swansea, with Mr. Wm. Coutts, who is running him at the Albert Hall, paying him the record salary of £200 for his own act for one week.

It is finally settled that little Max Darewski, the gifted pianist and composer, shall appear at the London Hippodrome in November, the youthful genius having been secured by Mr. Oswald Stoll.

It is proposed to present a testimonial to Mr. Frank Gerald at a dinner to be given on Sunday evening, Sept 15. Mr. Gerald is retiring from the music-hall stage, but it is probable that he will be officially connected with a new association formed in connection with the profession.

Mr. Fred Miller, who for several years has been successfully associated with the administration of the Canterbury and Paragon, will be accorded by the directors a complimentary benefit towards the end of October. Mr. Miller is an excellent sportsman, and deservedly popular with the profession, and a great success is certain.

Mr. Charles Beecham, the manager of the Paragon, is to have a complimentary benefit at that fine house on Thursday, Sept. 26, when we may be certain the popular beneficiare will be liberally supported, both by his friends in the profession and the East-end public, whom he finds it a pleasure to serve. Fine programmes are to be seen at the Paragon. Next week the chief attractions are Little Tich and Cinquevalli.

Miss Anna de Grey, the secretary of the Ladies' Music Hall Guild, announces that the result of the Hat Competition is as follows:—Mme. Phœbe's hat has been won by No. 319, Mme. Beatrice's hat by No. 245. The winners must forward their tickets to Mr. Barry, 28, Wellington-street, Strand, and the hats will be sent on.

The Grand Order of Water Rats go up the Thames into the beautiful reaches of Cookham on Sunday. The party will leave Waterloo at 9.45 for Windsor, thence travelling by the steam launch His Majesty. Junketing and jollity will prevail, and it only requires fine weather for the complete success of what has been always a most enjoyable outing.

"The Schoolboy's Dream" is a musical sketch which even Maskelyne and Devant might well include in their magical entertainment at St. George's Hall. It is from the pen of Mr. Harry Dacre, who has invented the idea, written the words, and composed the music. Miss Rhoda Paul, in the dual quick-change rôle of the Eton boy and the street waif, is making quite a sensation with the sketch on the Stoll tour. The principal musical item is entitled "They were singing 'Home, sweet home'" (the street-waif's song), which several astute managers have already secured for pantomimes.

Mr. Dacre and Mr. Bertie Shelton (the Stoll general stage-manager) have spent much time and energy in perfecting the sketch, with the result that audiences are thoroughly mystified by the instantaneous changes made by Miss Paul from Eton boy to street waif, and vice versâ. She is a youthful actress and vocalist of much promise.

At a special meeting of the Executive Committee of the V.A.F. held recently, it was unanimously recommended to take immediate steps to secure the affiliation of the Federation to the General Federation of Trade Unions. One of the principal rules of this latter organisation, and the one on which most of its best work has been based, reads as follows:—"To promote industrial peace, and by all amicable means, such as conciliation, mediation, references, or by the establishment of permanent boards, to prevent strikes or lock-outs between employers and workmen, or disputes between trades or organisations. Where differences do occur, to assist in their settlement by just and equitable methods."

The annual meeting of the Empire, Camberwell, Ltd., was held on Tuesday, when a dividend of ten per cent. was declared. Mr. Harry Bawn was unanimously re-elected managing-director. Both he and Mr. Jesse Sparrow, his fellow-managing-director, are to be heartily congratulated.

An occasional correspondent writes:—"On Friday night last, whilst passing the Margate Hippodrome, I noticed a number of gentlemen in Bath chairs drawn up at the stage-door entrance, and, wondering what 'new turn' Mr. F. C. Bawtree had booked, I enquired of the ever-courteous manager, and he informed me that Mr. Harry Randall (who is appearing at the Hippodrome), had invited a few of his Margate invalid friends into the large private box to witness the excellent show." Mr. Randall appears to be a favourite with Margate invalids, and we admire him for giving a little pleasure to help them bear their afflictions.

After poor "G. V. Brooke," the celebrated tragedian, went down in the wreck of the ill-fated ss. London, some of the sailors who had escaped with their lives went around exhibiting themselves at, amongst others, the London Music Hall—now the Queen's Theatre—Manchester. The spokesman, in selecting out one of the group for praise, said:—"Ladies and Gentlemen,—This is the chap who, wen they wos in the lifeboat, said 'as if they didn't row for land he'd knock a hole in the bottom o' the boat with his hoar and drown 'em hall.' And, ladies and genelmen, wen I looks at 'im, e's jest the sort of plucky chap as 'ud do it; for 'e's a heye like an 'awk and the 'eart of a heagle!"

Miss Denise Orme's success at the Palace this week has been accentuated by her appearance not only as artist, but as composer. She sang on Monday two songs of her own, one entitled "One little word" and the other "A Chinese love song," accompanying the latter song on the violin. Miss Orme is a young lady of undoubted ability, besides possessing a fascinating personality.

Mr. William Holles and Miss Nannie Goldman's company, in Mr. Arthur Shirley's great domestic drama, *The Stepmother*, struck an immediate success at Mr. Ernest Dottridge's enormous theatre, the Empire, Oldham, and they have been rebooked by that gentleman. Mr. Montgomery, of Liverpool, and other managers booked the piece immediately after witnessing the production.

Mr. E. W. James, manager of the Ealing Hippodrome, has a new aide-de-camp in the person of Mr. Harry Blight, who has gone to the western suburb from Islington. Mr. Vernon Dare, musical director, is another new official, and he has received the appointment vacated by Mr. Kennedy Russell, transferred to the Duchess at Balham.

The members of Mr. Herbert Darnley's *Sandow Girl* company, appearing at the Mansfield Hippodrome, had a drive round the Dukeries on Friday, the 9th. The weather was ideal, and a very enjoyable day was spent. All were delighted with the scenery, and thanks are due to Mr. H. Fletcher, of Mansfield, who so successfully organised and carried out all arrangements.

Lord George Sanger, a resident of Finchley, has expressed his regret to Mr. J. Gibbs, one of the committeemen in connection with the carnival to be held on Thursday, Sept. 19th, in aid of the funds of the Great Northern Central Hospital, as he would be away until the end of October the veteran king of showmen would be unable to assist in the procession. Decorated cars would, it was reported, form a conspicuous feature of the display.

Mr. Reginald Allan, the well-known composer and orchestral arranger, held a "house warming" a few nights since at his new domicile in Cromwell-avenue, hard by Highgate Archway, to which many well-known clients were invited and attended. The scoring of a famous Alhambra ballet awhile back was a great feather in this young musician's cap.

Conferences on the Award are taking place between the Arbitrator and representatives of the Managers' and the Employees' Associations. On Tuesday a meeting was held in the Board of Trade offices between the Arbitrator, Mr. Henry Tozer, Mr. Walter Gibbons, Mr. Walter Payne, Mr. Rutland (solicitor to the Proprietors' Association), and Mr. William Johnson (general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical Employees). Mr. C. Jesson, L.C.C., secretary of the Musicians' Union, was also present. The Arbitrator deferred his decision on most of the points raised.

One question was settled. A complaint had been made that certain local managers were insisting upon their staff remaining until 12 o'clock midnight on Saturdays to help in removing, as part of the work of the show, the artists' scenery. It was stated by the manager alleged to be at fault that he had given explicit instructions that after the curtain was down and the stage cleared the work of the nightmen was at end, and that any work they did for the artists was at their own option. This statement was accepted as satisfactory to the employees. The question of the reinstatement of the men not yet absorbed was the most important of the questions discussed, and there is very strong feeling on the matter among the employees.

A special report on the Award and the Arbitration proceedings is being issued this week by the Stage Employees' Society. Members of the staff in theatres and music halls may obtain a copy on application to the Secretary at 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

The freedom of the American Press has been illustrated in a case where three sisters, variety artists, sued the *Des Moines Leader* for publishing the following "criticism" of their act:—"Effie is an old jade of fifty summers, Jessie a frisky filly of forty, and Addie, the flower of the family, a capering monstrosity of thirty-five. Their long, skinny arms, equipped with talons at the extremities, swung mechanically, and anon waved frantically at the suffering audience. The mouths of their rancid features opened like caverns, and sounds like the wailing of damned souls issued therefrom. They pranced around the stage with a motion that suggested a cross between a danse du ventre and fox-trot—strange creatures with painted faces and hideous mien."

This was held by the Court to be "fair criticism," and not libellous, for the ladies to a certain extent presented their personal appearance as a part of their performance. We wonder what the amount of damages would be as the result of a similar criticism of a turn at any of the halls in the United Kingdom.

Caicedo, king of the wire, is sailing for New York on Wednesday by the Kaiser Wilhelm, and to his friends in England desires to convey the message "Au revoir, but not good-bye" until his return from America next year. On Bank Holiday this clever and intrepid performer presented his act at Haverhill before a large crowd, and was most enthusiastically received.

Mr. W. Graham's new act, *The Music Hall of Bygone Days*, is repeating its London success in the provinces, and at Blackpool, where Mr. Graham is an established favourite, the novelty has been most enthusiastically received.

Miss Helene Forest and company will be at the Middlesex next week in her new dramatic sketch, *A Woman of Paris*, by Roy Milton, Miss Forest appearing in her successful part of the adventuress Phédèle Lemoine and Mr. Roy Milton repeating his Manchester success as Vernon Black. The turn is eight o'clock. Agents and managers should endeavour to see this powerful sketch.

The 524th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Wednesday afternoon. There were present:—Messrs. J. O'Gorman (in the chair), Geo. Smythson, Harold Finden, Douglas White (hon. treasurer), C. C. Bartram, Lieut. Albini, Fred W. Millis (V.P.), Harry Blake, John Alexander, Jeff Vendome, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The various claims of the members for refunds and insurances were considered, and the secretary instructed in the matters. The weekly statement of receipts and expenditure showed twenty-three new members, and a cash total of £24 9s. The Glasgow weekly report was received. The secretary reported that 512 members of the association travelled from London on Saturday, August 3rd, the largest number ever recorded.

At Champion Hill Grounds on Aug. 14 the Hercules again defeated S. Salter's Terriers, this time by the narrow margin of 4 runs. The Terriers batted first, and a startling collapse took place, the first four wickets falling with the score only registering 2 runs. The remaining batsmen got on far better, and pulled the score up to 148, thanks for the fine display made by Miles, who scored 63. The Hercules followed, and faced their big task splendidly, and after a good all-round display of batting managed to bring their score up to 145, when the last man went in amidst tremendous excitement and succeeded in securing the necessary runs for victory.

Mr. George Unwin has completed a new sketch for Miss Minnie Palmer, entitled *Little Madcap*, which will be produced by that talented artist at the New Palace, East Ham, on Monday, Aug. 26. Mr. Unwin has provided a part for Miss Palmer which will once again show her as the dainty little maiden who endeared herself to the playgoing public in the guise of *My Sweetheart*. Miss Emma Chambers and Mr. Fowler Thatcher will support Miss Palmer.

Mr. W. S. Redfern, the popular treasurer of the London Hippodrome, is the proud father of a little girl, presented to him by Mrs. Redfern last Monday.

The King's Theatre, Walthamstow, with a refurnished and redecorated interior, will be reopened on Monday by Messrs. Raymond as the Victoria Hall.

Miss Millie Howell returns to town this week after a long successful provincial tour with Moss and Stoll, opening on Monday next at the Hackney Empire.

In consequence of the indisposition of Mr. Tom Craven, Mr. Brien McCullough has been playing *The Winner* at the Hippodrome, Crouch End, this week. The sketch was exceptionally well staged and played, and was most enthusiastically received.

Mme. Katti Lanner, the popular directrice of ballet at the Empire, will, at the conclusion of the run of *Sir Roger de Coverley*, take a holiday.

The Terriers have presented Mr. G. P. R. Burgess, hon. solicitor, with the Gold Jewel of the Association, in appreciation of his services so willingly rendered.

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follows:—Alhambra, 29s.; Canterbury, ½; Empire (15s. paid), 1⅛; Empire (10s. paid), 1½; London Pavilion Ord., 4½; London Pavilion Pref., 5; London Coliseum, 1-16; Metropolitan, ½; Moss Empire, 4½; Moss Empire 5 per cent. Pref., 3⅞; Oxford, 6⅛; Palace, 15s.; Tivoli, 5⅞; Varieties Consolidated Theatres, 14s.

Miss Agnes Molteno, the cultured vocalist and charming actress, has been meeting with unbounded success on tour with her artistic act, *A Dolly and a Coach*, a dainty vocal scena, in which the clever lady accompanies herself at the piano. Miss Molteno has been highly complimented on all sides, and during the week in Burnley strangers have gone up to the accomplished artist and asked to be allowed to shake hands with her in appreciation of the treat she had provided.

Dr. Walford Bodie has introduced another sensational novelty in his performance, which he has called the "Cage of Death." It has proved a great draw, and is likely to be seen in London soon. The cage is built up of live wires, and the doctor enters within this awesome circle, wherein he stands, extracting a current sufficient to electrocute six men.

The usual monthly meeting of the Committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held on Wednesday afternoon at the York Hotel, York-road. There were present Messrs. W. J. Wainratta (chairman), Frank Heath, H. E. High, W. West, Pat Carey, and R. T. Baines (secretary). A letter was received from Griff, resigning the position of one of the hon. auditors, as his engagements abroad during the ensuing twelve months would prevent him fulfilling the duties. The other business was of a formal character, and the proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

The scenes from Dickens presented by Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas are proving so popular all over the country that these favourite artists are being rebooked by every manager at an increase of salary. Mr. Milton Bode has secured them for Reading and Chester; while recently at the historic town on the Dee they were specially invited to visit Eaton Hall by the Duke of Westminster, who was a passenger on the same boat with them on their return from Africa.

Morritt, the renowned illusionist and wonder worker, is to be congratulated on the fact that a cheque in excess of his salary was presented to him by Mr. Charles Elphinstone in recognition of the record created last week at the Grand Varieties, Hanley. Hundreds, it may be added, had to be refused admission.

Mr. Eugene Miska, conjuror, died in the St. Marylebone infirmary on Tuesday, Aug. 6, at the age of 28 years. He was the main support of his poor mother, aged 64. Poor Miska had had bad health for some time, and was worried by lack of engagements.

Miss Bessie Butt was fortunate enough to have sufficiently recovered from her recent influenza attack to be able to open at the Tivoli on Monday. Although given a very late turn, and immediately following Harry Lauder, she scored an instantaneous triumph, and her latest song, "Cherries are blooming," was at once pronounced as undoubtedly one of the season's successes. This number is published by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

A music-dealer, with several shops in Sheffield, named Edward Kitchener, of 365, Ecclesall-road, was fined last week £2 and £3 costs for selling pirated music. Chief Inspector Andrew obtained search warrants, and visited defendant's shops at 195, Spital-hill, where he found eight pirated copies of music, and at 182, London-road, where there were forty-three copies. Mr. Arthur Preston, of the Music Publishers' Association, proved the copyrights. Mr. A. Howe defended. An order was made for the music to be destroyed.

The artists engaged for next week's café chantant in the North Tower Gardens of the Crystal Palace include the Dagonets, the popular society entertainers, in a bright and up-to-date musical and artistic programme. The entertainment will be under the direction of Mr. Joseph Blascheck, the famous Australian humorist, and the performers include Miss Mildred Wrighton, Miss Lily Beaton, Miss Winifred Fairlie, Mr. Henry Stockwell, and Mr. Roland Foster.

Mr. F. Warden Reed and Miss J. Stevens, who made a big success with *Married or Photographed* last week at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, are this week scoring with their dramatic episode, *The Right Road*, at the Grand Theatre, Bolton. Mr. Reed has writen a new duologue for himself and Miss Stevens, entitled *Racing*, which he will produce sortly, and another sketch, entitled *The Little Jeweller*, which will be booked in conjunction with the above.

We regret to learn that Mr. Hugh Wigglesworth, the variety artists' agent, of London and Manchester, does not improve in health so fast as he would like. Recently he has had advice from some of the leading medical men in Manchester, and it has been decided for him to undergo an operation. His many friends will re-echo the hope that Mr. Wigglesworth will speedily be up and about his business with his accustomed vigour.

To Mr. Leonard B. Bramwell, formerly of Moss' Empire, Edinburgh, and now of Santa Barbara, California, Sunday, July 28, proved a red-letter day. He was visited by a surprise party, consisting of a four-in-hand Tally-ho coach, under the expert guidance and manipulation of Brother Fred T. Bramwell, accompanied by Mr. Archibald R. Spence, of Leith, popularly known as "Archie," and Mr. George Noble, of Fraserburgh, Scotland. The party drove a distance of seventeen miles to a favourite tourist resort known as Shepherd's Inn, on the boundaries of the mighty Pacific Ocean, incidentally viewing on the way the historical mammoth grape vine in the Carpinteria Valley, said to be the largest producing vine in the world; then, after eating lunch and toasting each other in the good old "Scots wha hae" style, the homeward drive was made to Santa Barbara, in time to enable Brother Fred to catch his train, and, as he jocularly remarked, "Get back to the tall timber." A return date has been promised two years hence, spot barred.

Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, the popular manager of the Walthamstow and East Ham Palaces, is at present spending his holidays at Herne Bay.

Mr. Allan McAskell, of comedy conjuring fame, has been secured as manager for one of Mr. Ralph Pringle's many enterprises, and will commence his duties on or about Aug. 26.

Arthur William Goodrich, 32, formerly stage-manager at the New Cross Empire, Deptford, was charged at Greenwich on Saturday with stealing £9 12s. belonging to Charles William Chapman and £6 10s. belonging to Alfred Frederick Harris. The staff of the New Cross Empire arranged their annual outing for Sunday, July 28, members paying in subscriptions weekly. Prisoner acted as treasurer, Chapman paying over to him £9 12s. from the orchestra, and Harris £6 10s. from other members of the staff. It was arranged on the Saturday that prisoner should meet the other members of the committee at the London, Brighton, and South Coast New Cross Railway Station at 8.15 a.m. on the following day, but he did not appear, and the tickets for the railway journey were only obtained on an undertaking being given by the manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen. Prisoner was sent to gaol for two months, with hard labour.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

SADLER'S WELLS.

Mr. Leonard Mortimer's dramatic vaudeville company has been extremely well received in the sensational sketch, *A Man with a Fortune*, written by Mr. Mortimer. It tells the story how Tom Dawson, who had served a term of penal servitude for another's (Jenson Wayne's) crime, goes to a foreign country, makes a fortune, returns home, is nearly murdered by Wayne, and finds his wife, who is eventually restored to him after several very trying adventures. Mr. Herbert Pearson acts in vigorous style as the hero, and Miss Helena Walbran acts pleasingly as the heroine; while able support is rendered by Mr. Harry McClelland as a detective, Mr. Albert Guyon as the villain, Mr. Charles Ludlow as Dicky Dunlop, and Miss Guinevere Shelton as an old woman. Coming to the other turns, there is a very charming coon comedienne and smart dancer in Miss Ada Parker, whose songs, "I love you because you are tender and true" and "The sun may be shining, but it don't shine on me," are extremely well rendered, and find great favour with the audience. Mr. A. E. Clifford, the versatile vocalist, also comes in for much applause; and Rita and Roma submit a really capital vaudeville entertainment, their song on the subject of springtime and their dances going extremely well. The Three McDonalds prove an exceedingly merry trio in their "musical garden," their performances on a variety of novel instruments being much appreciated. Indeed, they seem to have done the last thing in the way of manufacturing melody out of the most commonplace objects. Edwards and Dacre present a most attractive act, entitled *What a Life*; and the Flockton Foster Sketch Company create endless merriment with their laughable sketch, *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*, in which Mr. Arnold Richardson appears to advantage. Miss Jennie Johns, a graceful and talented soubrette, delights her hearers with the ditty, the subject of which is her own name, and another called "The Seaside Girl." Mr. Frank Seeley proves as eccentric as of yore; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux show a fine film in Palmistry.

THE BEDFORD.

An excellent programme is put forward for the current week at this comfortable hall in Camden Town, which, with its excellent ventilation and sliding roof, is kept delightfully cool during the warm weather, and Mr. B. P. Lucas is able to see the house he so ably directs filled at each performance. The first turn is Mr. Harry Milton, character comedian, who sings a quaint Dutch song, in native costume, afterwards giving a smart exhibition of clog dancing. He is heartily applauded for his efforts. Miss Edith Courtney and Co. appear in a musical comedy sketch, *A Marble Flirtation*. It is a little episode of a young man who makes love to a marble statue in the garden; his wife takes the statue's place, and teaches the flippant spouse a lesson. This really dainty and fanciful little interlude includes some melodious vocal numbers, which Miss Courtney sings with her accustomed skill. The lady who assists her and plays the wife is very amusing when she poses as the statue, and acts the part in just the right spirit. A turn which is greatly liked is that of Miss Kate Traill, a vocalist with a charming voice, who accompanies herself on the piano in two very pretty songs with great point and archness, and scores a striking success. Shirley and Ransome have an amusing sketch in *'Arf a Quid*—a little family quarrel between a coster and his wife over a half-sovereign which he has lent to his brother-in-law. The many amusing sayings introduced cause roars of laughter, and there are also some pathetic moments. All ends happily, and a pretty duet brings it to a close. The neatly-written episode is well played by the two artists, the husband being especially good.

A sure winner is Miss Dora Lyric, who is always most fascinating, and sings catchy songs with a good chorus refrain, which the gallery always love. Her present numbers are that great favourite "I'll tell Tilly on the telephone" and "All that glitters is not gold." The choruses are taken up and sung with the utmost enthusiasm, and at the finish the audience is loth to part with the popular lady. A deputy appeared on the evening of our visit, and made a hit with a taking number, "When the right little girl comes along," which quite caught the fancy of the audience. Hall and Earle, the comedy eccentrics, are as clever and as amusing a couple as can be found anywhere. They present some neat acrobatic feats, and the comical partner is intensely funny with his various antics. It is a most novel turn, and there is a freshness about the whole show which is most pleasing. Miss Geraldine Montrose and Co. present a thrilling episode, *The Ring Between*, in which Miss Montrose is successful as Stella. Mr. William Felton, the author of the sketch, makes a great hit as Sir David Denham, the Cabinet Minister, who comes to take a farewell of his mistress before his marriage, and is robbed of a despatch by Stella, who is prompted to do it by one Leon de Roche, a foreign spy. Stella eventually shoots Leon, and returns the despatch to Sir David. It is an extremely well written and conceived little play, and contains many striking lines. Mr. Martin Sands is particularly good as Leon de Roche, while the other characters are ably filled. The Imperial Bioscope is still to the fore with some interesting films. The programme is brought to a close by Lawson and Namon, who introduce a clever exhibition of ball punching. The lady is an expert at the art, while the male partner evokes endless hilarity by his efforts in the same direction, and concludes the turn by giving a very clever and withal funny display of trick cycling. The turn deserves a more prominent place in the bill. The orchestra, again under the baton of Mr. G. R. Hatley, lends valuable aid. Mr. A. F. Lovesey is, as ever, most energetic in his duties as manager.

THE QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

The management of this comfortable hall must have been gratified to find the house so well filled on Monday night, when a programme of all-round excellence was presented. Miss Wynnie Darrell gains the full meed of appreciation by her artistic rendering of "In December" and "Grey Eyes"; and the speciality act of Henny and Blanche, entitled *Continental Experiences*, in which some clever acrobatic dancing is introduced, speedily finds favour with the audience. The society episode, entitled *Her Good Name*, is well played and handsomely mounted. Mr. Monte Bayly portrays with praiseworthy vigour the part of the chemist John Vyce, and Mr. Munroe Jones earns distinction for his sterling exposition of the Hon. James Ancrum; while Miss Diana Hope acts with resource and capability the character of the chemist's wife Adelaide. The piece is well received, the reconciliation making a happy climax.

Miss Marie Blythe, looking very handsome in her black velvet costume, makes full use of her fine contralto voice, and is heard to advantage in "Keepsakes" and "When you're in view"; while an interesting turn is given by Mr. Ted Saunders, whose imitation of Mr. Joe Elvin in *Touched* is very realistic. Karsy's Giant Myriophone is an instrument of great size, consisting of twenty-five revolving wheels, with wires attached, from which perfect tones are produced, and upon which Mr. and Mrs. Karsy perform the intermezzo from *Cavalleria Rusticana* and a selection of popular melodies, while a pretty effect is introduced by an ingenious arrangement of chromascopic lights. Mr. Herbert Darnley's clever troupe of Dots delight the house with their novelty, *Helping Mother*, in which they sing "All New Moon," "Don't cry, my mammy dear," and "Hello, dear John," while the dancing of Little Winnie Crisp is particularly good.

Much merriment is the result of the comical impersonation of the mummy by Mr. Sandy McNab in the farcical sketch, *The Egyptian Mummy*. Mr. McNab is ably assisted by a competent company, who do full justice to their respective parts. The Selwyns present an attractive interlude; and the smart orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Fred Venton, tastefully play the "Mousmousse March" (G. T. Vives) and "Dream of her childhood" valse. Retribution, or the Hand of Cain, is a strong dramatic film shown on the Bioscope. The usual attentiveness is displayed by the general manager, Mr. Jack Woolf, who has this week gained a legal victory affecting child licence, and the zealous assistant acting-manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams, is ever on the alert to contribute towards the comfort of the patrons.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

A well-varied programme is submitted at this popular hall this week. The top of the bill is occupied by Fred Ginnett's company, in *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*, a very popular subject. The main incidents of the historic events recounted by Harrison Ainsworth in "Rookwood" are rapidly portrayed, the bioscope depicting some features that could not have been realised on the stage. Mr. Ginnett carries himself gallantly as the highwayman, and is well supported by a very capable company, and the sketch enables his beautiful mare, Black Bess, to display intelligence of an uncommon order. The scenery and mounting are on a lavish scale, and there is every sign of popular enthusiasm when Mr. Ginnett takes his call at the close.

The Brothers Egbert are at the bottom of the bill, and their antics and acrobatic agility enable them to keep the house in roars of laughter the whole time they occupy the stage, their reception being very hearty. The Lyons trio of pantomimists and dancers submit a good and amusing turn, which goes well. Anna Kenwick, American comedienne and dancer, gives a good impersonation of a coon singing a coon song, and concludes with a smart dance. The Four Madcaps, though billed as such, are really a quintette. Their dancing is of the acrobatic order, is very clever, and they gain a most cordial call. Harry Grey, a comedian, makes an immediate hit. His first song, "We had to carry Carrie to the ferry," goes well; but his second, a burlesque imitation of a novice making her first appearance as a ballad vocalist, quite captures the house. Little Agnes Tina proves herself to be an accomplished mimic. Her first number is cleverly sung, and her concluding imitations of Eugene Stratton, Harry Lauder, and other stars are highly popular. Boyd and Gilfain present a most interesting act of song, burlesque, and music, the gentleman possessing a good tenor voice and the lady being a capable performer on the bagpipes. Westland, a Scotch comedian, makes a good impression; the Bioscope is up to date, as usual; and Mr. Russell's orchestra still renders yeoman service during the evening. Business here continues to be exceptionally good.

THE PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

Heading the bill at this handsome establishment for the current week is Mr. John Lawson's revised version of *The Unwritten Law*, in which a powerful rendition of the unscrupulous Sir Stephen Clinton is given by Mr. F. W. Paull. Mr. Arthur Royston is well in the picture as Fritz Hartmann; and the forger, Leslie Marsden, is excellently performed by Mr. R. Bosco. Jack Graham is represented with the necessary vigour by Mr. C. de Gue; and Miss Buena Bent is a charming Moya Marsden. Miss Madge Haines is attractive as Miss Sophy; and Miss Lilian Locke is a competent Gladys Berg; the remaining parts being in the capable hands of Messrs. Melot Leslie, Boon St. Josephs, and Adrian Lawrence. The piece is handsomely staged, the Café Chantant scene being especially good, while the fight between Clinton and Graham is effectively managed.

During the evening, Brilliant and Brilliant give well-executed xylophone selections of the overture to *Poet and Peasant* (Suppè) and the March, "Light Cavalry" (Suppè); and the acrobatic turn of Les Rallis scores an immediate success. Mr. Will English soon becomes a favourite, and keeps the house in good humour with his song, "Daisy," and his imitation walks and eccentric dances. Messrs. Woodhouse and Wells indulge in some very smart patter, while their duet, "The Hunters," is extremely funny. Mr. Alf. Chester is good in "Sergeant" and "My Wife"; and Miss Ida Brophy sings with great charm "I wish I were you," and gains enthusiastic applause for her clever dance. Mr. Harry Pleon takes the opportunity in his "Breach of Promise" to give some of his well-known imitations; and the bioscope picture, "Hurry Up," is provocative of much mirth. The fine band, under the bâton of Mr. Macdonald, plays with spirit "The Bedford Two-step" march; and the general-manager, Mr. C. Melville Lurring, spares no effort towards looking after the comfort of his numerous patrons, being ably assisted by his lieutenant, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher.

EALING HIPPODROME.

The engagement of the Two McNaughtons, who star the bill here this week, is a most popular one. These inimitable comedians step at once "across the footlights" to their audience, for whom, from start to finish, their turn is a convulsion of laughter. Commencing with a *lever de rideau* of cross-talk, the scene quickly changes to the sylvan glades of a forest, where we find one of the duo habited in a travesty of Robin Hood, while the get-up of his brother artist is a combination portrait of Hackenschmidt and the Sheriff of Nottingham. The merry man of Sherwood exclaims that nothing is to be seen but silence, but his antagonist, who quickly appears, shows him that it is a silence that may be felt, and a desperate duel ensues—first with knives and then with gloves. There are many quips and jokes in the scena, which, as a merriment-producer, serves its purpose admirably.

Dainty Miss Amy Clevere is no stranger to Ealing, and her refined style is ever welcome. Her two songs, "Girls, girl, girls," and "When the shades of night are falling," are both melodious, the second being particularly so, and here Miss Clevere's rich voice, mellowed to the tenderest softness, is heard with excellent effect. From pathos to laughter is but a step, and Mr. Tom Woottwell takes it. In his "I shan't forget the day that I was born" he croons of the delights of infancy, and a certain little shirt "made by mother"; while in "Come and have a drop of gin, old dear," he introduces one to the amicability of a quiet neighbourhood. Mr. Wootwell is very popular with the "upper house," and deservedly so. Miss Annie Lauri is a *chic* young comedienne, who is a tuneful songstress and graceful dancer. She has two attractive numbers, "I'd like to be a sailor" and "Mary and her little motor." Miss Lauri makes good use of her nimble toes, and with two handsome costumes presents a pretty stage picture. Hall and Earle present some novelties in comedy acrobatics, and are, besides, capable musicians and dancers. Mr. Harold Hughman is a clever imitator, some of his mimicry being wonderfully close to the originals, notably his Italian knife-grinder from Hammersmith and a Hippodrome soda and whisky. An amusing comedy duo is found in Mueller and Coyne. Their cross-talk is smart, the lady's vocalisation tuneful, while the gentleman's acrobatics are really funny.

That the bioscope has come to stay becomes every day more certain. The rapidity with which current events are reproduced has ceased to excite our wonderment, and when Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope presents us with "The King's Naval Review," or "The Burglar Hunt by the Dogs of Paris," the expression arises forcibly to the lips, "We are there." Mr. E. W. James, an alert and courteous manager, is ably assisted by his aide-de-camp, Mr. Harry Blight.

DR. WALFORD BODIE

AT THE PALACE, ABERDEEN.

RECORD HOUSES WITNESS HIS LATEST SENSATION, "THE CAGE OF DEATH."

Comparatively few of the leading lights of the variety stage have the phenomenal drawing power that Dr. Bodie has in Aberdeen. He invariably brings with him a flutter of sensation and excitement, and consequently plays to record houses. His entertainment is, of course, out of the ordinary run; and, gifted as he is with very considerable oratorical powers, he treats his audience to exhaustive analyses and explanations of his various experiments, and of cures effected electrically. His own personality, too, arrests attention—he has a fine commanding appearance—and while his orations frequently evoke hostile retort and comment, he can generally "come out top," with the applause of the greater proportion of his audience undoubtedly ringing gratefully in his ears. Last night's audience in point of numbers was no particular exception to the general rule—the theatre being practically filled at early-door prices. Dr. Bodie's work consisted principally of electrical demonstrations, which embraced exhibitions of what he terms "the Cage of Death." This an electrical show of endurance and resistance. He is encircled by live wires, and at the same time "thousands of volts" are passed through his body. It must be confessed that the performer, to all appearance, enjoyed this part of his show, coming out unscathed. Members of the audience were experimented upon

[*Photo by Laird, Aberdeen.*

DR. WALFORD BODIE, M.D.

with batteries, and at the close Dr. Bodie gave some graphic illustrations of "bloodless surgery," effecting apparent cures. It may be mentioned that Dr. Bodie has recently signed a contract to visit America, opening in New York, at a salary of some £400 a week. His show is entrancing and bewildering, and is undoubtedly a most popular attraction. A capable variety company of artists herald the appearance of this sensational performer, and altogether the programme at the Palace is a splendid one.—*Aberdeen Express*, July 16, 1907.

THE PARAGON.

Mr. Harry Lauder takes the responsible position at the top of the bill here this week, giving in his artistic manner "Rob Roy Mackintosh," "We Parted on the Shore," and "I Love a Lassie." Needless to state, Mr. Lauder is enthusiastically applauded by the whole of the house. Messrs. Clark and Hamilton provide a very interesting few minutes, the drolleries of the gentleman whilst accompanying the lady at the piano causing many hearty laughs. They conclude with that tuneful number, "My Yokohama Queen," to which a neat dance is attached. Mr. Harry Tate in *Motoring* is as funny as ever, and one is compelled to laugh heartily, no matter how many times it has been seen before. Miss Winifred Hare, charmingly gowned, and in beautiful voice, sings "Yes, yes, so would I," and for her second item gives "Cheer up, Mary," a bright and catchy little song, which is well liked. Mr. Edgar Budden provides an interesting entertainment, his dancing on roller skates combined with his manipulation of the bones being remarkably clever. Mr. Budden is also a first-class comedian, and must have felt well satisfied with the round of applause he received. Miss Alice Pierce, the neat young American actress, gives some realistic impressions of various celebrities, her impersonation of Mrs. Leslie Carter as Zaza being capital. Her latest assumptions are those of Miss Clarise Mayne and Miss Ellaline Terriss, whom she imitates to perfection. The Morton Comedy Trio supply a very good number, the blending of their voices being excellent.

Mr. Norman G. Acton's company appears in an American dramatic sketch, entitled *A Sister's Honour*, which proves very thrilling. The scene is laid in a living room in the backwoods of America, where dwell Miss Mamie West and her brother. A stranger appears in the person of Jim Radcliffe, who pleads for shelter. The girl notices blood on his hands, and demands to know the cause. He explains that a certain ruffian had ruined his sister, and after pleading to the man to act honourably towards her he only laughed at him. The two men fought, and in the end the betrayer was killed, and Radcliffe, afraid of being lynched by the man's friends, had fled. The girl sympathises with the man and promises to assist him, although she fears her brother. A knock is heard at the door, and, thinking it is her brother, she tells the stranger to hide in her room, but it is a friend called with the news that the brother has been murdered at the camp by a fellow who had "a bit of a grievance" about his sister. The girl realises that she is sheltering her brother's murderer, but when Jim comes forward and asks to be delivered up she refuses, and the finale is reached by her promising to assist him to escape. Mr. Norman G. Acton as Jim Radcliffe, Mr. Arthur O'Keene as Tom Rivers, and Miss Gertrude Churchill as Mamie West played well together, and achieved a success.

Anthony, comedy juggler, is very amusing. Mr. Nat Clifford supplements his "Grand Hotel" song by some funny patter. Mr. Tom Leamore gives a smart song and dance, and his second effusion, "Listen, my lad, to my story," is extremely droll. Kelly, Gillette, and Bart in their feats on a billiard table are highly amusing and clever. Mr. Dan Thomas has two good numbers in "Advice to ladies" and "My old woman," concluding the latter with a smart dance. Miss Flo Challis sings two bright songs, and Messrs. Phillips and Merritt are a clever couple, who indulge in singing, dancing, and whistling. Mr. Joe Elvin in *King of the Castle* furnishes one of the best characters he has had. Ruffell's Bioscope shows some excellent films.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THE CHAOS OF THE LAW.

Mr. Woolf, manager of the Queen's Theatre, Poplar, who was accompanied by an intelligent-looking girl of thirteen, named Winnie Crispe, applied to Mr. Dickinson, at the Thames Court, for a licence enabling the child to perform at that theatre at 7.30 and again at a quarter to ten.

Mr. Dickinson said, according to the London County Council regulations, there must be an interval of at least four hours between each performance.

Mr. Woolf said, although he had made, and been granted, many similar applications, the question had never before been raised.

Mr. Dickinson: Well, I never grant such permission if within the four hours. Continuing, his worship remarked, he saw the piece was *Helping Mother*. That exactly described the state of affairs.

Inspector Montgomery, in reply to the magistrate, stated that he had known instances where children performed twice within four hours.

Mr. Dickinson: Then what is the good of the London County Council regulation if managers can snap their fingers at it? So long as I am sitting on the bench I shall only sanction one performance within the specified time, as I consider it a very proper provision. Such performances entail great excitement and more exhaustion than many people imagine.

Mr. Woolf said if the application was not granted it would disappoint the public, as the piece had been "billed," and the child was the "star turn." He would be obliged to issue some announcement as to the reason.

Mr. Dickinson: Yes, you can do that. You may even mention my name. (Laughter.) His worship further asked Inspector Montgomery if the County Council's inspectors regarded such applications as a mere form?

The inspector remarked that all he could say was that similar licences had previously been granted, and the facts were known to the Council's inspectors.

Mr. Dickinson: Then the sooner the attention of the Music Hall Committee of the Council is drawn to the matter the better. I should like to have an inspector from Spring Gardens here with regard to this matter, and the application could be renewed later in the day.

Mr. Woolf afterwards informed the magistrate that he had been in touch with the Public Control Office of the London County Council, and informed that the regulation in question was not a by-law, and the conditions were for the magistrate to say, and not the Council. The latter body only saw those conditions were carried out.

Mr. Dickinson said the Council and the magistrates had agreed to certain rules, and he was not able to understand the action of the former body, but he intended the matter should be fully explained. In that particular case he would make a special exception and grant the licence; but in future would not sanction a child performing twice in four hours.

Mr. Woolf said he would bring the matter under the notice of the Music Hall Managers' Protection Society, in order to have the point settled.

Some notable songs have been acquired for publication during the past few days by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, including, among others, "The old canoe, the moon, and you," by J. E. Sutton; "The girl who thought she would" and "The wise and foolish virgins" (both sung by Miss Alice Lloyd), by George Arthurs and Orlando Powell; "My Lady Belvedera," by T. F. Robson; "My little Yiddisher boy (Miss Kate Carney), by Charles Collins, Herbert Rule, and George Jackley; "Won't you go to Gogo?" (Miss Gladys Huxley), by J. F. Lambe and T. W. Thurban; "Come closer," by G. A. Stevens; "Cherries are blooming" (Miss Bessie Butt), by A. E. Sidney Davis and John Neat; "My Mary Llewellyn," by Horace Jones; "You're the girl I've been waiting for," written, composed, and sung by Charles Lilburn; and the latest effort of that past master of comic song writing, Frank Leo, a ditty, entitled "You don't mind me asking you, do you?"

A little lad of twelve summers, Master E. Frisby, appeared for the first time at the Metropolitan on Monday, and so phenomenal was the boy's pure soprano voice in that delightful song of Messrs. Francis and Day, entitled "Starlight," that it was not to be wondered at that his singing evoked thunders of applause. Needless to say, his future is assured, he being instantly snapped up by sure judges for long engagements, and next week the gifted boy will be heard in Edward Montagu's beautiful song, "At the old cross-roads," another of Messrs. Francis and Day's publications.

The author and composer, who, in conjunction with Eustace Baynes, wrote Mr. Gus Elen's "Postman's 'Oliday," were discovered having a "nice quiet day" by the beach entertainers at Skegness on Thursday, and the twain received an uproarious welcome from Fred Clement's crowd and "The Bohemians." The best item of news from London for the entertainers was the intelligence that Charles Osborne's celebrated song, "Potted poetry," had been included by Messrs. Francis and Day in the "Sixpenny Pops."

The great success which has attended Miss Kathleen Cogan's rendering of Henry E. Pether's striking original song, "My Sweet Bird of Paradise," on the Stoll tour continues unabated, and the demands for the number from all quarters show what a potent factor the Earl's Court Exhibition is in the popularising of a song. It has been featured at the latter place by Miss Nellie Le Breton, of Harry Loftus's Pierrots, and has ever been encored.

Mr. George D'Albert has arranged with the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. to feature two of their newest publications, both written and composed by Paul Pelham and Herbert Rule, entitled "Canoodle in my canoe" and "Can't help loving 'em," both of which he is convinced will be worthy to rank amongst his biggest successes.

Mr. Tom Costello has just secured from Harry Adams a song, entitled "Awfully slow," for which Bennett Scott is composing the music, and the comedian has commissioned the progenitor of "On guard" to supply him with three special creations, the subjects of which will be undisclosed till production.

The Sages are making a hit with their new number, "If you're coming in, I'm agoing out," written and composed by Will Letters. Mr. Harry Burns is booking them up fast.

Miss Rosa Adams re-opens on Monday at the Camberwell Empire after a most successful provincial tour with new songs from her father's pen.

At a recent Thursday matinée at the Foresters' Hall, Hastings, a special turn was supplied by Messrs. Stanborough and Hughes' company, with the comedy sketch, *The Baby Elephant*. It met with a capital reception from the audience.

Jack Thomason, a well-known local weight-lifter, at the Wolverhampton Empire on Saturday night, succeeded in beating his own record. He raised the platform, on which a horse and seven men were standing—the total weight being 2500lb. Such a feat has never been accomplished before by any Englishman.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

"Yucatan," the Mexican Indian song by A. E. Sidney Davis and Sydney Baynes, has been so successful, both at New Brighton and Blackpool, that Mr. John Tiller is having it featured by the Palace Girls, who opened at the Shaftesbury Avenue House on Monday and scored a tremendous success at the first time of asking. "Yucatan" is published by Francis, Day, and Hunter, who anticipate a big Christmas sensation from this number.

What is very often a vexed eleventh-hour question has been settled for good and all early this year, and a great weight has been lifted from the minds of prospective principal boys and girls, the unmistakable signs of what will be the absolute chorus rages of the forthcoming "annuals" being evidenced by the present enormous hits being made by Mr. George Lashwood with "In the twi-twi-light" and by Mr. Whit Cunliffe with "Meet me down at the corner at half-past eight," and by the requests received daily by Messrs. Francis and Day for "rights" of the same from foremost pantomime producers.

A very interesting article appeared in the *Evening News* a day or two since under the heading of "What the Stars are Singing," from which it appears that Messrs. Francis and Day hold the copyrights of the sheet-anchors of almost every artist of prominence. The article gave facsimiles of portions of the scores of Vesta Tilley's "Jolly good luck to the girl who loves a soldier," R. G. Knowles' "Every little bit added to what you've got," Wilkie Bard's "You-you-you!" Winifred Hare's "Cheer up, Mary," George Lashwood's "In the twi-twi-light," Tom Costello's "For auld lang syne," and Annie Purcell's "In the valleys of Switzerland."

Mr. Dennis Drew is breaking all records at Woolwich with his stirring military scena, *Back to Barracks*, the numbers "Mona May" (by Herbert Shelley and Ernest Bucalossi), "Come and be a soldier" (by Nairn and Stiles), and "The beat of the drum" (by Kenneth Lyle) being redemanded again and again. Messrs. Francis and Day publish the three items, the two last being also "Sixpenny Pops."

All the natives of the North of England who are dancers—and that includes the entire population—have voted the new dances which have taken, notably Manchester, Blackpool, and Douglas, by storm the best for many years. They include "The White City Waltz" and "White City Two Step," invented by Tom Walton; "The Officer's Two Step," by J. B. McEwen; "Carmencita," by Emily Jones; and "Esperanto," by Tom Almond. The music of each is from the graceful pen of Luke Cavendish Everett, and Messrs. Francis and Day have published them all.

Mr. Walter Munroe, the ever-young Irish comedian, has been delighting patrons of the Hippodrome, Glasgow, with a beautiful song of the Green Isle, by that melodious Milesian, Felix McGlennon, entitled "When you're tired of roaming." The Star Music Co. have received the following wire from the genial Walter: "'When you're tired of roaming' has hit them. They sing chorus all night.—Munroe."

Miss Dora Lyric, who returned to London on Monday after a triumphal provincial tour, has been appearing at the Islington Empire and the Bedford during the week. On Tuesday evening she produced at these halls a new song, by Mills and Scott, entitled "When the lilac blooms in springtime." The success of this number was instantaneous, and Miss Lyric had to return again and again in response to enthusiatic applause. Thus another great chorus song was launched on the sea of popularity, and another "winner" added to the Star Music Co's. catalogue.

Clever Miss Claire Romaine, who is under engagement to Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger, and sails for the States on the 22nd inst., will open in New York with three new numbers specially written and composed for her by Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate, which are respectively entitled, "Hurry up Walter!" "What little Willie wants to know," and last, but not least, a coster girl's song with a simply ear-haunting chorus—"He's jest the bloke for me"—which the author confidently believes will even eclipse the American success of his sterling "winner," "Never introduce your bloke to your lady friend."

Two new songs, which Mr. R. G. Knowles will shortly produce and afterwards exploit throughout America on his return thither (which will be in the near future) are "The diner, the dinner, and the doctor" and "Girls, be on your dignity!" both of which have been written and composed specially for the talented American by the ubiquitous John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate.

The latest convert to the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s fold is clever Miss Carlotta Levey, who will in a few days produce their new song, written and composed by Paul Pelham and Herbert Rule, entitled "I'm going to try my luck in London," at all her engagements. She is also studying up Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's great song, "Don't go back to Carolina," published by the same go-ahead firm, with a view to early inclusion in her répertoire.

Mr. L. B. Athol has been "stirring them up" at the Hippodrome, Putney, during this week with Wallis and Collins's enormously successful song, "We all came in the world with nothing." This is another of the Star Music Co's. lucky snips.

Mr. Harry Bedford has secured from R. P. Weston a droll dude song, well calculated to show off the singer's quaint idiosyncracies. The title of this comical hit is "When I breathe," and copies for pantomime may be had from the Star Music Co.

Those well-known sketch artists, Miss Haidee Lee and Mr. Wallace Kingston, have in active rehearsal an entirely new and original pétite musical comedy, specially written for them by Mr. John P. Harrington, with appropriate music by Mr. Jas. W. Tate, entitled *Gussie in Mentone*, which has been pronounced by all who have heard it to be quite the finest thing of its kind which this talented "duo" has yet essayed.

A new descriptive vocalist, Mr. Mark Adams, has lately been winning golden opinions with his rendering of Messrs. Paul Pelham and Herbert Rule's charming song of sentiment, "I'm thinking always of you," which he has embodied in his dramatic scena, *The Wanderer;* indeed, so great has Mr. Adams's success been in his rendering of this number that the Monte Carlo Co., its publishers, are issuing a special new edition, with his portrait on the frontispiece.

Mr. Geo. Chirgwin's Concert Party at the Happy Valley, Westcliff, are enjoying unparalleled prosperity, and Manager Charles Osborne's own songs, "Join the Navy," already a "sixpenny pop," and "Potted Poetry," which is to be issued in the same form immediately, are easy first favourites with the huge audiences. Bert Dansie sings the naval number, and the author-composer the latter. Another item from Francis and Day's catalogue, greatly in favour with Southend visitors, is "Don't tell the world your troubles," tastefully sung by Miss Beatrice Varley.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE METROPOLITAN.

Prominent in Mr. Henri Gros' well-varied and entertaining programme at the Metropolitan this week is the dramatic sketch, *A Japanese Revenge*, adapted, by permission of the author, by Cecil Newton from a story by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and presented by Ferdinand Conti and company. The action takes place in the quarters of a Japanese officer who, taken by a Russian colonel for a spy, turns out to be a Japanese general. Neatly possessing himself of the Russian's pistol, the Japanese commands him to be seated, and then proceeds to relate the story of his son's capture by the enemy and the kind treatment he received from one Russian officer and the cruelty meted out by another, illustrating both phases of the episode as he goes along on his helpless captive. He even goes to the extent of calling his men in and commanding them to bind the Russian and present arms, but nobly refrains from having his prisoner shot, bidding him depart, and remember "a Japanese Revenge." The names of the two characters and their interpreters are not given on the programme, but both parts were excellently enacted, and the interesting trifle evidently impressed the audience favourably. Another serious sketch in the programme that met with approval was *Sunshine*, admirably played by Miss Margaret Parker and company.

The principal comedian of the bill is Mr. Dan Crawley, who kept the house in continual laughter by his droll rendering of "Te-um-te-um-te-ay" and a grotesque female impersonation; and the turn of Jack and Evelyn, in their amusing interlude, *Come into the Office*, was also punctuated with almost incessant laughter, the hard-working and entertaining couple evoking some of the heartiest applause heard during the evening. That popular comedienne, Miss Millie Lindon, charmed all by her rendering of "The angel of my dreams," and her song telling of the fascinations of a certain "Mary, who kept a dairy"—evidently a very profitable occupation for the rustic damsel. An encore being demanded, Miss Lindon obliged with a daintily-rendered and amusing song concerning a demure little milliner who was always home by ten. The electrical transformation musical act contributed by "Unicum" (a lady and gentleman) found favour; and there was much admiration also for the feats of strength indulged in by Ben Hur, in his spectacle, *Pompeii*, especially when he succeeded in holding up half a dozen or so "gladiators" and a huge bar-bell. The sack-lifting competition in connection with his show also proved interesting and amusing. Mr. Leo Dryden employed his fine voice in "I'm going back to the mines" and "Putting my house in order," both songs proving greatly to the liking of his auditors; and Miss Dorothy Gerald amused with "What's the matter with London Town?" and a quaint song and dance. Mr. Charles Williams, Miss Maudie Francis, the Four Burnells, Miss Jessie Merrilees, Mr. Percy Farrimond, and Miss Edie Veno also contributed entertaining items; and the pictures shown by Jeape's Animated Graphic pleased immensely.

THE EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

The holiday season seems to have little, if any, effect on the attendances at this popular hall; and audiences of the most liberal proportions are nightly turning out to testify their appreciation of the excellent bills that continue to be presented. On this week's scheme of amusement Manager Francis is to be heartily congratulated. A prominent place is taken by Miss Annie Purcell, the popular comedienne, who gives a couple of capital numbers, entitled "Baby's trance" and "In the valleys of Switzerland"—both of them excellent vehicles for her talents. On concluding the audience simply will not let her go, so she eventually gives that old favourite, "By the side of the Zuyder Zee," the chorus of which is taken up in no half-hearted manner by the whole house. Witty Wattie Walton, character comedian, soon has the house in roars of laughter with his many stories. His character impersonations are also most clever—that of the football player especially being most funny. The Brothers Zampah, one-legged equilibrists, soon show themselves to be acrobats of no mean ability, and their turn is one of the greatest successes of the evening. Gracie Raine, a dainty comedienne, proves herself a neat and clever dancer; and Bertha France sings an amusing number about "A musical comedy actress." Charles Fanning is certainly entitled to take a high place amongst comedians for originality. He revels in amusing patter and funny stories, and the quaint yet unconcerned manner in which he delivers them is a very considerable asset in their scoring power.

The Devil's Sunday is being presented by Mrs. John Lawson, supported by a very able and powerful company. The sketch is going as well as ever, and, improved in one or two minor details, it holds the house from the rise of the curtain to its fall. Miss Cissie Lawson as Fay puts an amount of "devil" into her work that enables her to electrify the house, and on concluding she is compelled to come before the curtain and bow her acknowledgments.

Bessie Lind sings a couple of numbers with success. She appears, however, to greater advantage in G. H. Elliot's popular number, "If the man in the moon were a coon," the chorus of which appeals strongly to the gods. Johnson and Pelham introduce a novel and entertaining turn. The male member proves himself an able exponent in the art of ball-punching, and the lady as a dancer is most attractive. Arthur Woodville, a light comedian, gives an amusing number about "Courting," which he follows with that increasingly popular number, "I wish I were you." He brings his turn to a conclusion with some neat dancing. The Great Northern Troupe can certainly be said to be quite in the front rank of dancers. The Jees in their funny sketch, *The Musical Smithy*, and Harry Rogers and company in *Told in a Flat* contribute most successfully to the enjoyment; and a most pleasant evening is brought to a conclusion by some very amusing pictures on the Bioscope, which are followed with interest from start to finish. Mr. Francis Winchcombe, Mr. Nelson Francis's popular aide-de-camp, shows himself to be *au fait* in the front of the house.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

The autumn season at this house has commenced under happy auspices, and there is every reason to predict a successful one. This week there is a budget of good things for the delectation of the audience. Macer and French combine to win approval in some clever clog dancing, and are applauded liberally, as they deserve. Tony Iveson, the ragman at the piano, is quite refreshingly droll. Miss Florrie Robina, always a welcome visitor here, vocalised prettily in "The wearing of the green" and "The Holy City." She has a fine voice. The Eight 'Varsity Girls have plenty of talent, but their répertoire needs strengthening; their show is prettily dressed and grouped. Mr. Horace Pollack's company in *Hester's Mystery*, by A. W. Pinero, proves a welcome addition. Such revivals are always pleasant to chronicle. The company is a good one, but the cast should be printed on the programme. There is a touch of Fenimore Cooper about Yeotha, the Indian Red Bird, and Capt. G. Grade; the archery of the latter would put Hubert, "who drew a long bow at Hastings," to shame. It is quite an interesting turn. Miss Florry Cooper, a refined vocalist, sings "Angel faces" to the entire satisfaction of the audience; and Stidder and Dunbar get through a comedy pot-pourri act with distinction. Mr. Arthur Andrews completes the programme. Mr. E. J. Macdermott, as manager, is the embodiment of courtesy

MR. HERBERT DARNLEY'S ENTERPRISES

Few men lead such a busy life as Mr. Herbert Darnley, the well-known writer of comedies, farces, and dramatic plays and sketches. At the present time he is running, on his own account, companies on tour in the theatres and music halls in pieces written by himself. These include *The Sandow Girl*, a musical farce; and *The Skirmishers* and *Moving In*, sketches which are proving most acceptable to music hall audiences. In addition, Mr. Darnley tours in the variety establishments in the provinces a juvenile troupe, who go by the name of Herbert Darnley's Dots. Then he has the theatre at Mansfield, which he took over last year, running it for the first three months of his possession as a music hall, and latterly as a "legitimate" house. Mr. Darnley found that the local public did not want and would not patronise a variety entertainment, so instead of closing the doors, he fulfilled the contracts that had been already entered into with vaudeville artists, then ran cinematograph pictures for a week previous to commencing with dramatic fare. The theatre has a holding capacity of two thousand, and can draw upon a wide community of some 150,000 people.

"I have been watching," said Mr. Darnley, "the trend that public taste in the direction of amusement has been taking recently, and I have come to the conclusion that dumb shows are no longer wanted. It was for this reason that I turned *Moving In* and *The Skirmishers* into talking sketches, introducing songs, dances, and conversations, while still retaining the comic pantomime business. The result has been extremely gratifying. By the way, I ought to tell you that while I write all my pieces myself, the music in the case of *The Skirmishers* has been composed by Mr. Joseph Cleave, and that in the case of *Moving In* and my other shows by Mr. Dudley Powell.

MR. HERBERT DARNLEY.

"You may be interested to learn that in the autumn I shall produce a drama, in four acts, entitled *A Mother's Sacrifice*, upon the writing of which I am now engaged. In this piece my juvenile company, the Dots, will play quite important parts. Indeed, the principal members of this troupe, namely, Harry, Dora, and Winnie Crisp, will be seen in parts very similar to those they played with Miss Olga Nethersole in America and Paris."

At Christmas Mr. Darnley will produce his own pantomime on the subject of *The Babes in the Wood*, at Mansfield, he himself taking the character of the Dame. After its presentation at Mansfield the production will be sent on tour.

"I have considered it an advisable course to appear in my own pantomime," continues Mr. Darnley, "because I have had so many offers for pantomime from other managers. I can assure you it was my intention not to play again, but it has since occurred to me that if I am worth the large salaries that have been offered to me, then surely I was worth more in my own show. Oh, yes, I shall be the author of the 'book' of the pantomime."

That Mr. Darnley does not permit his "shows" on tour to get rusty is evident from what he tells us as to his business methods and procedure. Every night he witnesses a performance, either by his own company or by somebody else's; and he visits each of his own shows once a week, when he calls a rehearsal to see that everybody is perfect in his or her part, and that the scenery and other effects are in good order. No defects are allowed to escape his keen observation. Early next year he will produce a new sketch, in which the principal parts will be played by Miss Queenie Leighton and himself; and Mr. Fred Kitchen (at the conclusion of his present engagement) will become a member of Mr. Darnley's company, though for the present Mr. Darnley has not decided in what part Mr. Kitchen will appear.

Mr. Darnley is having some new premises, for rehearsal rooms and other stage purposes, erected at the rear of his fine old-world house at Clapham Old Town.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The concise descriptions that we give below of recent applications for patents are specially furnished by Messrs. Howard and Co., patent agents, 57 and 58, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will assist readers in all patent matters:—

Applications.

17402.—Walter Taylor, of Molyneux-drive, New Brighton, Cheshire. Improved riding machine for public amusement.

17404.—Francis Henry Ellis, of Worlingham-road, East Dulwich, London. Apparatus for producing illusion, in which a man or animal appears to be walking on the wall of a room.

17597.—Thomas Ernest Raymond Phillips, of Water-lane, Liverpool. Improvements connected with cinematograph exhibitions, partly applicable to other purposes.

17873.—John Sheldon Winnett and Henry John Boerth, of Chancery-lane, London. Improvements in amusement devices.

17955.—Marius Nicolai Topp, of Lord-street, Liverpool. Improved device for looking at stereoscopic projected images, especially living pictures.

The following abridged description is specially compiled for *The Era* by Messrs. Hughes and Young, registered patent agents and engineers, of 55 and 56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., from whom our readers may obtain information and advice free of charge:—

No. 7,364.—Fire-extinguishing. H. T. Murphy, Springfield, Massachusetts, U.S.A.—Relates to means for extinguishing and for preventing the spread of fires in theatres. A fire-proof curtain is lowered by means of water-motors or by a windlass. The water-wheels are attached to the curtain-roller, and mounted within a casing fitted with a supply-pipe and discharge. The pipe is connected with the water main through a valve-casing provided with two branches fitted with valves which are operated respectively by hand and automatically. To cause the automatic operation of the valves, it is fitted with an arm which carries a weight, and is held up by links connected by fusible material, and is attached to a wall, &c. The fusion of the material releases the arm, allowing the weight to fall and open the valve. Guides are provided at each side of the stage for the curtain, to prevent it being blown about by draughts. Sprinkler pipes are arranged at the rear and front of the proscenium, these pipes being fitted with nozzles directed across the curtain so as to keep it moistened when lowered or to form a water curtain. The pipes are put into operation by valves. At the back of the stage and in the auditorium are arranged pipes connected with the water supply through double valves, and terminating in sprinkler pipes fitted to the ceiling.

THE ALHAMBRA.

Artistic additions to the Alhambra programme this week include the versatile M. Rudinoff, the clever sketcher and silhouettist, who comes with a fresh supply of entertaining items. A warm welcome awaited the accomplished performer, despite his six years' absence, and all his feats were received with rapture. He begins with his etching in smoke, by means of which he reproduces New York Harbour, with the Statue of Liberty in the distance; while a rowing boat is also contrasted with a mighty steamship approaching the quay. A few impressions of M. Rudinoff's travels result in the depiction in crayons of a beer-drinker in Munich, and of a personage of the Jewish persuasion, whose physiognomy is traced by means of his name. The sybillant powers of the artist are employed in a bird-like variation of Mendelssohn's "Spring Song," and in a droll nightingale courtship, and some ingenious specimens of shadowgraphy complete the attractive series. M. Rudinoff keeps his hearers in the best spirits with his amusing commentaries, and his skill is recognised in repeated recalls.

The quality of the programme is further enhanced by Franco Piper, whose facility on the banjo is demonstrated by the rendering of an operatic excerpt, and by playing a tune on two of the instruments while they are revolving under his hand. "Old Folks at Home" proceeds from a quartet of banjoes while the player is juggling with them; and a familiar tune is also extracted from a half-dozen instruments while they are kept spinning rapidly on end. Enthusiastic encores are showered upon the clever performer, who in response gives, without the aid of the orchestra, "The Lost Chord," in the playing of which a distinct accompaniment can be traced.

New pictures by the famous Urbanora are presented in a series of episodes at the Naval Review, during which the shooting competiiton at full speed is reproduced, and the targets riddled with shot and shell are revealed at close quarters. Excellent views of Royalty are also presented, the King being seen in his most benign aspect when congratulating the officers of the ship on their expertness. A picturesque exhibition of Arab horsemanship outside the city walls at Casa Blanca, and the side-splitting misadventures of a short-sighted cyclist are also included in a superb series of pictures, to which Mr. G. W. Byng's music forms a fitting accompaniment. The ballets *Electra* and *Queen of Spades* still furnish a sumptuous display of scenic and terpsichorean art; and the Four Black Diamonds, Rosina Casselli's midget dogs, Vanola, the Mexican Antipodiste, and W. E. Whittle, the clever ventriloquist, continue to prove a source of delight to large audiences.

THE DUCHESS, BALHAM.

The high standard of excellence which the programmes presented here have reached is fully maintained this week, and even the most carping critic would find it difficult to put his hand on a weak spot in the bill. After a spirited and well-rendered overture by the orchestra, the house is early put on good terms by Miss Scheila McNeil, a dainty comedienne, who sings an amusing Scotch song in a most acceptable manner. Bert Williams, a clever ventriloquist, assisted by a couple of excellent manikins, causes roars of laughter by the amusing cross-talk between himself and his Eton boy, who is also made to sing a number of songs, a parody on "The Zuyder Zee" being very funny. He brings his entertainment to a conclusion by singing a verse of "Sweet Genevieve," and has many times to bow his acknowledgments. A prominent place in the evening's entertainment is taken by Dale and O'Malley, the popular comedians, who entertain with some very clever and original patter, their jokes fairly convulsing the house.

The Ten Dixie Girls are again presenting their scena, entitled "The Silver Coon," and are repeating their former successes. The singing of the various members of the troupe leaves little to be desired, and their dancing is both neat and effective. Sable Fern, a great favourite here, is giving a couple of capital numbers, entitled "If you read between the lines" and "It's the echo of an old, old tale," both being excellent vehicles for the display of her vocal ability, one of the most pleasing features of which is the artist's clear and distinct enunciation, every word sung being clearly heard in all parts of the house. The Two Bees are again here, and their "Man in the Moon" scena serves for the introduction of several excellent songs, topical and otherwise, which are highly appreciated.

Doody and Wright, the Australian comedy duo, are well to the fore with some real comedy, which is heartily received. The comedian's quaint and original dancing is especially to the liking of all present. Leo Dryden inquires in vigorously-rendered song "Are we proud of the Union Jack?" and also scores a hit with "I'm going back to the mines." Gardiner Vincent and company are presenting their spectacular fantasy, *Winning a Queen*, in which the comedy merchant works hard for the success of the piece, his labours being certainly not in vain. A pleasant and enjoyable evening is brought to a conclusion by some excellent pictures on the Bioscope, the series depicting Belgian scenery being most interesting. Mr. L. Westcott Hicks, the popular manager, assisted by Mr. Arthur F. Vernall, has, by his tact and courtesy, made many friends during his stay here, and continues to look after the front of the house in a manner that is satisfactory to all.

BRODIE AND NAPOLEON.

To the Editor of The Era.

Sir,—I read in your paper of the 10th inst. a paragraph to the effect that "Mr. Oswald Stoll has re-engaged Mr. Brodie for all the Moss Empires next year with a new playlet. He (Mr. Brodie) intends engaging another Napoleon and still running *The Drummer*." Let me at once say, to save disappointments, that Mr. Matthew Brodie has no power to engage anybody to take his place as Napoleon in my sketch, and that when he ceases to play Napoleon in *The Drummer* that it will not be Mr. Matthew Brodie who will engage the new Napoleon, but—Yours truly,

LOUIS COHEN.

Eccentric Club, Aug. 14.

Miss Millie Hylton will appear in Mr. Charles Macdona's No. 1 company of *Mr. Popple* at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Monday, in the part of La Bolero.

Sandy McNab and company have made an instantaneous hit in London with their Scotch sketch, *The Mummy*. It has been secured for every hall of importance for the next three years.

After concluding a successful re-engagement at the Canterbury, Miss Elsie Kerry (heretofore known as Elsie Enry) opens on Monday next at the Chelsea Palace. This dainty and versatile young comedienne is steadily establishing herself in public favour. To anyone acquainted with the Emerald Isle, the change of name is sufficient indication of this young lady's nationality, which has before now been associated with some of the most brilliant performers on the music-hall stage. But in the present instance Miss Kerry does not confine herself merely to Irish "business." Her turn is agreeably diversified and freshened by the introduction of melodies differing widely in character and requiring special study for successful presentation to a cosmopolitan audience.

CHAT WITH MR. HORACE WHEATLEY.

It is a matter of some theatrical interest to mention that Mr. Horace Wheatley, the well-known Irish comedian, is about to revive *Muldoon's Picnic*, which was at one time so popular an entertainment in the London and provincial theatres. The piece is to be revived on Dec. 30, at Wolverhampton, and will then proceed to visit Belfast, Birkenhead, Manchester, Portsmouth, Southampton, Brighton, Leeds, Newcastle, Sheffield, Birmingham, Liverpool, and Glasgow. Mr. Wheatley will be seen in his original character of Michael Mulcahy, the comical Hibernian, who on numerous occasions sent an older generation of playgoers into fits of laughter. Mr. Wheatley tells us that it is on the advice of managers that he is once more touring the play, and it is noteworthy that it can be presented at a music hall as a sketch, running from thirty to fifty minutes, or as a play for the legitimate house, lasting two hours and three-quarters. The special scenes which will be carried will depict an American saloon and a cleverly-arranged mechanical bridge, which falls to pieces at a given signal.

It says much for the confidence reposed in Mr. Wheatley by managers generally that *Muldoon's Picnic* should have been engaged by so many without having been seen for years. Of course, everybody realises that Mr. Wheatley as Michael Mulcahy is bound to be a big draw; but remarkable reliance has been placed in his intention and ability to secure a good company. On one occasion a well-known manager wrote to him as follows:—"I rarely book a new piece before it has been produced and had a fair trial, but I have confidence in your judgment, and will break my rule in your favour." *Muldoon's Picnic*, of course, will be practically new to the present generation, and it seems that it will be equally suitable for music halls as for theatres. In the Picnic scene a number of specialities are introduced, that form a really attractive variety act.

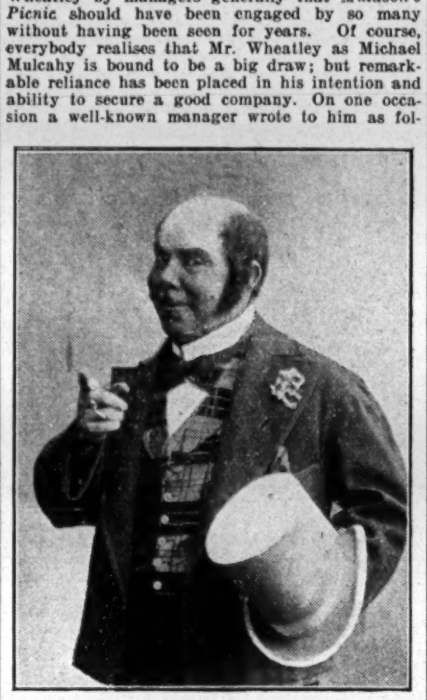

Photo. by Brooks.

MR. HORACE WHEATLEY.

Some twenty-four years have elapsed since Mr. Wheatley and his late partner, Mr. Ted Traynor, played *Muldoon's Picnic* as a sketch in America. The performance lasted for forty minutes, and went so well that the sketch was elaborated into a four-act comedy, which was toured all over England and America with great success for over eight years. The partnership terminated only with the death of Mr. Traynor, and Mr. Wheatley felt his loss deeply. Working single-handed, the following years of Mr. Wheatley's life were passed in England and America, fulfilling engagements in the music halls and in pantomimes. He has appeared in twenty-seven of the latter, nine of them in Dublin, within a period of thirteen years. One of his first appearances in pantomime was at the old Theatre Royal, Glasgow, under Miss Marie Litton's management. It was as a female character in *Little Bo-Peep*. Mr. Wheatley likes male and female rôles equally well. One of his biggest successes was as Hassarac, in *The Forty Thieves*, at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. It was in this pantomime that he first introduced to British audiences the once-popular American ditty, "The Bogie Man." He was also the first to sing in Britain the other well-known transatlantic song, "After the ball." Mr. Wheatley has paid a couple of successful visits to Australia, in one appearing as Baron Gormano in *Cinderella*, which ran for twenty-six weeks in Melbourne and Sydney. He assures us, however, that it was no joke playing in pantomime with the thermometer 100deg. in the shade. The intense heat made false noses and eccentric make-ups useless, and he lost several pounds in weight by having so much dancing to do. However, he had a wonderfully warm welcome.

The subject of this sketch was also the original singer of "Two little girls in blue," this, as everyone knows, being a very popular reminiscent refrain, which told of an old man who "gazed on a photograph." Other songs with which Mr. Wheatley scored were "The little, old dhudeen," "I never drink behind the bar," "Bonnie Kate," "Patsy Doyle," "Patsy Brannigan," "Bantry Bay," and "I'll be a soldier, too."

On the question of the stage representation of the Irishman, Mr. Wheatley holds strong views, and vigorously deprecates the practice of some performers using red hair and green whiskers. "Put on the legitimate Irishman anywhere, leave out all the burlesque features, and it will get a hearty reception," he says. "I am pleased to see that the old-time idea of the Irishman is gradually dying away on the stage, and soon I hope to see all performers treating the character as it really deserves to be treated."

Mr. Alan Holt's sketch, *A Society Woman*, which has been on the road for the past few years, achieved such a success at the Queen's, Poplar, last week that several good bookings have been the result—not surprising this, when one considers the excellent manner in which the playette was acted and mounted.

Great preparations are being made at the Crystal Palace for the People's National Co-operative Exhibition, which opens on the 21st. The whole of the north transept is now in the hands of workmen, busily engaged in erecting stands and preparing for the large number of interesting exhibits. Arrangements are being made by the various railway companies for excursions from all parts, and on the last day of the exhibition, Saturday, Aug. 24, there will be sports and a grand festival, including gymnastic and musical drill displays, dramatic performances, and a whole host of side shows, with a great concert, to which a large choir and orchestra, conducted by Mr. Allen Gill, assisted by Mr. Frank Idle, will contribute. There will also be a "junior" concert, led by Mr. Charles J. Jeapes, and choir contests for adults and juniors for valuable shields and prizes. At night Messrs. C. T. Brock and Co. will give a grand display of fireworks.

TESTIMONIAL TO FRANK GERALD.

The following letter has been sent to us for insertion:—

Dear Sir or Madam,—We cordially invite support of a testimonial to Mr. Frank Gerald, late Secretary to the Variety Artists' Federation, which will be presented as a token of appreciation of the services he has rendered to the cause of the variety artists during the past five years.

We regret to say that Mr. Gerald has decided to retire from the music-hall stage, and he will thus conclude a noteworthy career extending over thirty years in various parts of the world.

It is well known that Mr. Gerald has made great sacrifices for the cause of his fellow artists and their future well-being, and it is felt that his devotion and unquestionable loyalty to their interests deserve general and substantial recognition.

The Committee propose that a dinner be arranged in London on Sunday evening, September 15, when an illuminated address and a cheque will be presented to Mr. Gerald.

Contributions to the testimonial should be sent to Mr. George Reeves, Hon. Treasurer and Secretary, at 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

The names of those who have already joined the Committee are:—W. C. Steadman, M.P., Secretary Trade Union Congress Parliamentary Committee; P. Curran, M.P., Chairman General Federation of Trade Unions; Will Crooks, M.P., L.C.C.; Harry Gosling, L.C.C.; Charles Jesson, L.C.C., London Secretary A.M.U.; Mrs. Egerton (Liverpool); William Grimes, Esq., Brixton; J. B. Williams (Manchester), General Secretary A.M.U.; William Johnson (London), General Secretary N.A.T.E.; George Chirgwin, George Gray, R. A. Roberts, E. Terry (of Terry and Lambert), J. F. Preston, Leonard Mortimer, Nat Gould, Harry Mountford, Fred Harrison, Cecil Raleigh, G. B. Kimberley, Secretary Southwark Trades Council.

GEORGE REEVES.
Hon. Treasurer and Secretary.
29, Wellington-street, Strand, Aug. 19.

THE GRANVILLE.

At the Walham Green palace of varieties, under the able management of Mr. William H. Lennon, a good programme is always forthcoming, and during the hot weather the sliding roof is a boon and a blessing to the audience. Will Evans is here this week, and as bright and entertaining as ever with his amusing patter concerning himself and his advent on earth. He has caught the "Limerick" craze, too, and warbles many a limericky line. He also started a "Limerick" competition, three prizes being given for the best last line to—

Will Evans, "The Monarch of Laughter,"
The public will always run after;
His Limericks are great,
And right up-to-date,
. . . . . .

His latest chorus song, "Down at the garden gate," and his musical monstrosity and scena, *Queen of the Ballet*, which evokes roars of laughter, also form the items of his entertainment. Letine, the famous female impersonator, sings "All I want is a lump of love to love me all the time" and his song and dance in female form, "Come under my parasol, dear, don't be afraid," is wonderful. Devere and Kenwick, with their clever violin playing, patter, and sand-dancing, and in their ludicrous burlesque pictures of songs, such as "When you hear the bugle calling," are great popular favourites. May Henderson, the bright little white girl turned black for amusement's sake is full of untiring energy, vim, and vitality, and her songs, "You shall have a lovely home in Ohio" and "Peter Peacock, Esq.," are rendered by her in inimitable fashion. Stewart and Morgan are excellent vocalists, and "My blue-eyed Irish boy," "The Irish emigrant," and "Kathleen Mavourneen" are capitally rendered. Maudie Ford is a dainty comedienne and dancer, and her songs, "Shy Anne" and "I ain't a-goin' to leave my home in Barbadoes," and her sand-dancing are much appreciated. Kelly and Agnes are a clever American comedy duo, the dancing and acrobatic feats of Kelly are something to be marvelled at. The band selection from *Iolanthe* is very well rendered; Woolmer Young, the vocal comedian, is a great favourite, and his ditties "The new motor-cab," "Don't you think it's time to wake up, John Bull?" (sung to a very taking tune), and "I was there in the morning and stayed till closing time," which teaches a moral lesson to the amorous loafer, all go with a swing; the Northern Troupe of International Dancers give a very dexterous and dainty turn; Edwin Barwick is an actor-vocalist of no mean order, and his ditty, "It's done that way in London," and his more tragic scena, *The Gambler*—in which a broken-down roué ruminates on his past triumphs and present misery—are excellently presented; Minnie Fisher is a pleasing vocalist, and her chosen contributions are "The reason why I love you is—it's you" (a very pretty and tuneful ditty) and "Be advised by your dear old dad"; Frazer and French are a pair of exceedingly clever rag-time clog dancers; the Bioscope, always amusing, does not belie its reputation in the pictures of "Bobby's Birthday," "The Magnetic Man," and "Too Stout"; and Ouida Macdermott, comedienne, Charles Butler, and Millicent Prince complete the programme.

Mr. John Christie, who for six years was manager of the Hackney Empire, has received a well-deserved promotion at the hands of Mr. Oswald Stoll, and proceeded on Monday to take up his new post of district-manager of the South Wales district. At Hackney on Friday afternoon, the 9th inst., Mr. Christie had a hearty send-off, and was the recipient of many valuable gifts from well-wishers in the neighbourhood.

The presentation, at the Town Hall, Hackney, on Friday, the 9th inst., by the Mayor of the Borough to Mr. Christie consisted of an address with the following wording:"To John Christie, Esq., in appreciation of the high esteem in which you are held, and to mark the feelings of warm personal regard which you have gained while holding the position of acting-manager of the Hackney Empire Palace, the undersigned desired to record their expressions of goodwill and sincere wishes for your future well-being. In the cause of charity you have, with tireless energy, given signal assistance, and always freely and ungrudgingly rendered most valuable service. We sincerely wish you continuous success and prosperity, and trust that those attributes which have won regard during your stay in Hackney may prove the means of further advancement in the future."

Then follow the names of Dr. F. Montague Miller Mayor of Hackney; Sir Walter Johnson, ex-Mayor of Hackney; Alderman George Billings, L.C.C.; Dr. H. Christoffers Powell; Norman Storgie, borough surveyor; A. M. Stewart, Hackney Furnishing Co., Ltd.; A. E. Gardner, London and Provincial Bank; L. A. Cormack, of the Ship Hotel; W. A. A. Lashmore, of the Horse and Groom Hotel; and Alderman Fox, of the Town Hall.

In addition to this address, Mr. Christie was presented with a handsome silver épergne, and Mrs. Christie was the recipient of a silver dressing-case. Expressions of regret were expressed on all sides at Mr. Christie's departure, and he received the warmest wishes for his future welfare.

A new and original musical comedy sketch, called *The Major's Middy*, written and composed by George D. Fox, will be produced by Miss Lizette Kitchen at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday next.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

THE fairs ahead for next week are:—Barnsley, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire, Midland, Great Central, and Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding Junction; Bowling, on the Great Northern; Guiseley, on the Midland; Horsforth, on the North-Eastern; Lowmoor, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Long Eaton, on the Midland; Yeadon, on the Midland; Birstall, on the London and North-Western; Great Harwood, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Hartlepool, on the North-Eastern; Stonehouse, on the Great Western and Midland; Bracknell, on the London and South-Western; Crediton, on the London and South-Western; Ipswich, on the Great Eastern; Skipton, on the Midland and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Darlaston, on the London and North-Western; Darley, on the Midland; Eyam, on the Midland; First Lee Fair; Newton Heath, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Oldham, on the London and North-Western, Lancashire and Yorkshire, Oldham, Ashton, and Guide Bridge, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central; Prestwich, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Saddleworth, on the London and North-Western; Whittington, on the Midland; and Irvine (N.B.), on the Glasgow and South-Western Railways.

White City, Old Trafford.

ANYONE remembering the Royal Jubilee Exhibition held here in 1887, while walking about the grounds of the present city of pleasure—listening to the entrancing music, smartly rendered by the finest military bands of the country, and witnessing inter alia the beautiful fairy fountain displays—would be likely to marvel that it has taken exactly twenty years to formulate such a favourite resort as the Exhibition made it.

IT is understood that last week the passengers on the Manchester tramways numbered 3,076,525, as compared with 2,945,227 in the corresponding week of last year, and it is therefore only fair to say that a large proportion of these travelled to the White City, in addition to many thousands who came in other ways. The approach roads appear much like they did when the Exhibition was open. No doubt railway statistics would also show a great increase of traffic over the corresponding period of last year. Railways and tramways greatly benefit from fairs and "white cities." In return, they should help the showmen in every way possible.

THE great water chute, the dragon slide, and the numerous other amusements are continually patronised. Not the least popular of these is the figure eight gravity railway, describing the figure eight three times, and occupying about seventy minutes in the cars doing the journey. It is a great improvement on the old switchback railway, which was new in 1887.

Bolsover Fair.

THIS pretty Derbyshire town kept its annual Summer Fair in grand style. The shows, machines, and other novelties, were: Dr. E. Lawrence's coliseum of cinematography, W. H. Hall's helter-skelter, steam horses, shooting ranges, and coker sheets, A. Twigdon's steam yachts, Proctor's shooter and variety frames, H. Sanhow's school of boxers, and throwing games by Jereson and Co.

St. Wilfrid's Feast, Ripon.

THE big show here for this ancient local festival was Randall Williams's (Monte Bros.) superb theatre of animated pictures which, as usual, drew immense crowds—an artistic triumph and a source of popular delight. Shipley, the local caterer, exhibited motor switchbacks, and the Cullines had steam horses, big boats, swings, shooters, and throwing games. The other caterer was Mapplebank with variety games and sheets.

RIPON, unfortunately, has bye-laws made in 1877, and without the saving clause exempting from penalty music at the time of the fair.

THE Town Clerk is now in communication with the Committee of the Showmen's Guild on this question of bye-laws. It appears that one resident in the Market Place has drawn the attention of the Corporation to their own bye-laws, and he threatens to compel the Council to enforce a bad bye-law that the authorities themselves do not wish to carry out.

THIS is one of those examples of the mischief done by bad bye-laws in the days before the organised showmen opposed or even knew that corporations had such drastic powers. The Guild Executive advised the Corporation to formulate new bye-laws containing the saving clause. The Guild will support the Corporation by petition, so that before another Fair comes round the Corporation will have full control.

Lindfield Fair

HAD for its show entertainers Biddall with bioscope, Purchase with menagerie, Birch with midget marvels, Roberts with freak museum, Prof. Gillham with boxers, Harniess with gondolas, Messrs. Bond, Harris, and G. Bond with juvenile roundabouts, and all the fun of the fair by a number of experts and local caterers.

Stockport Summer Fair.

HODGINI'S circus, Capt. Tom Payne's royal bioscope, Shaw's fine art academy, Holland's Japanese airships, and other motive novelties; shows, steam swings, shooters, throwing games, and varieties by Messrs. White, Clough, Thomas, Hooton, Cordwell, Smith, and Beckett.

Hospital Fête at Crewe.

HELD in Queen's Park, under the management of P. Collins. The novelties at this local carnival were P. Collins's No. 1 set Gordon-Bennett motor-cars, steam yachts, and racing cockerels, Smith and Scott's premier theatre of animated photography, Prof. and Mme. Haydn (the mental telepathists), H. Cullis and school of boxers, Smith's park swings and variety frames; and stalls by Messrs. Jewell, Whyatt, Birch, Cordwell, Humphries, and Scott.

Philanthropic Showman.

SOME time ago a committee was formed for the purpose of commencing a Nursing Institute at Burry Port. The well-known amusement caterer, Mr. Henry Studt, was approached with a view to his giving his assistance in the formation of a fund for that purpose. On Tuesday evening he placed his Venetian gondolas at the service of the committee, with the result that the very handsome sum of £25 has been added to the fund. At the close of the proceedings, Mr. Joseph Williams proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Studt for his kindness. This was seconded by Mr. A. A. Lewis, J.P., and carried with acclamation by the crowd.

Presentation.

MR. WILL KELLY, the celebrated showman and doorsman, was on Monday last presented with a diamond pin by his longtime friend and admirer, Harry Clay.

Carmarthen Fair.

ON Monday last Carmarthen Pleasure Fair was held. The weather was very unpropitious, with the consequent result that business was very poor. The chief attractions at the fair were Messrs. Henry Studt and Sons' fine electric gondolas and Mr. W. Haggar's splendid electric bioscope. Shooting galleries, cokernut shies, aquariums, Aunt Sally's, &c., were also in evidence, but very little business was done at these stalls. The fair was continued on Tuesday.

Hyde Wakes.

THIS annual holiday commenced last Friday, when the mills closed down for a week. On Saturday thousands of people visited the fair, which is held on the market ground, and the takings constituted something in the nature of a record. The attractions were hardly so numerous as in previous years, but this is no doubt due to clashing of dates with other towns in the district. President Kemp's palace of light and music has done splendid business, and "house full" was the order of the day and night. P. Collins's luxurious motor-cars were incapable of holding the crowds of people who desired to have a motor run. Green's motors also did a roaring business. There were also Hibbert's cocks and hens, Collins's farmyard cocks and hens, Davies' roosters, Hibbert's horses, Richards' steam yachts, and the helter-skelter. In addition, the side-shows were numerous and attractive. From a monetary standpoint Hyde Wakes has been an unqualified success.

Welsh Notes.

FOR the past few weeks Mr. J. Danter, with his steam galloping horses, has been stationed at Llanstephan, a favourite little seaside resort, about eight miles from Carmarthen. Mr. Danter has received a fair share of patronage from the visitors. On Tuesday he left the village.

Robert Fossett's Circus at Merthyr.

LAST Saturday and Monday Robert Fossett's circus visited Merthyr Tydfil. At the evening performances the circus was crowded with large audiences, who thoroughly enjoyed the excellent programmes submitted. On Tuesday Twedyihiw was visited.

Walsall.

P. COLLINS'S razzle-dazzle, Chaplain's juvenile horses, two freak shows, and other attractions, were at Walsall Fair.

Kingsbridge Fair.

THIS year the shows and other amusements at Kingsbridge were—John Jones, with his West of English variety company and living picture show, Hancock's motor-cars, and various side-shows, stalls, and minor novelties.

Otley Feast.

THE amusement caterers and funsmiths at this famous festival on the Yorkshire moors were—Marshall, with motor-cars; Burgess, with shooting concerns; Scott and Williams, with rifle-ranges and highfliers; and a dozen minor concerns by various Yorkshire showmen.

Featherstone Feast.

THE principal providers of the entertainments here were—Tuby and Sons, with coliseum of animated and talking pictures, motor-car set, and steamhorse set; Watson's school of boxers; Fisher's Winchester range and park swings; Pullan's shooter, swings, and varieties; and throwing games by Clayton, Johnson, Webb, Smith, and Jones. Johnson also exhibited highfliers.

Made "Free" of the Fair.

CLOSE by Thurston's new fairground at Mitcham stands the fine block of school buildings, the Holborn Schools, where the orphan children and other children under their care are housed and educated by the Holborn Board of Guardians. This new fair is the overflow of shows, roundabouts, &c., that could not find ground on the historic fairground, and is being run by those enterprising showmen, Messrs. H. Thurston and Sons.

IT was a happy thought and a kindly to invite the children of the poor from the Holborn Schools to come to their neighbour, the showman's fair; and, better still, to make them "free of the fair." We can well imagine the tumult of joy it would arouse in the young hearts of the happy throng of children. Oh, the abandon of it, the swing, the whirl, the life of it—and all free! No worry about the pennies falling short of the desire. "Free of the fair"—free to be satisfied to satiety.

To see these dear youngsters enjoy the fair was enough to melt the heart of the stoniest Conservator of them all. Messrs. Thurston and Sons have received the following very pleasant letter from the superintendent of the schools, Mr. W. Lane Drury:—

Holborn Schools, Lindon-road, Mitcham, Surrey.
Aug. 12, 1907.

Messrs. Thurston and Sons

DEAR SIRS,—As I had not the opportunity of thanking you at the close of the entertainment you were good enough to give to our children this afternoon, I should like to take this early chance of doing so, and saying how much the youngsters enjoyed both the switchback and the bioscope show.—Yours faithfully,

W. LANE DRURY,
Superintendent.

Messrs. Thurston and Sons will continue the fair on their ground over to-day (Saturday), and Messrs. Alf. Ball and Son, whose beautiful show is also pitched on private land, will remain Saturday over.

THE success of Mr. Ball's show has been the big feature of the fair. We felt sure that no matter where the showman-hero of Mitcham had pitched his tent there his warm admirers would flock in their thousands. Although interdicted the use of the Fair Green, the people recognised Mr. Ball's sterling qualities as a champion of their ancient fair rights, and rejoiced in the fact that Ball's show was the real centre of Mitcham Fair, 1907.

WE are informed that the marriage of Mr. William Ball (son of the redoubtable Alf.) with Mlle. Olga is fixed for Monday next.

Pageant at Newlyn.

NEWLYN, the artists' mecca, near Penzance, has not escaped the prevailing epidemic of pageantitis for last Friday Perkin Warbeck, attended by a gorgeous retinue, landed there, and was solemnly presented with a crown. The land procession through Penzance consisted of 700 people, mounted and on foot, whose costumes were typical of historic periods, from ancient Britons and Phœnicians up to the time of Cromwell. Mr. G. W. A. Norton, well known amongst travellers, rode at the head of the procession as the Sultan of Morocco, and was attended by Kaid Maclean. The whole affair was such a pronounced success that it is shortly to be repeated.

Guild Subscriptions, 1907.

	£	s.	d.
Per Mr. Pedgrift—			
E. Elliott	0	5	0
Per the Rev. T. Horne—			
H. Thurston and Sons	7	0	0
F. Bailey	1	0	0
T. Pettigrove	0	10	0
G. T. Williamson	0	5	0
Sol. Elliott	0	5	0
Mrs. Edwards	0	5	0
G. Reynolds	0	5	0
H. Castles	0	5	0
J. Bond	0	5	0
J. Kefford	0	5	0
J. Miller	0	5	0
J. Smith	0	5	0
G. Harvey	0	5	0
J. Hewitt	0	5	0
W. Manning	0	5	0
W. Sterling	0	5	0
H. Peters	0	5	0
H. Peters, jun.	0	5	0
Joe Manning	0	5	0
Leonard Davies	0	5	0
S. Boleworth	0	5	0

MITCHAM FAIR.

The rights of the people of Mitcham in their old Charter Fair have again, this year, been asserted by the showmen of the London district.

Mitcham Fair, 1907.

All along the line the people of Mitcham have won a signal victory. The people welcomed—with an enthusiasm beyond words—the advent of the showmen. It was a peaceful invasion, and not a murmur of protest was heard, not a single thing said or done to indicate that the people did not want the fair. There was an officer of the Conservators (or was it of the owners of the franchise?) busy with pencil and book taking down names of the showmen on the Fairgreen. The omnipresent pressman and the man with the snap-shot camera were all there. The show people were there, for in less than no time the various shows, roundabouts, and stalls were built up in their usual places, and all was ready for the legal fair day, the Monday following the invasion of Saturday. Not a thing was done to take advantage of the present unsettled state of affairs. On the fair itself and on the two odd patches adjoining the Fairgreen apparently an integral portion of it (yet not controlled by the franchise owners), these pitches were not used by their tenants on the Saturday, although there was no law preventing them. In this respect the showmen were loyal to the charter and the old usages of the fair.

The People's Protest Meeting.

Convened by the leading members of "The Ratepayers' Association" and "The People's Rights League," a mass meeting of the inhabitants of Mitcham was held on the Saturday night at seven o'clock. Mr. Councillor Dant presided, and on the platform with them were the Rev. T. Horne (representing, by request of the chairman, the showmen's interests), and Councillors Bland, Baker, and Dr. De Caux, ex-Councillor Grange, and other prominent Mitcham residents were present, and took part in the proceedings. Councillor Dant, in a masterly review of the whole controversy as between the people of Mitcham and the abolitionists, referred in indignant and scathing terms to the startling discovery of how public money had been voted in the end of last year, when the old Council were in the throes of dissolution, to a fund then being raised to abolish Mitcham Fair. He was confident that if ever the people had known of that astounding transaction they would have expressed their disapproval in no unmeasured terms. Late in the day as the discovery of that matter had been, he was not yet without hope that the people's share in the purchase of the fair franchise would secure, not the abolition of the fair, but its permanence under better conditions as to site and control. The Parish Council having spent £400 of the ratepayers' money in purchasing the fair rights would see to it now that the people got full value for the money spent. He, for his part, would try his best, now that he fully understood the showmen's willingness to improve the character of the amusements, and that it should be under local control, to have it removed, with all its charter rights and privileges, to a better site on the people's common.

Certain people had called his public action in this matter into question. They (his critics) could not understand why he, a professed Christian worker, identified himself with a movement for the defence of Mitcham Fair.

His answer was, that he believed in the people having proper open-air amusements. His Christianity was broad enough and deep enough to accept the position that—given the necessity for recreation—it was far better that the municipality should secure by co-operation with the showmen themselves the very best entertainments possible.

He supported the movement to remove the fair to a more suitable site on the broad public grounds of social service and public utility. He then proposed from the chair the resolution of the meeting, asking the Conservators and the franchise owners to bring the question of the fair to a peaceful decision by acting in generous accord with the declared will of the people.

The Guild Chaplain's Speech.

The Rev. T. Horne, in rising to second the resolution read and proposed by the Chairman, was most enthusiastically received. He began by fully endorsing all that Councillor Dant had so admirably pleaded for in his opening address. He would loyally follow Mr. Dant's lead, and in his address on behalf of the showmen he would scrupulously avoid matter of a personal nature, nor would he degrade the discussion of public matters by either mentioning names or by any appeal to easily aroused passions.

First of all he would endeavour to remove the false impression created by some unauthorised and most misleading statements.

A seriously inaccurate report had gone the round of the daily papers. In identical words, in all the London papers of that very day a statement had been made to the effect that the Executive Council of the Showmen's Guild had issued official invitations to its members to come to Mitcham Fair.

That was not true. No such request had been sent out by them. The invasion of Mitcham was indeed a notable demonstration in force, but it was all the more remarkable from the fact that it was entirely spontaneous, and utterly without order or arrangement from the Guild. Instead of two or three hundred show concerns, as they had seen enter Mitcham that day, at the call of their Guild thousands of showmen would have come. The highways and the byways of their ancient village would have been lined with show wagons and all the paraphernalia of a modern fair.

A String of Local Misapprehensions.

An important member of the Parish Council had intervened at the last moment before the date of the annual fair. This gentleman had made a series of misstatements calculated to damage the position of the showmen. Misstatement number one was that the sanitary condition of the Fairgreen after the three days of the fair was such that it took £40 of public money to remove the filth and to cleanse the Fairground. If the gentleman is correctly reported the statement is grossly inaccurate, and pointedly injurious to the showpeople. He repudiated for the showpeople this horrible reflection on their life and daily work, and he denied the whole accusation. The fact of the matter was that every year the litter of the fair had been cleared away by the owners of the franchise at a cost of £3 or £4. For years before the death of the late showman owner of the fair rights, Mr. Frank Bailey, £4 had been paid by him to the sanitary authority to prevent the cost of cleansing the ground falling upon the rates. Misstatement number two was that there is no charter—and that there never was a charter. What amazingly superior knowledge this champion of abolition possessed. What was the nature of the proprietary that he, with three other local gentlemen, had purchased, and under which they had presumed to practically kill the fair? These gentlemen were the owners of the fair franchise. A fair franchise could only become a legal entity in two ways—by Royal Charter or by an Act of Parliament. To quibble over the existence of the actual Royal grant now is to attempt to throw dust into the eyes of the people. There is a legal fair at Mitcham. Its legal tenure is beyond all present dispute. This very gentleman, as a joint proprietor of the fair, can be called as a witness to prove its existence. Why, then, raise such purely sophistical arguments as the misleading statements—"There is no charter," "There never was a charter" implies? Misleading statement number three is that the Showmen's Guild was a party in the action of the Conservators against Messrs. Ball, Hill, and Wilson.

The Guild gave no undertaking such as the one asserted by this expert exponent in the art of oblique statement. The Council of the Showmen's Guild never sent out, or authorised, such an agreement. In fact, our principal function as a trades union is to advise and to assist our members. We possess no powers to either coerce or to bind our members. The only parties to the injunction proceedings were Messrs. Ball, Hill, and Wilson, and all these men will undoubtedly obey the order of the Court, and will not, until that interdict is removed, think of drawing on the Green. The other misleading statements (to which he referred seriatim) had reference to the attitude of the Home Secretary, the motives of a sordid character attributed to the showpeople, and to the alleged difficulties only existent in the unwilling mind of the abolitionists that surrounded the proposed removal of the fair to the Three Kings' Common.

Mr. Horne carried the crowd with him in his warm denunciation of the action of the Conservators in seeking to usurp the statutory powers alone vested in the Home Secretary—the power, after hearing all parties concerned, to abolish a fair. The responsible Minister of the Crown had refused, and still refused, to abolish it. The constitutional machinery had been invoked by these persistent abolitionists. The machine had failed. Those gentlemen, instead of bowing to the one and only proper authority, endeavoured to secure their ends by other methods.

The Policy of the Showmen's Guild.

There was no need for concealment. He was there to state what their policy was. It was to secure under permanent conditions the Fair. They recognised that the Fair-green had become unsuitable, and were quite willing that it should be removed to the Three Kings' or to Figg's Marsh.

The Showmen's Guild would join the proper authorities in any petition to the Home Secretary asking for its removal to another position of the Common, provided that the Fair rights still remained to the people of Mitcham. He concluded a powerful speech (every point of which told with the vast concourse of people to whom it was addressed) with an appeal for justice. He assured them that until justice was done the showmen would persist in asserting their rights. He warned the abolitionists that procedure by injunction was a tedious business, and that the showmen would continue to assert their rights. He was well aware that perhaps 100 showmen would be threatened with an injunction. If the injunction proceedings succeeded and the whole of this year's tenants were interdicted, the only result would be the advent of another 100 next year, who would assert their rights and hold the fair. As there were 70,000 showpeople in the United Kingdom, it would take some years to exhaust by process of injunction the supply of the valiant fighters.

Then in a humorous passage he intimated that when the last of the brave band of 70,000 had been injuncted he himself, in the glory of a grand old age, as the last of his race, would open a show on the Fair-green, and that would be the grand injunction. He seconded, with all his poor powers, the resolution before the meeting.

Councillors Dr. De Caux, Bland, and Baker, and ex-Councillor J. Grange made telling speeches in support of the motion. The resolution was then carried with acclamation, not a single hand being held up against it.

On the motion of the Guild Chaplain, the Chairman, Mr. Councillor Dant, and the speakers were thanked, and the immense crowd dispersed.

A SHOWMAN WEDDING.

AT St. Thomas's Parish Church, Neath, on Wednesday morning, a pretty wedding was solemnised, the contracting parties being Mr. Charles Philip Stanley, son of the late Mr. Joseph Stanley, of the Black Lion Hotel, Abergavenny, and Annie Maud, the eldest daughter of Mr. John North The rector, the Rev. A. J. Evans, M.A., was the officiating clergyman. The popularity of both the contracting parties was shown by the large attendance at the church, which was crowded. The bride wore a white silk dress and a Napoleon hat with white ostrich tips and a gold watch brooch and pendant, the gifts of the bridegroom. She was attended by Miss Janet Stanley and Miss Lizzie North, whose dresses were white serge trimmed with pale blue and gold. Their ornaments were gold bangles, the gifts of the bridegroom. The bride's going away dress was a navy blue serge, with hat to match. She was given away by her brother, Mr. Charles North. The duties of best man were discharged by Mr. Arthur Bath, of Abergavenny.

After the ceremony the wedding breakfast was partaken of at 25, Windsor-terrace. Felicitous speeches were delivered by Mr. John North, Mr. Charles North, and others, a long and happy life being wished the newly-wedded pair. The bridegroom suitably responded. The happy couple left by the afternoon train for London, where the honeymoon will be spent, followed by the good wishes of a host of friends. Hundreds of useful and beautiful presents were received from all parts of the country.

DURING the present week, Messrs. Barker and Thurston's high-speeded racing motor-cars have been doing good business on the Market-square, Biggleswade. Mr. Chas. Thurston is also here, with his famous Royal cinematograph show, and is showing nightly some splendid up-to-date films, including pictures with human voices. Grand business is being done, the show being packed at each performance.

AT Mr. Pickard's American Museum, Glasgow, which adjoins the "Brit.," Tom Thumb is in the last week of a long and successful stay.

WE are pleased to hear from our Pietermaritzburg correspondent that Tommy Holder, known in the showman's world as "Funny Tommy," has arrived in Pietermaritzburg with a full company of variety artists, and is appearing nightly at the Central Music Hall. No doubt his many friends will be pleased to hear he is doing good business.

Redditch.

REDDITCH FAIR was maintained by Clark's helter-skelter, Clarke's motor-cars, Herbert's roundabouts, Chipperfield's cinematograph exhibition, and S. Reader's two shows.

SCARROTT'S roundabouts have been at Church Lench and at Abbotts Morton Wake.

SCOTT'S gallopers have been visiting Badsey and Elmley Castle.

HOLLOWAY'S Theatre is visiting Broadway.

AMONG the subscribers to the Guild Fund for 1907 are J. F. Stroud £1 1s., and Geo. Bond 5s.

"THE SHOWMEN'S YEAR BOOK" for 1907. Edited by the Rev. T. Horne. Entirely rearranged, corrected, and enlarged; 100 pages. Price 1s. Principal contents: "British Shows and Showmen," "Constitution and Rules of the Showmen's Guilds," "Lists of Fairs," "Local Feasts and Wakes," "Synopsis of By-laws," &c. Invaluable to all who follow the fair. Sold at "THE ERA" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.C.

FILM GOSSIP.

Pathé Frères.

ONE of the most comical series of pictures we have seen is that entitled Our Band Competition. It would be difficult to describe it in anything approaching an adequate manner. In the first place we have quite a little regiment of men, grotesquely attired, and grotesque also from a point of view of their countenances, marching along the streets carrying all manner of common and uncommon musical instruments. The facial expressions of some of them are ludicrous in the extreme, and one cannot look at them without bursting into hearty laughter. The antics of this quaint band, as they rush hither and thither, in and out of restaurants and public places, upsetting chairs and tables, and generally disturbing everything, form a pictorial farcical comedy which cannot fail to become popular.

I'LL DANCE THE CAKE-WALK is the somewhat curious title of a film which is also of the amusing order. A gentleman, arriving home somewhat unexpectedly, finds his wife in the embrace of another man. Under a threat to shoot, the intruder signs a statement to the effect that he will dance a cake-walk whenever "Mr. Walker," the angry husband, desires him to do so. We next see the unhappy intruder about to take a seat outside a café. Up comes Mr. Walker, who promptly orders him to dance, which he does to the annoyance of everybody, and finally gets the order of the "boot" from the infuriated restaurateur. A similar thing happens when a visit is paid to a family, who are exceedingly shocked when their guest jumps on to the table and performs some violent evolutions. Eventually, however, the unwilling dancer gets a little of his own back on "Mr. Walker," for the latter discovers that he has mislaid his revolver, and is himself forced to do a dance with a pistol pointed at his head by his own victim.

TOMMY ATKINS MINDING THE BABY is also an amusing Pathé number. It shows how a soldier meets his sweetheart, a nurse girl, and undertakes to look after the baby she is carrying, and how he performs this duty. William the Poacher is a dramatic film; In Seville has its instructive side, in that it gives panoramic views of the town from whence come the oranges which are so largely employed in the manufacture of English marmalade; and in Easter Eggs we are treated to several pretty spectacles of coloured transformations. All these should find a ready market.

Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd.

LOVE CONQUERS ALL is an intensely affecting and beautiful dramatic story. It opens with the dining-room in a prosperous doctor's residence. While seated at luncheon the doctor's little daughter complains of her throat. Her father casually examines the troubled spot and reassures her. Later a boon companion invites the medical man to spend a convivial evening, and the ensuing scene shows a sumptuous dinner table, pleasant surroundings, a plentiful supply of champagne, and the medico dining not wisely but too well. We are now taken back to the doctor's bedroom, where we see the child in its crib struggling in an attack of diphtheria, and the agonised mother nearly distracted. She dispatches a servant to find his master. The servant succeeds in his quest, but fails to make the doctor understand the seriousness of the position of affairs at home. Eventually the convivial party bring their carouse to an end, and the doctor drives home in an inebriated condition. He is soon brought to realise his daughter's danger, and the necessity for instant action; he bathes his face and head in water, gets his instruments ready, and carefully performs the delicate operation of tracheotomy; the little girl is immediately relieved, and subsequently acts as peacemaker between her mother and father.

THE AMATEUR SPORTSMAN, another Urban film, is of a most entertaining character. A Frenchman, thirsting for excitement, decides upon a day's shooting, and his experiences are comically depicted. Determined to do the thing thoroughly, he attires himself regardless of cost in garments suitable to the occasion. A worthless hound is palmed off upon him by a dealer as a perfect sporting dog, and the would-be hunter sets forth in search of game. His theatrical methods and numerous accidents, his comical mistakes in hitting the wrong object, and his efforts to induce the dog to stalk or retrieve, or to do anything but hamper its owner, are most ludicrous. The climax is reached when, after triumphantly producing the contents of a full bag (purchased from a dealer), his wife discovers the tickets denoting the price attached to the hares he had brought home as evidence of his skill as a sportsman.

SQUARING THE LANDLORD is another Urban comedy. An impecunious artist is painting from a model, when the landlord enters the studio and demands the rent. The artist retires to raise the wind, and model and landlord become acquainted, then friendly, then amorous. The artist quietly reappears and again withdraws, struck by a happy idea. He enters the landlord's rooms and persuades that worthy's wife to step upstairs to his studio. She does so, and is scandalised to find her husband embracing the artist's model. Recriminations follow, and the landlord beats a retreat, leaving the receipt behind. The Poacher's Daughter is a melodrama of intense human interest, superbly acted, and beautifully presented. It is amid lovely rustic scenes of forest and glade that this tragedy of defiance of game laws, illicit affection, detection, and vengeance is laid.

Vitagraph Company.

LIGHTNING SKETCHES is a film which the Vitagraph Company has just issued, and on which it rather prides itself. The story is this:—A cartoonist draws with wonderful rapidity a number sketches, the characters of which move just as if alive, although they are merely sketches in outline. An eagle is first drawn, with outspread wings, and then as soon as the sketch is finished and the artist moves away the eagle flaps its wings and then the sheet of paper rolls itself up and disappears. Next the artist writes "Coon" and "Cohen," then with a few strokes of his pencil dexterously transforms the word "Coon" into a sketch of a coloured gentleman with an expansive smile, and changes the word "Cohen" into a very good portrait of Mr. Isaac Cohen himself. A bootle, glass, and vichy syphon are drawn. The bottle pours out whisky, the syphon squirts vichy, and the high-ball is complete, even running over the glass a little, and still at all times it is not real liquid, not actual bottles and a glass, but only a charcoal sketch.

NEXT a portrait of a bald-headed man is rapidly sketched. The artist produces a large bottle of hair restorer, shakes it well, then rubs some on the bald head of the sketch and instantly hair begins to sprout, first short, stubby ones, then growing longer until the man's head is covered with a fine growth of long, curly hair. A gentleman is brought in, seated in front of the board, and the artist rapidly makes a very life-like portrait of the model. When both artist and model have gone away a cigar appears in the mouth of the sketch and is rapidly smoked, the puffs of smoke coming from the mouth of the sketch in a very absurd and realistic style. Now the cartoonist draws with bewildering rapidity a comical sketch of an elephant, and on the other side of the board a picture of a square trunk. The trunk

slowly opens and a clown slowly climbs out, balances himself on the end of the trunk, then, by a double somersault, lands on the back of the elephant, which stands up on its hind legs and walks off the board. We understand that there has been a great call for this series.

A second commendable Vitagraph production is The Athletic American Girls. In a private gymnasium three sisters are exercising in various ways, boxing, fencing, wrestling, swinging dumbells and Indian clubs. They perform their exercises in an exceedingly graceful and charming manner. Next we see the girls seated on a park bench. A masher comes along and begins to flirt with them. At first they pay no attention to him, but finally he becomes too familiar, so one of the girls gets up and sails into him in a very strenuous manner, punching right and left. The girl then calmly seats herself, opens her box of candy, passes it to her sisters, and they nonchalantly eat their candy while the masher limps away. Next we see the three girls at home, sitting demurely in the parlour in evening dress. A timid-looking young man enters, and while they are endeavouring to entertain him, the maidservant rushes in, closely followed by a burly, drunken ice man, who carries in one hand a pair of ice tongs and a large lump of ice. The timid young man gets behind the piano. One of the girls takes the iceman by the back of the neck, teaches him a few tricks of wrestling, and finally they throw him through the window. An express wagon now backs up at the front of their house. The expressmen with great difficulty unload three or four large and heavy trunks, but, after they are on the sidewalk they find they are too heavy to carry in the house. Each one tries in turn, but fails to lift one up. The athletic girls, who have been watching out of the window, now emerge from the house, each one picks up one of the heavy trunks, hoists it on her back, and easily carries it up the steps and into the house to the great astonishment of the expressmen. In fact, no feat seems to be too difficult or strenuous for these young muscular women. Then a large automobile gets its rear wheels stuck deep and fast in the mud, and the efforts of the chauffeur and half a dozen men, with pole and beams, fail to extricate the machine. The girls, however, wave the men away, put their shoulders to the wheel, and with scarcely any effort, push the automobile out on to smooth road. The last scene shows the girls again in their gymnasium going through their exercises, each one proudly exhibiting her muscular development. Suddenly, in the midst of their exercises, a little mouse runs across the floor. Then their feminine nature asserts itself; one of them scrambles to the top of the piano, the second one goes into hysterics, and the third faints.

Mr. James Harrington, of the firm of Messrs. Harrington and Co., Sydney, has arrived in Town. He is in search of phonograph and cinématograph novelties, and will remain here for one month.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(from our own correspondent.)

SYDNEY, July 9.—Her Majesty's.—*The Spring Chicken* is drawing great houses to Mr. Williamson's theatre. Mr. George Lauri and Miss Florence Young continue to retain their lead as popular favourites.

"The Squatter's Daughter" keeps on satisfying Mr. William Anderson's patrons at the Criterion, all other dramatic houses being occupied by other forms of entertainment.

Town Hall.—Mr. Leslie Herries, the monologue artist, is doing well here, with his own work and some fine views of "Living Paris." Mr. Marshall Crosby, a pleasing baritone, sings several songs during each performance.

The Tivoli welcomed the Svengalis, who give a most interesting, puzzling, and altogether clever turn, and all the rest of Mr. Harry Rickards' large company is in the bill.

The Palace has Mr. Edwin Geach's collection of Empire Pictures. West's Pictures are at the Lyceum; Vaudeville fills the National Amphitheatre; the Victoria Hall has pictures and vaudeville; the Oxford accommodates the World's Picture Company; and the Haymarket Hippodrome gives its visitants strong melodrama.

Madame Albani will give one farewell concert during this month, preparations for which are being made by Mr. John Brownlow, of Paling's. Miss Mildred Jones, the contralto of the Albani company is slowly recovering from her late serious illness.

Miss Lillian Ormond, one of the chorus, has made a great name for herself by stepping into the breach, and singing the part of Senta, in *The Flying Dutchman*, when the leading lady in a visiting German opera troupe defected on the 6th. Loud cheers greeted the plucky young singer at curtain-fall.

Mrs. Bland Holt left for London yesterday by the Canadian liner Manuka. Mr. Charles Waldron, the "Squaw Man," went by the same boat, accompanied by his newly-wedded wife.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(from our own correspondent.)

DURBAN, July 20.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler.—Wheelers' Gaiety company, after a very successful production of *The Belle of New York*, presented *The White Chrysanthemum*, at the Theatre Royal this week. This was the first production of the play in Durban, and large audiences attended nightly. The title-rôle was successfully taken by Miss Maimie Brickwell, and her songs and duets were exceedingly well sung. Mr. Frank Greene made a distinct hit as Lieut, Reginald Armitage, his singing and acting being much enjoyed. Miss Lottie Sargent, as Betty Kenyon, had a small rôle, but performed it well; Miss Alice Pollard, as Cornelia Vanderdeckan, the American girl, played cleverly; and Miss Mabel Medrow scored a great success with her "South African Girl" song, in which different types of South African girls are introduced. Mr. Bert D'Arcy, as Sin Chong, increased his already high reputation as a first-class comedian; Mr. Arthur Laceby gave a finished performance of Lieut. Belmont, and the other parts were all in efficient hands, the chorus work being all that could be desired.

A series of entertainments and firework displays was begun in the Lake Enclosure of the park grounds at the Alexandra Palace on Saturday. The band of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue), conductor Mr. Manuel Bilton, did admirable duty with their instrumental selections before and at the time of the display. The variety show was acted by the band of the Essex Imperial Yeomanry, conductor Mr. A. Cock. The entertainment consisted of an acrobatic speciality of considerable merit by Senor Levano, Professor Leeman (an agile gymnast and club expert), and a ballet tastefully arranged by that past master of his art, Paul Valentine. A somewhat novel feature was introduced by the exhibition of animated pictures in the centre of the lake, and, with the well-known pyrotechny of Messrs. James Pain and Sons, brought a well-arranged programme to a successful issue.

Mr. W. E. Poole, stage-manager of the Glasgow Gaiety, desires through our columns to acknowledge the kindness of the staff friends and artists of that theatre towards him in his recent bereavement, and the numerous wires and letters received.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.
ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

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NO STAMPS.

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The Publisher,
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"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

In case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 28, Dec. 16, Feb. 10, 17, 24, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 24, March 2, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Dec. 16, Feb. 10, April 6, 13, May 11, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Jan. 27, March 2, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Sept. 16, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9 16,
Feb. 10, March 2, 9, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 20, Feb. 3, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Dec. 2, 9.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Nov. 11, Dec. 16, Jan. 13, 20, on
(Panto. Required).
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21 (3 nights each),
Xmas week, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for WOLVERHAMPTON, Sept. 16.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
March 2, 9, May 11, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
March 16, April 13, May 26, onwards.
Address
Sidney Bacon, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Sept. 23, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, Dec. 9, 16, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Oct. 21, Nov. 25, Dec. 9, 16, 30, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Sept. 9, 16, 30, Oct. 7, 21, 28 (three nights only).
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Attraction, for the week Oct. 28.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
Sept. 23, Oct. 7 (?), Dec. 23;
Pantomime for Jan. 20 or 27, Feb. 10.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Oct. 7 (?), 21, Nov. 18 (?), Dec. 2, 16;
Pantomime Jan. 13 or 20.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

THE KING'S THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Edinburgh's New Palatial Playhouse.
The Premier Theatre of the Capital.

WANTED, Known, owing to Change of Arrangements, a few early Autumn Dates are available for first-class attractions.
Wire,
R. C. Buchanan,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, for Sept. 16, Oct. 14,
Nov. 4, 18,
onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Thos. Swinton.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, Sept. 23,
to follow "Raffles," and precede Miss Annie Hughes. Address,
Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager.

WANTED, good First-class Drama, for Spring Dates, at
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Apply, F. Mouillot, 1, King-st., Covent Gdn., W.C.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Musical and other London Attractions, Sept. 9, 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 25, and Xmas Panto. Fred Granville, T. R., Hyde.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, for the only Vacant Dates this year, viz., Sept. 9, Oct. 7, Dec. 9, and 23.
Apply, Hugh Robertson, Jarrow.

LYCEUM THEATRE, GOVAN, GLASGOW.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic or Musical Attraction for Sept. 9; also Vacant Oct. 28.
Address, Rich Waldon, as above.

BRIDLINGTON OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, good Musical Play or other really First-Class Attraction, for Sept. 5, 6, and 7, not Drama. Henry Hague, General-Manager.

CRITERION THEATRE, WORKSOP.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for last three nights of each week; Share or Rental.
S. Goodman, Proprietor.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Theatre Royal, Birmingham, Oct. 21 and Nov. 18.
Apply, Tom B. Davis, Lyric Theatre, London.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL,
SEAHAM HARBOUR.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 26, Oct. 28,
Nov. 4 and 25,
onward, with exceptions.
A. C. Harrison.

THEATRE ROYAL, HEBBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Nov. 4 18, Dec. 16, also Jan. 6, for First-Class Pantomime first in, and a few vacant dates later.
Charles Elderton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, three nights, Sept. 25, 27, 28; also weeks of Oct. 14, Nov. 4, Dec. 16, and Xmas for Pantomime;
must be a First-class Production.
Address, Geo. Conquest.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, ACCRINGTON.
WANTED, First-Class Musical Comedy, Sept. 2.
Jos. B. Ormerod.

MINERS' THEATRE, ASHINGTON, NORTHD.
WANTED, Special Attraction, for Sept. 2, pay week, also vacant Sept. 23, Nov. 11, 18, Feb. 3, 17. Fred Gould.

WANTED, A1 Attractions, Aug. 19 (re-opening), Sept. 2, Oct. 14, 21, 28, on, with exceptions.
Address, W. E. Potts, Opera House, Dunfermline.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.
The Leading Theatre, the Fashionable Theatre. The only Theatre in the town allowed to advertise on the electric cars. Lighted throughout by electricity. Brilliant success of after entire re-building. Press and public enthusiastic. Described as the most beautiful Theatre in the North. Holding capacity second to none in the town.
Bookings include: "The Dairymaids," Mr. James Welch's Co. in "When Knights Were Bold," Miss Annie Hughes in "Tommy," Mr. Norman Macowan in "Monsieur Beaucaire," "The Little Stranger" (including Master Edward Garrett), "A Trip to the Highlands," Mr. Walter Maxwell's Co., "The Lion and the Mouse" (third visit), Mr. Charles Cartwright and Co., "In the Bishop's Carriage," Mr. Frederick Mouillot's Co., including Miss Decima Moore, in "The Truth." Mr. Percy Hutchison's No. 1 Company, "The Stronger Sex," Mr. Brandon Thomas' No. 1 Company, "Charley's Aunt," Mr. Walter Melville's Drama, Mr. Frank Lindo's "Home, Sweet Home," Mr. Morton Powell's Companies, Mr. Edward Marris's Co., "The English Rose," and Mr. Lawrence Brough in "The Lady of Ostend," &c., &c.
WANTED, Exceptional Attractions. Only vacant dates this year, Sept. 23 and Dec. 30; also vacant Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 24, onwards.
Calvert Routledge, H. M. T., Barrow.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
MIDDLESBROUGH.
Proprietor, Albert Smith.
Holding Capacity 3,500.
One of the most handsome and best-equipped Theatres in the North.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 21 (unexpectedly vacant), Dec. 2, 9, 16 (?), Feb. 24, March 2, 9, 16, 30, April 6, 20, and on, with exceptions.
All communications,
Jno. Ed. Jowsey,
Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.
Telegrams, "Magnet, Middlesbrough."
Nat. Telephones, 413, 426, 500.
Silence a polite negative.
This week, Mr. Chas. Macdona's No. 1 "Girl from Kay's" Co.

RAMSGATE.
SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.
The Old-established and Popular Theatre.
Visited by all the Leading Attractions.
Aug. 12, "The Duchess of Dantzic."
Aug. 19, "His House in Order."
Aug. 26, "Prince of Pilsen."
Sept. 2, F. R. Benson's Co.
WANTED, No. 1 Attraction only, for Sept. 19, 20, 21.
Address, Henry Bowman.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, good Company, Sept. 2, for re-opening of Theatre after extensive alterations; also vacant Sept. 9 and 30 (three nights), Oct. 10 (three nights), for good Dramas, Dec. 5 (three nights), and 9.
W. Payne Seddon, The Spa, Whitby.

KING'S HALL THEATRE,
SKEGNESS.
Now in Full Swing.
WANTED, High-class Dramatic Companies and Variety Combinations, from Aug. 25, onwards. Share or rental.
Address, Herbert Lenton, Manager, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORTHING.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, three nights, Oct. 21, 28, 31, Nov. 7, several dates onwards; also good Panto. for Xmas.
Seebold, Theatre, Worthing.

WANTED, Managers with vacant Pantomime dates, to communicate with
J. F. Elliston, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 16, Oct. 17, Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25, Dec. 9, 16.
Address, King, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.

WANTED, big Attractions, Oct. 14, on, with exceptions, Grand, Chorley; also Oct. 7, on, Grand, Radcliffe. Big Panto. Both Houses, Dec. 30.
Address, Sante, Theatre, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, NORWICH.
WANTED, Company. Sept. 16,
Sept. 16, Sept. 16, Sept. 16,
only vacant date this year.
Fred Morgan.

WANTED, Good Companies, for Borough Theatre, Heywood (Lessee, Mr. A. Jones; General-Manager, Mr. W. F. Sykes). Opening week Sept. 9 or 16, also 23rd and 30th, Oct. 7 and 28, Nov. 4, and 14, 15, and 16 (3 nights). Albert Jones, Oxford-chambers, Manchester.

WANTED, Attractions Touring Scotland to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, N.B.
Vacant dates, apply to Manager, Cameron Burgess.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE,
First-class Attractions for Dec. 2, 16, Pantomime, Dec. 30, on, Jan. 6, 27, March 2 and 9, 16, 23, 30.
Apply,
James Kiernan, Manager and Owner.

High-class
Touring
Pantomime
WANTED, for Christmas
and following week,
for Music Hall.
Play about one hour and a half.
Only First-class Productions need apply.
State terms.
Box 5,272, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Well-known Concert Party or Fit-up Company, for Ryde Pier Pavilion, Aug. 26, week. Jay, 10, Jermyn-st., S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 2.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23.
Apply,
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 9, 23.
Walter Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 2, 9, and 23.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH"
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 25, Dec. 2 and 23.
Frederick Melville,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Dec. 9, 23, 30.
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9.
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 23,
Feb. 3, March 2, 23.
Douglas Bruce, Brixton Theatre, London, S.W.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Oct. 28 and Dec. 9.
J. W. Cordiner,
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.
See Companies' Advertisement, page 2.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 30 and Oct. 28, in First-class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, weeks of Dec. 23 and 30.
Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"
and
"THE OCTOROON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 9.
The audience was profoundly moved last night, by some of the scenes to unrestrained merriment, by others to tears. No better holiday piece could have been secured.—Birmingham Post.
Charles Harrington, Theatre, Ebbw Vale, Mon.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 21, 28.
Andrew Melville,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 21, Dec. 2, 23.
Andrew Melville,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

Mr. THOMAS SIDNEY'S CO. in
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, Sept. 2 and onwards, with exceptions.
Thomas Sidney, Colwyn Bay (3);
Pier, St. Annes-on-Sea (3).

"NEW BARMAID" CO.
WANTED, Sept. 16,
in or near London.
Same Co. as played recently at King's, Glasgow; Lyceum, Edinburgh; King's, Sunderland; Tyne, Newcastle; T. R., Hull; T. R., Brighton; T. R., Portsmouth, &c.
One of the Smartest Shows travelling.
Refer to any Manager of the above Theatres.
Only Vacant Date this year.
Glasgow Herald says:—
One of the smartest shows that has visited the King's for months.
Only Vacant Date this year.
Wire,
County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames.
Write,
24, Regent-square, London, W.C.
Alexander Loftus.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
by Charles Darrell.
A Brilliant Success.
A Brilliant Success.
A Brilliant Success.
WANTED, Oct. 14, Oct. 14, to follow Glasgow and precede Liverpool.
Miss Annie Bell as Flare-Flare.
Miss Annie Bell as Flare-Flare.
Wire, James Bell, T. R., Darlington.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, for "A MOTHER'S LOVE,"
Sept. 30,
Sept. 30,
Sept. 30,
Between Manchester and Newcastle;
Oct. 14, North;
Oct. 28, North.
Fred L. Connynghame, this, T. R., Stratford;
next, Prince's, Portsmouth.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR,"
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, New Year's week, for this great Attraction; business enormous this week, refer; this Play was specially engaged for the holiday here. Managers invited to witness production before arranging terms. Special Cast. Write for New Year's week to F. G. Kimberley, this, P., Blackburn; next, P., Preston. Mrs. Kimberley's new romantic Play, "The Power of the King," fast booking.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE" COMPANY.
WANTED, for Lingford Carson's No. 1 Co., Sept. 23 (North), Oct. 14, 28 (Midlands). Wire, Van Biene (General-Manager), to-day, H.M.T., Aberdeen (where also refer), or next week, H.M.T., Dundee.

HARTWELL J. KIRBY'S CO.,
including the Popular Actress,
Miss V. ST. LAWRENCE,
with the Successful, Moral, Up-to-the-minute Melodrama,
"MAN'S ENEMY; or, THE LOVE THAT WON."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres.
First Vacant Date, Sept. 9.
Sept. 9. Wanted, Sept. 9.
All communications, Martin Comstock, this, T. R., Blyth; Mon., Aug. 19, Cambridge T., Spennymoor.

"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."
"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."
WANTED, good Theatres, for this enormous success, Oct. 14 (North), Dec. 2 (through Belfast not being ready), 16, 23, 30. Now playing to record business at Mr. Moss's beautiful new Theatre at Edmonton, N.
Ask Mr. Moss what he thinks of the show.
Address, Acton and Nash,
New Theatre, Aberdare, S. Wales.

MRS. ANN HUGHES' CO.,
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
Unprecedented Success of reproduction of this great Musical Attraction. Refer any theatre visited, or come and see it. The new Comedy Court-martial Scene, a continual scream of laughter; the Opera cheered nightly.
WANTED, Sept. 16, 30, and few later, also Spring.
This, O. H., Wakefield; next, O. H., Burnley.

THE MONCKTON HOFFE COMEDY CO.
By arrangement with Mr. George Alexander.
"LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN," by Oscar Wilde.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST," by Oscar Wilde.
WANTED, Sept. 16 (to follow Royalty, Glasgow), Oct. 14 and 21 (Midlands), Nov. 4, 11, on, with exceptions. Now booking Spring. Hoffe, to-day, G., Swansea; 19th, Queen's, Manchester.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
"THE THREE MUSKETEERS,"
and Répertoire.
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2.
Wire, White Hart Hotel, Stafford.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Renowned Attraction, Good Theatres for weeks of
Sept. 9, 23, 30,
Oct. 7, 21, 28.
Address, C. and F. Renad, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Sept. 30 and Oct. 14 (London, South, or Midlands); also several Spring Dates. Address,
H. Hollister, Colne-Engaine, Essex.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 2, 16, all November.
Henry L. Osmond, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

"HER MOTHER'S SIN."
New Domestic Play, by Arthur Shirley.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, and Xmas Week.
Henry L. Osmond, T. R., Merthyr.

ROSE MONCRIEFF'S CO.,
"THE CURATE."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 21 and on, with exceptions, Entire Production carried. Add., Newman Maurice, Alder House, Alderbrook-road, Clapham Common.

"BENEATH THE STARS."
"BENEATH THE STARS."
WANTED, Sept. 2 (follow Royal, Cardiff), 9, immediate dates, on, Company, Scenery, Printing First-Class. Refer. Wire, Davies (Saturday), Theatre; Wednesbury; next, T. R., Bilston.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
Nov. 4, 11, 18.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Sept. 23, 24, 25, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, 25.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Sept. 2, 3, 4, Sept. 9, 23.
and few later.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Oct. 7, 14, Dec. 23, Jan. 6.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

ALFRED B. CROSS' TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN,"
Supported by Miss Watersford (Mrs. Cross), and Powerful Company.
WANTED, Oct. 14 and 21, and few Later, "DIVORCED,"
a New Powerful Domestic Drama; also "DAVID GARRICK,"
if Required. Both Solid Successes.
Aug. 19, T. R., Exeter.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY.
"THE BEST OF HER SEX."
The Dramatic Success of 1907.
Another triumph at Grimsby this week.
Refer J. H. Curry, Esq.
WANTED, Sept. 9 (follow Luton), 16 (three nights, precede Crewe), 30, Oct. 14, and onwards, with exceptions, Christmas and New Year vacant. William A. Armour, to-day, P.O.W. T., Grimsby; next, O. H., Wakefield.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Sept. 2, Oct. 21, 28, Xmas.
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

"FROM SCOTLAND YARD."
WANTED, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25.
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
WANTED, Sept. 2, 23, Oct. 21, 28.
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 7, Nov. 4.
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Sept. 2.
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

A Rollicking Roaring Success.
A Rollicking Roaring Success.
A Rollicking Roaring Success.
MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
in the Romantic, Musical, Irish, Legendary Play,
"ROLLICKING RORY."
"ROLLICKING RORY."
"ROLLICKING RORY."
Managers, Press, and Public unanimous.
The Costumes and Scenery the talk of the Town.
The Printing Novel and Distinctive.
There's Money in it.
There's Money in it.
There's Money in it.
WANTED, Theatres, only vacant date this year (through transfer), Nov. 18, between H. M., Blackpool, and Shields.
Now booking Spring, 1908.
Pleased to hear from Managers of No. 1 Theatres.
Chalmers Mackey,
Opera House, St. Helens, Aug. 19 (six nights).

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
Eighth Year of Tour of
The Musical Something-to-Laugh-at.
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
Sept. 9 (Lancashire preferred),
Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 14, 21.
Great success of Tour. Refer, July 29, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh; Aug. 5, King's Theatre, Glasgow; Aug. 12, Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.
Strong Musical Comedy Company.
Miss ETHEL WARD as Ivy Pendred.
Miss FLORENCE SMITHERS as Jane.
Re dates, Eade Montefiore, General-Manager, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

Messrs. SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE LOVE OF A LIFE," by Eugene Gotere.
WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, Oct. 21,
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL,"
by Wm. Hibbert.
Wanted, Sept. 2, 16, and on, with exceptions. Thanks several Managers for Offers. We tour a First-class Show, and must have equitable terms. John B. Shinton, to-day, H. M., Barrow; next week, G., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ALEX C. GRANT'S COS.
WANTED, Dates for
"THE WOMAN FROM SCOTLAND YARD."
Splendid plant of scenery, electric fittings, &c.
Special Pictorials by David Allen and Moody Bros.
Only Vacant Dates this year,
Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 18, 25,
Dec. 2, 23.
Address, Grand, Walsall.

"LUCKY LIZA."
WANTED, Sept. 30, North.
Going greater than ever.
Dickie Clare, Court T., Warrington.

"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
WANTED, Nov. 4 and Dec. 30.
J. W. Cordiner,
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.
See Companies Advertisement, page 2.

Messrs. ELLIMAN'S ENTERPRISES.
"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, for this Great Attraction; doing tremendous business everywhere. Refer. Refer. Several Autumn Dates, Christmas and New Year, also Vacant. Do not miss this Great Attraction. Wire for Aug. 26. Wire. Wire. C. Elliman, Queen's, Liverpool; next, T. R., Hyde.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, for important musical shows. Communicate, Charles Macdona, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

Messrs. ARMADALE and WARREN'S CO.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, for the above Attraction.
Add., Armadale and Warren,
Theatre Royal, Bolton.

SIDNEY RENNEF'S COMPANY.
"LOVE RULES THE WORLD," by T. G. Bailey.
WANTED, good Theatre, Xmas, New Year, and onward, for this Big Success.
Eight full sets carried. Splendid printing.
G. M. Copping, King's, Sunderland;
next, Grand, Glasgow.

HARRY TILBURY'S TOURS.
"HIS DISHONOURED WIFE."
WANTED, for this emphatic Success, Sept. 16 (Scotland or England, North), Oct. 7, 21, Dec. 30. Fast booking 1908.
Address, Theatre, Paisley.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S CO.
"THE BRANDED WOMAN."
WANTED, for this Great Attraction, good Theatres, to follow London,
Sept. 2 and 9, and Oct. 7.
Always a sure draw. Wire for Sept. 2.
Clive, to-day, T. R., Hyde; next, T. R., Edmonton.

WANTED, Sept. 23, 24, 25 (3 nights), Sept. 30, "Under Two Flags; or, In King's Name."
Mark Blow, 3, St. James's-avenue, Brighton.

STANLEY CARLTON'S CO.
WANTED, Aug. 26 (?), Sept. 23 (?), for "A Secret Wedding." Wire, this, T. R., Leicester; next, T. R., Macclesfield.

"THE HERO OF THE FLAG."
WANTED, Aug. 29 (three nights, to follow Whitby), Sept. 2, 9, and few later. Refer Mr. Jefferson, Metropole, Glasgow. Edward McLean, T. R., Blyth.

CHARLES CARTWRIGHT and A. B. TAPPING'S DICKENS REPERTOIRE COMPANY.

"DAVID COPPERFIELD."
"DOMBEY AND SON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 9, 16, and Oct. 14.
Address, Mr Frank Jackson,
11, St. Albans-place, Haymarket, S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
The latest Successful Musical Comedy, absolutely the strongest Musical Comedy Cast on the road.
Full London Operatic Chorus.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for this great Attraction, Sept. 16, Sept. 16, Sept. 16 (to follow Merthyr), Sept. 23, Sept. 23, Sept. 23, and on, with exceptions.
Wire or write, HAMILTON BAINES, this, Shrewsbury; next, Opera House, Leicester.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, Aug. 26 and Sept. 2, various onward dates.
A most desirable Attraction; perfect in detail. A veritable triumph at Princess', Glasgow.
Last week's gross, close on £300.
Refer Mr. Rich. Waldon, who has handed us two return Contracts.
Mr. R. C. Buchanan six return dates.
Refer also Mr. Sidney Bacon, Metropole, Gateshead; Mr. Robt. Redford, New Theatre, Cardiff; Mr. C. J. Imeson, T. R., Middlesbro'.
Playing another splendid week's business here.
Refer Mr. Fred Morgan.
"NANA, the Rage of Paris,"
Once or twice weekly, as desired.
Wire, to-day, LOIE ESMOND, T. R., Norwich; Aug. 19, T. R., King's Lynn.

DONALD A. CAMERON and DOUGLAS ALEXANDER present their Successful American Military Musical Drama,
"UNDER THE STARS AND STRIPES."
Last week's Era, in a full column of praise, says:—The quality of dialogue is a cut above ordinary melodrama. . . . was well matched by the quality of the acting. The play is a well-written and effective addition to current successful drama of its kind.
See last week's Era for Production Notice.
See last week's Era for Production Notice.
Messrs. Cameron and Alexander thank Managers for Wires offering Dates, but only No. 1 Dramatic Houses can be entertained, owing to expensive cast. Managers with good Orchestra and Big Theatres are invited to book this Musical Drama,
"UNDER THE STARS AND STRIPES."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 9, 16 (?), 23, and Various, on.
Special War Scenery by Mr. Charles Herrald.
Correct Military and other Costumes.
Specially composed Songs and American Music.
Musical Conductor carried.
Wire to-day, CAMERON, Theatre, Macclesfield; next week, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

"HOME, SWEET HOME."
The Great Domestic Drama, by Frank Lindo.
WANTED, good Theatres, for few remaining dates, vacant this year, Nov. 18 and 25, also Christmas; fast filling Spring and Autumn, 1908.
Mr. Frank Lindo,
Miss Marion Wakeford,
in their original parts, as played by them over 1,000 times.
Address,
FRANK LINDO, T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne (return).

LINGFORD CARSON'S SUCCESSES.
By Geo. A. De Gray.
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
A Bigger Draw than Ever.
WANTED, Sept. 9, Oct. 7, 14 (through transfer to oblige), Dec. 2, 30.

Second Year of Continuous Tour.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
F. WYBERT CLIVE'S CO.,
Specially selected for Hyde Wake's Attraction, by Fred Granville, Esq., and playing to crowded houses. Refer.
WANTED, Sept. 2, Oct. 7 and 14, Wanted, Sept. 2, Oct. 7 and 14.
Strong Company. New Printing and Scenery.
Apply, WALTER STEELE, Manager, to-day, T. R., Hyde; next, T. R., Edmonton.

JAMES HARE'S MASCOT.
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
Superb Mounting and Dressing.
The Complete Production Travelled.
Unequalled Pictorial Plant.
WANTED, weeks of Oct. 21 (precede Birmingham), Nov. 11 (precede Leicester), Nov. 25 (precede West London Theatre).
JAMES HARE,
Victoria Theatre, Broughton, Manchester.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY and MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO., in the highly successful Comedy,
"MY WIFE." "MY WIFE."
Now playing to crowded houses at the HAYMARKET THEATRE, LONDON.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Sept. 30, Nov. 4 and 11.
Add., Mr. SILVANUS DAUNCEY, T. R., Norwich.

Mr. ARTHUR BOURCHIER'S COMPANY,
"THE MORALS OF MARCUS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Sept. 2 (3 nights) and Oct. 7.
Address, Mr. SILVANUS DAUNCEY, T. R., Norwich.

"A FIGHT FOR A THRONE."
An absolutely unequalled production, and a worthy successor to "The Power of the Cross."—Vide Managers and Public.
WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, Nov. 25, Christmas, only Vacant Dates this year. Spring and Autumn 1908 fast filling for both plays. GEO. A. DE GRAY, this, Princess's, Glasgow; next, Lyceum, Govan.

SIDNEY DENCH'S CO.,
"A PRINCE OF ROGUES."
Tremendous Success everywhere.
Good Printing, New Scenery, and a Company of First-Class Artists.
WANTED, Sept. 9, 16, and 30. DENCH, T. R., Whitehaven; next, O. H., Workington.

"NO MAN'S LAND."
WANTED, Sept. 9, Oct. 14, Nov. 4. HENRY HERNE, to-day, P. O. W. Theatre, Mexboro'; 19th, T. R., North Shields.

ERNEST R. ABBOTT'S "A WIFE'S TRIUMPH" and Répertoire Co. Ninth Year of Tour.
"An established company of all-round excellence."
WANTED, Aug. 26 (unexpectedly vacant, between Manchester and Birmingham), Oct. 7 also open. Wire to-day, ABBOTT, Star Theatre, Liverpool; next week, 219, Clarendon-rd., Whalley Range, Manchester.

WANTED, Sept. 16, 30, for Miss Frances Delaval's Co., "Her Lost Self," by Nita Rae; "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore. Wire, to-day, Metropole Theatre, Devonport; Monday, East Oxford Theatre, Oxford. Mrs. Lyons send address.

WILLIAM HOLLES and NANNIE GOLDMAN'S CO., in the great Domestic Drama, entitled,
"THE STEPMOTHER,"
"THE STEPMOTHER,"
"THE STEPMOTHER,"
"THE STEPMOTHER,"
by Arthur Shirley.
WANTED, Sept. 23 (between Manchester and Glasgow). Enormous success at Oldham. Managers kindly refer to Mr. E. Dottridge.
Wire, WILLIAM HOLLES, Junction T., Manchester.

Mr. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, for Thomas Thorne and Co., Aug. 26 and Sept. 9, to precede and follow Belfast. Various other Autumn Dates Open for any of the other High-class Comedies and Plays, either Singly or in Répertoire. Wire, RUSSELL ROSSE, 10, Kingstreet, W.C.

"THE GRIP OF IRON" NO. 1 COMPANY.
WANTED, unexpectedly vacant, Nov. 18 (Eastern Counties, Midlands, or London), Feb. 17 (Midlands), March 2 and 9 (South or Midlands), March 30 (North). E. H. KNIGHT, 7, The Crescent, Barnes, S.W.

WANTED, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, 25, for "Dancing Girls" and "Office Hours." Full Co., Special Scenery. HALDANE CRICHTON, 21, Granby-street, Liverpool.

STANLEY CARLTON'S CO.
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 23 (?), for "A Secret Wedding." Wire, this, T. R., Leicester; next, T. R., Macclesfield.

WANTED, Known, few vacant dates in Oct., "Frivolity" and "Houseboat."
JOHN LEOPOLD, JUN., Eden T., Bishop Auckland.

THEATRES WANTED.

"SAVED FROM THE SEA."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
Everything carried.
Bookings include Prince's, Portsmouth; Alex., Hull; Court, Warrington; Rot., Liverpool; Col., Oldham; Alex., Sheffield; Met., Devonport; Alex., Birmingham; Queen's, Longton; Empire, Southend; O. H., St. Helens.
WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 9, Xmas Week, and Spring, 1908, with various exceptions.
Apply, SAMUEL JAMES, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

"THE LOVE THAT LASTS FOR EVER."
By Edward Thane.
WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 4, 18, Dec. 2 (?), Xmas Week.
Clear Stage only required.
Apply, SAMUEL JAMES, as above.

"AS GOOD AS GOLD,"
by Fred S. Jennings.
Past and present bookings include Dalston, West London, Alex., Birmingham, P. O. W., Grimsby, P. O. W., Salford, T. R., Chatham, T. R., Smethwick.
Everything Carried. Clear Stage only Required.
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 14, 28, Nov. 11, 25, Xmas Week. Apply, SAMUEL JAMES, as above.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, Oct. 14, 21 (Midlands), Oct. 14 and 21, Nov. 4 and 25, Oct. 14, 21, Nov. 4, 25.
Fast Booking Spring, '08.
Cast, Scenery, and Printing A1. Refer.
FRANK AYRTON, Court Theatre, Bacup.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 16, Dec. 23, 30.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1908.
Aug. 19, Clarence, Pontypridd.

"HER MARRIAGE VOW."
An Emphatic Success.
Refer A. C. Moody, T. R., Blyth.
Refer J. and F. Coulson, T. R., S. Shields.
Absolutely everything carried.
Splendid Plant of American Printing.
No Artist under ten years' experience.
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21. Theatre Royal, South Shields.
Aug. 15, 1907.
Dear Messrs. Garside and Knowles,—
We are very pleased with your production of "Her Marriage Vow." It is well put on, and also well played. It goes with a swing, and business has gone up each night.
Shall be pleased to re-book you.
With best wishes, yours faithfully,
J. and F. COULSON.
GARSIDE and KNOWLES, Met., Gateshead.

HERBERT DARNLEY'S MUSICAL FARCE.
"SANDOW GIRL."
"SANDOW GIRL."
WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 9, and onwards, with exceptions; funniest Musical Play ever toured. Terrific draw Dalston Theatre; Company includes J. B. Montagu, &c.
HERBERT DARNLEY,
The Oaks, Rectory-grove, Clapham, S.W.

HERBERT DARNLEY'S DRAMA,
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."
WANTED, Sept. 16, onwards, for this strong Drama. Unique parts played by Herbert Darnley's Dots;
Little Winnie Crisp, the rage of London, Paris, and New York.
HERBERT DARNLEY,
The Oaks, Rectory-grove, Clapham, S.W.

HERBERT DARNLEY'S PANTOMIME,
"THE BABES IN THE WOOD."
"THE BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Large Theatres for above. Herbert Darnley's Dots as "The Babes," and HERBERT DARNLEY as The Dame.
Jan. 13, onwards, following production at own theatre. The attention of Managers of First-class Theatres is drawn to the fact that the above is a London production, with London Stars, on Tour.
HERBERT DARNLEY,
One touch of Darnley makes the whole world grin.
Apply, H. D., as above.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Oct. 7, Nov. 11 and 25, Xmas and New Year's Week vacant.
Communications to GEORGE KIRK, P. O. W. THEATRE, MEXBORO'.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES CO., LTD
"FAIR ONE WITH GOLDEN LOCKS."
WANTED, Good Theatre, North, Feb. 3 (only vacant date). STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

WANTED, for "The Woman Pays." Oct. 14, North or Scotland, Nov. 11 (L. and Y.), and Dec. 2, 23, 30. F. M. THORNE, Prince's T., Preston.

WANTED, Theatres or Large Halls, Sept. 9, onwards, for Ives and Klein, great Variety Company, ten Star Artists, six Specialities. Write, Alhambra, Sandgate; next, Empire, Dover.

WANTED, Big Theatres, Aug. 26, Sept. 9, for Scottie's Colossal Variety Combine, including Scottie's Waifs. SCOTTIE, North Pier Pavilion, Scarborough.

ARTISTS WANTED.

INDIA AND THE EAST.
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INDIA AND THE EAST.
WANTED, immediately, for Bandmann's Eastern Circuit:
A First-Class Principal Comedian,
A Young and Pretty Principal Soubrette,
An experienced Principal Baritone,
A Good-looking Principal Soprano,
A Principal Dancer,
Also some vacancies for Chorus.
All salaries clear, as Hotel expenses paid by Management from the time of leaving England until return. Address, stating lowest terms, with full particulars, enclosing recent photograph, with stamped and addressed envelope for return.
ALFRED DOVE,
Maurice E. Bandmann's London Representative, 28, Gerrard-street, W.
Telegrams, "Svengali, London."

WANTED, for "Les Cloches," Marquis (Baritone), Bailie (Comedian), several Chorus, and Pianist. Terms and particulars by letter only to E. ST. ALBAN, 106, Holland Park-avenue, Kensington, W.

WANTED, Principals and Chorus for Grand and Comic Opera. References and lowest salary, &c.; only those Liberty for Xmas entertained. Box 5,260, "The Era."

"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR" CO.
WANTED, good Low Comedian, rehearse Farnworth, Aug. 19; also smart Juvenile Gentleman, tall, slight; and good Responsible Man, tall. Wire, STUART CLEVELAND, 16, Baker-street, Doncaster, to-day; after, Rawsons Arms Hotel, Farnworth.

"TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS" CO.
WANTED, for above, Rehearse Sept. 2, Open Sept. 9, at Manchester, Powerful Declamatory Actor, for Capt. Tom Yorke, and Understudy. All particulars, age, height, and build (important, for uniform), references, photo., and in all cases lowest terms, W. H. HALLATT, 54, Rumford-street, Oxford-street, Manchester. N.B.—Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists, all Lines, for London, twice nightly. Send full particulars, HARRY WARD, 13, Buckingham-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"HER LUCK IN LONDON."
WANTED, Lady for Light Comedy Part (Thirsty), rehearse Tuesday next. Photos., references, and full particulars, to DOUGLAS TREMAYNE, P.O.W. Theatre, Mexborough.

WANTED, through disappointment, Petite Chambermaid; must sing and dance really well. Rehearse Tuesday. Photos., lowest terms, WINIFRED MAUDE, to-day, Lyceum, Newport; next, Alexandra, Birmingham.

"CLAUDIAN" CO.
WANTED, two ladies, to walk on and join in Chorus, Soprano and Mezzo; must have good, strong voices. Tour starts Sept. 2; rehearse week previous. Apply, with full particulars, recent photos., lowest terms, to WILLIAM MACLAREN, Gowanlea, Navarino-road, Worthing.

WANTED, to Augment Company for Tour, Versatile Juvenile Gentleman and Lady, Society Play. Photos., terms, particulars, last two references, ROLLO BALMAIN, Drill Hall, Wrexham.

WANTED, Robust Leading Character Actor, for Mat Marsden.
Rehearse 19th, Open 26th. Terms, &c., to HENRY HERNE, to-day, P. O. W., Mexboro'; after, T. R., North Shields.

WANTED, Immediately, Gentlemanly Young Actor, for Harold, "Bunch of Violets." Wires only (prepaid), full particulars, RAYNOR, 42, Ackers-street, Manchester.

WANTED, for "The Lights o' London," tall, smart young actor, for responsible parts. Full particulars, H. HOLLISTER, Colne Engaine, Essex.

"UNDER THE STARS AND STRIPES."
WANTED, Gentleman for Second Juvenile part, good appearance and wardrobe; rehearse immediately. Terms, &c., to CAMERON and ALEXANDER, T. R., West Bromwich.

WANTED, for Répertoire, Character Actor, Acting-Manager, and Gentleman for small parts. Mrs. BANDMANN-PALMER, 36, Gloucester-road, Kew, Surrey.

WANTED, smart Young Man, for recognised Comedy Company, experience not necessary. Apply, letters only, COMEDY, 84, Hackford-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, young sympathetic Jew Gent.; rehearse immediately. Wire particulars, BENGE, this, Amphi., Ramsgate; next, Longton.

WANTED, a Low Comedian.
Miss MAYNARD,
95, Fentiman-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, several Gentlemen to walk on and understudy. NORMAN V. NORMAN, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

WANTED, for First-Class Sketch, two Gentlemen, height 6ft., slim build, one 4ft. 6in., with good speaking voice; Leading Lady, applicants must be young, educated, and of good appearance, and Gentlemen and Gentlewomen in the true sense of the word; no others need apply. By letter only, Mrs. WELLESLEY LYNN, 119, Fielding-rd., Bedford Park, W.

WANTED, Soprano, young and stylish; also Tenor, commendable appearance; Musical Sketch. CARLE, 18A, Morat-street, Brixton. Mon., between 2 and 4 p.m.

WANTED, Light Comedy Tenor, of gentlemanly appearance. Apply, with song, THE NEW MUSICAL COMEDY AND CONCERT ARTISTES' AGENCY, 16, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.

WANTED, to open Monday, First-Class Tenor. Send photo. and lowest terms. CHARLES MILNER, Manager, Catlin's Pierrots, Withernsea.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

Wouldn't mind if he danced on my feet.
WANTED, Known, Young Man just completing prolonged course of Grotesque Dancing under private tuition of one of the best known past masters of the Art desires Engagement, Musical Comedy or Panto.
Apply, Box 5,189, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady, Vocalist (Contralto), refined, well trained, combine 'Cello, Engagement required till middle Sept. in Concert Party or Hotel; experienced. Box 5,257, "The Era."

WANTED, for Minstrel, at Once, Engagement, Répertoire: Songs with Banjo (a Speciality) and Piano Accompaniments, also Recitations, &c.; or an appointment as Chorister in Opera, Comedy, or Panto. 5, Edwin's-terrace, Bean-street, Hull.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists,
Comedians,
Principal Ladies,
Musical Conductors,
Dancers, &c., &c.
Write, stating full particulars and lowest terms, to JOHN TILLER and Co.,
15, Lime-grove, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

WANTED, Lady, for Fairy Queen, Second Girl, Gentleman for Baron, Two Knockabouts. Money sure. Lowest terms, Box 5,255, "The Era."

WANTED, tall Chorus and Show Ladies, for Pantomime. References, terms, &c., to E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement by the Two Wiltons, Second Girl and Demon, or small part, Speciality (Song and Dance). Good voices. 162, Palatine-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, The Two Daniels, Characteristic Cannibal Chiefs, with Specialities, free for Panto. Add., Oddfellows' Hall, Dowlais.

WANTED, Panto, Chard's Dashing Dog Circus, the Smartest, Quickest, and most Sensational Animal Act ever seen. Address, Box 5,267, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

Financial.
WANTED, Manager or Secretary able to influence Capital for Musical Plays.
Part capital ready.
Box 5,264, "The Era."

WANTED, Stage-Manager, to open at Palace, Derby, Sept. 2, used to Varieties, twice nightly, electricity, and billing. Age, references, and lowest terms, T. A. EDWARDES, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, Assistant-Manager, long engagement to suitable man. References and full particulars (letters only),
J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, to Open at Once, thoroughly reliable Working Agent-in-Advance. Particulars, last two refs., ROLLO BALMAIN, Drill Hall, Wrexham.

WANTED, thoroughly competent Electrician, to take charge of 80 h.p. engine and dynamo; must have highest references. Address, with lowest terms, SHERRIFF HOWARD, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

WANTED, First-Class Stage Carpenter. Apply,
MILTON BODE,
Theatre, Reading.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE CHAS. W. POOLE'S
No. 1 MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, to Open at Once, for Poole's Greatest Show, Six Good Lithographers (high-window billers); only those that can use sticks, others save stamps. CLIFF CRAWFORD, Advertising Manager, Free Trade Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, thoroughly practical Billposter and Property-man combined, look after pony and trap; long engagement to suitable man. Preference given to a married man whose wife would clean Theatre. State fullest particulars, wages, age, and latest references. Apply, MARK H. LINDON, Theatre Royal, Stanley, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Billposter, at once, for Country Billposting Company, permanent and comfortable berth to young man of steady and willing disposition; no high ladder work. Hours 8.30 to 5.30; Thursday 1 o'clock; wages 20s., and extra for country work. References, &c., to ST. AUSTELL BILLPOSTING COMPANY, St. Austell, Cornwall.

WANTED, for Tenting, smart, reliable Window Biller, travel with Agent and attend to pony; only those used to the business need apply. State lowest in first letter,

J. Scott's Circus, Saturday, Watton, Thetford; Monday, Dereham; Tuesday, Reepham, Norwich.

WANTED, a few Billposters and Window-Billers, smart; abstainers preferred.
A. E. PICKARD, Britannia Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Handy Young Man, as Attendant, understand acetylene gas, and make himself useful. Refs., &c., A. HART, Pierrots, Headingley, Leeds.

WANTED, Smart Wardrobe Mistress, young and smart appearance.
Call, SINCLAIR, 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Lady, aged about 16, as companion, smart, lively, musical, if can dance preferred. Apply, with particulars and salary, Mrs. HALL, 16, Alexandra-court, Maida Vale.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Resident Manager or Manager and Secretary, by a Gentleman thoroughly experienced in Theatre, Concert, Gardens, and Variety business; highest credentials and excellent reputation; Society's security; moderate salary. Address, Box 5,273, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First-Class experienced General-Manager, for Theatre, Concert, Gardens, Variety, &c.; permanency, good organiser, accountant. Terms moderate; highest references; Liberty Sept. Address, Box 5,243, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, J. Birkbeck, Advance Agent, Disengaged, late "Still Alarm," "Fatal Wedding," Pringle's Pictures, &c. Providence Cottage, West Malling, Kent.

WANTED, by experienced Electrician, Engagement with Travelling Company or Theatre Plant. Good refs. Address, Box 5,251, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Disengaged, thoroughly Competent Electrician; can work bioscope. HOSGOOD, care of Adams, Empire, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Engagement, as Stage Carpenter or Bill Inspector; long experience; good references. C. MAY, 65, Burghley-road, Kentish Town, London.

WANTED, by experienced Carpenter and Scenic Artist, a sound Engagement, Theatre or Music H. (Bench Hand). Box 5,268, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, experienced Bill-Poster, Window-Biller, &c., requires Bill Inspectorship, &c., with own horse and cart. 1, Markham-street, Chelsea.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, good Scenic Artist, must be quick, and have highest references. Address, with lowest terms, SHERRIFF HOWARD, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts for Pantomime Scenery, T. BINGHAM-SEDGWICK, Banks' Imperial Theatre Painting Room, Dartmouth-street, Westminster. Telephone 5389 Westminster. "Bankwicks, London."

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, town or provinces. Refs. Address, 40, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, to paint Scenery to enhance the Attractions of your Production. Carlyle Scenic Studio. W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-road, S.W.

WANTED, by H. Pedgeon, Scenic Artist, Engagement, First-class references; late T. R., Plymouth, Oldham, &c. 22, Hoe-st., Plymouth.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

HIPPODROME, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, Musical Director; must be a First-class Violinist and thoroughly experienced in Varieties; also Leader, Bass, Cornet, Trombone, Drums with Tympanis and Full Effects, to open Sept. 2. Terms, references, and age, address, Signor PEPI, Palace, Carlisle.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
WANTED, through illness, First-Class Musical Director (Violin), to open Monday first, Aug. 19; must be well up in Variety business. Also good Pianist, to open Aug. 26. Apply, with references and lowest terms, to MANAGER.

WANTED, for a Provincial Theatre, Resident Musical-Director, must be a good Violinist. Age, references, and terms, to Box 5,276, "The Era."

WANTED, a First-class Conductor, for Touring. Apply, with lowest terms and references, to MILTON BODE, County Theatre, Reading.

WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Violin, Viola, 'Cello, and Bass, to commence immediately, Engagement for Season up to 29th Sept.; only Steady and First-class Instrumentalists need apply.
Applications, stating experience, with references, and salary required for two performances daily, to be sent to Mr. JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, General-Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, good First Violin, for Seven Nights, Surburban Theatre, commence Aug. 24. Business, Drama. Address, VIOLINIST, 17, Sheldon-street, Croydon.

WANTED, First Violin (Leader) and 'Cello, for re-opening of Tivoli, Grimsby; long engagement. T. STEVENS, 35, Torrington-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, a First-Class Second Violin, to open Monday, Aug. 26, must be steady; latest refs. WORSWICK, Royal Court Theatre, Wigan.

WANTED, First-Class Violinist, for Café (five hours daily). Apply by letter only, with terms and references, E. A. BROADBENT, 69, Kirkgate, Bradford.

WANTED, immediately, Violin, capable Lead and Cornet; must be experienced Variety and Drama. Permanency. Lowest, &c., STUART LANE, Hippo., Barry Dock.

WANTED, First Violin, at once, well up in Dramatic and Musical Comedy business. State age, latest references, and lowest terms, to J. H. OAKDEN, Lyceum Theatre, Govan, Glasgow.

NEW HIPPODROME, PETERBOROUGH.
WANTED, First Violin, Pianist, Double Bass, Flute and Piccolo, Cornet, Trombone, and Drums; must be well up in Variety business; to commence Sept. 2; evening dress. Apply to T. M. SYLVESTER, 217, Piccadilly, London.

WANTED, First-class Experienced Orchestral Violinists and Pianist, capable of playing solos and other instrument preferred, for restaurant, Johannesburg, 5½ daily, six or twelve months, sailing Sept. 21. Send particulars, photo., lowest (trial essential), DELIKAL, Wellington Pier, Great Yarmouth.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for Aug. 26 and on, First Violin, Viola, Violoncello, for Howard and Wyndham's Theatres, Glasgow; first-rate men only need apply to ALFRED CARPENTER, Managing Musical-Director, King's Theatre, Glasgow.

PALACE OF VARIETIES, DERBY.
WANTED, Monday, Sept. 9, First Violins, Cornet, and Drums, used to Varieties, evening dress. Age, references, lowest terms, T. A. EDWARDES, Grand Theatre, Derby.

POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, Solo Cornet, Trombone, and Double Drums, assist with fittings when travelling, wear evening dress, and be thoroughly efficient and reliable; join immediately. Terms, 30s. Address, MORRELL, Town Hall, Luton, till Sunday; then, Exchange Hall, Wellingboro.'

WANTED, Solo Cornet, also Double Drummer and Tympanist, to open immediately. Apply, W. LEECH, Manager, Empire, Ashton-u-Lyne.

WANTED, at once, for Croydon Town Band, good Cornet or Clarionet Player, for Pitching. WALTERS, 51, Waddon New-rd., Croydon.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Menagerie, Solo, First Cornet, Euphonium, Trombone. Salary, 30s. per week. Travelling South. Saturday, Kirkcowan; Monday, Newton Stewart; Tuesday, Creetown Scotland.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Circus, Ireland, good Trombone Player; join at once.
Address, Saturday, Newcastle, Co. Down; Monday, Kilkeel, Co. Down; afterwards, 10, Goldsmith-st., Dublin.

WANTED, Trombone Player. Age, references, lowest terms,
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM, FULBOURN, NEAR CAMBRIDGE.
WANTED, Male Attendants, Bombardon Player or Pianist preferred. Apply, stating age and height, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to the SUPERINTENDENT, at the Asylum.

WANTED, Flute and Piccolo, and 'Cello Player, must be good, strictly sober and used to Theatre work, six nights, two matinées weekly. State lowest terms and references to SEEBOLD, Theatre, Worthing.

WANTED, good Flute Player, to travel fortnightly throughout the year. Apply, with references, and stating age, SCHOTTLER, Musical-Director, Bath.

WANTED, good Flute and Piccolo, to open Aug. 26. Permanent if suitable. Terms, age, and references, CHAS. ELPHINSTONE, Grand T., Hanley.

WANTED, Good, Sober Flute and Piccolo, join Monday, Aug. 19, '07, Hippo., Gt. Yarmouth. Wire age, &c., TIDSWELL, Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

WANTED, a good Pianist, to open at once,
Churchill's Minstrels,
Llandudno.
Wire.

WANTED, a Lady Pianist, to act as Conductress, for Exhibition Quartette, one with a large and good répertoire necessary. Full particulars and requirements to MANAGER, Hampstead, Lime-grove, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Lady Pianist; thoroughly experienced Orchestra, for American Hotel, from middle November. Send full particulars, photo., 139, Park-road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, for Chittock's Empire, Portable, good Pianist.
Write or call,
Will Mr. Barker,
of Kingston,
Write to Sunbury, Surrey.

WANTED, First-Class Pianist, Singer preferred, also a good Comic Singer and Planksman, sobriety indispensable. TRACY, Auctioneer, Aberbargoed, Mon.

WANTED, Pianist, to Travel with Auction Mart; join at once; one who has been in the business preferred. ROWLEY, 60, Market-street, Watford.

WANTED, Pianist, Double-handed, open Monday, permanency. Lowest terms and refs., JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Pianist, to open Monday (Gentleman).
PARRY, Pier, Menai Bridge, N. Wales.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, Drummer, permanent, 'Cello, Clarionet, Violin, Viola, for Circuit. Open Monday, Aug. 19. Wire lowest terms. DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Drummer and Tympanist, experienced in Variety, permanency to smart energetic man. Send refs., age, terms, &c., CONDUCTOR, Empire, Coventry.

GRAND, CLAPHAM JUNCTION.
WANTED, at once, Double Drummer, must be thoroughly experienced in Variety business. Apply, stating lowest terms and latest references, to CONDUCTOR.

WANTED, Drummer, for Liverpool. Also for Edinburgh.
Apply by letter, stating salary required, with copies of testimonials, to
FRANK ALLEN, Cranbourn-mansions, London, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Musicians, Musical Duties Only, String Players and Pianists, for White Star Mediterranean Service (single men preferred). State age, experience, and names and addresses of two references for character and ability. Engagements commencing Aug., Sept., and Oct., for about 10 or 12 months. Also a Few Vacancies on Cunard and White Star North Atlantic Service in Sept. and Oct. Permanencies. MR. CHARLES WM. BLACK, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Good Musicians, for Varieties, and known to me. Send permanent address and when at Liberty. HARRY HINCHCLIFFE, Palace, Carlisle.

JOHN H. TOMKINSON'S ROYAL GIPSY CO.
WANTED, for long Tour, commence Sept., Lady Musicians, First Violin, Cornet, Flute, &c. Address, TOMKINSON, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, Musicians, accustomed to Variety business. Apply, with terms, latest references, and permanent addresses for future reference, to J. HOWARD SHACKLETON, Hippodrome, Portsmouth.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street,, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN,'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Edward P. Delevanti, Musical-Director (Pianist), Disengaged, deputise London district. 3, Clarence-chambers, Regent's Park, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Conductor, Leader, or First Violin; thoroughly experienced; excellent references. EDGAR THORPE, 31, Richmond street, Southampton.

WANTED, by Violin and Mandolinist, Situation as Teacher; well up in class teaching. Photos. and refs. apply, TEACHER, 61, Prince's-road, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement or Deputising; young. Write, VIOLINIST, 6, Sharpies Hall-street, Primrose Hill, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Violin, in Theatre or Café; abstainer. Apply, Box 5,259, "The Era."

WANTED, by Violinist (good), can double Clarionet, Deputising and Dance Work; experienced. PRESTO, 89, Black Boy-lane, South Tottenham, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo Cornet, Orchestra or Military; experienced, competent, reliable. WILLIAMS, 249, Southwark Bridge-rd., S.E.

WANTED, Known, Bassoonist open for Engagement, Military or Orchestra; age 26; good references; A.M.U. T. GILLARD, 7, Sutton-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Five-string Bass, powerful, for end of Sept. (earlier if required); experienced, any business. Testimonials and references. DICKEN, Crescent-gardens, Filey, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class String Bass, late one of H.M. Staff Bands; excellent references; any business. Box 5,274, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Trombone Soloist, at Lib. Sept., month; seaside only; String or Military. Ad., TROMBONE, 27, Stratford-place, Rochester-square, Camden Town.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Trombonist, at Liberty Sept. 16. C. STUART MACCALLAUGH, Viennese Orchestra, New Spa, Bridlington.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Bass (four strings), any business, or Deputising, in London or Suburbs. VINCENT, 156, Wyndham-rd., Camberwell.

WANTED, by L. Carvelli, late Solo Horn Lamoureaux Orchestra, Scala Theatre, Milan, Manns' Orchestra, Carl Rosa Co., Scottish Or., &c., Engagement as First Horn, Concerts or Theatres; at Liberty Oct. 15. 14, Gipsy-hill, Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 37, Great Percy-st., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced 'Cellist, Hotel or Café.
F. D., 29, Addison-gardens, W.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo; young, reliable, fully experienced, good refs. STEPHENSON, 54, Ridley-road, Dalston, London, N.

WANTED, by Young Lady Pianist, Engagement as Companion to Professional Lady; good accompanist, correspondent, accustomed to travelling; excellent references. Box 5,254, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist and Cornettist, both single and used to Orchestral work; abstainers. R. G., City Asylum, York.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Engagement as Pianist or Mandolinist, good accompanist. Address, Miss MARTIN, 30, Huntsmoor-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Miss Constance Upstone, Solo Pianist and Accompanist, just concluded successful Tour. 11, Willoughby Park-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by good reliable Double Drummer and Effects; experienced any Business; good instruments. MUSICIAN, 44, Woodlands-rd, Walthamstow, Essex.

WANTED, Engagement, as Drums and Effects, finish here Sept. 6. HARDMAN, 4, Duke-terrace, Baker-street, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Engagement as First-Class Drums, Glockenspiel, Effects; London or Suburbs; thoroughly reliable. MUSICIAN, 21, Vicarage-lane, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, Quartet disengaged autumn. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Known, Small String Orchestra, at Liberty, Family. Terms moderate. Late Music Hall Bandsmen. First-class Répertoire. HERBERT, 5, West-hill, Wandsworth.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Riders with Own Horses, Performing Horses, Ponies, Dogs, &c, Gymnasts, Clowns, and Useful People in every Branch of the Circus Business, to communicate with CHARLES POWELL, Manager, Gilleno's Circus, White City, Manchester. Vacant Dates and lowest terms in each instance.

WANTED, for Monday (wire), Sloan Hippodrome, Guernsey, First-class Troupe of Acrobats, Lady and Gent. Singers, also Sisters, Singers and Dancers (Winnie Selhot and Marie Winson wire); also Wanted, First-class Knockabout Three-bars Show, Musical Act, and anything that can be done in a Circus Ring. Address as above. Notice.—All Artists can leave by Weymouth boat Monday, 12 o'clock, arriving in Guernsey 6 o'clock Monday evening; or Southampton boat 12.30 Saturday night, arrive in Guernsey 6 o'clock Sunday morning.

WANTED, Jugglers, Benders, or Posturers, useful Ground Acts that can Clown. Lowest terms; join at once. DENNIS' Circus, Queensbury, near Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, for Renowned Troupe, Young Lady Trapezists, single and double, sisters or friends preferred; no amateurs. State tricks, age, weight, &c. Photos. or Photo-cards in Tights. Address till 30th inst.,
JAS. EUGENE, Aquarium, St. Petersburg; from Sept. 5, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Triple Bar Performer. State all particulars, salary,
Box 5,277, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Top and Second Mounter, for Comic Act; state age and weight. Also a Boy from 12 to 16, with little Knowledge of Tumbling. W. Daulby, E. Brown, Jimmy Lane write. Box 5,281, "The Era."

WANTED, Top Mounter, for Acrobats, at Once. Send full particulars to STEBBING, 117, Upper Moss-lane, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Youth that can Tumble, for well-known Troupe. State terms and particulars, HICKS, Gordon House, Wolfa-street, Derby.

WANTED, Tumblers and Posturers, young preferred. Write, stating tricks, lowest terms, EDDY, 5, Honor Oak Park, Forest Hill, S.E.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Tudor's Four Educated Ponies, all young, good-looking, and in want of immediate dates. Great success Hippodrome, Portsmouth, where wire or write; only want seeing. Thanking FRED NEIMAN for Contracts.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes, funny Musical Clown, Talking Knockabout Clown, Entrées; good in Pantomimes; Liberty. Address, 16, Moreton-st., Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, The Maros, Comedy Three Bar Act, Aug. 17, Gala, Mintlaw; 19th, Beach Pavilion, Aberdeen, two weeks; Liberty Sept. 2, 9, first vacancy this year. Address as above.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Ali Ben Hassan, Arabian Juggler and Wire-Walker; two distinct Turns; Liberty Monday next. Wire, Guildford-gardens, Dover.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Novel and Funny Cycling Acrobatic Act, success Normanton Galas; next, P., Worcester. Per., 106, Bigland-st., Salford.

WANTED, Known, The Dunlops, Comedy Cycle Acts; also Lilian Sivado, Lady Gymnast; two distinct Acts; vacant Aug. 26, Sept. 9.
Address, Blue Bell Hotel, Stockport.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio (Two Ladies, One Gent.), in their Novel Cycle Act. This week, Bottom of Bill, New Hippodrome, Barry Dock; next week, New Pavilion, Abertillery, S. Wales. Vacant Aug. 26, also Sept. 9, onwards, for Home or Continent.
Address, en route.

WANTED, Known, Jack Thomason, the Original "Son of the Soil" Hercules, lifting a horse and seven men, seeks Engagement now and on, Circus or Music Hall. Wants a good Agent. C/o "The Era," or Merry Hill, Wolverhampton.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and HIPPODROME, BARRY DOCK.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.
No wires, please.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

VICTORIA T., WEST STANLEY, CO. DURHAM.
Proprietor, Mr. T. C. RAWES.
General-Manager, Mr. HENRY E. KAUFFMAN.
WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, and on; also Big Specialities and Star Attractions. Share or salary. Address, H. E. KAUFFMAN.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Monday, Aug. 26, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, for Monday next, Variety Artists and Specialities. Lowest terms.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Britannia, Glasgow, Aug. 26 and onwards.
A. E. PICKARD, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Aug. 26, onwards; Doubles doing Singles and good Specialities. Lowest terms. COLLINGWOOD HOPE, Pleasure Gardens, Falkirk.

DR. WALFORD BODIE'S ROYAL MAGNETS.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Big Speciality Acts, for Dr. Walford Bodie's Royal Magnets, Sept. 2, 16, 23, and 30. Silence in all cases please accept as polite negative. Great and glorious success, Aberdeen and Dundee, and my Fourteenth Annual Visit. All previous records broken. Packed at early-door prices nightly; hundreds turned away.
Monday next, Specially Engaged by Wm. Coutts, Esq., Star Theatre, Swansea, to appear for one week at the Albert Hall, Swansea, for my own act, at the record salary of £200 for six nights.
Instantaneous Success of my Latest Sensational Novelty, "The Cage of Death." Pirates, beware! This cannot be copied. Patented and protected. Colourable imitations will be proceeded against. London again shortly. Managers send Vacant Dates, share or certainty.
All letters address to
Dr. WALFORD BODIE, M.D.,
Albert Hall,
Swansea.
Look out for Startling Advertisement.

PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Big Specialities, Star Acts of every description. Full particulars, with lithos., &c., to T. F. O'BRIEN, Manager, Palace, Cork.

HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY,
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock, N.B.
WANTED, for Glasgow, Greenock, and district, Star Artists in all Lines.
Empire, Greenock, Reopens Aug. 19.
Big Tops for immediate dates.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Glasgow Concerts. State absolute lowest. THE SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, coming North, to send dates and terms.
ANDERSON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
WANTED, Artists, suitable for Concert Platforms, three Halls, one night only, Saturdays. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, 126, Rottenrow, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now, onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, Monday, people doing two Acts, for Cavalry and Army Service Theatres, brougham found. State when last here. Wire, BAKER, 41, Union-street, Aldershot.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Madam Lilian Harcourt's Grand No. 1 Vaudeville Co. Can offer 3 months' comfortable engagement. Please quote terms for Combination. Stars in all lines communicate to 77, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff. Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin. Good Living Freaks Open at Once.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
31, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, First-class Artists, in all Lines, for immediate and future dates, with full list of bookings.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Aug. 26, onwards.
PRINGLE, Pavilion, Sunderland.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for immediate Dates. Write, stating absolute lowest terms and vacant dates. Acts known to me keep me posted. BOB GRAHAM, Variety Agent, 15A, Electric-avenue, Brixton.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, also Good Comedian and Dancer, Sister Turns who can sing and dance, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30. Address, WILL RAIN, Hippo., Oldham.

WANTED, First-class Artists only, for First-class Variety Theatres, immediate and future Dates, also Pantomime.
JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone 2076 Royal.

WANTED, greatest Artists in the Profession to send terms, full bookings, WILLIAM AINSWORTH, Northern Amusement Bureau, 72, Palmerston-terrace, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, immediately, Artists, all Lines, Al-Fresco. Terms or shares. Send photo., height, &c., HARRY WARD, 13, Buckingham-street, Strand, W.C.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, CASTLEFORD.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Aug. 26, onwards.
State lowest first letter (small town).
Those written before, please write again.
Silence a polite negative pro tem.
Contracts as per Arbitrator's Award.
BEANLAND and EMERSON.

WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept., on, Stars, Stars, Stars. GEO. AYTOUN, 120, Kennington Park-rd., London, S.E. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone 1949 Hop.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, Aug. 26, onwards. Terms, bookings,
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.
WANTED, First-Class Turns, also High-Class Singing Turns, to write me at once, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Sept. 9, a Star Turn for Tynemouth Palace; not Music Hall. J. H. GRAHAM, The Palace-by-the-Sea, Tynemouth.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Absolutely the Cream of the Profession, immediate Dates onwards.

Artists with odd vacancies, send them in.

I am not barred in Bookings at any Hall in England.

Star Artists, with Drawing Powers, requiring odd weeks at towns not barred by any of the big Tours, will find it advantageous to communicate.

Artists at Liberty Monday next through any disappointments, &c., you are never too late to fix.
Post your full list of Bookings and absolute lowest in the first instance.
This is essential.

No Act Booked unless personally seen; but journey no object with view of securing the Right People.

Remember, if you have any vacancies, communicate at once, with full particulars,
HARRY BURNS'S Agency,
HARRY BURNS'S Agency,
Established 1895,
Sole Proprietor, Harry Burns,

Head Office, Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.

Telephones, 0231 and 0231A.

Telegrams, "Burns, Empress, Hartlepool."

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY,
Alhambra, Edinburgh.
WANTED, the very Best of Talent available for Scotland, Sept. 2, onwards. Send full list of bookings and vacant dates. Artists with odd weeks out coming North, communicate. Alhambra, Edinburgh, Re-opens Sept. 2; all Acts North communicate.

TOWN HALL PALACE OF VARIETIES, HOUNSLOW.
WANTED, for Sept. 30, onwards, First-Class Talent for above. Terms must be low, as Hall is very small. Artists working London same week preferred. Terms, &c., to ARTHUR AISTON, Prestatyn, N. Wales.

DUNDAS'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Talent all Lines, Aug. 26 and on.
CYRIL DUNDAS,
52, Rosthwaite-road, West Derby, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Wakefield and Hull, Talent in all Lines, Aug. 26 and on.
ALFRED SELWYN, Collins's Music Hall, London, N.

HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Specialities, must have good printing. First-Class Turns can have Contracts for immediate work.

Full particulars where to be seen working.
Lowest terms to
KEMBLE'S Agency,
233, Kennington-road.

WANTED, Refined Al-fresco Specialities, Carl and Carr's Merry Pierrot Entertainers, Victoria Park, Plymouth.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address next week, 100, Rochdale-road, Middleton, Manchester. Rebla, Eno, Tom Moore communicate.

HIPPO., KING'S LYNN. HIPPO., BURY ST. EDMUNDS. Also Three Music Halls West of England.
WANTED, for Oct. and on, the Best Acts; nothing too big. All classes of performers write. Acts already booked by me communicate at once to sole booking agent for above, viz., DAN NOBLE'S Agency, 31, Melbourne-st., King's Lynn. N.B.—Please don't ask fancy prices.

PALACE, KILMARNOCK.
WANTED, Sept., onwards, good Comedy Acts all Lines. Absolute lowest, once nightly, to J. CUMMINGS, 97, Whitevale, Dennistoun, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Speciality, Comic Acts, New to West Stanley, Aug. 26. Write, with very lowest terms, PARDOES, Miners' Theatre, Ashington, Northumberland.

WANTED, for Paris, Marseilles, Nice, the biggest Acts in the Profession.
Apply,
C. CLIQUOT, Hippodrome, King's Lynn.

WANTED, for Gloucester, Porth, Worcester, Barry Dock, Abertillery, Variety Acts, must have Full Bookings, Towns. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, the Solid Cream of the World's Attractions,
Immediate and Future Dates.

JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1,686 Royal.

WANTED, big Tops, bigger the better, for Sept. 2, 16, and 30 (North). Full bookings, &c., to FRANK LYNNE, Empire Theatre, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, for the Hippodrome, Spennymoor, Aug. 26, and onwards, Serios, Dancers, Double Turns, Sisters, Comedians, Specialities, and Circus Acts, for Ring and Stage. Lowest terms in first letter; town small. Thanks those Artists who have already written in; cannot answer all. Accept silence as a polite negative; will attend to all in due course. Artists engaged will do well to remember that any disappointments will be severely dealt with. I will hold everyone signing Contract responsible for their appearance. Musical Sabino, please Note.—You open Hippo., Spennymoor, Monday, and not London. Rehearsal at 2.30, Aug. 19, for Winona and King, Ivy Dene, Joe Sladene, Musical Sabino, Syd Herman, McAskell, Miss Lil Dresden, Carlotti, Miss Ray Thorne, and Lambert's Bioscope. All must attend. No excuse whatever.
Proprietor and Manager,
LEONI CLARKE.
P.S.—I will hold everyone strictly to their Agreement.

WANTED, Variety or Pierrot Combinations, for Al Fresco Performances, at Wardown Park, Luton, Sept. 9, onwards; sharing terms only. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford. Lake Grange write.

PIER PAVILION, DOVER.
WANTED, First-Class Costume Concert Parties, for Sept. 2 and 16.
Apply, F. C. DEW, Theatre Royal, Dover.

WANTED, Lady and Two Gentlemen, for Music Hall Production; good voices and dancing essential, rehearsals free. Age, terms, letters only, Cr., 1, Northolme-road, Highbury, London.

WANTED, Known, good opening occurs in First-Class Sketch for two clever Amateurs willing to pay substantial premium; good salary. Box 5,252, "The Era."

WANTED, Monday next, Aug. 19, good Serios and Sisters only, one week, probably two. Wire absolute lowest, or call 7 to 9; fares paid. Train call, 9 a.m. Monday morning—9 a.m. sharp, Waterloo Station. Other Artists engaged, kindly Note. HANSON, 46, Methley-street, Kennington.

WANTED, Smart, Vivacious Young Lady, for Sketch, singer and dancer. Write, stating age, height, and full particulars, Box 5,275, "The Era."

WANTED, a Young Lady, for Troupe, who can Sing and Dance.
Apply, JACK WOOLF, Wonderland, E.

"SWISS EXPRESS" CO.
WANTED, a First-Class Knockabout Pantomimist. Address, with full particulars, photo., and terms, C. and F. RENAD, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

FRED RUXTON'S PIERROTS. DOUGLAS.
WANTED, Low Comedian, small preferred, who can dance, tumble, and clown a little, to take the place of Barry Gilmore, whom Mr. Buxton is kindly releasing. Open Monday. Apply, with terms, to BARRY GILMORE, as above.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
WANTED, Artists and Agents to Note.

All Contracts on Behalf of the Above Company will in future be signed by Mr. S. T. NEWSOME, who alone is authorised to sign. Artists Holding Contracts are requested to apply immediately for Confirmation of Dates to
S. T. NEWSOME,
Managing-Director,
Hippodrome,
Coventry.

N.B.—All Bill Matter to be addressed to THE MANAGER, Hippodrome, Coventry.

Pierrots.
Pierrots.
Pierrots.
Pierrots.
WANTED, Large Tent,
Pierrot Troupe Wanted.
Single Turns Wanted.
Ladies and Gentlemen Wanted.
Pianist Wanted.
Chairs Wanted.
Rows of Seats Wanted.
Scenery Wanted.
CHARLES BUSH,
Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

WANTED, a really Funny Comedian; one who can Whistle and Tumble a little preferred, for a Music Hall Sketch; any salary given to the right man.
Only those working need apply.
Box 5,282, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Lad for Good Act; must be Quick Acrobat. Write, stating tricks, age, and height. JOEY, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, a Juggler and Conjurer, for Fête, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday, Aug. 24. State lowest terms. SILVESTER, Agent, 271, Clapham-road, London.

WANTED, by Tom Hearn, Jugglers who can do one good trick Write and explain. Next week, Empire, Holloway.

WANTED, tall, smart, strong Youth, to assist Illusionist; must be steady. Enclose photo., reference, state age, PHAROS, Earl's Court, London, S.W.

WANTED, Bioscope, Aug. 26, 45 minutes twice nightly, for Pollinta's Al Fresco, Southend-on-Sea. Salary or share. Great success, Wm. Syrett's Bioscope, change weekly. POLLINTA, Waxworks, Southend.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, with own machine, to open Thursday next, probable tour, thoroughly competent, steady; electric and lime. Wire or write, CHARLTON, Post Office, Southampton.

WANTED, the best of Bioscope Operators. Terms, references, &c., THE RAYMOND BIO-TABLEAUX CO., 56, Great Queen-street, Kingsway, London, W.C.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Proprietors and Managers requiring Big Attractions, reliable Acts, the Best Talent, quickly. Communicate, DEETRICH'S Vaudeville Bureaux, 31, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lolo, in her youth, talent, grace, and beauty, trapeze and teeth speciality artist; also Little May, in her marvellous contortionist and acrobatic dances; splendid apparatus, a stage of silver. Liberty Dec. 30. All letters, address, 127, Upper Aughton-road, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Lavinia Rose, Descriptive Vocalist, Lib. Aug. 26, Sept. 16, on. All offers, 46, Deakins-road, Hay Mills, Birmingham. Lib. Panto.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Hula, Vocalists and Dancers, unexpectedly vacant Monday next; also Aug. 26, on, through postponement of American Tour. Wire, 66, Kensington-st., Leicester.

WANTED, by the Sisters Terry, Premier Comediennes, Aug. 26, Sept. 9, 16. Address, Aug. 19, Grand Theatre, Nelson; finish to-night, Albert Hall, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Neville Delmar, The Whistling Dandy. Pantomime fixed, Abanazer. Few vacancies, Oct. and Nov. All coms., 3, Nicolas-mount, Hornsea, Yorks.

WANTED, by Harry Bentley, the original Comedian, Monday next, also Sept. 2. Big success last week, Hippo., Dewsbury. Wire this, Hippo., Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, by Perce Upton, Comedian, Aug. 26 and Sept. 9, through misunderstanding. Wire or write, 52, Bolton-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, by Harry Plowden, Quaint Patter Comedian, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 7, 14. Write, Eagle Hotel, Port Erin, Isle of Man.

WANTED, by Allen Amber, Comedian, Panto. Dame or Page; last year Charles Chard's "Cinderella," Ugly Sister. Address for season, White Stars, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, by Bock Pylades, Original Mimic, Electric Stage Outfit, Great Success with Leoni Clarke, Esq. (third week), Monday, Aug. 19. Wire, Queen's, Keighley.

WANTED, by Allan Hanbury, Patter and Chorus Comedian, Monday next, through Merthyr closing. Wire, Tower, Blackpool; or, 8, Simpson-st., South Shore.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, Tom N. Mills,
Versatile Comedian, Chorus-singer, and Story-teller, Vacant Aug. 19 and 26. Wire,
MILLS, 25, Tower-st., Portobello, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Monday next, Aldro Lukos, Man Monkey Speciality. Wire, 22, Osborne-terrace, London, S.W. Success Flint Gala through Smalley.

WANTED, by Fred Hadley, Comedian and Dancer (late of Catlin's Scarborough Pierrots), at Liberty Monday, Al-Fresco. Wire, 44, Mawson-street, Ardwick Green, Manchester.

WANTED, by R. J. Golding, Vent. and Comic Conjurer, Al-Fresco, &c., Aug. 26 and Sept. 9, on. Perm., 32, Courtenay-road, Walthamstow, London.

WANTED, Monday next, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist). Wire, Hippodrome, Ipswich, Saturday; then, Union-road, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Monday next, by Trillo, Royal Ventriloquist. Roars of laughter and unbounded applause. Happy Valley this week. Wire 38, Elmer-avenue, Southend.

WANTED, Monday next, by Alpho, the young Novelty Ventriloquist, through disappointment. Wire, 10, Vine-street, Cargate, Aldershot; or "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 16, onward, The Great Kyoto, Japanese Pot-Pourri Act and Contortionist; also May Geraldine, Chic Comedienne and Dancer. Aug. 19, Hippodrome, Hastings; Sept. 2, Palace, Clacton; Sept. 9, Rochdale. Wire or write. Two sure and distinct acts.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagements, Liberty Aug. 26, Japanese Magical Act, Pictures, Choir, or Side Show. FARRA LUKIO, 36, Sedlescombe-rd., West Brompton, S.W.

WANTED, by Young Hackenschmidt, World's Champion Boy Wrestler, Sensational Challenges. Great success Empire, Cradley; Aug. 26, Sept. 23, 30. Write, 34, Margaret-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Tom N. Mills, The Jolly, Jovial Acting-Manager, Versatile Comedian, Chorus Singer, and Story-teller, Vacant Oct. 7, onward. Been seven years with the present company. Com., MILLS, 25, Tower-st., Portobello, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Vokes and Marshall, Comedy, Musical, and Patter. Third week P., Rhyl; Lib. Aug. 19, 26. Wire, 16, Moreton-st., Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, by Sladene, Continental Trapeze Performer, and Miss Ivy Dene, Vocalist. Two acts. This, Bolsover Gala; next week, Circus, Spennymoor. Vacant Aug. 26. Wire.

WANTED, Aug. 19, Midlands, Sept. 16, 23, South, by Grossmith and Grant, in latest Scena, "The Chorus Girl and The Call Boy." 10, Wellington-place, Halifax.

WANTED, Monday next and onward, by Raceford and Elvy, the Original Hebrew Dialect Comedians. Big hit this week at Broadhead's Hippodrome, Manchester. Address, 29, Sidney-st., All Saints, Manchester.

WANTED, Aug. 26 and Sept. 2, by Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers; and Alvar, Gymnast; three people. Next, People's Palace, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Aug. 26, The Moncktons (Fred and Lillie) Present their Successful Farcical Episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" 19th, King's T., Gateshead.

WANTED, Known, Le Brun and Irene, Novelty Jugglers, introducing Little Edie, the Vocal and Juggling Marvel. Vacant Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9. Add., Circus, White City, Manchester.
Wire for Aug. 26.

WANTED, Monday next, and 26th, Sardous, illusionists, marvellous mystifiers; also Marie Riviers, popular comedienne. Wire, 1, Lilly-villa, Reservoir-rd., Whitstable.

WANTED, by The Gelders, Novelty and Refined Magical Act; and Miss Ivy Dene, Dainty Soubrette and Clever Dancer; Aug. 26; electric fit-up. Best offers to Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, by Harry Keeble, Comedian and Vent.; also Gladys Wells, Comedienne; Sept. 2, on, also Panto. Wire, Boulton's Entertainers, Gloucester.

WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, by the Bros. Webb, Musical Clowns. Communications, Shrewsbury Fête, Continental Tour to Follow.

WANTED, by The Decars, Sept. 2, 9, 30 (North preferred), for their great Comedy Acrobatic Animal Act. Address, Gala, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, by Jordan and Marks, the popular Patter Comedians, introducing their great Boxing Act. Next, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Monday next, Aug. 19, and 26, by the men who make them laugh, Hector and Sultan. Wire, 16, Oxford-street, Accrington.

WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, for Duncan and Brasque's new and original Playlet, "A Society Butterfly." Address, Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Kloof and Ramsay, Musical Novelty and Vocal Burlesques, vacant next two weeks. Wire for Monday, 41, Gladstone-street, London-road, S.E.

WANTED, Aug. 26 and Sept. 2, by The Carls, Continental Comic Trampoline Speciality. Roars of laughter and applause. Success everywhere. Splendid lithos. Address, 23, Cooper's-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, The Smalleys, Comedy Bar Act; Nellie Duval, Comedienne Wire, 12, Albert-road, Aldershot.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Handel and Lee Trio, Novelty Instrumentalists and Expert Saxophonists. Great success, as usual. Wire, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley. Wire.

WANTED, Aug. 19, Sept. 2, onwards, by the Original Arthur Saxon Trio, New Act. Wire for Monday next, Aquarium, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Known, Lenton and Bertram, Zancig Thought-Readers. All dates full for the Season. 51, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, 30, by Los Granadas, world's greatest trampolin novelty, return to France in Oct. Next, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Monday next, also 26th, on, by Titan, Telka, and Wyllie (three Acts), Strong Show, Musical Act, and Ballad Vocalist. Wire for Monday, Hippo., Spennymoor.

WANTED, Known, Three Parzones, Hippodrome, Spennymoor. Wire for Mon. After Sunday all coms., 27, Sidney-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, also Sept. 2 and 9, by the Albano Troupe,
Greatest Refined Musical Act.
See Cards.

WANTED, Aug. 26, for Scottie's Waifs and Strays and Whizzing the Whirl, two great star acts. SCOTTIE, 32, Victoria-st., Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Four Cecilians, Best All-round Turn on Variety Stage. Storming Collins's this week, doing encores. Vacant Aug. 19, 26. What a Draw!

WANTED, Known, Geo. M. Schilling, who has walked round the world. Vacant Sept., onwards, for his Great Chinese Dramatic Sketch, "In the Nick of Time," introducing the Struggle for Life and the Great Knife Fight. Entire scenery carried. Address, Palace Theatre, Rhyl.

WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2 and 23 by Tom Kelso and Co., in Comedy Sketch, "The Silly Servant." Plain words make the most ornamental sentences. Hippo., Ashton-under-Lyne; next, Hippo., Stalybridge, Lancs.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Lion Show, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 23, and 30.

All communications, week Aug. 19, Winter Gardens, Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus, Ponies, Donkeys, Goat, and Dogs, including the Smallest Pony and Donkey in the World; have immediate Vacancies. Address, CABAN, Palace, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Great Troupe of Comedy Dogs, the Four-footed Animals with Human Brains; the Show that Draws Money everywhere; Liberty Sept. 9; will Share First-Class Theatres only; good Printing. Hippodrome, Castleford.

WANTED, Known, for Entertainments, Comic, Dramatic, Pantomime, with or without entire sets of Scenery. Call or write, TOM GREEN, 106, Fairholme-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, tall, good Knockabout, speaks English, German, and Danish; can join as Knockabout or Pantomimist. Box 5,279, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a youth of 17, height 5ft. 2in., wishes to join Troupe or Company, good voice. JAMES IRWIN, 78, Lord-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Travers' Bioscopes, at Lib. Moderate terms; latest Films. TRAVERS, 154, High-street, Clapham, S.W. Telephone 1412 Battersea.

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WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World.
If you want to Buy or Sell
Anything Connected with the Business,
Consult TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept.,
"The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Known, .22 "R" and "D" cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters, Pistols, and all repairs done. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, London, is the Cheapest for Secondhand Watches, Jewellery, &c. Metal Watches, 1s. 9d., 2s., 2s. 3d., 2s. 6d.; Silver, 3s., 3s. 3d., 3s. 6d., 4s.; Levers, 5s., 6s., 7s., to 10s. Assorted Parcel of 800 and 936 Watches, 3s. 6d. each.

WANTED, Known.—As it does not appear to be generally known that we control the British Patents covering the "Mills" Slot Bag (or Ball) Puncher, we now publish the fact, and give Friendly Notice that we shall rigidly maintain our rights therein.—MINERVA AUTOMATIC Co., 14, Charterhouse-buildings, E.C.

WANTED, Known, for Prompt Delivery of Future Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, and other Automatic Cards rely on the old firm. KENYON, 21, King-street, Blackburn.

WANTED, Showmen to Save Money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Fair-keepers, &c., STACEY and Co., Showman Stores, Settles-street, London, E., Supply Everything for Fairs, Rifle Ranges, &c. Established 60 years.

NORWICH INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION,
Sept. 28 to Oct. 19.
WANTED, big Sensational Side Show, for room size 85ft. by 45ft. MANAGER, Agricultural Hall, Norwich.

WANTED, good Tumbling Knockabouts, and Useful People of all Kinds, for inside and outside Cinematograph Show. Money no object to people with drawing powers. No all day and all night building up and pulling down. Also a good Electrician can write in. State terms and particulars of business in first letter. Long engagement to suitable people. Join at once. BIDDALL, Electric Pictures, Farnboro', Kent, Saturday till Tuesday. Crayford, Kent, to follow.

WANTED, for Taylor's Electric Coliseum, smart Young Man Knockabout Comedian, must assist in building and pulling down; also two Young Lady Acrobatic Dancers, for Parading; must be used to show business, live out. Age, terms, &c., Newport Pagnell, Sat.; Fenny Stratford, next week.

WANTED, for Dooner's Bioscope Exhibition, one or two Comedy Acrobatics, open at once. State full particulars of Act, age, and lowest terms, long engagement to suitable people. Silence a polite negative. Apply as above, Porthcawl Common, Aug. 12, 1907.

WANTED, to Open at Once, Two Lady Paraders, for exterior of Bioscope Exhibition. Preference given to those who understand Fair Business. Terms, first letter, to HAGGAR, Bioscope, Pontycymmer.

WANTED, two Acrobatic Lady Dancers, for Show, Parade; young and good appearance. T. TUBY, Coliseum, Market-place, Barnsley.

WANTED, a Doorsman and Describer, for Picture Show, to Open at Once; good shop to steady man, but must understand his Bus. Actual terms first letter to WALTER HAGGAR, Bioscope, Pontycymmer.

WANTED, First-Class Man, for Waxwork Exhibition, one fully able to model.
Apply, MANAGER, Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, immediately, smart Floorman, must be a pitch getter.
FARR, Auctioneer, Promenade, Blackpool.

WANTED, Smart Man, used to Wax. Apply, with full particulars as to age, references, and salary required, PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, good Paraders, for First-Class Bioscope Show; can join at once. Lowest terms to W. HAGGAR, Carmarthen.

WANTED, for D'Arc's Grand Waxwork Exhibition, Victoria Rooms, Cardiff, a competent Lady Palmist; can open the 19th or 26th inst. Half shares.
Address as above.
Madame James write.

WANTED, Lady Phrenologist, on Shares; open immediately; splendid position. SAMUELS' Exhibition Palace, 6, Henry-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Bound's No. 1 Show,
the Bear Lady,
thank Mr. and Mrs. Humber for their kindness during her stay there, and shall always be pleased to make a return visit. The Bear Lady opening the 19th at Mr. Pickard's Waxwork, Glasgow; Dec. 14, Stewart's Waxwork, Edinburgh, for Xmas and New Year's weeks. Thanks to all Directors and Managers for offer for the New Year; first open date is the end of Feb., 1908.
MRS. A. L. BOUNDS,
Pickard's Waxwork,
Glasgow.

WANTED, Lecturer and Doorsman, at Liberty; fluent speaker, good delivery, dress well. CHAS. MOUNT, Monday's post, Bioscope, Pontycymmer; after, 49, Sidmouth-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, by a wonderful Tattooed Man, Mrs. Thaw and Birds, Snakes, &c., on chest, Lord's Supper, Birds, &c., on back, Birds, Snakes, &c., on arms; all in colours; can work electric machine. GUS MAPEKING, 101, Tower Gardens-road, Lordship-lane, Tottenham, N.

WANTED, Situation as Salesman or Doorsman, twelve years' experience; excellent refs.; good appearance. SALESMAN, Town Hall, Inverurie, N.B.

WANTED, to Let, Land for Stalls and Shows. Apply, JOHN HARDMAN, Manager, Starr Estate Fairground Co., 16, King-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Let, Ground for Ayr Races. All applications in writing. Small Stalls; rent in advance. Apply, G. GREEN, Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Let, Ground, for Beith Fair. All applications in writing. Small Stalls; rent in advance. Apply, G. GREEN, Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, in October, Space in good Trades Exhibition, Touring Midlands, North, or Wales, for Photographic Novelties (not Midgets). PHOTO NOVELTY Co., 59c, West-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Small Hall or Shop Premises, for Medicine Sale. State terms and particulars to E., 152A, Seven Sisters-road, London, N.

WANTED, to Let, on Hire or Share, Set of Six or Twelve Large Distorting Mirrors, Exhibitions, &c. Address, Box 5,269, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, to Showmen.
Tom Norman, by order of Mrs. Simpson Pettigrove, will Sell by Auction, on Monday, Aug. 26, at Old Welsh Harp, Hendon, Bicycle Roundabout, New Motor Bicycle, Slipping the Slip, Two Sets of Swings, Portable Engine on Truck, Throwing Games, Weighing Chair, &c.
Full particulars, see next week.

WANTED, to Sell, Cinématograph Show, complete, inside measurement of Booth 51ft., painting front, large parade, beautiful staircase, best in the business, black canvas, new out on Christmas, made by H. Yorke, of Derby, Walturdaw Machine, two of Films arranged for electric light or limelight, everything complete, go by rail or road, two loads, trucks are as good as new, £80 will buy this big going concern; the frame is now fitted up in Chesterfield at the Britannia Inn Yard, Old Hall-road, Brampton, Chesterfield. Can be seen by appointment.

WANTED, to Sell, Light, Handy Road Waggon, 9ft. 6in. by 6ft., with Skylight, £20, or near offer. STRUDWICK, Burton Latimer, Kettering.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Jewellery, Clocks, Fancy Goods, &c. New Catalogue, containing over 2,000 illustrations, now ready.

WANTED, Known, to Amusement Caterers and others,
EARL'S COURT EXHIBITION,
The great production of the Japanese Village to be Sold, by private negotiation, or at the close of the Exhibition in mid-October, by auction, in detail. The Village includes some 4,250 square yards of scenery, twenty-six completely fitted Japanese houses, pagoda, the great temple, including the real gods, and other furnishings, the great Buddha 25ft. high, and a multiplicity of real Japanese accessories. Address, THE SECRETARY, London Exhibitions, Ltd., Earl's Court, London, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Engine, 6-horse power, in covered-in Truck, by Marshall, of Gainsboro', in use only eight months; also Dickinson's dynamo, 35 arcs, costing £520, complete; also a large covered-in Truck, built by Stagg and Robson, cost £160, 26ft. long and 15ft. high; also fourteen Cockerels, by Spooner, to seat two persons each, for overhead motion, cost 10 guineas each, in use one season only; also my Show Front, complete, with Truck. The above lots are practically new, not rubbish, sold cheap to clear; can arrange by instalments.

All can be seen at my works in Doncaster.

Intending purchasers can have fuller particulars by writing to
COUNCILLOR TUBY,
Doncaster.

WANTED, Known, to Managers of Side Shows, &c., an excellent 82-note Orchestrion for sale, in good condition; also a few Automatic Machines, Magic Lanterns, and Distorting Mirrors.
Apply, MANAGER, Arcadia, Scarboro'.

WANTED, to Sell, Piano Organ, Self-acting, with extra barrel, good order; price £9, great bargain. Small Reed and Trumpet Organ, 80s. STACEY, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, new and secondhand one- to six-drawers Card Delivery Automatic Machines; marvellous money-takers. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Framed Photographs of Future Husbands, Wives, Babies, &c., for Automatic Machines, marvellous productions. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, latest and best. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-rd., West Kensington, London. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines. Genuine bargains for Pleasure Resorts, Theatres, Bazaars, Gardens, &c., all kinds, all prices. State requirements. MASON, Settles-street, London.

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WANTED, to Buy, Variety and Waxwork Businesses. Apply, with full particulars, price, and where to be seen, to
A. E. PICKARD, Britannia Panoptican, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Roundabout, Centre Driver and four steady, reliable men.
E. PRUETT, St. George's, Bristol.

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WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to every Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Victoria Hall, Matlock.
Reasonable mortgage can remain on at 4%.
The Hall is splendidly adapted
for a Music Hall,
and contains a set of Stage Effects.

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WANTED, to Sell, this Magnificent Modern Stone-built Theatre, well stocked with Scenery, with 3 Shops and Market Hall attached thereto. Immediate possession can be obtained. Situate in the centre of the Rossendale Valley. Tram terminus at door of Theatre. Surrounding population about 100,000. Upset price for prompt sale, £7,500; cost over £13,000. Apply, CHAS. WM. NASMITH, Chartered Accountant, 40, Brazenose-street, Manchester.

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WANTED, to Sell, Long Lease of substantial and highly-decorative Entertainment Hall, holding about 1,400, in the pick of positions; theatrical licence (ex. liquors).
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WANTED, Purchaser for Pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe." Pretty Scenery, in fair condition; £40, to clear; room wanted. Box 5,280, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, 15 minutes' Show, consisting of Abdy's Miniature Circus, two Ponies, one broken in, for Liberty Act, Pad Act, and Revolving Table, the other one Pad and Table, both broken into harness for Parading; 8 Dogs, 5 out of them Dalmatians, two Somersault Dogs; the best Burlesque Pony in the world, bar none. These animals are all young, and not played out; now performing Palace, Stoke Newington; next week, Hippodrome, Margate. Buyers must come and apply personally, as no letters will be answered. Reason for selling going to Africa, and cannot take Dogs with me.

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Up-to-date Films.

Hire, or exchange.

Apply to
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WANTED, to Sell, 20,000ft. of Secondhand Films, equal to new, cheap for cash. Approval; Deposit. Particulars, apply ATTACK, Palace Theatre, New Brighton, near Liverpool.

WANTED TO SELL.

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WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, Up-to-date.
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WANTED, to Sell, 20,000ft. of Films, 1d., 1½d., and 2d. per ft.; splendid subjects, as new, including Dick Turpin. REYNOLDS, 3, Lebanon-gardens, Wandsworth.

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WANTED, to Sell, Marionette Theatre, complete, cash, or part and instalments. Station Drug Stores, Staplehurst-road, Hither Green, Lee.

WANTED, to Sell, Illusion, good Money-taking Side-show; can be booked several weeks after this contract finishes. Particulars, MAGICIAN, 36, Sedlescombe-road, West Brompton, S.W.

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Will go cheap.
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WANTED, to Sell, the Sole Rights of the highly successful Farcical Sketch, "The Lady in Red," several other Sketches, Duologues, Monologues, Songs, &c., for sale.
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WANTED, Known, Collector wishes to dispose of Old Playbills, dated from 1857. What offers? Apply, Box 5,256, "The Era."

The Publisher, "The Era,"
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"Dear Sir,—I ordered the following advertisement to appear in your paper for two insertions.

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Yours faithfully,
J. H. MEURICE,
"39, Argyle-square, W.C. Oct. 9, 1906."

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WANTED, immediately for cash, 50,000ft. Secondhand Films. Best prices for popular subjects, comic and trick Films; must be in good condition; no damaged perforations required; no objection to 1906 Films. Makers preferred: Messrs. Pathé, Urban, Vitagraph, Gaumont, and Melies' Spectaculars. 300 or 400 coloured assorted Slides also wanted. Apply, giving lists and prices, to KINEMATOGRAPH AND LANTERN WEEKLY, 9, Tottenham-street, W.

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WANTED, to Buy, Young Baboon, trained to do few gymnastic tricks.
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WANTED, to Buy, Lime Light Apparatus, 9in. lens, in good condition. Cheap for cash. HODSON, Electric Theatre, Ripley, Derbyshire.

WANTED, to Buy, Secondhand, Felt Mat, in good condition.
Address, TAYLOR, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Property Lion's Head or Dress, complete, movable eyes and mouth. Full particulars, LE CREN TRIO, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

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WANTED, to Let, Fine Hall for Concert Parties, Cinematographs, &c.
Seating 750. Terms very Moderate.
Vacant Dates for Season 1907-1908.
Apply,
SECRETARY, Social Club, London-road, St. Albans.

WANTED, to Let, Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham, seat 1,000; vacant Sept. 16, 6 Nights, Nov. 4, onwards. Dramatic licence. Christmas vacant. Silence polite negative.

WANTED, to Lease or Sell, large new Music Hall, under construction, in Colliery district, population within three miles' area 40,000; Hall three minutes of station. For further particulars, apply, W. R. LEE, 168, High-street, Blaina.

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WANTED, Practising Place; must be 15ft. high, 20ft. long, clear space.
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WANTED, Active Partner, Lady or Gentleman, with small capital, to join well-known Manager. Excellent Drama.

STANDISH, Box 5,271, "The Era."

WANTED, by Youth, Engagement with Troupe or Partner, experienced on Saxophone, Post Horn, Mandoline, Cornet, Drum. INSTRUMENTALIST, 101, Rusholme-road, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, Well-known Comedian, Acrobatic or Knockabout Patter. Everything ready; tour next year fixed; living Lancashire preferred. ARTIST, 14, Freme-street, Blackburn.

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WANTED, Known.—Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants' and Page Boys' and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to
UNIFORM CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT Co.,
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WANTED, Known, D. Williamson supplies all kinds of Firearms and Blank Cartridges, for Theatrical and other purposes. Testimonials from Best Artists. List. 3, Waterloo Bridge-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith. 17, St. Mary-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, E. Sabine, Songwriter, several ready. Melodies supplied; "Fire at Sea," pianoforte song, 1s. P.O. 93, Rosemary-road, Peckham.

WANTED, Known, Band Parts, 3s. 6d.; Composing, Arranging, Transposing, Band Books, 4s. 7d.; lists free. COTTLE'S Bureau, 86, Coldharbour-lane (hours 10 to 9).

WANTED, Known, Band Parts, by Mr. Charles Le Thiere. Address,
CHARLES LE THIERE, 49, Dalston-lane, N.E.

WANTED, Known, Lady highly recommends farmhouse (Staffordshire) boarding school, small children, £20 yearly. R., 1, Waterloo-street, Hove, Brighton.

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To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
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FOR 1907.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual for 1907 is up to its usual standard—in fact, it is, if possible, smarter than ever. There is an excellent budget of articles from the pens of Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Cicely Richards, Miss Pollie Emery, Messrs. Frank Cooper, Arthur Collins, Charles Collette, Frank Curzon, Edward German, Cliff Ryland, and many others. The illustrated obituary, the alphabetical list of plays produced in London and the provinces, and all the other valuable features of the Annual are as complete as ever, and make this handbook extremely useful not only to members of the profession, but to the infinitely wider circle interested directly or indirectly in the drama.—Whitehall Review.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual deservedly ranks high as a record of the passing theatrical show. The new issue, in a comprehensive survey of the drama, mentions in proper order all the productions and revivals of the year, both at home and abroad and gives a list of the theatres and music halls of the United Kingdom, with the names of their respective managers. The lighter side of the publication, to which many well-known managers and performers contribute, is of exceptionally high literary merit.—Morning Leader, Jan. 21, '07.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
Once more, stuffed with good things, "The Era" Annual appears from its office at 5, Tavistock-street. The edition for 1907 is as nicely got up as its predecessors, and, in addition to a calendar and other theatrical memoranda, contains two lists of the year's productions, one arranged under the names of the theatres and the other alphabetically. In addition there are a number of striking or humorous contributions by leading actors and actresses—Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Charles Collette, Miss Alma Murray, and Mr. John Lawson are among those who have contributed bright experiences to this up-to-date shilling theatrical handbook.—Star, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
A compendium of great value to all interested, professionally or otherwise, in music and drama is "The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual, the issue for 1907 of which has just been issued (London: 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, 1s.). Especially attractive are the stories told by some twenty artists, whose photographs and autographs are included.—Glasgow Herald, Jan. 31.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for 1907. 1s. "Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C. Once again this useful publication comes out with its useful tabular information concerning things dramatic, such as the date of the production of new plays and important revivals produced at the London, provincial, and Paris theatres. In addition are many portraits and short stories given over the signatures of many prominent theatrical and music hall people, and a variety of other interesting matter.—Financial Times, Jan. 21 '07.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

NAME.	DATE.
Abrahams, Messrs. F. & M.	March 31, 1906.
Abrahams, jun., Mr. Morris	Aug. 10, 1907.
Alexander, Mr. Alex.	June 2, 1906.
Alexandra, Late Miss Ada	March 23, 1907.
Anderson, Late Mr. Reddick	Jan. 19, 1907.
Ashcroft, Late Mr. W. E.	October 27, 1906.
Ashton, Mr. George	May 5, 1906.
Ashton, Miss Margaret	September 1, 1906.
Atkin, Late Mr. John A.	Jan. 5, 1907.
Ball, Mr. Alf	September 1, 1906.
Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barclay, Mr. Arthur J.	May 26, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barnett, Mr. Orlando	October 6, 1906.
Beatty, Miss May	November 10, 1906.
Beecham, Mr. Charles	Dec. 22, 1906
Bent, Miss Buena	April 6, 1907.
Bentley, Mrs. Walter	July 20, 1907.
Bertoldi, Late Miss Ena	April 7, 1906.
Bolder, Mr. Robert	July 20, 1907.
Bordin, Signorina Maria	September 15, 1906.
Brandram, Late Miss R.	March 2, 1907.
Brickwell, Miss Mamie	Nov. 24, 1906
Brookfield, Mr. Charles	Dec. 22, 1906.
Brooks, Mr. George	Dec. 29, 1906.
Bruno, Mr. Albert	Feb. 23, 1907.
Burns, Mr. W. C.	Feb. 2, 1907.
Butt, Mr. Alfred	August 25, 1906.
Callaghan, Mr. T. C.	Feb. 23, 1907.
Camp, Late Mr. Jack	April 6, 1907.
Cannon, Miss Mayme	July 13, 1907.
Carter, Late Mr. John	July 13, 1907.
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	March 3, 1906.
Chappell, Late Mr. James	Feb. 2, 1907.
Cinquevalli, Mr. Paul	May 5, 1906.
Clancarty, Late Lady	Jan. 5, 1907.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Collins, Mr. Patrick Ross	March 16, 1907.
Collins-Rolfe, Mr. Arthur	April 13, 1907.
Conquest, Mr. Arthur	May 26, 1906
Cooper, Miss Florry	Aug. 10, 1907.
Cooper, Mr. Charles K.	Feb. 23, 1907.
Coote, Mr. Bert	June 16, 1906.
Cotterell, Mr. Sid	July 14, 1906.
Courtice, Mr. Thomas	Dec. 22, 1906.
Cox, Mr. Ernest H. G.	Feb. 23, 1907.
Craston, Mr. Charles	Feb. 2, 1907.
Craven, Mr. Tom	Dec. 15, 1906.
Crisp, Late Mr. Henry	May 26, 1906.
Cooke, Mr. Stanley	March 30, 1907.
Curry, Late Mr. H. J.	April 27, 1907.
Dashwood, Mr. Arthur	July 20, 1907.
Denton, Mr. Jack	Feb. 2, 1907.
Edgar, Mr. J. W.	April 6, 1907.
Edmonds, Late Mr. E.	May 4, 1907.
Elliott, Late Mr. J. B.	May 26, 1906.
Ellis, Miss M. E.	Feb. 2, 1907.
Featherstone, Late Miss B.	Jan. 5, 1907.
Feldman, Mr. Bert	June 15, 1907.
Fogerty, Late Mr. Robert	July 6, 1907.
Fox, jun., Mr. Charles	July 13, 1907.
Francis, Mr. Nelson	May 4, 1907.
Fuller, Mr. John, jun.	July 27 1907
Green, Mr. Richard	Jan. 19, 1907.
Guy, Miss Gladys	Jan. 26, 1907.
Hales, Mr. T. G.	April 6, 1907.
Hall, Late Mr. Owen	April 13, 1907.
Hamilton, Late Mr. Wm.	April 20 1907.
Hanlon, Late Mr. Bob	July 6, 1907.
Harvey, Late Mrs. Frank	June 15, 1907.
Harvey, Mr. Martin	June 22, 1907.
Hastings, Miss Nora	March 10, 1906.
Heron-Brown, Miss Edith	June 16, 1906.
Hey, Miss Muriel	September 15, 1906.
Hitchens, Mr. H. J.	September 8, 1906.
Howard, Mr. J. Bannister	July 20, 1907.
Hunter, Late Mr. Harry	October 20, 1906,
Illington, Miss Margaret	June 2, 1906.
Irving, Late Sir Henry	Oct. 21, 1905.
Ivatts, Mr. C	Aug. 10, 1907.
Jackson, Mr. T. Ellis	July 27, 1907.
Jerrard, Late Mr. J. F.	April 28, 1906.
Kinghorne, Late Mr. Mark	November 10, 1906.
Kingston, Miss Bertha	February 24, 1906.
Knowles, Mr. J. Forbes	July 7, 1906.
Lacy, Miss Maude	Feb. 23, 1907.
Lamonte, Miss Syria	November 10, 1906.
Lancaster, Miss Nora	Feb. 2, 1907.
Lauri, Mr. Edward	July 28, 1906.
Lazarus, Mr. A.	May 5, 1906.
Leitch, Late Mr. George	May 25, 1907.
Le Roy, Servais	June 23, 1906.
Lewes, Miss Miriam	June 16, 1906.
Leyton, Mr. H. Lawrence	Feb. 2, 1907.
Livermore, Late Mr. L. C. J.	October 13, 1906.
Livesey, Mr. Carter	March 24, 1906.
Loftus, Miss Kitty	June 8, 1907.
Lloyd, Mr. Samuel	Aug. 10, 1907.
Lugg, Mr. William	October 6, 1906.
Macmillan, Mr. J. T.	May 26, 1906.
Maude, Mr. Cyril	June 2, 1906.
Maynard, Miss Jennie	March 23, 1907.
Mayne, Mr. Eric	April 13, 1907.
M'Culloch, Mr. Arthur	November 10, 1906.
Miller, Mr. Fred.	October 6, 1906.
Miller, Late Mr. Kennedy	March 10, 1906.
Millis, Mr. F. W.	May 5, 1906.
Milstead, Mr. Robert	Dec. 22, 1906.
Montague, Mr. Harold	Feb. 23, 1907.
Morgan, Late Mr. William	April 27, 1907.
Morris, Miss Sylvia	October 6, 1906.
Morrison, Mr. Graham	June 22, 1907,
Munroe, Mr. Walter	June 8, 1907.
Murray, Miss Alma	August 25, 1906.
Murray, Miss Lillian	October 6, 1906.
Murielle, Miss Gracie	April 6, 1907.
My Fancy	February 24, 1906.
Nicholls, Mr. Harry	Feb. 23, 1907.
Norman, Mr. Percy	July 28, 1906.
Norris, Mr. Ernest E.	July 28, 1906.
Palmer, Miss Ada	November 3, 1906.
Parker, Mr. Frank	April 7, 1906.
Paxton, Mr. Sydney	September 29, 1906.
Payne, Late Mr. Adney	May 18, 1907.
Payne, Miss Millie	November 3, 1906.
Payne, Mr. William	September 8, 1906.
Paulton, Mr. Harry	March 10, 1906.
Phelps, Late Mrs. Edmund	Jan. 12, 1907.
Poole, Late Mr. Fred.	Feb. 2, 1907.
Poole, Late Mr. Joseph	October 27, 1906.
Price, Miss Dora	March 3, 1906.
Proctor, Late Mrs.	August 11, 1906.
Renee, Mlle.	June 2, 1906.
Rickards, Mr. Harry	July 13, 1907.
Rind, Miss Kathleen	October 6, 1906.
Ronald, Mr. Landon	Dec. 8, 1906.
Ross, Miss Adelaide	May 26, 1906.
Saintsbury, Mr. H A.	September 15, 1905.
Saker, Miss Annie	March 3, 1906.
Sargent, Mr. Frederick	April 7, 1906.
Scott, Mr. Bennett	May 4, 1907.
Sheridan, Late Mr. J. T.	Dec. 8, 1906.
Sheridan, Mr. Philip	March 24, 1906.
Shirley, Mr. Arthur	March 3, 1906.
Smith, Mr. Aubrey	Jan. 19, 1907.
Smith, Mr. George H.	March 16, 1907.
Stafford, Late Miss Emily	March 9, 1907.
Stayton, Mr. Frank	Jan. 12, 1907.
Swanborough, Mr. Edward	June 16, 1906.
Talma, Mlle.	September 15, 1906.
Terry, Miss Ellen	May 5, 1906.
Thorne, Late Miss Emily	March 9, 1907.
Tilley, Miss Vesta	July 7, 1906.
Toole, Late Mr. J. L.	Aug. 4, 1906.
Urban, Mr. Charles	May 18, 1907.
Victor, Late Miss M. A.	March 16, 1907
Victoria, Miss Vesta	June 16, 1906.
Walford, Late Miss Marie	July 21, 1906.
Walker and May	March 3, 1906.
Walton, Miss Gladys	March 17, 1906.
Warren, Mr. Charles	October 27, 1906.
Weeks, Late Mr. Frank	Aug. 4, 1906.
Wheatley, Mr. Horace	March 24, 1906.
Wilson, Mr. Joseph	Dec. 8, 1906.
Witmark, Mr. Julius P.	June

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THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

"The Zuyder Zee," Black Hussars, Gasch Sisters, Salerno, Watson's Dogs, Clown Pinta, "Globe of Life," Four Maginnis, Macarte Sisters, Lockhart's Elephants, Ruby Dahl, Duchess Powell, Chronomegaphone.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30, for :—
The Savonas, Brown and Le Clerq, Vanando, Will Poluski, jun., Three Cape Girls, Rosa Loader, Harry Rochez, Imperial Russian Troupe, Ella Shields, Chas. Dillon.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Toft's Statuary, Amos Howard, Olive Frew, Jackson Family, Maie Ash, Juanitas, Lulu Russell, Dot Stephens, Bioscope, Ferguson & Mack.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
L. Gautier, Cecil Bernard, Johnson and Bert Mdlle. Von Etta, Dean Tribune and Co., Illustrated Song, Bioscope, Mozarts, Columbia Trio, Henry Coutts and Co.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
"Casey's Court," Farley, Rennie, and Farley, J. A. Wilson, Binns and Binns, Amy Anderson and Co., Illustrated Song, Bioscope, Kitty Clinton, Ruby and Laws, Ethel Whiteside and Picks.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
T. E. Dunville, The Boissettis, Percy Honri, Ian Colquhoun, Jackley Trio, Woodhouse and Wells, James Stewart, Whalen and West, Alice Maydue, Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Casey's Army, Bert Woodward, Lina Verdi, Ross and Lewis, Ben Albert, Esta Stella, Frank Cumminger, Bioscope, Conn and Conrad, Matthew Brodie and Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Mark Sheridan, Powell's Marionettes, G. H. Elliott, Ella Retford, Harriett Vernon, Boccaccio Minstrels, Rezene and Robini, Mark Merry, Howard and St. Clair, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Australian Woodcutters, Rosa Sartella, Arthur Playfair and Co., Jordan and Harvey, De Vry's Statuary, Rossi Ashton, Russell Wallett, Bioscope, Phil Ray, Illustrated Song.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Marie San Toi and Co., Lowell and Lowell, Mdlle. Eldee, Francis and Alfred, Maud Mortimer, Illustrated Song, Bioscope, "Home from the Honeymoon."

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Tom Foy and Co., Bros. Dean, Norman Leonard Trio, Tom Edwards, "Kiss Your Father," Cissie Curlette, Peggy Pryde, Ganty, Madge May, Five Osranis.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Fanny Fields, Chas. Fisher's Opera Co., Will Cornish, Boswell's Circus, Hermann Melot, Carrie Laurie, La Berat, Doughty's Sketch Co., Gus Garrick, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Poluski Bros., Starr and Leslie, Lottie Govell, Jas. Kurry, Mabel Sinclair, Miles Stavordale Quintette, Ten San Tan Girls, Illustrated Song, Bioscope, "Prince of Monte Carlo."

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Fred Lindsay, Grace Merton, Horace White, Olga and Elgar, "Dida," Maud Courtney, "Mysterious Mr. C.," Bioscope, "The Typhoon," Harvey's American Boys and Girls.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
John Lawson and Co., Lil Hawthorne, Dutch Daly, Max Gruber, Narow Bros., Addie Dorina, Millie Howell, Illustrated Song, Terry and Lambert, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Rochez's Monkeys, George Formby, Musical Johnstones, Millie Lindon, Celtic Comedy Trio, L. A. Cooke and Co., Tom Hearn, Eda Mardy, Gwennie Hasto, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
George Gray and Co., Harry Grey, Boyd and Gilfain, Lyons Trio, Bros. Egbert, Anna Kenwick, Alf Chester, Westland, Illustrated Song, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Ginnett's "Dick Turpin," Erik Bros., Culpitt, Madge Osmond, Hymack, Bertha Stuart, Kent and Keith, Illustrated Song, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
"The Skirmishers," Fred Lincoln, Sleedes Troupe, O'Gust, Eadie and Ramsden, Sinclair and Parr, Ina Lorrimer, Fred Hastings, Albert Whelan, Bioscope

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
George Robey, Ethel Hayden, Leonards, Sisters Pine, Tom Parker, Uniques, Marie Weston, Sidy Nirvana, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Park's Eton Boys, J. W. Rowley, Ella Dean, C. Randolph King, Le Gay Quartette, Corcoran Bros., Bioscope, Lottie Lennox.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Karno's "The Bailiff," Rich and Rich, Elsie Robey, Hartley Wonders, Maggie Walsh, The Aeolians, Dan Leno, jun., Frank Couch, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for :—
Bella and Bijou, Drew and Alders, George Reeves, J. W. Hall, My Fancy, Lancashire Lassies, Three Rubys, Canty's Grotto, Clement Trio, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Alexandre and Hughes, Les Strads, Two Cromwells, American Comedy Four, Lloyd's Wolfhounds, Howard and Harris, Hilda Playfair, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Isabel Derry and Co.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Bud Snyder's Motor Sensation, Moulier Sisters, Fred Elton, Harry Edson, Leslie Bros., The Delevines, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Lizzie Fletcher, Arthur Lennard.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Kate Carney and Co., E. J. Sheldon, Lukushima Troupe, Beatrice Willey, Sisters Sprightley, O'Malley and Brown, Carina Sisters, The Violas, Fred Keeton, Bioscope.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Marie Loftus, Eric, Carden and Haines, J. B. Preston, Lily Burnand, Pictures, Frank Ellis-ton and Co., Maud Vera, Ted and May Hopkins.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
John Lawson's Co. in "The Unwritten Law," Josey Mooney, Pictures, Orpheus, Morton and Bowman, Caselli Sisters, Spry and Austin, Walter Munroe.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
George Kirk and Co., L. W. Harris, Recco, Rell and Butt, Les Frasettis, Dot Hardy, Pictures, Minna Merry.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Mooney and Holbein, Monnie Emerald, Fimans, Lily Farrar, Walter Purvis and Co., Pictures, St. Clair's Juveniles, Maud Laverne, Will H. Fox.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Lauder's Chronomegaphone, Menotti, Flo Esdaile, Chas. Stevens, La Belle Nello, Chas. Mildare, Van Damms Bros., J. P. Ling.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Hetty King, Horace Pollock and Co., Hal Forde, Harry Freeman, Chas. Russell, Tom Collins, Nellie Coleman, Effie Stuart, Jessie Albini, Eight Sunrays, Pictures, Robb Gilmore, Tray and Rich, Larry Lewis, Rhita Rhylle.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Both Performances.
Hetty King, Billy McClain's Sextette, Matthew Cowper and Co., Harry Taft, Edgar Granville, Ray Maskell, Effie Stuart, Diamond and Beatrice, Les Debreans, Ameda, Pictures.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Chung Ling Soo, Lieut. Travis, Theo Bowmeester, Fred Curran, Little Tina, Rhoda Paul, Henderson, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Mariedl, The Bensons, Muir and Bartlett, Adams and Ward, Jack Lane, Joe Reichen, Urma Sisters, Bioscope, Magic Carpet, Queenie Leighton.

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ARTISTS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE THAT THE ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON, IS WITHIN THE AREA ABSOLUTELY BARRED BY US.

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Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

Notice.—Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

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"MOLLY MOLYNEUX" (Edward Montagu), Sung by Miss Maudi Darrell in "Mrs. Ponderbury's Past," at the Vaudeville Theatre. Also by Miss Billie Burke, Miss Margaret Cooper, Miss Florence St. John, and Miss Ethel Newman.

"IN THE VALLEYS OF SWITZERLAND" (Wilmott and H. Darewski, jun.).
Sung by Miss Annie Purcell.

"IN THE TWI-TWI-LIGHT" (Wilmott and H. E. Darewski, jun.),
Sung by Geo. Lashwood.

"CHEER UP, MARY!" (Bryan, Kendis, and Paley).
Sung by Miss Winifred Hare.

"MEET ME DOWN AT THE CORNER AT HALF-PAST EIGHT"
(Wilmott and H. E. Darewski, jun.)
Sung by Whit Cunliffe.

"FOR AULD LANG SYNE"
(F. W. Leigh and H. E. Pether), and "THE TENBOB RISE" (Bateman and Bennett Scott),
Sung by Tom Costello.

"THE HOME THAT'S HOME FOR ME" (Leigh and Pether) and "THE SUNBEAM AND THE ROSE" (J. Thompson). Sung by Miss Ethel Haydon.

"CHERRIES ARE BLOOMING"
(A. E. Sidney Davis and Neat.),
Sung by Miss Bessie Butt.

"MONA MAY" (Shelley and Bucalossi).
Sung by Herbert Shelley.

"ALL ALONE IN OLD COLOGNE"
(Murray, Leighton, and Hilbury).
Sung by Miss Betty Green, at the London Hippodrome.

"MY CASTLE IN SPAIN" and "MY COSY CARAVAN"
(Lawrance, Mellor, and Gifford),
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"You Shall Live in a Chalet."
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CALLS for MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Mrs. John Lawson and Co., "The Devil's Sunday," Jennie Lee, The Three Romas, Gracie Lawn, Payne's Little Vagabonds, Allsopp and Bekwith, Josh Dixon, Vernon's Bioscope, Horace Wheatley.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Neil Kenyon, Russell Carr, Society Quartette, Robert Williams, The Haytors, Harry Cotton, Vernon's Bioscope, Tony Iveson, Athas and Collins.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Ada Colley, Cavalli, Webb and Branston, Harry Zetter, Gertie Gitana, George Antill, Tate and Tate, Vernon's Bioscope, Hector and Sultan.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Hoggan Armadale and Co., in "The Bells," George Rennie, Nellie Randall, Willie Gardner, The Monckton, Walter Emerson, Vernon's Bioscope, Ray and Calden.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
Mlle. Claire Beasy, with her Performing Cats, Earle and Melville, Barney Vox, Cosgrove and Burns, Bob Hamilton, Sisters Currie, Wally Scott, Jack Rae, Talbot and Pearce, Vernon's Bioscope, the Two Bees.

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Menotti, Sidney Dolf, Hastings and Fields, J. H. Harris, Copeland and Son, Mersano, Rose and Maidment, Vernon's Bioscope, Dusty Rhodes.

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The Hit of "The Zuyder Zee," WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.
Also sung by Will Evans' Company, Misses Lena Verdi, Lilian Lee, Margaret Radcliffe, Blanche Vincent, Ethel Donna, etc., etc.

"WILL HE ANSWER 'GOO-GOO'?"
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(Mellor, Lawrance and Gifford).
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CALLS. CALLS.

THE VAUDEVILLE SYNDICATE,

CALLS FOR MONDAY, AUG. 19, 1907.

PALACE, DOVER.
Simosa San, Pictures, Stacey and Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, Johnny Dwyer, Fred Southern and Co., Kavados, Flo Melville.

ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.
Pictures, Ethel Arandel, Fred Wright, Maud Garland, Florence Yayman, Marguerite Broadfoote, Sam Ives, Arthur Glemore Trio.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
W. B. Raby, Pictures, Wright, Atkin, and Co., Beale and Broadway, Bros. Lester, Horace and Alga.

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J. W. Rickaby, Sterling and Love, Marie Neilson, Carney and Armstrong, Arthur Lloyd and Co., Martine and Son, Ross and Grayson, the Three Demons.
General-Manager, HARRY MCKELVIE.

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NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL, Monday, Aug. 19.
Rehearsal 12.30. Fred Karno's Great Combination of Comedians, in "Mumming Birds," D. W. Watson, Dan Hendy, Beatrice Lane, Frank Boyce, Ariel and Astarte, New Operascope, and "Early Birds." Artists requiring immediate dates, apply H. PERCIVAL YOUNG, Sole Booking Representative, Shakespeare Theatre Offices, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
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All Scene and Property Plots of sketches, scenas, &c., must be sent to Foresters' fourteen clear days before opening.
All artists carrying scenery must have same fireproofed in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
Artists please note that when stage staff are required on Sunday, according to the "award" their time must be reckoned from that given in "call."
In cases of emergency after office hours, Mr. Baugh may be consulted at the Foresters' Theatre, Cambridge-road, E.
Telephone, 5964 Avenue.
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CALLS.

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MONDAY, AUG. 19, 1907.

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PALACE, BLACKBURN.
"H.M.S. Victory," Mlle. De Rose, Virto, Les Cabiacs, Bert Weston, Bennett and Martell, J. H. Hawtrey, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Beau Ideal Juveniles, Harry Simms, Les Bollingers, Gintaro, Cole and Rags, Andie Burn, Sisters Morgan, Gaumont's Chronophone, St. Louis Pictures.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Alfred Lester, Dale and Vale, Sisters Brooke, Bros. Ashley, Lang and Beal, Cambo, Milner Verren, Clown Barker, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Tiller's "Trip to Paris," Harvey and Holt, Billie Burford, Whimsical Walker and Co., The Kirbys, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
The Three Transfields, F. Lawrence and Co., Brian and Lawrence, Pictures, The Elgars, Lloyd Phillips and Co., Bessie Neil.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Grand Variety Company.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"The Female Swindler."

THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.
"The Little Breadwinner."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

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Launceston Elliot, Ada Martine, Salvino, Williams and Warden, Three Sisters Kilner, Satsuma, Marba and Verity, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Walter Stanley, Two Sparks, Alf Ripon, Stuart and Stuart, The Claymores, Russell Brandow, Czar Troupe, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, CARDIFF
Tom Grave, The Ellimans, Will Vay's Juveniles, Spangles and Sawdust, Harry Allister, Dorothy L. Clarke, The Simms, Robertys Family, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON
will open in September.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, BURNLEY
will open in December.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday.
Pattie Hanbury, Harry Champion, Will Musgrave, the Three MacDonalds, L. Mortimer and Co., Larry Lewis, Rita and Roma, Raymond's Pictures, Nora Stockwell, Florrie Bray.

THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
Lew Lake and Co., "My Pal Jerry," Sydney Mason and Co., Cissie Coman, Pictures.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Lew Lake and Co., "Bloomsbury Burglars," Jennie Johns, Cissie Sinclair, Raymond's Pictures, Leo and Jerry, Stuart and Stuart, "Ferdie's Main-Law," Edwards and Dacre, Bros. Adderley, Lillian Lowe, Leoni Dixon.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
The Two MacNeils, Oakdene, Albert-Edmunds' "Neighbours," the Athlones, Ralston Boys, Sisters Warwick, Cullen, Carthy and Cluley, the Four Burnells, Cissy Williams, Pictures.

SURREY THEATRE.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
Rosalie Jacobi, Ada Parker, A. E. Clifford, Harley and Hardon, Sisters Marion, the Ando Troupe, Vaudeville Sketch Co., Pictures, "The Phantom Ship" Co., Jay. W. Winton, Claude Ginnett and Co.

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ALL ALONE IN OLD COLOGNE.
(Murray, Leighton, & Hilbury).
Sung by Miss BETTY GREEN, at the London Hippodrome.

MOLLY MOLYNEUX.
(Edward Montagu).
Sung by Miss MAUDI DARRELL, at the Vaudeville Theatre.

IF THE MAN IN THE MOON WERE A COON.
Written and Composed by Fred. Fischer.
Sung by G. H. ELLIOTT, at the Oxford.
THE COON SONG OF THE YEAR.

MY IRISH ROSIE.
THE RAGE OF AMERICA.
By the Writers of "Bedelia" and "My Irish Molly."

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The Great March Song of the Year. Sung by Miss WINIFRED HARE.

I'LL TELL TILLY ON THE TELEPHONE
Sung by Miss DORA LYRIC.
A few conditional permissions will be granted for this Great Chorus Hit.

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(THE GREAT AMERICAN WALTZ TIME BALLAD).
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Murphy and Lipton's latest "Bogie Man" Song.

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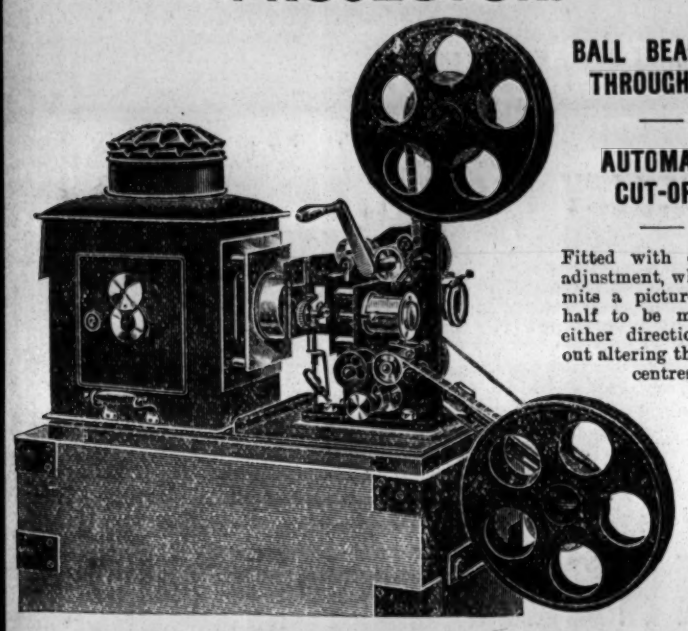

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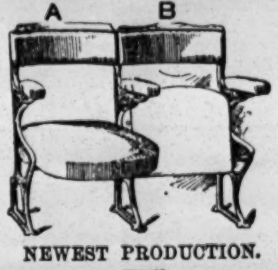

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mrs. Russ-Whytal and company appear this week in *Clancarty*. Mr. Stratton Rodney plays impressively as King William; Mr. Acton Bond gives a skilful portraiture of Lord Clancarty; Lord Spencer is convincingly portrayed by Mr. J. J. Bartlett; and Mr. Charles Coombe artistically portrays the Earl of Portland. Mr. Harry J. Crane contributes a vivid sketch of the informer, Goodman; and Mr. Arthur Burne and Miss Mabel Knowles are successful as Lord Woodstock and Lady Betty Noel. Mrs. Russ-Whytal gives a delightful impersonation of Lady Clancarty, playing with particular charm in the lighter parts, and with great power and intensity in the more emotional scenes.

PALACE THEATRE. — Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Mlle. Claire Keary makes a great hit with her marvellously well-trained boxing cats; the Two Bees act cleverly in an amusing comedy scena, *The Man in the Moon;* Mr. Bob Hamilton is a creditable specimen of a Scottish comedian; Earle and Goodwin are good comedians; Cosgrove and Burns are excellently-matched comedy duettists; the Sisters Currie and Wally Scott are loudly applauded for their funny fooling; Mr. Barney Vox is highly gifted as a ventriloquist; and Talbot and Pearce are particularly pleasing in a Japanese musical duologue, *Yo San.* "The Little Orphan" Bioscope series is highly appreciated.

BEACH PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. David Thomson.—Mr. Scott Skinner continues to delight the audiences with his violin playing; and among the newcomers are the Maros, a pair of clever and original comedians and triple-bar experts. Mr. Thomson is rapturously applauded for his character study in *The Handsome Widow;* Miss Minnie Osborne is popular as ever; and Messrs. Jack Belton and Oswald Gray shine conspicuously as humorists. Miss Lottie Stewart is a skilful accompanist.

ABERTILLERY.—PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. E. and H. Tilney; Manager, Mr. E. Pryce.—Derenda and Green are very clever and amusing as juggling comedians; Onda and Leon contribute a splendid turn on the horizontal bars; Mlle. Yetta proves a decided success with her wire walking and dancing; Ivy Aberdare, with her coon songs and sand dancing, is heartily applauded; Alf. Corrie and Ethel Foote are entertaining in duologue; Alf. Bishop, known "as the Little Lump of Fun," makes everyone laugh; the Swift trio of cyclists are very good; Nellie Nora gives an excellent little musical turn, her playing being of exceptional merit; the Sisters Volbecque are delightful in duo songs and patter, their performance meriting the enthusiastic applause they receive. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. W. Dexter (late Carl Rosa company), performs some pleasing selections.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes. — On Monday night Mr. Allan Wilkie opened here with an excellent Shakespearean company. Othello was performed with credit by Mr. Allan Wilkie; Mr. A. Marsh gave a scholarly reading of Iago; and Mr. Paul Lovett must be highly complimented for his performance of Cassio. Mr. Charles Kingsley was good as Montano; Mr. Edwin Beverly was at home in the part of the Duke of Venice; Brabantio was cleverly depicted by Mr. John Paley; Miss Carrie is an artist of more than ordinary merit, and was an ideal Desdemona; and Miss Mary Lovett deserves special praise for her performance of Emilia. The rest of the parts were in capable hands. During the week, *The Merchant of Venice, As You Like It, The Corsican Brothers, The Sleigh Bells, Hamlet,* and *Richard III.* are promised.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker.—Silbon's circus of ponies, dogs, and cats is clever and interesting; Miss Irene is a dainty comedienne; Burley and Burley are a smart pair of comedy acrobats: Arthur Goodman must be complimented for his clever turn; the Ottawas are very good in their act; Edie Grey and the Boys of Harmony, Madie Scott's company in the sketch of '98, and the Biograph, complete a good programme.

ALDERSHOT.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Gladwin.—The variety season at Aldershot Hippodrome concludes this week, and on Monday the house in question will again be called the Theatre Royal, and open with *His House in Order.* For the final programme Mr. Sounes is presenting a novel and attractive entertainment, mainly of Bioscope pictures. There is, however, a break in the sequence of animated pictures in the appearance of the Five M.P.'s, or Musical Palmers, and their vocal and instrumental efforts are highly appreciated.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—For the wakes holidays, the theatre was reopened on Monday evening with Mr. Frank Lindo and company in the domestic drama, *Home, Sweet Home.* Mr. Lindo sustains, with his accustomed strenuous manner and power of dramatic expression, the part of Stephen Armitage, the young fisherman; Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle acts with telling feeling as the old fisherman; and prominence is given to a minor part by Mr. Geo. Overs. Mr. Miles Hodgson as the villainous secretary is quite sufficiently cunning and unscrupulous; the heroine is sympathetic and winning in the hands of Miss Marion Wakeford; and satisfactory interpretation is given to minor female parts by Misses Daisy and Ray Rochefort, L. Carlton, and by Messrs. H. Gordon Ingram, Tom E. Lewis, Lionel Ray, E. A. Owen, and Capt. Gerald Gambier.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—Milton Ray's burlesque company appear in a new version of the pantomime play, *Don Quixote.* The chivalrous Don of Mr. Fred Russell is a most eccentric personage, his lanky form, his long face and pointed beard, and wildly restless manner being all characteristic of the knight of romance. Mr. Arthur Milton makes Sancho Panza a highly laughter-provoking, satirical rogue. Mr. Joe English makes up excellently as Donna Betsiana; and the company generally do well. The swell comedian, Harry Leaton, is a good "turn," refined and clever; the Lovelaces appeal to many tastes with beautifully illustrated songs; Milsted and Bell (Emmie and Joe) introduce a musical comedy-scena, *The Belle of Arizona;* Geo. Young displays extraordinary skill in the fingering of the concertina, assisted by Mme. Louis; Tina Clements submits an interesting act; and Marguerite Ismay and her pic-chics in the charming scena, *Kickapoo,* is one of the prime features of the bill. The Bioscope pictures some daring cavalry feats.

ATTERCLIFFE.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwards; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bert Lester.—A popular turn is that submitted by Sergeant W. Mumford, who is making a welcome reappearance, and who, in full regimentals, gives an excellent display of lance, sword, and carbine drill, whilst keeping his balance on a telephone wire stretched across the stage. The vocal items, ably rendered by the Three Sisters Grosvenors, are a pleasing feature; hearty and well-deserved applause greets the efforts of Kenneth and Kane (Sid and Maude), whose comedy interlude is full of wit and humour; Miss Ena Compton is an acceptable comedienne; as usual, Mr. Clayton's "Attergraph" pictures are up to date; the Brothers St. Clair are both clever and

amusing as trick cyclists, their football match arousing hearty laughter; the Brassos are a good acquisition to the bill as burlesque acrobats; and Mr. George French, comedian, also finds favour with the audience.

Central Hall.—Lessees, Jasper Redfern, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. W. Holmes.—The Biograph pictures include A Trip to Switzerland, The Gipsy's Bride, Poor, but Honest, A Robber Robbed, Father's Quiet Sunday, and Lightning Sketches. Highly-appreciated variety turns are given by Mr. George Barnard, character vocalist; the Two Bronsons, duettists; and Mr. Pat O'Connor, Hibernian humorist and expert dancer.

AYR.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—Mr. William Greet's company in *The Earl and the Girl* opened on Monday. Miss Florence Wix as Elphin Haye was delightfully charming, and created a most favourable impression by her fine acting; Mr. Alfred Donohoe makes the part of Jim Cheese excruciatingly funny; Mr. Robert Hyatt as Dick Wargrave was particularly clever; Mr. Frank A. Wood played the part of A. Bunker Bliss particularly well; Miss B. Anderson gave a good interpretation of the part of Miss Shimmering Black; while the other members of the company gave first-class support, making the whole an outstandingly meretorious performance and most enjoyable. The piece was most completely staged.

BACUP.—New Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood.—Mr. Frank Ayrton's company appeared here on Monday in *The Power of Gold*. Mr. George Lyttleton is conspicuous with a powerful performance of Hadgi Zambra; Mr. R. F. Stacy plays the part of Paul Judson with marked ability; Mr. Richard Harris gives a vivid picture of the rascalities of Mark Harley; Mr. Frank Ayrton as Sammy Smudge and Miss Madge Seymour as Norah Donnelly bring the humour of the piece into strong relief; and Mr. F. Holyoake as Dr. Stephen Saunders, and Mr. W. Victor as Peter Maguire fill their rôles satisfactorily; Miss Hettie Laytine is commendable as Sister Maria; Miss Amy McNeill distinguishes herself as Lady Brandou; and Little Prudence, as Paddy Blake, a street arab, adds considerably to the success of the production.

BARNSTAPLE.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Bridge Trust; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton.—Enthusiastic houses greeted the appearance here of Mr. Charles Macdona's company in *The Country Girl* on Monday and Tuesday. The title-rôle was delightfully undertaken by Miss Blanche Lynn, her Devonshire dialect being intensely appreciated; Miss Gladys Christoe received a warm welcome and scored heavily as Marjorie Joy, the "Cooing" song receiving abundant recognition; Miss Poppie Dale made a hit as the jealous Princess; and what proved a special feature was the partnership of Mr. Arthur Staples and Miss Gipsy Touzeau, who, in their numerous "scenes," kept the audience in a constant ripple of laughter. Mr. Martin D. Pitts made a dashing Lieutenant; Mr. W. O. Billington an amorous Sir Joseph Verity; and Messrs. Bernard Vaughan, Davis Fisher, Fred Carrington, and Ernest Louis sustained their respective parts with distinction. The company is under the management of Mr. Richard Sullivan.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stone.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred C. Somerfield's company in *The Tyrant* is here. Mr. Somerfield makes a powerful Homodel, the avenger; Mr. Roy Fortescue is an admirable Angelo; Mr. Edward E. Louis an interesting Rudolf; Miss Lallah Sheldon a winning Eulie; Miss Margaret Frame a clever Lady Catherine; Miss Vida Hazlewood a good Daphne; and Mrs. Walter Bentley an excellent Tisbe.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company in *Honour Thy Father* is here. Mr. J. W. Evelyn gives a graphic picture of Gabriel Garth; Miss Kate Newton displays grace and charm as Gertrude Garth; in the difficult part of Lilian Garth Miss Violet Hammers is clever; and Mr. Howell Travis is a most effective Duncan Bly. Mr. Fred W. Graham is a humorous Mike Copplestone; and Mr. Kenneth Blake an amusing Ned Pennycomequick.

Tivoli Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Edgar Laban.—The Tom Davies Trio cause a great sensation with *Motoring in Mid-Air;* and Miss Daisy Dormer, comedienne, meets with much appreciation. Harrigan and Holt prove amusing comedians; and Arthur and May good singers and dancers. May Marton is a dainty comedienne; and Angeline a pleasing lady juggler.

Hippodrome.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The British Animated Pictures are the principal attraction here, interspersed with songs by Little Doris, and a variety turn by Mr. Tom Anson, a tenor vocalist.

BARRY DOCK. — Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. R. Horrocks.—The company this week is headed by the popular comedian, Fred Cary, a great favourite; Miss Fanny Humber, in her refined musical act, is another good turn; the Sisters Ada and Letta Poole are delightful society entertainers; the Ladderites are highly appreciated; Ted Waite, a rising comedian, and Prince Ismael, a smart illusionist, with the Zaracs, complete an excellent programme.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—This historic old house, looking spic and span after the restoring of the main frontage and cleaning, reopened for the autumn season on Monday, with Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company, in *East Lynne*. Miss Julie Kennard enacts Lady Isabel with all her old power and effect; Mr. Alfred Beaumont renders good support as Archibald Carlyle; and Miss E. Hardacre and Mr. Cyril Hayward give clever impersonations of Miss Cornelia and Lawyer Dill. Mr. E. Maule Cole's Francis Levison secures the "compliment" of being soundly hissed; and a great favourite is Mr. Alfred Tate as P.C. Bullock, whose humour creates immense hilarity.

Palace Theatre. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth. — Mr. Macnaghten, who was himself present on Wednesday evening, must have been pleased with the reception accorded the various artists appearing this week. The marvellous feats of strength of Launceston Elliott, rightly termed the British Hercules, are watched with great interest; Marba and Verity display wonderful agility and skill as acrobatic dancers; the rapidity with which Satsuma performs his magical tricks is quite bewildering; Williams and Warden keep the audience in a perpetual state of merriment; Luigi Salvino is a youthful instrumentalist of ability; Three Sisters Kilner vocalise and dance with energy, and a great measure of acrobatic ability; Ada Martini is a dainty comedienne and dancer; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux sustain their high reputation.

BEDFORD. — Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—*The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* was presented on Monday and the two following nights. The title-rôle was played with fine dramatic power by Miss Violet Sterne, who was warmly applauded; Mr. Norman Macowan was inimitable as Mr. Aubrey Tanqueray, and Mr. Murray Hathorn won golden opinions as Mr. Cayley Drummle; Mrs. Cortelyon was well represented by Miss Mary Masters; and Miss Isabel Hathorn was a demure Ellean; Miss Lester Stephens did justice to the part of Lady Orreyed; and Mr. S. R. Palfrey infused some fun into the rôle of Sir George Orreyed. During the last three nights of the week *A Fool's Paradise* was announced to be played.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—We are favoured this week with a visit from Mr. Louis Calvert's company, in the new comic opera, *Amasis*. The cast is a particularly strong one, and includes Mr. Rutland Barrington, in the rôle of Pharaoh, an impersonation providing the keenest enjoyment. Congratulations are also due to Miss Winifred O'Connor, who appeared as the Princess Amasis, and furnished a delightful interpretation, her singing being worthy of high praise. A most amusing interpretation of Sebak was furnished by Mr. Lauri De Freece; and Mr. Roland Cunningham, in his original part of Prince Anhotep, appeared to the utmost advantage. As Natis, Miss Mabel Burnege presented a dainty impersonation; and the rôle of Cheiro was undertaken by Mr. John Doran, whose rendering of "Prayed for Life" was in every sense excellent. Mr. George Fox was dignified as the High Priest; and a funny impersonation of Ptolemy was submitted by Mr. Arthur Watts.

Palace Theatre of Varieties. — Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The chief attraction here is provided by Mr. R. A. Roberts, the smart protean actor, who appears with great success in his celebrated comedy, *Ringing the Changes;* Ike Scott and Son have gained much approval for their character sketches; and a novelty is submitted by the Olympian Lady Jiu-jitsu Troupe, who demonstrate with some effect the possibilities of the Japanese art of self-defence. The acrobatic feats of the Garganys are simply marvellous; and Miss Belle Harcourt is a charming comedienne and dancer. Mr. Johnny Worman, comedian; Miss Madge Daly, comedienne; and the Palace pictures, complete.

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Miss Alexandra Dagmar, a delightful comedienne, is a raconteur of rare merit; and a hit of no small magnitude has been made by that smart comedy duo, Pete and Minnie Lee, in their sketch, *The Scotchman's Visit to London*. Mr. R. Cameron Matthew's comedy company produce a mirth-provoking sketch; the Dancing Gilberts provide a good exhibition of the Terpsichorean art; and also here are Mr. Mark Leslie, coon singer; Miss Ray Wallace; Martinette and Grossi, novelty artists; Mr. Fred Arthur, vocalist and mimic; and the Hipposcope pictures.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Mr. John Lawson and company head the bill, and produce with great effect his latest episode, *The Unwritten Law*, which has been successful. An old favourite here, Mr. Walter Munroe, the clever Irish comedian, has been loudly and deservedly encored; the Casselli Sisters furnish a skilful exhibition of the Terpsichorean art; and Morton and Bowman appear to great advantage in their comedy duologue, "She Loved a Policeman." Orpheus, the talented musician, returns; and Spry and Austin can always rely on winning admiration for their comedy act. Also here are Miss Josie Mooney, comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope pictures.

New Alhambra Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company, under the personal direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, produce here this week the fine drama, *The Human Spider*, which has taken well. Miss Nina Blake-Adams, a clever emotional actress, furnishes a skilful impersonation of Millie Tresdale, her acting being worthy of high praise; Mr. Fred Terriss (the new leading man) would indeed be difficult to surpass as George Wintringham, his acting being all that could possibly be desired; a special word of commendation is due to Mr. Cyril Grier for his clever impersonation of Ahmi Khan; and Mr. Elmore Frith is undoubtedly irreproachable as Colonel Wintringham. Miss Alice Clarke, a great favourite here, delights all with her impersonation of Sal Lambcote; and Mr. Thomas H. Solly (who is also responsible for the stage araringements) is very funny as Jack Chignall. Mr. Wilford Cheetham is seen to advantage as Basil Mortimer; and Miss Mattie Crawford makes a vivacious Janey Jenkins. Mr. Ed. Smythe must be congratulated on his capital impersonation of Romulus Potter; and Mr. J. E. Davies is the butler Jennings to the life. The Alhambra Bioscope, under the direction of Mr. Hugh Beckett, exhibits an attractive series of pictures.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Battersby; Musical-Director, Mr. J. E. Machin.—*The Trail of the Serpent* is being played here, and Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly proves himself very effective as Ralph Hammond. His company comprises Mr. F. Godfrey in the comical part of Higgins, Miss Jenny Risley as Rose Wilson, and Miss Nana Cameron as the gipsy Rachel. In the al fresco pavilion adjoining the theatre, a special exhibition of bioscope pictures has been given by the Anglo-American Animated Picture Company, under the management of Mr. Jack Barnes. The views included Cowboys and Redskins, The Fireman's Wedding, and A Drunkard Will Drink.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company is appearing in *The Lion and the Mouse*. We get a clever and powerful performance of John Burkett Ryder by Mr. Leslie Carter; Miss Christine Silver as Shirley Rossmore plays the part with telling effect, and quickly earns the sympathies of her audience; the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley is admirably impersonated by Mr. Herbert Chown; Mr. Alfred Hall is well suited as James Rossmore; and Mr. Gordon McLeod is an efficient Jefferson Ryder. Mrs. Ryder is well played by Miss Maud Townsend; and other parts are, without exception, well placed.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Mr. George Mozart is fulfilling a highly-successful return engagement, as also is Mr. Pat Rafferty, the well-known Irish comedian. Donaldson Brothers and Ardel, in *A Zoological Comedy*, meet with a great reception; and Mr. George D'Albert, comic and descriptive vocalist, is likewise a general favourite. A varied and liberal programme is contributed to by Miss Belle Oliver, comedienne; Mr. David Poole, ventriloquist; Miss Florence Schubeth, descriptive vocalist; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

Olympian Gardens, Rock Ferry.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton.—This clever and entertaining pierrot entertainment continues highly successful.

The Tower, New Brighton.—Manager, Mr. William Holland. — Mr. Holland has revived John Tiller's pastoral spectacular ballet, *Harvest Home;* the Mersey Mites, in their pretty doll dance, "Mamma's Babee," renew their former success; Mr. Walter Watson's Village Idiot is as mirth-provoking as ever; and Miss Rene Howard makes a fine figure of a Squire. Miss May Sharples plays Eva with much humour.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*A Chinese Honeymoon* is still a play to conjure with, as its success here with Mr. Milton Bode's company testifies. Miss Elsie Skillings as Soo-Soo makes a very agreeable impression, both in her singing and acting of the part; Miss Gwennie Harcourt is a great attraction as Fi-Fi; Miss Maud Adams invests the part of Mrs. Brown with a strongly-marked personality; Miss Rosie Bergarnie shows much ability and vivacity as Mrs. Pineapple; and a bevy of beauty and talent appear as the bridesmaids and maids of honour, etc.; Mr. George Rydon portrays the trials of Mr. Pineapple with ludicrous effect; Mr. Rudolph Kloss displays much merit in the rôle of the Emperor; Mr. P. Allerton Turner and Mr. Leonard May score as Lord Chancellor and High Admiral respectively; and Mr. Harry Jennings is distinguished as Tom Hatherton.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*Peter's Mother* is on its first visit here, with Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, and is proving a big attraction. Mr. Chas. Harley, as Peter's father, leaves behind him a capital impression, which his early exit is powerless to erase; Miss Lilias Earle, as Peter's mother, brings the part as near perfection as is possible; Mr. Percy Hutchison, as Peter, is successful in every mood and trait, the frankness, selfishness, and enthusiasm of the young man all being strongly marked; Miss Hilda Honiss acts as Sarah with a graceful air; Mr. Alfred Bucklaw shows rare elocutionary skill as John Crewys; and Mr. Chas. Marsden as Canon Birch, Mr. Drew Mackintosh as Dr. Blundell, Miss Mary Griffiths as Lady Belstone, and Miss Annie Stallman as Miss G. Crewys are successful. *Chalk and Cheese* precedes the above.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood.—*The Sins of a City*, portroyed by Miss Winifred Maude and company, appeared here for the first part of the week, *The Stowaway* supplying the attraction for the remainder. In the former, Miss Maude's natural and sympathetic acting as Seaweed was appreciated at once; Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle wrought a pleasant impression with his sturdy manner as Sandy McDonald; Mr. Leonard S. Harrison represented Donald M'Ivor with a rugged touch of pathos which was very effective; Mr. Arthur T. Ellis took his advantages as Ralph Blackwater with praiseworthy assurance; Mr. Victor Du Cane was eminently successful as the Jew, Levi; Mr. Claremont Gaskell showed a keen perception of character as Jasper and Joe Woodleigh; Miss Marie Lyons succeeded well as Lesbia; Miss Jenny Hackett as Miggs supplied both mirth and melody; and the others were very good.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Convict's Daughter* is presented here by Mr. Frank Bertram, who, in a quadruple rôle embodying the convict, Michael Grahame, is responsible for much of the success; as the daughter Edith, Miss Lilias Deans is justly admired; Mr. Escott Robson keeps the audience duly excited as the villain, Jasper Thorn; Mr. Walter Graham wins great favour with his manly, lover-like manner as Harold Trevelyan; Mr. Edward De Vere is successful as the banker, Frederick Neville; Miss Maud Beard is suitably placed as Marian Thorn; Mr. Sam Roberts acts in a highly diverting style as the Irish policeman, O'Laragan; and Miss Lilla Nordon lends grace and vivacity to the rôle of Betty Hyne. The sensational escape of the convict on a fast train is stage-managed with great success, bringing down the house.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Prodigal Son*, an original and up-to-date melodrama, is represented here with much success by Miss Maud Western and company. Miss Western secures much sympathy as well as laughter with her efforts, vocal and otherwise, as Dick, the outcast; Miss Ada Hender makes a charming heroine as Margaret Marsden; Miss Helen Thompson acts with much feeling as Nellie Birke; Mr. John Levey, as the avenging brother Bill Birke, holds the audience from beginning to end; Mr. Alf. Stretton gives a clever example of stage-villainy as Ralph Marsden; Mr. Claude Seaton makes a popular Jack Fanshaw; Mr. W. A. Buckstone is also commendable as Captain Fanshaw; and Mr. F. Dudley as Sir John, and Mr. W. Griffin as Corbett, are successful. The humorous parts are exceedingly well done by Mr. Godfrey Humley and Miss Connie Meadows.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*A Girl Redeemed from Sin*, produced here on Monday, is dealt with elsewhere in our columns.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — Eden Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. John Leopold's company in *New Frivolity* is here this week, the acrobatic manœuvres of the famous brothers being witnessed with delight. Oliver Buckwheat is safely entrusted to the hands of Mr. Watson Hume, and as Daniel Teething Mr. John Leopold, jun. is thoroughly effective. Mr. A. Mordaunt works hard as Jules Vermiglio, and as Samuel Vermiglio Mr. Willie Leopold is all that can be desired. Mr. T. Leopold as Professor Fumble, together with Mr. Ernest Leopold as Tickle, do themselves justice. Every credit is due to Miss Amy Hall as Lucy Buckwheat, and as Madame Cobweb Miss Cathleen Cavanagh is excellent. The Leopolds' latest production, *The Houseboat*, is also capably presented by the above artists.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Notwithstanding the fact that Mr. William Greet's company has paid probably half a dozen previous visits here with *The Earl and the Girl*, its attractiveness this week is undiminished, the theatre being packed at every performance. Mr. William Stephens repeats his unique sketch as Jim Cheese, and carries all before him; Mr. Thomas Kennard does well as Dick Wargrave; and Mr. H. Courtin is exactly the right man for the part of Bunker Bliss. A very charming Elphin Haye is found in Miss Chrissie Ralland; whilst Miss Ethel Erskine, who essays the rôle of Daisy Fallowfield, sings her numbers in most acceptable manner. Other parts are in efficient hands, and there is also a powerful and attractive chorus.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*Tom Jones* is brilliantly performed by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company here this week, with the result that enormous business is being done; Mr. Dan Rolyat as Benjamin Partridge carries off first honours; and is closely followed in popularity by Miss Ruth Vincent, the charming Sophia, and Miss Carrie Moore, a most bewitching Honour, whose singing and acting are equally delightful. Mr. Harry Welchman scores a success as Tom Jones; and Mr. Ambrose Manning is seen to advantage in the part of Squire Western. The staging and costumes are magnificent, and the orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Hamish McCann.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Hackenschmidt still retains his place here this week as "top-bill" artist, and his wrestling exhibitions are proving very attractive. An enjoyable turn is contributed by Fred Edwardes and company, who appear in a sketch entitled *Kleptomaniacs;* the Martelloni Family of lady acrobats are skilful performers; Morney Cash is a popular comedian; the Eight of Hearts are very engaging vocalists and dancers; Dare O'Toole's songs are the cause of much merriment; Harry Leybourne shines as a vocalist and comedian; Kitty Wager is a pleasing comedienne, and Fred Poplar is a comedian of merit.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. T. P. Dingnan.—A capital holiday programme is provided here this week. The McConnell Trio, in a vocal act; the Mayvilles, in their Liliputian scena; Alice Maple, comedienne and dancer; Cleland, the burlesque wrestler; the Gentrys, vocalists; Jimmy James, comedian; the Calcotts, musicians; Eiley Adair, a graceful comedienne; Will McIvor, a clever descriptive vocalist; and George Huntley, with well-trained animals, all find favour at the hands of the big audiences which assemble here twice daily.

North Pier Pavilion.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. James Walker.—The Zancigs were here on Tuesday last, and drew large audiences both in the afternoon and night. The entertainment for the rest of the week is supplied by Teddy Whittle, the Lancashire comedian; Nelson Hardy, ventriloquist; H. Pawson, illusionist; and Fred W. Malburn, novelty instrumentalist.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. Edward McLean and company have presented the naval and domestic drama, *The Hero of the Flag*. In the title-rôle Miss Amy Randolph gave a good portrayal, and won the hearty applause of the audience; Mr. McLean as Jack Lawrence made a good impression, whilst able support was rendered by the rest of the company.

The Gaiety.—Lessee, Mr. George E. Good.—The principal turn here is supplied by an artist under the mysterious name of Mr. E, whose entertainment has caught on; the great Thronlbeck appears in a novel act; and the Bioscope in a series of pictures makes up the programme.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Tudor.—The Burglar's Dilemma and other scenes are shown here by the Animated Picture company, and continue to draw.

BOLTON. — Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston.—Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company is presenting *The Face at the Window*. Mr. Gilbert Hall capably acts the part of the Chevalier Lucio Delgado, *alias* "Le Loup"; Mr. T. W. Dunscombe is excellent as the Detective Paul Gouffett; Miss Marie Barrett is natural in her representation of the character of Marie de Brisson; and Mr. C. Alan Hineson as Peter Pottlebury and Miss Gladys Newcome as Babette cause much fun in their respective parts.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—This week we have Conway and Leland, "the merry monopedes"; the Sisters Belmont, dancers; Tom Maxwell and Virginia Frances, in their clever flirtation comedy act; the Clarkes, banjoists; H. O. Wills, comedian; Jack Meymott and Ada Elliston, in their comedy musical duologue, *Semi-Detached;* Mike Cray, eccentric comedy juggler, and his dog "Dooley"; Nash and Noel, versatile comedians and dancers; and the Bob Hanlon troupe of acrobats.

BOOTLE. — Muncaster Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmott; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—The Royal Muncaster Stock company is here in *A Woman Adrift*. Mr. Stanley S. Gordon gives a capital portrayal of Sir John Ingleby; Miss Nina Vaughton is well cast as Cora Leigh; Mr. Alfred D. Adams gives a fine performance as Ferdinand and Don Leo Castro; much amusement is caused by Mr. Albert Sember (Roderick), Mr. Thorpe Tracey (Dennis), and Mr. H. Arnold Allen (Fibbs). Other principal characters are played by Mr. Horace Denton (Pedro), Miss Effie Macintosh (Molly), and Miss Lilian Radbourne (Stella).

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—Several old favourites are appearing this week, principal among them being the well-known vocal comedienne, Florrie Gallimore, who has to respond to several encores. Les Sousloffs, terpsichorean marvels, present a sensational exhibition of whirlwind dancing; Hurmann gives a clever juggling entertainment, manipulating a number of hoops in an extraordinary manner; Arthur Boyne is aptly described as "the funny man"; Will Driscoll, swell comedian and dancer, receives a deserved reception; Mr. and Mrs. Payte provide an amusing duologue, entitled *Also Ran;* Josie Delaine sings and dances cleverly; and the Hippodrome pictures are interesting and amusing, as usual.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. George Edwardes' company is appearing here this week in *See-See*. Mr. Colin Coop as Cheoo has a part which suits him admirably, and is very droll, especially in his scenes with Mr. Bertie Wright, who, as Hang Kee, scores a big success; Mr. Edmund Sherras has a nice voice, and does well as Yen; and Mr. W. J. Manning does all that is possible with the part of Hoang-Wang. Miss Dorothy Chard as See-See is charming, her acting is finished and graceful, and her singing obtains well-merited encores; as Mai-Yai Miss Lena Maitland's fine voice is heard to great advantage; while Miss Kate Chard, Miss Dora Langham, Miss Claire Marsden, and Miss Violet Hollom, lend most excellent support.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—*The Bondman* is played by Mr. George D. Day's company. Mr. Frank Cooper presents a perfectly natural and very convincing performance of the character of Jason; Miss Ida Phillips impresses the audience greatly in the trying part of Greeba; Mr. Henry Doughty's Michael Sunlocks is a painstaking effort, not deficient in ardour; a very fine character-study is the Father Ferrati of Mr. Gilbert Yorke; Mrs. Edwin Palmer is an excellent Mrs. Fairbrother; and there is no fault to find with the support which is rendered by the company filling the numerous minor characters.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. Hill-Mitchelson is here with *The Traitor*. The company is somewhat changed since the last visit, but Mr. S. E. Scanlan retains the part of the traitor, Chief of Police, in which he is as effective as ever. Mr. Graham Woods is the able exponent of the character of Rudolf, Prince of Zenda; and Miss Marie Robson gives a striking performance of the fair Anarchist and avenger, Zula. As Lieut. Nicholas, the young martyr, Miss Jessie Black wins sympathy. The thrilling incidents, which abound, are well worked out, and there is humour to relieve the strain in the rivalry between Captain Ross (Mr. A. Richards), Jack Boult (Mr. W. Read), Cen Cen (Miss Pollie Dunville), and Elsie Dupres (Miss Lillian Matthews).

The Empire. — Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig. — There is a strong comedy element in this week's programme here. Miss Peggy Pryde is a prominent candidate for favour with her humorous songs and breezy style; and clever Tom Edwards, the ventriloquist, succeeds in eliciting hearty laughter and applause. Little Ganty is a quaint and agile comedian; the Five Osranis give a pantomime sketch of the knockabout order which is amusing; Tom Foy and company, in a dialect sketch, *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, cause hearty laughter; in the trifle, *Kiss Your Father*, Mr. Lonnen Meadows and company are extremely entertaining; Norman and Leonard, clever instrumentalists, submit a sketch of real merit and much humour, *The Itinerant;* the smart Twin Brothers Dean do some good whistling and clever dancing; Cissie Curlette's vocalism is of good quality; and Madge May submits an acceptable turn as a comedienne.

Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Fanny Wentworth as a society entertainer, with sketches at the piano, and capital stories and mimicry, provides a delightful turn here this week; Harry Bancroft has a good and telling style as an actor-vocalist; Leah Arden is a dainty and clever comedienne; as comedy acrobats, the Kremka Brothers are very good; Victor Weston submits a good comedy turn; with her Christmas Tree scena, Emmie Ames is on a successful return visit; G. W. Hunter is as quaint as ever with his topical songs and queer stories; and some capital pictures are shown by Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

BRIDLINGTON. — Spa Theatre and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. Henry Hague.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company opened here on Monday in *A Chinese Honeymoon*. Mr. Leo Kloss as the Emperor and Mr. Louis Ashmeade as the Lord Chancellor were admirable; the Lord High Admiral of Mr. Lindsay Harmen and the Tom Hatherton of Mr. Frank G. Dunn were capitally played; Mr. Ernest Sefton's conception of the part of Mr. Pineapple was most amusing; and Miss May Davis scored greatly in the character of Mrs. Pineapple. Miss May Stephenson as Soo-Soo gave great delight; Fi-Fi was in the capable hands of Miss Kitty Clayton. For the last three nights of the week *The White Chrysanthemum* was the attraction.

Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The vocalist at the promenade concerts this week is Miss Palgrave Turner, an excellent and pleasing soprano. The entertainments in the Grand Pavilion by Mr. Flockton-Foster and his clever company of entertainers are always most enjoyable; Miss Ray Morgan and Miss Rita Vincent contribute some finely-rendered songs; Mr. Ally Benson, Mr. E. Lingard Pike, Mr. Philip F. Howley, and Mr. Ernie Le Butt are artists of exceptional ability. The Loyal Dominion Company's animated pictures delight large audiences.

New Spa and Gardens.—Secretary and General-Manager, Mr. Henry Hague.—On Friday (16th) there was a balloon ascent and parachute descent by Prof. Gaudron, which proved very successful. On Saturday there was a grand gala, when the gardens were most brilliantly illuminated. The fireworks, by that eminent firm, Messrs. Pain and Sons, were most attractive. Mr. Surrie Lindon and his company of entertainers are always adding amusing items to their large répertoire.

Royal Victoria Rooms. — Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—That clever little lady, Miss Louie Freear, and her company were here the last week-end, and their programmes were delightful. Miss Freear, of course, was accorded a most hearty reception, and contributed her items in her own inimitable style; Miss Belle Green is a finished musical sketch artist; Mr. Edwin Bennett's character sketches from Dickens's works were clever studies of the characters; and Mr. Vivian Foster was most amusing in a humorous interlude. The company appeared in a farcical absurdity, called *Snooks*, in which Miss Freear kept the house in roars of laughter by her portrayal of the character of Jemima.

Summer Gardens.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—Mr. Charles Danton was accorded a full house on the occasion of his annual benefit on Friday evening (16th), when he had the assistance of a host of talent, a monster programme being contributed to by the Pierrots, in songs, dances, and choruses. Miss Madge Goodall gave a capital song and dance; Miss Farren, Mr. G. Hyam, and Mr. C. Danton were responsible for a statue dance; Mr C. Beanland's cartoons were excellent; Mr. Harry Collard and Mr. Rob White submitted humorous songs; there was a comic conjuring act by Messrs. J. Bath and H. B. Coda; and Mr. Flockton-Foster and his entertainers presented several items in admirable style.

BRIGHTON.—Theatre Royal.—Licencee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl. — Mr. Fredk. Mouillot's company opened here on Monday with *The Geisha*. Miss Joan Ritz, as O Mimosa San, displayed charming acting and singing; Miss Florrie Saunders as Molly Seymour sang and danced herself into favour; Miss Violet Kenyon made a vivacious Juliette; and Miss Aubrey was well suited as Lady Constance Wynn. Mr. Edward Carlton was a droll and humorous Wun Hi; Mr. Lionel Braham afforded much amusement as the Marquis Imari; Mr. Cyril Dane sang and acted in pleasing style as Reginald Fairfax; while Mr. A. J. Nicholls sang with distinct success as Takemine. The orchestra and chorus were effective under the direction of Chevalier Le Grand. The programme for the week also included *A Greek Slave* and *San Toy*.

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is here this week with *At Cripple Creek*. Mr. Stanley Bedwell gives a fine impersonation of Joe Mayfield; Miss Daisy Carlton is highly successful as Maggie Mason; Mr. Will Hook is a droll Reggie Harwood; and Mr. Eric Hudson an entertaining Martin Mason. Miss Nancy Roberts as Belle Gordon, and Miss Agnes Verity as "Dynamite" Ann, merit praise; and other parts are ably sustained by Mr. Reginald Harley-West, Mr. Roy Tracey, and Miss Rosie Hopkins.

Alhambra.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—George Lashwood is as popular as ever, and scores a great success with "Oh! for a night in the West"; John Grun Marx performs some astonishing feats of strength; the Knick-Knacks are clever speciality dancers; Cissie Lupino is a graceful dancer; Frank Seeley, eccentric comedian, is warmly applauded; the Two Walonells, comedy acrobats and gymnasts, are well received; Lily Eyton is a pleasing character-vocalist; Almon, the upside-down artist, displays great skill as a hand-balancer; Ed. E. Ford, "the Australian Sundowner," is entertaining; and the Alhambrascope pictures are very interesting.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—The Hilgert Arkas Troupe are highly successful in an acrobatic equilibrist act; Ruby Bijou is well received in an artistic bare-foot dance; Maud Esmand is a pleasing burlesque artist; Ralph and Nellie Howard are entertaining in the comedy sketch, *Military Mad;* Billy Williams, "the man in the velvet suit," appears in his latest successes; Le Diabelo submits a sensational turn in "looping the devil's wheel"; Thorpe and Co. are diverting in the comedy episode, *My Burglar;* Mac Walten contributes a burlesque act; Newell and Niblo are talented saxophone and xylophone players; Mlle. Haydee provides a delightful turn with her miniature vaudeville theatre; John E. Coyle is an eccentric and popular comedian; and the Barrascope pictures are amusing.

West Pier.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here this week with *The Stronger Sex*. Mr. H. J. Carvill gives an admirable portrayal of the Hon. Warren Barrington; Miss Margaret Fareleigh merits warm praise for her thoroughly artistic impersonation of Mary Barrington; Miss Emma Hutchison achieves great success as Mrs. Van Garkerken; Mr. George Rowlands as Oliver Thorpe and Miss Margaret Cavania as Joan Forsythe materially add to the enjoyment of the performance; and the remaining characters are in able hands. The play is well mounted and richly dressed.

Palace Pier Theatre.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow and company opened here on Monday with *Under Two Flags*. Miss Ida Molesworth won frequent and hearty applause for her artistic and convincing representation of Cigarette; Mr. Mark Blow gave a masterly enactment of Bertie Cecil Royallieu; Miss Mabel Durr

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Messrs. Polini and Melford's company is here with *The Silver King*, the play being staged in good style. Mr. Herbert Ford presents an interesting and telling exposition of Wilfred Denver; Miss Viola Holland is pleasing as Nellie Denver; Mr. Tom Paulton is decidedly good as Jaikes; the "Spider" and Olive Skinner have effective exponents in Mr. Henderson Bland and Miss Brineta Browne; Corket, Combs, and Cripps are well represented by Messrs. Edmund Beresford, John Detlin, and John M. Manley; Mr. Allen Jeayes makes the most of Geoffrey Ware; and Mr. Arthur H. Rooke acts with commendable smartness as Samuel Baxter. The children, Cissy and Ned, are nicely taken by Genna Lyndon and Eric Dene, the remaining parts being all carefully performed.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Neil Kenyon, Scotch comedian, heads the bill, his turn being most amusing. He has a quaintly comical style, and his patter is decidedly funny. Athas and Collins obtain much applause for their speciality act of song and dance; the Haytors amuse immensely with their comedy act, *Cabby and His Fare;* the Society Quartette excels as vocalists and dancers; Tony Iveson, musical tramp, plays the piano and sings in good style; Harry Cotton is a smart character entertainer; Robert Williams presents a good exposition of sword exercises of various periods; and Russell Carr does an amusing act as a ventriloquist. The performance concludes with a good display of animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Charles Whittle, comedian, is always popular here; he has a quaint style, and his songs are really amusing. Lilian Dundas and company are successful with their dramatic sketch, *The Doom of Delilah;* Sadie Seymour is a pleasing comedienne; the Ellertons amuse with their comedy, *The Better Half;* Phil Bransby, coster comedian, obtains applause; Howe and Ardie are acceptable comic acrobats, &c.; the Three Sidney Girls are pleasing vocalists and exceptionally smart acrobatic dancers; and Kelly and Agnes do a good turn as a tramp and a soubrette. The performance concludes with a fine set of coloured films, The International Dancers.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred. Watson.—Mr. James Hare's company in the drama, *A Destroyer of Men*, had a good house to receive them on Monday, when Mr. Hare gave a capital performance as Karl Mischla. The villain, Count Starevitch, was efficiently played by Mr. C. P. Wentworth; Mr. Hill Cremer ably portrayed Paul Starevitch; Miss Irene Clifford made an impression as Olga Mischla, and Miss Emmie Barton was a charming Vida Ravel. Much laughter was caused by Mr. Ross Warren as Coco Totchoski and Miss Alice Buckland as Nina Pattakake. Efficient support was rendered by Mr. Charles Bickell as Michael Mischla, Mr. Charles Coventry as Fedor Strelitzki, Mr. Arthur Swain as Col. Liniewitch, and Mr. Arthur Conroy as General Drakensburg.

BURNLEY. — VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A bright musical comedy entitled, *The Young Lieutenant*, is produced by Mrs. Ann Hughes' Company here this week; the scenery and costumes are very pretty, whilst the singing is excellent; Mr. Leslie Hawkins is seen to advantage in the title-rôle; Mr. Harry Walsh is a great success as Dick Bouncer, the comedian; Admiral Sir Stoke Newington is undertaken by Mr. Edwin Sykes and Bill Barnacle by Mr. Steane Lough; Miss Kathleen Emmott's charming manner captivates her audience, and Miss Hetty Gale as Polly is loudly applauded for her vivacious performance.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The Four Regals worthily head the excellent bill here this week, their clever acrobatic and heavy weight lifting calling forth great applause; the Royal Tokio Troupe are skilful Japanese performers, and are greatly appreciated; Jimson's sketch, "The Burglars' Surprise," is a smart entertainment, and Lozelle performs a series of uncommon tricks, displaying strength and dexterity; Henriquetta Maude describes her travels in New Zealand in an interesting manner; Harry Nelson is a smart comedian; Fynn and Hurly are good in a burlesque boxing act; and May Zant and her juveniles are clever in song and dance; the Dieppe Motor Race, a capital film, is given by the Empire Theatroscope.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE (NEW HIPPODROME).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—Good variety turns are the order here this week. Fred Karno's acrobatic comedians cause the greatest amusement by their grotesque antics; some startling gymnastic evolutions are performed by Aerial and Astarte; the clever post-horn playing of D. W. Watson has the charm of novelty; Beatrice Lane is a pleasing vocalist; Frank Boyce and Dan Hendy are successful comedians; and capital pictures are shown by the Operascope.

BURY (LANCS.).—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Marks.—The company here this week is of a high-class order, and includes Oswald Williams, assisted by Winifred La Barte and company, in a series of startling illusions; Max Waldon, an exceedingly clever impersonator; the Lannons, champion high pedestal dancers; Babs Lloyd, juvenile singer and dancer; Abel and Welsh, Continental eccentrics; Hector, who performs tricks on the wire, and has a capital funny man as assistant; the Egertons, aerial gymnasts; and Miss Sarah Berry, the famous contralto.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Marks.—The pictures are varied and interesting, and include the Coventry Godiva Pageant and many others. Variety turns are provided by Miss McKeller, vocalist; and Brothers Harrison, comedians and dancers.

THE HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—A miniature musical comedy, entitled *A King for a Day*, is the chief attraction here. Mr. Sydney Dooley and Mr. C. Seymour's company play it cleverly, and the situations are amusing. Other turns include Captain Roberts, herculean musician; Connie Mascot, singer and dancer; Pieretta and Mona, quick-change artists; Mark Henton, comedian; Tip and Top, comedy acrobats; and the Irving Trio of singers.

BUXTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—*The Dairymaids*, played by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company, was here the first part of the week, and the musical farce was welcomed by one of the best houses of the season. Miss Mabel Younge was a most effective Lady Brudenell; and Mr. Clifford Seyler extracted much fun from the part of Sam Brudenell. Mr. Richard Adams did his work well as Lieut. Brudenell; and Mr. Arthur W. Ashdown sang nicely as Captain Fred Leverton. Mr. Langdon Bruce was a jovial Irish naval doctor as Dr. Bryne; and Mr. John Osborn kept the house in roars of laughter as Joe Mivens. Miss Madge Avery was a most repellent Miss Pychase; and Miss Maud Denney very ably impersonated Eliza. The large number of smaller parts were all admirably filled, and the piece, which was beautifully staged and dressed, went with a swing. The attraction for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday consisted of Mr. Martin Harvey and company, in *The Only Way* and *The Breed of the Treshams*.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—*Florodora* has not been to Cardiff for some time, but it has lost none of its power of attraction, as was proved by the crowded house on Monday night. This successful musical comedy is presented by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company of talented artists. Mr. Fred Eastman is seen again in the rôle of Anthony Tweedlepunch, and a more excruciatingly funny impersonation could not be desired; Miss Maisie Ellinger as Dolores has a wonderful soprano voice; Mr. Edmund Russel as Cyrus W. Gilfain displays great ability; and Mr. J. B. Fox sings with much spirit and energy as Frank Abercoed. Mr. Harold Perry as Captain Arthur Donegal is thoroughly well suited; and the character of Leandro loses nothing in the hands of Mr. Chas. Roodnight. Miss Edith Housley as Lady Holyrood is exceptionally good, her charming and vivacious manner, combined with her catchy songs, making her part one of the most pleasing in the whole production. Miss Marion Armytage as Angela Gilfain is also worthy of special mention. The chorus is sufficiently strong, and the staging is most effective.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—*The Coal King* is paying a return visit here, and has made a very successful stay. The drama, which is, of course, of special interest to Cardiffians, is presented by Messrs. Polini and Maitland in excellent style. Mr. Sydney Leyton is the mine manager Tom Roberts, and Miss Dorothy Clifton plays Grace Shirley. Both are pleasing and attractive artists. Sir Reginald Hartford has a dignified exponent in Mr. Ernest Rivarz; as the villainous Walter, Mr. W. P. Mansfield is well placed; and Mr. Frank Dalton, in the rôle of Dick Shirley, plays with much credit. Miss Sinna St. Clair's impersonation of Mad Ann is a capital piece of acting; and comedy is represented by Mr. Alfred Terriss (Jim Williams) and Miss Winifred Love (Araminta Green).

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—The programme at the Empire this week is a most enjoyable one. The chief attraction is provided by Mr. Herbert Darnley's company of comedians, in an American military farce entitled *The Skirmishers;* they create endless fun. The entertaining mimic O'Gust is ever welcome in Cardiff, and his performance is received with much applause; the turn presented by the Sleedes is always amusing, their sketch, *The Mysterious House*, quite bewildering the audience; the Australian entertainer Albert Whelan is a great favourite, his vocal imitations being much appreciated; Sinclair and Park introduce some sweetly-rendered Irish duets; James Eadie and Cissy Ramsden, in their musical comedy duo, prove a delightful couple; Fred Hastings, the well-known comedian; Ina Lorimer, a smart dancer; Fred Lincoln, a talented comedian; and the interesting Bioscope complete.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—This house is still gaining in popularity, and since its opening, only a few weeks ago, has been packed nightly. An exciting turn is that provided by Tom Grove, in a sensational cyclist act, "Flying the revolving wheel"; Dorothy Clarke, a captivating comedienne, makes a hit with her songs; Harry Allister proves entertaining in his impersonations of celebrities; Will Vay's Juveniles gain applause for their scena, *Life in the Slums;* the Robertys are smart jugglers and equilibrists; Spangles and Sawdust have an original aerial act; and the Simms, vocal and dancing artists; the Ellimans, in their refined musical entertainment; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux all add to the success of the programme.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Mr. James Willard's company is here this week in the drama, *A Woman's Pluck*. A capital piece, well written, well staged, and excellently played. Mr. Austin Mortimer contributes a powerful and convincing study of Dick Darrell, a villain somewhat of the "Spider" type. His accomplice, Mark Scanlon, is well played by Mr. J. P. Dryden; the mad Squire of Mr. Arthur Temple is a clever character-sketch of a by no means easy character; Mr. Matthew Boulton is excellent in his interpretation of the artist; and Mr. Harry Emmerson's blind basket-maker is a most pathetic sketch, notable for its fine elocution. The lighter scenes in the hands of Mr. Dicky Bird and Miss Fanny James are very successful. Miss Marion Fawcett has a part in Grace Daremont which fits her like the proverbial glove, her powerful acting created the utmost enthusiasm; Miss Dolly Gilroy is a pleasing Jessie Pope, and Miss Elsie Maitland enacts Lady Daredevil with the ease and skill of an accomplished artist. The numerous minor characters are without exception remarkably well filled.

THE PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The first visit of Syd May, the well-known mimic, is proving quite a big attraction this week, his imitations of popular artists being remarkably life-like and cleverly worked, and his comic wrestling bout is received with equal appreciation; Griff is paying a return visit, and his new business is screamingly funny, and well deserves the enthusiastic applause it provokes. The Four Karnos contribute a lively and smartly-worked knockabout sketch. Another good turn is that of the Sisters Love, nice vocalists and clever dancers; the Kroney Bros. work hard and successfully in their *London's Lazy Coalman* sketch; the Paragon Trio, speciality vocalists; Lily Sharplin, comedienne and mimic; and some fine pictures by the Pepiscope conclude an excellent and well-approved entertainment.

CASTLEFORD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Beanland and Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will H. Emerson; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Travis.—A capital programme is being presented at this popular house of entertainment, and business is correspondingly excellent. A prominent feature of the bill is the interesting and clever performance given by Captain Devereux's comedy troupe of dogs; Field and Lewis give a decidedly smart turn, the lady being bright and clever and the gentleman causing much laughter; Phil Conway and Reg. Garland are appearing in an excellent burlesque absurdity, *Left in Charge;* Ted Young's mannerisms and singing are as quaint as of old; Harry Bent as a mimic of various music-hall artists is very well received; Miss Beatrice Elstree renders two songs with success, her pretty voice being heard to much advantage; Ollard on the horizontal bar and trapeze is warmly appreciated; Miss Ada Twibell is well served with two capital songs; and the Loyal Dominion company's animated pictures conclude an excellent entertainment.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred. Osmond's company is appearing here in *The Still Alarm* with much success. Mr. Glenville is natural and popular as Jack Manley; Mr. Fred Osmond gives an amusing representation of "Doc" Wilber; Miss Mabel Veriton makes a homely Mrs. Manley; Miss Jean Beresford is a lively and pleasing Carrie; and other parts are in capable hands.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Fred Karno's troupe of comedians constitute a powerful draw here, with *Mumming Birds* and *London Suburbia*, in both of which a great deal of clever burlesque and fooling cause hearty laughter throughout. The variety turns consist of Gladys Williams, a lively comedienne; Mackintosh and Royal, smart clog dancers; Sam Redfern, who sings and patters in his old agreeable way; Victoria Dagmar, in a neat display on the horizontal bar; and C. E. Stelling, whose canine partner shows signs of careful and patient training. Lacey's Erascope has interesting films.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis.—Here we have Clarice Sefton, comedienne and dancer; J. T. Daniels, high pedestal dancer; Edna Latonne, a popular serio; the Five Vernons, in admirable selections on the xylophone; Fraser and Haley, pleasing duettists; Fraser and French, vocalists and nimble dancers; and Wyndham and Kitty, in their astounding wire act. Pictures by the Edisonograph form a capital concluding item.

CHESTER. — ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—At the top of the bill are the Brothers O'Brien, in their clever horizontal bar act; T. H. McCann gives a splendid exhibition of dancing on roller skates; Mulvey and Miriam are seen in their funny duologue, *The Reporter;* the Sisters Temple, vocal duettists, have some popular numbers; Bessie Dillow, burlesque artist, makes a good appearance, and her songs meet with general approval; Johnny Walker has some quaint patter which amuses greatly; the Wakeman Quartette, headed by Mr. Chas. Wakeman, put in some good part and solo singing; Terry and Bently and the Imperial Bioscope also contribute.

MUSIC HALL.—Joseph Poole's Myriorama opened here for a fortnight on Monday, and is attracting large audiences at each performance. An excellent variety company and an efficient orchestra make up a good programme, which is greatly appreciated by Messrs. Poole's patrons.

CHORLEY (LANCS.).—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hemingway.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. E. Cardwell's pantomime *The Sleeping Beauty* is here. Much praise is due to Mrs. Levy for a really beautiful dressing of the pantomime, the whole being produced under the personal direction and conductorship of Mr. H. B. Levey. There is a large chorus, and Miss Dolly Dodds cleverly undertakes Beauty; Miss May Gibson charmingly portrays Queen Claribel, and sings prettily; Miss Kittie Trewhitt is a capable Prince Florizel; wee George Wood, a boy comedian, gives an exceptionally clever performance of Bertie Dalrimple, and is a capital mimic; the Bros. Armstrong are responsible for a humorous interpretation of the Queen and Asbestos; and Messrs. Doyle and Gibson are much appreciated as Col. Dreadnought and Major Flashlight; specialities are submitted by La Belle Annotte, solo dancer; and the Margueritta Quartette of Dancers.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. P. W. Willard.—A good little variety show is given here this week. Sylvo, the quaint comedy juggler, tops the bill with an amusing turn; the Two Errolls, in a smart leaping act; Rose Hamilton, comedienne; Carlile and Walker, comedy artists; the Three Sisters Jerome, with a smart dancing turn; Gracie Bard, coon singer; Gus Hindell, comedian; Blanche Vincent, burlesque artist; Edgar Berte, with his monologue; Caban's Circus; and Norton Greenop's Lunar Sextette, are among the attractions.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Harold Montague; Manager, Mr. E. J. Barratt.—Last Friday (16th) Harold Montague, of Vagabond fame, took his benefit, when a record house for the Pier Pavilion was obtained. This week the entertainment is made up by Arthur Chinery's concert party of Willow Pattern Serenaders; Harry May Helmsley, child imitator and lightning sketches; Louis Nikola, conjurer and illusionist; and Miss Ethel Mayaffre and W. Mann Mayne, in the little sketch, *Rats*.

WEST CLIFF GARDENS. — Proprietors, Messrs. Graham, Russell, and Bentley.—Last Saturday Mr. Bert Graham took his benefit, when a bumper house was recorded This week the artists on offer are, in addition to the three proprietors, Miss Emelie Hayes, a charming soprano; Wm. Barrett, a good baritone; and Walter Montague, in his musical entertainment. Mr. Jas. Jefferson is a good pianist, and big business is the order of the day.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Licensee, Mr. Fred Williams.—Good business is being done here. Mr. W. F. Jury is still here, and continues to give his popular animated picture shows; the other part of the bill is made up of a smart band of entertainers.

AL FRESCO SHOWS.—These are all in full swing, and except that the weather might be better, business is good. There are three, and include Claude North, on West Beach; Hy. Frewin's White Coons, near the Jetty; and Fred Pullan's Yorkshire Pierrots, at Rigg's Retreat.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Montague.—This popular place of entertainment was opened for the season on Monday to a packed house. The drama chosen for the first week is *At Duty's Call*, presented by Mr. Joseph Gerant's company. Mr. Harry Scott gives a fine rendition of Captain George Allison, and as his unscrupulous half-brother Harold Mr. Joseph Gerant gives a good account of himself; General Gordon, the Khartoum hero, is safe in the hands of Mr. Maurice Drew; Miss Beatrice Western is highly successful as Salema, and Miss Lily Cramonde as Dora Drummond acts and looks charming; the comic relief is well looked after by Mr. Frank Caffrey as Terry O'Halleran, and Mr. Will Brereton as Jack Spencer, who are untiring in their efforts to amuse. On Monday Mr. Montague, the acting-manager, was presented with a floral tribute in the shape of a horse-shoe for good luck.

COLCHESTER. — HIPPODROME. — Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fred Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Geo. Marriott and company in *Oliver Twist* head the bill. The greatest credit is due to Mr. Marriott for his work in the exacting part of Fagin. Bosanquet, who introduces, amongst other instruments, his own bosanquephone, furnishes a musical treat; Vera Mayne, with her very captivating style, scores heavily with a couple of well-rendered songs; Ella Loraine goes well with her songs illustrated on the screen; Marlo, the boy juggler, gives a good entertainment; and Alec Thomas sings and patters quite to the taste of pit and gallery. The orchestral music, so pleasing a feature in this hall, reflects great credit on the painstaking conductor, Mr. Amos Parker.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. Graham Arthur's company is appearing here this week in the drama, *When a Man Hates*. Mr. Graham Arthur is very good in the rôle of Pietro Danelli; and as Lawrence Hastings Mr. Sylvesta Stewart is equally clever; Mr. Herbert M. King gives an excellent impersonation of Paul, the half-witted; whilst Mr. Arthur P. Leo gives a good account of himself as Detective Smart; Mr. Fred A. Lewis as Peter Simple, and Miss Jennie Hallworth as Dolly Dimple, prove themselves excellent comedians; Miss Mabel Liston is very attractive as Lettie; and as Olga Gwynne Miss Mamie Stuart well deserves the applause accorded her.

COVENTRY.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Bennett.—*The Silver King* is the attraction here this week. As Wilfred Denver Mr. Fred Davis wins deserved praise for his fine acting; while Miss Adah Barton gives a splendid impersonation of his wife, Nellie Denver; Daniel Jakes, the servant, is admirably portrayed by Mr. Ed. J. George; the Spider (Captain H. Skinner) is well represented by Mr. L. Lowther; and Miss Flossie Hall wins praise as Cissy.

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lennox Barry.—Jan Rudenyi, Hungarian actor-violinist, in a musical romance entitled *The Power of Music*, shows marvellous powers on the violin; Herbert Darnley's Dots, in a little sketch entitled *Keping Mother*, are very good indeed; a comedy by Lionel Vaughan's company, entitled *In Trouble*, causes the whole house to roar with laughter; the pantomime act by the Three Pirmans, with their acrobatic feats, creates endless fun; Miss Belle Braham, the pictorial songstress, Miss Rose Harvey, the chorus comedienne, and Mr. Tom Hughes, comedian, all do their turns well; the show winding up with Bioscope pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance; Manager, Mr. K. Drace.—Chung Lung Soo appears and is truly one of the most accomplished conjurers in the world; Theo. Bowmeester, as a protean actor, gives a clever sketch, *Who is Guilty?* in which he is responsible for seven different parts; Rhoda Paul presents a pleasing musical incident, entitled *A Schoolboy's Dream;* Little Agnes Tina is a very clever juvenile mimic; Martin Henderson, the blind musician, is enthusiastically received; Lieut. Travis is responsible for some clever ventriloquism; and Fred Curran is a capable comedian.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Mr. Herbert Darnley's company in *The Sandow Girl* is drawing good houses here. Miss Victoria Charlton, with her graceful figure and engaging manner, is a brilliant success in the title-rôle; Miss Hilda Blanche scores as Katarina; Miss Ray Fairfax is a clever Frau Winkleheim; Mr. Joseph B. Montague a humorous Higgins; Mr. J. C. Graves a droll Colonel Klarter; Mr. Frank Lilliput does well as Winkleheim; and Mr. Frank Lennard plays Capt. Karl in bright and breezy style. The Rosaire Troupe execute some clever dances.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James.—Messrs. C. and F. Renad's company in the *Swiss Express* is cordially received here this week. Messrs. Charles and Frederick Renad maintain their popularity in their excellent representations of James and John; Mr. Wilfrid E. Brandon is entitled to great praise as Dr. Gondimar Gull; Mr. Basil Reynolds scores as Bob Rollingstone; Mr. Alex. Wylie as Dudley Green does well; Mr. Harry H. Vernon makes an admirable Rhino; Mr. Charles Gray is successful as Mr. Septimus Squeeze; and Mr. Harwood Cooper capably fulfils the dual rôle of Jack Gadabout and Admiral Bombshelli; Miss Blanche Vernon submits a fine portrayal of Mrs. Septimus Squeeze; a word of praise is due to Miss Lilian Lee, Miss Beatrice Fairfax, Miss Daisy Caulder, and Miss Queenie Fairfax; and Miss Celestine Brandon as Virginia is quite a favourite, her songs being very well represented.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—The Two McNaughtons head the bill this week, and are received with great enthusiasm; the Abdullah Troupe of real Arabs gives an interesting show; Miss Sylvia Cavalho and company present a dramatic episode, entitled *Lulu*, and are thoroughly appreciated; Lambert and Glover provide abundance of fun in their sketch, *My Birthday;* Harold Hughman is an admirable mimic; Bert Williams is a clever ventriloquist; Kisbey is a humorous call boy; Adey Spencer plays and sings well; Hal Chapter is a quaint comedian; and the Imperial Bioscope is admirable.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. Edward Marris's company opened here on Monday with *The Dandy Doctor*. Miss Florence Smithers as Jane created much laughter with her comedy; Miss Ethel is very attractive as Ivy Pendred; Mr. William Rokeby is clever as Melchisadek Brown; the part of Bertie Bolingbroke is exceptionally well played by Mr. Walter Nugent. The principals are well supported by Miss Rose Sember, Miss Dolly Payne, Miss Darrell, Miss Mary Graham, Miss Marie Foss, Miss Marjorie North, Miss Rosie Chandler, Miss Lilian Drake, Miss Joan Harcourt, Mr. Herbert Pearce, Mr. Leslie Winter, Mr. H. Turner, Mr. W. Orvall, and Mr. William Irvine.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is here this week in *A Sister's Sin*. Miss Violet Ingram as the heroine, Minnie Hastings, is a great success; Miss Karburn Eckhart is effective as Charzel; Mr. C. Wills acts with power as Harold Raymond; and Mr. Ryeland Leigh is successful in the heavy part of George Oakley. Mr. Alex. Knight, jun., as Walter Hastings, Mr. Ernest Frere as Ikey Moses, and Mr. Harry Lyndon as Theophilus Hope all do well; Mr. Michael Madden as Larry Murphy is responsible for some excellent comedy, being well supported by Miss Lillian Bales as Nell Stubbs and Miss Janet Lawton as Floss Perks; Miss Phena Powell is well placed as Redempta; and great credit is due to the two young artists, Miss Maggie English as Jack and Miss A. Bales as May Raymond.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant Managers, Messrs. Charles Denley and H. Taylor.—The bill this week is headed by *The Little Stowaway*, which meets with an excellent reception. The characters are capably portrayed by Messrs. J. R. Walton, J. A. Wilson, H. Metcalfe, G. Rawson, A. Belcliffe, L. Stevenson, and Misses Maude Osmond and Eva Lumley, and the play itself is well mounted and staged The Musical Schaffers are responsible for a clever and amusing instrumental number; the Cheers, with their remarkably clever cats, are cordially received; Charles Rowen, quaint comedian, is eminently successful; Edward Ind is a capital character vocalist; the Henres submit a smart juggling act; Mabel Le Roy is an agreeable comedienne; while the Bioscope is not the least attractive item in a good-all-round programme.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—*The Lady Slavey* is played by Mr. Robert Crossman's company. In the rôle of Phyllis Miss Winnie Volt was full of charm and sprightliness, which made an instant conquest; Miss Rita Presano makes the mercurial and matrimonially disposed character of Flo Honeydew a brilliant success; it is certain that a better exponent of Roberts (the Sheriff's officer) could not be found than Mr. W. T. Thompson; Mr. Edmund Cooper, handsome, of good physique, and in stature abounding, acts with easy grace and point as Vincent A. Evelyn; Mr. Frank Henderson's exposition of Lord Lavendar is all that could be desired; Mr. Keino Johnson is excellent as Major O'Neill, with a keen sense of Irish humour and spirit, and a choice airing of the brogue. Misses Evie and Gladys Anderson personified with success Maud and Beatrice respectively, their dancing, especially in the second act, calling for eulogy. The united chorus bear themselves well. Much is due to the discipline and control maintained by Mr. K. Ernest Irving, the musical director. Mr. A. G. Pottow courteously and actively officiates in front of the house.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*The Walls of Jericho* has proved to be one of the most popular and best-acted plays that have graced the boards here for some time. Mr. Wilfred E. Payne in the title-rôle is a vigorous Jack Frobisher, and brings an agreeable and courtly deportment to bear upon his part; Mr. W. Kingsford Pearce is pre-eminently qualified to depict the Marquis of Steventon, and gives full effect to the presentation of the peccadilloes of the "smart set"; exceptionally opposite, too, is Mr. Charles Fancourt as Harry Dallas; as Lady Westerby Miss Margaret Murray is charming, and gives a cultured, artistic touch to the representation of a society hostess; in the hands of Miss Elsie Ross, Lady Lucy Derenham is forcibly and interestingly accounted for; and a very significant success is achieved by Miss Dora Hall, whose treatment of Lady Alethea Frobisher wrings from the enraptured audience the most cordial approvation.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Grand Theatre Company, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—*The Girl Behind the Counter* is being played by Mr. Frederick Mouillot's company. Miss Nora Brocklebank as Winnie Willoughby had the play poised on her capable shoulders, and carried it to success. Miss Eileen Clanford made a distinguished first appearance as Ninnette. Mr. Arthur Cartwright was well placed as Charles Chetwyn; Mr. Ellis Holland clever as General Sir Wilkie Willoughby; Mr. Howard Criceland's Viscount Cushington was a smart performance; the Monsieur Duval of Monsieur Jules Charmettes was much appreciated. The scenery and appointments were all that could be wished.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Assistant-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is here with *The Dairymaids*. Miss Phyllis Dare is very bright and artistic as Peggy. She is well supported by Miss Edith Blanch, Mr. Statham Staples, and Mr. Harry Dent. The chorus, the scenery, and the accessories are above reproach.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Chas. Fox, jun.; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—Miss Vesta Tilley is captivating huge audiences. Friocari, the hat manipulator, is also a clever turn. Mr. Halter and Miss Ray present a sketch with amusing points; the A-Ba-Bees tableaux vivants possess the interest which is attached to novelty; Vernon's Bioscope shows fine pictures, which are accompanied by Mr. Harry Woods' delightful orchestra. The turn of the Two Anartos is clever and up to date. Mr. Sydney Leighton's Bohemian Players in the beautiful grounds of the Palace attract large audiences.

DERBY CASTLE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly.—The programme is made significant by Mr. Ernest Shand in laughable new songs and fresh business. Farr and Farland are quite smart raconteurs; Messrs. Ryan and Hall give a guy wrestling competition, which is really funny; the Cecilias, lady instrumentalists, offer an interlude which interests; Messrs. Stewart and Morgan's musical scena, *Leaving Ireland*, is particularly attractive; and Beloni is an adroit juggler.

THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Director, Mr. T. J. Connor.—There is an extensive programme of circus and variety artists here.

MR. FREDERICK BUXTON'S PIERROTS AND THE VILLAGE maintain their well-earned reputation; Mr. Charles Davis' minstrels on Douglas Head attract thousands; and at the Empire Theatre twice nightly Mr. Davis presents an ever-changing variety show. The theatre has been brightened with redecorations. Messrs. Adeler and Sutton do well on Onchan Head. On Friday of this week they present Mr. Bransby Williams in his Dickens' creations. Mr. Tom Isherwood ably conducts the orchestra.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Mr. Charles Macdona's chief company opened here on Monday with *The Duchess of Dantzic*. Miss Georgina Delmar, an actress dowered with personal beauty, charm of manner, sweetness of voice, and much dramatic skill, plays Sans Gêne in a way that endears her to the hearts of her audiences, and she is most ably assisted by the capable acting and good vocalism of Mr. Marshall Vincent; the well-known characteristics in the personality of Napoleon Bonaparte are skilfully assumed by Mr. Frank Bradley; Miss Daisy Kersey is the daintiest and sweetest little Renée de Saint Mazard imaginable; and she has a gallant, good-looking, and convincing lover in Mr. C. Burrunston Williams as Adhémar; Mr. Williams is also responsible for the impersonation of Vicomte de Bethune, of the first act, with the famous "noblesse oblige" song, which is nightly encored; the part of Papillon is played with a nice appreciation of its possibilities for humour by Mr. Ernest Cossart, and Mr. Vincent Galley is an excellent M. D'Alargo; the dignity necessary to the rôle of Josephine is charmingly assumed by Miss Alice Hamilton; Miss Catherine Burke and Miss Gertrude Hart cleverly emphasised the contrast in Napoleon's sisters, and Miss Edith Martyn as Lisette completes the cast. *His House in Order*, played by Mr. Frank Fenton, Miss Marie Polini, and company, is billed for the latter end of the week.

THE PIER PAVILION.—Mr. Tom Fancourt's concert company has attracted good houses twice daily during the week. Mr. Fancourt himself is a comedian of undoubted talent, and his items have been well received; humour of a lighter vein was supplied by the amusingly-rendered songs of Mr. G. P. Newell; Mr. Francis Gloynes sings with good effect, and Mr. C. H. Charlton thoroughly mystifies everyone with his exceedingly smart conjuring; Miss Winifred Foster, a captivating little vocalist, has a novel number in "The land of upside down"; Miss Jennie Rubie sings and assists Mr. Fancourt in the comedietta, *Nipper, the Messenger Boy*, in which Miss Mary Barton also takes part; Mr. Arthur Creighton is the accompanist.

PALACE HIPPODROME.—Fred Southern presents this week for the first time in Dover a dramatic sketch, entitled *The Night Watchman;* Stacey and Williams, smart cross talkers and dancers, are excellent; and a really clever turn is given by Johnny Dwyer; Simosa San's performing pigeons are pretty; and Kavados gives an expert performance with cannon balls; Flo Melville, burlesque artist, and Mr. and Mrs Leonard, in *Coming Home*, also score; a novelty has been introduced by Wal Pink, who gives at each house a limerick, for which prizes are offered for the best completing line.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—Mr. Auguste van Biene and company in *The Broken Melody* are paying a visit here. As Paul Borinski Mr. Auguste van Biene has ample scope to display his undoubted abilities. Mr.

BUCHANAN'S
"BLACK & WHITE"
THE WHISKY OF WORLD WIDE REPUTE

Henry Ludlow gives a fine study of General Ivanoff; Miss Mabel Mannering is most sympathetic and effective in the rôle of Mabel; the part of Mortimer is well sustained by Mr. Bremer Wills; Miss Rose Winters acquits herself with credit as the Hon. Mrs. Spinnaker; Dickson finds a worthy exponent in Mr. G. H. Childs; Miss Margherita Gordon is excellent as Mrs. Dickson; Mr. Archie Selwyn is well placed as the Hon. Richard Spinnaker; and Miss Constance Elgin as the Duchess de Verviers and Miss Roberta Pulleyre as Miss Gerard are both admirable in their respective rôles.

Gaiety Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—*Miss Hook of Holland* is played by Mr. George Dance's company. Mr. Leslie Holland has a congenial part as Mr. Hook, and is responsible for much hearty laughter; Mr. Arthur Harrold as Van Vuyt is in excellent voice, and sustains the part capitally; Miss Deborah Volar, by her graceful acting and cultured singing, makes quite a hit in the title-rôle; Mr. Frederick Lyne is exceedingly droll as Simon Slinks; Miss Barbara Dunbar is most successful in the rôle of Gretchen; Mr. Frederick Hobbs does full justice to the part of Captain Paap; Miss Mabel Sealby is intensely amusing as Nina; Mr. George Ide does himself credit as Lieut. De Coop; and he is ably supported by Mr. G. Foley as Hendrick Draek and Miss Mabel Keith as Thekla. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Ernest Vousden, is all that could be desired.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The big attraction here this week is the popular Marie Loftus, whose latest songs, given in her own clever style, are vociferously applauded nightly. Frank Elliston and company, in, an amusing sketch, entitled *Aunt Matilda*, causes roars of laughter; Sibb and Sibb, in a clever gymnastic act, score successfully; Miss Lily Burnand, the favourite comedienne, meets with a flattering reception; J. B. Preston wins favour as a Scottish comedian; plenty of comedy is provided by Ted and May Hopkins, the Welsh entertainers; Eric, in a novel ventriloquial act, gives an interesting contribution to the programme; a highly appreciated turn is given by Carden and Haines, Australian vocal entertainers; and Miss Maud Vera delights the audience with her pleasing vocalisation; while the Empire pictures are, as usual, good.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Chas M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Foremost here this week are Hill and Whitaker, whose vocal and instrumental turn is particularly bright, and is warmly applauded. The mystifying Lilith again arouses the liveliest interest; capital entertainment is provided by Wright and Lawson in an amusing sketch; a pleasing mimic is Ruth Molloy, to whom a hearty reception is given; the Godfreys, in a musical act, score successfully; as does also Wallace Whitney, character comedian. Lillian Warren's illustrated songs are richly enjoyed; Ethel Walker, comedienne, has a host of admirers; dainty singing and dancing come from Beattie Foster; and the Bioscope concludes the entertainment.

Round Room, Rotunda.—The Irish Animated Photo Co. commenced their second week here on Monday. The pictures, which are both instructive and amusing, are keenly appreciated by large audiences daily, and the excellent vocal items contributed by Mr. Patrick O'Shea, tenor, and Miss May Durkin, contralto, merit well-deserved applause. The illustrated songs of Mr. Ralph Goggin, the popular guide, are also worthy of mention.

Pavilion, Kingstown.—Manager, Mr. Fred R. Hely.—At this pleasant resort "The Smart Set" are paying a return visit here this week, and entertaining large audience daily. The excellent combination of variety artists include Mr. Walter George, Miss Lena Hutchings, Mr. Oliver Comber, Miss Georgie Martin, Mr. Arthur Court, Miss Hilda Light, Mr. Herbert Oliver, Miss Nellie Comber, and Miss Constance Cromley, who all contribute successfully to the capital programme provided.

World's Fair and Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The programme here includes Howard and Lenore, vocalists and dancers; Bert Watson, comedian; Frank Dandy, character vocalist; Cissy Nora, vocalist and dancer; Arthur Richards, actor-vocalist; and the Cinematograph.

Samuels' Exhibition Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The artists appearing here are the Harold Comedy Sketch Company; Violet Hall, ballad vocalist; Frank Stevens, society humorist; May Danvers, comedienne; George Howard, tenor vocalist; and Reuben Payne, eccentric comedian.

DUMFRIES. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Payne Seddon.—For two nights this week we were favoured with a visit of Mr. Leigh Lovel's company in *A Doll's House* and *The Master Builder*. Torvald Helmer was well portrayed by Mr. Lovel; Mr. Claud Haviland took the part of Dr. Rank with great success; Mr. Reginald Hargreaves made a capital Nile Krogstadt; Miss Octavia Kenmore delighted the house by her impersonation of Nora Helmer; and Miss Katherine Maynard was well suited as Mrs. Linden.

DUNDEE. — Her Majesty's Theatre. — Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Company, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company is here in *The Drama of Life*. Mr. Algernon J. Hicks as Harry Beech gives a highly artistic and powerful rendering; Mr. Edward M. Hamilton as Walter Beech acts in an appropriately aggressive manner; Mr. Clarence Ibbotson as Sir Dobson Wilde creates roars of laughter; as Brenton Mr. Joe Clyde is quiet but effective; Mr. Andrew Moncy as Jack Lawton is well suited; and Mr. Edward Van Biene is good as a French adventurer; Miss Kate Hallam gains the sympathy of the house as Sylvia Beech, acting with intense dramatic power and effect; Miss Amy Ross-Clyde does some excellent character acting as Betty Black; Miss Marie Ramaz as Lady Jane Wilde is successful; and Miss Cissie Carter wins favour as Master Robert Beech.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees, The United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam McIntosh.—Menotti heads the list here this week, and does a number of difficult and daring balancing feats on a rapidly-revolving wire, and also proves himself an adept with the rifle; Dusty Rhodes makes a favourable impression, his singing being much appreciated; Mersano shows great dexterity in his manipulation of coins and cards; Rose and Maidment in their burlesque, *The Shoeblack and the Serio*, meet with success; Sidney Dolf gives satisfaction in his vocal speciality act, and also does some smart juggling feats; J. H. Harris, comedian, takes well with his parodies on popular songs in the Scotch dialect; Copeland and Son are well received for their smart clog-dancing; and Hastings and Fields, comedians and dancers, prove themselves a funny pair. An interesting picture, entitled A Fight for Life, is shown by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

New Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Mrs. Fred J. Kirk's company is here this week in *In Old Madrid*. Mr. E. H. Bertram in the dual parts of Frank Lyndhurst and Count Corregillo shows histrionic ability; Mr. J. G. Holloway is extremely effective as Fernando Cassilus; amusement is caused by Mr. Walter T. Hybert as Frank's valet; Mr. Charles Burns depicts Marmaduke in a meritorious manner; and Mr. Lorrimer Stuart as Mendoza Stittagano is well placed; Miss Edith Claris is sweetly sympathetic as Madeline Ellesmere; Violet Lyndhurst is capitally embodied by Miss Marie L. Ellis; as Lola Miss Louise Fountaine does admirably; Miss Lily Seymour is very good as Martha; and the Sisters Gaye as Gracie Featherstone and Maude de Vere sing and dance well; Harry Marlow and May Manton appear in a sketch, entitled *Other People's Babies*, in which they are very funny; and Sam Lowenwirth and Charles Cohan, Hebrew comedians, enhance their reputation with their "Hebrew Conversation on Politics."

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—The Twentieth Century Animated Photo Company entered on its last week here on Monday. This pictorial entertainment continues to be a great attraction. The principal picture shown was the Coventry Pageant, and among others The Dog Police of Paris and The Lonely Trappers seemed to be in favour. The variety turns were supplied by Mattie Duncanson, a sweet singer of illustrated songs; Carl Bennie, a smart ventriloquist; and the Rowntrees, a clever pair of comedy artists.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Park Theatre.—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co.; under the management of Murray, King, and Clark.—*My Darling* commenced a three-nights' stay here on Monday. Marie Studholme was a charming and dainty representative of Joy Blosson, and has a flattering reception; laughter and and long reigned supreme during J. F. M'Ardle's occupancy of the stage in the rôle of Sir Henry Heldon; J. Robert Hale was an engagingly breezy and buoyant exponent of the Hon. Jack Hylton; Mr. Alexander Chentrens acted and sank well as Maurice le Blanc; Frank Hector as Sir James Jogg was loudly applauded for his clever and eccentric dancing; Tom Graves was responsible for a richly-amusing portrayal of Oddy; and Archie McCraig add his quota to the general merriment as Squib; Miss Ethel Negretti's exceedingly artistic impersonation of Daphene Bell was an important factor of the success achieved; Miss Stanley Ronalds brought an enjoyable touch of serious histrionic art into the performance by her skilful treatment of the part of Sylvaine; Alice Barth evoked hearty laughter by legitimate means as Lady Heldon; Miss Edyth Goodall sang with charm as Gabriel Rene.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. George Dance's company in *The Beauty of Bath* commenced a three nights' engagement here on Monday. Mr. Andrew Higginson's Lieut. Richard Allington was a tower of strength to the performance; Mr. Frederick C. Leister did well as Viscount Bellingham; Mr. Reggie Grey was an amusingly vacuous Lord Quorn; Mr. Bay Russell was a thoroughly efficient representative of Mr. Beverley; Mr. Jack Crichton was as amusing as ever as Sir Timothy Bun; and Master Basil Clifford was a capital Lemon Goodge; Miss Gladys Guy filled the part of the Hon. Betty Silverthorne with considerable sweetness and charm; Miss Jessie Lonnen was an altogether delightful Truly St. Cyr; Miss Ida Laurie's Mrs. Goodge was extremely mirth-provoking; and Miss Edith Cruickshanks won her way to the hearts of the audiences as Mrs. Allington.

The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day. Countess Romanow, an exceedingly artistic poseuse, heads the bill here in a series of statuary subjects, entitled "Iris," and scores unqualified success; Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor present an amusing and clever song and dance act; Bert Brentford is a comedian and dancer of ability, and his contributions are keenly enjoyed; Evelyn Taylor chorus songs catch on; and other turns are those of Agnes Asher, Percival and Morley, Gravella and Parr, and the Hippodrome pictures.

Devonshire Park.—Manager and Secretary, Edgar Allan Brown.—The Duke of Devonshire's private orchestra and the Band of H.M. Royal Horse Guards (Blue) are sharing this week's musical programme, and the engagement of Miss Marie Dainton is a powerful attraction.

Lord John Sanger and Sons, Ltd., visited the Archery Field on Wednesday, and gave two performances of their popular circus entertainment.

EDINBURGH.—Royal Lyceum Theatre, Ltd.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Carpenter.—Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche's company is paying a return visit here with the farcical comedy, *What the Butler Saw*. Mr. Rignold's impersonation of the butler, Pink, remains an exceedingly funny bit of acting; and Miss Ada Blanche as Mrs. Barrington displays an engaging vivacity which is altogether charming; Miss Eleanor Gilbart is good in a capital study of an elderly spinster; and the child, Sophonisba, is cleverly played by Miss May Hart. Mr Charles Fawcett makes a bright, pleasant Jack Barrington; Mr. Cyril Harrison is a manly Sir Charles Foden; Mr. George Ascot is excellent as the peppery General Dunlop; and Mr. H. H. Rignold is a droll, incisive Welnstein. Mr. Roy Byford is an amusing Professor Shale; and the remaining members of the cast, particularly Miss Julie St. George in an admirable performance of Mrs. Hake, and Miss Mona Garland as Marie contribute to the effect of the situations. The actors were recalled at the close of each act, and at the end of the play they received a special round of applause for the dancing of the reel.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Stella Stahl comes first on this week's bill, and in a bright comedienne turn her smart step-dancing gains favour with the house; Frank Maura gives a very clever display of his talent as a foot equilibrist; Mack Ollive and Daisy Baldry appear with unqualified success in the whistling scena from *The Belle of New York*; Arthur Croxon causes much merriment as a comedian and mimic; and Mlle. Renée shows great versatility as an expert in playing on many musical instruments; the Donatos, a pair of amusing one-legged acrobats, contribute a remarkable performance; Jack Lorimer is so entertaining as a Scottish humorist that the audience insist on double and treble recalls; Mlle. Olga Seldom and company pose in many artistic representations of living statuary; and a series of the latest and most interesting animated pictures is exhibited by the cinematograph.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—A capital programme is provided here this week. The Elliott Savonas, in their latest creation, *The Palace of Orpheus*, give an exceedingly clever musical entertainment, the electric lighting of the setting being very brilliant. Ella Shields renders her coon songs in a pleasing manner; Big Ben Brown and Little George Le Clerq are as funny as ever in *Black Justice*; Rosa Loaders contributes an amusing turn at the piano; Seener and Fridkins Imperial Russian Troupe display marvellous agility in their exposition of national dances; the Three Cape Girls prove themselves expert and graceful dancers; and Vanado is an amusing and talented ventriloquist. Will Poluski, jun., Charles Dillon (comedian), and Harry Rochez's ponies and dogs complete the bill.

EDMONTON.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Joseph L. S. Moss; Manageress, Mrs. Amelia H. B. Moss.—On Monday Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company commenced a week's engagement in *The Branded Woman*. As Philip Maurice, an English artist, Mr. Frank E. Petley proved himself an actor of ability; and most ably was he supported by Mr. Harry Liddle as Dick Brown. Mr. Walter Steele was realistically villainous as Leon, Prince Hauber; and great praise is due to Mr. W. C. Clarke for his rendering of the part of Zarka, a hunchback; a powerful piece of acting was supplied by Miss Lilian Ross as Genevieve Laroche, the branded woman; and Jaqueline was safe in the hands of Miss Isabel Hunt; Little Miss Mabel Ronald as Rudolph, the son of Philip and Genevieve, displayed talent of a high order.

EXETER.—Theatre Royal.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross's company is here this week with *The Manxman*. Mr. Cross as Pete acts finely, bringing out the pathos of the rôle in an artistic manner. He is ably supported by Miss Minnie Watersford as Kate Cregeen; Mr. S. C. Kearnes sympathetically portrays the part of Philip Christian; Miss Maud Leslie makes a cheerful and clever Nancy; and Mr. E. C. Cudd ably sustains the part of Cæsar Gregson. The scenery deserves special mention.

FALKIRK.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—This popular playhouse reopened for the season on Monday night, when *A Trip to the Highlands* was the attraction. A really excellent company included Miss Isa Bowman and Mr. Wal Croft, who have practically made the parts of Miss Winnie Brown-Windsor and The MacMutchkin their own. Their efforts were quite up to the former high standard of merit, and they were largely instrumental in making a lively play move. Mr. Wellesley Smith as the Right Hon. Viscount Lackington, Mr. Frank Barclay as the Hon. Fred Lackington, Mr. James Somerville as Sir Septimus Brown-Windsor, Miss Grace Desmond as Miss Araminta Brown-Windsor, Miss Grace Olivia as Flora, Mr. Willie Scott as Timmins, and Mr. Harry A. Gribben as Dexter, are also worthy of mention.

FALMOUTH. — Drill Hall.—Miss Inez Howard's company, after a long absence, visited the Drill Hall on the last two days of last week, with *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*, the piece being played to a full and appreciative audience, and Mr. Arthur Knight was excellent as Richard Fenton. Mr. Charles Coleman gave a good study of Harcourt, a rôle in which he was well suited; Mr. Chas. Leverton's acting in the difficult part of Slater was greatly appreciated; Mr. Ted Dennis, who took the part of Jack Fenton, was at his best in the last scene, with his father; Mr. W. Glaze, too, as Johnny Walker, scored a success throughout. Among the ladies, Miss Betty Seymour, as Poppy Slater and Poppy Fitzgerald, was pert and pretty; Miss Nita Langford as Vesta Le Clere, Miss Edith Knight as Sophie Coventry, and Miss Annie Ellis as Lucy Coventry, were all well received. Mr. Leslie Beaufort must also be commended for his careful rendering of Willie Mason.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Miss Ellen Terry and her company in *Captain Brassbound's Conversion* was a strong attraction here the early part of the week. Miss Terry received ovation after ovation for her splendid rendering of Lady Cecily. Mr. James Carew gave a forcible rendering of Capt. Brassbound; Mr. George Elton gave a good portrayal of Felix Drinkwater; Mr. Rudge Harding, as Sir Howard Hallam, gave a praisworthy performance; and Mr. Story-Gofton was excellent as the Rev. Leslie Rankin. There were some other excellent character studies. All the rôles were cleverly sustained. Miss Marie Studholme and company opened on Thursday in *My Darling*.

Leas Pavilion.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—"The Gipsies and their Jester" are again appearing, and are to be congratulated on the success with which their performances meet; Miss Barbara Antoine sings some very pretty songs; Miss Elsie Wood is heard to advantage and gains applause; Mr. Eric Davidson is recalled again and again; Mr. Will Gane (the Jester) sings and cracks jokes in his own inimitable manner; and Mr. Robert Tattersall, in his mystical and ventriloquial scenes, scores a success.

Victoria Pier.—Manager, Mr. Robert Forsyth.—Mr. Robert Forsyth, the genial manager, took a well deserved benefit on Wednesday, a fine programme was submitted. Raku, the exponent of ju-jitsu, is again here, and causing quite a sensation; Mr. Henzi Cazman is a very clever quick-change artist; Miss Nancy Packman has a good voice; Kempton and Murdock supply an amusing turn; the Balzeus gain vociferous applause for their splendid juggling acts.

GATESHEAD. — King's Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold. — Mr. E. Hoggan Armadale and company present an abridged version of *The Bells*, in which Mr. Armadale submits a polished and masterful embodiment of Mathias; Ray and Calden, on a return visit with their laughable horseplay and wonderful and artistic dancing, have a most flattering reception, which they undoubtedly merit; the Moncktons, in an ingenious little sketch, named *Are Wives Dummies?* cause much laughter; Willie Gardner, a dancer on ice and roller skates, is well up amongst the favourites; Walter Emerson, comedian; George Rennie, in a ventriloquial turn; Nellie Randall, comedienne; and the usual pictures, are also on the programme.

Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France. — Messrs. Garside and Knowles's company, in *Her Marriage Vow*, has drawn large audiences to this house. Mr. Ed. L. Garside makes a capital Gilbert Carlton; Mr. J. Forbes Knowles is well suited with the part of Daffy Dan; Ned Benton is well treated by Mr. Geo. Beverly; Mr. J. W. Ryder fills the part of William Walters with credit; Messrs. Wilford Bailey and Dan Ryan fill comedy rôles with good effect; Miss Ruth Shepherd makes capital out of the part of Kate Walters; Miss Nellie Shirley is well fitted for the part of the unscrupulous Hester Norton; and Miss Nellie Garside is a vivacious Maggie Clare.

GLASGOW.—King's.—Proprietors, Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. Arthur Hardy's company in *The Beauty and the Barge* are here. As Captain Barley Mr. Blake Adams is delightful and entertaining, and he is a superb actor to boot; Mr. Walter Pemberton as Major Smedley is a fine specimen of the "peppery body"; and the jealous John Dibbs of Mr. Chas. White is also a fine portrayal. Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu as Lieut. S. Boyne and Mr. Atheling Farrar as Herbert Manners are excellent lovers and intriguers; and the amusing part of Landlord Porter is capitally given by Mr. Ewart Drake. In Tom Codd and Augustus, Messrs. Fred Knight and Horace Kenney are seen to great advantage; and the lesser male parts are in first-rate keeping. The Ethel of Miss Dido Drake is a fine piece of easy and unaffected acting all through; and, in a word, the other four ladies in the cast vie with each other in their acting. Specially good is the Mrs. Baldwin of Miss Kate Osborne; Miss Mona Robin, Miss Mary Pemberton, and Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite are to be heartily commended. In the curtain-raiser, *Jerry and a Sunbeam*, Miss Pemberton and Mr. Mallalieu are very good.

Royalty, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—This week *The Mikado* is being presented. Mr. Leicester Tunks was a humorous but dignified Mikado, and sang his various songs with fine effect; Mr. Charles R. Walenn was specially good as Ko-Ko, and emphasised the humorous dialogue with a wealth of appropriate business; Mr. Fred Billington as Pooh-Bah was received with the enthusiasm specially reserved for an old favourite, and was in his best form; the three little maids were charmingly represented by Misses Hope Hastings, Beatrice Meredith, and Mabel Graham, as Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing, and Peep-Bo respectively; Mr. Strafford Moss was a duly picturesque Nanki-Poo, and sang well; the fine voice of Miss Theresa Rassam brought the part of Katisha into special prominence; and Mr. Leo Sheffield as Pish-Tush and Mr. Fred Drawater as Go-To completed the cast. On Tuesday *The Yeomen of the Guard* was played, and later in the week *Patience*, *Pirates of Penzance*, *The Gondoliers*, and a repetition of *The Mikado*, were given.

Grand, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Anthony.—*Sunday* is presented by Mr. Louis Calvert's company. As Sunday, Miss Nita Faydon gives an impersonation which is natural and most effective; Mr. Leonard Pagden, in the dual rôles of Colonel Brinthorpe and Arthur Brinthorpe brings to bear upon his portrayals experience and care. The "boys" are played by Mr. William H. Brougham (Towser), Mr. James Hussey (Lively), Mr. Sidney Rennef (Davy), and Mr. Alex. Alves (Jacky) in a manner that means much to the success of the play. Mr. Ernest A. Douglas sustains creditably the part of Tom Oxley; Mrs. Naresby, taken by Miss Rosalind Ross, and the Nun of Miss Maude Ashley, are careful and well-acted studies.

Royal Princess's.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdock. — Mr. F. Marriott-Watson is here with *A False Wife*. The rôle of Estelle de Lussan, a foreign adventuress, is portrayed with considerable power by Miss Florence E. Florence; and the male accomplice, Jean Beraud, is played in quiet and effective fashion by Mr. Marriott-Watson. A typical hero is the Lieut. Mansfield of Mr. F. H. Constable; Mr. Elton Morgan is very well suited as the handy man, Ben Rattler; the eccentric policeman, Archibald, of Mr. Allen Charles is particularly good; Sir Colin Mansfield is adequately represented by Mr. George Langham; Miss Annie Hylton acts the part of Agnes Weyland in a bright, spirited manner; the Bessie Blazer of Miss Ivy Chandos is a smart and saucy housemaid; and good character work is seen in the Old Sal of Miss Flo Morgan.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—This week the house has been taxed to its utmost. The attractions of *The Ugliest Woman on Earth* seem strong. The piece is produced by Mr. Frederick Melville, and includes Miss Beatrice Homer, who plays the title-rôle. Her acting is clever, and leaves little to be desired. Mr. Philip Darien makes an excellent appearance as Jack Merryman; while as Hubert Gold Mr. Leyton Cancellor does admirably. Mr. Leonard Thackeray makes a capital Antonio Luchesi; while the portrayal of Raggles, a London hooligan, is excellently carried through by Mr. Wm. Wallace. Mr. Alfred E. Wood is nicely suited in the part of Dr. Carr; Mr. Tubby Edlin is responsible for the amusement of the evening in his representation of Tubby Herrick, which is highly appreciated; as Rose Courtenay Miss Nell Oliver is deserving of praise; a like remark applies to Miss Nellie Jackson, who appears as Aggie Brown; while it would be difficult to find one more suited to the part of Morita than Miss Violet Macaree.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company is here with *The Power of the Cross*, in which Mr. George A. De Gray plays the part of Baron Wolfa Curzola, giving a thrilling impersonation of a character endowed with mysterious supernatural powers; Miss Marie Menzies gives a pathetic rendering of Margaret Seaton, a woman who suffered; while Miss P. Vaughan as Blanche Kingsley renders the character pleasingly; the part of Rita Lascelles, an adventuress, is powerfully portrayed by Miss Amy B. Ellis; Mr. John S. Chamberlain, as Tim O'Dowd from Ireland, gives a spice of fun to the play, ably assisted by Miss Etta Turner as Dolly Gray, who has a touch of American humour; Mr. Henry Danson makes a capable hero as Gerald Fairfax; and Mr. Alexander J. Haviland is equally effective as Dr. Leslie Fairfax. Other parts are well filled by Mr. A. Hall Menzies as Benjamin Hawke, Mr. Sydney Fiennes as David Kingsley, Mr. Dan Rose as a Postman, and Mr. Bob Pyke as George Leefer.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. Sam. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Manners.—Albert Toft's living statuary turn is a decidedly novel item, and meets with most hearty appreciation; the artistic merits of Dot Stephens' various items command ungrudging approval; Maie Ash, with several Steadman children, contributes a dainty scena, *Mr. Golliwog*; Ferguson and Mack are extremely funny in a cross-talk and acrobatic turn; the Jackson Family are always big favourites here, and their musical turn is one of the best of its kind; Olice Tree, vocalist; the Five Juanitas, in an acrobatic turn; Amos Howard, dancer; the Bioscope, with the latest films; and Kitty Clinton, who ably deputises for an absent turn.

Zoo-Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The star turn this week is that of Leonard Gautier and his *Animated Toy Shop*, in which very small and clever ponies act the parts of rocking-horses and similar toys in regular "la Poupée" style; Mr. Henry Coutts and his two able assistants, in their sketch called *Outflanked*, do some extraordinary quick-changing feats, the changes being made on the stage in sight of the audience; John Donald, in his Scottish scena, sings some fine old favourites by Burns, Tannahill, and others; Johnson and Bert are certainly a pair of "queer customers," who provoke unlimited laughter; the Columbia Trio mix part singing with fun in highly comical manner; Mlle. Von-Etta gives some marvellous exhibitions of quick-changing; the Mozarts are graceful dancers, even when their feet are on snow-shoes; Cecil Bernard is a youthful comedian of great promise; and some amusing scenes on the Bioscope complete.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Miss Florrie Forde comes provided with several new ditties, calculated to catch the ear, and sings them with aplomb; Austin Rudd is another strong favourite; and among a host of good things his parody of the "Zuyder Zee" is intensely funny; Harry Bedford is a comedian of much originality, and the audience quickly showed their appreciation of the fact; Otta and Olga give a very original and amusing musical burlesque turn; Ruby Helder's deep voice well justifies her title of the phenomenal lady baritone; the Falcons contribute an acrobatic comedy turn of special merit, which is deservedly appreciated; Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholl's company appear in an amusing sketch, *The Battle of the Belles*; and Burt Shepard, at the piano, and Haig and Novel in a comedy act, are included in the list of attractions.

Palace.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—J. W. Rickaby, the famous comedian, is the principal attraction here this week, and the hearty reception accorded him on the opening night is ample proof of his popularity, his impersonations being very clever; the Three Demons, daring cyclists, give another interesting item—their performance is thrilling and sensational. Other prominent artists include the Arthur Lloyd Trio, in an amusing sketch, *Little Charlie*; Martine and Son, in a vocal-picture entertainment; Ross and Grayson, comedy vocalists and musicians; Mabel Hind, comedienne; Marie Neilson, comedienne and dancer; Sterling and Love, vocal and instrumental artists; the Bioscope concluding with a new series of pictures.

Coliseum.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—*Casey's Court*, by Bob King and a large company of versatile juvenile artists, provides a good and enjoyable part of the programme; J. A. Wilson and his clever dog, "Private Towser," score their usual great hit; and Ethel Whiteside and her "picks" are also in great favour. The singing, dancing, and acrobatic turn by Farley, Rennie, and Farley, is very smart, and is well received; as is the somewhat boisterous, but very amusing scena, *The Banana Queen*, in which Amy Anderson and company take part, the singing and tumbling are well done, applause being plentiful; Ruby and Laws excel in an artistic musical comedy scena, and their duet is a treat; in a picture-song Stanley Brett is very entertaining; and Kitty Clinton, burlesque comedienne, shares the honours in acceptable contributions. The dominant features of Binns and Binns' turn is their ludicrous fooling, but they are musicians of ability as well, and are loudly encored. The pictures on this hall's Bioscope are of interest.

Gaiety.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Andrew Cowe.—Fred Lyndo is a very strong favourite as an eccentric comedian, and is repeatedly encored for smart songs; Jack Dale, a sand dancer of ability; Hetty Hunter, vocalist and dancer; and Harry Wenburn, comedian, all contribute with success to the programme. A very hearty reception is given to Dolly, Agnes, and Maud for their solo and concerted singing; they also illustrate fancy box-making. The Wambas top the bill here, and that with credit; they are equally clever, whether as gymnasts, musicians, or in comedy patter, and are well received. *Britannia's Levée* gives Adelina fine scope for a long series of impersonations, some of which are intensely true to life; Hal Collier makes a very suitable coadjutor to the lady; and the Bioscope pictures fill in very suitably, and are quite enjoyable.

Britannia.—Proprietor and Director, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—This week the Amphletts, character duettists, are the principals, and their reception on the opening night was merited; Hastings and Fields, comedians and patterers, were also specially favoured. Other good turns on the programme incude Harry Edgar, comedian and dancer; Lillie Morgan, comedian; Palette, clever cartoonist; and the Bioscope, with a series of amusing and interesting pictures.

GLOSSOP.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—The theatre reopened on Monday with Mr. Lester Collingwood's company in *When London Sleeps*. The house was packed to its utmost capacity, and the sensational drama was highly appreciated. Mr. Edward E. Ashby handles the part of David Engleheart in a finished manner; Mr. Richard Ferris as the unscrupulous Captain Rodney Haynes does effective work; Mr. Tom Roydon as Mark Blackwood is earnest; Mr. Ernest C. Edwards is well placed as Mr. Furnaby Fuller; Mr. F. E. Thomas is prominent as Bob Jones; and Mr. Otto Clayton renders good service as Stephano. Miss Mabel Scudamore as Queenie Carruthers gains unstinted applause; Miss Lilia Wilde plays with skill the character of Hilda Carrode; Miss Daisy Clifford as Maudie de Frere and Miss Bella Power as Signorina Robertio Jonesio are worthy of special mention; Miss Ethyl Sinclair shows ability as Leila; and Mr. Frank Howard (Hon. Bertie Broomhead), Mr. D'Arcy Kelway (Sammy Blyth), and Miss Ellen Holmes (Adele) provide good comedy. The scenery is effective.

GLOUCESTER.—Palace.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—The Warsaw Musical Grotesques are a clever turn that is much appreciated; the Westwoods are two expert cyclists who merit their hearty reception; Zanfretti and Napio, the musical knife-grinders, are also very successful; Miss Molly Woolstenhulme is an effective operatic vocalist; and Slippere, the blind musician, is very popular. Messrs. Grant and Allen have a capital show in *Where's Snooker?*; Cliffe and Kean are expert dancers and tuneful singers; Mr. Geo. Rapley, comedian, amuses; Miss Ray Ford is a dainty dancer; Raynor and Reece in *Early Closing Day* are entertaining; and Snowball and Miss Dolia, American comedy performers, present an attractive knockabout dancing act. The Bioscope is also programmed.

GRAVESEND.—New Public Hall and Theatre.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. R. Feaver Clarke.—On Wednesday and Thursday evenings Mr. Bannister Howard's *Belle of Mayfair* company was here delighting Gravesend audiences, under the able management of Mr. G. E. Williams. As Sir John Chaldicott, Mr. Sydney Burt was really excellent; and Mr. Michael Raven as Hugh Meredith was everything one could desire. Mr. Stephen Hall as the Earl did well; Mr. S. Ravenscroft as the Honourable Finchley was admirable; Mr. E. Oxlee as Comte de Perrier was also very good; as were Mr. Charles Brooks and Mr. George Jaye as Charlie and Captain Theobald respectively. As the Gibson Girl, Miss Grace Mackay proved herself a most charming actress; and it is impossible to bestow too much praise on Miss Winifred Preece for her clever representation of Julia. Miss Nancy York as Pincott gave a really clever performance.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. George Dance's company is here this week with *The Lady Dandies*, which is accorded enthusiastic applause. As Dorlis, Mr. Ripley Evans both sings and acts well; Mr. Charles Hanbury as Lagorille puts on the affectations and mannerisms of a Directoire dandy with much success; Mr. Tom Seymour as Tournesal and Mr. J. E. Walker as Malicorn are most amusing; and Mr. C. E. Lennon as St. Amour gives a humorous presentment of the cowardly little Prefect of Police. Illyrine is charmingly played by Miss Nancie Rossiter, her songs being given with much taste and expression; Miss Peggy Primrose is a dainty Egle, dancing gracefully; and Miss Maisie Jay is a bright, dashing Lodoiska, and sings with telling effect.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale. Mr. George Alexander's company is paying a return visit with *His House in Order*. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart as Hilary Jesson depicts the genial man of the world with the utmost success; and Miss Grace Armytage Noble portrays the varying moods of Nina with consummate skill. Mr. J. Edward Pearce plays well as the cold, impassive Filmer Jesson; Mr. E. R. Holloway presents a clever character-sketch as Pryce Ridgeley; Sir Daniel is capitally played by Mr. George Fitzgerald; Miss Augusta Haviland is a stately Lady Ridgeley; Miss Blanka Stewart is a suitably frigid Geraldine; Mlle. Lilli Kehr is excellent as Mlle. Thomé; and Miss Victoria May Harris is natural as Derek Jesson.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—A grand spectacle, entitled *King and Country*, in which 150 children take part is very successful; Selbo gives a clever show with Indian clubs, manipulating them magnificently; Mr. Cann's Irish terrier and leaping dogs supply an interesting turn; the Trapnell Troupe prove themselves exceptionally adept acrobats and tumblers; Jack Gelding contributes a capital jockey act; the Caremos excel as jugglers; and Rabbit and Almers are responsible for much fun. The Cinematophone is creating a sensation each evening.

Britannia Pier.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—The Marvellous Howards have been specially re-engaged, and are appearing for one week longer in their amazing performance of silent mental telepathy; the Pichel troupe of Continental risley acrobats exhibit great skill and daring with their double and triple somersaults; Kate Gourlay, the Scotch comedienne, makes a hit with her original manner and fine dancing; George Prince, the crazy comedian, is one of the most popular items on the programme; W. L. Cockburn, the Scottish bass, gains great applause for his rendering of "Lighterman Tom" and "Ailsa Mine"; and Vowles and Bryan, Flo Somers, and Walter Lester also appear with success.

Wellington Pier Pavilion.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunb

the plains; and Miss Kitty McPherson as Star Eye is to be highly complimented. Other characters are well represented by Mr. Stewart Quartermayne (Sir Vivian Ashley), Mr. Fred Lilywhite (Ronald Granville), Mr. S. Lester-Howard (Hans Von Vinck), Mr. Robert A. Earl (Patrick Maloney), Mr. Theodore Hill (Red Hart), Mr. Maurice Jones (Moses Levey), and Miss Doris Cameron (Louise Granville).

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees, The Grenock Empire Syndicate; General-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Skivington.—Burke, Andrus, and Frisco do well with their absurdity, entitled *London to Madrid; Frolics in the Schoolroom* is an amusing trifle, well presented by the Six Reignors; the Sisters Brand meet with a hearty reception; and the other turns provided are Pete and Juno, coon singers and dancers; Brothers Brooks, comedians and patterers; Prandino, speciality artist; and the Empire pictures.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—Crowded houses testify their approval of Charles Chard, who is paying a welcome visit here; Hallam and Stanton, in their musical comedy episode, *A Suburban Villa*, are well received; Katie Marsh proves herself an exceedingly expressive and charming vocalist; other good turns include Annie Casey, a pleasing comedienne; Baker and Balfe, expert xylophone players; and the Paviscope, with amusing pictures.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—This week we have *The Morals of Marcus*. The bulk of the work is divided between Mr. G. H. Croker-King and Miss Hilda Antony. The former presents a faithful study of the kindly-disposed philosopher, Sir Marcus Ordeyne; whilst Miss Antony invests the character of Carlotta with just that degree of irresponsibility and Oriental fascination necessary to a perfect realisation. Mr. Richard Neville is well fitted to the part of the cynical Sebastian Pasquale; Miss Joan Burton wins complete approval for her representation of the somewhat pathetic figure of Judith Mainwaring; Mr. Frederick Jacques as Stenson and Miss Annie Windsor are excellent as Sir Marcus's model servants; whilst mention may also be made of Miss Kathleen O'Conner as Mrs. Ordeyne, Miss Gladys Purnell as Dora Ordeyne, and Mr. A. H. Leveaux as Hamdi Effendi.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Grimsby Palace Theatre and Buffet, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Irish comedy, as presented by Joe O'Gorman, is decidedly entertaining, and his songs and patter are very popular; Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's sketch party give a very laughable burlesque, *The House of Tinn*, which is full of droll business; Alice Maude is a clever child mimic; Walker and May are smart dancers; Wild, Willie, and West, the bouncing navvies, give a novel acrobatic turn; the Bohemians contribute a good instrumental turn; and Harry Luck is an amusing character comedian.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*A Bunch of Violets* is creating a deep impression here, Messrs. Martermayne and Raynor's talented organisation being responsible for the representation. Mr. Cecil Wynne interprets with much earnestness the exacting rôle of Sir Philip Marchant; some of the finest acting in the play emanates from Mr. Leonard Cheetham as Marchant's secretary; Lady Marchant is fascinatingly depicted by Miss Katherine Harrington. The setting of the piece is both artistic and tasteful.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—The vigilant authorities here having approved of statuary performances, it is not surprising to find La Milo crowding this spacious theatre, her graceful posings and artistic make-up evoking rapturous applause. A big hit is also made by Barney Armstrong in *The Extra Turn* skit, a grotesquely funny act, which goes well with every part of the house; the Eight Stella Girls in "Yankee doodle-do" keep the ball rolling merrily; very clever is Lena Brunton, whose mimicry is greatly applauded; Ryde and Beeman, acrobatic eccentrics, Phillips and Merritt, and Jock Campbell also participate in a programme of all-round excellence, and the pictures of the Coventry Pageant are popular.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—The premier turn here is provided by Claude Fieldman's beau-ideal troupe of juveniles in song and dance; always welcome here are the Sisters Morgan, a pair of well-trained vocalists; Andie Burn, Les Bollingers, Gintaro, Cole and Rags, juggling eccentrics, and Harry Simms, comedian. Gaumont's marvellous Chromophone faultlessly depicts the leading lights of the variety world in song and gesture, and is in itself quite an attraction.

VICTORIA HALL, LTD.—Secretary, Mr. W. H. Mitchell.—Miss Louie Freear renewed her acquaintance with Halifax people here on Monday, scoring an instantaneous success with *Snooks*, a rollicking farce from the pen of Mr. Soane Roby. Jemima (a slavey) is a part to Miss Freear's liking, her droll mannerisms, together with her fascinating personality, sending the audience into hysterics; Mr. Frank Brown was very funny as Corporal Pepper; and other characters were finely drawn by Mr. C. Maynard Brown, Mr. Edwin Bennett, and Mrs. Annie Roby, while Miss Belle Green, Edwin Bennett, Edward Brightwell, and Vivian Foster acted in their very best style.

HANLEY.—ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Mr. William Maclaren's company opened on Monday in *Proof*. Mr. S. Herbert Humber's portrayal of Pierre Lorance is artistic; Mr. Penn Hamilton is the Lazarre and Count de Laval, and very ably depicts the parts. A clever character study is given by Mr. Nixon as Seneschal; while Mr. James Turner, as the Corporal, is excellent. Miss Alicia Raleigh, as Valentine, contributes a really charming and clever representation; Miss Beatrice Sinclair does admirably in the prologue; as the Duchess D'Aubeterre Miss Emelie Wilson is most successful; Miss Elizabeth Dexter is well placed as Mme. Deprets; Mr. G. Ridgway-Thorne makes a capital Victor de Langusy; Mr. Bernard Elliott does good work as Duke D'Aubeterre; and Miss Doris Denville, as the child Adrienne, is excellent. The mounting is good, and the dresses are fine.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—The premier position this week is held by Whit Cunliffe in his latest successes, which are much appreciated; Rob Hutt in his musical sketch, *Welcome Home*, scores a huge success, the funny business introduced being irresistible; the Brothers Martine, comedy acrobats, provide a clever and most acceptable turn; the Floradora Girls, in their miniature musical comedy, *Two's Company, Three's None*, are decidedly smart; Lily Langtry has lost none of her sprightliness and vivacity, and her vocal items are capitally rendered; W. G. Wesley is a comedian of merit; Blake and Granby returns in that funny sketch, *The Man in Possession*, which causes roars of laughter; Barton and Franklin are heartily applauded; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux shows a fine picture of the Victoria Falls.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—For the first three nights of this week we have had Mr. Lewis Waller's company in *Robin Hood*. Mr. Ethelbert Edwardes made a manly Robin Hood, and has also a good singing voice; Mr. E. B. Clarke was good as Prince John; and Mr. H. E. Ball was well placed as Friend go de Longespee; Mr. Leslie Rea was excellent as Little John; and Mr. Bruce Winston made a fun out of the part of Friar Tuck; Mr. [illegible] err as Allan a'Dale sang well; and Mr. Laurance Tessier was excellent as Will Scarlet. Miss Madge Devereux appeared to advantage as Queen Eleanor; and Miss Fyfe Alexander as Lady Marian de Vaux. The honours of the evening fell to Miss Barbara Hannay as Adela, who was excellent. The smaller parts were in good hands, and the play was magnificently mounted and dressed. For the rest of the week, Mr. Milton Bode's company in *The Belle of Mayfair* occupies the stage.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager and Musical Director, Mr. Julian Clifford; Secretary, Mr. R. Eldrid.—The season is now in full swing here, and large audiences are the rule. For this week Miss Phyllis Lett and Mr. James Davis are the vocalists, and Mr. Astley Weaver does his clever musical sketches at the piano. On Wednesday there was a special symphony concert with Mrs. Henry J. Wood as the vocalist. On Tuesday Mr. Donald Arthur presented Miss Louie Freear and company in *Snooks*.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—A programme of exceptional strength is being fully appreciated by well-filled houses this week. The principal attraction is Morris Cronin and his world-famed troupe of modern jugglers, who go through a performance that bewilders all who witness it. Wylie's Dogs are wonders of canine intelligence, the boxing bout by two of them being indeed funny; Tom Lloyd increases in popularity on each successive visit; an enjoyable musical entertainment is that by the Musical Keiths, who excel as operatic xylophonists; Marie Bruce is aptly described as a sweet songstress; Alex. Arthur, tenor vocalist; the Lemarts, burlesque artists; and some amusing pictures, add to the programme. The enterprising management, not to be behind the times, announced Limerick competitions, for which prizes will be given weekly.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr Charles E. Scutt.—On Monday Miss Decima Moore and company performed Mr. Clyde Fitch's comedy, *The Truth*. Miss Moore played as Becky Warder with a buoyancy and grace that charmed her audience, and won its sympathies for her distress resultant from her many "taradiddles." She was ably assisted by Mr. Robert Minster in the rôle of her husband, Tom Warder, whose denunciation of his wife was powerfully enacted. Mr. Hugh Ardale as Fred Lindon supplied a forceful sketch of the unprincipled libertine; and Miss Maud Linden gave all necessary point to the unreasoning jealousy of Fred's wife. There was much individuality in Mr. Arthur Hare's portrayal of Stephen Roland and his ingrained untruthfulness; and the punctilious insistance of gentility by Mrs. Crespigny was cleverly sketched by Miss Elspeth Dudgeon. Miss Kitty Lofting played charmingly as Laura Fraser; and Mr. Howard Leslie as the butler and Mr. W. H. Herdman as the messenger completed the cast. On Thursday and following days Mr. George Dance's company in *The Beauty of Bath* was billed to appear.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Vivian; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—A good selected company are appearing here this week. Miss Ethel Donna, a comedienne and clever dancer, wins great applause; some excellent vocal duets are given by Mr. Neville Jolly and Miss Beatrice Neilson; Master Clifford is a smart comedian and dancer; and some interesting films shown on the Bioscope. An extremely skilful contortionist and juggler is the Japanese Kyoto; Hyram Travers highly amuses his audience by his singing and patter; Miss May Geraldine, comedienne, is much applauded; quite a unique and novel entertainment of Indian pastimes is provided by Ara, Zebra, and Vora; a good turn is given by Fred Herbert, the topical vocalist; and a musical novelty act is presented by Fredy Carmen and company.

PIER PAVILION. — Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—A variety entertainment is filling this place of amusement nightly. Miss Winifred Thomas, soprano, receives warm approbation; Wal Robins, the black and white eccentric musician, is well appreciated; a remarkable exhibition of electricity is shown by the Marconis; Mlle. Alice Lorette gives an interesting exhibition with her performing statue dog, Ben; the Brothers Passmore, eccentric comedians, create great fun; the Onyx Duo excel in their dancing speciality; and Payne's Bio-photoscope continues its popularity.

BEACH CONCERT PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Blackmore.—Included in Mr. Wallis Arthur's company here now are Mr. Leslie Owen, a baritone vocalist of ability, and Mr. Harry Jeanes, whose comic songs are much appreciated. The other members of the company deservedly retain their respective popularity.

ST. LEONARDS PAVILION THEATRE.—Pier-Master and Entertainment Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. Ian Maclaren is paying a return visit with his Shakespearean and Old English comedy company. In *David Garrick* Mr. Ian Maclaren is admirable in the title-rôle, his acting being crisp and natural; Mrs. Ian Maclaren as Mabel plays with exquisite grace and finish; Mr. Arthur Fayne as the Alderman gives a telling impersonation; a clever comedy sketch is contributed by Mr. Frank Royde as the Hon. Bob Fairley; Mr. and Mrs. Ian Maclaren and Mr. J. V. Briant are associated in the old comedietta, *Delicate Ground*, which precedes the play. Other comedies performed by this talented company are *The Rivals, Twelfth Night, Hamlet, The Merchant of Venice*, and *The School for Scandal*.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—Mr. Sidney Cooper's company, which includes that fine actor, Mr. William Mollison, supported with considerable distinction by Miss Evelyn McNay, is presenting an excellent programme. The plays are *Macbeth, The Merchant of Venice, Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush, As You Like It*, and *Hamlet*.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—At the head of a very attractive bill is Brinn, in his wonderful feats of strength. Other turns are Forest and King, clever dancers; Arley's Combination of acrobats and highly-trained dogs; Miss Marie Jones and Ernest Munro, in a well-arranged protean entertainment; Guy Ryder, a whistler who is really musical; Bugler Carr, in his unique feats of bugling; Miss Ada Whitton, male impersonator; Marcus Boyle, comedian; Hall and Earle, skilled comedy acrobats; and interesting films on the Bioscope.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—A pleasant return visit is that paid by Mr. Ed. Marris's company in *Somebody's Sweetheart*. When last seen citywards it was received with much acclamation, and now it repeats its former success. It has much humour in it. The villain, as played by Mr. C. E. King, is a clever piece of acting; as Stanton Ashleigh Mr. Cecil W. Blake finds a rôle to his liking; as Lulu Miss Nora Melton plays very prettily; Mr. Geo. Brentwood is a comedian of much merit; Zora is capitally portayed by Miss Lena Laton; and Miss Dora Hargreaves contributes good work as Miss Ainsley.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*John Glayde's Honour* is the success it deserves to be. The John Glayde of Mr. Philip Cunningham is a good piece of work, and in strong contrast to his Marcus Superbus and other parts in which he has been seen in the city; as the artist, Mr. H. G. Bentley is interesting; the Muriel Glayde of Miss Auriol Lee is a very remarkable study, and shows the actress as an artist of fine powers; excellent is the picture painted by Miss Beatrice Smith as the Princess; the Dora of Miss Mary Sumner has some sweet touches; and mention must be made of Mr. Vaughan's Howard Collingham and Mr. Cecil Bevan's Branley.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*In the Shadow of the Night* is catching on again at this very popular playhouse, and its repetition has taken from it none of its interest. It has the advantage of a capital and capable crowd. The hero is coloured in striking tints by Mr. H. Dobell Lyle; and Mr. Chas. Clifford portrays his antithesis with much discretion. As a comedienne Miss Tina Shaw gives evidence of much promise.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—Messrs. Elliman's No. 1 company is appearing here in *A Heart's Desire*. As Lord St. Ives Mr. Frank V. Fenn submits a powerful characterisation; Mr. Arthur D. Layland as Eric May provides an excellent foil; the Hon. Bertie Beresford is in the capable hands of Mr. S. Clayton; Luke Forest and David McCullock are capitally played by Messrs. A. Armfield and Charles King; in the part of the native half-caste, Oiya, Miss Ethel Tooney gives a performance of more than passing merit; and other parts are excellently played.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—Mr. and Mrs. John E. Tomlinson's company is appearing here in *Secrets*——. Miss Nina France gives an excellent interpretation of Ismalia. As Zuelieka Miss Nellie Navarro is good; and Miss Cissie Harcourt is a suitable Khasal Ki. Mr. Reggi Brown makes his mark as Lieut. Herbert Markham; Mr. Ernest R. Allen is effective as Hon. Cecil Cholmondeley; Mr. Tomlinson himself gives an interesting study of Ibrahim Al Murad; and as Kara Mesrour Mr. Robert Innes deserves praise; Nouredin Ali is capably represented by Mr. Wilton Richards; Mr. George Willis is highly amusing as Peter Wilkins, and is well assisted in the comedy line by Miss Lizzie Palmer as Winnie Wilkins.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—One of Mr. George Edwardes's touring companies was here in *See See* for three nights. The title-rôle was well impersonated by Miss Mysie Devine, whose graceful acting and charming singing were much enjoyed; Miss Mara Hersee as See was also well received; and Miss Nina Carlton, Miss Gertrude Parker, Miss Nellie Beacon, and Miss Dorothy Firmen were each well placed. Mr. Alec Worcester as Yen made a hit, both in his singing and dancing; and Messrs. Tom Redmond and Tom Neildon proved themselves to be a pair of capital comedians. Mr. Fred Epitaux should also be given a word of praise.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Among the various novelties here is a troupe of Lilliputian artists, whose performances are received with unstinted applause, especially Gouden and Kruger, who are seen in a wrestling bout. Augustin and Hartley are a pair of nimble and daring acrobats; Thornbury pleases with his clever sand pictures; and the Mayfair Quartette are accomplished vocalists.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Rex Sugden.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company is here this week with *The Breed of the Treshams*. Mr. Sydney Bland as "the Rat" is, of course, the central figure, and does ample justice to the part; as Clement Hungerford Mr. J. Benson North is convincing in all he does; and Mr. Robert Noble as Francis Tresham is artistic. Sir Henry Curwen has a dignified representative in Mr. George Traill, and the craven Capt. Stanhope is well placed in the hands of Mr. Percy Robinson. Miss Mildred Hodson is charming as Margaret, and Batty receives a vivacious reading at the hands of Miss Grace Harlington. The excellent staging of the play reflects great credit on all concerned, and the dresses are elaborate.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. E. Marris.—Mr. Mouillot's *Blue Moon* company is a particularly strong one, and was accorded a most flattering reception here on Monday. Mr. Charles Stevenson is an excellent comedian, and his funnisities as Private Taylor convulse the audience. He is exceedingly well supported by Mr. Percy Cahill as Moolraj; Mr. Charles Ross is a typical Major; Mr. J. E. Stevenson looks and acts well as Bobbie Scott; Mr. Charles F. Howard is a powerful-voiced Captain Jack Ormsby; and Mr. Robert Grey an imposing Prince. Much of the success of the piece depends on the coquettish comedy of Miss May Audrey as Merry Millicent Leroy; Miss Nellie Lomas is a quaint and sweet-voiced Chandra Nil; Miss Ruth Howe a handsome Oma; Miss Mary Glanbrane an elegant Lady Brabasham; and Miss Rose Helene a taking and graceful Evelyn Ormsby.

HORSESHOE QUARRY. — Mr. Edward Marris's Pierrots and Veroniques are still going strong, and pretty Miss Elfie Vincent's dainty dancing keeps her first favourite.

TRIANGLE PARK.—The Hollanders conclude their engagement here this week. The last municipal fête of this season took place on Thursday evening, and concluded with a battle of confetti.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Charles W. Poole's Imperial Myriorama is here, and La Milo's famous ride through Coventry is being shown. *Di-Da*, the creation of a woman out of nothing, from the Paris Folies-Bergère, is the principal feature of the entertainment.

KEIGHLEY.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall.—*The Country Girl* is being played here by Mr. Macdona's company. Mr. Coningsby Brierley is particularly funny as Barry; Mr. Anthony Gordon looks the part and sings well as Geoffery Challoner; Mr. Helier Le Maistre scores as the Rajah of Bhong; Mr. Brown Elliott is droll as Sir Joseph Verity, and is loudly applauded; Mr. J. Montrose is a dignified Lord Manchester, and has a good voice; Granfer Mummery is in the capable hands of Mr. George Stone; Miss May Rawlinson is a delightful Marjorie, and sings well; Miss Nellie Deveney scores highly as the Princess; Miss Ellaline Thorne imparts plenty of life into her performance as Nan; Miss Poppy Wilkinson's Sophie is admirable; and a good chorus is under the capable direction of Mr. S. Clarke Richardson.

KIDDERMINSTER.—NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—We have a visit this week from Mr. Chas. H. Lester's company, who on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday presented *The Bank of England*. For Wednesday and Friday *The Sorrows of Satan* is billed to appear. In the first-named play Mr. Chas. H. Lester most powerfully enacts the character of Sherlock Holmes; Mr. Clifton Earle is realistic as Stephen Hartley; the part of Sir Sidney Barraclough is in the capable hands of Mr. J. H. Ferman; Miss Lallah Davis's acting of the character of Amenta J. Beane (an American widow) is excellent.

KILMARNOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Major Ward.—Mr. Bostock's company opened on Monday a three nights' engagement with a hippodrome entertainment. The Three Rickards delighted the house with their acrobatic novelties; the Sisters Dorell were recalled for their dainty dancing; Olive and Owen proved themselves vocalists of a high class; Kitty Lavigne's jig dancing was well applauded, as was also a clever turn by Lorne and Rennie. The New Macs are a pair of funny and refined comedians; Claire and Pastor are pleasing instrumentalists, and the Valdos contributed much to the fun of the evening with their acrobatic eccentricities. *The Earl and the Girl* was announced for the following three nights.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—This week's fare has been much appreciated. On Monday and Wednesday *The Sorrows of Satan*, and on Tuesday *Nana* were well presented by Miss Loie Esmond's company. In the former play, Mr. Edward Neville was responsible for an admirable interpretation of Prince Lucio Rimanez; being well supported by Miss Rosie Neville as Lady Sybil Elton and Miss Loie Esmond as Diana Chesney. Mr. F. Douglas Howard portrayed the part of Geoffrey Tempest in a satisfactory manner; and Mrs. Grimbes was a good study by Miss Cecil Byrne. Miss Ethel St. Barbe acted charmingly at Mavis Clare.

KIRKCALDY.—KING'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan.—The management of the King's have deemed it advisable to make a change, and this season three nights in each week will be set aside for variety entertainments. A capital bill was provided for the opening night, and met with appreciation from a large audience. The Harvey Boys, in their sketch, *The London Messenger Boys*, topped the bill, and had a flattering reception; the Davis and Gledhill Trio held the next place of honour with their novel cycling exhibition; Stylo, a clever hoop-manipulator, is a great favourite; Beatrice Bonnie is an attractive comedienne; and the Meeleys, comedy acrobats; the Cosmans, sketch artists; Morimura, conjurer; Sisters Benton, dancers; and the Bioscope, are all good.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—*Under the Czar* is once more with us, and capital business has been the result. The company is under the direction of Mr. Wilson Howard, and is a capable one. Miss Carlotta Anson appears with success as Sonia Gregorovitch; Mr. Gerald Smythe makes an excellent Captain Johnson; Mr. Wilson Howard appears to special advantage as Nicholas Jeroslaff; and other characters are well placed.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. John Porter and W. J. Fergusson.—At the head of the bill here is Belloni's Cockatoos, in a clever act; Miss Violet Ashcroft is a pleasing vocalist; Burnetti, quick-change artist and musician, is well received; and the same remark applies to Selby and Myers, comedians and dancers. Charles Serra gives a fine gymnastic display; and the San Remo Girls, dancers; Blanche and Powell, comedy artists; and the Hippograph, with new pictures, complete the bill.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—*Charley's Aunt* still draws good houses, this premier theatre having been well filled by the old farce during this week. Mr. Brandon Thomas is again associated with his old part of Colonel Chesney; Mr. Walter Beaumont is the entertaining Spettigue; and another old favourite, Mr. Spencer Trevor, is back in the rôle of Fancourt Babberley. The other two undergrads, Jack Chesney and Charley Wykeham, are effectively presented by Mr. Hastings Lynn and Mr. Richard B. Mason. The real aunt is a fine effort by Miss Lena McNaughton, and the other female parts are filled in pleasing style by Miss Amy Brandon Thomas, Miss Sylvia Norris, and Miss Grace Russell.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, with *The Little Breadwinner*, is having a very successful week here, good houses being the rule. The name-part, Little Meg, is played with conspicuous ability by Miss Marjorie Lawrence; the outcast, Richard, is also a meritorious effort by Mr. Louis Lingard; Mr. Alfred Maurice is very effective as the villainous secretary, Prior, and Mr. H. B. Peppin is well suited to the rôle of Lord Dorrington. Mr. Norman Hall and Miss Kitty Melville are also doing good work in big parts, and the comedy element is in the capable hands of Mr. Lea Hare and Miss Jenny Bostock.

EMPIRE PALACE, LTD.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—No more popular comedian visits here than quaint Mark Sheridan, and packed houses are according him a big ovation twice nightly; G. H. Elliott, the clever coon specialist, again delights with excellent vocal renderings and tricky dancing; that smart comedienne, Ella Retford, adds further laurels to a big reputation; Harriett Vernon is seen and heard in new song-scena; Howard and St. Clair are very well received in a cleverly-conceived comedy item; the Boccaccio Minstrels subscribe a much-appreciated musical turn; Powell's Marionettes are put through their paces in clever style; and the Enzers and Mark Merry, comedian, are also notable in a strong and attractive programme.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—The powerful dramatic episode, *The Light in the Window*, is the main item of entertainment here, G. W. Cockburn being specially prominent in its presentation. A novel thought-reading act is done by Collier and Child; that popular comedian, Lawrence Barclay, is having a good week; George Adams enhances his reputation as vocalist; the Sages, comedy artists, prove vastly amusing; the Alaskas are both smart and funny in a comic acrobatic speciality; Mlle. Lilian earns the plaudits of her audience for trick cycling feats; and Peter Birmingham, comedian, completes a good bill.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—A romantic episode of the Nell Gwynne period is a turn of special interest here, its presentation, with Miss Dolly Elsworthy in the leading part, being much enjoyed; John Kurkamp, the singing conductor, does his novel turn with good success; Radford and Valentine are prominent with comic jugglery; the Silvertone Quartette of coloured vocalists have an entertaining turn; Rose Walters is a comedienne much above the average; Rex Fox, the ventriloquist, appears with success; and the programme also includes a capital vocal turn by the Three Royal Temples, Beatrice Croker, and Cedar and Elgar, up-to-date comedians.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—A merry production by the Six Brothers Luck proves a diverting lead at this hall; the Soho Trio are a satisfactory line with coon-singing and speciality; Fred Land is a very popular comedian; Musical Silvo's turn is greatly to the liking of his audience; Ethel Loftus gets a big share of applause for her comedy items; and of the rest, Woolmer Young, vocalist, and Robins and Collier, in vocal comedy, are very successful.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. Charles Hermann.—Mr. C. Hamilton Baines is presenting Mr. H. Keates Hales's company, in *The Pet of the Embassy*. In the name-part, Miss Ethel Dunford is to be praised for her delightful singing and acting; Miss Florence Watson is excellent as Dorothy Stanley; Miss Julia Bassett is a success as Mrs. Pamela Bung; and as the flirt, Maud, Miss Marjorie Crofton is capital. Mr. Walter Champney is very funny as John William Bung; and both Mr. Harry Fischer as Palatine Brown and Mr. Ralph Lynn as the Hon. Percy Brassington are good. Mr. J. H. Weekes as François is well suited; Mr. Laurence Wensley acts well and sings splendidly as Eric Brown; Mr. James Burt as the old actor, Horatio Jukes, is satisfactory. There is a strong and attractive chorus, under the direction of the composer, Mr. Albert E. Wilson, and the Embassy Dancers are seen in some smart dances.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—Mr. Whitmore Ledger's company is here in the romantic Russian play, *A Nobleman of Nature*. Both Miss Hettie Jeffries as Vera and Mr. Howard Coveney as Prince Ivan are deserving of high praise for excellent embodiments; Mr. Whitmore Ledger as the spy, Paul Berndoff, plays well; Miss Dot Russell is a vivacious Polly Bouncer, and is a success with her songs and dances; and Mr. Dan Mining is funny as Bill Drinkwater, his songs also meeting with approval. Others in the cast meriting praise are Mr. David Urquhart as Philip Hampton, Mr. Arthur Gilroy as Michael, and Miss Alvina Mining in the dual rôle of the twin sisters, Edith Nehludoff and Katusha Vodski.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—That delightful and diverting droll duo, Bella and Bijou, take the lead here this week, and, as usual, are securing a most flattering reception. J. W. Hall keeps the audience in a roar of merriment with his antics and extremely funny patter, and is accorded a splendid reception; Drew and Alders are a smart pair, who are deservedly highly successful with their clever and versatile comedy act, *The Coastguards*; David Ganty's illuminated water grotto, introduced by Mlle. Da Silva, is a very pretty spectacle, with its elaborate water and electrical designs; My Fancy is unquestionably one of the neatest and smartest sand-dancers that visits Leicester; the Clement Trio are seen to advantage in a novel, clever, and refined comedy flying trapeze act; the Three Rubys, lady acrobats, give a good show; Geo. Reeves is an entertaining and funny comedian; the Six Lancashire Lassies are attractive vocalists and dancers; the Bioscope depicts "The Aeronaut" and other films on the screen.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence.—The principal attraction is N. W. Phillips and company, in the episode, *The Clash of Steel*, the parts being played by Mr. Algernon Syms (Frank Erle), Mr. G. W. Blunt (Seth Blake), Mr. N. W. Phillips (Sergeant Larry Casey), and Miss Lizzie Edare (Annie Golding), calling for special mention. The sketch is meeting with a very good reception. The company is also presenting the military incident, *Sniped*, with Mr. W. G. Blunt and Mr. Algernon Syms as Jack Watson and Jim Taylor. Fred Lawrence and company score a success with the *petite* comedy-drama, *My Landlord*, in which Miss Marie Bryan, Mr. Geo. Thursby, Mr. Charles Clapton, and Mr. Fred Lawrence are seen to advantage. The Elgars, vocalists, are good; the Three Sisters Transfield are smart instrumentalists; Brian and Lawrence, comedy artists, also appear; Bessie Neilson, vocalist, deputises for Chris. Baker; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope remains a special feature, with excellent pictures.

LEITH. — NEW GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—In *Guilty Gold*, by Mr. Horace Stanley, a tangled web of crime and its consequences is effectively unravelled by the author and his own company. Good work is done by Mr. Wallace Campbell in a forcible rendition of the Rev. Harold Elmore, Mr. Fred Wilberforce as a thoroughly vindictive villain, Mr. David Curtis, who claims sympathy as the unfortunate John Middleton, Mr. Gerald Byrne as the victim of a woman's perfidy, and Mr. Stanley and Mr. Dennis Clyde in the respective rôles of a very happy gaolbird and a comedy policeman. Miss Rosalie Heath acts convincingly the part of Elsie Middleton, Miss Josephine gives a sympathetic portrait of the beguiled Hetty Hoyle; Bertha Blossom and Nancy Bright find realistic representatives in Miss Evelyn M. Walton and Miss Kate Kilpack; and Miss Effie Bartlett misses nothing of the fiendish disposition of Rhoda Hampton. Uriah Fudge, Jem Huggins, Sam Swipes, and minor parts are typically presented by Messrs. Alaric Burton, Ernest Griffiths, James Bennett, Arthur E. Francis, Mark Lane, and others.

LEVEN (by Kirkcaldy).—TOWN HALL.—This hall was occupied on Saturday evening by Mr. Will Knott's beach entertainers, the occasion being a benefit and farewell concert to Misses Amee and Marie Carlyle. A large audience filled the hall, and an excellent vocal and instrumental entertainment was given by the Misses Carlyle, the Brothers Beauchamp (banjo experts), Brothers Torrie (actor vocalists), Will Knott, and others.

LINCOLN.—PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. G. D. Bradbury.—The character songs of Walter Stanley catch on immensely, and a whirlwind dancing number is supplied by the Czar's Royal Russian Troupe of Dancers; Stuart and Stuart, the two Sparks, Alf. Ripon, Russell Brandon, and the Claymores also appear. The show closes with Raymond's Bioscope.

LIVERPOOL.—SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. E. Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—It would be difficult to guess when the public will tire of *The Royal Divorce*. At all events, audiences have during the week been, figuratively speaking, "standing on the ceiling" of the popular Shakespeare, which place has been visited forty-nine times by W. G. Wills' stirring play. Miss Edith Cole, who is declared to be retiring from the part, repeated her excellent impersonation of the unfortunate Josephine; the meritorious work of Mr. Frederick Victor as Napoleon was heartily appreciated; Mr. Tom Robertson proved a sufficiently crafty Talleyrand, a well-thought-out part; a convincing Marie Louise came from the accomplished Miss Agnes Imlay; Mr. George Hudson, avoiding buffoonery, presented a really humorous Grimaud, the drunken innkeeper; Miss Ethel Love showed intelligence as the Little King of Rome; Mr. Frank Stone afforded satisfaction with his Marquis de Beaumont; as did also Mr. Alfred Grenville (General Augereau), and Mr. St. George Frere (Marshal Murat).

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Mrs. Patrick Campbell had a cordial reception at the leading theatre this week, when that distinguished actress presented *Magda, The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, and *Hedda Gabler*, the last-named making its first appearance in Liverpool. On Monday evening a most attentive audience was held spellbound by her picture of the proud daughter Magda, and the "curtains" demanded were numerous. Mr. Charles Garry's view of how Colonel Schwartze should be played was completely approved, and that able actor shared in the honours bestowed; Miss Stella Patrick

THE STRENUOUS LIFE.

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Campbell, as Marie, gave evidence of great promise; Mr. Alfred Goddard made a Von Keller that seemed almost perfect, the difficult rôle being handled by him with the utmost discretion and reserve; thanks are certainly due to Mr. Julian Royce for his admirable pastor; Mr. James Geldard afforded worthy support in the part of Max; Miss Ivy Hertzog made the most of Augusta; and Miss Margaret Watson's work as Franziska was recognised. The mounting of the works was admirable.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*A Fight for a Throne* has paid a first visit to Liverpool this week at the popular north-end house. Mr. Sam Arthur played strongly as Captain Jack Fortesque; Mr. John B. Murray brought out all the principal points of Nicholai I.; Mr. Charles E. Linney made an excellent Otto; Mr. Leonard Maitland lent worthy support as Lieut. Fitzmaurice; the comedy was in the able keeping of Mr. Fred Danvers (Tom Ferrett) and Miss Evelyn Robson (Countess Lorenski); and Miss Elma C. Turner acquitted herself well in the character of Princess Esmee. The play was well presented.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*The Span of Life* has paid another visit to this theatre, the company engaged being that of Mr. Arthur Carlton. As Richard Blunt, Mr. Arthur Chisholme acted with conspicuous ability; Mr. Sanderson Moffat made several good points as the villainous Dunstan Leech; Mr. Walter Dale, in the rôle of Nutty Brown, and Miss Kitty Russell, as Shrove Tuesday, proved exceedingly funny; Miss Ella Wilmer was an excellent Kate Heathcott; Miss Phyllis Hamilton was Mrs. Jelf; and the Stebbing Trio were the "human bridge."

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, The Granville Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Granville.—*A Soldier of France* has been given here during the week for the first time in Liverpool. Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond sent an able company, and put the work on in good style. Mr. Leonard Aardale was an admirable Father Jean; Miss Hettie Zillwood played most dramatically the rôle of Pauline Lorraine; Mr. Edward C. Hobart reflected credit upon himself in the dual part of Captain Lorraine and Lieut. Lorraine; the amusing characters were well handled by Mr. David Phillips (Jollyboy) and Miss Jennie Clare (Margot); Mr. Milner Nobel proved effective as Judas Delara; and strong support was afforded by Miss Dora Weber, Mr. D. Phillips, and Mr. G. D. Brooke.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Harry Roxbury and company head the bill this week with *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, a merry musical *mélange* that was much enjoyed. The Poluski Brothers (Will and Sam), were as lively as ever, their latest absurdity, *The Prevaricator*, arousing continuous laughter; the work of the Miles-Stavordale quintette in imitating the human voice on instruments was deservedly applauded; Mabel Sinclair gave a smart exhibition of ventriloquism; as vocalists and dancers, the Ten San Tan Girls, supported by Olive Carter and Theresa Banteni, proved eminently enjoyable; Starr and Leslie had a novel speciality act; Arthur Lester's illustrated chorus songs were a good feature of the programme; and among others who appeared were Lottie Govell, comedienne and dancer; and James Kurry, comedian.

Tivoli.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Top of an excellent list this week is the popular George Gilbey, who has had a hearty reception for his old and new favourites; Robert Dohn astonishes with his equilibristic show; the speciality dancing of Susie and Protti won cordial recognition; the pleasing musical comedy act, *The Lancashire Lass*, presented by Zeta Grey and company, proved as enjoyable as ever; as society entertainers, Kendrick and Laura were most creditable; Charles Wyndham and Clare Mansfield distinguished themselves as comedy artists; Kioto, the Japanese equilibrist, performed most gracefully and cleverly; and Flo Wood, comedienne, was also in the list.

Lyric — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Top of the bill here this week are Will Doran's smart comedians with that exceedingly funny sketch, *The Inventor;* Verno and Voyce had a rousing reception for their smart work as singing comedians, the scena entitled *The King of the Clouds* being particularly appreciated; Effie White submitted a pleasing kaleidoscopic dance, "The Spirit of the Cave"; Duncan and Brasque's playlet on the "smart set," entitled *A Society Butterfly*, provoked much laughter; Patsy Lynch danced exceedingly well; Cribb and Cribb had a funny trifle, *Idle Fellows with Idle Thoughts;* Sadie Simpson, comedienne, appeared with advantage; and Hanvarr and Lee presented the amusing trifle, *The Golfer and the Maid.*

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—A merry tabloid musical comedy, entitled *Office Hours*, heads the bill here this week, the company presenting it including Messrs. Edgar Dereve, Lawrence Emery, Johnnie Schofield, jun., George Danvers, George Delaforce, Robert Quickly, Willie Nod, E. Durant, Arthur White, and the Misses Gertie Fawcett, Kitty Lambert, and the Three Magnets. The trifle was thoroughly enjoyed. A treat which elicited loud applause was the dancing and singing of the Eight Lancashire Lads; Maidie Scott charmed everybody with her songs; Albert Wyndham and company had a Shakespearean sketch, *Clarence's Dream;* the whistling of Arthur Slater was remarkable; Picitt and Lizette submitted a funny illusory extravaganza, *The Crazy Cook;* some clever dancing was shown by Espinosa and Neilson; Fred and Louie Fuller pleased with their song-scena, *The Shoeblack's Dream;* and Freddie French, comedian, was also in the list.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The "Royal" Stock Company here are this week presenting Scudamore's *Seven Sisters*, which has proved acceptable. The principal characters were undertaken by Messrs. Harry Tresham (Gilbert Dale), Sydney Grant (Dr. Walraven), Cecil Ravenswood (Robert Raebourne), and Robb Wilton (Billy Bubbles), Miss Beryl Ravenswood (Judith), Miss Florence Palmer (Ida), and Miss Florence Cameron (Norah).

Paddington Palace. — Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Edwards.—The stock company here are doing good business. This week the play selected is *Thou Shalt Not Kill*, from the pen of F. A. Scudamore. Included in an able company are Ernest Wingfield (Dr. York), Harry Wren (Sir Aubrey Kenward), Frank S. Strickland (Basil Kenward), Henry Hesslegrave (Dick Dorley), Francis E. Wybert (Fred Capstick), H. G. Brandon (Timothy Twist), Miss Gladys Hastings Walton (Blanche Granville), Miss Lena Nazeby (Maraguita), and Miss Florence Barnes (Gwendoline).

Park Palace.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.—The stock company here this week are producing *The Anarchist Terror.*

Westminster.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Foremost here are Clive and Clark, a smart pair of rag-time vocal entertainers and lightning dancers; Renson and Waite contribute largely to the fun with their songs and patter; Akbar performs some neat work on the rings; acceptable songs and graceful dancing come from Bella Leaburn; and Cissie Carter has popular illustrated songs.

Olympia. — District-Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton. — In consequence of its success, *The Typhoon* remains in the bill another, and fourth, week. A big attraction here is the first visit of Fred Lindsay, whose manipulation of a long whip has been watched with interest; the song and story turn of Maude Courtney proved pleasing; Horace White showed himself to be a capable ventriloquist; Grace Merton, "the original street singer," rendered several popular pieces; the illusion Dida, introduced by Lewis De Burgh, caused a deal of wonder; Harvey's American Boys and Girls went through a neat entertainment; Olgar and Elgar showed themselves clever instrumentalists and vocalists; and the Mysterious Mr. C. was also in the programme.

Roscommon.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—*East Lynne* has been staged here this week by the stock company, Mr. Percy Boucher proving exceedingly humorous as Mr. Dill.

LLANDUDNO.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Milton Bode's company appeared at this theatre for three nights in *The Belle of Mayfair.* Mr. Haddon Cave as the Earl of Mount Highgate and Mr. Fern Pounds as the Hon. Raymond Finchley are good; Mr. Harry Parker as Sir John Chaldicott, Bart., M.P., is first-class, singing and dancing with telling effect; Mr. Gwyn Alwyn as Hugh Meredith finds favour with his songs; the Comte de Perrier of Mr. Laurie Lisle does him credit; Mr. Lewis Wigley gains applause for his portrayal of Simpson. Miss Agnes Tandy is well placed in the part of H.S.H. Princess Carl of Ehrenbreitstein; Miss Aurelie de Loriere in the dual part of Lady Rosaline Rockesley and the Gibson Girl is excellent; Miss Nellie Cozens as Lady Chaldicott does well; Miss Veronica Brady as Pincott finds favour both in dance and song; and Miss Queenie Finnis as Julia Chaldicott (the Belle) could not be improved upon. *The Dairymaids* was announced for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. A. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company occupied the boards here on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday with *Leah Kleschna.* Mr. William F. Grant as Paul Sylvaine acts throughout with telling effect; Mr. William Clayton as Kleschna is excellent, and this part would be difficult to improve; Mr. Hamilton Deane as Raoul Berton lives the part; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid as Schram is as good as ever; and Miss Bessie Rignold as Leah acts with all her usual grace and realism. *Lucky Durham* was announced for the remainder of the week.

Pier Head Pavilion.—Local Manager, Mr. A. R. Sutcliffe. — Messrs Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots are apparently as popular as ever. Amongst the chief artists this week are Mr. J. H. Scotland, Miss Elsie Stedman, Alf. Maynall (comedian), Hulme Sharpe, and the ever-popular refined comedian and local manager, Mr. A. R. Sutcliffe.

Mr. W. J. Churchill's minstrels are still to the fore in the Happy Valley, and the White Coons do good business in the Egyptian Hall. Miss Louie Freear and company are billed for the Hippodrome for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

LOWESTOFT.—Marina.—Manager, Mr. E. A. Smith.—For the first three nights this week we had *The Catch of the Season*, for which Mr. Geo. Dance's talented company was responsible. Miss Moya Mannering (Angela) and Mr. Frank Lincoln (Duke of St. Jermyn's) rendered excellent service; Master Peter Grata as Bucket, the page, scored heavily. *Miss Hook of Holland* held the boards on Thursday.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The Royal Italian Circus appear this week on a welcome return visit. There are over two hundred performing animals, including Jumbo, jun.; Mme. Batavia, performing bear; Fasolin, flying trapeze monkey; and ten musical ponies. Very amusing are the antics of Piccolo and Fiori, and Wee Willie and Nimble Nip.

South Beach Pavilion.—Proprietors, the Lowestoft Corporation; Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—Crowded audiences testify to the excellence of the programme here. Charles Kay and Bod Jose are firm favourites here, and secure encores galore. The former scores with two new songs, "Posters in the Strand" and "We'll all be satisfied." Nelly Ganthony joins the bill this week. Humphrey Bishop, Guy Carlton, Fanny Chetham, Frances Roscorla, and Madge Campbell also appear.

Sparrow's Nest Pavilion.—The Scarleteers occupy the boards this week with success.

LUTON.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—Mr. Fred J. Webb, with his musical comedy-drama, *A Knight in Armour*, occupies the theatre here this week. Mr. Webb as Frank Milbourne is good, particularly in Act 3, where he personates a curate and rescues the heiress. He is ably supported by Mr. A. Mayhew as James Melbourne, Mr. Geo. Paradise as Head-warder Keyes, and Miss Danvers Smith as Ollie Webb.

LYTHAM.—Pier Pavilion Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harrison.—Mr. H. F. Maltby and company appeared here for the latter part of last week in the costume play, *The Youngest of Three.* Mr. Maltby himself gave an excellent portrayal of George Wendover; Mr. Wyn Weaver was a suitable Gerald Wendover; whilst Philip Radford had an able exponent in Mr. W. R. Favell; Mr. F. S. Wilson was clever as Joshua Tynne. Miss Daisy England was capital as Annie Dully; Miss Janet Hodsen made a good Florence Dully; and Miss Maltby won the unstinted applause of the audience as the winsome heroine, Lucy Dully.

MACCLESFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Messrs. Edward Darley and Fred Benton's play, *A Secret Wedding*, was acted to a large audience on Monday by the company organised by Mr. Stanley Carlton, who himself gave a finished impersonation of the part of Herbert Hartington. Miss Rubie Maude made a great impression by her clever acting of Grace; Mr. E. R. Cousens did well as Edgar Hartington; and first-rate impersonations were those of Mr. B. Elvin as Ben Drummond, Mr. E. Morgan as Billy, Mr. E. Garth as Jim Ward, and Mr. J. Worth as Ted Ward; whilst Miss Nellie Freeland was very popular as Polly; and Miss Jessie Elvin as Elise and Miss Maud Steeple as Jack were ideal portrayals.

MAIDSTONE.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Baskerville.—There is another capital bill at this popular place of entertainment, and good houses are the rule. William Lee and Helen Bentley give an effective sketch, *A Friend in Need*, for which they get a good reception; Carl Lynn is a mimic of marvellous powers; Alfonzo gives a good account of his skill as a foot equilibrist; Carr and Rose provide an accomplished vocal turn; Flo Penley and George English prove an excellent comedy duo; Evie Temple and Julian Mack have a warm reception; Martinetti and Wallace, coloured musical artists, are included in the list; the Biograph is up to date, as usual; and Sardons, illusionist, completes the programme.

MANCHESTER.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's play, *The Dancing Girl*, was presented here on Monday by a clever company, the principals of which were seen at the Theatre Royal a fortnight ago in *An Ideal Husband.* This change exemplifies their versatility, though Miss Vera Beringer's part of Drusilla Ives, the dancing girl, is not remarkably different in style. Her impersonation of the errant daughter of David Ives, the island Quaker, is done with perfect self-confidence and ease; and a powerful rendering of the last-mentioned character is given by Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn; as the Duke of Guiseberry, Mr. Ernest E. Norris acts remarkably well, giving distinction to the rôle; and as Sybil Crake, the good influence at his elbow, Miss Helena Parsons is very engaging; Miss Enid Ross adds a quiet and natural impersonation of Faith Ives; Mr. J. P. McBride as John Christison is earnest to the point of excess, though with a capital appearance and deportment; and as the Hon. Regy Slingsby Mr. Edward S. Petley is clever and amusing. Other parts are well played, and the whole piece is interesting and well staged.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—There is plenty to interest and excite in *A Broken Heart*, presented here by a strong company under the direction of Mr. Harry Foxwell. Mr. Harry Cullen Ford gives a telling performance as John Barnard, and Miss Louisa Peach plays well as Mary, his erring wife; the villainy of Stephen Raylton-and Gash Gills is very ably depicted by Messrs. Geo. M. Newall and Chas. Vivian; Mr. Harry Foxwell gives a very powerful rendering of the too small part of the Rev. Mr. Staunton; Mrs. Harry Foxwell plays a dual rôle in a charming and sympathetic manner; among the remainder of the cast, Miss Florrie Sorsby is a clever juvenile player, and Miss Marguerite Thorne plays Mrs. Barnard with distinct pathos; while in humorous rôles Mr. Will Lindsay and Miss Nancy Mitchell keep the house amused. The play as a whole is above the average, and is very effectively staged.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt and his company are here this week in *Two Little Sailor Boys.* Mr. Horace E. Herbert as Noel Tregarthen and Miss Blanche Steele as Lola Grey are the principals, and they are well supported by Mr. Leonard Clarke as Lieut. Redstone, Mr. W. H. Hallatt as Tom Yorke, and Mr. Forbes Harrison as Admiral Grey; great praise is due to Miss Beryl Mercer and Miss Effie D. Crawford for their impersonation of the two little sailor boys; and light interest is capably provided by Mr. Oscar Power as Jack Jolly, Mr. Tom E. Sinclair as Ben Baxter, and Miss Lizzie Chambers as Lucy Wilson.

St. James's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—Mr. Bulmer's company present here this week the successful convict drama, *Sentenced for Life.* The piece is very well interpreted. Mr. William Bradford plays Paul Derrick in good style, and Mr. Conrad Heywood is equally effective as Roy Stillwell; Mr. Phil Harper makes an excellent clergyman as the Rev. Martin Orris; Mr. Harry Cooke gives a clever character sketch of Percy McGentle; and Mr. Harry Pyne Warburton has good comic opportunities in the dual rôle of Bill Sharkey and Toby the Tadpole; among the ladies, Miss Maud Warburton is distinctly good as Adele Gray; Miss Mabel Tremere is light and clever as Kate Rennell; and Miss Mary Dalby and Miss Kitty Huntley do well as Lady Stillwell and Lady Gray; others deserving of appreciation are Mr. R. Brancepeth-Nevill as Sir Wallace Stillwell, and Mr. Howard Keane as Beckwith, the blackmailer. The staging is as sensational as the story.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Mr. William Holles and Miss Nannie Goldman's company in *The Stepmother* are here this week. Mr. Holles gives a very fine rendering of Bob Bristow, and an equally fine impersonation of Danny is provided by Miss Nancy Goldman; Mr. John Graham as Trixel, the tramp, is capital; Mr. Arthur Rodney finely expounds the villainy of Wiggins, the ship-broker; and in the title-part, Miss Phyllis Manners is effective; while Miss Winifred Symonds as Danny's mother shows marked accomplishments; and strong humorous opportunities are well handled by Mr. Fred Dark as Timothy Yapp. The play is a very good one, and is proving a big attraction.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The principal turns here this week are Alexandre and Hughes, the well-known and entertaining musical comedians; Howard and Harris, in their amusing *Happy Tramp* sketch; and *La Vivandiere*, a dramatic episode founded on "Ouida's" novel, "Under Two Flags," and played very well by Isabel Derry and company; the American Comedy Four add an enjoyable turn; Les Strads, musical sketch artists, are clever and well received; the Two Cromwells are smart lady jugglers; an interesting exhibition is the long and high jumping of Lloyd's Siberian wolf hounds; and other good turns are Hilda Playfair, a cultured ballad vocalist; and Marie Burnett, who features an American chorus song. The pictures are interesting.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Bud Snyder's somersaulting motor-car act is the big "turn" here this week, and considerable excitement is caused at every performance; Arthur Lennard, the well-known character vocalist, sings two songs in his characteristic style; and the Delevines provide an excellent turn, including a wonderfully clever "scarecrow" dance; the Leslie Brothers, musical grotesques, meet with a deserved good reception; Harry Edson introduces two well-trained dogs, and is well received; Fred Elton is as entertaining as ever in his *Ocean Liner* scena; the Moulier Sisters go through a very clever bar performance; and Lizzie Fletcher, comedienne, makes a hit with a catchy chorus song; some excellent Bioscope pictures, a well-rendered part song by the choir, and "The Lost Chord," sung in fine style by Miss Gertrude Howarth, of the choir, complete a good programme.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tealor Wade.—Harry Randall tops the bill here this week, and meets with a fine reception; Atlas and Vulcana, the famous athletes, provide an interesting turn, and are assisted ably by the Sisters Atlas; Harry Brown, a capital coloured comedian, and a first-rate dancer, makes a big hit, especially with his song, "I'm satisfied"; and Regan and Ryan are screamingly funny in song, dance, and a smart wrestling burlesque; Patty Yole is a pleasing singer and dancer; the Four Ramlos, triple bar performers, are very clever and amusing; the Sisters Aindow, instrumentalists, are very well received; Hans and Lux have some lively patter and do some neat dancing; and last, but not least, the Picquays are, as usual, excellent in their novel equilibristic act.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—*An Adventure in the Pampas* is the chief item here this week, presented in fine style by Reuben Kitchen and Frank Donovan, supported by a strong company, including the Six Indian Diamonds; the Neapolitan Street Singers (Martin Vail and Mlle. Von Massenbach) are responsible for a neat vocal and instrumental scena; exceedingly clever turns are those of the Sylvine's Trio and the Two Manzanares, gymnasts; Maude Beaumont, burlesque actress, has a fine appearance; Ruby Emerson is a pleasing comedienne; Kitty Gresham sings well and entertains in a musical mélange; Harry Milton is a capital clog dancer; and the Sisters Florence are very neat dancers; Mlle. Lucy Florval, the Franco-Spanish singer and dancer, who figures on the programme, did not appear on the occasion of our visit.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—The star turn here this week is provided by the Zerbinis Troupe in a most gorgeous spectacular electrical scena, *The Enchanted Glen*, introducing the story of "Ora Pro Nobis" in living tableaux, and some excellent music; other smart items are provided by Gillin, the ventriloquial humorist; Goggin and Davies, comedy acrobats; the Victorias, vocalists; Lottie de Abbey, character impersonator; Edwards and Espinosa, in smart musical and dancing act; Moon and Morris, comedians and neat simultaneous dancers; Allen and Hall, in amusing sketch; and the Belmore Sisters, comediennes and dancers. The Bioscope pictures, Too Fat at Forty, are extremely funny.

King's, Longbight.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor.—Prominent turns here this week are offered by the Kurios, introducing pantomime, art, mystery; the Elvios, in their capital sketch, *Those Troublesome Slaveys;* the Deer Family in sensational act, *Indians of the Past;* the Brontes in *Stoney-Broke;* and Eva Chadwick, ballad vocalist, who sings well and is well received. Other entertaining items are those of Marquis and Mignonette in comedy act, entitled *Little Willie;* Conn and Davies, patterers and dancers; Les Zelovas, acrobatic equilibrists; Sid Carlton, character vocalist; and Lambeth and Robertson in their successful vocal sketch, *Scots Folks' Wooin'.* Some interesting pictures are shown of the Great Victoria Falls on the Zambesi River.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay.—The Geni Family head the bill here this week, and give an original and clever acrobatic turn; Corbin's dogs go through a really wonderful performance, which is unique in so far as the dogs are unaided by the presence of any person on the stage; the Dixon Girls offer an excellent turn as banjoists and dancers; Hilda Leigh and company are successful in a highly-amusing absurdity, *The Captain's Daughter;* Howard and Wallace are good in a brilliant comedietta, *Taming a Wife;* Edith St. Clair, comedienne, and Will Freedo, comedian and dancer, are well received; and good items are also contributed by Preston Holmes in a pleasing musical mélange; and the Carney Brothers, duettists. The pictures of the King and the Dreadnought are unusually good.

MANSFIELD.—Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Mr. Charles March's company, in *The Gamester of Metz*, are here. Mr. Charles March in the rôle of Paul Baldot displays great ability, his quick-changing in Act 3 being received with great appreciation; Miss Nellie Brash appears to advantage as Countess Baldot; as also does Miss Una Lane as Lucia Baldot. Miss Emma Victor as Gwendoline Pearson and Mr. Arthur Brinklow as Peter Bunheld capably sustain the comedy parts; as Ferdinand Du Basson, Mr. John Burton is clever; Mr. A. Buckley gives a capable portrayal of the part of Curé d'Artois; and the same remark applies to Mr. F. Grace as Martin.

The Black Dike Band were announced to give a concert at the Mansfield Grand Theatre Gardens on Wednesday afternoon.

To-day (Saturday afternoon) a fête is to be held at Mansfield, when, among other attractions, the Royal Star Pierrots are announced. The most popular item, however, will be a balloon ascent and parachute descent, by Captain Cecil Clayton, the general managing-director of the Mansfield Grand Theatre.

MARGATE.—Theatre Royal.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wallis Clark.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company was here, from Monday to Wednesday, in the musical play, *The Cingalee.* The company was a thoroughly capable one, and the mounting of the play quite up to the high standard which invariably characterises Mr. Macdona's productions. Miss Aimee Roberts appeared with success in the rôle of Nanoya, and gave an interpretation that must add considerably to her reputation; a pleasing portrait of Peggy Sabine was submitted by Miss Lydia Flopp, her singing and acting eliciting favourable comment and hearty appreciation; Miss Coral Mansell made a delightful Lady Patricia, her song "My heart's at your feet" being heartily encored; Miss Violet Hope, as Angy, gave an adept rendering of the part, her dancing being especially good; the part of Bobby Warren was admirably played by Mr. W. J. Austin; and Mr. Tom Payne, as Chambhuddy Ram, kept the house in a state of continuous merriment; Mr. Wilfred Heath acquitted himself well as the Hon. Harry Vereker, and Mr. Milroy Cooper was also good as Boobhamba; a successful impersonation of Sir Peter Loftus was given by Mr. Frank Sutton. For the remaining three nights of the week *When Knights were Bold* was billed

Hippodrome.—Sole Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Mouilliot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—Record houses have been the rule at each of the two nightly performances this week. Addy and Bushman's canine hippodrome is an exceedingly smart animal act. The dogs and pony are well trained, and their various tricks afford great amusement; Miss Marvelle's performing cockatoos and macaws give a novel show; Ailsa Douglas, comedienne and dancer, gives a good turn, and plenty of the comedy element is provided by Chas. Lilburn; F. V. St. Clair, the popular topical vocalist, always a favourite at Margate, has been cordially welcomed; Les Belles Americaines, smart dancers as well as pleasing vocalists, secure favour; Rosie Archer, mimic, evokes immense applause; and Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas keep the audience highly amused with their sketch, *Her Birthday.*

Hall-by-the-Sea.—Sole Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Evans.—The genial proprietor, who is giving personal supervision this season, the first he has wholly spent in Margate for many years, is, in conjunction with his able manager, to be congratulated upon the excellence and variety of the programmes and the enormous audiences that are being attracted. Herr Grais is paying a return visit with his cleverly trained baboons, a really wonderful animal performance; Professor Dickinson and Queenie Johnson, ornamental swimmers and tank performers, are exceptionally good, their turn eliciting loud applause; Ford and Hanson, the musical millionaires, are quaintly amusing in their novel and eccentric speciality act; and Mr. E. creates amusement with his patter and limericks; Leo Tell proves himself a master of animal mimicry; Nelly Farrell, an Irish singer of Irish songs, is full of life; and the Evalos give an amusing show and an expert ring performance. The dance each evening is a most enjoyable one.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—Miss Winifred Chalmers's company is here this week with a well-played version of *Oliver Twist*, dramatised by Messrs. Henry L. Osmond and Ernest Noble. As Bill Sikes, Mr. Osmond plays admirably; and Mr. John C. Carlyle presents a fine study of Fagin. Miss Winifred Chalmers gives an artistic impersonation of Nancy; and Miss Nellie is pleasing and natural as Oliver. Others deserving of favourable mention are Mr. Willie Black as Monks, Mr. J. C. Macartney as Mr. Brownlow, Mr. H. Somerville as Mr. Grimwig, Mr. Walter Rousby as the Dodger, and Mr. H. Gomer Moy as Mr. Bumble.

Temperance Hall.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Topping an exceedingly good bill is Carl Hermann, whose marvellous electrical demonstrations have drawn crowded houses. The Legleves are clever acrobats and tumblers; the Wheelers are expert trick cyclists; Miss Mona Quayle, vocalist, is well received; the Three Bostonians give a pleasing speciality act; and the programme also contains the names of Leon Lorette, comedian; Will Evans, the singing pit lad; Horatio, quaint boy comedian; and Biograph pictures.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—*When Knights were Bold* is played by Mr. James Welch's company. Mr. Nelson Keys in the rôle of Sir Guy de Vere is very amusing. He has evidently made a careful study of the part, and much of the success achieved is due to his exertions. Mr. Augustin Symonds as Isaac Isaacson has a thorough grip of the part; while as the Ladies Eggington Miss Violet Graham, Miss Eva Leonard Boyne, and Miss Emilie Polini perform their respective rôles in a satisfactory manner; Miss Marjorie Chard is pleasing as Sarah Isaacson; and the part of the Hon. Chas. Widdicombe finds an excellent exponent in Mr. Thomas Pauncefort; Mr. William Lockhart is excellent as the Rev. Peter Pottleberry, and Mr. Charles Ommanney is good os Sir Bryan Bullynote. Other artists who add to the attractiveness are Miss Vera Herbert as Kate Pottleberry; Miss Lena Flowerdew as Mrs. Waldegrave, Miss Nannie Hume as Alice Barker, Mr. Talbot Homewood as Wittle, and Mr. W. Hubert as Barker. The play is preceded by a duologue entitled *The Miller*, in which Mr. J. R. Gillespie as the Miller is very successful.

Opera House.—Proprietors, the Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Company, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—*The Girl from Kay's* is presented by Mr. Chas. Macdona's company. Miss Jennie Fraser, in the title-rôle, is seen to great advantage, her taking voice and winning ways contributing in no small measure to the success of the production; Mr. Johnny Schofield, in the amusing rôle of Max Hoggenheimer, keeps the audience convulsed with laughter; while Miss Mavis Hope is pleasing as Nora Chalmers; Mr. Herbert Franklyn does full justice to the rôle of Harry Gordon, and Mr. G. H. List is excellent as Percy Fitzthistle; Mr. Arthur Jackson does well as Theodore Quench, and Mr. Archer Brown is good as Mr. Chalmers; Miss Barbara Evangeline as Jane, Miss Irene Vere as Ellen, and Miss Marie Shields as Mrs. Chalmers are all that can be desired.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges.—Jack and Evelyn cause much merriment in their sketch, *Come into the Office*, and McDonald's Melody Makers justify their name in the scena, *The Burglar's Dream;* a pathetic sketch is provided by F. Warren-Reid and Miss J. Stevens; the Raymond Trio give a most pleasing instrumental and dancing act, and Mme. Sims Reeves provides a most excellent vocal turn; Frank Lynne does well with his comic songs, and Vere and Royal, vocalists, do well. Other turns are provided by Bert Terrell, Dutch character vocalist, and the Bio.

Oxford Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—Jack Pleasants pays a return visit here this week, and creates roars of laughter with his songs and patter; Livesay and Roseberry score a great success; Sinclair and Whiteford present a very funny farcical absurdity, and the Three Sisters Jonghmanns provide an excellent vocal turn; Harry Pleon, the popular comedian, scores in the dramatic episode, *At Large*, and he is well supported in the production by Messrs. Percy Hayes, T. Kent, Ed. Sydney, F. Houghton, Miss Gertrude Glen, and Miss Celia Kent.

MORCAMBE.—Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's company in *Mr. Popple of Ippleton*, has been appearing with success during the week, and the leading parts of Freddy Popple and La Bolero have been well sustained by Mr. Edwin Brett and Miss Emmeline Orford respectively. Both are excellent. Other prominent characters have been well portrayed by Misses Kate Graham Beck, Ella Daincourt, Rayor Golden, and Nora Morra; Messrs Tom Moy, Sydney Courtenay, Hy. Chichester, and Louis du Caine. The piece is well mounted and dressed.

Winter Gardens.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—Ada Fawn has been very successful in her songs and business during the week. A novel musical sketch, *The Smithy*, is presented by the Jees, and tuneful music is made with strikers' hammers and anvils; the Rio Brothers, four in number, have a striking athletic act, which is much appreciated; Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lucas in their "Scenes from Dickens" have been very popular; and others in the programme are Brayne and Lloyd, in an amusing trifle, *The Tree of Truth;* the Wedburns, excellent as musicians and patterers; Georgina Leonard, burlesque actress; Harry Monks, comedian and mimic; Chameleon, in his quick-changing surprises; and the Primrose Quartette, in both mirthful and melodious composition.

Central Pier.—Manager, Mr. E. Hill.—The programme here has included the Klein Family of expert cyclists in a very clever acct; the Four Jumels, pretty musical turn; the Three Seabornes, novelty gymnasts and smart acrobats; Cuthbert Allan, the baritone vocalist, with suitable songs; the Tennessee Guards, in their lightning drill and wall scaling; the Sisters Russell, in a well-constructed vocal scena; Souplessi, contortionist; and Alice Oakley, comedienne.

West End Pier.—Secretary, Mr. J. Bastow.—The bright particular stars here have been Wittie Wattie Walton, comedian, and May Lilian Levey, comedienne, and they have both consistently captured the audiences. Mme. Ambler, soprano, has done well; and other turns have been Bonzanas, hand balancers; Zano Brothers, triple-bar act; and Koraly Czaski, xylophone soloist.

Alhambra Palace.—Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—A good programme has been presented during the week by the following artists:—Roland, in his latest illusion, *The Bachelor's Dream:* Six Brothers Luck, in the pantomimical absurdity, *The Demon of the Cellar;* Rene and Smith, comedy act; Fred and Maud Vipond, smart entertainers; Mlle. Ada Gatley, the lady juggler; Denby and Dent, the black and white comedians and experts at patter; the Brooklands, comedi-ennes and dancers; and J. H. Carney, an amusing man and good dancer.

MOTHERWELL.—New Century Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hales. — Mr. Walter Melville's company is this week appearing in *The Soldier's Wedding*, and on Monday opened to a large and appreciative audience. Jack Brown, the soldier lover, has a fine exponent in Mr. Wingold Lawrence; Mr. Beresford Whitcomb plays with decided success as the honest old soldier, Colonel Graham; Mr. Fred Yarnold contributes a fine piece of character-acting as the old farmer, Nathaniel Lee; Mr. Raymond Wood gives a realistic impersonation of the scoundrel, Charles Courtney; Miss Marie McAulay as Julie de Beauvaris sharing with him the execration of the gallery; Miss Jessie Winter is a sweet and winsome Nancy Lee; and Miss Georgie de Lara suitably sustains the rôle of Peggy Munroe. There is abundance of comedy business, in which Messrs. A. Gambier Melford and Little Albert, together with Miss Ettie Carlisle, appear with success as Tommy Spratt, Teddy Munroe, and Lizzie Walker respectively.

NELSON.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edwards.—The boards have this week been occupied by a variety company, and good houses have been the order. Leoni Clarke, with his wonderfully trained animals, heads the bill. The Emwell company in *My Statue of Grace*, a "mythical muddle," is appreciated, whilst Flo Bilton, comedienne and impersonater, retains her hold of the public. Arthur Stacey, eccentric comedian and dancer, was well received, and some good tricks in magic are performed by Li Chang Oi. Happy Attwood thoroughly amuses the audience, whilst the Sisters Terry, as baby mimics, are one of the best turns.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Theat

admirers; Mr. W. Rene Hammersmith, an Austrian and a capital actor, appears in the rôle of Renard Von Berg; as "W. G." Mr. Forrester Harvey achieves quite a triumph; and others in the company are Mr. Richmond Howard, Mr. Charles Middleton, Miss Ruby Wyndham, Miss Katharine Parry, Miss Ruhamah Catton, Miss Ethel Stanley, and Miss Jennie Douglas-Hicks.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—A popular play with Newcastle audiences, *The Christian*, is being performed this week by Mr. Wentworth Croke's company. On this occasion Mr. Frank Beresford is the John Storm, and he gives a forceful, convincing representation of the much-discussed character; also a very pleasing performance is the Glory Quayle of Miss Daisy Scudamore. Mr. Wilfrid Noy figures to advantage as Horatio Drake; and others filling leading rôles are Miss Dorothy Milne, Miss Molly Hazden, Mr. Edward Ling, Mr. Charles E. Dering, Mr. W. J. Butler, and Mr. P. Gedge Twyman.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Thos. W. Rowe.—A sensational drama, *The Woman Who Gambles*, is given powerful representation by Mr. Morton Powell's company. In the two principal parts Mr. George Steele and Miss Lilian Herries prove themselves highly accomplished artists; and others entitled to mention are Mr. Percy Ballard, Mr. R. Fox, Mr. E. H. Clarke, and Miss D. Pass.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Messrs. J. B. Shinton and Alex. Greenwood's company perform a military drama, entitled *The Love of a Life*. Mr. Shinton, an actor of acknowledged merit, ably fills the leading rôle, and in a difficult part Miss Ada M. Ryder acts very cleverly, and with artistic restraint. Other parts are taken by Mr. Annesley Hely, Mr. Ernest Regent, Mr. G. Marriott, jun., Mr. W. H. Melrose, Miss Grace Garside, and Miss Lizzie Moorley.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. G. Wells.—The great attraction at the theatre this week is the sketch, *Billy, the New Steward of the Channel Queen*, performed by the ever-popular Craggs troupe; another excellent entertainment is Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten; in his music-hall tit-bits, Gus Garrick arouses general approbation; while a very clever turn with the musical bells is contributed by Will Cornish. The mystic fire maiden of La Berat is a picturesque exhibition; Herman Melot gives a marvellous conjuring display; while in Boswell's Stage Circus the ponies and dogs are responsible for an exhibition showing skilful training. George C. Doughty, assisted by Phyllis Atherleigh and Leslie Adair, ably present a comedy interlude; and a good turn is also given by the Pocket Opera Company.

PAVILION THEATRE.—The Barrasford Company; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—One of the most entertaining turns in a good programme is contributed by the Waldrons, who introduce some capital fun in their clever sketch; a good performance is given by the Fitzgerald troupe of juggling girls, their movements with Indian clubs being characterised by unusual grace and cleverness; the Bouncing Dillons are excellent gymnasts; the Delomes prove popular in an unique dancing speciality; Brent Hayes, "the champion banjo artist of the world," as he is styled, produces some really delightful music; an entertaining turn is the amusing dialogue of Mountford and Walsh; and in male impersonations Miss Winifred Ward displays ability. The Coes provide a good musical act; and Dave Miller proves popular as a comedian.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper. — *The Assassin*, a modern romantic drama, by Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson, is being played to enthusiastic houses here this week. Prince Demetri, the scoundrel, was smartly played by Mr. Augustine Knight; and in the rôle of Countess Wanda (the assassin), Miss Ella Vane scored a success Miss Hettie Senior as Carrie Jonathan was charming; and other light-comedy characters were Barton Alphonse (Mr. Edward Swenton) and Peter (Mr. Tom Taylor). The hero, Ivan Ipanoff (Mr. H. Benhote Wilson), commanded the popular sympathies.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Manager, Major Gallagher.—Park's Eton Boys on Monday provided a specially enjoyable turn; Jack Rowley, in his humorous songs, displayed a good voice; Ella Dean, in a rich contralto voice, sang a couple of songs that earned recognition; and Lottie Lennox was well received. The Corcoran Brothers gave a good display on various instruments; Randolph King is a clever quick-change artist; the Legay Quartette of Parisian dancers were warmly applauded; and the Bioscope showed some beautiful pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett.—*No Wedding Bells for Her* is being played here this week by the Frank Bateman company, under the direction of Messrs. St. John Medley and Pringle Roberts, Miss Lizzie Montague as Lola Delaspierre, an actress, displays emotional and dramatic power; Mr. George Herbert gives a good impersonation of Horatio Fane, an old actor; Mr. Stuart Lomath as Frank Hatherleigh, Mr. Percy Shaw as Dick Delver, Mr. Fredk. Garton as Montague Blair, and Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe as Abney Stone are good in their respective parts; Mr. Barry Lupino introduces some clever comic "turns," assisted by Miss May Lupino; and Miss Ellen Owen makes an efficient representative of the dresser, Marie Flail.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans; Musical-Director, Mr. Walter Ashton.—A brilliant programme is headed by Klio, whose chaste and dainty representations of some of the masterpieces of modern statuary is again receiving approval; Fred S. Peake and company give an effective dramatic episode, *The Hypocrite*, with success; the Three Sisters Grovini present a smart acrobatic turn; George Lille shows ability as a comedian; Adam and Hall effect some clever magic; Gibson Pearl is an excellent dancer; Story and Trigg are amusing eccentrics; the Sisters St. Julian are dainty dancers; and C. Vincent has a good series of views of the Royal visit to the Horse Show.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Miss Ida Millais and her company are presenting *No Man's Land* before appreciative audiences here this week. Mr. Henry Herne gives a capital rendition of Harry Oaklands; and Mr. Ernest Percy is seen to advantage as Mat Marsden; Mr. Herbert Cecil is responsible for an able portrayal of Silas Moore; Mr. Henry Carlisle, in the dual rôle of Captain and Gilbert Bathurst, is clever; Mr. Charles M. Daly acts with distinction as Solomon Jacobs; and Mr. Edwin Wilde is good as Doctor Buxlow. As Mary Bathurst Miss Ida Millais is all that can be desired; Miss Emma Stockley is much appreciated as Mrs. Poodle; and Miss Dora Hilstone makes the most of Bessie Poodle.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Miss Agnes Molteno, in her scena, *An Old-Time Story*, is the top attraction here, and her reception has been most cordial; the Markies, in their vocal and instrumental comedy act, are deservedly applauded; and Miss Mollie Malone, Irish comedienne, proves very acceptable; Mr. George Helm and Miss Emmie Cozens, comedy artists, are smart; Mr. Tom Casille is a talented banjoist; Mr. MacMillan, Scotch character comedian, is popular; and the Bio-photoscope is, as usual, much enjoyed.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's principal company, presented by Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux, opened here on Monday to a capital house in *The Walls of Jericho*. The piece is exquisitely rendered, and every praise is due to the excellent staging. Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton rendered the part of Jack Frobisher is a most finished and refined style and carried the audience with him; Mr. Russell Barry, representing Hankey Bannister, also deserves praise; Mr. Ben Lewin as the Marquis of Steventon, both looked and acted the part to the life; Mr. Eustace Burnaby acted well as Harry Dallas; Mr. George Percy as Bertram Hannaford, Mr. Douglas E. Heywood as Hon. Wilfred Renton, and Mr. Hanworth Browning as Lord Marchmont admirably portrayed their respective characters; Mr. C. Edwards as Peters, Mr. B. Henderson as Simpson, Mr. H. E. Douglas as James, and Mr. G. F. Jackson as William deserve a word for their small though effective parts; on Miss Edith Cuthbert as Lady Alethea too much praise cannot be lavished. Her various modes, her charming figure, and her accent were perfection itself. Miss Ormonde Wynne was very pleasing as Lady Westerby; Miss Pauline Straus was good as Miss Mornington; and Miss Minnie L. Emden was capital as the Duchess of Skye; and Miss Gladys Merrick deserved every praise and looked her part; Miss Marian L'Estrange as Mary merits mention; Miss Nona Wynne as Lady Derenham in every way was pleasing.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. N. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—Chanti in his quick-change act meets with a grand and deserved reception; Charles E. Colby and Lilly E. May, in their ventriloquial act, *The Ventriloquist and his Dancing Doll*, gain hilarious applause; the De Wynne Brothers are clever refined athletes; Charles Norton gives some remarkable impersonations of popular comedians; Andrew and Thompson pleasingly render their high-class vocal act; Hamid Alexander is an entertaining turn at the piano; and Hemming Frank and Marie Free prove clever comedy artists. The Hippo Bio is also good.

AGRICULTURAL HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—The Royal Canadian Company's animated pictures are still here, enjoying capital patronage. Their pictures are very entertaining.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—Quite a radical change in the character of the fare provided here is made this week. A quadruple bill interspersed with variety items is presented by Messrs. C. W. Somerset and Fred Storey. *The Great Poison Case* gives Mr. Somerset an opportunity to exhibit his powers in a strong character-part, while as the heroine Miss Agnes Russell is seen to great advantage; they are ably supported by Messrs. Wetherell, Cameron, Carr, Arthur Lewes, and Harry Newman, and Miss Florence Nelson. In *The Merchant of Venice* Mr. Fred Storey gives a strong characterisation of Shylock, whilst Miss Lilian Holmes proves a capable Portia, and Miss Geraldine Somerset a charming Nerissa; Mr. A. Maitland Stapley is successful as Antonio; and a very capable Bassanio is found in Mr. Keith Frazer. A very funny French vaudeville, in one scene, entitled *The Glazier*, succeeds, and in their efforts to amuse Messrs. Somerset, Wilton Tring, and H. Newman, and Misses Somerset and Florence Nelson are entirely successful. The concluding piece is *Rip Van Winkle*. Mr. Fred Storey is as good as ever in portraying the dissolute Dutchman, and an admirable Gretchen is found in Miss Lilian Holmes; Miss Geraldine Somerset looks very winsome and dances daintily as the spirit of the mountains, whilst the two child parts are well taken by Master Reginald Connor and Miss Nora Thornton. During the intervals several songs are well rendered by Miss Enid Lawrence and Mr. A. C. Max, and the innovation is altogether thoroughly enjoyable.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—We have a very welcome return visit of *The Midnight Wedding*, presented by Messrs. Paumier and Howard's admirable company. In the romantic dramatic rôle of Paul Valmar Mr. Alfred Paumier is entirely at home, his acting being powerful and enthusastic; he is well played up to by Miss Annie Saker as Princess Astrea, her winning appearance and attractive acting earning great applause; the comedy provided by the three soldiers, Max, Otto, and Bobo, is of a very high order, and great praise is due to Messrs. James E. Page, Vernon Vane, and A. Spalding for their untiring efforts to amuse; a word of commendation is due to Miss Ada Champion, who as Kathie succeeds in being sweetheart to all of them by turns; villainy is represented in the play by Lieut. Strelsberg, and the sinister character of the treacherous officer is ably portrayed by Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes; Mr. Ernest E. Imeson is happy in his conception of the rôle of Captain von Scarsbruck; Mr. T. W. Freeman acts admirably as the Crown Prince.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Fred Karno's company makes a welcome reappearance here with their sketch *The Bailiff*. With Fred Kitchen as the man in possession, it goes without saying that the three scenes are screamingly funny from beginning to end, and that large and appreciative audiences gather to welcome it night after night; a very high-class and skilful turn is the one given by Chas. Parker's Æolians, singers with very melodious voices and dancers of exceptional ability; the name of his father bespeaks a kindly reception for Dan Leno, jun.; Cissie McCullum looks so dainty, and sings so sweetly, that she ensures the friendship of the house from the first; clever patter comedians in Rich and Rich, and talented musical comedy actors in Simms and Simms, occupy the stage in turn; and the quips and cranks of Frank Couch are delightful. Elsie Robey returns once more, and amuses with her musical mélange, *The Slavey's at Home*, and a capital programme is completed by the Bioscope.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS, Co., LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—After a lapse of about five years, Mr. Edmund Tearle is paying a welcome visit. The *Three Musketeers* was chosen for the opening night, when Mr. Tearle appeared in the rôle of D'Artagnan in his well-known capable style; Mr. W. J. Miller gave an interesting study of Cardinal Richelieu; as the Duke of Buckingham Mr. Edmund Grogan was praiseworthy; a humorous Boniface was submitted by Mr. J. Court Harvard; Miss Mary Campbell made a capable Ann of Austria; Miss Esther Tearle won favour by her pleasing portrayal of Constance; and Miss Kate Clinton made a powerful Miladi. On Tuesday *Othello* was played, and *Ingomar* on Wednesday.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—The stage is occupied this week by Mr. J. Maundy-Gregory's company in *Lights Out*, which is greatly appreciated by capital audiences. Mr. H. A. Saintsbury plays Sergt. Volkhardt, and the manner in which he acts gives evidence of careful study, and Miss Dorothea Desmond as his daughter Klara is excellent. Mr. Wernham S. Ryott as Lieut. Von Lauffen gives a clever rendering of the part; as does Mr. Herbert Lugg as Lieut. Von Flowen. The Capt. Von B. Bannewitz of Mr. Arthur Stone is very good; Mr. Alex Munro is a smart Major Paschke; Mr. Lambert Plummer as Capt. Lebdenburgh and Mr. W. Victor as Lieut. Hagemeister are good; and Messrs F. J. Bithell and A. Wainwright as Corpl. Queiss and Corpl. Helbig gave great assistance. The comedietta, *Jocelyn, the Jester*, follows, Mr. H. A. Saintsbury and Miss D. Desmond taking the lead, ably assisted by Miss Sterne and Messrs. Plummer, Ryott, and Lugg.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Mr. Percy Norman has sent a strong company here in the military drama, *A Woman Worth Winning*, and some capital acting is witnessed. Miss Cissie Bellamy, in the character of Roma Pauloff, is excellent; Mr. Gilbert Standing does well as Amos Pauloff; Mr. A. B. Mackay, as General Borinsky, the villainous Governor, shows himself to be a capable artist; Mr. Percy Horton is excellent as Fergus Lovinsky; and Mr. Wynne Davis is very good as Fedor Petronovitch. Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh scores a big success as Ivan Bardoff; Miss Trixie Leighton makes a good Lola; and some capital comedy is introduced by Miss Ida Mackay as Katerina Kloss, Mr. E. Hall Eldon as Bertie Scribbles, and Mr. E. Kendrick as Peter Popples.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—This house opened to good business on Monday, after having been closed two weeks. The bill consists of Atroy, who does some smart juggling and hoop-rolling; Viola plays some novel instruments very cleverly; Lilian Travellie, burlesque artist, makes a hit with some good songs; Pearce and Ward are popular in their patter and boxing; Fred Tenby, comedian, and Sam Dalton provide some funny songs; Will Onda and company in *Hotel Comforts*, and Will Rain and company in *The Motor Maniac* are a couple of good turns; and the Dottoscope is showing new pictures.

OXFORD. — EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill; Manager, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Miss Frances Delaval is appearing here this week with her company in two plays, *Her Lost Self* and *The Biggest Scamp on Earth*. In *Her Lost Self* Mr. Frederick Sharth is accorded a hearty reception for his manly and capable rendering of Wilfred Daventry; Mr. A. Lubinoff makes a fascinating villain as Norman Esmond; and Mr. George Harvey proves himself a worthy actor as Paule Kimberley; Mr. L. W. Halfpenny does justice to Abraham Cohen; and Mr. Fred Gresham is responsible for good work as Tom Flyaway. Miss Elanor Clover undertakes the dual rôle of Lucille and Dorothy with conspicuous success; Miss Rose Vernon Paget is a typical Rachel Cohen; Miss Kate Gurney as the Irish Bridget Mahone supplies a fund of humour; Miss Carrie Johnson, an undoubted success as Dorothy Daventry, sings in Act. II. some topical songs very cleverly. Miss Frances Delaval adds to her reputation by the able manner in which she sustains the trying part of Philipine Marcel.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—This house was re-opened for the season on Monday evening, with new and handsome decorations and an installation of the electric light. *His Dishonoured Wife* is the play that is being staged. Mr. Frank Harvey acts with distinction the prominent part of Neil Locksley; as Frank Lindon, Mr. Charles H. Phelps contributes a forceful and telling representation; Mr. Horatio Sinclair plays Lord Devant with much skill; Mr. Bernard Webb submits a clever interpretation of Tom Redman; Mr. Harry Tilbury makes a diverting Mickey Doolan; and Mr. Harrison Weir as Geoffrey Harvey, Mr. A. S. Goring as Arthur Cooper, and Mr. George Rufus as Bobby Peel, all score in their respective parts. Florence Lindon is undertaken by Miss Belle Tilbury, who plays charmingly and naturally; Miss Arline T. George enacts capably and intelligently the part of Alice Harvey; Araminta Duspan has an amusing representative in Miss Jessie Gillette; and Miss Ivy Rochefort makes a good impression by her embodiment of Mabel Lindon, and sings well.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—Manning's Entertainers, sketch artists, are delighting patrons here this week with a very humorous performance; the Franco Midgets, diminutive illusionists and conjurers, contribute an excellent turn; Conan and Doyle, comedians and dancers, are popular and well received; De Gracia's elephants perform in such a manner as to show the careful and wonderful training they must have had; Alix Lukos scores successfully in his song-scena, *Pictures in the Fire;* Crosby and Walker are a couple of entertaining comedians and patterers; the Nettas (Will and Dot) are applauded for their excellent singing in a vocal scena, *Home Again;* Rudge Whitworth is versatile and pleasing as a society entertainer; and the Hippodrome Bioscope, as usual, is to the front with good pictures.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—*A Woman's Past*, by H. F. Housden, is staged here The principal parts, which are taken by Mr. T. Cook Hinton and Miss Maisie Hanbury, as David Heath and Bessie, lay the foundation of success of the play. Mr. Chas. V. Sandford does very well indeed as Frank Dellannoy, and causes great laughter throughout the play; Mr A. Hamilton Warden and Miss Nesta Sandford lend the company valuable assistance as Clement Harper and Clara Darrell; while Mr. G. Moreton Williams as Uriah Craven, Mr. Cecil Dainton as Bob, and Miss Mary Mallalieu as Dorothy Heath, do their parts very well.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Plymouth is this week favoured with the first visit of Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in the popular musical play, *The Blue Moon*. A large house assembled on Monday, and richly enjoyed the tuneful music. Miss Clarice Lockstone plays Chandra Nil with a quiet gracefulness peculiarly fitted to the part; Miss Ida Stratham is an attractive Evelyn Ormsby; Miss Maude Aston a gay and vivacious Millicent, her dancing being particularly graceful; and Miss Laura Leycester as Lady Augusta Brabasham fills a small part with dignity. Messrs. Reginald Switz and Mr. Alfred Beers, as Private Charles Taylor and Moolraj respectively, create roars of laughter by their antics; Mr. J. E. Fraser is a vocalist of no mean ability, and well suited to the part of Captain Jack Ormsby; Mr. Alfred Clark furnishes an ideal study of an irascible army man; and Mr. Horace Manger works hard as Bobbie Scott.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Mr. Field provides an attractive programme for the week, the principal item being Mr. John Lawson and company in *The Devil's Sunday*, a piece played with great dramatic force and effect; Horace Wheatley is an excellent comedian and dancer, being exceptionally strong in the latter business; Josh Dixon is on a return visit, and new songs and wheezes enhance his former reputation; the Three Romas fully justify their description of marvellous gladiators; Jennie Lee is a refined and attractive vocalist; and Grace Lawn proves herself a capable comedienne and dancer. Payne's Little Vagabonds and Vernon's pictures complete.,

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.—Manager, Mr. Mr. G. S. King.—Mr. G. Hemy's company is here in Wilson Barrett's highly sensational melodrama, *The Sledge Hammer*. The outstanding feature of the play is the very creditable acting of Mr. Frank Howard as Everard Derrick and Miss Jessie Hope as Rose Maywell. The comic business is in very good hands.

PORTH.—THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—The programme arranged for this week consists of Maurin's Marvellous Fountains, as shown at the Paris Exhibition; Lily Foy, the Bristol comedienne; the Sauterons, including Frank Sauteron, a champion jumper; Will Hughes, the boy coon; Stevens and Rennoir, comedians and dancers; Mamie Cannon, coon singer and refined comedienne; Carl Howard, conjuror; Jack Foley, comedian; Louie Hurman, burlesque actress; the Palace Electric Bioscope, and Miss Hulo Hodgson, Mr. Harry Lowther and company in the new farcical comedietta, entitled *Barmaids*.

PORTSMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's well-selected company is here this week in *The Bondman*, of which an entirely new production is provided. Adam Fairbrother is played with marked ability by Mr. H. C. Lanceley; Mr. Cecil A. Collins acts the half-brother Jason with vigour and manly impressiveness; Mr. Arthur Bawtree sustains the part of Michael Sunlocks with impulsive freedom and dramatic power; Mr. W. H. Rotheram doubles the rôles of Father Ferrati and Grandfather, and does well in both; Governor Testa finds a capable exponent in Mr. Norman Wrighton; Miss Madge Lanerton plays Mrs. Fairbrother consistently and well; Miss Beatrice Whitney makes the best use of her opportunities as Christian Ann; Mona and Denny are prettily acted by Miss Gertrude Helene and Master Arthur Clarence; and Miss Grace Chalmers is sweetly sympathetic and natural as Greeba. The remaining parts are all carefully depicted.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—The absorbing domestic drama, *A Mother's Love*, is being played here for the week by Mr. F. L. Connynghame and his company. The rôle of Mat Ruddock is taken with excellent effect by Mr. Connynghame; the vicar, Paul Wingate, is ably enacted by Mr. Robert Gilbert; the scoundrelly Geoffrey Mannering is powerfully portrayed by Mr. Hugh Mewburn; and Mr. Robert Lynn is most amusing as the vicar's handy-man, Joe Jackson. Miss Cecile E. Anson, as the persecuted heroine, Winnie Wingate, is attractive and impressive; Miss Mabel Durham plays excellently as Ellaine Mervin; and Miss Dorothy Monkhouse is brisk and clever as Mary Smart.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Captain Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The principal attraction here is Tarro Miyake, the Japanese wrestler, whose clever demonstration of the methods of Ju-Jitsu is received with unbounded enthusiasm; the Sisters Henderson show versatility and ability as instrumentalists, vocalists, and dancers; Gicardo, boy juggler, is very clever and amusing; Welda and Wynne, in comedy speciality act, prove adepts with the clubs and as dancers; Max Merlin gives a weird performance as the Demon Crocodile; Crissie Cross, a dainty and vivacious soubrette, pleases greatly; the Smythsons, with a capital comedy sketch, *One Touch of Nature*, do well; R. H. Douglas, monologue artist, is to be commended for his excellent turn; the Lurins are mirth-provoking in the musical extravaganza, *Cinders*, and secured a recall; Frank Cass, vocal comedian, sings well, and is rewarded for his efforts; Roza's Hippodrome of canine celebrities are most entertaining, the dogs showing great intelligence; and Payne's Bioscope, with some very instructive pictures, complete the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—The highly-popular and artistic comedienne, Marie Lloyd, is the star turn here this week, giving at each performance several of her well-known numbers in her best style, and gaining many encores; Massona, juggler, is a capital artist, and meets with unstinted approval; Miss Ella Lane, a very pleasing comedienne, is cordially received; Mr. Jack Crawley, a vocal and instrumental mimic of great merit, deserves the applause he gained; the Sisters Lytton's vocal duets are keenly appreciated; Miss Daisy Davidson, the New Zealand soprano, give a commendable turn, which is much liked; Dandy George and "Rosie," the clown and his canine companion, provide a most acceptable item; Talberto and Douglas are a pair of very clever acrobatic eccentrics; D'Arc's Marionettes are most amusing, their manipulation being as nearly perfect as possible; and the Hippodrome pictures complete an enjoyable bill.

PRESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Exors. of the late W. Johnson; Resident Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—*The Youngest of Three*, by Mr. H. F. Maltby, is being played here for three nights, followed for the remainder of the week by *Sir George of Almacks*. The former piece, which is admirably staged, is presented by accomplished artists, all of whom do good work. As George Wendover Mr. H. F. Maltby displays a fine bit of character acting, while Mr. Wyn Weaver, as Gerald Wendover, his son, captivates the audience with his free and manly style; the acting of Miss Mara Maltby as Lucy Dulley is captivating and natural; Miss Daisy England as Annie Dulley and Miss Janet Hodson as Florence Dulley portray the characters of the two elder sisters with charming effect; the other characters are ably sustained by Messrs. Reginald Favell as Philip Radford, William E. Passmore, Stuart Willson, Sydney Porter, Harris Fraser, S. Amclegg, and Miss F. Hunter-Watts. The play is preceded by a tragic episode by Mr. H. F. Maltby, entitled *Hounslow Heath*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—Mr. and Mrs. F G. Kimberley's No. 1 Company is presenting the military drama, *A Soldier's Honour*, here this week. The piece is well staged, the military costumes producing a realistic effect, which appeals strongly to the patrons of this popular resort.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Linsdell.—Despite the fact that Preston holidays took place last week, the public's exchequer is evidently by no means depleted, judging by the crowded houses that assemble to enjoy the excellent bill here this week. Mr. Arthur Rigby tops the list, and his well-known sketch, *The March of the Married Men*, fairly brings down the house. The Columbia Coloured Coons in *Plantation Pastimes* introduce several songs, assisted by appropriate scenery; a couple of old favourites are Wyndham and Waters; Las Sados, one of the world's youngest jugglers, accomplishes many difficult tricks; the sand dancing of Burns and Bentley, a couple of American artists, is especially quick and smart, while their singing is much appreciated; Ajax and George are clever acrobats; the Yorkshire Meisters as "The Tramps," and Howard and Townsend, duettists, are well received, and the pictures conclude a first-rate programme.

RAMSGATE.—AMPHITHEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—On the first three evenings of this week Mr. George Alexander's company was accorded a very hearty reception in Pinero's great comedy, *His House in Order*, large audiences being the rule. Mr. Frank Fenton gave a very fine presentation of the rôle of Hilary Jesson; while Miss Marie Polini acted in fine style as Nina, the second wife of Filmer Jesson, M.P.—the somewhat priggish country gentleman who is anxious, above all things, to keep "his house in order." This character was ably assumed by Mr. Cyril Harcourt; and that of Geraldine, the austere sister of Filmer Jesson's departed first wife, Annabel Mary, was finely portrayed by Miss Henrietta Leverett; Major Maurewarde found a capital representative in Mr. Charles Tyrrell; and Mr. Richard Dalton was seen to advantage as the Pharisaical, self-educated Sir Daniel Ridgeley—father of Annabel Mary. Miss Maisie Richardson's impersonation of Derek, Filmer's son, deserves special mention. All the remaining parts were well filled, and curtain calls for the principal artists were frequent. For Thursday evening, Mr. A. Austin Leigh and the Margate Stock Company were announced for a three nights' engagement in *The Liars*.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jules Richeux.—On the first three nights of this week Mr. Charles Macdona's company produced in first-class style *The White Chrysanthemum*. In the title-rôle Miss Muriel George was quite charming; Miss Dorothy Sephton was a bright Betty Kenyon; and Miss Rosa Sullivan was a great success as the vivacious Yankee girl, Cornelia Vanderdecken. As Lieut. Reginald Armitage, Mr. Melville Florance was responsible for an artistic piece of work; Lieut. Chippendale Belmont found a clever and amusing representative in Mr. Victor Kerr; and the part of Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage, K.C.B., was capitally undertaken by Mr. John T. MacCullum. Mr. James Graydon caused roars of laughter in the rôle of Sin Chon, the Chinese cook; and Mr. Jamie Dallas as Private Perks was an ablo assistant in this line. For the latter part of the week Mr. Robert Macdonald's company, in the musical comedy, *The Dairymaids*, was billed.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Milton Bode.—Harwood's Juveniles are specially engaged for this week, and are very successful in a pretty and novel scena, entitled "A Children's Christmas Eve"; Jock M'Kay, Scotch comedian and piper, is well applauded; Hyde and Cody contribute an amusing "knockabout" turn; Violette Stockelle is an accomplished comedienne; MALSON and West appear in a clever sketch, *Telling the Tale;* Wakomie Brothers give a versatile instrumental performance; Cestria, the acrobatic waiter, is exceedingly good; Joe Conway, the pocket comedian, is well received; and a varied and attractive programme concludes with some excellent pictures on the Imperial Bioscope.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—We are having another week of variety here. The top of the bill is occupied by Miss Carlotta de Yonsen, and Mr. Charles A. Carlile in the sketch, *Sydney Blake*. The Pallister American Bioscope presents an excellent variety of films. A Limerick competition has also caused a good deal of amusement.

RHYL.—QUEEN'S PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Fred Benton.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company has been presenting Wilson Barrett's last play, *Lucky Durham*. Mr. Edmund Kennedy gives a strong and convincing depiction of John Durham, and he is well supported by Miss Alice Esther Belmore as Helen Vallerton; Mrs. Durham is a portrayal of considerable merit by Miss Lilian Mason. The comedy element is well looked after by Mr. Arthur Leigh as the Hon. Reginald Steighton, and Mr. A. E. Walker is good as Mr. Vallerton. For Thursday, Friday, and Saturday *Leah Kleschna* was announced.

NEW AMPHITHEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—A large audience on Monday welcomed Mr. Bransby Williams, who displayed much histrionic ability in some well-contrasted character sketches from his répertoire, and was most cordially received. The Gay River company pay a return visit, and include Messrs. Bert Byrne, Frank Dunlop, Harrison Latimer, A. W. Parry, D. Gibson, Misses Mildred Bryan, Winifred Norman, Eleanor Crawford, and Casa Crawford.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Constant; Business-Manager, Mr. William Collard.—Mr. Robert Macdonald's company, in *The Dairymaids*, has been here during the first three days of this week, and have scored in remarkable fashion. The part of Peggy is capitally sustained by Miss Empsie Bowman, whose acting and vocalism are equally popular; Miss Doris Dickens is also deservedly successful as Winifred; Miss Maud Lucy performs with much brightness as Eliza, and is associated with Mr. Dan Agar (an irresistible Joe Mivens) in much excellent business; Mr. Richard Telford as Sam, and Mr. Robert Bottomley as Lieut. Brudenell, are both praiseworthy; and Mr. A. Gordon Begg is a delightfully natural Dr. O'Byrne. Miss Annie Heenan and Miss Kitty Kirwan are admirable in the parts of Helené and Miss Penelope Pychase.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. J. Herbert Jay; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. L. Turst.—Miss Nellie Bowman's company, the Pelicans, are giving their varied and interesting entertainments throughout this week, and are meeting with continued success.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden. Mr. Junius Booth, with his adaptation of Alexandre Dumas' *Monte Cristo*, had an enthusiastic reception from a good house on Monday, when he played the title-rôle in a masterly manner; a charming Mercedes was presented by Miss B. Doyle; Baron Danglars was portrayed skilfully by Mr. Augustin Bowerman; Mr. Percy Braithwaite as Caderouse, Miss Doris Dallimore as Sophie, and Miss Alice West as La Carconte were responsible for the comedy business. Very satisfactory work was done by Mr. Beckett Bould as Mons. Nortier, Mr. C. W. Crowe as General Fernand Mondego, Mr. Walter Huron as Mons. Villefort, Mr. Finn Doyle as Lieut. Albert de Morcef, and the other members of the company.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Arabella Allen creates a fine impression by her clever character-sketches of old men from Dickens's works; Ryder Slone is much applauded for his eccentric business; Charles Austin, comedian, keeps the house in roars of laughter; the Three Sisters Silcott, vocalists and dancers, are well received; and excellent turns are also provided by Phern and Phern, in a musical act; Johnny Johnson, "musical dandy"; Mamie Iris, comedienne and dancer; Howard and Collinson, in their absurdity, *The Porter and the Parcel;* and Carta and Mirtziana, in a sensational gymnastic equilibristic act.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—The Six Yiulians, very smart acrobats, head the bill this week; the Three Panamas are also a clever trio of tumblers, dancers, &c.; *Crossing the Alps* is an amusing sketch by Keith and Merson's company; Jean Seul mystifies so smartly that the audience for a few seconds forget to applaud; Jessie Jukes, comedienne and expert dancer; Horace Sade, characteristic dancer; Nellie Lewis, comedienne; and J. W. Gallagher, eccentric comedian, and Angelo, lightning painter and caricaturist, also appear.

STRETFORD PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sidney Weatherilt.—Will Carter, comedian, and his pierrot party, are doing good business. Professor E. Barlow, ventriloquist, is also well received. The cinematograph pictures by Bainton Bosco are both pretty and amusing.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Pardoes' Varieties form the entertainment here this week. The Marvellous Pardoes head the bill, and win hearty approval in their comedy speciality act, *Uncle and the Cannibal;* another clever

SHEFFIELD. — Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. W. Greet's company opened on Monday in *The Sign of the Cross*, which was again received with every sign of approbation by an attentive audience. Mr. Cyril Austin Lee was as dignified and impassioned as the scene demanded in the part of Marcus Superbus; Miss Gladys Leslie was sweet and sympathetic as Mercia; and Mr. Frank Wood as the bibulous Glabrio, Mr. C. Yorke as Nero, and Miss Dulcie Greatwich as Stephanus were very successful. All the other characters were well played, and the scenery and dresses were admirable.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*A Modern Adventuress* was performed on Monday by Mr. Lingford Carson's excellent company. In the title-rôle Miss Muriel Thompson cleverly depicted the character of a modern Delilah, and she looked quite a picture of feminine beauty in her ravishing toilettes; Mr. Charles Draycott acted with his accustomed dash and dramatic power as Prince Donelli; Miss Rosa Mervyn won the sympathies of the house as Mrs. Dolby; and Mr. Will White caused great amusement as a jolly Yorkshireman. The piece was well received. *The Shaughraun* was billed for Thursday and Friday.

Alexandra Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—A drama with a strong moral purpose is *A Gambler's Daughter*, which is being acted to large houses this week by Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton's company. Mr. Robert Ayrton as a typical son of Erin of the clean and rollicking Boucicault type, practically carries the piece through on his broad shoulders, but he received whole-souled support from Messrs. Alfred Sanders, Richard Pitt, Basil Mitchell, C. P. Kilbourne, Frank Croft, Chas. York, Edward Bart, L. Darby, and Misses Adria Hill, in the dual rôle of Mildred and Miriam Grant, Harriett Loydall, Linda Lipton, Lizzie Gordon, K. Dempsey, Lovell, Annie Broughton, and Maggie Hobart. The drama is effectively staged.

Empire Palace.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Here are engaged the famous Boissetts, in their laughable pantomime, *A Trip to the Continent*; the Jackley Trio, comic acrobats; Messrs. Woodhouse and Wells, patterers and dancers; Mr. James Stewart, tramp pianist; Whalen and West, comedy entertainers; Mr. Percy Honri, a clever musical artist and humorist; Mr. Ian Colquhoun, baritone; Miss Alice Maydue, an old local favourite; and the diverting eccentric vocalist, Mr. T. E. Dunville, in new songs and funny business. Animated pictures conclude a capital programme.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate.—Mr. J. Wright Aitken's company is appearing successfully this week in a dramatic episode and a comedy sketch, and others who contribute to the pleasure of large audiences are Horace and Olga's troupe of performing dogs; Mr. W. B. Raby, burlesque actor; Messrs. Beale and Broadway, comedians; Miss Katie Le Sage, &c. Some excellent pictures by the Bioscope are loudly applauded.

Central Hall.—Proprietors, the Jasper Redfern Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—Mr. George Barnard, vocalist; Mr. Pat O'Connor, humorist; the Bronsons, entertainers, and the latest animated photographs are meeting with approbation at this hall.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Mayall.—*The Belle of New York* never fails to attract, and this week huge crowds are visiting the theatre to witness the popular musical play presented by Mr. J. Bannister Howard. There is a capital array of artists, and the chorus is a strong feature. Miss Tessa de Alberti in the title-rôle is a popular favourite; Miss Olive Lenton as Fifi is a decided success; Miss Winnie Brown is delightful as Cora Angelique; and Miss Florence Hersee is a wonderful dancer as Mamie Clancy; Mr. Paddy Dupres makes his mark as Ichabod Bronson, and Mr. E. Mozar is excellent as Harry Bronson. The other parts are well played, and the engagement is a successful one.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Trussell.—Mr. John Tiller's company is presenting a screamingly funny musical extravaganza, *A Trip to Paris*, which serves to introduce some smart dancing by the Tiller Girls; Mr. Bob Selvidge as Hiram P. Maxim from Chicago is excruciatingly funny, and the trip is a most interesting one from start to finish; the Kirbys are an entertaining couple, their dancing being very smart. Others who do well are Harvey and Holt, speciality artists; Whimsical Walker and company in *Capt. Hamilton, V.C.*; and Billie Burford, comedienne.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—Les Piccolinos, midgets, present a very original and interesting performance; James Fawn, an old-time favourite, is as good as ever; the Three Laurels are wonderful acrobats, and the Tally Ho Trio sing delightfully; Vaudinoff excels as a lightning painter, and Gregson and Goodfellow are a comedy duo par excellence; Flo Deighton, a cultured vocalist; the Fitzroys, aerial gymnasts, and Lester May, comedian, complete the bill.

Pier Pavilion.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait.—Mme. Stockham's company of harpists and entertainers provide the attraction here, and their novel and artistic entertainments are highly appreciated.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—Empire Theatre, Ltd.—Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Mr. George Dance introduced us on Monday to *Miss Hook of Holland*. Mr. Fred Winn made a vigorous Mr. Hook, and evoked much laughter; Mr. T. J. Bolesworth gave satisfaction as Capt. Adrian Paap, and Mr. Percy Carr was most popular as Bandmaster Van Vuyt; Ludwig Schnapps was well taken by Mr. H. Talbot; and Miss Rita Everard was vociferously encored in her songs, and gives pleasing prominence to the character of Mina. The title-rôle was cleverly enacted by Miss Maggie White, whose songs were very popular. *The Catch of the Season*, by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman, was presented on Thursday.

The Kursaal.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—Every encouragement is shown this week's excellent programmes, and both the Theatre and the Café Chantant get large audiences, who heartily receive each contributor. Those appearing in the theatre are Miss Rene Ring, a popular comedienne; Mr. Teddy Dix, comedian and dancer; Phedona, instrumentalist; Miss Kate Oxford, who pleases with good songs; Norman and Vanderbilt, in their amusing act, *My Wife's Peculiarity*; Miss Madge Field, a good dancer; the Great Matulla Troupe, who maintain their success of a few weeks previous by clever conjuring; Helena Sleath and Charles Aldin, in the operatic scena, *Claude Duval*; and Hayes and Merritt, in their smart and clever aerial flights and trampoline table performances. Capital pictures on the Bioscope conclude. A vocal scena by the Courtenay Family is submitted in the Café Chantant, and other turns are George Reeves, an eccentric comedian, vocalist, and dancer; the Sisters Mandeline and Rita, duettists and dancers; and Harding and Preston, with various comedy creations.

Pier Pavilion.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless. — By arrangement with Mr. Will Dennis, *Little Lord Fauntleroy* is being presented here by Mr. Charles Carey. The company is a strong one. Miss Minnie Omar, a winsome young actress with every confidence, gives a remarkable characterisation of Cedric Errol; Mrs. Errol is refined and dignified in the capable hands of Miss Rosemary Rees; Minna is well taken by Miss Loudolph Barrett; Mr. Edwin F. Fysher as the lawyer, Mr. Havisham, is most successful, and equally so is Mr. Bruce Lindley as Mr. Hobbs; the Earl of Dorincourt has a clever exponent in Mr. Charles Carey.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House, Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Mr. Leonard Boyne and his company opened on Monday with *Raffles*. Mr. Leonard Boyne essayed the principal rôle in an eminently successful manner, and depicted the amateur cracksman in a natural and forceful style which left nothing to be desired. Miss Maud Cressall submitted a capital study of Gwendoline Corran; Harry Manders had an excellent and clever representative in Mr. Lewis Edgard; as Curtis Bedford, the detective, Mr. E. W. Thomas showed a thorough grasp of the necessities of the character; the Earl of Amersteth was well portrayed by Mr. Arthur Willoughby; Mr. Harold West was very good as Viscount Crowley; as were also Miss Eilaine Inescourt and Miss Dorothy Shawe in the parts of Mrs. Vidal and Lady Ethel respectively.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Coulson.—The popular drama, *Driven from Home*, is being performed to good houses by a strong company. Mr. Felix Pitt in the part of Anthony Raybrook submits a powerful and finished performance; as Laura Raybrook and Walter Hatherley, the younger, Miss Muriel Dean is well placed, her acting being agreeably emotional; a convincing piece of acting is submitted by Mr. Arthur F. Dudley as Willie the Outcast; Mr. Henry Helling gives a fine exposition of Adam Marley; Mr. Harry Cornwall as Jabez Thomas scores heavily; and other parts are well represented by Miss Clara Knowles, Mr. Chas. Burdon, Mr. Francis Everard, and Mr. G. Lawrence.

Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Mr. Geo. Kirk's company appear with great success in *Grip*. The title-part is powerfully enacted by Mr. George Langdon, and Miss Constance Lawie is good as Judy; a musical act by Les Frassettis is enthusiastically received; Mr. Sidney Owens, a Scotch comedian, has an excellent reception; Ridiculous Recco scores in his absurdity, *How to Become an Acrobat*; Bell and Butt contribute a novel act, *Fun in a Garden*; and other enjoyable items are Dot Hardy, comedienne; L. W. Harris, comedian, and the Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Local playgoers are renewing their acquaintance with *Man's Enemy*, which has not been seen here for several years. The company presenting the piece is headed by Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby, who appears with success as Count Lanski. Mr. Norman A. Overton's assumption of the rôle of Harry Stanton is a very popular one, and Miss St. Lawrence gives an admirable reading of the part of Sarah Drake. Tom Drake is capably handled by Mr. T. Weldon Atherstone; Mr. W. H. Burton gives a careful and earnest portrayal of the part of Bill Saunders; as Isaac Barnett, the Jew, Mr. Fred Owen is highly efficient. Miss Eva Reed is very piquant and breezy as Polly Harris, and Miss Clare O'Sullivan submits a pleasing picture of Grace Lisle. Messrs. Percy West, W. N. Gilmore, and Frank Hedley, and Miss Evelyn Geldard also appear to advantage.

STAFFORD. — Lyceum Theatre.—Lesse and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—The Empire Picture Company's Animated Pictures and Variety are the attractions here, a good bill of fare being provided. The Berlin Belles, vocalists and dancers, give a good turn; Teddie Wisper is clever and amusing as a juggler; Sill and Sillcott give a capable gymnastic display in an absurdity, *Lively Luggage*; Collins and Irene are responsible for mystifying thought-reading; and Beattie Bloom sings her songs with effect. The pictures are exceptionally fine.

STALYBRIDGE.—Grand Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Fioni; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Jackson.—The premier position on this week's bill is deservedly occupied by the Romsakoff Troupe of lady lightning drillers, wall-scalers, dancers, &c., the other artists comprising Rowland Hill, comedian; Clarence Allcock, a local juvenile comedian; Blanche and Diacoff, cyclists; Helene and Emilion, gymnasts; Castle and Lake, burlesque artists; and Tom Kelso and company in a sketch, *Silly Servants*.

ST. ANNE'S-ON-THE-SEA.—Pier Pavilion Theatre.—Lessee of Entertainments, Mr. H. Leslie.—Harold V. Neilson and company made a welcome appearance here with a triple bill for two nights and a couple of pieces one night. The triple bill, in which Mr. Neilson and Miss Amy Sangster appeared to advantage, consisted of *Delicate Ground*, *The Light That Failed*, and a comedietta. On the last night *Ruth's Revenge* and *The Reformation of Bill Burge* were given. *The Toreador* is billed for the opening of the next week.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. A. McLeod.—Mr. Chalmers Mackey brings to St. Helens for the first time his new play, *Rollicking Rory*, and a large house gave both company and piece a hearty reception. Mr. Mackey himself plays the title-rôle, and throughout is the life and soul of the piece. He is ably supported by Miss Nana Flensberg, who is bright and vivacious as Rosie. Mrs. Mackey is a charming Rosaleen; Mr. David M'Farlane makes the most of Stephen D'Arcy; and Mr. Charles Homer is a manly Desmond. Miss Constance Bellamy sings suitable ballads and makes a picturesque Queen of the Gipsies. Other parts are well played by Mr. Haughton Macaulay, Mr. John Neville, and Mr. St. John Stuart. The drama is ably staged.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic Carnell.—Mina and Mora, in a novel scene, head the bill here, and give a very enjoyable turn. Wilton Heriot and company appear in a scena, *Beauty and the Bounders*, with much success; Topsy and Usher introduce whirlwind dancing; Lily Black is a pretty and charming comedienne; Bonetti and Corri cause much fun with their comic juggling; Mlle. Zelda, expert musician; and Allis and Cassetti complete an excellent programme.

STOCKPORT. — Theatre Royal and Opera House. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill.—*The Life of a Showman* is presented by Mr. George Teste Santé and company. Mr. Frank Santé both as an actor and athlete shows to great advantage in the part of Brien Leader; Mr. Morris Maud as Hendrick Marais makes an effective villain; and a realistic impersonation of the Rev. Cyril Arliss is given by Mr. Edward Warden; an amusing character is Dickie, played by Master Harry Warden; and little Lizzie Power is distinctly pleasing as Lynette Leader; Miss Constance Medwyn is an accomplished actress, and as Agatha Winter is all-powerful.

Empire. — Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Nellie Wallace, who is the bright star here this week, is delighting crowded audiences with her smart patter and amusing songs; Datas, the man of marvellous memory, is also a decided attraction; and among other excellent items are Phil Herman and company in an interesting sketch, *The Last of the Desmonds*; Richardson Taylor, a ventriloquist and mimic of the front rank; Bains and Reed, clever comedy acrobats; Texas Hattie, an exceedingly able tight-rope artist; the Varleys, entertaining vocalists; and J. H. Bray, a pleasing descriptive vocalist.

STOKE.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes.—A capital dramatic sketch is presented this week in *The Ace of Hearts*, performed by Miss Mabel Carr, Mr. James Willard, and Mr. Jackson Wilcox. Waltan and Lester, as the world's worst wizards, are funny and smart; Roma and Romani, in their musical items, are fine, their vocalism also being good; Charles Clark, as a comedian, is excellent; Tennis and Laune are a pair of pleasing duettists; the juvenile Stowe Brothers are responsible for a remarkable balancing act; and the Ringling Trio are capital comedy artists. The pictures are excellent.

SUNDERLAND.—King's Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Carlo.—The attraction this week is Mr. Fred Karno's extravaganza, *Saturday to Monday*, with Mr. Rolando Martin as the bridegroom, John Willie Jaggs, and Miss Amy Rogerson as Clarinda. These versatile artists receive adequate support from Mr. J. W. Bradbury, Mr. Dick Harcourt, Mr. C. Curtis, Mr. Fred Palmer, Miss Ethel Beech, and Miss Ada Maskell, and the remainder of the cast also do well.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Mr. James Bell's *Idol of Paris* company opened here on Monday. Miss Annie Bell, in the rôle of Flare-Flare, submits an interesting impersonation of the variety star artist; Mr. Otto Minster as Phillipe D'Esterre sustains the heavier rôle with distinction; Mr. Sidney Arnold is efficient as Victor Cashelle; and Mr. Arthur McCullock is excellent as H.R.H. Prince Sergius. Mr. H. Vyvian Thomas is amusing as Tartare, the younger Cashelle, and Miss Annie Megson is prominent as Ann Sancterre.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Thornton.—Mr. J. H. Tindle's season of Biograph Pictures continue to do excellent business with a complete change of programme and variety items.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Rich. Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Chief honour is given on the bills to Mariedl, "the tallest woman in the world," who exhibits her abnormal vastness under the direction of her manager, and then walks amongst the audience. Queenie Leighton is an attractive item of the programme; the Three Sisters Urma gives an exceedingly pretty and graceful turn on the trapeze; Joe Reichen's terriers show evidence of highly-successful canine training; Jack Lane scores a success as the musical Yorkshire rustic, and his imitation of the village choir quartette is really good. Other items are contributed by Muir and Bartlett and company in *The Collar Stud*; Adams and Ward, acrobatic comedians; the Bensons, in a vocal and comedy act; and "The Magic Carpet," a military mystery, with the Bioscope Pictures as a wind-up.

Palace of Varieties.—Lessees, The United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Browne and Stringer.—Heading the bill, Mme. Ada Colley sings, to the delight of the Palace patrons; Gertie Gitana is another artist who is in high favour; George Antill maintains his popularity as a comedian. The bill is further contributed to by Harry Zetter, comedian and dancer; Hector and Sulton, eccentrics; Cavalli, ventriloquist; Webb and Branston, operatic duettists; Tate and Tate, in what is described as a trampoline act; and the Palace Pictures.

Victoria Hall.—Proprietors, The Sunderland Corporation.—Pringle's Pictures and high-class vaudeville still manage to draw good audiences. Limerick competitions are also being introduced with success.

SWANSEA. — The Grand.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—*The Love that Women Desire* proves a strong attraction here. Miss Lallah Stanhope and Mr. John Davidson, as the hero and heroine, are responsible for admirable interpretations; Mr. J. O. Stewart as Squire Abingdon is capable; Mr. Oliver Rogers does well as Richard Abingdon; Dr. Brandreth has a lifelike impersonator in Mr. S. P. Clewlow; and the Rev. Arnold Gathorne is faithfully presented by Mr. Hugh Wallace. The Madge Abingdon of Miss Aimee Gratton Clyndes is interesting; and the Paula Swift of Miss Winifred Barton is an intelligent study.

The Star.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. J. Powell.—The patrons of the Wind-street house are excellently catered for this week by Frederick Melville's company, in *Her Road to Ruin*. Mr. Robert Falkener's talented acting as Frank Temple rouses the audience repeatedly; Mr. Knox Orde as Tom Wills is capable; Mr. Philip Hardy as Alex. Bradby presents a skilfully-drawn character; May Willoughby, the heroine, is played sympathetically by Miss Alice Bowes; Miss Eva Moss is a delightful Jess; Mary Dawson is sympathetically played by Miss Nellie Bonsor; comedy is well supplied by Mr. G. Brooke (Billy Boots) and Miss Marie Wright (Jennie Cackling).

Empire, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—Needless to say, George Robey is filling the Empire, and is received with great enthusiasm; Mlle. Sidy Nirvana, in some living statuary, gives a very artistic display; Ethel Haydon is a charming singer; the Leonards, in their comedy act, are quite successful; Tom Parker contributes an original turn; and Les Antiques give a good gymnastic display. The Sisters Pine are well received in their musical comedy, *Maggie's Day Out*; and Marie Weston does not fail to please. The Bioscope pictures are, as usual, good.

Albert Hall.—Mr. William Coutts presents Dr. Walford Bodie for the first time to a Swansea audience, and the Doctor has fully maintained his marvellous reputation. He is supported by an excellent company, and is doing huge business.

SWINDON.—Mechanics' Institute.—Secretary, Mr. H. J. Southwell.—Lovers of good music in this town have been given a capital programme of grand opera this week by the United English Opera Co., under the direction of Mr. Fred S. Gilbert, opening on Monday with a fine rendering of *The Daughter of the Regiment*, under the bâton of Mr. Herbert Vickermen. In the part of Marie, Miss Doris Gilbert was delightful throughout, and with Miss Evelyn Gilbert as Countess, was deservedly applauded. As Sergt, Sulpice, Mr. J. Kneale-Campbell was heard to distinct advantage; and Mr. Stuart Bolton did well as Bruno; but the popular Mr. F. S. Gilbert as Tony carried all before him with his rich voice. The "Miserere" scene from *Il trovatore* was also given, with Miss Elsa May rendering the music allotted to Leonora most delightfully. On Tuesday *Maritana* was given with Mr. F. S. Gilbert as Don Cæsar. During the week *Faust*, *Il Trovatore*, and *Bohemian Girl* were also staged.

TORQUAY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company in the comic opera *Veronique* is visiting here this week, and is proving a great attraction. In the name part Miss Mabel Lait is charmingly vivacious, and her singing is frequently encored; Mr. Arthur Stroud, as Florestan de Vallancourt, is throughout admirable; Mr. Daley Cooper is a great favourite as M. Coquenard, merriment being the rule whenever he was on the stage; as Mme. Coquenard Miss Roberta Williams does excellently; and Miss Stella St. Audrie is a clever exponent of the part of Emerence. Much amusement is caused by Mr. Oliver J. Round as M. Lonstot; and also by Mr. Sidney Bracey as Seraphin. Miss Elsie Probyn as Denise and Miss Constance Groves as Aunt Benoit are also well placed. The staging of the play is worthy of all praise.

Princess Pier Concert Hall.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—Holiday audiences crowd the performances of "The Dandies" here nightly. Miss Mabel Carlton is a pleasing soubrette, and Mr. Henry J. Corner is frequently applauded. Mr. Stephen Fitzgerald is a good humorist, and Miss Josephine Gordon sings very acceptably, whilst Miss K. Augusta Davies is an efficient accompanist.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — Opera House. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Welton Dale.—Baron H. Harris's company, in *The Prince of Pilsen*, is here. Mr. Harry Kilburn gives a most amusing study of the Cincinnati brewer, and is ably supported by Miss Sophie Harris as Mrs. Crocker. Mr. Frank Crimp makes a gallant Prince of Pilsen; and Mr. Lindon Lang an excellent representative of the U.S. Navy and Mr. Bernard Russell. Miss Minnie Muir is a charming representative of the brewer's daughter; while Mr. Ernest Clifford as François and Miss Connie Leon as the French maid keep the house in continual merriment. Miss Mollie Wynne makes a smart page boy; and Miss Kitty Albert as the New York Girl is also well received in the American Girls' Parade.

TYNEMOUTH. — Palace-by-the-Sea.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Graham; Business-Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers. — Mr. John Ridding's opera recital company, in a round of popular operas, opened on Monday with *The Daughter of the Regiment*. Tuesday was devoted to Gounod's *Faust*, with Miss Christine Gomez in the trying rôle of Marguerite. Her rendition of this notable part was really remarkable for one so young, and received due recognition from a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Charles le Sueur submitted an agreeable portrayal of Faust, singing with taste and skill; Mr. John Ridding was an effective Mephistopheles, rendering the various numbers accruing thereto with boldness and vigour; Miss Jessie Dennis sang nicely as Siebel; and Miss Winifred Knightley scored a success as Martha. *The Bohemian Girl*, *Maritana*, and part of *Il Trovatore* are also billed during the week; whilst for to-day (Saturday) the selection will be by popular vote. In addition, Mr. Harry Rogerson, the tired comedian, is highly diverting in his amusing vagaries and clever acrobatic feats and dancing. The Bioscope is of more than ordinary interest, showing some very effective and striking pictures of Niagara Falls and Rapids.

WAKEFIELD.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. William A. Armour and company present the drama *The Best of Her Sex*. Mr. Cole Aspinall gives a capital portrayal as the Rev. Stephen Maxwell; Mr. Herbert de Ville scores as Jake Smith; and Mr. Herbert J. Walton is capable as Sir Stanton Faringdon. Mr. William A. Armour gives an able representation as the hero, Philip Faringdon; Mr. Wilfred Protheroe acts in convincing style as Leslie Verney, the villain; being well supported by Miss Dora Price as Vera Delorme. The comedy element is ably sustained by Mr. Fred Rignold as Police Constable Jorkins, Miss Nell Ingram as Polly Perkins, and Mr. Arthur Ashton as Simon Downey; Miss Ina Grant plays the arduous rôle of Ruth Raeburn with commendable ability; and Miss Lilian Rose finds favour as Little Phil.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Lord, Murray, and Lord give a clever exhibition of ball punching; the gymnastic performances of the Itrams is watched with interest; Chant and Chant, comedy couple, provide a popular turn; Miss Jennie Lynwood, vocalist, is pleasing; Amurat displays wonderful feats of strength; Miss Beresford is an entertaining comedienne; and the Forestiers are successful in a sketch, *Brought to Her Senses*.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mr. Dickie Clare's company has delighted large audiences here this week with the rollicking farcical absurdity, *Lucky Liza*. Charming songs and dainty dancing are interspersed with many humorous situations. Mr. Dickie Clare, who figures in a triple rôle, is a comedian of rare versatility, and whether as Silas Slim, the judge, or the French waiter, he is equally happy. Miss Madge Browne in the title-rôle wins all hearts with her singing and dancing, and her "business" with Mr. Dickie Clare is exceptionally good. Mr. T. W. Benson as Peter and Mr. J. P. Brovell as Paul score capitally. As Biffins, the gardener, Mr. H. A. Griffiths is a typical rustic; and equally good is Mr. A. W. Thompson as Barnaby Blatherwick.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Waters; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Sid Cotterell and company top the bill here this week, and a big success has been scored in the smart sketch, *The Substitute*. The Wallys are an exceptionally clever troupe of jugglers; Lillie Lassah is a dainty comedienne; Tom Leo supplies a novel turn as a lazy comedian; Lucy Coventry sings several songs in charming fashion; Hector and Paulus are humorous acrobats; and Maxford and O'Neil are responsible for convulsive laughter with their witticisms and funny songs. The Bioscope pictures are good.

WEST BROMWICH. — Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—This week Messrs. Cameron and Alexander are presenting the American musical drama, *Under the Stars and Stripes*. Rex Graham is well played by Mr. Donald A. Cameron; Mr. Edward Avinall makes the most of Colonel Jules Vermond; Mr. Wilson Blake is all that could be desired in the character of Captain Jack Deane; Bertie Dimple is in the capable hands of Mr. Charles V. Charles; Mr. Sydney Milton does well as Silas G. Strang; Miss Florence Cameron makes a charming Mildred Molineaux; Miss Christine Errington gives a sympathetic rendering of Mabel Graham; and Miss Stanley Burt capably impersonates the rôle of Sylvia Rosmer. Dick and Dorothy, R. C. Note, and Daisy Devenport contribute songs between the acts.

New Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Albert Withers.—A capital programme is being presented to crowded houses. Osmond gives a clever musical turn, and is well received; Sterling and Wright contribute some smart dancing; Mexican Mac gains applause for his sensational shooting act; Sammy Shields presents a funny football sketch; a remarkable juggling turn is contributed by A Bo-Kou; the hunting absurdity by Keith and Merson causes roars of laughter; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto meet with a cordial reception; a return visit of Ernest Rees proves popular; and a sensational motor race is shown on the screen.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—An interesting programme submitted this week includes Clown Barker and Miss Rozsika, whose "refined comedy animal show" increases in popularity; Alfred Lester and Miss Florence are exceedingly funny in an original scena; the Bros. Ashley in an amusing comedy sketch, *Next Please*, introduce some capital boxing; Milner Verren scores a success in a song, "Only a message"; Cambo, the musical monkey, is a novelty whose performance is well appreciated; Lang and Beal, knockabout musical eccentrics, please all; Mabel and Winnie Brooke are dainty vocalists and dancers, whose turn is much enjoyed; Dale and Dale score abundantly in song and dance; and the Pictures are more than usually enjoyable.

The Grand.—Hardie and Von Leer's company is paying a welcome return visit with *Two Little Vagabonds*. Miss Winifred Williamson and Miss Ethel Greene charm all by the perfection of their acting in the rôles of Dick and Wally. A fine portrayal of the part of Marion Thornton is that given by Miss Georgina Wynter; Barbara Scarth has a capable representative in Miss Madge Severne; Mr. T. Lionel Ellis as the Gaffer is exceedingly good, as is also Miss Violet Vivian as Biddy; Mr. Arthur E. Melbourne played well the part of George Thornton, and Mr. Fred Bell's representation of Captain Darville was creditable.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's *The Gay Parisienne* company is paying a return visit. Mr. Will Herman is excellent as Mr. Ebenezer Honeycombe; Mr. Shirley Lea is decidedly good as Major Fosdyke; so, too, is Mr. Chas. D. Clevedon as M. Pompier; Amos Dingle finds an able exponent in Mr. C. A. James; and Mr. Thos. Brooklyn is praiseworthy as Algernon P. Ducie. Miss Alice Nixon is charming as Mlle. Julie Bon-Bon; Miss Adeline Burgen is chic as Norah; Miss Madge Soutter is commendable as Ruth; and Miss Holford Beringer is artistic as Mrs. Honeycombe. *The Country Girl* is billed for the last three nights of the week.

Grand Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—The "Vagabonds" are making a reappearance this week, and are received most favourably. Mr. Leslie Burgess's fine voice is heard to advantage in "Dull Care"; Miss Leslie Lulu sang bewitchingly "Old man moon"; Miss Marie Longmore sang "Rose of Tennessee" with much expression; and Miss Olive Sparke was loudly applauded for her rendering of "Hunting for a husband." Mr. Harold Montague is richly humorous in his song "The happy land," which fairly brought down the house.

WEYMOUTH.—Royal Jubilee Hall.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Nobbs.—After a long absence Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company is paying a welcome visit with *The Gay Parisienne*, and meets with a cordial reception. Mr. Will Harman, as Mr. Honeycombe, and Miss Holford Beringer, as Mrs. Honeycombe, are most successful; Miss Alice Nixon is charming in the title-rôle; and Miss Madge Soutter makes an engaging Ruth; Mr. Shirley Lea is a typical Major Fosdyke, and keeps the house in roars of laughter; and Mr. C. H. Biddulph as the Barrister; Mr. Charles D. Cleveland as M. Pompier; and Mr. J. Fitzjames as Hans are all good in their respective parts. Capital glees are rendered by the Imperial Singers.

WHITBY.—Spa Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Payne Seddon.—On Monday and the two following nights Mr. Chas. Macdona's company appeared at this theatre in *The White Chrysanthemum* to large and appreciative audiences. Mr. William Hartigan presented a fine interpretation of Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage, K.C.B., and Mr. Victor Kahn and Mr. Erskine Lang played the rôles of Lieut. Reginald Armitage and Lieut. Belmont respectively with excellent effect. As Sin Chow Mr. Frank Weir proved vastly entertaining; and Mr. Herbert C. Walton did well as Private Perks. In the title-rôle Miss Pauline Potter scored a distinct success. On Thursday *The Chinese Honeymoon* was staged.

Waterloo Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Julian Bainbridge.—Full houses have been general during the week, Miss F. Glossop Harris and her Shakespearean company having occupied the boards in a répertoire of plays.

Drill Hall.—Parlato, facialist and impersonator of celebrities, is in his fifth week here, and is doing extremely well with his picture show, which has had distinguished patronage.

WHITEHAVEN.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Clark; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Clark.—Mr. Reginald Dance and company are here in the successful play, *Raffles*. Mr. Dance appears in the title-rôle, and his performance is much enjoyed. He has excellent support from Mr. C. Irvin as Bedford; Mr. B. Owen as Harry Manders; Mr. R. Betram as Crawshay; Mr. S. Lathbury as Lord Crowley; and Mr. O. Griffiths as Lord Amersteth. Of the ladies, Miss R. Yates is charming as Gwendoline; Miss May Brooke convincing as Mrs. Vidal; and the part of Marie is cleverly enacted by Miss Rita Ward. Miss M. Orme and Miss Frances Titheradge are good as Lady Melrose and Lady Ethel respectively, and the stage-management is excellent.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—The sporting drama, *The Prodigal Daughter*, is presented by Mr. Joseph Bebb's company. Miss Millie Ford as Rose Woodmere, the prodigal daughter, acts the part with much power and effectiveness; Mr. Lionel Atwill as the Hon. Julian Belford and Mr. G. Clifton Boyne as Maurice Deepwater each capably portrays the respective character, and others who play their parts meritoriously are Mr. Chas. Herberte, Miss Marjorie Davenport, Mr. Sydney Lynn, Miss Olive Lloyd, Mr. Marshall Meade, Mr. Frederick Harker, and Mr. Geo. Antly.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Co.—Alf. Graham's Premier Juveniles, a troupe of singers and dancers, are very popular; and the Mezzettis, in their comedy, *After the Hunt*, are greatly appreciated. "It," the "world's greatest mystery"; R. A. Speedwell, portrait painter; the Trentanovis, lady gymnasts; and Ernie Myers, comedian, are also well received. Other excellent turns are Bella Moody and Co., in the comedy, *The Village Pump*; Lily Lonsdale, charming soprano vocalist; the Brothers Obo, laughing comedians, and Gertie Moore, singer and dancer.

WORKINGTON.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—On Monday night *A Prince of Rogues* was presented by Miss Dora Dench and her company. Mr. S. Dorey as the detective gave an excellent exposition; as the villain, Mr. L. Lawrence was effective; Mr. R. Hale was satisfactory as the hero; Mr. R. Buckland played well as Dick; Mr. L. Weston was applauded for his rendition of the millionaire; the comedy was supplied by Mr. B. Dench as Josh; as Winnie, Miss Dora Dench won sympathy; Miss L. Trehearne was excellent as Rita; and Miss A. May was lively as Polly. The staging was good.

WREXHAM.—Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager Mr. C. W. Collings.—This week a fine all-round company is appearing here. The Gascoignes are clever jugglers and equilibrists; the Allans, capital musical speciality artistes; and Miss Nellie Vance, serio and dancer, does especially well; J. G. Aitken, the Canny Scot, and Miss Baby Lloyd also gain rounds of applause; the animated pictures continue to be as good as ever.

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Mrs. Morton Powell and company have presented *When It Was Dark* this week with unbounded success. M

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Aug. 19, the Comedy, with music by Paul A. Rubens, entitled
"MR. POPPLE, OF IPPLETON."

A hearty welcome was given on Monday evening on the return visit paid by *Mr. Popple, of Ippleton* by a crowded house, which thoroughly enjoyed the admirable fooling of Mr. Rubens's comedy, with its tuneful songs and choruses. Though lacking the services of Mr. G. P. Huntley in the character of Freddy Popple, Mr. Arthur Longley makes a perfectly efficient substitute, exhibiting a complete grasp of the part, and providing no end of laughter at his bucolic eccentricities. In addition, Miss Millie Hylton is engaged to impersonate La Bolero, and right well does she succeed, for the audience take to her immediately, and the evening is one complete success for her. Whether acting or singing, Miss Hylton presents a delightful picture, and causes regrets that her appearances on the regular stage in musical comedy are so few. Mr. H. Carnelly-Joye is an energetic Norman Popple; and Mr. Douglas Phillips sings pleasantly as Jacques Kenyon; Mr. James Stevenson and Mr. Sydney Courtney as Henry Doring and George Hennay cause amusement by their flirting propensities; Mr. Willie Kottaun is a smart Messenger Boy; and Mr. Louis Denver acts well as Alfred. A very humorous Platt is Mr. C. E. Paton; and Mr. Augustus Hammond is a lifelike Head Waiter. Miss Nellie Hodson is again a dainty maid Louise; she sings and dances to perfection, and establishes herself a warm favourite. A pleasing Violet Brinton is Miss Cora Lingard, who sings with much expression; Miss Alice Rene and Miss Edith Grenfell are the two neglected wives, Mrs. Doring and Mrs. Hennay, and both play efficiently. The chorus is an attractive one, and the augmented orchestra is ably controlled by Mr. Julian Rutt. The dresses are most elaborate and tasteful, and the scenery, by Bull, may aptly be described as beautiful.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Aug. 19, the Drama, entitled
"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

Entertainment of a sensational nature is again provided for the patrons of the Marlborough for the current week in the form of Mr. W. Melville's drama, *A Girl's Cross Roads*. This sucessful play has evidently lost none of its popularity, for on Monday and throughout the week the house has been full and enthusiastic. The drama is excellently interpreted, the company throwing themselves heart and soul into the presentment, with the result that every scene tells. Mr. Wilson Gunning's acting of the part of Jack Livingstone reaches a high point of excellence, being marked by much power and ability; Mr. Gerald Jordan's consistant study of that despicable scoundrel Cuthbert Lumley deserves unstinted praise; Mr. Charles Franmore as John Meadows speedily gets on good terms with his audience, and his impersonation of the jovial, good-natured old farmer is thoroughly sound; Miss Isla Garnet Vayne, as Constance Cornell, gives a pleasing portrayal fraught with emotional power and womanly feeling; Miss Fay Garnet Vayne makes a considerable success in the humorous part of Tilly Vane; as Dr. Weston Mr. Cyril Vernon gives a fine presentment, dignified, calm, and impressive; Luke Ramsden is admirably portrayed by Mr. Withers, who also merits much praise for his able stage-management of the play; Miss Florence Kelsey makes much of the part of Nellie Meadows, and the rôle could not be in better hands; the unthankful character of the "picture from life," Barbara Wade, is as skilfully portrayed as ever by Miss Hilda Beverley. The comedy element is in the hands of Mr. Fred Ingram, as Toby Turvey, and he makes all that is possible out of the assumption, and that possible is a great deal. The remaining parts are all in capable hands. The drama is well mounted. Mr. W. Melville's interests are well looked after in front by Mr. Frank Sutherland.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Aug. 20, the Drama, entitled
"WOMAN AND WINE."

Large audiences are visiting this theatre this week to see that thrilling drama of Shirley and Landeck, *Woman and Wine*, which is being played by a capital company, under the direction of Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds. The play is of the most exciting description, and the fight with knives between two women, which is the great scene in the play, roused the audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm. Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds gives a wonderfully dramatic and striking portrayal of Dick Seymour, the young student who falls to such low depths, and is eventually tried for murder of which he is innocent. Mr. Edmonds vividly delineated the gradual decline of the man's character, and the speech from the dock was capitally and forcibly delivered, and created a great impression. Marcel Rigadout, "the woman who didn't care," is played in a powerful manner by Miss Cissie St. Elmo. Miss Violet Sims is most charming as the heroine, Mary Andrews, a character which she plays with great sympathy; and the touching devotion to Dick's blind father, so admirably played by Mr. J. Milne Taylor, won the hearts of the audience. A striking picture is given of La Colombe by Miss Joan Percira, who greatly distinguished herself in the great fight scene. A quaint and curious character is Caliban, the hunchback, which is depicted in a most lifelike manner by Mr. Edwin Kirby. Miss Ethel Vinroy is smart as the lively little widow, Janet Marlow; while her two admirers, Professor Sauter and his son Charlie, are amusingly depicted by Mr. William Manning and Mr. Harry Harrop. Mr. Edward A. Ryleston is good as Phineas Collins; and Mr. Frank Thomas scores as Mark Parkins. The minor characters are in each case suitably filled. The play is splendidly staged, and the scene of the Bal Masque is most brilliant; and Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers give much pleasure by their various dances. We are pleased to see that Mr. Wilfred Stanford, the manager of the theatre, is now back again after his holiday, which has been devoted to military life.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, Aug. 19, the Drama, in Four Acts, by William L. Roberts and Ben Landeck, entitled,
"FOR HER SAKE."

The above piece contains all the points which go to the making of a good and successful drama, and as interpreted by the members of Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company, the performance proves of much interest. The piece is adequately mounted and staged, and nothing pertaining to originality and effect has been left unattended to. Mr. Wellesley Draper acted with power and spirit as Prince Vladimer Walanoff, and succeeded in placing before his hearers a manly and effective portrayal. The villainy of Gregorvitch was clearly shown by Mr. Bernard Mervyn. He made his part stand out in bold contrast to the others, and, taking advantage of every opportunity offered, his performance was worthy of warm praise. Mr. Charles E. Johnson supplied a powerful and at times truly pathetic picture of Nicholas Nicholoff. His reading of the rôle showed the result of careful study. A quaint and droll delineation of General Pauloff was given by Mr. Millar Anderson; and Mr. Alfred Sinclair played with military bearing as Lieut. Rostow. A capital embodiment of Lord Chumley Hargreaves was contributed by Mr. Fred Beck. His humour was of a high order of merit, and his ability in the lighter portions of the play was much appreciated. Mr. Fred Hilliard did all that was possible with the part of Ivan, the evil nature of the serf being clearly and cleverly shown in his portrayal; whilst Mr. Sydney Benson supplied a characteristic exposition of Patrick, the Irishman, meeting with every success. A performance full of fire and spirit was that of Miss Doris Gilham as Princess Natacha Walanoff, and much praise is due to her for her excellent reading of the rôle. Considerable amusement was supplied by Miss Gertrude Netterville as Phyllis Gray; and Miss Maimie Randall proved exceedingly funny and worked hard and successfully as Amelia Jam. An embodiment full of emotion and intensity was that given by Miss Mabel Mannering as Olga. In parts her acting was filled with tenderness and feeling, and at times she delivered her more passionate lines with power and decided ability. All through she was a conspicuous success, and deserving of high praise. Minor rôles were adequately supported by Messrs. Henry Russell, T. Sharp, F. Leyland, Fred Scott, and C. Stevens.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Aug. 19, the Drama entitled
"IN HOLY(!) RUSSIA."

Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company is appearing this week in Lilian Clare Cassidy's lurid Muscovite melodrama, *In Holy(!) Russia*, and the meaning of the note of exclamation will be apparent to all who see the piece. Mr. Arthur Stratton is amusing, and enters thoroughly into the spirit of the piece as Uncle Dick (Col. Richard Forrest, of the Guards); the part of Micky Nolan is deftly handled by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy, who wins hearty laughter and commendation by his droll exposition of character as Uncle Dick's Irish servant; Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy acts with verve and ability as the daring Rénee Rubinoff, who escapes from Siberia, and goes through all sorts of dangers disguised as an American heiress, and strewing her path with the hearts of the victims of her charms. Mr. Frank Copeland does well as the manly and right-hearted Sir Harry Beresford, British Ambassador at the Russian Court; Count Gregori Petroski, the people's friend, is admirably enacted by Mr. Rolph Leslie; Mr. Carl Rovinelli gives a vigorous and virile embodiment of the rôle of Laurice Steragoff, a Nihilist leader; and Mr. Jas. Cuthbertson acts with impressive dignity as Baron von Pleve, chief of the Russian Secret Police; Mr. Frederick F. Loyd is remarkably good as the weak-kneed roué, Michael Nabolski; and Miss Florence Creagh is well in the picture as Cotska Lavotski, in the pay of the Russian police. Other minor rôles are satisfactorily rendered. Mr. Frank Copeland is acting-manager, and Mr. J. Rice Cassidy stage-manager and personal supervisor.

THE SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 19, the Drama, in four acts, by Walter Howard, entitled
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG."

Notwithstanding the long sequence of dramas at the Shakespeare Theatre, their popularity with local playgoers has in no wise diminished, and this week crowded houses have welcomed Mr. Jack Haddon's company (by agreement with Messrs. Paumier and Howard) in the successful play, *Under the Russian Flag*. An excellent company has been engaged, and their interpretation of the piece is in every way so successful that the interest of the audience is fully sustained throughout the performance. Mr. Jack Haddon's fine presence is well suited to the rôle of Capt. Demetrius, and he acts with earnestness and in the most finished manner, his delivery of the thrilling lines allotted to the part invariably winning rousing cheers. Mr. Charles Stafford plays in manly and straightforward style as Ivan Ramonoff, and acquits himself with success; Mr. Jerrold Ord capably sustains the rôle of the scheming Michael Romanoff; and Mr. W. Wilson does all that is necessary in the part of Colonel Souveroff. The humour of the piece is supplied by Mr. Templer Ellis, who enacts the part of Alexis Skopolopki. Assuming the accent and mannerism of a languid swell, Mr. Ellis keeps the house in roars of laughter; and in this direction he is well assisted by Miss Molly Hackett, who, as Ogarita, acts up to him in a manner deserving of the warmest praise. Mr. Hal Forde also contributes his share to the general merriment by a clever character sketch of Peter Poulski, a tramp; and Mr. H. Naylor Grimson gives a dramatically effective rendering of Wolf Marischla. The part of Luka Marischla is ably played by Miss Marie Rayner, who skilfully portrays the vindictiveness and passion of the jealous-minded adventuress, and delivers her lines with venomous emphasis. A sweet and winsome Vera Vassiloff is found in Miss Molly Hackett, who makes a charming appearance in the part, and acts with pleasing effect. The minor parts are all capably sustained, and the scenery leaves nothing to be desired. Mr. E. de Hague Body is the acting-manager for Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 19, the Play, by Hall Caine,
"THE PRODIGAL SON."

The attraction this week at the Kennington Theatre is Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in the great Drury-lane success, *The Prodigal Son*. The popularity of this play is amply testified by large and enthusiastic audiences at Mr. Robert Arthur's convenient South London playhouse. The power of the story unfolded holds the spectator in its grip from the rise to the fall of the curtain, and played as it is by a most brilliant company, together with exquisite scenery and stage effects, makes it a performance that no theatregoer should fail to witness. Mr. Richard A. Greene is an admirable Stephen Magnus, Governor of Iceland; Miss Barbara Gott in the part of Anna does extremely well; Mr. Henry Watson as Oscar Stephensson and Mr. Hugh Montgomery as Magnus Stephensson both win for themselves repeated applause; Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood is seen to advantage as Oscar Neilson (The Factor); and great praise is due to Miss Margaret Murch as Helga Neilson, and to Miss Maude Stewart Drewry in the double rôle of Thora Neilson and Elin (Thora's daughter). The part of Margaret Neilson is cleverly acted by Miss Marie Harcourt. Mr. G. Montagu-Lane as the Sheriff, Mr. Chauncey Morris as Dr. Olsen, Mr. Charles A. Maynard as Neils Finsen, Mr. Philip Renouf as The Pastor, Mr. Frank Hill as Director of the Casino, Mr. Francis Emery as Eric, Miss Ethel Percival as Madame Tandher, Miss Margaret Brodie as Gudrun, Mr. H. Louis Wilson as Agent of the Bank of Denmark, Mr. Arthur H. Parkinson as The American Senator, Mr. Frederick Owen as a Croupier, Miss May Rosine as Marta, Mr. Harold Edwin as Jon Vidalin, and Miss Gertrude Rose as Lady Slingstone contribute largely to the success.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Aug. 19, the Drama, entitled
"THE TRUMPET CALL."

None of the plays associated with the name of Mr. George R. Sims ever fails to draw the proletariat of the riverside town to the Royal County Theatre, and there was no exception to this rule on Monday night, when *The Trumpet Call*, written by the popular playwright in conjunction with Robert Buchanan, was presented there by a capable company under the direction of Mr. Charles F. Cooke. The audience followed with keen appreciation the varying fortunes of Cuthbert Cuthbertson and his young wife, Constance, parts which were ably portrayed by Mr. Charles Boult and Miss Helena Millais respectively. Mr. Cooke himself gave a refreshing picture of the breezy Irishman, Sergeant-Major Milligan, and was ably supported in the low comedy work of the piece by Mr. George Elliston, who acquitted himself well equally as the vacuous yokel and the light-hearted private of the R.H.A. Mr. John Dennys gave a fine impersonation of the polished villain, Richard Featherstone; and the show-woman, Astrea, found a capable exponent in Miss Lena Brophy. Others who deserve particular notice are Mr. Edward Mervyn as Professor Ginnifer, Miss Dot Selby as Lavima Ginnifer (his daughter), and Miss May Bowyer as Mrs. Wicklow. The play was admirably mounted, the special scenery being by J. Fowler Hogg, and the original music by Henry Sprake.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 19, the Drama,
"LADY GODIVA."

The story written around the famous legend, and as presented by the popular stock company at this theatre this week, is meeting with a warm reception from large and enthusiastic audiences. In the name-part of Lady Godiva, Miss Mabelle F. Barlow scores a decided success, acting with much force throughout; Miss Helen Walibran gives a delightful impersonation of Lady Aidyth; and Elfrida, the maid, is successfully portrayed by Miss Agnes Paulton. In the character of Leofric, Earl of Mercia, Mr. W. E. Holloway gives a capable rendering; and Mr. G. P. Polson is a sufficiently villainous Algar. He is assisted in his villainy by Mr. Chas. A. East, as Unwolf Unwolfson; Mr. Dan F. Roe is successful in the character of Robin Shakebolt, his song, "Oh, oh, oh," introduced into the second act being much appreciated; Mr. Edgar Coyne is consistent throughout as Edgar, the Foundling; and Mr. Julian Cross is to be commended on a powerful representation of the half-witted Tom o' Coventry. A point worthy of note in the production is the fact that the horse ridden by Lady Godiva in the celebrated ride is the same as that used by La Milo in the recent Coventry pageant.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Aug. 19, the Drama, by Theo Kremer, entitled
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

Once again Mr. Bert Coote is paying a visit to Fulham with a powerful company in the above drama, and it is still as popular as ever. The part of Howard Wilson, a wealthy clubman, is ably taken by Mr. C. A. Melton; the character of Robert Curtis is admirably portrayed by Mr. H. W. Hatchman, who is ably supported by Miss Gertrude Harrison, as Cora Williams; Mabel Wilson, the wife of Howard Wilson, is a rôle that is excellently filled by Miss Ethel Kay; Miss Marie Wilson takes the part of Jessie, the little mother, delightfully; Mr. Frank Ashley, as the kind-hearted guardian of the law, O'Reilly, is all that could be possibly wished for; the comic element, which comes as a great relief in so highly an emotional piece, is supplied by Mr. Charles Locke, as Toto, the French butler; and Miss Ethel Sargient, as Bridget, the Irish cook, who both fill their allotted parts with great skill, repeatedly evoking roars of amusement; Mr. Cyril Melton, as Peter Schwartz, the janitor of the flat, also causes considerable hilarity. The little variety entertainment introduced into Act III. is highly appreciated. In this act the children of the company give some very good turns in the way of songs and dances.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, Aug. 19, the Drama, entitled
"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."

For the third week of the new season at Brixton the name of Melville remains in the bill, and it has acted in customary fashion by drawing crowded and enthusiastic audiences. This week it is Mr. Walter Melville, the more prolific of the brothers, by whom the play is provided, and he is represented by *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*, which is remarkable for the number of thrilling incidents it contains, all admirably sustained by Mr. Douglas Bruce's company. Perhaps the most sensational episode is to be found in the second act, when the heroine, awakening to the injustice of which she has been the victim, turns upon her betrayer, and after sending him off, makes a complete wreck of his drawing-room, which in the end presents a scene of absolute chaos. The interpretation of the character referred to is carried out thoroughly by Miss Ethel Bracewell, who possesses all the force and energy required for such a strenuous rôle, but has in reserve an amount of emotional expression that makes the more pathetic part very impressive. The evil disposition of Captain Caversham, who is responsible for the heroine's downfall, is laid bare ruthlessly by Mr. Frank Adair, who admirably indicates the cynical callousness and brutality of the personage. Mr. Charles Whitlock is the true-hearted lover, the Rev. Robert Everton, and sustains the difficult part with tact and care, delivering his lines in spirited fashion. Mr. C. W. Standing is a buoyant representative of Jack England, acting with ease and distinction; and a prepossessing appearance is made by Miss Joan Ellis as the young heiress, Rose Seymour. The unscrupulous nature of the "London mystery," Marian Franklyn, is admirably presented by Miss Lydia Mannington, who in style and appearance is aptly suited to the beautiful but depraved "women" of which the author has given so many specimens. Comeliness and comedy are admirably combined in Miss Daisy Meynard, who makes a captivating Isabella Jones, and causes no little merriment by her acting in conjunction with Mr. George H. Asquin as Dick Punch. Both artists have for some time been associated with the parts, and their efforts result in never-ending laughter. Mr. Asquin is a comedian of originality and varied resource, and his position in public favour is deservedly high. Mr. George Mitchell is a distinguished exponent of the repentant forger, James Sutton, playing with power and speaking with expression; Mr. Monson Thorpe gives a creditable study of the detective; and good work is done by Mr. Jack Clarke as a policeman, and by Mr. John Dixon as a street salesman.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Aug. 19, the Drama, by C. Watson Mill, entitled
"A WARNING TO WOMEN."

Mr. C. Watson Mill is an author of much originality and dramatic force, consequently the first visit to Peckham of his play, *A Warning to Women*, has aroused much expectation, which has not been disappointed. The scene of the piece is laid principally in "the Green Isle," and the central figure is that of Shaun, a wandering minstrel, a part played in very picturesque and convincing fashion by the author himself. The remainder of the company which is under the direction of Mr. Mill, give an excellent representation of the play, and their efforts meet with cordial applause from crowded houses. Miss Ruth Zillwood looks very handsome as the ill-fated Irish girl, Moira Kennion, and acts with great power and feeling, while her sister, Sheila Kennion, is brightly played by Miss Ada Barton; Miss Rosalind Tate supplies a powerful character sketch of the drunken hag, Hildred, "the woman who was"; Mr. Richard Vane enacts with grim earnestness the rôle of the wicked Dr. Marcus Dread, and Mr. William Vane is a manly young lover as Fergus McNaughton; Mr. W. Palliser Acock is very humorous as the eccentric Frenchman, Ferdinand de Joules; and Mr. Sidney Denton is amusing as the somewhat vacuous Lord Eversleigh; Mr. Henry Rutland makes a dignified Squire Kennion. The scenery and effects are very effective. Mr. W. Palliser Acock is acting-manager, and Mr. Henry P. Kennedy stage-manager, for the company.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, Aug. 19, Shakespeare's Comedy, arranged in Four Acts,
"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."

Mr. Louis Calvert has given lovers of Shakespeare an intellectual feast this week by reviving *The Merchant of Venice*. Mr. Calvert is seen at his best in the rôle of Shylock, a character to which his fine presence and rich voice are particularly suited. Mr. Calvert's elocution, which combines the best traits of the old and new schools, is a valuable lesson to ambitious students. Mr. Alexander Calvert is a finished and courtly Bassanio; Mr. Cecil Calvert, a humorous Lancelot Gobbo, Mr. Cecil Klein an excellent Antonio, Mr. H. Tripp Edgar is well suited to the part of Lorenzo, and a charming companion picture is the Jessica of Miss Kate Ruskin. The Duke of Venice is played with repose and dignity by Mr. Rex Grahame; Mr. Loring looks very picturesque and acts well as the Prince of Morocco; Mr. Reginald Davis is well placed as the Prince of Arragon; Mr. T. Norman Walter presents a capital study of old Gobbo; and Mr. J. Tisdale is good as Tubal. The light-hearted Gratiano is admirably represented by Mr. Eric Blind; Mr. Sidney Hallows (Salanio), Mr. Cecil Fowler (Salarino)), Mr. B. A. Streeton (Balthazar), and Mr. S. Pringle as the Clerk, all merit a word of praise for their conscientious work. Miss Beatrix De Burgh plays Nerissa cleverly and brightly; and Miss May Chevalia presents an interesting study of Portia. The dresses, wigs, scenery, and properties are all handsome and appropriate.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 19, the Drama, by Frederick S. Jennings, entitled
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."

Mr. Samuel James is presenting at the Dalston Theatre this week the drama entitled *As Good as Gold*, the incidents in which are sufficiently engrossing to keep the audience well interested. Mr. Clinton Baddeley takes the part of Sir Richard Wharncliffe, an individual of the bold-bad type, who negotiates his villainy with a degree of precision and coolness which are provocative of the proverbial cold shivers. One of his victims is Lieut. Jack Stanton, of the Scots Guards, played by Mr. Horace Booth; another is Norah Williams, the daughter of a country gentleman, played by Miss Agnes Collier. These characters form the chief lovers in the piece, and the audience watch breathlessly their counter-plots against the villain. Mr. Jackson Hayes acts very well as Mark Williams, a country gentleman; Mr. Herbert Fuller creates fun as Horatio Spankes; and so does Mr. Joseph Rowlands as Timothy Nias, a bailiff's man. Miss F. Melrose Millett appears as Kate D'Arville, a prima-donna; Miss Elsie Dene is sprightly as Madge Merry, a lady's maid; and Miss Bertha Baker shows ability as the youthful son of Wharncliffe, known, on his introduction into the story, as "The Kipper." Other parts are ably sustained by Mr. Frank Litchfield, jun., Mr. Ernest Tresner, Mr. H. Spencer, Mr. James Johnson, and Mr. T. Simpson. The scenery is the work of Mr. Harry Drury, and the mechanical effects are by Messrs. C. Watts and J. Grant.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Aug. 19, for the first time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Howard, entitled
"SECOND TO NONE."

Sir Reginald Greystone, V.C..MR. C. W. SPENCER
Capt. Phillip Mannering..MR. ALFRED BRANDON
Lieut. Archie Ballater .....MR. T. G. VANE
Sergeant Jack Horseman .....MR. J. G. MAINE
Harry Wilding .....MR. JERROLD HEATHER
Frank Wilding .....MR. CLIFFORD REAN
Private Flutter .....MR. CHARLES A. PREECE
Private Bertie .....MR. ERIC WILDE
Joe Ruggles .....MR. ALLAN CARRUTHERS
Inspector Trueman .....MR. FRANCIS AUSTIN
Norah .....MISS MAUDE GRAYSON
May Greystone ....MISS VIOLET ENNIS LAWSON
Nell Greystone .....MISS WARD

The latest play from the pen of Mr. Walter Howard, whose drama, *Her Love Against the World*, wooed back prosperity to the Lyceum Theatre, was brought to the Metropolis on Monday, when West Londoners enthusiastically endorsed the verdict of the Easter Monday audience at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, where *Second to None* had its initial representation. The play, which contains many effective situations, and is interesting from first to last, opens in the hall at Greystone Manor, the home of Sir Reginald Greystone, V.C., on Christmas Eve. Sir Reginald has two daughters, May and Nell, the latter of whom, it is soon apparent, has lost her heart to young Harry Wilding, who, with his brother Frank, is expected home from Sandhurst. Sir Reginald is their uncle, and while he is naturally delighted with Frank for having passed his examination, his disappointment at Harry having failed is no less keen. He offers, however, to make a handsome allowance to his nephew if he will try his hand at some other business abroad, but this Harry refuses to do. He admits that he lacks cleverness, and is perhaps a bit of a waster, but he declines to be dependent any more on his uncle's charity, announcing his intention of entering the ranks of the Scots Greys—a regiment with which most of the male characters are connected. Harry has a rival for the hand of Nell in Captain Phillip Mannering, who soon finds a means of destroying the happiness of the young people. While Sir Reginald sits alone before the fire, pondering on Harry's determination to join the Greys, Sergeant Jack Horseman, a ghastly, broken-down figure of a man, enters. It transpires that twenty-five years previously Horseman and Greystone had been comrades in India, and that Greystone had left Horseman, who had been wounded by assailing tribesmen, lying on the field and galloped away with plundered jewels to the value of £25,000. During the intervening years Horseman had been a captive, but managed to escape with the fixed determination of seeking out his cowardly associate, whom he now confronts with a written document setting forth the circumstances which he compels Sir Reginald to sign. Captain Mannering, who has been an unseen witness of the episode, follows Horseman when he departs, and steals the paper, and thus obtains a complete hold on Greystone. He at once gets Sir Reginald's permission to marry Nell, but the lady quietly, but firmly, refuses him; and when he finds her heart is Wilding's he persuades Greystone to turn his nephew out of doors. Frank declines to stay where his brother is not wanted, and forthwith leaves Greystone Manor to join the Greys. In the next scene, Carchester Barracks, we find Harry persecuted almost beyond endurance by Captain Mannering, but Frank, a lieutenant in the same regiment, does all he can to comfort his brother. Mannering is awaiting a final decision from Nell, and eventually reveals her father's sin, and the power he has over him, with the result that the unhappy girl resolves to sacrifice herself to save Sir Reginald's name, a very pathetic scene ensuing when she announces her decision to Harry. Horseman again turns up in search of the stolen document, and half strangles Sir Reginald. Harry happens to be in the neighbourhood, and encountering Horseman, learns all about the fatal papers, and that Mannering is in possession of them. He is accused by Mannering of trying to kill his uncle, and a warrant is obtained for his arrest, but he manages to escape. In the third act Nell succeeds in abstracting the papers from the captain's desk, Horseman, who comes on the same errand, being shot by Mannering, who is arrested. Incidentally it turns out that it was Harry who passed at Sandhurst, a mistake having been made in the names of the brothers; but Frank is such a real good "pal" throughout that one feels sorry for the disappointment he must feel, but certainly does not show. There are further exciting incidents in the last act, but finally the way is made smooth for the nuptials of Harry and Nell.

The representation by Mr. T. Edward Ward's No. 1 company was excellent throughout, every part being admirably enacted. Mr. Jerrold Heather, in the arduous rôle of Harry Wilding, contributed a manly, finished, and most convincing impersonation throughout, his acting in the scene where he determines to have done with his uncle's charity, and also where Nell tells him she is going to marry Mannering, being especially praiseworthy. The success of this scene was equally shared by Miss Ward, whose depiction of Nell Greystone was marked by much power and refinement, her entire performance being one of decided merit. Mr. C. W. Spencer admirably realised the character of Sir Reginald, particularly in the episode where he is first confronted by Horseman, a difficult part that was done full justice to by Mr. J. G. Maine, who is to be complimented upon a most impressive and clever impersonation. Captain Mannering was undertaken in easy and convincing style by Mr. Alfred Brandon, who managed to convey an excellent impression of the sinister intentions of this scoundrel without the exaggeration so often encountered; and Mr. Clifford Rean is also to be praised for his virile and natural handling of Frank Wilding, his ability being especially evident in his scenes with Mannering. Some most amusing light comedy interludes were supplied by Mr. T. G. Vane as Lieut. Archie Ballater, and Miss Violet Ennis Lawson as May, the recital by the lady of her first experiment in house-keeping evoking hearty laughter. A humorous portrayal, too, was that of Joe Ruggles by Mr. Allan Carruthers, especially in his encounters with Private Flutter, his rival for the hand of the fickle housemaid Norah, the two last-named characters being amusingly rendered by Mr. Charles A. Preece and Miss Maudie Grayson. The play was well-staged throughout; and, judging by the decidedly favourable reception accorded it on Monday, should have a flourishing career.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, Aug. 19, the Drama, in four acts, entitled
"WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN."

Miss Ellen Snow and her company fill the bill at this theatre for the week in Mr. Howard's romantic drama. The play, which is paying a first visit, is arousing great interest locally, doubtless owing to the great success that has attended this author's two productions at the Lyceum. It is sufficient to say that the drama fully maintains his reputation, and easily holds the attention of the audience. Miss Ellen Snow, as Violet, acts capitally, and her skill is admirably displayed. Miss Beatrice Shirley, as Mariel, gives an excellent performance; the Misses Nita Owen and Freda Vaughan, as Birdie and Baby, are well placed; and Miss Mildred Eversleigh, as Mr. Figgins, contributes with success to the amusement of the evening. Mr. Hilliard Vox, as Fielding, is responsible for an altogether admirable portrayal, renewing pleasant memories created on his last visit. Mr. Lionel Gadsden, as Staniloff, plays the heavy rôle in an accomplished style; Mr. Martin B. Pedlar, as Fitzherbert, is amusing; and Mr. Gerald Kennedy, as the Maharajah, both looks and acts the part well; Mr. Arthur Radford submits a good study of the Chaplain; and the smaller parts are in good hands. The scenery and mounting are both on a lavish scale, and everything possible seems to have been done to ensure success.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, Aug. 19, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Fredk. Melville, entitled
"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."

The reproduction of this play at the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, has been eminently successful from every point of view. Indeed, the fact that a large playhouse has been packed every evening to witness the production of a sensational piece should be sufficient to discountenance the silly vapourings of the self-important irresponsibles of which most dramatic debating societies are composed, and who have been for some time past gravely informing us that "drama is dead and the public won't have it." The Melvilles can easily afford to smile in silence at such twaddle while their theatres are filling. And, indeed, one can well understand an audience discovering in such a play as *The Beast and the Beauty* much to interest it, for the story that is told is such that one feels compelled to follow it from incident to incident to its happy conclusion. Then, it is extremely well staged and acted in an undoubtedly efficient manner. Mr. Ashley Page is seen in the part of the hero, Jack Barrymore, and from this experienced actor we get a well-studied but natural realisation of the rôle. One could hardly wish for a more charming heroine than is found in Miss Marion Denvil. Possessing a most attractive personality, Miss Denvil makes of her "Beauty" a sweet and most engaging character. Miss East Robertson acts in subtle style as Delilah Vane, one of the evil geniuses of the play, who has an able confederate in crime in one Henry Denver, a part excellently played by Mr. J. C. Aubery. The character of the Earl of Loman is portrayed with conspicuous ability by Mr. Edward Thane, who is dignity personified; and Mr. Johnny Chippendale is exceedingly entertaining as Tom Chicken. Mr. Eric Campbell's sturdy build stands him in good stead as Ned Samson, a fighting man; and Mr. John Sargent as Dick Soans, a ruffian; Mr. F. L. Lawrence as a priest; and Mr. Frank Harrison as a lawyer, all give capital impersonations. Miss Maggie Lindsay as a French housemaid; and Miss Mattie Everett as a maid-of-all-work are also worthy of a word of commendation.

"A.U." AND "A.A."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—If when the Association was founded it had been proclaimed a trade union with for its chief object the establishment of a minimum wage, it would have been by this time in a position to enforce a minimum wage, and no need for another society would have arisen. The Association has moved gradually towards its logical goal; and now, side by side with the embryonic union, pirouettes on the confines of definite trade unionism. The youthful Union has endured sufficient tribulation to age it rapidly. Its committee—gentlemen elected irrespective of their views—issued a set of rules which elicited a volley of protests, were hastily withdrawn, and have never been heard of since. With bated breath I would inquire, "When may we see the new rules?" Can it be that the committee, having metaphorically "backed a wrong 'un," will now revert to the original programme, and advocate in the new rules the tenets of the A.U. Reform Party? If so, I will lay aside my pen to the probable relief of patient readers.

The bulk of the profession is nebulously conscious that its conditions can be improved by combination; but the following workable theory is rather in vogue with regard to the minimum wage, "If you don't understand a thing, grumble at it, vituperate it, throw mud at it, do anything, in fact, except study it."

A more satisfactory, and scarcely more expensive plan is to study the 1d. pamphlets issued by the Fabian Society, 3, Clement's Inn, Strand.

The A.U. members who support the reform programme are in no doubt as to what they want. They want a minimum wage established as soon as funds permit of enforcing it. The opposers of trade unionism want—What? I can't make out, and I doubt if they can. A feasible answer is that they do want trade unionism, only they don't know it yet.

I wish those soulful persons whose pulses slacken at the notion of trade unionism applied to the art of acting would explain how they propose to realise their artistic yearning while they accept starvation salaries.—Yours faithfully,

NORMAN TOWERS.

1, Cromartie-road, Crouch End, London, N.

IN our report of the meeting of the Actors' Union last week, the name of Miss Adelaide Grace was inadvertently mentioned instead of that of Miss Adelaide Gracey. Miss Grace is not a member of the society, and was not present at the meeting.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

The King honoured leading representatives of the English stage on Tuesday, when Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. Beerbohm Tree, and Mr. Charles Hawtrey, who are taking holiday at Marienbad, lunched with His Majesty. In the evening the King again attended the local summer theatre, where Mme. Yvette Guilbert sang five songs in French, his Majesty leading the enthusiastic applause which was showered on the famous French artist at the end of each song. The second act of the Viennese operetta, *Wiener Blut*, by Johann Strauss, was then given, after which Mme. Guilbert sang two more French chansons and three songs in English.

Mr. John Hare begins his farewell of the provinces on Sept. 30, his tour opening at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol. Leeds, Birmingham, Nottingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Brighton will also be visited in the order mentioned. Among the pieces which the eminent actor has selected for his répertoire will be *The Gay Lord Quex*, *Caste*, *A Quiet Rubber*, and *A Pair of Spectacles*.

Mrs. Edward Terry has forwarded to the Press a valuable suggestion by means of which the sum required by the Lord Mayor for his Crippled Children's Fund might be raised. Mrs. Terry's plan is that every host or hostess entertaining large house-parties this autumn should ask to have sent to them a strong money-box, and see that it is securely fixed up in the entrance-hall, in a conspicuous position, and inscribed "The Lord Mayor's Fund for Crippled Children," so that many a guest would feel a kindly prompting to drop in a gold piece.

"A great many people of the present day," says Mrs. Terry in giving publicity to her kindly inspired thought, "hate anything that gives them trouble, and the mere fact of even writing out a cheque, addressing it, and sending it to the Lord Mayor would be for them an effort. But in this case the trouble would be nil. The open palm, as it were, would be outstretched, ready to receive the alms dropped into it. There may be some people who will say, 'But what a disfigurement to my hall!' Let those think for a moment. Supposing they themselves were crippled, or that one of their own children were stricken, would they not then feel what pity really meant?"

Mr. Charles Cartwright has returned to town, and is busy with rehearsals for his Dickens répertoire tour, which commences on Sept. 9. As before, Mr. Charles Collette will be the Micawber of the play taken from "David Copperfield."

Mrs. Kendal opened a lawn bazaar at the Manor House, at Gristhorpe, on Saturday, in aid of a fund for providing an organ in the village church. A beautiful bouquet of carnations was handed to the popular actress, who immediately began a brisk sale of the flowers at half-a-crown each. In the course of her opening address Mrs. Kendal told a story, which she explained she often related to members of her profession when they failed to speak audibly. A lady reduced in circumstances, she stated, bought a muffin bell, and went out to sell her dainties. But she was proud, and felt her position so acutely that she muffled the bell, and merely whispered "muffins" down the area steps! Needless to relate, this lady was not a success as a muffin-seller.

Mr. George Alexander, who has been taking an especially well-earned holiday, opens his six weeks' tour with Mr. Pinero's *His House in Order*, at Blackpool, on Monday, September 9. Visits will also be made to Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Glasgow, and Edinburgh. Miss Irene Vanburgh will be included in the company.

Mr. Charles Frohman will put on in front of *Brewster's Millions*, which is to be transferred to the Duke of York's on Monday, a new one-act play, entitled *A Little Japanese Girl*, adapted from the Japanese by Miss Loie Fuller, the well-known serpentine dancer. Mr. John Crook has composed special music, the scenery is by Mr. Walter Hann, the dances have been arranged by Mr. Willie Warde, and Mr. Dion Boucicault directs the production. Miss Pauline Chase will be in the title-rôle, Miss Jane May and Mr. Edward Sass will play a Prince and Princess respectively, and Mr. Percival Stevens will also be in the cast.

The successful business woman is not altogether an unknown figure on the stage, as was discovered in *The Duchess of Bayswater* and *Coralie and Co.*, but she has yet to be exploited in melodrama. Mr. Cutcliffe Hyne, the creator of the indomitable Captain Kettle, has chosen her for the heroine of his new novel, "Kate Meredith," which is to be published early next month; why, then, should not Messrs. Cecil Raleigh and Henry Hamilton, the collaborators in Old Drury's latest, write a play round the trading peeress, Lady Auckland, who has built up a prosperous business as a furniture dealer? What dramatic possibilities, for instance, lie in the character of a beautiful peeress shopkeeper, who not only attends to customers herself, packing up their purchases with neatness and despatch, but acts as her own commercial traveller!

The belated announcement of the marriage of Miss Denise Orme with Captain the Hon. John Yarde-Buller, which took place at the Registrar's Office, Kensington, on April 24 last, does not lessen the sense of satisfaction which is felt at the newest alliance between the stage and the peerage. Mrs. Yarde-Buller is a daughter of Mr. Alfred Smither, and an artist of rare accomplishments. At the age of fourteen she won the Wessely violin exhibition at the Royal Academy of Music, and three years later carried off the vocal scholarship at the Royal College of Music, Sir Hubert Parry when he presented her with the award stating that she was the youngest girl who had ever obtained this scholarship.

Miss Orme's first appearance on a London stage was at the Alhambra, where she sang and played the violin. Her services were then secured by Mr. George Edwardes for Daly's Theatre, where she appeared in *The Little Michus* and as Illyrine in *The Lady Dandies*. At the present time she is singing to her own accompaniment, both violin and piano, at the Palace Theatre, one of the items of her performance being her own song, "One Little Word," which she composed at the early age of sixteen. Miss Orme's musical talent is largely hereditary. Her mother, as Miss Jessie Morison, at the age of fourteen, appeared at the Royal Albert Hall, playing from memory Cusins's pianoforte concerto in A minor, and also had the honour of introducing Tschaikowsky's pianoforte concerto in G and Liszt's sonata in B minor to a London audience.

Captain the Hon. John Reginald Lopes Yarde-Buller is the eldest son and heir of the second Baron Churston. He holds a commission in the Scots Guards, and obtained his M.V.O. in 1903. Captain Yarde-Buller was A.D.C. to Lord Curzon of Kedleston while he was Viceroy of India, and served with distinction in South Africa in 1901. The mother of Captain Yarde-Buller—*née* the Hon. Barbara Yelverton—is a daughter of the late Admiral Sir Hastings Reginald Yelverton, G.C.B., and of the Baroness Grey de Ruthyn, widow of the second Marquis of Hastings. The estate, of some 11,000 acres, is at Brixham, South Devon.

Messrs. Murray King and Clark are having a record season at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne. The first three nights of this week enormous crowds have flocked to see Miss Marie Studholme in *My Darling*, and for the Ellen Terry visit every seat has been sold for each performance.

Mr. Albert Chevalier has given a vivid description of the way in which he will play the part of a bookmaker in the forthcoming autumn drama at Drury Lane. "I am not going to shout '6 to 4 on the fi-eld!' in *The Sins of Society*," said Mr. Chevalier. "I am to be a retired bookmaker, who is struggling to disguise his past. I have studied the racing man on the course and in the sporting clubs, and one of my character-sketches at the Prince of Wales's Theatre when I appeared with Mme. Yvette Guilbert was that of a racing tout. The groom, the coachman, the bookmaker, retain a certain cut about their clothes long after they 'retire.' About the bookmaker there is a certain loudness in garments which he cannot resist, even in retirement, so I shall dress accordingly."

Mr. Seymour Hicks, who has been so long and conspicuously identified with the lightest form of dramatic art, contemplates an incursion into the realm of the serious play, and is, in fact, in collaboration with Mr. Cosmo Hamilton upon a dramatised version of the latter's novel "Duke's Son." The story concerns the lives of a young man of good breeding who systematically cheats at cards and the equally shady young woman to whom he is engaged. Detected in the act of manipulating a deal, the girl confesses her guilt to her lover, and at length, moved to despair by the degradation of their lives, they agree to die together. Fortunately, however, the attempt at self-destruction is frustrated, and in the end regeneration is happily reached.

Mr. Cyril Maude, to whose acquisition of a new play taken from the French and to be called *Fido* we referred last week, has provided himself with an equally well-fitting character in a new piece from the graceful pen of Mr. H. V. Esmond. Preparation for the production, which is to be entitled *The O'Grindles*, have already been made, but so well is the *Earl of Pawtucket* holding its own at the Playhouse that the new production may not be expected for some time to come.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier has avoided the threatened clash with the first night of *The Hypocrites* at the Hicks by placing the production of *Fiander's Widow* a day later. The new comedy at the Garrick will, therefore, see the light on Wednesday evening next. The new play, the cast of which has already been given in this column, will be preceded by Eden Phillpott's amusing comedietta, *A Pair of Knickerbockers*.

Miss Decima Moore, the charming young actress who has recently been winning all hearts as All-of-a-Sudden-Peggy, has scored another brilliant hit in *The Truth*, which has just started on an autumn tour. The enthusiasm of the audience has been evidenced in continuous cheering, Miss Moore obtaining five calls at the end of the second act, and the same number at the end of the piece.

Mr. Dudley Bennett, of the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, has sustained a severe bereavement in the death of his mother, Mrs. William Bennett, who died at Coventry on Thursday evening, the 15th inst. The deceased lady had for some time past undergone acute suffering, and her death, which took place during her sleep, must be regarded as a merciful release. Mrs. Bennett, who was much esteemed by all who knew her, was also the mother of Mrs. W. G. R. Sprague.

Referring to an article a few days ago in one of the daily papers on the subject of dramatic art in the provinces and its alleged decadence since the days of William Terriss, it is interesting to note that two companies are shortly starting on tour with the well-known "Terriss" pieces, *The English Rose* and *The Harbour Lights*. These pieces are being exploited now by Messrs. W. H. Savery and A. S. Pigott, two of the trusted lieutenants of Mr. F. R. Benson.

Mr. Richard Mansfield, who returned to America to re-establish his health, has, unhappily, not made any improvement. He is now staying in the Adirondack Mountains, and we regret to hear of his friends' belief that his prospects of performing again are small.

Mr. Charles Frohman produced at New York last week a couple of new plays, one of which is entitled *The Alaskan*, which, incidentally, presents a realistic and acceptable snow scene to perspiring audiences. A similar scene would probably not prove so welcome to English audiences—not, at any rate, until the summer comes.

"Beauty and the Barge" is to make its reappearance in the West-end of London next week, at the Coronet, and goes afterwards to the Camden and Fulham Theatres. This delightful play has lost none of its charm since it was first presented at the Haymarket Theatre some three years ago, and still continues to amuse crowded audiences all over the country with its novel situations and quaint humour. Mr. Blake Adams, who has been associated with the play since it first started its provincial career, will be seen in the part of Captain Barley, and he will be well supported by Miss Dido Drake and others of Mr. Arthur Hardy's powerful company.

The autumn season of the Crystal Palace Theatre commences on Monday, Sept. 9, when the melodious *Veronique* will be presented. Amongst the other attractions Mr. Bannister Howard has secured are *The White Chrysanthemum*, which will bloom on the 16th, with *Sherlock Holmes*, *Mr. Popple, the Duchess of Dantzic*, *The Prodigal Son*, *The Geisha* and other Daly's successes, the Moody-Manners Opera Company, *The Bondsman*, D'Oyly Carte's Opera Company, *The Stronger Sex*, and *Florodora* in uninterrupted succession.

A meeting of the Actors' Union is arranged for Tuesday afternoon next, at the Salisbury Hotel, Manchester. The chair will be taken at one o'clock.

The season of French plays at the Royalty is once more upon us, and will this year be presented in two series, the first of which will begin on Sept. 30, with *Le Duel*, in which M. le Bargy will appear. Among his supporters will be Mlle. Pierat, of the Comédie-Française; Mlle. Cecile Didier, of the Odéon; Mlle. Franquet, of the Bordeaux Theatre; and M. Marquet, of the Athénée. The second week will be devoted to *Médor*, *La Famille Pont-Biquet*, and *Toto chez Tata*. Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, to whose appearance additional interest is lent by reason of her recent appointment as professor at the Paris Conservatoire, will be seen in the course of the season.

A new theatre and assembly rooms are to be opened at Bromsgrove on Sept. 2 by Mr. Norman V. Norman. The building is situate in the main High-street, and has seating accommodation for 600, with a cosy balcony, seating 100. A suite of committee and other rooms are elaborately fitted up, and every part of the building is heated on the most modern system. The stage, fully equipped with scenery, &c., is 28ft. wide and 19ft. deep, with an opening of 20ft. A small band will be in attendance. The bookings are in the hands of Mr. Dayrell Vincent, who intends opening the theatre for the last three nights of each week.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal commence their autumn tour on Monday, Sept. 2, at the Grand Opera House, Harrogate. Early in the tour, which takes in all the principal provincial centres, and includes three important suburban theatres, a new play by Miss Clotilde Graves, entitled *The Other Side*, will be produced. Novelties will certainly not be lacking in the course of the itinerary, for a new play by Herbert Swears will be put into rehearsal to follow *The Other Side* when a successor is required, and Mr. Kendal has also acquired the sole English rights of M. Emil Fabre's recent Comedie Française success, *La Maison d'Argile*—the English version of which will be entitled *The House of Clay*.

Dr. Joachim was laid to rest on Monday afternoon in the cemetery of the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, the body of the great violinist being laid beside that of his wife. The interment was preceded by a religious service in the High School for Music at Charlottenburg, which was attended by representatives of the Emperor and Empress, Prince Frederick William of Prussia, representatives of Prince von Bülow and the Ministry of Public Instruction, and deputations from different towns and art institutes.

The Kaiser and Kaiserin, the Crown Prince, and many members of other Royal families sent flowers and letters of condolence. From King Edward at Marienbad came a message of deep sympathy with the bereaved family, His Majesty saying how much he deplored the loss of the great artist, whom he had personally known for many years, and whom the Queen and he had heard play only last year.

Miss Beatrice Day, who, by dint of much arduous work, has gained an enviable position among the leading ladies of Australia, has concluded a tour of the Brough-Flemming company, and is now in London, taking a well-earned rest, after about three years of continual travel. Later on Miss Day returns to Australia, to again tour the cities there. During her tour of the antipodes, Miss Day has sustained such exacting parts as Lady Alethea, in *The Walls of Jericho*; Peter's Mother; Lady Gerania, in *Dr. Wake's Patient*; Mrs. Gorringe; Olivia, in *The Vicar of Wakefield*; and a long round of similar parts, in which she won unbounded praise. One enthusiastic playgoer who had seen Miss Day in many of the rôles mentioned, and who the night previously had visited the local pantomime, which was drawing crowds, thus expressed himself: "You were beautiful, Miss Day; I liked you better than Mother Goose."

Miss Olive Temple, who went to America under the management of Mr. Frank Curzon and Mr Jas. K. Hackett, to play in *Mr. Hopkinson*, has been chosen by Mr. Henry Arthur Jones to play Helen in America this autumn, under Mr. Charles Frohman's management. London theatre-goers will remember Miss Temple as being associated with Sir Chas. Wyndham, Messrs. Harrison and Maude, Mr. Edward Terry, &c., in this country.

The new Theatre and Opera House at Bridlington is proving a source of great attraction. Mr. Hague, the popular manager, takes his annual benefit on Monday, and has provided a double programme, to which a host of talent will contribute.

Messrs. Savery and Pigott have booked excellent tours for *The English Rose* and *The Harbour Lights*, to be sent on the road by them next spring. Liverpool, Manchester, Edinburgh, and Glasgow are among the important towns to be visited.

"The Midnight Wedding" will be cut off in the middle of its popularity at the Lyceum in order to make room for Mr. Hall Caine's re-written *Christian*, which will be produced by Mr. Ernest Carpenter on Saturday, Aug. 31. The run of *The Midnight Wedding* will be terminated on Wednesday, Aug. 28, and the two intervening days will see the theatre closed for the final rehearsals of *The Christian*.

We regret to announce the death of Miss Alice Edgar, which took place in Johannesburg, S.A., on July 25, from an affection of the heart. The deceased actress went out with Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler's Musical Comedy Company to South Africa in 1901, and subsequently toured Australia, New Zealand, and Tasmania with the Australian Opera Company. She returned to Africa about a year later, when she retired from the stage and settled down. Miss Edgar, whose private name was Mrs. J. Thorpe, was the eldest daughter of the late Richard Edgar, at one time well known in dramatic circles in this country.

Mr. Fred Mouillot's company drew crowded houses last week with *The Greek Slave* at Jersey. Miss Ethel Twitcham's sprightly dancing of the Tarantella was highly appreciated. Mr. Edward Carlton created roars of laughter with some smart gags levelled at the policeman who ran a visitor in for throwing a basket at him during the recent Battle of Flowers.

A great attraction will be provided at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Monday, Sept. 2, when Mr. Wentworth Croke will present Hall Caine's stirring drama, *The Prodigal Son*, which comes direct from Drury Lane, with all new scenery, dresses, and effects. No expense has been spared in securing a first-class London company.

We include with regret in our obituary notices the name of Mr. Walter D. Hartree, for many years acting manager of the Bath Theatre Royal, who died in South Africa at the early age of 49. Mr. Hartree was apprenticed at the office of the *Bath Herald* as an engraver and draughtsman, and was very clever with his pencil. He became acting manager, under the late Mr. William Lewis, at the Theatre Royal, and successfully designed and produced many Bath pantomimes. After leaving the city, on the termination of his engagement, he was for some time associated with Mr. J. Pitt Hardacre at Manchester, and eventually went to South Africa a few years ago. Mr. Hartree leaves a widow and several children.

Mrs. F. Wybert Clive, whose tour of *The Conscript* and *The Branded Woman* has been so consistently successful, under the management of Mr. Walter Steele, has commissioned Mr. Charles A. Clarke, the author of *The Prodigal Parson* and *A Broken Heart*, to write for her a new play on domestic lines. Several important dates have been booked for the piece, and nothing will be spared in making the attraction as sound and complete as possible.

The establishment of a Jewish theatre in London became an accomplished fact on Thursday, when a syndicate at the head of which is Mr. Sigmund Feinman, reopened the Pavilion, Mile-end, with a Yiddish play. The theatre, which during the closure has undergone extensive renovation, was for some time previously devoted to performances in the Yiddish tongue, and met with such success that the promoters were encouraged to take a twenty-one years' lease of the house. The opening attraction was a four-act historical opera, entitled *The Holy Sabbath*, written by Mr. Feinman, with music and dances arranged by Professor Staub. The opera, which has frequently been given at the Pavilion, was well rendered by the company, which included Mr. Feinman, Mme. Epstein, and Mme. Keyzer, all of whom were enthusiastically received.

Mr. Martin Harvey was greeted by a crowded house, which included every visitor of note at present in Buxton when he opened his autumn tour at the Opera House on Thursday evening, *The Only Way* being received with tremendous enthusiasm. The fifteen special trucks which are used to accommodate Mr. Harvey's various productions were the object of much curiosity to the townsfolk, and at one time there was a crowd of several hundred people looking at the train, which, swathed in tarpaulins of curious shape, had quite an impressive effect. Mr. Harvey, Miss N. de Silva, and their company are at the Grand Opera House, Harrogate, next week.

Mr. Weedon Grossmith will go on tour in the autumn with his play, *The Night of the Party*, which has borne revival so well. The tour will open on Sept. 30, the places to be visited including Birmingham, Liverpool, Newcastle, Glasgow, Manchester, Dublin, and several of the suburban houses. Mr. Grossmith has been fortunate enough to secure quite a number of the same cast that accompanied him on his last tour of this screaming farce some five years ago. It is two years since this popular comedian last appeared in the country, when he was called upon to fill the vacancies left by the late Sir Henry Irving. At the finish of this tour Mr. Grossmith will once more settle down in London, his services having been secured by Mr. Frank Curzon for some considerable time to come. Mr. Richard Maynard, as usual, will be the business manager.

"The Likeness of the Night," the play by Mrs. W. K. Clifford, which was produced by Mr. and Mrs. Kendal at the St. James's in the autumn of 1901, has been re-written and translated by the author, in collaboration with Mr. Raymond Lauzerte, and its production at a leading Paris Theatre is being arranged. Mr. Lauzerte is a well-known member of the Théâtre Réjane.

Sir Charles Villiers Stanford has composed the incidental music for *Attila*, the new play by Laurence Binyon which is to form the autumn attraction at His Majesty's. Mr. Oscar Asche will appear in the title-rôle, Miss Lily Brayton will be Ildico, and the rest of the cast will be composed of Messrs. Fisher White, Godfrey Tearle, H. R. Hignett, R. Ian Penny, Alfred Brydone, Kay Souper, Fritz Russell, Caleb Porter, Gordon Harker, A. de Breanski, Mr. Ewan Brooke, and Master Cyril Bruce, and Misses Mary Rorke, Irene Rooke, and Leila Norris. The production is fixed for Wednesday, September 4.

The transference of *Brewster's Millions* to the Duke of York's Theatre on Monday will be marked by the return to the cast of Mr. Gerald Du Maurier. Other evidences of the close of the holiday season will be found in the resumption by Mr. James Welch of his part in *When Knights Were Bold* at Wyndham's, while Gaiety playgoers have already welcomed Mr. Edmund Payne back to *The Girls of Gottenberg*, in which mirthful production, too, Miss Gertie Millar will make her reappearance this evening.

Mr. Wentworth Croke has secured from Messrs. Fred Kitchen and Charles Baldwin a powerful and novel drama of modern life, entitled *The Withered Hand*, which he will send out in his usual lavish manner next autumn. Mr. Croke, it should be mentioned, recently copyrighted this piece at the Elephant and Castle Theatre.

The subscriptions received for the Arthur Verne Fund since the last announcement have been—Nettie Ware £1 1s., C. H. T. 2s. 6d., and F. T. (Preston) 2s.

A novelty will be found in next week's programme at the Lyric, where Mr. Hermann Löhr's new one-act opera, *Sarenna*, will be produced by the Moody-Manners Company on Friday evening in conjunction with *Cavalleria Rusticana*. *Madame Butterfly*, the English version of which has proved so popular, will be given twice, Monday evening and the Wednesday matinée being set apart for the melodious work. *Tristan and Isolde* and *Tannhäuser* will furnish the programmes on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings respectively, and Saturday morning and evening will be devoted in turn to *Lohengrin* and *Aida*. Additional interest will be given to the performance of *Tristan and Isolde* by the fact that Miss Enriquita Crichton and Mr. Charles Carter will make their début in the title-rôles.

Mr. Herbert Sleath has been selected by Mr. Cyril Maude in place of Mr. Richard Sterling, who is returning to America, to play the part of Arthur in *The Earl of Pawtucket* at the Playhouse, and will commence his duties to-day. Mr. Sleath, by way of embarking in a new enterprise, is also now looking out for a London theatre wherein to exploit his wife in a new play by Madeleine Ryley.

Mr. George Edwardes was a witness on Tuesday in a case against three men who were charged at Bow-street with conspiracy to defraud. Mr. Edwardes, whose name had been used by one of the accused, said that he had no knowledge of him, and had never advised him with regard to theatres or companies. Mr. Frank Curzon, whose name had been similarly utilised, was called on Wednesday, and said he knew nothing of either of the prisoners, and had never offered to assist them in getting theatrical companies down to Bognor or Herne Bay. The case was adjourned.

Mr. Arthur Applin has conceived a scheme for the reorganisation of the Actors' Association Agency, details of which are given in another column. The object of finding employment for actors and actresses who are "resting" is one which cannot but recommend itself to the profession in general. A committee of inquiry into the suggestion has been appointed by the Council, who invite opinions from all interested in the matter.

Mr. Harry Ward, having taken over the management of the Regent Theatre, Hackney, will be pleased to see old and new friends any evening. No one can dispute the fact that the enterprise deserves to be re-"warded."

Messrs. Abdulla, of New Bond-street, are kindly supplying Mr. Maundy-Gregory's *Lights Out* company each week with 100 of their best Turkish cigarettes for use on the stage nightly.

Mr. J. Maundy-Gregory will shortly add extensively to the sphere of his work both in London and the provinces. For the touring enterprises the firm is before long to be officially known as the Messrs. J. Maundy-Gregory, and by Christmas it is estimated that there will be five companies touring under that management.

Mr. Fred Granville (Granville Theatres, Ltd.), who controls the Liverpool Queen's and other places, has, it is stated, taken over the Metropole, Birkenhead, a drama house that has been closed for some time. After being thoroughly renovated the well-appointed theatre will be opened approaching Christmas.

Mr. Harry Brandreth, the manager of the Kennington Theatre, has this week introduced an innovation there in the form of an illustrated journal programme, which is highly appreciated by the numerous patrons of that popular place of amusement. The journal is admirably got up, and contains interesting gossip about things theatrical, as well as portrai's of several well-known stage favourites.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Sir Arthur Annoyed.

An old correspondent writes:—I never saw that gentle-souled, mild-mannered man, Arthur Sullivan, lose his temper but once. It was during the run of the *Merchant of Venice*, for which he had specially written his celebrated "Masque" music, which he himself personally conducted during the first week. The cue for this music to start, pianissimo, is "Safe bind, safe find, &c.," with the concomitant locking, bolting, and chaining up of Shylock's door. At the end of the act he came to me and said, "Will you kindly keep the carpenters quiet during my music; they knock their iron braces about frightfully!" I professed that I had heard nothing, and promised that I would keep a sharp look-out the next night. And I did. To my intense surprise, he, more in sorrow than in anger, again complained of the noise of the falling braces. In vain and in vain did I assure him that nothing of the kind had happened; but he appealed to Alfred Cellier, who substantiated his statement. The next night I had people posted on both sides of the stage and in the "flies" to report the offender. That night he came from the orchestra real, right mad, and declared the noise to have been "worse than ever," and vowed that he would put down his bâton if it occurred again. The following evening Alfred Cellier conducted, and I asked Mr. Sullivan to come behind and watch for himself. The music commenced. "There it is!" he said, triumphantly. The mystery was explained; it was the noise of the chains and bolts used in fastening and safebinding the Jew's house.

Wanted His Cap.

I remember, at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, writes an old actor, in rushing down the gallery seats to secure a front place, a man came to the front with such speed that he pitched himself right over the rail, fell, but luckily catching hold of a brass railing which ran around the front of the upper circle beneath, was forced, by the weight of his body, to loosen his grip, fell in a sitting position on the protruding pad of the dress circle, and from thence—*facilis decensus est Averni*—into the pit, his fall being considerately broken by certain of the audience there assembled, it being a case of house full and one over. He was promptly sent to the Infirmary in a cab, and visions of a coroner's inquest, damages, and litigation cast a gloom over me for an hour or more; when, who should I find waiting for me in the box entry but the man himself. He was received with effusive politeness, for I fancied I could see vindictive damages in his evil eye. With a faltering voice I asked him how he fared. He replied that he was all right, but could he have his cap, which he had dropped in falling; and would I mind him coming in another night to see the pantomime!

Getting Rid of Them Both.

John Henry Alexander, the well-known Glasgow manager, was much disquieted in his mind by the vagaries of his wife and a property man he had, who were continually muddling things up behind the scenes. On one occasion, at the fall of the act-drop on some dreadful, unrehearsed contretemps, he turned to his company and said: "Bear witness: Aw'l gie this misguided man and woman a hundred pun if they will elope thegither, an' never trouble me mair!"

Not to be Tricked.

A property man, though professedly a Good Templar, was a bad tippler, and was always more or less under the influence of Bacchus. Said Allick to him one day, when his fault was more apparent than usual, "Saunderson, you're fou the nicht." "No, Allick; s'help ma goodness, aw've no touchit the day—smell my breeth!" "Geet oot o' ma Pawlace, sir! Nane o' your peppermint dodges wi' *me!*"

An Actor's Escape.

High up in one of the hundreds of years old, thirteen-storied houses of Edinburgh lodged one John Gray, an actor. The chandler shopkeeper whose place of business was in the cellar of this fabric was, in common with his customers, very much annoyed with a timber beam across the doorway of entrance at the foot of the steps that led from the street. People were continually bumping their heads against it, so the chandler, with the aid of a sawyer, cut a large slice out of it, thereby considerably weakening its bearing properties. On the night of this happening John arrived late home with a pint bottle of stout, entered his ninth-storey apartment, where his frugal bachelor supper was laid, but could not find his corkscrew. So leaving his bottle of beer on the hob to take the chill off it, he went across the "land" outside his front door to a neighbour's, four doors off, to borrow one, and was easily prevailed on to sit down for a drink and a "crack" with some friends. While there a dreadful catastrophe occurred. The entire thirteen stories—John's room included—settled down with a run, leaving the houses on either side intact, in one of which John luckily found himself, nine stories in the air but safe and sound. Passing over this painful part of the story, let me relate that, the turnpike stairs having gone, the poor inhabitants were rescued by fire-escapes and ladders, and John was profoundly grateful for his providential rescue. It was a couple of days before he summoned up courage to visit the scene of desolation, but when he did he, to his surprise, saw, high up, his bottle of beer on the hob—which was a portion of the parti-wall of the next house—where he had left it. The said bottle became an object of curiosity and absorbing interest to the spectators, and John Gray was a greater hero than ever. It would take too long to tell how, in the process of shoring up, John's beer was recovered and the beer drunk in wineglassesfull by numerous friends, and how he kept the cork in his pocket as a memento of being saved from death. Of course everybody wanted to see this wonderful bottle-stopper that had saved his life, and many a "hauf yen" did John get for showing it. But, in an evil hour, funds being low, he sold it for half-a-crown; and John had to get another one—and he sold that; and report says that he never came out without a pocket full of old beer-corks, and flourished exceedingly.

Free Seats and Fruits.

If one were asked to believe that the appearance of a man laden with gifts could clear the centre arcade of Covent Garden Market of course he would not; but, nevertheless, this was an actual fact. The acting-manager of one of the large London theatres many years ago used to pass through this arcade on his way homeward West each afternoon, and would stop for a friendly chat with the shopkeepers. "Ah! good afternoon Mr. ——; I want you and your good lady to come and see the new piece at our theatre. Now, no excuses; you *must* come. Here are a couple of stalls. Now, don't forget! Any night except Saturday. Good afternoon." Then, stopping: "Dear me, what a beautiful pineapple! Very dear, I suppose? What? Oh, dear, no; I couldn't think of accepting it. Oh, well, if you insist, of course I must, &c." And he would go on his way rejoicing. This, with variations, was played daily on every shopkeeper in the market, until at last the sight of him became a holy terror, and when he was seen approaching from the east end of the avenue a shrill whistle was given as a signal, and the proprietors fled with such precipitancy down the side aisles that you could have played cards on their coat-tails, the shops being left in charge of their assistants.

"THE THREE KISSES."

Musical Play in two acts, book by Percy Greenbank and Leedham Bantock; lyrics by Percy Greenbank; and music by Howard Talbot. Produced at the Apollo Theatre on Wednesday, Aug. 21.

Signor Garibaldi Pimpinello ..... MR. WALTER PASSMORE
Sir Cuthbert Bellamy ..... MR. CHARLES ANGELO
Andrea ..... MR. WALTER HYDE
Contessa di Ravogli ..... MISS ETHEL IRVING
Harry Trevor ..... MR. LIONEL MACKINDER
Ethel Trevor ..... MISS CORALIE BLYTHE
Crump ..... MR. WILLIAM PRINGLE
Mr. Gobbins ..... MR. ALBERT LE FRE
Ghi-Ghi ..... MR. WILLIE WARDE
Roderico ..... MR. R. CARR
Beppo ..... MR. I. LEWYS
Camillo ..... MR. C. HOOD
Nicolini ..... MR. M. MONCRIEFF
Lisetta ..... MISS ALICE HATTON
Elvira ..... MISS MAX HINTON
Phillipina ..... MISS EDITH STREETER
Zenone ..... MISS MILLIE COLLIER
Teresa ..... MISS KITTY GORDON
Marietta ..... MISS CAROLINE HATCHARD

Mr. Frank Curzon has had plenty of experience in hitting the taste of the public which patronises musical plays, and his latest production, *The Three Kisses*, is built on lines which have already been proved effective by previous experiments. The first scene of the new musical play is laid in Sorrento, on the Bay of Naples. Here we are introduced to Marietta, an orange girl, who is beloved by a handsome young fisherman called Andrea, whose indifference to another young peasant, Teresa, excites the latter's jealousy and hatred. A legend in Marietta's family makes it desperately unlucky for her to be kissed three times by her lover before their marriage. It is the aim of the artful Teresa to have this fatal kiss given, and she schemes to that end throughout the act. An elderly Italian invalid, Signor Garibaldi Pimpinello, a "general lover" of the ladies, is paying his attentions to a certain Contessa di Ravogli, the English widow of an Italian nobleman; and a young honeymoon couple, Harry and Ethel Trevor, who have run away together to evade the opposition of their relatives, also come on the scene. Round these characters plays a certain Mr. Gobbins, a pushing and irrepressible guide, tout, and officious assistant, who is enamoured of Teresa. By exciting Andrea's jealousy, Teresa induces him to obtain from Marietta the fatal third kiss; on which Andrea's boat is wrecked, and other misfortunes take place.

The principal characters assemble in the second act at the Contessa's villa, where Pimpinello, Harry, Gobbins, and the Contessa's servant, Crump, combine to frighten the fashionable physician, Sir Cuthbert, who is Ethel's stern parent, out of the house by pretending that it is haunted. The quartette work up the ghost business with "screaming" results, Sir Garibaldi appearing in a white Roman costume, and "alarms and excursions" of all sorts being freely indulged in. At last, when the Contessa is about to turn Marietta away as "unlucky," Andrea enters with the news that all the time she has been wearing an amulet in the shape of a necklace, which has preserved her from the influence of the spell. The efforts of the cast to keep things moving at the Apollo on Wednesday evening were both energetic and meritorious. Mr. Walter Passmore especially distinguished himself by his vivacity and various quaint inventions as Signor Garibaldi Pimpinello. Pimpinello is what is called an "original." He wears a curious suit of grey bound with black, has a solitary curl upon his forehead, and is wheeled on the stage in an invalid chair by his attendant, Ghi-Ghi. Much practical fun is extracted from this chair, which is finally stolen by the ever-alert Gobbins. Mr. Passmore's gags were many and amusing; and, with the assistance of Miss Ethel Irving, he scored highly in a skit on a taximeter cab-driver and on the performances of the Zancigs at the music-halls. He also, as usual, introduced some very brisk and clever dances; and took his full share of the fun. Mr. Charles Angelo, made up and attired as the "very image" of a fashionable London physician, contributed a polished and complete character sketch as Sir Cuthbert Bellamy; and his admirably distinct enunciation, his perfect repose, and his easy and natural bearing were employed with striking effect in his depiction of the wily "Wizard of Wimpole-street." Mr. Walter Hyde, as the young fisherman, Andrea, acted with boldness and freedom, and vocalised with real ability. His rendering of the two songs allotted to him was full of spirit and feeling, and he used his fine voice with all the necessary skill and vigour, besides looking manly and picturesque in his fisherman's costume, which became him extremely well. Mr. Hyde may be congratulated on a very firm and artistic embodiment, which did him real credit, and added to his already excellent reputation. Miss Ethel Irving scored a palpable hit in her song, "Nellie came to Naples," and her reading of the rôle of the Contessa di Ravogli had the delicate distinction and demure drollery which mark all that Miss Irving says and does on the stage. The part certainly did not supply her with many opportunities, but she took the fullest advantage of all that it gave, and endowed it with her own dainty charm and piquant personality. Mr. Lionel Mackinder, "clean and perfect" as the representative of frivolous good-breeding and alertly amorous youth, looked the young lover extremely well, and acted, danced, and sang with his wonted airy levity and elegant ease. Miss Coralie Blythe made a delightfully ingenuous and affectionate Ethel Trevor; and the brightness and buoyancy of her performance won for her the hearty approbation of the audience. Pretty, pleasing, and artlessly impulsive, Miss Blythe's young bride was an entirely charming conception, capitally carried out. Mr. William Pringle did excellent work as Crump, and Mr. Albert Le Fre as Mr. Gobbins not only created keen amusement by his restlessly effusive comicality, but surprised the house at one point by an acrobatic feat which was as startling as it was effective. Mr. Le Fre's modern Autolycus was a most diverting personage, and his oily audacity greatly contributed to the sum total of the evening's enjoyment. Mr. Willie Warde's quietly irresistible humour was displayed with striking success in the rôle of Ghi-Ghi, which he made amusing and effective without the least apparent effort. Miss Kitty Gordon as Teresa gave a graphic portrayal of a jealous and revengeful *contadina*, and sang "Woman's Love" and "Life's a Song" with real dramatic power and intensity, putting a great amount of expression into her rendering of these ditties, and simulating the vindictive impulses of the "woman scorned" with remarkable success. Miss Caroline Hatchard used her pure and strong soprano to great advantage as Marietta, her higher notes being particularly smooth and clear. Her treatment of the "Star of Sorrento" brought down the house; and she also won warm favour by her share in a duet with Mr. Hyde, her fine cultivation and sound training having most favourable results. Miss Hatchard also acted amiably and naturally, and made a personal success in the part. Mr. Joseph Harker's Sorrento scene was very picturesque, the colour being rich and intense, and his villa Ravogli was a very pretty set. Mr. Howard Talbot conducted his own agreeable and vivacious score admirably; and the costumes by L. and H. Nathan from C. Karl's designs were excellent. *The Three Kisses* had a hearty reception, the artists being called and applauded at the curtain.

"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."

All lovers of strong, thrilling, and romantic drama will deplore the fact that Mr. Walter Howard's stirring play, which commenced its career at the Lyceum Theatre on June 15, will shortly be withdrawn at the height of its success. Since its production, *A Midnight Wedding* has given delight to full houses for over three months; and the long *queues* which have been noticeable every evening outside the Lyceum doors have given ocular testimony to the value of Messrs. Henry Smith and Ernest Carpenter's system. The hero, Paul Valmar, is a "self-made man," labouring under injustice in his endeavour to achieve a honourable position in the regiment to which he belongs. Opposed to him, and typical of mean prejudice, brutal selfishness, and other objectionable qualities, is Captain Rudolph Von Scarsbruck. A personage much to be pitied in the piece is the Princess's brother, Eugene, who, having squandered her fortune, is in the power of Von Scarsbruck, and is obliged to do his bidding. By a happy invention of the playwright's, the villainy of the pair drives Astrea into the arms of a brave and chivalrous husband; for, in order to escape from their clutches, the Princess implores Valmar to go through a "midnight marriage" with her in the chapel of her palace; thus giving the name to the play, which is full to the brim of moving incidents, spirited combats, and broad and honest fun.

MR. NORMAN PARTRIEGE as an exponent of the brave, impulsive Paul Valmar has a magnetism, a heroically fervid method which carry all before them. So thoroughly in earnest is the actor that he has the audience with him from start to finish, their interest in Valmar's fortunes increasing from scene to scene, and from act to act, and culminating in an ebullition of enthusiasm at the conclusion of the play. There is something in the rôle of the swift and supple swordsman which suits Mr. Partriege exactly. Alert and active, clean-made, and what, in old-fashioned phraseology, was called "deliver," Mr. Partriege realises strongly the "master of fence" whose romantic fortunes form the staple of Mr. Walter Howard's drama. Equally admirable is his view of the histrionic requirements of the rôle. He treats it with a sincerity of purpose and a resolute energy which make an instant and irresistible appeal to a popular audience. Not only is the combative side of the character insisted upon; the tenderness, the sensitiveness, and the military ardour and ambition of the young soldier are indicated with a firm and practised hand; and the deep feeling, the sensitive pride, and the warm affection of Paul are shown in a manner which is certain to carry complete conviction. Mr. Partriege's emotional acting is very natural and effective; and his vivid animation, his high and chivalrous bearing, and his grace and skill with his weapon make him an ideal exponent of the character of Paul Valmar.

MR. ERIC MAYNE is able, by his fine personal appearance and deep, strong, and mellow voice, to make the villain of the play a possible personage, far removed from the caricatured criminal of cheap melodrama. It cannot be said of Mr. Mayne, as Dick Deadeye says of himself in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, that, from such a face and form as his, the finest sentiments seem like the black utterances of a depraved imagination. On the contrary, the "bold, bad man" in this case is remarkably good-looking. But, with the aid of his art, Mr. Mayne manages to make Captain Rudolph Von Scarsbruck so thoroughly detestable that, when he gets his *quietus* at the end of the last act, everyone in the audience accepts his death as a well-deserved punishment. Mr. Howard's villains are not the mere mechanical lay-figures of ordinary melodrama. Captain Rudolph Von Scarsbruck's nature is warped, to a certain extent, by his passion for the Princess; and, however cruel and unscrupulous may be his methods, we have some sympathy with his passion. Mr. Mayne's depiction of jealous malevolence and unsparing energy is intense and artistic. There are no half measures about this rapid and resolute rascal, who, with all his faults, is pugnacious, fearless, and almost indefatigable. The management of the Lyceum Theatre was fortunate in securing so able an interpreter of the villains of the dramas presented during the past season at this prosperous and popular playhouse.

MR. FREDERICK ROSS's representation of the Crown Prince Leopold is full of feeling, and he endows the character with a mild benignity and a noble dignity which are quite appropriate to that amiable, if misguided, monarch. The instinctive authority of the Prince is clearly and efficiently shown; and, altogether, the embodiment is sound, telling, and highly commendable.

MISS NORA KERIN'S Princess Astrea displays this earnest and able actress's ability at its best. The strenuous and sensational movement of the play develops the character very powerfully; and Miss Kerin rises to the occasion in every case with an intensity and emotional expression which thrill the audience to the core. Her depiction of passion is most impressive; and her delivery of the eloquent tirades contained in her part is worthy of the warmest praise. Miss Kerin has certainly added to her reputation in this exacting but effective rôle.

MR. RONALD ADAIR has an excellent idea of the weak if well-meaning Lieutenant Von Strelsburg, and carries it out with remarkable tact and skill, the embarrassment of the Lieutenant in his cruel position being effectively indicated.

MR. FRED GROVE is the essence of calm benevolence as Father Gerard, his few speeches are marked by clear enunciation, and acts the part with much discretion and good taste.

That comical trio, Sergeant MAX, Corporal Otto, and Private Bobo, must be bracketed for purposes of praise, so closely intertwined are their dramatic fortunes. Mr. GUS OXLEY as Private Bobo has all the best of the comedy business; but Mr. S. MAJOR JONES as the Sergeant, and Mr. HARRY BARFORD as the Corporal, contribute clever and distinct embodiments, which add greatly to the effect of the "comic relief."

Mr. HAROLD CHAPIN and Mr. HENRY ARMSTRONG do careful and useful work as Trooper Fritz and Trooper Ludwig.

MISS VALLI VALLI is delightfully arch and animated at Kathie. Attractive in appearance, an excellent all-round actress, and possessing a style which charms all by its sweetness, grace, and refinement, Miss Valli Valli plays the part with all the necessary humour, and with a keen perception of its possibilities.

Miss DAISY GWYNNE is seen to decided advantage as Rozel.

Mr. ERNEST CARPENTER deserves great credit for his production of the drama, his careful superintendence having a great deal to do with its success.

The scenery by Messrs. W. T. HEMSLEY and ERNEST W. MILLAR is on a liberal scale, and is thoroughly artistic and appropriate.

Herr RAIMUND PECHOTSCH is a thoroughly efficient and experienced conductor, and he has his fine orchestra well under the control of his well-wielded baton.

The costumes are a commendable feature of the production, Messrs. MORRIS ANGEL and SONS' uniforms being thoroughly well made; and Miss Kerin's dresses, furnished by Messrs. SWAN and EDGAR, being handsome, luxurious, and becoming. The floral decorations of the house by DICKSON and Co. have been a theme of general admiration, and Mr. W. T. CROWE's attentive acting management has added to the comfort of those in front.

In a play in which so much depends on lighting and scene-shifting, the services of Mr. F. B. FIDGE, the experienced electrician, and Mr. A. R. GEORGE, the able chief machinist, are especially valuable; and Mr. S. MAJOR JONES's assistance as stage-manager must not pass unacknowledged.

"MY WIFE" AT THE HAYMARKET.

The progress of *My Wife* at the Haymarket has continued uninterruptedly through the "dog days," and the 100th night has been reached in triumph. The piquancy of the French original is remarkably preserved in Mr. Michael Morton's adaptation, and the situations of the piece, supported by dialogue wittily and neatly turned, have appealed irresistibly to the humorous perceptions of the large audiences which have nightly assembled. No less responsible for the success which has attended Mr. Frederick Harrison's production is the artistic representation which it meets with at the hands of the superb company, at the head of which is

MR. AUBREY SMITH as GERALD EVERSLEIGH.—A sterling performance of the part is given by Mr. Smith, whose acting can always be recommended for its invigorating qualities. The picture of the dignified English gentleman devoted to his bachelor habits being gradually entangled in the silken meshes of feminine charm is drawn in all its varied shades, and the mingled feelings of perplexity, annoyance, and affection to which Gerald Eversleigh is by turns subjected are portrayed in the finished style upon which Mr. Smith's enviable reputation has been built.

MISS MARIE LOHR as BEATRICE DUPRE has gained a permanent hold upon London playgoers. She presents a fresh and fascinating portrayal of English girlhood, ingenuous, artless, and alert, but invariably charming. Her winsome wilfulness as the resourceful Trixie captivates all, while a moment of passion in the second act, when the insulted girl confronts her assailant with scorn, serves to reveal the dramatic power of which she is possessed. Miss Lohr's impersonation cannot be too highly estimated, and places her at once in a distinguished position among London actresses.

MR. A. E. MATTHEWS puts his talents as a comedian to excellent purpose in the part of the Hon. Gibson Gore. "Gibby's" words are few, but his actions speak with irresistible eloquence, and the house is kept in uncontrollable laughter by his drollery. The continuity of the story is constantly broken by the intrusions of the Honourable Gore, but Mr. Matthews's languid boredom, his dejection from loss of sleep, and his innumerable devices for obtaining mirth are eagerly welcomed.

MR. FRED LEWIS as M. DUPRE.—Fun of a more elaborate kind is made by Mr. Lewis, whose ripe abilities lend themselves admirably to the portrayal of the excitable French paterfamilias. Brief as are the appearances of M. Dupré, they are made memorable by the enjoyment of which they are the source, and add greatly to the fame of the artist.

Gallic eccentricity is also depicted in the Réné Falandres of Mr. H. Marsh Allen, who acquits himself with his customary credit. Mr. Allen's best work is done at the end of the piece, when he engages in the interview with Gerald Eversleigh, and his share of the responsibilities of that momentous episode is admirably sustained.

MISS MILLIE LEGARDE acts with elegance and refinement as Miriam Hawthorne, looking very fascinating in some beautiful gowns; Miss Gordon Walker talks and moves gracefully through the small part of Mrs. Denham Lane; and Miss Joy Chatwyn's prepossessing attributes are equally pronounced in the part of Mme. Dupré. Miss Adelaide Burt gives the needed simplicity to the character of the maid Marie.

MR. E. W. TARVER is the gentlemanly officer to the life as Captain Putnam Fuzby, and an infinitely droll rendering of the Swiss waiter lies to the credit of Mr. Philip Knox. Mr. H. De Lange gives a capital study of the optimistic Baron Granclos, whose wife is invested with the foreign characteristics invaluable to the part of Mlle. Marcelle Chevalier. The mellow voice and benign countenance of the butler Davies are artistically assumed by Mr. Holman Clark, whose representation is beyond praise. Other slight but significant impersonations admirably done are those of M. Valboure and M. Potin by Mr. Athol Stewart and Mr. P. Percival Clark respectively, and the cast is adequately completed by Mr. Patric Curwen as Gerald's valet. The *pièce de résistance* is still preceded by the one-act play from the same pen, entitled *Charlie, the Sport*, which is received with every evidence of pleasure.

CLUB FOR TOURING ACTORS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I have read the interesting article in *The Era* referring to this subject; and beg to inform you that for some years now we have offered hospitality to male members of all touring companies who care to visit this club free of subscription; and that our rules are framed so as to meet the requirements of the law in such cases. We are also pleased at any time to arrange friendly matches at cricket, football, billiards, and skittles. The leading professional, London, and local newspapers will be found in the reading-room, and members need not purchase refreshments unless they like.—Yours faithfully,

JAS. SMITH,
Secretary Nottingham Conservative Club.
Newcastle Chambers, Angel-row, Nottingham,
Aug. 21, 1907.

REDIRECTING LETTERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I would like to call the attention of resident managers to a common complaint in connection with touring managers' and artists' letters. Having recently "written in" to a well-known touring proprietor for an advertised vacancy to a certain theatre in a certain town in the Midlands, my letter never reached him. Thinking there was something wrong, I wrote the said manager (a friend of mine) to the following town asking for the return of an enclosure I sent him, and got a reply stating he never received my letter. I could not make this out, and so let the matter drop for the time being. About two days ago I got my first letter returned from the Dead-Letter Office marked "Not Found." It had been delivered by the first post on the Monday after the company had gone from the town, and as the hall-keeper, or whoever looks after the letters at this particular theatre, did not redirect and post it on, evidently, after some days, handed it back to the local postman. This redirection is a thing resident managers might see attended to.—Yours faithfully,

STEWART D. WRIGHT,
Business Manager.

10, King-street, W.C., Aug. 19, 1907.

THE Prince of Wales and Prince Edward of Wales witnessed the performance of *The Merry Widow* at Daly's Theatre on the evening of the 16th inst.

A NEW play, entitled *When Other Lips*, written by T. Arthur Jones, will be produced at the East Oxford Theatre on Monday.

IN "Moods and Memories," a collection of poems dedicated to Mrs. Patrick Campbell, Mr. R. Henderson Bland has once more shown that he possesses in a marked degree the poetic as well as the acting faculty. Mr. Bland found ready acceptance for a previous volume of verse, and his latest series cannot but add to his reputation. The collection is a comprehensive one, and begins with a poetic apologia for the loves of Tristram and Iseult, very dramatically presented. Mr. Bland's muse turns overmuch perhaps to the idealisation of the tender passion, but patriotism and philosophy are by no means overlooked. His verses are well considered and intelligible, and never without rhythmic grace and picturesqueness.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION AGENCY.

A plan for the betterment of the A.A. Agency was laid before the Council by Mr. Arthur Aplin at their meeting on Tuesday in the following terms:—

I beg to offer suggestions for the improvement of the agency department of the Actors' Association. That there is room for improvement no one will deny. In the first place it appears to me as if we had run our agency on any but business-like lines; we have sat down and waited for managers to apply to us for actors instead of applying to managers on the actors' behalf. And when managers have kindly and considerately come to us have we not—at a rough estimate—sent fifty per cent. of them empty handed away? We should not allow ten per cent. to go empty-handed away, or find their "goods" elsewhere; no, nor five per cent.

A theatrical agent, I take it, is in much the same position as any other agent—only more so. Any other agent, an insurance or a literary agent, for instance, does not sit down and wait for editors and publishers to apply to him for stories, novels, or articles. He writes to them, sees them himself, and discovers their requirements. Sometimes he makes it his business to know their requirements before they themselves have decided what they want. He suggests; he pushes his wares. He knows that so many works must be published, so many stories or articles must be supplied, and he makes it his business to supply them. And so should the theatrical agent. So many new plays must be produced in a season, so many tours start, so many actors and actresses be engaged. Before the manager starts to cast his play or fix the engagements for his tour, the agent should be in a position to do so for him. Fancy waiting for the manager to come to him. Why should the manager bother himself?

Or, as an alternative, abolish the agency department. If we do that we lose a great deal, for nothing appeals to a man more than his bread and butter; and why should not the Actors' Association be able to offer its members bread and butter, as well as golf at a reduced rate and medical attendance free of charge?

And so, first of all, I beg to submit that we should make the agency department of the Actors' Association a separate, distinct, and self-supporting department. Though we may not possess much space at present, we must find a room, or corner even, which can be used as an office of the agency, and used for no other purpose whatsoever. A manager should be engaged at a stated salary, and the agency department placed entirely in his hands, he being given absolute control, answerable only to the council of the Actors' Association. The salary must necessarily be small at first until results are shown, but the said manager will be allowed a commission on the profits produced by the agency. He will be judged by results and paid by results. This will do away with all fear of favouritism. His commission on the profits will be the largest possible incentive to him to do his best for the actor, for the manager, and for the agency. He will neither send a manager empty away, nor allow an actor to be on his list who is not earning a salary.

It will be his duty—and his pleasure—to be in touch with every London and provincial production; to see every new play that is produced in Town, and be ready to cast it for tour if necessary. He will study his clients, seeing their work whenever opportunity offers. Every pound he obtains of salary for them will be an increase of his own income; every manager he satisfies will be a future client—and a friend of the Actors' Association. At stated periods—weekly, monthly, or quarterly— he will produce his books for the inspection of the Council, who will be able to satisfy themselves of the progress made, and satisfy the members of the Actors' Association that the agency is being conducted for their general welfare and the welfare of the profession.

No engagements should be negotiated, the salary of which is under £2 a week. The agency office should be open from, say, 11.30 a.m. to 2 p.m., for those members of the Actors' Association who desire it to personally interview the agency manager or make any inquiries or suggestions re work they wish. The remaining hours of the day the agency manager should use without interruption in the conducting of his business.

Every member of the Actors' Association will be entitled to a card which he or she may fill up, giving particulars of line of business, last engagement, etc. Those who desire may attach an unmounted photograph to the back of the card for the guidance of the agent. These cards will be pigeon-holed in a case resembling a large letter-rack alphabetically indexed from A to Z. Only the cards of members disengaged will be placed in the rack and members must keep the agency notified, at least once every month, as long as they remain disengaged, or their card will be withdrawn. In connection with this disengaged card rack the agency will keep a ledger containing a list of all the members of the Actors' Association arranged under headings covering the various branches of the profession—comedy, character, juveniles, stage management, etc. Thus at a glance the agency manager can find any particular artist desired, and discover whether he or she is engaged or disengaged.

Every member of the Actors' Association should be sent a card and earnestly desired to fill it in. But if any fail to do this, it should not deter the manager from entering into negotiations for or with them, if occasion arises, as in the event of a certain manager requiring any particular artist, or the agency wishing to suggest a certain artist or artists for certain parts which he may have discovered are open or unfilled.

The agency manager would not, of course, place blind confidence in his disengaged rack. He would naturally follow, as far as possible, the work and movements of members of the Actors' Association, whose position places them prominently in the public eye. He would find, possibly, those members would not trouble to personally come or write to his agency; but he would nevertheless, be always on the lookout to book an engagement for them, and thus swell the agency banking account—and his own.

He would suggest names to managers—in short, he would play practically the part of an ordinary —or shall I say extraordinary?—agent. He would be as useful to the theatrical manager as to the actor—if he was of any use at all, I take it. He would be a buffer between the two. He would in course of time save the theatrical manager the trouble of reading and answering hundreds of letters asking for work, and save him numerous interviews; he would save the rank and file of actors and actresses much literary labour, postage stamps, heart burning, and fruitless visits, and eventually the theatrical manager would welcome him as a time and money saver.

The benefits of an agency to the Actors' Association run on business-like methods by a business-like man are obvious. It would double or treble our membership in no time. It would increase our income, our power, our prosperity, our popularity.

This is no more than a rough outline of a simple scheme which could be started at any moment at an outlay of about thirty shillings—a guinea for an alphabetical card rack and ten shillings for a supply of cards.

"A GOOSE FROM HAARLEM," a new play by Lewis Cohn, was produced for copyright purposes at the Coronet on Saturday, Aug. 17.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The Council of the Actors' Association held their usual meeting at 10, King-street, Covent Garden, on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. Kenyon Musgrave (chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Miss Wynne Matthison, Messrs. Arthur Aplin, Cecil Brooking, C. F. Collings, H. Athol Forde, Fredk. Morland, and C. B. Elvington (acting for the secretary). The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The hon. solicitors reported they had had interviews with four members, and had advised them. They also reported that with regard to the claim of another member, an offer had been made and accepted.

The Agency Department was again before the Council, and Mr. Arthur Aplin read his scheme, printed in another column. After some discussion it was carried that a committee be formed to enquire into Mr. Aplin's scheme, and that the committee meet after the return of the secretary, in three weeks' time. It was further agreed that Mr. Aplin's suggestions should be sent to *The Era* for publication, stating that the Council would be willing to receive any opinions on the subject. As requested at the last meeting of the Council, the agency clerk submitted the statistics, which showed that from Aug. 1, 1906, to Aug. 1, 1907, 286 managers had applied, 127 had been supplied, and the number of engagements made had been 223.

It was agreed that a small committee should be appointed for the purpose of reporting on the question of holding a meeting at Manchester about the end of September or the beginning of October to further the interests of the A.A. Miss Wynne Matthison, Mr. C. F. Collings, and Mr. Fredk. Morland were appointed the committee, which should meet at an early date, and report to the Council next Tuesday.

After some discussion on the subject of letting the premises, it was agreed that the secretary should write to two agents, stating that they might put up boards on the premises. It was further agreed that a notice should be placed in the general office to the effect that "Members are requested to note that the appearance of house agents' boards on these premises will mean that the Council is endeavouring to let them to the general advantage and move into equally convenient premises."

The Chairman read a letter of thanks from Miss Lucy Sibley upon her election as a member of the Council of the A.A.

The Chairman also read a letter from Miss Betty Castle, stating that she would be pleased to interview Dr. Ferguson, of Douglas, with reference to his appointment as an hon. medical officer.

A letter was also read from Mr. F. Jerome Hart, in which he stated he was forwarding a copy of Miss Ina Rozant's book, "Life's Understudies," for presentation to the Actors' Association, and also asking for a copy of a recent list of members. The secretary was directed to write and thank Mr. Hart for his presentation of the book, which it was agreed should be handed to the hon. secretary of the Library Committee, and at the same time to enclose a list of members, and draw his attention to the fact that the list was not up to date.

A letter from Miss Lucy Sibley with reference to the adjournment of the social meeting on July 19 last, and enclosing communications from Mr. Robert Castleton and Mr. William Poel, was read. It was agreed that the secretary should thank Miss Sibley for her communication, and say that the Council were satisfied.

A member communicated with reference to his luggage, which had gone astray, and the hon. solicitors were requested to deal with the matter.

A letter from Miss Clare Greet resigning her seat on the Council having been read, the secretary was instructed to write to Miss Greet, stating that her resignation was accepted with extreme regret, and expressing the hope that she would be able to return at some future opportunity.

Jas. Benedict Butler, Alice Maude and Claude Fleming were nominated for election to the Association, and Maud Stuart and Edith Tasca Page were elected members.

"THE MASTER CRIME."

A novel in one volume. By JOSEPH LYONS and CECIL RALEIGH. CASSELL & CO., LIMITED.

In his collaboration in "The Master Crime," Mr. Joseph Lyons has devoted to literature the inventive power which he had previously bestowed upon business; and has shown that the practical faculty may as well be employed in the preparation of a thrilling tale as in the organisation of vast commercial enterprises. The practised pen of Mr. Cecil Raleigh and his skill in contriving climaxes is shown in every chapter of the book. "The Master Crime" does not describe the life of the stage, though one can imagine it forming the foundation of a very effective and sensational drama. It deals with moving incidents in connection with Nihilism, and a clear exposition of the Anarchist "attitude" is given in one of the earlier chapters. As "The Master Crime" is all action and incident, we will not spoil the enjoyment of the intending reader by describing the plot, which is of enthralling interest. It must not be supposed, however, that the book is carelessly written. On the contrary, it has much literary merit; as the following quotation will show. It describes the effect of an attempt by Peterhoff Kalytzin to break the credit of the Bank of England:—

"Peter looked at the sea of struggling figures and white distorted faces, and marked the reek of humanity that came up through the glare and dust of a scorching afternoon. He heard the shouts and indistinct roar of voices, when suddenly he noticed a new movement in the crowd—it packed for a moment more densely—then a ripple seemed to run backwards—the front ranks had stopped—what was the matter?—police helmets moved together—again the dense mob pushed and swayed—for an instant a flash of colour showed from the Bank porters' liveries behind the blue clump of constables—then the grim iron gates were seen to move, they came nearer and nearer together—a sort of long questioning sob rose from the crowd, and then everyone stood still—a flutter of white indicated that some notice was being exhibited—then the great gates came nearer—nearer—was it only to check the rush?—no—they came together with one deep clang—instantly the police distributed, trying to disperse the people—those who could not hear knew what the movement meant, and a deep moaning roar went up that echoed far away down the streets and alleys of all London.

"'*The Bank's Broke—The Bank of England's Closed!*'"

Those who want to beguile the time on a long railway journey cannot do better than buy a copy of "The Master Crime."

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S successful drama, *Her Luck in London*, established another record at the Prince's, Preston, last week. Before leaving the town Mr. Kirk signed a contract for next year, this making his sixth annual visit. Miss Neil will shortly appear in the provinces in a new play, written for her by Charles Darrell, entitled *From Shop Girl to Duchess*.

PLAYS in Esperanto, which is claimed to be a universal language, were last week given in the New Theatre at Letchworth. The first to be essayed was Maddison Morton's old farce, *Box and Cox*, which in the new tongue becomes *Boks kaj Koks*. The well-known scene from Dickens's "Pickwick Papers," which was also given, is rendered *Bardell kontrau Pickwick*.

THE ACTORS' UNION.

LONDON.

Mr. Cecil Calvert took the chair at the meeting of the Actors' Union, held at the Bedford Head on Tuesday afternoon. There was a fair attendance, others present being:—Messrs. Shirley Braithwaite, W. Ruddle Brown, C. G. Calvert, J. Collison, D. J. Murray, J. Milne Taylor, Jerrold Heather, F. G. Vane, H. Paulton, jun., H. Townley, E. H. Templeton, J. G. Maine, Clifford Kean, F. F. Lloyd, A. Stratton, Wentworth Fane, G. Merricles, Frank Gerald, Tripp Edgar, E. Y. Rae, A. St. John, J. Galbraith, Stafford Smith, Harwood Roberts, C. M. Davidson, J. G. Austin, Roy Barraclough, H. Trent Adams, and Misses Louie Adair, Mary Bessle, Alice Marsden, Kitty Marion, Kate Randolph, Nellie Howitt, Maudie Grayson, Florence Creagh.

The Chairman, in his opening remarks, stated that Mr. Frank Rawson, C.M.G., had agreed to become an honorary treasurer of the Union. Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P., had been approached, but had been unable to accept the position owing to the many calls upon his time, much as he was in sympathy with the objects of the A.U. At the Trades Union Congress, which would take place in September at Bath, the Actors' Union would be represented in the person of Mr. Frank Gerald. It would be the first time that anyone appeared at that congress on behalf of a theatrical calling. The trades unionists numbered six millions, and it was a big thing for the Actors' Union to have a voice in their deliberations. All the reports which were now coming in from the provinces were of a most encouraging nature, and affairs generally in the Union were progressing satisfactorily. Speaking of theatrical conditions in London, he (the chairman) thought that it was ridiculous and iniquitous that rehearsals, which were not paid for, should last six weeks. Such long rehearsals meant either that the producer of the play did not know his business or that he had incompetent actors and actresses. Hours, and even days, were wasted in the theatre which should be spent in the office or the studio. The Vedrenne-Barker management had proved that it paid to have good companies, and other managers would find the same thing if they only worked on a similar principle.

Mr. Frank Gerald spoke of the approaching Trades Unionist Congress at Bath, of which he had been appointed the representative of the Union. Mr. Pete Curran had asked him to congratulate the members of the Union on this step. He would point out to them that organisation under trades union principles was the best preventive of strikes, and one of the principal subjects to be discussed at the congress was a resolution affirming the principle of arbitration and conciliation, both voluntary and compulsory. After briefly referring to the Variety Artists' Federation and the late music hall strike, Mr. Gerald concluded by expressing his gratification at being called upon to represent the A.U. at the congress.

Mr. Harry Paulton thought they were in a very good position for so young a society. He would point out, however, that several members were behindhand with their subscriptions, and it was highly desirable that these be paid up as promptly as possible. Members would be well advised, too, to send in an odd sixpence for a possible deathlevy, although, of course, he hoped it would be a very long time before the money would be required for such a purpose.

Mr. H. Tripp Edgar expressed the opinion that they ought to feel grateful to Mr. Gerald for coming forward that afternoon and addressing them, and for undertaking to represent the Actors' Union at the Trades Union Congress.

Mr. Fred Loyd and Mr. Ruddle Brown also spoke, and several new members joined.

MANCHESTER.

A meeting was held on Tuesday, at the Salisbury Hotel, Oxford-road, Manchester, at which the following were present, among others:—Mr. Harry Paulton, Mr. Francis Chamier, Mr. E. S. Petley, Mr. Orlando Barnett, Mr. Wm. Macready, Mr. Chas. G. Norton, Mr. Crowle, Mrs. Macready, Miss Violet Chamier, Miss Phyllis Manners, and Miss Ida Mackay.

Mr. Harry Paulton was elected to the chair, and in opening the proceedings said he was glad to see such a good attendance. He informed his hearers that, despite statements to the contrary, the Union was being carried on in a spirit of absolute unity and not one of dissension. He urged his hearers to impress that fact upon all members of the profession at present outside the Union. He was certain that the reports of this supposed dissension emanated from one or two malcontents only. He advisedly said one or two, as in their efforts to spread these reports and thus throw mud at the Union they endeavoured to make themselves appear as numerous as possible, even to the extent of writing under noms de plume as well as their own names.

Mr. Paulton was followed by Mr. Macready and Mr. Chamier, who both spoke at length. Mr. Lionel Belmore was elected a member.

THE ARTHUR VERNE FUND.

Subscriptions already received:—

	£	s.	d.
Henry Swinerd	5	5	0
J. W. Cordiner	5	5	0
Messrs. Power and Kirby's Co. (per Martin Comstock)	2	10	6
Horace Stanley	2	2	0
Sam Livesey	2	2	0
Dan Rolyat	2	2	0
The Tyrant Company (per Roy Fortescue)	1	16	6
Nellie Harcourt	1	1	0
George Brooks	1	1	0
Lyn Harding	1	1	0
G. Howard Watson	1	1	0
Mrs. Hy. Mayhew	1	1	0
George Arliss	1	1	0
Queenie Leighton	1	1	0
Lodge "Star," No. 219, Glasgow	1	1	0
Nettie Ware	1	1	0
Charles Barnard	0	10	6
H. E. Angless	0	10	6
Lester Collingwood	0	10	0
Walter H. Nightingale	0	10	0
James P. Moore	0	10	0
Bert Edwards	0	7	6
Deane Cliffe	0	5	0
W. C. H.	0	5	0
Arthur Hartley	0	5	0
Walter Ashley	0	5	0
Henry C. Ward	0	5	0
Marie Vere	0	5	0
W. E. Mowbray	0	5	0
K. Ernest Irving	0	5	0
T. F.	0	2	6

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The staff of the Mansfield Hippodrome held their annual outing last Sunday, journeying by coach and rail to Cleethorpes, where a merry party sat down to lunch. Mr. George Cooper, the chairman, gave the toast of "The Firm" (Messrs. Darnley and Jennings), Mr. Tom Jennings, jun., responding in a capital speech. He regretted the absence of Mr. Herbert Darnley, who had wired wishing them a right royal time, but owing to pressure of business was unable to be present. The health of the ladies was proposed by Mr. Thomas Buckley, whose remarks highly amused all. After a most enjoyable day the party returned to Mansfield at midnight.

Mr. Editor,—Sir,—In your notice of *The Nobleman of Nature* Co. in this week's issue you refer to Mr. Whitmore Ledger's Co. I beg to say the piece is my sole property.—Yours faithfully, Hettie Jeffries.—Star Theatre, Swansea, Aug. 17, 1907.

EARLY PROMENADE CONCERTS.

Since the early days of promenade concerts, when the celebrated Jullien used to tour the English theatres with a fine orchestra, driven in coaches with postillions, the public taste for lighter music has made most astonishing strides, and the crowds that besieged the Queen's Hall on Saturday evening last, when Mr. Henry J. Wood started the off-musical season at Queen's Hall, would have surprised the genial Jules Rivière, who, in his day, did much for cheap concerts. "At Easter in 1875," he writes in his interesting "Recollections," "I gave a series of promenade concerts in Manchester, taking (in partnership with my old friend Joseph Higham, the celebrated brass instrument maker in the town) the Prince's Theatre for the purpose. This is one of the prettiest theatres in England, and, at the time I speak of, it was under the direction of the actor Charles Calvert. We had an orchestra of seventy musicians, besides the reed band of the 1st Manchester Volunteers, of which Higham was bandmaster, and an efficient chorus. The leader and solo violin was M. Vivien, a professor at the Conservatoire at Liège; Levy was the solo cornet, and several of the principal performers came expressly from Paris and Brussels. We had crowded houses, and the season was a big success. Once a week I gave Macfarren's Oratorio, *John the Baptist*. It was then new, and with Mme. Lemmens Sherrington, Miss Poole, George Perren, and Wadmore in the cast it was a great draw. As we were, I am sure, indebted for some of our success to the ability and exertion of my acting-manager, W. B. Healey, who is now a concert agent, I am glad to have the opportunity of making this acknowledgment to the old friend who was instrumental in enabling us to clear £400 by the season.

"The following year, at the same season, that is to say at Easter, Charles Calvert called to see me in London for the purpose of explaining to me his plans for another season of promenade concerts, his project being to undertake all the responsibility himself, and to pay me a good salary for my services. I fixed my price at £50 a week, and, these terms being accepted, I arranged for an orchestra equal to my own of the previous season, except that Levy, the cornet player, who in the meantime had gone to New York, had to be replaced by the best man I could get, and this was Mr. Chavannes, the French player, who, from that time till now, has held the position of solo cornet at the Monte Carlo concerts. The second season of promenade concerts at the Prince's Theatre was not a financial success, and yet an original idea that Calvert had of putting a dozen tableaux representing scenes from Shakespearean plays at the back of the orchestra, where visitors in promenading round could see them, was at once a novelty and an attraction. Where, however, I thought he went wrong was in doubling the prices as he did. Visitors to the promenade had to pay 2s. instead of 1s., and the same rule prevailed in other parts of the house. As a consequence, the concerts were badly attended, and though at the end of a fortnight a return was made to the old scale of charges, still the public was not to be wooed back, and the season resulted in a loss of £600.

"On returning to London in the autumn of 1877 I gave, at my own risk, four grand orchestral concerts at the Westminster Aquarium on four consecutive Saturdays. I enlarged the orchestra to eighty musicians, and engaged all the principals from Paris. Besides good singers, I secured the band of the Coldstream Guards, and the experiment, which was a distinct novelty, proved a success, 14,000 visitors passing the turnstiles for the first concert. The net profits of the four concerts amounted to £300, and I much regretted being unable to accept the offer made to me by the directors of the Aquarium to continue the experiment. But I was bound by agreement to conduct a four weeks' season of promenade concerts at the Queen's Theatre. It was at one of my Aquarium concerts that Miss Georgina Burns, who has since become famous, made her début in London by singing a little Scotch duet with her sister, Miss Cora Stuart. Colonel Mapleson, however, arranged to continue the Saturday concerts I had begun at the Aquarium, and the Italian opera season being over, he was able to have some of the star vocalists from Her Majesty's Theatre, with Signor Arditi as conductor.

"My experience at the Queen's Theatre made me still further regret having been unable to continue at the Aquarium, for it was altogether a disastrous affair for me in Long Acre. And yet the names of the four promoters of the scheme, including a City banker and a brewer, looked well on paper. Matters started swimmingly enough, and everything seemed to augur well for a good season. I engaged in my orchestra Cornélis, the professor of the violin at the Brussels Conservatoire, as leader, with Van Biene as principal violoncello, and amongst a host of clever musicians I had the late Alfred Cellier as sub-conductor, and Mlle. Ida Servais, a brilliant soprano, and a daughter of the celebrated Belgian violoncellist, as star vocalist. There was nothing to complain of for the first fortnight, seeing that the salaries were paid on Saturday at the regular time; but, at the end of the third week, only part of the money was forthcoming, and I was put off with a positive promise for the payment of the balance. The over-due account, however, was not paid at the beginning of the fourth week, and yet, for my own sake, I did not like to break faith with the public by stopping the concerts, so we went on. The last night, by arrangement, was set apart for my benefit, and with the kind assistance of several leading and favourite artists, I was able to advertise a most attractive programme. With a view, as I thought, of taking all necessary precautions, I had our book-keeper from Leicester Square to look after the receipts, and my old friend D'Oyly Carte volunteered to come and survey matters for me in front of the house. Disaster, therefore, seemed to be impossible, but it nevertheless came. I found the house quite full on my arrival for the concert, and I was moreover, put in good temper by the garlands of flowers I found ornamenting my conductor's desk, not to mention a handsome bouquet that was placed in front of my wife's box. The first part of the concert over, I naturally hastened round to the front to learn something about the figures, and was horrified to learn that the four worthy directors and managers had cleared out, taking care before their departure to pocket every shilling of the receipts. Nor was this all, for the brokers were in the building for rent, and among the things seized was an Erard's grand piano. I felt considerably discouraged, I own, but I made an appointment for all the musicians and vocalists who had taken part in the concerts to meet me on the following Monday afternoon. Meanwhile, I got together the necessary sum to pay everybody, and this amounted to nearly £600. I have never seen any of these four directors since, and all I have ever learnt of them was that the "city banker" was soon afterwards in the Bankruptcy Court for £40,000.

"I did not long remain discouraged after the events just related, for in 1878 I tempted Fortune once more by renting Covent Garden for five weeks from the Messrs. Gatti, for a series of promenade concerts, to commence on Oct. 5."

Mr. Cecil du Gue, who has recently been starring in the title-rôle of Mr. Walter Reynold's play, *Mr. Smith*, has been engaged by Mr. Chas. Macdona for the somewhat similar part of Dr. Wake in his *Dr. Wake's Patient* company.—Miss Dulcie Greatwich, whose work we have before eulogised under the F. R. Benson management, is again playing Stephanus in Mr. William Greet's principal *Sign of the Cross* company.

HERBERT FLEMMING IN AUSTRALIA.

Mr. Herbert Flemming, who may be remembered for his work in London at the Adelphi and Haymarket Theatres some years ago, has since created a most unique position as actor-manager throughout the length and breadth of English-speaking South Africa, also for a phenomenal pilotage of that recently deceased society entertainer, Mel. B. Spur, and more recently of a two and a half years' tour of the Brough-Flemming company, from Western Australia to farthest north Queensland, and the length and breadth of New Zealand, to the extent of traversing 53,000 miles of sea and land in accomplishing this.

Mr. Flemming is now due in London to engage new artistes and negotiate new plays for the Antipodes, retaining three or four of the present Australian members, returning in a very few weeks to open the Princess Theatre, Melbourne, on Boxing Day of this present year with a production of the late Sir Henry Irving's version of *Olivia*. Mr. Flemming is the first manager to lay before the public of Australia any of the Lyceum plays, having secured from the executors a considerable series of these.

That accomplished young actress, Miss Beatrice Day, appears in the name-part of Olivia, which she has already appeared in, when the play was launched in Sydney in May last.

Mr. Flemming, in conjunction with the late Robert Brough, opened the Australian season with a magnificent production of *Beauty and the*

[*Photo by Beale, Bloemfontein.*

MR. HERBERT FLEMMING.

Barge, which scored success from the initial performance, and everywhere after. This was followed in sequence by *The Walls of Jericho*, *Little Mary*, *Quality Street*, *Dr. Wake's Patient*, *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*, *Peter's Mother*, *What Would a Gentleman Do?* revivals of *Village Priest*, *Niobe*, *Sowing the Wind*, and finally by a production of the most complete and perfect kind of *Olivia*, which was produced by Mr. H. W. Varna, who came to Australia to stage-manager and produced for Mr. Tree, when Miss Maud Jeffries and Mr. Knight combination was sent to Australia. Mr. Varna joined and continues with Mr. Flemming at the launching of *Olivia*, which was admitted by the entire Sydney Press to be the most perfect and artistic production and mounting Australia had seen, even the most captious of Australia's critics doffing the cap of cynicism to bestow the most genuine commendation.

It is also a noteworthy fact that three of the productions were produced and run concurrently with the London productions.

The son of the well-known Harry Paulton, Mr. John Paulton, has been assistant stage-manager with Mr. Flemming throughout.

Miss Beatrice Day is a leading lady who has completely won the hearts of the Australasian public in every city visited, and who has now attained the very premier position among Australian leading ladies, opening in the new Fleming season at Melbourne as Olivia, Dec., 1907.

Mr. Flemming arrives in London ex "Miltiades," in about a fortnight, having about six weeks to stay in London, after which he returns with his new company to Melbourne, to again cover more thousands of miles, hoping to beat his previous business record. Communications should be addressed to him, care of The Era office.

One of Mendelssohn's letters describes how Joachim took part in a musical charade at Felix Moscheles' house. The word chosen was "Gewandhaus," and Joachim represented the first syllable by a brilliant improvisation on the G string.

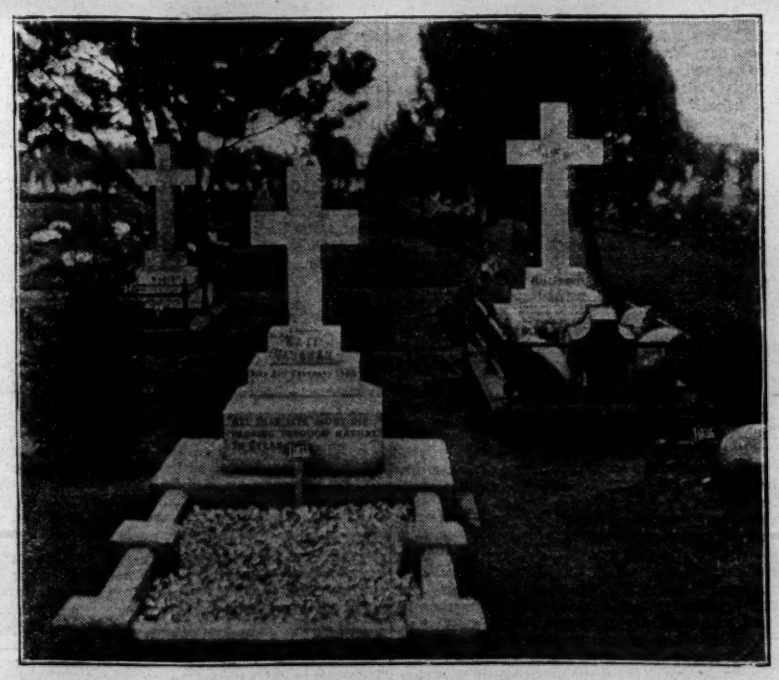
PROMENADE CONCERTS.

Queen's Hall was filled to its utmost capacity, and hundreds turned away, on Saturday evening, Aug. 17, the opening night of the promenade concert season, and although the price of season tickets for balcony seats has this year been raised, the demand was so great that Queen's Hall could have been filled every night by season ticket-holders; but as this would prevent large numbers of the musical public attending the promenade concerts, and as season tickets do not yield any great profit, it has this year been decided to limit the number. On taking his seat at the conductor's desk on Saturday evening, Mr. Henry Wood had a most cordial and enthusiastic greeting, which, considering the great aid this fine conductor has rendered to music, was warmly deserved. The concert began with the National Anthem, the huge audience heartily joining in the performance. Bach's third Brandenburg Concerto for strings was originally announced, but owing to the death of Dr. Joachim, Mr. Henry Wood gave in memory of the great violinist the funeral march from Chopin's Pianoforte Sonata in B flat minor, arranged for the orchestra by Mr. Wood. In this a part is included for the organ, and a beautiful trio for solo violin, admirably played by the leader of the orchestra, Mr. Henri Verbrugghen. The funeral march was also rendered additionally impressive by the audience standing during the performance. Great finish distinguished the orchestral playing of the famous "Peer Gynt" suite, and Boccherini's charming Minuet for Strings in A. The programme also included the *William Tell* Overture, and Tschaikowsky's "Casse-Noisette" suite, and the same composer's stirring *1812* Overture. Less familiar was Sibelius's fine symphonic Poem "Finlandia," splendidly played by the orchestra. The finished flute-playing of Mr. Albert Fransella in Godard's suite for flute and orchestra also greatly pleased the audience. In the vocal department, Mrs. Henry J. Wood was entirely successful in her singing of "Nobil Signor," and Mr. Frederic Austin in the "Templar's Song" from Sullivan's opera, *Ivanhoe*.

On Tuesday evening at Queen's Hall the first novelty of the present season was given. The new work, a Symphony in E flat, by Mr. Marshall Hall, a professor of music in Melbourne, also bears the title "An Elizabethan Comedy." The Symphony, which is in three movements, proved a pleasing and interesting composition; modern in construction, the new work shows ample technical knowledge, even if its composer does not display any specially original or individual ideas. The second movement of Mr. Hall's Symphony made the best impression, the music being expressive and flowing in character, but although brightly written, the final Allegro con Spirito did not prove entirely satisfactory. The Symphony was skilfully interpreted by Mr. Wood's fine orchestra, but was not received with any special warmth by the audience. Smetana's "Bartered Bride" overture, capitally played, was also included in the programme, and Herold's "Zampa" overture. Mr. Frederik Frederiksen was responsible for the solo violin in Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in E minor, and the orchestra gave a delicate and refined performance of Schubert's Ballet Air in G (*Rosamünde*). Edward German's Three Dances from *Henry VIII.* also proved a very attractive feature of the concert. Bizet's "Suite Carmen" and the overture, "Prometheus," Beethoven, were given; and the vocalists, Miss Elsie Nicholl and Mr. Robert Radford, greatly distinguished themselves, Miss Nicholl singing "Softly Sighs" from Weber's *Der Freischutz*, and Mr. Radford Qui Sdegno from Mozart's *Magic Flute*.

On Monday last the programme of the promenade concert was with two exceptions entirely devoted to the works of Richard Wagner, the orchestra giving a fine account of the Prelude *Die Meistersinger*, "Forest Murmurs" (*Siegfried*), the overture to the *Flying Dutchman*, the prelude to *Lohengrin*, "Siegfried's Journey," *Gotterdämmerung*, and the overture and Venusberg music from *Tannhäuser*; included also in the programme was Wagner's "Kaisermarsch," Bizet's Suite "L'Arlesienne" and Auber's overture "Le Cheval de Bronze." The vocalists were Miss Jenny Taggart and Mr. Webster Millar.

Mr. Max Reger's New Serenade in G for Orchestra, Op. 95, was given at Queen's Hall on Wednesday evening, and the first two out of the Bavarian composer's four movements were played by Mr. Wood's orchestra. These were an Allegro Moderato and Vivace à Burleska. Mr. Max Reger, who is greatly influenced by the works of Bach, has dedicated the Serenade heard on Wednesday to Mr. Felix Mottl. Full of melodious music and graceful themes, the two movements made a most favourable impression on the audience, the composer securing some charming and novel effects by the use of two stringed orchestras, one muted. Although modern in his methods, Mr. Max Reger writes with delightful simplicity and originality. The last two movements of the Serenade will be heard next Wednesday. Most skilfully played under Mr. Henry Wood's direction, the audience warmly applauded the Serenade. Other items in an interesting programme were Mr. Camillo Ritter's brilliant playing of Max Bruch's Violin Concerto in G minor, and the orchestral performances of Mendelssohn's *Ruy Blas* overture, the unfinished Symphony No. 8 in B minor by Schubert, Elgar's Three Bavarian Dances, and Meyerbeer's "March Le Prophète." Tchaikovsky's Capriccio Italien and Debussy's Prelude "L'Après Midi d'un Fauni" also greatly pleased the large audiences. Vocal pieces were contributed by Miss Esta D'Argo and Mr. Webster Millar.



KATE VAUGHAN'S GRAVE.

Mr. George Rayne, whose brother, Mr. Leonard Rayne, was with the late Miss Kate Vaughan in her last days, denies that her grave is in a neglected condition, as was recently stated by a correspondent of a daily paper. The above photograph shows the present condition of the grave.

ON THE ROAD, AUG. 26.

Amasis.—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
Assassin.—T. R., Smethwick.
At Cripple Creek.—Victoria T., Broughton.
At Duty's Call.—King's T., Sutton.
Beauty and the Barge.—Coronet Theatre, W.
Belle of Mayfair (Bode).—Londesboro'-T., Scarboro'
Belle of Mayfair (Howard).—T. R., Worthing.
Belle of New York (Howard).—T. R., Plymouth.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—St. Andrews and Blairgowrie.
Best Must Win.—Theatre Royal, Goole.
Best of Her Sex.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
Blue Moon (S.).—T. R., Brighton.
Bondman, The (Croke).—Broadway T., New Cross.
Bondman, The (Day).—T. R., Glasgow.
Branded Woman.—T. R., Edmonton.
Breed of the Treshams.—T. R., Darlington.
Bulmer, Mr.—Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Cassidy, J. Rice.—Fulham Theatre, S.W.
Chinese Honeymoon (Bode).—New Theatre, Cardiff.
Christian, The (Croke).—King's T., Glasgow.
Convict's Daughter.—T. R., West Bromwich.
Dairymaids.—Court Theatre, Liverpool.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—T. R., Bilston.
D'Oyly Carte Opera.—Royalty T., Glasgow.
Earl and the Girl (Howard).—Penzance and Newquay.
Face at the Window.—O. H., Dudley.
False Wife.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Fatal Wedding.—Kennington Theatre.
Female Swindler.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Fight for a Throne.—T. R., Ilkeston.
Fight for Life.—Palace T., Glasgow.
Florodora (Howard).—P. O. W., Birmingham.
For Her Sake.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
Gayest of the Gay.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Girl from Japan.—T. R., Bilston.
Glossop-Harris.—O. H., Middlesboro.
Grip of Iron.—P.O.W., Mexboro.
Guilty Gold.—Falkirk.
Heart's Desire.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Her Lost Self.—Star Theatre, Swansea.
Her Love Against the World.—Court T., Wigan.
Her Marriage Vow.—T. R., Sunderland.
Her One Great Sin.—New Court T., Bacup.
Hero of the Flag.—Whitby.
Hill-Mitchelson.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
His House in Order (N.).—Boston and Buxton.
His House in Order (S.).—T. R. Aldershot.
Home, Sweet Home.—Metropole T., Devonport.
In the Shadow of Night.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
John Glayde's Honour.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Keith and Lossiemouth.
Lady Dandies.—Grand T., Blackpool.
La Poupee (Levilly).—King's T., Hammersmith.
La Poupee (Ralland).—Deal and Ramsgate.
Leah Kleschna.—Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Light of the World.—O. H., Kidderminster.
Lion and the Mouse.—O. H., Wakefield.
Little Breadwinner.—T. R., Ashton.
Love that Women Desire.—Court T., Warrington.
Man's Enemy.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
Manxman.—O. H., Northampton.
Midnight Wedding.—T. R., Bristol.
Mollison, Wm.—T. R., Hull.
Monckton Hoffe Comedy Co.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
Monte Cristo.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Morals of Marcus.—Bexhill and Eastbourne.
My Darling.—Grand Theatre, Hull.
Peter's Mother (N.).—T. R., Bradford.
Peter's Mother (M.).—Chichester and Guildford.
Peter's Mother (S.).—Grand Theatre, Halifax.
Power of Gold.—Theatre Royal, Preston.
Power of the Cross.—T. R., South Shields.
Price of her Soul.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Prince of Pilsen (Harriss).—Ramsgate and Southend.
Prodigal Daughter.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
Prodigal Parson.—T. R., Chesterfield.
Prodigal Son (Croke).—Grand T., Croydon.
Prodigal Son (Day).—Gaiety T., Douglas.
Proof.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
Raffles.—Grand T., W. Hartlepool.
Rollicking Rory.—Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.
Royal Divorce.—Standard Theatre, E.
Saved from the Sea.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Second to None.—Grand T., Luton.
Sentenced for Life.—Grand T., Glasgow.
Shulamite, The.—Birmingham.
Sign of the Cross.—T. R., Birkenhead.
Silver King (Howard).—Bishop's Stortford.
Silver King (Polini) (N.).—Star T., Liverpool.
Silver King (Polini) (S.).—T. R., Blyth.
Sin of Her Childhood.—T. R., Jarrow.
Soldier of France.—Alhambra, Stourbridge.
Soldier's Honour.—Theatre Royal, Scarboro'.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—T. R., Dewsbury.
Stepmother, The.—Queen's T., Keighley.
Still Alarm.—Grand Theatre, Brighton.
Stronger Sex (N.).—O. H., Leicester.
Sunday.—Alexandra T., Greenock.
Swiss Express.—Grand T., Mansfield.
Terry, Edward.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Terry, Miss Ellen.—Hastings and Worthing.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—O. H., Burnley.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—Palace T., Newcastle.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.).—Grand T., Islington.
Tyrant, The.—Grand T., Doncaster.
Under the Russian Flag.—T. R., Norwich.
Under the Stars and Stripes.—Carlton T., B'ham.
Village Blacksmith.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—T. R., Newcastle.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—T. R., Gt Yarmouth.
What the Butler Saw.—King's T., Sunderland.
When a Man Hates.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
When it was Dark.—Osborne T., Manchester.
When London Sleeps.—T. R., Leigh.
When Other Lips.—East Oxford T., Oxford.
When Woman Hates.—St. James's T., Manchester.
Why Men Love Women.—O. H., St. Helens.
Wilkie Allan and Co.—Grand T., Nelson.
Woman from Scotland Yard.—Queen's T., Longton.
Woman Pays.—O. H., Wakefield.
Woman Worth Winning.—T. R., Barnsley.
Woman's Past.—Paisley Theatre, Paisley.
World's Great Snare.—New Theatre, Consett.
Worst Woman in London.—T. R., Rotherham.
Woulfe Repte.—Opera House, Kidderminster.
You Never Can Tell.—Prince's T., Llandudno.
Youngest of Three.—Spa Theatre, Whitby.
Young Lieutenant.—Kilmarnock and Kirkcaldy.
£1,000 Reward.—Lyceum T., Newport.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

PIETERMARITZBURG, July 10. — Scott's Theatre.—Lessees, Leonard Rayne Dramatic Co.; Manager, Mr. Grant Fallowes.—Mr. Leonard Rayne and his capable company occupy the theatre here in *The Manxman*. Mr. Leonard Rayne as Pete Quilliam brought out all the points of a fine study; Philip Christian was in the capable hands of Mr. Charles Howitt; the old hypocritical Cæsar Creegeen had an able exponent in Mr. E. Burton Seymour; Mr. Harry C. Paine was effective in the rôle of Tom, the postman; a capital delineation of Ross Christian was given by Mr. C. Hermann Pullen; Professor Manley was well accounted for by Mr. Fred W. Carter; Miss Annie Leaf gave a dignified rendering as Miss Christian; Miss Dorrie Roberts contributed a well-finished study as Nancy; the rôle of Kate Creegeen afforded Miss Gertrude F. Godart opportunities for fine emotional acting, and she made a complete success of a difficult rôle.

Carlton.—Proprietor, Mr. W. F. Isaacs; Manager, Mr. Ralph Brown; Musical-Director, Mr. Roy Dobson.—The star turn here is Miss Marie Corneille, whose captivating and irresistible manner evoke hearty applause. Miss Stella St. Claire is a very chic soubrette; Miss Blanche Sadie is a clever terpsichorean artist; and Dick Roderick, a Scotch comedian, takes well. Will Collins causes no end of merriment. Others in a talented company are Messrs. Danby Seaton, A. Harper, and Alf. Peto.

Mercer Simpson, the popular proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, was a most amiable man, and prided himself on never using swear-words; not so much from a religious point of view as on account of their vulgarity. One day Mr. Simpson, who was always solicitous for the comfort of the artists, said, "What a dreadful down-draught there is in this prompt corner! Wherever can it come from?" The odd man, always anxious to oblige with information, said, quite seriously, and with the idea of imparting useful information, "I know, Mr. Simpson; I know where it comes from!" "Do you, Jones?" said the guv'nor, astonished at his possessing information of a thing that had long puzzled himself. "Where does it come from?" "It comes out of the *street*, sir!" Simpson looked at him for a second or so, and then, turning on his heel, said: "You—you dee fool—I know that!"

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

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All communications intended for publication should be sent to "The Editor," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

(We do not answer questions by post.)

W. J. Scott.—Bluebell in Fairyland *was originally produced by Mr. Seymour Hicks at the Vaudeville, Dec.* 18, 1901, *and was followed by* Quality Street, *Sept. 17, 1902. On Dec. 23, 1905, the Aldwych opened with* Bluebell.

H. P. D. (C.-on-M.).—(1) *Books and stories can be dramatised by a stranger without permission. The law on this somewhat difficult subject is summarised in Strong's "Musical and Dramatic Law," published at this office, price 3s. 6d.* (2) *We are unable to tell you the average remuneration for a dramatic author. It depends on the piece, on the author, and on the manager arranging for the rights, whether provincial or London. Pieces are often bought outright, and no royalty given; but, of course, the best authors and playwrights are in the happy position of being able to dictate their own terms.*

Bessie O'Byrne.—*You cannot do better than apply to the author, Mr. Arthur Shirley, Newport House, Great Newport-street, W.C.*

G. M. Mathison (Kingstown).—*The late Mr. Dan Leno was at the Grand Theatre, Douglas, Isle of Man, on July 29, 1901, with the comedy, by Basil Hood, entitled* Orlando Dando. *In this Miss Georgina Leno played Betty Gargoyle.*

R. Tye (Lavender Hill).—*It would be impossible to answer your question, because you do not state* (1) *whether you mean in pantomime or not;* (2) *whether you refer to the period of the late Dan Leno's lifetime.*

Little Tony.—*Miss Maie Loftus played principal boy at the Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough, 1904-5, taking the part of Prince Peerless in Mr. Humphrey Brammall's Christmas pantomime* Cinderella.

J. F. W.—*Chevalier Blondin died on Feb. 22, 1897, at the age of seventy-three. During his performances at the Agricultural Hall he had to use a net.*

J. T. O. (Wolverhampton).—*Miss Vesta Tilley's maiden name was Ball. She is the daughter of Mr. Harry Ball, formerly associated with the administration of a music-hall in Birmingham, in which little Vesta made her first appearance.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Texas.—On Aug. 18, at Ayr, the wife of Capt. George Texas, the Great Rifle Shot, of a son. Both going strong.

MARRIAGES.

Buller—Smither.—April 24, before the Registrar, Kensington, Capt. the Hon. John Yarde Buller to Jessie (Miss Denise Orme), only daughter of Alfred Smither, Esq.

Foss—Gilson.—On July 1, 1907, before the Registrar for the London City District, Kenelm Foss to Elisabeth Gilson, 10, Clifford's Inn, E.C.

Mack—Booth.—June 17, at Ashton-under-Lyne, by special licence, Julian Mack, comedian, to Nellie Booth, of 64, Marton-road, Middlesbrough. West End Pier, Morecambe.

DEATHS.

Alexander.—Found drowned in the Thames, June 9, 1907, Augustine Alexander, in his 47th year, husband of Mrs. Georgiana E. Alexander.

Bennett.—Aug. 15, at Coventry, Mrs. William Bennett, mother of Mr. Dudley Bennett and of Mrs. W. G. R. Sprague.

Hartree.—At Cape Town, South Africa, Walter D. Hartree (formerly acting-manager Theatre Royal, Bath), aged 49.

Sheldon.—Aug. 18, at Stalybridge, of typhoid fever, Lechmere Sheldon, son of Ernest Sheldon, late proprietor of the Palaces, Aberdeen and Dundee, age 29.

Tennant.—On Aug. 18, at Park-lane, Tottenham, Francis Tennant, aged 67, beloved father of Mrs. George Mozart. Deeply mourned.

Thorpe.—July 25, at Johannesburg, S.A., Mrs. J. Thorpe (Miss Alice Edgar), eldest daughter of the late Mr. Richard Edgar, actress.

In Memoriam.

Harvey.—In affectionate remembrance of our darling brother, Edward Harvey (Harvey Boys), who departed this life Aug. 24, 1906.
His mem'ry is as dear to-day
As in the hour he passed away.
Katie Marsh, Mrs. Maggie Keen, Frank and Dennis.

Harvey.—In ever-loving memory of my darling daddy, Edward Harvey, who died Friday, Aug. 24, 1906.—From his baby girl, Ednis.
Let Time, with healing in his wings,
Touch softly on the broken strings.
—R. M.

Harvey.—In loving memory of our dear brother, Edward Harvey (Harvey Boys), who died Aug. 24, 1906. Shall never be forgotten by his brothers, Dennis and Frank, and sister-in-law (Lexie), and Uncle Frank Folloy.

Swallow.—In loving memory of William Charles, who died Aug. 23, 1900. Never forgotten by his loving mother, sisters, and brothers.

The Theatre Royal, Yeadon, reopened for the season on Monday, when Mr. Alfred Northway and Mr. W. V. Garrod again presented *The Prodigal Parson.* Although it is barely six months since the last visit, the theatre has been crowded nightly, and the play received with the same enthusiasm as before. Some changes have been made in the cast, but the former standard of excellence is maintained. *Still Waters Run Deep, A Regular Fix,* and *Delicate Ground* are also billed, and Mr. Garrod is announced to recite "The Dream of Eugene Aram."

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A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

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Bard, Mr. Wilkie
Barker's Royal Circus
Barrett, Mr. W. Burgess
Barrett, Mr. Frank
Bartlett, Miss Rosie
Beardmore, Mr. J. P.
Beverley, Miss Hilda
Bicknell, Miss Reba
Blanche, Mr. George
Bourne, Little Titch
Bramley, Miss B.
Brocklebank, Miss N
Brown, Mr. C. Rae
Bruce, Mr. R. M.
Buoganie, Mr. J.
Busta Ben Arabs
Butler, Mr. Alec
Calham, Mr. Norman
Campbell, Miss A. E.
Cartmell, Miss Violet
Castle, Mr. Chas.
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De Ora, Mr. Bob
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Edney, Mr. George
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Edwards, Sisters
Ellery, Mr. John
Elliott, Mr. Percy
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Fairbanks, Mr. R.
Fawn, Miss H.
Fiennes, Mr. Sydney
Fischer, Mr. Harry
Finch, Miss Flora
Ford, Mr. Hal
Ford, Miss Ray
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Fraser, Mr. T. Edward
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Gilmer, Mr. Albert
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Hanske, Mr. Robert
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Jerome, Miss Daisy
Johnstone, Mr. John
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Kelly, Mr. Victor
Kendal, Mr. W. H.
Kennedy, Mr. Wallace
Kent, Mrs. A.
Kirwan, Mr. Henry N.
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Lake, Mr. Frank
Lambe, Mr. J. F.
Lane, Mr. Wilfred S.
Langford, Miss Connie
Langtry, Mrs.
Leamy, Mr. E. J.
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Levaine, Mr. Gus
Lewis, Mr. Ed.
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Ridgways, The
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St. Clair, Miss Edith
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Stuart, Mr. E.
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Welch, Mr. James
Wesley, Mr. W. G.
Whitney, Mr. W.
Willard, Mr. George
Wilson, Mr. Wm.
Wynne, Mr. E. S.
Wyville, Miss Amber
Yorke, Miss Ethel
Zalvar, Mr. C.

CRICKET.

Marlborough Theatre C.C. v. Finsbury Park and Harringay C.C.

Played at Highgate Woods recently, and resulted in a win for the theatricals. Scores:—

Marlborough Theatre.—Smith, b Parncutt, 8; Williams, c Stewart b A. Dumbleton, 29; Burch, b Parncutt, 3; Sherwood Martin, b A. Dumbleton, 15; Holden, run out, 0; Griffiths, not out, 4; extras, 8; total (for 5 wickets) 67. Innings declared closed. Pattenden, Bourke, Reid, and Watkins did not bat.

Finsbury Park and Harringay.—W. E. Hambleton, run out, 6; Billington, b Smith, 18; A. Dumpleton, c Holden b Martin, 7; Stallard, b Griffiths, 4; Parncutt, b Smith, 3; Chinn, c Holden b Williams, 1; Stewart, b Williams, 3; Scott, b Martin, 0; Austin, not out, 0; Cullen, b Martin, 0; Wade, run out, 0; extras, 11. Total, 53.

Marlborough Theatre C.C. v. Volta C.C.

Played at Tufnell Park on Aug. 12, when the Theatre won by five wickets and seventy runs. Scores:—

Marlborough Theatre.—Sherwood Martin, lbw, b Curtis, 3; Hotchkiss, lbw, b A. Kidds, 28; Fitzgibbons, b Vicary, 4; Pattenden, b Curtis, 23; Smith, c Read b A. Kidds, 22; Thompson, not out, 12; Williams, not out, 27; extras, 8. Total for 5 wickets, 124. Innings declared. Bourke, Birch, Holden, and Bennett did not bat.

Volta C.C.—Clifford, b Hotchkiss, 2; A. Kidds, b Hotchkiss, 12; Curtis, c Smith b Hotchkiss, 0; McCabe, b Hotchkiss, 22; M'Leish, b Smith, 0; Vicary, b Hotchkiss, 0; Rees, b Hotchkiss, 0; Gray, b Hotchkiss, 2; Benney, not out, 12; Newman, c Birch b Martin, 1; Thompson, c Pattenden b Martin, 0; extras, 5. Total 56.

The original MS. of Beethoven's First Sonata for Violin and Piano and Mozart's Ten Quartettes has been bequeathed to the British Museum by Miss Harriet Chichele Plowden, of Folkestone, who died in June last.

Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906. Effect on Theatres and Music Halls. By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor. Price, 6d. Published at "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Gus Hindell—Saturday, Aug. 24.
Parlato—Saturday, Aug. 24.
Dulcie Roma—Saturday, Aug. 24.
Max Beerbohm—Saturday, Aug. 24.
Charles Whittle—Saturday, Aug. 24.
(Miss) Santoi—Sunday, Aug. 25.
Alice de Winton—Sunday, Aug. 25.
Alice Barth—Sunday, Aug. 25.
Leonard Robson—Sunday, Aug. 25.
Eileen Conroy—Monday, Aug. 26.
Dorothy Vicott—Monday, Aug. 26.
J. L. Graydon—Monday, Aug. 26.
Fred Earle—Monday, Aug. 26.
Denise Orme—Monday, Aug. 26.
Daisy Morell—Monday, Aug. 26.
Connie Leon—Tuesday, Aug. 27.
Maurice De Frece—Tuesday, Aug. 27.
Jack Pleasants—Tuesday, Aug. 27.
Mara Collings—Tuesday, Aug. 27.
Fred Keeton—Tuesday, Aug. 27.
Minnie Delevine—Tuesday, Aug. 27.
Walter Kenyon—Tuesday, Aug. 27.
Lalla Selbini—Wednesday, Aug. 28.
Nellie Christie—Wednesday, Aug. 28.
Buckstone Clair—Wednesday, Aug. 28.
Charles Williams—Wednesday, Aug. 28.
Nina Blake Adams—Wednesday, Aug. 28.
Kate Santley—Thursday, Aug. 29.
Charles Dalton—Thursday, Aug. 29.
Grace Henderson—Thursday, Aug. 29.
Frank Lawton—Friday, Aug. 30.

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER, BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Chapter I
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
Chapter IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

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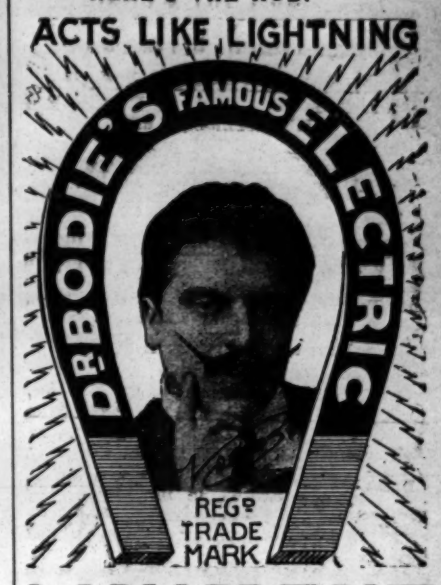

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CAUTION.
Re "The Mikado" and the other Operas by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan.
In an Action brought in the High Court of Justice by Helen D'Oyly Carte against the Lessee of the Broadway Theatre, New Cross, and the Royal Bio-Radioscope Company, in respect of the Exhibition or Performance of extracts from the operas, "The Mikado" and "The Yeomen of the Guard," in singing pictures by a cinematophone, an Order was, on the 31st July, 1907, made for an Injunction perpetually restraining the Defendants from representing or causing to be represented the operas called "The Mikado" and "The Yeomen of the Guard," or either of them, or any part thereof, and also from performing, or causing or permitting to be performed, the music of the said operas, or either of them, or any part thereof.
In another Action by Helen D'Oyly Carte against the Eastbourne Pier Company, Limited, and the St. Louis Animated Picture Company, in respect of similar performances of extracts from "The Mikado," in singing pictures by a chronophone, an Order was on the 31st July, 1907, made for an Interim Injunction restraining the St. Louis Animated Picture Company, until after the trial of the Action or until further order, from representing, or causing to be represented, the opera "The Mikado," or any part thereof, and also from performing or causing or permitting to be performed the music of the said opera, or any part thereof; and the Defendants, The Eastbourne Pier Company, Limited, also gave an undertaking in similar terms to this Injunction.
I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that the rights of public representation or performance of the music and words of all the operas by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan are reserved. Any public representation or performance of any of the operas, or portions of them, whether by gramophone or chronophone, or any other instrument reproducing records taken of the music and words of such operas, is an infringement of those rights.
AND I FURTHER GIVE NOTICE that proceedings will be forthwith taken against all persons giving, or assisting in giving, any such performance or representation of the words or music of such operas.
Helen D'Oyly Carte.
Savoy Theatre,
Dated this 1st day of August, 1907.

WARNING.
It having come to my notice that a Miss Mabelle S. Carr endeavoured to obtain an engagement with Mr. Samuel James, Theatre Royal, Croydon, representing that it was she who had played my parts with the following managements:—Messrs. Walter and Fred Melville, Mr. J. F. Elliston—I wish it to be known that I am in no way connected with her, and any Managers receiving similar communications will know how to deal with them.
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THE ERA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1907.

PROFESSIONALS AND PUBLICITY

Mr. MAX BEERBOHM, in the *Saturday Review*, once made a sarcastic attack on the amount of space devoted in the illustrated newspapers and in the photographers' and stationers' windows to the sayings, doings, and personal appearances of actors and actresses. Mr. BEERBOHM was greatly scandalised by an interview in which a young actress who has returned to school gave her impressions of school-life. He was also moved to scorn by the good-natured efforts of actors and actresses to help the cause of charity by holding stalls at bazaars, and to assist by their personal efforts the cause of theatrical charity. "Much as we admire the actor," wrote Mr. BEERBOHM, "we may wonder whether his artistic merits would not be even greater than they are if professional ambition had not forced him to spend so much of his time in making speeches, being photographed, showing himself in places of resort, and doing the thousand and one other extraneous odd jobs that the British public expects of him. The average level of acting is admittedly lower in England than in France, or Germany, or Italy. . . . Elsewhere mimes are a class apart. Not one notes them outside the theatre. They are thrown back on their art. Nothing interests them but their art. They have no distractions."

The fault, if any, is on the part of the public. The British people are the most affectionate and enthusiastic in Europe; and the most admiring and adoring section is the young, light-hearted, and—occasionally—light-headed class which makes the production of musical plays, &c., popular. These happy folk are quite incapable of that detached, *de haut en bas* attitude with respect to their favourite "mimes" which is maintained by the "superior person" and the smart critic. The feeling which those with whom "cakes and ale" are customary viands have for the clever and amusing actor and the pretty and winning actress is more affectionate than critical. It is not the actor or the actress's fault that this is so. The fault, if any, is that of the section of the public already alluded to. The proprietors of illustrated and other papers merely comply with the public demand when they publish pictures of the *vie intime* of popular artists. It is not only the latter who are thus depicted. The spirit of the age is curious and inquisitive; but inquisitive in a kindly and sympathetic, and not an impertinent, fashion. Royalty, for instance, shares with the stage the fate of being universally photographed. The late Queen VICTORIA added to the love of her people by opening her heart to them in her description of her life in the Highlands. Our monarchs, our statesmen, and our soldiers do not do their work any worse on account of the desire of the people to possess their "counterfeit presentments," and to learn the details of their domesticities. And there is another reason for the sale and purchase of the photographs of artists. Most of them are worth photographing from artistic reasons alone. Physical comeliness is an important factor of the success of an actor or actress. It is as much for the sake of the picture as for the sake of the person that the *carte* is purchased and preserved.

The contention that the French actors and actresses excel their English brethren because the public knowledge of them personally is limited is absurd. Why, the leading French actress is a conspicuous instance to the contrary. Who has been more indebted to the *réclame* than Madame SARAH BERNHARDT? Who has been more caricatured, more paragraphed, and more photographed? And this, be it observed, of *malice prepense* and policy, and not in response to public demand or desire. Madame BERNHARDT, during the earlier part of her career especially, was self-advertised with a perseverance, an energy, and an ingenuity which were the wonder and admiration of the world. At one time it was her tame tiger that was talked of; at another it was the padded coffin in which she delighted to repose. Then she amused herself with painting and sculpture, and her achievements in these arts were honoured with much notice and serious criticism. She horsewhipped an actress who had published a scandalous story about her; she married M. DAMALA in London, and separated from him soon afterwards; she sold her jewels by auction to buy the Ambigu Theatre for her son Maurice. Yet all these "thousand and one extraneous" activities did not prevent her from attaining and maintaining the leading position on the French stage.

But it is quite unjust to select the stage as a special instance of submission to this spirit, when every calling and profession suffers—or rejoices—in the general reproduction of its votaries by means of the camera and the "process." The affectionate inquisitiveness to which we have alluded may not be very elevated, but it is very human. Delight in its is shared by the professors of literature as well as by the people of the boards. The former affect to despise notoriety; but one observes that they continue to sign their essays. Photographs of all our leading literary men may be bought in Bloomsbury; and the only reason why they are not exposed for sale in the Strand is because they would not sell, not because the originals object to their being exhibited for sale. GOLDSMITH and HAYDON were *naïfs* enough to confess to the universal weakness—the one when the people paid more attention to some acrobats than to him self; and the other when he was "jealous of Tom Thumb." Everyone likes to be known, and favourably known, to his fellow-citizens; and as long as the public demands personal details respecting actors and actresses, the Press, which is only the servant of the public, will continue to supply them.

THE MOODY-MANNERS COMPANY.

"MADAME BUTTERFLY."

Giacomo Puccini's opera, in three acts, founded on a magazine story by John Luther Long, dramatised by the author and David Belasco, and adapted to the uses of opera by Signori Illica and Giacosa, produced in Italian at Covent Garden on July 10, 1905. English version by Mrs. Elkin, produced for the first time in London by the Moody-Manners company at the Lyric, on Aug. 16.

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Trouble	MASTER EDWARD GARRETT
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Suzuki	MISS TONI SEITER
Mme. Butterfly	MME. FANNY MOODY

The little house at the foot of Higashi, facing the sea-port harbour, enshrines Cho-Cho-San, who has been the plaything of a lieutenant in the American Navy, named Pinkerton, of the warship Connecticut. Gaily he had sailed away, leaving her with a present of money, and telling her he would return "when the robins nest again." Poor Mme. Butterfly! as he had called her, she takes her lieutenant much too seriously; and when the American Consul, Sharpless, calls on his behalf to tell her of his marriage and make some "arrangement," he is touched by her devotion, and is unwilling to shatter her conviction that she is legally married. Indeed, when a Japanese marriage broker, for purposes of his own, hints at the irregularity of Mme. Butterfly's union, and the illegitimacy of her little one, she takes him by the throat, and, in a tempest of passion, throws him to the ground and threatens to kill him. At length the warship Connecticut is sighted in the harbour. Mme. Butterfly, overjoyed, decorates the room with blossoms, and, with the help of her faithful Suzuki, rouges herself and twines flowers in her hair. As a suggestion of the weary waiting the child is called Trouble. Now he is to be Mr. Joy, and he has been taught to wave tiny flags bearing the Stars and Stripes in honour of his father. Pinkerton arrives and departs unseen by Cho-Cho-San, who learns the truth from the real wife of Pinkerton. The chord of despair is struck in the heart of poor Cho-Cho-San, and in the darkening shadow she blindfolds the child and kills herself. Such was the pitiful story of *Madame Butterfly*, a play, in one act, adapted by David Belasco from John Luther Long's tale, and produced at the Duke of York's Theatre on Saturday, April 28, 1900. The Italian adaptation, and the elaboration of the little tragedy into an opera by Giacomo Puccini, added considerably to that composer's reputation when it was produced at La Scala, Milan, in 1904. The score, it is generally admitted by musical critics, is more compact, more firmly knit, than that of any of his previous works, while its flow of melody, its richness in colour, and its emotional force are exceedingly striking. The treatment of the pathetic and even tragic incidents is thoroughly artistic and impressive. "The history of the opera," says M. Gustave Chouquet, "is a curious one. At its production it was hooted and hissed from the stage, and was withdrawn after one performance. No valid reason for this extraordinary phenomenon has been brought forward. On that occasion the second and third acts were played in one; but the displeasure of the audience began with the rise of the curtain. The temper of Italian audiences is notoriously difficult to gauge, and it is possible that the unfamiliar Japanese surroundings may have aroused the hostility of the conservative Milanese public. At any rate, when the work was performed in a revised and shortened form at Brescia, a few months afterwards, it was received with tumultuous applause, and the brilliant success of its performance, in 1905, at Covent Garden, where it has become a perennial favourite, completely effaced the memories of an unlucky start."

The addition of the work to the ever-increasing répertoire of operas in English was a wise stroke of policy on the part of Mr. Charles Manners, and at the production on Friday, the 16th, a house crowded in every part completely justified the impresario's enterprise by a reception both hearty and enthusiastic. The opera was beautifully mounted, the scenery being exquisite, and the representation generally shed lustre on the company. Miss Fanny Moody has shown us in her Marguerite what command she has of intense pathos, and her Cho-Cho-San, always interesting and sweetly tender, sounded a depth of tragedy in the final scene that was moving and heart-searching. A triumph, indeed, for this gifted lady, and one that must be intensely gratifying to the lovers of English lyric art. Pinkerton does not appear to be quite so mean a hero in the opera as in the play; and Mr. Joseph O'Mara made him the irresponsible, careless officer that is intended. The music of the part is very grateful, especially the impassioned love duet of the first act, and here Miss Fanny Moody and Mr. O'Mara shared a brilliant success, both singing finely. Mr. Lewys James, whose versatility and readiness make him an exceedingly valuable member of the company, was seen and heard to advantage as Sharpless, the American Consul. Miss Toni Seiter is invariably "safe" in any character given to her; but her rendering of Suzuki, poor Cho-Cho-San's faithful maid, reached beyond the confines of conventionality in its power and pathos. Goro, the marriage broker, who is brought on in a palanquin, found an intelligent representative in Mr. W. Bailey; Master Edward Garrett, who played the part of the child at Covent Garden, repeats his success at the Lyric; Miss B. Weir lends adequate service as Kate Pinkerton; Mr. F. Rowe is a characteristic Prince Yamadori; and effective aid is given in other parts by Messrs. W. Anderson, E. Renshaw, R. Carter, J. Mawdesley, Misses M. Scotson, Brown, and M. Dennis. Prior to the production, Puccini was specially approached on the subject of *tempi*, and his ideas have been faithfully carried out by Signor Romualdo Sapio, who conducted the performance so admirably.

"A GIRL REDEEMED FROM SIN."

A Drama, in Four Acts and a Prologue, by David Muskerry, produced at the Theatre Royal, Aston, on Monday, Aug. 19.

CHARACTERS IN THE PROLOGUE.

Robert Denham	MR. WALLE SPINNER
Will May	MR. JOE MONKHOUSE
Jim Jakes	MR. HARRY C. MOMBER
Samuel Lee	MR. WILLIAM A. PARKES
Nancy Lee	MISS OLIVE FULTON
Mrs. Lee	MISS NELLIE WADDINGTON
Peggy Grey	MISS ADA OXLEY

CHARACTERS IN THE PLAY.

Lord Denham	MR. WALLE SPINNER
Ernest Sylveston	MR. WILLIAM BURGESS
Will May	MR. JOE MONKHOUSE
Jim Jakes	MR. HARRY C. MOMBER
Samuel Lee	MR. WILLIAM A. PARKES
Rundle	MR. M. PARTRIDGE
P.-C. Mullens	MR. J. HART
Rev. Arthur Quex	MR. HERBERT RAYNE
Prison Governor	MR. JOSEPH TURPIN
The Hangman	MR. A. LAWRENCE
Inspector Gorley	MR. ARTHUR GREY
Hon. Bertie Boys	MR. G. M. BENSON
Eric Pelley	MR. HENRY R. MERRILL
Jecks	MR. NOLAN BIRD
Warder Jones	MR. WALTER COYNE
Nancy Lee	MISS OLIVE FULTON
Mrs. Lee	MISS NELLIE WADDINGTON
Wardress	MISS GRACE LEE
Mrs. Mac	MISS GERTIE PAWLE
Peggy Grey	MISS ADA OXLEY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This new and exciting drama, which was produced on Monday before a crowded and critical audience, was generally allowed to be a distinct "cut above" average melodrama. Mr. David Muskerry, in framing his work, has risen superior to mere sensationalism. All his situations are cleverly led up to and justified in the sequel, and the subject cannot fail to appeal to popular audiences. Produced after a week's trial at Longton, the play went smoothly, being devoid of all those rough edges and redundances incidental to a first performance.

The story is that of Nancy Lee, a mill girl, who has strayed from the paths of rectitude at the suit of Robert Denham, heir to the present Lord Denham. Fearful of offending the lord and thus injuring his own prospects, Robert cajoles the girl into temporary quiescence; but the secret becoming known to her family, she leaves her home, and lives under her lover's protection, trusting to him to make an "honest woman" of her in his own good time. Lord Denham having been gathered to his fathers, Robert succeeds to the title, and Nancy begins to press for reparation—that is, marriage—which the new lord, however, delays. Nancy, in despair at her dishonour, threatens his life. The malignant influence of Ernest Sylveston, Robert's cousin, and heir-presumptive, is now at work. Hoping by the removal of the one and the death of the other (his cousin) to succeed to the barony, Sylveston insidiously instils the poison of jealousy into the mind of the weak-minded Robert. In this scheme he is aided by circumstances which, though they bear the look of guilt, are in themselves purely innocent. Will May, a former sweetheart of the girl, has, by his mate, the irrepressible Jim Jakes, sent her a handkerchief in token of his continued loyalty and friendship. This incident the rascally Sylveston, like another Iago, turns against Nancy, and Robert, spurred on by Sylveston's lies, refuses to marry her or to have anything whatsoever to do with her. The woman, rendered desperate, stabs her betrayer, and flies from the scene.

Sylveston, who has been an unseen witness to all, is now rejoicing in the removal of his obstacles, when, to his chagrin, he finds that his cousin still lives, though wounded sorely. But there is the incriminating handkerchief, which he turns to yet further account by throttling the peer with it. Will May, who has just arrived, is seized for the crime. Nancy, however, confesses, to save Will (whose good qualities begin to draw her hitherto diverted love), although now she knows she did not "finish" her paramour. She is sentenced to death; and next we have a thrilling scene recalling the Babbicombe horrors, albeit toned down to a vision dreamt by Will May. Three fruitless efforts are made to hang the hapless woman, and she is at length put back into prison for life. The villain sets to work anew to divert suspicion from himself, and resumes his former persecution of Will May. Playing on Nancy's feelings by means of a mutilated letter of Will's, he causes her indirectly to set the law on her faithful lover's track. Numberless escapes are made by the hero, and the villain Sylveston suffers much discomfiture thereby. Nancy, who secures her liberty, swears a sort of vendetta against mankind, and, becoming a leader of the demi-monde, lures men to destruction out of sheer devilry. But Will, with proofs of his guiltlessness and protestations of his love, seeks her out, and in a moving scene strives to rouse her from her profligacy. He is, however, disturbed by the police, who are still on his track, but he manages to evade them. Sylveston's troubles are now thick upon him, and Nancy happening on him, draws a complete confession of his crimes, and he, being arrested, pays the penalty. Everybody else becomes deliriously happy. Will May's love and generosity are rewarded by his union with Nancy Lee, who is also happy again in the love of her parents. Thus is "a girl redeemed from sin."

Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's company leave nothing undone to make the success perfect. Miss Olive Fulton is entitled to full praise for her clever delineation of the erstwhile mill girl, Nancy Lee. Her quiet moments revealed much art, while in the full force of her passion as the outraged, disappointed woman she rose to great heights, and quite electrified the audience. Mr. Joe Monkhouse as Will May, the hero, bore himself with excellent dignity and manliness, the nobility and faith of the true lover being fully realised. Mr. William Burgess wrought a great amount of excitement with his finely-acted deeds of villainy as Ernest Sylveston, and never resorted to any but the best means to gain success. Mr. Walle Spinner was very successful in portraying the vacillating lover, Robert, later Lord Denham; Mr. William A. Parkes acted with much impressiveness and no little pathos as the broken-down old man, Samuel Lee; Miss Nelly Waddington was very good and successful as the faithful wife, Mrs. Lee; Miss Gertie Pawle as a landlady with alcoholic tastes (Mrs. Mac) proved a clever character actress; Mr. G. M. Benson supplied an amusing study of the dude, the Hon. Bertie Boys; and the comic relief generally was provided by Mr. Harry C. Momber, who was the life and soul of the piece as the irrepressible Jakes; and Miss Ada Oxley, who, as Peggy Grey showed comedy gifts of a most promising order, making one of the successes of the production. Other parts were successfully played by Mr. M. Partridge as Rundle, Mr. Herbert Rayne as the Rev. Arthur Quex; and Mr. Joseph Turpin as the prison governor.

AT the Royal Theatre, Tonypandy, Mr. Samuel James's company is this week appearing in *Saved from the Sea*. Mr. David G. Noble submits a fine piece of acting as Dan Ellington; Jim Weaver is well portrayed by Mr. Geo. Wallace; Mr. Frank Litchfield as Peter Scalcher and Mr. C. R. Percy as Richard Fenton are well placed; Mr. Will Skelton and Mr. Geo. Ashley as Billy Snooks and Jenkins are the cause of considerable fun; and are supported by Miss Elsie Walton as Polly Blake. Miss Marie Auckland acts in sympathetic style as Nancy Ellington.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY Aug. 22.—A couple of weeks ago, apropos of *Le Mariage d'Agnès*, we gave here some interesting reminiscences of M. Bergerat, at the time of the Franco-Prussian war. To-day it is M. Frédéric Febvre, the great actor, during thirty years a member of the Comédie-Française, who relates his souvenirs of the days when the house of Molière was turned into an infirmary. M. Febvre, Coquelin, in fact all the actors of the house, were then fighting for their country. Morning and afternoon they were on the ramparts of the besieged city, and in the evening they interpreted their rôles. Artists and public soon became accustomed to that state of things. One night, as the curtain rose on the fourth act of *Mademoiselle de Belle-Isle*, a formidable explosion was heard, and people looked at one another. "It's only a German shell!" somebody called out in a loud voice; "and it has not fallen on the house!" The announcement was received with laughter, and the performance continued. But before going home every artist made it a point to pay a visit to a captain, who was lying dangerously wounded in the long foyer of the Comédie-Française. Mme. Madeleine Brohan, the famous actress, was his chief nurse, and, although she also busied herself with the other patients, the "captain" was her favourite. He really was everybody's favourite, on account of his pluck and cheerfulness. There were also Sisters of Mercy to tend the wounded, and M. Febvre tells us that when, in between two acts, some of the actresses came to pay a visit to their sick in—as it often happened—a rather decolleté dress, the sisters stared very hard and sighed. But this sigh was not a manifestation of pruderie. Far from it. "How beautiful they are!" they would whisper to one another; "but how those ladies must suffer from cold!" Madeleine Brohan was much chaffed with her "captain." But the epilogue of the affair was even funnier than could be foreseen. The captain having to undergo a painful operation, the doctor wanted to administer chloroform, but the old warrior would not hear of it. "Let me smoke my pipe," he said; "and I promise to keep quiet." He smoked his pipe and kept quiet, but he became very weak and restless. Madeleine Brohan, however, came to the rescue. She told him anecdotes, and chose them as "peppery" as possible to keep him amused. After a while he was able to leave the hospital, and wished Mlle. Brohan good-bye. In a voice husky with emotion, he said: "My dear lady, I don't know how to thank you for all your kindness, which I shall never forget. Alas, I am not rich. But what I value most is my pipe. Will you do me the honour to accept it as a souvenir?" When Mlle. Brohan returned to her dressing-room her eyes were filled with tears. But the poor captain's pipe was placed on the mantelpiece in her drawing-room, where it remained till her death. Many of us remember having seen it there, but few knew its history.

ON the 15th of next month the Vaudeville will start the rehearsals of *Patachon*, the new piece by MM. Hennequin and Duquesnel, wherein Mlle. Marthe Regnier will play a very important part.

I UNDERSTAND there is a movement in England to induce the State to subvention one or two theatres, like it is done in the principal Continental cities. The pros and cons have been so often discussed that it is not necessary to point out the advantages or the error of such a proceeding. But it may be interesting to state the sums granted by the different Governments. The Royal Opera in Berlin heads the list with £45,000; next comes Paris with £32,000; then the Vienna and Dresden Opera each with £24,000, Carlsruhe with £15,000, and Munich and Darmstadt each with £12,500. It should, however, be remarked that, as regards the Vienna Opera, if there is a deficit at the end of the year the Emperor makes up for it out of his private purse. One of the objections raised against a State subvention is that a theatre receiving it loses its independence, and that it opens the door to an ugly system of favouritism for the benefit of those enjoying the protection of a member of the Government.

DURING the summer months, when the playhouses are closed and no novelties are produced, we in the theatrical world have no other resource than to glance back, and busy ourselves with queer events that happened long ago. Thus, the name of Mlle. Alphonsine, brought up incidentally the other day, has evoked some strange reminiscences. Visitors to Paris know the Boulevard du Temple. But how many are aware that for a quarter of a century it was called "The Boulevard of Crime"? Was it because so many murders and burglaries were committed there? Not a bit of it. The witty Parisian christened it so because the playhouses in that popular thoroughfare had only one speciality: the melodrama, with at least two murders. But there were a few exceptions. Thus, the little house Le Petit-Lazari had nobler aspirations, and produced comedies. The manager, a shrewd man, had a wonderful gift of detecting "new talent," and his house—every trace of which has now disappeared—has proved the steppingstone to fortune to many men and women in the profession. Among them was Mlle. Alphonsine, who in later years made a great name for herself at the Variétés. But when Mlle. Alphonsine made her début at the Petit-Lazari she was young and giddy, and between her and her manager there was constant feud about salary. For, alas! the pay, even that of the leading members of the company, was ridiculously small. Ernest Blum, the veteran vaudeville writer, tells us that one night, happening to pass the establishment, he saw the manager and two other officials run excitedly to a fashionable restaurant on the opposite side of the road. After a while they reappeared, and, the manager gesticulating wildly, called out: "She refuses to come. She has to appear in two pieces, and I shall fine her forty shillings—the highest fine ever inflicted in my establishment. And the public shall know all about it." Then, scratching his head, he added: "I can understand that Alphonsine prefers to remain with her friends and enjoy a fine menu; but we must maintain discipline." The following night, when Alphonsine made her appearance before the public she was received with catcalls. But Alphonsine did not lose her presence of mind. She walked up to the footlights and, making a speaking-tube of her two hands, said in a loud whisper: "If you only knew what a splendid dinner I had last night!" Roars of laughter followed, mingled with cries of "Why did you not invite us?" She had won the battle. But I cannot find any trace as to whether the lady paid the "record fine." Probably she did not. It would have been unlike Alphonsine.

AT the Grand Pavilion, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, *Mrs. Dane's Defence* was capitally performed on Monday. Mrs. Walter Maclean as Sir Daniel Carteret acted to perfection; the character of Mrs. Dane was faithfully represented by Miss Claire Hamilton; Mr. H. Montague Love as Lionel Carteret was quite a success; Miss Muriel Godfrey Turner as Lady Eastney was charming; and Mr. David James as Canon Bonsey was much appreciated.

AT the Alhambra Theatre, Stourbridge, Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company are appearing with *Home, Sweet Home*. Miss Leila Zillwood as Joan is winsome; Little Dolly Turner gains the sympathy of her audience in the part of Dora; Mr. Arthur Hinton played the manly part of Stephen Armitage in a characteristic manner; and Mr. Travis Green undertook with distinction the heavy rôle of Lucas Lyle.

JOHN COLEMAN AND MACREADY

It is scarcely possible, says Mr. John Coleman in "Fifty Years of an Actor's Life," to convey even the approximation of an idea of what we, the youth of that day, gained by being brought into contact with Macready at rehearsal: He poured forth treasures of knowledge in reckless, never-ending profusion. Our only difficulty in following his directions was that sometimes they were given *sotto voce* and in a growl. In rehearsing the last scene of *Werner*, he said to me, "Sir, will you be good enough to—err—to do me the favour when I say—err—err—to stand—err—err—and don't move hand or foot till I lift my—err—err—— You understand?"

"Not quite, sir."

"Good God! Am I not speaking the English language?"

"I presume so, sir; but as it is my misfortune—not to clearly understand, if you will kindly tell me intelligibly where I am to stand when you say, 'err—err'—I won't move hand or foot till you lift your—err—err——"

He looked at me dubiously, and even angrily, for a moment, then repeated the direction with clearness and precision.

Apropos of the remarkable vocal eccentricitics to which these refer, Mr. Murdoch, the eminent American actor (whom I remember with pleasure to have seen act young Mirabel in *The Inconstant*, at the Haymarket), in his interesting book, "The Stage," accounts for them by a very ingenious hypothesis. He says:—

"The ordinary current of Macready's articulation was marked by a certain catching of the breath preceding the utterance of the initial syllable of certain words. A sudden catch of the glottis, which caused a short cough-like sound to be heard previous to the articulative movement of the voice, was a distinctly marked characteristic of the elder Kean's utterance. This peculiar organic act is the result of a dropping of the jaw and consequent depression of the larynx; it gives strength to the muscles which are called into play, and controls the organs of vocality, thus enabling the speaker to execute the vowel sound from what may be called the carduous parts of the mouth—that space which includes the roots of the tongue, the glottis, and pharynx. This power, when joined to the guttural murmur or deeply-aspirated quality of the voice, is a strong element of expressive force in the suppressive utterance of passionate language in the drama. . . .

"In his youth Macready possessed a voice of great clearness, compass, and beauty. His performances, however, lacked the so-termed originality of effect which brings an audience to their feet and makes them hoarse with approving plaudits. Disappointed in his hopes, and comparing his acting with that of other tragedians who were more successful, he accepted in due time the idea so prevalent that what is popular must be perfect. He therefore remodelled his style by degrees, though, it may be, without intending imitation, and acquired some of the peculiarly expressive traits of certain distinguished performers then masters of the situation in London.

"In consequence of this change of base, his acting became more theatrical or stagey. His fervour and impulse were not in the least abated, and were still influenced by taste and good judgment, which it was not in his nature to lose sight of; but his effects were produced more in conformity with the fashion of the times, and were at last pronounced brilliant manifestations of artistic skill. Thus he established a reputation of increased pecuniary worth, and finally became the embodiment of what was ultimately termed the highest development of genius."

If Murdoch's theory be, as it seems to be, correct, it is a lamentable conclusion to arrive at. It appears to be certain that Macready's "voice lost its clear ring and other attractive qualities of tone, and became harsh, and was at times repulsive; this, in addition to his strongly-marked peculiarities of speech, became as much the nature of the actor as if it had been born with him."

When Macready condescended to be colloquial, he was most gracious and fascinating. I recall with pleasure an occasion when he confided to me how he came to improvise a sublime "gag" in the last scene of the gloomy play of *Werner*. He acted the part for the first time in the Bristol theatre. In the last scene, carried away by the excitement of the moment, he rushed down to Charles Kemble Mason, who played Gabor, and demanded, "Are you a father?" Then he growled *sotto voce*, "Say 'No.'" Whereupon Gabor shouted, "No!" while in a burst of paternal emotion Werner rejoined:

"Then you cannot feel for misery like mine!" and the pit "rose at him."

It was under exactly similar circumstances that he introduced the famous line:

"Oh, for one hour of youth!"

in the fourth act of *Richelieu*. Apropos of which, of all his performances I venture to think this was the greatest and most perfect creation. I had seen Forrest before him; I have seen all the great actors since; I have myself enacted the part frequently; but I have never yet seen anyone approach within measurable distance of Macready in this wonderful impersonation. His smile, when Julie de Mauprat sat at his feet, irradiated his grim face with angelic beauty. His "business" with the sword and the pen in two moments took the auditor back two ages: one moment he was the mail-clad warrior smiting "the stalwart Englisher to the waist" at Rochelle; the next, he was the feeble but mighty statesman, wielding a weapon more potent than the two-handed falchion of Charles Martel. The famous "Never-say-fail!" speech thrilled through one like a trumpet-call. His tenderness to his orphan ward contrasted in strong relief with his scornful denunciation of the traitor Baradas, while his love of country dominated over all. In the last scene, when, awaking from his simulated trance, he leaped up, and, dilating to preternatural porportions, exclaimed, "There, at my feet!" he realised a picture once seen never to be forgotten. When, in this situation, he floated down the stage, I protest he always suggested to me the Divine image grown grey and ghastly through the efflux of the ages and once more gliding over the Sea of Galilee!

For subtlety, intellectuality, and vigour his Macbeth has never been approached in our time; and he was the only possible Lear I have ever seen. He galvanised the dull and dreary abortion of Werner into life, while his Virginius—— But words are feeble to describe this matchless creation. In Edinburgh he wore a bald wig, which made him hideous; in Bristol he wore his own beautiful and abundant iron-grey hair curled, and certainly looked superbly handsome. His Lord Townly appeared to me affected, lachrymose, and tedious; but his Henry IV. was of the highest order of excellence. His Othello, which I saw him act in Edinburgh, was to me the least satisfactory and impressive of his Shakespearean performances. I may here remark that he was the only actor I ever saw "make up" for the Moor with an entirely black face—a face, in fact, black as a Christy minstrel. Possibly his comparative failure in Othello may have arisen from the fact that he never liked the part—so, at least, he assured me.

Actors are not always just to each other; but Vandenhoff once said to me, "Except Macbeth and Iago, I never cared for 'Mac' in Shakespeare. But I have acted Richelieu and Virginius hundreds of times; I have seen others—good actors, too—try their hands on them; but in these two parts we are none of us in the same century with him."

MR. N. A. KNOX, the Surrey fast bowler, will study singing under Jean de Reszke in Paris at the close of the cricket season

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The new Willesden Hippodrome is to open in September, and in this building, which marks another departure in suburban enterprise on the part of Mr. Walter Gibbons, will be found a finely-designed structure by Mr. Frank Matcham, whose transformation of the old Royal into the Holborn Empire did so much for an already high reputation. Mr. Percy H. Gallagher, who has been so ably assisting in the acting-management of the Prince's, Poplar, since its change of entertainment, has been appointed manager.

Mdlle. Adeline Genée, after a brief and much-needed holiday, has returned to the Empire to delight the patrons of that beautiful house with the witchery and charm of her impersonation of Dolly, the heroine of *Sir Roger de Coverley*.

About the middle of September the arena of the Hippodrome will echo back the rhythm of the *ranz des vaches* to be heard in the valleys of Switzerland, where Mr. Frank Parker, the ingenious stage-director, has been picking up, at the foot of Mont Blanc, lofty notions for the next production. The incidents will circle round that famous snow-capped peak, the counterfeit of which will rear its head in the flies of the house in Cranbourn-street.

An important engagement at the Hippodrome is that of Signorina Fatima Miris, who was secured in Italy in June by Mr. Fred Trussell, acting as the emissary of Mr. Oswald Stoll. The young lady, who is just over twenty-four years of age, is termed a protean prodigy, and is said to be able to present the whole of the characters in *The Geisha* inside of a very few minutes. The female Fregoli will open in London on Oct. 7.

Mr. Percy Percival, who succeeds Mr. John Christie as resident-manager of the Hackney Empire, has been both a singer and an actor. After singing at St. James's Hall he became an actor, appearing with success at Terry's and the Royalty Theatres, touring also in comic opera and musical comedy. He was for six years associated with the management of the Grand, Wolverhampton, and at one time was in the front of the house at the Adelphi.

The services of Mr. Charles Wilson, the clever producer of ballets, have been secured by Mr. Oswald Stoll, who has long recognised the importance of special productions of scenas and one-act pieces, musical and otherwise. Many manuscripts are sent in to the head offices at Cranbourn-street, and in many of these there are clever ideas shadowing forth possibilities that would only occur to the imagination of a born producer such as Mr. Charles Wilson undoubtedly is. Mr. Wilson's appointment will not in any way affect the position of the popular Mr. Bertie Shelton, producer of *Trilby* for Mr. Beerbohm Tree. Mr. Shelton, who is a personal friend of Mr. Wilson's, will still be the chief consultant in all matters appertaining to the stage.

It was a representative gathering that bade farewell at Euston on Thursday at noon to Mr. and Mrs. Gus Elen and Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Romaine, who were departing for America to fulfil lucrative engagements across the "Pond," and it was an enterprising firm of photographers that obtained a splendid negative of the dense phalanx of well-known hoarsely-cheering men and handkerchief-waving women.

As the train moved off, and the mother of the Misses Marie, Alice, and Rosie Lloyd was pulled into a position of safety, Mr. Elen did the "hat trick" by dexterously catching a new piece of sea tackle brought by an old admirer from Deal, a precious piece of manuscript music from the English musician whose "Waiting at the Church" sent New York crazy, and a bouquet composed of sprigs of London pride grown in Bethnal Green, lavender from Mitcham, and rue, bearing the legend, "That's for remembrance, Gus. The Surrey Side and the East End say, 'Come back soon.'"

It is understood that Madame Katti Lanner will not take part in the production of the new ballet that in the course of time will take the place of *Sir Roger de Coverley*, as she has decided on taking a rest. Born in Vienna in 1831, Katharina Lanner made her début as a dancer at the Court Opera in 1845, being trained as a dancer under the Imperial Court ballet master Campilli. Among those who encouraged the then youthful Katti were Fanny Elssler and Cerito. The débutante afterwards took lessons under Isidore Carey in dancing and pantomime, afterwards sustaining the leading rôle in the ballet *El Toreador*.

She next went to Munich, and later spent four years at Hamburg, where she was appointed mistress of the ballet at the Opera. In 1858 she formed a children's ballet in Hamburg, and gave forty-six performances in Paris with great success. She came to Drury Lane in 1875 as maîtresse de ballet and principal dancer, and established the National Training School of Dancing in 1876, becoming its directress in 1877, when she performed for the last time on the stage

Mme. Lanner must have been inspired with the rhythm of the waltz in her earliest years, for her father, Joseph Franz Karl Lanner, may be considered the founder of our present dance music. He conducted at the Court balls in Vienna, alternately with Strauss, who originally played the viola in his orchestra, and as a mark of distinction was appointed capellmeister of the second Burger-regiment. He died in 1843.

Mme. Lanner has done much for the art which she loves, and of which she was so artistic an exponent, and besides her work as an arranger she has also written several admired ballets. That she maintains a high standard of dancing may best be judged by the excellence of the fine corps de ballet to be found at the Empire. At the advanced age of seventy-six she naturally feels the need of a rest; but let us hope that it will only be temporary, and that her skilled arrangement of scenarios, which have done so much for the Empire productions, will still be available for the directors, who have always set a high value upon her services.

Miss Jean Aylwin is to appear at the Palace Theatre on Monday, Sept. 2. Miss Aylwin recently made a great success with her rendering of Scotch character songs, and it will be as a Scottish comedienne that she will make her first appearance on the variety stage. As Mr. Alfred Lester and Miss Kate Cutler did a little time ago, Miss Aylwin will each evening divide her artistic efforts between the Palace and the Gaiety, where she is playing the part of Minna in *The Girls of Gottenberg*.

Miss Denise Orme (Jessie Smither), whose marriage in April to the Hon. John Yarde-Buller has been made public this week, made her first appearance on the stage of the Alhambra as violinist and vocalist in 1905. Her mother is a professional pianist, and Denise had an excellent musical training at the Royal Academy of Music. She is fulfilling the last week of her engagement at the Palace, where she has been overwhelmed with congratulations.

The Alhambra, Edinburgh, which has been closed for a short vacation, reopens on Sept. 2. The bookings are in the hands of Mr. Ventom Swift.

Mr. Harry D. Blunt, late of Gillespie Brothers (accountants to the Moss' Empires), has been appointed assistant-manager at the New Cross Empire.

Another addition to Sunderland's places of entertainment is promised. Mr. Ralph Pringle contemplates erecting a "picture palace" in the centre of the town, and the site has already been obtained. The seating accommodation, according to the plans which have been prepared, will be on the amphitheatre principle, and the building will be specially adapted for the class of entertainment to be given it.

The Morecambe Tower Buildings and Pleasure Grounds, a valuable freehold property situate in one of the best parts of Morecambe, is for sale by private treaty. The place has a frontage of 315ft. to the Promenade and sea front, and possesses a six-days' provisional licence for nine bars. The land forming the site of the buildings, shops, tower, and gardens, contains an area of 9,432 square yards. For particulars and plans, with cards to view, apply to Mr. S. C. Platts, chartered accountant, York Chambers, Scarborough.

Mr. James Wright, the courteous theatrical traffic agent of the London and North-Western Railway, speaking recently to an interviewer, says that in the year 1902 "we booked at the stations on our system 150 first-class and 6,753 third-class music-hall artist passengers. In 1906 these figures had increased to 630 first-class and 15,481 third-class. The numbers refer only to the members of the Music-hall Artists' Railway Association, who are entitled to a rebate on their fares."

Mr. Alfred Graham may now be numbered among the most enterprising managers in the North-Eastern districts. Besides running the Oxford Palace, Middlesbrough, and the New Hippodrome, Hull, on the twice-nightly plan, and with up-to-date ideas, he is exploiting that popular little comedian, Harry Pleon, in an exciting musical and dramatic episode, *At Large*—a great success—in which is presented a screaming burlesque of the famous drama, *Macaire*, associated in the early years of the nineteenth century with the fame of Frédéric Lemaître. Mr. Pleon as Devil Macaire is a sight for the gods and pit, and incidentally the stalls. Mr. Graham's companies also include the Premier Juveniles, who have been booked for the Barrasford, the Broadhead, and De Frece tours.

Mr. Lechmere Sheldon, son of Mr. Ernest Sheldon, late proprietor of the Palaces, Aberdeen and Dundee, died of typhoid fever at Stalybridge on Sunday morning last, aged 29 years. Mr. Horace Sheldon, his brother, had the body conveyed from Stalybridge to Sunnyside, Kensington Hill, Brislington, Bristol, the residence of his parents, and the funeral took place at Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol, on Tuesday. The deceased was for the last two years conductor at the Hippodrome, Hull, and only recently undertook a similar position for Mr. Jas. Fioni, at Stalybridge.

Dr. Walford Bodie, who has been having a well-deserved two weeks' rest at his beautiful Highland home, The Manor House, Macduff, travelled with his staff from Macduff to Swansea last Saturday. It is one of the longest railway journeys in the British Isles. The party left Macduff on Saturday at 5 p.m., arriving in Swansea at 8.15 on Sunday night. There were thousands assembled at the station to meet the doctor, and he had a right loyal Welsh welcome. Opening at the Albert Hall, under the management of Mr. Coutts, of the Star and Palace Theatres, Dr. Bodie has been playing to packed houses twice nightly.

Dr. Bodie attended the procession on Tuesday from the Guildhall to the Cwmdoukin Park of the Gorsedd, or crowning of the Bards, being the preliminary to the great Eisteddfod now being held in Swansea. He accompanied the Mayor, Corporation, and the Breton delegates. The *Cambria Daily Leader*, reporting the procession, says:—"One of the most striking and picturesque figures in the Gorsedd procession was Dr. Walford Bodie. Being a Scotchman, he wore his Highland tartan, and 'reet weel' he looked."

The interim injunction which was granted in the case of Moss's Empires v. Williams last week in the Vacation Court, by Mr. Justice Pickford, restraining defendant from excavating in such a way as to endanger the safety of plaintiff's premises at Summer Hill-road, Birmingham, expired on Wednesday. Plaintiff applied for its renewal, but was satisfied with an undertaking entered into by defendant not to excavate within 15ft. of the boundary between the two properties. An order was made accordingly.

Mr. J. D. Hunter, entertainment manager of the Hastings Pier Pavilion, takes his twenty-eighth annual benefit thereat on Thursday next.

Mr. Henry Kemble, who so successfully managed the Palace Theatre, Cork, and was the first to make it pay, was compelled to relinquish his position there on account of his successful agency occupying all his time and attention. However, we are pleased to state that many of our popular artists of to-day will see Cork through his agency, as the directors have at all times placed the greatest confidence in his judgment and discretion. Mr. Kemble was none the less sorry to leave Cork, the past three years having been the happiest period of his life.

The New Hippodrome, Peterborough, which is announced to be opened on Sept. 2, has been built by Mr. Sylvester and a syndicate, and will seat upwards of 1,200 people. It will be run on the two-houses-a-night system. Mr. Mason has been appointed resident-manager and Mr. Keyford assistant-manager. Cathedral centres are never promising theatrically, but Mr. Sylvester may be able to work a revolution in the city of the Fens.

The staff of the Cardiff Empire had their annual outing on Sunday, when they journeyed to Llantwit Major in breaks. Luncheon, which was provided at the Swan Hotel, was presided over by Mr. C. H. S. Dring (manager), who submitted the toasts of Mr. Oswald Stoll and Mr. John Christie (the newly-appointed district manager), which were enthusiastically received. During the afternoon an enjoyable time was spent in visits to several places of interest, after which tea was served at the Swan Hotel. Subsequently the return journey to Cardiff was made after a most enjoyable day.

Mr. Allan McAskell, the comedy conjurer, is at present managing the Hippodrome, Spennymoor, for Mr. Leoni Clarke, and takes up a similar position at Temperance Hall, Bolton, on Sept. 2nd, for Mr. Ralph Pringle, of animated picture fame.

Mr. Percy Boucher, the originator of modern dramas being played twice nightly in Liverpool, has opened the Roscommon Music Hall with a well-selected stock company, and has met with immediate success. There is no reason to doubt a continuance of this success, as Mr. Boucher intends every week presenting the best dramas available.

Mr. Manny Warner, of Messrs. Somers and Warner, in reply to the urgent summons of a cablegram, started last week for New York, where he is now arranging business in connection with the establishment of the Klaw and Erlanger Circuit.

Mr. Ted Marks, who has been busy on this side securing artists for the other side, sails to-day for New York, and Mr. Feiber will arrive in London during next week to transact business in connection with the American music hall boom.

The Committee of the Actors' Union have appointed Mr. Frank Gerald, late the secretary of the Variety Artists' Federation, as their delegate at the Trades Union Congress, which opens at Bath on Monday, Sept. 2. The testimonial dinner to Mr. Gerald takes place on Sept. 15—not the 5th, as was stated in a contemporary.

The dinner is to be held at the Criterion Restaurant, and tickets (6s. each) may be had from either the hon. sec., Mr. Geo. Reeves, or the hon. treasurer, Mr. Cecil Raleigh, at 29, Wellington-street, Strand. The chairman has not yet been decided on, but he will be a very prominent music hall favourite. On the committee are Messrs. Will Crooks, M.P., Charles Jesson, William Johnson, Jas. O'Grady, M.P., Frank Smith, of the L.C.C., Ben Tillett, George Chirgwin, George Gray, Dr. Distin Maddick (of the Scala), Charles Coborn, Gus Elen, Bransby Williams, Pat Carey, Leo Dryden, S. Major Jones, and Dr. Stamford Reid. An illuminated address and a cheque will be presented to Mr. Gerald.

Miss Lil Hawthorne met with a rousing reception last week at Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall, the audience not being contented until she had sung four of her latest successes.

Mr. Worland S. Wheeler, the secretary and treasurer of the Paragon, has composed a delightful number, entitled "Grand Schottische de Concert," which is being played this week by the Paragon orchestra, having been arranged for that purpose by the conductor, Mr. Arthur Grimmett. A previous composition of Mr. Wheeler, "The Suspense Symph-funny," also found favour with East End audiences some weeks ago. Mr. Wheeler, by the way, is an ardent politician—"unattached" at present—and his name has appeared under many extremely well-written contributions.

Henri Helme, announced as the Chanteur Basque, has been engaged by the Alhambra management, and will appear on Monday, Sept. 2. This is not the singer's first appearance in England. It is some years since, however, that he made his London début at the Palace.

Mr. Edward John Macdermott, the new manager for Mr. George Dance at Richmond Theatre, has been associated with the stage since his earliest years, and is the eldest son of the late G. H. Macdermott, the singer of the famous "Jingo" song which had such a tremendous vogue in the late 'seventies. Mr. E. J. Macdermott's mother also had a successful career on the halls under the name of Annie Milburn, and his grandfather, Mr. J. H. Milburn, who is still a favourite at variety theatres, is now acting at the Hippodrome.

From his parents young Mr. Macdermott inherited a love of the stage, and at the age of five nightly appeared at Sadler's Wells and the Bedford. He was the baby in *Our Lads in Red*, which had a very good run in those days. Then, when he was fourteen years old, he was cast for the title-rôle in *The Dumb Man of Manchester*, and he also ably filled a comedy part in *The Corsican Brothers*.

The elder Macdermott was at that time proprietor of the Foresters' and managing-director of the South London, and Mr. Macdermott was his father's right-hand man in the numerous sketches produced at those places. He also assisted in Mr. Percy Murray's pieces, and was very successful in the part of Charles Ingot in *David Garrick*. In 1901, on his father's death, Mr. Macdermott temporarily resigned his connection with the stage to be articled to a chartered accountant, in order to obtain a thorough acquaintance with business affairs. He then undertook the management of his father's variety agency, and, finally, in the early part of this year, he joined Mr. George Dance, who appointed him to the County Theatre, Reading. He will fill the managerial position at Richmond at the age of twenty-four.

Mistinguette, a Parisian dancer and singer, who, with Miss Lawler, has scored a success in the Revue at the Moulin Rouge, and whose style is somewhat reminiscent of the entertainment presented some years ago by Anna Held, is coming to the Palace on Monday. Mistinguette's speciality is entitled "Pi-Ouit," and it is expected to be not only sensational, but a great draw. In Paris the artist is popularly known as "La Jolie."

The following letter is from La Milo to Mr. Willie Clarkson:—"The wig was a great success, thanks to your capable and experienced management. In the hands of others less experienced than yourself it might easily have proved a disastrous failure. After a journey of nine miles, covering some six hours, it never lost a crease. It was admired by all. I owe much of my success to it."

Miss Jessie Preston has been scoring heavily during the week at the Hippodrome, Crouch End, occupying the stage for fully thirty minutes nightly with three new songs—"I can't forget Auld Reekie," "Will somebody see me home," and "I love a laddie"—the audience insisting upon numerous encores. Next week Miss Preston will appear at Collins's. All the songs are from the pen of Mr. J. F. Lambe, and Francis and Day are the publishers.

Mr. F. W. Purcell's company commence an autumn tour on Monday with the successful sketch adapted from Arthur Morrison's story in "Tales of Mean Streets," entitled *That Brute Simmons*, by Arthur Morrison and Herbert C. Sargent, which was specially produced by Mr. Purcell for Mr. Oswald Stoll, and at once secured for the entire Moss and Stoll tours.

"The Price of a Hat," a new comedy sketch by Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova, will be produced on Monday under their own management at the Shepherd's Bush Empire. The scene is laid in one of the most modern residential clubs, and the characters include Charles Hammond, to be played by Mr. John Richter; Alice Hammond, in which part will be seen Miss E. Nolan O'Connor; and William Davies (a burglar), to be represented by Mr. Frederick Morland. Miss Ramsey and Mr. de Cordova have done so much dramatic work for the Hippodrome that there should be every chance of success for their new venture.

Mr. Herbert Darnley is about again after a nasty fall some six weeks since from a hammock in his garden. The branch of a tree to which it was attached suddenly snapped, and the genial writer, who is no light weight, suffered a grievous hurt, which, coming so soon after a recent severe illness, would have effectually placed a less vigorous man *hors de combat* for good and all.

Miss Mayme Cannon, after a successful tour, opens in town on Monday at the Canterbury and Paragon, where no doubt her attractive style will be quickly noticed by numerous managers. Youth and beauty must, with talent, tell its tale.

Mr. Hilton Frances will produce at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, a new sketch, entitled *Pawnbroking*. New scenery has been specially painted for the production, and a first-class company engaged. The sketch is fully protected.

Mr. Francis O'Flynn, the accomplished young banjoist whose playing created a sensation recently at the Middlesex, is recording further triumphs. On Monday last he gave a private recital to Mr. Fred Miller at the Canterbury, and was immediately engaged to appear each evening during the current week at the above establishment. Bookings on the Syndicate halls are now being arranged.

Miss Marie Empress, whose charming style and winning manner stamps her as an artist of the first rank, opens on Monday at the Holborn Empire. This will be the last week we shall see this lady on the English boards for a while, as she is sailing for South Africa under engagement to Messrs. Hyman, on Sept. 7.

The regular meeting of the Chelsea Lodge of Freemasons was held at the Town Hall, King's-road, Chelsea, on Friday, 16th inst., the Lodge being opened by Br. Albert Le Fre, who, taking advantage of the luncheon interval during the rehearsals of *The Three Kisses*, motored down in order to perform that duty in the absence of the W.M. Serpentello, whose business at Barrow-in-Furness prevented his attendance, and also that of Br. James W. Mathews, who was journeying from St. Petersburg.

After a notice of motion, which stood in the names of Br. J. W. Mathews and himself, to alter one of the bye-laws, Br. Le Fre vacated the chair in favour of Br. Wolfe S. Lyon, the promoter and Treasurer of the Lodge, who had the pleasure of initiating his second son, Mr. James Simon Lyon, solicitor, into the mysteries and privileges of Ancient Freemasonry, in addition to the following vaudeville artists: Messrs. Joe Robins (of Robins and Collier), Herbert Kisby, and Victor Kelly (of Kelly and Agnes). Before vacating the chair Br. Lyon advanced Brs. Harry Kato, Ted E. Box, and Monte Bayly, and then retired in favour of Br. Arthur Bray, who further advanced Brs. Andie Caine, Ian Colquhoun, and C. H. Burton, giving the Traditional History in a most impressive manner. Before closing the Lodge Br. W. S. Lyon thanked the members of the Genesius Club, viz., Brs. Arthur Bray, F. Louis Schneider (who acted as organist), and T. W. Rumball (who ably filled the office of S.W. when Br. Henry Coutts was compelled to leave), for their kindness in attending and rendering assistance.

The members present were Brothers Albert Le Fre, I.P.M., Harry Coutts, S.W., W. H. Hitch, J.W., W. B. Wolfe S. Lyon, Treasurer, C. J. Doughty, Secretary, Harry Bawn, S.D., G. H. Dyball, acting J.D., Douglas White, acting I.G., and L. S. Sharpe, Leo Tell, Fred Neiman, W. Doust, Harry Kato, R. E. Wilding, Dan Lipton, Monte Bayly, C. H. Burton, Eric Farr, Ted E. Box, Fred Keeton, Ian Colquhoun, Andie Caine, G. H. Hill, Frank Hardie, Geo. Graham, and Ernie Chester.

There was a large and influential attendance of visitors, including Brs. C. C. Cruikshanks, P.A.G., Standard Bearer, S. Meech, P.P.G.P., Arthur W. Bray, L. Schnieder, J. D. Burnett, and T. W. Rumball, S. R. Baker, H. W. Williams, N. S. Lyon, A. Hullamore, A. E. E. Von Hopen, J. Hunt, and A. L. Culler, the latter hailing from Mexico. Subsequently the Brethren adjourned for refreshments, at which the abridged toasts, for which this lodge is noted, were proposed and replied to by W. B. C. C. Cruikshanks in his usual characteristic manner, and Brs. Arthur W. Bray, James S. Lyon, H. G. Kisbey, and Victor Kelly. Before the assembly parted an impromptu entertainment was given by Brs. Ian Colquhoun, Andie Caine, and the Tally Ho Trio.

Swan and Vesta, in a new show, have been "spotted" by Will Oliver, and they will no doubt have the usual luck that follows his selections.

The Simms have stood the test of Stoll's Empires, and have been secured for a long term. They go to Mr. J. Elliston for pantomime.

The employees of the Pavilion, Glasgow, held their second annual picnic on Sunday last. The success of the excursion last year suggested a more extended tour this time, and the "bonnie, bonnie banks of Loch Lomond" were again the destination. Starting from the Pavilion at 7.30 a.m., the party, seventy in number, drove in brakes to Balloch, which was reached about ten o'clock. They then embarked on steam launches for the trip on the loch, and had a splendid view of the impressive Highland scenery during the sail to Tarbet.

On reaching there the party was joined by Mr. Samuel Lloyd, the general-manager of the Pavilion, Mme. Lloyd, Mr. Howard W. Galpin, conductor, and Ex-Bailie Connell, who had motored from Glasgow. Lunch was served at 12.30, and appreciated with the keen appetites given by an early start and an exhilarating atmosphere. After lunch it was intended that the trip should be continued to the head of Loch Lomond, but as a "Scotch mist" of a particularly aggressive type was descending over the locality, this part of the programme was modified, and the time spent in the vicinity of the hotel. After tea the company again embarked for the sail down the loch to Balloch, which was reached at nine p.m. Unfortunately, the rain increased, but it takes a good deal to damp the enthusiasm of a music-hall staff when on their annual beano, and despite the weather fun and good humour prevailed until the finish of the trip, Glasgow being reached a few minutes after midnight.

"The Fatal Letter," written by Brien McCullough will shortly be produced in town by Fred Southern, who holds the sole rights. McCullough has also written a sketch for Arnold Bell, and John Lawson is looking over one. So Mac's pen is pretty busy just now.

Edgar Bateman has concealed himself for a fortnight in a small boat with two sea rods "where the ocean meets the sky" near Brighton, after vainly endeavouring to ascertain from the Admiralty for how much per hour he could hire the "Dreadnought" as a tender to hold his prospective "catches." Even now it is said that Ananias is preparing to turn over and lie on his other side.

Mr. J. T. Taylor, late carpenter for Miss Annie Bell's *Sapho* company, has been appointed stage-manager to the Hippodrome, Oldham, and he commenced his duties on Monday.

The latest quotations for music-hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 29s.; Canterbury, ½; Empire, 15s. paid, 1⅛, 10s. paid, 1½; London Pavilion ordinary 4½, pref. 5; London Coliseum, 1-16; Metropolitan, ½; Moss Empire 4½, 5 per cent. pref. 3⅞; Oxford, 6⅜; Palace, 15s.; Tivoli, 5⅛; Variety Consolidated Theatres, 14s.

Many of our readers will have pleasant recollections of the turn of Messrs. Goggin and Davis, comedy acrobats, who made their first appearance and an immediate success at an Oxford anniversary a few years ago. We learn with regret that Mr. Goggin is lying dangerously ill at his home in Washington.

Miss Alexandra Dagmar has been appearing with great success at the Hippodrome, Belfast, this week. Her songs and stories are keenly enjoyed.

Owing to the thousands of people who were unable to gain admission to Derby Castle, Douglas, I.O.M., during Miss Vesta Tilley's engagement last week, the management arranged for her appearance in the Palace Ballroom—the largest ballroom in the world—and this immense hall has been packed nightly with audiences averaging 10,000, who have stood on the dancing-floor packed like herrings whilst Miss Tilley has sung six and seven songs to a running accompaniment of cheers and applause. Miss Tilley's hold on the public is nothing short of phenomenal, and her popularity increases year by year.

Mr. Fred Willmott, of Liverpool, gave all the managers engaged at the many places of amusement of which he is director of entertainments a treat on Sunday last by taking them in a number of motor-cars for a drive to Llangollen. The party numbered about forty, and the weather was delightful. At four o'clock in the afternoon a most appetising dinner was provided for the merry company, after which several "group" photographs were taken. The party arrived back safely in Liverpool about 9.30 p.m. During an interval in the dinner Mr. Walter (Warrington), on behalf of a number of friends, presented Mr. Willmot with a pair of motor driving gloves and Mrs. Willmot with a pretty motor veil. Speeches were made by Mr. Welsker and Mr. Marks.

There will always be a hearty welcome for such a gifted trio as the Meers, who have been appearing at the Empire during the week in their cleverly devised mixture of fun and funambulism. The comedy-merchant has a broad view of his responsibilities, and has the goodwill of the audience directly he comes on the stage. The feats, too, that he and his partners accomplish bristle with difficulty, but so deftly is everything done that there is absolutely no sense of strain or effort.

Mr. Harrison Brockbank will, in October next, produce a new dramatic and musical sketch, in three scenes, entitled *Robin Hood*, in which thirty artists and chorus are to take part. *The Typhoon*, in which he has been playing, has proved during the last four weeks the biggest success of its kind ever introduced to the Liverpool Olympia, and after it concludes a month's stay at Manchester, where it commences a fortnight hence, Mr. Brockbank will be free to embark on his new venture, which will occupy his time until Christmas, when he goes to Drury Lane pantomime.

At the Avenue Hotel, Whitley Bay, a few evenings since, a large crowd of residents and visitors assembled to witness the presentation to Mr. "Medley" Barrett, of Catlin's Pierrots, of a gold-plated horseshoe decorated with white heather, a solid silver cigarette case, a gold cigar-cutter, a silver bâton, and other articles, tokens of admiration and esteem subscribed for mainly by Newcastle folk who have been entertained by the well-known comedian during the season. At the evening performance by Mr. Catlin's justly celebrated "crowd" on the date in question, the entire souvenir programme was made up of Mr. Barrett's compositions, he himself delighting a huge concourse with his Home-made hunting," "Tommy's Christmas pudding," and the great song he wrote for Mr. Harry Randall, "I'm not a bad sort, am I?"

The Portobello Tower Pavilion is quite up to date, and the company engaged is a very strong one, including that quaint comedian and actor-vocalist, Jimmy Forrest, Tony Freedman (coon vocalist), Tom Packer (comedian), Miss Elaine Cliff (contralto), and a strong picture show.

Mr. Fred Kitchen and Mr. Frank Lister are producing a new sketch at Walham Green on Monday, entitled *The Sundowner*. Their *No. 99* sketch has been rebooked at every hall at which it has been played.

Mr. George Bastow ("Varmer Giles"), who was unable to fulfil his engagement at Drury Lane last Christmas in consequence of lung trouble, and has been undergoing treatment since last November, is now very nearly himself again, and will, it is hoped, resume work in September.

Mrs. Fred Ginnett collected at the Water Rats Up-river Outing on Sunday the sum of £2 1s. for the Music Hall Ladies' Guild. She was also handed 4s. by Wilkie Bard and one of the Brothers Egbert, the proceeds of a game, and a further sum of 6s. by Wilkie Bard and Harry Tate, the result of a guessing competition.

Mr. Walter C. Kelly, who will enter upon the last week of his engagement at the Palace on Monday, is one of the most prolific of story-tellers in the country. Chatting recently, the artist mentioned that the South American nigger is one of those who view marriage and divorce with a happy haphazard which would hardly be commended in this country. On one occasion a nigger drifted into the Judge's Court in Warwick County, and asked the Judge to marry him that day, incidentally mentioning that as times were hard he was "skinned out," but that he had a good string of fish he would exchange for the ceremony. The Judge agreed to the barter, and the marriage was duly settled. About two weeks afterwards the nigger returned with a forlorn expression, and opened up. "Well, Sam," said the Judge, "howy're doing?" "Sar," replied the nigger, "can you let me have my fish back, and I'll give you that flat-footed coon who is calling herself my wife?"

Mr. Douglas White occupied the chair at the 525th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, held at the offices on Wednesday, when he was supported by Messrs. Charles Coborn, A. Borelli, Charles Gardiner, Harold Finden, Fred Neiman, Jack Collinson, J. Alexander, Fred W. Millis, Lieut. Albini, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). To Mr. Stuart for his summer vacation the Committee made a grant of £10. The weekly statement showed an amount of £37 4s., and thirty-five new members had been enrolled during the week. Mr. A. G. Epps, the Railway Hotel, Maidstone, was appointed agent in that town, and the agency at Gloucester was transferred to the Bull Hotel.

Miss Mabelle F. Barlow, who has been specially engaged by Mr. John F. Preston for the part of the Duchess in *Rogues of the Turf*, to be played on his forthcoming tour with Moss Empires, opens at the Ardwick Empire on Sept. 2. Miss Barlow's greatest success has probably been in the rôle of Lady Godiva in Max Goldberg's play of that name. Miss Barlow was recently presented while on tour with an old Coventry halfpenny bearing the City Arms and the figure of Godiva on the horse.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

LONDON PAVILION.

Something fresh and novel and of the highest quality is always to be found in the programmes presented at the London Pavilion, which is so excellently managed by Mr. Frank Glenister, and from the opening number until the strains of the National Anthem give the signal for departure not a dull moment has to be endured. The latest addition to the bill is the startling turn of the Three Röhrs, sensational cyclists, who, not content with exhibitions of wheeling inside a globe-shaped palisaded track, allow the globe to be turned while one of them, without in any way losing his equilibrium or his nerve, urges on his mad career as coolly as if he were on *terra firma*. This is a very genuine shocker to audiences, who watch with breathless interest while these well-set up young men accomplish their difficult task.

Kartelli, who is not altogether new to London, is a wonder on the slack wire, and it is an interesting study of the triumph of mind over muscle to see him, with one foot on the wire, whirl a hoop on the other, while deftly juggling with a number of plates. Another trick of extraordinary difficulty is presented when Kartelli, balancing a bicycle on the wire, and without for a moment endangering his own equilibrium or that of the machine, squeezes himself through the frame, and regains his position on the saddle.

Early in the bill is to be found that perennial favourite of audiences at the London Pavilion—Mr. Charles Collette, the evergreen. A true disciple of Charles Mathews is this actor, if we have any regard to his alertness or effervescence, his breezy style, his overflowing good spirits, and his wonderful readiness of speech. He is able to exhibit all these qualities in what is termed a "roadside" episode, *Pyjamas*, by H. C. Sargent, whose story concerns the ruse devised by Ethel Fane to escape from a matrimonial alliance arranged by her elders. Miss Joan Derry plays this part with considerable charm. We have also a hilarious time with Mr. Louis A. Simon, Miss Grace Gardner, and company in the successful farce *The New Coachman*, the gentlemen being responsible for some exceedingly funny business with a pair of steps; and Mr. Mark Melford and company, in the farcical sketch, *Only a Wedding*, add to the amusement. Mr. Tom Costello tells the story of "The ten-bob rise" with the admirable humour that enables him to score with a really original song; Mr. Hal Forde sings of the "Girls," and a Gibson and a Sandow girl very attractively clinch his "argumenis" in their favour; the dry quaintness of Dale and O'Malley should not on any account be missed; Tom and Marie Motramo are again welcome; and the same remark applies to the Gotham Comedy Quartette, with the now familiar American mixture of horseplay and harmony. Mr. Edwin Boyde does not give us anything new, and apparently does not require it. Mr. Kit Keen's bone playing and dancing are excellent. He could do with some better patter; Miss José Collins, a pretty daughter of the famous Lottie, sings very daintily and with much chic a song of Spain; Miss May Henderson, the dusky comedy queen, retains all the energy and go that have made her such a favourite here; and Mr. Harry Ford, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, and Nipper Lupino-Lane are also in the bill, which is being ably supervised this week by Mr. W. W. Cobbett, Mr. Frank Glenister's able lieutenant. Mr. Bond Sayers's orchestra keeps up its high reputation.

ROYAL STANDARD.

"Stands Scotland where she did?" There is a fine new act-drop at the famous Pimlico theatre which brings Caledonia into unenviable prominence, inasmuch as it plainly intimates to all and sundry that Scotland is now a dishonoured country. It can be at once admitted that this act-drop is a very pretty specimen of theatrical scenic art, and the painter, Mr. Fredk. Munns, has done his work exceedingly well from the purely technical point of view. But very serious objection can be taken, for Mr. Munns, in his pictorial representation of the Royal Standard, chooses to depict Scotia in disgrace by making the Lion of Scotland face sinister instead of dexter, and omitting entirely the double tressure and the lilies, which are of the utmost significance.

Leaving act-drops and heraldry alone for the moment, and coming to the programme, Mr. Herbert Shelley treats us to a most interesting romance of the period of George IV., in which he himself sustains five characters. The little piece is called *Dan, the Outlaw*, and in it Mr. Shelley appears at one time as a miserly doddering old postmaster, at another as a cheery watchman, the third time as a bellicose and swashbuckling dragoon, the fourth as a spectre, or "Banshee" as it is known in Ireland, and the fifth time as the gay and gallant hero. Such a varied range of characters give Mr. Shelley ample opportunities for his versatility as an actor, and most admirably does he take advantage of them, the production finding great favour with the audience. McKie and McKay are seen and heard in a very entertaining comedy act; Miss Queenie Dell can lay claim to much charm and ability as a comedienne; the Zampas present a particularly laughable comedy act; and Mr. Kit Keene, the coon comedian and dancer, submits a turn which is mirth-provoking from first to last. Mr. Harry Maxam is another merry eccentric, who contrives to be exceedingly comical. His song, "He's only just found it out," greatly tickles the fancy of his hearers. Miss Annie Laurie, appearing in a handsome boy's costume which befits her exceedingly well, tells of her ambitions, or of the ambitions of the person she is supposed to represent. "I'd liko to be a sailor," she sings, and by the enchanting manner she renders the words, one judges that there must be something very alluring in a sailor's life. Her other item goes equally well. Miss Nell Cotter gives a pleasing account of herself as a comedienne, her songs about a "Sunday girl" and "My old man" being loudly applauded. Then there is Mr. Fred Earle, of "Seaweed" fame, who causes one's risible faculties to be put in operation by his quaint interpretations of ditties such as "Tiddley-a." Miss Clorinda Thurtell, the Anglo-Spanish songstress, also furnishes an attractive act, in which she sings and dances in "taking" fashion; and Mr. Percy Hannan, the American baritone, uses an exceptionally fine voice to good purpose in such songs as "The Zuyder Zee" and "Dear little shamrock." Duncan and Godfrey furnish some really exquisite comedy acting in the Coster sketch, *Me and 'Er*, which is considered one of the best features of the programme, and appeals irresistibly to the galleryites. Mr. Jack Collinson and company treat us to a host of absurdities in *The Cook's Guest*, Mr. Collinson's ludicrous burlesque of Nero creating roars of laughter. Some interesting films are projected by the Edisonograph. Mr. Maurice Volny attends, in his usual able and courteous manner, to the comfort of the audience.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

Among the most attractive items of the bill presented to excellent houses by Mr. P. A. Lennon is a sketch rejoicing in the title of *When the Clock Went Wrong; or the Tale of a New-laid Egg*. The trifle, which is ingeniously written by Mr. E. C. Matthews, is largely governed by the "Green-eyed Monster," and chiefly concerns a difference of opinion between husband and wife with regard to the age of an egg. A heated dispute takes place, and the wife leaves the house in a "pet." The husband interrogates an old Irish serving-man as to the whereabouts of his better half, and the Irishman, thinking he is referring to a clock which he has taken to be repaired, and to which he alludes in the feminine gender, gives him a circumstantial account of "her" departure with another man in order to be renovated, going into minute details as to the nature of the operations to be conducted in "her" interior. The confusion thus created may be imagined, and it is worked for all it is worth. The husband is furious, but his consternation is allayed by the return of the young wife, and reconciliation is attained when she announces that she has been to find out if the eggs were really fresh. The effect of the sketch, which is run through to the accompaniment of roars of laughter, is heightened by the natural way in which it is interpreted by the performers. Mr. E. C. Matthews, the veteran comedian, gives a racy rendering of the Irish servant, his humour being rich and spontaneous. As the jealous husband, Mr. Vernon Cowper, whose stalwart figure is peculiarly adapted to the part, works himself up into a state of frenzy that is very ludicrous, and the abortive efforts of the young man to control his feelings while listening to the harrowing account of the catastrophe which he imagines has befallen him are so naturally assumed as to add greatly to the effect of the production. Admirable support is rendered by a young lady whose name is not given on the programme, and the sketch is received with every token of favour.

Artistic contributors to the current bill are found in Diamond and Beatrice, the former of whom enters carrying a harp almost as tall as himself, and dancing in agile fashion to his own accompaniment. The lady then plays a solo in superb style on the clarionet, and afterwards joins her partner with the harp in a duet, which arouses enthusiastic recalls. Miss Hetty King includes in her refined and highly-finished male impersonations that of a sailor, and adds a hornpipe that has so many added graces as to make of it quite a saltatory achievement.

The light fantastic is also agreeably exploited by Miss Ray Maskell, whose high-kicking and fan dance, with which she supplements her song of "I'm so fascinating," carries out the refrain in its entirety, and obtains well-merited approbation. Mlle. Ameda does many wondrous feats of bending and foot equilibrism; and the songs, dances, and eccentricities of Billy McClain's sextette, which includes Madame Cordelia, are quite bewildering in their variety. Vernon's Bioscope has many films of humorous interest, the most diverting being the adventures of the drunken motorist; and the programme is contributed to by the old-renowned Edgar Granville; Mr. Harry Taft, whistling comedian; the De Breans, sciographists and jugglers; and Miss Effie Stuart, Scotch comedienne and dancer.

THE FORESTERS'.

The management of this admirably conducted hall well maintains its reputation for being quite up to date, for this week a special Limerick competition is held, the writer of the best last line of a verse supplied by Mr. Wal Pink with the programme being awarded 10s. Needless to say, the competition is proving a great draw. Mr. Lew Lake and his clever company are giving that mirth-provoking sketch, *Bloomsbury Burglars*, in which Messrs. Lake and Morris are seen to great advantage as Jerry and Nobbler. The finale is as exciting as ever, the tumbling of the policemen and principals from the house tops creating a sensation. Messrs. Edwards and Dacre, a talented couple, in the duologue *What a Life*, combine some clever dancing, comedy, tumbling, singing, &c., much to the admiration of an appreciative audience. Miss Leoni Dixon, a dainty comedienne, sings a pretty little song, "Mamie dear," which concludes with some neat steps, and her second item is a well-executed clog-dance. Miss Jennie Johns, the popular soubrette, gives "In the Isle of Anglesey" and "The Seaside Girl" in capital style, her powerful voice being greatly admired.

The Bros. Adderley supply a good number in *The Officer's Servant*, which consists of some capital singing and specialities, the imitation of a cornet as well as of an automatic piano being decidedly clever. Miss Lilian Lowe, ballad vocalist, renders in fine style "Oh, take my place" and "The song that reached my heart," her excellent voice and distinct articulation gaining for her a round of applause. Jerry and Leo provide a smart ventriloquial act, in which some witty jokes are cracked; while the singing of "Rocked in the cradle of the deep" at the finale is certainly clever. Miss Cissie Sinclair, an attractive descriptive vocalist, has a couple of pretty songs in "Just across the bridge of gold" and "Love me the same as in days gone by," which she sings admirably.

Flockton Foster's Sketch Company, in *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*, is very entertaining. The story deals with the usual troublesome ma and henpecked husband. The son-in-law arrives from America with a wonderful animal freezing invention. His great ambition is to try it on human beings, but he experiences difficulty in obtaining a subject. The ma-in-law is eventually induced to submit herself to the freezing process, being told that it will cure her neuralgia. She, however, overhears the scheme for her extinction, and exchanges the fluid for water. After the preparation has been administered, the lady shams unconsciousness, during which time the father and son indulge in drink and cigars, which have been forbidden them before. After a time the husband thinks he would like his wife back again, so obtains two pails of hot water with the object of "thawing" her, but great is his consternation when he returns to find the subject quite herself again. The piece is highly amusing and well played. The bill is also contributed to by Raymond's Bio-tableaux, an interesting film being that of The Magnetic Man.

THE PALACE, EAST HAM.

Mr. Arthur J. Barclay is presenting here this week a programme that worthily maintains the reputation of this popular place of amusement, the several "turns" being exceptionally good and highly entertaining. Mr. Frederick Maxwell and his company in the sporting episode, *Lord Harkaway*, are received with unstinted applause. Mr. Maxwell depicts the title-rôle with a cheery manliness which quite wins the favour of the audience; Mr. Gerald Blake acts impressively the part of the unfortunate gambler, Richard Deane; and Mr. Charles Levey is eminently successful as Stuart Langdon. The character of Isaacs is made very diverting in the capable hands of Mr. Sam Harcourt; and a painstaking rendering of Grace Deane is given by Miss Louise Biddulph.

One of the prettiest turns seen at the Palace for some time is found in *The Garden of Girls*, submitted by Haley's selected company of juvenile vocalists and dancers. Some excellent statuesque dancing is witnessed, whilst descriptive songs and cake-walking are also to the fore, "Good-bye, dear old Scotland" being especially well applauded. The scenic effects of the production are brilliantly elaborate. Professor R. Dunning provides a very interesting performance of ventriloquialism, interspersed by several good witticisms. A notable feature of his entertainment is the song sung by one of his dolls in a box, the lid of which is continuously opened and shut, the sound of the voice being varied accordingly.

Mr. George Bendon, the white coon, quite catches the favour of the audience with his songs, "Lola" and "I won't be a white coon's slave." Some excellent dancing is provided by Miss Dolly Golden, her step dancing being very clever. The conjuring and second-sight performance of Kahn and Kahn are really wonderful, and prove highly interesting to their audience; and Billy French, the popular dancer, comes in for his usual warm reception. The singing of Miss Ida Brophy is well worthy of mention, the audience showing their hearty appreciation of her songs, "Alice, where art thou going?" and "I wish I were you." The entertainment concludes with some striking animated pictures by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

DR. WALFORD BODIE

AT THE ALBERT HALL, SWANSEA.
MODERN MIRACLES.
EXCITING SCENES.
A TRULY MARVELLOUS PERFORMANCE.

Truly wonderful was the verdict passed upon the hypnotic and magnetic exhibition given by Dr. Walford Bodie at the Albert, Swansea, on Monday evening. Never has anything of the kind been witnessed here like it previously. The whole performance is truly marvellous, and thousands will be attracted to the hall during the week. At the first "house" on Monday, Dr. Bodie operated upon a young man named Brinley Griffiths, twenty-two years of age, who had suffered from paralysis of the left leg, it was stated, since he was a year and four months old. When the subject was brought on the platform by the attendants, his leg, withered and lifeless, was exposed to the audience. It was explained that, with the aid of irons, he could only get along with the greatest difficulty. Ten minutes after his arrival on the platform Griffiths was enabled, after undergoing Dr. Bodie's magnetic treatment, to leave the stage unaided, exclaiming, with much delight, "I can now move my toes, a thing I could never do before." The audience, who were apparently astounded with the effect produced, cheered and applauded in the wildest manner. . . . It is really a marvellous performance, which we have no hesitation in again

[*Photo by Laird, Aberdeen.*

DR. WALFORD BODIE, M.D.

asserting will be attended by thousands this week. Of course, the doctor gives numerous other very remarkable exhibitions, amongst them being incarcerated in a cage with a death-dealing electrical voltage, and he offers anyone £1,000 who will remain in it for half a minute! He is one of the most brilliant of conversationalists, keeping his audience in the best of humour the whole of the time he occupies the platform, and is responsible for peal upon peal of laughter.—*The Cambrian Daily Leader*, Aug. 20.

EXTRAORDINARY CURES AT SWANSEA.
PARALYTICS TREATED AT THE ALBERT HALL.
DR. WALFORD BODIE'S WONDERFUL DISPLAY.

Outside the Albert Hall, Swansea, this week are placed rows of weird-looking objects suggestive largely of an inquisitorial chamber of the Middle Ages. They are the straps and irons of once-paralysed "incurables" who have been successfully treated by Dr. Walford Bodie, and who have discarded their "implements of torture." This remarkable man has been engaged for a week by Mr. William Coutts, and after Monday's extraordinary performance the hall should be provided with elastic walls to hold the multitude in. Dr. Bodie, who is known as the "British Edison" and the "bloodless surgeon," is a personage of striking presence, and his appearance alone suggests the hypnotic expert he claims to be. Mr. Coutts is running two performances nightly, and Monday's attendances augur well for the week.—*The South Wales Daily Post*, Aug. 20.

"A WOMAN OF PARIS."

A Dramatic Sketch by Roy Milton,
Presented at the Middlesex Music Hall
on Monday, Aug. 19.

Vernon Black .....MR. ROY MILTON
Harry Hartley .....MR. D. G. MURRAY
Phédèle Lemoine .....MISS HELENE FOREST

This sketch was first produced at the Tivoli, Manchester, on July 4, and was there received with considerable favour. It certainly met with a good reception at the Middlesex on the evening of our visit. The plot tells of a starving young English student (Harry Hartley) in Paris, who has given way to the evil drug habit. Vernon Black desires to bring about the death of Hartley, in which criminal enterprise he hopes to obtain the assistance of Phédèle Lemoine, his mistress, and a woman apparently dead to all sense of decency and honour. Black, by threatening to disclose the particulars of a murder he alleges against her, compels her to agree to bring about Hartley's destruction. In the subsequent interview she discovers that the latter is her son, whom she had not seen since he was a baby. Her nobler motherly instincts are revived within her; she refuses to carry out the evil designs of Vernon Black, who dies suddenly as the result of heart-strain during an exciting quarrel. Miss Hélene Forest understands the art of the tragedienne, and enacts the rôle of the Woman from Paris with wonderfully realistic dramatic fervour. Mr. Roy Milton is a forceful villain, and Mr. D. G. Murray sustains in able fashion the quieter character of the young student.

THE thirty-third annual open-air fête, held under the auspices of the Shropshire Horticultural Society, took place in the Quarry Grounds, Shrewsbury, on Wednesday and Thursday. Mlle. Ada Marjutti contributed a graceful and accomplished pedestal bending act; the Brothers Webb, musical clowns, were clever and vastly amusing; the famed Prodeanie Family gave a most attractive, smart, and clever cycling turn; the Ergotti and King Louis troupe of acrobats worked hard and received well-merited plaudits; Lanos and Montes, acrobats, fully justified their place on the programme; the spirited and wonderfully agile Mohamed troupe of Souasa Arabs were exceptionally good; the three Decars and their donkey provided plenty of fun; the Brothers Horn gave a very comical boxing act; the Bounding Patterson's bar performance was one of the very best ever witnessed here, though not for the first time at this fête; Zaid Orienta and Hassan gave a very acceptable contortionist and gun drill display act; W. H. Hill on the high rope (with an evening performance amid fireworks) was a popular turn; and the Leo Tardy troupe of flying gymnasts were highly trained and exceedingly skilful.

VESTA TILLEY AT DERBY CASTLE.

CROWDED HOUSES.
HUNDREDS TURNED AWAY.

That Vesta Tilley is the most popular artist on the music-hall stage—or at least one of the most popular—was evidenced by the reception she received last night at Derby Castle. No other artist, and the best of them have been at Douglas, can draw the people like she does, and shortly after nine o'clock the turnstiles were closed, the huge Pavilion and Opera House being crowded. There are many attractions at the Castle, there being dancing from half-past seven, an excellent programme in the variety theatre commencing at eight, but it was Vesta Tilley whom the people had come to hear and see, and so eager were they indeed that half an hour before her turn in the ballroom they commenced to crowd round the stage, and the Lancers, which was the dance immediately before she appeared, could only be danced at the two ends furthest from the stage. The galleries were full, and the pavilion floor was one mass of people. She had a remarkably enthusiastic reception for her first song, and it was several minutes before she could proceed with it. Miss Tilley's first number was a new one, "When the right girl comes along," which promises to become as popular as any of her others. It is tuneful and tricky, and given in a style such as she alone can give it. Vesta Tilley has imitators, but none of them are anything approaching the original. The chorus of the song reads:—

When the right girl comes along,
When the right girl comes along,
Whether she's the girl from Anglesey, gay
Paree, or Zuyder Zee,
When her sweet lips you taste,
And your heart goes pom pom,
It does not want a mother to tell you what
to do
When the right girl comes along.

Not much when read, it must be confessed; but when sang by Vesta Tilley it takes on wonderfully, and the audience soon picked it up and helped in the repeat chorus. "Jolly good luck to the girls who love the soldiers" followed. The song gives opportunity for some capital acting, and another burst of applause followed it. The "Seaside smile" was amusing, and a beautiful bouquet and a handsome basket of flowers were handed on to the stage. The audience were, however, by no means satisfied, and, as an encore, the popular song, "Following in father's footsteps," was given. Still the cry was "more," and, as another encore, "the favourite" of Vesta Tilley's songs, "The Piccadilly Johnny," was given. "Algy" has retained its popularity wonderfully, and a loud burst of applause followed it, and the artist was recalled several times. To sum up, a record house gave a record reception to, in the words of the advertisement, "Everybody's Idol." The management are going to have a grand week at the Castle.—*Isle of Man Daily Times*, Aug. 13, 1907.

THE PALACE.

For the last two seasons the management of The Palace Co. have arranged that Miss Vesta Tilley should appear at Derby Castle; and, the accommodation there not being so great as at The Palace, the consequence has been that many people have been unable to see this lady. This week the management decided to allow Miss Tilley to perform in The Palace. No one ever anticipated that The Palace would be crowded. Last night our representative arrived at The Palace about 7.30. On walking into the pavilion at that hour he was surprised to see the place as crowded as it is about ten o'clock on an ordinary night. On returning to the pavilion about nine-thirty he found the place packed. The gallery in the front, for which there was an extra charge, was evenmore so. The sides of the circle were the same, and the floor, more than halfway across, was also packed, dancing being almost impossible. There must have been near ten thousand persons present, all to see and hear their idol,

MISS VESTA TILLEY.

Miss Tilley is a young lady who has made "man" her special study. The "dandy" is not by any means her particular choice. She is equally at home in any costume that men wear. There are many so-called imitators of Miss Tilley, but there is only one "Tilley." The others are wretched imitations beside her, and they sink into significance. The management had large notices up requesting the audience to remain silent, but when she walked on the stage there was one huge cheer from such a crowd as, I feel sure, Miss Tilley had never faced before. She stood still and smiled, and the cheer died away, and there was a silence. To her it must have been a moment of most perfect happiness to see a crowd of ten thousand waiting and watching for her; and she deserved it. "The idol of two hemispheres" is the way in which the bills describe her; surely "The Tilley of the World" would be better. Her first costume was evening dress, with the latest of overcoats, everything perfect, neat, and refined. She sang "When the Right Girl comes along." Her walk, her actions were those of a boy just learning that he is a man. Time after time the people sang her chorus. In her next song she came up to perform she was a "soldier." It would be folly to attempt to describe it. Her acting as a "Tommy" was superb, splendid, whilst the chorus was sung twice by the audience. Her soldier song should be missed by no one; it is a piece of acting that there is no one able to attempt, much less imitate. Then she sang "Seaside Smile," in a white lounge suit. This song is meant to take the place of her last year's song, the "Seaside Sultan." It is a good song. Then she sang her old song, "Following in Father's Footsteps." She was better than ever in this—young and active, a schoolboy. She had yet to sing one of her first favourites, "Algy." Although this is an old song, the people love it, and it is always asked for. Dressed in a brown frock suit, a fancy vest, and patent leather boots, she was a picture. After this she could sing no more. The audience cheered and wanted more. If they had had their way Miss Tilley would have been there yet. She advanced to the footlights, and, in a few chosen words, she told them how tired she was and asked to be allowed to retire. She thanked them again and again, and although the audience did not like it, they allowed her to go. But when one sees "Tilley" one is not surprised at her success. She is perfection, and she does draw. To attract ten thousand is something to be proud of, and no one but Miss Tilley could do it.—*Isle of Man Daily Times*, Aug. 20, 1907.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE were present on Tuesday afternoon last at Murray King and Clark's "Dutch Dolls" Concert party, in the Devonshire Park Gardens, Eastbourne.

MR. EDITOR.—SIR,—In your report of Chappell's Concerts, Great Yarmouth, in last Saturday's *Era*, you mention us as Clgo and Rochelle; it should have been—Yours faithfully, CLYO AND ROCHELLE, Chappell's Concerts, Great Yarmouth, second season.

AT Wolverhampton recently Edward Harris, of Great Brickkiln-street, in that town, was charged with having in his possession for sale seventy-two copies of pirated music. The evidence showed that he was apprehended with the pirated music in his possession when leaving a railway station. The defendant was convicted of a similar offence last November, and he was now fined £5, or one month's hard labour. The Bench acceded to a request for the music to be sent to the Music Publishers' Association with the wrappers, in order that the sender might be traced.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

YET another song, the sterling merit of the words of which has been enhanced by Herman R. Darewski, jun.'s fecund gift of melody, has been accepted for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day. It is entitled "It was only in fun that we met, little one," the words being by R. P. Westbarr.

AT noontide and in the glory of early morn all the world and his wife at Brighton have talked of little else during the current week but the "Twi-twi-light." Mr. George Lashwood, who opened at the Alhambra there on Monday last, after an enjoyable holiday on the Continent, has never had a great winner than the coming rage of the pantomimes, a "winner" written by Charles Wilmott, the writer whom Rider Haggard would probably name "The Man-who-Knows-How." Mr. Wilmott has been splendidly aided and abetted by H. E. Darewski, jun., whose flowing cadences everywhere with the "man in the street" are as "familiar in the mouth as household bread," as Mrs. Malaprop would say.

MISS MINNIE MACK, a charming young artist who is forging ahead, and who will be seen—and heard of—in a great London "annual" this coming Christmas, will shortly essay, it is probable, a coon song by the composer of "In the Valleys of Switzerland."

MANY of Mr. David Day's staff are holiday making just now. It is popularly believed, and is true, that Mr. Lester Barrett, of the cheery smile and the imperturbable temper, has gone to see if the glorious Roses of Lancaster still rear their proud heads on his native heath; that Mr. Fred Leigh is hob-nobbing with "the men who never turn back" at Caister; and that Leonard Bellamy, to whom Paul Cinquevalli is as a helpless infant when it comes to balancing accounts, is weighing up the beauties of Weymouth.

SARGA'S song, "Home, how it thrills!" which was sung at his concert at Queen's Hall by Mme. Ada Crossley with such great success, was played last Sunday at Hyde Park by the magnificent band of H.M. Irish Guards, and received a spontaneous encore. It will be also played by this band at Southend and Bournemouth during next week, and on Sept. 3 at Earl's Court Exhibition.

PANTOMIME producers with a view to songs capable of picturesque settings have long had an eye on Messrs. Francis and Day's "Pansy," and Miss Isabel Dillon's delightful rendering of the number at the South London during the week has clinched what the finale shall be of many a gorgeous scene next Boxing Night.

MR. CHARLES KAY'S successful song, "A Muddled Melody," written and composed by himself, has just been purchased by B. Feldmann and Co., 3 and 4, Arthur Street, Oxford Street, W. It has been a big success everywhere in London and on the Stoll tour.

MESSRS. PRICE AND REYNOLDS have recently purchased a song entitled "I don't think it would be possible to find a nicer little girl than you." The words are by A. E. Sidney Davis, author of "Au Revoir, My Little Hyacinth," and the melody by John Neat. Mr. Walter Reynolds anticipates this being one of the big principal boy and girl songs of the year, as it is suitable for solo or duet.

GEORGE LASHWOOD, who has had a holiday, returned on Monday to the Brighton Alhambra, where he was accorded a very enthusiastic reception. His new song, "Oh! the Merry Widow," caught on at once, the bright rhythm, catchy chorus, and witty dialogue keeping the large audience on the "qui vive" from start to finish. The modern Beau Brummel has scored another great success. Pantomime-singing comedians should secure this number early from the Star Music Co.

HOWARD HARTMAN has written four Japanese numbers, "The Nightingale," "Simple John Chinaman," "Fantanee," and "Mimosa San," which are being featured by Miss May Clifton and company at the Middlesex next week. Mr. Hartman is appearing as "Simple John Chinaman."

A CONTINUED and steady increase in the popularity—and sales—of Mills and Scott's "Sailing in my Balloon" is reported from the New York branch of Messrs. Francis and Day, who, as is well known, are the American agents of the Star Music Publishing Co. and other British firms of repute.

A NEW number of a "dame" nature, from the pen of Mr. Harry Lauder, entitled "He was very, very kind to me," which will be sung by the eminent comedian, has been secured by Mr. David Day's firm, in addition to "Rob Roy McIntosh," which has already been placed on the market by the same house.

T. W. CONNOR has disposed of to Messrs. Francis and Day two songs of which great things are expected—to wit, "He was One of the Boys," sung by Miss Carlotta Levey, and "It's a Poor Heart that never Rejoices," sung by Miss Maud Mortimer.

ONE of the daintiest artists with a distinctive style of her own opens at the Palace on Monday in the person of Miss Eileen Douglas. The lady is fortunate in possessing new numbers by Fred Leigh and Henry E. Pether, notably one entitled "The Musical Comedy Girl."

MR. HERBERT RULE has been causing the heartiest laughter from the vast audiences at the Holborn Empire during the current week with the comic song from his own pen entitled "I've been a Lodger Myself."

THE countless pedestrians in Charing Cross-road, few, if any, of whom ever pass by Messrs. Francis and Day's attractive windows without stopping to gaze therein, have during the past few days been tempted to yet further linger to admire the magnificent specimen of the limner's art on vellum now on view, a permanent record, signed by the principals of certain music-publishing firms of Great Britain, designed to express their appreciation of yeoman service done by Mr. F. H. Pedgrift in the matter of suppression of music piracy. The vellum, which is illuminated with a cunning which recalls the gorgeous ancient missals in the Bodleian Library, has been executed by Mr. Harry Leighton, the well-known song-writer.

A MATCH between the Terriers and George Gray's *V.C.*, company was played at Freeman's Grounds, Champion Hill, on Wednesday. The Terriers, who won the toss, took first innings, and some fine cricket was witnessed. The jolly dogs were represented by Capt. Ben. Woodger, Tony Pearson (who made top score with bat, and took eight wickets), W. Watson, T. Martin, Frank Hurst, W. Norris, Langley, A. Sheers, J. Young, sen., A. Charles, and A. Chapman. For George Gray's *V.C.* Company, Capt. E. Beecher, R. M. Taylor (top scorer, with many boundary hits), Harry Softly, R. Purdie, Will Bayley, T. Hughes, A. Eagle, Onley, Grainger, Harold, and Gough. The scores were: Terriers, 166; George Gray's *V.C.* Company, 131. The return match will be played at the same grounds on Wednesday, Sept. 4.

"THE MAJOR'S MIDDY."

A New and Original Musical Comedy-Sketch, by George D. Fox, produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, Aug. 22.

Fred Harrington .....Mr. C. Le Brun
Augustus Hincks .....Mr. E. Millins
Colonel Marler .....Mr. F. Thatcher
Major Mathison .....Mr. H. Morton
Phœby .....Miss Zeta Murduch
Gladys Maitland .....Miss Lizette Kitchen

Set in two scenes, this brought and merry little musical comedy captured the "hearts" and "hands" of Messrs. Jesse Sparrow and Harry Bawn's patrons here on Monday, and throughout the week crowded houses at each performance have heartily endorsed the favourable impression then created. Miss Lizette Kitchen and her excellent company deserve warm praise for their untiring efforts, and the work of the chorus is admirable. In the first scene, at the Cherry-tree Hotel, Fred Harrington, the accepted lover of Gladys Maitland, arrives in hot haste, trying to elude the persistent attentions of a sheriff's officer. Fortunately he has provided himself with a disguise, and soon reappears as a pretty girl. Gladys Maitland has arranged to meet her lover here, but her guardian, Colonel Marler, hearing of this, follows her, and, to hide her identity, Gladys dons the uniform of a midshipman. Before the lovers can exchange confidences a Major Mathison arrives at the hotel to meet a nephew, whom he has never seen, and, seeing a young midshipman, thinks this is his relative, and carries him off home. The colonel arrives in search of his ward, and coming across Fred disguised as a girl, forcibly takes him to a room; but Fred is equal to the emergency, and escapes, locking the colonel in the apartment. Augustus Hincks, a lawyer's clerk, also puts in an appearance in search of Fred Harrington; but Fred, in his female attire, easily hoodwinks him.

In the second scene, at Major Mathison's house, all the characters turn up—Fred in search of Gladys, Hincks in search of Fred, and the colonel in search of his ward. After many complications everything is explained, and Fred finds that Hincks is the bearer of the news that his uncle has died and has left him heir to £15,000.

Most of the work falls to the share of Miss Lizette Kitchen as Gladys Maitland. Her male impersonation is smart and distinctly clever, and her mellow voice and bright and humorous style win all hearts. Mr. C. Le Brun makes a charming girl; Mr. E. Millins is decidedly funny as Augustus Hincks, and his love passages with Miss Zeta Murduch as the sprightly and pert maid, Phœby, create roars of merriment. Mr. H. Morton as the Major and Mr. F. Thatcher as the Colonel are decidedly good. The music is bright and sparkling, and *The Major's Middy* is a success.

In the current bill are Frank Esmond and Miss Edith Evelyn in a merry skit, entitled *The Express Baby;* Royston Keith and company in a waiting-room absurdity, *All Change Here;* the Alberto Troupe of male and female acrobats and hand-balancers; Rosa Adams, a bright soubrette; the Brothers Lawrence, good dancers; Stave, with his electrical comedy act; the Lorrisons, "crazy duo"; Bessie Lind, chic and smart; Harry Conlin, quaint and humorous; and Jeapes' splendid animated pictures.

BARNARD'S, GREENWICH.

Mr. Bert Dent must once again be congratulated on having secured a capital programme, and his patrons testified to their satisfaction by greeting the various turns with loud and prolonged applause. One of the chief items of interest is the appearance of Swan and Vesta in their musical comedy, *In Nelson's Days*, in the opening scene of which the artists are attired in dresses of the period. The lady afterwards appears as a comedy sailor, and still later in burlesque array. The songs, particularly "Beautiful story," "Not yet," and "Captain of the ship," are all excellent, as is the dancing, business, and dialogue of this clever couple. The Court dresses worn in the sketch are handsome and costly, and the success of the trifle is instant and complete.

The Morton Comedy company contribute a welcome turn, consisting of well-rendered songs, glees, and refined comedy. Harry Gallimore is a clever character-actor and a good vocalist, and made a hit with his songs, "You're another" and "Two Girls." Philip Levard and company appear with success in a well-acted little sketch, entitled *The Cypher of Love*. The Sisters Herbert, charming juvenile artists, are warmly applauded for their dances and coon songs, entitled respectively "Ashantee" and "I've got a feelin' for you"; and the D'Alvos add some novel and effective business to their singing of "Wilym Wilson," and arouse unstinted applause.

Miss Marie Blythe is the possessor of a fine contralto voice, which she uses to great advantage in "Keepsakes" and "With you"; Archy Crag makes a hit with "Happy little missis" and "Funny little face"; and Miss Jessica is another clever juvenile who sings prettily "Barney," "Only me," and "Song birds." The Morton Trio are warmly applauded in "Excelsior" and "Dear little shamrock," and some ingenious paper-tearing and well-executed dancing are an agreeable diversion in their successful entertainment. A couple of acceptable extra turns are presented in Mr. Fred Wall, who can sing a good song, and in Miss Celia Prince, with "Carolina." Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope exhibits some capital pictures, including the Launch of H.M.S. Bellerophen, The Gipsy's Bride, and Where's the Drummer?

The marvellous Brothers Howard were, at a late hour on Saturday, by the use of the telephone and kindness of the management who held contracts for them to open on Monday enabled to accept the special re-engagement offered to them by Mr. J. W. Nightingale, at the Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth. The Howards, who had been engaged there in opposition to the Zancigs appearing in Yarmouth, achieved such an exceptional success that Mr. Nightingale, at almost double salary, secured them for one week longer. The same astonishing success has followed the re-bookings, and business has been phenomenal.

La Belle Otero has caused it to be known that she requires a monkey. She is to appear at the Folies-Marigny in a new piece by Edward Le Roy, with music by Leo Pouget, and is to play the rôle of a Bohemian. The character, according to Mme. Otero, will not be complete without a monkey.

Mr. J. Cooke Beresford has succeeded in obtaining a sensible reduction for insurance against "third party risks." He has not, however, given up the stage, as he is at present appearing every evening at the Palace Theatre with Mr. Courtice Pounds in *Charles—His Friend*.

The artists engaged for next week's Café Chantant in the North Tower Gardens of the Crystal Palace will include the Stavordale Quintette in their banjo and harp speciality, introducing three distinct styles of banjo playing; Ethel Hilary, American coon comedian and dancer; Stuart and Stuart, eccentric entertainers and dancers; Georgina Morris, vocalist; and Bishop and Vale, comedy acrobats and dancers.

Mary Norton, 60, charwoman, pleaded guilty at Southwark Police-court last week to stealing a quantity of clothing belonging to Kitty Bell, who described herself as an American coon artist. Miss Bell identified as hers the property produced by Detective-sergeant Gale, M Division, who had recovered it from various pawnbrokers, with whom it had been pledged by the prisoner. Mr. Rose said it was a cruel robbery of a young girl, and ordered the prisoner a month's hard labour.

THE PALACE.

The large audience at the Palace on Monday evening did not fail to show their interest in the news of Miss Denise Orme's marriage to the Hon. John Yarde-Buller, only son and heir of Lord Churston, and when she sang to her own accompaniment at the piano the words "Whatever should a bashful maiden do? Which way shall I answer, No or Yes?" a stentorian voice from the gallery shouted: "Answer Yes." The words quoted are from the song of her own composition, which is entitled "One little word," in which she displays no little gift of melody. Another favourite item in her répertoire is Edward German's "Love the pedlar," but she wins her greatest success in Braga's "Angels' Serenade," in which she plays the violin obbligato. Miss Orme's personal charm has been sufficiently commented on, and if we say she looks particularly sweet in a clinging robe of light blue satin, we shall not be accused of exaggeration in our praise of so lovely a specimen of English girlhood.

Another recruit from the musical comedy stage is Miss Violet Lloyd, who immediately precedes Miss Orme in Mr. Alfred Butt's scheme of amusement. Miss Lloyd is a bewitching comedienne, as one easily discovers in her saucy rendering of "My little Kate," a chorus girl besieged with attentions from the Johnnies at the stage-door. There is a sense of character in all that Miss Lloyd does, and she should be a distinct acquisition to the variety stage. Miss Jennie Johns, too, another vocalist who possesses the gift of comedy, is adding to the number of her admirers nightly by the chic and piquancy of her interpretation of some excellent numbers.

El Trio Tampico, talented troubadours, consist of a fiddler, a guitarist—both dressed in the costume of a Mexican *caballero*—and a lady pianist, who incidentally shows her versatility by an imitation of Miss Marie Lloyd in her well-known song, "Tiddly-om-pom." The violinist plays with excellent technique and tone the well-known Nocturne of Chopin; and the guitarist, playing a superior type of mouth-organ to his own accompaniment, gives a pot-pourri of airs, including excerpts from *Faust* and ancient and modern ballads. The reception of the trio is distinctly favourable.

Les Fleury Duo have rapidly increased in popularity with audiences here. A very striking impersonation is M. Fleury's *imitation-parodie* of Coquelin in his famous impersonation of Cyrano de Bergerac, the hero of Edmond Rostand's famous poetic play; and another intensely droll touch is the immediate recovery of the great Sarah—parodied by Mme. Fleury—from the fatal illness afflicting La Dame aux Camélias, at the sight of the medal of the Legion d'Honneur dangled before her eyes. Mme. Fleury is also responsible for an exceedingly clever skit on Yvette Guilbert.

The Palace Girls are here again in new frocks from Paris, and with an entirely new répertoire, and their business and dancing prove as engaging as ever. The Bioscope is responsible for a most striking series of pictures of the motor race for the Grand Prix at Dieppe, and the exclusive films taken by permission of the Duke of Richmond and Gordon are also highly appreciated. We have already noticed *Charles, His Friend*, which is running nightly to an accomanimpent of laughter and applause. Mr. Tatten Hall, comedian, who is fulfilling his first engagement at the Palace, does well in his songs; and Walter H. Kelly, the Virginia judge, patters very amusingly.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

The leading feature in an attractive programme for the current week is Mr. Fred Ginnett's *Daily Mirror* Army Boys, who are all mounted on ponies and uniformed and equipped in true military fashion. Although not a particular novelty in this war-like town, where army manœuvres are of frequent occurrence, still they obtain a warm reception. Well-merited favours are bestowed upon the Stavordale Quintette in their banjo and harp speciality. In the usual style of playing they show great command of the instruments. Shirley and Ransome in a sketch, entitled *'Arf a quid*, show to great advantage. A young married couple are represented in somewhat poor circumstances. The husband has lent his brother-in-law "'arf a quid," and not expecting to get it back, quarrels with his wife concerning it, but she not wishing to have a disagreement, gives up all her savings, which amount to ten shillings. The husband eventually admits that the loan had nothing to do with his wife, and makes her a present of a "quid," so all ends happily. The sketch affords an opportunity for these clever actors to distinguish themselves both in humour and pathos, and hearty applause greets their efforts. Much merriment is caused by Mr. Victor Courtney in *Boots at the Piano*, his playing on that instrument and mimicry being of a high order. Geoffery and Benson produce some lively moments in a comedy sketch, *Spoofed*, in which the husband, who is taking part in some private theatricals, complains with much heat that his wife, who is also in the cast, is totally devoid of dramatic talent. The wife, to prove her capabilities, disguises herself as an Irish maid-of-all-work, and makes love to her own husband during the supposed absence of her mistress, and not until she removes the disguise is he made aware that he has been "spoofed." The sketch is vigorously played, and is accorded a hearty welcome. Mr. George Brooks is a comedian of merit, his songs, "Down where the seaweed grows" and "There is a happy land, far far, away," are greeted with much laughter. Miss Bertha Winder is a clever exponent of clog dancing; the "clatter of her little wooden shoes," being exceptionally crisp, gains the reward that is due. Miss Ethel Sanders has a well-trained soprano voice, which she uses to the best advantage in the songs, "Green Isle of Erin" and the "Carnival," both songs being well rendered. The Imperial Bioscope, portraying "Chain Making" and the "Dieppe Circuit," brings the entertainment to a fitting conclusion.

Miss Bessie Butt, owing to prior provincial bookings, has been obliged to terminate her brief but most successful engagement at the Tivoli, where she has scored with "Cherries are blooming." Miss Butt's dancing has been quite one of the features of the entertainment at the Strand house.

Mr. Harold Montague, who has won fame through his vaudeville combination known as The Vagabonds, has suffered a severe loss in the death of his father, which took place at Malvern.

At the Halifax Borough Court on Saturday, Walter Wood, labourer, of no fixed abode, was charged with being in possession of pirated music. Detective-sergeant Moss deposed that at 8.15 that morning he was on duty near the railway station in Horton-street when he saw the prisoner with a parcel in his possession. He stopped him and wanted to know what the parcel contained, when Wood replied, "Oh! it's 'swank.'" The witness took him to the police station, and had the parcel opened in the accused's presence. It was found to contain sixty-seven copies of pirated music. The prisoner now pleaded guilty, said he was sorry, and asked to be given another chance. A fine of £5 and costs was imposed, or one month's imprisonment.

Brock's Benefit will take place at the Crystal Palace on Sept. 5. On the same day the National Dahlia Show will commence, and the Surrey Beekeepers' Annual Show.

At the Cambridge matinées are to be given on Mondays instead of Thursdays. The change will be inaugurated on Monday next.

"THE JEW REVOLUTIONIST."

A Russian Episode, written by John Jackson. music by Ferdinand Staub, produced at the Paragon on Monday, Aug. 19.

David Singer .....Mr. M. D. Waxman
Abraham Feinstein.....Mr. C. J. Forster
Capt. Marinhaff.....Mr. E. C. Courtney
Theresa.....Miss Queenie Harvey
Marian..... .....Miss Violet Nava
Bertha Feinstein.....Madame Fanny Waxman

The above new dramatic and sensational Russian episode in three scenes was produced at the fine variety theatre in the Mile End-road on Monday. It is both interesting in the matter of its story and thrilling in its incidents, and is besides finely staged. The scene opens in the drawing-room of a certain Abraham Feinstein (a wealthy merchant), it being the occasion of the betrothal of his daughter Bertha to David Singer. During the evening Abraham learns that the man who is to marry his daughter is a famous revolutionist who has murdered the previous police prefect. On the arrival of David he is taxed by his future father-in-law with the advocacy of revolutionary ideas. David is proud of his principles, and explains that he still means to continue to urge the people to revolt against the wicked laws and officials that govern his country. In the midst of a song (capitally sung by one of the visitors) the Police Prefect and men arrive with a warrant for Singer, who hides. The house is searched, and a bundle of papers brought forward. The papers are supposed to have been found in the daughter's boudoir, in which there is a letter from the revolutionist. Bertha is therefore arrested as an accomplice. The papers are false, however, having been brought by the Prefect with the object of obtaining money from the wealthy father. There is a good scene in the Prefect's quarters when he sends for the prisoner, who asks when she is to take her trial. He tells her it may be months or years, but if she is willing to live with him as his mistress he will help her. She scorns the proposal, and as a result is ordered ten lashes with the knout; but the arrival of David Singer in disguise as a special messenger from the Czar secures Bertha's release, and the Prefect is brdered to be publicly lashed. All the characters are well played, Mr. and Mrs. Waxman working admirably together.

WATER RATS' OUTING.

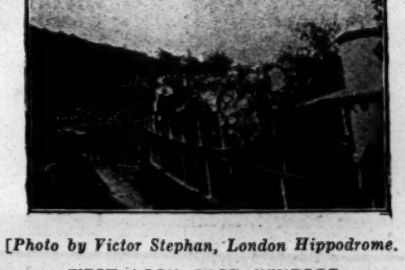
SUNDAY, AUG. 18.

That genial fraternity the Water Rats had their annual outing up the river on Sunday, when at 9.45 a party of about sixty entrained at Waterloo for Windsor. The rain pelted down during the

[*Photo by Victor Stephan, London Hippodrome.*

LANDING PLACE, MARLOW.

journey by rail, but happier weather conditions prevailed when the rodents and their friends reached the Royal Borough. They boarded the launch His Majesty about 11 o'clock, and the journey through the beautiful reaches by Maidenhead and Cookham, including the lovely district of Cliveden, afforded glimpses of delightful riparian scenery for which our London river is famous. With the chief comedy merchants of the halls on board, fun ruled the proceedings early in the day, and was continuous; and in the pleasant



[*Photo by Victor Stephan, London Hippodrome.*

FIRST LOCK PAST WINDSOR.

promotion of hilarity the McNaughtons, Wilkie Bard, Fred Griffiths, Mr. Hal Forde, and Harry Tate were among the chief conspirators. Luncheon was taken on board, the catering being entrusted to Mr. Charles Pratt, of the Rodney, Westminster Bridge-road. The claims of charity were not forgotten, and Mrs. Fred Ginnett collected on board the sum of £2 1s. for the Music Hall Ladies' Guild. During the day Mr. Paul Cinquevalli was busy with his camera. Among the party were Mr. and Mrs. Paul Cinquevalli, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ginnett, Mrs. F. Ginnett's mother, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Griffiths, Miss Lutie Griffiths, Mr. and Mrs. Wilkie Bard, Miss Daisy Stratton, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reece, Mr. and Mrs. George D'Albert, Mr. and Mrs. Seth Egbert, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Maple, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Tate, Tom and Fred McNaughton, W. H. Clemart, Jack Lotto, Walter Stanton, Tom Costello, Tom Costello, jun., Albert Egbert, Miss L. Avalo, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. McCarthy, Mr. and Mrs. Hal Forde, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Gilbert, Mr. and Mrs. Will Johnson, Dave Carter, Harry Masters, Hugh J. Didcott, George Ginnett, H. Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Levy, Mrs. Levy, sen., Mr. and Mrs. Myers, W. Talbot, Ernest Lee, Mr. Jacobus and three friends, J. C. Dillistone, C. C. Bartram, Charles Berte, Miss Ena Soutar, Miss Dora Fraser, Mrs. A. Fraser, Mr. and Mrs. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Lees, Harry Sutch, and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martinetti.

Mr. Tom Woottwell caught a cold and had to give up at the Oxford and Ealing last week. He thereupon jumped into his car, and, with Mrs. Woottwell, is touring the South Coast for a fortnight. They are not having the best of weather—too many showers. They arrived at Portsmouth on Sunday, and are visiting Brighton, reaching home to-morrow (Sunday).

Miss Mollie Seymour, who has been booked by her agents, Messrs. G. and F. Peel, until the end of 1908, is well endowed for a stage career, being not only a *chic* comedienne, but a talented violinist. Versatility and vivacity in her case are happily allied.

Miss May Clifton, who will be at the Middlesex with her company next week, has been ill for two months.

OLD ASTLEY'S.

In the year 1770, says Mr. H. Barton Baker in his "History of the London Stage," one Philip Astley, formerly a trooper, who had greatly distinguished himself in action, and who had always a great fancy for breaking in and training horses, took upon a lease a piece of waste ground near the foot of Westminster Bridge, and opened what he called a riding-school, though it was really a circus; there was a ring in the centre open to the sky, and seats all round ranged under a canvas roof; the prices of admission were threepence and sixpence. At first he performed without a licence, and proceedings were instituted against him by the Surrey magistrates. One day, however, the King happened to be passing over Westminster Bridge upon a horse that proved unmanageable; Astley, who was looking on, came forward to His Majesty's assistance, and soon rendered the beast docile, for which service he was a few days afterwards rewarded with a licence in due form.

In 1780 he erected a wooden building, with gallery, pit, and boxes, out of the old Covent Garden hustings, which has just been used for an election; this débris was the perquisite of anybody who chose to remove it, and was usually made into a bonfire by the mob to celebrate the return of the successful candidate. Astley offered gin and beer to those who would bring him the wood instead of burning it, and therewith built his new Amphitheatre. The interior being decorated so as to resemble an avenue of trees, it was called the "Royal Grove." The prices ranged from two shillings to sixpence. The entertainments consisted of performing dogs, tumbling, and feats of horsemanship. In 1787 he added burlettas and pantomime. Seven years later the building was burned to the ground. In less than seven months a new one rose in its place. In 1803 this was also destroyed by fire. Without losing a day the sturdy old trooper set about raising a successor. Morning, noon, and night, in snow and rain, drilling his workmen as though they were a troop of soldiers, he personally superintended the work, as he did later on in Wych-street, until all was completed. The new house opened on Easter Monday, 1804, with, for the first time, an equestrian spectacle, though, as will be presently shown, he was not the originator of the kind of dramatic exhibition, for which the house was thereafter to be famous.

After having erected in France, Great Britain, and Ireland no fewer than nineteen amphitheatres, Astley died in 1814. He was succeeded by his son, who had been for some years the actual manager. Young Astley was a famous rider, and created such an impression in Paris that Marie Antoinette presented him with a gold medal encrusted with diamonds, and gave him the name of the English Rose, a very high honour, as it placed him beside the greatest of male dancers, Vestris, who was called the French rose. In 1817 he relinquished his government in favour of Davis, who had been in partnership with him some years, and the theatre was rechristened "Davis's Amphitheatre." Under Davis the equestrian spectacles were produced on a more extensive scale. One, *The Blood-Red Knight*, brought in £18,000 to the treasury; *The Battle of Waterloo*, and *The Burning of Moscow*, in which an actor named Gomersal—the one whom Colonel Newcome was so struck with—made an immense hit by his portraiture of Napoleon, which drew all London over Westminster Bridge.

To Davis succeeded the famous Andrew Ducrow, perhaps the greatest rider that was ever seen upon the equestrian stage, as well as the most perfect of pantomimists.

Ducrow was noted for a profound contempt for the literary part of the drama. "Cut the dialect (dialogue) and come to the 'osses," was his favourite direction. During the rehearsal of an equestrian piece one morning, after listening with growing impatience to a long dialogue between the two leading actors, he at last broke in with:

"Hold hard, gentlemen; here's a deal o' cackle without any good in it. I'll show you how to cut it. You say, 'Yield thee, Englishman!' Then you (indicating the other) answer 'Never!' Then you say 'Obstinate Englishman, you die.' Then you both fights. There, that settles the matter; the audience will understand you a deal better, and the poor 'osses won't catch cold while you're jawing."

Bunn relates the following anecdote of this eccentric genius. Ducrow, *loquitur:* "I don't know how you find it, but as soon as I put up the last nights of the season, the beggars begin to give themselves airs. I went to the theatre the other night, and seeing a prime little roasting pig on a nice white napkin in the hall, I told someone to take it upstairs to Mrs. Ducrow. The fellow said it wasn't for me, but for Mr. Roberts. He's the chap, you know, as orders the corn for the 'osses; I'm only the chap as pays for it. Then them confounded carpenters sneak in of a morning with their hands in their pockets, doubled up as though they'd got the cramp, and at night they march out as upright as a dart. 'Cos why? Every one of 'em's got a deal plank up his back. Then the supers, every one of 'em, takes out a lump o' coal in his hat, and they all club their priggings together and sell the lot for drink. As to the riders, they come into rehearsal gallows grand, 'cos they've had all the season a precious deal better salary than they're worth; and at night they come in gallows drunk and, fogetting they may want an engagement next year, are as cheeky as a bit of Billin'sgate."

Although so illiterate that he seldom ventured upon a speaking part, however small, Ducrow's taste and talent as a stage manager in contrasting colours and arranging groups was unrivalled. Nor was his reputation confined to the Westminster Amphitheatre, it was world-famous. In Paris, while performing at Franconi's, the Duchesse d'Angoulême presented him with a gold medal; after the run of one of his pageants at Drury Lane, *St. George and the Dragon*, Queen Adelaide presented him with a hundred pounds, and Count D'Orsay with a pair of gilt pistols and a dirk mounted in ivory and gold.

Astley's has been imortalised by Dickens in *The Old Curiosity Shop*, and the name always calls up memories of the visit of Kit Nubbles, Mrs. Nubbles, Barbara, and little Jacob. And Thackeray associates it with Colonel Newcome.

In 1841 the Amphitheatre was again destroyed by fire, and his losses, amounting to £20,000, so preyed upon Ducrow's mind as to cause his death a few months afterwards. The house was rebuilt by Batty, who changed the name to Batty's Amphitheatre.

After Batty came the well-known circus manager, William Cooke. Cooke turned *Macbeth* and *Richard III.* into equestrian dramas, and made White Surrey a leading part.

In 1863, Dion Boucicault, with a loud flourish of trumpets, supposed to be a warning note of coming destruction to all West End managers, converted the famous old Amphitheatre into the Theatre Royal, Westminster, but the result was a miserable failure. His most notable production was a version of *The Heart of Midlothian*, which Miss Marriott played for years afterwards at Sadler's Wells and throughout the country. In the following year, under the management of the ubiquitous E. T. Smith, the old house returned to its former ways. It was in the October of 1864, the famous Ada Isaac Menken made her first appearance here as Mazeppa. For a number of nights she actually accomplished what Mr. Boucicault had threatened to do—brought fashionable London across Westminster Bridge. For many years afterwards the house was under George Sanger's management. It was closed in 1895, and a row of shops now covers the site.

FILM GOSSIP.

Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd.

Accidents Will Happen is a rattling good comical subject just published by Messrs. Urban. It is an animated pictorial comment on the new Employers' Liability Act. Mr. Boffles, a householder, has neglected to insure his servants against accidents. Then, with all the irony of fate, every paid member of his household gets injured. The footman teases a fox-terrier, is bitten in the leg, and is taken indoors for treatment. As the gardener is nailing up the Virginia creeper the Boffles family place pillows and cushions at the base of the ladder to break any possible fall, but the gardener falls clear of the cushions and is also carried indoors for medical attention. The housemaid, in cleaning the windows, falls to the ground, is injured, and joins the other victims; Boffles, in a rage, kicks the page boy down the stairs—another patient for the doctor. Thus we see Boffles's drawing-room converted into a casualty ward, and Boffles himself ruined after compensating his domestics, and he, along with his wife, solicits the sympathy of the charitable with a notice tied round his neck which says that he has been brought to this unhappy pass by the new Act.

A particularly realistic Urban series is that entitled The Yellowstone National Park (U.S.A.) and its Geysers. In this we are shown wonderfully vivid pictures of the natural eruptions of numerous geysers, or boiling springs, which throw to a tremendous height columns of steam in fantastic and picturesque fashion. Thus we see the Minute Man, the Constant, Black Growler, Old Faithful, Fountain, and Castle geysers in grand display. Other scenes show us the great falls of the Yellowstone, herds of buffalo, close views of the bison, bears roaming in freedom, etc.

A Piece of Limburger Cheese is a production upon which the Urban company may congratulate itself. A city man unconsciously and generously distributes the odour of the Limburger luxury amongst his clients, partners, travelling companions, neighbours, and everybody he meets during his day in the city. The facial workings of the Limburger victims are comical in the extreme as the smell gradually evidences itself. Suspicion, disgust, flight, are apparent on the one hand, and a show of surprise, injury, and innocent amazement on the other. A dishevelled and marked man presents himself at the end of the day to his affectionate wife, and the cause of the trouble is suddently found in the grinning children.

Vitagraph Company.

A rollickingly humorous Vitagraph film is to be found in "The Boy, the Bust, and the Bath." The scene of this comedy is laid in a boarding-house, a millinery shop occupying the first floor. The milliner is a very pretty young widow, who is courted by all the gentlemen in the house, two of them a near-sighted parson and a stout old colonel. Both propose to her, but are rejected, and are also somewhat marred by the action of the bad boy of the house, who shoots at them with a putty-blower while they are making their declarations. In the milliner's shop is a wax bust which closely resembles the milliner herself. The bad boy has an idea. He runs away with the bust and, going up the stairs, places it in the bath tub; then retires to a near-by doorway to watch for results. In a few moments the stout old colonel emerges from his room, dressed in his bath-robe, with towels over his arm, evidently about to take a bath. He opens the door of the bath-room, and immediately beats a hasty retreat on catching a glimpse of what he supposes is the young milliner in the bath-tub. Outside the door he pauses, and then bending down, peeps through the keyhole. While in this position the bad boy sneaks up from behind and sticks the colonel with a pin. The victim jumps several feet into the air, and then, ashamed at being caught peeping through the keyhole, gives the boy a dollar to keep quiet. A few moments later the near-sighted old parson starts for the bathroom; he opens the door, enters, closes the door, hangs up his towels, and in feeling around to turn on the water suddenly touches the hair of the bust. Peering closer, he, too, discovers what is apparently a young lady, and makes a hasty and undignified exit from the bathroom. He also, like the colonel, goes outside, pauses, then realising his near-sightedness, he runs back to his room and returns with a small telescope, which he applies to the keyhole. The mischievous boy catches him in the act, and the parson also buys the boy's secrecy with a dollar. His scheme having worked so well, the boy now enters the bathroom, picks up the bust, and waiting until he hears footsteps approaching down the hall, protrudes the head of the bust out of the bathroom door. The colonel and the parson both happen to be passing; they see the blonde hair and pink cheeks of the supposed milliner, and both dodge back into their own room. The boy draws back the head of the bust and then slowly puts it out again. This game of bo-peep continues for some time; then the boy, thinking the coast is clear, emerges from the bathroom carrying the bust in his arms. The two old gentlemen perceive him, and, realising how they have been fooled, rush out, grab the boy, carry him into the bathroom, and souse him in the bath-tub, which is full of water. The plot of this very funny picture is exceedingly ingenious, and every scene is comical in the extreme. The length is 425ft.

Pathe Freres.

A Pair of Boots, Please, is an exceedingly entertaining Pathé film. A thief steals the hunting boots belonging to a guest at an hotel, and as the guest seemingly is anxious to join his friends on some sporting expedition, he sends one of the hotel servants to the local bootmakers. One of these tradesmen brings a selection of foot apparel to choose from. The customer finds that one pair is fairly suitable, but the right boot will require a slight alteration. The bootman takes the right boot away, leaving the other. Almost immediately afterwards there enters another bootmaker with his samples. A pair of boots is selected, and the left boot of a pair just wants a little stretching to render it easy of wear, so is taken away, the right boot being left behind. Having a boot for each foot which is wearable, the customer doesn't wait for the return of the bootmen, but goes off with the odd pair. When the tradesmen return an amusing scene occurs as they realise that the purchaser has not waited for them.

Another laughable Pathé picture is the Stilt Race, which depicts a crowd of men and women running through village streets, woods, fields, streams, and over stiles on stilts. There are many ludicrous "situations."

Walturdaw Company.

There is an ever-increasing demand for the now popular Walturdaw specialities. Yesterday afternoon, while on a visit to the company's premises in Dane-street, Holborn, we met Mr. R. G. Knowles, who is purchasing Walturdaw films for use in his forthcoming lecturing tour.

The Cinematograph Syndicate.

Under this title a company has been formed to carry on the sale of high-class films. The address of the Cinematograph Syndicate is, 23, Cecil-court, Charing Cross-road, W.C., and, as will be seen from our advertisement columns, the company offer several very attractive animated picture productions, including three comical subjects, Tommy's Box of Tools, serving the Summons, In Quest of Health, and a very realistic one dealing with life on a battleship.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

THE fairs ahead for next week are:—Bingley, on the Midland; Bakewell, on the Midland; Halton, on the Midland; Hinckley, on the Midland and North-Western; Hooley Hill; Irlams-o'-th'-Height; Pudsey, on the Great Northern; Shaftesbury, on the London and South-Western; Strood, on the London, Chatham, and Dover, and South-Eastern; Shrewsbury, on the Great Western, London and North-Western, and Cambrian and Rhymney; Watchet, on the Great Western; Romsey, on the London and South-Western; Bradford-on-Avon, on the Great Western; Ilminster, on the Great Western; Cleckheaton, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Chorley on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Delph, on the London and North-Western; Eccles, on the London and North-Western; Gorton, on the Great Central; Hucknage, with Huckwaite; Killamarsh, on the Midland; Poynton, on the London and North-Western; Southgate, on the Great Northern; St. John's Chapel, on the North-Eastern; Westhoughton, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; and Wilmslow, on the London and North-Western Railways.

Possible Peace at Mitcham.

WE are glad to make the welcome announcement that negotiations with a view to an amicable settlement of the Mitcham Fair question have been again opened. At the present moment we can only state that the door is still open, and that both sides can walk through it to a round table conference, where the several parties concerned may adjust their differences, and a way may be found for both sides to petition the Home Secretary, and to get the fair (with all its charter rights and securities) removed to another and more suitable part of the Common. Great credit is due to Mr. Frederick Foss, chairman of the Board of Conservators, and to the Rev. T. Horne, chaplain to the Showmen's Guild, for the present hopeful outlook. Mr. Horne, on behalf of the organised showmen, has suggested to Mr. Foss that four members of the Mitcham Parish Council should confer with four Mitcham Conservators, and, if possible, arrange a satisfactory plan for the continuance and control of the fair. This being done, then for the united local authorities (the Conservators and the Parish Council, represented by the eight gentlemen, four from each body) to meet a deputation of four representatives of the Showmen's Guild at a round table conference, and after settling all minor details make a joint application to the Home Secretary for the proper transfer of the fair and the charter rights to a new site on the Common mutually satisfactory.

THESE preliminary suggestions will be laid by Mr. Foss before the Board of Conservators, and it is sincerely to be hoped that they may pave the way to a full and frank understanding, and that the people's fair at Mitcham may be continued to them under better conditions, and with increased usefulness to Mitcham, and to that still greater constituency, London on and over the border.

Ashton Wakes.

WHEN Ashton Wakes begins we are fast reaching the high tide of Lancashire pleasure holidays. When Oldham Wakes (due next week-end) begin it is indeed high tide—flush tide. For all Lancashire then is either just finishing or just beginning its annual holiday. Ashton-under-Lyne is in the heart of the cotton manufacturing district. The workers may be counted in thousands of thousands, and it is the Wakes in each separate town or village that fixes and determines the annual holidays. Ashton begins on Aug. 16, and lasts nearly a week. Capt. Tom Payne is an immense local favourite in Ashton, where he winters mostly, and where he has his home. Payne's Bioscope is a household word amongst Ashton folk, and right well the genial captain deserves his popularity, for his show is of the best. P. Collins's superb show, the coliseum of living and talking pictures, was a big success here, as everywhere else. J. Hastings's two shows, the giant lady Miss Lambert—"the adipose mountain"—and the charming miniature marvels, "the atoms of humanity," all justified their reputation as amongst the best of their kind now travelling. Walter Shaw's fine art academy, as usual, delighted its many patrons. The machine list was a big one, and included motor-car sets by Messrs. P. Collins and J. Green, galloping horse sets by J. Collins, James Hibbert and Sons, and W. Davies. J. Collins also exhibited the razzle-dazzle and steam yachts, and Harrison had his helter skelter on the ground. The minor novelties were George Cornwell's shooting concerns, and other shooters, J. White, Thwaits, and Mrs. John Cornwell. Throwing games and varieties by Messrs. T. Ingham, Mercer, Woodman, Jennings, Selden, Taylor, Brown, Mitchell, Cornwell, Griffin, Harrison, and many local caterers.

Horsforth Feast.

HELD under Mr. Wm. Murphy's banner, the village feast was in every way a big success this year. The lessee exhibited his grand new show, the portable empire of living pictures, and the superb machine set, the Gordon Bennett motor-cars. A. Morley exhibited steam swings and high-fliers, Messrs. Gledstone and Doubtfire juvenile motor-cars and horses, W. Radcliffe had shooting ranges, Messrs. Ashcroft and Gledstone bottle batteries, and there were varieties, penalty frames, coker sheets, and "All the Fun of the Fair" by Messrs. Fisher, Stewart, Peter, Ashcroft, Illingworth, Crowther, G. Campbell and others.

Guiseley Feast,

ON the same round as Horsforth, was well maintained by most of the concerns enumerated as being at Horsforth, Wm. Murphy's big show and motor-cars being the chief attractions.

Private Business at Evesham.

A MEMORIAL from the householders and occupiers of houses on Merston Green, the Evesham Fairground, was read at a recent meeting of the Town Council. The memorialists asked that means might be taken to prevent the letting of the fairground, except at the statute fair. Their objections to the shows at other times were fully set out. After discussion, Alderman Hughes proposed and Councillor Clifford seconded: "That the Council endeavour to arrange for another suitable place, and that in the meanwhile the present arrangements be continued." Alderman Morris moved and Councillor Cox seconded an amendment: "That no shows be permitted on Merston Green except at the time of the statute fair." This amendment was lost, and Alderman Hughes's proposition was carried. We think that it will be well, in the divided opinion of the Town Council, if showmen abstain from too frequent use of Merston Green at present. Certainly the statute fairs are too valuable to be endangered by private business ventures at other times.

Barnsley Summer Fair,

UNDER the banner of Tuby and Son, the local caterers, was a big success. Tuby's coliseum (manager, G. T. Tuby, jun.) was the great draw of the fair. Professor Ruby's X-Rays illusion and the No. 2 show, the freak exhibits, were the side-shows, and did good business. Tuby's motors and galloping horses, Marshall's motors, and Bentley's, Wildin's, and Smith's highfliers and swings were the other machines. Shooters, bottle batteries, varieties, and throwing games by Messrs. Westley, Smith, Cook, Howard, Cayton, West, and others

Drypool Feast, Hull.

THE star attraction at this excellent fixture was Ben Howden and Son's magnificent show, the coliseum of animated and talking pictures. Ben Howden and Son also exhibit their superb set, the Premier motor-cars and the miniature motor-car roundabouts. Corrigan and Son's helter-skelter and their other fairground novelties. Shipley's gallopers. Shooters, swings, and throwing games in Grand display by Messrs. Doubtfire, Black, Daynes, Cooper, Hide, Burgin, Hinde, Payne, Shipley, Hardy, Richards, Walker, Jacques, and others.

Aylesbury.

THE Star Theatre, under the direction of Mrs. Victoria Poulton and family, are about to open a long season in Aylesbury. The theatre visited the town about six years ago, when the excellence of the entertainments won for themselves a well-merited reputation, with the result that the élite of the neighbourhood patronised the performances as often as their poorer brethren.

Shaw Wakes.

THE annual holidays commenced last Friday, the mills closing, as usual, for a full week, and a larger number of inhabitants took advantage of the facilities offered by the railways, with the result that the various attractions provided for the public suffered to some extent. Col. Clark's classical entertainment occupied a prominent position, and did a fair share of business. Also to be seen were John Collins's electric motor-cars, Hurst's poultry yard, Richards' steam yachts, and numerous other games and attractions.

Aberdeen Beach "Zoo."

THIS small but ever-increasing and exceedingly well-selected collection has been extremely well patronised during the season by visitors and citizens generally. The "Zoo" is owned by Mr. John Sinclair, and housed in a particularly light, airy, and commodious structure. His lion and bear specimens are always particularly admired, and he is exceptionally strong in monkeys, of which there are several cagefuls. Mr. Sinclair is ever on the look-out for fresh exhibits, and no doubt before long he will have considerably to extend his premises.

The White City, Old Trafford.

MANAGING-DIRECTOR, Mr. John Calvin Brown; Asistant-General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Ellis.—Whatever the weather the attendances at this "park of fun" keeping increasing. This week's band is that of the Royal Garrison Artillery (Portsmouth Division), under the bâton of Mr. George Miller, jun. Gilleno's American Circus gives several enjoyable performances each afternoon and evening; Simbri, the illusionist, continues to bewilder good audiences in the Doge's Palace. The water pantomime, *Fun at a Riverside Inn*, by J. Dymond and C. Costella and company, is very comical. The Zingari Pierrots in the Bijou Theatre include Beatrice Barton, soubrette; Ethel Ludlow and Evelyn Jones, duettists and dancers; Annie Ludlow, contralto; Ethel Collier, descriptive vocalist and dancer; Will Hardy, mimic; and Harold Ride, comedian, who draw good houses. The large roller-skating rink and the handsome ballroom seem to be just what has been wanted in the district. Professor Williams' troupe of negroes are here again this week. The electric illuminations turn night into day all over the place.

IN answer to two correspondents we have to say that Oxford St. Giles Fair opens on Sept. 9. The date Sept. 2 given in our lists is an error.

OLDHAM WAKES begins next Saturday, and is on the last possible day it can fall with the octave of the Parish Feast.

NEGOTIATIONS *re* Mitcham are progressing quite satisfactorily. The Mitcham tenants who have received writs may rest assured that their interests are being well attended to, and that there is no cause for undue alarm.

GIVEN a good film and suitable premises, and a good living, perhaps even a fortune, is assured. At 65, Strand, which is called the Tivoli Tourist Station, a cinematograph film is shown illustrating 6,000 miles of travel. The places visited comprise the Niagara Falls, Japan, Switzerland, Canada, South of France, Italy, &c. Needless to say that the tour is much less expensive than a real Cook's tour. Sixpence is the fee charged. An able lecturer, Mr. Bannerman, describes the various places of interest visited in the course of the tour.

SIR ROBERT FOSSETT'S Circus visited Abertillery on Tuesday, giving two well-attended performances. New features have been added in Gaumont's non-flickering Bioscope and an installation of electric light.

Guild Subscriptions, 1907.

	£	s.	d.
Per Mr. Pedgrift—Mr. Wm. Treeby	0	5	0
Per Rev. T. Horne—Mr. A. Langley, hon. member	0	10	6
Per Mr. Whiting—			
Mr. J. Bates, hon. member	0	10	6
Mr. F. Glover, hon. member	0	10	6
Mrs. Goth, hon. member	0	10	6
Mr. J. Ogden	0	10	6
Mrs. Massey	0	5	0
Mr. J. W. Holroyd	0	5	0
Mrs. Thompson	0	5	0

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The concise descriptions that we give below of recent applications for patents are specially furnished by Messrs. Howard and Co., patent agents, 57 and 58, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will assist readers in all patent matters:—

APPLICATION.

18182. Charles Frederick Lewis and William Farrow Taylor, of Mill-road, Cambridge. Apparatus for amusement purposes.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION ACCEPTED.

10957. Graszynski. Devices for the protection of audiences in theatres and the like from fire.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

9754. Amusement apparatus. R. H. Bishop, of Upper-street, Islington, London. The trough-like track of an amusement apparatus of the "helter-skelter" type is attached to a frame which is vibrated or oscillated, or the track is carried by a rotating vertical shaft, and the whole device is constructed so as to be portable. The track is suspended by means of a frame, connected by eyes and bolts to a fixed platform supported by standards. The platform is accessible by means of a staircase, and is formed with a railing and with an opening leading to the track. The frame is vibrated by means of a connecting rod, crank, and suitable driving-mechanism. The bottom part of the track is stationary, and fits telescopically into a vibrating part. If the frame is to receive a circular oscillatory motion, it is suspended by a universal joint. In the rotary form the track is connected by lateral arms to a shaft which is mounted in ball bearings. The upper and lower stationary platforms are connected by the supporting columns, and access to the platform is obtained by means of a travelling stairway and stairs The track is connected to rotating platforms; one platform is divided by railings so as to form a circuitous approach to the track, and the other is supported by rollers. The track may be decorated to represent a tower or lighthouse.

INTERESTING WEDDING IN SHOWLAND.

In strict compliance with the wishes of the happy pair, the wedding of Mr. William Ball, son of Mr. Alf. Ball, of Bioscope renown, to Miss Ellen Holmes (professionally known as Mlle. Olga), was celebrated as quietly and as simply as possible. Only the members of the family and the intimate friends of the bride and bridegroom were invited to the marriage or permitted to know where it would take place. The marriage was celebrated on Monday last, Aug. 19, at the Registry Office of the Christ Church district, Greenwich, the witnesses being Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Ball, Mrs. Lily Ball, and Mr. J. Manley. The wedding breakfast took place at Mrs. Dennis's, Tanners-hill, Deptford. The bride was accompanied by four charming maids, garbed in white silk. The bride herself was robed entirely in white. In the early evening the happy couple went to Brighton to spend a

[*Photo by James Clark.*

ELLEN HOLMES
(MLLE. OLGA).

brief honeymoon. The father and mother of the bridegroom presented them with a cheque for £100; Mrs. Dawton, of Farnborough (aunt of the bridegroom), a cheque for £100. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Ball's gifts to the bride were gold watch and chain and a diamond ring; Mrs. and Mr. Holmes (father and mother of the bride), silver teapot and copper kettle; Mr. and Mrs. Dennis, cosy armchair. There were also numerous other presents from intimate friends, and from the artists and working staff of the show.

Mr. William Ball is partner with his father in the magnificent "New Lyceum," built to their order by Gavioli et Cie, of Paris (one of the finest portable cinematograph theatres now on the road). Whilst Alf. Ball is at the front his clever son, Mr. Wm. Ball operates the Bioscope and takes complete charge of the electric light installation. Mrs. Wm. Ball (*née* Miss Ellen Holmes) was for some years one of the Maddrillo duo, known as "Maud and Olga," in original trapeze and high-perch acts. She toured France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and Great Britain. About three years ago, at the end of her apprenticeship with Maddrillo, she joined Mr. Alf. Ball's clever company of variety artists. Mr. Wm. Ball is an example of the younger generation of showmen who bring into the business the advantages of a thoroughly sound and practical public school education. Although born a showman, he did not follow the show until he was sixteen years of age. He speedily grasped all the possibilities of the enterprise, and is now, with his charming wife, entitled to be ranked

[*Photo by James Clark.*

WILLIAM BALL.

amongst the most up-to-date entertainers on the road. We wish to join most heartily in the universal chorus of good wishes to the happy pair.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

THE GLORIES OF MITCHAM FAIR.

All previous records, even that of last year's Fair, were broken at this last celebration of the old Charter Fair in "Lavender Land." Not only did Mitcham and the neighbouring villages go, as in times long past, to their own fair, but nearly all Croydon and Tooting and a multitude from great London Town went down to see the fun. It is no exaggeration to say that twice as many people as heretofore went this year to join in the local celebration on the historic Fairground, and to patronise the persistent showmen, whose business enterprise had provided two overflow fairgrounds. The Surrey County Police are worthy of all praise for their admirable arrangements, which adequately provided not only for the handling of vast crowds, but also prevented any accidents to life or limb by laborious and patient point duty where the road traffic cut through the crowds.

The Humour of the Situation.

Your so-called "stolid John Bull" is at heart a most humorous fellow. It is a huge mistake to regard him as being either heavy or dull. No crowd in the world is quicker to catch the humour of a situation than a British crowd. Other crowds may be more volatile, more fantastical in their mirth, but your Briton has a large sense of humour, and, better still, large reserves of tolerant good nature. London went out to Mitcham to enjoy itself at the fair. London also went out to Lavender Land to show by the power of numbers its admiration of the plucky stand made by the show-people for their ancient privilege of attending the fair in accordance with the charter. London also went out to Mitcham to show its fellowship with the people of Mitcham in the fight that has raged so long for the preservation of the fair, and to show that the fair still supplies a public need—that on the score of public utility alone it has a strong claim for both continuance and for betterment. The Home Secretary is reported to have said "that in any decision about abolishing the fair he had in the public interest to consider not only the people of Mitcham and neighbouring villages, but also the people of South London who, in his opinion, needed such opportunities of open-air amusement as that afforded by Mitcham Fair."

South London went out to Mitcham and joined with "Mitchamites" and "Croydonites" in "all the jolly fun."

The Shows at Mitcham.

Alf. Ball and Son's magnificent new show, "the new lyceum" of animated photography, was situated on the London-road, on a piece of private land; Thurston and Sons' superb electric coliseum was also on a private pitch, with other show novelties controlled by this up-to-date firm. Both these exhibitions were crowded with delighted audiences at every performance. Messrs. C. Bailey and Knighton, Edward Elliott and school of boxers, Sol. Elliott's similar concern, and the variety show, with the star turn of the wrestling lady, all did good business.

The Machines at Mitcham.

Swale Forrest's aggregation of novelties included the Japanese airships, the "wheely-whirly" machine, and the overboats; Tom Harniess, with the late Charles Bailey's magnificent machine, the gondola, and racing motors; Francis Bailey, jun., galloping horses; Thurston and Sons' big machines, the motor track, the galloping horses, and the helter-skelter; T. Pettigrove, steam horses, swings, and varieties; Mrs. Bird's set of galloping horses; and juvenile sets by Messrs. Lang, J. Wilson, Mayne, and Simpson; manual swings and varieties by Messrs. Stenning, Simpson, and Bird.

Shooting Ranges and Varieties.

These were provided by a big crowd of entertainers, prominent amongst them being T. Knighton, S. Mayne, the Peters Family, the Bolesworths, J. Wilson, Wm. Stenning, Stackwood, Harris Family, H. Clasper, the Bond Family, the Elliott Family, Traylen, Taylor, the Castle Family, the Bird Family, the Pettigroves, Tyler, and many others.

There were the usual attendant throng of kerbstone merchants, the peripatetic vendors of penny novelties. One smart penny "chat" vendor had on sale Japanese handkerchiefs, whereon was printed part of the Showmen's Guild manifesto in defence of the fair. This pennyworth of up-to-date literature went like the proverbial hot cakes, the literary matter on the sheet being lifted (without permission) from our own columns of the issue of the week before the fair.

We are told that never in the history of the village has such good trade all round been known. The local traders are all staunch defenders of the fair. Prominent public men who have kept out of the controversy, and have been strictly neutral hitherto, have personally satisfied themselves by visiting the fair, and witnessing the innocent enjoyment of the people, that it fulfils a most useful purpose.

These moderate-minded men, it is confidently anticipated, will greatly influence the movement for a peaceful settlement of the question at issue between the abolitionists and the defenders of the fair. Their mediation at this juncture will have the best possible effect, and we now confidently anticipate a just settlement, on the lines of removal, and not extinction of, the fair.

The Guild Service.

With the consent and blessing of the Vicar of Mitcham, the Guild Chaplain conducted the service of the Guild on the fairground. Over two thousand people were present, and the behaviour of the crowd was most attentive and devout. The sermon of the Chaplain on the parable of the "Pharisee and the Publican," taken from the Holy Gospel for the day, was preached with the well-known vigour and aptness of illustration that marks Mr. Horne's pulpit oratory. It was a memorable as well as a unique event. The show-people were there in full numbers, and the whole service was a remarkable evidence of the general appreciation of the religious and educational side of the work of the Guild.

MR. F. E. TONGE, late of Savoy and Lyric Theatres, has joined Miss May Clifton and company, who are appearing at the Middlesex next week.

THE proprietor of the Northwich Pavilion had to do the best he could for his patrons this week, and under the adverse circumstances has done well. The Russian troupe of dancers are an exceedingly clever quartette, and richly deserved the rapturous encores they gained; Mr. W. Glanmore Jones again pleased the audience with his sweet singing; genial Will Harvey is most amusing, both in his songs and jokes, and his playing on the musical glasses is really wonderful; and Mr. Frank Horton, who is a local man, met with tremendous success.

A GRAND fête de théâtre was held on Tuesday on Tagg's Island, in the place of the annual invitation regatta promoted by the Molesey Boat Club. The chief feature was a concert arranged by Mr. Henry A. Lytton, of the Savoy, in which about fifty members of the Savoy company took part. A special variety entertainment was also given by Mr. Fred Karno's well-known troupe. There were numerous outside shows, including a display with sabres and bayonets by a detachment of the 1st Dragoon Guards stationed at Hampton Court Palace, a fire brigade display by the brigades of Hampton Court and East and West Molesley, and log-rolling on the Thames. In the evening fire balloons were liberated, and the island was illuminated with electric light.

SHOWMEN'S CONCERT AT PAISLEY FAIR.

It was in the wee sma' hours of Friday morning. The Paisley show ground seemed deserted; only the flapping of canvas and creaking of wood, with the occasional song of some belated reveller, disturbed the silence; where but an hour ago all was bustle and excitement, now seemed strangely still. The laughing, hurrying, good-natured crowd of merry-makers had gone, slowly, almost reluctantly, wending their way homewards, the last naphtha lamp had been extinguished, the arc lamps had gone out with a fluttering sigh, as if glad their night's work was over, the roundabouts, helter-skelters, and shows loomed strangely large and eerie in the darkness that heralded the dawn of another day, when from living vans, from refreshment tents and booths, came the entertainers of millions of people, anxious to be entertained, in ones, in twos, in little groups—some with evidence of their day's toil clearly shown in unwashed faces and soiled clothes, others with a tired look in their eyes that bespoke a want of sleep, for, like the farmers, they, too, must make hay whilst the sun or arc lamps shine. But all faces wore a pleasant smile, cheery cries of recognition disturbed the solitude of night, as they wended their way in the direction of Mr. Henderson's show, for this was the occasion of the showmen's annual concert. Quietly, orderly, they entered and took their seats, for the showmen, in private life at least, respect themselves and those who endeavour to assist them. The concert was held under the auspices of the British Women's Temperance Association, whom the showmen are always pleased to recognise. Mr. A. Henderson kindly acted as chairman, and was supported by Mr. J. Caddick.

The chairman, in the opening speech, referred to the good work done by the B.W.T.A., and Miss Bell in particular, amongst show people, to which Miss Bell suitably responded.

The concert then proceeded with the fine rendering of the famous American song, "Take me back to the old plantation," sung by Mr. J. Styles. Miss Merrick's song, "Shela," was given in good style. Dan. Lewis amused with a coon song. George Merrick, with a quaint way of his own, gave a capital imitation of Little Tich in his great success, "We close at two on Thursday." Mrs. Roberts, the Misses Boswell, and Mrs. Carter all sang sweetly. Mr. A. Henderson obliged with a capital recitation, entitled "Ostler Joe." Messrs. Kelly, Dunn, Quinn, A. Henderson, jun., and W. Henderson all met with a good reception for their excellent singing of popular songs, making up a splendid programme, which only ended shortly before the advent of the early morning milkman.

A collection was taken for Miss Millington's paper, the *Caravan*.—The *Paisley Daily Express*, Aug. 13, 1907.

SHOW CHILDREN'S TREAT AT PAISLEY FAIR.

As many of our readers know, the British Women's Temperance Association take a special interest in those knights and ladies of the road who minister to the amusement of the citizens at fair time, and run a tent for refreshments at the show grounds. On the invitation of the ladies of the Association meetings were held on Sunday evening for the travellers and for the children, and were largely attended, and most successful.

The children were entertained to tea in the B.W.T.A. Tent, under the chairmanship of Mr. Alex. Lang, who afterwards delivered a most interesting and instructive address on Daniel. At the close of the meeting each child was presented with a lovely little bouquet of flowers, the gift of Mrs. R. K. Bell, Middlepark. An opportunity was given to take the temperance pledge, and many of the older children did so.

The meeting for the older people was held in Mr. M'Indoe's show, kindly lent, and there was a very large attendance. Mrs. Coats, the president of the Society, occupied the chair, and was accompanied to the platform by several members of the committee, the Rev. J. Porteous, Mr. John Slack, and Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot, Mr. A. Henderson, and Mr. Styles. After tea, Mrs. Coats welcomed the travellers in the name of the Association, and expressed the pleasure it gave her and the other ladies to meet them there again.

Thereafter, addresses were delivered by the Rev. Mr. Porteous and Mr. J. Slack, which were listened to with close attention and highly appreciated.

Miss Helen Wilmot stated that the amount collected at the travellers' concert, and afterwards at the show ground, together with £2 collected at Bridge-of-Allan, amounted in all to £11 4s. 0½d. Of this sum £2 2s. was to be given to the Paisley Infirmary, and the balance, £9 2s. 0½d., was to be sent to Miss Millington for the *Caravan*, the travellers' newspaper.

Short addresses were then given by Mr. A. Henderson and Mr. Styles, thanking the ladies for their hospitality and their constant interest in the travellers, and expressing their interest in the temperance cause.

Solos were sung during the evening by Miss L. Scott and Mr. M'Luskie, and Mrs. Pollock presided at the piano.

At the close of the meeting flowers were distributed to all those present, and the temperance pledge was taken by sixteen of the travellers, among whom there are now many pledged abstainers.

Miss Millington, of York, sent a letter of kindly greeting, the reading of which was received with great applause, referring to the work done by the temperance quarterly, the *Caravan*. Miss Millington said: "How I should like to tell you how much I appreciate your kind, never-failing help for the *Caravan*, and how much I thank you for it. I feel I can never be grateful enough for it. Now, during the hot weather keep your pledge; don't be bossed by any weak-backed friend to touch the drink at all. I am wandering in my mind amongst you at Paisley: let us grip each other's hand for auld lang syne, climbing the hill Difficulty, and the end of the journey will be eternal life."—*Paisley Daily Express*, Aug. 13, 1907.

"THE SHOWMEN'S YEAR BOOK" for 1907. Edited by the Rev. T. Horne. Entirely rearranged, corrected, and enlarged; 100 pages. Price 1s. Principal contents: "British Shows and Showmen," "Constitution and Rules of the Showmen's Guilds," "Lists of Fairs," "Local Feasts and Wakes," "Synopsis of By-laws," &c. Invaluable to all who follow the fair. Sold at "THE ERA" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.C.

THE AWARDS. The three interim Awards and the final Award, corrected and revised by George Ranken Askwith, Esq., the official arbitrator appointed in the Music Hall Dispute, may be had in pamphlet form at "THE ERA" Offices. Copy, including postage, three-half-pence. Address: The Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

INDISPENSABLE! Rayne's "Pocket Date Book." Contents: Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various music halls at a glance. Will tell if one hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety. All about artists' luggage, list of clubs, information about stamping contracts, foreign money table, London music halls and theatres, their telephone numbers, list of brougham proprietors, list and address of photographers, size of theatrical printing paper, names and addresses of theatrical railway managers, &c. Price 1s., post free. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. "THE ERA" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

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ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 28, Dec. 16, Feb. 10, 17, 24, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 17, 24, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Dec. 16, Feb. 10, April 6, 13, May 11, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Jan. 27, March 2, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9, 16,
Feb. 10, March 2, 9, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 20, Feb. 3, 17, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Dec. 2, 9, Feb. 3, April 6, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Nov. 11, Dec. 16, Jan. 13, 20, on
(Panto. Required).
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21 (3 nights each),
Xmas week, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
1908. May 11, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
1908, April 13, May 11, onwards.
Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole T., Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Sept. 23, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, Dec. 9, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Oct. 21, Nov. 25, Dec. 9, 16, 30, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Sept. 16, 30, Oct. 7, 21, 28 (three nights only).
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Theatre Royal, Canterbury, Sept. 16, 30, Oct. 7 (three nights only). Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Sept. 23 and Oct. 28.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, Attraction, Oct. 7.
WM. MORTON.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, First-Class Musical Attractions, for the only vacant dates this year, viz.,
Oct. 7, Dec. 9 and 23.
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Musical and other London Attractions, Sept. 9, 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 25, and Xmas Panto. FRED GRANVILLE, T. R., Hyde.

WANTED, for Race Week, Oct. 7, Musical Attraction.
COURTICE, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE,
First-Class Attractions for Dec. 2, 16, Pantomime, Dec. 30, on, Jan. 6, 27, March 2 and 9, 16, 23, 30.
Apply,
JAMES KIERNAN, Manager and Owner.

WANTED, owing to Alteration of Arrangement, Special Attraction (not Drama) for Xmas and New Year's Weeks. Particulars to SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport.

WANTED, owing to alteration of arrangements, suitable Holiday Attractions for Xmas and New Year's weeks.
Silence a negative.
SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport.

LONDESBORO' THEATRE, SCARBORO'.
WANTED, Comedy or Musical Company, Oct. 7, 3 nights. WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

WANTED, Attractions, Musical preferred. New T., Bromsgrove (3 nights). First Vacant Date, Dec. 12, on, with exceptions. Xmas Vac. Panto (3 or 9 nights). VINCENT, Barker-street, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Prince's Theatre, Llandudno,
Sept. 30 to Oct. 2, Oct. 3 to 5, and 10 to 12 (3 nights each). Address, J. RITSON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, good Musical or Dramatic Attractions, Sept. 2, 9, 23; Business excellent.
L. CARSON.

BRIDLINGTON OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, good Musical Play or other really First-Class Attraction, for Sept. 5, 6, and 7, not Drama. HENRY HAGUE, General-Manager.

CRITERION THEATRE, WORKSOP.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for last three nights of each week; Share or Rental.
S. GOODMAN, Proprietor.

WANTED, Attractions Touring Scotland to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, N.B. Vacant dates, apply to Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, Sept. 19, 20, 21, also Oct., onwards, with exceptions.
W. PAYNE.

WORTHING THEATRE.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Oct. 21, 28, 31, Nov. 7 several dates onwards, three nights each instance, only First-class Companies need apply; also open for good Panto. at Xmas.
Now Booking Spring and Summer, 1908.
C. A. SEEBOLD, as above.

WANTED, Complete Pantomime Co. and Dramas, for several Theatres, North. Fullest particulars, SAKER'S Agency, 17, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W. 'Phone, 194 Brixton.

WANTED, for Pavilion Theatre, St. Leonards, First-class Companies only, Musical or Farcical Comedies preferred, Sept. 9 (?), 16, and 23, on, with exceptions. Apply, ELVEY THOMAS.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.
Lessee, J. BANNISTER HOWARD.
WANTED, to oblige Mr. Mouillot, Oct. 21, good Company, other Dates, March 9, 16, 23, 30, and Autumn, 1908. J. BANNISTER HOWARD, 15, Clifford's Inn, Fleet-street, London.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant Dec. 16, Feb. 24, onward (with exceptions)

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant Nov. 11, 18, 25, onward (with exceptions)

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant Oct. 7, 28, Nov. 4, onward (with exceptions).

THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY DOCK.
Vacant Nov. 11, Dec. 2, onward (with exceptions).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH,
Vacant (?) (with exceptions).
(Last three nights of each week.)

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Sept. 30, Oct. 21, onward (with exceptions).

ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

MORTON'S POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
Sept. 23, Oct. 7, Jan. 20, 27, and on.
Exceptional Business
in June and July.
£60 and £70 was taken on Saturday alone.
Opened on Monday.
Opened to a House Packed in all Parts.
Tuesday, nearly as good.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
Oct. 7, 21, Dec. 2, Jan. 13, 27.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, Really First-Class Attractions, Sept. 23,
Oct. 28,
Nov. 25.
JAMES BELL.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, a First-Class Pantomime, for Xmas, vacant through obliging Mr. C. Constant.
Address,
GEO. CONQUEST.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
Lessees, Messrs. W. PAYNE SEDDON and ERNEST POPE.
WANTED, Good Company, Sept. 5, 6, 7, Oct. 10, 11, 12, Dec. 5, 6, 7, 9, and on.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Vacant, Sept. 16 and on.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
Wanted, Good Companies, Sept. 12, 13, and 14, and occasional dates throughout Winter Season.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

WATERLOO THEATRE, WHITBY.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. JULIAN BAINBRIDGE.
WANTED, Aug. 29, (three nights), Sept. 2, 9, and various onwards; wire for Aug. 29. Bookings include "His House in Order," "Lights Out," "Dancing Girls of Spain," Florence Glossop-Harris, "Hero of the Flag," "In Old Madrid," "Naval Detective," &c.; good strong Dramas preferred for winter months.

WANTED, A1 Attractions, Sept. 2, Oct. 14, 21, 28, on, with exceptions.
Address, W. E. POTTS, Opera House, Dunfermline.

KING'S HALL THEATRE, SKEGNESS.
WANTED, First-class Companies, from Aug. 26 to end of September. Hall 52ft. by 46ft.; Stage, 27ft. by 34ft.; Opening, 12ft.
Seating accommodation between 500 and 600.
Sharing terms or rental.
Address, HERBERT LENTON, Manager, as above.

WANTED, Fit-up Companies, with good printing, North preferred, Variety, Pictures, Choirs, Dramatic or Burlesque. Write, BARRETT, London Standard Direction Co., 120, Theobalds-road, London W.C.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
W. J. COTTON, Proprietor.
Seats 600;
Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, share or rent.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, for Sept. 23, and Nov. 11, for Victoria Opera House.
Wire, HORNER, Burnley.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, Sept. 23,
to follow "Raffles" and precede Miss Annie Hughes. Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Oct. 21, Nov. 18 and 25, Dec. 2 and 9.
Apply,
Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-st., London, S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 2.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept 23.
Apply,
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 9, 23.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 2, 9, and 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 25, Dec. 2 and 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Dec. 9, 23, 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Important Theatre, Dec. 23, Feb. 3, 17, March 2, 23.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, 18.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 21, Dec. 2, 23, 30.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates for this Great Romantic Drama,
Sept. 23, 24, 25 (three nights),
Oct. 21, Dec. 23.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates, the Sterling Domestic Play,
Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 28, Nov. 11, Dec. 2.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates, The Great Money-maker,
Oct. 7, 14, Dec. 23.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE LITTLE OUTCAST."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates, this Great Heart Play,
Jan. 20, March 2, on.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 30 and Oct. 28, in First-class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, weeks of Dec. 23 and 30.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"
and
"THE OCTOROON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Oct. 7.
A calm peace reigned at the Theatre Royal, where one could rest and enjoy "Uncle Tom's Cabin," acted with a realism and attention to details such as one had not known for years.—Birmingham Town Crier.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Victoria, Rhymney.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Oct. 28 and Dec. 9.
J. W. CORDINER,
Theatre Royal, Bilston.
See Companies' Advertisement, page 2.

"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
WANTED, Nov. 4 and Dec. 30.
J. W. CORDINER,
Theatre Royal, Bilston.
See Companies Advertisement, page 2.

MR. THOMAS SIDNEY'S CO. in
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, Wanted Dates, Sept. 16 (three nights, to follow Swansea) Sept. 23, and onwards, with exceptions.
THOMAS SIDNEY, 16, Long-acre, W.C.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Oct. 7, Nov. 11 and 25, Xmas and New Year's Week vacant.
Communications to DOUGLAS TREMAYNE,
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.

WANTED, Known, Miss Mary Neil is now Booking her New Play,
"FROM SHOP-GIRL TO DUCHESS,"
by Charles Darrell.
Communications to GEORGE KIRK,
Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
Mr. David James as the Rev. Robert Spalding.
WANTED, Oct. 7, 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25, Dec. 23, 30. Managers with above dates kindly write, E. C. STAFFORD, Ivy Farm, West Runton, Norfolk.

JERRARD GRANT ALLEN'S COMPANY,
including Mr. H. A. Saintsbury (by arrangement with Mr. J. Maundy Gregory), Miss Nina Sevening, Miss Haidée Wright, &c., in
"THE KNAVE OF HEARTS,"
by
Gladys Unger.
WANTED, Sept. 23, 30 (3), Oct. 14, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, JERRARD GRANT ALLEN,
20, Buckingham-street, Strand, W.C.

MESSRS. ELLIMAN'S ENTERPRISES.
"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, Sept. 2 (?), 9, 16, for this great Attraction, undoubtedly one of the successes of the year; doing tremendous business everywhere (refer, refer). Several Autumn Dates. Christmas and New Year also vacant. Do not miss this great Attraction. Wire, wire, wire, C. ELLIMAN, Royal, Hyde; next, Royal, Seaham Harbour.

WILLIAM HOLLES and NANNIE GOLDMAN'S CO., in the great Domestic Drama, entitled,
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
by Arthur Shirley.
WANTED, Oct. 7 (between Manchester and Grimsby). Enormous success at Oldham. Managers kindly refer to Mr. E. Dottridge.
Wire, WILLIAM HOLLES, Queen's, Keighley.

WYBERT CLIVE'S CO.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
"THE CONSCRIPT."
The greatest of all Russian Dramas.
WANTED, Sept. 2 and 9, Wanted, Sept. 2 and 9,
for this great Attraction. Clear Stage only required. Wire for Sept. 2. To-day and next week, T. R., Edmonton.

"THE GRIP OF IRON" No. 1 CO.
WANTED (unexpectedly vacant), Nov. 18, Nov. 18, Nov. 18 (Midlands or London). Only vacant dates this year.
Apply, E. H. KNIGHT, 7, The Crescent, Barnes, S.W.

WANTED, Sept. 2 (follow Cardiff), 9, for "Beneath the Stars." Refer everywhere. Wire to-day, COLEMAN DAVIES, Theatre, Bilston; next week, T. R., Cardiff.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 14, 28. Address,
VAN BIENE, O. H., Workington.

"WANTED BY THE POLICE."
WANTED, Sept. 16, Oct. 14, 21, 28 (Midlands), genuine success of this novel Drama. "Robinson Crusoe" Pantomime vacant Jan. 6, 27. Feb. 3, 10, important Theatres only. HERBERT BARRS, Theatres, Maesteg (3), Treherbert (3).

MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW" CO.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 7, 14, New Year, Jan. 13, onwards, for the above Attraction.
Address,
ARMADALE and WARREN,
Opera House, Dudley.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S CO., "THE TRAITOR."
WANTED, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2 and 9, onwards
E. HILL-MITCHELSON,
Theatre Royal, Leeds.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Sept. 30 (North), Nov. 4, 18, 25 (Midlands).
DICKIE CLARE, Theatre, Middleton.

"WOMAN AND WINE."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Oct. 14 (through Gunsferring). Wire to-day, EDMONDS, Camden Theatre, N.W. Monday, T. R., Hanley.

WANTED, for "Under the Czar," Sept. 30, Oct. 7, and later dates; fine show.
WILSON HOWARD, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR" CO.
WANTED Oct. 21 and 28
STUART CLEVELAND, Queen's, Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Oct. 21, 22, 23, Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 25, for "Dancing Girls" and "Office Hours." Full company; special scenery. Wire, HALDANE BRICHTON, 21, Granby-street, Liverpool; next week, East Molesey.

WANTED, Managers with vacant Pantomime dates, to communicate with
J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

THEATRES WANTED.

A Rollicking Roaring Success.
A Rollicking Roaring Success.
A Rollicking Roaring Success.
MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO. in the New Romantic Irish Musical Legendary Play,
"ROLLICKING RORY."
"ROLLICKING RORY."
"ROLLICKING RORY."
The Wigan Press says:
A play crammed full of music and mirth. Mr. Mackey is to be congratulated on a personal triumph.
The St. Helens Press says:
Rollicking roaring fun is the predominant feature at the theatre this week.
Singing delightful.
There could be no question about the heartiness of the reception. . . . While a story is told which is full of the deepest interest, there is a merry ring about the play which should make it particularly attractive. . . . There is no attempt here to travesty the Irish character, as is done in many so-called Irish plays. . . . The sentiment is healthy, the fun is rollicking. . . . continuous laughter from the opening scene to the fall of the curtain. . . . There can only be words of praise for the manner in which the play is staged, the scenery and dresses being really fine.
No Vacant Dates this year.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Now Booking Spring 1908. No. 1 Theatres only. Absolutely a No. 1 Production.
CHALMERS MACKEY,
Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, Aug. 26 (six nights).

CHARLES CARTWRIGHT and A. B. TAPPING'S DICKENS REPERTOIRE COMPANY.
"DAVID COPPERFIELD."
"DOMBEY AND SON."
WANTED, Sept. 16, Oct. 14, Only Vacant Dates.
Address, Mr. FRANK JACKSON,
11, St. Albans-place, Haymarket, S.W.

"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
The latest Successful Musical Comedy, absolutely the strongest Musical Comedy Cast on the road.
Full London Operatic Chorus.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for this great Attraction,
Sept. 16, Sept. 16, Sept. 16
(to follow Merthyr),
Sept. 23, Sept. 23, Sept. 23,
and on, with exceptions.
Wire or write, HAMILTON BAINES,
this, Leicester; next, Queen's, Manchester.

HARDIE AND VON LEER'S CO.
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, First-Class Theatre, Sept. 23 (Midlands; also vacant, Oct. 7, Nov. 11, 25, Dec. 23
E. P. CLIFT, 110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Wires, "Vagancy, London" Tel. No. Gerr. 7504.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE LOVE OF A LIFE,"
by Eugène Gotere.
Splendid reception this week at Grand T., Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Refer Sidney Bacon, Esq.
Thanks Messrs. G. B. Ormerod and Rich. Waldron for Contracts.
Wanted, Sept. 9 (?), 16, 23, on, with exceptions.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
by Wm. Hibbert.
WANTED, Sept. 9 (?), 16, 23, on, with exceptions.
Address all communications to
JOHN B. SHINTON,
Grand T., Newcastle-on-Tyne;
next, T. R., Middlesbro'.

STANLEY CARLTON'S CO.
"A SECRET WEDDING."
By Edward Darley and Fred Benton.
WANTED, for this Great Comedy-Drama, Sept. 23 (precede Glasgow), Oct. 7, 14, 21 (between Glasgow and London), only vacant dates this year. Five full sets carried. All printing specially cut by Allen. Wire for Sept. 23, Sept. 23. Next, Carlton Theatre, Saltley, Birmingham. "A Life's Story" and "A Marriage of Vengeance," Vacation.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for "A MOTHER'S LOVE,"
Sept. 30,
Sept. 30,
Sept. 30,
between Manchester and Newcastle;
Oct. 14, North.
Oct 28, North
Address,
FRED L. CONNYNGHAME, to-day, Prince's, Portsmouth; next, Mechanics' Institute, Swindon.

"AT BREAK OF DAY."
WANTED, Dates, for above Drama, Oct. 15 and onwards. First-Class Company and Scenery; printing by David Allen. VERNON, Theatre, Peterborough.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Renowned Attraction, Good Theatres for weeks of
Sept. 9, 23, 30,
Oct. 21, 28.
Address, C. and F. RENAD, Grand T., Mansfield.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.
"THE OLD, OLD STORY."
WANTED, Sept. 9 (follow T. R., Stratford). Sept. 16, Oct. 7. Wire for Sept. 9, EDWARD SURREY, to-day, T. R., Stratford; next, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Theatres, for this Never-failing Musical Attraction, Sept. 23, and various on, also Spring. Perfect cast, full chorus, dancers, and specialities.
Wire, MARRIS, O. H., Jersey.

"THE HERO OF THE FLAG."
WANTED, Sept. 2, Sept. 2. Wire, wire. Sept. 9 15. and Dec. 23. EDWARD MCLEAN, T. R., Blyth; next, Waterloo T., Whitby.

"HIS SISTER'S HONOUR,"
by Eva Elwes.
WANTED, Oct. 14 and 21, to precede T. R., Leeds, only vacant dates till March, 1908. Refer W. D. Forsdike, Esq., Alex., Sheffield.
Wire, E. A'DELL,
Pier Pavilion, Teignmouth, Devon.

WANTED, Known, Sept. 23, 24, 25, Sept. 30, Vacant for "Under Two Flags." MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, for Thomas Thorne, in "Our Boys," or Répertoire, Sept. 23 and 30; other dates open for other Attractions RUSSELL ROSSE, 70, King-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Theatres, capable of holding good money to secure First-class Pantomime, done in the best possible manner.
Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

CAMERON and ALEXANDER'S CO.
"UNDER THE STARS AND STRIPES."
"UNDER THE STARS AND STRIPES."
"UNDER THE STARS AND STRIPES."
WANTED, Aug. 26, Aug. 26, Aug. 26, through breach of contract.
through breach of contract.
Wire, CAMERON, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

BENSON'S CO., "THE LADY OF HAIGH; or, A WIFE'S PENANCE," (MAB'S CROSS).
WANTED, Dates onward, from Nov. (with exceptions), gigantic success, record business, brilliant scenery, costumes, company, and printing. See advertisement in other columns. Address, BENSON, 10, Darlington-street, Wigan.

SIDNEY RENNEF'S COMPANY.
"LOVE RULES THE WORLD," by T. G. Bailey.
WANTED, good Theatre, Xmas, New Year and onward, for this Big Success. Eight full sets carried. Splendid printing. All special. G. M. COPPING, Grand, Glasgow; next, Alexandra, Greenock.

Messrs. LIONEL GLENISTER and WOOD-INGRAM present
Miss KATE CUTLER
in "ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY."
WANTED, Sept. 23. Address, J. WOOD-INGRAM, Duke York's T., W.C.

WANTED, for "The Woman Pays." Oct. 14, North or Scotland, Nov. 11 (L. and Y.), and Dec. 2, 23, 30. F. M. THORNE, Opera H. Wakefield.

THEATRES WANTED.

"SAVED FROM THE SEA."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
Everything carried.
Bookings include Prince's, Portsmouth; Alex., Hull; Court, Warrington; Rot., Liverpool; Col., Oldham; Alex., Sheffield; Met., Devonport; Alex., Birmingham; Queen's, Longton; Empire, Southend; O. H., St. Helens
WANTED, Oct. 14, between Sheffield and Devonport, Nov. 11, between Norwich and Workington, Dec. 2 (?), 9, Xmas Week, and Spring, 1908, with various exceptions.
Apply, SAMUEL JAMES,
Theatre Royal, Croydon.

"THE LOVE THAT LASTS FOR EVER."
By Edward Thane.
WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 21, Nov. 4, 18, Dec. 2 (?), Xmas Week.
Clear Stage only required.
Apply,
SAMUEL JAMES,
as above.

"AS GOOD AS GOLD,"
by Fred S. Jennings.
Past and present bookings include Dalston, West London, Alex., Birmingham, P. O. W., Grimsby, P. O. W., Salford, T. R., Chatham, T. R., Smethwick.
Everything Carried. Clear Stage only Required.
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 14, 28, Nov. 11, 25, Xmas Week. Apply, SAMUEL JAMES, as above.

ALFRED B. CROSS' TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
Supported by Miss Watersford (Mrs. Cross), and Powerful Company. Sixth Year of Tour.
WANTED, Oct. 14 and 21, and few Later, "DIVORCED,"
a New Powerful Domestic Drama; also "DAVID GARRICK,"
if Required. Both Solid Successes.
Third visit to Vic., Burnley, and Business better than ever. Aug. 26, O. H., Northampton.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY.
"THE BEST OF HER SEX."
The Dramatic Success of 1907. Another Big Hit at Opera House, Wakefield, this week. Refer to T. Sherwood, Esq.
WANTED, Sept. 16 (three nights, follow Chesterfield and precede Crewe), 30, Oct. 14, 21, and onwards, with exceptions. Christmas and New Year vacant. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, this, Opera House, Wakefield; next, T. R., Leicester.

TRAVIS GREEN AND ARTHUR HINTON'S CO.
"HOME, SWEET HOME," by Frank Lindo.
WANTED, Known, unexpectedly vacant, for this tremendous Drawing Attraction,
Sept. 2 and 16, Sept. 2 and 16, Sept. 2 and 16,
Wire, Wire, Wire.
Everything travelled; most complete production touring; printing awaiting dispatch.
The West End production of the great mystic play
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN,"
Vacant Sept. 2, Sept. 2.
Wire or write, GREEN and HINTON, this, Theatre, Stourbridge; next week, Metropole T., Devonport.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction,
Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 21,
Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 16,
Dec. 23, 30.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1908.
Aug. 26, Lyceum, Newport.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Theatres, for this Never-failing Musical Attraction, Sept. 23, and various on, also Spring. Perfect cast, full chorus, dancers, and specialities.
Wire, MARRIS, O. H., Jersey.

"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."
WANTED, Theatres for above, Oct. 14, Nov. 25, Dec. 23 and 30.
Address
FRED ACTON, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, Oct. 14, 21 (Midlands), Oct. 14 and 21,
Nov. 4 and 25,
Oct. 14, 21, Nov. 4, 25.
Fast Booking Spring, '08.
Cast, Scenery, and Printing A1. Refer.
FRANK AYRTON,
Prince's Theatre, Preston (return).

Sept. 30. Sept. 30. Sept. 30.
WANTED, Theatre, between Manchester and Oldham, for
"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK,"
with Frank Lawton.
Apply, GEO. MUSGROVE, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

Mrs. ANN HUGHES' CO.
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
Unprecedented Success of Reproduction of this great Musical Attraction.
WANTED, Sept. 16 (must be North or Midlands), Oct. 7, and a few later.
Also Spring.
Monday's excellent house doubled here on Tuesday. Refer Mr. Horner.
All communications,
Mrs. ANN HUGHES, Opera House, Burnley; next, Kilmarnock (3); Kirkcaldy (3).

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae. "THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by F. A. Scudamore. One or both Plays Vacant.
WANTED, Sept. 16, 30, Dec. 30. Wire, to-day, FRANCES DELAVAL, East Oxford Theatre; next, Star, Swansea.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
"THE IDOL OF PARIS,"
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 14, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 23.
"The Era" says:—Should take front rank among provincial productions.
A Great Attraction and a Big Moneymaker.
Address, JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Theatres, for this Never-failing Musical Attraction, Sept. 23, and various on, also Spring. Perfect cast, full chorus, dancers, and specialities.
Wire, MARRIS, O. H., Jersey.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Sept. 2, Oct. 21, 28, Xmas.
FRED BULMER, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

"FROM SCOTLAND YARD."
WANTED, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25.
FRED BULMER, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
WANTED, Sept. 2, 23, Oct. 21, 28.
FRED BULMER, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 7, Nov. 4.
FRED BULMER, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Sept. 2, Sept. 2, Sept. 2.
FRED BULMER, to-day, St. James's, Manchester.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Sept. 2, Sept. 2, Sept. 2.
FRED BULMER, to-day, St. James's, Manchester; Mon., G. T., Glasgow.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES CO., LTD
"FAIR ONE WITH GOLDEN LOCKS."
WANTED, Good Theatre, North, Feb. 3 (only vacant date). STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

HARTWELL J. KIRBY'S CO., including the Popular Actress, MISS V. ST. LAWRENCE, with the successful, moral, and up-to-the-minute Melodrama,
"MAN'S ENEMY; or, THE LOVE THAT WON."
WANTED, Sept. 16 (follow Prince's, Blackburn), vacant through misunderstanding, vacant Sept. 16. New plant of printing in hand by Allen's. Good Theatres required remaining dates Oct., Nov., and Dec.; Wanted, Xmas week. All coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK, this, Cambridge T., Spennymoor; Mon. next, Metropole, Gateshead.

WANTED, Big Theatres, Sept. 9 and 16, for Scottie's Colossal Variety Combine, including Scottie's Waifs and Strays. Assembly Rooms, Pontefract.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, Sept. 9, Sept. 9, various onward dates.

A delightful and most desirable attraction.

Playing to excellent business regularly.
Nearly £300 gross at Prince's, Glasgow.
Nearly £200 last week at Norwich,
Over £100 in three nights at Lynn.
These are fair samples of receipts since March.

Refer
Mr. Rich. Waldon, Mr. Fred Morgan, Herr Pareezer.
Also Vacant,
All October (to follow Isle of Wight Tour),
Nov. 25, Dec. 23.
Vacant 1908,
March 2 (to precede Govan),
April 27 (follow Buchanan Tour),
Aug. 31 (follow Princess's, Glasgow),
Oct. 10 (follow Eastern Counties Tour).
Wire re Sept. 9, LOIE ESMOND,
To-day and Monday, Julian's Hall, Guernsey;
Aug. 27 and rest of week, O. H., Jersey.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR,"
Eighth Year of Tour
The Musical Something-to-Laugh-At.
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14.

Splendid
Opening at Darlington.
Tuesday Night
Big Advance.

Piece received with roars of laughter and Genuine applause.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR"
is
the talk of Darlington.
Strong Musical Comedy,
including
MISS ETHEL WARD as IVY,
MISS FLORENCE SMITHERS as JANE,
Chorus and Dancers.

Re Dates, EDWARD MARRIS, T. R., Darlington.
Monday next, Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

"HOME, SWEET HOME."
The Great Domestic Drama, by Frank Lindo.
WANTED, good Theatres, for few remaining dates, vacant this year, Nov. 18 and 25, also Christmas; fast filling Spring and Autumn, 1908.
Mr. Frank Lindo,
Miss Marion Wakeford,
in their original parts, as played by them over 1,000 times.
Address,
FRANK LINDO, Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY and
MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO., in
the highly successful Comedy,
"MY WIFE," "MY WIFE."
Now playing to crowded houses at the HAYMARKET THEATRE, LONDON.
Special Engagement of Mr. EILLE NORWOOD.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Sept. 30, Nov. 4 and 11.
Add., Mr. S. DAUNCEY, T. R., Great Yarmouth.

LINGFORD CARSON'S SUCCESSES. By Geo. A. De Gray. "THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
A Bigger Draw than Ever.
WANTED, Sept. 9, Oct. 7, 14 (through transfer to oblige), Dec. 2, 30.
"A FIGHT FOR A THRONE."
An absolutely unequalled production, and a worthy successor to "The Power of the Cross."—Vide Managers and Public.
Vacant Oct. 7, 14, Nov. 25, Christmas, only Vacant Dates this year. Spring and Autumn, 1908, fast filling for both plays. GEO. A. DE GRAY, this, Lyceum, Govan; next, T. R., South Shields.

Mr. F. B. WOULFE'S COMPANY.
"THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD."
"And the people that walked in darkness have seen a great light."
A Real Attraction.
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, and Xmas.
F. B. WOULFE, Opera House, Kidderminster.

AN
UNMISTAKABLE
SUCCESS.
THE FAMOUS NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA.
Twelve Coloured Ladies and Gentlemen.
Survivors of the recent terrible earthquake.
Record houses everywhere.
Return dates at increased terms.
A Novelty.
A Charming Entertainment.
Sensational Success.
H.R.H. the Princess Henry of Battenberg and party were delighted at the original and unique performance.
WANTED, first vacant date Nov. 18, and onwards, with exceptions.
Sole Managers, Messrs. H. E. JONES and A. DOUGLASS, 21, Water-street, Liverpool.
'Phones 5550 and 2449 Central.
Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."

WANTED, Theatres and Large Halls, on Sharing Terms, for Pett's Perfect Animated Pictures and Star Vaudeville Variety and Concert Company, one of the best Companies on the road, Sept. 30 and onwards. Managers please send open dates and best sharing terms. No. 1 Company, under the sole management of Fred Conway, Star Comedian and Expert Dancer; the whole Company comprising twenty-two Artists. Can combine the whole or three separate Companies.

Sole Proprietor, J. M. PETT,
4, Fordel-road, Catford, S.E.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Drama, good Low Comedian, Juvenile Lead, Heavy Man, Dude, to open about Oct. 15. Lowest terms. Will Gerald Clark write if disengaged?
Box 5,288, "The Era."

WANTED, for Tour, Low Comedian, Juvenile Lady, Juvenile Gentleman, Lady to play with French accent, and Actor for Boy's parts; all must be experienced. Lowest terms and photos. absolutely necessary. Box 5,292, "The Era."

ROSE MONCRIEFF'S COMPANY.
"THE CURATE."
WANTED, Full Company, with exceptions, open September. Lowest terms, photos., references (letter only), NEWMAN MAURICE, Alder House Alderbrook-road, Clapham Common.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists, in all Lines, Regent Theatre, Hackney.
Call or write, HARRY WARD.

WANTED, Wanted, for
"WHO'S ZOO?"
"WHO'S ZOO?"
"WHO'S ZOO?"
"WHO'S ZOO?"
Musical Farcical Sketch, First-Class Soubrette, Clever Smart Comedian for keeper at Zoo, Aristocratic Major, Tenor who can act, and Soprano for Juvenile, also Male and Lady Choristers. Rehearse Glasgow, Sept. 5; open Sept. 16, for a Special three weeks' trial trip.

If successful, Tour to follow.

Photos., references, lowest terms, &c., to
E. T. DE BANZIE,
Gibbs' Piano Warehouse,
112, Cambridge-street, Glasgow.

See Sketches.

WANTED, Lady, young, pretty, for Sketch, Sept. 2, rehearse at once; must have white evening dress and opera cloak. Lowest terms, &c., to MANAGER,
31, Cadogan-street, Sloane-square.

WANTED, Smart Comedian and Soubrette (with voice), for Musical Comedy; rehearse Brighton, Sept. 2. Address, HALDANE CRICHTON, 21, Granby-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Immediately (rehearse Tuesday), Sound, Experienced Leading Lady, dress well, on and off; also Sound Juvenile and Character Lady; for four or five weeks' stock. Wire or write, THOMSON, Pier, Paignton, Devon.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for "Bunch of Violets" and Répertoire, pretty young Actress, for small parts; also Character Actor, capable straight parts. Wilton Marsh write. Particulars, RAYNOR, Theatre Royal, Preston.

BANDMANN'S EASTERN CIRCUIT.
WANTED, immediately, for The Bandmann Comedy Company, a First-Class Juvenile Leading Man, must have good appearance, dress well on and off the stage, and thoroughly capable Actor.

Address, enclosing photograph, stating previous experience, references, and full particulars, with lowest terms (absolutely essential),
ALFRED DOVE, 23, Gerrard-street, W.

WANTED, for Stock Season, Good Heavy Man, also Young Lady, to combine heavies and old women, one with a child actress preferred; also Good Responsibles; open Sept. 5, rehearse Aug. 30. Lowest terms, references, and photos., JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, for "The Prodigal Parson," &c., Character Actor, for Emotional Part. Terms (tour), photograph, &c., to Messrs. NORTHWAY and GARROD, T. R., Chesterfield; rehearse immediately.

THE LYCEUM SUCCESS.
"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."
WANTED, fine, tall, powerful Juvenile Man, for Prince Maurice; 11 weeks in London.
WALTER HOWARD, Court Theatre, Wigan.

"A KNIGHT IN ARMOUR" CO.
WANTED, Good Juvenile Man, capable of light comedy. Photos., references (which will be applied for), and lowest terms, FRED J. WEBB, this, Luton; next, Grand, Walsall.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Smart Comedian, for Brown, must rehearse Dundee next week; also First-class Advance Agent. Refers., terms, &c., till Saturday, E. MARRIS, T. R., Darlington; after, G. T., Dundee.

LINGFORD CARSON'S CO'S.
WANTED, First-class Low Comedian, also Light Comedian (Dude). Full particulars, photos., &c. Steady and reliable Artists only need apply. GEO. A. DE GRAY, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

WANTED, Heavy Man, for Sketch. All particulars, photos. if not known, LANCELOT USHER, 154, Great Mersey-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, at Once, a Gentleman, 5ft. or under, for important part in Sketch; must have good deep speaking voice. Only men of education need apply. WELLESLEY LYNN,
119, Fielding-road, Bedford-park, W.

Mr. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S TOURS.
WANTED, Two Gentleman and One Lady, for Understudy, and very Small Parts. ASHLEY, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for Tour, a Child, over ten years, and look as young as possible.
Apply, MANNERS, Lyric Theatre, W.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen wishing to receive a Shakespearean Stage Training in London, and Engagement to follow. PRINCIPAL, 15, Hurst-grove, Bedford.

WANTED, Young Gent., to play small part and learn duties of Acting Management, with well-known Co., on Tour. No premium; salary. Box 5,296, "The Era."

WANTED, Deep Basses and First and Second Tenors, for a splendid Quartette, Engagement permanent, Voice trial at Percy Hall, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road, Monday, Aug. 26, at 2 o'clock sharp.

WANTED, to complete Company for Indian Tour, leaving Oct., Principal Soprano, Principal Baritone, and Première Danseuse; a few vacancies for Chorus. Apply, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, Two Powerful High Sopranos, up to B flat.
Address,
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Tenor or Baritone; must be good, and used to movements; for three weeks, probably longer. Particulars, WILMOTT FOWLER, Pagoda, West Kirby.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman (Novices); good address indispensable. CHARLES TERRISS, 44, Gower-st. Write or call, 2 till 4.

WANTED, by Miss Mattie Cronin, smart Acrobatic Lady Dancers, between 14 and 20 years of age.
Apply,
Tuesday morning, Hippodrome, Salford, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Beginners, unless exceptionally bright, need not apply.

WANTED, Expert Dancers, smart appearance, rehearse immediately. Call or write, Monday next, 1 to 5, 17 Waller-road, New Cross Gate, S.E.

WANTED, Ballet Dancers, for Tour, Moody-Manners Opera Co.
Apply 11-1, Stage Door, Lyric Theatre.

WANTED, immediately, Young Lady, fair, experienced Dancer; strong voice. Write height, age, &c., LLOYD, 29, Mayer-street, Hanley, Staffs.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement in Sketch, Drama, or Comedy, capable Light Comedy or other parts; good references; terms low. HAMPDEN SANDERS, Belper, Derbyshire.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Vocalist (Contralto), refined, well-trained, combine 'Cello, Engagement till end Sept. in Concert Party or Hotel; experienced.

WANTED, Known, First-class Tenor Soloist, with Refined Répertoire, at Liberty for Concerts, Seaside or Town. Address, Box 5,283, "The Era."

Wouldn't mind if he danced on my feet.
WANTED, Known, Young Man just completing prolonged course of Grotesque Dancing under private tuition of one of the best known past masters of the Art desires Engagement, Musical Comedy or Panto.
Apply, Box 5,189, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists,
Comedians,
Principal Ladies,
Musical Conductors,
Dancers, &c., &c.
Write, stating full particulars and lowest terms, to JOHN TULLER and Co.,
15, Lime-grove, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for Pantomime (London), Good Principal Boy and Girl, also good Lady Choristers. Apply any day, 12 or 3, BASIL DAWSON, 52, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, tall Chorus and Show Ladies, for Pantomime. References, terms, &c., to E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Mabel Hind, the Dainty Comedienne. This, Palace, Glasgow; next, Pavilion, Newcastle. Offers invited for Pantomime.

WANTED, Pantomime, the Marvellous Cascellas, refined Comedy Acrobats and Tumblers, Parts and Speciality. Address, 3, Waverley-road, Walthamstow.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Charlie Dillon, the well-known Comedian, is disengaged for Panto. This week, Empire, Edinburgh; next, Empire, Sunderland.

WANTED, by Allen Amber, Panto., Dame or Page, last year Ugly Sister with Charles Chard's "Cinderella." Add., White Stars, Cleethorpes (fourth season).

WANTED, Up-to-date Harlequinade, at Liberty for Christmas, Theatres or Halls. Special scene and properties found. Ten Principals and Ten Auxiliaries. Terms and particulars, address, JOHN ALEXANDER, 13, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Panto. the World's Premier Dog Act, Chard's Dashing Dog Circus.
C/o "The Era."

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Locte's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Theatrical Contracts, Fit-ups, Repainting, &c. Call or address, W. HENRY, Scenic Artist, 104 Loughborough-park, Brixton.

WANTED, Contracts, for Carlyle Scenic Studio; High-class Scenery at very lowest prices. W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-rd., S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Frederick Stafford, Scenic Artist. Highest references and designs. 24, Shearer-road, Portsmouth.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Phil Ray to Songwriters.

WANTED, smart Young Author, to act as Secretary;
must be single,
and capable of turning out Funny Material.
Would be required to live with Mr. Ray.

Address,
with list of songs written,
PHIL RAY, New Malden, Surrey.

WANTED, Resident-Manager for Small Provincial Music Hall, must be thoroughly competent to take full control, understand the management of the bar, and have excellent references.
Send full particulars to
Box 5,304, "The Era."

WANTED, smart, reliable Stage-Manager, for Provincial Music Hall.
Apply, Stage-Manager, Box 5,305, "Era."

WANTED, Smart Man, able to take full charge of Cinématograph Department, Film Hire, &c., married preferred.
Apply, with terms and reference, to PAYNE, 346, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, Real Live Man, as Manager, able to take full charge of living picture show when governor is away. Terms, reference, PAYNE, Dreamland, Station-road, Aldershot.

WANTED, Steady, Reliable Bill-poster, care horse, trap. FRED LEWIS, Circus Agent, Saturday, Cork; after, 30, Great George's-street, Belfast.

WANTED, First-class Billposter; good references indispensable. Apply, ROCKLEYS, LTD., Talbot-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, a few Billposters and Window-Billers, smart; abstainers preferred.
A. E. PICKARD, Britannia Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Alhambra, Edinburgh, opening Sept. 2, Billers, Checkers, Lobbymen, Programme Sellers, &c.

WANTED, on Monday, 26th, at People's Palace, Tottenham, complete Advertising Staff, also Money and Check Takers; local men preferred. WOOD, People's Palace, Tottenham.

WANTED, Baggage-man to combine Small Utility Part. Apply, HARRY PLEON, Oxford Palace, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, for Long Tour, smart, gentlemanly Baggage, small parts. Particulars, age, height, last two references, G. RANDALL, Assembly Rooms, Barmouth.

WANTED, for London Music Hall, Four Attendants; must be tall and well proportioned; also Electrician (experienced), and two Smart Boys for Programmes and Orchestra.
Apply, Box 5,303, "The Era."

WANTED, Man and Wife, as Cleaners, both to make themselves generally useful. Lowest terms, references, first letter, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Engagement as Secretary-Manager, middle-aged gentleman, fully qualified in all respects, speak French, lecturer and vocalist, education; good refs.; shorthand writer; stage experience. DELTA, 133, Regent-st., Leamington Spa.

WANTED, Engagement as Manager or Operator, with Cinématograph Exhibition; ten years' experience all branches; practical electrician and expert photographer, can take locals and produce special subjects. STANLEY, 92, Sandy-lane, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.

WANTED, Re-engagement, either to Manage or take Sole Charge of Bar in Theatre; excellent references; tall, prepossessing appearance; age 25. K. MORRIS, Normanhurst, Beatrice-road, Margate.

WANTED, Known, Competent Electrician Disengaged; 12 years last place. FRANK GALTON, 12, West Halkin-street, Belgravia, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Carpenter, Practical Bench Hand, Properties; age 30; handy; Disengaged Wednesday next. CARPENTER, 64, Dongola-road, Bruce Grove, London, N.

WANTED, by First-class Electrical Engineer, Engagement; 14 years' experience; capable of running and repairing all plant, wiring, and making extensions; Expert Bioscope Operator, and can combine Stage Management. WILLS, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, by Advertiser, permanent situation, seaside preferred, a thorough good Stage-Carpenter, a first-class Scenic Artist, also good maker and modeller of Properties; knowledge of Electric and Limes; best of references and moderate salary. A. B., 36, Brighton-terrace, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Stage-Carpenter or Bill-Inspector; long experience; good references. MAY, Per., 65, Burghley-road, Kentish Town, London.

WANTED, Known, experienced Bill-poster, Window-Biller, &c., requires Bill Inspectorship, &c., with own horse and cart. 1, Markham-street, Chelsea.

WANTED, by Bill-poster, situation, town or country, good ladderman; age 24.
WATSON, 29, Hermes-st., Pentonville, London.

WANTED, Known, Frank Francis Huddleston, Professional Model, to travel as Valet or Dresser to Professional Gentleman; age 21; has good references. Bath Cottage, Winter Gardens, Morecambe.

WANTED, Situation as Maid to Professional Lady; thoroughly domesticated; good refs.; age 26. Apply, L. K., 36, Cavendish-gardens, Clapham Park, S.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, good Conductor (Violinist), to open Sept. 2, for Theatre.
Terms and references,
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

WANTED, good Repetiteur and Trombonist, Varieties, open Monday.
Wire, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Albert Hall, Southport.

WANTED, Violin, Cornet, Double Bass, experienced, to Open at Once,
Theatre, North Wales.
Wire terms to
MANAGER, 3, Drury-lane, Liverpool.

WANTED, First Violin and String Bass. Apply by letter, stating age and previous sea experience. BANDMASTER, R.M.S. Orontes, Tilbury Docks.

WANTED, First Violin and Bass, for Hippodrome, Belfast, to open Monday, Sept. 2.
EDGAR HAINES, Conductor.

WANTED, for J. H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy Co., Tour commences Sept., First-Class Lady Violinist. TOMKINSON, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, First Violin, can join at once. Only strictly sober need apply; others save railway fares. E. PRYCE, Pavilion, Abertillery, Mon.

WANTED, to Open Sept. 9, First Violins. Age, references, and lowest terms,
T. A. EDWARDES, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, experienced Solo Cornet, at Once; steady and reliable. Terms, age, and references, AMBROSE MARRETT, Musical-Director, New Theatre, Cardiff.

WANTED, good Cornet and Drummer, for three or four weeks, Cheltenham Opera House, commence Sept. 2. Terms, references, to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR.

WANTED, First Cornet and Trombone, to open Sept. 2; well up in Variety Business. C. MEEK, Manager, Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Lady Cornet, Flute, and Bass; must be good; from Sept. 16 until Oct. 6. Write, VINCENT, Hotel Metropole, Bexhill-on-Sea.

WANTED, Orchestral Cornet, for Town Band, Llandudno, at Once, Al-fresco, 5 hours daily.
DENBIGH COOPER, Llandudno.

WANTED, First-Class Solo Cornet, to open Sept. 2; must be thoroughly experienced in Variety business. Terms and references to SIGNOR PEPI, Hippodrome, Darlington.

WANTED, good Solo Cornet, for Town Band; steady and sight reader; shares; permanent. PHILLIPS, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, for Musical Show, a First-Class Cornettist, good tone and powerful player, young and of medium height. Box 5,302, "The Era."

GRAND HIPPODROME, WIGAN.
WANTED, to Open at Once, Good Solo Cornet; must be well up in Variety, and sober, or no use. Permanency to good man. Apply, WORSWICK, as above.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, string, immediately, until Sept. 14, extension for Yarmouth; also experienced Violinists and Pianist, for Johannesburg, twelve months, sailing Sept. Lowest, DELIVAL, Wellington Pier, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Clarionet, Cornet, 'Cello, Drums.
References, age, terms, to
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC,
Grand Theatre,
Glasgow.

WANTED, Clarionet Player, open Monday, Sept. 2. Lowest terms and references.
W. H. MELTON, Prince of Wales' Theatre, Mexboro'.

WANTED, Clarionet and Bass Trombone, military band, two weeks, commencing Aug. 31. Terms, CONDUCTOR, Esplanade Band, Rothesay, Scotland. No Sundays.

WANTED, Clarionet, Drums, and Pianist (combine other instrument), open Mon.; also Cornet, permanency. Age, refs., lowest, RUSSELL, Rainbow Hill, Worcester.

WANTED, good Clarionet Player, to open Aug. 26. Age and references,
FREDERIC BRAHAM, Regent Theatre, Salford.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Aldershot, thoroughly reliable Double Bass and Cornet; permanency to good men. Lowest terms and references to J. GLADWIN, Manager for Mr. Sounes.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, good Double Bass. Write, enclosing references and salary required, to MANAGER.

WANTED, at once, good Double Bass Player, to travel fortnightly throughout the year with Exhibition. Send references and state age. Apply, W. SCHOTTLER, Musical-Director, Bath.

WANTED, Deputy Trombone, for Manchester Theatre, open Monday, Aug. 26, for five weeks. Terms, £2. Wire, FAULKNER, Pier, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, for Sir Robert Fossett's Circus, Solo Trombone (30s.), and Solo Cornet (32s. 6d.), Drums (30s.), sober men only. Apply, E. COOK, Saturday, Ross; Monday, Ledbury, Herefordshire.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Menagerie, good Euphonium, salary 30s. per week; can join at once. Saturday, Dumfries; Monday, Lockmaben; Tuesday, Lockerbie.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM, FULBOURN, near CAMBRIDGE.
WANTED, Male Attendant, Bombardon or Pianist preferred.
Apply, stating age and height, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, at the Asylum.

WANTED, Bombardon, Euphonium, and Trombone, to Tent Ireland; steady and reliable. REYNOLDS, Buff Bill's Circus, Newport, Sat.; Castle Bar, Mon., wire, Co. Mayo.

THEATRE ROYAL, HULL.
WANTED, Oboe, two weeks, commencing Sept. 2; also First and Second Horns, two nights, Sept. 11 and 12. Write lowest inclusive terms, B. T. LITTLE, Musical-Director.

HOWARD AND WYNDHAM, LTD.,
ROYAL LYCEUM and THEATRE ROYAL, EDINBURGH.
WANTEDm, First-Class 'Cello and Oboe; must be thoroughly competent and reliable. State terms and references. GEORGE BURNLEY, Musical-Director.

WANTED, 'Cello, to open at once, used to Variety. Lowest terms, references,
MANAGER, Palace Theatre, Grimsby.

WANTED, First-class 'Cello and Drums, Effects, open Monday. Wire age, terms, references, SWINGLER, Conductor, Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

WANTED, 'Cello Player, used to Musical Comedies; can open Monday. Wire lowest terms to SEEBOLD, Empire, Southend-on-Sea.

C. W. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, to open Monday, in Jersey, Flute, Clarionet, and Trombone; fares paid; must assist with fittings. Wire, POOLE, Free Trade Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, Pianist, to travel with Rowley's Auction Mart; one who has been in the business preferred; permanent engagement to a suitable man; can join at once. Wire or write,
ROWLEY, Auction Mart,
Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

WANTED, Pianist, Sight-reader, Chic, Serio and Dancer, Baritone or Descriptive Vocalist; good and refined. People known to STEPHEN BLYTHE wire for Monday, Golden Lion, Ludlow. Regards all V.A.F.'s.

WANTED, to Open Monday, Sept. 2, good Pianist; well up in Dramatic and Musical Comedy; also possible Vacancy for First-class Musical Director (Violin), with good répertoire of Music. Lowest terms, references, C. ELDERTON, T. R., Hebburn-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Open Immediately, Good Pianist, sight and manuscript reader, vocalist referred, high-class al fresco. SANSOME, Arcade, Buxton.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, at Once, Pianist, for Variety Business; must read at sight; week towns. Lowest terms,
BROS. SILVESTER, Post Office, Dublin.

WANTED, experienced Variety Pianist, for Palace, Bath, Sept. 2; permanent to suitable musician. Terms, refs., and age, to C. WRIGHT, Conductor.

WANTED, for Suburban Music Hall, Pianist, Second Cornet, and Flute, to open Monday. Apply by wire, Box 5,306, "The Era."

WANTED, Drummer, for Liverpool. Also for Edinburgh
Apply by letter, stating salary required, with copies of testimonials, to
FRANK ALLEN, Cranbourn-mansions, London, W.C.

WANTED, Musicians, all Instruments. Age, last two references, lowest salary, to ARTHUR CARLTON, 22, Parade, Barry.

WANTED, Family Band. Ages, last two references, salary required, to ARTHUR CARLTON, 22, Parade, Barry.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street,, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement in Theatre, by Conductor, Pianist, and Family, three Gentlemen, three Ladies, viz., Pianist (Conductor), two First Violins, Second Violin, Flute, and Piccolo and Clarionet. Advertiser experienced in all kinds of Theatrical business, Arranger, Composer; could assist management; abstainers. Offers. Further particulars on application. CREMONA, care of Miss Wareham, 14, Vowler-street, Walworth-road, London, S.E. Forwarded.

WANTED, Permanency, as Resident Conductor or Pianist, any Business; experienced, steady, good library; excellent references. CONDUCTOR, Eversley, Hill-terrace, Llandudno.

WANTED, by First-class Musical Director, Liberty for Music Hall, London preferred; 8½ years in a well-known firm. Box 5,291, "The Era."

WANTED, by Leader, Engagement, finishing season, at Liberty Sept. 9; experienced any business; theatre preferred. LEADER, Pier Orchestra, Beaumaris, N. Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, as Conductor or Leader, experienced violinist, any business, Dis. Sept. 7. LYME, Conductor, Bandstand, Norfolk Gardens, Bognor, Sussex.

WANTED, by Violinist (good), can double Clarionet, Deputising and Dance Work; experienced. PRESTO, 89, Black Boy-lane, South Tottenham, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, First or Second, Theatre or Cafe; abstainer.
Apply, Box 5,229, "The Era."

WANTED, an Engagement in Ladies' Orchestra, as First or Second Violin; experienced. Address, VIOLINIST, 10, Lincoln-street, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by First Violin, late Leader Theatre; Disengaged Sept. 7; London or suburbs preferred. VIOLINIST, 36, Parliament-street, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement, Violin and Viola, Disengaged, Aug. 30, well up in Variety Bus. Write, VIOLA, 10, Baichier-road, E. Dulwich.

WANTED, Engagement, Miss Violet Forrester, Orchestral Violinist; experienced; Disengaged Sept. 23. 6, Wellington-place, Albion-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by First Violin; age 25. Address, VIOLINIST, 15, Rothwell-street, Regent's Park-road, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Lady Violinist, Dis. middle of September. Good refs. Miss KATE HUSBAND, 44, Gwynne-rd., Dovercourt, Essex.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Violinist (Conductor), also Lady Pianist, combine other Instrument; thoroughly experienced all lines. Box 5,297, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, Refined Player, Manchester district preferred; Theatre or Concert Work. H., 29, Ratner-road, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo Cornet, Orchestra or Military; experienced, competent, reliable; highest references. FELLINGHAM, 38, Riverside-road, Bramford-road, Ipswich.

WANTED, by Clarionet and Saxophone (for Bassoon), Engagement, disengaged Sept. 23. SUSIE GRIFFIN, perm. add., 15, Valley-rd., Shortlands, Kent.

WANTED, Clarionettist, used to Variety, commence Sept. 7; permanency. R. A. McALLISTER write, HARRY DAY, Conductor, 31, Junction-st., Bridlington.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet.
F. W. ATHERTON,
1, Rosemont Market-street, Torquay.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Bass (four strings), any business, or Deputising, in London or Suburbs. VINCENT, 156, Wyndham-rd., Camberwell.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass; experienced; any business.
WAUD, Coliseum, Glasgow.

WANTED, by young Double Bass Player, 6 years' experience (single), abstainer, Engagement, Touring Entertainment preferred. Write, W. MAYO, Rushden, Northamptonshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombonist, experience, highest refs., open for deputising, Liberty Aug. 25. TROMBONIST, 162, Cauldwell Hall-rd., Ipswich.

WANTED, by Experienced First-class Trombone, young, smart appearance, Dis. Sept. 14. HUNT, 73, Lothian-rd., Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Euphonium Soloist, in String or Reed Band, now at Liberty; good references. HOWARTH, 61, Corrance-road, Brixton.

WANTED, by good Euphonium, Engagement, through disappointment; String or Military. A. F., 4, Rydon-crescent, Rosebery-avenue, E.C.

WANTED, by Experienced Euphonium, Engagement. Good refs. Address, CHARLES GRICE, 32, Beanlands-parade, Ilkley, Yorks.

WANTED, by L. Carvelli, late Solo Horn Lamoureaux Orchestra, Scala Theatre, Milan, Manns' Orchestra, Carl Rosa Co., Scottish Or., &c., Engagement as First Horn, Concerts or Theatres; at Liberty Oct. 15. 14, Gipsy-hill, Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn Player; thoroughly experienced; reliable; good references. Address, HORN, 28, Edgecumbe-street, Newland-avenue, Hull.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. Cassells, 37, Great Percy-st., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Miss Maud E. Curtis, thoroughly experienced Orchestral and Solo 'Cellist, Disengaged Sept. 23, London preferred. Britannia Pier, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist, Hotel or Café.
F. D., 29, Addison-gardens, W.

WANTED, Engagement, from Sept. 1, 'Cello and Clarionet; excellent refs.
'Cellist, 23, Dorset-road, Littlehampton.

WANTED, Engagement, Viola (combine Violin or 'Cello), any Business; at Liberty Sept. 9; good references. Rothery, Alhambra Palace, Morecambe, W.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboe Player; thoroughly experienced; any Business; combined with Second Violin. Oboeist, 8, May-avenue, Seacombe, Cheshire.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement by High-class Oboeist; Theatre experience; total abstainer. State terms. Oboe, 59, King-street, Peterhead.

WANTED, by experienced Flautist, Engagement, any Business; good references. 3, Rainforth-street, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, by Flautist, permanency in London or Suburbs; 14 years' London experience. Box 5,290, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, at Liberty Sept. 8. Address, Milton Knight, Orchestra Pavilion. Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Herbert Knight, Pianist, Vocalist, Liberty Sept. 2. Concluding comfortable season with Arthur Prince, Esq. 65, Clive-road, Barry Island, Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, as Pianist, Champion Melodeon Player of Yorkshire; own instrument; good tent repairer. Will Morley, 11, Willow grove, Sommerset-street, Dairycoates, Hull.

WANTED Known, Miss Constance Upstone, Solo Pianist and Accompanist, Sings; just concluded Successful Tour; Liberty Sept. 2. 11, Willoughby-park, Tottenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by good reliable Double Drummer and Effects; experienced any Business; good instruments. Musician, 44, Woodlands-rd, Walthamstow, Essex.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Engagement; thoroughly experienced and reliable; London preferred, Theatre or M. H. Drums, 38, Draycott-avenue, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement in any business, Double Drummers and Effects.
Block F. 134. Thrawl-street, Commerciel-street, E.

WANTED, Engagement, from Sept. 1, Double Drums and Effects; any business. J. W., 4, Norfolk-road, Littlehampton.

WANTED, Engagement, Tympani, Drums, and Effects; thoroughly experienced, Orchestral or Variety; sober, reliable; Liberty Sept. 9. 23, King-street, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement. Double Drums, Tympani, Glockenspiel, in Orchestra; Stage performance Bottle Solos, Xylophone. F. Goldberg, Wellington Pier, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Drummer and Effects (Tympani if required), Concerts, Theatres, and Music Hall experience. Finish here. Aug. 31. Viennese Band, Leamington Spa.

WANTED, by Neapolitan Mandolinist, Guitarrist, Violin (Preliminary), situation as Teacher, or Music Warehouse. C/o Pazzi, 56, Osnaburgh-st., Regent's-pk., N.W.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, Quartet disengaged autumn. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Known, "Rosabel" Orchestra. Conductress, Miss Rose Telfer.
Now playing Alexandra Hall, Dovercourt.

WANTED, Known, the Excelsior Military Band (14), at Lib. for Engt., Sept. 2, together or separate, experienced in military or orchestra. Jas. Woods, Bandmaster, Season Band, Burnham, Somerset.

WANTED, shortly, Eng. by celebrated Cremona Orchestra, any number, any business; great répertoire. Agents invited. Greenhead, 13, Park-terrace, Minehead.

WANTED, Known, Small String Orchestra, at Liberty, Family. Terms moderate. Late Music Hall Bandsmen. First-class Répertoire. Herbert, 5, West-hill, Wandsworth.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S
ROYAL CIRCUS,
EDINBURGH.

WANTED, Known, I respectfully ask all those who have not received answers to their letters of Engagement written to me a couple of weeks ago to write me again. I have been away.
John Henry Cooke.

GILLENO'S GREAT AMERICAN CIRCUS,
WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Equestrians with own Horses, and useful people. Vacant dates and absolute lowest terms, to H. Gilleno, White City, Manchester.

YARMOUTH HIPPODROME.
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WANTED, Water Specialities, Lady Swimmers, Divers, and Men to take part in American Aquatic Push-Ball.
Apply,
Geo. Gilbert,
Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, for Gala, Chippenham, Sept. 5, High-Wire Walking, Rope Performers; also Novelties. Send Bills, Lithos., Wood, Caterer, Whitehall-road, Bristol.

WANTED, a Lady Juggler, must be able to Juggle three balls, three bottles, three plates; must be young and good-looking.

Write, Penezoffs,
31, Charles-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, for Renowned Troupe, Young Lady Trapezists, single and double, sisters or friends preferred; no amateurs. State tricks, age, weight, &c. Photos. or Photo-cards in Tights.
Address till 30th inst.,
Jas. Eugene, Aquarium, St. Petersburg;
from Sept. 5, care of "The Era."

WANTED, smart Top and Second Mounter, for Well-known Troupe; also a Boy, 12 to 16 years, little knowledge of Tumbling. Jimmy Lane, of Manchester, and Ernest Brown write. Clifton, 28, Sutton-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Join Immediately, Second Mount, one to tumble preferred. Full particulars, Stebbing, Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Triple Bar Performer, Straight or Comedy. Address, particulars, salary, &c., Box 5,927, "The Era."

WANTED, Youth, age about 14, willing to learn Acrobating and Circus Riding; one who can Tumble a little preferred; good home for a good boy. Address, with fullest particulars, to H. Gilleno, White City, Manchester.

WANTED, Smart Boy or Girl, over 14, for Established Troupe, good appearance and exceptional voice necessary. Photo., &c., Gustave, Hippodrome, Bury.

WANTED, a Young Man, used to Circus Business, for Tumbling and Pantomimic Business. Letters only. G. L., 48, Tremadoc-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Winter Season, Gilleno's Great American Circus, as now running at the White City, Manchester. Full First-class Circus Company. Complimented by Management and all Visitors. For particulars, address, H. Gilleno, White City, Manchester.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes, funny Musical Clown, Talking Knockabout Clown, Entrées; good in Pantomimes; Liberty. Address, 16, Moreton-st., Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Olrac and Milton, Triple Bar Artists, on Tour. Permanent address, 193A, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, The Henré's, World-famed Young Jugglers, free Sept. and Oct. Director, H. Henré. First-class Offers only. Aug. 25, Palace, Grimsby.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, Professional Horse, Pony, and Dog Breaker, at present disengaged, desires Engagement; twenty years' experience with the largest Continental Circus; all done by kindness and firmness; all the newest and latest tricks; Haute école a speciality. Terms moderate. Address, Box 5,285, "The Era."

WANTED, Berth with Animal Trainer; experienced; home or abroad.
Box 5,286, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and HIPPODROME, BARRY DOCK.
ANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.
No wires, please.
Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

SCARBOROUGH.

WANTED, Monday, Sept. 2, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to Kitchingman, Aquarium.

HIPPODROMES, BLACKHEATH and HALESOWEN. Proprietor, Mr. Jack Barnes.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. State lowest salary. One house nightly at each place. Artists conveyed by covered conveyances; distance 2½ miles. Letters to Percy Stevenson, General-Manager, Hippodrome, Blackheath, Staffs.

LESLIE KEITH'S AGENCY,
CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY, MANCHESTER.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Stars, Specialities, Novel Acts, in fact all Lines, but must be absolutely First-Class; Great or Small; Shows seen any distance. Send full Bookings, Photos., Lithos., and very Lowest Terms.

WANTED, all kinds Variety Artists. Will see any Artists working if time sent. Richard Cass's Agency, 9, Mundania-rd., Peckham.

WANTED, at Once, Variety Artists to do Double and Single Turns, week towns, long tour. W. H. Smart write. Lowest terms, first letter. Bros. Silvester, Post Office, Dublin.

WANTED, Variety Artists, of Every Description, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16, for Hugh Dempsey's Promenade Concerts. Big acts on shares. Marine Grounds, Whitstable. Wire, wire, wire.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Sept. 9, 16, Wardown Park, Luton, doing more than one turn preferred. Buer, 2, Regent-cottages, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Bigger the Act the Better. Town and country. Call or write, Harry Ward, Regent Theatre, Hackney.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Sept. 2 and on. Address, Kauffman, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Britannia, Glasgow, Sept. 2, and onwards.
A. E. Pickard, Britannia, Glasgow.

DR. WALFORD BODIE'S
ROYAL MAGNETS.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines. Always opening for Big Sensational Novelties, for Dr. Walford Bodie's Royal Magnetic Combination, Sept. 2, 16, 23, 30, onwards. Silence in all cases please accept as a polite negative meantime. Great and glorious success this week at the Albert Hall, Swansea. Columns and Columns of the Local Press devoted daily to describing this Great Act; nothing like it ever seen in Swansea before. Playing to Packed Houses, twice nightly; hundreds turned away at every performance. Patronised by the élite of the town. The whole topic of the town: "Have you seen the great Bodie?" Gigantic Success of my New Act, introducing the "Cage of Death."
All letters, address to Sole Director and Proprietor, Dr. Walford Bodie, M.D., Palace T., Plymouth. Head Office: 163, Blackfriars-road, London, S.E. Telegrams, "Bodieism, London." 'Phone, 1323 Hop.
Look out for Startling Advertisement.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, CASTLEFORD

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Sept. 2 onwards.
State lowest first letter (small town).
Those written before, please write again.
Silence a polite negative pro tem.
Contracts as per Arbitrator's Award.
Address letters (pro tem.) to Parade, Bridlington.
Beanland and Emerson.

OLDBURY, PALACE OF VARIETIES.
Booked in conjunction with Leamington, Rugby, Birmingham, Manchester, &c.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Sept. 2, onwards. Novelty Numbers, Specialities, Sisters and Double Acts (each doing Singles), Comedians and Comediennes (jointly). Lowest terms, lithos. (Hall small). Those written before write again. Silence a polite negative (pro tem.).
All communications, Wm. B. Bostock,
Sole Lessee and Manager.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Glasgow Concerts. State absolute lowest. The Scottish Musical Agency, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.

WANTED, Artists, suitable for Concert Platforms, three Halls, one night only, Saturdays. Vacant dates and lowest terms to Wm. Biggam, 126, Rottenrow, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now, onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Sept. 2, 9, 16. Charles A. James, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin. Good Living Freaks Open at Once.

HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY,
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock, N.B.

WANTED, for Glasgow, Greenock, and district, Star Artists in all Lines,
Empire, Greenock.
Big Tops for immediate dates.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Madam Lilian Harcourt's Grand No. 1 Vaudeville Co. Can offer 3 months' comfortable engagement. Please quote terms for Combination. Stars in all lines communicate to 77, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff. Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Sept. 2, onwards.
Pringle, Pavilion, Sunderland.

WANTED, First-class Artists only, for First-class Variety Theatres, immediate and future Dates, also Pantomime. Jess Verno's Agency. 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, new to Morecambe, Sept. 2, 9, 16, and 23.
Address, Onda, Kenwyn, Penwortham, Preston.

WANTED, early in September, Artists in all Lines. Arthur Skelton, 90, Cornwall-mansions, Clarence Gate, W. No callers.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, for immediate Dates. State absolute lowest, and vacant dates, Bob Graham, Variety Agent, 15A, Electric-avenue, Brixton.

WANTED, All-round Artists, Doubles doing Singles, Singing and Dancing Sisters, Artists Booking Aldershot, also Combinations. C. Harvey, Scots Greys Theatre, Tidworth.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for the Battersea Empire, Sept. and onwards. Write, H. E. Brammall, Willowdene, Thames Ditton.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Known. Wanted, Known,

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Artists remit
Vacancies, with
full list of
Dates, and the very
lowest terms, with
any printing and
permanent address.
New Acts state
where can be seen
working.

Telegrams, "Granbeste, Withington-Lanc."
Telephone 193 Didsbury.
29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Call for Bulford, Monday. Bent's Co., Six La Dor Troupe, Two Clarkes, Carlotta Lunn, Sario, Matadores, Coma, Hanlons, Ellerton, 12 o'clock. Harry Bent.

WANTED, Stars, Stars, new to London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Bolton, Rochdale, Portsmouth, &c., three Top Liners for Sept. 2 and 9. Pantomime Artists all Lines.
"Lord" Geo. Aytoun's Agency,
120, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.
Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1949 Hop.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, Sept. 2, onwards. Terms, bookings,
Edgar Stebbings, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.
'Phone, 09261. Tels., "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Lithos., terms, and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

WANTED, Two Good Variety Turns, for next week, Theatre, Macclesfield, and four weeks' tour, from Sept. 30. Lowest terms, Almo, 3, Catherine-street, Macclesfield.

WANTED, two Turns, for Queen's, Castleford, Monday, Comedian and small Speciality. Wire, Emerson, Parade, Bridlington.

WANTED, for Town Hall Palace of Varieties, Hounslow, Sept. 30, onwards, First-class Talent. Terms must be low, as Hall is very small. Artists working London same week preferred.
Terms, &c., to
Arthur Aiston, Prestatyn, N. Wales.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY.
Alhambra, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Sept. 2, onwards, for Scotland, the very best of Talent. Send full bookings and absolute lowest. Wanted, Star Single Tops for Edinburgh, Sept. 2 and 9.

PALACE, KILMARNOCK.

WANTED, Sept., onwards, good Comedy Acts all Lines. Absolute lowest, once nightly, to J. Cummings, 97, Whitevale, Dennistoun, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Gloucester, Porth, Worcester, Barry Dock, Abertillery, Variety Acts, must have Full Bookings, Towns. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Address next week, 100, Rochdale-road, Middleton, Manchester. Rebla, Eno, Tom Moore communicate.

HIPPODROME, SPENNYMOOR.
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HIPPODROME, SPENNYMOOR.

WANTED, for Sept. 2, onwards, real good Acts
of every description,
Novel Turns
for Ring and Stage.
Once nightly and one Matinée.

Town very small,
therefore quote the actual lowest terms
in first letter;
also state last appearance.

Good Singing Turns and
Double Acts of every description can write in.

Rehearsal Monday next, Aug. 26,
at 2.30, for
Miss Edie St. Clare,
Joe Hennessey,
Miss Marie Yorke,
H. J. Hegarty,
Victorian Boys,
Clown Bimbo,
Palette,
Dan Noble,
McAskell,
The Lashmars,
and
Lambert's Bioscope.

Address, The Proprietor, Leoni Clarke,

P.S.—Reliable people only write in; others save stamps.

WANTED, Variety or Pierrot Combinations, for Al Fresco Performances at Wardown Park, Luton, Sept. 23, onwards; sharing terms only. E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED (through disappointment), Variety or Pierrot Combination, week Sept. 2, for Al Fresco performance at Wardown Park, Luton; sharing terms only. E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Big Acts, all Lines. Communicate, with bookings, photos., &c., immediately, Deetrich's Vaudeville Bureau, 31, Islington, L'pool.

WANTED, Top and Bottom Acts, Opera House, Londonderry, 5 or 6 nights, Sept. 2; particulars by Monday, latest. Also First-class Numbers for Glasgow, Paisley, and other Scotch towns. Terms, lithos., list of bookings, Calverto, Giffnock, Glasgow.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Big Top Liners in all Lines, for Sept. 2 and on; also Small Turns coming North. Sure dates for good people. Note.—I book for all the best Halls in the North.
170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Kilmarnock, and Six other Towns near Glasgow, Sept. 2, onwards,
Good Tops of Bill,
Comedy Acts preferred.
Address, E. H. Bostock,
Zoo, Glasgow.
N.B.—Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, big Tops, bigger the better, for Sept. 2, 16, and 30 (North). Full bookings, &c., to Frank Lynne, Empire, Sunderland.

WANTED, good Sketch Company, for Sept. 16 and on. State how many people, what scenery carried, and time occupied. Also other good Single and Double Acts. Anderson's Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, A1 Concert Parties, not less than four in number, Sept. 8, 15, 22, seven days each, pianist found. Lowest sharing terms, Lesser, Pier, Bognor.

ELDERTON'S TOREADORS, WHITLEY BAY.

WANTED, two First-class Artists; must be Ladies, Soprano and Contralto, for two or three weeks. Terms, age, and latest photo. to Charles Elderton, Whitley Park, Whitley Bay.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman, for Sketch, good Singers and Dancers, no amateurs. Letters only, age, height, terms, John Rose, 80, Prince George-road, Stoke Newington, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Young Lady, Playing Mandoline, or any Instrument, Dance, or do some Acrobating for Music Hall Act. State age, &c. Letters only. R. Ambroso, 87, Valetta-rd., Acton Vale, W.

WANTED, for Ireland, good, reliable Comedian, for répertoire Co.; must do refined Concert Turn; also Chambermaid, sing and dance. Will Miss Selbit communicate? Also Responsible Couple doing turns. All join at once. Terms low. Fares advanced if required. Photos. to Lena and Preston, P.O., Kilworth Camp, Co. Cork.

WANTED, tall Young Man, for the Continent; must be able to dance and do a little Front Bending; a good and long Engagement to suitable person. Address, with terms, particulars, height, and former experience, to Mr. A. Hyde-Otino, Flora Theatre, Altona, Hamburg.

WANTED, for Bandstand, Bognor, Good Al-Fresco Comedian, one week, open Monday, or cheap troupe. Wire, Forsyth, Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED, good Light Comedian, for Sketch. Photos., age, and terms,
F. M., Hippodrome, Norwich.

WANTED, to open Sept. 2, in London, a few Young Men, must be able to Tumble and Knockabout, smart; long Engagement to suitable persons. Apply personally, between 12 and 1, John Watson, Hippodrome, London.

WANTED, for Comedy Sketch, a Man with good voice, able to dance, well up in gags. Apply, 20A, Yukon-road, Balham.

WANTED, by Tom Hearn, Jugglers who can do one good trick. Write and explain. Next week, Empire, New Cross.

WANTED, Assistant, for Black Art Illusion.
Leo, 7, Grimshaw-park, Blackburn.

WANTED, Bioscope, latest Pictures, thirty minutes' show nightly; electric, lime; open at once. Wire, Cabe, 6, Co-operative-avenue, Hucknall Torkard, Notts.

WANTED, First-Class Operator, with own Machine; also Operator without Machine; good salary to right man; six months certain; open Sept. 2. Reynolds, 8, Scarsdale-place, Buxton.

WANTED, three Bioscope Operators, used to Electric and Lime, two hours' Show, open Aug. 31. J. Cummings, 97, Whitevale, Dennistoun, Glasgow.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, also combine Electrician, for Alhambra, Edinburgh, to commence Sept. 2. Apply, stating age, salary, &c.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Aug. 26, and onwards, by Babs Lloyd, Star Artist, the talk of all towns; also Nellie Vance, Comedy Artist and Dancer. Wire for two of the best, Theatre R., Bury; after Saturday night, B., 153, Witton-road, Aston, Birmingham. Wire quick.

WANTED, Known, Deetrich, 31, Islington, Liverpool, can supply star acts on the shortest notice. Wire or write, and avoid disappointment.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, Lady Contortionist, Monday, 26th, Sept. 16, 23. Success, Middlesex. Wire, 206, Lambeth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Terry, Artists of a high order, at Liberty Sept. 9, 16. Address, Aug. 26, Theatre Royal, Crook.

WANTED, Known, Neville Delmar, The Whistling Dandy. Pantomime fixed, Abanazer. Few vacancies, Oct. and Nov. All coms., 3, Nicolas-mount, Hornsea, Yorks.

WANTED, by Johnny Thompson, Comedian and Vocalist, a Vocalist who sings, Aug. 26, Sept. 2. Apply, 4, Mulberry-place, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Tweed Andrews, smartest of all Scotch Comedians and Dancers. Finishing second successful season Silloth Pierrots, Saturday; Liberty Monday. Wire, Silloth.

WANTED, Monday next, also Sept. 2, by Syd Herman, Hebrew Comedian. A great success. Wire, Hippodrome, Spennymoor.

WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 14, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist, two smart acts. Monday, Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED, by R. J. Golding, Vent. and Comic Conjurer, Sept. 9 and 16.
Perm., 32, Courtenay-road, London.

WANTED, Aug. 26. Wire, Hippodrome, Hastings. Enormous success. The Great Kyoto, Japanese Pot-Pourri Act and Contortionist, a truly clever and funny act. Also May Geraldine, Comedienne and Dancer. Also Vac. Sept. 16, onward, with exceptions. After Sat., "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Ted Young and Ada Twibell, Sept. 2 and 9. Two distinct Turns. Wire, Hippodrome, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, by Moore and Moore (Artie and Nora), Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 16, the Versatile Comedy Duo, Refined Singers and Dancers. 5, Hattersley-street, Westgate, Burnley.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Monday, J. H. Bray, Actor-Vocalist, and Ella Macgregor, Brilliant Scottish Soprano. Wire, Empire, Stockport.

WANTED, Vokes and Marshall (Ned and Jessie), Refined Comedy, Musical, and Patter Artists. Success everywhere. Liberty. Address, 16, Moreton-street, Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by Stilvo, the Tramp, on one stilt; and Jessie Harper, Singing Mill Girl, a gifted soprano vocalist. Great success, and return, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, by Cadogan and Wingrove, "A Clerical Complication" (Muir and Bartleti's). 29, Sussex-place, Queen's Gate, S.W.

WANTED, Monday next, also Sept. 2, by Le Brun and Irene, Novel Equilibrists. Wire, Circus, White City, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, by Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers; and Alvar, Daring Gymnast; two acts, three people. Wire, People's P., Portsmouth.

WANTED, Monday next, by Geo. Selman, good comedian; and Ivy Gallard, good, smart comedienne; refined, and sure successes. Wire, Victoria Theatre, Barry Dock.

WANTED, Sept. 9, 16, The Monckton's present their Latest Screamingly Funny Episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" Thanks Messrs. Rosen and Bliss for further contracts. This, King's, Gateshead; 26th, Tivoli, South Shields (third return).

WANTED, 26th, by Gravetta and Parr, water spinners, jugglers, clay and sand pictures, double impersonators of celebrities, North preferred. Hippo., Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, the Bros. Webb, Musical Clowns, Continental Tour.
Address, 4, Speenham-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Sept. 2 and 9, by The Carls, Comic Trampoline Speciality. Just returned from Continent. Roars of laughter and applause. Success everywhere. Splendid lithos. 23, Cooper's-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Managers and Agents to see extra turn of Wallace and Rossini, at Circus, Bury, on Monday evening next. A New Musical Act away from all others. Permanent address, 3, St. Bede's-avenue, South Shore, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Rich and Rare, Versatile Duo, up-to-date Comedy Act; ninth week of success; at Liberty Oct. 14, also Panto. Coms., Pavilion, Stalybridge.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Great Comedy Act. A Star Turn. Sept. 2. This week, Queen's, Castleford; Aug 26, Empire, Dudley. Wire.

WANTED, Known to Managers and Agents, that Reszki and Raszki, Gymnastic Grotesques and Tumblers, have Vacancies for their New Comedy Act. For terms and lithos., apply, 6, Beech-grove, Dewsbury.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Chant and Chant, Sept. 9, 16, onward, hit of Bill, Hippo., Wakefield. Sept. 2, Hippo., Coventry. Coms., 87, Wollaton-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Kloof and Ramsay, Funny Musical Novelty and Vocal Burlesques, vacant Monday (only). Wire, Grand, Stockton.

WANTED, by Attilla Bros., Sept. 2, 9, New Act and Competition. Always Big Draw. Wire, this, West Stanley; next, Hippo., Dewsbury.

WANTED, by The Decars, with their great Comedy Acrobatic Animal Act, Sept. 2, 9, 16. A Hit everywhere; great success Floral Fête, Shrewsbury; next, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, 30, by Los Granadas, world's greatest trampolin novelty. Big Success, Palace, Worcester. Permanent address, 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday next, also Aug. 26, by Titan, Telka, and Wyllie (three acts), Strong Show, Musical Act, and Ballad Vocalist. Wire or write, Hippo.; or 32, St. George's-esplanade, Guernsey.

WANTED, Sept. 2, 9, and onwards, by the Original Arthur Saxon Trio, doing tremendous business everywhere. Address, Monday next, Queen's, Castleford.

WANTED, Known, the Collier and Child (Retsill and Myra), Thought Transmitters, vacant Sept. 2. Tremendous success and taking three Curtains nightly at Queen's, Leeds. 42, Rufford-road, Sheffield; or Agents.

WANTED, Known, Alton Trio, Contortionists, and Tella and Gardelle, Gymnasts, 2 genuine and distinct acts, Liberty Monday, on ward. 5, Victoria Park-road, London.

WANTED, Sept. 9, through postponement, Lenton and Bertram; two distinct turns, Zancig Thought-reading and Conjuring. 251, Seven Sisters-road, N.

WANTED, Known, Ranee and Rajah, Anglo-Indian Mental Mystics, Vacant Sept. 16; suit Cinematograph. Open Panto. All coms., 38, Dawes-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, what a draw Four Cecilians are, best all-round Act on Variety Stage. Next, Hippo., Burton-on-Trent; vacant Sept. 2, 9.

WANTED, immediate Dates, "The Winner," Greatest Racing Sketch on Stage; everything carried; plays 30 minutes. Brien McCullough, 25, Hampton-street, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Geo. M. Schilling, who has walked round the world, Vacant Oct., onwards, for his Great Chinese Dramatic Sketch, "In the Nick of Time," introducing the Struggle for Life and the Great Knife Fight. Entire scenery carried. Address, Palace Theatre, Rhyl.

WANTED, Sept. 23 and 30, between Liverpool and London, Sydney Baker's Beautiful Musical Romance, "Visions of the Past," five people, special scenery and properties, picturesque dresses, Dickens period. A new and original act that has no parallel. Address, see Card.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Norman G. Acton's "A Sister's Honour," a huge success. Refer Canterbury, Paragon, Stage, Era, Referee. Fast Booking. Apply, Reeves, 31, Grove-rd., Brixton.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Lion Show, Aug. 26,
Sept. 2, 23, and 30.

All communications, week Aug. 26,
24, Worcester-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus, ponies, donkeys, goat, and dogs, including the smallest pony and donkey in the world, have immediate vacancies. Address, Caban, Palace, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Great Comedy Dogs, the four-footed animals with the human brains, the show that takes the audience by storm, Liberty Sept. 9. Address, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 28, the World's Premier Dog Act, Chard's Dashing Dog Circus. Address "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio, Novel Cycle Act, Vacant Monday next, also Sept. 9. Wire, Pavilion, Abertillery, Mon. After Sat., add., 1, Broad-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, William Lorenzi (late Four Comical Cards) is at Liberty to join well-known Troupe, Pantomimical or Speaking. Coms., 34A, Bury New-road, Bolton.

WANTED, for Minstrel, Engagement. Songs with Banjo and Piano Accompaniments, also Recitations, &c.; or as Chorister in Opera Comedy, or Panto. 5, Edwin's-terrace, Bean-street, Hull.

WANTED, by Young Man, work with Musical Turn or Bioscope Show, as assistant or handy man; useful with own tools or instruments; can join at once. Carl Casgarina, 92, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Travers' Bioscopes, at Lib. Moderate terms; latest Films. Travers, 154, High-street, Clapham, S.W. Telephone 1412 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Bioscope Operator, with Machine and Films, wants Engagements; can find Combination. Edison, 22, Penton-street, London, N.

WANTED, Engagements by Bioscope Operator, with complete outfit. Walker, 1, Lorne-street, Fairfield, Liverpool

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World.
If you want to Buy or Sell
Anything Connected with the Business,
Consult Tom Norman, Auction Dept.,
"The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.
Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Known, .22 "B" and "D" cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters, Pistols, and all repairs done. Greene, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, for Prompt Delivery of Future Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, and other Automatic Cards rely on the old firm. Kenyon, 21, King-street, Blackburn.

WANTED, Known.—As it does not appear to be generally known that we control the British Patents covering the "Mills" Slot Bag (or Ball) Puncher, we now publish the fact, and give Notice that we shall maintain our rights therein. —Minerva Automatic Co., 14, Charterhouse-buildings, E.C.

WANTED, Known, to Market and Showmen, Large Packets Butterscotch, marked 3d, at 5s. per gross; Small Packets, with two squares, and planet, 2s. 6d. per gross; Wire Brushes, 4s. gross. Best in trade.
Mr. A. Bunn,
18, Dagnall-place, Brady-street, London, E.

WANTED, Known, to Fairkeepers, &c., Stacey and Co., Showmen's Stores, Settles-street, London, E. Everything for the Fair; Ammunition, Guns, &c., a Speciality.

NORWICH INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION,
Sept. 28 to Oct. 19.

WANTED, big Sensational Side Show, for room size 85ft. by 45ft. Manager, Industrial Exhibition, Norwich.

WANTED, First-Class Side Shows, Palmists, Shooting Range, &c., for the best Exhibitions in Scotland. Particulars, Manager, Rathbone Gardens, Portobello.

WANTED, Novelties, also Lady Palmist, on Shares. Wire Monday, Ragan's Waxworks, North-street, Belfast.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

PLEASURE BEACH, BLACKPOOL.
Greatest Combination of Open-air Attractions in the Country.

WANTED, Known.—For concessions for real Novelties for Summer Season, 1908.
Address, PROPRIETORS, Pleasure Beach, Blackpool.

WANTED, for Dooner's Bioscope Exhibition, one or two Comedy Acrobatics, open at once. State full particulars of Act, age, and lowest terms, long engagement to suitable people. Silence a polite negative. Apply as above, Porthcawl Common, Aug. 12, 1907.

WANTED, an Educated Doorsman and Describer;
also complete Working Staff
for new Cinématograph Show.
Apply, Box 5,299, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Doorsman, used to fair business, can join at once, good shop for steady man. Add., Midget Exhibition, Fair Ground, Strood.

WANTED, for Caston's Famous Panopticon, Lady or Gentleman Phrenologist and Character Reader, to open on Sept. 12, Llanelly, S. Wales, for two months; other places to follow. Terms shares. HAFERKORN, Panopticon, Bargoed, Glam.

WANTED, a competent Lady Palmist, for Season of Five Weeks at D'Arc's Grand Permanent Waxwork Exhibition, Cardiff; commence Aug. 26; good business, half shares. Address, as above.

WANTED, good Hand-seller and Plankeman, comfortable shop for right man. W. KNIGHT, Standard Auction Mart, Chesham, Bucks.

WANTED, Watchmaker, own Tools, one able to play Piano preferred. Apply to HENRY WHITE, Auction Tent, Old Cattle Market, Ipswich.

WANTED, Smart Man, used to Wax. Apply, with full particulars as to age, references, and salary required, PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Bounds' No. 1 Show is now at Pickard's Waxworks, Glasgow, doing good business; first open date end Feb., 1908; the Bear Lady is now Booking for 1908, free for England. Mrs. A. L. BOUNDS, Pickard's Waxworks, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Signor Rupert, the Famous Character Reader; Christmas Season Vacant; Tremendous Success Everywhere. Address, 43, Marlboro'-road, Donnybrook, Dublin, Ireland.

WANTED, Known, Bailey's Punch and Judy, still working Wilder's Galas; close this week, New Mills and Coalville. Address, Buxton, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Showmen and other Travellers to know
that I have Ground to Let
at the following
Well-Known Fairs and Wakes:
Oldbury, Aug. 30;
Wednesbury, Sept. 6;
Northwich, Sept. 6;
Blackheath, Sept. 13;
Willenhall, Sept. 13;
Brierley Hill, Sept. 20;
Atherstone Statutes, Sept. 21;
Sandbach Wakes, Sept. 19 to 28;
Birmingham Onion Fair, Sept. 25;
Tamworth, Oct. 7 to 10;
Leicester Great Fair, Oct. 10 to 15.
All applications to
P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works, Walsall.
Telephone, No. 80 Walsall.
Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."

WANTED, Known, One or Two Spaces to Let (Jewellery, Engraving, Optics, &c.), in old-established Touring Trades Exhibition; Scenic stalls, gas-fittings, and gas provided. Second Scottish Tour comprising towns never previously visited by Trades Exhibitions. Address, MANAGER, Exhibition, Fishermen's Hall, Buckie, N.B. (92nd consecutive town).

BAKERS', CONFECTIONERS' and GROCERS' EXHIBITIONS,
ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON.
Sept. 7 to 14, Sept. 21 to 28.
WANTED, to Let, several Spaces for Novelties in the Bazaar Section.
FRANK TURNER, Royal Agricultural Hall.

WANTED, to Let, Land for Stalls and Shows. Apply, JOHN HARDMAN, Manager, Starr Estate Fairground Co., 16, King-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Let, Ground for Ayr Races. All applications in writing. Small Stalls; rent in advance. Apply, G. GREEN, Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Let, on Hire or Share, Set of Six or Twelve Large Distorting Mirrors, Exhibitions, &c. Address, Box 5,269, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, at Stewart's Automatic Bazaar, 131, Trongate, Glasgow (best position in Scotland), Small Window in Front, and Large Room at Back; Photographer preferred. Business only meant. Impecunious muddlers save stamps.

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Fred Lindsay, Stanley Brett, Gus Bruno, Manning's Entertainers, Ella Shields, Brown, Le Clerq, and Co., Eva Hope and Jack Wayho, Bioscope, Eida and Falco, Martineeks.

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Rehearsal at 12, for:—
Isabel Derry and Co., Rosa Loader, Imperial Russian Troupe, Vanando, Lyster and Cooke, Sid Bandon, L. W. Harris, Rudge Whitworth, Bioscope, Harry Rochez's Dogs.

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Rehearsal at 12, for:—
"Sea Chanties," Spry and Austin, Three Cape Girls, John Donald, Jackson Family, Cribb and Cribb, Ajax and George, Percival, Bioscope, The Carmos.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
La Milo and Cruickshank, Eight of Hearts, Peggy Pride, Ross and Lewis, Moulier Sisters, Mark Merry, Casey's Army, Rhoda Paul, Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
The Boissetts, Ruth Lytton, Cissie Curlette, Will Poluski, jun., Ian Colquhoun, American Comedy Four, James Stewart, Sanford and Lyons, Woodhouse and Wells, Bioscope.

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Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Harry Randall, Mdlle Von Etta, Conn and Conrad, Esta Stella, Poluski Bros., Lottie Govell, Lina Verdi, Ellis Barrieton, Frank Cumminger, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"A Motor Match," Ted E. Box, Maie Ash, Tom Edwards, Three Prestons, Sisters Sprightley, Bioscope, Whalen and West, Clement Trio, Millie Lindon.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
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Rehearsal at 2, for:—
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Rehearsal at 2, for:—
T. E. Dunville, Harriett Vernon, Rezene and Robini, Six Lancashire Lassies, Howard and St. Clair, J. P. Ling, Ella Retford, Bert Woodward, Bioscope, "Beauty and the Burglar."

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
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OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Miss Alice Norton, "Aunt Matilda," Mdlle. Eldee, Fred Elton, Juanitas, Lily Burnand, Eric, Will Cromwell, Bioscope, Rochez's Monkeys.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Australian Woodcutters, Lily Langtry, Arthur Lennard, Lizzie Fletcher, Andos Troupe, Selma Braatz, Sid Cotterell, Will H. Fox, Mariedl, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Kate Carney and Co., in "'Liza Johnson," Lil Hawthorne, Dutch Daly, Narow Bros., Max Gruber, Addie Dorina, Terry and Lambert, Illustrated Song, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Alec Hurley and Co., George Formby, Musical Johnstones, Rauschle, Celtic Comedy Trio, L. A. Cooke and Co., Tom Hearn, Eda Mardy, Crown Trio, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
George Gray and Co., Harry Grey, Boyd and Gilfain, Lyons Trio, Bros. Egbert, Anna Kenwick, Alf Chester, Westland, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
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Rehearsal at 3, for:—
"Moving In," Fred Lincoln, Herr Rousbey, Sleedes Troupe, O'Gust, Eadie and Ramsden, Ina Lorimer, Bioscope, Gwennie Hasto.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
George Leyton and Co., in "Boys of the Chelsea School," The Leonards, Sisters Pine, Tom Parker, The Uniques, Marie Weston, Bioscope, Blake and Amber.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Victoria Monks, Park's Eton Boys, J. W. Rowley, Ella Dean, Lowell and Lowell, Russell Wallett, Whit Cunliffe, Launceston Elliott, Hilda Boot, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for:—
Fred Storey and Co., Bros. Dean, Rich and Rich, Elsie Robey, Powell's Marionettes, The Æolians, Arabella Allen, Five Osranis, Elsie Claire, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Constant Le Marin, Grace Merton, Chas. Stevens, Corcoran Bros., Drew and Alders, Joe Reichen's Dogs, "Casey's Court," La Belle Nello, Bioscope, J. W. Hall.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"The Prince of Monte Carlo," Lauder's Chronomegaphone, George Reeves, "Kiss Your Father," Harvey's American Boys and Girls, Miles Stavordale Quintette, Lulu Russell, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Leonard Gautier.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Fred Ginnett's "Dick Turpin," Erik Bros., Cull Pitt, Madge Osmond, Cruikshank, Hymack, Bros. O'Gorman, Ramsey-De Cordova Sketch Co., Bioscope, Kitty Clinton.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
John Lawson's "The Unwritten Law," Orpheus, Josie Mooney, Morton and Bowman, Marco, Harry Weldon, Pictures, Caselli Sisters, Walter Munroe.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Henry Coutts and Co., Recco, Farley, Rennie, and Farley, Mark Henton, Ted and May Hopkins, J. A. Wilson, Binns and Binns, Pictures.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten, Sisters Redfern, Will Cornish, "Captain Cupid," Annie Casey, Chas. Chard, Pictures, Boswell's Circus.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
The Craggs, Cissie Sinclair, Arthur Woodville, May Astbury, Freeman and French, Levetto, Sam Spira, Pictures, Athlones.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
Alexandre and Hughes, John E. Coyle, Bioscope, Victor Travers, Rossi Ashton, Paulinette and Piquo, Olgar and Elgar, Edie Endon.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
Fred Kitchen's Co. in "The Sundowner," Motramos, Nipper Lane, Ernest Montefiore and Co., Harry Tait, H. J. Kisbey, Arthur Woodville, Nora Guy, Frances Letty, Alice Maydue, Cissie Hare, Marie Collins, Eileen Bernard, Avrignys, Pictures.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Both Performances.
"The Duchess of Tooting," Motramos, Chas. Whittle, Signor and Madame Borelli, Rob Gilmore, Harry Freeman, Chas. Russell, Marie Blyth, Nellie Coleman, Pictures.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Ernest Shand, Maud Courtney, "Mysterious Mr. C.," "Home from the Honeymoon," Cecil Bernard, Harry Edson and Dog, Jack Lane, Bioscope, Dida.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Eugene Stratton, Johnson and Bert, Frank Lynn, Syd May, Charles Dillon, Geo. Kirk and Co., in "Grip," Frank Darwin, Gertrude Bradshaw, Ten San Tan Girls, Bioscope.

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IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

Notice.—Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

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"CHEER UP, MARY!" (Bryan, Kendis, and Paley). Sung by Miss Winifred Hare.

"MEET ME DOWN AT THE CORNER AT HALF-PAST EIGHT" (Wilmott and H. E. Darewski, jun.) Sung by Whit Cunliffe.

"FOR AULD LANG SYNE" (F. W. Leigh and H. E. Pether), and "THE TENBOB RISE" (Bateman and Bennett Scott), Sung by Tom Costello.

"THE HOME THAT'S HOME FOR ME" (Leigh and Pether) and "THE SUNBEAM AND THE ROSE" (J. Thompson). Sung by Miss Ethel Haydon.

"CHERRIES ARE BLOOMING" (A. E. Sidney Davis and Neat.), Sung by Miss Bessie Butt.

"MONA MAY" (Shelley and Bucaloss). Sung by Dennis Drew.

"ALL ALONE IN OLD COLOGNE" (Murray, Leighton, and Hilbury). Sung by Miss Betty Green, at the London Hippodrome.

"MY CASTLE IN SPAIN" and "MY COSY CARAVAN" (Lawrance, Mellor, and Gifford), Sung by Miss Lil Hawthorne.

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"In Manila."
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CALLS for MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Dr. Bodie, Harry Cotton, Nellie Randall, Russell Carr, The Haytors, Claire Greta, Tony Iveson, Vernon's Bioscope, The Kirbys.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Hackenschmidt, Alsopp and Bekwith, Lola Dalby, Payne's Little Vagabonds, May Fallowfield, Johnson and De Vere, Vernon's Bioscope, Horace Wheatley.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
John Lawson and Co., Eily Adair, Rose and Maidment, James Kurry, Adeline Yohle, The Wambas, Jimmy Shields, Vernon's Bioscope, McConnell Trio.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Marie Loftus, Mack Ollive and Daisy Baldry, The Prinellas, Harry Zetter, Webb and Branston, Albert Letine, Bros. Zampah, Vernon's Bioscope, H. O. Wills.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
Ethel Whiteside and Pics., Marie Neilson, Harry Wenburn, Sisters Brand, Gertie Gitana, Dusty Rhodes, Minnie Fenton, Bros. Brooks, Vernon's Bioscope, Menotti.

PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE.
The Seven Savonas, Earle and Melville, Johnny Beveridge, Three Sisters Glenn, The Two Bees, George Antill, Gramophone, The Two Wiltons, Vernon's Bioscope, The Elliotts.

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CALLS. CALLS.

THE VAUDEVILLE SYNDICATE.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, AUG. 26, 1907.

PALACE, DOVER.
The Players, Jack and May Mackenzie, Sam Ives, Fred Wright, Maud Garland, Raymond's Pictures, Norman Grant, Stuart and Evans.

ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.
F. Southern and Co., Johnny Dwyer, Simosa San, D. W. Watson, Raymond's Pictures, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Carlotta De Yonson and Co., "My Landlord," Brian and Lawrence, Mabel le Roy, Pallister's Bioscope, Sisters Madine, R. Lomas.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.
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Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.
CALL, Monday, Aug. 26, 1907.
Radford and Valetine, Andie Burn, Vincent, Mill May and Theresa, Mahatma, Farr and Farrland, Three Sisters Tree, Walter Emerson, Sisters Hall.
General-Manager, Harry McKelvie.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.
NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL, Monday, Aug. 26.
Rehearsal 12.30. The New Macs, Hurman, Beatrice Elstree, Dunn and Reano, Sisters Dorrell, Ted Young, New Operascope, Ada Twibell, the Four Cecilians.
Artists requiring immediate dates, apply H. Percival Young, Sole Booking Representative, Shakespeare Theatre Offices, Clapham Junction London, S.W.

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All artists carrying scenery must have same fireproofed in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
Artists please note that when stage staff are required on Sunday, according to the "award" their time must be reckoned from that given in "call."
In cases of emergency after office hours, Mr. Baugh may be consulted at the Foresters' Theatre, Cambridge-road, E.
Telephone, 5954 Avenue.
Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London."

CALLS.

FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, AUG. 26, 1907.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
"King for a Day," J. H. Hawtrey, Mdlle. De Rose, Bennett and Martell, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Norah Desmond, Fred Dunstone, Cole and Rags.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Conway and Leland, Leoni Dixon, Lord, Murray, and Lord, Cambo, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Harry Sims, Mollie Westenholme, Cumberland Troupe, Frank Maura, Sisters Iris.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
A. Watson and Co., Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Bert Weston, Lang and Beal, The Simms, Lilian Lowe, Harry Milton, Bros. Ashley.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Fanny Wentworth, Sisters Morgan, Emmie Ames, Harry Bancroft, Rell and Butt, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Frand Coyle, Mersano, Alf Ripon.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
"High Jinks," Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Ada Martine, Russell Brandow, Diamond and Beatrice.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"Worst Woman in London."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"The Prodigal Parson."

THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.
"Revenge."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.
Clito, Walter Stanley, W. B. Raby, Tennyson and Wallis, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, La Belle Maie, Nora Stockelle, Harry Allister.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Alfred Lester, Percy Curry, Salvino, Three Dreadnoughts, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Bert and Dora, Jack Rae, Beau-Ideals.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, CARDIFF
"Kleptomaniacs," Bollingers, Claymores, Bains and Reed, Marba and Verity, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Sisters Cora, Columbia Trio.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON
will open in September.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, BURNLEY
will open in December.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday.
Arnold Bell and Co., Frank Seeley, Sisters Melba, Two McNeils, The Three Phantos, J. H. Carney, Kenneth and Kane, Chapman and Cairns, Billy Hubbard, Len Keppel, Raymond's Pictures.

THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
"Neighbours," "Capt. Hamilton, V.C.," Fox and Melville, Raymond's Pictures, "That Brute Simmons."

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Lew Lake and Co. ("My Pal Jerry"), The Burnells, Harvey Hilton, Phillips and Merritt, Mabel Bright, Carblorello and Troupe, Little Rose Pink, Raymond's Pictures, The Elgaves, Sisters Rino, and Cissy Williams.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Leonard Mortimer Co., Claude Ginnett and Co., Will Musgrave, The Two Kays, Dome, Nellie Goleman, Harley and Hardon, Larry Lewis, Sisters Marion, Bros. Adderley, Raymond's Pictures.

SURREY THEATRE.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
Sydney Mason and Co., Gipsy Woolf, Alice Blandford, Wallace, Harry Champion, King Leo and Jerry, Sisters Warwick, Edwards and Dacre, "Ferdie's Ma-in-Law," Ralston Boys, Raymond's Pictures.

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Sung by Miss BETTY GREEN, at the London Hippodrome.

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Sung by Miss MAUDI DARRELL, at the Vaudeville Theatre.

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Sung by G. H. ELLIOTT, at the Oxford.
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By the Writers of "Bedelia" and "My Irish Molly."

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Sung by Miss DORA LYRIC.
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OUR NUMEROUS CLIENTS WILL ALL BE ADVISED BY POST CARD OF THE NOVELTIES THAT CAN BE HAD FROM SATURDAY MORNING,

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"The Era" Annual for the current year, besides having all the usual valuable features which make the work so necessary for reference, has, for a special feature, a series of short articles, stories, or sketches by prominent members of the dramatic and musical profession, a well-executed portrait of each writer accompanying the text. The obituary for last year—unfortunately a heavy one—is given in a series of photograph likenesses of those departed. The full-page portrait of Mr. J. L. Toole is, indeed, worth more than the humble shilling at which the Annual is sold. The monthly calendar is, as usual, a storehouse of interesting facts connected with the stage.—Weekly Times and Echo.

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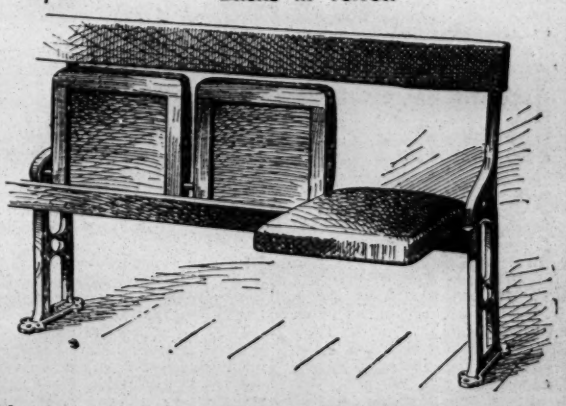

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERTILLERY.—Pavilion.—Lessees, Messrs. E. and H. Tilney; Manager, Mr. E. Pryce.—Here an excellent bill is provided for the week. The Brothers Durant introduce a farcical imitation of an airship and its navigation, finishing with a clever contortionist and trapeze turn; Zanfretto and Napio play upon some wonderful instruments, and are well received; Effie White, kaleidoscope dancer, is more wonderful than ever in her dances and effects; Mlle. Ada Gatley gives a charming juggling turn, and also is exceptionally clever on the swinging wire; the Sisters Poole are charming in songs and dancing; Fred Vallance is very good as a ventriloquist, and also contributes an illusionist performance; the Prince Milner Trio are clever with hoops, wire-walking, &c.; Charles Rutland (comic) and the Pavilion Bioscope complete.

Metropole.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom; Stage-Manager, Mr. Fred Thomas.—Mr. Charles March's company is playing *The Gamester of Metz*, *The Saint and the Woman*, and *The Priest of the Temple*. Mr. Charles March, in all his parts, attains great success. He is supported by a powerful company, amongst whom we must specially mention Messrs. W. G. Dudeney, Wilson Brash, W. Jackson, John Burton, Victor Knight, and the Misses Emma Victor, Nellie Brash, and Una Lane.

ACCRINGTON.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—This week we have a return visit of Mr. Frank Lindo and company in *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr. Frank Lindo sustains the rôle of Stephen with his usual success; Lucas Lyle is a good performance in the hands of Mr. F. M. Hodgson; Captain Gerald Gambier must be complimented for his performance as the Duke of Ancaster; Dick Redmain is well depicted by Mr. George Overs; Miss Marion Wakeford gave a scholarly reading of Joan; Misses Daisy and Ray Rochefort were smart in their respective parts; and the rest of the parts were in capable hands.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Potter, Vandy, and Weiskes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—A good bill is provided here this week. Oswald Williams gives a series of startling illusions; Phern and Phern are a smart musical turn; Tom Leo is funny; Lily Black is well received; Story and Triggs are clever burlesque artists; the Three Seabournes fairly bring down the house; Lucy Coventry, expert dancer, receives applause; Ernie Mayne is quaint and clever; and the Bio. completes a good show.

ALDERSHOT.—Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Gladwin.—The autumn dramatic season has been inaugurated most auspiciously, and no better comedy than Mr. A. W. Pinero's *His House in Order* could be desired. Mr. Frank Fenton's fine conception of Hilary Jesson adds materially to the success; his quaint humour, quiet and clear delivery being very effective. Mr. Cyril Harcourt's is a talented portrayal of the austere Filmer Jesson; and Mr. Richard Dalton gives an admirable assumption of the hypocritical Sir Daniel; Miss Marie Polini is a charming and talented Nina; as Geraldine, Miss Henrietta Leverett is decidedly clever; Miss Joan D. Cadell's is a capable portrayal of the French governess; and as Derek Miss Maisie Richardson captivates all with her charming simplicity.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Revill.—This week a return is being paid by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company in the comedy drama, *The Little Breadwinner*. The character of Meg is admirably interpreted by a clever, precocious little actress, Miss Marjorie Lawrence. An effective impersonation of Margaret Daventry is given by Miss Janet Warden; while other able delineations of female characters are submitted by Misses Jenny Bostock, Ewen Stewart, Kate Melville, and Lissa Young. Mr. H. B. Peppin as the Quaker thoroughly realises the old man who is imposed upon by a set of unscrupulous persons; Mr. Louis Linford does good work as Richard Lawrence, the old lord's adopted son; Mr. Alfred Maurice acts a somewhat difficult part as Joseph Prior. Messrs. Norman Hall, Wallace Carey, and others fill essential parts in the plot.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech. Mr. Robt. Peel's orchestra attracts the attention in the preliminary overture with lively music, "Norwegian Scenes," by A. Mott. Jessie Jukes commends herself as an expert comedienne and expert all-round dancer; Connie Mascot in similar business finds favour; the Yorkshire Meisters introduce some excellent and artistic vocal items in a musical sketch; Wyndham and Waters appear as high-class comedy vocalists in a funny drawing-room act, *The Professor and His Pupil*; the Three Panamas do some really clever tumbling and acrobatic dancing; Eva Chadwick is a sweet-voiced ballad singer; a wonderful and intelligent canine performance is given by Corbin's dogs; a good comedy turn is that introduced by Coggin and Davies; and the Sisters Belmore, in song and dance, justify their engagement. The pictures illustrate the doings of a detective.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwards; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bert Lester. — This week's diversified programme is headed by the "bounding navvies," Wild, Willie, and West, who are responsible for a comedy acrobatic display, which is well received; an interesting and novel turn is that of the Cheers (lady and gentleman), in a scena entitled *Dick Whittington*, which serves to introduce a number of highly-trained cats; Zenora, hand-jumper and equilibrist, is particularly smart; Alice Maud is a clever child mimic; a fine series of pictures, The Great Victoria Falls, South Africa, is presented by Mr. E. C. Clayton; Mr. Harry Luck, comedian, is a favourite with his songs; Tennis and Laune are a couple of pleasing lady vocalists; and the Danas, in their comedy duologue, *On the Honeymoon*, meet with hearty approval.

AYR.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—The theatre is occupied by Mr. Fredk : Melville's company in *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*. Miss Beatrice Homer is "the woman," and she plays the part admirably; and she is well backed up by Mr. Philip Darien as Jack Merryman; Mr. Leyton Cancellor makes a fine impression as Hubert Gold; Mr. Leonard Thackeray as Antonio Luchesi enacts the rôle well; while Mr. Wm. Wallace as Raggles makes the character an outstanding one. Mr. Alf. E. Wood as Dr. Carr is exceptionally clever; Mr. Tubby Edlin as Tubby Herrick and Miss Nellie Jackson as Aggie Brown are responsible for much fun in the play. Miss Nellie Oliver in the rôle of Rose Courtney infuses the part with much charm, and acts delightfully.

BACUP.—New Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denmann-Wood.—Miss Lydia Donovan's company is the attraction here this week with the domestic play, entitled *Her One Great Sin*. Miss Donovan in the important rôle of Grace Warhurst plays with skill and tact, and enlists the sympathies of the audience throughout. The part of Ruben Warhurst is taken with conspicuous ability by Mr. John Cecil, and an incisive portraiture of the villainous Arnold Thornhill comes from Mr. Jack Armitage; Mr. Charles E. Lambert and Miss Louie Walton submit clever character-sketches as Dan Humble and Bet Humble; Mr. Fred Hodson provides plenty of mirth as Jerry Jumble, and is ably assisted by Miss Nellie Lambert as Nancy Wimpenny. Mr. J. Croudace contributes a sound performance as Jack Humble; and Mr. J. Nella, as Mr. Benton, a solicitor, makes the most of a small part; Miss Maudie Lambert is full of life and vivacity as Gracie Warhurst; and the part of Charlie is pathetically played by Miss Phyllis Damian. Other rôles are all intelligently sustained, and the piece is well mounted.

BARNSTAPLE.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Bridge Trustees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton.—Messrs. H. and F. Poole's Myriorama commenced a week's engagement here on Monday; the Geo. French Troupe of acrobatic cyclists go through some startling manœuvres; Mr. Bert Gates, guide and ventriloquist; Mr. Harry Dowsett, eccentric comedian; Learto and his dog "Babs," in an original comedy musical act; Miss Lilian Neville, operatic and ballad vocalist; Houston, an exceedingly clever magician; the Snow Family, eccentric knockabouts and expert skaters, who create great fun; and some very fine pictures on the Bioscope complete the entertainment.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Her Majesty's Theatre. — Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Miss Decima Moore's company in *The Truth* is here. She herself is in every way admirable as Becky Warden, and is capitally supported by a fine performance of Tom Warden by Mr Robt. Minster; the Fred Lindon of Mr. Hugh Ardale is a capital character, and Miss Elspeth Dudgeon is a capable Mrs. Crespigney; Mr. Arthur Hare is a good Stephen Roland; and Miss Maud Linden as Eve Lindon and Miss Kitty Lofting as Laura Fraser are both very pleasing.

Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stone.—Mr. Junius Booth's company in *Monte Cristo* is here. Mr. Junius Booth is a powerful and picturesque Count, Miss B. Doyle a clever and sympathetic Mercedes, and Mr. Augustin Bowerman as Baron Danglers and Mr. C. W. Crowe as Gen. Fernand Mondego admirably portray stage villainy. Mr. Beckett Bould is an effective M. Noirtier, Mr. Finn Doyle an acceptable Lieut. Albert de Morcerf, and Mr. Percy Braithwaite a characteristic Caderousse.

Tivoli Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Edgar Laban.—The top of the bill here this week is a funny sketch, *The Carpenter's Shop*, by the Four Karnos; and another sketch, entitled *London's Lazy Coalmen*, by the Kronez Brothers, is very well performed. The Musical Keighs give a very pleasing musical turn; Bert Kemble is very good, and quite out of the ordinary with his topical songs; Nell Brough has a taking song, and is an excellent whistler; and Fyne and Hurley (the dude and the coster) play their parts to life; Alfonzo (foot equilibrist) exhibits some really clever footwork; and Vernon's Bioscope concludes an excellent programme with some capital pictures.

Hippodrome.—Under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—There continues to be an excellent show of pictures and variety turns here, and this house is deservedly well patronised.

BARRY DOCK. — Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. R. Horrocks.—Well-filled houses are the rule here. The Tennessee Guards receive an enthusiastic welcome; Gertrude Hallé is a charming singer; and Alf Bishop, the little lump of fun, creates roars of laughter; the Devereaux Dogs are the acme of canine intelligence; Mlle. Zetta, wire dancer, is heartily applauded for her sensational novelty, "The cake-walk on the wire"; the Sisters Volbeque are clever comediennes and dancers; Corrie and Foote are excellent in their laughable sketch, *A Double Birthday*; and the new comedian and singer, A. D. North, gives an admirable turn. The Electric Bioscope, with its new series of up-to-date pictures, concludes the programme.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Once again *The Silver King* is attracting the usual large audiences that always delight in witnessing this sterling drama. Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's present combination is fully up to their acknowledged high standard of excellence. Mr. Herbert Ford as Wilfred Denver continues to give a fine performance of this popular rôle; unstinted praise must be accorded to Miss Viola Holland for her handling of the suffering Nellie Denver; Mr. Tom Paulton still is seen as the faithful Jaikes, which he enacts with all his former dry humour, and no little pathetic effect; the Spider is undertaken upon the usual lines with success by Mr. Henderson Bland, whose associates in stage crime are capitally represented by Mr. Edmund Beresford (Corket), Mr. John Detley (Coombe), and Mr. John M. Manley (Cripps). Geoffrey Ware and Sam Baxter are well portrayed by Mr. Allen Jeayes and Mr. Arthur H. Rooke; Miss Brineta Browne is Olive Skinner; and Little Genna Lyndon is good as Cissy Denver.

Palace Theatre. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—This week the classic poses of Clito are charming large audiences, and Mr. Chas. Raymond, the producer, is to be heartily congratulated upon his artistic achievement; Harry Allister's character impersonations are admirably conceived and received with much applause; Tennyson and Wallis, the popular comedians, are once again appearing, to the delight of their numerous local friends; two other comedians who score with their respective songs are Walter Stanley and W. B. Raby; Nora Stockelle, comedienne and dancer, is a favourite; La Belle Maie, upon the silver thread, is very skilful and pleasing; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux include some excellent representations of naval manœuvres.

BEDFORD. — Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Mr. Norman Macowan and Miss Violet Sterne and company played the first three nights of this week *The Tyrany of Tears*. Mr. Bernard Copping, as Mr. Parbury, revealed some fine powers of humour as well as occasional pathos; Mr. Norman Macowan was an attractive George Gunning, his love-making being somewhat uncommon and masterful; Mr. Murray Hathorn was splendid as Col. Armitage, and was repeatedly applauded. Miss Mary Masters portrayed the tearful wife with much success; and Miss Violet Sterne played, as she always does, with much dramatic power; her Hyacinth was decidedly good. Last, but not least, Mr. Robert Entwistle made the best of his part of Evans, a butler.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Leigh Lovel, Miss Octavia Kenmore, and company opened here on Monday in Ibsen's play, *The Master Builder*. Miss Kenmore achieved success in the rôle of Hilda Wangel, her acting being irreproachable; and Mr. Lovel in the title-rôle (Halvard Solness) took high honours, realising thoroughly every phase of the character. Mr. Claude Haviland was the Dr. Herdal to the life; and Mr. Arthur Collins Rolfe acquitted himself admirably as Knut Brovik, the architect. Miss Katherine Maynard's acting as Mrs. Solness was undoubtedly clever; and Mr. Reginald Hargreaves furnished a good impersonation of Kagnar Brovik; Miss Dora Levis, an excellent Kaia Fosli, completed the cast. For Thursday, Friday, and to-night (Saturday), *A Doll's House* is billed.

Palace Theatre of Varieties. — Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Bud Snyder's sensation, consisting of motor-car somersaults through the air with a human being inside, is the chief attraction, and the marvellous act arouses much enthusiasm. Miss Ada Fawn is a delightful comedienne, with good songs; and Mr. J. T. Macmillan, the droll Scotch humorist, quickly makes himself a favourite; Voldam Bros., eccentric Dutch acrobats, make a hit; and the hand-balancing act of the Picquays is certainly one of the best before the public; Walker and Lake, patter comedians, take well; and a good reception is extended to Sterling and Love in their vocal and instrumental comedy act; Miss Marie Leonard, comedienne, and the pictures complete a fine bill.

Royal Hippodrome.—Maraging-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Leipzig heads the bill here, and his sleight-of-hand feats have created much amazement; Harrigan and Holt, versatile comedians, have been most successful; and the mimicry of Miss Ruth Molloy is realistic. Mr. Sam Redfern's funny sayings have caused endless amusement; and Miss Marie Jones, assisted by Mr. Ernest Munro, appear in a capital sketch, entitled *The Way To Win a Bet*; Prince Kokins's feats of jugglery would be difficult to excel; and a pleasing entertainment is provided by Miss Ethel Walker, a talented society entertainer. Also here are Pete and Juno, comedians and dancers; and the attractive Hipposcope pictures.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The leading feature here is supplied by Henry Coutts and company, who appear with every element of success in their lightning change production, a number of characters being cleverly represented by Mr. Coutts. Mr. J. A. Wilson, the droll comedian, who is assisted by his well-trained dog, Towser, is always assured of success here; and a hit has been made by Binns and Binns in their smart comedy act, which is the essence of drollery; Farley, Rennie, and Farley provide plenty of amusement with their sketch, *Fun at a Railway Station*; and also here are Rocco, a smart tumbler; Ted and May Hopkins, Welsh entertainers; Mark Henton, comedian, and the Bioscope.

New Alhambra Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company, under the direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, produce here this week *Why Woman Sins*. Mr. Fred Terriss is upholding his reputation by his clever acting as Lieut Maxwell, his impersonation being one that would be difficult to excel. Miss Nina Blake Adams appears to great advantage as Nell Desmond, and the heartiest congratulations are due to Miss Kathleen Magee and Mr. Cyril Grier for their remarkably effective portrayals of Ida Valette and Jim Rainbird. Mr. Edward Smythe continues his successful engagement here, assuming this week the rôle of Cecil Spencer with every degree of satisfaction; and the iniquities of Capt. H. Carlton, R.N., are powerfully depicted by Mr. Wilford Cheetham. Other rôles are satisfactorily sustained by Miss Mattie Crawford (remarkably good as Lily De Vere), Mr. Thomas H. Solly (very humorous as Sam Spavins), Mr. Elmore Frith, Miss Alice Clarke, and Mr. J. E. Davies. The Alhambra Bioscope, under the able direction of Mr. Hugh Beckett, exhibits a fine series of pictures. It should be added that Mr. Thomas H. Solly is responsible for the admirable stage management.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mr. William Greet's company, in *The Sign of the Cross*, is drawing crowded houses. Mr. Cyril Austin Lee gives a powerful and impressive rendering of Marcus Superbus, receiving admirable support from Miss Gladys Leslie, who is irreproachable in her impersonation of Mercia. Mr. C. Yorke presents a fine performance of Nero; Tigellinus is capitally sustained by Mr. Charles Aldred; and Miss Dulcie Greatwich shows great ability as Stephenaus. Remaining characters are, without exception, creditably represented, and the costumes and scenic effects are admirable.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—The Six Brothers Luck, in the pantomimic sketch, *The Hotel Grande*, are a prominent attraction; Mr. Austin Rudd, the popular comedian, well maintains his favourable reputation here; and Miss Bertha Duckett, an accomplished male impersonator and comedienne, has a host of admirers. The San Remo Girls, smart vocalists and dancers, present an attractive turn; and Johnny Johnstone, the musical dandy; Walter Wade, mimic and raconteur; Drum and Major, comedians and patterers; and Brown's Royal Bioscope, complete an excellent company.

Olympian Gardens, Rock Ferry.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton.—An entire change of artists introduces Mr. Charles Harvey, the droll; Miss Iris Banfield, comedienne; Mr. Charles Rogers, banjoist; Mr. Fred Barnes, comedian; Mr. Billy Richardson, stump orator; and Mr. Albert Shaw, pianist. The season is a pronounced success.

The Tower, New Brighton.—Manager, Mr. William Holland.—The entertaining sketch, *Monte Carlo; or, The Belle of the Riviera*, is a leading feature here.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*The Earl and the Girl* is presented by Mr. William Greet's company. Mr. William Stephens is retained for his old part of Jim Cheese, in which he is even funnier than ever; Mr. Thomas Kennard is much appreciated for his singing and acting as the real heir, Dick Wargrave; Mr. Percy E. Wright renders valuable support as the Hon. Crew Boodle (the supposed heir); Mr. H. Courtin acts in the blustering style of Bunker Bliss with much success; Miss Chrissie Ralland pleases all with her fine singing and graceful acting as Elphin Haye, the heiress; Miss Jennie Richards shows exceptionally clever low-comedy powers as Liza Shoddam; Miss Kathleen Gerard scores largely as the strong lady, Mrs. Shimmering Black; and Mr. W. Norman as Downham, Mr. Greene Taylor as Mr. Talk, Mr. R. Mansell Fane as Mr. Hazel, Miss Ethel Erskine (a clever vocalist) as Daisy Fallowfield, Miss Frances James as Virginia Bliss, and Miss Hilda Gray as Lady Rosedale are able and popular.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is here with *Florodora*. The invaluable services of Mr. Fred Eastman are secured for the part of Tweedlepunch, in which this favourite comedian appears to be at his very best; Mr. Edmond Russell is very acceptable in the part of Cyrus Gilfain; Mr. J. B. Fox and Mr. Harold Terry are very successful in the respective rôles of Frank Abercoed and Capt. Arthur Donegal; Mr. Charles Roadnight makes a clever study of Leandro; Miss Edith Housley does credit to the part of Lady Holyrood, and wins numerous encores for her songs; Miss Marion Armytage presents a fascinating portrayal of Angela Gilfain; Miss Masie Ellinger accounts for the part of Dolores satisfactorily, both as regards her acting and her vocalism; and Miss Bessie Nunan as the typewriter, Miss Mildred as the maid, and the Misses Maudie Brock, Dorothy Mason, Daisy Gayley, and Emmie Oxlee in their speciality dances give satisfaction.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company appear in *A Sister's Sin*. Mr. C. Wills shows an abundance of zeal and strength as Harold Raymond; Miss Violet Ingram as Minnie Hastings impresses the audience very favourably; Mr. Frank Baglesfield plays the part of George Oakley on well-conceived lines; Miss Kathryn Eckhart is a commanding figure as Charzel; Miss Phena Powell meets with many signs of success as Redempta; Mr. Michael Madden as Larry Murphy (with songs) enlivens the play with his flashes of Irish humour; the Misses Janet Lawton and Lillian Bales support in a clever manner as the two rivals, Floss and Nell; Mr. Ernest Frere gives an unctuous performance of the Jew, Ikey Moses; and Messrs. A. Knight and Harry Lyndon as Walter Hastings and Theophilus Hope respectively both make the best of these parts. The Misses Maggie English and Dorothy Bales appeal strongly as Jack and May respectively.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*For Her Sake*, presented by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company, has made a big hit here. Conspicuously meritorious is the performance of Mr. Bernard Mervyn as the implacable Gregorvitch; Miss Doris Gilham's acting as the Princess is particularly powerful and well sustained; Mr. Wellesley Draper is the embodiment of courage and devotion as the Prince; Miss Mabel Mannering acts with much feeling and emotional power as Olga; Mr. Chas. E. Johnson gives a touching and thrilling portrayal of Nicholoff; Mr. Millar Anderson contributes a clever study of General Pauloff; Mr. Albert Sinclair is well-fitted to the rôle of Lieut. Rostow; Miss Gertrude Netterville presents the American heiress, Phyllis Gray, in a happy style; Mr. Fred Beck is admirably droll as Chumley; and Mr. Sydney Benson as Patrick and Miss Mamie Randall as Amelia Jane are very popular. Mr. Fred Hilliard excels in the brief but lurid rôle of Ivan, the serf.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*A Secret Wedding*, played by Mr. Stanley Carlton's company, obtains a very favourable reception here. Mr. Stanley Carlton as Herbert Hartington maintains a steady grip of the audience throughout the performance; Mr. Herbert Evelyn makes a convincing study of the cousin, Edgar; Miss Rubie Maude as Edgar's wife, Grace, gives a highly-successful portrayal; Miss Ethel Lawson succeeds as the avenging angel; Miss Jessie Elvin is admirable as Elise Marchand; Miss Maud Steeple makes a successful appeal as the waif, Jack; Mr. Bert Elvin scores as Drummond; Mr. Edgar Morgan as the poetic greengrocer, Billy Barton, convulses the audience with his comic flights, and also wins success with a clever song and dance; and Miss Nelly Freeland is very good as the maid, Polly; Mr. Fred Conway is very useful as Constable Foot.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*Proof* is being played by Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's company. Mr. S. Herbert Humber imbues the character of Pierre with a personality and fortitude that strikes home to everyone; Mr. Penn Hamilton submits a realistic presentment of the unspeakable Lazare; Miss Beatrice Sinclair wins much sympathy as Madeline in the prologue; Miss Thelma Kurz as Adrienne gives a very charming and sympathetic performance; Miss Alicia Raleigh as Valentine is very warmly applauded for her clever efforts; and Miss Elizabeth Dexter as Mme. Deprets, Miss Emelie Wilson as the Duchesse D'Aubeterre, Miss Ellen Morris as Julie, Mr. B. Elliott as the Duke, and Mr. G. Ridgeway-Thorne as Victor are all good. Mr. Carl Beechy as Chamberau brings out the humour of the piece with eminently successful results.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Millie Lindon's songs are admirably suited to her daintiness and manner, and she scores a very flattering success with the latest additions to her répertoire, "Mary, she kept a dairy," and "She was just a simple milliner, just a milliner"; "Curly," Tom Edward's protégé, is as precocious as ever, and his comments on things in general keep audiences in the best of spirits; Ted E. Box maintains his reputation for cleverness; and Maie Ash, assisted by Stedman's children, appears in a pretty scena, entitled "Mr Gollywog, Good-night." Turner and Jacobs introduce a novel sketch in three scenes, designated *A Motor Match*; Whalen and West are smart American comedy artists; the Three Sisters Sprightly are excellent dancers; the Three Prestons in their absurdity, *The Liftman's Rise*, create a deal of laughter; and the Clement Trio introduce a novel trapeze act.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thos. Barrasford.—The chief attraction at this house is an exceedingly laughable sketch, entitled *Office Hours*; Martin Conway, with his inimitable walk, is also attracting a good deal of attention; Walton and Lester, the "World's Worst Wizards," never fail to amuse; the Hilgert Arkas Troupe provide the exciting element of the show with their acrobatic feats; Fred and Louie Fuller are seen at their best in a pretty song-scena; Mr. Arthur Slater, "the whistling man in white," is very clever; and Nelly Moore is a character impersonator with a future. The miniature vaudeville theatre of Mlle. Haydée is a first-class entertainment.

Gaiety.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—John F. Preston's company in *Rogues of the Turf* has a well-selected company of talented artists; C. Emlyn Jones and the "Daughters of Britain" have a stirring musical episode introducing national songs of the British Isles; the Marsuma Bros. earn applause with clever cycling tricks; Rose Elliott maintains her reputation as a singer of sensible songs; Kitty Malone, comedienne, is a dainty singer; and Spry and Monti cause fun by their performance. Tom E. Hughes sings a capital song, entitled "Leicester Square," and Dan Conroy, comedian, also adds some good numbers.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—John Warren, magician, presents a sketch here entitled *The Magic Carpet*. Clever illusory effects secure for it immediate favour. Marguerite Broadfoote sings a couple of songs, and the applause which greets her shows that her appearances in Birmingham are as welcome as ever; the Three Van Dammes prove themselves to be versatile tumblers; the Legay Quartette dance excellently; Amos Howard is responsible for a good coon turn; the Norman-Leonard Trio present a clever musical sketch; and R. H. Douglass in a clever monologue is deservedly popular.

Curzon Hall.—Mr. Waller Jeffs' New Century Pictures still continue to attract good audiences. A special feature of the entertainment is the singing of Miss Violet Leslie, who is vociferously applauded for her American picture songs.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Eden Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. Jas. Willard's company in *A Woman's Pluck* occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Austin Mortimer very creditably sustains the part of Dick Darrell; as Jim Daremont, "the Tiger," Mr. J. P. Dryden is worthy of mention; Mr. Matthew Boulton gives a fine portrayal of Winstone Dale; and as Sir Noel Fordyce, Mr. Arthur Temple is good. The parts of Mr. and Mrs. Pope are safely entrusted to Mr. Harry Emmerson and Miss Elsie Maitland; and equally clever are Mr. Dickey Bird and Miss Fanny James as Mr. and Mrs. Pippin. Miss Dolly Gilroy as Jessie Pope is charming; and as Grace Daremont, Miss Marion Fawcett plays well.

BLACKBURN. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—Mr. Weedon Grossmith's farcical comedy, *The Night of the Party*, has been making its first appearance in Blackburn this week, and has been received by capital audiences. The company is a good one, including as it does Miss Mab Paul as Gipsy Vandelier, who performs exceedingly well in that part, putting much life into her impersonation; Mr. Edwin W. Wynne is very amusing as Crosby; while Mr. G. Edward Hall creates much laughter by his acting in the part of the pompous servant Flamber. Mr. Percy Compton is good as the amorous Alderman Hargen; and Mr. M. Carter Slaughter does well as Mr. Frank Frayne. Miss Jenny Lynn proves capable as Lady Hampshire. The piece is capitally staged.

New Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company are appearing here in the drama *The Female Swindler*. Miss Madge Girdlestone gives a very powerful representation of the character of Lu Valroy; and Mr. Stanley Radcliffe acts well as Geoffrey Warden. Mr. Joseph Millane is good as John Coulson; and the comedy parts, which are in the hands of Mr. Henry Wright and Miss Jessica Ford, are very well played.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—There is a very good variety show here. The Cumberland Troupe of trick cyclists give a clever performance; and Conway and Leland, two one-legged artists, go through some remarkable feats. Frank Maura, Mexican foot juggler, is very dexterous with his feet; and Mollie Wolstenholme, operatic vocalist, is a popular turn. Henry Sims, a light comedian; the Sisters Iris, expert dancers; and Leoni Dixon, comedienne, go to make up an excellent programme.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—The annual visit of Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson, which we have to record this week, always proves to be a huge success, and although *The Scarlet Pimpernel* is not new to Blackpool audiences, it has been received each night with the utmost enthusiasm. As Sir Percy and Lady Blakeney respectively Mr. Terry and Miss Neilson are seen at their best; whilst Mr. Horace Hodges repeats his remarkably clever impersonation of Chauvelin. Mr. Wigney Percival is duly dignified as the Prince of Wales; and Mr. J. Carter Edwards contributes a clever sketch of Brogard.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Mr. George Edwardes's company is paying another visit here this week with *The Lady Dandies*, and repeating the success which has been established on previous visits. Miss Evie Greene as Lodolska sings and act in the most charming manner possible; Mr. Eric Thorne, who again plays St. Amour, is a fun-maker in the very front rank; the Lagorille of Mr. Harold Thorley is likewise a meritorious performance; and Miss Dolly Castles is a great success as Illryine.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Hetty King, the "ideal boy," has a big reception; Jack Lorimer, the Scottish comedian, is no less successful in pleasing his audience; Hall and Earle are a clever pair of acrobatic comedians; the Maples are popular as duettists and dancers; Morny Cash, the "Lancashire lad" comedian, scores with the holiday-makers; Roma and Romani are talented musicians; Jennie Hartley is a pleasing comedienne; and Dandy George contributes a clever performance with his dog. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope continues to show the best pictures.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. T. P. Dingnan.—The principal attraction here this week is a novel spectacle, entitled *Iona, the Enchanted*, which is presented by Charles Fraser and company. Other attractive turns are provided by Derenda and Green, juggling comedians; the Lancashire Harmony Boys in a clever vocal comedy act; Les Woodbines, local gymnasts; Little Don, a quaint comedian; James and Alexander, duettists and dancers; Halter and Ray, comedians; the Sisters Kilner, comedy vocalists; and Lillie le Breton, trapeze artist.

Winter Gardens Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—The success of the ballet *By the Zuyder Zee* is still maintained, and two performances are now given daily to crowded houses.

North Pier Pavilion.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Jas. Walker.—Messrs. Gaze and Hayes's musical company is providing the entertainment here this week.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—*The End Crowns All*, a romantic play, presented by Miss Augusta Tulloch and a good all-round company, has proved a successful attraction here. In the heavy rôle of Prince Borinsky, Mr. Hugh Travers is prominent; Mr. Arthur Plummer in the part of Lord Lyndhurst makes a decided hit; Mr. Edward Vivian is quite equal to the part of Nicholas Boris; Mr. Harry Carter is satisfactory as Ivan; Miss Amber Wyville as Lola is very effective; and Miss Tullock as Vera Romaine gives a vigorous and carefully-studied rendering of the part. In the lighter characters, H. Danby, Nellie Fern, and Rosie Watson lend valuable aid.

The Gaiety.—Lessee, Mr. George C. Good.—The artists appearing here include Mme. Sims Reeves, soprano vocalist; Fred Lyndo, eccentric comedian; Carl Santley, vocalist; Charles Torrain and company in the musical comedietta, entitled *My Fiancée*, and the Bioscope with a new and varied series of pictures.

BOLTON. — Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. B. Lloyd.—Mr. H. B. Irving's first visit to Bolton, along with his own company, has been looked forward to with much interest, and on Monday evening a large and fashionable audience greeted him warmly when he appeared in *The Lyons Mail*. The audience were deeply impressed with his impersonation of Joseph Lesurques and Dubosc, and showed their appreciation by repeated calls; Miss Dorothy Green gave a capital portrayal of the character of Janette; and Messrs. Eric Maxon, Charles Dodsworth, Tom Reynolds, Frank Tyers, Bernard Limpus, Arthur Curtis, and Misses Eily Malyon and E. Frances Davis played their parts with excellent point and discretion. *The Lyons Mail* was also down for Tuesday and Thursday, with *King Rene's Daughter* each evening as a curtain-raiser. On Wednesday Mr. Irving appeared as Mathias in *The Bells*, his impersonation in every respect being admirable; Miss Gwladys Wynne shone as Annette. *The Lion and the Unicorn*, in which Mr. Irving appeared as King Charles II., preceded *The Bells*. *Charles the First* is in the bill for Friday. Mr. John Dennys is the acting-manager for Mr. Irving.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—The Klien Family of trick cyclists top the bill here this week, and are supported by Maud Mortimer, burlesque artist; Cavalli, ventriloquist; Brady and Johnson, comedy merchants, in their screaming absurdity, *Turning the Tables*; Henry Cazman, in his famous entertainment, *Le Café Chantant*; the Glenroy Troupe (five in number), male and female characteristic dancers, in their novel speciality, *Sons of Britannia's Empire*; Florence Yayman, coon caricaturist; Maud Howard and Madge Townsend, vocal duettists; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE. — Muncaster Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—The Muncaster stock company are this week presenting the old favourite drama, *The Shaughran*. Mr. A. Sember makes a typical and ideal Conn, being ably partnered by Miss Effie Macintosh as Moya. Miss L. Radbourne is a capital Arte O'Neale; while Miss Nina Vaughton was a captivating Claire Ffoliot. Mr. A. B. Adams' representation of Corry Kinsela was very forcible; and Mr. H. Denton (Father Dolan), Mr. Stanley Gordon (Captain Molyneaux), and Mr. H. Allen (Robert

Geisha with considerable success. Miss Joan Ritz as O Mimosa San rendered her songs artistically and acted with intelligence; Miss Florrie Saunders made an attractive and vivacious Molly Seymour; and Miss Aubrey Ashton a dignified Lady Constance. Mr. Cyril Dane gave a jovial rendering of Reginald Fairfax; Mr. Sam Lockridge sang well in the part of Dick Cunningham; and Mr. Mansell Stringer as Capt. Katana, and Mr. A. J. Nicholls as Takemine, took their parts well. Mr. Lionel Braham made a droll Marquis Imari; and Mr. Edward Carlton scored a great success by his eccentricities as Wun Hi.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—There was a large audience on Monday night last to greet Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's excellent company in Mrs. Henry de la Pasture's smart comedy, *Peter's Mother*, which, by arrangement with Mr. Otho Stuart, is being played here for the week. Miss Lilias Earle was very charming as the sympathetic Lady Mary Crewys, and the iron-willed, old-fashioned Sir Timothy Crewys was portrayed by Mr. Charles Harley with excellent effect; Mr. Percy Hutchison presented a well-drawn impersonation of the unemotional, egotistical Peter; Miss Mary Griffiths's Lady Belstone and Miss Annie Stalman's Miss G. Crewys were both very quaint character-sketches; as John Crewys, Q.C., Mr. Alfred Bucklaw was convincing and natural; Miss Grace Muriell's Mrs. Hewell had quite the requisite dignity. There was a distinct charm in the bearing of Miss Hilda Honiss as the society beauty, Sarah Hewell, and Mr. F. G. Thurstans as Canon Birch and Mr. Drew Mackintosh as Dr. Blundell were very good. The comedy was preceded by the smart curtain-raiser, *Chalk and Cheese*, in which Mesdames Annie Stalman and Hilda Honiss and Mr. Drew Mackintosh proved very diverting.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. Fredk. Melville's drama, *Her Road to Ruin*, was on Monday night presented to a crowded audience. Mr. Robert Faulkner's acting as the high-minded curate, Frank Temple, was good; the poor journalist, Tom Wells, Mr. J. Knox Orde represented with genuine fervour; Mr. Alex Bradley was effective as the deeply-dyed conventional villain Phillip Hardy; Mr. Dane Clarke was good as the Bishop; as the confiding, ambitious, wayward Jess Willoughby Miss Eva Moss acted with consummate skill and power; as her sister May Miss Alice Bowes won sympathy, and presented a vivid contrast; Miss Nellie Bonser presented a strikingly pathetic picture as the betrayed Mary Dawson; Mr. V. R. C. Moors was good as Charles Cholmondeley; and Mr. A. Byron as Billy Boots and Miss Marie Wright as Jennie Crackling supplied acceptable comedy.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Mark Sheridan, the comedian, original, humorous, and bright as ever, is on a return visit; G. H. Elliott, too, is here again, and as "the chocolate-coloured coon" he is very popular; Queenie Leighton, a favourite here, is meeting with success; Horace White provides a good entertainment as a ventriloquist; Starr and Leslie are seen and heard in their good comedy, vocalism, and clever club-swinging act; and David Ganty's illuminated "Water Grotto" is a charming and delightful exhibition. The clever Jackley Trio give a marvellous acrobatic display; Percy Honri's performance on the mammoth concertina is wonderfully clever, and he is, moreover, a humorist. Some very fine pictures are shown by the American Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—*King for a Day*, a musical comedy, by George Sheldon, capitally staged and providing plenty of amusement, is brightly acted by Messrs. Sidney Dooley and Charles Seymour's capable company here this week. J. H. Hawtrey, actor-vocalist, is well received; Bennett and Martell, "the shipwrecked mariners," are a humorous couple; Mlle. de Rose again scores a success with her cleverly-rendered baritone songs; Fred Dunstone contributes acceptable comedy; Norah Desmond's well-illustrated songs are received with favour; and a smart and entertaining performance is gone through by Cole and Rags, juggling eccentrics.

BRIDLINGTON. — ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE. — Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The great event of the week at this fashionable resort was the appearance of the celebrated composer, Mr. Edward German, who conducted a series of his own compositions in the Grand Pavilion on Monday. The Flockton-Forster company gave their entertainment in the Floral Pavilion, and on Tuesday one of their best programmes was given in the Grand Pavilion, before the members of the Torpedo Flotilla, which is now in the bay in front of the parade. Mr. Joseph Sainton and the municipal orchestra are also affording great pleasure by their promenade concerts in the Floral Pavilion.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS. — General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—The annual benefit of the popular and energetic manager of the Spa came off on Monday night, when a crowded attendance assembled to show their appreciation of the efforts which Mr. Hague is constantly making for the amusement and entertainment of his patrons. A monster double programme was provided, and a host of talent lent assistance to make the event the great success which it was voted to be. In the theatre Lindon's Vaudeville Entertainers contributed some of their choicest items, and also appeared in a capital musical mélange, *Monks at Play*, in which Mr. Surrie Lindon as Father Anthony, Mr. Harry Collard as Brother Ptarmigan, and Mr. Rob White as Brother Capon gave most successful impersonations. Miss Bertha Frey as Pierrette submitted a charming rendering of the part; and Mr. Hyam Long proved a clever illusionist. Miss Sybil Walsh was popular in dramatic recitations; and Mr. Dan Billington delighted with his songs. Under the glass dome a large crowd had also gathered, and the various artists who had appeared in the theatre gave great pleasure by their musical and vocal contributions. Mr. Hague is to be congratulated upon the great success he has achieved.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—That amusing and clever artist, Mr. Joe Bath, took his annual benefit on Friday night, when he was rewarded with a "bumper" house, the beneficiaire being very popular with the visitors at this seaside resort. He was supported by a host of talent. The Waterloo Pierrots gave one of their amusing programmes, and clever items were contributed by Messrs. C. Beanland, Geo. Hyam, Coda, Chas. Danton, and members of the Flockton-Forster company, and Mr. Surrie Lindon's entertainers. "Joe" himself gave his amusing sketch, *A Night Out*, and received a rousing ovation, which testified to the popularity he has acquired during his many years of catering for the pleasure of the thousands of visitors to Bridlington.

THE PALACE.—Managers, Messrs. J. W. and W. H. Delmar.—On Saturday there was a grand brass band contest for valuable money prizes, which secured a great measure of success. This week the Parisian Animated Picture Company are showing a series of capital films, and the various turns are well received. The "whirling the whizzer" competitions have been a source of great amusement.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licencee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is here this week with *The Blue Moon*. Miss Clarice Lockstone as Chandra Nil displays charming acting and singing; Mr. J. Edward Fraser achieves great success as Captain Jack Ormsby; Miss Ida Statham makes an attractive Evelyn Ormsby; Miss Maude Aston is a bright Millicent Leroy; Miss Laura Leycester is a dignified Lady Augusta Brabasham; Mr. Reginald Switz as Private Charles Taylor and Mr. Alfred Beers as Moolraj are very entertaining; Mr. Alfred Clark acquits himself admirably as the Major; and Mr. Horace Manger is a capital Bobbie Scott. The choruses are well sung, and the duties of conductor are ably carried out by Mr. Carlton Mason.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company opened here on Monday with *The Still Alarm*. Mr. Matthew H. Glenville gave an excellent impersonation of Jack Manley; Miss Frances Waring acted with great charm as Elinor Fordham; Mr. George Arthur was powerfully effective as the villainous John Bird; Miss J. Beresford's Carrie Wilber and Miss Mabel Veriton's Mrs. Manley were entertaining; while Mr. Fred Osmond was particularly amusing as Doc Wilber. The drama was finely staged and mounted.

ALHAMBRA.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is an excellent company here this week. Ray Wallace, a charming mimic at the piano, is a great favourite; Joe O'Gorman, Irish comedian, is enthusiastically received; John Le Hay and company achieve distinct success in the farcical and musical episode, *Poor Beggar*; Syd Godfrey is a pleasing comedian; Fred Poplar, comedian, wins hearty applause; Florence Esdaile is a charming vocalist; Kitty Wager is a winsome comedienne; W. L. Murray performs astonishing feats of strength; Baker and De Sales contribute a clever and entertaining comedy act; and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting and amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford. A varied and attractive programme is sustained here this week. The Ten Loonies are very clever and amusing in their musical absurdity, *Dotty*; in the sketch *The Stowaway*, Miss Eva Lumley in the title-rôle, Mr. John K. Walton as Captain Worsley, and Mr. H. G. Shaw as Lieut. Burton merit warm praise; Valoni, a skilful juggler, introduces his highly-trained pigeons; the Four Kurios submit a capital combination of pantomime, art, and mystery; Smith and Johnson are clever coloured duettists; Amurat, musical athlete, is successful; the Smarte Brothers are novel acrobatic eccentrics; Freddie French is a diverting comedian; the Custances appear in a bright and sparkling comedietta, *A Game for Two*; and the Barrascope pictures are interesting.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here this week with *A Country Mouse*. Miss Annie Hughes submits an artistic and delightful impersonation of Angela Muir; Mr. Charles Esdale's Archibald Vyse is an excellent portrayal; Miss Frances Davie makes a vivacious Violet Aynsley; Miss Winifred Pearson's Lady Bowlby and Mr. Rupert Liston's John Bowlby, M.P., are able representations; Mr. Evelyn Vernon is well suited as the Duke; and Miss Mary Duggan is entertaining as Mrs. Cropper.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope provides a great attraction here this week. The pictures are up to date, interesting, and humorous.

BRISTOL.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident Manager, Mr. H. T. Alty.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is here on a return visit with *The Midnight Wedding*, the drama being excellently staged. Mr. Paumier acts with much power and in convincing style as Paul Valmar; Miss Annie Saker is in every way pleasing as Princess Astrea, she "looks" the part to perfection and acts with much power; Mr. F. W. Freeman is decidedly effective as the Crown Prince; and the parts of Lieutenant Von Strelsburg and Captain Rudolph Von Scarsbruck are ably taken by Mr. A. E. W. Barnes and Mr. Ernest Imeson. The comic parts of Kathie, Max, Otto, and Bobo are capitally taken by Miss Ada Champion, Mr. James E. Page, Mr. Vernon Vane, and Mr. Algie Spalding.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—The Chinese comic opera, *See-See*, is here for the first time in Bristol, Mr. George Edwardes's company being a very capable one. Miss Denise Orme presents a charmingly graceful exposition of See-See; she sings pleasingly, and her style and personality are very suitable for the part. Mr. Leonard Mackay is highly successful as Yen; he acts well, and is the happy possessor of a fine baritone voice, which he uses with discretion. Miss Maud Boyd is always a favourite here; she acts well as Mai-Yal, and sings in excellent style. Miss Dora Langham acts prettily as So-Hie and dances remarkably well; Mr. Frank Danby has a good part in Hang-Kee, taking full advantage of all his opportunities; Checo and Hoang-Wang have excellent exponents in Mr. W. H. Rawlins and Mr. Ernest Freshwater; and Miss Daisy Revett and Miss Adeline Lester do well as Lee and Mrs. Hoang-Wang, Miss Hilda Holton being pleasing as Humming-Bird. The opera is staged admirably, the chorus is strong and effective, and the increased orchestra is conducted with skill by Mr. Arthur Spittle.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Hackenschmidt is attracting full houses here, prizes are offered to all comers, and interesting bouts take place nightly. Horace Wheatley, comedian, obtains much applause; Payne's Little Vagabonds do a good turn, entitled *Old Daddy Watchman*, comprising comedy, singing, dancing, and whistling; May Fallowfield is a successful and pleasing comedienne; Allosop and Bekwith amuse with a clever absurdity, *I'm Coming Upstairs*; Johnson and De Vere do some expert trick-cycling; Lola Dalby is an acceptable comedienne; and the performance concludes with some interesting and amusing animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Mr. Leslie Bell and Miss Lilly Pearl's company is here with the sensational episode of New York society, entitled *The Red Letter*. The sketch, which is founded on the Thaw case, is well staged in three scenes, and it is acted admirably. Alexandra Dagmar, popular comedienne, presents a clever turn of song and story; Charles Austin, comedian, obtains considerable applause; Billy Farrell, coloured vocalist and dancer, does a clever turn, and is appreciated; the Almas are smart equilibrists and tumblers; Stevens and Rennoir amuse with song, sand-dancing, and patter; Mike Sipple is a successful vocalist and clever dancer; and Tom Haig and Millie Novel score in their refined comedy speciality. The performance concludes with interesting animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company are here with *At Cripple Creek*. Mr. Stanley Bedwell is excellent as Joe Mayfield; the part of Dynamite Ann is cleverly sustained by Miss Agnes Verity; Martin Mason is well presented by Mr. Eric Hudson; and the bully Manuel Alvarez is a capable portrayal by Mr. J. L. Leigh. Fun is provided by Mr. Roy Tracy as Ben White, Mr. Will Hook as Reggie Harwood, and Miss Daisy Carlton as Maggie Mason. Miss Nancy Roberts is charming as Belle Gordon.

BURNLEY. — VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt's clever company, in the romantic drama, *Two Little Sailor Boys*, is the fare here, and is keenly appreciated by large audiences. The two central characters, Cyril Grey and Tom Yorke, are portrayed in admirable style by Miss Ethe D. Drawford and Miss Beryl Mercer; whilst in the rôle of Lola, Miss Blanche Steel is seen to great advantage; as is Miss Alice Defoe as the Admiral's daughter, Mildred. Mr. Horace B. Clarke as Captain Tregarthen is all that could be desired; and Mr. Forbes Harrison as the Admiral is good. Mr. Leonard Clark as Lieut. Redstone is sufficiently villainous; and Mr. Tom Sinclair as Ben Baxter maintains the mirth in a capable manner, deriving great assistance from Miss Lizzie Chambers as Lucy.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A first-class programme, in which humour predominates, is given here this week. In the dancing line, Snowball and Miss Dolia are excellent, and their jokes are greatly enjoyed; Vaudinoff paints beautiful pictures in an inconceivably short time, and is greatly applauded. A sensational turn is that of Wyndham and Kitty, in a clever wire act, introducing many clever feats; David Poole, in his ventriloquial scena, proves himself a master of his art, and is highly appreciated; very funny are Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford in their comedy, *Getting Even*; and Ryder Slone gives a clever rendering of Sing Sing, which brings down the house. In an acrobatic bicycle act, the Original Hartfords are exceedingly smart. "Crime on the Mountains" is the title of a very fine film shown by the Empire Theatroscope.

BURY (LANCS.).—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Marks.—A very fine programme is headed by R. A. Roberts, the protean actor. His latest sketch is *Ringing the Changes*, and, judging from its reception here, it will become more popular than his *Dick Turpin*. Other fine turns are the Four Jumels, in a musical act; the Trentanovis Sisters, clever gymnasts; W. G. Webber, a splendid bass singer; Bugler Carr, equilibrist; Cosgrove and Burns, comedians; and Little Dot Moss, a clever juvenile.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Marks.—The pictures include The Liverpool Pageant, The Coiner's Daughter, William the Poacher, The King on the Dreadnought, and Accidents Will Happen, &c. Between the pictures good turns are given by Mr. Tom Moyers, a prize vocalist; and the Sisters Varley, duettists.

THE HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. W. Broadhead, jun.—A good show is provided here, and includes the Victorias, harmonising vocalists; May Zant and her Royal Juveniles, vocalists and dancers; the Columbia Coloured Coons, in *Plantation Pastimes*; Nellie Lewis, comedienne; Milsted and Bell, in a comedy scene, entitled *The Belle of Arizona*; J. Gar Kiddie and company, in *The House of Tin*; and Madge Grey, a very clever mimic.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Penleve.—This pretty little playhouse opened on Monday for the autumn season with *The Night of the Party*, played to crowded houses. Mr. Edwin G. Wynne is deliciously funny as Crosbie; a good performance of Frank Frayne comes from Mr. N. Carter Slaughter; Mr. G. Edward Hall and Mr. Percy Robinson acquit themselves well as Flamber and Roundle; Mr. Stanley Arthur is well placed as Bogle; Mr. Fred Castleton and Mr. Percy Compton as Alderman Hargen and Sir Charles Hampshire creditably fill their respective rôles; Miss Mab Paul presents a striking appearance as Gipsy Vaudelier, besides proving a clever actress; Miss J. Lynne is a successful Lady Hampshire; and Paulina is played by Miss Lillian Williams with considerable distinction.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—A return visit is being paid by the ever-welcome *Chinese Honeymoon*. The company is Mr. Milton Bode's, and the elaborate scenery and costumes are characteristic of all Mr. Bode's productions. Miss Gwennie Harcourt is again seen in her clever impersonation of Fi-Fi, and quite convulses the audiences by her funny rendition; Mr. Rudolph Kloss is an exceptionally good Hang-chow; and Mr. George Rydon is diverting with his broad humour as Mr. Pineapple; Soo-Soo is charmingly delineated by Miss Elsie Skillings, a fascinating and talented actress; Miss Rosie Begarnie's rendering of Mrs. Pineapple is all that could be desired; and Miss Maud Adams as Mrs. Brown adds considerably to the merriment of the piece. Other players who stand out prominently are Mr. Harry Jennings (Tom Hatherton), Mr. P. Allerton Turner (Chippie Chop), and Mr. Leonard May (Hi Lung). Mention should be made of the excellent assistance rendered by the well-balanced chorus and augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Edward H. Whitehall.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—*Beneath the Stars* is successfully enacted here this week by Mr. Coleman Davies's company. Mr. Terry Davies is the hero, Stephen Harcourt, and he puts in some capital work; Miss Mamie Stanton as Angel Marsden throws a pathos into her performance that could scarcely be improved upon; and Miss Emily Winters is an impressive Pauline Petrowski; Mr. J. Lonsdale wins loud applause as Matthew Marsden; Mr. Jack McCraig as Lord Sylvester submits a dignified impersonation; as Major Blonson Mr. Vincent Archer is very effective; and Mr. Arthur Prescott, in his interpretation of Silas Clipper, displays true dramatic ability; Mr. Coleman Davies (Jemmy Hopblossom) and Miss Eunice Udall (Becky Higgins) present capital comedy with much success.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—George Robey is in the premier position on this week's programme, and his popularity is boundless; a return visit is also made by Ethel Haydon in a répertoire of pleasing songs; Violas, the White Mahatmas, are no mean exponents of thought-transmission, and their success is greater than previously; a sensational turn is that of Cussac-Talma, illusionist, assisted by Mlle. Yvonne de Forge, who is the smartest protean actress seen in Cardiff for some considerable time; Beatrice Willey, vocalist, in a medley of old flower songs, provides a charming entertainment; while the Three Rubys prove themselves exceedingly clever lady acrobats and trapeze artists; E. J. Sheldon, styled "The Man in White," is a fine singer and whistler; and Ferguson and Mack, in their latest laughing absurdity, *The Dimple Sisters*, cause unbounded merriment; other good items are the Carnia Sisters, in an artistic musical mélange; and Godfrey James, a real singing collier.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—The programme at this now popular house, for the present week, is up to the previous standard, and first-class performances are still delighting huge crowds. The "real treat" this week is *Kleptomaniacs*, in which the well-known comedian Fred Edwardes appears, supported by Miss Bertha Northam and a carefully-selected company. Quite as funny a turn is that of Les Bollingers, the original Rag-Painters of Paris; while Marba and Verity are capable humorists and acrobatic dancers; practically the whole show is one continued laughter, of which The Clumbia Trio, in their operatic and humorous absurdity, provide their share; and Bains and Reed, Humsti-Bumpsti, are also good contributors. The Claymores, in their buck-dancing and club-juggling act; Sisters Cora, duettists, dancers, and sketch artists; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, with new and amusing pictures, complete a highly-commendable entertainment.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—A strong attraction is found here in a return visit of Mr. Charles Macdona's company in *The Girl from Kay's*. Mr. Johnny Schofield as Hoggenheimer gets every ounce of fun out of the part; Harry Gordon is well played by Mr. Herbert Franklyn; Mr. Claude Dampier makes Joseph a prominent feature of the performance; in the title-rôle Miss Jessie Fraser shows a delightful appreciation of the character; as Norah Chalmers, Miss Mavis Hope's ability is quite apparent; and Miss Irene Vere makes a hit as the maid.

THE PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Nellie Wallace, who tops the bill here, is paying a return visit, and she is an undoubted attraction; Martine and Son are also here again, and their illustrated vocal turn is as popular as ever; Cara Magda gives an excellent performance on the rings, and the Zeloras, acrobatic equilibrists, do some wonderful tricks; May Marton is a dainty comedienne; Geoffrys and Benson's comedy burlesque, *Spoofed*, proves a genuine laughter-maker; Miss Jennie Johns is a charming soubrette with a refined and distinctive style. The Pepiscope with new pictures brings a bright and thoroughly enjoyable entertainment to a close.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman.—Local playgoers greeted the re-opening of this pretty theatre on Monday evening with delight. On Monday the habitués were unanimous in declaring that the interior of the building never looked brighter or more picturesque. The clouded ceiling, decorated with birds and flowers, looks remarkably pretty, while the proscenium front is festooned with flowers on trellis-work tied with ribbons, beautifully enriched with gold, and having a basis of chipperlina marble. The walls are of a rich red, and the columns in gold of Japanese fan pattern with fretwork arching. All is in perfect harmony with the Venetian frieze pictures of the side ceilings. The whole has been designed and completed by Messrs. A. R. Dean and Son, of Birmingham, under the personal direction of Mr. W. Mack, decorative artist for the above firm. The attraction for the week is Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company with *The Traitor*. Mr. Graham Woods gives an excellent interpretation of the dual rôle of Crown Prince Rudolph and Colonel Nervi; as Zula, the Avenger, Miss Marie Robson is particularly good, her powerful reading of the part being much appreciated; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan as the Traitor acts with much force and decision; Miss Polly Denville as Cen-Cen deserves much praise; the Jack Boult of Mr. Val Gully is a good study and full of humour; Mr. Alfred Richards gives a capital portraiture of Capt. Ross, R.N.; Mr. William Reed causes amusement in his portrayal of General Hertz, and is ably assisted by Mr. Henry Heller as Zoff. Miss Jessica Black, with an excellent enunciation, gives a fine performance of Lieut. Nicolas; Miss Gwynne Warren as Countess Zicka appears with excellent results; Miss Lilian Matthews makes the most of her part of Elsie Dupres.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will H. Emerson.—The Arthur Saxon trio top the bill with their strong act, and they create quite a sensation. The Itrams, acrobatic and novelty gymnasts, show originality and talent, and their efforts meet with much appreciation; the clever fooling of Yorick and Yorick, eccentrics, is greeted with shouts of laughter throughout; an item that should not be missed is that of the Loyal Dominion Co.'s animated pictures, which are clear, interesting, and amusing. Mart and Pep, miniature acrobats, give a wonderfully clever performance; R. C. Note sings several successful ditties to great applause; Miss Daisy Davenport is excellent in song and dance of quite an individual style; Witzen gives a turn of an interesting nature as a speciality artist, and Tom Lydon, as a comedian and trick cyclist, provides an enjoyable entertainment.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard.—*The White Chrysanthemum* is making a welcome reappearance here, and had a capital reception on the opening night. In the title-rôle Miss Muriel George gives undoubted satisfaction; Miss Rosa Sullivan infuses the requisite amount of "go" into her representation of Cornelia Vanderdecken; Miss Dorothy Sephton proves a very popular Betty Kenyon; Mr. Melville Florance has many admirers as Lieut. Reginald Armitage; Mr. Victor Kerr makes an eccentric Lieut. Chippy Belmont; Mr. John T. MacCallum is a prime favourite as Sir Horatio; and plenty of merriment is caused by Messrs. James Graydon and Jamie Dallas as Sin Chon and Private Perks respectively. The piece is admirably staged.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Countess Romanow is the leading attraction here, her artistic representations of statuary finding much favour; Archie Pitt has some quaint schoolboy patter; the Zampas are nimble dancers and smart bâton manipulators; Gladys and Alber give a comedy act in which the latter introduces some smart tumbling; Chas. Gardener sings and patters to everyone's liking; the Sisters Currie and Wally Scott give a song and dance turn; and Evelyn Taylor's catchy choruses are rapidly taken up by the gods. Lacey's Erascope continues to interest.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis.—Lew Loman opens the ball here, and is followed by the Society Quartette of vocalists and dancers; Blanche Vincent gives a couple of ballads in good style; Mr. Tom Foy makes a big hit in *The Yorkshire Lad in London*; *New Milk for Breakfast* is rattled merrily through by Johnny Holland and Co.; the Edisonograph has some capital films, and the success of the evening is made by dainty little Daisy Dormer.

CHESTER. — ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—A varied bill is offered here this week. The prettily-staged act *A Ba-Bee's Postcard Album* wins favour in all parts of the house; Wee Jessie is a sweet child vocalist who has a melodious number, entitled "When the band plays 'Annie Laurie'"; in *Ye Brown Cow Inn*, Burg, Hand, and Wise present a funny act allied to some clever acrobatic work; the Wakomie Brothers are verastile instrumentalists, and gain much applause; Percy Farrimond, the singing collier, displays an exceptional voice to advantage in the "Soldiers' Chorus" (*Faust*); and the Maximilian Trio submit a novel equilibristic act, the younger member of the troupe being also a skilful acrobat. The current bill is completed by Ida Katherina and Vernon's Bioscope with new films.

MUSIC HALL.—Joseph Poole's Myriorama is still doing great business here. The variety combination includes Eilen and Mayne, the musical dots; the Seddons, the juggler and the waiter; the Three Boleros, on the triple bars; Felix de Marce's clever animal circus, introducing a couple of highly-trained Shetland ponies and several others. Mr. Bert G. Berry makes a popular guide; and Poole's orchestral band, under Mr. Fred Drake, put in some excellent work.

CHORLEY (LANCS.).—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hemingway.—Mr. Santé's company is here with *The Life of a Showman*. Mr. Frank Santé appears as Brian Leader, a circus proprietor, and acts with distinction, also giving displays of his various feats as an athlete; Miss E. Bamford is very good as Lena, his wife; the part of Hendrick Marais is capitally taken by Mr. Morris Maud; Miss Constance Medwyn plays with considerable power as Agatha Winter; Mr. Edward Warden is effective as the Rev. Cyril Arless; and Messrs. Charles Osborne and J. G. Santé are successful in their respective parts of Stickers and Laurie Grey; Miss Lizzie Power and Master Harry Warden play the juvenile characters most creditably. The comic parts of Angelina Mutton, Tommy Allthere, and Ben Tictac are taken in amusing style by Miss May Nelson, Mr. Charles Clement, and Mr. E. Turner.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Montague.—This week's attraction is *A Trip to the Highlands*. Miss Isa Bowman sings and dances nicely as Miss Winnie Brown-Windsor; Mr. Wal Croft creates a favourite impression as Macmutckin; Mr. Frank Barclay sings and acts well as Hon. Fred Lackington; Mr. Willie Scott is undoubtedly a smart comedian, his impersonation of the footman Timmins being very amusing; Mr. Wellesley Smith is well placed as Viscount Lackington; and Sir Septimus Brown-Windsor is in the good hands of Mr. James Sommerville. Other parts are well played by Mr. Harry A. Gribben as Dexter, Miss Nellie Burdette as Fanny Flounce, Miss Grace Desmond as Miss Araminata Brown-Windsor, and Miss Clara Moore as Flora.

COLCHESTER. — HIPPODROME. — Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fred Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Mr. George Marriott and company in the very sensational and certainly topical dramatic sketch, *The Maid of the Alps*, is the principal turn this week, and the piece contains many romantic and sensational incidents. George Prince is repeating his huge success of the spring, his reception being of the most flattering nature; Lily Flexmore goes wonderfully well with her legmania dancing, whilst Ella Loraine, with her illustrated song pictures, is most popular; Lucia Collins does nicely as a songstress, à la Maritana; and Lester May caters for the lover of eccentric comedy.

COVENTRY.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—This week we have Mr. Chas. H. Lester as Sherlock Holmes in the detective drama, *The Bank of England*. Miss Lallah Davis represents the American widow Aminta J. Beane; Miss Dorothy Riddell as Sylvia Barraclough makes a charming heroine; other characters are Mr. Clifton Earle (Stephen Hartley), Mr. J. H. Firman (Sir Sidney Barraclough), Mr. C. Berridge (Hon. Bertie Burlington), Mr. F. Ernstone (Godfrey Dane), Mr. Harry Wood (Eric Dane), Miss Lydia Hart (Margaret Dane), Miss Anne Thomas (Lucy Lockett). On Friday night Mr. Lester will play the part of Prince Lucio in the adaptation of Marie Corelli's *Sorrows of Satan*.

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lennox Barry.—A very good programme is provided again this week. The first item is the wonderful performance by the Royal Tokio Troupe of Japanese ladder performers, their skill is simply wonderful; next comes a musical comedy by Dinah Morris's company, entitled *A Village in Dahomey*, which is received with rapturous applause; Herbert Clifton's singing is very fine, especially "The Holy City"; Messrs. Harris and Worth are sporting comedians, whose jokes are very much appreciated. Other artists are Harry Bedford, Messrs. Carney and Armstrong, and the Phydoras. These, with the myriophone, worked by Mr. and Mrs. Karay, which plays some very smart and quaint melodies, make a very fine night's entertainment.

THE EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. George Dance; Manager, Mr. K. Drace.—In a very up-to-date programme Ernest Shand appears with a couple of smart songs, and is deservedly encored for his humour and wit; a capital farcical comedy is presented by Arthur Jefferson, entitled *Home from the Honeymoon*, which is very amusing; Lewis de Burgh creates a sensation in the introduction of Dide, the creation of a woman from nothing, which is very clever; Harry Edson presents his clever trained dogs "Doc" and "Tighe"; Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic, is very successful, his patter is exceedingly good; Maude Courtney gives a medley of American songs; Cecil Bernard is a clever boy comedian; the mysterious Mr. C is a clever patterer, and possesses a charming voice. The Bioscope pictures conclude.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Willard's company in *The Midnight Mail* is the attraction here this week. Mr. George Harvard gives a powerful portrayal of Harry Steyne; Mr. Evison as Billy Brewer is exceedingly clever; Mr. E. Ferguson is highly successful as Leonard Royle; Mr. R. A. Beaton's is a careful study of a Turkish adventurer, Hassan Fadisha; and Mr. C. H. Longden adequately fills the part of Donald Craig; Miss Ada Oakley is an excellent Mary Steyne; Miss Jeannie Weston lends dignity to the rôle of Lady Phyllis Eustace and Miss Mildred Carr is an attractive Nancy Brewer.

CROOK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Wallace Davidson, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wallace Davidson.—A variety company here this week includes Leoni Clarke, with his wonderful cats, rats, mice, &c.; McAskell, a clever comedian and conjurer; Happy Attwood, comedian; Carlotti, equilibrist and juggler; Sisters Terry, duettists and dancers; Syd Herman, Hebrew comedian; Bock Pylade; George Grenoble, comedian; and Flo Hylton, the pocket Vesta Tilley.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James.—Mr. Edward Thane's company in *The Love that Last For Ever* is here this week. Mr. Bert Morley is commendable as Professor Morley; Mr. Horace Booth as Gordon Morley deserves praise; Mr. Clinton Badderley furnishes a capital impersonation of Dr. Selby; Mr. Joe Rowands plays the part of Wylie to the life; and Mr. Herbert Fuller as Alphonse D'Arcy is very amusing. Miss Agnes Collier as Elsie Beresford is received with favour; Miss Bessie Franks as Clara Jenkins is very good; Miss Ida Ferris does exceedingly well as Mother Moocher; and Miss Florence Melrose Millett acts the part of Ida Ross with power.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—The Grand Theatre is reopened this week, after the summer vacation, with Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in *The Prodigal Son*. Mr. Hugh Montgomery gives a fine, manly impersonation of Magnus Stephensson; Mr. Henry Watson is equal to the responsibilities of Oscar Stephensson; Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood would be hard to improve upon

BUCHANAN'S
"BLACK & WHITE"
THE WHISKY OF WORLD WIDE REPUTE

as Oscar Neilson; Mr. Richard A. Greene acts with precision the part of Stephen Magnussun; and Mr. Philip Renouf plays the Pastor to perfection. Miss Barbara Gott acts with dramatic effect the character of Anna; Miss Maud Stewart Drewry accurately interprets the dual rôle of Thora and Elin Neilson; Miss Margaret Murch has closely studied the part of Helga Neilson; and Miss Marie Harcourt is womanly and affectionate as Margaret Neilson.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Mr. Fred Karno's company of comedians constitute a powerful draw here in *The Smoking Concert*. The cast includes Mr. Frank Melroyd as the Chairman, Jimmy Russell as Mr. Meek, and Billy Marin as Ginger. Raglus is great as the fruit expert, in his own garden; Nat Watkins is an original and whimsical comedian; Georgina Middleton a charming ballad vocalist; Tony Cooper an eminently successful comedian; the Four Olympian Stars are clever vocalists and dancers; Nellie Lunelle is a dainty soubretté and dancer; Ferris and Farnley are eccentric patter comedians; and the Bioscope presents "A Clown Doctor" and "The Sandwich Man."

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—A return visit of Mr. Frank Bertram's principal company is here in *The Breed of the Treshams*. Mr. Sidney Bland in the part of Lieut. Reresby is the principal figure, and plays the part picturesquely; Mr. Alf Holles is good as Viscount Dorsington; Mr. Benson North plays with finish as the viscount's son; Mr. George Traill as Colonel Curwen gives a capable rendering; Mr. R. Gwyn-Richardson as Colonel Bagshaw is successful; and Mr. Robert Noble contributes a clever impersonation of the Hon. Francis Tresham; Miss Mildred Dodson as the Hon. Margaret Hungerford is charming; Miss Grace Harlington as Batty is quite a success; and Miss Madge Cottier is smart in the part of Mrs. Bagshaw.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company appears here this week with *In a Woman's Grip*. Miss Mary Ainslie plays with exceptional ability as Mary Langley and Princess Zaroff; Miss Jessie Yatman is a charming Lilian Fairley; Mr. Percy Dawsone makes a hit as Frank Haydon; Mr. Oswald Douglas is clever as the villain, Maurice Stanton, being ably supported by Mr. James Crowley as Ephriam Lambert; Mr. Fred A. Marston is a realistic Dick Langley; and Mr. Herbert Vere makes a capital Mad Doctor. The comedy parts are excellent as played by Freddie Bentley and Miss Amy Rudd.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Managers, Messrs. Chas. Denley and H. Taylor.—An excellent programme here this week is headed by Miss Marie Lloyd, whose amusing songs and diverting mannerisms win her a most enthusiastic reception. McDonald and Huntington, clever American entertainers, are also deserving of commendation; Carta and Mirtziana, gymnasts, perform some excellent feats; Chas. Clark is a successful comedian, and his patter is also smart; Bros. Harrison are acceptable comedians and dancers; Jules Kiare is a meritorious equilibrist; Ella Lane is a pleasing comedienne; and the Bioscope adds to the general enjoyment with some funny pictures.

DEVONPORT.—Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*Home, Sweet Home*, a drama always popular with local audiences, is a strong attraction this week, as presented by Messrs. Green and Hinton's company. Mr. Arthur Hinton plays Stephen Armitage in a way deserving of unstinted applause; Miss Leila Zillwood is an admirable Joan; and Mr. Travis Green, in the rôle of Lucas Lyle, is a very creditable stage villain.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—Mr. Edward Marris's company gives an efficient and agreeable performance of the old favourite, *Somebody's Sweetheart*. Miss Norah Melton as Lulu instils characteristic winsomeness and charm into her portrayal; Mr. Cecil W. Parke's assumption of Stanton Ashleigh is highly appreciated; Mr. George Brentwood finds in Martin Blabbs a very suitable outlet for his abilities as a comedian; and Miss May Norris is piquant in the part of Freddie Ashleigh. The villain, Stephen Leverton, has an admirable exponent in Mr. C. E. King; Zora is presented cleverly by Miss Lena Laton; and Miss Ainsley is convincingly interpreted by Miss Dora Hargreaves.

DONCASTER.—New Grand Theatre and Empire, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—The powerful Venetian drama, entitled *The Tyrant*, has attracted crowded houses here. Mr. Fred C. Somerfield as Homodei, the avenger, is the embodiment of weirdness, and acquits himself admirably in every phase of the character. Valuable support is accorded by Mr. Roy Fortescue, whose enactment of the title-rôle is emphasised by a commanding appearance; Mr. Edward E. Louis intelligently interprets Rudolph, Prince de Roma; Lady Katherine is played with charming and refreshing agreeableness by Miss Margaret Frame; and a success no less pronounced is made of Eulie by Miss Lallah Shelton. An effective display is made by Miss Vida Hazlewood, whose Daphne loses nothing of interest in her capable hands; Miss Gertie Reid gives a rich colouring to the part of Reginella; Mrs. Walter Bentley's part of Tisbe is sustained with charming grace and refinement.

DOUGLAS.—Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—Mr. George Dance's company appears here this week in *The Spring Chicken*, and audiences approve the musical comedy, which is quite adequately interpreted. Miss Nellie Kavanagh is quaint in her original rôle of Mrs. Girdle; Mr. Fred Payne is well suited as Master Girdle; the Rosalie of Miss Violet Lorraine has emphasis and point; Miss Nellie Wrigley as Mme. Babori is Gallic in intention; and Mr. Percival Knight as Babori is excellent. The augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Fritz Hart, does full justice to the melodious refrains of Mr. Ivan Caryll and Mr. Lionel Monkton.

The Gaiety Theatre, Ltd.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—A large audience witnessed the performance of Hall Caine's play, *The Prodigal Son*, at the Gaiety Theatre on Monday, with evident appreciation. Miss Lily Hall Caine's success as Thora and Elin was decisive; the Oscar Stephenson of Mr. Albert Ward was a really subtle interpretation; Mr. Oswald Cray was robust as Magnus; and Mr. H. H. Bonington was artistic in the tiny rôle of the Pastor. Miss Isabel Grey did well as Anna Magnussen; Miss Mima Renouf, a clever actress, was quite successful as Margaret Neilson; Miss Betty Castle worked hard as Helga; and the other characters were well played by the respective members of Mr. George D. Day's company.

The Palace, Ltd.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—The primary attractions here are Mr. Harry Wood's Orchestra and Vernon's Bioscope. The variety programme includes Mme. Clasen's Living Art Bronzes; Mr. Alfred Gibson, a clever and resourceful comedian; Miss Helen Charles, who presents a smart interlude; and the Two Anartos, always clever and up to date.

Derby Castle.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly.—The management here vend to willing buyers a very pleasant programme. Mr. George Lashwood is the star attraction, and his songs are popular; another clever and quite novel item is supplied by the New York Nippers, who quite caught on with their sketch, *Fun Before Bedtime*; the Sisters Gerette give a daring trapeze performance; Mr. Rowland Hill is a refined but funny comedian; and other clever people who appear are Miss Nellie Martell, Messrs. Ryan and Hall, and Les Cleos.

The Hippodrome.—Sole Manager and Director, Mr. F. J. Connor.—The attendance at the circus in Parade-street has been phenomenal. Among other attractions, the Philippi Brothers appear in their sensational acrobatic interlude; and the Brothers Leotard are conspicuous with a clever show.

Mr. Frederick Buxton's Pierrots and Tea Village attract large attendances.

Mr. Charles Dare, with his burnt cork combination, has no need to complain of the patronage extended to him on Douglas Head. His venture also at the Empire Theatre, with two houses nightly, is crowned with success.

Messrs. Adeler and Sutton, with a select concert party, are a great attraction on Onchan Head.

Mr. Tom Isherwood has a fine following in Douglas, and the crowds who congregate round the bandstand on the promenade are a tribute to his popularity.

DOVER.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—*Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)* made his first appearance in Dover on Monday. Mr. Charles Macdona's company presents the comedy in excellent style. Mr. Arthur Longley scored a personal triumph in the title-rôle; the delicate handling of the rôle of La Bolero, and the highly artistic rendering of the musical numbers by Miss Millie Hylton were worthy of all praise; Norman Popple found a satisfactory exponent in Mr. H. Carnelly-Joye; and Mr. Douglas Phillips's pleasing voice was heard to advantage in the songs allotted to Jacques Kenyon. Henry Doring and George Hennay were two amusing character studies as played by Messrs. Sydney Young and James Stevenson; the neglected wives were cleverly enacted by Miss Alice Rene as Mrs. Doring and Miss Edith Grenfell as Mrs. Hennay; and a smartly-played part was that of Platt, most successfully taken by Mr. C. E. Paton. Miss Nellie Hodson, a charming Louise, acted and sang with vivacity; and Miss Cora Lingard was a pretty Violet Brinton. The augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Julian Rutt, worked exceedingly well. Mr. Geo. Edwardes's company in *See-See* came on Thursday.

The Pavilion, Promenade Pier.—Messrs. Gaze and Hayes's charmingly-dressed concert party, travelling under the name of the Hollanders, made their first bow to the Dover public on Monday. Mr. Harry Buss (Peter Schnapps) is a versatile humorist; the fine voice of Mr. Alec Clunes (Hans Brummel), pleasing alike in stirring songs and baritone love ballads, has invariably won for the artist a double encore; while some amusing numbers are rendered in capital manner by Mr. H. Gaye. The charming soprano voice of Gretchen Marken, otherwise Miss Hilda Vining, is as much to be commended as her excellent choice of songs; and Miss Mabel Dent proves herself a capable dancer as well as an attractive vocalist. Miss Marna Chalcraft (Gurda Smidt) acts as a tactful accompanist; while the duets and concerted numbers are among the most popular in the programme.

The Palace Hippodrome.—Signor Tricardo, magician, is at the top of the bill this week, and Jack and May Mackenzie at the bottom, with their exceedingly smartly played and wittily written duologue, *Married for Money*. Sam Ives gives a popular turn, and Fred Wright a most amusing one; Maud Garland sings and dances with skill; Stuart and Evans are a good pair of comedians and dancers; the players, duettists, and dancers score; and Norman Grant, a clever entertainer, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux complete.

DUBLIN.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harrington.—A big reception was accorded Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Zena Dare on their appearance here on Monday night, in *The Beauty of Bath*. Mr. Seymour Hicks keeps the audience in a continuous roar of laughter as Lieut. Richard Alington; and Miss Zena Dare gives a delightful and convincing portrayal of the Hon. Betty Silverthorne. Mr. Laurence Caird successfully displays his abilities as a comedian in the rôle of Lord Quorn; the part of Mrs. Goodge is well represented by Miss Sydney Fairbrother; and much clever fun is provided by Master John Clifford as Lemon Goodge. Miss Marion Lindsay makes a good impression as Lady Bun; Mr. William Lugg is excellent as Viscount Bellingham; and as the Countess of Orpington and Jane Topit the Misses Vera Morris and Katie Butler are particularly good. Mr J. C. Buckstone gives a capital depiction of Sir Timothy Bun; and the parts of Mrs. Alington, the Hon. Dorothy Quorn, and Miss Truly St. Cyr are well presented by Miss Florence Lloyd, Miss Dorothy Laine, and Miss Claire Rickards respectively.

Gaiety Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—The boards are again occupied this week by Mr. George Dance's company, in *Miss Hook of Holland*. Mr. Leslie Holland still keeps the audience in the greatest merriment by his humorous portrayal of Mr. Hook; and Miss Deborah Volar is delightfully vivacious and refreshing as Sally. Mr. Fred Lyne still affords much acceptable amusement as Simon Slinks; and Miss Mabel Sealby portrays Mina with exceptional ability and charm. Van Vuyt is cleverly enacted by Mr. Arthur Harrold; and Miss Queenie Preston is pleasing as Freda Voos. Mr. Frederick Hobbs acquits himself with credit as Captain Adrian Paap; and the part of Gretchen is well played by Miss Barbara Dunbar. Other members of the company who are largely responsible for the success of the play are Mr. George Ide (Lieut. De Coop), Mr. R. C. Harcourt (Ludwig Schnapps), Miss Irene Raye (Clara Voos), and Miss Mabel Keith (Thekla).

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—A strong attraction is afforded by John Lawson's company, in *The Unwritten Law*, which is enthusiastically received nightly; Norton and Bowman's comedy duologue, *She Loved a Policeman*, is provocative of uproarious mirth; and Walter Munroe scores again with song and patter. An entertaining musical act by Orpheus proves vastly popular; and Maude Laverne finds a ready acceptance for her vocal contributions. The Sisters Caselli, duettists and dancers, are warmly applauded; and Harry Weldon submits his comic songs in acceptable style. Marco is both smart and clever as a coin and card manipulator; and Miss Josie Mooney, comedienne, has a good presence and a pleasing style. The Empire Pictures are again a popular feature of the programme.

Tivoli. — General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Four Regals introduce some extraordinary feats of strength in a remarkably well finished style; Martinetti and Grossi cause no end of laughter, and are thoroughly deserving the hearty reception accorded them; and Fred Arthur, comedian, is as popular as ever. Pete and Minnie Lee, in *The Scotchman's Visit to London*, are highly entertaining; and the Gilberts, in a graceful dancing act, meet with well-merited success. The Meymotts create much merriment with their funny sketch, *Semi-Detached*; and Harry Vardon, ventriloquist, makes a decided hit. Denby and Dent submit a most amusing turn; and Mlle. Pollo, gymnast, and the Bioscope, conclude the entertainment.

Rotunda.—The Irish Animated Photo. Company entered on their third week's engagement here on Monday, and judging by the full houses daily, seem to have lost none of its popularity since the opening week. The constant change of pictures, and the vocal items, contributed by Miss May Durkin and Messrs. Patrick O'Shea and Ralph Goffin, elicit hearty appreciation.

Abbey Theatre.—The National Theatre Society opened here for a short season on Monday night. The programme presented consisted of four short plays, entitled *The Jackdaw*, *Spreading the News*, by Lady Gregory, *Riders to the Sea*, by Mr. J. M. Synge, and *Kathleen Ni-Houlihan*, by Mr. W. B. Yates, in which Messrs. F. J. Fay, W. G. Fay, Miss Sara Allgood, Miss Brigit O'Dempsey, and Miss Marie O'Neill appeared, as on previous occasions, with marked success, and were deservedly applauded.

Pavilion, Kingstown.—Manager, Mr. Fred R. Heley.—The Anglo-Indian Entertainers are here this week, and drawing capital houses. The artists include Messrs. Kennedy Allen, Frank Hook, Clifford Morgan, Murray Scott, George B. Bartlett, and the Misses Rene Steadman, Alice Sudbury, and Kitty Allen, who all contribute successfully to a good variety programme.

World's Fair and Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles A. James. — Capital performances are given by Howard and Lenore, vocalists and dancers; Bert Watson, comedian; Frank Dandy, character vocalist; Cissy Nora, vocalist and dancer; and Arthur Richards, actor vocalist.

DUDLEY.—Opera House.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company in the sensational drama, *The Face at the Window*, has met with a good reception here this week. The principal characters are well-sustained by Mr. Gilbert Hall who, as Lucio Delgado, gives a realistic rendering; by Mr. T. W. Dunscombe, who acts Paul Gouffet, a detective, in forcible and telling style; by Mr. Herbert Daneville, as Lucain Cortier, a discharged clerk; and by Miss Marie Barrett, who is very pleasing as Marie de Brisson. The comedy element is in the capable hands of Mr. C. Alan Hunson as Peter Pottlebury, and Miss Gladys Newcombe as Babette. The piece is well staged.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred. H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. B. Peberdy.—A good programme is here this week, headed by Fields and Lewis, who give an extremely funny turn; while Miss Molly Doon is at the bottom of the bill as a comedienne and dancer of the first order; the Sisters Temple are vocal duettists of a pleasing type; Lauri Brothers perform in clean and skilful style as society gymnasts; Chas. Landor is clever in an acrobatic table act; Will Carol, Minnie Clayton, Bentley and company, in *The Terror of Turneys Rents*, and the Empire Bioscope, which maintains its popularity, go to make up the bill.

DUNDEE. — Her Majesty's Theatre. — Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Company, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Tom Taylor's romantic drama, *Clancarty*, is presented here this week by Mrs. Russ Whytal Mrs. Russ Whytal presents a striking and powerful delineation as Lady Clancarty, her acting in the lighter scenes being full of charm, while in the more emotional parts her undoubted dramatic ability makes a great effect. Miss Mabel Knowles is a coquettish and delightful Lady Betty; Miss Henrietta Yule is excellent as Mother Hunt; Mr. Acton Bond's Lord Clancarty is a telling performance his manly bearing and sound elocution being worthy of all praise; Mr. Stratton Rodney enacts the part of King William III. in a skilful and expressive manner; Lord Portland has a dignified representative in Mr. Charles Combe; Mr. J. J. Bartlett interprets Lord Spencer in a worthy manner; while Harry J. Crane scores well as Scum Goodman. The dressing and mounting of the piece is on a lavish scale.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees, The United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam McIntosh.—Crowded houses are the rule here this week, the Savonas and Elliots, who are great favourites here, being the attraction. Aided by magnificent electrical effects, the former render their well-known high-class musical entertainment to vociferous applause, while the Elliots are no less successful in their clever trick cycling act. The Two Bees appear in an allegorical comedy scena, *The Man in the Moon*, their witticisms proving highly diverting; George Antill, comedian, amuses the audience with his songs and grotesque legmania business; Earle and Melville, comedians, take well with their cross-patter and smart dancing; Johnny Beveridge, a well-known local blind pianist and comedian, is popular with his funny songs, played to his own accompaniment; while the Two Wiltons (refined duettists and dancers) and the Three Sisters Glenn (vocalists and burlesque entertainers) are greatly appreciated. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope concludes a capital programme.

New Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Mr. Edward Marris's company are here in *The Dandy Doctor*. Mr. Owen Dacry, who essays the part of Melchisadek Brown, keeps the house in a continual ripple of laughter during the whole time he is on the stage; Mr. Leslie Winter as Arthur Vandyke is very successful; Colonel Pendred is played in a brisk manner by Mr. Herbert Pearce; Mr. Walter Nugent as Bertie Bolingbroke goes through his part with credit to himself and pleasure to the audience; Miss Florence Smithers as Jane, "the general," causes endless laughter with her smart comedy work; Ivy Pendred has a graceful and refined representative in Miss Ethel Ward, her singing and acting being charming; and Miss Rose Chandler as Marie Merton deserves praise for her smart dancing. The numerous other parts are capably sustained, while the staging and dressing are all that could be desired.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Owing to the success which has attended the engagement of the Twentieth Century Animated Photo Co., the management of this house have retained them for another week, and their action has been amply justified by the large audiences which have nightly attended. The films shown, whether of an instructive or amusing nature, were greatly appreciated. Special mention might be made of "A Wife's Forgiveness," "Detective's Chase Round the World," and "The Harlequin's Love Story." Variety turns were submitted by Lindon and Wright, two smart comedians; Roy Lovell, vocalist; Nellie Dyson, a charming burlesque actress; and Jock Ramsay, a funny Scotch comedian.

DUNFERMLINE.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—After having undergone considerable alteration and repainting, this popular house of entertainment was re-opened for the season on Monday evening with a six-night's engagement of Mrs. Fred. J. Kirke's Musical Comedy company, when *The Naval Detective* was produced. In his triple part of Lieut. Jack Beresford, Rev. Frequent Nipper, and Pat McGuinness, Mr. E. H. Bertram proved himself extremely versatile; Mr. J. W. Holloway was an effective Dr. Schriner; Mr. Lorrimer Stuart a capital Captain Hustle; Mr. Walter T. Hybert did ample justice to the part of the Hon. Bertie Fairlox; and Mr. Charles Burns was most amusing as Hans Winklepump; Miss Edith Claris was a meritorious Susan Schrubbs; Miss Marie L. Ellis an admirable Lula Kaufmann; and the dancing of Misses Gerty and Daisy Gaye as Pearl and Ruby was a strong feature of the performance; Miss Louie Fontaine gave a creditable rendering of the triple part of Phyllis Leslie, Mme. Lucette, and Bill Mainway. *Our Sailor Lad* and *In Old Madrid* were to be produced during the week.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Park Theatre.—Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Co., Ltd.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company in *Veronique* is here, Miss Mabel Lait scoring a notable success, both as actress and singer, in the name-part. Mr. Arthur Stroud as Florestan de Vallancourt merits high praise, the familiar "Swing" duet as rendered by these two artists evoking enthusiasm. The chief fun-provider is Mr. Daley Cooper, whose excruciatingly humorous portrayal of M. Coquenard is ably assisted by the amusing characterisations of M. Louslot and Seraphin by Messrs. Oliver J. Round and Sidney Bracy. Miss Roberta Williams is seen and heard to advantage as Agatha; Miss Stella St. Audrie is an eminently satisfactory Ermerance, using her fine voice to particular advantage in "The garden of love"; and Miss Elsie Probyn, a delightfully dainty Denise, ably completes the cast of principals.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. G. Hayes.—Mr. George's Dance's company in *Miss Hook of Holland* opened here for three nights on Monday. Mr. Fred Winn's Mr. Hook was a comedy creation of striking excellence, and the actor must be warmly congratulated upon the conspicuous success he achieved. Miss Maggie White as Sally proved herself both a refined actress and a cultured vocalist; and Mr. Percy Carr as Bandmaster Van Vuyt added materially to his previous reputation here. Miss Rita Everard made a particularly good impression as Mina, her songs being among the evening's biggest successes; Mr. Albert Kavanagh added to the general merriment by a capital portrayal of Simon Slinks; Mr. H. Talbot was a brisk representative of Ludwig Schnapps; Mr. T. J. Bolesworth looked and played the part of Capt. Adrian Paap cleverly; and the remaining rôles were capably filled.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—Lottie Collins is the star attraction here this week, and had an enthusiastic reception. Lawson and Namon's clever display of ball-punching and eccentric trick cycling is applauded; the middle of the bill is occupied by Hippodrome pictures, and some beautiful Scotch views are exhibited; Johnny Fuller and Howe and Ardie repeat their clever speciality acts; and the programme is further contributed to by the Lorrisons, Violet King, the Three Consol Girls, and the Ellertons.

Devonshire Park.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Edgar Allan Brown.—The programmes this week are shared by the Meistersingers' Orchestra (an exceptionally fine combination of performers under Mr. Norfolk Megone) and the Duke of Devonshire's Private Orchestra. The special vocalist is Miss Dorothy Wiley.

EDINBURGH.—Royal Lyceum Theatre, Ltd.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Carpenter.—Mr. Edward Terry has long held a place in the affections of Edinburgh playgoers, and his engagement here this week has attracted large and enthusiastic audiences. On Monday last *Liberty Hall* was played, with Mr. Terry in his quaint study of the old bookseller, Todman. The part is one in which Mr. Terry displays his great command of humour and pathos, and carries the absorbing attention of his audience from start to finish. Mr. Thomas Holding, a young actor possessed of a graceful figure and a face capable of varied expression, made a distinct success in the character of Mr. Owen. His voice is excellent, and his lines, whether serious or humorous, were spoken with admirable elocution. Miss Marion Ripley was a very charming Blanche Chilworth, whose acting revealed qualities both of tenderness and power. Miss Evelyn Ormonde, a young Edinburgh lady who has advanced rapidly in her profession, was a bright and natural Amy, and her serious scenes were very delightfully acted; Mr. Wm. Dexter's Briginshaw was a finished performance of an unsympathetic character; and the Crafer of Miss Eugenie Vernie was a capital bit of low-comedy acting. Clever support was given by Mr. B. A. Pittar as Harringay, Mr. Chas. B. Bedells as Mr. Pedrick, Miss Ruth Nightingale as Binks, Mr. H. A. Samson as Mr. Hickson, and Miss Ella Dixon as Miss Hickson. The actors were recalled at the close of each act, and at the end of the play the audience was not satisfied until the curtain had been raised several times. On Tuesday *The Magistrate* was presented, Mr. Terry revelling in the humour of Mr. Peskett and Miss Agnes Knightes making a vivacious Agatha. *Sweet Lavender* was also played during the week, Mr. Terry repeating his fine performance of Dick Phenyl.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Marlo's juggling feats are performed with singular neatness and dexterity; Cordite and Buffalo, in their miniature Wild West kind of show, give a remarkable exhibition of skill in rope-spinning and lariat manipulation; the Falcons are among the most marvellous of acrobatic equilibrists, with some original humour to boot; Harry Webber contributes an acceptable turn as a Hebrew dialect comedian; and the Ross and Grayson comedy couple appear in a spirited mélange of songs and dances, introducing some extraordinary pianoplaying. The flying aerial act of the Hanlon troupe of gymnasts is a very sensational performance; Wilson Hallet's interesting entertainment includes clever imitations of children; Captain Frank Taylor's collection of educated baboons illustrate a high degree of perfection in animal training; and a good series of Bioscope pictures portrays many of the latest events.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—Foreman and Fannan contribute an animated turn, compounded of good songs and patter and smart dancing; Gus Garrick is successful in clever imitations of types of variety artists; Hermann Melot's skilful conjuring tricks are seasoned with quaint humour; excellent solo playing on violin, harp, and xylophone is pleasingly contributed by Les Frasettis; Ben Albert affords much merriment with his quick-witted chop logic; an entertaining sketch, entitled *Applicants*, is produced in versatile fashion by Dean Tribune and company; the Bensons make a lively musical comedy act out of *The Page and the Maid*; La Berat appears in some very effective dances, illuminated by coloured lights; and meritorious comedy turns are given by Bessie Butt and Dot Hardy.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Joseph L. S. Moss; Manageress, Mrs. Amelia H. B. Moss.—Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company commenced the second week of their engagement on Monday, and had the pleasure of playing to a crowded house in *The Conscript*. Mr. Frank Petley delighted his audience by his manly rendering of the hero, Karl Truevitch; Mr. Cowell Clarke played Ivan Manloff, the Starost of Seavgorod, and played it remarkably well; as Count Paul Hardiski, Mr. Walter Steele was realistically brutal, and met with the usual reward; Mr. Charles Coleman played well as Doggervitch, a convict; the clever fooling of Mr. Harry Liddle as Tretch Trotoff, a postman, and Miss Isabel Hunt as Wanda, a Khoral, was greatly appreciated; Miss Lilian Ross gave a brilliant rendering of Nadia Truevitch, Karl's wife, some of her best scenes being with Little Karl (her son), a part played with great feeling and discretion by Miss Mabel Ronald. Other rôles were cleverly sustained by Messrs. Fred Eric, Ed. Jeffs, James Holt, F. E. P. Case, Murray Maude, and Harold Holmes, and Misses Gertrude Price and Olga Datre.

EXETER.—Theatre Royal.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—The boards are occupied this week by Miss Winifred's company in *Oliver Twist*, as dramatised by Henry L. Osmond and Ernest Noble, and *The Master Criminal*. *Oliver Twist* was produced on Monday before an appreciative house. Mr. John C. Carlyle was excellent as Fagan, the Jew; while Mr. Henry L. Osmond made a splendid Bill Sikes by his callous demeanour. Miss Nellie Stephens in the title-rôle soon won the sympathies of the house, and Miss Winifred Chalmers was a decided success as Nancy. Mr. H. C. Macartney ably sustained the part of Mr. Brownlow, and Miss Kate Somerville was good as Rose.

FALKIRK.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace W. Ebbutt. — The boards have this week been occupied by Mr. Horace Stanley and company with *Guilty Gold*. Mr. Wallace Campbell is a capable hero. Mr. Ralph Wilberforce acts forcibly as Ralph Bartlett; Mr. David Curtis as John Middleton is successful; as Septimus Sweet Mr. Horace Stanley furnishes the humour of the piece in conjunction with Miss Kate Kilpack as Nancy Bright, and Miss Evelyn M. Walton as Bertha Blossom. Miss Effie Bartlett does well as Rhoda Hampton; Miss Josephine Lee is effective as Hetty Hoyle; and Miss Rosaline Heath is satisfactory as Elsie Middleton.

FALMOUTH.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's musical company visited the Drill Hall here for the first time on Friday and Saturday last with *The Earl and the Girl*. The principal parts were taken as follows:—Jim Chune by Mr. Bert Beswick, Dick Wayram by Mr. Cecil Lloyd, the Hon. Boodle by Mr. Arthur Radcliffe, Bunker Bliss by Mr. Harold Cotter, Downham by Mr. Chas. McCann, and Hazel by Mr. H. Webb. Mr. Beswich was particularly well received, and he seemed very versatile and apt throughout. His local and political fun as interspersed delighted the audience. The ladies' parts, capably played, were Elphin Hay (Miss Dorothy Dempster), Liza Shoddam (Miss Ada Waugh), Mrs. Simmering Black (Miss Violet Campbell), and Virginia Bliss (Miss Viola March). Miss Dempster made a pretty and genuinely attractive heiress; she sustained her part with ability. Miss March, too, carried her dignity well throughout; while Miss Ada Waugh, in her very characteristic and real rendering of the coster type, scored heavily.

FLEETWOOD.—Queen's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Miss Grace Warner is here this week, supported by a strong company, in a triple bill—*The Scarlet Clue*, *Lady Audley's Secret*, and *The Little Widow*. A crowded house gave *The Scarlet Clue* an enthusiastic reception on Monday night. Miss Warner as Madame La Lune thrills the audience with her emotional acting; Mr. George Gordon takes the part of Michael Stanton with power and effect, and is a villain of more than average ability. The other parts are all in capable hands, Little Doris Graham showing distinct promise both in acting and singing.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland. — Mr. George Dance's principal company, in *The Catch of the Season*, played the first three nights of the week. Mr. Frank Lincoln sang and acted with admirable effect as the Duke; Mr. Tom Shelford made a most amusing Lord Dundreary; Master Peter Grata as Bucket was very popular; Miss Louie Bentley was well fitted to the part of the Duchess; Miss Ernestine Walter was a pleasing Lady Crystal; Miss Doris Greville as the Hon. Honoria, and Miss Muff Carew as the Hon. Sophia left nothing to be desired. Miss Connie Hilliard sang well as Miss Caw; Miss Emily Mellon was a great success as Lady Caterham; and Miss Moya Mannering was a charming Angela, singing delightfully. Mr. George Dance's company appeared during the latter half of the week in *Miss Hook of Holland*.

Leas Pavilion.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—Mr. D'Arcy Clayton's concert party, "The Gipsies and their Jester," are delighting large audiences here this week. Mr. Eric Davidson is a good baritone vocalist; Miss Barbara Antoine and Miss Elsie Wood sing well and score successfully; Miss Florence Crofts shows remarkable skill, both in singing and accompanying; and Mr. Will Gane (the jester) is heartily enjoyed and warmly appreciated.

Victoria Pier.—Manager, Mr. Robert Forsyth.—Appearing here are Mendel, the blind pianist, who gains great applause; the Evalos create much laughter with their comic juggling; Professor Hulbert is an expert ventriloquist; Mr. Henry H. Moore as an entertainer is excellent; Mr. E gives an original turn; Stacey and Williams are deservedly applauded; Mons. de Lile is a talented illusionist; and last, but not least, Kardoe, the handcuff king, was received with every sign of appreciation.

GATESHEAD. — King's Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatre, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—Not in the history of this house has a more enthusiastic welcome been given to any artist than that accorded to Marie Loftus. "Singers, past and present," brings out the best that is in this gifted comedienne. H. O. Wills, comedian, is also a huge favourite; Webb and Branston please immensely with a couple of duets; Albert Letine is responsible for a life-like impersonation of a comedienne; Mack Ollive (assisted by Daisy Baldry) presents the whistling scena, "The Candy Store" from *The Belle of New York*, and runs Miss Loftus close in the race for popularirty; the Bros. Zampa, one-legged acrobats, are exceptionally smart; and Harry Zetter, an eccentric dancer and comedian; the Prinellas in a dainty farmyard scena, entitled "A County Firtation," and the "living" pictures make up a strong bill.

Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Mr. J. Hartwell Kirby's company in *Man's Enemy* provides the fare at this house. Mr. Kirby fills the rôle of Count Lanski with distinction; Mr. Norman A. Overton has a suitable part as Harry Stanton; Tom Drake has a capital representative in Mr. T. Weldon Atherstone; Messrs. Fred Owen and Frank Hedley look well after the comedy rôles; Miss V. St. Lawrence gives to the part of Sarah Drake the right amount of heartlessness; Miss Clare O'Sullivan is a graceful Miss Lisle; Miss Evelyn Geldard portrays Mrs. Saunders successfully; and Miss Eve Reed in the part of Polly says many funny lines.

GLASGOW.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphreys.—This theatre was opened on Monday after a vacation of some months, during which the interior of the house has been redecorated and re-upholstered with magnificent effect, while extensive alterations have also been made at the principal entrances and front of the building. The opening night was an event of some local interest, as it marked the completion of a scheme for the widening and general improvement of the upper part of Hope-street, and on this account was graced by a large and representative audience, which included many of the magistrates and members of the Town Council. A very suitable attraction for the occasion was found in Mr. George D. Day's company in *The Bondman*. Mr. Frank Cooper (who takes his original part of Jason), in speaking a few words of thanks, said he never saw the play go better. Mr. Henry Doughty appears in the rôle of Michael Sunlocks, and his conception of the part left nothing to be desired. The important part of Greeba was in the hands of Miss Ida Phillips, who gave an exceedingly touching portrayal; the Farmer Fairbrother of Mr. Adam Alexander was a dignified figure; Mr. Edwin Palmer gave a highly characteristic assumption of the Grandfather; Mr. Gilbert York's Father Ferrati was an excellent study; the Marshal of Police (Mr. W. R. Leigh) was another well-filled part; the Dr. Boni of Mr. Edward Gee and the Testa of Mr. Charles Medwin were outstanding impersonations; Mrs. Edwin Palmer made a pleasant Mrs. Fairbrother; the children were attractively represented by Master Frederick and Miss Rosie Lee, other parts being cleverly played by Mrs. Lee and Miss Dorothy Garth.

King's, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—

Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is here with *The Christian*. The part of Glory Quayle, as played by Miss Daisy Scudamore, is a pleasing and painstaking effort, and Mr. Frank Beresford gives a finished and artistic performance as John Storm. Mr. P. Gedge Twyman is seen to advantage as Brother Paul, while Polly Love is well sustained by Miss Dorothy Milne. Other parts are competently filled by Messrs. Bert Conway, Arthur E. Maskell, Miss May Weir, and Miss Molly Hayden.

Grand, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Anthony.—Mr. Bulmer's company is here with *Sentenced for Life*. Mr. R. Brancepeth-Nevill acts with dramatic effect in the part of Wallace Stillwell, while the hero, Roy Stillwell, is tellingly presented by Mr. Conrad Heywood. The villainy is powerfully brought out by Mr. William Bradford as Captain Derrick, while the good-hearted Parson Orris is finely portrayed by Mr. Terence Hyde. Mr. Harry Cooke, as Percy M'Gentle, though dressed as a parson, is not severely clerical in character, as he keeps the audience in roars of laughter all the time he is on the stage. Mr. Harry Pyne Warburton and Mr. Reg. Oldroyd, as convicts, also contribute a fair share of the fun. The ladies' parts are all pleasingly rendered by Miss Maud Warburton as Adele Gray, Miss Mabel Tremere as Kate Rennel, Miss Mary Dalby as Lady Stillwell, and Miss Kitty Huntley as Lady Gray. Other parts are well filled by Mr. Howard Keane as a Blackmailer, Mr. Archie Scar as Duffey, Mr. Win. Matherson as Warder Blake, Mr. Fred Dalby as George Wade, Mr. H. Walton as Warder Curran, and Mr. Hugh Faulkner as Sir George Gray, R.N.

Royal Princess's.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch. — *The Soldier's Wedding* is played by Mr. Walter Melville's company. Mr. Wingold Lawrence acts with excellent effect as the hero, Private Jack Brown; and a most sympathetic and engaging heroine is found in Miss Jessie Winter as Nancy Lee; Mr. Beresford Whitcomb plays the good-hearted old Colonel Graham to the life; villainy is well represented by the Julie de Beauvrais of Miss Marie M'Aulay and the Charles Courteney of Mr. Raymond Wood; Miss Georgie de Lara acts with much feeling as Peggy Munroe, and her son Teddy is amusingly played by Little Albert; Mr. Fred Yarnold gives a touch of character to the old farmer, Nathaniel Lee. The humour of Mr. A. Gambier Melford, as Tommy Spratt, and Miss Ettie Carlisle, as Lizzie Walker, was most heartily enjoyed. Mr. Frederick Biron, as the aggrieved husband David Munroe, ably sustained his part. Miss Maggie Burton, as Mrs. Hatherton, and Mr. D. J. Hennessy, as the Auctioneer, added their quota to the success.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Miss Ida Millais's company is here with *No Man's Land*. Mr. Henry Herne, as Harry Oaklands, is powerful and effective; Mr. Herbert Cecil, as Silas Moore, acts the part of the crafty solicitor most ably; and Mat Marsden, by Mr. Villiers Stanley, is a most vigorous portrayal; Mr. Henry Carlisle, in a dual rôle, Captain and Gilbert Bathurst, is alert, stern, and sympathetic as required; Mr. Alf. Byron, as Thompson, provided ample light comedy; and Mr. J. Weston, as Capt. Spencer, is well suited. As Mary Bathurst, Miss Ida Millais wins many encomiums of praise, while the other characters are suitably represented.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Mr. F. Marriott-Watson's company, in *A False Wife*, the play which proved so successful at the Royal Princess's last week, is now here, with Miss Florence E. Florence in the leading part.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. Sam. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners. — A decidedly novel turn heads the bill this week, in the whip business of Mr. Fred Lindsay. Ella Shields contributes several clever songs in her own dainty style; Brown and Le Clercq revive *Black Justice* to the evident enjoyment of the audience; Manning's Entertainers prove as funny and smart as before in their clever speciality; the Martinecks give a novel show, in which one of the couple impersonates a lay figure with great fidelity; Eva Hope appears in several scenes from Dickens; Stanley Brett sings well; Eida and Falco give a combined dancing and Ju-jitsu act; and Cribb and Cribb ably deputise for an absent turn.

Zoo-Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—*La Vivandiere*, presented by Isabel Derry and company on a very complete scale, and in four scenes, serves to interest the house for a good part of the evening. Miss Derry is very effective in the name part, and is well supported by a capable company. Two fine steeds take part in this realistic production. Vanando, ventriloquist, is excellent, and his turn much away from the beaten track; Seener and Fridkin's Russian singers and dancers are delightful in their native songs and dances; Harry Rochez, with his ponies and dogs, presents a performance which is remarkable for skill and intelligence; Rosa Loader, as the musical slavey, quite captivates in a merry and bright vocal and pianoforte recital; Lyster and Cooke, musical experts, are well received for a novel turn, in which some curious instruments are employed. Other attractive entertainment is provided by Sid Bandon, character comedian; Rudge Whitworth, society entertainer; and L. W. Harris, as comedian; and the pictures.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—After a lengthy absence, R. G. Knowles is again in Glasgow, and gathering his many admirers around him. His latest songs and patter are quite in his best style, and he revives several old favourites when requested. Pasquali Brothers are a very smart and neat couple of head-balancers, with a number of striking novelties in their business. Another first-rate turn is that of Natalia and Diana, whose feats on the trapeze are really wonderful. Harry Rogerson gives his "tired comedian" business, with a burlesque drama introduced; and Del and Hal appear in a short sketch, *The Doctor's Deputy*; the selections of Baker and Balfe on the xylophone are much enjoyed, and the man is a smart dancer; George Steeley and Jenny Dowton give a burlesque potpourri; Leah Arden contributes several clever chorus songs; and Mark Leslie scores as a coon vocalist and dancer.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—The old Glasgow favourites, the Sisters Hall, again appear in their ever popular songs, and are responsible for a capital little turn. Mahatma, assisted by Professor Steen, submits some marvellous second-sight impressions, and completely mystifies the audience. An excellent turn is that of Harry Radford and Mlle. Valentine, whose comedy juggling is interesting, edifying, and extremely amusing. The mock melodrama, *That Dreadful Detective*, as produced by Fred Moulle and E. D. Nicholl's company, is without doubt one of the funniest shows before the public, and the efforts of the artists receive the applause so well merited; Farr and Farrland are clever comedians, who give a fine and humorous turn; the three Sisters Tree are smart, and their efforts are appreciated; while a dainty little turn is that of Mill, May and Theresa in their Japanese scena; Walter Emerson is a comedian above the average in several ways; and Andie Burn, comedian, and Sam Vincent, acrobat, add to an A1 programme.

Coliseum.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—The top turn is entrusted to Harrison Brockbank and company in a nautical sketch, reviving the Old Sea Chanties, or songs of the sea. They are well-trained singers, and the audience derive much enjoyment from their selections. Another item of merit is the performance of the Carmos, Austral's herculean and novelty jugglers, who were specially favoured for their wonderful feats. Other notable turns include John Donald, in his Scottish scena, *A Merry Nicht*; Spry and Austin, the popular vaudeville artists; Ajax and George, gymnasts and wire performers; Cribb and Cribb, eccentric comedians; Percival, comedy pianist; the Jackson Family, clever instrumentalists; three Cape Girls, comediennes and dancers; and the Bioscope with interesting pictures.

Gaiety, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. A. Cowe.—At the head of the bill are Abel and Welsh, whose names alone are a guarantee of an excellent turn. The Sisters Clifton are duettists and dancers of a good order, and are immensely popular; James Brady, of the old "Brit." fame, has a capital reception, and has to answer several several encores; Miss Jessie Fraser is a pleasing soprano; and Bedford and Mars are responsible for much merriment; another turn deserving of special mention is Glennie's Marionettes; Alpha is smart as a hoop manipulator; and a capital all-round programme terminates with the latest films on the Bioscope.

Britannia.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—Will Hawthorne is a pawky Scotch comedian, and takes very well in good songs; and the two Robsons are in favour for a rollicking comedy turn, in which they dance smartly; Ray Thorne and Lilie Benson are respectively warm favourites; they each sing well, and feature dancing, top boots in the latter instance; Lil Dresden is a character singer of note, with a pleasing voice heard in several songs. The Bioscope is a big draw here, and this week's pictures are full of amusement and interest.

GLOSSOP.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spencer.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company in *Honour Thy Father* is here this week. Mr. F. W. Evelyn as Gabriel Garth submits a good portrayal of the character; Mr. Edwin Turner makes the rôle of Jack Halyard stand out conspicuously; Mr. Howell Travis as Duncan Bly acts very well; Mr. Claude Merton in the dual parts of Job Merry and George Bloggs, gives a good reading; Miss Violet Hammersley earns plaudits as Lilian Garth; and Miss Kate Neuton as Gertrude Garth presents a finished representation. Miss Winnie Donovan as Mercy Merry is pleasing; Mr. Kenneth Black as Ned Pennycomequick, Mr. Fred W. Graham as Mike Copplestone, and Miss Lizzie Jacobs as Poppy Cornleigh supply the comedy relief; and the remainder of the company render material assistance.

GLOUCESTER.—Palace.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Messrs. Hodson Lowther and company present a laughable sketch, *Barmaids*; and Kelly and Agnes, in *The Tramp and the Soubrette*, do some clever dancing and tumbling. Miss Mabel Sinclair gets a rousing reception for her clever ventriloquism; the Czar Troupe of Russian dancers are very successful indeed; Norris and Butler introduce a comedy act, *Going to the Meet*, which is meritorious, and duly recognised; Musical Silvo plays some sweet-toned instruments and wins applause; Carl Howard, comic conjuror, pays a return visit; Lily Foy, comedienne, sings a low comedy number; Billy Ross and company appear in a boxing sketch; and the concluding item is the Bioscope.

GOOLE.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John E. Tomlinson.—The theatre was reopened after the usual summer vacation by Mr. Valentine Beadon's company (under the direction of Mr. Sidney C. Cranston) in the drama *The Best Must Win*. Mr. Edward M. Heanley gave a powerful rendering of the villainous Gaston; Mr. Sidney C. Cranston's distinguished manner was well suited to the part of the hero, Paul Dumaresq; Mr. Harold Turner submitted a highly amusing portrayal of Juan Minos; and Mr. Herbert Woodin kept the house in roars as Jacquis. Mr. Val Beadon is a capital Sabretache, and Miss C. Desmond, in the dual rôle of Lucille and Thérèse should be congratulated on her spirited acting. Miss Daisy Humphreys in the rôle of Denise Dumaresq quickly won favour by her earnestness; and Miss Madge Palmer made a vivacious Suzette.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is here this week with the farcical musical play *The Dairymaids*. Miss Mabel Younge is excellent as Lady Brudenall, whose nephews, Sam and the lieutenant, are capitally played by Mr. Clifford Segler and Mr. Richard Adams; Mr. Arthur W. Ashdowne is effective as Captain Fred Leverton; Dr. O'Byrne finds an amusing exponent in Mr. H. Langdon Bruce; and Mr. John Osborne as Joe Mivens is ludicrous in the extreme. Peggy and Winifred are charmingly represented by Miss Vera Vere and Miss Dorothy Ward; Miss Amie Grey is a fascinating Helene; and Miss Maude Denny a quaint Eliza.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—A return visit is being paid by Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Leveaux's company with *The Walls of Jericho*, and public interest in the play is as keen as ever. Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton gives an earnest virile presentment of Jack Frobisher, and Miss Edith Cuthbert as Lady Alethea is a fascinating modern "smart" woman.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The Lukushima Troupe of Japanese give a wonderful display of acrobatism; the Mohammed Troupe of Morocco Arabs whirl and twirl and bewilder with their somersaults, one of the younger members showing extraordinary agility; the Selbinis give a sensational cycling show; and other artists complete an exceptionally strong programme.

Britannia Pier.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—The Five Vernons, xylophone experts, are paying a return visit here, and are warmly received; Sydney Lee, the Gay Deceiver, astonishes his audience with his wonderful sleight-of-hand, and achieves a marked success; W. L. Cockburn, bass vocalist; J. B. Selph, actor-vocalist, in scena *The Veteran's Dream*; the Jollions, in vocal scena, *The Spider and the Fly*; and the Fimans, in their screaming comedy, *The Fire Station*, all contribute items that are greatly appreciated. Mme. H. E. Angler's Ladies' Pompadour Band, with its excellent soloists, still remains a pleasant feature in the programme.

Wellington Pier Pavilion.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge. The Rustic Scholars provide an amusing and enjoyable entertainment of dance and song; Master Ashley Vincent contributes a clever ventriloquial act; Messrs. Lenten and Bertram supply a capital thought-reading entertainment; a laughable sketch, *The Man in Possession*, is played in true comedy fashion by Mr. Gus Blake and Miss Maude Granby; and Herr Delikat's band contributes in brilliant style selections of music.

GREENOCK.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. E. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company is here this week with *Sunday*. Miss Nita Faydon's finished acting in the title-rôle was all that could be desired. Mr. Leonard Pagden acquitted himself with distinction in the dual rôles of Colonel and Arthur Brinthorpe; Mr. Ernest A. Douglas is good as Tom Oxley; Towzer, Davy, Jacky, and Lively are respectively and creditably impersonated by Messrs. William H. Brougham, Sidney Rennel, Alex. Alves, and James Hussey. Miss Maud Ashley as the nun, and Miss Rosalind Ross as Mrs. Naresby also deserve mention.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessees, The Greenock Empire Syndicate; General-Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—An excellent programme is submitted here this week, the premier position being taken by Ike and Will Scott, who had a cordial reception; Lloyd's Gondolier Glee Singers are much applauded for their fine operatic selections; Fred. Horsfall is highly successful as a humorist and mimic; the Wallys are particularly smart jugglers; and Sidney Dolf (in a speciality act), Barney Cox (ventriloquist), and the pictures, as usual, complete the programme.

Pavilion, Ltd. — General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—An excellent musical turn is provided by Maxwell and Francis; the Sisters Love are charming duettists and dainty dancers; Stuart Macdonald, comedian, is a big favourite; Adelina presents clever facial impersonations; Sadie Simpson meets with her usual success; the Rowntrees are responsible for an enjoyable turn; Karl Bennie, ventriloquist, obtains appreciation; and the Paviscope pictures continue to draw.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry. — The Turner Opera Company is here. The week opened with *Maritana*, and Mr. J. W. Turner as Don Cæsar delighted everyone, his voice ringing as true and clear as ever; Miss Christine Gomez sang the music allotted to Maritana with admirable charm and taste; Miss Jessie Dennis repeated her former success as Lazarillo; Mr. John Ridding's interpretation of Don José won complete approval; and Mr. Tom Griffiths was thoroughly satisfactory as the King of Spain. Tuesday was devoted to *The Waterman*, preceded by the first act of *The Daughter of the Regiment*; whilst the operas staged on the remaining nights were *Faust*, *The Lily of Killarney*, *Il Trovatore*, and *The Bohemian Girl*. Besides the ladies and gentlemen already mentioned, those who took prominent parts in the several operas were Miss Sarah Williams, Miss Grace Parish, Miss Beatrice Hill, Miss Maud Esdale, Mr. Kelson Trueman, Mr. G. Keeley, Mr. F. Clarke, Mr. P. Newton, and Mr. Richard Cummins.

The Palace. — Proprietors, The Palace Theatre and Buffet, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Alfred Graham's Premier Juveniles are a smart lot of youngsters, and give a bright entertainment, comprising singing, dancing, and comedy; the Four Robertys are a quartette of clever equilibrists, and also accomplish good juggling; the Musical Schafers give a pleasing instrumental speciality; Sergt. Mumford appears in a novel military drill on the wire; Major Moss and Son contribute good vocalism; Bertha Stuart is a successful Scottish character vocalist; and others appearing are the Melroses, in a comedy sketch; Ethel Loftus, comedienne; and the Henris, jugglers.

GUERNSEY.—Theatre St. Julian.—Lessee, Mr Edward Marris.—The boards were occupied on Monday by Miss Loie Esmond's company in *The Sorrows of Satan*, a good house being attracted. Mr. Edward Neville acted Prince Lucio with praiseworthy earnestness; Mr. F. D. Howard displayed ability as Geoffrey; Mr. E. Ramsdale was successful as Lord Lynton; Mr. Fred Cherry made a diverting Morris; Mr. Charles Ninian did good service as Amiel; and Charley Grimbes was in the hands of Mr. Fred White. Miss E. St. Barbe proved well suited as Mavis Clare; Miss Rose Neville consistently played Lady Sybil; and Miss Loie Esmond infused the necessary amount of colour into the part of Diana Chesney. *Sherlock Holmes* is also in the bill for the week.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*Peter's Mother* is being played here by a company under the Hutchison management. A more delightful leading lady than Miss Violet Ley it would be difficult to conceive. With a picturesque and commanding stage-presence she plays excellently. She was well supported by Mr. Henry Renouf, who created a deep impression as John Crewys; no less successful was Mr. E. F. Meads as the priggish Peter; Mr. Townsend Whitling was a popular physician; and Mr. Ernest Rusten a dignified Sir Timothy. *Chalk and Cheese* precedes the chief piece.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—An effective battleship act is presented by Brinn, who plays with shrapnel shells; a dramatic sketch, *The Light in the Window*, is well staged by Fred Winn's company, with Mr. George Cockburn in the principal rôle; Shirley, Liggins, and company are harmonious coloured folk, who sing old-time melodies; Sylvesta, a wizard; Jack Monks, a tenor; the Mezettis, Dan Filmer, and Blanche and Zena all present original and interesting business.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—The star item here this week is furnished by Mr. Arthur Watson and Flo Stanley's burlesque company in *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*, brimful of bright comedy; Lottie Stone's talented ballet adds to the success. A clever boxing travesty is well given by the Bros. Ashley; the possessor of a fine voice is Lilian Lowe, which she utilises advantageously; *From School to Stage* affords scope for the Simms, the dancing in particular being good; Harry Milton, Dutch comedian; Lang and Beale; and Bert Weston, raconteur, are also in the programme.

HANLEY. — Royal, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Mr. Vivian Edmonds and Miss Mary Austin's company are paying a welcome visit in that stirring drama, *Women and Wine*. The piece is nicely mounted, and is admirably enacted. Miss Cissie St. Elmo contributes a clever and intelligent impersonation as Marcel Rigadout, her performance throughout being capital; as La Colombe, Miss Joan Pereira makes the most of the part, and is highly successful; Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds once more proves himself an actor of exceptional ability, his portrayal of Dick Seymour being a splendid piece of acting; Miss Violet Sims is a charming and sympathetic Mary Andrews; Mr. J. Milne Taylor as Hugh Seymour is a character-actor of a capital order, his representation of the blind man being decidedly clever; Mr. Edwin Kesby does well as Calaban; Mr. Fred W. Goddard as Alphonse Beaudet is well placed; and Messrs. William Manning and Harry Harrop are seen to advantage in the respective parts of Professor Sauter and Charles Sauter; Miss Ethel Vinroy does well as Janet Marlow. Other parts are in good hands.

Grand.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—Roland, the illusionist, heads the bill with his truly wonderful performance; Daisy James returns in her latest songs, which are admirably rendered; Harry Nelson scores a huge success, and is, without doubt, a clever comedian; Helene Martin is a vocalist of extraordinary merit. This lady has a really fine voice, and uses it admirably. The Sisters Julian are a pleasing pair of duettists and dancers; the Albano Troupe, in their musical act, are much appreciated, their contributions being excellent; Nada Moret, dramatic vocalist, provides a novel turn, which is heartily applauded; G. W. Hunter's songs and patter cause much amusement; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux show, as usual, some clever and interesting pictures.

Makes the Skin as Soft as Velvet.—Beetham's "La-rola" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, irritation, tan, &c., and Keeps the Skin Soft, Smooth, and White at all Seasons. Invaluable for the Complexion, Delightfully Cooling and Refreshing after golfing, cycling, motoring, tennis, boating, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—This week Mr. Martin Harvey and company are paying their annual visit. On Monday and Tuesday *The Breed of the Treshams* was in the bill. Mr. Martin Harvey gave his usual clever performance of Lieut. Reresby, and was applauded to the echo; Mr. Charles J. Cameron was excellent as Viscount Dorsington; and his son, Clement Hungerford, had an able exponent in the person of Mr. Chas. Glenney. Mr. Fred Wright, sen., was all that could be desired at Colonel Bagshaw; Mr. Philip Hewland was excellent as the revengeful Capt. Stanhope; Mr. Leonard Craske was one of the features of the play, he was most excellent, and his bright and boyish performance was the subject of general admiration; Miss Coleridge gave a sweet and sympathetic performance as Margaret Hungerford; and Miss N. de Silva appeared with her usual success in the part of the boy Batty. The piece was beautifully mounted and dressed, and the stage was under the direction of Mr. H. J. Loveday. Wednesday and Thursday *The Corsican Brothers*; Friday, *A Cigarette-Maker's Romance*; and Saturday, two shows of *The Only Way*.

The Kursaal.—Musical Director and General-Manager, Mr. Julian Clifford; Secretary, Mr. Eldrid.—The band here has been increased to its full numbers for August and September, and now is heard at its best. Mr. Julian Clifford is to be congratulated on having gathered together forty-five musicans of the first quality. The attractions for this week include Miss Palgrave Turner and Mr. Chas Tree, vocalists, and Mr. David Beveridge, reciter. On Wednesday Mr. Edward German was announced to conduct a programme of his own works. A display of fireworks in the evening is to follow.

HARTLEPOOL.—Empress.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—The programme is this week headed by the Mayfair Comedy Quartette, whose vocal and comedy entertainment is much enjoyed. Miss Agnes Molteno's splendid voice charms all, and her scena, "And Old-time Story," is fully appreciated; the patter of W. G. Wesley keeps the audience in one continued ripple of merriment; the mimicry of Lily Sharplin is indeed clever; harmony is agreeably contributed by the Paragon Trio; and old favourites are represented by the talented Sisters Russell and Vowles and Bryan. The Pathé Frères' pictures are very interesting.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr Charles E. Scutt.—On Monday Miss Ellen Terry and company opened a three days' visit here with Mr. Bernard Shaw's romantic play, *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*. Miss Terry filled the rôle of Lady Cecily Waynflete with much charm of manner, and the crowded house accorded her unstinted applause again and again; the Captain had a splendid representative in Mr. James Carew; the Scots missionary was cleverly played by Mr. Story-Gofton, and his convert, Felix Drinkwater, was well defined by Mr. George Elton. A good impersonation of the staid and dignified Sir Howard Hallam was played by Mr. Rudge Harding; Mr. Frank Powell as the Cadi and Mr. W. T. Lovell as Captain Kearney proved praiseworthy respectively. Other minor parts were in safe hands. The success of the opening night has extended throughout the visit, and the cordial and kindly receptions Miss Terry has received must be most gratifying to the eminent actress. On Thursday and for the remainder of the week Mr. George Dance's company played *The Catch of the Season*.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Vivian Fisher; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—The names of an excellent series of artists appear in this week's programme, which is opened by Sam Mitchello, the eccentric comedian; the Bros. Mills are smart society gymnasts and ring performers; Miss Sheila McNeil sings some pleasing Scotch ballads, whilst her patter is very amusing; the special Bioscope films, How to Cure a Cold and Crime on the Railway, are remarkably effective; *The Roadside Tinkers*, Olive and Owen, introduce some telling duets in their little sketch; an attractive comedy soubrette, Miss Lizze Daniels, vocalises in a sprightly manner; Miss Maude May Murray exhibits some graceful evolutions in her electric dance act; Geo. Brooks puts plenty of healthy vigour into his comic songs, and receives great applause; Mlle. Lucretia has an excellent voice and a charming style of rendering her songs; and the burlesque artists, Newham and Latimar, create great fun.

Pier Pavilion. — Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—An accomplished band of operatic and comedy entertainers, under the designation of "The So-and-So's," are crowding the theatre, and go through a very interesting programme, their songs and other lyrical pieces embodying much that is mirthful and pretty; Mr. H. Quiningborough introduces some humorous songs; the vocal efforts of Miss Maude Davis are well received; and Miss Annie Lang is a skilful dancer as well as vocalist. Excellent ballads are rendered by Mr. Stuart Alexander; Mr. Ernest Thiel at the piano with some amusing songs, and Miss Margery Bride, who has a pleasing style of singing, complete half the programme. After the interval Mr. C. H. Charlton introduces his "magic kettle"; Miss Jessie Broughton, contralto vocalist, at the piano; the Japanese Yosan Family, five in number, exhibit some marvellous acrobatic feats; and Payne's Bio-photoscope conclude a successful evening.

Beach Concert Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Blackmore.—Mr. Wallis Arthur's company continue to attract large houses. Miss Marie Schultz is vivaciously attractive, and Miss Edith Blanchard renders her songs commendably.

St. Leonards Pavilion Theatre.—Pier-Master and Entertainment Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's comedy, *The Liars*, presented by Mr. A. Austin-Leigh and his talented company, are drawing large houses here this week. Mr. A. Austin-Leigh sustains the fine character of Col. Cir Christopher Dering in a true and manly spirit; a convincing interpretation of the explorer, Edward Falkner, is given by Mr. E. Brampton; the jealous and suspicious husband, Gilbert Nepean, is a fine character sketch by Mr. H. G. Mason; Freddie Tatton, a highly-amusing part, is well taken by Mr. A. J. Harding; Mr. W. P. Wells sustains the waiter at the Star and Garter in a creditable manner. An excellent study from life is displayed by Miss Emmie O'Reilly in the rôle of the widow, Mrs. Ebernoe. Both Miss Mabel Archdall and Miss May Saker are charmingly natural in the respective parts of Lady Rosamund Tatton and Lady Jessica Nepean. Their cousin, Dolly Coke, shows good style, Miss Belle Travers giving an exceedingly effective portrait. The reception accorded the drama is quite enthusiastic.

HOYLAND.—Metropole.—Lessee and Manager, Geo. S. King; Acting-Manager, Geo. R. Baker.—This theatre reopened on Monday night to a crowded house with Mr. James Hare's company in *A Destroyer of Men*. Mr. James Hare shows to advantage in the triple rôle of Karl Mischla, Herr Rung, and Uno. As Count Starevitch Mr. C. P. Wentworth is very good; Mr. Chas. Bickell is a manly Michael Mischla; and Mr. Chas. Coventry as Fedor Strellitzke is good. Messrs. Hill Cremer, Arthur Swain, and Alfred Minns, as Paul Starevitch, Colonel Linievitch, and Sergeant Kranz respectively are capital. The comedy element is well sustained by Mr. Ross Warren as Coco Tatchoski, ably assisted by Miss Alice Buckland as Nina Pattakake. As Vida Ravel Miss Emmie Barton is all that can be desired; and Miss Irene Clifford displays great histrionic ability as Olga Mischla.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—*The Village Blacksmith* is the title of the drama staged this week. Mr. Sam Livesey's fine physique is admirably adapted for his part of John Strong, the village blacksmith; whose wife, Kate Strong, is sympathetically portrayed by Miss Maggie Edwards; Mr. Joseph Carter's thorough-paced villainy as Captain Leo brings down howls of execration from the "gods"; adequate support is afforded by the rest of the company, which includes Mr. Edwin Mayden as Marler, Mr. G. V. Campbell as Billy Twigg, and Miss Cassie le Grande as Ruth Parkins.

Hippodrome, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—A well-varied bill includes Donaldson Bros. and Ardel in their acrobatic speciality, *Fun at the Zoo*; Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene, in a cleverly-written playlet, entitled *My Lady's Chamber*; Misses Florence and Lillian, two charming and accomplished musicians; Barney Armstrong, eccentric comedian; Miss Lena Brunton, a capable mimic; the Athos troupe of daring acrobats, and new films on the Bioscope.

HULL.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Wm. Mollison, that grand actor, is here in a round of Shakespearean and other plays. Choosing *Macbeth* for his opening performance, Mr. Mollison added to his reputation in his conception of that difficult rôle, his physical attributes combined with his mental capacity making his reading a noteworthy performance. Miss Evelyn McNay was a conscientious wife, and gave a traditional picture; Mr. W. Calvert was a commendable Macduff. The great witch scene was capitally presented. During the week *The Merchant of Venice*, *Bonnie Briar Bush*, and *As You Like It* have been included in the bill.

Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*My Darling*, a capital comedy new to Hull, opened here on Monday. Its musical numbers are very pretty. Joy Blossom, entrusted to Miss Marie Studholme, is daintily represented; as the lover, Mr. Robt. Hale is refreshing; Mr. McArdle keeps the house in a state of much amusement; Mr. Alex Chentrens has a good voice, which he uses very well; Mr. Tom Graves is a comedian of merit; the Daphne Bell of Miss Ethel Negretti is a striking feature of the performance; the Lady Beldon of Miss Alice Barth is well worthy this talented artist. The dressing is very effective and the chorus well blended.

Alexandra Theatre.—Morton's Ltd.—Manager, Mr. G. Morton.—Mr. Montagu Beaudyn's company at this well-known house is responsible for the production of *A Beautiful Fiend*, which is distinctly to the public taste, judging by the patronage bestowed. Miss Sidney Crowe sustains the reputation for artistic talent which is associated with her name, realising the rôle admirably. A pathetic picture is that painted by Miss Phyllis Brend as the ill-used wife, Nadine; Mr. Oliver Birrell is a striking Ivan Paulovitch, and Mr. Natt Russell as Sergt. Strogoff is equally successful; the heavy rôle of Count Feder Karoteff fits Mr. Harry C. Robinson to perfection, and the rest of the company are good in their respective parts.

The New Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham.—F. V. St. Clair, Carter Livesey, and Lilian Roseberry, and the Three Sisters Jonghmanns' are the three principal turns here. Other artists include Tom Yorke, Frances Hanlon, Keith and Merson, Hans and Lux, and Angelina.

The Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—J. Wright Aitken and company appear in a sensational sketch; Alice Grossmith and Lyall Grant present an amusing trifle, *The Chorus Girl and the Call-Boy*; Clarice Sefton is a speciality artist of merit; the Sisters Wilfred sing and dance nicely; the Glen Trio and R. Y. MacDonald complete a good bill.

HYDE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company is here with *Driven from Home*. The play is excellently mounted, and the cast includes Messrs. Francis Everard, Felix Pitt, G. Thorne, Chas. Burdon, Arthur Dudley, Fred C. Imbert, H. Bartley, Harry Cornwall, Edward Finlay, and Misses Muriel Dean, Madge Murdock, Florence Wilson, Susie Bevan, and Lizzie Ingles.

ILKESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*A Fight for a Throne* is being played this week by the company of Mr. Lingford Carson. Miss Elma C. Turner plays well as Princess Esmee; Mr. Sam Arthur presents a careful study of Capt. Jack Fortesque; Mr. John B. Murray is excellently chosen for Nicholai I.; and Mr. Edwin Clarke scores as Sir George Coventry. Messrs. Karl H. Edwards and John C. Harvey are successful respectively as Paul Rodna and Father Ambrose; Mr. Fred Danvers (Tom Ferrett), Mr. Leonard Maitland (Hon. Percy Fitzmaurice), and Miss Evelyn Marrable (Lady Pat) very capably represent the lighter side of the piece. Miss Evelyn Robson gives a good reading of Countess Valeski Lorenski, and the General Rodna of Mr. W. S. Stevenson is a good performance. The rôle of Otto, Prince of Weimar, is cleverly dealt with by Mr. Charles E. Linney.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Rex Sugden.—This week Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is here with *The Sin of Her Childhood*. Mr. Arthur Traill gives a good account of Thomas Haysel; Mr. W. Summers plays Stephen Haysel forcibly; Mr. Guy Hastings is seen to advantage as the Rev. Alan Gray; and Mr. F. Liston is a satisfactory Capt. John Thornton. Mr. Hugh Brady is quite at home in the part of Barney O'Reilly, being ably assisted by Miss Katie Lever as Eliza Muggins; Miss C. Santley is an excellent Maria Haysel; and Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam a charming Mary Haysel. To Eric Dugdale justice is done by Little Dorothy, and Miss Nellie King is well placed as Hannah Spry.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. E. Marris.—Miss Elfie Vincent and Miss Maisie Gerrard, Mr. E. Marris' Veroniques, took a benefit here on Monday, and their popularity was proved by the bumper house which assembled to greet them, and the numerous floral tributes they received. On Tuesday Miss Loie Esmond's company appeared in *The Sorrows of Satan*, Miss Esmond taking the part of Diana Chesney, Miss Ethel St. Barbe the rôle of Mavis Clare, and Miss Rosie Neville that of Lady Sybil; whilst Mr. Edward Neville was successful as Prince Lucio. For Friday night *Nana* was announced.

Horseshoe Quarry.—Mr. Edward Marris's Pierrots and Veroniques are keeping up their popularity. Miss Maisie Gerrard and Miss Elfie Vincent, assisted by Messrs. Reginald Hamber and James Salter, give several very amusing sketches.

Triangle Park.—The Scarlet Mr. E's and their Jester, Mr. Walter Dowling, opened here on Monday with their well-known refined entertainment.

Oddfellows' Hall.—Mr. C. W. Poole's Imperial Myriorama is paying a much shorter visit here than usual, this being the closing week, and as their performance is immensely popular in Jersey, it is

Pictures in the Fire, was repeatedly encored. Miss Nancy St. John was a dainty comedienne; and the Mavilles (marionettes) and the pictures were well received. *The Young Lieutenant* is the attraction during the latter part of the week.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—*Amasis* is being played by Mr. Louis Calvert's company. Mr. Rutland Barrington has a part well to his liking as the great Pharaoh; Prince Anhotep has a handsome, dashing representative in Mr. Ronald Cunningham; whilst the Princess Amasis is a sweet and charming personage in the hands of Miss Winifred O'Connor, her fine vocal renditions being quite the most enjoyable feature of the evening. The humour of the piece is largely in the hands of Mr. Lauri de Frece as the irrepressible crocodile-keeper, and Mr. Arthur Watts as the ill-fated Ptolemy, and their efforts throughout are provocative of great merriment. Miss Mabel Burgene makes a pretty and vivacious serving-maid; and Mr. John Doran, Mr. George Fox, and Mr. Frank Perfitt are also effective in their parts.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson and company are here with the drama, *Revenge*. Mr. Hill-Mitchelson himself portrays the important character of the villainous Prince Orloff in a masterly and effective style; Mr. George Daiver gives a fine study of Capt. Vanessa; Mr. William Heilbron as the King acts with ability; whilst Miss Mary S. Smith, Miss Violet Carlyle, and Miss Alice Barber are seen to advantage in the leading feminine parts.

Empire Palace, Ltd.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—A popular comedian who comes all too rarely is Harry Randall, from whom no less than four songs at each performance are demanded. The turn of the Polnski Bros. secures great appreciation, as also does the sand-dancing speciality cleverly executed by Frank Cumminger; a remarkably smart protean act is done by Mlle. Von Etta; Esta Stella, comedienne, takes exceedingly well; Lina Verdi mimics various music hall stars with considerable success; Conn and Conrad are amusing in a laughable burglary sketch; a dainty dancing speciality by Lottie Govell is well received; and the vocal efforts of Ellis Barrieton are exceedingly praiseworthy.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush. — Messrs. Damerell and Rutland's company in the exceedingly funny sketch, *House Full*, provide a leading line which is vastly enjoyed. The Markies are presenting an acceptable vocal and comedy act; Barrett and Knowles, comedians, are most entertaining; George Bendon is a big favourite locally; and the Arleys, in gymnastic speciality; Belle Braham, with illustrated pictures; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, vocalists; Lindsay and Hart, comedy duo; and Mollie Seymour, in song-scena, submit capital performances.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—The Three Braggs occupy a prominent position in this week's bill, and their clever and novel acrobatic exhibition is most interesting and enjoyable. Albert Wyndham and company present a dramatic Shakespearean episode in effective style; much hilarity is provoked by the Waldrons, in a mirthful absurdity; Maidie Scott's vocal items are well received; entertaining song and dance are subscribed by the Eight Lancashire Lads; Ted Cowan, the well-known comedian, also does well; another capable comedy artist appearing is Phil Bransby; Winifred Ward wins appreciation for her male impersonations; and George Victor, actor-vocalist, creates a good impression.

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Those very popular entertainers, Bella and Bijou, are eminently successful in a new répertoire of good things; Dora Lyric, a charming vocalist, proves most popular; a clever comedy trio, Ross, Taylor, and Elvio, are appearing in a laughable absurdity; the speciality dancing of Dolly Golden is much admired; Auto is clever and amusing in instrumental comedy; a pair of smart acrobatic grotesques are to be found in Ryde and Beeman; and J. H. McCann, comedian and skating speciality artist, is also a successful contributor.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. Charles Hermann.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's principal company is here in *The Stronger Sex*. As Mrs. Van Gerkerken, Miss Emma Hutchison scores a conspicuous success with a portrayal of all-round excellence; Miss Margaret Fareleigh as Mary Barrington enacts the part to perfection; and as the Hon. Warren Barrington, Mr. H. J. Carvill is exceedingly good. Mr. George Rowlands well maintains his high reputation as Oliver Thorpe; and Miss Margaret Cavania does full justice to the part of Joan Forsythe. The entertaining comedietta, *Chalk and Cheese*, precedes, in which Miss Dorothy Lart as Sybil Raymond, Miss Dorothea Black as Perkins, and Mr. George Rowlands as Walter Raymond appear with success.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—Mr. William A. Armour's company is here in the drama, *The Best of Her Sex*, in which the part-author, Mr. William A. Armour, is seen to considerable advantage as Philip Farringdon. Mr. Cole Aspinall is very good as the Rev. Stephen Maxwell; Miss Ina Grant is excellent as Ruth Raeburn; Mr. Wilfred Protheroe as Leslie Verney and Miss Dora Price as Vera Delorme are both very successful; Mr. Herbert de Ville is capital as Jake Smith; the humorous element is well looked after by Miss Nell Ingram as Polly Perkins, Mr. Fred Rignold as the Constable Jorkins, and Mr. Horace Buckley as Holy Joe. Miss Lillian Rose deserves a meed of praise as Little Phil.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—The lead is taken here this week by Fred Storey and company, in the elaborately-staged and exceedingly well-played *Rip Van Winkle*, in which Mr. Storey in the name-part makes a big hit. Miss Lilian Holmes is very good as Gretchen; and as the youngsters, Meeni and Heidrich Vedder, Miss Nora Thornton and Master Hemingway are deserving of the highest praise. Others who give capable assistance are Mr. A. Maitland Stapley, Mr. Keith Fraser, and Miss Edith Cornish. A delightfully entertaining turn is given by the Six Æolians, high-class vocalists and smart dancers; Arabella Allen scores a conspicuous success with her remarkably clever character impersonations from Dickens; Rich and Rich create plenty of merriment with their patter; Dean Bros. are excellent whistlers, and their neat dancing is much above the average; Powell's Marionettes are worked in a manner that delights all parts of the house; the Five Osranis are seen to advantage in a burlesque pantomime act; Elsie Claire sings well; and Elsie Robey is again appearing in her amusing musical comedy act, *The Slavey at the Piano*. The Bioscope is depicting Carl Hagenbeck's Wild Animal Park at Hamburg, &c.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence.—A most successful first visit is being given here this week of the sporting sketch, *Lord Harkaway*, presented by Mr. Frederick Maxwell and company, the chief characters in which are played in good style by Mr. Frederick Maxwell (Lord Harkaway), Miss Louise Biddulph (Grace Deane), and Mr. Charles Levey (Stuart Landon). The realistic glove fight between Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Levey brings down the house. Tod Lowen, a really smart and funny comedian, creates roars of laughter; Bessie Willow, who is possessed of a good voice and stage presence, is popular; Dale and Vale, comedy duo, are clever dancers; the Twin Sisters Edwards are entertaining vocalists, dancers, and drummers; Chris. Baker, a capital comedian, creates much merriment; the Brothers Lester, coon vocalists and clever dancers, are well received. A special feature is Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope, with the Coventry Pageant, Carl Hagenbeck's Wild Animal Park, &c.

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—Mr. Lester Collingwood's company, in *When London Sleeps*, is paying a return visit. Miss Mabel Scudamore gives a pleasing and impressive performance as Queenie Carruthers; David Eagleheart is finely portrayed by Mr. Edward E. Ashby; Mr. Richard Ferris plays with dramatic force as Captain Rodney Haynes; Mr. Frank Howard does exceedingly well as the Hon. Bertie Broomhead; Miss Lilla Wilde plays with great dramatic effect as Hilda Carode; and Mr. F. E. Thomas admirably sustains the part of Bob Jones. Miss Bella Power is pleasing as Signoria Robertio Jonesio; Mr. Fred Bernerdo deserves praise as P.C. Stone.

LEITH. — New Gaiety Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—*The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning* is soundly interpreted by a well-selected company here this week. The rôle of Will Mason finds in Mr. Roy Redgrave an ideal representative of the British sailor hero; Miss Rona Merrick makes an effective appearance in the difficult part of the misguided heroine; the villain, James Harcourt, and his female accomplice, Vesta le Clere, are played with all the requisite fiendishness by Mr. Walter Thornton and Miss Nannie Meade; the comic lover business is amusingly worked by Mr. Willie Reid and Miss Marie Kildare as Johnny Walker and Poppy Slater; Mr. Sidney Sarl and Mr. Kenneth Black contribute fine character studies in their respective impersonations of Bill Slater and Richard Fenton; and the pathos of occasional scenes is sympathetically rendered by the Jack and Lucy of Mr. Frank R. Robertson and Miss Hilda Baynton. Minor parts are all capably filled, and admirable stage-setting marks every scene in an interesting performance.

LINCOLN.—Palace.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—A very strong bill is submitted again, the chief turn being supplied by Mr. Alfred Lester, who, supported ably by Miss Florence Wakeman, presents a real side-splitter in *A Restaurant Episode*. Nothing funnier has ever been seen at the Palace. The Three Royal Dreadnoughts presented a superb rifle-shooting act, their precision being marvellous; Jack Raè, Bert and Dora, Percy Curry, Salvino, Claude Fieldman's beau-idcal troupe of juveniles, and Raymond's Bioscope all score greatly.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Excellent business has been done at the principal theatre this week through Mr. Robert Courtneidge sending an able, all-round company to present *The Dairymaids*. The smart farcical play proved very acceptable, the audiences being kept in a merry mood by the eccentricities of Mr. Harry Dent as Joe Mivens, A.B., and by Miss Sissie Sephton, to whom was given rounds of applause for her delightful Eliza, the maid-of-all-work, the clever little lady being always well to the front both as vocalist and dancer; Mr. E. Statham Staples added largely to the fun with his Sam Brudenell; every praise was due to Miss Edith Blanche for her interesting and carefully-drawn portrait of Lady Brudenell; Mr. Frank Steward realised the part of Lieut. Brudenell; a capital Dr. O'Byrne came from Mr. Percy Marshall; Miss Phyllis Dare was a sweet Peggy, and made the most of her opportunities; Mr. Fred Foster as Lieut. Brereton helped greatly with the fun; the singing and dancing of Miss Gay Cilvani (Winifred) and Miss Beryl Vaudrey (Helene) were much appreciated; Mr. Harry Cottel afforded every satisfaction as Capt. Fred Leverton; and Miss Hetty Chapman realised to its full the character of Penelope Pychase. The chorus, dresses, and scenic effects were admirable.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey have always been assured of a welcome in Liverpool, and this week when they brought their new production, *Rollicking Rory*, was no exception to the rule. Mr. Mackey made a funny Rory, and his witticisms were followed by incessant laughter; Mrs. Mackey was a charming Rosaleen Ashleigh; Miss Nana Flensburg helped largely with the fun as Rory's wife, and sang "Rory O'More" in a manner that brought showers of applause; Mr. Charles Homer as Desmond made a typical Irish gentleman, and rendered "The harp that once through Tara's Halls" with much feeling and sweetness; a well-drawn portrait of the money-lender, D'Arcy, was offered by Mr. David McFarlane; Mr. Haughton Macaulay did well in the part of Shaun Brady; Madame Constance Bellamy pleased as Mary Maloney, and as Queen of the Fairies, her voice being heard to advantage in "Kathleen Mavourneen" and "Of fairy wand"; and Miss Adele Liddon made a humorous Mrs. O'Donohoe.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Messrs. Polini and Melford's *Silver King* has proved a big draw here this week. Mr. Fred D. Daviss showed considerable ability as Wilfrid Denver; Miss Adali Barton made a touching and sympathetic Nellie; Mr. Edward J. George as Jaikes carried off high honours, as usual; Miss Flossie Hall Daviss played Cissy with every intelligence; Mr. Arthur Wright was satisfactory as Elijah Coombe; and Miss Mary Simpson did the most possible with Mrs. Gamage.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, The Granville Theatres Company, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Granville.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company occupy the stage here this week with *A Broken Heart*, a play of much power and interest. Miss Louise Peach as Mary Barnard plays in a most sympathetic manner; Mr. Harry Cullingford proves a fine John Barnard; and able support comes from Messrs. Charles Vivian, Will Lindsay, George M. Newell, and W. H. Foxwell, and Miss Maud Stuart and Miss Florrie Sorsby. The drama is well mounted and dressed.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—The picturesque living statuary introduced by Mr. Albert Toft has been witnessed here by delighted audiences; Matthew Brodie and company, including Miss Dorothea Vivian, give a pleasing sketch, entitled *A Drummer of the 76th*; a humorous trifle, *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*, comes from Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris; the rapid dancing of the Sousloffs is witnessed with wonder; Harry Leybourne displays remarkable powers as a double-voiced comedian; Pauline Viola and Nellie Lloyd present their marvellous jumping Siberian wolf-hounds; that exceptionally clever sand dancer, My Fancy, is loudly applauded; Marie Burnett has some pleasing picture songs; and J. B. Preston, Scotch comedian, also appears.

Tivoli, Ltd.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Manager, Mr. Jas. Marks.—A big attraction here this week is the picturesque classical statuary presented by the Seldom's Venus, which is much admired; the cleverly-manipulated D'Arc's Marionettes cause endless wonder and amusement; prolonged laughter is aroused by *The Porter and the Parcel*, an absurdity for which Howard and Collinson are responsible; Mike Cray, comedy juggler, and his intelligent dog, prove exceedingly interesting; T. G. Atken is a Scotch comedian of merit; and others in the list are Goodfellow and Gregson, comedy speciality artists; Alexander Edwin, vocalist; and Edna Latonne, singer of chorus songs.

Lyric — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Principal here this week are Maurin's Fountains, with a wonderful electric stage spectacle; Jordan and Harvey, also in big type, are funny Hebrew comedians, causing endless laughter by their patter; a neat comedy duologue, *The Chambermaid*, is presented by Clara Reid and company; the Ramlos submit a clever gymnastic comedy act; Zelda had some musical novelties; as Roman statuary acrobats, the Olmars appear with every credit; Clifton and Gibson contribute largely to the evening's amusement; and likewise in the list are Lily Lassah, a dainty comedienne and dancer; and Oliver Conroy, comedian.

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—The always popular Sam Mayo heads the programme this week, and enjoys a rousing reception; an attractive dramatic episode, entitled *The Act of Hearts*, comes from James Willard and company; Rappo and Ella, graceful gymnasts, afford every satisfaction; the phantom clogs is a dancing speciality by the Delomes; Lilas Poole sings several acceptable pieces; a most entertaining musical act is submitted by the Coes; Mountford and Walsh, speciality artists, prove a real treat; and the list is supplemented by the Three Royal Temples, operatic vocalists; and Will Goodwin, vocal comedian.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock dramatic company here have this week presented *The Woman in Black*. Mr. Cecil Ravenswood made an able Squire Edenbridge; as Frank Edenbridge Mr. Harry Tresham was greatly appreciated; the rascally Captain Edinbridge found in Mr. Sydney Grant a good exponent; Mr. Robert Wilton satisfactorily carried out the work of amusing as Rob Stokes; Miss Beryl Ravenswood played excellently in the title-part; Miss Florence Palmer tenderly portrayed the rôle of Ruth; and the comedy was largely assisted by Miss Florence Cameron as Gwenny Morgan.

Paddington Palace. — Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Edwards.—*The Penalty of Crime* has been given here this week by the stock company. Included among the principal artists were Messrs. Ernest Wingfield, Henry Hesselgrave, Frank S. Strickland, Francis E. Wybert, H. G. Brandon, Miss Gladys Hastings Walton, Miss Lina Nazeby, and Miss Florence Barnes.

Haymarket.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company still remain here with their well-presented dramatic sketches. This week they have given *Innocents; or, A Son's Devotion*. The favourite Joe Humreys has come again with his old and new songs, and had a hearty welcome; the Sisters Gaynor, as duettists and dancers, were a popular turn; Little Bobby, a local "gallery boy," afforded a deal of pleasure with his mimicking of vaudeville artists; and the cinematograph showed some remarkable pictures.

Westminster.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—The Ottowas, with their smart musical act, topped the bill here this week; Payne Clark, the well-known tenor, rendered several popular pieces; Sadie Seymour sang and danced agreeably; and Bonette and Carri proved a funny pair of jugglers. The Bioscope had some capital pictures.

Olympia. — District - Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton. — The big line here this week is the interesting work of Miss Alice Norton, maker of rubies and sapphires; Maud Rochez causes endless amusement and interest with her clever monkey comedians, the well-trained little animals going through their work with remarkable intelligence; a popular artist, in the person of Lily Burnand, earns a flattering reception for her new songs; Fred Elton delights everybody with his scena at the piano, "On Board an Ocean Liner"; the audience enjoy a hearty laugh at *Aunt Matilda*, a sketch presented by Frank Elliston and company; the Five Juanitas perform some particularly clever acrobatic work; and also in the list are Mlle. Eldee, with a charming posing performance; Eric, ventriloquist; and Will Cromwell, character vocalist.

Roscommon.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Good business continues to be done here by the stock dramatic company, headed by Mr. Percy Boucher. This week the play given has been *Brought to Justice*. Mr. Herbert H. Young ably portrayed John Holmcroft; Mr. J. D. Geddes did well as Luke Brierly; the part of Frank Dalton was in the able hands of Mr. A. Wilson Rae; Mr. C. H. Maxwell afforded satisfaction as Bob Lucifer; Mr. Percy Boucher proved exceedingly funny in the part of Jonas Swallow; and of the ladies, Miss Lilian Beaumont did the most with Nell Forester; Miss Enid Wilde was a merry Sally Bluebell; and Miss Flo Russell filled the part of Beatrice Hetherington with credit.

LLANDUDNO.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—For three nights this week Mr. George Dance's company appeared before large audiences in *The Beauty of Bath*. Mr. Andrew Higginson as Lieut. Richard Allington sings and dances well, and is extremely funny; Mr. Reggie Grey as Lord Quorn and Mr. Bay Russell as Mr. Beverley are good; Mr. Jack Crichton as Sir Timothy Bun dances splendidly; Master Basil Clifford as Lemon Goodge is unusually clever with his impersonations; Miss Edith Cruickshanks as Mrs. Allington deserves credit; Miss Jessie Lonnen's singing and dancing in the part of Miss Truly St. Cyr is greatly admired; Miss Ida Laurie in the part of Mrs. Goodge is well placed; the Hon. Betty Silverthorne is in the capable hands of Miss Gladys Guy. *The Little Michus* was announced for the remainder of the week.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. A. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—Mr. E. Taylor Platt's London company opened here for three nights with Mr. Bernard Shaw's comedy, *You Never Can Tell*. Miss Penelope Wheeler as Mrs. Clandon is well placed; Miss Mary Barton plays Gloria Clandon in becoming style; Miss Amy Lamborn as Dolly Clandon is well suited; Mr. Norman Page is Phillip Clandon gives an excellent portrayal; Mr. Edmund Curney as Fergus Crampton gives a good rendering of a difficult part; Mr. Trevor Lowe as Finch McGomas is good; Mr. P. Clayton-Greene as Valentine deserves praise; Mr. Edmund Gwenn (the Waiter) could not be improved upon; and Mr. Lewis Casson (Bohum) is good. *Robin Hood* was announced for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Pier Head Pavilion.—Local Manager, Mr. A. R. Sutcliffe. — Messrs. Adeler and Sutton have an extra strong cast this week, the bill being headed by Jock Whiteford. Wee Mona and the local manager, Mr. A. R. Sutcliffe, are also included among the cast. Large audiences attend nightly.

Happy Valley.—Mr. W. J. Churchill's Minstrels continue to find favour with all. The White Coons do good business, and have extra attractions this week, one specialist advertised being George Codman, champion bone soloist of the world.

LOWESTOFT.—Marina.—Manager, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's company is paying a welcome return visit in *The Duchess of Dantzic*, which is handsomely staged and dressed. The principals all work together successfully, and admirable support is rendered by the full chorus and augmented orchestra. Miss Georgina Delmar as Sans Gene submits a highly-finished and very entertaining portrayal, for which she is enthusiastically applauded. Mention must also be made of the admirable representation of Napoleon, presented by Mr. Frank Bradley.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The Royal Italian Circus is still delighting large audiences. Signor Volpi's performing animals give a wonderful display; and the eccentricities of Nimble Nip, Wee Willie, Piccolo, and Fiori cause endless amusement.

LUTON.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—Mr. T. Edward Ward has brought his best London company in the latest of Mr. Walter Howard's dramas, *Second to None*, here this week, and is being received most enthusiastically by good houses nightly. Mr. Jerrold Heather, in the rôle of Harry Wilding, contributes a most convincing impersonation. He is assisted by Miss Ward, whose portrayal of Nell Greystone is especially praiseworthy. Mr. C. W. Spencer admirably personates the character of Sir Reginald, and the same must be said of Mr. J. G. Maine in the difficult character of Horseman. Captain Manning is undertaken by Mr. A. Brandon, who conveys an excellent impression; and some amusing comedy is supplied by Mr. Vane as Lieut. Ballater and Miss Lawson as May. Joe Ruggles by Mr. Carruthers and Private Flutter by Mr. Preece are very humorous.

LYTHAM.—Pier Pavilion Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harrison.—Auguste van Biene is playing to capital houses in the ever-popular *Broken Melody*.

MACCLESFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gattey.—A select and artistic variety company, under the personal supervision of Mr. J. W. Almo, is appearing here for this week. On Monday night a crowded house listened with rapt attention to the many daring feats of the Almo Trio, in their smart comedy bar act, which at the close elicited roars of applause; Will Rain and company, in *The Motor Maniac*, amused everybody; and Will Onda's combination, in a pantomimical comedy sketch, *Hotel Comfort*, was most ludicrous. Atroy, society juggler, hoop roller, &c., was a neat and pleasing turn; whilst Violi, lady instrumentalist, was accorded a magnificent ovation. The Almo Royal British Animated Picture Company had a good number of pictures, depicting life in our Army and Navy, and world-wide travels.

MAIDSTONE.—Lessee, Mr. S. Baskerville.—The change of programme this week includes excellent samples of variety, which are well received. Vaughan Williams and company give a very pretty musical mélange, entitled *Willie of the Yacht*, which captivates the house; Kahn and Kahn mystify everybody by their second sight and magical act; C. Tamamoto, a clever Jap, plays all sorts of fantastic tricks on a perpendicular rope; Ariel and Astarte are entertaining in their skilful acrobatic turn; Prof. Dunning, ventriloquist, goes well; Fanny Robina gives some charming songs; and Florrie Cooper's excellent singing is a strong attraction of the bill. Billie Bint, comedian, is funny; and the Hippograph shows some of the latest films.

MANCHESTER.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A second visit of *Tom Jones* was heartily welcomed here on Monday by a packed house. With the exception of Mr. Harry Welchman, who fills the title-rôle in the place of Mr. Hayden Coffin, and fills it very successfully, too, in point of appearance and deportment, as well as vocalism, all those who played in the original production are still in the cast. The sweet singing and charming personality of Miss Ruth Vincent as Sophia are beyond praise; equally one may spare inadequate superlatives in appreciating Miss Carrie Moore's rendering of Honour, the maid; while Mr. Dan Rolyat's eccentric impersonation of Partridge provokes laughter all the time he is on the stage. Mr. Ambrose Manning's Squire Western is admirably lifelike and entertaining; and capital humour is added by his trio of servants, Mr. Jay Laurier, Mr. Walter L. Rignold, and Mr. Reginald Crompton. Mr. Arthur Soames as Blifil gives a natural performance; and Mr. John Morley (though having too slight opportunities for the exercise of his splendid vocal gift) moves and looks well as Mr. Allworthy. Miss Dora Rignold has perfected her clever impersonation of Lady Belaston; Miss Marie Daltra is effective as Miss Western; and among others who add to the general vivacity, a word of commendation is due to Miss Cicely Courtneidge. The opera stays two weeks.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Mrs. Morton Powell's company, in *When It Was Dark*, provide the attraction here this week. Mr. Cuthbert Imrie plays the arch-villain very well; Mr. Edward Valentine is effective as Sir Robert Llewellyn; Mr. F. Tennant gives a satisfying delineation of the Rev. Basil Gortre; and Mr. C. O'Connor does well as Harold Spence. Among the ladies, Miss Beatrice May gives a powerful rendering of Gertrude Hunt; and Mrs. Morton Powell acts charmingly as Helena Byars. Others worthy of praise are Mr. Ernest St. John, Mr. Lionel West, Mr. J. L. Inglis, and Miss Dorothy Hildebrand.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—The Tom Davis Trio top the bill here, in their sensational motoring act; *Honeymoon Baby*, a well-played comedy sketch, is also prominent; George Young, a blind musician, plays excellently on the concertina; Rene, the girl Cinquevalli, juggles smartly; and other good turns are J. Hirst, a clever gymnast; Burns and Bentley, very good simultaneous dancers and vaudeville artists; Roy Beavis, the merry magician; the Four Netherlands, singers and dancers; the Lovelaces, in illustrated songs; and Will Freedo, comedian and dancer. The Bioscope pictures are interesting.

St. James's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—Mr. Bulmer this week presents here *The Girl Who Went Astray*. Miss Chrissie Dunbar plays conspicuously well as Zara L'Estrange; Miss Gladys Hawthorn is quite effective in the dual rôle of Madge and Violet Harvey; and Mr. Fred Lloyd has a good part as Rupert Murdock; while other well-varied parts are skilfully handled.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton's company are here this week in a strong play, entitled *A Gambler's Daughter*. Mr. Robert Ayrton is fine as Desmond O'Dare, the Irish emigrant; Miss Adria Hill, in a dual rôle of mother and daughter, shines more especially as the daughter, Miriam Grant; Mr. Frank Croft plays the heroic Captain Stanhope (erstwhile Dick, "the weasel") in bold style; and Mr. A. G. Lytton as the unscrupulous Stephen Brand is equally effective. Good parts are also in the hands of Mr. Basil Mitchell, Mr. Harry Bilford, Mr. Alfred Sanders, and Mr. Richard Pitt; while Miss Harriet Loydall successfully contributes much of the lighter interest as Auntie Zeb.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The top turn here is provided by Constant Le Marin, a powerful young wrestler, who challenges the world, and gives nightly exhibitions of his powers, to the usual accompaniment of excitement; *Casey's Court*, by the Midget Mimes, headed by Bob King as Mrs. Casey, provide excellent fun; Drew and Alders are funny in their Coastguard sketch; J. W. Hall, comedian, is well received in songs and patter; La Belle Nello gives a graceful contortionist and balancing exhibition; and Joe Reichen presents a quartette of highly-trained dogs; while other enjoyable turns are the Coneoran Brothers, musical artists; Chas. Stevens, character vocalist; and Grace Merton, the original street-singer.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Considerable amusement is afforded here this week by Harry Roxbury and company, in that capital absurdity, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, the principal parts being ably sustained by Messrs. Harry Roxbury, Edwin Dodds, Fred Davenporte, and Alf. Clegg, and Miss Ethel Bryant. Very lifelike is the performance of the great Harry Lauder on the Chronomegaphone; and Leonard Gautier's novelty, *An Animated Toy Shop*, with well-trained ponies as rocking-horses, is a smart show. Harvey's American Boys and Girls contribute an excellent turn in singing and dancing; the Miles-Stavordale Quintette give a wonderful and pleasing performance on strings, and are deservedly well received; Lulu Russell, the Californian songstress, sings well, and has a fine presence; Lonnen Meadows and a smart company are first-rate in a screaming farcical tabloid comedy, *Kiss Your Father*; and George Peeves, comedian, does well in a funny cigar song. Animated pictures, a delightful part-song by the choir, and an illustrated song, "Honey, you are my lady-love," nicely sung by Miss Mildred Timms, complete an enjoyable programme.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tealor Wade.—Little Max Darewski, the wonderful boy composer and pianist, is the great attraction here this week. In addition to playing several selections in his usual masterly manner, he conducts the augmented orchestra, who play the Overture to *William Tell*. His reception is great. Excellent turns are also provided by Datas, the man of memory; Les Piccolinos, two wonderfully clever midgets; Oakley and James, comedy duo, in a screamingly funny act; Kendrick and Laura, vocalists, popular as ever; Gargany's Trio of marvellous acrobats; A-Bo-Kou, sensational juggler; Susie and Protti, in a clever whirl of dances; Gladys Huxley, comedienne; and Ruby Aston, comedienne and dancer. Sam Mayo, who figures on the programme, did not appear on the night of our visit.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—George Mozart, the well-known comedian, tops the bill here this week, makes a hit with his umbrella song, and causes endless laughter the whole time he occupies the stage; Rose Cambry, comedienne, splendid gowned, with fine appearance, meets with a good reception; and Kitty Clover and company are seen to advantage in a well-received sketch, entitled *Mr. There's Hair*. Flo Lister, contralto, has a fine voice; Bessie Travis, the musical ventriloquist, is entertaining; the Florias go through a clever slack-wire performance; Millie Warde and Arthur Jenner are good in a musical duologue, *When Two Play One Game*; Hunter and Travis are exceedingly smart in a comedy novelty; and Huline and Le May are merry musical sports. Raymond's Vivagraph completes.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—The Melody Makers, in their surprising phantom scena, *The Burglar's Dream*, provide a turn of distinct merit here this week; and the singing of Darren Llewellyn, the Welsh baritone, is excellent. Owen McGiveney gives some clever impersonations of character sketches from Dickens; Angelo is a remarkably smart lightning painter; Keith and Merson's company, in a farcical sketch, *Crossing the Alps*, are clever and amusing; Marquis and Mignonette do some smart tumbling; the Sages (Will and Jenny) are a pleasing comedy duo; J. W. Gallagher, comedian, is deservedly well received; the Sivanes sing and dance well; and Will Sullivan, comedian, has some good patter. "Mrs. Brown's Troubles" are shown on the Bioscope.

King's, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor.—The Frank Bateman company, under the direction of Messrs. St. John Medley and Pringle Roberts, are the attraction here this week, in the sensational drama, *No Wedding Bells for Her*. Principal parts are excellently played by Miss Lizzie Montague, Miss Doris Lorraine, Mr. Stewart Lomath, Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe, and Mr. Barry Lupino.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay.—The Milton Ray's company, including Mr. Arthur Milton, are here this week in *Don Quixote*, after successful weeks at other Manchester halls. A wonderful performance is gone through by the Juggling Rapoli; Anthony, the "swank" and comic conjurer, provides a capital turn; Lambeth and Robertson are exceedingly good in their *Scots Folks' Wooin'* scena; and enjoyable turns are also those of Chris Van Bern, eccentric comedian; the Rinaldo Trio, comedy acrobats; Harry Leaton, vocal comedian; and Sadler and Ross, Irish cross-talkers and dancers. "The Stag Hunters" is the Bioscope subject.

MANSFIELD. — Grand Theatre. — Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Captain Cecil Clayton.—After being closed for several weeks for alteration this place reopened on Monday. The seating of the place has been remodelled, with the result that many more places have been provided, and the view of the stage has been much improved. The place has been tastefully redecorated, and the heating apparatus has been reinstalled. The company occupying the boards is Messrs. C. and F. Renad's, in *The Swiss Express*. Little need be said of the performance of Charles and Frederick, except that they fully sustain their well-known reputation. Mr. Wilfred Brandon as Dr. Gondimar Gull causes a great amount of merriment; Mr. Basil Reynolds is a manly Bob Rollingston; Mr. Alec Wylie, in the rôle of Dudley Green, plays the dude to the life; Mr. Charles Gray is well placed as Septimus Squeeze; Miss Blanche Vernon is an amusing Mrs. Septimus Squeeze; Miss Celestine Brandon is delightfully refreshing in the part of Virginia; and Miss Lottie Stone's Palace Quartette submit some tasteful dances. During an interval on Monday, the opening night of the autumn season at the Grand Theatre, Mansfield, Captain Clayton gave a neat little speech, in the course of which he mentioned that the whole of the work of alteration had been carried out by local labour, a remark which drew forth applause.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Foxwell's company, in the drama, *An Abandoned Woman*, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Walle Spenner gave a fine interpretation of Captain Herbert Seaton; Mr. George Gormley was at home in the rôle of Sir Marmaduke Seaton; and as Robert Saunders, Mr. Morton Wright was all that could be desired. Miss Edith Blande proved herself an artist of great ability in the rôle of Ninon Malvoisin; Miss May Richardson was a capable Eleanor Deane; as also was Miss Lily Addeson as La Celeste. Miss Edith Deno was a clever and amusing Sally; and Mr. Jim K. Woods a typical Paddy Boyle.

MARGATE.—Theatre Royal.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wallis Clark.—Mr. Michael made an excellent choice when he selected as the bill of fare for the current week at this house the popular musical play *The New Barmaid*. As presented by Miss Violet Osmund's company the production was well mounted, well acted, and generally a success. Miss Osmund proves herself in the part of Dora Heather an artist of exceptional ability; Mr. Alexander Loftus appears as Bertie White, and in that rôle contributes with much success the lion's share of the humour; Mr. James Grant also aids the comedy; Mr. Chas. Adeson makes a capable Mons. Bonsor; Miss Aimee Roberts is a charming

comedians, in the laughable absurdity, *The Mumming Birds*, have caused unbounded merriment and infectious hilarity, and their show is too well known to need criticism; Dainty Maggie Rimmer, comedienne and dancer, has made a pleasing and successful appearance; and Will Driscoll, swell comedian and dancer, has also created a favourable impression. Massona, the clever young juggler, has again secured a full share of well-merited recognition for his smartness; and Chas. Craston, comedian, has had a flattering reception. William Lee and Helen Bentley contribute their amusing comedy sketch, *A Friend in Need*; and Ingram and Irving, comedians, are also good in some smart knockabout business.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Sole Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Evans.—Exceptionally good business is being done here, the afternoon and evening entertainments being packed with audiences who have evinced their appreciation of the several turns making up an enjoyable programme by insistent applause. The Selwyns, in their refined vocal and dancing act, gain immediate favour; and the Brothers Idento, eccentric comedy jugglers and bâton manipulators, combine some very excellent fooling with some really smart work. The Brontes create roars of laughter with their comedy duologue *Saucy Maud*, the latter character being smartly portrayed; Lill Elfreda, as a mimic, has created a wonderfully good impression; Max Merlin, the crocodile demon, gives a clever contortionist show; and Williams and Warden, the cross-talk comedians, who have been making a welcome reappearance, have been as popular as ever. Lilian Rigby, instrumental specialist, has received marked applause for her playing on cornet, posthorn, and sleigh bells; and a well-arranged programme has been brought to a close by Judge's performing cockatoos.

MATLOCK.—VICTORIA HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. James White; Resident-Manager, Mr. Franklin Thomas.—Miss Louie Freear and company, under the direction of Mr. Donald Arthur, paid a visit to this hall on Wednesday, and had a cordial reception from a large audience. Miss Freear's impersonation of Jemima in *Snooks* was received with great enthusiasm, and the company supporting her was a strong and capable one. Other artists contributing to the programme were Miss Belle Green, Mr. Vivian Foster, Mr. Bennett, and Mr. Brightmore.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—*Raffles*, presented by Mr. Leonard Boyne, by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman, is here this week. Mr. Leonard Boyne gives a brilliant representation of the dashing cracksman; as Curtis Bedford, Mr. E. W. Thomas successfully pictures the smart detective; Mr. Dalziel Heron plays with vigour the part of Crawshay; Mr. Lewis Edgard is highly satisfactory as Harry Manders; and the Earl of Amersteth is pleasantly portrayed by Mr. Arthur Willoughby. Miss Elaine Inescourt submits a praiseworthy impersonation of Mrs. Vidal; as Lady Melrose, Miss Alys Rees is dignified and artistic; and Miss Dorothy Gordon as Marie, Miss Maud Cressall as Gwendoline Conran, and Miss Dorothy Shawe are also worthy of praise.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—A diversified and attractive programme is headed by Ara, Zebra, and Vora, in Indian pastimes; the Ladderites are smart equilibrists; Collin and Irene, clever illusionists and second-sight experts; and other good turns are given by Stelling and his canine comedian; Codge, the whistling street arab; Willard's marionettes; Kate Eplett, comedienne and dancer; the Three Zaracs, and animated pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton. — Mr. E. H. Knight's company is here in *The Grip of Iron*. Mr. Fred Powell repeats his masterly interpretation of Simmonet, the strangler; Mr. W. Curnock plays excellently as Paul Blanchard; Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner is a capital Lorentz de Ribas; the rival detectives, Coucou and Didot, are amusingly typified by Mr. W. T. Riley and Mr. John Brittain; Mr. Herbert Lewis is an interesting figure as Loustalot, the smiler; Miss Marie Fontaine cleverly fills the rôle of Cora Simmonet; the Sophie Blanchard of Miss Florence Trevoir is a sympathetic study; while Miss Maggie Stewart capably sustains the part of Marie Guerin.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—The stirring Russian drama, *The Price of Her Soul*, is being staged here this week by Messrs. John Shinton and Alexander Greenwood's company. Mr. John B. Shinton gives a powerful interpretation of Lord Mandeville; Mr. Annesley Hely is seen to advantage as Major Skoboloff; Miss Ada M. Ryder gives a capital rendering of the Countess; Olga Lanovitz finds an excellent exponent in Miss Kate Sydney; Miss N. Evelyn Waterworth is responsible for a capable presentation of the part of Mme. Marcovitz; Mr. Archie Gear plays General Lanovitz admirably; Miss Grace Garside does well as Lady Fraser; Miss Elsie Howe is a pleasing Vera; and Mr. W. H. Melrose an amusing Pat Murphy.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, the Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Company, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and a specially selected company occupy the boards here this week in *The Royal Oak*, by Henry Hamilton and the late Sir Augustus Harris. Miss Glossop-Harris, in the rôle of Mildred Clavering, gives a most natural and womanly rendering; Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., acts with great distinction the part of Charles II.; Miss Gertrude Guilbert is a charming Lady Cholmondeley; Mr. Aubrey Mather a capital Dorian Cholmondeley; Mr. Percival Madgwick an excellent Rev. Melchizedek; and Miss Muriel Dale a pleasing Deborah.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—Bob Hutt and company occupy the premier position here this week, and create roars of laughter in their absurdity *Welcome Home*. Miss Dott Stephens made her first appearance in Middlesbrough, and has a most gratifying reception; Muir Bartlett and company are amusing in a sketch, entitled *The Collar-Stud*; the Bouncing Dillons are clever gymnasts; and a pleasing turn is given by the Two Bostons. Mr. J. Barlow, who won the singing competition last week, is, with the runner-up, Mr. J. H. Smith, fulfilling a week's engagement, and both artists score a great success.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—Harry Pleon and company provide an excellent sketch, entitled *The Club Raid*, here this week; and the Gorman Juveniles give a pleasing dancing and singing turn. Some smart tumbling is done by the Martelloni Family; Louis Hardt performs some genuine feats of strength; Gus Harris, comedian, pleases; and other turns are given by Edie King, a clever dancer, and Milner Verren.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—Mr. Mouillot's company has been appearing with marked success in *The Girl Behind the Counter*, the musical comedy which was a hit at Wyndham's. It is pretty and tuneful throughout, and the piece goes with a swing. Mr. Ellis Holland is remarkably good as the General, and his Raleigh song and business is perhaps the best thing in the production. Miss Nora Brocklebank is very charming as Minnie Willoughby; and Mr. Arthur Cartwright is an excellent Charles Chetwyn. Other prominent parts are well sustained by Messrs. Howard Cridland, Jules Charmettes, Fredk. Park, A. M. Moore, and W. Emery, and Misses Winifred Knightly, Florence Lee, Ellen Clanford, and Irene Lavington. The chorus is well trained, and the dresses are very effective.

WINTER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—In the bill here this week are Griff, in all his smart business and clever patter; Lazern, in an original act, *Mysteria*, which takes well; Jack and Evelyn, with a smart act, *Cigarette Papers*; Hill and Whittaker, clever Americans, who are true musicians; Brothers Obo, comedians and dancers of repute; Little Agnes Tina, with her life-like mimicries and impersonations of celebrities; Ruby and Lawn, in a pretty vocal scena, with a quick change; the Donatos, the extraordinary monopedes; Dorothy L. Clark, in her latest success, "How would you like to have to love me"; and Effie Stuart, Scotch comedienne and dancer. On Wednesday night Mr. Tom Atkinson took his annual benefit, and had the assistance of several turns from other places of amusement in the town. The festivities included a fancy dress ball, which was kept going until one o'clock the next morning.

CENTRAL PIER.—Manager, Mr. E. Hill.—Lanos and Montes, in their eccentric act, have proved a big success, and Belloni's cockatoos have been another leading item, the birds showing the effect of careful training. Mount and Corelli have a smart duologue, *The Master and the Maid*; and other turns are the Stanley Four, in their musical comedy, *A Broken Promise*, Miss Stanley singing "Husbands" with great effect; the Spanish Goldinis, marvellous carpet spinners; Robert Dredge, double-voiced vocalist; the Boston Twins, patterers, mimics, &c.; Chas. Lestree, juggler; and Vera Mayne, comedienne.

WEST END PIER.—Secretary, Mr. J. Bastow.—The variety portion of the entertainment here has been provided by Nellie Ganthony, who has entertained with much charm; Julian Mack, a quaint comedian; Nelson Hardy, ventriloquist and mimic; and Zeta Grey and company, in the musical absurdity, *The Lancashire Lass*. Mlle. Julia Caroli has been the vocalist of the week.

ALHAMBRA PALACE.—Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—The Six Brothers Luck have been scoring again with their farcical production, *The Demon of the Cellar*; Mlle. Lumiere has been very successful with her novel act, *The Fairy Grotto*, in which there are many beautiful effects; Cleland's clever act of "a little bit of everything and nothing in particular" has been well suited to the tastes of the audience; Penstene, assisted by Tsaou-ngo, has introduced many unique conjuring tricks; the Brothers Curran have a funny boxing Act, *Taking the Census*; Hector and Sultan are a couple of clever comedy acrobats; Miss Frances Lyric is a pleasing comedienne; Morris Harper is an excellent society entertainer; Captain Devereux's dogs continue to delight the audience; and Lottie de Abbey proves herself a smart character impersonator.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hales.—Mr. William Greet's company is paying a return visit here in *The Earl and the Girl*. Miss Florence Wix is a delightful exponent of the Girl; Mr. Robert Hyett is particularly well suited as Dick Wargrave; Mr. Alfred Donohoe keeps the house in a continuous roar by his funny impersonation of Jim Cheese; Mr. Roy Sydney is a handsome and dashing Crewe Boodle; Mr. Bernard Leslie is well suited as Dudley Cranbourne; Miss Lillian Bert makes a bright and vivacious Daisy Fallowfield; Miss Beatrice Anderson is decidedly effective as Mrs. Shimmering Black; and Miss Lena Hicks acts Liza Shoddam to the life. A. Bunker Bliss, Downham, and Mr. Talk have admirable exponents in Messrs. Frank A. Wood, Ernest A. Plumpton, and Sam Lysons.

NELSON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. Geo. Edwards.—Lovers of Shakespeare have been afforded a great treat this week by Mr. Allan Wilkie and his talented company. The répertoire included *Hamlet*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Othello*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *David Garrick*, *Sleigh Bells*, and *Richard III*. Mr. Wilkie created a splendid impression on this his first visit to the town by his fine acting. The company included Mr. Alexander Marsh, Mr. Paul Lofett, Mr. Jno. Paley, and Mr. Geo. Munroe, all of whom acquitted themselves admirably. Mr. Marsh as Romeo was a great success, whilst his acting of David Garrick proved a rare treat. As Matthias in the *Sleigh Bells* Mr. Wilkie fully sustained his reputation as one of the foremost tragedians of the day. Miss Carrie Baillie was the leading lady throughout the week, her graceful acting and exquisite enunciation being as noticeable as ever.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—Mrs. Patrick Campbell and her company are here. *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* was performed on Monday evening. As Paula Tanqueray Mrs. Patrick Campbell again achieved a great success; in the part of Ellean Miss Stella Patrick Campbell made an interesting and highly-successful appearance; Mr. Charles Garry's study of Aubrey Tanqueray was an able and artistic one; and Mr. Julian Royce as Cayley Drummie, and Mr. Alfred Goddard as Captain Hugh Ardale, successfully take other prominent parts.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—A company sent out by Mr. Arthur Bourchier is here this week in *The Walls of Jericho*. A fine manly interpretation of the part of Jack Frobisher is given by Mr. Wilfred E. Payne; and equally successful is Miss Dora Hole as Lady Alethea Frobisher, her dramatic earnestness and sweet appealing voice being well suited to the part. Mr. W. Kingsford Pearce is excellent as the Marquis of Steventon; and Miss Elsie Ross lends capital support as Lady Lucy. Hankey Bannister is well played by Mr. E. Spencer Geach, and all the subordinate parts are well filled.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. T. W. Rowe.—Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company is here in *Two Little Vagabonds*. As Dick and Wally Miss Winifred Williamson and Miss Ethel Francis Greene win all-round approval; and the parts of George Thornton and Marion Thornton are exceedingly well played by Mr. Arthur E. Melborne and Miss G. Winter. Mr. T. Lionel Ellis as Bill Mullins and Miss Violet Vivian as Biddy Mullins are very successful.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—A lively entertainment is provided here by Mr. James Bell's company in *The Idol of Paris*. Miss Annie Bell gives an attractive impersonation of the leading part, and she is supported by a clever company, which includes Mr. Otto Minster, Mr. Sidney Arnold, Mr. Arthur McCulloch, Mr. Norton Shields, and Mr. H. Vivian Thomas.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. P. Wells.—T. E. Dunville, for long a popular comedian with Newcastle audiences, again scores heavily with his whimsical sayings and quaint songs; a capital comedy sketch is admirably acted by Howard and St. Clair; Bert Woodward, steeplechasing cyclist, executes some daring tricks; and the farcical episode, *Beauty and the Burglar*, as performed by Miss Millie Engler, is very entertaining. The Six Lancashire Lasses maintain their reputation as smart and artistic dancers; Miss Harriet Vernon sings a series of much-appreciated songs; J. P. Ling is a first-class comedian and mimic; Ella Retford, comedienne, proves very popular; and Rezene and Robini give a capital comedy gymnastic turn.

PAVILION THEATRE.—The Barrasford Company; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. H. Boardman.—Very popular this week is the performance of the extravaganza, *Saturday to Monday*, by Mr. Fred Karno's company, which includes Mr. Rolando Martin, who is exceedingly funny in the principal rôle. Without ever saying a word, Max Walden, in a fairly long occupation of the stage, keeps the audience vastly amused with his quaint productions of impedimenta from his pockets; Miss Rsie Walters, a sprightly comedienne, scores in her fishing song; and the wire-walking act of Rex Fox is an able novelty in its way. Fred Land and Joe Conway, both excellent comedians; Adams and Ward, clever and comical acrobats; and Mabel Hind, comedienne, help to fill up a capital programme.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett.—*The Manxman* is presented this week by Mr. Alfred B. Cross's company. Mr. Cross as Pete and Miss Minnie Waterford as Kate Cregeen repeat with success their well-known clever impersonations, and are ably supported by Miss Maud Leslie Cudd as Nancy, Mr. E. W. Cudd as Cæsar Cregeen, Mr. Sydney C. Kearns as Philip Christian, and Mr. Richard Brenan. Other parts are well filled by Miss Maude Aldred as Bella Kelly, Miss Phyllis Noell as Miss Christian, Mr. C. H. Mortimer as Dr. Myhereest, Mr. Smith Neill as Monty Missit, Mr. F. Lynton as Professor Mawley, Mr. Joe Wallace as the Postman, and Mr W. Horgan as the constable. The scenery and effects are very good.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans; Musical-Director, Mr. Walter Ashton.—Supreme in this week's programme is Miss Dora Barrington, a soprano vocalist of high excellence and refined dramatic power. Clara Victor is also most successful with her songs; and May De Rouse, in song and dance, is in great favour. O'Mally and Brown are exceedingly good as cross-talk comedians; and the Ringling trio of American eccentrics give an amusing and clever turn. The Palace pictures are both amusing and interesting; and Vera Dalwood, male impersonator; and Maurice Lee, comedian, also appear.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Mr. Charles W. Poole is here with his Royal Myriorama, supplemented by some good variety turns.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—*The Woman Who Gambles* is being performed here this week by Mr. Morton Powell's capable company. Mr. George Steele acts with distinction in the prominent part of Count Otto Steinbach; Mr. Percy Ballard gives an interesting study of Baron Fratzlaw; Mr. Reginald Fox gains approval as Lieut. Carl Czasterinska; Mr. Ernest H. Clarke presents a good impersonation of M. Stambuloff; and Mr. Fred P. Charlton is a satisfactory Hon. Bertie Bray. As Countess Natalie Miss Lilian Herries submits a clever interpretation; Miss Dora Pass as Cora deserves praise; Miss Lily Malvern makes the most of Stella; and Miss Lillian Rignold is pleasing as Mlle. Zilla.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The Two Tates, comedy trampolin artists, are at the top of the bill here; Mr. Arthur Albert, actor-vocalist, is as popular as ever; and Messrs. Conway and Garland, in *A Golden Nightmare*, are clever; the Calcotts, in their speciality act, are well received.

NORTHWICH.—PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Glanmore Jones.—Mr. Alec Payne gives a very clever exhibition of expert roller skating; Miss Gertie Hunt sings very prettily; the Brothers Veno, comedians and patterers, do well in their act, entitled *The Handy Men*; the Three Sisters Pink are smart acrobatic dancers; and Mr. Jack Rennard is a coon singer of no mean ability; while genial Will Harvey still delights the audience with his minstrel funniosities.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Jack Haddon's company in *Under the Russian Flag* is here this week and is much appreciated. Mr. Haddon himself fills the rôle of Capt. Demetrius with much force, receiving well-merited approbation; Mr. Charles Stafford is very good as Ivan Romanoff, and Mr. Jerrold Ord equally so as Michael Romanoff; Mr. Templar Ellis as Alexis Skopolopki is amusing; and Mr. W. Wilson does well as Col. Souveroff. Miss Molly Hackett is vivacious as Ogarita; Miss Marie Rayner deserves praise as Luka Marashla; Miss Beatrice Balfour is worthy of particular commendation as Vera Vassaloff; Mr. Hal Forde as Peter Poulski and Mr. H. Naylor Grimson as Wolf Marischla render admirable assistance.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—A capital programme is given this week. The Turlian Family of risley experts are well received, and their exhibition of precision, strength, and agility is astonishing; Harry Russon excites much mirth in his song, and wins appreciation for his recitation. Austin Lenton and company are amusing in their absurdity, *The Bigamist*; Fred Mulvey and Minnie Miriam render a funny duologue, entitled *The Artist's Studio*; Elton and Edwin are clever banjoists, and obtain much applause; Wisper proves an expert juggler; Beattie Bloom is a charming comedienne; and Molly Devon scores as an Irish comedienne; the Hippo. Bio. is very good this week.

AGRICULTURAL HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—The Royal Animated Pictures are in the eleventh week of their stay here, and the interest in them is still well sustained.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production of *The Blue Moon* occupies this stage this week. As Chandra Nil Miss Marie Wilson makes excellent use of the opportunities which several good songs give her; Miss Florence Imeson makes a splendid Leroy, and sings and dances, and coquettes herself into the good graces of the house in the liveliest possible manner. As Private Charles Taylor Mr. Horace Mills has a most congenial part, and together with Mr. Edward Lewis as Moolraj, has some very funny scenes; naturally, these two are the life and soul of the piece, and their appearance on the stage is always the signal for unstinted applause. The breezy manner of Mr. Jack Cannot is admirably suited to the rôle of Major Collabone; and the appearance and acting of George Mudie, jun., make the part of Bobbie Scott very successful. With an excellent voice, good presence, and careful acting, Mr. Roland Bottomley adds greatly to the success of the play; whilst Mr. Jack Spurling makes an altogether sufficiently dignified appearance as the Prince of Karikhar. Miss Ethel Callanan looks very sweet as Evelyn Ormsby; and Miss Violet Hobson is very capable as Oma; whilst as Lady Brabasham Miss Marie Rignold does well. The singing of Miss Lesley d'Eyncourt is commendable, and all the other parts are in the hands of carefully selected artists. Under the direction of Mr. Ernest Hurman, the various pretty choruses are rendered effectively, whilst the staging and dressing of the piece are all that could be desired.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil are presenting *Her Luck in London*. Miss Mary Neil has every qualification requisite for the part of Nellie Harborne, and carries conviction by her thoroughly natural acting. She is capably assisted by Stephen Langton, who, as O'Connor, the Irish baronet, plays up to her admirably. Mr. George Heath, as the villainous Lenowen, does well in an undesirable part, and is ably seconded in his nefarious designs by Algie, a character successfully portrayed by Mr. Bruce Chapman. As the curate Mr. Douglas Tremayne is found in a congenial rôle, and the acting of Mr. Tyrone Power, as Stephen Harborne, is highly commendable. Messrs. E. S. Nuttall, Tom Mason, and W. Wroe are to be congratulated upon their clever assumption of the parts of gilded youths, as also are Misses Daisy Moss, Queenie Lamont, and Kitty Gerald in the characterisation of what are euphemistically called "evening stars." Miss Frances Bruce is good as Lillian Harborne, and Miss Pamela Hodson and Miss Florrie Groves also do well in small parts. The remaining members of the cast—viz., Mr. Henry Hope and Misses Marie Clavering and Dora Woodbery—are all capable artists.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Miss Victoria Monks pays a welcome visit here this week, and in new and old songs delights her audiences; Mr. Whit Cunliffe sings, dances, and jokes himself into popularity; Mr. Russell Walleti, as "The Lady in Black," proves as popular as ever, and in Nottingham, his native city, always makes sure of a gratifying ovation; J. W. Rowley is a quaint comedian, and his funny songs and humorous patter cause no end of fun; whilst the screamingly funny antics of Lowell and Lowell, no less than their cleverness as acrobats, evoke laughter and applause from all parts of the house; Launceston Elliott is a wonderful example of muscular development, and in making use of men instead of weights to show his strength makes a novel departure from the beaten track of strong-men shows; Park's Eton Boys are once more with us, and their turn is, if possible, more popular than ever; a very winsome little lady is the juvenile singer and dancer, Hilda Boot, and well deserves the applause she receives; whilst Ella Dean is the possessor of a good contralto voice, which she uses to advantage. The usual Bioscope pictures complete an excellent programme.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS, CO., LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—*The Eve of Her Wedding*, presented by Mr. Wilson Benge's capable company, is meeting with a good reception. Mr. Benge in the rôle of George Tremain (the hero) is a favourite; Mr. Chas. Digby makes a good Rudolph Earle; a capital study of Jack Herne is submitted by Mr. N. B. Cannon; a clever portrayal of Dean Clifton is given by Mr. Henry Lloyd; Miss Sadie Smith makes a graceful and pleasing Mavis Leverton; Gwendoline Younger (the American girl) receives a vivacious reading at the hands of Miss Violet Leslie; and Miss Ada Raby as the unscrupulous Renie de Telle is well placed.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and L. Maitland's selected London company, in *The Coal King*, is paying a return visit. Mr. Ernest Rivarz, as Sir Reginald Hartford, gives a capital rendering of his part; Mr. W. P. Mansfield, as Walter, makes the character sufficiently villainous; Mr. Sydney Leyton is a manly Tom Roberts; and Mr. Frank Dalton is a capital Dick Shirley. Miss Dorothy Clifton is a dainty Grace Shirley; the acting of Miss Sinna St. Clair, as Mad Ann, is capital; Miss Winifred Love, as Araminta, and Mr. Alfred Terriss, as Jim Williams, carry well the responsibilities of the humour of the piece.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's *Greed of Gold* company occupies the stage here this week. Mr. E. J. Preston plays the part of Harry Hood in a forcible manner; Arthur Errol is strongly presented by Mr. A. G. Stratton; the acting of Mr. Bert Fox, as Tom Wolstead, the dumb man, is capital; Mr. Denis Campbell, as Conn Creamer, gets a large amount of applause; Miss Sissy Murdock does well as Patty Mayfield; Mr. S. Bryant is responsible for good comedy work as Cully Snig; Miss Amy Venimore acts Dora in a clever manner; and Miss Campbell makes a capital Mrs. Maxwell.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Max Waldon, female impersonator, is one of the best artists heard here for some time; Marie Santoi and her merry Japs have a delightful musical novelty, which takes well; Ethel Ra Leslie sings some charming songs in a cultured style; the Condensed Opera company are excellent in *Maritana* and *The Bohemian Girl*; the Sisters Silcott are a good trio of singers and dancers; Gertrude Martini is a capital comedienne; George Edney, character vocalist, sings well; and the Brothers Stowe perform some smart feats as equilibrists. New pictures on the Dottoscope conclude the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—Captain Harris's comedy juveniles are smart in their boxing speciality; the Kyasyas, dental athletes; Mlle. Ameda, a clever lady contortionist; Herbert Adams, with an interesting act known as "Cyclumia"; Jennie Sydney, vocalist and dancer; Leo Cromo, a capital smoke painter and paper manipulator; Metz and Metz, comedians and dancers; and the Dottoscope are also in the bill.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*A Woman's Past* is being staged here this week by Messrs. A. Hamilton Warden and Charles V. Sandford's company. Mr. J. Cook Hinton presents a faithful study of David Heath; as Frank Dellannoy Mr. Charles V. Sandford is convincing in all he does; Clement Harper is effectively undertaken and well acted by Mr. A. Hamilton Warden; and Uriah Craven is played with conspicuous ability by Mr. G. Moreton-Williams; Miss Maisie Hanbury plays with consummate skill and pathetic feeling the part of Bessie, a woman who suffers; Miss Nesta Sandford furnishes an excellent embodiment of Clara Darrell; and Dorothy Heath is charmingly presented by Miss Mary Mallalieu. Mr. Philip Nailor as P.C. Bloater, Mr. William Berson as man-servant, Mr. William Munroe as Inspector Spriggings, and Mr. Cecil Dainton as Bob, all render valuable aid.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—Heading the bill here this week is Charles Majilton and his clever company of eccentric comedians in the comedy sketch, *The Trippers*, which causes roars of laughter throughout. An enjoyable musical entertainment is that by Henry Hallam and Josephine Stanton; Cline and Clarke, black and white comedy artists and dancers, provide a clever and most acceptable turn; the part of Bobbie Scott very successful. With an excellent voice, good presence, and careful acting, Mr. Roland Bottomley adds greatly to the success of the play; whilst Mr. Jack Spurling makes an altogether sufficiently dignified appearance as the Prince of Karikhar. Miss Ethel Callanan looks very sweet as Evelyn Ormsby; and Miss Violet Hobson is very capable as Oma; whilst as Lady Brabasham Miss Marie Rignold does well. The singing of Miss Lesley d'Eyncourt is commendable, and all the other parts are in the hands of carefully selected artists. Under the direction of Mr. Ernest Hurman, the various pretty choruses are rendered effectively, whilst the staging and dressing of the piece are all that could be desired.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil are presenting *Her Luck in London*. Miss Mary Neil has every qualification requisite for the part of Nellie Harborne, and carries conviction by her thoroughly natural acting. She is capably assisted by Stephen Langton, who, as O'Connor, the Irish baronet, plays up to her admirably. Mr. George Heath, as the villainous Lenowen, does well in an undesirable part, and is ably seconded in his nefarious designs by Algie, a character successfully portrayed by Mr. Bruce Chapman. As the curate Mr. Douglas Tremayne is found in a congenial rôle, and the acting of Mr. Tyrone Power, as Stephen Harborne, is highly commendable. Messrs. E. S. Nuttall, Tom Mason, and W. Wroe are to be congratulated upon their clever assumption of the parts of gilded youths, as also are Misses Daisy Moss, Queenie Lamont, and Kitty Gerald in the characterisation of what are euphemistically called "evening stars." Miss Frances Bruce is good as Lillian Harborne, and Miss Pamela Hodson and Miss Florrie Groves also do well in small parts. The remaining members of the cast—viz., Mr. Henry Hope and Misses Marie Clavering and Dora Woodbery—are all capable artists.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Miss Victoria Monks pays a welcome visit here this week, and in new and old songs delights her audiences; Mr. Whit Cunliffe sings, dances, and jokes himself into popularity; Mr. Russell Walleti, as "The Lady in Black," proves as popular as ever, and in Nottingham, his native city, always makes sure of a gratifying ovation; J. W. Rowley is a quaint comedian, and his funny songs and humorous patter cause no end of fun; whilst the screamingly funny antics of Lowell and Lowell, no less than their cleverness as acrobats, evoke laughter and applause from all parts of the house; Launceston Elliott is a wonderful example of muscular development, and in making use of men instead of weights to show his strength makes a novel departure from the beaten track of strong-men shows; Park's Eton Boys are once more with us, and their turn is, if possible, more popular than ever; a very winsome little lady is the juvenile singer and dancer, Hilda Boot, and well deserves the applause she receives; whilst Ella Dean is the possessor of a good contralto voice, which she uses to advantage. The usual Bioscope pictures complete an excellent programme.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS, CO., LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—*The Eve of Her Wedding*, presented by Mr. Wilson Benge's capable company, is meeting with a good reception. Mr. Benge in the rôle of George Tremain (the hero) is a favourite; Mr. Chas. Digby makes a good Rudolph Earle; a capital study of Jack Herne is submitted by Mr. N. B. Cannon; a clever portrayal of Dean Clifton is given by Mr. Henry Lloyd; Miss Sadie Smith makes a graceful and pleasing Mavis Leverton; Gwendoline Younger (the American girl) receives a vivacious reading at the hands of Miss Violet Leslie; and Miss Ada Raby as the unscrupulous Renie de Telle is well placed.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and L. Maitland's selected London company, in *The Coal King*, is paying a return visit. Mr. Ernest Rivarz, as Sir Reginald Hartford, gives a capital rendering of his part; Mr. W. P. Mansfield, as Walter, makes the character sufficiently villainous; Mr. Sydney Leyton is a manly Tom Roberts; and Mr. Frank Dalton is a capital Dick Shirley. Miss Dorothy Clifton is a dainty Grace Shirley; the acting of Miss Sinna St. Clair, as Mad Ann, is capital; Miss Winifred Love, as Araminta, and Mr. Alfred Terriss, as Jim Williams, carry well the responsibilities of the humour of the piece.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's *Greed of Gold* company occupies the stage here this week. Mr. E. J. Preston plays the part of Harry Hood in a forcible manner; Arthur Errol is strongly presented by Mr. A. G. Stratton; the acting of Mr. Bert Fox, as Tom Wolstead, the dumb man, is capital; Mr. Denis Campbell, as Conn Creamer, gets a large amount of applause; Miss Sissy Murdock does well as Patty Mayfield; Mr. S. Bryant is responsible for good comedy work as Cully Snig; Miss Amy Venimore acts Dora in a clever manner; and Miss Campbell makes a capital Mrs. Maxwell.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Max Waldon, female impersonator, is one of the best artists heard here for some time; Marie Santoi and her merry Japs have a delightful musical novelty, which takes well; Ethel Ra Leslie sings some charming songs in a cultured style; the Condensed Opera company are excellent in *Maritana* and *The Bohemian Girl*; the Sisters Silcott are a good trio of singers and dancers; Gertrude Martini is a capital comedienne; George Edney, character vocalist, sings well; and the Brothers Stowe perform some smart feats as equilibrists. New pictures on the Dottoscope conclude the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—Captain Harris's comedy juveniles are smart in their boxing speciality; the Kyasyas, dental athletes; Mlle. Ameda, a clever lady contortionist; Herbert Adams, with an interesting act known as "Cyclumia"; Jennie Sydney, vocalist and dancer; Leo Cromo, a capital smoke painter and paper manipulator; Metz and Metz, comedians and dancers; and the Dottoscope are also in the bill.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*A Woman's Past* is being staged here this week by Messrs. A. Hamilton Warden and Charles V. Sandford's company. Mr. J. Cook Hinton presents a faithful study of David Heath; as Frank Dellannoy Mr. Charles V. Sandford is convincing in all he does; Clement Harper is effectively undertaken and well acted by Mr. A. Hamilton Warden; and Uriah Craven is played with conspicuous ability by Mr. G. Moreton-Williams; Miss Maisie Hanbury plays with consummate skill and pathetic feeling the part of Bessie, a woman who suffers; Miss Nesta Sandford furnishes an excellent embodiment of Clara Darrell; and Dorothy Heath is charmingly presented by Miss Mary Mallalieu. Mr. Philip Nailor as P.C. Bloater, Mr. William Berson as man-servant, Mr. William Munroe as Inspector Spriggings, and Mr. Cecil Dainton as Bob, all render valuable aid.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—Heading the bill here this week is Charles Majilton and his clever company of eccentric comedians in the comedy sketch, *The Trippers*, which causes roars of laughter throughout. An enjoyable musical entertainment is that by Henry Hallam and Josephine Stanton; Cline and Clarke, black and white comedy artists and dancers, provide a clever and most acceptable turn; the Cecilias, lady instrumentalists, meet with a hearty reception; Sam Lowenworth and Charles Cohen are a couple of decidedly smart and original comedians; Fenton furnishes an excellent and versatile drawing-room entertainment; and Bessie Bains, comedienne and dancer, is applauded.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*His Dishonoured Wife* is this week staged here by Messrs. Chas. H. Phelps and Harry Tilbury's company. Mr. Chas. H. Phelps as Frank Lindon, the village blacksmith, plays his part very well; and Mr. Horatio Sinclair, as Lord Devant, "a disgr

Brown) keep the house in roars of laughter with their absurdity, *The Captain's Daughter*; Horace Sade evokes applause for his characteristic dancing; Edwards and Espinosa are a clever couple, their dancing and violin and banjo solos being extremely artistic; Carney Brothers appeal to the audience in their duet, "Gold, Gold, Gold"; Howard and Wallace give a humorous sketch entitled *Taming a Wife*; the Wakeman Quartette render some excellent vocal selections; the pictures illustrate the kidnapping of a Gipsy Bride by motor-car, with the subsequent pursuit by Bohemian friends, and the customary vengeance.

RAMSGATE.—Amphitheatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Large and appreciative audiences were the rule at the Amphitheatre on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings, when Baron H. Harriss's company staged in first-rate style *The Prince of Pilsen*. Miss Sophie Harriss made a great hit as the American widow, Mrs. Maddison Crocker; and Mr. Harry Kilburn sustained in thoroughly clever fashion the rôle of the Cincinatti brewer, Hans Wagner. Mr. Frank Crimp, in the title-part, sang baritone solos, and acted in a manner which calls for complimentary reference; Mr. Bernard Russell gave a capital interpretation of the vacuous Earl of Shrimpton; Mr. S. Lindon Lang sustained admirably the part of Lieut. Tom Wagner, of the U.S. Navy; and the Sergeant Brie of Mr. Charles Clyde called for complimentary reference. Miss Connie Leon was charmingly chic as the French maid, Sidonie; and Miss Minnie Muir filled the part of Nellie Wagner creditably. One of the most popular items in the show was the "Gibson Girl" turn by Miss Kitty Albert. For the three last nights of the week Mr. Bowman had booked Mr. Herbert Ralland and company in the ever-welcome *La Poupée*.

Royal Victoria Theatre.—Proprietors, the Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jules Richeux.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company produced *The Cingalee* at the Royal Victoria Theatre and Pavilion on the first three evenings of the week with notable success. The feature of the production was the impersonation of the amusing Baboo lawyer, Chambhuddy Ram, by Mr. Tom Payne. Miss Aimee Roberts sang sweetly and acted with great charm as the Cingalese girl, Nanoya, and the same description is merited in the cases of Miss Lydia Flopp as Peggy Sabine, and Miss Coral Mansell as Lady Pat. The clever dancing of Miss Violet Hope as Angy Loftus was much admired; Mr. Milroy Cooper filled in an eminently satisfactory manner the part of the dignified native noble, Boobbamba; Mr. Frank Sutton was sufficiently peppery and effective as Sir Peter Loftus, Judge in Ceylon; Mr. Wilfred Heath sang finely as the Hon. Harry Vereker; and Mr. W. J. Austin did excellently as Bobby Warren, a plantation overseer. Chorus, scenery, and general *ensemble* were all marked by a high standard of merit. The attraction arranged for the last three evenings of the week was Mr. Chas. Macdona's company in *The Country Girl*.

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode.—This is the last week of the summer variety season. The regular dramatic season will be commenced on Monday next, a succession of the best touring companies being announced. For the closing vaudeville week an excellent programme is presented. The Bros. O'Brien give a daring and clever performance on the horizontal bar; Curwen and Belle, burlesque artists, appear with success in their sketch, *The International Club*; the Soho Trio, in their song and dance scena, provide an excellent turn. The other items include Lily Eyton, character vocalist; Alpho, in a clever ventriloquial performance; Emil and Ediss, banjoists; Johnny Walker, new style comedian, and the Imperial Bioscope.

REDHILL.—Market Hall.—Proprietors, Market Hall Co.; Secretary, Mr. A. Simmons.—Miss Inez Howard's company, under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattell, is presenting *Her Love Against the World*, from the Lyceum, London, at this hall. The production is well staged, and the costumes are elegant. Miss Margaret Savill as Princess Iris is strong, carrying the interest of the audience from start to finish; the Nello of Miss Marjory Armstrong shows a thorough conception of the character; Mr. Alec Alexander as Eric, Earl of Strathmere, is rewarded with repeated and merited applause; whilst well-deserved hisses greet the stage villainy of the Prince Ulric of Mr. Henry C. Cooper; other well-presented characters are Prince Othmar, ably done by Mr. R. S. Trelawney; Prince Maurice, by Mr. Maurice Yorke; General Gessler, by Mr. James Chippendale; the Heinrich Pimpernickel of Mr. Chas. A. Baker is a good piece of comedy work, evoking much amusement. Mr. Frank Etheridge is the business-manager and Mr. G. C. Brooks the musical director.

Public Hall.—The National Animated Pictures are delighting large audiences at this house. The subjects are quite up-to-date, including all this year's principal sporting events. The view of the Niagara Falls is certainly a triumph in photography. At intervals during the programme vocal selections are charmingly rendered by Mme. Stuart Clare.

ROCHDALE.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*The Girl Who Lost Her Character* is the attraction here this week. The play is admirably staged, the scene where the wronged girl smashes the furniture being intensely realistic. Mr. Charles Whitlock ably portrays the Rev. Robert Everton; Mr. Edward Lloyd is heard to advantage in the dual rôle of Jock England and Private Johnson; Mr. Frank Adair cleverly impersonates the unscrupulous Captain Geoffrey Caversham; Mr. Geo. Mitchell is well placed as James Sutton; and Mr. Geo. A. Asquin creates much amusement in the rôle of Dick Punch; Miss Joan Ellis sweetly enacts the part of Rose Seymour; Miss Nell Burton is lively and vivacious as Lucy Vere; and Miss Ethel Bracewell acts with distinction the part of Molly Vernon.

Circus and Hippodrome.—Lessees, Messrs. J. and J. Jackson and J. White; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Jackson, sen.—This popular place of amusement opened under new management on Monday evening with an attractive bill of fare. Lotto, Lillo, and Otto gave a clever exhibition of trick bicycle riding; Mexford and O'Neill amused the audience greatly with their witty patter; Celeste submitted a sensational performance of balancing on a slack wire. Other artists appearing include Stelling and Wright, vocalists and buck dancers; Mexican Mac, sharpshooter; Miss Ada Cerito, comedienne; Charles Carrell, comedian; Edwards, song illustrator; and the Circus Biograph.

Empire.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—The Geni Family make their first appearance here this week with an exceptionally clever acrobatic performance, the audience enthusiastically applauding their efforts; Lily Lonsdale is a vocalist of power, culture, and refinement, and her selections were received with much appreciation; Will and May Lannon contribute a clever dancing act on pedestals; Ernie Myers keep the audience in roars of laughter with his humorous patter songs; Marlow and Manton, in *Other People's Babies*; the Darnton Sisters, vocalists; and the Bioscope complete the programme.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Heathen and the Christian* is being presented here. Miss Lois du Cane had a good reception on Monday when she undertook the part of May Berresford; Lord Allendale is well presented by Mr. Ernest G. Batley; Miss Ethyle Murray makes an impression as Mira Sampson; Mr. Harold B. Lewis plays well as George Berresford; comedy is in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur Carrington as Bob Lamb Gentle; and Miss Rose Leyton as Becky. Lung Hi is a good performance by Mr. Sam Harcourt; Mr. Gerald Turner as Admiral Freebold and Mr. Fred Waring as Joshua Sampson give good support.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—A thoroughly enjoyable programme is headed this week by Lady Mansel and her juveniles in *A Concert Rehearsal*. The Arthur Lloyd Trio have a smartly-acted comic sketch, *Little Charlie*; very clever illusions are performed by Picitt and Lizette, in *The Crazy Cook*; Goodman, burlesquer of vaudevilles, is very comical; Ernest Rees, droll comedian; Princess Pauline, comedienne; the Haverleys, song illustrators; Sisters Love, duettists and dancers; Terry and Bentley, refined comedy artists; Maudie Ford, comedienne and dancer; and Johnny Danvers, comedian and dancer, also appear.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—"The march of the married men," by Arthur Rugby, is very funny; an acceptable musical item is provided by Preston Holmes; Moon and Morris are exceedingly smart dancers and clever comedians; B. Troba is an expert juggler; Denton, Roscoe, and Galley (three colliers) get much applause for their singing; and other clever turns include Perrette and Mona, in *Teasing the General*; Allen and Hall, comedians and patterers; the Two Dixons, bâton swingers, banjo, and song and dance artists; and some excellent pictures on the Bioscope.

Stretford Pavilion.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sidney Weatherilt.—Mr. George Ward, comedian and dancer, is paying a return visit; and among the other turns are the Brothers Leo (Tom and Bert); Miss Emily Hardy, contralto vocalist; Miss Eugenie Glenn, soubrette; Miss Mabel Wrey, serio and dancer; and Albert Edwards, solo pianist.

SALISBURY.—Victoria Park.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. F. D'Alton Tebby; Manageress, Miss Jessie D'Alton.—These popular entertainments are attracting huge crowds nightly. The chief attraction is Miss Jessie D'Alton, who sings "In the Twilight," with a chorus of children, in her bright and winning manner. Miss Beattie Witham has several new songs, which are eagerly listened to; Miss Flora Macdonald's numbers are worthy of high praise; Miss Lillian Ramsdale is very bright, and dances in a finished manner; Mr. Will Studmore, as usual, captures the audience with his comic songs, &c.; Mr. Albert Laurence provides a strong turn with his female impersonations; and Mr. Anderson Arthur sings well, and his jokes are amusing.

SCARBOROUGH.—Londesborough Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Son; Manapany is here this week in *The Belle of Mayfair*. ger, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—Mr. Milton Bode's com Miss Queenie Finnis as Julia Chaldicott is highly successful and sings well; Miss Agnes Tandy in the rôle of the Princess acts admirably; as the Maid Miss Veronica Brady makes much of her part and dances well; as Sir John Chaldicott Mr. Harry Parker proves exceedingly funny and works hard; Mr. Haddon Cave as the Earl does well; Mr. Fern Ponds sings nicely; Mr. Gwyn Alwyn is full of life and spirit.

Spa Theatre.—Proprietors, The Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. Fras. Goodricke.—*When Knights Were Bold* is here this week. Mr. Nelson Keys as Sir Guy de Vere sustained his responsibility with great success; Miss Emile Polini played in fine style the part of Lady Rowena; Miss Marjorie Chard as Miss Sarah Isaacson had a rôle that suited her exactly; Isaac Isaacson is in the able hands of Mr. Augustus Symonds; Mr. Wm. Lockhart as the Rev. Peter Pottlebury, and afterwards as Peter the Monk, does exceedingly well; Mr. Charles Ommaney as the Hon. C. Widdicombe is excellent; and Miss Lena Flowerdew as the Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave has much charm and ability.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Garside; Manager, Mr. Fred P. Morgan.—Mr. and Mrs. Kimberley's company is here. Mrs. Kimberley as Cora Lee acts powerfully, and is seen to decided advantage; Mr. Arthur Pringle as Henry Thornton deserves praise; Mr. Clavering Craig as Capt. Deane does well; Mr. G. Fulford as Capt. Temple is clever; as Doreen Illingworth Miss Violet Langley acts well; and Miss Isa Lyndon as Queenie Deane plays efficiently.

The Aquarium.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Canard, the "man on time," introduces novelty here; Mlle. Frederica's terriers are on a return visit; Staffo, comedy juggler, is very funny; Maston, mimic, is full of ability; the Cymbros sing well in duets and are well received; the Venola Brothers, comedy gymnasts, give a most exciting turn, and are great favourites; Mlle. Aladina and her trained cockatoos deserve the appreciation they receive; De Henau paints pictures cleverly with his toes; Mlle. Marie Levantes' orchestra of ladies have entered on their sixteenth week, and as a combination of solo instrumentalists are very strong indeed.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Geo. Zalva.—The success of *The Village Wedding, or Tramps Abroad*, is remarkable; Dan Gregory, musician, gives a clever and refined entertainment; Harry Friskey, juggler, is retained, and is as popular as ever; the Kauvars, equilibrists, furnish an attractive act, one of them finishing by balancing a trap on his head; Evaniso is a clever basin spinner, and does many wondrous feats; the Musical Palmers give an entertainment full of life and flavour; Mlle. Convere and her cakewalk horse are still retained on the bill; and Hinton and Wootton contribute a diverting and novel exhibition of football on bicycles, and show great ability.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Messrs. Elliman's No. 1 company, under the superintendence of Mr. C. Elliman, is paying a first visit to Seaham this week with *A Heart's Desire*. A powerful interpretation is given of Lord St. Ives by Mr. Frank V. Fenn; Mr. Arthur D. Leyland is a distinctly capable Eric May; Mr. S. Claydon's abilities as a comedian are displayed to advantage in his portrayal of the Hon. Bertie Beresford; Mr. A. Armfield depicts the villainy of Luke Forrest in an effective manner; Coombes is humorously drawn by Mr. Eddy Vane; Miss Shirley Dalton stands out prominently as Oiya; Elsie Beresford is delightfully played by Miss Amy Dalby; Miss Ella Seaton wins favour as Gwendoline; and as Julia Miss Dolly Strathmore merits approval. The drama is admirably staged.

SHEFFIELD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*Charley's Aunt* is again being played here by Mr. Brandon Thomas's company. Mr. Thomas gives a finished and natural rendition of the character of Sir Francis Chesney; Mr. Sydney Compton makes a characteristic Brassett; Mr. Spenser Trevor repeats his humorous impersonation of Lord Fancourt Babberley; and Miss Amy Harpway and Miss Grace Russell are pretty and animated as the two girls. The curtain-raiser is *The Lancashire Sailor*.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The stock season, under the experienced direction of Mr. Charles Draycott, has proved a successful venture at this historic house, and the old favourite dramas have met with applause. On Monday Mr. Lingford Carson's company appeared in *The Heart of a Hero*, in which Miss Muriel Thompson and Mr. Charles Draycott again delighted their numerous local admirers, and plenty of comic relief was provided by Mr. Will White, assisted by that chic comedienne Miss Eva Norman. The drama was effectively mounted. The revivals this week are Boucicault's famous play, *The Octoroon*, and Tom Taylor's great moral drama, *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*.

Alexandra Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—A great favourite with Alexandra audiences is *The Poor Must Live*, which was again enthusiastically received on Monday, the performance of Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's company being quite up to the mark, the leading characters being represented by Miss Edna Clare, Miss Katie Norriss, Miss Sara Blumenthal, Miss Wybert, and Messrs. John Cullen, R. W. Griffiths, Frank Lyndon, Edwin Firth, Edward Rawlinson, Alex. Taylor, Newton Pearce, Richard Clifton, James Bainbridge, and C. H. Barclay.

Empire Palace.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The star turn this week is La Milo, in her classical poses. Other clever entertainers are the lively and humorous Miss Peggy Pryde, the daughter of the incomparable "Vital Spark"; Rosa and Lewis, talented transatlantic entertainers, who are loudly applauded; the Eight Empire Girls; Mr. Mark Merry, comic singer; Miss Rhoda Paul, in a vocal scene, with an artistic background representing Waterloo Bridge and a fine view of the Embankment by night; Mr. Harry Cadle's company in *The Casey Court Battle*, a screaming burlesque; and the three graceful Sisters Moulier, in daring feats on the triple bars.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—Engaged here are Carlotta de Yonsen and company in the favourite sketch, *The Dandy Detective*; Mr. Fred Lawrence's company in *My New Landlord*; Bryan and Lawrence, comedy entertainers; Dick Lomas, the well-known impersonator of the monkey tribe; Miss Mabel Le Roy, serio; and the elegant Sisters Nadine, duettists and dancers. Some excellent animated pictures conclude the programme.

Central Hall.—The Sisters Henderson, musical artists; Yorkshire Tom, humorist; Reed and Wright, comedians; Shavo, juggler; and up-to-date pictures are meeting with general approbation at the Jasper Redfern establishment.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—*The Span of Life* is played here by a company under the direction of Mr. Arthur Carlton. Mr. Arthur Chisholm works hard and successfully as the hero, Richard Blunt; Mr. Sanderson Moffat acts conscientiously and well as the villain of the piece, Dunstan Leech; Mr. Walter Dale is a lively and capable Nutty Brown; Mr. Lion Ainsclift merits commendation as Joshua Gurnett; Mr. Chas. Noel is a capital Inspector Ferguson; Mr. J. Petersfell makes a picturesque and competent Azrek; and the Stebbing trio of acrobats introduce some sensational and clever novelties into the play. Miss Ella Wilmer makes an effective heroine as Kate Heathcott; Miss Kitty Russell is vivacious and talented in the comedy part of Shrove Tuesday; Miss Phillis Hamilton is successful as Mrs Jelf; and as Cecil Blunt Miss Phyllis Graham sustains a trying rôle with considerable credit.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—The Kursaal.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—Lincoln and Warren entertain most loyally as trick cyclists and unicycle experts; some capital singing by Mr. W. H. Stevenson gained a reception that was well earned; the Sisters Lavender, burlesque actresses, vocalists, and dancers, contribute very satisfactory items; while Mr. Charles Ashdown (comedian vocalist) and Miss Madge Bryce (ballad vocalist) gain honours. Onyx Duo, lady quick-change artist, acquits herself creditably in *After the Ball*; the Four Herberts, the jolly Californian farmers, in their knockabout entertainment, please immensely; and the operatic scena, entitled *Under the Shamrock*, is well produced by Helena Sleath and Charles Aldin. More amusement is found in the Café Chantant, where a capital programme has the services of Miss Madge Bryce, Miss Helena Stewart (Scottish soprano), Mr. J. Douglas (comedian and champion bâton spinner), and Mr. J. W. Maxwell (versatile comedian, dancer, and one-armed juggler). Many new films are shown on the Bioscope.

Pier Pavilion.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—Mr. Charles Carey again provides the attraction for this week, and on Monday and Tuesday his capable company gave a thrilling presentation of *Trilby*. A large audience gave this popular play a hearty reception, while the dance, as a speciality, by Miss Madge Lacey was a notable feature well received. The title-rôle had in Miss Rosemary Rees a clever and studious impersonator, who won golden opinions from all; Miss Loudolph Barrett was a suitable Mme. Vinard, her talented efforts being greatly appreciated; Mr. Edwin F. Fysher as Talbot Wynn was decidedly good; Svengali had a masterly characterisation from Mr. Carey; and Messrs. Bruce Lindley, Arthur Goodsall, Ben Rosenthall, Charles Swinburne, and Philip Durham were exponents worthy of mention. On Wednesday and Thursday *The Blue Monkey* was successfully portrayed; and for Friday and to-night (Saturday) *Little Lord Fauntleroy* is being again produced.

Empire Theatre.—Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Highly creditable performances of *See-See* were given on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday by Mr. George Edwardes's company. Mr. Tom Redmond was an able exponent of Cheoo; Mr. Alec Worcester, in the rôle of Yen, sang well; Mr. Tom Nelldon as Hang-Lee made a popular success; Mr. Fred Epitaux did well as Hoang Wang; Miss Gertrude Parker as So-Hie contributed special dances in tasteful fashion; Miss Nina Carlton, who was responsible for the part of Mai-Yai, evoked the heartiest enthusiasm by her powerful and refined singing. The title-rôle was attractively presented by Miss Mysie Devine. On Thursday *The Prince of Pilsen* commenced a three nights' engagement.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House, Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—For the first three nights of the current week Mr. George Dance's principal company has occupied the boards here with the popular musical comedy, *The Little Michus*, played and staged in capital style. The principal character of General des Ifs was undertaken by Mr. Foster Courtenay with the grotesque humour which was highly diverting, and created much merriment; the title-rôles were played by Miss Alice Coverick and Miss Gracie Sinclair with charming piquancy and artlessness, their vocal numbers being artistically rendered; Bagnolet had a pleasing and clever representative in Mr. Gilbert Childs; Mr. Alfred Drinkwater is a commendable exponent of Aristide Vert; Miss May Young was excellent in every way as Mme. Michu; Pierre Michu was very ably depicted by Mr. W. Benson; Mlle. St. Cyr was brightly and vivaciously portrayed by Mlle. Majorie; and the chorus and orchestra under Mr. Jean Desormes acquitted themselves very satisfactorily. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings Mr. George Dance's principal company presented, for the first time at this theatre, *The Beauty of Bath*.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Coulson.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company appears here this week in *The Power of the Cross*. The diabolical and fiendish Baron Curzola is impersonated in powerful style by Mr. George A. De Gray; Mr. Henry Danson as Gerald Fairfax, and Mr. Alexander J. Haviland as Dr. Leslie Fairfax, both acquit themselves in an excellent manner; Miss Marie Menzies is seen to great advantage as the heroine, Margaret Seton; some powerful acting is displayed by Miss Amy B. Ellis as Rita Lascelles; the Irish adventurer, Timothy O'Dowd, is hit off capitally by Mr. John S. Chamberlain; Mr. A. Hall Menzies is good as Benjamin Hawke; Blanche Kingsley and Dolly Gray are both well played by Miss Phyllis Vaughan and Miss Etta Turner.

Empire Palace Theatres.—Proprietors, the South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. George F. Thompson.—Carrie Laurie's *Kindergarten* is paying a return visit. The school sketch is brimful of fun, and the children sing and dance artistically. Boswell's Circus is full of entertainment, and well received; Will Cornish contributes a good musical turn; G. C. Doughty, assisted by Phillis Atherley and Lesley Adair, provides a good comedy interlude, *Captain Cupid*. Other good items include Annie Casey, comedienne; Chas. Chard, popular comedian; Ruby and Elsie Redfern, lady banjoists; and the Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—A double bill forms the attraction here this week, *When a Man Hates* and *The Mockery of Marriage*, both plays being presented by Mr. W. Graham Arthur's company. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday the former piece held the boards, and in it Mr. Arthur filled the rôle of Pietro Danelli in a thoroughly painstaking and conscientious style. Miss Mamie Stuart displayed sterling abilities as Olga Gwynne; as Paul Mr. Herbert M'King gave a highly efficient and interesting interpretation; Mr. Sylvester Stuart portrayed with success the Rev. Lawrance Hastings; and the like may be said of Miss Mabel Liston as Lettie. Miss Jennie Hallworth provided ample humour by her bright and attractive performance of Dolly Dimple, whilst as Peter Simple Mr. Fred A. Lewis was equally amusing.

STAFFORD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—Miss Louie Freear and company were here for Monday, and drew a crowded and appreciative audience. Miss Louie Freear received a most flattering reception to all her songs, but for "Twiddley bits" she had a thunderous ovation. The child impersonations of Miss Belle Green were both amusing and clever, and quite took the favour of the audience. The representations of characters from Dickens by Edwin Bennett were character studies of a master artist. The sketch *Snooks*, of which Miss Louie Freear was the life and soul, was productive of roars of laughter. For the remainder of the week, Miss Winifred Maude and company present *The Sins of a City* and *The Stowaway*. The company includes Mr. M. Carlyle, Mr. L. S. Harrison, Mr. Arthur T. Ellis, Mr. Victor Du Cane, Miss Marie Lyons, and Miss Jenny Hackett.

STALYBRIDGE.—Grand Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Fioni; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—A most interesting turn here is contributed by Henriquetta Maude, the clever New Zealand girl, who is making a tour round the world. Les Blancs, triple bar performers; Wat Tyler, in a dramatic scena, *The Deserted House*; Blarney and Kennard, patterers and dancers; Hyatt, juggler; the Tysons, speciality entertainers; and Sahib Fasola, the Indian fakir and wonder, are also strong attractions.

ST. ANNE'S-ON-THE-SEA.—Pier Pavilion Theatre.—Lessee of Entertainments, Mr. H. Leslie.—The famous Zancigs and party gave two performances here on Wednesday, the 21st. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday Mr. Thomas Sidney and company presented *The Marriage of Kitty*. Mr. Sidney was clever as the solicitor, John Travers; Mr. Edgar Kent made a capital Sir Reginald Belsize, Miss Mary Thorne a charming Kitty, and Miss Russell a clever Mme. de Semiano.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun.—*The Lady Slavey* was presented by Mr. Robert Crossman and company. Mr. W. T. Thompson is extremely funny as Roberts; and Vincent A. Evelyn has an able representative in Mr. Edmund Cooper; Mr. Kimo Johnstone is a humorous Major O'Neill; Lord Lavender is amusingly given by Mr. Frank Henderson; Miss Rita Presano makes a capital Flo Honeydew; and Miss Winnie Volt is most charming as Phyllis. The chorus is one of exceptional excellence.

Empire.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—The delightful vocalism of Lydia Yeamans has been much enjoyed here this week, and with the able support of Mr. Fredk. J. Titus, has commanded much appreciation. Herr Fritz is a clever illusionist; satisfactory applause is bestowed upon Nancy Renshaw, negro comedienne and bone soloist; Caselli, banjoist, is entertaining; the tabloid drama, *The Fight in the Forge*, given by Mr. C. Woodley Hulse and company is interesting and sensational; and others appearing successfully are Welda and Wynne, jugglers, dancers, and tumblers; Little Maudie Ray, comedienne and dancer; and Will Peplow, comedian mimic and trick instrumentalist.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Hippodrome Theatre.—General-Manager, Robt. A. Nicholson; Assistant-Manager, Geo. Stainton.—*Nancy Sikes* is the title of a sketch presented by Miss Georgette Thierry and company here this week. The principal characters are ably sustained, and the sketch is greatly appreciated. The Wedburns are a funny pair of patter comedians; Tom Lloyd causes great amusement with his humorous songs; Miss Renee delights her audience with her musical act; Fred and Maud Vypond, great favourites here, are both interesting and humorous; Miss Madge Allan is a dainty comedienne and dancer; and interest is centred in the act of Atlas and Vulcana, society athletes, who display great athletic skil. The pictures are very humorous.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—Jack Pleasants causes great amusement with his quaint and droll style of humour; Lily Currie, a pleasing vocalist, creates a good impression; the Okito Family astound the audience in their Chinese magical act; Otto and Olga are funny as mock operatic artists; and Stidder and Dunbar are greatly appreciated in their musical scena; Young Casey is very popular as a local boy whistler. The pictures conclude a capital programme.

SWINDON.—Queen's Theatre.—Business-Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Macdona's company is here in *The White Chrysanthemum*, in which Miss Lillian Hubbard is delightfully winning as Sybil. She is supported by Miss Harriet Fawn as Betty Kenyon and Miss Blanche Astley as the American heiress, both meeting with decided success. As Lieut. Reginald Armitage Mr. Victor Kahn was excellent throughout, and Mr William Hartigan was splendidly suited to the part of the Admiral, making a great hit with his topical song; while Mr. Erskine Lang was capital as Lieut. Chippy Belmont. Of the clever work of Mr. Frank Weir, as the Chinese Cook, it would be difficult to speak too highly, while Mr. Herbert C. Walton, as Perky, was responsible for some very rich fun. A smart chorus and augmented orchestra were ably conducted by Mr. Hubert Boggetti.

Mechanics' Institution.—Secretary, Mr. H. J. Southwell.—After a successful week of grand opera in this large hall, there is being staged that popular domestic drama, *A Mother's Love*. As the Rev. Paul Wingate Mr. Robert Gilbert puts in some good work, and Miss Cecile Anson is particularly clever as Winnie Wingate. The comedy part, in the hands of Mr. Charles Carte, is capital.

(*Continued on page* 23.)

THE A.U. REFORM PARTY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The A.U. Committee continues its deprecation of Press criticism, declaring it has done harm, and prevented people from joining. Most of us are familiar with the anecdote about Socrates, who when asked by a disciple to advise him whether to marry or not, replied, "Whichever you do, you'll repent it." The philosophic habit of looking at "both sides of the curtain" is impossible. Endeavouring to be impartial, I opine that but for the moral suasion of the Press correspondence, the Committee's habit of expelling members, and refusing admittance to would-be members, would have increased instead of ceased, the minimum wage would have been shelved, and the Committee would have said, in effect, "The Union was originally intended for a trade union, but let us disguise the fact as much as possible."

Members committed an error in electing candidates whose views were unknown. The result is a square peg in a round hole—a reactionary hen sitting on democratic eggs and hatching indescribable birds who can't swim, and are afraid to fly. How many of the Committee are there who can, in the privacy of their inner sanctums, assure themselves that their views are democratic? How many, for instance, if they had had the chance, would have voted for the return to Parliament of the Actors' Union trustee, Pete Curran, the democratic Member for Jarrow? The Committee atmosphere pulsates with repetition of "the last thing we must talk of is a strike." The unsophisticated err if they imagine I am yearning for a strike. I am all in favour of the "moral suasion" business. Given a good sound innings, it may prove effective in obtaining a minimum wage—but not without a strike fund. The gentleman who calls at an unreasonable hour to borrow the spoons is unimpressed by "moral suasion" if your poker or other reserve weapon of defence is manifestly only a "prop"; but he will listen earfully, and evaporate submissively through the window if convinced that your weapon could wield retaliation, outweighing the benefits he has been "morally persuaded" to relinquish.

And, without enmity to managers, it must be admitted that the interests of artist and manager are not inimical. From the following it will be seen that the National Union of Journalists—a body of professional men whose first rule reads—"This society is a trade union"—clearly recognise this: "So far from being assured of a complete identity of interest between employer and employed, the National Union of Journalists regards the two parties as bargainers on the two sides of employer and employed, with all the advantage the employer possesses when the supply of labour is in excess of the demand." Paternal persons implore me to desist from believing that actors will ever unite to obtain a minimum wage; yet, with all the reverence due to the obsolete and antique, I still opine that when once actors realise that it can be done, they will, unless they are a race apart from the rest of mankind, form into line, and use their strength for a general uplifting of the profession. The effect of a minimum wage will be a circle of improvement—better artists, better shows, larger receipts, increased terms to travelling managers. It must be remembered that a few years ago many people, especially in small towns, sought the arms of Morpheus at sundown, whereas now, with improved gas and electric light, and increased facilities for getting about, they attend theatres; and that, whereas once the crudest acting satisfied the amateur theatre-goer, experience has made him critical. He has acquired the term "dud," and knows where to apply it. The majority of managers are not to blame for the existing rate of salaries. There isn't an artist in the Union, or out of it, who, if he took out a company to morrow, would pay artists more than the lowest salaries they could be induced to accept. Or, if he did, the competition of his fellow-managers would rapidly land him at that stage of financial depression known as being "in the cast." Under a minimum wage managers would, instead of as at present engaging the cheapest artists, turn their attention to securing the best talent obtainable at the minimum wage. To those artists who write, asking me if I would advise them to join the Union at present, I say "Yes" most emphatically; join, and induce others to join, and, when members, use your influence to establish the objects of the A.U. Reform Party, *i.e.*—

1. Amalgamation with the A.A. on a trade union basis.
2. The accumulation of a fund by means of which to obtain a minimum wage.
3. Committee of both sexes.
4. No interference with the work of the V.A.F.

Yours faithfully, NORMAN TOWERS.

1, Cromartie-road, Crouch End, N.

The big Brooklyn theatre, known as the Montauk, is now undergoing the process of removal, whole and entire, from its present position to a site some 200ft. away, in order to allow of a new thoroughfare being made. On Monday the Montauk was undermined, and allow to rest upon a sort of raft of steel beams. Rollers were laid down, and the theatre is being pushed along slowly and imperceptibly upon its temporary base. The most difficult part of the work will be when it comes to swinging the theatre on to the new foundation. It will then be a case of jack-screws against jack-screws pushing in opposite directions, until a half-circle is completed and the last resting-place is found. The contractors anticipate that the removal will occupy three weeks.

A performance of Jacob Gordon's well-known play of *Man and Devil* was again given on Monday by the Feinman Operatic and Dramatic Company, at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile-end, when an enthusiastic audience welcomed once more the masterly impersonation of Mr. Sigmund Feinman as Herschele Dubrovner; while Mr. Boris Rosenthal as Uriel and Miss Cecilia Feinman as Zipenu deserve all praise for their excellent portrayals of somewhat difficult parts. During the week, *Love and Poverty*, *Jews in Morocco*, *Thirty Years in Siberia*, *The Jewish Hamlet*, and *Deborah* (with Mme. Diana Feinman in the title-rôle) have been played. The many improvements instituted add greatly to the comfort of the audience, who are attentively considered by the general-manager, Mr. J. Gordon, ably assisted by Mr. Fred Brown.

The attractiveness of *Madame Butterfly*, so charmingly sung and acted by the Moody-Manners company at the Lyric, has exceeded all expectations, and many are the music-lovers who have gone disappointed away owing to the fact that the house was sold out. During the Moody-Manners company's coming tour, *Madame Butterfly* will be given all over the country, and those who live in the most remote places will have an opportunity of making acquaintance with one of the best of modern operas.

The Kennington Theatre will have a great attraction on Monday, Sept. 9, when Mr. Wentworth Croke will present Hall Caine's stirring drama, *The Bondman*, from Drury-lane, with all new scenery, dresses, and effects. No expense has been spared in securing a first-class company, Miss Grace Chalmers being specially engaged to play the part of Greeba. Hall Caine's popular play, *The Prodigal Son*, which is also being toured by Mr. Croke, will be the attraction on the same date at the County Theatre, Kingston.

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—In your notice of *The Cingalee* at Margate you credited Miss Aimée Roberts with the part of Nanoya. It was played by—Yours faithfully, Alys Collier, Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate, Aug. 26.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Aug. 26, the Comic Opera entitled
"LA POUPEE."

It was with feelings of pleasure that we revived acquaintance with *La Poupée* on Monday evening—pleasure that was shared in by a large audience, who fully appreciated the daintiness of this melodious and really comic opera. The programme reminded us that it is in its eleventh year of popularity. From the reception at the King's this week there should be many more years of prosperity in store for it. The company has been slightly changed since the last visit, but every character is well sustained, and reflects credit upon Mr. C. P. Levilly. Mr. W. H. Powell's Hilarius is very mirth-provoking, and the eccentricities of the inventor gain hearty applause; as Lancelot Mr. F. Maxwell Stewart acts admirably, and sings very satisfactorily; Mr. Ernest Torrence is a tower of strength as Father Maxime, his rendering of the songs allotted to him being admirable, and gaining several encores; Mr. Leon Simkin and Mr. Arthur Gibbons are excellent as Loremois and Baron Chanterelle; Balthazar is capably performed by Mr. Vernon Reed; Miss Stella Gastelle is again to the fore in her original part of Alesia. Time has only added to the charm of her impersonation, both in singing and acting, and it is superfluous to say that Miss Gastelle's success is complete. The apprentice Henri is dashingly played by Miss Kitty Cavendish; and Miss Dulcie Garland makes a handsome and effective Mme. Hilarius. The chorus contains many excellent voices, and Mr. Harry Rushworth well controls the orchestral forces.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Aug. 26, the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"UNDER TWO FLAGS."

The visit of Miss Ida Molesworth's and Mr. Mark Blow's company with *Under Two Flags* to Holloway has aroused much interest among local playgoers. For one thing, the famous novelist of whose work this play is a dramatisation has been very much in the public eye of late by reason of what was thought to be her distressful condition, and the fact that "Ouida" was granted a pension by the British Government. Another reason is that the play itself has long since received the hall-mark of public approval. The production under review is in every sense eminently satisfactory and pleasing. The six scenes are beautifully mounted and staged, and in the telling of the story the acting is realistic throughout. Of course, the chief laurels are won by Miss Molesworth and Mr. Blow. The former acts with a freshness and buoyancy in the character of Cigarette that her female warrior seems far more vivacious and rollicking than the male kind. Mr. Blow, as Bertie Cecil Royellieu, maintains a gentlemanly dignity and a quiet assumption of manner which appears to fit in well with the authoress's ideas. Mr. Roy Jackson is, of course, the bad person in the play, or rather the principal bad person, for there are two of them. His Colonel Chanteroy is a realistic study—vigorous and vicious. It would be difficult to find a lady more gentle and engaging than the Princess Venetia of Miss Edith Coleman, who is to be complimented on a graceful demeanour and carriage. Whenever Mr. Harry Benson is to be found in a cast it may be fairly well inferred that there is choice comedy in the near neighbourhood. In the present instance Mr. Benson creates roars of laughter by his ludicrous antics as Rake, the valet, whose sweetheart, Lavinia, assists somewhat in the fun-making, this character being played with much zest and spirit by Miss Kitty Douglas. Other capital impersonations are given by Mr. Charles Brooke as Lord Royellieu; Mr. Dermot Fitz-Gibbon as Barklie Royellieu; Mr. Austin Milroy as Lord Rockingham; Mr. Reginald Huntworth as the Marshal of France; Miss Joan Stern as Countess Olga, and Miss Madge Stevens as Lady Beatrice Guinevere. Mr. A. C. Holmes is the experienced stage-manager and Mr. G. M. Montannini the acting manager for the company. Mr. J. Murray Herriott attends with great care and courtesy to the conduct of affairs in front of the house.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Aug. 26, the Play entitled
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."

Mr. C. W. Somerset and company are proving a big attraction here this week with the well-known play, *The Sorrows of Satan*, and there is no doubt about the intense interest of the story as presented on the stage, the theatre being filled on Monday with a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Somerset repeats his fine performance of Prince Lucio, a most carefully-considered piece of work, and one that cannot fail to create a deep impression. Mr. Somerset is ably supported by an excellent company. Miss Agnes Russell gives a striking impersonation of the unhappy heroine, Margaret Foster, and plays with much pathos throughout; Mr. Cameron Carr is a clever Crafton Lisle, playing with much polish and distinction; Paul Carruthers, the young man whom Prince Lucio tempts, and with such sad results, is ably depicted by Mr. Marmaduke Wetherall; Mr. E. Lionel Brocknor is good as Lord Adolphus; and Mr. H. Newman does well as Peter Wurrell; Miss Geraldine Somerset makes a delightful Clartenax Cholamdy, and is a great favourite owing to her vivacious and winning manner; Miss Polly Marshall gives a clever character-sketch of Mother Wurrell, the old woman with a thirst; Miss Helen Russell, a charming Lady Delila, acts the great scene in which Delila discovers who Prince Lucio really is, in a most dramatic way and with tremendous power; Miss Florence Nelson scores a big success as Lady Dragnette; little Miss Iris Farsayth displays much intelligence as the child, Mary Foster. The play is followed by a French vaudeville, *The Glazier*, which serves as an excellent spirit-reviver after the sombre story which precedes it. It is a capital piece of comedy of the most boisterous order, but it compels laughter, and Mr. Somerset proves his versatility as Jacob; while Miss Somerset again charms everyone, and contributes a very pretty dance. Both plays are well staged.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 26, the Comedy, entitled
"BEAUTY AND THE BARGE."

Mr. Arthur Hardy's principal company is appearing this week in the delightful fantastic comedy, *Beauty and the Barge*, which was wont to keep all London in a roar when first produced at the Haymarket and New Theatres. It almost suffices for a flying visit to the seaside to obtain a glimpse of the graceful garden and seascope at Coastham, and of equal beauty is the open meadow near Hedge End, where Captain James Barley gets so severely sat upon by all and sundry. As the genial old barge master, Captain James Barley, of the "Heart in Hand," whose youthful exuberance ill consorts with his grey hairs and reverend appearance, Mr. Blake Adams acts with a thorough appreciation of the comic possibilities of the part and a delicate perception of character. Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu represents the enterprising and resourceful young lieutenant, Seton Boyne, who exemplifies the precept that "youth will be served" in excellent fashion. Mr. Artherling Farrar as Herbert Manners does well. Mr. Walter Pemberton is highly diverting as the choleric old Major Smedley, and Miss Mona Robin is well in the picture as the diplomatic and deprecatory Mrs. Smedley. Mr. Fred Knight is grotesquely amusing as Tom Codd, Captain Barley's first mate; Mr. Horace Kenny gives quite a clever character sketch of the lovelorn Augustus, the "head cook and bottle-washer" on board the good ship "Heart in Hand"; Mr. Charles White is vastly entertaining as John Dibbs, gardener at Smedley's; and Mr. and Mrs. Porter, of the "Old Ship" inn are quite safe in the skilful hands of Mr. Ewart Drake and Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite. Miss Dido Drake is a fascinating little scapegrace as Ethel Smedley, and Miss Mary Pemberton is an agreeable Lucy Dallas. Miss Kate Osborne is intensely droll as the languishing property-owner Mrs. Baldwin. The *pièce de resistance* is preceded by Cosmo Hamilton's *Jerry and a Sunbeam*, in which Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu scores as Jerry Corbet, and Miss Mary Pemberton is a taking Mary Bellasis. Mr. Blake Adams is general-manager, and Mr. Atheling Farrar stage-manager for Mr. Arthur Hardy.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, August 26th, the Drama, entitled
"IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT."

Representations of Mr. James Willard's fine drama, *In the Shadow of Night*, are attracting full houses at the Dalston Theatre this week, the acting all round being most creditable to the members of Mr. Willard's company. Mr. George Harvey, as Squire Allington, who is shot in the first act, represents the rôle with dignity. Gordon Allington, the squire's son, has a manly representative in Mr. H. Dobell Lyle. Mr. Charles Clifford plays Clifford Yorke, the relentless villain of the piece; and nothing is wanting in the portrayal of the thoroughly heartless, but at the same time gentlemanly villainy of the character. Jake Grudgewell, a poacher, is represented by Mr. William Hayward, who gives a characteristic rendering. Other life-like sketches are provided by Mr. Cecil Raymond, who is really admirable as Joe Jackson, a rural postman, and the Rev. Nathaniel Hope, a rector; Mr. James Ingledew as Farmer Woodstock, and Mr. Ben Richards as Jim Bates, a London cabby. Special commendation must be given to Miss Nina Westerleigh, who as Violet Kingston, the squire's ward, combines a pleasing presence with careful acting. Miss Tina Shaw makes a vivacious Molly Woodstock, the farmer's daughter; and Miss Phyllis French interests many as Bob, a little tramp. Included in the cast are also Messrs. J. H. Mann, J. H. Butt, Albert Plant, Richie Bell, Daniel Rowe, and W. Ford. Mr. Herbert Belmore is stage-manager.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

Mr. Bert Coote's Company in
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

Kennington Theatre patrons have been amply catered for this week by Mr. Bert Coote's production of Mr. Theo. Kremer's play, *The Fatal Wedding*. The story is familiar to most playgoers, and is admirably worked out by a company which is strong in every part. In the third act there are a number of specialities, including songs and dances by the Misses Hettie Kelly, Lily Wohlmann, Marie Wilson, Dot Jeffries, Dorothy Pain, Shirley Sparks, and Master Tom Grice.

The part of Howard Wilson, a wealthy clubman, is ably impersonated by Mr. Cecil A. Melton; and Mr. Charles Locke quite maintains his reputation as Toto, a French butler. Miss Gertrude Harrison scores a complete success as Cora Williams; and Miss Ethel Kay is excellent as Mabel Wilson. Mr. H. W. Hatchman portrays the character of Robert Curtis to a nicety; and the rôle of O'Reilly, the policeman, is well impersonated by Mr. Frank Ashley. Mr. J. Newton gives a clever sketch of the Rev. Dr. Lanceford; and Mr. Cyril Melton is good as Peter Schwartz; Miss Marie Wilson wins encomiums as Jessie; Miss Hilder Mahlert is very good as Frank; and Miss Dorothy Pain deserves praise as Molly. The children's chorus elicits warm applause.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, Aug. 26, the Drama, in Five Acts, entitled
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

After some considerable time this favourite play is paying Islington a return visit. Time does not appear to diminish the public interest in the drama, which is attracting a large amount of attention. Mr. Wilson Coleman as George Thornton acts a somewhat vacillating rôle with care and success, and is to be commended. Mr. Douglas Cecil as Captain Darville is also responsible for a good performance; and John Scarth finds a good portrayer in Mr. Joseph Bandon. Mr. John F. Traynor as the Gaffer is the objectionable, cowardly bully to the life. Messrs. Frank Gordon and Fred Archer as Dido Bunce and the Coughdrop lend adequate support. Mr. Edmund Cuthbert as Leeson is good in a small part. Miss Violet Ellicott as Marion Thornton is altogether admirable as the much-tried mother, and is entitled to much praise. Miss Mabel Ormonde as Barbara Scarth is very good, and makes a pleasant impression. Miss Marjorie Murray as Dick gives a capital study of the more reliant Boy, and gains much applause. Miss Josie Belham as Wally depicts the weaker Boy with skill, the death scene being particularly good. The remaining smaller parts are all in good hands, and dresses and scenery leave nothing to be desired.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Aug. 26, the Drama, in Five Acts, by Fredk. Melville, entitled
"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."

Mr. Fred Melville's play, *Her Forbidden Marriage*, was presented at the Shakespeare Theatre on Monday evening, and met with great success. Like all Mr. Melville's plays, the piece is one that appeals strongly to the hearts of popular audiences, and the various scenes, although not highly sensational, are of such thrilling interest that on several occasions the audience was completely carried away by their feelings. A very capable company has been engaged, and their interpretation of the play won complete satisfaction. A leading feature is the completeness with which the piece is staged, the elopement scene, in which there appears a motor-car and horses, drawing forth rounds of applause from the crowded house. Mr. Henry Lonsdale is well suited to the rôle of the hero, George Maddison, and his resolute and powerful performance make a deep impression. Mr. Louis Hector merits praise for his forcible and convincing acting as the villainous Charles Devereux; and Mr. Leonard Maxwell capably sustains the part of Geoffrey Broughton. One of the successes of the evening is Mr. De Vere, in the rôle of Timothy Tutfutt. Mr. De Vere has a style and method entirely his own, and his rendering of the part is evidently to the taste of the audience, who laughed heartily at his eccentricities. Mr. Henry Hare is effective as Sir George Lancaster; and a humorous sketch of an old rustic is given by Mr. Phillips. Miss Gertrude Bonsor invests the part of the heroine, Lucy, with a deal of grace and sweetness, and her acting reaches a high plane of excellence in the more passionate scenes. Miss Gertrude Hunt cleverly depicts the vindictive and selfish nature of Lady Lancaster, and meets with distinct success. Miss Sybil Hare is a sprightly Patty Lovejoy, and contributes largely to the humour of the piece; Miss Nellie Fletcher plays the part of the Mother Superior in a manner that is thoroughly in keeping with the character, and delivers the lines allotted to her with agreeable enunciation. Mr. Roland Yorke is general-manager for Mr. Fredk. Melville, and Mr. E. de Hague Body is acting-manager for Messrs. Bennett and Bennett.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Aug. 26, the Drama, in Four Acts, by C. Watson Mill, entitled
"A WARNING TO WOMEN."

Mr. C. Watson Mill and his well-balanced company met with a very favourable reception in Marylebone this week, and their success was thoroughly deserved. As Shaun, a wandering minstrel, Mr. C. Watson Mill put in some very effective work, his picturesque appearance greatly adding to the excellence of the portrayal. Mr. William Vane made good use of his opportunities as Fergus McNaughton; Mr. Sidney Denton was dryly amusing as Lord Eversleigh; Mr. Henry Rutland's elocution and bearing well became him as Squire Kennion; Mr. Arthur Beverley enacted the Rev. Emmanuel Wallace with due fervour; Mr. Henry P. Kennedy scored as Mike McQuade; and Mr. Richard Vane as the mysterious stranger, Dr. Marcus Dread, had a thorough grip on the house from start to finish by reason of his well-thought-out and earnestly-delivered efforts. As Hildred Miss Rosalind Tate made a deep impression with her life-like representation of dull, sullen despair; Miss Ellen Beverley did well as Molly O'Moore; Miss Grace Barton was delightfully bright and pleasing as Sheila Kennion; Miss Edith Rutland was by turns pathetic and gay as Miles O'Moore; and Miss Ruth Zillwood brought her well-known talent to bear with much realistic effect on the part of Moira Kennion. The play was well staged and mounted.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 26, the Drama, entitled
"THE SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD."

Following on the successful season of melodrama inaugurated on Bank Holiday by Mr. F. W. Melville at this pretty house at Brixton, this week was presented *The Sin of Her Childhood*, and a large house assembled on Monday evening and gave the deeply-interesting play a cordial reception. The drama is well mounted, the scenery being exceptionally good, and the company gives a vigorous interpretation of Mr. J. A. Campbell's play. Mr. J. Nelson Ramsey is excellent as the Rev. Alan Grey, delivering his lines with much impressiveness, and proving highly popular with the audience. Mr. Edward Thane is a smart Captain John Thornton, and his military bearing and manly determination to circumvent the villain is a feature of the play. Mr. E. W. Coleman is irresistible in the part of Barney O'Reilly, his quaint dialogue and laughable antics proving a delight to the house. Miss Madge Yates loyally assists in keeping the fun going as Eliza Muggins; Mr. Bensley Evans is sufficiently callous and wicked as Stephen to arouse the hisses of the audience, and gives a powerful delineation of the traitorous brother; while Mr. Herbert Goddard is a true-hearted yeoman as the farmer. Miss Katharine Clarke as Mary wins all hearts by her admirable acting, and throughout the play displays dramatic gifts as the unfortunate victim of a brother's treachery. Miss Olive Lanty is a ferocious Maria Haysel, and brings out well the vindictiveness of the character. Miss Maud Harris is capital as a staunch little waif, and sings prettily in the second act. Miss Elsie Tezzard as the poor little victim of Dr. Grainger's treachery is good; and the remaining parts are all well played. Mr. R. W. Allum still efficiently looks after the comfort of his numerous patrons; and the capital orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Edwin Moss, admirably renders the incidental music, and plays some excellent selections during the *entr'actes*.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Aug. 26, the Drama, entitled
"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

Mr. Walter Melville's combination in *A Girl's Cross Roads* is attracting large and appreciative audiences here this week. All the parts are capably filled, and the mounting of the play leaves nothing to be desired. Miss Hilda Beverley in the part of Barbara Wade, described on the programme as "a picture from life," gives a vivid portrayal of a woman sinking to the depths of degradation through the influence of drink, and her death scene in the last act is terrible in its realism. Mr. Charles Franmore as John Meadows is a typical old farmer, and the scenes of his wasted sympathy over his erring daughter was made very pathetic. Mr. Wilson Gunning makes a manly hero, and is ably backed up by Mr. Cyril Vernon as Dr. Weston, his friend. Miss Isla Garnet Vayne as the sorely-tried heroine, Constance Cornell, is sweet and gentle, and forms an agreeable contrast to the wickedness of Nelly Meadows, the farmer's daughter, a part convincingly played by Miss Florence Kelsey. Mr. Gerald Jordan makes the most of his opportunities in the part of Cuthbert Lumley, and evokes many hisses from the virtuous "gods." Mr. Fred Ingram and Miss Fay Garnet Vayne as Toby Tarvey and Tilly Vane respectively score heavily in their "comic relief."

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, Aug. 26, the Drama, in Five Acts, by W. G. Wills, entitled
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

The *Royal Divorce* company, under the management of Mr. W. W. Kelly, opened here on Monday to a large audience. In spite of the number of years which have elapsed since this piece was first produced, it still retains its great popularity, and proves as great a draw now as it did years ago. This is not to be wondered at when the strength of the company, employed to give the representation is considered. Every artist engaged is fully competent in his or her part, and the excellent interpretation secured is worthy of high commendation. As Napoleon, Mr. Frederick Victor proved himself to be possessed of much dramatic ability. He played throughout with great intensity and feeling, and in some of his scenes with Josephine his acting reached a high standard of excellence. An efficient exponent of the part of Talleyrand was found in Mr. Tom Robinson; and Mr. Frank Stone did full justice to the part of the Marquis de Beaumont; a capital picture of General Augereau was supplied by Mr. W. T. Elworthy; Mr. St. George Frere was all that could be desired as Marshal Murat; and Mr. George Hudson as Grimaud, the drunken innkeeper, acted well, and did all that was possible with the part; Mr. C. Jackson was well placed as Lord Keith. Miss Leah Marlborough assumed the rôle of Marie Louise with much dignity, and made the most of every opportunity; whilst much praise is due to Miss Clara Earle for her charming and winsome impersonation of Stephanie; Miss Ethel Love, a clever little child actress, skilfully undertook the duties imposed upon her in the character of the little King of Rome, and played throughout with every sign of success. Special mention must be made of Miss Beth Elliott as Josephine, who worked hard and well in the rôle. She gave full play to the various emotions, and thoroughly deserved the applause which from time to time rewarded her efforts. The minor parts were all in safe hands, and the staging and mounting of the piece were everything that could be desired.

TERRISS THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 26, the Drama, entitled
"THE LITTLE BREAD-WINNER."

So interesting a play, acted with such excellence, should draw large houses, and those who attended at the comfortable little theatre in Rotherhithe this week were well repaid. The interest in this clean and wholesome play starts with the rise of the curtain, and is well maintained throughout the performance. The company work in perfect harmony, with the result that the piece is thoroughly appreciated in all parts of the house. As Lord William Dorrington, the old Quaker, Mr. Eric Campbell looks and acts the part to the life, and gains the applause of an audience who were by no means in sympathy with his narrow-minded views. Mr. Ashley Page acted in his usual talented fashion, as the hero, and always has the people with him, the cheers he evokes being a constant tribute to his skill. The part of Joseph Prior could scarcely have been in better hands than those of Mr. J. C. Aubrey's, who gave an artistic, consistent, and finished performance. Miss Marion Denvil as Margaret Daventry acts with rare sympathy, and plays a very difficult part with considerable grace. Little Maud Harris wins all hearts as Megg, and Bridget O'Flanaghan raises many a laugh. Miss East Robertson comes through a trying ordeal as Kate Cherry with flying colours, and nothing but praise can be given to the acting of Messrs. Chippendale, Sargent, and Miss Mattie Everett.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Aug. 26, the Musical Pantomimical Farce, entitled
"HIS MAJESTY'S GUEST."

Mr. Fred Karno's clever company are always sure of a very hearty welcome at Peckham, and last Monday a large house assembled to greet the first visit here of *His Majesty's Guest*. The piece, a shortened version of which has been for a long time very popular on the music hall stage, is full of rough-and-tumble fun of the most uproarious description, and pretty music and bright dances are not forgotten. Perhaps, indeed, at the theatres a few more musical items would enhance the already great popularity of the production. Mr. George Hestor is the life and soul of the performance, his Sergt. Lightning being a very quaint and diverting performance, his numerous quips and unexpected pranks causing shouts of laughter. Mr. Frank Morton as the stolid and unscrupulous Lord Easem supplies a splendid foil to Mr. Hestor, and he uses his fine voice to great advantage in several musical items. Miss Leonora Castelle looks very charming as Lady Maud Easem, and plays her rôle with much dignity and grace. Miss Edith Ager makes a dainty little Dolly Miffin; and an exceptionally good performance is supplied by Miss Kitty Brunton as the strong-minded Miss Manley. Mr. Sid Kearns is amusing as the foolish Mr. Minks; Miss Florence Dooley scores well as Miss Mackerel; Mr. Charles Usher as the fussy little Mr. Miffin, and Mr. Geo. Denham as the German doorkeeper, Fritz, give good character sketches. The famous "Six Little Burglars" is a musical item which goes as well as ever. In the first act a very clever acrobatic entertainment is supplied by the Misses Harry Howe, S. Bolton, and Tom Manardo. The scenery and effects are all that could be wished, and the whole production is received with much enthusiasm.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Aug. 26, the Drama entitled
"IN HOLY(!) RUSSIA."

Under the direction of Mr. J. Rice Cassidy, the above drama is attracting large audiences to the Fulham theatre. The chief part of the play, that of Renée Rubinoff, an escaped convict from Siberia, is sustained by Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy, who takes the part with admirable distinction and power. She is ably supported by Mr. Cassidy in the rôle of Col. Richard Forrest, of the Guards, whose part embraces not only the dramatic, but also the comedy element, in which latter he has the help of Mr. J. Cuthbertson as his servant, Mickey Nolan, and great amusement is the result. Of Renée Rubinoff's persecutors, the chief is Catska Lavokki, a spy in the Russian Police, a character excellently taken by Miss Florence Creagh; the part of Catska's confederate, Michael Natolski, is filled by Mr. G. Lawton; Mr. F. Lloyd's impersonation of Baron von Pleve, the Chief of the Russian Police, is admirable; Mr. Rolf Leslie handles the rôle of Count Gregori Petrolski, the "friend of the Russian people," with commendable skill; whilst Mr. C. Rovenelli is seen to considerable advantage as the Nihilist leader, Laurice Steragoff. Other well-played characters are the Sir Harry Beresford of Mr. F. Copeland, the Tsar of Russia enacted by Mr. R. Cockroft, and the Mrs. Richard Forrest by Miss A. Dudley. The whole production is under the personal supervision of Mr. Cassidy, and reflects great credit on his powers as stage-manager.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, Aug. 26, was presented the Drury Lane Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE BONDMAN."

The management of this theatre must be congratulated on an excellent and most interesting eek. Hall Caine's remarkable play holds the audience firmly, and it is capitally interpreted by all concerned. Miss Grace Chalmers is an attractive representative of Greeba, and does full justice to all the important scenes. Mr. Cecil A. Collins acts powerfully and well as Jason; Mr. Arthur Bawtree as Michael Sunlocks retains the interest of the house to the end; Mr. H. C. Lanceley is very good as Adam Fairbrother; Mr. W. H. Rotherham gives a fine character study of Father Ferrati, and earlier in the play acts Grandfather with marked success; Mrs. Fairbrother is excellently embodied by Miss Madge Lanerton, as is Martha by Miss Lilian Mayne and Christian Anne by Miss Beatrice Whitney. The two Callon girls are well represented by Miss Florence Hunt and Miss Julia Willis; Miss Gertrude Helene is a very winning Mona; and Master Arthur Clarence plays intelligently as Danny. The remainder of the long cast is in capable hands, each artist contributing his best to the general excellence of the performance. The scenery, dresses, and properties are all beyond criticism.

A CORRECTION IGNORED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—You will no doubt be aware that in the *Grand Magazine* of June last a sensational article appeared, entitled "An Actress Who Failed," and in the July number a further article called "The Stage and its Morals." The first article was of course full of, to put it politely, terminological inexactitudes and exaggerations. The second article was padded not only with extracts from religious papers, but revived the gist of the interview with a distinguished critic, printed in *Great Thoughts* of December, 1897. It has been brought to the notice of the Editor of the *Grand Magazine* that a full apology and withdrawal of the article in *Great Thoughts* was written by the distinguished critic, and that this apology appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* of April 7, 1898, and a copy was sent. The Editor of the *Grand Magazine* having quoted various religious papers was further reminded of an article which appeared in the *Christian Globe*, written by the late Dean Farrar, called "Church and Stage." The Editor of the *Grand Magazine* has ignored all this, and we can draw our own conclusions.—Yours faithfully,

WM. FARREN, JUN.

78, Pepys-road, Wimbledon. Aug. 28, 1907.

"QUICKSANDS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Having seen the announcement of the forthcoming publication of Mr. J. A. Steuart's new story, "Quicksands," may we trespass on your courtesy so far as to ask you to allow us to state that a new four-act play by us, bearing this name, is to be produced by Mr. Wright Lorimer in the United States on Thursday, Sept. 5, and Mr. Frederick Harrison has very kindly lent us the Haymarket Theatre that we may give a copyright performance on the same date as the American production.

As the arrangements for our play have naturally been made for some time it is obvious that the matter is merely one of coincidence. As, however, the name of our work has already been extensively advertised throughout the American continent, we beg to be allowed to make this statement in order that if our play is produced in London—as it will be if it is successful in America—no question of either our having wilfully appropriated Mr. Steuart's title or of our right to its use may then be raised.—Yours faithfully,

ALICIA RAMSEY.
RUDOLPH DE CORDOVA.

4, Greencroft-gardens, South Hampstead, N.W.
Aug. 27.

THE music at the Café Chantant, Engineering Exhibition, which is to be opened at Olympia, Sept. 19, has again been entrusted to Mr. Alfred H. Botwright, 14, City-road, E.C.

"THE SCARLET PATROL."

Musical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Owen Trevine and St. John Hamund, and composed by the former, produced for the first time near London, at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Monday, Aug. 26.

Lord Robert Cumberland	MR. J. S. DURANT
Phineas Fogey	MR. ST. JOHN HAMUND
Nicholas Quiller	MR. ARTHUR STIGANT
Inspector Jury	MR. LEONARD RUSSELL
Mr. Cooper	MR. FRED ROLPH
Johnny	MR. J. H. BISHOP
Cecil	MR. JOSEPH BRUCH
Algernon	MR. LEO MINSTER
Freddy	MR. W. E. GULSON
Monty	MR. BAY CHESTER
Maurice	MR. H. PINNOCK
Ferdinand	MR. E. A. BENNETT
Claude	MR. C. H. STOWELL
Desmond	MR. MAX WAKEMAN
Amazon North	MISS REYDON DALLAS
Ernestine	MISS FLORENCE LINTON
Myra Myrtle	MISS ELISE COOKE
Maud	MISS KATHLEEN KINROSS
Sybil	MISS LUCY KIPLING
Edith	MISS CISSY WOOLGAR
Daisy	MISS HETTIE LESLIE
Ethel	MISS HILDA RENNARD
Miriam	MISS MAMIE RUSSELL
Susan	MISS DORIS CAMMELL
Joyce	MISS MOLLIE MCGUIGAN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Scarlet Patrol, the latest aspirant for the favour of lovers of musical comedy, has much to commend it, and its reception at Kingston-on-Thames was certainly of a flattering description, due to the wealth of action, colour, and general hilarity with which the comedy abounds. The story, as far as it could be gathered at one sitting, may be briefly described as follows: In Boston, U.S.A., there is a ladies' club, known as the Amazon Club, the members of which are banded together to resist the attacks of young men with matrimonial aspirations. The president of this club is a certain Miss Amazon North, a young lady who has just come into possession of an island in the Pacific, where the laws are totally independent of those of any outside nationality. In coming into her inheritance, however, Miss North learns from her lawyer, a certain Phineas Fogey, that she can retain possession of it only on condition that she marries a young aristocrat named Lord Robert Cumberland, whom she had never seen, and that if she marries anyone else, the island and all its rights and privileges pass to the said Phineas Fogey. Actuated by self-interest, and abetted by his frivolous clerk, Nicholas Quiller, the lawyer encourages the girl in her natural antipathy to a sweetheart sought to be foisted upon her, and when she announces her intention of proceeding to the island, which, by the way, is known as Zillaree, Fogey persuades a good-looking young man, representing himself to be a journalist, who had shown a penchant for the mistress of the island, to proceed there, too, in the hope that a marriage would follow, and that, the conditions being broken, he would thereby come into the property. Much takes place on the island of Zillaree. The ladies of the Amazon Club, who accompanied their president thither, take over the duties of the male police force, and become known as the Scarlet Patrol, by reason of their scarlet petticoats. Though their acts would not be countenanced in Boston, they are allowed to do almost as they like in Zillaree, and, as a result, there are many amusing situations and two equally amusing trial scenes. In the midst of all this, Miss North and Robert Leveculey, the young journalist, manage to come together, and the result is that they plight their troth, the lady believing that he is a commoner, and that in marrying him she will lose her inheritance. When this becomes known to the scheming Fogey and his clerk, they insist upon the lady renouncing all her claims to the island, which she readily does, but her lover and her trust are rewarded, and Fogey and the clerk are dumbfounded, when the so-called Leveculey announces that he is, after all, Lord Robert Cumberland, and so saves the situation.

Though the story is supposed to be concerned with the fortunes of these two young people, they are by no means the chief characters in the play. Principal honours are awarded to Mr. Arthur Stigant, who plays the part of the lawyer's clerk, Nicholas Quiller. Mr. Stigant is very seldom off the stage, and his drolleries were undoubtedly one of the chief factors in the success of the production. In this low comedy work, he received valuable co-operation from Mr. St. John Hamund, one of the authors, who essayed the part of the lawyer Fogey, and acquitted himself with distinction. Mr. Leonard Russell, who appeared as an Irish Inspector of the Boston Police, was also a conspicuous figure in the play. With a truculent humour and a rich Irish brogue he soon established himself as a favourite amongst the riverside audience. Along with these mention should be made of a Bond-street tailor, named Cooper, impersonated by Mr. Fred Rolph, who introduced into the part numerous personal quips and oddities that invested it with more than a passing interest; Johnny, a coloured boy servant, a part filled by Mr. J. H. Bishop with success; and Myra Myrtle, a young lady in a scarlet dress, holding a post of command in the Scarlet Patrol, a part that was portrayed by Miss Elise Cooke in a manner that won her friends in every part of the house. Though they had comparatively little to do, Mr. J. S. Durant as Lord Robert Cumberland and Miss Reydon Dallas as Amazon North both gave excellent renderings of the parts allotted to them.

Musically, *The Scarlet Patrol* is above the average of many recently-produced musical comedies. The score is tuneful throughout, whilst several of the numbers are quite of the "catchy" description. Some pleasantly-sounding airs are wedded to the songs allotted to Miss Cooke and Miss Dallas, each of whom possess voices of more than ordinary excellence. Two of these, "The girls in the scarlet petticoats," and "She knew him for a shark," sung by Miss Cooke, are amongst the gems in the collection. They were loudly redemanded. It is impossible to speak too highly of the efforts of the chorus, about forty in number, which gave evidence of most careful and painstaking training.

The play was also produced with much care in the matter of costumes and scenery, in each of which respects nothing was left to be desired. It was produced under the personal direction of Mr. Herbert Cottesmore; whilst Mr. St. John Hamund acted as stage-manager and Mr. E. Percy Rogers as his assistant. An augmented and efficient orchestra was ably conducted by Mr. Mark Strong.

CLUB FOR TOURING ACTORS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Referring to this matter in *The Era*, I may say that there is a club being formed in this town now for touring actors (the Irving Club), which has already for members Miss Ellen Terry (Mrs. Carew) and Mr. James Carew, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier (Miss Violet Vanbrugh), Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. A. W. Pinero, Mr. Charles Santley, Sir Anderson Critchett, C.V.O., Sir Chas. W. Mathews, Sir Edward Moss; also local names, Sir Peter Walker, Bart., and Mr. E. K. Muspratt. The premises, I believe, will be in London-road, or near it.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES G. WEIGHT.

102, Pembroke-place, Liverpool, Aug. 26.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

The scene of extraordinary enthusiasm on the last night of Mrs. D'Oyly Carte's season of Gilbert and Sullivan opera at the Savoy Theatre astonished even those who realised the gradual growth of the popularity of the company which has been appearing at the Savoy Theatre. We print elsewhere the pleasant, pithy letter in which Mrs. Carte describes her misgivings when contemplating starting her season. The success of the last performance was completed by a cleverly-contrived "surprise"—the introduction of a scene from *The Mikado*. The only disappointment was that the popular and much respected manageress was not able to be present to receive the well-deserved tribute which awaited her from the delighted house.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree has returned from Marienbad, where he was the object, in common with other members of the profession, of Royal honours. The eminent actor is busy with rehearsals for his tour, which will begin on Monday, Sept. 9, at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, with *Colonel Newcome*. Both the Irish and Scottish capitals will be included in a tour lasting eleven weeks, in the course of which seven towns will be visited.

Mr. H. B. Irving produced *The Lion and the Unicorn*, a one-act play, written by Mr. Laurence Irving and Mr. Tom Hesslewood, at the Theatre Royal, Bolton, on Wednesday. A notice of the production appears in another column. Mr. Irving plays the part of Charles II., and, as the character is treated from a humorous point of view, his impersonation forms a strong contrast to that of Mathias in *The Bells*, which is the second part of the double bill. Mr. Irving is also appearing on his present tour as Charles I. in the play which the late Mr. W. G. Wills wrote for Sir Henry Irving. Thus he is not only playing a part rendered famous by his father, but he is acting both father and son—Charles I. and Charles II.

Mr. Arthur Collins, who is unhappily suffering from an acute attack of gout, is nevertheless giving undiminished attention to the production of the autumn drama at Drury Lane. After considerable discussion with the authors of *The Sins of Society*, the manager of the National Theatre has decided to end Messrs. Raleigh and Henry Hamilton's new play in a happy manner. It was felt that after four acts of suffering the audience would welcome forgiveness for the poor woman who is more sinned against than sinning, and prefer remorse and repentance to seeing her in the dock. Consequently the curtain will fall on Thursday, Sept. 12, to the strains of the Wedding March. In the new piece Messrs. Cecil Raleigh and Henry Hamilton satirise the follies of society folk, and have made one of the scenes the occasion of a dog dejeuner, where a number of fashionable women bring their pets.

The sensations of *The Sins of Society* will be added to by the introduction of wireless telegraphy. We have seen the invention exploited on the boards of a Metropolitan music hall, and also turned to dramatic uses at a suburban theatre; but in the Drury Lane production Marconi's system will be utilised with startling effect, and will no doubt come as a novelty to myriads of playgoers. The chief exponents of Messrs. Raleigh and Hamilton's new drama will comprise Mr. Albert Chevalier, Mr. Lyn Harding, Mr. Julian L'Estrange, Mr. Austin Melford, Mr. Oscar Adye, Miss Constance Collier, Miss Fanny Brough, Miss Adrienne Augarde, and Miss Lucy Sibley.

Miss Olga Nethersole was among the passengers who sailed by the White Star liner Cedric on Thursday from Liverpool for America. Miss Nethersole will start her tour at San Francisco, and will reach New York at the beginning of next year, opening her season there with an adaptation of Paul Hervieu's play, *Le Reveil*, entitled *The Awakening*, the original production of which took place at the Comédie-Française last year. The three leading rôles will be played by Mr. Robert Ingleton, Mr. Frank Mills, and Miss Nethersole. Among others included in the company are Miss Adeline Bourne, Miss Katharine Stewart, Miss Molly Pearson, Miss Laura Hansen, Mr. Lawrence Grant, Mr. Langhorne Burton, Mr. Robert Bolder, and Mr. Lionel Belmore.

"The Gay Gordons" will descend upon London on Wednesday, Sept. 11, when Mr. Seymour Hicks's newest play will be produced at the Aldwych. The music is composed by Guy Jones, and lyrics are furnished by Arthur Wimperis, C. H. Bovill, and P. G. Wodehouse. The openings of the acts, which are always such ingenious features of Mr. Hicks' productions, will be supplied by Henry Hamilton, that to the first, which represents a moor in the Highlands on the 12th, being taken from a poem by Mr. Hamilton illustrative of "The Dawn of Day." Act. II. is laid in a tent in the Gardens of Meltrose Castle.

Mr. Seymour Hicks will find an outlet for his effervescent humour in the part of a Gordon Highlander, and Miss Ellaline Terriss will shine conspicuously as the daughter of an American millionaire. Mr. Fred Emney will have the rôle of a Punch-and-Judy man, Miss Zena Dare will appear as his daughter, and the cast will be completed by Messrs. A. W. Baskcomb, William Lugg, Lawrence Caird, Cecil Kinnaird, Kenneth Maclaine, Arthur Royd, Mervyn Dene, J. C. Buckstone, and Will Bishop, and Misses Rosina Filippi, Sidney Fairbrother, Barbara Deane, Katie Butler, Vera Morris, and Georgina Delmar.

A fund has been organised for the benefit of the widow and four little children of the late Mr. David Christie Murray, whose family have been left without means of support. The aim of the fund is to help Mrs. Christie Murray over her difficulties during the next year or so, after which it is anticipated that her talents as pianist and accompanist may suffice for her support. Mr. Richard Butler, the editor of the *Referee*, to whose columns the late journalist was a valued contributor, is the treasurer of the fund.

Miss Lena Ashwell will re-open the Great Queen-street Theatre, which she has renamed the Kingsway, on Wednesday, Oct. 9, with a play by Anthony P. Whatton, entitled *Irene Wycherley*. The company engaged by Miss Ashwell includes Messrs Norman McKinnel, Henry Vibart, Denis Eadie, and C. M. Hallard, and Misses Muriel Wylford, Frances Ivor, Beatrice Forbes Robertson, Gertrude Scott, Christine Silver, and Dorothy Brunt. Miss Ashwell has also acquired the rights in *The Greater Love*, by James Fagan; *Blind*, by Edward Knoblauch; *The Whip Hand*, by Keble Howard; *His Own*, by Evelyn Greenleaf Sutherland; a new and as yet unnamed play by St. John Hankin; and two plays by German and two by American authors. The policy of numbered and reserved seats in all parts of the house will be pursued at the Kingsway.

Mr. J. E. Vedrenne has completed negotiations for the lease of the new theatre at the corner of Shaftesbury-avenue and Wardour-street, which is to be called the Queen's. The theatre will be opened on Oct. 1 with a four-act comedy by Mrs. Madeleine Lucette Ryley, in which Miss Ellis Jeffreys will play the leading part. Mr. Vedrenne is anxious that it should be understood that the taking of the new Shaftesbury-avenue theatre is in no way concerned with the enterprise in which he and Mr. Granville Barker are engaged at the Savoy Theatre.

"The Midnight Wedding," the play by Walter Howard which has filled the magnificent Lyceum Theatre to its utmost capacity, was withdrawn in the height of its popularity on Wednesday evening to make way for *The Christian*, which will be produced to-night. It is to be hoped that further success is in store for Messrs. H. R. Smith and Ernest Carpenter, whose plucky enterprise has had the result of bringing back prosperity to the historic house.

Mr. Martin Harvey's announcement that he intended to put the Scriptural play, *Great Possessions*, into his regular répertoire has evoked an extraordinary number of letters from practically every town on his tour expressing satisfaction at the prospect of witnessing this unique play. As these letters continue to arrive, and are so pleasantly explicit in their expressions of satisfaction, Mr. Harvey has decided to give the play on several occasions in each of the big cities instead of playing it only as a répertorial item.

Mr. C. Herbert Workman, the well-known comedian, who was responsible for much of the success of the recent revival of Savoy opera, has forwarded to the Actors' Benevolent Fund a further sum of £1 6s., obtained by means of his autograph. Mr. Ian Maclaren has also sent the Fund a sovereign obtained from a similar source.

Miss Clothilde Graves's new play, *The Other Side*, the production of which will be a feature of Mr. and Mrs. Kendal's forthcoming tour, is a comedy-drama in three acts, the scene being laid in an old riverside cottage in Berkshire. Miss Graves has chosen for the main theme of her story a certain famous society divorce case, and in her last act all the characters involved in the *cause célèbre* are brought together in the parlour of the cottage in question, where a happy ending is contrived. In the piece Mr. Kendal appears as a celebrated barrister, counsel for the petitioner, and Mrs. Kendal plays the part of the heroine.

Monday, Sept. 16, will see the reopening of the Savoy, fitted with a new stage, and with the seating and upholstery renewed. Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker will start their season with Bernard Shaw's comedy, *You Never Can Tell*, in which Mr. J. D. Beveridge will make his first appearance as the waiter, and Mr. A. E. George will assume the part of Fergus Crampton. In other respects the cast will differ little from that of the previous revival. *The Devil's Disciple* will be given on Monday, Oct. 14, and will be succeeded six weeks later by *Cæsar and Cleopatra*, described as "a history in four acts by Bernard Shaw," in which Mr. Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott will be seen in their impersonation of the title-rôles.

The new series of the Vedrenne-Barker matinées begins on Tuesday, Sept. 24, with a new comedy in three acts, entitled *Joy*, by Mr. John Galsworthy, the author of *The Silver Box*. Oct. 22 will witness the presentation of Professor Gilbert Murray's translation of "The Medea of Euripides," and Tuesday, Nov. 19, will be marked by the production of Mr. Barker's new play, upon which the title of *Waste* has been bestowed. The piece is in four acts, and deals with the interesting subject of political life.

Mr. Forbes Robertson will bridge the interval which must precede his appearance at the Savoy by a tour of the provinces, beginning at Blackpool, on Monday, Sept. 9, Leeds, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Birmingham, and Dublin being also included in the itinerary. *Hamlet, Cæsar and Cleopatra, Mice and Men*, and *The Light that Failed* will be embraced in the répertoire.

An heroic action on the part of a young actress is to be placed to the credit of Miss Decima Chatteris, a member of Mr. Seymour Hicks's *My Darling* company, who succeeded in saving the life of a sister actress at Eastbourne last week. Miss Blanche Vaudon, who was bathing on the dangerous coast near Beachy Head, was carried out of her depth, and was sinking, when Miss Chatteris courageously went to her assistance and brought her back to shore, supporting her under the arms all the way. Such a feat on the part of a lady cannot be too highly extolled, and Miss Chatteris is to be warmly congratulated on her bravery and skill.

The name of Herbert Darnley is alone sufficient to guarantee any new venture, but, apart from this fact, this go-ahead manager's new play, *A Mother's Sacrifice*, should just hit the mark, dealing, as it does, with the vital question of what a woman should do whose husband ill-treats her, but does not give her the chance to get a divorce. There is, of course, a decent fellow who would give his life to protect her and her child, but she chooses to remain in her misery rather than injure her child's good name. With Miss Louie Adair as the Mother, and Mr. Cecil Klein as the "decent fellow," the cast promises to be a strong one. The attractiveness of the piece will be increased by Mr. Darnley's Dots, who will, for the time, forsake their music hall triumphs and play important child parts in the new drama Mr. Darnley is indeed a busy man!

The recent death of Fred Locke, the well-known pantomime author, has revived interest in the appeal made on behalf of his wife and family. The hon. treasurer of the fund, Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow, acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following additional sums:—Lionel Rignold (third subscription), 10s.; J. G. Crichton, 10s.; Chief Officer Neil, Clan Line, 5s.

Little Doris Trevelyan, Mr. Claude Trevelyan's niece and pupil, a child actress-vocalist of remarkable talent just entering her teens, has, in competition with adult candidates, lately won the first-class certificate of the Society of Arts for singing. Her trial songs were Handel's "Rejoice greatly," Mozart's "Porgi amor," and Purcell's "When I am laid in earth."

The revival of *The Christian* at the Lyceum Theatre is coincident with the arrival of Miss Ola Humphrey, one of the most successful interpreters of Glory Quayle, the chief character in Hall Caine's play, in America, and quite recently in Australia. Miss Humphrey, who is of Franco-American parentage, is over here on a holiday, this being her first visit to England.

Mr. H. A. Saintsbury will shortly tour (by arrangement with Mr. J. Maundy-Gregory) in Mr. Grant Allen's new play, *A Knave of Hearts*, returning later to the Maundy-Gregory management for his romantic drama campaign.

At the fall of the curtain on Monday evening at the Camden Theatre, Mr. C. W. Somerset, who is appearing this week in *The Sorrows of Satan*, came forward and announced that the Rev. T. C. Collins, a well-known clergyman, who was present at the performance, would like to address the audience, and give his views on the play, and on theatres in general. The reverend gentleman spoke in the most eulogistic terms of the play and the actors, and said he felt that such plays could not help doing good. He had not visited the theatre before, but had during the evening wandered all over the building, and he heartily congratulated the Camden Town residents on possessing such a beautiful theatre, so admirably managed. The speaker was listened to with marked attention, and was loudly applauded at the conclusion.

The Hutchison tours, which embrace leading London successes, are realising the highest expectations of their enterprising promoters. During a successive season at Brighton with *Peter's Mother*, *The Stronger Sex*, and *The Freedom of Suzanne*, no less than 33,000 persons were attracted in three weeks to the West Pier, the first week drawing 12,000 people, the second 10,000, and the third 11,000. Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison both have important parts in the different plays, for the success of which they are in a large degree responsible.

Mr. Lucombe Searelle, who recently returned to this country from America to see after the production of the Scriptural play, *Mizpah*, of which he is part author, has met with a very serious accident from which grave consequences may arise. While descending a long flight of stairs on Tuesday he tripped over an untacked carpet, and fell to the bottom, sustaining severe injuries. Three ribs are broken, the hip-bone has been injured, and a lung has been so affected that it is feared pleurisy may set in. Mr. Searelle has also sustained a nasty cut on the forehead and slight concussion of the brain. The invalid is staying at 8, Palace-crescent, East Molesey, and his nurse writes that he is, without doubt, the pluckiest patient she has ever had under her charge, and that she feels confident he will pull through.

Miss Emil Leslie, who made such a marked success as Katherina in Mr. Clive Currie's recent production of *The Taming of the Shrew*, has been engaged by Mr. F. R. Benson to share the leads in his No. 2 company.—Mr. A. Conybeare Gough, so long connected with *Monsieur Beaucaire*, having played the principal comedy part, Rakell, over six hundred times, has been engaged by Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry for their autumn tour of *The Scarlet Pimpernel*.

"Mrs. Ponderbury's Past," the merry farce which is having such a remarkable run at the Vaudeville, has been secured by the enterprising management of Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison, by special arrangement with Sir Charles Wyndham, who, before leaving for Switzerland, decided to place the entire provincial and suburban rights of this play in the hands of Mr. Hutchison.

Mr. James Mavall, who was stage and business manager for Messrs. Morell and Mouillot when *The Geisha* was first performed in Bournemouth, in 1896, has been appointed manager of the Bournemouth Theatre, and took over his duties last week.

Mr. Clarence Sounes terminated his first variety season at the Theatre Royal and Hippodrome, Aldershot, on Saturday last, and put on *His House in Order* with Mr. Geo. Alexander's company on Monday. Next week *The Bondman* will be staged, and an excellent list of bookings has been secured for the autumn dramatic season, after which Mr. Sounes will again revert to varieties twice nightly for a winter season, commencing in December.

Mr. Mayor-Cooke has just concluded his 250th performance in his original part of Prince Ulric of Ravensburgh, in Mr. Walter Howard's Lyceum success, *Her Love Against the World*.

A case which might well form a thrilling ending to a Drury Lane melodrama was heard at the Richmond Police Court this week. It appeared that on Sunday night last Mr. Hilarion Cornelly-Joye was motoring in company with Lord Haldon and Mr. Pitt Hardacre between Kingston and Richmond. At the base of Petersham Hill the motor skidded, and swerved in the direction of an old man with a barrow, who apparently failed to notice its approach. With remarkable courage and presence of mind Mr. Joye sprang from the front of the motor and pushed the man into the curbway. Unfortunately he was caught by the splashboard, and both he and the old man were hurled to the ground.

Mr. Joye himself was rendered unconscious for two hours, and the old man, whose name it transpired was Montague, was found to be suffering from concussion of the brain, but under the care of the house surgeon of the Richmond Infirmary, both were restored. At the Police Court the Magistrate exonerated Lord Maldon, who was driving, from all blame, and complimented Mr. Joye on his gallantry, which the Bench considered had probably saved the life of Montague. Mr. Joye, it may be added, sustains the part of Duff Wynterden in Mr. Charles Macdona's production of *Doctor Wake's Patient*.

Cordial congratulations are offered to Mr. Kenelm Foss and Miss Elisabeth Gilson, who were married at a registrar's office on July 1. Mr. Foss' most recent appearances were as the old gambler in *The Prodigal Son* at the Adelphi and as Hawk in *Prunella* at the Court. Mrs. Foss has distinguished herself at His Majesty's and the Adelphi.

"Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch" will have a more extensive setting on its transference on Monday to the Adelphi, where the greater space afforded by the stage will enable the interior of Mrs. Wiggs' kitchen, which forms the scene of the first act, to be enlarged, so as to give more room for the rejoicings at the wedding of Miss Hazy and Mr. Stubbins. The scene of a railway siding, of which a freight car is a feature, will also be extended, and the increased accommodation will allow of the introduction of an automobile, in which Miss Lucy and Mr. Bob will take their honeymoon trip.

Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren and their company will start their third tour with the late Wilson Barrett's favourite play, *Claudian*, at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, on Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Maclaren have toured the piece for two consecutive years with the greatest success. The future bookings, which comprise many of the best money-making towns, run well into next year, and give every promise of the continued success of this fine play.

Miss Paul, who had the distinction of playing Beatrice in *Dante* with the late Sir Henry Irving, is going on tour with *The Night of the Party*, Mr. Weedon Grossmith's Avenue Theatre success. The company will visit all the chief provincial centres, including Brighton, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, Liverpool, and Birmingham.

Mr. William Rose will shortly be touring the drama, *The Road to Fortune*, which has already achieved success. Special new scenery is being painted by Mr. Banks, of the Imperial Theatre; new costumes are being executed by well-known London costumiers; and everything is being done to bring the piece thoroughly up to date.

Miss Louie Adair has been engaged by Mr. Herbert Darnley to star in his new production, *A Mother's Sacrifice*.

Mr. Hubert Druce commences a tour on Sept. 9, at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, of *The Pocket Miss Hercules*, Mr. J. Storer Clouston's screamingly eccentric farce. Those sterling artists Miss Ruth Mackay and Mr. Stanley Cooke have been engaged for the principal parts. In the advt. which appeared in our last issue the name of Mr. Stanley Cooke was printed as *Mr. Stanley "Moore"*—a regrettable error. Managers, please note.

The Moody-Manners company gave another performance in English of Wagner's *Tristan and Isolda* at the Lyric Theatre on Tuesday, when Mme. Fanny Moody and Mr. O'Mara were replaced by Miss Enriqueta Crichton and Mr. Charles Carter, both of whom gave admirable performances. Miss Crichton made a very dramatic Isolda, and sang remarkably well, and Mr. Carter, despite his obvious nervousness, distinguished himself greatly in his love duet. Mr. Dever was again an excellent Kurvenal, and Miss Toni Selter repeated her fine impersonation of Brangæna, Mr. Magrath once more proving an eminently satisfactory King Mark. The members of the orchestra, under Herr Eckhold, acquitted themselves to perfection.

Miss Sophie Harriss, exacting though her duties be in connection with *The Prince of Pilsen* company, nevertheless finds time to take an active interest in the management of a number of charitable institutions. In the course of her motor journey from Folkestone to Worthing the other day she encountered General Booth on his missionary travels. At the close of his address at Worthing the following afternoon the General asked, "Well, did I plead well?" "*That* is my answer," was the reply of Miss Harriss, as she handed a substantial subscription to the venerable evangelist.

Mr. Desmond M. Raleigh will open his season at the New Theatre on Monday with the four-act play, by Horace Annesley Vachell, entitled *Her Son*. The work has been entirely rewritten since its production at the Playhouse last March, and as the piece now stands it resolves itself into a duel between Dorothy and the Actress for the possession of the hero and child. Deviating from the usual entr'acte music, Mr. Raleigh has arranged to give only high-class light music by a specially-selected septette of soloists, under the direction of Mr. Frederick Rossé. A number of the original cast have been secured, Miss Winifred Emery playing her former part of Dorothy Fairfax. Mr. Kenneth Douglas will appear by permission of Mr. Cyril Maude, and the cast will also include Misses Suzanne Sheldon, Florence Haydon, Emma Chambers, and Florence Harwood, Master Bobby Andrews, and Mr. Cecil Burt.

Mr. W. H. C. Nation, who made an energetic bid for public favour last year at Terry's, is again taking up the reins of management, and will reopen the Scala Theatre on Oct. 26. Mr. Nation will rely for his attractions chiefly upon a new drama founded on a serial story which appeared in the *Covent Garden Magazine* when under his editorship; upon a new comedy adapted from the French; and upon a new musical extravaganza of a satirical character, in which several songs by Mr. Nation himself, either original or imitated from the French, will be included.

Mr. T. Edward Ward has just completed arrangements with Mr. Watson-Mill, the author of *A Warning to Women* and *The Eve of Her Wedding Day*, for the production, next Easter, of a new play, to be called *The Love of the Princess*, a modern romance written in Mr. Mill's happiest and strongest vein. The play promises to outrival the big financial hits already secured by this young and successful playwright. The production will be the most costly ever attempted by Mr. Ward.

The Marquis De Leuville, who is well remembered for his compositions, both poetic and musical, can boast of the biggest, curliest, and glossiest silk hat in London. The size of the chapeau is 7, and although the height of the crown and width of the brim is astonishing, it does not look at all out of place on the head of the owner. This is accounted for by the fact that the Marquis de Leuville stands 6ft. 2in., is 46in. round the chest, and weighs 17 stone.

Miss Julie Temple, famous for her portrayal of Bridget in *The Fatal Wedding* with Mr. Bert Coote on four separate tours, has been engaged by Mr. Herbert Ralland to impersonate Mrs. Deborah in *Mice and Men* for a few special weeks, beginning Sept. 9, at Brighton.

Mr. Norman V. Norman is taking a great deal of trouble over the production of *Mr. Sheridan*, the mounting and dressing of which will be very fine. The play should be as successful in the provinces as it was in London, as it promises all the essentials that appeal to the taste of the modern playgoer.

Great preparations are being made at the Opera House, Wakefield, for the production on Monday of Mr. Frank M. Thorne's new play, *The Woman Pays*. An excellent cast has been engaged, and magnificent scenery painted by Mr. Egerton, and judging from Mr. Thorne's previous productions, a great success may be anticipated.

Messrs. Savery and Pigott have, by arrangement with Mr. F. R. Benson, secured the services of Mr. W. H. Quinton as producer for them of *The English Rose* and *The Harbour Lights* when those pieces go on their spring tour. Mr. Quinton, who has been Mr. Benson's stage-manager for the last three years, will be remembered for the good service done by him for years at the Court Theatre when working for Mrs. John Wood and Mr. Arthur Chudleigh.

Miss Adelaide Ross Ford has been specially engaged by Mr. Charles Macdona for the part of the Gipsy in *Doctor Wake's Patient*.

A boom on a big scale in romantic costume plays of *The Three Musketeers* type may shortly be expected from Mr. J. Maundy Gregory who has already arranged for the following:—H. A. Saintsbury's "Dumas" plays, *King of the Huguenots*, *A White Feather*, *Friend of the People*, *Sword of Flame*, and *Chicot the Jester*. Mr. Maundy-Gregory feels that the country is now ripe for real romantic drama well done.

Mme. Clara Butt and Mr. Kennerley Rumford were officially received on landing in Melbourne by the Mayor, and were enthusiastically welcomed by an immense crowd. The tour of the favourite vocalists in Australia will last till next spring, when they will return to London in time for the season.

Mr. William Bailey has again commissioned Mr. G. Brydon-Phillips to provide the Christmas annual at the West London Theatre.

The Moody-Manners' brilliant season at the Lyric will enter upon its last week on Monday, when *Faust* will be performed, and will be repeated at the matinée on Saturday. *Madame Butterfly* will also be given twice, namely, on Wednesday and Saturday evenings; and *La Bohème*, *Tannhäuser*, and *Lohengrin* will be in the bill on other nights. The novelty of the week will be Nicholas Gatty's one-act opera, *Grey Steel*, which was produced in March last year in Sheffield. It will be given on Friday evening in conjunction with *Pagliacci*.

The Irving Theatre, Seacombe, reopens for the season on Monday with *Our Flat*, which will be given for the first three nights, the rest of the week being taken up with *The Gay Lord Quex*. Mr. James Kiernan has arranged an attractive series of performances, and a season of prosperity should be in store for this beautiful theatre, which is admirably appointed, and has been equipped with new stock scenery and properties.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Miss Terry and the "Tots."

Mr. Alfred C. Calmour writes to the *Daily Telegraph*:—Your correspondence on the subject of "Slack Mothers" reminds me of a phrase in a letter written to me by my friend Miss Ellen Terry, and which I am sure she will forgive me for quoting—breathing as it does the very essence of maternal affection: "I am down at Winchelsea all alone with my grandchildren. The little tots make me long to be young mother again, with all its trials and tribulations, and all the great blessings which go along with it."

The Speaker on the Stage.

Mr. Lowther, the Speaker of the House of Commons, when at Cambridge was a keen member of the Amateur Dramatic Club, and during the Canterbury Week, under his nom-de-théâtre of Lowther R. Cade, won laurels behind the footlights as one of the Old Stagers when Mr. Charles Brookfield was one of their number.

Often a Parson.

Mr. Austin Melford, who will play the Rev. Martin Hope in *Sins of Society* at the Lane, seems to have played a good many clergymen. It was during the twelve years that he was leading man with the late Wilson Barrett that he made such a success as the Bishop in Hall Caine's play, *Ben-my-Chree*, as well as Favius in the *Sign of the Cross* at the Lyric, and as the Holy Clement in *Claudian*; then came the Rev. Harold Wilson in *Tommy Atkins* at the Pavilion, and Father Ferratti in *The Bondman*. Curiously enough, by request of the ship's captain, Mr. Melford read the lessons during the voyage from Australia.

A Liberal Offer.

Mr. Arthur Prince, the ventriloquist, is fulfilling an engagement at Hammerstein's in New York City. Apparently, however, there is one individual who thinks the act might be improved, and Mr. Prince has received the following letter from him:—"Mr. Arthur Prince,—Dear Sir,—I am blessed with the power of ventriloquism, and would like very much if you would take me in hand, as I believe I could be of valuable services to you in your line of business. I can imitate quite a lot of things, and have a very good voice. Dear Sir I think with this combination, we could fake the entire world, for I could be on the stage as one of your images, and I could carry on quite a lot of mischief while you are proforming, and the public would not for one moment believe it is I who is doing all this, for the American people don't beleave a colord man can do any such things, and that's where you would win a greater fame.—Freternally yours."

Shakespeare and the Deceased Wife's Sister.

The House of Lords on Monday last passed the third reading of the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill. The Royal Assent is now only needed to make this much-discussed measure the law of the land. Many noble lords had much to say on the matter. This is what Shakespeare thought of the question. He declares, says a contemporary, that the union of a woman with her brother-in-law is "an act that blurs the grace and blush of modesty; calls virtue, hypocrite; takes off the rose from the fair forehead of an innocent love, and sets a blister there; makes marriage vows as false as dicer's oaths"; and that the whole universe "is thought-sick at the act."

An "Imitation Englishman."

Mr. Richard Harding Davis, the playright, recently went to see a performance of his comedy, *The Yankee Tourist*, at the Casino, Asbury Park, New York. Mr. Davis occupied a box with a party of friends, and presently thought he had reason to complain of Walter Rosenberg, the acting-manager of the Casino. The latter requested Mr. Davis to step outside the theatre and talk it over. On the "broadwalk" the pair clinched, and before they broke away several light blows were struck.

Mr. Davis retained as a slight mark of the encounter a cut on the upper lip, which he attributed to a diamond ring worn by his opponent. According to Mr. Davis, he and his friends occupied one box in the theatre, and another had been engaged by him for others, who were late in arriving. Just before the curtain rose strangers entered the vacant box and began to make themselves at home. Mr. Davis remonstrated, but they insisted that they were in possession, and refused to go, so he sought Mr. Rosenberg.

"I went to the box office, where Mr. Rosenberg was standing," said Mr. Davis. "At his first words, which were anything but complimentary, I naturally bristled up. I asked him what he meant by speaking in that manner. His retort was more than I could stand. I have my own ideas of the ethics of names called by another, and I must say that I resented the one that he used in speaking to me." "What name did he call you?" asked the reporter. "He called me," said Mr. Davis deliberately, "an imitation Englishman. So I hit him."

The Destroyer in Drama.

The *Daily Chronicle* reminds us that Attila, King of the Huns, the subject of Mr. Binyon's new play, has been made to figure more than once on the stage already. The famous "Scourge of God," so-named, became the subject of a tragedy, by Corneille, produced in 1667; an opera, by Verdi, performed first in Venice, 1846; and an epic poem, in twelve books, by W. Herbert, London, 1833, the latter having an historical preface on the career of Attila from the time of his defeat on the Catalaunian plains in 451 till his death in 453.

Hot-Iron Notes.

MM. Messager and Broussan, says our lively Paris correspondent, have decided to open a singing class at the Opera, where young artists will receive the necessary finishing touches, this class to be directed by M. Jean de Reszké. M. Broussan may be congratulated on this innovation, which will be certain to find imitators in other countries. M. Broussan, himself an admirable singer, has often pointed out to me that singers who at the Conservatoire competitions or at special auditions really were very good, proved most unsatisfactory the moment they had to sing an entire rôle. "The whole secret," said M. Broussan, "is that, with very few exceptions, the débutant or débutante is only imperfectly taught." As to M. de Reszké, an expert in the matter of voice production, he is very hard—not to say cruel—on the prize pupils of the Conservatoire. "They do not sing," he says, "they shriek, as if someone burned them with a hot iron. Somehow or other they imagine that the bigger the voice the better, and managers confirm them in that foolish idea. During the last Conservatoire competitions I have waited in vain for a 'pianissimo' or a 'mezza voce.' But no; I came to listen to singers, and I heard 'howling dervishes.' Take, for instance, Werther—a rôle of restrained passion, of sadness, a part that has to be sung 'mezza voce.' The young tenors should know this, or their teachers should knock it into their heads. But no; they bawl their part, in order to show what a volume of sound they can produce. Last year I had a pleasant surprise. At a dress-rehearsal I heard a tenor sing delightfully, keeping his voice well under control. I applauded with all my might, and returned the following evening to listen to this *rara avis*. Oh, horror! This time he positively bellowed, and I ran out of the house."

"FIANDER'S WIDOW."

A New and Original Comedy, in Three Acts, by Sydney Valentine and M. E. Francis (Mrs. Blundell), produced at the Garrick Theatre on Wednesday, Aug. 28.

Mrs. Fiander .....MISS MIRIAM CLEMENTS
Mrs. Belbin .....MRS. CHARLES CALVERT
Betty .....MISS ELFRIDA CLEMENT
Susan .....MISS MAUD WYNTER
Isaac Sharpe.. .....MR. SYDNEY VALENTINE
Richard Marshall .....MR. H. NYE CHART
Sam Belbin .....MR. ARTHUR ELDRED
An Artist .....MR. SCOTT CRAVEN
Andrew Burge .....MR. VICTOR WIDDICOMBE
John Hardy .....MR. FRANK LACY
Abel Hunt .....MR. EDWARD RIGBY
Job Bundy .....MR. CHARLES DALY
Richard Cross .....MR. FRED NEERI
A Carpenter .....MR. LEONARD CALVERT

Since the days of *The Squire* and *Far From the Madding Crowd* we have not had too many "truly rural" plays. At the bottom of the heart of the play-going public, which is chiefly urban, is a deep love for the country, its "ways," its oddities, and its humours. This fact will account for the favour with which *Fiander's Widow* was received at the Garrick Theatre on Wednesday evening. In Mrs. Blundell's story the leading character, Rosalie Fiander, holds much the same position as did the heroine of Mr. Pinero's famous play. She is the widow of a dairy-farmer, who died leaving her in charge of the property. Elias Fiander's old friend, Isaac Sharpe, a sheep farmer, had no need of feminine assistance, and was, indeed, suspicious of the "sex." Rosalie is still young and pretty—so pretty that an artist who once saw her asleep in a cornfield painted her portrait, and made a great success with it at the Royal Academy. But beauty alone cannot rule a pack of lazy agricultural labourers, and Rosalie feels the want of a male ally in working her farm. Of course, "Fiander's widow" is a very desirable match, and she is besieged by suitors. Amongst these is an undertaker named Andrew Burge, a solicitor's clerk called Samuel Cross, an auctioneer named Wilson, and John Hardy, a grocer's assistant. But the only suitable applicant for the post is Isaac, who is a confirmed bachelor, one of those quaint "originals" who are only to be found in our rural districts—kindly, conscientious, and cautious. When Rosalie's difficulties become too great, she practically proposes to Isaac, who, pitying her position, accepts her as his wife. Then Isaac's nephew, Richard Marshall, returns from America and falls in love with Rosalie; and a struggle in them between love and honour begins. Rosalie cannot bear to break her promise to Isaac; and yet she cannot bring herself to abandon "love passages" with Richard. After much hesitation and embarrassment, the knot of difficulty is cut by Isaac, who is really delighted to find that the two young people have "a-took the notion" of marrying each other so nicely.

Mr. Pinero's aspiration in the case of *The Squire* was to bring the scent of the hay across the footlights; and Mr. Sydney Valentine and Mrs. Blundell have succeeded in giving their audiences the sense of the fresh, simple, quiet life of the Dorsetshire dales. *Fiander's Widow* makes no claim to thrill with sensation, or to shake the sides with "screaming" situations. It is only a delightfully true and humorous picture of country character drawn by one who is evidently well acquainted with the life which she depicts. Possibly the authors will see their way to certain cuttings which may make the piece play a little closer. Judicious compression wherever the talk seems to need it will greatly improve it as a whole; and hand in hand with this should go an attempt on the part of the artists to take certain scenes a little more briskly. *Fiander's Widow* is so charming in its comedy, so sweet and clean in its characterisation, so free from artificiality and clap-trap, that it certainly should not be allowed to make a less complete appeal for want of a little tactful revision and condensation. The play is one of the prettiest and most artistic things of its kind that have been seen of late; and full chance should be given it of making the success it so thoroughly deserves.

Certainly, every advantage is given to the piece by the acting. Miss Miriam Clements's rare beauty and adaptable dramatic gifts were shown in the character of Mrs. Fiander. It was only the other day that we had Miss Clements playing an audacious artist's model; now she is seen as a simple Dorsetshire farmeress. Her tact and instinctive skill are really remarkable; and there is really no saying what she may not do when the opportunity arrives. Her Mrs. Fiander is an altogether delightful impersonation. It is impossible to resist its charm, its tender womanliness, and its gentle grace. Perhaps there was a little too much refinement and not enough rusticity in the reading; but, after all, Rosalie is not an Audrey, and the spread of education in the rural districts at present is rapidly increasing. But the mainstay of the performance is certainly Mr. Sydney Valentine's Isaac Sharpe. This fine character actor has not for some time had such an opportunity of displaying his powers. The dry humour, the good-natured shrewdness, the solid good sense of the man were shown by Mr. Valentine in the most agreeable and amusing manner. It was a performance of a masterly and meritorious kind; intensely artistic, never exaggerated, and in the highest degree interesting and effective. Mr. Valentine's dialect was employed with excellent ease, and it was never dropped, slurred, or forgotten. He realised the character in the most able and expressive way; and his Isaac Sharpe will be remembered as one of the very best of Mr. Valentine's many creations. All who are familiar with Mrs. Charles Calvert's personality and style can imagine how irresistibly droll she was as a village charwoman. Her Mrs. Belbin was irresistible. Nothing could be funnier in its way than this quaint and curious embodiment, full of originality, oddity, and experienced art. Mr. H. Nye Chart played Richard Marshall with excellent judgment and discretion. He is personally well adapted to the personage, and he acted the rôle with all the necessary expressiveness and with commendable tact and earnestness. *Fiander's Widow* is fertile in opportunities for "small part" people; and the opportunities were, in each instance, taken full advantage of. Mr. Arthur Eldred as Sam Belbin was thoroughly characteristic, and had evidently studied the rôle thoroughly. Mr. Edward Rigby as Abel Hunt supplied a well-considered and ingenious interpretation. Mr. Charles Daly's Job Bundy was a genuine bit of work, and deserves to be warmly praised; and Mr. Fred Neeri as Richard Cross contributed a clever and highly creditable sketch, which told in spite of its slightness and subordinacy. Miss Elfrida Clement and Miss Maud Wynter were bright and "bonnie" dairymaids, and did full justice to their tasks as Betty and Susan; and Mr. Scott Craven showed ability and intelligence as an Artist. A capital performance was given by Mr. Victor Widdicombe as the undertaker, Andrew Burge. Mr. Widdicombe is an excellent actor, and made the most of his chances. Special praise is due to Mr. Frank Lacy for his excellent interpretation of the character of John Hardy. In a production of this sort the scenery, of course, counts for much and Mr. R. C. McCleery gave us some of the prettiest products of his expert and facile brush, both the farmhouse sets and the cornfield of the last act being very sunshiny and highly artistic stage pictures. The first item on the bill was *A Pair of Knickerbockers*, with those clever and agreeable artists, Mr. Charles Goodheart and Miss Pamela Gaythorne, as the two Melroses.

"THE HYPOCRITES."

A New Play of English Country Town Life, in Four Acts, by Henry Arthur Jones, played, for the first time, at the Hicks Theatre, on Tuesday, Aug. 27.

The Rev. Edgar Linnell .....MR. LESLIE FABER
Mr. Wilmore .....MR. J. H. BARNES
Lennard Wilmore .....MR. VERNON STEELE
Mr. Viveash .....MR. ARTHUR LEWIS
Sir John Plugenet .....MR. CHARLES V. FRANCE
The Rev. Everard Daubeny..MR. ALFRED BISHOP
Dr. Blaney .....MR. CECIL BROOKING
Goodyer .....MR. FRED GROVE
Mrs. Wilmore .....MISS MARION TERRY
Rachel Neve .....MISS DORIS KEANE
Helen Plugenet .....MISS VIVA BIRKETT
Mrs. Blaney .....MISS HENRIETTA WATSON
Mrs. Linnell .....MRS. LESLIE FABER
Patty .....MISS IRENE CLARKE

Mr. Charles Frohman may be warmly congratulated upon the result of his enterprise in securing the English rights of *The Hypocrites* for the Hicks Theatre. Excellent accounts had reached us of the career of the play in America, and the extraordinary reception given to the piece on Tuesday placed its triumphant success in England beyond a doubt. *The Hypocrites* is one of the finest—if not the very best—play that Mr. Jones has ever written. To say that it is full of interest is not to say sufficient in its favour. It grips the audience irresistibly soon after its commencement; it holds them magnetised and enthralled till the end of the third act, on which the drop falls amidst a wild outburst of cheering and applause. The last act is perhaps the best possible solution of a problem which is full of difficulty, and the whole drama is constructed, arranged, and written with masterly strength and skill.

The scene of the first act is the boudoir of Mrs. Wilmore, at the Manor House, Weybury, a small country town. Mr. Wilmore is the lord of a mortgaged manor, and he and his wife have arranged a marriage for their son, Lennard, with Helen Plugenet, a rich young lady, the daughter of Sir John Plugenet, of Plugenet Court. Helen is sensitively high-minded, especially with reference to love and marriage, and she begs Lennard to make full confession to her of any other female claims upon him. He is embarrassed and reticent; and well he may be, for he has seduced, under promise of marriage, an innocent young girl named Rachel Neve. She has become pregnant, and she comes to Weybury to try and see Lennard, under pretence of getting employment as a drawing-mistress.

The curate of Weybury, the Rev. Edgar Linnell, is sternly conscientious. A girl of loose morals has had a child by a respectable young man whom she has entangled, and the pompous and tyrannical Mr. Wilmore is determined that they shall marry, or that the young man shall be turned off the land. The curate points out that the proposed marriage would probably be unjust and injurious, and declines to assist it, much to the anger and disgust of the lord of the manor. But Rachel Neve, spraining her ankle, is received at Linnell's house, and the curate comes to the knowledge of her condition and of her seducer.

If Lennard's fault becomes known, it is probable that Helen Plugenet will break off the engagement, so it becomes the object of everyone interested in the marriage taking place to suppress the facts. A conspiracy of contradiction is formed, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Wilmore, the son—who at first confesses his sin to the curate, but afterwards, at his mother's instigation, "faces it out"—and Mr. Viveash, a country solicitor, the object being to deceive Sir John Plugenet, who is anxious that the matter shall be cleared up. An informal inquiry is held in the Manor House library, the curate being put on his trial for slander. Rachel has been persuaded by Mrs. Wilmore to sacrifice herself and save Lennard by denying that he was her seducer, and she is induced by the solicitor to put her denial into writing. The letter is handed to Sir John, who is completely convinced, and the curate is as absolutely overborne and discredited. But the whole edifice of deception is overturned. Brought face to face with Lennard, and overcome by the strain, Rachel falls into his arms, and the young man, his resolution broken down by his love and pity, confesses the truth.

The last act is taken up with an attempt by Mrs. Wilmore to persuade Rachel to give up Lennard for his own good, but Linnell comes to the support of the wavering girl, and finally gets Mrs. Wilmore to see that any other arrangement except the one adopted would be a mistake in the end.

The acting was worthy of the play, and that is saying a good deal. Mr. Leslie Faber looked the handsome, intellectual, sensitive Edgar Linnell to the life. The mildness, mingled with firmness, which indicated the Christian and the gentleman, the earnestness, power, and vigour of the man, and the agonised suffering of the martyr, were all to be found in Mr. Faber's fine impersonation; and the sustained intensity of his acting, the ease and dignity of his bearing, and the tenderness of his treatment of the pathetic passages, completed the effect of his admirable characterisation. Mr. J. H. Barnes gave a very vigorous and emphatic embodiment of Mr. Wilmore, and his make-up and attire were altogether excellent. Mr. Vernon Steele handled the critical rôle of Lennard Wilmore with great tact and discrimination, making the uncertain youth sufficiently objectionable, yet not putting him beyond the bounds of reform and acceptance. Mr. Arthur Lewis was especially acute, natural, and sharply-polished as the cynical lawyer, Mr. Viveash, and contributed a rendering of remarkable ingenuity and merit, which made its mark from the first, and left a very vivid and favourable impression. Mr. Charles V. France supplied a crisp, firm, and well-balanced embodiment of the high-minded and impartial Sir John Plugenet, and made the most of his opportunity in the third act. Mr. Alfred Bishop as the Rev. Everard Daubeny was just the silly, self-indulgent, "pottering" old parson required by the text; and Mr. Cecil Brooking was entirely satisfactory as Dr. Blaney. Mr. Fred Grove did useful work as the butler. Miss Marion Terry's natural sweetness and bright charm were in strange alliance with the warped morality and misdirected affection of the worldly-wise mother, and she put the deepest and most touching expression into her depiction of the harrassed and distressed woman in the third act, when she is driven to extremes, and is desperately resolute to attain her ends. Mrs. Wilmore's scorn and contempt for her husband were very finely expressed, and, altogether, though the contrast of Mrs. Wilmore's character and Miss Marion Terry's identity was puzzling to her many friends and admirers, the result was curiously artistic and effective. Miss Doris Keane, though she pitched her voice at times too low for the size of the house, gave an affecting and sympathetic portrayal of Rachel Neve, her simulation of physical weakness and bitter sorrow being full of delicacy and feeling; and Miss Viva Birkett was a charming representative of Helen Plugenet—natural, simple, and sincere, and with a style and appearance well suited to the part. Miss Henrietta Watson hit off very neatly and cleverly the acid and artful Mrs. Blaney; and Mrs. Leslie Faber's neat handling of the character of Mrs. Linnell made it noteworthy and acceptable; Miss Irene Clarke being smart, spirited, and distinct as Patty. Mr. Walter Hann's scenery was excellent, and the three interiors were well and solidly furnished.

The reception of *The Hypocrites* was, as we have said, wildly enthusiastic. The play, interested, delighted, and excited the audience immensely. It is certain to draw full houses at the Hicks Theatre for many weeks to come.

"THE LITTLE JAPANESE GIRL."

Play, in One Act, adapted from the Japanese by Miss Loie Fuller, incidental music by Mr. John Crook, and produced at the Duke of York's Theatre, on Monday, Aug. 26.

The Princess .....MISS JANE MAY
The Prince .....MR. EDWARD SASS
Gen .....MR. PERCIVAL STEVENS
A Little Japanese Girl ....MISS PAULINE CHASE

The dramatic autumn season may be said to have commenced at the Duke of York's on Monday with the transference thereto of *Brewster's Millions*, the gaiety of which had previously attracted large audiences to the Hicks Theatre. What is good enough for Shaftesbury-avenue is not likely to lack patronage in St. Martin's-lane, and the return of Mr. Gerald Du Maurier, who, as Monte Brewster, spends thousands nightly with a business aptitude and a *bonhomie* that are irresistible, was enthusiastically welcomed by a crowded house, among whom the popular actor numbered many personal friends. The "Welcome Home" of the "Little Sons of the Rich" to Mr. Du Maurier, who returned to the cast on Monday after a holiday, had of course a special significance, and though the four-act comedy started nearly five-and-twenty minutes after the advertised time, there was but little impatience exhibited by either gods or pit, and laughter and merriment ruled.

The new curtain-raiser to *Brewster's Millions* is a translation from the Japanese by Miss Loie Fuller, who hitherto has been known mostly as an exponent of the serpentine dance on the variety stage. The little piece is a thumbnail tragedy, woven round the fate of the little Japanese girl of the title, who, on arrival at a pretty miniature village—an idealised stage picture of the willow-pattern plate—finds the toilet accessories of a Princess, who, with her attendant, Gen, is away on a mission of mercy. The little maid puts down her heavy burden, and finds great delight in rearranging her hair before a looking-glass, and in utilising the extraneous aids to beauty. She would like to look like a Princess, and quite succeeds in doing so when she dons the kimono which the Princess carelessly threw aside on her departure. The Prince returns, and, catching sight of the figure in the gorgeous silk cloak, rushes to the conclusion that it is the Princess, who has already favoured his suit. He makes an avowal of his passion. Receiving no reply from the girl, who hides her face, he departs in anger. Gen, the girl's real lover, then comes, and immediately penetrates the disguise, and the two have a real spoony time. On Gen's departure the Prince returns, and no answer being given to his renewed protestations of affection, he loses control of himself, and, in a frenzy, stabs the timid little maid in the back. With the return of the Princess he discovers his terrible mistake, and is overwhelmed with remorse. On the pathetic death of the little girl the curtain falls. The dialogue is mostly in pidgin English—of the sort that might be used by the Chinese laundrymen in San Francisco, but the little piece loses nothing of its tragic intensity in the hands of Miss Pauline Chase, who, besides realising the pathos of the title-rôle, dances with wonderful grace and charm. Mr. Edward Sass, a stern and unflinching Prince, shares in a dance with the Princess, a part played with cleverness by Miss Jane May. Mr. Percival Stevens is quite adequate as the attendant, Gen. Mr. John Crook's music has illustrative qualities which make it a valuable adjunct in the dramatic scheme, the significance of which is accentuated by the appearance of two Japanese attendants with lights in front of the special curtain illustrated with Japanese characters.

MRS. CARTE AND THE SAVOY.

Mrs. D'Oyly Carte writes:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—May I ask your courtesy to be permitted, through the medium of your columns, to express to the public and to all those who have generously supported the revivals at the Savoy, my grateful appreciation of the satisfaction they have shown at my efforts to serve them during the season which is now ending?

The experience of well-nigh thirty years, during which I have been daily in the closest touch with these operas and their requirements, has made me realise my great responsibility, and the great difficulty there always is in reaching the highest standard of perfection. The manifold intricacies in the management of so complex and exacting an undertaking; the thousand-and-one-details, all of which compel the closest consideration; the disappointments, the anxieties and worries which are entailed by a Savoy Opera Season, could not have been surmounted by me unless I had been helped by a sympathetic and encouraging public, who have made it a real pleasure to serve them, and have made one's work a work of love.

In reviving these operas at the Savoy pecuniary considerations have not influenced me. My aim has been to give the public the best possible production and the best possible representation, and to achieve that end no expense has been allowed to stand in the way.

The Press have as a rule enabled me to thank them. It is, I know, always most difficult for a critic to avoid the good and easy "copy" to be obtained by recalling the pleasures of the days long gone by and shedding a tear over the past. There never yet was a revival where the disparagement of the present as compared with the past did not occupy a considerable space in the Press. The enthusiasm of the audience may be unbounded, the laughter hearty, and the appreciation unmistakable—what is all this to the critic who remembers "good King George's glorious days," and finds that everything and everybody were so much better when he was younger? I sympathise with him. In my weaker moments I, too, can feel like that, for "the weakness is so strong." Indeed, the knowledge that, no matter how good the representation given by my company, they would have to stand the steady fire of the criticism of every "laudator temporis acti" nearly made me abandon my original idea of a London season. But, had I given way to such feelings the public would not have had the revivals at all.

I am glad I resisted this weakness, for I can gratefully say that my artists have worked their way by their merits into the hearts and affections of thousands of the London public, to whom the performances have unmistakably given the greatest pleasure.

If my present plans are allowed to be consummated, I hope to open my next London season on about April 27. Events have moved kindly in that direction, for *The Mikado* has been permitted to be played, and Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker have placed the Savoy at my disposal for a few months. While *The Mikado* will naturally occupy a very prominent place in my season's bills, I hope again to revive a few of the other operas in the form of répertoire which I have found so popular during the past eight months.

It only remains for me to again add my warmest and most heartfelt thanks to all Savoyards who have given me such splendid support and cheered me by their kindly letters.—Yours, &c.,

HELEN D'OYLY CARTE.

Savoy Hotel, W.C., Aug. 23.

To the Editor of *The Era*.—Sir,—I notice that in the report in *The Era* of the last week of the performance of Mr. Charles Macdona's *Cingalee* company at Margate and Tunbridge Wells you made special mention of Miss Aimée Roberts in the part of Nanoya. The part in question was undertaken at both these towns by Miss Alys Collier.—Yours faithfully, JOHN C. MAZDEL.

THE REAL "HAMLET."

AND HOW IT SHOULD BE STAGED.

By PERCY FITZGERALD, M.A.

It may be said that none of us have ever seen the true *Hamlet* performed, though we have had some crude and dreary attempts at setting out the whole play before us. What has been exhibited to us for generations has been a "hashed-up" selection of the more telling portions of the play. It having been settled—a settlement that nothing can shake—that it is a one-man piece, that can "show off" a distinguished performer in the most effective way, the knife and the scissors and the blue pencil have all been used recklessly, to clear away the surrounding brushwood, so as to let the performer stand out distinct and unimpeded. The intricate story, the doings of other characters, have been remorselessly abolished, except where they forwarded the interests of the central figure. Thus have we lost an amount of striking things which actually increased the potency of this very figure. It is a revelation for those who have studied the play in its entirety what a solemn, moving tragedy it is, how deeply interesting and how profound and dramatic is the share the assisting performers take in Hamlet's destinies. How few know, for instance, that the King had arranged for the assassination of his stepson long before the last attempt in the fencing scene; and who knows that this was planned in desperation because the first attempt had failed? Who, again, knows of Hamlet's attempts to conceal Polonius's body—a symptom of madness? But, no; these things are counted excrescences and in the way. We must have the one dramatic figure—"Ma femme et cinq poupées." In these papers I propose to show what the real drama is, and how it should be treated. But it is not very difficult to set forth some natural, elementary principles of Shakespearean representation, nor would it be difficult to furnish a pure and correctly classical performance of one of Shakespeare's plays, which should be in perfect harmony with the poetry and characters. But it must be admitted that the obstacles in the way of reforming managers are enormous and well-nigh insuperable. The old hidebound traditions and practices of the stage and the debased taste of the audiences are in the way. Until it is accepted that the large and generic word, "The Stage," stands only for what it literally means—that is, is merely a raised erection to make prominent those who are interpreting some exciting picture of human character, we cannot look for any respectable performances of Shakespeare. *En attendant*, however, there may be efforts of a negative sort—the abolition of what should not be—even if what *should* be cannot be secured. Just as in the restoration of some fair old church much is gained if there is reserve used, and the existing features are simply repaired or strengthened.

After all, it is clear there must be *some* legitimate system or fashion of putting Shakespearean plays upon the stage. There ought to be certain principles of representation, limits to adornment or setting off, which can be ascertained by thought and study. In the present system there are no laws or limits whatever. It is all happy-go-lucky. The manager—rather, the manager-actor—"rough-hews" the bard as he may, does what he likes with the scenes, adds and super-adds whatever he thinks will "set off" the play most, and put it in touch with the present day. And yet we may firmly believe that, after careful study and earnest thought, it would be quite possible to reach certain fixed principles that would regulate our dealings with these great plays and characters. It is to be done by the process of conscientiously seeking for what the bard himself intended in his situations—what his meaning and intentions were.

But I can fancy our modern stage-manager saying:—"My Gawd! All this is truly Utopian. It may be a very excellent arrangement; but the thing would be as long as one of the Ring operas, and take, say, six hours. You would clear the house. We must get on. Come to the 'osses—come to business." This is true and practical enough; but this treatment should be not "cutting"—that is, omitting—but *compression*. There should be a process of compression that will retain everything, but in an abridged form. An idea, for instance, takes some forty or fifty lines; it should be skilfully compressed into half-a-dozen. Every incident should be there, though any amount of words may be sacrificed. This, or something of the kind, is the true principle.

A great difficulty in these reproductions is how far must compression, omission—"cutting," in short, go. We may now speculate how the enormous length of scenes, dialogues, speeches, &c., was dealt with in the early days. The great writer must surely have thought and intended that all that he set down should be presented, for he would not have meant that so much of it should go to waste The truth was that audiences were well accustomed to length in all things, and were schooled to follow the slow and gradual development of character. There was plenty of leisure then, and interest was excited by good declamation, which brought out the meaning of each line. Now it is rarely that we hear a passage given so as to be intelligible.

In the old Covenanter times the congregation could listen with relish to sermons hours long, and without their attention flagging; so it must have been with the speeches on the stage. Even nowadays the French can tolerate the rather long-winded declamation of Racine and Corneille. But it all comes round to this: Any passage in Shakespeare will be acceptable and followed if it be given with skill, intelligence, due emphasis, melodious accents, sympathy, and force. As these elements are not present, we must perforce cut away all such passages as so much "top hamper." Further, as folks are waiting impatiently for the processions, tableaux, &c., the long speeches are so much delay, and must be "cut" out.

The present system of setting forth Shakespeare might be indeed considered a sort of "raree show," or even a variety entertainment. For, let us think of this—the volumes of commentaries on Shakespeare from a library; the various passages, even to a single precious line, have had pages and pages of discussion devoted to each; a single word often seems as though made of gold. And yet in these public performances all this precious matter is reduced to common everyday prose. The sentences are delivered indistinctly and in a hurry; there is no thought of emphasis or contrast, or bringing out in subtle meaning. The real objects are the huge, painted structures, "sets," dances, processions—things, in short, to be looked at, with the result that the words are merged and overpowered, and cannot assert themselves.

Again, it is always understood that to present *Hamlet* properly and according to tradition we must adopt a sort of stilted, pedantic system of elocution and bearing. We must recite, declaim, growl, or vociferate and stride about. All such things would disappear if the players could only persuade themselves that they were ordinary men and women concerned in a terrible and momentous tragedy—if they would but put emotion and passion and warmth and nature into all they say and do. Some of Hamlet's soliloquies are of great length, but no one complains, because they are so interesting, and the powerful efforts of the actor make them more interesting still. But it is not the length nor the obscurity that is in fault; it is the lack of intelligence, training, and understanding in the recitation. Our players, alas! have little or no elocution, no emphasis, no contrast, no power of search for the meaning. Milton himself, in such hands, would be ineffective. This system suggests the clerk in "Pickwick" who was reading out the affidavits, running words into each other—"sohelpyou God. You must get change." And, indeed, who has ever heard a sentence of Shakespeare delivered so as to bring out the full, entire meaning? And rarely have we heard it illustrated by natural and appropriate feeling or passion; and finally, so as to leave a satisfactory impression, still more rarely even heard every word of the sentence. On the contrary, the meaning is too often distorted by the ignorance of the reciter, who cannot reach to it, or fails by his helplessness, to give it expression. The result is that all is dark and incomprehensible to the spectator. How many a time have we listened to some lord or cardinal reeling off a discourse, say a hundred lines long, and which it was literally impossible to follow, or find out what he meant? I suppose there is no such prodigy of long-wordedness as Molière's *Le Misanthrope*, with its interminable speeches and dialogues. You can hardly read it, but you can study it. It seems intolerable, but in the hands of the Française company how illuminated it is. Everything that is said is heard, understood, and said in the best way possible. So intelligent is the expression given to each sentence that you are perforce attracted and led on to the next.

The vulgar conception of Hamlet is the actor's Hamlet—that is, one great central character, round whom are grouped a number of inferior figures to set him off, making a sort of ring whenever he chooses to declaim. But crowd the tapestry with surging, agitated figures, assume the picture of a distracted Court, seething with intrigues, murder in the air, mysterious *revenants* from the other world, how infinitely more striking will be the position of Hamlet. It is not enough that there should be conspirators working against him, but that these should be of power—desperate men. We have heard the ancient joke of the part of Hamlet being "omitted by desire"; but with the full text there would not be an altogether hopeless residuum, but a full, abundant chronicle.

There is so much variety in these Shakespearean manifestations that we may wonder that all the thought and ingenuity of managers should not be expended in presenting them in, at least, a plausible way. This should be based on the principle of making those to whom the Ghost shows itself exhibit a natural feeling of terror and bewilderment.

There has never, or rarely, been sufficient thought given to the opening scenes of *Hamlet*, which take place on "the Platform before the Castle," and, later, on "a more remote part of the Platform"—the platform being the terrace on which cannon are placed. One can hardly imagine anything more poetical or favourable to ghostly feeling—the gloomy waste of stone wall stretching away, the parapet, the shadowy towers beyond, the blue haze as dawn draws near, the peculiar, faint tinkle of the clock in the town beyond or in the courtyard of the fortress. There might be a cold moonlight, so as to cast the shadows of figures on the terrace. This terrace, too, should be a long stretch or promenade, and a lonely one. And here is usually the mistake, that there is little attention paid to the *scale* of things, it being attempted to squeeze into the small area all the substantial portions of a castle. This quite dispels illusion. The ghost might be seen coming down for a long distance, first afar off, then drawing near slowly and gradually, and unseen by the officers. But how much of the effect is due, not to such things, but to the ghostly character of the situation. Let us take the opening passages—the relief of the guard, so mysterious and awesome in the reading, and upon which so much depends in the preparation. But who that has seen it has ever found it properly interpreted, or in any fashion but the most literal, matter-of-fact, and prosaic fashion? The players, generally fifth- or sixth-rate persons in the cast, seem to take for their models the common sentries they have seen relieving guard, and bark out their calls and replies in their blunt style. "Stand!" "Unfold yourself!" "Long live the King!" Francisco and Bernardo are all one to them, so is the question and answer, the doubt and assurance. It is merely one soldier taking the place of the other. And yet, how much more could be made of the situation—what graduated mystery, and sense of some expected horror could be conveyed in every word, so as to lead up to the one image that was in the minds of all!

The whole of the scene that follows is foreshadowed. Francisco is pacing "on his post"; dreaming it may be—then roused by the sound of the steps he actually challenges the other, actually fancying that he himself is on duty! The factionary naturally says: "Nay, answer *me*: stand," &c. Now what a *début* is here, and how effectively it could be worked! The guard, weary and expectant, the slow approach, the starts of both, the looking round of Bernardo in alarm. This conveys that both were full of the ghost—dreading its return—quite unmanned and "upset" as it were. They had not got over the visitation. What real acting there could be, and how different from the mere give-and-take replies! Francisco, glad to get away and not in the secret, compliments his friend on his punctuality. He says that he is "cold and sick at heart"; and Bernardo is just as eager that he should be gone. He had "come on the stroke of twelve," and bids him get to bed at once. Bernardo eagerly asks: "Have you had quiet guard?"—that is, "Have you *seen* anything?"—to which the other carelessly replies, "Not a mouse stirring." Then Bernardo, somewhat impatiently: "Well, good-night," and bids him, if he should meet Horatio and Marcellus, tell them to hurry. They presently appear, he saying "I think I hear them." Then another challenge. It must have been exceeding dark, for they cannot see each other, and ask "What, is Horatio there?" which shows that faces could not be seen.

Now in all this is there not a vast deal that is poetical to be suggested, with *finesse* and due deliberation? It is a little play in itself; but who has ever seen it played so as to convey the idea of these things? But all that the stage manager requires is that these subordinates should speak up distinctly, and like officers on guard. The suggestion of "graduated horror" or "growing sense of mystery" he would dismiss with an emphatic "All rot! Never mind that."

The fashion in which the ghost first appears is usually of a literal and practical kind. A man, often of a stout, robust build, is seen to stride across the stage in an affectedly solemn way, and pass out at the wing. Now, one could fancy a great deal being made of this—an indistinct apparition, not a shadow, moving in an uncertain way, now pausing in a sort of hesitancy and gazing sadly on the soldiers. I could imagine his being unnoticed for some moments; then one of the party seeing him, would, awe-stricken, touch his comrade, and as silently point to the apparition. Then it would glide out as it came. Hamlet's later "Angels and ministers of grace defend us," and the speech that follows, have been worked by the tragedians for "all that they are worth." Their idea is a sort of agonised and gasping expression of astonishment, which shall be in contrast to the previous tone of easy conversation.

Again, there is an idea of attacking the spirit, for Marcellus asks, "Shall I strike at it with my partisan?" and Horatio encourages him to do so. They are turning hither and thither—one says "'tis here," the other "'tis here." And then Marcellus, still looking round wildly, says "'tis gone." In all this there is a vast deal to be developed by careful study and rehearsing.

(To be continued.)

ACTORS' UNION.

LONDON.

Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., presided at the usual weekly meeting of the Actors' Union, held at the Bedford Head Hotel on Tuesday afternoon. Among those present were:—Messrs. S. Braithwaite, Arthur Bawtree, Richard Cowell, P. Trounsell, D. Gunn Murray, Oswald Marshall, F. F. Loyd, L. Paget, Cecil G. Calvert, Jack Collinson, C. L. Delph, H. Tripp Edgar, Frank Gerald, Reginald Van Ramsey, E. G. Rae, Arthur St. John, R. M. Taylor, Mrs. S. and Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite, Mrs. E. L'Estrange, and Misses Mary Bessle, Florence Creagh, Chalmers, May Conrade, Maud Dagmar, Gladys Ffolliott, Adelaide Gracey, Nelly Howitt, Kitty Marion, Agnes Paulton, Isa Patterson, and Kate Sabine.

The Chairman, in his opening remarks, said that in reference to a case in which an actor had been ill-treated, and the Committee had been urged by a meeting in Manchester to take up the matter, it had been very carefully considered by the Committee, who had come to the conclusion that it would be better to stick hard and fast by their rules, which would prevent their fighting the case, as the abuse for which it was sought to obtain redress occurred before the member in question joined the Union. In regard to another manager, who was deducting ten shillings from the salaries of members of his company under the new Compensation Act, the subject was being brought before their solicitor, and counsel's opinion on the legality or otherwise of such conduct was being taken. Speaking about the duties of members of the Union, he (the Chairman) desired to urge upon his hearers the necessity of getting new members; and whenever they persuaded an actor to become a member, they should induce the new member to do as they had done. He understood that a postcard had been sent to various members of the profession, containing the following message:

Heaven Helps Those Who Help Themselves.
Actors' Union Reform Party.

Are you interested in actors organising? Do you agree that the Actors' Association and the Actors' Union should unite on trades union basis to obtain a minimum wage? If not, can you suggest a better way of improving the theatrical condition?—(Signed) Norman Towers.

P.S.—Kindly pass this to a friend.

After the loud, derisive laughter which greeted the reading of this notice had subsided, the Chairman intimated that no comment was necessary, and he would not waste words upon it. They had now a membership of 499, and he hoped that someone would come forward to change that into an even number. One of their latest members was going to America for the purpose of making inquiries into similar organisations over there, and to interest American actors and actresses in the British Union.

Mr. H. Tripp Edgar, after mentioning that Mr. Frank Gerald had been appointed by the Actors' Union to represent that body at the Trades Union Congress, said that Mr. Gerald had been very strenuous in promoting the interests of the Variety Artists' Federation, and a testimonial dinner was to be given in his honour on Sept. 15 at the Criterion. It was to be hoped that all Unionists who could attend that function would do so. The tickets for the dinner were 5s. each. He thought that it would be a good thing to welcome "portable" actors and actresses, as well as the members of the chorus. The latter certainly needed the help and protection of such a Union. It was a fact that many chorus girls were paid no more than 18s. a week. That was a disgusting state of things. However, it was pleasant to be able to say that some managers were co-operating with the Union. In Germany there was a really admirable Actors' Union, which arranged for a minimum wage, an old-age pension, medical attendance, widows' and orphans' fund, rich fund, and a provident and loan fund.

Mr. Frank Gerald remarked that the V.A.F. had decided to follow the lead of the Actors' Union, and be represented at the Trades' Union Congress. He desired to point out to his brother and sister members that by their joining the Congress they were taking the initial steps towards being represented in Parliament. They would have a voice in the election of the Parliamentary Committee. Speaking personally, he would tell them that his career as a music hall artist was now at an end, and he intended to return to his old love, the legitimate stage. He was going to work his very hardest for the A.U., and his services were always to be considered at their disposal.

Mr. Oswald Marshall and Miss Gladys Ffolliott also spoke, and a vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings. Several new members joined.

A meeting was held at the Salisbury Hotel, Manchester, on Tuesday, with Mr. Harry Paulton in the chair. Among others present were Messrs. Francis Chamier, Orlando Barnet, Chas. Gartt Norton, R. B. Drysdale, Ed. Valentine, Frank Tennant, Lawrence Wensley, Ed. St. John, and Miss Violet Chamier.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, regretted that he was again compelled to allude to the most unjustifiable attacks on the Union which kept appearing in the Press under various noms de plume. He denied that the committee was blown this way and that by different sections of opinion in the Union, and stated that, as was well known to its traducers, the rules were already drawn up, passed, and in the hands of the Registrar of Trades Unions. He then recapitulated the objects of the Union—objects which have never been swerved from for one instant since the original programme was issued. In conclusion, he again impressed upon his hearers the complete unanimity of opinion which reigned amongst the members of the committee and the members of the Union.

Mr. Francis Chamier said it was a striking instance of the quagmire into which the traducers referred to by Mr. Paulton had fallen that, although one of their chief reasons for maligning the Union was that it extended protection to actors playing in sketches, they were now calling for a Reform party on the lines suggested by Mr. Morland, who was himself at that time playing in a sketch and belonged to an association which extends protection to its members playing in the halls.

Mr. Lawrence Wensley and Mr. Orlando Barnett also spoke. Mr. Jas. Weekes, Mr. W. Champney, and Mr. Ralph Lynn were nominated for membership.

The additional sums received for the Arthur Verne fund have been C. H. T., 2s. 6d.; F. T. (Preston), 2s.

Mr. Jas. B. Lloyd has been appointed acting-manager of the Theatre Royal, Bolton. Mr. Lloyd was formerly connected with the Theatre Royal, Leamington Spa, the Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth, and the Grand Opera House, Liverpool, and has also served in the capacity of manager for Mr. Henry Dundas.

The baby ostrich at the Crystal Palace Ostrich Farm continues to be a great source of attraction to visitors. A number of eggs have been incubated since the installation of the farm at the Palace, but without success, and similar efforts have been made by fanciers elsewhere in the country with like results. The ostrich at home—that is to say, at his home in the Crystal Palace grounds—is just as interesting as the ostrich in his native wilds, and visitors should on no account miss this interesting sight.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The Bioscope Operators' Association have applied to the London County Council to afford facilities for the examination of operators of animated picture machines, and to issue certificates to those competent to operate such machines, only those having such certificates to be employed in halls or theatres licensed by the Council.

The matter is under the consideration of the authorities. If the County Council will not undertake to adopt the suggestion it is proposed that the Association arrange for examinations and issue certificates to those who are proved to be competent.

The Arbitrator has now issued his ruling on the point brought before him by the National Association of Theatrical Employés as to the right of the men reinstated on March 11 to be paid the rate fixed by the final award. The men are to be paid, the ruling being in favour of the claim made by the Association.

A committee meeting of the Bioscope Operators' Association was held on Tuesday at 29, Wellington-street. The meeting adjourned till Tuesday, Sept. 10, when all members in London are earnestly requested to be present. Rules and full particulars will be forwarded on application to the Secretary, Thos. C. Weedon, 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

The third annual picnic of the staff of the Star Theatre, Liverpool, was held last Sunday at Chester, the company numbering upwards of seventy. Leaving Birkenhead in char-à-bancs the picnickers drove through many picturesque localities of Cheshire, and sat down to an excellent dinner at the Olde Pyed Bulle Hotel, Chester. Boating on the Dee and other forms of amusement were indulged in, and after enjoying a most appetising tea, all returned home, having had a charming outing. Mr. Harris Fineberg, proprietor of the Star, was, unfortunately, unable to join the company. The arrangements were satisfactorily carried out by Messrs. G. Bowden, G. Bennett, H. Clayton, J. Price, T. A. Tallon (secretary), W. McTaggart (treasurer), and W. Conroy (assistant secretary).

THE TRADE UNION CONGRESS AND THE PROFESSION.

On Monday next the fortieth meeting of the Trade Union Congress will commence in the Assembly Rooms, Bath, at which nearly one and three-quarter millions of Trade Unionists will be represented.

This Congress will be distinguished, so far as the theatrical and music hall professions are concerned, by the presence at the Congress of every trade union connected with these professions.

The rank and file of the delegates from the many hundreds of trade unions will be attracted by the title of the first union in the alphabetical list of delegates already issued. "The Actors' Union" heads the list. Among the youngest and the smallest, its title will, beyond doubt, strike the imagination of manual workers, and the more thoughtful among them will probably see in the presence of the Actors' Union the first sign of a movement to bring the dramatic art into its true relation to the great mass of the people. The Actors' Union is sure of a warm welcome from the Congress, and it may rely on the support of the unions with whom it comes, for the first time, into contact.

The following societies will be represented:—

The Actors' Union: Mr. Frank Gerald, delegate.
The Musicians' Union: Delegates, Mr. J. B. William, Manchester; Mr. J. W. Duys, Bath.
The National Association of Theatrical Employees: Mr. W. Johnson, London.
The Artists' Protective Association: Mr. Harry Mountford.
The Variety Artists' Federation: Messrs. J. O'Gorman and M. Bailey.

The total number of members of these societies exceeds 7,000. The Artists' Protective Association is a new society, of which Mr. Frank Gerald is secretary and Mr. Harry Mountford chairman. The principal officials of the National Alliance will, therefore, meet in Bath, and it is not improbable that events there will lead to the formation of another alliance between all the above societies on a more definite and permanent basis than the National Alliance. It will be a mistake to assume that the present differences which arose among these societies at the conclusion of the late music hall war are likely to continue. Had the Variety Artists' Federation not affiliated itself with the General Federation of Trade Unions and the Trade Union Congress the present differences might have become more and more serious; but now that all the societies are allied through the Congress, and will shortly be allied in a closer manner through the Federation of Trade Unions, they will be in duty bound, to the Trade Unions movement, to help one another.

The present situation in Manchester has forced the variety artists to realise that their only hope is in the trade unions in any dispute with managers over matters within or without the scope of the Award. It is a pity, in many respects, that the V.A.F. leaders did not realise this fact before they seceded from the National Alliance and left their allies—the musicians and stage employees—in a manner not altogether above criticism.

It is desirable that bygones should be bygones, not only between managers and these societies, but between the leaders of these societies. Every reason adduced in favour of combination can be urged with greater force in favour of a Federation of combinations, more especially those pledged to trade union principles.

The actor and the artist will find that the Trade Union Congress is a force against sectionalism in any trade, industry, or profession, and the unions that want its help or the sympathy of the general movement must have a clean slate in its relations with kindred societies.

All these societies have learnt much from the recent dispute; if they now learn from the Congress the necessity for unity among themselves their advent into the Trade Union Parliament will be made worthy of remembrance.

"PAWNBROKING."

Sketch by Hilton Frances, produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, Aug. 26.

Solomans Gluckstein .... Mr. Hilton Frances
Little Willie ..... Master Russell
Smith ..... Mr. Walter Richards
Mrs. Moppit ..... Miss Marie Jonquil
Mrs. Armstrong ..... Miss Edith Colona
Miss Desmond ..... Miss Elsie Cooper

A very good set represents the interior of Solomans Gluckstein's pawnbroking establishment, where a number of characters are seen wending their familiar way to "Uncle's." First comes Miss Desmond, a new casual pledgee, followed by the regular Mrs. Armstrong, the objectionable and dissipated Mrs. Moppit, and the precocious "kid," Little Willie, all of whom have their tale to tell to the ever-patient pawnbroker, Solomans Gluckstein, who, contrary to the custom of his trade, gives them the amounts they request on the articles produced. This parade of the ordinary Monday morning's routine at a pawnbroker's is really the vehicle for a rough and tumble pugilistic encounter between the disreputable virago, Mrs. Moppit, and the buxom British matron, Mrs. Armstrong, who engage in an exciting contest. All the company did their level best with the material at their command, and the sketch was very well received.

DEATH OF RICHARD MANSFIELD.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Richard Mansfield, which took place at New London, Connecticut, on Friday. Mr. Mansfield, who was born in Heligoland in 1857, acted first in England and later in America, his early essays being almost exclusively in comic opera. He became a member of A. M. Palmer's Union-square Theatre Company, 1883, playing Baron Chevrial in *A Parisian Romance*. Principal parts: Prince Karl in A. C. Gunter's *Prince Karl*, 1886; Dr. Jekyl and Mr. Hyde in Russel Sullivan's dramatisation of Stevenson's novel, 1887; Andre Rossini Mario de Jadot in his own *Monsieur*, 1887; King Richard III., 1889; Humpy Logan in *Master and Man*, 1890; Mr. George Brummel in Clyde Fitch's *Beau Brummel*, 1890; Don Juan in his own *Don Juan*, 1891; Emperor Nero in Russel Sullivan's *Nero*, 1891; Tittlebat Titmouse in his own dramatisation of Warren's *Ten Thousand a Year*, 1892; Arthur Dimmesdale in Joseph Hatton's dramatisation of Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*, 1892; Shylock in *The Merchant of Venice*, 1893; Captain Bluntschli in George Bernard Shaw's *Arms and the Man*, 1894; Don Pedro XIV. in Louis N. Parker's *The King of Peru*, 1895; Rodion in Charles Henry Meltzer's *Rodion the Student*, 1895; Dick Dudgeon in George Bernard Shaw's *The Devil's Disciple*, 1897; Eugen Courvoisier in J. I. C. Clarke and Meridan Phelps' dramatisation of Jessie Fothergill's novel, "The First Violin," 1898; Cyrano in Edmond Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac*, 1898. Amongst his published poems were "Blown Away," a nonsense book for grown-up children; and amongst his plays *Ten Thousand a Year*, and *Don Juan*.

VICTORIA HALL, WALTHAMSTOW.

This popular place of amusement, originally known by its present name, afterwards as the Victoria Theatre, and for several years as The King's, has now reverted to its original designation, and the new management is making a bold and successful bid for favour. Thoroughly overhauled in every corner of its interior, with an entire installation of new seating, and, generally speaking, improved in every conceivable direction, the familiar house presents as cosy and comfortable appearance as the most fastidious could desire. In accordance with almost universal usage, it is run on the two-houses-a-night system, and at popular prices. The wisdom of this policy is evidenced by the crowded state of the auditorium at every performance, including a weekly matinée on Saturday. The energetic management rely largely on the attractive powers of the unfailing Bioscope—a form of entertainment that is held in the highest esteem by the local public. When we add that the particular bioscopical films employed are Raymond's, it is equivalent to saying that they could not be improved upon. No fewer than eight of the thirteen numbers comprising this week's programme are filled by the pictures, and the subjects, ranging "from grave to gay, from lively to severe," are loudly and emphatically applauded. In two cases we have an "illustrated song," the first being "Sweet Adeline" and the second, "Just for the sake of society," the solos being admirably rendered by Mr. Wensley Russell, whose fine voice is heard to great advantage. Mr. Harris Finberg is highly successful in a series of costume recitals, including a capital rendering of the part of Svengali in *Trilby*, a bold and dashing representation of King Henry V., and an exceedingly clever imitation of Mr. Charles Warner's great delirium tremens scene in *Drink*. Mr. Finberg might easily make a name for himself on the "legitimate" stage. A decided hit is made by Fredy and Carman in a musical novelty act, which proves greatly to the liking of the audience. The musical-director, Mr. H. McDermott, gives a charming pianoforte rendering of the beautiful waltz from *The Merry Widow*.

Master E. Frisby has been secured by the Stoll management, and will make his first appearance on that circuit at Glasgow next in "Starlight" and "The Old Cross Roads," published by Francis, Day and Hunter.

Last Saturday a fête was held at Mansfield, and was a great success. The most interesting item was the parachute descent by Capt. Clayton, the managing-director of the Grand Theatre. This gentleman is well-known and deservedly popular. About 6.30, with a cloudless sky, his enormous hot-air balloon (capacity 120,000 cubic feet), shot up to a height of 8600ft. At that height the parachute was detached, and after a fall of 416ft. it opened and sailed gracefully to earth about two miles from the start. A motor-car was handy, and bore the Captain back to the fête ground, where he received a tremendous ovation.

A new entertainer who has attracted considerable attention of late in Loughton and several other places in Essex is Mr. Cowan Firth. Besides possessing a fine and highly-cultivated baritone voice, which is heard to great advantage in the best class of music, the newcomer has a special talent for Yorkshire dialect impersonation in the John Hartley style, and chiefly comprising tales from that author's books. Mr. Cowan Firth is undoubtedly an artist who should make a distinct mark in the near future.

A highly-attractive programme is again provided for next week's Café Chantant at the Crystal Palace by Mr. Bannister Howard. It includes the Brothers Idento, in an eccentric juggling speciality; Cissy Astbury, a charming comedienne and dancer; Bert Danson, eccentric comedian; Sadie Mitchell, buck and clog dancer; Duncan and Brasque, in their duologue, *A Society Butterfly*; and Challis's dogs, in their acrobatic and boxing exhibition.

Miss Madge Beresford, a chic comedienne and a recruit from the theatrical stage, is at the Empress this week scoring heavily in a couple of numbers entitled, "She hadn't been an actress very long," and "That's a girl." Both of these numbers prove themselves excellent vehicles for Miss Beresford's abilities, and her dainty manner and pleasing voice add considerably to their scoring power. Managers desirous of securing a "reliable" turn would do well to secure this artist's services, for which already numerous applications have been made.

In addition to the three proprietors (Messrs. Graham, Russell, and Bentley), the programme this week at the West Cliff Gardens, Clacton-on-Sea, includes Miss Emilie Hayes, soprano, and Mr. Sidney Gandy and Miss Inglefield. Mr. Bernard Russell took his benefit last Saturday, when a record house resulted.

Miss Elsie Claire, at the Palace, Leicester, on Monday night sung for the first time, with great success, a very catchy chorus number, entitled "Josie from Jersey," written by James Wilson and composed by Henrie Jaxon, and should be a big pantomime number.

At Bournemouth T. J. West's Pictures are filling the Shaftesbury Hall twice daily, and meeting with record success. The films are up to their usual high standard of excellence. The Scottish Court conjurer, André Letta, supplies new business; the Stoneleys (Ernie and Susie) are two clever child musicians. The cinematographer is Mr. G. Hastings Philp. Miss Louie Dennison providing the incidental music and accompaniments. Mr. Fred Smith is the local representative, and the entire entertainment is ably managed by Mr. T. W. Kingston.

THEATRE ROYAL, GRANTHAM.

Mr. J. A. Campbell, the new proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Grantham, has made important improvements in the house at an outlay of £500. In the colour scheme, crimson and white have been utilised with excellent effect. On each of the side walls white columns, picked out in gold, have been fixed, together with tapestries and bevelled glass mirrors. The borders are of a harmonising hue. The ceiling has been painted a flesh tint, and from the centre is suspended a oxidised silver electrolier, in place of the arc lamp formerly used. On the wall at the rear of the circle, or balcony, two electric lamps have been placed, and one has been fixed above the steps leading to the balcony. The stage is refitted with new lamps, and the lighting generally has been thoroughly overhauled. Upon the slopes of the ceiling are inscribed the names of famous composers and authors. In the large entrance leading to the pit and pit-stalls, the "barked" walls have given place to white panelling. Just inside this entrance there are a couple of glass-topped swing doors, which will effectually prevent draughts, and similar provision has been made in the balcony entrance, the doors here being covered with red baize. The new set of stalls, immediately facing the stage, will now be approached by a passage leading off the circle entrance. On the ground floor a gangway has been constructed on the right-hand side, to correspond with the one on the left, so that the pit-stalls can now be reached from either side. The partition at the back of the pit has been lengthened, and a door made therein, through which the pit patrons will pass immediately on emerging through the doorway in the entrance-hall. One of the principal features in the improvements is undoubtedly the heating apparatus. Special attention has been given to this, and a very satisfactory result is anticipated. The pipes run through the whole of the theatre, upstairs and down, and are connected with five "Princess" radiators. The heating is amenable to regulation, and a test has fully proved that the apparatus is equal to any emergency, so that during any part of the season an even temperature can be maintained. The boiler, a "Junior Robin Hood" pattern, is situated underneath the stage; and every precaution has been taken to guard against fire. Under neath the stage, also, three new suites of furniture have been provided for the artists. The stage is exceptionally spacious, the measurements being fifty feet from side to side and thirty feet from back to front. The scenery has been painted by Mr. Alfred Maurice, and the same gentleman has also put on canvas an excellent picture of Belvoir Castle, framed in gilt, which is to be used as the "drop scene."

"THE LION AND THE UNICORN."

Historical Farce, in One Act, by Laurence Irving and Tom Hesslewood, produced for the first time at the Theatre Royal, Bolton, on Wednesday, Aug. 28.

King Charles II. .....Mr. H. B. Irving
Colonel Blood .....Mr. Frank Tyars
Lieutenant Parrot .....Mr. Tom Reynolds
Mr. Edwards .....Mr. C. Dodsworth
Marjory Edwards .....Miss Gwladys Wynne
Barbara .....Miss Muriel Alston

(From our own correspondent.)

The "historical farce" consists in an attempted solution of one of the events of English history which has never been satisfactorily cleared up, namely, the robbery of the Crown jewels from the Tower of London by Colonel Blood. The story is closely followed, involving as it does the appearance of Charles II. at the house of the Keeper of the Jewels in prosecution of his amours. A novel idea is introduced by the authors in making the King apparently a party to the robbery, although His Majesty is the ultimate destroyer of the plot. The outcome is unique, the impudent and daring Colonel Blood being granted a substantial pension and lodgings in high quarters, the King evidently believing such a rogue to be more useful as a friend than as an enemy.

The farce is both light and humorous, and abounds in exciting incidents, the principal artists being heartily applauded. Mr. H. B. Irving took the part of the Merry Monarch in true regal style, his witticisms coming trippingly off the tongue. Mr. Frank Tyars was cool, daring, audacious and resourceful as Colonel Blood, and well deserved the praise he received; Mr. Tom Reynolds as Lieut. Parrot was intensely amusing in his disguise as a woman; and the other characters in the hands of Mr. C. Dodsworth and the Misses Gwladys Wynne and Muriel Alston left nothing to be desired.

A QUOTATION.

To the Editor of The Era.

Sir,—Can you, or any of your readers, kindly tell me whence the undermentioned comes? I may state that, though it has a decidedly Shakespearean flavour, I cannot find it in any of his works; neither can I discover it in any reference books of well-known quotations:—

"Guard well thy music,, ne'er let it fade,
For 'tis a gift bestowed thee by the gods
Wherewith to stir the hearts of men to nobler purpose."

—Yours faithfully PERCY ASHDOWN
3, The Maisonettes, Holland-street,
Clapham-road, London, S.W., Aug. 26.

At the Operetta House, Clacton-on-Sea, Mr. W. F. Jury's animated pictures still fill the bill.

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—Your correspondent for King's Lynn omitted my name from his report last week of *The Sorrows of Satan*, in which I play the principal comedy part.—Yours faithfully, Fred Cherry. Opera House, Jersey, Aug. 29.

At Clacton-on-Sea Palace a good variety company this week is made up of Ray and Calden, comedy artists; Les Rallis, in their novelty, *The Artist and His Monkey*; Madge Daly, comedienne; Les Valdos, eccentric motor busmen; Johnny Worman, comedian; Harding and Preston, with their cross talk and comedy turn; Alice Maple, comedienne and dancer; and Edgar Berte. Caban's Circus and Norton Greenop's Lunar Sextette still perform in the grounds.

Not only have the charming Sisters Jonghmanns sung Mr. J. F. Lambe's delightful song, "Queen of old Samara," for no less than twenty-two consecutive weeks, on tour, but from Great Yarmouth, Scarborough, Douglas, Brighton, Southend, Whitley Bay, and in fact every seaside resort of note throughout Great Britain, come daily reports that this charming number is absolutely the rage. Needless to say, the Monte Carlo Co. are its publishers.

Grand combined concerts will be given on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings in the centre transept of the Crystal Palace by the band of H.M. Coldstream Guards and the great organ. Lieut. J. Mackenzie Rogan, Hon. R.A.M., will conduct, and Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock will preside at the organ.

Mr. Will Oliver, "Spot," starts on Tour on Monday, the opening night of the Hippodrome, Darlington. There will be quite a gathering of agents, many being interested financially in the undertaking, of which Signor Rino Pepi is the managing director.

ON THE ROAD, SEPT. 2.

Amasis.—Theatre Royal, Bradford.
Assassin.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
At Cripple Creek.—T. R., West Bromwich.
At Duty's Call.—T. R., Windsor.
Beauty and the Barge.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Belle of Mayfair (Bode).—Eastbourne and Southend.
Belle of Mayfair (Howard).—Weston-super-Mare.
Belle of New York (Howard).—Prince's T., Bristol.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Anstruther and Arbroath.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—T. R., York.
Best of Her Sex.—Grand T., Luton.
Blue Moon (S.).—Opera House, Buxton.
Bondman, The (Croke).—T. R., Aldershot.
Bondman, The (Day).—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Breed of the Treshams.—T. R., South Shields.
Bulmer, Mr.—Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.
Campbell, Mrs. Patrick.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Carl Rosa Opera.—Broadway T., Deptford.
Cassidy, J. Rice.—T. R., Tony-pandy.
Chinese Honeymoon (Bode).—Kennington Theatre.
Christian, The (Croke).—T. R., Edinburgh.
Convict's Daughter.—Grand T., Nelson.
Dairymaids.—Theatre Royal, Newcastle.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Hippodrome, Stalybridge.
D'Oyly Carte Opera.—Llandudno.
Earl and the Girl (Howard). — Bridgwater and Taunton.
False Wife.—Paisley Theatre, Paisley.
Fatal Wedding.—County T., Kingston.
Female Swindler.—Prince's T., Preston.
Fight for a Throne.—T. R., Sheffield.
Florodora (Howard).—Victoria T., Broughton.
For Her Sake.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Gayest of the Gay.—Queen's T., Longton.
Girl from Japan.—Theatre Royal, Dover.
Girl Who Went Astray.—St. James's T., M'chester.
Glossop-Harris.—T. R., Darlington.
Greed of Gold.—T. R., Macclesfield.
Grip of Iron.—Central T., Altrincham.
Guilty Gold.—Motherwell and Coatbridge.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—Grand T., Islington.
Her Love Against the World.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Her Marriage Vow.—Grand T., Doncaster.
Her One Great Sin.—T. R., Dumfermline
Hero of the Flag.—Metropole T., Hoyland.
Hill-Mitchelson.—T. R., Sunderland.
His House in Order (N.).—O. H., Coventry.
His House in Order (S.).—T. R., Torquay.
In a Woman's Grip.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
In the Shadow of Night.—Crown T., Peckham.
Irving, H. B.—H. M. T., Blackpool.
John Glayde's Honour.—H. M. T., Dundee.
La Comedie Anglaise—Inverness and Strathpeffer.
Lady Dandies.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
La Poupee (Levilly).—Marboro' Theatre, N.
La Poupee (Ralland).—Albert T., Brighouse.
Leah Kleschna.—Theatre Royal, Bath.
Light of the World.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
Lion and the Mouse.—New Theatre, Cardiff.
Little Breadwinner.—P.O.W., Salford.
Love of a Life.—Prince's T., Accrington.
Love that Women Desire.—Star T., Liverpool
Lucky Durham.—Grand T., W. Hartlepool.
Man's Enemy.—Theatre Royal, Whitehaven.
Manxman.—Theatre Royal, Mexboro'.
Midnight Mail.—Chesterfield.
Midnight Wedding.—Grand T., Brighton.
Mollison, Wm.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Monckton Hoffe Comedy Co.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
Monte Cristo.—T. R., Shrewsbury.
My Darling.—Theatre Royal, Manchester.
Peter's Mother (N.).—Spa T., Scarboro'.
Peter's Mother (M.).—Ryde and Shanklin.
Peter's Mother (S.)—O. H., Leicester.
Power of Gold.—T. R., Scarboro'.
Power of the Cross.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Prince of Pilsen (Harriss).—T. R., Bournemouth.
Prodigal Daughter.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Prodigal Parson.—T. R., Rotherham.
Prodigal Son (Croke).—King's T., Hammersmith
Prodigal Son (Day).—T. R., Glasgow.
Proof.—Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.
Raffles.—Bridlington and Whitby.
Road to Fortune.—T. R., Blackburn.
Rollicking Rory.—Gaiety T., Leith.
Royal Divorce.—Terriss's Theatre, S.E.
Second to None.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Secret Wedding.—Hippodrome, Mansfield.
Sentenced for Life.—T. R., Stratford, E.
Sherlock Holmes.—O. H., Jersey.
Shulamite, The.—Loughborough.
Sign of the Cross.—T. R., Ashton.
Silver King (Howard).—Hertford and Wellingborough.
Silver King (Polini and Melford) (N.).—T. R., Leicester.
Silver King (Polini and Melford) (S.).—Grand T., Southampton.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Soldier of France.—King's T., Sutton.
Soldier's Honour.—T. R., St. Helens.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—H. M. T., Barrow.
Stepmother, The.—Grand T., Middlesbrough.
Still Alarm.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Stronger Sex (N.).—T. R., Yarmouth.
Swiss Express.—Grand T., Hull.
Terry, Edward.—Royalty T., Glasgow.
Terry, Miss Ellen.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Two Lancashire Lasses in London.—Rochdale.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—T. R., Halifax.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.).—T. R., Chatham.
Tyrant, The.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
Under the Russian Flag.—Grand T., Mansfield.
Under the Stars and Stripes.—T. R., Ilkeston.
Veronique.—Crystal Palace Theatre.
Village Blacksmith.—Grand T., Nottingham.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—Court T., Warrington.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—Southend and Margate.
What the Butler Saw.—P.O.W., Birmingham.
When it was Dark.—Junction T., Manchester.
When London Sleeps.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
When Other Lips.—T. R., Hebburn.
When Woman Hates.—Grand T., Glasgow.
Why Men Love Women.—T. R., Bedford, Leigh.
Wilkie Allan and Co.—T. R., Stockport.
Woman from Scotland Yard.—T. R., Edmonton.
Woman Pays.—O. H., Wakefield.
Woman Worth Winning.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Woman's Past.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
World's Great Snare.—Miner's T., Ashington.
Worst Woman in London.—T. R., Leeds.
Woulfe Repte.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
You Never Can Tell.—West Pier, Brighton.
Youngest of Three.—Pier, Southend.
Young Lieutenant.—Ayr and Clydebank.
£1,000 Reward.—P. H., Mountain Ash.

Mr. Howard Hartman, who has just written and composed a scena for Miss May Clifton and company, has in preparation another attractive scena, entitled *A South Sea Island Dream*, which will shortly be produced at a West-End theatre.

Mr. Montague and his troupe of Vagabonds have returned to the Clacton-on-Sea Pier Pavilion, and have been playing to fine houses. The troupe, which is made up of Misses Olive Spark, Leslie Lulu, and Marie Longmore, and Messrs. Leslie Burgess, Claude Russell, and Harold Montague, have done a lot for the Pier Pavilion, and made it one of the most popular places of entertainment in Clacton.

At Freeman's Grounds on Wednesday next, commencing at 12 sharp, the Terriers Cricket Club will play the return match with George Gray's *Parson Gray, V.C.*, company.

New "Urbanora" subjects at the Alhambra, in addition to His Majesty's Cruise on the Dreadnought, include The Cabby Foster Father, and Accidents will Happen, a travesty on the Employers Liability Act. On Monday the Short-sighted Cyclist is to make his reappearance.

A matinée performance will be given by the British Cinema Co., Ltd., at the Balham Empire on Oct. 9 next, in aid of the Lord Mayor's Cripple Fund. His lordship has promised to attend in state.

Mr. Walter C. Kelly, the Virginia judge, finishes at the Palace to-night, and sails for America next week. He has a continuous season of nearly a year in the States, and he has not fixed a date for his return to this country.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

GEORGE CRAMPTON (Wilson, North Carolina).—*There were two performances of a version of Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" at the Imperial Theatre, London, S.W., on the afternoon and evening of Saturday, March 16, 1907 (see our issue of March 23). The allegory was produced by Mrs. W. Hadley in association with Mr. Nugent Monck. The music, composed and arranged by Dr. K. Vaughan-Williams, included several solos and part-songs adapted from traditional melodies. The tableaux were arranged by Mr. Frank Dicksee, the Royal Academician. You might get more information concerning the production by applying to the secretary of the English Drama Society, 20, Regent-street, London, S.W.*

C. J. KNIGHT.—*Miss Zena Dare played the heroine Angela when* The Catch of the Season *was first produced at the Vaudeville. Mr. Seymour Hicks appeared with her in the part of the Duke of St. Jermyns. Miss Ellaline Terriss afterwards took up the part, and it was also played by Miss Phyllis Dare.*

CURIOUS (Newington Butts).—*When the Coburg Theatre commenced its winter season on Dec. 26, 1821, the audience found themselves for the first time reflected in the much-talked-of looking-glass curtain. The Coburg changed its name to the Victoria on Monday, July 1, 1833. A looking-glass curtain was again resorted to as an extra attraction in September, 1834, with Rama Sanee, a juggler, to perform in front. We have no record of its removal. Saturday, Sept. 9, 1871, was the last night of the old Victoria, when the performances were for the benefit of Joe Cave, the last lessee of the house. Mr. Cave might be able to inform you. He is now a brother of the Charterhouse, and his address is The Charterhouse, Aldersgate, E.C.*

E. H. HARDING.—*When we saw the lady she performed over the stage. We have no record of her career, so we cannot say what she may have done.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

DALTON.—Aug. 19, Rosa, wife of Haldane Dalton, of a daughter.

EDNEY.—On Aug. 15, at Catford, the wife of Robert Edney (professionally known as Robert Bolder), of a son. Cape papers please copy.

MARRIAGES.

FLETCHER—DUNCAN. — On Wednesday, Aug. 28, J. Edward Fletcher, grandson of the late Edward Fletcher, Theatre Royal, Cardiff, to Maie Duncan (comedienne), 5, Castle-gardens, Gourock, N.B., at the Registrar's Office, Great Yarmouth. Address, Chappell's Promenade Concerts.

FOSS—GILSON.—July 1, by Registrar, Kenelm Foss to Elisabeth Gilson.

DEATHS.

BUSS.—On the 23rd inst., at 124, New Bond-street, Mary Ann Clarke Buss, the dearly loved mother of Harry Buss.

MATTHEWS.—On Aug. 4, very suddenly, at Appleby Park, Westmorland, William S. Matthews, student of the Academy of Dramatic Art, Gower-st., only child of George and Helen Matthews, Glenkindie, Drewstead-road, Streatham.

SPENCER.—Aug 18, after a long and painful illness, George Spencer, late of His Majesty's, Drury Lane, Lyceum, &c., and formerly proprietor Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

IN MEMORIAM.

HALL.—In ever loving memory of my dear husband, Frederick Tudor Hall (Funny Fred Hall), who departed this life Aug. 28, 1898.
Not forgotten by his loving wife, Julia Hall.

HARVEY.—In loving memory of William François Harvey (W. F. Harvie), equestrian, who died Aug. 27, 1899. Gone, but not forgotten by his loving wife and family.

SEYMOUR.—In loving memory of dear Katie Seymour, who fell asleep Sept. 7, 1903. Never forgotten by her friend, Florrie Robina (Mrs. Reed Pinaud).

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Harry Pleon—Saturday, Aug. 31.
Walter Joyce—Sunday, Sept. 1.
George P. Lester—Sunday, Sept. 1.
George R. Sims—Monday, Sept. 2.
Isa Bowman—Monday, Sept. 2.
Edna May—Monday, Sept. 2.
Marie Ault—Monday, Sept. 2.
John Lawson—Tuesday, Sept 3.
Princess Pauline—Tuesday, Sept. 3.
Vernon Bland—Tuesday, Sept. 3.
Mike S. Whallen—Tuesday, Sept. 3.
E. W. Vaughan—Tuesday, Sept. 3.
Lester Collingwood—Wednesday, Sept. 4.
Esmé Beringer—Wednesday, Sept. 4.
Harry Brayne—Wednesday, Sept. 4.
Kate Forster—Wednesday, Sept. 4.
Anona Walton—Thursday, Sept. 5.

AFTER a protracted absence through illness, Mr. J. W. Chapman, the genial and popular managing-director of the Doncaster Theatre, visited the theatre, and was the recipient of many expressions of warm congratulation. Mr. Chapman assured his friends that he was rehabilitated in health and vigour, but the improvement in his eyes, though progressing, was very tardy.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.
No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list

Abbott, Mr. Ernest R.
Alderton, Mr. Wilfred "Alec"
Artois, Mr. Alfred
Ashwell, Miss Lena
Aspiotas
Austa, Miss Amba
Balfe, Mr. M. W.
Bancroft, Mr. C. J.
Bard, Mr. Wilkie
Barker's Royal Circus
Barrett, Mr. W. Burgess
Barrett, Mr. F.
Bartlett, Miss Rosie
Beardmore, Mr. J. P.
Beverley, Miss Hilda
Bicknell, Mrs. Ralph
Blanche, Mr. George
Bourne, Little Titch
Brockbank, Mr. H.
Broklebank, Miss Nora
Brown, Mr. C. Rae
Bruce, Mr. R. M.
Buoganie, Mr. J.
Burdett, Mr. Frank E.
Busta Ben Arabs
Butler, Mr. Alec
Calham, Mr. Norman
Calvert, Mrs. A.
Campbell, Miss A. E.
Carlton, Mr. Chris
Cartmell, Miss Violet
Castle, Mr. Chas.
Chambers, Miss Emma
Clarence, Mr. R.
Clarke, Mr. H. Spencer
Clark, Mr. John
Coleman, Miss Amy
Combes, Mr. Arthur
Conquest, Mr. A.
Correze, Mr. H.
Cragg, Mr. Edward
Cunningham, Miss M.
Dalrymple, Mr. Leonard
Dane, Mr. D.
Danton, Mr. Richard
Dare, Mr. Harry
Deans, Miss J.
Deakaro, Mr. Alf
De Ora, Mr. Bob
Donaldson, Mr. L.
Dryden, Mr. Leo
Dunford, Mr. Harry
Edgar, Mr. Marriott
Edney, Mr. George
Edouin, Mr. Willie
Ellery, Mr. John
Elliott, Miss Maxine
Espinosa, Mr. E.
Fairbanks, Mr. R.
Fawn, Miss H.
Fiennes, Mr. Sydney
Finch, Miss Flora
Fischer, Mr. Harry
Flemming, Mr. Herbert
Flood, Mr. Alec
Ford, Mr. Hal
Fordyce, Miss Vera
Fraser, Mr. T. Edward
Frederica's Dogs
French, Mr. Henri G.
George, Mr. Walter
Gibralter Girls
Gilmer, Mr. Albert
Godfrey, Mr. S.
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Hayes, Mr. Louis
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Hold, Mrs. Bland
Hollies, Mr. Alfred
Horne Bros.
Housden, Mr. H. F.
Howard, Mr. J. Myron
Hurst, Mr. T.
Irving, Miss Ethel
Jardine, Mr. Alec
Jerome, Miss Daisy
Jewell, Miss Jess
Jones, Mr. C. Emlyn
Judge, Miss L.
Kardoe, Mr. Harry
Kelly, Mr. Victor
Kendal, Mrs. W. H.
Kent, Mrs. A.
Kirby, Mr. W. H.
Kirwan, Mr. Henry N.
Kitchin, Mr. Fred
Kitts and Bellamy
Klegin, Mr. Richard
Lake, Mr. Frank
Lambe, Mr. J. F.
Lane, Mr. Wilfred S.
Langford, Miss Connie
Langtry, Mrs.
Lauri, Mr. Edward
Leamy, Mr. E. J.
La Martine, Mrs. John
Le Roy, Miss Mabel
Leslie, Miss Fannie
Letta and Minie
Levaine, Mr. Gus
Lewis, Mr. Ed.
Lilywhite, Mr. Fred
Lindley, Miss Beatrice
Linwood, Mr. Herbert
Lloyd, Mr. Fred
Lloyd, Mr. H.
Lloyd, Mr. Henry King
Lovel, Mr. Leigh
Loveridge, Mrs. Emily
Lynne, Mr. W. V.
MacLaren, Mr. Ian
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Marks, Mr. George
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Monson, Miss M.
Moore, Miss Lucy
Morton, Mr. John
Norman, Mr. A. W.
Ord, Mr. S. D.
Pearson, Mr. Boyd
Phipps, Mr. John
Pitt, Mr. F. W.
Pongoula, Mrs. J.
Preston, Mr. John F.
Rafalewski, Mr.
Randall, Mr. Harry
Resna Trio
Rignold, Miss Belle
Roadright, Mr. Chas.
Robertson, Mr. Forbes
Sandell, Mr. Harry
Scott, Miss Vertta
Seaton, Dr.
Sheppard, Mr. Wally
Shine, Mr. J. L.
Skea, Mr. Jas.
Skinner, Mr. O.
Smarte, Mr. R. J.
Smith, Mr. Horace G.
Stansfield, Miss M.
St. Clair, Miss Edith
Sterling, Mr. Max
Stratton, Mr. E.
Street, Mr. Fred
Stuart, Mr. E.
Taylor, Mr. George
Terry, Mr. Fred
Terry, Mr. Herbert E.
Thorburn, Mrs. Charles
Thornton, Miss Zara
Ti Tar, Mr. Ma
Tudor, Mr. W.
Turnbull, Mr. A. D.
Valentine, Mr. H. E.
Van Biene, Mr. A.
Vernon, Miss H.
Victor, Mr. Albert
Vincent, Mr. Leonard
Volter, Mr.
Walsh, Mr. Sam
Warsaw Brothers
Waterfield, Mr. C.
Waterhouse, Mr. Arthur
Wesley, Mr. W. G.
Whitney, Mr. W.
Wiclan, Miss Clara
Wilson, Mr. Wm.
Wynne, Mr. E. S.
Wyville, Miss Amber
Young, Mr. G. W.
Zerbinis, Mr. Victor

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Aug. 26, the Drama, in Four Acts, By Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane, entitled

"TWO LANCASHIRE LASSES IN LONDON."

Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company in *Two Lancashire Lasses in London*, a piece originally toured as *A Path of Thorns*, is the attraction at the Theatre Royal this week, and is playing to capital audiences. An excellent company has been selected for the interpretation of the piece, which has necessarily undergone slight alterations, and under its present very appropriate title it should meet with much success on the road. Mr. Herbert Pearson plays very convincingly as John Edmunds, an inventor, and makes the character exceedingly interesting. Mr. E. Rayson-Cousens as the Rev. Frank Selby acts with a quiet dignity and effectiveness which is most acceptable; Mr. Arthur Eiwn handles the rôle of the rascally Jonas Deane with much power and incisiveness. Mr. Edward Chester submits a grim and well-defined sketch of Jim Price, whose accomplice, Rattey Gabbitt, is portrayed on sound lines by Mr. Walter Wichlow. Constance and Nellie, sisters from Lancashire, are two widely-contrasted characters, and each receives adequate treatment. That of the misguided Constance is exceedingly well delineated by Miss Rosslyn Vane, whose fine stage appearance admirably suits the part; while Miss Ada D. Hatchwell's performance as Nellie leaves nothing to be desired, and in the Jago Court scene her acting has the true ring of pathos. Miss Marguerite Trevosper plays with womanly feeling as Bessie Edmunds, but has not much scope, and Lucy is most intelligently rendered by Miss Elsie Forster. The lighter side is principally contributed to by Mr. Cris Mason as Samuel Hallett, a volatile Lancashire lad, and Miss Evelyn Shaw as Jane Adelaide, Sam's better half, these two providing a fund of humour and being highly popular personages in the piece.

MESSRS. JOSEPH WILLIAMS, LTD., are betimes with their numbers for pantomime season 1907-8, and in their guaranteed successes—for which "free" permissions well be granted on application, with the exception of a few towns reserved at 1 guinea each—includes sentimental and humorous selections. A comic duet for two men is to be found in the number by Mr. E. Barnett, under the title of "Our 'ands and 'arts." "Two little Sabots," with words by that graceful writer of lyrics, Fred E. Weatherly, and music by Lionel Elliott, should be secured at once by principal girls who make a speciality of dancing. The song might be advantageously developed into a scena, and its success should be unquestionable. Mr. H. G. Pelissier, of the Follies, who wields a versatile pen, has a tuneful number, "I want somebody to love me," which should be most effective for principal boy. "The Curate and the Maiden" has been made popular lately at the Palace by Miss Jennie Johns. There are other selections in the nine numbers published which will justify their introduction into pantomime by the catchiness of their refrains and their humour. Messrs. Williams are sole agents for "La Kraguette," a popular and sensational French dance by Justin Clérice, and their vocal edition of this number, entitled "Margaretta," should prove an excellent novelty for Christmas productions.

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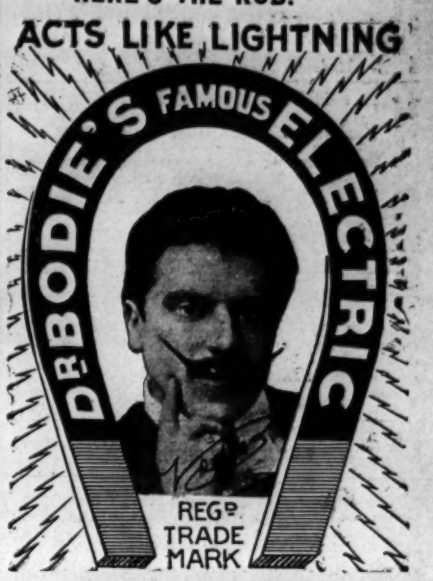

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 1907.

THE RETURN OF MR. JONES.

The first English production of *The Hypocrites* at the Hicks Theatre on Tuesday evening was important as marking the return to the London stage of a dramatist of a superior class. The history of the theatrical *renaissance* in England is practically that of the careers of Mr. A. W. PINERO and Mr. H. A. JONES. The way of the dramatist in this country is a hard one. As long as he confines himself to telling an interesting story and developing individual characters he will find a public ready to admire and support him. As soon, however, as he becomes in the smallest degree subtle, as soon as he attempts to touch the great social questions of the day sincerely and thoughtfully, his *clientèle* falls off, and he often becomes soured by failure. All the intellect which is in the modern French drama expended in playwriting is put in this country into novel-writing. Our stories have become depressing, deep, and serious. We have novels dealing with Socialism, novels dealing with the relations of the sexes, novels dealing with the atrocities of the tinned meat trade, novels dealing with all, or most of, the questions which are important to the future of the nation. It is not only that our dramatists are not as well equipped intellectually as our novelists. The comparative failure of *The Notorious Mrs. Ebbsmith* may, indeed, be partly attributed to the fact that Mr. PINERO had not got up his subject; but similar fate fell to *Letty*, in which he analysed with real skill and knowledge the position of a modern business girl of refined tastes, and *Iris*, in which he drew the difficulties of a modern woman with her character sapped and softened by the habit of self-indulgence, and with her natural instincts at war with her surroundings. An ingenious and charitable explanation of Mr. PINERO'S extraordinary outbreak in *A Wife Without a Smile* was that it was a deliberate "slap in the face" to the play-going public; but Mr. PINERO showed his good sense by returning to first principles and writing *His House in Order*. He has, indeed, been admirably reticent and reserved. Whatever his secret aspirations may have been—and after the success of *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* they must have been high—he has never complained, sought sympathy, or tried to explain himself.

Mr. H. A. JONES'S temperament is entirely different. He has gone on the principle so thoroughly understood and so spiritedly practised by Mr. BERNARD SHAW, that it is of no use to give the public a good article unless you advertise it. Between 1883 and 1894 Mr. JONES poured upon the world a series of essays and lectures on the drama. In the preface to the publication of these Mr. JONES remarked:

"I can well understand and sympathise with the feelings of impatience and resentment which these essays and lectures have aroused in many quarters during the last ten years, and I have always known that there was much worldly wisdom in the advice of the many friends who have so constantly urged me to hold my tongue upon the subject of the drama. It is a shrewd instinct in the public mind which prompts it to suspect that in matters of art the same great law prevails which it so constantly finds true in matters of morals—namely, that talking and doing are in inverse proportion to each other."

He wrote article after article in the *Nineteenth Century* and the *New Review*, he lectured to Playgoers' Clubs and National Sunday Leaguers; and he delivered an inaugural address at the re-opening of the City of London College. In spite of all these efforts, Mr. JONES'S experience has been the same as Mr. PINERO'S. The two plays in which he has come nearest to writing literature were quasi-failures. *The Crusaders* was a thoughtful and slightly cynical satire on modern philanthropy; and *Michael and His Lost Angel* was a noble attempt at a drama of sexual emotions. The peculiarity of Mr. JONES'S practice was that, on the principle that good wine needs no bush, he made very little fuss about these really honourable flights; whereas he almost foamed with indignation and earnestness over a clever but inconsequent piece like *The Case of Rebellious Susan* and an odd excursion into supernatural drama like *The Tempter*.

The great charm of Mr. JONES is his fertility. He has poured out plays, prefaces, and essays with a profusion which has been really marvellous, and his latest lecture at Harvard, U.S.A., in which he denounced the shortcomings of the English stage, is still fresh in our memories.

The London stage has hardly seemed itself without Mr. JONES. He is an enlivening, an inspiriting, and a vitalising influence. Mr. SUTRO, with all his merits, hardly fills the place of the author of *Mrs. Dane's Defence* and so many other plays. Mr. CHARLES FROHMAN'S success with *The Hypocrites* shows the enterprise and good judgment of that astute and experienced manager. Mr. JONES'S recent productions in England had been less successful than might have been desired; and he had got a little out of fashion with managers and audiences. *The Hypocrites* replaces him on the platform of success and popularity. Misled by "advanced" critics, some of our dramatists have forgotten that, putting aside a demand for certain technical improvements, no real change has taken place in English audiences. Human nature still reigns supreme; a strong dramatic situation excites and delights stalls, pit, and gallery; and as one generation, *blasé* and wearied, loses its taste for the primitive emotions, another arises to vindicate their influence, and to utterly disregard realism, analysis, and everything outside the eternal passions and interests of "old-fashioned" drama.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY;" OR, THE LIFE OF A WOMAN."

Drama, in four acts,
by Arthur Shirley and Eric Hudson,
produced at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, on Monday, Aug. 26.

Jack Latimer	MR. ERNEST OWTTRIM
Hubert Steele	MR. LEONARD YORKE
Jake Howland	MR. DENIS BRYAN
Hon. Frank Draycott	MR. ALFRED GRENVILLE
Barney O'Brien	MR. HENRY BELDING
Percy Palgrave	MR. WILLIAM HOLL
Sir Francis Harding	MR. CHARLES ROSS
Richard Hope	MR. WALTER TRAVERS
Doris Daintree	MISS HELEN RICHMOND
Flossie Esmonde	MISS ELEANOR WINTER
Liane Vaudny	MISS GERTRUDE ENTWISTLE
Mrs. Gray	MISS KATE FRANCIS
Nurse Agnes	MISS LIZZIE MADDOX
Nurse Burns	MISS MARY HARDACRE
Kate Latimer (afterwards known as Belle Bascombe) / Susan Meredith (her Twin Sister)	MISS LAURA WALKER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The above new play, which was produced for copyright purposes at the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, some months ago, has now commenced its tour, supported by a well-selected company, and mounted in a lavish manner. Briefly, the story, which is most interesting, describes how Kate Latimer, a miserably married woman, is lured from the paths of virtue by Hubert Steele. Her twin sister, Susan, bears a remarkable facial resemblance to her, and Steele, believing that his paramour is about to desert him, kills Susan under the impression that he is getting rid of his associate. Kate discovers the mistake, and resolving to amend her ways, takes up the good work of Susan, who had been a charitable hospital nurse. Eventually Steele is overtaken by justice, and a reconciliation effected between Kate and her husband.

In the dual part of the sisters Miss Laura Walker displayed much dramatic power, her acting throughout being consistently fine; Mr. Leonard Yorke lent excellent support as the rascally Steele; Mr. Ernest Owttrim played the erring and repentant Jack Latimer with an ability which reflected every credit upon him; Mr. Henry Belding proved a worthy Barney O'Brien, the old servant of the Latimers; and praise is due for good support to Messrs. Dennis Bryan (Jack Howland); Alfred Grenville (Hon. Frank Draycott); and William Holl (Percy Palgrave); Miss Helen Richmond (Doris Daintree); Miss Eleanor Winter (Flossie Esmonde); and Miss Kate Francis (Mrs. Gray). The four acts should certainly be cut down somewhat, so as to allow of the drama, which has every promise of proving a success, being over earlier.

THE Royalty Theatre, Chester, which has recently been devoted to variety on the two-houses-a-night principle, will revert to its original state for the next four weeks, during which dramatic plays will be presented. The list of attractions include Mr. Lewis Waller's company in *Robin Hood* and several popular musical comedy combinations.

KING EDWARD, who has made several visits to the theatre during his stay at Marienbad, went on Thursday to a café-chantant, where a performance was being given by a Viennese variety company. So indecent, however, was the character of the performance that His Majesty, after listening to one or two items of the programme, showed his disgust by leaving the theatre. As he walked out of the Royal box, closely followed by the Duke of Teck and several invited guests, the King uttered the words, "It is horrible! It is appalling!" The Royal box was scarcely empty when the English and Americans, realising what had happened, added their protest by leaving the building.

AMONG the plays which Mr. Feinman, the administrator of the new Yiddish theatre, established at the Pavilion, Mile-end, has secured, is a one-act piece dealing with the massacres of the Jews in Russia. This play is to be translated from the English version, which will be produced shortly at a West-end theatre, and is entitled *In the Name of the Czar*. The authors of this play are Miss Carmel Goldsmid, who has recently travelled in Russia, and Dr. L. Haden Guest.

"WHEN OTHER LIPS."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by T. Arthur Jones, Produced, for the First Time, at the East Oxford Theatre, Cowley-road, Oxford, on Monday, Aug. 26.

Ted Daunton	MR. T. ARTHUR JONES
Basil Cunningham	MR. EDWIN J. COLLINS
Tommy Neccles	MR. HYLAND O'SHEA
Duddle Topwash	MR. DAVID HAMILTON
Phylocrates Bombioso Jenkins, M.D., F.R.C.S., M.U.G., A.S.S.	MR. W. S. PARKES
Robert Lingley	MR. ALBERT H. CLARKE
Davy Phillips	MR. DICK EVERTON
Ginger	MR. ROBERT A. FELTON
Sharpey	MR. ROBERT SAWIN
Little Sam	MASTER THOMAS FLETCHER
P.C. Nozabit	MR. ALF. KITSON
Jimmy Murdoch	MR. JAMES KEPPELL
A Priest	MR. WM. J. COVENTRY
Octavia	MISS KATE FROUDE
Kitty Topwash	MISS LUCY MURRAY
Nancy	MISS IVY CLARKE
A Woman in Black	MISS JANE WATSON
Ruth Lingley	MISS MARIE DAVENTRY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The story centres round the love affairs of Ted Daunton, a sailor. Ruth Lingley, his sweetheart, has waited nine months for his return, when news is brought that his vessel has been wrecked and all on board lost. Ruth's father, who is under the control of Basil Cunningham, alias Mordaunt, forces Ruth to marry this man, whose only object is to gain possession of the estates of Seaborne Manor. Mordaunt already has a wife, Octavia, abandoned some years before. This woman, having left her husband some time previously, had a little baby girl, Nancy. The child, now grown in years, accompanied by her father, Phylocrates Jenkins, quack doctor, &c., make their appearance at Seaborne Manor, hungry and weary, and are befriended by Ruth. In the meantime, Mordaunt has heard of the escape of Daunton from the wreck, and so hurries forward his marriage with Ruth. On their return from the wedding ceremony they are met by Daunton, who is accused by Mordaunt of betraying Octavia. Daunton demands proof. Octavia now comes forward at Mordaunt's bidding and accuses Daunton as her betrayer. Then Jenkins, the man Ruth has befriended, comes forward and denounces Mordaunt as his wife's betrayer. Ruth's father, enraged at the indignity put on his daughter, which nothing can alter, as Jenkins had already divorced his wife and the marriage between Mordaunt and Ruth is binding, attacks Mordaunt, and is seized with a fit of apoplexy and dies. Ruth refuses to live with her husband, and is a wife to him in name only. Daunton comes to say a long farewell, is surprised by Mordaunt, and concealed by Ruth in her bedroom with the door locked upon him. Octavia begins to grow troublesome to Mordaunt, and warns Ruth against her husband. Mordaunt discovers the locked door, and, recognising Daunton's voice, orders Ruth to open it. She at first refuses, but complies when she sees that her husband is about to break it open. As Daunton rushes out, Mordaunt is stabbed in the back by Jenkins, who was concealed in the room for the purpose of his own revenge. Mordaunt accuses Daunton of attempting his life, and is backed up by Octavia, who falsely swears she was a witness to the deed. Daunton is sent to prison for two years. Ruth, who has left Mordaunt, and is now without a friend, finds employment in a pawnbroken's shop in the East-end of London. After two years Mordaunt finds her out, and denounces her to her employer; he then plans abduction, but fails. Meanwhile, Mordaunt has become infatuated with Nancy, Octavia's child, and sends Octavia to tempt her to her ruin. Octavia is astounded and mortified when she learns that it is her own daughter whom she has been tempting to ruin, and now turns on her paramour. Daunton, who has now returned from prison, learns for the first time that Octavia was a divorced woman when Mordaunt married her, and consequently that Ruth is quite free to marry her sailor sweetheart, Daunton. When the truth is revealed, Mordaunt attempts Daunton's life, aided by a gang of London roughs and pickpockets, but is defeated by Daunton in a desperate fight. Preparations are now hurriedly made for the marriage of Daunton and Ruth. Mordaunt makes another desperate attempt to abduct Ruth. Nancy arrives on the scene, and Mordaunt threatens to take her life. Her mother, Octavia, in attempting to save her, is stabbed in the back by Mordaunt, and concealed in a coal-cellar. Daunton now comes and overpowers and disarms Mordaunt, who is charged with the murder of Octavia and left in the hands of justice. Everything now is ready for the marriage of Ruth and her faithful lover, Daunton.

There is plenty of comedy introduced into the various scenes, and the humour, if a little crude in places, sufficiently balances the more serious parts of the play. The drama, taken as a whole, is decidedly above the average of this class of play. The dramatic situations are also well worked out, and afford scope for some excellent acting. Judging by its reception, Mr. T. Arthur Jones may be congratulated on achieving meritorious results from his work, and on the excellent way in which his company interpreted the play.

Mr. Jones undertook the rôle of Ted Daunton, which he carried through most successfully in his usual unassuming and quiet manner. Mr. Edwin J. Collins made a distinctly effective villain as Basil Cunningham (alias Mordaunt), his acting being at all times good. Mr. Hyland O'Shea deserved well of his audience for his hard work and excellent comic business as Tommy Neccles; while nothing could have been more natural and humorous than the highly-successful portrayal of Duddle Topwash by Mr. David Hamilton. Mr. Albert H. Clarke was adequate as Robert Lingley; and Mr. W. S. Parkes, with a little more force, would be well suited as Phylocrates Jenkins. Mr. Robert Sawin (business manager to Mr. T. Arthur Jones), in the small part of Sharpey, showed by his smartness that he possesses undoubted ability as an actor. Mr. Dick Everton was well up to his work as Davy Phillips; and Mr. Robert A. Felton made the most of Ginger. Of the ladies, Miss Kate Froude scored a distinct success with her forcible rendering of Octavia, a character for which she seems admirably suited. Miss Lucy Murray had plenty of "go" as Kitty Topwash; and Miss Ivy Clarke sustained the part of Nancy with commendable grace and ease. Miss Marie Daventry played with a delightful charm and sympathy as Ruth Lingley, a difficult and trying rôle, which contrasted well with, and threw into relief, the part of Octavia. The acting was good all round, and the piece went without a hitch. The scenery was pretty and attractive, a particularly good set being used in Act 1, representing the action of the waves and the throwing up of the surf on the shore. Some original incidental music has been contributed by Mr. W. C. Pike, Mus.Doc.

MR. JULIAN CLIFFORD'S benefit concerts at the Harrogate Kursaal are announced for Sept. 7th at 3 and 7.30, when a very attractive programme has been arranged, including the Hon. Mrs Julian Clifford, Mr. Ben Davies, and Madame Alice Gomez.

MR. G. S. KING, the popular manager of the Metropole, Devonport, we are glad to note, is about again after a long and tedious illness. Mr. King was the recipient on Monday of hearty congratulations.

MR. C. P. LEVILLY'S company, in that most charming of comic operas, *La Poupée*, will be at the Marlborough Theatre next week. It is worthy of note that this musical tale of "The Doll" has had a continuous run for the past ten years.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Association was held at 10, King's-street, Covent Garden, on Tuesday. There were present Mr. Kenyon Musgrave (chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Miss Wynne Matthison, and Messrs. Cecil Brooking, C. F. Collings, F. Grove, Roy Horniman, Fredk. Morland, and C. B. Rivington (in place of secretary).

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The hon. solicitors reported they had written letters to members, had interviews with four members, and had given advice in each case.

Miss Rose Mathews was unanimously elected a member of the Council to fill the place vacated by Miss Clare Greet.

The CHAIRMAN read the report of the Provincial Meeting Committee, which was as follows:—

The expenses of the meeting held at Manchester on Oct. 13, 1905, were as follows:—

Shorthand writer	£1 1 0
Typewriter	1 13 0
Fares	1 10 0
Expenses at Congress	1 0 0
Hotel bill	3 6 6
Postage	2 2 1½
Telegrams, expenses to Liverpool, and petty cash	1 19 6
	£12 12 1½

This amount does not include any expenses for printing, which were probably entered only in the general printing account.

The committee believe that a meeting could be held at very much less expense.

The committee recommend that if a meeting be held this year at Manchester, or elsewhere in the provinces, it should be made the occasion of a declaration of advanced policy on behalf of the Council.

That resolutions be submitted to the meeting (1) insisting on the need that actors should organise as wage-earners to protect their own interests; (2) advocating a Trade Union policy for the A.A., with the object of ultimately raising the salaries of the worst paid in the profession.

The committee consider that such resolutions would express the objects for which the A.A. was founded, and that these objects should be brought prominently before the profession.

The committee further recommend that the Council should endeavour to obtain a chairman for the meeting from among the artists playing in the town in which the meeting is to be held; that one principal speaker should be invited to support the resolutions; and that the resolutions be moved and seconded by members of the Association, if possible by members of the Council.

(Signed) C. F. COLLINGS.
WYNNE MATTHISON.
FREDK. MORLAND.

It was proposed that the report should be adopted, but, after some discussion, an amendment—"That the adoption of the report should be postponed until next Tuesday and a whip be sent out to the absent members of the Council requesting them to attend to consider the clause as to whether a Trade Union policy is to be advocated by the Council"—was carried.

The chairman read a letter from a member, in which he stated he had recovered his basket from the railway company.

The chairman read a letter from Mr. Spencer Trevor, tendering his resignation from the Council on account of prolonged absence from town. It was agreed that the secretary should write to Mr. Trevor, stating that the Council accepted his resignation with extreme regret.

The chairman read a letter from Mr. George Lyttleton *re* "minimum wage," and the secretary was instructed to acknowledge the letter, thanking him for same, to explain the circumstances as to why he had not received the answer to his previous letter, and to ask him to submit his scheme to the Council for their consideration.

The chairman read letters from house-agents, including Messrs. Howard and Hodges and Redfern, with regard to sub-letting the premises, and upon the advice of the hon. solicitors it was agreed that no answers were necessary.

The chairman read a letter from the Rev. Donald Hole with reference to the Actors' Church Union lodging-house register, and it was agreed that the secretary should write and thank the rev. gentleman for his communication, and say the Council would be glad to take the recommendation of the chaplain of the town, in place of two members, if the landladies wished to advertise in the A.A. Lodgings Book; and if this proposal was agreed to by his committee, the Council would be obliged if he would furnish them with the list of chaplains in order that the secretary might supply them with copies of the lodgings forms. The secretary was instructed to point out that the reason why the Council did not see their way to agree to the proposal incorporating the A.C.U. and A.A. lists was that it would be giving certain landladies a free advertisement, and consequently unfair to those who already pay a fee. The secretary was also directed to ask for a copy of the A.C.U. lodgings list when ready.

The secretary reported there was no meeting of the Commissioners' Committee, Miss Rose Mathews only being in attendance.

No reports of the Finance and General Purposes, Library, Minimum Wage, Social, and Special Committees were presented, there having been no meetings since last Council.

Two former members were reinstated, and Jas. Benedict Butler, Alice Maude, and Claude Fleming were elected.

END OF THE SAVOY SEASON.

The last night of Mrs. D'Oyly Carte's season at the Savoy Theatre was one of the wildest enthusiasm. The performance began at four o'clock in the afternoon, and lasted till eleven, with an interval between a quarter to seven and eight. The entertainment opened with the first act of *The Yeomen of the Guard*, in which Mr. C. H. Workman and Miss Clara Dow especially distinguished themselves. Then followed the second act of *The Gondoliers*, in which Miss Jessie Rose was strikingly successful; and Mr. Workman as the Duke of Plaza-Toro and Mr. John Clulow as the Grand Inquisitor were heartily applauded. After the interval, the curtain rose on the second act of *Patience*, in which Mr. Workman scored highly as Bunthorne. A scene from *The Mikado* followed as a surprise, Mr. Workman again distinguishing himself as Ko-Ko and Miss Louie Réné being a capital Katisha. The National Anthem was then sung by the whole of the company. When at last the curtain descended there were loud calls for Mrs. D'Oyly Carte; but, to the great disappointment of the audience, that lady did not appear. In answer to a demand for Sir W. S. Gilbert, Mr. François Cellier, to whose admirable conducting the season owes so much of its success, came forward, and stated that Sir William was not in the house. To the strains of "Auld lang syne," sung by the audience, the house was slowly and regretfully vacated.

MESSRS. H. LAZARUS AND SON have won golden opinions by the carpets, linos, draperies, chairs, music stands, and seating covers which they have supplied to the new St. James's Theatre, Long Eaton. The colour scheme is in blue and gold, and the seating accommodation is 1,200. The interior of the house presents an extremely dainty and artistic appearance, and Messrs. Lazarus deserve great credit for their share of the work.

"HER MARRIAGE VOW."

A Domestic Drama in Four Acts, by Owen Davis, produced at the Royal Theatre, Sunderland, on Monday Aug. 26.

Gilbert Carlton	MR. EDWARD L. GARSIDE
Ned Benton	MR. GEORGE BEVERLEY
Daffy Dan	MR. J. FORBES KNOWLES
William Walters	MR. JOHN W. RYDER
Larry Leary	MR. DAN RYAN
Ebden Chubb	MR. WILFORD BAILEY
Jim Burke, nicknamed Surly Jim	MR. WALTER WILBY
Jenks	MR. JOHN HERDMAN
Hester Norton	MISS NELLIE SHIRLEY
Almira	MISS ANNA BEAUMONT
Maggie Clare	MISS NELLIE GARSIDE
Kate Walters	MISS RUTH SHEPHERD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

An up-to-date drama of a highly sensational character is furnished in the above play. The opening scene depicts the living room of a comfortably-off working-class family named Walters, the father of whom is an engine-driver, with a daughter named Kate. She is secretly married to the villainous gentleman, Gilbert Carlton, who, however, is under the impression that the ceremony was a bogus one. The arrangement of the wedding was left partly in the hands of a half-wit named Dan, who was in the villain's power! Dan, who loved Kate secretly, arranged a real wedding, after which Kate wishes to make a public announcement of the event. Instead of which, with the assistance of one Hester Norton, the heiress of a rich railway magnate, with whom Carlton is in love, the villain induces his wife to leave home. Ned Benton, a telegraph operator on the line, is accused of having ruined Kate, but the half-wit turns the tables upon Carlton by giving the account of the real wedding.

The scene is then transferred to a swell suite of rooms in the Hotel Republic, Boston, where Kate is kept practically a prisoner by her husband, who brutally informs her that his marriage with her was a mock one. Ned Benton now comes upon the scene, and declares his love for her. Carlton and the heiress enter, and the latter describes Kate as an abandoned woman, but Dan, the half-wit, discloses the fact that Kate is in reality Carlton's wife.

The third act is located at an elaborately set-up and effective portion of the railway line, where the schemers plot the destruction of the wife and Ned Benton. In the meantime Carlton has endeavoured to drive his wife to insanity, but fails, and Kate takes refuge at last in the old signal box, where her father finds her and takes her home again. Carlton and his confederates seize and bind Benton, now a signalman for the time being, and tamper with the signals in order that the train in which Kate and her father are passengers may be wrecked; but an American girl (Maggie Clare) comes to the rescue of the hero, who breaks out of the signal-box in the very nick of time and turns the points to enable the express trains to pass in safety.

The fourth act brings us once more to the old home, where we find Kate is suffering terribly from the effects of her persecution. Carlton arrives, accompanied by an asylum attendant, and armed with a doctor's certificate for her committal as an insane patient. Kate again escapes. Eventually Dan meets Carlton, and a fight takes place between the men, during which the half-wit overpowers Carlton and throws him over the precipice into the ravine below, thus releasing Kate from "Her Marriage Vow."

The company chosen by Messrs. Garside and Knowles is a strong and capable one. Mr. Edward L. Garside as the gentlemanly schemer, Gilbert Carlton, plays with acumen and power, and secures abundant interest for the part. Mr. George Beverley is a manly Ned Benton; and a sound character study is that given by Mr. J. Forbes Knowles as the half-wit, Daffy Dan; Mr. John W. Ryder is all that is requisite as the engine-driver, William Walters; and Mr. Walter Wilby is sufficiently in evidence as Surly Jim, the signalman; Mr. Wilford Bailey (a sterling actor of the old school), adds to his many successes as the retired trader, Ebden Chubb; Mr. Dan Ryan is amusing as the Irishman, Larry Leary, and proves a step-dancer of no mean order; Mr. John Herdman is adequate in the minor rôle of Jenks, the asylum attendant; Miss Ruth Shepherd has an exhaustive and trying rôle in Kate Walters, which she sustains in a manner that stamps her as an artist with considerable histrionic ability; Miss Nellie Shirley has a rather unthankful rôle as the lover of Carlton, but manages to survive the ordeal with satisfactory results; Miss Anna Beaumont is admirable as Almira; and last, though by no means least, Miss Nellie Garside is to be highly commended for her bright and vivacious rendition of the amusing part of Maggie Clare. The staging is on lavish and fully adequate lines.

NEW THEATRE AT LONG EATON.

On Thursday evening the new theatre, known as St. James's Theatre, was formally opened by Mr. Mouillot's *Blue Moon* company. Long Eaton is a rising town of about 18,000 population, between Derby and Nottingham, and is the centre of an extensive lace-making business. Recently factories have sprung up rapidly, the most up-to-date machinery having been introduced, and the old home, Nottingham, has been left in the lurch, but the "market" is still in the old spot. The new theatre has been erected on the most approved system by Mr. Lindsay Edwards, who manages the Loughborough theatre, and the site is in the centre of the town, facing the main thoroughfare to Derby, with the back premises reaching to Oxford-street. There is a fine entrance, with stairs to the right and left to the dress and upper circles, and the pit is available from the centre, and the gallery from the entrance to the left. There are numerous exits, and provision has been made for the use of hydrants in case of fire. The scheme of colour is red, with decorations of red, pale blue, and gold. The upholstery and carpets, especially manufactured, are of two shades of peacock blue and old gold. The lighting arrangements are by gas and electricity. The seating is put down at 1150, but 1250 can be provided for: pit 450, orchestral stalls 78, pit stalls 50, dress circle 102, upper circle 144, and gallery 500. The stage is 35ft. by 48ft., with a height of 44ft., and all the approved apparatus has been introduced, with a safety curtain. Half-a-dozen dressing-rooms, fireproof, heated, and fitted up with hot and cold water, are behind and underneath. At each side of the stage is a box for special visitors. An emergency exit from the gallery can be used when necessary. Wood block flooring has been laid in the pit. A permanent band has been engaged, under the conductorship of Mr. Wilhelm Russell. The building is heated by the low pressure hot-water system, with forty-eight radiators, and a special feature will be the absence of draughts on the stage. Behind the circle are refreshment bar, cloak-rooms for both sexes, and lavatory conveniences. Beautiful work is to be seen at the entrance, the front elevation being an attractive design in pressed red brick and stone dressings; a central gable with two slightly projecting turrets on either side form a distinctive feature. Mr. C. R. Ross, of Long Eaton, is the architect, and Mr. Frank Martin, Stapleford, is the builder.

Mr. Mouillot's *Blue Moon* company had a great reception on the opening night. The band played the National Anthem on the curtain rising, and Mr. Edwards delivered a short speech, which was well received. Miss Nellie Lomas made herself a great favourite.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

A NEWSPAPER placard in Manchester on Tuesday announced a threatened music-hall strike. The artists will hold a mass meeting at the Manchester Palace on Sunday night. This meeting will be addressed by Lancashire members of Parliament, and the V.A.F. will be represented specially by Mr. Monte Bayly, the secretary. The trouble is with the management of the Manchester Tivoli.

MR. G. R. ASKWITH was consulted at the offices of the Board of Trade on Thursday by Messrs. Wal Pink, Joe O'Gorman, W. H. Clemart, and Monte Bayly, representing the Variety Artists' Federation, in reference to the form of contract adopted by some London managers. It is alleged that certain clauses in these contracts do not comply with the terms of the model form which is part of the Award, and a meeting with the managers for consultation will probably be arranged by Mr. Askwith next week.

IN the not very distant future the Grand, Islington, the Terriss, Rotherhithe, and the Standard, Shoreditch, are to be run on variety lines. The changes will probably take place at Christmas, and the entrepreneur who is to accomplish them is Mr. Walter Gibbons, whose recent acquisitions —the Prince's, Poplar, and the Grand, Woolwich— have justified his confidence in their drawing power as music halls.

MESSRS. KLAW AND ERLANGER, who are booking up many of our leading attractions on this side for their advanced vaudeville circuit in the States, desire it to be known that their only authorised representative, holding their full and absolute authority to sign contracts in their name, is Mr. Alfred E. Aarons.

IT was orginally intended that the new Empire ballet should be founded on a famous comic opera; but now, we are given to understand, it is to be a very up-to-date production, and will first see the footlights at the end of September. Though it will avoid the classicism of *Orfeo*, it will not be without an admixture of ancient incidents.

MR. FRED FARREN, who will produce the new Empire ballet, has been a leading figure in the productions at that house for some years. He was a pupil of the late Miss Lizzie Claremont, with whom he toured, that excellent actress playing the part of the female baby farmer in *Human Nature*, and little Freddie appearing as the kidnapped boy. After much versatile work young Farren came to the Alhambra, afterwards transferring his services to the Empire, where his eccentric dancing and his comedy are very highly valued.

MR. and MRS. ALFRED BUTT have been greatly enjoying their motor trip through some of the prettiest country in France, and are now staying at Boulogne. The popular managing-director of the Palace Theatre returns to his duties on Monday.

MR. JOSEPH WILSON has been spending a quiet fortnight with Mrs. Wilson and family at the quiet little village of Chideock, where he has a cottage. It is a restful little place, about ten minutes from the sea and close to the sleepy old town of Bridport. Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Cotton (Miss Ada Reeve) have a charming house at Chideock.

IN the new Alpine spectacle that is to be produced shortly by Mr. Frank Parker at the Hippodrome there will be a wonderful stage realisation of the sport of tobogganing and ski-ing. Mechanical ingenuity will again play a large part in the show, but the inventive faculty of the clever stage-director will be able to surmount all difficulties.

A STORY will be woven round the spectacle, and tragedy will be very much in the air when a fight occurs on a mountain above a glacier between brothers, one of whom is the successful suitor of a fräulein beloved by both. A special engagement by Mr. Parker is that of Rudolf Bernet, the mountain guide whose face and form are familiaf to visitors to Grindelwald. The fight will be followed by "the avalanche," which is to be the title of the piece. The catastrophe will be realised by moving snow, and a mountain lake will burst.

MR. LESLIE STILES is announced to sing at the Palace on Monday a song of his own composition, entitled "The regimental kiddy." The most popular "Kiddy" of the kind—on the boards at any rate—was *Bootles' Baby*, a play adapted from John Strange Winter's story of that name, and produced at the now defunct Globe. The play should make a good sketch. We recommend the notion to Mr. Hugh Moss, who so cleverly adapted the piece for the stage.

MR. HYMACK, who concludes a three months' London season on Saturday, opens at the Apollo, Paris, for a short engagement on Monday next. This will be Mr. Hymack's only Continental appearance this season, as he is fully booked on the Moss-Stoll tour, and for America under the management of Mr. Percy G. Williams. Mr. Hymack has disposed of the Continental rights of his act (except the city of Paris) to Mr. H. Werner Reider until the end of 1908.

THE South London Palace is about to undergo renovation, during which the entire hall will be redecorated and the seating renewed. Operations have already been begun behind the stage, where new scenery has been provided and an elegant drop-curtain representing London Bridge in 1891, has been hung.

THE Variety Artists' Federation will be represented at the Trade Union Congress at Bath, commencing on Monday. Mr. Joe O'Gorman, Chairman of the Federation, and Mr. Monte Bayly, the General Secretary, are the delegates. Mr. Frank Gerald will represent the Actors' Union.

MR. LEONARD ROSSON will on Monday commence a series of return dates with his smart sketch, *The Girl from Biarritz*, at the South London. He will be supported by a strong company, including Mr. Leslie Vyner and Miss Eileen Concanen.

DURING Mr. Blyth-Pratt's absence on a holiday the duties in the front of the house at the Oxford devolve upon Mr. A. L. Edwards, the assistant acting-manager and treasurer. Mr. Blyth-Pratt is at Dinard.

MESSRS. H. AND M. RAYNE, the well-known theatrical outfitters, recently commenced an action for libel against the *Performer*, but further proceedings have been stayed by the proprietors of that newspaper agreeing to pay all costs and to make a public apology.

MISS MAY CLIFTON and company produced on Monday at the Middlesex an entirely new Japanese scena. The attractive production includes four new songs, which met with a rousing reception. Miss Clifton, with her fine voice and charming style, scoring heavily in "The Nightingale" and "Mimosa San," two numbers especially written and composed for her by Mr. Howard Hartman. She was ably supported by Mr. F. E. Jonge and Mr. Hartman, who shared in the success. The scena is elaborately staged and dressed. Miss Clifton and her company are at the Empire, Camberwell, next week.

THE opening of the Peterborough Hippodrome will not be on Monday. It is postponed on account of licensing difficulties.

MR. CLIFFORD KING, late of the Duchess Palace and the Putney Hippodrome, has been appointed manager of the Opera House and Hippodrome, Burton-on-Trent.

THE King's Theatre, Edinburgh, is to be reopened early in September as a variety house, under the auspices of a management hailing from Glasgow. A novel feature of the enterprise is the initiation of two shows on Saturday evenings only.

THE Palace Theatre, Cork, will be reopened on Monday under the management of Mr. T. F. O'Brien, with the following strong variety company:—Minnie Cunningham, the Itrams, Charles Coverdale, the Carlyles, Maude Vera, the Comerfords, Fred Arthur, and E. Hoggan-Armadale and company in a sketch, founded on the Erckmann-Chatrian story of *The Polish Jew*.

MANY improvements have been effected, and nothing that could in any way add to the comfort of patrons has been left undone on the part of the management. Indeed, under the able direction of Mr. O'Brien, whose long association with the Opera House should make him admirably fitted for his post, there seems every reason to anticipate that the season will prove a success. His appointment is proving a most popular one with patrons of the Palace.

MR. T. P. DUIGNAN, who has so successfully acted as manager of the Blackpool Hippodrome in the last few seasons, is taking a well-deserved benefit on Sept. 11, when a full and strong programme is to be presented.

AT the Opera House, Jersey, on Monday night, when Miss Elfie Vincent and Miss Maisie Gerrard, the "Veroniques," took their benefit, Mr. Edward Marris offered a two-guinea and several consolation prizes for the last line to the following limerick:—

There were once two "Veroniques" gay,
Who for twelve weeks in Jersey did stay,
To-night can be seen
How successful they've been,

The two-guinea prize was won by Mr. A. Ereant with the following line:—

Glance around you—what more need I say?
And as there was hardly a vacant seat in the Opera House, what wonder that he won the prize?

THE New Hippodrome, Darlington, will open its doors to the public on Monday. Signor Pepi, of the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, and Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness, is the managing-director. Marie Loftus heads the bill, and the exceptional company includes Charlie Williams, Mezetti and Mora, the Three Phydorus, Morney Cash, Vandinoff, Pepiscope, and Mlle. Lumière. The building is a handsome one, with a holding capacity of 2,000. Mr. G. F. Ward, of Birmingham, is responsible for the design and carrying out of the work. Mr. C. Hersee is the acting-manager.

MR. WILLIE FREEAR, that most-travelled of all performers, returned from Panama four weeks ago, and while on a holiday in the Channel Islands was prevailed upon to try his celebrated two-hours' show in Guernsey. His success was so extraordinary that he is now returning to play in Jersey on the 9th and 10th prox., and again in Guernsey during the following week.

IT is with regret that we announce the death of Mr. Arnold Hugh Colmer, manager of the Gaiety, Chatham, which sad event took place at Bartholomew's Hospital on Friday, the 23rd inst. Deceased was well known and highly esteemed by all artists of the profession, for his geniality and courtesy were his chief characteristics.. Deceased was some months ago assistant-manager to Mr. Fred Leighton at the Sheerness Hippodrome, and a sad fact about Mr. Colmer's death is that he had only been married a few months. He had been a manager for nearly three years.

THE funeral took place on Tuesday at the Isle of Sheppey Cemetery, amidst every manifestation of deep regret and sorrow. Floral emblems were sent from the permanent staff of the Sheerness Hippodrome; staff of the Gaiety Theatre, Chatham; artists this week at the Sheerness Hippodrome; the Sheerness branch of the R.A.O.B., of which deceased was a respected member; Mr. Fred Leighton, who was brother-in-law to deceased; and many others.

AT the newly-opened Victoria Hall, Walthamstow, on Thursday evening, the 22nd inst., after Mr. Wensley Russell had announced the names of the winners in the limerick competition, the manager was surprised to receive an envelope containing £3 10s. in gold, and a note from "A Lover of Pictures," with a request that the sum should be handed over to a deserving charity. The management sent the money to the Walthamstow Children's Hospital.

MR. EDWARD HARRISON, resident manager of the Palace and Hippodrome, Halifax, for Mr. Frank Macnaghten, was accorded a complimentary matinée benefit on Thursday (22nd), when several prominent artists associated with the Macnaghten Circuit gave their services, and a great success resulted.

MR. HARRISON, who was originally connected with Mr. Adderley Howard in sketches, formerly managed the Bow Palace soon after Mr. Macnaghten took over that house. Since leaving the East End of London he has looked after Mr. Macnaghten's interests at Leicester, Bradford, Hartlepool, and Halifax. The report that he is coming to the Macnaghten Circuit offices in London is without foundation. He will shortly be seen at a new Macnaghten Palace in Lancashire.

THE Macnaghten Circuit is spreading rapidly in Lancashire, where variety entertainments, with their lightness and brightness, make an irresistible appeal to the toiling factory workers. The new establishment at Warrington opens next month, and Burnley will fall into line later in the year.

CARL AND CARR'S Merry Pierrots are still drawing huge crowds daily at Victoria Park, Plymouth.

MISS ALICE GROSSMITH and Mr. Lyall Grant produced on Monday, at the Hull Empire, their latest musical comedy sketch, *The Chorus Girl and the Call Boy*, which proved an immediate hit. This amusing little piece, written by Mr. Lyall Grant himself, contains clever dialogue, neat dancing, and tuneful numbers, particularly a very catchy duet, of which a repetition was demanded.

THE name of Jules Keller figures on the memorial tablet erected by the citizens of Salisbury in the beautiful cathedral there in memory of those who lost their lives in the railway accident near that city on Sunday, July 1, last year. The tablet is placed as a pledge of brotherly sympathy with mourners in England, America, and Canada. Poor Keller, whose wonderful muscular development of arms and shoulders may be remembered, was an acrobat who had performed for years on the Continent, in America, and in this country. He was returning from an engagement across the pond to his friends in London when he, with twenty-seven others, met with an untimely fate.

MR. THOMAS BARRASFORD will re-open the Paris Alhambra on Sunday (to-morrow) with a strong and attractive company. His latest acquisition, the Alhambra, Brussels, is to open on Oct. 15.

MR. FRED MILLER, the general manager of the Canterbury, will take his benefit on Thursday, Oct. 24. Mr. Miller's benefit is always one of the most popular functions of the year, and an evening during which all the available "stars" will shine may confidently be anticipated.

THE new premises of the Ladies' Guild, situated at 2, York-street, Wellington-street, W.C., will be open on Wednesday next, Sept. 4. A reception will take place at 2, and last till about 5 p.m. Miss Marie Lloyd, the president of the Guild, will be "At Home" to the friends and members of the Guild, and as this will be her last social appearance prior to her departure for America, she will say farewell. Miss Fanny Brough, president of the Theatrical Ladies' Guild, is also expected. Ladies and gentlemen of either the theatrical or variety profession are cordially invited.

THERE will be a gala performance at the Camberwell Empire next Tuesday—the night of the first anniversary of that house under the régime of the popular Jesse Sparrow and Harry Bawn. Variety in South London owes much to Mr. Sparrow, and his comrades, the Terriers, will muster in force for the purpose of congratulating him and otherwise honouring him.

MISS FLORRIE ROBINA is now travelling with her husband, Mr. Reed Pinaud, and is playing in *The Mumming Birds*, which is now being presented for the third season at the Folies-Marigny with undiminished success. Miss Robina's burlesque of the ballad singer is received at every performance with yells of laughter.

MR. F. W. PURCELL has in active preparation and will produce, upon an elaborate scale, an original sketch, entitled *A Tale of Two Cities*, with powerful cast and special scenery, adapted by Ernest Bliss from Charles Dickens's story. The immense success of *The Only Way*, founded on the same story, on the theatrical boards should be a happy augury for the popularity of Mr. Purcell's venture.

HERR EDOUARD WULFF, proprietor of the famous Continental circus bearing his name, will introduce, at the Hippodrome, on Monday, three horses of his own breeding in an original act, *The Three Friends*. The Turkish thoroughbred, Abdullah, will be ridden by Mlle. Maude Wulff in a liberty act. This team comprises the "Mattchiche" dancing horse, Furious. Other attractions will include Magantini, the Castilian torero (direct from Madrid), in a realistic exposition of a Spanish bull-fight; the French equestrienne, Helene Girard; Miss Fillis and her acrobatic dog, Spring Charm; the Boccaccio Minstrels; and balloon polo on horseback, the latest creation, under the management of M. Court Tietze. With this change of programme the last week of *The Zuyder Zee* is announced.

MR. GUS ELEN and Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Romaine desire through our columns to thank the numerous senders of kind wires and letters to wish them *bon voyage* and success in America. They are enjoying a most comfortable trip across on the Baltic.

THE Smythsons, after a most successful run in London, including the Moss-Stoll halls, commence the provincial tour of same next week at the Empire, Cardiff, and continue with the Moss-Stoll firm into 1908 with their latest laughter-raiser, *Love Germs*.

AT the Alhambra the already strong programme will be further added to in attractiveness next Monday by the appearance of a number of Polar bears, trained by Herr List. Ordinary performing bears are common enough, but the real white variety of the ice-bound Arctic regions is not so docile, and is more troublesome to teach. Harry Allister, a clever character impersonator, and Henry Helme, a chanteur Basque, also come to the Alhambra next week.

PREPARATIONS for the new ballet at the Alhambra are being rapidly pushed forward, the subject being, as already announced, the ever-welcome *Cloches de Corneville*. For a long time Planquette's popular opera has attracted managers as easily adaptable for a ballet, but hitherto the performing rights of the music in England have been unobtainable. It is only owing to Mr. Alfred Moul, the managing director of the Alhambra, having been the late composer's life-long friend and agent that the tuneful score has been quite recently secured. It need hardly be said that the mounting of the ballet will be on the usual scale of magnificence.

MISS ADA WARD, an actress, some years ago joined the Salvation Army, and preached about the stage. Now we have "Captain" Bailey abjuring the Booth Army Corps and appearing behind the footlights in a sketch called *The Musical Nightmare*. He is to give this on Monday at the Camberwell Empire, where he will be associated with Miss Minnie Thurgate. The captain's musical soul yearns for the appreciation that was lacking in his comrades, and which he hopes to win as an entertainer.

GUS SNYDER, a trick cyclist, met with a serious accident on Saturday at the Manchester Hippodrome. In the course of the performance he fell and broke his thigh. The poor fellow had not long recovered from a previous accident, in which he sustained considerable injury. The unfortunate performer was one of the troupe run by Bud Snyder.

MISS GLADYS HUXLEY, who is so rapidly coming to the front, is a dainty and clever artist with a style of her own. Last year she played principal girl at Nottingham, achieving the greatest success. This year she plays principal girl at the Coronet.

A CRICKET match took place at Freeman's Grounds, Denmark-hill, S.E., on Wednesday between the staffs and friends of the Camberwell Palace and Empire. A most enjoyable afternoon was spent, many local patrons putting in an appearance. Both teams were well represented, and a close game resulted in favour of the Empire staff, who ran up a total of 155. A return match will take place.

MISS BESSIE BUTT achieved such a success on her first appearance at the Tivoli recently that she has been booked for several return dates at the Syndicate halls, and opens at the Oxford shortly. Meanwhile, her latest song, "Cherries are blooming," is likely to become as popular in the North as it has in town, judging by its reception in Edinburgh. This number is one of the latest on the list of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

MISS SADIE SIMPSON, who is on a forty weeks' successful tour, will not be returning to London until May next, when she will appear at the Moss and Stoll Suburban Empires.

WHEN in Aldershot last week the Musical Palmers, by kind permission of the management of the Hippodrome, appeared at a special concert given to the inmates of the Royal Cambridge Military Hospital. Their entertainment was most enthusiastically received, and a hearty vote of thanks was given them.

CAPT. J. TAYLOR'S elephants have met with brilliant success at the London Hippodrome, and to-night he finishes his engagement there. On Monday he starts for a very extended tour on the Moss' circuit, and afterwards is desirous to tour the Continent. Capt. J. Taylor's name should not be confounded with that of his brother, who is also a "captain," and an animal trainer. Lockhart's elephants are owned by the former, and the act is probably the most popular pachydermatous show in the world.

JOHN LAWSON is meeting with his customary success this week at the Palace, Sunderland, with a répertoire of five sketches. He is playing to packed houses, in spite of tremendous opposition. Last week, at the Hackney Empire, the business, on the occasion of John Lawson's visit, was phenomenal.

THE event of the Margate season was the fancy dress ball competition, held at the Hall-by-the-Sea on Thursday night. The great building was packed, the audience being the largest seen within the walls for a very long time, and everything passed off most successfully. Competition was keen for the valuable prizes offered, many beautiful dresses being seen. The awards were made as follows:—For the best representation of the *Daily Mirror*—Ladies: 1st prize, £5, Miss Chapman, Margate; 2nd, £3, Miss Clark, Old Kent-road, London; 3rd, £2, Miss Grace Bunn, Clapham, S.W. Gentlemen: 1st prize, £5, H. Bierling, Margate; 2nd, £3, J. C. Lamb, East Sheen; 3rd, £2, P. Fruin, Margate. Consolation prizes, 10s. 6d.: Miss Booth, Seckingfield, Cheshire; Miss Holway, Margate. The magnificent gardens were beautifully illuminated.

AFTER playing at nine towns in one week Mr. Bransby Williams is finding quiet and rest with his family at his pretty seaside home at Selsey, which in the near future is likely to be a formidable rival to Bangor, a few miles away.

THE benefit of Mr. W. B. Fair, announced for Sept. 5 at the Holborn Town Hall, is for the present postponed. Mr. Fair, who is universally known as the singer of "Tommy make room for your uncle," was one of the first to exploit sketches at the halls, and both the lamented Kate Vaughan and Susie appeared under his auspices as members of the Vaughan family in Charles Merion's sketches. Mr. Merion was at one time manager of the old Trocadero, and we are afraid he did not always obtain the credit he deserved for his numerous music-hall farces and dramettas.

THE Haverleys, the well-known American song illustrators, having just concluded a twenty-nine weeks' continuous run with their well known and entertaining act, have this week started a tour of all the largest provincial halls and theatres, extending to Christmas, when they return to London to fulfil a three weeks' re-engagement with Mr. John Hart and to take up their engagements at the Syndicate halls.

MR. FOWLER THATCHER scored an emphatic success last week in the new sketch, *The Major's Middy*, at the Empire, Camberwell, and has gone one better this week, being highly complimented by the author, Mr. George Unwin, upon his creation of the old masher in Minnie Palmer's new sketch, *The Little Madcap*. He seems to be in great demand just now for eccentric old men's parts.

MISS MAYME CANNON should be proud of her experiment at the Canterbury and Paragon during the past week. She immediately caught on, and through her agent, Will Oliver, has been offered several return dates.

MLLE. GHITA CORRI, who has just returned from a most successful summer tour of fourteen weeks, visiting Scarborough, Morecambe, Halifax, Huddersfield, Folkestone, &c., and paying many return visits, has been enjoying a week's well-earned rest, and now opens her autumn season on Monday with her latest song-scena, *Character Types*, at the Alhambra, Edinburgh.

MR. H. H. FEIBER, who represents the Keith and Proctor interests, arrived in London on Wednesday. Mr. Feiber leaves for the Continent to-morrow.

LONDON'S latest magnificent music hall, the Palace, East Ham, has had a strong programme this week, one of the principal attractions being Miss Minnie Palmer and company in *The Little Madcap*, a new and very bright sketch written by George Unwin, which has gone splendidly at every performance. The clever little actress is as charming and vivacious as ever, and as Mr. Unwin has written her a part something after the style of Tina in the immortal *My Sweetheart*, it need hardly be said she revels in it, to the delight of the audience. Miss Palmer, who is extremely well supported by Miss Emma Chambers and Mr. Fowler Thatcher, has had some particularly pretty music written for *The Little Madcap*.

MR. SHAUN GLENVILLE will make his first appearance as Dame Darling in Miss Zona Joy's sketch of *School* on Oct. 7. Mr. Glenville has entered into a three years' contract with a well-known theatrical and music hall manager.

DOLLY, AGNES, AND MAUD are in the fourth year of an uninterrupted success as the musical cardboard box-makers, and have been accepted for the Stoll tour. They sail for New York in 1909.

MR. CARL VERNON, illusionist, desires to thank all those who so kindly contributed and thereby assisted Mr. Fontaine (of Les Fontaines), who has been ill:—Mr. J. Carter White, Empire, Cleethorpes, £1 1s.; Mr. T. Allan Edwards, Palace, Derby, £1 1s.; Percy Mayne, 5s.; Frank Coyle, 2s. 6d.; and Emerson and Beanland, Queen's, Castleford, 5s.; total, £2 14s. 6d.

SWAN AND VESTA, the new turn, has been secured for the King's, Edinburgh, and Pavilion, Glasgow. Anything new and refined will always be readily secured.

THE latest quotations for music-hall shares are as follows:—Alhambra 1 7/8, Canterbury ½, Empire (15s. pd.) 1⅛, Do. (10s. pd.) 1, Lon. Pav. Ord., 4⅛, Do. Pref. 5, Lon. Coliseum 1/8, Metropolitan ½, Moss Empire 4½, Do. 5 p.c. Pref. 3⅞, Oxford 6½, Palace 14/9, Tivoli 5⅛, Var. Cons. Theas. 13/0.

AT the Westminster Police Court on Monday Mr. Norman Berlin, of the Chelsea Palace, in asking for a licence to enable a little girl of thirteen to perform twice each evening for a week, said he felt he ought to mention that the conditions of the licence laid it down that there should be a break of four hours between each performance. Mr. Horace Smith: Why should not I be bound by that rule? Mr. Berlin: We have never had any difficulty on the point before. As a matter of fact, there would be about two hours between each performance by the child; but so long as it is arranged that they leave the hall before ten o'clock it is usually regarded as sufficient. Subdivisional Inspector Reed said this was now largely the custom. The police raised no objection. Mr. Berlin said he had mentioned the matter to an official of the London County Council, who had said that it was one left entirely to the discretion of the magistrates. He took the four hours interval as intended rather to refer to children who might be on the stage in plays for several hours at a stretch, and for rehearsals, and so on. Every care was taken of the children. Mr. Horace Smith granted the licence.

THE final arrangements for the dinner and presentation to Mr. Frank Gerald, at the Criterion Restaurant, on Sunday, Sept. 15, were made yesterday, when the committee met to draw up the programme for the evening. The committee have now secured the support of all sections of the entertainment world, and, in addition, many of the most prominent leaders of the Labour Party and Trades Unions will be present, including Pete Curran, M.P., Will Steadman, Mr. J. O'Grady, M.P., Will Thorn, M.P., Messrs. Harry Gosling, L.C.C., Frank Smith, L.C.C., and Chas. Jesson, L.C.C.

THE Actors' Union, who have appointed Mr. Gerald as their delegate at the Trades Congress at Bath, are taking an active part in ensuring a successful evening, and many members have arranged to be present, while the list of the committee includes such popular favourites as Geo. Chirgwin, Gus Elen, Geo. Gray, Bransby Williams, Leo Dryden, Pat Carey, Chas. Coborn, Herbert Darnley, Leonard Mortimer, and J. F. Preston. The chair will be taken at seven o'clock by Mr. Cecil Raleigh, and tickets (5s. each) may be had from any member of the committee, or from the hon. sec., 29, Wellington-street, W.C.

DR. WALFORD BODIE finished a record week with Mr. Wm. Coutts at the Albert Hall, Swansea, last week. On Saturday night at both houses hundreds were unable to obtain admission, and the stage was covered with flowers and costly presents. A scene of wild enthusiasm concluded by the whole audience rising to their feet and singing "He's a jolly good fellow." Owing to his enormous success he has been re-engaged by Mr. Coutts at the record salary of £250 to come back in a month's time.

M. GUILLAUME LEONE'S orchestration of the song "Lovely Spring" for Mme. Natalia, the celebrated singer, has pleased that lady so much that she has engaged him to do all her arranging for her future engagements. M. Guillaume Leone is acting as chef d'orchestre at the Empress, Brixton, during the absence of Mr. R. Allington, the resident conductor, who is taking a well-earned holiday.

MR. JOHN HENDERSON, whose *Under the Maple Leaf* is going strong this week at the South London, produces on Monday at the Bedford a powerful sequel to the above called *The Land of the West*, the locale, of course, being again the Canadian North-West. New and appropriate scenery by Leolyn Hart has been painted. Another Canadian air is being used as a theme for the incidental music arranged by Geo. R. Hatley. Miss Millie Henderson will again portray the modern Western girl, and be her father's principal support. It is satisfactory to note that, as we some time ago predicted, the *Maple Leaf* is now fully booked for the remainder of this year.

MASTER MAX DARRWSKI, the wonderful boy composer, conductor, and pianist, received a perfect ovation at the Palace, Manchester, when he appeared last Monday. So great an attraction have his performances proved that he has broken all previous records. His playing of "Nelson's Victory," his own composition, and that of Rossini's famous overture, *William Tell*, was one of the most marvellous ever heard. His rendering of Chopin's Valse in D flat, and an "Impromptu" from the youthful composer's own pen, which M. Paderewski praised so highly, was encored again and again. The leading managers have wired offering fabulous sums to secure the services of this wonderful new "star."

FRED KARNO'S laughable sketch, *Suburbia*, will be produced at the Hackney Empire next week. As a producer, Mr. Karno has come to the front during the past five years, and his name is regarded as being quite a hall-mark. *Hilarity* was his first attempt at sketch work, and it was a screaming success from the start. He established an extensive business for the production and equipment of sketches in Camberwell, and gives employment to many hundreds of hands, including scene painters, costumiers, and artists.

MR. CHARLES KITTS, in the same programme, is a capital comedian with twenty years' stage experience. Joining the Gaiety Répertoire Company, playing a round of musical comedies, Mr. Kitts sustained a number of Mr. Seymour Hicks's parts for some time. Three years ago he played Mr. Louis Bradfield's part in *The Silver Slipper* at the Lyric, and at last he and his charming wife determined to venture their luck on the music hall stage.

PRESIDED over by the genial Mr. E. W. James, who acted as referee, managing-director, and general "boss," the staff of the Ealing Hippodrome took what, it is hoped, may be the forerunner of many an annual outing on Sunday, Aug. 25. Soon after 10.30 Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope was placed in position, and as a well-loaded brake and four horses, followed by two fine motor-cars, generously loaned by Mr. Bishop, of the South Ealing Motor Works, commenced their journey a fine series of films depicting the departure was secured. Another series illustrating the arrival and the incidents of sport in the afternoon was also captured.

THE weather, in this most capricious of all summers, was magnificent, and "Old Sol" never ceased to shine on the happy party until the rôle was taken up by fair Luna herself on the return journey. Mr. C. Hayden, treasurer to the outing, worked like a veritable Trojan to ensure the success of the "beano." On Tuesday evening the films obtained by the Bioscope were placed upon the screen, and were the cause of endless amusement to an audience familiar with most of the actors in the moving pictures.

MR. CHARLES COLLETTE concludes to-night his fifth engagement at the London Pavilion, where, assisted by Miss Joan Derry, he has made a decided hit with his new sketch, *Pyjamas*. He commences his autumn tour on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Worcester, with *Tea for Two* and *Hard Luck*, supported by Miss Joan Derry, and returns to the London Pavilion at Christmas.

MR. EDWIN CROUESTE, the well-known jester, is expected to arrive in England from India by the P. and O. ss. Macedonia, due at Tilbury to-day or to-morrow. During his tour in the East Mr. Crouesté has received very flattering testimonials from maharajahs, governors, and commanding officers of the different provinces and military stations in India, Ceylon, and the Straits Settlements. He is arranging to open in London with a new entertainment.

MR. ROSS GILMORE, comedian, and Mr. Fred Leighton, manager of the Hippodrome, Sheerness, are the latest to join the ranks of the Terriers' Association. They were initiated on Sunday. Mr. Fred Neiman, the well-known ventriloquist, was in the chair, and performed the ceremony.

IN our paragraph last week announcing the death of Mr. Lechmere Livermore, our informant was incorrect in the description of the father of the deceased, Mr. Ernest Sheldon, as *late* proprietor of the Palaces, Dundee and Aberdeen, and writes to say that that gentleman is still part-proprietor of those establishments and the largest shareholder, and that they are let on lease to Messrs. Rosen and Bliss.

PARIS VARIETY GOSSIP.

THE Parisian off-season is nearly through, and once more signs of activity are noticed amongst the theatres, preparations for the autumn season having commenced. One of the most interesting events will be the revival of *The Belle of New York* at the Olympia. M. P. L. Flérs, who has made the adaptation, has got together a splendid cast, which will include Miles. Germain Gallois, Lucy Jousset, and Thérèse Cernay, MM. Fugère, Carlos Avril, and Leprince, not forgetting a troupe of English dancers.

THE affairs of the Isolas and Paul Ruez seem at last to have been arranged satisfactorily, and the Isolas have come back to their own. Although no public announcement has yet been made, it is thought that they will place each hall —i.e., Olympia, Folies-Bergère, and Parisiana— under a manager who will nominally appear as director, the Isolas' names not appearing. This course would be necessitated by reason of their directorship of the Gaîté. This being a subventioned theatre, its manager is not allowed to run any private enterprise.

PARISIANA opened on the 24th with a new vaudeville, *La Plage d'Amour*, by M. Eugène Joullot. It is full of funny complications, and is one big laugh from start to finish.

"GISKA THE GIPSY" is the title of a new ballet-pantomime to be produced by La Belle Otero at the Marigny next week.

A POPULAR revival here is *An Evening in a Music Hall*, which is now being played at the Marigny by Mr. T. Reed Pinaud and his clever company. Mr. Pinaud has brought over an even stronger crowd than last year, and the show is greeted with roars from the entrance of the naughty Eton boy and his Pa to the overthrow of the Terrible Turk by the Drunken Swell. All the troupe work hard, the principal factors in the success being Mr. Fred Evans in the part of the swell; Mr. Ernie Giles, jun., as the mischievous schoolboy; Mr. Pinaud as the father of the aforesaid imp; Mr. Victor Rowlands as the topical vocalist; Mr. Joe Clark as the conjurer; Miss Lena Pinaud as the saucy serio; Mr. J. Russell as the ferocious-looking wrestler; Messrs. J. Guidrey and W. Roberts as the shining lights of the Squashem Quartette; and Miss Florrie Robina as the vocalist. In Miss Robina's performance there is that little touch which proclaims the artist.

A FINE company will open at the Apollo to-night. It includes Morris Cronin, Morton and Elliott, Hymack, Billy French, Miss Ruby Helder, the Three Tamberts, Francis Wyles' Dog Circus, Roszika Schirmay, La Formarina, Odette Feria, Mlle. Miette, and Tiller's Eight Apollo Girls.

SAM ELTON opens at the Folies Marigny next month. Rastus and Banks are on the opening bill of the Alhambra, which opens on Sunday.

"THE SUNDOWNER."

A Dramatic Sketch, by F. Kitchen and Frank Lister, produced at the Granville, Walham Green, on Monday, Aug. 26.

Jim Otway .....MR. FRANK LISTER
Jack Effingham .....MR. FRANK JOHNSON
Victoria .....MISS CISSIE FARRELL
Jackey .....LITTLE MAY

The Sundowner proved to be a very clever and well-written tragedy in miniature. The scene is laid in the interior of a Queensland farmhouse, where Jack Effingham and his wife (Victoria) and the little boy Jack are seated *en famille*. In the course of conversation it leaks out that Victoria's first husband, Jim Otway, a noted bushranger who was strung up to a gum-tree by a lynching party, is rumoured to have escaped with his life. Jackey goes out to play cricket, but is warned not to get on the railway line which runs close to the house. Jackey returns, dragging with him a Sundowner, alias a tramp, whom he has found asleep in the grounds, and he is offered food and drink and shelter—and work! During the absence of his host he discovers that Victoria is his wife, and blackmails her for a £20 cheque, which Effingham had given her to cash. Heart-broken Victoria sobs, and her tears bring Jackey to the rescue. Jim Otway then learns for the first time that he is his own boy, and moved to repentance, he gets rid of the boy on some pretence, and leaves the cheque in an envelope. At this juncture, however, the rattle of the mail train is heard, just as Jackey has scrambled over the fence on to the line. Jim Otway saves the child at the cost of his own life, and the curtain falls as Jackey calls the dying man "daddy." The piece was very well acted all round, chief honours falling to Mr. Frank Lister as Jim Otway (the Sundowner) and Little May as Jackey. Miss Farrell and Mr. Johnson, however, were also excellent.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH ANNIVERSARY.

This extremely popular hall celebrated its fourth anniversary on Friday of last week, by two special performances, one at six p.m. and the other at nine p.m. The house was crowded at both shows, which is little to be wondered at, for some ninety turns were on the programme. Mr. B. G. Maclachan, who has during the past year proved himself such an exceedingly popular acting-manager, and whose kindly courtesy never fails, had a very busy evening. His onerous task was shared by Mr. Will Bennet, the Moss Empire's genial and well-known Press manager, and the success of the evening was due in no small measure to their efforts.

Before two immense audiences between sixty and seventy turns actually appeared, and the curtain was not finally rung down until nearly half-past twelve. The excellent company which did duty during the week, and which appeared at both these special performances, consisted of Kate Carney, who was in very fine form, Beatrice Willey, Fred Keeton, O'Malley and Brown, Three Sisters Sprightly, The Violas, S. J. Sheldon, Carina Sisters, the Lukushimas (excellent as ever), and the Bioscope. All the other artists who appeared were "extra."

The "bright particular star" was Harry Lauder. As soon as the audience heard the introductory bars of "I love a lassie" it roared a welcome, and the applause at the conclusion of the song was "great." The other turns were too numerous to all be mentioned, but they included Millie Lindon, who sang as charmingly as ever her little song about the dairymaid; Isabella Dillon, looking very beautiful; Hal Forde and Tom and Marie Motramo, who came from the London Pavilion; Billy English, Lalls Brooks, Clarice Mayne, Alice Pierce, with her clever imitations; Dion Wade; George Mewburn (who sang the charms of "I love a lassie" immediately after Mr. Lauder, which was an ideal way of testing his capability as a mimic), Gwennie Hasto, who dances so well; Joe Elvin, who scored enormously with his sketch, *King o' the Castle*; Hetty King, Winifred Hare, Ted E. Box, Kate A. Traill, Minnie Mace, the Eight Sunrays, Little Janet, Alexander, Robb Gilmore, Yankee Doodle Girls, Margaret Ashton, Julian Ross; the Sharp Bros. (from the Palace), a delightful turn; and the Two Bostons.

BILLIE BINT, the hustling evergreen, who is as well and as young as ever, has been going strong at the Hippodrome, Maidstone, this week.

MR. CLIFFORD ESSEX is again making a tour of the Isle of Wight with his pierrots, among whom is Miss Kathleen Mayer, the well-known society entertainer, who, with her humorous songs and stories, is largely contributing to the always-assured success of Mr. Essex's party.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

A CHARMING song of the ballad type, entitled "At the old cross-roads," by the gifted Edward Montagu, the author-composer of the enormously popular "Molly Mollyneux" (so successfully introduced in *Mrs. Ponderbury's Past*, at the Vaudeville Theatre, by Miss Billie Burke and Miss Maudi Darrell), and the famous "King and Sireland" song, will be made a feature at all the forthcoming engagements of the newly-discovered wonderful boy soprano, Master E. Frisby, who will also include in his répertoire that charming march song, "Starlight." Both the numbers are published by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

THE extraordinary success of little Max Darewski on the tour he is now fulfilling naturally focuses attention on the gifted little composer's own works. These include some very striking numbers, the most noticeable being, perhaps, the "Le Revé" valse, "England's Crown" (the Coronation march composed for His Majesty's Coronation), "The Kilties," "The Royal Standard" (dedicated to, and played by, the famous Besses o' th' Barn Band), "Nelson's Victory" (descriptive march), and his latest composition, "Fantasia Impromptu," composed for, dedicated to, and accepted by, Mr. Paderewski, and for which the king of pianists gave the youthful composer such high praise. All these are published by Francis, Day, and Hunter, who have the right of issue of all Max Darewski's compositions.

AMONGST the recent acquisitions of the famous Charing Cross-road firm are Mr. George Formby's popular number, "One of the boys," written and composed by R. P. Weston, F. J. Barnes, and M. Scott; "I shan't speak to you any more," a dainty little melody from the pens of Charles Collins and Charles Ridgwell; and the number being rendered now with such complete success by Mr. Jack Pleasants, "I'll be cross, Arabella, I'll be cross," another novelty from the popular song factory of C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton.

MISS DAISY DORMER, that dainty little artist who did so much to popularise the famous "Wooden hut" song, is creating quite a furore at her provincial engagements with Mills and Scott's new song, "Has anyone seen a German band?" This number will undoubtedly be in great demand by pantomime artists, and is, in fact, already "booked" for a round dozen towns. The Star Co. have had quite a rush for copies during the past two weeks.

GEORGE LASHWOOD has been winning fresh triumphs at Douglas, Isle of Man, where the holiday folk have endorsed the opinion of Brightonians and have pronounced "Oh, the merry widow!" the smartest and most melodious tit-bit George has given them since his celebrated "Girl wanted there." The Star Co. will issue this new Mills and Scott hit immediately.

"WE all come into the world with nothing" is the title of a song the Star Co. have acquired from Chas. Collins and W. H. Wallis. This number has recently "come on" to such an extent that the fortunate writers may be quite confident they have *one* "cert" for the coming season. Messrs. Tennyson and Wallis, L. B. Athol, Harry Marte, Maud Esmond, and others are reaping applause and encores nightly with this big winner.

MISS LILIAN LEA has been specially engaged at a number of prominent halls to feature Mills and Scott's prettiest number, "Primrose." Artists who are looking for a really dainty song cannot do better than secure a copy from the Star Co.

MISS RACHEL LOWE has found another winner in a timely song, entitled "Take me down to Blackpool," which, by a coincidence, was first produced at that celebrated Lancashire seaside resort. It was an immediate hit.

MR. DAVE CARTER, a phenomenal success as a singer of popular ballads at the Canterbury, finishes next week with a four-weeks' engagement at that house. In these days of short engagements this constitutes a record. Mr. Carter has been deputising at the Oxford during the current week, and although he was last turn in a splendid programme, his masterly rendition of "Love me and the world is mine" enthused the audience and kept them in their seats until the finish of his turn.

MISS LIL HAWTHORNE is delighting the visitors to the Stoll suburban houses with her new number "Bye-bye, my sailor boy, Jack Tar." The incidental effects used in the song add much to its success.

MISS LOLA HOLMAN is making a big success with the song "Love me and the world is mine," another Witmark song success.

MESSRS. JOHN P. HARRINGTON and JAS. W. TATE have this week supplied Miss Vesta Victoria with yet two more songs, which she will specially feature in America when she opens in that country shortly. Miss Victoria's American répertoire will almost exclusively be supplied by these prolific authors and composers, as she already has four other numbers of theirs in study. The titles of the two latest are "Temptation" and "Has anybody seen my William Brown?" both being eminently suited to Miss Victoria's distinctive style.

MISS GLADYS MAVIUS, so long associated with the success of the Monte Carlo Publishing Company's big winner, "Rosie is waiting," has this week "made good" with another publication issued by the same up-to-date firm, viz., "Any old place where the sun shines," the chorus of which has been sung to the echo by enraptured audiences at all her engagements, and the song bids fair to eclipse even the success of its famous predecessor. The new song is written by Paul Paulton and composed by Arthur Van Dixie.

MISS CARLOTTA LEVEY will produce on Monday Messrs. Paul Pelham and Herbert Rule's march song, "I'm going to try my luck in London." The same author and composer will be vocally represented by yet another artist in the person of Mr. Dave Carter, who on the same night will sing for the first time their charming song of sentiment, entitled "Sweet Bells of Shandon." Both numbers are published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. in their "Sixpenny Successes."

THE Monte Carlo Publishing Company have this week made an important purchase in the shape of Mr. George D'Albert's latest "winner." "The ring on the telephone," written and composed by Herbert Rule. Good judges predict that this song will be in every pantomime. The Monte Carlists also publish two other songs which Mr. George D'Albert is featuring, to wit, "Isn't it lovely to be in love?" and "Canoodle in my canoe," of both of which great things are also expected. These latter are by Paul Pelham and Herbert Rule.

MR. HARRY MARLOW is scoring a signal success, on tour, in the sketch, entitled *Other People's Babies*, with the song written and composed by himself, "Don't start to worry if the sun don't shine," and the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. have this song (which will also shortly be featured by Miss Florrie Gallimore) in the press for early production. The Berners-street firm are also issuing another song, the words and music of which are by Mr. Marlow, entitled "Bayon," the words of which are wedded to an irresistible melody.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE OXFORD.

A new comer to the Oxford is Miss Clara Alexander, the American raconteuse, who, in a simple, natural way that "gets there all the time," tells coon stories, and sings a lilt concerning an old nigger and his mule. Miss Alexander sets the seal upon her success by a capital recitation describing a horse race in the States, and applause rules the house when she finishes. An early arrival among the contingent of comedians is Mr. Nat Clifford, termed the nimble one, whose eccentric movements are laughable; Mr. Will Van Allen, the musical tramp, accentuates his comedy by rags and gags; and Mr. Tom Woottwell's dream song is as funny an item as he has had for some time, and that it is doing him good service becomes apparent during his short but most successful sojourn behind the Oxford footlights. Mr. Wilkie Bard works the customary amusing business with "Let me sing," and also exploits a clever absurdity in "You, you, you." There is plenty of fun in this, and Oxford audiences intensely enjoy the education given in chorus singing. Mr. Fred Earle has not yet found another "Seaweed," but his quaint and original style does much for a couple of songs that cause considerable amusement. Mr. Dan Crawley's experience is of the pleasantest, as his popular items find genuine appreciation in all parts of the house.

The chief comedian of the programme, however, is Mr. Joe Elvin, who is producing at the Oxford *King o' the Castle*, recently noticed by us when it was given for the first time at a popular house on the other side of the water. Mr. Elvin appears as the lamblike and perfunctory husband of a fashionable lady, who deplores an ill-assorted union. Her brother, who is a doctor, gives the invertebrate one an elixir that endows him seemingly with a giant's strength and restless energy; and the way "the King o' the Castle" turns on his detractors supplies a droll dénouement to a really funny sketch. Mr. Elvin, in a suit several sizes too large for him, keeps the house in roars, and receives adequate support from a good company whose names are given.

Duncan and Godfrey are among the best delineators of coster life and manners that we know, and the success of *Me and 'Er and the Baby* is both conspicuous and well deserved. Paul Cinquevalli is a delight to watch and Winifred Hare a delight to hear. Little Tich has no greater stronghold than the Oxford, and cheers break out as soon as his number twinkles at the side of the stage. He is admirably fitted with his present répertoire. Mr. Dave Carter has been deputising most successfully during the week. Other names announced on the bill are Miss Annie Purcell; Kelly, Gillette, and Bart, with their acrobatics and fun in a billiard-saloon; Miss Kate Traill, with songs at the piano; and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, with a series of attractive films.

THE CANTERBURY.

The front rank of the profession is numerously represented this week at the Canterbury, where Mr. Fred Miller offers entertainment of the highest class. In *The King of the Castle* Mr. Joe Elvin has a part in which his talent for character delineation is more than ever conspicuous, and his diverting performance as the flabby, invertebrate householder, who gains a temporary infusion of energy by means of a medicated liquid, arouses screams of laughter, and serves to renew the popularity which the famous comedian has so long enjoyed. A star of surpassing magnitude is also found in Mr. Harry Lauder, the incomparable Scotch comedian, who brings his healthy humour from the Caledonian heights to dissipate the dullness of our metropolis, his joviality and drollery in "Rob Roy Mackintosh," and in "We parted on the shore," keeping the large house in uncontrollable laughter. It is only Mr. Lauder who could pass without a pause from comedy to sentiment, and the sight of the ancient mariner who has just been moving the audience to mirth, suddenly breaking forth in a rich baritone in "Rocked in the cradle of the deep," so far from upsetting the gravity of his hearers, wins their reverent attention. Mr. Lauder is induced to give still another song, and delights all with "I love a lassie," in which the assistance of a comely maiden in tartan plaid is invaluable.

The imposing array of favourites is swelled by Mr. Tom Leamore, who, as an attenuated individual in voluminous evening dress sings a nonsensical ballad, every line of which evokes a titter. Still greater hilarity is provoked by his song of "Rufus," which is embellished by a dance, in which the oddest antics imaginable are indulged in, to the great amusement of the audience, who recall the comedian repeatedly. Mr. Will Evans comes in for his customary welcome, and by his effervescent drollery soon proves his ability to sustain a reputation that has lasted over long years. A special feature is being made of a "Limerick" competition, for which the management offer liberal prizes, and Mr. Evans aids the competitors by submitting several specimens of his own, to which the last lines are supplied by members of the audience.

Eccentricity is elaborated to its broadest limits by Mr. Nat Clifford, who sings of the "Grand Hotel"; and Mr. Dan Crawley furthers the fun of the evening by means of a rollicking refrain and a piquant impersonation of an elderly but effusive female. Admiration is gained by Miss Minnie Mace, who is daintily demure in a song with the refrain, "It's you I want." Miss Mace further captivates the audience by the charm of her appearance in her song about "Mr. Dickens and the chickens," added to which is a dance of exceeding grace and neatness. Miss Ethel Bourne reveals some deep notes in her singing of Sullivan's "Lost Chord," and also makes an effective appeal with a love ballad, which is charmingly rendered. A variety of items is presented by Mr. Randolph King, who in the course of his act does a number of lightning changes, his imitations including a French ventriloquist, with remarkable "effects," a coster, and a miser, in which a particularly realistic piece of acting, that gains many cheers, is submitted. Mr. Leo Stormont now devotes his fine baritone to the singing of songs, the incidents of which are pictorially represented on a sheet, and gains great favour. Miss Mayme Cannon, besides doing tricks at the piano, renders in vivacious style "I'll tell Tilly at the telephone"; Mr. Dave Carter, the "Irish tenor," with a number of songs, is very popular; the Seven Wulfrunas are successful in their acrobatic comedy scena, *Fun in a Café*; and Miss May Henderson, the dusky queen of comedy; Mr. Ambrose Thorne, comedian; and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope are contributory forces in a strong bill.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

Unstinted support is being given at the South London to Mr. William Payne, whose courtesy and businesslike abilities keep the old-established house high up in popularity. Appreciative audiences are filling the hall this week, and grow very merry over the various items of the programme. The humour of the evening has been largely added to by Mr. Tom Leamore, who on the occasion of our visit appeared in place of another turn, which had been doing duty earlier in the week. Mr. Leamore came on unannounced, but he was immediately recognised and warmly cheered. It is not often that the hit of the evening is made by a deputy, but Mr. Leamore can properly claim to have achieved such a result, and had to give three of his whimsical creations before being allowed to retire. The merriment of the audience is ministered to by Miss Florence St. John in the sketch *Quits*. Miss St. John plays brightly and with no small sense of humour as the deceived but forgiving wife, and revives memories of her former brilliant triumphs in comic opera by the singing of "Molly Molyneux," the clever song by Mr. Edward Montagu, which has such a lilting refrain. Able support in the sketch is furnished by Mr. William Sauter and Mr. H. V. Surrey, both comedy actors of ability.

A profoundly pathetic effect is created by Mr. John Henderson and company in the sketch *Under the Maple Leaf*. Mr. Henderson acts with dignity and impressiveness as the "old soldier," and the grief of the white-haired father who has strangled his reprobate son in order to preserve him from the gallows is very affecting. Miss Millie Henderson gives a clever sketch of the young Canadian girl, and the episode wins warm applause. The Great Northern Troupe create their customary effect with their series of Scotch and Irish dances, in the course of which some expert stepping is witnessed. The Highland fling is prettily presented by a trio of Caledonian lasses, and an Irish jig indulged in by the two clever "boys" finds immediate favour. Later the troupe take part in an Irish reel, to which a novel effect is lent by the appearance of a quaint old couple who join with unlimited energy in the revels.

A comely presence and tuneful voice enable Miss Daisy Stratton to gain the affections of the audience, who listen with joy to her singing as a gipsy maiden who is able to execute a dance of great neatness and skill. Mooney and Holbein are responsible for a varied turn in which dancing figures prominently. The comedian of the pair does some particularly difficult steps in the course of a series of dances to the accompaniment by the lady, who plays the concertina and mandoline and sings a song in which allusions are made to the late popular artists Sims Reeves, Charles Godfrey, and Dan Leno. The turn in which patter is also smartly introduced gains great applause. Pictures of a Nurses' Strike are divertingly presented on Ruffell's Bioscope; and Clemart, ventriloquist; Chas. Faning, comedian; and Ted Saunders, mimic, are contributors to an attractive programme.

THE EUSTON.

There is joy among the frequenters of the Euston Palace when the bill is brightened by the unrestrained humour of Mr. Joe Elvin, the Cockney comedian, who has an extensive and peculiar knowledge of the argot of the racing man or the coster, and exploits in his own inimitable way a number of characters which possess a near kinship in their ways on the stage. He is seen at the fine house near the London termini in his latest success, *Trespassers, Beware*. This concerns the adventures of an amateur oarsman who has lost his rudder, and lands on a riverside *terra incognita*, where a firm of cinematographists are arranging a series of faked pictures of the murder by Hindoos of a soldier on the banks of the Ganges. When we say that the only Joe dons the regimentals of a swaddy, the fun of the imbroglio may be guessed, and laughter holding both its sides best describes the attitude of audiences twice nightly. Mr. Elvin exhibits all those excellent qualities as a comedian which make him a *persona grata* to the populace, and his popularity at the Euston is immense. He is well supported by an excellent company.

Miss Winifred Hare, who has charmed us on the comedy opera and musical comedy stage by her clever impersonations of heroines and on the pantomime boards by her dashing heroes, is admirably suited with a fine march song, entitled "Cheer up, Mary." We are not surprised to hear that Mary looks sweeter with the "lovelight in her eye" or that she gives all the necessary encouragement to her lover, who spoons with her with the man in the moon looking on. Miss Hare's singing brings her into complete harmony with the chorus singers aloft, who lift up their voices in a sweet refrain and are quite happy.

Miss Clarice Mayne, who has rapidly reached the position of star, cleverly impersonates a widow who desires another attachment. It is her mimicry, however, which is so popular. She is especially good in one of Miss Connie Ediss's numbers, and exactly realises the mannerisms of Miss Vesta Tilley in "Following in father's footsteps."

Mr. Alec Kendal is exuberant in his patter, and he has a confidential method with his audiences which makes him very popular. Miss Gladys Mavius does exceedingly well in chorus songs; Victor Newman's character impersonations are appreciated; Mr. Bert Brantford possesses the family ability that has brought fame to a near relative; and Vasey and Ramsey, in *Jerks the Butler*, have a laugh-raising scena that completely answers its purpose. Nothing is better in the bill than Mr. Harry Tate's new version of *Motoring*, which contains all the fun of the original with some extra whimsical business. Ruffell's Bioscope presents a series of fine pictures of the King's visit to the Dreadnought. Mr Henri Gros is now the managing-director of this house, and the interests of the company are well looked after by Mr. Fred M'Avoy. Mr. Victor Opferman directs a capable orchestra.

THE BRITANNIA.

The programme submitted this week is well up to the standard of excellence that the management of this well-conducted hall endeavour to maintain. The most important item, and one that is evidently to the taste of the audience, is the sketch *That Brute Simmonds*, adapted by Messrs. Arthur Morrison and H. C. Sargeant from those realistic tales, "Stories of Mean Streets." The company engaged by Mr. F. W. Purcell is an excellent one. The rôle of the brow-beaten and hen-pecked husband, Thomas Simmonds, is most capably undertaken by Mr. Herbert Russell, and could hardly be in better hands, and the audience indulge in hearty laughter at his misfortunes. Mr. George Elliston as Bob Ford is a very fine character-study of the supposed dead husband, and the ingenious devices by which these two endeavour to force the lady upon each other are very amusing. We must congratulate Miss Ethel Stalman upon a very fine performance of the part of Mrs. Simmonds. This lady deserves great praise for her natural impersonation of a very difficult character. The sketch is well mounted, a special scene having been painted by Walter Hann. *Capt. Hamilton, V.C.*, is a well-produced item, capitally played by Whimsical Walker as the soft-hearted burglar, and a very clever little girl, whose name is not given, but who is to be commended for her natural acting and the clear manner in which she delivers her lines. Messrs. Albert and Edmunds and their troupe are seen in one of their well-known knockabout sketches, entitled *Neighbours*, which gives them numerous opportunities of indulging in the amusing tumbling for which they are so well famed. The methods which the cockney neighbours use to annoy their more aristocratic ones are most mirth-provoking, and keep the audience in a very good humour. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux show some very fine pictures on the screen, notably Those Heavenly Twins, Living Statuary, and The Unskilful Skater. The well-conducted orchestra render some lively interludes during the evening. The courteous acting-manager, Mr. J. McCarthy, and his subordinates assiduously attend to the comfort of their patrons.

QUITE an event is the renewal of the old association between Edgar Bateman, the Cockney laureate, and Gus Elen, the ideal coster. This has taken the form of a new number, "The coster's pony," which is so happily wedded to a lilting melody by the prolific Henry E. Pether that Mr. Elen intends making a distinct feature of this in America.

MESSRS. STAFFORDS, LTD., have just produced a magnificent new six-sheet poster, in full colours, of the fine, big head-portrait of Mlle. Ghita Corri that attracted so much attention when it originally appeared with this artist's biography in our columns a few months ago. Since then it has been sold in thousands by the Rotary Co. as a fascinating postcard in their "Celebrated Singers" series.

VESTA TILLEY'S FAREWELL TO HER MANX AUDIENCES.

The scene was an odd mixture of pathos and comedy when Vesta Tilley, the "idol of two hemispheres," closed her engagement with The Palace and Derby Castle Company by making her final appearance at The Palace on Saturday night. Notwithstanding the fact that many thousands of visitors had left the Island during the day (for Saturday is the great "going home" day), fully five thousand persons gathered in the pavilion to hear the famous variety artist. She was in splendid form, and, notwithstanding the pain she too evidently felt in separating herself from her enthusiastic admirers, she sang no fewer than five songs—"When the right girl comes along," "Jolly good luck to the lass that loves a soldier," "The seaside smile," "Following in father's footsteps," and the evergreen "Algie." After the third song the conductor of the orchestra, Mr. Harry Wood, handed Miss Tilley two magnificent floral offerings, one a token of regard from the directors of the company, and the other from a number of children in Castle Mona Hotel (where Miss Tilley had been staying), to whose happiness and pleasure she had, during her sojourn, contributed in various kindly ways. The young people had attached a written inscription to the bouquet, and had all signed it, expressing their appreciation of the "idol's" kindness; and we venture to say that Vesta Tilley will prize this children's testimony to her popularity as amongst her most valued treasures. When she had retired from the stage, after her fifth song, there were cries of "Speech! speech!"

After the cheers which marked her reappearance on the stage had subsided, Vesta Tilley said: I feel I cannot go away from you without saying how grateful I am to you for your many kindnesses and for the magnificent reception you have accorded to me. I can scarcely find words to express to you how great a pleasure it is to me to come to this beautiful island, where I always meet with such troops of kind friends and so many warm admirers. I am proud if I have been able to contribute to your enjoyment, and I shall ever feel grateful to you for your appreciation of my efforts.

This little speech, gracefully delivered, was received with great enthusiasm, and hundreds pressed forward to shake hands with their favourite. Some of her more intimate friends made their way to her room in The Palace, and her eyes betrayed the emotion she felt at the termination of her visit to Manxland. As she left The Palace she was cheered by hundreds of admirers, who had waited at the gates to bid her a hearty farewell. It is evident that Miss Vesta Tilley's popularity was never greater than it is at the present time. And no wonder, for she is a consummate artist, every character she personates in her songs being a study true to the life.

She left the island in the Empress Queen, which sailed from Douglas at seven o'clock yesterday (Sunday) morning for Liverpool, whence she proceeded on her motor-car for London.—I.O.M. *Times*.

THE MIDDLESEX.

For a really funny musical act—in which, of course, there is more fun than music—one can heartily commend *Pipple from Poppleton*, a sketch which is played in the liveliest possible fashion by Mr. Fred Cullane and company. The trifle is set in a riverside scene. Two young ladies, with their gallant punting escort, land, and commence to dance and sing, when they are suddenly interrupted by the eccentric Mr. Pipple, of Poppleton, who rushes into their midst with a fierce bulldog holding on to his trousers. He quickly makes himself familiar with everyone—too familiar, in fact, and one of the girls promptly takes him to task with the gloves. The comic boxing contest causes intense merriment, Mr. Cullane being the life and soul of the sketch. He receives able support from three members of his company. A juvenile comedienne who should be heard of a good deal in the future is Miss Jennie Alexander. This little girl is the possessor of a pretty voice and some ability as an actress. She gives imitations of several well-known artists. Thus, we get a capital idea of how Miss Vesta Tilley sings "Following in father's footsteps," and of how Miss Vesta Victoria and Miss Victoria Monks render some of their favourite numbers. The Sisters Rayman are heard and seen to advantage as duettists and dancers; and Vendome and Chase, the well-known society entertainers, submit a particularly attractive turn. The Donnas Trio cause the spectators to marvel at the daring and skilfulness exhibited in their sensational balancing trapeze act; and Dot Joan is an accomplished and most engaging little comedienne. A pleasing demonstration of national dances is furnished by Mlle. Viviana, who thoroughly understands the art of gracefully tripping the "light fantastic." A couple of comedians who are highly successful in the mirth-provoking line are the Brothers Hayes. They have a smart vocal number in "There's a place," and their sand-dancing is of the neatest and briskest order. The Sisters Melba distinguish themselves as harmonising vocalists, their song, "Is there any room in Heaven," being loudly encored. Miss May Clifton and company appear in a pretty and picturesque Japanese scena, which forms one of the most agreeable features of the programme. Miss Clifton sings in a tuneful and expressive manner, and her rendering of "Sweet Nightingale" and "Mimosa San" quite enchants her hearers. The Gallimore Trio give a hugely enjoyable comedy act; and Mr. Bert Brantford still maintains his reputation as one of the funniest comedians of the day. In a notice of this kind one could not withhold praise from Mr. Brent Hayes, who treats us to a real musical treat with the aid of his banjo. His performance of "The World's March" and "In the shade of the old apple tree" is extremely commendable from a point of view of technique and tone. John Grün Marx, the famous strong man, performs a series of astonishing feats in the direction of weight-lifting, his *coup de grâce* being the lifting of twenty-five men at one time. Mr. Harry Taft, who is immensely popular at the Middlesex, whistles merrily, sings blithely, and patters jovially. Mr. Sydney Mason and Miss Theresa Moore, and their company, interpret the dramatic episode, *The Crimson Blind*. Miss Moore as an adventuress and Mr. Mason as a maniac act in strikingly realistic fashion; and they receive able support from Messrs. A. E. Mayne, Pat O'Hart, Syd Leslie, and Frederick Marsden. Three excellent films are exhibited by the new Bioscope.

MR. FRANK COYLE, with his usual good luck, has just secured another big number from the pen of Mr. Aylmer Lee, entitled "The only man in the world," which bids fair to outshine all other successes that Mr. Coyle has sung. It will be an excellent song for principal boys in pantomime.

THE Twin Sisters Anderson have found in "Bill Simmons, or I've got to dance till the band gets through," an excellent vehicle for their smart dancing. The amount of comedy infused into the song by these clever artists finds great favour.

MAURICE SCOTT, the well-known composer, has accepted an appointment in Messrs. B. Feldman and Co.'s professional department. Variety and pantomime artists on the look-out for real winners should write or call on Mr. Scott at the above firm, where they will be sure to meet with their requirements.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR SEPTEMBER.

ENGLAND.

Sept. 2. Alverthorpe (12,000)
Sept. 2. Armley (22,000)
Sept. 2. Farnley (3,600)
Sept. 2. Farsley (5,500)
Sept. 2. Halton (2,200)
Sept. 2. Kilmington (3,000)
Sept. 2. Oldbury (25,200)
Sept. 2. Oxford (49,400)
Sept. 2. Woodley (24b)
Sept. 2. Wortley (8,000)
Sept. 3. Leigh (Dorset) (400)
Sept. 3. Wednesbury (26,500)
Sept. 4. Aldeboro' (Yorks) (2,000)
Sept. 4. Barnet (8,000)
Sept. 4. Bicester (3,300)
Sept. 4. Crewkerne (4,300)
Sept. 4. Fakenham (200)
Sept. 4. Great Horlon (33,000)
Sept. 5. Maldon (4,800)
Sept. 5. Northallerton (4,000)
Sept. 6. Churwell (1,985)
Sept. 7. Exeter (47,000)
Sept. 7. Matlock (7,300)
Sept. 7. Meltham (1,200)
Sept. 9. Ardsley (6,000)
Sept. 9. Chapel Town (7,100)
Sept. 9. Blandford (3,600)
Sept. 9. Glastonbury (4,000)
Sept. 9. Holbeck (23,000)
Sept. 9. Openshaw (24,500)
Sept. 9. Sandal Feast
Sept. 9. Swinton and Pendlebury (19,000)
Sept. 9. Thorner (976)
Sept. 9. Witton (1,659)
Sept. 10. Barnoldswick (7,400)
Sept. 10. Congresbury (1,700)
Sept. 11. Broadway (Somerset) (500)
Sept. 11. Lambert Castle (Dorset)
Sept. 12. Buxton (4,787)
Sept. 12. Morchard Bishop (1,100)
Sept. 12. Wareham (2,000)
Sept. 13. Swindon (45,000)
Sept. 13. Tewkesbury (5,400)
Sept. 14. Batley (20,000)
Sept. 14. Blackheath (Staffs) (9,553)
Sept. 14. Boston (15,700)
Sept. 14. Cromford (1,056)
Sept. 14. Wirksworth (4,263)
Sept. 14. Woodthorpe (882)
Sept. 16. Alford (2,500)
Sept. 16. Barnstaple (14,000)
Sept. 16. Farnworth (25,000)
Sept. 16. Ilkley (7,500)
Sept. 16. Langwith (363)
Sept. 16. Hemel Hempstead (11,300)
Sept. 16. March (7,600)
Sept. 16. Newcastle (Staffs) (20,000)
Sept. 16. Sidmouth (4,000)
Sept. 17. Haltwhistle (12,000)
Sept. 17. Ottery St. Mary (3,500)
Sept. 17. Penn (Bucks) (400)
Sept. 17. Second Lee Fair
Sept. 17. Ware (5,900)
Sept. 18. Bury (60,000)
Sept. 18. Sidbury (200)
Sept. 19. Amersham (3,000)
Sept. 19. Atherstone (5,000)
Sept. 19. Beaminster (2,000)
Sept. 19. Staines (6,700)
Sept. 19. Worcester (43,966)
Sept. 21. Backwell (1,000)
Sept. 21. Bude (1,059)
Sept. 21. Hayfield (2,864)
Sept. 21. Lewes (11,300)
Sept. 21. Longtown (300)
Sept. 21. New Mills (5,509)
Sept. 21. Pateley Bridge (3,200)
Sept. 21. Ratcliffe (137)
Sept. 21. Reading (60,000)
Sept. 21. Rushden (12,500)
Sept. 21. Stockport (70,600)
Sept. 23. Bowdon (2,796)
Sept. 23. Bugsworth (389)
Sept. 23. Idle (7,500)
Sept. 23. Iron Acton (1,000)
Sept. 23. Uttoxeter (5,200)
Sept. 23. Woodhouse (6,423)
Sept. 24. Ashley-de-la-Zouch (4,700)
Sept. 24. Bridgwater (15,200)
Sept. 24. Brierley Hill (12,000)
Sept. 24. Heyford (800)
Sept. 24. Kenilworth (4,500)
Sept. 25. Arundel (2,800)
Sept. 25. Cambridge (38,400)
Sept. 25. Haslemere (1,000)
Sept. 25. Over (Cheshire) (6,200)
Sept. 25. Pickering (3,500)
Sept. 25. Solihull (3,800)
Sept. 26. Birmingham (522,182)
Sept. 26. Hartland (1,745)
Sept. 26. High Wycombe (6,000)
Sept. 26. Morton (982)
Sept. 26. Spalding (9,400)
Sept. 26. Todmorden (25,400)
Sept. 27. Eleven Lane Ends Feast
Sept. 28. Alton (5,590)
Sept. 28. Ampthill (2,200)
Sept. 28. Chesham (7,300)
Sept. 28. Cranbrooke (3,500)
Sept. 28. Dorchester (9,500)
Sept. 28. Long Stratton (600)
Sept. 28. Studley (3,000)
Sept. 28. Tyldesley (15,000)
Sept. 28. Uxbridge (8,600)
Sept. 28. Wallingford (3,000)
Sept. 30. Burton-on-Trent (50,386)
Sept. 30. Dudley (49,000)
Sept. 30 Dunstable (5,200)
Sept. 30. Hanbury (900)
Sept. 30. Hounslow (6,790)

SCOTLAND.

Sept. 2. Ayr (27,531)
Sept. 16. Aberdeen (153,108)
Sept. 18. Moss of Ballock (612)
Sept. 20. Castle Douglas (3,018)
Sept. 21. Dumfries (18,680)
Sept. 25. Fraserburgh (8,998)
Sept. 30. Haddington (3,992)
Sept. 30. Sinclair Town

WALES.

Sept. 2. Aberavon (7,000)
Sept. 12. Blaenavon (12,000)
Sept. 12. Neath (14,000)
Sept. 20. Tredegar (18,000)
Sept. 21. Llandudno (7,000)
Sept. 25. Abergavenny (8,000)
Sept. 26. Cowbridge (1,000)
Sept. 27. Llanfyllin (2,000)
Sept. 30. Fishguard (2,000)
Sept. 30. Llanelly (23,000)

Pudsey Feast.

For this capital Yorkshire fair a big aggregation of shows, machines, and fairground novelties foregathered. The big cinematograph shows were Tuby and Sons', Relph and Pedley's, and Farrar and Tyler's. The minor concerns were the freak menageries of Messrs. Westray and Son and Traynor. In the list of machine novelties were Ben Howden and Son's motor-cars and juvenile motors, Relph and Pedley's motor set, P. Collins and Son's racing cockerels, Corrigan and Son's helter-skelter and steam swings, Lieske's big wheel, Waddington's steam yachts, and juvenile motors and ponies by Messrs. Seed and Waugh. The minor varieties, shooters, &c., were provided by Messrs. Radcliffe, Seed, Ackroyd, Rhodes, Roche, Cavannagh, Fisher, Turner, Illingworth, Jacques, Morley, Corrigan, and others.

Bingley Feast.

Here were Chipperfield's menageries, Farrar and Tyler's cinematograph, Randall Williams' (Monte Bros.) cinematograph, and side-shows by C. Relph and Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. H. Waddington's motor-cars and racing chanticleers, Walter Show's steam swings, and Winchester ranges and shooting galleries by hompson, Barker, Jameson, and Blake. The other fun-providers were Cookshaw, Holdsworth, Blake, Powell, Thompson, and others.

Hooley Hill Wakes.

Under the banner of James Hibbert and Sons, this wakes was well catered for. The Stockport firm had the following novelties on exhibition:—The galloping horses, the racing birds, and big boats. Shuttleworth provided overboats, gem horses, and juvenile motors. Winchester ranges, bottle batteries, varieties, and throwing games were by Messrs. Hughes, Rowley, Mulhearne, Sedgwick, Colbert, Griffin, Cottam, and other caterers.

Great Harwood Wakes.

The principal caterers were the local firms of Haworth, Starkie, McCluskie, Smith, Gallagher, Ingham, Stanley, and Taylor.

Hartlepool.

Here were Priest's two capital shows, the performing seals and the freak marvel, the armless lady artist, and varieties by Messrs. Bates, Kitson, and Loughbury.

On the Midland Round.

Studley, Sept. 28; Alvechurch, Oct. 2; Evesham, Oct. 4, King's Norton, Oct. 7; Alcester, Oct. 8; Stratford-on-Avon, Oct. 12 and 25; Henley-in-Arden, Oct. 11.

Stifford's Bridge.

Scott's amusements have been visiting Stifford's Bridge.

Redditch.

Ediscope and Barnum's living pictures have been at the Public Hall. Showmen and others will find a good stand in the centre of the town of Redditch, viz., the Royal Hotel yard.

Astwood Bank.

Hessey's amusements have been on a return visit with park swings, shooting saloons, striker, cokernut sheets, stalls, &c. A circus would do well here.

Astwood Bank great temperance festival was maintained by Mr. Thomas Scott's three-a-breast jumping horses, bottle battery, aerial swings, striker, cokernut gardens, shooting ranges, &c.; W. Brewer with ring-boards, china bazaars, and walking-stick emporiums; and Ben Embling's fancy stalls. No circus has visited this town this season.

Pershore.

At Pershore Flower Show were Scott's gallopers from Worcester, also swing-boats, shooting saloons cokernut sheets, &c.

Studley.

Studley statute fair will be held on Saturday, Sept. 28. Studley is three miles from Redditch and for miles from Alcester.

The Evergreen Barnet Fair.

Again the enterprising paragraphist has been sounding alarm over the coming death (so these pessimists say) of dear old Barnet Fair. Fortunately the showman is too busy a man to anticipate evil. He has a ready wit to deal with emergencies, and to maintain his business privileges as danger really arises. There are people who imagine that the local authorities, or a noisy group of busybodies, can quite easily abolish a fair. They have only to cry aloud, and the thing they clamour for will be granted. The showman knows better. He knows that the process of abolishing a fair is a long and tedious business, and much more difficult than the unlearned think. So he heeds not the alarming rumours, but takes his show, as usual, fixes up, and behold you, the fair is alive and kicking, and not at all in the throes of dissolution. So will it be with Barnet Fair, 1907. London may go out in its usual crowds; nothing unusual will happen. Next year, about this time, the usual murmurings will be heard. The shows will arrive again, and the fair will be held.

Hillkirk-street Wakes.

The suburb of Manchester known as Beswick kept its annual carnival wakes last week. Scott and Sagar's premier show, the Palace of Delight, with up-to-date animated pictures, Hodgini's circus, Mander's star menagerie, J. Collins's steam yachts, T. Hurst's racing birds, Hibbert and Son's mountain ponies, Wm. Davies's four-abreast galloping horses, George Cornwell, R. Deeks, W. Mercer, and Messrs. Smith, Thwaites, and Cullis were among the crowd of minor amusement caterers.

Brixham Regatta.

From Westward Ho! we have welcome news of the fair at Brixham. Under the expert direction of the well-known Messrs. W. C. and S. Hancock, it was an assured success from start to finish. The Plymouth firm exhibited their superb electric coliseum of animated pictures and two big sets of roundabouts, the motor-cars, and the four-a-breast galloping horses. Prince and Princess Samonda, in their occult demonstration and telepathic mystifications, were, as usual, a big draw. John Laurence and Sons' marionette theatre—one of the most delightful bijou theatres travelling—had a constant stream of eager patrons. John Jones, the West of England variety theatre and living picture exhibitor, delighted crowded audiences and well maintained his hard-won reputation. Prof. Alf. Wright's school of boxers gave an all-round British show. The other machines were Newman's lighthouse (the slippery slope), Ford's juvenile horses, Chapman's big boats and swings, and park swings by Messrs. Hurrell and Smith. Rifle saloons, coker, and throwing games by the Jones Family, the Oldridges, the Whitelegges Family, and Messrs. Locke, Ford, and Chapman.

The White City.

This is the fourteenth week of this city of pleasure, and there has scarcely been a full day's sunshine until now, notwithstanding that the average attendances for the first twelve weeks has been 6,500, and during the last two weeks have shown a considerable increase.

The great attraction this week is the first appearance in Europe of Zipho, the man with a strong jaw, who hangs by his teeth, and slides about 700ft. along a steel wire from a height of about 100ft. over the large lake, into which he drops.

Music is provided by the band of H.M. 3rd Batt. 60th King's Royal Rifles (of whom the Prince of Wales is Colonel-in-Chief), conductor, Mr. James Slattery.

Gilleno's American Circus draws well, and among the new-comers are Mlle. Onra on the wire and the Clown Gilleno, with his comicalities.

One of the most popular rides is the Figure Eight, an improvement on the switchback, the cars on which occupy about 1¼ minutes in describing the figure eight three times. This is almost continuously going all afternoon and evening, and this week it was stated that there was a complaint from the Deaf and Dumb School on that side of the grounds that the noise keeps the teachers and servants from sleeping before 11 p.m Rather comical!

Aylesbury.

Mr. William Taylor has just visited the town with his beautiful Coliseum of varieties. The orchestraphone, which is illuminated with 4,000 coloured changeable electric lights, is the finest that has yet paid a visit to the district, and is the topic of conversation. The vast living caravan also attracted the greatest interest, which is a "perfect palace on wheels." On his next visit Mr. Taylor has promised to devote an entertainment to the Royal Bucks Hospital.

The Fun City, Olympia.

The enormous success of the first Fun City has led the proprietors (The International Fairs, Ltd.) to scour the world of shows for new and startling novelties. These will be seen in all their freshness on Christmas Eve.

Many of the proved successes of the first venture, such as Hale's tours of the world, Sedgwick's grand menagerie, P. Collins's superb machines, Biddell's cinematograph theatre, will be again seen. The new enterprises will include P. Collins's magnificent coliseum of animated and vocal photography, the premier living pictures of the world. Mr. Collins will also add to his list of machines a helter-skelter tower, and several new roundabouts.

American and Continental Shows.

These will include the Coney Island panoramic illusion, the Creation—a series of graphic picture groups to illustrate the genesis and birth of the world.

The Assouan Village (by permission of the French Colonial Department) will be a rare demonstration of tribal life and ethnology—the village commune complete—seventy villagers, headed by their chieftain and his family. With them will be found the medicine man, the executioner, and the village craftsman at work. "The human roulette board" (a startling show); a capital Continental circus; a Lilliputian troupe, fifty in number; the Maynes, the Bolesworths, the Bonds, the Peters, the Kingstons, and other well-known metropolitan show people will be found amongst the variety providers and the funsmiths at the next Fun City, Olympia.

TYPICAL MIDLAND WAKES.

Bloxwich Wakes has this year been unique in more senses than one—due to two special influences: fine weather and the limitless enterprise of Mr. P. Collins. On Saturday there was a great crowd on the wakes ground; on Sunday there was a large attendance to hear a sacred concert on the famous mechanical organ of Mr. Collins; it is computed that quite 30,000 paid for admission to the ground on Monday; there was another large concourse on Tuesday; and on Wednesday, when the admission coppers and the proceeds of some of the entertainments were generously set apart by Mr. Collins for the benefit of the Walsall and District Hospital, yet another large muster was seen on the wakes ground.

Probably the greatest attraction at the wakes has been Mr. Collins's monster mechanical organ, costing no less a sum than £2000, which forms a beautiful frontage to a first-rate cinematograph show. It is reputed to be the largest of its kind ever built; it certainly is an extremely large one, which can be gathered from the fact that there are over 1200 instruments in it. At different intervals the organ has been illuminated by hundreds of vari-coloured electric lamps, which continually change in tint, forming different designs at each change, and, together with the rich gold and white frontage to the show, it is an artistic sight, altogether removed from what one is accustomed to meet on a fair ground. It is elaborate in the extreme, and the music it sends forth is exceedingly fine.

The Colonial Prodigies.

Another special feature has been the abnormally developed Westwood children, born in New Zealand to Wednesbury parents; the "Helter-Skelter" of Mr. Collins has also been an innovation to the majority of visitors, and a source of much merriment without any danger to limb; whilst the improvised motor-cars have also commanded much attention and "business."

P. Collins's Generous Gift.

The benefit for the Walsall and District Hospital on Wednesday yielded the handsome sum of £63 16s. 8d.—a contribution that will be exceedingly welcome in view of the increasing expenditure which the enlargements of the hospital have necessitated. Mr. W. D. Forsyth, chairman of the funds committee of the hospital, Mr. R. E. Ledbury (hon. sec.), Mr. F. Eyre, and Mr. Harold Wigg (co-secretary of the hospital) assisted in the arrangements along with Messrs. Jeffries and Humphries on behalf of Mr. Collins; and the committee of the hospital have gratefully acknowledged the receipt of the £63 16s. 8d. What is still more important, we learn that Mr. Pat Collins will in all probability make this benefit an annual one

Tramway Receipts.

The receipts on the Bloxwich section of the Corporation Tramways during the wakes afford some indication of the increased number who attended. From Saturday to Wednesday inclusive, this wakes, the amount was £228 13s. 8d., as against £155 7s. 6d. last year. The following are the figures as to passengers on the section for the past two wakes:—

	1907.	1906.
Saturday	8,257	7,188
Sunday	3,304	3,534
Monday	10,625	7,042
Tuesday	7,022	4,619
Wednesday	6,202	2,884
	35,410	25,267

The above figures prove that showmen are not the only persons who benefit by wakes and fairs, but that hospitals, railways, and corporations tramways get their fair share of it.

Given fine weather, the Darlaston Wakes (advertised in another column), this week-end, promises to be as great a success as the one at Bloxwich. Though wakes and fairs by no means appeal to everyone, the enterprise and grit of Mr. Collins has won for him the admiration of a large section of the public; and it is something to be able to say that Walsall is the headquarters of probably the first showman in the land to-day.

DEATH OF MRS. BEN STODDART OF THE EASTBOURNE MINSTRELS.

Universal sympathy, we feel sure, will go out to Mr. and Miss Stoddart at the sad bereavement they are now suffering. Married twenty-three years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Stoddart have spent all the years of their happy wedded life on the variety stage. Twenty-one years of that time each season has seen them with their celebrated minstrels on the beach at Eastbourne. Mrs. Stoddart has been in failing health for some time past, and succumbed to heart failure on Aug. 20 at their home in Eastbourne. The funeral took place amid many tokens of local sympathy and esteem at the Langley Cemetery on Thursday, Aug. 22. Mrs. Stoddart was the daughter of the late Dr. Tipple, of Baldock, Herts. She was a vocalist and artist of considerable distinction in the profession. She made it her own when she married her husband. The Stoddarts have maintained an unbroken run of twenty-one years as the Eastbourne Minstrels.

Birstall Feast, Leeds.

Here, to help the good people of the village to keep the feast were Crighton's cinématograph theatre, Wm. Murphy's new show, Blakey's dime museum, Goldthorpe Marshall's motors, Harniers's ostriches, William's tunnel railway, Burgin's steam swings, and manual swings by Riley, Proctor, and Cooper, gem motors and horses by Johnson, Hood, and Thomas; rifle saloons, bottle and egg batteries, football games, cokers, and sheets, by Messrs. Holdsworth, Waring, Proctor, Guthrie, Holt, Burgin, Blackburn, J. Moore, Baines, R. Houldsworth, and others.

Long Eaton Feast.

Holland's cinématograph theatre was the big show at this Derbyshire fair. Kitson's school of boxers and Bray's novelty booth completed the show list. The machines were those of the local caterers, Martin and Cox; the shooters and varieties were by Messrs. Robinson, Saunt, Chapman, West, and Martin.

Important Meeting at Oldham.

All members of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union are requested to take notice of the urgent summons to attend the meeting at Oldham Wakes. See our advertisement columns for particulars.

Guild Subscriptions, 1907.

Per Mr. Thurston:—H. Thurston, £5 5s.; H. Thurston, jun., £1 1s.; Wm. Thurston, £1 1s.; W. Harris, 5s.; E. Harris, 5s.; Mrs. E. Harris, 5s.; Wm. Harris, 5s.; Wm. Freeman, 5s. Per Mr. Pedgrift:—Mr. Jennings, 5s. Per Mr. Swales Forrest:—C. Harris, 5s.; J. Hurley, 5s.

The original Dahomey Warriors, headed by Princess Fassic, daughter of the late King of Dahomey, have been a tremendous draw to the Rhyl summer attractions, the World's Fair, Palace Theatre, being crowded at every performance. Beah Kindah, the fire king, has caused quite a furore. Mr. Charles Bayley, their energetic manager, gives a nice introduction.

The annual fête and gala organised for the benefit of the Llanelly Hospital was held on Friday and Saturday at Stradey Park. There was an enormous attendance on Saturday. During the proceedings Mr. Henry Studt, who had organised the fête, as he has annually done for some years past, was entertained to luncheon. The health of Mr. Studt was cordially drunk, several speakers paying glowing tributes to his generous services on behalf of the institution

ATTACK ON THE SHOWS AT BARNET FAIR.

The *Daily News*, in its correspondence columns of Aug. 29, has the following attack on the character of shows and showmen at Barnet Fair:—

BARNET FAIR.

Sir,—The showmen are anxious to maintain their "rights." Most of us would consider the case of these gentlemen to be more justifiable if they provided a cleaner class of entertainment. The "plays" are most degrading and demoralising, and would not be permitted in a permanent building. The rabble that can appreciate such "performances" is the dread of all respectable residents, many of whom go from home during the fair, while others who happen to possess an orchard naturally expect the fruit to disappear before the close of the carnival. The three-half-crown trick and other illegal frauds were freely practised last year, unmolested by the police. As once a resident, and still an annual visitor to the fair, I believe I am voicing the minds of many when I express a desire that this feast of Bacchus may soon be wiped off the almanac.—Yours, &c.,

Aug. 28, 1907. REFINER'S FIRE.

The Guild chaplain sent the following reply next day:—

BARNET FAIR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY NEWS."

Sir,—Your correspondent, "Refiner's Fire," has all the approved methods of the anonymous critic. He has the "vasty vague" manner. Will he kindly oblige the showmen by being a bit more explicit? I was at Barnet Fair last year, and I saw most of the shows. I join issue with him, and for honesty's sake demand a plain statement. Which show was it where the "play" was degrading and demoralising? Was it the magnificent cinematograph theatre of Thurston and Sons? Was it Biddall's similar show? Was it Hastings and Whayman's theatre of varieties? Was it Chittock's show? Was "the evil thing" found at the entertainments provided by Messrs. Gray, Barker, and Thurston, or Smith and Whittle? Please, "Mr. Refiner," name, name! I speak from inside knowledge of showmen and show-life, and I deny with all the vigour at my command the "vasty vague" allegations of "Refiner's Fire." May I also point out that just the same law—no more, no less—controls exhibitions that move from fair to fair as governs permanent theatres or music halls? Showmen are, in all respects, *just under the law* as much as "Refiner's Fire." It is altogether (apart from the question of morals) their best business to provide "clean" shows. They have to come again and appeal to the same public year by year. When will men of the type of "Mr. Refiner's Fire" use a little ordinary sense, and perhaps a grain of kindly tolerant charity, towards the amusements of "the other fellow"?—Yours faithfully,

T. HORNE,
Chaplain to the Showmen's Guild.

Aug. 30, 1907.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

On Monday, Aug. 26, was Produced a New Sketch, By Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova, entitled

"THE PRICE OF A HAT."

Charles Hammond ..... Mr. John Richter
Alice Hammond ..... Miss E. N. O'Connor
William Davies ..... Mr. Frederick Morland

This trifle by the "Hippodrome authors," as they might perhaps be termed, scored quite a success in its production on Monday. The plot runs as follows:—A newly-married couple are having a quarrel. The wife wants a new hat which she has seen in Regent Street, price ten guineas. The husband says he cannot afford it, and talks of committing suicide because of the heavy bills he is expected to pay. The wife tells him he'd better commit suicide if he wants to, and bounces out of the room, stating her intention of going out at once to fetch the hat. Shortly after the husband notices his wife has left her purse behind, and will undoubtedly return for it, and he also observes a rope with a noose in it hanging from the chandelier in the middle of the room, which some workmen have been repairing. He determines to give her a fright. He hears her coming up the stairs, and standing on a footstool he slips his head through the noose, kicks the stool away, and is left in a more or less awkward position standing on tiptoe. No sooner has he done this than a ruffianly-looking man darts in from the back, and naturally gets a shock on seeing the suspended figure. He quickly, however, discovers the state of affairs, and instead of complying with requests for release he proceeds to "go over" his unhappy victim. Having "pinched" everything of any value that he can lay hands upon, he hears someone enter the house, and "scoots." The wife presently enters. The poor husband by this time is almost in a state of collapse, and it certainly looks for the moment as though a tragedy had taken place. The wife effects a rescue, however, by cutting the rope, and a reconciliation takes place. The performance was good, especially on the part of the lady, and the sketch was well received.

"A SISTER'S HONOUR."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA

Sir,—In your issue of Aug. 17 you kindly gave a very favourable criticism of the sketch, entitled *A Sister's Honour*, produced by Mr. Norman G. Acton at the Canterbury Music Hall. By some mistake my name was accidentally omitted from the programme. I should be very grateful if you could find space for this letter, as the authoress of the sketch was, yours faithfully,

KITTY LOFTING.

His Majesty's Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.
Aug. 26.

Brock's benefit will take place at the Crystal Palace on Thursday. The firework shows at the Palace were initiated by Mr. C. T. Brock in 1864, and have been carried out solely and without interruption by Messrs. C. T. Brock and Co. ever since that date.

We are proud to say that on the occasion of a grand fête given in Fulham Palace, under the patronage of the Mayor and Mayoress, Mr. Birch's liliputian circus, known as the Royal Midgets, paid their visit, and were highly complimented by the Mayor and Mayoress, who expressed their delight with the little people, and congratulated Mr. Birch on his wonderful exhibition, which proved a great draw to the gala.

Alexandra's hippodrome gave two excellent performances at the Sports Ground, Redhill, on Aug. 22, to good business. The parade presented a natty appearance and augured well for the day's success. The programme was quite up to date, and pleased everyone. Among the "features" thatreceived well-merited applause were:—Noel and Primole's clever "turn" on the flying rings; Sam Anderson, in daring athletic exercises on a barebacked horse; the Three Moxons, in a catchy tumbling and musical pot-pourri; George Knight, a youthful equestrian; Little May, a graceful contortionist; Flossella's troupe of dogs in a marvellous high-jumping and horseback-riding act; Salmon, in new and startling cycling tricks; Phinas and Aida, in a novel balancing act on a revolving platform; Queenie Lolo, a charming lady gymnast, in a well-executed trapeze act; and the performances concluded with a stirring reproduction of *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*, which greatly delighted the more youthful spectators. The "funny" part of the show was well furnished by Pimple, Hairpin, and Funny Johnnie. The entire production was under Miss Alexander's personal supervision.

FILM GOSSIP.

Showmen will read in this column news with regard to the best and newest films in the market. Most of these films we have seen ourselves, and can confidently recommend showmen to add them to their stock, or, anyhow, to get them either by purchase or hire.

Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd.

One might well wonder how the famous cinematograph firms such as the Charles Urban Trading Company contrive to produce as many as six and seven different film subjects a week. And the more one wonders the more one philosophises as he asks himself the question, "When will this desire for change give way to a quieter condition of things?" Of course, from the point of view of originality of ideas, and the culture of imagination in relation to business matters, this unquenchable thirst for something new, and again something new, may be said to serve a useful purpose, whatever else it does. And, speaking of the animated picture business, the popularity of this form of entertainment cannot in any sense be regarded as a bad sign, for it indicates an improvement in the taste of the public.

All this, by the way. Now the Urban Company this week have again several capital subjects to offer. One of these bears the title, He Would Be an Athlete. Brown, "the short-sighted cyclist," secured such popularity in his recent escapades that, we are told, his success completely turned his head, and he determined, by qualifying himself as an athlete, to gain further distinction. He attacks every kind of manly sport, from wrestling to football, from boxing to jiu-jitsu, and eventually, in a rigid determination to learn to master a motor-car, he plunges into and disappears beneath the waters of a swiftly-flowing river. His accidents and the treatment he receives from man and beast are faithfully reproduced in a film, which, for hairbreadth escapes, intrepidity and devil-may-care hardihood, will take rank with the experiences of A Short-Sighted Cyclist, which was recently withdrawn after eighteen weeks' consecutive run at the Alhambra.

The Napier Motor Race at Brooklands is a seasonable Urban film, which may be classed as a sensational subject. Indeed, it would not be wrong to describe it as a "thriller." Five Napier cars are seen racing at the speed of eighty miles an hour along the new track at Weybridge. The pictures, which have been taken from a car travelling a few yards in the rear, give the spectators the impression of actually taking part in the race. Fascinating views of the "event," taken from the course, are also exhibited.

In another series, The Foster-Father, humour and pathos are charmingly blended. Affecting dramatic situations and laughable incidents occur in rapid sequence, and the acting, the setting, and photography are of the highest class and most perfect quality. An unmarried cabman discovers a baby left in his vehicle, and promptly takes it to a police station. Here, after some conversation with the inspector on duty, he agrees to adopt the child. His wish is gratified, and he takes the baby to his home, and for several years brings up and educates the deserted child, who grows up into a very charming girl. Subsequently, the mother of the girl recognises her child and endeavours to claim her. Proceeding to the police station with the kind-hearted cabby, she is confronted by the very same inspector who dealt, some half-dozen years previously, with the question of the adoption of the baby girl. In the end, however, the cabby makes a proposal of marriage to the mother, and all ends happily.

Pathé Frères.

The Mortification of a Short-Sighted Sportsman is a humorous subject which has just been brought out by Messrs. Pathé Frères. We are afraid that the sportsman is not much of a "sport," for he is even so ungallant as to mistake a lady's hat for game. That in itself would not be so bad were it not for the fact that the hat in question is on the lady's head, and that the lady is quietly seated in the wood enjoying the peace and solitude and picturesque beauty of her surroundings. To find her hat suddenly shot off her head is a most discomposing experience, to say the least, and, of course, the fair creature does not wait for another sample of the strange marksmanship of the purblind sportsman. She dashes away, screaming, but it is not long before the pseudo-hunter comes upon another victim. In the meantime, and while he has been engaged in these valorous exploits, another man is enjoying the affectionate embraces of his wife, and when he finally returns home, chased by a large crowd, it is to witness the spectacle of an unfaithful act on the part of his spouse. However, he is afforded no opportunity of taking his revenge, for the angry mob break into his house and set upon him, and the intruder, who had previously disturbed the sanctity of his domestic hearth, makes good his escape in the general mêlée. This set of pictures are extremely realistic and well-arranged, and should be much sought after.

Vitagraph Company.

This firm is not behind in the production of interesting and attractive films. This week it is offering an intensely-amusing series, to which has been given the name The Bargain Fiend. Those of us who have strolled through the principal streets in the West End at a time when the great drapers, haberdashers, and costumiers are selling off at low prices the remains of the season's stock, we understand what a crush there frequently is among members of the fair sex to get the best value for their money, or to pick up some choice bit of cloth or some dainty hat at a ridiculously cheap figure. In New York, we believe, the conditions of bargain sales are much worse than here, in that there is greater excitement and more competition. The story of the Bargain Fiend is partly concerned with these interesting functions. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are at breakfast; the wife is eagerly scanning the newspaper, looking over the bargain column. As her husband prepares to leave, she asks him that oft-repeated question "Can you let me have a little money for shopping." Brown, with no very apparent joy, hands over some bills and departs. Mrs. B. hastily dons her hat and we next see her arriving at a department store where a bargain sale has been advertised. There is an enormous crowd of women, young and old, in front of the store. When the doors are opened a scrimmage takes place, which makes a college football game seem tame. Finally they all get inside in more or less dishevelled condition, and are soon seen swarming and fighting round the bargain counter. Mrs. Brown is one of the most strenuous, and when she finally emerges, breathless but triumphant, and loaded down with bundles, her dress is torn, her hat is hanging by one hatpin and she looks as if she had just come out of a very severe railroad accident. She arrives home utterly exhausted, her dress in rags, and a few moments later Mr. Brown also arrives. He is just about to inquire what is the matter with her when the doorbell rings and messengers begin to file into the room, each one loaded down with many packages, which wifey has purchased at the bargain sale. They keep coming by dozens and scores until the entire room is filled with parcels and boxes. At first Brown is surprised, then excited, and at last, becoming desperate, he throws boxes, packages, the parcels out of the window. The closing scene is equally amusing and effective

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 12.)

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—For this week we are favoured with a visit by Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company with the military drama, *A Soldier of France*. Mr. Milner Noble, who is well know locally, gave a first-class portrayal of the character of Juda's Delara; Mr. Leonard Ardale, as Father Jean, was admirably suited, and the same can be said of Miss Hettie Zillwood as Pauline Lorraine. Plenty of fun was introduced by Mr. David Phillips as Pollyput Jollyboy, and Miss Jennie Clare as Margot. Mr. Edward C. Hobart as Captain Lorraine, and Miss Ethel Clyde as Master Lorraine, contributed largely to the success of the drama.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Carlo.—A strong attraction in the shape of a first visit of Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche's company in the successful comedy, *What the Butler Saw*, is drawing excellent houses here this week. Mr. Lionel Rignold, as usual, proves a host in himself; and Miss Ada Blanche pleases one and all by her rendition of Mrs. Barrington; Mr. H. H. Rignold as Abraham Weinstein is full of versatility and resource; and adequate assistance is given by Mr. Charles Fawcett as Jack Barrington, Mr. Cyril Harrison as Sir Charles Foden, and Mr. George Ascot as General Dunlop. Mr. Hornby Warburton is successful as Vere de Bogyns; and Mr. Roy Byford scores as Professor Shale; whilst Mr. Raymond Dudley and Mr. Charles Barnes are commendable as Dr. Clayton and John respectively. Amongst the lady artists are found Miss Eleanor Gilbart (Miss Foden), Miss Jennie Wigney (Nora), and Miss Dorothy Hart (Clarissa Dunlop), who are all fully equal to the demands made upon them. Miss Dora Hunt proves acceptable as Mrs. Fleming-Smythe; and Miss Julie St. George is in evidence as Mrs. Hake; Miss May Hunt succeeds as Sophonisba, and Miss Agnes Ewins and Miss Mona Garland gain laurels as Fanny and Maria respectively.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Messrs. Garside and Knowles's company produced here on Monday the new play, *Her Marriage Vow*, a full account of which will be found in another column.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richd. Thornton.—Mr. J. H. Tindle's season of animated pictures continues to be a draw among the dwellers on Wearside.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Rich. Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Taking the lead of an exceedingly strong bill, the great coon artist, Eugene Stratton, is drawing crowded houses at each performance, all his songs being most enthusiastically received. George Kirk's thrilling sketch, *Grip*, occupies a prominent place, and received a favourable reception; Syd May's capital mimicry is a feature of the bill, and his representation of Hackenschmidt is excruciatingly funny. Johnson and Bert's comedy act, entitled *The Queer Customer*, is diverting; Carter's Ten San Tan Girls, in all their gorgeousness, dance gracefully; and other contributors are Charles Dillon, eccentric comedian; Frank Lynne, humorist; Frank Darwin, actor-vocalist, and Gertrude Bradshaw, soprano vocalist.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees, The United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Browne and Stringer.—The great and only John Lawson is here this week in quite a répertoire of "thrillers." Monday was devoted to a clever interpretation of *The King's Minister*, which was closely followed by an appreciative audience. *The Monkey's Paw*, *Humanity*, *The Unwritten Law*, and *Mr. Todd, of London* have been played during the remainder of the week. The McConnell trio, vocal comedy sketch artists, are interesting in an amusing musical sketch; Adeline Yohle contributes a couple of well-sung songs in a captivating way that finds favour. The programme also includes Rose and Maidment, the shoeblack and the serio, a couple of smart artists; the Wambras, clever gymnasts and comedy musicians; James Curry, eccentric comedian; Jimmy Shields, one-legged comedian and dancer, and the Palace pictures.

VICTORIA HALL.—Proprietors, The Sunderland Corporation.—The Animated Picture Company is putting on another strong bill, one of the most enjoyable items depicting life on an English man-of-war. The vaudeville entertainment is contributed by the Royal Quintette of International Dancers.

THE PAVILION.—A good series of pictures is being submitted here, the variety element being supplied by John Benson and Rose Waite, comedy artists.

SWANSEA. — THE GRAND.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—*Are You a Mason?* is the attraction here. As Amos Bloodgood, the "mason," Mr. E. H. Paterson acts with rare ability and scores a deserved success; Frank Perry, his son-in-law, is excellently taken by Mr. Howard L. Tracey; Mr. Eric Albury is seen to great advantage as George Fisher, the stockbroker; Mr. G. R. F. Austin took full advantage of his opportunities as Hamilton Travers, the retired actor; whilst Ernest Morrison, by Mr. Erskholme E. Clive was good; John Halton was well impersonated by Mr. Buchan Wake; and Mr. C. W. Hammond was successful as C.E. No. 000. Miss Adelaide Grace is to be congratulated on her magnificent acting as Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood; the Mrs. Eva Perry of Miss C. Hamilton also being very clever. Miss Babs Stuart and Miss D. Mackenzie, as Annie and Lulu Bloodgood, were charming; Miss Gwen Clifford as Lotti was one of the successes of the evening; and Miss Rita Narcelli and Miss Ploensgains as Mrs. Halton and Franchon Armitage left nothing to be desired.

THE STAR.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. J. Powell.—That thrilling drama, *Her Lost Self*, attracts large houses. Miss Frances Delaval, an actress of great ability, enacts the rôle of Philipine with great distinction; Mr. A. Lubinoff was well suited with the part of Norman Esmond, the artist; Wilfred Daventry, the jealous husband, found an excellent delineator in Mr. Fredk. Scarth; Mr. George Harvey as Paul Kimberley was a great success, as was also Mr. Laud Stillwell as Victor Elsworth; Mr. L. W. Halfpenny made the most of the part of Abraham Cohen, and Mr. Fred Gresham as Tom Flyaway was good. Miss Elanor Glover, in the dual rôle of Lucille and Dorothy, acted with great power; the Rachel Cohen of Miss Rose Vernon Page was a fine character study.

EMPIRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—Herbert Darnley's comedians in the sketch, *Moving In*, must be voted as one of the best turns of that character seen here; O'Gust is as entertaining as ever. The original Sleedes do not give the audience a dull moment, their turn being a good one; an ingeniously contrived spectacle, E. Rousby's *Around Paris*, is much appreciated; as is also Ina Lorimer, Scotch comedienne; James Eadie and Cissy Ramsden are a quaint musical duo who achieve success; Gwennie Hasto, fancy dancer; Fred Lincoln, comedian, and the Bioscope pictures complete a good bill.

TONYPANDY.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. S. Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Counsell.—A striking success was achieved on Monday when *Her Nameless Child*, a play written by the wife of the popular general-manager, and a former resident-manager, Mr. Ridgewood Barrie, started its winter tour. The company is an exceptionally well-balanced one. Mr. Douglas C. Phelps scores as Anthony Ford; Arthur Ford is capably undertaken by Mr. R. Barrie; Ellerslie Pyne has been retained for the rôle of Lord Henry Woodville; Mr. Harry Clements makes a mirthful Tom Rivers; and as Mongrole, Mr. Frank Eden gives a good rendering. Miss Pattie Hastings as Phyllis Ford wins the approval of the crowded house for her powerful and sympathetic acting; Lady Sybil Woodville finds a capable exponent in Miss Grace Jones, who excels herself in Act 4; Bessie Brooks in the hands of Miss Renie Douglas is an admirable aid to the comedy element; and Miss Mabel Coleman does well as Crayont, a French maid.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—After being closed during the earlier portion of the week for the regatta, the theatre reopened on Thursday with *The Adventure of Lady Ursula*, with Miss Beatrice Wilson in the name-part and Mr. Norman V. Norman as Sir George Sylvester. Other performances during the week are *Mr. Sheridan* and the romantic play *Robin Hood*.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—For the regatta season, Stockham's "Unique" Company has been engaged. Miss Clare Gilbert, who has just returned from South Africa, has a delightful soprano voice, and is frequently recalled; Miss Della Stockham, mezzo-soprano, and Mr. Leonard Brown are also very good. Mr. Willis Crisford is an entertainer of more than usual ability, and the house is kept in roars of laughter by his clever patter. A novel feature of the entertainment is provided in the harp selections by Mme. Stockham, Miss Gladys Stockham, and Miss Della Stockham.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Welton Dale.—Mr. R. Macdonald's company in *The Dairymaids* has been cordially received this week; Miss Empsie Bowman gives a charming impersonation of Peggy, and Miss Doris Dickens and Miss Annie Heenan as her sisters are equally charming representatives of the young ladies under Lady Brudenell's protection—her ladyship being capitally portrayed by Miss Molly Tremaine; Mr. Gordon Begg gives a truly Hibernian study of the Naval Doctor, while Lady Brudenell's graceless nephews, in the capable hands of Mr. R. Telford and Mr. R. Bottomley, keep the audience fully amused; Mr. Dan Agar as the Doctor's Servant, Miss Maud Lucy as the Maid at the Young Ladies' Academy, and Miss Kitty Kirwan as the Principal of the Academy, are also responsible for some excellent comedy; Mr. Hugh Glendon as the Naval Lieutenant, and Mr. Whyte Wentworth as the Farm Servant, and Mr. Victor Huntley as Captain Leverton also contribute their share to a successful performance. The Sandow Girls find very graceful representatives in the Misses Carrie Lacey, May Truefitt, Muriel Martin and Baby Christopher. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. H. H. Shaw.

TYNEMOUTH. — PALACE-BY-THE-SEA.—Proprietor and Director, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager of Entertainments, Mr. Lindon Travers.—An exceptionally attractive programme is being put forward this week, including pianoforte recitals by Herr Backham. High-class vocalists are found in Miss Irene Ainsley, contralto, and M. Fischer Sobell, baritone; and varieties are headed by the popular and now famous Scotch comedian, Neil Kenyon, who fairly keeps his audiences on the *qui vive*, his quaint songs and patter being vastly amusing.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company presented the play *The Lion and the Mouse* for the first time here on Monday, when it attracted a large and enthusiastic audience. Mr. Leslie Carter's impersonation of John Burkett Ryder, the lion, is a fine piece of acting; Mr. Gordon McLeod is seen to advantage as Jefferson Ryder; Mr. Alfred Hall is good as James Rossmore; Mr. Herbert Chown is admirable as the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley; and Mr. John Wheatman proves capable as John Whitmore Roberts, M.P.; Miss Maude Townsend makes a dignified Mrs. Ryder; Miss Evelyn M. Read is a pleasing Kate Roberts; and Miss Christine Silver a charming Shirley Rossmore.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Mr. J. G. Grahame, jun., and Miss Zerlina Harrington are highly successful in a sketch, entitled *A Daughter of Pleasure*; Henriette and Selina delight with a clever musical entertainment; Bert Terrell, Dutch character vocalist, sings well; Wragg and Wragg perform wonderful feats of swordsmanship; Hugh Cedar and Edward Elgar are amusing comedians in "Ye Dayes of Olde," and the Sisters Ford, character vocalists, and Miss Violet Gerald, soubrette, ably contribute.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood. — Alexandre and Hughes, musical comedians, provide a bright and entertaining turn here, and meet with gratifying success; Olgar and Elgar, the singer and the skylark, are capital; Victory Travers achieves success as a vocal comedian; Rossi Ashton gives a clever song-sketching act; Edie Endon is a vivacious comedienne, and and acrobatic dancer, and is very smart; Paulinetti and Piquo are to the fore in their gymnastic comedy act; and John E. Coyle, a popular comedian, comes in for hearty recognition. The American bioscope gives some capital views.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. Fred J. Webb and company are appearing here this week with *A Night in Armour*. Mr. Alex. Mayhew is well placed as James Milbourne; Mr. Fred J. Webb ably portrays the character of Frank Milbourne; the part of Dominic Domina has a capable exponent in Mr. Walter Kenyon; Mr. Geo. Paradise does well as Sternhold Keyes; Mr. G. H. Seaman does justice in the part of Sergeant Bluebottle; and Miss M. Danvers-Smith acts with distinction as Ollie Webb. The celebrated Edin Quartette, in the original nightdress dance, prove very successful.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company is here this week with *The Love That Women Desire*. Mr. J. O. Stewart as the remorseless Squire Abingdon acts with dramatic force, and is ably assisted in the heavier passages by Mr. Oliver Rogers as Richard Abingdon and Miss Aimee Grattan-Clyndes as Madge Abingdon, the latter giving a finished study of a most difficult rôle; Mr. John Davidson is a manly Philip Carnaby, and a graceful heroine is Miss Lalla Stanhope as Sybil Thorburn. The humorous element is ably sustained by Mr. John Hignett as Dennis O'Rourke, Mr. J. W. Wilkinson as P.C. Sowerberry, and Miss Winifred Barton as Pattie Swift; Miss N. Griffiths submits a clever sketch of Mariquinha, an Indian maiden; Mr. Hugh Wallace is a typical good-natured cleric; and Mr. J. P. Clinton scores as Dr. Brandreth.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Waters; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—That wonderful Japanese equilibrist Kioto heads the bill here this week, and good business is again the order. Miss Maidie Scott's sketch company meet with approval in *'98, An Episode of the Irish Rebellion*; Beattie Denvil is a charming vocalist; Burley and Burley are eccentric acrobats; Henri Bekker is a unique conjurer; Allis and Cassatti are clever duettists; Nash and Noel, versatile comedians; and the Ellimans, refined musical entertainers. The pictures are again good.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. T. Kuner.—Messrs. Battersby and Chesney's company in *The King of Crime* is being successfully presented here this week. Mr. Henry Bedford's delineation of Ronjarre, alias Gaston Lemaire, is much appreciated; the part of Gandelu is effectively portrayed by Mr. Arnold Bell; Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes makes the most of his opportunities as Simon Gandelu; Mr. Arthur Robinson as Louis Mascot, and Mr. Bob Anderson as Mick Maloney, do excellent work in their respective parts; the rôle of Mère Crouchard is characteristically portrayed by Miss Agnes D'Aragon; as Clarisse Miss Grace Henderson leaves little to be desired; Mr. Fay Lonsdale is responsible for the part of Madame Mewrivet; and valuable assistance is given by Miss Grace Evelyn in her representation of Mimi Patenlair; Miss Florence Halton also does well as Henriette.

WEST BROMWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—The first visit of Mr. Frank Bertram and company to West Bromwich in the powerful drama, *The Convict's Daughter*, has proved a success. Mr. Frank Bertram portrays the rôle of Convict 89 with great ability; Mr. Edward De Vere does well as the banker, Frederick Neville; Mr. Walter Graham makes a hit as Harold; the heavy part of Jasper Thorn is in the capable hands of Mr. Escot Robson; the part of Patrick O'Laragan is humorously played by Mr. Sam Roberts; Miss Lilla Nordan as Betty causes great fun; Miss Maud Beard is a good Marion Thorn; and a word of praise is due to Miss Lillas Deane for her sympathetic acting as Edith Neville.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Albert Withers.—Helm and Cozens, who are paying a return visit here this week, create roars of laughter; Wilman presents a clever musical turn; Nat Travers is well received; Ray Maskell provides a smart vocal and dancing turn; Frederic Neiman causes much mirth with his ventriloquial minstrels; smart songs and patter are submitted by A. G. Sprightly; Mozzetto is successful in his juggling act; the Silver-Toned Quartette score a success in their harmonious renderings of various songs; and James Willard's comedy sketch company, including Little Tony, is much appreciated. The Hippodrome pictures are good.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—A change which is resulting in capital business here is the engagement of Mr. Reginald Dance and company in *Raffles*. The amateur cracksman is capitally played by Mr. Dance; Mr. Edward Irwin gives a fine impersonation of Curtis Bedford; Miss Katie Yates plays with excellent taste the part of Gwendoline Conran; the important part of Mrs. Vidal is judiciously treated by Miss May Brooke; Lady Melrose has a capable representative in Miss Mildred Orme, and creditable work is done by Mr. Stanley Lathbury as Lord Crowley.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Miss Fanny Wentworth, who tells a good story, sings well and manipulates the piano in capital style. As a society entertainer she is par excellence, and her sketches are very enjoyable. Rell and Butt cause amusement with their novel act, *Fun in a Garden*; Alf Ripon, the Scottish ventriloquist, is clever; the Russell's, song illustrators, do remarkably well; Emmie Ames has a pretty scena, *Emmie's Christmas Tree*; Frank Coyle is a popular comedian; Harry Bancroft is a popular actor-vocalist; Mersano, a smart card and coin manipulator; and some humorous pictures are furnished by Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. John Pardoe's variety company occupies the boards here this week; the Vanova Trio present a fine musical turn; a screaming absurdity, entitled *The Inquisitive Page*, is well appreciated; Bandoni is a clever musical novelty performer; Frank Whitley is a droll negro comedian; John Pardoe as the human skipping rope is well received; Mlle. Sara's Marblesque Trio is a smart and up-to-date turn; Miss Violet Rivers is a clever male impersonator; Fish and Fish present a clever comedy burlesque act; the Eltons, horizontal bar comedians, evoke roars of laughter, and the bioscope concludes the bill.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Raws; General Manager, Mr. H. E. Kauffman.—The programme this week includes the Timsons in a capital act, entitled *The Burglar's Surprise*; Harry Bentley, a clever and eccentric comedian; Yettmah, a smart Japancse juggler; Greener, the singing collier, who renders some fine songs; Cony and Davis, Scotch comedians; Rennie, a good ventriloquist, and the bioscope with a series of smart pictures.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. James Kiddie.—This week Mr. Joseph Bebb's company is here with *The Prodigal Daughter*. The famous old Drury Lane drama has never been presented to a Widnes audience before, but on Monday evening it proved a decided success; the staging was particularly admired; the acting was of a high order of merit all round; Mr. John S. Haydon was a capable Sir John Woodmere; Mr. E. Clifton Boyne acted with artistic restraint in the part of Maurice Deepwater; the Captain Harry Vernon of Mr. Frederick Harker was excellent; Mr. Lionel Atwill was quite one of the successes of the evening as Julian Belford; Mr. Sydney Lynn deserves praise for his representation of Lord Banbury, and the same remark applies to Mr. Marshall Meade as Dudley Roper; Mr. George Antley and Mr. Edward Lowrie were good in the respective rôles of Tom Blunker and Miserable Jim; Mr. John Belton was well suited by the part of Joseph Gunn; Miss Millie Ford is "starred" in the part of Rose Woodmere, the prodigal daughter, and plays most realistically, winning the sympathy of the whole house; Miss Olive Lloyd as Dorcas Gentle acts winningly, and Miss Marjorie Davenport is good, too, as Violet Woodmere. The introduction of five racehorses in the fourth act gives a realistic effect to the Grand National scene—a very creditable piece of stagecraft.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Company.—In the military drama *Her Love Against the World*, presented by Messrs. Hallatt and Howard's company, Miss Grace Heywood as Iris, Princess of Idalia, and Mr. Walter Howard, as Eric Earl of Strathmere, play the principal parts with consummate ability and effectiveness, and merit a most cordial reception; Miss Evelyn Hope as Shulah, and Miss R. St. John as Lionel impersonate the respective rôles admirably, and Mr. Mayor Cooke (Ulric) and Mr. Ronald Bayne (Othmar) act well up to the characteristics of the princes named. In lighter vein Mr. H. B. Lewis, Mr. J. F. Millar (brothers Pimpernickle) and Miss Lizzie Lennon and Miss Hettie Ferguson (maids to Iris) create a pronounced impression.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company.—The Four Rios give a daring gymnastic performance; Mr. Gintaro submits an entertaining act as a Japanese juggler, and the Lizette Troupe of acrobats, dancers, etc., in a capital turn, are all cordially received; Barton and Franklin, in musical selections, and Molly Auguarde, vocalist, also receive generous applause. Comedy is strongly represented in Sammy Shields (Scotch humorist), the Bros. Horne (knockabouts), Woolmer Young, Josh Dixon, and Mamie Iris.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Le Wards.—After several months of variety entertainments the Theatre Royal season of legitimate drama opened this week with an admirable presentation of C. M. S. McLellan's powerful drama, *Leah Kleschna*, by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's selected company. This is a return visit, and the enthusiasm with which it has been welcomed by crowded houses throughout the week testifies to its undiminished popularity. The stars of the company are Mr. William Clayton and Miss Bessie Rignold, appearing respectively as the burglar Kleschna and his daughter Leah. The latter's impersonation of a most difficult character is most convincing, and she quickly gains the fullest sympathy of her audience; Mr. Clayton, too, achieves complete success as Kieschna, a part which affords many opportunities; as the much-admired Paul Sylvaine, Mr. W. F. Grant places before himself a high ideal, and fully realises it. In strongest contrast is the Raoul Berton of Mr. Hamilton Deane, who brings out clearly all the despicable characteristics of a mean, unscrupulous nature; Mr. Campbell Goldsmith is responsible for a clever character-study as Sebram, and Mr. Charles Barrett and Miss Violet Thorold are a bright pair of irresponsibles as Valentine and Sophie. Other parts in capable hands are General Berton (Mr. Henry Nunn), Anton Piaff (Bert Gunter), Johann (Mr. Bernard Rain), Reichman (Mr. Arles Conway), Baptiste (Mr. Frank Bannerman), Mme. Berton (Miss Ethel Russell), Claire Berton (Miss Emmie Wallace), Frieda (Miss May Hammond), Charlotte (Miss Edith Summers), &c. The play is elaborately and magnificently staged.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company are presenting *The Belle of Mayfair*. Mr. Stephen Hall is very fine as the Earl of Mount Highgate; Mr. S. Ravenscroft does excellently as the Hon. Raymond Finchley; Mr. Sidney Burt as Sir John Chaldicott, Bart, M.P., puts in effective work; Mr. Michael Raven is well placed as Hugh Meredith; Miss D. Fitzherbert as H.S.H. Princess of Ehrenbreitstein, is splendid; too much praise cannot be allotted Miss Grace Mackay as Lady Rosaline Rocklesley; and the Gibson Girl, Miss Constance Stevens, is pleasing as Lady Chaldicott. The company is under the capable direction of Mr. Caffyn Baxter. At the time of writing great interest is being manifested in the visit of Miss Ellen Terry and company in *Captain Brassbound's Conversion* on Thursday.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager Mr. C. W. Collings.—This week the Gasquoines have remained on, and gained fresh admirers; Cliff and Kean prove themselves smart comedians and dancers; the Sisters Carlton are capable duettists; the Two Daniels, negro entertainers, are distinctly good; while Miss Jessie Harper is a most acceptable turn. The pictures again prove one of the most interesting turns.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*The Lady Dandies*, played by Mr. Geo. Dance's clever company, has delighted audiences here this week. There is not a weak spot in the company, each artist being of more than average ability. As St. Amour Mr. O. E. Lennon fairly revels in the excellent songs and dances with which the rôle is freely endowed; excellent fun-makers, too, are Messrs. Tom Seymour and J. E. Walker, who as two police agents have ample opportunities, of which they take the fullest advantage; Mr. Ripley Evans possesses a voice of excellent quality, and renders the numbers allotted to Dorlis with much skill; Miss Nancie Rossiter is a dainty Illyrine, her sweet voice being heard to great advantage; Miss Maisie Gay makes a vivacious and charming Lodoiska, gaining many admirers by her excellent vocalisation; and Miss Peggy Primrose is a winsome Egle, and dances gracefully. The mounting of the opera is beyond praise.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—The witticisms of Jake Friedman, who has appeared with unbounded success in *Happy Holland* during the week, have been greatly enjoyed by crowded houses; Little Ganty, too, has proved a source of much amusement; Mr. J. S. James is an expert banjoist; Miss Madge May proves herself a comedienne of more than average excellence; and Kent and Keith cause much amusement. Talbot and Pearce in a neat sketch, entitled *Yoh San*, do extremely well; Corelli's comic magic is a diverting item; C. Williams is an excellent negro; and the efforts of the Sisters Bartholomew are applauded.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

Mr. George Gray and company, in *The Fighting Parson*, provides the principal attraction this week in a bill of much merit. Indelibly stamped as one of the most successful sketches of recent years, *The Fighting Parson* retains to the full its great popularity, and Mr. Gray's well-known performance in the title-rôle loses nothing by repetition. The Lyons Trio prove themselves expert pantomimists in their amusing scena. The appearance of one of the trio as a yokel is exceedingly funny, and their clever tumbling and dancing evoke rounds of applause. Boyd and Gilfain are a versatile couple, and their high-class entertainment is deservedly popular, the gentleman's fine vocalism and the lady's instrumental performance both receiving their due meed of praise. Mr. Harry Grey, the Australian Nugget, contributes a couple of well-contrasted items, and is equally successful in each. His first entrance is startling, to say the least, being in exaggerated tramp attire to the accompaniment of a shower of bricks from above. He has a lugubrious ditty about a certain "Carrie," this being succeeded by a "dame" song, in which he is remarkably well made-up, and there is nothing half-hearted about the applause at the conclusion of his turn.

The Brothers Egbert established themselves prime favourites in Stratford pantomime some years back, and it is quickly evidenced that they are not forgotten. The idea of their *Happy Dustmen* scena is one that instantly makes for mirth. In following their vocation one of the twain discovers a huge sack. To play a prank on his partner he gets inside and becomes an animated bundle. The rest can be imagined. The wonderment, then horror, of the other at the antics of the sack, and his dispairing cry "Hurry up, Walter," to his apparently absent partner, being funny enough to compel laughter from a stoic. Their turn is concluded with some very intricate tumbling and dancing, which is in huge favour. Mr. Alf. Chester, at his first entrance, cuts an appearance as a smart member of "the force" strongly reminiscent of the late Herbert Campbell, and his song, "I wonder if the sergeant knows," is in capital comedy vein, this being succeeded by another clever item, "My wife can't get the best of me."

That Mr. George Westland hails from the land of the thistle is apparent at once; his Scotch accent could be cut with a knife. Possessing a clear delivery, a crisp and quaint style, and in a not overdone "dame" attire, he is quickly on the best of terms with the audience, and, interpolating his singing with a fund of racy patter, he fairly brings down the house. Miss Anne Henwick, who comes from "across the pond," enlightens her hearers as to methods of "the real article" in the way of coon singing, concluding by a very smart exhibition of sand dancing, and her turn is keenly enjoyed. The Bioscope pictures this week include a Tour Through Egypt from Cairo to Khartoum, the illustration of which is watched with great interest. The orchestral selection with which the programme opens is always an enjoyable item under the skilful bâton of Mr. Walter Greco, this week's overture including a piccolo solo, "L'Oiseau Mouche," performed by Mr. R. V. Pierson. In the absence of the manager, Mr. T. S. Mayne, the assistant-manager, Mr. W. S. Buccleuch, is in control, and looks after the welfare of his patrons with customary courtesy.

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ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Dec. 16, Feb. 10, 17, 24, March 2, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 17, 24, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Dec. 16, Feb. 10, April 6, 13, May 11, 18, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Jan. 27, March 2, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 16,
Feb. 10, March 2, 9, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 20, Feb. 3, 17, 24, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Dec. 9, Feb. 3, April 6, 13, 20, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Nov. 11, Dec. 16, Jan. 13, 20, on
(Panto. Required).
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Nov. 7, 14, 21 (3 nights each),
Dec. 23, Xmas week, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND T., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
1908, March 16, April 27, May 11, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
1908, April 13, May 11, onwards.
Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole T., Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, Dec. 9, 16, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Oct. 21, Nov. 25, Dec. 9, 16, 30, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Sept. 16, 30, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4 (3 nights only).
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Theatre Royal, Canterbury, Sept. 16, 30 (three nights only). E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions,
Oct. 21 and 28.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions for Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 18, Dec. 2 and 9.
Apply,
Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-st., London, S.W.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, High-Class Attractions,
Season 1908.
Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, Good Dramas, last three nights of weeks, Oct. 7, Dec. 2, and 9.
Only Vacancies this year.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Theatre, Lincoln.

DUMFRIES AND HAWICK,
Vacant Sept. 30. Hawick only Oct. 31.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Theatre, Lincoln.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, 3 or 6 nights, Sept. 23 and Oct. 7, week; must be excellent. No Dramas. HAGUE, General-Manager, Opera House, Bridlington.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE,
First-Class Attractions for Dec. 2, 16, Pantomime, Dec. 30, on, Jan. 6, 27, March 2 and 9, 16, 23, 30.
Apply,
JAMES KIERNAN, Manager and Owner.

WANTED, First-class Attraction,
Prince's Theatre, Llandudno,
Sept. 30 to Oct. 2, Oct. 3 to 5, and 10 to 12 (3 nights each). Address, J. RITSON.

BRIDLINGTON OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, good Musical Play or other really First-Class Attraction, for Sept. 5, 6, and 7, not Drama. HENRY HAGUE, General-Manager.

WANTED, Dramatic Attraction, Sept. 2,
Grand, Radcliffe.
Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies,
Sept. 30 and Oct. 21.
Address, GERALD HARDING.

IPSWICH LYCEUM.
WANTED, good Companies, for 6 nights, Sept. 16 (through misunderstanding); also for Oct. 3 and 24 (three nights each). Wire for Sept. 16.
LEONARD GREY.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, First-class Musical or Dramatic Attractions, Sept. 23 and 30; business excellent. L. CARSON.

KING'S HALL THEATRE, SKEGNESS.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical Attractions, &c., Sept. 12, 13; also from Sept. 16, onwards. Share or rental.
Address, LENTON, Manager, as above.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, a First-Class Pantomime, for Xmas, vacant through obliging Mr. C. Constant.
Address,
GEO. CONQUEST.

CRITERION THEATRE, WORKSOP.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for last three nights of each week; Share or Rental.
S. GOODMAN, Proprietor.

WANTED, Attractions Touring Scotland to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, N.B. Vacant dates, apply to Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, A1 Attractions, Sept. 9, three or six nights, through transferring, Vacant Oct. 21 (?), Nov. 18, on, with exceptions. W. E. POTTS, Opera House, Dunfermline.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, High-Class Attractions,
Sept. 16, Oct. 14,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

HIPPODROME AND GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Lessee and Manager, JAMES FIONI.
WANTED, First-Class Pantomime, for Dec.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Dec. 15, March 9, onward (with exceptions).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Nov. 11, 25, onward (with exceptions).

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Oct. 28, Nov. 4, onward (with exceptions).

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Sept. 30, onward (with exceptions).

THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY DOCK.
Vacant Nov. 11, Dec. 2, onward (with exceptions)

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 7, onward (with exceptions).
(Last three nights of each week.)

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Sept. 30, onward (with exceptions).
Wanted, Good Pantomimes
for Welsh Houses, Xmas, on.

ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions,
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
Nov. 4 (?), Jan. 20, Pantomime, Feb. 24,
March 2, 9, 16, 30, April 13, 27.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Oct. 7 (?), 21 (?), Dec. 2, Jan. 13, 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

THEATRE ROYAL, HEBBURN.
WANTED, First-class Companies only, Nov. 25, Jan. 6 or 13, for Pantomime (First in), Feb. 3, 17, 24,
March 9.
Owing to the Big Business now being done at this Theatre, under Mr. Elderton's management, the Directors have just spent £1,000 on the Theatre in Decorations, &c.
All communications,
CHARLES ELDERTON.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
W. J. COTTON, Proprietor.
Seats 600;
Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, share or rent.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, Good Companies, Sept. 19, 20, 21, also 23, on, with exceptions.
CHAS. CHAPLIN, Public Hall, Colwyn Bay.

WATERLOO THEATRE, WHITBY.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. JULIAN BAINBRIDGE.
Permanent Band.
WANTED, Theatres, vacant for good Dramas, Musical, or really good Picture Shows, Sept. 5 (three nights), 9 (week), 19, 26 (three nights each). Town full; good Attractions only.

WANTED, for County Hall, St. Albans, good Companies, with own scenery, two nights; permanent proscenium, act drop, foot and head lights. Sharing terms. Apply, A. ROWDEN.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres,
Dec. 3.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept 23.
Apply,
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 9, 23.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 2,
and 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 25, Dec. 2 and 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 9, 23, 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Important Theatre, Dec. 23,
Feb. 3, 17, March 2, 23.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The most Successful Play Produced during the Year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 30 and Oct. 28, in First-class Theatres only.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of Dec. 23 and 30.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"
and
"THE OCTOROON."
"THE OCTOROON."
"THE OCTOROON."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 7, 28, Nov. 11, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Public Hall, Treharris.

MR. THOMAS SIDNEY'S CO. in
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, Wanted Dates,
Sept. 16 (three nights, to follow Swansea)
Sept. 23, and onwards, with exceptions.
THOMAS SIDNEY, Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
WANTED, Nov. 4 and Dec. 30.
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
Theatre Royal, Dover.
See Companies Advertisement, page 2.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Oct. 28 and Dec. 9.
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
Theatre Royal, Dover.
See Companies' Advertisement, page 2.

WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 14, 28, for Lingford Carson's "Drama of Life," No. 1 Co. Address, EDWARD VAN BIENE, New Theatre, West Stanley.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
Nov. 4, 11, 25.
A Brilliant and Financial Success Everywhere.
Stands alone.
No other Play is like it.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
One of the Strongest Romantic Dramas ever written.
Magnificently mounted,
well acted.
Vacant
Sept. 23, 24, 25 (3 nights), Oct. 21, Dec. 23.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Enormous Success
of the Revival of this
Wonderful Play.
Beautifully staged,
Strongly acted,
well advertised,
Always a Success.
Vacant
Oct. 7, 14, Dec. 23, Jan. 6, 13.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Sept. 23, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, Dec. 2.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE LITTLE OUTCAST."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 13, 20, Feb. 10, 17.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

ALFRED B. CROSS' TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
Supported by Miss Watersford (Mrs. Cross), and Powerful Company. Sixth Year of Tour.

WANTED, Oct. 14 and 21, and few Later, "DIVORCED," and "DAVID GARRICK," if required. Both Solid Successes.
Sept. 2, P of W., Mexborough.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, Oct. 14, 21 (Midlands),
Oct. 14 and 21,
Nov. 4 and 25,
Oct. 14, 21, Nov. 4, 25.
Fast Booking Spring, '08.
Cast, Scenery, and Printing A1. Refer.
FRANK AYRTON,
Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY and
MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO., in
the highly successful Comedy,
"MY WIFE," "MY WIFE."
Now playing to crowded houses at the
HAYMARKET THEATRE, LONDON.
Special Engagement of Mr. EILLE NORWOOD.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Sept. 30, Nov. 4 and 11.
Add., Mr. S. DAUNCEY, Empire T., Southend.

COWPER SMITH AND DOUGLAS PAYNE'S CO.
"SUCH A NICE GIRL."
Irresponsible Musical Absurdity, in Two Acts.
A merry and bright entertainment, which delights every part of the house.
Catchy Songs, Clever Dances, Racy Humour, Pretty Girls.
Splendid Cast, including
Rosa Bennett, Maude Percival, Amy Fanchette, Nina Neilsen, and the Smart Set Girls Quartette. Mark Lester, C. Lionel Brocknor, Allen Ainsworth, Douglas Payne.

WANTED, Theatres,
Sept. 30, Oct. 7, Oct. 28, Nov. 4,
and Nov. 28 (3 nights), to follow Harrogate.
DOUGLAS PAYNE, 1, Elmfield-road, Bromley, Kent.

CHARLES CARTWRIGHT and A. B. TAPPING'S DICKENS REPERTOIRE COMPANY.
MR. CHAS. CARTWRIGHT
and
MR. CHAS. COLLETTE
in
"DAVID COPPERFIELD."
"DOMBEY AND SON."
WANTED, Oct. 14, Nov. 4 (North).
Address, Mr. FRANK JACKSON,
11, St. Albans-place, Haymarket, S.W.

"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."
WANTED, good Theatres, for above, Oct. 14, Nov. 25, Dec. 23, 30, and onward.
Address,
FRED ACTON, Theatre Royal, Wednesbury, Staffs.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S CO.
"THE TRAITOR."
WANTED, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2, 9, and onwards.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, T. R., Sunderland.

A Genuine Novelty.
The Beautiful Servian Romance,
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
The complete Production travelled.
WANTED, weeks of Oct. 21, Nov. 11 and 25, Xmas vacant.
JAMES HARE, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

WANTED, Sept. 30, "Under Two Flags" or "In King's Name."
MARK BLOW, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Oct. 14, 21, and 28, for "A Clever Impostor."
STUART CLEVELAND, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

"A MOTHER'S LOVE."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Oct. 14, 28, Oct. 28 through cancelling to oblige.
FRED L. CONNYNGHAME, T. R., Glossop.

JUNIUS BOOTH'S COMPANY.
"MONTE CRISTO."
"MONTE CRISTO."
WANTED, Sept. 9, between Shrewsbury and Castleford. Coms. to H. G. GRIFFIN, Royalty, Barrow; next, T. R., Shrewsbury.

"WANTED BY THE POLICE."
WANTED, Sept. 16, Oct. 14, 21 (3 nights), 28, Nov. 4, Superb Company. "Robinson Crusoe," vacant Jan. 6, 27, large theatres only, twelfth Annual Pantomime; everything carried. Forty Artists. Wires, HERBERT BARRS, Opera House, Treherbert; Monday, Star Theatre, Swansea.

WILLIAM HOLLES and NANNIE GOLDMAN'S CO., in the great Domestic Drama, entitled,
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
by Arthur Shirley.
WANTED, Oct. 7 (between Manchester and Grimsby). Enormous success at Oldham. Managers kindly refer to Mr. E. Dottridge.
Wire, WILLIAM HOLLES, Grand T., Middlesbrough.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING,"
by Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23.
Apply,
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S CO.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 7, 14, New Year, Jan. 6, 13, onwards.
Address, ARMADALE and WARREN,
St. James's Theatre, Manchester.

"HIS SISTER'S HONOUR,"
by Eva Elwes.
There is no finer production touring.
Refer W. D. Forsdike, Esq., Alex., Sheffield.
WANTED, Big Theatre, Oct. 21,
to precede T. R., Leeds.
Wire, E. A'DELL, Pier, Teignmouth, Devon.

STANLEY CARLTON'S CO.
"A SECRET WEDDING."
by Edward Darley and Fred Benton.
WANTED, for this great Comedy Drama, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, wire for Sept. 23; everything carried, five full sets; all printing specially cut by Allen's. Wire for Sept. 23. This, Saltley; next, Hippodrome, Mansfield (return). "A LIFE'S STORY," Vacation.

WANTED, good Theatres for J. Maundy-Gregory's Companies
See Companies Page.

THEATRES WANTED.

HERBERT DARNLEY'S GREAT PLAY.
HERBERT DARNLEY'S GREAT PLAY.
WANTED, Sept. 16, and onwards, to follow own Theatre, Hippodrome, Mansfield.
Sept. 16,
Sept. 16,
and onwards for
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."
A Play to draw the women (the men will follow).
A Play to cause argument.
A Play to grip the mind of gallery and stalls.
A Play which asks of everybody
THE BURNING QUESTION.
What shall a woman do who is tied to a blackguard, who, while ill-treating her and her child in every way, is cunning enough to give her no chance to gain a divorce? An honest man, who, by his action will suffer financially and socially, offers to protect her and her child. The woman has proof that this man's love is honourable. She has to choose between a life of torture and degradation, for herself and her child, with the scoundrel who is legally her husband or a life of gladness and sunshine with the man who would give his life to make her happy, but whose protection would bring disgrace upon her child's good name.
WHAT SHALL SHE DO?
The answer is given in the great Play,
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."
In this Play strong Child Parts will be taken by HERBERT DARNLEY'S DOTS,
(in the performance which has caused a sensation on the Moss Stoll Tour).
DORA, JACK,
and
LITTLE WINNIE CRISP,
the most wonderful Child Actress and Dancer on the Stage.
The salary of these little Artists alone is as much as most Dramatic Companies Cost.
Star Company includes
the great Emotional Actress
MISS LOUIE ADAIR,
specially engaged to play
The Mother,
and
MR. CECIL KLEIN,
as the Honest Man.
Must have equitable terms
Wanted, Sept. 16, onwards.
HERBERT DARNLEY,
The Oaks, Rectory-grove, Clapham, S.W.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Oct. 7, Nov. 11 and 25, Xmas and New Year's Week vacant.
Communications to DOUGLAS TREMAYNE,
THEATRE ROYAL, JARROW.

WANTED, Known. Miss Mary Neil is now Booking her New Play,
"FROM SHOP-GIRL TO DUCHESS,"
by Charles Darrell.
Communications to GEORGE KIRK,
Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

LINGFORD CARSON'S SUCCESSES.
By Geo. A. De Gray.
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, for this consistently successful money-maker. Sept. 9, Sept. 9, Sept. 9, Oct. 7 and 14, Dec. 30. Wire for Sept. 9, wire for Sept. 9.
"A FIGHT FOR A THRONE." Wanted, for this emphatic success, Oct. 14, Nov. 25, Dec. 23.
Liverpool Daily Post, Aug. 20, says: "A Fight for a Throne" has secured for itself a reputation which will ensure a hearty welcome whenever it reappears here.
GEO. A. DE GRAY, this, Theatre Royal, South Shields; next, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

"FROM SCOTLAND YARD."
WANTED, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25.
FRED BULMER, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 7, Nov. 4.
FRED BULMER, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
WANTED, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 21, 28.
FRED BULMER, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Sept. 2, Sept. 2, Sept. 2.
Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 18.
FRED BULMER, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 28, Nov. 11 (to follow Edinboro'), 18, on, for
MISS MAB PAUL
and London Company,
in
Mr. Weedon Grossmith's Farcical Play.
"THE NIGHT OF THE PARTY."
"THE NIGHT OF THE PARTY."
For all No. 1 and 2 and London Suburban Theatres.
Apply, dates,
W. MARTIN, 415, Strand, W.C.

Miss DECIMA MOORE and COMPANY,
in "THE TRUTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 23, 30,
Jan. 6, 13, 20, April 20.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT,
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Renowned Attraction,
Good Theatres for weeks of
Sept. 30,
Oct. 21, 28,
Nov. 4, 11, 25.
Address, C. and F RENAD, Grand Theatre, Hull.

BENSON'S CO., "THE LADY OF HAIGH; or, A WIFE'S PENANCE," (MAB'S CROSS).
WANTED, Dates onward, from Nov. (with exceptions), gigantic success, record business, brilliant scenery, costumes, company, and printing.
SEE ADVERTISEMENT IN OTHER COLUMNS.
Address, BENSON, 10, Darlington-street, Wigan.

"A PRINCE OF ROGUES." MISS DORA DENCH AND CO. Another splendid Success at Workington. Managers please note error in this week's Stage for dates, through using wrong memo. It should read:—
"A PRINCE OF ROGUES."
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 28, and on. Address, this, A., Lancaster; next, T. R., Tyldesley.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
Mr. David James as the Rev. Robert Spalding.
WANTED, Oct. 7, 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25, Dec. 23, 30. Managers with above dates kindly write, E. C STAFFORD, Ivy Farm, West Runton, Norfolk.

"HER NAMELESS CHILD."
MRS. SAM DUCKWORTH'S COMPANY.
A truly magnificent production. Return dates are booked at once. Specially chosen cast. A clear stage only required. A Play that appeals to all.
A financial and solid success.
WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, Nov. 4.
SAM DUCKWORTH, T. R., Ton-y-Pandy;
or FRANK EDEN, T. R., Cardiff.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Sept. 30, Nov. 4 and 18, great success last week at Warrington, packed the place nightly. Please refer. Funnier than any Pantomime. DICKIE CLARE, Palace, Newcastle (return).

Miss FRANCES DELAVAL'S CO., "HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae. "THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, Sept. 16, 30. Wire, Star, Swansea. Sept. 2, Metropole, Abertillery.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae. "THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, Sept. 16 and 30, one or both plays. Wire, FRANCES DELAVAL, Met., Abertillery.

WANTED, for "The Woman Pays." Oct. 14, North or Scotland, Nov. 11 (L. and Y.), and Dec. 2, 23, 30. F. M. THORNE, Opera H., Wakefield.

"SINBAD THE SAILOR."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Xmas, onwards. Everything First-class; forty people travelled. Further particulars, GAINSFORD, 2, Old James-st., London, S.E.

"THE WORLD'S GREAT SNARE."
WANTED, Sept. 9, through cancelling, North or Midlands. Sept. 9, through cancelling North or Midlands. W. ALEXANDER DALLAS, this. Consett; next, Miners', Ashington.

THEATRES WANTED.

A Rollicking Roaring Success.
MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
in the New, Irish, Romantic, Musical, Legendary Play,
"ROLLICKING RORY."
Made a great hit at St. Helens; re-booked.
Enthusiastic reception Monday night at Rotunda, Liverpool.
The Liverpool Post and Mercury says: Many Irish plays have been seen at the Rotunda Theatre, but it is doubtful if any of them were as attractive as the one produced there last evening. It is entitled "Rollicking Rory," and its reception at the hands of a large audience was very enthusiastic. The story is most romantic and enthralling, some of the situations being particularly powerful and realistic.
A play right away from the ordinary, yet it pleases the gallery as well as the circle and stalls.
No Vacant Dates this year.
No Vacant Dates this year.
No Vacant Dates this year.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres,
Now booking Spring, 1908.
Pleased to hear from Managers of No. 1 Theatres.
Absolutely a No. 1 Production.
CHALMERS MACKEY,
Gaiety Theatre, Leith, Sept. 2 (six nights).

SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE LOVE OF A LIFE,"
the Charming Domestic Military Drama.
Instantly re-booked by Sidney Bacon, Esq. for Grand, Newcastle, and Metropole, Gateshead.
Fast booking Autumn and Spring.
Wire for Sept. 16 and 23.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Sept. 16, to follow Lyceum, Govan (third visit), 23, and various onward.
MISS KATE SIDNEY as OLGA LANOVITZ.
Wire or write,
JOHN B. SHINTON,
To-day, T. R., Middlesbrough.
Next, P. T., Accrington.

"A TRIP TO THE HIGHLANDS."
The most Successful Scottish Musical Comedy ever Produced. Cast includes:—Mr. Wall Croft, in his original character of the MacMuchkin; Messrs. Willie Scott, Frank Barclay, Harry A. Gribbon, &c.; Misses Nellie Burdett, Grace Desmond, Clara Moore, &c.; and Miss Isa Bowman, in her original character of Winnie Brown Winsdor.
WANTED, through misunderstanding, Sept. 23 Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 11. All communications to WELLESLEY SMITH, General-Manager, Alexandra T., Greenock.—Notice.—We hold the entire performing rights of this piece, which cannot be played without owner's written permission.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, First-Class Theatre, for New Year's week. Refer re business this week. Guaranteed to be one of the finest-mounted plays ever toured. Now booking 1909; excellent cast.
Write, F. G. KIMBERLEY,
this, Scarboro'; next, St. Helens.

FLORENCE GLOSSOP-HARRIS and Specially selected Co., in Répertoire of Shakespearean Plays and the Drury Lane Drama, "THE ROYAL OAK."
WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 14, 28, Jan. 6, and on, with exceptions. CLAUDE E. WALLIS, T. R., Darlington.

"THE DAIRYMAIDS."
"THE DAIRYMAIDS."
WANTED, three nights (only vacant date till Autumn, 1908), Oct. 24, 25, and 26, Midlands. MACDONALD, Prince's Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Sept. 9, 16, and Dec. 23, for "The Hero of the Flag." Address,
EDWARD MCLEAN, Metropole Theatre, Hoyland.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY. "THE BEST OF HER SEX." The Dramatic Success of 1907. Miss Dora Price as Vera Delorme.
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 14, and onwards, with exceptions. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR,
this, T. R., Leicester; next, Grand, Luton.

SIDNEY RENNEF'S COMPANY.
"LOVE RULES THE WORLD," by T. G. Bailey.
WANTED, good Theatre, Xmas, New Year and onward, for this Big Success. Eight full sets carried. Splendid printing. All special. G. M. COPPING, King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, for Thomas Thorne, in "Our Boys," or Répertoire, Sept. 23 and 30; other dates open for other attractions. RUSSELL ROSSE, T. R., Belfast.

Sheer tomfoolery of the money-earning kind.—Daily Mail.

MR. HUBERT DRUCE'S
Production of
"THE POCKET MISS HERCULES,"
the Eccentric Farce by
J. Storer Clouston.
Miss Ruth Mackay,
Mr. Stanley Cooke,
Will Tour the Provinces,
under the Personal Direction
of the Producer,
Commencing Sept. 9, at the
THEATRE ROYAL, MANCHESTER.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23 and 30, Nov. 4 and 11.
Address,
R. BYRON-WEBBER, Royalty Theatre, W.

"THE OFFICERS' MESS."
One of the brightest Musical pieces on the road.
WANTED, Sept. 16 and Oct. 21. Cast includes Mr. Harry Liddle, Mr. Charles Danvers, Mr. Jerrold Manville, Miss Edith Harmer, Miss Clara Nicholls, and Miss Nellie Sheffield. PENRHYN FORSTER, 11, Buckingham-street, Strand. Telegrams, "Corodies, London."

"THE GRIP OF IRON" No. 1 CO.
WANTED (unexpectedly vacant), Nov. 18, Nov. 18, Nov. 18 (Midlands or London).
Only vacant date this year.
Apply, E. H. KNIGHT, 7, The Crescent, Barnes, S.W.

WANTED, Jan. 27 and on, for First-Class Pantomime Production.
Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

WYBERT CLIVE'S CO.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
"THE CONSCRIPT."
The Greatest of all Russian Dramas.
Special Engagement of Mr. Algernon Syms.
WANTED, Sept. 16 and 23.
Wanted, Sept. 16 and 23.
Wire or write, to-day, T. R., Edmonton;
next week, T. R., Bilston.

MESSRS. ELLIMAN'S ENTERPRISES.
"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, Sept. 16, 23, onwards, with exceptions, for this Great Attraction; one of the Successes of the Year. Refer. Refer, any manager visited. C. ELLIMAN, Royal, Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, Oct. 7 (unexpectedly vacant), London Comedy Production,
Star Cast. Star Cast. Star Cast.
Wire, GWYNNE, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Sept. 9, intermediates onward, "Beneath the Stars." Everything sound; no trouble. Refer everywhere. Wire, COLEMAN DAVIES, T. R., Cardiff; next, Theatre, Aberdare.

WANTED, Sept. 16. Vacant Sept. 16, to precede Weymouth, for Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's Co., in the Great Domestic Play, "Home, Sweet Home," by Frank Lindo. Everything travelled, including suite of drawing-room furniture, carpet, rugs, &c. Wire or write, 9, Edgcumbe-terrace, Stonehouse, Plymouth.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
"SIBERIA."
John Darlison would like to have list from Managers of Vacant Dates
for his revised and strengthened version of
"SIBERIA."
Tour commences at Xmas.
Miss Doris Gilham as Sara.
A Trained Vocal Quartet. Picturesque Wardrobe.
JOHN DARLISON, Gaiety Theatre, Leith.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
The latest successful Musical Comedy.
Special New Scenery. Gorgeous Costumes.
Terrific Cast, including:
Mr. Walter Champney. Miss Florence Watson.
Mr. Ralph Lynn. Miss Julia Bassett.
Mr. Lawrence Wensley. and
Mr. Harry Fischer. Miss Ethel Dunford.
Full Operatic Chorus.
WANTED, for this Strong Attraction,
Sept. 16, Sept. 16, Sept. 16
(through transferring),
Sept. 23, Sept. 23, Sept. 23,
and
Oct. 7, Oct. 7,
to precede Glasgow.
Managers please note.
This Show broke all records at the King's Theatre, Sunderland, and played to over £300 in two nights. Refer R. C. Buchanan, Esq., who has booked it for six of his best Theatres. This show can draw the money at any Theatre that does any business at all. Wire, re Sept. 16, to HAMILTON RAINES, Queen's Theatre, Manchester; next, Opera House, Dudley.

MRS. ANN HUGHES' CO.,
in the New Comic Opera Success,
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
Thirty-five Artists.
Clear Stage only required.
The Comedy Court-Martial Scene the talk of every town visited.
WANTED, Sept. 16 (between Glasgow and Manchester), Oct. 7, 21, and on.
This, King's, Kirkcaldy;
next, G., Ayr (three); G., Clydebank (three).

"SAVED FROM THE SEA,"
by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 9, Xmas, New Year, and various Spring Dates.
"AS GOOD AS GOLD,"
by Fred S. Jennings.
Vacant Sept. 23, Oct. 28, Nov. 11.
"THE LOVE THAT LASTS FOR EVER,"
by Edward Thane.
Vacant Sept. 30, Oct. 21, Nov. 4, 18, Dec. 2, Xmas.
In Active Preparation.
"LOVE'S CROSS ROADS,"
by Frederick Somers.
Apply, SAMUEL JAMES, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

HARTWELL J. KIRBY'S CO., including the Popular Actress, MISS V. ST. LAWRENCE, with the successful, moral, and up-to-the-minute Melodrama,
"MAN'S ENEMY; or, THE LOVE THAT WON."
WANTED, Sept. 16 (follow Prince's, Blackburn), vacant through misunderstanding, vacant Sept. 16. New plant of printing in hand by Allen's. Good Theatres required remaining dates Oct., Nov., and Dec.; Wanted, Xmas week. MARTIN COMSTOCK, this, Met., Gateshead; next, T. R., Whitehaven.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction,
Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 21,
Nov. 25, Dec. 16,
Dec. 23, 30.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1908.
Sept. 2, Public Hall, Mountain Ash.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.,
"THE OLD, OLD STORY."
WANTED, Sept. 16, 16, Oct. 7, 7.
EDWARD SURREY, to-day, T. H., Herne Bay; next, T. R., Stratford.

An unmistakable success.
THE FAMOUS NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA.
Twelve Coloured Ladies and Gentlemen. Survivors of the recent terrible earthquake. Record houses everywhere. Return Dates at increased terms.
H.R.H. the Princess Henry of Battenberg and party were delighted at the original and unique performance.
WANTED, first Vacant Date, Nov. 18 and onwards, with exceptions.
Sole Managers, Messrs. H. E. JONES and A. DOUGLASS, 21, Water-street, Liverpool.
'Phones 5650 and 2449 Central.
Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."

WANTED, Theatres and Halls in Devon, Somerset, and South, from Sept. 20, onwards, for successful high-class Entertainment, under Royal patronage. Splendid pictorials. Big draw everywhere. Sharing terms. Write, H. BEAUMONT, Cliftonville Hall, Margate.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Experienced Leading Gentleman of repute for Sydney Carton, Juvenile Lead for Charles Darney, and Juvenile Lady, Lucy Manette, for Mr. Purcell's Sketch, "A Tale of Two Cities." Address, with photographs (returnable) and full particulars as to references, by letter only, to F. W. PURCELL, Lingwood, Yerbury-road, Tufnell Park, London, N. Only those at present in London or coming to town need apply.

WANTED, Full Company for Fit-up Tour of "Trip to the Highlands," Gibson Girls and Show Ladies for Chorus, also Dancers, Carpenters, Baggage, and Agent; rehearse Sept. 16. COLLINGWOOD HOPE, Falkirk.

"FOR WIFE AND HOME."
WANTED, Full Company, with exceptions.
JOHN POWER, 23, Coleridge-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Juvenile Lady and Responsible Lady, also Good Juvenile and Responsible Gents.; all must be experienced, and capable of répertoire; long Irish tour, weekly towns. Full particulars, &c., LOUISE GRAFTON, Nelson Hall, Tralee, Ireland.

WANTED, Heavies, Juveniles, and Dramatic Artists, all Lines; Young Juvenile to open Monday. HARRY WARD, 13, Buckingham-street, Strand.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S TOURS.
WANTED, Two Ladies and One Gentleman, to understudy and walk on, &c. W. H. ASHLEY, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.C.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman, Stock Season, young, portable people, turns preferred. Lowest terms; open at once. NORMANTON, Empire, Riddings, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Useful Couple, Heavies and Old Women, comfortable shop, first change two years.
Low terms only entertained; open immediately.
JORDAN, Portable Theatre.
White Lion, Sawbridgeworth. Wire.

WANTED, immediately, Character Actress (known) for part of Superior Housekeeper; short, stout, slight Cockney accent. Apply, Monday morning, ALLIANCE Agency, 12, Wigmore-st., W.

"THE LANCASHIRE LAD."
WANTED, First-Class Heavy Gentleman, for production and tour of above, must be tall, powerful, thoroughly experienced; rehearse Sept. 9. Photos. and full particulars, G. CARLTON WALLACE, Star Theatre, Liverpool.

"THE WORLD'S GREAT SNARE."
WANTED, Powerful Character Actor for Red Heart; height about 5ft. 10in. Rehearse Tuesday; open Sept. 9. Wire if known, with terms, &c., DALLAS, to-day, Theatre, Consett; next, Miners', Ashington.

"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."
"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."
"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."
WANTED, good strong Character Actor. rehearse at once.
HALLATT and HOWARD, Coliseum Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, good Juvenile Gentleman, responsible man, Leading Lady with good voice.
ARTHUR CARLTON, 22, The Parade, Barry.

WANTED, "U. T. C." Fit-up Tour, experienced Young Actor. Coloured Singers; rehearse Sept. 9, open 16. Lowest terms, refs., HYBERT, c/o Creber, Printer, Plymouth.

WANTED, for Drama, Juvenile Leading Man, Leading Lady, Child (girl, over 14, small), Heavy Man. Lowest terms. Box 5,314, "The Era."

WANTED, Tall Leading Gentleman, capable of Heavies: Young Pretty Juvenile Lady; Sketch, London. Photos., &c., MONTROSE, 51, Gurney-street, S.E.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING."
WANTED, Character Actor, for Giovani, the Italian (Macari part), and S.-M. Full particulars, height, age, photos., lowest terms for long tour, last three references. Rehearse Prince's, Bradford, Tuesday, Sept. 9. Letters, St. James's Theatre, Long Eaton, Notts.

WANTED, Clever Character Actor; must be tall; also Beginner.
Apply, Mr. Shepherd, 20, Grove End-road, N.W.

WANTED, good Comedy Character Old Man. Apply at once,
Manager, 38, Vaughan-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, for "Woman and Wine," Responsible Actor (baritone or tenor vocalist). All particulars, photographs, refs., E. Vivian Edmonds, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

WANTED, Comedian, at once, for Stepan, "Revenge." E. Hill-Mitchelson, This, T. R., Leeds; next, T. R., Sunderland.

WANTED, Comedian, for Stepan, in "Revenge," open at once.
Mitchelson,
T. R., Leeds; next, T. R., Sunderland.

WANTED, Comedian, for Sketch; must sing and dance well; height about 5ft. 4½in. Send photo. (which will be returned), lowest terms, to Wallis, Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, good Light Comedian, for Sketch. Photos., age, and terms,
F. M., Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, for Autumn Tour, Young Gentleman for Small Parts in Répertoire. Address, Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer, 36, Gloucester-road, Kew, Surrey.

WANTED, for Quartette, two robust Tenors, Sight-readers; good appearance. Send lowest photo., &c., to Evans, Pavilion, Bracebridge, Lincoln.

WANTED, Girls, smart appearance, open Continent, immediately.
Apply, 7 p.m., Sunday,
Nolan's Academy, Oxenden-street, Coventry-st., W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by professionally trained Soprano (high, flexible voice, perfect compass), to join Light Opera or good Comedy Company. Box 5,310, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Lady, Vocalist (Contralto), refined, well-trained, combine 'Cello, Engagement till end Sept. in Concert Party or Hotel; experienced. Address, 33, Mornington-road, Regent's Park, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Claire Hastings, Chorus Singer, fine voice and appearance, Liberty Oct. 7, also 14, also Panto. Managers in want of a good P. Boy, with fine voice and figure, communicate, Hastings, Pier, Beaumaris, N. Wales.

WANTED, Known, First-class Tenor Soloist, with Refined Répertoire, at Liberty for Concerts, Seaside or Town. Address, Box 5,283, "The Era."

Wouldn't mind if he danced on my feet.
WANTED, Known, Young Man just completing prolonged course of Grotesque Dancing under private tuition of one of the best known past masters of the Art desires Engagement, Musical Comedy or Panto.
Apply, Box 5,189, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists,
Comedians,
Principal Ladies,
Musical Conductors,
Dancers, &c., &c.
Write, stating full particulars and lowest terms, to John Tiller and Co.,
15, Lime-grove, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, tall Chorus and Show Ladies, for Pantomime. References, terms, &c., to E. Dottridge, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, Artists, Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send photos., terms, and particulars, to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for Pantomime,
Smart Dancers and Male Choristers.
Apply,
Fred Karno,
28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Lily Beverley (Mrs. Fredk. Strachan), Liberty for Pantomime, Principal Boy or Girl; and Fredk. Strachan, Stage and Act. Management. 43, Alma-road, St. Albans.

WANTED, First-class Panto. Engagement, by The Boultons, and Mlle. Bartenelli, Parts and Specialities. 78, Fairview-road, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Pantomime, by The Three Tivoli Girls, Speciality Dancers and Vocalists. Address, Edgar Stebbings, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Pantomime, Fred Zarinella. Last season, The Wolf (an Animal Impersonation), "Red Riding Hood," King's Theatre, Sunderland. Care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Charlie Dillon, the well-known Comedian, is at Liberty for Pantomime. Permanent address, 514, Kingsland-road, London, N.E.

WANTED, Panto., by Allen Amber, Dame or Page; last year, Ugly Sister, Chard's "Cinderella." Com., White Stars, Cleethorpes. Fourth season here.

WANTED, Up-to-date Harlequinade, at Liberty for Christmas, Theatres or Halls. Special scene and properties found. Ten Principals and Ten Auxiliaries. Terms and particulars, address, John Alexander, 13, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Panto., Chard's High-Class Sporting Dog Circus, safe, reliable draw. Address, "The Era." Can top any Programme.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for The Broadhead Theatres, good Assistant Scenic Artist. References and salary required to T. C. Daly, Metropole Theatre, Manchester.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts, for Carlyle Scenic Studio; High-class Scenery at very lowest prices. W. B. Robinson, 170, King's-rd., S.W.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery. Effective and Artistic Work and Good Joinery at moderate prices. Large studio and workshop. Charles Sayer, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Theatrical Contracts, Fit-ups, Repainting, &c. Call or address, W. Henry, Scenic Artist, 104 Loughborough-park, Brixton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Advertiser having sole option on Suburban Theatre, to open as a Music Hall, with population of 28,000, wishes to meet a few gentlemen with £25, £50, or £100, to form a small syndicate. Particulars, R. Bainbridge, 16, Selby-road, Anerley.

MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
WANTED, Stage-Manager, capable of taking entire control, and play a short, intense Irish Character part; rehearse Leith, Sept. 3. Age, height, chest measurement, terms, and last two references, and recent photo., with stamped envelope for return, to Chalmers Mackey, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool; next, Gaiety, Leith.

WANTED, Business-Manager, used to Fit-up Towns; also Lady Pianist, capable of Understudy. Age, recent references, lowest terms, lady's photo., E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Gentleman for Acting-Management in First-Class Musical piece, and take part interest with salary; long autumn tour, start immediately. Write, Cumnor, Box 5,330, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Man, as Advance, must be strictly sober, capable, and energetic. Send photo., height, testimonials from last two employers, with wages expected. Address, Dr. Carl Hermann, Theatre, Aberdare; after Sunday, Royalty, Llanelly.

WANTED, Advance Agent, one used to smalls and able to play Piano a little preferred. Banvard, Ballyconnell, County Cavan, Ireland.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Menagerie, Agent, to join at once, Carlisle, Sat.; Penrith, Mon.; Shap, Tues.; Kendal, Wed.

WANTED, for "Woman and Wine," Baggage Man; must be total abstainer. All particulars, E. Vivian Edmonds, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

WANTED, Re-engagement by thoroughly experienced Manager (permanency), or Manager and Secretary, to a good Establishment; good Organiser, Accountant, First-class Experience in Theatre, Variety, Concert, Gardens, &c. Highest references; society's guarantee. Address, Box 5,327, "The Era."

WANTED, by Walter Smith, late Manager, Hippodrome, Eastbourne, Engagement as Manager or Assistant-Manager; 20 years' experience as Stage, Advertising, Acting Manager, and Bar Management; excellent references; Disengaged. 119, Whitley-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by experienced Electrician, Engagement at Theatre, or would travel with Company; excellent refs. Box 5,315, "The Era."

WANTED, by Bill-Inspector, Situation; age 27; last two situations four years each. F. Price, 82, Asylum-road, Peckham, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Young Man desires Shop as Advance Bill-poster, Window-biller; many years with Worthing Pier, Ltd.; highest personal refs. Refer to all leading Advance Agents. Disengaged Sept. 14. Prowse, Anselms-rd., Worthing.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Bandmaster.
Apply,
stating age, qualifications,
and pay required,
and enclosing copies of tesimonials,
to Band President,
H.M.S. "Africa," Channel Fleet.

WANTED, Leader, Double Bass, Flute, and Trombone, for about five weeks, at the Crystal Palace Theatre, commencing Sept. 9. Only First-class Players apply to Mr. Joseph Sainton, Musical-Director to the Corporation, Bridlington.

HOWARD AND WYNDHAM, LTD.,
ROYAL LYCEUM and THEATRE ROYAL, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, First Violins, experienced, steady, capable men need only apply.
State terms and references.
George Burnley, Musical-Director.

WANTED, First-class Leaders (Solo Violins), 'Cellists, and Bass Players,
for Cunard and White Star Services.
'Cellists immediately.
Mr. Charles Wm. Black,
19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

HIPPODROME, COVENTRY.
WANTED, Good Leader, to open Monday next, Sept. 2; must be a good violinist, and thoroughly experienced Permanency if suitable. Wire, Geo. Clough, Conductor.

WANTED, a First-Class Leader, for Musical Comedy, must be young, abstainer preferred, good references required, which will be applied for. Address, Box 5,311, "The Era."

PALACE OF VARIETIES, DERBY.
WANTED, Monday, Sept. 9, First Violin and Cornet, used to Varieties, evening dress. Age, references, lowest terms, T. A. Edwardes, Grand Theatre, Derby.

GRAND THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, a good First Violin, to play Second when required; also good Second Violin; both must be used to Opera, and good readers. Send lowest terms and refs. to Louis Hermann, Musical-Director.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, to open Sept. 9, First Violins, Viola, and Double Bass. State lowest terms and latest references.
Address, T. A. Edwardes.

WANTED, First Violinist.
Apply,
Mr. H. Smith, Conductor,
Theatre Royal,
Portsmouth.

WANTED, for J. H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy Co., commence Sept. 9, First-class Violinist, Lady or Gent. Photos. and particulars, Tomkinson, Drill Hall, Hednesford, Staffs.

WANTED, immediately, Solo Cornet, for Touring Trades Exhibition; permanency to competent and steady man. Send refs. and state salary required. Manager, Exhibition, Public Hall, Nairn, N.B.

WANTED, Pitching, Cornet, Horn, Euphonium, Bombardon.
James, 15, Lower Drayton-place, Croydon, Surrey.

WANTED Good First Cornet, to open Sept. 9; must be well up in musical comedy and grand opera. Apply, Sidney Cooper, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, good Cornet Player.
Lowest terms and references to
Lloyd Clarance, New Theatre, Consett.

WANTED, Second Cornet, capable of First, experienced in Variety. Send age, refs., terms, &c., first letter, Conductor, Empire Theatre, Coventry.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, Orchestral, immediately, two weeks, Yarmouth; also Violinists, 'Cellist, Pianist, 12 months, Johannesburg. Lowest consideration, Delikat, Wellington Pier, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, competent, Varieties, comfortable shop for season to strictly reliable people. Terms, &c.,
E. Price, Pavilion, Abertillery.
Can join at once or later.

WANTED, a good Second Cornet, capable of taking First if required.
at Shepherd's Bush Empire.
Apply to Mr. Collins,
at that theatre.

BAND 3rd WEST KENT REGIMENT.
BAND 3rd WEST KENT REGIMENT.
BAND 3rd WEST KENT REGIMENT.
WANTED, for Permanent Staff, a B Flat Clarionet Player; preference given to a twelve years' man, to re-enlist for pension.
Apply, C. Gee, The Barracks, Maidstone.

WANTED, Clarionet and 'Cello, for permanency and Oboe and Bassoon for Special Weeks.
Apply, with particulars and terms,
W. R. King, The Dalston Theatre, N.E.

WANTED, good Clarionet Player. Age and references,
Frederic Beaham, Regent Theatre, Salford.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, good Lady Bass and Flute, from Sept. 16 until Oct. 6. Write or wire, Vincent, Hotel Metropole, Bexhill-on-Sea.

WANTED, Double Bass (combine Bombardon), for Circus Tenting; a good Bombardon may also write. Apply, Auguste Denton, Mus. Dir., 86, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, to commence Monday, for about three weeks, good Trombone, Flute, can also write; both must be good performers. H. Collinson, Pier Orchestra, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, for a Police Band
in the Midlands,
Euphonium and
B flat Clarionet Players.
height 5ft. 9in., age under 28 years.
Apply, Box 5,309, "The Era."

WANTED, at Once, for Croydon Town Band, good Euphonium Player, for Pitching. Terms, shares. Walters, 51, Waddon New-road, Croydon..

WANTED, to open Sept. 16, good 'Cello; permanency if suitable. Apply, with terms, age, and references, to Chas. Elphinstone, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

WANTED, at once, for two weeks, Flute, Clarionet, Trombone, Military Band. Wire terms, Conductor, Esplanade Band, Rothesay, Scotland.

WANTED, for C. W. Poole's Myriorama, good Flute and Piccolo; must assist with Fittings. Age, references. Fred Mann, M.D., Free Trade Hall, Manchester.

H. AND F. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, for Long Tour, to Open Monday next, Penzance, Flute and Piccolo; wear evening dress, and assist fittings when travelling. Wire or write, Poole, Myriorama, Penzance.

WANTED, Lady Pianist, thoroughly experienced, for American Hotel. Name salary expected, fullest particulars, photo., Mus.-Director, 139, Park-road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, to open at once, First-Class Pianist, used to Dramatic and Variety. Wire lowest to W. E. Voth, Opera House, Dunfermline.

WANTED, immediately, smart Pianist, one used to Variety Business; also useful people for Parading and Inside Turns. Address, Lawrence, Show, Feast Ground, Killamarsh, Sheffield.

WANTED, Young Lady Pianist, to assist in Well-known Illusory Entertainment; previous knowledge unnecessary. Address, Manager, 19, Hayura-street, Harrogate.

WANTED, for Percy Honri in "Concordia," Double-handed Musicians of all Kinds, Musical-Director (Organist), four Trombones to double Bassoons, smart Drummer, own Tymps. and Effects. Rehearse London, Sept. 30. Age, height, photo., and lowest terms, Percy Honri, 357, Holloway-road, N. Application by letter only; interviews by appointment.

WANTED, Musicians, all instruments. Lowest terms, age, last two references.
Arthur Carlton, 22, Parade, Barry.

WANTED, good Family Band, permanent Engagement; commence immediately.
Arthur Carlton, 22, The Parade, Barry.

WANTED, to augment Band, Lady Instrumentalists for Fit-up Tour. Cornet write. State if Sing or Play Small Parts. Peake, 7, Gladstone-street, S.E.

WANTED, good Drums and Effects, to open Sept. 9, permanency if suitable. Terms, age, and refs. to Chas. Elphinstone, Grand Theatre, Hanley, Staffs.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street,, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A Grateful Musician.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, Philip Germann, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by a First-class Musical Director, London or suburbs preferred; highest of references. Box 5,325, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Pianist-Conductor, Town and Promenade Band of Popular Seaside Resort; disengaged shortly, with or without own Band. Fine library. Box 5,308, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, excellent testimonials. Wire or write, Violinist, 162, High-street, Notting Hill-gate, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement as Pianist-Conductor, in good Variety or Dramatic; experienced; abstainer; refs.; composer and arranger. 87, Wellington-street, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs.

WANTED, by First-Class Variety Leader, Music Hall or Theatre, Liberty Sept. 2. Wire, H. Walker, King's Theatre, Gateshead.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Rowland Clark, Conductor-Pianist, or Orchestral Pianist, Theatre, Hotel, &c., Disengaged Sept. 7. Beaumaris Pier, North Wales.

WANTED, by experienced Leader, Engagement; finishing season; any business; at Liberty Sept. 9. J. Wylde, Leader, Pier Orchestra, Beaumaris, N. Wales.

WANTED, by Conductor-Pianist, Engagement, any Business; reliable, experienced. L. Picard, Post Office, Dover.

WANTED, Engagement as Musical Director (Violin), any business. Terms moderate. Address, Musicus, 9, Birchdale-villas, Crossfield-road, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, Leader or otherwise, by experienced Violinist. Terms moderate. Address, Violinist, 9, Birchdale-villas, Crossfield-road, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, by Violinist (good), can double Clarionet, Deputising and Dance Work; experienced. Presto, 89, Black Boy-lane, South Tottenham, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by First Violin, late Leader Theatre; Disengaged Sept. 7; London or suburbs preferred. Violinist, 36, Parliament-street, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement, Violin and Viola, Disengaged, Aug. 30, well up in Variety Bus. Write, Viola, 10, Balchier-road, E. Dulwich.

WANTED, by Violinist (Young Lady), Engagement in Band till end Sept. or permanently; Solos if required. E. M., Strafford House, Acton, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violinist; experienced in Dramatic or Variety Business; good refs. Apply Violinist, 65, Tonning-st., Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Violin, Theatre or Café; experienced, abstainer. Apply, Box 5,307, "The Era."

WANTED, to go on Tour, Violin and 'Cello, have been on Tour with First-Class Musical Comedy. Apply, Box 5,313, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by First Violin, age 26. Address,
Violinist, 15, Rothwell-st., Regent's Park-rd., N.W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

AUSTRALIA OR SOUTH AFRICA.
WANTED, by Violinist and Pianist, Engagement, six months or more, concert tour, orchestra, or hotel, passage one way (second). Highest refs. Svolo, 52, York-rd., Brighton.

WANTED, Engagements, for Cornet and Trombone, Disengaged Sept. 7, any Business; steady and reliable; good refs; abstainers. Trombone, 22, Wells-road, Bath.

WANTED, Re-engagement by First-Class Solo Cornet; highest references; Disengaged Sept. 16. Apply, Hone, Solo Cornet, Spa Orchestra, Bridlington.

WANTED, Engagement, Sept. 9, Two Cornets, Clarionets, French Horn, Trombone, Bass, and Drums; experienced, any Bus. James Woods, Bandmaster, Season Band, Burnham, Somerset.

WANTED, by good experienced Clarionet, Engagement, Military or String; good references. Henry Donaldson, 14, Harcourt-st., Marylebone-rd, London.

WANTED, an Engagement, as Clarionet. F. W. Atherton, No. 1 Rosemont- Market-street, Torquay.

WANTED, Engagement by Solo Clarionet, completing season; can commence Monday, Sept. 16. Henry Moore, 12, West Prince's-street, Rothesay, Scotland.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Double Bass; thoroughly experienced; first-class references. Basso, 170, Drakefell-road, Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass; experienced and reliable, any Business. Apply, F. Lemmon, 2, Bensley's-buildings, Union-street, Norwich.

WANTED, Known, Bassoon Player, Disengaged for a few weeks, would like to fill time in anywhere. J. Collett, 2, Rumsey-road, Stockwell.

WANTED, for Oct., Employment in Hotel, Double Bass, well up in this Business. Address, Saint, Peak Hydro Hotel Orchestra, Buxton, Derbyshire.

WANTED, an Engagement by First-Class Trombonist, can combine Violin, Disengaged Sept. 29. Musician, 137, Ashton-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Trombonist, Music Hall preferred.
Address, Trombone, 7, Staincliffe-road, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, any Business; good refs. Wire or write. Trombone, 5, Welch's-square, Finkle-street, Carlisle.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Trombone, at Liberty Sept. 16. C. Stuart Macallaugh, 9, Salisbury-terrace, Hilderthorpe, Bridlington.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Euphonium Soloist (combine Trombone). Finishing Second Season with Southport Corporation Military Band. At Liberty end Sept. William Rolph, Cambridge Hall, Southport.

WANTED, by Solo Euphonium and Trombone, any situation, Orchestra or Military; highest references; trial if required. 96, Warwick-st., Pimlico, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Euphonium Soloist, String or Reed Orchestra; used to 'Cello parts; good references. Howarth, 61, Corrance-road, Brixton.

WANTED, by L. Carvelli, late Solo Horn Lamoureaux Orchestra, Scala Theatre, Milan, Manns' Orchestra, Carl Rosa Co., Scottish Or., &c., Engagement as First Horn, Concerts or Theatres; at Liberty Oct. 15. 14, Gipsy-hill, Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Second French Horn, Orchestra; steady, reliable; highest references; at Lib. Sept. 16. Roberts, New Spa, Orchestra, Bridlington.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. Cassells, 37, Great Percy-st., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist and Vocalist (Contralto, well trained, refined), by Young Lady, for Sept., in Hotel or Concert Party. Box 5,324, "The Era."

WANTED, good Winter Engagement, Lady 'Cellist; young and experienced; Orchestral and Soloist. Apply, Box 5,312, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Solo 'Cellist; good reader, Classical and Modern Music (Solos if required), Disengaged Sept. 21; London or suburbs preferred. 'Cello, Salters' Hall, Droitwich.

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist at Liberty for Engagement, after August. Apply, G. Bernard Goodall, 12, Summerland-road, Minehead, Somerset.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist, Hotel or Café.
F. D., 29 Addison-gardens, W.

WANTED, Engagement, from Sept. 1, 'Cello and Clarionet; highest refs.
'Cellist, 23, Dorset-road, Littlehampton.

WANTED, Engagement, Viola (combine Violin or 'Cello), any Business; at Liberty Sept. 9; good references. Rotheby, Alhambra Palace, Morecambe, W.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboe, experienced in any capacity, late R.A. Band, Woolwich; sober and reliable. Frank Field, 28, Cardozo-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Known, Mr. W. R. Morton, Principal, and Solo Oboe, Herr Simon Wurm's Orchestra, New Spa, Bridlington, will be at Liberty to accept Engagement, Sept. 16.

WANTED, by Miss Eleanor Ramsay, Harpist (Solo and Orchestral), Engagements. Add. all coms., 34, Buccleuch-place, Edinburgh.

WANTED, by experienced Flautist, Engagement, any Business; good references. 3, Rainforth-street, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, by First-class Flute and Piccolo, Engagement, thoroughly experienced, any Business; strict sobriety; reliable refs. A. Watson, Hippodrome, Belfast

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, at Liberty Sept. 8. Address, Milton Knight, Orchestra Pavilion. Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flautist, Disengaged Aug. 31, Viennese Band, Jephson Gardens, Leamington Spa. Address, 4, North-villas, Camden-square, N.W.

WANTED, Known, W. Robson, Flute and Piccolo, late Band Coldstream Guards, at Liberty Sept., to accept permanent engagement. Address, 23, Blaker-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Constance Upstone, A.T.C.L., Solo Pianist, good Accompanist, Sight Reader, just concluded Tour, at Liberty. 11, Willoughby Park-rd., Tottenham.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Arthur Creighton, Pianist, Disengaged, Variety or Classical; experienced, London district; Dep. or perm.; refs. 170, Walworth-road.

WANTED, immediately, Engagement, by First-Class Pianist, Orchestra or alone; thoroughly experienced, Variety and all Lines. C/o Mylroie, New-road, Laxey, I.O.M.

WANTED, Known, Edward P. Delevanti, Pianist, Disengaged.
3, Clarence-chambers, Regent's Park, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums, Tympani, Glockenspiel, in Orchestra; Stage performance Bottle Solos, Xylophone. F. Goldberg, Wellington Pier, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, as First-class Drums, Glockenspiel, &c. References, S. Blythe. Musician, 163, St. Leonard's-road, Windsor.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Drummer.
W. Cockrill,
Winter Gardens, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement, Drums and Effects, thoroughly experienced, any business; sober, reliable; Liberty Sept. 9. Drummer, 23, King-street, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement, in any Business, experienced Double Drummer and Effects; ref.; or deputy. Block F, 134, Thrawl-street, Commercial-street, E.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, Quartet disengaged autumn. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Engagement, by Zinga Ladies' Orchestra, concluding Sept. 9, Successful Engagement at Forsyth's Pavilion, Dovercourt. H., 44, Gwynne-rd., Dovercourt.

WANTED, shortly, Eng. by celebrated Cremona Orchestra, any number, any business; great répertoire. Agents invited. Greenhead, 13, Park-terrace, Minehead.

WANTED, Engagements, Bateson's Orchestra, Disengaged Sept. 16, Vocalists and Soloists, up-to-date Répertoire. Offers. Thos. Bateson, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, Known, Small String Orchestra, at Liberty, Family. Terms moderate. Late Music Hall Bandsmen. First-class Répertoire. Herbert, 5, West-hill, Wandsworth.

WANTED, Engagement, French Horn, experienced, reliable, any business. Varieties, String, Military, formerly of Staff Band. A. V., 6, "F" Block, R.A., Wellington Lines, Aldershot.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

GILLENO'S CIRCUS, WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines of Circus Business. Useful people write to H. Gilleno (as above).

WANTED, Knockabout Ring and Trapeze Performer, permanent to suitable party; good Amateurs may write. Full particulars, Box 5,332, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Smart Tumblers, young preferred. Write, stating tricks and lowest terms,
Eddy, 5, Honor Oak Park, Forest Hill, London.

WANTED, Second Mount, Bearer, or Top, one to Tumble preferred. Address full particulars, Edwin Francis, Queen's Theatre, Fleetwood.

GILLENO'S CIRCUS,
WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER.
WANTED, Youth, aged about 14, willing to learn Circus Business, one who can tumble a little preferred. Apply, with full particulars, to H. Gilleno (as above).

WANTED, Smart Young Lady, one with experience of Juggling preferred. State particulars to L. E. R., Hippo., Woolwich.

WANTED, Elephant Trainer; permanency to steady man. Send copy references and salary required. Box 5,319, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Gilleno's American Circus, White City, Manchester, at Liberty for Winter Season. Full First-Class Circus Company. Now at the flood tide of success. All particulars from H. Gilleno, White City.

WANTED, Known, Lady Sylvia Martin, Le Belle Equestrienne, in Liberty Act, with her Talented Mare Beauty, at Liberty for Stage or Ring. 8, Templeton-place, Earl's Court.

WANTED, Monday next, and on, La-Dor Troupe Six in Number, male and female Acrobats, Roman Ladders, Globe, Screaming Sketch, "The Matadores." Three Distinct Acts. Post Office, Durrington, Salisbury.

WANTED, by Sladene, Continental Trapeze Performer, this week,
Theatre Royal, West Stanley;
Vacant Sept. 2, Galas, Fêtes, &c.

WANTED, Known, George Davilla, Marvellous High-wire, Vibrating. Finish to-night Tonbridge; next, Tunbridge Wells. Address, Forest View, Waltham Abbey.

WANTED, Pauletti, the man with the funny and clever Cycling Act, that's all, Vacant Sept. 30. 18, Shakespeare-villas, Shakespeare-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, The Henrés, Jugglers, Vacant Monday, 2nd, 9th, 16th. This, Pal., Grimsby. Communicate, H. Henre, Director, 73, Milbourne-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Join, as Leaper, for Casting Act, or Bars, American Season preferred.
Gymnast, c/o Box 5,328, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and HIPPODROME, BARRY DOCK.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.
No wires, please.
Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists for three nights, Sept. 12, 13, 14;
must be new for Ferndale, S. Wales;
also Biggest Acts in the Profession for Paris, Marseilles, Nice.
Contracts waiting for Three Pirmans, Jack Rae, Pauline Lloyd, Royal Quintette, Saxon Trio.
Apply to
C. Cliquot,
Temperance Hall, Merthyr Tydvil, S. Wales.

WANTED, all kinds Variety Artists. Will see any Artists working if time sent. Richard Cass's Agency, 9, Mundania-rd., Peckham.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Monday, Sept. 9, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to Kitchingman, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, lowest combination terms, Sept. 23, onwards, Hall and Town small. Communications, H. Henre, 73, Milbourne-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, Big Specialities, Star Acts of all descriptions, for Sept. 16 and Oct. 14. Full particulars, lithos., and salary, address,
James Kiddie, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Sept. 2 and on. Address, Kauffman, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, Co. Durham.

WANTED, First-class Artists, all Lines, for the North. Send bookings, &c., to Frank Lynne, Zoo, Hippodrome, Glasgow. Telegrams, "Skidoo, London."

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Sept. 9, onwards, Novelty, Specialities, Sisters, Double Acts (doing Singles), Comedians, Comediennes (jointly). Lowest terms, lithos. (Hall small). Wm. B. Bostock, Sole Lessee and Manager, Oldbury Palace of Varieties.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards. Apply,
Mr. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30, Charles A. James, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin. Good Living Freak Open at Once.

WANTED, Artist, working South Wales, write in, Temperance Hall, Merthyr.
Manager, Mr. Israel Price.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, at once, Sept. 9, onwards, Biz and Small.
Artists at Liberty Monday communicate quick, and don't forget house address. Saturday to Monday. Jess Verno's Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams. "Merriment." 'Phone 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Big Stars on Shares, for Palace, Boston, Sept. 16, onwards. Saphrini, Boro' Arms Hotel, Boston.

PETERBOROUGH HIPPODROME, LIMITED.
Opening Sept. 16, 1907.

WANTED, Artists with Vacant Dates, communicate T. M. Sylvester, Managing-Director, 217, Piccadilly, W.

Notice.—To Artists and all concerned. Owing to structural alterations required by Licensing authorities, the opening is unavoidably postponed to Sept. 16, 1907.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

DR. WALFORD BODIE'S
ROYAL MAGNETS.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Big Sensational Novelties, Sept. 23, onwards. Silence please accept as polite negative meantime. Great and Glorious Success at Albert Hall, Swansea. Packed to the doors nightly. Money refused at every performance. Re-engaged to come back in four weeks' time at the record salary of £250, being £50 of a Rise. Mr. Coutts took over £150 on Saturday alone. Never opened the ordinary doors. Such scenes of wild excitement and enthusiasm never before witnessed in the annals of public amusement in Swansea. Mr. Coutts says:—Doctor, you are a marvel. You have fairly staggered me and the public of Swansea. Will give you £250 to come back. Many thanks to Mr. Coutts for kind and flattering remarks, and also huge salary. I'll try and be worth it again to you. Playing this week to packed houses at the Palace, Plymouth. Monday next with own Co. Tokio Troupe, Norman Mills, Bella Skene, The Musical Acmes, T. Duriah, H. C. Irving, Sisters Meldon, Little Dolly Robson, &c., &c. All must attend rehearsal at 1 sharp; no excuse. All letters, address to
DR. WALFORD BODIE,
Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
Head Office: 163, Blackfriars-road, London, S.E. 'Phone, 1323 Hop. Telegrams, "Bodleism, London."

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Glasgow Concerts. State absolute lowest. THE SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
WANTED, Artists, suitable for Concert Platforms, three Halls, one night only, Saturdays. Vacant dates and lowest terms to
WM. BIGGAM, 126, Rottenrow, Glasgow.

HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY,
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock, N.B.
WANTED, for Glasgow, Greenock, and district, Star Artists in all Lines,
Empire, Greenock.
Big Tops for immediate dates.

WANTED, Artists to note that Curry's Tivoli, Grimsby, reopens on Monday next, Sept. 2. Call: Nellie Wallace, Corman's Juveniles, Three Orros, Woodwards, Richardson Taylor, Bros. Curran, Canard, Eddie Stuart. All applications for dates to J. H. CURRY, Tivoli, Grimsby.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
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WANTED, Artists and Agents to Note.

All Contracts
on Behalf of the Above Company
will in future be signed by
Mr. S. T. NEWSOME,
who alone is authorised to sign.

Artists Holding Contracts
are requested to apply immediately
for Confirmation of Dates
to
S. T. NEWSOME,
Managing-Director,
Hippodrome,
Coventry.

N.B.—All Bill Matter to be addressed to
THE MANAGER,
Hippodrome,
Coventry.

HIPPODROME, SPENNYMOOR.

WANTED, Known, Rehearsal, Monday, at 2.30, for The Tudors, Staffo, Cyclos, Sam Shipley, Gladys Wells, Harry Keeble, Hoozee, Bimbo, Redfern Girls, and Lambert's Bioscope. The present short season at above terminates Saturday, Sept. 7. Thanks to the many artists and agents who have written in. Impossible to answer all.

WANTED, Wanted. Wanted,
the Biggest Stars in the Profession,
the Biggest Stars in the Profession,
the Biggest Stars in the Profession,
the Biggest Stars in the Profession,
the Biggest Stars in the Profession,
the Biggest Stars in the Profession,
immediate and on.

Immediate work for the right people.

Communicate at once with
HARRY BURNS's Agency,
Empress Theatre,
Hartlepool.

Established twelve years.

Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

Telephones, 0231 and 0231A Hartlepool.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future Dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKE'S Agency, 35, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

HIPPODROME, NEW BROMPTON.
WANTED, Big Variety Stars, with own Combinations. Operatic and Musical Companies, Panto., ten nights Christmas, Sept. 23, and on. Full Professional Band; up-to-date Management.
W. POCOCK, Secretary, as above.

STALYBRIDGE HIPPODROME.

WANTED, Turns, Sept. 9, 16, and 23.

JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Town Hall Palace of Varieties, Hounslow, Sept. 30, onwards, First-class Talent. Terms must be low, as Hall is very small. Artists working London same week preferred. Terms, &c., to
ARTHUR AISTON, Prestatyn, N. Wales.

NEW HIPPODROME, PETERBORO'.
Proprietors, J. M. SYLVESTER'S HIPPODROMES, LTD.
WANTED, the greatest Acts in the Profession, Comedy Acts, Speciality, for Sept. 16, 1907, and onwards. Artists can have Abertillery, Gloucester, and Porth, to follow or precede. J. M. Sylvester's Hippodromes, Ltd., will announce in a few weeks two more new Hippodromes. Bill matter for Peterboro' to be sent to 217, Piccadilly, London, W.C.; respecting Engagements to be made to LEO FRITZ'S Variety Agency, 40, Glenshaw-mansions, Brixton. 'Phone 457 Brixton; telegrams, "Evelyncia, London." P.S.—Acts must be known to Leo Fritz.

NEW PAVILION, ABERTILLERY.
WANTED, the greatest Acts in the business, Comedy, &c., for Sept. 9, 1907, and onwards. Acts can have Gloucester, Porth, and Peterboro', and two more Hippodromes to be announced in a few weeks, to follow or precede; nothing but the very best need apply. All communications in respect to Engagements to be made to LEO FRITZ'S Variety Agency, 40, Glenshaw-mansions, Brixton, S.W.

DUNDAS'S AGENCY.
WANTED, First-Class Comedy Acts, Sept. 9 and onwards. CYRIL DUNDAS,
52, Rosthwaite-road, West Derby, Liverpool.

PALACE, KILMARNOCK.
WANTED, Sept., onwards, good Comedy Acts all Lines. Absolute lowest, once nightly, to J. CUMMINGS, 97, Whitevale, Dennistoun, Glasgow.

WANTED, the greatest Acts. Full Bookings, terms, W. AINSWORTH'S Agency (late manager five years Oxford Palace), 72, Palmerston-terrace, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Acts of all Kinds, immediate and future dates.
MARTINO'S Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Acts of all Kinds for Temperance Hall, Merthyr Tydfil, and South Wales district. Apply, MARTINO'S Agency, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY, Alham., Edinburgh.
WANTED, Sept. 9, onwards, for Scotland, the very best Acts available; Top and two or three First-class Turns wanted for Edinburgh, Sept. 9 and future dates.

WANTED, Speciality Acts, Vocalists, for Illustrated Songs. Forward full particulars, terms (letters only), PICTURES, 142, Long-acre, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Known. Wanted, Known.
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SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Buy, Automatic Machines, Punchers, Lifters, Blowers, Kalloscopes, and all Kinds of Good Money-takers. STEWART, Waxwork, High-st, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Traction Engine Driver, also Centre Driver; be at Charfield Flower Show, Saturday, Gloucestershire; Wednesday at Congresbury Fair, Somerset. Apply, Mr. G. PRUETT, Showman. Ground to Let, at Lawrence Hill, for all sorts of Side Shows. Apply, Mr. G. PRUETT, Showman, St. George's, Bristol.

WANTED, competent experienced Engine-Driver and Electrician to wire building and take responsible charge Electric Lighting Plant. References required; abstainer preferred. Good wage; permanent. Will Enoch Cattell write? W. Reynolds, engineer, Bedford.

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WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to every Showman in the United Kingdom.

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ST. ALBANS CONCERT ROOMS.
WANTED, to Let, Fine Hall for Concert Parties, Cinematographs, &c.
Seating 750. Terms very Moderate.
Vacant Dates for Season 1907-1908.
Apply,
SECRETARY, Social Club, London-road, St. Albans.

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WANTED, to Let, Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham, seat 1,000; vacant Sept. 16, 6 Nights, Nov. 11, onwards. Dramatic licence. Christmas vacant. Silence polite negative.

WANTED, to Let (Rental), Bycullah Athenæum, Enfield. Any kind of Entertainment. Scenery. Address, MANAGER, as above.

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WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Victoria Hall, Matlock.
Reasonable mortgage can remain on at 4%.
The Hall is splendidly adapted
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and contains a set of Stage Effects.
Plans, photos., and further particulars,
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WANTED, to Sell,
THE GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
This Large and Spacious Theatre is situated in St. Stephen's-street, in the North Side of the City, and within a short distance of the centre of Prince's-street, and there is no other theatre in the district. Cable cars pass within a short distance of the doors, and connect with all parts of Edinburgh.
Offers invited for this property.
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Apply to
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WANTED, to Sell, Large Stock of Films, majority good as new, from 1d. per foot; fresh consignments of Up-to-date Subjects are received at frequent intervals from the Myrioramas. Send for list. POOLE, Palace, Gloucester.

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WANTED, to Sell, Bassoon, Flat Pitch, £10 nett. Apply, JAMES TROUT, Oboe and Bassoon Reed Maker, 84, Warner-rd., Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Novel Musical Show, own invention, now on tour. Apply,
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WANTED, to Sell, Animal Dresses, Tights, Symmetrical Paddings, Properties, &c. H. J. BOXALL, Tight-maker, 165, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, a Couple of Pretty Stage Dresses, and Coat, cheap. LOLA, 5, Dudley-grove, Moss Side, Manchester.

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WANTED, to Sell, at the completion of present Contract, "The Water Nymph" Illusion and the "Royal Egyptian Mummy," now being exhibited at Earl's Court Exhibition. Can be seen working; several engagements can be transferred to purchaser if desired; suitable for Side Show, Shop, or Exhibition. Price, particulars, letters only, PHAROS, Earls Court, London.

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WANTED, to Sell, or Let on Royalty, Farcical Music Hall Sketches, originality, refinement, action; complete farcical comedies, not knockabout acts. ERNEST BLISS, 25, Acre-lane, Brixton.

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Yours faithfully,
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WANTED, Lady or Gentleman, with £50, to join in Touring very successful high-class Entertainment. Expenses low; large profits. All travelling expenses paid.
Write, R. MERRYDEW,
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WANTED, Partner, Young Gentleman, to take over Management small Hall, good returns, small capital. ROBSTON, Voryd Hotel, Rhyl.

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WANTED, Known, Young Man, good Posturer, Hand-balancer, and Knockabout, at Liberty to join Partner or Troupe. Box 5,331, "The Era."

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WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

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WANTED, Known, for Artistic Lithos., EDWARD HARRISON,
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WANTED, Known, 100 High-Class Visiting or Professional Cards, Ladies' or Gentlemen's, best Ivory, post free, 1s. 3d. KELLY'S Card Works, Uttoxeter, Staffs.

WANTED, Known.—Band Parts, 3s. 6d.; Composing, Arranging, Transposing; Band Books, 4s. 7d. List. COTTLE'S Bureau, 86, Coldharbour-lane. Hours 10 to 9.

WANTED, Known, Music Composed for Songs, Sketches, and Dramas; Band Parts arranged, by GUILLAUME LEONE, Musical-Director, Rochester House, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton.

WANTED, Known, Costumes, Wigs, Properties supplied on Shortest Notice. Special Designs for Panto. MARY and Co., 19, Green-st., Leicester-square.

WANTED, Known, Ladies requiring Special Panto Costumes should Send for Designs. Madam MITCHELL, 12, Sunnyside, Waldegrave-road, Teddington.

WANTED, Known, J. Cooper makes Lantern Slides of every description. Songs, &c., Illustrated; Shows provided. 271, Upper-st., London, N.

WANTED, Known, to Cinématograph Proprietors.—J. Crighton has now on the market the loudest and most distinct Talking Machine, complete with six Singing Pictures and Records. Price £50. CRIGHTON'S Electric Palace, Cleckheaton, till Sept. 4; Holbeck Moor till Sept. 11.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Ventriloquists to note, if you want really good, witty dialogues, write GEORGE REDMOND, Fishersgate, Sussex.

WANTED, Vents., Mimics, and all Entertainers, to send for Free Items for Performance. D. SYDNEY, 81, Longley-road, Tooting, London.

WANTED, Known,
The following Ladies and Gentlemen wish to thank E. H. Bostock, Esq., for a very comfortable Three Weeks' Tour, Six Towns in Scotland, once nightly, no matinées, and treasury 12 o'clock noon Saturday :—
F. Wombwell,
T. Verne,
Davis and Gledhill Trio,
The Meeleys,
Sisters Brenton,
Morimura,
The Cosmans,
Beatrice Bonnie,
Stylo.

WANTED, Known, The Charnleys sincerely thank F. J. Connor, Esq., Hippodrome, Douglas, for most comfortable and happy fortnight; also Thelma and the boys.

WANTED, Small Capital, to Remove a Large Pavilion to a Populous District for Winter Season. Bonâ-fide Security and Profitable Percentage. Principals only.
MANAGER,
116, Ellor-street, Pendleton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Jas. Preston informs the Profession that he is now Licensee of the BOATHOUSE HOTEL, KEW (perfectly free house), and that he is assisted by Chas. Philips. Glad to see old friends on Sunday.

WANTED, Known, Lady highly recommends farmhouse (Staffordshire) boarding school, small children, £20 yearly. R., 1, Waterloo-street, Hove, Brighton.

WANTED, Name and Address of Publishers of Handbook giving Proprietors of Small Halls in United Kingdom. Hazeldene, Wood-st., Bognor.

WANTED, to Know, Address of Volta, Electric King.
Apply, Box 5,323, "The Era."

WANTED, Father to Know we are well, and Uncle and I will see him at Neath.
CHARLOTTE CRACROFT.

WANTED, Known, Venus (the late Lord Leighton's), too ill to appear in "Godiva" Sketch at the South London, Aug. 26 week. Thanks Variety Theatres Consolidated, Ltd., for rearrangement, and Sept. 9. AUSTIN MILLAIS.

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Rehearsal at 1.30, for :—
Vesta Tilley, Spry and Austin, May Henderson, Will Cornish, Chas. Fisher's Opera Co., Syd May, Doughty's Sketch Co., Bioscope, Boswell's Circus, Carmos

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Fanny Fields, Will Cromwell, Ted E. Box, San Tau Girls, Corbin's Dogs, Neville Graham and Co., Bessie Butt, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Melot Hermann.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
"A Motor Match," John Marx, Three Clarions, La Belle Nello, Dot Hardy, Frank Lynne, Chas. Stevens, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, La Berat.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
"Casey's Army," Frasettis, Gus Garrick, Ted and May Hopkins, Dora Barrington, Ben Albert, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, "Indian Pastimes," Fred Winn's Co., in "The Light at the Window."

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
George Lashwood, Burley and Burley, Stella Troupe, Nettie Starr, "Kiss your Father" Co., Lena Verdi, "Dida," Horace White, Frank Cumminger, Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
The Boissetts, Mark Sheridan, Percy Honri, Jackley Trio, Grace Merton, Maude Courtney, Mysterious Mr. C., Rhoda Paul, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
James Stewart, Moulier Sisters, Wedburns, Will Poluski, jun., Woodhouse and Wells, Ian Colquhoun, Ruth Lytton, Five Osranis, Blake and Amber, Bioscope, Alice Norton.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
G. H. Elliott, Madge Osmond, Lloyd's Wolfhounds, Haley's Garden of Girls, Cruikshank, "Beauty and the Burglar," The Haytors, Tom Parker, Bioscope, Toft's Statuary.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
"The Spy," Harry Anderson, Starr and Leslie, "Casey's Court," Winnie Derson, Marie Weston, Bioscope, Oswald Williams.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
R. A. Roberts, Miles Stavordale Quintette, Poluski Bros., Lottie Govell, Eric, Lily Burnand, Mark Merry, Elise Claire, Launceston Elliott, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Harry Randall, Marguerite Broadfoote, Ellis Barrieton, Æolians, Esta Stella, Whalen and West, Bros. Corcoran, Conn and Conrad, Bioscope, Westland.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Millie Lindon, Alexandre and Hughes, Walter Munroe, Orpheus, Harry Weldon, Joe Reichen's Dogs, Morton and Bowman, George Leonard, Bioscope, Herbert Carter and Co., in "Punchinello."

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
The Craggs, Ray Wallace, Caselli Sisters, Eida and Falco, Rochez's Dogs, Three Prestons, Johnson and Bert, Wyndham and Kitty, Bioscope, Marie San Toi and Co.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Fred Karno's Co., in "Suburbia," Chas. Vincent, Vernon Troupe, Kitts and Windrum, Three Dumonds, Takio, Illustrated Song, Rochez's Monkeys, Little Tina, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
The Australian Woodcutters, Lily Langtry, Lizzie Fletcher, Arthur Lennard, Andos Troupe, Selma Braatz, Sid Cotterell and Co., Will H. Fox, Mariedl, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Kate Carney and Co., Lil Hawthorne, Dutch Daly, Narow Bros., Max Gruber, Addie Dorina, Frank Couch, Terry and Lambert, Illustrated Song, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
George Gray and Co., in "Parson Gray, V.C.," George Formby, Musical Johnstones, Rauschle, Celtic Comedy Trio, Amy Clevere, Bros. O'Gorman, Eda Mardy, Bioscope.

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Rehearsal at 3, for :—
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Ferguson and Mack, Fred Lincoln, Sleedo's Troupe, O'Gust, Eadie and Ramsden, Sinclair and Parr, Ina Lorrimer, Tom Jones, Bioscope.

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Rehearsal at 1, for :—
George Robey, Ethel Hayden, The Leonards, Sisters Pine, Le Gay Quartette, Howard and Harris, Clement Trio, Mabel Sinclair, Chas. Pastor, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for :—
Victoria Monks, Park's Eton Boys, J. W. Rowley, Ella Dean, Lowell and Lowell, Russell Wallett, Whit Cunliffe, Lockhart's Elephants, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"Rogues of the Turf," Mdlle. Eldee, Tribune Trio, J. B. Preston, Hooker and Davis, My Fancy, Martinecks, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, T. E. Dunville.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Rich and Rich, Elsie Robey, Ross and Lewis, El Tampico Trio, "Aunt Matilda," Signor and Madame Borelli, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Queenie Leighton, Klein and Clifton.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
"Duchess of Tooting," Harry Grey, Boyd and Gilfain, Lyons Trio, Bros. Egbert, Anna Kenwick, Alf Chester, Rose Hamilton, Lauder's Chronomegaphone, Athas and Collins.

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EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
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THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
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EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Henry Coutts and Co., Paulinetti and Piquo, Rossi Ashton, Olive and Owen, Sisters May, Sid Bandon, Menotti, Bioscope, Frank Leon.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
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Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Harry Ford, Pearce and Ward, May Fallowfield, Mayfair Comedy Quartette, Fred Tenby, McDonald and Huntington, Bioscope, Paul's Six Juggling Girls.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.
G. H. Chirgwin, The Betsons, Nellie Randall, Les Decars, Clare Greta, R. H. Douglas, Bioscope, The Kirbys.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Chanti, Jock Walker, Edie King, Victor Travers, The Two Bees, Lyster and Cooke, Oliver Conroy, Bioscope, Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Astley's American Circus, George Acre, Rose and Maidment, Jimmy Shields, Hans and Lux, Cavalli, Bioscope, Arley's Combination, &c.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
Lady Mansel's Juveniles, Adeline Yohle, George Antill, Sisters Love, Kroney Brothers, Two Wiltons, James Kurry, Eily Adair, The Haverleys, Harry Zetter, Bioscope, McConnell Trio.

PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE.
Ethel Whiteside and Pics., S. Bartle, Webb and Branston, Marie Neilson, Harry Wenburn, Minnie Fenton, Beaufort, John Lloyd's Gondolier Glee Singers, Bioscope, Gertie Gitana.

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(Pelham and Rule).
Sung by MARK ADAMS.

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(Pelham and Rule).
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"DEAR LITTLE TYROLESE."
(Harrington and Tate).
Sung by Miss FLORRIE GALLIMORE.

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(Written, Composed, and Sung by Harry Marlow)

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(Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford).
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General-Manager, HARRY MCKELVIE.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.
NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL, Monday, Sept. 2.
Rehearsal, 12.30. Fred Karno's Company, in "HIS MAJESTY'S GUESTS," New Operascope, &c.
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(No excuses entertained.)
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Corman's Juveniles,
The Three Orros,
The Woodwards,
Richardson Troupe,
Brothers Curran,
Canard,
Effie Stuart,
Pictures.
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Artists please note that when stage staff are required on Sunday, according to the "award" their time must be reckoned from that given in "call."
In cases of emergency after office hours, Mr. Baugh may be consulted at the Foresters' Theatre, Lambridge-road, E.
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FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, SEPT. 2, 1907.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Sisters Iris, Percy Curry, Sisters Jonghmans, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Arthur Albert, Le Cren Trio, Nora Stockelle, Three Dreadnoughts.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Three Demons, Brothers Ashley, Sisters Morgan, Harry Bancroft, Emmie Ames, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Madoline Rees, Metz and Metz, Marba and Verity.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
"King for a Day," Leon Dixon, Lord, Murray, and Lord, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Mollie Woolstenhulme, Lew Towers, Bennett and Martell.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Conway and Leland, Gintaro, Burnetti, Robb Gilmore, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Sisters Cora, Willie Gardner, Findens.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Fanny Wentworth, W. B. Raby, Tennyson and Wallis, Beau-Ideals, Custances, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Bert Weston, Claymores, Chas. R. Whittle.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Will Driscoll, Pictures, Louie Du Cane and Co., Charles Gardner, The Two Zampas, Daisy Hicks, Queenie Hall.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"The Prodigal Parson."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"The Midnight Mail."

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"Worst Woman in London."

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Alfred Lester, Tally-Ho Trio, Cambo, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Bert and Dora, Alf Ripon, Jack Rae, Bains and Reed.

PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.
Alexandra Dagmar, Mlle. De Rose, J. H. Hawtrey, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Harry Simms, Dale and Vale, Chapman and Cairns, Cole and Rags.

PALACE & HIPPODROME, CARDIFF
Six Brothers Luck, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Mersano, Rosalie Jacobi, Diamond and Beatrice, Pyck Tholl and Taylor, Bert Coote's Girls, Lawson and Namon.

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will open in September.

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Vaudeville Sketch Co., Ada Parker, A. E. Clifford, John E. Coyle, Cosgrove and Burns, Elvio Trio, Dome, Nellie Coleman, Fred Hallam, Cullen, Carthy, and Cluley, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Ernie Williams.

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FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Sisters Marion, Oakdene, Albert and Edmunds' Sketch, "Neighbours," Harley and Hardon, Kavados, Flo Melville, Ralston Boys, The Spanish Goldinis, Harry Desmond, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Arnold Bell and Co., Florence Wood, Fred Walker, Joe Oliver, Mabel Le Roy, Rosie Gaston, Reilly and Templeton, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, J. H. Carney, Billy Hubbard, Spangles and Sawdust.

SURREY THEATRE.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
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Code Word, CLUB.

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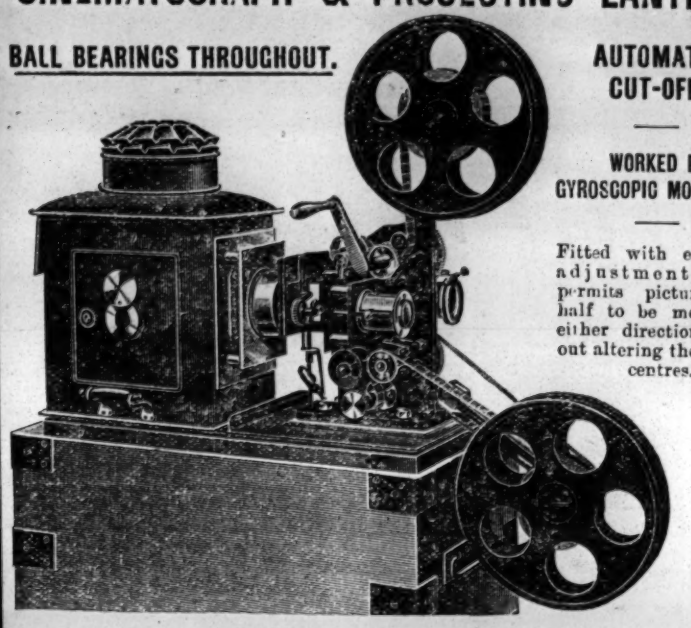

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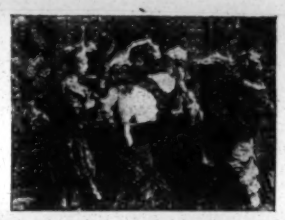

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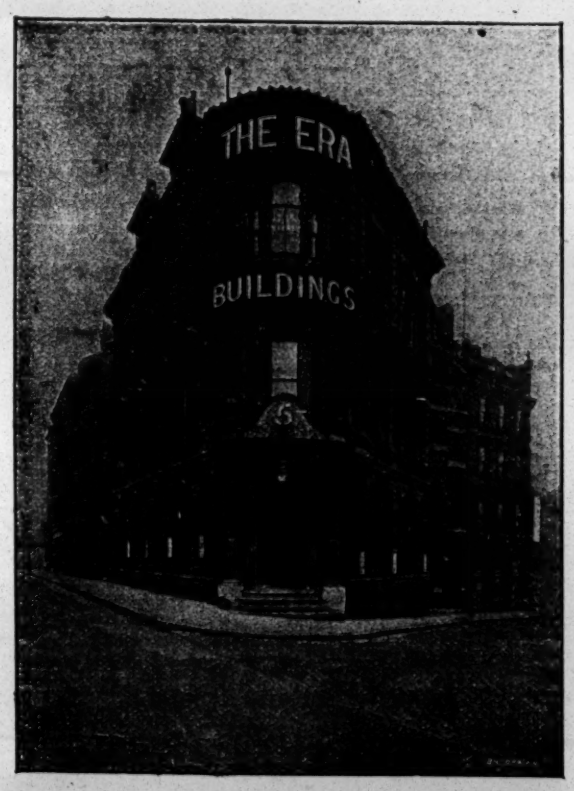

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for 1907, published at a shilling from 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, is, as usual, a happy combination of record, almanac, and literary symposium. The last-mentioned aspect is one that most commends the work to the lay reader. The literary contributions are signed by well-known artists who have contributed personal experiences of remembered incidents, and whose portraits adorn the pages. A touch of pathos is lent to an otherwise cheery publication by the inclusion of stage and music-hall favourites who died last year, one of whom was Mr. J. L. Toole.—Financier and Bullionist., Feb. 6.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
The "Era Annual" for 1907 is now out. It is full of good things, and will be eagerly perused by all who are interested in dramatic and musical affairs and personnel. Portraits of, and original contributions by, several public favourites and managers appear, including Miss Ellen Terry, who tells "How I Spend My Day"; Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Charles Collette, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Matthew Brodie, Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Edith Cole, and Mr. Tom Craven. There is, in addition, the usual store of miscellaneous theatrical information which is indispensable to all who are interested in tage matters.—Liverpool Post, Jan. 26.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
A capital shilling's worth is the "Era Annual," with its valuable lists of new plays produced during the year in London, the provinces, Berlin, and Paris. In contains, also, many readable articles by stage favourites, notably a characteristic contribution, "How I Spend My Day," by Miss Ellen Terry.—Daily Express, Feb. 2.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.—New Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews.—The boards of this popular theatre are occupied this week by Mr. Coleman Davies's company in *Beneath the Stars*. Mr. Jack McCaig makes a manly Stephen Harcourt; Mr. Arthur Vincent gives a good portrayal of Lord Sylvester; Mr. Terry Davies is powerful as the villainous Major Blonson; being ably assisted by Mr. Arthur Prescott as Silas Clipper. Mr. Coleman Davies is an original Jemmy Hopblossom; Miss Esmai Ellys a favourite as Angel Marsden; Miss Eunice Udall is a successful Becky; and Miss Mamie Winter as Pauline Petrowski is worthy of special note.

ABERDEEN.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mr. William Greet's company pays a return visit this week with *The Earl and the Girl*. The part of Jim Cheese is ably taken by Mr. Alfred Donohue, a comedian of genuine talent; Miss Florence Wix plays winsomely and sings effectively as Elphin Haye; and Miss Lina Hicks is successful as Liza Shoddam; Dick Wargrave is very capably presented by Mr. Robert Hyett; and all the other members of the company do justice to their parts. The orchestra, under Mr. W. Stephenson, puts in much good work.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Lady Mansel and her company of juveniles appear with the utmost success in a comedy speciality, *A Concert Rehearsal*; the McConnell Trio are exceedingly amusing in their vocal comedy sketches; Miss Adeline Yohle is a very pleasing vocalist; Mr. George Antill, comedian, provides an exceptionally funny turn; the Sisters Love are warmly applauded as duettists and dancers; Mr. Harry Zetter is popular both as a comedian and dancer; Mr. James Kurry makes a hit as an eccentric comedian; the Kroney Brothers cause the utmost merriment with their street character act, *London's Lazy Coalmen*; and Miss Elly Adair and the Two Wiltons are appreciated as vocalists.

Beach Pavilion.—Manager and Proprietor, Mr. David Thomson.—The Pavilion Cinematograph Show proves a great attraction this week; Miss Violet Davidson is warmly encored for her rendering of Scottish songs; Mr. Thomson is in his best vein as a vocalist-comedian; and Miss Minnie Osborne, Mr. Jack Belton, and Mr. Oswald Gray also continue prime favourites with the big audiences. The trio, Miss Davidson, Mr. Thomson, and Mr. Gray, repeat the exceedingly funny sketch, *What Right Had He to Bar the Door?*

ABERTILLERY.—Theatre Metropole.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom.—*Her Lost Self*, with Miss Frances Delaval in the leading rôle, is being well received here this week. Mr. A. Ludinoff as Norman Esmond successfully portrays the villain; the part of Wilfrid Daventry is in the capable hands of Mr. Frederick Skarth; Messrs. George Hardy and Lane Stillwell are good in their respective parts; Abraham Cohen and Rachel Cohen are realistically played by Mr. L. W. Halfpenny and Miss Rose Vernon Paget; particularly clever and pleasing is Tiny Carrie Johnson, her songs and mannerisms evoking much applause; Miss Kate Gurney is good as Bridget Malone, as also is Miss Frances Desney as Nan.

Pavilion. — Lessees, Messrs. Tilney; General-Manager, Mr. E. Pryce.—Leoni Clarke gives a truly wonderful performance with his cats, rats, monkeys, &c.; Dan Noble, comedian, causes much merriment; a capital turn is given by Stelling and his very clever dog; Ferris and Farnley are good in duo comedy; Minnie D'Aubyn is delightful in her songs and dress; the Four Berlin Belles dance and sing with every success; the Sisters Transfield give a charming musical turn, and are well received; Marie Yorke is vivacious and pleasing; and some good pictures on the Pavilion Bioscope complete.

ALDERSHOT.—Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Gladwin.—*The Bondman* is being presented in a capable manner by Mr. Wentworth Croke's company. Mr. Cecil A. Collins is a talented actor, and his Jason is one of the successes of the performance; Miss Grace Chalmers is a capital Greeba; and Mr. Arthur Bawtree depicts the rôle of Michael Sunlocks with good results; Mr. H. C. Lanceley is an excellent Adam; whilst as Father Ferrati, Mr. W. H. Rotheram is a great success. Messrs. Norman Wrighton, F. J. Waller, and Scrope Quinton also do well.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Mr. Wm. Greet's principal company is here for the week with *The Sign of the Cross*. The mounting of the play is on a lavish scale, and the company is a strong one. Miss Gladys Leslie's Mercia is a carefully-studied effort, gentle and forceful as the occasion demands; the jealous Berenice, the worldly Dacia, and the Empress Poppœa find fit exponents in the Misses Lena Gordon, Cissie Carlton, and Mary Newcombe; and a word of praise is due to Miss Dulcie Greatwich as Stephanus. Mr. Cyril Austin Lee is a scholarly Marcus, and makes good use of his declamatory powers; Mr. C. Yoke's Nero commands commendation; and good work is done by Mr. Chas. Aldred as Tigellinus, Mr. J. Wetherall as Licinius, Mr. Frank Wood as Glabrio, Mr. H. Jones as Philodemus, Mr. W. Fleet as Farius, Mr. C. Yates as Titus, Mr. R. Chapman as Melos, and others.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son.—Edwards and Espinosa, in their musical and dancing speciality, gain attention for an expert performance; Denton, Roscoe, and Galley, three colliers, show what harmony can be produced by a judicious blend of voices in the singing of homely trios and ballads; the Columbia Coloured Coons please in their *Plantation Pastimes*; and the Victorias are also sweet singers. Will Sullivan is a really funny comedian and patterer; Saddler and Ross are good as humorous cross-talkers and nimble dancers; Barton and Franklin claim attention as singers and instrumentalists; the Sivanes give an entertaining comedy speciality; the Tom Davis Trio introduce whirling the whirl, or motoring in mid-air, a very sensational act. The pictures are interesting.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chris. A. Wordsworth.—Animated pictures and illustrated songs by Miss Nellie Burke are still a big attraction here.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bert Lester.—The Trentanovi Sisters are responsible for a clever exhibition on the trapeze here; Jules Kiaro puts in some good work as an equilibrist; a sketch full of pathos and humour, entitled *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*, is given by Mr. Whimsical Walker, assisted by a juvenile; the Brothers Lavelle are quaint comedy acrobats; Mr. Clayton's "Attergraph" pictures include the Lady Godiva Pageant at Coventry and the Maniac Juggler; and a hearty reception is accorded to Walker and May, coloured duettists and dancers. The Sisters Clifton, skipping-rope dancers, and Mr. Ted Thomas, comedian, complete the bill.

Central Hall.—Lessees, Jasper Redfern, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. W. Holmes.—Animated pictures of a varied and interesting character are drawing full houses here, the series including A Sailor's Lass, Child Slavery in Italy, Short-sighted Sportsman, and Just in Time. Variety turns are contributed by the Boston Twins, humorists; Miss Renée Graham, vocalist; Mr. Joe Atkinson, comedian; and Mr. Mack Ollive and Miss Daisy Baldry, in a versatile comedy scena.

BACUP.—New Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood.—Mr. Douglas Bruce's company is paying a welcome return visit here this week with *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*. Mr. Charles Whitlock supplies a very effective portrayal of the Rev. Robert Everton; Mr. Edward Lloyd infuses the due amount of military dignity into the character of Jack England; Captain Geoffrey Caversham is skilfully represented as a thorough-paced villain by Mr. Frank Adair; Mr. George H. Asquin as Dick Bunch gets plenty of fun out of the character; Mr. Monson Thorpe is a satisfactory Detective Weathersby; and Mr. George Mitchell enacts with great ability the part of James Sutton, a repentant forger. Miss Ethel Bracewell, in the title-rôle, has much of the burden of the play resting on her, but comes through the ordeal excellently; Miss Lydia Mannington ably portrays Marian Franklin, a London mystery; Miss Joan Ellis is pleasing as Rose Seymour; and Miss Nell Burton as Lucy Vere evokes much merriment.

BARNSTAPLE.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Bridge Trustees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company, in *The Belle of Mayfair*, gave two performances here on Monday and Tuesday. Miss Winifred Preece, in the title-rôle, elicited repeated encores for her musical numbers; Miss Denny Fitzherbert, as the Princess, embodied qualities of good acting and brilliant singing; Miss Nancy York made a vivacious lady's maid; Miss Grace Mackay was a typical "Gibson" girl; Miss Constance Stevens displayed ability in the part of Lady Chaldicott; and Miss M. Vernon made a dignified Countess. Mr. S. Ravenscroft gave full effect to the amorous inclinations of Raymond Finchley; Mr. Michael Raven quickly established himself a favourite as Hugh Meredith; Mr. Sydney Burt invested the part of the old parvenu Sir John Chaldicott with rare humour; Mr. Stephen Hall exemplified in a rare degree the irascible qualities of the Earl of Mount Highgate; and Mr. Edwin Oxlee admirably enacted the idiosyncrasies of the foreign count.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Sante's company, in *The Life of a Showman*, is here. He himself plays Brien Leader in a convincing manner; Mr. Chas. Osborn is a capable Sir Noel Hartland; Mr. Morris Maud a capital Hendrick Marais; Miss Constance Medwyn plays the adventuress Agatha Winter with skill; and Miss Eileen Bamford is a clever and charming Lena Hartland.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Edward Marris's company in the musical play, *Somebody's Sweetheart*, is here. Mr. Cecil W. Park as Stanton Ashleigh sings and acts admirably, and Miss Norah Melton as the heroine, Lulu, sings and plays quite artistically; Mr. Charles E. Kay makes a successful villain, Stephen Leverton, and is ably assisted by Mr. Percy Maitland as Lem Lee, while Mr. George Brentwood proves a most humorous comedian as Blabbs.

Tivoli.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Edgar G. Laban.—Jennie Johns is a clever artist, and wins the hearts of the audiences here; Geoffreys and Benson are clever in *Spoofed*; Ada Marjutti is a flexible Venus; Syd Herman sings good character songs; and Pete and Minnie Lee supply Scotch humour.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—No more suitable engagement for the Trades Congress week than the exciting play, *Leah Kleschna*, could possibly have been arranged. Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company has been admirably selected, and in Miss Bessie Rignold, as Leah, is found a leading lady who displays sound dramatic ability and succeeds in creating a vivid impression by her graphic handling of a difficult rôle; another impersonation of intensity and power is that of Kleschna by William Clayton; Mr. William F. Grant is coolness itself as Paul Sylvain. Raoul Berton is well undertaken by Mr. Hamilton Deane; and Mr. Campbell Goldsmid makes a weird Schram.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—One of the finest comedians that has ever appeared upon the Palace stage is undoubtedly Alfred Lester, who, with the support of Miss Florence Wakeman, is winning a legitimate success this week in his latest skit, *A Restaurant Episode*; Bains and Reed do marvellous feats of acrobatism, combined with plenty of humour; Cambo, the musical monkey, plays upon many instruments pleasantly, and also puts in amusing antics; a new ventriloquist to Bath is Alf. Ripon, who introduces his dummy companion, McPherson, with every sign of favour; the Tally-Ho Trio return to further increase their popularity; Jack Rae, the comedy-gymnast and hat manipulator, is paying a welcome return visit; Bert and Dora, comedy artists, open the programme, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux complete it.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—Mr. Norman Macowan's season in Bedford comes to a close this week, a fact which will be realised with regret by the playgoing public in the town. On Monday night there was a good house to witness *A Marriage of Convenience*, and all were of opinion that Mr. Macowan is at his best in old-world plays of this description. As the Comte de Candale he was unaffected, but inspiring and impressive, and both he and Miss Violet Sterne had an excellent reception. The latter portrayed the Comtesse de Candale with vivacity, and her manner and tone were charming and refined. Miss Mary Masters gave a piquant impersonation of Martin, a French lady's maid; the Chevalier de Valclos was most successfully presented by Mr. Bernard Copping; and Mr. Murray Hathorn was, as usual, extremely good as a military man. The dresses of the piece were extremely interesting, being a faithful reflex of Parisian life in the middle of the last century. The screen scene from *The School for Scandal* fittingly brought down the curtain after a most delightful evening. *David Garrick* is being played during the latter portion of the week.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Thomas Thorne and company, under the direction of M. Russell Rosse, opened here on Monday in *Our Boys*. Mr. Thorne plays the rôle of Perkin Middlewick in his own inimitable manner, and the success secured on Monday was largely due to his efforts. The rôle of Sir Geoffrey Champneys was quite safe in the hands of Mr. M. Russell Rosse; and Mr. Rex B. Foote acquitted himself with distinction as Talbot Champneys. The part of Charles Middlewick could scarcely have a better representative than Mr. Edward Petley; and a delightful impersonation of Violet Melrose was furnished by the charming Miss Ruby Loncraine. Mary Melrose was cleverly delineated by Miss Edith Vogne; and we have nothing but praise for Miss Rachel De Travis as Clarissa Champneys, and Miss Edith Hesketh as Belinda. The romantic episode *The Setting of the Sun* forms a capital curtain-raiser. *The Guv'nor* and *Confusion* have also been presented.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Miss Cissie Lawson and company top the bill, and have been very successful in their thrilling sketch *The Davil's Sunday*; Datas exhibits his wonderful ability as a memory man; a feature of the programme is the remarkably clever entertainment provided by Darc's wonderful marionettes; Howard and Collinson appear to advantage in their original absurdity, *The Porter and the Parcel*, the dancing of the lady being very smart; and Miss Ruby Aston is a charming comedienne and fine dancer. Miss Alexandra Edwin is the happy possessor of a good voice; and also appearing are the Meynotts in their comedy sketch, *Semi-Detached*; Mr. Harry Webber, dialect comedian; Miss Gladys Huxley, comedienne; and the Palace pictures.

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The Regals, who top the bill here, have made a hit with their act, comprising many surprising feats of strength; the spectacle, *Electra's Bower*, by Abdullah and La Superbe, is certainly a beautiful stage picture; Denby and Dent's comedy act is a big attraction; and Picott and Lizette provide plenty of amusement with their illusory act, entitled *The Crazy Cook*. Carl Rosine's feats of illusion have created much astonishment; and the Sisters Brenton are fine dancers. Also here are Mlle. Rollo, the graceful gymnast; Mr. Bert Kemble, comedian; and the Hipposcope.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Miss Ella Shields, the clever coon songstress, tops the bill, and her catchy songs and exceedingly smart dancing, have delighted all; the Jackson Family, great favourites here, play a number of musical instruments to perfection; and roars of laughter greet the amusing sketch *Black Justice*, presented by Brown and Le Clerq. The Three Cape Girls, long boot dancers, have been accorded a good reception; and Miss Rosa Loader, "the Happy Slavey at the Piano," takes well. Marco, the magician, executes some amazing feats; and also here are Vernando, ventriloquial barber, and the Bioscope.

New Alhambra Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company, under the personal direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, appear this week in *The Danites*, a powerful drama. Mr. Fred Terriss impersonates the leading rôle of Sandy with admirable effect; and Miss Nina Blake-Adams furnishes a capable interpretation of the dual rôle of Nancy Williams and Billy Piper. Mr. Cyril Grier adds further to his laurels by his clever impersonation of the Judge; and Mr. Elmore Frith's interpretation of Hazekial Carter reflects much credit on the able and experienced actor. Mr. Wilford Cheetham's acting as the Parson was remarkably realistic; and Mr. Ed. Smythe as Lumber Tim was admirable in every way. Miss Kathleen Magee as the Widow furnished a clever piece of acting; and Miss Mattie Crawford and Mr. Tom H. Solly were capital as Bunker Hill and Washee. The Alhambra Bioscope, under the able direction of Mr. Hugh Beckett, exhibits a fine picture this week, entitled Algy Becomes an Athlete.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Battersby.—Under the management of Mr. Walter Steele (who also enacts Count Paul Hardiski), Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company is presenting here *The Conscript*. In the title-part (Karl Truevitch) Mr. Algernon Syms presented a capital study. He is ably assisted by Miss Lilian Rees as Nadia. Mr. W. Cowell Clarke makes a manly Ivan Manloff; whilst Mr. E. Jeffs figures well as the Sergeant of the Guard. Miss Isabel Hunt is a sprightly Wanda, and co-operates well with Mr. Harry Liddle as the Postman.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal — Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mr. Herbert Darnley's company opened here on Monday in *The Sandow Girl*. In the course of a spirited performance, Mr. Joseph B. Montague is particularly prominent with a humorous rendering of Higgins; Miss Victoria Charlton is in every way suited to the title-rôle, and acquits herself admirably; Miss Hilda Blanche plays Katarina with much acceptance; and Miss Ray Fairfax is well placed as Frau Winkleheim. Col. Klarter is well embodied by Mr. J. C. Graves; Mr. Frank Lennard is an excellent Captain Karl; and Mr. Frank Lilliput as Winkleheim and Mr. Mark Sheridan, jun., as Sergeant Strause are most efficient. Mr. Dudley Powell is musical director.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. G. Clarke.—Miss Hetty King, the popular comedienne and male impersonator, heads a very fine company, which also includes Mr. Hal Forde, the well-known comedian, and the Six Brothers Luck, Ltd., in *The Demon of the Cellar*. Other excellent turns are contributed by Luigi Salvini, a clever young instrumentalist; the New Macs, patterers and comedians; the Sisters Dorrell, vocalists and dancers; and Miss Lizzie Storie, juvenile descriptive vocalist. The ever-welcome display by Brown's Royal Bioscope is also an acquisition.

Olympian Gardens, Rock Ferry.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton.—A most enjoyable Pierrot entertainment is supported by Miss Mona Vivian (the Child Wonder), Miss Harriet Greene (soprano), Mr. Fred Barnes (comedian), Miss Florence Beech (comedienne), Mr. C. D. Reekie (comedian), and Mr. Forshaw Kershaw (pianist).

The Tower, New Brighton.—Manager, Mr. William Holland.—Mr. John Teller's comedy-ballet *Monte Carlo*, the Brothers Redmond, eccentric comedians, and the ballet divertissement *Wonderland* are among the chief attractions here.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*Robin Hood* is back here, with Mr. Lewis Waller and Miss Nora Lancaster in the chief parts. Mr. Waller's gay and debonair, and withal resolute, investment of the rôle, carries everything before him; and Miss Lancaster as Marian makes a thoroughly ideal representative of the part. Mr. Frank Woolfe is a kingly Richard; the part of Prince John is in the capable hands of Mr. Shiel Barry; Little John has a worthy exponent in Mr. Herbert Jarman; Friar Tuck is very acceptable in the person of Mr. Charles Rock; Miss Dora Barton plays charmingly as Marian's attendant, Adela; Mr. Cecil Cameron vocalises mellifluously as Allan A'Dale; Mr. Owen Roughwood makes a brave Will Scarlet; and Miss Eleanor May as Alison Much is amongst the other serviceable contributors to this charming play, which, by the way, has been much improved since its production last October at the Prince of Wales's here.

Prince of Wales's Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston. — *What the Butler Saw* is exercising the risible faculties of the Prince of Wales's audiences to the uttermost. Mr. Lionel Rignold as the butler, Pink, is a pattern of comedy, and comes as fresh and popular as ever; Miss Ada Blanche's charming and tireless vivacity as Mrs. Barrington is another welcome feature in the performance; Miss Eleanor Gilbart's study of Miss Foden is cleverly conceived; Miss May Hart is noteworthy in the part of Sophonisba; Miss Julie St. George is well engaged as Mrs. Hake; Miss Mona Garland does admirably as Marie; Mr. Chas. Fawcett acts in a cheery spirit as Jack Barrington; Mr. Cyril Harrison is self-contained and manly as Sir Charles Foden; and the amusing traits of General Dunlop, Abraham Weinstein, and Prof. Shale are all visible in the acting of Mr. George Ascot, Mr. H. H. Rignold, and Mr. Roy Byford respectively. The other rôles are all in good hands.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood.—*Sapho*, as presented here by Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company, is an engrossing study of Parisian life, which holds the audience riveted to the end. Miss Ada Abbott plays the heroine's part with complete understanding, displaying all the fascinations and cajoleries incidental to the rôle; Mr. Ernest R. Abbott realises the callow provincial to the life, and the after-emotions of the lover are exceedingly well simulated; Mr. Frank Stephens does a lot of good work as Uncle Cesaire; Mr. Weedon Ross is successful as Legrand; Mr. Charles Tring gives an effective portrayal of the felon, Flamant; and the entire cast does well, including Mr. W. H. Garbois as Dechelette, Mr. John Lester as Caoudal, Miss Dorothy Lesleigh as Lucy, Miss Louise Gilmore as Aunt Divonne, and Miss Hetty Jones as Joseph. Mr. Edwin Keene as D'Arac contributes a number of clever musical and humorous specialities.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Tyrant* appears here, with Miss Marie Dagmar's and Mr. Fred C. Somerfield's powerful company. Mr. Somerfield's assumption of the avenger, Homodei, is a powerful and impressive performance, which compels applause and respect; Mrs. Walter Bentley gives a finished and telling portrayal of Tisbe; Mr. Roy Fortescue plays the tyrant's rôle, Angelo, to the utmost advantage; Miss Margaret Trame acts as the wife, Lady Catherine, in a clever and experienced style; Mr. Edward E. Louis gives an interesting picture of the Prince, Rudolph; Miss Lallah Shelton is very pleasing as Eulie; Miss Vida Hazlewood merits praise as Daphne; and Miss Gertie Reed as Reginella, Mr. Percy Brown as Victor, and Mr. Wilton Drury as Nobbo contribute to the success.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Best Must Win* is the attraction this week, portrayed by Mr. Valentine Beadon's company.—Mr. Sidney C. Cranston, under whose direction the play is produced, arouses the utmost admiration with his vigorous assumption of the hero, Paul Dumaresq; Mr. Edward M. Heanley as the Panther, otherwise the Marquis de Marcel, is a powerful character; Mr. Harold Turner shines in a humorous manner as his satellite, Juan Minos; Mr. Valentine Beadon makes much of the old blind soldier, Sabretache; Miss Cicely Desmond combines the rôles of Therese Dumaresq and Lucilla La Flanche with much adaptability and effect; Miss Daisy Humphreys gives a very engaging portrayal of the heroine, Denise; and the comic relief is well served by Mr. Herbert Woodin as Jacques and Miss Madge Palmer as Suzette. The others are also very good.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles. — *The Assassin* figures here with Mr. Augustine Knight's company. Mr. Knight's contribution to the play as Prince Demetri is a powerful and well-marked performance; Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson shares in the success largely as the young soldier, Ivan Ipanoff; Miss Ella Vane is held in awe and much admiration in the assassin's rôle, Wanda; Miss Eva Trevanna is sympathetic in her acting as Nita, the Prince's victim; the sombre moments of the play are well relieved by the clever sallies of Miss Hettie Senior as the vivacious Connie, supported by Mr. Edward Swinton as the Baron; Mr. Tom J. Taylor as Peter and Miss Marie Robertson as Katrina also being appreciated for their humour. Mr. Theo Balfour, Mr. Edward Fryer, Mr. Edwin Jenner, and Mr. W. Roberts are the other most valuable supporters.

Empire.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—An artistic and unique collection of living statuary is on view this week under the able direction of Mr. Albert Toft; G. H. Elliot, "the Chocolate-Coloured Coon," gives some very pretty songs, and delights all by his graceful dancing; a funny interlude by the Haytors, entitled *Cabby and His Fare* causes roars of laughter; another little sketch, *Beauty and the Burglar*, is also cleverly presented by Miss Engler and Co.; Lloyd's Siberian Wolfhounds claim special attention; the "Garden of Girls" are natty dancers; Cruikshank, the clown, is particularly funny; and Happy Tom Parker concludes the bill.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thos. Barrasford.—Fred Karno's company leads the way here in *Saturday to Monday*; Mr. Rolando Martin as the railway porter is very funny; Gus Harris, the Hebrew delineator, appears in a well-written monologue; and the Waldrons, knockabouts, Stewart and Morgan, in a vocal scena, Billy Williams, as great a mirth-maker as ever, the Three Royal Temples, operatic vocalists, P. A. Hope, baritone, and Freddie French, comedian, increase the attractiveness of the entertainment.

Gaiety.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Bella and Bijou are having a good reception here; Chas. Mildare, in a whistling scena, the Four Jumels, in a clever musical act, Florence Esdaile, the Australian Nightingale, Cliff and Kean, comedians, Ike and Will Scott, comedians, and Cissie Curlette, mimetic vocalist, are also in the bill.

Bordesley Palace. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Messrs. Percy Ford and Edward C. Webb's company is presenting *The Spy*, the chief characters being ably played by Mr. Lionel d'Aragon, Mr. George Hanbury, and Miss Eugénie Magnus. The Casey Court Midgets are making a welcome return visit; Oswald Wiliams, illusionist, in a notable entertainment, is ably assisted by Winifred La Barte and Co.; Harry Anderson, Marie Weston, Starr and Leslie, and Winne Dersan are also entertaining.

Curzon Hall.—Mr. Waller Jeffs has thoroughly established himself here as a leading entertainer. The pictures this week are attracting great attention.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Eden Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's company is paying a return visit here in the ever-welcome *Chinese Honeymoon*. Miss Kitty Clayton is seen in her clever impersonation of Fi-Fi, quite convulsing the audience by her funny rendition; Mr. Leo Kloss performs exceptionally well as Hang Chow; and Mr. Ernest Sefton is diverting with his humorous presentation of Mr. Pineapple. Soo-Soo is charmingly delineated by Miss Lydia Bland; Miss May Davies is an ideal Mrs. Pineapple; and Miss Alma Bolton as Mrs. Brown, "the official mother-in-law," adds considerably to the merriment of the piece. Mr. Frank G. Dunn as Tom Hatherton is capital. Other artists who stand out prominently are Mr. Louis Ashmeade (Chippie Chop), Mr. Lindsay Harman (Hi Lung), and the Misses Madge Davis and Sybil Ross (the Bridesmaids).

BLACKBURN. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—Variety holds sway at this theatre, the entertainers being Dr. Walford Bodie and the company of artists. The doctor proves as attractive a turn as ever, his electrical experiments being extremely interesting and amusing, while he has been consulted by many local people whose limbs are crippled, and to whom he has given advice, and treated others nightly on the stage with his "bloodless surgery" method. There is an excellent variety entertainment also, the artists including the Tokio Troupe of Japanese acrobats; Bella Skene, burlesque actress; Little Dollie Robson, child performer; the Musical Acmes; Tom Mills, actor vocalist; Helen Henri, ballad vocalist; and Tom Duriah, comedian.

New Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. Lester Collingwood's company is appearing here in *When London Sleeps*.

Palace Theatre of Varieties. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—A good entertainment is given by the Three Demons, cyclists on the Devil's table; Harry Bancroft, comedian; the Brothers Ashley; Marba and Verity, acrobatic dancers; Emmie Ames, vocalist; Madoline Rees, comedienne; Metz and Metz, comedians; and the Sisters Morgan, duettists and dancers.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. H. B. Irving has met with the most cordial reception on making his first appearance in Blackpool this week. He is supported by a capable company, with the result that the various plays in which he is appearing have been presented in a very complete manner. As Mathias in *The Bells*, which was Monday night's attraction, Mr. Irving's acting created a deep impression; Mr. Bernard Limpus did well as Christian, and Mr. Charles Dodsworth assumed with success the part of Father Walter; Miss Gwladys Wynne gave the utmost satisfaction as Annette, and the minor parts were also in capable hands. *Charles the First* was played on Tuesday, when Mr. Irving scored another success in the title-rôle, and Miss Frank Tyars as Oliver Cromwell and Miss Dorothy Green as Queen Henrietta Maria rendered excellent support. *The Lyons Mail* was announced for Wednesday.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Mr. George Edwardes' company is again reaping a rich harvest here this week with *See-See*, in which Miss Denise Orme plays the title-rôle with all her well-known charm and ability, and Mr. Frank Danby is seen at his best as Hang-Kee. Other successes are attained by Mr. W. H. Rawlins, who plays the part of Cheoo, and Mr. Leonard Mackey as Yen. Mr. Mackay's singing is always warmly appreciated in Blackpool. Favourable mention should also be made of Miss Maud Boyd (Mai-Yai), and Misses Sybil Grey, Octavia Barry, and Lilian Hewitson, who appear as Cheoo's wives. The staging and dresses may be described as lavish.

Palace Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Another big programme is provided here this week. Topping the bill is Roland, the wonderful illusionist; then come Harrison Brockbank and company in a nautical sketch; Norman and Leonard Trio in a clever musical turn; Frank Lister and company, who again score a triumph in their dramatic sketch, *No. 99*; Ruth Molloy, a very clever mimic; Lupino Brothers, eccentric comedians; Brothers O'Brien, comical gymnasts; Johnny Walker, comedian; E. E. Ford, the Australian "Sundowner"; and Harry Rogerson, the "tired" comedian. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope still shows the pictures.

Hippodrome. — General-Manager, Mr. T. P. Duignan.—Visitors here this week are in no wise disappointed with the fare provided for them. Abel and Welch are a pair of exceedingly clever eccentrics, and meet with a warm reception at every performance; Slippere, the blind entertainer, is also well received, and the Avrignys are jugglers of the first order; capital turns are also provided by Annie Cohen, vocalist; Will Toole, comedian; Lottie De Albry, character impersonator; Stanley Four, in a musical act; Alma Obrey, comedienne; George Huntley, with his performing animals, and Bob Baxter, comedian.

North Pier Pavilion.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. James Walker. — A humorous and musical entertainment is provided here twice daily this week by Mr. Sydney James's Royal Strolling Players. Included in the combination are Messrs. Victor Wallace, G. W. Desmond, Sydney James, and Misses Seymour James, Clarice May, and Madeline Rossiter, all excellent artists in their respective lines.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. James Bell has presented, with every success, here this week the drama entitled *The Idol of Paris*, in which the talented actress, Miss Annie Bell, appears as Flare Flare, a variety star, and scores a success. The company supporting is worthy of every praise.

Gaiety.—Lessee, Mr. George E. Good.—An excellent variety company, in addition to the Bioscope, is attracting good houses.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Tudor.—A fine series of pictorials is displayed here with success.

BOLTON. — Theatre Royal, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. B. Lloyd.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company is here this week, with *East Lynne*. Miss Julia Kennard displays considerable ability in her interpretation of Lady Isabel; Mr. E. Maule Cole fills well the part of Francis Levison; and Mr. Alfred Beaumont is an effective Archibald Carlyle.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Good houses assemble here at the two shows given nightly by Foreman and Fannan, cross-talk comedians; J. G. Aitken, Scotch comedian; the Sisters Russell, burlesque artists; Dan Conroy, comedian; Les Voces, operatic duettists; the Two Bostons, in burlesque; Marlo, juggler; the Westwoods, in a daring cycle act; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE. — Muncaster Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—The Muncaster Stock Company is this week presenting *East Lynne*, Mr. Stanley S. Gordon acting admirably as Archibald Carlyle, and Miss Effie Macintosh's Cornelia Carlyle being very effective; Sir Francis Levison as portrayed by Mr. A. D. Adams was praiseworthy; Miss Nina Vaughton's impersonation of Lady Isobel is given with much pathos; and Miss L. Radbourne is good as Barbara Hare.

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—A good bill is put before the patrons of this house, vocal turns being prominent. William Lee, ably assisted by Helen Bentley and company, give a humorous farce; Arthur Croxon, as a mimic, would be hard to beat; the Sisters Aindow present an instrumental turn, which is greatly appreciated; Leah appears to advantage in her song-scena, "Cinderella"; Rosie Archer mimics well-known variety stars in unsurpassable style; the Sisters Wingrove are a pair of charming dancers and duettists; and Pat Rafferty and the pictures are included in the programme.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Sons; Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—Baron H. Harriss's company is here with *The Prince of Pilsen*. Mr. Harry Kilburn as Hans Wagner scores a great success; Mr. Frank Crimp makes a fine, manly figure of Carl Otto, singing and acting well; Miss Sophie Harriss repeats her clever performance of the part of Miss Maddison Crocker; Miss Connie Leon as Sidonie, the French maid, is a charmingly clever little artist, whose dancing is encored; Miss Minnie Muir as Nellie Wagner sings her songs daintily; and included in the cast were Mr. S. Lindon Lang as Lieut. T. Wagner, Mr. Bernard Russell as the Earl of Shrimpton, Miss Mollie Wynne as Jimmie; while the excellent rendering of the French waiter by Mr. Ernest Gifford must not be forgotten.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J.

Arthur Slater is a clever whistler; Herbert Clifton, vocal mimic, is enthusiastically received; the Columbia Comedy Trio submit a good humorous musical turn; Horace Wheatley is a capital comedian; Will Goodwin, vocal comedian, merits praise; Ailsa Douglas sings in good style; and the Barrascope pictures are entertaining.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman. — Mr. E. Taylor Platt's company opened here on Monday with *You Never Can Tell*. Mr. Lewis Casson gave a fine impersonation of Bohun; Mr. Edmund Gwenn submitted a clever character study as William, the old waiter; Miss Mary Barton was distinctly successful as Gloria Clandon; Miss Penelope Wheeler acquitted herself admirably as Mrs. Clandon; Mr. Trevor Lowe as Finch McComas, Mr. P. Clayton Greene as Valentine, Mr. Edmund Gurney as Fergus Crampton, and Mr. Norman Page as Philip Clandon, were well suited; and Miss Amy Lamborn was a delightful Dolly Clandon.

PALACE PIER THEATRE. — Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope again provides capital afternoon and evening entertainments here.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. George Musgrove's company (under the direction of Mr. J. Bannister Howard) is here for the week, with *The Belle of New York*, the play being excellently staged. Miss Hebe Kneller is pleasing as Violet Grey, both singing and acting the part well; Miss Olive Lenton presents an interesting and captivating study of Fifi Fricot, singing with much expression and dancing in dainty style; Miss Florence Hersee is admirable as Mamie Clancy—she hits off the characteristics of the part admirably, and is an exceptionally clever dancer; Miss Winnie Browne is seen to advantage as Cora Angelique, and in the concluding scene is associated with Mr. J. A. Watts in the Parisian dance, "La Kraguette"; Mr. Ernest Mozar does well as Harry Bronson; Mr. Paddy Duprez makes the most of Ichabod Bronson; Mr. J. R. Tate amuses as Pimpernick; Doc. Snifkins and Kenneth Mugg are satisfactorily taken by Mr. Alfred Sandoe and Mr. Walter Uridge; and Mr. Frank Lawton scores his customary success as Blinky Bill, his dancing, whistling, and bone solo in the second act being much applauded. Several pleasing specialities are introduced, notably a song and dance duet, "A moolight dip in the briny," by Miss Olive Lenton and Mr. Frank Lawton, assisted by the chorus and dancers, and a coon song and dance by Miss Florence Hersee and chorus.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. T. Alty.—*A Girl's Cross Roads* is being played here by Mr. Walter Melville's company, the drama being both staged and acted well. Miss Hilda Beverley presents a powerful exposition of Barbara Wade, her acting being realistic to a high degree of excellence; Mr. Charles Franmore's study of John Meadows is decidedly clever; Jack Livingstone and Dr. Weston have good exponents in Mr. Wilson Gunning and Mr. Cyril Vernon; Miss Isla Garnet Vayne is highly sympathetic and effective as Constance Cornell; Miss Florence Kelsey acts in a telling manner as Nellie Meadows; Mr. Gerald Jordan is consistent in the unpopular part of Cuthbert Lumley; Mr. Fred Withers hits off a good character sketch of Luke Ramsden; and Miss Fay Garnet Vayne and Mr. Fred Ingram are capital in the comic parts of Tilly Vane and Toby Turvey.

PALACE. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Chirgwin, the white-eyed Kaffir, is here for the week, and proving attractive. Amongst his other specialities, his rendering of the old song, "She wore a wreath of roses," proved to be especially attractive; the Kirbys amuse considerably as comedy and burlesque entertainers; R. H. Douglas is successful as a monologue artist; Claire Greta is a pleasing and accomplished vocalist; the Betsons have a good comedy cycling sketch, *A Tramp's Holiday*; Nellie Randall is an attractive comedienne; and Les Dicars score with their comedy sporting sketch, *Off to the Races*. The performance concludes with excellent animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Living statuary is the leading attraction here, the poses of Clito in classical subjects being admirably artistic and effective; the Francis Harold company is presenting an effective dramatic and mystic sketch, *The Enemy of Man*, Mr. W. J. Mackay acting well as Satan; J. W. Rickaby, comedian, has some amusing songs and patter; Mlle. Yeto does some surprisingly clever acts upon the wire; Terry and Bentley amuse with their singing, dancing, and acrobatic business; Carlotta Levy, comedienne, is highly successful; Johnny Johnston is a versatile musical comedian; Kempton and Murdock amuse with their tramp comedy act; and the performance concludes with interesting animated pictures.

COLSTON HALL.—Pringle's animated pictures are here for a short season. The variety entertainment includes the Lizzette Troupe of lady acrobats, &c.; the Godfreys, in their musical mélange; and other items of interest. The band is a good one, and the attendance is highly satisfactory.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *Florodora* was welcomed on Monday by a large audience. Mr. Fred Eastman as Tweedlepunch was excruciatingly funny; Mr. J. H. Fox well sustains the part of Frank Abercoed; Miss Maisie Ellinger as Dolores was successful with her singing; Miss Edith Housley made a smart Lady Holyrood; Miss Marion Armitage as Angela Gilfain gained much approval for her singing and dancing; Mr. Harold Perry also did well as Capt. Arthur Donegal; Mr. Edmond Russell was "all there" as Cyrus W. Gilfain.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Chung Ling Soo gives a bewildering mystic performance here; the Royal Zerbinis, in *The Enchanted Glen*, contribute some pretty music; Fred Carey is an original comedian; and Kronin gives some smart impersonations of well-known people. Carozi and Keith are good jugglers; and Keegan and company, in a bicycle absurdity, do some smart tumbling. Bob Hamilton, Scotch comedian, introduces a concertina solo; Kathleen Cogan has two pretty songs; and the Twin Brothers Dean are clever dancers and whistlers.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The Martelloni Family, lady acrobats, are loudly encored here; the Marvellous Avolos do smart somersaults from perpendicular poles; Freddy and Carman play on musical instruments exceedingly well; clever dancing is done by the Gilberts; and Mr. F. C. Edwards, baritone vocalist, is loudly applauded. Wild, Willie, and West are very funny; the Three Lancashire Harmony Boys are highly appreciated; and the Empire Theatroscope is admired.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE (NEW HIPPODROME).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller. — Mr. Fred Karno's company, with *His Majesty's Guests*, is appearing here. Mr. George Hestor as Sergeant Lightning is a host in himself; Mr. Frank Morton (the possessor of a good voice) is telling as Lord Easem; Mr. Charles Usher (an old favourite here) is natural as Mr. Miffin; and Miss Leonora Castelle (who has a fine presence) does well as Lady Maud Easem.

BURY (LANCS.). — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant Manager, Mr. Frank Marks.—A very fine programme here includes La Milo, in her classical representations; other turns embrace condensed versions of *The Bohemian Girl* and *Maritana*, by Messrs. Frank Pemberton, Albert Chapman, Vere Vizard, and Evelyn de Lara; Chas. Norton, imitator of popular comedians; Bros. Phillipi, acrobats; Lorna Deane, dancer; Ivey Aberdare, sand dancer; and Halma, a very clever juggler.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—Thompson Wood's Juvenile Stars appear in a musical sketch, entitled *A Gipsy's Holiday*; the Five Musical Tritons give a good turn; and the Wakeman Quartette; *Crossing the Alps*, by Keith and Merson's company; Charles Rowen, comedian; and Angelo, lightning painter, are all worthy of special mention.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS. — THEATRE ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Penleve.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's No. 1 company is here this week in *A Country Girl*, which is nightly filling the house. New dresses and scenery, added to sundry fresh numbers, make the play more attractive than ever. Mr. Coningsby Brierley brings down the house as Barry; and Mr. Anthony Gordon does remarkably well as Geoffrey Challoner. Miss May Rawlinson as Marjory, and Miss Nellie Deneney as the Princess, sing delightfully; Miss Poppy Wilkinson is a vivacious Sophie; and Miss Eilaline Thorne a saucy Nan. The company is strong in numbers, and the chorus singing excellent.

BUXTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—For Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday this week we have Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in *The Blue Moon*. A good audience enjoyed the piece immensely, and it was most capably played. Mr. Alfred Clark endowed the part of Major Vivian Collabone with the go so necessary to such a character; and Mr. J. Edward Fraser was satisfactory as Captain Jack Ormesby; Mr. Horace Mauger played his small part of Bobbie Scott well; and Mr. Alfred Burs was greatly appreciated as Moolraj. Mr. Reginald Sivtz was very funny as Private Charles Taylor; and Mr. H. Asheton Tonge acted most acceptably as Prince Badahur. Miss Laura Leycester was well suited to the part of Lady Augusta Brabraham; and Miss Ida Stratbain made Evelyn Ormesby a dainty personage. Miss Clarice Lockstone sang brilliantly as Chandra Nil; and Miss Maud Aston was a sprightly Millie Leroy.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*The Lion and the Mouse* is again presented here this week by Mr. Walter Maxwell's principal company. Miss Christine Silver delights her audience with her clever rendition of Shirley Rossmore; Mr. Leslie Carter's impersonation of the financier, John Burkett Ryder, is a skilful and painstaking study; as Jefferson Ryder, Mr. Gordon McLeod would be hard to improve upon; the little seen of Miss Evelyn M. Read as Kate Roberts makes one wish for a longer acquaintance with this taking little lady; Mr. Herbert Chown is seen to advantage in his interpretation of the Hon. Bagley; and the parts of Alfred Stott, Whitmore Roberts, and Mrs. Ryder, are all excellently filled by Mr. R. A. Hartley, Mr. John Wheatman, and Miss Maude Townsend respectively.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*Her Nameless Child* is successfully produced here this week by Mrs. Sam Duckworth's company. The drama is well staged, is full of exciting incidents, and does not fail to win appreciation from large audiences.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—The head of the bill here this week is taken by C. W. Somerset and company, in the intensely romantic sketch, *The Great Poison Case*, and enthusiastic audiences show their appreciation of Mr. Somerset's fine rendering of Dr. Robert Floyd; Miss Agnes Russell is to be congratulated upon her portrayal of Barbara Merrick; and another meritorious piece of acting is that of Mr. Robert Nichols as John Aston; Tom Hern, the "laziest juggler," is also a pleasing feature of the programme, his quiet antics being quite as smart as his clever tricks; the Smythsons present *Love Germs*, a screamingly funny farce; as a clever conjurer, Cull-Pitt, assisted by Mlle. Adde, would be hard to beat. The Eriks, see-saw equilibrists, Lulu Russell, Californian songstress, Frank Darwin, actor-vocalist, O'Malley and Brown, in their original comedy sketch, *You're Still a Friend of Mine*, Gertrude Bradshaw, soprano vocalist, and special pictures on the American Bioscope, complete a fine entertainment.

THE PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton. —The Six Brothers Luck have been to Cardiff before, but their increased popularity is this week proved by large audiences. Their funny, farcical absurdity, *The Demon of the Cellar*, causes unlimited laughter. An entertaining turn is that of Lawson and Namon, the former introducing clever ball-punching and the latter smart trick cycling; Charles Diamond, the world-renowned harpist, and Miss Beatrice, manipulator of the "soprano saxophone," render pleasing melodies; while Bert Coote's Yankee Doodle Girls are exceptionally smart dancers. Others on the programme are Mersano, coin and card manipulator, Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, in a potpourri of musical mélange, Rosalie Jacobi, soubrette, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, with new and interesting pictures.

CARLISLE.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—Messrs. A. Hamilton Worden and Charles V. Sandford's company is here this week in *A Woman's Past*. Miss Masie Hanbury has many opportunities of displaying her exceptional powers in the character of Bessie; Mr. T. Cook Hinton makes a convincing hero; excellent light comedy is capably contributed by Mr. Charles V. Sandford, seconded by Miss Mary Mallalieu, a charming actress. Mr. A. Hamilton Warden displays considerable ability as Clement Harper; and Mr. G. Moreton-Williams and Miss Nesta Sandford make the heavy parts prominent.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The Selbinis are the chief attraction this week; Miss Daisy James has some good songs, which she renders with excellent effect; the Voldam Bros. work hard in a smart knockabout act; and the Paolias introduce clever feats of strength and classical poses. Nell Brough sings and whistles her way into favour; Harry Fife is a capital comedian; and Edna Latonne, with catchy chorus songs, and some fine pictures by the Pepiscope, complete.

CASTLEFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Cr. Hy. Masterman.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company began a week's visit to this theatre, and on Monday played *A Modern Adventuress* to a crowded audience. Mr. Charles Draycott, as Pietro Donelli, is all that can be desired; good work is done by Mr. Arthur Mervyn as Harry Delby; Mr. Ernest J. Fare plays Wallace Danton with much skill; Mr. H. Scratchard gives a capital character sketch of the drunken Steve Meredith; Mr. David Donaldson makes the most of his opportunities as Wm. Delby; Mr. Eric Forth is well placed as Walter Beale, a detective; Miss Rosa Mervyn gives a charming performance of Vivette Delby; Miss Muriel Thompson shows great capacity as an actress in the part of Violet Meredith; Mr. Will White creates roars of laughter by his clever impersonation of John Crompton; and he is ably assisted by Miss Eva Norman as Sally Hodges. *The Heart of a Hero* is billed for to-night.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will H. Emerson.—Chief amongst an array of good things are Helene and Emilon, graceful and clever gymnasts; George Hyatt gives a really smart turn as a juggler, equilibrist, and hand-balancer; Read and Wright are popular in song and patter; A. G. Spry is a great favourite with his quaint style; The Santeron Wonders give a remarkable exhibition of high jumping; Barney Stuart is appreciated as a mimic; Les Blancs, on the bars, are clever. A successful turn is also contributed by Will Hughes, a boy coon. The Loyal Dominion Company's animated pictures close a pleasant evening.

CHATHAM.—BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Harry Champion tops the bill here, and is proving a big attraction; Phillips and Terry give one of their well-known duologues, which goes better than ever; Jack and Evelyn make a hit with *Come into the Office*; Lillie Soutter is a pert and pleasing serio; the Onyx Duo please in their quick-change act; Bert Bowden, comedian; and Jennie Hartley, complete the variety turns; while roars of laughter are created by Peter's Pranks, a film which is very clearly projected by means of Lacey's Erascope.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis.—The Three Romas supply skilful feats of strength and hand-balancing; W. H. Downs, the well-known coloured vocalist, gives a novelty act, *The Darkey's Dream*, in which he is ably assisted by a pair of smart young coons; Sam Dalton scores with "Good enough for me"; Tate and Tate are seen in an amusing trampolin acrobatic act; Lillian Travellie's most successful song is "On the Kerry coast"; the Edisonograph has a capital film, entitled Father Buys a Moke; while Jennie Lee and Gracie Lawn are popular comediennes. On Wednesday Harry Lauder paid a flying visit, and had a very flattering reception.

CHELTENHAM. — OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—The autumn season commenced on Monday evening with Charles Macdona's company in *Veronique*. Mr. Daley Cooper interprets the whimsicalities of Monsieur Coquenard in a most amusing manner; Miss Mabel Lait is a fresh and dainty Veronique; Mr. Arthur Stroud sings well as Florestan; Mr. Sidney Bracey is good as Seraphin; Miss Elsie Probyn is a charming bride; Miss Roberta Williams convinces as Mme. Coquenard; Mr. Henry Hodgkins takes the part of Felicien in promising fashion; and Mr. Oliver J. Round diverting portrays the peculiar attributes of Loulot the bailiff.

MONTPELLIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—The Royal Comedy Entertainers are paying a return visit this week. Mr. John Warren and Marmaduke are as amusing as ever; and Mr. Owen Clark, illusionist; Mr. Fred Daniells, humorist; Miss Nellie Webber, vocalist and accompanist; and Mr. Chas. Davis, baritone, are all excellent in their way.

CHESTER.—ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Quite a change of entertainment is supplied here by Mr. Lewis Waller's company in *Robin Hood*. The title-rôle is ably filled by Mr. Ethelbert Edwardes, whose representation meets with much favour Mr. B. Bellenden Clarke gives a vigorous impersonation of Prince John; Mr. Ernest Gray makes a successful appearance as Fitz Alwynne; Tracey has a suitable representative in Mr. Alex Begbie; Mr. H. Elliot Ball, who appears as Hugo de Longespec, mars an otherwise admirable performance by an indistinct utterance; Mr. Henry Lesmere makes a majestic figure of King Richard; and Mr. Leslie Rea excels in the part of John Little; Mr. C. Bruce Winston, as Friar Tuck, puts in some effective work; the Queen Dowager is cleverly embodied by Miss Madge Devereux; a like remark applies to Adela, as represented by Miss Barbara Hannay; Miss Fyfe Alexander is a delightful Lady Marion de Vaux; the part of Alison being suitably enacted by Miss Iris Lincoln.

CHORLEY (LANCS.).—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hemingway.—Mr. James Hare and company are here with *A Destroyer of Men*. As Karl Mischla Mr. James Hare is seen to advantage, Count Starevitch being excellently portrayed by Mr. C. P. Wentworth. Mr. Ross Warren humorously undertakes Coco Totchoski, his clever singing, &c., being much appreciated; Mr. Charles Coventry is good as Fedor Streltzki; as is also Mr. Arthur Swain as Colonel Linievitch. Miss Irene Clifford gives an effective impersonation of Olga; Miss Emmie Barton charmingly presents Vida Ravel; and Miss Alice Buckland vivaciously portrays Nina Pattakake.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Montague.—The attraction for the first three nights of this week was Mr. E. H. Bostock's vaudeville company, which includes De Gracia's performing elephants; Crosby and Walker, comedians; Franco Midgets; the Netas; Alix Lukos; Will, May, and Theresa; Nancy St. John, comedienne; Conan and Doyle, comedians and dancers, all of whom did well. The boards for the remaining three nights were occupied by Mrs. Ann Hughes's company with the new comic opera, *The Young Lieutenant*.

COLCHESTER.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Mr. John Tiller's company played *High Jinks* on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and concluded the week with *A Trip to Paris*. Messrs. Bob Selvidge, Teddy Gibbs, and Barney Dixon form the nucleus of a capital company; Mr. Harold Wardroper cleverly portrays the part of Flash Bill; Miss Jessie Templeton makes a charming Mrs. Dene; and Miss Minnie Cecil is nicely placed as her companion. Miss Lizzie Hay as Mary Ann dances well.

COLWYN BAY.—PUBLIC HALL.—Lessee, Mr. C. R. Chaplin.—Messrs. Adrian Hill and Robert Ayrton's company has this week been presenting *The Gambler's Daughter* to crowded houses. To the rôle of Desmond O'Dare, an Irish emigrant, Mr. Robert Ayrton imparts a deal of comedy, interspersed with pathetic passages; Mr. Alfred Sanders's Solomon is a clever impersonation of a Hebrew; John Grant, a gambler, is admirably portrayed by Mr. Richard Pitt; as the Weasel, afterwards Captain Stanhope, Mr. Frank Croft displays talent; the heavy lead is in the capable hands of Mr. A. G. Lython; Miss Adria Hill, in the dual rôle of Mildred Grant and Miriam Grant, mother and daughter, plays admirably; and Miss Harriet Loydell, as a negress, is exceptionally amusing.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance. —The attraction here this week is the Anglo-Russian drama, *Under the Czar*, presented by Mr. Wilson Howard's able company. Mr. Gerald Smythe as Captain Johnson and Mr. Wilson Howard as Nicholas Yersolaff each do justice to their respective parts; whilst that of Zakhar Kovesky is well filled by Mr. William Mathews. Mr. Fred Elvin is a good Paul Ignat; and Mr. R. Merring a creditable Michael Graneviski. Miss Madge Clare is most capable as Zara; and as Siomka Miss Violet Vivienne is all that can be desired. Miss Carlotta Anson well deserves the applause accorded her for her careful rendering of Sonia.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—A vaudeville entertainment is given here this week. Nellie Farrell, singer and dancer, is a capital artist, and her songs and dances are excellent; the Sisters Varley as duettists are pleasing; Martinett and Wallace, coloured musicians, are a clever pair; the Uniques (two ladies and a gentleman) perform wonderful feats on ladders; Harry Carsdale, the human farmyard, brought forth much mirth; Victor Newman gives interesting impersonations; Carl Howard, a crazy conjurer, wins favour; and the American Bioscope shows capital pictures.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—The Palace Theatre reopened on Monday with packed houses, and Mr. O'Brien must be congratulated on the splendid programme provided. The theatre has been renovated, and looks very bright and comfortable. The bill contains such favourites as Minnie Cunningham, who contributes capital songs, and delights her audiences; the Carlyles, in whirlwind dances, are very interesting; Charles Coverdale is an exceptionally clever comedian, and, in addition to his songs, gives some amusing patter; the Itrams supply a pretty turn on the trapeze; Fred Arthur, as vocalist and mimic, is inimitable; the Comerfords are clever acrobats; Maude Vera is a dainty coon artist; and last, but not least, E. Hoggan-Armadale (late Sir Henry Irving company) as Matthias in *The Polish Jew*, supported by a small company, gives a clever performance.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—A second visit of Mr. George Alexander's company in *His House in Order* is drawing crowded houses this week. Too much could scarcely be said in praise of Mr. Stephen T. Ewart in his intellectual and admirable rendering of Hilary Jesson. He is ably supported by Miss Grace Armytage Noble as Nina Jesson. Mr. J. Edward Pearce is successful as Filmer Jesson, M.P.; the Ridgeley family, Sir Daniel and Lady Pryce, and Geraldine, are capably taken by Mr. Geo. Fitzgerald, Miss Augusta Haviland, Mr. E. R. Holloway, and Miss Blanka Stewart respectively; and Mlle. Lilla Kehr gives a creditable rendering of the French governess.

HIPPODROME THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Lennox Barry.—A varied programme this week includes the Fourteen Black Hussars, a clever musical troupe, under the direction of Mr. Henderson Smith, whose music is very fine; Nat Clifford keeps the audience in a merry mood; Miss Kate Gourlay, Scotch comedienne and dancer, is clever; and Goodfellow and Gregson, comedy sketch artists, are equally good. The other artists are Chant and Chant, the Brothers Durrant, and the Zentrix. The entertainment concludes with capital pictures on the Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance; Manager, Mr. K. Draco.—A capital programme is being well appreciated here this week. Henry Coutts and company (including Mr. Louis Du Cane and Miss Dot Kemp) head the programme in their quick-change military episode, *Outflanked*, in which Mr. Coutts is responsible for nine distinct changes, all done with marvellous rapidity; another clever turn is given by Menotti, the Stockholm wonder, who performs the feat of attaining forty miles an hour on a single wire; the Sisters May are successful as duettists and dancers; Olive and Owen give a pleasing comedy act as *Roadside Tinkers*; Frank Leon, who has won several championships, is a very clever dancer; Sid Brandon is a capable comedian; Paulinetti and Piquo give an amusing gymnastic comedy turn; and Rossi Ashton also appears, the usual pictures concluding.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company, in *A Country Girl*, has been here for three nights. Mr. Arthur Staples introduced much humour into the part of Barry; Mr. Martin D. Pitts, a popular Geoffrey Chaloner, contributed several good musical numbers; Mr. Bernard Vaughan made a good impression as the Rajah of Bhong; Mr. David Fisher gained favour as Douglas Verity; Mr. W. O. Billington was an effective Sir Joseph Verity; Mr. Fred Carrington a good Granfer Mummery; and the rôle of Lord Anchester was in the capable hands of Mr. Ernest Louis. Miss Gladys Cristol sang and acted charmingly as Marjorie Joy; Miss Gipsy Touzeau made a captivating Sophie; Miss Poppy Dale an ideal Princess; and Miss Blanche Lynn an irresistible Nan. Mr. T. Morton Powell's company, in *Honour Thy Father*, was billed for the last three nights.

CROYDON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—*The Scarlet Patrol* is winning approval here. Mr. J. S. Durant is free and easy in the rôle of Lord Robert Cumberland; Mr. St. John Hamund submits a capital character-sketch of the part of Phineas Fogey; Mr. Arthur Stigant keeps the fun at high pressure as Nicholas Quiller; Mr. Fred Rolph is good as Mr. Cooper; Mr. Leonard Russell acts well and sings to perfection as Inspector Jury; and Mr. J. H. Bishop makes a big hit in the character of Johnny, the coloured servant. Miss Reydon Dallas vocalises sweetly, and plays charmingly in the rôle of Amazon North; Miss Florence Linton makes a fascinating Ernestine; and Miss Elsie Cooke is bright and attractive in the part of Myra Myrtle.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James.—The well-known drama, *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*, is welcomed again here this week. Mr. C. W. Charles as Col. Stockton plays with great power; Mr. Edward Leroy gives a fine portrayal of Manuel Lopes; Mr. Arthur J. Saunders is a capable representative of Captain Franklin; Mr. Guy D. Hackney submits a realistic representation of Chief Ga-ne-Gau; Mr. Alfred Lafolle earns distinction as Sam White; and Mr. Edwin Millens as Carrie Cullen is greatly appreciated. Miss Blanche Leroy ably sustains the rôle of Nellie Stockton; Miss Jessie Hart wins credit in the part of Miss Matilde Sniffles; and the title-rôle is maintained by Miss Go-Won-Go-Mohawk in her usual telling manner.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—The Howes are giving a smart exhibition of thought transference here, and are warmly applauded; the Sisters St. Julian are high-class harmonising duettists and dancers; the Brontes, comedy duo artists, are extremely amusing; Mlle. Roza's canine hippodrome is well worth seeing; the Resuas Trio are great on the wire and in their balancing act; Queenie May is a clever comedienne; Fred Eustace and company are quite up to the mark in the dramatic sketch, *The Amber Light*; Lilian Elfreda, mimic, is commendable; and Harry Thurston, comedian, also appears.

PUBLIC HALL. — Messrs. Gale and Polden are giving here, for a short season, an exceptionally high-class series of animated pictures, which include scenes of life in the King's Service afloat and ashore. They are certainly the best of their kind seen in Croydon, and are being much enjoyed by crowded houses.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell. — Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and specially selected company, including Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., are here this week in a repertoire of plays, opening with *The Taming of the Shrew*. Miss Harris is charming as Katharina; Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., gives a fine rendering of Petruchio; Mr. Mark Draper excels in the part of Baptista; Mr. E. Stuart Vinden is smart as Hortensio; Mr. Aubrey Mather, as Lucentio, is successful; Mr. Robert Borland shows merit in the part of a tailor; Miss Muriel Dole, as the widow, acts well; Miss Gertrude Gilbert, as Curtis, is quite at home in the part; Miss Kate Turner, as Bianca, is good; and Mr. Claude Sykes, as Vincentio, is seen to advantage. *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Royal Oak*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Romeo and Juliet* are also in the bill.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—This week Mr. Whitmore Ledger presents Miss Hettie Jeffries' company in *A Nobleman of Nature*. The title-rôle is admirably played by Mr. Howard Coveney; Mr. Ledger is an excellent Paul Berndoff; Mr. Richard Harris as Michael shows considerable ability; and Mr. David Urquhart is a capable Philip Hampton. Miss Jeffries as Vera gains the sympathy of the audience; Miss Alvina Mining is clever as the Twin Sisters; Miss Dot Russell, a pleasing Polly Bouncer, dances well; and Mr. Dan Mining causes much amusement as Bill Drinkwater.

DERBY. — GRAND THEATRE. — Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Charles Denley and H. Taylor.—An instructive star turn is provided here this week, namely, a Ju-Jitsu exhibition, presented by Frank Long, Miss Omoya San, and company, whose efforts are highly appreciated The Four Robertys, another capital item, are remarkably clever balancers and jugglers; Little Dando, eccentric comedian, provokes as much mirth as ever; Les Zelovas, acrobatic equilibrists, are deserving of special mention; Alice Maude, a clever child mimic, is accorded hearty applause; the Melroses are diverting vaudeville artists; the Four Sisters Godfrey are pleasing vocalists and dancers; and the Bioscope is also well to the fore.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—Mr. Herbert Hollister's company is here in *The Lights o' London*. Leading parts are most ably sustained by Miss Jeannie Burgoyne (Bess), Mr. C. F. Colling (Harold Armytage), Mr. G. Wallace (Squire Armitage), and Mr. Herbert Morgan (Clifford Armytage). The humorous business is entrusted to Mr. Payne Fletcher.

DEWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—The Frank Bateman dramatic company is here with *No Wedding Bells for Her*. Miss Lizzie Montague evoked plaudits by her assiduous and faithful portrayal of Lola Delaspierre. Mr. Stuart Lomath as Frank Hatherleigh acts with distinction and polish. Miss Doris Lorraine worked hard as Doris Fane, and her portrayal is winningly refined and gentle. Mr. Percy Shaw establishes himself as a favourite by his impersonation of the Detective. Drollery of the most diverting type is supplied by Mr. Barry Lupino as Simpkins. As Peggy Miss May Lupino is piquante. Mr. Pringle Roberts as Montague Blair and Mr. Lincoln Galthorpe as Abney Stone are also notable. Miss Ethel Lawrence deserves warm praise for her performance as the old actress, and Miss Nellie Wilson is meritorious as Mrs. Eastman.

DONCASTER.—NEW THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*Her Marriage Vow* is here. Mr. Edward L. Garside is effective in the rôle of Gilbert Carlton, and Ned Benton, telegraph operator, is vividly presented by Mr. George Beverley. Mr. Dan Ryan represents Larry Leary amusingly; Mr. Wilford Bailey is a satisfactory Eben Chubb; Miss Nellie Shirley is an acceptable Hestor Norton; and a praiseworthy exposition of Almira comes from Miss Annie Beaumont.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—Mr. George Dance's principal company, in the musical play *The Beauty of Bath*, has secured considerable patronage here this week. Miss Gladys Guy acts agreeably as the Hon. Betty Silverthorne, her vocalisation charming all; Mr. Jack Crichton's Sir Timothy Bun is irresistibly funny; Mr. Bay Russell adds importance to the scheme by his impersonation of the actor Bellamy, and the Lieutenant Richard Allington of Mr. Andrew Higginson is gallant and debonair. Master Basil Clifford's work is distinctly clever, and Miss Ida Laurie and Miss Jessie Lonnen are well placed.

GAIETY THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company have been appearing here this week in *The Blue Moon* with much success. Miss Marie Wilson as Chiandra Nil is picturesque and pleasing; Miss Ethel Callanan, Miss Florence Imeson, Miss Marie Rignold, and Miss Violet Hobson play daintily in attractive rôles; Mr. Edward Lewis is droll as Moolraj; Mr. George Mudie, jun., makes a hit as Bobbie Scott, the journalist; and an undoubted success is also made by Mr. Horace Mills as Private Charles. Other characters are suitably played by Mr. Jack Cannot and Mr. Rolance Bottomley.

THE PALACE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—The Living Art Bronzes of Mme. Clasen appeal to the artistic eye; Les Cleos gain applause, and so do the Sisters Geretti on the trapeze. Mr. Fred Elton can play and sing effectively; Mr. Alf Gibson has caught on well; Miss Madge Grey is clever as an imitator; and the Firnans are smart dancers. Mr. Harry Wood's orchestra is an incentive to dancers, and Vernon's Bioscope still attracts. The special function of the week was Mr. Charles Fox, jun.'s annual benefit, which occurred on Tuesday, when, in addition to the turns already referred to, the following artists gave their services: Miss Helen Charles, the Two Falcons, Mr. Rowland Hill, the Cromwells, Misses Showell, the Imperial Russian Troupe, and the Douglas Male Choir. Mr. Robert Radford also sang, and his appearance was greeted with plaudits.

DERBY CASTLE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred J. Kelly.—The Imperial Russian troupe of dancers gain great applause. In the Bijou Opera House appear Miss Nellie Martell, a bright and vivacious actress; the New York Nippers, smart dancers; those clever acrobats, the Two Falcons; Miss Rose and Miss Florence Showell, duettists of marked capacity; Miss Helen Charles, who can whistle, mimic, and sing with effect; the Cromwells, who rely on an interesting juggling act; and Rowland Hill, a resourceful comedian. Great features here are the dance competitions.

THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. F. J. Connor.—The Brilliants, John Irvin, Du Calion, Senorita Rosa Montero, and Miss Pinder, among others, have been warmly welcomed here. Mr. Fred Buxton's Pierrots and Tea Village maintain their prestige. A talented company is engaged.

Mr. Charles Dare's Minstrels on Douglas Head are patronised by thousands of spectators on sunny days. The programme presented is remarkable for its excellence. On Tuesday a benefit was tendered to Mr. Dare, and was largely attended. This clever entrepreneur has now been here for eighte

song and dance; Miss Julia Bassett as Mrs. Pamela Bung creates endless hilarity; Mr. Laurence Wensley is in good voice and acts in manly style as Eric Brown; Mr. Ralph Lynn as the Hon. Percy Brassington submits a refined and distinctly clever impersonation; Mr. Walter Champney as John William Bung comes in for much applause; and Mr. J. H. Weekes deserves special mention for his acting in the difficult rôle of Françoise. The chorus is remarkably good.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. B. Peberdy.—The Bouncing Dillons, comedy gymnasts, are being warmly received here this week, their sensational performance being executed with the greatest ease and neatness. A clever turn is that of the Ettenas, globe speciality artists, who are both amusing and attractive; Leonard Barry, in "The Mouchers' Walk," is amusing crowded houses which testify to his popularity; the Three Tivoli Girls are very lively in song and dance. Other excellent artists are the Garstell Trio, instrumentalists and patterers; Sylvene (assisted by Miss Florence) equilibrist; Lilian Devon, comedienne and dancer; Resta Wentworth, comedienne; and Percy Williams, descriptive vocalist. The Empire Bioscope completes an excellent programme.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. George Alexander's company is here this week in *John Glayde's Honour*. Mr. Philip Cuningham, as John Glayde, gives an earnest and polished representation; the part of Trevor Lerode is capitally delineated by Mr. H. G. Bentley; Mr. E. C. Vaughan as Howard Collingham acts in a careful and finished manner; and a fine piece of character acting is submitted by Mr. Cyril Cattley as Shurmur; Muriel Glayde has a brilliant representative in Miss Auriol Lee, who scores a great success; Miss Beatrice Smith is excellent as the Princess; Miss Dorothy Moore Lane is a good Mrs. Rennick; while Miss Mary Summer makes a sweet and delightful Dora.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam McIntosh.—Ethel Whiteside and Pics introduce plantation melodies and high-class comedy here to the delight of the audience; Gertie Gitana in her songs displays a voice of excellent quality, and her dancing is also smart; Minnie Fenton, a young and talented Scotch comedienne, is enthusiastically received; the Gondolier Glee Singers take well with their nicely-rendered operatic numbers; Webb and Branston are good operatic duettists; Professor Bartle displays ability as a concertina soloist; Harry Wenburn is a first-class comedian; Beaufort is greatly appreciated as a contortionist; and Marie Neilson is a pleasing comedienne and dancer. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope, with a new series of pictures, concludes a good bill.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P Williams.—Harry Tilbury and company are here in *His Dishonoured Wife*. Mr. Frank Harvey is successful in his portrayal of Frank Lindon; Mr. Horatio Sinclair, as Lord Devant, submits a good impersonation; Mr. Harry Tilbury is very funny as Mickey Doolan; Mr. A. George Fry's Neil Locksley is a good character study; and Mr. Harrison Weir is excellent as Geoffrey Harvey; Miss Belle Tilbury, as Florence Lindon, acts sweetly and sympathetically; Miss Arline T. George is very good as Alice Harvey; while Mabel Lindon has a good representative in Miss Ivy Rocheforte.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Animated pictures are still the rule here. The dramatic items include The Secret of Death Valley, Two Sisters, and A Woodland Tragedy; while those in the humorous line are Bobby's Birthday and Should Women Vote? Variety turns are supplied by Daisy Devenport, a dainty singer and dancer; R. C. Note, a first-rate vocalist; and Harry Lamb, a local Scotch comedian.

EASTBOURNE.—THE PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—On Monday evening, to a crowded house, Mr. Milton Bode's excellent company commenced a three nights' engagement with *The Belle of Mayfair*. Miss Queenie Finnis was a dainty and attractive Julia; Miss Veronica Brady as Pincott was a great success, dancing gracefully and singing capitally; Miss Agnes Tandy, possessed of an excellent voice, sang in cultured style as Princess Carl; Miss Nellie Cozens was a handsome and sparkling Lady Chaldicott; Miss Aurelie de Loriere, a graceful and shapely "Gibson girl"; Mr. Harry Parker's well-known droll style was invaluable in the part of Sir John, and he kept the house in roars of laughter. Mr. Fern Pounds was admirably suited as Raymond Finchley; Mr. Haddon Cave was a brisk, refined Mount Highgate; Mr. Gwyn Alwyn worked hard and smartly as Hugh Meredith; Mr. Laurie Lisle vivaciously played the rôle of Comte de Perrier; and Mr. George McCloskie ably undertook the part of Dr. Lawrence. Later in the week Mr. George Dance's company appeared in *The Little Michus*.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—At the top of the bill are Lennie and Hast, who sing capitally, and have an exceptionally pretty scena, *The Sea Nymph*; Frank Seely is quite a favourite here; Messrs. W. A. Haines and Alan Borthwick's company appears in a bright sketch, *Half a Dollar*; Mr. Harry Taft is popular as a whistling comedian; Miss Bertha Winder is an accomplished clog-dancer: Miss Rose Gower, a pleasing and refined ballad vocalist; and the Sisters Harte. Mike Sipple, and new pictures complete the bill.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE. — Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Bath Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. George Dance's capable and hard-working company is appearing here in *The Spring Chicken*. Mr. Percival Knight is a great success as Barbori; Mr. Fred Payne, with a funny style all his own, is a most amusing Mr. Girdle; Mr. Harry Averill is a happy and smart Boniface; Mr. A. Drinkwater a suitable Papouche; Mr. Frank Altree a pronounced success as Felix; and Mr. Louis Victor and Miss Lilian Errol are realistic children as Stephen and Emmy. Liberal praise must be bestowed upon Miss Violet Lorraine as Rosalie; Miss Nellie Wigley is a pretty Dulcie Barbori; Miss Nellie Kavanagh an amusing Mrs. Girdle; Miss Poppy Poole a delightfully graceful Baroness Papouche; and Miss Tatty Leonard and Miss Mary Hearn are alluring representatives of La Belle Cissi and La Modiste.

EDINBURGH.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—The dramatic season here has been opened this week by Mr. Wentworth Croke with a return visit of *The Christian*. Miss Daisy Scudamore gives a conscientious and altogether charming study of Glory Quale; and the part of John Storm is ably rendered by Mr. Frank Beresford. The Polly Love of Miss Dorothy Milne is characterised by tragic intensity; Mr. Wilfrid Noy puts realism into his impersonation of Horatio Drake; Lord Robert Ure is consistently portrayed by Mr. W. J. Butler; while Father Lamplugh, Brother Paul, The "Faro" King, and Mrs. Callender find commendable representatives in Messrs. Edwin Ling, P. Gedge Twyman, Bert Conway, and Miss Molly Hayden, minor parts being also adequately filled.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. George T. Minshull.—Mrs. Patrick Campbell, supported by Miss Stella Patrick Campbell and a London company, has been appearing here this week in an interesting repertory. In *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* the distinguished actress repeated her wonderful creation of Paula, one of her greatest triumphs. Miss Stella Campbell won full recognition for the merits of her acting in the part of Ellean; Miss Margaret Watson was excellent as Mrs. Cartelyou; and Mr. Julian Royce refreshingly natural as Cayley Drummle; and Mr. Charles Garry played conscientiously the difficult part of Aubrey Tanqueray; while both Mr. James Gelderd and Miss Catherine Dupont were quite acceptable as Sir George and Lady Orreyed; and Mr. Alfred Goddard, Mr. Aidan Lovett, and Mr. Wallace Ashton suitably filled respective rôles of Captain Ardale, Frank Misquith, and Dr. Gordon Jane. Great interest was raised by the production of *Hedda Gabler*, a play not hitherto seen in Edinburgh, and Ibsen's sombre work received a well-nigh perfect interpretation, compelling the closest attention. Mrs. Patrick Campbell's artistic resources enabled her, in the name-part, to surmount the arduous task of successfully portraying an unsympathetic and cynical woman without any lovable qualities. Mr. Gelderd's George Jesman and Miss Watson's Aunt Juliana were wholly delightful character studies; Miss Dupont gave an admirable impersonation of Mrs. Elvsted; Berta was typically represented by Miss Helen Boucher; and the rôles of the crafty Judge Brach and the impulsive Eilert Lövborg were ably acted by Mr. Garry and Mr. Royce. *Magda* was also included in the week's bill.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—Crowded houses have filled the Empire this week, where the attraction has been Miss Vesta Tilley, whose finished and artistic male impersonations and characteristic songs continue to be marked by all the charm and fascination which have placed this talented lady foremost in the front rank of vaudeville entertainers. There are other good items in an exceptionally strong programme. Mr. Will Cornish gives a pleasing exhibition of skill in his musical bell-ringing; the Carmos perform some remarkable herculean feats of strength and juggling novelties; and the two old favourites, Spry and Austin, provide a popular turn. Mr. Charles Fisher and company appear with much acceptance in their operetta sketch, *The Music Master*; a somewhat original comedy scene, entitled *Captain Cupid*, is smartly rendered by Messrs. Geo. C. Doughty and company; Boswell's stage circus illustrates the clever training of ponies, dogs, and a donkey; Miss May Henderson proves herself a lively dancer; Mr. Syd May is successful in imitations of music-hall singers; and the ubiquitous bioscope completes a good bill.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Ventom Swift.—Considerable enthusiasm signalised the reopening of this popular theatre on Monday evening, after a short recess, during which the house has been brightened and improved. A better programme could scarcely be provided than that put forward by the enterprising manager, and overflowing audiences at both performances showed their appreciation of the bill of fare. Mlle. Ghita Corri delighted her hearers by her singing of favourite Scottish ballads; the vocal contributions of the Three Sisters McQueen were also most pleasingly rendered; Marie Winsome gained great applause for her male impersonations; enjoyable comedy turns were contributed by Belford and Mars, by A. B. Thorne, and by May Garry; Zasma gave a clever gymnastic display; Leslie H. Murray performed some good conjuring tricks very smartly; and the Alhambrascope showed a series of entertaining films.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville; J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Miss Decima Moore and company are here this week in the comedy *The Truth*, produced under the direction of Mr. Fredk. Mouillot, and is attracting large "houses." Miss Decima Moore is charming as Becky Warder, her winning manner immediately obtaining the sympathy of her audience. Mr. Robert Minsters as Tom Warder is excellent, his acting being characterised by a dignified demeanour which well suits the part. Both Miss Moore and Mr. Minster were recalled frequently. Mr. Arthur Hare does exceedingly well as Stephen Roland, and Miss Maud Renden as Eve Lindon and Hugh Ardale as Fred Lindon ably sustain their respective parts.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—Mr. Frederick Melville's drama, *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*, has occupied the boards of this theatre during the week. Miss Beatrice Homer, in the title-rôle, sustains a trying and difficult part with grace, dignity, and artistic skill; Mr. Philip Darien's representation of Jack Merryman was marked by fine elocution; Mr. Leyton Cancellor did well as Hubert Gold; Mr. Leonard Thackeray was effective as Antonio; and Mr. Tubby Edlin purveyed humour in unstinted fashion.

FLEETWOOD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Sneison.—A house crowded in every part accorded Mr. Arthur Carlton's company in *The Span of Life* a cordial reception on Monday night. The hero, Richard Blunt, is played with vigour by Mr. Arthur Chisholm; while Miss Ella Wilmer is a talented and charming heroine. The Stebbing Trio of acrobats are a decidedly clever troupe their human bridge being a smart piece of work; Mr. Sanderson Moffat as Dunstan Leech earns unstinted applause; Mr. Walter Dale and Miss Kitty Russell are responsible for the humorous element, and are well received.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. George Dance's company opened here on Monday with *The Little Michus*. Mr. Foster Courtenay as General des Ifs was extremely funny; Miss Alice Coverick and Miss Gracie Sinclair were charming representatives of the title-rôles; Mr. William Benson made an amusing character-study of Père Michu; Miss Mary Young was equally successful as Mme. Michu; Mr. Gilbert Childs added to the general merriment by a capital portrayal of Bagnolet; and Mlle. Marjorie's graceful dancing was a strong feature. Mr. George Dance's company, in *The Spring Chicken*, came on Thursday.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—"The Gipsies and their Jester" increase in popularity week by week. Mr. D'Arcy Clayton introduces amusing songs; Mr. Will Gane, the jester, is a clever humorist; Miss Barbara Antoine sings in a sprightly manner; Miss Elsie Wood is a skilful vocalist; Miss Florence Crofts affords every satisfaction; and Mr. Eric Davidson has a really fine voice.

VICTORIA PIER.—Manager, Mr. Robert Forsyth.—The renowned Jamaica Choir are paying a welcome return visit here this week, and their performance is of a pleasing nature. Added to this attraction are Blanche and Dracoff, the daring cyclists, who are creating quite a sensation.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager and Licensee, Mr. Harold Arnold.—The chief attraction here this week is Astley's American Circus, a "turn" which is productive of much laughter. Halter and Ray, eccentric duettists and dancers, are popular; a great "hit" is made by Cavalli, a ventriloquist with much quaint humour; original Arley's Combination supplies much pleasurable entertainment; Jimmy Shields, the one-legged dancer and vocalist, is to the fore; George Acre, a descriptive vocalist of ability, has many admirers; and Hans and Lux, knockabouts; Rose and Maidment in "The Shoeblack and the Serio"; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope also contribute.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—*No Man's Land*, presented by Miss Ida Millais' Co., occupies the boards at this house this week. Mr. Henry Herne is a capable Harry Oaklands, Mr. Ernest Percy portrays Mat Marsden with the necessary vigour, Mr. Henry Carlisle in the dual rôles of Gilbert and Captain Bathurst shows much cleverness, Miss Ida Millais is a charming Mary Bathurst, Miss Emma Stockley a diverting Mrs. Poodle, and Bessie Poodle is well portrayed by Miss Dora Hilstrom.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—The New York Picture Co. continues to supply the fare at this house. A feature this week is the depiction of the Coventry Pageant, which has been enthusiastically received.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—Mr. Hall Caine's play, *The Prodigal Son*, is being performed in capital style here this week by Mr. George D. Day's company. The company is headed by Miss Lily Hall Caine, who doubles the parts of Thora and Elin; in the former character her acting is marked by great tenderness and feeling, while in the latter rôle she presents a delightfully girlish picture. Mr. Albert Ward takes the title-part (Oscar Stephensson) and expresses the varying emotions of the wayward son with considerable art; the part of the domesticated brother Magnus is portrayed with fine dramatic power by Mr. Oswald Cray; well contrasted types of character are seen in the Governor of Mr. Lewis Sealy and in the Factor of Mr. James Skea; the Doctor Olsen of Mr. Robert Forsyth is a finished performance; Mr. H. H. Barrington is well suited as the Pastor; Mr. R. D. Brooksmith appears successfully as the Sheriff; and the parts of Finsen and the Casino Director are well represented by Mr. C. Cooper and Mr. Cavers Campbell respectively. Miss Betty Castle gives a spirited and convincing study of the rôle of Helga Neilson; good work is done by Miss Isabel Grey as Anna Magnusson; and Miss Mima Renouf as Margaret Neilson, the other feminine parts being well filled by Misses Rosalie Notrelle, Florence Lovelle, and Florence Manners.

KING'S THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—That accomplished actress, Mrs. Russ Whytal, is back in Glasgow with Tom Taylor's famous play, *Clancarty*, and large houses testify to her popularity. As Lady Clancarty Mrs. Whytal gives to the part all the pride, nobility, and pathos that it demands; as Lord Clancarty Mr. Acton Bond has a high ideal of the part, and is distinctly fine throughout; in portraying the rôle of the King that able actor, Mr. Stratton Rodney, is very effective; while finer representatives of the parts of Portland, Woodstock, and Spencer could hardly have been chosen than Messrs. Charles Combe, Arthur Burne, and J. J. Bartlett. Miss Mabel Knowles made the part of Lady Betty Noel distinctly coquettish and enjoyable; as Mother Hunt Miss Henrietta Yule deserves a word of praise; and the many other characters were suitably enacted.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—That inimitable comedian, Mr. Edward Terry, and his talented company appeared on Monday and Thursday evenings before large audiences in R. C. Carton's excellent play, *Liberty Hall*. Mr. Terry was responsible for as capital a representation of Toddy (the old bookseller) as it is possible to conceive, and certainly merited the hearty applause and recalls that were bestowed after each act; Mr. Thos. Holding, who appeared as Mr. Owen, gave the requisite tone to his part, and his acting was superb; Mr. B. A. Pittar was well suited to the role of Gerald Harringay; Mr. Wm. Dexter made an ideal Briginshaw; and Mr. Chas. B. Bedells was a capable Mr. Pedrick. Mr. H. A. Samson was amusing as Hickson; and Mr. Geo. Byrne did well as Luscombe. To Miss Marion Ripley is due a word of praise for her excellent representation of Blanche Chilworth; in Miss Evelyn Ormonde as Amy she had an able assistant, whose reading left little to be desired; Miss Eugenie Vernie's portrayal of Crafer, the third-rate housekeeper, was most effective; Miss Ruth Nightingale did admirably as Binks; and Miss Ella Dixon was responsible for much of the amusement as Miss Hickson. On Tuesday *The Magistrate* was revived, and *Sweet Lavender*, *The Rocket*, and *Paul Pry* were also announced.

GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Anthony.—Mr. Bulmer's company is here this week with *When Woman Hates*, in which Miss Chrissie Dunbar plays Cora Daintry, giving strong expression to the hatred which characterises the part; the hero, Lieut. Fred Rokeby, is ably handled by Mr. Fred Lloyd; while the villain finds an ardent exponent in Mr. Eustace Day as Godfrey Lawton. The old General, Sir Henry Rokeby, is well portrayed by Mr. B. H. Davis; Miss Gladys Hawthorn gives an excellent rendering of the heroine, Marie Rokeby; and Miss May Day pleasingly represents the part of Edith Rokeby. Plenty of comedy is contributed by Miss Eva St. Vincent as Mrs. Potts and Miss Sybil Haughton as Sally Potts; while Mr. Evan Roland as Patrick O'Brien and Mr. Ted Squires as Alphonse Picolot, keep the fun going merrily; a part nicely played is that of the child, Nelly Rokeby, by little Miss Ruby Sutherland; and the less pleasing part of Thirsty Meg is realistically rendered by Miss Gracie Maynard. An agreeable infusion of American humour is imparted by Mr. T. C. Glenville as Colonel Hiram Vancutson from New York; Mr. W. H. Wells gives a powerful impersonation of the truculent Bill Smasher; and other rôles are suitably rendered by Mr. Tom Riley as a Warder and Mr. T. H. Dee as Jim Sniggins.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S. — Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdock.—*The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning* is represented by a well-selected company here this week. As Willie Mason Mr. Roy Redgrave brings experience and care to bear upon his portrayal; Miss Rona Merrick gives a fine representation of Sophie Coventry, playing with much naturalness; Mr. Sidney Sarl is particularly good as Bill Slater; Mr. F. R. Robertson makes a manly Jack Fenton; and Miss Hilda Baynton imparts grace and feeling to the rôle of Lucy Coventry. Mr. W. Thornton depicts cleverly the evil nature of James Harcourt; while Miss Nannie Meade impersonates Vesta Le Clere in fine style. The humorous element is in no wise neglected. Mr. W. Reid (Johnny Walker) and Miss Marie Kildare (Poppy Slater) having plenty of opportunities, of which they make the most. Mr. Kenneth Black does good work as Richard Fenton. The engagement of this popular play is for two weeks, and on the opening night "house full" notices were on view at all the doors.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. W. Graham Arthurs' company is here this week in *The Mockery of Marriage*. As the unscrupulous Dick Kenyon Mr. Arthurs acts with due emphasis, and the sorely-tried wife, Alva Kenyon, is played with pathetic feeling by Miss Mamie Stuart. Miss Mabel Liston is well suited as Rose Vernham; Mr. Arthur P. Leo doubles the parts of Jack and Ned Stanley; Mr. Herbert M. King as the bully, Seth Pearce, gives a clever rendering of the part; Mr. Roland Devonport as the old nigger Pete plays well; Mr. Sylvester Stuart as Joseph Vernham is a typical example of the hard-hearted stage parent; and humour is well represented by Miss Jennie Hallsworth as Mary Ann, assisted by Mr. Frank Ogden as the stolid Toby.

LYCEUM, GOVAN.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. R. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden. — *The Soldier's Wedding* has had a good reception at Govan during the week, and drew good houses. The company, which had been in Glasgow the previous week, is a strong combination, Mr. Wingold Lawrence and Miss Jessie Winter, in the principal parts, being specially well suited.

EMPIRE, LTD.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Manners.—Happy Fanny Fields, in her quaint American-Dutch entertainment, has never been seen in Glasgow to better advantage, her merry song, patter, and dancing quite hitting the public taste. In Herman Melot she has a strong opponent for public favour, his marvellous and deft conjuring rousing the house nightly to a high pitch of enthusiasm; Ted E. Box makes a big score as comedian, dancer, and whistling expert, and he proves himself a big favourite; the performance of Richard Corbin's dogs is one to be seen and admired for its admirable display of canine training. Other special turns on the programme include Will Cromwell, character vocalist; Bessie Butt, soubrette and dancer; and Albert German, who is specially good in picture chorus songs; while the Bioscope films are popular as usual. Specially worthy of note is the fine singing and dancing of Carter's Ten San-Tan Girls, who are very warmly applauded.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock.—Resident-Manager, E. H. Bostock.—The most attractive item of this week's bill is presented by Turner and Jacobs, in a sensational novelty, *A Motor Match*; another excellent turn was that of La Berat, in a wonderful dancing act. The programme also includes John Grun Marx, the modern Hercules; Dot Hardy, character comedienne; the Three Clarions, comedy artists; Frank Lynne, humorist; Le Belle Nello, contortionist; Charles Stevens, character vocalist; Marie Burnett, vocalist; and the Bioscope, with an amusing set of pictures.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—R. G. Knowles still heads the bill here, and the clever comedian is presenting a lot of new business this week; another strong turn is George Leyton, in his *Lucknow* sketch, for which he has gathered together ten of the survivors of the Indian Mutiny; Jack Pleasants is becoming a strong favourite here; and Martin Conway holds a front place in the regard of the large audiences. The Sisters Warwick, in their agile display; Dorothy L. Clark in several good songs; Raie Walters, in her "Fishing" ditty; Sadie Simpson, Spencer and Marks, and the Calcotts complete a particularly good company.

PALACE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—An excellent all-round company is attracting large audiences. Jack Lorimer, popular Scotch comedian, heads the list, and his rendering of several songs is thoroughly enjoyed; Florence Yamen, coon caricaturist, receives quite an ovation; and other entertaining turns include Barney Noble, comedian; Stella Stahl, comedienne and dancer; the Three Gregsons, in their eccentric act, *The Dummy*; Will Mitcham, vocal and musical comique; Julia Kent and Alex. Keith, comedy duologue artists; the Alaskas, acrobats; Fred Land, eccentric comedian; the Merrions, comedy entertainers; and the Bioscope, with interesting pictures.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. Sam. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Harry Cadle's latest absurdity, *The Casey Army*, causes roars of laughter here, and is a worthy successor to the humours of *Casey's Court*. In a totally different vein is the sketch presented by Fred Winn's company, and entitled *The Light at the Window*. This powerful little play is well received, and hearty applause greets the acting of George W. Cockburn, Daisy England, Agnes Paulton, and Tom Blacklock in the four characters; Yeotha and Captain G. Grade give an original turn, called *Indian Pastimes*, which takes well; Gus Garrick's imitations of familiar music-hall types are well done and very enjoyable; Ted and May Hopkins also secure a large share of public favour for their smart Welsh love-making scene; Ben Albert is a quaintly funny comedian; Les Frasettis play well on various instruments; Dora Barrington, Netta Grey, and Master Frisbey each contribute in good style to the vocal part of the programme; and the Bioscope shows some wonderfully realistic films.

GAIETY.—Manager, Mr. Andrew Cowe.—Holland Wilson's novel bicycle race is a big attraction here this week, and their amateur contests are well patronised; the Maros are very funny in a triple bar act; Harry Seaton sings some good songs; the Brooklands have a big reception as comediennes and dancers; and Bessie Stratton, comedienne, makes a good appearance, assisted by a male voice quartette, who sing nicely. A smart sketch by Lytton and Bland includes some clever dancing; the hit of the programme is undoubtedly the funny farce, *Frolics in the Schoolroom*, by the Reignors. Their fun is fast and furious, while the singing, dancing, and other acts of the company take so well that encores are strongly insisted on. So excellent and enjoyable are the Bioscope films that they are worthy of special remark, and large houses testify to the good fare provided.

BRITANNIA.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—Raceford and Elvey, the Hebrew comedians, give a smart turn here; Jack Blair, the boy comedian, is also a great favourite; Alice Peploe's male impersonations are clever; and Sadie Bush as a singer, and Sylvia Spiers in the dancing line, make up an attractive programme.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. F. L. Conyngham's company, in *A Mother's Love*, is being well received here. Mr. Robert Gilbert as Paul Wingate undertakes the rôle in a skilful manner; Mr. Charles Carte as Mat Ruddock is clever; Mr. Hugh Mewburn as Geoffery Mannering is seen to advantage; Miss Cecile E. Anson wins sympathy as Winnie Wingate; and Miss Mabel Durham as Elaine Mervin plays charmingly; Miss Gladys Lloyd shows ability as Marjorie Wingate; Mr. Robert Lynn (Joe Jackson) and Miss Dorothy Monkhouse (Mary Steuart) keep the house in a happy mood.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE. — Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Mr. Billy Farrell is at the head of affairs this week, and introduces some neat dancing; Messrs. Ryan and Hall are responsible for a comic acrobatic act and wrestling bout; Miss Lily Flexmore pays a welcome return visit, her dancing being as well received as ever; and Nellie Nora renders a dainty instrumental act. Messrs. Dickenson and Johnson give an interesting swimming performance; Harry Walker, in song and patter, goes well; the Edgar Forrest company, in *My Friend the Enemy*, have a good reception; and Master Kay, boy vocalist, sings sweetly. J. H. McCann once more appears in his acrobatic roller skate dance, and Mlle. Sylvesto is a smart contortionist. The Bioscope is also in the programme.

GRANTHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. A. Campbell.—Mr. Harold Wantage and company occupy the boards this week with *The Pick of the Bunch*. Mr. Algernon W. Lee renders the part of Halliwell Menit with much skill, and Mr. Philip Sefton is also very good as Colonel Menit. The humorous rôle of Martin is played to perfection by Mr. Harold Wantage, and Mr. Norman Bower is a typical dude; Miss Sybil Glynn is charming as Nancy, Miss Madge Christopher as Nellie Mather and Miss Eva Ellis as Ruth Gay entertain with their clever songs and dancing; Little Tom Lewis is also good as Tiny Tim; and among the specialities are the Golliwogs and Hydro Girls and Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers, with Miss Mabel Coleman as principal danseuse.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. George Dance's company occupies the boards this week with the musical comedy *The Catch of the Season*. The Duke of St. Jermyns finds an energetic and clever exponent in Mr. Frank Lincoln, and Angela is sweetly and daintily depicted by Miss Moya Mannering. Mr. Tom Shelford is excellent as the inane Lord Dundreary; Sir John Crystal is well represented by Mr. John Wigley; Mr. Franklin Miles is droll as Mr. William Gibson; and Buckett, the precocious little page, is capitally represented by Master Peter Grata. Lady Crystal and her two daughters are admirably depicted by Miss Ernestine Walker, Miss Doris Greville, and Miss Muff Carew. Miss Louie Bentley is a stately Duchess.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison are presenting the successful comedy, *The Stronger Sex*. As Mrs. Van Garkerken Miss Hutchison depicts that outspoken, good-hearted lady with much success; Mr. J. H. Carvill is excellent as the Hon. Warren Barrington; and May, his wife, is admirably depicted by Miss Margaret Fareleigh.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—An entertaining programme is provided for the week. The Bros. Leotard do some fine hand-balancing and staircase tricks; the Donatos, the famous one-legged clowns, present some clever acrobatic and chair-vaulting feats; the Arthur Saxon Trio give a capital exhibition of strength and weight-lifting capabilities; Mr. Alexander Prince contributes a fine performance on the concertina; the Glenroys receive loud applause for their expert dancing; the Enrico Martialo Trio submit a wonderful display of juggling and balancing; Rabbit and Pimple cause any amount of fun; and other artists also win favour.

BRITANNIA PIER.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—Les Piccolinos, the versatile midget performers, are topping the bill here this week, and their clever act takes the house by storm. Ryde and Beeman, acrobatic eccentrics, go well; the Two Jays give an amusing turn; T. W. Barrett and the veteran comedian, give a couple of songs quite in his old style; Baddow, the ventriloquist, with his irrepressible "Tim," and George Young, the blind musician, also score well.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The principal attraction for the week is Mr. Treflyn David's vocal quartette, known as "The Merry Peasants," whose talented singing is enthusiastically applauded. Other artists appearing are Messrs. Lenton and Bertram in *Mental Telepathy*; Little Cliff, comedian; Frank and Free, comedy artists; Lewis Sydney, vocalist; and Professor Lenton, in a conjuring act.

GREENOCK.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—*A Trip to the Highlands* is the attraction here. Mr. Wal Croft makes a conspicuous success as The MacMutchkin, and Mr. Willie Scott is an excellent Timmins. Lord Lackington is well played by Mr. Wellesly Smith; Fred is in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Barclay; Sir Septimus Brown-Windsor has a clever and effective exponent in Mr. James Somerville; Dexter is ably represented by Mr. Harry A. Cribben; and as Araminta, Miss Grace Desmond is successful. Miss Isa Bowman is a vivacious and pleasing Miss Winnie; and Miss Nellie Burdette is delightful as Fannie Flounce.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees, The Greenock Empire Syndicate; General-Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Mr. Charles Majilton and company are here in *The Trippers*, and by their versatility and humour keep the audience in continual laughter. Euston and Pancras are popular in song and dance; Fentoni supplies an entertaining turn; and the Empire pictures conclude a good show.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—Peggy Pryde is a great favourite here, and is enthusiastically applauded for her songs; Otto and Olga submit a clever turn, introducing capital comedy and operatic burlesque; Walker and Lake are amusing with their patter. Other good turns are submitted by Steeley and Dowton, vocalists and dancers; and Allis and Cassati in the same line. The Paviscope pictures are much appreciated.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN'S.—Lessee, Mr. Ed. Marris.—On Monday Mr. Charles W. Poole's Imperial Myriorama opened here for a season. Their visit is always keenly anticipated, and crowded houses are the rule. Everything is bright, attractive, and amusing. Excellent variety is introduced by Pueblo and Cropp (trick dancers). Ray and Miles (eccentric jugglers), Craig, Rose, and Craig (novelty gymnasts), and Venturini (a clever illusionist), Mr. Cecil Couper is the enterprising general-manager.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Hardie and Von Leer's company, in *Two Little Vagabonds*, still finds favour here, good houses having assembled throughout the week.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—Those delightful Yankees, Hill and Whittaker, evoke prolonged applause here; Leipzig, coin manipulator, is remarkably clever; the dry humour and smart dancing of the Kimberley Boys is successful; Mr. Edward Lauri and company, including Miss May Beatty, give an exhilarating musical mélange; and Martino, the man frog, distinguishes himself; as do also the Ferganas, expert vaulters, and Harry Meegan.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—This week Messrs. Sidney Dooley and Charles Seymour's company, in *A King for a Day*, is here; Mollie Woolstenhume pleases her many admirers; Leoni Dixon, Lord, Murray, and Lord, in *The Intruder*, Lew Towers, and Bennett and Martell, the shipwrecked mariners, together with a superb selection of pictures shown by Raymond's Biotableaux, keep audiences amused.

HANLEY. — ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's company commenced the tour of *My Wife* on Monday. There was a large audience, and this delightful comedy was received with much enthusiasm. The piece must become a great provincial success. Mr. Eille Norwood's impersonation of Gerald Eversleigh is most natural and finished; as Trixie, Miss Cicely Stuckey scores a brilliant success, her portrayal of the impulsive, innocent girl being clever in the extreme; Mr. John W. Deverell, as the Hon. Gibson Gore, contributes a clever representation of the young aristocrat, his performance being irresistibly funny; Miss Mary Dibley is well placed as Miriam Hawthorne, her acting being most praiseworthy; Mr. Henry Adnes, in his portrayal of the excitable Baron, is capital; M. Dupre, as played by Mr. A. S. Barber, is a really interesting impersonation; Mr. Willie Hartill, as Davies, plays cleverly; Mr. John Reginald is well-placed as Crocker; as Rene Falandes, Mr. Edmund Hollick is all that can be desired; and Mesars. Reginald Creag

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—There is no reason to suspect that the popularity of *The Girl from Kay's* is on the wane. Mr. Schofield is the Hoggenheimer, and makes a big hit; as the girl from Kay's, Miss Jessie Fraser is exceedingly chic; Mavis Hope and Mr. Herbert Franklyn, as the bride and bridegroom, are excellent.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wym Miller.—The Brothers Renad, in *The Swiss Express*, are above criticism, as their pantomime is above reproach; Mr. W. E. Brandon makes the most of Gondimai Gull; as Dudley Green and Bob Rollingstone, Mr. Abe Wyllie and Mr. Basil Reynolds are very funny; and as Virginia, Miss Celestine Brandon is charming; the Palace Quartette are excellent vocalists and dancers.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, MORTON'S, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*The Power of the Cross* is a strong play. The mystery man is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Geo. A. De Gray; and Miss Amy B. Ellis, an artist of much merit, plays the part of the adventuress with skill; as the heroine, Miss Marie Menzies acts the part with conspicuous success.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Harry Pleon appears in an exciting musical dramatic episode, *At Large*, in which he is well supported by Miss Celia Kent and others. Claude Ginnett's *Remounts* create much amusement; Mabel Hind is a character comedienne of much merit; Misses Vera Mayne and Fatmah Diard also take well. Other turns include Neuman and Cross and George Ray.

THE EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Appearing here are Hugh Cedar and Edward Elgar in a funny character act, in *Ye Days of Olde*. Little Frankie makes a bit hit, as also do the Fordyces. Other clever artists include Henriette and Selina, Johnson and Pelham, Sterling and Wright, and the Octro Twins.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Miss Emma Litchfield's company (under the direction of Mr. Stuart Cleveland) is appearing here this week in *A Clever Impostor*. Miss Litchfield figures prominently in the cast, and that she is an accomplished actress is shown by her presentation of the varied character of Nora Grosvenor. Mr. Arthur Page as Captain Desmond well conveys the impression of a manly courageous hero. In the part of Manuel Teixeira Mr. Stuart Cleveland, "a clever impostor," gives a convincing conception of unorthodox villainy. Comic relief is excellently provided by Mr. C. Spencer, a smart Jim Brightside, and Miss Florence Gomer, charming and clever, as Annie Pleasant. Mr. C. Roberts makes a fine Stephen Grosvenor. Miss Isabel Singleton displays much emotional power as Maisie Grosvenor; as Margaret Grosvenor Miss Violet Lesborough is admirable. The company also includes Messrs. A. C. Britton, F. G. Kay, Wm. Waring, Geo. Childers, Thos. Fielding, and D. Tecke.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*Under the Stars and Stripes* is here, played by Messrs. Cameron and Alexander's company, the rôle of Sylvia Rosmer being well sustained by Miss Stanley Burt. Mr. Edward Avinall is well suited to the part of Jules Vermond.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Rex Sugden.—This week Mr. George Kirk's company is here with *Her Luck in London*. Mr. Stephen Langton gives a manly portrayal of Fitzgerald O'Connor; Mr. Heath plays with force as Richard Lenowen; the character of the Rev. Lionel Strong is carefully handled by Mr. D. Tremayne; Mr. Tyrone Power is equally good as Stephen Harborne; and Mr. Bruce Clapham is quite at home in the part of Algie Kircumbrie. Miss Florrie Groves makes a charming Nellie; Miss F. Bruce does full justice to the part of Lillian Harborne; and Miss Marie Clavering is successful as Mme. Gabrielle; Angeline Plantagenet being well looked after by Miss Pamela Hodson; Miss Kitty Fitzgerald simply revels in the part of Maude Gladys Shovepenny, being ably assisted by Mr. Henry Hope as Archer Gerald.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris.—Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart is paying a visit here this week with *Sherlock Holmes*. In the name-part, Mr. Stewart proves himself an excellent actor; Mr. Douglas G. Murray is a creditable Dr. Watson; Mr. Norman B. Cannon undertakes the dual rôle of John Forman and Judson; Mr. H. Ryeland Leigh represents the crafty Prof. Moriarty; and Mr. Roy Milton appears as James Larrabee. Miss Celia Gordon is an admirable Madge Larrabee; and Miss Angelina Cunningham a creditable Alice Faulkner. Low comedy is introduced by Mr. Seton Bernard as Sidney Prince and Master Leslie Hall as Billy.

TRIANGLE PARK.—The Scarlet Mr. Es conclude their engagement here this week.

KEIGHLEY.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall.—An excellent variety programme is provided here by Mr. E. Dottridge's combination. Miss Georgette Thierry's Sketch Company appear in *Nancy Sykes*. Mr. Bernard Lieli gives a fine study of Fagin; and Mr. Willie Black is a capital Bill Sikes. Miss Georgette Thierry deserves much praise for her performance as Nancy. Atroy, juggler, provides a smart turn, and the Soho Trio win much applause in their admirable drawing-room scene. Viola, lady instrumentalist, displays much ability, and is encored nightly; Professor Dunning is a clever ventriloquist, and delights the audience immensely; Kahn and Kahn succeed in mystifying all; Maggie Rimmer sings and dances in fine style; May and Arthur, child vocalists and dancers, are great favourites; Little Tim's antics create loud laughter; and Charlie Craston's comic songs are well received.

KIDDERMINSTER.—NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is here in *A Warning to Women*. Mr. C. Watson Mill in the character of Shaun, a wandering minstrel, gives a clever display; Mr. Richard Vane ably portrays the character of Dr. Marcus Dread; while Mr. William Vane is equally as good as Fergus McNaughton, a young Irish squire. Moira Kennion is both prettily and forcibly enacted by Miss Ruth Zillwood; while Miss Rosalind Tate is clever in the part of Mildred.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—*The Pick of the Bunch* has been presented here this week by Mr. Harold Wantage and company. It is a highly-diverting pot-pourri of novelties, and many of the items were charmingly rendered. Mr. Algernon W. Lee, the possessor of a good voice, capably filled the rôle of Halliwell Menit, the part of his irascible uncle, Colonel Menit, being vigorously portrayed by Mr. Philip Sefton. Miss Sybil Glynn worked hard as Nancy. A dainty pair of actresses were Madge Christopher and Eva Ellis as Nellie Mather and Ruth Gay respectively. As Martin Mr. Harold Wantage did much to keep the fun going; and Mr. Norman Bowyer proved a droll comedian as Dick Seymour. Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers gave a good exposition of dancing, and Little Tom Lewis came in for a large share of attention for so diminutive an actor.

KIRKCALDY.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan.—Mrs. Fred J. Kirke's company appeared here on Monday in *In Old Madrid*. Good work was done by Mr. G. H. Holloway as the villainous Fernando; Mr. E. H. Bertram was a satisfactory Frank Lyndhurst; and Mr. Walter T. Hybert made the most of the comic element. The dancing of the Sisters Gaze was much admired; Miss Lily Seymour and Miss L. Ellis appeared as Martha and Violet respectively.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—*The Sleeping Beauty* is proving a big attraction this week, being ably presented by Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and E. J. Cardwell's company of juveniles. Miss Dolly Dodds appears with much success as the Beauty, and the comic element is supplied by Messrs. Doyle and Gibson and the Bros. Armstrong. Specialities are introduced by Wee George Wood, boy mimic; La Belle Annetti, dancer; and Ida Reenan and Myra Eyton.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. John Porter and W. J. Fergusson.—Another capital bill of fare is put before the patrons here, and crowded houses have assembled nightly. The star turn is supplied by Rachel Lowe, comedienne, who has a good reception; the Four Louberts, in a comedy act, *Uninvited*, cause roars of laughter; and the Sisters Silcott sing and dance nicely. Others who appear are Frances Drew, burlesque artist; Geo. Reeves, comedian; James and Alexander, expert dancers; Sisters Poole, duettists; and the Elvio Trio, in a comedy sketch, *Those Troublesome Slaveys*. The Hippograph is still an attraction.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—Mr. Hart's revival of *As You Like It* was put on here on Monday, and an enthusiastic reception was accorded the production. Miss Fay Davis is a superb Rosalind, portraying each of the many varied moods of the character to perfection; than Mr. Gerald Lawrence it would be impossible to imagine a better Orlando, and the work of the talented pair is quite the feature of the production. The Celia of Miss Valerie Salberg is full of grace and vivacity; Mr. Harry Paulton as Touchstone plays the part on original lines, and to the evident satisfaction of his audience; Mr. James Hearn is an admirable Jaques; Mr. John Nesbitt as the bainshed Duke and Mr. Francis Chamier as the usurper look and act their respective characters effectively; whilst Mr. Fred Percy as the wrestler, Mr. Ernest E. Norris as the Elder Brother, and Mr. Orlando Barnett as Adam deserve every credit for good work.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Another of Mr. Walter Melville's dramas is the atraction here, *The Worst Woman in London* being on an early return visit. Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company includes Miss Olga Andre as Frances Vere, the central figure of the piece, and this talented actress makes the most of numerous opportunities; Milford is a capable study by Mr. F. Cass; the heroic Jack Felton is finely played by Mr. George Gaisford; and an effective Vincent Lyle is found in Mr. Paul Barry-Lewers.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Miss Alice Norton's production and distribution of rubies and sapphires at this pleasure palace this week are attracting and interesting full houses; Blake and Amber are a smart comedy pair; James Stewart is again giving his funny entertainment at the piano; Woodhouse and Wells, patter comedians, prove amusing; as also do the Wedburns in a similar line; the Moulier Sisters do clever feats on the flying bars; that fine vocalist Ian Colquohoun adds to a big reputation; Will Poluski, jun., Ruth Lytton, vocalist, and the Five Osranis, in pantomimic absurdity, are also entertaining.

QUEEN'S THEATRE AND VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—Sammy Shields, a diminutive Scotch comedian, is high in favour here. Another popular comedian, Barney Armstrong, is likewise a favourite. Oakley and James are seen to advantage in frivolity; Sterling and Love are again appearing with conspicuous success; Roy Beavis is a tricky and amusing magician, and Lena Brunton, vocalist, Jock Campbell, comedian, and Mlle. Renee are also here.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Messrs. Chas. Weldon and Claude Shayler.—Master Max Darewski, the youthful musical prodigy, is a triumphant success here this week as a music-hall turn; Frank Taylor's educated baboons figure in the bill; and an uproarious comedy interlude by Walton and Lester is particularly well received; Mountford and Walsh; Fred and Maud Vypond, in a smart comedy act; Kellie and Agnas; Nash and Noel, comedy specialists; Joe Conway, comedian; Sharp Bros., in specialty; the Delomes, with magic; and the Sisters Tree, duettists and dancers, are also announced.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Alfred Graham's juveniles are at the top of the bill here; the Karno Trio have an uproarious sketch; Carl Lynn as a mimic of animals gets a big reception; Les Belles Americaines are song and dance artists of merit; Walter Stanley is doing well; Marlow and Manton are an up-to-date comedy duo; and Jock M'Kay, Scotch comedian, and Marie Blythe, contralto, also contribute

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. Charles Hermann.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's excellent company is here in the comedy *Peter's Mother*. As Lady Mary Crewys Miss Violet Ley wins admiration for her most artistic and clever performance; Mr. Henry Renouf as John Crewys sustains his high reputation; Mr. E. F. Meads does full justice to the part of Peter; Mr. Townsend Whitling is a good Dr. Blundell; Mr. Ernest Ruston a successful Sir Timothy Crewys; Miss Evelyn Shelley a capital Lady Belstone; and both Mr. and Mrs. William Mallalieu, who are so well remembered in Leicester by virtue of the former's long association with the Theatre Royal as manager, play with their accustomed ability as Canon Birch and Miss G. Crewys. Praise should also be accorded Miss Eileen Barry as Mrs. Hewell and Miss Hilda Sims as Sarah. The play is tastefully mounted. The comedietta *Two in a Trap* precedes.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—*The Silver King*, presented by Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company, is the attraction here. As Wilfred Denver Mr. Fred D. Daviss is to be complimented on an able portrayal; Miss Adah Barton plays sympathetically as Nellie Denver; and Miss Flossie Hale Daviss makes an excellent Cissie Denver; Mr. Edward J. George scores a success as Mr. George Belmore as Corket, Mr. Arthur Wright as Coombe, Mr. Byron Pedley as Baxter, Miss Elizabeth Temple as Olive Skinner, Miss Bessie Jaikes, Mr. L. St. George Lowther as the Spider, Wright as Susie, and Mr. Frank Kingsley as Cripps are all deserving of special praise.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Whit Cunliffe's well-rendered and catchy songs are accorded a great reception; Leicester's oldest favourite, J. W. Rowley, keeps the audience in a roar of merriment; quite an ovation is accorded Park's Eton Boys in their smart and refined vocal entertainment; Lockhart's Elephants, presented by Captain Taylor, display remarkable intelligence; Russell Wallett, the "lady in black," is versatile and entertaining; Lowell and Lowell are amusing grotesque acrobats; Ella Dean renders her song in good style; and the American Bioscope depicts The Band Contest. Miss Ethel Newman, in place of Victoria Monks, is seen to considerable advantage in her monologue *The Telegram*, which has a flattering reception.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence.—The principal attraction here is Miss Lois Du Cane, a big favourite, and her company, in the sensational episode *Anarchy*. Miss Du Cane scores a great success as Ellen Grey, being supported in capital style by Mr. Ernest G. Batley as Gilbert Newton, Mr. Harold B. Lewis as Leonard Grey, and Mr. Bruce Methven as Maurice de Varney. The sketch is well mounted. Daisy Hecks is making a hit with her songs; Will Driscoll is a clever swell comedian; Charles Gardiner, an excellent character comedian; the Zampas, dancers and bâton swingers, are popular; Queenie Hall is a capital dancer; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope stil remains a popular feature.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Rousby.—Miss Ellen Snow and company are occupying the boards here this week with the romantic drama *Why Men Love Women*. Miss Snow gives a charming impersonation of Violet Livingstone; Mr. Hilliard Vox's Gerald Fielding is marked by exceptional ability; Mr. Gerald Kennedy acts the part of H.H. the Maharajah of Balore in a skilful manner; Captain Staniloff is played with excellent judgment by Mr. Lionel Gadsden; Miss Beatrice Shirley is very effective as Mariel Zoluski; considerable amusement is caused by Mr. Harewood Roberts as Orlando Figgins; and the Misses Nita Owen and Fredra Vaughan deserve praise as Birdie and Bab.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—In *Rollicking Rory*, Mr. Chalmers Mackey has fitted himself with a congenial rôle, to which his diverting, light-hearted style of acting enables him to do full justice. The members of his company ably co-operate to the success of this new play. Mr. Mackey and Miss Nana Flensburg do well as Rosaleen Ashleigh and Rosie Callaghan; Mr. Charles Horner is happily cast as the hero, Desmond Fitzgerald; with Mr. David McFarlane as Stephen D'Arcy, a thorough-going villain; and the many incidental characters are all capably represented, Mr. Haughton Macaulay's Shaun Brady and Miss Adele Liddon's Mrs. O'Donohoe deserving commendation; while high praise is due to Madame Constance Bellamy, who contributes very delightfully to the vocal numbers, which are introduced by several of the leading performers in the course of the piece.

LINCOLN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Payne, Seddon, and Ernest Pope.—A very fine performance of *The Morals of Marcus* was given here on Monday by Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company, Mr. C. H. Croker-King as Sir Marcus Ordeyne and Miss Hilda Antony as Carlotte won enthusiastic appreciation; and clever renderings came also from Mr. Richard Neville as Sebastian Pasquale, Mr. A. H. Leverux as Hamdi Effendi, Mr. Frederick Jacques as Stenson, Miss Joan Curtiss as Mrs. Mainwaring, Mrs. Kathleen O'Conner as Mrs. Ordeyne, Miss Gladys Purcell as Dora, and Miss Annie Windsor as Antoinette. *The Hero of the Flag* was announced for the latter part of the week.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—Alexandra Dagmar is paying a first visit here, and her striking and attractive style won her an instantaneous and unqualified success on Monday. Cole and Rags, Dale and Vale, J. H. Hawtrey, Mlle. de Rose, Chapman, and Cairns, Harry Simms, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux add to the enjoyment of the excellent audiences.

LIVERPOOL.—SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. E. Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*Raffles* is here again, with Mr. Leonard Boyne in the title-rôle, and audiences have enjoyed as much as formerly the adventures of the amateur cracksman. Mr. Lewis Edgard did excellently as Bunny; Mr. Arthur Willoughby was a dignified Earl Amersteth; the sharp detective, Bedford, was efficiently handled by Mr. E. W. Thomas; in the keeping of Mr. Dalziel Heron the rôle of Crawshay lost nothing; a charming Gwendoline came from Miss Maud Cressall; and Miss Elaine Inescourt was appreciated in the character of Mrs. Vidal. *A Lesson in Shakespeare*, in which Messrs. Dalziel Heron and Harold West and Miss Dorothy Shawe took part, was the curtain raiser.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—*Miss Hook of Holland* made her acquaintance with Liverpool on Monday night, and must have been pleased with the heartiness of the welcome accorded to her. Mr. Leslie Holland was the cause of endless laughter with his Mr. Hook; Mr. Fred Lyne presented a Simon Slinks which for natural drollery would be hard to beat; an imposing Captain Paap came from Mr. Frederick Hobbs, whose fine baritone voice was heard with pleasure; Mr. Arthur Harrold acquitted himself well in the part of the Bandmaster, and sang with much taste; and Mr. Robert Harcourt was an acceptable Schnapps. Full of grace and charm was Miss Deborah Volar, the Sally, who, though suffering from a cold, pleased everybody with her rich voice; Miss Mabel Sealby, full of life and gaiety, added much to the fun of the evening, and sang with zest. Worthy support came from Messrs. George Ide, G. Foley, and J. Robertson.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*Saved from the Sea* has been given here this week by Mr. Samuel James's company. Mr. David G. Noble played with dramatic strength as Dan Ellington; Miss Marie Auckland made a sweet and sympathetic wife; Mr. G. Lodge Percy did well as Richard Fenton; and good support came from Messrs. George Wallace, Frank Litchfield, George K. Ashley, Miss Elsie Walton, and Miss Helen Cameron.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Harris Fineberg.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace has sent a good all-round company to this popular resort with *The Love that Women Desire*. Mr. J. O. Stewart, as the villainous Squire Abingdon, made an impression; Mr. Oliver Rogers showed much ability in the part of Richard Abingdon; Miss Aimee Gratton-Clyndes undertook with every satisfaction the difficult rôle of Madge Abingdon; Miss Lalla Stanhope played Sybil Thorburn with a deal of tact and sweetness; Mr. John Hignett made a funny Dennis O'Rourke; the comedy was largely contributed to by Miss Winifred Barton, as Pattie Swift; and Mr. John Davidson proved a manly Philip Carnaby.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Granville Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Granville.—The boards here are this week occupied by Mr. Andrew Melville's *In a Woman's Grip*, which has done good business. Miss Rose Ralph played with conspicuous ability the rôles of Mary Langley, Convict 43, and Princess Zaroff, earning rounds of applause; Mr. Percy Dawsone gave an able impersonation of Frank Haydon; a strong part was that of Maurice Stanton well presented by Mr. Oswald Douglas; Mr. Freddie Bentley as Joe Butters and Miss Amy Rudd, who was Molly Smithers, were particularly amusing; Mr. Fred A. Marston was a realistic Dick Langley, ex-prize fighter; Mr. Herbert Vere made a satisfactory mad doctor; and credit is also due to Miss Jessie Yatman (Lilian Fairley), and Mr. William Summers (Mr. Fairley).

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—The bill here this week has been full of good things. A rousing reception was extended to Alexander and Hughes, musical comedians; the favourite Millie Lindon, who is remembered for her success in pantomime here, pleased exceedingly with her popular songs; the comedy *Punchinello* was well enjoyed,. the artists supporting being Messrs Edward O'Neill, Frank Forbes Robertson, Hubert Carter, Mrs. Calhaen, Miss Florence Horsfall, and Miss Isobel Roland; Joe Reichen's trained dogs proved interesting; much laughter was aroused by Harry Weldon; Orpheus had a capital musical scena, *A Solitary Rehearsal*; a hearty reception was accorded to the popular Walter Munroe; Bowman and Morton caused endless laughter with their comedy, *She Loved a Policeman*; and George Lennard included in his well received songs "The Covent Garden Ball."

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Les Newsoms, direct from the Apollo Theatre, Berlin, headed the bill this week, and gave a remarkable acrobatic and equilibristic performance; Will Doran and company had a screamingly funny pantomime, *The Inventor*; Edmund Bosanquet produced surprising effects from the violin; the Picquays were smart hand balancers; Edie Gray and her white coons proved a vocal treat; Tom Leo made everybody smile with his eccentricities; and also in the list were Flo Schuberth, burlesque actress; Walter Wade, comedian and mimic; and Milner Verren, double-voiced vocalist.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Principal here this week are Mooney and Holbein (James and Ada), who presented a neat trifle entitled *A Vaudeville Intermezzo*; much laughter greeted *Getting Even*, a breezy farce by Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford; magic of a most mystifying character was introduced by Sahib Gustave Fazola; Violet Morgan and Jack Ford has a novel burlesque, *The Billposter's Dilemma*; as musical entertainers the Ellimans pleased exceedingly; Story and Trigg were a pair of funny eccentrics; the sand dancing of Maudie Ford earned for that talented artist a deal of applause; and also in the list were Tom Besso, vocalist, with his "Bogey Man" song; Maud Lessim, a charming singer; and Maide Scott's company in *'98*.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the bill here this week are Bob Hutt and company, with the humorous musical production, *Welcome Home*, which has been richly enjoyed; the Hilgert Arkas troupe of acrobats presented a clever equilibristic act; an acceptable turn was that submitted by Mlle. Haydee, with her miniature vaudeville theatre; Ernest Rees proved a droll comedian; as harmonising vocalists the Primrose Quartette were extremely pleasing; smart comedy came from the Sivronis; Vi Adele, a juvenile comedienne, made her first appearance and gave evidence of much promise; Colby and May had an uncommon novelty entitled *The Ventriloquist and His Dancing Doll*; and the lengthy programme also held the names of Winifred Ward, "the immaculate boy"; Sisters Hall, refined vocalists; and Lillie Lassah, comedienne and dancer.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*The Way of Transgressors*, by Nita Rae, has been given here this week by the stock company. Mr. Harry Tresham was well placed as Cecil Kenmare; Mr. Sydney Grant handled well the rôle of Harold Marchent; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood did excellently as Ebenezer Mumford, and Mr. Robb Wilton proved a merry Jim Batter. Of the ladies Miss Beryl Ravenswood acted well as Barbara; Miss Florence Palmer tenderly portrayed Inez Saville; and Miss Florence Cameron did justice to Rosalind.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr N. Edwards.—The stock dramatic company here this week have given the *Colleen Bawn*. Mr. Ernest Wingfield was convincing as Hardress; Mr. H. G. Brandon made a merry Myles; credit was due to Mr. Henry Hesslegrave for his excellent Danny Mann; Mr. Frank S. Strickland did well as Mr. Corrigan; Miss Gladys Hastings Walton fully realised the rôle of Anne; and Miss Florence Barnes was a pleasing Elly.

HAYMARKET.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company are still here, playing this week *The Glen of Athlone; or, From Cabin to Mansion*; Sid Austin's Juveniles had a pretty scena, *A Picnic at Rose Villa*; Joe Humphreys, a popular comedian, put in a third week; and Alice Mathews, vocalist, also appeared.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Arthur Woodville heads the bill here this week, and his chorus songs and dancing proved a good turn; Harry Edson's dogs were clever and amusing; a neat musical act was provided by Phern and Phern; the songs and dances of Nellie Gannon were appreciated; and other artists who appeared were Peggy Fayme, light comedienne; and Harry Wright, actor vocalist.

OLYMPIA.—District-Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—A capital bill has been offered here this week. The Craggs were as funny as ever with *Billy*; that clever little lady at the piano, Ray Wallace, met with a most gratifying reception; Marie Santoi and her merry Japs were seen to great advantage with their delightful musical novelty, *A Japanese Tea Garden by Night*; the high degree of training shown by Harry Rochez' ponies and dogs aroused much attention; incessant laughter followed the work of the Three Prestons in *The Liftman's Rise*; graceful feats on the wire were performed by Wyndham and Kitty; Johnson and Bert submitted a novel act, *A Queer Customer*; and also in the list were the Sisters Caselli. duettists and dancers; and Elda and Falco, with a Japanese vocal and dancing speciality.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Percy Boucher and his stock dramatic company continue to do good business here. This week they have given *The Ticket of Leave Man*. Mr. Herbert H. Young showed ability as Brierly; Mr. J. D. Geddes afforded satisfaction as Dalton; Mr. C. H. Maxwell was the Hawkshaw; Mr. Boucher repeated his old-time success as Melter Moss; Miss Lilian Beaumont was a sweet May; and Miss Enid Wilde proved acceptable as Sam.

LLANDUDNO.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—The D'Oyly Carte Opera company is here for the week, and on Monday appeared in *The Mikado*. Mr. Leicester Tunks, in the title-rôle, does well, and Mr. Strafford Moss as Nanki-Poo is happily placed; Messrs. Charles R. Walenn (Ko-Ko) and Mr. Fred Billington (Pooh-Ba) supply the comic element in excellent style; Mr. Leo Sheffield as Pish-Tush is good. So also is Mr. Fred Drawater as Go-To; Miss Theresa Rassam is at home as Katisha; and Miss Hope Hastings (Yum Yum), Miss Beatrice Meredith (Pitti-Sing) and Miss Mabel Graham (Peep-Bo) fill the parts of the three sisters in capital style. *The Gondoliers*, *Iolanthe*, *The Yeomen of the Guard*, and *H.M.S. Pinafore* complete the week's bill.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. A. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—Mr. W. Penrhyn Forster's company is here in *The Officers' Mess*. Mr. Jerrold Manville apears to advantage as the Major General, Mr. Victor Tollemache performing creditably as Captain the Hon. Claude Melville; Mr. Harry Gregory is well placed as Antonio Wilkins; and Mr. H. Vivian does well as Rienzi Poorpoori. Mr. Edward Kipling is clever as Thomas Rugg; Miss Clara Nicholls as Lady Constantia De Beaune performs with her usual grace; Miss Edith Harmer is a typical Sybil; and Miss Millie Gordon is excellent as Timothy Tiptop. Miss Minnie Dorina dances exceedingly well, and Miss Nellie Sheffield as Rose Smith is vivacity itself.

PIER HEAD PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. A. R. Sutcliffe.—The ever-popular Charlie Harvey is again here, causing the usual roars of laughter; Mr. Tom Stuart is a thoroughly versatile artist; Mr. A. R. Sutcliffe delights the audience in both song and comicalities; Iris Banfield sings well; and Charles Royers is a banjoist of no mean order. Gordon Stamford completes a good bill. Professor Beaumont and Albert Stern's benefit took place on Monday, when the White Coon's performance at the town hall was packed.

LONG EATON.—ST. JAMES'S.—Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—Mr. Wilson Benge and his company appear here this week in *The Eve of Her Wedding*. Mr. Benge takes the chief part of George Tremain satisfactorily; Miss Sadie Smith, as Mavis Leverton, goes through her trying scenes with credit; Mr. Arthur Keand is a typical squire; Mr. Charles Groves. jun.; Miss Adeline Raby, an adventuress; Miss Violet R. M. Leslie, the American girl; Mr. Alexander George, the Parson; Mr. David Beattie, the Italian Police-agent, assist in an excellent performance; while Mr. Charles Digby and Mr. K. Arthur do much to provoke merriment.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Manager, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here with *The White Chrysanthemum*, the title-rôle being enacted in a very pleasing manner by Miss Lillian Hubbard. Cornelia and Betty find charming exponents in the Misses Blanche Astley and Harriet Fawn. Mr. Victor Kahn is a typical naval lieutenant as Reginald, while Mr. Erskine Lang is amusing as Chippendale. Mr. Frank Weir scores well as Sir Chow and Private Perks is amusingly portrayed by Mr. W. Westwood.

MACCLESFIELD.—ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company, in the great dramatic novelty, *Greed of Gold*, opened to a full house here on Monday. Mr. E. J. Preston commanded great respect for his admirable exposition of Harry Hood; Mr. A. G. Stratton frequently elicited applause by his forceful portrayal of Arthur Erroll; Mr. S. Bryant made a typical Cully Ling; and Mr. V. C. Rolfe was dignified as Mr. Brightstone, K.C. Mr. D. Campbell was inimitable as Conn Creamer; and Mr. Bert Fox as Tom Wilstead, the dumb man, held the audience spellbound by his realistic impersonation. Miss Amy Venimore was a charming Dora; Miss Cissy Murdock captivated all as Patty Mayfield; and Miss May Eddie as Cecil was equally a favourite. Miss Annie Bardey was a good Mrs. Maxwell; whilst Mr. A. B. Lyons as Mee Chow, Mr. D. Carr as Markham Keen, and Mr. J. Field as John Hagbey were all factors in a successful performance.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. S. Baskerville.—An excellent bill is headed by Cassac Talma, a clever illusionist, who submits a baffling protean illusion, in which he is assisted by Miss de Forge; the Stavordale Quintette, on a return visit, are as popular as ever; Belrose and De Velin, duettists, have well-trained voices; Mayme Cannon is a smart comedienne, who soon gets on good terms with her audience; Edwards and Dacre submit an amusing sketch, *Oh, What a Life!* Mackintosh and Royal are clever dancers; and Bertha Norwood, comedienne, and the Bioscope, complete.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Much pleasure was occasioned to a fairly large audience by the performance here on Monday of *My Darling*, Mr. Seymour Hicks's latest successful musical comedy. Miss Marie Studholme as Joy Blossom is, of course, the big attraction of the cast, and equally of course her appearance and performance are entirely charming. A great deal of clever and entertaining business is added, however, by other members of the company, notably Mr. J. F. McArdle as Sir Henry Heldon, a characteristically funny impersonation; Mr. J. Robert Hale as the busy and amusing Hon. Jack Hylton; Mr. Tom Graves as Oddy, the hotel proprietor; and Mr. Frank Hector as Sir James Jagg, the latter having also to his name the credit of the arrangement of two extremely good solo dances in Acts 1 and 2. An enjoyable impersonation of Daphne Bell is given by Miss Ethel Negretti; Miss Stanley Ronalds plays well as Sylvaine; Miss Ivy Dene is lively as Lisette, the waitress; Miss Edyth Goodall sings acceptably as Gabrielle Renee; and Miss Alice Barth and Miss Wat Tanner are well suited in the rôles of Lady Heldon and Mrs. Pomeroy P. Green. In the way of spirited and cultured vocalism, Mr. Alexander Chentrens is conspicuously good in the outstanding part of Maurice Le Blanc. A good word must be added for the quartet of dancers and for the capable efforts of the chorus and augmented orchestra.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.: Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—After a long vacation, this theatre reopened on Monday with Mr. John Hart's production of a new musical play entitled *The Maid and the Motor-Man*, which will run until further notice. A brilliant effort was made in every respect to ensure immediate success, and the attitude of a crowded house was that of friendly appreciation, amounting at times to enthusiasm, which culminated in a splendid ovation at the close for all concerned. The piece was originally produced in May at Cardiff, and of the artists who then appeared Miss Lulu Valli is still in the part of Kate Wicks, which she fills very well indeed; Miss Hebe Bliss retains her rôle of Lady Newark, playing with ease and effect; and Miss Wynifred Morice continues quite satisfactorily in the part of Mrs. Shepperton. As the Hon. Dudley Newark Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald is highly successful, in a style which may be described as a compromise between the "dude-ish" and the "smart"; and Mr. M. R. Morand plays with considerable point and briskness as Jack Bolter. Master Albert Valchera as Percy Sly will make much more of opportunities which already prove him to be a very smart young comedian. Mr. Harry Nicholls as William Binns and Miss Florence Parfrey as Martha Pottle are a couple of domestics, whose "business" is inseparable, and whose acting and general effect in the play must be counted an outstanding success. Mr. Percy Yorke as Sir John Warrington sings and acts well, and Miss Bella Newstead is pleasing as Susanne. As for the title-parts, that of the maid, Alys Warrington, is played by Miss Ruth Lincoln with considerable vivacity (though one might

Maritana was the fare presented, with Mr. J. Turner as Don Cæsar; Mr. John Ridding was a capable Don José; and Mr. T. Griffiths an acceptable King of Spain. Miss Jessie Dennis gave an artistic rendition of Lazarillo; and Miss Christine Gomez was a finished Maritana. *The Bohemian Girl*, *Faust*, *The Waterman*, and *Il Trovatore* have also been presented.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Capt. Cecil Clayton.—Mr. Jack Haddon's company, in *Under the Russian Flag*, occupy the boards here this week. Mr. Jack Haddon's fine interpretation of the part of Captain Demetrius commands applause; Mr. Charles Stafford as Ivan Romanoff acquits himself with considerable credit; and Michael Romanoff is ably presented by Mr. Jerrold Ord. Mr. W. Wilson proves an acceptable Colonel Souveroff; and the necessary touch of humour is furnished by Mr. Templer Ellis in the part of Alexis Skopolopski. Miss Molly Hackett as Ogarita is also responsible for humour; and Mr. Hal Ford as Peter Pouiski, a tramp, also adds to the general hilarity. Mr. H. Naylor Grimson gives a masterly rendering of Wolf Marischka; and Luka Marischla is skilfully interpreted by Miss Marie Rayner.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—*A Marriage of Vengeance* is being presented by Mr. Stanley Carlton's company to full houses. There is no question of Mr. Carlton's success in the rôle of Geoffrey Vannock, alias John Ridley; Paul Earnscliff, bank manager, is entrusted to the capable hands of Mr. Herbert Evelyn; and Max Rheinhardt, as portrayed by Mr. F. Bulmer Pitt, leaves nothing to be desired. Mr. Edward Morgan supplies the necessary touch of humour as Bob Shorney with an occasional song and dance. Amongst the ladies, Miss Rubie Maude takes the place of honour as Stella, Parisian adventuress, and her clever acting gains unstinted applause; Miss Maude Steeple as Amelia is the able companion of Bob Shorney; Mr. Jack Worth is at his best as Glynne Earnscliff; Mr. Percy Darrell, Mr. Bert Elvin, and Mr. Arthur Betts all do well in their respective parts; and Miss Lizzie Burgess as Marie and Miss Maude Steeple as Elsie Dean deserve nothing but praise.

MARGATE.—Theatre Royal.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wallis Clark.—For three nights this week Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company appeared here in the lyrical comedy *The White Chrysanthemum*. Miss Muriel George gave an exhilarating impersonation of Sybil Cunningham, charming all with her excellent rendering of the musical numbers; the rôle of Lieutenant Chippendale Belmont was well played by Mr. Victor Keer, who caused roars of laughter in his diverting impersonation of Chippy; Mr. James Dallas was very funny as Private Perks, his quaint rendering of the songs allotted to him and capital dancing evoking rounds of applause; Mr. James Graydon, as Cin Chon, also gave able support; Mr. John T. McCullum was excellent as Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage; Miss Rosie Sullivan made a charming Cornelia, her sweet voice being much appreciated; and Miss Dorothy Sephton ably sustained the rôle of Betty Kenyonand, scoring with her song. The chorus was good, and the general production perfect. For the remainder of the week Mr. Arthur Bouchier's company in *The Walls of Jericho* was in the bills.

The Hippodrome.—Joint Proprietors, Mr. Fred Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident - Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—Mr. Arthur Roberts and his company have kept the audiences in an unrestrainable roar of laughter over the amusing sketch *The Woman Who Was*; another charming attraction is Florrie Gallimore, whose songs are received with immense favour; Haig and Novel are clever comedy acrobat and burlesque artists; and other turns have included Beattie Benson, juvenile comedienne; The Katos, in their Liliputian entertainment; Lester May, comedian; and Josie Delaine, comedienne.

Hall-by-the-Sea. — Sole Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Evans.—Large audiences have this week been enjoying the capital bill of fare provided. Charley Hampson's grotesque act, in which he introduces his dogs and pigeons, has caused hearty laughter; Helen Lambert and Fred C. Glover, in their original duologue *My Birthday*, have been responsible for a good deal of hilarity; and Johnny Fuller, the "great little cat" on the wire, has given evidence of being an expert wire walker, a good tumbler, and capital dancer. Burg, Haud, and Wise, with their comedy act *Ye Brown Cow Inn*, provoke a great deal of laughter; and a turn of more than usual merit is that given by Percival, the pianist and variety entertainer, who in his one-man musical comedy makes a decided hit; Fox and Melville successfully render illustrated songs; and the Valesco's Australian stage circus, in which ponies, dogs, and a monkey take part, is capital. The ballroom has been crowded each evening after the concert.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's company is here this week in *Are You a Mason?* Mr. E. H. Paterson is particularly good as Amos Bloodgood; Mr. Howard L. Tracey is excellent as Frank Perry; Mr. Eric Albury deserves praise for his impersonation of George Fisher, and the same may be said of Mr. Buchanan Watte for his embodiment of John Halton. Ernest Moneson is ably played by Mr. Erskholme E. Clive; Mr. G. R. J. Austin gives an excellent study of Hamilton Travers; Miss Adelaide Grace ably fills the part of Mrs. Bloodgood; Eva, Annie, and Lulu have efficient representatives in Misses Coresande Hamilton, Babs Stuart, and Dorothy Mackenzie; and Miss Gwen Clifford makes a delightful Lottie.

Temperance Hall.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Clignot heads the bill here this week and proves a big attraction; Grant and Allen are an amusing pair of comedians; Warde and Wylie arouse merriment in their comedy duo; and Kaynor and Reece appear to advantage in an entertaining comedy scena. Other items on the programme which gain appreciation include those of the Sisters Nella, in their Pot Pourri Act, Mlle. Lockhart (wire artist), La Belle Helene (serpentine dancer), and A. O. North (eccentric comedian and vocalist).

MEXBOROUGH.—Prince of Wales's Theatre, —Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton. — Mr. Alfred B. Cross and company are presenting *The Manxman*. Mr. Alfred B. Cross gives a remarkably fine interpretation of Pete; Mr. Sydney C. Kearns submits a thoughtful rendering of Philip Christian; the Cæsar Cregeen of Mr. E. W. Cudd is a creditable effort; Mr. Howard Brenan (Ross Christian), Mr. C. H. Mortimer (Dr. Mylcreest), Mr. W. Roberts (Monty Missit), and Mr. F. Lynton (Prof. Mawley) all sustain their rôles in excellent style. Miss Minnie Watersford plays with distinct skill in the character of Kate; Nancy has a capable exponent in Miss Dorothy Duncan; and Miss Kathleen Barrett is a pleasing Miss Christian.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Theatre Royal. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson. — Crowded houses are greeting *The Earl and the Girl*, which is being produced by Mr. William Greet's principal company here this week. The amusing character of Jim Cheese is admirably portrayed by Mr. William Stephens. Miss Chrissie Rallands is charming in the rôle of Elphin Haye, the American heiress, her sweet voice being heard to great advantage. Mr. Thomas Kennard is excellent as Dick Wargrave; and Miss Jennie Richards is very pleasing as Liza Shoddam. The part of the Hon. Crewe Boodle finds a capital exponent in Mr. Percy E. Wright, while the rôle of Bunker Bliss is in the capable hands of Mr. H. Courtin. Miss Helen Kennard does well as Mrs. Black, and Miss Ethel Erskine, Miss Frances James, and Miss Hilda Grey are also entrusted with interesting rôles. Other artists who add to the attractiveness of the play are Mr. Frank Liddington, Mr. Mansell Fane, Mr. John Beverley, Miss Beatrice Ford, Miss Nellie Lawrence, and Miss Barbara Roberts.

Opera House.—Proprietors, the Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—*The Stepmother* is being produced here this week by Mr. William Holles and Miss Nannie Goldman's company. As Bob Bristow the gallant captain of the Sea Mew, Mr. Wm. Holles makes a typical and jovial sailor; while Miss Phyllis Manners acts with great distinction in the rôle of Anna Vickers, the cruel stepmother; Miss Nannie Goldman gives a pleasing and pathetic rendering of the part of Danny; and Miss Winifred Symonds does full justice to the rôle of Amy Bristow. Mr. Arthur Rodney is a capital exponent of Abraham Wiggins, and Miss Florence Harcourt as Johanna Jones, Mr. Murray Yorke as David Blake, and Mr. Wm. Macready as Luke Trixel are all that can be desired.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—John Lawson and his company pay a welcome return visit here this week in several successful productions. On Monday night *The King's Minister* was produced, and it proved a great attraction. Fred Cullane and company provide a delightful musical comedy, entitled *Pipple from Poppleton*; as do also Nellie Atherton and company in a musical comedy, *Wanted, a Partner*. Tom Maxwell and Virginia Francis please in their comedy act, and Letine does well in his characteristic impersonations. Fyne and Hurley and Lily Wood, comedienne, also add atractive items to the programme.

Oxford Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—F. V. St. Clair pays a return visit here this week, and well maintoins his reputation. The Pasquali Bros. provide a clever acrobatic turn, and an excellent vocal and dancing turn is given by the Lannons. A smart juggling turn is provided by Angeline, and Keith and Merson cause much laughter in their absurdity, "The Meet." Lade Henderson is an excellent vocalist, and Natalia and Diana are a pair of clever gymnasts. Lillie Currie pleases, and other turns are given by Frances Hanlon and the Palascope.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Miss Phyllis Dare is here in the *The Dairymaids*. In the part of Peggy Miss Dare greatly delighted her admirers. Mainly responsible for the fun of the show was Mr. Harry Dent as Joe Mivens, and in the laughter-making he was ably seconded by E. Statham Staples as Sam Brudenell, and Mr. Percy Marshall as the genial Irish Dr. O'Bryne. Mr. Frank Stewart as Lieut. Brudenell, Mr. Harry Cottell as Capt. Fred Leverton, Miss Cissie Sephton as Eliza, Miss Gay Silvane as Winifred, Miss Edith Blanche as Lady Brudenell, Miss Beryl Vaudrey as Helene, and Miss Hetty Chapman as Miss Penelope Pyechase, all ably fulfil their rôles.

Tyne Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—*The Bondman* is here this week. The company sent by Mr. George D. Day is an excellent one, and happy in having as its leader Mr. Frank Cooper, whose study of Jason is eminently commendable. Miss Ida Phillips makes a pleasing Greeba, and Mr. Henry Doughty ably fills the rôle of Michael, while Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Palmer provide some effective comedy as the grandfather, and Mrs. Fairbrother.

Palace Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Thos. W. Rowe.—The musical farce, *Lucky 'Liza*, proves very popular here this week. In the title-rôle, Miss Madge Browne is indeed charming, her dancing and singing being alike good, while Mr. Dickie Clare takes a trio of parts with an airiness quite refreshing. Others ably assisting are Mr. T. W. Benson, Mr. Martin Alwyne, Mr. H. A. Griffiths, Miss Victoria Carmen, Miss Helen Douglas, and Miss Vesta Brownie.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Mr. H. Hill Mitchelson's company is here in *The Traitor*. In the dual rôles of Prince Rudolph and Colonel Nervi, Mr. Graham Woods proves very successful, and great ability is displayed in the title-rôle by Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan. Miss Marie Robson takes the part of Zola with distinct credit, and others being accorded hearty approval by the audience are Miss Gwynne Warren, Miss Polly Denville, Miss Lilian Matthews, Mr. Wilton Reed, Mr. Edward Duff, and Mr. Alfred Richards.

Empire Theatre.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wells.—Mr. Harry Randall tops the bill here this week, and is immensely popular. The Six Æolians with their singing and dancing also provide a good turn, and Esta Stella, the military maid, is also a pronounced success. Conn and Conrad's sketch, *The 20th Century Burglars*, is very amusing; and others in the programme are Concoran Bros., instrumentalists of rare skill; Marguerite Broadfoote, comedienne; Westland, Scottish comedian; Whalen and West, comedy artists; and Ellis Barrieton, vocalist.

Pavilion Theatre.—The Barrasford Co.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Maidee Scott, a clever comedienne, is one of the most popular turns in a good programme here. Mike Gray, comedy juggler, performs a series of smart feats that cause delight among the audience, and, as in the past, the Eight Lancashire Lads prove a great turn, especially in regard to their dancing. The Three Bragga, novel acrobats, Albert Wyndham and Co., in a sketch, *Clarence's Dream*, and the Bensons in a musical act, *The Page and the Maid*, are all popular turns. Other noteworthy turns are George Victor, actor-vocalist, Sisters Brooke, vocalists and dancers, and Harris and Worth, sporting comedians.

NEWPORT.—Lyceum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company in *Second to None* occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Jerrold Heather, in the rôle of Harry Wilding, contributes a most convincing impersonation; Miss Ward's portrayal of Nell Greystone is marked by keen intelligence; Mr. C. W. Spencer admirably sustains the character of Sir Reginald Greystone; Mr. J. G. Maine shows ability in the part of Sergeant Jack Horseman; and Captain Mannering is taken in finished style by Mr. A. Brandon; Mr. Clifford Rear gives a praiseworthy impersonation of Frank Wilding, and some amusing light interludes are supplied by Mr. T. G. Vane as Leiutenant Ballater and Miss Ennis-Lawson as May, the heroine's sister.

Empire.—Moss Empires, Ltd.—General-Manager, Major Gallaghar.—Tom Jones, a Welsh comedian, holds first place in the bill here; Ferguson and Mack keep the house in roars, and O'Gust, the French mimic, is as popular as ever; the Sleeds present an amusing sketch, *The Mysterious House*; James Eadie and Cissy Ramsden are a delightful pair; Sinclair and Parr sing Hibernian duets in good style; Fred Lincoln in both his songs proves a capital American; and Ina Lorimer, a young Scotch comedienne, fully merits the recognition she receives; the Bioscope completes the bill.

NORTHAMPTON.—Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett.—*Sergeant Brue* is being presented here by Mr. Robert Crossman's company. Mr. T. A. Shale as Crookie Scrubbs is again popular; Mr. A. Reynolds, a capable Sergeant, makes the most of his opportunities; Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy does good service as Michael Brue; Miss Mary Hay is a smart Lady Bickenhall; Miss Daisy Dale a good Aurora; and Mr. Charles Sims an amusing Mr. Crank.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans.—Mr. Fred Storey and company are here in *Rip Van Winkle*. Mr. Storey himself portrays Rip most successfully, and is well supported by Miss Lillian Holmes as Gretchen, Mr. A. Maitland Stapley as Derrick, Master Hemingway, and Mr. Keith Fraser as Hendrick, and Miss Norah Thornton and Miss Edith Cornish as Weenie. Gladys Warren is a brilliant comedienne; the Sisters Temple are dainty duettists; Tod Lowen compels laughter; the Brothers St. Clair's comedy acrobatic cycle act includes a football game, which is greatly appreciated; C. Vincent projects a pretty coloured film, Easter Eggs; Nellie Lunelle, a clever dancer; and Fred Mason, comedian, also contribute.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—The Leopolds, with *The New Frivolity*, have met with a cordial reception here this week. As Oliver Buckwheat, Mr. Watson Hume creates a favourable impression; and Mr. John Leopold, jun., makes a decided hit as Daniel Teething. Mr. Arthur Mordaunt is a satisfactory Jules Vermiglio; Mr. Willie Leopold is smart as Samuel Vermiglio; Mr. Ernest Leopold is well placed as Tickle; and Mr. W. H. Howarth does justice to the part of Mick. As Mme. Cobweb, Miss Cathleen Cavanagh is worthy of much praise; Miss Amy Hall is clever as Lucy Buckwheat; Miss Gertie Winter is a capable Vinnie Moore; Miss Queenie Bronte is an interesting Nanette; Miss Gladys Somers is well suited as Maude; and Miss Violet Keand is a pleasing Nita. *Frivolity* is preceded by *The Houseboat*, which has also been much enjoyed.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The Maximilian Trio, in their drawing-room entertainment, meet with a good reception here; the Four Cecilians, musicians and dancers, give an enjoyable turn; Little Don, character comedian, goes well; and Messrs. Broadway and Beale, American comedians; Mr. W. Bernard, mimic; the Reddans, speciality artists; and the Bio-photoscope, are all successful.

NORTHWICH.—Central Theatre.—Proprietress, Mrs. Golden.—Robert Pender and company are here this week in *The Golden Goose*. Miss Lola Holman, a pleasing ballad vocalist; Miss Vesta Fay, a clever male impersonator; Mark Lane and Geo. Temple, popular comedians; the Continental Stilt Walkers; Tom Amanian, contortionist; and the Albert Family, were in the bill.

Pierrot Pavilion.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Glanmore Jones.—Mr. and Mrs. Victor André and company visit Northwich this week, and a good house welcomed them on Monday.

NORWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Charles Macdona's excellent company, in *The Duchess of Dantzic*, is here. Miss Anna Hickisch as Sans Gene is excellent, her acting and singing being perfection; Mr. Frank Bradley admirably portrayed the character of Napoleon; Mr. Marshall Vincent as Lefebvre, both in singing and acting, was very good; Mr. C. B. Williams deserves commendation as Phillipe; Mr. Harold Batt was equally deserving as Papillon; Miss Daisy Kersey was a pleasing Rene; and Miss Edith Martyn was appreciated as Lisette.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Foremost among the artists here are Haley's Juveniles, whose entertainment meets with unbounded approbation; the Silbons's miniature circus is also a good turn, the tricks of the animals showing skilful training; Ada Fawn, burlesque artist, is an immense favourite; an amusing acrobatic turn is given by the Brothers Edmond; Stiddar and Dunbar are good musical comedy duettists; Marion Scott is a dainty comedienne; and Lily Black wins favour for her songs. Harry Leybourne is well received; and the Hippo. Bioscope exhibits some pleasing pictures.

Agricultural Hall Assembly Rooms.—The Royal Canadian Company's pictures, in their twelfth week, conclude the season. Unprecedented success has been the result of the company's efforts, and fresh pictures have been shown every week.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—A specially attractive entertainment is provided this week in the visit of Mr. Martin Harvey and Miss N. de Silva and their company in a répertoire of plays. On Monday they presented *The Breed of the Treshams* to a large and enthusiastic house. In the rôle of Rat Reresby Mr. Martin Harvey is provided with a part which is admirably suited to his versatile powers, and loud and prolonged applause, often repeated, testified to the actor's thorough grip of the audience. Miss N. de Silva makes a capital boy, and her singing in the first act is thoroughly appreciated. Mr. Charles Glenny renders a good account of himself as Colonel Hungerford, and Mr. Charles J. Cameron looks and acts the part of Viscount Dorsington to perfection; as the cool and steady soldier, Sir Henry Curwen, Mr. Albert E. Raynor is thoroughly successful; whilst the eager boyishness of Cornet Tresham is simulated in good style by Mr. Alfred Mansfield; Mr. Fred Wright, sen., does well as Colonel Bagshaw; whilst the other officers are carefully portrayed by Messrs. Philip Hewland, Percy Foster, and Denholm Muir. A very sweet and sympathetic performance is that of Miss Coleridge as Margaret, and she is well supported by Miss Maud Milton as Mrs. Bagshaw, and Miss Maud Rivers as Hellna Pierrepont. *The Corsican Brothers*, *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*, and *The Only Way* are also in the week's scheme.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company is presenting *The Village Blacksmith* to large audiences here. Mr. Sam Livesey, in the rôle of John Strong, acts with vigour and pathos; Miss Maggie Edwards's efforts are heartily appreciated; in the villainous part of Captain Leo Mr. Joseph Carter finds ample scope for his undoubted talent; Mr. Edwin Maydew does well as Marler; in the child part Miss Bertha Hanbury is quite at home, and Miss Cassie Le Grande acts well as Ruth; Mr. Thomas E. Marshall and Mrs. T. C. Livesey succeed admirably as Parkins and his wife; Mr. Geo. Wilton is well suited to the character of St. John Harman, and Mr. Geo. V. Campbell makes an excellent country boy; a typical policeman and a good detective are found in Messrs. Gus Ratcliffe and S. Bale; Miss Edith Giddens is a clever Martha Mopps.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—With George Robey on the bill laughter is assured; Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris are to be congratulated on their excellent fooling in *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*; Ethel Haydon's dainty singing is received with delight; as a ventriloquist Mabel Sinclair secures hearty favour; and the flying trapeze act of the Clement Trio is watched with breathless interest; the Sisters Pine submit a musical comedy act, *Maggie's Day Out*, and the hilarity is further helped by The Leonards in a sketch, *Point Duty*; The Legay Quartette amply demonstrate their ability as whirlwind dancers; Charles Pastor, comedian, and the American Bioscope comple a capital programme.

NUNEATON.—Prince of Wales Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. John E. Tomlinson's company is paying a return visit with *Secrets*. Mr. R. Brown makes a thoroughly capable Lieutenant Markham; the part of his friend, Cecil Cholmondley, is capitally portrayed by Mr. Ernest R. Allen; Mr. J. E. Tomlinson gives a striking assumption of Ibrabeni al Murad (the slave dealer); Mr. Robert Innes, as Kard Mesrour, and Mr. Wilton Richards, as Nouredin Ali, are parts well played; Miss Nina France is a pleasing Ismalla, and Miss Nellie Navarro is good as Zuelicka; Mr. George Willis and Miss Lizzie Palmer, as Peter and Winnie Wilkins, create an amount of fun.

OLDHAM.—Empire Theatre.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*The Lady Slavey* attracted a large audience on Monday evening, when Mr. Robert Crossman's company gave a first-class rendering of the play. Miss Winnie Volt as Phyllis sings and acts in charming manner; Miss Rita Presano as Flo Honeydew is admirable, using her sweet voice to good effect; Misses Evie and Gladys Anderson as Maud and Beatrice, also sing and dance with success; Mr. W. T. Thompson as Roberts keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Mr. Keino Johnston plays his old part of Major O'Neill as to the manner born; Mr. Frank Henderson as Lord Lavender gives a capital impersonation of a dude; and Mr. Paul Presano makes a successful Bill. Mr. E. Floyd Gwyne appeared at a few minutes' notice in the part of Vincent A. Evelyn with great success, and retains the part for the remainder of the visit; Miss Ethel Ford as Mlle. Pontet, and Miss Amy Hilton as Mlle. Louise, are perfect. The chorus is a strong one, and Mr. K. Ernest Irving directs an augmented orchestra successfully.

Colosseum.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—A strong holiday attraction has been provided by Messrs. Hallett and Howard's principal company in *Her Love Against the World*, which is witnessed by interested audiences. Miss Grace Heywood gives a fine portrayal of the part of Iris, Princess of Idalia; Mr. W. Howard as Eric, Earl of Strathmere, acts in a manly fashion; Mr. Mayor Cook is forcible as the scheming Prince Ulric; Mr. Ronald Bayne acts well as Prince Othmar; and Mr. Fred Emery makes a capital Prince Maurice; Miss Evelyn Hope is an excellent Shulah, Countess of Rossleyn; and Miss Julia de Esco is good as Corona. Miss Rossie St. John plays in good style as Lionel Nello; Misses Lizzie Lennon as Katinka, and Hettie Ferguson as Gretchen, with the assistance of Messrs. Henry B. Lewis and J. Fulton Millar, are responsible for some excellent comedy. Mr. Richard makes a good General Gesslar; and Mr. John Chesson as Colonel Easterhazy, and Mr. A. B. Cushman as Colonel Tindroff, give able assistance.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Hilda Jacobsen heads the bill, and earns several recalls; the Two Anartos are responsible for a really funny turn; David Poole, ventriloquist, is a great success; Ray Ford is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Josh Dixon, a lively comedian, takes well; and Mark Leslie is a capital swell coon. The Three Bounding Pattersons are smart in a trampolin act; and the Dottoscope depicts the Coventry Pageant, with La Milo as Lady Godiva.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—Ernie Myers causes screams of laughter; Luis Hardt demonstrates what can be done by physical culture; Lily Lonsdale sings her songs in a capital manner; Selby and Myers are a pair of smart comedians and dancers; Howard and Townsend are very good duettists; the Rizarelis are excellent trapeze artists; and the Recars are skilful as Chinese acrobats. Smith and Johnson appeared on Monday, but were prevented by illness from showing afterwards. The Juggling Maniac is successfully shown on the Dottoscope.

OXFORD.—East Oxford Theatre.—Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill; Manager, Mr. Frank Stuart. — Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is here this week with *An Abandoned Woman*. Mr. C. Harry Gray gives a convincing representation of Phillipe Malvoisin; Mr. Albert Sefton does well as Captain Herbert Seaton; Mr. P. Morton-Wright commands sympathy as Robert Saunders; Mr. Frederick Hendry enacts Sir Marmaduke Seaton effectively; and Mr. Will Keriston works well as Sammy Sharp. Mr. Jim K. Woods creates great fun as Paddy Boyle, his songs being very attractive; Miss Elsie Deane makes a sprightly Sally Sloper; and Miss May Richardson is successful as Eleanor Deane. Miss E. Blande is responsible for a powerful and artistic impersonation of Ninon Malvoisin.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Mr. F. Marriott-Watson's company is appearing here this week in *A False Wife*. Mr. Fred H. Constable is thoroughly effective in the rôle of Lieut. George Mansfield, and Miss Annie Hylton gives a natural portrayal of Agnes Weyland. Sir Colin Mansfield is admirably impersonated by Mr. George Langham; Mr. F. Marriott-Watson capably depicts Jean Beraud; Ben Rattler has an excellent representative in Mr. Elton Morgan; Mr. Owen Edwin undertakes the part of Zorak with conspicuous success; and Mr. Allen Charles is amusing as Archibald Brown Tee. Miss Florence E. Florence plays the part of Lady Mansfield in a talented fashion; Miss Flo Morgan submits a characteristic sketch of Sarah Bernstein; and Bessie Blazer is humorously enacted by Miss Ivy Chandos. Mr. Percy Gibson is good as Inspector Fulton, and Mr. Fred Levine, as William Marlow, is meritorious.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—Harry Radford and Mlle. Valentine, comedy jugglers and versatile entertainers, are the special attraction here this week, and they are very popular. Wilson Hallett, mimic of little children, is well received; Baker and Balfe are entertaining as xylophone players and dancers; Adams and Ward give a clever comedy and acrobatic display; Tom Lloyd, eccentric comedian, is applauded for his songs; and other prominent items are supplied by Agnes Asher, comedienne; Bert Brantford, comedian; and Andie Burn, comedian and dancer. The Hippodrome Bioscope pictures finish a highly meritorious programme.

PERTH.—Theatre.—Mr. James Willard and company are here in *A Woman's Pluck*. Miss Marion Fawcett as Grace Daremont, plays with power; Mr. Austin Mortimer as Dick Darrell acts very well indeed; and Mr. Matthew Boulton as Winstone Dale also does well; Mr. Herbert Claremont as Sir John Daredevil, V.C., is funny; while Miss Kitty Johnstone as Bertie Daredevil, Sir John's grandson, also keeps the audience lively. A special word of praise is due to Miss Dolly Gilroy for her clever acting as Jessie Pope.

PETERBOROUGH. — Theatre Royal. — Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—This week we have Mr. H. Ralph Kimpton's company, in *His House in Order*. As Nina, Miss Olivia Glynne, who displays undoubted ability, springs at once into favour; Mr. Herbert Beaumont as Hilary wins hearty applause; the part of Filmer Jesson is in the capable hands of Mr. Edmund Willard; Miss Carmen Woods is an excellent Derek Jesson; Mr. Arthur Macken as Sir Daniel Ridgeley, Mr. Austin Spencer as Pryce Ridgeley, and Miss Purefoy Huddlestone as Lady Ridgeley are well placed; Mr. J. C. Taylor as Major Maurewarde gives general satisfaction; and the part of the French governess has an able representative in Miss Clara Hubbard. Miss Cordelia Coe is an admirable Geraldine.

PLYMOUTH. — Theatre Royal. — Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company presented *The Dairymaids* here on Monday; Miss Vera Vere as Peggy makes herself a favourite; Miss Maud Denny as Eliza is amusing; Miss Mabel Younge acts with grace and dignity as Lady Brudenell; and Miss Madge Avery is an ideal schoolmistress. The Joe Mivens of Mr. John Osborne is irresistible; Mr. H. L. Bruce works hard as Dr. O'Bryne; and Messrs. Clifford Seyler and R. Adams as Sam Brudenell and Lieut. Brudenell keep the house in laughter. The Misses Develin, Denny, Lawson, and Dorati win double encores.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Harry Ford is very popular here; McDonald and Huntingdon, American entertainers, are smart dancers; the Mayfair Comedy Quartette are amusing; Paul's juggling girls give a novel exhibition; Pearce and Ward submit a comical skit on boxing; and May Fallowfield is an attractive singer and dancer; Fred Tenby, humorist, also contributes ably; and Vernon's pictures are above the average.

PORTH.—The Palace (late Opera House).—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—The turns appearing here include Ara, Zebra, and Vora, the celebrated Nonpareil Trio, in their successful novelty, *Indian Pastimes*; Adele Lincoln, comedienne and eccentric dancer; Frazer and French, with the wooden shoes; Fred Dunstone, comedian; the Czar's Royal Russian troupe of dancers; Morris and Butler, in *Going to the Meet*; Musical Silvo, on the musical glasses; the Rio Tintos, in *African Gambols*; and the Palace electric Bioscope, with the latest subjects.

PORTSMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Miss Ellen Terry and her company are here in *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*, Miss Terry playing Lady Cecily Waynflete with her usual charm, brightness, and vivacity. Mr. James Carew's impersonation of Captain Brassbound is a thoroughly sound and artistic one; Mr. Rudge Harding's Sir Howard Hallam is an excellent study; as the Rev. Leslie Rankin, Mr. Story-Gofton gives a very clever portrayal; Mr. George Elton, in the rôle of Felix Drinkwater, is amusing; Redbrook and Johnson are ably enacted by Messrs. Dare Austin and William Walshe.

Prince's Theatre. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate. —*In the King's Name* is being presented here by Miss Ida Molesworth, Mr. Mark Blow, and company, Mr. Blow depicting the captain of highwaymen, Wild Darrell, in a picturesque and manly fashion. Hugh Earl of Rockingham is played with great success by Mr. A. C. Hardie; Mr. Roy Jackson, as Gerald Winters, is a capital villain; Mr. Austin Milroy makes good use of his opportunities as Claude; Mr. Dermot FitzGibbon acts ably as Hector St. Aubyn, Miss Ida Molesworth playing Lady Alice Vernon very charmingly and with distinction. Miss Mabel Durrant, as Jenny, and Mr. Harry Benson, as Timothy Gribble, cause much merriment.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Capt. Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Le Diabelo's performance on the wheel causes intense excitement here. The Sisters Edmonds are clever as sand and speciality dancers; Allsopp and Beckwith, amusing comedy patterers, do well; Will McIvor is a very capable and finished vocalist; Gallimore Trio present a nice sparkling turn; Effie White is efficient as a kaleidoscopic dancer, and supplies an interesting scena; Carrie Joy is a smart and up-to-date soubrette; Meier and Mora are much liked in their pot-pourri entertainment; Harry Freeman, a popular London comedian, is successful with his songs; Alice May and Co., in protean sketch *Tranquillity*, do good work; Sandford and Lyons, star comedians and dancers, are diverting; Payne's Pictures, with telling up-to-date films, complete the programme.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Mr. Fred Karno's company in *Early Birds* give a laughter-provoking show here. Mr. Alec Kendal, patter comedian, is exceedingly droll; Mr. Ernest Montefiore and Co., in *The Little Colonel*, are much liked; Alfredo Nardi, blind Italian violinist, has a cordial welcome; Hyde and Cody, acrobatic eccentrics, are screamingly funny; Mr. Frank Harwood, actor vocalist, gives a well-rendered scena, *My Pal Jemmy*; Daunton Shaw Troupe, Australian marvels, gain well-deserved applause; the Sisters Melba, juvenile duettists, and the Hippodrome Pictures fill the bill.

PRESTON. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Exors. of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Always welcome with Preston audiences, Mr. Auguste Van Biene and company are this week giving *The Broken Melody*. Mr. Van Biene continues to delight the audience with his 'cello solos; Miss Mary Mannering as Mabel plays with much sympathy; the Duchesse de Verviers is ably portrayed by Miss Constance Elgin; Mr. George W. Child as Mortimer supplies the comedy element; and Mr. Henry Ludlow as General Ivanoff, and H. Schlesinger as Beaujour, are both good in their respective parts; Mr. Brember Wills as Dickson, Archie Selwyn as Hon. Richard Spinnaker, and W. Thomson as Dr. Magrath are also most successful. The piece, which is enthusiastically received, is followed by the one-act comedy, *The First Night*.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—*The Female Swindler* is presented this week by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company. Miss Madge Girdlestone in the title-rôle, as Lu Valroy, gives a powerful representation; as John Coulson, Mr. Millane gives a manly and impressive representation of the character; as Abraham Mikestein Mr. Frank Woodville is amusing; Mr. H. Wright as Billy Binks, and Miss Jessica Ford, as Mary Anne, are responsible for the principal comedy parts; as Geoffrey Warden, Mr. Stanley Radcliffe imbues the part with sufficient rascality; Mr. Walter H. Domoney as Harold Travers, and Miss Cecilia Dare, as May Andrews, the hero and heroine, prove themselves thoroughly capable.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—A recent innovation here is the entertaining of early door patrons on Saturday nights with gramophone selections; Rapoli, a juggler of extraordinary merit, tops the bill

study of the Quaker lord; Richard Lawrence is ably sustained by Mr. L. Lingard; and Miss Janet Warden makes a charming Margaret Daventry. For some good comedy Mr. Norman Hall as Charles Prior, Miss Jenny Bostock as Bridget, Miss Kitty Melville as Ruth Cherry, Miss Lissa Young as Bob Trott, and Little Marjorie Lawrence as Meg are responsible.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson. —The Klein Family, with exceedingly smart cycle tricks, head this week's bill. Florrie Forde gets a gratifying welcome; Jordan and Harvey cause much laughter; Ernie Mayne is comical; Ethel Loftus shows ability in her character songs; and other good turns include Ted Cowan, comedian; the Charnleys, comediennes and smart simultaneous dancers; and Major Moss and son, vocal scenic artists.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Milton Ray's *Don Quixote*, in three scenes, is a sketch which gives much pleasure. The cast includes Arthur Milton, Fred Russell, Joe English. An exceptionally clever acrobatic act is given by the Rinaldo Trio; Wakonne Brothers, versatile instrumentalists, get much applause; other acceptable business is done by Will Freedo, comedian and clever dancer; Lashmars, in their comedy act, *Bits and Pieces*; Lucy Coventry, clever comedienne and expert dancer.

STRETFORD PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sidney Weatherilt.—A laughable sketch entitled *Deuced Awkward* is presented by Kitty Maitland and company; Arthur Gilmore, quaint comedian and dancer; the Daintons, comedy vaudeville duo; H. G. Prosser, comedian and patterer; Gus Ford, society entertainer; and Eva Roselle, charming vocalist, do good business; boy Hackenschmidt (a pupil of the great wrestler) gives an exhibition of his ability with other boys of equal weight and age. The Royal Bioscope pictures are both interesting and amusing.

SALISBURY.—COUNTY HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company has appeared here, in *Peter's Mother*. Miss Rosamond Mayne Young as Lady Mary Crewys gave a powerful rendering; as Sarah Miss May Seton was capital; Miss Beatrice Grosvenor as Lady Belstone, and Miss Lucie Evelyn as Miss G. Crewys delighted everyone; Mr. W. S. Hartford as Sir Timothy submitted an interesting impersonation; Mr. Theo. McCausland Stewart as John Crewys played in frank and manly fashion; Mr. C. J. Barber was an excellent Canon Birch; and Mr. A. P. Rayne a satisfactory Dr. Blundell.

VICTORIA PARK.—Manager of Entertainments, Mr. F. D'Alton Tebby; Manageress, Miss Jessie D'Alton.—Mr. Will Skidmore took his well earned benefit recently, and chose some popular numbers from his extensive répertoire; Miss Beattie Witham still scores heavily; Miss Lillian Ramsdale has secured a hit with "The dainty little widow"; Miss Flora Macdonald's vocal numbers are much appreciated; Miss Gladys Rose-Jones, the child actress, wins favour; and Mr. Albert Lawrence, female impersonator, has a good selection of songs.

SEACOMBE. — IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—The above theatre was re-opened for the season on Monday by Mr. Rollo Balmain and company, the first three nights being devoted to *Our Flat*. Mr. Rollo Balmain gave a delightful rendering of Nathaniel Glover, and Mr. Piercy Watson supplied an excellent personation of Reginald Sylvester. Miss Vera Fordyce did excellently as Margery Sylvester, and Miss Sara Mignon caused unlimited fun as Bella. Mr. W. E. Griffiths was quite satisfactory as Mr. McCullum.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Miss Augusta Tullock and company are presenting *The End Crowns All*. Mr. Hugh W. Travers is successful in portraying the evil machinations of Prince Borinsky; Lord Arthur Lyndhurst is vigorously played by Mr. Arthur Plummer; as Nicholas Boris Mr. Edward Vivian is successful; Ivan Spava is capably presented by Mr. Harry Carlte; Mr. Wm. de Lacy is good as the Rev. S. Gone; Jubbs is humorously sketched by Mr. Harry Danby, whose tambourine and rifle acts meet with hearty approval; Miss Augusta Tullock as Vera Romaine stands out prominently; as Lola Miss Amber Wyville displays marked ability; Enid Romaine finds a charming exponent in Miss Cora Linda; Birdie is pleasingly sketched by Miss Gladys Maye; Miss Nellie Fern is a capital Mrs. Jubbs; and as 'Tilda Anna Miss Rosie Watson does well.

SHEERNESS. — THE HIPPODROME. — General-Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—Miss Jenny Maynard's company, in the farcical comedy act, *The Mad Actress*, is productive of much merriment; the Mysterious Lilith, aptly described as the Human Butterfly, provides an enjoyable turn; Lilian Warren, with illustrated songs, gains a hearty welcome; Frank Lara wins approbation with his amusing patter; Katie Eplett, comedienne and dancer, is well received; Tom Dunmore, comedian, and Victoria Wright, comedienne and dancer, are also deserving of praise. The performance concludes with the usual display of pictures.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The visit of *The Lady Dandies*, with the extra attraction of Miss Evie Greene and Mr. George Edwarde's Daly's Theatre company has been eagerly anticipated by all lovers of bright, humorous, and melodious entertainment. As Lodoiska Miss Evie Greene charmed and delighted her many admirers; Mr. Eric Thorne was very funny as the comical Prefect of Police; Mr. J. Humphries as Tournesol, Mr. Harold Thorley as Legerille, Mr. A. H. Majilton as Des Gauttierres, Mr. Grafton Williams as Malicorné, and Mr. Clinton Reynold as Alexis were also amusing. Miss Mabel Russell was a graceful and chic Egie; Miss Vivien Talleur danced divinely as St. Cyr; and Mr. W. Talleur Andrews, as the young aristocrat, acted and sang with distinction.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*A Fight for a Throne* is being played this week by Mr. Lingford Carson's company. Mr. Leonard Maitland is first-rate as a young attaché; Mr. Fred Danvers causes general laughter; and others who do good work are Miss Evelyn Robson, Miss Elma Turner, Miss Manable, Mr. Sam Arthur, Mr. Edwin Clarke, Mr. K. H. Edwards, and Mr. E. Linney.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's special company opened to a large audience on Monday in *For Her Sake* Miss Mabel Mannering was successful as the beautiful Olga, and Prince Vladimir was convincingly represented by Mr. Wellesley Draper. Mr. Bernard Mervyn made a bold villain as Gregovitch.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Previous to his "striking ile" as a star Mr. George Lashwood was a recognised Sheffield favourite, and no artist visiting Steelopolis receives a warmer greeting than the dashing and debonair leading "swell comique." Other popular performers at the Empire this week are Lewis de Burgh, with his marvellous illusion "Dida"; Mr. Lonnen Meadows's company in *The Irish Doctor*; the Stella Girls, vocalists and dancers; Miss Lena Verdi, mimic; Miss Netti Starr, comedienne; Burley and Burley, eccentrics; Mr. Frank Cumminger, sand dancer; and Mr. Horace White, ventriloquist. The Bioscope is still a welcome feature.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—Here are engaged the following artists: Miss Carlotta de Yonsen and company in the thrilling episode, *A Den of Thieves*; Mr. Sam Ives, the Sisters Edwards, Mr. Wal Robins, Miss Bessie Willow, Bell and Butt in their speciality act, *Fun in a Garden*; and the Bioscope with up-to-date pictures.

CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietors, The Jasper Redfern Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—Miss Daisy Baldry and Mr. Mack Ollive, late of the *Belle of New York* company, are here, and other attractions are the Boston Twins, Joe Atkinson, Miss Renee Graham, and first-rate topical and dramatic animated photos. Mr. Fred Holmes is a popular and courteous front of the house functionary.

SHREWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—Mr. Junius Booth, the talented American actor, supported by a capable company, is here with *Monte Cristo*. Throughout the exacting and difficult rôle of Edmond Dantes Mr. Junius Booth acquits himself with consummate ability; Mr. Beckett Bould makes a very fine M. Nortier; Mr. Augustin Bowerman acts carefully and well as Baron Danglers; Mr. E. H. Johnson has a smart appearance and merits praise as General Fernand Mondego; Mr. C. W. Crowe gives a clever interpretation of the rôle of M. Villefort; Mr. Finn Doyle looks smart and merits praise as Lieut. Albert de Morcef; Mr. Fred Martin is well placed as Abbe Farin, a part which he sustains very creditably; Mr. A. E. Henderson makes a capital M. Morel; Mr. Percy Braithwaite, in the character-part of Caderousse, is deserving of especial praise; Mr. Sydney White as Inspector of Prisons acquits himself creditably; Mr. J. Parker makes a soldierly Brigadier; and Messrs. Sam Elton and W. A. Hillyar as Guards, are worthy of commendation. Miss B. Doyle is highly accomplished and graceful as Mercedes; Miss Alice West, in the disagreeable rôle of La Carconte, is thoroughly successful; and Miss Doris Dallimore acts exceedingly well as Sophie Danglers.

SMETHWICK. — ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*A Girl Redeemed from Sin* forms a popular attraction here. Miss Olive Fulton is entitled to full praise for her clever delineation of the title-rôle; Mr. Joe Monkhouse as Will May, the hero, fully realises the part; Mr. Wm. Burgess as the villain arouses a great amount of excitement; and Mr. Walle Spinner is successful in portraying the lover. Mr. Gifforde Reynolds as a broken-down old man is impressive, and Miss Nellie Waddington is very good as his faithful wife. Mr. Wallace Cowan is an amusing dude; Mr. Harry C. Momber is a very amusing Jakes, and received excellent support from Miss Ada Oxley as Peggy Grey. Other parts are successfully played by Miss Gertie Pawle, Mr. M. Partridge, and Mr. J. Hart. The American Bioscope Pictures add greatly to the entertainment.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—On Monday Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. V. Leveaux presented *The Walls of Jericho* here. Jack Frobisher afforded Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton opportunity for a masterly impersonation; Hankey Bannister had a creditable exponent in Mr. Russell Barry; Mr. Ben Lewin caused amusement as the Marquis of Steventon; and Messrs. Edward Coutts, Eustace Burnaby, and George Percy appeared with success. The Misses Ormonde Wynne and Pauline Straus gave satisfaction; Miss Nona Wynne as Lady Lucy Derenham was fascinating; Lady Alethea Frobisher was enacted in an able and admirable manner by Miss Edith Cuthbert.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—The Weimars and the Musical Sloper make another welcome appearance here; Merian and Ostara cause a great sensation; Mr. Charles Chantry entertains as a necromancer; Miss Amy Marsden is a funny comedienne; the Misses Eva and Nita Barrie, operatic duettists and ballad vocalists, are popular; Mr. Alfred Davis is an actor-vocalist of repute; Mr. Ernest Bishop, concertina player, delights all; and Miss Lily Flaxman, coon vocalist, shows promise. The Café Chantant entertainment has the services of the Misses Barrie, assisted by the Edolls (Harry and Maud), wonderful living marionettes; and Lesbore and Allan, comic duettists.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—Mr. H. F. Maltby and company are here in *The Youngest of Three*. Mr. H. F. Maltby plays Wendover with commendable skill; Gerald has a strong and able exponent in Mr. Wyn Weaver; Philip Radford is successfully undertaken by Mr. W. Reginald Favell; Paul has a good interpreter in Mr. F. Stuart Willson; the Misses Daisy England and Janet Hodson, as Annie and Florence Dulley, are refined and intelligent; Miss Mara Maltby as Lucy won admiration by her natural and simple acting; and clever, too, is Miss F. Hunter-Watts, who impersonates Jane.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS. —Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens, Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Mr. Mouillot's company, in *The Girl Behind the Counter*, is here. Mr. Ellis Holland depicted the General with excellent effect; Mr. Howard Gridland played Viscount Gushington in diverting style; Miss F. Lee as Millie Mostyn, manageress, presented a clever portraiture; Miss Nora Brocklebank was a charming exponent of the title-part; Mr. A. Cartwright was excellent as Chetwyn; Mr. A. M. Moore and Mr. Wm. Amery were very good as waiters; and the office boy had an able representative in Mr. F. J. Park.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Coulson.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company is appearing this week to good houses in *The Breed of the Treshams*. A fine portrayal of the Rat is given by Mr. Sidney Bland; Miss Grace Harlington is a great success as Batty; the Hon. Margaret Hungerford is capitally performed by Miss Mildred Hodgson; Mrs. Bagshott and Helena Pierrepont are capably rendered by Miss Madge Cottier and Miss Ethel Matthew. Mr. Robt. Noble plays the part of the Hon. Francis Tresham effectively; and the villainous Clement Hungerford is adequately interpreted by Mr. J. B. North.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Ella Retford and Harriet Vernon are bracketed top of the bill, and are accorded an enthusiastic welcome. An original sketch, *My Landlord*, is contributed by Fred Lawrence and company; great versatility is displayed by J. P. Ling in a mimetic monologue; Howard and St. Clair are old favourites here; great applause is evoked by Bert Woodward, the bicyclist steeplechaser; Resene and Robini, comedy gymnasts; Walter Emmerson, comedian; and the Bioscope complete a good bill.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—*The Sin of Her Childhood*, played by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, opened to a crowded house on Monday. Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam fills the rôle of Mary Haysel with much skill; as Stephen Haysel Mr. Wilson Summers is a decided success; and so is the impersonation of the Rev. Allan Grey as submitted by Mr. Guy Hastings. Miss Clara Santley is equal to all demands as Maria Haysel; and Mr. Frank Liston appears to advantage as Captain Thornton. A rich fund of humour is supplied by Mr. Hugh Brady as Barney O'Reilly, and by Miss Katie Lever as Eliza Muggins. Miss Nelly King submits a bright performance of Hannah Spry and Little Dorothy is pleasing as Eric Dugdale.

STALYBRIDGE. — GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Fioni; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—A much-enjoyed change has been effected in this week's programme by the production of Mr. Henry Swinerd's company, under the direction of Mr. J. W. Cordiner, in the musical comedy, *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. In the title-rôle Miss Dorothy Desmonde is seen to advantage; and Miss Pauline Emeric, as Ruth Montrose, is a dainty artist who renders very considerable assistance. Miss Nellie Harcourt and Mr. Harry Ugar, in the characters of Judith and Silas Crump, successfully contribute the comedy element; Mr. Walter Ashley undertakes the part of the persecuted Captain George Fielding; while Mr. Henry C. Ward exhibits sufficient stage villainy to connect the plot. The Sisters Blake give a couple of pretty dances.

ST. ANNES-ON-SEA.—PIER PAVILION THEATRE. —Lessee of Entertainments, Mr. Harry Leslie.—Mr. Arthur A. Hemer's company has been here in *Walker, London*. Mr. Edward A. Coventry was highly amusing as Jasper Phipps; Mr. W. Rene Hammersmith was good as Reynard Van Burg; Messrs. Richmond Howard, T. Harvey, and C. Middleton were praiseworthy as Kit Upjohn, W. G., and Ben respectively; Miss Ruby Wyndham was well suited as Mrs. Golightly; Miss K. Parry made a capital Bell Golightly; and Miss R. Cattor was captivating as Nancy O'Brien; Miss Jennie Douglas-Hicks was an excellent Sarah Rigg; and Penny had a capable exponent in Miss Ethel Stanley.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. —Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Mr. Allan Wilkie has commanded the close interest of large audiences here this week by his excellent impersonations. *Hamlet* was presented on Monday night; *The Merchant of Venice* on Tuesday; *The Lady of Lyons* on Wednesday; *David Garrick*, followed by *The Corsican Brothers*, on Thursday; *Othello* on Friday; and *Richard III.* is announced for to-night (Saturday).

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black. —The chief attraction here this week is the Geni Family of Risley acrobats in a marvellous performance; a pleasing sketch, entitled *Uncle's Courtship*, is given by Mr. Alfred Wellesley and company; Mlle. Sara's Marblesque Trio in a series of poses are interesting; Mint and Mart display ability as paper-tearers; Mlle. Renee is a clever musician, Dick Bradley a smart tramp cyclist, Fred Horsfall a pleasing vocal mimic, and the Two Eltons are amusing acrobatic comedians.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—HIPPODROME THEATRE. —General-Manager, Mr. Robt. A. Nicholson; Assistant-Manager, Geo. Stainton. — The Lukushima Troupe, at the head of the bill here, are accorded a hearty reception; Sam Vincent is a clever table expert, W. G. Wesley a droll comedian, and Marcus Boyle an amusing patter comedian. Lily Sharplin gives interesting impersonations of "stars"; the Paragon Trio are well received in harmonised melodies; Ossi Souplessi presents a fine act on the flying rings; and Agnes Moiteno, the well-known charming operatic soprano, presents her pretty new scena, *A Dolly and a Coach*, and sings more brilliantly than ever. The pictures are very humorous.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—The Italo Troupe, here this week, give a clever acrobatic performance; Fred Herbert is well received as a topical vocalist; and Maston is excellent in mimicry; the De Wynne Brothers are exceptionally clever as head and hand balancers; and Les Sadas, comedy jugglers, are amusing. The Bros. Barker, patter comedians, Belle Braham, with illustrated songs, and the pictures complete the programme.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—The Carpos head the bill in their acrobatic novelty, including some wonderful head-balancing; Charles Dixton and company, in *Uncle Obadiah*, cause roars of laughter; the Ongars, in their pretty dances, are capital; and the Brothers Harrison, the golfing comedians, are a humorous pair. The Bohemians, in their musical act, are decidedly clever; Les Rallis, in the sketch, *The Artist and His Monkey*, are funny comedians; Maud Mortimer sings a popular song capitally; Edward Ind is an interesting descriptive vocalist; and the pictures are excellent.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—This week we are favoured with a visit of the drama *The Trail of the Serpent*, by Mr. A. Campbell Kelly and company. As Ralph Hammond Mr. Campbell Kelly does exceedingly well; Miss Nana Cameron as Rachel filled an important rôle in a praiseworthy manner; Miss Mamie Stanton won applause for her portrayal of Ethel Maynard; Mr. S. Lannon was effective as Gerald Kingston; plenty of fun was infused into the drama by Mr. H. Godfrey as William Higgins and Miss Jennie Gibson as Rose Wilson.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Carlo.—A strong and interesting attraction is found in the visit of Mr. James Welch's company, in the amusing farce, *When Knights Were Bold*. Mr. Nelson Keys in the rôle of Sir Guy de Vere, Bart., keeps things merrily rolling, to the delight of his audiences; Mr. Augustus Symonds renders good service as Isaac Isaacson; Mr. Thomas Pauncefort is equally successful as Hon. Chas. Widdicombe; and Mr. Wm. Lockhart is seen to advantage as the Rev. Peter Pottlebury, D.D.; Sir Bryan Bullymote is safe in the keeping of Mr. Charles Ommanney; and Mr. Talbot Homewood is adequate as Wittle; Miss Emeline Polini as Lady Rowena submits a most interesting interpretation; Miss Violet Graham and Miss Bessie Walters ably represent Lady Millicent and Lady Marjorie respectively; Miss Vera Herbert is successful as Kate Pottlebury; and Miss Lena Flowerdew lends colour to the Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave; Miss Marjorie Chard's sustainance of Miss Isaacson is all that can be desired. The remaining characters are all adequately represented.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Good houses are being drawn by the popular military play, *Revenge*. Mr. Hill-Mitchelson is as powerful as ever in his character of Prince Orloff; Captain Joris Vanessa is well represented by Mr. George Daiper; and the King receives a dignified portrayal from Mr. William Hailbronn; Mr. Francis Serle is excellent as Count Musant; and Mr. Sinclair Holden submits a capital rendition of Captain Carr, R.N.; whilst a word of praise is also due to Miss Cissie Podmore for a vivacious representation of Lien Maurice; Miss Violet Carlyle scores as the Queen; and Miss Alice Barber favourably sustains the part of Draga Vanessa; Miss Mary Stafford Smith is most commendable as Cora Brook; Miss Mary Collier is well placed as Tusha; and Miss Ada Douglas is successful as Olga. The remaining parts are adequately represented by Mr. Russell Bayne, Mr. J. E. Abbott, Mr. George Sibbon, Mr. C. Henderson, Mr. J. Malden, and Mr. James Ross.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton.—Mr. J. H. Tindle's animated pictures still continue to run with successful results. Variety items are also being put forward, forming a pleasing interlude, the principal of which are May Armstrong, a clever speciality dancer, and Geo. Mustard, with his well sung illustrated contributions.

EMPIRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The bill is headed by Mr. Fred Lindsay, the wonderful whip manipulator, who submits an entertainment of quite a unique nature; the Carina Sisters contribute a welcome and artistic musical mélange; Belloni's cockatoos occupy a prominent position; George Brooks' songs are well appreciated; Powell's marionettes have reached a high state of perfection; Fred Sylvo, comedy juggler; Fred Keeton, eccentric comedian; Eva Hope and Jack Wayho in duologues of well-known scenes and incidents from Dickens; Lizzie Daniels, a popular soubrette artist; and the Bioscope pictures comprise the bill.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Browne and Stringer.—Chanti, the quick-change artist, is given premier position here this week; his various impersonation are remarkably clever and smart. The programme also includes Jock Walker, Scotch comedian; Lyster and Cooke, musical astronomers; Victor Travers, comedian; Carrie Laurie's Juveniles in the "Kindergarten," who secure a reception that is surprising; Oliver Conroy, comedian; the Two Bees, in their comedy scena, *The Man in the Moon*; Edie King, comedienne and dancer; and the Palace pictures.

VICTORIA HALL.—Proprietors, the Sunderland Corporation.—The last week of Pringle's pictures will terminate to-night. The graphic details of The Unwritten Law are closely followed by large audiences. The vaudeville items are provided by the Cymros, Welsh comedy duettists, and Zingara, the bajo queen.

THE PAVILION.—Pictures and varieties by Lee, Handell, and Lee, saxophone players, supply the well-appreciated entertainment here this week.

SWANSEA.—THE GRAND.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—The Swansea Amateur Dramatic Society have presented *The New Housemaid* here this week. The farce has been preceded by a well-written sketch by Robert Aswal, entitled *Labour and Logic*.

THE STAR.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. J. Powell.—*Wanted by the Police*, a drama teeming with sensations, is well put on here this week by Mr. Herbert Barr's talented company. Phillip Stanhope is strikingly enacted by Mr. Edwin Walton; while his friend, Nunkey Snarl, a showman, is finely impersonated by Mr. Herbert Barrs. As the villain of the play Mr. Ronald Graham could not be improved upon; whilst as his lieutenant Mr. Edward Cheetham was very successful. Mr. Duncan Bell as Dr. Foster was good; the same remark applying to Messrs. H. Evans, Alf. Selwood, F. Best, G. Esdale, and Harold Lyne. Miss Dorothy Oswald as Mary Foster acted with a naturalness that was very pleasing; Miss Edna Hana also giving a powerful rendition of the part of Florence Fordyce. Humour was capitally served out by Miss Maude Vincent and Mr. Jas. F. Firth.

THE EMPIRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. A. Rowe.—A strong bill is headed by Herbert Darnley's company in *The Skirmishers*, which goes well; Violas, the White Mahatmas, give a clever exhibition of mental telegraphy; Godfrey James, the singing collier, pleases everybody with his fine tenor voice; E. J. Sheldon, "the man in white," entertains in various ways; Mlle. Von Etta, protean artist, gives a pleasing turn; and Beatrice Willey excels in a medley of old flower songs. The Three Rubys are ladies who do great things on the trapeze. The Bioscope, as usual, is interesting.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Business-Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's company, with *The Cingalee*, under the business direction of Mr. A. Law Raynor, is a great attraction here. Mr. Tom Payne as the Baboo Lawyer is remarkable for his rich fun and amusing activity; Miss Marjory Grey is a captivating Nanoya; Miss Lydia Flopp a delightful Peggy Sabine; and Miss Coral Mansell an excellent Lady Patricia. A distinct feature of the piece was Miss Violet Hope's clever *pas seul* in Act II. As Harry Vereker Mr. Wilfred Heath was admirable; Mr. W. J. Austin as Bobby Warren worked hard and successfully; and Mr. Milroy Cooper did well as Boobhamba.

TONYPANDY.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Counsell.—A return visit of Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company in *In Holy Russia* is welcomed with enthusiasm. Mr. Cassidy as Micky Nolan continues to give a fine performance of the popular rôle. Mr. Arthur Stratton scores an immense success as Col. Richard Forrest; Mr. J. Cuthberton gives an admirable assumption of the character of Baron Von Pleve; Mr. Frederick Lloyd scores heavily as Michael Natolski; Mr. Carl Rovinelle gives a fine portrayal of the part of Laurise Steragoff; Mr. Rolf Leslie is excellent as Count Gregori; Mr. Frank Copeland is a capable Sir Harry Beresford; Catska Lavotski is in the safe hands of Miss Florence Creagh; and in the important part of Renée Rubinoff Mrs. Rice Cassidy gives an exceedingly clever portrayal.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—A great treat is provided the patrons here this week by Mr. George Alexander's company in *His House in Order*. The rôle of Hilary Jesson, the tactful and clever diplomat, was excellently taken by Mr. Frank Fenton, who was ably supported by Miss Marie Polini, whose Nina was both skilful and impressive; as Filmer Jesson Mr. Ernest Young displayed talent; and as Geraldine Ridgeley Miss Henrietta Leverett introduced just the amount of necessary austerity. Mr. Richard Dalton as Sir Daniel Ridgeley, and Miss Madge Johnstone as Lady Ridgeley, both did extremely well; and Mr. Langford Browne as Pryce Ridgeley made the character amusing. As Young Derek Jesson Miss Maisie Richardson gave a capital study; and Mr. Charles Tyrel was also good as Major Maurewarde. Mr. Frank Hill evoked much merriment as Dr. Dilnott; whilst Mr. Barnett Parker as Harding, and Mr. Edwin Forde as Forshaw, were very able exponents of their respective parts.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—An excellent party, under the direction of Mr. Walter Walters, known as "The Sabots," is delighting large audiences here this week. Miss Stroud Wilson is a good soprano; and Miss Gwenllian Lewis introduces some clever step-dancing. Mr. Sydney Warwick (baritone) and Mr. Charles Bulwar (ventriloquist) do very well. Mr. Walter Walters is a high-class humorist; and Mr. Archie Naish is also responsible for a large share of the success.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Welton Dale.—*See See*, as presented by Mr. George Edwardes's company, under the direction of Mr. J. A. E. Malone, has proved a great attraction this week. Miss Mysie Devine has given a charming interpretation of the title-rôle, and Mr. Alex. Worcester has made an excellent Yen. The parts of the two paters are portrayed with much humour by Mr. Tom Redmond and Mr. Fred Epitaux, while Tom Nelldon is excellent as Hang Kee. The graceful dances of Miss Gertrude Parker as So-Hie have been much applauded, and Miss Mora Hersee has been very successful as the daughter of Yang. As the three wives of Cheoo the Misses Mary Morison, Frances Olgar, and Nora Jones, together with Miss Nellie Beacon as the wife of Wang, have materially contributed to the humorous side of the piece; and Miss Nina Carlton has given an excellent study of the fortune-teller. Miss Rubie Vincent as the Maid also deserves mention.

TYNEMOUTH. — PALACE-BY-THE-SEA.—Proprietor and Director, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—A decided success has been scored here this week by Mr. Joseph Cheetham, a tenor vocalist, who appeared as an "extra turn"; the Willow Pattern Serenaders contribute an agreeable musical mélange; Welda and Wynne are smart jugglers and ancers; the Brothers Obo score as quaint comedians and duettists; Ormonde Penstone, illusionist, is also a capital item; and the Bioscope pictures prove acceptable.

VENTNOR.—GRAND PAVILION.—*The Superior Miss Pellender* was played to a large audience on Monday. Miss Pellender was represented by Miss Queenie Fraser Brunner, the dignity and cool self-possession of the young woman being skilfully presented; Mrs. Pellender found a prepossessing and artistic exponent in Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh, who is to be highly complimented on her success; Mr. William Fraser Brunner was a host in himself as Tister; Miss Marie Ault made a charming little Edith; Nancy was naturally portrayed by Miss Marie Longden; and Noel was ably represented by Mr. Victor Garnet Vayne.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Ernest Shand holds premier position on the bill, and proves himself exceedingly smart. W. H. Barber, in his cycle act, is successful; and Cecil Bernard, boy comedian; Harry Thorpe and Zoë Coe, in their comedy episode, *My Burglar*, a capital performance; the Netherlands, in their Dutch scena; Arthur Lester, in his popular chorus songs; the Warsaw Bros., in a musical sketch, *The Bugler*; and the American Bioscope complete a capital bill.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Harry Foxwell's company is here in *A Broken Heart*. Mr. Harry Culenford as John Barnard is well placed; Mr. Geo. M. Newall does well in the part of Stephen Rayltor; Miss Louisa Peach as Mary Barnard is very good; Miss Maud Stuart as Miss Grace Fanshawe acts with distinction; and Miss Ethel Crawford enacts the rôle of Mrs. Kellet most successfully.

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT THEATRE.— Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—The management have scored another big success here this week, and Alfred Sutro's play, *The Walls of Jericho*, has had a most enthusiastic reception. Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. V. Leveaux's company is a strong combination. Mr. Wilfred E. Payne as Jack Frobisher plays the earlier scenes with commendable restraint, but fire, strength, and concentrated passion characterise the outburst against the smart set in act III. Mr. E. Spencer Leach as the bluff Hankey Bannister scores well, and a really clever sketch of the Marquis of Steventon is submitted by Mr. H. Kingsford Pearce. Mr. Charles Fancourt as Harry Dallas plays most effectively; Mr. Alexander Casey gives a finished impersonation of Bertram Hannaford; Miss Dora Hole as Lady Alethea Forbisher ably depicts the underlying womanliness of the wife's character; and Miss Margaret Murray is a gentle and sympathetic Lady Westbury. Miss Margaret Nybloe as Miss Mornington scores a big success; and Miss Elsie Ross as Lady Lucy Derenham plays very prettily.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Waters; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot. —King's College Boys are here this week, and their sketch, *The Students' Concert*, gives them ample scope. H. O. Wills is a rare entertainer, and his eccentricities are as original as they are amusing; Martin Clifford is a smart comedian, and Victor Courtney is good as the comedian at the piano; Mlle. Zelda plays on a variety of unique musical novelties, and Massona is a good comedy juggler; Cliff Ryland is a quaint comedian; and the pictures are a delightful assortment.

NEW HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, McNaughton, Ltd.—This place will be opened on the 16th inst., under the management of Mr. Harrison, now associated with the Palace Theatre, Halifax.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mark Blow's company is here this week with *At Cripple Creek*. Mr. Stanley Bedwell gives a clever impersonation of the part Joe Mayfield, Miss Daisy Carlton is highly successful as Maggie Mason, Mr. Will Hook makes a droll Reggie Harwood, Mr. Eric Hudson does well in the character of Martin Mason, and the same may be said of Mr. J. L. Leigh as Manuel Alvarez. Miss Nancy Roberts is good in the part of Bella Gordon, the Dynamite of Miss Agnes Verity and Miss Nora Dillon's Sarah Lively merit praise, and the other parts are ably sustained.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Albert Withers.—Big houses are being drawn here this week by the roller cyclists Davis and Gledhill, who make their show a fascinating one. Jack Daw sings some funny songs; a clever musical turn is contributed by the Cecilians; Garney and Armstrong are well received; Edwin Garth submits some smart songs and patter; Montague Biggs as a female impersonator is remarkably good; Siem does some remarkable sleight-of-hand tricks; real funny vocalists are the American Comedy Four, who gain several encores; and the Hippodrome pictures are highly amusing.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne. —Mr. E. Graham Falcon's company is here this week in *The Private Secretary*. Mr. George Scully is extremely funny as the Rev. Robert Spalding; so, too, is Mr. Harry Douglas as Mr. Cattermole; Mr.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, AUG. 21.—Time was when the managers were afraid to risk making any important productions until after the public had returned from its summer haunts, or about the middle of September. Then the general holiday that occurs a fortnight earlier and is known as Labour Day, being the American equivalent of the August Bank Holiday, was made the date for the real beginning of theatrical activity. This year, however, fully half the number of Broadway houses will be in full swing by the end of August, including the conservative Empire, which, contrary to all precedent, will be opened by Mr. John Drew before the month is out. At this writing, the current amusement list bears a frivolous aspect, thanks to a dozen musical pieces, which will be replaced by attractions of greater importance when the cooler weather comes.

"THE ALASKAN," a comic opera produced last week at the Knickerbocker Theatre, has an alluring title for the dog-days, suggesting snow and ice and an atmosphere of frigidity that is by no means discomforting when the temperature is in the nineties. The piece is hardly up to the Broadway standard, however, being a curious compound of musical comedy and melodrama. The *mise-en-scène* merits praise, and an Esquimaux dance is an entertaining feature, while a tuneful march in the first act is deservedly encored. The Press notices of the production were decidedly frosty.

"THE YANKEE TOURIST," which has opened the season at the Astor Theatre, is the comedy formerly called *The Galloper*, by Richard Harding Davis, which ran last winter at the Garden Theatre. It deals with the adventures in Athens of a Yankee millionaire, disguised as a war correspondent. Converted into a musical farce, the piece is livelier and more entertaining, providing as it does more scope for the eccentric humour of Mr. Raymond Hitchcock, and enabling him to sing and dance to his heart's content and the complete satisfaction of the audience. Mr. Wallace Irwin, who wrote the lyrics, and Mr. Alfred G. Robyn, who composed the music, have furnished Mr. Hitchcock with several good songs, topical and otherwise, which make a hit. Miss Flora Zabelle, whose pretty "Rainbow" song is well received, Mr. Harry West, and Misses Helen Hale, Susie Cawthorn, and Eva Fallon are factors in the success of the piece deserving mention.

"THE LADY FROM LANE'S," a three-act comedy with music, was the opening attraction at the Lyric Theatre last Monday. The book and lyrics are from the versatile pen of Mr. George Broadhurst, and for the music Mr. Gustave Kerker is responsible. Singleton Seabright, a Western millionaire, decides to play the detective when his cashier absconds with a large sum of money, and chooses an alias which happens to be the one chosen by the fugitive. A female detective from Lane's Agency, who has been put on the job, suspects that Seabright is the thief, but his manner is so engaging that she falls in love with him. What follows is the usual tangle of mistaken identities, and although the device is old, many amusing situations result, thanks to the ingenuity of the author. Mr. Thomas A. Wise as Seabright and Miss Truly Shattuck as the lady detective worked together admirably, and were liberally rewarded with applause and laughter. Miss Ida Hawley sang charmingly, and others who distinguished themselves in various ways were Messrs. Robert Peyton Carter, Lionel Walsh, Walter Percival, Miss Georgie Lawrence, and Mrs. E. A. Eberle. For an August night there was an extraordinary muster of "first-nighters," and the piece was given a most enthusiastic reception.

THE Russell Brothers (James and John), known to fame through their mirth-provoking sketch, *The Irish Servant Girls*, have gone into the "legitimate." *The Hired Girl's Millions*, written by Charles E. Blaney, and described as a "musical melodrama," is the name of their vehicle, and the plot largely consists of the numerous and mysterious disguises assumed by the brothers. James Russell appears as Jim McCann (a porter), as Seraphina (a servant), as Frau Sweinburger (an opera singer), as Jeannette (a French actress), and as Betsy Brief (a female lawyer). John Russell has almost as many aliases, and each new make-up provokes roars of laughter.

MCINTYRE AND HEATH, partners for over thirty years, and believed to be the only ones in the business who have been together so long, are disporting themselves once more at the New York Theatre in *The Ham Tree*, which is their ancient negro sketch, *The Georgia Minstrels*, "elaborated" into a full-blown musical comedy.

COLE AND JOHNSON, the coloured comedians and song-writers, have just launched their new musical concoction, *The Shoo-Fly Regiment*, at the Bijou Theatre. The piece deals with the adventures of a negro regiment in the Phillipines, and there are songs and dances galore.

"THE LITTLE CHERUB," with Miss Hattie Williams as Molly Montrose, has been revived, with complete success, at the Criterion Theatre. This merry piece has served as the opening attraction at this playhouse for two years in succession. It must be a "powerful" attraction that lures the public into a theatre during the dog-days, but *The Little Cherub* "fills the bill."

MR. DAVID BELASCO'S new Stuyvesant Theatre will have as its initial attraction in October a new drama of American life, by David Belasco and Misses Phelps and Short, entitled *A Grand Army Man*, in which Mr. David Warfield will enact the title-rôle, impersonating an old soldier who has served in the Civil War, the locale of the play being a picturesque section of the state of Indiana. The supporting company will include Miss Marie Bates and Mr. Reuben Fax, who distinguished himself in support of Miss Eleanor Robson, particularly as the Kentucky "colonel" in *Salome Jane*.

"THE MAN OF THE HOUR," produced at the Savoy Theatre when snow was on the ground and kept on the boards throughout the entire summer, is still running. *The Orchid*, which has had a long and prosperous run at the Herald-square Theatre, will shortly leave that house to make way for Miss Virginia Harned in *Anna Karenina*, and will be transferred to the Casino, replacing *Fascinating Flora*. The revival of *Divorçons* by Miss Grace George and her company at the Lyceum Theatre has proved a source of enjoyment to a large number of people who have been prompted by the success of the charming Miss George in London to renew their acquaintance with Sardou's delightful comedy.

NEW YORK, AUG. 28.—When Charles Marlow's three-act farce, *When Knights Were Bold*, was chosen by Mr. Charles Frohman as this season's vehicle for Mr. Francis Wilson a most fortunate selection was made. The result is that Mr. Wilson has the biggest succes on his hands since the days of *Erminie*. The re-opening of the Garrick Theatre on the 20th inst. was a happy event for all concerned, for the audience that witnessed the first representation here of Mr. Marlow's play began to laugh a few minutes after the curtain went up and hardly stopped until the performance was over. Furthermore, the Press notices of the play were unanimously favourable. There is no doubt that it will become tremendously popular, and will remain at the Garrick Theatre for a long time to come. Mr. Wilson revels in the part of Sir Guy de Vere, of Beechwood Towers, and while playing it in a spirit of broad farce yet does not overdo it, but acts with a sincerity withal that carries conviction. He receives admirable support from Mr. George Irving as Isaac Isaacson, Mr. Augustin Duncan as the Hon. Charles Widdecombe, Mr. Clarence Handysides as the Rev. Peter Pottleberry, Mr. Campbell Gollan as Sir Brian Ballymote, Miss Pauline Frederick as Lady Rowena Eggington, Miss Margaret Gordon as Miss Isaacson, and the other members of an excellent company.

"THE ROUND-UP," by Edmund Day, produced at the New Amsterdam Theatre last Monday, is a spectacular melodrama with a sensational battle scene between white men and Indians that is one of the best things in the way of stage surprises seen on Broadway for many a day. The scenes are laid in the south-eastern section of Arizona, the requisite "atmosphere" and local colour being provided in the shape of "genuine Western cavalrymen, cowboys, Mexican vaqueros, Apache Indians, and twenty-two cow ponies from the Arizona cattle ranges." The action begins with preparations for the wedding of Jack Payson, a young ranch owner, to a "typical Western girl" named Echo Allen. The girl was once engaged to Jack's friend, Dick Lane, a mining engineer, who started on a prospecting tour and has not been heard of for a year or two, except that he has written once to Jack Payson. But Jack has put the letter in his pocket and said nothing about it. Dick returns shortly before the time set for the wedding of Jack and Echo, and when the situation is made clear to him he decides in a spirit of self-sacrifice to bury himself in the desert. The wedding proceeds, Echo being kept in ignorance of the wanderer's return, and soon afterwards suspicion falls on the bridegroom. Dick has returned some money he borrowed before he went away, and Jack has paid off a mortgage with it, with the result that he is suspected of having robbed and murdered an express agent. Being threatened with arrest, he tells Echo of Dick's return, and she tells him he must find the friend he has betrayed and set things right.

THE next scene shows a barren waste in the Arizona desert. Indians are hovering about, and down a steep declivity they file on horseback—a band of a score of savage braves. Dick Lane is dying of thirst in the desert, but Payson finds him, gives him water to drink, and saves him. Then there is the crack of a rifle, and in an instant Indians rise like spectres behind every jutting rock, and the shooting begins. The din is deafening. In the nick of time a detachment of cavalry dashes up with a machine-gun, and every Indian is made to bite the dust. The scene thrills the audience, and evokes a storm of applause.

IN the last act we learn that Lane was killed and Payson dangerously wounded. He recovers, and the cowboys make merry after the manner of their kind. And having atoned for the wrong he committed for love of Echo, she takes him to her arms again. The author has lightened his story with occasional touches of humour in speech and character, mostly expressed through the medium of "Slim" Hoover, the local sheriff, who learns when it is too late that "nobody can love a fat man." In this character Mr. Maclyn Arbuckle carried off the principal honours. He fits the part and the part fits him. Messrs. Orme Caldara, Wright Kramer, Harold Hartsell, Elmer Grandin, and Misses Florence Rockwell and Julia Dean distinguish themselves in prominent rôles.

"ADVANCED VAUDEVILLE," of which a generous sample was submitted by Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger at their New York Theatre last Saturday night, proved to be such a desirable commodity that henceforth the amusement itinerary of the up-to-date New Yorker will not be "complete without it." The occasion marked the local entry of the well-known theatrical firm into the vaudeville field, and the event attracted much attention. The lobby of the theatre resembled a well-stocked garden, and the reconstructed auditorium presented a very attractive appearance. At eight o'clock it was "taxed to its capacity," as the Press agents say. First on the programme were the Bogannys, "acrobatic bakers" from Berlin, whose lively capers made everyone sit up and take notice. Then came the Alexandroff troupe of Russian dancers—nine of them. Their dancing was of the "whirlwind" kind, and was heartily applauded. George Fuller Golden, the monologuist, reappeared after a long absence, and gave the audience what slangy young Americans call "a line of talk," which caused no end of laughter, his discourse being chiefly on the subject of "trial marriages." The Ritchie-Hearn Pantomime Company, from London, in their novel act, *The London Fire Brigade*, made an undeniable hit. Their reception was most cordial. Grace Hazard, a dainty artist, in her "quick-change" act, *Five Feet of Comic Opera*, the changes being made before the audience, did an excellent turn, and scored a pronounced success; and the same remark applies to M. Desroches, Mlle. Bianca, and their canine mimics, from Paris. The dogs are dressed exactly like the lady and gentleman, and follow them about the stage imitating their actions. When the gentleman makes an avowal in pantomime to the lady the dog in trousers mimics his gestures, while the other dog, in skirts, acts like the lady. It is a remarkably clever exhibition of canine intelligence, or whatever one may choose to term it. Others in the bill were George Evans, the popular singing comedian, who warbled with his usual success; and the Congress of Spanish Dancers, twelve in number, who were seen in an elaborate vocal and instrumental act called *A Fête Night in Seville*, which was well received, their sinuous dancing causing something of a sensation. During the intermissions the audience flocked to the art room, which is hung with the famous collection of pictures gathered by the late Augustin Daly, and exhibited for many years in the foyer of his theatre. "Telharmonic," or electrical, music was provided, and a perfumed fountain attracted much attention.

THE Sutcliffe troupe of Scotch acrobats are appearing at Keith and Proctor's Twenty-Third-street Theatre. They wear the tartans of the different Scottish clans, and always receive a warm welcome. Patrice, in the favourite sketch, *A New Year's Dream*, is reappearing here after a long absence.

GEORGE THATCHER, the old-time minstrel, is at Keith and Proctor's 125th-street Theatre. Appearing with him is Banks Winters. Also at this house are Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Kelcey, who present a new sketch, called *A Tale of Turkey*; and James H. Jee, juggler and equilibrist, who makes his début in America at this establishment.

GERTRUDE HOFFMAN is giving imitations of Vesta Victoria, Anna Held, Eddie Foy, and other stage favourites at Hammerstein's, where La Belle Oterita, sister of La Belle Otero, a sensational Spanish dancer, has just made her first appearance in this city. Arthur Prince is in his last week at this theatre.

MR. AND MRS. SIDNEY DREW are appearing in a sketch called *Billy's Tombstones* at Keith and Proctor's Union-square Theatre. The title of the sketch refers to a set of false teeth owned by the said Billy, whose loss of them, on board ship, causes him no end of trouble, and involves him in a series of ludicrous mishaps. Others in the same bill are the Willie Pantzer troupe of acrobats; Tacianu, female impersonator; and the Permane Brothers, a troupe of acrobats who appear here for the first time.

TONY PASTOR has no "re-openings," his popular theatre of varieties being open all the year round. The talent he provides is the best in the market, and his cosy little hall, while less pretentious than the modern vaudeville palaces, has had for many years a faithful clientèle of appreciative citizens, who know a good variety turn when they see it.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906. Effect on Theatres and Music Halls. By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor. Price, 6d. Published at "THE ERA" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

PROMENADE CONCERTS.

The novelty of the concert at Queen's Hall on Thursday evening, Aug. 22, was Mr. Cyril Scott's overture, "Princess Maleine" (Maeterlinck). Mr. Scott has, before the work produced on Thursday, composed a symphony and a pianoforte sonata. "Princess Maleine," written some years ago, is founded on Maeterlinck's drama, and although neither a very great nor dramatic production, it is artistic and musicianly in treatment, and cleverly scored for the orchestra. A large section of the overture is devoted to music illustrating the storm which occurs in the latter portion of the play, and with the somewhat novel effect of a cock crowing the music drama ends. There is much that is picturesque and ingenious in Mr. Scott's overture, which was admirably played by Mr. Wood's orchestra, but the audience did not display any great enthusiasm at the close of the new work. The orchestra was heard to great advantage during the evening in Weber's *Der Freischutz* overture, the Brandenburg Concerto in G by Bach, and Mr. Granville Bantock's "Hymns to Aphrodite" (Sappho). Sir Alexander Mackenzie's bright and lively overture, "Britannia," also greatly pleased the audience; and excellent performances were given of Handel's Largo in G, Mr. Arthur Hervey's Tone Poem, "In the East," and the prelude to the *Meistersinger*. In the Pianofort Concerto No. 4 in C minor (Saint-Saëns) Mr. Claude Gascoigne played with finished execution. Miss Maud Santley and Mr. Julien Henry were the vocalists

On Saturday, Aug. 24, at the promenade concert at Queen's Hall, Sir Edward Elgar's No. 4 "Pomp and Circumstance" March was performed for the first time. So popular has the "Pomp and Circumstance" March No. 2 in D become, that the trio, applied to the words of "Land of Hope and Glory," in Benson's "Coronation Ode," has gone round the world. The new March No. 4 in G is dedicated to Dr. G. Robertson Sinclair, organist of Hereford Cathedral, and is scored for full orchestra. Grandiose and impressive in style, Dr. Elgar's new work, which was preceded by the March No. 3, aroused great enthusiasm, prolonged applause following the impressive finale, finely played by the orchestra, under Mr. Wood's skilful direction. In addition to this fine march, the programme was of special interest. Tschaikowsky's "Capreccio Italien" and his *1812* Overture were given, and Richard Strauss's symphonic poem, "Tod und Verklarung"; while Gounod was represented by his "Funeral March of a Marionette." The prelude to Humperdinck's *Dornröschen* and the overture to Nicolai's *Merry Wives of Windsor* proved attractive features in the concert. Animated performances were also given by the orchestra of Berlioz's "Minuet des Follets," "Danse des Sylphes," and "March Hongroise," from *Faust*, Massenet's "March Le Cid," and Saint-Saëns's charming symphonic poem, "Le Rouet d'Omphale." Miss Esta D'Argo sang the "Jewel Song" from *Faust*; and Mr. Henry Turnpenney "Lend me your aid," from Gounod's *La Reine de Saba*.

On the 27th ult., at Queen's Hall, Mr. Roger Quilter's serenade for small orchestra was the novelty, and if not remarkable for originality or striking ideas, there was much to admire in the neatness of the construction and the brightness of the orchestral treatment. The performance was very efficient, and at the close the composer was summoned, and was heartily greeted by the large audience.

On the 28th ult. the conclusion of Max Roger's serenade was given. This composer's work, which has been so enthusiastically received in Germany, was divided in a singular manner into passages for the orchestra of muted strings, and the heavier brass instruments were omitted, leaving the concluding two movements arranged in the usual form. These were most attractive, and frequently quite charming in style, the instrumentation being so skilful as to warrant the great popularity the work has won. At first, the opening movement was almost startling in its boldness of design, and the vigour of Mr. Wood's orchestra increased the effect. The audience warmly applauded, and the performance of the serenade was a triumph, and leads us to the belief that the entire work will be given ere the close of the season at a single performance, so that it can be appreciated in its completeness. The programme on Wednesday also included Schubert's *Rosamunde* overture, the prelude to Wagner's *Tristan and Isolde*, and Paderewski's *Polish Fantasia*, the solo being played by Mr. Isidore Epstein. Miss Edith Evans sang "Ocean, thou mighty monster," from Weber's opera *Oberon*, with considerable effect, and another successful vocalist was Mr. Herbert Brown. The symphony of Brahms No. 2 was also finely played, and received an amount of attention from the visitors which showed how greatly the musical taste has advanced latterly. We remember the time when a symphony at the Promenade Concerts would have been a risky experiment.

THEATRICAL CRICKET.

MISSES WINIFRED BRADLEY'S and CECILIA FOWLER'S LADIES' ATHLETIC TEAMS v. BRISTOL X.L.C.R. and HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS.

Played near Clifton Downs, on Saturday, Aug. 24. The gentlemen bowled left-handed and batted with broom sticks. Misses Irene and Winnie Bradley bowled well for the ladies' eleven. Scores:—

Misses Winifred Bradley's and Cecilia Fowler's Ladies' Eleven: Miss Irene Bradley, b Harry Belding, 4; Miss Winifred Bradley, b Harry Hare, 9; Miss Lucy Norris, run out, 0; Miss Cecilia Fowler (captain), b, Harry Belding, 5; Miss Lilie Belding, b Harry Belding, 0; Miss Ethel Bowman, b Harry Hare, 7; Miss Lilla Carter, c Archie Hamlin, b Harry Hare, 0; Miss Ivy Bowman, run out, 4; Miss Grace Leonard, b Harry Hare, 11; Miss Minnie Leonard, b Harry Belding, 0; Miss Bertha Godfrey, b Harry Belding, 0; total, 40.

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hares's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs: Harry Edwards, b Miss Irene Bradley, 2; Harry Hare, b Miss Winifred Bradley, 0; Syd Carter, b Miss Winifred Bradley, 0; Archie Hamlin, b Miss Winifred Bradley, 1; Percy Hewlett, b Miss Cecilia Fowler, 8; Harry Belding, (captain), b Miss Winifred Bradley, 6; Jack Aubrey, b Miss Irene Bradley, 17; Alf. Mattock, run out, 5; Ern. Belding, b Miss Winifred Bradley, 2; Eddie Bowman, c Miss Minnie Leonard, b Miss Irene Bradley, 2; Harry Clements, b Miss Winifred Bradley, 0; total, 43.

THE New York Theatre will be devoted to Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger's "advanced vaudeville" after next Saturday, which means that this big playhouse will then be turned over to twice-a-day music hall crowds, and the long-promised variety "war" will have started. The battlefield will be bounded on the south by Keith and Proctor's Union-square Theatre, on the north by Percy Williams's Alhambra and Colonial Theatres, on the west by Keith and Proctor's Twenty-third-street and Fifth-avenue Theatres and Hammerstein's Victoria Music Hall, and on the east by Klaw and Erlanger's New York Theatre. In the latter house, for the purpose of this new departure, a number of structural changes have been made. Spacious lounges have been provided, and the "promenade de luxe" has been restored to its former grandeur, the intention of the management being to copy the London and Continental palaces of variety, where the vogue of modern composite bills has assumed such proportions as to threaten the popularity of the legitimate stage. Two performances will be given daily—in the afternoon at two and in the evening at eight.

SHERIDAN'S HUMOUR.

In the *Mirror* of the year 1828 there are some good stories told of Sheridan, thus: It was at the strongly-contested election for Westminster, when Sheridan was opposed by Sir Francis Burdett and Lord Cochrane, that the latter, in allusion to the orator's desire of ameliorating his situation on the poll by endeavouring to blend his cause with that of the baronet, characteristically observed, "that the right honourable gentleman sought to have his little skiff taken in tow by the line of battleship of Sir Francis." Sheridan, in whom the metaphor had awakened the remembrance of the remarkable and successful influence of his speech in the House of Commons on the occasion of the mutiny at the Nore, in calming the irritation of the rebels and reducing them to obedience, in reply to his lordship, bade him "to recollect that it was that little skiff which once brought the whole navy of England safely into port."

The election drew towards its termination, but all the efforts of his friends had proved unavailing to secure Sheridan's return, although his minority was anything but formidable. The interest that attended the contest had, at its close, become intense, and every spot whence the candidates might be seen or heard was crowded in the extreme. A sailor, anxious to acquire a view of the scene of action, after all his exertions to push his way through the crowd had proved fruitless, resorted to the nautical expedient of climbing one of the poles which supported a booth directly in front of the hustings, from the very top of which Jack was enabled to contemplate all that occurred below. As the orator commenced his speech, his eye fell on the elevated mariner, whom he had no sooner observed than he rendered his situation applicable to his own, by stating that "had he but other five hundred voters as upright as the perpendicular gentleman before him, they would yet place him where he was—at the head of the pole."

Often were his addresses to his constituents interrupted by the tumult that arose from the anxiety of the public to get within hearing of him. A person, mounted on horseback, had penetrated to the very centre of the crowd, with more regard for himself than consideration towards others, as the animal he rode, affrighted by the noise, became equally annoying and dangerous to those by whom he was surrounded. The outcry was excessive, and while some strove to appease the clamour, others urged Sheridan to proceed. "Gentlemen," replied he to the latter, "when the chorus of the horse and his rider is finished, I shall commence."

His good humour was at no time disturbed during the election, although the observations of his noble Caledonian opponent manifested no amicable disposition towards the orator. As it terminated, a mutual friend of the rival candidates expressed a hope that, with the contest, all animosity should cease, and that the gallant officer should drown the memory of differences in a friendly bottle. "With all my heart," said Sheridan, "and will thank his lordship to make it a Scotch pint."

His treatment of Coleridge, the poet, who had submitted a tragedy to his managerial decision, was wholly unmerited by the author, the success of whose piece subsequently so well justified the better claims it had on Sheridan's attention. In the cavern scene, where the silence of the place is presumed to be only broken by the slow dropping of the water from its vault, Sheridan, in reading it to his friends, repeated the words of one of the characters, in a solemn tone, "Drip! drip! drip!" adding, "Why, here's nothing but dripping!" But the story is told by Coleridge himself, in the preface to his tragedy, with that good humour and frankness becoming one sensible of his powers, and conscious that the witty use of an unfortunate expression (were it such) could but little affect the real and numerous beauties of the production.

An author, whose comedies, when returned upon his hands, were generally reduced by the critical amputation of managers, from the fair proportion of five acts to two, or even one, with the ordinary suggestion of "necessary alteration," &c., complained in wrath and bitterness to Sheridan, who, it is said, attempted to console him by saying, "Why, my good fellow, what I would advise you is to present a comedy of a score of acts, and the devil will be in it if five be not saved."

I have heard it said that at the first performance of *The Critic* Sheridan had adopted, as the representative of Lord Burleigh, an actor whose "looks profound" accorded with his "ignorance," but who, until then, had only aspired to the livery of the theatre—the placing of chairs, or the presentation of a letter; yet who, in this humble display of histrionic art, generally contrived to commit some egregious blunder. He was remonstrated with on his choice by one of the performers, who demonstrated the excessive dulness of apprehension of the would-be Minister of State; and, like other and recent instances in that capacity, his singular aptitude to error, however simple the part he had to enact, or clear and concise the instructions with which it might be accompanied. As Sheridan had planned the character, the face was everything, and the lengthened, dull, and inexpressive visage of the subject was too strictly ministerial to be lost, and the author would, as he said, "defy him to go wrong." Still, his friend was sceptical, nor were his doubts removed by Sheridan's assuring ham that the representative of Lord Burleigh "would have only to look wise, shake his head, and hold his tongue," and he so far persisted as to lay a bet with the author that some capital blunder would nevertheless occur. The wager was accepted, and, in the fullness of his confidence, Sheridan insisted that the actor should not even rehearse the part, and yet that he should get through with it satisfactorily to the public and himself on the night of the first performance. It came. The arbiter of hopes and fears appeared in all the "bearded majesty" of the age of Elizabeth, and, flattered by the preference of the great author, had carefully conned over the following instructions:—"Mr. ——, as Lord Burleigh, will advance from the prompter's side, proceed to the front of the stage, fall back to where Mr. G—— stands as Sir Christopher Hatton, shake his head, and exit." The important moment came. With "stately step and slow," Lord Burleigh advanced in face of the audience. "Capital!" exclaimed the gratified author. With equal correctness he retreated to the side of Sir Christopher, without literally falling back, which Sheridan had for a moment doubted might be the case, "Good! a lucky escape, though," half faltered the anxious poet. "Now! now!" he continued with eager delight at having got so far so well; but what was his horror when his unlucky pupil, instead of shaking his own blundering head, in strict but unfortunate interpretation of his orders, took that of Sir Christopher within his hands, shook it long and manfully, and then walked off with a look of exultation at having so exactly complied with his lesson.

INDISPENSABLE! Rayne's "Pocket Date Book." Contents: Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various music halls at a glance. Will tell if one hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety. All about artists' luggage, list of clubs, information about stamping contracts, foreign money table, London music halls and theatres, their telephone numbers, list of brougham proprietors, list and address of photographers, size of theatrical printing paper, names and addresses of theatrical railway managers, &c. Price 1s., post free. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. "THE ERA" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

OLDEN DAYS OF THE DRAMA.

In these progressive days of actors' organisation and demands for the "minimum wage," it is interesting to turn to the account given by Mr. R. J. Broadbent, in "Stage Whispers," of touring in the provinces nearly a century ago.

At that time, says Mr. Broadbent, there were no railway trains, and, of course, no "theatrical specials," and news travelled by a process so slow that it is amusing now to hear of it. Journeys on foot were more often than not the lot of the poor provincial actor, with an occasional lift on the road from some passing vehicle. Of these itinerant players there was an old saying that ran: "Take the linen from the line, the strolling players are here," and which, in a few words, expresses very ably the admiration and esteem, save the mark, in which they were held by the populace of the provinces. But then how could it be otherwise? for had not several Acts of Parliament dubbed them "Rogues and Vagabonds?" Edward Everard, in his Narrative, and Ryley, the Itinerant, in his Memoirs, and the various biographers of the life of the elder Kean, have given us plenty of information of what their lot was like. Truly it is a pitiful record of one long struggle against hardship and privation in the cause of Dramatic Art. All that illumined the lives of these poor wayfarers, and kept them to the road, was a bright and strong ray of hope ever present in their breasts for the attainment of better things, and a possible future greatness. Had not Kemble, Kean, Siddons, and others done this before them, and owed their success to it? said they. True, but alas! the dramatic sun shines only for a favoured few, and its cheering rays are not for all.

No better, in many respects, were the so-called temples of Thespis, oftentimes only barns wherein the wandering sons of the histrionic art exercised their calling. For a moment let us take a peep into one of these provincial theatres—a good example of its fellows—and what do we find? A cold and cheerless auditorium, impregnated with the redolence of stale oranges and sawdust, and at night illuminated with candles stuck in lumps of wet clay; the walls, that had once seen the whitewash brush, covered with filth and grime; the wooden seats; the dirty green baize curtain; the torn and tattered scenery; and the insanitary conditions of the surroundings, where fever and contagion stalked free and unfettered. This sombre picture is by no means a fanciful one. Of course, there were exceptions to it, especially in the case of the higher salaried actor and in the better equipped theatres in which he performed, but even then, taking all this into account, the present-day state of the profession in the provinces is a veritable bed of roses compared with what the lot of the profession was at the epoch of which I write.

In many provincial theatres engagements were preferred to London ones, as the favourite of the Bath, Edinburgh, and Glasgow theatres often netted, with prudence, from £400 to £500 per annum. He deserved every penny of it. From a chronicler of the period (Leman Thomas Rede) we learn "that a country actor, aspiring to a first-class engagement, would have to study *five hundred lines per diem*; rehearsals would occupy him fours hours in the morning and about five hours more at night, not to mention the time to study the character after the attainment of the words."

I will take from the actual figures of the time before me the salaries that were then paid by the managers of the principal companies to their artists when they went on circuit or tour. Under the management of Brunton, at Plymouth and Birmingham, the ruling weekly salaries for actors at the former place were from £1 10s. to £3 10s., and at the latter £1 5s. to £2 10s. per week. At Manchester and Liverpool, under the management of Messrs. Lewis and Banks, £1 5s. to £4, and at the latter place, under Scott's management, at the Old Circus and Pavilion, from £1 10s. to £3, the terms here and at Mr. Cooke's new circus sometimes being extended, on the production of a novelty, to £10 10s. a week, though the average weekly salary at the latter place was from £2 to £5. With Mrs. Siddons's manager, W. Murray, at Edinburgh, for two seasons in the year—winter and summer—£1 5s. to £6 or £7; with Harris, at Dublin, for six months, commencing in December, £2 to £6 per week. At Bristol and Swansea, with the father of the great Macready, £1 5s. to £2 10s.; whilst at York, Leeds, Hull, Doncaster, and Wakefield, from £1 1s. to £3 was the weekly stipend. In the circuits of Brighton and Lewes, £1 5s. to £2; Northampton and Leicester, £1 1s. to £1 10s.; Portsmouth, Southampton, and Winchester, the same; Newcastle-on-Tyne, £1 1s. to £1 11s. 6d.; Margate, Ramsgate, Gravesend, Sandwich, Deal, and Dover, £1 5s.; Richmond (under Klanert), £1 1s. At Greenwich, at Christmas, £1 1s.; and at Twickenham and Henley it fell as low as 15s. In Lancaster, Preston, and surrounding towns, with Howard, from £1 to £1 5s.; and under Rider's management, at Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Perth, Dundee, and Belfast, £1 5s. to £2 2s. With the Bennett's, at Exeter, Worcester, and Wolverhampton circuits, 18s. to £1 10s. Crossing over to Ireland, at Cork, Limerick, and Waterford, with MacCarthy, formerly of the East London and Coburg Theatres, £1 10s. to £2 10s.; and in the Channel Islands, where lodgings and provisions were remarkably cheap, the average salary was £1 10s. There were also sharing or commonwealth companies, whose shares averaged from 15s. to £1 1s. per week, and whose managers visited so many towns; but so uncertain were their visits it is impossible to fix their locality. Of course, there were many other wandering Thespians of the time, but information of their peregrinations would be too difficult to procure.

In the provinces some of the principal rules of the chief theatres were that all engagements were terminable by four weeks' notice. Actors who exercised their talent at other places of amusement without the consent of the management incurred a penalty of a week's salary; a repetition of the offence, and the engagement would be forfeited. Every performer was expected to go on the stage and join in the National Anthem or forfeit 10s. In many theatres performers were not allowed to go in front of the house during the performance of a piece in which they acted. On benefit nights actors were expected not to go in front of the house without the consent of the *bénéficiaire*.

During the performance, if the beginners of any act kept the stage waiting, they were fined two shillings and sixpence. For taking the wrong entrance or exit, they forfeited one shilling, and for omitting a scene, five shillings. If they opened the stage door when not required in the business, two shillings and sixpence; and for standing at the wings the same. For being *obviously* intoxicated one guinea.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

ACTORS' UNION.

Interesting points were raised at the meeting of the Actors' Union, held at the Bedford Head Hotel on Tuesday. Mr. H. Tripp Edgar was voted to the chair, and there were also present Messrs. C. G. Calvert, H. Paulton, jun., Arthur St. John, E. Y. Rae, J. Carl Lyle, J. W. Braithwaite, F. F. Loyd, Claude Haviland, Richard Cowell, A. E. Johnstone, James English, Watty Brunton, Frank Coston, Walter Bishop, and Kenneth Blackmore (secretary), Mr. and Mrs. H. Booth, and Misses Kitty Marion, Mary Bessle, May Conrade, Florence Creagh, Kate Robberds, Magda Wildenburg, and Marion Bird.

The CHAIRMAN read a letter from Mr. Frank Gerald, their delegate at the Trades Union Congress at Bath, in which he said he had received from every section of the Congress a generous and open-hearted welcome. He was going to speak at a meeting on Wednesday, when he hoped to give expression to the reforms needed in the theatrical profession, and would do his utmost to advance the best interests of the Union. That, said the Chairman, was a very satisfactory letter. It must be apparent to all that the Union was making history, or, at any rate, was creating a bit of a stir. The Union had only been established six or eight months, and their membership numbered 512—fourteen more than when they met last Tuesday. He hoped they would go ahead and make it a thousand by Christmas. Dr. Distin Maddick, he said, had conferred upon them a constitution. It was a hypothetical constitution, but the scheme contained many things in which they should become interested, and he welcomed this entrance of a manager into their propaganda. The Doctor accepted the principle laid down in their first object, namely that of the minimum wage. The Union were the instigators of the scheme, which had taken root, and was beginning to bud even with managers. When they had secured that, the Union would have justified its being. It was a great and glorious thing to get managers to recognise that actors had a right to combine as they themselves had combined. They only wanted them to appreciate the fact that the combination was not against managers, but for the general and collective good of their brother and sister artists. He took exception to Dr. Maddick's statement that other professions were in such a good state that they had no unemployed and could restrict their supply. The Doctor was evidently not well supplied with information. He knew many lawyers knocking about trying to get cases, of barristers waiting for briefs, and of any amount of doctors who had a hard time to make a living. Dr. Maddick was right in advocating a proper legal status, but his scheme was headed with a list of names which the Chairman contended was quite unrepresentative of the body of the profession. The proposition of a minimum wage for all actors except those with a private income he regarded as absurd; where their problematical minimum wage would drop to in that case he did not know. The Chairman urged members of the Union to keep their subscriptions well paid up, so as to maintain the funds of the society in a sound condition. Their membership represented an annual income of about £512, but the arrears amounted to something like £80 or £100. He prayed members for their own good and good of others to keep straight with the funds of their Union. They should remember that if they were more than six weeks behind they would lose all benefits appertaining to the Union—such as legal protection, medical advice, free agency, and other advantages which membership entailed. They were playing a very strong game and a noble one; they were playing to win, and they were playing it for the honour of the profession they loved and the principles they prized.

Mr. CECIL CALVERT, in the course of his speech, said: Our principal object is to induce other actors and actresses to think with us, to believe that we are conscientiously working towards the goal of unity, and once that unity is attained, who is to say what is unattainable? We think we are on the right road, or we would not pursue it in face of all the opposition we have had to encounter. Others think differently. That is a natural sequence. But whether they agree with our present methods or not is no argument that they should not join us. We naturally love those who are with us, we love those even who are against us but who discuss and criticise us intelligently; but what measure of affection can be served out to those who are apathetically content to let the present state of affairs exist, who will not disturb their brains as to whether their profession is progressing towards that high state of artistic and financial prosperity which should be the ultimate aim of us all, or whether we are gradually and surely losing our hold of our audiences, and sliding downwards on the path that leads to obscurity? One of the oldest professions in the world is at present in a woeful state—in this country, at least—through the apathy and selfishness of many of its votaries, the inordinate vanity and conceit of many who having devoted no time to studying their art, having undergone none of the hardships necessarily connected with the early experiences in the only training-school possible—the stage itself—having sufficient means to live entirely independent of any profession, have succeeded in supplanting a large number of thoroughly experienced and deserving artists. That being so, it becomes more and more bewildering to me that such an extraordinary feeling of apathy exists in the ranks of our profession towards the aims and objects of our Union. Is not unity the one means by which these wrongs can be rectified? Is there any other way possible? If non-members can suggest anything more than we are striving to do, let us have it as speedily as possible. If not, what sensible argument can they raise against throwing in their lot with ours, and proving that one and all can sink petty differences and jealousies for the general good? I do ask all my brother and sister artists—members and non-members—to keep alive in their minds the awful state of affairs in our profession, and I hope that they may become impressed with the conviction that unity is the only means by which the cloud of oppression and adversity that overhangs us can be lifted.

Mr. J. W. BRAITHWAITE called attention to a serious case of bogus management of which he and others had been victims. They had been taken to Devonport by a certain manager, and left stranded with nothing wherewith to get home again. His purpose in bringing up the subject was to warn others, as he believed the manager in question contemplated taking out another company.

The CHAIRMAN promised that the name of the absconding manager should be entered in the "Blackleg Books" of the Union.

In response to the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. RICHARD PAKENHAM addressed the meeting. He said that as a manager he felt like a wolf brought in amongst a lot of people armed with guns and things. It was the first time he had had the pleasure of being present at one of their meetings, but he had read with interest reports of their meetings. He was convinced the Union was working for the good of the theatrical profession, and managers ought to appreciate their efforts. So far as he could see, the council consisted of a body of gentlemen who were working hard and well for the betterment of the stage, and not for their own glorification. It seemed as though there were many in the profession who left others to bear the brunt of the battle, and then came forward to take a share of the ha'pence. The efforts of the Union were not only for the good of the actors, but for the good of the theatre proprietor and for the good of the audiences. He learned that there were only 499 members on the books of the Union. What were all the other lost sheep thinking about that they did not come and join it? He wished the Union the best of luck. Might they all go on and prosper.

Mr. ARTHUR ST. JOHN thought it was worth the committee's while to consider the question of a sliding scale of wages. In the course of his experience he had met with absolute novices who did not know the right from the left of the stage. Surely people like that were not going to come into the Union and demand a £2 minimum? Fellows, he thought, should be entitled to the minimum wage, but Associates should have something less.

Mr. CALVERT said he never had a doubt that the £2 minimum was intended to apply to the Fellow, and not to the Associate. If a man who had had five years' experience in the profession was not worth £2 then he never would be. They must, however, have Associates from which to recruit, and portable actors and choristers would be welcomed.

Replying to a vote of thanks, the Chairman announced that the committee had something up their sleeves for the next meeting, which he hoped would be numerously attended.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

LONDON.

Aug. 1. *Aïda*, Verdi's opera, in English, in four acts (Moody-Manners Company's season).—Lyric.
" 2. *Tristan and Isolda*, Wagner's opera, in English (Moody-Manners Company's season).—Lyric.
" 5. *The Woman From Scotland Yard*, drama, in four acts, by George Edwin Clive and Alex. C. Grant.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
" 5. *For Her Sake*, play, in four acts (first produced at the Opera House, Cheltenham, April 19, 1907), by William L. Roberts and Ben Landeck.—Grand, Fulham.
" 15. *French As He Is Spoke*, comedy, in one act, adapted from the French play, *L'Anglais tel qu'on le parle*, by Tristan Bernard.—Playhouse.
" 16. *Madam Butterfly*, Giacomo Puccini's opera, in three acts, founded on a magazine story by John Luther Long, dramatised by the author and David Belasco, and adapted to the uses of opera by Signori Illica and Giacosa, produced in Italian at Covent Garden on July 10, 1905; English version by Mrs. R. H. Elkin, produced for the first time in London by the Moody-Manners Company.—Lyric.
" 17. *A Goose from Haarlem*, piece, in one act, by Louis Cohen (copyright performance).—Coronet.
" 19. *Second to None*, drama, in four acts, by Walter Howard (first produced at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, on April 1, 1907).—West London.
" 21. *The Three Kisses*, musical play, in two acts, book by Percy Greenbank and Leedham Bantock; lyrics by Percy Greenbank; music by Howard Talbot.—Apollo.
" 26. *The Scarlet Patrol*, musical comedy, in three acts, by Owen Trevine and St. John Hamund, composed by Owen Trevine.—County Theatre, Kingston-on Thames.
" 26. *The Little Japanese Girl*, play, in one act, adapted from the Japanese by Miss Loie Fuller, incidental music by John Crook.—Duke of York's.
" 26. *Brewster's Millions*, transferred from the Hicks Theatre to—Duke of York's.
" 27. *The Hypocrites*, play of English country town life, in four acts, by Henry Arthur Jones.—Hicks Theatre.
" 28. *Fiander's Widow*, comedy, in three acts, by Sidney Valentine and M. E. Francis (Mrs. Blundell).—Garrick.
" 31. *The Christian*, new version of Hall Caine's novel of the same name by the author.—Lyceum.

PROVINCES.

Aug. 3. *Under the Stars and Stripes*, military musical drama, by Arch. Cunningham.—Theatre Royal, Tyldesley.
" 3. *Rollicking Rory*, romantic Irish play, in three acts.—Theatre Royal, Preston.
" 12. *The Idol of Paris*, drama, in four acts, by Charles Darrell.—Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.
" 19. *A Girl Redeemed from Sin*, drama, in a prologue and four acts, by David Muskerry.—Theatre Royal, Aston.

BERLIN.

July 1. *Raffles*, four-act comedy, by MM. Hornung and Presbrey (Herr Walden's season).—New Schauspielhaus.
" 4. *Vater und Sohn*, three-act comedy, by G. Esmann.—Kleines.
" 20. *Ein seltsamer Fall*, phantastic play, in three acts, by MM. Morton and Gunniver, drawn from "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde."—Neues.
Aug. 3. *Aus dem Tagebuch einer Verlorenen*, five-act play, by W. von Metzsch.—Central.
" 15. *Ihr Sechs-Uhr Onkel*, three-act farce, by MM. Kéroul and Barré.—Thalia.
" 16. *Die tänzenden Männchen*, three-act comedy, by F. Bonn.—Berliner.
" 26. *Die Stimme der Unmündigen*, comedy, in three acts, by Sven Lange.—Kleines.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.
On Monday, Sept. 2,
THE CARL ROSA OPERA COMPANY.

The company is a strong one, vocally and numerically, the stars being Miss Elizabeth Burgess, Miss Doris Woodall, Miss Amy Rolda, Miss Grace Nicoll, Miss Ina Hill, Miss Christine Ritz, Mr. Edward Davies, Mr. Alexander Richard, Mr. Charles Victor, Mr. Walter Wheatley, Mr. Dillon Shallard, Mr. Arthur Winckworth, Mr. Frederick Clendon, and Mr. Julius Walther. The conductors are Mr. Eugene Goossens and Mr. Walter Van Norden. A most enthusiastic audience greeted the performances of *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci* on Tuesday, and each number was rewarded with unstinted applause. The orchestra is greatly increased for this engagement. The stage-manager of the company is Mr. George Beale, Miss Annie Elliott is the première danseuse, and Mr. Ernest C. Gittens the capable and courteous acting-manager.

AMUSEMENTS IN STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SINGAPORE, JULY 15. — This week the Bandmann Comedy Company continued the season here and played *Niobe* to well-filled houses. The success of this play was in a large measure due to the clever acting of Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter as Peter Amos Dunn. Miss Florence Hamer as Niobe was exceedingly good; while Mr. Claude King as Corney Griffen was very successful. Miss Helen Grenville as Hattie Griffen and Miss Violet Vorley as Beatrice Sillocks were charming in their respective parts. Miss Dorcas Corsbie as Helen Griffen played the part of the spook-ridden maiden lady with great effect, and was most amusing. Mr. Sydney Pease as Mr. Tompkins and Mr. Clifford Bown as Sillocks were good. The parts of Mr. Innings, Miss Mifton, and May were well filled by Mr. P. Sanders, Miss Violet Luddington, and Miss Lilian Lloyd.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS OLA HUMPHREY.

Miss Ola Humphrey justly claims a position as one of the celebrities of the American stage. Miss Humphrey has a brightness and cheerfulness of manner. Miss Humphrey arrived in England two weeks ago, and is relinquishing engagements in America in order that she might catch a glimpse of "The Little Island," and at the same time complete the round trip of the world. Some fifteen months ago or more Miss Humphrey was tempted by Mr. J. C. Williamson's offer to visit Australia and New Zealand, in which countries she appeared in the leading rôles in such plays as *The Christian*, *The Squaw Man*, *The Virginian*, &c. Her success was instantaneous. The Melbourne *Argus*, one of the most important papers in Australasia, writing of her performance of Glory Quayle in *The Christian*, says:—"Hall Caine's striking drama gave Miss Ola Humphrey an opportunity to display her art, and her characterisation of Glory Quayle—the warm-hearted, wilful, very lovable Glory—stamped her as an actress who need not fear comparison with Sarah Bernhardt in an emotional scene." Miss Humphrey characterises her twelve months' engagement with Mr. J. C. Williamson's management as the happiest engagement of her life. The management, the public, and her brother and sister artists were most charming. Asked as to what class of study she preferred, Miss Humphrey replied the Shakespearean heroines. "I have played them all, and love them: nothing else is so absolutely satisfying; everything is said in the best possible way; everything is complete and perfect. I think my best characters are emotional tragic: Nora in *The Doll's House*, Hedda Gabler, Tosca, Paula Tanqueray, Sappho, Julie, Camille. I have just had a play specially written for me by Opie Reid, a true sociological study, which I hope one day to present before your West End audience. I starred for upwards of five years in America in a great répertoire. I also supported Mr. James K. Hackett when he produced the *Little Grey Lady*, and have played in various long stock seasons. Would I advise girls to go on the stage? Why, yes, if they have some talent, a fair amount of

[*Photo by The Ashby Co.*
MISS OLA HUMPHREY.

good looks, some natural grace of figure and movement, and, above all, if they can *think* and work. Beauty is not indispensable to success on the stage; but there must be magnetism and charm. There are difficulties in the way, of course, but will power, which is implanted in us, is able to surmount everything, provided it is strong enough, determined enough. Am I impressed with London? Yes, very much. I like your theatres, and your artists, and hope in the near future to make my first appearance before a West End audience."

AN ECCENTRIC MANAGER.

"John Alexander, of the Theatre Royal, Glasgow," says James R. Anderson, in "An Actor's Life," "was a wonderfully eccentric person. Born of very humble origin, and bred a tallow-candle maker, he ran away from his trade, cut the rush-lights to snuff the footlights in a company of strolling players in 'the lang toon of Kirkcaddy,' and, after many years' severe probation, became a good and useful actor, if not a great one. At last he tried management, and was very successful. Having made a fortune, he built a magnificent theatre in Glasgow, his native city, and crowned his edifice with three marble statues larger than life, by a Scottish sculptor: Shakespeare on the right, Garrick on the left, and *John Alexander in the middle!*

"His eccentricities gave rise to numerous and humorous anecdotes and fun. He would always insist on bringing on the Ghost of Hamlet's father (no matter who was the 'star') on a slide or groove in the stage to slow and solemn music from the orchestra. Ophelia's funeral was always accompanied by a military band, playing the Dead March in 'Saul.'

"When Helen Faucit played Juliet with him, he had no young man to take Romeo, so he undertook it himself. When the play was ended, the lady was 'called,' and received with a shower of bouquets! The gods in the gallery called for 'Alec,' and he was received with a shower of cabbages, carrots, and roots! Instead of being angry, he picked them all up in his arms, and, stepping down to the footlights, said smilingly, 'Ladies and gentlemen, I am truly proud of your applause, and for these sweet tokens of your approbation, aw'll tak' them hame to the cuddy.' Shrieks of laughter and several rounds of cheers made him quite happy.

"Another anecdote is told of him. When on his death-bed, he desired to know the worst. The minister and the doctor delicately hinted that all was over with him. 'What!' said he, when he heard the unwelcome tidings, 'am I to die now that I have achieved fame and fortune, after a life of industry and labour, after having built a glorious temple to the drama, and erected my own beautiful statue, as well as Shakespeare's and Garrick's? Must I really die now?' The minister and doctor replied very mournfully, 'Alas! it is but too true.' On hearing this, poor Alexander quietly and philosophically murmured, 'Then all I can say is, it's a d——d shame!'"

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

THE GILBERT-SULLIVAN PARTNERSHIP.

A momentous period of the career of Sir W. S. Gilbert, the latest disciple of the drama to be honoured with the dignity of knighthood, is graphically described by Edith A. Browne, in her interesting series of "Stars of the Stage." "The honour of introducing Gilbert to the late Sir Arthur Sullivan," writes the authoress, "belongs to Fred Clay, the composer, to whom the world at large is, therefore, indebted for the initial move in what has proved such an eventful partnership. Gilbert had collaborated with Fred Clay in writing a musical play called *Ages Ago* for the German Reeds; Sullivan, on hearing that the author of the "Bab Ballads" was working with his friend Clay, expressed a wish to meet Gilbert and was invited by Clay to go to a rehearsal of *Ages Ago* at the old Gallery of Illustration, Regent Street, where the introduction took place. This was in 1871, long before Arthur Sullivan was rewarded by his grateful country with a knighthood; the acquaintance soon ripened into a friendship in which author and composer joined forces, but no striking success resulted from the collaboration till the early days of 1875, when *Trial by Jury* was produced. *Trial by Jury* had already been published in *Fun* by Bab. Gilbert elaborated it for the Parepa-Rosa Opera Company, and it was set to music by Carl Rosa, but the arrangements for producing it fell through, owing to the death of Parepa-Rosa, Carl Rosa's wife. Gilbert then took the libretto to Sullivan, who was ill in bed at the time, but happily not too ill to enter heartily into the spirit of the fun as Gilbert read his merry satire on the Law Courts. Delighted at the idea of giving the musical finish to this one-act play, Sullivan set to work at once on the score, and *Trial by Jury* was produced at the Soho Theatre, now the Royalty, on March 25, 1875. The success of the venture can hardly be said to be remarkable, for, bearing in mind the whimsical and dramatic qualities of both libretto and music, it would indeed have been remarkable if such an operetta had not instantaneously met with the appreciation it merits.

"The hearty reception accorded to this operetta naturally encouraged Gilbert and Sullivan to think of collaborating in a more ambitious venture, and it was whilst they were busy discussing their future plans that they were approached by the keen-sighted D'Oyly Carte, who had been acting-manager of the Soho Theatre at the time *Trial by Jury* was produced. D'Oyly Carte was now busily engaged in promoting an English Comic Opera Company to carry out his enterprising idea of developing comic opera, and providing for it a permanent London home. He was an excellent man of business, and he had already enlisted sufficient practical sympathy with his scheme to justify him in looking round for a new opera that would enable his company to demonstrate by it first production that it had a new and definite policy. *Trial by Jury* had shown him that Gilbert and Sullivan also had some idea of developing comic opera on original lines, and to them he instinctively turned with the request that they would write the first opera for his new company. They readily acquiesced, and set to work on *The Sorcerer*, which was produced by the Comedy Opera Company at the Opéra Comique Theatre on November 17, 1877. The success of *The Sorcerer* fully justified the company in giving its authors a further commission, as a result of which *H.M.S. Pinafore* was produced at the Opera Comique on May 25, 1878. After this production the Comedy Opera Company was wound up, but D'Oyly Carte took over the lease of the Opéra Comique, and for him Gilbert and Sullivan wrote *The Pirates of Penzance*, first produced on April 3, 1880, and *Patience*, which was first played on April 23, 1881.

"Meanwhile the Gilbert and Sullivan operas had become so popular that they had quite outgrown the limited accommodation of the Opéra Comique, and D'Oyly Carte saw that the happy time had now come when he might build a theatre such as he had dreamed of as the permanent home of English Comic Opera, which was now no longer a dream, but a very successful reality. Under his direction the spacious Savoy Theatre was erected, with a view to providing suitable accommodation for the adequate representation of the Gilbert and Sullivan Operas, and ensuring the comfort of the public who flocked to see them. The new theatre was opened on October 10, 1881, with *Patience*, which was transferred from the Opéra Comique, and for the space of nearly ten years following on this auspicious opening, Gilbert and Sullivan operas were played nightly at the Savoy, practically speaking, without a break.

"Gilbert and Sullivan entered into partnership with the object of achieving a definite ideal. They were convinced that comic opera need not rely on any suggestion of vulgarity for it humour, and furthermore they aspired to being able to prove in some measure that England need not rely wholly on translations and adaptations for its humorous operatic fare. 'We resolved,' says Gilbert, 'that our plots, however ridiculous, should be coherent, that our dialogue should be void of offence, that, on artistic principles, no man should play a woman's part, and no woman a man's. Finally, we agreed that no lady of the company should be required to wear a dress that she could not wear with absolute propriety at a private fancy ball; and I believe I may say that we proved our case.'

"With 'no vulgarity' as the keynote of their policy the two set to work, and their general method of procedure was as follows—Gilbert, having first decided on his plot, drew up the scenario in a very detailed manner; he then went through this scenario with Sullivan and the two marked in the musical situations. Gilbert next wrote all the musical numbers of the first act with a short epitome of the dialogue that was to connect them, and sent his manuscript to Sullivan, and whilst Sullivan was composing the music of the 1st act, Gilbert wrote the musical numbers of act two; he usually confined his libretto to two acts, and whilst Sullivan was setting the second act to music, Gilbert wrote up the dialogue of his play.

"The opera having been written, Gilbert next planned out all the scenery and roughly designed the costumes. Then came the task of allotting parts and arranging the chorus. The next step was for all the members of the cast to learn their words and music. Here Sullivan was to the fore, as Gilbert, notwithstanding his keen ear for rhythm, had no ear for music; he revels in Sullivan's tuneful airs, but confesses that he could not be trusted to detect anything wrong if they were sung out of tune, in fact, the impromptu insertion of a discord would probably give him a little extra pleasure. When the whole cast was word perfect and note perfect Gilbert appeared on the scene as stage-manager; this was the signal for a general squaring of shoulders; no one gave the word of command but none the [illegible] clearly it echoed through the ranks, and [illegible] company sprang to attention under the [illegible] influence of penetrating power. Everyone knew that Gilbert did not call a rehearsal in order to make experiments; he did all the rehearsing of his rehearsals at home, on a model stage, and went to the theatre knowing exactly what he wanted done and prepared to spare no trouble to get the effects he had in his mind's eye. He could be relied on never to lose patience under the most trying circumstances, never to summon anyone to attend on the mere chance of being needed, always respectfully to consider any suggestions, and quietly but wittily assert his authority should any over-zealous mime venture to improvise, without permission, or to show a too ready desire to claim the centre of the stage. By humane consideration he won the hearts of his company, by sheer ability he won their confidence, and to the discipline that ensued, together with the complete confidence placed in him by the management, he owed those numerous opportunities of producing the Savoy operas in the days gone by exactly in the spirit in which they were written and composed. A few rehearsal incidents will best re-create the disciplinarian atmosphere of the Savoy stage under Gilbert's *régime*. A rehearsal of *The Mikado* was to all appearances progressing favourably when Gilbert suddenly called out, 'There is a gentleman in the left group not holding his fan correctly,' whereupon his second-in-command explained, 'There is one gentleman who is absent through illness.' 'Ah!' replied Gilbert very gravely, 'that is not the gentleman I am referring to.'"

TOURING IN THE STATES.

The vicissitudes of theatrical travelling in America half a century ago were many and various, and attended with no little hazard, as is shown in the experiences of the late tragedian, James R. Anderson, contained in the volume, "An Actor's Life," published by the Walter Scott Publishing Company. While performing in Boston in the December of 1856, Mr. Anderson incurred a serious risk. He was passionately fond of sleighing. "One day, after a long drive with a fast pair of horses, I found, on leaving the sleigh, I had lost the use of my hands, notwithstanding that I had been driving in furred gloves. There was not a bit of feeling left in them, and I became alarmed lest I should lose them both. However, good advice and ready help were forthcoming. The kind landlord of my hotel procured a bucket of snow, and set two sturdy waiters to work, who rubbed away for dear life right and left. What with snow and friction, in about twenty minutes I began to realise sensation in my frozen hands; in an hour they were as sound as ever."

The weather in New England was as severe that winter as Mr. Anderson had found it in Canada on his previous tour. Arrangements had been made to play six nights in Providence, Rhode Island. The manager (Mr. W. C. Forbes) met the players at the railway station, and escorted them on foot (there was no road for carriage or sleigh) to their hotel. The mercury stood at 26 degrees below zero, and the snow lay eight feet deep in the streets. "Good heavens!" Mr. Anderson exclaimed to the manager, "this is a fearful state of things What is to be done? Close the theatre, of course?" "Close the theatre!" replied Mr. Forbes; "not if I know it! Why, sir, all the box seats are let for the week, and, as you say in your play-bills in the old country, I say in the new, 'Vivat Regina!—No money returned at the doors.' You'll see! You'll play a 'bully engagement.'" The manager was right; the house was crowded nightly; and the engagement was renewed for another week. The authorities, at great labour and expense, had roads cut through the snow, four feet wide, for foot-passengers, converging on the doors of the theatre and the principal churches, from the four quarters of the city, and the people came to the playhose in hundreds nightly, with lanterns in hand to light them on the way. "The engagement," says Mr. Anderson, "realised 2000 dollars: not so frosty after all. I have always believed in Providence since."

The next engagement was in New Orleans. It was not pleasant to rise at five o'clock in the morning with the thermometer at 27 degress below zero. But this had to be done. The touring party—Mr. Anderson and his man, Miss Elsworthy and her maid, and a person who had been engaged as agent—got on the train at seven o'clock in the morning, and reached New York at ten at night, "starved and frozen to the bone." As the railroads further were all blocked with snow, they had to take to the sea. The boat for New Orleans sailed on Feb. 3, and had some difficulty (owing to floating ice) in getting out of the harbour; but in three or four days she was sailing in tropical weather. But trouble was in store a few days later. The ship got aground on a mud-bank at the mouth of the Mississippi. A powerful tug came to her assistance. The tug went to work with such a will that she tore the port bulwarks clean out of the ship, so that the passengers on deck could look right into the cabins and state-rooms. The crash was appalling, and had the ship not been aground she must have sunk in deep water. Luckily the sea was calm, and New Orleans was safely reached. But in the midst of the danger a ludicrous incident occurred. Mr. Anderson thus relates it:—"When the crash took place, I rushed down to the saloon in all haste, in order to calm Miss Elsworthy's fears. I found her with her maid in an agony of fear, the perspiration rolling down their faces, but no longer suffering from sea-sickness. I assured her there was no danger. 'No danger! No danger!' she cried hysterically; 'why, I can see the sky and sea through the ship's side. Oh! we are going down; I'm sure of it. This heat is suffocating! We are going down, I tell you; and—and—(looking everywhere around her)—oh, heavens! I've got no fan!'"

Good business was done in New Orleans, and then the party were shipped for a ten days' passage up the Mississippi to Louisville and Cincinnati. On the way, with broken shaft and damaged machinery, they had to pass a dismal, dreary night at Cairo. Hereabouts was Dickens's "Eden"—the delectable spot in which Mark Tapley made himself so jolly under the circumstances. "'Eden,'" writes Mr. Anderson, "is a heavenly spot for mud and filth. The hotel was a log hut; to reach it we had to wade ankle deep through the stickiest mud in the darkest night that was ever seen. Oh, what a night!—a night with the mosquitoes in 'Eden.'!"

Mr. Anderson declared that he never acted in Cincinnati without being robbed both before the curtain as well as behind it:—"I have had my purse emptied and my rings stolen many times during former years. This time, not being able to rob me of anything else, they stole my blood! I had brought with me from England several pots of black-currant jam to rub over my hands in *Macbeth*, being the most perfect imitation of blood ever seen. It was so real in appearance that the actors used to gather round the table at the wing to see me smear it. My servant—an Irishman named Mike O'Brien—revealed the secret by giving the ballet ladies a taste from the pot. That rash act of Mike's drained my gore to the dregs. During the fifth act, when Macbeth is continually on the stage, and muffin-headed Mike was employed holding my armour and truncheon at the wing, the ballet-girls rushed into my unguarded dressing-room, saying, 'Now, then; now's the time to drain the last drop of Anderson's blood.' 'And they done it, too, sorr, bad cess to them!' said Mike, when he found the last pot empty. It was 'real jam' to them, but a cruel thing for me, compelled to fall back on the filthy rose-pink of the property-man."

Other troubles the tragedian had on this tour—the opposition at St. Louis of Thalberg and his concert troupe, and of Dion Boucicault and his wife; the refusal of an actor in the same city to play Dogberry, so that Anderson doubled Dogberry with Benedick; and the misconduct of three other actors at Buffalo, who got drunk and never came near the theatre, thus compelling the management to dismiss the audience. Nothwithstanding, and in spite of unusually heavy travelling expenses, a handsome margin of profit was left from the eight months' tour.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Sept. 2, the Play, by Hall Caine, entitled

"THE PRODIGAL SON."

An intensely virile and interesting drama is *The Prodigal Son*, one that reflects great credit upon the popular author, Mr. Hall Caine. It was quite to be expected that the engagement of Mr. Wentworth Croke's company at the King's Theatre this week should be an attractive one, and the size of the audience on Monday evening augured very favourably for a financially successful visit. The piece was received with acclamation, and the leading performers were applauded and recalled after each act. The Prodigal Son, Oscar Stephensson, was rendered in a very intelligent and effective manner by Mr. Henry Watson, who scored very highly in that arduous part. Mr. Hugh Montgomery was an extremely powerful and forceful Magnus Stephensson, ably conducting himself in the scenes where so much contumely is undeservingly heaped upon him. Mr. Richard A. Greene acted with due importance and dignity the character of Stephen Magnusson, the Governor of Iceland, and as Oscar Neilson Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood won warm praise for his capital impersonation. Mr. Montague Lane was good as the Sheriff, and very capable was Mr. Chauncey Morris's Dr. Olsen. Neils Finsen, the Casino Director, Eric Arnasson, and the Pastor all found creditable and painstaking representatives in Mr. Charles A. Maynard, Mr. Frank Hill, Mr. Francis Emery, and Mr. Philip Renouf. Miss Maud Stewart Drewry in the dual rôles of Thora Neilson and Elise succeeded admirably and earned much popular recognition. As Helga Neilson Miss Margaret Murch looked handsome, and her impassioned acting met with the highest approval. Miss Barbara Gott made an excellent impression as Anna Neilson. Many hearty laughs were raised by the sayings of Margaret Neilson, and Miss Marie Harcourt gave them with much point. The smaller parts were well sustained. The elaborate scenery, painted by Mr. Ernest Howard, was much admired. Mr. J. M. Glover's incidental music assisted largely to the success of the piece.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Sept. 2, the Comic Opera, entitled

"LA POUPEE."

Audran's delightful opera, *La Poupée*, is the alluring entertainment provided for North Londoners at the handsome Marlborough Theatre this week, and the large audience present on the night of our visit, many of whom were doubtless renewing acquaintance with a piece which has had such a long and prosperous career, expressed themselves satisfied in no uncertain fashion with the performance. The company responsible for its representation is Mr. C. P. Levilly's No. 1 combination, and includes the gifted actress and vocalist, Miss Stella Gastelle, who is again achieving such a pronounced success in the title-part. It would, indeed, be difficult to find an actress better equipped for the rôle than Miss Gastelle, and her artistic and finished portrayal, and her cultured rendering of the many delightful numbers allotted to the dollmaker's fascinating daughter, cannot be too highly praised. Another very popular impersonation is that of Hilarius by Mr. W. H. Powell, an energetic and droll comedian, who extracts every ounce of humour from the character of the boastful and eccentric inventor, without giving a slavish imitation of Mr. Willie Edouin, who, it will be remembered, made such a hit in his creation of the part at the Prince of Wales's in the spring of 1897. Mr. F. Maxwell Stewart admirably indicates the shyness and bewilderment of Launcelot in the scene in Hilarius's workshop, and his performance throughout is excellent. A sound and easy portrayal of Father Maxime is forthcoming from Mr. Ernest Torrence, his rendering of "So do not fear" and other melodious numbers calling forth loud applause. The two elderly beaux, Baron Chanterelle and Loremois, are humorously undertaken by Mr. Arthur Gibbons and Mr. Leon Simkin, especially enjoyable being the scene where they make the acquaintance of the fair Alesia; and Balthazar is satisfactorily impersonated by Mr. Vernon Reed. As the light-hearted apprentice, Henri, Miss Kitty Cavendish is seen to decided advantage; and Madame Hilarius is taken in exactly the right spirit by Miss Dulcie Garland. The other parts are all capably enacted, and the singing of the chorus is especially to be commended. The opera is perfectly staged and dressed; and the entire production reflects the highest credit on Mr. Levilly and those associated with him.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Sept. 2, the Comedy entitled

"BEAUTY AND THE BARGE."

Captain Barley and his "liner" are once more moored at the Camden, where the genial old salt is being welcomed by his old friends and many new ones. Messrs. Jacobs and Parker's comedy, *Beauty and the Barge*, is as delightful as ever, and the evening goes along on a ripple of merriment. Mr. Blake Adams is in splendid form as Captain James Barley, who has so much "haffability" in his nature, and a most humorous delineation of this quaint character is given. Ethel Smedley, the lively young lady who runs away from home, is agreeably portrayed by Miss Dido Drake, who plays with a freshness and charm which is most acceptable. Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu makes a handsome and dashing Lieutenant Seton Boyne, and also cleverly depicts the type of rough sailor on board the barge. Mr. Fred Knight is likewise good as the portly Tom Codd, and Mr. Horace Kenney gives a clever sketch of Augustus. Mr. Charles White is seen to great advantage in his impersonation of Charles Dibb; Mrs. Porter, the presiding genius of the old ship, is excellently played by Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite, and her diminutive spouse, George, is a comic impersonation as portrayed by Mr. Ewart Drake. Miss Kate Osborn is good as Mrs. Baldwin; and Miss Mona Robin successfully fills the rôle of Mrs. Smedley. Miss Mary Pemberton makes a captivating Lucy Dallas; and Mr. Atherling Farrar does well as the young lover; Mr. Walter Pemberton causes much laughter as the irascible old Major Smedley. The play is very prettily mounted, and the scene with the barge beside the river bank is as picturesque as ever. The comedy is preceded by Cosmo Hamilton's clever little play, *Jerry and a Sunbeam*, in which Miss Mary Pemberton and Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu are most successful.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 2.

"THE GEISHA."

Mr. Frederick Mouillot's capital company is appearing here this week in *The Geisha* and *San Toy*, and these tuneful and lively operas are going as well as ever. In "The Tale of the Tea House" Miss Joan Ritz is an extremely dainty, winsome, captivating, and melodious Mimosa San, the Japanese singing-girl, and her songs are delightfully rendered with piquancy and charm. She is a prime favourite all the time. Miss Florrie Saunders is a lively little lady full of vivacity and versatility, her buoyancy of spirits and pretty taking ways having quite an infectious gaiety, and her dancing is most graceful. Mr. Cyril Dane is a most agreeable, manly, and natural Reggie Fairfax, and sings "Jack's the boy for work," "Star of my soul," and his other songs splendidly. Mr. Edward Carlton, as Wun Hi, the celestial proprietor of a tea house, is drollery personified, and keeps the ball of fun rolling continuously, and his agility is marvellous. The unctuous humour of Mr. Lionel Braham, as the Marquis Imari, chief of the police and governor of the province, is vastly amusing. Mr. Marsell Stringer sings "Pearl of the radiant East" most agreeably, and is good as Captain Katanay, captain of the governor's guard. The part of Takamene is satisfactorily enacted by Mr. A. J. Nicholls. The rôle of Lady Constance Wynne, "the most perpendicular Peter Robinson lady," is excellently interpreted by Miss Aubrey Ashton. Miss Violet Kenyon, as Juliette Diamante, the French interpreter, imparts a meaning and significance to the part. Miss Eva Howard, as the Middy, and Messrs. Sam Lockridge, George Taylor, and Robert Cranny as the young English officers are all well in the picture. Mr. F. Leslie Moreton is general-manager for Mr. Mouillot, Mr. James R. La Fane is manager and stage-director, with Mr. A. J. Nicholls as assistant stage-manager.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, Sept. 2, the Drama, by C. Watson Mill, entitled

"A WARNING TO WOMEN."

Mr. C. Watson Mill, an author who has written many plays that have achieved popularity in the provinces and the suburbs, has undoubtedly appealed successfully to lovers of the sensational in *A Warning to Women*, a drama that has won favour at many of the outlying London theatres and "on the road." Largely contributing to its enthusiastic reception at the Shoreditch playhouse this week is the really excellent all-round representation given it by a company including many old favourites with East-end theatre-goers. Especially cordial was the greeting extended Mr. Ashley Page on his first entry, and the popular actor is to be warmly complimented on his finished and natural impersonation of Shaun, a wandering minstrel, a character that in less experienced and capable hands would lose a deal of its charm and impressiveness. Mr. J. C. Aubrey as the "dark stranger," Dr. Marcus Dread, essayed an unpopular part with commendable skill and firmness, admirably indicating the masterful nature of the doctor, and giving throughout a most convincing portrayal. Miss Marion Denvil, who was also accorded a reception reserved for favourites, had an arduous rôle in that of Moira Kennion, the victim of drugs—and Dr. Dread, but cleverly succeeded in depicting the varying moods of the unhappy woman, particularly impressive being her acting in the scene where she accidentally blinds her lover, Fergus. Mr. Frank Harrison contributed largely to the merriment of the audience by his humorous embodiment of Lord Eversleigh, a sprig of the nobility, who has such "an awfully jolly beastly good time" at the hunt; and Mike McQuade was also a most popular personage in the hands of Mr. Johnny Chippendale, the comedian being responsible for much hearty laughter. Mr. Eric Campbell made a genial and natural Squire Kennion; Fergus McNaughton was capably undertaken by Mr. W. Holloway; Mr. G. Morgan created amusement as Ferdinand de Joules; the sufferings of the poor little cripple boy, Miles O'Moore, were graphically depicted by Miss Elsie Jezzard; Miss Lucy Beaumont made a lovable Sheila Kennion; Miss Maggie Lindsay and Miss East Robertson are to be commended for finished and impressive portrayals of Molly O'Moore and Hildred, "the woman who was; and the numerous other parts were all satisfactorily enacted. The many excellent stage pictures shown came in for much admiration.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Sept. 2, the Drama, by Fred S. Jennings, entitled

"AS GOOD AS GOLD."

Mr. Fred S. Jennings's drama, *As Good As Gold*, is the attraction at the West London this week, and the enthusiasm which the many exciting situations the play contains has aroused is eloquent testimony as to its popularity with Mr. Bailey's patrons. Especially demonstrative has been their disapproval of the villainy of Sir Richard Wharncliffe, about as vile a specimen of the stage scoundrel as we have ever encountered. The part is admirably enacted by Mr. Clinton Baddeley, who leaves no doubt in the minds of the audience as to the evil nature of this contemptible cad, especially convincing being his acting in the scene in his wife's boudoir, where he is confronted with the body of his boy, for whose death he is responsible. A finished and impressive performance of Mark Williams is given by the author, Mr. Fred Jennings, particularly powerful being his acting where Williams is incarcerated in a private lunatic asylum. He is also to be complimented on his excellent elocution, and his portrayal throughout is one of decided merit. Kate D'Arville, the wife and victim of Wharncliffe, has a refined and pathetic portrayal from Miss F. Melrose Millett, harrowing in the extreme being the scene where her boy dies. Miss Bertha Baker realistically indicates the sufferings of the lad Kipper; and a commendably natural impersonation of Norah Williams is given by Miss Agnes Collier. Mr. Horace Booth is a manly and earnest exponent of Lieut. Jack Stanton; and the necessary and always welcome comedy relief is supplied by Mr. Herbert Fuller as Horatio Spanker, Mr. Joseph Rowlands as Timothy Nias, and Miss Bessie Frank as Madge Merry. The other parts are all capably undertaken, and the drama is well mounted and dressed.

THE SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 2, The Play and Prologue, in Three Acts, entitled

"CLAUDIAN."

The mantle of the late Wilson Barrett has fallen on the shoulders of Mr. William MacLaren, whose admirable presentation of *Claudian* at the Shakespeare on Monday was received with the utmost enthusiasm. The success was well deserved, for no pains had been spared to make the production as complete as possible. The company had been chosen with the greatest care, and the scenery, costumes, &c., were exact copies of those used by the late Mr. Barrett. An actor of fine presence, Mr. MacLaren brought out the main characteristics of the title-part with convincing force, and held the sympathy of the audience throughout, being accorded great applause at the final fall of the curtain. Miss Lily C. Bandmann as Almida also contributed largely to the success. An actress of marked ability, Miss Bandmann faithfully portrayed the varying emotions of the part, and acquitted herself with distinction. Mr. Douglas Earle, who was well suited to the rôle of Agazil, the blacksmith, acted with sincerity; Mr. F. Owen Chambers is to be congratulated on an earnest embodiment of the treacherous tetrarch; Mr. Weston Hubbard did all that was necessary as Alcares, a wealthy farmer; and Mr. Chas. T. Chaloner, who was also stage-manager, extracted a deal of humour from the part of Belos. Miss Maud Garth, who appeared to great advantage in the rôle of Edessa, also rendered valuable assistance; and the minor parts were all capably sustained. Special mention should be made of the excellence of the stage effects in the earthquake scene, where Claudian's palace is destroyed before the eyes of the audience. Mr. Arthur Webster is the acting-manager for Mr. W. MacLaren.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Sept. 2, the Drama, entitled

"THE FATAL WEDDING."

Mr. Bert Coote's company is here this week at the County Theatre in the above. Their efforts are received with marked favour. Mr. Cecil A. Melton appears in the leading part of Howard Wilson, which he invests with strong human interest, and Miss Ethel Kay makes a successful appearance as Wilson's persecuted wife. The part of Robert Curtis is ably filled by Mr. Henry W. Hatcham, and equally effective are the efforts of Miss Gertrude Harrison, as the adventuress, Cora Williams. A clever and amusing impersonation is that of the French butler, Toto, by Mr. Charles Lock, and Miss Ethel Serjient makes a successful appearance as Bridget. Miss Marie Wilson, as "the little mother," wins favour. The play is admirably staged, the special features in the third act being much enjoyed.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 2, the Musical Comedy, entitled

"A CHINESE HONEYMOON."

A Chinese Honeymoon occupies the boards at Kennington this week, and seldom, if ever before, has a musical comedy been received with such absolute enthusiasm. A talented company does ample justice to the work of Messrs. George Dance and Howard Talbot. Mr. Rudolf Kloss is excellent in the part of Hang Chow, as also is Mr. P. Allerton Turner as the Lord Chancellor, and Mr. Leonard May as Li Hung, the Lord High Admiral. Mr. Harry Jennings is seen to advantage as Tom Hatherton; Mr. George Rydon plays the part of Mr. Pineapple with great distinction; a strong favourite with the audience is Miss Rosie Begarnie, who, as Mrs. Pineapple, wins hearty appreciation; as Fi-Fi Miss Gwennie Harcourt scores a great success, having frequently to respond to hearty encores; Miss Elsie Skillings is charming in the part of the Princess Soo-Soo, her singing being admirable. Miss Maud Adams as Mrs. Brown, the official mother-in-law, is a noteworthy character. The parts of Florrie, Violet, Elsie, and Maud, bridesmaids to Mrs. Pineapple, are skilfully acted by Miss Dorothy Radcliffe, Miss Mary Gray, Miss Cecily Leslie, and Miss Phyllis Grosvenor respectively. The staging is magnificent, and Mr. Robert Arthur is to be congratulated on a further addition to his already long list of Kennington successes.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Sept. 2, the Drama, entitled

"HER ROAD TO RUIN."

Presented by Mr. Fred. Melville's company, *Her Road to Ruin* was accorded a good reception on Monday evening by a well-filled house. The play is capitally staged and suitably cast. Mr. Albert Faulkner gives a good impersonation of the curate Frank Temple, and divides the honours with Mr. J. Knox Orde as Tom Wells, a poor journalist, their efforts being warmly cheered. The villainous part of Philip Hardy is effectively filled by Mr. Alex. Bradley, who is ably assisted by Mr. V. R. C. Moore as Charlie Cholmondeley, a ne'er-do-well. Miss Nellie Bonser as Mary Dawson, the betrayed girl from Lancashire, effectively portrays the different stages of a woman's downfall, and Miss Eva Moss as Jess Willoughby also gives a powerful representation of a woman swayed by the powers of good and evil. Miss Alice Bowes does well as May Willoughby. Mr. Dane Clarke makes a typical bishop, and Mr. Arthur Byron and Miss Marie Wright score heavily in the comic parts.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Sept. 2, the Drama entitled

"IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT."

Mr. James Willard's fine drama is proving very popular here. Besides presenting an interesting story, embellished by some agreeable comic relief, *In the Shadow of Night* gives ample scope for the scenic artist, and we are shown some capital scenery and effects, notably the Squire's Terrace, with the fountain playing, the burning house, and a wonderfully realistic picture of the Thames by moonlight, the stage being flooded with real water, into which two of the characters plunge. Mr. Willard's company interprets his exciting play to the life, and the enthusiasm of the audience is kept at white-heat throughout the evening. Mr. H. Dobell Lyle is a gallant and breezy Gordon Allington; Mr. Charles Clifford plays admirably in the unthankful rôle of Clifford York; Mr. Cecil Reymond supplies two admirable pieces of character painting as deaf Joe, the village postman, and the milksop, the Rev. Nathaniel Hope. Miss Nina Westerleigh is a pathetic and well-spoken heroine; and Miss Tina Shaw is bright and engaging as little Molly Woodstock. Mr. Herbert Belmore is a popular "gentleman in khaki" as Tom Nainby; and Mr. William Hayward is a duly truculent ruffian as Jake Grudgewell. Miss Phyllis French is a quaint and pathetic little gamin as Bob; and among the minor characters Mr. Richie Bell is very droll as the vacuous railway porter Tom Tipps. A canine performer, Gyp, also renders his rôle exceedingly well.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 2, the American Drama, by Joseph Arthur, entitled

"THE STILL ALARM."

The exciting incidents, interspersed as they are with scenes of human interest, which are portrayed in the American drama, *The Still Alarm*, are evidently well suited to meet the desires of Dalston audiences, judging by the rousing receptions which are this week accorded the chief actors in Mr. Mathew H. Glenville and Mr. Fred Osmond's company. Mr. Mathew H. Glenville still pleases everyone with his manly style in the part of the brave and dashing young fireman; Mr. Lewis Gordon is Franklyn Fordham, a New York merchant; and Mr. George Arthur has been specially engaged to play John Bird, *alias* Gorman (Fordham's partner in a drug business). The main interest of the story centres in Manley (the fireman), Bird, and Elinor Fordham (Manley's sweetheart), and everything that is necessary to make these characters appear most real and engrossing is certainly done by Mr. Glenville, Mr. Arthur, and Miss Frances Waring—a charming Elinor. Some sprightly acting is introduced by Mr. Tom Beasley as Willie Manley and Miss Maimie Leighton as Carrie Wilber. Mrs. Manley has an able representative in Miss Mabel Veriton; and Mr. J. Sutton Pateman as Joe Jones (a typical New York fireman), Mr. G. Francis as William Blaisdale, and Mr. T. Varney as Joe Nozzle also play their parts admirably. The singing by the firemen is much appreciated.

TERRISS THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 2, the Drama entitled

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

A hearty reception has been extended by full houses to this always-popular romantic historical drama, the story being followed with close interest from start to finish, and the many dramatic situations evolved in the play being heartily applauded. As the famous Corsican, Mr. Frederick Victor was admirable, his resonant and perfectly-modulated voice being heard distinctly in every part of the theatre. As the Empress Josephine, Miss Elliott played this very difficult rôle with feeling and rare feminine charm which fairly captured the hearts of all. Mr. Tom Robertson's Talleyrand was a finished piece of acting; and Mr. Stone as the Marquis de Beaumont was equally good. Mr. J. J. Jordon as Grimaud, the inn-keeper, kept the house in a roar of laughter; Miss Leah Marlborough gave prominence to the part of Napoleon's second wife; Miss Clara Earle made a charming Stephanie de Beauharnais; and the rest of the efficient company made the best of their parts. Special mention is due of the little King of Rome as acted by Miss Ethel Love, who gave a delightful rendering of the part. Miss Helena Meadows as Mother Lomas was excellent in every way. The mounting is good, the scene of the battle being very effective.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, Sept. 2, the Drama, entitled

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."

Once again Mr. Frederick Melville's favourite drama forms the attraction at this theatre, and no falling off in its popularity is to be observed. A very capable company has been engaged for the tour, and everyone works hard for the general success. Mr. Henry Lonsdale as George Madison acts with sincerity, and makes a good impression. Mr. Louis Hector as Devereux portrays the heavy rôle in conventional manner, and submits a sound performance. Mr. Leonard Maxwell as Broughton is also to be commended. Mr. Fred de Vere proves himself to be a clever comedian. Mr. Henry Hare enacts the part of Sir George with ease and distinction. As for the ladies, Miss Gerturde Bonser as Lucy acts pleasantly and naturally, and is to be congratulated; Miss Gertrude Hunt as Lady Lucretia depicts the unpleasant type of woman without sparing herself, and is entitled to praise. Miss Nellie Fletcher as the Mother Superior gives a dignified performance, acting with skill and discretion; Miss Sybil Hare as Polly is a worthy accomplice of Mr. de Vere's in provoking laughter, and succeeds admirably. The large number of smaller parts are all in adequate hands, and the mounting is above reproach, the motor-car scene going as well as ever.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 2, the Drama, entitled

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."

Many manifestations of favour were bestowed on the revival of the above drama by Mr. Andrew Melville's company at the house on Brixton Oval. *Driven from Home* has always proved a potent attraction to audiences south of the Thames, and the company engaged in its present representation is to be congratulated. Mr. Felix Pitt is admirable as Anthony Raybrook, his acting of the relentless father winning great praise. Geoffrey Waring, the wicked nephew of Anthony Raybrook, is well impersonated by Mr. Charles Burdon, who is especially good in the Trafalgar Square scene. Mr. Harry Cornwall is the dear old servitor Jabez to life, his acting being much applauded. Walter Hatherleigh finds an ideal representative in Mr. Francis Everard, his death scene being most pathetic. Miss Muriel Dean as the persecuted wife finds her way to the hearts of the immense audience, her acting of the unfortunate Laura being a feature of the evening. Mr. Arthur Dudley is very good as Willie, the outcast. Mr. Fred C. Imbert as John Anderson is excellent, his quaintness and smart sayings in company with Margaret, capitally played by Miss Susie Bevan, provoking much amusement, and rendering the couple very popular. Mr. Henry Helling is a sufficiently austere Adam Marley. Miss Clara Knowles as Barbara is impressive; and Miss Madge Muriel is a lively and popular slavey. *Driven from Home* is nicely staged, the sets of Trafalgar Square, the Foundling Hospital, the Thames Embankment, and Circular Saw being exceptionally good.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Sept. 2, the Drama entitled

"KREUTZER SONATA."

A dramatisation of Tolstoi's "Kreutzer Sonata" by Jacob Gordon was given on Monday night at the Pavilion, to a large house, who viewed with evident interest an excellent performance, presented by a strong cast and mounted on a lavish scale. As Raphael Friedlander, Mr. Sigmund Feinman played with admirable dramatic force and intensity that won unanimous approval; Mr. Bernard Schoengold, who is gifted with a good stage presence and resonant voice, was seen to great advantage as Greguar; Mme. Diana Feinman as Ettie was the centre of attraction, and her embodiment of the part made a deep impression; Mme. Fanny Epstein brought out the passionate jealousy of Celia with much success, embellishing the impersonation with many little details of business that gave colour to the portrayal. A finished character study was given by Mr. Boris Rosenthal, who is remarkably good as Ephraim Fidler; and the faithful Natasha is well depicted by Mme. J. Kayzer. A capital delineation of Samuel was presented by Mr. J. Scherman; and a commendable Belia was found in Mme. Goldstein; while Miss Lubritzky displayed ability as Gilbert, and Mme. Rosenthal suitably represented Eva. The general-manager, Mr. J. Gordon, is assiduous in his efforts for the comfort of the patrons, and is energetically seconded in his labours by Mr. Fred Brown.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Sept. 2, the Drama entitled

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."

Mr. Robert Arthur is presenting a powerful company, under the management of Mr. Newman Maurice, in the above drama, which, like all of Mr. Frederick Melville's plays, is full of interest from start to finish, while the staging and acting of the piece add considerably to the pleasure of the audience. Miss Florence Dalton as Carmen de Sauereux is seen to great advantage, and leaves very little to be desired. She is ably supported in her evil doing by Mr. Fred Morgan as James Durwood. Mr. Douglas Vigors is entrusted with the part of the Rev. Philip Carton, and does himself great credit; Harry Millard is well sustained by Mr. Roland Daniels; the rôle of Violet Thornton (afterwards Mrs. Millard) is handled by Miss Louise Hampton with considerable skill; as also is the character of Henry Earl of Millard by Mr. Chris Walker. Mr. Herbert Goddard's impersonation of Major Strangeways is excellent. The humorous element is supplied by Mr. Newman Maurice as Jack Pringle and Miss Lucy Beaumont as Polly Popp, roars of merriment greeting the efforts of the two personages. The part of the blind son of Carmen is taken by Miss Lulu Bowes in pleasing style. Other characters in the play are capably sustained by Mr. A. Darton, Mr. N. Graham, and Mr. H. Bristow; and Miss Sybil Hare as the lady customer also causes amusement.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Sept. 2, the Musical Play, entitled

"SEE-SEE."

Mr. George Edwardes's company in *See-See* is proving a strong attraction at the Stratford Borough Theatre, after many weeks of drama. It is one of the prettiest and brightest of touring musical plays, and is mounted and dressed with all the lavishness and care usually associated with companies travelling under the régime of such an experienced entrepreneur. Mr. Bertie Wright as Kang-Kee proves himself a most alert and indefatigable comedian, and his songs go wonderfully well. Mr. Colin Coop plays with an unctuous humour well befitting the part of Checo, and Mr. W. J. Manning scores heavily as Hoang Wang. Mr. Edmund Sherras acts and sings in manly and pleasing style as Yen. Miss Dorothy Chard makes a very dainty and graceful See-See, and sings delightfully. Miss Lena Maitland is a most acceptable Mai-Gai, and her fine vocal efforts win much praise. Miss Clare Marsden is a very bright and vivacious Lee, and Miss May Gould quickly dances her way into favour as So-Hie, See-See's boy attendant. Miss Violet Hollom charmingly impersonates Mumming Bird, and Miss Millie Vere plays very appropriately as Mrs. Hoang Wang. The Four Mandarins are well played by Mr. H. Denbigh, Mr. G. Robertson, Mr. Harrison Crane, and Mr. Henry Ashton; Checo's wives are represented by Miss Kate Chard, Miss Rhoda Gordon, and Miss May Grey; while the Four Pearls are entrusted to Miss Gladys Raymond, Miss Maud Field, Miss Nora Cameron, and Miss Rosie Burnett. The orchestra is this week augmented, and under the able bâton of Mr. Leonard Leslie, and Walter McEwan is the courteous general manager of the company.

The Town Hall, Rugby, now the only building available for dramatic purposes in the town, is being booked by Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and George Robertson, in conjunction with Loughborough and Lincoln.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

STRATFORD THEATRES' OUTING.

Sunday last was a red-letter day in Stratford theatredom. The combined staffs of the Borough Theatre and Theatre Royal, to the number of about fifty, held their annual outing, the rendezvous being Broxbourne Gardens. A bright morning augured well for a fine day when the party left the Theatre Royal in well-appointed conveyances, and after a most pleasant and exhilarating drive the destination was reached about one o'clock. The "camera man" then took charge, after which the party disported themselves until dinner time, fixed for 2.30. The following menu, tastily printed as a memento of the occasion, was exceedingly well served, and done ample justice to:—

Salmon.
Sauce Mayonnaise
Cucumber.

Roast Beef and Yorkshire.
Roast Lamb and Mint Sauce.
Roast Veal and Ham.
Boiled Leg of Mutton.
Vegetables in season.

Chickens and Ducklings.
Salad.

College Pudding. Wine Jellies
Fruit Tart. Blancmange.

Cheese and Salad.

Mr. Sam Fredericks (manager, Theatre Royal) was in the chair, and was supported by Mr. Frank Rothsay (manager, Borough Theatre), Mr. W. Harding (Box Office, Theatre Royal), Mr. A. E. Barnes (Box Office, Borough Theatre), Mr. Lipyeat, Mr. Walter Fredericks, Mr. Day, Mr. Bert Ashton, Mr. Willis, and Mr. J. Davis.

After the usual loyal toasts were proposed by the chairman, Mr. Harding prefaced the toast of "Mrs. C. Ellis-Fredericks and Family" by saying what pleasure it gave him to propose the health of the firm with whom so many of them had been for a number of years, "the best you could possibly work for," to use his own words, as they always got substantial encouragement in all their sports, and had in Mr. Sam Fredericks especially one who took a deep interest in the welfare of the staff.

Mr. Sam Fredericks (who was accorded musical honours), replying on behalf of his sister and brother, said that there was nothing ever proposed to Mrs. Ellis-Fredericks for the benefit of the theatre staffs but that she was always ready to give them monetary assistance. He had had a letter from his sister only the previous Friday enclosing a contribution for their outing as on previous years. His brother, Mr. Fred. Fredericks, would have been with them that day, but was unfortunately detained at Harrogate. As to himself, he desired no thanks, as their pleasure was his. He regretted very much the sequence of outings was broken last year, but hoped there would never in the future be a year without an outing.

Mr. Frank Rothsay was unanimously called upon for a few words, and told his hearers that that very day he concluded eleven years under the Messrs. Fredericks, during the whole of which time his business relations with the firm had been of the happiest

Mr. Bert Ashton had charge of the toast of "The Visitors," which was most cordially drank, and afterwards the gathering broke up to disport themselves according to their bent. Among those who chose a pull on the river was a party, including such an expert sculler as Mr. Rothsay, who, being modesty personified, contentedly presided at the tiller, the other occupants of the boat being Mr. Fredericks and Mr. Ashton. Consequently it was an unfortunate happening that, when the boat chanced upon a private landing-stage, and the occupants were warned that they would be trespassers if they landed, the jovial Mr. Rothsay should have retorted, "We're not trying to land, it's my friend can't row properly," the subtlety of Mr. Rothsay's joke being only apparent to the poor oarsman.

A re-union was made at 6.30 for tea, and at 7.30 a start was made for home, reached about ten, after what was generally voted to have been a thoroughly jolly and enjoyable day. The preliminary arrangements of the outing were admirably carried through by Mr. W. Aldons (stage-manager, Theatre Royal) and Mr. W. Burrell (electrician, Theatre Royal), with Mr. W. Harding as treasurer.

NEW ZEALAND AMUSEMENTS.

(From our own correspondent.)

WELLINGTON, June 8.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson.—Mr. Williamson's dramatic company, headed by Mr. Julius Knight, are here. The opening piece was *Robin Hood*, followed in quick succession by *Raffles*, *Brigadier Gerard*, and the ever-popular *Beaucaire*. The principal successes have been made by Mr. Hubert Willis and Mr. Leslie Victor. The company have been greeted nightly by crowded and enthusiastic houses.

Messrs. Meynall and Gunn took the theatre left vacant by the last company, and opened up on Friday, June 28, with *The Midnight Wedding*, with a very strong cast. The play is rather better than its class, and this suggestion is aided by the extremely able playing of the male members of the company, Mr. James Lindsay, in particular, being a great joy as the most desirable "villain" that has frequented these parts of late. Mr. Harcourt Beatty is the star of the company, and plays the lead in an extremely plausible manner, and Mr. Conway Wingfield does some of the most dastardly things it is humanly possible to perpetrate with the most charming ingenuousness that the "gods" are hard put to it to say what and who indeed is the cause and instrument of the melodramatic villainy as contained in the play. Miss May Congdon plays the Princess very sincerely, and wears some very pretty frocks. After an eight nights' run of this play *The Fatal Wedding* was revived, and the company endeavoured to put some coherent meaning into the veriest nonsense that was ever put upon the stage. It will be enough to say that the theatre was again crowded, and the mawkish sentiment absorbed apparently with the greatest relish by the house.

Saturday, July 6.—Mr. Harry Rickards "presents" a variety company to-night composed principally of Mr. Fred Russell, the ventriloquist, Charlene and Charlene, and King and Benson. The house was full to the utmost the first night, there being not even standing room, and as a consequence each number went well and merrily.

Town Hall, July 8.—Miss Marie Hall gave the last of three concerts this night, but whilst the variety theatre is crowded the concert hall, even with the attraction of this delightful violinist, is sparsely peopled. The artist played in superb manner the E Minor Concerto of Mendelssohn, and at the finish of the programme, Wieniawski's "Souvenir de Moscow." Miss Hall is without doubt the best violinist who has ever come to New Zealand, but apparently that is not enough to attract the denizens of this country.

A copyright performance of *The Quicksands*, a modern drama in four acts, by Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph de Cordova, was given at the Haymarket Theatre on Thursday morning last.

The following further subscriptions have been received for the Arthur Verne Fund:—Miss Nettie Ware, £1 1s.; Charles Boult, 10s.; R. Ernest Irving, 5s.; C. H. T., 2s. 6d.; E. K., 2s. 6d.; F. P. (Preston), 2s.; B. A., 1s.

THE REAL "HAMLET."
AND HOW IT SHOULD BE STAGED.

BY PERCY FITZGERALD, M.A.

(Continued from last week.)

There are a vast deal more things, generally neglected, which might add to the mystery of the "Hamlet" ghost. When he appears to Horatio and Bernardo for the second time, the former usually addresses it in a careless style, which is rarely impassioned enough. But the speaker is in a state of agitation. Then the cock is heard to crow—a rather dangerous piece of "business," and always omitted. And yet what a mistake; for if judiciously treated it ought to be introduced, and would have extraordinary effect. It is an important element in the situation. The crowing should come from afar, from the remote regions at the back—the very back of the stage—with a faint sound, which would soften away any grotesqueness. The spirit, we are told, was about to speak when the cock crew—on which there would be a pause of suspense highly "creepy" and effective, and here, we might ask ourselves: Why did the author introduce this grotesque effect if he did not think it essential.

Horatio says:—"I have heard the cock that is the trumpet to the morn, doth with his lofty and shrill sounding throat, &c." And Marcellus then says, "It *faded* on the crowing of the cock," and he then tells how at Christmas "it singeth all night long." Who thinks of the picturesqueness of the words "*it faded*?" We hear the sudden sound far away. Then the ghost who had been advancing checks itself, and seems to dwindle—gliding off—as though it would escape into thin air. There might be "gauzes" of extra thickness behind which it might retire and so grow misty. Then there is the breaking of the clouds—the coming of the dawn. When they tell their story to Hamlet, they again dwell on this crowing of the cock, and how at the sound it shrank away. All of which lends a religious or spiritual tone to the whole.

When Hamlet follows the ghost the scene is usually changed to "another part of the platform," and Hamlet asks, "Where wilt thou lead me?" But there is no direction for the change, and it would be far more convenient if the same scene were retained, Hamlet being led away and then led back to the same place. The two could come on together far off at the bottom and make their way to the front.

There have been some speculations as to whether an impalpable ghost—that is one visible only to the mind's eye—would not be more impressive and effective. The Bard himself seems to give us a hint of the practicability of making the Hamlet ghost invisible. For the latter speaks from "the cellarage" below, and who will say that the unearthly "swear" and the bearing of the listeners at the interruption is not always the most truly mysterious portion of the incident. This principle of invisibility might be applied when it first appears to Hamlet, for the ghost there *says* nothing, and both Horatio and Hamlet might fancy they see him gliding across until he disappears. Then Hamlet would follow it to the "other part of the platform," where it might remain still unseen, and speak from some recess, say a cavernous archway. There is something here that commends itself, and it would certainly be more terror-striking than a robustious figure with a truncheon stalking about as used to do the worthy Mead in the Lyceum days. How amusingly did "Boz" suggest this grotesque truncheon element, where he described Grummer arresting Mr. Pickwick, and beckoning to him with his truncheon in a solemn and ghostly fashion. In the platform scene Horatio and his companion might fancy that they saw him; and Hamlet might hold his conversation with an invisible but speaking being. In the closet it cannot be doubted that this arrangement would be more impressive. And so with Banquo's appearance in *Macbeth*.

It has long been the fashion to array the ghost in *Hamlet* in a sort of greyish cloudy dress—supposed to represent something mysterious. But we are told he wore a full suit of armour from top to toe. This seems far more appropriate, as the late king had led armies to battle. Not that the armour should be of a shining, glittering sort, as if of aluminium. It should be of a dark, dull metal, richly wrought. "He wore his beaver up," which would show the white, ghastly face encircled, and thrown out by the dark framing of the beaver. This should be thought out carefully. I fancy, too, the gait of the ghost should not be a solemn regimental "stalk," but solemn, full of hesitation and uncertainty, as though in a strange land and somewhat bewildered.

The stage conception of the King seems always astray and conventional. His long speeches and moralities seem to be accepted by the audience as persuasive and suitable, particularly his remonstrance to Hamlet on his morbid grief for his father's loss nothing could be more appropriate or judicious? Here we have a villain of the first water; one who had murdered his brother and craftily seized on the throne which was his nephew's by right. He was presently to be a party to an arrangement for the destruction of his nephew, who, he reasonably feared, had designs for destroying him and thus recovering his crown. His fine flowery speech was therefore all hypocrisy. And this should surely be conveyed in his delivery. He should be a sort of Royal Iago, as when he says:—

"It shows a will most incorrect to Heaven."

He should be a smooth, insinuating personage, and this sense of deceit should be shown in all his utterances—even in his affectionate treatment of those who had to be conciliated, because of her devotion to her son. There should also be present a sort of restless nervousness, for his situation was precarious, and Hamlet's hostility was very disturbing. This treatment would make a much more interesting character. But he was also a man, of resources, not a mere butt for his nephew-stepson, rising to his difficulties, unscrupulous, and ready to *act* on the instant, and violently, too. His instantly sending Hamlet away when he became dangerous showed this. But it will be seen later what a masterful and dramatic element he became in the later confusion.

II. THE KING AND QUEEN.

At the opening scene, where the King and his Court are shown, "Enters" says the direction; but with us they are always "discovered," I think with loss of effect. In a Court of our day the King and Queen would come in first; not at the head of a formal procession or to martial music, but conversing as they walked—"Though yet of Hamlet's, our dear brother's death," etc. This would have a very natural air. At the same time we have the first appearance of Hamlet, where the gloomy Prince is actually "discovered" and lost, as it were, in a crowd.

When Booth, that somewhat artificial performer, appeared in *Hamlet*, he arranged his first entry in a thorough business-like fashion, so as to produce a striking effect. The King was prosing on to the courtiers, as usual, when of a sudden there came a pause, the crowd of courtiers parted and formed a lane, while in came Hamlet, tripping it with much energy, smiling and bowing, till he found himself well at the footlights receiving the applause of his countryfolk, who were present in large numbers to give it. The late Lord Houghton, once speaking of him to me after his return from the States, called him "a very fine actor," but he was artificial and mannered—certainly old-fashioned in style. This old fashion in his dress seemed to carry us back thirty or forty years, to the days of stock costumes—puffy trunks and hose, etc. The surprise was almost as ludicrous. His "business" and properties were all equally antiquated. On the while, it may be said that Irving was the best and most satisfactory of all the Hamlets we have seen. There was a romantic grace about him and something pathetic.

The King as portrayed by the legitimate actor is always shown as a very respectable personage enunciating his wise saws and reasonable admonitions with excellent elocution. One would expect the delivery to have an air of finished hypocrisy, elaborated, especially in the lines—

Fie! 'tis a fault to heaven,
A fault against the dead—a fault to nature,
To reason most absurd, whose common theme
Is death of Fathers.

The King's lecture to Hamlet on his excessive indulgence in grief is a truly rational and excellent exhortation, convincing even in its way, and so it is always delivered impressively, and so accepted by the audience. It seems to accept it in this sense, owing to the presentation of the King as a sort of respectable personage who has, as it were, "turned over a new leaf." But were the whole of this scene delivered with an Iago-like craft and villainy the effect would be prodigiously increased. But it is clear the utterance is *not* hypocritical. He means it all. We have only to turn to the magnificent and truly moving burst of repentance later on to see that the man had good instincts, which were overborne. He murdered his brother no doubt; but these were days of violence, when the dispossessed ruler, as a matter of course, was put to death for fear of troubling his dispossessor.

After dismissing Voltimand and Cornelius on their business, the King, turning to Laertes, gaily says, "What's the news with you?" at which old Polonius, his father, might be immensely gratified. All this preliminary matter being thus despatched, the King looks round for Hamlet, who remains abstracted and in a sort of reverie. Then, to keep him in good humour, addresses him as "my son." Hamlet does not answer, but recoils from the term, and just murmurs, in a ruminating, sarcastic fashion, "A little *more* than kin and *less* than kind," not caring whether the crowd or the King heard him or not. Then, no doubt, smiles and meaning glances, and whispers, among the courtiers, as who should say "another hit at his uncle." This makes the King uncomfortable; so he thinks it due to his dignity to read him a lecture on his generally odd behaviour. As they go out Hamlet lingers to the last, the King and Queen expecting or inviting him to march with them; but he shrugs his shoulders, looks after them with anger and impatience, then pacing up and down, lapses into his soliloquy

The Queen was a most remarkable woman. Her caresses, sentiments, are all out of the common—a woman of ardent attachment. Witness her love for her son and her singular love for her husband's brother; her grief for Ophelia, whom she said she really hoped to see her son's wife. Yet, what a foolish "nullity" she is. She must have been young and ardent—say, about forty; but she is always given to some *stout* matron.

III.—POLONIUS AND OPHELIA.

Another distorted figure, twisted out of all natural shape for the player's purposes, is Polinius. He is known to everyone, he is rather a favourite with the gods, and he is always done in the same way, after venerable traditions, as an old butt or buffoon, a tedious dodderer with much white wool on his head and carrying a white wand. Here is yet another instance of a character which should be restudied, wholly reconstructed—in short, visualized. How many types of this class are there about—old fellows who have been in diplomacy, envoys at some German Court, obsequious, always smiling, telling little stories and recollections, grovelling before rank, chatterers, yet always refined gentlemen. Such old retainers of a Court as Polonius are usually found to be rather refined, if punctilious and shrewd, old gentlemen, with a firm belief in the all but divine commission of their employers. Polonius, in our day, would surely be a Sir Peter Polonius, K.C.B. In his discourse to his son, which is always made to take the shape of a sort of a solemn sermon, and is regularly "preached" by the actor. But it would be surely a different thing in the mouth of an old Court official giving his son a hint or so as to "getting on" in the world? Thus it would run: "Now, my dear boy, attend to me. I want to give you one last bit of advice. Don't borrow or get into debt, for that's low. Above all, dress *well* and like a gentleman, for a good tailor is always a letter of recommendation, especially with the women," etc. One can easily conceive the lighter key in which these useful counsels should be delivered. So with his "very like a whale"—always magnified in the same "buffooning" way. It is a surprise to find that all through Polonius is a very conspicuous, capable, and commanding figure, and a skilled man of the world. We find him managing his daughter, managing Hamlet—or trying to manage him—managing his son, managing the King and Queen, and is elaborately arranging plots of various kinds. He is a very *rusé* old man. When he was concerned to find that Hamlet was getting "off his head" he prudently ranged himself on the Court side. In his own "canny" way, his chief resource was eavesdropping, and he got the King and Queen to listen with him to Hamlet's ravings. He had innumerable threads in his hand.

And little understood is the event of the arrival of the Players. It was an event carefully insisted on; much was to depend on them. Now all strolling players are flamboyant enough; they would like to make "a splash" and a stir. They would strut, full of their own importance. Polonius had laid himself out to forward Hamlet's plans as much as he could, to "throw himself" into the "private theatricals" and encourage them in every way. He recalls his own early experiences. The whole is rational, serious, and consistent. Hamlet's rudeness to him was no doubt founded on the fact that he saw that the old man had designs on him—a fresh plot in addition to the others going on about him—and which fretted and irritated him.

How elaborate his scheme for having his son spied on in Paris. He had already given him, as we have seen, admirable service. But he knew youth too well to think it would be followed, so he sends an emissary after him, and it would seem the crafty old father, as the later Lord Chesterfield might do, wished to have it put about, by means of obscure hints, that his son was no milksop, but a sort of gay fellow. But it must be done without saying anything very distinct or compromising. It is, indeed, an exceedingly clever and elaborate system which he lays down.

Let us take that absurd "very like a whale," What is the situation? The old courtier is anxious to keep the eccentric Hamlet in good humour. He has come with a message from the Queen, who wishes to see her son privately. Hamlet, who has a sort of dislike to Polonius, and wishes to have his gibe and mortifying him, answers by pointing to a cloud, which, he says, seems "almost in shape like a camel." He would like his opinion. Polonius answers as almost anyone else would do who was dealing with a "flighty" person, especially a "royalty." We can see him shading his eyes, looking intently, and then hear him with a sort of obsequiousness exclaim: "By the Mass, and it's like a camel indeed." There the courtier speaks. But the Prince, putting on an antic mood, says maliciously, "Methinks it's very like a weazle." And the old fellow, though committed to his former simile, perhaps taken aback, cannot bring himself to reverse his opinion altogether, but after a little study adroitly says, "It is *backed* like a weazle." The back at least has some resemblance. Then Hamlet, scornfully, and determined to "corner" him, chooses what is the very extreme and totally opposed to both camel and weazle, saying, "Or like a whale," on which the old courtier, after a little smiling study, and with an air of sudden conviction, answers, "*Very like a whale*," as who should say, "well, really—er—now that I look again, 'pon my word, your Highness is perfectly right—it has very much the look of a whale." Now here is a display of subserviency that is amusing.

Again, when Laertes is going away on his travels there is the long elocutionary speech. A truly admirable, sagacious piece of advice it is: invaluable to all who are setting out in the world, and utterly impossible to be given by a doddering old imbecile.

But if Polonius's advice to his son be wise and excellent, how still more wise and admirable are his counsels to his daughter on her treatment of Hamlet. How shrewd, how worldly-wise! And again, how inconsistent with his being a comical old time-server How gross the vulgar turn given to his remark, "springes to catch woodcocks," always greeted with a loud guffaw. Yet it is meant seriously. And as he goes on with stroke after stroke of good advice, how inconsistent and puzzling it seems to hear such admirable sense coming from this old droll and pantaloon. How shrewd, too, did he show himself when his daughter came to tell him of Hamlet's forward and extravagant behaviour. He began to fear he had made a mistake in advising reserve to him. He insinuates that it was all her fault. However, the prudent old courtier sees at once that the King should be told because Hamlet himself would betray it.

In Ophelia we have always had presented to us the invariable conventional girl—interesting, sweet, and suffering, exciting universal pity, finally driven to madness and suicide. To this latter portion every actress turns—it is the crucial moment—with a view to play it for all that it is worth—to be distraught, sing snatches of song, &c. It is all sweetness and gentleness, even the painters show her as a pre-Raphaelite maid. The main point is that she must be a sort of foil for Hamlet

But is this the Ophelia of the play? On perusing the original text carefully we see that she has a marked character of her own, and offers a great variety. She is now gay, now serious. She takes a large part in the complications of the story. To begin with, is she not something of a flirt, if we can use the word in connection with the Bard? Indeed, she has a sort of trained artfulness. That old plotter, her father, had planned that she should win Hamlet—a "fine match"; but what if the Court seriously objected? He was not going to lose his place. But the Queen ardently favoured her, for everything that would hold or attract the suspicious and dangerous Prince, and so keep him quiet, would be favoured. Another part of Polonius's "little game" was to affect to discourage the matter. Nothing is more characteristic than his training of the "fair Ophelia," to which the sweet girl herself lends herself in the most dutiful and complacent way. This is hardly consistent with the pre-Raphaelite idea. It will be noted that both her brother and her father, almost at the same time, had to warn her against her too demonstrative behaviour to the Prince. They saw the danger—she was indiscreet, for he was a Prince—"he may not carve for himself," and could not "mean business." He tells her that it has been remarked that she was closeted with the Prince, and had of her audiences been "most free and bounteous." Hamlet's proposals, he warned her, were mere "unholy suits . . . . the better to beguile. Her brother spoke to her honestly and seriously, and she promised him to follow his counsels. The old courtier overheard, and wished to know from her what was said, on which he proceeds to give the same counsel, but with rather a different policy. He proceeds to cross-examine her. She assures him that Hamlet had offered genuine tenders of his affection, on which the old fellow calls her a "green girl." She tells him of vows, appeals to Heaven, &c., which he again puts aside. *He* knows the world, and finally forbids her to have any further talk with him. One thinks that the policy of the later "Beggars' Opera" must have been in his mind—to keep the men on you must keep them off.

But of even greater significance surely is Laertes's solemn warning to his sister when he was departing for France, when he told her that she had not the slightest chance of winning Hamlet in an honourable way. Reasons of State required that he should make an important marriage with one of his own rank. At the same time he seemed seriously to point to the other serious danger—that she would yield herself to his affection, to "his unmastered importunity." "Be wary, then, best safety lies in fear." That the daughter of a high Court official should need such a caution shows that such frailty was not uncommon. Her reply, which was flippant enough, seems to show that there was ground for his suspicion, for she virtually said, "Mind yourself; don't preach to me." Her father also had the same misgivings, and bids her be scanter of her maiden presence: "I feared he meant to wreck thee." In this view Hamlet's speech to Polonius as to his daughter seems highly significant. After a little rumination, he tells with great earnestness, "If the sun breeds maggots in a dead dog, being a god, kissing carrion——" his thoughts turning to Ophelia and their relations. He would give the father a hint. Then, abruptly, "Have you a daughter? . . . Let her not walk in the sun. Conception is a blessing, *but not as your daughter may conceive*." That is, outside wedlock. This may seem far-fetched, but how else interpret the allusion, unless, indeed, he wanted to scare the old man with imaginary dangers, and so help him to get free of the daughter?

It is remarkable, again, how morbidly excited was Hamlet on this subject, for when the pair of courtiers came in shortly afterwards, he utters some very gross allusions, which are replied to in a corresponding spirit, and something of the same coarseness is shown in Ophelia's ravings. This is not a pleasant topic, but it is unavoidable, as it is an element in the transaction. And yet the public always look upon the Prince as one of the most refined and delicate-minded of men.

(To be continued.)

THE Continental Casino at Jersey, one of the most popular resorts, continues to provide delight to packed houses nightly with the best English and French artists. Miss Rita Caroll, operatic vocalist, with her beautiful voice, has captivated all hearts with her fine rendering of "When George the Third was King. M. Dolfino general manager, is so highly satisfied with her that he has secured her for the remainder of the season. The French artist, Miss Fleur d'Olvril, is also much appreciated; and the comedian, Mr. Pippo, is much above the ordinary run of French comedians. The fine playing of Mr. Vander Lindon, the conductor, has proved likewise a very great attraction to the visitors.

As a last tribute to Edvard Grieg, whose music has delighted audiences innumerable at the Queen's Hall Promenade Concerts, Mr. Wood included in the programme of Thursday evening the *Peer Gynt* suite, of which the first two movements are to be played at the composer's funeral, and Chopin's Funeral March, throughout which orchestra and audience remained standing. Both works, it need hardly be said, were beautifully played.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The Council of the Actors' Association held their usual weekly meeting at 10, King-street, Covent Garden, on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. Fred Grove (chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Rose Mathews, Wynne Matthison, and Lucy Sibley, Messrs. Cecil Brooking, Roy Horniman, Fredk. Morland, and C. B. Rivington (for secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The hon. solicitors reported they had had an interview with a member and advised her.

Mr. Fredk. Morland was elected chairman for the fortnightly business meeting, and it was agreed that strangers should not be admitted. After some discussion it was decided that the date of this meeting should be postponed from Friday, Sept. 6, until Friday, Sept. 13. Mr. Roy Horniman will open the debate on "Trade Union" principles for the Association. The secretary was directed to place notices of meeting, &c., in the offices of the Association, and it was agreed that the matter of each business meeting should be placed on the agenda at the Council meeting ten days previous to date.

It was agreed that the agency clerk should be asked to furnish the committee with a report founded on Mr. Applin's suggestions and with any views he might have on the subject of the agency department.

By an unfortunate oversight the reasons for Miss Clare Greet's resignation were omitted from the published minutes. Miss Greet expects to be out of town till the middle of November, and she considered that under these circumstances she could best help the work of the Association by making way for someone who could regularly attend the meetings. She therefore placed her resignation in the hands of the Council. The Council wish to record their appreciation of the unselfishness and public spirit which induced Miss Greet to take this step.

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. H. Athol Forde resigning his seat upon the Council owing to prolonged absence from town, and the secretary was instructed to write to Mr. Forde stating the Council accepted his resignation with extreme regret, and thanking him for services rendered during his term of office.

The question as to whether a trade union policy is to be advocated by the Council, for which a whip was issued last week, having been discussed, it was proposed that the report of the committee on the proposed meeting at Manchester be adopted. After some consideration an amendment that the discussion of this matter should be adjourned until this day fortnight with a view to obtaining a more universal opinion on the subject was carried. The secretary was directed to issue a whip for that date.

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Geo. Lyttleton enclosing his scheme re "Minimum Wage." The secretary was directed to thank Mr. Lyttleton for his communication, and it was agreed that the scheme should be handed to the Minimum Wage Committee to be considered by them.

The Chairman read a letter from Boyton, Sons and Trevor with regard to sub-letting the premises, and the secretary was directed to fill up the form they enclosed.

Miss Sibley tendered her resignation as hon. secretary of the Social Committee, and it was agreed that it should be left to the Social Committee to deal with the matter. Mr. Robt. Castleton reported that no business had been transacted owing to the non-attendance of members—only he and Miss Rose Mathews being present. It was agreed that Miss Mathews as a member of the Council and also of the Social Committee should give instructions for the secretary to send out notices for a meeting of the Social Committee when she had arranged a convenient date for same.

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Edwin Palmer suggesting Dr. Jas. Hepburn, of Glasgow, as an H.M.O. to the A.A. It was agreed that the secretary should endeavour to find out whether any member of the Council would be visiting Glasgow soon, and if so to ask him to call upon Dr. Hepburn with a view to his appointment.

The Secretary reported an interview with a gentleman who had expressed his willingness to act as an hon. medical officer to the Association, and it was agreed that the matter of his election should stand over until it was convenient for one of the Council to call and see him on the subject. The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Lewis Casson, stating that he had interviewed Dr. Kettlewell, of Ilfracombe, as requested, and that gentleman was elected as an hon. medical officer.

The Chairman read a letter from Dr. Rideal, stating that he was leaving Twickenham and taking up his residence at 14, Cornhill, E.C., and suggesting Dr. Beddard, of Richmond Bridge-mansions, Twickenham, in his stead. It was agreed that Dr. Beddard be elected.

The suggestion book was considered, and an entry made.

THE Theatre Royal, Lincoln, re-opened for the season on Monday under highly promising auspices, Messrs. Payne, Seddon, and Ernest Pope having secured the house on a lease of several years. During the recess an entirely new entrance to the dress circle, upper circle, and stalls has been constructed. During the performance on Monday Mr. Frank King, the proprietor of the theatre, introduced Mr. Payne Seddon to the audience. Mr. King thanked his patrons for seven years' generous support and bespoke a continuance of their favour for his successor. As Mr. King was leaving the stage Mr. William Cottam, the editor of a local paper, stepped from the wings, and in a neat speech asked his acceptance of a very handsome writing case bearing the inscription: "Presented to Frank King by a few Lincoln friends. Sept. 2, 1907."

MR. PAYNE SEDDON said that although he had had the pleasure of knowing Lincoln for over twenty years—since Messrs. Roberts, Archer, and Bartlett controlled the old playhouse—he rather felt that night like a swimmer taking a plunge into unknown depths. Mr. King, when he asked him to do him the favour of introducing him to his patrons, very reluctantly consented, telling him that he had never appeared on his own stage before, and that he looked upon the transfer of the theatre as he would upon the transfer of any other business. But the manager of a theatre seemed to him (Mr. Seddon) rather like a consulting chemist or a doctor, inasmuch as it was his business to feel the pulse, as it were, of his audience, to find out what they required, and prescribe accordingly. After briefly indicating the engagements for the next three months, Mr. Seddon said that in undertaking the management of the theatre he and his partner realised they took a responsibility not to themselves alone, but to the whole community, and they hoped to carry out that responsibility in such a manner as to make the theatre a credit to the city.

THE Princess of Wales, accompanied by her daughter, the Princess Mary, and attended by the Lady Mary Forbes Trefusis, visited the Balkan States Exhibition at Earl's Court on Monday. After inspecting the exhibits in the Servian, Bulgarian, and Montenegrin sections, where the various acting commissioners were presented to her, the Princess visited "Old Japan," and became interested in the various handicrafts.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

"MRS. WIGGS" AT THE ADELPHI.

The friendship which *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* has cultivated among playgoers of the Old Country was renewed on Monday, when our entertaining American visitors crossed the Strand, and were welcomed at the Adelphi by a large and enthusiastic audience. The spacious stage of the Adelphi permits of an elaboration of the scenic effects, and the end of the second act now gains in drollery by the introduction of a freight van, into which the body of the intoxicated Mr. Stubbins is packed. A view of the railroad is given behind, with red and green signal lights shining luminously through the darkness. An added thrill is also provided by the entry of the motor-car, in which Mr. Bob and Miss Lucy carry out their elopement.

Loyal service is still done by the talented players to whom the piece is entrusted. Miss Madge Carr Cook retains first place in her natural and unforced assumption of the title-rôle. Ease and confidence mark the portrayal of a part which bristles with difficulties, and Mrs. Cook's art is found principally in the fact that she can present a homely person whose counterpart can be met with in any country town in such a way as to secure the admiration and the reverence of all. The play is not without the "heart interest" that Americans are wont to introduce, however inopportunely, into their productions, and in the scenes of pathos Mrs. Cook becomes greatly impressive. The various characters of the play are drawn with a dexterous drollery that keeps the audience in merry mood, and a conspicuous part in creating laughter is taken by Miss Louise Closser. The doleful Miss Hazy is throughout a most mirth-provoking oddity, and the sight of the ancient maiden taking part in her first courtship is one not lightly to be forgotten. Mr. Frederick Burton's rendering of Mr. Stubbins remains a rare specimen of unctuous drollery, marred only by a little indistinctness, due to the deepening of the voice. The comic characteristics of Mrs. Schultz are preserved by Miss Bertha Livingston, and a distinctly precious performance is the Mrs. Eichorn of Miss Grace Griswold, whose asperity and spiteful expression are marvellously assumed.

Comeliness and grace mark the rendering of Lovey Mary by Miss Lottie Alter, and an intelligent and well-spoken rendition of the girl, Asia, is given by Miss Mabel Shaw, who is agreeably natural and piquant in expression. Mr. Ogden Stevens submits a sound and capable study of Mr. Wiggs; Mr. G. Hagar Robinson is a slim and smart matrimonial agent; and a congenial pair of lovers is found in the Miss Lucy of Miss Florence Busby and the Mr. Bob of Mr. Ashton Pearse. Billy Wiggs and Chris. Hazy are neatly portrayed by Mr. Arthur Veesine and Mr. T. Swem; and praise should be devoted to the realistic rendering of the boy Tommy, given by Miss Dolly Sommers. Repeated calls were made at the fall of each curtain, and nothing was wanting to show that *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* would continue to hold receptions nightly in London for an indefinite time.

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

Miss Marion Terry is most attractively gowned in *The Hypocrites* at the Hicks Theatre. She is best-suited, perhaps, in a pale-blue Shantung of a delicate colour and picturesque design. The skirt is quite plain, except for tiny French knots which outline the seams. A quaint little kimono coat is trimmed with embroidery, and its short sleeves show the blouse of fillet lace, which is daintily worked with silver thread. There is also a wide lace collar embroidered with silver in the same manner. Another exquisite creation is a dress of mole-coloured chiffon, the bodice being made with wide folds of the material, with bands of shot-purple silk ribbon brought over the shoulders to the waist, and adorned with rich gold galloon insertion, embroidered in colours. The full chiffon sleeves are caught in at the wrist with folded bands of the ribbon; and the chiffon skirt, which is arranged in heavy folds, falls over deep bands of the same ribbon.

An imposing effect is created by a handsome dress of black ninon de soie, trimmed with a little heavy jet at the foot of the skirt and again on the bodice. Over this dress is worn a long purple wrap, which is beautifully trimmed with gold galloon, worked with a miniature floral design. Folds of purple chiffon hang from the neck to the foot of the cloak. The sleeves are very wide and comfortable, and they are drawn in at the wrist with a deep cuff of the galloon and purple chiffon. A pretty white cloth dress worn by Miss Terry is made in the same Empire style she affects throughout the play. The bodice is arranged with a vest of tucked white chiffon and wide revers of white lace. There is a little kimono coat, and wide under-sleeves made of cream lace and white cloth arranged alternately.

Miss Viva Birkett, who plays the charming Helen Plugenet, looks sweet in a costume of vieux rose cloth, made with a long train, and hemmed with a band of pink silk feather-stitching. The folded bodice is of pink ninon, fastened in front with a big bow of brown silk. At the throat are soft folds of white fillet lace, and the elbow sleeves are made of many lace frills, caught together in front by a deep cuff of frilled lace. In another scene Miss Birkett wears a becoming skirt of café-aux-lait-faced cloth, with a pretty bodice, relieved by touches of brown silk; while a third dress is of rose-coloured mousseline de soie, made with a very graceful, draped bodice.

A varied display of "prints" is made in the new play at the Garrick. Miss Miriam Clements as Mrs. Fiander is decked out in a pretty biscuit-coloured print, with a white cambric apron and a yellow Panama hat turned up in front. In the next scene Miss Clements wears an old-fashioned sun-bonnet of quilted white cotton, and her blue-and-white cotton dress is prettily made with a full skirt and blouse bodice, opened a little at the neck, and finished with a narrow turned-down collar of white linen. This dress gives place in the next scene to one of purple and white check. The material again is print, and at the neck is a small embroidered collar and a smart little bow of black ribbon. In the last act Miss Clements wears a dress of white cotton patterned with tiny sprigs of roses.

STEAMERS ON THE STAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Last Friday, Aug. 30, the *Daily Mail* published a report of the first rehearsal, on the preceding day, of the "Great Sensation Scene" of the drama shortly to be produced at Drury Lane Theatre, the secret of which had, until then, been jealously guarded by the management.

Having on July 1 last forwarded to the managers of a touring company the synopsis and scenario of a new and original drama I am writing for them, in which similar scenes and effects are included, *i.e.*, the entrance of a steamer (not small or a toy), upon the stage, her loading, crossing, and exit from the stage, and in the following scene her wreck in a fog through a boiler explosion, including similar realistic details to those mentioned in the *Daily Mail* report, I immediately wrote a letter to the editor of that paper stating these facts. I venture to ask the favour of your kindly placing these facts on record in your columns, in order that when my play is produced I may not be charged with plagiarism.—Yours faithfully, WOODS LAWRENCE.

London, Sept. 2, 1907.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE will be accompanied on his autumn tour by Miss Viola Tree, who will play not only The Queen in *Richard II.* and *Trilby*, but also Ethel Newcome in *Colonel Newcome*. The tour begins at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Monday, finishing at Cardiff on Saturday, Nov. 23. The first performance of the four-act play which Mr. William J. Locke has drawn from his own novel, "The Beloved Vagabond," will be given during the visit to Dublin, and the production of Mr. J. Comyns Carr's adaptation of Charles Dickens's novel, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood," will also be a feature of the itinerary.

CORDIAL congratulations to Miss Kitty Mason, the popular principal dancer of the Gaiety, who was married on Wednesday to Mr. A. E. Aspinall, secretary of the West India Committee. The marriage, which was strictly private, was celebrated at St. Andrew's, Westminster, and after the ceremony the wedding party of four lunched at the Savoy. In the evening Mr. and Mrs. Aspinall left for Lucerne for a three weeks' holiday.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER begins his provincial tour with *His House in Order* on Monday, the company leaving St. Pancras on Sunday morning at 11.45 by special train, arriving at Blackpool at 5.40 p.m. Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Mr. E. Lyall Swete, and Miss Iris Hawkins will be included in the cast of Mr. Pinero's great play, and the towns favoured during the tour, which is to last six weeks, will be Blackpool, Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Glasgow, and Edinburgh, following on in the order named.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY to-night concludes at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, a week which has been marked by gratifying success. The popular actor is hard at work rehearsing *Great Possessions*, the first provincial production of which is arousing so much interest. Miss Amy Coleridge will play the part of Ruth on tour, and both Mr. Harvey and Miss N. de Silva are to be seen in the rôles sustained by them at the Adelphi.

MR. and MRS. F. R. BENSON and their Shakespearean company opened their autumn tour auspiciously ciously at the Theatre Royal, York, on Monday, the *Merchant of Venice* playing to a crowded house. The tour includes all the principal towns in the North and West of England. Mr. Benson's North company, headed by Mr. Henry Herbert, opened its autumn tour at Ramsgate on Monday, under similarly favourable conditions, and have been playing to excellent business all through the week. Plymouth, Exeter, Worcester, Coventry, and many other important towns will be visited in the course of the tour.

IT is a great pity that Mr. Hall Caine's indisposition prevented him enjoying the triumph on Saturday at the Lyceum of his latest version of *The Christian*, which drew an enormous crowd. "Enthusiastic" is scarcely a strong enough adjective to properly describe the reception of the work.

MR. LAURENCE BINYON, the author of *Attila*, which was produced by Mr. Oscar Asche at His Majesty's Theatre on Wednesday, has already achieved distinction in the world of art and literature. Born in a country parsonage, he is, however, a Londoner by adoption, having been brought up at St. Paul's School. He carried off the Newdigate Prize for English Verse at Oxford, and in 1893 entered the Department of Printed Books at the British Museum. Two years later he was transferred to the Department of Prints and Drawings.

MR. CHARLES CARTWRIGHT resumes his *David Copperfield* tour on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Brighton. He, of course, plays Daniel Peggotty, with Mr. Charles Collette as the immortal Micawber.

MR. EADE MONTEFIORE, in his recent examination in bankruptcy at the Guildhall, Bury St. Edmunds, gave interesting details of his difficulties. He said that since 1889 he had been in the theatrical profession, commencing as an actor in comedy, and within three years he became manager. He had lived in Scotland a great deal, and had twice been in difficulties, once in 1894 at Paisley, when he came to an arrangement with his creditors, and once in 1902 at Dundee, when he was made bankrupt. After that he started clear of all liabilities, and had since then lived upon what he had earned. He had never put £5 on a racehorse in his life. He commenced negotiating for the tenancy of the Bury Theatre in the spring of last year, but the negotiations were not completed until October, when he entered into possession with about £100 of clear capital. In addition he had about £300 worth of engravings and bric-à-brac, the collection of which was his hobby.

CONTINUING, Mr. Montefiore said his hobby of collecting started after his bankruptcy in Dundee, and he valued his collection at £200, but he would not have them sold because from a sentimental point of view they were invaluable. Those that remained at the theatre he valued at £80.

QUESTIONED as to the receipts from the various plays, the debtor said that from Dec. 10 to June 8 he received from attendances £1,993 17s. 7d.; bar sales £333 3s. 10d.; programmes £49 17s.; receipts from other sources, including money borrowed and things he had sold, £231 5s. 6d. The expenses included share of receipts to travelling companies £1,041 5s. 10d.; wages of music hall artists, staff, and management £927 14s. 3d.; accounts paid by cheque £404 5s. 8d., and accounts paid by cash at the theatre and elsewhere £221 13s. 6d. There was a discrepancy between the two of about £12, which an acute accountant could probably find in the books. From Nov. 3 to June 8 the money he took for himself only amounted to £112. The examination was adjourned until Sept. 19

THOSE who so generously came to the assistance of the Charles Garthorne Grimston Widow Fund will be pleased to hear that Mrs. Garthorne has now been enabled to enter into partnership with another lady for the purpose of letting apartments in Brighton. A house at No. 2, Buckingham-street has been taken, and those who require clean, comfortable rooms will be sure to find them there. The house is in close proximity to the theatres, station, &c., and very conveniently situated for all parts of the town. Mrs. Garthorne wishes to convey her sincere thanks to all who have participated in this kindly work.

ALL previous records have been broken by the Hutchison management at the West Pier, Brighton, over 40,000 people paying for admission during the four weeks of their season. Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison will start an important tour of *The Stronger Sex* at the Coronet Theatre on Monday, the entire original London production having been secured. The direction of the stage will be in the experienced hands of Mr. D. Lewin Mannering, who also will appear in the principal part. Other leading members of the company will be Miss May Blayney, Miss Nancy Beresford, Miss Gladys Ffolliott, and Mr. Stanley Harrison. Mr. J. E. Watson will act as general-manager for the company. The tour embraces most of the suburban theatres and many of the best provincial centres.

MR. E. S. WILLARD is not making an American tour this season, nor will he undertake the management of a London Theatre, requiring a more leisurely life in the future than actor-management allows, but he will very likely be seen during the season in a play produced under another's management.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE'S production of *The Bondman* was staged by Mr. Reginald A. Hunt, who has done his work so well that full credit is due to him.

A DISTURBANCE occurred last week at the Muncaster Theatre, Bootle, near Liverpool, where *The Shaughraun* was being played by the stock company. During the course of the "wake" scene a man arose in the pit, and protested, "in the name of countless Irishmen," against the ridicule that was being poured upon his country by such a drama. Mr. Albert Sember, who was playing the part of Conn, threw off the "sheet," and walked to the footlights, where, in a few words, he expressed regret that exception should be taken to a play which had for generations found favour with all decent Irish people, the text of which, written by an Irishmen, they were faithfully following.

GENERAL cheers greeted Mr. Sember's remarks, and when some twenty of the interrupter's companions jumped up and started howling, the police removed the original disturber, the others leaving the theatre quietly. At the close of the play, Mr. Sember again addressed the audience, assuring them that the management of the theatre would take care that nothing likely to hurt anybody's feelings would ever be presented. All old theatre-goers would recognise that *The Shaughraun* had been presented in its original form, and, he thought, to the satisfaction of their patrons. The speech was received with loud cheers.

MR. H. F. MALTBY is at present busily engaged upon his new play, the production of which will probably take place early in 1908. Differing entirely from his former pieces, Mr. Maltby's latest work will deal with modern life. The first act takes place in a small country vicarage in Northumberland, and the remaining three acts are laid in an office in the City.

A HIGHLY successful illuminated fête was given at the Charing Cross Convalescent Home at Limpsfield, under the patronage of the Countess of Ilchester, and a very fine concert was furnished by well-known artists. The hall was not large enough to hold all who wished to be present, and many failed to obtain admission. Mr. John L. Shine was a valued contributor to the programme, and proved a host in himself. Miss Edith Grahame made a hit with a clever monologue, and Mr. John Mortimer scored equally in an amusing recitation. Miss Vane and company appeared in *The Lady Swindler*, and others who took part in the entertainment were Professor Cross, Mr. Douglas Hamilton, Miss Vivien Stafford, and Miss Blanche Colmore, local talent being also well represented. Dr. Watt Black (the president of the Home), Mrs. Watt Black, and Miss Leese (the matron) are to be congratulated on the successful result which was attained.

THE British Empire Shakespeare Society's performances of *The Merchant of Venice*, to be given at the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, on the first four days of October, will be sustained by two casts, composed entirely of members of the Society, drawn from various parts of the kingdom. One cast will play on the evening of the 1st and the afternoon of the 2nd, the other on the evening of the 3rd and the afternoon of the 4th. Mr. Acton Bond, under whose direction the performances are to be given, will be released by Mrs. Russ Whytal from the part of Clancarty in order to admit of full time being given for rehearsals at the Memorial Theatre. Special concessions, it should be added, have been made for those travelling to Stratford-on-Avon to witness the performances.

THE clergyman as a character in a play has, says the *Daily Mail*, for a long time been regarded by dramatic authors as a valuable asset. No fewer than five plays now running, or in rehearsal for production in London, have at least one clergyman in the list of characters. In *The Hypocrites* at the Hicks Theatre there are two, one of them being the leading personage in the story. There is a clergyman in *When Knights Were Bold* at Wyndham's Theatre, there is another in the American play, *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, at the Adelphi, and three are appearing in *The Christian* at the Lyceum Theatre. Added to all these is the Rev. Martin Hope in the new Drury Lane drama, *The Sins of Society*.

MR. FRANK ALDRIDGE, the resident-manager of the Perth Theatre, has sustained a severe bereavement in the death, at the early age of thirty-four, of his wife, who passed away at Perth on the 30th ult. Mrs. Aldridge, whose maiden name was Miss Caroline Southall, was born at Stockton-on-Tees. Even as a child she showed her aptitude for the stage, and she had already developed marked talent in light comedy when at the age of sixteen she became the wife of Mr. Aldridge. She played successfully in comic opera under Mr. Horace Lingard and Mr. Robert Arthur as well as with Mr. J. H. Savile and with Mr. Rousbey's companies.

MRS. ALDRIDGE was one of the most popular ladies in Perth, her large-heartedness and gentle-womanly qualities endearing her to all. The funeral took place at Wellshill Cemetery on Tuesday, and the esteem in which the deceased lady was held was shown when the cortège left St. Niman's Cathedral after the service, fully 250 of the prominent citizens of the Fair City following to the cemetery, where a crowd of nearly a thousand persons congregated. The oak coffin was entirely covered with floral tributes, conspicuous among which were wreaths from Mr. Aldridge and his six-year-old daughter Ivy. A detachment of the Black Watch denoted the public character of the ceremony.

"THE GIRLS OF GOTTENBERG" at the Gaiety now rejoice in their full complement of artistic interpreters, all the members of the original company having returned to their rôles. Miss Gertie Millar, Miss May de Sousa, Miss Violet Halls, Miss Olive May, Miss Jean Aylwin, Mr. George Grossmith, jun., Mr. Robert Nainby, and Mr. Edmund Payne are all appearing with their customary success, and Mr. Louis Bradfield, who has recently joined the company, receives a hearty welcome.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN and his company opened the New Assembly Rooms Theatre, Bromsgrove, on Monday with *The Adventure of Lady Ursula*, which had a big reception from a fashionable audience. The performance was under the patronage of Alderman F. Holyoake, J.P., Mr. J. Green, J.P., Mr. J. Brazier, J.P., Mr. S. Gaywell, M.A., F.G.S., F.R.A.S., Mr. G. Croaker, F.R.C.S., Mr. J. H. Beilby, M.A., C.M., Mr. W. H. Rowlands, M.R.C.S., and Councillor W. Simmons. The theatre, which has been erected by Messrs. W. Walton and Son, has been leased to Mrs. Dayrell Vincent, who is opening the last three nights of each week. The dimensions and other particulars were published in our columns a few weeks ago. On the rise of the curtain the company sang the National Anthem.

THE CENTRAL is not to be the name of Mr. J. E. Vedrenne's new theatre in Shaftesbury-avenue. So much objection to the title was aroused that the owners of the property had a meeting with Mr. Vedrenne on Friday, and it has now been definitely settled to call the new house "The Queen's Theatre," subject, of course, to the necessary consent being given. *The Sugar Bowl*, which is to be the opening attraction, is from the pen of Mrs. Madeline Lucette Ryley, and is founded on the assumption that once a lady, however long neglected, has attracted a lover, other men follow in his wake like flies round a sugar bowl. Miss Ellis Jeffreys will play the leading part.

OLD memories are revived by the christening of the new theatre in Shaftesbury-avenue. The first Queen's Theatre was so called in honour of good Queen Anne, and was opened in 1705. On the accession of King George it became the King's. On the accession of Queen Victoria it became Her Majesty's, and Mr. Tree's handsome playhouse, His Majesty's, now occupies the same site. The little house off Tottenham-court-road, which the Bancrofts made famous as the Prince of Wales, was in its early years known by that title. The Queen's Theatre freshest in playgoers' memories, however, is the one which, in 1867, was opened in Long-acre.

COUNCILLOR CULLING, the popular manager of the Bury Theatre and Circus, is suffering, we regret to state, from appendicitis. He took to his bed on Saturday morning, and was seen by specialists on Monday, but they decided not to operate, as he was doing fairly well, while from enquiries we learn that Mr. Culling is improving nicely.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE has been meeting with great success on his autumn tour, return dates having been arranged at every theatre he has so far visited. Mr. Wilkie's production of *Richard III.*, with new wardrobe and scenery, has made a notable impression. Several additions to the extensive répertoire of the company are to be made in the course of the next few weeks.

MR. ELVEY THOMAS, the popular piermaster and entertainment manager of the St. Leonards Pavilion Theatre, takes his ninth annual benefit there on Thursday. A special engagement has been made for this occasion of Mr. Ian Maclaren's company, which will appear in *As You Like It* and *The Taming of the Shrew*.

MR. EDWARD COMPTON makes the welcome announcement that he will give at the St. James's a series of short revivals of the comedies with which his name has been so long associated, starting on Saturday next with *The School for Scandal*. Mr. Compton will appear in his artistic impersonation of Charles Surface; Mr. Eric Lewis will be the Sir Peter Teazle and Miss Lilian Braithwaite the Lady Teazle. Joseph Surface, Sir Oliver, and Moses will be acted respectively by Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. Charles Groves, and Mr. E. M. Robson.

MR. LAURENCE IRVING, who arrived in New York a fortnight ago, is superintending the staging of his new play, in which Mr. E. H. Sothern is to appear. The tentative title of the play was *The Inheritance of the Meek*, but according to a recent announcement it is to be named *The Fool Hath Said in His Heart, There is No God*. Mr. Irving has had the misfortune to lose two typewritten copies of the play, as well as a number of valuable photographs.

MR. TOM CRAVEN'S new sensational drama, *The Great Crais Crime*, will be produced for copyright purposes during the first week in November. It is said to contain many startling and quite original effects, and as in many other of this author's forty-five dramatic works, the more serious situations will be pleasantly "relieved" by the element of comedy. It is interesting to note that Mr. Craven's perennial *Stowaway*, written at the age of seventeen, when the author was then a junior clerk in the Joint Stock Bank, is still very much in evidence both sides of the Atlantic and in the Colonies.

"YOU NEVER CAN TELL," with which Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker open their campaign at the Savoy on Monday, Sept. 16, will be sustained by Miss Agnes Thomas, Miss Ellen O'Malley, Miss Dorothy Minto, Mr. Norman Page, Mr. A. E. George, Mr. Nigel Playfair, Mr. Harcourt Williams, Mr. James Hearn, Mr. J. D. Beveridge, and Miss Katherine Stuart. The revival will last four weeks, and will be followed by *The Devil's Disciple*.

MR. WEEDON GROSSMITH, who starts his tour at the Coronet on Sept. 30 with *The Night of the Party*, has written for eventual production a play which may succeed either as a farce or a serious drama. The leading character is that of the ne'er-do-well son of a millionaire, and the incidents of the piece will be of the most sensational description, but rendered in the gravest and sincerest manner by its interpreters. The first of the four acts takes place in Mayfair, and the remaining three in a remote corner of the Caucasian Mountains. Mr. Grossmith will be accompanied on his tour by Mr. W. T. Lovell, Mr. Hubert Druce, and Miss Esmé Beringer.

PRINCE FRANCIS OF TECK and the Countess de Grey visited the Pavilion Theatre, Mile-end, on Wednesday, and witnessed a performance of Mme. Feinman, who is described as the Jewish Sarah Bernhardt. The play was a Yiddish adaptation of *Hoodman Blind*, the fine drama by Henry Arthur Jones, which was produced at the Princess's in 1885. In its foreign guise the piece is called *Rachel and Leah*.

THE KING has expressed his displeasure at the exaggerated reports which have been given in some quarters regarding his departure from the Summer Theatre at Marienbad last week. Herr Laska, the manager of the theatre, has stated that he cannot be blamed for the incident which occasioned the King to leave the house, an incident which he deeply regrets. The whole matter was due to a most regrettable misunderstanding.

MME. SARAH BERNHARDT, who has been spending her holiday at Belle Isle, her summer residence on the coast of Brittany, will shortly embark on a tour through France, Switzerland, Holland, and England. She has just finished writing a modern four-act play, and the second volume of her memoirs will appear next winter simultaneously in Paris, London, and New York. During her holiday Mme. Bernhardt divided her time between dominoes, tennis, and an occasional shrimp-fishing expedition, always retiring at ten o'clock at night.

MR. FRANK BERTRAM will this autumn produce two new plays, both by Mr. Gordon Holmes, with the striking titles of *The Empire of Ambition* and *The Shoes of the Dead*. Mr. Sydney Bland, who has created a marked impression on tour as the Rat in *The Breed of the Treshams*, will produce the first-named piece, playing the principal part. Mr. Frank Bertram, with his *Convict's Daughter* company, will stage *The Shoes of the Dead*, a title which may, however, be altered.

MR. OTTO STUART has engaged Miss Italia Conti for his season at the Court Theatre.

VOICE trainers may come and voice trainers may go, but Miss Kate Flinn goes on like Tennyson's brook. A new term at her academy commences on Monday, Sept. 16. Those who cannot sing may quickly be taught to do so by Miss Flinn; those who sing a little are trained to sing better; while those whose goal is the public platform or stage will find in the accomplished teacher's methods a sure way to the achievement of their desires.

MUSIC has lost another distinguished master by the passing away of Edvard Grieg, the celebrated Norwegian composer and pianist, whose death at Bergen early on Wednesday morning has caused universal sorrow. Edvard Grieg, who was born at Bergen on June 15, 1843, had Scottish blood in his veins, for his great grandfather was Alexander Grieg, an Aberdeen merchant. The composer obtained his earliest instruction in music from his mother, a Norwegian lady who had studied in London. The boy made his first attempt at composition when he was about twelve, the title of the piece being "Variations on a German Melody for the Piano, by Edvard Grieg, Opus 1." When Grieg was nearly fifteen he met Ole Bull, the famous violinist, on whose recommendation he was sent to the Leipzig Conservatorium, where he remained from 1858 to 1862, studying under well-known professors of the day.

ON his return to Norway Grieg worked enthusiastically in the cause of Scandinavian folk-music, the popularity of which is chiefly due to him. His first orchestral work was the overture "Im Herbst," and among his many compositions his "Peer Gynt" suite is the most famous in this country, where his songs have also given unlimited pleasure. Grieg was in London as recently as May of last year, when he gave two concerts of his own works at the Queen's Hall. In 1894 the University of Cambridge conferred upon the Norwegian composer the honorary degree of Mus.D. The body is lying in state at the Bergen Museum preparatory to the funeral, which will take place on Monday at the Moellendal Crematory, near Bergen.

MME. ROSE ETTINGER, the well-known soprano, was discovered lying in bed at Knightsbridge, Devon, on Monday, with a bullet wound in her mouth, and a six-chambered Colt's revolver by her side. The injured vocalist and her husband, Mr. Francis Braun, have been staying in the neighbourhood for several months, and some weeks ago they both gave their services at a concert arranged in aid of a fund for providing a new organ for a neighbouring parish church. Mrs. Braun lies in a critical condition, but according to latest devices hopes of her recovery are entertained.

THE London guide "What's On" contains as its portrait this week a picture of Mr. J. Maundy-Gregory. The illustration is accompanied by a few crisp notes on his career.

A SCHEME is now in course of formation to buy up a West End house, christening it the Irving Theatre. The policy of the new enterprise would be to foster and perpetuate the highest ideals and methods associated with the name of the great actor.

THE late Richard Mansfield, whose death we announced in our last issue, has left a large fortune. His estate is estimated at £186,000, of which theatrical properties, scenery, costumes, &c., account for £40,000. There is also valuable real estate in New York and at his home, New London, Connecticut.

NEXT Tuesday's meeting of the Actors' Union at the Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, W.C., at 2.30, will be of special interest, as Mr. Frank Gerald, the delegate to the Trades Union Congress at Bath, will address the meeting.

MISS KITTY GORDON and her husband, Captain the Hon. Henry Beresford, were the objects of excessive police zeal on the 29th ult., when they were pounced upon by constables during a motor drive through Regent's Park about midnight. The case came up at Marylebone Police Court on Thursday, when Captain Beresford was charged with exceeding the speed limit. The park constable gave the speed as 18 miles 1320 yards per hour. Captain Beresford gave evidence in his own behalf, and contended that the constables were wrong in their time. The roads in the park were in such a disgraceful condition that if the car had been driven at the speed of eighteen miles an hour it would have been shaken to pieces. They were so bad that his wife implored him every time he went into the park to drive slowly. "Of course we were not going at eighteen miles an hour, or we would have been bumped out of the car," said Miss Gordon. A fine of 40s., with 2s. costs, was imposed.

ARRANGEMENTS for the Chelsea Historical Pageant to be held next year in Ranelagh Gardens, adjoining Chelsea Hospital, are proceeding apace. It is the first London pageant since the recent revival of this kind of spectacle, and will serve to show how rich is the story of the old village of palaces, as Chelsea has been called. Among the episodes will be those of Cæsar crossing the Thames at Chelsea, 53 B.C.; the Council of Chelsea, 786 A.D.; Sir Thomas More's greatness and fall; Charles I. at Chelsea, 1627; the Founding of Chelsea Hospital, 1681; and Doggett's Coat and Badge, the water festival which still survives.

THE QUEEN OF SPAIN has written a one-act play, which, it is stated, is to be performed at Sandringham in the autumn. The cast will be made up of amateurs, including Miss Minnie Cochrane, lady-in-waiting to Princess Henry of Battenberg. Miss Cochrane was always stage-manager of the amateur theatricals which used to be performed by the young Queen and her brothers.

A WHISTLING piano is the latest novelty from America. It is the invention of a negro clergyman, of Richmond, Virginia, who has been granted a patent. The instrument has a keyboard arranged on a scale somewhat different from that of an ordinary piano. It is capable of whistling the most difficult notes, and the rev. gentleman is confident that his device will become very popular with his own race throughout the world.

MR. J. HENRY TWYFORD has postponed for a time his dramatic reading of *John of Hapsburg* in order to fulfil a special engagement to play Captain Lovell (Mr. Ben Webster's part) in *Mice and Men*.

MR. CHARLES CONSTANT, lessee of the Theatre Royal, Ryde, has been able to welcome large and fashionable audiences this season. On Tuesday he was honoured by the patronage and presence of Her Royal Highness Princess Henry of Battenberg, accompanied by Princes Leopold and Maurice of Battenberg and suite, who witnessed the performance of *Peter's Mother* by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. Princes Leopold and Maurice had previously visited the theatre when *The Dairymaids* was the piece presented. First-class attractions, particularly of a musical order, may confidently rely on good business at the popular resort.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Rushing Miss Terry.

MISS ELLEN TERRY, in *M.A.P.* last Saturday, acknowledged her indebtedness to the late Charles Reade for advice about her acting. "In the matter of an 'ardent' exit," he wrote, says Miss Terry, "the swift rush of the words, the personal rush, should carry you off the stage. It is in reality as easy as shelling peas, if you will only go by the right method instead of by the wrong. You have overcome far greater difficulties than this, yet night after night you go on suffering ignoble defeat at this point. Come, courage! You took a leaf out of Reade's dictionary at Manchester, and trampled on two difficulties—impossibilities you called them. That was on Saturday. Monday you knocked the poor impossibilities down. Tuesday you kicked them where they lay. Wednesday you walked placidly over their prostrate bodies!" The difficulty that he was now urging me to knock down was one of *pace*, and I am afraid that in all my stage life subsequently I never quite succeeded in kicking it or walking over its prostrate body!"

Sending Her to the Seaside.

"I REMEMBER," continues Miss Terry, "that Reade, with characteristic generosity, gave me £10, and sent me to the seaside in earnest, as he suggests my doing, half in fun, in the letter. 'I know you won't go otherwise,' he said, 'because you want to insure your life, or do something of that sort. Here! Go to Brighton, go anywhere by the sea for Sunday. Don't thank me. It's all for Philippa!'"

Compensation for Disturbance.

MR. ARTHUR GREVILLE, who plays Isaacson in *When Knights Were Bold*, has told *M.A.P.* an amusing anecdote. Two of his friends were once presented with a couple of free passes for a well-known West End palace of variety. Unfortunately, before going to the entertainment, they dined not wisely but too otherwisely, with the result that they became noisy. Two huge janitors had been itching to turn them out for some time, but managers are properly sparing with their instructions for severe measures, for fear of causing a panic among that portion of the house which cannot see what is going on, and can only hear a confused hubbub of voices; and the miscreants were therefore tolerated for a good deal longer than they deserved to be. But at last, during the "turn" immediately preceding the final one, they became unbearably troublesome, and the attendants closed suddenly upon the disturbers of the piece, and escorted them out of the building in "two ticks." But before giving them the final push into the street, which frequently means a push into the arms of the law, one of the janitors, who had paid a hurried visit to the box-office on the way out, *returned them their money—five shillings each!*

Mr. Jones on Dying.

"I SUPPOSE," says Mr. H. A. Jones, in an interview with a representative of the *Reader*, "an author writes by the pale blue light of introspection quite as much as by descriptive faculty. A death scene scarcely ever lends itself harmoniously to the best intentions of drama, which should always be true first and foremost. The villain still plunges his knife through anatomical loop-holes, and the heroine's dying throes are still a trained agony that no physician has ever seen. But audiences compromise this with the author's intention and the lives of the footlight favourites. I remember going to the play with an eminent biologist, and after the dying actress had passed away, he said:—'Dear, dear, I wish you would take me to see that woman, that I might tell her how people really die.' She had died in the manner of a human being with a good thirty years to live." *La Dame aux Camelias* has never appealed to Mr. Jones. "It is," as he says, "too 'distinctly French in its exaggeration of a theme totally unfit for the theatre; it is decadent, to say the least.'"

IT is no recommendation of the play, in Mr. Jones's estimation, that generations of women have wept over it. "There is always the dweller in the valley, and the people who live higher up. The drama is like two mountains that meet amicably, indifferently, at their base, but the higher they rise in the air the further they grow apart. One mountain is tragedy, the other is comedy. Those who live on either mountain top have the best point of view. Camille might appeal to many as Millet's picture of the Angelus appealed to two honest but simple people who saw the latter for the first time. They read the name of the picture, which meant nothing to them, and then they looked in solemn awe upon it. At last the wife said to the husband, with a little sigh, 'Well, John, you see, they've buried the baby!' Many an author has had to endure the simple-minded, and many a dramatic author has conceived something in the sacred spirit of the Angelus, and been told to 'bury the baby.'"

"IF I were in a position requiring me to write a play that must succeed, that is to say, something that would bring me money at once, I could do it, and still the speculative element is always there. In such a play I should feed the public upon gingerbread fare of calf-love, avoid the temptation of spicing it with anything more dangerous to the infant than preserved orange-peel, and intersperse a few peppermint mottoes for curtain speeches. The villainy of the piece would be of the toy-soldier variety, and the virtue of unadulterated nonsense."

Miss Braddon in Panto.

MISS M. E. BRADDON, the author of over a hundred popular novels, says Mr. David Oliver in the *Hull Times*, as a girl tried acting at the Queen's Theatre, Hull. She resided at Beverley—a place described in its outward, physical features, but not in name, in more than one of her books. I remember seeing her in the pantomime of *Humpty-Dumpty*. Her stage name, if I mistake not, was "Clara Seaton." In this Christmas piece she looked charming, to my boyish eyes, in a dazzling costume and flaxen wig. She was a sort of Prince, who took to task an idler content to wallow amid dirty and sordid surroundings. Miss Braddon did not remain long on the stage. She found she could write, and though her first novel, entitled "Three Times Dead," printed and published at Beverley by a local printer, fell flat, it was subsequently re-published as the "Trail of the Serpent."

An Odd Ad.

THE following advertisement is stated to have recently appeared in a paper published in the Straits Settlements:—To-night! To-night! Dedicated in loving memory of our beloved Wm. Shakespeare. The Opera Indra Permato Company of Selangor will stage the Sensational Tragedy Prince Hamlet, by the best actors and actresses procurable in Java. Our clowns are without rivals! This is actually the best representation of a European Opera by a Native Company. CHOW CHONG, Proprietor.

Ellen Terry on Tour.

MISS ELLEN TERRY, who, with her husband, Mr. James Carew, is on a provincial tour playing *Capt. Brassbound's Conversion*, is proceeding by motor from town to town. Mr. Carew told a *Tribune* man that, comparing English with American audiences, he thought the former were more enthusiastic. One thing struck him—that they did not forget an actor they had once seen, but were ever ready to welcome him again.

"ATTILA."

A Play in Four Acts by Laurence Binyon, Produced at His Majesty's Theatre on Wednesday, Sept. 4.

Attila .....MR. OSCAR ASCHE
Hernak .....MASTER CYRIL BRUCE
Onegesius .....MR. J. FISHER WHITE
Sigismund .....MR. GODFREY TEARLE
Messalla .....MR. H. R. HIGNETT
Laetus .....MR. R. IAN PENNY
Rorik .....MR. ALFRED BRYDONE
Burba .....MR. G. KAY SOUPER
Esla .....MR. J. FRITZ RUSSELL
An Egyptian Soothsayer ....MR. CALEB PORTER
Chabas .....MR. GORDON HARKER
Ardaric .....MR. A. DE BREANSKI
Valamir .....MR. EWAN BROOKE
Zercon .....MR. HENRY KITTS
Kerka .....MISS MARY RORKE
Cunegonde .....MISS IRENE RORKE
Ghisla .....MISS LEILA NORRIS
Ildico .....MISS LILY BRAYTON

It is, indeed, creditable to the English stage that a drama like *Attila*, showing historical knowledge, a power of depicting human passion, and the gift of writing tense, smooth, and telling blank verse, should be presented with so much success to the public. Mr. Laurence Binyon has chosen a difficult subject for his play. The great Hun leader is neither an attractive nor an interesting personage. But Mr. Binyon has made the most of his material. He has endowed Attila with a passionate affection for his sons, and with a capacity for ardent love. In this way a dramatic, if slightly diffuse, interest is evolved, the tragedy of passion and ambition ending with the death of the Hun by the hand of a woman.

The first scene is a Burgundian city, Attila's headquarters. On one side of the stage is the front of a Roman temple, worn and neglected; on the other is the lodging of Ildico, a Burgundian princess, of whom Attila is enamoured. Her foster-brother, Sigismund, seems to cherish a secret love for the princess, and is correspondingly hostile to the Hun, who is suffering from an attack of apathy which disgusts his warriors. One of them, Rorik, in order to ruin Sigismund, instigates him to raise a revolt in the town. When the deluded Burgundian does this, Attila's men surround him, and are about to put him to death when Attila enters, and spares Sigismund at Ildico's request. A comet which has appeared in the sky has caused the chief much uneasiness, and he summons an Egyptian soothsayer to his palace to fortell the future. When warned that all his three sons must die, Attila determines to defy the Fates, and make himself a universal "scourge" and tyrant. First of all, he divorces his faithful wife Kerka, and she goes out, dignified, but disconsolate. Gradually he obtains a dominating influence over Ildico—"women," he says, "are flowers to be plucked"—and she agrees to marry him. But before their wedding day, an envoy arrives from Honoria, the sister of the Roman Emperor, with a secret offer of marriage. Attila, intoxicated by dreams of empire, assents to the proposal, and puts Honoria's betrothal ring upon his finger. On his marriage eve with Ildico, she discovers his meditated treachery; and when Attila is feasting with his chieftans in his hall, Sigismund, driven desperate, attacks the Hun, and is slain by his soldiers at the foot of the throne before the very eyes of Ildico, who is stunned by the horror of the act. Attila orders her to proceed to the nuptial chamber; and she obeys, having first taken from his side the magic sword by which alone he is said to be vulnerable. He follows her, and there is a long pause, at the end of which angry voices announce that Attila has been murdered, and his youngest son also killed. The Huns spare Ildico, believing her to have gone mad; and the curtain falls on her exultation that the gods of her nation are avenged.

Most of the force of the impression created by the play is caused by the marvellously powerful and real impersonation of Attila by Mr. Oscar Asche. We see the gigantic Hun as he is described in Herbert's admirable versification of the account of Priscus:—

"Terrific was his semblance, in no mould
Of beautiful proportion cast; his limbs
Nothing exalted, but with sinews braced
Of Chalybæan temper . . . . .
. . . . . His ample chest
Was overbrowed by a gigantic head,
With eyes keen, deeply sunk, and small, that gleam'd
Strangely in wrath, as though some spirit unclean
Within that corporal tenement install'd
Look'd from its windows, but with temper'd fire
Beam'd mildly on the unresisting. Thin
His beard and hoary; his flat nostrils crown'd
A cicatrised, swart visage—but withal
That questionable shape such glory wore
That mortals quail'd beneath him."

Mr. Asche wears an extraordinary, but doubtless authentic, head-dress, with four pipe-like projections, from which stream tails of blue horsehair. With his long black locks and barbaric equipments, Mr. Asche is a formidable and imposing figure which dwells in the memory. His depiction of the character of Attila is masterly and graphic. The imperious majesty of the man, his splendid savagery, his rapacious ambition, and his brutal supremacy are shown by Mr. Asche in the most massive and magnificent way. His love scenes have all the animal passion, all the greedy desire, of the semi-savage; and the mere bulk and size of the actor give a powerful feeling of strength and superiority. Altogether, Mr. Asche's Attila is one of the finest things he has ever done. Miss Lily Brayton is superb as Ildico, her beautifully-moulded arms showing with sculptural effect in the simple but handsome costumes of the Burgundian princess; and the grace and dignity of her poses being of no small assistance to her embodiment. From the first, the note of tragic earnestness and bitter despair is struck; and admirably indicated too is the fascination exercised over the princess by the great conqueror and the mighty man at arms. No less impressive is Ildico's angry jealousy and her stupefied horrer after the death of Sigismund; and in the concluding act, when Ildico resolves to free herself from the yoke of her brutal spouse by murder, Miss Brayton attains to a high elevation, and holds the audience enthralled by the depth and intensity of her acting. Master Cyril Bruce looks the part of Hernak most picturesquely, and plays it with sense and spirit; and Mr. J. Fisher White is a comely and discreet representative of the shrewd counsellor Onegesius. Mr. Godfrey Tearle takes full advantage of his moderate chances as Sigismund, and shows as much vigour and vivacity as is possible in the brief but important part. Mr. Caleb Porter is the acme of solemn dignity as the soothsayer, and maintains throughout the stern and severe demeanour demanded by the character. Mr. H. R. Hignett speaks the lines allotted to the Roman Envoy with a plaintive repose, which is very effective, and bears himself remarkably well; and Mr. Henry Kitts is quaint and elvish as Zercon, a Moorish dwarf. Miss Mary Rorke's fine qualities as an actress are again displayed in the rôle of Kerka, and she delivers the speeches of the injured queen with admirable elocution and earnestness. Miss Irene Rooke's distinctness of delivery and excellent emphasis are notable as Cunegonde; and Miss Leila Norris is quite satisfactory as Ghisla. Mr. R. Ian Penny plays Laetus with real humour; and Mr. G. Kay Souper is excellent as Burba, Mr. J. Fritz Russell doing creditable work as Esla, and Mr. Gordon Harker being seen to much advantage as Chabas. Mr. A. de Bréanski and Mr. Ewan Brooke are entirely efficient as Ardaric and Vladimir.

The scenery, by Mr. Joseph Harker, is, as befits the semi-barbaric period chosen, broad and simple. The first scene in the Burgundian city is both illusive and artistic, besides being admirably suggestive of the mixture of Roman rule with Burgundian occupation; and the banqueting hall of the last act, with its ruddy lights and wolf-headed throne is equally commendable. The costumes, from the designs of Mr. C. S. Ricketts, are finely simple and appropriate. The incidental music by Sir Charles Villiers Stanford, consisting of an overture, preludes to the acts, a dance, and a chorus, is cleverly suggestive of wild and chaotic passion, with a touch, at times, of Oriental melancholy and weirdness. The vocal chorus in the banqueting scene is full of spirit and feeling; and the whole of the music is scored with musicianly skill, and is thoroughly well played by the strong orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. Christopher Wilson. *Attila* had a very favourable reception, and the audience insisted on the appearance of the author, who was warmly applauded on taking his call.

"THE TRUTH" AT THE COMEDY.

Mr. Clyde Fitch, undoubtedly the most versatile and the most prolific of American playwrights, whose *Climbers* and *The Last of the Dandies* won the suffrages of audiences on this side, has scored a still greater success with *The Truth* at the Comedy, and when this smart and interesting comedy resumed its run on Monday there was a full house to once more recognise the supreme merits of Miss Marie Tempest as a comedienne of the first rank. One is so convinced of the necessity of so completely equipped an actress in the part that it is somewhat difficult to imagine anyone else playing it. Every shade of expression, every inflection of voice, and the most happily-timed gestures give the atmosphere of reality to the character. Becky Warder's greatest moments are when she holds the stage alone; and the expression of the remorse of the *menteuse* is very telling.

The rôle of Tom Warder gives full scope to the abilities of Mr. Allan Aynesworth, whose presentment of the character is well-bred, easy, and natural. The indignation of the indulgent husband is fully aroused in the second act, and here Mr. Aynesworth holds the house by his powerful restraint and complete command of the situation.

Mr. Dion Boucicault has a difficult part to play in that of Roland, the father of Becky. It would be so easy to overstep the limits that divide the character from the realms of farce. Watch this Roland "trying it on" with his son-in-law; again note the tetchiness and irritability so completely natural to the incipient dipsomaniac; and then eagerly scan his features during the whole of his interview with Tom Warder in the last act. There is only one conclusion: the impersonation is masterly.

Miss Elsie Chester, who succeeds Miss Rosina Filippi in the part, gives a delightful touch to the pretensions to gentility so amusingly urged by Mrs. Geneviève Crespigny, who will insist that "etiquette" is spelt with a single final "t." The delineation is unctuous, and droll indeed is "Jenny's" insistence on her gentle birth and breeding.

For Miss Grace Lane, who is now playing in *The Eighteenth Century* at the St. James's, an excellent substitute has been found in Miss Mary Mayfren, who distinguishes herself especially in the interview between Eve Lindon and the deceived husband. Miss Mayfren, who is but little known to West-End audiences, makes a distinct stride forward by her really admirable treatment of this scene. Quiet, determined, and well-bred, she is never overheated in her expression of the natural indignation of the character.

Miss Sybil Carlisle's part is not commensurate with her abilities. Laura Fraser has no dramatic moments, yet the part gains immeasurably by the finish, delicacy, and charm of such an actress.

Mr. Dawson Millward as the would-be rake of a husband, Fred Lindon, has a part of no little difficulty, but tones down its very disagreeable characteristics with considerable skill. Fred, apparently, has musical tastes like Becky, and this may account for the infatuation of each for the other. Mr. Millward plays with just the right emphasis, and does not overdo the inherent caddishness of the character.

Mr. Horton Cooper presents the highly respectable, dignified and discreet type of butler demanded; and the cast is completed by Mr. Gordon Calthorp. The stage management is perfect; and if we may judge by the renewed interest aroused by the fine acting and powerful play at the Comedy, some time must elapse before another attraction will be found necessary.

"SINS OF SOCIETY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Immediately that the proposed title for the autumn Drury Lane drama was published in the press, I wrote Mr. Arthur Collins pointing out that this title was my property, and giving the particulars of the production of a play of mine bearing the same name. Mr. Collins referred me to the authors. I at once communicated with Messrs. Raleigh and Hamilton but received no reply. A second letter was treated in the same discourteous manner.

My play, *Sins of Society*, was played for copyright purposes at Hounslow, July 18th, 1906, and the title duly registered at Stationers' Hall. The piece was produced on the 26th of the following November at the Theatre Royal, Darlington, and a preliminary tour followed, under the direction of Mr. Ernest Chesney and Miss Bessie Elma, who own the British theatre rights. Those for the fit-ups with the American-Colonial and foreign rights of my play I have retained for my own use.

I may mention that Mr. Chesney also wrote twice to Messrs. Raleigh and Hamilton, and likewise received no reply.

My first intimation of my claim to Mr. Collins was dated August 9th; those to the authors the 16th and 25th respectively (unanswered), so these gentlemen cannot complain that they have not had timely warning of any action that may ensue.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES DARRELL.

18a, New Kent Road, S.E.
Sept. 4, 1907.

MR. CROKE AND "THE CHRISTIAN."

The Christian, as produced at the Lyceum Theatre, has aroused the liveliest interest, not only among the public at large, but among the purveyors of theatrical fare, who predicted a shower, not to say an avalanche, of cold water on a play with a moral attached to it. Hall Caine, its author, was daring enough to stick to the tenets of his purpose. He wrote a new play with an old title, but he stuck to his theme, and has taught us all a lesson in the art of being earnest. Mr. Wentworth Croke was venturesome enough to acquire the acting rights of Hall Caine's play. The original *Christian*, as produced at the Duke of York's had been assailed by the Press and cold-shouldered as an artificial attempt to make capital from a subject which, to say the least of it, was not pleasant.

Mr. Wentworth Croke has proved himself to be a man of tenacious purpose. When asked to what he attributed his great faith in Hall Caine, he replied, "My faith in Hall Caine is owing to the enormous amount of humanity contained in his teaching, and I think a great deal of his success is his earnest appeal to the finer instincts. This we must admit, because the majority of his followers at the theatres all over the kingdom are of the feminine gender, and consequently through that medium he touches the mainsprings of feeling. And I have the same feeling, too.

"Mr. Hall Caine has offered to hand over to any responsible and earnest person any profits which may accrue as his share from the play, for the purpose of redeeming the fallen, and carrying out his own idea. I, on my part, in order to show my great sincerity and belief in his ideas, would be quite prepared to give any profits which may accrue to me from my season at the Lyceum Theatre for the same purpose. This proposition has met with the unbounded approval of our audiences, and the thousands of its supporters who have yet to see it in the provinces will undoubtedly be in accord with our purpose."

Mr. Croke is very decided about his provincial audiences. As he very rightly says, "I shall take *The Christian* into every possible centre where there is an audience—even a sceptical one—and let it stand on its merits. It is my experience that such plays are listened to, and are more forcible, and at the same time are more interesting and entertaining. Mark you, when I say entertaining, I mean the moral is carried to the mind more pleasantly than through the orthodox teaching of ecclesiastical methods. The hum-drum process of the latter appeals to a very small fraction of the community. Give the food to the public, daintily, and in an attractive manner, and the appetite is tempted and satisfied."

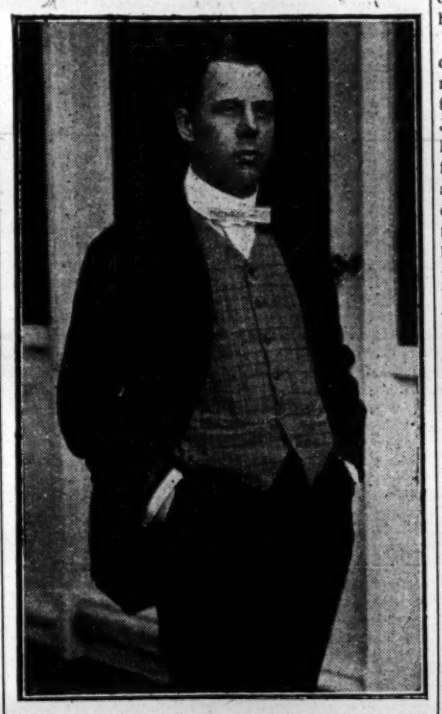

Photo. by Draycott Galleries.
MR. WENTWORTH CROKE.

"Do you find your provincial audiences more critical than London ones?

"Yes; most decidedly. The average person in the country is quicker at analysis, and is used to an extreme diversity of subjects. On the whole, they are more appreciative of a good play than a London audience."

"It has been said that the great British public is going back to its love for the drama."

"It has never left it. It is because there are too few real dramatic authors since the days of Henry Pettitt, Paul Merritt, and George R. Sims, who, by the way, gives too little of his time nowadays to writing drama. Hall Caine touches the hearts of the people. I only wish there were a few more dramatists like him."

"Taking *The Christian*, what are your views on the attitude of an audience? Do people come to the theatre from a strong desire to see their own peculiarities portrayed on the stage?"

"I don't think that people are conscious that they themselves are being caricatured. They always apply the lesson to their next-door neighbour."

"And you think the same applies to the moral lesson taught us in *The Christian?*"

"Certainly. Those who know the world come to see their neighbours' characteristics displayed; and those who do not know the world come and find them out."

"THE WHIP HAND."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I notice in a paragraph referring to Miss Ashwell's season at the Great Queen-street Theatre that mention is made of a play entitled *The Whip Hand*, by Mr. Keble Howard.

In order that there may be no possible misunderstanding, I desire to let it be known that a play called *The Whip Hand* was produced by amateurs in this neighbourhood in the autumn of 1905, and I thought so highly of it that (by arrangement with the authors) I asked more than one important manager to read it, with the result that negotiations are now practically completed for its early production on a trial tour in the provinces by a well-known leading lady.—Yours faithfully,

PETER DAVEY.

Royal County Theatre,
Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey.
Sept. 2, 1907.

MR. JAMES LITCHFIELD, of Long Eaton, has won golden opinions by the carpets, linos, draperies, chairs, music stands, and seating covers which he has supplied to the new St. James's Theatre. The colour scheme is in blue and gold, and the seating accommodation is 1,200. The interior of the house presents an extremely dainty and artistic appearance, and Mr. James Litchfield deserves great credit for his share of the work.

"THE CHRISTIAN."

A Drama, in Four Acts, adapted from the novel of the same name, by Hall Caine, and Produced at the Lyceum, on Saturday, Aug. 31.

The Hon. John Storm ....MR. MATHESON LANG
Horatio Drake .....MR. A. B. IMESON
Lord Robert Ure .....MR. ERIC MAYNE
Father Bertram Lamplugh..MR. FREDERICK ROSS
Archdeacon Wealthy .....MR. S. MAJOR JONES
Lord Storm .....MR. GEO. P. POLSON
Parson Quayle .....MR. FREDERICK MOYES
Bertie .....MR. SPENCER BENTLEY
Rosenberg .....MR. THOMAS BARRY
Mr. Buckley .....MR. RONALD ADAIR
Paul .....MR. HAROLD CHAPIN
Cowley .....MR. HENRY ARMSTRONG
Badrutt .....MR. WILTON JAMES
Attendant at Theatre .....MR. ARTHUR STONE
Mrs. Callender .....MISS KEITH LYTTON
Polly Love .....MISS VALLI VALLI
Lady Robert Ure .....MISS LILIAN BETHELL
Mother Kent .....MISS BLANCHE STANLEY
Black Meg .....MISS GRACE LESTER
Jennie .....MISS MARJORIE DAY
Rosa Ray .....MISS LULU LOUDEN
Betty Belmont .....MISS RUBY MILLER
Letty Belmont .....MISS CASSIE CLARE
Liza .....MISS DORA CLEMENTS
Glory Quayle .....MISS ALICE CRAWFORD

So much strength was allied to inherent weakness in the original stage version by Mr. Hall Caine of "The Christian," produced at the Duke of York's in October, 1899, that one felt certain of the success of a newer adaptation illumined by the light of greater experience. It came on Saturday night at the Lyceum, when an audience, magnetised by the Manx magician, gave a thunderous welcome to *The Christian*. The success was never in doubt. From a thousand throats in the immense gallery, from the packed circle and pit, the enthusiasm rose like a surging tide, and the triumph of the famous author of melodrama recalled to our memories the palmiest days of the Adelphi, when virtue triumphant and villainy vanquished was the pabulum beloved of the crowd. Those who say that melodrama is moribund in the West-end of London would have had their belief rudely dispelled at the Lyceum on Saturday, and another gratifying and legitimate success has been scored by Messrs. Smith and Carpenter, who will need no new attraction until pantomime claims the stage of their spacious and magnificent house.

Briefly, the motive of *The Christian* is the cynical and unjust treatment of the degraded magdalens of the pavement. The great work of their regeneration appeals to the generous soul of John Storm, who ignores the possibilities of a brilliant political career to save the souls of the fallen. Black Meg, an entirely new character in a sense, idealises the soul of goodness in things evil; and representatives of the most degraded of the lower deeps of life are found in Bertie, the bully and pimp, and Mother Kent, the kind of woman exposed with such unmitigated severity by W. T. Stead, when he startled the world by writing "The Maiden Tribute." In the scene at the Refuge, Black Meg yields to the influence of the enthusiastic young reformer, and remains under the ægis of the home. The love interest of the novel is strengthened, and the great scene between Storm and Glory Quayle in the last act, is the most thrilling in the play. John, obsessed with the idea that the girl of his heart, who so freely admits the *jeunesse dorée* to her society, is facilitating her descent into the abyss of shame, shows distinct traces of mania when he faces her. To kill the body that he may save the soul he grasps the girl by the throat, but the lovelight in her eye and her words of tenderness tame the fury of incipient dementia. Glory lets fall her golden tresses, and the memory of his boyhood and her girlhood comes back to the young priest, whose passion is succeeded by a flood of tears. Gently does she take him to the prie-dieu placed before a figure of the Virgin, and as the curtain slowly falls the figures of Horatio Drake and Lord Robert Ure are seen at the door; but at the sight of the two kneeling figures they reverentially raise their hats and retire.

The play is finely cast. Mr. Matheson Lang, who will be remembered as juvenile lead with Miss Ellen Terry, and later as the representative of Trevor Lerode in Mr. Alfred Sutro's play, *John Glyde's Honour* at the St. James's, is the John Storm. In the first act few opportunities are presented to the young actor. John Storm is a silent but interested listener to the diatribes against society spoken by the enthusiastic Father Lamplugh; but he treats the short interview with Glory in light-hearted fashion, which is in strong contrast to the seriousness and earnestness of the apostle of self-sacrifice later on. The pair are thrown together in the second act in the foyer of the Frivolity Theatre, London, and Mr. Lang cleverly suggests in his demeanour the change from the enthusiastic neophyte to the working, practical, spiritual father of the fallen. The difficult scene of the last act he tackles with considerable power and no little pathos. Miss Alice Crawford, who, from portraying ingénues, was chosen by Mr. Tree to impersonate Charmian in his revival of *Antony and Cleopatra*, is playing a melodramatic heroine for the first time—in London, at any rate. No great demands are made upon the actress until the foyer scene already mentioned, where Glory resents in good round terms the dishonourable proposals of Drake. Herein the house literally roared its approval on Saturday night of her fine expression of the resentment natural to a pure, unsuspecting nature. In the final act, too, Miss Crawford was inexpressibly tender, and realised throughout the frank, sunny disposition of the generous Manx girl. Mr. A. B. Imeson shows much restraint in his delineation of Drake, and allows the playgoer to discern in the last act that the unhallowed passion for Glory in the earlier acts has mellowed into an unselfish devotion. Mr. Eric Mayne does not handle the part of Lord Robert Ure with kid gloves. Ure is a cynical worldling, whose gospel of self-indulgence he preaches at every opportunity. He is a heartless, out-and-out scoundrel of the true melodramatic type, and his callousness and indifference to suffering are given in just the right key by Mr. Mayne, whose acting excites the gods to many expressions of detestation. Mr. Ronald Adair as Buckley, the manager of the Frivolity Theatre, is easy and natural; Rosenberg is effectively handled by Mr. Thomas Barry; and the small parts of Paul and Cowley are adequately presented by Mr. Harold Chapin and Mr. Henry Armstrong. Father Bertram Lamplugh finds an earnest and convincing representative in Mr. Frederick Ross, whose passionate invective against the sins of society will be cheered nightly. The lovable nature of Parson Quayle is quietly suggested by Mr. Frederick Moyes; to the motherly characteristics, sound common-sense, and practical sympathy of Mrs. Callender, eloquent expression is given by Miss Keith Lytton; and a piece of excellent acting is the Archdeacon Wealthy of Mr. S. Major Jones, Mr. George P. Polson making the most of Lord Storm's only chance in the first act, when that nobleman quarrels with his quixotic son, whom in his anger he strikes. Mr. Spencer Bentley has the unsavoury character of Bertie, and comes through a disagreeable task with great credit to himself; and precisely the same remark applies to Miss Blanche Stanley, whose Mother Kent is particularly good. Miss Grace Lester accentuates the despair of Black Meg, and adds much to the intensity of the scene in the Refuge. Miss Valli Valli, a young actress in her teens, secures quite a triumph in the difficult rôle of Polly Love. The poor girl's grief at parting from her little one evidently touched the hearts of Saturday night's audience. Miss Marjorie Day is a satisfactory Jennie; Miss Lulu Louden does exceedingly well as Rosa Ray; Miss Ruby Miller cleverly sketches in the light-heartedness of Betty Belmont; Miss Cassy Clare is a sufficiently frivolous Letty Belmont; and a neat bit of character acting is that of Miss Dora Clements as Liza.

At the conclusion of the play cries of "Author!" brought Mr. Carpenter to the footlights to explain that Mr. Hall Caine was unwell, but was represented by his wife and son. The mounting of the play was particularly tasteful, the foyer of the Frivolity Theatre being an excellent set, displaying to considerable degree the inventiveness and taste of Mr. Ernest W. Millar. Mr. S. Major Jones directs the stage with great ability; and Herr Raimund Pechotsch has written an overture and special music that admirably serve their purpose.

"HER SON."

Revised Version of the Play in Four Acts, By Horace Annesley Vachell, Produced at the New Theatre on Monday, Sept. 2nd.

Dorothy Fairfax .....MISS WINIFRED EMERY
Crystal Wride .....MISS SUZANNE SHELDON
Lady Helmingham ....MISS FLORENCE HAYDON
Susan .....MISS EMMA CHAMBERS
A Toy Seller .....MISS FLORENCE HARWOOD
Min .....MASTER BOBBY ANDREWS
Sir Augustus Helmingham ...MR. CECIL BURT
Dick Gascoyne .....MR. KENNETH DOUGLAS

Mr. Vachell's play has been so much improved in many ways that it hardly seems to be the same piece that was presented to a matinée audience at the Playhouse on March 12th last, after a preliminary canter at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, in the previous November. So many of its defects have been removed, the interest is so much more sustained, and the details are so much more effective that the real merit of the play, its steadily culminating interest, now receives the full meed of appreciation. Miss Fairfax is a young lady of independent means and much force and originality of character. She is engaged to a clever but impecunious journalist named Dick Gascoyne. Before meeting Dorothy, Dick lived with a certain Crystal Wride, and this woman, who has become *enceinte*, implores Dorothy to postpone her marriage for a year at any rate, and thus "save two lives." Touched by Crystal's misfortune, Dorothy consents. Gascoyne accepts a mission abroad, is captured by African savages, and is supposed to be dead. Meanwhile Crystal gives birth, in France, to a child, which Dorothy benevolently adopts; the mother, who has made a success on the stage, not even troubling to reply to a letter sent by Miss Fairfax acquainting her with the boy's existence. "Min," as he is called, and Dorothy are staying at Bournemouth when Dick, who his survived his African experiences, comes home and weds Crystal, under the impression that Dorothy has married somebody else, turns up on the sands, and meets Miss Fairfax, who is overjoyed at his return. Her delight receives a severe check when she learns that Dick is married, and she does not tell him of the parentage of the boy. In the third act a desperate struggle takes place between the two women—between the heartless Crystal, who is anxious to get back the boy so as to maintain her hold on her husband, and the affectionate Dorothy, who is passionately fond of Dick's child—a delightfully winsome little fellow. In the end Crystal dies, and things come right between Dick and Dorothy.

Miss Winifred Emery is almost unapproachable in a character like that of Dorothy Fairfax. Her sweet, womanly charm, her personal beauty, the dainty delicacy of her expression, the grace and ease of her ripe and accomplished art, are combined with an amount of histrionic power which preserves her performance from any taint of tameness or mawkishness. How finely dramatic Miss Emery can be at need is shown by her splendid work in the third act. Here Miss Emery rises to the occasion with a noble display of deep love and bitter indignation and contempt. Miss Emery's magnificent outburst of feeling carried her audience away with her irresistibly. She had the house entirely and enthusiastically under her sway; and the power and earnestness of her acting and the native strength of the situation were responded to with excited outbursts of applause. Miss Suzanne Sheldon deals with the difficult part of Crystal Wride with striking skill, marking the unsympathetic traits in the character with a firm and able hand, and taking her full share of the hard and trying work in the third act. Miss Florence Haydon is agreeably urbane and amiable as Lady Helmingham, and plays the part with a delicate tinge of quiet humour; and Miss Emma Chambers gives a neat and natural reading of the rôle of Susan. Miss Florence Harwood is excellent in the little part of the toyseller; and Mr. Cecil Burt puts plenty of ardent energy and emphatic comedy into his performance as the overbearing Sir Augustus Helmingham. Mr. Kenneth Douglas handles the rôle of Dick Gascoyne with great discretion, making the personage as acceptable as possible, and treating his critical task in a very clever and competent way. As for Master Bobby Andrews, he makes Min such an absolutely lovable and amusing little fellow as to disarm criticism. Master Andrews is certainly one of the cleverest child actors on the stage; and if he goes on as he has begun he is certain to attain a high position on it. The play, produced by the author and Mr. Desmond M. Raleigh, under whose auspices it is presented at the New Theatre, went remarkably well, and appeared to give very great satisfaction.

KITTY CLIVE.

It was Samuel Johnson's opinion, says Mrs. Clement Parsons in "Garrick and His Circle," that though Mrs. Clive could not do half so many things as well as Garrick, yet what she did best, she did better than he. She was a better romp, for instance, than any the Doctor had ever seen in nature. Prodigious old flirt that he was, he liked sitting by her in the green-room. She was "a good thing to sit by." She was not, what he called Pritchard, an inspired idiot. She could understand him. Oh, rare Kitty!

"Dame Clive was not blessed with beauty," says a contemporary, but she had spirits, aplomb, a most sprightly impertinence, and was completely mistress of her *métier*. By all accounts, she was the greatest comic actress the English stage has seen. She could play equally to the round laugh or the quick-witted smile. Whatever comedy she undertook to vivify—and many of the comedies needed vivifying—she carried with a rush. She hit the average playgoer between wind and water, though, when she gave a country maidservant of her own a theatre pass, and asked her afterwards how she liked her on the stage, the girl answered in accents of acute disappointment that she saw no difference between her there and at home. Irish, like Peg Woffington, Catherine Clive brimmed with humour, and was the soubrette born, with much about her of what Mr. Arthur Symons calls the canaille attractiveness of Réjane.

In that trying ordeal, the speaking of prologue or epilogue, she was incomparable, and her arms a-kimbo style, familiar and by all means vulgar, in these frequently decidedly "bragian" deliveries is dwelt on by the commentators. At whatever called for "*non chalons*" she showed genius. She was an unsuccessful playwright, too, and wrote a comedy called *The Rehearsal; or, Bays in Petticoats*, and another called *Every Woman in Her Humour*, respectively produced by Garrick in 1750 and 1760.

While freely indulging in the looseness of speech that pertained to her century, Kitty Clive, though a separated wife, is one of the few Georgian actresses whose character stands high. We may imagine her as a hearty, laughing (or, sometimes, frankly curst) creature, with an elastic mind, a clean, wholesome nature, and an honest heart. Even rivals had a good word for her. They knew her sincerity.

As has been hinted, she was credited with a peppery temper and a fishwife's tongue. The whole green-room dreaded her displeasure. She exhibited such fury towards Woodward, when, as Petruchio playing to her Catherine, he really threw her down, that the audience thought she meant to end the comedy as the tamer, and not the tamed. She was the one player Garrick feared, and for that he admired her the more. It is among the legends that he said to her, "I have heard of tartar and brimstone, but you are the cream of the one and the flower of the other." He called her, in his petting way, Clivy Pivy, and did everything he could to disperse her nerve storms, or, if they broke, assuage them. Boaden's "Garrick Correspondence" gives an amusingly enraged letter from her, dated 1765, in which she begs that Garrick will do her the favour to let her know if it was by his order her money was stopped last Saturday. She makes angry digressions. She has never envied her manager his equipages or grandeur. She finds his dislike to her as extraordinary as the reason he gave Mr. Sterne for it. The friends, people of consequence, who were accountable for her entirely excusable absence from Drury Lane on the offensive Saturday, will be much surprised to hear how she has been treated. Garrick's reply is not given. Once, when getting better of an illness, she sent him "a violent, scolding letter," he congratulated her on this proof of her restoration—"I am very glad you are come to your usual spirits."

Clive retired from the stage at fifty-eight, while still in the prime of health, though no longer of figure. Horace Walpole wrote her parting epilogue. She, too, resided at "Twitenham." They were neighbours on the green, and, since she was a card-playing old lady, he called her, in his dainty way, his sister-in-*loo*. She worked him a carpet—with blue tulips and yellow foliage—for his Holbein Chamber. In 1791, six years after her death, he bought from the Berrys the house, adjoining Strawberry Hill, she had inhabited, which he sometimes called "Little Strawberry," and sometimes "Clive's den."

When Clive entered into the aftermath of her correspondence with Garrick included in Boaden's collection, she had laid aside her too *prononcés* colloquialisms. Her D——ns, like Bob Acres's, had had their day. Writing, in 1776, on Garrick's own approaching retirement, the winning and serious letter from which what follows is an extract, she was an old woman only in years.

"In the height of the public admiration for you, when you were never mentioned with any other appellation but the Garrick, the charming man, the fine fellow, the delightful creature, both by men and ladies; when they were admiring everything you did, and everything you scribbled—at this very time, *I, the Pivy*, was a living witness that they did not know half your perfections. I have seen you, with your magical hammer in your hand, *endeavouring* to beat your ideas into the heads of creatures who had none of their own—I have seen you, with lamb-like patience, endeavouring to make them comprehend you. By this your great labour and pains the public was entertained; *they* thought they all acted very fine—they did not see you pull the wires. . . . While I was under your control, I did not say half the fine things I thought of you, because it looked like flattery: and you know your Pivy was always proud; besides, I thought you did not like me then, but now I am sure you do, which makes me send you this letter.

"What a strange jumble of people they have put in the papers as the purchasers of the patent! I thought I should have died with laughing when I saw a man-midwife (Dr. Ford) amongst them: I suppose they have taken him in to prevent *miscarriages!* I have some opinion of Mr. Sheridan, as I hear everybody say he is very sensible; then he has a divine wife, and I loved his mother dearly. Pray give my love to my dear Mrs. Garrick; we all join in that. I have since the snow been once out in my carriage; did you not hear me scream?"

She concludes by begging Garrick to reinstate Miss Pope, who has fallen out of managerial favour. Garrick did so, and endorsed the intercession, "My Pivy, excellent!" It has been pleasant to dwell on Kate Clive. A strong, straightforward character. A good sort.

Two hundred and sixty-five pounds per acre for vacant land in the hills of Central Wales is the average result of Messrs. Knight, Frank, and Rutley's sale at Llandrindod Wells on Tuesday, when the Middleton Evans Estates were offered before a crowded assembly in the Victoria Hall. In addition to local buyers, many attended from London, Swansea, Cardiff, &c. The whole property, which includes the Pump House Hotel, was first offered in one lot and ultimately withdrawn at £105,000. The available building land was then put up in lots, prices for which yielded the above-mentioned result. Notwithstanding the growth of Llandrindod Wells in recent years, the present accommodation falls far short of the requirements of the place in the season, and as several of the lots not sold under the hammer were disposed of during the afternoon, there is little doubt that those remaining will be speedily dispersed, and that a great development will shortly take place in the addition of new public and private buildings to meet local wants.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, JULY 23.—*Dorothy*, a welcome change from musical comedy, was revived by Mr. J. C. Williamson's Royal Comic Opera Company at Her Majesty's on the 20th. The cast is a strong one, including Misses Florence Young (in fine voice), Pressy Preston (in lieu of Clara Clifton, who is ill), Alma Barker, and Nina Wood (a promising débutante), and Messrs. George Lauri, Arthur Crane, C. R. Bantock, Reginald Roberts, Robert Needham, and Arthur Hunter. The very excellent English scenery, by John Gordon and J. Little, made a charming setting for the romantic story, and the choral and orchestral work was conducted by Mr. Andrew McCunn, the whole having the ripe experience of Mr. Gerard Coventry in its direction.

MESSRS. MEYNELL AND GUNN came into occupation of the Royal on the 20th, producing *A Beautiful Fiend*, with Miss Maud Hildyard as leading lady. Wybrow and Thorne's ultra-sensational play deals with Russian cruelty. Miss Maud Hildyard met all the requirements of the rôle of the vindictive Wanda Lubinoff, but it was evident to the least observant that the lady is worthy of much better things. Miss May Congdon, Mr. Conway Wingfield, Mr. James Lindsay, Mr. Charles Vane, Mr. Roland Beckett, Miss Violet Dene, and the brothers Charles and William Bovis, gave a vivacious account of the author's intentions. The scenery was copied by Mr. E. Vaughan and assistants from photographs taken in Russia.

"THE SQUATTER'S DAUGHTER" reached its sixtieth performance last night, and Mr. William Anderson does not intend to change his bill during his Criterion season, which ends on Aug. 2. This Australian drama has a fascination peculiar to itself, all being "redolent of the soil," and depicted by those who so thoroughly understand their atmosphere.

THE Tivoli upholds Mr. Harry Rickards's reputation for shrewdness in selecting artists to suit the taste of his patrons. On Saturday Miss Agnes Hazel returned, to be warmly welcomed; and the bill included the Svengalis, Gracie Grahame (who closes soon), Will Lochraine, Great Charlton, V. L. Granville, Baby Owens and Little Doris (two clever little tots), Alice Fane, Leonard Nelson, Ernest Fitts, Lillie Grimshaw, Sam Le Mort, Fi'een Lyons, Marjorie Bray, Master Adrian Amadio (a clever young flautist), Olive Robinson, and Irving Sayles, the man with the sable guffaw.

MME. ALBANI gave her farewell concert her on the 13th, the centre item being "Hear my prayer," in which the departing songstress was supported by one hundred picked members of the Philharmonic Society, conducted by Signor Roberto Hazon. The organ was looked after by Mr. J. Edward Sykes.

MELBOURNE, JULY 22.—PRINCESS'S THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson).—*The Blue Moon* has entered upon its fifth week, and shows no signs of waning in popularity. The theatre has been crowded every night, a striking evidence of the fact that Melbourne playgoers love above all things light musical comedy. The piece will be staged for a fortnight longer, the company's engagements elsewhere necessitating this early withdrawal.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis).—After a most successful run of six nights, *The Way to Kenmare* was withdrawn on Friday night in favour of a special revival of Boucicault's evergreen drama, *Arrah-na-Pogue*, which was staged on Saturday evening to a packed house. Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon Mr. Andrew Mack for his clever impersonation of Shaun, the post. During the action of the piece Mr. Mack sang two numbers, specially composed by himself for the occasion, "My own Acushla Macree" and "Good-night, beloved, good-night," both melodious ditties specially adapted to his sympathetic voice and style. The O'Grady of Mr. Martin Alsop was a fine piece of work; while Miss Jane Kelton as Arrah fully succeeded in her realisation. The rest of the cast was most ably sustained by Mr. McKeown as Beamish McCoul, Miss Berlein as Katey Walsh, Mr. Townsends as Michael Feeney, and Miss May Stevenson as Fanny Power.

THEATRE ROYAL (Lessee, Mr. Bland Holt; Business-Manager, Mr. Simonsens).—*The Cotton King*, which has proved so successful on former occasions, was revived by Mr. Bland Holt on Saturday evening, and served to draw a large audience. The part of John Osborn, the Cotton King, was allotted to Mr. Maxwell, and could not have been placed in more capable hands; while the leading female characters were impersonated by Miss Ross, Miss Harrie Ireland, and Miss Jennie Pollock, with unqualified success; and Mr. Arthur Styan repeated his finished portrait of the villain, Richard Stockley; while the humour of the play was supplied by Mr. Bland Holt and Mr. Charles Brown. The scenery and stage effects were, as usual, of a high order. *The Cotton King* can only be staged for a limited number of nights, as Mr. Holt intends producing *The Bondman* at an early date.

OPERA HOUSE (Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon).—The leading attraction at present is Prof. Techow and his troupe of performing cats. The performance throughout is a remarkably clever one, and gives evidence of much care and perseverance on the part of the professor in training these favourite domestic animals On Saturday Doris Tindal and Don Royal made their first appearance, and gave a clever vocal duet and dance. Graham and Dent appear in a screaming one-act farce, entitled *Packing Up*; Ernesto, the musical juggler, is an established favourite; while other good things are provided by Fred Bluett, Jarvis and Campbell, Bijou Russell, the Two Rangers, Baby Watson, Harold Reeves, Olive Sinclair, Nellie Kilburn, the Driscoll Boys, Harry Sadler, Les Warton, and Claude Leplastriere.

GAIETY THEATRE (Manager, Mr. Joe Solomons).—A complete change of programme on Saturday evening was much appreciated by a large audience. Artists appearing just now with success include Sterling and Stewart, Tilly Dunbar, Clara Keating, Walter Melrose, the Crystals, Ben Menzies, Fred Champion, Frank Yorke, Fred Ireland, George Silcock, Ada Anderson, and a host of others.

THE annual matinée in aid of the Distressed Actors' Fund was held at Her Majesty's Theatre on Tuesday last. A magnificent programme had been prepared by the managers of the various Melbourne Theatres, and in consequence the house was packed in all parts. It is understood the Fund is likely to benefit to the extent of £400.

MELBOURNE, AUG. 1.—PRINCESS THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson.—After a successful run of six weeks *The Blue Moon* will be withdrawn on Friday, and on Saturday evening *Lady Madcap* will be presented by Mr. Williamson's Musical Comedy Company.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Bland Holt; Business-Manager, Mr. Simonsens.—*The Cotton King* can only be played for four nights longer, as on Saturday evening next Mr. Bland Holt announces the first presentation in the Commonwealth of the recent Drury Lane autumn drama, *The Bondman*. A feature of the performance will be the re-appearance of Mr. George Rignold after an absence from the Melbourne stage for a number of years.

ATHENÆUM HALL.—West's pictures and the Brescians continue to draw large audiences. On Saturday a new programme was given, and the pictures of the Mississippi Raid, the Boar Hunt, and other subjects were greatly admired, and the musical items, including some clever pianoforte playing by Mr. Tom Lax, were also much enjoyed.

"THE ROYALIST."

New Play, in One Act, by Robert Oswald, produced for the first time at the Grand Theatre, Swansea, on Thursday, Sept. 5.

King Charles I. .....MR. HARRY KENNY
Sir Winston D'Arville..MR. R. CLAUDE JENKINS
Archibald Clavering ..MR. J. GRAHAM ROCKETT
Hammond .....MR. DAVID W. COX
Officer of Roundhead Regiment
MR. HARRY BARTLETT
Cavalier Officer .....MR. E. C. POOLE
Oliver Cromwell .....E. OSWALD BROOKS
Lady Mainwaring ....MRS. E. OSWALD BROOKS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Robert Oswald is to be congratulated on his work. The scene is laid at Lady Mainwaring's mansion at Northallerton, where Charles I. has had to take refuge after his disastrous defeat at Marston Moor. Immediately on his heels is Oliver Cromwell, with his troops. The mansion is surrounded, the King in imminent danger of being captured, when Sir Winston D'Arville, knowing that the secret chamber in the room will be easily discovered, suggests that the King shall get into a suit of armour, and pose as a statue. This is done. Sir Winston is discovered by Cromwell, and having changed clothes with Charles, is mistaken for his Majesty, and taken away, the King escaping to Scotland. Mrs. E. Oswald Brooks played Lady Mainwaring, the devoted supporter of Charles. Her acting throughout reached a high degree of excellence. Mr. R. Oswald Brooks was an admirable Cromwell. As the King, Mr. Harry Kenny was seen to advantage, his impersonation being very commendable. The rôle of Sir Winston D'Arville was worthily sustained by Mr. R. Claude Jenkins. Mr. J. Graham Rockett as Archibald Clavering proved himself thoroughly competent; and Messrs. Harry Bartlett and E. C. Poole thoroughly enacted their respective parts. Mr. David W. Cox as Hammond was equally effective. The play was well staged and dressed.

TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

Sunday Travelling.

The first resolution of special interest to the profession was No. 2 on the agenda, as follows:—

SUNDAY EMPLOYMENT.

"Recognising that great and permanent principles which are essential to the well-being of human society underlie the ancient institution of the Sabbath, this Congress hereby resolves to do all in its power to discourage such employment on Sunday as will prevent any section of the community from obtaining thereon a natural and humane right to a weekly day of rest."

This resolution was fully debated. Mr. Monte Bayley opposed on behalf of the Variety Artists' Federation, on the ground that if the railways stopped running on Sundays the artists could not proceed to their engagements. The resolution was rejected by 685,000 to 649,000.

Service Bandsmen.

The second resolution affecting the interests of the profession was reached on Wednesday, when Mr. J. B. Williams, General Secretary of the Musicians' Union, submitted to the Congress the following resolution:—

"That this Congress condemns the action of the Government in permitting Army and Navy bands and bandsmen to compete with civilian musicians, and instructs the Parliamentary Committee to render every assistance to the Musicians' Union to put an end to the competition of Army and Navy bandsmen against civilian musicians, a great many of whom are deprived of their means of livelihood and thrown out of employment."

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Wm. Johnson, General Secretary of the National Association of Theatrical Employees, and agreed to unanimously.

ACTORS AND OVERTIME.

Among the speakers at the Trades Union Congress at Bath on Wednesday were Mr. Frank Gerald, of the Actors' Union, and Mr. J. O'Gorman, of the Variety Artists' Federation, both of whom accorded hearty support to a resolution placed on the agenda by one of the weavers' unions in favour of the abolition of overtime. The two stage unions are both represented at the Congress for the first time this year.

The resolution read as follows:—"That this Congress, believing overtime to be physically and economically evil and detrimental to the best interests of the State and its people, urges the Parliamentary Committee to take all needful steps to secure its speedy abolition."

Mr. Gerald said he did not think any class of men or women suffered to the extent that actors and actresses did through overtime. It was an evil, a growing evil, and a pernicious evil, and upon them perhaps it pressed more hardly than on any other class. There was no delegate present representing a trade in which men did one stroke of work for nothing. Actors and actresses worked hours per week for absolutely nothing in the shape of rehearsals, for which they got no pay whatever. Was that right? A play was rehearsed for six weeks. It was produced, and if it was a failure it ran perhaps one week. For that seven weeks the actor or actress got one week's pay. Some might call their work play, and play only, but he asked them to consider it in another way. They had at length awakened to the fact that they were workers, labourers, just the same as the others represented at the Congress, and the only way they could prove themselves worthy of their hire and get fair conditions under which to do their work was by joining in that great labour movement tooth and nail and supporting it heart and soul, so that they might gain some of the great benefits that the organised workers of the country were now privileged to enjoy. Actors and actresses more especially had to live under such conditions that they must absolutely be reformed, and most stringently reformed, and the evil of overtime was perhaps the most pressing of all.

MR. HERBERT COLLEY on the 30th ult. had a successful complimentary benefit at the Winter Gardens, Clacton-on-Sea. A chief attraction on the bill was a new pantomime sketch, *Cinderella*, written by himself.

THE AWARDS. The three interim Awards and the final Award, corrected and revised by George Ranken Askwith, Esq., the official arbitrator appointed in the Music Hall Dispute, may be had in pamphlet form at "THE ERA" Offices. Copy, including postage, three-half-pence. Address: The Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

"THE SHOWMEN'S YEAR BOOK" for 1907. Edited by the Rev. T. Horne. Entirely rearranged, corrected, and enlarged; 100 pages. Price 1s. Principal contents: "British Shows and Showmen," "Constitution and Rules of the Showmen's Guilds," "Lists of Fairs," "Local Feasts and Wakes," "Synopsis of By-laws," &c. Invaluable to all who follow the fair. Sold at "THE ERA" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.C.

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WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906. Effect on Theatres and Music Halls. By Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor. Price, 6d. Published at "THE ERA" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

THE EVOLUTION OF SHYLOCK.

The recent revival of the old-time Shylock, with red wig and comic appearance, calls to mind the radical change in the presentation of the money-lender made by Charles Macklin, the Irish actor, who flourished about the middle of the eighteenth century. Macklin, says Mr. Edward Robins, jun., in his "Echoes of the Playhouse," had long debated, no doubt, on the dramatic possibilities and seriousness of the rôle, and the absurdity of regarding it as material for merry-making, and finally he induced Fleetwood to revive the real *Merchant of Venice*, which had long been superseded by Lord Lansdowne's adaptation known as *The Jew of Venice*. In the latter, an unnecessary version of a noble original, the inimitable Dogget had once upon a time represented Shylock from a low-comedy standpoint, to the great amusement and edification of the groundlings, and in later years the frolicksome Clive played Portia after the manner of a stage chambermaid, and took such liberties with the character that she even mimicked well-known lawyers in the trial scene. Strange to say, it was this rompish actress who did Portia on the memorable night when Macklin revolutionised the public conception of the usurious Jew.

While the rehearsals were in progress it began to be whispered around that Macklin intended to spring a very dangerous innovation on the management of Drury Lane; the amiable Quin (who was cast for Antonio) predicted that the new Shylock would be hissed off the stage, and Fleetwood, becoming alarmed, tried to abandon the production altogether. But Macklin never faltered in his purpose, and held the manager to his promise, so on the evening of St. Valentine's Day the frequenters of Drury Lane had the pleasure of assisting at one of the most historical of all the important performances in the eighteenth century. Let us quote the actor himself as to the outcome of his risky experiment.

"The long-expected night at last arrived, and the house was crowded from top to bottom with the first company in town. The two front rows of the pit, as usual, were full of critics, who, Sir, I eyed through the slit of curtain, and was glad to see them, as I wished in such a cause to be tried by a special jury. When I made my appearance in the greenroom, dressed for the part, with my red hat on my head, my piqued beard, loose black gown, &c., and with a confidence which I never before assumed, the performers all stared at one another, and evidently with a stare of disappointment. Well, sir, hitherto all was right till the last bell rung; then, I confess, my heart began to beat a little. However, I mustered up all the courage I could, and, recommending my cause to Providence, threw myself boldly on the stage, and was received by one of the loudest thunders of applause I ever before experienced.

"The opening scenes being rather tame and level, I could not expect much applause, but I found myself well listened to. I could hear distinctly in the pit the words, 'Very well—very well indeed! This man seems to know what he is about,' &c., &c. These encomiums warmed me, but did not overset me. I knew where I should have the pull, which was in the third act, and reserved myself accordingly. At this period I threw out all my fire, and, as the contrasted passions of joy for the Merchant's losses, and grief for the elopement of Jessica, open a fine field for an actor's powers, I had the good fortune to please beyond my warmest expectations. The whole house was in an uproar of applause, and I was obliged to pause between the speeches to give it vent, so as to be heard.

"When I went behind the scenes after this act, the manager met me and complimented me very highly on my performance, and significantly added: 'Macklin, you *was* right at last.' My brethren in the greenroom joined in this eulogium, but with different views. He was thinking of the increase of his treasury; they, only for saving appearances, wishing at the same time that I had broke my neck in the attempt. The trial scene wound up the fullness of my reputation. Here I was well listened to; and here I made such a silent, yet forcible, impression on my audience, that I retired from this great attempt most perfectly satisfied. On my return to the greenroom after the play was over it was crowded with nobility and critics, who all complimented me in the warmest and most unbounded manner, and the situation I felt myself in, I must confess, was one of the most flattering and intoxicating of my whole life. No money, no title, could purchase what I felt. And let no man tell me after this what Fame will not inspire a man to do, and how far the attainment of it will not remunerate his greatest labours. Though I was not worth fifty pounds in the world at that time, yet, let me tell you, I was Charles the Great for that night."

Thus, at one bound, Macklin reached a commanding position on the stage, added to his répertoire a character which he would exploit successfully, at intervals, for the next half-century, and showed the conservative British public that "the Jew that Shakespeare drew" should be played as a malevolent, passionate creature, and not as a semi-buffoon from whom the unthinking might extract many a hearty guffaw.

The Merchant of Venice drew crowded houses for twenty-one nights, while noblemen, critics, and the general theatre-goers vied with one another in praising the iconoclastic Macklin, who must have felt by this time that nothing succeeded so well as success. The dramatic force and almost ferocious attributes of his Shylock soon enlisted the Royal attention of his very German Majesty George II., who went to see the performance, and was made so nervous by its realism that he hardly slept the whole of that night. "In the morning," according to the actor Bernard, "the Premier, Sir Robert Walpole, waited on the King, to express his fears that the Commons would oppose a certain measure then in contemplation. 'I wish, your Majesty,' said Sir Robert, 'it was possible to find a recipe for frightening a House of Commons.' 'What do you think,' replied the King, 'of sending them to the theatre to see that Irishman play Shylock?'"

THE Crystal Palace was the scene of uproarious delight on Thursday, when a formidable crowd attended the annual benefit of Messrs. C. T. Brock and Co., the renowned pyrotechnists. "Daylight fireworks" proved a highly enjoyable feature of the occasion, the children scrambling enthusiastically for the thousands of toys which were dispersed by the rockets. The night display included a vivid reproduction, in colours, of the Paris fêtes under the Third Empire, with a colossal representation of the Arc de Triomphe and the Champs Elysées lit up by myriads of lamps in clusters and festoons, and a finale of hundreds of rockets, producing a magnificent effect. Blondin was seen in fiery outline on the wire, and the Kilkenny cats were portrayed with whimsical effect. Aerial rockets, as fired before His Majesty the King on the occasion of the assembling of the British and Swedish fleets at the recent Cowes regatta, were discharged, and "Aladdin's Curtain" proved a revelation. The programme included some fifty items, and the display was concluded in a grand melée of shells, Roman candles, and innumerable other pyrotechnics.

MR. SHAUN GLENVILLE wishes to contradict the report that he has entered into a three years' contract with a well-known theatrical and music-hall manager.

MARK TWAIN is to the fore. The little Théâtre des Capucines is rehearsing *Aurelia's Unfortunate Young Man*. The part of Roberts Howard Wilson will be played by M. Bouchez.

ON THE ROAD, SEPT. 9.

AMASIS.—Opera House, Southport.
ASSASSIN.—Theatre Royal, Blyth.
AT CRIPPLE CREEK.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
AT DUTY'S CALL.—T. R., Tyldesley.
AUSTIN, MARY.—Lyceum T., Crewe.
BANDMAN-PALMER.—Terminus Hall, Littlehampton.
BEAUTIFUL FIEND.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
BEAUTY AND THE BARGE.—Grand T., Fulham.
BELLE OF MAYFAIR (BODE).—Folkestone and Hastings.
BELLE OF MAYFAIR (HOWARD).—Hereford and Kidderminster.
BELLE OF NEW YORK (HOWARD).—New T., Cardiff.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Plymouth.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Stonehaven and Peterhead.
BENSON, MR. AND MRS. F. R.—Spa T., Scarboro'.
BLUE MOON (S.).—T. R., York.
BONDMAN, THE (CROKE).—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
BONDMAN, THE (DAY).—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
BREED OF THE TRESHAMS.—Bishop Auckland.
BULMER, MR.—T. R., Stratford.
CAMPBELL, MRS. PATRICK.—King's T., Glasgow.
CARL ROSA OPERA.—Grand T., Croydon.
CASSIDY, J. RICE.—Lyceum T., Newport.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—Kirkcaldy.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (BODE).—King's T., Hammersmith.
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE).—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
CLAUDIAN.—O. H., Dudley.
CONVICT'S DAUGHTER.—Court T., Warrington.
DAIRYMAIDS.—Theatre Royal, Glasgow.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—T. R., Wednesbury.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA.—O. H., Buxton.
EARL AND THE GIRL (HOWARD).—Trowbridge and Guildford.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—P.O.W., Nuneaton.
FALSE WIFE.—Opera House, Perth.
FATAL WEDDING.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
FLORODORA (HOWARD).—T. R., Bolton.
FOR HER SAKE.—Osborne T., Manchester.
GAYEST OF THE GAY.—Empire T., Oldham.
GEISHA.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
GIRL FROM JAPAN.—Theatre Royal, Dover.
GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY.—Gaiety T., Clydebank.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS.—Saltburn and York.
GREED OF GOLD.—P. O. W., Salford.
GRIP OF IRON.—New Theatre, Aberdare.
GUILTY GOLD.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—P. T., Portsmouth.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
HER MARRIAGE VOW.—T. R., Scarborough.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—O. H., Dumfermline.
HILL-MITCHELSON.—T. R., Sheffield.
HIS HOUSE IN ORDER (ALEXANDER).—Grand T., Blackpool.
HIS HOUSE IN ORDER (KEMPTON).—Grantham and Lincoln
HIS HOUSE IN ORDER (N.).—Grand T., Middlesbrough.
HIS HOUSE IN ORDER (S.).—Prince's T., Bristol.
HUGHES, MISS ANNES.—H. M. T., Barrow.
IN A WOMAN'S GRIP.—T. R., Hyde.
IRVING, H. B.—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
JOHN GLAYDE'S HONOUR.—T. R., Yarmouth.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Wick and Thurso.
LADY DANDIES.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
LA POUPEE (LEVILLY).—Borough T., Stratford.
LA POUPEE (RALLAND).—Grand T., Doncaster.
LEAH KLESCHNA.—Grand Theatre, Brighton.
LION AND THE MOUSE.—O. H., Northampton.
LITTLE BREADWINNER.—Metropole T., Manchester.
LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
MANXMAN.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
MAN'S ENEMY.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
MICE AND MEN.—West Pier, Brighton.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Rotherham.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—T. R., South Shields.
MOLLISON, WM.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
MONCKTON HOFFE COMEDY CO.—Gaiety T., Glasgow.
MOODY-MANNERS (A.).—Camden Town, N.W.
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MR. SMITH.—Palace T., Newcastle.
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MY WIFE.—T. R., Nottingham.
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PETER'S MOTHER (N.).—Llandudno and Harrogate.
PETER'S MOTHER (S.).—Royalty T., Morecambe.
POOR MUST LIVE.—Alhambra, Stourbridge.
POWER OF GOLD.—Lyceum T., Pentre.
POWER OF THE KING.—Aberystwyth.
PRINCE OF PILSEN (HARRISS).—T. R., Exeter.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—O.H., Weymouth.
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PRODIGAL PARSON.—Theatre Royal, Leigh.
PRODIGAL SON (CROKE).—County T., Kingston.
PRODIGAL SON (DAY).—T. R., Edinburgh.
PROOF.—Theatre Royal, Ilkeston.
RAFFLES (DANCE).—O. H., Wakefield.
ROLLICKING RORY.—Kilmarnock and Ayr.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—T. R., Norwich.
SAVED FROM THE SEA.—Alex. T., Hull.
SECOND TO NONE.—T. R., Blackburn.
SECRET WEDDING.—T. R., Chorley.
SENTENCED FOR LIFE.—T. R., Stratford.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—T. R., Dover.
SHULAMITE, THE.—Peterboro' and Grantham.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—T. R., Middlesboro'.
SILVER KING (HOWARD).—Aylesbury and Stroud.
SILVER KING (POLINI AND MELFORD).—Grand T., Nelson.
SILVER KING (POLINI AND MELFORD).—T. R., Worcester.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—T. R., Consett.
SOLDIER OF FRANCE.—St. James's T., Long Eaton.
SOLDIER'S HONOUR.—Colosseum, Aberystwyth.
SOMEBODY'S SWEETHEART.—Irving T., Seacombe.
STEPMOTHER, THE.—T. R., Leicester.
STILL ALARM.—Queen's T., Swindon.
STRONGER SEX (N.).—Grand T., Hull.
STRONGER SEX (S.)—Coronet Theatre, W.
SUNDAY.—Kirkcaldy.
SWISS EXPRESS.—Queen's T., Keighley.
TERRY, EDWARD.—Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.
TERRY, MISS ELLEN.—Grand T,. Southampton.
TRAITOR, THE.—T. R., Sunderland.
TWO LANCASHIRE LASSES IN LONDON.—Accrington.
TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS.—Junction T., Manchester.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS (N.).—T. R., Rochdale.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS (S.).—Shakespeare, Clapham.
TYRANT, THE.—Queen's T., Longton.
UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG.—Prince's T., Preston.
UNDER THE STARS AND STRIPES.—Ilkeston.
VERONIQUE.—Crystal Palace Theatre.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—New T., Oxford.
WALLS OF JERICHO (N.).—T. R., Hanley.
WALLS OF JERICHO (S.).—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW.—Tunbridge Wells, Margate.
WHEN IT WAS DARK.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
WHEN LONDON SLEEPS.—King's T., Longsight.
WHEN OTHER LIPS.—Ashington.
WHEN WOMAN HATES.—T. R., Coatbridge.
WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN.—P.O.W., Mexboro'.
WILKIE ALLAN AND CO.—T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
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WOMAN WORTH WINNING.—T. R., Castleford.
WOMAN'S PAST.—H.M.T., Carlisle.
WORLD'S GREAT SNARE.—Metropole T., Hoyland.
WORST WOMAN IN LONDON.—West London Theatre.
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GERTRUDE HARRISON.—*If you read our paragraph carefully you will notice that there are two forenames distinguishing the actor we name from the one to whom you refer.*

REV. J. P. FAUNTHORPE.—*Fechter made his first appearance as Othello at the Princess's Theatre on Oct. 23, 1861, under the management of Augustus Harris, sen. The Iago of the revival was John Ryder; Carlotta Leclercq, the Desdemona; Rose Leclercq, the Bianca; Miss Elsworthy, Emilia; J. G. Shore, Roderigo; George Jordan, Cassio; and Basil Potter, Brabantio. Mr. Fechter played Othello three nights a week, but did not alternate the part of the Moor with that of Iago. He played Iago, however, at the Princess's, at the close of the run of pantomime, on March 3, 1862, with John Ryder as the Moor, and supported by most, if not all, of the above cast. In October, 1861, G. V. Brooke, who had returned from Australia after an absence of seven years, played Othello at Drury Lane, then under the management of E. T. Smith. Thus playgoers could compare two of the most famous Othellos of the century. The Bard was then very much in fashion, as, besides the historic productions of Phelps at Sadler's Wells, Edwin Booth could be seen at the Haymarket as the Duke of Gloucester in* Richard the Third.

BERTRAM (Shepherd's Bush).—*Thursday morning performances are not an innovation of the twentieth century. Charles Morton and his partner, Stanley, started them at the Oxford, on March 6, 1862.*

MEDICO (New Wandsworth).—*Nelly Power died Jan. 20, 1887, at the age of thirty-two. She was thought to be much older; but she made her début at the halls when quite a child.*

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BIRTHS.

BARRINGTON.—On Aug. 31, '07, Dick (Isobel Dickens), wife of George Barrington, 41, Margravine-gardens, West Kensington, London, of twins, both boys. All progressing famously.

EDNEY.—Aug. 15, at Ravensbourne, Bournville-road, Ravensbourne Park, Catford, the wife of Robert Edney (professionally known as Robert Bolder), of a son.

GRANVILLE.—On Sept. 2, at Evergreen Villa, St. Ann's-road, N., Dora, wife of Edgar Granville, of a son. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

HUDSON—WATTS.—On Tuesday, Sept. 3, at Nottingham, before the Registrar, Eric Hudson to Mabel Ethel Watts.

DEATHS.

ALDRIDGE.—Suddenly, at Royal Infirmary, Perth, on 30th ult., to the unutterable grief of her husband, and her wee daughter Ivy, Carrie Aldridge (Carrie Southall), the beloved wife of Frank Aldridge, Resident Manager, Perth Theatre.

GRIEG.—Sept. 4, at Bergen, Edvard Grieg, celebrated composer and pianist, aged 64.

HOGG.—Sept. 1, at Holmehurst, Richmond, Surrey, Mary Anne, wife of Wentworth Hogg, aged 58.

MACMILLAN.—On Aug. 28, Kathleen Cameron (Kathie), only child of Aleck and Lily Macmillan, aged 2 years. "Jesus called a little child."

MANSFIELD.—Aug. 30, at New London, Connecticut, U.S.A., Richard Mansfield, actor and dramatist.

IN MEMORIAM.

BOULT.—In loving memory of my dear wife, Gertie Boult, who died Sept. 4, 1903. Never forgotten by her husband and children.

CROWSON.—In loving memory of Will Crowson, the beloved husband of Cissie Conyers, who died Sept. 3, 1905.

JEE.—In ever-loving memory of our dear brother, Henry William Jee (Harry Burnell), who passed away Sept. 8, 1906. Always remembered by his brother and sister, Joe and Pollie Burnell. R.I.P.

JEE.—In ever-loving memory of our dear brother, Henry William Jee (Harry Burnell), who departed this life on Sept. 8, '06. Loved by both, never to be forgotten by his brothers Seth and Albert (the Brothers Egbert). Thy will be done.

JEE.—In ever-loving memory of our dear brother, Henry William Jee (Harry Burnell), who passed away on Sept. 8, 1906. Never to be forgotten by his brother and sister, Fred and Amy Jee (The Maples). God rest his soul.

JEE.—In loving memory of our dear brother, Henry William Jee (Harry Burnell), who fell asleep Sept. 8, 1906. Ever in our thoughts. Brother and sister, Bert Burnell and Lilly Avolo. Peaceful sleep be his.

SAKER.—To the loved memory of Maria Saker, who passed away Sept. 1, 1902. Mama beloved ever.

SEYMOUR.—In loving memory of Katie Seymour, who died Sept. 7, 1903, leaving her mother, sister, and brother to mourn her loss.

SEYMOUR.—In loving memory of dear Katie Seymour, who fell asleep Sept. 7, 1903. Never forgotten by her friend, Florrie Robina (Mrs. Reed Pinaud).

TEARLE.—In affectionate memory of George Osmond Tearle, actor, who entered into rest Sept. 7, 1901. —R. C., Bournemouth.

TEARLE.—In loving remembrance of George Osmond Tearle.—Ted.

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Chapter II.
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INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
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INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

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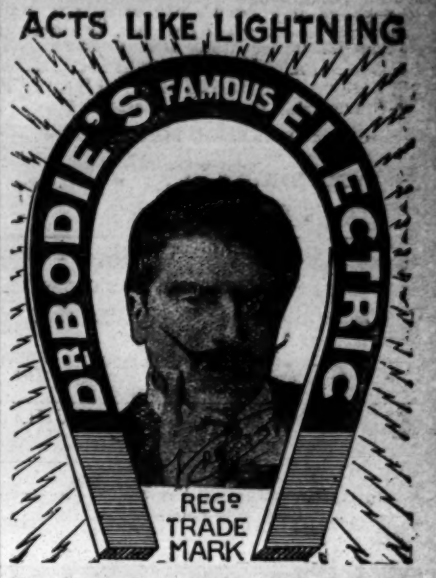

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APOLOGY.

In the High Court of Justice.
King's Bench Division.

Henry Edward Rayne (trading as H. and M. Rayne)
v.
W. S. Bradley, C. W. Bradley and Co., the Variety Artists' Federation, and others.

August, 1907.

To H. E. Rayne, Esq.,
Messrs. H. and M. Rayne,
115-119, Waterloo-road, S.E.

SIR,—
You have commenced an action against us, the above-named defendants, claiming damages for libel in respect of statements which appeared in the issue of the "Performer" of the 21st of February last, which are set out in your Statement of Claim and which reflected upon your conduct of your business.

We now agree that the statements that were made had no foundation whatever, and were due to an entire misapprehension as to the facts, and we unreservedly withdraw every word that appeared in the statements complained of which can in any way be construed to reflect upon you or your business. As a result of inquiries we are thoroughly convinced that there was no ground of any kind for these statements, and we desire to express our regret that such unfounded charges should ever have been made.

We have paid to your solicitors, Messrs. Rubinstein, Myers, and Co., all the costs that have been incurred in the action that you have commenced against us, and we trust that you will accept such payment and this letter in the spirit in which they are offered and as the best amends which it is in our power to make for the injury and annoyance which we have caused you.

We also consent to your publishing this letter at our expense in "The Era," "Stage," and "Referee," and we undertake to forthwith publish it, also at our expense, in the prominent position to be approved by you in the next issue of the "Performer" and the "Programme," and that it shall be incorporated in the "Chairman's Notes of the Variety Artists' Federation" sent out to every town with such issue and also be repeated in the "Chairman's Notes" for the subsequent three issues.

We are,
yours truly,
W. S. BRADLEY
(for Messrs. C. W. Bradley and Co.),
MONTE BAYLY
(for the Variety Artists' Federation).

Witness to above Signatures,
EUGENE JUDGE, Solicitor,
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INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1907.

THE ACTOR'S HAMLET.

It is one of the rules of this paper always to allow the expression of opinions in our columns, provided the writer signs his contribution. But, to avoid any misunderstanding that may arise from our insertion last week of Mr. PERCY FITZGERALD'S somewhat aggressive article on "The Real 'Hamlet,'" we must disclaim agreement with many of his contentions, and especially with the terms he employs in supporting them. Mr. FITZGERALD has been for many years a most industrious compiler of works, many of which have dealt with the history of the drama. His Lives of CHARLES LAMB, of DAVID GARRICK, and of the KEMBLES are well remembered titles to our indulgence and consideration. It is possible, however, that the length of his career as an author has made Mr. FITZGERALD a little too dogmatical. However, much may be forgiven to seventy-three which would be resented from twenty-seven, and we are sure that our readers will make allowance for the acerbity of Mr. FITZGERALD'S remarks, and not attribute either his opinions or his expressions to us.

Mr. FITZGERALD'S article is, in sum, an elaborate attack on the manner in which *Hamlet* is usually produced on the English stage. "None of us," says the author, "have seen the true *Hamlet* performed, though we have had some crude and dreary attempts at setting out the whole play before us." We should hardly have called Mr. F. R. BENSON'S interesting "attempt" to produce *Hamlet* in its entirety at the Lyceum a "crude and dreary" one, though it certainly settled the question of such a production being practicable; but when Mr. FITZGERALD enquires, "Who knows of Hamlet's attempts to conceal Polonius's body?" we may refer him to the acting edition of the play which was always used by HENRY IRVING, in which he will find the fact distinctly stated by the Queen in conversation with the King near the beginning of Act IV. "It must be admitted," says Mr. FITZGERALD, "the obstacles in the way of reforming managers are well-nigh insuperable." This is rather hard on the managers. The low opinion which the writer has of them, and of their lieutenants, is shown by his making one of the latter speak in the accent of a costermonger. "I can fancy," says Mr. FITZGERALD, "our modern stage-manager saying 'My Gawd!'" We are unable to fancy anything of the kind. Our stage-managers are educated and intelligent gentlemen, and do not speak Whitechapel English.

With a great deal of what Mr. FITZGERALD says about the shortcomings of much of our delivery of blank verse we agree; but he is far too virulent and sweeping in his condemnations. The modern actor simply suffers from want of practice in the speaking of blank verse. It is not, as Mr. FITZGERALD says, the "ignorance" of the actor, but his infrequent use of his ability which handicaps him. The present generation of actors is far better educated than that which preceded them; but they have not had, as the last generation had, a special Shakespearean training in their youth. Mr. FITZGERALD'S attack on actor-managers and their motives is so harsh and unmeasured that we must protest, not only against the opinions expressed, but against the terms employed in expressing them. "The vulgar conception of Hamlet," says Mr. FITZGERALD, "is the actor's Hamlet; that is, one great central character, round whom are grouped a number of inferior figures to set him off." Do the facts warrant this rather rude and offensive statement? Certainly not. In the acting edition before us we find that, so far from the subordinate parts being cut down to give prominence to the leading rôle, the part of Hamlet is one of those on which the pencil has been most freely employed. The responsibility for making Hamlet the great central character rests with SHAKESPEARE, and happily for him he is now beyond the reach of Mr. FITZGERALD'S diatribe. The manager is only influenced by the necessity of reducing to reasonable and practical limits an unusually lengthy play.

It appears to us that Mr. FITZGERALD neither appreciates nor understands the difficulty in which the modern manager is placed. It is either cut *Hamlet* down to actable limits or not produce the play at all. Even Mr. FITZGERALD will hardly contend that the latter should be the course adopted. Managers have to work under the conditions in which they are placed by the tastes and customs of the day. It is mere hyper-criticism to find fault with the omission of certain passages which it would be desirable to retain if possible, but whose omission does not seriously detract from the effect or value of the drama as a whole. *Something* has to come out; and the task of the manager is to choose the least of the evils. It is all very well for Mr. FITZGERALD, sitting in his armchair at the Athenæum Club, to abuse our managers for doing this and not doing that; but when he comes to a practical solution of the difficulty he is vague and bewildering. "The treatment," he says, "should not be cutting, but *compression*. There should be a process of compression which will retain everything, but in an abridged form. An idea, for instance, takes some forty or fifty lines; it should be carefully compressed into half a dozen. Every incident should be there, though any amount of words may be sacrificed." This is all very well in theory; but as soon as you try to put it into practice it entirely breaks down. SHAKESPEARE'S verse is so condensed, the lines are so run into one another, the speeches are so perfectly balanced, and all is so terse and valuable, that the moment you try to "compress" a speech, as Mr. FITZGERALD proposes, you find that the plan is futile, and that it is better to leave out the whole passage. Mr. FITZGERALD attributes the present condition of things, which he regards as "happy-go-lucky," to the "debased taste of the audiences." This, at any rate, is better than attacking the efforts of our actor-managers to come to some sort of a compromise between an ideal presentation of *Hamlet* and a possible and fairly profitable one. Mr. FITZGERALD has told us how he made bookmaking, as a profession, pay; and if he will only allow our actor-managers in the production of drama the same indulgence that he has permitted himself in literature, he will be less uncivil and severe than he has been in the article which we inserted last week.

PLYMOUTH THEATRE ROYAL.

The severing by Mr. C. F. Williams of his connection, as lessee and manager, with the Plymouth Theatre Royal, says a writer in the Plymouth *Morning News*, marks the end of another chapter in the story of a playhouse than which few have played a greater part in the history of the provincial stage. The first theatre was a small building in Hoegate-street, then known as Broad Hoe-lane, but the real forerunner of the present structure was that at Frankfort Gate, at the junction of George and Bedford streets. This was built by Arthur, a light comedian of some celebrity in those days, and was known as the New Theatre down to 1765. For very many years it was a flourishing theatrical resort. One of the earliest of the modern municipal undertakings of Plymouth was a theatrical venture. Just a century ago the suggestion was made, and it bore fruit in the erection of the present Theatre Royal, which, with the Assembly Rooms and the Royal Hotel, forms such a splendid pile of buildings, and which has ever since been the property of the City Fathers. The architect was Mr. Foulston, who was a disciple of the "classic" in architecture, and designed the theatre and adjoining building accordingly. The cost was somewhere about £60,000, and the money was raised by the extraordinary and much-criticised expedient of selling the advowsons of the parishes of Saint Andrew and Charles, although a further sum had to be added to the amount thus realised. The style of the building is Ionic, and very imposing is the effect of the long lines of frontage and of the pillared porticoes. The foundation-stone was laid in September, 1811, by the Mayor (Mr. Edmund Lockyer), and the occasion was made one for a great municipal display. There was a cavity in the foundation-stone, and in this was placed a beautiful vase of Plymouth porcelain, containing, among other things, a medal commemorating the event, and several current gold and silver coins. The Mayor gave his official benediction to the enterprise, with the words "I throw wine, corn, and oil on this stone in the hope that it may prove to be the foundation of the peace, prosperity, and happiness of Plymouth." On the stone is the Latin inscription: "Theatri et hospitii imperisis Maioris et Communitatis Burgi de Plymouth. Edmundus Lockyer, M.D., Maior, Fundamente Locavit 1811. Johannes Foulston, Architecta." The building was finished in two years, and opened with a great flourish of trumpets. There was a ball in the Assembly Rooms, and the opening of the hotel was commemorated with a big dinner, to which the Prince Regent lent his patronage by forwarding a haunch of venison. The first performance in the theatre took place on Aug. 23, 1813, and the playbill for the historic occasion said: "The public is most respectfully informed that the New Theatre Royal, Plymouth, will open on Monday next, Aug. 23, 1813, with *An Occasional Address*, after which Shakespeare's celebrated play of *As You Like It*, to which will be added the farce of *Catherine and Petruchio*." The house was divided into boxes, pit, and gallery, the prices being 4s., 2s. 6d., and 1s. respectively, and the receipts of the opening performance were £152 14s. A footnote to the playbill ran: "Ladies and gentlemen are respectfully requested to send their servants to keep place at half-past five o'clock."

But, alas for the high hopes of the City Fathers and for the pockets of their lessees! The enterprise proved anything but pecuniarily successful, and efforts to attract the public in numbers large enough to fill the theatre were generally fruitless. Even in these days the house "takes some filling," and in those times the public was, of course, much smaller. One drawback was that the theatre was terribly cold in the winter, and the only "heating apparatus" adopted in those days was the burning of large fires in the pit. Mr. Farren was the first manager, but even with the subsequent co-partnership of Mr. Foote he could not stand the financial strain, and the lesseeship was taken up by Mr. Hughes, who had been managing the playhouse at Dock. He did not stay long, however, and then the management came into the hands of Mr. Brunton, who made a splendid struggle against adverse circumstances, and spared no effort calculated to win the patronage of the public. All the leading notabilities of the day appeared, including Edmund Kean, Macready, Charles Kean, Charles Matthews, and actresses of fame and beauty. No actor was a greater favourite with Plymouth playgoers than Charles Matthews, whose advent in 1825 was announced as follows:—"The justly celebrated Mr. Charles Matthews, from the English Opera, will be found at home at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, on Monday, the 18th inst., when he will have the honour of presenting his celebrated entertainment called *A Trip to America*." At the same performance the celebrated Miss Foote, afterwards Countess of Harrington, also appeared as Beatrice in *Much Ado About Nothing*, and as a Plymouth girl won immense popularity. Under Brunton's management, in 1828, there was a Royal visit, but even this did not surpass in interest his great season of two years earlier, when he brought down all the "stars" of the time, including the great tragedian Macready, who appeared in some of his finest rôles and made a great impression. But although the histrionic art was so splendidly exemplified, it did not bring the necessary grist to the mill, and eventually Brunton relinquished his lesseeship. In doing so he issued a statement in which he suggested that the lack of success was due to the "embarrassments of the country" or to the "hostility of a presumed moral principle."

No more successful than his predecessors was Mr. Devonport, under whose lesseeship the artistic traditions of the past were sustained, but not to any satisfactory financial result. So bad did things become that in 1837 there was a very unfortunate contretemps caused by the artists going "on strike." The lessee appealed to the public for support, and a lively little interlude ensued, for the company who had refused to perform issued a placard accusing the unfortunate Mr. Devenport of having induced them to enrol themselves under the banner by making false representations as to the extent of his worldly goods. The next to take up the task of management was Mr. Hay, but he also failed to win the smiles of Fortune, and, moreover, got into the bad books of the Corporation, who censured him for presenting *Jack Sheppard*, a melodrama founded on the doughty, if questionable, deeds of that "hero" of not too moral attributes. Various causes, such as general depression in the borough, conspired against the popularity of the playhouse, and even such names as that of Charles Matthews failing as a "draw," Mr. Hay gave up what appeared an impossible task—the making the house pay.

It was in the early forties that there came into association with the Royal a man who became a celebrity locally, who attained no small measure of fame on the business side of provincial theatrical enterprise, and under whose notable régime the theatre remained for over forty years. When Mr. J. R. Newcombe became the lessee he took over an enterprise that seemed to be at the low-water mark of failure. With a courage that was indomitable the new manager braved the adverse fates with all the weapons in the theatrical arsenal. He spared no expense in the securing of the lights of the stage world. Mlle. Taglioni—engaged at £100 a night soon after the opening—Sims Reeves, Mrs. Fitzwilliam, Macready—in the rôle of Hamlet—Kean, and a host of lesser notabilities answered his call to the West country, and every order of entertainment was put on, from farce to grand opera. But still the road led downhill, and Mr. Newcombe, as season after season saw his capital diminish, was almost in despair, and even spoke of the possibility of his financial ruin. Nevertheless he continued the struggle, and his enterprising efforts at length won the appreciation of the public. A new era of prosperity set in, and from thence onwards the house flourished.

Even after he had laid the foundations of success, Mr. Newcombe met with a few adverse strokes of fortune, not the last of which were two serious fires. The first occurred during the pantomime season of 1863, breaking out after the theatre had been closed. It started in the property-room and spread until it had enveloped the whole of the western part of the buildings. The Assembly Room was practically destroyed, and the damage amounted to several thousand pounds. In 1878 there was another conflagration, by which the theatre was again gutted, only the bare walls remaining. Fortunately, there was no loss of life on either of these occasions, but in 1854 there was a very tragic incident. During the performance of *Plot and Passion* by an amateur dramatic society a Mrs. Kirkby, appearing in the rôle of a country belle, approached too near the footlights, and the light muslin dress which she was wearing caught on fire. The unfortunate lady was swiftly enveloped in flames, and received such terrible injuries that she died a few days later. A crowded audience witnessed the tragic event, which created a great and painful sensation.

During the long period Mr. Newcombe was associated with the theatre he frequently came into conflict with the austere authorities of those days, but rather with the effect of adding to the gaiety of nations than of being visited with any dire reprisals. In 1869 the pantomime contained some quite innocuous allusions to the Royal Marines, but the colonel in command of the corps took them all too seriously and forbade the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the corps to enter the building. To see that the order was obeyed he had a cordon of marines placed around the building and a picket at each entrance. By the general public the incident was regarded more with amusement than in any serious light, and before the pantomime ceased running the prohibitory order was withdrawn. Another pantomime, that of 1874, gave rise to a controversy that was then regarded as very serious, but which nowadays would set the town laughing. This was the caricaturing of the Mayor, the Town Clerk, and the Chief Constable, figures representing whom appeared under the title of "Three Popular Men," and clad in their robes of office went through a very grotesque performance. The gentlemen so portrayed were indignant, and threatened legal appeal, while the Council held a full-dress debate, and passed a resolution expressing grave disapprobation of the exhibition. There was a vast amount of correspondence, and eventually Mr. Newcombe withdrew the performance, not, however, until he had greatly benefited by the advertisement which the pantomime received.

Mr. Newcombe retained the lease of the theatre until his death in 1887, when it was taken over by his son-in-law, Mr. Henry Reed, who only held it about fifteen months, and afterwards built the Grand Theatre in Union-street, Stonehouse. From March, 1889, to December, 1892, the management was in the hands of Mr. Rollo Balmain, who was succeeded, the Corporation having invited tenders from the general public, by Mr. Charles F. Williams. For nearly twelve years Mr. Williams retained the management. His lease expired on March 25, 1903. Messrs. Arthur Carlton and T. H. Bryant secured the leasehold in partnership, and the whole of the premises were immensely improved and refurnished. The theatre was opened under Mr. Carlton's personal management on March 30, 1903, with a performance of *The Resurrection*, with Miss Lily Brayton in the cast.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Victorien Sardou—Saturday, Sept. 7.
Kittie Clayton—Sunday, Sept. 8.
Jessie Elvin—Monday, Sept 9.
Winifred Stuart—Monday, Sept. 9.
John S. Graham—Monday, Sept. 9.
Neville Lynn—Monday, Sept. 9.
Caroline Barrett—Monday, Sept. 9.
Chas. Sheard—Monday, Sept. 9.
Edgar Granville—Monday, Sept. 9.
Ada St. Ruth—Tuesday, Sept. 10.
Winnie Donovan—Tuesday, Sept. 10.
Bassett Roe—Tuesday, Sept 10.
Marie Studholme—Tuesday, Sept. 10.
George Appleby—Tuesday, Sept. 10.
Frank Fuller—Tuesday, Sept. 10.
Bob Anderson—Tuesday, Sept. 10.
(Miss) M. Silverthorne—Tuesday, Sept. 10.
Fred. Donaldson—Wednesday, Sept. 11.
Richard Ganthony—Wednesday, Sept. 11.
Fred. Sinclair—Wednesday, Sept. 11.
Marie Weston—Wednesday, Sept. 11.
Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer—Thursday, Sept. 12.
Alfred Holles—Thursday, Sept. 12.
Douglas Munro—Thursday, Sept. 12.
Carmencita Caicedo—Friday, Sept. 13.

MR. NORFOLK MEGONE'S Meistersingers' Orchestra concluded their week's engagement on Saturday evening last, and at the close there was quite a scene of enthusiasm. After the last item had been given the whole of the large audience broke into loud cheers, which lasted for some time. Mr. Megone was evidently touched by this mark of appreciation, and he called upon the band to render "Auld Lang Syne." The audience quickly took up the song, and ultimately the conductor was compelled to make a speech which was very heartily received.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Aug. 29.—Lemprière tells us that Hymen was of ignoble birth, "and that he experienced so much felicity in his marriage state" that the Greeks made him the god of marriage, and he presided over all nuptials. But the good Lemprière does not add that the said Hymen is particularly busy during the summer holidays with ladies and gentlemen in "the profession" in the French Republic. In this respect the year 1907 has, I think, been a record one. The list of artists of every description who have of late became husband and wife is very long, and presents curious features. Thus I find that whilst among the higher strata there is a tendency to dispense with the church ceremony, those in a humbler position do not deem the civil marriage, as prescribed by law, sufficient. They do not consider the knot bound by Monsieur le Maire strong enough, and they apply to the priest, the parson, or the rabbi to pull it tighter. The last matrimonial event in the theatrical world is that of M. Sacha Guitry, son of the talented actor, and manager of the Renaissance. The lady who now bears his name is Mlle. Charlotte Lysès, a charming young actress. As to M. Sacha Guitry, although very young, he has already made a name for himself as a dramatist.

M. DECORI has been specially engaged to create the principal rôle in *La Milliardaire*, a play in five acts and ten tableaux, to be brought out at the Ambigu in the course of next month.

THE actress most in demand at the present moment is Mlle. Marthe Regnier. MM. Hennequin and Duquesnel have retained her for their comedy *Patachon*, the first novelty at the Vaudeville. From the Vaudeville Mlle. Regnier will go to the Gymase, where she will appear in M. Paul Gavault's *Le Mariage de Jacqueline*. Her services have likewise been retained by M. Henry Bernstein for his play *Le Tocsin*. And MM. de Flers and de Caillavet have already secured her for 1909, for a piece that will bear the title of *Le Péché des autres*.

APROPOS of the Gymnase, everybody knows that it also bears the name of Le Théâtre de Madame; but not one Parisian would be able to tell whence that appellation is derived. In 1820 the house was a kind of private stage where pupils of the Conservatoire and young beginners played one or two acts of well-known pieces, so as to overcome their dread of appearing before an audience. After a while, however, unknown playwrights, who had never yet succeeded in placing their productions in a regular theatre, took them to that amateur stage, and after a while the place was patronised by fashionable Paris. This aroused the jealousy of the other managers, who intrigued until M. de Corbière, the Minister, ordered the theatre to be closed. But the threatened house found an unexpected protector in the Duchesse de Berry, who, according to custom at the French Court, was called "Madame." She had often been to the house and enjoyed the performances there. And, being all-powerful, she scribbled a line to M. de Corbière, informing him that having taken that theatre under her protection it could not be closed. In fact, it would be called after her, "Le Théâtre de Madame." And a few days later the new name appeared in gilt letters on the building. Curiously enough, the name of the then manager was Franck, the same as that of the gentleman now at the head of the Gymnase.

IN a few weeks the Ambigu will put into rehearsal *La Boscotte*, a drama by M. Georges Maldague.

ENTIRELY redecorated, the Cluny Théâtre presents quite a respectable appearance. The place wanted sadly doing up; and the new management have put their hands into their pockets and sacrificed money on the altar of cleanliness. The house will re-open in the course of next month with a revival of *La Marraine de Charley*, which when first produced at that theatre proved a great success. The cast, a strong one, will comprise MM. Hamilton Marle and Mlle. Germaine Milo.

A FEW years ago there was at the Odéon an old boxkeeper, a harmless, faded-looking woman, who "had seen better days," and used to remind us of that fact at the psychological moment when she held out her shrivelled hand for a small donation. Her daughter had once tried her hand at acting, and had proved a dismal failure. But the mother did not attribute her child's non-success to her want of talent. One evening, during an entr'acte, she explained to me that a born actress has no chance whatsoever to get on in the profession, on account of the many stage-struck society ladies, who, owing to their social position, find no difficulty in securing and keeping an engagement. The society-woman was that old lady's *bête-noire*, and that idea followed her to her grave. I thought of her when I heard of several ladies, belonging to the upper strata of society, who have joined, or intend to join, the stage. Most of them are hardly interesting. But there is one whose appearance in public will cause a certain amount of sensation, inasmuch as she belongs to what we call here the "aristocracy of the industrial world." She is Madame Charles de Ricqlès, the widow of the famous distiller of that name. She has selected an English *nom de guerre*, Mme. Collins, and I am assured that she has really great talent. She has, I know, been carefully coached.

PARIS, THURSDAY, Sept. 5.—We have another death to deplore in the theatrical world, that of Mme. Rosine Laborde, the well-known professor of singing, who passed away in her country house at Chézy-sur-Marne at the age of eighty-one: another instance, by the way of the longevity of members of the profession. For a great many years Mme. Laborde sang at the Opéra-Comique and the Opéra, where she made numerous creations. After her retirement from the stage she devoted herself to teaching, and she formed many well-known pupils, the last of which was Mlle. Marie Delna. The feud between Mme. Laborde and Mme. Marchesi—a rival professor—will still be remembered in the theatrical world, although the event took place many years ago. The cause of the trouble was Mme. Emma Calvé. Mme. Laborde and Mme. Marchesi both claimed her as their pupil, and, like the two mothers in Solomon's judgment, they quarrelled over the child. "She's mine!" said Mme. Laborde. "No, mine!" replied the other lady, with an obstinate shake of her head. I remember that having one day listened to the assertions of the two professors I called on Mme. Calvé, and asked: "Is Mme. Laborde or Mme. Marchesi your spiritual monther?" "Neither," replied the diva. "At various times both gave me some advice in regard to the rôles I was studying; but as for my voice, they never had anything whatsoever to do with it. It was posed and formed, and I had already appeared for a long time in public before I became acquainted with the two ladies."

"GISKA-LA-BOHEMIENNE" is the title of a mimed play brought out at the Théâtre Marigny. It was specially written for Mme. Otero, who, of course, played the principal rôle. She really was admirable. It is evident that Mme. Otero has worked very hard to have arrived at such excellent results, for all her gestures, all her attitudes were strictly in keeping with her rôle—subdued, without any striving after effect. We all knew M. Otero as a good-looking woman, with more jewellery than we are accustomed to see on an average person. This time, however, she has proved herself a true artist, and has conquered Paris. But why did she want to imitate Mlle. Lina Cavalieri? The latter lady began her career in a music hall, and it will be remembered that, possessed of a beautiful voice, she placed herself in the hands of a celebrated professor, and made a sensational début at the Opéra. From Marigny to the Opéra is only ten minutes' walk; but from the Marigny music hall stage to the Opéra stage is a far cry. And this, Mme. Otero apparently overlooked. She thought she had but to sing in order to secure an engagement from M. Gailhard. And she sang an "Ave Maria"; and we all felt sorry. And we will keep on feeling sorry until she stops singing that "Ave Maria," or lets someone else render it behind the scenes.

LEGENDS are disappearing fast. In France, at school and in the nursery, we were told of the exploits of Mandrin, the famous highwayman—a kind of Jack Sheppard—and we were warned of what would befall us if we walked in the footsteps of that terrible bandit. But henceforth our children here will not be scared any more into virtuousness by the mention of Mandrin. M. Henri Second, an eminent playwright, has remained for many months in the Dauphiné—Mandrin's birthplace—whence he has returned with documents proving that his hero, if not exactly a benefactor of humanity, was by no means the miscreant he is reported to be. And, in a powerful play, in several tableaux, M. Second will depict his man in his true colours, which, from what we are told, are rather those of an avenger. Mandrin was born in the good year 1724, when the nobility and the Church were exempt from taxes, and the people were slowly but surely bled to death for the greater glory of the King's mistresses. According to M. Second, Mandrin did not wage war against society, but against his Majesty's tax-collectors. In other words he was a smuggler, and as he sold his goods at a low price he was adored by the peasantry. Carlyle has given a graphic description of how his most Christian Majesty's agents collected the taxes; and we feel scant pity for them when we are told that, in their encounter with Mandrin's lawless band, they generally came to grief. Arrested several times, he was always rescued by the rabble, until one day, betrayed by his mistress, he was taken to Valence, broken upon the wheel, and then strangled. The King's historiographers and the papers of the period were ordered to describe Mandrin as a cut-purse, and it is thus—always according to M. Second—that poor Mandrin came down to posterity with a reputation he did not deserve. But, thanks to M. Second, he will now be righted, and, as things go, he may in time be beatified by the Pope and take his rank among the minor saints.

MM. MESSAGER AND BROUSSAN have fixed the month of March prox. for the production of Rameau's *Hippolyte et Aricie*. In May following *Le Crépuscule des Dieux* will be brought out. As to *Faust*, the new management reserves a little surprise for us. There will be new scenery and new costumes, more in keeping with the spirit of the work. Thus we always see Marguerite make her appearance in a magnificent gown by a great dressmaker; a gown which by its richness contrasts in a ridiculous manner with the costumes of her comrades. All this dates from the days when Mme. Miolan Carvalho, who created the rôle of Marguerite, reigned like a despot at the Théâtre Lyrique. It was in vain that Gounod and others pointed out to Mme. Carvalho that her get-up was not suited to the rôle. She insisted on looking "beautiful," and all the prima-donnas who came after her kept up that absurd tradition. But M. Broussan has issued a fresh ukase, and after January next we shall see the sweet Marguerite dressed like an ordinary country girl, instead of a cocotte in her Sunday best. Bravo, M. Broussan!

AMONG the new plays to be produced at the Vaudeville will be *Sa Maison en Ordre*, a French adaptation, by MM. Bienstock and Balzagette, of M. Pinero's *His House in Order*. The other novelties will comprise: M. Pierre Wolff's *Le Ruisseau*; *Patachon*, by MM. Félix Duquesnel and Maurice Hennequin; *La Femme nue*, by Henry Bataille; *Le Nid*, by M. Michel Provins; *Nono*, by M. Sacha Guitry; and *La petite Jasmin*, by Willy.

THE new management of the Théâtre des Arts have engaged Mlle. Loïe Fuller to appear in *Salomé*, which, it will be remembered, was specially written for that artist. Mlle. Hanako, the Japanese actress, will give a series of representations at that house. Works by Kipling, Suderman, Widekind, and Pinero will also be produced there.

THE LATE KATE VAUGHAN.

A brother Journalist, says T. P. in *P. T. O.*, has kindly sent me some reminiscences of that once famous artist, Kate Vaughan, to supplement my own recollection of her, which appeared in this paper two or three weeks ago. Leonard Rayne's treatment of Kate Vaughan during that tour in South Africa which was to have a fatal termination for her will, I think, strike my readers as being an example of the charity that "hopeth all things, endureth all things." Here is the letter:

"Leonard Rayne, the well-known South African manager, had brought Kate Vaughan to the Cape. He paid her for this last trip a salary which was either £80 or £100 a week, with travelling expenses. The illness, which was destined to end fatally, had already attacked her, and set an edge upon her usually sweet temper.

"At the time I was editing the *Rand Daily Mail*, and one night a reporter brought in the news that Kate Vaughan had arrived. A man was deputed to interview her, but after he had gone I decided to write the interview myself, and recalled the reporter. In the hotel that adjoins the theatre I found Kate Vaughan. She was heavily veiled, and studiously kept her face in the shade. She was as nervous as some young girl about to make a début on the stage. As a newspaper interview the talk was a failure. She was pitiably anxious to recall her triumphs, and spoke nervously and rapidly of the old Gaiety successes.

"I could not see the first night of *The Dancing Girl*, but I got away from the office in time to join a friendly throng that gathered on the stage after the last act-drop to drink success and long life to 'dear Kate.' Her appearances were very few. Ill-health came, and with it querulousness that found outlet in a quarrel with the management. Leonard Rayne was the manager, and I know of no man who better deserves the simple appellation 'Gentleman' than he. Gentle, patient, generous, he was always Kate Vaughan's best friend. She refused to appear; he played her understudy to a depleted treasury, and went on paying her salary. Kate sued him for breach of contract, and lost her case. Rayne paid her legal expenses, and continued her salary. And then the illness took an acute form, and to the best nursing institute in Johannesburg Kate Vaughan was conveyed at Rayne's expenses, and there was no more constant visitor at the dying woman's bedside than he. Every attention that loving hearts could devise, every luxury that money could buy, was hers in her last days. Edward Terry, by great good luck, happened to be playing in Johannesburg, and he was with her, too, and I do not know that fiction has any parallel for the spectacle of these two great stars of burlesque—the laughter-maker, with his drawn face, holding the hand of the dying dancer as she passed into the darkness without.

"On a Sunday a little group waited in the deserted cemetery. A fierce, fitful wind swept along the little graveyard, and as the hearse drove through the gate a thick yellow pall of dust rose over Johannesburg and blotted out the nearest object. Then came the stinging rain, with lightning and crash and crash of thunder. We huddled together under the shelter of the chapel. Edward Terry was there. Leonard Rayne and John Le Hay, and, I believe, Mr. Major-Jones. In the pelting rain the Catholic priest led the tiny procession to the graveside, and here we left her. I shall remember the priest in his soaked cassock as he turned back to look down into the pit. 'Poor child, poor child!' he said. And Terry and the other men were weeping."

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The Music-Hall Ladies' Guild seems to have sprung at once into maturity, without any great fostering care; and this fact along would proclaim the real need of such an organisation, whereby time and sympathetic help can be given to the poorer women of the vast variety profession. There are brave mothers who suffer much in silence; there are little children dependent for their sustenance on the scanty earnings of the chance engagement. For such cases womanly ministrations are invaluable, and therefore the Guild should especially appeal to the kind hearts of the more fortunate of the lady artists.

The Guild, which has been established a little over a year, has now found offices in the centre of the amusement industry, 2, York Street, Covent Garden, and on Wednesday afternoon the ladies of the Committee were "at home" to the friends of the charity, in order to inaugurate the new premises, which comprise the second floor of the house. Miss Anna de Grey, the indefatigable secretary, was early on the scene, and among the ladies of the committee present were Miss Lil Hawthorne, Miss Millie Payne, Mrs. Fred Ginnett, Mrs. Eugene Stratton, and Miss Constance Moxon.

Miss Lily Burnand, who is fulfilling an engagement at Bradford, sent a telegram which read as follows: "Regret cannot be with you to-day. Wish every success to the new home. Regards to all." Miss Fanny Brough snatched a brief interval from rehearsing in *The Sins of Society*, at Drury Lane, to give her blessing to the new home on behalf of the members of the sister Guild supported by the theatrical profession; and among others present were Mrs. Bush (late of the Bee Hotel, Liverpool), Dr. Walker (hon. physician to the Guild), Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Cowper, Mr. Charles Bailey, Mr. Appleyard (solicitor to the Guild), Mr. and Mrs. Collins, Miss Belle Elmore, Miss Wynne, Miss Beresford, Miss Lily Burnand, jun., Miss Strickland, Mrs. Bradgate, and others.

Many wishes were uttered for the increased usefulness of the charity, which aims at accomplishing a supplemental work that is not covered by any existing fund. Miss De Grey tells us that donations in kind and cast-off clothes are most welcome, and it is to be hoped that the wide-reaching appeal of such a charity will result in a multiplicity of small donations, as well as handsome cheques from the wealthier members of the profession. The committee will hold meetings every Wednesday, and all ladies connected with the profession are cordially invited.

The date of the general meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation, viz., Sept. 15, clashes with that of the testimonial dinner to Mr. Frank Gerald, the late secretary of the Federation, who is advocating the interests of the Actors' Union at Bath this week. Those who intend to be present at the dinner, which is at the Criterion Restaurant, are requested to notify their intention at once. Mr. Cecil Raleigh will take the chair at seven o'clock prompt.

In the *Daily Telegraph's* obituary article upon the late Richard Mansfield reference was made to "the now disestablished St. George's Hall." Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant write to say that they would be interested in learning at what date the disestablishment in question took place, and are under the impression that St. George's Hall had a present establishment, displaying a marked degree of vitality.

Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie produced for copyright purposes at the Bijou Theatre (Victoria Hall), Bayswater, on Monday, a new and original opera in one act, by herself, entitled *Pharaoh's Daughter*. The authoress herself represented the Princess Ameses (the title-rôle), and other characters were played by Mr. James English, Miss Ida Willett, and Mr. E. Francis. The music is composed and arranged by Mr. Joseph Tabrar, who wrote "Daddy wouldn't buy me a bow-wow" for Miss Vesta Victoria.

Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger's efforts to establish a chain of high-class music halls in the chief American cities is prospering, and Mr. Manny Warner is in New York in consultation with the firm with respect to English contracts. Their policy is to present English and American artists of the highest rank. They now have fourteen houses run on the London plan, and are arranging for six others. Only last week they opened the American Theatre, New York, once the abode of legitimate drama, as a first-class variety house, for which there is an increasing demand.

Mr. Alfred Butt returned to the Palace on Monday evening from his tour in France, and found the Palace crowded. He was heartily greeted by a number of personal friends. He has derived much benefit from his trip, for he looked exceedingly well. Mr. Malcolm Scott, who made his reappearance on Monday at the Palace, has been to Llandrindod Wells, where he is very popular.

Miss Jean Aylwin, a pretty Scotch lassie, who has Mr. George Edwardes's permission, now leaves the Gaiety nightly to sing characteristic Scotch songs at the Palace, and they are entitled "Dougal" and "Coortin'," the latter of which deals with her numerous admirers. Sir W. S. Gilbert, if we may take his character of Maggie in *Engaged* as evidence, has a greater belief in a Scotch girl's canniness than in her charm. Bonnie Jean at the Palace, looking her prettiest in a silk tartan frock, would shatter his cynicism in one glance. Her songs were enhanced by a special Ben Lomond scene painted by Philip Howden.

Mr. Blyth Pratt, who has had a very delightful holiday at Dinard, returned to his duties at the Oxford on Monday. During his absence Mr. Alfred L. Edwards has been officiating, and has been assisted by Mr. Perry, the box-office manager.

No fewer than 170 performers have been engaged to appear in *The Avalanche*, the new Hippodrome spectacle. These include the famous Alpine guides, Bernet and Bohreen, and the De Freggers, a Tyrolean troupe of fifteen singers. A fresh sensation will thrill the spectators when at a given moment the Alpine guides and the whole party of tourists, English, French, and American, will be seen in a snowstorm hurled down the glacier, among huge tumbling boulders into a ravine. There will be also a sensational exhibition of skiing and tobogganing, in which will be utilised a stage property of enormous dimensions.

Mr. Charles Dietrich is going on his Continental tour early in October, and would be pleased to hear from any big English acts desiring Continental engagements.

Mme. Yvette Guilbert, who has now left Marienbad, was present at a lunch given by one of the English visitors recently, at which the King was also a guest. Learning that Mme. Guilbert intends to become an actress, his Majesty remarked that though her acquisition would be a gain to the stage he was not sure whether this gain would be sufficient compensation for the loss to that particular form of art which she had hitherto cultivated.

Mr. Andrew Cowe has become manager of the Gaiety, Glasgow, in the place of Mr. Harry Bowerman, who has resigned his position.

The Hippodrome, Lowestoft, is closed for a short time for important structural alterations. The seating is being rearranged, and the stage is to be considerably enlarged.

Mr. Julian Clifford, the orchestral chief at the Harrogate Kursaal, is to take a benefit this afternoon. Among the artists are the Hon. Mrs. Julian Clifford, Mr. Ben Davies, Herr Backhaus, Madam Alice Gomez, The Smart Set, and the Band of the Yorkshire Hussars.

Miss Louie Freear visited Colwyn Bay on Tuesday afternoon. "She got right there all the time." In addition to appearing in a sketch entitled *Snooks*, she gave three songs, two in reply to vigorous encores.

Mr. William Benson, of Wigan, has acquired a commanding site, situate in Leigh-road, Leigh, for the purpose of erecting a first-class theatre and hippodrome. The house will be erected on the most modern principles, strict attention being paid to all details for the general comfort and enjoyment of patrons. Operations will be commenced in due course.

The structural alterations at the Derby Palace and the re-decoration of the building are rapidly nearing completion, and when the re-opening takes place visitors will find the Palace interior presenting a handsome appearance, a pretty scheme of embellishment being employed. Much has been done to enhance the comfort of audiences, as well as the comfort of performers.

The extensive alterations, involving an expenditure of nearly £1,000, comprise the construction of a new stage and proscenium wall, the addition of a fireproof safety curtain, two iron staircases from the body of the hall to the boxes, two private boxes on the ground floor, a new act drop and scenery, and an exit from the pit stalls.

The Leeds Empire celebrated its eleventh anniversary on Thursday, the 29th ult. Two monster special performances, at 6.30 and 9 p.m., were given, and the place on each occasion was crowded to the doors. Mr. T. Gerald Morton and Mr. Alex. Galley, the popular district-manager and Leeds manager respectively, had an extremely busy time, and it is a tribute to their strenuous efforts and kindly courtesy that a memorable evening had nothing to mar its most enjoyable character. The curtain was rung down on an enthusiastic scene at 11.30 p.m.

The annual outing of the staff at the Nottingham Empire Theatre of Varieties was distinguished by a very pleasant happening. Mr. Harry Upton, who for upwards of eight years has been the valued assistant manager, became the happy possessor of a handsome gold watch and an illuminated address, subscribed by the staff and friends, on his leaving to take up the position of manager of the Grand Theatre, Nottingham. The presentation was made by the acting-manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker, who spoke in eulogistic terms of Mr. Upton, who in a few felicitous phrases gratefully acknowledged the gift.

Mr. Charles Evans has been connected with Lord George Sanger now for foureten years, and he has made hosts of friends among the profession as well as among the numerous patrons of the Hall-by-the-Sea, which he manages so well. There was an augmented programme for his benefit on Thursday evening, and the entertainers could have been doubled, but the exigences of the occasion only permitted of some sixteen turns being put on. Among these were Charley Hampson, Johnny Fuller, Burg, Haud, and Wise, Fox and Melville, Lambert and Glover, Valesco's stage circus, and Percival, the clever pianist and entertainer, all of whom had been appearing in the week's programme. There were in addition George Rapley, comedian; William Dennis, baritone; Sybil Montague, ballad vocalist; Jack Charman, a promising young vocalist; Sisters Lavender, duettists and dancers; Williams and Warden, comedians and cross-talkers; and Beatrice Renee, comedienne.

Immediately following the concert was an excellent display of fireworks, by J. Wells, in the grounds, which were brilliantly and picturesquely illuminated. The customary grand ball followed, but the dancers were so thick that it was hard work to get round the brightly-lit and ornately-decorated ballroom, yet, in spite of the crush, dancing was kept up to midnight, to which hour an extension had been granted by the magistrates.

Mr. J. D. Hunter, the popular manager of the Hastings Pier amusements, took his twenty-eighth annual benefit on Thursday, the 29th ult. It is needless to say that the Pavilion was crowded, more especially in the evening, when even standing room was not obtainable. Specially-selected artists filled out a long programme, opened by the talented vocalists styling themselves the So-and-So's; Mr. Arthur Roberts and his company introduced a laughable sketch; and Miss Lizzie Burgess and Miss Marie Dainton appeared. Mr. J. D. Hunter gave an amusing address as a lady suffragette, the performance closing with the Bioscope.

The staff of the Palace Theatre, Bath, lately had a delightful day at Weston-super-Mare (the Blackpool of the West). Mr. Chas. Schuberth, the highly popular manager, did everything possible to make the outing the success it was, and received the thanks of the party for his kindness.

Amongst the winners at the Welsh National Eisteddfod was Lionel Falkman, first violin at the Pavilion, Abertillery. He was successful in taking the first prize for competitors under sixteen, and also divided the first prize in the chief open competition.

The confetti fêtes at Clacton seem to have roused the susceptibilities of the authorities of the Cottage Hospital there, and on Wednesday, in the Vacation Court, before Mr. Justice Pickford, Mr. Bramwell Davis, K.C., asked for an order to restrain. He did not want to stop the business of the Palace altogether, but if they would cease their confetti fêtes, which seemed to be the most serious form of nuisance, he would be satisfied. Would counsel consent to this?

Mr. Matthews, who appeared for defendants, said he was not prepared to consent. These confetti fêtes were a feature of Clacton, and were not a nuisance to the hospital at all. They were fixed many months ahead, were extensively advertised, and largely attended. Eventually it was decided that the action should stand over for a week.

The Birmingham magistrates, at the Victoria Courts on Thursday, unanimously granted a music licence to Messrs. Moore and Kennedy for the new King's Hall (late Old Central Hall) in Corporation-street, Birmingham. The hall, which occupies a fine site in the centre of the Old-square, adjoining the Grand Theatre, will be opened on Wednesday next with the Ediscope and Barnum's Pictures and a vaudeville entertainment. Three performances daily will be given, at 3, 7, and 9, at popular prices.

The present Trades Union Congress will be memorable if for only one reason—that for the first time in its history it includes representatives of the various organisations connected with the two professions, variety and theatrical. The delegates are as follows:—The Actors' Union, Mr. Frank Gerald; the Variety Artists' Federation, Messrs. Joe O'Gorman and M. Bayly; the Musicians' Union, Messrs. J. B. Williams and J. W. Duys (Bath); the National Association of Theatrical Employés, Mr. W. Johnson; and the Artists' Protective Association, Mr. Harry Mountford. It is estimated that the total membership of these societies reaches nearly 8,000, and this number is being increased daily.

Mr. Joe O'Gorman, representing the Variety Federation, in supporting on Wednesday a resolution advocating the abolition of overtime, took the opportunity of thanking the Congress for the support given to the variety artists during the recent music hall strike.

He reviewed some of the grievances of the artists, stating that first of all the music hall proprietors required them to appear at one matinée without payment. Then two matinées were required, and next three. One courageous caterer went so far as to say "Two houses a night and six matinées," but even that was not the finish. Some proprietors proceeded to insert in their contracts that artists must perform at two houses a night and "all such matinées as the management may require."

That would mean that the artists might have to get up at six o'clock in the morning and work up till midnight, performing every time that a man or woman sat down in the theatre. The artists struck, they went to arbitration, and they got an Award.

He regretted to say that with the exception of Mr. Oswald Stoll, who perhaps had the greatest number of houses in their line, practically all the other proprietors were trying to evade that Award. If the artists were driven to further action they would ask the Congress to give them the same support and assistance that they had always given to other organisations.

Negotiations have recommenced between the Alhambra and La Milo, and if successful the latter will make an early appearance at the Leicester-square house. A special feature of her entertainment will be a representation of Lady Godiva at Coventry, for which special scenery will be painted by Ryan. La Milo is having a triumphal progress throughout the country, no less than fourteen Watch Committees in as many towns having set the seal of their approval on her performance.

Miss Annette Kellermann, the Australian mermaid, whom our readers will remember as having made several gallant attempts to swim the English Channel and also to have entertained London for many months at the London Hippodrome, is still doing remarkable business at her concession at the White City, Chicago. Miss Kellermann is showing there in a water palace which has been specially erected for her, and which radiates with varied coloured electric lights.

So great has Miss Kellermann's success been in America that it is doubtful if her present engagements will allow her to return to London under eighteen months. For the information of many of our readers, it might be worth mentioning that the White City, Chicago, is the first institution of this name and character in America, and has been copied not only throughout America but already in Salford.

The programme of the Empire Theatre will be further strengthened on Monday by the addition of the Three Flood Brothers, in a highly amusing American comedy act. The Living Pictures, which have made such a success in America, have been rebooked for a further ten weeks, thus making their stay in that country over six months.

Miss Annie Purcell, who is suffering from laryngitis, has been ordered to take a rest. She has gone to Brighton, where she is making such rapid improvement that she hopes to start again next week at the Oxford.

The Terriers' Cricket Club played a match on Wednesday at Freeman's Grounds, Champion-hill, S.E., against George Gray's *Parson Gray, V.C.*, company. Batting first on a good wicket, the Terriers declared with the score at 118 for six wickets. George Gray's team scored 73 all out, the last three wickets being clean bowled by Garbett with three successive balls. He thus finished the match with the hat-trick ten minutes before the time for drawing stumps.

In the new version of *The Christian* which was produced with such conspicuous success at the Lyceum on Saturday, Mr. Hall Caine takes his heroine, Glory Quayle, away from the music-halls altogether, and places her in musical comedy. The recent engagements of Marie Tempest, Hayden Coffin, Evie Greene, Denise Orme, Violet Lloyd, and Kate Cutler at the Palace proves that the author does not follow very closely the upward movement of the present variety theatres in the direction of refinement.

Mr. Cecil Morton York, who has played prominent parts for many years now at the London Hippodrome, is engaged for the next production, *The Avalanche*, which bids fair to be one of the most striking spectacles that Mr. Frank Parker has ever invented.

Mr. Franco Piper, the clever banjoist who is astonishing audiences at the Alhambra, has practised his juggling and his playing for many years, and has entertained all sorts and conditions of men and women, from the rough doppers on the veldt to Belgravian drawing-rooms. Mr. Piper is responsible for a very fine rendering on his favourite instrument of "The Lost Chord," in which he secures very remarkable sostenuto effects. He is nightly heartily recalled and congratulated.

Messrs Harry Brayne and Bert Lloyd, who are meeting with great favour in their novel little act *The Tree of Truth*, are fully booked for this year, and at Christmas will be seen at one of Mr. Robert Arthur's suburban theatres in the pantomime parts they played at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, with such success.

Miss Cissie Thompson, who is singing "Iris" and "Can't you see the girl loves me," made such a hit last week that she was immediately transferred to the middle of the programme, a testimonial to her ability that she heartily appreciated.

Miss Mildred Blanchard, called by the Press "the English Bernhardt," returned last week on the White Star liner Baltic after five years' absence from America, where she has met with great success. Dr. Gustav Weil, Miss Blanchard's general representative, is busy looking for a suitable sketch, in which Miss Blanchard will star in this country very shortly. Miss Blanchard is one of the few young dramatic actresses who can essay such rôles as Cleopatra, Leah, Lady Macbeth, La Tosca, Gismonda, &c.

The Battersea Empire, which has seen many vicissitudes, is again to take its place as a leading suburban hall. Mr. Humphrey Brammall has secured the house, and quite an army of workmen are engaged in a new scheme of decoration. A novel scheme of lighting is being introduced by Messrs. Santoni (1906), Ltd. Over three millions of pearl-crystals are being employed, and Mr. Brammall has decided to name the house the Crystal Empire. The decorations are being carried out under the direction of Messrs. Read, of Brixton.

Through the kindness of Messrs. Tom Barrasford, Frank Macnaghten, and Fred Baugh, the proprietors and manager of the Britannia Theatre, 500 poor kiddies from the slums of Hoxton were given an outing on Sunday. The youngsters were fed in a large marquee erected in a field adjacent to the White Hart Hotel, Tottenham, and thoroughly enjoyed the good fare provided for them. Games filled out the interval between dinner and tea. Another 500 will be similarly treated in a week or so.

The 527th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Wednesday. Mr. Fred W. Millis (vice-president) occupied the chair, and among those present were Lieut. Albini, Jeff Vendome, Charles Coborn, and Albert Le Fre. Mr. Haydn Esau, Station Hotel, Abertillery, Mon., was appointed agent pro tem. in that town.

Messrs. Anger and Bauer have just issued a very useful little date-book, most helpful to members of the profession. The issue of this work is in keeping with the well-known enterprise of the firm.

The handsome King's Theatre, Edinburgh, which has been closed for several months, as foreshadowed in our last issue, will be reopened on Monday with a high-class variety entertainment at popular prices:—Stalls, 2s. 6d.; dress circle 2s. 6d. and 1s. 6d.; family circle, 1s. 3d.; pit, 6d.; and gallery, 4d. The King's Theatre has not changed hands yet, although it will be in the option of the new Howard and Wyndham Syndicate to purchase it, and include it in the amalgamation; but until this is an accomplished fact the theatre will be run by the present directors, one of whom, Mr. Matthew Ballantyne, managing director of the Pavilion, Glasgow, is taking a great interest in the venture, and has already booked many of the most popular artists.

Mr. Frank Gerald, the delegate of the Actors' Union at the Trades Union Congress at Bath, recited "A Tale of the Tenth Hussars" at the "At Home" given in honour of the delegates on Wednesday by the Mayor and Mayoress of Bath.

Mr. Charles Rafter, "the Singing Soldier," and the latest recruit from the Emerald Isle to the music-hall profession, was accorded a big reception at the anniversary of the Camberwell Empire on Tuesday. Dressed in full regimentals, he sang "I'm marching away, little maid," composed by Messrs. Wilson and Hardwick. The swinging martial air stormed the pit and captured the gallery. Mr. Rafter was put on the programme to give a number of agents the opportunity of seeing and hearing him, and his reception satisfied the most exacting critics.

A couple of Sundays ago Mr. Rafter was the guest of the Irish Club, Charing Cross, and although the club is non-sectarian and non-political, this gentleman rendered intensely patriotic and unswervingly loyal airs with splendid impartiality. It was a happy blending of Orange and Green that pleased his audience immensely.

Mr. Ernest Stuart, whose successful portrait of Vesta Tilley in the Palace Theatre vestibule is so much admired, has painted a striking picture of Mr. George Terrell, commodore of the Eastern Yacht Club of England, Burnham-on-Crouch, which has been presented to the club by its rear-commodore, Mr. Warwick Brookes. Mr. Terrell, in yachting costume, is in the bows of his own boat steering. Behind him is a fine stretch of sea. The painter has evidently caught his subject in his happiest mood, and the portrait has afforded much delight to the friends of the genial yachtsman, who will stand for the Unionists in North Wilts next election.

Miss Victoria Wright, daughter of Nellie Gammon, having severed her connection with the Forrest combination, made a successful début at Gravesend as a comedienne and dancer, and has this week been delighting audiences at the Hippodrome, Sheerness. Her brother, T. W. Wright, is negotiating her business.

The latest quotations for music-hall shares are as follows:—Alhambra 1 7/8, Canterbury ½, Empire (15s. pd.) 1⅜, Do. (10s. pd.) 1, London Pavilion Ord. 4⅜, Do. Pref. 5, London Coliseum 1/8, Metropolitan ¼, Moss Empire 4⅞, Do. 5 p.c. Pref. 3⅞, Oxford 6¼, Palace 14/3, Tivoli 5⅜, Var. Cons. Theas. 1/8.

The Music Hall Ladies' Guild has received donations and gifts of clothing from Miss Alice Raymond, Mrs. E. Collins, Mrs. Hicks Paull, and Miss Belle Elmore. Printing has been kindly supplied by Mr. Weiner.

The friends of Mrs. Jack Camp will be pleased to hear that she has benefited by her stay at Seaford, to which place she went after her stay in Charing Cross Hospital.

The tabloid musical comedy, *Office Hours*, submitted by Clarence C. Corri's company, is a very mirth-provoking feature of the bill at the Hippodrome, Brighton.

A new and original sketch, *Who's Zoo; or, Don't Disturb the Hanimiles!* written and composed by E. T. de Banzie, is being produced for a special three weeks' run at the Pavilion, Glasgow, on Monday, the 16th inst., with a tour to follow.

The learned societies of France are said to have been greatly exercised as to the causes of an extraordinary happening at Dieppe a few days since, when, whilst at anchor on a sea as still as a lake of oil, two French trawlers were swamped and sunk by a huge and solitary wave which came majestically from the direction of Newhaven, and totally overwhelmed the two craft. Excited French passengers by the turbine steamer brought the news, it is averred, to this side the Channel, and the mystery has been partly made clear by the port authorities of Newhaven. A strange visitor had been observed successfully sea angling on the day in question on Newhaven quay, and had been politely asked to remove his extraordinarily large catch, as it interfered with the view seaward. The stranger, who is said to be one of the staff of a premier London music-publishing house, in obedience to the officials' behest, and with the assistance of two porters, pushed the whole of the fish he had caught into the sea. So enormous was the weight of the "take" that the impact set up a tidal wave, which must have been the cause of the swamping of the Dieppe trawlers!

We have had sarabands on a saucepan, gavottes on a gallipot, fantasias on fryingpans, and now we are to have a symphony on a sirloin. This latest novelty will be encountered at the Crouch End Hippodrome on Monday, when will be produced a new musical fantasy, entitled *Chimes*. In a meat emporium we meet a musical butcher, who extracts—not Lemco, Oxo, or Virol—but melody, sweet melody, from a sirloin stuck through with skewers. We are puzzled to know how music can be obtained from a mass of meat; but that is the secret of the inventor, to be known as "the crazy butcher," who has patented *Chimes*.

Mr. Richard Thornton, of the Moss combination, who has recently built and opened the splendid Sunderland Empire, is determined to scotch anything that is in the slightest way objectionable on his stage. In a proclamation to artists he says:—"Any allusion to "The Lodger," or using the word "Damn," or any action calculated to convey a bad meaning, will be considered an offence, and, as I consider it as much to the interest of the artist as to myself, Mr. Loller, the musical conductor, has full power to ring down the curtain on any artist so offending."

We understand that, in accordance with the above notice, the right of "ringing down" the curtain upon an artist was exercised at the Sunderland Empire one night last week.

Miss Jennie Maynard and company, in *The Mad Actress*, have made a hit at Sheerness, where the sketch is being produced by Mr. Fred Leighton, the popular manager of the Hippo, and he already has booked several dates for it in town. Miss Maynard upholds her well-known reputation as a high-class actress in the title-rôle. Her mad tricks cause the audience to simply roar, but at no point of the sketch does she forget that she has to be serious yet withal funny, and she accomplishes her purpose with skill and ability.

Miss Maynard, before going on to the variety stage, played with all the leading Shakesperian companies of the day. She received her tuition from the famous actor, Wm. Hoskins, the tutor of Sir Henry Irving. Miss Maynard went straight from the school to the stage, touring all Australia with W. J. Holloway's Shakesperian company. She afterwards toured the Antipodes with George C. Mullen, as leading lady in several of Shakespeare's pieces, and then she joined Croke-Forbes and Lyle's company.

She afterwards came to England and toured "Nurse" from the now defunct Globe. Some time ago she went back to her home in Australia for her health. Returning to this country in March by the ill-fated Suevic she, along with hundreds of passengers, was wrecked on the Stag rocks off the coast of Cornwall.

The present programme of the Hippodrome is more hippodramatic than has been the case for some time, and we have the felicity of seeing two superb horsewomen—Mlle. Hélène Gerard and Miss Maude Wulff. The former wins generous applause for her haute école act on a dappled grey steed; and the latter rides Furious, a most accomplished horse, who not only beats time with its hoofs to the tune of the cakewalk, but is inspired by the cadences of "La Mattchiche" to canter gracefully through that fascinating dance. Miss Wulff also presents the famous Turkish thoroughbred Abdullah in a liberty act. This highly intelligent animal does many remarkable things, but, like Sir Joseph Porter, is an obstinate believer in the *suaviter in modo*, and when his charming mistress makes a special demand on his prowess she has to say "Please!" Herr Wulff's thoroughbred, Amateur II., is also put through his paces.

Burlesque bullfights are familiar enough on the variety stage; and grotesqueness is well served at the Hippodrome by the Magantini troupe of toreadors (direct from Madrid), who give a parody of bull-baiting as practised in fair Castile. A patient donkey and toreros on property steeds realise the fun of the thing. The Boccaccio Minstrels assert the claims of music in the arena, contributing an acceptable vocal and instrumental programme. One of the trio is a mandoline virtuoso, who displays wonderful technique in a selection from Herold's *Zampa*, an opera that is now all but forgotten with the exception of its overture.

An interesting novelty at the Hippodrome is an exhibition of what is called balloon polo, under the direction of M. Court Tietze. Six mounted players—three English and three French—are "armed" with a long cue, with which the strokes are made, and the large ball or balloon, which is very light, has to be shot over one or other of the bars placed on uprights at opposite ends of the circle. By strokes and gentle touches the teams keep the ball moving, and the game causes considerable excitement, the goals being scored as in push ball.

"The Land of the West," a new sketch which is being played at the Bedford this week, is a sequel to another which has been seen there, viz., *Maple Leaf*, and Mr. John Henderson, who appears as Sandy McFarlane, gives a vigorous and finished portrayal. Sandy's granddaughter is in love with a wealthy young ranchman, Curly Thompson, but Sandy withholds his consent to the match because he had promised that the girl should marry Dick, a son of an Indian Chief, and he hesitates to break a bond given to the Indian on his deathbed. Dick, a thoroughly bad lot, proves his treacherous nature and poisons Sandy. The old soldier, however, is aware of it, and shoots his murderer on sight before he himself is called for the last muster. He falls dead before his grandchild and the man she loves. They will be free to marry. It is a dramatic little play, well written, and enthusiastically received.

Mr. Charles A. Marshall has been appointed acting-manager at the Holborn Empire in the place of Mr. William Salmond.

At North London Police Court on Monday Albert Edward Disney, thirty-one, a painter, of George's-road, Holloway, was charged with having in his possession and trying to sell a dozen copies of pirated music. Mr. Charles Paul, a representative of the Musical Copyright Association, stated that the sale of pirated music had broken out again both in London and in the provinces. He saw the prisoner offering the copies for sale, and had reason to believe that he knew they were pirated. The prisoner, who said he suspected the copies, which he obtained from a man in the street, was fined 10s.

Mr. Reginald Leyland's London vaudeville concert party have for several weeks been delighting visitors to the Round Garden, Walton-on-the-Naze, with their refined musical entertainment, *Mirth and Music*. Thursday evening was fixed for the benefit of Mr. Leyland, when a café chantant, with a dance to follow, was the chief attraction on this occasion. Mr. H. A. Whitman, the popular pier-master, sang the duet from *Patience* "Hey, Willow Wally, O," with Miss Clarisse Hene, the soprano of the party.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

IT was thought that the Musical Copyright Act of 1906 would act as a complete deterrent to the schemes of the music pirate, but different magistrates take different views of their responsibilities under the statute, and in some cases inflict nominal penalties. These, unfortunately, do not frighten the nefarious traders, and we are therefore more indignant than surprised at hearing that fraudulent copies of Will Godwin's "If those lips could only speak," published by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, are in circulation. Publishers pointed out at the time of the passing of the Act that its methods of securing conviction were too costly and cumbersome, and that the penalties were neither sufficiently drastic nor summary to achieve the desired end. Too much tender consideration for the lawbreakers was shown in the enactment.

IF there were no buyers of this illicit merchandise there would be no sellers, and in view of the widespread publicity which the question of music piracy has now secured, it would be well if those members of the public who encourage this industry were treated in the same way as other purchasers of stolen goods. They would have no one but themselves to blame, and an iniquitous practice would receive a decided check, if it were not altogether destroyed.

AMONG Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter's most recent publications is "Cherries are blooming," by A. E. Sidney Davis and John Neat. This most charming and tuneful number, which was specially written for Miss Bessie Butt, is being featured by that vivacious and dainty little lady on the Stoll tour with such success that she is rewarded with three and four calls nightly. She is due at the Oxford shortly, and the chorus is certain to be heard in the London streets before long.

LONDON'S verdict, in stamping the popular George Lashwood's "In the twi-twi-twilight" as a hit of the first water, has been instantaneously and enthusiastically endorsed by the Provinces. Writing to the publishers—Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter—from that haunt of pleasure, the Isle of Man, the singer says:—"'In the twilight' has been simply an enormous success here; in fact, you can hear it everywhere morning, noon, and night." Pantomime producers, recognising an obvious fact, are already negotiating for the rights of this number for their forthcoming annuals.

IN these days of "six-night" engagements, and consequent frequent change of songs, quite a record has been established by Miss Kathleen Crogan, this dainty little artist having sung for nearly eighteen months continuously Edgar Bateman and Mr. Henry E. Pether's clever farmyard fancy, "My sweet bird of paradise," published by Francis, Day, and Hunter.

THE genial Bateman, now "bronzing" at Brighton, evidently numbers among his many accomplishments the art of manipulating meteorological conditions, having had almost continuously fine weather during his South Coast sojourn.

MESSRS. B. FELDMAN AND CO. have been fortunate in securing Wilkie Bard's latest and greatest success by Frank Leo, entitled "My Deutcher Girl." This number has a fine catchy chorus, besides being irresistibly funny.

MISS FLORRIE FORDE is scoring an unparalleled success with B. Feldman and Co.'s great chorus song, "My lassie from Lancashire." This song is already in great demand, and is selling largely. It is from the pens of Murphy, Lipton, and Neat.

STILL another success must B. Feldman and Co. add to their already long list of winners. This is a sweetly pretty Indian fable, entitled "Red wing," now the rage of America, and Messrs. Feldman and Co. prophesy that it will be the rage of England in the near future.

"LET me return to Dreamland," of which Mr. Arthur Aldridge is making a special feature at the Pavilion, is published by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., who are also the publishers of "Girls all love a soldier bold," of which Mr. George Lashwood is at present making a distinct feature.

THE Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co. have this week secured Mr. Harry Champion's latest winner, "My wife's sister's cat," for publication. This song looks like rivalling Mr. Champion's other two successes—"Out went the gas" and "Dan, Dan, Dan," which are also published by the same firm.

MISS LILY LENA, who has been playing a season in South Africa, has scored quite a phenomenal hit in Cape Town and "Jo-burg." The entire Press are united in her praise, and congratulate her on her excellent songs. Her biggest successes have been "Has anyone seen a German band?" and "Swing me higher, Obadiah." The Star Company have received large orders for copies from their South African agents. Miss Lena returns to England in a month's time.

MR. ARTHUR REECE has secured the prior right of a new song by Alsopp and Haines, entitled "They all had to get out in their nighties." This number the genial Arthur will produce immediately. Copies for pantomime may be had from the Star Company.

"CAROLINA BROWN OF CHINATOWN" is a bright "goey" number by A. J. Mills and Maurice Scott, which is being successfully sung by three charming young ladies—Miss Maudie Forde, Miss Minnie Mace, and that vivacious comedienne Miss May Henderson. The Star Company will issue copies immediately.

WHIT CUNLIFFE, the dashing and debonair, has for once made a departure from his usual style of dress. Instead of the smart brown frock-coat of the well-dressed man about town, he may be seen now in the character of a dandy yachtsman, what time he chortles a real rollicking, breezy song, by Mills and Scott, entitled "Oh! the steamer! Oh! the sea."

WHIT tells an amusing story. On a certain day he had perused no less than twelve songs of the "girl" order, and on the evening of this same day Bennett Scott presumed to beard him in his dressing-room at the London Pavilion. "Song? Yes! about a girl?" and at this moment the distracted comedian produced a revolver which he pointed at the composer. Fortunately the song was the one referred to above, and the evening papers were cheated of another tragedy. The Star Company have had record orders for copies of the song.

THE Monte Carlo Publishing Co. have just been recipients of the pleasing intelligence that two songs from their catalogue, published in special sixpenny edition form by Messrs. Allen and Sons, the noted Australasian publishers, viz., "Queen of Old Samara" and "Remember me to mother dear," have caught on "down under" like wildfire, particularly the first-mentioned number, which Miss Bijou Russell has done so much to make popular both in Melbourne and Sydney. So gratified are the Australian publishers at this success that they now have in the press six more of the Berners-street firm's publications, to wit: "Rosie is waiting," "Big ship sailing in the morning," "Joan, Joan," "Tiny Firefly," "When, when, when?" and "I'm going back to the Fatherland."

NEW HIPPODROME AT DARLINGTON

Provincial palaces of pleasure were augmented on Monday, when the new Hippodrome and Theatre of Varieties, Darlington, opened on the two houses a night principle, under the management of Signor Rino Pepi.

The main frontage of the building is in Parkgate, and extends 108ft. In the construction of the edifice Middlesbrough pressed red bricks have been used, with terra-cotta dressings, the groupings of the various blocks and the stonework being harmoniously blended. The main entrance is surrounded by a lofty tower, 63ft. high, and an ornamental iron and glass verandah extends along the main façade to provide shelter in bad weather for the public.

The interior is spacious, well ventilated, and artistically treated, the scheme of decoration being carried out in cream and gold, relieved with pale rose and turquoise blue. The auditorium, which will accommodate about 2,000, is 60ft. from the curtain line to the back wall, and has a width of only two feet less. The proscenium and box draperies are of crimson silk plush, with old gold appliqué trimmings, and the "tip-up" chairs in stalls and circle are upholstered in crimson. The gallery and circle are constructed on the cantilever principle, so that there is nothing to impede the view of the stage. The stage itself is a large one, and is capable of mounting any production travelling. The height to the "grid" is 46ft., enabling the scenery to fly up in one piece. The dressing-rooms immediately adjoin the stage, and are most conveniently arranged.

Fire appliances have been placed in convenient positions all over the building, and a safety curtain has been provided in the proscenium opening. Low pressure heating apparatus has been supplied throughout, and a full and complete installation of the electric light has been made. There are no less than eight exits, so that in case of need the building could be emptied in a very short space of time.

The contractors have worked under the direction of Mr. J. F. Ward, the well-known theatrical architect. The general decorations and upholstery have been executed by Messrs. Dean and Sons, of Birmingham, whose name is a guarantee of the perfection of the work.

When the drop curtain rose on Monday "God Save the King" was played by the orchestra, the audience all standing. On the stage were his Worship the Mayor of Darlington (Councillor Bates), Councillors Biggs and Young, Mr. James Swenden, J.P., Superintendent Davison, Signor Pepi, the managing-director, Mr. J. F. Ward, of Birmingham, the architect, and others.

The Mayor, in formally declaring the building open, said he thought everyone would agree that the building was a credit, not only to those who designed it, but to the town of Darlington. From what he knew of the directors, they, as business men, would see that everything put on the stage would be above suspicion. There need be no fear of a repetition of what occurred on the Continent a few days ago, when His Majesty the King had to leave a place of amusement because of the vulgarity of a portion of the entertainment. He had pleasure in introducing Signor Pepi, who would be responsible for the next few years for the conduct of that hall.

Signor Pepi said all the entertainments would be free from vulgarity. The time of vulgarity in music halls had vanished.

Mr. J. F. Ward (the architect), who paid a high tribute to the work of the builders, apologised for the absence of Mr. T. W. Plews, the chairman of the directors, who was suffering from a slight illness.

The "National Anthem" was again played, and a most enjoyable programme was gone through. Mlle. Lumiere gave a charming "fair grotto" act; Vandinoff painted three striking floral pictures in a few minutes; the Three Phydoras went through an extremely amusing musical novelty act; Mezetti and Mora are clever triple bar performers; Morny Cash sings good songs well, has some very funny "patter," and is an exceptionally fine clog-dancer; whilst Charlie Williams is very good with the big boots as "the Scotch nigger"; and the Pepiscope exhibits a good series of pictures. But the "star" turn was Marie Loftus, who is as versatile, amusing, and clever as ever. Her song of the country girl and the visit to London was excruciatingly funny; and her representations of "Singers Past and Present" literally brought down the house. When the first house was emptying there was a queue nearly 100 yards long waiting for admission to the second performance.

MELLOR, LAWRANCE AND GIFFORD'S sterling German song, "I'm going back to the Fatherland," which is not only the hit of Tiller's *Zuyder Zee* at Blackpool, but also of practically every pierrot troupe in the country, is nightly creating something like a furore at the Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue, where the Palace Girls nightly sing and dance this fascinating number for all it is worth. Mr. John Tiller has already "booked" this song, which, like every song offered by the Monte Carlo Co. this year, is "free" for pantomime on application to the publishers, for over half a dozen Christmas annuals he is producing, and many other managers, notably Mr. Fred Karno, are following suit.

HACKNEY EMPIRE OUTING.

The annual staff outing of the popular Hackney Empire took place last Sunday, when, favoured by weather which can only be described as ideal, over 70 members of the staff assembled on the platform at Liverpool Street Station, where reserved saloons awaited to convey them to that delightful health resort Clacton-on-Sea. Upon arrival at eleven, the members proceeded to the Palace by the sea, where at one a most substantial dinner was served, Mr. Percival, the genial manager, presiding. Toasts were drunk to the King and the Moss and Stoll Empires, Ltd., after which the company dispersed, each member selecting his own method of enjoyment, many visiting the torpedo-boats at anchor off the pier, while drives, boating, swimming, and pedestrian excursions occupied the attention of the rest. The company re-assembled at the Palace at five o'clock, where tea was served, and until 8.20, when a start homeward was made, the rest of the day gave many an opportunity of inspecting the attractions, lavishly provided by this well-known resort for visitors. Liverpool Street was reached at 10.30 p.m., and the company dispersed, each voting that this was without doubt the most enjoyable and well-managed outing since the theatre commenced its career six years ago. Mr. Percival and his indefatigable committee are heartily to be congratulated upon the result of their efforts, which provided not only a day of thorough enjoyment (not marred by a single untoward incident), but gave the means for a general re-union which, to a large staff like the Hackney Empire possesses, can only have the happiest results.

"A MUSICAL NIGHTMARE."

Mr. Charles Bailey, the erstwhile Salvation Army officer, most loyally assisted by Miss Minnie Thurgate, has commenced his artistic career at the Empire, Camberwell, in *A Musical Nightmare*. Dressed as a footman, and while playing snatches of popular airs on the pianoforte, he tells his audience that he is the nephew of the Earl of Asparagus, but while masquerading as a music master he had fallen in love and was beloved by his charming pupil. Knowledge of the mutual attachment had come to her father's ears. Being forbidden the house, he, to be near his sweetheart, had sacrificed his curls and his moustache, and obtained the position of footman in his fiancée's home without being recognised. His employer having gone out for the evening, and his fiancée retired for the night, he is sitting at the piano playing to let her know he is near.

Much to his intense surprise his lady love appears in charming night attire, walking in her sleep, and hearing the familiar air, commences her favourite song and dance, but awakens indignant when she finds herself seated on the footman's knee. The interview is interrupted by a telegram telling the lover that his uncle has died, and that he is now the Earl of Asparagus, and is in a position to claim the hand of his fiancée. Mr. Charles Bailey, as the lover, excels in his pianoforte selections. Miss Minnie Thurgate, as the fiancée, works hard for success, and is a bright, pretty, and clever dancer.

MISS CARLOTTA LEVEY has written the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. in most enthusiastic terms, recording the immediate and complete success she has achieved at the Empire, Bristol, this week, with Pelham and Rule's latest "winner," "I'm going to try my luck in London," which has been nightly cheered to the echo and chorussed all over the house at every performance. This song, which is already the vocal property of the "man in the street" throughout the length and breadth of Bristol, is a certain march-time success for pantomimes this year, and is specially suited to the needs of artists enacting the rôle of Dick Whittington. Miss Carlotta Levey brings this, her latest song-success, to Collins's on Monday next.

YET another potential winner from the pens of those gifted authors and composers, Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, entitled "A parasol for two," is now in the press, and will shortly be issued by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co., which busy firm is also by way of publishing Mr. Fred Godfrey's clever song, "Gibraltar," which should have a very big vogue on the "halls" during the autumn and in all the principal annuals at Christmas time.

THE Monte Carlo Publishing Co. are hourly finding new spheres for their activities, for, in the French version of *The Belle of New York*, just produced at the Olympia, Paris, Ballard Macdonald and Donovan Meher's "catchy" number, "Will he answer 'Goo-goo'?" has been specially featured, while the chief revue-producer of the Gay City has expressed himself so enamoured of the Monte Carlo Co.'s catalogue in general that he will introduce at least half a dozen "plums" therefrom into all the revues he is producing in Paris in the near future, notable selections being "Fatherland," "Carolina," and "She didn't come from Borneo."

MESSRS. STAFFORD & Co. have just issued a six-sheet poster in full colours of Ghita Corri. It is a triumph of the photochrome art.

CAMBERWELL EMPIRE ANNIVERSARY.

Success brilliant and well-merited has rewarded Messrs. Jesse Sparrow and Harry Bawn's spirited and able management of Camberwell's new Empire Palace of Varieties, and it was to celebrate the first anniversary that on Tuesday evening Camberwell amusement-seekers packed every available space in the cosy theatre on Denmark Hill.

The Terriers Association also determined not to let the opportunity pass of honouring their President, Mr Jesse Sparrow, and a substantial proof of the high esteem in which he is held by his brother bow-wows resulted in No. 19 on the programme becoming the "star" turn of the evening. On the curtain rising the stage was seen to be crowded with Terriers and music-hall celebrities, with Mr. Jesse Sparrow in their midst. In a few well-chosen words Mr. Sparrow thanked Camberwell for their generous support, and said that at the Empire during the past twelve months they had established a record for new productions, and their patrons would find in the future that many more provincial artists would make their first London appearance on the Empire stage.

MR. G. P. R. BURGESS (solicitor to the Terriers and kindred associations) then stepped forward, and said:—"Mr. Sparrow, Ladies, and Gentlemen—The Association of which I am proud to be a member have taken this opportunity of presenting our President, Mr. Jesse Sparrow, with a testimonial of the respect and esteem he has won while holding the office of President for the past two years. Your attendance here to-night in such unprecedented numbers is the guinea stamp on his abilities and efficiency as a music-hall manager. Mr. Sparrow, we, your brother 'Terriers,' beg acceptance of this framed testimonial and a purse of gold."

MR. SPARROW, who was visibly affected, in returning thanks for the handsome gifts, said:—"I little thought when I joined the Terriers Association five or six years ago that I should fill the honoured and proud position of President for two years running. Since being one of you I have met with nothing but kindness and goodfellowship. I thank you all heartily and sincerely." Musical and vocal honours followed, which took the form of the joyfully-sung Terriers' Ode.

The handsomely-framed, illuminated address presented reads as follows:—

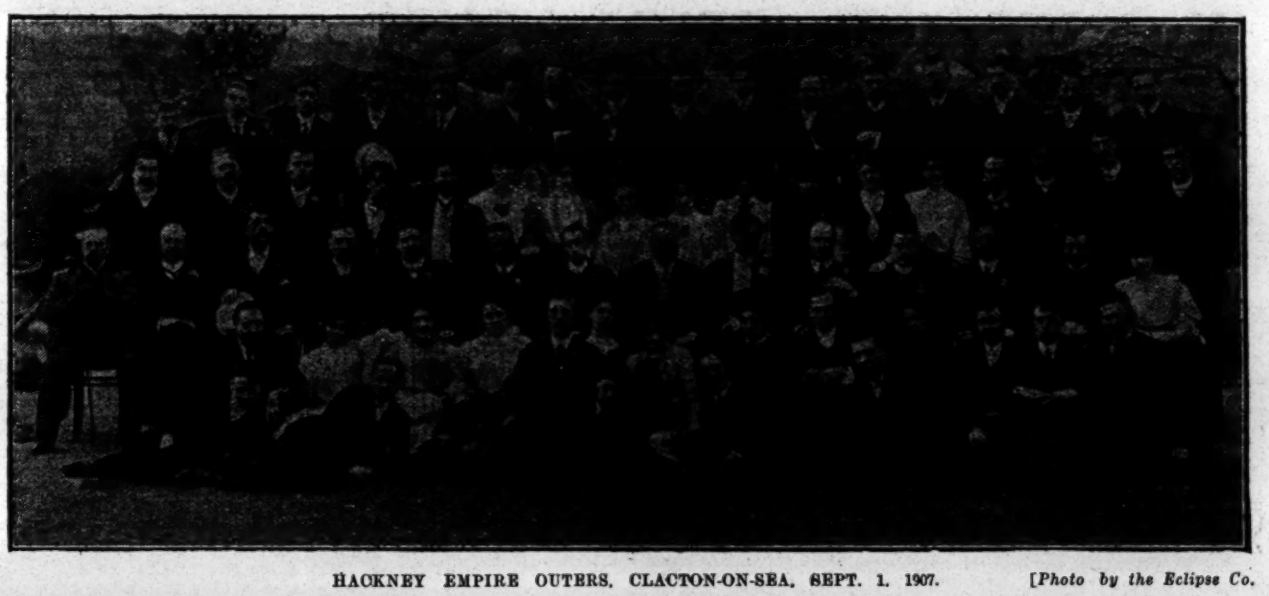
The Terriers Association to Jesse Sparrow.

We, the undersigned members of the association, desire on this the first anniversary of your successful management of The Empire, Camberwell, to place on record our sincere appreciation of the services rendered by you as our President.

We are deeply sensible of the many occasions on which you have presided, with courtesy and tact, over our functions, and we recognise the unfailing interest you have always shown in our concerns, and beg your acceptance of this address, together with the accompanying purse of gold. The energy you have displayed for our welfare has always been pronounced, and our earnest wishes are that you may think of your term of office in the past with satisfaction and pleasure in the future, and that your relations with the members of this Association will be those of lasting good-fellowship. (Signed) HARRY LESTER,
September 3rd, 1907. Secretary.

[Here follow the names of the Terriers.]

As was to be expected, the entertainment was of the best, and for this occasion Mr. Fred Neiman assumed the rôle of stage mnaager, and with the valuable assistance of the Empire's stage manager, Mr. W. Nutt, they placed during the two houses no less than 41 turns. Among these were Wilkie Bard, Tom Costello, Sam Mayo, Charles Bignell, Fred Earle, Georgina Leno (who received a floral tribute from the hands of Victoria Monks), Tots Davis, Wills and Mackenzie, Cecilia Maud (the lady singing conductor), Ruby Dahls and her merry mannikins, the Greys, Happy Attwood, Gladys Anderson, Gladys and Alber, Clorinda, Thurtelle, The Tennessee Guards, Tatten Hall, Corelli, May Clifton and company in a pretty Japanese scena, Charles Bailey and Minnie Thurgate in *A Musical Nightmare*, and Lillian Violet.



HACKNEY EMPIRE OUTERS, CLACTON-ON-SEA, SEPT. 1, 1907. [*Photo by the Eclipse Co.*

Reading from left to right the names are:—*Back Row.*—1, Mr. Rouse; 2, Mr. Kitchen; 3, Mr. Barnard; 4, Mr. Preston; 5, Mr. Moore; 6, Mr. C. Barnard; 7, Mr. Tamlin; 8, Mr. Jones; 9, Mr. Done; 10, Mr. Maynard; 11, Mr. W. Hughes; 12, Mr. Kilrow; 13, Mr. Evans; 14, Mr. Thompson; 15, Mr. Mason; 16, Mr. Houghton. *Second Row.*—17, Mr. Billinghurst; 18, Mr. Connor; 19, Mr. Plackett; 20, Mrs. Julier, jun.; 21, Mr. Ivney; 22, Miss Saker; 23, Miss Alma; 24, Mrs. Etherington; 25, Mrs. Martin; 26, Miss E. Martin; 27, Mrs. Evans; 28, Miss Cross; 29, Mrs. Rohrs; 30, Mr. Mosely; 31, Mr. Sparrow; 32, Mr. Dowsett; 33, Mr. Martin. *Third Row.*—34, Mr. Julier, sen.; 35, Mr. Brent; 36, Mr. Wiltshire; 37, Mr. Katterns; 38, Mr. Esau (Committee); 39, Mr. Redman (Committee); 40, Mr. D. E. Charles (Treasurer); 41, Mr. Percy Percival (President); 42, Mr. Johnson (Secretary); 43, Mr. Quick (Committee); 44, Mr. Harris (Committee); 45, Mr. Watchorn (Committee); 46, Mr. Clements; 47, Mrs. Clements. *Fourth Row.*—48, Mr. Craker; 49, Miss Leonard; 50, Mrs. Digby; 51, Mrs. Jenkins; 52, Mr. Julier, jun.; 53, Miss Lane; 54, Mrs. Barnard; 55, Miss Lyons; 56, Mr. Rohrs; 57, Mrs. Harris; 58, Mr. Gunning; 59, Mr. H. Dowsett; 60, Mr. Brooks. *Front Row.*—61, Mr. Chambers; 62, Mr. Mole; 63, Mr. Hindley; 64, Mr. Schonenhal; 65, Mr. Cheesman.

MANCHESTER PROTEST MEETING.

Artists appearing this week at the variety halls in Manchester, as well as trade unionists from Manchester and district were present in large numbers at the Palace Theatre on Sunday night, when a meeting organised by the Variety Artists' Federation, in conjunction with the General Federation of Trade Unions, was held for the purpose of protesting against the action of the managers of the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Manchester, in, so it was alleged, seeking to evade the terms of the Award of Mr. George Ranken Askwith. The chief point of grievance affected the payment for extra matinées. Mr. Fred Herbert, of the V.A.F. Executive, presided, and among those present were Mr. J. T. Macpherson, M.P., Mr. James Holmes (representing the General Federation of Trade Unions), Mr. Monte Bayly (general secretary of the V.A.F.), Mr. Phil Herman, Councillor Martin, Mr. H. Bedford, Mr. Dean Tribune, Mr. E. Ward, Mr. C. V. Bern, and Mr. H. Anthony.

The CHAIRMAN announced that after a consultation with representatives of the V.A.F. and the solicitor for the London Entertainments Protection Association, the manager of the Tivoli, Manchester, Mr. Wilkes, had agreed to give way on all points. The result of the conference was stated in a letter from Mr. Askwith, which he read, and which ran as follows:—

Board of Trade, Whitehall Gardens, S.W.

DEAR SIR,—I have this day seen Mr. Philip Rutland, solicitor to the Entertainments Protection Association, Mr. Wilkes, and two other directors of the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Manchester, with reference to the alleged breaches of my Award of June 14, 1907.

I have upon the the proposed contracts altered with their consent the words relating to matinées, so that it may appear upon the contract that the matinées are paid for separately, and also the words of the Barring Clause. These are the two important matters in these contracts, and I understand that as soon as practicable the Board of the Tivoli Theatre will effect any such minor alterations as may be now requisite with a view to making their contracts in conformity with the model contract.—I am, sir, yours very faithfully,
(Signed) G. R. ASKWITH.

Monte Bayly, Esq.,
General Secretary, V.A.F.

When the Award was given by Mr. Askwith in June the majority of the large and representative syndicates agreed to fall into line with it, but there were still many of the smaller proprietors who were not disposed to agree with the terms arranged, and it was incumbent on members of the Federation to do something to make these people come into line. If this were not done the larger managers would be quite justified in complaining and repudiating the terms of the Award. In reference to the settlement that had been effected, the Chairman said if they were able, simply by the mere threat of holding a meeting, to bring a manager into line with them, it was an evidence of the value of such an organisation as their own. At the same time they wished to do everything possible to avoid anything in the nature of a strike. Strikes must be their last resource, and before this occurred they must exhaust every possible method to secure a satisfactory settlement. The only way to maintain peace was to be prepared for war. Any strikes that occurred in the future would, he was sure, be brought about by the action of the managers, and not by the action of the artists. In conclusion, the Chairman emphasised the point that the V.A.F. was now properly registered as a trade union, and affiliated to the Trade Union Congress and the General Federation of Trade Unions.

Mr. PHIL HERMAN moved the following resolution:—

"That this mass meeting of the variety artists at present in Manchester, backed up by the inhabitants of this important city, hereby enters a protest against the act of any manager persistently violating the Award given in the late music hall dispute; and we hereby call on the general public to assist us in securing the same conditions of employment at these establishments as are now recognised in all the important variety halls throughout the kingdom."

Mr. Herman said he had, personally, been always dead against strikes, though he recognised their utility. It was not fair to allow any of the minor managers to take advantage of the Award, and it was the duty of members of the V.A.F. to protect those managers who agreed to the terms laid down by Mr Asquith.

Mr. E. A. WARD, in seconding, said the settlement that had been arrived at was such as he believed the V.A.F. was formed to secure.

Mr. MONTE BAYLY, general secretary of the V.A.F., in supporting the resolution, expressed thanks to the trade unionists of Manchester and district for the support given in the present movement, and their moral support in obtaining this victory. The Award given by Mr. Askwith constituted the Charter of the variety artists—(applause)—and the keynote of that Charter was payment for matinées, or, in trade union language, payment for overtime.

Mr. JAMES HOLMES, delegate from the Federation of Trade Unions, said the V.A.F. had the support of some 600,000 trade unionists he represented. Rightly the variety artists were seeking to secure that reason should be used, justice should be done, and honour should bind the two. (Applause). The artists preferred persuasive to compulsory methods, and if there was a proper co-operation between managers and artists he was sure the result would be seen in big audiences and successful results all round.

Mr. J. T. MACPHERSON, M.P., said the trade union movement was not a movement initiated primarily for fighting, and creating discord and distrust, but an angel of peace in the industrial battle-ground. Trade unionism was born in adversity, oppression, tyranny, and misery, and was baptised in blood. It was good for them to remember this at the present day when it was respectable to be a trade unionist. It was not always so. Trade unionists warmly welcomed the variety artists into their ranks. The voice of Labour must be heard on the floor of the House of Commons, and he looked forward to the time when the battle—the Waterloo—between Capital and Labour would be fought out there, entirely and absolutely.

The resolution having been adopted with unanimity, a vote of thanks to the speakers was accorded on the motion of Mr. H. ANTHONY, seconded by Mr. H. BEDFORD.

In proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, Mr. J. HOLMES said the variety artists now had at their backs, in the General Federation of Trade Unions, the strongest organisation in Britain.

The CHAIRMAN read a number of telegrams expressing wishes for the success of the meeting, and urging members to keep the Federation going, to abide by the Award, and to compel others to do so.

THE fame of Mr. Harry Marlow's strikingly original coon number, "Bayou," recording the love of a ferryman for a beauteous maid of South America, has spread apace, so much so that the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. have been simply inundated with requests for permission to sing this, the latest of their autumn novelties. At present, however, the publishers are exercising a wise discretion, th coutcome of experience, and instead of allowing this charming song to be sung by all and sundry, only a very limited number of permissions to sing will be allotted prior to the advent of pantomime, for which, although professional copies are only just ready, "Bayou" has already been extensively booked by wide-awake entrepreneurs.

A "SISTER'S HONOUR."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With reference to a letter from Miss Kitty Lofting in your last issue *re* the authorship of above sketch, now being played by Mr. Norman G. Acton's company, to avoid misunderstanding, I should be obliged if you would kindly find space for me to state that the latter part of the sketch, including the discovery of Jim Ratcliffe by Tom Rivers and the consequent climax, was written not by Miss Lofting, but by—Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR O'KEENE.

Streatham, Sept. 3rd.

MISS VESTA VICTORIA, who will soon be saying au revoir to England, and returning to the scenes of her recent triumphs, the U.S.A., will exploit a new budget of songs, specially written for her by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott. These numbers will be published simultaneously by the Star Music Company in England, and by Francis, Day, and Hunter in America.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE ALHAMBRA.

The Urbanora films have often delighted and occasionally thrilled us; but we think the present series, entitled Wild Birds at Home, has developed possibilities in the way of photography hitherto undreamt of. The pictures have been taken by Messrs. Richard and Cherry Kearton, the naturalist photographers, who for many years have devoted themselves to the study of bird life on lonely cliff, steep crag, wild moor, or green uplands. They must have resorted to many stratagems to obtain such a magnificent set of life pictures as are now being shown at the Alhambra. We are first shown ocean-bound rocks and promontories covered, in one instance with guillemots, in another with gannets, and still another literally alive with the forms of that unconsciously humorous aquatic bird, the puffin. We next view a cormorant's nest with the parent birds fighting in defence of their young; and two delightful pictures are a pair of sedge-warblers looking after their young and a pair of whitethroats engaged in the same interesting domestic duty. A pair of wrynecks are exhibited close to their home in a tree; and a picture—perhaps more wonderful than the rest—is the sparrowhawk feeding its young. This beautiful bird of prey literally tears portions of flesh from a small bird and distributes it among its fluffy-looking and hungry family. The educational value of such pictures should be incalculable; and animated photographs will surely become a valuable aid to instruction in natural history.

A first appearance at the Alhambra is being made by Mr. Henry Helme, who has a fine baritone voice, which he displays to advantage in a most agreeable melody. His second essay is an entente cordiale number, a verse of which is given in English. This excites loud applause, and the singer, who wears the picturesque costume of the Basque peasantry, has to appear before the drop curtain. Mr. Richard List introduces a number of amiable bears, among the animals being a very fine one of the Polar variety. He very nicely adjusts the balance of a see-saw, at each end of which is seated a smaller black bruin. Mr. List's pets are quite bons vivants, as may be discovered when they take deep draughts from bottles. The animals are evidently fond of their trainer, and perform with alacrity any trick asked of them, one of them being quite a graceful tumbler.

Mr. Harry Allister, another newcomer, is responsible for a number of impersonations of past and present European celebrities. King Edward, President Fallières, Beaconsfield, and Gladstone are among the most successful realisations, and generous applause is bestowed on the more striking portraits. We have few comedy bar acts; and for one of the best we have to thank the Brothers Artois, who have a delightfully easy way of extracting laughter and at the same time winning applause. M. Rudinoff is no stranger to London, and his pictures in smoke betray rare artistic faculties and no little humour. The beautiful effects of *Electra* still excite wonder nightly; and Signorina Bordin wins admiration for her fine dancing in *The Queen of Spades*, a most attractive ballet.

ballet. Mr. Franco Piper juggles with a number of banjos, on which instrument he is *facile princeps*. On a half a dozen instruments spinning round he also keeps a tune going. Such trick playing cannot be imitated easily.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

On Monday evening a long and varied programme of great excellence was submitted to the patrons of this handsome hall, and was enthusiastically received. Miss Kate Carney made a very welcome reappearance, and sang her well-written songs in her own taking manner. After being warmly applauded in "I'm coming back, love" and "You don't want me," she concluded with the ever-popular *Liza Johnson* scena, in which she was ably assisted by a large number of auxiliaries, who worked with such goodwill and success as to ensure many recalls. Mr. Frank Couch, patter comedian, was well received; Miss Addie Dorina gave some excellent impersonations, which were warmly recognised for their fidelity and smartness. Dutch Daly, with his concertina, was greeted as an old friend, his quaint patter being duly laughed at and his really remarkable concertina-playing being rewarded with unstinted applause. Max Gruber and Miss Adelina's elephant and horse and pony performances reflect equal credit on creature and trainer. The animals rank among the most wonderful of their kind.

The Brothers Narow give a smart exhibition of their skill as comedy cyclists, and were very popular; Mr. Charles Robinson, who is the fortunate possessor of a good baritone voice, sang well, and was warmly applauded. Miss Lil Hawthorne was enthusiastically greeted in her latest songs, "Mary is a grand old name," "Bye-bye, my sailor boy," and "My castle in Spain." This clever artist looked very attractive in her handsome and costly dresses. Terry and Lambert appeared with great credit to themselves, and much pleasure to the audience in some clever character impersonations, including The Lady and the Cabby, A Lancashire Lass and Lad, English Lord and American Heiress, and Bowery Boy and Girl. This was a very clever and enjoyable turn. The American Bioscope is always an interesting feature of the programme here. On the night of our visit the subject was A Case of Arson; or, the Woodcutters, illustrated by very fine and clear pictures. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Louis La Rondelle, played a selection from *Carmen* in capital style, and the comfort of visitors was well looked after by the popular manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen.

THE SURREY.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten and his efficient and courteous lieutenant, Mr. Charles Craig, are to be congratulated on having gauged so accurately the tastes of the audiences that "twice nightly" pack every part of this popular South-side house. The programme last week was full of variety, and included the strong and absorbing dramatic episode by Sydney Mason, entitled *The Crimson Blind*, which tells the story of a man's downfall through a woman's wiles. As the half demented Robert Bruce, Mr. Mason attains to a high standard of dramatic power, and gives a performance that is marked by vigour and intensity. As the bad but bewitching decoy, Pauline Du Voy, Miss Theresa Moore does not spare herself, and in the final struggle for her life with the maniac, her dramatic and physical powers are taxed to the utmost. Mr. Syd Leslie as the roué Stanley Ganger, and Mr. H. E. Scott as the Detective are decidedly good, while the other parts are well sustained by Mr. George Bendon as the Jew, and Mr. Basil Reynolds as Richard Danvers. The pretty seaside scena presented by Gipsy Woolf and her Six Sunbeams, entitled *The Mermaid of Margate* is greatly enjoyed. Miss Woolf assumes the title-rôle in a manner that is throughout fascinating. The action of the pretty scena is interspersed by some charming songs and dances admirably rendered by Gipsy Woolf and her confrères. Tuneful and dainty are her songs, "The sea shell" and "The pier parade," in which she receives loyal assistance both in song and dance from her six merry Sunbeams. The whole production is beautifully staged and dressed. Much fun and laughter is provoked by Mr. Arnold Richardson and Flockton Foster's sketch company in the absurdity *Ferdie's "Ma-in-law."*

Mr. Harry Champion creates screams of merriment with his new songs, "My wife's pussy cat" and "Out went the gas," which had to be supplemented by his old favourite, "What a mouth," and even then the delighted audience were loth to part with the popular comedian. Clever, skilful, and daring are the five pretty Sisters Warwick in their trick cycling entertainment, and their unique performance well merits the warm applause bestowed on their efforts. Edwards and Dacre keep the house in a roar of laughter in their amusing duologue, *What a Life*, their quick changes, no less than their humour, winning them a series of enthusiastic recalls. Others who contribute to the evening's enjoyment are Jessie Star, a Scotch lassie; Odeyne Spark, a chic and gifted young comedienne; King Leo and his vivacious doll Jerry in their ventriloquial entertainment; the Ralston Boys in their Coster duets; and Raymond's animated pictures. Mr. Rattray and his orchestra do yeoman service in making the Surrey entertainment bright and sparkling.

THE EMPRESS.

A most interesting programme is being presented here this week, and standing room is at a premium. Little Tich, who is at the top of the bill, is undoubtedly the great attraction, and it is quite easy to see, by the torrent of applause that breaks out when his number is signalled, that he is a great favourite with Brixtonites. His first incentive to mirth is provided in the song, "He's only just found it out," and the patter which he introduces fairly convulses the house. For his second effusion the little comedian sings a ditty about taking his wife to a bargain sale, and in response to undeniable demands for an encore obliges with "Little Miss Turpentine." Miss Clarice Mayne, the clever mimic, is one of the successes of the evening, the way in which she portrays each different artist, including Connie Ediss, Vesta Tilley, Victoria Monks, and Camille Clifford, showing that she has made a very close study of her subjects. Her pianist also lends her great assistance, proving himself to be a very funny fellow.

Miss Constance Mori sings and dances in delightful manner, and completely succeeds in winning the favour of the house. Manson and West are exploiting a funny little sketch, entitled *Telling the Tale*, which goes with a swing from start to finish. A husband who returns home late at night, after dining not wisely but too well, is taken to task by his wife, who demands an explanation. The delinquent proceeds in a humorous manner to relate his experiences, but is not quite successful in disarming suspicion. On his promising to give up his bad habits, however, the wife agrees to overlook the past, and everything ends felicitously.

Miss Billie Barlow, the popular comedienne, is scoring heavily in a number entitled "Nursey." Dressed as a Red Cross sister, she introduces some very clever patter, and makes fun of several individual members of the audience, to the great amusement of all. Dan Crawley, a real Brixton favourite, is well to the fore with a couple of capital numbers, that entitled "Next Sunday morning" proving most acceptable. The Brothers Adderley, in their comedietta, *An Officer's Servant*, provide a clever and interesting turn; Duncan and Godfrey, in their new domestic episode, *Me and 'Er and the Baby*, meet with their usual flattering reception; Miss Daisy Stratton, a dainty comedienne, sings and dances in an acceptable manner; and Mr. Harry Bastow sings a couple of amusing songs. The Five Merry Maids have a very taking Dutch song, which is accompanied by some smart sabot dancing; Nellie Laurence is the possessor of a unique voice, and her dancing is original; Eddie Comet, described on the programme as a soothsayer, is well named, his turn being much appreciated. Fred Eustace and Co. are presenting their sketch, entitled *La Belle Parisienne*, which is meeting with its accustomed success, and a most enjoyable evening ends with some amusing pictures on the Bioscope. Mr. Nelson Francis and his able lieutenant, Mr. Francis Winchcombe, discharge their duties in a manner that calls for much praise.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

Last week's bill at this popular hall was as diversified as could well be imagined. Mariedl, the Tyrolean Giantess, tops the bill, and the sight of her huge proportions fills the house with wonder and amusement. Will H. Fox, eschewing the make-up with which he originated his business, and appearing now in a smart and effective attire, displays his ability at the piano, and tells anecdotes with all his old success. Lizzie Fletcher, in a ballad, does very well, and gains a cordial reception. Lily Langtry, as lively as ever, rattles through two songs, "My birthday" and "On the ocean," and finishes with a smart dance, her turn gaining much applause. Sid Cotterell and company, in a comedy sketch, *The Substitute*, make a hit. The plot, quite irresponsible in nature, turns on the impersonation of a husband by a servant in bed during the evening, to disguise the fact that his master has gone out for the night. The consequences are ludicrous, of course, and Mr. Cotterell, who works hard, and the lady and gentleman who support him, make a good impression. The Andos Troupe of happy little Japs, an acrobatic combination, present a most excellent show. Their feats, which are most daring, are most smartly performed, particular mention being called for in the case of the younger members of the troupe. The act is greeted with loud applause. A very clever juggling performance is presented by Selma Braatz, a most accomplished young lady. Her juggling with tennis balls, billiard balls, cues, tall hats, umbrellas, &c., is quite remarkable, and the whole show, in which another lady shared, fully deserved the applause with which it was greeted, three curtains being insisted upon. Arthur Lennard is also in the bill, and gives three songs, "When the summer breezes blow," "What he called her then," and "A story about a cigar"; all three seemed to hit the taste of the audience, and his reception was very cordial. The star turn of the week is the appearance of Messrs. Jackson and McLaren, the champion tree-fellers of the world. Their exhibition of skill and strength is certainly phenomenal, the speed with which they can manipulate the double saw being something to witness. The two men had a contest in wood-cutting, both logs being severed within a second of each other. Needless to say, the show was watched with the greatest interest, and additional attraction will be lent to the turn by a contest which has been arranged on Friday with two Epping woodmen, the contest being under the patronage of many prominent gentlemen in the neighbourhood. The American Bioscope is very interesting this week, depicting incidents in the Dieppe Motor Race. Mr. Walter Johnston's orchestra is again excellent. Business continues very good here.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

A capital programme was placed before the patrons of the Islington Empire last week, and was admirably supported by a large audience at each performance. First and foremost on the bill were Mr. Lew Lake and his company of comedians in the ever-popular sketch, *My Pal Jerry*. In this piece comedy and pathos are mixed in a manner which is always appreciated. The laughter-provoking element is well to the fore in the earlier portion of the playlet, and right well do the members of this clever troupe acquit themselves. The two characters, Jerry and Nobbler, are played in a manner which calls forth hearty screams of merriment at every turn. In the latter portions of the sketch, when pathos takes the place of humour, the parts of Jerry and Nobbler are enacted with sincerity and feeling, and the contrast is very noticeable. This clever little comedy drama is received with much appreciation, and if tears and hearty laughter are a sign of success, this piece has certainly attained that end.

Mr. Harry Conlin sang in capital style "It belongs to someone else, not me," and found favour with his second contribution, "I'm not going to play any longer." Much praise is due to Little Cliff, who sings and dances in a manner entirely his own. In his song he gave full evidence of how various people would sit on a tin tack, and was most amusing. His dancing was neatly executed without the very useful assistance of the orchestra. Herbert La Martine, another clever dancer, rendered admirable service during the evening, and was much appreciated. It has been proved over and over again that cleverness is not solely confined to human beings, but is sometimes shared by animals and displayed in their intelligence. This is testified in the performance of Professor Duncan's collies. Their ability is truly marvellous, and reflects much credit upon their trainer, who has attained for his animals a state of efficiency in their work which is seldom equalled, and is certainly never surpassed. Mr. Bert Williams does much to enliven the proceedings of the evening with his ventriloquial performance. By his efforts his figures cause considerable amusement, the dialogue is entertaining, and his turn meets with due appreciation. Bonnie Goodwin and her clever little darkies are a decided acquisition to the programme. The youngsters neatly and cleverly execute several difficult dances, and are again and again called to the front to either repeat their success or bow their acknowledgment. Some interesting pictures are shown by the Imperial Bioscope, chief amongst them being The Magic Ring and The Stolen Pig.

THE GRAND, CLAPHAM.

A most attractive programme was arranged here last week, and was received with every expression of satisfaction. The honour of starting the evening's entertainment was allotted to Bliss and Bliss, a couple of capable comedians, who soon succeed in putting the house on the best of terms with them. Their "crosstalk" and patter are up-to-date and funny, and roars of laughter greet their many little jokelets, the purveyor of comedy especially being the possessor of very keen humour. They bring their turn to a conclusion with some neat dancing, and have many times to bow their acknowledgments. John Lawson, supported by a most able company, is again presenting here his well-known sketch, entitled *Sally in our Alley*, which is most lavishly mounted. It is going as well as ever, and is repeating its former successes. John Lawson, as the reformer, is the recipient of much applause. The twin sisters Anderson prove themselves a couple of capable exponents of the art of Terpsichore. Their skipping dance is both clever and original, and they are many times recalled. A prominent feature of the programme is the bioscope which we are pleased to see is definitely removed from the unfortunate position of "last turn." A most clever, interesting, and amusing series is being shown, that entitled *The Grafter*, an American picture, convulses the house with laughter. Another number which stands out prominently is that of the Gotham Comedy Quartet, whose efforts to amuse are most successful. They are all the lucky possessors of very fine voices, and from the moment of their entry to their departure fairly succeed in holding the house. Whilst they are in possession of the stage the fun waxes fast and furious, their many comicalities being greatly to the liking of the audience. A more interesting, yet refined entertainment, could not be wished for, and on concluding they are the recipients of terrific applause. A novel item is that of "Pilu," the thinking dog. It shows what wonderful sagacity these animals possess, and what a length of time must have been spent on the training of the one exhibited. Will Johnson, a comedian, has a very funny number, entitled "I did enjoy myself last night," and the hearty laughter it caused showed that the house enjoyed the ditty also. His manner of rendering it was excellent, and on concluding he had to listen to loud and prolonged applause. Demands were made for an encore, but unfortunately the length of the bill rendered this absolutely impossible. The Resuas Trio prove themselves a most versatile trio. One of the lady members is a wonderful wire-walker, and her many tricks are neatly executed. The male member also does many clever things, and on concluding the house rewards him in the most liberal manner. Sylvia Cavalho and company are here with their dramatic episode entitled *Lulu*, which is achieving the success it deserves. The orchestra plays admirably, and by their attention to the incidental music considerably enhances the evening's enjoyment. Mr. Harry Ketteman, the popular manager, is "au fait" at his duties in the front of the house.

ROYAL ALBERT.

An important item in the liberal programme provided at Mr. Arthur G. H. Hunt's popular establishment, and one that proves greatly to the liking of Canning Town amusement-seekers, is the production of a melodramatic sketch by Mr. Howell Webb and company, entitled *The Convent Bell*. The cast is not published on the bill, and the hard-working artists are deprived of individual mention, which is to be regretted, as all work loyally, and fully deserve detailed notice. The story of *The Convent Bell* is thrilling in itself, and is cleverly unfolded in three scenes, in the first of which an old Colonel is done to death by the unscrupulous villain, and many exciting scenes follow. The part of the bold, bad man is admirably played by (presumably) Mr. Howell Webb himself, and the actor gives a very fine study of cold, calculating villainy. The piece is handsomely mounted, and the ingenious device by which the convent bell is made use of as a post-office in which the distracted heroine places a message unmasking the villain and compassing his exposure, is worked up with telling effect.

In the "variety" department proper the programme is such as to ensure popular favour. Mi Narom is a comedienne with plenty of talent at her command; the Danbys, in the now familiar persons of "Weary Willie" and "Tired Tim"—an excellent make-up in both cases—sing with an amusing assumption of laziness and dance marvellously well, their turn being one of the most loudly applauded of the evening. Miss Ruby Parsonage, a clever comedienne, is well received; Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard are highly amusing in a comedy sketch, *Coming Home*, and the acting of the pair is rewarded with the loud laughter it richly deserves. Mr. Charles Denton's comicalities are thoroughly enjoyed; and Duavolo and Miss Luna certainly deserve their description as marvellous contortionists.

Mr. Gus Hindell is a great favourite in his scena, *Boys will be Boys*, and his contribution is one of the most successful of the evening. Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope enlivens the house with some admirably devised films capitally displayed, and this extremely popular form of present-day amusement is likely to hold its own while Walter Payne continues to put such good pictures before the public. The orchestra is under the spirited lead of Mr. J. Stark.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

If proof were needed of the continued, not to say ever-increasing, popularity of the house so admirably managed by Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, one had only to look in at any performance during the week, and he will find his answer. Crowded and enthusiastic audiences assemble nightly to enjoy the capital programme provided, and so varied and attractive is the fare presented that he would be a strange amusement-seeker who went away without having found something to suit his particular taste. But even in the best of general programmes there is usually one attraction standing out with exceptional prominence, and this week here that enviable position is certainly occupied by Mr. Phil Ray. The "abbreviating comedian," who, however, does not make quite such a feature of his "abbrevs." as on former occasions, is irresistibly comic and thoroughly artistic in all he contributes to the hilarity of his hearers. His song about what happened at ten-past-ten is received with a roar, and his subsequent efforts in no way fall short.

Miss Flo Challis is a charming comedienne who is satisfied with "impressions" of various styles of acting and singing, covering such a diversity of art as that from an Italian *bravura* singer down to the "coon," graduating through Svengali and a French tragedienne. She is exceedingly clever in all. Immediately following the imitation coon we have the recognised article in the person of Mr. Thos. E. Finglas, who sings, "I'm the black sheep of the family" in fine style, and dances with exceptional lightness and not a little grace. Maxey and Pete are a couple of comedy cyclists who do wonders with their wheeled machines to the manifest delight of the spectators. One of the neatest of the great army of jugglers seen here lately is Mr. Paul Vandy, who, in easy manner, carries off the most difficult feat. Mr. Vandy succeeds in making his audience laugh almost as frequently as he forces them to applaud. A very pretty turn is that of Miss Isabella Dillon, who sings charmingly "I'll be your gollywog" and a very pretty song with graceful dance, "Pansy." In both of these Miss Dillon is assisted by a clever little girl, whose dancing is very neat. Mr. Harry Claff and Miss Molly Maguire appear with great success in *The Demon and the Fairy*, an amusing burlesque of the demon of pantomime and the good fairy. Many of the lines are very smart, and the whole is written and acted in the true spirit of travesty. Mr. Claff made himself popular in Walthamstow a few years ago in another line of entertainment, and his fine baritone voice has lost nothing of its power in the interim. Miss Maguire is a dainty fairy, and her singing is quite brilliant, particularly her song of "The fairy wand." The chief lady attraction of the programme is undoubtedly Miss Annie Purcell, a refined and delightful comedienne, who, if we mistake not, makes her first bow to local audiences on this occasion. In her pretty costume, and carrying her milk-pails as to the manner born, Miss Purcell impersonates a Welsh dairymaid and warbles "On the Isle of Angelsey" in such a manner as to make everyone wish to fly to North Wales and imbibe milk. The singer is no less successful with her pretty rendering of "In the valleys of Switzerland," achieving an unusual geographical combination. The applause that finally rewarded the lady should make her not unwilling to renew her acquaintance with her new public, who will be delighted to see her again. The sketch of the week is that interesting protean entertainment, *Dan, the Outlaw*, in which Mr. Herbert Shelley sustains all the characters, with the exception of one—which is ably portrayed by a young lady—himself. As a quick-change artist Mr. Shelley would take some beating, and his Wolf Mooroo, Dominie Corrigan, Bob Barnstable, The Banshee, and Dan Shannon are all equally good, and prove him to be an actor of power and versatility. There is some agreeable music by Stephen R. Philpot. The costumes by Harrison and Clarkson are highly effective. The little piece is vehemently applauded throughout. Some excellent films by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope complete a programme which is delightfully introduced by a brilliant performance of the overture of Rossini's *La Gazza Ladra* by the Orchestra, under the skilful direction of Mr. H. Petersen. Mr. Geo. F. Slatter is indefatigable and successful in his efforts to make the patrons of the house comfortable. Mr. Joseph Grant's stage-management remains irreproachable.

THE BALHAM EMPIRE.

A period of prosperity seems to have been entered upon by the Balham Empire, which, after a chequered career during which both the legitimate drama and variety have been tried with indifferent success, has now been turned to the purposes of moving pictures. Cinematography has obtained such a firm hold upon the public that it is now possible to entertain an audience with a programme composed wholly of pictures, and the enterprise of the British Cinema Co., Ltd., who are running the Empire on the two-houses-a-night principle, is being liberally supported in Balham. The entertainment embraces a dozen or so of pictures, with two or three phonograph selections thrown in, and the fact that the films are supplied by the firm of Pathé Frères, of Charing Cross-road, is sufficient guarantee of their excellence. The *tour de force* of the current series of pictures, a complete change of which is made every week, is the representation of a man hunt by the police dogs of Paris. The sight of the sagacious animals hot upon the scent of the flying criminals and pursuing them over hill and down dale, through dense thickets, by river and bridge, and finally running them to earth in an old house is very thrilling, and the audience grow as excited as if they were witnessing the actual occurrence.

Humour is abundantly provided in another selection, in which a tramp, who has saved a pedestrian from the clutches of garrotters in Paris, and receives a $100 banknote for reward, is pictured in a determined endeavour to change the note, in the course of which he is twice "run in" by the police. The episode is admirably done, the chief character being capitally acted. Fun also comes of the abortive efforts of an individual to escape from an armchair in which he has become firmly fixed. After many misadventures, the prisoner is eventually released by means of a bomb, which blows him up to the clouds, only to fall back again into the arms of the fatal chair. A journey round a star provides further amusement; angling in Norway reveals the ingenious methods of fishing adopted on the frozen water; interesting views of Rome ancient and modern are shown in The Eternal City; and an illustration of life on board a man-of-war is among the series of judiciously assorted pictures. The hall has been tastefully redecorated, and an excellent orchestra supplies tuneful selections in the course of the display.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

There is a profusion of good things at Mr. Geo. Dance's theatre here this week, and this, combined with the uncertain meteorological conditions, has resulted in huge audiences, who have been sent away delighted. The rattling overture march, "The Grotto," gives way to Miss Crissie Thompson, who wins the immediate favour of the audience, her success being won by a really artistic interpretation of the song, "When you know you're not forgotten by the girl you can't forget." We are inclined to think the little lady will long be remembered by Richmond audiences judged by the reception accorded her. Equally good was the vocalisation of Mr. George Adams. He was heard to perfection in the ballad, "The light-house tower."

Mr. George Carroll and his company made as much fun as possible out of their sketch, *The Biter Bit*. Perhaps the greatest hit of the evening was scored by McLean and Beaumont, *The Coster and the Flower-Girl*—quite a strong dramatic effort, admirably played. Miss Beaumont as Nell was wonderfully good, and held the audience by a fine bit of emotional acting; the coster of Mr. McLean was also clever, and the interest maintained to the end. Miss Rita Rhyle sang pleasingly of "Pansies," and danced prettily, winning favour by her daintiness and charm.

The humours of the evening were lavishly supplied by Messrs. Barrett and Knowles. Nothing could have been funnier than the drolleries and repartee of this particularly funny pair, and the house screamed with merriment. The Shirley comedians got a lot of amusement—as did the audience—out of *The First Night*, by Chas. Baldwin, which well serves its purpose as a mirth creator. A clever conjuring and hypnotic turn not in the bill won unmistakable recognition. The Bioscope presents The Magnetic Man. Mr. E. J. MacDermott has charge of the front of the house, and is making quite a host of friends by his unfailing courtesy.

PIRATES PROSECUTED.

At the Bristol Police-court on the 21st ult., before Messrs. E. J. Thatcher and T. J. Lennard, Herbert Smith (17) was charged with having in his possession a quantity of music which infringed the Copyright Act.

Detective Fry proved the arrest, and said he was on duty at Temple Meads Station, when he saw the accused come from the parcels office carrying a bundle beneath his arm. He appeared to notice witness and his companion, and started to run down the station road towards Victoria-street, where they overtook him, asking why he was running away, who he was, and what he had under his arm. He replied that his name was Herbert Smith, and that he was carrying some music, but did not explain the reason of his hasty flight. When asked if the music he had was pirated he made no reply, and was then taken to the station. In reply to the charge, he said, "I shan't give anyone away. I was a mug to start." He refused to give any address, or to say where he got the music from. Further enquiries were made by the police, and as a consequence they went to a house, No. 146, York-road, Bedminster, where they found prisoner had been living with a comrade named Jacks. On searching the house they found between 400 and 500 pieces of pirated music intermixed with some genuine copies. They found more in the sitting-room, and altogether about 2,000 pieces in the house. The packet of music they found on prisoner when he was arrested was addressed to "H. Blyth, Parcels Office, G.W.R., Bristol."

Mr. Arthur Preston, chief agent for the Music Publishers' Association, Queen's Hall, London, said he had examined the music discovered in prisoner's bundle, and found the pieces were all infringements of copyrights. The Association had had serious complaints in regard to the prisoner and a youth whose company he generally kept. They travelled from place to place in the country, and were very elusive, causing the Association great trouble to trace them. The accused was an experienced man in the trade, and doubtless knew, if he cared to tell, who published the pirated music he sold. Such men were the ruin of the legitimate publishers' business.

Accused pleaded guilty to the charge, and said he was a licensed hawker. He denied that he had ever seen Mr. Preston before, or caused any such trouble as alleged by that gentleman.

The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr. Gore) asked him if he had any means if he had to meet a fine. Prisoner replied that he had £2 in the Post Office Bank, whilst they could levy on his bicycle, which he valued at £8 15s.

The police said they believed that the bicycle was bought on the instalment plan, and they did not know if it were fully paid for yet.

The Magistrates decided to remand prisoner, that the police might make some enquiries as to his antecedents.

At the Bristol Police-court on the 22nd, David Myres, aged 42, of Newfoundland-road, was charged with having 308 pieces of pirated music in his possession. Detective Fry deposed to arresting the prisoner when he had the parcel of songs under his arm. It was addressed to a Mr. Kemp, at the address of the defendant Myres. This man, Mr. Preston, chief agent for the Music Publishers' Association, told the magistrates, had a telegraphic address at Bridgwater, but it seemed he lived at Walcot-street, Newfoundland-road. He had evidently been in the habit of having pirated music sent to Myres's house under the name of Kemp, so as to throw suspicion off himself. A letter was found on Myres from a person signing himself "Chicago Bill," stating that things were rather difficult in London, but they were doing the best they could for him. The prisoner was remanded

The chairman of the Blackpool Bench (Mr. Thos. Donnelly), on the 21st inst., declined to adjudicate in a pirated music case after a suggestion by the defendant's solicitor that he was interested against such music.

Subsequently 660 pirated copies, discovered by Inspector Drabble between the mattress and bed used by the defendant, were confiscated. The defendant, Albert Steele, was fined £2 and costs.

The Chief Constable produced a large quantity of cards found on defendant's premises, and used to advertise alleged boys' brigades at Nottingham and Glasgow, which the Chief Constable described as a swindle.

NEW PETERBOROUGH HIPPODROME.

Mr. Sylvester has just completed the erection of a hippodrome at Peterborough. He has selected a capital site on the Broadway, next the Cattle Market, nearly opposite the Public Free Library, and close to the Theatre Royal. The building, which is thoroughly up to date, has a somewhat imposing appearance externally, while it is admirably fitted up inside. There is a gallery and dress circle and pit and orchestra stalls on the ground floor, the latter upholstered in red velveteen. The stage is a large one, and behind are some capital dressing-rooms. The building is 100ft. in length, 50ft. wide, and 30ft. high. It has been designed by Mr. Woodhouse, of Nottingham, the builder being Mr. Hy. Watson, of Peterborough, and the contract about £3000. Mr. Mason is acting-manager.

Arrangements had been made to open on the 26th ult., and the event was widely boomed, and excited great public interest. But the usual fortnight's notice had not been given to the Magistrates, and hereby hangs a tale. At the Petty Sessions on Wednesday week last Mr. W. A. Norris applied on behalf of Mr. Sylvester for a music, singing, and dancing licence for the Hippodrome, Broadway. Mr. Sylvester, he said, had had licences granted in a number of other towns, and, indeed, in no instance had he had one refused. They applied for a temporary licence, and in the interim the Magistrates would have an opportunity of seeing that the performances were of a proper nature. The land on which the Hippodrome had been erected was acquired from the Corporation after a great deal of consideration, and plans had been submitted, and upon the recommendation of the Corporation, altered so that the buildings had been erected under the supervision and approval of the Corporation. There had been a sum of £3000 spent on the building. The exits were very numerous, and the building was a very safe and suitable one for the purpose for which it was intended. The performances for the evening were to terminate at half-past ten, but occasionally they might last a little longer.

The Chief Constable offered no objection to the granting of a permanent licence at the proper date, but he objected to the granting of a temporary licence. Peterborough had done without that house of amusement until then, and there was no reason why the permanent licence should not be applied for at the proper time. Moreover, at the present time there were no fire appliances.

In reply to questions from the Bench Mr. Norris said the building was erected on a similar principle to those at several other places, except that at Peterborough stout brick walls had been erected instead of walls of corrugated iron. The ventilation was considered to be very good.

The Magistrates retired to consider the application, and on returning, after a quarter of an hour, the Chairman said they were unanimous in their opinion not to grant a temporary licence, but would defer the matter until Wednesday, Sept. 11. In the meantime, the Magistrates would take the opportunity to visit the place, and would do so on Monday, Sept 9, at what time would be convenient.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

THE fairs ahead for next week are:—Ardsley, on the Great Central; Chapel Town, on the Great Central; Blandford, on the Midland and South-Western; Glastonbury, on the Midland and South-Western; Holbeck, on the Great Northern, North-Eastern, Midland, and Lancashire and Yorkshire; Openshaw, on the Great Central; Oxford, on the Great Western, London and North-Western, Midland, and Metropolitan and District; Sandal Feast, Swinton, and Pendlebury, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Thorner, on the North-Eastern; Witton, on the London and North-Western and the Cheshire lines; Barnoldswick, on the Midland; Congresbury, on the Great Western; Broadway (Somerset), on the Great Western; Lambert Castle (Dorset); Buxton, on the London and North-Western and Midland; Morchard Bishop, on the London and South-Western; Wareham, on the London and South-Western; Swindon, on the Great Western; Tewkesbury, on the Midland; Batley, on the North-Western and Great Northern; Blackheath (Staffs), on the Great Western; Boston, on the Great Northern; Cromford, on the Midland; Wickworth, on the Midland; Woodthorpe, on the Midland; Blaenavon (Monmouth), on the Great Western and North-Western; and Neath, on the Great Western and Neath and Brecon railways.

Aylesbury.

DURING the latter part of last week a "Fun City" was held in the Market-square, under the management of that able caterer, Mr. Charles Thurston. Chief among the attractions were Messrs. Barker and Thurston's road-racing motor-cars, which is a most up-to-date machine; Mr. Charles Thurston's original Royal living picture exhibition, with the latest invention, the Cinematophone; and Braham's magic and performing bird show. The smaller attractions of the usual order were supplied by J. H. Norman, W. Westrop, and T. Irish, &c. On the Friday evening Mr. Charles Thurston kindly gave the motor-car machine over to the Town Council for an hour, when the proceeds were devoted to the Royal Bucks Hospital, and amounted to £3 15s. 6d. Good business was done throughout, especially on the Saturday, as the name of Thurston is a guarantee of "something good" in Aylesbury and district.

The White City, Old Trafford.

LAST Sunday about 600 of the staff were taken on two saloon trains from Manchester to Blackpool, where they spent a very pleasant day—assisted by the sun. Mr. John Calvin Brown (managing-director), Mr. Arthur Ellis (assistant-general-manager), and Major Crager (Hale's Tours) saw that everything was done to the satisfaction of everybody. Monday was a special day at this amusement park, and 67,430 persons passed the turnstiles. One extra attraction was the fine Band of the 15th Canadian Light Horse, who had been specially brought over to Dublin to play at the Exhibition there, and the White City management obtained permission to engage them for four days (Sept. 2 to 5). They could not be spared beyond Friday, on which day they are ordered to sail from Portsmouth home.

ZIPHO is still here in his "death-defying slide for life." The water pantomime, Gilleno's Circus, Hale's Tours, Figure 8 Railway, water-chutes, Simbri (the illusionist), Milton's Marionettes, Zingari Pierrots, and the many other shows and games are doing excellent business.

FOUR HUNDRED competitors entered for the £50 in prizes given on Wednesday evening in the fancy dress, &c., carnival. Competitors came from Liverpool, Chester, Crewe, Leicester, Leeds, and the surrounding district.

The Empire's Expert Fun Provider.

THE one and only C. B. Cochran, of the Fun City, Olympia, is now on his Continental travels, seeking for (and finding) startling novelties for the next "International Fairs" venture at the great south-western covered fair-ground, Olympia. We hear of him as being at Ostend, Brussels, Charleroi, Berlin, and Marienbad. We are waiting possible news of him at Vienna, Buda-Pesth, Moscow, Vladivostock, Tokio, 'Frisco, and Coney Island. He is the modern Mercury of the show world.

Wilmslow Wakes.

THIS charming suburb of Manchester had for its shows and novelties at its annual fair Manders's Star menagerie, J. Collins's motor-cars, Hibbert and Sons' steam horses, the up-to-date machines of Mr. Shuttleworth, including overboats, miniature motor-cars, and park swings, Sedgwick's shooting range, Rowley's bottle battery and variety frames, Cottam's and Johnson's football penalties, and all the fun of the fair by Messrs. Thomas, Griffin, Bennion, Cottam, and Rowley.

Honour in "His ain Countree."

COUNCILLOR G. T. TUBY, the famous Yorkshire showman and lessee of fairs and feasts, is a hard-working member of the Doncaster Town Council. The *Sheffield Telegraph* of Sept. 2 has the following interesting item of news about Mr. Tuby:—

"THE MAYORALTY OF DONCASTER.

"Nothing definite has been decided with respect to the incoming Mayor of Doncaster, and, as there are two aspirants to the office, complications are likely to ensue. The seniority principle has generally been acted on, and, if adhered to this year, Councillor G. T. Tuby would succeed to the chair; although Councillor E. Ellis has served in the Council for a longer period. Councillor Ellis was a member from 1891 to 1894, and was out for two years, but re-entered in November, 1896, being elected for the West Ward in the latter year. Councillor Tuby was elected for the St. George's Ward in March, 1896, and is thus the senior member by eight months in continuous and unbroken service. The whole question is likely to remain in abeyance until November."

We are quite certain that Councillor Tuby will bring distinction to the high office of Chief Magistrate of his native town, and that the whole showman world will unite in the pleasure of hailing him Mayor of Doncaster.

Notes from Wales.

AT Aberavon Fair, under H. Studt and Son's management, were Dooner's, Wadbrook's and Hagger's well-known cinematograph palaces and variety theatres, all of them in the highest rank of up-to-date completeness. The lessees, H. Studt and Son, exhibited switchback, motors, and ostriches, John Studt had a set of motors, the juvenile sets were by North, Butlin, and Matthews, swings by North and Winsper, shooting concerns by Fossett, J. North, Wm. North, and Danter, throwing games in great variety by J. Day, the North Family, and others. At Aberavon Fair the Vicar held a service for show-people and the visitors to the fair-ground. The choir marched in procession from the church to the ground robed in their surplices. The address, of a most impressive and helpful character, was given by the Vicar.

Gowerton Fair.

THIS is one of the famous Welsh flannel fairs—a native industry that Mr. H. Studt has been the means of reviving in the Principality. The rows of weavers' stalls and the brisk business done by the flannel weavers fully demonstrate the possibilities of home industries if only guided and fostered by the right people. Crowds of people attended the fair. H. Studt and Son provided a fine set of gondolas. The other concerns were Crecroft's bioscope, and the minor novelties—throwing games, shooters, &c.—were by Messrs. Jones, Taylor, Roberts, Boswell, Sims, and others.

CHESTER COUNTY BYE-LAWS.

The ways of corporations and public bodies are sometimes difficult to understand. As recently as March 14 last the County Council of Chester obtained a series of bye-laws dealing with the show business in their borders. These bye-laws were, however, upon the petition of the Guild, amended by the addition of a "saving clause," exempting fairs, feasts, festivals, and wakes from their power. Naturally showmen thought that for some time to come they would be permitted to carry on their business in peace, and that the County Council had done with restrictive bye-laws.

That, however, is not the case. Moved by the Wallasey District Council, we understand, the county authorities have sent up yet another set of bye-laws, containing bye-laws against street hawking, touting for customers, advertising, and keeping noisy animals; then, sandwiched in amongst these, is a bye-law which reads as follows:—

SHOOTING GALLERIES, &c

No person shall in any street or public place, or on any land adjoining or near thereto, keep or manage, or cause to be kept or managed, a shooting gallery, swing boat, roundabout, or any other construction of a like character, so as to cause obstruction or danger to the traffic in any such street or public place.

When we read into it, as we are bound to do, the annexed "interpretation," we can see at once that roundabouts, swings, and shooting galleries will be practically prohibited, or be at the mercy of any prejudiced objector, both at fair time and at private business. The definitions of a public place and a street are wide and all-embracing. They read as follows:—

INTERPRETATIONS.

"Street" means and includes a highway, any public bridge, and any road, lane, footpath, square, key, court, alley, or passage, whether a highway or not, to which the public have access.

"Public place" includes any common, park, pleasure ground, or roadside waste, to which the public have access.

There are, of course, the usual penalties:—

Any person who shall offend against any of the foregoing bye-laws shall be liable for each offence to a penalty not exceeding forty shillings.

And notice is hereby further given that a sealed copy of such bye-laws has been forwarded to the Secretary of State.

REGINALD POTTS,
Clerk to the Cheshire County Council.

Chester, Aug. 2, 1907.

The Executive Council of the Showmen's Guild have taken the matter up vigorously, and the following petition has been forwarded to the Home Office:—

Aug. 31, 1907.

To the Right Honourable H. J. Gladstone, His Majesty's First Secretary of State for the Home Department.

SIR,—Your petitioners are showmen, and carry on their business at the fairs, feasts, wakes, and popular holiday resorts of the people. A bye-law (amongst others) has been made by the County Council of Chester, and sent to you for sanction. It is worded as follows:—

SHOOTING GALLERIES, &c.

No person shall, in any street or public place, or on any land adjoining or near thereto, keep or manage, or cause to be kept or managed, a shooting gallery, swing boat, roundabout, or any other construction of a like character, so as to cause obstruction or danger to traffic in any such street or public place.

Your petitioners respectfully submit that such a bye-law would seriously injure their business as providers of these and other kinds of popular open-air amusements at holiday resorts, at local wakes, and popular fairs. The danger to our trade is manifest when we read into the bye-law, the definitions of street and place annexed thereto. We submit that if sanctioned the bye-law would practically abolish our business, and would deprive the people of fair-ground entertainments in the parts of the county covered by it.

We therefore ask that you will amend the proposed bye-law by the addition of the following or similar words:—

"Provided always that such bye-law shall not apply to any fair, feast, festival, or wakes lawfully held."

This amendment will bring the bye-law into uniformity with the other bye-laws of the County Council that govern our business.

The Showmen's Guild, in whose name we speak, represents the greater body of the showmen of the United Kingdom. Whilst anxious to carry on our business, and to maintain an old British industry, we are also ready to co-operate with corporations and public bodies in all reasonable provisions for the public safety, and to eliminate all shows and entertainments of either a dangerous or undesirable character.

Submitting most respectfully these, our observations on the proposed bye-law—We remain, your obedient servants,

G. SANGER (President),
T. HORNE (Chaplain),
THOMAS HURST (Hon. Sec.).

On behalf of the Executive of the Showmen's Guild, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

The Home Office has acknowledged the Guild petition as follows:—

Home Office,
Sept. 2, 1907.

BYE-LAWS—CHESHIRE.

SIR,—I am directed by the Secretary of State for the Home Department to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ult.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

M. D. CHALMERS.

The Hon. Chaplain and Organiser the Showmen's Guild.

If (as we have reason to believe) the initiative in this later edition of bye-laws is to be attributed to Wallasey local showmen have indeed a grievance.

Two Sessions of Parliament ago the Guild spent a large sum of money in preventing the District Council of Wallasey obtaining powers in a private Bill to make their own bye-laws. Wallasey knew that under the Corporations Act they could get all the bye-laws that justice and fair dealing entitled them to have by moving the County Council of Chester to make and submit them in the usual way. Subordinate authorities below the rank of boroughs or county councils can always petition the higher corporations to make bye-laws for them.

Instead of doing this in the straightforward way, Wallasey sought additional powers in their private Bill.

What the Guild Did.

The Showmen's Guild, in the interests of its members and local showmen like Mr. Ravenscroft, spent large sums of money in opposing the extraordinary powers clauses in that Bill. The opposition was successful, and the clauses were dropped.

Here in all reason the matter ought to have ended. The Wallasey Council, however, had not the grace to accept defeat. It set to work then to move the County Council, and the result we now see in the new bye-laws. Mainly aimed at the traders who have business premises on the shore at New Brighton. The Wallasey Council evidently intends to make New Brighton as deadly dull as possible, "for the voice of man must not be heard in its streets."

The showmen specifically oppose the one bye-law that refers to their business, but we confidently anticipate that the traders on the sands and on the sea-front at New Brighton will also make themselves heard on the question.

It has always been a glaring injustice to us that public bodies when they want to interfere with the all-too-scanty pleasures of the people do not have the courage of their convictions, and do not work in the open, but shelter themselves behind the clauses of private Bills.

Why Not Face Public Opinion?

It is because they fear it. It is because they know that, rightly appealed to, the people would not tolerate such gross interference with their liberties.

The Law and the People.

The Abolition of Fairs Act provides for a vote of the people being taken; hence despoilers of the people's pleasures do not like to use that Act, for fear the people might upset their secret schemes.

If they have a Bill in hand for public purposes they seize the opportunity and try and get secretly what they fear asking for openly. So, too, with bye-laws. All the powers that reasonably belong to public bodies are already theirs. If it is a parish council or a district council they can ask the county authorities to make suitable bye-laws for them.

Why—it may be asked—why is this not done?

It is because full public notice must be given to all the parties concerned. The Local Government Acts provide full machinery for testing the vote of the people; but these secret benefactors of the people dread all public notice of their reforming zeal, hence they slip these reforms of theirs into a private Bill, and unless they are discovered and their precious Bill is opposed the trick is done, and the people wake up to find some day that their ancient privileges have been taken from them by a private Act of Parliament, for which they will have to pay out of the rates.

This has happened over and over again in the bad old days before showmen were organised to defend their business and to act as guardians of the pleasures of the people.

We have no doubt but that a favourable reply will be given to the showmen's petition, and that the saving clause will be added to the bye-law in question.

NOTES FROM THE WEST.

Dartmouth Regatta and Fair last Aug. 29, 30, and 31 was again, from the showmen's point of view, a highly-successful affair, the helter-skelter lighthouse, under the able direction of Mr. W. Newman, being a sure money-getter. Messrs. W. C. and S. Hancock's magnificent Coliseum of varieties was by far the largest show on the ground, and received a very extensive patronage. The star attraction at this and preceding regattas was undoubtedly the clever dancing of Miss Sophie Jones, the champion baby clog-dancer in the West of England. Miss Sophie Jones, who appears at John Jones's theatre of varieties, evoked enthusiastic applause at each performance for her brilliant exhibition. Mr. A. R. Shaw, of the Church Army, has been with the travellers during the past three weeks, holding a school daily for the children in a booth kindly lent by Mr. Alf. Wright, of boxing fame. His attentions have been much appreciated by the travellers, and we understand that next year increased educational facilities will be offered to the children of travellers on the Western round.

THE GUILD AGENT FOR THE WEST DEFENDS SHOWS AND SHOWMEN.

Arising out of Dartmouth Fair, an anonymous attack was made on the showman avocation in life. The letter of attack appeared in the *Western Morning News* of Aug. 22, and is as follows:—

SHOWS ON TEIGNMOUTH DEN.

SIR,—Once more the rough element in Teignmouth have had their way, and during the progress of the regatta the shows, roundabouts, &c., have again been placed on the Den—thrice happily named spot!—immediately in front of the windows of the heavily-rated houses which stand there. I wonder if the District Council realise that in granting permission for the shows to come on the Den year after year they are literally killing the goose that lays the golden eggs? In this way: the value of the property round the Den must be deteriorating in consequence of the annoyance to which the tenants of these houses are subjected annually. This must have its effect in the future by reducing the rents, and naturally a lower rent roll will mean a lower sum to be paid in rates. The regatta committee will have to compensate the singers on the Den, who were not able to perform for two days. May I ask if they also propose to compensate the lodging-house keepers, who have lost a considerable amount of money in consequence of visitors leaving their houses on account of the rowdiness and noise which has taken place before their very doors? I do not suppose the committee will view this idea at all favourably, as last year they even attempted to wriggle out of paying a small sum to the Council for clearing up the Den! It is a significant fact that none of the members of the committee reside on the Den. This, of course, may mean nothing, but, on the other hand, it may mean—and explain—a very great deal.

I will conclude by asking one question. Is there another town in England that allows its principal pleasure-ground to be absolutely spoilt for at least six months in order to provide a certain class of the community with two days' so-called amusement?

A DEN RESIDENT.

Teignmouth, Aug. 21.

G. W. A. Norton, Esq., the hon. agent for the Showmen's Guild, took up the challenge in his usual able and vigorous style.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WESTERN MORNING NEWS.

SIR,—"Den Resident's" growl anent the fair at Teignmouth hardly deserves a reply on account of his (or her) use of a pseudonym, but, on behalf of the showpeople, I should like to give "D. R." a few facts to consider and digest. "D. R." infers that the Den is happily named on account of the presence there of the shows and roundabouts. Now, the showpeople only visit the Den for a few days in each year, whereas "D. R." appears to live there. The inference is obvious.

It would probably surprise "D. R." if he knew the exorbitant rent charged for the use of the Den during the regatta. He could then hardly accuse the District Council of killing the goose that lays the golden eggs by allowing the shows, &c., to come there.

I can hardly credit "D. R's." concluding remarks that the Den is absolutely spoilt for at least six months after the fair has been there; but if it is, as he (or she) says, then all I can say is that it must be managed by a singularly incapable body of people.

To conclude, I can quite understand "D. R's." hyper-sensitive ear being offended by the sound of the people at play, but to interfere with the doctrine of "the greatest good for the greatest number" is selfishness. The travelling show is the poor man's theatre, and a very good theatre it is. Teignmouth Fair, to "D. R.," spells pandemonium; to thousands of others it means happy days. In this case the happiness of thousands is matched against the growls of a few.

GEOFFREY W. A. NORTON,
Hon. Member Showmen's Guild.

George Hotel, Brixham, S. Devon, Aug. 23.

MR. FRED LEWIS, the popular and energetic advance agent, is this season piloting through the Green Isle Buff Bill's Circus and Menagerie, and the tour may, with truth, be said to be a gigantic and unqualified success. Mr. Lewis's original and up-to-date style of booming the show is, without doubt, responsible for the business done, as in several towns visited he caused a perfect sensation, and succeeded in drawing packed houses. On Monday Sligo was visited, and two performances were given before appreciative and overcrowded audiences. Capt. William's performance in a lion's cage, assisted by a young lady, who danced an Irish jig, was enthusiastically received.

SOME SEASIDE SHOWS.

During our visits this year to British fairs, we rested for a pleasant hour or so at various seaside resorts. Some of these so-called resorts of pleasure have been deadly dull. So carefully have the local authorities provided for the select few, who are said to desire quietness at the sea, that the sea-front and the promenade have worn a perpetual garb of Sabbatical dulness, that fully explained the empty houses and the semi-bankrupt appearance of the shops. We are at a loss to understand the abiding force of the tradition that still hangs like a pall of deadly monotony over some seaside resorts (we will not curse them by name) that think it high-class and good form to taboo the open-air shows on the beach—the Christy minstrel, the pierrot, and the Punch and Judy man.

Our purpose in this short chronicle of seaside entertainments is to tell the good things and wise that municipal enterprise has encouraged for the joy and pleasure of the toilers from the cities at the sea.

Democratic Weston-on-the-Sea.

No seaside place in England has kept so well to the front as Weston-super-Mare. Within easy access to the toiling millions of Wales, with its great centres of life, like Cardiff, Newport, Merthyr, and the Ebbw and Rhondda Valleys, with Bristol its nearest great city on the same coast, and the towns of Somerset and Gloucester counties hard by, it is no wonder that Weston-super-Mare is the Mecca of the pilgrims of daily toil. It is no wonder that Tom, Dick, and Harry, with their wives, children, and sweethearts, go down to Weston for rest and change, and necessary recreation at the sea.

One Hundred Years Ago.

In 1819 a vivacious lady, Mrs. Piozzi, wrote an amusing letter of her experience at Weston. The letter is given in Mr. Ernest Baker's "First Guide" to Weston. The lady was struck by the out-of-the-world character of the village, and appreciated it. "This little place," she wrote, "is neither gay nor fashionable, yet full as an egg, insipid as the white on't, and dear as an Egg o' Penny. I enquir'd for Books, there were but Two in the Town was the reply . . . a Bible and a 'Paradise Lost.' . . . They were the best, however. No Market . . . but I don't care about that. When Miss Burney asked Omiah the Savage if he should like to go back to Otaheite, Yes, Miss, said he . . . No mutton there—no Coach—no Dish of Tea, no pretty Miss Horneck, good Air, good Sea, and very good Dog. . . . I happy at Otaheite. . . . My Taste and his are similar. . . . The Breezes here are most Salubrious; no Land nearer than North America, when we look down the Channel; and 'tis said that Sebastian Cabot used to stand where I sit now, and meditate his future Discoveries of Newfoundland." The sprightly authoress of this letter would not recognise the twentieth-century Weston, with its organised amusements, its many evidences of contact with the outside world, its fine streets and shops, and public buildings, and its motley throng of performers and people on the beach. Yet we may be sure from the tenour of her letter she would have been keenly interested in its modern features. When the desire for quiet and unconventionality became strong, she might find these away up the bay, where the beach remains now as it was in her day, where the comic judge, and the red-nosed policeman, and all the others who amuse the crowd by their eccentricities are never seen, and the only music is that of the surf on the sandy shore.

Then and Now—1819-1907.

In the first "Guide to Weston," printed in 1822, the village consisted of a main street, known as "The Street," now called High-street. This was made up of a straggling line of houses. Where the Great Western Station stands, and the residential inner circle of the town, as we know it now, stretches for nearly a mile, was in those early days marked on the map as Weston-super-Mare Moor.

It has been said that Weston is a place without a history. This, in one sense, is true, and the fact that they are not called upon to remodel ancient thoroughfares and adapt an old town to the conditions of modern life has left the governing authorities free to carry out important schemes without heavily burdening the ratepayers. We find it difficult even to imagine Weston without its Marine Parade, extending from the Sanatorium, at the extreme south, to the Birnbeck Pier, at the northern end.

It was no light task to form a broad walk round this length of coast, for, placid as the sea under the summer sun, there are periods when it is seen in a vastly different mood, and when, impelled by Atlantic gales, it rolls in and breaks with the force of a battering ram against the rampart of masonry guarding the Parade. To visitors such occasions are full of interest, and rough weather at time of high tide brings crowds to watch the foaming billows dash against the rocks of Anchor Head, or become transformed into a tall column of spray, when, with a mighty thud, a mass of water finds itself stopped by the sea wall. Weston Marine Parade is one of the finest in England; it cost over £30,000, and while in the one direction the walk or drive may be prolonged to Uphill, in the other is found the pleasant route through the woods to Kewstoke. It is scarcely necessary to describe in detail other features of the modern town—the fine baths at Knightstone and the Pavilion, where frequent musical and theatrical performances occur; the two piers; the beautifully laid-out parks; the Town Hall, with its turret clock; the public library and museum on the Boulevard, erected as a public memorial to Queen Victoria at a cost of £3,400.

How the People Use It.

The secret of its popularity lies in the thoroughly up-to-date business enterprise of its public men. All classes in the community are liberally catered for, the town well advertised. Railway facilities are quick and cheap; you can spend a week-end at Weston, and be back in town for business Monday morning.

The influx of visitors at holiday times is enormous. We made diligent enquiries, and the following was the official reply:—"We had nearly 45,000 here last August Bank Holiday; 24,000 came at Easter of the present year; about 35,000 at Whitsuntide. Our normal population is 23,000, but in a good July or August it rises to 50,000, and although lately the vagaries of climate have kept people at home, we are looking to an influx quite up to the average, for the merits of Weston-super-Mare are now much more widely known than formerly."

The Principal Outside Shows.

The Welsh gate of Weston is the Birnbeck Pier. Here all the steamers land their passengers; here at the end of the day must all sea-borne travellers come. Birnbeck Pier is really an arm of the land stretching out to the Channel, and then lengthened out for landing-stage purposes.

On this pier are all the concomitants of an up-to-date fair, chiefly provided by the London Amusements Co. (Mr. Irish, manager), a syndicate of capable showmen. Their capital exhibits include the water chute, the hurry-skurry, the maze, shooting range, six throwing games, and ring and dart boards; there is a switchback railway (manager, Mr. Mayne), flying ships in the air (manager Mr. S. H. Just), and a shooting jungle. There are toboggan slides, skittle alleys, gyrating tops, bicycle competition games. Mr. Jones (who has been seventeen years on this pier) exhibits throwing games, swings, photo. saloon, and other novelties. There are stalls for toys, jewellery, and curios; the Hungarian Band discourses sweet and popular music all day long; in fact, Birnbeck is so attractive that it is often said of it, people land there, and are so delighted with its multiform attractions, they never leave it until the last boat home at night. There is all the fun of the fair at Birnbeck, and the sea breezes to temper all excessive exuberance of gaiety.

On the Sea Front.

A delightful walk takes you from Birnbeck to the Rozell Pavilion Marine Gardens. Here the town band plays daily. Here, too, in their charming "Jip-Jappy" padoga by the sea, Prince's Pinkies, a clever variety combination, give popular shows twice or thrice a day.

The Knightstone Rock is the next landmark in showland, on the long promenade. Here the Pavilion Theatre has the best seaside touring companies on the road. From the Knightstone to the Grand Pier is the next stage. The star attraction is Kandt's celebrated band. In the Bijou Theatre of this pier some of the most celebrated pierrot and variety concert combinations may be heard during the season. Here, too, come theatrical companies, and there is, of course, a cinématograph annexe, always showing the best films.

The Fair Ground on the Sands.

The chief centre of life is the vast, smooth carpet of the glorious sands. In the actual central spot of the three-mile stretch of sea-front, are scores of stalls, hundreds of donkeys and ponies, rows of refreshment booths and ice-cream barrows, soda fountains, gingerbread and toffee stalls. Prominent amongst the popular caterers of the people's necessities we noticed the local firms of Counsel, Jackson, Porter, Hurman, Doughty, and Sirvey. There were the usual photo. saloons and penny-in-the-slot novelties.

The Shows—the Entertainers.

Ye Ancient Tragedie of Punch and Judy was given in splendid style by Prof. Maggs, of Bristol, and well deserved the patronage the show obtained.

The White Coons, under Mr. Walter Judge's capable direction, were immensely popular. The combination at the time of our visit was a very strong one, and included, besides Mr. Judge, Fred Terry, J. Temple, Percy Pope, Dave Anderson, Sam Elton, Phil Inglis, Jim Bagley, and Joe Perry.

The New Boys, another powerful combination of al fresco entertainers, under the direction of Mr. Cecil Howorth, gave delightful performances on their portable stage on the sands. The company included Harry Taylor, Tom Ashby, Charles May, Fred King, Lester Allen, Arthur Williams, Bert Norman, Charles Goodman, and R. A. Hopkins. Here, again, the special features of the show were the up-to-date and refined numbers, the vocal and dramatic ability in the single turns, and the humorous short sketches.

We know no seaside resort (except and only Blackpool) where the democratic penny is better catered for than it is at Weston-super-Mare, and to a town-sick pilgrim seeking health and diversion, we say take train to Weston-by-the-Sea.

Delightful Eastbourne.

Between Eastbourne and Weston-super-Mare the contrast is so great that any attempt to compare the two would be captious criticism. The majestic dignity of its Grand Parade, the giant heights of Beachy Head at one end of its magnificent bay and Pevensey at the other, make Eastbourne the finest sea front from Southend to Brighton. There can be no doubt about the ever-increasing popularity of Eastbourne, and as yet we can see no sign of its rapid expansion reaching its natural limit.

Cosmopolitan Eastbourne.

All nations foregather at Eastbourne—all sorts and conditions of people as well as all nationalities. Here the classes on the Western Lawns. Here the masses at the old Redoubt and on the Royal Parade gather and move in their separate and distinct orbits. Then the two streams of life meet and for a time mix at the pier concerts, the Pier Theatre, or in the Cavendish Gardens, only to separate most politely (for decorous manner is the keynote of Eastbourne life)—the democracy to the left hand and the aristocracy to the right. Glorious sea, perfect promenade, delightful music by excellent bands provided by the municipality. "Oh, no, sir. You cannot buy a sandwich, you cannot buy winkles or oysters or any such thing on the Front at Eastbourne." Neither are you tempted to buy the "best shilling dinner," or "a cut from the joint with two vegetables at ninepence." No one buttonholes you to have your photo taken, or to step inside, "our sale is about to begin." All shouting or touting or hawking or crying wares are strictly confined to the side streets or the back streets. The Grand Parade, the Royal Parade, and the Western Lawns are strictly preserved from all *ad populum* appeals. Eminently prim and eminently polite and proper is Eastbourne. That is why there is no place like it.

The Shows in the Open.

The Pierrots on the Pier.

This excellent show draws crowds twice a day. Their refined entertainment is one of the features of Eastbourne. The company included Miss Edith Blanchard, contralto, in a delightful répertoire of songs; Miss Doris Lee, comedienne, with a selection of humorous songs that fairly captured the audience; Mr. H. V. Cropton, baritone (a great favourite), and his cycle of songs included the best known numbers from opera and musical comedy; Ronald Bagnall and Bert Meredith are comedians in the front rank of their profession, Mr. Bagnall depending entirely (and with great success) on original songs and sketches. Mr. Meredith, too, has some original songs and musical sketches. Mr. B. Mortimer, the pianist, is a musician of great ability.

Uncle Ben's Minstrels.

The wail of the unlearned and the untravelled critic that Christy minstrelsy is dead is not true so long as Ben Stoddart—familiarly hailed as "Uncle Ben"—holds the front on the shingle beach at Eastbourne. All the best features of burnt cork entertainment are preserved (the best will ever live), and to these Uncle Ben has added the saving grace of modern musical comedy and variety stage successes. To hear Uncle Ben, Uncle Tom, Uncle Monty, Uncle Fred, Uncle Bert, and Cousin Lilian is quite worth a pilgrimage from London town. We were delighted with the show. The members of the troupe include Mr. Ben and Miss Lilian Stoddart, Tom Rock, guitarist; Fred Kelly, violinist; Bert Crabtree, pianist and conductor; and Merrie Monty, tambourine; Uncle Ben being bones.

Harry Clifford's Show.

Harry Clifford's Concert Party is another well-established feature of the beach at Eastbourne. The company includes Mme. Mountford, pianist; Miss Clifford, comedienne; Master Clifford, the miniature Harry Lauder; Mr. Percy Albert, comedian; Mr. J. J. Martin, comedian; Mr. Fred Sinclair (at the front); and Harry Clifford. The various items of a strong programme were delightfully given, and crowded audiences rewarded the talent of this high-class combination.

There was a Punch and Judy Show, whereat we rejoiced, and played our plays over and over again. On the Pier are excellent side shows, shooting ranges, palmist, caricature artists, miniature toboggan, and a vast array of penny-in-the-slot novelties. The St. Louis Cinematograph Picture Company did excellent business, both midday in the Theatre Pavilion and at night at the landing stage, with pictures in the open air. A special feature of Eastbourne is the Municipal Band, under Mr. Theo. Ward. We had the pleasure on one of the evenings of our visit in taking our part in *l'entente cordiale*, the celebrated Boulogne band, l'Harmonie du Commerce (directeur, M. V. Noel) paying Eastbourne a flying visit and submitting an excellent programme.

OLDHAM WAKES.

As early as Thursday last Tommyfield, Oldham (the site of the historic Wakes), was set out in glorious array with the best of modern shows, roundabouts, and fairground novelties to keep the fair. This is the business sense of the showman—to get one or two days amongst the people before so many depart to all the available ends of the earth to spend their hard-won holidays by seaside, on the Continent, in great London town, in quiet country villages, or mountain climbing. Your Oldham man and woman of to-day is a cosmopolitan traveller. You will find him in Rome, up the Nile, in Norwegian fiords, in Paris, Berlin, in the Swiss Alps, on Welsh and Scottish mountains, as well as at Blackpool or Douglas. Over half a million people leave Oldham and district this time of the year. Hundreds of special trains, scores of special excursions to picture places at home and abroad leave the great Lancashire cotton weaving centre. The exodus of the people is greater than the exodus of Israel. The toilers at the loom, the machine bench, at the counting-house desk, behind the shop counter—all these men of muscle, skill and brain, and their women and children—for all have to work in Lancashire's great industry—all these escape from the terrors of toil, from the awful throb of huge machinery, from the wearing monotony of a life that means in most cases bed and work, with an hour snatched for necessary meals.

"The going-off clubs" this year (a year of booming trade) have helped the people to save enough money to cover holiday expenses and a little over.

The People Who Cannot Leave.

All who can do leave. It is sound sense, sound economic science, so to do. Still, there remains the hundreds of thousands who cannot get away, who have not the means to venture forth to other scenes and to visit foreign lands. It is for these slaves of toiling necessity that the round of Lancashire wakes provides. They may not have a spare pound for Blackpool, but they have a shilling or sixpence to spend at the fair.

"So heigho, and away we go,
Off to Tommyfield all in a row."

So sings the old ballad, and it is true of every wake in Lancashire. The philosophy of the poor is the saving grace of humour. With a few pence only in his pockets the poor man with his wife and children goes to the fair. There, in the glory-land of shows and of music such as their soul loveth, away from the burden of toil, from the goad of the taskmaster, the workers are free of the fair. Think of it, ye censorious critics! Think of it, ye crude and rude apostles of thrift! ye narrow-minded denouncers of fun and jollity; ye disciples of the flinty heart and the sour face! Think of it, and go to Oldham Wakes. Visit Tommyfield, see the people at play, and learn ye a little grace of kindly charity.

The Shows! The Shows!

Three immense palaces of pleasure—the cinematograph theatres of Col. Clark, Captain Tom Payne, and P. Collins—nothing finer (each a gem of completeness) on the road to-day, each a rival to the other, but, indeed, a friendly rivalry to give the show-loving public the best for money's worth. Then the ground booth, the delightful side-shows, Harry Hammersley (a prince amongst showmen) with his charming atoms of humanity, "the Midget Marvels," Tom Wortley with two ground boots, the Colliery at Work model (an educational exhibit of high value), and the fine art show.

The Mechanical Novelties.

Nowhere on earth can you find a better array of machines than at Oldham. Do you want to ride in an automobile? Then go to Tommyfield, where the Collins Brothers, John Green, and Wm. Mitchell, jun., will lend you a glorious motor-car, and off you go, off you go, riding a Daimler car. If your sporting instincts lead to still prefer a horse, then away you ride on a thoroughbred, a racer, a trotting horse, or a Capetown pony. Perhaps your fancy flies free of domesticated animals, and you desire to ride wild ostriches of South Africa or giant roosters. Then away you fly on a winged monster. Again, you aspire to aerial flight. Why worry when you can have airships, or ships in the air? All these you may get at the machines of Messrs. Ben Mitchell, Wm. Mitchell, John Collins. For a penny you may ride a bicycle on an endless track. You slide down a glorified giant bannister. For a penny you may have a skyscraper flight in park swings; you may ascend the golden stairs towards a glory-land you never reach. All these novelties are provided by Messrs. J. Wingate, F. Harrison, and J. Platt. There are midget editions of motor-car tracks by Messrs. S. Mercer and S. Mellor; shooting ranges, bottle smashers, egg batteries and tube novelties by George Cornwell, Mrs. John Cornwell, Hughes and Martin, Mrs. Addis, and local caterers; avenues and streets of stalls, throwing games, football penalty frames, and all the delightful novelties of the fair.

Bicester Fair.

Here were Barker and Thurston's motors, C. Thurston's cinematograph theatre, Sidney Braham's performing birds, Westrop's fairground varieties, Heath's roundabouts and varieties; stalls and games by Messrs. Norman, T. Bond, T. Irish, R. Holmes, and other caterers.

Poynton Wakes.

This pretty Cheshire village kept its annual fair a week ago. The Stockport firm, Messrs. James Hibbert and Sons, were the fun providers. They exhibited, amongst other novelties, jumping horses and swings. The other varieties were by Messrs. Cordwell, Clough, and Lawley.

Humber's Waxworks.

This show, which from many points of view, is the most interesting ever seen in Aberdeen, has been extremely well patronised from the start. Mr. Humber, the proprietor, is a showman of great enterprise and sagacity, ever on the look-out for fresh attractions. Last week Manita appeared in an exceedingly novel act; this week 1500ft. of capital cinematograph films are shown; and next week Mons. Beaute, the "record fasting man," will begin a five weeks' engagement. These are, of course, in addition to the static attractions of a fine array of famous and infamous characters in wax, and others.

Torquay Fair and Regatta.

The best of the shows on the Western round were found at this fashionable seaside resort for its annual carnival and fair—the Hancock combination in full order and array, Jones with variety theatre, Prince and Princess Samonda, Wright's boxers, Lawrence's marionettes, the shooters, swings, helter-skelter, roundabouts (big and little); and stalls, varieties, and the minor novelties and side-shows of the fair were by Messrs. Newman, Lock, Ford, A. Jones, Oldridge, Whitelegg, Rowland, Criff, Chapman, Charles Smith, Antonio, and many local traders.

Oldbury Wakes.

On the Midland round of fairs, Oldbury is under P. Collins's management. The shows and varieties were P. Collins's new show, *Dreamland*, Sahib Leo, the Hindoo Fakir, in his occult mysteries, Prof. and Mme. Haydin in telepathy, Westwood's Colonial prodigies, Leonard Harris's freak museum, and Harry Cullis with boxers and athletes. The other exhibits of the famous Walsall firm were motor-cars, airships, helter-skelter, twin yachts, and racing birds. The attendant entertainers and funmakers were the principal variety providers and stallholders on P. Collins's round.

BARNET OLD FAIR.

We wonder when the myth of Barnet Fair in danger will die. Fifteen years ago or more a bold, bad crusade was carried on against the fair. Petitions were poured into the patient suffering Home Office. The cranks, the faddists, the Peck-sniffs, and the Chadbands massed their weird and drab forces, and the attack was made by the attenuated hosts of cant and humbug.

All, all in vain! For one vote against the fair one hundred and more were cast in its favour. The Home Secretary sent a blank denial, and the croakers, the shakers, and the mischief-makers retired in amazement at their own futility and inherent poverty of argument and numbers.

The Never-Dying Fable.

"Another Old English Fair Threatened" is the alarming headline in the sensational daily Press. "Hurry up, Londoners, or you'll miss the very last opportunity of seeing Barnet Fair" is the warning of other busy newsmongers. Of course, the showmen do not mind a bit how industrious these energetic pressmen may be. They recognise that "sweet are the uses of advertisement."

They recognise also the beneficent value of the proverb, "It's an ill-wind that blows no one good," and they return thanks for the kind interest the Press takes in the show business.

We hasten, however, to assure the pessimistic paragraphers that there are more shows, more fairs, more capital invested in the business, more people employed by the show industry, and more showpeople than ever before in the history of England. It is not a dying nor yet an obsolete craft. For every fair abolished ten have sprung into being.

The Truth About Barnet Fair.

It is safe on its present fairground for many years to come; and whenever the present one is built upon another quite as good—if not better—is available, either under local control or by the private enterprise of the organised showmen.

It is increasing in business value, in attractiveness, and in its public utilities as a pleasure fair for Greater London.

The Fair for 1907.

Seven big shows in the first class, half a dozen side shows, eight large roundabout machines, six smaller ones, six sets of swings, a dozen shooting galleries, half a dozen toy bazaars, a dozen or more pannum stalls, seventy throwing games, half a dozen refreshment booths. These make a fair that London may well love to see and to patronise.

The cinematograph shows were:—William Biddall's, H. and W. Thurston's, Chittock's, and Biddall Bros.' Purchase's Menagerie, Buckley's trained animals, Weston's athletes and boxers, Eddie Elliott's boxing saloon, Renton's giant lady, Wilson's fine art show, and H. Bailey's fine are gallery made up a grand list of exhibitions.

The big machines were those of Thurston, T. and F. Gray, Harris, Pettigrove, F. Bailey, Harniess, Jones, S. Mayne, Taylor, and Long. The shooters were by Andrews, Matthew, C. Bailey, R. Pettigrove, Simpson, Holmes, and Harris.

Coker-sheets, throwing games, variety and toy stalls by Messrs. Taylor, Jones, E. Hussey, W. Hussey, G. Miller, H. Bond, J. Purchase, C. Cooper, W. Harris, H. Taylor, E. Taylor, Mrs. Draper, Homer, E. Harris, D. Stevens, E. Elliott, J. Long, J. Mayne, Matthew, C. Andrews, Brown, Stockwood, Holmes, Simpson, R. Pettigrove, Mrs. Pettigrove, Mrs. Shaw, W. Harris, O. Smith, H. Castles, Mrs. A. Bond, R. Bond, W. Manning, H. Peters, jun., Edwards, Reynolds, L. Davies, George Sanders, and others.

PATENTS.

The following abridged description of a patent is specially compiled for *The Era* by Messrs. Hughes and Young, registered patent agents and engineers, of 55-56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., of whom our readers may obtain information and advice relating to British and foreign patents, designs, and trade marks free of charge.

10,425. Roundabouts. H. H. Pattee, 69, West 38th-street, New York, U.S.A. Relates to roundabouts in which the cars during a part of each revolution enter a darkened structure provided with lights and scenery. In the form shown the cars are suspended from radial arms connected with a hub which revolves on a post, the arms being driven by a motor gearing and a pulley. A semi-circular structure is arranged in the path of the cars and a roof with depending flanges to keep out the light is carried by the arms, so that the structure is darkened. The entrance to the structure consists of a pivoted door, which is provided with a counter-weight to close it quickly, a buffer or spring being provided for the weight. The cars are furnished with rollers for pushing against the door, and the door carries a roller to facilitate the passage of the car over it. Top doors are opened by the ropes supporting the car. As the door is opened a valve arranged on the pivot opens and causes steam or air to be discharged from a perforated pipe which swings with the door. Anti-friction obstructions are arranged to give the cars a jolting motion, or to deflect them from the circular course. Screens or doors of thin or transparent material are arranged to be deflected by the cars, and landing platforms are provided. The cars may be suspended from a circular frame, which, instead of moving around a pivotal support, is provided with rollers which move over a circular track.

Application for Patent.

18,889. Thomas Henry Rochford, 19, Wellington Quay, Dublin. Improvements in programme indicators for theatres of variety and the like.

The Rev. T. Horne on Tour.

For this week-end the Guild Chaplain will be at Yorkshire's greatest feast—Holbeck, Leeds. He will co-operate with the Vicar of Holbeck in Guild services on Sunday in a show on the feast-ground, Holbeck Moor. Next week he starts for Ayr Fair, Scotland, where he anticipates a Scottish welcome. Guild subscription, 1907, Mr. Charles Thurston, £2 2s.

Mr. T. E. Read, the up-to-date lessee of the great London Christmas annual known as the World's Fair at the Royal Agricultural Hall, has for a long time past been actively engaged in arranging some exceptionally big features for his forthcoming twenty-ninth consecutive fair, having been away from dear old England's shores for quite a long period, looking for and securing some new big special attractions for his fast-approaching season. The aerial shows, always a great success, will be particularly so this season, he having arranged with a first-class company of male and female Continental artists, who will make their first appearance in England, and whose performances are not only of a most sensational character, but absolutely the supreme acrobatic achievement of the era. A new departure is also being made in the circus company, Mr. T. E. Read having made special arrangements with Mr. E. H. Bostock, of the Zoo, Glasgow, to provide an entirely new company of equestrian star artists, also of great Continental repute, in their various lines of performance. In fact, Mr. Read is making several important and improved alterations this year, and with Bostock's and Wombwell's menagerie, the finest and largest travelling museum of natural history in the universe, and popularising the dancing propensity of a large section of visitors by adding a commodious free dancing saloon, and possibly calling into requisition the new large annexe now in course of construction in the hall, should, and undoubtedly will, prove the most successful fair ever held within the walls of this, the largest and most accessible place of entertainment in London.

FILM GOSSIP.

Showmen will read in this column news with regard to the best and newest films in the market. Most of these films we have seen ourselves, and can confidently recommend showmen to add them to their stock, either by purchase or hire.

Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd.

The output of the Urban Company this week is chiefly comical. In the new film entitled Preoccupied the blunders of an absent-minded man are drolly depicted. Jones, the gentleman in question, is only really at ease when he is asleep, but as soon as he wakes up his misadventures begin. Even before leaving his couch Jones upsets a lamp on a pedestal, and soon after his rising all the furniture of the room is disorganised. Having dressed with difficulty, Jones goes down to breakfast, where he absent-mindedly tucks a corner of the tablecloth in the place where his serviette ought to go, with the result that when he rises hurriedly to depart the cloth is dragged off, and all the impedimenta of the breakfast table are swept to the floor. Jones cannot buy a button-hole without upsetting the flower-girl's stall, and during his peregrination he collides in turn with dustmen, dinners and provision carts. The stock of an Italian plaster image seller is completely wrecked, and finally the "absent-minded beggar" falls over a chair in which he and passers-by become hopelessly entangled. The film is full of comic surprises which allow no rest to the risibilities.

Another laughable series is that aptly named A Wild Goose Chase. A countryman is on his way to market with several basket loads of geese when by some means the birds escape. A wild chase, in which Giles's friends gleefully join, ensues, and the cackling birds are pursued by many devious ways, devastation following in their wake. The geese take to water, and are more at home than their pursuers, who wade in knee-deep, regardless of soaked garments. Down the stream the chase is continued until the capture of the whole flock is effected, and Giles is left happy with his arms full of geese. In addition to its comic attributes the film is enriched by running water effects, which are very picturesque. The enterprising firm, it should be added, have in preparation a number of scientific and educational subjects, for the presentation of which they are so deservedly renowned.

Accidents Will Happen, one of Chas. Urban's screamingly funny films, was advertised last week at the low price of £4 6s. 8d. for 440ft. The price should have been £7 6s. 8d. Showmen please note. The mistake in price was due to a printer's error.

Pathe Freres.

A trio of novelties is furnished this week by Pathé Frères. The first is exciting and picturesque, and is called The Idol of India. It portrays in a series of excellent films the attempt of a Hindoo to molest a young and beautiful Princess. A youthful soldier intervenes and saves the young lady, but is laid low by a treacherous blow. The lady calls her servants and her preserver is taken insensible to the Palace, where he is eventually nursed back to life by the Princess. A marriage between the two is inevitable, and the nuptials are celebrated by rejoicings, of which an Oriental dance by beautiful damsels is a feature.

Dramatic interest is centred in The Blacksmith's Revenge, which tells in a stirring series of pictures the story of wifely perfidy. A brawny blacksmith is wedded to a charming girl, who arouses the passionate love of a young lordling. She yields to his persuasions, and accompanies him to his ancestral home, followed by the blacksmith, whose suspicions have been aroused. The blacksmith breaks in upon the pair, and is turned out of the house vowing revenge. Later he meets the young aristocrat, and forces him into his workshop, where the lordling would fight with swords; but the blacksmith prefers sledgehammers, and after a few passes promptly knocks his opponent on the head, a reconciliation between husband and wife being afterwards effected.

An ingenious device is employed in Good Fortune, in which a gipsy tells the fortune of a pretty maiden who is courted by a handsome youth. The sage takes a pack of cards, and foretells the events which will follow the betrothal. Each card is separately held up between thumb and finger, and as the ten of clubs, the knave of hearts, and the queen of diamonds and others appear and disappear, the scene of the lovers meeting, the wedding morn, the subsequent temptation to infedility, the discovery by the infuriated husband, and the final consignment of the unfaithful wife into the deepest dungeon are graphically portrayed, after which the picture of the maiden shrinking from such a future and bidding her lover depart is presented. The film is elegantly toned, and, together with the other specimens alluded to, is presented with wonderful clearness and steadiness.

Vitagraph Company.

The latest achievements of the Vitagraph Company of America include The White Man's First Smoke, in which both amusement and instruction are combined. The scene is the home of a Puritan settler in New England. An old woman is cooking the dinner when two Indians enter the cottage and barter with her for some skins. After concluding their bargain each one draws out a pipe and begins to smoke. The old lady is greatly astonished, but purchases two pipes and a quantity of tobacco, and proceeds to smoke. Her husband arrives home, and seeing smoke issuing from her face is greatly alarmed, and dashes a bowl of water over her. Having heard his wife's explanation he tries the other pipe, and two of their neighbours are also initiated into the mysteries and pleasures of smoking. All soon succumb to the effects of the weed, and one by one make a hasty exit. The old lady is eventually accused of being a witch, the town council and burghers take her away, and later she is seen strapped to the ducking-stool and ducked in the pond.

A Double-Barrelled Suicide is the ingenious title given to another of the Vitagraph novelties. A young man is jilted by his sweetheart, and determines to commit suicide. He loads his gun for the purpose, and places it in position pointing out of a window with string attached to the trigger. He proceeds to the outside of the house, but during his absence a boy removes the cartridge from the gun, fills one barrel with talcum powder, and to the other attaches a hose, to the nozzle of which he transfers the string. The young man pulls the trigger, and immediately receives a discharge of white powder in the face and a volume of water in the eye. Just at this moment a messenger boy delivers a telegram saying that the young lady has changed her mind, and the would-be suicide takes the boy who has preserved his life joyfully in his arms.

The Cinematograph Syndicate.

The possibilities of animal training are revealed in the newest Norwood film, which the Cinematograph Syndicate will put on the market next week. The picture is called The Gamekeeper's Dog, and in an exciting series tells the tale of a gamekeeper who is out shooting with his retriever. After disposing of a rabbit he goes to an inn, where his sweetheart dwells. A motorist drives up and insults the maiden, for which he is called to account by her lover. Taking a mean advantage the motorist gets away, and the gamekeeper gets into an old country cart and drives after him. A chase through fields and country lanes follows, and at length the motorist shoots at his pursuer, who falls to the ground. With wonderful sagacity, the dog, who has followed his master, seizes hold of the reins with his mouth and turns the cart round, and afterwards picks up the wounded man's hat and runs back to the inn. The young gamekeeper quickly recovers, and induces his sweetheart to make an appointment with the wily motorist. The pair duly meet on a bridge, and at length the gamekeeper springs from behind a hedge and a struggle ensues. The motor-man produces a pistol, but ere he can pull the trigger the dog once more comes upon the scene, seizes the revolver and makes off with it, leaving the motorist at the mercy of his antagonist. It may be added that Mr. H. W. Hough has made arrangements with the Sheffield Photo Company by which their productions may be secured through the Cinematograph Syndicate.

Sanders and Crowhurst.

One of the most enthralling and instructive pictures that have yet been shown on the stage is being displayed at the Palace, to the programme of which a series of moving pictures entitled Birdland has been added. The pictures have been obtained from some of the less accessible haunts of birds by Mr. Oliver G. Pike, F.R.G.S., and Mr. H. Armytage Sanders, who made a special journey to islands in the north. Armed with a specially constructed silent camera, they spent a considerable time on the sea coast, and, in spite of difficulties that seemed almost insuperable, have brought back a graphic series of pictures. Many unfamiliar birds are shown amid their natural surroundings, and by means of this fine film a close acquaintance with the habits of the wildest species of the feathered tribe may be made.

President Arthur Barclay, the black president of Liberia, with suite, consisting of Mr. F. E. R. Johnson, Secretary of State, Mr. McCant Stewart, Acting Attorney-General, Mr. Henry Hayman, Acting Minister, and Mr. Henry R. Hayman, Secretary to the Legation, paid a visit on Monday afternoon to the film theatre of Messrs. Pathé Frères, in the Charing Cross-road, to witness some of the most recent cinematograph films. The Story of a Venetian Tragedy was told in perfect manner on the screen, while the Coloured Costumes of Centuries, showing the dresses of every age, was admirably depicted. Shooting the Ozal Rapids had a great fascination for the visitors, who were afterwards taken for A Trip Through Switzerland, and finally witnessed a portion of The Passion Play at Oberammergau. The President, who expressed himself highly delighted, said that it was his first visit to an entertainment since his arrival in England.

CRICKET.

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs v. Music Halls C.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, Saturday, Aug. 3. Harry Belding (captain of Bristol X.L.C.R. Club), who has been dangerously ill for some weeks past with appendicitis, was able to turn out for his club again, and bowled in splendid style; Jack Leonard batted and bowled well for Music Halls C.C. Scores:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs: Harry Hare, b Jack Leonard, 0; Jack Lewis, b Jack Leonard, 0; Harry Belding (captain), b Jack Leonard, 13; Eddie Bowman, b Jack Leonard, 0; Harry Edwards, b Jack Leonard, 0; Archie Hamlin, c and b Patrick Reardon, 0; Arthur Cox, b Jack Leonard, 0; Arthur E. Bailey, b Jack Leonard, 7; Alf. Mattock, b Jack Leonard, 0; Percy Hewlett, run out, 2; Frank Stevens, not out, 1; extras, 9; total, 32.

Music Halls C.C.: Harry C. Douglas, b Harry Belding, 0; Tom Neagle (captain), b Harry Hare, 9; Frank Hansford, b Harry Belding, 0; Teddy Denton, c and b Harry Belding, 0; Jack Tyley, b Harry Hare, 27; Will Hinder, b Harry Belding, 0; Patrick Reardon, b Harry Belding, 2; Jack Leonard, not out, 69; extras, 7; total (for seven wickets), 114. Fred B. Nicholls, Fred Arni, and Dan O'Connor did not bat. Harry Belding and Jack Leonard were applauded at the end of the match for their splendid play.

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs v. Music Halls C.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, Saturday, Aug. 10. At the commencement of the game a sad accident befell Mr. Harry Belding (captain of Bristol X.L.C.R. Club), a passing cricket ball striking him on the head. After being attended to by his sister, Miss Lillie Belding, and the members of the club he was able to go on in the second part of the game. Jack Leonard played splendidly for Music Halls C.C., performing the hat trick. Scores:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs: Syd Carter, b Jack Leonard, 2; Harry Hare, b Jack Leonard, 0; Harry Belding (captain), retired hurt, 11; Jack Aubrey, b Jack Leonard, 19; Arthur Cox, b Jack Leonard, 0; Ted Palmer, b Jack Leonard, 0; Leslie Clayton, b Jack Leonard, 0; Archie Hamlin, lwb, b Dan O'Connor, 3; Harry Edwards, b Dan O'Connor, 0; Henri Walenn, b Jack Leonard, 0; Percy Hewlett, not out, 0; extras, 8; total, 43.

Music Halls C.C.: Teddy Denton, c Henri Walenn, b Harry Hare, 0; Dan O'Connor, b Harry Belding, 31; Bob Cullen, b Harry Belding, 0; Will Boyce, c Archie Hamlin, b Harry Belding, 0; Frank Hansford, b Harry Hare, 0; Harry C. Douglas, b Harry Hare, 1; Jack Tyley, b Harry Belding, 15; Will Hinder, b Harry Hare, 0; Tom Neagle (captain), b Harry Belding, 0; Jack Leonard, not out, 44; extras, 11; total (nine wickets), 102. Fred B. Nicholls did not bat.

Crouch-End Hippodrome v. Marlborough Theatre.—Played at Highgate Woods last Wednesday, and ending after a very pleasant and exciting game in a win for the Crouch-End Hippodrome by 7 runs. Scores:—

Crouch-End Hippodrome—Methuen, b Martin, 0; McLeod, b Martin, 10; Hounslow, st Pattenden b Martin, 14; Friday, b Martin, 0; Sherlock, b C. Smith, 5; Swingard, b C. Smith, 1; Murphy, not out, 36; Saville, b Martin, 4; Lyons, b C. Smith, 1; Hoole, b Martin, 0; Jobson, b H. Smith, 2; extras, 4. Total, 77.

Marlborough Theatre—Sherwood Martin, run out, 5; C. Smith, run out, 23; Pattenden, b Methuen, 1; H. Smith, c Sherlock b Hoole, 7; Bourke, b Methuen, 8; Whiffin, c Ward b Methuen, 0; Woodward, c McLeod b Methuen, 12; Austin Milroy, b Methuen, 2; G. M. Montanina, b Hounslow, 1; Beard, c Hoole b Hounslow, 3; Thompson, not out, 0; extras, 9. Total, 70

An "extra turn" of unusually good quality was put on at the Walthamstow Palace last week, the Grantons making a great, instantaneous, and well-deserved success. Their singing and dancing are quite above the average. The young lady is the possessor of a sweet yet powerful voice, and dances with consummate grace and delicacy; while the gentleman gives an exhibition of dancing that fairly "brought down the house" on the night in question. Although handicapped by some disadvantages inseperable from a first appearance, and as a special turn, the Grantons received a double recall, and their future success is practically assured.

Fair at Crewkerne.

Well maintained this year by Messrs. Rowland and Anderton, with their premier living picture show, Buckley's menagerie, with well trained birds and animals, Spink's fat lady show, Marshall Hill's motors and the helter-skelter, varieties by Messrs. Herbert and Gratton.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

A band composed of members of the local branch of the Amalgamated Musicians' Union has been engaged throughout the week at the Trades Union Congress, and has enlivened the proceedings. Mr. J. W. Duys, of Bath, himself a delegate to the Congress, wields the baton, with Mr. W. F. C. Schöttler, the musical director of the Theatre Royal, Bath, leading.

The Belfast Royal Hippodrome staff and orchestra had their first annual "outing" last Sunday, when a party of over sixty journeyed to the Giant's Causeway. Dinner was served up at the Causeway Hotel, and on return tea was partaken of at the Midland Railway Pavilion. Amongst those who accompanied the trip were Messrs. Harry Downs (general manager), George Dobler, F. J. Thompson, and Edgar Haines (chef d'orchestre). The day was a happy and memorable one for all concerned.

The annual outing of the staff of the London and Cambridge Music Halls took place on Sunday last. Starting from outside the London, the party drove in ten four-in-hands to the Crown Hotel, Broxbourne, where dinner was served. Sports were then indulged in, the respective winners being as follows:—100 yards running handicap, Scott (Cambridge); 40 yards ladies', Miss Fielding (Cambridge); potato race, B. Newman (London); needle and thread race, Miss Hudson (Cambridge); egg and spoon race, Symonds (London); egg and spoon race (ladies), Miss Moss (London); half mile team, London men; blindfold race, Whitehead (London); billposters' race, Levey (Cambridge); three-legged race, Browne and Polly (London); veterans' race, Hulley; consolation race, Cohen (London); and the tug-of-war, a draw, the rope breaking. The prizes, all money, were later presented by Mr. T. G. Richards, to whom a vote of thanks was proposed in eulogistic terms by Mr. H. J. Pitt, manager of the Cambridge, and steward of coach No. 1. After a suitable response by Mr. Richards, tea was partaken of, followed by an impromptu dance. The party reached home about 11 p.m. The officials were: Mr. T. G. Richards, chairman; Mr. Hector Munroe, secretary (and indefatigable); Inspector Norman, starter; judges, A. Jacobs and S. Smith; and stewards, Messrs. H. Munroe, H. J. Pitt, Sergt.-Major Puttock, G. Richardson, F. Bradsell, H. Lofthouse, L. Tolano, R. Offord, W. Sears, and G. Ganard.

STAGE CHILDREN.

Mr. "Jack" Woolf, manager of the Queen's, Poplar, made an application on Monday at Old-street for a licence for a boy, aged thirteen years and ten months old, to appear and perform on Monday night and during the week. It was said that the boy, with a girl older, was wanted to appear twice, and that his age just precluded the second appearance.

Mr. Cluer refused to extend the licence, remarking that the regulations of the London County Council required a four hours' interval between the times.

Mr. Woolf proposed to allow a four hours' interval by making the first appearance at 6.30, on the opening of the house, and the second at 10.30, when the second performance was on.

Mr. Cluer said it was too long an interval to keep the boy about the precincts of a music hall, and he would not sanction it by a licence.

Mr. Woolf remarked that the turn which included the boy had been billed, and it was a serious thing to disappoint the public; in fact, taking money by a false pretence.

Mr. Cluer said that was utter nonsense. If the boy was fourteen he could be worked from 6.30 till midnight, but it was a scandalous thing. As matters stood, he would not help some people to live on the earnings of children by breaking the regulations.

Mr. Woolf remarked that there were no regulations of the London County Council in the matter; it was an understanding come to by the Theatres Committee and the magistrates.

Mr. Cluer would not break the understanding, and peremptorily refused to licence two appearances.

"THE TREE OF TRUTH."

Produced at the Britannia on Monday, Sept. 2.

After a most successful tour in the provinces, *The Tree of Truth* was played for the first time in London on Monday. It is a very amusing trifle, and keeps the audience in hearty laughter. When any person sits under the said tree and omits to keep to the truth, the fruit immediately falls upon them. A middle-aged lady has advertised for a husband, and receives a reply asking her to meet the gentleman under the tree. They sit immediately under a very prominent branch, and exchange confidences. The lady naturally minimises her age, and down come the apples on her head. Then the gentleman has his turn. He commences saying he has never kissed a girl in his life before, and receives a shower of fruit Mr. Harry Brayne as the buxom lady is very amusing. Made up as a good old-fashioned pantomime dame, he is quite at home in the part. Mr. Bert Lloyd as a "swell" is good, making the character stand out well. A special scene is carried, and a weird effect is created when the tree is alight with electricity.

"The Showmen's Year Book" for 1907. Edited by the Rev T. Horne. Entirely rearranged, corrected, and enlarged; 100 pages. Price 1s. Principal contents: "British Shows and Showmen," "Constitution and Rules of the Showmen's Guilds," "Lists of Fairs," "Local Feasts and Wakes," "Synopsis of By-laws," &c. Invaluable to all who follow the fair. Sold at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.C.

The Awards. The three interim Awards and the final Award, corrected and revised by George Ranken Askwith, Esq., the official arbitrator appointed in the Music Hall Dispute, may be had in pamphlet form at "The Era" Offices. Copy, including postage, three-half-pence. Address: The Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Indispensable! Rayne's "Pocket Date Book." Contents; Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various music halls at a glance. Will tell if one hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety. All about artists' luggage, list of clubs, information about stamping contracts, foreign money table, London music halls and theatres, their telephone numbers, list of brougham proprietors, list and address of photographers, size of theatrical printing paper, names and addresses of theatrical railway managers, &c. Price 1s., post free. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

IN BIRDLAND.

All inquiries for rights in the very wonderful Animated Pictures of Wild Bird Life by Oliver G. Pike, F.R.P.S., and H. Armytage Sanders, now showing nightly at the Palace Theatre, must be addressed to Sanders & Crowhurst, 71, Shaftesbury Avenue, W. Wire, "Optogram, London." 'Phone, 4436 Gerrard.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.
ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Dec. 16, Feb. 10, 17, 24, March 2, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 16, Feb. 3, 17, 24, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Dec. 16, Feb. 10, April 6, 13, May 18, 25, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Jan. 27, March 2, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Oct. 14, Nov. 11, 18, Feb. 10, March 2, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Jan. 6, 20, Feb. 3, 17, 24, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Feb. 3, April 6, 13, 20, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Dec. 16, Jan. 13, 20, on.
(Panto. Required).
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Nov. 7, 14, 21 (3 nights each),
Dec. 23, Xmas week, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton,
Oct. 14, Nov. 11 and 18;
Reading, Nov. 11, Dec. 2.
Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
1908, March 16, May 11, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
1908, April 13, May 11, onwards.
Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole T., Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, Dec. 9, 16, 23, onwards.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Oct. 21, Nov. 25, Dec. 16, 23, 30, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Sept. 16, 30, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4 (3 nights only).
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Oct. 21 and 28.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Canterbury, Sept. 16 and 30 (three nights only).
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED really First-class Attractions,
Nov. 25,
Dec. 2,
Jan. 6.
One of the Handsomest and Most Perfect Theatres in the North.
Good Companies can rely upon Big Business.
JAMES BELL.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, really First-class Attractions (musical preferred), for Oct. 7 and Dec. 23.
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Special Attractions, Sept. 16 and 23. Write, FRED GRANVILLE, Queen's T., Liverpool.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE, S.E.
WANTED, Known, Six Nights, Vacant September, ditto October. Apply, PROPRIETOR.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, a First-Class Pantomime, for Xmas, vacant through obliging Mr. C. Constant.

Address,
GEO. CONQUEST.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
IRVING THEATRE, SHACOMBE,
First-Class Attractions for Dec. 2, 16, Pantomime, Dec. 30, on, Jan. 6, 27, March 2 and 9, 15, 23, 30.
Apply,
JAMES KIERNAN, Manager and Owner.

CRITERION THEATRE, WORKSOP.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for last three nights of each week; Share or Rental.
S. GOODMAN, Proprietor.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, No. 1 Attraction only, for Dec. 23; also three Spring Dates and several Autumn, 1908.
Particulars to SIDNEY COOPER.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good Companies, Sept. 16, Oct. 21.
A. D. VERNON.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, Vacant, Oct. 3, 7, 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25, Dec. 9, 16. Address, KING, D. P., Eastbourne.

WANTED, for Londesboro' Theatre, Scarboro', First-Class Attraction, Nov. 4, 5, and 6 (three nights). WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, good Companies, Sept. 19, 23, 26, three nights each, unexpectedly vacant. For autumn dates apply J. RITSON, General-Man.

WANTED, Attractions Touring Scotland to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, N.B. Vacant dates, apply to Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Oct. 28, Nov. 4, on, Grand, Chorley; also Oct. 21, on, with exceptions, Grand, Radcliffe, SANTE, Radcliffe.

HIPPODROME AND GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Lessee and Manager, JAMES FIONI.
Twice Nightly. Matinée every Tuesday.
WANTED, Big Attraction, Sept. 30.
First-class Pantomime, Dec. 16.

JAMES FIONI, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1686 Royal.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, good Dramatic Attractions, for New Standard Theatre, Hetton, Sept. 23 and onwards, with exceptions. Write, CHAPMAN.

WORTHING THEATRE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 21, 28, 31, Nov. 7, several Dates, onwards, three nights each inst.; also open for good Panto. at Xmas. C. ADOLF RHODES, as above.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant Dec. 16, March 9, onward (with exceptions).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Nov. 25, Dec. 16, onward, with exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Nov. 4, 18, onward, with exceptions.

THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY DOCK.
Vacant Nov. 11, 25, Dec. 2, onward, with exceptions.
(Share or certainty.)

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Oct. 21, Nov. 11, onward, with exceptions.
(Last three nights of each week.)

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Sept. 30, Oct. 21, onward, with exceptions.

Good Pantomimes Wanted, Xmas, on.

ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre, the Fashionable Theatre. The only Theatre in the town allowed to advertise on the electric cars. Lighted throughout by electricity. Brilliant success of after entire re-building. Press and public enthusiastic. Described as the most beautiful Theatre in the North.
Holding capacity second to none in the town.
Bookings include: "The Dairymaids," Mr. James Welch's Co. in "When Knights were Bold," Miss Annie Hughes in "Tommy," Mr. Norman Macowan in "Monsieur Beaucaire," "The Little Stranger" (including Master Edward Garrett), "A Trip to the Highlands," Mr. Walter Maxwell's Co., "The Lion and the Mouse" (third visit), Mr. Charles Cartwright and Co., "In the Bishop's Carriage," Mr. Frederick Mouillot's Co., including Miss Decima Moore, in "The Truth," Mr. Percy Hutchison's No. 1 Company, "The Stronger Sex," Mr. Brandon Thomas' No. 1 Company, "Charley's Aunt," Mr. Walter Melville's Drama, Mr. Frank Lindo's "Home, Sweet Home," Mr. Morton Powell's Companies, Mr. Edward Marris's Co., "The English Rose," and Mr. Lawrence Brough in "The Lady of Ostend," &c., &c.
WANTED, Exceptional Attractions. Only vacant dates this year, Oct. 28 (vacant owing to transfer), Dec. 30; also vacant Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 24, onwards.
CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H.M.T., Barrow.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
Holding capacity, 3,500.
Acknowledged to be one of the Finest and Best-equipped Theatres in the Provinces.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Dec. 2, 9, 16.
Now Booking Spring.
Vacant Feb. 17, 24,
and on, with exceptions.

First-class Attractions only.

All communications to
JNO. ED. JOWSEY,
Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.
Telegrams, "Magnet, Middlesbrough."
Telephones, 413, 426, 500.
Next week,
Mr. George Alexander's No. 1 Company,
in "His House in Order."

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
Lessees, W. PAYNE SEDDON and ERNEST POPE.
WANTED, good Companies, for three nights, Dec. 2, and on, Musical Comedy and Light Attractions first three days, and Dramas the last three days of each week; good Pantomime for a week in January.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Theatre, Lincoln.

TOWN HALL, RUGBY.
Now the only place of entertainment in Rugby. Exclusively booked by Messrs. Seddon and Robertson. Wanted, good Fit-up and other Companies, for immediate dates.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Theatre, Lincoln

THE SPA, WHITBY.
Vacant Sept. 26, and intermediate dates, Companies invited to visit any other building in Whitby are advised to refer to Managers who have recently visited Whitby.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Theatre, Lincoln.

WATERLOO THEATRE, WHITBY.
Formerly known as the Star Theatre. Brick building; popular Management. The only Theatre in the town that has a permanent Band. The only place of Amusement in Whitby that has remained open through the winter months. This Theatre is not built on the cliff, but in the centre of the town, and is absolutely sheltered from stormy weather. Vacant Sept. 16, 26, 30, only vacant dates this year.
WANTED, good Dramas, with printing, for Stock. JULIAN BAINBRIDGE, Lessee and Resident-Manager.

RHYL PALACE THEATRE.
WANTED, good Company, Oct. 3, 4, 5, also Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31 (three nights each). Booking in conjunction with Prince's, Llandudno. Early closing, Llandudno Wednesday, Rhyl Thursday. Write, with daybill. FRED BENTON, Manager.

PARDOE'S THEATRE, MIDDLETON, LANCS.
WANTED, Sept. 15, Good, Sound Drama or Musical Show. Fullest particulars,
W. PARDOE, Theatre, Sacriston, co. Durham.

WANTED, A1 Attractions, three or six nights, through transferring, Vacant Oct. 21 (?), Nov. 18, on, with exceptions. W. E. POTTS, Opera House, Dunfermline.

WANTED, Pantomime, Dec. 23, for Theatre near London; also Musical Comedies or Light Plays for January and on. Shares or certainty. Send full particulars, FRED DURHAM'S Agency, 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Mr. Chas. Harrington, "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Co. Please send address.

WANTED, good Dramatic Companies, Sept. 12 (3 nights), onwards, with exceptions. Address, ROBT. BROWN, Theatre Royal, Shotton, Durham.

WANTED, Best Companies, for Coliseum, Aberystwyth, Oct. 14 (three nights), onwards. Wire, PHILLIPS.

KING'S HALL THEATRE, SKEGNESS.
WANTED, First-class Companies, from Sept. 16, onwards. Next week, Norman V. Norman's Company and Harold Wantage's "The Pick of the Bunch." Terms, &c., address, H. LENTON, Manager, as above.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Garrison Theatre, Bordon Camp,
Sept. 23, 30, and various, on.
Good Companies can do Good Business.
Refer Miss Grace Warner, Mr. Ernest Abbott, Miss Maude Western, &c. Wire or write,
MAY, Manager.

NEW TOWER PAVILION, PORTOBELLO, N.B.
2 miles from Edinburgh. Cars pass every minute.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Nov. 11, onwards, with exceptions. Bookings include "The Shulamite," "The Officers' Mess," "The Road to Fortune," "The End Crowns All," &c., &c. Companies can have three nights here, with Opera House, Dunfermline, to precede or follow. HARRY MARVELLO, Sole Proprietor. Good Pantomime wanted.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
Dec. 30 (?), Jan. 20, Pantomime, Feb. 24, on, with exceptions.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Oct. 21 (?), Dec. 2 (?), 16, Jan. 13.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-Class Low Comedian, for Ned Pennycomequick, "Honour Thy Father," rehearse Sept. 16, open Sept. 23.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

VICTORIA PIER PAVILION, COWES.
WANTED, Sept. 23, 30, and during Oct., First-Class Concert Parties (one or two weeks each), for the above popular Pavilion; recognised Attractions should do good business, as Cowes does not depend upon visitors, even in summer, so better business should be done during the cooler weather. Evening performances only. Good Sharing terms. Apply, REUBEN MOSS. Scarlet Mr. E's communicate.

ILFORD TOWN HALL.
WANTED, a First-Class Musical Entertainment, for the Christmas week.
Apply,
ABRAHAMS, 26, Great Eastern-road, Stratford, E.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres,
Dec. 2, Jan. 6, 13, 20.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 3, 10, 17, 1908.
Apply,
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 9, 23, Feb. 3.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 2, 23, and 30.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 25, Dec. 2 and 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatre, Sept. 16.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 9, Feb. 17.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 9, 23, 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 9.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 23,
Feb. 3, 17, March 2, 23.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
WANTED, Dec. 30.
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
Theatre Royal, Dover.
See Companies Advertisement, page 2.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Oct. 28 and Dec. 9.
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
Theatre Royal, Dover.
See Companies' Advertisement, page 2.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Sept. 23, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, 18.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Oct. 21, Dec. 2, 23, 30.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Oct. 7, Nov. 11 and 25, Xmas and New Year's Week vacant.
Communications to DOUGLAS TREMAYNE,
Victoria Theatre, Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Miss Mary Neil is now Booking her New Play,
"FROM SHOP-GIRL TO DUCHESS,"
by Charles Darrell.
Communications to GEORGE KIRK,
Victoria Theatre, Broughton, Manchester.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY and MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO., in the highly successful Comedy,
"MY WIFE." "MY WIFE."
Now playing to crowded houses at the HAYMARKET THEATRE, LONDON.
Special Engagement of Mr. BILLIE NORWOOD.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Sept. 30, Nov. 4 and 11.
Add., Mr. S. DAUNCEY, T. R., Margate.

MR. LOUIS CALVERT'S
Principal Company,
"SUNDAY,"
from the Comedy Theatre, London.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Sept. 30,
through transfer,
between Glasgow and Manchester.
G. M. COPPING,
King's Theatre, Edinburgh.

"MICE AND MEN."
"MICE AND MEN."
WANTED, Sept. 30, and onward dates.
"LA POUPEE."
"LA POUPEE."
Wanted, Sept. 30, unexpectedly vacant.

HERBERT RALLAND, Borough Theatre, Stratford.

TRAVIS GREEN AND ARTHUR HINTON'S CO.
"HOME, SWEET HOME."
by Frank Lindo.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 16, Nov. 4, for above successful play.
Wire, to-day, 9, Edgcumbe-terrace, Stonehouse, Plymouth; next week, Theatre Royal, Deal.

"THE OFFICERS' MESS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Sept. 16, Sept. 16, Sept. 16,
North or Midlands.
One of the Brightest Musical Shows on the Road.
PENRHYN FORSTER, 11, Buckingham-st., Strand, W.C.
Wires, "Corodies, London."

HARDIE AND VON LEER'S CO.
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 23 (114th anniversary of production; Special Souvenir Week), London or Midlands; also Oct. 7.
R. P. CLIFT, 110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Wires: "Vagancy, London." Tel., Gerr. 7504.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this successful Attraction, Oct. 3 (three nights, S. Wales), 21, Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 16, 23, 30, Jan. 6, 20, 27, Easter, Whit, and Christmas, 1908, vacant. Sept. 9, T. R., Ton-y-Pandy.

"WOMAN AND WINE."
WANTED, through misunderstanding, Oct. 14. Entire Production Carried (10 tons of scenery). Company of thirty artists. Crowds of auxiliaries. Playing to pantomime business everywhere. Wire, to-day, E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, North, Oct. 7. "Floradora" No. 1 Co.; Oct. 14, "Prince of Pilsen" No. 1 Co.; Nov. 4, "Belle of New York" No. 1 Co. Dates vacated to oblige management of King's Theatre, Edinburgh. Apply, GEORGE MUSGROVE, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The most Successful Play Produced during the Year 1906.
WANTED, Sept. 30 and Oct. 28, in First-class Theatres only.
Wire or write.
W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, weeks of Dec. 30 and Jan. 6.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" and "THE OCTOROON."
"Uncle Tom's Cabin."—This charming and pathetic story has never failed, and, judging from last night's magnificent house, the piece is likely to have a singularly successful run at the Gaiety.—Irish Times, Dublin.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 7, 14, Nov. 11, Xmas.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, 105, College-place, London, N.W.

"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
The new and enormously successful Musical Comedy. Special new Scenery; Gorgeous Costumes; Terrific Cast; full London Operatic Chorus.
WANTED, for this Strong Attraction, Sept. 23, Sept. 23, Sept. 23, to follow Swindon; also Sept. 30, Sept. 30, and Oct. 7, Oct. 7, to precede Glasgow.
Nov. 11 and 18, in Scotland, and on, with exceptions. Refer J. Maurice Clement, Esq., Proprietor Opera House, Dudley, as to the value of this show. Mr. Clement has offered return date.
Wire re Sept. 23.
HAMILTON BAINES, Opera House, Dudley; next, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

THE CHAS. CARTWRIGHT and A. B. TAPPING DICKENS REPERTOIRE COMPANY.
MR. CHAS. CARTWRIGHT
and
MR. CHAS. COLLETTE
in
"DAVID COPPERFIELD."
"DOMBEY AND SON."
WANTED, Oct. 14, Nov. 4 (North).
Address, Mr. FRANK JACKSON,
Theatre Royal, Brighton.

"FROM SCOTLAND YARD."
WANTED, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25.
FRED BULMER, T. R., Stratford, E.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 7, Nov. 4.
FRED BULMER, T. R., Stratford, E.

"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
WANTED, Sept. 16, 23, Oct. 21, 28.
FRED BULMER, T. R., Stratford, E.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 18, Xmas.
FRED BULMER, T. R., Stratford, E.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOURS.

"THE LOVE OF A LIFE."
A charming Story of English Military Life.
Enthusiastic reception this week at Accrington.
Refer J. B. Ormerod, Esq.
Re-booked, Re-booked, Re-booked.
The talk of every town visited.

A good healthy drama, that can reach the hearts of all.—Northern Morning News.

Vacant Sept. 16 (to follow Glasgow), 23 (?), 30, Oct. 7, and on, with exceptions.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Sept. 16, 23 (?), 30, and on, with exceptions. Wire for Sept. 16.

JOHN B. SHINTON,
To-day, Prince's Theatre, Accrington.
Sept. 9, Lyceum Theatre, Govan.

"A NIGHT OFF."
MR. ARDENE LINDEN'S CO.
WANTED, for this successful Farcical Comedy, good Theatres for weeks of
Dec. 30, Jan. 6, 13, 20, and on.
"A NIGHT OFF," from Daly's Theatre,
No Amateurs; all experienced Artists.
Address, 11, Dibble-road, Smethwick.

HARTWELL J. KIRBY'S COMPANY, including the Popular Actress, Miss V. St. Lawrence, with the Successful, Moral, Up-to-the-minute Melodrama,
"MAN'S ENEMY; OR, THE LOVE THAT WON."
WANTED, Sept. 23 and 30, Midlands.
Vacant Dates, Oct., Nov., and Dec.
New Plant of Printing in Hand by Allens.
Coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK,
To-day, T. R., Whitehaven;
Sept. 9, Prince's, Blackburn.

MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S CO.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 7, 14, New Year, Jan. 6, 13, onwards.
Address, ARMADALE and WARREN,
Prince of Wales's Theatre, Nuneaton.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 14, Nov. 18, 25.

MISS ANNIE BELL as FLARE-FLARE.
Wire, JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Renowned Attraction. Good Theatres for weeks of
Sept. 30,
Oct. 21, 28,
Nov. 4, 11, 25
Address, C. and F. RENAD, Queen's T., Keighley.

WILLIAM HOLLES AND NANNIE GOLDMAN'S CO., the Great Domestic Drama by Arthur Shirley,
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
Enormous Success Everywhere. Refer Managers, Oldham; Junction, Manchester; Keighley; Grand, Middlesbrough, &c., &c.
WANTED, for this Great Attraction, Oct. 7, 21, 28. Wire, WILLIAM HOLLES, this, Grand, Middlesbrough; next, T. R., Leicester.

MR. FRANK BERTRAM'S CO'S.
WANTED, Nov. 18 (?), Christmas Week, and Spring, for "The Breed of the Treshams" (by arrangement with Mr. Hartin Harvey); Nov. 11 and 25, and Dec. 9, for "The Convict's Daughter." Address, BERTRAM, T. R., S. Shields; next week, Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 21 and 28, Nov. 4, 11.
HENRY L. OSMOND, T. R., North Shields.

Pantomime.
WANTED, Theatre, Christmas, for First-Class Production. Address, G. BEYDON-PHILLIPS, Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand, London.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
Second Visit to the Palace Newcastle.
Verdict, better than ever. Please refer.
WANTED, Sept. 30 (Scotland or North), Nov. 4, 18, and 25. DICKIE CLARE, Gaiety, Dundee (return).

SIDNEY RENNEF'S COMPANY.
"LOVE RULES THE WORLD," by T. G. Bailey.
WANTED, good Theatre, Xmas, New Year, and onward, for this Big Success. Eight full sets carried. Splendid printing. All special. G. M. COPPING, King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy, till Sept. 12; then, Falkirk.

WANTED, Sept. 16, for "Beneath the Stars." Printing ready; everything sound; no trouble. Refer. Wire (to-day), DAVIES, Theatre, Aberdare; next, Treharris (2), Redditch (3).

"A MOTHER'S LOVE."
Vacant,
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Oct. 28, and onwards. FRED L. CONNYNGHAME, to-day, Glossop; next, Fleetwood.

"THE GRIP OF IRON" No. 1 Company.
WANTED, Nov. 18 (vacant through misunderstanding), Eastern Counties, Midlands, or London, Feb. 17 (South), March 2 (Midlands), 30, May 4, 11 (Lancs or Yorks), Whit Week (London), only vacant dates till Aug., 1908. Apply, E. R. KNIGHT, 7, The Crescent, Barnes, S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
Nov. 4, 11, 25.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates for
this Brilliant Production,
Dec. 23, Jan. 6, 13, 20.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Dates for
this Enormously Successful Drama,
Oct. 7 (?), 21, Dec. 23, Jan. 6, 20.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Oct. 7, 14, 28, Nov. 11.
The greatest of all Domestic Dramas.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MRS. ANN HUGHES' CO.,
in the New Comic Opera Success,
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
Thirty-five Artists.
Clear Stage only required.
The Comedy Court-Martial Scene the talk of every town visited.
WANTED, Oct. 7, 21, and on.
This, G., Clydebank;
next, Dumfries (three), Hawick (three).

ALFRED B. CROSS' TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
Supported by Miss Watersford (Mrs. Cross), and Powerful Company. Sixth Year of Tour.
WANTED, Oct. 14 and 21, and few Later, "DIVORCED," and "DAVID GARRICK," if required. Both Solid Successes.
Sept. 9, Alex. T., Widnes.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, Oct. 21 (three nights), Oct. 21 (3), Nov. 4, 25.
Nov. 4 and 25,
Fast Booking Spring, '08.
Cast, Scenery, and Printing A1. Refer.
FRANK AYRTON,
Lyceum Theatre, Pentre.

FRANK M. THORNE'S CO.
"THE WOMAN PAYS."
Success.
A money-maker without a doubt.
Copy of unsolicited letter from Messrs. Sherwood and Co.
Opera House, Wakefield, Sept. 3, 1907.
Frank M. Thorne, Esq.
Dear Mr. Thorne,—Please allow us to express to you our entire satisfaction of your production last night at this theatre of your play, "The Woman Pays." Should you at any time desire to produce another piece at the Opera House, we shall certainly use every endeavour to place this theatre at your disposal. With very best wishes for your future success, We are, yours faithfully, SHERWOOD and Co.
WANTED, for this great Attraction, Oct. 14 (North or Scotland), Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 23, and 30. F. M. THORNE, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
Mr. David James as the Rev. Robert Spalding.
WANTED, Oct. 7, 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25, Dec. 23, 30. Managers with above dates kindly write, E. C. STAFFORD, 51, The Grove, Hammersmith, W.

THE MONCKTON HOFFE COMEDY COMPANY.
By arrangement with Mr. George Alexander,
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST,"
"LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN," by Oscar Wilde.
WANTED, immediately, Sept. 16, between Glasgow and York.
Oct. 14 (?), Oct. 21, Nov. 4, and 1908.
RALPH W. HUTTON, to-day, Gaiety, Dublin.
Sept. 9, Royalty, Glasgow.

WYBERT CLIVE'S CO.,
"THE CONSCRIPT,"
Still Playing to Excellent Business, every Theatre visited.
Star Company, including
MR. ALGERNON SYMS and MISS LILIAN ROSS.
WANTED, for this Great Attraction, Sept. 16 and 23. Wire, to-day, T. R., Bilston; next week, T. R., West Bromwich.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
SHAKESPEAREAN and CLASSICAL REPERTOIRE, also "THE GLADIATORS" and "THE THREE MUSKETEERS."
WANTED, Oct. 14, 28, Nov. 18.
Address, 283, Edge-lane, Liverpool.

"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
From the Lyceum Theatre, London.
WANTED, Dec. 16, 23, and several Spring Dates, for both Companies.
PAUMIER and HOWARD, Theatre Royal, S. Shields.

"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
The complete Production travelled.
Uniforms and Dressing a Speciality.
WANTED, weeks of Oct. 21, Nov. 11 and 25, Xmas still vacant.
JAMES HARE, Athenæum, Lancaster.

A. CAMPBELL-KELLY'S COS.
"THE TRAIL OF THE SERPENT."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23, on, with exceptions. "A GAMBLE WITH LIFE,"
Vacant Oct. 7, and on, with exceptions.
Prince's, Horwich.

"AT BREAK OF DAY,"
by W. Bailey, jun., and Chas. Berte, Authors of "A City of Millions." A First-Class Company, including Mr. Cyril Vernon as Richard Thornecroft, Miss M. E. Ellis as Henrietta Stubbs. Fine plant of printing by David Allen. Everything carried.
WANTED, Oct. 7, 21, on. Address, A. D. VERNON, T. R., Peterborough.

"HIS DISHONOURED WIFE."
"HIS DISHONOURED WIFE."
An Emphatic Success.
Hundreds turned away Saturday at Paisley.
WANTED, Oct. 21, Dec. 30, and on, with exceptions. HARRY TILBURY, Gaiety, Dundee.

MR. FRANK LYNDON'S PRODUCTION,
"THE POOR MUST LIVE."
WANTED, Sept. 16, Oct. 7, and various onward, Entire Production carried.
One of the best-balanced companies touring.
Refer W. D. Forsdike, Esq., Alexandra, Sheffield.
Address, Alhambra Theatre, Stourbridge.

MR. and MRS. JOHN E. TOMLINSON'S TOUR of the Successful Oriental Musical Drama,
"SECRETS," by Max Goldberg.
Managers note, we have been successful with the above piece at every town visited, and in many cases have returns booked at increased percentage.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 23, Oct. 7 (three nights), 14, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Central Theatre, Northwich.

WANTED, First-Class Theatre having large Stage and large holding capacity, for production Christmas and New Year's weeks,
of
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Colossal and Gorgeous Pantomime,
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
Managers in want of a money magnet for these holiday weeks secure the above; a sure draw. Can play two houses nightly.
Address, JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S CO.
"THE TRAITOR."
WANTED, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2, 9, and onwards.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Theatre R., Sheffield.

"THE HERO OF THE FLAG."
WANTED, Sept. 16, Sept. 16 (wire, wire), also Christmas; now booking Spring, 1908
EDWARD MCLEAN, T. R., Lincoln.

"HER NAMELESS CHILD."
MRS. SAM DUCKWORTH'S COMPANY.
WANTED, for this Gigantic Success, Oct. 7, 14, 28, Nov. 4, Dec. 30, Jan. 6, 13, Feb. 3, April 20. Magnificently mounted. Exceptional cast. Enthusiastic reception at T. R., Cardiff. Refer. A powerful domestic drama, taking big money.
SAM DUCKWORTH, T. R., Ton-y-Pandy. General-Manager, F. EDEN.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."

WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 7 and 14,
Various Onward Dates,
are reserved for First-class Theatres.
A most desirable attraction. Perfect in detail.
Playing to immense business regularly.
Another Triumph in the Channel Islands.
Refer by permission Mr. Marris.
A letter or wire to the following Managers will ensure a booking :—
Mr. Robt. Redford, New Theatre, Cardiff;
Mr. J. C. Imeson, T. R., Middlesbrough;
Mr. R. C. Buchanan, Grand T., Glasgow;
Mr. Sidney Bacon, Metropole, Gateshead;
Mr. Rich. Waldon, Princess's, Glasgow;
Mr. John Hart, T. R., Bradford.
References given are authorised in all cases, and return dates are booked.
Eighteen weeks filled in 1908.

"NANA,"
the rage of Paris, played one or two nights if desired.
LOIE ESMOND, Globe Theatre, Deal (return).
Sept. 9, Pier Pavilion, Southend-on-Sea (return).

A Rollicking Roaring Success.
MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
in the New, Irish, Romantic, Musical, Legendary Play,
"ROLLICKING RORY."
Pantomime Business.
Pantomimic in its Effect and Grandeur.
Strong Musical Interest.
Every Number Encored.
Peals of laughter and applause from start to finish. Outside the fact of its being absolutely the greatest Irish play ever sent on tour, it is one of the best and most elaborate productions of any kind on the road.
Teeming with natural Irish Light Comedy.
Old Irish Ballads, Songs, and Dances.
Scenery by a well-known West End Artist, being actual reproductions of the picturesque places represented.

WANTED, No. 1 Theatres,
at No. 1 Terms,
for an undoubted No. 1 Attraction.
For Vacant Spring Dates apply to
CHALMERS MACKEY,
Gaiety Theatre, Leith; next, Kilmarnock and Ayr (three each).

HERBERT DARNLEY'S GREAT PLAY,
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."

WANTED, Sept. 23, onwards,
Sept. 23, onwards,
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."
Sept. 23, onwards,
A Great Play, with one of the Strongest Companies Touring, including
Miss Louie Adair
as the Mother,
and
Herbert Darnley's Dots,
with
Little Winnie Crisp.
A real drawing attraction.

Address,
H. D., Hippodrome, Mansfield.

"A TRIP TO THE HIGHLANDS" CO. One of the most successful Musical Comedies ever produced. Cast includes Mr. Wal Croft (in his original character), Messrs. Willie Scott, Frank Barclay, Harry A. Gribbon, James Sommerville, the wonderful boy piper, Connor, &c.; Misses Nellie Burdett, Grace Desmond, Clara Moore, Kate Dobie, &c., and Miss Isa Bowman (in her original character).
WANTED, Oct. 7 (through misunderstanding), and Nov. 11, 18, 25, only vacant dates this year. Wanted, good Theatre, for Xmas week and onwards; also a few good Spring Dates. Autumn, 1908, booked with a few exceptions. All communications to WELLESLEY SMITH, General-Manager, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

LINGFORD CARSON'S SUCCESSES.
By Geo. A. De Gray.
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
"A FIGHT FOR A THRONE."
WANTED, for these Moneymaking Attractions,
Oct. 7 and 14, Nov. 25, Dec. 30.
Oct. 7 and 14, Nov. 25 Dec. 30.
GEO. A. DE GRAY,
Theatre Royal, Aston, Birmingham.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for Lingford Carson's No. 1 Co. Oct. 14, Dec. 30, only vacancies 1907; also Spring dates; must be good Theatres and equitable terms. Address, EDWARD VAN BIENE, Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor.

WANTED, Theatres,
"SAVED FROM THE SEA," by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck, Vacant Sept. 23, Xmas week.
"THE LOVE THAT LASTS FOR EVER,"
by Edward Thane; Vacant Sept. 23, Xmas week.
"AS GOOD AS GOLD," by Fred S. Jennings.
"LOVE'S CROSS ROADS," by Frederick Somers.
Vacant Sept. 30, Xmas week.
Apply,
SAMUEL JAMES, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

WILL ONDA'S TOUR.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
for the Most Successful Variety Combination on the road.
Sept. 30, Oct. 14, 21, and 28.

ONDA, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY, "THE BEST OF HER SEX," the Dramatic success of 1907. 100th consecutive performance, Thursday, Sept. 5, at Grand Theatre, Luton.
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 14, and onwards, with exceptions. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, this, Grand, Luton; next, T. R., Chesterfield.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
WANTED, Important Theatres, for Sept. 30 (Midlands, London, or South), Nov. 4 and 18. H. HOLLISTER, to-day, Devonport; Monday, Brixton Theatre, S.W.

"FAIR ONE WITH GOLDEN LOCKS."
WANTED, First-Class Theatre, Feb. 3, North, for above Pantomime.
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

WANTED, for Miss Emma Litchfield's "A Clever Impostor" Co., Oct. 14 and 21. A good, sound show. Address, STUART CLEVELAND, to-day, Hyde; next, Court Theatre, Bacup.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
"OLIVER TWIST."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 21 and 28, Nov. 4, 11, Dec. 23 and 30.
HENRY L. OSMOND, T. R., North Shields.

WANTED, for Glossop-Harris Répertoire of Shakespearean and other plays, including "Royal Oak." Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 14, and 28.
CLAUDE E. WALLIS,
To-day, Darlington; next, Saltburn (3), York (3).

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, for First-class Pantomime, Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17, or 24. Can play twice nightly if required. Share or certainty. Particulars, FRED DURHAM'S Agency, 14, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

"UNDER TWO FLAGS."
WANTED, Sept. 30, Sept. 30, Nov. 4, 18.
MARK BLOW,
11, St. Edmund's-terrace, Regent's Park, London.

"HIS SISTER'S HONOUR,"
by Eva Elwes.
A consistent successful money-maker.
Refer W. D. Forsdike, Esq., Alex., Sheffield.
WANTED, Big Theatre, Oct. 21,
to precede T. R., Leeds.
Wire, E. A'DELL, Pier, Teignmouth, Devon.

"PRINCE OF PILSEN."
WANTED, Theatre, through a certain No. 1 Theatre Closing, Oct. 14, unexpectedly vacant for this great attraction, London Company of Fifty Artists. Wire or write, Baron HARRISS, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

FABBIO'S ELECTRIC SINGING PICTURES (Gaumont's Chronophone) and High-class Vaudeville Company.
WANTED, good Theatres, Sept. 16, 23, 30, and Oct. 7. Wire, HARTLEY, Princess's T., Glasgow.

WANTED, Oct. 7, onward, important Theatres. Triple Bill, including Venus. See "Stage," page 12. AUSTIN MILLAIS, South London Palace.

THEATRES WANTED.

An Unmistakable Success.
THE FAMOUS NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA.
Twelve Coloured Ladies and Gentlemen. Survivors of the recent terrible earthquake.
Record houses everywhere. Return dates at increased terms.
H.R.H. the Princess Henry of Battenberg and party were delighted at the original and unique performance.
WANTED, first Vacant Date, Nov. 18, and onwards, with exceptions.
Sole Managers, Messrs. H. E. JONES and A. DOUGLASS, 21, Water-street, Liverpool.
'Phones 5650 and 2449 Central.
Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, Hippodromes, or any place that will hold money, for Leoni Clarke's No. 1 Vaudeville,
with a galaxy of talent that fear no opposition.
Dates Vacant :—
Oct. 7, 14, and 28, Nov. 4, 11, 18, and 25.
Dec. 2, 23, and 30.
Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, March 16, 23, 30, April 6.
Communications,
Grand Theatre, Hanley.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, experienced Character Actor Comedian, for Bob Ford in "That Brute Simmons." Commence rehearsal in London Monday, open Sept. 16. Those at present in town preferred. Full particulars as to qualifications for the part and latest references (letters only) to F. W. PURCELL, Lingwood, Yerbury-road, Tufnell Park, London, N.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Principal Musical Comedy Artists
in all Lines;
Tour commences Nov. (Music Halls).
Probability of 12 months' consecutive engagement.

Male Choristers also please write.

GEORGE SHELDON,
"A King for a Day" Co.,
Palace Theatre, Cardiff.

"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S NORTH CO.
WANTED, Full Company, rehearse Manchester, Dec. Full particulars, lowest terms, exact height without boots, measurements, fair or dark, photos., three weeks' address or permanent, references, age, W. S. HARDY, T. R., South Shields.

WANTED, Young Lady, for Musical Comedy, London production; experience unnecessary. Interview by appointment. Letters, F. BAYFORD, 11, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, an Emotional experienced Leading Lady, used to Drama. State height, references, parts played, MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

"THE POWER OF THE CROSS" CO.
WANTED, to Rehearse Tuesday, Birmingham. Juvenile Heavy Man, capable drunken scenes. Photos. (imperative), height, refs., and lowest terms, GEO. A. DE GRAY, Theatre Royal, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, tall, gentlemanly Heavy Man and tall Responsible Gent., Sketch, London. Letters, Britannia, Hoxton; or call about 6, Monday.

WANTED, Powerful, Heavy Man, for Capt. Cooper, "Dan the Rake" (through disappointment). Rehearse 17th. Address, WARTELL MINTO, T. R., Cardiff.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
WANTED, a really good Responsible Actor, also Two Gentlemen for Small Parts. Must be tall. Letters (no wires) to 283, Edge-lane, Liverpool.

WANTED, a Character Actor, for parts in "Under the Czar," rehearse immediately. Wire, HOWARD, Consett; next, Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, for Glossop-Harris Répertoire, Good Actor, for Responsibles.
Apply, with lowest terms, photo., and references, to WALLIS, Saltburn (3), York (3).

WANTED, for Stock, Gentleman, play Lead and Stage-Manager, Chambermaid and Comedian, both sing and dance; long engagement; must be experienced, reliable; open at once. Wire terms, HANLEY, 9, Broad-street, Limerick.

WANTED, Gentleman, for Sympathetic Man of forty part, in Refined Sketch. Full particulars and lowest terms to Miss REYNOLDS, 34, Birchington-road, West Hampstead.

DALTON AND LORD'S REPERTOIRE COMPANY.
WANTED, experienced Juvenile Gentleman, Rehearse Sept. 16, open 23rd.
DALTON and LORD, 26, High-street, Bideford.

WANTED, Gent., two Small Parts (good) and assist Stage-Management, Music Halls, Sketches; rehearse next week. Age, height, photos., references, and absolute lowest terms, H. LESLIE BELL, Queen's Theatre, Holbeck, Leeds.

WANTED, tall Utility Man, for few lines in Sketch, one week, Sept. 16, near Sheffield preferred, rehearse Friday, Burnley; everything found. BERNARD LIELL, Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, Comedian, Heavy, and Responsible, for Sketch. ARTHUR SKELTON, 90, Cornwall-mansions, Baker-street, W.

WANTED, Baritone or Bass, for last week in September, Seaside (Pier); must read well, and be good at Concerted Music, and assist as Accompanist. Photo., age, &c., LEYLAND, Round Garden, Walton-on-Naze.

WANTED, Tenor, or Light Baritone, for special week, music hall, rehearse immediately. Terms, photos., &c., JONES, Abington Park Hotel, Northampton.

WANTED, Twenty Amateurs, Ladies and Gents. Letters only, stamp for reply. WARNER and HOLMES, Variety Agents, 226, Brixton-hill, S.W.

WANTED, Dancers, smart, for immediate Dates, and Panto. Call, with practice dress, Tuesday, 6 to 7, Percy Hall, Tottenham Court-road.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Voice Production for the Operatic Stage, Pianoforte Taught, by Italian Professor; many years Covent Garden Theatre. OPERA, 60, Berners-street, W.

WANTED, Known, G. Leslie Buxton, Character, or Juvenile Parts, Dram., Comedy, or Panto., can combine acting-management. Douglas Hotel, Douglas.

WANTED, Known, First-class Tenor Soloist, with Refined Répertoire, at Liberty for Concerts, Seaside or Town. Address, Box 5,283, "The Era."

Wouldn't mind if he danced on my feet.
WANTED, Known, Young Man just completing prolonged course of Grotesque Dancing under private tuition of one of the best known past masters of the Art desires Engagement, Musical Comedy or Panto.
Apply, Box 5,189, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 35, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for Pantomime,
Artists, all Lines, also Chorus;
must send photos. and all particulars, lowest, and permanent addresses.
GEO. AYTOUN, Pantomime Agent,
120, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.
Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone 1949 Hop.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists,
Comedians,
Principal Ladies,
Musical Conductors,
Dancers, &c., &c.
Write, stating full particulars and lowest terms, to JOHN TILLER and Co.,
15, Lime-grove, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, tall Chorus and Show Ladies, for Pantomime. References, terms, &c., to E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, good Comedians, Specialities, that can play parts, Dancers for Quartette, good-looking Chorus Ladies, with voices; long Tour. GUSTAVE, Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, for Pantomime, First and Second Boy, First and Second Girl, Dame, Fairy Queen, Comedians. Letters only for appointment, terms, &c., MANAGER, 2, Gordon-st., London, W.C.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Amy Vetta, at Liberty for Panto., Principal or Second Girl. Agent, WILL SLEY, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Fred Clements, the Versatile Comedian, Vacant for Panto.
The Lawn, Skegness.

WANTED, Panto., by Allen Amber, Dame or Page, last year Ugly Sister, Chard's "Cinderella." Address, White Stars, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Known, Jack Foley, at Liberty for Panto., Dame, Alhambra, Sandgate. Perm., 7, Canonbury-avenue, Highbury, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Frank Souple, Disengaged for Panto., the Clever and Amusing Contortionist. Address, SOUPLE, Pulford, Cheshire.

WANTED, Panto., by the Boultons and Mlle. Bartenelli, parts and specialities.
Hampton Gardens, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Panto., Chard's High-class Dashing Dog Circus. A Lightning Act. No delay.
10, Simpson-street, South Shore, Blackpool.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, at once,
Competent Scenic Artist.
Write, stating
particulars and terms,
JOHN TILLER and Co., 15, Lime-grove, Manchester.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery. Effective and Artistic Work and Good Joinery at moderate prices. Large studio and workshop. CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, by Alfred Ford, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract; Town or Provinces. Add., 110, Wenlock-st., New North-rd., Islington.

WANTED by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, Town or Provinces. Refs. Address, 40, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, Contracts, for Carlyle Scenic Studio; High-class Scenery at very lowest prices. W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-rd., S.W.

WANTED, Known, C. H. Frampton, Scenic Artist, Stage Manager, Disengaged, own brushes. 99, Victoria-mansions, Vauxhall, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Investor in private genuine money-lending business, sole control over capital. Every investigation.
Solicitors or Principals only.
Address,
LENDER, Box 5,360, "The Era."

WANTED, Private Secretary, by gentleman aged 35; must know London well; member of the Theatrical Profession preferred. Write, stating terms,
R. Y., c/o Leathwait and Simmons,
5, Birchin-lane, E.C.

WANTED, experienced Agent, for Drama, one used to hand billing. State age, references, terms. No Wires. MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

WANTED, Smart Young Man, as assistant agent; must be able to use the brush. Address, H. F. BIRKETT, Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie, Hanley, Saturday; Longton, Monday.

WANTED, Carpenter, capable Stage-Management Hippodrome. Send age, photo., lowest terms, names, addresses last two references CARLTON, 22, Parade, Barry.

WANTED, Stage Carpenter, for Humphrey E. Brammall's Crystal Empire, York-road, Battersea. Address, H. E. BRAMMALL, Managing-Director.

WANTED, Bill Inspector, young and smart.

State full particulars
and terms to
W. R. KING, The Dalston Theatre, N.E.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Billposter,
to take charge of Branch Office.
Apply,
WOOLLEYS',
23, Old Sneddon-street, Paisley.

WANTED, First-Class Bill-poster; permanency to suitable man. State age, wages, to Mr. KAY, Bill-posting Co., 25, Fleet-street, Burnley.

WANTED, immediately, Wardrobe Mistress for Tour, to Make only (good cut and fit); must understand periods. Photos., terms, and references to Box 5,356, "The Era."

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress, to make Costumes.
Apply, HEYS, Midland Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Julius J. Hagen, who for some time was Mr. Leon M. Lion's General Manager, requires immediate berth as Manager of good Touring Company or any other responsible position. Box 5,340, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement by thoroughly experienced Manager (permanency), or Manager and Secretary, to a good Establishment; good Organiser, Accountant, First-class Experience in Theatre, Variety, Concert, Gardens, &c. Highest refs.; society's guarantee. Box 5,327, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, by thoroughly experienced Music Hall Manager, present position held over two years, general-manager first-class music hall in North, ten years' experience, fully conversant with fully licensed bars. Address, Box 5,353, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, by thoroughly Experienced Secretary (permanency), as secretary and manager, first-class experience in music halls, bars, &c., present situation upwards of two years. Highest references; society guarantee. Address, Box 5,352, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced Electrician; charge of Theatre Installation, or would Tour with Company; excellent refs. Box 5,335, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Baggage or Property Master, at Liberty Sept. 28.
At present, Hippodrome, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Amy Samwells, First-Class Wardrobe Mistress, Liberty for winter season. Good references. Care of Madam Hina, 1, Prima-rd, Brixton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Useful Maid, town or tour; good packer, thoroughly experienced, lately left star artist; or temporary sewing maid at lady's house for renovations. Box 5,354, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Lady, Evening Employment. Would give short time without salary. Box 5,342, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

BOROUGH OF EASTBOURNE.
Band Conductor.
WANTED, by the Corporation of Eastbourne, the services of an efficient Band Conductor, for a Military Band, varying from sixteen to twenty-five performers. He will be required to devote his whole time to the services of the Corporation. Salary, £200 per annum, rising by annual increments of £10 on satisfactory service to £250 per annum. Applications, stating age, present engagement, and past experience, together with copies of not more than three recent testimonials, to be sent to the under-named not later than Sept. 19, 1907.
H. WEST FOVARGUE,
Town Clerk.
Town Hall, Eastbourne, Sept. 3, 1907.

WANTED, First-class Leaders (Solo Violins), 'Cellists, and Bass Players,
for Cunard and White Star Services.
'Cellists immediately.
MR. CHARLES WM. BLACK,
19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Musical Conductor, for the Empire Theatre of Varieties, Greenock.
None but a competent and trustworthy man need apply.
Address, MANAGER.

WANTED, Leader and Repetiteur; smart, sober, and experienced men only. Permanency. Lowest terms and references. MORRIS, Musical-Director, Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, Conductor (Violin), Pianist, and full Orchestra, for the
HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON,
To open Monday, Sept. 23.
Apply, with lowest terms and references, to CARL HAMLIN, Foresters', Cambridge-rd., London, E.

WANTED, for the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, First Violin, to combine Clarionet or Cornet; duties as Cadets' servant.
Wages, £54 per annum.
Uniform found.
Army or Navy Pensioner preferred.
Apply,
BANDMASTER.

WANTED, First-Class First Violin, also Pianist (to combine 'Cello). Age, lowest terms, and references, to LESLIE LEWIS, Mus.-Dir., Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, First Violin, also good Cornet Player, Town Band, Bath. Terms, shares, must be sober and steady. BECKER, 20, Old Orchard street, Bath.

WANTED, Young Lady (Cornetist), to join Music Hall Troupe; travelling expenses paid. Lowest terms and photo. to COLE, Hippodrome, Margate.

WANTED, good Solo Cornet, for Town Band; shares; permanent.
PHILLIPS, 4, Richmond-avenue, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, immediately, one week also First-Class Experienced Violinists, 'Cellist, Pianist, twelve months, Johannesburg; lowest consideration. DELIKAT, Pier, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, a really good Solo Cornet, open Monday, 9th; must be steady and reliable. ANDERSON, Conductor, Palace, Blackburn.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Solo Cornet, to Open Monday next. Terms, &c.,
CHAS. W. JOHNSON, Musical-Director.

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, steady, capable Double Bass, to Open on Monday, Sept. 16; must be thoroughly used to Variety Business. Permanency to suitable man. Apply, COMPTON, Palace Theatre, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, at Once, for Croydon Town Band, Good Euphonium Player, for pitching.
WALTERS, 61, Waddon New-road, Croydon.

WANTED, 'Cello, to open Monday next, T. R., Bolton. Wire lowest terms and reference. Long engagement to suitable man.
Wire, ELLISTON, Bolton.

WANTED, Good 'Cello, to open Sept. 16. Write lowest terms and references to CONDUCTOR, New Theatre, Cambridge.

WANTED, Flute, Open Sept. 9 for Opera House, St. Helens, Lancs.
Wire, terms, DUXBURY, M.D.

WANTED, to Open Monday, First-class Flute for the Hippodrome, Darlington.
Wire, HARRY HINCHCLIFFE, Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, Oboe; must be good and experienced. References and terms, HORACE TEAGUE, Musical Director, Municipal and Opera House Orchestras, Cheltenham.

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, competent Pianist, to open Monday next, Hippodrome, Cardiff. Wire, or apply personally to-day (Saturday), between 1 and 2, or any time after 6, to CARL HAMLIN, Foresters', Cambridge-road, London, E.

WANTED, Young Lady Vocalist and Pianist. Permanency. Salary 25s., and fare after joining. Send photos. and refs. to MANAGER, Touring Trades Exhibition, Public Hall, Nairn, N.B.

WANTED, at once, smart Portable Player (with own instrument), occasional evenings pitching. Letters only, F. NICHOLS, 37, St. Mary's-road, Peckham.

WANTED, Double Drummer, for Edinburgh, must be thoroughly experienced in Variety business, steady and reliable. Apply, stating lowest terms, with copies of recent testimonials, to FRANK ALLEN, Cranbourne-mansions, Cranbourne-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Double Drummer, with Effects, for small Orchestra, preference given to one who would make himself generally useful about Theatre. Age, latest reference, lowest terms, LINDON, T. R., Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, a Full Orchestra, for the New Palace Theatre, Reading, to open Sept. 30. Apply, AUGUSTUS GRECO, Musical Director, c/o Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 12, Buckingham-street, Strand.

WANTED, Musicians, for Humphrey E. Brammall's Crystal Empire, York-road, Battersea. Address, H. E. BRAMMALL, Managing-Director.

WANTED, Ladies' Orchestra (five), for Touring Exhibition.
ELLIS, Drill Hall, Bromley, Kent.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers :—

FROM A MUSICIAN :—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street,, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, "A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER :—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Musicians, for Varieties. State when disengaged, with permanent address to HARRY HINCHCLIFFE, Conductor, Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, really First-class Men, all Instruments, High-class Concert Work. All refs., terms, WALTERS, 23, Sea View-parade, Morecambe.

WANTED, Boys' Band or Corps of, say, twenty, to march on in Music Hall production.
Letters, RUSSELL, 234, High Holborn, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Mr. Lorenzo Lewis, Pianist-Conductor (arrange), ever reliable, late Moss and Stoll's Panto. Tour, Répertoire, Overtures, &c. 1, Rock Vale-villa, Holme-road, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist-Conductor (combine cornet), thoroughly experienced in all lines, Disengaged Sept. 23. BRIERLEY, Holiday Camp, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader, or First Violin; can open Sept. 30; excellent references. Address, VIC. NELSON, Violinist, Tower Circus, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin; can combine B flat Clarionet; at Liberty Sept. 28. Address, VIOLINIST, Corporation Band, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Engagement, Leader or First Violin; experienced, any business.
CHAS. BACON, Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate, Kent.

WANTED, Known, Edward P. Delevante, Mus. Dir.-Pianist, Disengaged.
3, Clarence-chambers, Regent's Park, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Musical Director, any business, brilliant Pianist; vacant for good Panto. F. R. W., 74, Redcliffe-sq., Earls Court.

WANTED, Engagement, well-known conductor (violin), composer, wife pianist and vocalist, good library, refs CONDUCTOR, 80, Weaver-street, Winsford.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader, or First Violin. Excellent testimonials. Wire or write, VIOLINIST, 162, High-st., Notting Hill Gate, W.

WANTED, by Violinist (Pianist), Engagement, Hotel, Club, Café, &c.; good repertoire, London, Provinces, or Abroad. Box 5,338, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Violinist; experienced in Dramatic or Variety Bus.; good refs. Apply, VIOLINIST, 65, Tonning-street, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, good Violinist, at Liberty, used to Variety, &c.; Stock of Music. Address, LEADER, 1, Myrtle-street, Cross-lane, Salford.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist (Leader or otherwise). Terms moderate. Any business. MUSICUS, 9, Birchdale-villas, Crossfield-road, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornetist, any business. Good references.
YATES, 93, Milton-street, Southend.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Solo Cornet, steady and reliable, at Liberty Sept. 30. J. ALLAN, Ty-Newydd, Old-road, Llandudno.

WANTED, Engagement as Cornet, experienced, any business, Music Hall preferred. W. BULLINGER, 34, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement by Cornet, concluding Sept. 7, Moody-Manners' London Opera Season. C. HADFIELD, 110, Usk-road, St. John's-hill, Wandsworth, London.

WANTED, by Lady Cornet, Engagement, in or near Liverpool; experienced all lines. BARRS, 5, Winter Garden-terrace, Southport, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Second Cornet; experienced, any Bus.
W. N., 5, Glenville-road, Kingston Hill.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet or Violin, Dramatic or Variety; efficient; at Liberty Sept. 22. JONES, 8, Northcote-rd., Bournemouth Central.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, Theatre, Variety, as Solo or Second; age 26; abstainer; experienced; exceptional references. STOLBERG, Wilford-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement by Cornet, Variety Business; good references.
WALTER C. BUCHER, 14, Rosemary-road, Formby.

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, Worthing Season Band, Engagement, at Liberty Sept. 16. D. SHEEHAN, 9, Woodford-terrace, Pavilion-road, Worthing.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet.
F. W. ATHERTON,
1, Rosemont, Market-street, Torquay.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Liberty Theatre or Variety, good refs., and reliable. CLARIONET, 35, Stowe-road, Shepherd's Bush, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Clarionet requires Engagement; experienced, good refs. any business; distance no object. Address, GEORGE, 34, City-road, Cambridge.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, at Lib. Sept. 15, three years with Moody-Manners. GEO. E. GODDARD, Royal Prince's Parade, Bridlington.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Bass (four strings), any business, or Deputising, in London or Suburbs. VINCENT, 156, Wyndham-rd., Camberwell.

WANTED, by String Bass, combine cornet if required, finishing Sept. 14. S. S., c/o Mrs. BRISTOW, 12, Hall-quay, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass (four-string), any Business; Liberty Sept. 16. CLEVELAND, 14, Drumgold-street, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Trombonist, completing season, thoroughly experienced, any business; can combine euphonium. TROMBONIST, Artillery Band, Wellington Gardens, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, for Trombone, to Deputise, three weeks, any business, steady and reliable, abstainer. 14, Prospect-buildings, Wells-rd., Bath.

WANTED, by experienced Trombone, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall, Disengaged Sept. 14; young, smart appearance. GREEN, 18, Windsor-place, Rothesay.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Euphonium Soloist (combine Trombone). Finishing Second Season with Southport Corporation Military Band. At Liberty end Sept. WILLIAM ROLPH, Cambridge Hall, Southport.

WANTED, by Euphonium Soloist, combine Violin and Trombone, Engagement, Contesting, Works, or Orchestral Band. TAYLOR, Prospect-terrace, Fulford, York.

WANTED, by L. Carvelli, late Solo Horn Lamoureaux Orchestra, Scala Theatre, Milan, Manns' Orchestra, Carl Rosa Co., Scottish Or., &c., Engagement as First Horn, Concerts or Theatres; at Liberty Oct. 15. 14, Gipsy-hill, Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, for French Horn, First or Second, at Liberty; steady and reliable; good refs. HORN, 22, Wells-road, Bath.

WANTED, by French Horn Player, Engagement; thoroughly experienced; good references. W. MITCHELL, Orchestra, The Kursaal, Harrogate, Yorks.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 37, Great Percy-st., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, good Winter Engagement, Lady 'Cellist; young and experienced; Orchestral and Soloist. Apply, Box 5,312, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced 'Cellist, any business, steady and reliable, London preferred; Disengaged Sept. 16. ALBERT BROOK, 4, West Castle-street, Rothesay, Scotland.

WANTED, Known, 'Cello, at Liberty, Sept. 14, good refs. and experience; abstainer. 60, Tivoli-road, Margate; after, Baume, 4, York-terrace, Halifax.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist, Hotel or Café.
F. D., 29, Addison-gardens, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboe, experienced in any capacity, late R.A. Band, Woolwich; sober and reliable. FRANK FIELD, 28, Cardozo-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced Flautist or Double Drummer with own Tympani; any business; Disengaged Sept. 16. E. JOHNSON, 4, West Castle-street, Rothesay.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, young and reliable, at Liberty on Sept. 16. FLAUTIST, Grand Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, thoroughly experienced, Theatre or Variety business; good refs. 13, John Campbell-rd., Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, Known, Jas. Wood, T.C.L., Pianist and Organist, combine Second Violin or Viola, at Liberty Sept. 16, finishing season with Municipal Orchestra, Rothesay; ten years' experience in Variety, Dramatic, and Concert business; excellent references.
38, Columshill-street, Rothesay.

WANTED, Known, Pianist, Deputy-Conductor, experienced, second instrument Violin, requires Theatre, Sight Reader; age 33, height 5ft. 11in. G. L., 19, Manwood-road, Brockley, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement as Pianist, Arranger; exper. Var., Drama business; excel. refs.; steady, reliable; Orch. or Self. PIANIST, 13, Canal-terrace, Ystalyfera.

WANTED, by Lady Pianist, Afternoon or Evening Engagement; good Sight-reader and Accompanist, Dance-music. Box 5,334, "The Era."

WANTED, by Pianist, Shop for winter; excellent refs.; at Liberty Sept. 20.
FRED BAKER, 54, Warwick-rd., Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, in any business, experienced Double Drummer and Effects; ref. Block F, 134, Thrawl-st., Commercial-st., E.

WANTED, Engagement, London or Provinces, by a thoroughly experienced tympanist and drummer, in theatre or music hall. SPARANO, Pembroke Villa, St. Luke's, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer, theatre or music hall, thoroughly experienced, good instruments. DRUMS, 38, Draycott-avenue, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, Quartet disengaged autumn. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, shortly, Eng. by celebrated Cremona Orchestra, any number, any business; great répertoire. Agents invited. GREENHEAD, 13, Park-terrace, Minehead.

ROYAL BOHEMIAN BAND.
WANTED, Known, owing to big success at Brine Baths, Droitwich, this celebrated Band is engaged for a Special Month's extension, Liberty Sept. 21; offers invited, Winter Gardens, Exhibition, &c. Moderate. WILTON RUSSELL, Conductor, Droitwich.

WANTED, Known, Small String Orchestra, at Liberty, Family. Terms moderate. Late Music Hall Bandsmen. First-class Répertoire. HERBERT, 5, West-hill, Wandsworth.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Sloan Hippo., Jersey, Monday, Sept. 16, Talking and Knockabout Clown Acrobats (three-bars), Lady and Gent. Singers and Dancers. Eveline Taylor write. Good Leader write. Notice.—Artists must leave Weymouth or Southampton Saturday night boat; arrive in Jersey Sunday morning. H. SLOAN, Hippo., Guernsey.

WANTED, for Buff Bill's Circus and Menagerie, Lady Wire-Walker or Tight-Rope Performer, also Trapeze Performer. If this should meet the eye of Polly Egune or Mr. Saxon, kindly write or wire lowest terms. Circus, Irvinestown.

WANTED, Good Equilibristic Act, Lady and Gentleman, Sept. 10.
VINCELLE, 140, Walbrook-road, Derby.

WANTED, Young Lady, as Apprentice, for Athletic Act, comfortable home. VI LETTA, Post Office, Matlock Town, Matlock.

WANTED, Young Man that can do a bit on Bars. Address, with full particulars, GYMNAST, 72, Church-street, Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, a First-Class Tumbler and Bearer, for Comedy Act. Send full particulars and terms to Box 5,341, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, a good Boy, who can Juggle four articles, to start at once, with a big Troupe; must not be older than 14 or 15. State height.
Address,
GUION, 29, George-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Grooms, with own boots and breeches, for Gilleno's Circus, White City, Manchester; those not afraid to work. Apply, H. GILLENO, as above.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Gilleno's Circus, White City, Manchester, at Lib. for winter season. Full first-class circus company. Particulars from H. GILLENO, as above.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes, Comedy Musical and Talking Knockabout Clown, good in pantomimes, at Lib. Add., 16, Moreton-st., Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, George Davilla, Marvellous High Vibrating Telephone Wire; Touring South Coast. Permanent, Forest View, Honeylane, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

WANTED, Pauletti, Novel Eccentric Bicycle Act. This, Creswell and Shipley Galas. Free Sept. 23, onwards. Address, Chappell's Concerts, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Sept. 16 and 23, by Florette, Lady Contortionist. Big Success.
Wire, Palace, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known, Leo and Roland, Marvellous Equilibrists and Hand Balancers. Managers requiring a genuine Act book this, Liberty Oct. 7, 14, 21, Nov. 11, and Dec. 2 and 9. Address this week, Theatre Royal, Windsor; next week, Temperance Hall, Bolton, wire.

WANTED, Sept. 9 and 16, The Gascoignes, Continental Jugglers and Equilibrists. Balances man on bridge of nose. Wire, Empire, Wrexham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and HIPPODROME, BARRY DOCK.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.
No wires, please.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Monday, Sept. 16, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, Sept. 16, 1907, and onwards.
A. E. PICKARD, Britannia Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Sept. 16, 23, and on. Address, KAUFFMAN, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, co. Durham.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Specialities, Stars, and Good Bioscope, Sept. 16, on. Lowest terms, sample lithos., JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Variety Artists for Ferndale, S. Wales, for three nights, Sept. 12, 13, 14. State lowest in first letter (no fancy prices).
C. CLIQUOT, Tudor Hall, Ferndale, S. Wales.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known,

DALTON'S AGENCY.	
DALTON'S AGENCY.	
DALTON'S AGENCY.	
DALTON'S AGENCY.	Addresses are urgently wanted of the following artists for business matters. Will they kindly send same, or anyone knowing their whereabouts:—Geo. French, Johnny Holland, Charlie Deane, Johnny Chippendale, and Elmo and Rego.
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DALTON'S AGENCY.	Artists remit vacancies, with full list bookings, and the very lowest terms, any printing, and their permanent address. New acts state where can be seen working.
DALTON'S AGENCY.	
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Telegrams, "Granbeste, Withington Lanc."
Telephone 193 Didsbury.
29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, all kinds Variety Artists. Will see any Artists working if time sent. RICHARD CASS'S Agency, 9, Mundania-rd., Peckham.

DR. WALFORD BODIE'S
ROYAL MAGNETS.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Sept. 16, 23, 30, onwards. Please accept silence as polite negative pro tem. Send actual lowest combination terms. No fancy salaries. Gigantic success this week, Theatre Royal, Blackburn. Monday next, Argyle, Birkenhead. All letters (no appointments and no wires) to DR. WALFORD BODIE, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Artists, all Lines, for the North. Send bookings, &c., to FRANK LYNNE, Zoo, Hippodrome, Glasgow. Telegrams, "Skidoo, London."

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
WANTED, Artists, suitable for Concert Platforms, three Halls, one night only, Saturdays. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, 126, Rottenrow, Glasgow.

HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY,
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock, N.B.
WANTED, for Glasgow, Greenock, and district, Star Artists in all Lines.
Empire, Greenock.
Big Tops for immediate dates.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, open Saturday, Sept. 7, opening for First-Class Amateur, gentleman, quick Scene-painter, and Stage-carpenter, nightly sets. Full particulars, photos., terms, POULTON, Theatre, Aylesbury.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from now, onwards. Apply,
Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, now and onwards, for Gilleno's Circus, White City, Manchester. Address, H. GILLENO.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Sept. 16, 23, 30, Oct. 7. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin. Good Living Freak Open at Once.

WANTED, Artists of all Kinds, opening day Sept. 23. Apply, M. RICHARDSON, for Richardson Bros., Ltd., Olympia, Sunderland.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, working South Wales, write in, Temperance Hall, Merthyr, run twice nightly, on and after Oct. 14. Manager, Mr. ISRAEL PRICE.

BARNARD'S AGENCY, 33, Shaw-st., Liverpool.
WANTED, up-to-date Artists in all Branches, Sept. 16, on.

WANTED, one or two Refined Artists, for seven days, commencing Sept. 15.
Address, LESSEE, Pier Pavilion, Bognor.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Sept. 9, 16, 23, and 30.
Address, ONDA, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WANTED, Artists, for Series Smoking Concerts. State lowest terms, JAS. PRESTON, Proprietor, Boat House Hotel, Kew.

WANTED, Known, Deetrich's Vaudeville Bureau, 31, Islington, Liverpool, invites Artists desiring Continental Engagements to communicate, with full particulars.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAUX,
31, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, Star Artists in all Lines, for immediate and future dates. Send full bookings, lowest terms.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, at once, Sept. 16, onwards, big and small.
When communicating for Monday next, please state house address, Saturday to Monday.
JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Sept. 16, on. Specialities, Double Act (doing Singles). Small hall; lowest terms. WM. B. BOSTOCK, Lessee Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Humphry E. Brammall's Crystal Empire, York-road, Battersea. The most Beautiful Music Hall in London. Artists' Acts must be entirely free from all vulgarity. Address, H. E. BRAMMALL, Managing-Director.

NEW PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Sept. 30, onwards, Variety Star Artists, all Lines. Letters only. G. HOWARD WATSON, c/o Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 12, Buckingham-street, Strand.

WANTED, Known, Artists having Engagements at Saturday Afternoon Recitals in Glasgow or neighbourhood can hear of good Evening Engagement by applying to Box 5,346, "The Era."

PALACE, BOSTON.
WANTED, Big Stars, on Shares. Nothing too big, Artists all Lines, Sept. 30, onwards. Lithos., terms, GEO. SAPHRINI, Boro' Arms Hotel, Boston.

HIPPODROME, NEW BROMPTON.
WANTED, Big Variety Stars, with own Combinations.
Something Extra Big, for Opening Date, Sept. 23, also Oct. 7.
W. POCOCK, Secretary, as above.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future Dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY, ALHAMBRA, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Sept. 16, onwards, for Edinburgh and North, first-class turns, both big and small. Those with odd weeks vacant January, February, March, onwards, also communicate.

STALYBRIDGE HIPPODROME.
WANTED, Turns, Sept. 16 and 23.
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street,
Liverpool.

KING'S HALL, BIRMINGHAM.
Proprietors, Messrs. MOORE and KENNEDY.
WANTED, Select Double and Single Turns, Vocalists, Entertainers, Specialities, Resident Stage-Carpenter, Pianist, also large number of Chorus Ladies for Pantomime. Terms, references, &c., to Messrs. MOORE and KENNEDY.

WANTED, Star Turns, Sept. 16, 23.
"LORD" GEO. AYTOUN,
120, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.
Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone 1949 Hop.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
COVENTRY HIPPODROME.

WANTED, Artists and Agents to Note.

All Contracts
on Behalf of the Above Company
will in future be signed by
Mr. S. T. NEWSOME,
who alone is authorised to sign.

Artists Holding Contracts
are requested to apply immediately
for Confirmation of Dates
to
S. T. NEWSOME,
Managing-Director,
Hippodrome,
Coventry.

N.B.—All Bill Matter to be addressed to
THE MANAGER,
Hippodrome,
Coventry.

W. HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS.
WANTED, for two weeks, commencing Sept. 30, First-Class Single Turns. Letters only. Brixton Hall, Brixton, S.W.

Yarmouth Hippodrome,
Lowestoft Hippodrome,
Hengler's, Glasgow,
Scarboro' Hippodrome.
WANTED, for above Establishments, Talent, in all Lines, Sept. 16, on. A couple of good Speciality Acts wanted for Glasgow, Monday. Wire lowest, GEO. ZALVA'S Agency, Hippodrome, Scarboro'. Telegrams, "Zalva." Telephone, No. 288.

WANTED, for Town Hall Palace of Varieties, Hounslow, Sept. 30, onwards, First-class Talent. Terms must be low, as Hall is very small. Artists working London same week preferred. Terms, &c., to
ARTHUR AISTON, Town Hall Palace of V., Hounslow.

HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
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HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
HENRY KEMBLE'S AGENCY.
233, Kennington-road.
WANTED, Big Specialities, &c., for immediate Dates.
Artists booked through my Agency and working next week include:—
May Duprez, Chas. Aiston,
Hurman, The Allons,
Bertha Stuart, Satsuma,
Geo. Grant, Denby and Dent,
Mahatma, Four Berlin Bells,
The Masons, Fred Wright,
Six Stars, French and Walker.
&c., &c.
Artists keep me posted weekly.

WANTED, Big Speciality, for Mme. Lilian Harcourt's No. 1 Vaudeville Co., to commence Sept. 30. Communications, Palace Theatre, Southampton. Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Specialities of all Kinds, for Merthyr and South Wales District.
MARTINO'S Agency, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Acts all description, for Sept. 23 and 30. Addresses wanted for Hall and Willson, Jean Seul, Four Herberts, The Gascoignes, Henri Foden, The Riberios, Voldam Bros., Four Louberts, and Massona, Contracts await. DAN NOBLE'S Agency, 76, Bentinck-street, Doncaster.

FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Acts of every Description, for immediate and future Dates. Send bookings and lowest, 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Write or telephone, 15 Brixton, for appointment.

NEW PAVILION, ABERTILLERY.
WANTED, the Greatest Comedy Acts in the Profession. P.S.—Artists note all contracts are stamped. Any Artists breaking their contracts will be proceeded against. Communications to LEO FRITZ, Variety Agency, Glenshaw-mansions, Brixton, London.

NEW HIPPODROME, PETERBOROUGH.
Manging-Director, J. M. SYLVESTER.
WANTED, the Greatest Acts in the Business; also Big Top for Sept. 16, 1907. Apply, LEO FRITZ, Variety Agent, Glenshaw-mansions, Brixton, London. 'Phone, 457 Brixton. Telegrams, "Evelyncia, London."

PALACE, KILMARNOCK.
WANTED, Star Acts all Lines, absolute lowest (once nightly). Lessee and Manager, J. CUMMINGS.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for Monday next, Sept. 9, 16, and on, Top Liners, Sisters, Dumb Acts, Knockabout Comedians, Comedians, Serios, Sketches, Good Double Turns. Good Small Turns write for immediate Dates North. I book for all the Principal Halls North. Write to the Reliable, the Man on the Spot. DREW BAYLEY, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Big Top, for Sept. 16, for Hippo., Rochdale; also future Dates. Artists known to us write. JACKSON FAMILY, Empire, Dublin.

WANTED, Star Top, Sept. 23, near Newcastle, also Young Lady Speciality, Theatre Tour. Shares. Lithos., photos., perm., 46, Mill-hill-road, Acton, London.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WITHERNSEA.
WANTED, Known, the Council are prepared to receive Offers from Pierrot Troupes for the Sole Right to give Performances on the Beach of this Popular Seaside Resort for the next Three Years.
Offers, which must include a Substantial Deposit to be paid on signing the Agreement, to be sent to me not later than Friday, Sept. 20, 1907.
The Agreement may be seen at my office at any time.
FREDK. J. GARDAM,
Clerk to the Council.
16, Parliament-street, Hull.

WANTED, Variety or Pierrot Combination, for al fresco performances at Wardown Park, Luton, Sept. 23. Sharing terms only.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Useful Lady, Gentleman, also Portable Harmonium Player; those used to portable preferred. C. ASHETT, Portable Theatre, Broadstairs, Kent.

WANTED, Immediately, Smart Young Lady, about 5ft. 4in., no previous knowledge required. Address, ILLUSION, Box 5,349, "The Era."

WANTED, smart Young Lady; must have good appearance. Send photos.
RAYLON'S Pavilion, Abertillery, Wales.

WANTED, Girl Singer and Dancer, live in; also beginner, give time for tuition. Photo., ref., CLUNN LEWIS, Compasses, Alfold, Billingshurst.

WANTED, Desired, Wished for, Comedians, Comediennes, Double Turns, Acrobats, Animal Shows, Dumb Acts, Specialities, Immediate Dates. Immediate Dates.
Nothing too Big to Book.
Write at once to
HARRY S. HART'S Agency.
Star Palace Varieties, Bermondsey, S.E. 'Phone, 1048 Hop. 'Grams, "Hart, Star, Bermondsey."

WANTED, Comedians, Comediennes, Serios, Sisters, for small music halls, London and Provinces. Write lowest terms and vacant dates, amateurs and beginners may communicate. GRAHAM, Agent, 15A, Electric-av., Brixton.

WANTED, smart Comedian, for Music Hall Sketch, willing to go to America; good salary. Only those working need apply. Box 5,359, "The Era."

WANTED, Two Boys, age fourteen, good singers or dancers, for established troupe. Add., STANLEY'S URCHINS, 18, Ackers-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Beginners, for Gill's Music Hall; also Beginner, to join lady as sisters.
LAURISTON, 20, Driffield-road, Bow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, by Tom Hearn, Jugglers who can do one good trick. Write and explain. Next week, Empire, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engagements, with Gaumont's Bioscope and Operator, Electric. For terms, apply, B. COHEN, 63, Whitechapel-road, London, E.

WANTED, Operators, open immediately, must be used to long shows and all currents. Lowest wages, experience, age, full particulars, and references first letter.
JEFFS, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

Dobito and Buxton's Animated Picture Co.s.
WANTED, First-Class Operator, used to Lime and Electric; good salary and comfortable shop to competent man. Wire or write, DOBITO and BUXTON, Stanway, Edith-road, Selhurst, S.E.

WANTED, Experienced Bioscope Operator, electric and lime. C. E. Ralph wire address. VERNON'S Bioscope, Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

We Never Sleep.
WANTED, Managers, in case of Disappointment, to Wire, "Stebbing, Manchester," or Ring Up 'Phone 09261, Manchester.
EDGAR STEBBINGS, Agent, 23, Egerton-st., M'chester.

WANTED, Sept. 2 and 9, by Mabel Kessler, Class Vocalist, Cornet and Post Horn Soloist. 48, Greenhill-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, by Little Dolly Brough, Refined Juvenile Comedienne and Clog Dancer, Sept. 9, 16. Wire, wire, this week, 73, Tudor-road, Cardiff.

WANTED, by Miss Alice Oakley, Comedienne, Lib. Mon. next, Sept. 9, also 16th, 23rd, 30th. Wire, 1, Gardner-street, North Shields.

WANTED, by Lenden's Psyche, Beautiful Living Statuary, Sept. 16, on.
Ninth week, Kursaal, Southend. Wire or write.

WANTED, Sept. 9, 16, by Babs Lloyd, star artist; also Nellie Vance, comedy artist.
Wire, Empire, Wrexham. Two good turns.

WANTED, Known, Rubie and Elsie Redfern, Banjoists, Vocalists, &c.
Offers invited for new and novel drawing-room act.

WANTED, Monday next, also Sept. 16, by Lil Dresden, Vocalist, and Ray Thorne, Comedienne and Dancer. Wire, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Terry, popular Comediennes, at Liberty Sept. 9, 16.
Address, Hippodrome Circus, Rochdale.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Nella, refined Speciality Pot-Pourri Act, Vacant Sept. 16, onwards. Communications to TESEO VICENTINI, 22, City-road, Cambridge.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes, Refined Comedy Musical Comedian and Story-teller, Liberty Sept. 9, 16. Wire, 16, Moreton-st., Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Neville Delmar, the Whistling Dandy; Panto,. fixed, Abanazar; few vacancies Oct., Nov. Next, Palace, Gloucester. 19, Mark-mansions, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, by Mark Mooney, Dame Comedian, Oct. 7, 14, and on; at Liberty for Panto. (Dame). Add., Russell's Cadets, Hornsea, Yorks.

WANTED, Sept. 16 and 23, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey. The Greatest Novelty Musical Act Extant. Wire or write, this, Palace, Bath; next, Palace, Southampton. Also Ventriloquial Show if required.

WANTED, Monday next, by Happy Attwood, Comedian.
Wire, 110, Kennington-road, London.

WANTED, by Clifton Hall, Vocalist, Sept. 16, 23, through finishing fortnight earlier, Edinburgh to follow. Wire, 16, Hopeton-st., Gourock, N.B.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Sept. 16, one week, Ryder Davis, smart comedian. All communications, Cinque Ports Hotel, Margate.

WANTED, Known, Pat O'Connor, Hibernian Humorist and World's Champion Dancer, Success Grand, Radcliffe; Liberty Monday. Wire, 7, Poplar-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, by Allan Hanbury, Chorus and Patter Comedian, Sept. 16 and Oct. 7. This, Hip., Dewsbury; next, Pier, Southport. Wire.

WANTED, Monday next, by Harry Tomps, Singing Comedian, Raconteur, Concertinist. Sure success. 357, Holloway-road. Wires, "Honri, London."

WANTED, Known.—Musical Silvo is an ever-welcome visitor, for he is the prince of clever instrumentalists, extracting the most dulcet tones out of the musical glasses, and interpreting popular melodies on the "silvochimes" with the best of results. A recall is always expected and responded to.—Bath Herald.
This week, Palace, Porth; next, Douglas.
At Liberty Sept. 16.
Address, Palace, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Monday next, by Chico, novel hand-balancer. Big success, Buxton's Pierrots, Douglas. Isle of Man. Wire above.

WANTED, Sept. 9, 16, Staffo, Comedy Juggling Butcher's Boy, big success, starring, Hippodrome, Spennymoor. Wire for Monday. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Gicardo, the Youngest and most Accomplished Boy Juggler in the Profession, finishes to-night at Star, Bermondsey. Monday next, London Pavilion. Open for October.

WANTED, Monday next, by Jimmy James, Tambourine, Banjo Juggling, Bone Expert, &c. Wire, Chirgwin's Happy Valley, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, Boy Hackenschmidt, World's Champion Bantam-weight Wrestler, and Miss Florence Bell, Comedienne and Dancer. Vacant Sept. 30, Oct. 14, 21, 28. Coms., 6, Montague-street, Russell-square, London.

WANTED, Monday next (16th), on, by Tom Corbett, in his Great Lifting Feats and Classical Poses. Wire, No. 2, off High-street, Long Eaton.

WANTED, Known, Karl Birvell, Novelty Ventriloquist, big Act, Figures and Fit-up, refined, original. Liberty for Fairs, Pictures, &c. Wire, BIRVELL, Avenue, New Brighton.

WANTED, by R. J. Golding, Ventriloquist and Comic Conjurer, Sept. 9 and 16.
Perm., 32, Courtenay-rd., Walthamstow, London.

WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 14, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two smart acts. Monday, Grand Theatre, Halifax.

WANTED, Sept. 16, onward, with exceptions, the Great Original Kyoto, Japanese Pot-Pourri Act, introducing Contortion Act, Comedy Japanese Conjuring, Juggling, and the only original Performing Pug Dog, Oto; also Miss May Geraldine, Vocalist and Dancer; concludes to-night enormous success Palace, Clacton. Monday, Hippodrome, Rochdale. Wire or write.

WANTED, by Ted Young and Ada Twibell, Monday next, also Sept. 16, two distinct turns. Wire, Hippodrome, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Sept. 16, by Two Palmers (Maud and James), refined Comedy Duettists and Burlesque Artists, also single turn if required; two distinct and reliable Acts; good Picture Show not objected to. Write or wire. Eagle Hotel, Port Erin, Isle of Man; after Sunday, 18, Ackers-street, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, Sept. 9, and on, Bury and Dews (Frank and Lillie), Speciality Duettists and Dancers. Wire or write, 18, Burton-terrace, Dewsbury-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Sept. 9, by Harry Keeble, comedian and vent.; also Gladys Wells, comedienne. Wire for three good acts, Hippo., Spennymoor.

WANTED, Monday next, by The Halmarks (Fred and Alice), Vocal Dramatic Duologues, Singles if required. Wire, 33, Rodney-yard, Wakefield.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Sept. 9, 16, Sandes and Vincent (Will and May), great comedy legmania act. singles if wanted. Wire, 1, New-road, Belper.

WANTED, Monday next, Sept. 9, the Godfreys (Didie and Kate), Musical Comedy Artists. Wire, PRINGLE'S Large Colston Hall, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Perrette and Mona, Class Comedy Artists, in Original Act, "Teasing the General." Specially written songs, dances, &c. Vacant, North, Sept. 9, 16, and Oct. 21. Address, Metropole, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, and Sept. 16, The Monckton's (Fred and Lillie), in Farcical Episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" Wire, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, the Bros. Webb, Musical Clowns, Continental Tour.
Address, 4, Speenham-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, by Reszki and Raszki, Comedy Gymnasts, Sept. 16 and 23. Next week, Gaiety, Blyth, where address all coms.

WANTED, Monday next, by Erris and D'Aubyn, comedy artists and dancers, in their latest success, "Have a Bit of Bun." Wire, Hippodrome, Bury.

WANTED, Known, Conan and Doyle, Comedians and Dancers, vacant Pantomime; First-class references.
Address,
Gaiety Music Hall, Glasgow.

WANTED, Sept. 9, 16, by Chant and Chant, Refined Comedy Vocalists. Another Great Hit, Hippo., Coventry (return). Wire above for a sure hit.

WANTED, Monday next and Sept. 16, Alex and Jolly, Great Comedy Three-bar Act. Wire, 34, Highfield-street, Beeston-hill, Leeds.

WANTED, by Hector and Sultan, Eccentric Grotesques, Monday next, Sept. 9.
Wire, 16, Oxford-street, Accrington.

WANTED, 9th and 16th, by Gravetta and Pair, clay and sand modellers, jugglers, double impersonators of celebrities, gorgeous fit-up. Empire, York.

WANTED, Sept. 30, by The Decars, Comedy Acrobats, introducing Tomato, the Donkey with a College Education. Sept. 9, Grand Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagements, by Golden Marguerite Quartette, concluding third season Eastbourne Pier, Sept. 15. Terms, ETHEL CLIFFORD, 44, Burton-crescent, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Davis S. Gledhill Trio, Man v. Motor,
Champion Roller Cyclists,
Only vacant date, Sept. 16.
Sept. 2, Hippo., West Bromwich;
Sept. 9, Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, Monday next, by Harry Tomps, Singing Comedian, Raconteur, Concertinist, A Laughing Hit. 357, Holloway-road. Wires, "Honri, London."

WANTED, Known, Trixo, the smartest and most up-to-date illusion on the road, entirely new, original, and copyright. Managers wanting something new and startling, this is it. Vacant Oct. 7, and on, till Xmas. Permanent Address, TRIXO, 112, St. John's-road, Bootle, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known.—What a draw Four Cecilians are! Packing and storming Palace, N. Shields; next, Hippo., Coventry. Vac. 16th, 23rd. Don't want the earth.

WANTED, Known.—Do you want Packed Halls? Try the Four Cecilians. We have the Little Wonder, the Smartest Juvenile in the World.

WANTED, Known,
Geo. M. Schilling, who has walked round the world, Vacant Oct., onwards, for his Great Chinese Dramatic Sketch, "In the Nick of Time," introducing the Struggle for Life and the Great Knife Fight. Entire scenery carried. Address, Palace Theatre, Rhyl.

WANTED, Sept. 23 and 30, Nov. 11 and 18, by Tom Kelso and Co., 15 minutes' scream, "The Silly Servant." Sept. 9, Hippo., Hull; 16th, Oxford, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Sept. 9 and 30, for the extra special strong comedy sketch, "Uncle Obadiah." Wire, wire, wire, DIXTON, Hippodrome, Stoke.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus, Ponies, Donkeys, Goat, and Dogs, including the smallest Pony and Donkey in the world, will shortly be at Liberty for vacancies. Address, CABAN, Palace Gardens, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Alice Fontainbleau's World-famed Troupe of Dogs. Tremendous success on their return to Rhyl. Great success, last week, Royal Albert Palace, London. For vacant dates, apply, Palace, Rhyl, N. Wales.

WANTED, Known, Sergt.-Major Williams's Famous Dogs, now the talk of Harrogate. Every dog an artist. New and novel tricks, for stage or ring, and pantomime. Perm. Add., 2A, Belgrave-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Sept. 23, 30, Chard's Dashing Dog Circus. A Lightning Sensational Act.
10, Simpson-street, South Shore, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio, Novelty Cycle Act, Monday next, Hippodrome, Wakefield. Vacant Sept. 16, onwards. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, Juggler and Dancer wishes to join Juggler as an assistant or Comedy Act. FRANCIS BRADY, 7, Suffolk-st., Glasgow, E.

THE LOYAL DOMINION
ANIMATED PICTURE CO.
Now in tenth week of second season at the Grand Pavilion, Royal Prince's-parade, Bridlington (under contract with the Corporation).
WANTED, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 10, 24, Dec. 9 and 16, All latest Pictures produced; change twice weekly; Vocalists, &c.; own electric plant carried; good stock Printing; sure success; Share, Rental, or Certainty.
Apply, MANAGER, Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

WANTED, Known, Travers' Bioscopes, at Lib. Moderate terms; latest Films. TRAVERS, 154, High-street, Clapham, S.W. Telephone 1412 Battersea.

WANTED, Engagements for Bioscope, twenty minutes' to two hours' show; also have in combination with the above Illustrated Songs, with Lady Vocalist. For terms of the above, combined or separate, apply WHITEHOUSE, 20, Wharf-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements, for Bioscope. Terms low. Films and Song Slides for sale.
MORRIS, Bioscope Co., 18, Tweed-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagements, for Bioscope.
WALKER,
1, Lorne-street, Fairfield, Liverpool.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, .22 "R" and "D" Cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters, Pistols, and all repairs done. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, for Prompt Delivery of Future Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, and other Automatic Cards rely on the old firm. KENYON, 21, King-street, Blackburn.

WANTED, Known.—As it does not appear to be generally known that we control the British Patents covering the "Mills" Slot Bag (or Ball) Puncher, we now publish the fact, and give Notice that we shall maintain our rights therein. —MINERVA AUTOMATIC CO., 14, Charterhouse-buildings, E.C.

PLEASURE BEACH, BLACKPOOL.
Greatest Combination of Open-air Attractions in the Country.
WANTED, Known.—For concessions for real Novelties for Summer Season, 1908.
Address, PROPRIETORS, Pleasure Beach, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Fair-keepers, &c., Stacey and Co., Settles-street, London, E., Specialities for Rifle Ranges, &c.; everything for the Fair.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World.
If you want to Buy or Sell
Anything Connected with the Business,
Consult TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept.
"The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.
Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman seeks position as Manager, or otherwise, to large show or exhibition, travelling or stationary, where twenty-seven years' experience as proprietor of all kinds of shows (large and small) would be a consideration. Cash security if required; also references from leading showmen and persons of high social standing. Or would hire, purchase, or work on percentage any first-class, up-to-date concern. Apply, TOM NORMAN (Silver King), Woodlands Farm, Wartling Hill, Sussex.

WANTED, Showmen, to Note.—World's Fair, Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, N. Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. E. READ. Will open this Stupendous Home of Amusements on Xmas Eve, Dec. 24, 1907, for the 29th Consecutive Year, with a Mammoth Programme of Attractions on a Varied and Up-to-date Scale. An entirely New Continental Circus Company, Bostock and Wombwell's Universal Travelling "Zoo," Big Troupe of Aerialists (First Appearance in England), and other New Specialities. Up-to-date Side-shows of every Description. Magnificent Free Dancing Hall, and a Great Variety of other Amusements. Absolutely the Biggest Show to Please all People all the Time, at the Popular Sixpence Admission. Space can now be Let for any New First-class Shows, viz., Waxworks, Marionettes, Second Sight, Boxing, Swimming, First-class Illusions, Midgets, Mechanical Show, Glass Blowers, Palmistry, or any First-class Show with Good Front and Drawing Powers, also Fancy Stalls, Games, &c. Apply as above.

WANTED, at Once, Good Novelty, for Side Show, share or certainty. CHAS. BLOWER, Fair Ground, Aberavon, Port Talbot.

WANTED, First-class Side Shows, for Carnival, near Edinburgh, Dec. 31, also Jan. 1 and 2. Sharing terms. Particulars, CALVERTO, Giffnock, Glasgow.

WANTED, a Palmist, male or female.
FAIRYLAND, 92, Tottenham Court-road.

WANTED, Two Men, for Auction Vans; experienced, Musical preferred, as Handsellers and Planksmen. GREENWOOD, 157, Everton-road, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Auctioneer, sober, to work Auction-room, for China and Swag. State terms first letter, FRIESNER, 13, Mill-street, Warrington.

WANTED, at Once, a Good Doorsman, to assist in building up and pulling down. Those not used to fair ground and are afraid of work, please save stamps. Wages required and full particulars in first letter, Prof. RUBY, c/o G.P.O., Doncaster.

WANTED, at once, a Good Show Place, for Exhibition of Lions, in a lively town, near Gloucester or London District.
Apply, with particulars, to
L. JENSEN, 24, Worcester-street, Gloucester.

WANTED, Known, great success of Princess Gooma and her Bodyguard of Warriors, at Fraserburg; Liberty Nov. 29. Letters to BROWN, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by The Pygmies, finishing Engagement Oct. 19,q Earl's Court, Engagements for their final three weeks before returning to the Ituri, Nov. 20. JAMES HARRISON, Brandesburton Hall, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Madame Corella, London Certificated Character-reader and Palmist, is open for Engagements, Oct., on. Victoria Pier, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Known, Prof. Trevis, the well-known rheumatic specialist, requires shop premises or halls (provincial). State terms. 15, Blackstock-road, London, N.

WANTED, by Smart Auctioneer, Situation with Good Firm, fully qualified in jewellery, china, and fine art, eleven years' practical experience as auctioneer, shops and halls, can join at once. Address, Box 5,336, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Animated Shows open for Management, Lecturer, and Turn.
Box 5,339, "The Era."

WANTED, Let or Sell, Automatic Shop, with or without machines, bioscope, &c. Good living for smart man. 210, Seven Sisters-rd., N.

WANTED, to Let, on Hire or Share, Set of Large Distorting Mirrors, exhibitions, bazaars, &c. Address, Box 5,343, "The Era."

WANTED, to Hire, with view to Purchase, large Living Van. State terms and particulars (letters only), WILSON, 208, Kennington-rd., London, S.E.

CANTERBURY MICHAELMAS PLEASURE FAIR, 1907,
will Commence in the Agricultural Hall, and in Field adjoining Hall, on Tuesday, Oct. 8, until Saturday, Oct. 19, in Field, and until Saturday, Oct. 26, in Agricultural Hall.
WANTED, Application for Spaces for Shows, Stalls, &c., to be made to J. F. MACKLIN, 3, St. Peter's-place, Canterbury; or, to the Agent, W. WAGHORNE,
Nelson House, Godinton-road, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, Known, One or Two Spaces to Let (Jewellery, Engraving, Optics, &c.), in old-established Touring Trades Exhibition; Scenic stalls, gas-fittings, and gas provided. Second Scottish Tour comprising towns never previously visited by Trades Exhibitions. Address, MANAGER, Exhibition, Public Hall, Nairn, N.B. (93rd consecutive town.)

WANTED, Known, Gloucester Great Pleasure Fair, this year, Sept. 28 and 30, and Oct. 7. There are still a few Spaces to Let. Persons requiring ground apply at once, as spaces will be marked off according to applications received. No spaces will be let after once the ground is marked out.
Apply, stating full particulars, to
Sole Lessee,
appointed by the Corporation,
JACOB STUDT, Amusements, Swindon.

WANTED, to Let, Land for Stalls and Shows. Apply, JOHN HARDMAN, Manager, Starr Estate Fairground Co., 15, King-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Let, Ground for Ayr Races. All applications in writing. Small Stalls; rent in advance. Apply, G. GREEN, Carnival, Glasgow.

ARCADIA DRILL HALL, PORTSMOUTH.
WANTED, to Let, Spaces for Stalls, Games, Shooting-range, Side-shows, Novelties, &c. Opening Nov. 30, six weeks, seventh year. MANAGER, 6, Denning-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, to Let, Ground, main road, suit Auctioneer; 40ft. front, 56ft. back; w.c. and water; grand position; rent reasonable. E. MARTIN, 24, Lake-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Showmen
and
other
Travellers
to Know that I have
Ground to Let
at the following well-known
Fairs and Wakes:
Witton Wakes, Northwich,
Sept. 6 to 16;
Wednesbury, Sept. 6;
Blackheath, Sept. 13;
Willenhall, Sept. 13;
Brierley Hill, Sept. 20;
Sandbach Wakes, Sept. 19 to 28;
Atherstone Statutes, Sept. 21;
Birmingham Onion Fair,
Sept. 25;
Leicester Great Fair,
Oct. 10 to 15;
and others to follow throughout
the whole of the year.

All applications to
P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall.
'Phone No. 80 Walsall. Tele., "Gondola, Walsall."

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS, IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES, FOR SEPTEMBER,
ENGLAND.

Sept. 7.	Exeter (47,000)	Sept. 19.	Staines (6,700)
Sept. 7.	Matlock (7,300)	Sept. 21.	Backwell (1,000)
Sept. 7.	Meltham (1,200)	Sept. 21.	Bude (1,059)
Sept. 9.	Ardsley (6,000)	Sept. 21.	Hayfield (2,864)
Sept. 9.	Chapel Town (7,100)	Sept. 21.	Lewes (11,300)
Sept. 9.	Blandford (3,600)	Sept. 21.	Longtown (300)
Sept. 9.	Glastonbury (4,000)	Sept. 21.	New Mills (5,509)
Sept. 9.	Holbeck (23,000)	Sept. 21.	Pateley Bridge (3,200)
Sept. 9.	Openshaw (24,500)	Sept. 21.	Ratcliffe (137)
Sept. 9.	Sandal Feast	Sept. 21	Reading (60,000)
Sept. 9.	Swinton and Pendlebury (19,000)	Sept. 21.	Rushden (12,500)
Sept. 9.	Thorner (976)	Sept. 21.	Stockport (70,600)
Sept. 9.	Witton (1,659)	Sept. 23.	Bowdon (2,796)
Sept. 10.	Barnoldswick (7,400)	Sept. 23.	Bugsworth (389)
Sept. 10.	Congresbury (1,700)	Sept. 23.	Idle (7,500)
Sept. 11.	Broadway (Somerset) (500)	Sept. 23.	Iron Acton (1,000)
Sept. 11.	Lambert Castle (Dorset)	Sept. 23.	Uttoxeter (5,200)
Sept. 12.	Buxton (4,787)	Sept. 23.	Woodhouse (6,423)
Sept. 12.	Morchard Bishop (1,100)	Sept. 24.	Ashley-de-la-Zouch (4,700)
Sept. 12.	Wareham (2,000)	Sept. 24.	Bridgwater (15,200)
Sept. 13.	Swindon (45,000)	Sept. 24.	Brierley Hill (12,000)
Sept. 13.	Tewkesbury (5,400)	Sept. 24.	Heyford (800)
Sept. 14.	Batley (20,000)	Sept. 24.	Kenilworth (4,500)
Sept. 14.	Blackheath (Staffs) (9,553)	Sept. 25.	Arundel (2,800)
Sept. 14.	Boston (15,700)	Sept. 25.	Cambridge (38,400)
Sept. 14.	Cromford (1,056)	Sept. 25.	Haslemere (1,000)
Sept. 14.	Wirksworth (4,263)	Sept. 25.	Over (Cheshire) (6,300)
Sept. 14.	Woodthorpe (882)	Sept. 25.	Pickering (3,500)
Sept. 16.	Alford (2,500)	Sept. 25.	Solihull (3,800)
Sept. 16.	Barnstaple (14,000)	Sept. 26.	Birmingham (522,182)
Sept. 16.	Farnworth (25,000)	Sept. 26.	Hartland (1,746)
Sept. 16.	Ilkley (7,500)	Sept. 26.	High Wycombe (6,000)
Sept. 16.	Langwith (363)	Sept. 26.	Morton (982)
Sept. 16.	Hemel Hempstead (11,300)	Sept. 26.	Spalding (9,400)
Sept. 16.	March (7,600)	Sept. 26.	Todmorden (25,400)
Sept. 16.	Newcastle (Staffs) (20,000)	Sept. 27.	Eleven Lane Ends Feast
Sept. 16.	Sidmouth (4,000)	Sept. 28.	Alton (5,590)
Sept. 17.	Haltwhistle (12,000)	Sept. 28.	Ampthill (2,200)
Sept. 17.	Ottery St. Mary (3,500)	Sept. 28.	Chesham (7,300)
Sept. 17.	Penn (Bucks) (400)	Sept. 28.	Cranbrooke (3,500)
Sept. 17.	Second Lee Fair	Sept. 28.	Dorchester (9,500)
Sept. 17.	Ware (5,900)	Sept. 28.	Long Stratton (600)
Sept. 18.	Bury (60,000)	Sept. 28.	Studley (3,000)
Sept. 18.	Sidbury (200)	Sept. 28.	Tyldesley (15,000)
Sept. 19.	Amersham (3,000)	Sept. 28.	Uxbridge (8,600)
Sept. 19.	Atherstone (5,000)	Sept. 28.	Wallingford (3,000)
Sept. 19.	Beaminster (2,000)	Sept. 30.	Burton-on-Trent (50,386)
Sept. 19.	Worcester (43,966)	Sept. 30.	Dudley (49,000)
		Sept. 30	Dunstable (5,200)
		Sept. 30.	Hanbury (900)
		Sept. 30.	Hounslow (6,790)

SCOTLAND.

Sept. 16.	Aberdeen (153,108)	Sept. 24.	Dumfries (18,680)
Sept. 18.	Moss of Ballock (612)	Sept. 25.	Fraserburgh (8,998)
Sept. 20.	Castle Douglas (3,018)	Sept. 30.	Haddington (3,992)
		Sept. 30.	Sinclair Town

WALES.

Sept. 12.	Blaenavon (12,000)	Sept. 26.	Cowbridge (1,000)
Sept. 12.	Neath (14,000)	Sept. 27.	Llanfyllin (2,000)
Sept. 20.	Tredegar (18,000)	Sept. 30.	Fishguard (2,000)
Sept. 21	Llandudno (7,000)	Sept. 30.	Llanelly (23,000)
Sept. 25.	Abergavenny (8,000)		

WANTED, to Sell, by Auction.—Important to Waxwork Proprietors, Showmen, Museums, Shop Proprietors for Xmas Attractions, and others. Waxworks, Museum, and Picture Gallery, Mechanical Figures, Penny Drop Models, Orchestrion, &c. The Douglas Waxworks, Loch Promenade, Douglas, Isle of Man, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 25 and 26, to be Sold by Public Auction as above. The whole of that large and extensive collection of High-Class Waxwork Figures, Historical Groups, Curios, Natural History Museum, Picture Gallery, Statuary, &c. Catalogues on application to the Waxworks, or F. D. JOHNSON, Auctioneer, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, to Sell, Organ, Engine, and Truck, all in good working order. Can be seen working at 58, Old Town, Croydon.

WANTED, to Sell, Piano Organ, self acting, cost £20, price £8, extra barrel; small Reed Organ, price 60/- STACEY, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines, all Kinds, all prices, genuine bargains; large stock. State wants. MASON, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, new and secondhand one- to six-drawers Card Delivery Automatic Machines; marvellous money-takers. MEURICE, Argyle-square.

WANTED, to Sell, Framed Photographs of Future Husbands, Wives, Babies, &c., for Automatic Machines, marvellous productions. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines of all Kinds, Latest and Best, few Secondhand. 123, Blythe-road, Kensington, London. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, Electric Phonographs, half-penny in slot, £5 each, bargain.
FAIRYLAND, 92, Tottenham Court-road.

WANTED, Known, Distorting Mirrors, in first-class condition, for sale.
Address, Box 5,345, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, a Good, Light, Flat Truck, 16ft. long, 6ft. wide. Cash price £8.
Prof. RUBY, c/o G.P.O., Doncaster.

WANTED, to Buy, Complete, Up-to-date Waxwork Exhibition. Send full particulars, lowest price for cash. MANAGER, Exhibition, 10, Foreshaw-rd., Scarborough.

WANTED, to Purchase or Hire, Automatic Machines.
MANAGER, Alhambra Varieties, Edinburgh.

WANTED, to Buy, Racehorse Table, with eight or more Horses, to work automatically, table not to be less than 4ft. over, must be in good condition and cheap for cash, no objection to lamps and stall for same. All letters, JOHN PIPER, Steam Horses, Baths Quay, Queenstown, Ireland.

WANTED, to Buy, a Large Portable Booth, suitable for Picture Show. State full particulars to Bosco, 3, Winsley-road, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to every Showman in the United Kingdom.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Buy, Helter Skelter, or Slipping the Slip; must be good, and cheap for cash, with wagons complete. Particulars, Messrs. ANDERTON'S, Fair Field, Glastonbury, Somerset.

WANTED, to Buy, Distorting Mirrors; must be large size and in good condition. Price, where can be seen, Box 5,344, "The Era."

WANTED, Waxwork Proprietors to Know, G. Baines is still at Liberty to Manage, Clean, Repair any good Show. Thanks for offers received. MANAGER, Exhibition, 10, Foreshaw-rd., Scarboro'.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Victoria Hall, Matlock.
Reasonable mortgage can remain on at 4%.
The Hall is splendidly adapted
for a Music Hall,
and contains a set of Stage Effects.

Plans, photos., and further particulars, apply
JAMES WHITE, 5, John Dalton-street, Manchester.

SOUTHAMPTON
(the rising Southern Liverpool).
WANTED, to Sell, Long Lease of substantial and highly-decorative Entertainment Hall, holding about 1,400, in the pick of positions; theatrical licence (ex. liquors).
Address,
EXCEPTIONAL, Box 5,262, "The Era."

To Theatre Proprietors and Capitalists.
WANTED, to Sell or Let, the Finest Site for Theatre or Music Hall in the North of England; centre of important city; opposition wanted; three main frontages. For plan and particulars, address, Box 5,266, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Abdy's Miniature Circus, two ponies, eight dogs, apparatus, ring fence, revolving table. Can be bought cheap for cash. Now performing at Hippodrome, Huddersfield; next week, King's Theatre, Halifax.

For price and particulars, write.

WANTED, to Sell, Furnished Apartments House, seven rooms, bathroom, near station, good professional and other connection. Price £125. Box 5,351, "The Era."

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, to Sell, Genuine Bargain, Scenery, Dresses, Coach, Electrical Effects, &c., complete, for the above, the whole in splendid condition. Apply, H. S. HOWARD, Queen's T., Longton.

Pantomimes.
WANTED, to Sell or Let on Hire, "Cinderella" producers, all colours of Ponies and Harness, Cinderella Coaches, Performing Bulls, Hounds, Deer, and also Jumping and Plunging Horses. Terms very moderate. J. FRASER, HAY, AND Co., 8, Jackson's-row, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell,
Up-to-date Films.

Hire, or exchange.

Apply to
THE BRITISH CINEMA CO., LTD.,
47, Old Kent-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Stock of Films, majority good as new, from 1d. per foot; fresh consignments of Up-to-date Subjects are received at frequent intervals from the Myrioramas. Send for list. POOLE, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, Up-to-date.
BENDON, 3, Albert-road E., Glasgow, S.S.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, perfect condition, good subjects, cheap for cash. Lists from REED, BROWN, 148, Westgate-road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, to Sell, Gipsy Bride, Accidents Will Happen, Aeronaut's First Appearance, I'll Dance the Cake Walk, all equal to new, 3d. foot; also about 4,000ft. of other good stuff. Particulars, J. S. BENN, Manager, Varieties, Pontefract.

WANTED, to Exchange, Good Films. Send for List; or will sell very cheap.
F. BUXTON,
Pierrot Village, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, to Sell, complete, Gaumont Chronobioscope, ready for showing, new this year, including Travelling Trunk, three Resistances, Lantern, Lenses, Cabling. B. COHEN, 63, Whitechapel-road, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Cheap,
Good Animated Picture Outfit,
Splendid Machine, Sheet, Gauges, Jets, Beard's Regulators, and 10,000ft. Good Films.
The lot £20, cash.
Apply,
F. BUXTON,
Pierrot Village, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, to Sell, Cinematograph (lime), extra lens, spools, sheet, 2 Beard's gauges, £18; roll tickets, half price. Box 5357, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Naval and Military Uniforms of all Nations, any price you like. Police tunics, 3s.; helmets, 9d.; belts, 9d.; trousers, 3s.; warders' ditto, postmen's ditto, sailors' ditto, dress suits ditto; convicts' suits, 4s.; opera and silk hats, 1s., 1s. 6d.; tights and stockings, any price; white duck trousers, 1s. 3d., 1s. 9d., 2s. 9d.; jackets, ditto; wigs, all prices; white, fancy, and dress vests, 1s. and 1s. 6d.; frock coats, 2s. 6d.; baggy trousers, 2s. 6d.; baggy dress coats, 2s.; ditto vests, 1s.; serio and evening dresses, 7s. 6d.; pierrot suits, 7s. 6d.; ditto hats, 1s. 6d.; top boots, ballet, and other shoes, clogs &c., from 2s. 6d.; guns, 2s. 6d.; swords, 2s. 6d.; side arms, 1s. 6d.; armour of all kinds. Try our parcel, twenty-four pieces, at 20s. Historical and pantomime shirts, boots, shoes, tights, &c., &c. Wardrobes bought to any amount for cash. The biggest buyer on earth of all theatrical requisites. Save 30% by dealing with L. BENJAMIN and SONS, 99, Middlesex-street, Bishopsgate, E.C., just round the corner from Dirty Dick's, Liverpool-street. Seeing is believing. Inspection of mountains of goods invited. When in town, don't forget to call, or send your orders along. You will see something to surprise you. You cannot resist buying. The more you look, the more you see. Catalogues on application. Established a century. Tel., 7568 London Wall.

WANTED, to Sell, Animal Dresses, Tights, Symmetrical Paddings, Properties, &c.
H. J. BOXALL, Tight Maker, 166, Waterloo-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, four Flock Mattresses, in new condition, 10ft. by 8ft., suitable for gymnasts, acrobats, wrestlers, &c. Apply, N. EDWARDS, Paddington Palace, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Magical Apparatus. A well-known Illusionist, changing programme, offers exceptional bargains in Modern Illusions. List, stamped envelope. LESTER, Aylesbury.

WANTED, to Sell, Flying Lady Illusion, cheap for cash, or part exchange.
Address, Josco, Palace, Rhyl.

WANTED, Known.—Lady offers magnificent Jewelled Ostrich Fan, through painful domestic troubles, cost 275 guineas; unique stage attraction. Offers invited. Box 5,348, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, couple Horizontal Bars, Ring Frame, two plated Stretcher Bars, Rings, Wires. HUCKS, 72, Church-street, Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, an Astounding Speciality, for Panto., a great novelty, entirely new and original, the idea never before worked. Box 5,350, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Magnificent Cloths, about 27 by 20, only painted once, "Ladder of Life," splendid condition, cheap. COLEMAN DAVIES, Theatre, Treharris (2), Redditch (3).

WANTED, to Sell, Novelty Musical Instruments, every Description; Secondhand Ballad Horn and Sleigh Bells, cheap. LISLE, 5, Cuthill-road, Camberwell.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, Known, Advertiser, who is Touring a famous Dramatic Success, and who is going into local management, is open to sell his production, bookings, &c. Fine opportunity for a leading actor to go into management. Only those prepared to give references as to capital at command need apply.
Box 5,355, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell cheap, splendid Russian Borzoi Greyhound, pedigree Dog, High Leaper. Add., C. CABAN, Palace, Clacton-on-Sea.

The Publisher, "The Era,"
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, London, W.C.
"Dear Sir,—I ordered the following advertisement to appear in your paper for two insertions:—

"'WANTED, to Sell, Self-acting Pianoforte, two barrels, twenty tunes, perfect condition. Cost £44; what offers? MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.'

"Kindly do not insert my advertisement again, as the self-acting piano which I had to sell has been sold to Mr. Jack Woolf, of Wonderland fame, Whitechapel-road, E. I had also ten other applicants through my advertisement in 'The Era.'
Yours faithfully,
J. H. MEURICE,
"39, Argyle-square, W.C. Oct. 9, 1906."

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, two First-Class Bioscopes, Secondhand Films, in good condition. List and lowest cash prices to PICTURES, 13, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Good Second-hand Typewriter. State lowest price for cash to
JOSEPH KEEFE, 12, Horne-street, Halifax.

WANTED, complete Midget Photo outfit, for cash, no rubbish, no fancy price. Full particulars, PALMER, 110, High-street, Arbroath, N.B.

WANTED, to Buy, 1st Dragoon Guards Uniforms, Colonel, Sergeant, Privates, Dress or Undress; also Khaki Uniforms. Write, A. E. JAMES, Post Office, Llangollen.

WANTED, to Buy, Rock Harmonican, cheap for cash. State compass and condition. Letters to IVER, 127A, Coldharbour-lane, Camberwell.

WANTED, Smart Performing Dog, with Novel Tricks; also Fawn-coloured Lurcher, used to Jumping. Particulars, &c., WOODFORD, Town Hall, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Advertiser would be willing to negotiate for Good Drama. Silence polite negative. Box 5,333, "The Era."

WANTED, Good, Original Patter Songs, including Policeman and Asylum Warder. Good money for good stuff. Reply, GOULDER HAMILTON, Entertainer, Rotherham.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

ST. ALBANS CONCERT ROOMS.
WANTED, to Let, Fine Hall for Concert Parties, Cinematographs, &c.
Seating 750. Terms very Moderate.
Vacant Dates for Season 1907-1908.
Apply,
SECRETARY, Social Club, London-road, St. Albans.

WANTED, to Let, for Season, Hippodrome, Spennymoor, County Durham. Finest position in the town. Beautifully fitted Stage and Ring. Grand district, and trade terrific. Only responsible people treated with. BLOOM, Haughton, Darlington.

WANTED, to Let, to Circus Proprietors, Hippodrome, Cambridge, vacant Sept. 16 and on; 40ft. Ring and good Stabling. PROPRIETOR, 77, Newmarket-road, Cambridge.

WANTED, to Let (Rental), Bycullah Athenæum, Enfield. Any kind of Entertainment. Scenery. Address, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, to Let, Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham, seat 1,000; vacant Sept. 15, 6 Nights, Nov. 11, onwards. Dramatic licence. Christmas vacant. Silence polite negative.

WANTED, to Let, Vacant Dates for good-class Entertainment; Popular Hall, crowded neighbourhood. Rent reasonable. Peckham Public Hall, Rye-lane, S.E.

WANTED, to Let, Licensed Hall, seat 350 Rehearsals 1s. hourly. Assembly Rooms Camden-road (facing Clapham-rd. Station); trams pass.

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CONTENTS:

Map, (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various Music Halls at a glance. Will tell if one Hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety.
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Information about Stamping Contracts.
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List and Address of Photographers.
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Names and Addresses of Theatrical Railway Managers, &c., &c.

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Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Vesta Tilley, Nance Elder, Bioscope, John Macaulay, Six Æolians, Olgar and Elgar, May Henderson, Edward Frisbey, Syd May.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten, Doughty's Sketch Co., Will Cornish, George S. Melvin, Three Prestons, Clement Trio, Mdlle. Eldee, Albert German, Bioscope, Boswell's Circus.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Queenie Leighton, Carina Sisters, Munro's Team, Mark Adams and Co., Hooker and Davis, Rhoda Paul, Parker and Parr, Marie Burnett, Bioscope, Chas. Fisher and Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Harry Randall, Mdlle Von Etta, Miles Stavordale Quintette, Rita and Roma, Florence Esdaile, Beatrice Renee, J. B. Preston, Ruth Lytton, Frank Elliston and Co., Five Osranis.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"Prince of Monte Carlo," Lockhart's Elephants, Orpheus, Moulier Sisters, Burley and Burley, Stella Troupe, Nettie Starr, Lily Burnand, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
The Boissetts, Haytors, Cissie Curlette, Grace Merton, Cullane's Comedy Co., Sisters Poole, Borghetti Troupe, Ten San Tan Girls, Bioscope, Three Clarions.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
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BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
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EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
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Rehearsal at 2, for :—
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Rehearsal at 2, for :—
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Rehearsal at 1, for :—
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Rehearsal at 2, for :—
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HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
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EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
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ANY OLD PLACE WHERE THE SUN SHINES.
(Paulton and Van Dixie).
Sung by Miss GLADYS MAVIUS.

I'M THINKING ALWAYS OF YOU.
(Pelham and Rule).
Sung by MARK ADAMS.

ISN'T IT LOVELY TO BE IN LOVE?
(Pelham and Rule).
Sung by GEO. D'ALBERT.

DEAR LITTLE TYROLESE.
(Harrington and Tate).
Sung by Miss FLORRIE GALLIMORE.

DON'T START TO WORRY.
(Written, Composed, and Sung by Harry Marlow)

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On a wall overlooking the terrace a native, clad and hidden just to the eyes in a long loose mantle, is watching and listening. Suddenly, without the slightest warning, he rushes on to the terrace and stabs the cavalier in the back. Is he dead or not? Patiently and lovingly Messaouda watches by the bed of her beloved, while the father joins their hands.

The native, however, is not satisfied yet, and attempts again to take the life of this brave cavalier, but the Hindoo girl is too quick for him and gives him a fatal blow.

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The blacksmith has his suspicions, however, and follows the two in a summer-house. He finds the two together, tears them apart, and boxes the ears of the young lord, who does not attempt to retaliate, seeing the giant proportions of the blacksmith. Notwithstanding this mishap, the young man again tries to see his lady-love, and hangs about, but this time the blacksmith is on his track, and together they go to the forge, where they fight a duel with hammers. The delicate and fragile young man quickly falls under the huge strength of his antagonist, and drops to the ground a mass of lace and ribbons.

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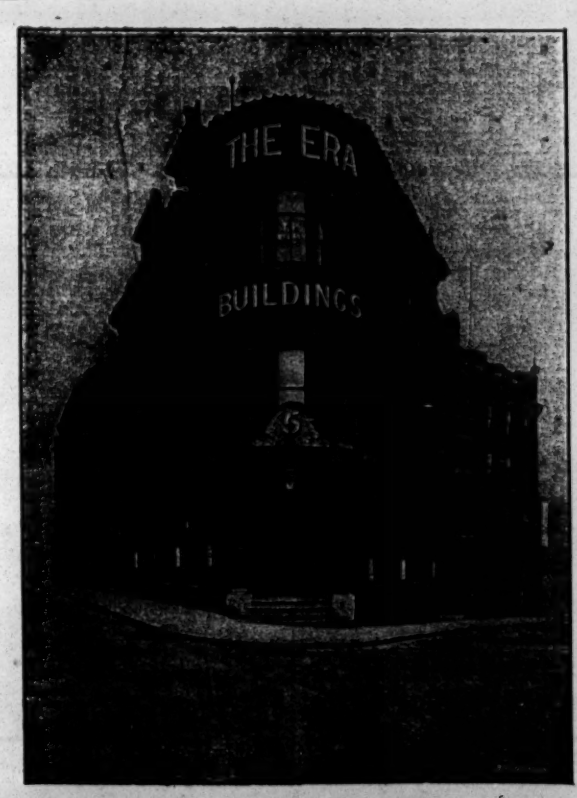

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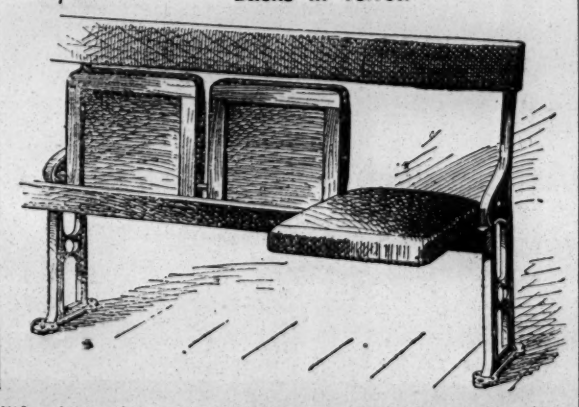

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EARLY TRAINS.

The Railway Companies are despatching many morning trains earlier than hitherto. This will enable subscribers and advertisers in the provincial towns to get copies of "The Era" in time for the breakfast table. Advertisers are requested to forward their advertisements as early in the week as possible, and not later than 7 p.m. on Thursday.

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PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

NAME.	DATE.
Abrahams, Messrs. F. & M.	March 31, 1906.
Abrahams, jun., Mr. Morris	Aug. 10, 1907.
Alexander, Mr. Alex.	June 2, 1906
Alexandra, Late Miss Ada	March 23, 1907.
Anderson, Late Mr. Reddick	Jan. 19, 1907.
Ashcroft, Late Mr. W. E.	October 27, 1906.
Ashton, Mr. George	May 5, 1906.
Ashton, Miss Margaret	September 1, 1906.
Atkin, Late Mr. John A.	Jan. 5, 1907.
Ball, Mr. Alf	September 1, 1906.
Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barclay, Mr. Arthur J.	May 26, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barnett, Mr. Orlando	October 6, 1906.
Beatty, Miss May	November 10, 1906.
Beecham, Mr. Charles	Dec. 22, 1906
Bent, Miss Buena	April 6, 1907.
Bentley, Mrs. Walter	July 20, 1907.
Bertoldi, Late Miss Ena	April 7, 1906.
Bolder, Mr. Robert	July 20, 1907.
Bordin, Signorina Maria	September 15, 1906.
Brandram, Late Miss R.	March 2, 1907.
Brickwell, Miss Mamie	Nov. 24, 1906
Brookfield, Mr. Charles	Dec. 22, 1906.
Brooks, Mr. George	Dec. 29, 1906.
Bruno, Mr. Albert	Feb. 25, 1907.
Burns, Mr. W. C.	Feb. 2, 1907.
Butt, Mr. Alfred	August 25, 1906.
Callaghan, Mr. T. C.	Feb. 23, 1907.
Camp, Late Mr. Jack	April 6, 1907.
Cannon, Miss Mayme	July 13, 1907.
Carter, Late Mr. John	July 13, 1907.
Chappell, Late Mr. James	Feb. 2, 1907.
Cinquevalli, Mr. Paul	May 5, 1906.
Clancarty, Late Lady	Jan. 5, 1907.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Collins, Mr. Patrick Ross	March 16, 1907.
Collins-Rolfe, Mr. Arthur	April 13, 1907.
Conquest, Mr. Arthur	May 26, 1906
Cooper, Miss Florry	Aug. 10, 1907.
Cooper, Mr. Charles K.	Feb. 23, 1907.
Coote, Mr. Bert	June 16, 1906.
Cotterell, Mr. Sid	July 14, 1906.
Courtice, Mr. Thomas	Dec. 22, 1906.
Cox, Mr. Ernest H. G.	Feb. 23, 1907.
Craston, Mr. Charles	Feb. 2, 1907.
Craven, Mr. Tom	Dec. 15, 1906.
Crisp, Late Mr. Henry	May 26, 1906.
Croke, Mr. Wentworth	Sept. 7, 1907.
Cooke, Mr. Stanley	March 30, 1907.
Curry, Late Mr. H. J.	April 27, 1907.
Darnley, Mr. Herbert	Aug. 17, 1907.
Dashwood, Mr. Arthur	July 20, 1907.
Denton, Mr. Jack	Feb. 2, 1907.
Edgar, Mr. J. W.	April 6, 1907.
Edmonds, Late Mr. E.	May 4, 1907.
Elliott, Late Mr. J. B.	May 26, 1906.
Ellis, Miss M. E.	Feb. 2, 1907.
Featherstone, Late Miss B.	Jan. 5, 1907.
Feldman, Mr Bert	June 15, 1907.
Fogerty, Late Mr. Robert	July 6, 1907.
Fox, jun., Mr. Charles	July 13, 1907.
Francis, Mr. Nelson	May 4, 1907.
Fuller, Mr. John, jun.	July 27 1907
Green, Mr. Richard	Jan. 19, 1907.
Guy, Miss Gladys	Jan. 26, 1907.
Hales, Mr. T. G.	April 6, 1907.
Hall, Late Mr. Owen	April 13, 1907.
Hamilton, Late Mr. Wm.	April 20 1907.
Hanlon, Late Mr. Bob	July 6, 1907.
Harvey, Late Mrs. Frank	June 15, 1907.
Harvey, Mr. Martin	June 22, 1907.
Hastings, Miss Nora	March 10, 1906.
Heron-Brown, Miss Edith	June 16, 1906.
Hey, Miss Muriel	September 15, 1906.
Hitchens, Mr. H. J.	September 8, 1906.
Howard, Mr. J. Bannister	July 20, 1907.
Humphrey, Miss Ola	Sept. 7, 1907.
Hunter, Late Mr. Harry	October 20, 1906,
Illington, Miss Margaret	June 2, 1906.
Irving, Late Sir Henry	Oct. 21, 1905.
Ivatts, Mr. C	Aug. 10, 1907.
Jackson, Mr. T. Ellis	July 27, 1907.
Jerrard, Late Mr. J. F.	April 28, 1906.
Kinghorne, Late Mr. Mark	November 10, 1906.
Kingston, Miss Bertha	February 24, 1906.
Knowles, Mr. J. Forbes	July 7, 1906.
Lacy, Miss Maude	Feb. 23, 1907.
Lamonte, Miss Syria	November 10, 1906
Lancaster, Miss Nora	Feb. 2, 1907.
Lauri, Mr. Edward	July 28, 1906.
Lazarus, Mr. A.	May 5, 1906.
Leitch, Late Mr. George	May 25, 1907.
Le Roy, Servais	June 23, 1906.
Lewes, Miss Miriam	June 16, 1906.
Leyton, Mr. H. Lawrence	Feb. 2, 1907.
Livermore, Late Mr. L. C. J.	October 13, 1906.
Livesey, Mr. Carter	March 24, 1906.
Loftus, Miss Kitty	June 8, 1907.
Lloyd, Mr. Samuel	Aug. 10, 1907.
Lugg, Mr. William	October 6, 1906.
Macmillan, Mr. J. T.	May 26, 1906.
Maude, Mr. Cyril	June 2, 1906.
Maynard, Miss Jennie	March 23, 1907.
Mayne, Mr. Eric	April 13, 1907.
M'Culloch, Mr. Arthur	November 10, 1906.
Miller, Mr. Fred.	October 6, 1906.
Miller, Late Mr. Kennedy	March 10, 1906.
Millis, Mr. F. W.	May 5, 1906.
Milstead, Mr. Robert	Dec. 22, 1906.
Montague, Mr. Harold	Feb. 23, 1907.
Morgan, Late Mr. William	April 27, 1907.
Morris, Miss Sylvia	October 6, 1906.
Morrison, Mr. Graham	June 22, 1907,
Munroe, Mr. Walter	June 8, 1907.
Murray, Miss Alma	August 25, 1906.
Murray, Miss Lillian	October 6, 1906.
Murielle, Miss Gracie	April 6, 1907.
My Fancy	February 24, 1906.
Nicholls, Mr. Harry	Feb. 23, 1907.
Norman, Mr. Percy	July 28, 1906.
Norris, Mr. Ernest E.	July 28, 1906.
Palmer, Miss Ada	November 3, 1906.
Parker, Mr. Frank	April 7, 1906.
Paxton, Mr. Sydney	September 29, 1906.
Payne, Late Mr. Adney	May 18, 1907.
Payne, Miss Millie	November 3, 1906.
Payne, Mr. William	September 8, 1906.
Paulton, Mr. Harry	March 10, 1906.
Phelps, Late Mrs. Edmund	Jan. 12, 1907.
Poole, Late Mr. Fred.	Feb. 2, 1907.
Poole, Late Mr. Joseph	October 27, 1906.
Proctor, Late Mrs.	August 11, 1906.
Renee, Mlle.	June 2, 1906.
Rickards, Mr. Barry	July 13, 1907.
Rind, Miss Kathleen	October 6, 1906.
Ronald, Mr. Landon	Dec. 8, 1906.
Ross, Miss Adelaide	May 26, 1906.
Saintsbury, Mr. H A.	September 15, 1905.
Saker, Miss Annie	March 3, 1906.
Sargent, Mr. Frederick	April 7, 1906.
Scott, Mr. Bennett	May 4, 1907.
Sheridan, Late Mr. J. T.	Dec. 8, 1906.
Shirley, Mr. Arthur	March 3, 1906.
Smith, Mr. Aubrey	Jan. 19, 1907.
Smith, Mr. George H.	March 16, 1907.
Stafford, Late Miss Emily	March 9, 1907.
Stayton, Mr. Frank	Jan. 12, 1907.
Swanborough, Mr. Edward	June 16, 1906.
Talma, Mlle.	September 15, 1906.
Terry, Miss Ellen	May 5, 1906.
Thorne, Late Miss Emily	March 9, 1907.
Tilley, Miss Vesta	July 7, 1906.
Toole, Late Mr. J. L.	Aug. 4, 1906.
Urban, Mr. Charles	May 18, 1907.
Victor, Late Miss M. A.	March 16, 1907
Victoria, Miss Vesta	June 16, 1906.
Walford, Late Miss Marie	July 21, 1906.
Walker and May	March 3, 1906.
Walton, Miss Gladys	March 17, 1906.
Warren, Mr. Charles	October 27, 1906.
Weeks, Late Mr. Frank	Aug. 4, 1906.
Wheatley, Mr. Horace	Aug. 17, 1907.
Wilson, Mr. Joseph	Dec. 8, 1906.
Witmark, Mr. Julius P.	June 29. 1907.
Woods, Mr. Alfred	August 11, 1906.
Woolf, Miss Gipsy	June 22, 1907.
Woolf, Mr. Jack	March 31, 1906.
Worrall, Mr. Henry	November 3, 1906.
Worswick, Late Mr. John	October 20, 1906.
Worth, Late Miss Beatrice	April 20, 1907.
Wright, Mr. Stewart D.	Nov. 17, 1906.
Zangwill, Mr. Israel	April 6, 1907

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PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAVON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. D. Jones.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's *Gay Parisienne* company appeared here the first part of the week, to full and appreciative audiences. The principals, including Messrs. Will Harman, Chas. Maclagan, and Cyril Biddulph, and Misses Holford, Beringer, Adeline Burgon, Madge Souter, and Alice Nixon, in the title-rôle, are all of first-class order. For the remainder of the week, Mr. T. Sidney's company in a *Marriage of Kitty* was announced.

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews.—Mr. E. H. Knight's company is here this week in *The Grip of Iron*. Mr. Fred Powell is very powerful as Jagon; Mr. Wallace Curnock is well placed as Paul Blanchard; Mr. S. Riley makes a decided hit as Concou the detective; Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner as Lorentz de Ribas is deserving of praise; Mr. Herbert Lewis is an amusing Loustalot; Mr. John Brittain as Dodot makes the most of his part; Mr. William Annesley is worthy of special mention as Robert de Belfort; Miss Marie Fontaine is a successful Cora; Miss Florence Trevoir a sympathetic Sophie, and Miss Maggie Stewart a pleasing Marie Guerin.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes.—*The Scarlet Patrol*, practically a brand new musical comedy, has received an enthusiastic welcome here. Mr. Herbert Cottesmore (under whose direction the comedy is produced) has commanded success by the engagement of a first-class company, many of whom have already appeared here in *La Poupee*, *The Girl from Kay's*, *Sergeant Brue*, &c. The fun of the piece emanates chiefly from Nicholas Quiller, as played by Mr. Arthur Stigant; Mr. Leonard Russell makes a smart American policeman; Mr. St. John Hamund as chief magistrate of Zillaree is particularly clever, and ably seconds the efforts of the principal comedian; Mr. J. S. Durant as an effective lover, and Messrs. Percy Rogers as the poetical tailor and Mr. J. H. Bishop as the coon are essentials to the success. Miss Elise Cooke's is a charming portrayal of the smart "police-sergeant," and her reception is most cordial; Miss Reydon Dallas as the heiress had a welcome which was no less assuring.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—We seldom get Shakespeare here, and, when we do, it is rarely we get him intelligently interpreted. This week, however, we are having performances by the eminent tragedian Mr. Allan Wilkie and a first-class Shakespearean combination. Mr. Wilkie appeared in *Hamlet* on Monday evening, and gave a scholarly interpretation of the Dane. He was admirably supported by Miss Carrie Baillie as Ophelia, Miss Mary Lovatt as the Queen, Mr. Jno. Paley as Claudius, Mr. Alex. Marsh as the Ghost, Mr. Paul Lovett as Laertes, and Mr. Geo. Munro as Polonius, all most effective exponents of their respective characters. On Tuesday *The Merchant of Venice* was played, and on Wednesday *Romeo and Juliet*.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The programme here for the current week is, as usual, judiciously varied. The first-named is a turn by Sisters Tree, three in number, who give an entirely new and refined episode in song and dance, entitled "Hunting"; Leo Trainer, favourite vocal comedian, finds abundant of absurdity to make laughter; the Sisters Belmont are charming duettists and dancers; and laughter is continuous while Freddy French is in "front." The Carney Brothers are really funny fellows as character duettists; the Story Trio are marvellous hand-balancers; Moon and Morris, clever comedians and simultaneous dancers; and the Forestiers give a smart, up-to-date quick-change scena, Anthony, the original comic conjurer, is also an artist of undoubted comic power; the pictures give amusing illustrations of Limburger Cheese.

ATTERCLIFFE.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bert Lester.—The premier position in an excellent programme this week is occupied by Corbin's Dogs, in a remarkably clever performance; Macintosh and Royal, lady and gentleman clog-dancers, are highly appreciated; Miss Eva Hope and Mr. Jack Wayho are successful in their duologues from Charles Dickens; Mr. E. C. Clayton's Attergraph pictures have a good reception; Miss Maude Beaumont is a winsome burlesque actress; Les Kauvars present a smart equilibristic act; the Brothers Barker are a couple of mirth-provoking comedians and dancers; and Mr. Charles Clark, comedian, meets with hearty approval.

AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—For the first three nights of this week, Mr. E. H. Bostock's Hippodrome entertainment has been the attraction, the chief item in the programme being Mr. Chas. Majilton and company of comedians, in the sketch, *The Trippers*. The variety show proper embraced Euston and Pancras, a clever black and white comedy team; Tamamoto, a Japanese rope and slack wire expert of extraordinary ability; Nan de Courcy, the lady juggler, whose performance gave great satisfaction; the Cecilias, clever lady instrumentalists; and Adams and Ward, who created much amusement by their quaint and amusing acrobatic act. A series of animated pictures are displayed by the American Bioscope. For the last three nights of this week, Mr. Chalmers Mackey and his company, in *Rollicking Rory*, were announced.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Edward Marris's company, in *The Dandy Doctor*, is here. Mr. Leslie Winter in the title-rôle is excellent; Mr. Walter Nugent is a typical Bertie Bolingbroke; Mr. James Danvers is a vigorous Melchisadek Brown; and the Colonel Pendred of Mr. Herbert Pearce is well done. Miss Ethel Ward is a vivacious Ivy Pendred; and Miss Florence Smithers keeps the house in great laughter throughout.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Miss Annie Hughes and company are here in *Tommy*. She herself in the title-rôle is exceedingly happy, and shows great ability; Mr. Evelyn Vernon submits an excellent interpretation of Peter Hope; Mr. Chas. Esdale is a capital William Clodd; and Mr. Rupert Lister an artistic Dick Danvers. *After Many Years*, by Miss Annie Hughes, is the curtain-raiser.

TIVOLI.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edgar George Laban.—The Selbini Cyclists top a good bill here this week; Abel and Welsh, eccentrics, create much laughter; Rita Rhylle is a dainty and refined artist; Edna Latonne quite takes the audience with her chorus songs; and Stylo gives an exceedingly clever loop manipulation act.

HIPPODROME.—Under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge. — The Fred Newman British Empire Pictures are still very popular. A fine entertainment is provided. Mr. T. C. Edwards, baritone, sings some capital songs during the evening.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—After many years' absence Mr Edmund Tearle is making his reappearance upon the local boards. The engagement commenced on Monday with *Virginius*, with the popular actor in his well-known rendering of the title-rôle. His best support came from Mr. William J. Miller as Appius Claudius; Miss Esther Tearle impersonated Virginia; her lover, Icilius, being enacted by Mr. Vernon O. Crabtree. On Tuesday *The Three Musketeers* was staged. Mr. Tearle was seen to advantage as D'Artagnan; Miss Kate Clinton undertook successfully the part of Miladi; and Mr. Miller again rendered valuable support as Richelieu. The rest of the cast portrayed their respective characters with earnestness and effect. The farce, *A Kiss in the Dark*, has also been played.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—A bright and dashing turn is that given by Bert Coote's Yankee-Doodle Girls, who meet with a rousing reception. In a similar line come Claud Feldman's beau-ideal troupe of juveniles, who create much enthusiasm; Cole and Rags supply an excellent juggling entertainment that is brimful of clever tricks and humour; Bert Weston has many funny stories to tell, and sings a well-arranged song; the Custances, in their comedietta, *A Game for Two*, gain plenty of laughter by this amusing item; Mlle. De Rose, the lady baritone vocalist, and J. H. Hawtrey, actor vocalist, are paying a welcome return visit. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, as usual, form an agreeable conclusion.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—The National Animated Picture Company opened the autumn season at these fine rooms on Monday their films being of the best and up-to-date description. Songs are given by Miss Eveline Bly, and Mr. Waterfield performs upon a bijou piccolo with wonderful results.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—A welcome visit is being paid to the above this week by *Sergeant Brue*, very ably presented by Mr. Robert Crossman's company. Mr. Arthur Reynolds plays the title-rôle with wonderful vivacity and drollery; Mr. T. A. Shale is a most amusing and versatile Crookie Scrubbs; and Miss Mary Hay a clever and graceful Lady Bickenhall, whose songs are highly appreciated.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—We are favoured this week with a visit from Mr. George Dance's company, in *The Beauty of Bath*. As Lieut. Richard Allington, R.N., Mr. Andrew Higginson speedily made himself a favourite with his amusing and clever impersonation; and who could desire a more fascinating interpretation of the Hon. Betty Silverthorne than that furnished by Miss Gladys Guy? Miss Ida Laurie distinguished herself by her acting as Mrs. Goodge; and Mr. Bay Russell must be commended for his entirely praiseworthy impersonation of Mr. Beverley. Mr. Jack Crichton kept the fun going merrily by his amusing impersonation of Sir Timothy Bun; and a highly diverting impersonation of Lemon Goodge, the programme-boy, was furnished by Master Basil Clifford. Miss Jessie Lonnen could hardly be excelled as Miss Truly St. Cyr; and Mr. Fredk. C. Leister was eminently suited as Viscount Bellingham. The rôle of the vacuous peer, Lord Quorn, was done full justice to by Mr. Reggie Grey; other rôles were capitally presented by Messrs. Wm. Ogle, Lacey Mills, J. F. Clarke, &c. The full chorus and augmented orchestra were under the skilful direction of Mr. Hartmann.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The chief attraction here is supplied by Les Newsomes, whose clever acrobatic feats have created much enthusiasm; Mr. Alf. Gibson's quaint method of singing droll songs gain him a big reception; and the remarkably clever performance of Bosanquet on the violin has aroused considerable enthusiasm. The Coes, lady instrumentalists, have made a big hit; Gregson and Goodfellow supply a comedy act, which is one of the features of the programme; and also here are Frank Maura, the Mexican wonder; Mr. Johnny Dwyer, Mr. Milner Verren, and the Palace Pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading position here is filled by Kurkamp, the singing conductor, who is the happy possessor of a cultivated voice, which has been heard with pleasure in operatic and other numbers; Miss Hilda Jacobson is a delightful comedienne, with good songs; and the Four Athos supply a great performance with their ball manipulating and acrobatism. Mr. Francis O'Flynn plays the banjo with much skill; and praise is due Mr. Charles Santon, male soprano and double-voiced vocalist. Mlle. Amedea's feats of contortionism are certainly amazing; and Lennard and Vereker's pictorial songs are quite a feature of this capital programme. Also appearing are Miss Elsie Kelly, a dashing comedienne; the Three Bounding Patterssons, in their clever trampolin bar act; and the new pictures on the Hipposcope delight all.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Herman Melot tops the bill at this popular hall, and his amazing conjuring tricks have created much astonishment. Walter Purvis and company produce with much success their sketch, *Cauliflower Joe*; and a hit has been made by Les Frasettis, xylophone soloists, who also play the violin and harp to perfection. Mr. Gus Garrick, a favourite here, is accorded a rousing reception; and Miss Dot Hardy is a charming comedienne and dancer. Also appearing are Miss Florence Vie, character comedienne; and the up-to-date subjects by the Bioscope have afforded every satisfaction. Miss Bessie Butt, soubrette and dancer, was unable through indisposition to appear on Monday; but Mr. Will Montgomery, a talented local comique, deputised with success.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company, under the personal direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, produce here this week the fine drama, *In the Midst of Life*. It is worthy of mention that some few years ago this piece was produced for the first time on any stage in this very city, the cast containing the names of such leading lights as Messrs. Fred K. Victor, author, and Matheson Lang. The Alhambra company acquit themselves with distinction with the drama, and none more so than Mr. Fred Terriss, whose impersonation of David Armstrong was certainly skilful. The heavy part of Henry Germiston was filled with distinction by Mr. Wilford Cheetham; and Miss Nina Blake-Adams was entirely praiseworthy as Margaret Gray. Mr. Cyril Grier was all that could possibly be desired as Capt. Bargery; and Miss Kathleen Magee would indeed be difficult to surpass as Lady Helen Rosmead, her acting being irreproachable. Mr. Elmore Frith's impersonation of Sir John Rosmead was up to the usual high standard expected from this experienced actor; and Miss Mattie Crawford impersonated Sybil admirably. Mr. Ed. Smythe was quite equal to the responsibilities of Richard Dixon; and Mr. Tom H. Solly was very humorous as Joe Drummond. Miss Alice Clarke was good as Molly Bargery; the Alhambra Bioscope, under the direction of Mr. Hugh Beckett, exhibits a humorous picture this week, entitled "Our Village Band Goes to the Contest."

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Battersby.—*The Light of the World* is being presented here. Mr. F. B. Woulfe, both in voice and physique, makes an interesting figure of Beric; Miss Ethel Griffies in the exacting part of Gylcera comes through successfully; Miss Theo. Henries makes an energetic Cecropia; Mr. Claude Aymond is a forcible Sysimus; and the poet Petunius is well portrayed by Mr. G. Edward Dunstan. Mr. Oswald Lingard makes a stern Geraldus, and Mr. F. Booth Conway a convincing Missionary Ioris.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL — Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Miss Clarence C. Corri's company, in *The Dancing*

Girls of Spain, are fulfilling a successful engagement here. Miss Eva Kelland wins general admiration by a clever and effective portrayal of Chiquita Joyce; Mr. Lawrence Emery is a capable Julian Alvarez; Sir Jeremiah Joyce is well embodied by Mr. George Danvers; Jack Davis is amusingly impersonated by Mr. Johnnie Schofield, jun.; Miss Pauline Hague is a charming Miss Marie Montressor; Miss Adele Lane is an irreproachable Lola; and other parts are, without exception, well sustained. The pantomime sketch, *Office Hours*, follows the comedy.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Dr. Walford Bodie, in his interesting feats with electricity, is a leading attraction; Miss Ethel Whiteside and her troupe of piccaninnies, furnish a smart and clever turn; and Mr. Barney Vox, an exceptionally expert ventriloquist, meets with hearty recognition. An excellent company also includes Miss Dolly Denver, buck dancer; Mr. Harry Bedford, comedian; Mr. Tom Yorke, comedian; and Brown's Royal Bioscope. Mr. Ernest Denney is musical-director.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton.—The popular pierrot entertainments continue a very successful season.

THE TOWER, NEW BRIGHTON. — Manager, Mr. William Holland.—Mr. J. Tiller's sketch, *Monte Carlo*, the ballet *Wonderland*, and Hale's Tours of the World, enjoy much popularity.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Mr. Beerbohm Tree's return as Colonel Newcome on Monday was most seasonable and welcome. The character was so graphically portrayed that the audience rose and cheered again and again. Miss Viola Tree's portrayal of Ethel was cleverly conceived; Miss Hutin Britton gave exquisite pleasure as Mme. de Florac; Miss Muriel Alexander as Lady Kew, Miss Iris Hoey as Rosy, Miss Cicely Richards as the Old Campaigner, and Miss Winifred Fitch as Mrs. Mason, were all good; Mr. Basil Gill had his fine moments as Clive, Mr. William Haviland gave a clever performance of Sir Barnes, Mr. G. W. Anson's Bayham was highly popular, and Mr. Harry C. Hewitt as Pendennis and Mr. Charles Quartermaine as Lord Farintosh were successful. During the week Mr. Tree has also appeared as Richard II., to the Queen of Miss Viola Tree; and *Trilby*, *The Man Who Was*, *The Rad Lamp*, *The Van Dyck*, and *Julius Cæsar* have also been presented.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*My Darling* is very popular here, and Tuesday, being the birthday of Miss Marie Studholme, was a gala night. Miss Studholme as Joy Blossom would melt the heart of a misanthrope, and certainly her charming and merry ways lift the hearts of the audience to the highest point of delight. Mr. J. F. McArdle, in his own clever characteristic way, makes the most of Sir Henry Eldon; Mr. Robert Hale, in his clear, incisive style, becomes very popular as the Hon. Jack Hylton; Mr. Tom Graves as Oddy, and Mr. Frank Hector, who, besides the character of Sir James Jagg, is to be credited with some smart hits, terpsichorean, both in Acts 1 and 2, are prominent performers; while Mr. Alexander Chentrens gives capital vocal and histrionic expression to the part of Maurice Le Blanc.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood.—*A Wife's Triumph* again reveals Mr. Ernest R. Abbott and company, all of whom have received pleasant receptions. Mr. Frank Stephens is admired for his frank portrayal of Frank Wilton; Mr. W. H. Garbois gives insinuating force to the part of Ellis Jordan; Mr. Weeden Ross as Julius Hartman plays with much success; Mr. Ernest R. Abbott is manly and unaffected as Robert Dewhurst; Miss Ada Abbott wields her good influence as Bessie Dewhurst with womanly charm; Miss Florence North shows sympathy in the rôle of Alice Wilton; Mr. H. Davis Brown is a force to be reckoned with as Stubbs, the trainer; Mr. Edwin Keene keeps the fun of the piece moving as Ben Bradford; Miss Marjorie Tennant makes a merry Margery Crib; and the others are very successful. *The End of the Story* is being played the latter part of the week.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Love that Women Desire* is seen here with Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company. The love-making between Philip Carnaby, the hero, and Sybil, the Squire's ward, is prettily done by Mr. John Davidson in the first-named rôle, and Miss Lalla Stanhope in the latter; Mr. J. O. Stuart creates the desired impression as the villainous Squire Abingdon; Mr. Oliver Rogers displays the requisite ability for the part of the son, Richard; Miss Aimee Gratton-Clyndes is eminently qualified for the rôle of Madge Abingdon; Miss Naomi Wallace is successful in the utmost degree as Muriquinha; Mr. John Mignett diverts the audience well as Dennis O'Rourke; Miss Winifred Barton is a pleasing Pattie Swift; and Miss Violet Haye, Mr. S. P. Clewlow, Mr. Hugh Wallace, Mr. Graham Winsford, and others are successful.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Fatal Wedding* enjoys all its former popularity here this week with Mr. Bert Coote's company. Mr. Cecil A. Melton imbues the part of Harold Wilson with more than ordinary interest; Mr. Burton Cooke effectively portrays the rôle of Robert Curtis; Miss Gertrude Harrison is an absorbing character as Cora Williams; Miss Ethel Kay impersonates the hero's wife successfully; Miss Marie Wilson shows much talent as "the little mother," Jessie; Mr. Charles Locke as the French butler, Toto, acts with irresistible humour; and the comicalities of Mr. Frank Ashley as O'Reilly and Miss Ethel Serjient as Bridget are quite to the taste of the audience. Mr. Cyril Melton as Peter Schwartz, and the Misses Dorothy Paln, Shirley Sparks, Nellie Boniface, Hilda Mahlert, and Master Tom Grice are also to the fore.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*Are You a Mason?* has thoroughly justified its appearance in the laughter and general success that has attended the efforts of Mr. Chas. Macdona's company. Mr. E. H. Paterson thrives well in the character of Amos Bloodgood; Mr. Howard L. Tracy is superexcellent as the son-in-law, Frank Perry; Mr. Eric Albury is very good as George Fisher; Mr. G. R. J. Austin exploits the masquerading rôle of Hamilton Travers to the fullest advantage; Mr. Buchanan Wake add hugely to the fun as John Halton; Mr. Erskholme E. Clive scores as Ernest Morrison; and the ladies are all very good and charming, including Miss Adelaide Grace as Mrs. Bloodgood, Miss Corisande Hamilton as Eva, Miss Babs Stuart as Annie, Miss Dorothy Mackenzie as Lulu, Miss Rita Narcelli as Mrs. Halton, Miss Gwen Clifford as Lotti, and Miss Ploensgains as Franchon Armitage. Miss Clifford's piano sketch is also very acceptable.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—A return visit of Mr. Frank Bertram's company is here in *The Breed of the Treshams*. Mr. Sidney Bland as Lieut Reresby, called the "Rat," is the dominating character in the piece, and gives an admirable presentation. Mr. Alfred Holles as Viscount Dorsington submits a fine portrayal; Mr. Benson North plays with finish as the Viscount's son; Mr. George Trail as Colonel Curwen is all that can be desired; Mr. R. Gwyn Richardson (Colonel Bagshaw) and Mr. Percy Robinson (Captain Stanhope) sustain their respective parts with credit; Mr. Robert Noble as the Hon. Francis Tresham proves successful; Miss Mildred Hodgson is an interesting Margaret Hungerford, and Miss Grace Harlington plays the part of Betty in a painstaking manner.

BLACKBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—Mr. Walter Howard's drama, *Second to None*, is staged here. The company is an excellent one. Mr. Jerrold Heather at once gets the sympathy of the audience by his manly personation of Harry Wilding; and Mr. Alfred Brandon as Captain Mannering is equally successful. Mr. C. W. Spencer makes a capital study of Sir Reginald; and Mr. V. G. Maine realistically acts the part of Sergeant Horsewon. Mr. T. G. Vane is amusing as Lieutenant Ballater; and the comedy work is excellently done by Messrs. Allan Carruthers (Ruggles) and C. A. Preece (Flutter), and Miss Maudie Grayson as Norah. Miss May Ward scores a success as Nell Greystone; and Miss Violet Lawson makes a charming May Greystone.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby's company is appearing here in the drama, *Man's Enemy; or, the Love that Won*.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Manning's Entertainers head the bill with an amusing comedy sketch, which is a great success; the Tally-Ho Trio are humorous harmonising vocalists; and the Macdonald Trio are novelty musicians. Prince Kokin is a clever Japanese juggler; and Burnetti, a character musician of high talent; while Robb Gilmore is a capital comedienne, and Nora Stockelle a sprightly comedienne.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—The presence here this week of Mr. Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott is attended with such gratifying success, financially as well as artistically, that a return visit should be within measurable distance. They selected to make their initial appearance in *Mice and Men*, which on Monday night drew an immense house, and at the end of each act the famous artists were recalled again and again. Mr. Robertson's Mark Embury is a masterpiece; whilst Miss Elliott plays Peggy with equal cleverness. Roger Goodlake finds a capital exponent in Mr. Charles Langley; and Miss A. Gordon Skinner carefully assumes the rôle of Joanna Goodlake. Mr. A. Wheatman as Kit Barniger, Mr. Sam T. Pearce as Peter, and Miss Elizabeth Watson as Mrs. Deborah also played their parts with care and cleverness. *The Light That Failed* and *Hamlet* are in the bill for the latter part of the week.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Mr. George Alexander and company are paying another very welcome visit here this week, and a house packed from pit to gallery greets them nightly in *His House in Order*. Mr. Alexander as Hilary Jesson has a part after his own heart, which he plays in his usual graceful manner; Miss Irene Vanbrugh plays Nina, and undoubtedly earns first honours, her acting being well nigh faultless. Filmer Jesson, M.P., is impersonated with considerable skill by Mr. Cyril Harcourt; and Major Maurewarde suffers little at the hands of Mr. Norman Trevor. Miss Iris Hawkins plays Derek Jesson, and is intensely interesting. The other parts make no demands on histrionic ability, so that Mr. E. Lyall Swete (Sir Daniel Ridgley), Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds (Forshaw), Mr. George Silver (Price Ridgeley), Mrs. Kemmis (Lady Ridgeley), Miss Ruth Maitland (Geraldine), and Miss Beatrix de Burgh (Mlle. Thomé) are more than equal to their respective tasks. The play is staged in the most complete manner imaginable.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The place of honour in this week's programme is rightly occupied by Kate Carney, who scores quite a triumph with her song-scena, "Liza Johnson." That popular comedian, G. W. Hunter, is also meeting with great success; and Ruth Molloy is proving herself to be a mimic possessed of great ability. Other good turns are supplied by Radford and Valentine, the juggling jesters; Arthur Slater, whistler; Rose Cabani, comedienne; Woolmer Young, vocal comedian; Kendrick and Laura, in a very laughable sketch; and Joe Reichen, with his trained dogs.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. P. Duignan.—A varied programme is submitted here this week twice daily, in which Johnny Danvers, the popular comedian; Williams and Warden, in an amusing Irish act, *Mr. Dooley*; and Slippere, the blind entertainer, supply the principal turns. The other contributors are Ruby Bijou, barefoot dancer; Charlie Williams, comedian; the Transfields, instrumentalists; Alix Lukos, in a song-scena; Nancy St. John, comedienne, and Frank Lynne, comedian.

NORTH PIER PAVILION.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. James Walker.—A very pleasing and varied entertainment is supplied here this week by Mr. Walter Curtis, the popular humorist; Mr. Sydney Gandy and Miss Inglefield, in their clever thought-transmission act; Mr. Frenton Cross, lightning sketch artist; and Mr. Gandy, ventriloquist.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—*The Assassin*, presented by Mr. Augustine Knight's clever company, has met with a hearty reception. As Prince Demetri Mr. Knight submitted a powerful performance; to Mr. H. Bonhote-Watson every praise was due for his conception of Ivan Ipanoff; in the rôle of Wanda Miss Ella Vane displayed ability; a sympathetic Nita was presented by Mrs. Eva Trevanna; and the comedy of Miss Hettie Senior, assisted by Mr. Edward Swinton, Mr. Tom J. Taylor, and Miss Marie Robertson, kept the large audience in a humorous mood.

THE GAIETY.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. G. E. Good.—At the top of the bill are Keski and Raski, grotesque tumblers; Miss Dorothy Baddeley charms her audience with song; Herbert Simister, comedian, and Bert and Dora, in a burlesque act, are much in evidence; and the Bioscope pictorials are greatly appreciated.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Tudor.—A good entertainment has been provided by a varied array of pictures, and Miss Moray in her living marionettes, and Jax, burlesque artist.

BOSCOMBE. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—At the head of an excellent programme are Fred Karno's comedians, in *The Early Birds*, which provides much amusement; the Daunton-Shaw troupe of cyclists may be said to have reached the acme of perfection in trick cycling; the Katos, as the human marionettes, prove to be a very interesting turn; the Sisters Dixon [illegible] some banjo duets, interspersed by some clever dancing; Sylvia Du Barry has a pleasing voice; Blarney and Kennard, a pair of capital comedians, are assisted by their waltzing dogs; and some interesting films are shown on the Bioscope.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Miss Julia Neilson, Mr. Fred Terry, and company are here with *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. Mr. Terry's performance of the cool, daring man of resource, Sir Percy Blakeney, is one of rare excellence, and the support is admirable.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's new domestic drama, *The Eve of Her Wedding*, is proving very acceptable to Mr. Laidler's patrons. Mr. Wilson Benge at the head of his capable company as the hero has good support in a grand impersonation from Miss Sadie Smith as Mavis Leverton, and Miss Adelino Raby in the unsavoury part of the deeply-dyed villainess Renie de Telle. There is some good acting by Mr. C. Groves, jun., as Paul Cairshaw, and in lighter vein Mr. C. Digby as Rudolf Earle and Miss Violet R. M. Leslie as Kinkie are good.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Much interest is centred here in the appearance of the Cossack champion Ivan Padoubny, who is taking on and defeating all comers; *Casey's Court* (with Bob King as Mrs. Casey) is a diverting sketch; eccentric dancing is contributed by Will Polusk, jun.; Alexandre and Hughes reappear with their entertaining comedy and melody; and the Wedburns are as diverting as ever with music and mirth; James Stewart again "tramps at the piano"; expert dancing is submitted by the Sisters Caselli; Bert Woodward's feats as a "steeplechasing cyclist" are very clever; and the American Bioscope shows capital pictures.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Georg Hackenschmidt's return here has been cordially welcomed; W. B. Raby, comedian, contributes good songs to the programme; some smart skating is done by Willie Gardner on ice and roller skates; with their boxing sketch, *Next, Please*, the Bros. Ashley provide a lot of fun; Rosalie Jacobi is a pleasing soubrette; and an excellent evening's entertainment is completed by contributions from the Sisters Reno, dancers; Elton and Elma, knockabouts; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

BRIDLINGTON. — SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry Hague.—Mr. Lawrence Brough and company have been here with *The Lady of Ostend*. On Tuesday the Zancigs gave two of their mystifying performances.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—There was a crowded and fashionable audience in the Grand Pavilion on Friday evening to welcome the popular manager on the occasion of his annual complimentary benefit. Mr. Palmer had prepared a big programme for his patrons, and every item was encored, one of the greatest receptions being accorded to his talented little daughter, Miss Dolly Palmer, whose song and dance were given with all the ease and confidence of a practised artist. The little lady should make a name for herself in the future. Miss Dorothy Frostick's solo dance was also a great treat; Mr. Joseph Sainton and his municipal orchestra contributed some of their choicest items. A highly-appreciated programme was concluded by *Family Jars*, by the Waterloo Pierrots. This week on the Parade Miss Kate Rooney is delighting the large audience with her charming contralto voice; and the municipal orchestra give pleasure by their performance of some of the works of the great masters, as well as their lighter items. Mr. Percy Frostick's violin solos being especially appreciated for the beauty of tone and breadth of treatment which they receive from this talented violinist. In the Grand Hall the Flockton-Foster entertainers are drawing large audiences, Miss Rita Vincent and Miss Ray Morgan gaining great applause for their contributions. The Loyal Dominion Animated Pictures are always to the liking of the audiences.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—Mr. Surrie Lindon and his company, whose vaudeville entertainments have been a big draw during the season, were accorded a benefit on Monday, when they presented a big programme in the theatre and secured a very full house. The host of talent who assisted them included Miss Margaret Cooper in some of her choicest songs at the piano.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—Variety still holds it own at this popular resort, and some most amusing sketches are giving great pleasure to the audiences. Miss Madge Goodall and Miss Nan Farren, the two ladies of the troupe, are always warmly welcomed in their songs and dances, which are cleverly rendered. Mr. H. B. Cada, the eccentric comedian and violinist of the troupe, was accorded a benefit on Thursday evening, the 5th, and had a good audience, who were highly entertained by the programme, which included a smartly-played sketch by the company, entitled *Fun at the Baths*.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Messrs. Charles Cartwright and A. B. Tapping's company opened here on Monday with *David Copperfield*, and attracted a large and enthusiastic audience. Mr. Cartwright gave a masterly impersonation of Dan'l Peggotty; Miss May Yates submitted a charming and sympathetic portrayal of Little Em'ly; Mr. Humphrey Warden was well placed as Uriah Heep; Mr. Arthur Royston was admirably suited as the easy-going Steerforth; Mr. Charles Collette renewed his success as Mr. Micawber; Mr. M. A. Wetherall made a capital David Copperfield; Miss Edith Cartwright's Rose Dartle was well played; and Mr. Allan Pollock's Ham merits praise. Able support was given by Mr. Edgar J. Coyne, Miss Ada Palmer, Miss Ivy Williams, Miss Hilda Francks, Miss Margaret Bush, Miss Dulcie Brooke, and Mr. E. A. Metcalf.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is here this week with *Leah Kleschna*. Miss Bessie Rignold achieves distinct success by her superb representation of Leah; Mr. William Clayton gives a powerfully effective enactment of Kleschna; Mr. William F. Grant displays finished acting as Paul Sylvaine; Mr. Hamilton Deane is an admirable Raoul Berton; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid as Schram, Mr. Charles Barrett as General Berton, and Mr. Bert Gunter as Anton Piaff are very effective; and others deserving commendation include Mr. Bernard Rain, Mr. Arles Conway, Miss Ethel Russell, Miss May Hammond, and Miss Edith Summers.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—Miss Florence St. John, ably supported by Mr. Trevor Lerode and Mr. H. V. Surrey, is very successful in the farcical incident, *Quits*; Francis and Alfred are clever comedy jugglers; Dorothy Gould, a dainty comedienne, displays pleasing vocalisation; Charles Ashdown is a capital comedian and patterer; Jack Lane, "the Yorkshire rustic," keeps the house rippling with laughter; Frances Kapstowne is very entertaining at the pianoforte; Bert Danson is an eccentric patter comedian; W. H. Barber appears in a sensational bicycle act on the high wire; Vendome and Chase, speciality artists, are capital vocalists and dancers; Kate Traill is highly successful in songs at the piano; and the Alhambrascope pictures are amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—The Hadji Mohamed Troupe of Arabs give a remarkable display of daring somersaults; Madame Sidy Narvana, with her wonderfully trained horse, Loky, appears in a series of charmingly arranged poses; the Waldrons, burlesque adepts, afford much amusement in *Our Sammy*; the Flockton-Foster sketch company evoke hearty laughter with *Ferdie's Ma-in-law*; Maude Vera is a clever descriptive serio and coon artist; George Barrington is very successful in his freak performance on the piano; the Vetter Brothers win applause for their gymnastic equilibristic act, *The Page's Recreation*; the Sydney Girls give a smart dancing turn; Gus Harris, Hebrew comedian, is cordially received; Johnny Fuller, "the cat on the wire," is clever; and the Barrascope pictures are interesting.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Herbert Ralland's company is here this week with *Mice and Men*. Mr. J. Graeme Campbell submits an artistic impersonation of Mark Embury; Miss Helena Parsons is a bright and winsome Peggy; and Mr. J. Henry Twyford makes an admirable Captain George Lovell. Very able enactments are presented by Mr. Frederick Tyrrell (Roger Goodlake), Mr. Arthur Austin (Sir Harry Trimblestone), Mr. C. Lillford Delph (Peter), and Miss Grace Baring (Mrs. Deborah).

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—The famous native choir from Jamaica opened here on Monday, and attracted a large and appreciative audience. The admirably sustained programme included humorous and sentimental songs and duets, glees and choruses, Jamaican street songs, coon songs, clever dances, and sketches.

GRAND SKATING RINK. — The Mondeal Cinema provides afternoon and evening entertainments here. The admirably series of animated pictures is marked by charming variety, and appeals to all tastes, for there is much that is instructive as well as interesting and humorous.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. George Alexander's company is here on a return visit, with Pinero's comedy, *His House in Order*, the play being staged in liberal style. On Monday evening both Miss Marie Polini and Mr. Frank Fenton acted splendidly in their respective parts of Nina and Hilary Jesson; Mr. Ernest Young did well as Filmer Jesson; Miss Maisie Richardson acted admirably as Derek Jesson; the Ridgeleys, including Sir Daniel Rigdeley, Pryce Ridgeley, Lady Ridgeley, and Geraldine Ridgeley, had capital exponents in Mr. Richard Dalton, Mr. Langford Browne, Miss Madge Johnstone, and Miss Henrietta Leverett; Miss Jean D. Cadell made a good part of the French governess, Mlle. Thomé; Mr. Charles Tyrel had not a lot to do as Major Maurewarde, but his acting of the part was dignified and highly effective; Dr. Dilnot, Harding, and Forshaw, were carefully taken by Mr. Frank Hill, Mr. Barnett Parker, and Mr. Edwin Ford; and Mr. Hubert Blount and Mr. Ernest Liverett did well as the two servants. The play was followed with attention, and there was much applause at the fall of the curtain.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—The ever-popular *East Lynne* is being admirably played here by Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company. Miss Julie Kennard presents a charming exposition of Lady Isabel, her sympathetic and impressive style suiting the part; Mr. Alfred Beaumont acts decidedly well as Archibald Carlyle; and Mr. E. Maude Cole is in every way effective as Francis Levison; Mr. Alfred Tate is amusing as Bullock; and the parts of Lord Mountsevern, Justice Hare, Comelia Carlyle, and Barabara Hare are satisfactorily taken by Mr. Spencer Goodwin, Mr. C. C. Gratton, Miss E. Hardacre, and Miss Edith Moss.

PALACE. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Harry Ford, comedian, heads the programme; he has a quaint style, and obtains considerable applause. The May Fair Quartette contribute some fine singing and harmonising, interspersed with comedy; Bains and Reed do a good comic acrobatic turn; Jack Pleasants has some amusing songs; Fred Tenby, comedian, is successful; Estrella cleverly presents a series of international dances; Pearce and Ward score with their burlesque boxing act; and Macdonald and Huntingdon please with their vaudeville entertainment. The performance concludes with interesting animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Ernest Shand, comedian, successfully tops the bill; he has some good songs, and his turn is amusing generally. "Billy," an educated horse, is presented by Edgar Hayes, the clever animal making calculations and doing many excellent tricks; the Francis Harold company have a good dramatic sketch, *A Great Judge*; Eva Lumley and Freda Ettrick do well with their sketch, *Jimmy, All of Twist*; Billy French does some smart clog dancing; Jessie Merrilees, American comedienne, is highly successful; Cyril Carle scores with the scena, *Dreams*; the Lorrisons, comedians and dancers, do a good turn; and animated pictures conclude the entertainment.

COLSTON HALL.—Ralph Pringle's animated pictures continue to be attractive. The collection of films is diversified, the subjects appealing to all tastes, and they are all remarkably clear. There is a good band. The variety artists, which this week include Mme. Sims Reeves, are all capable, and the attendance is highly satisfactory.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—George Kirk and Mary Neil's company are this week doing good business with *Her Luck in London*. Miss Mary Neil makes a great impression in the onerous part of Nellie Harborne; Mr. Steven Langton cleverly sustains the rôle of Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor; the stern father, Steven Harborne, is well presented by Mr. Tyrone Power; the straitlaced sister, Lilian Harborne, is successfully portrayed by Miss Frances Bruce; and Mr. Charles Stirling as Richard Lenowen and Miss Marie Clavering as Mme. Gaberielle act those villainous parts well. The comedy business is thoroughly sustained by Mr. J. Telly Dillsen as Jerry, Miss Florrie Groves as Maud Gladys, and Mr. Bruce Chapman as Algie. Good work is done by Mr. Douglas Tremayne as Lionel Strong and Miss Pamela Hodson as Angelina.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*A Modern Adventuress*, a clever drama, is followed with great interest here this week. The production is in the hands of Mr. Lingford Carson's able company. As Harry Delby Mr. Arthur Mervyn is all that could be desired; Mr. Eric Forth is admirably suited to the character of Walter Beal; and Mr. Ernest J. Fare makes a smart Wallace Danton. Mr. Will White as John Crompton creates roars of laughter; and Miss Eva Norman as Sally is also very funny. Miss Muriel Thompson as Violet Meredith is excellent; and a charming Vivette is Miss Rosa Mervyn. Mr. Charles Draycott as Pietro Donelli, and Mr. David Donaldson as William Delby, do well. *The Octoroon* was billed for Thursday, and *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* on Friday.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The programme here this week is headed by the Davis Gledhill Trio in their cycle and motor-paced sensation; Atlas and Vulcana are heartily rewelcomed, and also the Sisters Atlas are greatly appreciated. J. E. Walmsley, tenor vocalist, brings down the house with his beautiful rendering of "Down the Vale"; and Effie Stuart, Scotch comedienne, is a clever dancer. Little Dot Moss gives a pretty performance; the Steinway Quartette, in "Songs of the Sea," are exceedingly good; Miss Georgette Thierry's sketch company presents *Nancy Sykes*, a dramatic episode, with Mr. Bernard Lieli as Fagin. The Maniac Juggler is given by the Empire Theatrescope.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE (NEW HIPPODROME).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—A quaint and distinctly novel turn is given here by the Herald Comedy Four; Vasey and Ramsey meet with a warm reception; the coster songs of Nat Travers are heartily applauded; Bertha Norwood is a pleasing vocalist and dancer; a funny comedian is Will Johnson; a clever acrobatic performance is given by the Voldam Bros.; Walton and Lester are responsible for some amusing business; and the Operascope is up to the usual point of excellence.

BURY (Lancs.). — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Marks.—A good programme is provided here this week, the turns including Russell Brandow, coloured dancing comedian; the Brothers Obo, laughing comedians; Mlle. Marjutti, in an acrobatic act; the Brothers St. Clair, trick cyclists; Barton and Franklin Trio, musical entertainers; Richardson Taylor, whistling ventriloquist; and Alfred Graham's Premier Juvenile Singers.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. Broadhead, Jun.—The show here includes Arthur Rigby and his "matrimonial martyrs"; B. Troba, juggler and strong man; the Three Royal Temples, operatic vocalists; Denton, Roscoe, and Galley, colliers, and Bell, acrobats; Wakomie Brothers, instrumentalists; the Sages, burlesque artists and dancers; Edith St. Clair, and Molly Doon, comediennes.

BUXTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—This week we have the D'Oyly Carte Répertoire Company in a round of Gilbert and Sullivan operas. On Monday the engagement opened with *The Mikado*. Mr. Leicester Tunks was particularly happy in the title-rôle, and Mr. Strafford Moss was a most successful Nanki-Poo; Ko-Ko was his own delightfully humorous self as played by Mr. Charles R. Walenn, and Mr. Fred Billington repeated his inimitable Pooh-Bah; a performance full of merit was Mr. Leo Sheffield's Pish-Tush, and Mr. Fred Drawater sang exceptionally well as Go-To; Miss Theresa Rassam endowed Katisha with all the fire and go so necessary to this character, and Miss Hope Hastings sang delightfully as Yum-Yum. A performance full of piquancy and taste was Miss Beatrice Meredith's Pitti Sing. The largo chorus sang the concerted music excellently, and the opera was beautifully staged. During the week *The Gondoliers*, *Iolanthe*, *Yeomen of the Guard*, *Patience*, and Saturday matinée *Gondoliers* and evening *Mikado* were given.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*The Belle of New York*, with us once more, is proving as attractive as ever. Mr. Paddy Dupres gets plenty of fun out of the character of Ichabod Bronson; Miss Hebe Kneller, as the Belle, sings well and acts charmingly; Mr. Ernest Mozar plays Harry Bronson in easy style; Mr. Frank Lawton, as Blinky Bill, is seen again in his popular rôle; Mr. Jos. R. Tate, as the polite lunatic, is full of quaint humour; and Messrs. J. A. Watts and Ray L. Cody are particularly amusing as the Portuguese twins. Miss Winnie Browne is a dashing Cora Angelique and Miss Olive Lenton a dainty Fifi. As Doc Snifkins, Mr. Alfred Sandoe is well placed.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*The King of Crime* is occupying the boards at this theatre for the present week. Mr. Henry Bedford, as Roujaire, portrays powerfully the pathos and contrition of the hunted criminal; Miss Florence Halton, as the blind wife Henriette, is extremely effective; and Miss Nita Imeson, as the persecuted Matilde, wins rounds of applause. Mr. Fred Wells as the old miser Gandelu, Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes as Simon, and Mr. Arthur Robinson as Louis Mascot, all render valuable assistance.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—On Monday was produced, for the first time here, the latest of Fred Karno's clever sketches, entitled *The Bailiff*. Mr. Fred Kitchen, the chief comedian, is supported by a capable company, and his latest creation is, without doubt, one of the funniest, and a more amusing and cleverly-rendered impersonation it would be hard to discover. Joe O'Gorman, raconteur, provides an entertaining turn; Ah. Chester sings a good character song; the Bros. Egbert prove a clever and laughable duo of acrobats; and Harry Grey, the Australian comedian, Boyd and Gilfain, in pleasing songs, Millie Payne, the popular low comedy artist, The Lyons Trio of Pantomimists, and a Bioscope exhibition are also on the bill, and help towards its success.

THE PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—The management are keeping up their reputation for a varied and free performance. Premier position on the programme is undoubtedly given to Clito in a series of representations of sculptural art. This week's musical farce is *A King for a Day*, amusingly presented by Mr. Sydney Dooley and Mr. Chas. Seymour's company. Mr. Bert Atherton as Septimus Tupper and Mr. Will Letters as the famous sculptor Signor Carrara cause endless merriment. Lillie Soutter, a favourite character comedienne, Messrs. Dale and Vale, in a clever vocal and dancing speciality, Cullen, Carthy, and Little Cluley, entertaining comedians, Emmie Ames, in her latest success *Emmie's Christmas Tree*, Harry Bancroft, actor vocalist, and the Bio-Tableaux, with interesting pictures, are all attractive features of a good entertainment.

CARLISLE.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—The last visit of the *Trip to the Highlands* company created such a favourable impression that the house was packed in every part on Monday night to welcome them on their return visit, and the utmost enthusiasm prevailed. The principal parts are almost all in the same hands as on their last appearance. Mr. Wal Croft is even more successful than before as a Scotch comedian, and Miss Isa Bowman again delights her audience by her versatile acting, charming vocalism, and dainty dancing. Mr. Frank Barclay has a fine voice, which he uses to every advantage in several popular numbers. Miss Nellie Brodelle, Miss Clara Moore, Mr. Harry A. Gribbes, Mr. Willie Scott, Mr. Wellesby Smith, and Mr. James Somerville are clever representatives of their respective characters, and numerous minor parts are capably filled. The piece is again beautifully staged.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. B. Nicholls.—Jack Lorimer, the clever Scotch comedian, is the star turn this week; Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, create quite a sensation; the Norman and Leonard Trio are paying a return visit; another favourite on a return visit is Helen Martin, a charming ballad vocalist; Kent and Keith, in a funny act, keep the audience convulsed; Prince Kuroki, Japanese magician, is smart; Stella Stahl is a dainty dancer; and the Pepiscope has some excellent films.

CASTLEFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman.—Mr. Percy Norman's company, under the personal supervision of the author, Mr. A. B. Mackay, is here in a new military drama, *A Woman Worth Winning*. Mr.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Victor Newman, who remains over from last week, appears with success in several Shakespearean and Dickens sketches; the comic element is well sustained by Mark Henton; Bella White is a dainty comedienne and dancer; Florrie Elliott renders illustrated songs in pleasing style; Fred Mac contributes character songs and recitations; Beatrice Varley is a descriptive vocalist of merit; the Three Zaros are a clever set of comedy acrobats; and a Bioscope entertainment is very much enjoyed.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—The programme is one of the best ever seen here, and includes the Allans, skilful musical artists; Hurman is a clever juggler; May Moore Duprez, the Jolly Dutch Girl, contributes some capital songs and dances; Mahatma is a marvellous second-sight artist; Denby and Dent are a pair of comedians whose songs and dialogue are of high order; the Four Berlin Belles give a good singing and dancing turn; Satsuma is an illusionist whose feats are mystifying; and the Saxon Trio of weight lifters perform prodigious feats of strength.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Bennett.—The new Chinese comic opera *See-See* is being produced here, and receives a hearty reception. The chorus is a well-trained one, and some of the musical numbers were well received. Mr. Colin Coop soon established himself a favourite as the old Chinese merchant Cheoo; Mr. Edmund Sherass ably represents the ardent Yen; Mr. Bertie Wright fairly revels in the part of Nang Kee; and Mr. J. W. Manning is successful as Hoang Wang. Miss Dorothy Chard, a delightful actress, gives a clever rendering of See-See, and Miss Lilian Pollard is seen to advantage as So-Hee, proving herself a very capable dancer.

Hippodrome Theatre. — Manager, Mr. Lennox Barry.—The chief attraction this week is a dramatic episode, *The Unwritten Law*, by Mr. John Lawson's company, the leading part being taken by Miss Buena Bent, and supported by the original West-end company. The piece is full of exciting incidents. A very good acrobatic performance is given by the Three Panamas; the Four Cecilians are fine dancers; and a laughable absurdity, entitled *Slavsys*, by the Elvio Trio, keeps the people amused. Other artists are Horace Wheatley, a clever comedian; Austin and Cowan, vocal entertainers; The Maples, comedy artists; and Arthur Elvy, a sporting comedian. The Hipposcope pictures are excellent.

The Empire.—Proprietor, Mr.• Geo. Dance; Manager, Mr. K. Draco.—Peggy Pryde gives a couple of songs which are received with great enthusiasm; The Lukushimas give a marvellous exhibition of feet balancing, the Lady Otara San being very clever; G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, is well received, both for his singing and his clever dancing; Belloni's Cockatoos do marvellous tricks; Maud Sinclair is successful as a ventriloquist; the O'Gorman Bros. are a couple of capable comedians and dancers; Lilian Lowe is a pleasing vocalist; and the Bioscope pictures conclude a varied bill.

CROYDON. — Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—The Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company is appearing here this week to crowded houses, the excellent répertoire consisting of *Tannhäuser*, *Il Trovatore*, *Lohengrin*, *Carmen*, *Faust*, *Othello*, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. In the first-named on Monday Herr Julius Walther was in fine form, and gave an artistic and expressive rendering of Tannhäuser; Mr. Dillon Shallard played with studied accuracy and dramatic effect in the rôle of Wolfram; Mr. Arthur Winckworth submitted a scholarly impersonation of the character of the Landgrave; Mr. Alec Richard sang with power as Biterolf; Mr. C. Brierley enacted Reinmar in the best possible manner; Mr. Albert Felton was quite up to the mark as Schrieber; and Mr. William O'Connor did full justice to the rôle of Walther. Miss Grace Nicoll fairly eclipsed herself as Elizabeth, acting and singing with delicacy and the skill of an accomplished artist; Miss Amy Rolda was seen to considerable advantage as Venus; and Miss Annie Walker made the most of her opportunities in the character of the Shepherd Boy. The operas are being mounted in an exceptionally creditable manner; and the principals are supported by a chorus and orchestra which deserve warm praise.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James.—Mr. James Willard's company, *In the Shadow of Night*, is here this week. Mr. George Harvey as John Allington plays powerfully; Mr. H. Dobell Lyle is a worthy representative of Gordon Allington; Mr. Charles Clifford submits a good portrayal of Clifford Yorke; Mr. William Hayward figures prominently as Jake Grudgewell; Mr. James Ingledew represents James Woodstock in a telling manner; and Mr. Cecil Raymond plays the dual rôles of Joe Jackson and the Rev. Nathaniel Hope in excellent style. Miss Pryllis French as Bob is received with favour; Miss Nina Westerleigh as Violet Kingston does well; and Miss Tina Shaw ably sustains the part of Molly Woodstock.

Empire Palace of Varieties. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Doody and Wright, Australian comics, are a quaint and interesting pair; Albert Whelan is an entertaining mimic and whistler; Jolly and Neilson are well received in their musical sketch, *Dick the Paper Boy*; Valvero's naval pictures are cleverly executed; Ambrose Thorne, comedian, is good; Alan Holt and company are excellent in vivid skitch, *A Society Woman*; and Amy Clevere, vocalist and dancer, and Tom Leo, comedian, also appear.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. J. W. Turner's Opera Company hold the boards this week. *Maritana* was the opening opera on Monday. Mr. Turner as Don Cæsar de Bazan still sings with power; Mr. John Ridding as Don José is capable in the part; Mr. Tom Griffiths makes a good King of Spain; Miss Christine Gomez as Maritana is interesting; and Miss Jessie Dennis, in the part of Lazarillo, does well. *Il Trovatore*, *Faust*, *The Bohemian Girl*, and *The Daughter of the Regiment* are also in the week's répertoire.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome Theatre, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Hersee.—A good bill is here this week, headed by Sahib Gustave Fasola, an exponent of Indian magic, who is amazingly clever; Miss Daisy James sings three songs in a most pleasing manner; Ryan and Hall, funny acrobats, give a clever performance; Miss Ruby Dahl and her manikins submit an enjoyable turn; Arthur Gill is a yokel of many voices; Gus Merriman is clever as a trick musician; the Lannons excel as pedestal dancers; and a pleasant evening concludes with the Pepiscope, with latest pictures.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Mr. Douglas Bruce's company is here this week with *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*. Mr. Charles Whitlock gives an effective rendering of the Rev. Robert Everton; Mr. Edward Lloyd is a capital Jack England; Captain Geoffrey Cavershame's villainies are well portrayed by Mr. Frank Adair; Mr. Monson Thorpe is a capable Detective Weathersby; and Mr. George Mitchell is well suited as James Sutton. Miss Ethel Bracewell is excellent in the title-rôle; Miss Lydia Mannington ably sustains Marian Franklin; and Miss Joan Ellis is a pleasing Rose Seymour. The comedy is well served up by Mr. Geo. H. Asquin as Dick Punch and Miss Nell Burton as Lucy Vere.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Chas. Denley.—After a highly successful variety season, this house on Monday resumed its career as a legitimate theatre, Mr. Geo. Dance's principal company presenting *The Catch of the Season*. Miss Moya Mannering as Angela is a charming vocalist and a dainty dancer; Mr. Frank Lincoln as the Duke shows considerable versatility; Mr. Tom Shelford in the character of Lord Dundreary is responsible for fun; a capital part capitally played is that of Bucket by Master Peter Grata; Mr. John Wigley is entirely satisfactory as Sir John Crystal; and Mr. Franklin Miles acquits himself well as Mr. Gibson. The Hon. Honoria Bedford is admirably played by Miss Doris Greville, who sings pleasantly; Miss Muff Carew as the Hon. Sophia Bedford is highly praiseworthy; Lady Crystal is well accounted for by Miss Ernestine Walter; and Miss Louise Bentley figures successfully as the Duchess of St. Jermyns. As Lady Caterham Miss Mellon is to be heartily congratulated; Miss Irene Averill dances prettily; and Miss May Vane merits honourable mention for her song.

Palace.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—As will be seen on reference to our "Variety Gossip" column, this popular hall reopened on Monday night after having been closed for a season in order that it might undergo a thorough renovation. The star turn is provided by J. Gar Kiddie and company, in a pantomimical farce, entitled *The House of Tinn*. The sketch is exceedingly funny, and is heartily appreciated. F. V. St. Clair, versatile vocalist, is again to the fore with his catchy popular ditties; Maude Mortimer is a charming and clever burlesque actress; Tom Moore a smart comedian and mimic; Sibb and Sibb are to be commended on their gymnastic turn; Canard, described as the man on time, provokes much mirth; Las Sados are first-class jugglers and equilibrists; and the Bioscope adds in no small way to a good all-round programme.

DEVONPORT.—Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—A sensational comedy-drama, entitled *The Plucky Nipper*, occupies the boards this week. Miss Bonwin Carter undertakes the name-rôle, and is warmly applauded for her clever acting; Mr. Edward Surrey makes an admirable villain; Mr. C. Wilson is diverting as a soldier; Mr. F. W. Lowther is a stalwart Captain Leslie; and Mr. H. J. Butler deserves particular mention for his ability. The play is interspersed with some tuneful vocal numbers.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—*The Blue Moon* is being given here by Mr. Mouillot's company. Chandra Nil, coy and demure, has a pretty and picturesque exponent in Miss Nellie Lomas. As Private Charlie Taylor Mr. Chas. Stephenson becomes a popular personage. A very clever comedienne is Miss May Audrey as Milicent Leroy. Mr. Chas. F. Howard has a character in Captain Jack Ormsby which he portrays with much polish and very naturally. The facetious imposter Moolraj is very effectively presented by Mr. Percy Cahill. Mr. R. Grey plays with much delicate reserve and studied dignity the part of Prince Bndahur; Miss Rose Hélène acts most agreeably as Evelyn Ormsby; and Oma, the saucy charmer and rebel, is charmingly interpreted by Miss Ruth Howe. Bobbie Scott, the journalist, had a capital exponent in Mr. E. E. Stevenson.

DOUGLAS.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, The Grand Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company is here with *Robin Hood*. Mr. Arthur Whittaker, who has the direction of the tour, has secured a thoroughly responsible company. The title-rôle is capitally sustained by Mr. Ethelbert Edwardes; Friar Tuck is played with quaint humour by Mr. Bruce Winston; Prince John is well interpreted by Mr. Bellenden Clark; Miss Tyffe Alexander's Maid Marian is a Sir Walter Scott living picture; the Little John of Mr. Leslie Rea is admirable.

The Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—*Tom Jones*, the latest variant of Henry Fielding's great book has come to Douglas this week in musical comedy form. Mr. Robert Courtneidge, with the solitary exception of Mr. Hayden Coffin, presents the same company that appeared at the Apollo. Miss Ruth Vincent is a dainty Sophia; Mr. Dan Roylat a droll Partridge; Mr. Ambrose Manning's Squire Western is quite of the period; the Honour of Miss Carrie Moore is piquant; and Mr. Harry Welchman is a gallant and robust Tom.

The Palace.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—The special function of this week was a complimentary benefit tendered to Mr. Harry Wood, the musical director of the Palace and Derby Castle. This was a great success, because Mr. Wood, as a brilliant composer of dance music and chef d'orchestre, is known to all the Douglas visitors. The programme also at the Palace has quality. Mr. Fred Elton's scena, *On Board an Ocean Liner*, has novelty and charm. His song, "Mignonette," is whistled and hummed by the crowd. Miss Alice Yorke and Mr. Royston exploit a humorous trifle, entitled *A Yacht for Sale*; the Cromwells are responsible for a smart juggling turn; Miss Madge Grey increases in popularity with her artistic mimicry; Silvo is a musician who plays on many instruments; Mr. Alec Kendal arouses laughter with his clever "patter"; Dome, the clay modeller, is also an attraction.

DOVER.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart and company fill the bill at this theatre for the week in *Sherlock Holmes*. The name-part is played earnestly and in the most finished manner by Mr. Stewart; Miss A. Bruce Joy's acting as Alice Faulkner is charming and powerful; Miss Celia Gordon possesses all the force and energy required for the strenuous rôle of Madge Larrabee; James Larrabee has an excellent exponent in Mr. Roy Milton; Mr. H. Ryeland Leigh as Professor Moriarty conveys an accurate impression of the sinister intentions of the criminal; and Mr. Norman B. Cannon is to be praised for his tastful handling of John Forman; Mr. Douglas G. Murray acts pleasantly as Dr. Watson; Mr. Selton Bernard individualises the rôle of Sydney Prince; and Mr. Henry Littlejohn is an impressive Sir Edward Leighton. Miss Beatrice Egerton is a dainty Thérèse.

The Pavilion, Promenade Pier.—Lessess, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—A hearty welcome was given on Monday to the Scarlet "Mr. E.'s" and their Jester by a crowded house.

Town Hall.—Raku, the Japanese wrestler, who is here this week with a company of artists, certainly succeeds in making his demonstrations of the art of self-defence most interesting. Miss Cissie Harcourt, soubrette, has a pleasing style, and Mr. Charles Cardle is a good gipsy baritone. A sensational bicycle act is given by Blanch and Diacoff, and Lulu and Dorothy are capable xylophone players. The Comets, who submit a smart performance, and Mr. Arthur Stafford, pianist, complete the programme.

DUBLIN.—Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. William Mollison, supported by Miss Evelyn McNay and company, is the attraction here this week. On Monday evening *Macbeth* was presented before a large and appreciative audience. In the title-rôle, Mr. William Mollison acted with great force and convincing sincerity; and Miss Evelyn McNay displayed marked ability in the rôle of Lady Macbeth. Praise is due to Mr. William Calvert for his Macduff and Mr. W. A. Mackersaff was well suited as Duncan. Banquo had an excellent exponent in Mr. H. Worrall; and the parts of Malcolm and Donalbain were successfully played by Mr. Henry Deas and Miss Jeanie Fitzgerald. On Tuesday evening *The Merchant of Venice* was presented. *The Bonnie Brier Bush*, *As You Like It*, and *Hamlet* are also billed.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—Mrs. Russ Whytall and company in *Clancarty* occupy the boards here this week. Mrs. Russ Whytall makes a most attractive and interesting Clancarty; Mr. Acton Bond's Lord Clancarty displays genuine histrionic ability; Miss Mabel Knowles's Lady Betty is productive of considerable amusement; Mr. Stratton Rodney submits an effective portrayal of King William; Miss Ethel Wallace enacts Princess Anne in a pleasing manner; Mr. J. J. Bartlett does excellent work as Lord Spencer; Miss Ninon Dudley makes a capital Susannah; Mr. Charles Combe gives a fine rendering of the part of the Earl of Portland; Miss Henrietta Yule is seen to advantage as Mother Hunt; and Lord Woodstock is well played by Mr. Arthur Burne.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Miss Ella Shields, the popular coon vocalist, tops a good bill here; Brown and Le Clerq, in their sketch, *Black Justice*, keep the house in roars of laughter; Joe Mac is a clever comedian and dancer; amusement is found in Vernando's ventriloquial turn; and Rosa Loader's piano sketches are much enjoyed. The Jackson Family, in a refined musical act, are the recipients of loud applause; and some capital feats of jumping are performed by Charles Wilson. The Cape Girls, vocalists and dancers, are warmly recalled; and the Empire pictures complete the bill.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Occupying the top line here are James Mooney and Ida Holbein, who make a decided hit with their vocal entertainment. Quite the latest thing in gymnaste is submitted by the Rio Brothers; Picitt and Lozette, in their sketch, *The Crazy Cook*, win applause; as does also Zanfretta and Napio, musical eccentrics; the Sisters Brenton are seen to advantage in a singing and dancing act; Carl Rosine makes a good impression as a magician; Nellie Gannon is a pleasing descriptive vocalist; Harry Wright is a capital extempore vocalist; and Miss Peggy Fame gains favour as a comedienne and dancer. The latest pictures are shown on the bioscope.

DUDLEY.—Opera House.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Dudley playgoers have been taken by storm this week by the powerful representation of *Claudian* by Mr. Wm. Maclaren and a company of exceptional merit. The play is magnificently staged, a series of thrills culminating at the close of the second act in a clever exhibition of stage machinery. Mr. Maclaren, in the title-rôle, enthralled his audience by his clever and cultured rendering, and Miss Lily C. Bandman (Mrs. Maclaren) displayed ability of a high order as Almida, her performance of a difficult part being admirable. The two principals were repeatedly called before the curtain. Mr. F. Owen Chambers, as Sharlogalus, acted in forcible style; Mr. Charles T. Chaloner is exceptionally clever and amusing as Belos; while Mr. Douglas Earle makes a typical Blacksmith of Agazil. Miss Maud Garth is graceful and pleasing as Edessa.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. B. Peberdy.—Elmo and Rigo, eccentric acrobats, are at the head of affairs this week with a clever and amusing performance; Lambert and Glover, comedy vocal duo, are responsible for a very pleasing turn; Martinett and Wallis, comedy musical team, met with a capital reception; Ruby Lester is an excellent comedienne and mimic; the Currie Trio, vocalists and dancers, are responsible for a good turn; as also are the Sisters Hart. A favourite turn is that of Beatrice Lane, a comedienne with popular songs and a pleasing voice. The Empire Pictures conclude an excellent programme.

DUMFRIES. — Theatre Royal. — Mrs. Ann Hughes' company was here for the first three nights of the week with *The Young Lieutenant*. Mr. Edwin Sykes made a capital Admiral Sir Stoke Newington; Mr. Leslie Hawkins was well placed as the First Lieutenant; and Mr. Saxere Granville was admirably adapted to the title-rôle. Miss Hettie Gale was a winsome Nellie Brown, her singing being much appreciated; Miss Kathleen Emmet was very good as Marjoire Mayfair; and Miss Katie Kyrle as Lady Harlington and Miss Ethel Robertson as Lady Evelyn Archer were both excellent, the rest of the company lending good support.

DUNDALK.—Town Hall Theatre.—Under the direction of Mr. Payne Seddon.—We have Mr. Thomas Thorne's company with *Our Boys*. As Perkin Middlewick Mr. Thomas Thorne keeps the house in a merry mood; Mr. Rex B. Foote is a capital Talbot Champneys; Mr. Ben W. Barnett as Charles Middlewick makes a big hit; Sir Geoffrey in the hands of Mr. Edward S. Petley would be hard to improve upon; Miss Edith Vogue plays Mary Melrose charmingly; and Miss Ruby Loucraine as Violet is very good. Miss Edith Hesketh keeps the fun at high pressure in the part of Belinda.

DUNDEE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. William Greet's company pay a welcome return visit here with *The Earl and the Girl*. As Jim Cheese Mr. Alfred Donohoe sustains the part in a humorous manner; Mr. Robert Hyett as Dick Wargrave is possessed of an excellent voice, and sings and acts with rare effect; Mr. Ernest A. Plumpton as Downham deserves mention for his smart acting; Mr. Roy Sydney sings admirably as the Hon. Crewe Boodle; and Mr. Frank A. Wood imbues the part of A. Bunker Bliss with dramatic energy; Elphin Haye has a sweet representative in Miss Florence Wix, who plays and sings in a delightful manner; Miss Lilian Best is a dainty Daisy Fallowfield, her voice being heard to distinct advantage; Miss Lina Hicks makes a humorous Liza Shoddam, and Miss Beatrice Anderson a stately Mrs. Shimnering Black. The chorus, under the able direction of Mr. W. Stephenson, sings tunefully, and the staging and dressing of the comedy is admirable.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam McIntosh.—The McConnell Trio occupy chief place in this week's bill with their clever vocal comedy sketch; the Kroney Brothers, "London's Lazy Coalmen," submit an acrobatic turn of great merit; Fred Land, comedian, has a cordial reception; Lyster and Cooke, "the musical astronomers," prove their abilities on various musical instruments; Arthur Goodman, in an exceptionally funny juggling act, takes well; the Cosman Couple, comedy artists, are very clever; Adeline Yoble is a sweet ballad vocalist; James Kurry sings some funny songs; Harry Letter, comedian, and Eily Adair, comedienne, are also successful. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope completes a capital programme.

New Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Dicky Clare's company of comedians is here in the musical absurdity, *Lucky Liza*. Mr. Dickie Clare, in the parts of Silas Slim and the Judge, causes endless laughter; Mr. F. W. Benson and Mr. A. W. Thompson as the two old barristers are very successful; Mr. H. A. Griffiths makes an exceedingly droll Baffins; Mr. Martin Alwyn is clever as Paul Pettitoe; while as Thomkins, the Court Usher, Mr. Bert Collins helps to keep the fun going; Miss Madge Brownie in the name-part acts with vivacity and charm; Miss Vesta Brownie is a piquant Virginia Blatherwick; Marie Pettitoe has a prim representative in Miss Helen Douglas, and Miss Victoria Carman reveals a good voice in the part of Sadie Potts. The clever dancing of the La Belle Trio is a feature of the piece, and the Okito Family, magicians, provide a mystifying magical act.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—The romantic drama, *When a Man Hates*, was presented here on Monday night. Mr. W. G. Arthur as the adventurer, Pietro Danelli, acts with great force and ability; Mr. H. M. King gains the sympathy of the audience as the unfortunate Paul; Mr. F. A. Lester's portrayal of Sir Rupert Treharne is excellent, and Mr. A. P. Leo provides a good character-study as Detective Smart; Miss Mamie Stuart as Olga Gwynne, a woman with a past, is very successful; while Miss Mabel Liston as Lettie does admirably. The humorous element is well looked after by Mr. M. Corri and Miss Jennie Hallworth, and the other parts are capably filled.

EASTBOURNE.—The Pier Pavilion.—Manager Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. George Edwardes's company is appearing here in *See-See*, and the company, dresses, and staging generally are of the best. Miss Mysie Devine, pretty, sedate, and refined, sings and acts charmingly as See-See; Miss Nina Carton, possessed of a capital contralto voice, does excellently as Mai-Yai; Miss Dorothy Firmin, delightful in face, voice, and figure, does admirable service as Humming-Bird; Miss Gertrude Parker makes a fine boy So-Hie, and is an able dancer; Miss Mora Hersee is eminently satisfactory as Lee, and Miss Nellie Beacon does all that is necessary as Mrs. Hoang Wang; Mr. Tom Nelldon is a tower of strength as Hang Kee, singing very distinctly, dancing gaily, and keeping the fun going generally; Mr. Alec Worcester is possessed of an exceptionally fine voice, and as Yen his work is favourably greeted; Mr. Fred Spitaux is a realistic and effective Hoang Wang, and other parts are in excellent hands. Mlle. Adeline Genee was billed to appear at a special matinée on Thursday.

The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—Miss Ethel Newman worthily heads the bill here, and in her clever monologue *Her Wedding Day* displays great talent; the Eight 'Varsity Girls in *A Musical Evening* give a refined and pleasing show; the Two Bees have an original and highly amusing scena; Wilman has a very attractive musical act; Mr. Harry Lawson is a popular and refined comedian; the Sisters Allen sing and dance nicely, and new pictures are added.

Devonshire Park Theatre. — Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Bath Co.; Managers, Messrs. Murray, King, and Clark.—Mr. and Mrs. Kendal are appearing for three nights, and have filled each house. On Tuesday evening *A Tight Corner* was performed, and the farce thoroughly amused a distinguished audience. Mrs. Kendal in her own charming and delightful manner made the part of Mrs. Hyacynth a complete success, and Mr. Kendal was an easy and natural Jack Hyacynth. Miss Dora Fellowes gave a very able performance as Mrs. Pertwee; Mr. Metcalfe Wood contributed sound and amusing work as Barrington Skews, and Mr. Ernest Hendrie was a distinct and individual Samson Quayle.

EDINBURGH.—Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—In *The Prodigal Son*, staged here this week by Mr. George D. Day's company, Miss Lily Hall Caine successfully doubles the parts of Thora and Elin; Miss Betty Castle acts convincingly as the unpleasing Helga; and the characters of the two brothers, Oscar and Magnus, are ably differentiated by Mr. Albert Ward and Mr. Oswald Cray. Oscar and Margaret Neilson find sterling exponents in Mr. James Skea and Miss Mima Renouf; Stephen and Anna Magnusson are carefully portrayed by Mr. Lewis Sealy and Miss Isabel Gray; Mr. Robert Forsyth as Doctor Olson, Mr. H. H. Barrington as the Pastor, Mr. R. D. Brooksmith as the Sheriff, Mr. C. Couper as Neils Finsen, and Mr. Cavers Campbell as the Casino director, play their parts well; and the other performers in a long cast do commendable work.

Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—*The Lady Dandies*, with Miss Evie Green vocally and dramatically excellent as Lodoiska, and Mr. Eric Thorne ceaselessly diverting in the part of St. Amour, has provided attractive entertainment here. Other admirable impersonations are the Illyrine of Miss Dolly Castles, the Dorlis of Mr. Talleur Andrews, and the Tournesol of Mr. John Humphries; while good singing and acting mark the rendering of the rôles of Valcourt and Lagorille by Mr. Norman Greene and Mr. Harold Thorley. The song and dance of Mr. A. H. Majilton and Miss Mabel Russell, who play M. and Mme. De Gouttieres, are among the best things in the piece; and the dancing of Miss Vivien Talleur merits the highest praise, a distinction in which orchestra and chorus deservedly share. Mr. Grafton Williams, Mr. George Davies, and Miss Ada Thomas, who appear respectively as Malicorne Ragot and Liane, do their work well, and minor rôles are all capably filled.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—La Milo as Lady Godiva, and in a series of her well-known artistic poses, in conjunction with Cruikshank's lightning caricatures, forms the leading item of this week's bill, which also includes good turns by Harriet Vernon in her latest successes; J. P. Ling, who contributes some excellent imitations of country concerts; and T. E. Dunville, whose appearances are irresistibly amusing. The bioscope shows a most interesting series of pictures of animals, birds, and reptiles in the menagerie at Hamburg; Six Lancashire Lasses sing and give an exhibition of clog-dancing; Ella Retford contributes a smart comedienne turn; Howard and St. Clair appear in their laughable sketch, *Do You Want to Buy any Coke?* Ted and May Hopkins submit something new in the shape of a Welsh duologue; and Rezene and Robini, comic gymnasts, introduce a knockabout speciality.

King's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Amand Muscard.—For the reopening of this spacious house after the summer recess, a variety season commenced on Monday of this week. Foremost in a good bill were Miss Ada Colley, the distinguished American singer, and Mr. Leo Dryden, the actor-vocalist, both of whom secured rapturous encores. Mr. Burt Shepherd contributed a series of very amusing "parodies at the piano," and a clever musical entertainment was contributed in distinctly original style by Sterling and Love; while Miss Olive Myrtle and Miss Edie Cooville both sang and danced very acceptably. The Stowe Brothers performed some remarkable balancing feats; the Saivodos were successful in a good display of trick cycling; Mr. Fred Wilkinson's illusionist scena, in which he was assisted by Miss Sophie Wall, was carried through with great dexterity; and the invariable Bioscope films were more than usually attractive.

Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Ventom Swift.—Excellent entertainment continues to be provided here for full houses. Little Venus is deservedly popular as a character vocalist; among the comedienne artists are Lulu O. Bright and the Sisters Brookland, who give very attractive turns; and the Two Wiltons shine as vocalists and dancers. Cade Burnett, the actor and singer, appears in several of his old and new successes; Barney Noble has a budget of good songs and stories; Crosby and Walker put in some smart comedy patter; Will Doran and company produce a capital farcical absurdity, entitled *The Inventors*; and the Alhambroscope exhibition is interesting and amusing.

EDMONTON.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Joseph L. S. Moss; Manageress, Mrs. Amelia H. B. Moss.—On Monday Go-Won-Go-Mohawk, the Indian actress, commenced a six nights' engagement with *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*. In the title-rôle (the Indian Mail-carrier) this lady was particularly good. Mr. C. W. Charles as Colonel Stockton gave a fine rendering; Mr. Edward Leroy was most successful as Manuel Lopes; Mr. A. J. Saunders as Captain Franklin deserved the applause awarded him.

EXETER.—Theatre Royal.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville; J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Baron H. Harriss's company is presenting the musical comedy *The Prince of Pilsen* here this week before large and appreciative audiences. Mr. Harry Kilburn, as the mistaken Prince of Pilsen, scores the chief success, and whenever he is on the stage he keeps the house in roars of laughter. Mr. Frank Crimp, as the real Prince of Pilsen, takes the audience by storm with his dashing personality, his rich baritone being heard to advantage in his various numbers, especially "A passing cloud," a song written and set to music by himself. Miss Sophie Harriss portrays the part of the widow, Mrs. Crocker, in capital style, her acting and singing being extremely good, and she wears some very pretty dresses. Mr. Bernard Russell, as Lord Shrimpton, is capable; and Miss Connie Leon is excellent as the French maid, being recalled frequently for her dances. Miss Ernestine Desborough ably sustains the part of the Vassar girl; and Mr. T. Lindon Lang and Miss Hazel Saqui are good as Tom and Nellie Wagner respectively.

FALKIRK.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—That the farcical comedy, *Charley's Aunt*, has lost none of its fascination for the public was amply demonstrated on Monday evening, when Mr. Brandon Thomas's company opened a three nights' engagement in the presence of a large audience. The part of Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, Bart., was played by the author himself, who acted very nicely, and was cordially received. The chief part was taken by Mr. Spencer Trevor, whose "make-up" and impersonation of the Aunt from Brazil was all that could be desired; his college companions were very well represented by Messrs. Hastings Lynn and Richard B. Mason; Mr. Sydney Compton took the part of Stephen Spettigue with satisfaction; and Mr. David Denard as Brasset was successfully sphinx-like. The ladies were all charming, and included Miss Lena McNaughton, Miss Amy Brandon Thomas, Miss Grace Russell, and Miss Sylvia Morris. The comedy was prettily dressed. The remaining part of the week saw the production of *Sunday*, in which Miss Nita Faydon appeared in the title-rôle.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Milton Bode's principal company in *The Belle of Mayfair* was the attraction here the first part of the week. Mr. Haddon Cave acted smartly as the Earl of Mount Highgate; Miss Queenie Ferris played the title-rôle charmingly; Miss Aurélie de Lorière was seen and heard to advantage as the Gibson Girl; Mr. Harry Parker played Sir John Chaldicott in a humorous manner; Miss Agnes Tandy was admirable as the Princess; Pincott was in the capable hands of Miss Veronica Brady, whose singing and dancing won hearty plaudits; Mr. Laurie Lisle was a comical Compte de Perrier; Miss Nellie Cozens left nothing to be desired as Lady Chaldicott; and Mr. Fern Pounds as Raymond Finchley and Mr. Gwyn Alwyn as Hugh Meredith played their respective parts well. Mr. and Mrs. Kendal commenced their annual visit on Thursday.

Leas Pavilion.—Manager and Musical Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—The Gipsies and their Jester conclude their visit here this week. All through the entertainments are delightful, their concerted numbers being a special feature.

Victoria Pier.—Manager, Mr. Robert Forsyth.—The Bouncing Dillons head the bill here this week, and perform some difficult feats; Mr. Harry Hemsley is a clever lightning sketch artist and mimic; Whyman, an accomplished roller skater; Miss Mildred Eparne renders a piccolo solo in a really excellent manner; and Miss Zette Handel's ladies' orchestra is a first-class attraction.

GAINSBOROUGH.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Stear.—Mr. Russell Norries and company appeared here for three nights last week in the successful comedy, *Mr. Smith*. Mr. Norrie gave a clever rendering of the title-rôle; the Duke of Angleland was well played by Mr. W. Simmons of Lynn. Herr Anheuser and Ruth had excellent representatives in Mr. Charles Cecil and Miss Mildred Cottell. Miss Gladys Lloyd was a charming Lady Mary; and the rest of the characters were well fitted by Mr. S. Pritchard, C. W. Rogers, Ellis Carlyle, Mrs. Bertha Forrest, and Miss Sophie Lingwood. The scenery and appointments were excellent.

GATESHEAD. — King's Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—Occupying the leading line here this week is John Lawson and company in the playlet *Humanity*, which is warmly received; Muir and Bartlett, in the sketch *A Collar Stud*, cause much merriment; Florence Yayman sings coon songs in a ludicrous make-up; Fine and Hurley, the coster and the dude, are decidedly funny; Henry Cazman has a very entertaining act, termed *Le Café Chantant*; Dan Conroy, comedian and raconteur; Rosie D'Aulby, comedienne; and the pictures by Vernon's Bioscope make up a good programme.

Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—*A Beautiful Fiend*, well portrayed by Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company, occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Oliver Birrell supplies a capital impersonation of Ivan Paulovitch; Count Karoteff is well looked after by Mr. Harry C. Robinson; Mr. Matt Russell presents a polished Sergius Strogoff; Mr. Harry Oates is diverting as Crackles; Miss Sidney Crowe is to be praised for an excellent assumption of the difficult rôle of Wanda; Miss Annie Clunn, in the amusing part of Pattie Woodlands, and Miss Phyllis Brent, who makes a charming Nadine, complete the cast.

GLASGOW.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphreys.—The second visit here of *The Dairymaids* has been drawing crowded houses. Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company this time includes Miss Phyllis Dare. Her quiet and charming style, neat dancing, and sweet voice took the fancy of the audience at once, and her success as Peggy was undoubted. Mr. Henry Dent as Joe Mivens and Mr. E. Statham Staples as Sam Brudenell keep the fun going briskly; Miss Edith Blanche makes a stately Lady Brudenell; and Miss Hetty Chapman is duly acidulated as Miss Pyechase. Miss Gay Silvani as Winifred and Miss Beryl Vaudrey as Helene are vocalists of considerable merit. A Glasgow young lady, Miss Cissie Sephton, mak

Eight Lancashire Lads are a great attraction here; Rene is a clever young lady juggler; Major Moss and Son are excellent singers; Ethel Loftus is good in comedy and other songs; while others, of the "sensible" order, are given by Georgina Leonard. The Pasquali Brothers are worthy of the warm reception they get; as a "merry magician," Roy Beavis is well named; two pretty and graceful trapeze artists are Natalie and Diana; the Shakespearean excerpt *Clarence's Dream*, introduces Albert Wyndham and company in an interesting dramatic scena; and the favourite Scotch comic, Jack Neil, has appeared for Maidie Scott, who was indisposed. The Bioscope American cowboy scenes are worthy of special note. Fine houses are the rule nightly.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Queenie Leighton is the principal attraction here this week, and has a rousing reception; Rhoda Paul, in a musical speciality, *The Schoolboy's Dream*, is also specially favoured. Other items of interest include Hooker and Davis and Six Cowboy Girls, in songs and dances; Marie Burnett, with illustrated songs; Munroe's Black and White Comedy Team, vocalists and dancers; Chas. Fisher's Pocket Opera Co., in *The Music Master;* Carina Sisters, instrumentalists; Parker and Parr, Welsh vocal entertainers; Mark Adams and company, in a musical episode, *The Wanderer;* and the Bioscope, with interesting pictures.

GAIETY, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Andrew Cowe.—Conan and Doyle, in a singing, dancing, and cross-talk act, please greatly; Leslie H. Murray, in a magic turn, does some clever tricks; and comic songs and eccentric dances well denote the ability of Walter Emerson. Particularly smart is Marie Winsome, in her male attire impersonations; the Two Sparks are very good in speciality duets; in *The Fight in the Forge*, C. Wordley Hulse and company make a big success. The Bioscope pictures are again good. Capital houses frequent.

BRITANNIA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—A good programme is attracting large audiences here. Julia Spencer, the Manx Nightingale, had a pleasing reception; Harry Montane, descriptive vocalist, is also well received. The following artists complete the entertainment:—Wee Jessie, clever song and dance artist; A. L. Guthrie, comedian and dancer; Harry English, coon vocalist and dancer; and the American Bioscope, with an amusing series of pictures.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—A welcome change from drama to variety is made this week. Prof. Alex, hypnotist and magnetic healer, submits a clever exposition; Charles Chantry gives a good high pedestal act; the Sisters Vimona sing and dance well; the Attoire, heavy weight juggler, performs some herculean feats of strength; Mr. Chas. Leslie's sketch company, in *The New Butler*, are cordially received; and the Weimars, elevated wire-walkers, also distinguish themselves by the manipulation of various musical instruments. William Klein, middle-weight champion of Germany, is an adroit wrestler.

GLOUCESTER. — PALACE. — Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Clown Pinta and his troupe of performing geese are here this week; George French again makes a hit with his comic effusions; and a gratifying reception is accorded the Three Dreadnoughts, expert rifle shots. The Paolias, in gymnastic and muscular posing performance, are good; and Ara, Zebra, and Vora present "Indian Pastimes" with success; Rodin, tramp cyclist, is smart; and Adele Lincoln, comedienne and dancer, sings two songs. Mr. N. Delmar, comedian, appears; and Magna, in a series of classical poses, is applauded. Frazer and French, billed as monarchs of the wooden shoe, give a rattling exhibition; and Mr. T. C. Jaques renders a descriptive monologue.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John E. Tomlinson.—On Monday Dyson's ever-popular diorama and animated pictures, together with Gipsy Choir and Band, opened to a crowded house. The entertainment throughout is excellent, and the singing above the average.

GREAT YARMOUTH. — ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. George Dance's company is here this week with *Miss Hook of Holland*. As Mr. Hook, Mr. Fred Winn is drily humorous; Mr. J. T. Bolesworth is a dashing captain, singing with excellent effect; Bandmaster Van Vuyt is capitally represented by Mr. Percy Carr; Mr. Harry Talbot is admirable as Schnapps; Simon Slinks is depicted most amusingly by Mr. Albert Kavanagh; Miss Maggie White is a charming Sally; and Miss Rita Everard as Mina depicts that fascinating Dutch girl with much success.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Geo. Alexander's company is this week presenting *John Glayde's Honour* for the first time in Yarmouth. As John Glayde, Mr. Philip Cuningham enacts the financier with virile force, earnestness, and energy; and Miss Auriol Lee as Muriel Glayde depicts the weakness and passion of the erring wife with consummate tact. Trevor Lerode is admirably represented by Mr. H. J. Bentley, Mr. Cyril Bevan is excellent as Christopher Branley, and Michael Shurmur is capitally played by Mr. Cyril Cattley. Lady Lerode is amusingly portrayed by Miss Gwynneth Galten; and Miss Beatrice Smith is very successful as the Princesse de Castagnay.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—Wizard Stone, on a motor bicycle, performs astonishing feats in the Globe of Life; the Bros. Leotard provide an amusing and clever turn; Carlo Bianchi gives a wonderful exhibition of foot equilibrism; Bill and Tony arouse plenty of laughter with their eccentric boxing bout; the Sisters Grovini present a good acrobatic turn; the Five Saxonias contribute a clever musical programme; the Debreans give a remarkable display of Japanese juggling. Other artists are well received.

BRITANNIA PIER.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—The Royal Tokio company of Japanese performers are drawing crowded houses here this week, and their act is wonderful. Spry and Monti are scoring a success with their comedy scena, *The Dandy Guardsman*; Dolly and Madge McCalla, juvenile performers, are a clever little couple who gain unstinted applause; Miss Dollie Denton charms with bright song and dance; Ned Graydon, comedy instrumentalist, possesses some extremely funny and original ideas; the Harrison Brothers and the Two Jays also contribute excellent items to a most enjoyable programme.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The principal part of the programme is supplied by the Dandies, who, as vocalists and comedy artists, give a most enjoyable entertainment. Mr. Elliston and company contribute an amusing comedy. *My Friend the General*. The orchestral selections by Herr Delikat's orchestra are much appreciated.

GREENOCK.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A .B. and J. J. Wright.—*When Knights Were Bold* is presented this week by Mr. James Welch's company. As Sir Guy de Vere Mr. Nelson Keys has ample scope to display his undoubted abilities; Mr. Charles Ommanney is excellent as Sir Bryan; Mr. Augustin Symonds is decidedly good as the Jew, Isaacson; so, too, is Mr. William Lochart as the Dean. The Hon. Charles Widdicombe finds an able exponent in Mr. Thomas Paunceford; and Mr. Talbot Homewood is praiseworthy as Wittle. Miss Emelie Polini lends her charming abilities as Rowena; Miss Marjorie Chard makes a fascinating Jewess; and the other ladies' parts find capable exponents in the Misses Violet Graham, Eva Leonard Boyne, Vera Herbert, Lena Flowerdew, and Nannie Hume. The curtain-raiser is a smart little piece, entitled *The Miller*, in which Mr. Talbot Homewood and Miss Eva Leonard Boyne appear.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Lessees, The Greenock Empire Syndicate; General-Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Lady Mansel's troupe of juveniles, who are pleasing singers and dancers, head the bill here this week; the Meymotts, in their sketch, *Semi-Detached*, are cordially received; the Two Loves are popular, both as singers and dancers; Will Mitcham, vocal and musical comique; Sylvo, comedy juggler; Andy Burn, comedian; and the Empire Pictures, also add to the enjoyment of the audience.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—Sam Redfern heads the bill here, and meets with a popular reception; a prominent feature is supplied by Fred Keeton, comedian; Rale Walters is a charming comedienne; the Calcotts have a good speciality, *Rags and Tatters;* Stanley Brett's baritone selections are highly appreciated; Spencer and Marks appear in a speciality act, entitled *The Stage-struck Waifs;* Madoline Rees, vocal comedienne, is also good; and the pictures complete the list.

TOWN HALL.—Mr. Sydney Prince opened here on Monday with a first-class cinématograph show, and a series of fine pictures are being shown. Variety turns are submitted by Bean, the basso, and Charlie Ousley, the coloured coon.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—*The Duchess of Dantzic*, presented by Mr. Chas. Macdona's company, is proving a highly popular attraction. Miss Anna Hickisch is winning universal approval for her impersonation of Sans Gêne; in Mr. Frank Bradley a thoroughly competent exponent of Napoleon is found; Mr. Marshall Vincent is thoroughly successful as Lefebore, his singing being worthy of special note; Mr. C. Burronston Williams also scores honours as a vocalist in the dual rôle of the two Vicomtes de Bethune; Miss Daisy Kersey is a truly captivating Renée; Miss Edith Martyn accomplishes good work as Lisette; and Mr. Harold Batt invests the part of Papillion with appropriate quaintness.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, Grimsby Palace and Buffet, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—*The Duchess of Tooting* is a complete musical comedy in miniature, and is smartly performed by Mr. Sidney Bacon's company, the principal members of which are Mr. Stephen Adeson, Mr. Marius Gerard, Miss Josie Farrington, Miss Dora Heritage, and Mr. Henry Latimer. *The Girl and the Tough* is of an intensely dramatic character, and for its production Mr. John E. Brandon and company are responsible. The Brothers Lavelle are amusing comedy acrobats; Sam Vincent gives a sensational table-jumping act; and others appearing are Johnny Walker, comedian; May Fayre, soubrette; and Maud Ford, comedienne and sand-dancer.

THE TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—Jan Rudenyi's wonderful powers as a violinist are greatly delighting the audiences in a sketch, *The Power of Music;* Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris score a success in their laughable comedy speciality; Miss Jennie Johns is as popular as ever; Edwards and Espinosa are skilful musicians; Les Marsumas are clever comedy cyclists; Tom E. Hughes is an amusing comedian; whilst other good turns are given by Mlle. Pollo, gymnast; and the Nettas, in a vocal scena.

GUERNSEY.—THEATRE ST. JULIAN'S.—Lessee, Mr. Edward Marris.—On Monday Mr. Chas. W. Poole's Myriorama opened its second week. Its fascination is as great as ever. Mr. Macdonald's company in *The Dairymaids* was billed for Friday.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—That evergreen attraction *The Lady Slavey* is delighting capital houses here. At the head of Mr. Robt. Crossman's company is Mr. W. T. Thompson, whose quaint mannerisms in the rôle of Roberts keep the audiences in continuous merriment; Mr. Frank Henderson as Lord Lavender is as good as ever, and wears well; Mr. Keino Johnston makes a typical Major O'Neill, his singing being excellent; Phyllis (the slavey) is sweetly depicted by Miss Winnie Volt; as the millionaire Tomato King Mr. Edmund Cooper is exceptionally smart; while Miss Nita Presano is a fitting exponent of the character of Flo Honeydew.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks.—Rudinoff presents a remarkable turn here; Ouida Macdermott in military song scena and Jno. Conolney, raconteur, are approved of; Fred Edwardes is one of the best light comedians we have had, and together with Bertha Northam in the *Kleptomaniacs* provides a regular feast of fun; Abdy's Canine Hippodrome, De Lil, a humorous ventriloquist, Marvell's Birds, Marquise and Mignott, and Hulbert, an illusionist, give a good account of themselves.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Foster.—Abdullah and La Superba, in a dazzling electric display entitled *Electra's Bower*, hold foremost position this week; the Floradora Girls, Mr. and Mrs. Finden in *A Desperate Remedy*, Lena Robinson, Percy Curry, Marba and Verity, D. W. Watson, and the Brothers Horne in a boxing sketch are also with us.

HANLEY. — ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—A welcome return visit is being paid by Messrs. Dauncey and Leveaux's company in *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Wilfrid E. Payne contributes a manly reading of Jack Frobisher; Miss Dora Hole as Lady Frobisher plays cleverly; as Bannister, Mr. E. Spencer Geach is well placed; Mr. W. Kingsford Pearce is admirable as the Marquis; Miss Elsie Ross is excellent as Lady Lucy; Mr. Gerald Henson as Lord Drayton does exceedingly well; and the Harry Dallas of Mr. Chas. Fancourt is a capital piece of acting. As Lady Westerby Miss Margaret Murray does capable work.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—Leoni Clarke's performing cats, monkeys, rats, mice, and canaries head the bill this week, in their truly wonderful performance. Percy Ford and Edward C. Webb's company present a dramatic episode entitled *The Spy*, in which Mr. Lionel D'Aragon, in the title-rôle, acts with much manliness; Miss Eugene Magnus as Mme. Halcon, scoring also a distinct success. Mr. George Hanbury is well placed as Sergeant Burnie; the Arleys, gymnasts, &c., provide a capital turn; France and Stewart return in their amusing sketch, viz., *100 to 1 Chance*; Will Dalton causes roars of laughter with songs and patter; the Silver Tone Quartette of coloured vocalists are much appreciated; May Evans is a character comedian of exceptional ability; Tatton Hall, a smart burlesque comedian, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, are up to date.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—For the first three nights of this week we had a visit from Mr. Chas. Macdona's company in *The White Chrysanthemum*. Mr. W. Hartigan played Admiral Armitage in a breezy manner; Mr. Victor Kahn appeared successfully as Reginald; and Mr. Erskine Lang did well as Lieut. Belmont. Mr. Walter Westwood was satisfactory as Perks; Miss Lilian Hubbard as Sybil Cunningham, known as O San, looked well; and Miss Harriet Fawn as Mrs. Kenyon was effective. For the rest of the week Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *Peter's Mother* occupied the theatre.

THE KURSAAL.—General-Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. Julian Clifford; Manager and Sec., Mr. R. Eldrid.—The attractions for the week here are Mr. W. A. Peterkin baritone; Mr. Archer Rosenthal, solo pianist; Miss Margaret Adele and Miss Annie Grew, vocalists. Reid's bioscope is also in the bill. On Thursday matinée and evening Miss Ada Reeve is announced, and Miss Marie Hall for Saturday matinée only.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—The programme arranged for this week is headed by the Martelloni troupe of lady acrobats, whose difficult feats are performed with remarkable dexterity. Astley's American Circus is provocative of much laughter; Speedwell, the whirlwind painter, is a clever artist; excellent mimicry on the violin is contributed by Carlos Menard; the Sisters Ely, duettists and dancers, contribute a pleasing turn; as also do the Firmans, in a comedy scena, *The Fire Station*, and Lily Currie, a taking vocalist. Steeley and Dowsons, in burlesque, and the bioscope films are other attractions.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—For the first half of the week we have had here Mr. George Dance's company in *The Little Michus*, and its first production in the borough on Monday attracted a crowded house. The Little Michus themselves were charmingly rendered by Miss Alice Coyerick (Marie Blanche) and Miss Gracie Sinclair (Blanche Marie). Mme. Michu had an excellent representative in Miss May Younge, and her singing was much appreciated. As Mlle. St. Cyr, Mlle. Marjorie met with gratifying success for her dancing; Mr. Foster Courtenay kept his audience continually laughing by his humour as General Des Ifs. Mr. Ed. Wynn played and sang well as Gaston Rigaud; Mr. Gilbert Childs was clever and amusing as Bagnolet; Mr. William Benson made an artistic Pierre Michu; and other rôles had capable exponents in Mr. Alfred Drinkwater as Aristide Vert and Miss May Stephenson as Mlle. Herpin. For the second half of the week Mr. Milton Bode's company in *The Belle of Mayfair* was billed.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Vivian Fisher; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—The programme opens with Miss Katie Eplett, an attractive serio; the youthful ventriloquist, Spitari, is singularly clever; the films representing "Secret Service" are much applauded; Harry E. Baker and De Sales are accorded a hearty reception; the skipping rope dance and musical selections of Miss Fannie Humber are interesting; Frank Zara is an excellent storyteller; the pantomime of Chas. F. Best is very laughable; and a high-class selection of vocal music is rendered by C. Emlyn Jones; and the Daughters of Britain; Ern Sparks, eccentric dancer; and Nellie Vesto greatly delight the audience.

PIER PAVILION. — Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr. J. W. Hunter.—A varied and interesting programme is opened by Miss Margaret Lewys, a Welsh contralto; La Petite Carolina is a pretty and graceful dancer; Miss Clara Evelyn sings with sweetness and expression; a wonderful exhibition of thought-reading is given by the Days (brother and sister); the Keiths perform on a variety of musical instruments; Miss Marie Dainton gives some clever imitations; a novel performance on a rolling globe is much applauded, the three Ettenas combining fun with cleverness. Some interesting up-to-date pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

ROYAL CONCERT HALL.—Under the auspices of Dr. Abram, Mr. George Grossmith on Monday gave a drawing-room entertainment here, assisted by the charming vocalist, Miss Dorothy D'Egville, and Miss Dorothy Scott, whose elocutionary efforts gave much pleasure to her audience, and Miss Bernadette Rawstron, a clever pianiste.

AL-FRESCO ENTERTAINMENTS.—On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last week four performances of *One Summer's Day* were given in the Archery Grounds, St. Leonards, by Mr. A. Austen Leigh and company. Mr. Leigh played very effectively as Major Dick; Miss May Saker was a delightful Maysie; Mr. E. Brampton feelingly sustained the part of Phil Marsden; Mr. Norman Clark was an amusing Theodore; Mrs. Bendyshe had a capable exponent in Miss Caroline Fenton; and Mr. R. Trieve did well as Tom. The gipsies were convincingly played by Mr. H. G. Mason as Seth, Miss Emmie O'Reilley as Chiara, and Mr. W. P. Wells as old Bess; the remaining rôle of Mr. Hoddesden being filled by Mr. E. Vernon.

At the Beach Concert Pavilion, Mr. Wallis Arthur's company continue its evening concerts, matinées each day being given in the Alexandra Park. Miss Marie Schultz, Mr. George Blackmore, Mr. Harry Jeanes, Miss Edith Blanchard, and Mr. Leslie Owen are all successful

At the St. Leonards Gardens, Mr. Wallis Arthur's second company, the Lieutenants and the Maids, are much appreciated. Miss Ada Gaskill, Mr. Alec Johnstone, Mlle. Nina Lorenza, and Messrs. Robt. A. Innes, Harry King, and Charles Howard supply capital selections. The evening performances are given in the Band Kiosk at the St. Leonards Pier.

HEREFORD.—DRILL HALL.—Manager, Mr. A. Lovesey.—A first visit is being paid this week by *The Belle of Mayfair*. Miss Winifred Preece in the name-part is very successful. As Hugh Meredith, Mr. Michael Raven is excellent, his musical numbers being renedered in praiseworthy manner; Mr. Sidney Burt's portrayal of Sir John Chaldicott is one of the drollest studies imaginable; Miss Nancy York is delightfully gay as Pincott; and others lending valuable aid are Messrs. S. Ravenscroft (Raymond Finchley), Stephen Hall (Earl of Mount Highgate), and Miss Grace Mackay an ideal Gibson Girl.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—Mr. George Dance's company is playing *The Lady Dandies*. Mr. Ripley Adams uses his sweet tenor voice with perfect method; Miss Nancy Rossiter is dainty and charming in style; and Miss Maisie Gay's more robust manner is admirably suited to her impersonation of Lodoiska. The comedians are well led by Mr. O. E. Lennon as St. Amour. Mr. Charles Hanbury has just the right air as Lagorille; Mr. Tom Seymour as Tournesol and Mr. J. E. Walker as Malicorne make an amusing pair; and the less prominent parts are admirably sustained.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The principal turn is provided by Hill and Whitaker, favourite musical comedy artists. Others in the bill are Miss Kitty Clover and company, in a sketch; Miss Evelyn Taylor, comedienne, whose reception is most flattering; Stephens and Rennior, comedians and dancers; Miss Mollie Wolstenhulme, ballad singer; Tom Lloyd, comedian; H. O. Wills, a quaint comedian; and the Alberto troupe of skilled acrobats. A change of pictures is given on the Bioscope.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—After a short absence of six months, Hull's prime favourite, Mr. Martin Harvey, returns, and this week has created a record, for his visits are always extremely popular. On Wednesday, an ideal performance of *The Only Way* was given. In addition to himself and Miss De Silva, there is included that veteran actor Mr. Fred Wright, whose Dr. Manette will long live in memory; the Ernest Defarge of Mr. Chas. Glenney was highly commendable; Miss Coleridge makes a charming Lucie. *The Breed of the Treshams* and *A Cigarette Maker's Romance* are also in the bill.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*The Stronger Sex*, presented by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company has created a good name, and, no wonder, when the play and its representatives are so talented. As the wife, Miss Margaret Fanleigh acts with admirable taste with Mr. H. J. Carvill, who is a pleasing representative of the husband; Miss Emma Hutchison is very well cast, and her picture of the society gossip is one that is full of attractiveness. The play is well mounted, and has met with a very hearty reception.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, MORTON'S, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck's drama, *Saved from the Sea*, is a stirring production, and one well to the taste of the Alexandra audiences. In the leading rôle Miss Marie Auckland meets with much success; Mr. C. Lodge Percy has just the finesse and dash associated with an adventurer; Mr. David G. Noble cleverly portrays the part of the husband.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Harry Pleon is staying another week, and highly amusing large audiences with his sketch, *The Club Raid*. The wonderful Emilions perform clever feats. Other agreeable turns are the Brothers Curvan, Lade Henderson, Tom Kelso and company, Chris Beach, and Minnie Fenton. The Grafters are to be seen on the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Nellie Atherton and company provide the star turn here this week in their amusing sketch, *Wanted, a Partner*. A mystifying performance is given by the Gelders, Van and Lily. Other pleasing items are rendered by Ivy Dene, Lytton and Bland (Poppy and Jack), Lily Hartley, the Brothers Idento, and the dramatic sketch, entitled *The Devil's Hand*, is given by Wright, Aitken, and company. A series of pictures is exhibited on the bioscope.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—This week Mr. Walter Melville's company is drawing large audiences with *In a Woman's Grip*. Mr. Percy Dawsone is a convincing hero; Mr. Oswald Douglas and Mr. James Crowley succeed as villains; the funny element is in the very capable hands of Mr. Freddy Bentley. In her varied characters Miss Rose Ralph shows talent and discretion; Miss Jessie Yatman is dainty and pathetic; and Miss Amy Rudd ably assists in the lighter vein.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*Proof* is being played here this week by Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's company. Mr. S. Herbert Humber displays great skill as Pierre Lorance; Miss Thelma Kury charmingly enacts the part of Adrienne; Mr. G. Ridgeway Thorne makes the most of Victor De Laugney; Miss Alicia Raleigh is excellent as Valentine; and the Mme. Depreis of Miss Elizabeth Dexter is a well-studied performance. Mr. Bernard Elliott gives a capital interpretation of the Duke D'Aubeterre; Miss Amelia Wilson is an effective Duchess D'Aubeterre; the rôle of Chamboran loses nothing at the hands of Mr. Carl Beechy; and Mr. Penn Hamilton is a good representative of Lazare.

INVERNESS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Cameron Burgess.—This week Mr. Harry Tilbury and company are here. On Monday, *His Dishonoured Wife* was given to a crowded house. The part of Frank Lindon was capably portrayed by Mr. Chas. H. Phelps; the Lord Devant of Mr. Horatio Sinclair was a strenuously-played character; Mr. Harry Tilbury won great popularity in the part of a comic Irishman. Miss Arline T. George did well as Alice Harvey; Florence Lindon was well acted by Miss Belle Tilbury; and other parts were well filled by Mr. Bernard Webb, Mr. Harrison Weir, Mr. George Rufus, Miss Ivy Rocheforte, and Miss Jessie Gillette. For the last three nights of the week *The Blind Foundling* was given.

IPSWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. T. Bostock; Manager, Mr. T. Stead.—Haley's Prize Juveniles have been the chief attraction during the present week, and the charming singing of both principals and chorus has delighted the audiences at each performance. Harry Leybourne is a humorous double-voiced comedian; the Bros. Redmond are amusing acrobatic comedians; the programme also includes Sibon's ponies, cats, and dogs in a series of clever tricks; Hiddar and Dunbar, musical duettists; and Miss Lily Black and Marion Scott, comediennes. Miss Ada Fawn, a popular favourite here, had a hearty welcome. The Bioscope pictures completed the entertainment.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—For three nights and a matinée the theatre has been occupied by the Gaumont Company's Pageant Animated Pictures. Some omissions were necessarily made on Monday night, but these were remedied at succeeding exhibitions. The Bury pageant was admirably illustrated, many of the participants being easily recognised by those who were present in July. The boards on Thursday were occupied by Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company, in *The Morals of Marcus*.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Rex Sugden.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Jas. Bell's company in *The Idol of Paris*. Miss Annie Bell, as Flare-Flare, acquits herself ably; Mr. Otto Minster, as Phillipe D. Esterse, infuses much spirit into the part; Mr. Sidney Arnold's impersonation of Victor Cashelle is satisfactory; Mr. Arthur McCullock is an interesting Prince Sergius; and Mr. Norton Shields faithfully depicts Gustave Langlois; the comedy parts have able representatives in Mr. H. Vyvian Thomas as Tartare, and Miss Annie Megson as Ann; Miss Ethel Carthew scores a success as Madame Sancterre.

JERSEY. — OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. E. Marris.—*The Dairymaids* is represented here this week by Mr. Robert Macdonald's thoroughly efficient company of clever principals, supported by an excellent chorus. Miss Empsie Bowman is a bright and attractive Peggy; Miss Doris Dickens is a bewitching Winifred; and as Heléne Miss Annie Heenan proves herself the possessor of a well-trained voice. The parts of Lady Brudenell and Penelope Pyechase are capably filled by Miss Molly Tremaine and Miss Daela Gordon; Miss Maud Lucy as Eliza is a delightful comedienne and a graceful dancer: the Joe Mivens of Mr. Dan Agar keeps the audience in roars of laughter; whilst Mr. Robert Telford as Sam Brudenell contributes considerably to the fun of the piece. Mr. A. Gordon Begg is good as Dr. O'Bryne, and Mr. Richard Bottomley appears as Lieut. Brudenell.

WEST PARK PAVILION.—The Merry Madcaps are paying a visit here, and give an excellent entertainment.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—"Frivolity" Freear performed here on Monday and Tuesday evenings, and met with a flattering reception. During the rest of the week the stage was occupied by Mr. Robert Ganthony, assisted by Miss Rita Felix, L.R.A.M.

KIRKCALDY. — KING'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company opened on Monday in *Sunday*. Miss Nita Faydon, in the title-part, was charming and effective; Mr. Leonard Pagden was exceedingly good in the dual part of Colonel and Arthur Brinthorpe; Messrs. Wm. H. Brougham, Sidney Rennet, James Hussey, and Alex. Alves did well as Towzer, Davy, Lively, and Jacky respectively. Mr. Ernest A. Douglas was good as Tom Oxley. *Charley's Aunt* was the attraction on Thursday.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—*A Destroyer of Men*, played by Mr. James Hare's company, is proving a great attraction here. Mr. C. P. Wentworth, as Count Starevitch, is decidedly good; Mr. Hill Cremer, as Paul (his son), gives a capable impersonation; Mr. James Hare, as Karl Mischla, does full justice to a difficult rôle; Miss Irene Clifford, as Olga, gives a delightful delineation; Miss Emmie Barton plays Vida Ravel in a winsome manner; and Miss Alice Buckland is highly amusing as Nina Pattakake.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. John Porter and W. J. Fergusson.—Variety gives way this week to *The Chinese Honeymoon*, well presented by Mr. Chas. Macdona's company. Miss Kitty Clayton, as Fi Fi, is exceedingly funny; Mr. Leo Kloss gives a fine impersonation of the Emperor; Messrs. Louis Ashmeade and Lindsay Harman appear successfully as Chippie Chop and Hi Lung; Mr. Ernest Sefton is a capital Pineapple; Mrs. Pineapple has a winsome and capable exponent in Miss May Davis; a charming Soo Soo comes from Miss Lydia Bland; Mr. Frank G. Gunn is a capable Tom Hatherton; and Miss Alma Bolton supplies a very ripe impersonation of the official mother-in-law, Mrs. Brown.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Walter P. Wright.—We have an excellent variety programme here this week. Dick Bradley is a clever trick cyclist; Bert Oakley and Polly James, in *A Bit of Everything*, prove exceedingly popular; Nina St. Elmo is a charming comedienne; Clarissa Talbot and Albert Pearce present a pretty Japanese duologue; Mint and Mast are clever comedy sketch artists; the Olympian Stars are well received; and the Carpos Bros. in their acrobatic act, give a fine display; pictures are also shown by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

The management of the Leamington Theatre have this season determined to utilise the house for variety as well as purely theatrical performances, in order to keep it open for a longer season, and thus provide a more varied class of entertainment. The season has opened with variety entertainments, and so far the experiment has proved very successful.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—A full and enthusiastic house accorded Mr. H. B. Irving a big reception on Monday, when this accomplished son of an illustrious father presented *The Bells*. The portrayal of Mathias by Mr. Irving created a deep impression, and evoked a storm of applause; Annette is a pleasing performance by Miss Gwladys Wynee; Christian is presented in able style by Mr. Bernard Limpus; and Mr. Charles Dodsworth enacts Father Walter to the general satisfaction. *The Lion and the Unicorn* was played as a curtain-raiser. On Tuesday evening *The Lyons Mail* was presented to a large and distinguished audience, and *Charles the First* is also in the répertoire.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—*A Sister's Sin*, by Mr. F. G. Kimberley, is the attraction here. Some fine dramatic work is done by Miss Kathryn Eckhart as Charzel, the gipsy; Harold Raymond and his charming young wife are presented with rare ability by Mr. A. Wills and Miss Violet Ingram; an extremely effective portrayal of the villainous George Oakley goes to the credit of Mr. Frank Eaglesfield; Mr. Harry Lyndon does capitally as Theophilus Hope; a pleasing representation of May Raymond is that of Miss Lilian Balee; and Mr. Ernest Frere, Miss Janet Lawton, and Miss Maggie English also do good work.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—The Boissetts are once again here with their screamer, *The Bricklayers*, which continues to provoke a multitude of laughs. At the bottom of the bill are the Borghetti Troupe in clever acrobatic feats. The Haytors are to be seen in clever comedy and tricky dancing; Cullan's Comedy Four are much applauded for a smart speciality; the Ten San-Tan Girls contribute a song and dance speciality; and Cissie Curlette, mimetic vocalist, the Three Clarions, comedy entertainers, Grace Merton, vocalist, and the Sisters Poole, society entertainers, achieve considerable success.

QUEEN'S THEATRE AND VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—A dramatic sketch, *The Red Letter*, is the tit-bit of this week's programme, and in its presentation Mr. H. Leslie Bell, Miss Lily Pearl, and company acquit themselves well; Helen Charles is rewarded with applause for a fine drawing-room entertainment; a capital gymnastic effort by Charles Serra is well received; the Bartholomew Girls are to the fore with clever song and dance; Edie Anderson is a comedienne of merit; physical culture methods are demonstrated in interesting style by W. L. Murray; and other good turns are subscribed by Ted Saunders, a clever mimic, and Selby and Myers, comedians.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Messrs. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—The Bensons are doing a lively and mirthful comedy sketch here; Collinson's company also provoke a deal of merriment; Daisy Jerome is as popular as ever; Vandinoff, the lightning sketch artist, arouses much enthusiasm; and the same remark applies to Colby and May, in a capital ventriloquial speciality; the Sisters Brooke receive much notice for clever singing and dancing; and Mike Cray, comedy juggler, Mabel Hind, character comedienne, and Nellie Moore, in impersonations, are popular.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—The premier position here is occupied by a clever musical comedy burlesque, *The Belle of Barcelona*, and its presentation is much enjoyed. That laughter-provoking comedian, Harry Conlin, is funnier than ever in new items; Duncan and Godfrey are vastly popular with an effective coster speciality extremely well done; Rosie Coleman is a strong favourite in song and dance; the Selwyns please with a vocal and dancing act; the Society Quartette are capital entertainers; and Marriott Edgar, comedian, is also in the bill.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. Charles Hermann.—We are being regaled this week with a first visit of Mr. Fred Mouillot's company, in the musical comedy *The Girl Behind the Counter*. Miss Nora Brocklebank wins admiration for a delightful impersonation of the title-part, her singing being much above the average; Miss Florence Lee as Millie Mostyn is deserving of high praise; Mr. Ellis Holland as General Sir Wilkie Willoughby creates no end of merriment; and Mr. Arthur Cartwright both acts and sings well as Charles Chetwyn.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole L

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—With a view to test the feeling of Liverpool as to the feasibility of reviving on a grand scale some of Shakespeare's most popular light works, a scheme which has been attended with considerable success at Manchester, Mr. Robert Arthur on Monday staged here *As You Like It*. The entire production was from the Manchester Theatre Royal, and there was certainly nothing lacking, either in its manner of presentment or the ability of the players engaged in the interpretation. So complete and satisfying a representation of the immortal bard's always favourite comedy should certainly whet the appetites of playgoers for similar treats in future. Everybody was pleased, and the attendance a large one. To Mr. Gerald Lawrence was extended a greeting that must have assured him of his auditors' appreciation of his great histrionic gifts. A finer Orlando could not be desired. The telling, melodious voice and charming manner of Miss Fay Davis were employed with delicious effect in the part of Rosalind. That lady, however, owed much to Miss Valerie Salberg for her valuable support as Celia, whose sweetly-expressed commiseration for her distressed companion greatly impressed the audience by reason of its naturalness. Miss Salberg certainly shared the honours of the evening. Jaques was handled in capital fashion by Mr. W. Farren, jun., who delivered the "seven ages" speech with tact; Mr. Harry Paulton's Touchstone was filled with rich drollery; as the banished Duke Mr. John Nesbitt found favour; and thanks were also due to Miss Violet Chamier for her Audrey; to Miss Francis Weistead, who was Phœbe; to Mr. Orlando Barnett, who fully realised the character of Adam; and to Mr. Frank Western, a capital Le Brue. The incidental music by Mr. Edward German, which was rendered by an augmented orchestra, was particularly fine.

Shakespeare Theatre. — Managing Directors, Messrs. E. Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*The Bondman* was given here this week for the first time in Liverpool, and on all hands nothing but praise was heard regarding Mr. Hall Caine's latest powerful drama. Delighted audiences have "eaten" it. Mr. George D. Day sent a most competent company, which included Mr. Frank Cooper. That able artist's wonderful picture of the passion-tossed Jason moved his auditors to a remarkable degree, and the "curtains" were many; Miss Ida Phillips impersonated Greeba with delicacy and refinement; every credit was due to Mr. Henry Doughty for his striking character of Michael; Mr. Adam Alexander and Mrs. Edwin Palmer were admirable as the Fairbrothers; Mr. Gilbert Yorke stood out with distinction as the good Father Ferrati; Mr. Edwin Palmer proved an amusing grandfather; Mr. Edward Gee did the most with Dr. Boni; the Misses Bertha Frances and Ethel Eden were efficient in the small parts of the Callow girls; and worthy support came from Miss Hazel Hood (Nattaline), Miss May Mundan (Martha), and Mrs. Lee (Maria). The mounting was a strong feature.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company are here this week with the stirring drama, *At Cripple Creek*. As Joe Mayfield Mr. Stanley Bedwell played with every discretion, and won general approval; Miss Agnes Verity proved a most creditable "Dynamite" Ann; as the rascally Martin Mason Mr. Eric Hudson bore himself with distinction; Miss Daisy Carlton proved a sweet Maggie Mason; the comedy was in the good keeping of Mr. Will Hook, a funny Reggie Harwood; Mr. J. L. Leigh gave a fine idea of the bully, Manuel Alvarez; thanks were due to Miss Norah Dillon for her Sarah Lively; and Miss Nancy Roberts made an interesting Belle Gordon.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Harris Fineberg.—*The Female Swindler* has paid still another visit to the popular Star, and good business has resulted. Mr. Tom Taylor's company comprised some really capable artists, all of whom did justice to the play. Foremost was Miss Madge Girdlestone, whose assumption of the title-part was marked by dramatic power; the energetic detective, Jack Coulson, was admirably portrayed by Mr. Joseph Millane; Mr. Frank Woodville was highly amusing as Abraham Mikestein; continuous laughter followed the humorous work of Mr. Henry Wright, whose representations of four distinct characters were excellent, and Miss Jessica Ford, a smart Mary Ann Mee; a sufficiently rascally Geoffrey Warden came from Mr. Stanley Radcliffe; and creditable were the efforts of Mr. Walter H. Domoney (Harold Travers) and Miss Cecilia Dare (May Andrews).

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, the Granville Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Granville.—*When It Was Dark* paid a first visit to Liverpool here this week, with Mrs. Morton Powell's able company. The fine drama was very favourably received. Miss Beatrice May gave a powerful rendering of the part of Gertrude Hunt, the unfortunate woman; Mr. Cuthbert Imrie made a deep impression with his Constantine Schaube; Mr. Frank Tennent afforded the utmost satisfaction as the Rev. Basil Gortre; a villainous Sir Robert Llewellyn was submitted by Mr. Edward Valentine; Mrs. Morton Powell proved a charming Helena Byars; and good support also came from Messrs. Lionel West, Ernest St. John J. L. Inglis, C. O'Connor, and Miss Dorothy Hildebrand.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Happy Fanny Fields tops the bill here this week, and has proved as lively as ever; another big line has been the Gotham Comedy Quartette; *The Garden of Girls*, presented by Haley's company of vocalists and dancers, met with general applause; a number of well-executed illusions came from Oswald Williams, assisted by Winifred La Barte; Florence and Lillian showed themselves to be talented musicians; a most amusing trifle, entitled *Fun at a Railway Station*, was presented by Farley, Rennie, and Farley; La Belle Nello, as a lady contortionist, displayed remarkable ability; and others who appeared were Charles Stevens, character-vocalist; and J. A. Wilson, the funny recruiting sergeant.

Tivoli.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—A smart comedy couple, Ross and Grayson, head the bill here this week, their mélange of music, singing, dancing, and piano-playing being exceedingly pleasing; Nat Clifford, a comedian of ability, put his audience into a good humour; as operatic duettists, the Elgars earned loud applause; Les Uniques gave an interesting gymnastic pot-pourri on electrically illuminated perpendicular ladders; Datas replied to questions with his customary accuracy; Ernest Montefiore and company pleased with the pathetic *Little Colonel*; Mlle. Zelda had a neat musical novelty act; and there also appeared Ruby Aston, comedienne and dancer; and Gladys Huxley, comedienne.

Lyric.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Heading the bill here this week were the Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls's company with *The Battle of the Belles*, a sketch that provoked endless laughter; Luis Hardt, "the miniature Sandow," pleased everybody with his "Flights of Imagination"; those funny comedians, Will and Ike Scott, brought their latest successes; under the direction of Frank Pemberton, the Maritana Operatic company gave condensed versions of *Il Trovatore* and *The Bohemian Girl*, the artists engaged being Frank Pemberton, Albert Chapman, Vera Viyard, and Evelyn De Lara; Charles Norton was a novelty mimic of ability; as vocal duettists the Sisters Edwards pleased immensely; and also in the list were Ernie Myers, eccentric comedian; the San Remo Girls, comediennes and speciality dancers; and Lily Lonsdale, vocalist.

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Captain Frank Taylor's educated baboons have proved an interesting turn here this week; that exceedingly funny comedian, Sammy Shields, tickled the ribs of his audiences to a remarkable degree; Kellie and Agnas submitted a smart turn as comedy acrobats, singers, and dancers; Billy Williams made everybody laugh; dainty singers and dancers were the Sisters Albert; a good all-round show was given by the Vyponds, society entertainers; the vocal speciality presented by Stewart and Morgan was well appreciated; Martine and Son's illustrated songs met with acceptance; and the list also included the name of George Victor, actor-vocalist.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—This week the "Royal" stock company presented Scudamore's play, *Dangerous Women*, the principal rôles in which were held by Messrs. Harry Tresham (Ronald Courteney), Cecil Ravenswood (Colonel Rothwell), Sydney Grant (Dr. Dysart), E. D. Allen (Mark Raby and Dick Pudsey), R. Wilton (Smudge), Miss Florence Palmer (Sylvia Rothwell), Miss Beryl Ravenswood (Cora Fay), and Miss Florence Cameron (Bessie Basket).

Paddington Palace. — Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Edwards.—*The Human Spider* has been staged here this week by the "Palace Theatre" stock dramatic company. Mr. Harry Wren was the Colonel Wintringham; Mr. Ernest Wingfield, George Wintringham; Mr. Frank S. Strickland, Basil Mortimer; Mr. H. Hesslegrave, Shmi Khan; Mr. Francis E. Wybert, Romilus Potter; Mr. H. G. Brandon, Jack Chignall; Miss Gladys Hastings Walton, Millie Tresdale; and Miss Florence Barnes, Janey Jenkins.

Haymarket.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company continue to prove a big attraction here. This week they have given a well-presented dramatic sketch, entitled *A Vision of the Past; or, a Villain's Scheme*; Bella Leaburn, a smart comedienne, paid a welcome return visit; some clever work on the silver rings was performed by Akbar; La Belle Bowles sang and danced well; and the Bioscope had the latest pictures.

Westminster.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Charlie Chard, vocal character comedian, has been prominent here this week making everybody happy; another excellent line was Chris Van Bern, eccentric comedian; some remarkable work in club-swinging, boxing, and wrestling was executed by Lachie Thomson's Topweights; the Sisters Walmsley were neat duettists and dancers; and there also appeared Flo Lister, contralto, and Annie Casey, comedienne.

Olympia.—District-Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—A clever satire, entitled *The House of Lords*, presented by the Savoyards, has occupied a big place in the programme here this week, and been richly enjoyed for its excellent humour, the artists taking part being G. H. Snazelle, Ethel Macalpine, Mary Fraser, Alec Fraser, and J. J. Dallas; the remarkable intelligence shown by De Gracia's elephants has been generally commented on; La Berat gave a picturesque fire dance; endless laughter was aroused by the eccentric musical comedians, Binns and Binns; Olive and Owen proved an excellent turn with their comedy act, *Roadside Tinkers*; Amy Anderson and company gave an enjoyable coster scena, *The Banana Queen*; a humorous dancing speciality, *Fits and Misfits*, came from Ross and Lewis; and also in the programme were C. Robinson, vocalist; and Ted E. Box, eccentric comedian and silleur.

Roscommon.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Good business continues to be done here by the stock dramatic company, who are playing drama twice each night. This week the ever-popular *Shaughraun* has been given in excellent style by Mr. Percy Boucher's company, that gentleman causing a deal of laughter as the rollicking Conn. Mr. J. D. Geddes afforded satisfaction in the rôle of Captain Molyneaux; Mr. A. Wilson-Rae made an efficient Robert Florliott; Mr. Mark Mills proved a satisfactory Father Dolan; as Harvey Duff Mr. C. H. Maxwell was as villainous as could be; Miss Madge Blundell acted neatly as Arte O'Neill; a graceful Clare Ffolloitt was submitted by Miss Lilian Beaumont; Miss Enid Wilde proved very popular as Moya; and praise was earned by Mrs. E. F. Brady, who played Mrs. O'Kelly.

LLANDUDNO.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company appeared here on Monday for three nights in *Peter's Mother*. Mr. Charles Harley as Sir Timothy Crewys was well placed; Miss Lilias Earle as Lady Mary Crewys played excellently; Mr. Percy Hutchison distinguished himself as Peter; and Miss Mary Griffith gave a good impersonation of Lady Belstone. Miss Annie Stalman as Miss G. Crewys well sustained the part; and Mr. Alfred Bucklaw was good as John Crewys. Sarah was in the capable hands of Miss Hilda Honies. *The Blue Moon* was announced for Thursday.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. A. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—*Our Flat* occupied the boards here on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. The Nathaniel Glover of Mr. Rollo Balmain was good; and Miss Sara Mignon as Bella was well placed. Mr. J. Percy Watson did well as Reginald Sylvestre; and Miss Vera Fordyce made an attractive Margery Sylvester. *The Night of the Party* was announced for Thursday.

Pier Head Pavilion.—Local-Manager, Mr. A. R. Sutcliffe.—Messrs. Adeler and Sutton again provide a tip-top bill, first and foremost being Mr. Charlie Harvey (the Bundle of fun); Miss Lilian Barness is a first-class contralto; Mr. A. R. Sutcliffe is as vivacious as ever; Mr. Clifford Grey is clever; Mr. C. D. Reekie is a good comedian and mimic; and Mr. J. A. Sunbridge ably presides at the piano.

LONG EATON.—St. James's Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—This week we have a visit from *A Soldier of France* company. Mr. Leonard Aardale and Miss Hettie Zillwood have the chief parts as the Corporal and Pauline, and the scene when the feelings of the mother become ascendant is very touching. The merry business is safe in the keeping of Mr. David Phillips and Miss Jennie Clare, the latter's slavey song being encored.

LOWESTOFT. — South Beach Pavilion. — Proprietors, the Lowestoft Corporation; Manager, Mr. R. C. Luxton.—The excellent variety programme here still draws good audiences, although the season is on the wane. Charles Kay is a very popular comedian; Bod Jose has added to his reputation as a clever turn; Guy Carlton wins all hearts with his fine tenor voice; and Humphrey Bishop (bass) and Fanny Chetham gain well-merited applause; Frances Roscorla is a dainty little Dutch girl; and Madge Campbell is always refreshing.

Marina.—Manager, Mr. E. A. Smith.—For the first part of the week we have Mr. Chas. Macdona's company, in *Dr. Wake's Patient*. The piece is cleverly staged and dressed, and the parts are creditably sustained.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—This popular house was re-opened for the season on Monday by the British Biograph company, having been redecorated and arranged with excellent taste. The stage is enlarged so as to admit of some of the best turns on the variety stage. In addition to the charming series of pictures, we have Mlle. Lumiere, serpentine dancer; Agnese and Arthur Lynch, and the Donatos, in a clever entertainment.

LUTON.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—Mr. Geoffrey Fulton has brought his newly-produced drama, *A Girl Redeemed from Sin*, here this week. Nancy Lee is ably portrayed by Miss Olive Fulton. She is ably supported by Mr. Spinner as Robert Denham, Mr. Burgess as Ernest Sylveston, and a good all-round company.

MANCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmonstone Shirra.—Mr. Hubert Druce's company is playing here this week *The Pocket Miss Hercules*. Plenty of comic effect is gained by Mr. Stanley Cooke as the dudish young suitor and Miss Ruth Mackay in the title-rôle. The part of Lord Dyderdown's butler, Meakin, is skilfully handled by Mr. T. J. Bell; Mr. H. Athol Ford does well as Lord Dyderdown; Mr. Douglas Hamilton capably fills the part of the Rev. Falarope; and the clever work of Mrs. C. Herbert Hewitson, Miss Amy Coleman, Miss Daisy Atherton, and Mr. Frank Smiles completes a brisk and satisfactory performance. The piece forms a lively contrast to *The Lottery*, which precedes.

Prince's Theatre. — Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A visit of Mr. George Edwardes's company, in *See-See*, attracted a large house here on Monday. The cast includes Miss Denise Orme in her original part of the Beauty of Pekin, and she is accorded a reception which is well earned by her charming impersonation and her vocal gifts. As Yen Mr. Leonard Mackay is also a great success with his fine voice and manly style, while Miss Maud Boyd shines as the fortune-teller, Mai-Yai. The humorous element is in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Danby and Mr. W. H. Rawlins, both well-known and popular comedians; and a distinct hit is made by Miss Octavia Barry in her vocal opportunities as Maio-Yao. Among others who contribute to the bright effect, a word of praise is due to Miss Adeline Lester, Miss Dora Langham, Miss Daisy Revett, and Miss Hilda Holton.

Royal Osborne Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—We have here this week Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company in *For Her Sake*. Miss Mabel Mannering as Olga and Mr. Wellesley Draper as Prince Vladimir are at the head of a very able cast, and are applauded for their excellent work. As the proud mother of the Prince Miss D. Gilham does well in a strong part; Mr. Bernard Mervyn capitally portrays the villainy of Gregorvitch, the traitor and spy; and as Ivan, a serf, Mr. Fred Hilliard plays dramatically; while Mr. C. E. Johnson figures well as Nicholas; and entertaining humour is supplied by Messrs. Sidney Benson and Fred Beech, and Misses Gertrude Netterville and Mamie Randall.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is here this week, still delighting patrons on the Broadhead circuit by their performance of the homely and effective drama, *The Little Breadwinner*.

St. James's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—Mr. Charles H. Phelps and company, under the business management of Mr. Charles Melvin, are here this week in an effective musical comedy-drama, *One Woman's Wickedness*. A well-varied cast includes a number of strong parts, among which that of Jem Craggs, an escaped convict, is excellently played by Mr. Charles H. Phelps, who is also the author of the piece. Miss Irene Carrington is well suited as Janet Raymond; Miss Florence M. Daly is very good as Janet's mother; Miss Mabel Hal ldepicts Lillian Craggs with nice judgment and finish; and Miss Cissy Clarke gives a clever and humorous impersonation of Jenny Jiggles, the occasionally vocal barmaid. Mr. Frank Roy as Philip Beaufort plays in heroic style; Mr. Frank Hertie makes an aceptable Paul Roque, the solicitor; Mr. Harry Howe contributes a good character sketch of a London pickpocket; and Mr. Clifford Spencer's Lord Algernon Fitznoodle is light and amusing. All the remaining parts are capably played.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Day.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company are here this week in *Two Little Sailor Boys*, after a successful week at the Royal Osborne Theatre.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A very successful top star turn here this week is that of Victoria Monks, whose principal item, "Moving Day," is capitally done. Leipzig, conjurer and card manipulator, is also prominent, and exhibits some wonderful sleight-of-hand. Walter Munroe is very well received; Maggie Bowman and Tom J. Morton appear in a clever comedy item; Horace Pollock and company present Pinero's sketch, *Hester's Mystery*, in good style; George Newburn, the popular mimic, imitates well-known favourites with wonderful fidelity; Park's Eton Boys submit some enjoyable singing; Josie Mooney, vocalist and dancer, adds a capable turn; and, in addition to the Dieppe motor race on the Bioscope, the programme includes a number of trial turns, a different one appearing at each performance.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—*The Typhoon* is to be seen here this week, and reflects great credit on all concerned. The Famous Craggs go through a wonderful performance; Harry Rochez introduces some remarkably well-trained animals; J. W. Rowley is heard in new songs and old; Wyndham and Kitty are clever on the wire; Ella Dean sings well; and Johnson and Best are successful in a novel act, *A Queer Customer*. Hamish McCunn's delightful musical setting to "The Wreck of the Hesperus" is beautifully rendered by the choir and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Alfred Haines, the musical director; and some excellent Bioscope pictures and a part-song by the choir also help to strengthen the programme.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tealor Wade.—Cissie Lawson tops the bill here this week in that exciting episode, *The Devil's Sunday*, which is well acted throughout. The Six Brothers Luck are highly amusing in their well-known absurdity, *Blazes*; Howard and Collinson are better than ever in their funny act, *The Porter and the Parcel*; D'Arc's Marionettes are altogether excellent; the Grisse Trio are clever acrobats; Alexandra Edwin has a good voice, and is well received; Harry Rogerson, the idle comedian, is good; the Fitzroys are capital in their trapeze and rope speciality; and Farr and Farland have some good patter, and play well on the banjo. The Bioscope pictures are, as usual, good.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—The Cattanios, including Mlle. Devralboy and the Kaffir Sydney, are a wonderfully clever troupe of comedy tumblers, and are deservedly well received. Rachel Lowe, the charming comedy artist, meets with a big reception; Fred Herbert, the popular topical vocalist, makes a decided hit; Maud Lordy's dogs are well trained; the Llewelyns, in *The Two Wicked Maids*, a comedy operetta, are exceedingly good; Percival and Morley, in the duologue *Turtle Doves*, prove popular; and good dancing is done by Cissie Esdaile, Edie Jennis and Gertie Laune, and Ella Beaumont. Raymond's Vivagraph pictures are interesting.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—The Five Musical Tritons, in a gorgeous, spectacular, electrical, musical scena, are delightful, and the singing of Miss Lydia is very good. Lallie Brooke is exceedingly pleasing in a pretty song-scena; the Foy Brothers and company do some clever tumbling; Wyndham and Waters are amusing in *The Professor and His Pupil*; the Four Regals are excellent in gymnastic and muscular feats; Larry Lewis is a capital comedian; Howard and Wallace do well in a neat sketch; Jessie Jukes sings and dances smartly; Sadler and Ross are entertaining cross-talkers; and Sam Shipley is an amusing comedian. Pictures complete.

King's (Longsight).—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor.—Mr. Lester Collingwood's very capable company are the attraction here this week in that highly successful play, *When London Sleeps*. Mr. Richard Ferris as Captain Rodney Haynes and Mr. E. E. Ashby as David are particularly good. Miss Mabel Scudamore as Queenie Carruthers is pleasing and effective, and Miss Lilla Wilde does well as Hilda Carode. Considerable amusement is caused by Mr. D'Arcy Kelway, Mr. Frank Howard, and Miss Bella Power; and good work is also done by Miss Daisy Clifford, Miss Ethyl Sinclair, and Mr. Tom Roydon.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay.—The big turn here this week is Jesse L. Lasky and company in the latest novelty, *The Fourteen Black Hussars*, which is highly successful. Phil Herman, the veteran Dutch comedian, entertains in his usual good style; the Yorkshire Meisters are good singers; Bonetti and Corrie are clever comedy jugglers; the Cumberlands are exceedingly smart in an up-to-date cycle act; and enjoyable turns are also contributed by the Columbia Coloured Coons in their scena, *Plantation Pastimes*; Lucy Coventry, comedienne; and Horace Sade, dancer. Mrs. Brown's Troubles are depicted on the Bioscope.

MACCLESFIELD. — Royal. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. H. Gatley.—Large audiences have taken pleasure in witnessing the stirring drama, *Between the Lights*, as presented by Messrs. Fred Acton and H. C. Nash's company. Mr. E. Stream as Captain Robert Hinton played the part to perfection; and Mr. F. Garrett was typical in the part of Gerald Warren. Mr. F. Orchard presented in realistic manner the dual characters of Oswald Warren and Ben Armley; Mr. W. R. Winning gave a sound impersonation of Stanley Crofton; and Mr. F. Acton was especially excellent as Jimmy Tickle. Mr. F. Daleno did well as Charles Stott; Miss Phyllis Elton gave a charming portrayal as Violet Warren; Miss Winifred Acton was entertaining as Ellen; Miss Fannie Williams was a host in herself as Madge Armley; and Miss Millie Doris did all that was desired as Kittie.

MAIDENHEAD.—Town Hall.—Secretary, the Town Clerk.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company, playing *The Silver King*, had a hearty reception on Sept. 10, the hall being crowded. Mr. E. Stanton Sharp gave a consistent rendering of the title-rôle; Miss Florence Radcliffe was a natural Nellie Denver; Mr. Roland Howard an interesting Jaikes; and the children were well represented by Dorothy Love and Doris Thorne. Mr. Paul Beckett as the Spider was realistic, being well supported by Mr. Ralph Leo as Henry Corket and Mr. William Dempsey as Coombe.

MANSFIELD.—Grand Theatre. — Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Captain Cecil Clayton.—During this week Mr. John F. Preston's company have been presenting *Rogues of the Turf* to good houses. Mr. Preston is admirable in the rôle of Joe Flaxman; Mr. Ernest R. Allen is well placed as Arthur Somerton; Mr. Arthur Lenville plays the part of Moses Solomon to the life; and Captain Dudley Clifton is in the safe keeping of Mr. W. H. Barlow. Miss Mabelle F. Barlow gives a very powerful portrayal of the exacting part of Marion, Lady Heathcote; Sir Gerald Heathcote being admirably represented by Mr. A. Hartley. Miss Ethel Rainforth is sympathetic in the rôle of Nellie Flaxman. The comedy parts of Phyllis Wurzel and Sammy Flaxman are in very capable hands; Miss Laura Wright, Mr. Horace Custins, and Mr. Arthur Bell are all that can be desired in their respective parts.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Mr. Herbert Darnley has this week produced a new play, entitled *A Mother's Sacrifice*, a full report of which appears on another page.

MARGATE.—Theatre Royal.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wallis Clark.—*The Truth* was played here on Monday and the two following evenings. Becky was delightfully portrayed by Miss Decima Moore. In the lighter portions of the comedy she caused considerable merriment, whilst in the sterner scenes her emotional acting was particularly effective. Mr. Robert Minster gave a finished conception of the rôle of Becky's husband, Tom; Mr. Hugh Ardale was especially good as the profligate husband, Fred Lindon; and Mr. Arthur Hare played Stephen Roland, Becky's father, to a nicety. Eve Lindon was admirably played by Miss Maud Linden; Miss Kitty Lofting was excellent as Laura Fraser; and Miss Elspeth Dudgeon was effective as the designing Mrs. Crespigny. Mr. Howard Leslie was satisfactory as Jenks. On Thursday evening the bill was changed for a week-end visit of *What the Butler Saw*.

The Hippodrome.—Joint Proprietors, Mr. Fred Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident - Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—The programme here this week is contributed to by Arthur Boyne, comedian; Winnie Murray, comedienne and dancer; Chas. Deane, the rollicking chorus comedian; the Four Ramios, whirling comedians, in their horizontal bar act; Victor Courtney in his original act *Boots at the Piano*; Thos. E. Pinglas, the ideal coon, with the Mexican romance *Idaho*; and Donaldson Brothers and Ardel, supported by their company in the funny pantomime *A Zoological Comedy*.

Hall-by-the-Sea. — Sole Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Evans.—The artists appearing here for this the last week of the season include Tom Ross, comedian and eccentric dancer; Harry Daubney, ventriloquist and mimic; Sisters Lavender, duettists and dancers; Arthur and Jack Metz, comedians and simultaneous dancers; Phegona, with her speciality floral musical act; Henry Moore, actor and mimic; the Welsh Naval Cadets, glee singers; and Les Valdos, with their droll absurdity *The Eccentric Motor Bus Men*.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—*The Pet of the Embassy*, presented by Mr. H. Keates Hales's company, is here this week. In the title-rôle Miss Ethel Dunford's sweet voice and graceful acting are greatly admired; Miss Florence Watson sings delightfully as Dorothy Stanley; Miss Julia Bassett is an amusing Miss Pamela Bung; and Miss Marjorie Crofton a bright and animated Maud. Mr. Harry Fischer gives a droll performance; and Mr. Laurence Wensley scores with his songs as Eric Brown. Mr. James Burt is good as Horatio Jukes; and Mr. Walter Champney is brimful of fun as John William Bung.

Temperance Hall.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The Prince-Milner Trio head the bill in an original pot-pourri speciality act, which is greatly appreciated; the Rio Tentos win applause in their comedy act, *African Gambols*. Other excellent turns include Kathleen Marie, comedienne and dancer; the Two Bendons, in vocal scenas; the Donnells, vocalists and dancers; R. Dunning, ventriloquist; George Bohee, vocalist and banjoist; Kahn and Kahn, magicians; P. A. Hope, Scotch baritone; and up-to-date pictures on the Biograph.

MEXBOROUGH.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Miss Ellen Snow and company are here this week, with the drama *Why Men Love Women*. Mr. Hilliard Vox gives a manly and intelligent rendering of Gerald Fielding; the Captain Staniloff of Mr. Lionel Gadsden is a vigorous and highly dramatic embodiment; Mr. Gerald Kennedy plays capitally as the Maharajah; Mr. Martin B. Pedler is capable as Lieut. Fitzherbert; while the Orlando Figgins of Mr. Harwood Roberts is an amusing character study. Miss Ellen Snow invests the part of Violet Livingstone with grace and refinement; the Mariel Zoluski of Miss Beatrice Shirley is a well-sustained effort; and Miss Nita Owen and Miss Freda Vaughan are an interesting couple as Birdie and Baby respectively.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Theatre Royal. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson. — *The Sign of the Cross* occupies the stage here. The play is produced by Mr. William Greet's company. Miss Gladys Leslie gives a sympathetic rendering of Mercia; Mr. Cyril Austen Lee acts with distinction as Marcus; Favius is in the capable hands of Mr. Walter Fleet; and Miss Dulcie Greatwich is powerful as Stephanus. Mr. Charles Aldred is an excellent Tigellinus; and Mr. J. Wetherall as Licinius, and Miss Mary Newcombe as Poppœa are all that can be desired.

Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. Jno. Edward Jowsey; Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—*His House in Order* is being presented here by Mr. George Alexander's company. As Nina Miss Grace Armytage Noble meets with gratifying success; Mr. Stephen T. Ewart plays Hilary Jesson with power; and Mr. J. Edward Pearce as Filmer Jesson is responsible for a good interpretation. Mr. Lloyd Lowndes as Major Maurewade gives satisfaction; and the part of Mlle. Thomé has an able representative in Mlle. Lilli Kehr. The Ridgleys find clever representatives in Mr. George Fitzgerald, Mr. E. R. Holloway, Miss Augusta Haviland, and Miss Blanka Stewart. The part of Dereck Jesson is in the capable hands of Miss V. May Harris. The scenery and costumes are exceedingly pretty.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges.—*A Japanese Love Story*, a charming little operetta, is given here this week by Marie San Toi's company. Much laughter is caused by Claude Ginnett's company, in *Rejected Remounts*; Marie Jones gives a clever quick-change turn; George Brooks has some new and up-to-date songs; and Gertie Gitana is a most pleasing comedienne and dancer. Other turns are given by Lily Flexmore (dancer) and Lizzie Daniels (comedienne).

Oxford Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths. — Victor Travers causes laughter with his songs and patter; and Ford and Barras prove themselves remarkable dancers. Fatmah Diard, the American prima donna, delights all with her singing; the ventriloquial sketches of Cavalli are amusing; and other turns are provided by May de Rowse, Ted Tomus, Ormonde Penstone, and Hans and Lord.

MORECAMBE.—Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, in *Peter's Mother*, have been doing good business. The cast includes Miss Violet Ley, who is admirable as Lady Mary Crewys, Mr. Henry Renouf as John Crewys, Q.C., and Mr. E. F. Meads as Peter Crewys, a part in which he does very well. Miss Hilda Sims, Miss Evelyn Shelley, and Miss Mallalieu, Messrs. Ernest Rusten, Wm. Mallalieu, Townsend Whitling, P. Calder, and Frank Case are suitably fitted. The play is preceded by *Chalk and Cheese*, a one-act piece by Eille Norwood.

Winter Gardens.—Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—Tom Foy and company, in *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, have caused roars of laughter; and Mlle. Haydee's mannikins are cleverly worked. Others in the programme are Lillian Victoria, male impersonator; Vosper, facial mimic; Bennett and Martell, comedians; Carl Howard, in magic and comedy; Halma, juggler; and the Coventry Pageant on the Bioscope.

West End Pier.—Secretary, Mr. J. Bastow.—Mr. Walter George has been amusing good audiences with his "Smart Set" entertainers.

NELSON.—Grand Theatre.— Proprietress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Mudd.—Capital houses have this week witnessed Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company, in *The Silver King*. The title-rôle is powerfully played by Mr. Fred W. Daviss; whilst as Nellie Denver Miss Adah Barton had a warm reception. Mr. St. George Nowther gives a vigorous portrayal of "The Spider," and is capably assisted in his nefarious practices by Mr. Arthur Wright as Elijah Coombe. Mr. Edward J. George has been specially engaged in the character of Jaikes.

Makes the Skin as Soft as Velvet.—Beetham's "La-rola" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, irritation, tan, &c., and Keeps the Skin Soft, Smooth, and White at all Seasons. Invaluable for the Complexion, Delightfully Cooling and Refreshing after golfing, cycling, motoring, tennis, boating, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. Lewis Waller and a talented company are drawing crowded audiences in *Robin Hood*. In the title-rôle Mr. Waller is splendid, vigour, grace, vivacity, and perfect elocution characterising his efforts all through; Miss Nora Lancaster's Marion is graceful, natural, and altogether winning; and both these artists well deserve the frequent calls before the curtain that they receive at the end of each of the four acts. Mr. Shiel Barry contributes an excellent study of Prince John; and Mr. Frank Woolfe plays in courtly manner the part of King Richard Cœur de Lion; a jolly and jovial Friar Tuck is Mr. Charles Rock, fulfilling the part to the letter; Mr. Cecil Cameron as Allan a'Dale scores with his several songs; and very good is Mr. Herbert Jarman as John Little; Adela is ably impersonated by Miss Dora Barton; and Alison Merch finds a sweet exponent in Miss Eleanor May. Others taking prominent parts are Mr. S. B. Brereton, Mr. Owen Roughwood, and Miss Helen Layton.

Tyne Theatre and Opera House.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. Edward Terry, supported by a good all-round company, appears in a series of his well-known successes. On Monday evening *Liberty Hall* was staged, and in the part of William Todman Mr. Terry finds a rôle admirably suited to his style and reputation. He is ably supported by Miss Marion Ripley, Mr. Thos. Holding, and others. On Tuesday evening *Sweet Lavender* was staged, and other pieces played during the week were *The Magistrate*, *The Rocket*, and *Paul Pry*

Louise; Miss Clara Earle is a vivacious Stephanie; and Miss G. Robertson an interesting Blanche. Mr. Tom Robertson deserves every praise as Talleyrand; and Mr. Frank Stone is an admirable Marquis de Beaumont.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—Mr. Bransby Williams is here this week, delighting large audiences with characters from Dickens; Le Diablo performs his feat of "Looping the Devil's Wheel," whilst the audience are moved to intense excitement; Oakdene is a clever ventriloquist; Patty Yole finds favour as a vocalist; Mr. Charles J. Johnson, "the black diamond," has a good reception; Regan and Ryan are good as comedians and dancers; and Fred Cary, comedian, is very popular. The Hippo-Bio exhibits interesting scenes.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*My Wife* was capitally presented here on Monday by Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's company. Mr. Eille Norwood, an excellent comedian, fulfils the highest expectations as the volatile Gerald Eversleigh; Miss Cicely Stuckey furnishes a delightful rendering of the romantic and wilful Trixie; Mr. J. W. Deverell handles the feather-brained "Gibby" with a discriminating taste that deserves praise; and Falandris is smartly played by Mr. Edmund Hollick. Mr. Alfred S. Barber makes an amusing Dupré; Miss Lily Leverne as the frivolous Baroness plays with a light comedy touch; Miss Mary Dibley makes an attractive Miriam Hawthorne; and Miss Edith Cochrane aptly assumes Mme. Dupré. *The Drums of Oude* precedes the comedy.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—*Home, Sweet Home*, forms a series of incidents appealing strongly to the patrons of this house, and their interest is secured throughout the play. Miss Marion Wakeford as the heroine plays with tenderness and grace; Mr. Frank Lindo's impersonation of Stephen Armitage is the embodiment of a manly, outspoken sailor; as the old Duke of Ancaster Captain Gerald Gambier gives a characteristic portrayal; Mr. F. Miles Hodgson acts with subtlety as Lucas Lyle; and Mr. D. Doyle offers a careful study of David Armitage. Mr. George Overs is to be congratulated on his earnest and successful rendering of the fisher lad, Dick Redmayne; Miss Hetty Webster well simulates the haughty Lady Summerton; and Miss Daisy Rochefort makes a charming Dora. Miss Ray Rochefort (Sybil Fay) and Mr. T. Armitage (the Hon. Percy) are responsible for the humour.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H Bowmaker.—Eugene Stratton is delighting large audiences here. The science of balancing has no better exponent than Mr. Carmo; Happy Tom Parker strikes a vein of humour that is contagious; Miss Ethel Stalman and Messrs. Herbert Russel and George Elliston present the comedietta, *That Brute Simmons*; Signor and Mme. Borelli score heavily in their mimicry of a "cat concert"; Rossi Ashton, in a song-sketching act, and Eida and Falco, vocalists and dancers, are suitably rewarded; Madge Osmond is a smart male impersonator; Marie Weston proves a dainty dancer; and Fred Lincoln adds to the humour by his song.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company, on a return visit here, opened to a good house on Monday. As the treacherous Le Loup, Mr. Gilbert Hall is well made up, and displays considerable talent; in the arduous rôle of Paul Gouffet, Mr. T. W. Dunsmore is convincing throughout; Mr. Alfred Warne is excellent as Henry de Brisson; and a good Lucian Cortier comes from Mr. Herbert Daneville. Miss Marie Barrett is a favourite as the long-suffering Marie de Brisson; Miss Marie Tennant plays well as La Pinau; Mr. C. Alan Hineson as Peter Pottlebury, and Miss Gladys Newcombe as Babette, are the cause of plenty of mirth.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—On Monday Mr. W. W. Kelly staged for the first time here his latest production, *The Gayest of the Gay*. Miss Laura Walker as Kate Latimer and Susan Meredith is decidedly interesting; Mr. Ernest Owtrim as Jack Latimer is smart; Mr. Leonard Yorke as the villainous Hubert Steele acts in a forcible manner; Mr. Alfred Grenville does well as the Hon. Frank Draycott; Mr. Dennis Brayan makes a good Jake Howland; and Miss Mary Hardacre is a sympathetic Nelly Burns; Miss Helen Richmond as Doris Daintree, with Mr. Henry Belding as Barney O'Brien and Mr. William Holl as Percy Palgrave, are quaint in the comedy rôles.

COLOSSEUM.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—*The Prodigal Daughter* occupies the boards here after an absence of about eight years, and Mr. Joseph Bebb's company does full justice to the piece. Miss Millie Ford appears in the title-rôle, and acts capitally; Miss Marjorie Davenport is successful as Violet Woodmere; Mr. Chas. Herberte as the bluff Sir John Woodmere is very good; Mr. Frederick Harker makes a manly Captain Harry Vernon; Mr. Lionel Atwill a sinister Julian; Mr. G. Clifton Boyne an excellent Maurice Deepwater; Dudley Roper being well played by Mr. Marshall Meade; Miss Olive Lloyd is a demure Dorcas Gentle, and with Mr. Sidney Lynn as Lord Banbury causes much hearty laughter; Mr. George Antley is smart as Tom Blinker. The Grand National is represented with great success.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Chung Ling Soo is delighting large audiences here with his marvellous illusions; Les Voces sing well; Kathleen Cogan is a dainty dancer; the Bros. Dean are smart whistlers and dancers; Bob Hamilton is a successful Scotch comedian; and Harry Bickley, eccentric. The Soho Trio and Keegan and company in a laughable bicycle absurdity conclude a capital programme, which embraces the pictures on the Dottoscope.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—John Grua Marx heads the bill in his feats of strength; a musical treat is provided by Miss Mabel Mavis with piano and glassophone solos; Baroni and Kemp are smart in a quick-change skit; Wheeler and Wilson are refined comedy acrobats; Alma Obrey, comedienne, has excellent songs; Will Souls sings laughing songs with success; and Bob Baxter also does well. The latest pictures are being shown on the Dottoscope.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Oxford Theatre Company, Limited; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company is here this week with *The Village Blacksmith*, which, capitally performed by an excellent company, met with a cordial reception on Monday. Mr. Sam Livesey is an ideal John Strong, and his acting is as effective as his physique is magnificent; Mr. Joseph Carter, too, is admirably suited as the villainous Captain Leo; Lucas Marler, St. John Herman, and Jeremiah Parkins find capable exponents in Messrs. E. Maydew, G. Wilton, and T. E. Marshall; and Mr. G. V. Campbell causes much amusement as Billy Twigg. Miss Bertha Hanbury prettily plays the part of the child, Harry Strong; Miss Edith Giddens and Mrs. T. C. Livesey are capital as Martha Mopps and Sal Parkins; Miss Cassie le Grande makes a most interesting Ruth Parkins; and Miss Maggie Edwards sustains the arduous rôle of Kate Strong in convincing fashion.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*A Woman's Pluck* is being presented here this week. The leading parts are finely interpreted by Mr. Matthew Boulton as Winstone Dale and Miss Dolly Gilroy as Jessie Pope. Dick Darrell is well acted by Mr. Jackson Wilcox, as is also the part of Sir Noel Fordyce by Mr. Arthur Temple. In the dual rôle of Mark Scanlon and Jim Daremont, Mr. J. P. Dryden is excellent; Mr. Harry Emmerson as Matthew Pope gives a convincing portrayal; Mr. Dicky Bird as Roger Pippin is amusing; as is also the Ophelia Pippin of Miss Fanny James; Sir John Daredevil is admirably played by Mr. Herbert Claremont; Miss Kitty Johnstone is seen to good effect in her portrayal of Bertie Daredevil; Mr. Alfred Prior figures satisfactorily as Tom Ascot; Miss Marion Fawcett acts with distinction as Grace Daremont; Miss Elsie Maitland as Lady Daredevil is capital; Miss Ethel Danby gives a good presentment of Polly Primrose; and Miss Nora Kingsley succeeds as Mrs. Pope.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—The chief turn here is provided by Leonard Gautier and his miniature circus. The Gladenbecks perform marvellous hand-balancing; May Mars, burlesque actress, has a warm welcome; merriment is occasioned by Otta and Olga, mock operatic artists; the Gregson Trio, in their novel act, *The Dummy*, afford pleasure; Anna Kenwick, comedienne, appears to advantage; Allis and Cassati submit a refined and pleasing number; George Antill, comedian, is well received; and the Hippodrome Bioscope concludes with excellent pictures.

TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, Magistrates and Council.—W. F. Frame, "the funny man," gave his annual concert here on Saturday night. "The man you know" was in great form, and quite captivated his audience. He was assisted by Miss Lena Wylie, soprano; Jack Chambers, coon singer and dancer; The Davenports, illusionists; Andrew Brown, vocalist; The St. Johns, instrumentalists; Doo and Dare, comedy jugglers; and Clark and Cambridge, comedy artists.

PERTH.—THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—*A False Wife* is this week staged here by Mr. F. Marriott-Watson's company. Mr. Fred H. Constable plays the part of Lieut. George Mansfield with great effect, and Miss Annie Hylton gives a good account of herself as Agnes Weyland; Sir Colin Mansfield is ably impersonated by Mr. George Langham; the part of Jean Beraud is in the capable hands of Mr. F. Marriott-Watson; Mr. Elton Morgan acts in admirable style as Ben Rattler; Mr. Allen Charles is very amusing as Constable Archibald Brown Tee; Miss Florence E. Florence plays the part of Lady Mansfield with great effect, her great acting powers being especially displayed in the last scene; Bessie Blazer is humorously enacted by Miss Ivy Chandos.

PETERBOROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Mr. William Greet's company is here this week, in *The Shulamite*. Mr. Scott gives a fine rendering of the part of Simeon Krillett; Miss Ella Thornton is well placed as Deborah Krillett; Mr. B. Garth is an excellent Robert Waring; and Mr. George Rammell does well as Jan Vanderberg. Other parts are taken by Miss Corona L'Estrange, Miss Nellie Fancourt, Miss Empsy Hawkswood, Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff, Mr. W. Uruaquart, and Mr. Albert Rogers.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company on Monday presented *The Merchant of Venice* to a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Henry Herbert acted Shylock with becoming restraint; Miss Gladys Venderzee as Portia greatly improved as the evening advanced and scored a distinct triumph; Mr. Philip Merivale was a calm and dignified Antonio; and Mr. Baliol Holloway's fine manner and presence enabled him to score a success in the part of Bassanio. Mr. Everard Vanderlip furnished a creditable rendering of Lorenzo; Mr. Ross Shore was a genuinely humorous Gobbo; and Miss Helen Macdonald an attractive Jessica. *As You Like It, The Merry Wives of Windsor, Julius Cæsar, She Stoops to Conquer, Hamlet*, and *Henry V.* are also in the répertoire.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—A very excellent "bill" is provided for the week. The Betsons provide a funny tit-bit, in which some fine cycle work is introduced; R. H. Douglass, monologue artist, presents an item brimful of smart witticisms; Mark Melford and company have a really funny sketch, entitled *Only a Wedding*; the Glenroy Troupe, accomplished dancers, are loudly applauded; and the Great Roland submits wonderful illusions. Other attractions are Flo. Inman, Frank Seely, and Vernon's Pictures.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Frederick Mouillot's Daly's Theatre Répertoire Company on Monday presented *The Geisha*, Miss Joan Ritz taking the part of Mimosa San in a charming manner. Miss Florrie Saunders was a vivacious and dainty Molly Seymour; Miss Violet Kenyon an admirable Juliette; and Miss Aubrey Ashton a successful Lady Constance Wynn. Reginald Fairfax was impersonated by Mr. Cyril Dane, with natural ease; Mr. Edward Carlton's interpretation of Wun Hi was all that could be desired; the Marquis Imari was unctuously taken by Mr. Lionel Braham; Mr. J. Mansell Stringer as Captain Katana was extremely good; Mr. A. J. Nicholls also did good work as Takemine. *San Toy* and *The Greek Slave* are also in the répertoire.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. Frederick Melville's able company is here in *Her Forbidden Marriage*. Mr. Henry Lonsdale as George Maddison plays with force and manliness; Miss Gertrude Bonser in the rôle of Lucy is natural and graceful; Mr. Louis Hector enacts Charles Devereux successfully; Mr. Leonard Maxwell as Geoffrey Broughton does good work; Mr. Henry Hare is an excellent Sir George; Miss Gertrude Hunt portrays Lady Lucretia with good effect; Miss Nellie Fletcher as the Mother Superior is dignified. The comedy side of the drama is in the most efficient hands of Miss Sybil Hare as Patty Lovejoy, and Mr. Fred De Vere as Timothy Tuttutt.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Capt. Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—An excellent bill includes Flo Melville, a burlesque artist, with a crisp style; Kavados, juggler and equilibrist; Clarke and Glenny, in their absurdity, *The Haunted House*; the Sisters Morgan, duettists and dancers; Barrett and Knowles, versatile comedians; Gus Hindell, in a novel and attractive number; Belrose and De Velin, specialty duettists; Fancourt and Rubie, in their capital comedy act, *Nipper, the Messenger*; the Trupnell Family, graceful lady acrobats; Ten Zerbinis, in a musical scena, *The Enchanted Glen*; and Pat Rafferty, Irish comedian. Payne's Pictures complete an enjoyable bill.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Mr. Arthur Roberts and company head the programme this week in *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*; Wallau is a capable and clever juggler; Miss Leah Adell's vocal scena is a very pleasing item; the Brothers Hayes, Australian comedians, are smart sand dancers; Miss Rosie Archer, mimic, shows much versatility; Johnson and Pelham, in the comedy pot-pourri, *A Golf Match*, are most amusing; Sydney and Maud, duettists and dancers, do well; the Achmed-Ibrahim Troupe of Bedouin Arabs are experts in their tumbling and balancing business. The Hippodrome Pictures finish a capital entertainment.

PRESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Exors. of the late W. Johnson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Mr. Arthur A. Horner's company is this week giving J. M. Barrie's comic play, *Walker, London*. Mr. Harry C. Morton has the lion's share of the comedy, in the part of Jasper Phipps; Mr. W. Rene Hammersmith as Renard Von Burg is very natural, his pronounced German accent being very good; Mr. C. Hughes portrays the part of Kit Upjohn satisfactorily; Mr. Forrestier Harvey as W. G. is a capital impersonation; and Ben the boatman is ably sustained by Mr. Chas. Middleton. Miss Ruby Hamilton-Belasco as Mrs. Golightly, and Miss Eleanor Papera as Nanny O'Brien, are satisfactory; Miss Katherine Parry as Bell Golightly is sufficiently dignified; and Miss Lilian Francis as Penny and Miss Jennie Douglas-Hicks as Sarah Rigg are equally good in their respective parts. The play is preceded by *Curing a Husband*. On Thursday a new farcical comedy in three acts, by Chas. Riminton, entitled *The Play Actor*, was produced.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff. — This week the boards are occupied by Mr. Jack Haddon's company in *Under the Russian Flag*. Mr. Jack Haddon commands loud applause as Ivan Romanoff; Mr. Chas. Stafford is a manly hero; Mr. Jerrold Ord gives a realistic portrayal of stage villainy; Mr. W. Wilson is a dignified Colonel Souveroff; Mr. Templer Ellis as Alexis Skopolopki; Mr. Hal Forde as Peter Poulski; and Miss Molly Hackett as Ogarita ably sustain these humorous parts; Mr. H. Naylor Grimson as Wolf Marischka gives a fine rendition of the part; Miss Beatrice Balfour as Vera Vassiloff is captivating; and Miss Marie Rayner sustains the trying rôle of Luka Marischka in a most skilful and commendable manner.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—This cosy house has just emerged from the hands of the decorators, and looks very attractive in its new "war paint." Milton Ray's *Don Quixote* is presented here this week, and is proving a good draw. The company includes some very smart comedians, and the chorus is also much above the average. Mr. Fred Russell is good as Don Quixote, and Mr. Arthur Milton as Sancho Panza is very funny. Another clever pair are Messrs. Sandy and Carl, their mock combat being very original. Miss Lily Ward is a sprightly Cardenio; and Mr. Joe English an amusing Donna Betsiana. There are some interesting turns. Yorkshire Tom is loudly applauded for his imitations of birds and animals; Angelo gives some wonderfully good sketches of celebrities; Snowball and Miss Dolla, American comedy duo; Chas. Rowen, comedian; and the Sivanes, in their original comedy act, are entertaining; George Young is an expert blind musician of considerable promise; the Sisters Gilbert are dainty dancers; and Will Freedo is a comedian and dancer of no mean merit. The pictures are excellent.

RADCLIFFE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—The public is favoured this week by Mr. Charles H. Lester's company in the detective play by Mr. Max Goldberg, entitled *The Bank of England*. Mr. Chas. H. Lester displays undoubted ability as Sherlock Holmes; Mr. Clifton Earle depicts the villainous conduct of Stephen Hartley with power; Mr. J. H. Firman looks and acts the part of Sir Sidney Barraclough to perfection; Mr. Chris Phelton is entertaining as the Hon. Bertie Burlington; Mr. Harry T. Wood is good as Eric Dane; and one of the principal supports in the piece is Mr. Edmund O'Grady as Gordon Isaacs. The efforts of Mr. Victor Leglese as Tommy Sprouts, assisted by Miss Annie Thomas as Lucy, are much appreciated.

RAMSGATE. — AMPHITHEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—*The New Barmaid* has made a re-appearance at the Ramsgate Amphitheatre this week, and large audiences have assembled to accord this lively little lady a hearty welcome. The company is Miss Violet Osmund's, and the various parts are filled in praiseworthy fashion. Mr. Alexander Loftus is thoroughly funny in the rôle of Bertie White; Mr. James Grant does admirably as Lillian White; and McAdeson is quite successful as the volatile henchman, M. Bonsor. In the title-part (that of Ethel Joy) Miss Aimee Roberts makes a charming appearance, and Mr. James Hawkes is good as Capt. Lovebury. Excellent contributions are also made by Miss Violet Osmund (Dora Heather), and by Miss Grafton as Brenda. Mr. Frank Collins satisfactorily sustains the character of Colonel Claymore.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jules Richeux.—At the Royal Victoria Theatre, during the past week, large audiences have "larfed consumedly" at KARNO'S comedians in the lively farce, *Saturday to Monday*. The gem of the show is the impersonation which Mr. Rolando Martin gives as John Willie Jaggs. His efforts are seconded by those of two amusing juvenile characters, Master G. Dance and Master F. McDonagh. Miss Ethel Beech (Violet Blake) and Mr. C. Curtis add to the attractiveness of the production by their effective vocalism, and the other members of the cast contribute to the enjoyment.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode.—The popular musical play, *The Cingalee*, is being played here this week by an excellent company.

REDDITCH.—PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr. Will Treadgold.—The dramatic season opened here on the 6th inst, when Miss Inez Howard's company, under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattell, began a two nights' engagement in the successful drama, *When London Sleeps*. The company, one and all, gave a good performance, and big business was done. Mr. Coleman Davies' company, with *Beneath the Stars*, were billed here for the last three days of this week.

REDHILL.—MARKET HALL.—Proprietors Market Hall Co.; Secretary, Mr. A. Simmons.—*The Face at the Window*, ably presented by Mr. Arthur West's No. 1 Company, is this week's attraction at the above house. Mr. West himself is strong in the character of Paul Gouffet, the detective; the Lucio Delgardo of Mr. Marcus Gray is also a capital piece of character work; whilst the Lucien Cortier of Mr. Percy Speakman is good. Mr. Ernest Stevens is decidedly funny as Peter Pottleberry; Mr. Aubrey Norton as Henry de Brisson is all one could wish; Miss Leah Strickland, as Marie de Brisson, has a thorough conception of the part; Miss Clara Knowles as "the Queen of the Rogues' Retreat" is most acceptable; and Miss Blanch Young creates much amusement in the part of Babette.

RHYL. — PIER PAVILION. — Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. J. Macdermott. —A welcome visit is made this week by Miss Emilie Tait, Messrs. Harry Herbert, and Norman Osborne, who have just returned from a successful tour in India. They are supported by Mr. Fred Walmsley, comedian, Iris Banfield, comedienne, Mr. Jack Macdermott, and Forshaw Kershaw, accompanist.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague. —*Two Little Vagabonds* is here once more, and is as popular as ever. Mr. Arthur E. Melborne is heard to advantage as George Thornton; Mr. Fred Bell cleverly portrays the part of Captain Darville; Mr. Harry Reynolds does well as John Scarth; and Mr. T. Lionel Ellis makes the most of Bill Mullins; Miss Winifred Williamson and Miss Ethel Francis Greene wins all hearts as Dick and Wally, the two little vagabonds; Miss Madge Seyerne enacts with success the part of Barbara Scarth; and Miss Georgina Wynter acts with distinction as Marion Thornton.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. J. and J. Jackson and J. White; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. White.—A capital company is engaged here this week. Rapoli is a juggler of exceptional ability, performing clever feats with ease; the Four Louberts submit an amazing acrobatic sketch, entitled *Uninvited*; and Fields and Lewis create roars of laughter with their burlesque dramatic act. Kyoto, Japanese conjurer, &c.; Miss May Geraldine, comedienne and dancer; Harry Bentley, comedian; Miss Cordite and Nick Buffalo, rope and lassoo manipulators; and the Circus Biograph also contribute.

EMPIRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—The Ten Loonies top the bill here with their musical sketch, *Dotty*; the Jansons display muscular skill in their gymnastic act; Pete and Juno, coloured comedians and dancers, are favourites. Howard and Townsend, vocal duettists; Adey Spencer, in *The Girl from the Hat Shop*; Kisbey, "the Call Boy"; and the Bioscope pictures complete an enjoyable evening.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Constant.—The visit of the popular farce, *Tom, Dick, and Harry*, has provided plenty of amusement for patrons of this house. Mr. George Unwin's efforts in the part of General Stanhope met with general appreciation; Miss Beatrice Marsden made a charming Daisy Armitage; Tom Stanhope met with efficient impersonation at the hands of Mr. Kaye Brudell; Messrs. Fred Manners and Page Lawrence displayed much cleverness as the twins, Dick and Harry Winters; Miss Edith Barwell sustained the part of the weeping grass-widow, Mrs. Winters, in amusing fashion; and Miss Kate Ruskin did well as Molly Summers. The piece was preceded by *The Second Mrs. Grundy*, which was well received. An excellent animatoscope and variety display conclude the week.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Jay; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. L. Furst.—A great success, as usual, attended the visit of ehe Follies, who gave their high-class entertainment to a full house on Saturday evening; the Pelicans, with Miss Lillie Bowman, are appearing here for the last week of the season. A second Zacharewitsch-Woodhouse recital was given on Wednesday afternoon.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*Greed of Gold* is again presented by Mr. T. Morton Powell's company, which was welcomed by a good house on Monday. The villain, Harry Hood, is well played by Mr. E. J. Preston; Mr. Alf Stratton successfully portrays Arthur Erroll. Mr. Albert M. Fox works hard and well as Tom Welstead, Miss Amy Venimore makes a good Dora, and Cecil is cleverly sustained by Miss May Edias. Miss Cissy Murdock is a charming Patty Mayfield; Miss Annie Barclay as Mrs. Maxwell, Mr. Sydney Bryant as Cully Snig, Mr. Victor C. Rolfe as Mr. Brightone, K.C., Mr. Denis Campbell as Conn Creamer, Mr. James Jarrett as Mee Chow, all do well in their various characters.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson. —An excellent programme this week is topped by Lew Lake and his company, including Bob Morris, Harry Lavers, and Kitty Wilmore, in the farcical absurdity *The Bloomsbury Burglars*; Morny Cash, comedian, keeps the house in roars; Barney Stuart's mimicry is smart; Lucia Collins, comedienne, and daughter of Lottie Collins, sings and acts charmingly; Les Belles Americaines are clever acrobatic dancers; Fame and Fortune, comedy acrobats, and Ted Karno and company in *Dinner Hour, or the Carpenter's Shop*, a pantomime absurdity, also keep the audience well amused.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Went-worth.—The Geni Family of ten Continental risley acrobats, do some marvellously clever work; the Fullers (Fred and Louie) present a pretty song scena, *The Shoeblack's Dream*; and other turns include Connie Mascot, comedienne and dancer; George Edney, character vocalist and comedian; Lambeth and Robertson in Scottish songs; Dolly Agnes, and Maud in ballads, &c.; Hilda Leigh and Co. in *The Captain's Daughter*; Carney and Armstrong, and Harry Nelson, comedians.

STRETFORD PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor and Manager Mr. Sidney Weatherilt.—Mr. Fred Erick is here again amusing good houses. Florrie Dare, serio, Jack Lennard, versatile artist, Sisters Barnes, coon singers and dancers, Happy Will Rowlands, patter comedian, Wallis and Wilton (George and Nellie), comedy duettists, and Arthur Front, solo pianist, are also appearing.

SALISBURY.—COUNTY HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—Crowded and enthusiastic audiences assembled to witness Mr. Robert Macdonald's company in *The Dairymaids*. Miss Empsie Bowman makes a charming Peggy, her bright and winning manner being highly effective; Miss Molly Tremaine is an agreeable Lady Brudenell; Miss Maud Lucy as Eliza keeps the audience in continued laughter; Miss Doris Dickens as Winifred sings sweetly; Mr. Richard Telford makes an amusing Sam; Mr. Robert Bottomley plays well as Lieut. Brudenell; Mr. Victor Huntley is well placed as Capt. Leverton; as Dr. O'Byrne Mr. A. Gordon Begg is capital; and Mr. Dan Agar scores a huge success as Joe Mivens.

VICTORIA PARK.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. F. D'Alton Tebby; Manageress, Miss Jessie D'Alton.—Fresh items are introduced into the capital programme which is nightly given to crowded audiences. Mr. Will Skidmore is a popular comedian; Mr. Anderson Arthur's fine voice is highly appreciated; Mr. Albert Laurence has several new songs which are given in good style; Miss Beatrice Witham sings cleverly; Miss Lillian Ramsdale is a smart comedienne and dancer; Miss Flora Macdonald sings gracefully; Miss Jessie D'Alton sings and dances in dainty style, and her limelight songs are especially pretty.

SCARBOROUGH.—SPA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. Fras. Goodricke.—Mr. F. R. Benson, in Shakespearean plays, is here this week, supported by Mrs. Benson and a host of capable actors and actresses, in *Hamlet, As You Like It, She Stoops to Conquer, The Merchant of Venice, The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *The Taming of the Shrew*. As Hamlet, Mr. Benson gave a fine reading of the character; and Mrs. F. R. Benson excelled herself in Ophelia.

LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Son; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—High expectations were realised when *Miss Hook of Holland* appeared here this week. Mr. Leslie Holland as Mr. Hook contributes strongly to the success; Miss Deborah Volar, in the title-rôle, secured a great share of the favouritism; Miss Mabel Sealby as Mina has songs to sing that suit her exactly, and she dances in a well-finished style that demanded encores; Mr. Fred Lynne as Slinks was full of humour and comicalities that were up to date, and soon became a great favourite; as the Captain, Mr. Fredk. Hobbs sang well; as did Mr. Arthur Harold as the Bandmaster. The scenery and effects were admirable.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Garside; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—Mr. Edward L. Garside, who recently married Mrs. Hy. Mayhew, the proprietress of this comfortable little theatre, is here this week with his company, in *Her Marriage Vow*, Mr. Garside taking the part of Gilbert Carlton with great ability. Miss Ruth Shepherd depicts the wronged wife powerfully; as the hero, Ned Benton, Mr. George Beverley is admirable; Mr. J. Knowles as Daffy Dan has a part that suits him exactly; and Mr. Dan Ryan and Miss Nellie Garside provide the comic element in good style, and cause much fun.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. George Zalva. —The great attraction here is still the water carnival; as barrel jumpers, Gladys and Alber would be bad to beat; Wilkes Lloyd is still retained; and also Mlle. Chloe Convere. Captain Devereux's Dogs are always an attraction; Harry Friskey still maintains his reputation as a juggler; and Stelling and his dog give a remarkable performance.

THE AQUARIUM. — General-Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The vocalist this week is Mr. H. K. Bradshaw, a powerful tenor; Jean Seul, illusionist, is clever in his deceptions; Miss Flo Florence does well in a song-scena; Mart and Pep are smart hand-balancers; the Netherlands are excellent vocalists and dancers; the Itrams, on the perch, are also most entertaining; Vela does well on the wire; Geo. Blakeney sings with ability; and the Cedrics give a turn that is pleasing.

SEACOMBE. — IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. Edward Marris's company is proving a strong attraction here this week with the musical play, *Somebody's Sweetheart*. Stephen Leverton—the principal villain—is skilfully enacted by Mr. Charles Edward King; Lem Lee receiving adequate treatment at the hands of Mr. Percy Maitland; Stanton Ashleigh is excellently rendered by Mr. Cecil W. Parker; Freddie Ashleigh is cleverly depicted by Miss May Norris; Mr. George Brentwood causes merriment by his clever playing of Martin Blabbs; and Miss Ainsley is well looked after by Miss Dora Hargreaves; Mr. Fred Black and Mr. Charles Herries do well as Sambo and Pete; and the Misses Lily Williams and Gus Demonte dance themselves into favour as Norah and Molly.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—The attraction here this week is the Anglo-Russian drama, *Under the Czar*, produced under the direction of Mr. Wilson Howard. Mr. Gerald Smythe is a capable Captain Johnson; as Nicholas Zeroslaff, Mr. W. Howard stands out prominently; the villainy of Zakhar Zeroslaff is successfully depicted by Mr. Wm. Matthews; Mr. R. Merring is distinctly good as Granoviski; Paul Ignat is well portrayed by Mr. Fred Elvin; Mr. Carl Vallender as Petroff displays a rare fund of humour; Miss Carlotta Anson is a delightful Sonia; and Siomka is successfully presented by Miss Violet Vivienne; and as Zara Miss Madge Clare does well.

SHEERNESS.—THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.— The Four Eugenes occupy the premier position on the bill, and are accorded a hearty reception; Carlisle and Walker, comedy artists, gain applause; the Neilson Troupe of comedians and dancers submit a pleasing entertainment; Fred Neiman, ventriloquist, is highly amusing; Andy Fagan, comedian and dancer, wins favour; Rose Nicholson, serio and dancer, pleases in song and dance; Harry Luck, comedian, is favourably received; and an entertaining series of animated pictures is presented.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company began a return visit on Monday with *The Blue Moon*. Miss Marie Wilson, a young candidate for comic-opera honours, charmed the house by her dainty grace and delightful singing. Mr. Edward Lewis as Moolraj kept his many admirers in roars of laughter; and Mr. Jack Cannot as the funny Major, Mr. Jack Spurling as the Prince, and the irrepressible Mr. Horace Mills as Private Taylor all did their best to keep the fun going. Miss Marie Rignold maintained the family traditions for good work. Miss Florence Imeson was chic and tuneful as Millie; and good vocalism distinguished the efforts of Mr. Ronald Bottomley as Captain Jack and Miss Violet Hobson as Oma.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*Revenge*, a strong and interesting military drama, is pleasing the Royal habitués this week, being excellently played by Mr. Hill-Mitchelson's company. Miss Violet Carlyle makes a handsome and dramatic Queen, and the clever acting of Mr. E. Hill Mitchelson, Mr. George Daiper, Mr. Sinclair Holden, Mr. William Heilbron, and the other artists makes the story convincing.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—A crowded audience on Monday gave a cordial greeting to Mr. Samuel James's company in Mr. Thane's play, *The Love That Lasts for Ever*. Much amusement was caused by the laughable interludes of Mr. Herbert Fuller and Miss Bessie Frank; and commendable impersonations were Mr. Bert Morley's Professor Morley, Mr. H. Booth's Gordon Morley, Mr. F. Litchfield, jun.'s Stephen Fletcher, Mr. Clinton Badderley's Dr. Selby, Mr. Joseph Rowland's Wiley, Miss Agnes Collier's Elsie, Miss Ida Ferris's Mother Moocher, and Miss Florence Millett's Ida Ross. The drama was effectively staged.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Mr. Harry Randall reappeared on Monday, and kept the house in roars of laughter with his quaint mannerisms and diverting patter. Other talented performers were the beautiful and accomplished Mlle. Von Etta in her marvellous and elaborately staged illusionary sketch; the Miles Stavordale Quintet, the famous banjoists, &c.; Miss Florence Esdaile, the cultured comic-opera vocalist; the Five Osranis, in a French pantomime; Mr. J. B. Preston, Scotch comedian; Miss

SMETHWICK. — Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. B. Hewisson.—*A Girl's Cross Roads*, played by Mr. Walter Melville's capable company, forms the attraction here this week. Miss Hilda Beverley is prominent for her vivid portrayal of the part of Barbara Wade; Mr. Charles Franmore as the Yorkshire farmer is most realistic; Mr. Wilson capably sustains the rôle of Jack Livingstone; Mr. Fred Ingram is very amusing as Toby Turvey; Mr. Gerald Jordan plays successfully as the villain, and was ably assisted by Mr. Fred Withers as Luke Ramsden. Miss I. G. Vayne is a winsome Constance Cornell; Miss Florence Kelsey as Nellie Meadows makes the best use of her chances; Miss F. G. Vayne causes much amusement as Tilly Vane; and Mr. Cyril Vernon is well placed as Dr. Weston.

SOUTHAMPTON. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Miss Ellen Terry received an enthusiastic welcome on Monday, when she appeared in *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*. Naturally, the greatest interest centred in her magnificent performance of Lady Cecily Waynflete. Mr. James Carew was also excellent as Captain Brassbound, and the other parts were all well played.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wm. Trussell.—Alfred Lester with his *Restaurant Episode* provides the star attraction here, and this mixture of fun and frivolity pleases everyone. Florence Wakeman supports Mr. Lester admirably. Another excellent turn is that given by Miss Alice Raymond, whose musical *Night in Egypt* is a most artistic production; the Bros. Adderley in a comedietta *An Officer's Servant*; Jack Rae, comedy gymnast, &c.; Cambo, musical monkey, Lilian Warren's pictorial songs; the Sisters Lytton, duettists; and Lilith, illusionists, also score.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—George Gray's new sketch *Parson Gray, V.C.*, is full of interest; William Lee, Helen Bentley, and company score in their comedietta *A Friend in Need*; the Sisters Aindow are accomplished musicians; Picquays, equilibrists; Phillips and Merriott, smart entertainers; Crissie Cross, comedienne and dancer; Arthur Croxon, comedian; and Edie Beno, comedienne and dancer, also successfuly appear.

Pier Pavilion.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait.—The Follies, under the direction of H. G. Pelissier, create quite a furore here, and the Gramophone Concerts given by the Gramophone Co. are exceedingly popular.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—Empire Theatre.—Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday delightful performances were given of *The Morals of Marcus* by Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company. Mr. C. H. Croker-King was an admirable exponent of Sir Marcus Ordeyne; Mr. Richard Neville was a successful Sebastian Pasquale; and Messrs. A. H. Leveaux and Frederick Jaques gave entire satisfaction in their respective parts. Judith Mainwaring was ably sustained by Miss Joan Burton, and Miss Hilda Antony did well in the simple yet difficult character of Carlotta. *The Little Michus* commenced a three-nights' engagement on Thursday.

The Kursaal.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—This week's programme in the Variety Theatre is of a pleasing character, and gets well received. The contribution by Wragg and Wragg in their military display is an exceptional item of interest. Other pleasing turns are given by Norman, Vanderbilt, and Norman in *That Terrible Boy*; Mr. Harry Gilmore, comedian, with plenty of patter; Miss Kate Oxford, with classical ballads; the Original Little Dandies, eccentric comedians; Miss Florrie Farren, comedienne and danseuse; Miss Lillie Le Breton, trapeze artist; with Lindsay and Harte, comedy entertainers.

Pier Pavilion.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—Never was an engagement so popular as *The Sorrows of Satan*, which on Monday by its weird and highly commendable presentation proved both impressive and thoroughly instructive. Miss Loie Esmond has a talented company, who deserve special praise for their individual efforts. The play is made the more thrilling by the numerous mystic effects. To Mr. Edward Neville is allotted an exceedingly hard task in the rôle of Prince Lucio, and his successful interpretation evoked great applause. Mr. F. Douglas Howard is a capable Geoffrey Tempest, and Mr. J. Le Fleming well portrays the Earl of Elton. Mr. Fred Cherry imparts capital humour as Morris, and Miss Ethel St. Barbe as Mavis Clare gives a pleasing and refined portrayal. Miss Loie Esmond shows remarkable cleverness as Diana.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House, Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—A full house greeted Mr. Louis Calvert's well-selected company on Monday evening, when *Amasis* was presented for the first time at this theatre, and was received with many manifestations of appreciation. The part of Pharaoh was depicted by Mr. Rutland Barrington with excellent effect; Miss Winifred O'Connor played the title-part with charming grace, her vocal numbers being capitally rendered; Miss Madge Vincent is a piquant and pleasing representative of Natis, and lent ample support; Mr. Roland Cunningham portrayed the part Anhotep in a highly commendable manner, his singing being exceptionally good; Mr. Lauri de Freece as Sebak created much merriment and applause by his unctuous humour; whilst the remaining characters were each well played, and the scenery and dressing was in keeping with the general excellence of the production.

ST. LEONARDS.—Pavilion Theatre.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Shakespearean and old English comedies are being introduced here this week by Mr. Ian Maclaren and company. In the title-rôle of *David Garrick* Mr. Maclaren shows sincerity and earnestness. In the part of Mabel Brackson Mrs. Ian Maclaren acts with a vivacity as charming as it is rare; and Mr. Frank Royde plays the Hon. Bob Fairley with characteristic ease. Alderman Brackson is well taken by Mr. Arthur Fane; Messrs. Kenneth Bruce, J. V. Bryan, and Huston McNarry give good impersonations of City men; and Miss Gertrude Littlewood and Miss Clare Townshend as Mrs. Peters and Arabella Johnson create amusement. *Othello, Hamlet, The Merchant of Venice, Romeo and Juliet, As You Like It, Taming of the Shrew, Twelfth Night, The Rivals*, and *She Stoops to Conquer* are also in the répertoire.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun. — *A Broken Heart*, as presented by Mr. Harry Foxwell's thoroughly capable company, has been greeted with unstinted praise by large audiences. Mr. Harry Cullenford impersonates the blacksmith John Barnard in manly style; and Mr. Harry Foxwell makes an impressive Rev. Mr. Staunton. Mr. Chas. Vivian displays exceptional ability in the character of Gash Gills; Mr. Will Lindsay is genuinely funny as Tony Tibbets; Miss Louisa Peach acts with much pathos and feeling as Mary Barnard; whilst Miss Marguerite Thorne's portrayal of Mrs. Barnard is realistic.

Empire.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—De Canty's illuminated water grotto provides a beautiful spectacle, which has been well received here this week. An admirably-acted sketch is *The Gambler*, given by Messrs. Fred S. Peake and company; the Reays are graceful acrobats; Curwen and Belle are entertaining in their imitations; Edith Courtney's rendering of old ballads is most acceptable; the Geretti Sisters accomplish much on the trapeze that is marvellous and clever; Ryde and Beeman are amusing eccentrics; and the Lovelaces, song illustrators, prove very popular.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Hippodrome Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Robt. A. Nicholson; Assistant-Manager, Geo. Stainton.—The Klein Family of trick cyclists are here this week, and their feats are greatly relished by appreciative audiences; the Wakeman Quartette provide delightful part singing; Harry Briggs is a clever mimic; and Jimmy Shields an amusing one-legged dancer; the Princellas provide great fun in their "farmyard flirtation"; and Zenora is a skilful hand jumper. Much laughter is provoked by Zeta Grey and company in *The Lancashire Lass*; the pictures are very humorous.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—The Elliott-Savonas, who head the bill, provide a rich musical treat; Barry Lindon is an exceptionally good basso; the Sisters Dorrell are a pair of dainty duettists and dancers; Carl Lynn is clever as an imitator of animals; and the Melroses are a funny pair of comedians; the New Macs cause great amusement with their patter; the Pictures, as usual, are very interesting.

STOKE.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—*The Drummer of the 76th* heads the bill this week. Mr. Matthew Brodie as Napoleon is excellent; and Miss Dorothea Vivian as the drummer boy is seen to much advantage. Shirley and Ransomo are also seen in an interesting sketch; Alice Maud mimics star artists wonderfully well; Julia Mack, the suffragette comedian, is irresistibly funny; the Danas, in their duologue, *On the Honeymoon*, provide plenty of mirth; Les Zelovas, in their acrobatic and ring turn, contribute a smart performance; Henry Bekker is an up-to-date conjurer; Percy Farrimond, the singing collier, meets with success, and the pictures are good.

SUNDERLAND.—King's Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. L. Carlo.—Despite the finer weather, a big as well as a merry crowd assembled to witness what is announced as the "farewell visit" of Mr. William Greet's company in the lively and well-worn musical comedy, *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr. William Stephens as the dog trainer, Jim Cheese, fairly convulses his audience; Mr. Thomas Kennard's impersonation of Dick Wargrove was manly and hearty, singing his numbers with much acceptance; Mr. Percy E. Wright submitted an excellent rendition of the Hon. Crewe Boodle; and Mr. H. Courtin was admirable as the bluff Bunker Bliss. Miss Chrissie Ralland as Elphin Haye was bright, fresh, and charming; Miss Jennie Richards scored in the low comedy part of Liza Shoddam; Miss Kathleen Gerard was an imposing Mrs. Shimmering Black; and a word of praise is especially due to Miss Ethel Erskine for her vocal efforts as Daisy Fallowfield. Miss Frances James quite succeeded as Aunt Virginia.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Once again we are having a visit from Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company in *The Traitor*. Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan in the title-rôle played with considerable power and skill; Mr. Graham Woods as the Crown Prince Rudolph was all that is desired; Mr. Wilton Reed was an admirable General Hertz; and Mr. Alf. Richards a successful Capt. Ross; Mr. Edward Duff was fully qualified as General Franz; Miss Mary Robson submitted a telling interpretation of the Avenger; Miss Gwynne Warren was adequate as the Countess Zicka; and Miss Lilian Matthews as Elsie Dupres rendered valuable aid. The comedy element was provided by Mr. Val Gully and Miss Polly Denville as Jack Boult and Cen-Cen respectively; and Miss Jessica Black contributed some good work as the Little Martyr.

Empire of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Chief honours are won here by the Seldoms' statuary exhibition; Theo. Bouwmeester's quick changes in a short act, *Who is Guilty?* in which he impersonates seven different characters, is really clever; Cussac Talma and Yvonne de Forge have a wonderful cabinet illusion; Rich and Rich are a couple of quaint comedians; and others appearing are Elsie Roby, in her monologue burlesque act, *The Slavey's At Home*; the Avrignys, jugglers; Klein and Clifton, in *The Dummy's Holiday*, that has a decidedly American flavour; Eugen Joly, cornet virtuoso; Geo. Reeves, comedian; and the Bioscope pictures.

Palace of Varieties.—Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Browne and Stringer.—The veteran Chirgwin is paying a welcome visit, submitting much of his old business and patter; Athas and Collins are also vastly amusing in some clever comedy and variety items; the Bros. Durant prove wonderfully clever acrobats; Marie Neilson is a neat little dancer; Maxwell and Frances appear in a flirtation act; little Vio Gette does some male impersonations and dances; Harry Wenburn is welcomed as a comedian; and pictures conclude.

SWANSEA.—The Grand.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—*The Marriage of Kitty* is one of the smartest comedies seen here for some time. Miss Mary Thorne was a delightfully pert Kitty; and Mr. Edgar Kent as Sir Reginald Belsize kept the audience convulsed by his quaintness. Mr. Thomas Sydney as John Travers was eminently suggestive of the law; Miss Winifred Pearson highly distinguished herself as Mme. De Semiano; Miss Josephine Rae making an effective Rosalie. Mr. J. J. Hooker as Hampton and Mr. W. Cronin-Wilson as Norbury maintain the general excellence of Mr. Sidney's company. *The Marriage of Kitty* is preceded by that charming one-act play, *Twenty Years After*.

The Star.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. J. Powell.—Mr. Alex. C. Grant's company makes a brave show in *A Woman from Scotland Yard*. Miss Eveleen Clyde's spirited acting as Edith Mayne won for her unstinted applause; Mr. George Edward Clive gave a clever impersonation of Harry Stanhope; as Paul Obanoff Mr. Alex. C. Grant was capital; Miss Violet Crawford was an effective Lady Mary Stanhope; and Miss Dorothy Wilkinson as Mary White, her maid, was also good. Mr. Charles Graham made a dignified Sir James Stanhope.

Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—Hetty King scores a well-deserved success this week; Bell Davies and her piccaninnies are much enjoyed; Cull Pitt provides a turn which for originality takes a lot of beating; O'Malley and Brown are as funny as ever; the Smythsons make a big hit with the *Love Germs*; Gertrude Bradshaw has a really good soprano voice, which she uses to advantage; Frank Darwin is an actor-vocalist of great talent; Westland, Scotch comedian; the Eriks Brothers, see-saw equilibrists; and Bioscope pictures complete the bill.

SWINDON.—Queen's Theatre.—Business-Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Another visit of that interesting drama, *The Still Alarm*, was greeted by a large audience on Monday. The piece is again well-staged and performed by Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company. As the dashing young fireman, Jack Manley, Mr. Mathew H. Glenville is admirable; Mr. Lewis Gordon is seen to advantage as Mr. Fordham; and Mr. George Arthur makes the part of John Bird stand out prominently; as Doc Wilber, Mr. Fred Osmond acts cleverly; and Mr. Tom Beasley is decidedly successful as Will Manley; Miss Francis Waring is a delightful Elinor; and Miss Mabel Veriton as mother of the Manley's is agreeably natural; Miss M. Leighton, as Carrie, must be complimented on her success, while her songs and dances and the quartettes of the firemen are greatly appreciated.

TAMWORTH.—Assembly Rooms.—Manager, Mr. F. Hughes.—This spacious hall, which has been closed for cleaning and re-decoration, was re-opened on Monday evening by Miss Inez Howard's company, in *When London Sleeps*. The play was well staged. Mr. Cyprian H. Matthews as Captain Rodney Haynes made a polished stage-villain; Mr. Louis Norman scored a success as David Engleheart, the hero; and Mr. Geoffrey Chate was amusing as the Hon. Bertie. Miss Vera Crichton won golden opinions as Queenie Carruthers, the heroine; and Miss Francesca Strickland did justice to the unthankful part of Hilda Corrode. Mr. Douglas Campbell as Sammy Blythe evoked plenty of fun. Favourable mention should also be made of Mr. Walter Manfree as Mr. Furabay Fuller, Mr. Tom Otley as the constable, Mr. W. B. Sommerville as Mark Blackwood, Miss Amy Wood as Mrs. Jones, and Miss Doris Kelvey as Maudie de Frere. There were enthusiastic recalls from a house crowded in every part.

TORQUAY. — Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Torquay is this week enjoying a first visit of *The White Chrysanthemum*, by Mr. Chas. Macdona's principal company. Miss Muriel George in the title-rôle is dainty to a degree, and her sweet soprano voice is admired by all. No less successful is Miss Rosa Sullivan, a captivating Cornelia Vanderdecken; Mr. Melville Florance makes a dashing Lieut. Armitage; and as his father, the Admiral, Mr. John T. McCullum is excellent; Miss Dorothy Sephton has a winning manner as Betty Kenyon; and much humour is introduced by Mr. Victor Kerr as Lieut. Belmont. Mr. James Graydon as the Chinese cook causes continuous laughter; and Mr. James Dallas as Private Perks is also responsible for a good deal of amusement.

Princess Pier Concert Hall.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett. — A hearty reception is accorded the "So-and-So's," who are paying a welcome return visit here this week. Miss Maude Davis has an excellent soprano voice, and her charming style soon makes her a favourite; Miss Margery Bride is the possessor of a very fine contralto voice; Miss Annie Lang introduces some clever step-dancing, and Miss Dorothy Edwards is an efficient accompanist. Mr. Harry Quiningborough proves himself a versatile entertainer; whilst Mr. Ernest Thiel is a humorist of more than ordinary capability. Mr. Stuart Alexander is a talented tenor, his efforts being much appreciated.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—Opera House.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Welton Dale. — Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche in *What the Butler Saw* have kept local playgoers in uproarious merriment this week. Mr. Rignold's genuinely humorous butler and Miss Blanche's charming impersonation as the fascinating Mrs. Barrington gaining great eulogy. The clever company also includes Mr. Chas. Fawcett, who gives an admirable Irish character study; Mr. Cyril Harrison, whose excellent light comedy is much appreciated, in the part of Sir Charles; and Mr. Roy Byford, who is first-rate as the old Professor. Favourable mention should also be made of Mr. Geo. Ascot as the General, Mr. H. H. Rignold as Abraham Wernstein, and Mr. Leo St. Clair as Sydney Clifford; Miss Dorothy Hart is a smart impersonation of the up to date young lady; Miss May Hart gives a clever juvenile study; and Miss Doris Hunt as the aristocratic Miss Smyth is also very successful.

TYNEMOUTH.—Palace-by-the-Sea.—Proprietor and Director, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers—Although approaching the wane of the season, the entertainment provided by the management continues to draw excellent houses. This week's bill includes Mr. Kenna Lawson, humorist; W. Kennedy, tenor vocalist; Ernest Atwill, baritone vocalist; Nessie Walker and Olive Mortimer, vocalists; Edgar Hulland, pianist; Fred Vallance, comedian; and Annie Hall, the Lancashire nightingale; with the Palace pictures as a fitting finale.

WALSALL.—Her Majesty's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood. — A good company here includes Mr. Fred Lindsay, the whip wonder, who performs some exceedingly clever tricks; Kerr and Koe, in their laughable absurdity, *Yards and Houses*; Hilda Playfair, a charming ballad vocalist; Amos Howard, coon singer and buck dancer; Lloyd's Siberian wolf-hounds, presented by Miss Pauline Viola and Nellie Lloyd; Ben Albert, comedian; O'Gust, mimic; and the American Bioscope.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is appearing here this week, with *The Woman Who Gambles*. Mr. George Steele displays ability in the part of Count Otto Steinbach; Miss Lilian Herries, in the title-rôle, is seen to advantage; Mr. Percy Ballard is well placed as Baron Gratzlaw; the part of Lieut. Ctzarteriski is admirably filled by Mr. Reginald Fox; Mr. Richard Hulton as Paul Slivanovitch is capital; Miss Lily Malvern is most successful as Stella Malakoff; Miss Lillian Rignold as Mlle. Zita Zeyelda, and Miss Brenda May as Zanetta, win approval in their respective rôles; and Miss Dora Pass charmingly sustains the part of Cora Gouldhart.

WARRINGTON. — Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company in *The Convict's Daughter* is here this week, and the stirring drama has again won favour. Mr. Bertram in a quadruple rôle displays versatility; Mr. Edward de Vere as Frederick Melville acts with a dignified air; and a true spirit of manliness is associated with Mr. Walter Graham's portrayal of Harold Trevelyan; Mr. Escot Robson is a remorseless Jasper Thorn; Miss Lilias Deane as Edith submits a charming delineation; Miss Maud Beard as Marian Thorn is well placed; and the humorous element is ably sustained by Mr. Sam Roberts as Patrick O'Laragan and Miss Lilla Nordan as Betty Hyne.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Waters; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Tom and Marie Motramo are old favourites here, and they were accorded an enthusiastic welcome on Monday evening; Fred Curran, who is looking exceptionally well after his Australian tour, delighted all with his many parodies; and Frank Coyle scored with a fund of humour; Clifton and Gilson are clever eccentric comedians; and Lily Alndale is a dainty comedienne; Derenda and Green are expert humorous jugglers; and Beatty and Blanche delightful duettists and dancers. The Royal Bioscope pictures are good.

WEDNESBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. Tom Kuner.—Mr. Henry Swinerd's No. 1 company, in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, is drawing capital houses here. Mr. W. Ashley submit a clever delineation of Captain George Fielding; as Captain Edward Dudley, Mr. H. C. Ward scores a decided success; Mr. Deane Cliffe's interpretation of Featherstone Haugh, evokes continuous applause; Silas Crump is effectively played by Mr. Henry Ugar; Miss Dorothy Desmonde shows marked ability as Dorothy Montrose; the parts of Rose Montrose is left in the safe keeping of Miss Pauline Emeric; Miss Mabel Blake as Polly and Miss Lilly Blake as Rosy Ann do some clever work in their respective parts. The speciality artists consist of Miss Desmond, contralto vocalist; Miss Nellie Harcourt, American soubrette; Miss Mabel Blake and Miss Lily Blake, acrobatic and speciality dancers.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company opened here on Monday with *The Conscript*, Mr. Algernon Syms portraying the title-rôle with great force and ability. Mr. Walter Steel acts with distinction the prominent part of Count Paul Hardiski; an excellent study of Ivan Manloff is presented by Mr. W. Cowell Clarke; Mr. Charles Coleman does well as Doggervitch; the humorous character of Trotoff is in the hands of Mr. Harry Liddle; and Mr. Fred Eric is good as the Ferret; Miss Mable Ronald presents a capital portrayal of Little Karl; Wanda is faithfully represented by Miss Isabel Hunt; much praise is awarded Miss Lilian Ross for her clever impersonation of Nadia Truevitch; and Miss Olga Datre and Miss Gertrude Price are also seen to advantage.

New Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Albert Withers.—Mr. Harry Champion is paying a return visit here this week and receives a warm welcome; Miss Lily Simcox sings pleasingly; Morelli and Moore submit a smart singing, dancing, and juggling turn; Les Rallis supply a clever and amusing entertainment; Verno and Voyce, in their latest vocal burlesque, *The King of the Clouds*, cause much fun; Monetti and Ford are good; the audience are held spellbound by the remarkably clever contortions of Souplessi; but the turn of the evening is that of the Howards, who fairly mystify the house with their wonderful thought reading and silent mental telepathy. Some interesting pictures are projected on the screen.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Mr. Herbert Darnley's latest success, *The Sandow Girl*, is being presented here, with Miss Victoria Charlton in the name-rôle, a character which suits her admirably. Others who are well fitted in their rôles are Misses Ray Fairfax, Hilda Blanche, Nellie Bryant, Grace Lambert, Maude Lester, and Louise Cartner. Several amusing incidents are introduced into the piece, and laughter is frequent.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The principal attraction this week is undoubtedly dainty Dot Stephens, whose pretty style and charming voice are captivating enraptured audiences nightly. Florette, who created such a favourable opinion on a recent occasion here, is again doing her remarkably clever contortionist performance. The dancing by the Sisters Iris in a speciality number is exceptionally good; laughter abounds whilst Wild, Willie, and West submit their comedy acrobatic trampoline and trap act; "The Bounding Navvies" show remarkable skill and deftness in ball-punching; and cycling is exhibited by Lawson and Namon. Arthur Albert, actor-vocalist, takes well; the dancing of Leoni Dixon is well appreciated, as is also the comedy gymnastic mélange by Lord, Murray, and Lord. Raymond's Bio-tableaux are a strong number.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Norman MacOwan's company is here this week in *A Marriage of Convenience, The Tyranny of Tears*, and *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*. In the latter Mr. MacOwan gives an artistic interpretation of Aubrey Tanqueray; Mr. Murray Hathorn shows histrionic ability as Cayley Drummle; Mr. Bernard Copping makes an excellent Captain Ardale, and Mr. Sydney R. Palfrey does good work as Sir George Orreyed. Mr. Robert Entwistle as Gordon Jaynd and Mr. Arthur Linay as Frank Misquith are both praiseworthy; Miss Violet Sterne gives an intensely dramatic impersonation of Paula; Miss Isabel Hathorn is charming as Ellean; Miss Mary Masters makes the most of Mrs. Cartelyon, and Miss Lester Stephens was successful as Lady Orreyed.

Grand Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—"The Gaieties" are the attraction this week on a return visit.

WHITBY.—Spa Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Payne Seddon; Manager, Mr. F. W. Davies.—The boards of this theatre were occupied the first three nights of the week by Mr. W. Penhyn Forster's company in *The Officers' Mess*. Mr. Gerald Manville gives a clever portrayal of the rôle of Major-General Sir Adalbert de Beaune, V.C., K.C.B., and Mr. Victor Tollemach as Captain Hon. Claude Melville, D.S.O., is a distinct success; as Antonio Wilkins, Mr. Chas. Danvers provides a fine interpretation of the part; Mr. Harry Liddle as Thomas Rugg sustains the rôle with fine effect. The audience frequently applaud the efforts of Miss Nellie Sheffield, who cleverly interprets the rôle of Rose Smith; and Miss Clara Nicholls as Lady Constantia de Beaune is a distinct success; Miss Edith Harmer as Sybil Carruthers and Miss Millie Gordon as Timothy Tiptoe also win approbation.

WHITEHAVEN.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Clark; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Clark.—A return visit is being made here by Mr. T. Morton Powell's company in *Honour Thy Father*. Mr. J. A. Wilson makes a dashing hero; Duncan Bly has an able exponent in Mr. H. Traviss; Mr. J. W. Evelyn is a pathetic figure as Gabriel Garth; and Mr. Fred Graham is exceedingly funny as Mike Sopplestone; Mr. K. Black as Ned and Miss Lizzie Jacobs as Poppy are amusing; and the part of Gertrude Garth is feelingly played by Miss Kate Newton; Miss Violet Hammersley is a charming Lilian; and Miss Winnie Donovan is well cast as Mercy Merry.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Jas. Kiddie.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross and company are here this week with *The Manxman*, which has obtained a gratifying reception. Nothing remains to be said of Mr. Alfred B. Cross in the part of Pete; it is a delightful study, both humorous and heart-stirring. Mr. E. W. Cudd is a clever Cæsar Cregeen, bringing out all the hypocrisy of the character; Mr. Sydney C. Kearns acts very forcibly as Philip Christian; and Mr. Howard Brenan does well in the comparatively small part of Rose Christian; Miss Minnie Watersford gives a sound and sympathetic study of the erring Kate; Miss Dorothy Duncan is a saucy Nancy; Miss Katheen Barrett plays the colourless part of Miss Christian with intelligence; and minor parts are well allotted. The staging of the play is charming, the orchard scene being particularly attractive.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company, including Mr. Johnny Schofield as Hoggenheimer, have entertained large audiences during the week in the sparkling musical comedy, *The Girl from Kay's*, Mr. Schofield fully maintaining his reputation as a mirth-maker. Miss Mavis Hope as Nora Chalmers and Miss Jessie Fraser as Winnie play the respective parts, and sing their songs with great charm and vivacity. In her dances and vocal selections, Miss Irene Vere is pronouncedly successful; and other rôles are capably filled by Mr. H. Franklyn (Harry Gordon), Mr. G. H. Liot (the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle), and Mr. C. Dampier (hall porter).

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—The skilful equestrienne, Tina Clementa, with a number of cleverly-trained dogs, gives a most entertaining sporting act. The Melody Makers, in novel vocal and instrumental comedy, are popular; and Amy Ellam and company, in the Russian sketch, *A Woman of the World*, play with considerable dramatic power; the Copeland's, world's champion clog-dancers; Marie Blythe, vocalist; the Mayvilles, in their Liliputian act; and Ulrick, the barrel king, are all acceptable turns. Capital comedy is furnished by Peter Bermingham, George Prince, and Walter Stanley.

WORCESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Le Wards.—*The Silver King*, presented by Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company, is meeting with generous support this week, and evidently repeated visits have no power to diminish the favour in which this powerful work is held by the public. Mr. Herbert Ford as Wilfred Denver gives a sympathetic impersonation, strengthened by commendable restraint; Miss Viola Holland is a tender and graceful Nellie Denver; and as Raikes, the old servant, Mr. Tom Paulton is responsible for a capital character study. As The Spider, Mr. Henderson Bland scores a great success; Mr. John Detlin is well suited as Elijah Coombe; and Mr. Beresford completes a rascally trio. Miss Brineton takes the part of Olive Skinner with distinction; and Genna Lyndon as the child Cissy instantly secures the sympathy of her audience. Capitally staged and dressed, the production should serve to secure liberal support wherever it goes.

WORKINGTON.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—Enthusiastic receptions have been accorded to Mr. G. T. Sante's production of *The Life of a Showman*. Mr. Sante as Brien was heartily applauded for his manly impersonation of the part. He was efficiently partnered by Miss Bamford as the heroine. Mr. C. Osborne was intelligent as Sir Noel; Mr. Morris Maud was a picturesque villain; Mr. E. Warden was forceful as the parson; Mr. J. E. Sante secured sympathy as Grey, and was encored for his excellent renditions on the violin; Miss C. Medwyn was successful as Agatha. The comedy was well portrayed by Mr. C. Clement, Mr. E. Turner, and Miss May Neilson.

WORTHING.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—The popular manager here, Mr. Seebold, has introduced the plan of having voting papers sent to the theatre habitués, so that the week's répertoire of the Moody-Manners Company might be chosen by them. The presentation of *Faust* on Monday was greatly enjoyed, and rarely if ever has such a musical treat been afforded. As Faust Mr. Seth Hughes was excellent; the Marguerite of Miss Alice Boaden was a fine performance; and the remaining characters were of equal excellence. The fine chorus, so beautifully balanced, was greatly appreciated and admired. On Tuesday, prior to the raising of the curtain on *Lohengrin*, a concise and highly instructive explanatory chat on the opera was given by Mr. Harrison Frewin.

WREXHAM.—Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. C. W. Collings.—Mr. Dinnis J. McCarthy, in his realistic dramatic speciality, *The Coast Guard*, is a pleasing feature of this week's programme; the Summersons, in their comedy act, cause much laughter; Miss Lena Page sings acceptably, and is loudly recalled; Miss Edna Francis, a sweet singer of dainty songs; and Will Merson, comedian and dancer, are also in the bill.

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. J. Dacre.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's *Blue Moon* company drew large audiences on the first three nights of the present week. As Chandra Nil Miss Clarice Lockstone was charming to a degree, singing most tastefully; Miss Maud Aston was a vivacious and pleasing Millicent Leroy; Miss Ida Stratham was a fascinating Evelyn, and Miss Laura Leycester a sufficiently austere Lady Brabasham. Mr. Reginald Switz made a decided hit as Private Taylor; Mr. Alfred Beers as Moolraj was most amusing; and Mr. Alfred Clark as the Major was most effective.

Opera House and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—The Howards are giving their wonderful second-sight exhibition with the greatest possible success, and delighting all by their originality. Recco is vastly amusing in his antics; the Percys introduce some taking business; and the Boston Twins are, as usual, well received; Lil O'Gorman sings herself into favour; Capt. Harris's comedy five are a pleasing item; an amusing boxing competition introduced nightly, and Harry Morris, Carta, and Mertzana, in addition to the Bioscope, are well received.

As a consequence of the dislocation of the steamship traffic, Miss Marie Hall was unable to arrive in England from New Zealand in time for Wednesday's concert of the Gloucester Musical Festival. Arrangements were made for Mischa Elman to appear in her place.

The Moody-Manners Company concluded its eight weeks' season at the Lyric Theatre on Saturday evening with a performance of *Madam Butterfly*. On Monday the organisation was to be found at the Camden Theatre, when *Faust* was performed. *Carmen* was announced for Tuesday, *Madam Butterfly* on Wednesday, *Tannhäuser* on Thursday afternoon, and *The Bohemian Girl* on Thursday evening, *Il Trovatore* on Friday, and *Faust* on Saturday.

ACTORS' UNION.

An increased attendance was noticeable at the meeting of the Actors' Union at the Bedford Head on Tuesday, when Mr. Frank Gerald, the Union's delegate to the recent Trades' Congress at Bath, gave an account of his mission. Among those present, in addition to a number of non-members, were Mr. and Mrs. Oswald Marshall, Messrs. Cecil G. Calvert, W. Ruddle Brown, H. Paulton, jun., Watty Brunton, Norman Wrighton, Robt. M. Taylor, A. Wainwright, Fred F. Loyd, J. W. Braithwaite, E. Y. Rae, J. Carl Lyle, J. Nelson Ramsay, Arthur St. John, Harry Turner, and Kenneth Blackmore (secretary), and Misses Gladys Ffolliott, Lena Delphine, Kitty Marion, Adelaide Gracey, Bessie Armitage, L. L'Estrange, Florence Creagh, Grace Lester, Nelly Howitt, Patey, and Trounsell.

The Chairman called upon Mr. Frank Gerald, who had a hearty reception. He said he took the first opportunity to catch the chairman's eye at the Congress, and directly he called out "Frank Gerald, Actors' Union," there was dead silence, and everybody in the vast hall must have looked towards him, such was the interest taken by every section of the Congress in the first appearance at their meetings of a representative of the theatrical world. He tried to get sympathy, and did not find it a difficult matter, because directly he said "I want you to think of our work not as play, but to put it the other way round, and regard us as labourers worthy of our hire," there was an immediate response. When he said, "Consider us as artists, professionals, tradesmen, what you will," and that "a rose by any other name would smell as sweet," it appealed equally to the cabman from London, the dock labourer from Liverpool, and the collier from Newcastle. They welcomed them as an integral part of the great labour movement of Trades Unions. On resolutions away from their own particular profession he did no more than vote, but the points on which he entered into discussion were the Board of Conciliation and voluntary and compulsory arbitration, the Sunday Closing resolution, and overtime. The first was defeated by over a million votes, because if they sent forth to the world that they were anxious to establish a Board of Arbitration it would

THE REAL "HAMLET."

AND HOW IT SHOULD BE STAGED.

By PERCY FITZGERALD, M.A.

(Continued from last week.)

IV.—OPHELIA.

As to the young lady's artfulness there could be little question, for when her adroit father arranged that he and the King should overhear her talk with Hamlet she made no objection. No well brought-up young woman would have relished this device, or, perhaps, consented to it. Even the King had frankly told her that they intended to overhear all that was said, and then she sweetly consented to two little pieces of deception likely to draw on the lover. The shrewd old Polonius thought that her standing about doing nothing would look unnatural, so he put a book into her hands and bade her appear to be saying her prayers. To this she agreed. She opened the talk with the returning of some presents that Hamlet had given her. For—

"Rich gifts wax poor when givers prove unkind."

But this artful stroke brought forth nothing, except a most uncompromising "flouting" rejection with some unsavoury language. Hamlet also said, "I have heard of *your prattling*, too." It was certainly mortifying with the others listening. The King, quite convinced, dismissed the notion of attachment at once; it was clear there was nothing in it.

"Love! His affections do not that way tend."

With this mortifying announcement, poor Polonius could not exactly agree. He thought it all came from "neglected love."

Many generations of playgoers have been mystified by Hamlet's barbarous treatment of the girl in this well-known scene. It certainly seems unmeaningly capricious. It has been contended that he meant it as a display of his assumed madness. But if we accept this theory that such intimate relations existed between them, there is more coherency in the situation. He may have found her complaints and importunities inconvenient and a hindrance to his plans, and thus have brought to an end the adventure by a violent quarrel. He shows his dislike to the whole family—to Polonius the father, Laertes the brother, and the persevering Ophelia, who, he thought, were fastening on him. In the end he actually killed all three, or caused their deaths! I cannot but fancy that he had read Ophelia's true nature as a scheming young person, who was doing what she could to secure him.

And why should Hamlet bid her "get her to a nunnery" to take the veil? Perhaps he thought of it as a penitential retreat for her, just as La Vallière after her fall retired to a convent. His cutting speeches as to female arts of attracting, painting their faces, etc., were surely not conventional speeches. Could they have been meant as a bitter reproach—these arts of yours, your insatiable coquetries have brought about the mischief, so now go into retirement; repent and leave me alone. But these insults notwithstanding, Ophelia was in nothing daunted. She passed it over as a slight aberration. She had too much at stake to be put off by a little burst of ill-humour. She would be independent of both King and father, who thought her business hopeless. So she took her own course.

There was the entertainment of the play coming on. This offered an opportunity, and here we find the poor suffering girl whom Hamlet had dismissed so violently, after leaving him almost in despair, suddenly recuperated, transformed into an almost coquettish young thing, and meeting her lover's capricious advances in quite a flirting spirit. When the guests were all assembled for the play she made the very boldest advances to him. So overjoyed she seems at his compliment "here's metal more attractive," that she allowed him to lay his head on her lap and tolerated his free and doubtful *double entendres* with the simple, tolerant remark, "You are naught—you are naught—I'll attend to the play"; *i.e.*, "Fie, fie; naughty, naughty." As who should say, "Fie, fie, my lord—how very wrong of you; I wont speak to you any more." Then she put all kinds of questions to him in her innocence, "which means this and that, my lord." She certainly seemed a very "fetching" young lady—on this occasion at least.

It is else difficult to know why the Bard put this string of *double entendres* into Hamlet's mouth when conversing with her. It is noticeable that she seems to have received them without rebuke, and with an assumed coyness and pretence of being shocked. Even accepting the coarse license of the old playwriting, it is extraordinary that a young woman would so behave. At all events it destroys the notion of "sweet innocence," and shows clearly that Polonius's daughter was a well-trained "hussy," who was doing her best to capture the young Prince.

The natural refinement of our modern times has completely destroyed the true motive of Ophelia's madness. The common arrangement sets out that this is all due to the loss of her father—her snatches of song are made, on the common arrangement, to point to this—and so the King expounds it. Now this is hardly likely to have been the result of the loss of a parent, however acutely felt. There would be passionate grief, hysterics, but not unsettlement of the wits or wild rantings. Nor could it be owing to the mere loss of a lover. If we are to put any meaning to her snatches of song and speech, it is that she has been abandoned after being betrayed. A speech of Hamlet's during the play scene seems to point to the same thing. Shamed, disgraced, deserted, her father killed by her lover, her brother away—what was to become of her? Her wits left her. A courtier reported that people were making comments on her odd "speeches, botching her words up," evidently guessing that something was wrong.

It must be admitted that this supposed relation to Ophelia, which is a wild speculation enough, introduces quite a new and distorting element into Hamlet's character. We can hardly conceive him as the immaculate and virtuous youth who could thus lead astray a young lady of rank without any scruple, and then cast her off in so unfeeling and heartless a fashion. But it is clear such lapses in those days were not thought very serious matters. They were blunders, mistakes of policy, and her father's and brother's warnings were clearly based upon this view. It seems impossible, they urge, to gain him in an honourable way. She must take care and not act foolishly. The old Polonius's instructions to his emissary, Raymond, to spread about reports of his son's looseness of morals are not edifying, and show that he might have reconciled himself to his daughter's left-handed marriage, as he might deem it.

Further, this notion of Hamlet's unlicensed designs on Ophelia—if such they were—is fully supported by the very indelicate (to speak indulgently) character of his thoughts and remarks when speaking to her or of her. His mind seems to be running on such gross topics. Even in his letter to her there is a not very modest allusion. So with the well-known speech to Polonius, "if the sun breeds maggots in a dead dog," and the warning as to "conception." In a previous talk with his daughter Polonius had said, "I feared he trifled and meant to wreck thee."

The play-scene is usually accepted as an effective bit of melodrama which interests the audience. But somehow its influence soon passes away, and we forget it. Yet it was a far more momentous thing than a mere Court exhibition. It must, as Hamlet no doubt intended, have set afoot gruesome whispers and speculations. Why was His Majesty so disturbed and agitated? What did it all mean? It was to lead to the killing of Polonius, to the death of Ophelia, to Hamlet's expulsion from the country, to his projected assassination, to the revengeful attack by Laertes, and other horrors. All is forecasted in this play-scene, which should have far more impressive solemnity than is usually imparted to it.

What if this episode were given in an excited, impassioned style? To begin with, there should be plenty of space, and the whole should be set forth with due state—rich dresses and eager movement. Maclise's well-known picture showed a very large raised stage, with a regular proscenium, richly decorated, an idea he may have got from the late Queen's theatricals at Windsor. But a moment's reflection will show that this is too elaborate. It is, however, near the mark, for the players were certainly expected, and due preparation would have been made to exhibit them. But the effect in the picture is quite a too modern one.

The true disposition might be this: A spacious hall, with an archway at the end leading into another great chamber: here would be the stage, set off with suitable furniture. Here should the performers declaim in passionate style, and promenade about, striving to realise just such a situation as there might be in the audience. There should be pauses at telling and applicable situations. The murder should be worked up slowly and tragically, the murderer entering in a secret, guilty fashion, looking round in fear of detection, retiring and advancing. The *aim* should be to affect the real modern audience, exactly as the author wished to affect his audience. The whole should be worked up to a pitch of *tension*, the audience wondering and growing a little suspicious of what was meant; some rising to see better, some whispering and murmuring. All this would at last culminate in the King's rising in agitation and dissolving the assembly.

After the poisoning is gone through Hamlet grows excited. The usual fashion is that he keeps his eyes fixed on the King, watching him and every movement—dragging himself across the floor, &c. And he is even made to roar across to him—"He poisons him in the garden. . . . The story is extant and writ in choice Italian. You shall see anon how, &c." But it is clear that this is all addressed to Ophelia, with whom he has talked from the beginning. She even has to tell him "The King rises." "What," he answers, "frighted with false fire?" So that he had not seen him. All which seems more natural and impressive than the favourite violent treatment.

It is difficult to understand why the dumb show, which preceded the Court play, did not also affect the King in the same fashion as the spoken drama did. It seems, moreover, quite unnecessary, as it repeats the action of what was to come.

After the play scene Hamlet is not in the least excited—rather perfectly calm. All the company had gone out. As soon as the pair are left Hamlet utters his stanza "let the stricken deer," and asks mildly if his conduct on the scene would not have got him a place in a company of players. Again, there was nothing for him to be so exuberantly excited about. The King had certainly shown agitation before the company; the little plot had succeeded; but there was much more to do yet, so Hamlet evidently thought. He was, indeed, not quite certain as to the result, and appeals to Horatio. It would be impossible for one who was in such a frantic, passionate state, after bounding into the chair, to begin reciting snatches of plays, and then appeal to his friends: "Did I not act it well? Did I not?" More curious still is his declaration: "I'll take the ghost's word for a thousand pound"—that is—and we should mark this—he was by that time perfectly *convinced* of the murder by the King's agitation. For "Didst perceive?" he asks Horatio.

Horatio: Very well, my lord.

Hamlet: Upon the talk of poisoning?

Horatio: I did very well note him.

So that if Hamlet then had rioted in the King's chair, exulting in detecting him and probing him, would he begin to reason in this quiet way, or appeal to his friends to back his opinion? It was only after slow reflection, therefore, that he saw that his shot had told, and that he had to appeal to Horatio for further assurance. The King, after all, only seemed to his court to be unwell; even Horatio, Hamlet thought, might not have noted the guilty symptoms. The whole was, therefore, a quiet experiment of his own, but there was nothing to be so boisterously triumphant about, save that the play had affected the King uncomfortably. So that the proceeding is really of a quiet complexion, and after a few moments the deliberate and reflective march of the play is resumed.

After the play-scene explosions and Hamlet's triumph, how rational that the action should still go forward, culminating as it were, instead of being abruptly closed by the drop scene. It was to be a long and continuous night's work. Thus, after chuckling with Horatio over his success, Hamlet must needs entertain himself with music, and so sends for the Court performers, whose strains he means shall reach the King and disturb him yet more. Then should come players with those notorious recorders and other instruments, perhaps; and when they come in he carelessly takes one up.

The late Wilson Barrett carried out this notion of continuity in every effective fashion, abolishing all these artificial halts. He could not be convinced that after every "explosion," or crisis, all came to an end for a time, but we must rest and recommence presently. He applied the principle to the Hamlet soliloquies, at the end of which the performer has it all to himself, and is left lost in thought.

The scene where the King indulges in his fit of penitence, properly treated, is a most pathetic and harrowing one; and, as everyone who searches his own heart must admit, a perfect representation of the struggle which the poor helpless sinner endures when he strives to get free. The King is wrought up to despair, grief, and misery of the most acute form. He tries to soften his poor, hardened heart, but without result. It is a hopeless business, for without the gift of *grace*, and some attempt at atonement, nothing can be done. A person who felt as he did was not wholly bad, and on the road to pardon and grace. But the audience will have it that he is *acting*. The truth is, this is Hamlet's scene, and part of his "business." He is prowling about, listening. Many have been shocked at his truculent and blood-thirsty denunciations, but it is forgotten that these are not purposes, but mere ruminations—thoughts flitting through an agitated brain. Shall I do this? Shall I do that? Here is a fair opportunity; or should I wait until he has relapsed into his old villainy—a mere excuse to himself for putting the old villainy aside.

How dramatic it is! The repentent King, surging and struggling with his remorse, all unconscious that he is being secretly watched by his greatest and most unscrupulous enemy, and within an ace of being done to death. To give it effect there should be realism, extreme passion and colour, and a sense of mystery. But we should imagine Hamlet on tiptoe, now peeping in, now drawing back, in fear of detection, now listening eagerly to catch the words, showing bitter scorn and scoff at each moral sentiment, now laughing harshly. What a contrast would be here. There is yet another touch of this penitential feeling, when the King suffers a sort of agony at a casual allusion by one of the characters, declaring that it came home to himself and wrung his very heart. The man had certainly a conscience.

V. THE PICTURES.

In connection with the portrait scene in the Queen's closet there is perpetual debate whether these two portraits hung upon the walls or were simple miniatures. These are vital questions. Granting two material pictures were intended, this notion of the miniatures is not to be thought of, for such things were then hardly known. In Rowe's edition of Shakespeare (1712), we are shown two large half-length pictures hung on the wall, as though in a modern palace, which is, of course, absurd, for this was the Queen's own private closet or boudoir. It is obvious she would not like to have such a reminder of the departed, and her present husband, who was too touchy on the matter and so remorseful, would certainly have objected. It was a matter to be altogether forgotten. Neither would she have cared to have "number one" and "number two" together.

What does Hamlet say? "Look here upon this picture, and upon this" (the counterfeit presentment of two brothers). Were he speaking of real pictures he would have said: "Look at that one *there* and upon *that*," as he stood pointing to each. Then he describes them both, contrasting their features, and is most uncomplimentary to the reigning King: "Have you eyes?" He was "a Moor," and she was blinded. Now these gross blemishes would not be emphasised in what was a Court picture, where he would be exhibited as a personable man. He was therefore describing him from recollection. So when he speaks of his father as—

"A combination and a form indeed
Where every god did seem to set his seal"

all this would be said of a real person, but not of a picture.

The late Wilson Barrett, in his London revival, conceived the odd idea of having two portraits on the drawing-room table, something in shape like cabinet "photos"! The modernity of this was striking. After all, the notion of visible pictures will, I fear, never be abandoned. It is too good a piece of "business," that pointing, &c. What is the obvious meansing? "Look here upon this picture and on this," says Hamlet; "*This* was your husband," and it is claimed he is pointing at the portrait. But then he says: "The combination of a form indeed where every god," &c. This seems superfluous in the presence of the portrait. But, above all, why would he describe the well-known faces to the wife of both as "the counterfeit presentment of two brothers"? When he goes on to depict the King—"Here is your husband"—he does not contrast his plain features with that of the brother. "Here is your husband—like a mildew'd ear blasting his brother." This is surely spoken as of one absent.

VI.

THE HIDING OF THE BODY.

Hamlet's dragging of Polonius's body away is most significant when we consider all that follows, and that the unhappy Prince was now filled with the idea of completely hiding his bloody act by the process of hiding away the body—"safely stowed," as he put it. We can imagine nothing more appalling than this.

But there is another important element to add to the horror. The King, when the killing of Polonius was told to him, seems to have been convinced that Hamlet thought he was behind the arras, and struck at him. This was sagacious enough, for Hamlet, as he dealt the blow, had exclaimed, "Is't the King?" The Queen did not however then tell her husband of this speech, who says in his terror,

O, heavy deed!

It had been so with us had we been there.

But it looks as though she did tell him later, for the King, when he meets Laertes, asks him if he had not heard that Hamlet, who had slain his father, "pursued my life," and Laertes answers, "It will appear."

It is clear that in the Court circle the feeling was that the Prince had aimed at the King's life, and that there was all manner of dark suspicions and whisperings. The King felt himself in serious peril, and exposed at any moment to some fresh attempt. He must either destroy or be destroyed himself. Then there was the sudden return of Laertes, inflamed with grief and fury, and pressing in a most alarming way for judicial investigation and punishment. This might seem a ready mode of extrication; but there was the general popularity of the prince, and the fond attachment of the Queen. What was he to do? He resolved to send him out of the country, and have him assassinated.

This third act holds a series of stirring and momentous situations, all linked together. There is the "play scene," as it is called, the Recorder's incident, the interview with the Queen, the King's Prayer, the killing of Polonius, the search for the body, and proposed banishment of Hamlet. All these tremendous things took place during one long fevered night, stretching perhaps to the "small hours" of the morning—the day breaking before the unhappy personages got to their beds.

And what a prodigious increase of dramatic effect, as one trouble succeeds the other without interval! This is no Utopian speculation, but the strict fact. When the play was done Hamlet discusses the result of his *exposé* with his friend, and is presently sent for to the Queen's closet. For she sees that the situation is too serious to rest there. When that interview is over she hurries straight to the King, and gives him the first news of her son's rash act. Then comes the hurried search for Polonius's body, the sending for Hamlet, the persistent enquiries and his stubborn refusal to give information. No one thought of looking for it in the chamber upstairs, where it lay for hours. Hamlet is then ordered away to England on the spot, and the King announces that he must set off that very night. What a gain if all these events were thus presented continuously in a solemn chain. What suspense—what mystery—what a restless feeling of having been up all the night. I do not know whether it has been calculated what length of time is covered by the action in *Hamlet*. It might be fixed, I think, at about three months or so. The important events in Denmark, as we have seen, followed each other closely, but there must have been two intervals during which there was a lull and nothing doing. There was the mission of the Ambassadors, who went and returned about the middle of the play. There was also the journey of Laertes to France—a very long one in those days, through rough northern seas—and his sudden return. And, finally, there was Hamlet's voyagé to England and his return. These occur at different periods of the play, and the interruptions might be nicely calculated.

As the poor distraught Ophelia both sings her ballads and offers flowers and talks at length, there is call for working all up into animation and into a picture of active insanity. This adds to the horror; for it offers contrast to the soft demureness and sweetness of the sane Ophelia.

The "mad scene" is a display of trance—as of one moving and talking in a dream. Madness is an agitated and varied thing. It has all sorts of moods, passing from fury to stony tranquillity. There are "hurries," quick utterances, slow ones, and eager gestures. "Pray you mark" should be eager and excited. "They say the owl was a baker's daughter," a grotesque speech, and to be said grotesquely. Never enough is made of the words, "Lord, we know what we are, know what we may be. God be at your table."

Two really highly important characters in the conspiracy against Hamlet are the King's instruments, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern. They have a regular history, then lend themselves, as his creatures, to the King's designs, come and go as he tells them, spy on the Prince, try to beguile him, and finally, being secretly appointed to murder him, lose their own lives in this service.

They help, in truth, to convey the idea of Hamlet's almost complete isolation, and of the general combination that was formed against him, the King aiming at his life with these instruments; old Polonius striving to entrap him for his daughter; Laertes incensed because of his treatment of her; his mother alienated because of his coarse attacks upon her character; and this pair of courtiers quite ready to put him to death. This notion of a general conspiracy should be emphasised everywhere. True, he had Ophelia and the faithful Horatio with him, but the former he had himself of set purpose shaken off.

They should be represented as prominent, showy figures—they should *act* their villainy. How *thin* and unmeaning always appears Hamlet's pressure on them to confess that they had been sent to "draw" him. They simply stand, looking on, behaving with due obsequiousness to the leading actor. The King should have originally instructed them for their mission with great mystery and importance, and they should have come to Hamlet with a crafty air, as though they *really* mean to get at his secrets. These men were capable villains; they stuck at nothing, and undertook to assassinate Hamlet as though it were some trifling commission. What playgoer, by the way, has ever known that arch stroke of the King's—the appointing of Hamlet as his Ambassador to England, the more readily to get him away. This assassination of an important personage on a foreign shore shows how little was thought of killing in those times.

It will be noted what a difference all these incidents must make in our view of the character and feelings of Hamlet. In the last scene he not only *knew* that his father had been murdered by the King, but that he himself had narrowly escaped being murdered at his instigation. And yet he could bring himself to comply with the King's wishes as to the match, and meet him with apparent friendliness. But it is plain that he was secretly hostile to him; indeed, he only addresses him once during the scene. It looks as if he suspected him, for he had a foreboding—all was "ill about his heart."

Again, Hamlet's going away—banishment rather—is glossed over in the common version as a sort of careless incident, one of small importance. After a short absence he "turns up" again at the graveside, and we think no more of it. No one asks why? But it was a much more momentous thing. His presence to the King had become a menace and a danger; he had found a clue to the great secret; he had killed Polonius; he was going about abusing the King, on whom he might next make a personal attack. Indeed, the King told Laertes that Hamlet was favouring Fortinbras, a foreign general, and might use him to destroy his rule: on all accounts Hamlet must be got out of the country, and when out of the country assassinated.

The confusion, therefore, and consternation of the King when Hamlet, whose destruction seemed a certainty, reappeared of a sudden in Denmark, was overwhelming. The danger was so imminent that he felt he must destroy him at once, or be destroyed himself.

This abrupt return of Hamlet, which in modern versions is simply announced by his appearance at the graveyard, is in the original prepared for in a dramatic way. We have the sailor coming from the vessel to deliver a despatch from Hamlet to his friend Horatio. A strange, mysterious letter it was, with "much to tell that would make thee dumb." He had boarded a pirate ship, he writes, but the vessel suddenly drew off and left him a prisoner. They had treated him well, and he had promised to write to the king on their behalf.

VII.—OPHELIA'S BURIAL.

We may wonder now that Hamlet was in possession of the full story of his uncle's villainy—the murder of his father, the planned murder of himself—that he could have trusted the King for a moment, or even have seemed to have forgiven him. But did he? Might it not have occurred to Hamlet that this fighting business might suggest some opportunity for vengeance; there is no evidence of this, but how likely it would be. Carte and tierce, cut and thrust, who knows what chance might offer? And he must have been of a too childlike simplicity to accept his rascally uncle's proposals seriously. But Laertes he did *not* suspect.

I think we may assume also that Hamlet's feeling to Laertes was not a very cordial one. The latter had nearly strangled him in the grave; his language had been insulting and overbearing; he had injured him in the person of his sister—a natural ground of dislike. It might be that the King had spoken truly when he said that Hamlet was jealous of Laertes's superior prowess with the sword, and was eager to give him a lesson.

Hamlet, when seeing Ophelia's funeral approaching, was able to make out at a distance that the rites were "maimed." This must mean that there was no religious procession, no cross, holy water, or possibly religious dress. There was but one priest, and likely enough no acolyte and choristers. The priest possibly omitted the "libera," "de profundis," and solemn prayers. The ordinary stage-manager's exhibition is quite the reverse of all this. He must have his super clergymen striving to look pious, &c. The bell, however, should toll at intervals. It is remarkable that the Queen at the graveside announces that the marriage with Hamlet had been all but settled. But why was Ophelia thus branded? She had not committed suicide. A branch of a tree gave way, she fell into the water, and was drowned.

Was Hamlet's extravagant burst at Ophelia's grave, we may ask, genuine or assumed? Did he pretend to feel this frantic grief, so that all thought that he had gone mad? When he first learned from Laertes's exclamation, "A ministering angel shall my sister be!" he merely says, quietly, "What, the fair Ophelia?"

(To be continued.)

THE next term of the Day School for Girls in connection with the Crystal Palace Company's School of Art, Music, Science, and Literature will commence on Monday, Sept. 23. The day and evening schools for men and women students will open on Monday, Sept. 30. The evening classes are a new departure. Many people have suggested the desirability of starting classes of this description, for in well-populated districts they are generally found to be well patronised. The following subjects will be taught:—Drawing from the antique, pianoforte, violin, singing, English class for foreigners, elementary class (conversation, reading aloud, correspondence—business and general), advanced class (study of English literature and composition), French and German.

AMONG the inaugural events fixed for the term will be a recital of the composition of Mr. S. Coleridge-Taylor, who is the Professor of Harmony at the schools. This will take place in the School Hall on Oct. 4, at 3.30. Invitation cards will be forwarded on application to the registrar. The fees of evening classes have been specially arranged to meet the needs of students who are engaged in business during the day. For prospectus and full particulars application should be made to the registrar, School of Art, Crystal Palace.

MONDAY being the Jewish New Year's Day, the Pavilion (Yiddish) Theatre, Mile End, was closed on that occasion, but reopened on Tuesday with an excellent performance of *The Orphan*, in which Mme. Diana Feinman appeared, supported by the Feinman Operatic and Dramatic Company. During the week *Holy Sabbath* and *Shattered Lives* have been played.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"CHACUN SA VIE."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by MM. Guiches and Gheusi.

Produced at the Comédie Française, on Sept. 10.

Henriette Desclos ..... MLLE. CECILE SOREL.
Pauline Clermain ..... MLLE. PIERAT
Comtesse de la Molinière ..... MLLE. ROCH
Marcelle Renaud ..... MLLE. MITZY-DALTI
François Desclos ..... M. DE FERAUDY
Jacques d'Arvant ..... M. DUFLOS
Comte de la Molinière ..... M. JOLIET
Renaud ..... M. RAVET
Simonelli ..... M. CROUE
La Béal ..... M. GRANDVAL
Blanchard ..... M. PAUL NUMA
Fritois ..... M. LATY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Sept. 12.—As usual, the Comédie Française has been first in the field with a novelty, a three-act comedy by MM. Guiches and Gheusi, that met with an excellent reception. The idea of "every man living according to his own ideas of happiness" has been often developed by various playwrights, but as the before-mentioned authors deal with the question in a rather amusing form, we have no cause to complain. The expounder of this theory is François Desclos, married to the beautiful Henriette, whom, for a long time, he loved and admired. When, however, the story opens things have changed, for we hear François say to the pretty Pauline Clermain, "I no longer love my wife. She abhors me. If she has not deceived me already, it will occur soon. Tant pis! Let us all live our own lives. And you, Pauline, had better follow my example!" Pauline feels inclined to accept this advice. She is but a young girl, yet life has not dealt kindly with her. Jacques d'Arvant, François' friend, has secured her a place as clerk in François' office. She is an orphan and poor, but she is ambitious, and, having fallen secretly in love with the handsome Comte d'Arvant, she aspires to become his wife. She discovers, however, that Arvant does not think of her, and that his affections are centred on Henriette Desclos. Henriette has soon grown tired of the honest François, and the latter was right when he said that his wife abhorred him. Henriette is dazzled by d'Arvant's aristocratic manners. She is not yet his mistress, but she has arranged with d'Arvant to go to a watering-place where she will meet him. Pauline has discovered the plan, and from her François learns that conjugal misfortunes are likely to break soon over his head. Henriette thinks that the girl has been playing the spy and overwhelms her with reproaches, which are not merited, for Pauline only found out by chance the secret *entente* between Henriette and d'Arvant. Then follow two important scenes. François and Pauline are both very unhappy. Employer and employee console one another, and for the first time they discover that there is something more than ordinary sympathy between them. The next scene, between François and his wife, is more stormy. François knows that his wife is in love with d'Arvant, and as he has learned that she intends to spend a month with him in a watering-place, he thinks she may as well have the man all to herself, and for ever. "I make you a present of him," he tells Henriette; "let us divorce as quickly as posible." Henriette jumps at the proposition, and the play would have ended here if we had had to do with anyone else but d'Arvant. D'Arvant makes difficulties. Like many aristocratic and unprincipled *roués*, he strictly observes the forms of religion; and, as the Church does not sanction divorce, his religious principles do not allow him to marry a divorced woman. Poor François is disconsolate. He never suspected this difficulty. But François will not sacrifice his happiness to d'Arvant's scruples. He (François) wants to make Pauline his wife, and if the noble Count marries Henriette everybody will be happy. He therefore calls on the former, and, after some trouble, succeeds in extracting from him the promise that the moment their divorce will be pronounced Henriette will become Comtesse d'Arvant. The work was beautifully acted by M. de Féraudy, pathetic in the rôle of Desclos; by M. Duflos, a clever d'Arvant; by M. Numa, highly amusing as a playwriting stockbroker; by Mlle. Cécile Sorel, a beautiful Henriette; and by Mlle. Piérat, delightful and touching as Pauline.

AT the Palais Royal, M. Mouëzy-Eon read his new farce, *Panachot, gendarme*. The artists were delighted with their rôles, and they prognosticate a success for the piece. M. Lamy, that excellent actor, will create therein the leading part.

SOME time ago we announced in these columns that the first novelty at the Athénée this season would be a four-act comedy by M. Michel Provins. To-day I learn that the author has taken away his MS., and refuses to have his work produced at that theatre. Contrary to what was whispered, no fault was found with the piece. The trouble arose in consequence of two of the artists being dissatisfied with their rôles, which made M. Provins fear that they would not do justice to them.

"L'ANNIVERSAIRE" is the title of a new play by MM. Guy Serge and Georges Nonem, to be brought out at one of our boulevard theatres in the course of this season.

THE AMBIGU announces the last performances of *L'Enfant du Temple*, which has been kept running during the summer months. The first novelty there will be *Le Curé de Foreville*, a five-act drama by M. J. de Gramont. An altogether new cast has been engaged by M. Grisier, comprising Mlle. Didier, from the Odéon; Mme. Renée Bussy; M. Daltour; M. Bartel, the well-known comic actor; M. Bailly, and M. Morgan.

THE Théâtre Montmartre, that most Parisian of all Paris theatres, inaugurates its season with *Denise*, with special permission, of course, of M. Claretie, the work belonging to the Comédie-Française. Dumas' masterpiece will be interpreted by Mmes. Jane Myriell and Clarence, and by M. Jones Chandflort. We are also promised *Les Saltimbanques*, the well-known operette by Ganne, to be followed by *Les Pauvres de Paris*.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Musical Play, "LA POUPEE."

This exceedingly pretty and entertaining piece is paying another visit to the Borough Theatre this week, and is meeting with much success. Mr. C. P. Levilly's company is responsible for its interpretation. Miss Stella Gastelle's long familiarity with the rôle of Alesia in no way detracts from the charm of her performance, and she is as firm a favourite as ever. Mr. W. H. Powell portrays the idiosyncrasies of Hilarius on the lines of his predecessors in the part, added to a breezy humour which is most acceptable, and his merry quips and cranks always compel laughter. Mr. F. Maxwell Stewart gives a highly-creditable rendering of Launcelot, although his voice is scarcely strong enough to do full justice to the numbers allotted to him. Mr. Ernest Torrance plays Father Maxime most appropriately; and "A jovial monk am I" is rendered by him in rousing style. Mr. Leon Simkin contributed a well-defined sketch of Loremois; Mr. Arthur Gibbons depicts Baron Chanterelle in capable comedy vein; and Mr. Vernon Reed plays with unctuous humour as Balthazar. Miss Dulcie Garland does exceedingly well as Mme. Hilarius; and Honri is smartly played by Miss Kitty Cavendish. Others who do well are Mr. Vernon Booth as the Notary; Mr. P. J. Bannon as Basilique; and Miss Frances Lane, Miss Belle Gray, and Miss Hilda Milburn as the Three Dolls. The music is done adequate justice to by the chorus, under the direction of Mr. Harry Rushworth.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Musical Play, entitled
"A CHINESE HONEYMOON."

The enduring popularity of *A Chinese Honeymoon* is proved by the crowded appearance of the King's Theatre this week. Almost every playgoer must have witnessed the comedy by this time, and yet there was the hearty laughter just as if it were a new production. Mr. Milton Bode's company is quite up to the mark, and although all the artists are new comers, they play well together, entering whole-heartedly into the spirit of the farce. Mr. Rudolph Kloss makes a dignified and pleasant-voiced Emperor Hang Chow. As Chippie Chop, the Lord Chancellor, Mr. P. Allerton Turner makes the most of his limited opportunities, and a really funny Lord High Admiral Hi Lung, is Mr. Leonard May, whose exertions in seeking a wife for the Emperor land him into such difficulties. Mr. Harry Jennings is a satisfactory Tom Hatherton. Mr. Pineapple is rendered by Mr. George Rydon in bustling and humorous fashion, his attempts to avoid the meeting with the official mother-in-law being ludicrously expressed. Miss Rose Begarnie, a charming young actress and singer, plays Mrs. Pineapple to perfection, and is unanimously voted a success. Mrs. Brown, the official mother-in-law, is grimly personified by Miss Maud Adams, whose attitude quite takes the fancy of the audience. A palpable hit is made by Miss Gwennie Harcourt as the waitress Fifi, her cockney accent and quaint manner being considerably amusing. Miss Elsie Skillings is a fascinating Princess Soo-Soo. The four bridesmaids are brightly played by Mmes. Dorothy Radcliffe, Mary Gray, Cecily Leslie, and Phyllis Grosvenor. The chorus is quite adequate, and the dresses and scenery elaborate and picturesque. Mr. Edward H. Whitehall capably conducts the orchestra.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Comedy, in three acts, with music, written and composed by Paul A. Rubens, and entitled
"MR. POPPLE (OF IPPLETON)."

The laughter-loving patrons of the fine Holloway theatre during the week have been discovering, to their great delight, the humour of *Mr. Poppleton (of Ippleton)*, and the observations of the unsophisticated Freddy of things in general and London in particular have caused the healthiest and heartiest laughter. Mr. Charles Frohman "presents," but it is the theatrical habit of Mr. Charles Macdona to "introduce," and his latest introduction to North Londoners is Miss Millie Hylton, who plays, in her own fascinating way the character of La Bolero. Miss Hylton is not by any means unknown to the dwellers in Holloway; but Monday was their first opportunity of seeing her at the local temple of the drama in a principal rôle in a musical play. La Bolero's song to Freddy quite captured them; but they were more than delighted with La Bolero's experiences as an actress, set forth in the famous song in the second act, to which the artist's rich endowment and wide experience enabled her to do complete justice. Mr. Arthur Longley is not exactly Mr. G. P. Huntley, and he has not that actor's delightful unconsciousness; but he manages, nevertheless, to make the part of Freddy Popple tell, in spite of lines that were not in the original scrip, and do not add to the fun of the piece. Mr. G. Carnelly Joye plays sufficiently well in the somewhat colourless rôle of Norman Popple; Mr. Sydney Young and Mr. James Stevenson, as those "rapid" old gentlemen, George Hennay and Henry Doring, are amusing. Miss Alice Rene and Miss Edith Grenfell impart more than usual significance to the parts of Mrs. Doring and Mrs. Hennay, being especially good in the second act. Miss Nellie Hodson as Louise secures nightly an encore for her messenger-boy song, and shares with Mr. C. E. Paton—an emphatic and droll Platt—the success of the duet in the second act. Miss Cora Lingard makes a graceful and winsome Violet Brinton; Mr. Douglas Phillips sings in spirited fashion as Jacques Kenyon. Messrs. Douglas Jefferies, Charles Joyce, Willie Kottaun, Leslie Steward, Louis Denver, W. H. Morgan, Archie Harrison, and Hubert Godfrey are seen to advantage in a number of minor characters. The play is well mounted, the girls of the Charity Theatre making a brave show, and the Motor Carnival in Act III. presenting a pretty spectacle. Mr. Charles Mann is the general-manager, and Mr. Wallace Stranack the manager for Mr. Charles Macdona.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Sept 9,
THE MOODY-MANNERS OPERA COMPANY.

A special treat is provided here this week in the visit of the Moody-Manners company, which is always awaited with keen interest. *Faust* was chosen for the opening performance, and an immense audience was present on Monday. Mr. Charles Carter made an adequate Faust. Of Mr. Charles Manners' Mephistopheles it is now almost impossible to say anything fresh. However, it remains as finished a performance as ever, and full of subtle humour. Mme. de Vere Sapio was most successful as Marguerita. It is her first appearance in the rôle at this theatre, but she delighted everyone by her fine vocalization, and made a distinct success. Miss D. Harrow was good as Martha; while Miss Toni Seiter once again filled the rôle of Siebel in an able manner, singing delightfully. Mr. Lewys James was heard to great advantage as Valentine; and Mr. H. Brindle was good as Wagner. The chorus and orchestra worked splendidly, and secured excellent results; and Herr Richard Eckhold ably conducted.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Drama, by Walter Melville, entitled
"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."

The Worst Woman in London is once again pursuing her career of crime to the evident enjoyment of large audiences at Mr. Bailey's playhouse, and the numerous sensational situations in Mr. Walter Melville's well-known drama have proved quite as thrilling as of old. Especially exciting has been the murder by the "worst woman" of her husband whilst he lies asleep in bed, and her subsequent struggle with Philip Armstrong; but the greatest "thriller" has, of course, been reserved for the conclusion, where the heroine makes her escape from a burning house by sliding along a telephone wire in mid-air. Mr. Tom Taylor's company—a well-chosen and excellent one in every respect—is responsible for the play, the title-rôle in which is undertaken in most convincing fashion by Miss Olga André, a lady who is well-equipped in every way for this all-important part. Her portrayal throughout of Frances Vere is an easy and finished one, and her fine appearance, excellent elocution, and thorough insight into the character, enable her to realise most admirably this difficult and arduous part. Her accomplice in villainy, Vincent Lyle, is excellently enacted by Mr. Paul Barry Lewers, who indicates the sinister nature of this frock-coated scoundrel in no uncertain fashion; and a powerful and impressive portrayal of the ruined gambler, Philip Armstrong, is supplied by Mr. Leonard Booker. Mr. George Gaisford is an earnest and able exponent of the hero, Jack Felton, scoring particularly in the Hyde Park scene; and Mr. F. Vernon Travers is quite satisfactory as James Milford. Miss Elizabeth Watkins gains the sympathy of her auditors for her quietly effective performance of the sorely-tried heroine, Ruth Milford. Humorous interludes are provided by Mr. Will Corrie as Bob Goldfinch and Miss Polly Marsh as his wife Matilda, two kind-hearted show folk, especially laughter-compelling being the "love-making" of the couple in the Hyde Park scene; and a droll impersonation also is submitted by Mr. H. W. Monte as Hugh Drayton, a character that occasionally reminds one of the drunken old reprobate, Eccles, in *Caste*. The numerous other parts are all adequately enacted, and the drama is excellently staged.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Comedy, entitled
"THE STRONGER SEX."

One of the conspicuous successes of the London season just concluded is being presented at the Coronet Theatre, where Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison this week started their second company in *The Stronger Sex* on a tour which promises to achieve results equally as gratifying as those attained by its predecessor. The playgoers of Mr. Robert Arthur's well-appointed theatre have before experienced the liberality and taste of the productions asociated with the name of Hutchison, and a house full and appreciative followed Mr. John Valentine's clever play with eager zest. Seldom have the conflicting interests of business and romance been so ingeniously entwined and the engrossing story told in such well-chosen dialogue, in which an acute sense of humour is revealed, has enthralled the audience completely. A wise choice has been exercised in the selection of the cast. The rôle of Mary, the simple, yet 'cute, New York belle, has been allotted to Miss May Blayney, whose youth and comeliness are invaluable in the part, and win for her at once a high place in favour. Miss Blayney has a singularly musical voice, which lends itself agreeably to the American twang; the little lady's artless examination of her husband's affairs in bankruptcy being rendered with many tuneful modulations, while the daintiness, which is a distinguishing phase of her acting, is the admiration of all. Admirers in plenty are also found by Miss Gladys Ffolliott, whose matured art in the part of Mrs. Van Garkerken proves of immense value. The number of actresses who can render the rôle of grande dame attractive is few, but Miss Ffolliott may certainly be classed among them. She makes up and dresses the part to perfection, skilfully allowing the sterling qualities of the outspoken elderly lady to peep out from beneath a veneer of arrogance and bluntness, with the result that she is taken unconditionally to the hearts of the audience, and shares liberally in the applause. Mr. D. Lewin Mannering, who has the direction of the stage, proves his ability in the character of the Hon. Warren Barrington. The sinister touch which Mr. Mannering gives to the part makes it a little difficult to reconcile the baronet's earlier conduct with the strict integrity of the later scenes, but the details of the rôle are skilfully filled in, and gesture and expression are fittingly employed. Oliver Thorpe, Mary's cousin, is buoyantly sustained by Mr. Stanley Harrison, who has an intelligent grasp of a part by no means easy to portray, and renders himself a general favourite. Miss Nancy Beresford makes an attractive and well-spoken Joan Forsythe, acting with emotional fervour and charming refinement in a series of scenes which teem with difficulty. The fun of the piece is broadened by the efforts of Mr. Reg. Van Ranney and Mr. George Herbert Kersley, as the pair of Jew moneylenders, who lost their nationality before the episode in which they are concerned had proceeded far, but quite maintained the drollery of the scene. Mr. Guy Leigh suitably embodies the rôle of Robert Forsythe; Mr. F. Storcham is able to extract humour from Jenkins, the groom's, brief but forcible profession of fidelity to his mistress; and Mr. E. Compton has a proper sense of his responsibilities as the butler, William. The aristocratic crowd of the reception scene are becomingly gowned, and comport themselves realistically.

The original London production has been secured in its entirety by Mr. Percy Hutchison, who has produced the piece, and the result is seen in a sumptuous setting, which gained well-deserved eulogy. *The Stronger Sex*, which is preceded by E. M. Bryant's farce, *The Peacemaker*, was rapturously received, and has started its tour most auspiciously.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Play, entitled
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."

Mr. Geo. R. Sims's enormously successful drama was once more presented to a Brixton audience on Monday, and once again drew an enthusiastic and delighted body of playgoers. Mr. Herbert H. Hollister, who is no stranger to South London, is responsible for the production, and it can honestly be said that both his company and the stage-management are admirable. It was also evident that the stirring scenes of the popular play had again a powerful influence. In the rôle of the unfortunate Harold Armitage Mr. C. F. Collings displayed histrionic gifts, his impetuosity in the first act in the stormy interview with his father and the blind devotion to his wife were well brought out. Admirable support was rendered him by Miss Jeannie Burgoyne as Bess. The pathos of the many situations in which the heroine is involved were capitally sustained by Miss Burgoyne; especially good was the lady in the scenes with the villain and in the Jarvis *ménage*. Clifford Armitage found a capital exponent in Mr. Herbert Morgan. The bad qualities of the villain were well shown without any tendency to overplay the character. Mr. Herbert Hollister was splendid as Seth Preene, whose love for his erring daughter and his remorse were well shown. Mr. Payne Fletcher was an amusing Jarvis; and adequate support was rendered him by Miss Nancy Neville as the buxom Mrs. Jarvis and by Miss Nellie Maynard as Shakespeare Jarvis. Mr. G. P. Lester was good as Marks; and Mr. G. Wallace deserves mention as the old Squire. Philosopher Jack found an ideal representative in Mr. Ernest K. Nelson; and Mr. Reginald Holmes was a cute detective. Mr. H. Pettitt displayed ability as Percy de Vere. Miss Kate Randolph well showed the vain and frivolous side of Hetty Preene's character. The remaining parts were well played. The scenic accessories were very good.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Drama, entitled
"THE EVE OF HER WEDDING."

Mr. C. Watson Mill is again responsible for the fare at the popular Shoreditch playhouse, *The Eve of Her Wedding*, an exciting and well-written drama, proving evidently greatly to the liking of the enthusiastic audience present on Monday evening. Their sympathies have very early in the play gone out to the cruelly-wronged heroine, Mavis Leverton, a part skilfully and effectively undertaken by Miss Marion Denvil, especially harrowing being the scene at the church porch, where she is accused of being unfaithful to her lover, the portrayal throughout being one on which the experienced and gifted actress is to be congratulated. Mr. Ashley Page makes a manly and convincing George Tremain, playing with all his accustomed ease and finish; and the callousness and hypocrisy of Dean Clifton are admirably indicated by Mr. J. C. Aubrey, the character losing nothing in effectiveness by the subdued methods employed by its interpreter. A decidedly meritorious portraiture of Paul Cairshaw, "the man with the scar," is that given by Mr. Bensley Evans; and Mr. Roland Daniels is responsible for an excellent embodiment of Dick Leverton, especially convincing being the young man's outburst of indignation at the conclusion of the first act. Mr. Johnny Chippendale contributes largely to the merriment of the evening by his humorous embodiment of Rudolph Earle; Mr. Frank Harrison submits an amusing and interesting portrait of the Secret Service agent, Giovanni; Mr. W. J. Holloway cleverly suggests the devotion of the poor cripple, Jack Herne, to Mavis Leverton, and gives an excellent impersonation throughout; and Squire Leverton has a robust and natural exponent in Mr. Eric Campbell. The adventuress, Renie de Telle, is quite safe in the hands of Miss East Robertson, who is to be complimented on a finished piece of acting; and Miss Mattie Everett presents a diverting portrait of Gwendoline Younger, an American damsel with a partiality for the nobility, no matter whether they be English lords or Italian counts. The other parts are all carefully and capably played, and the drama is staged with the completeness and realism that is always encountered at the Standard.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Drama, entitled
"DRIVEN FROM HOME."

After a lengthy lapse of time the above drama occupies the boards of this theatre, and shows no signs of falling off in popular esteem. Mr. Andrew Melville's company present it, and containing, as it does, some well-known names, the general performance is quite excellent. Mr. Felix Pitt as Anthony Raybrook, in the part of the somewhat unnatural parent, acts with force, and is to be congratulated on his success. Mr. Francis Everard as Walter Hatherleigh enacts that unfortunate man with a sympathetic touch that makes his performance very realistic. Mr. Charles Burdon as Geoffrey Waring plays the heavy rôle in the accepted style; and as Willie the Outcast Mr. Arthur F. Dudley submits a good character-study that merits much praise. Mr. Fred C. Imbert is capital as Anderson, and finds a capable ally in Miss Susan Bevan, who plays his wife. Mr. Edward Finlay as Saunders does not spare himself in delineating that particularly unpleasant character; Miss Clara Knowles is excellent as the relentless housekeeper, Barbara Ashdown; and Miss Muriel Dean, in the dual rôle of the Mother in the first part of the play and the Son in the second, is entitled to warm commendation, her entire performance being on a high level. A very large number of smaller parts are all carefully played by the remaining members of the company, and the mounting of the play is on a complete scale.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Drama, entitled
"A WARNING TO WOMEN."

Described on the programme as "the celebrated Irish play," *A Warning to Women* is occupying the boards here this week. The production has been undertaken by Mr. John M. East, and reflects great credit on the theatre's general manager and his excellent stock company. Among other things, the piece deals with the pernicious effects of drugs and alcohol on the present and future generations. Mr. Frank Harding as Dr. Dread makes the most of his opportunities in a powerful manner; Mr. E. C. Matthews, in the rôle of an Irish piper and protector of the heroine, acts with the necessary touches of humour and pathos; Miss Cecil Cromwell gives a fine impersonation of the drug-consuming heroine, whose tribulations should unmistakably act as a warning to women; Mr. Fred Dobell is a fine old Irish squire, his assumption of despair at the thought of his daughter's malady and his own financial misfortune being cleverly depicted; Mr. Wm. Felton makes a pathetic blind hero; and Mr. E. H. Brooke, as his friend, gives a characteristic sketch of a young English nobleman. Miss Agnes Paulton is agreeably sympathetic as the younger daughter of the old squire.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Play, entitled
"UNDER TWO FLAGS."

The representations at the Dalston Theatre this week, by members of Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company, of Edwin Elsner's dramatic version of Ouida's novel, "Under Two Flags," are taking wonderfully. Miss Ida Molesworth captivates all as Cigarette. Her success in this part is undoubtedly complete. Mr. Mark Blow also scores heavily as Bertie Cecil Royellieu. The audience regard him all through as a daring self-sacrificing hero, and Mr. Blow never forgets, through all the varying phases of the part, that he is enacting the character of a gentleman. Mr. Roy Jackson's impersonation of Colonel Chanteroy, otherwise known as "the Hawk," is a clever piece of stage villainy, and he is (theatrically) detested in consequence. The Princess Venetia Corona is sweetly played by Miss Edith Coleman. Mr. Harry Benson, who appears as the valet, causes a good deal of laughter; and Miss Kitty Douglas (maid to the Princess) also contributes to the hilarity. The singing of Miss Douglas, it should be added, also meets with much favour. Lord Royellieu has a courtly representative in Mr. Charles Brooke; Mr. Dermot Fitz-Gibbon appears with credit as Cecil Royellieu; Mr. Austen Milroy as Lord Rockingham; Mr. Reginald Huntworth as the Marshal of France; Miss Joan Stern as the Countess Olga; and Miss Madge Stevens as Lady Beatrice Guinevere. The staging of the piece is most complete.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Musical Comedy, by Geo. Grossmith, jun., music by Ivan Caryll and Lionel Monckton, entitled
"THE SPRING CHICKEN."

Musical comedy and melodrama, when well represented, are alike popular at Peckham, as is evidenced by the crowded audiences which are flocking to see the above-named popular Gaiety success, performed by Mr. George Dance's company. Miss Violet Loraine, who was such a success as principal boy in the last pantomime here, makes a very prepossessing and tuneful Rosalie, and is warmly applauded on her entrance and throughout the piece. Mr. Percival Knight plays very neatly and with considerable humour as the terrible flirt, Gustave Babori, and Mr. H. Robert Averill acts and dances well as Boniface. Mr. Fred Payne contributes a performance of great merit as the eccentric Mr. Girdle, and his duet with Babori, "On a Sunday afternoon," is especially well rendered. Miss Nellie Wigley makes a handsome Dulcie Babori, and her two solos are very well given. Mr. J. D. Newton is a choleric old Baron Papouche, and Mr. Frank Altree causes much laughter as the German waiter, Felix. Miss Nellie Kavanagh is a winsome Mrs. Girdle, and sings a couple of topical songs with much point and cleverness. As the Baroness Papouche Miss Poppy Poole is well suited, and Mr. Louis Victor does well as Stephen Henry Girdle. Miss Lilian Errol makes an engaging little Emmy Lou. Some new songs and dances have been added to the original score, and altogether the performance goes with a bang from start to finish. There is an admirable full chorus, and special orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Fritz Hart. Mr. Harry Lyons is manager, and Mr. J. D. Newton stage-manager.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Comedy, entitled
"BEAUTY AND THE BARGE."

Mr. Arthur Hardy's company in Messrs. W. W. Jacobs and Louis N. Parker's clever comedy, *Beauty and the Barge*, provides the attraction at the Grand Theatre this week, and has drawn large and appreciative audiences. Mr. Hardy's company is a very powerful one, and an admirable rendering of this piece is given. Mr. Blake Adams's impersonation of James Barley, captain of the barge Heart in Hand, is perfect, and he fully deserves the applause accorded him. Mr. Adams receives adequate support in the person of Miss Dido Drake as Ethel Smedley, who handles the part in finished style. Mr. Atherling Farrar is seen to advantage as Herbert Manners; as also is Miss Mary Pemberton as Lucy Dallas, Major Smedley's niece. The rôle of Major Smedley is admirably filled by Mr. Walter Pemberton. Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu portrays the character of Lieut. Seyton Boyne, R.N., with marvellous skill, his acting being effective both as a naval lieutenant and as a mate on a barge. Mr. Charles White as John Dibbs, the old gardener, causes great amusement, and the merriment is added to by Miss Kate Osborne, in the rôle of Mrs. Baldwin. Another character that causes considerable laughter is that of George Porter, the landlord of the Old Ship, a part skilfully undertaken by Mr. Ewart Drake. Mr. Horace Kenney and Mr. Fred Knight as Augustus (the barge hand) and Tom Codd respectively are both excellent. Miss Mona Robin as Mrs. Smedley and Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite as Mrs. Porter are well placed. The principal item of the programme is preceded by *Jerry and a Sunbeam*, in which Mr. A. Mallalieu as Jerry Corbet and Miss M. Pemberton as Mary Bellasis cause great amusement. The whole production is under the general-management of Mr. Blake Adams, the stage-management being entrusted to Mr. Atheling Farrar.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Comic Opera entitled
"VERONIQUE."

Mr. Bannister Howard has proved conclusively that he knows what the public want, and in securing Mr. Charles Macdona's chief company in *Veronique* to open the autumn season at the Crystal Palace Theatre he has done wisely and well, a packed house being the gratifying result. The whimsicalities of Mr. Daley Cooper as Monsieur Coquenard kept the audience in roars of laughter from the rise of the curtain to its fall. Miss Mabel Lait sustained the name part sweetly, and with agreeable vivacity. The rôle of Florestan was ably filled by Mr. Arthur Stroud, several duets sung with Miss Lait being vigorously encored. Mr. Sidney Bracey was quite at home in the part of Seraphin, and the little dancing he did made one wish for more, Miss Elsie Probyn as Denise, Seraphin's bride, was charming; Mme. Coquenard was portrayed with suitable vigour by Miss Roberta Williams, full justice being done to the several pretty songs in the part. Miss Stella St. Audrie caused much merriment as Mme. de Champ d'Azur, and her rendering of "The Garden of Love" in the third act was perfect. Miss Constance Groves as the deaf aunt of Denise also caused much laughter. Mr. Oliver J. Round as M. Loustot made an adequate second to Coquenard, his energy being boundless and his drollery vastly amusing. The parts of Sophie, Elsie, Zoe, Irma, Lucille, and Heloise, florists in Coquenard's shop, were daintily sustained by Miss Kitty Ford, Miss Nancy Edwards, Miss Nita Glen, Miss Nina Nugent, Miss Kitty Cotter, and Miss Nellie Wilkinson. Mr. Sidney Darrell and Mr. Harry Kemp were realistic French waiters, and the parts of Octave and Felicien, friends of Florestan, were admirably embodied by Mr. Percy Latimer and Mr. Henry Hodgkins. The mounting is magnificent, and Mr. Howard is heartily to be congratulated on the extension of the success of his enterprise.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE PRODIGAL SON."

It is seldom that Kingston playgoers have an opportunity of witnessing a drama of such absorbing interest as *The Prodigal Son*, which is being presented at the local theatre this week, and Mr. Peter Davey, the enterprising managing director, has been congratulated on having brought it to Kingston. An exceptionally powerful company engincered by Mr. Wentworth Croke is engaged. The two sisters, Helga and Thora Neilson, were most effectively portrayed by Miss Margaret Murch and Miss Maude Stewart Drewry respectively, both ladies giving evidence of histrionic abilities of a very high order. Mr. Henry Watson earned distinction in the part of Oscar Stephenson, and equal honours were gained by Mr. Hugh Montgomery in the part of Magnus. A fine picture of the Governor of Iceland was given by Mr. Richard A. Greene, Miss Barbara Gott playing with conspicuous ability the part of his wife. Miss Marie Harcourt became a great favourite in all parts of the house by her impersonation of the part of Margaret Neilson, the factor's daughter. Others deserving of mention were Miss Ethel Percival as Mme. Pandher, Miss Margaret Brodie as Goodrun, Miss Marie Rosine as Marta, Miss Gertrude Rose as Lady Slingstone, Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood as Oscar Neilson, Mr. G. Montagu Lane as the Sheriff, Mr. Chauncey Morris as Dr. Olsen, Mr. Chas. A. Maynard as Neils Finsen, Mr. Philip Renouf as the pastor, Mr. Frank Hill as the Director of the Casino, Mr. Frank Emery as Eric Armasson, Mr. H. Louis Wilson as the bank agent, Mr. Arthur H. Parkinson as the American Senator, Mr. Frederick Owen as a croupier, and Mr. Harold Edwin as Jon Vidalin.

THE SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Play, entitled
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

The popular *Two Little Vagabonds*, by G. R. Sims and Arthur Shirley, from M. Pierre Decourcelle's drama, *Les Deux Gosses*, is proving a great attraction here, and crowded houses receive Hardie and Von Leer's company with great enthusiasm. The piece is admirably staged, and the acting all round is worthy of the warmest praise. Miss Violet Ellicott scores a decided hit in the part of the unfortunate Marion Thornton, the sincerity of her acting arousing the heartiest sympathy. A finished performance of the jealous George Thornton is given by Mr. Wilson Coleman, who quite realises the spirit of the character, and acts with an earnestness that carries conviction. Miss Josie Beltram acquits herself with much success in the exacting part of Wally, and the rôle of the more robust and generous-hearted Dick is cleverly assumed by Miss Marjorie Murray. Miss Helena Millais is thoroughly efficient as Barbara Scarth; and some welcome touches of humour are contributed by Miss Marie Pritchard in the low comedy part of Biddy Mullins. The part of Sister Randall, a hospital nurse, is capably sustained by Miss Lenna Vernon; Mr. Douglas Cecil as Captain Darville makes excellent use of his limited opportunities; and Mr. Joseph Brandon is satisfactory as John Scarth. An excellent character-study of the brutal Bill Mullins is given by Mr. John F. Traynor, who looks and acts the part to perfection. He is well supported by Mr. Frank Gordon as Dido Bunce and Mr. Fred Archer as the Coughdrop. Mr. E. P. Clift is general-manager and Mr. J. Galbraith acting-manager for Hardie and Von Leer.

SARAH SIDDONS'S TOMB.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I am glad to be able to report a most gratifying result of my recent appeal for the restoration of Mrs. Sarah Siddons's tomb in Paddington Churchyard, for Mr. Henry Siddons, great-grandson of the famous actress, has since come forward in the noblest manner by causing an entirely new monument to be erected over the resting-place of his illustrious ancestress, which now consists of a fine, handsome slab of beautiful white marble, containing the following inscription in large black letters:—

"Sacred to the Memory
of
SARAH SIDDONS,
who departed this life
June 8th, 1831,
in her 76th year.
'Blessed are the Dead
which die in the Lord.'"

In order to protect the slab from any possible damage, an extensive oilskin has been placed over the grave, fastened on to the high iron railing which surrounds the memorable tomb.—Yours faithfully,

ALGERNON ASHTON.

44, Hamilton-gardens, St. John's Wood, N.W.,
Sept. 10.

"SARENNA."

English Opera, in One Act, by Hermann Löhr. Book by Avon Marsh. Produced by the Moody-Manners Company, at the Lyric Theatre, on Friday, Sept. 6.

Will Hendon ..... Mr. Joseph O'Mara
Michael Heard ..... Mr. Lewis James
Landlord of the Inn .... Mr. Charles Magrath
Ruth Hendon ..... Miss Primrose Hardinge
Sarenna ..... Miss Kate Anderson

Mr. Charles Manners' encouragement of English composers in the direction of a National Opera is admitted, and on the last night but one of his season at the Lyric he introduced to the musical public a one-act English opera, the score being by Mr. Hermann Löhr—whose graceful ballads can be heard everywhere—and the book by Mr. Avon Marsh. Mr. Löhr has a vein of melody, and his solos, duets, and choruses, if of no great originality, are invariably pleasing. Into the story the elemental passions of love and vengeance enter, as they do in *I Pagliacci* and *Cavalleria Rusticana*. The curtain rises on an English village in summertime, during the period of the Peninsular War. The young squire, Will Hendon, having betrayed the daughter of the village sexton, has gone to the wars. The girl, determined not to survive the disgrace, committed suicide, and is buried at the cross-roads. Michael Heard, her father, through constant grieving over the ruin of his beloved daughter, has become demented, and waits patiently for the destroyer of his happiness. He lives but for vengeance, and feels sure that the betrayer will be delivered over to him near the unhallowed grave of the wronged one. Hendon is quite a Lovelace apparently; for on his return to the village he, with unabashed impudence, brings with him a gipsy girl, named Sarenna, who provides her lover with drink by telling the fortunes of the harvesters. Meeting his sister, Ruth, Hendon, when warned by her that "There's one who will have life for life, and you a mark for a madman's knife," answers defiantly, "A silly tale as e'er I listened to! Remain I will! Be hanged to him! I am strong!" Hendon, moreover, contributes to his own undoing by his brutal treatment of Sarenna. Her blood is up when he strikes her, and drawing her dagger she would drive it into his callous heart; but refrains. The better way would be to betray him to the old man waiting for him at the cross roads. But Hendon, carousing with the villagers, incautiously reveals his identity, whereupon Michael Heard, forcing a passage through the crowd, plunges a dagger in his back. Sarenna, seeing her drunken lover slain before her eyes, makes her exit with a sustained hysterical laugh, and the curtain falls.

Mr. Joseph O'Mara, who has borne the principal weight of the tenor rôles during the Moody-Manners season, gave an excellent rendering of a martial theme, and his share of the great duet with Sarenna—the chief dramatic scene in the opera—added to his triumph. Miss Kate Anderson, in the gipsy song, "Twas in Toledo City," made an excellent impression, which was further emphasised by her rendering of the charming melody, "O, love unkind!" Mr. Charles Magrath's fine voice did complete justice to the "beer" song; and the scena for Michael Heard was admirably treated by Mr. Lewys James. The performance went smoothly under the capable direction of Herr Richard Eckhold; and the opera was received with unbounded enthusiasm, the composer and librettist appearing in answer to insistent calls.

Mr. Löhr's opera was followed by the opera, in one act, the text by Mr. R. Gatty, the music by Mr. Nicholas Gatty, entitled

"GREYSTEEL."

Gisli ..... Mr. Charles Carter
Kol (a Thrall) ..... Mr. Frederic Erle
Ari ..... Mr. H. Van Lachterop
Bjora (the Black) ..... Mr. G. Neilson
A Bearsark Chief ..... Mr. R. Brookes
Ingibjorga ..... Miss Enriqueta Crichton

The sub-title of Mr. Gatty's opera is *The Bearsarks Come to Surnadale*. It was produced originally at Sheffield, and was seen for the first time in the London district at the Crystal Palace on May 24 last year. The plot is based on Sir George Dasent's translation of the Icelandic saga of "Gisli the Soursop." Mr. Gatty has taken a hint from Wagner's *Siegfried*, for there is a magic sword which greatly influences the progress of the story. Some excellent and well-written scenes are scattered through this work, but it suffers by the inordinate length of some of the monologues, especially that of Gisli over the dead body of his brother. There is, however, great promise in *Greysteel*, and the composer should yet win greater fame as a writer for the stage. He has given us a fine piece of dramatic writing in Ingibjorga's lament over the body of Ari, with the accompanying choral dirge, and Kol's song to his sword Greysteel. This was exceedingly well sung by Mr. Frederick Erle, who succeeds Mr. Marshall Vincent in the part of Kol. Mr Hendrick Van Lachterop and Mr. George Neilson repeated their success as Ari and the truculent Bjorn; Mr. Charles Carter was an effective Gisli; and Miss Enriqueta Crichton considerably advanced her reputation by her dramatic treatment of the part of Ingibjorga. Mr. Harrison Frewin conducted.

THE TERRISS, ROTHERHITHE.

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Drama, by Geo. R. Sims and Wilson Barrett, entitled
"THE GOLDEN LADDER."

That *The Golden Ladder* is to the taste of the Rotherhithe audiences is very evident, and it is not to be wondered at, for this pretty romantic play holds the interest of all. As the Reverend Frank Thornhill Mr. Douglas Vigors enlisted the sympathy of the spectators, his acting being full of life and delightfully breezy. As his pretty and sorely-tried wife Miss Louise Hampton was admirable. She looked and acted the part to perfection. Michael Severn was very capably played by Mr. Fred Morgan; as, indeed, was that of the Greek adventurer, Peranza, by Mr. Edward Thane. One could not wish to see a more typical Yorkshireman than Mr. Goddard's Noah Learoyd; or a more representative banker than the John Grant of Mr. James Manning. Mr. C. Watts made a good gardener; and Mr. Bateman's Rao was a clever impersonation. The children's parts were well taken by Miss Lulu Bonas and Miss Elsie Jerrard. Mr. S. D. Mayne looked the British naval captain to the life, and Mr. Laurence, as Mr. Dennett, portrayed the French official very well. Mr. Newman Maurice as Samuel Peckaby kept the house on the giggle, and he was ably supported by Miss Lucy Beaumont. The play was well staged, the scenes in Madagascar being particularly pretty. That courteous manager, Mr. Will Taylor, always looks well to the comfort of his public.

"THE WHIP HAND."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I note in last week's *Era* a letter from Mr. Peter Davey, R C. Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, in which he states that a play with the above title was produced in that neighbourhood in 1905.

I should be much obliged if you will insert this letter stating that my husband produced *The Whip Hand*, a three-act comedy, by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Merivale, at the New Theatre, Cambridge, fifteen or sixteen years ago, and afterwards toured in the provincial towns.—Yours faithfully,

MGT. GARTHORNE GRIMSTON.
(Mrs. Chas. W. Garthorne).

Mr. Pinero's play, *His House in Order*, was produced at Copenhagen on Saturday, and had a friendly reception from a full house.

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR ACTORS.

We print below the suggestions for the institution of professional qualifications for actors which have been the subject of some years' work in the Actors' Association, and was completed by the council of 1906. The present council desire to point out that they claim no credit and accept no responsibility for the "suggestions"; but think that in conjunction with the scheme suggested by Dr. Maddick they will serve as a basis of discussion.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE INSTITUTION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR ACTORS.

The question of qualification and registration of actors having been, from time to time, under the consideration of the Actors' Association, the council now beg to bring to your notice the following scheme, and to invite you to become one of the original members of the Senate, with a view to the completion of the scheme.

The president, vice-presidents, and council of the Actors' Association shall nominate twenty-five actors of not less than twenty years' standing as the nucleus of a Senate, who shall co-opt up to the full number within twelve months. The full number of the Senate shall be forty-five, with a qualification of twenty years' standing as actors. Vacancies, as they occur, shall be filled by co-option by the remaining members of the Senate within twelve months.

In view of the broad scope of such a scheme, it shall be in the power of the Senate to elect, if thought desirable, representatives of the allied arts of dancing, singing, and pantomime, who shall be of the same standing, viz., twenty years.

The senate shall confer diplomas. The prospect of obtaining at the earliest possible date the highest official recognition of the Senate, when it has justified its existence, shall be steadily kept in view. The Senate shall sit not less than twice a year to confer diplomas. The quorum of the Senate shall be one-third of its members.

The Senate shall appoint Boards of Examiners to grant certificates in various branches as hereinafter provided. There shall be three on each Board, no examiner being eligible to sit on more than one Board. Certificates granted by any Board shall be signed by all three examiners serving on that Board. Examiners shall not examine their own pupils.

The Boards of Examiners shall grant certificates in the following branches, and shall receive from the Senate instructions as to the standard to be exacted :—

1. Pantomime.—Pantomime is understood to mean the ability to convey meaning in silence by means of gesture and expression.
2. Elocution.—To obtain a certificate in elocution it shall be understood that the candidate shall, in the delivery of selected passages, give reasonable evidence of
   (*a*) General culture;
   (*b*) The capacity to impart dramatic value to the passages selected.
3. Singing.—To obtain a certificate in singing it shall be understood that the candidate shall, in the singing of selected passages, give reasonable evidence of (*a*) and (*b*) as above.
4. Dancing.
5. Character analysis and methods of interpretation.
6. Fencing.
7. Dramatic history and dramatic literature of Great Britain.
8. The language and dramatic literature of any other country.
9. History of costume.

If dancing is taken as one of the *two* qualifying subjects, a much higher standard of excellence to be exacted than if taken as a supplementary subject, *i.e.*, really qualified *solo dancer*.

Candidates who hold certificates in branches 1 and 2, or 1 and 3, or 1 and 4, and who have adopted the profession as a means of livelihood for two years, with not less than forty weeks' full work, shall be entitled to the diploma of Student Associate, which the Senate shall confer.

Candidates who, in addition to certificates in branches 1 and 2, or 1 and 3, or 1 and 4, hold certificates in any three of the remaining sections, shall be entitled to the diploma of Student Associate after they have adopted the profession as a means of livelihood for eighteen months, with not less than thirty weeks' full work. That is, their additional attainments shall save them six months.

Student Associates shall be entitled to appear before the Senate for the diploma of Associate at the next session after they have adopted the profession as a means of livelihood, for a period of five years and 100 weeks' full work. They will be required to appear before the Senate in selected plays or scenes from plays, and they shall receive their diplomas if they shall be judged efficient by a majority of four-fifths of the members present.

Student Associates, who, in addition to certificates in branches 1 and 2, or 1 and 3, or 1 and 4 hold certificates in any three of the remaining sections, shall be entitled to appear for the diploma of Associate after they have adopted the profession as a means of livelihood for a period of four years. That is, their additional attainments shall save them one year.

A list of certificates held shall be enumerated on all diplomas.

All diplomas shall be signed, on behalf of the Senate, by a Registrar appointed by them, and shall further bear a printed list of the members of the Senate.

The Senate would have the power to withdraw from the official register the names of any holders of diplomas convicted by them of dishonourable conduct, or of conduct professionally disreputable.

FEES FOR QUALIFICATION, ETC. ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTIONS.

A.	£ s. d.
Examination fee for Student Associate	1 11 6
Qualification ditto	2 2 0
Examination fee for Associate	1 1 0
Qualification ditto	3 3 0

B.	£ s. d.
Examination fee for Student Associate	1 11 6
Qualification ditto	2 2 0

For all members of the A. A. who have paid one year's subscription to be reduced to £1 1s.

	£ s. d.
Examination fee for Associate	1 1 0
Qualification ditto	3 3 0

The Qualification fee to be remitted entirely to all members of the A. A., who have paid four years' subscription; subscription for a lesser number of years to be deducted from the £3 3s.

C.	£ s. d.
Examination fee for Student Associate	1 11 6
Qualification ditto	2 2 0

To carry membership of the A. A. for two years; or £1 11s. 6d. without membership.

	£ s. d.
Examination fee for Associate	1 1 0
Qualification ditto	3 3 0

To carry membership of A. A. for a further three years; or £2 2s. without membership.

It is, of course, understood that the Senate shall be composed of men and women of the highest professional attainments, and of the strictest integrity, and shall thus be of such weight that none will be reasonably able to cavil at the powers they have assumed. It is hoped that a seat on the Senate shall be regarded by players as the highest honour their fellow-players can bestow.

The possession of a diploma granted by such a body could not fail to be of the greatest value to every actor who has yet his position to make. A printed official list of all holding diplomas shall be published annually, and it is hoped that means may be found to prevent all not in the official list from describing themselves as actors and actresses.

The question of dealing with those who, at the date of the appointment of the first Senate, shall have been some time in the profession, is a difficult one; but it is suggested that all who, at that date, shall have adopted the profession as a means of livelihood, for five years, shall be entitled to the full diploma of Associate, without submitting to any test without payment; and all who, at that date, shall have adopted the profession as a means of livelihood, for two years, shall, after submitting to the tests enumerated, be entitled to apply for the full diploma of Associate at once—the question of payment to be considered later.

Present members of the profession may, by virtue of years of work, claim diplomas—after such periods of work as qualify new members—and have the privilege of lessening these periods by submitting to the same tests. It is, however, understood that any present member of the profession will, without having to submit to test, automatically be listed as fully diplomaed Associate after his five years and 100 weeks' full work be completed; or as a Student Associate after his two years' and forty weeks' full work be completed.

The disadvantages of granting diplomas without test are inseparable from the period of transition. The suggestions made appear to give to existing members of the profession the benefit of their years of service; while they would indirectly benefit materially from the check that would in future be brought to bear on those who propose to enter the profession.

The advantages looked for are :—Added dignity to the profession, limiting the numbers of the profession, practical extinction of bogus managements, and prevention of disreputable persons in police-court cases styling themselves actors and actresses.

To procure still further advantages for holders of diplomas it is further suggested :—

That the Senate should frame a definition of a standard company, say, as follows : Five, at least, must be Associates out of every ten. And of the remaining five, three at least shall be student Associates. Choristers and supers shall not be included in estimating the strength of a company.

That the Senate shall grant to managers of standard companies a licence to advertise their companies as such, the *bond fides* of their advertisement being readily tested by reference to the official register. Any manager proved to the satisfaction of the Senate to be advertising his company without justification shall be debarred from so advertising again for a period not exceeding five years.

That it shall be an expressed condition of the issue of every diploma that the holder shall not play in other than standard companies under pain of forfeiting his diploma for a period to be determined by the Senate.

The managers of companies would ultimately find it greatly to their advantage if these regulations came into force; while local managers, who have any regard for the quality of the work seen in their theatres, would be able, at least to some extent, to safeguard themselves by declining to book any but standard companies.

THE EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY STAGE.

Mr. H. B. Irving delivered, on Tuesday afternoon, an address to the students of the Leeds College of Dramatic Art, at the Alexandra Hall, reviewing the history of the stage in the eighteenth century. Mr. Irving observed that the eighteenth century witnessed the firm establishment of Shakespeare's supremacy as the greatest tragic writer the theatre had ever known—a supremacy due to the fact that he showed the greatest mastery of stage effect, of dramatic situation, of the union between poetry and drama, between great writing and great play-writing—a union which could only be achieved when poet and dramatist were equally blended in the composition of the playwright.

Poetic plays, however great as literature, had never held, and never would hold, the stage so long as they were undramatic in their treatment and construction.

With the exception of a few comedies of Goldsmith and Sheridan, the eighteenth century had bequeathed no living drama. Its wearisome tragedies, declamatory and unreal, devoid of literary beauty, dramatic characterisation or skilful construction, had passed away.

Of realistic drama, as understood to-day, the drama of actual life, the drama of which *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* might be regarded as the typical English example, the eighteenth century knew not.

Shakespeare's plays constituted the supreme test of the actor's merit. The leading actors of the eighteenth century never played arduous parts seven times a week, they never played the same piece continuously night after night, for, perhaps, 200 or 300 nights. The two great London theatres—Drury Lane and Covent Garden—had stock companies such as sprang up later all over England and Scotland, where actors could learn their business by playing a variety of parts, and often playing them with the great actors of the day. Those were the conditions which present-day actors might envy, for they were vital to the education of the actor of the future. Shakespeare would never be killed by surrounding him with what was beautiful, but he would perish as a glory of the stage if we could not in the future give to our actors the training that would fit them to interpret him.

RECONSTRUCTING HAMLET.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—As to the best way in which to reconstruct an acting version of *Hamlet*, to which you call attention in your leader of Saturday, I think we get some indication in the first quarto, published in 1603, and I find, on referring to your printed copy of my paper that I then wrote :—"I look upon the first quarto as a more perfect impression of Shakespeare's dramatic conception of the play than our acting editions, because the latter, by omitting some of the persons represented, and also many of the lines that reveal the weaker side of Hamlet's character, have altered the story of the play, and placed the part of Hamlet in an aspect different from the one conceived by the author." This much-abused quarto has 557 lines less than our acting edition, and yet 254 of them are not in our acting edition at all, but are in the second quarto, or, rather, they have a meaning equivalent to lines in the second quarto, for unfortunately the text of the 1603 play is very imperfect.

When our playgoers become a little less frivolous it may be worth while for managers to look up this 1603 quarto. I never understood the real Hamlet until I read it. I think the play is not, as generally stated, a first sketch of the great tragedy, but that it is a cut-down and reconstructed version of the second quarto which the actors of the Globe Theatre probably made because they found the original a little long. The compression is so well managed, the altered place (to begin Act II.) of the "To be or not to be" speech, followed by the scene with Ophelia, is so decidedly an improvement, and the little introduced scene between Horatio and the Queen Mother so well calculated to remove ambiguities, that it is difficult to conceive why Shakespeare, in his fuller version, should not have retained them.—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM POLL.

Putney, Sept. 11, 1907.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."

Drama in Four Acts, by Herbert Darnley, produced at the Hippodrome Theatre, Mansfield, on Monday, Sept. 9.

Mary Foster	MISS LOUIE ADAIR
Lady Brenton	MISS EVELYN WARD
Mrs. Martin	MISS BEATRICE LETT
Ann Martin	MISS DAISY BYFORD
Tessy	MISS DORA CRISP
Tim	MASTER JACK CRISP
Doris	LITTLE WINNIE CRISP
Willie Brenton	MISS PAULINE
Richard Foster	MR. C. DOUGLAS COX
Jack Brenton	MR. REGINALD PAYNE
Sir John Brenton	MR. CECIL CHURTON
Signor De Lara	MR. GEORGE ROBERTS
P.C. Pimperton	MR. H. FORSDYKE
The Footman	MR. JAMES ARDON
Peter	MR. HERBERT STIMSON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Problems put upon the stage have given rise to much heated argument, but the question contained *A Mother's Sacrifice* is one which will be found very difficult to answer, and is sure to cause much controversy wherever this admirable play is performed. The question asked is this : What should a woman do who is married to a drunken brute who, although ill-treating her and her child in every way, is cunning enough not to give her the opportunity of gaining a divorce? A good man, who has proved that he would give his life to make her happy, asks the wife to leave her brutal husband and go to him. She, putting the child's future before her own happiness, refuses, for she knows that the world would not take into consideration the misery she had endured, and her child's good name would suffer. From a moral point of view Mary Foster's disregard for her own happiness where her child's future is concerned is the only possible course she could pursue, but there are many who will take an opposite view.

Act I. shows the outside of De Lara's Grand Circus, wherein Mary Foster, her husband, little Doris, and their two apprentices, Tessy and Tim, are performing. Before her marriage Mary Foster was engaged to Jack Brenton, a baronet's son, who, valuing her happiness more than his own, gave her up when she fell in love with Foster, the famous circus rider. The circus has come to Brenton for the first time since Mary's marriage, and her meeting with Jack is brought about by the latter saving her from the ill-treatment of Foster. In this scene we are also introduced to Lady Brenton, who is Jack's stepmother, and who wishes to disgrace him in some way so that his father will disinherit him and leave his money to her own little son. To effect this she enlists the services of Foster, a man who years before had married and deserted her. The plot turns on the efforts of this precious pair to get Jack Brenton entangled in some scandal with one of the lady artists at the circus, and Jack's love for Mary Foster and his wish to take her and her child from their life of misery proves to be the very thing, for the proud spirit of old Sir John Brenton will not overlook the fact that his son is paying court to a married woman, and ultimately the haughty old baronet disinherits his son, the scene of their parting being intensely pathetic.

Later on Lady Brenton sends a message to Jack, supposedly from his father, asking him to call at the Manor. Jack does so, a quarrel ensues between father and son, and as Jack is warding off his father's blows, Foster, who is hidden behind the heavy window curtains, stabs the old man, who accuses his son of the murder. Lady Brenton, although no party to the crime, is aware that Foster committed it, and later in the play her knowledge is turned to the purposes of a most dramatic scene. After making all the reparation possible, she divulges the circumstances of the crime, showing how Sir John was forced back upon the curtains, from behind which Foster stabbed him, and just as she describes how the old man threw up his arms Foster, who has escaped from prison, and is now in hiding, kills her exactly in the same manner as he killed Sir John.

There is now no reason why Mary should not marry her faithful lover, and in the last act we see them preparing for the wedding, but the scoundrel Foster has to be reckoned with, and he endeavours to kill the woman to whom he has already brought so much misery. The fight between this half-mad brute and the woman who has now so much to live for is realistic in the extreme, and forms an intensely exciting climax to a really strong drama.

Miss Louie Adair as Mary Foster gave a superb performance, which gained the complete sympathy of the audience. As Jack Brenton Mr. Reginald Payne was everything that a hero should be, his manly appearance fitting him for the part, and his telling voice giving full value to his many fine speeches. Miss Evelyn Ward was most natural as Lady Brenton, her interpretation of a difficult part being excellent. Mr. Cecil Churton gave a thoroughly consistent performance as Sir John Brenton. As Richard Foster Mr. C. Douglas Cox proves what ability and experience can do with a part which might be easily overdone, but which, in Mr. Cox's able hands, stands out as a bold picture of the brutal husband. The comic element, as presented by Miss Daisy Byford, as Ann, the waitress at the Inn, and Mr. Herbert Stimson, as Jack Brenton's servant Peter, formed a well-balanced relief, and as Little Doris, Mary Foster's child, Little Winnie Crisp was a revelation as a baby actress, her extraordinary dancing with her brother and sister in Act III. being one of the features of the evening. If applause, tears, and laughter accorded to a play give any indication of success, then the new play should prove a veritable gold mine to Mr. Herbert Darnley.

"THE ANGEL OF THE SWAMP."

Play in One Act, by H. A. Saintsbury and Gene Stretton, produced at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, on Monday, Sept. 9.

Freckles	MR. WERNHAM S. RYOTT
McLean	MR. LAMBERT PLUMMER
Wissner	MR. FRANCIS J. BITHELL
Black Jack	MR. ALEXANDER MUNRO
Two Limber Thieves	MESSRS. LUGG and BARNES
The Angel	MISS DOROTHEA DESMOND

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The piece was produced by Mr. J. Maundy Gregory. The scene is laid in Indiana, and the idea is taken from Gene Stratton Porter's book "Freckles." It is concerned with an Irishman's care of some valuable oak trees, which a gang of thieves are anxious to steal, there being a great demand for veneer. In addition McLean has wagered a thousand dollars that no man can make his steward, the Irishman Freckles, dishonest, and take one of the precious oaks from the swamp. Temptation being indignantly rejected by Freckles, the gang resort to violence. McLean returns in time to save the situation, and Freckles, who is badly wounded, gains the confessed love of McLean's daughter, the "Angel," as the curtain falls. The piece is pretty and has literary merit, but some of the dialogue will have to go, and the strong situations be reached more quickly. There is some amusing chaffing of a ruffian named Black Jack by the "Angel," of which more might be made. The setting is good and unconventional, and the curtain had to be raised three times at the close on Monday. Miss Dorothea Desmond was picturesque and charming as the "Angel," and Mr. W. S. Ryott made Freckles a sympathetic character. Mr. L. Plummer was strong as McLean, and Mr. Alex. Munro was a powerful Black Jack. Mr. F. J. Bithell's subservient Wissner was well portrayed, and Mr. H. Lugg and Mr. Barnes had a considerable amount of business as the limber thieves.

"HER GREAT MISTAKE."

A Domestic Drama, in Four Acts, by Frank Stuart, produced at the East Oxford Theatre On Monday, Sept. 9.

Geoffrey Gillingham	MR. WM. VANE
Langley Hallam	MR. RD. VANE
Murphy O'Brien	MR. SYDNEY ERNEST
Mark Seaton	MR. CHARLES H. LANGDON
Bernar	MR. HENRY RUTLAND
Thos. Jones	MR. H. P. KENNEDY
Tony	MR. PALLISER ACOCK
President of the Court	MR. R. HENRY
Waiter	MR. GEORGE BUCKLEY
Major Downe	MR. SYDNEY GORDON
Private Smith	MR. A. PALISER
Boer Messenger	MR. DICK CARLTON
The Unknown	MR. HUGH MONCRIEF
First Loafer	MR. ROBERT MARTIN
Second Loafer	MR. ARTHUR HALLEY
Policeman	MR. GORDON WALSH
Carlo	MR. JIM STEVENS
Bianca	MISS WINNIE RUTLAND
Ena Moore	MISS RUTH ZILLWOOD
Sarah Cooper	MISS ELLEN BEVERLEY
Lilith Bernar	MISS GRACE BARTON
Little Violet	MISS EDIE RUTLAND
Muriel Gillingham	MISS WINIFRED STUART

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Geoffrey Gillingham and Langley Hallam are two half-brothers, lieutenants in the army, Geoffrey wealthy and Langley poor. Langley nourishes deep resentment against Geoffrey for having married Muriel, the girl he himself had loved; and Geoffrey's cousin, Ena Moore, staying at Fairmanor, is also disappointed at not having married Geoffrey. The two worthies accordingly plot to upset Muriel's peace of mind, playing on her hasty temper. On the day the play opens there is a meet of the hounds, and Muriel, for the first time, is not with her husband. Sarah, the housekeeper, expresses to Murphy, the butler, her surprise, and Murphy sees how things are going, and speaks his mind about Langley and Ena Moore. The latter returns and tells Hallam that she is inclined to abandon the game of separating husband and wife, but Langley plays on her cupidity, and induces her to continue the plot against the pair; she explains to him how she managed, by giving way to tears, to get Geoffrey to comfort her, and even give her a sympathetic kiss at the moment his wife was passing, and, of course, created jealousy. Langley says he has even a better card to play, and makes her sign an agreement to pay him a certain sum when she secures Geoffrey for herself. Ena, then, by only partially explaining the reason of Geoffrey's conduct, makes Muriel so jealous that she decides to leave her husband; and Langley arranges with Ena to make it appear she has eloped with him. The hunting party return, and Geoffrey receives a letter telling him his wife has left him. He quickly recovers from the blow, and says he will bring her back to him again, but a telegram comes ordering him to join his regiment at once and sail for South Africa.

Hallam has taken rooms in an hotel in London in the name of himself and wife, of course, unknown to Muriel, but he lets her know that he has so arranged that people will believe she has stayed there with him. Scene III., at Waterloo Station, shows the meeting of Muriel with a friend, Mark Seaton, who tells her of her husband's departure for the front, and that her child has been stolen from her. At the scene of Westminster Bridge a woman who has been deceived by Hallam commits suicide, and her father vows vengeance on the unknown betrayer of his daughter.

Act II. takes us to South Africa, where there is a fight and a stormy court-martial scene, where, on his half-brother's lying evidence, Geoffrey is convicted of cowardice and dismissed the army. Act III. depicts Murphy's home, where Muriel comes, and by an accident a man is brought in dying, who, in his wandering talk, gives the clue to where her daughter is concealed; she rushes off to find her, and her husband then arrives and receives a forged letter to his wife, and learns the whereabouts of the child, who is shut up in an old house at Whitechapel. The mother arrives, and while she is being tormented by Hallam her husband enters, and struggling with the villain, throws him over the balcony. The last act is laid in Italy, where Geoffrey and his wife are living in exile. The brigands there capture Hallam and are going to hang him, when Geoffrey saves his life, but to no purpose, as the father of the girl who committed suicide reads his private letters, discovers that he was the man who betrayed his daughter, and shoots him, and the villain dies asking Geoffrey's pardon, and handing him a letter proving his innocence of the charge of cowardice of which he had been convicted at the court-martial.

Mr. Wm. Vane undertook the rôle of the hero, Geoffrey Gillingham, which he sustained with conspicuous success, his acting being very natural. The villain, Langley Hallam, could not have been in better hands than those of Mr. Rd. Vane, who had a powerful grip of the character. Mr. Sydney Ernest was natural and easy as Murphy O'Brien; Mr. Henry Rutland gave a powerful exposition of Bernar; Mr. H. P. Kennedy was well placed as Thos Jones; Mr. Sydney Gordon made the most of the kindly Major Downe; and Mr. Palliser Acock extracted all the fun possible out of Tony. Miss Ruth Zillwood, an actress of considerable power and ability, gave a clever portrayal of Ena Moore; Miss Grace Barton was effective as Lilith Bernar; Miss Ellen Beverley was humorous as Sarah Cooper; and Miss Edie Rutland made a charming Little Violet. Miss Winifred Stuart, the popular lessee of the theatre, endowed Muriel Gillingham with a quiet charm and grace that were especially pleasing and attractive; she never at any time forced or over-acted the part. All had a splendid and well-deserved reception.

Generally speaking, the play is attractive and should prove successful with a little more careful rehearsing. The court-martial scene is very convincing, and there is a lot of smart writing in the dialogue. The comedy might be materially added to with advantage. The scenery, which has been specially painted, reflects great credit on the artists, who appear to have done their work well, and have succeeded in producing some good effects; and there was no discordant voice in the hearty applause bestowed on the play at the finish.

"THE VAN-DWELLER."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to call attention to a somewhat curious coincidence with regard to Mr. H. V. Esmond's new play produced at the Lyric on Tuesday? About three years ago I wrote a one-act musical sketch entitled, *The Van Dweller*, wherein a young nobleman, utterly weary of the sphere in which he was born, buys a caravan and takes a tour through "the green heart of England." At one of his halting places he is encountered by the daughter of the local squire, who takes him for a gipsy. The result is mutual love at first sight, and the squire's daughter having been delivered by the van dweller from the unwelcome attentions of a passing tramp, a denouement such a might be expected. Despite delay, I still hope to see *The Van Dweller* produced. The resemblance between my little piece and at least a portion of Mr. Esmond's play seems close enough to suggest flagrant plagiarism on my part, should I now succeed in getting a hearing. Therefore I ask to be permitted this explanation.—Yours faithfully,

FREDK. BINGHAM.

Savage Club, Sept. 11, 1907.

TOURING AND RESIDENT MANAGERS.

A CHAT WITH WENTWORTH CROKE.

If one were to try and interview Mr. Wentworth Croke in the orthodox way such as is known to the modern journalist, he would be putting himself to a very difficult task indeed, especially if he came with a set of pre-arranged questions. Mr. Croke is far too original and far-seeing to employ his time too long on questions of immediate moment. He takes time by the forelock, and dashes off into the future.

One does not need a second impression of him. There is nothing of a puzzling element about him. He is the acme of "a man with a purpose," and a thorough determination to carry it through to the very end, come what may. As an observer I have marvelled at his extraordinary method of handling great business problems, and bringing them to successful maturity. Although he has not always met with brilliant success, he has had the courage of his opinions and brought through the majority of his undertakings with a thoroughness which is always characteristic of the man. With the influx of great success such as he has obtained with *The Christian* at the Lyceum Theatre, a success unequalled in the history of the drama, he has not attempted to crow. With his unfortunate speculation with *The Gay Lord Vergy* he did not complain or utter one regret. He is an iconoclast.

Early in the week I called upon him at his lovely flat in Bedford-street, really with the object of getting from him a direct interview, but no sooner did I see him than he began to talk about his future plans. But I wanted to know more about *The Christian*. He would have none of it, unless it was about its future in the provinces.

I looked at the man quietly smoking his beloved pipe, and wondered what was hidden behind those kindly eyes and clear-cut features. There was nothing expressive of harshness; nothing to indicate the tremendous responsibilities of the keen touring manager. No; just a quiet calm and fixed look of a general, perhaps, on a battlefield—all self-possession.

A kind of nervous shiver ran down my back when he told me that in addition to *The Christian* at the Lyceum, the other version in the provinces, *The Bondman* and *The Prodigal Son* in the immediate neighbourhood of town, he had almost that moment bought what he termed a magnificent melodrama for production next autumn. This play is entitled *The Withered Hand*, and has been specially written for him by Messrs. Fred Kitchen and Charles Baldwin.

Then the conversation drifted on to the important question of touring. I have found that Mr. Wentworth Croke's ideas on the subject are not only practicable, but profitable. He believes that by doing a thing in a first-class manner, the profits will of necessity be very much smaller, but the reputation of those who are responsible for the production, and the dramatic fare, most assuredly reap the benefit from the majority of playgoers, who do not particularly care for quantity, but quality. There has this week been a lot of discussion about the negligence of the resident managers. It seems to me his contention is perfectly right.

When touring his companies he always sends a better company on a second than on a first visit. That is to say, he always gives an improved article. This is the case with the new version of *The Christian*, which he hopes to send into the provinces, lock, stock, and barrel. Mr. Croke has practically arranged for *The Christian* to tour for ten weeks in its absolute entirety, from the Lyceum Theatre, and will open either at Birmingham or Manchester, doing only No. 1 towns. His respect for the provincial audience is so great that nothing less than the absolute production shall be given for their approval or rejection. What more can be done to please the public?

It is of no use having a shopful of delicacies hidden in the cellar. Beat the big drum, and rely upon the policy of enterprise to secure the public support of your endeavours. Many and many a real good honest play has toured the provinces to milk-and-water audiences for the lack of "push." It is the quintessence of that very word that stamps Wentworth Croke as a brilliantly successful man of business. In his domestic life, and with his employes, he is governed by a spirit of whole-hearted kindness, tempered with a firmness, one might almost say, persuasiveness, that endears him to all. He is not possessed of any possible feature of the martinet, but he is just a man of purpose. And he knows it.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

DURBAN, AUG. 14.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler; Manager, Mr. J. G. Wybrow.—The eminent actress, Mrs. Brown Potter, and company, occupy the theatre here at present. The company opened to a good house on Monday with *La Tosca*. Mrs. Brown Potter as Floria Tosca proved herself to be an artist of power, her fine emotional acting making a complete success of a difficult rôle; Miss Price Owen made a dignified Queen of Naples; Mr. Charles Doran gave a fine rendering of Cavaradossi; Mr. Esme Percy was good as Angelotti; and the other parts were in capable hands. The staging was of the best. The répertoire of the company includes *The Iron Master*, *La Marseillaise*, and *The School for Scandal*.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. Ferguson Brown.—This house of amusement is at present occupied by a variety company, under the managership of Mr. J. Ferguson Brown, jun. Miss Dollie Webb, an old favourite, scores heavily; Miss Lilian Stainbridge is the possessor of a fine cultured voice; Miss Beatrice Ray is here in living statuary; Mr. C. Throsby is a smart comedian; Mr. J. Ferguson Brown, jun., baritone, is a success; Mr. Chas. Leonard is a versatile entertainer; Mr. Leith Harvey, tenor, captivates all with his fine voice; Alphonso, trick cyclist and high pedestal balancer, executes some difficult feats; Mr. Alex. Gray is a clever roller-skate dancer; and the Leopolds, acrobats and dancers, also meet with well-earned applause.

PIETERMARITZBURG, AUG. 14. — SCOTT'S THEATRE.—Lessees, The Follies; Manager, Mr. J. H. Winterbottom.—The company consists of Mesdames Elwyn, Byrne, and Claire Ashton, and Messrs. E. C. Carter, Richard Bruckshaw, Andrew Weir, and J. H. Winterbottom. Miss Ethel Byrne is a chic comedienne, and takes well; Miss Claire Ashton is a dainty dancer; Mr. E. C. Carter, an old favourite, scores heavily; Mr. Richard Bruckshaw's fine tenor voice is heard to perfection in all his numbers; Mr. Andrew Weir is an accomplished baritone; Mr. J. H. Winterbottom is a quaint comedian; and Mr. C. C. Hammond is the able pianist.

CARLTON MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W. F. Isaacs; Manager, Mr. Ralph Brown; Musical-Director, Mr. Roy Dobson.—This place of amusement is still drawing good houses. The star at present is Tommy Holder, whose numbers always meet with well-deserved success; the Harveys (ragtime artists) give a well-finished turn; Alf. Nolan is a smart dancer; Nellie Loveall an acceptable ballad singer; and Tommy Holder and company produce a laughable sketch, entitled *Hurrah for Casey!*

IN consequence of the enormous demand for copies of Mr. Hall Caine's play, *The Christian*, hitherto printed for private circulation only, the publishers, Messrs. Collier and Co., have decided to issue a popular edition at 1s. net. This edition will be on sale by the end of next week.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MR. JOHN HARE has happily fixed no date for his adieu to the London stage, which, we trust, he may elect still longer to adorn, but the tour which he is about to start is intended to be his last. The tour will open at Bristol on Monday, Sept. 30, the répertoire for the week consisting of *A Pair of Spectacles* and *A Quiet Rubber*, *Caste*, and *The Gay Lord Quex*. Mr. Pinero's piece will not be staged till the Wednesday, but on the Monday the audience will receive a souvenir copy of the work containing photogravures of the author and Mr. Hare.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER, freed from managerial care at home by the success of *Fiander's Widow*, starts his provincial tour, accompanied by his wife, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, on Monday. A comprehensive répertoire includes *Macbeth*, *The Walls of Jericho*, *The Arm of the Law*, *The Bishop's Move*, *The Duel*, *Doctor Johnson*, and *The Merchant of Venice*. From Dublin the company proceeds to Manchester, where a three weeks' season will be played, and a new play in four acts, by Murray Carson and Norah Keith, entitled *Simple Simon*, will see the light.

MISS LENA ASHWELL will be "At Home" at a private view of the Kingsway, as the Great Queen-street Theatre is to be called, on Thursday, Oct. 3, from 4 to 7 p.m. Opportunity will then be afforded of noting in their completed state the extensive alterations and decorations, with which rapid progress is being made. Wednesday, Oct. 9, has been selected for the date of opening, when Mr. A. P. Wharton's play, *Irene Wycherley*, will be produced. Mr. Norman McKinnel, who acts as "producer," Mr. Henry Vibart, Mr. Dennis Eadie, Mr. C M. Hallard, Miss Muriel Wylford, Miss Frances Ivor, Miss Christine Silver, Miss Doris Lytton, Miss Gertrude Scott, Miss Nannie Bennett, and Miss Dorothy Brunt will be in the cast.

MISS ASHWELL has determined that her management shall be marked by distinctive as well as artistic features. New plays, by new authors when possible, will be produced, special matinées for special plays will be given, and it is proposed to present at times triple bills of original one-act plays on lines similar to those which have made famous the Grand Guignol Theatre, Paris. The orchestra at the Kingsway is to be composed of well-known young musicians. It will possess stringed instruments only, and special encouragement is to be given to the works of young British composers struggling to obtain a hearing.

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES has added to the attractiveness of *The Merry Widow* at Daly's by the inclusion in the cast of Miss Gabrielle Ray, who has taken up the character of Frou-Frou. Miss Ray appears in the second act with Mr. W. H. Berry in a duet, entitled "Little Simpleton," embellished by a dance in which success instant and complete was gained. In the third act of *The Merry Widow* Miss Ray has another "song and dance," in which her talents are conspicuously displayed, and the applause won by the gifted young artist was of the heartiest and most generous character.

MR. ARTHUR COLLINS'S production of *The Sins of Society* beats anything ever done in Drury Lane. Nearly all the "sets" for the fourteen scenes have been painted in the theatre, and so heavy is the machinery that an extra lift had to be fitted under the stage. Two hundred people are present in the Longchamps scene. Fourteen dogs of various breeds appear at the "freak" dinner in the third act, and each is prize-bred, some being really valuable. They have been living in the theatre for the past six weeks, in order to get them to associate without fighting. More than 100 fashionable dresses have been made for the ladies. The first arrival at gallery doors was at half-past seven a.m. on Thursday. Last week-end everyone concerned was given a well-earned holiday, and from Friday to Monday Drury Lane Theatre was, for the first time for weeks past, entirely free from noise and bustle.

MISS SOPHIE HARRISS, on a motor journey from Exeter (where *The Prince of Pilsen* is playing) to Torquay, one day this week, turned a corner and found herself close upon a group of children, who were peacefully playing in the middle of the roadway, oblivious of the vigorous sounding of the hooter. By skilful steering an accident was averted; but on resuming her seat after soothing the terrified youngsters, Miss Harriss scarcely knew whether to feel amused or indignant at her chauffeur's remark, "Thank the Lord, madam, the car has sustained no damage!"

MISS ALMA MURRAY, the experienced and accomplished actress, is back from her holiday. Miss Murray has derived great benefit from her vacation, and is, as she expresses herself, "keen for work."

MISS ELLEN TERRY'S vote came up for discussion before the Revising Barrister at Chelsea on Thursday. When the name of Mrs. Ellen Alice Wardell, King's-road, Chelsea, was reached, the Unionist agent suggested that the lady—who, he said, was so well known as Miss Ellen Terry—should have her name altered to Carew, as everyone knew that she had recently contracted another marriage. "What does it matter?" said the Liberal agent to his Conservative confrère. "You'll never get her to vote." As no official information of the change of name had been received, no alteration was made in the list.

MRS. ARTHUR COLLINS has been the victim of an audacious robbery, which took place during the *répétition générale* of the new drama, *The Sins of Society*, at Drury Lane on Wednesday. While Mrs. Collins was entertaining a large party of guests, including Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, in the royal box, her jewel-case, containing valuables worth £500, mysteriously disappeared from the royal sitting-room behind the box.

THE royal box is approached by a special staircase leading from a private entrance, and the door of the ante-room giving access to the royal box and the balcony is usually kept locked. On this occasion, however, for some reason, the door was left unlocked, and this seems to have given the thieves their opportunity. The attendants have been questioned closely, and are certain that only those holding invitation cards or ladies and gentlemen well known to them by sight were allowed to pass in. The matter, of course, was placed in the hands of the police, and Detective-Inspector Stockley, of Bow-street, is now in charge of the investigations.

THE ladies of the Lyceum Club gave a dinner on Monday to bid Godspeed to Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker on the occasion of the transference of their management from the Court Theatre to the Savoy. The chair was occupied by Mrs. Alfred Stead. In reply to a toast of "The Drama," Mr. Barker urged that women should take a larger share in the organisation of the drama. They might, he thought, do much for the economic organisation of the drama upon a proper basis. Unless the theatre could be bettered by proper economic organisation, all the artistic endeavour would go for nothing. If they looked after the economic condition of art, the rest of it would look after itself.

THAT eminent actor, Mr. William Mollison, has taken Dublin by storm. The Gaiety Theatre has been packed each night this week, and the utmost enthusiasm has prevailed. On Monday evening, at the close of the performance of *Macbeth*, the audience rose and cheered Mr. Mollison to the echo, and would not leave the theatre until he had made a speech. Press and public have been most enthusiastic over this gifted actor, who has earned a high place among leading Shakespearean actors of to-day. Mr. Mollison's tour extends till next June, and in the intervening time he will visit the principal theatres of the British Isles, making a two weeks' stay at both Manchester and Glasgow.

THE great surprise of theatrical London has been the re-opening of the Lyceum Theatre, and the enormous patronage they have secured with the new version of *The Christian* has eclipsed all records. Playgoers will remember this play as among the least successful of modern times in London, but it has been one of the greatest of provincial hits, and in its present form a long life may be predicted for it. It was, by the way, Mr. Wentworth Croke—who is the pioneer of all Mr. Hall Caine's plays—who persuaded the popular dramatist to re-write *The Christian*.

THE homely but vivid pictures illustrating *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* have appealed powerfully to the poorer women of London, who find in the hard-working Mrs. Wiggs a counterpart of themselves, but lack the means necessary to make her personal acquaintance. Mrs. Madge Carr Cook, the representative of the amiable lady, has therefore arranged for a special matinée to be given at the Adelphi Theatre on October 15. Mrs. Cook is to be the hostess for the occasion. A committee of clergymen, representing some of the poorest districts in the East End and other parts of London has been formed to select the guests. Mr. Tom B. Davis and M. Gaston Mayer are lending the theatre for the afternoon to Mrs. Cook, and to provide some of the expenses for taking fifteen hundred Mrs. Wiggses to the theatre the stalls will be reserved for people who wish to pay.

THE comforts of railway travelling were agreeably experienced on Sunday last by Mr. F. R. Benson's North Shakespearean Company, journeying from Ramsgate to Plymouth, and by Mr. Chas. Macdona's *White Chrysanthemum* company, en route from Eastbourne to Torquay. Both combinations changed at Victoria into the Great Western Railway Company's corridor coach, which ran "special" from that station by the short route via Castle Cary, the only stop being at Exeter and Newton Abbot, the train reaching Plymouth Mill Bay twenty minutes in advance of time quoted. Luncheon of five courses and afternoon tea were provided in the handsome dining car of the Great Western Company, whose energy in catering for theatrical traffic is the means of gaining added popularity for the system.

MR. D. LYN HARDING, who plays Ferrers, the evil genius in *The Sins of Society* at Drury Lane, had to contend against formidable odds at the first performance on Thursday, when he was the victim of a violent cold. Few in front could have imagined the suffering he was undergoing, and but for the efforts of Dr. Cathcart, the eminent throat specialist, he would have been unable to play. Mr. Harding is able to stick manfully to his duties, but it is a case of from bed to theatre and back again.

MISS AIDA JENOURE inaugurated with very great success, at a flying matinée in The Winter Gardens, Bournemouth, on Wednesday last (11th inst.), her new entertainment, consisting of a répertoire of old-time and modern French and English songs in costume. Judging by the enthusiastic reception accorded to such songs as "Le Roi a fait battre Tambour," "Colinette," etc. (from the répertoire of Madame Yvette Guilbert), "Lord Rendal," and other old-time English ballads, and the more modern "Just So" songs of Rudyard Kipling, Miss Jenoure's entertainment will be quite one of the features of the coming musical season.

MR. JERRARD GRANT ALLEN will produce Miss Gladys Unger's new play, *The Knave of Hearts*, at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, on Monday. It is claimed for this piece that it possesses the qualities which distinguished *Captain Swift*, *Raffles*, and *Sherlock Holmes*, and it will be sustained by a strong company, including Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, Miss Nina Sevening, Miss Haidee Wright, and Mr. Leon M. Lion. *The Knave of Hearts* may be expected in London in due course.

MISS MABEL HACKNEY (Mrs. Laurence Irving) has sustained a bereavement in the loss of her venerable grandfather, Mr. William Penrose, who died last week at Swansea. Mr. Penrose was nearly a nonagenarian, having reached the advanced age of eighty-nine.

THE enormous sum of £500 a night is to be paid to Signor Caruso, who has been engaged to sing at the Imperial Opera House, Vienna, for four evenings, beginning on Oct. 4. All the seats for the performance, it is stated, have already been disposed of.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS is concluding his second tour as Royal Keene in *The World's Great Snare*, and is to be credited with 140 performances of the part, of which he was the original.

A "SCHEME AND ESTIMATES FOR A NATIONAL THEATRE," compiled by Messrs. William Archer and Granville Barker, will shortly be published by Messrs. Duckworth and Co. The authors believe that the non-existence of any such definite and detailed scheme has been one of the main reasons why, out of all the money which is yearly devoted by private benefactors to public purposes, practically nothing has as yet come in the direction of the theatre. They have sought to supply a model, worked out in considerable detail, which may be realised by anyone who has the will and the means. The book was printed for private circulation three years ago, and in that form secured the approval of the late Sir Henry Irving, who joined with Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. Pinero, Mr. Barrie, Mr. Hare, Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, and Mrs. D'Oyly Carte in signing a formal endorsement of the scheme. The forthcoming edition will contain a prefatory letter by Mr. Barker, in which such changes as have occurred in the theatrical situation since the book was written will be noted.

THE first night of the season at the Crystal Palace Theatre was an undoubted success. A crowded house on Monday night gave a hearty greeting to Mr. Charles Macdona's excellent company in that delightful comic opera, *Veronique*. Next week the Palace patrons have another treat in store for them, for Mr. Bannister Howard will present Mr. Macdona's company in *The White Chrysanthemum*, from the Criterion. The cast includes Miss Muriel George, Miss Rosa Sullivan, Miss Dorothy Sephton, Mr. John T. MacCallum, Mr. James Graydon, Mr. Melville Florance, Mr. Victor Kerr, and Mr. Jamie Dallas.

THE Rev. Forbes Phillips, who has contributed more than one play to theatrical lore, is organising a pageant to be held next summer at Gorleston, of which town he is the vicar. One scene will depict the Granting of the Charter to Yarmouth by King John, and in another a battle between Britons and Romans will be portrayed.

THE success of *Fiander's Widow* at the Garrick is materially assisted by the auxiliary departments associated with the theatre. The scenery of the Dorsetshire village, in which the whole of the play passes, is all from the brush of Mr. R. C. McCleery, whose artistic skill is revealed in every set. The art of the perruquier is exercised to excellent purpose by Mr. George Fox, who has produced some striking hirsute adornments; while the orchestra, which has the advantage of a Mustel Celeste organ and a pianoforte by Steinway, is directed with the care and ability for which Mr. Edmond Rickett is well and justly renowned. The scenery and draperies of the Garrick, it should be added, have been rendered fireproof by the Fire-Resisting Corporation, Ltd., of Fulham.

MR. FREDERICK HARRISON made an arrangement several months ago with Mr. Louis Calvert, by which *Sweet Kitty Bellairs*, a four-act costume play by Mr. David Belasco, founded on Mr. Egerton Castle's novel, "The Bath Comedy," was to be produced at the Haymarket, and the run of *My Wife* will, therefore, be concluded in a few weeks' time. The new piece has enjoyed a great success in America, where its picturesque incidents and charming comedy exercised a great impression. Miss Eva Moore will paly the title-rôle, and other important engagements are those of Mr. Louis Calvert, Miss Maud Hoffman, Mr. Eille Norwood, and Mr. Henry Neville.

THE alarm that was aroused on Monday by the news that Mr. Bernard Shaw had been lost in the recesses of the Welsh mountains was allayed the following morning by a telegram from the dramatist himself, who thus characteristically relieved public anxiety by wire:—"Search parties out all night in vain. Footprints traced four miles by lanterns' light. Grave anxiety. I attribute failure of search to my preferring to pass the night in a comfortable hotel. I find the moors too damp at my age.—BERNARD SHAW, Llanbedr."

MR. SHAW has been staying with his wife at Hafodybryn, Llanbedr, a few miles from Barmouth, in Wales, and started out at eleven o'clock on Sunday morning, intending to go as far as the Roman Steps and other interesting places in the vicinity. Arrangements had been previously made to join a party of Fabian friends at a certain spot, but having arrived first at the rendezvous, Mr. Shaw proceeded towards the Roman Steps, and about halfway he left a card pinned on a tree—"Gone on. Please follow." He, however, missed the turning, and, wandering in the Trawsfynydd direction, lost his way. Search parties, armed with lamps and dinner bells, were subsequently organised, three hundred persons taking part in them, and Mr. Shaw was at length tracked to the village of Dolgelly, where the searchers learned that the dramatist had been last seen sitting down to a substantial breakfast, and that he had subsequently left for home.

THE Playgoers' Theatre, which aims at the establishment of a permanent repertoire theatre, will take practical shape in Manchester on September 23, when an eight weeks' season will be opened at the Midland Theatre in that city. The programme for the opening weeks includes *David Ballard*, by Charles McEvoy, produced recently in London by the Stage Society; *The Fantastics*, Rostand's verse-phantasy, as translated by "George Fleming"; Mr. Bernard Shaw's *Widower's Houses*; *Clothes and the Woman*, by "George Paston," a recent Stage Society production; and an entirely new play, entitled *The Street*, by A. R. Williams Several one-act plays will also be produced, among them Maeterlinck's *The Interior*, *The Great Silence*, by Basil Hood, and *Gentlemen of the Road*, by Charles McEvoy.

THE manager of the venture is to be Mr. B. Iden Payne, an old Bensonian, and son of a Manchester clergyman, while in the permanent stock company, which is to be a feature of the theatre, will be found Miss Clare Greet and Miss Hilda Potter, who was for some time leading lady in Mr. William Poel's productions. In intervening weeks, tours will be arranged, and there will be a regular change of programme without regard to the success of any particular play.

MADAME ROSE ETTINGER, the well-known operatic vocalist, who was found a week ago in a bedroom at her lodgings at South Milton, near Kingsbridge, suffering from the effects of a revolver shot in her mouth, is making satisfactory progress, but the injuries to her mouth are very serious. A prolonged examination has been made for the purpose of locating the bullet, but without success.

THE funeral of the celebrated composer Edvard Grieg took place at Bergen on Monday in the presence of a large assemblage. The first part of the service was held in the Museum of Art and Industry. Among those following the coffin besides the members of the family were General Nissen, who represented King Haakon, and representatives of the German Emperor, the Norwegian Government, and the Storthing. On the arrival of the cortège at the crematorium, the officiating minister delivered an impressive address, and after a hymn had been sung the body was placed in the furnace. In depositing a wreath on the coffin, the representative of the Emperor William spoke of the deep sorrow of the Kaiser and the German people at Grieg's death.

A SHORT time ago a correspondent inquired for a dramatic club performing the plays of Shakespeare. The "Shakespeare Players," a club having for its main object the regular performance of the plays of the poet, has been founded. The subscription for the first fifty members is half a guinea, and the hon. sec. is Mr. Rowland Harman, St. Olave's, Compton-road, Winchmore-hill, N. The club will endeavour to found a scholarship for the dramatic education of promising players, the award to be publicly competed for.

MR. LUSCOMBE SEARELLE, who has been laid up at the Cottage Hospital with three broken ribs among other injuries, as chronicled in a recent issue of *The Era*, is now on a fair way to recovery. Owing to the remarkable success of *The Christian* at the Lyceum his poetical and musical drama, *Mizpah*, will not be produced till after the pantomime, which it will follow. Mr. Searelle leaves for the South of France next week, where he will put in the winter, and also put the finishing touches to his new poetical drama founded on the Creation and entitled *In the Beginning*, which is scheduled for production in New York in March next.

ON another page will be found the suggestions for the institution of professional qualifications for actors, which have been the subject of some years' work in the Actors' Association, and were finally completed by the council of 1906. In issuing the "suggestions" the present council claim neither credit nor responsibility for their production, but express the opinion that in conjunction with the scheme recently outlined by Dr. Maddick they will serve as a basis of discussion.

MR. GEORGE BROOKS has been engaged by Mr. Ernest Carpenter to play Mrs. Crusoe in the forthcoming pantomime at the Lyceum Theatre.

THE Moody-Manners season of English opera just concluded has been a success from an artistic, but not from a financial, point of view. "I think the public will agree that the performances were exceptionally good," said Mr. Charles Manners, "but in looking over the balance-sheet I find we are £800 on the wrong side. I am still hopeful of English opera in London, nevertheless, and my faith is shown by the fact that I have arranged with Mr. Tom B. Davis to give another season next year at the Lyric. What has specially surprised me is the lack of public interest taken in new works. On Friday I produced two one-act operas by native composers, and our takings were no more than £57. In Germany or Italy the house would have been sold out."

MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY and Mr. W. V. Garrod celebrated their 500th presentation of *The Prodigal Parson* at Leigh on Thursday, having toured the piece for 83 weeks without a break. Brought thoroughly up to date and with a new plant of printing, the piece is playing to better business than ever, and advance bookings extend many months ahead.

"PETER'S MOTHER," under the management of Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison, is still meeting with wonderful success in the provinces, and is now entering upon its many return visits. Last week the Midland Company was honoured by the presence of H.R.H. Princess Henry of Battenberg at Ryde, while at Scarborough a fashionable audience included Lord Hawke and Lord Dalmeny. The Hutchison management started another company of *The Stronger Sex* at the Coronet on Monday, and met with an enthusiastic reception. Mr. Otho Stuart's original London production is carried by this company, and the dresses, from Messrs. Jay's, which cost over £1,000, will no doubt add to the attractiveness of the play in the provinces as they did in the Metropolis.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE has engaged Mr. F. B. Farrant, a well-known touring manager, to represent him during the run of *The Christian* at the Lyceum Theatre.

MR. AUGUSTE VAN BIENE finds his time so fully occupied with *The Broken Melody*, which despite its 5,000 representations still stands high in popularity, that he has determined to confine himself to that play, and to dispose of the drama, *The Musician's Romance*, of which he holds the rights. The play is one of the finest that emanated from the pen of the late Frank Harvey, and it should soon be put into active service by responsible managers who know its worth.

MR. G. CARLTON WALLACE is producing a new play, called *The Lancashire Lad*, on Monday at the Victoria Theatre, Broughton. One of the scenes is a realistic representation of an episode on the North Pier, Blackpool. A strong company has been engaged, and many dates have already been booked.

MR. RONALD BAYNE and Miss Evelyn Hope have been engaged to play Prince Othmur and Countess Shulah in the Lyceum success, *Her Love Against the World*, during the suburban tour, starting at Brixton on Monday.

MR. W. R. MARSHALL, of Mr. Norman V. Norman's company, met with a painful accident last week, which necessitated the amputation of one of the fingers of his left hand.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN has been kept out of the cricket field all the summer owing to an injury to his hand, sustained at hockey last spring, but was able to play for his company against the Bromsgrove Cricket Club a few days ago. As evidence that his hand has not lost its cunning, Mr. Norman took six wickets for 41 runs, and going in last, scored 11 out of a total of 51. The Bromsgrove Club scored 124.

MESSRS. HENRY SWINERD AND J. W. CORDINER open their tour of the musical comedy, *The Girl from Japan*, on Monday, at the Theatre Royal, Dover. The production will be on first-class lines, neither trouble nor expense having been spared by Mr. Cordiner, under whose direction the play will be toured. New scenery has been specially painted and an electric light plant and floral decorations will also be travelled. The piece, which will be represented by a company numbering forty, has been produced by Mr. H. Buckstone Clair, and a long tour, including most of the best theatres, has been booked.

THE Teddington Tradesmen's Exhibition will be held in the Clarence Hotel's beautiful grounds the first week in October. The Carey Concert Combination will perform, under the able direction of Mr. Pat Carey, and the Blue Hungarian Band, directed by Mr. Sydney Hemming, is due twice daily. As this is the first exhibition the Teddington tradesmen have ventured upon, the special efforts of Mr. Judd Green, the lessee, will greatly help them, and, given fine weather, a very satisfactory result may be expected.

MR. WILFRED STANFORD has forwarded to the secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund a further sum of £1 19s., which he has collected in the box at the Camden Theatre. Mr. Cecil Beryl has also sent 19s. 6d., collected by the same means in the Theatre Royal, Brighton, box.

WE regret to record the death of Mr. Herbert J. Montague, acting-manager of the Clydebank New Gaiety Theatre, who passed away on Friday, the 6th inst., from pneumonia, after a short illness. The funeral took place on Tuesday at Kilbowie Cemetery, the cortège being followed by the staff and a large number of friends. Wreaths were sent by Mr. R. C. Buchanan, managing-director of Scotland's provincial theatres, Mr. William Strang, the staff, Mr. Gray, and others. The deceased was for many years acting-manager for the late Osmond Tearle.

MRS. CROWE (Miss Bateman) has returned to town, and reopens her dramatic school on Sept. 23. At her well-appointed academy of acting Mrs. Crowe gives a finished training, as is proved by the fact that three of our most promising ingénues—Miss Dorothy Minto, Miss Anne Brett, and Miss Viva Birbrett—were all taught by her. The three young ladies mentioned, all acting at present in London, are only a few of the many who have learnt the rudiments of their art in this excellent school.

MISS LOUISA PEACH will terminate on Sept. 21 at the Theatre Royal, Sunderland, a special seven weeks' engagement with Mr. Harry Foxwell for the heroine, Mary Barnard, in *A Broken Heart*, owing to Mrs. Foxwell taking up the part from that date. Miss Peach has met with great success in the different towns she has visited, and expresses her thanks to both Mr. and Mrs. Foxwell for a happy and comfortable engagement.

PATRONS of the Grand Theatre, Croydon, may be assured of an enjoyable and exciting evening on Monday, Sept. 23, when Mr. Wentworth Croke will present that stirring drama, *The Bondman*, by Hall Caine. The production comes direct from Drury Lane, with all new scenery, dresses, and effects, and no expense has been spared in securing a first-class company. Miss Grace Chalmers has been specially engaged for the part of Greeba.

MR. GEO. TESTO SANTE'S novel circus drama, *The Life of a Showman*, has been revised and re-written by Mr. Chas. Darrell and Mr. G. T. Sante. An already strong play is thus greatly improved, and is meeting with great success in every town it visits.

MR. F. R. GWYN-RICHARDSON, who has been stage-manager for Mr. Frank Bertram for several tours, has been specially engaged by him for general management for his *The Breed of the Treshams* tour.

A GREAT success has been scored by Mr. Norman V. Norman with *Mr. Sheridan*, which the popular actor-manager has added to his répertoire. The charm and grace of Miss Gladys Unger's pretty play is irresistible, and has been much appreciated everywhere.

MR. GASTON MAYER will introduce several novelties during his forthcoming season of French plays, which starts at the New Royalty Theatre on Monday, Sept. 30. Foremost amongst the attractions will be the original version of *Le Duel*, by H. Lavedan, in which M. Le Bargy will make his reappearance in London. Mlle. Piérat, who recently appeared with great success in Paris in the principal part of Capus's *Notre Jeunesse*, will play the part of La Duchesse de Chailles. The rôle of Monseigneur Boléne will be in the capable hands of the veteran artist M. Albert Lambert, père; and M. Marquet, who will be remembered as one of Mme. Sarah Bernhardt's leading men, has been engaged for the part of Docteur Morey.

THE second production consists of *Le Gendre de Monsieur Poirier*, by Emile Augier, and M. Le Bargy and Mlle. Piérat will conclude their engagement with a performance for one night only of *the Marquis de Priola*. During the third week of the season Mlle. Franquet, who is to be leading lady at the Théâtre Antoine, will appear, and Mlle. Guett, of the Palais Royal and Mlle. Cécile Didier, the charming ingénue from the Odéon, have also been engaged. Mme. Renée Villars, a most promising pupil of Mme. Céline Chaumont, will make her London début in Fableron's *Pendant le Bal*. Subsequently M. Galipaux, who is justly considered the drollest comedian of France, will return to the Royalty, where he will be seen in *Le Contrôleur des Wagons-lits*, *La Famille Pont-Biquet*, and *Médor*—three plays which are entirely new to London.

MME. SARAH BERNHARDT will make her bow at the New Royalty on Oct. 21 in Sardou's *La Sorcière*. During the first week of her stay Mme. Bernhardt will be seen in Paul Hervieu's *Le Réveil*, a new play which was produced with considerable success at the Comédie Française, and which has not been seen in London.

"BARRY DOYLE'S REST CURE" will be produced at the Court Theatre on the 25th inst. On the first day of October a series of eight matinées will be begun of *The Incubus* (translated by Laurence Irving from *Les Hannetons*, by Brieux), the cast including Mr. C. V. France, Mr. Leonard Calvert, Miss Mabel Hackney, and Mr. Laurence Irving. The two last-named artists will also appear in *The Phœnix*, a one-act piece, also from Mr. Irving's pen, which was produced a few weeks ago at the Coronet.

MR. STUART'S choice of a successor to *Barry Doyle's Rest Cure* has fallen upon *Lady Frederick*, a play by W. S. Maugham, which will be given in the evenings, with Miss Ethel Irving in the title-rôle. *Lady Frederick* is a play of a light and agreeable description, developing the story of a lady, who, taking pattern by David Garrick, makes herself appear to disadvantage in the eyes of a youthful suitor, whose advances she wishes to repulse. The series of *Incubus* matinées will be followed in due course by a four-act piece, entitled *Hamilton's Second Marriage*, by Mrs. W. K. Clifford.

MISS WINIFRED PLAUSON, who was for five seasons with Miss Olga Nethersole, has just concluded an eight months' engagement as Mrs. Morrison, the adventuress, with Miss Annie Hughes in *Tommy*.

THE Principal of the Leeds College of Music, Mr. George Haddock, died on Thursday afternoon at the age of eighty-four. He was an enthusiastic collector of violins, and published a number of works.

MRS. ADNEY PAYNE, who, under the professional name of Ethel Earle, has brightened many a production, some time since announced her intention of returning to the stage, and her services may now be secured for pantomime or musical comedy. Mrs. Payne, besides being an engaging actress, is an accomplished harpist and vocalist.

MR. OTTO C. CULLING, proprietor of the Theatre Royal and Opera House, Bury, is progressing favourably—a condition of things that is giving much satisfaction to his many friends.

AMONG the romantic costume plays to be produced by Mr. Maundy-Gregory in the spring is *A Friend of the People*, adapted by H. A. Saintsbury from the novel by Miss Mary C. Rowsell, who has also collaborated in a play founded upon the theme of "The Marseillaise," entitled *A Song fo Liberty*. It is probable that the latter, which, by the way, has been accepted for immediate performance in Stockholm, will also be produced by Mr. Maundy-Gregory in the English provinces.

REHEARSALS have already started for the Maundy-Gregory Christmas pantomime. It is estimated that a production quite on the same lines has not been seen in the provinces for nearly twenty years, and by its means vivid memories of their childhood will be recalled to the "grown-ups." An exceptionally clever comedian has been engaged for the Dame.

THE first London performance of the musical comedy by Owen Trevine and St. John Hamund, entitled *The Scarlet Patrol*, with music composed by Owen Trevine, will be given at the Fulham Theatre on Monday. The company is a strong one, including the well-known artists Leonard Russell, St. John Hamund, Elsie Cooke, and Arthur Stigant.

MR. PERCY FITZGERALD, whose interesting article on "The Real Hamlet" we printed last week, is a voluminous contributor to theatrical literature. He has been in his time dramatic critic of several important London papers, and is the author of biographies of actors of the last generation, of a history of the Gilbert and Sullivan opera, and many erudite and "up-to-date" works too numerous to mention. Some years since we discussed his ingenious theory of the optics of the stage; and there is no doubt that his eloquent protest against the inattention to detail in scenic art has had much to do with the marvellous improvement in this direction which has taken place within the last twenty years. Mr. Fitzgerald is still hale and hearty, and we hope it will be many years yet before he lays down his well-practised pen.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

A Trio of Great Ones.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE has been telling a *Daily Telegraph* representative of an experience the eminent actor had on his recent visit to Germany. "I met there," said Mr. Tree, "a famous actor and producer. Anxious to draw him out, I boldly said, 'I suppose you are rather inclined to hold the British drama in considerable contempt.' 'On what grounds,' he returned, 'do you base that supposition?' With an air of perfect gravity I replied, 'Because I have been led to believe by sundry articles in London papers and magazines that the British drama is moribund, while that in Germany and France is, on the other hand, flourishing apace.' The bait took. 'On the contrary,' my companion warmly insisted, 'the opinion here is quite the reverse. Germany produces next to nothing; France sends us still less; as a matter of fact, we rely almost exclusively on English productions. Our three great dramatists to-day are Shakespeare, Bernard Shaw, and Oscar Wilde.' 'It is long since I became aware that Shakespeare was a German,' I said; 'but I did not know until now that the other two playwrights you mention were also compatriots of yours.' I am bound to say," added Mr. Tree, "that so cogent were my friend's arguments, so conclusive his reasoning, I was, in the end, well-nigh constrained to acknowledge he had right on his side!"

A Local Hit.

"WHILE I was playing Elsie, the romantic love-sick schoolgirl, in Miss Emma Hutchinson's *A Squire of Dames* touring company," writes Miss Fay Rivington, "an amusing incident occurred. We were at a theatre at a large town in the North of England. The comedy was quite above the heads of our audience, and had never before fallen so flat in our nine months' tour. All Mr. Carton's delightfully subtle wit went for naught; and even my breakdown in sobs, at the end of my song 'Good-bye,' which usually elicited roars of laughter, went without a smile or a hand. We dragged on wearily until the fourth act, where Professor Dorole (my father) tries to induce me to relinquish my intention of becoming a hospital nurse. He says: 'I intended to take you to the pantomime next winter, and I was reading in a newspaper the other day that next year's pantomime is likely to surpass all previous efforts.' Upon which the house broke into a loud and long burst of applause. We stared at each other in amazement, and the other members of the company not on in the scene rushed to the wings to see what had happened. At last it dawned upon us that the yokels supposed the line had been inserted to advertise the next local panto. We finished the scene with difficulty."

Plenty of Incident.

THERE is nothing like a stirring "contents" bill. The following is extracted from a burlesque programme of Mr. "Blougham Moore's" new play of stupendous interest, *Why Girls Leave Home; or, No Wedding Cake for Her*, produced at the Theatre Royal, Richmond, on Monday:—Act I., Gloom. Scene 1—The Village Green. The Discovery of the Gold Mine. The Curate's Guilty Secret. The Dog Fight. Murder of the Old Squire. General Rejoicings. Scene 2—Alone on the Pacific. The Last Drop of Water. The Marriage Chimes. Thrilling Rescue on Marconi's Aeroplane. Scene 3—St. Paul's by Night. The Fight on the Roof. The Missing Will is lost at last. "Great Scott, 'tis a Forgery, but no one saw me do it." "No, but I saw you put the Poultice on the Canary." "You? and who are you?" "Narko, the Idiot Witness." Act II., Despair. Scene I—Maiden Lane. "Tell him I refuse his vile offer." (Two seconds are supposed to elapse.) "Besides, it's not enough." Scene 2 — The North Pole. The Annual Regatta. The Obstacle Race. "Take back your Penny on the Bottle." "See, I have set fire to the Iceberg." Scene 3.—Cranberry Mansions. "I must and will see him." "Over my dead body first." Struggle for Dates and Death of the Good Agent.

Closing Time.

QUITE a storm in a teacup, says a Spanish correspondent, has been raised over a new law just come into force in Spain enacting that all theatres in Madrid shall be closed down at 12.30 prompt. Formerly no time limit existed, and the theatres closed at 12, or 1, or 2, as it suited their convenience. The managers are expressing their feelings on the matter somewhat freely, and not a few unpleasant things are appearing in the Press. The *Heraldo* of Madrid, devoting a column and a half to the matter, says, that to oblige the management of the "zarzuela" (short musical comedies) theatres to close at 12.30 is tantamount to prohibiting and exterminating this kind of play; that it is absolutely impossible to terminate the *third* performance by 12.30; that to make this class of theatre (which predominates at present here) pay, it is essential to have four shows a night, as the two first are so poorly attended; that the receipts depend almost entirely on the third and fourth; that to suggest commencing at 8 o'clock when the people will not go before 11 is puerile; that the whole affair is ridiculous, and, finally, that the law should be brought to bear on the various managements to compel them to commence the different functions at the hour announced, instead of an hour later as sometimes occurs, which would be far more sensible than interfering with public rights as to closing time. The Eslava, which ignored the intimation on the opening night, and closed at five minutes to one, was fined 500 pesetas.

Artists and Environment.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE, in an article on "Touring" in the *Free Lance*, is particularly strong on the question of "Dressing Rooms." He says:—"I am a great believer in environment. A player's performance must in a great measure be a reflection of his or her surroundings, and taken generally actors and actresses are a peculiarly artistic, and, shall I say, super-sensitive people; and when they have to dress, as is too often the case, in a white-washed cellar with no ventilation, they cannot be expected to give the same performance of quality as if their surroundings were suitable, and they were treated as human beings and not as wild beasts."

Herman Merivale's Objection.

MR. A. STANDEN TRIGGS writes:—"In Mr. Peter Davey's letter on *The Whip Hand* in your recent issue, he says, 'That there may be no possible misunderstanding, I desire to let it be known that a play called *The Whip Hand* was produced by amateurs in this neighbourhood in the autumn of 1905,' &c. With the same excellent intention I would trespass on your courtesy to state that *The Whip Hand*, a play by the late Herman Merivale, was first produced at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, under my management, by Mr. Charles Garthorne and company, on a certain Easter Monday, at least a score of years since. This I do remember: Mr. Pascoe Bioletti was a member of the company, and Mr. Merivale took some extraordinary objection on the evening of the production to Mr. Bioletti's 'make-up.' With characteristic emphasis he so repeatedly urged his views on this comparatively minor point to Mr. Garthorne that at last this ever-courteous actor-manager was constrained to say, 'Merivale, if you don't go round to the front and sit down I shall not ring up the curtain.' 'Do you mean that, Charlie?' 'I do, indeed.' 'Then, *good-night*.' The impetuous author took his hat and stick, marched straight home to Upperton, and *The Whip Hand* was produced in his absence."

"THE SINS OF SOCIETY."

Drama, in Four Acts,
by Cecil Raleigh and Henry Hamilton,
produced at Drury Lane Theatre, on Thursday, Sept. 12.

James Hogg ..... MR. ALBERT CHEVALIER
Noel Ferrers ..... MR. LYN HARDING
Sir Dorian March ..... MR. JULIAN L'ESTRANGE
Rev. Martin Hope ..... MR. AUSTIN MELFORD
Mr. Morris ..... MR. OSCAR ADYE
Mr. Thesiger ..... MR. ARTHUR POOLE
Vicomte Villette .....MR. L. ASHTON-JARRY
Colonel Bryan ..... MR. ARTHUR LEIGH
Snowey Templer ..... MR. ISIDORE MARCEL
Bates ..... MR. HARRY BRETT
Lady Marion Beaumont
MISS CONSTANCE COLLIER
Lady Goldbury ..... MISS FANNY BROUGH
Lady Gwendolen Ashley
MISS ADRIENNE AUGARDE
Caroline Duchess of Danebury
MISS LUCY SIBLEY
Mrs. Murgatroyd .... MISS FRANCES LEIGHTON
Lady Cirencester ..... MISS HILDA STEWART
Lady Normanton ..... MISS MURIEL LANGLEY
Mrs. Burton Rocketter .... MISS OLIVE PALMER
Private Baines ..... MR. ALEC DAVIDSON
Downes ..... MR. EDWARD MORGAN
A Butler ..... MR. HOWARD RUSSELL
Lord Enderby ..... MR. ARTHUR WELLESLEY
Captain of Ship ..... MR. FRED PENLEY
Footmen ..... { ..... MR. BOGUE / MR. RICHARD NORTON

The Sins of Society grips one's interest at the opening. Lady Marion Beaumont has been gambling at bridge, and has trenched on the fortune of her younger sister, Lady Gwendolen Ashley, for whom she is a trustee. Noel Ferrers, who wants to marry Gwendolen, suggests to Lady Marion that she shall obtain from a moneylender named Morris a loan of £7000 on the security of a valuable tiara lent to Lady Marion by a rich friend, Lady Goldbury; and—while Morris's back is turned—shall substitute for the box containing the tiara a similar one cleverly weighted with coal. The fraud is carried out; Lady Marion loses at racing, and is unable to redeem the pledge; the lender's suspicions are excited; and Lady Marion, driven to desperation, drugs him in his cottage near Windsor, and escapes with the box to the riverside, where she hands it over to Gwendolen's lover, Sir Dorian March, who, pursued by the police, dives into the river over a weir, and subsequently escapes from the country by taking the place of a deserter about to sail on foreign service on the s.s. Beachy Head. We witness the embarkation of troops, and the getting under weigh of the vessel. A marconigram is received, and Sir Dorian is about to be detected, when the ship in the fog strikes upon a rock. The women and children rush for the boats, while the soldiers, rallied by Sir Dorian, stand to the salute upon the decks as the Beachy Head goes down—her boilers bursting as she sinks—Dorian saving himself by clinging to a spar. He goes to South America, and Gwendolen, believing him to be dead, consents to marry Ferrers and save her sister from exposure by the villain and punishment by the law. The sacrifice, however, is made needless by the good-natured Lady Goldbury, and her odd admirer, James Hogg, who open the incriminating box—which was thrown to Hogg by Sir Dorian before his dive—and replace the coal with the tiara. The wedding of Gwendolen to Ferrers is stopped; the villain is discomfited; and the lovers are united.

Strong as the drama is, the remarkable effect which it produces is greatly due to the superior quality of the acting. Artists who have won their spurs in other ranks of their profession are found in the cast of *Sins of Society*, and give a reality to the authors' personages and a convincing effect to their dialogue. That admirable comedian, Mr. Albert Chevalier, has a refined and subtle humour; and it might have been feared that his style would have been too reserved for Drury Lane. Exactly the opposite was the result. Not a line, not a gesture of the part of James Hogg was lost on the acute and observant audience that witnessed the performance of Mr. Cecil Raleigh and Mr. Henry Hamilton's work on Thursday. And Mr. Chevalier's rendering of the rôle was not only diverting—it was intensely human. We sympathised to the uttermost with Hogg's feeling of being snubbed in Society; we admired the cheerful perseverance with which, under the influence of his love for Lady Goldbury, he pursued his amorous aim; and the little parvenu's expressions of affection for the only man who appreciated him and treated him as a fellow-creature were delivered by Mr. Chevalier with the genuine pathos of which he is such a practised and expert exponent. Nothing could have been better for the fortunes of the play that this inclusion in the cast of one of the most subtle and ingenious comedians of our day. His return to the dramatic stage was a happy event; and the enthusiastic welcome which he received on Thursday showed how eager the audience were to assure him of their affection. It is always a critical task to make the villain of a melodrama possible as well as execrable; but Mr. Lyn Harding as Noel Ferrers did it without apparent difficulty. The supercilious manner which Ferrers uses to his equals as well as to his inferiors; his cool, deliberate craft, and his utterly callous unscrupulousness were shown by Mr. Harding with an ease and emphasis which left nothing to be desired. From the first he struck the right note; and never in the course of the performance did he caricature or exaggerate. Well-clad and groomed, and plausibly deliberate in manner, the evil genius of Lady Marion Beaumont moved through the play like a creature of dark and remorseless fate. We have rarely seen an evil-doer of drama so realistic and yet so repulsively polished and imperturbable. Mr. Julian L'Estrange as Sir Dorian March was a handsome, manly, and straightforward soldier—chivalrous, brave, and affectionate. Mr. Austin Melford once more proved his claim to honourable mention by a very fine impersonation of the noble-hearted parson, the Rev. Martin Hope. He displayed deep feeling where it was demanded, and looked the high-minded, dignified, and deeply conscientious clergyman to the life. There could be no doubt whatever of the complete success of Mr. Melford's impersonation, replete as it was with all the best characteristics of his ripe and practised art; and his imposing presence was not the smallest factor of this result. His delivery of the stinging sermon in which the "sins of society" are attacked was a splendid sample of earnestness, elocution, and elevated sentiment. The part of Mr. Morris was played by Mr. Oscar Adye with an artistic reserve and restraint which deserve the warmest praise. The money-lender was made just the "superior person" of his class who would deal with aristocratic ladies in difficulties; a man who accepted his position and took it with a quiet firmness and a calm self-respect which were admirably indicated by the actor, who showed strong dramatic power in the scene in which Morris is struggling against the increasing influence of the drug. Rarely has a situation been handled with more skill and cleverness both by authors and the actor, the gradual yielding to the morphine influence being depicted with truth and subtlety. Miss Constance Collier is in her element on a large stage like that of Drury Lane; and her superb appearance and grand physique had their full value in the rôle of Lady Marion Beaumont. Vigorously dramatic, and at the same time various and judicious, Miss Collier made a powerful impression throughout. She bore herself like the *grande dame* Lady Beaumont is supposed to be; and the passionate anxiety and moral anguish of the unfortunate woman were shown by Miss Collier with an earnestness and energy which won the reluctant sympathy of the audience. Her broad dramatic treatment of the part proved as irresistible as her appearance and bearing were imposing and appropriate. Miss Fanny Brough's rôle of Lady Goldbury fitted her exactly; and those who know—and who does not?—how brightly quaint and brusquely droll Miss Brough can be in a character of the "lively original" sort can imagine how peal after peal of laughter echoed each of Lady Goldbury's observations. Miss Adrienne Augarde's *petite* figure and dainty and demure beauty won all hearts from her first appearance on the stage as Lady Gwendolen Ashley; and her delicate femininity and sweet and gentle humour combined with her pleasant rendering of her song in the second act to make her one of the "great favourites" in the cast. Miss Lucy Sibley as Caroline, Duchess of Danebury, hit off exactly the manner and appearance of a well-known personage; Miss Frances Leighton's performance as Mrs. Murgatroyd deserves very warm commendation; and Miss Hilda Stewart's Lady Cirencester left little to be desired. Every part in the piece down to the smallest received careful consideration; Mr. Arthur Poole's Mr. Thesiger was a creditable bit of work; Mr. L. Ashton-Jarry gave a characteristic embodiment of Vicomte Villette; Mr. Arthur Leigh was good as Colonel Bryan; Mr. Isidore Marcel's Snowey Templer did him great credit; and Mr. Harry Brett contributed a neat performance as Bates. Miss Muriel Langley played Lady Normanton with skill; Miss Olive Palmer supplied a praiseworthy rendering of Mrs. Burton Rocketter; Private Baines had an able exponent in Mr. Alec Davidson; as Downes Mr. Edward Morgan hit off the little character well; Mr. Howard Russell was efficient as a Butler; Mr. Arthur Wellesley's Lord Enderby gave complete satisfaction; Mr. Fred Penley played the Captain of the Ship soundly and ably; and Mr. Richard Norton and Mr. Bogue were good as footmen.

The scenery and mounting were of the stupendously elaborate sort which defies description. The actual scenes were splendidly painted. Mr. Henry Emden's marvellous reproductions of Longchamps and a Thames Weir by moonlight—with real water; Mr. Bruce Smith's ss. Beachy Head; and Mr. R. McCleery's country sets being fine examples of what our English scene-painters can do when backed by such a liberal manager as Mr. Arthur Collins. To his superintendence, to the stage-management of Mr. Ernest D'Auban, and to the assistant stage-management of Mr. Edward Spiller may be attributed the wonderfully smooth way in which the complicated crowds were grouped and mashalled. Mr. J. M. Glover's incidental music was, as it always is, the work of a musician and an expert in orchestration. *The Sins of Society* had a wildly enthusiastic reception, and is certain to be a great success.

Mr. Arthur Collins had a hearty call at the end of the second act; and all the principals were summoned again and again at the close of one of the finest productions ever seen at Drury Lane.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Drama, entitled
"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."

Mr. Bulmer's company in *Sentenced for Life* provides the attraction this week at the Stratford Theatre Royal, and is proving a capital draw. Mr. William Bradford depicts Captain Paul Derrick very powerfully, and Mr. Conrad Heywood speaks his lines well as Lieut. Roy Stillwell. Mr. Terence Hyde plays with much feeling as Parson Orris, and Mr. Howard Keene gives a clever sketch of Henry Beckwith. Mr. Harry Cooke is droll and amusing as Percy M'Gentle, and the two convicts, Bill Sharkey and Toby the Tadpole, have mirth-provoking representatives in Mr. H. P. Warburton and Mr. Reg. Oldroyd. Mr. R. B. Nevill is a satisfactory Sir Wallace Stillwell; Mr. Archie Scab does well as Duffy; and Mr. Wm. Matherson plays Warder Beake. Miss Maud Warburton is a sympathetic and charming Adele Gray; Miss Mabel Tremere makes a very appropriate Kate Rennel; Miss Mary Dalby is natural as Lady Stillwell; and Miss Kitty Huntly fulfils all requirements as Lady Gray.

MISS ALICE CRAWFORD as Glory Quayle in *The Christian* at the Lyceum takes full advantage of the opportunity to dress the part elaborately. The first costume consists of an Empire gown, made with much simplicity and worn with a wonderful girdle. The second dress is a beautiful one of the most peculiar and lovely shade of golden brown, with a soft clinging skirt striped from the high back to the hem in front in a charming and most original manner. The stripes on the bodice are arranged over a plainly swathed bodice. A simple chiffon vest and high collar complete this robe, and there is a sweet toque to match. The third dress is of an artistic shade of Reseda crêpe de Chine, over a slightly deeper shade of soft brown silk in the form of a graceful Princesse robe. The front panel and deep epaulette of this creation are embroidered with a floral design to harmonise with this exquisite tone of colour. A finely-tucked vest and under-sleeves is worn with this dress. Miss Mary Fisher, of Bedford-street, W.C., has designed and executed the dresses.

CLERGYMEN AND "THE CHRISTIAN."

An audience of clergymen assembled in the Lyceum Theatre on Thursday afternoon to pass judgment on Messrs. Smith and Carpenter's production of *The Christian*. Hundreds of ministers of all denominations with their wives and children came from all parts of the world, and the house was crowded in every part. There were two Colonial Bishops in the audience, a coal-black clergyman from South Africa, a yellow clergyman from China, a copper-coloured clergyman from South America, a negro preacher from the United States, representatives of the Salvation Army and the Church Army, prison chaplains from all parts of England, dozens of hospital nurses, Sisters of Nazareth, lady-helpers from homes for fallen women, and contingents from every religious denomination in Great Britain. At the fall of the curtain at the end of each act there were many calls for the principals, and the heartiest applause for the management at the end of the play. Mr. Hall Caine was unavoidably absent from illness, but sent from his Isle of Man home the following telegram, which was read by the management at the conclusion of the play:—

"If the audience are so good as to ask for me to-day will you kindly say that *The Christian* is first of all a drama, and the love story of John Storm and Glory Quayle is the root of the whole matter.

"If my boy and girl are not interesting to you, if you do not love them and like them, if you do not laugh with their joy and cry with their griefs, if they have not added two more to the number of your personal friends, so that Glory is your Glory, and John Storm your John Storm, my social propaganda goes for nothing, and as a dramatist I have failed.

"But if all these are as I could wish them to be, then I know that by the help of my two leading actors, by Mr. Matheson Lang's powerful and winsome personality and Miss Alice Crawford's beauty, pathos, humour, and charm, I have won a victory over your affections whereof no adverse critics or unscrupulous critics can ever rob me.—Hall Caine."

The following opinions on the play have been received by the management:—

"A play of great interest and power, presented by superb and sympathetic acting. Audience evidently deeply impressed."—John Hodgson, Netherwasdale Vicarage, Cumberland.

"Strong, fearfully true, and calculated to effect untold good."—George Jepson, 42, Santos-road, Wandsworth.

"A distinctly ennobling play."—H. F. Hayward, The Vicarage, Bussage, Glos.

"Most powerful in execution, perfect in detail, sympathetic, and appealing. In a word, a great play."—Rev. F. J. Pegg, 3, Huguenot-mansions, Wandsworth, S.W.

"Marvellous production. Most powerful and realistic performance, showing life as it is. The drama surpasses all of its kind that I have ever seen."—Rev. John Elkin, late of Sydney, Australia, now of 31, Powis-square, London.

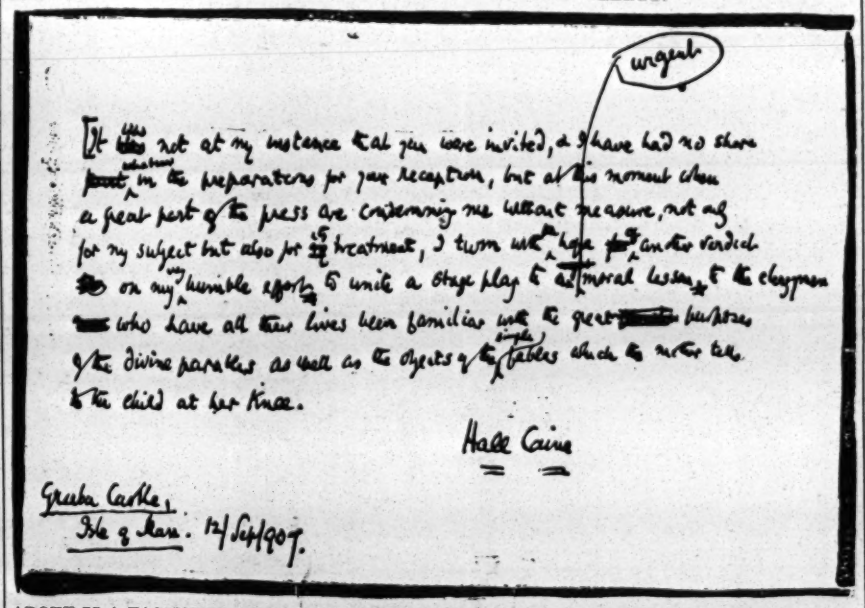
"It is full of dramatic power, and personally believe and hope it will have a good and powerful influence." Rev. J. H. Barnett, Sarratt Rectory, Rickmansworth, Herts.

"Most interesting, and must enlist the sympathy of the clergy."—John Kingston, R.N., Eversley, Southall.

"An excellent play, well acted, and equivalent to many sermons."—Rev. Harry E. Stevens, M.A., Lauriston, Disraeli-road, Ealing, W.

"Most convincing and excellent. Acting splendid."—W. H. Fisher, 13, Gaisboro'-road, Bow.

MR. HALL CAINE'S MESSAGE TO THE CLERGY.



ABOVE IS A FACSIMILE OF THE MESSAGE READ TO THE AUDIENCE AT THE LYCEUM ON THURSDAY, MR. HALL CAINE BEING UNABLE TO BE PRESENT OWING TO INDISPOSITION.

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TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

The business of the Congress, continuing from our last report, provided occasion for further speeches from the representatives of the Theatrical and Music Hall profession. A resolution dealing with arbitration in disputes was discussed at length. Mr. Frank Gerald supported the proposal, on behalf of the Actors' Union, but admitted that the acceptance of arbitration in the recent music-hall dispute was a mistake and its effect disastrous. He however thought that the methods outlined in the resolution were a safeguard against the misuse of the principle, and he thought it desirable that every peaceful means should be tried to avert strikes. In the vote that followed the variety artists, musicians, and stage employees voted together against the resolution, and the Actors' Union delegate—a curious comment upon the arbitration proceedings in the music-hall war. The vote of the Congress was:—For the resolution, 343,000; against, 1,300,000, a most decisive sign that arbitration is not popular in Labour circles.

Mr. J. B. Williams, the general secretary of the Musicians' Union, was one of the successful candidates for election to the Parliamentary Committee of the Congress. Membership of this committee, representing as it does the whole of the organised forces of Labour, is one of the cherished honours in the Trade Union movement, and Mr. Williams is to be congratulated on his success. Mr. D. Shackleton, M.P., is the chairman of this committee, and was elected one of the delegates to attend the American Federation of Labour Convention to be held next month. The next Congress will be held at Nottingham.

MATINÉES of *The Girls of Gottenberg* start at the Gaiety this afternoon. It will be the first morning performance this season, and will be followed by a matinée on each succeeding Saturday.

"UNDER THE GREENWOOD TREE."

Comedy, in four acts, by H. V. Esmond,
produced at the Lyric Theatre
on Tuesday, Sept. 10.

Sir Kenneth Friarly .....MR. ERIC MATURIN
Mr. Knapton Bowles ..MR. T. GIDSON WARREN
J. G. M. Hylton, Esq., .. MR. CHARLES CHERRY
Dago ..... MR. TOM MOWBRAY
Dawes ..... MR. W. J. YELDHAM
Griggs ..... MR. GEORGE BLUNT
Mrs. Knapton Bowles .....MISS H. M. FRASER
Peggy Ingledew ..... MISS MARY JERROLD
A Gipsy Woman .....MISS ADA KING
Mary Hamilton .....MISS MAXINE ELLIOTT

Miss Maxine Elliott could hardly have chosen a more engaging and delightful entertainment with which to open her season than Mr. H. V. Esmond's pretty comedy, which had a very cordial reception on its production at the Lyric on Tuesday. Everyone has been talking, of late, about "living the simple life"; and the demand for caravans is steadily increasing with the development of the craze. So the time was ripe for the production of a play on the subject, and the theme was well suited to Mr. Esmond's style. The first scene is the study in the town house of Mary Hamilton, a very wealthy young lady, who is, naturally, beset by suitors. The only one whom she likes is young Sir Kenneth Friarly, and her feeling for him is purely Platonic. He proposes to her; but she treats him with a sisterly kindness which greatly depresses him. Miss Hamilton's secretary, Peggy Ingledew, a quick and matter-of-fact young person, "has her eye" on Sir Kenneth; and some of the most amusing passages in the play consist of their squabbles and flirtations. Mary is suddenly struck with the idea of leaving London, and living "under the greenwood tree," so as to get away from Society, and to live in communion with the birds. In the second act we find her and Peggy in the New Forest, with a caravan, and Sir Kenneth as a week-end visitor. Mary has camped by the side of a stream in which she bathes, wearing a becoming costume; and the chauffeur of her motor-car acts as her messenger and general assistant. Sir Kenneth's hopeless love for Mary is not extinguished, but he is more and more attracted by Peggy's smart, practical style, and by her appreciation of his qualities. Mr. Hylton, the owner of the property on which the caravan is "pitched," comes to order the supposed gipsies off his ground; and, meeting with Sir Kenneth, who has assumed a corduroy suit of clothes to please Mary, orders his servants to arrest him. In spite of Sir Kenneth's struggles and protestations, he is dragged away, and locked up in the nearest gaol. Hylton knocks at the door of the van, is astounded by the apparition of Mary, and falls in love with her on the spot. She invites him to come to dinner with her the same evening. When Peggy hears of Sir Kenneth's arrest, she rushes off to bail him out, leaving Mary to receive Hylton alone. He believes her to be a gipsy girl; and she explains the lobsters and the silver at dinner by allusions to the thieving habits of her "people." Hylton is horrified at the thought of so much loveliness combined with such dreadful dishonesty. He excuses this, however, on the ground of her bringing-up; and under the influence of irresistible passion, proposes immediate marriage to her. Mary, on her part, has fallen in love with Hylton, and accepts him. After he has gone, the caravan is attacked by real gipsies, who gag Mary and tie her to a tree, knocking down Hylton, who returns to her rescue, leaving him senseless. Peggy returns with Sir Kenneth, out on bail, and releases Mary, who gives Hylton a dose of opium; and the trio carry him into the caravan, Mary watching on the steps in the moonlight. In the end, of course, all is explained, and Mary and Hylton and Peggy and Friarly pair off.

Under the Greenwood Tree is written with all the delicate fantasy of which Mr. Esmond has supplied us with so many samples; and a mere scenario can give but a poor idea of the pleasant playfulness, the lively humour, and the merry inventions of the piece. Now and then a note seemed to jar a little; but any such defects can easily be removed. The drugging of Hylton, and Mary's handling of his arm were out of tune with the serious interest which preceded; and there was a little too much of Miss Hamilton's rapture about the pleasures of life *en plein air*. Taken as a whole, however, the piece is a thing of pure delight, and the audience at the Lyric on Tuesday enjoyed it immensely.

The result was greatly due to the fine personality of Miss Maxine Elliott, who made a gipsy maiden quite calculated to turn the head of any young and spirited country squire. Miss Elliott's appearance in a pretty bathing-dress, and in some very picturesque gipsy costumes, was perfectly bewitching; and she acted with her accustomed skill, earnestness, and freedom. It needed an artist of some strength to fill the part satisfactorily; and Miss Elliott carried the audience away by the spontaneous impulse of her acting, and by the poetic grace of her share of the love scenes. Mr. Eric Maturin enacted Sir Kenneth Friarly with a quaint and delicate originality which was very acceptable; and his style—important in a character of this kind—was unimpeachable. Mr. Charles Cherry was happily selected for the rôle of J. G. M. Hylton. His love-making was ardent without being exaggerated; and he managed to carry it on to the poetic and romantic plane which was required for the full effect of the scenes. Miss Mary Jerrold made an unmistakable impression as Peggy Ingledew. She had the audience with her from first to last; and all Peggy's lines were given their fullest worth by this clever actress, whose bright and smart method was very well employed. Miss Jerrold's impersonation was valuable in keeping things going; and laugh after laugh was evoked by her droll and piquant impersonation. She made herself immensely popular, and the success of the production was greatly due to her efforts. Mr. T. Gideon Warren and Miss H. M. Fraser did all that was possible in the subordinate rôles of Mr. and Mrs. Knapton Bowles; and Mr. Tom Mowbray was highly commendable as the leader of the larcenous gipsies. Mr. W. J. Yeldham was entirely efficient as Dawes; and Mr. George Blunt made the little part of the chauffeur Griggs clearly memorable by his comic repose and demurely funny delivery. Miss Ada King being an active and villainous-looking gipsy woman.

The scenery had a great deal to do with the success of the piece, Mr. Walter Hann's interior being all that could be desired, and Mr. Hawes Craven's New Forest set, with its realistic foxgloves and quivering rushes, being a gem of woodland beauty. Mr. Felix Edwardes's stage-management ensured the smoothness of the production, which was received with hearty cordiality. *Under the Greenwood Tree* is likely to be very popular at the Lyric.

DRESSES AT THE PLAY.

Miss Constance Collier, at the Pontifex Bridge Club, in *Sins of Society*, at Drury Lane, wears a charming gown of apricot tussore, the bodice of which is covered with old-coloured lace, the skirt being trimmed with a fine piping of "macaroni" work. The sleeves are long. A cream crinoline hat, lined with white satin, and lifted right off the face in front, is worn with this. The crown is wreathed with ivy. Miss Collier is also seen in a white evening gown of thick meteor, cut on Princess lines, and embroidered with lattice work of silk and silver, the embroidery being arranged to form a little jacket coat finished with very long tails. Miss Collier's Longchamps gown is of pale blue tussore. The long coat is pointed in the front and embellished on the revers with "macaroni" work done very finely. The flat pockets at the side are fastened with three large embroidered buttons. The hat worn with this is a large capeline in pale blue straw, draped with a blonde tulle veil, which hangs down to the waist. Two aigrettes of pink roses make a pretty trimming at the sides, and another bunch of roses fastens the veil at the back.

Miss Collier wears at the opening of Act II. a pale pink crêpe de Chine garden frock, trimmed with an appliqué of guipure and bands of striped pink and white silk, bordered with rouleaux of crêpe. A simple garden hat of the capeline order is of pink straw; black velvet strings pass round the crown and cross at the back, where a huge La France rose fastens them. A Princess satin evening gown, embroidered at the foot with sprays of flowers in three shades of purple velvet and mousseline de soie, a purple stone illuminating the centre of each flower, is worn in the second scene of this act, with a handsome cloak of black chiffon velvet, heavily embroidered in black and gold. Miss Collier has also a cerise ninon gown, the skirt encrusted with dyed filet lace of the same rich cherry shade. An entire over-coat of cerise guipure, bordered with a margin of cerise mousseline, edged with cerise bobbles, is worn over this in a peplum effect. The yoke and under-sleeves are of spotted silk net. A black drawn tulle hat, lined with geranium satin, and bound with black taffetas, and trimmed with four black plumes, accompanies this. She also wears a simple little black gown, made with large flat tucks on the bodice, and worn with a tiny white collar. The hat is a small grey straw, entirely covered with spreading black wings. Miss Collier, in the last act, has a grey crêpe de Chine frock, the trimming of which is of cream silk filet lace, embroidered with gold. A grey satin hat, trimmed with grey feather, which falls over the shoulder, completes the toilette.

Miss Augarde has a white cloth Princess gown, trimmed with beautiful Indian embroidery, in shades of blue, and old silver buttons. The large white hat is lined with white satin and trimmed with a big bunch of black and yellow daisies. A pale green crêpe meteor gown has a high waistband and an Empire back. Miss Augarde's Grand Prix gown is of rose-pink chiffon, trimmed at the foot with thick guipure, edged with pale mauve. The large hat is of pink drawn chiffon, edged with gathered silk, and trimmed with a huge bunch of mauve convolvulus, heliotrope, and roses. A dainty white ninon gown, encrusted with lace, has a waistbelt of golden brown. Pale blue ball fringe trims a smart little pale blue cloth gown, which has a cross-over vest of Chine mirror velvet. Miss Augarde's wedding gown, in the last act, is of heavy ivory crêpe de Chine, made in plain Princess style.

Miss Fanny Brough's first dress is of pale mauve chiffon, with trimmings of very coarse filet lace dyed to match, and inserted medallions of dyed guipure. The large mauve hat is lined with black taffetas and covered with drooping wistaria and choux of black. Her evening gown in the next scene is of soft pink satin, made with an Empire effect, and trimmed with ivory silk net embroidered with tiny flowers. Long tassels of the pink fall from the side. In Miss Brough's Grand Prix toilette she wears, over a soft cream lace robe, a coat composed of panels of pale lemon cloth and pastel-blue silk, richly embroidered on every panel with blue silk. The hat is a black four-cornered crinoline, bound with black satin.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday, when there were present:—Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn (chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Miss Rose Matthews, Messrs Arthur Applin, Lewis Casson, C. F. Collings, Fred Grove, Edmund Gurney, Roy Horniman, and Chas. Cruickshanks (secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Hon. Solicitors reported that they had had further correspondence in a case of recovery of arrears of salary, and had received and submitted to the member concerned an offer of gradual payments. They had also seen and advised another member.

The Secretary stated that Mr. Fredk. Morland wished for information as to the duties and work of commissioners, and the matter had been placed on the agenda at his suggestion. It was agreed the matter should stand over until Mr. Morland be present.

The question as to the election of a committee to consider Mr. Applin's agency scheme was discussed, and ultimately it was agreed that no such committee should be elected, but that the whole matter be referred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

The Chairman read a letter from Miss Margaret Parker stating that she had tendered her resignation as a member of the "Social" Committee, as she was going to Australia at the end of the year, and her time till then would be taken up in making preparations.

The Secretary was authorised to purchase a copy of the "Medical Directory" for 1908.

It was decided that the secretary should proceed to the sale of the £83 2s. 2d. 2½ per cent. Consols purchased April 14, 1904.

Dr. G. Thorp Harding, of Stockport, Dr. Ferguson, Douglas, Isle of Man, and Dr. Leonard F. Houghton, of Weston-super-Mare, were elected hon. medical officers to the Actors' Association. Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn agreed to see Dr. Gibbs Bent, of Southfields, as to his appointment as H.M.O. to the Actors' Association, and as no member of the council would be visiting Glasgow in the near future, it was agreed that the secretary should, if possible, find a member who would be visiting there shortly to whom might be deputed the duty of interviewing Dr. Hepburn as to his appointment in the same capacity.

The Chairman reported a conversation he had had with certain members of the Actors' Union Committee on the matter of the election of medical officers, and submitted a proposal. It was decided after some debate that the matter was bound up with the question of the possibility of future amalgamation, and could not be dealt with at present.

At the request of the hon. solicitors a member attended before the council with regard to an alleged breach of contract, and the case was investigated. After some discussion the hon. solicitors received instructions.

The Secretary was directed to write to Mesdames Edyth Olive, Winifred Mayo, and Phyllis Relph, and to Messrs. Robson Paige, P. L. Julian, and F. Cremlin, asking them if they would serve, if elected, as members of the "Social" Committee of the Actors' Association.

John W. H. Sutherland was nominated for election to the association.

DEATH OF WYBERT ROUSBY.

Mr. Wybert Rousby, whose death in Guernsey on Tuesday we regret to record, was born at Hull on March 14, 1835. His father held a responsible position in the world-famed print and colour house of Blundell, Spence, and Co., now a large limited company. Young Rousby made his first appearance in public at the age of fourteen, under the name of Master Edward Boothby, in the character of Romeo, before an audience of nearly 3000 people, he achieving an immediate and distinguished success. His youthful efforts attracted the attention of the lessee of the Theatres Royal at York, Hull, and Leeds. The veteran Mr. Caple, who had acted with the Siddons, with Kemble, Kean, and all the great actors of their time, took the boy under his fostering care, tutored him in the rudiments of his art, and grounded him thoroughly in the principles of elocution, as practised by those who had in many cases founded distinct schools of their own. When "young Boothby" made his first appearance on any stage at the Queen's Theatre, Hull, in the character of Romeo, on Monday evening, July 16, 1849, the Le Clercqs were engaged to produce several characteristic and original ballets.

Before attaining the age of sixteen, young Rousby had appeared in the towns above-named, and also in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Liverpool, and many others, in the characters of Romeo, Hamlet, and even of Shylock, Othello, and Macbeth. About this period he was also so fortunate as to meet with Monsieur Le Clercq, maître de ballet at the Italian Opera, father of the late Carlotta and Rosa Le Clercq, who initiated him into the mysteries of "Plays without words." At seventeen Mr. Rousby figured at Sadler's Wells, under his own name, supporting the distinguished actor Phelps, as Laertes, Lysander, in *The Midsummer Night's Dream*, and other characters of similar importance. At eighteen he took the position of leading actor at the Theatre Royal, Jersey, after which he soon became a successful "star," obtaining the soubriquet of "the Kean of the Provinces." Returning to Jersey in 1860, after an absence of seven years, he turned his attention in his leisure hours to the art of dramatic reciting. Mr. Rousby appeared on the London stage in those plays of importance first produced at the Queen's Theatre in which his wife played the leading rôle. In Mr. Tom Taylor's drama *'Twixt Axe and Crown* he was in the original cast as Courtenay; in *Joan of Arc*, by the same author, he played, on the occasion of its first performance, the part of La Hire; and (at the Princess's Theatre) in W. G. Wills's drama *Mary Queen of Scots* the part of Knox. In February, 1871, Mr. Rousby appeared at the Queen's Theatre as Orlando in a revival of *As You Like It*, Mrs. Rousby playing Rosalind; in April, 1873, at Drury Lane Theatre, he sustained the part of King Lear in a revival of Shakespeare's tragedy, his wife acting Cordelia.

An event in Mr. Rousby's career, which he recalled with great pride and pleasure, was the receipt of an offer from John Knowles, the proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Manchester, to impersonate Romeo in the grand revival of Shakespearean plays at the poet's tercentenary. Henry Irving was the Mercutio; Charles Calvert, Friar Laurence; Fred Everill, Benvolio; Mrs. Calvert, Juliet; Miss Bienhardt, Lady Capulet; and Mrs. Raymond, the Nurse. Mr. Rousby was specially engaged for the part of Harry Kavanagh in the original production of *The Peep o' Day*, Lagardère in *The Duke's Motto*, and Bob Brierley in *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, also sustaining the same character in Liverpool. After many years of active work in the provinces he returned to Jersey as leading actor. Here he devoted his time to dramatic recitals, and eventually he became proprietor of the Jersey Theatre and lessee of St. Julians, Guernsey. It is just nine years ago that the veteran actor retired from management to take a well-earned rest, and a farewell performance was given at Jersey by Mr. and Mrs. Rousby. They were assisted by Mr. Ben Greet and Miss Madge McIntosh. It was on this occasion that the theatre staff presented an illuminated address and gift to their esteemed chief and a handsome gift to his wife on their relinquishing the cares of management to Mr. Sidney Cooper. A similar farewell was given at Guernsey, this being Mr. Rousby's last professional appearance.

At the height of a long run, and the once rejected author was not only commanding his own terms, but the man who had walked seventy miles without a decent meal or an encouraging smile had more good dinners now than he could possibly eat, and sat bathed in the adulation of his friends, the circle of which extended even to Royalty itself.

Let anyone thoughtfully sit down for a moment and bring to mind what such people as the Kendals have within themselves to insure their life-long success. First, perfect health, possession of every faculty. The literary man and the maestro may work somewhat fitfully, as the painter finds himself at his easel, *en dishabille*, making a master stroke when the mood is upon him.

On seeing the elder Miss Blossom enter, exquisitely dressed, all freshness, all magnetism, all buoyancy, who among the audience suspected Mrs. Kendal had spent two exhausting hours that afternoon in arranging the setting of the scene? And in that as everything.

After the physical comes the mental. One is useless without the other. We all know the Kendals' perfect acting, but to some the very faultlessness makes it appear easy to attain, and lookers-on rest at that, forgetting the natural gifts, the intellect, the years of study, the education, the accomplishments that enabled them to gain distinction and retain it.

Mrs. Kendal is fair enough to bear inspection in the full light of day, and while the actress might be accredited with adventitious aids, there is no mistaking the woman in society, fresh and wholesome looking, holding about her by genuine charm the best circle in the room as she discusses fluently with the ordinary foreigner as well as her own countrymen, besides being a most brilliant *raconteur*. After her first visit to America, she was constantly called upon to relate some of her experiences. Lacking Mrs. Kendal's quaint humour, I have no excuse for repeating the following, were it not for the moral conveyed, which taught me how to try and see familiar things with strangers' eyes. For surely I had many a time gone from Boston to Washington and never thought twice about "this novel method of American progress," which, when related to the

MR. AND MRS. KENDAL.

By right of inheritance, says a writer in an American paper, no one stood more directly in the line of succession on the stage than Madge Robertson. She came of a family of actors, as did Mrs. Fanny Kemble, Mrs. General Lander, Mrs. Fiske, Miss Viola Allen, Joseph Jefferson, William Warren, and hundreds of others, who can all boast of ancestors who lived hard, intellectual, self-respecting lives, and handed down names their descendants may well be proud to honour.

A characteristic remark of Mrs. Kendal's is perhaps worth quoting as a daughter's worthy tribute to a parent, if nothing more. At a reception in New York some few years ago a lady was overcomplimenting the actress, regardless of taste, and in her general dissection of her "admirable" qualities she dwelt upon the word "virtue." Mrs. Kendal's rapier was none the less pointed because sheathed in a velvet scabbard, as she smiled down upon the speaker and replied in a low, sweet tone, though distinct enough to be heard by everybody: "Don't insult me by saying I am a respectable woman! As my father's daughter, what else could I be?"

She was Madge Robertson when I first saw her at the Haymarket Theatre, London. And so many of the best actors had at various times served in the ranks of her father's company that upon her entrance among them on the London stage she was hailed as "the Child of the Regiment" and petted accordingly. Her proud allusion to her father that I have quoted meant, let me say, more than might at first appear. Mr. Robertson carried on years of theatrical management in the English provinces, holding up the highest standards, artistically and morally. He brought up and educated a very large family, to whom his example proved a sterling investment. For while poverty was many a time familiar to him and his, anything approaching sloth, debt, or dishonour never was and never could be. I have spoken elsewhere in brief of the success of Tom Robertson, the eldest son; how opportunity came in answer to his knock at the gate, for we must seek if we would find. At the very time I saw Madge Robertson playing with Mr. Sothern at the Haymarket her brother's comedy of *School* was

little group on "the other side," caused speechless wonder and amazement.

Mrs. Kendal described, first sitting book in hand, absorbed in what she was reading, until glancing up she found herself alone with the porter, to whom she addressed the inquiry, "Why have they stopped?" "Here's where we go on to the boat, madam." "On to the boat? Good gracious, hand me my things down from the rack." The porter's assurance that her things were all right was no satisfaction to an old soldier who wanted to keep his kit under his own eye. "Where is everybody? Where is Mr. Kendal?"

The official tried to console the lady by the statement that he "guessed the gentleman had gone on to the boat with the others."

"But do all the passengers go on the boat?"

"Yes, madam; you're going right on now!"

And sure enough the train began to move. "What do you mean? Going, *this car*—going?" "Yes, madam; the whole train goes!" "On the boat?" "Yes, madam, here we are!"

Mrs. Kendal said her horror was beyond words, and clutching her valuables she dropped back into her seat awaiting the inevitable, for what could follow the putting that enormously heavy train upon a boat but the sending it to the bottom of the river with all its human freight?

But Mr. Kendal appeared, as Mr. Kendal is wont to do, at the auspicious moment, never failing to bring composure and serenity, and together they went on deck to witness "a wonderful sight." Here was the dauntless little Maryland tugging along as if it were mere child's play for her to stack all those huge cars, float them for an hour as she skirted the big city of New York, and carry them into harbour at the last in safety.

There are not a few who recall the widening of Tremont-street in Boston and the setting back of the Hotel Pelham at the expense of the city. And among such, credence will be given to the traveller's narration, who had been most hospitably entertained on her previous California tour, and now on a return the following year was again sought out and invited to a formal luncheon by the charming hostess. Allowing only time to arrive at the correct moment the honoured guest was dismayed to find she would be late, since the approach was certainly not the one she had

chant thinks he has enough on his hands if he attends to this alone. Many a man of affairs is immersed in his own family estate. The actor, as a rule, has but little comprehension of this financial qualification. Mr. Kendal is the rarer, then, in meeting the demands at every point! As a business man he ranks with the most able, as well as the most just and generous. What is more, in matters pertaining to the business of others, whereas some are apt to give an abrupt and discouraging verdict in such a harsh and cruel way as to almost paralyse any future effort, Mr. Kendal has by a kind word of advice put more than one young man on the right road, and by a timely suggestion enabled him to find the key to a difficult situation that not only sustained him in the present, but led him on to success in after life. It is well known that the secret of the sincere esteem that all feel for William Grimston Kendal lies in his rare courtesy, at all times, under all conditions—a never-failing courtesy, given to his King no more than the humblest applicant who seeks him out. And here, as in all else, the wife is her husband's fitting mate, working hand in hand with him, following his lead, or able and ready to take the initiative when it is hers to work out alone, never flinching from duty, never taking the refuge of the ordinary woman in little indulgencies, but starting off at half-past eleven o'clock at night on her husband's arm, his companion in the walk they generally take to the hotel after the performance. One rather severe night a friend offered to drive her home. "No, no, she and William enjoyed the brisk trot in the fresh air," so they ran off together in the snowstorm, like good comrades as they were.

THE THEATRE AND MUSIC HALL PROPRIETORS AND MANAGERS OF MIDDLESBROUGH AND STOCKTON IN CONFERENCE FOR THE PROTECTION OF THEIR MUTUAL INTERESTS, AUGUST, 1907.

Photo by T. P. Cummings and Co.

Reading from left to right the names are:—*Back Row.*—Chas. G. Rembges, Esq. (Manager, Empire, Middlesbrough); R. L. Griffiths, Esq. (Manager, Oxford Palace, Middlesbrough); Alfred Graham, Esq. (Proprietor, Oxford Palace, Middlesbrough); W. K. Chatto, Esq. (Manager, Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough). *Front Row.*—Geo. Imeson, Esq. (Manager, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough); Chas. Imeson, Esq. (Proprietor, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough); Walter Batty, Esq. (Manager, Grand Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees).

ON THE ROAD, SEPT. 16.

All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—T. R., Margate.
Amasis.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Assassin.—T. R., Jarrow.
At Cripple Creek.—Prince's T., Bradford.
At Duty's Call.—O. H., Dudley.
Austin, Mary.—Lyceum T., Crewe.
Bandmann-Palmer.—Palace Pier, Brighton.
Beautiful Fiend.—T. R., North Shields.
Beauty and the Barge.—Grand T., Croydon.
Belle of Mayfair (Bode).—Yarmouth.
Belle of Mayfair (Howard).—Nuneaton.
Belle of New York (Howard).—G. T., Swansea.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Exeter.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Macduff, Keith, and Elgin.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—Harrogate and Buxton.
Blue Moon (Mouillot's).—T. R., Chester.
Blue Moon (S.).—Empire T., Oldham.
Bondman, The (Croke).—King's T., Hammersmith.
Bondman, The (Day).—T. R., Stockport.
Boyne, Mr. Leonard.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Breed of the Treshams.—T. R., Blyth.
Bulmer, Mr.—West London Theatre.
Campbell, Mrs. Patrick.—O. H., Southport.
Carl Rosa Opera.—T. R., Chatham.
Cassidy, J. Rice.—T. R., Cardiff.
Chinese Honeymoon (Bode).—Marlboro' Theatre, N.
Christian, The (Croke).—H. M. T., Dundee.
Claudian.—O. H., Coventry.
Convict's Daughter.—Grand T., Mansfield.
Dairymaids.—T. R., Edinburgh.
Dairymaids (No.2).—Grand T., Southampton.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Saltburn and Whitby.
D'Oyly Carte Opera.—T. R., Hanley.
Drama of Life.—T. R., Whitehaven.
Earl and the Girl (Howard).—Weybridge.
Face at the Window.—Grand T., Luton.
False Wife.—Dumfries and Hawick.
Fatal Wedding.—Borough T., Stratford.
Female Swindler.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
Florodora (Howard).—Grand T., Hull.
For Her Sake.—Junction T., Manchester.
Gayest of the Gay.—T. R., Halifax.
Gaiety.—P. G. T., Eastbourne.
Girl from Japan.—T. R., Dover.
Girl Redeemed from Sin.—T. R., Hyde.
Girl Who Went Astray.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
Glossop-Harris.—Victoria T., Bridlington.
Greed of Gold.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Guilty Gold.—Paisley T., Paisley.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—T. R., Leeds.
Her Love Against the World.—A. T., Birmingham.
Her Marriage Vow.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
Her One Great Sin.—T. R., Inverness.
Hill-Mitchelson.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
His House in Order (Alexander).—T. R., Manchester.
His House in Order (Kempton).—Gainsboro' and Retford.
His House in Order (N.).—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
His House in Order (S.).—T. R., Cardiff.
Honeymoon, The.—T. R., Hebburn-on-Tyne.
Hughes, Miss Annie.—Gaiety T., Douglas.
In the Shadow of Night.—T. R., Edmonton.
Irving, H. B.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
John Glayde's Honour.—O. H., Cheltenham.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Invergordon and Tain.
Lady Dandies.—King's T., Glasgow.
La Poupee (Levilly).—T. R., Brighton.
La Poupee (Ralland).—Whitby and Bridlington.
Leah Kleschna.—T. R., Bristol.
Life of a Showman.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
Lion and the Mouse.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Little Breadwinner.—Coliseum, Oldham.
Love that Women Desire.—Queen's T., Longton.
Lucky Durham.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Martin Harvey.—T. R., Newcastle.
Mice and Men.—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
Midnight Mail.—Grand T., Nottingham.
Mollison, Wm.—T. R., Belfast.
Monte Cristo.—T. R., Castleford.
Moody-Manners (A.).—P. O. W., Birmingham.
Moody-Manners (B.).—Empire T., Southend.
Mr. Smith.—T. R., Bolton.
My Darling.—O. H., Blackpool.
Peter's Mother (N.).—Folkestone and Hastings.
Peter's Mother (M.).—Ilfracombe and Lynton.
Peter's Mother (S.).—Royalty T., Barrow.
Pick of the Bunch.—Criterion T., Worksop.
Power of Gold.—Metropole, Abertillery.
Prince of Pilsen (Harriss).—P. T., Accrington.
Private Secretary.—O. H., Jersey.
Prodigal Daughter.—South Shields.
Prodigal Parson.—Prince's T., Accrington.
Prodigal Son (Croker).—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Prodigal Son (Day).—Queen's T., Manchester.
Prodigal Son (Western).—Hippodrome, Mansfield.
Proof.—Northwich.
Raffles (Dance).—Royalty T., Morcambe.
Rollicking Rory.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Royal Divorce.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Saved from the Sea.—Court T., Warrington.
Second to None.—Star T., Liverpool.
Secret Wedding.—T. R., Glossop.
Sentenced for Life.—West London Theatre.
Sherlock Holmes.—Herne Bay and Ramsgate.
Shulamite, The.—Lincoln.
Sign of the Cross.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Silver King (Howard).—Pontypridd.
Silver King (Polini and Melford).—T. R., Ashton.
Silver King (Polini and Melford).—Plymouth.
Sin of Her Childhood.—T. R., Leigh.
Soldier of France.—Miner's T., Ashington.
Soldier's Honour.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—Alhambra, Stourbridge.
Still Alarm.—T. R., Croydon.
Stronger Sex (N.).—T. R., Worthing.
Stronger Sex (S.).—Kennington Theatre.
Swiss Express.—O. H., Wakefield.
Terry, Edward.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Terry, Miss Ellen.—Coronet Theatre, W.
Traitor, The.—Court T., Wigan.
Two Lancashire Lasses in London.—Keighley.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—Prince's T., Preston.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—T. R., Dewsbury.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.).—T. R., Norwich.
Tyrant, The.—T. R., Scarborough.
Under the Russian Flag.—T. R., Rotherham.
Veronique.—T. R., Bath.
Village Blacksmith.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—West Pier, Brighton.
What the Butler Saw.—Victoria T., Ramsgate.
When it was Dark.—T. R., Merthyr.
When London Sleeps.—Palace T., Newcastle.
When Other Lips.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
When Woman Hates.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
White Chrysathemum.—Crystal Palace.
Why Men Love Women.—T. R., Barnsley.
Wilkie Allan and Co.—Albert T., Brighouse
Woman from Scotland Yard.—Workington.
Woman Pays.—New T., Consett.
Woman Worth Winning.—P. O. W., Salford.
Woman's Past.—New T., Cambridge.
World's Great Snare.—Scunthorpe.
Worst Woman in London.—Terris's T., S.E.
Youngest of Three.—Deal and Herne Bay.
Young Lieutenant.—Berwick and Durham.
£1000 Reward.—Lyceum T., Pentre.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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EMPIRE THEATRE (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—*The lady you mention would probably give you the information you seek. Write her care of the Empire Theatre, Leicester-square, W.C.*

FRANK COUCH.—*The Alhambra, Shoreditch, gave three performances nightly; but we cannot give you the date of their discontinuance or their inauguration. H. Barton Baker's "The London Stage" would be able to supply a good deal of the information that you require about saloons and theatres. For the rest, we can only refer you to the Reading Room of the British Museum. No really good account of the "beginnings" of the London halls has been written as far as we are aware, though Mr. Douglas Stuart, 28, Wellington-street, Strand, has done something in this direction. Some particulars of Evans's, the Coal Hole, and Paddy Green will be found in "My Lifetime," by John Hollingshead.*

L. R.—Mrs. Ponderbury's Past *was originally played on Nov. 2, 1895, at the Avenue Theatre.* In Dahomey *was produced at the Shaftesbury on May 16, 1903. We are unaware of the length of the run. Possibly Witmark's, 136, Shaftesbury-avenue, might be able to inform you.*

T. H. ROCHFORD (Dublin).—*You will discover the number (approximate) of music halls in the United Kingdom by reference to "The Era Almanack" of 1907. Of the number in the other countries we have but a limited knowledge.*

E. R. BEAUMONT (Theatre Royal, Leicester).—*We should say that the house had a Royal box; for the Princess Victoria (afterwards Queen) visited it in 1833, when it was re-christened the Victoria.*

CHRIS BAKER.—*We are quite unable to inform you as to the whereabouts of the lady. Inquire of Mr. Harry Randall.*

A. M. BROADHURST (Cricklewood).—*Enoch and Sons, 14, Great Marlborough-street, W., hold the publishing rights; but they themselves cannot give information concerning the acting rights. Inquire Dramatic Authors' Agency, Tavistock-street, Strand; French's, Southampton-street, Strand; or François Cellier, Belmont, Cranes Park, Surbiton.*

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BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Jack Wayho—Saturday, Sept. 14.
Eric Albury—Saturday, Sept. 14.
Mdme. Katti Lanner—Sunday, Sept. 15.
Lily Langtry—Sunday, Sept. 15.
Albert E. Wilson—Sunday, Sept. 15.
Charles Allan—Monday, Sept. 16.
Leonard Aardale—Monday, Sept. 16.
Lucy Coventry—Monday, Sept. 16.
W. A. Armour—Tuesday, Sept. 17.
Arthur Haytor—Tuesday, Sept. 17.
Katie Lawrence—Tuesday, Sept. 17.
Queenie Fraser-Brunner—Tuesday, Sept. 17.
Edgar Granville—Tuesday, Sept. 17.
Evelyn Millard—Wednesday, Sept. 18.
Harry J. Snelson—Wednesday, Sept. 18.
Charles B. Vaughan—Wednesday, Sept. 18.
Harry Burns—Wednesday, Sept. 18.
Milner Verren—Wednesday, Sept. 18.
Henry Arthur Jones—Thursday, Sept. 19.
George Robey—Thursday, Sept. 19.
Lydia Mannington—Thursday, Sept. 19.
Mary Dalby—Thursday, Sept. 19.
Dolly Hercat—Thursday, Sept. 19.
Will Sergeant—Thursday, Sept. 19.
Frank Seeley—Friday, Sept. 20.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

AUG. 1. David Christie Murray, aged 60.
,, 3. Mrs. Abigail Gibbs, aged 80.
,, 4. Mrs. Campbell-Bradley.
,, 4. William S. Matthews.
,, 7. Pattie Nolan (Mrs. Michael Hastings Daly).
,, 14. James Stevenson, jun.
,, 15. Josef Joachim, aged 76.
,, 15. Mrs. William Bennett.
,, 18. Lechmere Sheldon, aged 29.
,, 18. Francis Tennant, aged 67.
,, 18. George Spencer.
,, 23. Mary Ann Clarke Buss.
,, 28. Kathleen Cameron Macmillan, aged 2.
,, 30. Carrie Aldridge (Carrie Southall).
,, 30. Richard Mansfield.

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No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list.

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Ashwell, Miss Lena
Aspiotas
Austa, Miss Amba
Baldwin's Bank Clerks
Barass, Mr. Frank
Barnes, Miss E.
Barrett, Mr. W. Burgess
Beaudyn, Mr. Montague
Beaue, Belle
Bell, Mr. Arnold
Bickford, Mr. Melville
Biddall, Brothers
Black, Miss Jessica
Black, Mr. Andrew
Boggis, Mr. Percy
Braddock, Mr. A. J.
Brockbank, Mr. H.
Brown, Mr. C. Rae
Brown, Mr.
Bunce, Mr. H.
Burdett, Mr. Frank E.
Burrow, Mr. C. Kennett
Busta Ben Arabs
Calvert, Mrs. A.
Cameron, Miss Elsie
Campbell, Miss A. E.
Cane, Mr. B.
Carrick, Mr. A.
Carte, Mr. Chas.
Cartmell, Miss Violet
Castle, Mr. Chas.
Chaplin, Mr. Sidney
Clarke, Mr. J.
Clifton, Mr. Stanley
Cohen, Miss Bessie
Coleman, Mr. George S.
Coleman, Miss Nellie
Colman, Miss Fannie
Combes, Mr. Arthur
Comely, Miss Mabel
Conquest, Mr. A.
Cooper, Miss M.
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Cossart, Mr. B.
Cragg, Mr. Edward
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Davey, Mr. Phil
Day, Miss Beatrice
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Dooley, Mr. Sid
Dryden, Mr. Leo
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Earl, Miss Ethel
Edgar, Mr. Marriott
Edouin, Mr. Willie
Edwards, Miss Bee
Elliott, Miss Maxine
Elton, Mr. Fred
Endon, Miss Edie
Eugene, Mr. J. W.
Fiennes, Mr. Sydney
Fischer, Mr. Harry
Flemming, Mr. Herbert
Flood, Mr. Alec
Ford, Mr. Hal
Fox, Mr. James
Frantz, Miss A.
French, Mr. Billie
French, Mr. Henri G.
George, Mr. Walter
Gibraltar Girls
Gilbey, Mr. Tom
Gilmer, Mr. Albert
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Hall, Mr. G. Edward
Hall, Mr. Tatten
Hampton, Mr. Jack
Hare, Mr. James
Harrison, Mr. W.
Harvey, Miss Kate
Hickley, Mr. Leo
Holt, Mrs. Bland
Housden, Mr. H. F.
Howard, Mr. Wilfred
Hugh, Miss Francis
Huntley, Mr. G. P.
Hurst, Mr. T.
Ireson, Mr. Dudley
Jacobi, Miss R.
Jardine, Mr. Alec
Jeffries, Miss Maud
Jewell, Miss Jess
Johnson, Mr. Kid
Jones, Mr. C. Emlyn
Kendal, Mr. W. H.
Kirwan, Mr. Henry N.
Kisbey, Mr. H. J.
Kitchin, Mr. Fred
Klegin, Mr. Richard
Klein, Mr. Cecil
Knighton, Mr. T.
La Dor Troupe
Lambe, Mr. J. F.
Langtry, Mrs.
Lashwood, Mr. G.
Leander, Mr. Harry
Le Cren Trio
Le Roy, Miss Mabel
Lilywhite, Mr. Fred
Linwood, Mr. Herbert
Lovell, Mr. H. C.
Loveridge, Mrs. Emily
MacLaren, Mr. Ian
Madderson, Mr. Bates
Manders, Mr. Albert
Marshall, Miss
Matt, Miss Edith
McHugh, Mr. Fred
Melia, Mr. Martin
Meredith, Mr. Arthur
Metcalfe, Mr. Hugh
Monson, Miss M.
Moore, Miss Lucy
Morgan, Mr. J. M.
Nelson, Mr. Frank
Norman, Mr. A. W.
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Pakenham, Mr. R. J.
Palmer, Mr. Geo. G.
Parker, Miss Ada
Paull, Miss Ethel G.
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Phipps, Mr. John
Potter, Miss May
Potter, Mrs. Cora U.
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Prinellas, The
Ravenswood, Mr. Edwin
Rene and Smith, Messrs
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Sandell, Mr. Harry
Scott, Miss Vertta
Scrogge, Mr. Chas.
Scudamore, Mrs. F. A.
Shine, Mr. J. L.
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Street, Mr. Fred
Stuart, Mr. E.
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Wellesley, Mr. Alfred
Wielan, Miss Clara
Williams, Mr. Ford
Wilson, Mr. Wm.
Wood, Mrs. John
Wynne, Mr. E. S.
Zerbinis, Mr. Victor

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

FOSSETT.—On Sept. 8, at 14, Jervis-road, Fulham, Isabelle, the wife of Robert Fossett, jun., of a fine son, Robert Francis Bailey. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

ASPINALL—MASON.—Sept. 4, at St. Andrew's, Westminster, A. B. Aspinall, secretary of the West India Committee, to Kitty Mason, principal dancer at the Gaiety.

BERNARD—ASTIN.—At Blackpool, by the Rev. N. S. Jeffrey (Vicar of Blackpool), Geo. Bernard, actor-vocalist, to Florence Astin, of Blackpool.

NORMAN—WYNTER.—Sept. 9, '07, at St. Peter's, Piccadilly, George Norman and Gertrude Wynter.

DEATHS.

HADDOCK.—Sept. 12, George Haddock, Principal of the Leeds College of Music, aged 84.

HARGREAVES.—Sept. 12, Mrs. Thos. Hargreaves, wife of the proprietor and manager of the Empire Theatre of Varieties, Rochdale.

MONTAGUE.—On Sept. 5, of acute pneumonia, Herbert J. Montague, resident-manager, Gaiety Theatre, Clydebank.

NATHAN.—Sept. 8, Alice Nathan, the dearly beloved wife of Harry Nathan, of Ruffell's Bioscope Syndicate, passed peacefully away at Kent House, New Beckenham, age 40. Interred at Abney Park Cemetery, Sept. 12.

ROUSBY.—On Sept. 10, at his residence, 28, Hauteville, Guernsey, William Wybert Rousby, aged 72 years. Most deeply regretted.

WINGROVE.—On the 8th inst., at the residence of her son-in-law, Will Musgrave, Park View, Boreham Wood, Herts, Annie, beloved mother of the Sisters Wingrove, in her fifty-first year.

IN MEMORIAM.

BRAME.—In loving memory of my dear husband (Henry William), who died Sept. 13, 1905. Never forgotten by his sorrowing wife, Constance Brame. Faithful and true.

CORBET.—In memory of Fanny Corbet (Mrs. S. T. Pearce), who slept her last, Sept. 11, '06. Deeply mourned by her loving mother and sisters.

JEE.—In loving memory of my dear wife Katie, who entered into rest Sept. 13, '06. Never to be forgotten by her husband, Albert Jee (Egbert). "To live in the hearts of those we leave behind is not to die."

JEE.—In loving memory of Mrs. Albert Jee (Egbert), who passed away Sept. 13, 1906. Not forgotten by her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Burnell.

LEYBOURNE.—In ever-loving memory of George Leybourne, who died Sept. 15, 1884. Never forgotten by his devoted daughter, Florrie (Mrs. Albert Chevalier).

PRINCE.—In loving memory of Jessie ("Jo"), who died Sept. 10, 1903. R.I.P. One of her old friends, Maud Haigh.

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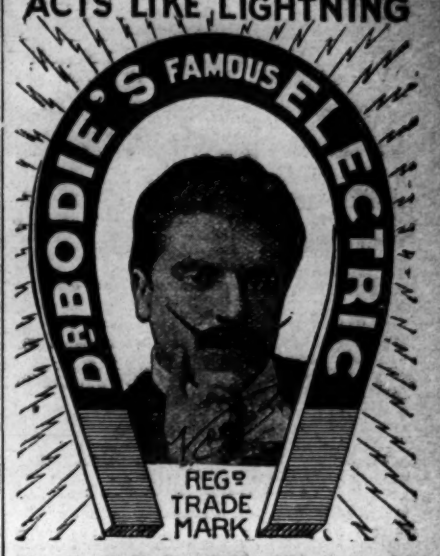

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A New Comedy, in Three Acts,
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("Die lustige witwe").
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To-night, at 8, A Genuine Triumph,
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Special Engagement of
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a Comedy, in Four Acts,
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'Phone 119 HAMMERSMITH. Owner and Resident-Manager, J. B. MULHOLLAND.
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All communications re Dates at Marlborough and King's Theatres; also as to performing "The New Magdalen," address Mr. MULHOLLAND.
KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH, W.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE.
Managing-Directors,
Mr. ERNEST STEVENS and Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN.
Sept. 16, "A CHINESE HONEYMOON."
All communications re Dates to
Mr. J. B. MULHOLLAND, King's T., Hammersmith, W.
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Proprietor, Mr. J. C. COE.
Monday, Sept. 16, 1907, Extra Special Engagement of Marie Lloyd, Lionel Vaughan and Co., Gallimore Trio, Fred Dunstone, William Gourlay, Jennie Moore, Hallett and Giddens, Diana Hope and Co., Cosgrove and Burns, the Edisonograph, the Waldrons, Chimes, "The Crazy Butcher," Bugler Carr, Neil Kenyon. Doors open 7.30, commence 7.45 (Saturdays 7.15). Telephone 106, Hammersmith.
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Twice Nightly at 6.30 and 9.
Band rehearsals at 3 p.m. on Mondays.
All Artists must attend.
Geo. Leyton, in "Boys of Chelsea School," Leonard Barry's "Coster's Ball," Dan Filmer, The Merrie Maids, Geo. Phillips, Talbot and Pierce, Rex King, Hanlon Troupe, Crissie Bell, Ruffell's Bioscope.
Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE,
LONDON-ROAD, S.E.
Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.10.
Joe Elvin and Co., Maude and Sidney Wood, Jack Daw, Dolly Denton, Dan Crawley, Flo. Challis, Billy French, Ruffell's Bioscope, Mueller and Coyne, Norman Acton and Co.
Manager, WILLIAM PAYNE.

EMPIRE, Camberwell Green.
Managing-Directors,
JESSE SPARROW and HARRY BAWN.
Twice Nightly, 6.30 and 9 o'clock.
Ethel Ra Leslie and Co., in Egyptian Opera, "Pharaoh's Daughter," Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor, Fatma Diard, Three Panamas, Ethel Dore, Pete and Minnie Lee, Jack Treval, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shelley, Lozelle, Jeape's Animated Graphic, and Fred Winn's Co., in "The Light in the Window."

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
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Proprietors, Messrs. F. and M. ABRAHAMS.
Twice Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.10. Matinée Thursday at 2.30. Montague Beaudyn and Co., in "A Beautiful Fiend," Florence Yayman, Fred Harrison, New Bioscope, Esmond and Evelyn, in "The Express Baby," One Billy Farrell, Metz and Metz, the Braithwaites, Dave O'Toole, the Martialo Trio.
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Popular Prices.
General-Manager, Mr. JACK WOOLF.

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LA MILO, Cruikshank.
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Signorina MARIA BORDIN, Première Danseuse.
Varieties by FRANCO PIPER, RICHARD LIST'S BEARS, BROS. ARTOIS, HENRY HELME, HARRY ALLISTER, URBANORA, WILD BIRDS AT HOME, &c.
Doors 7.45. Manager, GEORGE SCOTT.

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MOROCCO CRISIS and THE OCEAN RACE on the Biograph.
Ballet, SIR ROGER DE COVERLEY.
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"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
The "Era Annual" for 1907 is now out. It is full of good things, and will be eagerly perused by all who are interested in dramatic and musical affairs and personnel. Portraits of, and original contributions by, several public favourites and managers appear, including Miss Ellen Terry, who tells "How I Spend My Day"; Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Charles Collette, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Matthew Brodie, Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Edith Cole, and Mr. Tom Craven. There is, in addition, the usual store of miscellaneous theatrical information which is indispensable to all who are interested in tage matters.—Liverpool Post, Jan. 26.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
A capital shilling's worth is the "Era Annual," with its valuable lists of new plays produced during the year in London, the provinces, Berlin, and Paris. In contains, also, many readable articles by stage favourites, notably a characteristic contribution, "How I Spend My Day," by Miss Ellen Terry.—Daily Express, Feb. 2.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1907.

TEACHING PLAY-WRITING.

Mr. CYRIL MAUDE'S suggestion that the art of writing plays might be taught by means of lectures and able instruction is one which affords food for reflection and discussion. Mr. ALFRED C. CALMOUR is distinctly of opinion that the technical part of the trade can be so taught; and his little book on "Practical Play-writing" was an endeavour to supply the "long-felt want" of a guide to the aspiring but inexperienced dramatist. Mr. JEROME K. JEROME is the author of a very amusing and cleverly-written little volume on the same subject, penned in a spirit of pleasant irony, which makes it doubly acceptable. And there are others.

We cannot say, however, that we consider these books, clever as they undoubtedly are, of much practical use to the budding playwright. They bear much the same relation to the art of play-writing as Sir JOSHUA REYNOLDS'S books and Mr. CLAUSEN'S admirable lectures do to that of painting. Mr. CALMOUR'S plan, it seems, was first to hit on an initial dramatic idea, then to elaborate a skeleton plot, and next to develop this into a completed scenario; after which his young dramatist was to "marshal his incidents into acts." Mr. CALMOUR also made the ingenious suggestion that, having completed an act of a play, the writer should get someone who "could not read dramatically" to read it to him. "By this means," said Mr. CALMOUR, "he will arrive at the very worst aspect of his effort, and will be enabled to tell where the dialogue wants cutting. It is not a bad plan," continues the teacher, "when one can victimise one's friends, to drop in after dinner, and get them to take small doses of the play, watching observantly whether your pathetic or comic scenes produce their intended effect or deep slumber." This, at any rate, is a definite, if slightly dangerous, suggestion.

The essential truth about playwriting is that where a strong dramatic instinct exists the tricks of the trade can easily be acquired; but that it is impossible by teaching technique to engender observation, invention, and creative ability. The most gifted "born dramatist" needs to be acquainted with technique, and the only school that exists is the study of practised playwrights, not in the library, but in the theatre, followed by actual experiment in play-production. Most dramatists have made their preliminary essays in the Theatre Royal Back Drawing-room, and have unconsciously imitated the master of the art in vogue when they commenced operations. But the best training of all is to see your immature and amateurish efforts knocked into shape by the practised hand of some experienced actor or stage-manager.

We talk and write of the "drama" as if it were "one and indivisible"—as if there was only one drama with only one set of rules. But there are many kinds of drama, and the rules for the making of them are as numerous. At one end of the scale is the highly intellectual piece, the sort of piece which ought to be played, as Mr. BERNARD SHAW puts it, to a pit full of philosophers; at the other is the crude "carpentered" melodrama which delights children of the larger growth. The methods which are suitable for the one are utterly inefficacious with the second. In the one case we want close observation, mental ability, and a moderate use of technique; in the other, technique is all-important—the workmanship is essential and the artistry is subordinate. But even in this instance the technique is not the part which is of prime importance. There must be material to work upon before the manufacture can commence.

It is true that, in melodrama, a great deal of this material is only "re-cooked cabbage"; but there must be something besides this to make up the dish, and that something must be supplied by the author's brain. Where there is the dramatic instinct, the "sense of the theatre" can be easily acquired. The trouble with most of the MSS. that are submitted to managers is that the authors lack, not the theatrical but the dramatic faculty. Given a thoroughly human and really dramatic play, though full of solecisms in arrangement and construction, any practical stage-manager can soon "knock it into shape." Whenever one tries to lay down a fixed rule for the writing of plays, one is met with an example to the contrary. "All the academies in the world," says Mr. CALMOUR, "will not make a man a fine painter or sculptor; will not give him a sense of colour, or of form, or composition. But teaching will make him conversant with the A B C of the art which he aspires to learn." A pupil who only knows his A B C is not, however, of much importance. The chief qualification of a dramatist is imagination. He must be able to see his stage set with the scene he requires, to hear his personages talking, and to see them, in his mind's eye, in action. This is what distinguishes the dramatic from the narrative gift. The novel may be observation passed through the medium of an undramatic temperament; a play must be life passed through the medium of a dramatic one. Other things being equal, this is the essential difference between the people who can write plays and those who cannot. From the writer with the theatrical instinct and only a dash of the dramatic we get the cheapest form of crude melodrama; from the author with the dramatic instinct, but without the theatrical, we, at the worst, get plays which, with a little pruning and altering, can easily be made into interesting dramas. It is not chiefly a question of knowing when to bring down your curtain, or of Right Centre and Opposite Prompt Entrance. It is a question of the raw material which we call Life passing through a temperament and being converted in passing to certain uses. And the only education which can be suggested is a constant study of the best models. The student must, as it were, take his technique in through the pores. It is impossible to be constantly seeing plays without imbibing certain principles; and if one cannot write a good drama, attendance at the theatre will, at least, establish a standard in the mind, and enable the student to realise his incompetency. The people who make the labour of the managers' play-readers so heavy are not so much ignorant of technique as ignorant of what has been done on the stage already, ignorant of Life, and, above all, ignorant of their own ignorance.

MISS PEREIRA ON DRAMATIC ART.

I certainly maintain (said Miss Joan Pereira in a recent debate at an Actors' Association "Social") that the dramatic art in England at the present time is deteriorating when compared with that of France and Germany. Firstly, because the average actor seldom makes a fundamental study of his part. Secondly, facial expression and by-play are often ignored, or, what is more frequent, they are an unknown art. Thirdly, deportment is in a great many cases not thought necessary, and what to any other nation is the more palpable the Englishwoman is so used to outdoor sports that, however good she may be at tennis, hockey, and cricket, once in a drawing-room her train, her movements, the handling of bric-à-brac necessitates a different style.

It is but fair to say in regard to these statements that there are brilliant exceptions which even a Continental star would find it hard to outshine—therefore, to quote the English grammar, these exceptions prove the rule.

I said the ordinary actor seldom makes a fundamental study of his part, and here I lay stress on the actor of experience—the much-belittled amateur will take the trouble to study the character of his part; it is a novelty to him. But the actor has suddenly a part offered to him, say, a French character part—he is rushed for it, must get his props, &c. He is a quick study—one primary point in his favour. Now there remains only how to impersonate the Frenchman. "What shall I do?" he asks himself. "I never played a Frenchman. Ah, here comes Jones—the very man! Do tell me how you would play this part—it is a Frenchman."

"My dear fellow, just go and see Jenkins at the Frivolity. He is ripping in that part. Copy him, and you'll do all right." The actor goes and does so, never for one moment reasoning if the said characters coincide as to the period, the mannerism, &c. England is insular, and therefore a Frenchman to an English audience is a Frenchman.

Of course, not everyone has the good fortune to go abroad and study the customs of the people, but there is a great opportunity for all that to read the books of the country, translations if you cannot do so in the original, and so become familiar with the temperament and surroundings of the character one has to impersonate.

May I give an illustration of the French stage-manager in a small town in the south of France? He was producing a play, and in it there was a scene—a dinner-party at an English country house. We rehearsed, and when the dinner was over the stage-manager asked the hostess, together with the ladies, to leave the dining-room. "Messieurs, you remain."

"Why?" queried one artist. "Ah!" said our French stage-manager, "in England when people of quality dine en compagnie, the ladies withdraw to the salon, and the men remain seated at table to drink whisky. Ah oui!" and turning to me, he said, "N'est-ce-pas, mademoiselle? It is always so?"

Now, I know this man had never been in England, spoke but a few English words, and I asked him after the rehearsal where he got his knowledge from. He showed me with a chuckle an old Tauchnitz edition of one of Mrs. Henry Wood's novels.

"Vous voyez, mademoiselle—I read the English authors, all!" And I dare say that scene impressed the native audience the more because it had an English atmosphere. And to bear out my argument, may I quote the *Referee*, which, in criticising the Haymarket production of *My Wife*, singled out Mr. Fred Lewis's interpretation of a Frenchman? "The character is *very well observed*." Moreover, Mr. Lewis shows that you do not want French or broken English either to convey the sense of French character.

My second argument to the leading question: Facial expression and by-play are often ignored, or what is more frequent, they are an unknown art. The great fault in this respect lies with the stage-manager. He is the man to watch, correct, and insist on expression; but how often does he not even notice it, or, if he does, passes it over? "Rather have my stage properly set—much more important."

A pretty face and a good figure are a great recommendation to an actress. "Yes, she looks pretty; she'll do," says the manager. "Here is the part." The lady dresses the part well, looks it, and speaks her lines extremely well; but the expression—the soul that should speak out of her eyes—it is so often absent.

Of course, we all know, that unless facial expression, say, in tragedy, is well held under control, it becomes a grimace. Lessing, in his "Laokoon," tells us that tragedy best expresses is through the eyes, the eyebrows—in fact, let the mouth remain in repose.

Now, the pretty actress, knowing that facial expression, unless carefully studied, becomes a distortion, reasons: "I won't use any at all, and so be on the safe side." Her manager may be disappointed when he sees her from the front, but he too will shrug his shoulders and say, "A pity, but she looks pretty."

Again, the stage-manager may ask the "heroine" to make much of her big scene. "Let yourself go, miss——"

Imagine her scene: A ruined home, a broken-hearted wife bidding good-bye to her husband who is leaving his homeland. The actress speaks lines with power, she clutches her hair, utters agonising shrieks, and finally she swoons. But how much more true to life would it be if the said actress, when playing at Liverpool, had watched the departure of an emigrants' ship at the landing-stage—the stony look on the wife's face, the utter despair, the great loneliness, all so forbidding and tragic in their aspect that the very Deity would shrink from intruding on her in her great grief.

Now I am coming to the deficiency of "by-play." I mean particularly how to listen when someone else is speaking. I maintain in most cases it is the facial expression of the "thinking parts" which is absolutely necessary to make a point go. Have we not often watched a provincial play and felt sorry for the leading character? Say the scene is a court of justice. The accused is pleading hard his cause, but, Mon Dieu! his hearers—the face of the judge and jury, often played by minor actors, void of expression, and if it happens to be the acting-manager—who very often plays a part in the last scene—why, he will count the house to make sure his returns are all night!

Thus I could enumerate dozens of cases, but they are obvious to us all.

Therefore it is imperative that the stage-manager should impress on his artists, from the pretty leading woman down to the "responsible actor," that facial expression is a great factor in the art of acting. Thus an impossible dramatic situation would be more effectively played than by shouting, ranting, and throwing one's arms about as so often is the case.

I remember when I was studying in Paris we had lessons in dramatic art from an actress from the Théâtre Française. At our second lesson, to our disgust, we were each given a slip of paper, and on it was written "Au revoir."

"Mesdames," said the French actress, "please go home and study this word, and at your next lesson will you express 'Au revoir" in seven different ways?" and that was all we got for our ten francs a lesson. I don't think I have since gazed so long in the looking-glass and studied my face. There were the haughty, the sad, the coquettish, the affectionate, etc., etc., "Au revoir" to be expressed, and our features to be worked upon, and ma foi! at the next lesson was not the said French actress most sarcastic, and would suddenly interrupt our facial "Au revoirs" by exclaiming: "Mais, mais, qu'est-ce que cela veut dire que cette grimmace là."

These were happy days, and we liked to study dramatic art in spite of the dreaded uncomplimentary remarks.

My last argument:

Deportment is in a great many cases not thought necessary, but to the English woman is essential by nature of her outdoor exercises.

I will leave the English actor out of the question. For an Englishman never was "Un homme du salon"; he dresses, walks, and pursues his own hobbies like a true Briton, and is likewise the admiration or envy of other Continental nations. Thus in any and every salon he will always remain "Un Anglais pur et simple."

But with the English actress it is different. She dons a Paris gown, impersonates a fascinating Italian, or a languishing Spaniard, and her grace is essential, for she is vying with the nations to whom these attributes are second nature. An English actress has a good many points in her favour—she is tall, svelte, of a rare colouring, and so on—but natural grace, which her Southern sisters possess, to her is often denied, therefore, she should cultivate it in her dramatic pursuits.

You may often overhear the exclamation when abroad as an Englishwoman passes:—

"Mais qu'elle est belle," but the very neat remark will be "Ciel! qu'elle est gauche!"

I will not say the English actress is awkward, it sounds harsh, but "gauche"; perhaps of later years the general tendency to out-door sports among women may have conduced to it. Let the actress stand in front of a big looking-glass and watch her movements, the practise of how to wear a long train without the inevitable actor stepping on it and using bad language. All these little, very little, items help to keep up Great Dramatic Art on a level with other nations, some of which are outstripping us.

THE costumes in *Attila* at His Majesty's are marked by richness and beauty. Miss Lily Brayton as Ildico makes a lovely picture in her classical tunic of blue cloth, draped over a robe of lighter blue, and fastened on the shoulders with bands of turquoise. Over the head is thrown a veil of fine blue cloth, and the hair, worn in two long plaits, is tied at intervals with bands of blue ribbon. Heavy rings of silver are worn in each ear. Later in the play Ildico appears in a long tunic of geranium-coloured cloth, only relieved by a black shawl worked with large medallions in gold, her ornaments being of the same precious metal. Her next appearance is in a tunic of gold and purple, slashed into tiny points, edged with gold braid, and worn over an under-robe of very rich purple cloth.

ILDICO'S bridal dress is a beautiful robe of cloth-of-silver, almost hidden by a tunic covered with large silver sequins. From her shoulders falls a long, square train of silver cloth, worked in silver and lined with scarlet, and the lining is powdered with tiny silver sequins. With this very beautiful dress Ildico wears a heavy jewelled ornament to fasten the bodice, massive bracelets on each arm, and a jewelled crown.

MISS IRENE ROOKE, as one of Ildico's attendants, wears a curious dress of blue linen, with the bodice partly made of brown leather, half hidden under a long tunic of green linen, which is fastened at the sides with clasps of silver. The sleeves also are very quaint, being made of green and blue beads sewn together to make squares. In the part of the queenly Kerka Miss Mary Rorke wears a tunic of dark blue cloth, heavily embroidered in gold. This tunic is worn over a robe of dark blue cloth, arranged with long hanging sleeves of blue gauze, and over the head and around the neck is gracefully twisted a sling-scarf of blue gauze. The costume is finished by a quaint cap of black and gold, surmounted by a gold crown.

ONE of Miss Fanny Brough's gowns in *The Sins of Society* is of brown tussore, trimmed with soft satin, in lighter shades and golden-brown lace. She has also a striped black chiffon gown, with a trimming of chiffon painted with rich yellow roses, and a band of silver tissue at the hem, with a white straw, covered with yellow tulle to match the gown, and trimmed with a big bunch of roses and convolvulus. Miss Brough's dress in the last act is in pale blue cloth, the coat having a cutaway effect, and the shoulder seam is quite new. With this is a toque of grass-green straw, trimmed with choux of green and a bunch of coque feathers.

"THE GAY GORDONS."

A Play with Music, in Two Acts, book by Seymour Hicks, music by Guy Jones, lyrics by Arthur Wimperis, C. H. Bovill, P. G. Wodehouse, and Henry Hamilton. Produced at the Aldwych Theatre on Wednesday evening, Sept. 11.

Angus Graeme .....MR. SEYMOUR HICKS
Nervy Nat .....MR. FRED EMNEY
Edmund Siddons .....MR. A. W. BASKCOMB
Andrew Quainton .....MR. WILLIAM LUGG
John Smith .....MR. LAWRENCE CAIRD
Marquis of Dalesbury ....MR. CECIL KINNAIRD
Viscount Belstairs .....MR. KENNETH MACLAINE
Lord Elmington .....MR. ARTHUR ROYD
Lord Mailsham .....MR. MERVYN DENE
Archibald Speedy .....MR. J. C. BUCKSTONE
Corporal .....MR. WILL BISHOP
Janet McCleod .....MISS ROSINA FILIPPI
Victoria Siddons .....MISS ZENA DARE
Charlotte Siddons ....MISS SIDNEY FAIRBROTHER
Mary McCleod .....MISS BARBARA DEANE
Lady Millicent Graeme ....MISS KATIE BUTLER
Lady Graeme .....MISS VERA MORRIS
Peasant Woman .....MISS GEORGINA DELMAR
Peggy Quainton .....MISS ELLALINE TERRISS

Mr. Seymour Hicks is the magician who is able to put new vitality into musical plays, and to laugh at the forebodings of quidnuncs fond of proclaiming the inanities of a form of theatrical production of which—whatever its failings—the public are far from being tired. The usual complaints tabulated are want of plot, lack of sustained dramatic interest, flabbiness of dialogue, and absence of coherence; but these faults cannot be charged to *The Gay Gordons*, produced on Wednesday evening at the Aldwych with all the pleasant accompaniments of success; for in the latest production there is a capital story, a plethora of sentiment, not a little pathos, and a pretty touch of romance that might go to the making of a first-class comedy. Indeed, at times one becomes so interested in the development of character and the sundry happenings that the introduction of a topical song is to be regarded as a banality not to be tolerated.

We are in the picturesque regions of the Scottish moors on the 12th, and o'er the heather-clad boulders of a finely painted and constructed scene that does immense credit to the brush of Mr. R. C. McCleery comes the skirl of the pibroch. We are in the vicinity of the cottage of Widow Janet McCleod, whose boy, Angus Graeme—not her son, as she is loth to confess—is a private in the Gordons. At the opening of the piece we learn that there have been inquiries concerning the lost heir to the estates of Meltrose, and the shrewd Scotchwoman has forwarded to a firm of solicitors in Edinburgh a tin box containing papers that establish the identity of Angus as the young Earl of Meltrose. But before the fact becomes common knowledge Angus has fallen in love with the daughter of an American millionaire, Peggy Quainton, who intends disappointing the anticipations of her friends on the other side of the Atlantic by marrying a man without a title. With this end in view she changes dresses and positions with Victoria Siddons, the daughter of a Punch and Judy proprietor, and acts as "help" to Mrs. McCleod. Outside the cottage takes place quite an idyllic love scene that removes *The Gay Gordons* far from the commonplace atmosphere of an ordinary musical play. Angus wins his suit: the beggar-maid will see him again on the morrow.

Ere the sun rises again he is proclaimed Earl of Meltrose, and in his fear of losing the Cophetua of the cottage he, too, changes places with a private of his regiment; but the "gaff is blown" by the Punch and Judy showman, and Peggy, much chagrined at the non-success of her romantic plan, resolves to change again and become her own brother. Eventually she is persuaded by the Earl, and the two plight their marriage vows in the presence of witnesses.

The second act opens with a scene so richly endowed with beautiful women, lovely toilets, and smart uniforms, and, moreover, so heartily reflecting in its opening number the loyalty of clan to laird and King, that it should become the talk of London. "For Scotland and King" sounds exactly the correct note, and Mr. Hicks, who had very little voice left to sing it on Wednesday evening, recited to the musical accompaniment. But Mr. Hicks has very rightly and properly left the most interesting numbers to his popular wife; and her personal triumph must have afforded her overwhelming proof that Londoners have a special affection for Ellaline Terriss—for the highly gifted and winsome creator of so many musical comedy heroines. The scenes between "the happy pair" were beautifully played. Tenderness and pathos animated the scene where the remains of a picnic are attacked by the lovers; and the affectionate episode between Angus and his foster-mother enabled that excellent actress, Miss Rosina Filippi, to show the touch of sincerity that marks the experienced artist. To return to Miss Terriss. She has an exquisite scene with the cottage children, who play "see-saw" while she sings a number by that title. Another lyric that falls pleasantly on the ear and enables her to wheedle so prettily is "Daddy, do"; but "Humpty and Dumpty" in the second act will become a more popular number than either of the other two. "You, you, you" is a fascinating lilt for the lovers that arises out of the situation. When disguised as an officer she sings, "Everybody loves one up in London" with delightful chic. Miss Sidney Fairbrother and Mr. Fred Emney proclaim the value of the more robust school of comedy by their really unctuous and highly amusing performances as Nervy Nat Siddons, the Punch and Judy proprietor, and his wife, Charlotte, who asserts that there is too much competition in the show business—what with Bernard Shaw and Hall Caine. Mr. A. W. Baskcomb submits a very clever study of the inert and melancholy Edward Siddons, the assistant showman who looks after the moke, an interesting quadruped; Mr. William Lugg is a genial, kindly, and sympathetic American father as Andrew Quainton; Mr. Lawrence Caird makes the most of his limited opportunities in the second act; Mr. J. C. Buckstone is pawky as the lawyer, Archibald Speedy; and Mr. William Bishop as a corporal is responsible for a Highland reel that brings down the house. Miss Zena Dare is quite herself as Victoria Siddons, and has little chance in the stupid number, "I am a honeypot." Miss Barbara Deane has two excellent numbers in the "White Heather" song and "A summer night"; and Miss Georgina Delmar sings very charmingly a pretty opening song. A capital concerted piece is "Our Show," in which the humour will be bound to increase with repetition. Misses Katie Butler, Vera Morris, and Sylvia Storey distinguish themselves in small parts; and Highland lairds are effectively presented by Messrs. Cecil Kinnaird, Kenneth Maclaine, Arthur Royd, and Mervyn Dene.

The dances and choral effects have been arranged by Edward Royce, the dresses are specially designed by Wilhelm, and the smart and handsome uniforms have been supplied by Morris Angel and B. J. Simmons and Co. The performance was musically directed by Mr. Frank E. Tours, who secured an excellent ensemble. The Aldwych should require no new attraction for some time to come.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

A special general meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation is to be held at the Camberwell Empire to-morrow (Sunday). Mr. Joe O'Gorman will take the chair at four o'clock. The principal business will be to decide on the methods to enforce the Award. Proprietors and managers are cordially invited.

No surprise will be felt that the management of the Palace, Stoke Newington, has passed into the hands of Mr. Jack de Frece, as it was well known that the bookings have always been done in connection with the Walter De Frece Circuit. Mr. T. J. Robinson is the acting manager.

Miss Vesta Victoria, who sails for America to-day, under engagement to Klaw and Erlanger, will open there with two of the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s songs, "Will he answer 'Goo-Goo'?" by Ballard Macdonald and Donovan Meher, and her already great American success, "I've told his missis all about him," by Harrington and Tate. Miss Victoria will also sing no less than six of Harrington and Tate's newest songs.

Miss Ada Reeve, accompanied by her husband, Mr. Wilfred Cotton, and Messrs. Harry and Dick Preston in the motor-boat, My Lady Ada, swam on Wednesday at Brighton from the Palace Pier to the West Pier in 32½ minutes. A very fine record.

Mr. Alfred Lester will appear on September 23rd in a new and revised version of that funny sketch, *A Restaurant Episode*, in which will be introduced Miss Florrie Wakeman, an actress of French descent. This lady will play the part of the visitor to the restaurant, the happenings therein being considerably amplified, with a special regard for humorous business.

Mr. Arthur Williams and company are to appear on Monday at the Palace Theatre in *That Brute Simmons*, is an adaptation of one of Mr. Arthur Morrison's "Tales from Mean Streets." Mr. Williams will be assisted by Miss Carlotta Zerbini and Mr. Lytton Grey. Mr. Williams's first appearance on the stage proper was at the Theatre Royal, Gravesend, on December 26th, 1861, when he appeared in a heavy "thinking part." Seven years later he came to London, and has played over 1,000 parts during the past twenty-five years at all the principal theatres both east and west.

Miss Carlotta Zerbini, who makes her début in variety, is, of course, well known to playgoers in her connection with the productions of Messrs. Harrison and Maude at the Haymarket, and in *The Dairymaids* at the Apollo. She comes of a famous musical family, and in her early years on the stage played heroines in English opera. She will repeat at the Palace her triumphs as Mrs. Simmons, her original part.

Curtain-raisers from the regular theatres are finding a new environment at the variety houses. Besides the production of *That Brute Simmons* at the Palace, *Punchinello*, an adaptation from the French by Mr. Hubert Carter, a young actor who has done excellent work in Shakespearian productions, is to be given at the Hippodrome on Monday. The little piece first saw the footlights in Liverpool, and was produced in London at the Grand, Fulham, on Sept. 11, 1903.

Miss Marianne Caldwell will make her first appearance on the irregular stage in the part of Nanon; the young author will resume his original part, the title-rôle; Mr. Edward O'Neill will be the Diderot; and Mr. Frank Forbes-Robertson, the bearer of an honoured name, will play Etienne, the secretary. The plot revolves round an eccentric will, and the scene is laid in Diderot's study in Paris in 1750. Diderot was the famous writer of *Le Paradoxe du Comédien*.

In *The Avalanche*, which is to be produced on Monday week, Mr. Lauderdale Maitland is to make his first appearance at the Hippodrome, and will play the part of André, the Swiss guide. Mr Maitland, though quite a young actor, has had some valuable experience, and has been touring for some time in melodrama. His hero in *One of the Best* established his reputation as an accomplished representative of romantic parts.

Miss Janet Alexander, who also goes to the Hippodrome from the legitimate stage, in *The Avalanche*, won her reputation in London when she played the part of the heroine in Boyle Lawrence's piece, *A Man of His Word*, produced by Mr. Herbert Waring at the Imperial Theatre. Previous to this Miss Alexander had played Beatrice in a representation of *Much Ado* by the Oxford University Dramatic Society.

Mr. Bransby Williams, who is this week at Norwich, is due on Monday at Ipswich, where he will stay at the Great White Horse, sleeping in the famous Pickwick room. While in town on Monday he was recognised by many of his friends when riding in a motor-car belonging to no less a person than S. F. Edge, who placed it at his disposal, thereby enabling him to enjoy a fine run through the Eastern Counties.

A concert party at Selsey that had not done good business last week found a friend in need in Mr. Bransby Williams, who worked a show for the unfortunate artists, and afterwards went round with the collecting box. One well-known gentleman gave him £5, and the collection had the desired result of helping the stranded ones out of their difficulties.

Mr. Herbert Shelley, who had no less than three pieces from his pen accepted for production this autumn—one at a West-End theatre—starts a short tour at the Palace, Blackpool, on Monday next, with his Irish protean play, *Dan the Outlaw*. He has lately fitted many of our leading artists with successful songs, including Miss Marie Studholme in *My Darling*. A busy man truly!

Miss Margaret Ashton, who has this week been appearing at the Chelsea Palace, remains at the Tivoli until the end of the month, when she will begin a provincial tour. The charming American soprano, who has in preparation several new songs, has been greatly gratified by the reception awarded to her famous march song, "When Tommy Atkins marries Dolly Gray."

A special set of pictures was shown on the Palace Bioscope on Monday depicting the scenes and incidents of the start for the race for the blue ribbon of the Atlantic between the Lusitania and the Lucania. The huge proportions of the former vessel are made clear to the audience, and the picture also shows in comparison the German rival which has hitherto held the record.

The Empire obtained from the Cunard Company special and exclusive facilities for pictures of the Lusitania, and their operator travelled to Ireland and obtained some very interesting pictures at Queenstown.

Years since the late Ambrose Maynard, or the gentleman who acted as his ghost, wrote a farce for the music-halls, entitled *Pepper and Salt*, in which first the Twin Brothers Wems and then the Twin Brothers Clayton played the title-rôles. It was a real "comedy of errors." The servants' parts were originally played by the Sisters Mario (Dot and Minnie), who had to give up their engagement in order to appear in Drury Lane pantomime.

Mr. Eric Longden, from the Britannia, Hoxton, has been appointed manager of Mr. Frank Macnaghten's Lincoln house, the Palace, and has already ingratiated himself into the esteem of habitués.

The registered directors of the Devonport Empire, £15,000 (£1), are Mr. Alfred Moul (of the London Alhambra) and W. Firth, and the agents are to be Messrs. F. Rosen and D. G. Bliss, who are concerned with the Palaces, Aberdeen and Dundee.

Mr. Geo. Saphrini will commence his third season at The Palace, Boston, on Sept. 30. During the vacation a new gallery and stage have been built; the place has been decorated throughout; and a new heating apparatus installed.

Mr. Nat Clifford was unable to continue his engagement at the Liverpool Tivoli after Wednesday evening owing to sudden illness, resulting from a stroke. Ernie Myers, engaged at the Lyric, deputised.

The date of the opening of the new music-hall, the Pavilion, now being erected by Messrs. Broadhead, in Lodge-lane, Liverpool, is provisionally fixed for Dec. 23 next. An army of workmen are engaged in the work of building.

Our readers will sympathise with Mr. T. Hargreaves, the genial and enterprising proprietor and manager of the Empire Theatre of Varieties, Rochdale, in the loss he has sustained by the death of his wife, who passed away on Thursday after a lingering illness borne with fortitude. The interment takes place at the Rochdale Cemetery to-day.

The Palace Theatre, Derby, reopened on Monday evening. The enterprising proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes, has spared nothing, and the building will now bear favourable comparison with any provincial hall of a similar size. Nearly £1,000 has been expended, and the improvements effected were fully appreciated by two packed houses on the opening night.

The increased comfort was also the subject of much favourable criticism. The new stage is a great improvement, and the admirable scenery and new act drop add lustre to the various "turns." Another striking feature is the artistic decoration of the proscenium in cream and gold, colours that are also employed extensively throughout the interior, which is illuminated, as of yore, with vari-coloured electric bulbs, the effect being delightful.

After undergoing a very serious operation, which happily proved successful, Mr. Hugh Wigglesworth, the well-known variety and concert agent, is now slowly recovering at Dr. Robertson's Nursing Home, 180, Abbey-hills-road, Oldham, and would welcome a cheery line from any of his old friends. A few years ago Mr. Wigglesworth was the general manager of the Morecambe Pier and Pavilion Co., Ltd.

On Friday in last week at Margate an unusually large number of visitors and townsfolk attended the annual combined entertainment by the two concert parties conducted by Mr. Will Edwards and Mr. Randall Jackson respectively, and a goodly amount resulted to provide toys, books, etc., for crippled children in the various local charitable institutions. The collections and donations amounted to £46.

The staff of the Palace, Lincoln, had their annual outing on Sunday, thanks to the generosity of Mr. Frank Macnaghten, and a very jolly day was spent at Cleethorpes. Ample provision was made for the entertainment of the visitors, and at the close a warm vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Macnaghten. Mr. Eric Longden, the new manager, was assiduous in helping on the enjoyment of the party.

Mr. Jack Macdermott, the popular manager for Messrs. Adeler and Sutton at the Pier Pavilion, Rhyl, was accorded a benefit on Thursday, the 4th inst., when his many friends rallied round him in great numbers. Several presentations and speeches were made during the evening, and a capital programme was contributed to by Messrs. Edwin Adeler, W. G. Sutton, Charley Harvey, Kennedy Allen, Clifford Morgan, Frank Hook, G. B. Bartlett, Cecil Warwick, Jas. A. Lawe, and Misses René Steadman, Kitty Allen, Annie Coxen, and Aline Sudbury.

There was a motion in the Chancery Division on Thursday on behalf of the managers of the Cottage Hospital at Clacton, to restrain the proprietors of the Palace in that seaside resort from carrying on their entertainments in such a way as to be a nuisance to the inmates of the hospital. The plaintiffs complained principally of the noise occasioned at the confetti fêtes. Mr. C. J. Mathew, on behalf of the defendants, said the directors of the Palace had arranged that the entertainments should cease after the 21st of September when the season would practically close, but he could not give any undertaking on the part of his clients. His lordship said he would not grant an injunction. He would direct that there should be a speedy trial of the action. In the event of the entertainments being continued after the 21st of the month, the plaintiffs should have liberty to renew their application.

Zona Joy's musical, terpsichorial, polyglot, mélange "school" will start its second tour on Oct. 7, visiting Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, and principal towns only. The company travels ten, all of whom will be seen in pantomime this coming season.

The funeral took place at the Burnley Cemetery on Monday of the late Mr. Nathan Greenwood, who was for seventeen years the caretaker of the Victoria and Empire Theatres, Burnley, and who died somewhat suddenly on Wednesday, the 4th inst. The deceased was a man well known in the profession and highly respected. Mr. Horner, the lessee and manager of the above theatres, greatly deplores the loss of a faithful servant—one in whom he could put implicit trust. He was 49 years of age. Besides the immediate relatives who attended, there were Mr. W. C. Horner, Messrs. T. Nuttall, and T. Thornton. Six of the theatre staff acted as bearers. Amongst the many and beautiful floral tributes received was one from the deceased's fellow-workpeople.

On her recent tour through the provinces La Milo has triumphantly vanquished narrow-minded objectors, and at her first appearance at the Alhambra on Monday she will realise in a novel series of poses some of the most beautiful and world-renowned works of art, and will conclude her performance each evening with her impersonation of Lady Godiva.

Mr. Harry Lowther, author of the successful sketch, *Barmaids*, writes: "Some time ago a theatrical parody entitled 'Laddie' appeared in a Manchester paper. I have heard it sung at dinners and suppers; I have heard it recited at a music hall; I have had it whispered in my ear by a friend, who, with a 'don't-praise-me-old-man-I-hate-it' sort of air, informed me that it was a little thing that he'd just dashed off. It may be interesting to some of your readers (the dashed-off gentleman in particular) to know that the wee parody was written by me." The fact may be interesting to a few of our readers; but we "hae oor doots."

Mr. Will Oliver ("Wee Wullie"), who looks a braw laddie in kilts, and has taken the title of the Laird of Brixton, has returned from the Land o' Cakes to his beautiful Lowland castle, Spot Lodge.

The Music Hall Ladies' Guild regrets the omission of the names of Miss Diana Hope and Mrs. Monte Bayly from the list of guests at their opening, and desires to thank Rev. W. Cree, Rev. Stephen Barrass, Rev. Donald Hole, Mr. Frank Gerald, Mr. Ernest De Vere, and other ladies and gentlemen for their kind letters of regret.

The Guild returns thanks to Miss Millie Payne and Mlle. Haydee for gifts of clothing, and announces its first general meeting for Wednesday, Oct. 9, at the Canterbury. Miss Lily Burnand will take the chair.

The dinner to be given to Mr. Frank Gerald at the Criterion Restaurant to-morrow evening will be attended by representatives of the variety, musical, and theatrical professions and a number of representatives of Labour, including several Members of Parliament. Mr. Cecil Raleigh will preside, and Mr. George Gray is to be the vice-chairman. Some interesting speeches are expected from those who will propose and support the toasts. Many well-known artists will contribute to a concert that will follow. Application for tickets (5s. each) should be made to-day at 29, Wellington-street, or such tickets as are available may be obtained at the Criterion (Jermyn-street entrance) on the evening. The dinner is timed for 7 o'clock, or 7.30.

Quite unknowingly Mr. Joe Elvin was on Monday the cause of much dissatisfaction at the Duchess, Balham, where he is playing *The King o' the Castle* as the last turn on the programme. Owing to his other engagements he was quite unable to reach Balham at the time fixed for his turn. The orchestra gave a selection, and after a somewhat lengthy wait a notice appeared on the cinematograph sheet to the effect that he would not appear. Then came more pictures. The audience, of course, were not satisfied; but after a mild protest they quietly dispersed. Just, however, as the house had almost emptied itself the motor-car of the great comedian was espied coming down the road. Immediately there was a perfect stampede back again to the hall. After a wait of a few minutes Joe's number was signalled amidst terrific cheering; and people toppled over each other in their anxiety to get a seat. Such enthusiasm is rare, and is only to be gained by London's greatest favourites, who always do their utmost to keep faith with their beloved public.

"Pharaoh's Daughter," a sketch which was copyrighted last week, is to be produced at the Camberwell Empire on Monday by Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie, who appears in the title-rôle. The lyrics and music are by Joseph Tabrar. Mr. Wensley Russell as Prince Rameses, Mr. Frank Lester as Ptolemy, Mr. R. Stockwell as a "Slave," Miss Ruby Davis as a Grecian dancing girl, and Miss Elsie Melbourne as Hataska are in the cast.

Hengler's Cirque has been so rapidly transformed under the direction of Mr. Hancock that it will reopen on Saturday, Oct. 5. Beketow's famous Russian Imperial Circus Company from Buda-Pest will be the attraction. In this elaborate show are over a hundred highly-trained horses, ponies, zebras, dogs, bears, elephants, and two hundred artists presenting every conceivable kind of skilled gymnastic exhibit. A large contingent of drolls will make things merry.

Miss Betty Ohls, a bright American soubrette, will make her first appearance on the London stage at the Empire on Monday, and will give a short répertoire of songs in French and English after the style of Yvette Guilbert.

The Empire Theatre is at present showing a series of pictures of the Morocco crisis, with all the stirring incidents at Casa Blanca. These pictures have been specially procured by an operator on the scene of action with the war correspondents. The camera pitched in the trenches distinctly shows every movement of the guns when firing. These pictures met with a hearty reception on their first appearance on the screen on Friday, the 6th inst.

The élite of the profession visiting Brighton, with no exceptions to speak of, make a point of sojourning at the now well-known "home from home" facing the Bodega in Ship-street, presided over by Mrs. George Le Brunn, and the kindly hostess's visitors' book will one day be worth a goodly sum when the autograph hunters get wind of it. It would seem from a perusal of its pages that as though every artist of prominence in the theatrical and variety world had stayed there and vied with each other with brilliant epigram, smart *bon mot*, and straightforward testimony in expressing their appreciation of comfort enjoyed whilst under the lady's hospitable roof.

The following (taken haphazard from its pages) over the autograph of a well-known littérateur, is a fair specimen of the encomiums in which the book abounds:—

If thou would'st live to *eighty-six*
To *Brighton* hie thee strait,
And stay atte Shippe-street's ship-shape house,
Ye number's *sixty-eight*—
To beat its comforts there are none;
'Tis kept by Mistress George Le Brunn.

Mr. Fowler Thatcher, who has played in the production of new sketches each week for several weeks, had even a swifter experience last week. On Saturday at one o'clock he received the part of Henry Drinkwater in Tom Conover's sketch, *The Drink Cure*, and at the Britannia matinée on Monday at 2 o'clock, exactly 49 hours afterwards, he played it with most gratifying success. On Monday he received a wire at his house at Hammersmith at 11.30 a.m. He packed, caught the 1.30 at King's Cross, arrived at 5.15 in Leeds, where Mr. McKenzie met him at the station with the part he had to play. On the same evening at 7.30 (with one run through in the dressing-room) he opened at the Leeds Varieties in *The Belle of Barcelona*. Certainly he had played the part for a few weeks over a year ago, but the piece had been considerably altered.

Now we have the Twin Sisters Clifton in a hilarious novelty, *How Papa Found His Twins*, which is meeting with much success at the Empress, Brixton, this week. The Twin Sisters are supported by Mr. Arthur St. George, the author. The sketch is being much sought after.

Mr. J. W. T. Bennett has applied for a licence for stage plays, music, and dancing for a building to be known as Dream City, to be built in Battersea Park-road, on the site of the old waterworks, an extensive site, with a fine river frontage. We are given to understand that the Dream City is to follow on the lines of the White City, Salford. We wonder if it is to be a revival of the glories of North Woolwich Gardens in the days of William Holland.

Mr. Charles Beecham's complimentary benefit is to take place on the evening of Thursday, the 26th inst., when among the entertainers will be Joe Elvin (in a special sketch), Harry Tate, Little Tich, Will Evans, Victoria Monks, Alec Hurley, and Marie Lloyd. A fancy dress ball will follow the entertainment, and a magisterial permit will allow the numerous friends of the beneficiaire to hold high revel until 4 a.m.

Mr. Willie Freear, another member of the famous family that has given us the incomparable comedienne, Louie Freear, has been entertaining the Jersey folk with most gratifying success. Willie takes little jaunts round the world—it's a way he has—and has amused all sorts and conditions of men and women, white and coloured, and if his drollery should ever fail him—a most unlikely contingency—he should make a good lecturer on ethnography. The Jersey folk are delighted with him.

Mr. W. G. Gilmore, solicitor, of The Grange, Stockport, the managing-director of The Empire, Stockport, was married at the church of the Holy Fame, Manchester, on Wednesday, to Miss Clara M. Matthews, niece of Mr. and Mrs. Bronnell, of Upper Brook-street, Manchester. After the ceremony a reception was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Bronnell, and in the afternoon the bride and bridegroom left for Killarney.

Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate are now busily engaged on yet another sketch, this time of a dramatic nature, dealing with an incident connected with life in Oregon, a State in the western part of North America, which sketch is entitled *Linus*. This important work, which has been specially commissioned by Mr. Louis Jensen, proprietor and manager of Miss Ella's famous lion show, is being written round a noble horse of the same name, remarkable for the possession of quite extraordinary equine beauty, and has the distinction of having a double mane, both mane and tail being far longer than those possessed by the rest of his race. This famous animal, which was purchased for no less a sum than 10,000 dollars, has been exhibited at the World's Fair.

As is by this time, no doubt, well known, the Blackpool Tower Company have sustained a serious loss in the death from a disease, the nature of which has not yet been ascertained, of a number of their valuable lions and tigers. Mr. James Walmsley, the manager of the department, has written to Mr. E. H. Bostock, the well-known showman, explaining the symptoms, and inquiring if he could throw any light on the affair. Mr. Bostock has replied that he could not. He has lost animals in a similar way himself, and although he has had post-mortem examinations on the bodies he has been unable to receive any satisfactory enlightenment on the nature of the disease.

Phillips and Terry successfully produced a comedy duologue, entitled *Jack's Wife*, at Barnard's, Chatham, on Monday. It is written by Geo. Hagar Robinson, who is now playing the part of Hunkerdunkus Jones in *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* at the Adelphi Theatre.

Mr. Edmond Bosanquet has been unfortunate enough to lose the last of his gold medals. He discovered his loss on Saturday night at Liverpool. It was presented to him at a farewell dinner given at the Palace Hotel, Edinburgh, on his leaving there to take up the position of musical director at the Empire, Liverpool. It is only two years since Mr. Bosanquet's fiddle-case was broken open at the Crystal Palace and three medals stolen.

Whimsical Walker will shortly sail for America equipped with a couple of sketches from the pen of Brien McCullough. On Aug. 30, at the Britannia Theatre, the Whimsical One presented Brien with a scarf pin, set with diamonds, emeralds, and sapphires as a further acknowledgment of his appreciation of the work done for him.

Last Sunday was a red-letter day in the East End of London, when Messrs. Macnaghten, Barrasford, and Baugh put their heads (and purses) together, to give one day's exquisite happiness to about 500 children—waifs of the Hoxton slums. The children were taken in brakes to Hackney Marshes, where the proprietor of The White Hart gave the little ones a hearty welcome and permitted them to rollick about on the wide-spreading marshes. A substantial dinner was provided before play began, and after amusements were exhausted the youngsters came back, as hungry as ever, to a fine tea in a handsome marquee erected for the occasion by the proprietors.

The main expense of the day was borne by the gentlemen mentioned, who must have been amply rewarded by the whole-hearted enjoyment of the children. The entire staff of the Britannia, Hoxton, gave generous assistance, and worked with a will to make the day the success it turned out. This is a continuation of a charity organised by the proprietors of the Britannia, who, during the winter months, supplied no fewer than 14,782 free dinners to the very poorest of the waifs and strays of that overcrowded district.

It is nearly two years since *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory*, under the command of Mr. Arthur Watson, was successfully launched at the Camberwell Empire, and it speaks volumes for the vitality of the good ship that it returns to its old moorings this week. The *Victory* has had a fine tour of the provinces within the last few months, and has greatly benefited in every respect. Mr. Watson, Miss Flo Stanley, and their talented company are to be congratulated.

The New Hippodrome at Warrington, the latest of the Macnaghten houses, is rapidly approaching completion, and the opening night is fixed for the 23rd inst. We stated last week that the management would be in the hands of Mr. Harrison, of the Palace Theatre, Halifax, but a re-arrangement has been effected, and the onerous duties will be discharged by Mr. Sydney Arthur, who will be remembered by Londoners during the early days of the Macnaghten proprietorship of the Bow Palace.

The staff of the Surrey Theatre went to the Crown Hotel, Broxbourne, on Sunday, the party arriving at 11 a.m. The time before dinner was spent in various sports—football, cricket, and boating, and inspecting the beautiful gardens. The host provided an excellent dinner, to which everyone did ample justice. Mr. Frederic Baugh took the chair and Mr. Chas. R. Craig the vice-chair, and they were supported by several special friends. After the usual loyal toasts, Mr. Baugh proposed the health of Mr. Frank Macnaghten. To the toast of Mr. Fred. Baugh, Mr. Chas. R. Craig did complete justice, and Mr. Baugh expressed his pleasure at being present. After a very pleasant drive round the country tea was provided, and the party arrived at Liverpool Street Station highly pleased and satisfied with their day's enjoyment.

Miss Elsie Kerry, that chic and versatile comedienne, leaves to-morrow the scene of her most recent success at the Empress, Brighton, for a brief sojourn in her native land, making her first bow in the capital of Ulster. She opens on Monday next at the Hippodrome, Belfast. Thence she will proceed to her native city of Dublin, where, at the Tivoli, she will not fail to be accorded a *caed mile failte*. Miss Kerry's répertoire has some catchy Irish and coon melodies, the interpretation of which has made her so popular.

The latest quotations for music-hall shares are are follows:—Alhambra, 1⅞; Canterbury, ½; Empire (15s. pd.), 1⅝; Do. (10s. pd.), 1; Lon. Pav. Ord., 4⅜, Do. Pref., 4⅜; Lon. Coliseum, ⅞; Metropolitan, ⅜; Moss Empire, 4⅜; Do. 5 p.c. Pref., 3⅞; Oxford, 5⅜; Palace, 14s.; Tivoli, 5⅜; Var. Cons. Theas., 14s. 6d.

It is probable that the new Empire ballet, now in active rehearsal, will be produced at the end of the present month. It bears the tentative title of *Covent Garden*. The scene will be near the famous theatre on the night of a ball, when the masqueraders are just leaving. They will be attired as the leading characters in different well-known comic operas; and Miss Adelina Genée will appear in a series of quick-change representations reminiscent of the chief incidents in each work, each character being introduced with suitable music selected from the play. She will also introduce a coster dance. The scenario is by M. Wilhelm, and the work is to be produced by Mr. Fred Farren.

An interesting wedding took place on Thursday at St. John's Church, Blackpool, between Mr. Geo. Bernard, the well-known vocal actor, and Miss Florence Astin. The ceremony was conducted by the Vicar of Blackpool. The happy couple were the recipients of many handsome presents and congratulations, and left for the North of Scotland during the afternoon.

The Hippodrome, Gillingham (Kent), which has been closed for the past six months, is announced to re-open on Sept. 23 by the Southern Amusements Co., Secretary Mr. W. Pocock. The management has been placed in the able hands of Mr. W. J. Mackay (of sketch fame), who has made himself so popular.

Mr. E. C. Clayton, of Western Bank, Sheffield, well known locally as an expert bioscope operator, has just finished another twelve months' engagement with Mr. T. Allan Edwardes, at the Palace, Attercliffe, this making a lengthy run of over two and a half years without a break. His weekly item in the programme at this popular house is a special feature, and always meets with hearty recognition, as the selection of pictures presented are to the popular taste and up-to-date.

Mr. Julian Clifford's two benefit concerts at Harrogate were a great success both from a financial and an artistic point of view. The programmes in both shows were long and varied. At the evening show Mr. Clifford was presented with a handsome silver cigar-case, suitably inscribed, by the members of the municipal orchestra, and a cigarette case from the Kursaal staff; while "a few admirers" presented a very handsome ivory bâton, heavily mounted with gold. Mr. Julian Clifford suitably replied.

At the Ealing Hippodrome on Friday, the 6th inst., Miss Dorothy Wadmore, who for some years has been one of Mr. E. W. James' assistants, both at Ealing and at Balham, took leave of her comrades of the staff, and at the same time made her début upon the variety stage. Mr. Sam Lyons, who now represents the "Bonnie Goodwin" interest, has already two sisters of the young artist under his direction, and forms a high opinion of her "possibilities." She is possessed of an excellent voice and has an altogether chic personality. She was the recipient of two beautiful bouquets, and subsequently—in the saloon of the theatre—Mr. E. W. James presented her, on behalf of the staff and some friends, with a gold watch, wishing her at the same time all possible good luck.

Mr. Matthew Brodie, on Monday, will revisit the Palace, Camberwell, the scene of his first triumph with *The Drummer of the 76th*. Mr. Brodie will continue to play Napoleon until the end of next year, when he enters into a long engagement with Mr. Oswald Stoll, for the Empires, Ltd., to play *David Garrick, the Actor*.

We regret to hear that Mr. George Robey, who was performing at Nottingham Empire last week, was badly bitten in the thigh by a dog on Friday. He was surgically treated, and it is satisfactory to learn that no untoward complications are feared. Mr. Robey is at Leicester this week.

Mr. F. A. S. Stern, on behalf of Mr. Joseph Davis, applied on Friday, the 6th inst., for a music and dancing licence for the East Ham Palace of Varieties, High-street North. The place, he said, had been erected last year at the cost of thousands of pounds, and a dramatic licence had been granted to the place. Under this licence intoxicants could not be sold on the premises, and it was not desired to sell them. The house would hold 1,800 people, and there were twelve exits, through which, if the house were full, it could be emptied in three minutes. The house had two performances a night, and statistics for the last nine months showed that over 485,000 had patronised the performances. The committee adjourned the application.

Mr. Harry Fragson, after an absence of more than two years, once more appeared before the Paris public last week at the Scala Theatre, which had doubled its prices on the strength of the event. That the management were justified in this action was proved by the circumstance that every seat was booked despite the increased price. Mr. Fragson sang five songs, and the reception accorded him was extremely gratifying. Among the audience was M. Henri Rochefort.

"During the recent music-hall strike," says the *Daily Telegraph*, "it was urged that one of its results would be to bring to the front a large quantity of unknown and unexploited talent. There seems to be a general idea that somewhere or other lie concealed various men and women prevented by cruel circumstances and the irony of fate from showing the world the cleverness which is in them. From time to time experiments are made with new people, and they very rarely prove successful. We know of no brilliant performer whom the late strike was instrumental in introducing to fame. As a matter of fact, the old stagers still 'top the bill.'"

Mr. Charles Relf, late of the Royal Albert, Canning Town, looking hale and hearty, was an interested spectator last Saturday at the entertainment given by Mr. Harry Gold's Serenaders on Margate Sands.

In the enormous crowds which assemble at the Crystal Palace, money and articles are always being lost, and afterwards restored through the medium of the lost property office. On the occasion of Brock's Benefit, however, on the 5th, an unusually big find was reported. Mr. A. E. Dally, who is employed by the Tonic Sol-fa Association, and resides at 251, East India Dock-road, Poplar, E., went to the Crystal Palace lost property office, and handed in a purse which contained over £30. Most of the money was in gold, and it was well that it came to the hands of so honest a man as Mr. Dally. Strange to say, no application has yet been made to the company now waiting for a claim.

Wednesday is the day of the great Carnival, Confetti Fête and Dance in the North Tower Gardens and North Nave of the Crystal Palace. Wet or fine it will take place, and a rollicking evening is promised. Proceedings will commence at six o'clock, and dancing will be from 8.15 to 10.30. Handsome prizes will be given in the usual ladies', gentlemen's, advertising, comical, and children's classes.

Professor A. Attilla is now the director of the Crystal Palace Schools of Physical Culture in the North Tower Gardens. He is the best-known expert in physical culture, and is a specialist in hygiene and curative physical exercises. All particulars can be obtained from him.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MISS MARIE LLOYD has just published two new songs with Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, viz., "And the parrot said——," by Worton David, and "Rum-tiddley-um-tum-tay," by Fred W. Leigh. The music of both is from Orlando Powell's facile pen. The American public have taken so kindly to coster songs, as was evidenced by Miss Alice Lloyd's triumph with "Never introduce your bloke to your lady friend," a song which enshrines one of the late George Le Brunn's finest melodies, that Miss Marie is likely to essay in the States her great success from the same pen, "Folkestone for the day," and Henry E. Pether's rollicking number, "With my little bunch of daisies in my hand."

New dances which have taken first and second prizes at the recent conference of the British Association of Teachers of Dancing are "The Mayfair Cotillon," invented by G. F. Childs, and "The Military Lancers," invented by H. R. Johnson, the music of each being by Clement Harris. Both are published by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, who are also issuing "The Casino Two-step," invented by Mme. H. R. Johnson, the music also by Clement Harris, and a new dance, invented by E. Letournel, fils, and with music by Etienne Chapiet, entitled "Entente Cordiale," so it is on the cards that the good feeling between the nations will not only be kept up by "hands across the sea," but by myriads of twinkling feet in countless ballrooms.

AMONG new songs about to be issued by Mr. David Day's firm are "When the summer breezes blow" (sung by Arthur Lennard), by Worton David and Sam Mayo; "Loo Brown" (Paul Mill), by Searson and Dix; "Whack-fol-the-diddle-ol-the-di-doh-day" (Fred Earle), by Fred Murray; "When I come back to Barcelona," by Mellor, Lawrence, and Gifford; "Kiss the girl if you're going to" (Miss Marie Kendall), by Barnes and Weston; "At the sign of the Bluebell Inn" (Harry Lauder), by Lindsay and Lauder; "Te-um, te-um, te-ay" (Dan Crawley), by T. W. Connor; "Come in—the water's fine," by Castling and Murphy; and Gus Elen's new song, "The coster's pony," by Bateman and Pether.

ONE of the most catchy march numbers which Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have issued for some time is entitled, "I've been to Africa," and is now being sung with great success by Miss Hilda Jacobsen. The words and music are by A. E. Sidney Davis and H. E. Darewski, who were jointly responsible for Feldman's last year's winner, "Au revoir, my little hyacinth," which is still being whistled and sung about the streets of provincial towns.

AMONG the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co.'s latest songs are "I'll take her to Jamaica" (Wells and Everard), "Come with me, Dearie" (Bagley, Moore, and Moret), "Sunray" (David and Lyle), "Won't you be my Prairie Flower" (Butts and Rule), and last, but not least, "My gal in Valparaiso" (Murray and Lyle), which Mr. Herbert La Martine has been making a special feature. Performers should not fail to write in for copies, as only a few permissions will be granted.

WE have received copies of two excellent songs, published by Joseph Williams, Limited, 32, Great Portland-street, which will doubtless prove popular during this forthcoming pantomime season, viz.: "The Sweetest Song," by Kit Emby; and "Reminiscences," by Stephen Esipoff. The first-named, in slow waltz time, is published in three keys, and we feel convinced it will be a very great favourite amongst principal girls and boys during the forthcoming season. Besides, it has this advantage, it is a song that can be sung either at a music hall or in the drawing-room.

MISS WINIFRED HARE will introduce a new song next week, entitled "As I gaze in those dear dreamy eyes," which has also been featured for some time with great success by Clark and Hamilton. The publishers are Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd.

MISS LILIAN LEA has just accepted for early production a new song entitled "Way down the old canal." This is yet another number from the prolific pen of that well-known trio, Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, and is published by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Co.

ALTHOUGH professional copies of the charming song, "Bayou," written and composed by Harry Marlow, and published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co., have only been issued a week, in addition to being snapped up by scores of prominent principal boys and girls for pantomime use, the song is already being nightly featured by Miss José Collins, who opens with it shortly at the Tivoli and Oxford (in addition to Harrington and Tate's piquant number, "My Cuban girl," published by the same firm), whilst Miss Kathleen Gray will also sing it when she opens at the Metropolitan in a week or two's time. With such clever exponents "Bayou" should speedily be launched into the popularity it deserves.

MR. ERNEST HOGAN, one of the most famous coloured artists in America, will specially feature two of the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s songs, to wit: "The coon's conscience," by Barnes and Weston, and "Bayou," by Harry Marlow, during his extensive tour with Klaw and Erlanger's "Vesta Victoria All-Star Company." Miss Victoria herself is specially taking these two songs over for Mr. Hogan, and Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter will issue them in America, by special arrangement with the Berners-street firm.

ADVICES from America just to hand record the phenomenal success achieved by Miss Claire Romaine on her opening night in the land of Uncle Sam. This talented artist is equipped with three of Messrs. John P. Harrington and James W. Tate's most sparkling and characteristic numbers, viz.: "That's what little Willie wants to know," "Hurry up, Walter!" and a great new coster song, entitled "He's jest the bloke for me," which latter promises to eclipse in popularity the sensational American success, also from Mr. Harrington's prolific pen, "Never introduce your bloke," in the States.

MR. R. G. KNOWLES, on his return to the land of his birth, will specially produce two of Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate's songs, and sing them throughout the length and breadth of America. These two numbers, which are written in a characteristically Knowlesian style, are respectively entitled, "The diner, the dinner, and the doctor" and "Girls, be on your dignity," and give the talented American comedian illimitable scope for the display of that trenchant humour which is so peculiarly his own.

MAURICE SCOTT AND ALF. E. RICK'S tuneful chorus ditty, "Swing me higher, Obadiah," is rapidly climbing the ladder of popularity, and will undoubtedly be one of the favourite pantomime numbers this season. The Star Music Company expect a big rush for this song.

MR. STEWART D. WRIGHT is at present temporarily assisting in the advertising department of a well-known Glasgow firm of advertising contractors to the Scottish Theatres and Music-hall circuits.

PARIS VARIETY GOSSIP.

THE Folies-Bergère opened its doors for the season on Saturday last. The "clou" of the evening's entertainment was a charming ballet-pantomime, *Plaisir d'Amour*, written by the celebrated journalist and poet, Catulle Mendès. The struggle between Love and Misery over the existence of Pierrot and Columbine is the theme of the scenario. Misery seems to be the winner, for Columbine is untrue to Pierrot, who in his turn is driven to murder. But all comes right in the end (as it should in all well-regulated pieces), and the pair become happy in the Paradise of Love. The chief honours of the evening went to M. Séverin as Pierrot, Mlle. Renée Maya as Columbine, and Mlle. Pomponette.

THE Apollo and its basculo are once more in motion, and the Rue Clichy is looking bright again; for with the Casino de Paris closed it has been wearing a sad expression of late. Certain alterations have been effected since last season, which have added to the seating capacity.

AN excellent show was presented, the company being composed of Miss Ruby Helder, the girl baritone, who caused a little gasp of wonderment when she entered after singing a few bars off the stage; Miss Rosita Schirmay, with several Hungarian dances; Wilys' Circus, in which several clever dogs go through their tricks without their trainer appearing on the stage to direct them; Morton and Elliott, two gentlemen who play and give imitations on mouth-organs, and sing whilst tearing some very ordinary-looking paper into all sorts of fantastical designs; Mlle. Miette, seen some time ago at the Leicester-square Empire, who sings her attractive songs, accompanying herself on the guitar; Tiller's Apollo Girls, who sing of the troubles of Bill Simmons, with an unconquerable desire to dance whenever he heard a band; the Three Tauberts, in a musical act; Morris Cronin and his company of jugglers, old favourites with Parisian audiences; and Hymack. Hymack certainly caused the good Parisians to stare by his quick changes and his multiplication of suits, sticks, and gloves.

THE Olympia is expected to open about the beginning of next week with the revival of *The Belle of New York*.

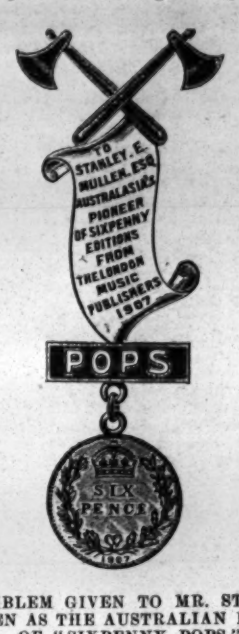
THE Alhambra was re-opened by Mr. Tom Barrasford on the 1st inst. with a very good show. The bill includes the Leslie Brothers, in their funny musical act; the Ethairiens, burlesque magicians; Carl and Mary Ohm, with their wonderful trained animals; Keen and Waller, with an amusing acrobatic act; Newell and Niblo, American instrumentalists; the Onlaw Trio; Rastus and Banks; the Richards' Trio; Dora Martini; Dan Robins; and M. Selbo.

THE popular White Coons at Weston-super-Mare are under the proprietorship of Mr. Jesse Temple, and not under the management of Mr. Walter Judge, who is in no way connected with the combination.

AT the Alhambra on Saturday evening stirring and exciting pictures of the recent fighting at Casa Blanca were displayed from the biograph, and met with a most cordial reception.

LONDON MUSIC PUBLISHERS AND MR. STANLEY E. MULLEN.

At a meeting of London publishers of popular music at the Holborn Restaurant on Thursday, Sept. 12, 1907, a very cordial vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Mr. Stanley Mullen, of the firm of Stanley E. Mullen and Co., of Melbourne, Victoria, on the eve of his return to that ever-flourishing Commonwealth, for his good services in extending the popularisation of their publications in the Antipodes. Mr. DAVID DAY (Francis, Day, and Hunter), in proposing the vote, said that there was a long-standing friendship of many years between Mr. Mullen and himself, that their business relations together were always exceedingly satisfactory, and that their close companionship as president and secretary of the Musical Copyright Association for the Suppression of Music Piracy was one of the greatest pleasures in



THE EMBLEM GIVEN TO MR. STANLEY E. MULLEN AS THE AUSTRALIAN PIONEER OF "SIXPENNY POPS."

the life of the speaker, as it gave him every opportunity of discovering Mr. Mullen's very excellent qualities. In continuation, he said that when in the autumn of 1904 Mr. Mullen, whose health had unfortunately given way, was ordered by his medical adviser to seek restoration in Australia, it gave him great pleasure, on behalf of his firm, to give his friend a commission as traveller, and thereby very pleasing results soon followed. At this time, to combat music piracies, it had been found necessary to appeal to the public by issuing Sixpenny Popular Editions of successful musical publications, and pioneers were wanted throughout the world to properly exploit them, ordinary music dealers looking at them somewhat askance, and perhaps naturally so, their shelves being stocked with high-priced editions.

Mr. Mullen readily proved himself the Australasian pioneer, and his firm are now disseminating these popular editions broadcast down under, to the entire satisfaction of the London publishers.

He (Mr. Day) was more pleased than he could possibly express in words to know that Australia had done so much for his friend's health, and tendered him his sincerest congratulations, together with every possible good wish for the prosperity of the firm of Stanley E. Mullen and Co.

In conclusion, on behalf of the London publishers, he would ask Mr. Mullen's acceptance of a tiny emblem of their appreciation of his good services as the Australasian pioneer of "Sixpenny Pops."

Mr. B. FELDMAN (of the firm of B. Feldman and Co.), in seconding the vote, said that he found a certain difficulty, as he had to follow the very able speech of their mutual friend, Mr. David Day, with which he was sure everyone present was in entire accord. Speaking for himself, and also on behalf of his partners, he thought that "deeds speak louder than words," and Mr. Mullen would appreciate that, as a full agreement had been entered into between the two firms. Mr. Feldman then remarked that all present who had had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Mullen on business matters must have been struck by the clear grasp he seemed to have on all points, and he hoped that he would soon have the pleasure of meeting their guest again under equally pleasant circumstances, as it was always delightful to meet old friends, and he, for one, was proud to refer to himself as such. The popular edition had arrived in Australia to stay, and, as Mr. Day had said, Mr. Mullen was to be heartily thanked for his good services in that direction. In conclusion, Mr. Feldman, on behalf of himself and his firm, in which he was sure all present, as well as all absent friends, would heartily join, wished Mr. Stanley Mullen the best of health, and, in fact, "the best he could wish himself," and also made a graceful allusion to Mrs. Mullen and the firm of Stanley Mullen and Co.

Mr. FELIX MCGLENNON, of McGlennon's Publishing House, said he was pleased to be present to mark his appreciation of Mr. Stanley Mullen as a brother Irishman. Ireland was a wonderful country, and her products were no less wonderful—pigs, potatoes, porter, potheen and peelers, priests, parsons, politicians, poets, and—pioneers. It was in the latter category that he hailed Mr. Mullen. The Irish part of him, Mullen, guaranteed the Hibernian enthusiasm that enabled great ideas to be conceived; the English end of him, Stanley, gave him the splendid tenacity that will hold on to a successful finish. He knew Mr. Mullen as a mighty pirate hunter prior to his departure for Australia, but it was quite by accident that he met him at Francis, Day, and Hunter's recently on his visit home. He casually mentioned that he had a catalogue of Irish national songs that he though there was a public for in Australia, but another firm had been for some years considering the matter. He asked Mr. Mullen if all Australian publishers thought in centuries. A contract was fixed up there and then, and the firm of Stanley Mullen and Co. will earn the appreciation of Irishmen and Irishwomen who love their country, its music, and its literature, by placing on the Australian market a very fine catalogue of Irish national music, ancient and modern. Mr. McGlennon went on to observe that he had in contemplation the publication of an Album of Irish Songs, the words by the veteran Irish poet T. D. Sullivan, the music by himself. "Do you know Sullivan?" says I to Mullen. "Do I know Sullivan?" says Mullen. "Feel that hole in my head." "I explored," said Mr. McGlennon, and, sure enough, there was a small valley in the Mullen cranium. "Do I know Sullivan?" he repeated, "Sure, I was at a political meeting in Dublin some years ago, and D. T. was the speaker. I was cheering his remarks enthusiastically," says he, "when I got a crack from a blackthorn from someone of a different way of thinking. Yes, indeed," says he, "I *do* know T. D. Sullivan," and the firm of Stanley Mullen and Co. will have great pleasure in exploiting Sullivan songs in Australasia.

Mr. JOHN P. HARRINGTON, representing the Monte Carlo Publishing Co., said: As one of the oldest song-writers and youngest publishers in England it gave him the liveliest pleasure to thoroughly endorse the many encomiums which the previous speakers had passed upon Mr. Stanley Mullen, none of which were, he considered, more than that gentleman was adequately entitled to. So energetic and far-seeing a gentleman as Mr. Mullen was likely to be a great power for good to English song-writers in the near future, by materially extending the vogue of the compositions they were responsible for and making the names of many of them "household words" in the daughter country as they were here. And, speaking personally, Mr. Harrington said, I have nothing but warm thanks to extend to Mr. Mullen and the firm of Stanley Mullen and Co. for the way in which they had taken up and exploited in Australasia two songs of my own. And, in conclusion, I can conscientiously say that I am voicing the sentiments of the other members of my firm in wishing Mr. Stanley Mullen "God speed" to Australia, and assuring him that we rest secure in the belief that he will do much to cement the bonds now existing between English publishers of cheap popular music and the Australasian music-buying public.

Mr. BENNETT SCOTT, speaking on behalf of the Star Music Co., Ltd., expressed a wish that Mr. Mullen would make his visits to the Old Country very frequent ones; and, continuing, said, "The previous speakers have somehow chosen nearly all the nice things I intended to say myself, but I would like to give you an idea of the impression Mr. Mullen created on his first visit to our offices. He struck me as being essentially a hustler—a 'live man,' and a typical pioneer, as Mr. Day so aptly puts it.

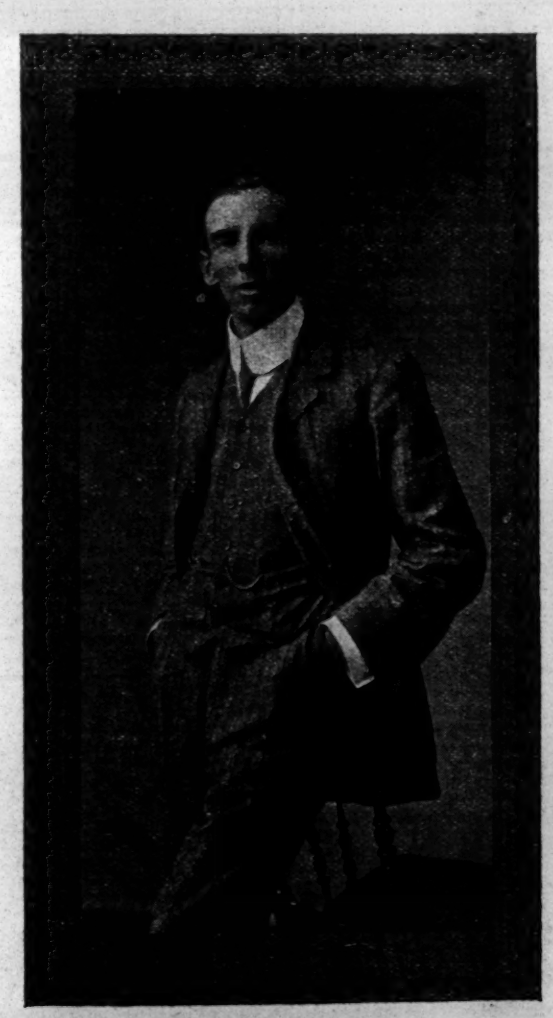
"If our friend will forgive me, I may say he impressed me as being determined to get his own way, and, in parenthesis, I may add he got it, as far as I was concerned. By his choice of location, Australia gains a valuable worker, and England is the loser. Though our acquaintance has been short, it has been a very pleasant one, and I trust will continue for many years."

Mr. MULLEN declared himself deeply moved at this kindly recognition on the part of the publishers. The design of the emblem he considered a most happy one. He confessed upon first sight of the crossed axes he had thought they were intended to represent battle-axes. He was, however, delighted to see they were much more peaceable implements, viz., the axes of the Pioneers, and emblematic of the work which he had carried out in Australasia. He assured them that the edges of these axes would always be kept keen and bright.

There was no doubt that there had been, as Mr. Day said, a feeling of apprehension on the part of music dealers as to the advisability of introducing the sixpenny popular music into the Australasian Colonies. He, himself, had certainly met with most strenuous opposition from two or three firms; but now he believed everybody over there began to see that their introduction would be of as great benefit to the music trade as the sixpenny popular novel had been to the book trade. This trade expected nothing but ruin when the first batch of sixpenny popular books were issued. Results had proved that their fears were utterly groundless, and music-sellers were beginning to see a parallel blessing in the Sixpenny Pops. He was not going to deny that this improvement in their sight had been effected only by vigorous treatment. He assured the publishers that now he was happily supported by his partner, Mr. Charles Von Myling (a man of untiring energy and indomitable will, and one of the keenest business men he had met in Australasia), he had every confidence that their future efforts would be crowned with great success. To all present, to whom Mr. Day was well known, it was needless for him to enlarge upon the pleasure and gratification he felt at Mr. Day's remarks concerning the personal friendship between Mr. Day and himself. One of the greatest treats which his return to England had afforded him was the joy of again grasping the hands of David Day and his wife—kindliest of ladies. Apart from any personal affection for Mr. Day, he felt sure that no one present lost sight for one moment of the fact that he was the champion of the music trade against piracy, and fought for some time single-handed. Also they must not forget that he it was who conceived the idea (some thirty years ago) of issuing cheap editions, and that it was entirely due to his enterprise that the experiment so successful for all of them had been made, and Mr. David Day had conclusively proved himself the pioneer of Sixpenny Pops.

In conclusion, he begged to tender his most hearty thanks to all taking part in this pleasing vote, and his very best wishes for the prosperity of the popular publishers of good old London.

THE annual picnic connected with the staff of the Theatres Royal and Grand, Bolton, will take place to-morrow, Sunday.



MR. STANLEY E. MULLEN.

MR. HARRY LESTER, the secretary of the Terriers' Association, had an exciting experience on Monday night. As he was coming home over Westminster Bridge about 11.15 p.m., he observed when nearing St. Thomas's Hospital a woman climbing over the parapet with a view to committing suicide. He made a rush, and with the assistance of another passer-by pulled her back. As she commenced to struggle they held her on the ground till a constable came and in the end took her away to the station on the ambulance. She appeared to be about thirty years' old, and was partially intoxicated.

MR. ROBERT FORSYTH, manager of the Victoria Pier, Folkestone, is being congratulated on all sides on the success of his efforts in placing the Pavilion in the forefront of successful entertainment enterprises on the coast. Many of Mr. Forsyth's personal friends hinted at financial loss, but we are glad to hear that in every way the Pier has come out on top. Mr. Forsyth is great at competitions, and his last beauty show for gentleman was commented on by nearly every daily and weekly paper in London. Folkestone obtained a free advertisement that is bound to prove to her advantage.

REV. J. PAGE HOPPS, the well-known Unitarian preacher, has engaged the Euston for eight Sunday evenings, beginning Oct. 27. There will be a preluding house-to-house distribution of invitations, hymns that will be sung at the service, &c.

LONDON HIPPODROME OUTING.

The words of Mr. Hayden Coffin's old song, "Sunshine above and sunshine in their hearts," might be quoted with reference to the state of the weather and the feelings of those who last Sunday journeyed with the Hippodrome staff to Horley, Surrey way. The occasion was the annual outing, and, as ever, Mr. Fred Trussell, the manager, piloted the party to enjoyment and led the way wherever there was a chance of making merry. Mr. Arthur Hicks, his assistant, at a very early stage of the proceedings got to work in his quiet way to make everyone thoroughly happy.

At the early hour of 8.30 the entire party met at Victoria, and the L. B. and S. C. Railway saloons placed at Mr. Trussell's disposal were soon filled with young people intent on enjoying themselves. The journey to Horley was enjoyable but uneventful, and at the station brakes met the train, and the party were taken for a delightful drive through picturesque Bletchingley and so on to Nutfield and back to the "Chequers" at Horley by 1.30.

The dinner, excellently served, was very welcome by this time—pure Surrey air does sharpen the appetite—and then in the greatest good humour Mr. Trussell rose to propose the principal toasts of "The King" on the one hand and "The London Hippodrome Directors and Staff" on the other. He said:

"Ladies and Gentlemen,—For the sixth time it is my privilege to propose this toast at our annual outing. Many changes have taken place since we first met together, more particularly in our directorate and the conditions under which we work with our governing body, but I do not think in the whole of that period we were ever so comfortable in that present as we are at the present moment. Of course I come more in contact personally with my directors than you do, and I am pleased to think that a spirit of mutual confidence—not to say affection—exists which makes my working life a pleasure from day to day, and through me it has, I believe, the same effect upon you. I am sorry that we have to chronicle the loss of one or two good friends during the past year. Firstly, Mr. H. C. Wild, to the regret of every one of us, was unfortunately compelled to resign. These breaks always bring an element of sadness, and in the case of Harry Wild I know that that feeling has been very keen with us all. We are also sorry at having lost our Press Manager, Mr. Harry Garrick, but are glad to know he is doing well and that he has been so ably followed by a gentleman with the charming personality and untiring energy of his successor, Mr. William Bennet. I am sorry we are about to lose Mr. Weaver, the second in command of our box office, but as he is leaving on his own accord to improve his position under Mr. Vedrenne, of the Court Theatre, we can only wish him from the bottom of our hearts a complete success in his new undertaking. I regret the absence of my old friend Frank Parker, who is unavoidably absent to-day. He would have been with us but for the rehearsal of *The Avalanche*, which compels his attendance at the Hippodrome to-day. All I can say is I hope *The Avalanche* will be an even greater success than his many productions that have gone before have been, and of which we are all so proud.

"Dealing with my present staff, I turn at once to my immediate colleague, assistant manager, and very good friend Mr. Arthur C. Hicks, than whom I do not think it would be possible for any man in my position to find a more loyal lieutenant or one who throws himself heart and soul into carrying out my wishes in the best interests of the company.

"Mr. Charles Richards, as the head of the box office, has worked with me now, side by side, for twelve hours per day for six years, and considering the length of the period I feel I am justified in saying, and have the right to say, I know Mr. Richards inside out, and in so knowing him I have learned to respect him and appreciate his services more and more as the years have gone by

"Mr. Redfern, our treasurer, who is unfortunately unable to be present to-day, sends us a charming telegram of congratulation and kindly wishes, and I am sure you would like me to reply to that, wishing him and his wife and their newly-arrived little baby all they can wish themselves.

"For the actual staff under Mr. David Thompson, staff superintendent, and my young ladies I believe I could scarcely hope to find a better, and I am proud to feel that although I have occasionally to hold the reins of government somewhat tightly, I really rule in the hearts of my people, and that a spirit of mutual affection is a strong link between us. (Loud cheers.)

"In conclusion, I hope you will have a very happy day, and that I may long be spared to hold the honourable position of manager of the London Hippodrome, and to take my position as chairman of this delightful annual gathering." (Loud cheers.)

Mr. Arthur Hicks proposed the health of "The Chairman" (Mr. Trussell), and Mr. Chas. Richards also had something to say about this gentleman.

Speechmaking finished, the entire party indulged in a very fine programme of sports, directed by Mr. Arthur Hicks, the results being: 100 yards flat race handicap: Thompson, 1; Stephan, 2; Thomas, 3. 100 yards high weight scratch race (over 15st.): Thompson, 1; Oliver, 2; Harris, 3. Half mile handicap (all ages): Birch, 1; Stephan, 2; Green, 3. 100 yards three-legged race: Birch and Thomas, 1; Green and Coghlan, 2; Millichap and Thompson, 3. Ladies' egg and spoon race: Sandford, 1; Darvill, 2; Newman, 3. One mile race: Green, 1; Birch, 2; Hamilton, 3. Two miles scratch bicycle race: Rice, 1; Birch, 2; Goodyear, 3.

THE last stage in the demolition of the partly-constructed Eiffel Tower at Wembley was reached on Saturday, when the remaining "leg" was blown up with roburite. To facilitate the demolition, huge cable chains had been attached to the steel-work and then to neighbouring trees. At the base of the tower was placed a large quantity of roburite, and in the afternoon this was exploded by means of an electric battery. There was a loud report, the vibration being felt for miles around, and the tower—200ft. high—crashed to the ground. The felling process was attended with complete success.

THE British Cinema Company, Ltd., are giving at the Balham Empire a matinée performance at three o'clock on Oct. 9 in aid of the Lord Mayor's Cripples' Fund.

SHAUN GLENVILLE has been released from his engagement in the music-halls as far as this year is concerned by Mr. J. F. Elliston, with one week's exception, in order that he may continue his impersonations with the Brothers Luck.

THE Northampton Polytechnic Institute, Clerkenwell, have, in co-operation with the Kinematograph Manufacturers' Association, arranged classes designed "to give operators a knowledge of the theory of optical projection, so far as is useful in their practical work, and opportunity of seeing optical and kinematograph projection under special conditions." A course of lectures on the principles of lantern and kinematograph projection has also been arranged, the fees being 7s. 6d. to members of the Institute and 10s. to non-members.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PARAGON.

Mr. Frederick Maxwell and his company, including Miss Lois Du Cane, are presenting the dramatic episode, *The Girl I Love*, in fine style at the above establishment. The story tells how the sister of a Gordon Highlander is killed by her betrayer, who imitates the brother's voice to the blind grandfather, and tells him that his grandson is the murderer. Having heard quarrelling between them previously, the old fellow believes the villain, and the brother is arrested for murder. Having pledged his word to his sister to keep her trouble a secret, he accept the blame, and is transported for life. The second scene is the convict settlement, where a mutiny arises. The villain arrives on the scene, and arranges for the murder of the innocent convict, but meets with disaster himself. Some very thrilling situations include the flogging of a soldier. The character of the Colonel's daughter is admirably played by Miss Du Cane; and Mr. Maxwell as the soldier is superb.

Mr. Billy McClain and company in *The Hottest Coon in Dixie* provide an excellent number, the three ladies and gentlemen giving some clever dancing and singing; Mr. McCain works his "Preacher" song capitally, and receives a good reception. Mr. Will Evans as "Flora de Dindigul" is extremely funny, his ballet dance with the assistance of six "ballerina" causing shrieks of laughter. Mr. Herbert Lamartine furnishes a delightful turn, his expert dancing and his singing of "I've got a girl in Valparaiso" and "Lindy" obtaining rounds of applause; Messrs. Drew and Alders, with special properties and scenery, are very interesting; the business with the ship set in the drop cloth is original and clever. A number of smart gags and a neat dance are also included in their entertainment. Mr. Dave Carter (the Irish tenor) possesses an exceptionally good voice, and uses it to advantage in "When you know you're not forgotten by the girl you can't forget" and "Terry" for which he is well applauded.

The Tom Bryce duo, assisted by Miss Price, in a musical comedy sketch, *A Three-handed Game*, are very interesting, some excellent singing and good comedy being indulged in. Mr. Herbert Shelley, in "Charles the First," does some capital acting and singing, which is well appreciated; Yorke and Weston (Phyllis and Albert), in song scena, *The Country Maid*, combine some smart dancing and singing with droll witticisms. Miss Bertha Stuart (Scotch ballad vocalist) renders delightfully "Marching home again" and "Caller herrin'"; Mr. Carson Hicks executes a novel ragtime dance cleverly, and sings a little coon song, "The old log cabin." Les Fleurs are a couple of capable Anglo-Continental artists who represent Spanish, German, French, and other nationalities in song and dance; and Miss Madge Beresford sings tunefully "It wasn't quite the thing that she required" and "If you don't want lots of gold." Ruffell's Bioscope gives some interesting films, The Smoking Chimney and The Joker being specially attractive. The popular manager, Mr. Chas. Beecham, takes his benefit on Sept. 25, and a big night is anticipated.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

A capital programme is that submitted at this popular home of vaudeville this week. Place of honour is taken by Fred Karno's new production, *London Suburbia*. The sketch deals in a satirically-humorous way with the peace and happiness that characterises suburban life. The first scene, which shows three villas, displays the everyday life, with its attendant distractions in the shape of butchers, coalmen, greengrocers, street singers, and German bands, to say nothing of the servants. The second scene shows the three back yards with the washing, carpet-beating, and neighbourly bickering, the whole show concluding with a very realistic fire. The company is a very hard-working one, particularly the two male members who play servants. The scenery is very good, and the music is also of value to the production. A large audience greeted the progress of the performance with unbounded laughter, being apparently not altogether unacquainted with many of the little episodes that are so truthfully depicted.

Harry Thurston in a burlesque of the "Silver King" does fairly well. Takio is a very clever Japanese mimic of sounds with an acceptable sense of humour. His imitations are throughout very realistic, the final one of the Japanese canary being especially good; his reception was most cordial. Charles Kilts and Rhoda Windrum in "The Cuckoo" made a distinct hit; the plot turns upon the embarrassments of an officer who conceals an old flame of his in an empty grandfather's clock in order to escape meeting his fiancée who calls at an inopportune moment. Both artists work very hard, and are well assisted by another lady, who is not billed, the curtains being taken at the conclusion of the turn. Miss Lucy Weston in two songs catches the fancy of the house; the first, "She Wasn't Sure," is well sung, and her second, "When You Walk Down the Strand," gains a big reception.

The three Dumonds in a vocal and instrumental act make a good impression, the violinist being a particularly clever soloist. Charles Vincent makes himself a general favourite; a parody on "Sing Me to Sleep" is funny, and is followed by a medley song, rattled off in capital style. The Vernons, Xylophone soloists, prove themselves capable musicians in a couple of selections, and had to concede an encore. The chronomegaphone, showing Harry Lauder, although billed, was not included in the programme. The bioscope is good this week, and Mr. Russell's orchestra, as usual, excellent. Business is most gratifying.

THE PALACE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

The reins of management of The Palace, Stoke Newington, passed on Monday last into the hands of Mr. Jack de Frece, who signalised the event by putting forward an exceedingly strong and attractive programme for the present week. Unfortunately Morcashani (La Belle Creole) was, owing to indisposition, unable to appear, but more than adequate deputies were secured in Alfredo Mardi, the blind Italian violinist, whose skilful and masterly playing finds much favour; and Topsy and Asher, two coloured entertainers whose turn, consisting of song and dance, add not a little to the brightness of the show. Montague Biggs, female impersonator, cleverly assumes the style and manner of a lady, and would score still more heavily were he provided with a better song. A great reception is accorded to the ever-popular Tom Leamore, who contributes two songs in his characteristic and irresistibly comic style, the second, a ballad of the mock-pathetic order, being especially good. Holden's wonderful mannikins take a large share of the evening's success, and as a marionette show would certainly be hard to beat. The figures are manipulated with wonderful skill, and the lifelike performance they go through on the well-appointed little mimic stage forms one of the most attractive and amusing items of the bill. A turn much to the liking of the audience is that provided by Miss Dora Lyric. Miss Lyric sings two songs, "When the lilac blooms in springtime" and "I'll tell Tilly on the telephone," and the choruses of both of these are most enthusiastically and vociferously taken up by the members of the audience, most of whom seem to be already well acquainted with this lady's songs. Cedar and Elgar appear in a cross-talk sketch, *In Days of Olde*, much of the dialogue of which is funny. Mr. Mark Leslie sings a coon song, and is deservedly applauded for the neat dance with which he concludes his turn. The Alskarno Trio provide some clever tumbling and risley business, and prove themselves expert acrobats. The banjo-playing of the Three Sisters Chester, with accompanying dance, the ballad-singing of Miss Florence Leonard, and the sketch of Edwards and Dacre are other attractive items in the programme, which is completed by the Palace Pictures, the films shown this week being "The Gipsy's Bride" and "The Baffled Burglar." Mr. Dan Rynfelt is now the musical director of the Palace, and the comfort of the audience is still happily looked after by Mr. T. J. Robinson with all his customary courtesy and zeal.

EALING HIPPODROME.

Blithesome, supple, and nimble of toe, Miss Edie King is a bright particular star here this week. In her "Dance of the Nations," whether it be a Dutch clog, a Spanish bolero, or a sprite dance, her delightful footing is an artistic triumph, and, surely, Terpsichore must have presided at her birth. In her songs, "I've travelled in all sorts of places" and "Darby and Joan," she is equally happy, and scores an emphatic success. The romantic history of the Prince and Princess de Broglie is familiar to all and sundry. The Princess has a powerful voice, some of her upper notes being exceptionally clear and melodious. In her rendition of "The sun is fading," "Is this a dream," and "Annie Laurie" she wins much sympathy. The Prince occupies the conductor's chair during the turn. The Three Laurels in their "original speciality on the ping-pong table" show some remarkably expert work, their "hand-jumping" being a notable feature, while the fooling of the "fool" of the trio is exquisitely funny. Lennie and Hast, who have been welcomed at Ealing before, repeat their poetic fantasy, *The Sea Nymph*. Mlle. Roza's Hippodrome of Canines is a finely staged dog act, and the scene glitters with polished metal and electric lamps, her apparatus making a brave show indeed. As the clever doggies mount staircases, gallop over hurdles, and race upon revolving tables a most brilliant effect is produced. Mr. Herbert Rule is, as he is named, a quaint comedian, and he makes for laughter the instant he appears upon the stage. He has two humorous numbers, "John was a triumph of work" and "There is no use in letting you know I am married." Bliss and Bliss, who are funny in their cross-talk, have besides a capital number, "When we are engaged at this hall." Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope is again in evidence, and furnishes some excellent films, Lost in the Alps, wherein the St. Bernard dogs show some life-saving methods, while the vagaries of the Floor Polisher cause roars of merriment. Mr. E. W. James, assisted by Mr. H. Blight, continues to direct the fortunes of the Hippodrome.

DUCHESS, BALHAM.

Crowded houses are twice nightly testifying their appreciation of the fare provided here this week, and on the occasion of our visit standing room only was the order throughout. Joe Elvin, who is at the top of the bill, is undoubtedly the great attraction; supported by a capital company, he is this week presenting his new sketch, *The King of the Castle*, which can certainly rank with his many other successes; as the King of the Castle, a man without any "go" in him, Mr. Elvin is screamingly funny, and fairly convulses the house with his whimsical performance. A prominent place in this week's entertainment is taken by the bioscope, which is showing a series of pictures of the greatest interest; a humorous series is that entitled "Late for Lunch," which is followed by one depicting His Majesty the King on board the "Dreadnought." From the reception of the King and other Royal personages on board, the pictures pass to the representation of the big gun practice, showing the target with the number of hits, and wind up by depicting His Majesty congratulating Admiral Sir John Fisher upon the result attained.

Harry Tate's No. 1 Company are again presenting the irresistibly funny episode *Motoring*, which is going as well as ever; revised and kept thoroughly up-to-date, it causes the utmost amusement, the various "passers by," not forgetting the small boy with the mouth-organ, all contributing their quota towards the result achieved. Sid Bandon, a character comedian, sings a very amusing number entitled, "I gave it to Auntie Jane," the reception extended to which is so cordial that the comedian might well oblige again. A number that is not on the programme, but which is excellently received, is that supplied by Miss Lily Eyton, a dainty comedienne; the possessor of a sweet and tuneful voice, she sings a Dutch song in a very taking manner, and on concluding has many times to bow her acknowledgments. Little Cliff, the boy artist, has a very amusing number about "How He Sat on the Tack," followed by a Hebrew serenade entitled, "Something for Nothing," which has a very flattering reception; the clever juvenile brings his turn to a conclusion with some neat and clever dancing, which gains deafening applause.

Lilian Elfreda is supplying clever imitations of several of our leading music hall artists, prominent amongst others being Marie Lloyd, Kate Carney, Harry Lauder, and George Bastow. Professor Duncan's collies show almost human sagacity in their intelligence, and earn for their master much applause. Nat Watkins, a grotesque comedian, has a couple of very amusing numbers, which are both well received, and his quaint manner is certainly a great factor in their scoring ability. The orchestra, under the baton of Mr. Kennedy Russell, are well together in their overture "William Tell," and add considerably to the evening's enjoyment by their careful attention to the various wants of the artists. Mr. L. Westcott Hicks, and his assistant, Mr. Arthur Vernall, deserve praise for the way they cope with the huge business they are doing and the perfect order they maintain.

THE QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

A most enjoyable evening may always be spent at this comfortable hall, where the current programme is interesting and well varied. A capital hit is made by Mr. R. Lomas, who is natural as Jacko, the man monkey, his aerial feats on a perpendicular rope and perch being extremely clever; Mr. Tom Woottwell, evidently a great favourite here, is enthusiastically received for his "Blow'd if I didn't wake up" and "Oh! dear"; while the Five Bombays are successful with their various harmonious items, including "As I sat by the old churchyard" and "I ain't agoin' to book you any more." Applause greets the efforts of Messrs. Milsted and Bell for their smart musical comedy scena, *The Belle of Arizona*, which is picturesquely dressed; and a popular turn is provided by Mr. Will English, who sings "Daisy" admirably, while his smart patter and eccentric dancing cause roars of laughter. The Bob Hanlon troupe contribute a series of sensational gymnastic acts on the high bars with spirit and ability; and Miss Bessie Benson is warmly received for her singing.

A pantomime sketch, embracing both humorous and dramatic business, entitled *The Bank Clerks*, is well played by Messrs. Charles Baldwin and company, who do not spare themselves in their efforts to amuse; and a fine reception is accorded the strongly-written episode, *A Son of the People*, in which a finished portrayal of Ivan Briloff is presented by Mr. J. G. Grahame, jun.; and Miss Zerlina Harrington displays talent of a high order in her impersonation of the Countess Olga Karovitch; while Mr. George Wallace is a suitable Pitonet. The piece was capitally staged, reflecting credit on all concerned. The pictures on the Bioscope are always a source of gratification; and Mr. Fred Venton has the orchestra in fine form, their playing of the march, "Whitehall" (Kottaun) and "Whistling Polka" (E. Solomons) being extremely good. The energetic general-manager, Mr. Jack Woolf, and the assistant acting-manager, Mr. Morris Abrahams, do everything that is possible for the comfort of their clientèle.

"BEACON BELL."

A Dramatic Sketch, by Wal Pink, produced at The Shepherd's Bush Empire, on Monday, Sept. 9.

Tom Eldon ..... Mr. Dick Cruickshank
Alice ..... Miss Florence Creagh
Squire Haydown ..... Mr. Arthur Stratton
Ex-Sergeant Roberts ..... Mr. A. E. Mayne
Pesla ..... Mr. Frederick Loyd
Randski ..... Mr. Wm. P. Sheen

The busy pen of Mr. Wal Pink, so often employed in the cause of merriment in providing the popular Cockney comedian, Mr. Joe Elvin, with comic sketches, is this time responsible for a dramatic playlet, and his latest production, *Beacon Bell*, reveals the experienced hand throughout, being full of telling lines and sensational incidents, and exactly suited to a variety audience, judging from its gratifying reception at the Shepherd's Bush Empire on the night we witnessed it. The action, which takes place near Penzance, opens in the smithy of Tom Eldon, whose wife Alice is mourning his supposed death in the war. An unwelcome suitor appears in the person of a foreign spy, but his offer of marriage is indignantly declined by Mrs. Eldon. A kindly commissionaire also pays the widow a visit, but as she has been led to suppose that he is the bearer of an offer from the Government to relieve her of one of her children, he also is treated with coolness. Sorrow quickly gives way to joy when Alice learns that her husband is alive and well, and there are congratulations all round when Tom is restored to the arms of his devoted wife. The squire of the village then proceeds to tell the assembly that England is in danger of invasion, and in order to be prepared someone must be stationed at Storm Point to ring the beacon bell immediately the first boat crosses the bar in order to rouse the neighbourhood. Tom is chosen for the post, but his enemies determine he shall quickly receive his quietus. The spy places some dynamite on the anvil, but things do not turn out quite as expected, for the comic Jew villain strikes the blow prematurely, and the smithy is completely wrecked. The spy next prevails on the Jew to drug some coffee which Alice is taking to her husband, and Tom is also secured, and appears to be completely at the mercy of the evil-doers. He manages, however, to release himself, and turns the tables on the Jew, but the drugged coffee has begun to take effect on him, and he is scarcely able to move. A boat is crossing the bar, and Tom is powerless to act, but the familiar strains of "Ring the bell, watchman," are heard "off," his memory returns, the bell is set ringing, beacon lights are shown all round the coast, and England presumably is saved, the spy being shot by the squire ere the final fall of the curtain. Mr. Fred Ginnett's company is responsible for the production—an excellent one in every way. All enact their parts in praiseworthy and convincing fashion, and the Jew villain is responsible for a little comic relief. The playlet is admirably staged, the last scene being an especially effective picture.

THE PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

The programme at this handsome hall upholds the high standard of excellence for which it is noted since the style of entertainment has been changed. The chief feature this week is the military drama, *Drummed Out*, which was received with prolonged and hearty applause on Monday by an overflowing audience, who followed with keen attention the incidents of a simple but strong dramatic story. Mr. A. C. Lilly repeats his admirable performance of the part of Troop-Sergeant-Major Usher, and his characterisation gains great praise; Mr. W. G. Blunt is thoroughly at home as Colonel Herbert; and his son Bertie is capably enacted by Miss Minnie Russell; Mr. C. J. Erskine scores as Trooper Roberts; while Miss Stella Carmichel is powerful as Ethel; Miss Kitty Kirwan is good as the garrulous Mrs. O'Flanagan; and Master Fred Thompson is successful as her grandson Tommy. The mounting and uniforms are in every way satisfactory, while the degradation scene is well arranged.

A marvellous acrobatic exhibition is provided by the Abdullah Arabs; and the Sisters St. Julian, duettists and dancers, keep the house delighted all the time they are on the stage by their bright singing of "Will you miss me when I am gone"; Mr. L. B. Athol supplies a vigorous song, "Sides"; and a particularly clever ventriloquial turn is given by Mr. Tom Edwards, whose smart patter is loudly applauded.

Mr. Dan Thomas and Miss Daisy Yates are warmly received for their scena, *Twankey's Laundry*, in which they introduce a great deal of genuine humour; and Miss Alice Maple is heard to advantage in "Lily"; Miss Venie Clements renders "After lost man" in her usual bright manner; and An Artful Husband, on the Bioscope, is provocative of much merriment. The orchestra are responsible for some good work, while the genial and courteous general-manager, Mr. C. Melville Lurring, spares no effort towards the comfort of his patrons.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

The popular North London Palace was en fête on Saturday, when the benefit of Messrs. James Pain and Sons, the well-known royal pyrotechnists, resulted in one of the most largely attended pay-days on record. The amusements provided were of the usual excellence, and the Coldstream Guards' band were with others there to do duty. In the afternoon on the South Front were the daylight fireworks, amusing to both old and young, and including grotesque figures of Chinese idols, antediluvian animals, flags of all nations, and juvenile toys. Long before dusk the lake enclosure, brilliantly illuminated, was rapidly filling, and before the time of the evening display every reserved seat was taken. A noted feature was the night ascent of the accomplished Alexandra Park aeronaut, Auguste Gaudron, in his mammoth balloon with an electric fiery "waterfall" in mid-air. The set pieces were remarkable specimens of fire effect. "The Temple of Heaven, Pekin," with its terrace of innumerable steps leading up to tier after tier of Oriental architecture, was wonderful, and another realistic picture was the collision of two goods trains. The aerial wonders were a replica of those given before His Majesty the King at the recent Royal Squadron Regatta at Cowes. The wheel devices showed sun, moon, stars, and revolving gyroscopes, and were marvellous specimens of the excellence to which the art of pyrotechny can be brought. A more successful exhibition has never been carried out in the Alexandra Park.

"A SISTER'S HONOUR."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I wrote a letter in your last issue, re *A Sister's Honour*. In justice to myself, may I trouble you once more to allow me to state that my sketch was altered after I had sold the entire rights to Mr. Norman G. Acton, and without my knowledge or consent?—Yours faithfully,

KITTY LOFTING.

The Truth Company, Theatre Royal, Margate.
September 10, 1907.

At the Alexandra Palace Theatre last Thursday, The Geisha Boys, who have been running a very successful season, took their second annual benefit, and were rewarded by a bumper house. Among the chief items of a programme made up of no fewer than twenty-four turns may be mentioned Mr. Cowan Firth, the gifted baritone singer and quaint story-teller, The Grantons (duettists and dancers), Wal Briscoe, George Reeves, Eddie Williams, Prof. Charles, Tom Mason, Harry Williams, and a whole host of clever people. The benefit was in every respect a notable success.

FILM GOSSIP.

Showmen will read in this column news with regard to the best and newest films in the market. Most of these films we have seen ourselves, and can confidently recommend showmen to add them to their stock, either by purchase or hire.

A decade has scarcely elapsed since the introduction to the public of the cinematograph, yet widespread as its popularity already is, a future lies before it to which no limits can be placed. The most remote corners of the earth have been penetrated in order to put events in their actuality before the amusement world, but the art is capable of being turned to still more useful purposes. The Kaiser, in ordering special cinematographic films of the German naval and military manœuvres, has been manifestly moved by a desire to preserve records of important movements in the life of a great nation, which may prove valuable in the training of his soldiers and sailors. As a technical and scientific educator, moreover, the cinematograph is unequalled by the painted picture or the spoken word, and to the study of natural history, geography, the customs of other countries, and even the work of the laboratory and the operating theatre, the moving picture must in the near future render inestimable aid.

The Charles Urban Trading Company.

Meanwhile, the efforts of the foremost firms to provide interest, instruction, and amusement for their numerous patrons are not allowed to abate. Comedy and tragedy are equally represented in the two latest productions of the Urban Company. The former element is abundant in The Suffragette Wife, in which a hen-pecked husband is ordered by his wife to accompany her on a "shopping" tour. From store to store the meek husband is led, parcels being added at each establishment. Eventually, a cab is hailed, but the driver steadily refuses to take such a load, and the poor husband, derided by the passers-by, staggers homeward, where he collapses on the carpet. The scenes are quaintly constructed, and compel constant laughter.

Touching and dramatic episodes are contained in the series entitled Good for Evil, which represents the meeting between a fair lady and a handsome swain. The gentleman, however, proves fickle, and so disastrously does his conduct act upon his sweetheart that she pines away and dies. Subsequently the gentleman meets with an accident while out in his motor, and is brought maimed and motionless into his house, where a festive scene is in progress. Medical assistance is sought, and the doctor, who hurries to the wounded man's aid, proves to be the father of the broken-hearted girl. Recognising his daughter's faithless wooer he refuses to treat the case, and hurries off, but his better feelings prevail, and he returns and makes the necessary efforts to save the man's life. Subsequent pictures show the visit of the wounded man to the doctor's house, his eventual forgiveness, and the visit together to the loved one's grave. The exciting events have been admirably acted in a series of picturesque surroundings, and the sentiment of the scenes is such as to take a popular audience by storm.

Pathe Freres.

An exceptionally attractive series of pictures are now on hand at the enterprising Pathé Frères' commodious premises in Charing Cross-road, each possessing the photographic quality and steadiness for which the firm is renowned. The Fortune, one of the latest productions, may be recommended for the ingenuity of its setting, while the situations of The Blacksmith's Revengo are thrilling in the extreme. Picturesqueness is secured in An Indian Idyll, a tale of Eastern craft and revenge, followed by a series of characteristic scenes, and an unlimited supply of films of the most varied and comprehensive description are at the disposal of novelty-seekers.

The Vitagraph Company.

A thrilling tale of the Western wilds is presented in an elaborate film which the Vitagraph Company has recently produced, called The Easterner. A motor-car is seen for the first time outside a typical Western saloon, and cowboys, Indians, and Mexicans crowd around and examine the "Devil Waggon." Bad Bill, a notorious character, now rides up, and after contemptuously regarding the automobile, announces that he bets his horse can beat it in a race. A wager is laid, and all repair to the starting-point. The horse gets a handicap, and Bad Bill starts down the course like an arrow shot from a bow. A few seconds later the auto leaps forward like a projectile, and both are lost in the dust. Round and round the course they flash, the brave little horse straining every muscle and nerve, but the powerful motor drives the car at a pace with which no horseflesh can compete, and the auto crosses the finishing line winner by a good margin.

All hands return to the hotel, when Bad Bill enters looking for trouble. The Easterner, after pocketing his winnings, politely offers him a drink, but Bill dashes the glass to the floor and reaches around to his hip pocket. The Easterner is too quick for him, and without removing his hands from his pockets "covers" the Westerner. The saloon keeper disarms Bill, and the motorist coolly draws from his pocket a large banana, which he peels and eats with evident relish. Then, throwing the banana-peel in the Westerner's face the young man from the East strips off his coat and tells Bill he will fight him "man fashion" with bare fists. The men form a ring, and after a fierce and exciting fight Bad Bill is knocked out.

The Starving Artist; or, Realism in Art, exploits an original vein of humour. A poor artist gazes hungrily from his garret at a butcher's shop across the street, where the sight of a link of sausages makes his mouth water. An idea strikes him, and rapidly painting on a blank canvas a life-like representation of a section of the brick wall with the sausages standing out in bold and artistic relief, he stealthily crosses the street and substitutes his painted provision for the real ones, which he conceals under his coat. Hastily returning to his attic, he finds he has no means of cooking his ill-gotten meal, but, nothing daunted, he hangs them across a canvas and paints underneath it a fire so realistic that it bursts into flames, and the sausages are soon merrily sizzling. Meanwhile, the butcher has discovered the deception, and, supported by a policeman and a crowd of people, is soon hammering on the artist's door. The ingenious painter hastily hides his sausages, and drawing down the window shade paints a very natural-looking open fireplace thereon, afterwards hiding in a cupboard. The door is burst open, and the butcher and his followers crowd into the room, and rush into the supposed open fireplace, only to fall headlong through the window to the street below, while the starving artist triumphantly emerges and devours his sausages with great relish.

New Bioscope Trading Company.

A new machine has just been perfected by the New Bioscope Company, which, while securing steadiness for the picture, ensures strength and durability, and lightens the labours of the operator. No departure from the ordinary dog-movement of the bioscope is made, but engineering principles have been applied in its construction, so that the machine differs in several important points. An adjustable pressure in the "gate" while running has been secured, thus obviating weak bow springs which generally tear the films, and the top and bottom spool arms have improved fastenings, which prevent them working loose. A new idea has been employed by which the shutter gearing is made to move easily, and the smooth running of the machine is also aided by a very fine fly-wheel, which attains so great a momentum that the work of the operator is appreciably minimised. By an ingenious improvement in the gearing the obnoxious "back-lash" which usually makes so early an appearance is averted, thereby rendering the picture much steadier on the screen. The machine, which is named the New Bioscope Dreadnought, is a model of solidity and compactness, and may justly bear out the claim of the proprietors that it is the best and cheapest in the market.

Mr. Harry Nathan, of Ruffell's Bioscope Syndicate, will have the sympathies of all in the loss of his wife, who passed away at Kent House, New Beckenham, on Sunday last, at the age of 49. The funeral took place at Abney Park Cemetery on Thursday.

Exhibitors and operators are reminded that applications for the first examination to be held under the management of a joint committee of the Kinematograph Manufacturers' Association of Great Britain and the Northampton Polytechnic Institute must be received early next week. The scheme presents obvious advantages to all concerned in the industry, and will give confidence to managers engaging animated picture shows as well as to the public attending them. Impartial examiners have been appointed, who will supervise the candidates setting up and working machines under ordinary conditions, and question them to ascertain their practical knowledge of their duties. Two grades of certificates will be issued to successful candidates, and their names will also be placed on a register of certified operators. Full information, together with forms of application, may be obtained from the secretary, Mr. J. Brooke Wilkinson, whose address is Holborn Restaurant, London, W.C.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The relations of the artists, musicians, and stage employees with a number of managers is somewhat strained, and reports are spread that managers are not adhering to the award, or are acting in a vindictive spirit towards those who took part in the recent strike. In some cases both musicians and stage employees who did not take part in the fray, but answered the appeal of the managers involved to stand loyally by them, have been subjected to a reduction of pay where their wages were more than the minimum fixed by the award.

For the first time in the history of the two places of amusement, the staffs of the Hippodrome and Grand Theatre, Southampton, amalgamated for their annual outing, which took place last Sunday. The experiment was a complete success. The party, which numbered over sixty, left Southampton in brakes shortly after nine o'clock, and proceeded via Millbrook, Redbridge, over to No Man's Land. After a delightful drive in glorious weather, dinner was partaken of at The Lambs. Mr. Harold P. Howell, manager of the Hippodrome, occupied the chair, and proposed the toast of Messrs. Mouillot and De Frece, which was drunk with enthusiasm. A cordially-worded letter was received from Mr. A. Weston, regretting his inability to be present, but wishing the combined staffs every success.

After dinner various sports were indulged in, including a wrestling match between Fireman Pledger and Mr. Russell, who both turn the scales at 16st., which ended in a win for the fireman. Tea was served at five o'clock, and the return journey started from Bramshaw at seven o'clock, the party arriving at Southampton at 9.45, after spending a most enjoyable day. Every credit is due to the executive, who worked hard to secure the success of the season. They included Messrs. H. P. Howell, manager, Hippodrome; F. Ball, assistant manager; F. Masters, stage manager; H. Thoburn, electrician, Hippodrome; J. C. James, secretary; and G. Benns, treasurer.

The Tunbridge Wells Opera House staff enjoyed their annual outing on Sunday at Hastings, when the party, numbering fifty, dined together at the Castle Hotel. Mr. W. Gunnell presided in the unavoidable absence of the esteemed lessee, Mr. Welton Dale, whose health was cordially drunk, and Mr. W. E. Urquhart made, as usual, a most genial vice-chairman. The toast of "The Staff" was acknowledged by Mr. C. Walker.

The staff of Collins's will give a special matinée to-day, the proceeds of which are to be devoted to the annual outing. Many well-known artists will appear. The prices of admission will be as usual.

Under the capable direction of Mr. Alfred Moul Julius and Agnes Zancig visited the Castle Theatre, Richmond, on Wedensday, and drew together crowded houses. And what a wonderful show they give! Despite criticism, abuse, and not a little praise, their show is pre-eminently one of the most mystifying on the road. "It is quite simple," naïvely confesses Mr. Zancig in making his modest bow to the audience, "you can all do it yourselves; it's very simple, just a question of concentration." And then Mr. and Mrs. Zancig get to work, and amaze everyone. Question and answer follow with lightning rapidity; a watch number, a charm, a ring (of course, Madame can tell the initials), a card, a gold nugget from the colonies, a horseshoe, and so on. Never once did the little lady on the platform fail, and then, having demonstrated "how simple it was," this marvellous pair began to juggle with figures. Numbers were written on a slate, and Madame retired behind the scenes and called out the totals with wonderful accuracy.

In addition to their own performance they have the co-operation of a host of clever people in the programme. Miss Ethel Grimes, light soprano, charmed everyone by her selection from *Mignon*—"Je suis Titania" (Ambroise Thomas), and her work was characterised by wonderful accuracy and an astonishing vocal compass. Miss Grimes will assuredly be heard of again. Not a whit less dainty was Miss Katie Moss. Mr. David Brozell, baritone, sang "Eyes that used to gaze in mine" in fine style, and the humours of the programme were supplied by Mr. E. Thornley Dodge. The Zancigs' tour has for its business manager Mr. Sydney Paxton—a gentleman whose wide experience should contribute largely to its success.

Mr. Tom Jones, the Welsh comedian, has just published with Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. two songs by Will Hyde, entitled "The Welshman's trip to London" and "Johnny Morgan's sister." Mr. Jones, who has been topping the bill at several houses on the Stoll tour, and who at the Swansea house recently had to make a speech in his native tongue, will be heard in London shortly. The artist has had much experience on the theatrical boards, his last rôle being in *The Fight for Millions*. Mr. Milton Bode has cast him for "Dame" at the Cardiff New Theatre.

Miss Bertha Stuart, the Scotch lassie, who is working the Tivoli and Paragon this week, is scoring her usual success. She remains in London until the New Year, having bookings at all the best halls.

Eric, the ventriloquist, during his stay on the Moss-Stoll tour dispensed with the usual automata and gained great praise for his genuine ventriloquial abilities.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Fairs Ahead.

THE fairs ahead for next week are:—Alford on the Great Northern; Barnstaple on the Great Western and South-Western; Farnworth on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Ilkley on the North-Eastern and Midland; Langwith (Notts) on the Midland; March on the Great Eastern and Great Northern; Hemel Hempstead on the Midland; Newcastle (Staffs) on the North Staffordshire; Sidmouth on the London and South-Western; Haltwhistle on the North-Eastern; Ottery St. Mary on the London and South-Western; Penn (Bucks) on the Great Western; Second Lee Fair; Ware on the Great Eastern; Bury on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Sidbury on the Great Western; Amersham on the Metropolitan; Atherstone on the London and North-Western; Beaminster on the Great Western; Staines on the Great Western and South-Western; Worcester on the Midland and Great Western; Backwell on the Great Western; Bude on the London and South-Western; Hayfield on the Great Central; Lewes on the London, Brighton, and South Coast; Longtown on the Great Western; New Mills on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Pateley Bridge on the North-Eastern; Ratcliffe (Notts) on the Midland; Reading on the Great Western, London and South-Western, South-Eastern, and Metropolitan and District; Rushden on the Midland; Stockport on the London and North-Western; Ayr, N.B., on the Glasgow and South-Western; Aberdeen on the Caledonian, North British, Great North of Scotland, and Deeside; Moss of Ballock; Castle Douglas on the Glasgow and South-Western; Tredegar (Monmouth) on the London and North-Western; and Llandudno on the London and North-Western.

LORD JOHN SANGER'S circus visited Gillingham, Kent, on Saturday last, and gave two performances to good audiences.

"Fasting Man" at Aberdeen.

MONS. BEAUTE, who holds the world's record for prolonged fasting, began a 35 days' fast at Humber's Waxworks on Monday evening. The ceremony of enclosing him in the glass case where the time will be spent was witnessed by a large crowd. Previous to that Mons. Beaute was examined by a local medical man and declared to be in good health. He weighed 11st. 6½lb.

Cleckheaton Feast.

THE shows and other amusements at this Yorkshire fair were Farrar and Tyler's cinematographs, J. Crighton's similar concern, C. Relph's freak exhibits, Ben Howden and Son's motor-cars, Relph and Pedley's motor-cars, Harness's ostriches, Corrigan's steam swings, T. Proctor's park swings, Holdsworth's shooting gallery and throwing games, and stalls by many caterers.

Killamarsh Feast.

LAWRENCE'S cinematograph and Sedgemore's model of a coal pit were the shows at this feast. The machines were those of Messrs. Alf. Twigdon, James, and Jervis; shooters, cokers, and varieties by Messrs. Hall, Bishop, Day, Harvey, and Warwick.

NEATH great September fair opened out in brilliant weather on Monday. But the chief day was Thursday, when an enormous crowd invaded the ancient borough. The attractions seem more numerous than ever. Six great bioscope shows—Haggar's No. 1 and 2, Wadbrooke's, Dooner's, E. Danter's, and Crecraft's—some of the most beautiful pictures imaginable are shown to great crowds. In the machine list we have John Studt's beautifully decorated motor-cars, Hy. Studt and Son's motor gondolas and zoological machines, and S. White's tunnel railway, also helter-skelter; while E. Danter must not be forgotten with his switchback. The little folks are well provided for with Matthews's, Buttin's, and North's juvenile machines. The noble art of self-defence is represented by Frank Gess, Scarrot, Jim Sullivan, and Thomas. Prince Samonda's home of mystery is also a very smart show. The lady palmists are welcome visitors meeting old friends and making new ones. Messrs. North, James Day, Wm. North, Freeman, Roberts, Taylor, Buttin, Boswell, J. Jones, Wm. Jones, S. White, J. Danter, and E. Danter are represented by shooting galleries, jungle shooters, mollies, cokernuts, strikers, swings, &c. Big wheel by J. North, jun., and Roberts; photos by Fosset and Oulson. Messrs. Hy. and John Studt generously gave free rides to the cottage homes, workhouse, and reformatory lads. All the big shows gave them a long and enjoyable entertainment, then they were allowed in the swings and cokernut shooting, which completed a real happy time. Many thanks are due to the showmen who so kindly contributed to the happiness of the above children of the State.

PROFESSOR CLARENCE'S No. 1 Wild West Show was also in attendance, and gave an attractive variety performance. Chas. Blower's varieties was another strong attraction.

Guild Subscriptions, 1907.

	£	s.	d.
Pathé Frères (special subscription), per Mr. F. H. Pedgrift	1	0	0
Per Mr. Gibson—Mr. W. R. Williams	0	5	0
Per Mr. Alf. Ball—Mr. Henry Bond	0	5	0
Per Mr. C. Shaw—Mr. J. Farrer	0	5	0
Per Rev. T. Horne—Mr. W. Steward	0	6	0

Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union.

NOTICE of an important meeting of the above Union will be found in our advertising columns this week. The place of meeting is Farnworth, near Bolton.

Menagerie Mystery Solved.

FROM expert evidence received respecting the cause of the sudden and mysterious death of eight of their menagerie lions and tigers, the Blackpool Tower management are now satisfied that the theory of poisoning is groundless. Pneumonia, following on a rare form of distemper, seems to be generally agreed upon by the veterinary surgeons called in as the explanation. One menagerie proprietor communicated with (Mr. Bostock) replies that he has had similar trouble with a number of his forest-bred beasts, and has been helpless in the matter of remedy. All the Blackpool animals did not die of the malady. Two suffered so severely that they were destroyed.

Aylesbury.

ON Thursday, Friday, and Saturday (to-day) Messrs. Barker, Thurston, and Sons' gondolas visited the town, being stationed in the Market-square. Mr. Charles Thurston's original Royal Show also paid a return visit on the same dates.

A MEETING of the committee of the Bioscope Operators' Association was held on Tuesday last at 29, Wellington-street Strand, when a number of applications for membership were considered. The recent fire at a cinematograph exhibition in Newmarket was discussed, and the secretary instructed to write a letter to the Press giving the views of the association on the matter. Mr. Weeddon, the hon. secretary, having to leave town on business for an indefinite period, Mr. J. S. Henry was elected to that office, a hearty vote of thanks being accorded to Mr. Weeddon for his past services. The next meeting will be held on Sept. 24, at two o'clock.

THE SHOWMEN'S CHAPLAIN.

SON OF A SHOWMAN AND BORN AT A FAIR.

Very interesting to showmen are the following warmly appreciative remarks, which have appeared in the London *Tribune* of the 9th inst.:—

"The public have recently been interested in fairs. Barnet Fair has provided much newspaper 'copy' and several interesting illustrations. Mitcham Fair has induced someone to issue writs to the showmen warning them off the ground. But the dispute at Mitcham promises to be amicably settled. It may be matter for surprise with many people that the nomadic dwellers in caravans, who travel from fair to fair and provide all its fun—its roundabouts, shooting galleries, and shows—are organised in a guild, with solicitors, Parliamentary agent, and a chaplain. The Rev. Thomas Horne is the senior hon. chaplain of the guild, a duly ordained clergyman of the Church of England, and, moreover, born and bred in a showman's caravan.

"This is the story Mr. Horne told a representative of the *Tribune*: 'I was born at Nottingham Goose Fair in 1849. My father was lecturer for Wombwells, and afterwards for Manders's menagerie. He was a zoologist of some repute, and became attracted to the Bohemian life. No; the lecturer performed his duties inside the booth and not outside. When the company had assembled he described the animals in the cages—an office that was fairly remunerative. My father died when I was eight years of age, but my mother, who, however, did not belong to the showmen's fraternity previously, continued to travel with the shows. Here, too, I remained until I was 17. Then I came under the influence of a vicar of Leeds—Dr. Woodford, who afterwards became Bishop of Ely. This resulted in my receiving a theological training, and eventually returning to Leeds as a parochial lay helper. At length one of the vicars in the city promised me a title if I could pass the necessary examination. I managed to do this. After preaching in the street and on the kerbstone for several years, was at last allowed to preach in the pulpit. Thus I received my first curacy.

DEFENDING THE SHOWMAN.

"'Then the late Mr. George Smith, of Coalville, began his crusade against the showmen and their children. Knowing them as I did, I spoke and wrote against his proposals whenever and wherever I had the chance. Having been brought up with showmen I knew them better than most people. They were powerless to defend themselves, and I saw that unless someone defended them from the proposals that I considered unjust they would be swept out of existence. Some of my friends said to me, "You are a silly-billy! Why did you speak of your origin in a caravan like that? No Bishop will give you preferment after knowing the facts of your life." But whilst a few spoke in this way, a still larger number cheered me on, whilst the showmen rallied round me, only too glad to find someone to defend their interests.'

"From that time Mr. Horne has allied himself with the welfare of his own people. Bishops have given him their blessing, his brother-clergymen in all parts of the country have co-operated with him in his work, and now the showmen are organised into a guild—the Showmen's Guild—which supports them in many ways. It is their trade defence union. It watches their interest in Parliament. If a corporation endeavours to interfere with a fair the guild has a word or two to say in the matter, and over and over again has protected this large class of travelling showmen, numbering, it is estimated, 70,000 people.

HOW THE GUILD CAME ABOUT.

"The guild itself originated through the sagacity of Mr. Frederic H. Pedgrift, manager of *The Era*, who is one of the guild treasurers, and has successfully piloted it through many difficulties and discouragements. Practically speaking, Mr. Pedgrift and Mr. Horne carry on the organisation of the guild. Wherever, also, the chaplain goes as the spiritual adviser of the showmen, he invariably holds one or more meetings to advance the interests of the guild.

"Mr. Horne is the showmen's chaplain in a very real sense. On the fair ground he holds special services for their benefit. He has prepared a special service which has been approved by the Archbishop of York. He christens their babies, he is called to their weddings, and comforts them when they are sick and dying."

LICENSE THE OPERATORS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The Bioscope Operators' Association some time ago, suggested to the London County Council that they should insist upon operators being able to satisfy the officials of the Council entrusted with the control of such matters, as to their qualifications to operate a Bioscope or similar animated picture machine.

We venture to say that it is desirable in the public interest that all licensing authorities should insist upon operators using these machines on licensed premises furnishing some proof of their qualification for such work.

I may add that no operator is eligible to join this Association unless he has had, at least 18 months' and for some classes of work, two years' experience. The policy of the Association being to protect the interests of the competent operators, all qualified operators are urged to become members.—Your faithfully, S. J. HENRY, Secretary.

29, Wellington-street, Strand, London, Sept. 12.

World's Fair.

MR. E. T. READ, the up-to-date lessee of the above great London Christmas annual, has for a long time past been actively engaged arranging some exceptional big features for his forthcoming twenty-ninth consecutive fair, having been away from England for quite a long period looking for and securing some new big special attractions for his fast-approaching season. The aerial shows, always a great feature, will be particularly so this season, he having arranged with a first-class company of male and female Continental artists, who will make their first appearance in England, and whose performances are not only of a most sensational character, but absolutely the supreme acrobatic achievement of the era. A new departure is also being made in the circus company, Mr. T. E. Read having made special arrangements with Mr. E. H. Bostock, of the "Zoo," Glasgow, to provide an entirely new company of equestrian star artists, also of great Continental repute in their various lines of performance. In fact, Mr. Read is making several important and improved alterations this year, and with Bostock and Wombwell's menagerie, the finest and largest travelling museum of natural history in the universe, and popularising the dancing propensity of a large section of visitors by adding a commodious free dancing saloon, and possibly calling into requisition the new large annex now in course of construction in the hall, should, and undoubtedly will, prove the most successful fair ever held within the walls of this, the largest and most accessible place of entertainment in London, for sixpence admission.

THE great annual pleasure fair known as St. Giles's Fair was held in the spacious boulevards of St. Giles's-street, Oxford, on Monday and Tuesday this week. The weather was magnificent each day, and the attendance enormous, so that the numerous shows did a roaring trade. Jacob Studt's magnificent cinematograph show occupied a commanding position, and drew full houses, as also did the cinematograph shows of Thurston's, Ball, and Taylor, and Chipperfield's show; while the steam roundabouts and the new favourite "helter-skelters" did a splendid business.

HOLBECK FEAST.

To trace the evolution of a modern fair is always an interesting essay in history. To the expert in that special branch of historical research called Sociology it is a most fascinating study. Leeds, like Manchester, Liverpool, and Birmingham—and, indeed, all our great centres of industrial life—has absorbed a number of smaller towns and villages on its borders. The name of the old township remains, but the village as a separate community has ceased to exist. The big town, stretching out its tentacles, has fastened upon the village and absorbed it. One result of the growth of large towns and the absorptions of the adjoining villages has been the saving of the open air amusements and fairs of the people.

The fair, that (until the big town could no longer provide it a site in its centre) had been the people's birthright, was by mistaken zealots abolished—abolished under a profoundly serious economic error, an error that utterly disregarded the social elements in industrial life. Leeds in the early 'seventies of the last century abolished its fair, and the Corporation no longer felt it their duty to provide for the amusements of the toilers. The success of the reactionaries as regards the fair ground was complete, the triumph of the apostles of the deadly dull cult of life seemed to be complete, but after events falsified this expectation. Manchester abolished its fairs, Birmingham abolished its fairs, Liverpool and other large towns followed suit. Great London Town was the leader in this reactionary policy.

It seemed to be established as a fact that fairs in big towns could serve no useful purpose: that whilst they might linger out a miserable death in country places, the big towns had outgrown the fair.

The Fatal Error of the Zealots.

They thought that if no facilities were given the people in the towns to hold the fairs that there would come a natural and proper end of the fairs. In their mistaken prejudice and ignorance of the real needs of the people they imagined that the people would take no further thought or pains in the matter; but it was not so.

The people loved their fairs, and had the reforming zealots understood the people they would not have abolished the fairs, but would have continued the wise and statesmanlike policy of cities like Nottingham, Oxford, Peterborough, York, Wakefield, Hull, and Gloucester; towns like Halifax, Bradford, Huddersfield, Dewsbury, and other places. They would have retained full municipal control of the fairs, and would have benefited public funds by the tolls and rents arising from its yearly occurrence.

Manchester, Leeds, and Liverpool, like London, abolished their great town fairs, under the mistaken impression that the people had outgrown them. The fanatics and faddists and the ultra-puritans forgot that recreation is a law of growth, and is just as necessary to a healthy human society as food, fresh air, and pure water. They also forgot that so necessary and so insistent are these great well-springs of human progress that both consciously and unconsciously human beings (both young and old) seek them and never rest until nature is satisfied.

Economic Values and True Wealth.

The men who regarded money spent on pleasure as economic waste have lived to repent them truly of their folly. No economist of to-day who is worth his salt will defend the fallacy of "the dismal science," that "cessation from toil" is wastage of the wealth fund of the nation. We have changed our standard of true values. It is not the aggregation of wealth, numbered in pounds sterling, that is the measure of the natural well-being; but it is the betterment, the uplifting of the people, that is the real objective of our enterprise. We count now the education, the culture, and the opportunities of a fuller life for the mass of humanity as being the real tests of social and national progress.

We see indications of this better frame of mind, this altruistic readjustment of economic values, on all sides of life. Municipalities supply now some of the erstwhile luxuries of life free to the people—good music in public parks, cheap transit to country places, access to our noble rivers, libraries, picture galleries, technical and intermediate schools. The recognition of the economic truth, that time to live, time to think, at least is of equal value to time for work. This is the difference potent for good that marks our age off from the bad old days, when "work, work," and again "work" was the economic creed of the apostles of "the dismal science."

The Revolt of the People.

When the City Fathers, in their economic blindness, tried to abolish the fair they forgot the necessities of human life; they forgot that a healthy and a full life demands something more than a mere Sabbath every first day of the week; that rest from labour is not recreation, nor is it recuperation. They forgot, too, the subtle correspondence between body and mind.

The economic value of laughter, of play, of recreation in a true sense are now fully recognised by all the real leaders of the people. The creed of the early Victorian economists is now dead and buried in the limbo of lost faith. We are actually teaching our children in our normal schools play-acting, singing, dancing, and out-of-door games and amusements. We teach our children as much through the eye as by memory. Nay, all really successful school method is a wise combination of both ideas. In fact, the clever teacher is essentially a clever showman. He most demonstrates his lesson, as well as state its terms in word formula.

The Wisdom of the Fair.

Instead of the craft of the showman—"teaching through the eye"—being obsolete, it has become more and more a power for good in the life of the people. The teaching value of modern fairs in incalculable. The cinematograph is just on the threshold of truer lines of development and usefulness as an educational factor.

The Kaiser and the Cinematograph.

The *Tribune*, in a leader on the cinematograph says:—"In ordering special cinematograph records of the German naval and military manœuvres, the Kaiser has evidently not been actuated solely by the prospect of an evening's pleasant entertainment at Wilhelmshöehe. Our Berlin correspondent's telegram indicates that his Majesty hopes that the pictures will convey really useful information, and is in general among those who are disposed to take the cinematograph's possibilities more seriously than the show-loving public at present does.

"Since the eye must always be the greatest avenue of direct knowledge, it is scarcely possible to set bounds to the cinematograph's possibilities.

"The last number of the *Mercure de France*, in a bright little article by M. Remy de Gourmont, remarks that in France as in Germany it seems likely that the cinematograph threatens serious rivalry to the theatre where the spectacle is the thing.

"But some have had dreams of vastly-improved cinematographs and gramophones which will provide the theatre of the future with perpetual reproductions of a perfect representation of a play, acted once for all by a company of stars at their very best. Incidentally, the actors would be freed, after this one ideal performance, to rehearse another play up to the point when it became equally fit for enduring machine record, while, in place of his present fleeting fame, the actor's triumphs would survive for all time.

"More extensive and important are the possibilities of the cinematograph as a popular, or even as a technical and scientific, educator. Every experienced lecturer knows the value of the magic-lantern, whether his theme be the wonders of the microscope or the fiscal question. It might almost be said that the cinematograph film is as great an advance upon the motionless photographic lantern slide, whether from the point of view of attractiveness, or in respect of showing the actual thing, as the lantern slide was on the spoken word.

"M. de Gourmont speaks prettily of the emotional effect produced upon him by seeing a little shrub by the side of the Zambesi Falls trembling to and fro in the cinematograph picture, just as it did in the real wind and spray. When the colour difficulty has been solved, geography, natural history, the customs of other countries, can be taught with a vividness of which we have little conception as yet. For all we know, the cinematograph may become a valuable ally even of the laboratory and the operating theatre. With the aid of telephotography, it may show audiences of the future the great events of their time at the very moment of their occurrence."

Later Developments.

We may usefully venture here to supplement the somewhat limited scope of the *Tribune* article. Telephotography is already in extensive use. "The Series of Pictures on Bird Life" now being shown at the Palace Theatre, London, were taken by that wonderful invention. No other method was possible. The ordinary bio-camera could not have taken near enough to make a picture. The birds would have taken flight at once either at the sight or sound of the camera under ordinary conditions. It was telephotography that availed the intrepid naturalists Messrs. Pike and Sanders again with regard to colour. Messrs. Pathé Frères have for all practical purposes overcome the colour difficulty. Their unique invention of mechanical colouring of films enables them to place on the market a splendid series of coloured films, and these films are coming rapidly into general use.

The educational value of the living picture is no longer a question of the future, but is a present fact. We can see it at any fair we care to visit. We have seen it in "The Urban Scientific Research Pictures" at the Alhambra for years past, and at the leading London and provincial variety theatres. Again as a moral teacher the living picture is fast becoming the ally of the pulpit and the platform. Witness the high appreciation of the public of such powerful films as "The Passion Play," "The Life of Christ," and the lives of the Old Testament worthies. It is not that the cinematograph will arrive. It has already arrived, and is already a potent teacher of the people.

The Shows at the Feast.

The cinematograph palaces were the well-known concerns of William Murphy, Ben Howden and Sons, Monte Brothers, Relph and Pedley, and John Crighton. Five shows of the highest repute on the great show grounds of the country.

Chipperfield's French Menageries, Texas Bill's Wild Beast Show and cowboy experts, D'Osta's Telepathic Marvel, Westray's Freak Museum, Weston's Boxers, and Westray's No. 2 Show, the Novelty Booth, and C. Ralph's Entresol Museum, "Under the Willow Pattern Plate," completed a big list of shows at the Feast.

The Whirligigs and Roundabouts.

Motor-car sets by Murphy, Howden and Sons, Marshall and Son, Waddington and Sons, Relph and Pedley, and flying motors by G. Redfearn; sets of ostriches and other weird birds by Messrs. Waddington, H. Marshall, and P. Collins; yachts in the air and yachts on the sea by Waddington and Dobson; steam swings by Corrigan and Sons, Amos, T. Burgin, W. Shaw, and Morley; park swings and high fliers by Redfearn, Morley, Proctor, T. Burgin, E. Hughes, Dobson, and Corrigan; the tunnel railway by R. H. William; Lieske's big wheel; the Apline glissades by Corrigan and Sons and H. Powell; miniature motor-cars, pony roundabouts, and gem swings by Doubtfire, Howden, Thomas, Gladstone, J. Seed, jun., Johnson, Cooper, and C. Blakey.

Bazaars, Pannum Stalls, and Varieties

By Messrs Gladstone, Seed, Howarth, Wright, Lee Hartley, Cooper, Morley, Masney, Gilbert Holt, Bradley, and Waugh Bros. The photo booth was by Gunthorpe, and pot bazaars by Messrs Wilson and Cavanagh.

Shooters and Throwing Games.

Nowhere else in Yorkshire can be seen a better or a bigger crowd of novelty-providers than the fun merchants at Holbeck Feast. Amongst the motley throng were Messrs. Jameson, Radcliffe, Thompson, Cutler, J. Seed, Dobson, Thomas and Son, with shooting concerns; and Messrs. Turner, Burgin, Joy, Houldsworth, H. Powell, G. Campbell, Rhodes, W. Steward, S. Doubtfire, Corrigan, Gladstone, Dobson, and others with variety sheet-stall and penalty frames. The refreshment booths were by the B.W.A., and Messrs. Bates, Hodgkinson, Hughes, and Hutchinson.

The fair was admirably arranged on the breezy moor under the expert direction of Mr. Wm. Murphy (lessee of the fair) and his ground manager, Mr. J. Gladstone. All Leeds came out to see it, and in this year's fair a record has been established in popularity and in the high-class nature of the shows and amusements at the fair.

THE ELEVATION OF THE SHOWMAN.

DISTINGUISHED PATRONAGE.

One of the most surprising events in the history of showmen occurred last Sunday, when, in the palatial Town Hall of Oxford, never before let for such a purpose on the Sabbath, Mr. Jacob Studt, the pioneer of all bioscope concerns, was successful in obtaining permission to present Messrs. Pathé Frère's great Passion Play, which has caused so much sensation wherever shown.

The entertainment was under the distinguished patronage and presence of His Worshipful the Mayor of Oxford, together with the Council, Sir Walter Gray and party, and the élite of Oxford and district.

In addition to the pictures, the programme was augmented by Miss Florence Thompson, a young soprano of much promise, whose rendering of "The Lost Chord" and "Flight of Ages" was much appreciated, and, notwithstanding a goodly number of placards displayed throughout the hall forbidding applause, she was most generously recognised for both items, as was also Mr. Leo King, the noted baritone vocalist, for his very pleasing singing of two beautiful ballads. The gentleman at the organ, a well-known musician of Calne, distinguished himself greatly by his classic rendering of several masterpieces, and his general accompaniment throughout the evening.

Of the pictures we have only one expression to make—"they are perfect." We have seen many here, but the Passion Play is incomparable, and what added still more to the realism of the marvellous pictures was the manner in which the lecturer, Mr. Fred C. Gillieston, of Barry Dock, minutely described them throughout. Seldom, if ever, has an audience been so greatly impressed as was this one on Sunday night last, many, indeed, being moved to tears by the speaker's touching attributes and sympathetic allusions to the various episodes depicted so faithfully on the pictures of the Life on Earth of the Man of Sorrows.

Altogether, the entire programme was beyond praise, and says much for the enterprise of Mr. Jacob Studt, whose very pertinacity and dogged perseverance has placed him on the top rung of the ladder of fame in the world of showmen, amongst whom, in this particular line, he has now no equal.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD AT LEEDS.

The occasion of Holbeck Feast was an opportunity not to be missed by the Executive of the Guild for meeting the principal showmen on the great Yorkshire Round. In accordance with the plan of campaign in the interests of the show business decided upon at the general committee meeting held in Manchester at the beginning of the year, Holbeck Feast was fixed upon as one of the important places for a sectional gathering of fairground traders. The afternoon conference was held in the splendid new show of B. Howden and Sons.

The chair was taken by Mr. J. W. Waddington, a vice-president of the Guild, and one of the principal roundabout proprietors on the Yorkshire Round. The showmen present were: H. Ashington (V.P.), B. Howden (V.P.), Messrs. J. and R. Monte and T. Burgin, members of the committee; and Messrs. G. C. Campbell, G. A. Howden, J. Relph, W. Fisher, W. Steward, J. Westray, G. Wright, E. Thompson, C. Relph, and many others.

The Rev. T. Horne's Address.

As the principal object of the conference was to explain to the Yorkshire showmen the propaganda and defence work of the Guild, the Chairman called upon the organising Chaplain to open the conference. Mr. Horne dealt in detail with the aims and objects of the Showmen's Trade Defence Society, and laid particular stress upon the constant need for vigilance to safeguard the interests of the showground business from the attacks of public bodies and prejudiced individuals. He instanced the very recent correspondence of the Guild executive with the Home Secretary with regard to proposed additional bye-laws interfering with show business promoted by the County Council of Chester. He explained the method by which smaller public bodies, such as parish councils, rural and urban district councils, could obtain bye-laws through the larger and more important public bodies, such as County Councils. The most glaring instance of a small local body after failing to get the additional powers they desired in a private Act of Parliament, then trying to attain their object by using the County Council, was the Wallasey case. Showmen would remember that the Guild had spent over £100 in preventing the Wallasey District Council getting additional powers in a private Bill they promoted to penalise the show business at New Brighton.

The showmen defeated the penalty clauses of the private Bill, and naturally expected that there the matter would rest. But no; the District Council set to work to obtain the bye-laws they wanted through the County Council. The recent bye-laws of the Chester County Council, amended by the Home Secretary upon the petition of the organised showmen, only came into use in February last. They did not contain a bye-law touching roundabouts, swings, or shooting galleries. The principal bye-law affecting the show business was the usual one dealing with musical instruments, and that bye-law was amended by the addition of the well-known saving clause exempting fairs, feasts, wakes, and public festivals from its operation. He only dwelt upon the new set of bye-laws promoted by the County of Chester to enforce the necessity for their Guild to be in efficient working order at all times to deal with the enemies of their business. He had no doubt whatever that the Home Secretary would recognise the justice of their claim, and that the new set of bye-laws would be amended and brought into uniformity with the first set of bye-laws by the addition of the saving clause exempting show business at times of fairs and public holidays.

The Organising Chaplain then reviewed the work of the Guild with regard to Mitcham and other threatened fairs. He also pointed out the value and importance of fostering an intelligent and fully-informed public opinion with regard to the showmen's life and business, and expressed his personal conviction that the best method of doing this was the much appreciated and eminently successful series of Guild services which he had held at a number of important fair centres this year.

The address was listened to with the greatest attention, and was frequently marked by appreciative applause.

The Chairman's Speech.

The Chairman expressed the deep interest that he and all engaged in the show business felt in the splendid work done by the Showmen's Guild, and particularly the constant work of their great friend and leader, the Rev. T. Horne. It was for them, he insisted, to see that their Trade Defence Society was not crippled for want of necessary means to carry on its work or for the active assistance of themselves at all times when called upon. He commended the work of the Guild to all Yorkshire showmen. Its past record was the best proof of its ability and usefulness.

At the request of Mr. Horne the chairman asked for names to be nominated as the Yorkshire Committee of the Guild. This nomination of committees on each of the great rounds was done at the suggestion of the general committee in order that local interest and responsibility might be fostered and increased. He asked, therefore, that names of representative showmen should be suggested by that meeting which would be practically the open and public nomination of the Yorkshire members of the Executive Council of the Guild.

The Conference and its Speakers.

Mr. James Monte opened a most useful discussion on the question of sectional committees. He advocated two possible plans, both of which met with considerable, but, on the whole, friendly criticism. The first plan was that there should be twelve Yorkshire committee men—eight for the Leeds Circuit, which practically means the whole of the West Riding showmen, and two each for the North and the East Ridings of Yorkshire. Mr. Monte's second suggestion was—that a consultative committee to confer at all times of emergency with the officers of the Guild should be formed, and that it should consist of the four principal roundabout proprietors and lessees of fairgrounds in Yorkshire.

This second proposal was dismissed after discussion on the ground that it was not in accordance with the democratic basis of the organisation, which aspires to be representative of all kinds of amusement caterers and fairground traders.

Mr. G. C. Campbell's Speech.

They had to clearly bear in mind, he told the conference, that all sections of the show community were equally concerned in, and ought to be equally interested in, the work of trade defence. He, therefore, was in favour of a representative committee that would include stallholders as well as roundabout proprietors and showmen. He could see no reason why, when it was remembered that most of the Riding masters were already on the Executive Council of the Guild, that the two ideas set out in Mr. Monte's speech should not be usefully combined.

Mr. T. Burgin and other Speakers.

Mr. Burgin began by expressing his satisfaction that the nomination of committee men was being left to the members in open meeting at a big fair on the rounds they travelled. Although he and others had been nominated and elected on the Executive Committee, it had been done apparently at the last moment by the Manchester committee, and it had been a source of regret to him and other committeemen that the nomination had not taken place under more popular and democratic conditions. He supported the idea of the open nomination, and trusted that an excellent list of names would be the outcome of their conference.

Mr. B. Howden also supported the idea of open nominations at local centres.

The Rev. T. Horne, in closing the discussion, suggested that the chairman should ask for names with particular regard to the West Riding Division of the county: that the names for the East Riding and the North Riding sections should be left to the forthcoming meeting at Hull Fair, and that the whole question be adjourned to that meeting.

Mr. Horne's proposal was seconded by the Chairman, and supported by the conference. The following names were then nominated to serve on the Executive Committee for 1908:—Messrs. Corrigan, G. Wright, T. Burgin, J. Monte, R. Monte, G. Howden, W. Fisher, W. Turner, E. Thompson, J. Relph, and W. Pedley.

The Chairman moved a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. T. Horne, which was passed with great applause.

Mr. Horne, in briefly responding, moved votes of thanks to the proprietors (Messrs. B. Howden and Sons) for the use of their show, and to the Chairman for presiding over the conference.

Both votes were passed with acclamation, and the conference terminated.

Showmen Guild Services.

Co-operating with the parochial clergy, the Rev. T. Horne took part in two services. The afternoon gathering was at three o'clock, and held in Randall Williams' cinematograph theatre. It took the form of a lantern service. The address to the beautiful series of pictures thrown on the screen was given by the Rev. S. F. Sykes, Vicar of Holbeck. His subject was, "From strength to weakness, illustrated by the life of Samson," and "From weakness to strength," illustrated by the beautiful series of pictures, "The Story of the Cross."

The evening service was in the same show, and the preacher was the Guild chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne. The show-booth was crowded to its utmost capacity. The Vicar of Holbeck conducted the service. The choir of St. Helen's (one of the district churches of Holbeck) led the congregational singing.

Doncaster Fair.

Every great St. Leger week Councillor G. T. Tuby (whose centre of work and enterprise is Doncaster) holds the principal position at the Races' Fair. Messrs. Tuby and Sons provided cinematograph theatre, switchback motors, steam horses, big boats, and other fair-ground novelties. The other providers of novelties were Prof. Ruby, with X-ray marvels; Farrar and Procter, with cinematograph; White, with two shows, the dime museum and novelty booth; Holland, with Japanese airship; Ruby, with No. 2 show; Messrs. Pullan, Brannan, Lever, Doubtfire, Calver, Farrar, Holdsworths, Fisher, Walker, Illingworth, Bliss, Walser, and others.

The Northwich (Cheshire) Fancy Fair and Carnival was held in the Green Dragon field, the attractions consisting of P. Collins's No. 3 motor-cars, Miss M. Collins's jumping horses, and juvenile sets. The shows were Scott and Sagar's premier exhibition of animated photography, and Mrs. H. Simons's ghost exhibition. Swings were by Miss M. Collins; also the Winchester ranges and shooting-galleries. The stalls were by J. Fletcher, T. Hall, J. Dearden, T. Clought, and Willie Hill. The weather being very fine, record business was done by the roundabouts and shows.

We greatly regret to announce the death of Mr. Bertram Washington Rose, who was very greatly interested in the Mammoth Fun City, and acted as chairman of its directors. Mr. Rose, who had been suffering acutely for six months, after a desperate operation for cancer, died in the early hours of Friday morning last. Mr. Rose was no more than thirty-three years of age. He was greatly esteemed by his friends. His illness was borne with admirable courage. At the close of the last fair at Olympia he was unanimously elected President of the Guild, a unique distinction for one whose first venture in the way of popular entertainment it was. He was very proud of the honour. Mr. Rose was buried at Ilford Cemetery on Tuesday.

FOOTBALL.

Bristol X.L.C.R. II. A.F.C. v. Harry Hare's Orchestral Band and Theatricals. Played on Clifton Downs, Saturday, Sept. 7. Miss Lillie Belding kicked off. J. Aubrey scored the only goal for Bristol X.L.C.R. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R.—W. J. Horton, goal; F. Thorne (captain) and E. Smith, backs; F. White, F. Hodges, and E. Poole, half backs; J. Aubrey, A. English, W. Lloyd, B. Davies, and E. Taylor, forwards.

H. Hare's Band and Theatricals.—H. Whalenn, goal; A. Hamlin (captain) and A. Mattock (backs); Denmore, Addison, and F. Stevens, half backs; P. Hewlett, H. Edwards, E. Bowman, S. Richards, and C. Whalenn, forwards.

Referee, H. Belding; linesmen, H. Hare and L. Clayton. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R., 1 goal; H. Hare's Orchestral Band and Theatricals, nil.

Harry Belding's Athletic Team v. Bristol Early Closers' A.F.C.—Played on Clifton Downs on Wednesday, Sept. 4. Harry Belding was hurt during the second part of the game, and had to retire, his place being taken by Fred B. Nicholas, the popular goalkeeper of the Music Halls Athletic Club, who happened to be watching the match, and the goals were scored by Joe Lacey, Jack Aubrey, Harry Slade, and George Hedges (2). The following were the teams:—

Harry Belding's Athletic Team. — H. Belding (captain), goal; A. Hamlin and A. Cox, backs; F. Stevens, E. Poole, and H. Slade, half backs; J. Lacey, D. O'Connor, P. Reardon, E. Belding, and J. Aubrey, forwards.

Bristol Early Closers.—D. Mackie, goal; G. Hedges (captain) and H. Turner, backs; T. Willis, S. Coombes, and W. Vowles, half backs; A. Rossiter, F. Lucas, G. Bartlett, W. Denty, and E. Brooks, forwards.

Referee, J. Leonard; linesmen, H. Hare and A. E. Bailey. Result:—H. Belding's Team, 3 goals; Bristol Early Closers, 2 goals.

"THE ERA."

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AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(From our own correspondent.)

MELBOURNE, Aug. 1. — Her Majesty's Theatre. — Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis. — *The Ragged Earl* was presented for the first time on Saturday evening to a packed house. As the devil-may-care Earl Mr. Andrew Mack pursued his triumphant course with all his art, his vivacity and good spirits keeping the interest unflagging till the end. In addition to "My Dudheen," Mr. Mack sang two waltz songs of his own composition which met with genuine approval. Mrs. Jane Keeton, in the part of Kathleen Fitzmaurice, demonstrated clearly her capacity for higher flights than that of a mere central figure in Irish melodrama. The character of Sir Henry Hardcastle was capably presented by Mr. Alsop. Messrs. Cambourne, Monley, and Aveling had evidently taken great pains with their respective studies of a tenant, footman, and process-server. The piece was excellently mounted and dressed, and was received by the fine house very favourably.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—A bountiful programme was submitted to a large audience on Saturday evening. Mr. Hamilton Hill, the Australian baritone, made his re-appearance after an absence of some eight years, and was accorded a flattering reception. What was already recognised as a promising voice has become robust and sweet, and Mr. Hill sings with that facility and grace which only experience can produce; he was twice encored for his excellent singing. Techoco's cats, with their clever performances, are still a great attraction. Miss Bijou Russell is presenting a budget of new coon songs; Little Baby Watson has fairly captivated the public with her song, "I'm going to meet Gertie to-night"; Mr. Carden Wilson gives a number of imitations of well-known actors; while Ernesto, Fred Bluett, the Rosebuds, Les Warton, Claude Leplastriere, and a host of other artists contribute pleasing turns to an exceptionally strong bill.

Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Joe Solomons.—New arrivals here on Saturday included Miss Nellie Hill, Miss Bella Perman, and Mr. Harry Leggett, all of whom were accorded good receptions.

SYDNEY, Aug. 6. 1907.—*La Mascotte* was revived by Mr. J. C. Williamson at Her Majesty's after twelve years' silence. Miss Florence Young was a brilliant success as Bettina. Nothing that she has ever done quite equalled this impersonation, and her voice grows richer than ever. Mr. George Lauri made rollicking fun out of Laurent XVII., as usual, and never let the business flag. Mr. Claude Bantock is the Rocco of modern times, unctuous and ripely funny. Mr. Reginald Roberts sang the music of Pippo, a tenor in a baritone part; and Mr. Arthur Crane made a hit as Prince Frittelini; and another well-acted and well-sung part was the Fiametta of Miss Evelyn Scott. The revival was directed by Mr. Gerard Coventry.

The Ward-Willoughby-Palotta comedy combination came back to the Criterion on the 3rd, opening in *Mr. Hopkinson*. The principals, Hugh J. Ward, George Willoughby, and Grace Palotta had hearty welcomes back, and in their respective rôles of Mr. Hopkinson, the Earl of Addleton, and the Duchess of Marlborough, kept a packed house roaring and simmering from curtain rise to curtain fall. Mr. Reginald Wykeham, Miss Lillian Scaife, Miss Olive Wilton, Mr. Warburton Gamble, Mr. Bonfield, and Mr. Harry Overton, made up the personages necessary to the development of the ingenious and uproariously comic plot. The great charm of these performances is the very finished care with which everything is done by the experienced participators, the scenery and belongings being all that can possibly be demanded.

Mr. William Anderson concluded his season at the Criterion on the 2nd with the seventy-second consecutive performance in Sydney of *The Squatter's Daughter*, when Miss Eugenie Duggan and the authors, Messrs. Edmond Duggan and Bert Bailey, were called upon to make speeches amid a scene of intense enthusiasm.

Miss Florence Baines, announced as "the lass that set London laughing," brought a complete English company to the Palace to play *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. The Governor was announced to be present, but through a breach of etiquette on the manager's part in announcing vice-regal patronage, His Excellency declined to attend. The theatre was filled by a fashionable audience, as on all "command nights," and great preparations in the way of decorations had been made. Miss Florence Baines, as the Lancashire lass posing as a lady, made the farce-comedy go for all it is worth, and she was ably supported by Miss Nellie Birchenough, Mr. Richard C. Hicks, Mr. Burt Burton, Miss Geraldine Douglas, Mr. Johnson Weir, Mr. Patrick Evans, Miss Muriel Johnstone, Mr. Walter Hicks, Mr. J. H. Booth, and Mr. John Price.

At the Royal Messrs. Meynell and Gunn changed their bill to *The Great Awakening* on the 3rd, with Miss Maud Hildyard as the adventuress, Lola. She dresses, acts, and speaks well, and is a success even in loud melodrama; and Mr. Charles Vane, Mr. Conway Wingfield, Messrs. Will and Charles Bovis, Miss May Congdon, and Miss Violet Dene are all utilised in the improbabilities and exciting episodes of the play, just the sort to make money with in Sydney.

The Tivoli has its programme fully supplied by Mr. Harry Rickards, with ever coming and going artists of the highest qualifications in their respective lines. The latest comers are Lex McLean, a "strong man" from Scotland, and Dunbar and Blake, acrobats. The Svengalis are still here, and still great favourites. Messrs. Ernest Fitts and Hindmarsh Jamieson sing duets; a little girl called Laurie is an expert contortionist; and Will Lochraine and Michael Nolan add to their admirers at each performance. The Misses Eileen Lyons, Olive Robinson, and Agnes Hazel sing their songs acceptably, and a great bill is the result.

Mr. George Rignold made a successful reappearance as Jeson in Mr. Bland Holt's production of *The Bondsman* on Saturday night.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

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Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—Sir Henry Irving.

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The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

Mr. Oscar Hammerstein, the famous New York impresario, has announced that he intends to "erect houses for grand opera and grand opera only in the fullest sense of the word, in Philadelphia, Boston, Washington, Chicago, St. Louis, and Cincinnati."

The second raffle for Mme. Phœbe's hat, originally won by Mrs. Fred Ginnett, and again placed at the service of the Federation by that lady, came off on Wednesday. Mr. Malcolm Scott drew the numbers in the presence of Mrs. Fred Ginnett, Miss Anna De Gray (secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild), and several artists, No. 91 proving the winning number. An additional £6 5s. is credited to the funds of the Federation as the result of this second raffle.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(From our own correspondent.)

NEW YORK, Sept. 4.—*The Dairymaids*, produced last week at the Criterion Theatre, is a most agreeable and entertaining mixture of mirth and melody. According to the newspapers it is a musical farce "of the familiar English type." This is another way of saying that it possesses a certain charm and tastefulness and an air of refinement that is usually lacking in the musical pieces made in New York and Chicago. The native drama may be flourishing, but the Americans themselves admit that their musical plays are simply "not in it" with the London productions. The American composers seem to think that because the average New Yorker likes noise everywhere else he must perforce like it in the theatre, and arrange their compositions accordingly. Ergo, the musical pieces that Mr. Charles Frohman brings over here from London every year are successful by contrast, for they charm the senses of an audience already satiated with noise before it enters the theatre. The music of *The Dairymaids* is delightful, and the comicalities of Mr. Huntley Wright as Joe Mivens and Mr. George Gregory as Sam Brudenell provoke continuous laughter. Miss Julia Sanderson as Peggy, Miss Bessie De Voie as Winifred, and Miss Flossie Hope as Eliza made themselves great favourites by their singing and dancing. *The Dairymaids* should have a long run.

Mr. John Drew began his sixteenth annual engagement at the Empire Theatre last Saturday, appearing in the four-act comedy, *My Wife*, adapted from the French of MM. Gavault and Charnay, by Mr. Michael Morton. In this piece Mr. Drew returns to the field of light comedy, in which he has been so successful in the past, and the unmistakable signs of success that attended the opening performance showed that his new vehicle had been happily chosen. Although the fashionable Empire Theatre was reopened a fortnight earlier than usual the house was crowded, the votaries of art and fashion being sufficiently numerous to create the accustomed air of interest and brilliancy. Mr. Drew acted the part of Gerald Eversleigh with his usual skill and finish; and Miss Billie Burke, as Beatrice Dupré, was charming.

There has been quite a run on college plays since George Ade's piece, *The College Widow*, basked in the sunshine of popular favour at a metropolitan theatre for an entire season. The seats of learning, where the curriculum seemed to be mainly composed of football and boat-racing, having had their innings, the college playwrights have turned their attention to the institutions devoted to the science of soldiering. Thus, we have had *The Boys of Company B*, with Mr. Arnold Daly, and now we have *Classmates*, with Mr. Robert Edeson. *Classmates* is a four-act play, by William C. De Mille and Margaret Turnbull, with the opening scene laid at the West Point Military Academy. The plot is the familiar one of the love of two men for the same woman, but it is worked out with sufficient adroitness to make the story ring true.

Duncan Irving, cadet, first-class, is expelled from West Point for striking Bert Stafford, an old enemy, and his rival for the hand of Sylvia Randolph, a friend of the Stafford family. Prompted by jealousy, Stafford has plied Irving's father with cocktails until the old gentleman has made an exhibition of himself at a particularly unfortunate moment, and for this crafty move on the part of his rival young Irving lands a stiff punch on his face, which causes temporary blindness. Upon his recovery he joins an expedition to South America, but before going Sylvia promises to marry him. In the meantime, he has lied to her about Irving, putting him in the worst possible light. Presently word comes that Stafford is lost in the jungle. Irving offers to go in search of him, but tells Sylvia that his quest is made entirely for her sake, and with the desire to set himself right in her eyes. He does not know that the girl has engaged herself to Stafford. Sylvia, however, resents his offer, and taunts him with being actuated by a desire to place her under an obligation to him. She gives him to understand that she does not intend to be won by any such method, and finally tells him of her engagement to Stafford, bidding him, if his search is successful, tell her lover that she is waiting to carry out her promise.

The next act is laid in a South American forest. Irving and his two comrades have been deserted by their Indian guides, and, wandering away from the river, are themselves lost in the jungle. Stafford, nearly dead, is found, however, and when the two men meet their hatred of each other is expressed in emphatic terms. Both know they cannot live unless relief comes quickly; but even that does not lessen their bitterness. Irving gives his rival his last drop of brandy, saying that he hates to do so, and delivers the message from Sylvia. Stafford, a cad always, gloats over the message and the fact that his rival is the bearer of it, and utters more lies to pierce Irving's soul. When it is apparently all over with them, Irving climbs a palm-tree and hoists a white shirt-sleeve, and a heliograph, flashing through the trees, tells them that a rescuing party has seen the signal. In the last act Sylvia dismisses her unworthy lover, and promises to marry Duncan Irving. As the latter, Mr. Edeson acted with a convincing sincerity and a manly earnestness that could not fail to win the sympathies of an audience. His success was emphatic. Mr. Wallace Eddinger, as Bert Stafford, and Mr. Frank McIntyre, as a fat cadet, named Bubby Dumble, were particularly good in their respective rôles. While it is not another *Strongheart*, the play has all the attributes that make for an enduring popularity.

"The Other House," described as a fantastic comedy, and written by Harry and Edward Paulton, has just been produced at the Majestic Theatre, with Mr. Richard Golden in the principal rôle. Daniel Hake, of Rhode Island, inventor of dye-stuffs and other things, finds himself pressed to the wall by his relentless enemy, Jabez Vennamy, a "loan shark," and variously described as a toad, a viper, and a skunk. In the hope of saving his daughter from want, it occurs to Hake to sell himself to the evil one. He is not aware that a certain manufacturer is interested in his inventions and has been trying to communicate with him. It appears that the letters sent by the manufacturer have been burned by an innocent domestic, who thought they were "no good." At the very moment, then, when Hake is offering to sacrifice himself, the lights being turned down, there appears on the scene a gentleman with a Van Dyck beard and other accessories, which, with the red light from the glowing coals, literally make him look like the devil. The gentleman, it turns out, is the aforesaid manufacturer; but this fact Hake does not discover at the moment. The visitor induces Hake to sign a contract with his firm, and promises that in future he shall not want for anything. Then he retreats through a window opening into the garden, and a peal of thunder and properly-subdued *Faust* music are provided to intensify the delusion.

In the meantime, Hake's daughter has been telling the family troubles to her sweetheart, a son of the manufacturer, of whose identity, however, she is in ignorance. This generous young man sends, bright and early in the morning, a van-load of furniture and clothing, before the senior Hake is up. But when he awakes he manifests no surprise. It is part of the compact. The slimy Vennamy, however, has been robbed of a large sum, and when Hake hands him a cheque to cover his indebtedness, Vennamy at once accuses the poor old inventor of theft. It now remains for Hake to prove his innocence, and to realise his mistake. All of which is eventually accomplished after he has passed through a series of ludicrous adventures.

The piece provoked no end of laughter on the opening night, and met with the sort of reception that usually betokens success, but the newspaper verdict was not so favourable.

Miss Virginia Harned appeared last night at the Herald-square Theatre in Edmond Guiraud's dramatisation of Tolstoi's "Anna Karenina," the American adaptation of which was made by Thomas W. Broadhurst. The play tells the story of the love of Anna, wife of Alexis Karenin, a minister of the Czar, for Prince Vronsky. Anna's passion for Vronsky is revealed at the Imperial races, when Vronsky fails to take one of the hurdles, and is thrown beneath his horse's feet. Proof is afforded the husband that his wife is in love with Vronsky; but, in spite of her pleading, he refuses to consent to a divorce or let her go. Tired of her existence with a cold, scheming diplomat, the unhappy wife resolves to burst the bonds of conventionality, and she and Vronsky flee to Italy. The falseness of her position weighs heavily on her mind, and the torture of being separated from her son prompts her to return to Russia and endeavour to obtain a legal separation. Meantime, Vronsky's increasing indifference tells her that she is about to lose the love for which she sacrificed all, and in despair she destroys herself beneath the wheels of a locomotive.

Miss Harned's embodiment of Anna Karenina taxed her emotional powers to the uttermost, but her portrayal was lifelike and convincing, and evoked enthusiastic applause. Mr. John Mason as Alexis Karenin, and Mr. Robert Warwick as Prince Vronsky, were very successful in their respective impersonations.

Miss Grace George, during her forthcoming tour of the principal cities, will be seen in four plays, which she expects to produce in London next spring. Two of the plays are new, one being by Clyde Fitch and the other by Jerome K. Jerome. Mr. Fitch's play is designed to provide Miss George with a rôle that will give her a wider range than *Divorçons*, without carrying her into the emotional excesses of *Frou-Frou* and pieces of that kind. Mr. Jerome's play is called *Sylvia of the Letters*, and is a comedy of character, with scenes laid in New York. Miss George will appear for the first time as Beatrice in a handsome revival of *Much Ado About Nothing*, in which Mr. Frank Worthing will play Benedick. She will also revive either *The Love Chase* or *The Belle's Stratagem*—probably the former if Mr. Brady is able to engage a well-known English actress of comic parts whom he has in mind for the rôle of Widow Green. Miss George's appearance in Ibsen's *The Lady of the Sea* is another event that may be looked for before the season is over.

CRICKET.

Misses Cecilia Fowler's and May Fisher's Ladies' XI. v. Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs.—Played near Clifton Downs on Aug. 31. The gentlemen batted with broomsticks, and bowled left-handed. Miss Cecilia Fowler played a fine game for her side, and Harry Belding distinguished himself on the gentlemen's side. Scores:—

Misses Fowler's and Fisher's XI.—Miss Minnie Leonard, b Belding, 0; Miss Irene Bradley, b Belding, 3; Miss Ethel Bowman, b Belding, 0; Miss Lilla Carter, b Belding, 7; Miss Lillie Belding, c and b Belding, 0; Miss Cecilia Fowler (captain), b Belding, 11; Miss Ivy Bowman, b Hare, 3; Miss May Fisher, b Belding, 2; Miss Nellie Bailey, b Hare, 6; Miss Lucy Norris, run out, 0; Miss Rosie Davies, b Hare, 0. Total, 33.

Bristol X.L.C.R.—S. Carter, b Miss Fowler, 8; H. Hare, b Miss Fowler, 1; H. Belding (captain), b Miss Fowler, 22; J. Lewis, b Miss Fowler, 0; H. Edwards, b Miss Fowler, 1; F. Stevens, b Miss Fowler, 0; A. Cox, c and b Miss Fowler, 0; A. E. Bailey, b Miss Fowler, 9; J. Aubrey, run out, 7; A. Hamlin, b Miss Fowler, 0; W. J. Horton, b Miss Fowler, 0. Total, 48.

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Theatricals v. Music Halls. Played on Clifton Downs, Sept. 7. Bristol X.L.C.R. C.C. were without H. Belding owing to injury received in the football match the previous Wednesday. J. Leonard batted and bowled well for the Music Halls C.C.

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Theatricals.—J. Lewis, b Leonard, 0; J. Gwylum, b Leonard, 0; F. Courtney, c and b Leonard, 0; A. E. Bailey, b Leonard, 16; E. Belding (captain), b Leonard, 2; S. Carter, b Leonard, 0; H. Slade, b Reardon, 6; E. Palmer, b Leonard, 0; H. Clements, b Leonard, 0; J. Clynch, b Leonard, 0; H. Clarke, not out, 27; extras, 6. Total, 56.

Music Halls C.C.—E. Denton, b Bailey, 0; J. Tyley, b Bailey, 17; T. Neagle (captain), b Bailey, 0; H. G. Douglas, b Bailey, 0; D. O'Connor, b Bailey, 22; F. B. Nicholls, b Clynch, 3; J. Leonard, not out, 65; extras, 9. Total (for six wickets), 116.

P. Reardon, Will Hindon, F. Hansford, and J. Lacey did not bat.

The Ladies of the "New Barmaid" Co. v. Eleven Gentlemen of Ramsgate.—Played at Chatham House, Ramsgate, on Sept. 11, and resulting in a win for the ladies by 3 runs. Miss V. Osmund both batted and bowled well for her side. A collection made on the ground for the local hospital realised a good sum. Scores:—

Ladies.—Miss Osmund, b Cummings, 10; Miss Ivie, b Bowe, 1; Miss O. Smith, run out, 1; Miss Grafton, b Jones, 3; Miss Marscall, b Bowe, 13; Miss L. English, b Bowe, 3; Miss D. Scarlett, b Cummings, 0; Miss V. Smith, b Jones, 2; Miss V. English, b Bowe, 5; Miss N. Scarlett, b Cummings, 1; Miss Duncker, b Jones, 2; Miss Arden, b Jones, 2; Miss Richardson, b Bagott, 1; Miss Walters, b Bagott, 2; extras, 16. Total, 62.

Gentlemen.—R. Smith, b Miss Osmund, 7; E. Smith, b Miss O. Smith, 5; H. Jones, b Miss O. Smith, 9; F. Cummings, b Miss Osmund, 13; C. Smith, b Miss Osmund, 0; M. Hogben, b Miss Mascall, 2; E. Bagott, b Miss Osmund, 16; C. Scarlett, b Miss O. Smith, 2; R. Rodrigg, b Miss Osmund, 0; Bowe, b Miss Mascall, 5; Hawkes, b Miss Osmund, 0. Total, 59.

Mr. Robert Crossman's *Lady Slavey* Co. played Cheadle Hulme at Cheadle Hulme, on Sept. 5. *The Lady Slavey* Co. made 48 for eight wickets, and Cheadle Hulme only scored 29 all out.

On Saturday Mr. R. Crossman's *Lady Slavey* Co. played Mr. Allan Wilkie's répertoire company at Oldham, a very enjoyable game being witnessed. Scores:—*Lady Slavey* Co.—Croker, c Fleming, b Marsh, 3; W. T. Thompson, not out, 47; Lempriere, b Marsh, 1; Saker, b Diggs, 42; Henderson, b Marsh, 4; Irving, b Diggs, 2; Gwyne, b Marsh, 1; Nugent, not out, 0; extras, 10. Total, 110 for six wickets. Allan Wilkie's Co.—Lovett, b Croker, 14; Diggs, not out, 46; Marsh, b Croker, 2; Pillott, b Croker, 5; Ash, b Croker, 1; Turner, b Croker, 0; Durrans, c Nugent, b Croker, 0; Brookstand, b Croker, 0; Fleming, b Croker, 2; extras, 3. Total, 73.

NEW PATENT.

The following is an abridged description of a patent, specially compiled for *The Era* by Messrs. Hughes and Young, of 55-56, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom our readers may obtain all information and advice relating to British and foreign patents, designs and trade marks free of charge.

11,351.—Fire-proof materials. C. Schafer, 5, Peterstrasse, Nürnberg, Bavaria, Germany. Wire netting is covered with a mixture of chalk and honey, with or without glue, for the manufacture of fire-proof theatre decorations.

"HER PERFORMANCE."

The following monologue, with the above title, by Mr. J. H. Wrangham, will be interesting to our readers as dealing with the dramatic career:

"HER PERFORMANC." A DRAMATIC TRIFLE.

Characters.

Joy Despard (a girl who is prematurely old because she has never been young).

Scene: An ordinary set. Accessories: The largest pier glass possible, placed anglewise R., so that the audience can see the reflection in it; large arm-chair facing it. Screen L. When curtain rises, Joy Despard is discovered seated in chair, with her elbows on her knees, regarding her reflection in the mirror. She is singing a verse from Madam Chaumont's "Toujours Amour."

Joy.

That is sentiment, and spells fun and frolic, gay flowers and Paris. This is seriousness and precision, dull, grey, London, and grave issues. Nurse says everything has gone to red ruin—of course, my only friend (looking at mirror), she didn't quite phrase it that way, but she meant it. Daddy, poor old daddy, says the dogs of war are loose. He can't forget he was once a Shakespearean actor; and creditors clamour. He puts an adjective before the creditors. Chère Amie (looking still at the mirror), do you know what that adjective is? No, you don't, so I will tell you. It's a sheep's mother, and the dictionary says the precise appellation for the lambkin's maternal point is dam—D-A-M, dam; and that's what father says, dam creditors, dam the stage, dam the world, dam everything! Only, you see (still looking at mirror), you can't mint dams into coin, and the baker wants coin, the butcher is eager for "ready," the grocer demands oof, and with Nonconformist directness, cash; and our landlady perspires up four flights of stairs twice a day to snare the "oof bird." I wonder if that bird will ever fly again. Daddy is downhearted, and mother is so sick she hasn't heart enough to powder her face; she only wants to die, and in the interval she wants sweetbreads for breakfast in bed and one of Hall Caine's novels, because they remind her of the Bible, and there isn't one in the house. The situation is with me—up till now they have given me everything. A day nurse, a night nurse, Irish lace, and patent milk; after, a convent school; and since then pretty frocks, merry parties, a glance at society, a glimpse at Bohemia; in fact, they have given me all those things nature can dispense with—and now the "debacle." They've chucked up the sponge, so I must do something. The vital question is, what? I don't know enough to be a servant, and my petticoats frou-frou, and my face is clean. Besides, I can't wait; I've never waited for anything in my life, and I shouldn't like to sleep as our Marchioness does, with her head under the sink, though she is the mother of seven. I might be a typewriter, but there is one insuperable obstacle to that—I can't type. There is only one alternative—the stage; and I ought to have "a flair" for it. I was almost born in a green room, and, perchance, cradled on "rose-pink." I can sing, I can dance, I can act. Only daddy says there is no paying talent on the stage that is not in big letters, and there's "sheep's mother" little talent that is as big as its letters. Also (looking in her purse) my whole worldly wealth is eleven denarii and that wont buy many posters. Yet one never knows one's luck. Without money there might be a little niche for me in the temple dedicated to the Cinderella of the Arts. I read the other day that there were four thousand virtuous women on the stage, and four actresses. Now, if I was facile, I might thaw the managerial ice and become an artist. The personality who is called Terry or Bernhardt, Patrick Campbell or Rigane; not Miss Fluking Iron, of the Frivolity, who married a Peer and made a commotion in the Strand, and lived ever after on her one theatric success. I'll do it. To-morrow I will call on Mr. Charles To and Frohmann. I'll sing to him in my best frock and a picture hat. I wonder if this would go. Perhaps it might. I'll do him a Spanish song and dance. (She goes behind screen, and, while changing, repeats last verse. She re-enters in costume, and does her dance. When finished, she once more sits down in front of mirror.)

What do you think of that? Now, one is dead, and another has fled, and the other has not arrived in her stead. Will I do? With my heart on my lips I appeal to the great, big, generous public, who recognise good work, no matter by what medium it is produced; to the self-respecting lovers of art, whether that art is on view at a Dime Museum or the Palace of Dives; to the patrons who make the thorny path of Bohemia rose-scented, who pay their money honestly at the box. The old creeds are dead, the new shibboleths may be as vain, but they are quick. The audiences pay the piper; let them call the tune. Of course, I may fail; probably I shall fail. But I shall have sung and danced to the best of my tiny talent for love's sake—for the sake of those near and dear to me who have fallen by the way. Perhaps the superfine critic thinks Punch has no feelings, as the great Dr. Johnson said of the greater little Mr. Garrick. And why should not a kid, a little kid, fail? Even if it is so, I shall still have a shot in my gun. I should buck up, and say to myself these people have never heard the elocution of heredity, and I should burst into Shakespeare like this, as Rosalind, in *As You Like It*, and have one more hit at their hearts. (She slips on a white dress and bridal headgear.) Did she not say, that jewel of Shakespeare's women:—

"It is not the fashion to see the lady the epilogue, but it is no more unhandsome than to see the lord the prologue. If it be true that good wine needs no bush, 'tis true that a good play needs no epilogue. Yet to good wine they need good bushes, and good plays prove better by the help of good epilogues. What a case am I in that am neither a good epilogue nor cannot insinuate with you on behalf of a good play. I am not furnished like a beggar; therefore, to beg will not become me. My way is to conquer you, and I'll begin with the women. I charge you, O women, for the love you bear to men, to like as much of this play as pleases them. I charge you, O men, for the love you bear to women (as I perceive by your simpering none of you hate them) that between you and the women the play may please. If I were a woman I would kiss as many of you as had beards to please me, complexions that liked me, and breaths that I defied not; and I am sure as many as had good beards, or good faces, or good breaths, will, for my kind offer, when I make curtsey, bid me farewell."

But (and she tears off head-gear) that was Rosalind—that was the Swan of Avon, and I am only a little child, trying hard to do something to help those I love. God help me to succeed. (She falls crying on the chair.)

(Curtain.)

Indispensable! Rayne's "Pocket Date Book." Contents: Map (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various music halls at a glance. Will tell if one hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety. All about artists' luggage, list of clubs, information about stamping contracts, foreign money table, London music halls and theatres, their telephone numbers, list of brougham proprietors, list and address of photographers, size of theatrical printing paper, names and addresses of theatrical railway managers, &c. Price 1s., post free. The proceeds from the sale will be divided equally amongst the two great charities of the dramatic and musical professions, the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

THE "REAL" ATTILA.

Attila's fame, says Sir Edward Creasy, in his "Decisive Battles of the World," has not come down to us through the partial and suspicious medium of chroniclers and poets of his own race. It is not from Hunnish authorities that we learn the extent of his might: it is from his enemies, from the literature and the legends of the nations whom he afflicted with his arms, that we draw the unquestionable evidence of his greatness. Besides the express narratives of Byzantine, Latin, and Gothic writers, we have the strongest proof of the stern reality of Attila's conquests in the extent to which he and his Huns have been the themes of the earliest German and Scandinavian lays. Wild as many of these legends are, they bear concurrent and certain testimony to the awe with which the memory of Attila was regarded by the bold warriors who composed and delighted in them. Attila's exploits, and the wonders of his unearthly steed and magic sword, repeatedly occur in the Sagas of Norway and Iceland; and the celebrated Niebelungen Lied, the most ancient of Germanic poetry, is full of them. There Etsel, or Attila, is described as the wearer of twelve mighty crowns, and as promising to his bride the lands of thirty kings, whom his irresistible sword has subdued. He is, in fact, the hero of the latter part of this remarkable poem; and it is at his capital city, Etselenburgh, which evidently corresponds to the modern Buda, that much of its action takes place.

When we turn from the legendary to the historic Attila, we see clearly that he was not one of the vulgar herd of barbaric conquerors. Consummate military skill may be traced in his campaigns; and he relied far less on the brute force of armies for the aggrandisement of his empire, than on the unbounded influence over the affections of friends and the fears of foes which his genius enabled him to acquire. Austerely sober in his private life, severely just on the judgment-seat, conspicuous among a nation of warriors for hardihood, strength, and skill in every martial exercise, grave and deliberate in counsel, but rapid and remorseless in execution, he gave safety and security to all who were under his dominion, while he waged a warfare of extermination against all who opposed or sought to escape from it. He watched the national passions, the prejudices, the creeds, and the superstitions of the varied nations over which he ruled, and of those which he sought to reduce beneath his sway: all these feelings he had the skill to turn to his own account. His own warriors believed him to be the inspired favourite of their deities, and followed him with fanatic zeal: his enemies looked on him as the pre-appointed minister of Heaven's wrath against themselves; and, though they believed not in his creed, their own made them tremble before him.

In one of his early campaigns, he appeared before his troops with an ancient iron sword in his grasp, which he told them was the god of war whom their ancestors had worshipped. It is certain that the nomadic tribes of Northern Asia, whom Herodotus described under the name of Scythians, from the earliest times worshipped as their god a bare sword. That sword-god was supposed, in Attila's time to have disappeared from earth; but the Hunnish king now claimed to have received it by special revelation. It was said that a herdsman, who was tracking in the desert a wounded heifer by the drops of blood, found the mysterious sword standing fixed in the ground, as if it had been darted down from heaven. The herdsman bore it to Attila, who thenceforth was believed by the Huns to wield the Spirit of Death in battle; and the seers prophesied that that sword was to destroy the world. A Roman, who was on an embassy to the Hunnish camp, recorded in his memoirs Attila's acquisition of this supernatural weapon, and the immense influence over the minds of the barbaric tribes which its possession gave him. In the title which he assumed, we shall see the skill with which he availed himself of the legends and creeds of other nations as well as of his own. He designated himself "ATTILA, descendant of the Great Nimrod. Nurtured in Engaddi. By the Grace of God, King of the Huns, the Goths, the Danes, and the Medes. The Dread of the World."

Herbert states that Attila is represented on an old medallion with a Teraphim, or a head, on his breast; and the same writer adds: "We know, from the 'Hamartigenea' of Prudentius, that Nimrod, with a snaky-haired head, was the object of adoration to the heretical followers of Marcion; and the same head was the palladium set up by Antiochus Epiphanes over the gates of Antioch, though it had been called the visage of Charon. The memory of Nimrod was certainly regarded with mystic veneration by many; and by asserting himself to be the heir of that mighty hunter before the Lord, he vindicated to himself at least the whole Babylonian kingdom.

"The singular assertion in his style, that he was nurtured in Engaddi, where he certainly had never been, will be more easily understood on reference to the twelfth chapter of the Book of Revelation, concerning the woman clothed with the sun, who was to bring forth in the wilderness—'where she hath a place prepared of God'—a man-child, who was to contend with the dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and rule all nations with a rod of iron. This prophecy was at that time understood universally by the sincere Christians to refer to the birth of Constantine, who was to overwhelm the paganism of the city on the seven hills, and it is still so explained; but it is evident that the heathens must have looked on it in a different light, and have regarded it as a foretelling of the birth of that Great One who should master the temporal power of Rome. The assertion, therefore, that he was nurtured in Engaddi, is a claim to be looked upon as that man-child who was to be brought forth in a place prepared of God in the wilderness. Engaddi means, a place of palms and vines, in the desert; it was hard by Zoar, the city of refuge, which was saved in the vale of Siddim, or Demons, when the rest were destroyed by fire and brimstone from the Lord in heaven, and might, therefore, be especially called a place prepared of God in the wilderness."

It is obvious enough why he styled himself "By the Grace of God, King of the Huns and Goths"; and it seems far from difficult to see why he added the names of the Medes and the Danes. His armies had been engaged in warfare against the Persian kingdom of the Sassanidæ; and it is certain that he meditated the attack and overthrow of the Medo-Persian power. Probably some of the northern provinces of that kingdom had been compelled to pay him tribute; and this would account for his styling himself King of the Medes, they being his remotest subjects to the south. From a similar cause he may have called himself King of the Danes, as his power may well have extended northwards as far as the nearest of the Scandinavian nations; and this mention of Medes and Danes as his subjects would serve at once to indicate the vast extent of his dominion.

The extensive territory north of the Danube and Black Sea, and eastward of Caucasus, over which Attila ruled, first in conjunction with his brother Bleda, and afterwards alone, cannot be very accurately defined; but it must have comprised within it, besides the Huns, many nations of Slavic, Gothic, Teutonic, and Finnish origin. South also of the Danube, the country from the river Sau as far as Novi in Thrace was a Hunnish province. Such was the empire of the Huns in A.D. 445; a memorable year, in which Attila founded Buda on the Danube as his capital city; and ridded himself of his brother by a crime, which seems to have been prompted not only by selfish ambition, but also by a desire of turning to his purpose the legends and forebodings which then were universally spread throughout the Roman empire, and must have been well known to the watchful and ruthless Hun.

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S. GOODMAN, Proprietor.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Musical and other London Attractions, Nov. 25, Dec. 2, Jan. 6, 13, and big Panto. for Xmas. FRED GRANVILLE, Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Big Musical Attractions, Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 11, Dec. 9, 23, Radcliffe; also Nov. 4, 11, 18, Dec. 2 Chorley. Good Panto. New Year Week. SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-Class Musical Attractions, Nov. 25, Dec. 2, Jan. 6.
Good Companies can rely upon big business.
JAMES BELL.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, a First-Class Pantomime, for Xmas, vacant through obliging Mr. C. Constant.
Address,
GEO. CONQUEST.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Garrison Theatre, Bordon Camp, Sept. 30, Oct. 14, and various, on.
Good Companies can do Good Business. Refer Miss Grace Warner, Mr. Ernest Abbott, Miss Maude Western, &c. Wire or write, MAY, Manager.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, good Companies, Oct. 17, on, three nights.
Apply J. RITSON, General-Man.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, really First-class Attractions, musical preferred, for Dec. 23, Jan. 27, and Feb. 3.
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, Special and Suitable Attraction for Christmas Week.
Silence a negative.
SIDNEY COOPER.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, good Companies, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, and Dec. 2, also 3 nights, Oct. 31. Bookings this year include "The Belle of Mayfair," "The Earl and the Girl," "Florodora," "Leah Kleschna," "Lucky Durham," "The Shulamite," "The Christian" (second visit), "Silver King" (second visit), "His House in Order," "No Man's Land" (second visit), "Seal of Silence" (second visit), "Worst Woman in London," "King of Thieves," "Beautiful Fiend," F. B. Woulfe's Répertoire (second visit), "Grip of Iron," "Face at the Window," "Mockery of Marriage," A. E. Smith's Pantos. (third year), &c., &c. Vacant Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Dec. 2, and Oct. 31 (3 nights). Address, GERALD HARDING

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Dec. 16, onward, with exceptions.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Nov. 25, Dec. 16, onward, with exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Nov. 4, 18, Dec. 2, onward, with exceptions.

THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY DOCK.
Vacant Dec. 2, 16, Jan. 13, 27, onward, with exceptions.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Sept. 25, Oct. 3, 10, onward, with exceptions (Last three nights of each week.)

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Sept. 30, Oct. 21, onward, with exceptions.

ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre, the Fashionable Theatre. The only Theatre in the town allowed to advertise on the electric cars. Lighted throughout by electricity. Brilliant success of after entire re-building. Press and public enthusiastic. Described as the most beautiful Theatre in the North.
Holding capacity second to none in the town. Bookings include: "The Dairymaids," Mr. James Welch's Co. in "When Knights were Bold," Miss Annie Hughes in "Tommy," Mr. Norman Macowan in "Monsieur Beaucaire," "The Little Stranger" (including Master Edward Garrett), "A Trip to the Highlands," Mr. Walter Maxwell's Co., "The Lion and the Mouse" (third visit), Mr. Charles Cartwright and Co., "In the Bishop's Carriage," Mr. Frederick Mouillot's Co., including Miss Decima Moore, in "The Truth," Mr. Percy Hutchison's No. 1 Company, "The Stronger Sex," Mr. Brandon Thomas' No. 1 Company, "Charley's Aunt," Mr. Walter Melville's Drama, Mr. Frank Lindo's "Home, Sweet Home," Mr. Morton Powell's Companies, Mr. Edward Marris's Co., "The English Rose," and Mr. Lawrence Brough in "The Lady of Ostend," &c., &c.
WANTED, Exceptional Attractions. Only vacant dates this year, Oct. 28 (through transfer), Nov. 25, Dec. 30, Jan. 6, 20, Feb. 3, 24, and various onwards.
CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H.M.T., Barrow.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, March 16 (?), 30 (?), April 6, 13, 20, on.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE, Oct. 21, Dec. 2, 16, Jan. 13, 27, Feb. 3, 10.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
Lessees, W. PAYNE SEDDON and ERNEST POPE.
WANTED, Good Companies, for three nights, Dec. 2, and on, Musical Comedy and Light Attractions first three days, and Dramas the last three days of each week; Good Pantomime for a week in January.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

TOWN HALL, RUGBY.
Now the only place of entertainment in Rugby. Exclusively booked by Messrs. Seddon and Robertson. Wanted, Good Fit-up and other Companies, for immediate dates.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
All season dates complete.
The resident population being only 13,000, the Spa Theatre will only be opened for special occasions throughout the winter months.
Wanted, Good Pantomime, for Jan. or Feb.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

DUMFRIES AND HAWICK.
Only vacant date this year, Sept. 30.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Vacant Oct. 14 or 21, and Dec. 2.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
All bookings complete for this year.
(See Wanted to Sell Column.)
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
WANTED, First-Class Pantomime Production, for four weeks' run, commencing Dec. 23.
The above Theatre is one of the best Pantomime houses in the North, and Managers meaning business can on application see receipts of former productions.
Address, with full particulars, to
R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Attractions Touring Scotland to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, N.B.
Vacant dates, apply to Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, Best Companies, for Coliseum, Aberystwyth, Sept. 23, 24, and 25, Oct. 14, onwards, three nights. Wire, PHILLIPS.

WANTED, for County Hall, St. Albans, good Cos., with own scenery, two nights; permanent proscenium, act drop. Sharing terms. A. ROWDEN.

WANTED, Good Dramatic Attraction, for Sept. 30, Oct. 14, 28, and onwards, with exceptions. Write, CHAPMAN, New Standard Theatre, Hetton.

WANTED, good Attractions for Sept. 23, 30, and onwards; business good. Refer "Beautiful Fiend" Co. LIDDLE, Theatre Royal, Thornley, Durham.

WANTED, good sound Dramas, with Printing, for Stock, Park Palace and Muncaster, Bootle. ALBERT SLINGER, Park Palace, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Nov. 14 (3 nights), 25, Dec. 9, onwards, New Tower Pavilion, Portobello, N.B. HARRY MARVELLO, Sole Proprietor.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The most successful Play produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Nov. 4 and 11, in First-Class Theatres only.
Wire or write, W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, weeks of Dec. 30 and Jan. 6.
Wire or write, W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" and "THE OCTOROON."
"Uncle Tom's Cabin."—This charming and pathetic story has never failed, and, judging from last night's magnificent house, the piece is likely to have a singularly successful run at the Gaiety.—Irish Times, Dublin.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 7, 14, Nov. 11, Xmas.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Theatre Royal, Deal.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 2, Jan. 6, 13, 20.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 3, 10, 17, 1908. Apply,
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 9, 23, Feb. 3.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 2, 23, and 30.
FREDERICK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 25, Dec. 2 and 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatre, Sept. 16.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 9, Feb. 17.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 9, 23, 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 23, Feb. 3, 17, March 2, 23.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Theatre Royal, St. Helens.

"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
WANTED, Dec. 30.
Address, J. W. CORDINER, Theatre Royal, Dover.
See Companies Advertisement, page 2.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Oct. 28 and Dec. 9.
Address, J. W. CORDINER, Theatre Royal, Dover.
See Companies' Advertisement, page 2.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Nov. 11 and 25, Xmas and New Year's Week Vacant.
Communications to DOUGLAS TREMAYNE, Theatre Royal, Batley.

WANTED, Known, Miss Mary Neil is now Rapidly Booking her New Play, "FROM SHOP-GIRL TO DUCHESS," by Charles Darrell.
Communications to GEORGE KIRK, Theatre Royal, Batley.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
Mr. David James as the Rev. Robert Spalding.
WANTED, Oct. 7, 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25, Dec. 23, 30. Managers with above dates kindly write, E. C. STAFFORD, Sept. 16, O. H., Jersey.

"A NIGHT OFF."
MR. ARDENE LINDEN'S CO.
WANTED, for this successful Farcical Comedy, good Theatres for weeks of Jan. 6, 20, 27, Feb. 3, and on.
"A NIGHT OFF," from Daly's Theatre, No Amateurs; all experienced Artists.
Address, 11, Dibble-road, Smethwick.

"MICE AND MEN."
"MICE AND MEN."
WANTED, Sept. 30, and onward dates.
"LA POUPEE."
"LA POUPEE."
Wanted, Sept. 30, unexpectedly vacant.
HERBERT RALLAND, Theatre Royal, Brighton.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY and MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO., in the highly successful Comedy, "MY WIFE," "MY WIFE."
Now playing to crowded houses at the HAYMARKET THEATRE, LONDON.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Sept. 30, Sept. 30, Nov. 11.
Wire, Mr. S. DAUNCEY, O. H., Tunbridge Wells.

MRS. ANN HUGHES' COMPANY, in the New Comic Opera, "THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
The Latest and Greatest Musical Attraction. Everything carried.
WANTED, Oct. 7, between New Theatre, Oxford, and Southend, also Nov. 4 and Early Spring.
This, Hawick; next, Berwick-on-Tweed and Durham. All communications to MRS. ANN HUGHES.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this successful Attraction, Oct. 21, Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 16, 23, 30, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27.
Easter, Whit, and Christmas, 1908, vacant.

Sept. 16, Lyceum, Pentre (R.).

"THE ROAD TO FORTUNE,"
A Military Drama in Five Acts.
New scenery by E. Banks, Imperial Theatre, S.W.
Printing by David Allen and Sons, &c.
WANTED, Theatres, Xmas, Dec. 23. Vacant Xmas, Dec. 23, Dec. 30, on.
STANLEY ARTHUR, Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Theatres, "The Youngest of Three" and "Sir George of Alnack's," Nov. 4 and 11, also Dec. 2 (between Blackpool and Kingston).
WYN WEAVER, 10, King-street, W.C.

H. RALPH KIMPTON'S
Specially Selected Company,
"HIS HOUSE IN ORDER." Everything carried.
WANTED, Nov. 11, between Perth and Liverpool; Nov. 25, between Manchester and Birmingham. Wire at once, to-day, T. R., Lincoln; next week, King's, Gainsborough.

LIONEL GLENISTER and WOOD-INGRAM present Miss KATE CUTLER in "ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY."
WANTED, Oct. 21 and Nov. 11, only vacant dates. Comm., J. W. WOOD-INGRAM, T. R., Margate.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Oct. 14 (South), also Oct. 28.
Wire, MARRIS, O. H., Jersey.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Good Theatres for "Floradora" (with Fred Eastman), Oct. 7, to follow Glasgow, Nov. 18 or 25, London or South. For "The Belle of New York," Nov. 4, follow Sunderland. J. B. HOWARD, 15, Clifford's-inn, Fleet-street.

"HIS DISHONOURED WIFE."
"HIS DISHONOURED WIFE."
An emphatic Success.
Again turning money away, Gaiety, Dundee.
WANTED, Oct. 21, Dec. 30, and various on.
HARRY TILBURY, Grand, Walsall.

MESSRS. ELLIMAN'S ENTERPRISES.
"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, Sept. 23, also 30, through transferring, on, with exceptions, for this sound Attraction. Wire for 23rd. Printing ready. C. ELLIMAN, Theatre, Hetton-le-Hole.

"HIS SISTER'S HONOUR,"
by Eva Elwes.
A consistent successful money-maker.
Refer W. D. Forsdike, Esq., Alex., Sheffield.
WANTED, Big Theatre, Oct. 21, to precede T. R., Leeds.
Wire, E. A'DELL, Pier, Teignmouth, Devon.

STANLEY CARLTON'S CO.
WANTED, Theatres, "A Secret Wedding." Vacant Sept. 23, Oct. 7 and 25 (?). Wire for Sept. 23. This, Chorley; next, Glossop.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, good Theatres, Sept. 30, Oct. 7.
Miss EDITH BLAND as NINON.
HARRY FOXWELL, Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

MISS DORA DENCH'S CO., "A PRINCE OF ROGUES." Playing to splendid business.
WANTED, Oct. 7, 21, 28, and Xmas.
DENCH, Metropole, Hoyland.

THEATRES WANTED.

ALFRED B. CROSS' TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
Supported by Miss Watersford (Mrs. Cross), and Powerful Company. Sixth Year of Tour.

WANTED, Oct. 14 and 21, and few Later, "DIVORCED," and "DAVID GARRICK," if required. Both Solid Successes.
Sept. 16, Public Hall, Colwyn Bay (3); Sept. 19, Palace T., Rhyl (3).

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, Oct. 21 (three nights), Oct. 21 (3), Nov. 4, 25.
Cast, Scenery, and Printing A1. Refer.
Frank Ayrton,
Metropole Theatre, Abertillery.

MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S CO.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 7, 14, New Year, Jan. 6, Feb. 10, 17, onwards.
Address, Armadale and Warren,
Grand Theatre, Luton.

COWPER-SMITH AND DOUGLAS PAYNE'S CO.
"SUCH A NICE GIRL."
Irresponsible Musical Absurdity, in two Acts.
Enormous Success this week at Shrewsbury.
A merry and bright entertainment, delighting every part of the house.
Catchy Songs, Clever Dances, Racy Humour.
Splendid Cast, including:
Ross Bennett, Maude Percival, Amy Fanchette, and the Smart Set Girls Quartette, C. Lionel Brocknor, Henry Ainsworth, and Mark Lester.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 28.
Wanted, Theatres, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 28.
Wanted, Theatres, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 28.
Wanted, Theatres, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 28.
Douglas Payne,
1, Elmfield-road, Bromley, Kent.

LINGFORD CARSON'S SUCCESSES.
By Geo. A. De Gray.
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS"
and
"A FIGHT FOR A THRONE."
WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, Nov. 25, Dec. 30, Oct. 7, 14, Nov. 25, Dec. 30.
Geo. A. De Gray,
Theatre Royal, Aston, Birmingham.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Theatre, Nov. 18, through transferring to oblige a Manager; only First-class Theatre entertained. Also New Year's week Vacant, few Autumn, 1908, and Spring, 1909. Guaranteed to be the Greatest Success ever Produced by this Firm. Beautifully dressed and mounted. Refer. Wire for Nov. 18 to F. G. Kimberley, Alexandra T., Sheffield.

The MONCKTON HOFFE COMEDY COMPANY.
By arrangement with Mr. George Alexander.
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST,"
"LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN."
WANTED, Oct. 7, Midlands, Oct. 14 (?), Dec. 9 and 16, Feb. 3 (North), Autumn, 1908.
Ralph Wollaston Hutton, Royalty, Glasgow.

"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
From the Lyceum Theatre, London.
WANTED, Jan. 20, 27, Lancs, Yorks, or South; also for North Company, Dec. 16, Jan. 27, March 16, 23.
Paumier and Howard,
Metropole Theatre, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18. Fred Bulmer, Royal West London Theatre, W.

WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, 21, Nov. 4, 11, for "THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."
Wire, Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

HARDIE AND VON LEER'S CO.
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Oct. 7 and 21 (North).
E. P. Clift, 110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Wires, "Vagancy, London." 'Phone Gerrard 7504.

"A BROKEN HEART."
WANTED, Good Theatre, Oct. 28.
Harry Foxwell, Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY.
"THE BEST OF HER SEX."
The Dramatic Success of 1907. Another big hit at T. R., Chesterfield, this week. Refer to H. Armstrong, Esq.
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 14, 21, and onwards, with exceptions.
Wire for Sept. 30.
William A. Armour, to-day, T. R., Chesterfield; next, Altrincham (3); Crewe (3).

"LIGHTS OF LONDON."
"LIGHTS OF LONDON."
"LIGHTS OF LONDON."
WANTED, Sept. 30.
Wanted, Sept. 30.
Wanted, Sept. 30.
Midlands or South. Wire, to-day, H. Hollister, Brixton Theatre; Monday, T. R., Sheffield.

"A TRIP TO THE HIGHLANDS" CO.
One of the most successful Musical Comedies ever produced. Cast includes Mr. Wall Croft (in his original character), Messrs. Willie Scott, Frank Barclay, Harry A. Gribben, James Sommerville, and the wonderful boy piper, Connor, &c.; Misses Nellie Burdette, Grace Desmond, Clara Moore, Kate Dobie, &c., &c., powerful Chorus, and Miss Isa Bowman (in her original character).
WANTED, through misunderstanding, Oct. 7 (North) and Nov. 25 (Lancashire); a few Spring Dates vacant. Address, Wellesley Smith, General-Manager, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

WANTED, for "The Woman Pays," Oct. 14 (North or Scotland), Dec. 2, 23, 30. A play that will pack any theatre. Refer Sherwood and Co., O. H., Wakefield.
F. M. Thorne, T. R., Consett.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 7 and 14, various onward dates.
A most desirable attraction, perfect in detail.
Now playing series of season Seaside dates to our usual excellent business.
Three splendid nights so far at Southend.
Refer by permission Mr. Angless.
A fine play. Miss Loie Esmond's company has been drawing large audiences to the Pier Pavilion. "The Sorrows of Satan" is a difficult book to dramatise, but it has been done successfully. The dialogue is thrilling and the play has weirdness and depth of imagination which has scarcely ever been equalled.—Echo, Sept. 12.
Wire to-day, Loie Esmond, Pier Pavilion, Southend. Sept. 16, Ryde and Ventnor (three nights each).

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S CO.
"THE TRAITOR."
WANTED, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2, 9, and onwards.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, Court Theatre, Wigan.

WANTED, Oct. 7, for Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer, in Répertoire, unexpectedly vacant. Address, Saturday, Theatre, Littlehampton; Mon., Palace Pier, Brighton.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 14, Oct. 14.
A Brilliant Success Everywhere.
Miss Annie Bell as Flare-Flare.
Wire, James Bell, T. R., Darlington.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7. Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7.
John B. Shinton,
Lyceum T., Govan.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Oct. 14 (South), also Oct. 28. Wire, Marris, O. H., Jersey.

WANTED, Sept. 23 and 30, for Thomas Thorne and Company. Wire, Russell Rosse, Opera House, Londonderry.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY"
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
The Latest and Enormously Successful Musical Comedy.
Special New Scenery. Gorgeous costumes.
Splendid cast.
Full London Operatic Chorus.
WANTED, for this Strong Attraction, Sept. 30, Sept. 30, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, Oct. 7.
to precede Glasgow; also Nov. 11 and 18.
Managers wanting a sound, reliable show, are requested to apply for dates. Refer Mr. H. W. Player, Manager T. R., Merthyr, as to the merits of the show. Wire re Sept. 30, Hamilton Baines, Theatre Royal, Merthyr; next, Queen's Theatre, Swindon.
Head Office, Burslem.
Telephone 428. House 600.

DOTTRIDGE, LONGDEN, AND WILLARD'S
"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."
"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."
"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."
"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."
Beating all its previous records.
One of the Strongest Companies Touring.
Including Miss Mildred Carr,
Mr. F. Evison,
Mr. George Harvard,
Mr. Charles H. Longden
is personally touring with this Company.
The wonderful drawing play
Has been beating all its prior records.
Everywhere is received with enthusiasm.
Magnificent production. A No. 1 Company.
Is without doubt a big draw.
Don't fail to book this great success.
Never known what bad business is.
Immediate big houses a certainty.
Guaranteed success is seldom given.
This, however, is certain with T. M. M.
Managers, ask your brother managers,
And you will quickly learn that
Impossible to find a better play,
Loaded with such good things.
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Dates Oct. 7, 14, 21, Nov. 4, 11, 25.
Wire, Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Theatres, "SAVED FROM THE SEA," by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck, Vacant Sept. 23, Xmas week. "THE LOVE THAT LASTS FOR EVER," by Edward Thane; Vacant Sept. 23, 30, Xmas week. "AS GOOD AS GOLD," by Fred S. Jennings. "LOVE'S CROSS ROADS," by Frederick Somers.
Vacant Sept. 30, Xmas week.
Apply,
Samuel James, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

WANTED, Theatres, for Miss Frances Delaval's Co. "HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae. "THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by F. A. Scudamore. Vacant Sept. 30, Dec. 30. Wire, Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield; next week, T. R., Ilkeston.

WILLIAM HOLLES AND NANNIE GOLDMAN'S CO., the Great Domestic Drama by Arthur Shirley,
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
Enormous Success Everywhere. Refer Managers, Oldham; Junction, Manchester; Keighley; Grand, Middlesbrough, &c., &c.
WANTED, for this Great Attraction, Oct. 7, 21, 28. Wire, William Holles, this, T. R., Leicester; next, Grand, Glasgow.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Renowned Attraction, Good Theatres for weeks of
Sept. 30,
Oct. 21, 28,
Nov. 4, 11, 25.
Address, C. and F. Renad, Opera House, Wakefield.

SIDNEY RENNEF'S COMPANY.
"LOVE RULES THE WORLD," by T. G. Bailey.
WANTED, Jan. 27, Feb. 10, 24 (North), March 30. Bookings include Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, Newcastle, Coatbridge, Leith, Blyth, Stanley, Warrington. G. M. Copping, Grand, Kilmarnock (3); Gaiety, Ayr (3).

"FAIR ONE WITH GOLDEN LOCKS."
WANTED, First-Class Theatre, Feb. 3, North, for above Pantomime.
Stanley Rogers, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
H. Hamilton Stewart in Title-rôle.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 23, and on, with exceptions. Walter J. Baylis, Pier, Herne Bay (3), Ramsgate (3).

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, Dec. 23, 30.
Henry L. Osmond, T. R., North Shields.

"AT BREAK OF DAY,"
by W. Bailey, jun., and Chas. Berte, Authors of "A City of Millions." A First-Class Company, including Mr. Cyril Vernon as Richard Thornecroft, Miss M. E. Ellis as Henrietta Stubbs. Fine printing by David Allen. Everything carried.
WANTED, Oct. 7, 21, on. Address, A. D. Vernon, T. R., Peterborough.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Oct. 14 (South), also Oct. 28. Wire, Marris, O. H., Jersey.

"THE GRIP OF IRON" No. 1 Company.
WANTED, Nov. 18 (vacant through misunderstanding), Eastern Counties, Midlands, or London, March 2, 9 (Midlands or South), May 4, 11 (Lancs. or Yorks.), Whit Week (London). only vacant dates till Aug., 1908. Apply, H. H. Knight, 7, The Crescent, Barnes, S.W.

WANTED, Feb. 3 and 10, at First-class Theatres only, for a First-class Pantomime.
Please communicate, J. F. Elliston, Bolton.

WANTED, a few Dates, for the J. MAUNDY-GREGORY COMPANIES.
See Companies Column. J. T Grein says:—"Lights Out," a play which borders on greatness.

"WHEN OTHER LIPS."
WANTED, Theatres. Will Managers kindly take first opportunity of seeing the above? As business men, it will pay them. Seen by Messrs. Coulson Friday last, booked Saturday morning for first vacant date. Address, T. Arthur Jones, Seaham Harbour.

"FROM SCOTLAND YARD."
WANTED, Oct. 7, 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25. Fred Bulmer, Royal West London T., W.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, 18, Xmas. Fred Bulmer, Royal West London T., W.

"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
WANTED, Oct. 7, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2. Fred Bulmer, Royal West London T., W.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE LOVE OF A LIFE."
A Big Success Everywhere.
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 14, 21. John B. Shinton, Lyceum T., Govan. Thanks Messrs. J. E. Page and Fred Gould for Contracts.

THE LOYAL DOMINION ANIMATED PICTURE CO.
Now in tenth week of second season at the Grand Pavilion, Royal Prince's-parade, Bridlington (under contract with the Corporation).
WANTED, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 10, 24, Dec. 9 and 16. All latest Pictures produced; change twice weekly; Vocalists, &c.; own electric plant carried; good stock Printing; sure success; Share, Rental, or Certainty.
Apply, Manager, Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

FABBRO'S ELECTRIC SINGING PICTURES (Gaumont's Chronophone) and High-Class Vaudeville Company.
WANTED, good Theatres, Sept. 30, Oct. 14 and 21, and Nov. 11. Wire, Hartley, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Oct. 21, big Theatre or Music Hall, for McKenzie and Collinson's Combination of Premier Variety Turns, with the biggest aggregation ever toured as a Variety Combination, including "The Belle of Barcelona," "The Topsy-Turvy School," and "The Club Raid," and seven First-Class Turns.
WANTED, Oct. 21, 21, 21. Wire to-day, Varieties, Leeds; write, Metropole, Manchester.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
Tremendous,
Tremendous Success
in
Manchester.
A Brilliant Triumph
in
Liverpool.
One of the most daring and successful Plays ever written,
The finest Religious Play ever Staged.
Unlike any other Play.
It stands alone.
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
Has been toured continuously for one year and eight months.
It creates a sensation in every town.
Packs the Theatre nightly.
Example of what the Play does:
For
Nine Weeks in the Summer
the Receipts went up nightly.
Can any other Play show the same?
Managers
will gladly be furnished with particulars.
Why
does
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
draw such terrific business?
Because
the Play is a Novelty.
Deals with a great question in a great manner.
Is acted by a Company
second to none.
Read the names:
Mrs. MORTON POWELL as Helena Byars.
Miss DOROTHY HILDEBRAND as Gracie Goldeye.
Mr. FRANK PENNANT as Rev. Basil Gortre.
Mr. CUTHBERT IMRIE as Constantine Schawle.
Mr. EDWARD VALENTINE as Sir Robert Llewellyn.
Mr. CHAS. O'CONNOR as Harold Spence.
Mr. ERNEST ST. JOHN as Rev. Mr. Byars.
Mr. LIONEL WEST as The Hon. Charley Gayfly.
Mr. R. B. DRYSDALE as Nunc Wallace,
and
Miss BEATRICE MAY as Gertrude Hunt,
supported by a full company of experienced artists.
The Production is a perfect one.
The Production is a perfect one.
The advertising in the hands of experts.
Making altogether
one of the best and most successful Productions ever toured.
one of the best and most successful Productions ever toured.
Do we take the money?
Do we take the money?
Ask
the following Managers:
Robert Arthur, Esq., John Hart, Esq., Cecil Paget, Esq., H. G. D. Bennett, Esq., William Bailey, Esq., Fredk. Morgan, Esq. W. W. Kelly, Esq., Percy B. Broadhead, Esq., J. W. Boughton, Esq., Fredk. Mouillot, Esq., H. W. Rollands, Esq., Ernest Carpenter, Esq., H. J. Worswick, Esq., Frank Macnaghten, Esq., H. S. Howard, Esq., Messrs. Waddington,
or any theatre we visit.
What does the Press say?
What does the Press say?
A play in ten thousand.—Bristol Magpie.
Stands alone as a daringly original play.—Hastings Advertiser.
Appeals with irresistible force to the emotions.—Bristol.
It is one of the most vigorous plays which have been placed before the public of late years, and moreover it is a play with a purpose.—Folkestone Express.
Is elevating in tone.—Folkestone Express (second notice).
It is therefore a high compliment to the adaptation to record that the ordeal was encountered with success and without violation of the most sensitive nerves.—South London Observer.
The daring originality of the plot, the wonderful word colouring, the powerful characterisation, and the general high tone of the work at once seized upon the public.—Weekly Review.
It is one of the most interesting plays of recent years. . . . It is a piece which holds the house, which fascinates, which leads to deep reflection by all who see it. The theme is entirely novel, the piece brilliantly staged, and the acting superb.—Folkestone Herald.
From the rise to the fall of the curtain the interest of each incident is most absorbing.—Brighton Times.
Constitutes one of the most portentous subjects a dramatist has ever had to handle.—Brighton Standard.
The story is living and soul-stirring in the fullest sense. . . . The dialogue is brilliant and effective.—Bristol.
It will prove a democratic success. . . . It is powerful and original. . . . The general treatment of the subject is full of vigour and effectiveness.—Sheffield Independent.
And that opinion must be that a more remarkable, brilliantly-conceived, interesting, and in a great measure educative play one has not seen for many a day.—Daily Telegraph, Coventry.
The play is a most remarkable one. . . . that it is admirably conceived and is as educative as it is interesting.—Crewe Guardian.
The play must be pronounced a success.—Eastern Mail.
The subject matter is unconventional and even startling. . . . and certainly forms one of the most powerful sermons ever preached from the stage.—Southend Echo.
It is a remarkable play. . . . the daring vivid originality of the play. . . . It is an absorbing production.—Staffordshire Sentinel.
One of the most powerfully tragic of stories.—Blackpool Gazette.
It is a work of remarkable power, thrilling human, and above all a play with a moral.—Blackpool Herald.
One of the most thrilling plays extant.—Blackpool Times.
The play is a most enthralling one.—Birkenhead News.
A remarkable play. . . . It is a most striking production.—Wigan Examiner.
A play that should be seen. . . . A really remarkable play.—Portsmouth News.
A play of excellent qualities.—Hampshire Post, Portsmouth.
Fascinated by the striking and daring incidents . . . it is a truly wonderful story, and no one can see "When it Was Dark" without feeling and being the better for it.—Hampshire Advertiser.
There can be no difference of opinion as to the moral effect of such a play. . . . It is a thrilling story. . . . It is a powerful play.—Southampton Times.
Scores of others to the same effect.
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
has the
support of the Pulpit;
support of the Pulpit;
has the
support of the Press;
support of the Press;
has the
support of the Public.
support of the Public.
Vacant.
Vacant,
Nov. 4, 11, 25.
Nov. 4, 11, 23.
Spring Dates, 1908.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
Nov. 7, 8, 9, 3 nights, Nov. 11, six nights, Nov. 28, 29, 30, Dec. 2, six nights.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates, through change of route, Oct. 7, 14, Oct. 21, 22, 23, Oct. 28.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates for this Brilliant Success, Dec. 23, Jan. 6, 13, 20, and later.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Dates, for this Powerful Drama, Oct. 21, Dec. 23, Jan. 6, 20, 27.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

THEATRES WANTED.

HERBERT DARNLEY'S MONEY-MAKER.
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."
WANTED, Sept. 30, Sept. 30, and onwards, for this great money-making Play.
Production success unprecedented.
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE" draws the women.
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE" contains Comedy the audience shriek at.
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE" causes argument.
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE." contains speeches which gain thunders of applause.
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE" contains situations which make the whole audience sob.
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE" appeals to stalls and gallery.
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE" has a company of well-paid Artists, including
Miss LOUIE ADAIR
as the Mother
and
HERBERT DARNLEY'S DOTS
(with Little Winnie Crisp, the most wonderful child dancer on the stage) in important parts.
Miss Loule Adair,
Miss Daisy Byford, Miss Beatrice Lett,
Miss Dora Crisp, Miss Pauline,
Mr. Chas. Douglas Cox, Mr. Hubert Stimson,
Mr. Reginald Payne, Master Jack Crisp,
Mr. Cecil Churton, Mr. F. Fosdyke,
Mr. F. Roberts.
and
Herbert Darnley's Dots, including
LITTLE WINNIE CRISP.
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."
New Theatre, Oxford.
Address, Herbert Darnley.

MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"ROLLICKING RORY."
Unanimous Opinion:
A Rollicking, Roaring Success.
Proof
(unsolicited),
Underlined Four Weeks Ahead of Visit, on all Daybills, &c., at Princess's, Glasgow.
This week at Kilmarnock,
Manager Major Ward says:—An artistic triumph.
No vacant dates this year.
No vacant dates this year.
No vacant dates this year.
WANTED, for a few Spring Dates still vacant, to hear from
Managers of No. 1 Theatres,
with No. 1 Terms.
for this undoubted No. 1 Attraction.
Chalmers Mackey,
Sept. 16, Princess's, Glasgow, Six Nights.

The New Version of
"THE LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
"THE LIFE OF A SHOWMAN,"
the unique Circus Drama,
is a gigantic Success.
Refer, by permission, to Mr. C. Revill, Stockport, or any Theatre visited.
WANTED, First-Class Theatre, only vacant date this year Oct. 28 (Midlands); also Jan. 13, 27, and various onwards.
Geo. Testo Sante,
To-day, Workington; next, H. M. T., Carlisle.

HARTWELL J. KIRBY'S CO.
Cast of thoroughly Competent Artists, including the Favourite Actress, Miss V. St. Lawrence, with the Successful Melodrama.
"MAN'S ENEMY; OR, THE LOVE THAT WON."
WANTED, Sept. 23, Vacant, between West Bromwich and Croydon.
Sept. 23, Sept. 23.
Wire. Wire. Wire. Wire.
Martin Comstock, Prince's, Blackburn.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Oct. 14 (South), also Oct. 28. Wire, Marris, O. H., Jersey.

WANTED, Sept. 23, 30, Nov. 4, 18, "UNDER TWO FLAGS." Mark Blow, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, Regent's Park, London.

ARTISTS WANTED.

ROBERT ARTHUR'S "ROB ROY" PRODUCTION.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, for four weeks certain, New Year production, Dundee and Aberdeen, really first-class Tenor and Soprano, for Francis and Diana. Terms, photos. (if not known to me), height, and all particulars, to John Clyde, 21, Great Western-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Clever Young Actress, pretty and capable of light and shade; good Actor, for strong character and second heavies; versatile Juvenile Gentleman, capable of Comedy; Chambermaid, and Useful Man, small parts, and Baggage. References, photos., &c.
Harry Starr, 9, Clare-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, for small Portable, Lady for Responsibles, Lead, Gentleman ditto, Heavies, open at once. W. H. Wright, Theatre, Royston, Herts.

WANTED, Clever Child Actress; must be small, over 14 years old, girl's part. Exact height, photo., reference, in first letter, Sante, Theatre, Chorley. Tiny Johnson write.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-Class Heavy Leading Actor, for Baron Cratzlaw, "The Woman Who Gambles," rehearse Oct. 7, open Oct. 14.
Terms, references, height.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, for Above, Gentleman (young), for Aristocratic Old Man, to Double Light Comedy Clergyman, height about 5ft. 8½in., rehearse Sept. 19. State age, exact height, and send two last refs., and addresses for same (which will be applied for), photos., and terms, to J. W. Cordiner, Theatre Royal, Dover.

WANTED, Principal Comedian of Repute, also Principal Soprano (petite), for Comic Opera.
George Sheldon
("A King for a Day" Co.),
Palace Theatre,
Southampton.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S "FLORODORA" CO.
WANTED, Gentleman for Abercoed. Full particulars, references, &c.,
William Martin, 415, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Gentleman for Heavy Part, tall, dress well; open at once. Lowest terms, references, T. R. Nugent, Market Hall, Frome, Somerset.

"PRODIGAL DAUGHTER" TOUR.
WANTED, Good Juvenile Actor, for Julian Belford. Address, with photos.,
Joseph Bebb, T. R., South Shields.

WANTED, for Important Part in High-class Drama, a Tall, Smart Gentleman, with £50, returnable in salary, amateur not objected to. Photo. and particulars to
Manager, Box 5,384, "The Era."

WANTED, Tall Character Comedian, Juvenile Gentleman. Terms, height, refs., parts played, to Mark Blow, 11, St. Edmund's-ter., London.

WANTED, for "Mutiny" Sketch, Leading Man, Heavy Man, and Irish Comedian; wardrobe found; rehearse Sheffield, Sept. 18. Fullest particulars, wire if known, Frank E. Burdett, 161, Chesterfield-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, very tall Juvenile Leading Man, tall Responsible, military sketch, rehearse 18th. Photo., terms, ref., Lorraine, 18, Hills-ter., Chatham.

WANTED, smart Young Gent., for Short Part in Sketch, one week, London, Sept. 23, probably longer. Edith Madelle, Palace, Attercliffe.

WANTED, Lady Contralto, young, tall, good-looking (good voice essential), Musical Comedy experience preferred. Apply, with references and photo., by letter to
Siveroni, Pavilion, Newcastle.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Continent, Six Young Pretty Acrobatic Dancers; three months' Engagement, probably longer; rehearse in London. Send full particulars, Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, London, W.

W. HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS.
WANTED, for above, for ten weeks, commencing Dec. 23, First-Class Elocutionist. Lowest terms. Letters only, Brixton Hall, Brixton.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known.—Voice Production for the Operatic Stage, Pianoforte Taught, by Italian Professor; many years Covent Garden Theatre. Opera, 60, Berners-street, W.

WANTED. — Mr. Wm. Cameron, Tenor, Disengaged Sept. 23. Address, Catlin's Royal Pierrots, Withernsea.

WANTED, Known, Principal Tenor, for Quartette, Concerts, or Principal in Opera. For terms, &c., apply, Madras Villa, Park-place, Tenby.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Howard Bedford, Tenor Vocalist, Liberty, at once. 25, Clinton-avenue, Ribble-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Pretty Young German Girl (fine figure), Situation, as stage walker, or assistant to first-class professional. Helene, 32, Tottenham-street, Tottenham Court-road.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists,
Comedians,
Principal Ladies,
Musical Conductors,
Dancers, &c., &c.
Write, stating full particulars and lowest terms, to John Tiller and Co.,
15, Lime-grove, Oxford-road, Manchester.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, for Crystal Palace Pantomime, Christmas, 1907-8, Principal Girl; also Principal Comedians for Mr. and Mrs. Ali Baba. Letters only, marked "Pantomime," to 15, Clifford's-inn, Fleet-street.

WANTED, Artists for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Artists, all Lines.
Photos. and all particulars, Geo. Aytoun, 120, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Choristers and Show Ladies, for Pantomime, Height, salary, references, photos., to E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

"SINDBAD," "BABES," "CINDERELLA."
WANTED.—Artists Vacant for Pantomime, also smart Chorus Ladies, and First-Class Acrobatic Dancers, are invited to call, 11 to 4, or communicate with me, with full particulars, absolute lowest salary, references, photos., &c.,
Mr. Sinclair, 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, George Leglere (the Original), Clown and Pantomimist, late of the T. R., Manchester, Birmingham, Grand, Leeds &c., open for ensuing Panto. or to join First-class Troupe. 34, Union-street, Banbury.

WANTED, Known, Fred Clements, the Versatile Comedian, Vacant for Pantomime. The Lawn, Skegness.

WANTED, First-Class Panto., by Syd Crossley and George Battle, the clever Comedy Versatile Pair. Sure hit. The Lawn, Skegness.

WANTED, Perce Upton, Vacant, for Good Pantomime, through misunderstanding, Idle Jack, Droll Part, or Dame. Coms., 52, Bolton-rd., Stratford, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Jack Foley, at Liberty for Panto., Dame, Alhambra, Sandgate. Perm., 7, Canonbury-avenue, Highbury, London, N.

WANTED, Panto., by Allen Amber, Dame Page, or any Lively Part; last year Ugly Sister with Chard's "Cinderella." Com., White Stars, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Known, Vant and Vant, Comedians and Dancers, in their Smart, Refined Comedy Act; two fine girls. Vacant Panto. Emp., Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Known, Conan and Doyle, Comedians, Vacant Pantomime. First-Class References.
Address, Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, First-class Panto. Engagement, up-to-date miniature circus, dogs and small pony; Little Syd, comedian; Ada Royston, second girl and speciality dancer; Phil Royston, character comedian, and management. A live agent wanted to book up these acts. Royston, Voryd Hotel, Rhyl.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, experienced Scenic Artist, for Transformation Scene, London production. Will Charles Wood (late Tyne Theatre) communicate? Box 5,380, "The Era."

WANTED, First-Class Scenic Artist, commencing Oct. 6; permanency if suitable. Recent references and terms to Box 5,381, "The Era."

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. Fred Wilkins and Bro., Ltd., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, Town or Provinces. Refs. Address, 40, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, Contracts, for Carlyle Scenic Studio; High-class Scenery at very lowest prices. W. B. Robinson, 5, Napier-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery; Effective, Artistic Work, Good Joinery, moderate prices. Large studio and workshop. Charles Sayer, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-rd., Croydon.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Working Manager and wife, for the Bars of a Music Hall; must have had similar experience; man to do his own cellars, wife to actively look after the Bars.
Apply, stating ages, full references, experience, salary required, to
A. Z., Box 5,367, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, First-class Stage-Manager and Producer.
Apply, Fred Karno,
28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Gentlemanly Youth to learn Management. Premium £20, all hotel and travelling expenses paid. Address, Box 5,389, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Agent, and Two Young Men for Window-Billing, &c.; commence Sept. 30. Letters only, lowest terms, Pictures, 13, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Representative, for good-established Variety Agency, with good experience; references required. Apply, Box 5,364, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Young Man, as Advance, one used to working smalls and able to play Piano a little. BANVARD, Ballyconnell, Cavan, Ireland.

GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
Managing-Director, R. C. BUCHANAN.
WANTED, Resident-Carpenter, open Sept. 23, for Gaiety Theatre, Leith. Absolute sobriety essential. Actual lowest terms, &c., to JOHN DARLISON, Resident-Manager.

WANTED, Resident Stage-Carpenter. Only those willing to make themselves generally useful need apply, stating lowest terms and references, to W. J. ANDREWS, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, immediately, Carpenter, for Fit-up Tour, Répertoire. Apply, MANAGER, F. R. Benson Companies, 11, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden.

WANTED, for Theatre in North of England, First-class Electrician; one with complete knowledge of Cinematographs and able to Operate same. Salary no object to first-class man.
Apply, Box 5,362, "The Era."

FREE TRADE HALL, MANCHESTER.
Tremendous Success of the
CHAS. W. and JOHN R. POOLE'S No. 1 MYRIORAMA. Hundreds turned away nightly.
WANTED, to open at once, a good reliable Poster-Writer, to travel for season.
Apply, CLIFF CRAWFORD, Advertising-Manager.

WANTED, High Window-billers and Effect Workers, open Sept. 16.
PRINGLE, Pavilion, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Open Immediately, Smart Window Biller and Fly Poster; must be a worker. MANAGER, Grand Theatre, Forest Gate, London.

WANTED, Services of Good Needlewoman, or Wardrobe Mistress, mending, renovations, plain dressmaking, theatrical and private costumes.
Apply by letter only,
CACEY, 15, Catherine-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Robert Forsyth, the Manager of the Victoria Pier Pavilion, Folkestone, is at liberty to accept First-class Engagement to manage large place of entertainment, Kursaal, Concert Hall, Hippodrome, or any place of amusement, where up-to-date management and novel ideas are required. Mr. Forsyth can combine Musical-Director with management. Mr. F. is the originator of all kinds of Competitions, and his recent Beauty Show for Men was commented on by every London daily and weekly paper of note. The very highest references can be given, and only First-class Engagement entertained. Pier Pavilion, Folkestone.

WANTED, Acting or Advance Management; highest refs. (12 years T. R., Cardiff). Permanent, W. BENJAMIN, 11, Holland-road, Liscard, Cheshire.

WANTED, position as Acting Manager, London or Suburban Theatre, 16 years' experience; excellent references. Box 5,371, "The Era."

WANTED, by ex-Stage Manager, Employment; well recommended. Address, W., 123, Derinton-road, Upper Tooting.

WANTED, Re-engagement (last position held eight years at Northern Music Hall) as Acting Manager and Secretary; excellent references. Box 5,387, "The Era."

To Managers and Artists.
WANTED, Known, Advertiser requires post as Secretary; Expert Shorthand Writer and Typist; used to all details of Secretarial work; also a writer of Songs, Sketches, &c. Excellent references. Box 5,385, "The Era."

WANTED, by thoroughly experienced Electrician, Engagement, charge of Theatre installation, or would Tour with Company; excellent refs. Box 5,370, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Baggage Man, knows England and Continent well; speaks English, German, French. SMITH, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Engagement, with Picture Show, assist Billing, Booking, &c.; also Turn, Solo Concertina. The Reliable DAVIES, 18, Mill-street, Kingston.

WANTED, Known, Amy Samwells, First-Class Wardrobe Mistress, Liberty winter season; good references. C/o Madame Hina, 1, Prima-rd., Brixton.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Leaders (Solo Violins), 'Cellists, and Bass Players,
for Cunard and White Star Services.
'Cellists immediately.
Mr. CHARLES WM. BLACK,
19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for a First-class London Variety Theatre, Leader, also Repetiteur; both must be brilliant Violinists, with powerful tone, and thoroughly experienced in Variety Business. A good 'Cellist also required. Permanent engagement to steady and reliable men. Address, Box 5,375, c/o "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Leader, well up in Variety Business, to open Sept. 23. Terms and references to JAMES HARGREAVES, Conductor, Lyric, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Suburban Music Hall, Good Leader (violin), and others. State if Union or not. Terms and refs., GROSSMAN, Conductor, Brentford.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, Double-handed, comfortable shop for steady, reliable man. Lowest terms and refs., SANTE, Grand T., Radcliffe.

WANTED, a First-class Musical-Director Violinist, used to Variety, open Monday next; must be sober, and understand his business; permanency for suitable man. No fancy price. Wire, ISRAEL PRICE, Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM,
FULBOURN, near CAMBRIDGE.
WANTED, Male Attendant,
Violinist or Bombardon Player preferred.
Apply, stating age and height,
and enclosing copies of testimonials,
to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT,
at the Asylum.

WANTED, good Violins and Wind Instruments, High-Class Concert Work, commence Monday. WALTERS, 23, Sea View-parade, Morecambe.

WANTED, First-class Violin and Cornet, for Pictorial Entertainment, near London, open immediate. JURY'S IMPERIAL PICTURES, 142, Longacre, London.

WANTED, Second Violin, open at once, thoroughly experienced in Variety business. Terms, WM. CLOSS, Musical-Director, Grand Theatre, Bolton.

WANTED, Young Gentleman, Violinist, commence Sept. 23; must play class solo; long tour to suitable and energetic young musician. Photo., particulars, lowest terms, to S. B., 45, The Rake, Bromborough, Cheshire.

WANTED, good Solo Cornet and Clarionet, also good Euphonium and Horn, at once. Address, HARRY YATES, Ship Inn, Harbour-st., Ramsgate.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, good Solo Cornet and Pianist; steady, reliable, open Sept. 16 or 23. Refs. and terms, ANDERSON, Conductor, P., Blackburn.

WANTED, First-class Solo Cornet, to open Monday next. Wire or write,
SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Clarionet, Double Drummer and Trombone.
Apply, with terms and references,
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, immediately, Competent and Reliable Double Bass, for tour, to wear evening dress, and assist with fittings when travelling. State age and experience, MORRELL, 80, George-st., Yarmouth.

WANTED, Double Bass, for Chas. W. Poole's Myriorama (state age), to assist with fittings when travelling. Salary, 30s. per week. Can join Monday, Town Hall, Yarmouth. Apply, HARRY STEWART, Town Hall, Yarmouth.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Bassoon, to Double with Trombone, Musical Sketch, long tour if suitable, start Sept. 30, London. Costumes provided, and fares paid after joining. PERCY HONRI, 357, Holloway-road, N.

WANTED, Double Bass (to combine bombardon), for tenting circus; a good Bombardon also write. Apply, AUGUSTE DENTON, Mus. Dir., 86, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

W. HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS.
WANTED, commencing Mon., Sept. 30, at Preston, Trombone and Clarionet; wear evening dress. Lowest terms and references. Letters only. Brixton Hall, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Trombone, to Double with Bassoon, Musical Sketch, long tour if suitable, start Sept. 30, London. Costumes provided, and fares paid after joining. PERCY HONRI, 357, Holloway-road, N.

WANTED, Trombone, for Music Hall, East End. Apply,
3, Leslie-street, Mile-end, E.

WANTED, for Sedgwick Menagerie, Euphonium, Trombone, Bass, and Double Drummer. Terms, 30s. per week. Join at once. Barnsley, Sat.; Wombwell, Mon.; Mexborough, Tues.; Doncaster, Wed.; Yorkshire.

WANTED, 'Cellist, for High-class London Restaurant; must be fine Soloist, also experienced; about five hours daily, and free meals; commence Sept. 24, if possible earlier. Permanency to suitable man. Apply, Box 5,368, "The Era."

WANTED, Orchestral 'Cellist, one that plays piano, accomp. and solo, for African boat's band of four. LEE, 8, Bodafon-row, Llandudno.

WANTED, 'Cello and Flautist, to open Sept. 30; also Drums, to open Sept. 16; permanency to suitable people. Age, refs., terms, to DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

THE PALACE, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Oboe, to open Sept. 23, permanent; must be good reader. Names for reference to F. H. JEPSON, Musical-Director.

WANTED, smart, attractive Young Lady, age 18 to 26, as Pianist and Vocalists, for Smoke-room; must have a good voice. Apply, terms, with photo., to H. LIVESLEY, Staveley, near Chesterfield.

WANTED, an Accompanist; must read music; travelling.
Apply, 99, Mortlake-road, Ilford, Essex.

WANTED, Lady or Youth Pianist, for Long Tour; must be able to Play Manuscript at Sight and take down from voice. Address, Box 5,390, "The Era."

WANTED, a Pianist, to open Monday, long tour, one and two weeks in a town, variety and pictures. SILVESTER, Wallsend.

WANTED, Pianist, Lady or Gentleman, one week, open Monday. Wire lowest terms, WILHELM RUSSELL, Mus. Dir., St. James's T., Long Eaton.

WANTED, Smart Youth, as Drummer, with own Tympani and Effects, for Musical Sketch, long tour if suitable, start Sept. 30, London. Costumes provided, and fares paid after joining. PERCY HONRI, 357, Holloway-road, N.

WANTED, Good Drummer, with Effects, to open Monday, Sept. 16. Wire terms and refs. to C. ELPHINSTONE, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

WANTED, a Full Orchestra, for the New Palace Theatre, Reading, to open Sept. 30. Apply, AUGUSTUS GRECO, Musical Director, c/o Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 12, Buckingham-street, Strand.

THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, Musicians, for London and Provinces. Apply, with terms, recent references, and permanent addresses, to J. HOWARD SHACKLETON, Hippodrome, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, Lady Instrumentalists, for long tour. Apply, with full particulars, to MADAME, 3, Livingstone-road, Scarborough.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.
Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Conductor, Pianist-Conductor, or Accompanist, by experienced Organist-Composer; can improvise light music brilliantly; Transpose; reliable, disengaged; highest references. MUSICUS, 73, Alexandra-road, Reading.

WANTED, any reliable Engagement, by Mr. Lorenzo Lewis, Variety Pianist-Conductor, or self (arrange); ever reliable; late Moss and Stoll's Panto. Tour, Répertoire, Overtures, &c. 1, Rock Vale-villa, Holme-road, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by Reuben Wood, Musical Director (violin), just concluded twenty-five years' engagement, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, good composer and arranger, splendid library and testimonials. Millhouses, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, at Liberty Sept. 28.
VICTOR NELSON, Tower Circus, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Smart Conductor (Violin), at Liberty, or as Leader, Variety preferred; experienced and reliable; age 27; best refs. Offers. MUSICUS, 8, Hardwick-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Well-known Conductor (violin), theatre or varieties; Wife, pianist. Wire, CONDUCTOR, 28, Pitt-street, Longridge, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, Conductor (violin), just finished Central Pier Pavilion, Morecambe, thoroughly experienced all lines. Good refs. Address, SAINSBURY, Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin; can combine B flat Clarionet; at Liberty Sept. 28. Address, VIOLINIST, Corporation Band, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Engagement, First Violin, London or District, Theatre or Music Hall, Orchestra. Terms, C. H. MOORE, Grove Cottage, Basildon, Essex.

WANTED, by Violinist (Pianist), Engagement, Hotel, Club, Café, &c.; good répertoire, London, Provinces, or Abroad. Box 5,338, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Violin, late Leader Theatre; strictly sober, London or suburbs preferred; no variety. VIOLIN, 39, Marian-square, N.E.

WANTED, Known, Violinist, at Liberty after Season, Central Pier, Morecambe, as Leader, Varieties. C. PHILLIPS, JUN., Empire, Liverpool.

WANTED, by experienced Violin and Viola Player, Engagement or Deputising, London preferred; good refs. JONES, 26, Brook-st., Riverside, Cardiff.

WANTED, Engagement, Second Violin, this week Carl Rosa Co., Vacant Sept. 16.
Apply, Box 5,383, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, experienced and reliable Cornet Player seeks Quadrille, or other Business for Season. H. WOOD, 161, St. Albans-buildings, Gray's Inn-road.

WANTED, Engagement as Cornettist, any business; steady; references if required. L. PORTER, 82, Humber-road, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo Cornet, any business; experienced in all Lines. BENNETT, 9, Belhaven-street, Grove-road, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Cornet; experienced all Lines. BARRS, 5, Winter Garden-terrace, Southport, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Second Cornet, experienced, any business. W. N., 5, Glenville-road, Kingston Hill.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet or Violin, Dramatic or Variety, efficient refs., at Lib. Sept. 22. JONES, 8, Northcote-rd., Bournemouth (Central).

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Clarionettist, theatre preferred. Good refs. GARNER, The Porches, Rainhill, near Liverpool.

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, Worthing Season Band, Engagement. At Liberty Sept. 23. D. SHEEHAN, 9, Woodford-terrace, Pavilion-road, Worthing.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Clarionet. BONELL, Solo Clarionet, Blue Hungarian Band, White City, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, any business.
F. W. ATHERTON, 1, Rosemont, Market-st., Torquay.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, any business, distance no object, thoroughly experienced, good refs. GEORGE, Ivydene, 13, Overdale-rd., South Ealing.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, Theatre or Varieties; good refs. and reliable. CLARIONET, 35, Stowe-rd., Shepherd's Bush, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement by Clarionet, thoroughly experienced and reliable, at Lib. Sunday. GEO. E. GODDARD, Royal Prince's Parade, Bridlington.

WANTED, Sunday, Orchestral Engagement, with Bassoon.
BASSOON, 15, Warwick-road, Hampton Wick.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Euphonium Soloist (combine Trombone). Finishing Second Season with Southport Corporation Military Band. At Liberty end Sept. WILLIAM ROLPH, Cambridge Hall, Southport.

WANTED, by Experienced Euphonium, Engagement, can open at once, any business. Address, CHARLES GRICE, c/o Post Office, Barnsley, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement by Solo Trombone, thoroughly experienced, from Variety to Grand Opera; permanency preferred. TROMBONIST, Artillery Band, Wellington Gardens, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, first-class experience, theatre or music hall, now at liberty. Add., MUSICIAN, Church-st., Bawtry, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, First-Class Trombone, well up in Variety business, close of season, Spa Orchestra, Bridlington. MACCALLAUGH, Salisbury-terrace, Bridlington.

WANTED, by L. Carvelli, late Solo Horn La moureaux Orchestra, Scala Theatre, Milan, Manns' Orchestra, Carl Rosa Co., Scottish Or., &c., Engagement as First Horn, Concerts or Theatres; at Liberty Oct. 15. 14, Gipsy-hill, Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Sept. 12, 1907, French Horn, disengaged; reliable; can accept end of season. C/o C. George, 7, Little Drummond-street, N.W.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 37, Great Percy-st., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, 'Cello, good reader, well up in classical and modern music, Sept. 21, London or suburbs preferred. 'CELLIST, 7, Holloway-rd., Droitwich.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced Oboeist or Double Drummer (tympani if required), Disengaged Sept. 21. SPARROW, Opera House, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by First-Class Oboe Player, Engagement or Deputising; thoroughly experienced, Military and Orchestral playing. WRIGHT (late 15th Hussars), 19, Durham-road, S. Ealing.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboe, experienced in any capacity, late R.A. Band, Woolwich; sober and reliable. FIELD, 28, Cardozo-rd., Holloway, N.

WANTED, Engagement by Flute and Piccolo, thoroughly experienced in high-class Theatrical and Variety business. Box 5,366, "The Era."

WANTED, by First-class Flute, Piccolo, Engagement, any Business; long experience, ever reliable; strict sobriety. Terms, A. WATSON, Hippodrome, Belfast.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo Player, Shop, anything; can join at once. Address, J. RIDDELL, 6, Newmarket-road, Cambridge.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Flautist; young, reliable; excellent refs.; at Lib. Sept. 30. Riviere's Orchestra, Victoria Pier, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, young, reliable, and competent, distance no object. FLAUTIST, 2, Tudno-street, Llandudno.

WANTED, by experienced Pianist and Violinist, Engagement together, American or Australian Hotel or Tour; highest refs. VIOLA, 7, Montpelier-place, Brighton.

WANTED, by experienced Pianist, Engagement, any business, Disengaged Sept. 16. Wire or write, PIANIST, 102, Phyllis-street, Barry Island, Glam.

WANTED, Known, Pianist, Deputy-Conductor, experienced, second instrument Violin, requires Theatre, Sight Reader; age 33, height 5ft. 11in. G. L., 19, Manwood-rd., Brockley.

WANTED, Engagement by Pianist, Arranger, any business, Orch. or self, good reader; excel. refs.; steady, reliable. PIANIST, 15, Canal-terrace, Ystalyfera.

WANTED, Engagement, by well-known Expert Variety Pianist (London or suburbs); highest references for any business. 77, Bancroft-road, Mile End, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, thoroughly experienced in all lines. Good refs. Address, HERBERT STEELE, Central Pier Orchestra, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cimbalon Solo Player, for Orchestra, Garden Parties, Soirées, &c. Address, N. MARTIN, 10, Gresse-street, Tottenham Court-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Drummer, with all Effects; experienced in any business; young and smart; refs.; Liberty Sept. 23. JAMES GILLIGAN, Queen's Palace, Rhyl.

WANTED, Engagement in any business, by Double Drums, Effects; refs.; experienced in every business. 134, Block F, Thrawl-st., Commercial-street, E.

WANTED, Known, Harry Wood, Tympanist, Drums, &c., at Liberty Sept. 30, end of Season, Grand Theatre, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, Quartet disengaged autumn. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Known, Shikissima Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, open to receive Engagements. Good First Violin and Cornet communicate. Glenthorpe, Chesterfield-road, Newbury.

WANTED, by Royal Italian Military Band, nine performers, engagement, two or three weeks, commencing Sept. 15. GUIDI, 47, Chelmsford-street, Weymouth.

ROYAL BOHEMIAN BAND.
WANTED, Known, owing to big success at Brine Baths, Droitwich, this celebrated Band is engaged for a Special Month's extension, Liberty Sept. 21; offers invited, Winter Gardens, Exhibition, &c. Moderate. WILTON RUSSELL, Conductor, Droitwich.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Bateson's Orchestra (seven), concluded Successful Engagement, Lakeside Pavilion. Wanted, offers, Soloists and Vocalists; fine Répertoire. T. BATESON, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, Known, Small String Orchestra, at Liberty, Family. Terms moderate. Late Music Hall Bandsmen. First-class Répertoire. HERBERT, 5, West-hill, Wandsworth.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

GILLENO'S GREAT AMERICAN CIRCUS,
WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER.
WANTED, Known, Mr. Gilleno has made arrangements for a Winter Season in London, commencing Boxing Day, Dec. 26, 1907,
and will be pleased to hear from
Riders, with or without own Horses;
Big Aerial Acts; Troupes of Acrobats; and
A Bunch of Clowns, who can Tumble and Leap.
Address, with lowest terms,
H. GILLENO, as above.

WANTED, Greatest Acts in the Profession, Specialities for Circus, Sept. 23 and 30. W. AINSWORTH'S Agency, 72, Palmerston-ter., Middlesbrough.

WANTED, High-stilt Walking Clown, for Advertising Purposes, for four or five weeks. Lowest terms to HUMBER, Waxworks, George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Second Mounter, able to Tumble, amateurs save stamps. Will Daulby please write, lost address? CLIFTON, 28, Sutton-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Second Mounter, must Tumble, for well-known Troupe; also Boy, 12 to 16, a good home. State particulars. Box 5,386, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, a good Bearer, must be dark in feature. Address to DAVIES, 30, Portland-terrace, Southampton.

YARMOUTH HIPPODROME.
WANTED, good Ring Manager,
to open Sept. 30.
Apply,
GEO. GILBERT,
Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED.—John Irvin and Miss Pinder, bareback equestrians, pigeon charmers, and foot equilibrists, will finish Sept. 21, eleven weeks' most comfortable engagement, Hippo., Douglas. Will be at Liberty October, for Stage or Ring. Address, Hippodrome, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Known, John Fossett's Miniature ComedyAnimal Circus, ten to thirty minutes, according to requirements; third season Alexandra Hippo., still going big, great number for Pantomime; have several Mechanical Animals for Comedy Parts; myself and son also take Comedy Parts. First vacant date, Nov. 18. Address, 11, Hope-place, Selly Oak.

WANTED, Known, Le Quips, Clown and Comedian, with Al Comic Entrées, at Liberty for Winter Season. Add., Tower Circus, Blackpool.

WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, by Los Granadas, Trampolin and Bars. A Novelty. Own scenery. Grand Success at Belfast and Londonderry. Thanks to Mr. Barn for letting us off last house Saturday night. Monday next, Palace Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, Known, Olrac and Milton, Engaged for Speciality and Parts, Harold Wyndham's Panto, Crystal Palace, London. Now on Tour.

WANTED, Known, George Davilla, Marvellous High Vibrating Telephone Wire; Touring South Coast. Permanent, Forest View, Honeylane, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

WANTED, by all-round Juggler (not an amateur), to join Troupe or Juggler that wants good man. TURNOUR, G.P.O., Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and HIPPODROME, BARRY DOCK.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.
No wires, please.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, all kinds Variety Artists. Will see any Artists working if time sent. RICHARD CASS'S Agency, 9, Mundania-rd., Peckham.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Britannia, Glasgow, Sept. 23, 1907, and onwards. A. E. PICKARD.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Monday, Sept. 23, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Big Tops, Sept. 23, and on. Address, KAUFMAN, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, Co. Durham.

NEW PALACE THEATRE, READING.
WANTED, Sept. 30, onwards, Variety Star Artists, all Lines. Letters only, G. HOWARD WATSON, c/o Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 12, Buckingham-street, Strand.

WANTED, Variety and Speciality Artists, Good Sisters, and Comedian, Sept. 23; also Stars, for 30th, and on. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Theatre, Stafford.

HIPPODROME, HIPPODROME,
SPENNYMOOR, SPENNYMOOR.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Oct. 7, onwards; must be new to the town.
Nothing too big, with drawing powers.
Two Performances Nightly; one Matinée.
Send actual lowest terms in first letter.
No fancy salaries.
Address until Tuesday,
FELIX GREEN, 22, Belmont-terrace, Douglas;
after, Hippodrome, Spennymoor.
P.S.—Accept silence as polite negative.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
WANTED, Artists, suitable for Concert Platforms, three Halls, one night only, Saturdays. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, 126, Rottenrow, Glasgow.

HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY,
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock, N.B.
WANTED, for Glasgow, Greenock, and district, Star Artists in all Lines,
Empire, Greenock.
Big Tops for immediate dates.

WANTED, Artists of all Kinds, opening day Sept. 23. Apply, M. RICHARDSON, for Richardson Bros., Ltd., Olympia, Sunderland.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from now, onwards. Apply,
Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, First-class Artists, all Lines, for the North. Send bookings, &c., to FRANK LYNNE, Gaiety, Birmingham. Telegrams, "Skidoo, London."

WANTED, Artists, Doubles doing Singles, for Cavalry and A.S.C. Theatres, Brougham found. State when last here. Wire for Monday. BAKER, 41, Union-street, Aldershot.

We Never Sleep.
WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, Big Stars, Big Specialities,
Sept. 23, onwards. Terms, bookings,
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.
Tels., "Stebbing, Manchester." 'Phone 09261.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Sept. 23 and 30, Morecambe. Address,
ONDA, New Theatre, Stanley, Durham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known,
DALTON'S AGENCY. Artists remit vacancies, with full list bookings, and the very lowest terms, any printing, and their permanent address. New acts state where can be seen working.
DALTON'S AGENCY. Artists remit vacancies, with full list bookings, and the very lowest terms, any printing, and their permanent address. New acts state where can be seen working.
DALTON'S AGENCY. It is very important all artists keep me advised directly any fresh bookings are made.
Telegrams, "Granbeste, Withington Lanc."
Telephone 193 Didsbury.
29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, Charles A. James' Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin. Good Living Freak Open at Once.

WANTED, Artists, all Descriptions, Sept. 23, onwards. Lowest terms; town small. Will Verney and Diacoff write. BARNES, Hippodrome, Kidderminster.

CANBURY GARDENS, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES,
Tuesday, Sept. 17.
WANTED, Known, Artists willing to oblige Mr. Phil Ray on his benefit night, if suitable, can be offered twenty weeks' engagement for next season at his four other places.
All communications, JIMMY LAW, General-Manager, 33, Hardman-road, Kingston-on-Thames.

PALACE OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.
Sole Lessee and Proprietor, JAS. TYRER.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, Sept. 23 and on. Specialities, Doubles (doing Singles), Hall small. Absolute lowest terms. No commission stopped. All communications to JAS. TYRER, Proprietor.

PALACE OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.
Sole Lessee and Proprietor, JAS. TYRER.
WANTED, Known, Artists holding Contracts in the name of Messrs. Tyrer and Bostock kindly write in for confirmation owing to dissolution of Partnership. All letters to be addressed JAS. TYRER, Proprietor.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, for Glasgow Concerts. Interviews, appointment only. Lowest terms to THE SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George's-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, at once, Sept. 23, onwards, big and small.
When communicating for Monday next, please state house address, Saturday to Monday.
JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

BOB GRAHAM'S AGENCY.
15A, Electric-avenue, Brixton. 'Phone 513 Brixton.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines. Write, stating absolute lowest terms and vacant dates. Tops of the Bills with odd week out communicate.

PAVILION, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Sept. 23, onwards. PRINGLE, Pavilion, Sunderland.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, CASTLEFORD.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Sept. 30, onwards. Those written and received no reply write again; impossible to answer all. State lowest first letter (small town). Contracts as per Arbitrator's Award.
BEANLAND and EMERSON,
Address (pro. tem.), Royal Prince's Parade, Bridlington.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHPORT.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from Sept. 23, onward. Please send full list of Bookings in first instance, and absolute lowest terms. Mark envelopes "Southport."
SAM L. BURY'S Agency,
14, Panton-street, Haymarket, S.W.

WANTED, Artists and Specialities all Lines, Monday, Sept. 23, on, for Sheffield, Barnsley, Manchester, Windsor, Cradley Heath, &c. List of bookings and absolute lowest, JAZON'S Agency, T. R., West Bromwich.

Important Notice.
PALACE OF VARIETIES, OLDBURY.
WANTED, Artists and others to note.—I have dissolved my partnership and share in above. Artists keep me posted with dates and terms for Oldbury or district. All communications,
WM. B. BOSTOCK, Office, 82, Fountain-lane, Oldbury.
Best Wishes to All.

WANTED, Known, Artists Holding Contracts, please Note. This Hall will be run twice nightly on and after Oct. 14. Artists working South Wales write in. Temperance Hall, Merthyr. Manager, ISRAEL PRICE.

PALACE, BOSTON.
WANTED, Big Stars, share or salary, for re-opening after extensive Alterations, Sept. 30; also Artists, all Lines. Nothing too Big. Lithos., absolute lowest, GEO. SAPHRINI, Boro' Arms Hotel, Boston.

WANTED, for Sept. 23, 30, and Oct. 7,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for smaller items.
Can always fix big numbers any odd weeks.
CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future Dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Sept. 23, 30, Town and Provinces, Star Turns.
GEO. AYTOUN, 120, Kennington Park-rd., London, S.E. 'Phone 1949 Hop. Wires, "Antics, London."

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY,
Alhambra, Edinburgh.
WANTED, for Edinburgh and the North, Sept. 30, onwards, the very Best of Talent. Nothing too big or small if good. Star Turns vacant February, onwards, communicate.

WANTED, for Town Hall Palace of Varieties, Hounslow, Sept. 30, onwards, First-class Talent. Terms must be low, as Hall is very small. Artists working London same week preferred. Terms, &c., to
ARTHUR AISTON, Town Hall Palace of V., Hounslow.

WANTED, Variety Talent, Oct. 2, 3, 4, and 5. Dumb Shows excepted, for Tradesmen's Exhibition. PAT CAREY, Clarance Hotel, Teddington. No fancy prices.

WANTED, Variety Talent, to open Monday, for a long tour if suitable, Doubles and Singles. No fancy salaries. SILVESTER, Wallsend.

PALACE, KILMARNOCK.
WANTED, Star Acts all Lines, absolute lowest (once nightly). Lessee and Manager, J. CUMMINGS.

WANTED, good Animal Acts, Specialities, &c., Sept. 30, onwards, for Palace, Boston.
All letters, SAPHRINI, Boro' Arms Hotel, Boston.

WANTED, good Musical and Speciality Acts to send lowest terms for Tour, immediate and future dates. Animated Pictures, Miners' Hall, Hirst (North).

WANTED, for Various Dates, commencing Sept. 23, Speciality Acts, Vocalists, for Illustrated Songs. State lowest terms, dates, PICTURES, Clarendon Hall, Watford, Herts.

WANTED, Big Speciality Acts, &c., for Sept. 30, Swindon. Write, MCKENZIE and COLLINSON, Metropole, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
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COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
COVENTRY HIPPODROME.

WANTED, Artists and Agents to Note.

All Contracts
on Behalf of the Above Company
will in future be signed by
Mr. S. T. NEWSOME,
who alone is authorised to sign.

Artists Holding Contracts
are requested to apply immediately
for Confirmation of Dates
to
S. T. NEWSOME,
Managing-Director,
Hippodrome,
Coventry.

N.B.—All Bill Matter to be addressed to
THE MANAGER,
Hippodrome,
Coventry.

HENRY KEMBLE'S
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233, Kennington-road.
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WANTED, Big Specialities,
Ballad Vocalists,
Serios,
Dancers,
Can have Contracts for
Immediate Work.

Full particulars, lowest terms,
with bookings, to

233, Kennington-road, S.E.

GILBERT'S CIRCUS, EXETER.
GILBERT'S CIRCUS, EXETER.
GILBERT'S CIRCUS, EXETER.
GILBERT'S CIRCUS, EXETER.
GILBERT'S CIRCUS, EXETER.

SCARBORO' HIPPODROME.
SCARBORO' HIPPODROME.
SCARBORO' HIPPODROME.
SCARBORO' HIPPODROME.

WANTED, for the above,
and also other Towns.
First-Class Specialities and Novelties
of every description,
Sept. 23, onwards.
Big Numbers particularly wanted from Oct. on.
Quote lowest terms,
and give full Bookings.

Wanted, for Glasgow, Monday next,
Four good Specialities, Wire.

WANTED, Known, real good Novelties can rely on Booking for all parts through V. Golden's Agency, 12, Little Newport-st., London, W.C. State where can be seen. Also Ladies Wanted for Panto.

WANTED, Specialities of all Kinds, North of England and South Wales and District. MARTINO'S Agency, 125, Barcroft, Grimsby.

WANTED, Variety, or Combination, for Al-Fresco Performances, for the Olympian Gardens, 677, Green-lanes, Hornsey. Grounds to be viewed on Saturday evenings, from 9 to 10. Particulars, apply, 94, High-road, Wood Green.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Tops of Bills, and Small Turns, Sept. 16, on.
People coming North write at once,
D. BAYLEY,
170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Top, Bottom of Bill, for Various towns South Wales and Yorkshire. Full Bookings, permanent address, T. GANNON, Westgrove, Bristol.

WANTED, Sept. 30, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Good Illusion or Speciality, with lithos., new to Boston. BURTON, 33, Cleveland-st., Doncaster.

WANTED, for Picture Show, Sisters doing Singles, also Pianist-Vocalist; long tour starting early in October. Lowest terms; live in. Box 5,373, "The Era."

WANTED, Sopranos, Contralto, Tenor, Baritone, Basses, and two Boys' voices, for new Music Hall Act; must be well trained; First-class readers. Clever amateurs write. Box 5,376, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman, Good Singers and Dancers, for Sketch. Letters only. Age, height, terms, MANAGER, 1, Northolme-road, Highbury, N.

WANTED, Smart, Pretty Girls, 14 to 20,
Smart, Pretty Girls, 14 to 20,
Smart, Pretty Girls, 14 to 20,
Girls who can Sing and Dance;
also intelligent Girls, willing to learn.
Free tuition to those who are smart.
Call, 11 to 4, SINCLAIR'S Academy,
118, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Acrobatic Dancers, Short Comedian, Comic Acrobat or Posturer, Instrumentalists, Guitars, Mandolinists, &c. Particulars, GRANGE, 164, New King's-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, for probable long season in Belfast, Good Lady Vocalist, with songs suitable for picture show. Send lowest terms and particulars to IRVING BOSCO, Ormond Cottage, Sydenham, Belfast.

WANTED, Desired, Wished for, Comedians, Comediennes, Double Turns, Acrobats, Animal Shows, Dumb Acts, Specialities, Immediate Dates. Immediate Dates.
Nothing too Big to Book.
Write at once to
HARRY S. HART'S Agency,
Star Palace Varieties, Bermondsey, S.E. 'Phone, 1048 Hop. 'Grams, "Hart, Star, Bermondsey."

W. HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS.
WANTED, commencing Sept. 30, for two weeks at Preston, Dutch Character Song and Dance Artist. Lowest terms, Brixton Hall, Brixton, London.

WANTED, two Young Men and a Young Lady, for a Comic Knockabout Sketch; those speaking Scotch preferred. Direct, WILSON, 3, Rigby-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Ten Girls, between 14 and 16; must be small, good voices, and able to dance.

Apply any day, between 10 and 5,
WILLIE BENN,
23, Sudbourne-road, Brixton Hill, London.

WANTED, Sixteen Young Ladies, 12-16 years, for Biograph, slight knowledge of Dancing. Apply, FITZHAMON, 12 o'clock, 3, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road, next Tuesday.

WANTED, immediately, a Child (either girl or boy), not any taller than 4ft. in height, and over 14 years of age.
Apply, FRED KARNO,
28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen, Teacup Track Riders, for England and Continent. Address, BLANCHE DIACOFF, Foresters' Music Hall, London.

WANTED, by Tom Hearn, Jugglers who can do one good trick. Write and explain. Next week, Empire, Birmingham.

W. HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS.
WANTED, smart and reliable Cinematograph Operator; must thoroughly understand both lime and electric. Lowest terms and references. Letters only. Brixton Hall, Brixton, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, to open immediately, Midlands, Up-to-date Bioscope, 1½ hours pictures, change twice weekly. Illustrated Songs, Lady Pianist-Vocalist, Baggage-man write. Good people, good terms. "VOLTS," P.O., Treharris, Glam.

WANTED, First-class Operators; must be competent (electric and lime). Those used to two-hour shows preferred.
JURY'S IMPERIAL PICTURES, 142, Long-acre, London.

W. HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS.
WANTED, Smart Young Man, for Picture and Effect Worker. Lowest terms and references. Letters only, Brixton Hall, Brixton.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lolo, charming Lady Gymnast and Teeth Speciality Artist; also Little May, Graceful Contortionist and Acrobatic Dancer, splendid Stage Apparatus, different to all others; a Stage of silver. Liberty 1908. Address, 127, Upperaughton-road, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Nell Brough, Burlesque Actress and Whistler, is at Liberty Sept. 23, to precede Dudley. Address, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Known, Miss Sadie Bush, Contralto, Ballad and Descriptive Vocalist, wants Monday next, also Sept. 23; Slides for Illustrated Songs. Wire, 56, Buccleuch-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Sept. 23, 30, by Lil Garrick, Juvenile Comedienne and Dancer. 19, Stanley-street West, North Shields. A Sure Hit.

WANTED, Known, Miss Nance Elder, Versatile Comedienne and Speciality Tyrolean Vocalist, Vacant Sept. 30 and Oct. 7. All communications en route, Sept. 16, Her Majesty's, Walsall.

WANTED, Known, Madge Bryde, the Dainty Serio, Vacant Sept. 30, and on, with exceptions. Offers invited for Panto., Second Boy or Girl. Coms., 49, Railway-street, Southport.

WANTED, by Sylvia Spiers, Serio, Coon Vocalist, and Dancer; and Alice N. Peploe, Male Impersonator, Sept. 16 (wire or write), also Sept. 23. This, Palace, Oldbury; next, c/o Sam Head, Compton, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Sept. 16 and 23, by Lil Dresden, Chorus Vocalist, and Ray Thorne, smart Comedienne and Dancer. Wire, Pavilion, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Nella, Refined Speciality Pot-pourri Act, Vacant Sept. 16, onwards. This, Hippo., Cambridge; next, Italian Circus, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Neville Delmar, the Whistling Dandy; Panto, fixed, Abanazar; few vacancies Oct., Nov. Next, Palace, Porth. 19, Mark-mansions, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, by Eugent Brant, Eccentric Droll Comedian, Sept. 16, 23, Halls or Tour. Wire, 28, Phyllis-street, Barry Island, South Wales.

WANTED, by Perce Upton, Droll Comedian, Sept. 23, 30, with his latest, "My Old Girl," "Lizzie." Communications, 52, Bolton-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Managers and Agents, to see "Trippello," in a new, refined Comedy and Smart Genuine Musical Speciality, Stoll Tour (return), Sept. 23, London shortly, Vacant Oct. 14, 21, &c. Many thanks to Great Musical Jackson Family (who are judges) for Contracts.
Next week, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley,
where please address.

WANTED, by Clifton Hall, Vocalist, Monday, also Sept. 23; Edinburgh to follow. Vacant Oct. 7. Wire, 16, Hopeton-st., Gourock, Scotland.

WANTED, by Harry Bentley, the Original Comedian, Monday next, also Sept. 30. Wire for Monday next. This week, Hippodrome, Rochdale. Wire.

WANTED, Monday next and Oct. 7, by Allan Hanbury, Comedian. Wire, Pier, Southport. After Sat., 109, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Pat O'Connor, Hibernian Humorist and World's Champion Dancer, Good Offer invited Sept. 16. Wire, TALENT, 7, Poplar-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, by Fred Hadley, Comedian and Dancer. Fourth week, and Great Success here. Liberty Monday next. Wire, Pier Pavilion, Beaumaris.

WANTED, by Cade Burnett, Actor-Vocalist, Sept. 23 and 30. Thanks Ventom Swift, Esq., for three return Contracts. Big Hit, Bottom of Bill this week, Alhambra, Edinburgh; eight songs nightly; third visit this year. Address, 191, Coatsworth-road, Gateshead.

WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 14, by Hulbert, ventriloquist, and De Lil, illusionist; two smart acts. Monday, Empire, Dundee.

WANTED, Sept. 30 and Oct., by Li-Chang-Hi, Chinese Magician. This, Bottom of Bill, Pavilion, Chorlton; next, Borough T., Heywood.

WANTED, for The Minstrel, Engagements; Répertoire, Songs with Banjo (a Speciality) or Piano Accompaniment, Recitations, &c.; or an appointment as Sub-Manager and Variety Artist of any Travelling Entertainment.

WANTED, by Jack Gascoyne, Boy Ventriloquist, Engagement with good Touring Co. Terms moderate. JACK GASCOYNE, JUN., 27, Brunswick-street, Leamington Spa.

WANTED, Sept. 16. Wire, Hippo., Rochdale. The Great Kyoto. The cleverest and brightest act ever seen.—Vide Press. Japanese pot-pourri act, contortionist, comedy juggler, conjurer, and the only performing pug dog, Oto; also Miss May Geraldine, comedienne and dancer. Also Vacant Sept. 23, onward. After Saturday, 506, Stockport-road, Manchester.

WANTED, one week only, Sept. 23,
Picitt and Lizette,
Illusionists and Pantomimists,
in their Great Magical Extravaganza,
"THE CRAZY COOK."
"THE CRAZY COOK."
"THE CRAZY COOK."
Original Illusions, worked like Lightning.
Novel and Eccentric Comedy Business.
The most Realistic Kitchen Set ever Staged.
Fifty Birds and Animals.
Only open date this year.
Vacant through transfer of date, owing to impossibility to arrive in time from Cork.
Wire, Tivoli, Dublin.
Monday, PALACE, CORK.

WANTED, Known, Ted Young and Ada Twibell, at Liberty Monday next. Wire, one or both, 264, Liverpool-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Vokes and Marshall, Hand and Foot Comedy Musical and Patter Artists, Liberty. Wire, 16, Moreton-street, Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by A. L. Guthrie, Comedian, Dancer, and Banjoist; and Julia Spencer, Ballad Vocalist. Success Britannia, Glasgow, Wire.

WANTED, by the Marvellous Boy Hackenschmidt, world's champion bantam-weight wrestler; also Florence Bell, comedienne and dancer. Write Lyceum, Stafford.

WANTED, Monday next, also 23, The Percys, (Harry, Lillie), Duettists, Dancers, Speciality Performers; reliable Act. Wire, Empire, York.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, smartest of all Lady and Gentleman Gymnastic Pot-Pourri Acts, free Nov. 11 and 18. All letters, Hippo., Accrington.

WANTED, Monday next and Sept. 30, The Monckton's (Fred and Lillie), present their screamingly funny episodes, "Are Wives Dummies?" also "A Woman's Curiosity." 17, Cheapside, Morecambe.

WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 14, by the Decars, with their great eccentric acrobatic act, entitled "Off to the Races," introducing Tomato, the cleverest bucking, biting, performing donkey in Europe; the smartest animal act ever staged, clean wardrobe, refined comedy, clever tricks Sept. 16, Empire, Dundee.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday, by Chant and Chant, Refined Comedy Vocalists. Thanks Mr. Newsome, Coventry, for returns at increase. Wire, Hippo., Stalybridge.

WANTED, by Reszki and Raszki, Gymnastic Grotesques and Tumblers, Sept. 16 and 23. This week, great success, topping bill, Gaiety, Blyth. Wire quick for reliable turn.

WANTED, 16th and 23rd, by Erris and D'Aubyn, Refined Comedy Artists and Dancers. Wire, 4, Springfield-avenue, Burmantofts, Leeds.

WANTED, Sept. 16 and 23, by Doyle and Massey, Comedians and Comedy Boxers; also Liberty for Panto. Empire, Cradley Heath.

WANTED, Known, Leo and Roland, Marvels of Equilibrium and Hand-balancing; a neat, novel, and original Act, introducing our great sensational Ladder Feat, complimented everywhere. Managers requiring a genuine Act, that can draw, book this; Liberty Oct. 7, 14, 21, Nov. 11, Dec. 2 and 9. This week, Temperance Hall, Bolton; next week, Guildhall, Plymouth.

WANTED, 16th, by Gravetta and Parr, Clay and Sand Pictures, Jugglers, Double, Impersonators of Celebrities. Wire, Central Pier, Pavilion, Morecambe.

WANTED, Oct. 14, 21, and 28, by The Boultons and Mlle. Bartenelli; two First-class Acts. Address, Hampton Gardens, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by the Original Arthur Saxon Trio, Monday next, Sept. 23, and onwards.
Wire, SAXON, Palace, Cork.

WANTED, Proprietors and Agents to see Titan, the genuine Strong Man,
TITAN. who is appearing to-day (Matinée) at
TITAN. Collins's (Islington Green). Titan per-
TITAN. forms with genuine 56lb. weights only,
TITAN. which are hired every week; the only
TITAN. athlete who puts four 56lb. weights up
TITAN. with one arm. A real Strong Show,
TITAN. no faked bar-bells used. An Act that
TITAN. appeals to any audience and never fails.
Also
MLLE. TELKA. Illustrated Song Singer. A
MLLE. TELKA. trained contralto vocalist, with
MLLE. TELKA. a splendid voice and appear-
MLLE. TELKA. ance. All the latest American
MLLE. TELKA. Songs and Slides.

Vacant Oct. 7 and 14, on; also Panto.

Address all communications for the next two weeks to Hippodrome, Jersey, Channel Islands.

WANTED, Sept. 23, 30, the Kinnards, Magicians; also Lillie Luraine, Musical Speciality; two acts. Next, City Varieties, Leeds, or FIONI.

WANTED, Sept. 9, 30, by Los Granadas, World's greatest Trampolin Novelty. "Sensational Happenings Outside an Hotel." 64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, at Liberty. Address,
64, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, the Four Hearnes, Comedy Acrobats, Vacant Sept. 16 and 23.
Wire, 95, Fentiman-road, Clapham, London.

WANTED, Known.—Preliminary Announcement.—The D'Ostas (brother and sister), the World's Greatest Mental Telepathists, and Monarchs of all so-styled Second-sight Performers, conclude a most Successful Tour of Fourteen Weeks with own Concert Co. Complimented by Proprietors, Managers, Press, and Public, as being the Best and Most Entertaining Act of its Kind now before the British Public.

WANTED, Known, do you want packed Hall? Try Four Cecilians. Success everywhere, Vacant Sept. 16, 23, 30. Wire, Hippo., Coventry.

WANTED, Known, What a Draw Four Cecilians are! Storming Hippodrome, Coventry, this. Don't want the earth. Next, 120, Victoria-dwellings, Farringdon-road, London.

WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 21, for the extra special Strong Comedy Sketch, "Uncle Obadiah." CHARLES DIXTON, Palace, Attercliffe.

WANTED, Bradley, Cyclist; Mint, Mart, Paper Manipulators; sure successes. Wire for Monday, Theatre, Leamington; only vacant date this year.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus, Ponies, Donkeys, Goat, and Dogs, including the smallest Pony and Donkey in the world, will shortly be at Liberty for vacancies. Address, CABAN, Palace Gardens, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Rosini's Miniature Menagerie; also Gipsy Ann and famous Dog Rosie. Alex. T., Widnes; vacant Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 14.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Great Troupe of Dogs, the four-footed animals with human brains, Liberty Sept. 23, Share or Certainty. Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

WANTED, by Youth (18), Engagement, with Sketch, Troupe, or Partner. Write, COMEDIAN, 4 Bisbrook, Wimbourne-rd., Bruce-grove, Tottenham, N.

WANTED, Known, Boy Comedian (16) would like to join good Troupe; vacant Monday next. Write to WHIT ACRE, Pier Pavilion, Folkestone.

D'ARC'S MARIONETTES.
D'ARC'S MARIONETTES.
D'ARC'S MARIONETTES.

WANTED, Offers, for
Sept. 23
and Oct. 7.
Wanted, Offers, for Sept. 23 and
Oct. 7.
The only dates open this year.
The only dates open this year.

Through obliging Mr. Samuel Lloyd,
Pavilion, Glasgow.

Monday, Sept. 16,
Pavilion, Glasgow.

Write or wire,
W. J. D'ARC,
Pavilion, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Travers' Bioscopes, at Lib. Moderate terms; latest Films. TRAVERS, 154, High-street, Clapham, S.W. Telephone 1412 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Gentleman with own Cinematograph desires Engagement for Season; willing to tour. State terms. Box 5,372, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Operator, with own Bioscope, Limes or Electric. Disengaged Sept. 21 and onward. EDISON, 22, Penton-street, London, N.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer. Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World.
If you want to Buy or Sell
Anything Connected with the Business,
Consult TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept.,
"The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.
Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman seeks position as Manager, or otherwise, to large show or exhibition, travelling or stationary, where twenty-seven years' experience as proprietor of all kinds of shows (large and small) would be a consideration. Cash security if required; also references from leading showmen and persons of high social standing. Or would hire, purchase, or work on percentage any first-class, up-to-date concern. Apply, TOM NORMAN (Silver King), Woodlands Farm, Wartling Hill, Sussex.

WANTED, Known, .22 "R" and "D" Cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters, Pistols, and all repairs done. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known,
Important,
that the next meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union will be held at the
Bowling Green Hotel, Farnworth, near Bolton,
on Tuesday next, Sept. 17,
at 2.30 p.m.
Important business.
Signed,
T. HURST, Sec.

WANTED, Known, for Prompt Delivery of Future Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, and other Automatic Cards rely on the old firm. KENYON, 21, King-street, Blackburn.

WANTED, Known.—As it does not appear to be generally known that we control the British Patents covering the "Mills" Slot Bag (or Ball) Puncher, we now publish the fact, and give Notice that we shall maintain our rights therein.—MINERVA AUTOMATIC Co., 14, Charterhouse-buildings, E.C.

WANTED, Showmen to Save Money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Stacey and Co., Settles-street, London, E., supply everything for the Fair, Guns, Cartridges, &c.

PLEASURE BEACH, BLACKPOOL.
Greatest Combination of Open-air Attractions in the Country.
WANTED, Known.—For concessions for real Novelties for Summer Season, 1908.
Address, PROPRIETORS, Pleasure Beach, Blackpool.

WANTED, for Ye Olde Englishe Fair and Trades Exhibition, to be held at Pier Pavilion, Folkestone, from Oct. 2 until Oct. 16, all kinds of Working Stalls, Side Shows, and Novelties of every description; Shares or Rental; only Pier Toll of 2d. will be charged; Band three times daily; up-to-date advertising and everything done to ensure success. Only Shows of a bright and popular description will be entertained. Applications must be made immediately to ROBERT FORSYTH, Pier Pavilion, Folkestone.

WANTED, First-class Side-show, at Once, for Old-established Touring Syndicate Exhibition, Cinematographs or Chronophone may write. GOODALL, Town Hall, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Side Shows of every description, for Pleasure Gardens, late Skating Rink, Forest Gate. Letters only. Full particulars. MANAGER, Grand Theatre, Forest Gate.

WANTED, Known, Annual Novelty Exhibition opens Oct. 7, '07, for Scotch Fishing Season. Wanted, Tattooist, Glass Blower, Post-card Photography, &c., shares or salary, eight weeks certain. Apply, P. SHERMAN, Revolving Tower, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, for Hancock's Living Picture Show, two Knockabouts (Acrobatic preferred), for three days, Wednesday, Sept. 18, and two following days. Week's wages given for the three days. Wire, Saturday and Monday, HANCOCK, Fair Ground, Barnstaple.

WANTED, to open shortly, Palmist, Handkerchief, Tattooist, Wire-Worker, or other Novelty, for spaces in popular Photo. Studio and Free Fun Factory; Shares or Rental; also Smart Doorman, to wear uniform. C. WILSON, 60, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, immediately, experienced Lady Palmist and Character Reader; terms shares. Address, MADAME, 83, Penarth-road, Cardiff.

WANTED, Good Paraders, Pair of Sisters, also Man and Wife, double turn, used to business, or useless. Spargo write. PAYNE'S Dreamland, Doman's Meadow, York Town, Camberley.

WANTED, a Watchmaker, to travel with Auction Mart; must be steady. Apply, R. WILLIAMS, Auction Mart, Blaenavon, Mon.

WANTED, by The Pygmies, finishing Engagement Oct. 19, q Earl's Court, Engagements for their final three weeks before returning to the Ituri, Nov. 20. JAMES HARRISON, Brandesburton Hall, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Madame Corella, London Certificated Character-reader and Palmist, is open for Engagements, Oct., on. Victoria Pier, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Known, Mdme. De Para, Scientific Palmist and Otomorphologist, invites good offers Town or Country. Shares or Rental; Disengaged Oct., onwards, after tenth consecutive season at Western Arcade, Earl's Court Exhibition. 34, The Drive, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, Mora (the Handy Man) at Liberty, Agent, Manager, Singing, Musical Turn, Circus, Picture, Auction Mart. Beach, Littlehampton.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Joe Oram, Comedian, Ventr., and Sketch; good Plankman; not afraid work; 10 years with Auction Marts. Address, The Crystal Palace, High-street, Watford.

WANTED, Showmen,
and
other
Travellers,
to Know
that I have
Ground to Let
at the following well-known
Fairs and Wakes:—
Blackheath, Sept. 13 to 18;
Willenhall, Sept. 13 to 18;
Brierley Hill, Sept. 20 to 24;
Sandbach Wakes, Sept. 19 to 28;
Atherstone Statutes, Sept. 21 to 25;
the Great
Birmingham Onion Fair,
Sept. 25 to 28;
Leicester Great Fair,
Oct. 10 to 15;
and others to follow
to the end of the year.
Look Out
for my Special Grand
Xmas and New Year's Fairs.

All applications to
P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall.
'Phone, No. 80 Walsall. Tele., "Gondola, Walsall."

WANTED, Known, One or Two Spaces to Let (Jewellery, Engraving, Optics, &c.), in old-established Touring Trades Exhibition; Scenic stalls, gas-fittings, and gas provided. Second Scottish Tour comprising towns never previously visited by Trades Exhibitions. Address, MANAGER, Exhibition, Town Hall, Macduff, N.B. (94th consecutive town).

WANTED, to Let, Land for Stalls and Shows. Apply, JOHN HARDMAN, Manager, Starr Estate Fairground Co., 16, King-street, Blackpool.

ARCADIA DRILL HALL, PORTSMOUTH.
WANTED, to Let, Spaces, for Stalls, Cycle Racer, Side Shows, Cingalese, Novelties, &c., opening Nov. 30, six weeks, seventh year. MANAGER, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, to Hire, Four or Five Waggons of Wild Beasts, also Small Circus, winter, south town. Box 5,374, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let, on Hire or Share, Set of Large Distorting Mirrors, Exhibitions, Bazaars, &c. Address, Box 5,369, "The Era."

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual for 1907 is up to its usual standard—in fact, it is, if possible, smarter than ever. There is an excellent budget of articles from the pens of Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Cicely Richards, Miss Pollie Emery, Messrs. Frank Cooper, Arthur Collins, Charles Collette, Frank Curzon, Edward German, Cliff Ryland, and many others. The illustrated obituary, the alphabetical list of plays produced in London and the provinces, and all the other valuable features of the Annual are as complete as ever, and make this handbook extremely useful not only to members of the profession, but to the infinitely wider circle interested directly or indirectly in the drama.—Whitehall Review.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
Once more, stuffed with good things, "The Era" Annual appears from its office at 5, Tavistock-street. The edition for 1907 is as nicely got up as its predecessors, and, in addition to a calendar and other theatrical memoranda, contains two lists of the year's productions, one arranged under the names of the theatres and the other alphabetically. In addition there are a number of striking or humorous contributions by leading actors and actresses—Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Charles Collette, Miss Alma Murray, and Mr. John Lawson are among those who have contributed bright experiences to this up-to-date shilling theatrical handbook.—Star, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
Another book which calls for attention is that excellent and almost indispensable work of reference, "The Era" Almanack and Annual. In this handy shillingsworth one has a complete record of the past dramatic year, and the arrangement is so admirable that no time is lost in finding the desired subject, title of play, revival, or new production, and all that appertains to the drama of the year. The same remark applies to the information concerning the stages of Paris and Berlin; and I should like to see next year the American stage included, because it is becoming so intimately allied with our own, by reason of the production of plays, the interchange of actors, and the comprehensive interests of managers. In addition to the solid pages of facts, there are included short tales and stories by well-known actors and actresses, and altogether the book is one which should find its way into the hands of all genuine lovers of the drama.—Morning Advertiser, Feb. 23, '07.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for 1907. 1s. "Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C. Once again this useful publication comes out with its useful tabular information concerning things dramatic, such as the date of the production of new plays and important revivals produced at the London, provincial, and Paris theatres. In addition are many portraits and short stories given over the signatures of many prominent theatrical and music hall people, and a variety of other interesting matter.—Financial Times, Jan. 21 '07.

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Rehearsal at 1.30, for :—
Hayden Coffin, Powell's Marionettes, Esta Stella, Conn and Conrad, Le Gay Quartette, Æolians, Marguerite Broadfoote, Carina Sisters, Whalen and West, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Seldom's Venus, May Fayre, Corcoran Bros Parisch and Edeleveiss, Lukushimas, Garden of Girls, Howard and St. Clair, Bioscope, J. P. Ling, Harriett Vernon.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Devil's Sunday, Lancashire Lasses, Olgar and Elgar, Illustrated Song, Geo. Reeves, Lena Willard, Bioscope, Sprightley Sisters, Derenda and Green, Henny and Blanche.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Ella Retford, Rezene and Robini, Lester Brothers, Napoli Sextette, Laurie's Kindergarten, Horace Pollock and Co., Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Gothams, Virto and Venita.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Harry Lauder, Orpheus, Bioscope, Hanid Alexander, Poluski Bros., Lottie Govell, Leo Tell, Bros. Redmond, Marion Scott, Ivan Webb, Dion Wade.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
T. E. Dunville, Wedburns, Beatrice Renee, Rita and Roma, Florence Esdaile, "Dida" Illusion, Horace White, Mark Merry, Bioscope, John Donald.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Boissetts, Ben Albert, Burley and Burley, Stella Troupe, Nettie Starr, Miles Stavordale Quintette, Lily Burnand, J. W. Rowley, Ella Dean, Frank Elliston and Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Harry Randall, Kerr and Koe, Hilda Playfair, Alexandre and Hughes, Leipsig, Eadie and Ramsden, Sisters Caselli, Chas. Robinson, Bioscope, Lauri and Beatty.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Tom Hearn, Lilian Lowe, Will Cromwell, O'Malley and Brown, Daniel and Son, "Zuzuland," Bioscope, "That Brute Simmons."

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
J. B. Preston, Harry Weldon, Moulier Sisters, Haytors, J. A. Wilson, Craggs, Prince of Monte Carlo, Ellis Barrieton, Rhoda Paul, Rossi Ashton.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Vesta Tilley, Spry and Austin, May Henderson, Frank Cumminger, Clementa Trio, Launceston Elliott, Sisters Poole, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Mark Adams and Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Courtice and Louie Pounds, Beatrice Willey, Three Clarions, Clarice Mayne, Brown and Le Clercq, Hill and Whittaker, Eight Empire Girls, Elsie Robey, Bioscope, Hooker and Davis.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Padoubny, Will Poluski, jun., Three Cape Girls, Jackson Family, "Wreck of the Hesperus," Ella Shields, Imperial Russian Troupe, Rich and Rich, Bioscope, Fanny Fields.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Lupino Bros., Nipper Lane, G. H. Chirgwin, The Sylvas, James Stewart, A. C. Lilly and Co., Rosie Sylvesta, Amos Howard, Bioscope, Victor Travers.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Little Ganty, Madge May, R. A. Roberts, Lena Verdi, Gardiner and Vincent, Nellie Wallace, Phillipi Bros., Tribune Trio, The Kirbys, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
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EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
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EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
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EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
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PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for :—
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HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"Typhoon," Sisters Pine, Leonards, Ted E. Box, La Berat, Three Prestons, Illustrated Song, Bioscope, De Gracia's Elephants.

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Rehearsal at 1, for :—
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EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
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Rehearsal at 2, for :—
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(Pelham and Rule).
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Sung by SAM MAYO.

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Sung by Miss HETTY KING.

NOW LAUGH.
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Sung by Miss MARGARET ASHTON and FRED ELTON.

I'D LIKE TO CALL YOU SWEETHEART.
Sung by Miss MAUD ESMOND.

GIRLS ALL LOVE A SOLDIER BOLD
Sung by GEORGE LASHWOOD.

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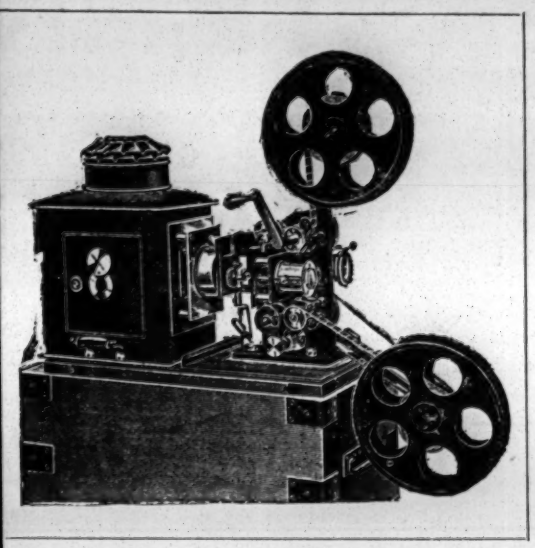

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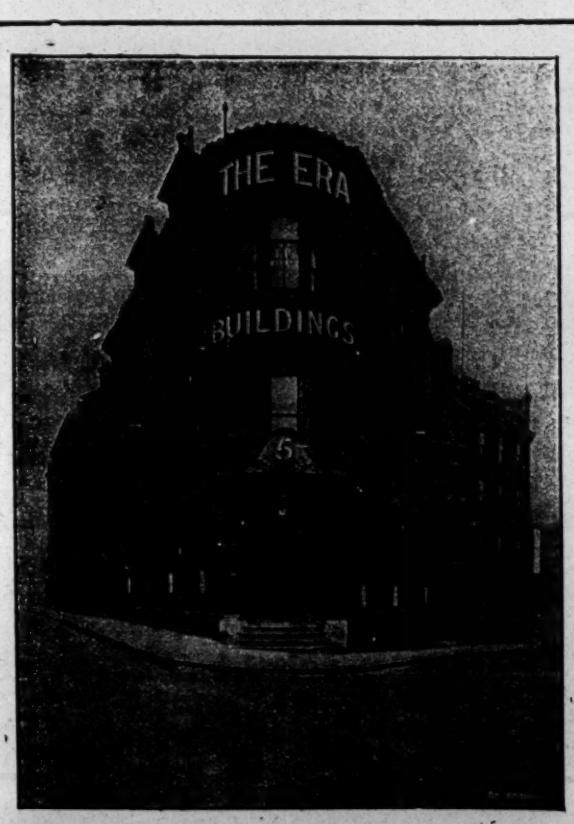

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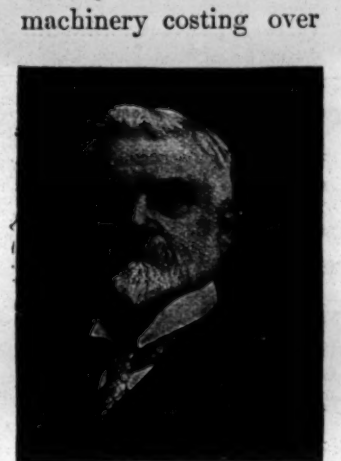

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERCARN.—PUBLIC HALL.—Proprietors, Abercarn Public Hall Co., Ltd. — The season was opened here on the 13th inst by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *The Silver King*, and packed houses were drawn both on that and the following evening. Mr. E. Stanton Sharp appeared in the title-rôle, winning admiration for his excellent acting; Miss Florence Radcliffe, who gave a sympathetic rendering of Nellie Denver; Jackes, a very popular character, is undertaken by Mr. Roland Howard; and the Spider, in the hands of Mr. Paul Beckett, was all that could be desired. Other characters are in capable hands, and the piece is appropriately mounted.

ABERDEEN.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mr. George Alexander's company, in *His House in Order*, is again warmly welcomed. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart continues to play the part of Hilary Jesson with his customary power and restraint; Nina is charmingly presented by Miss Grace Armytage Noble; Mr. Edward Pearce is as effective as ever in the character of Filmer Jesson; Mr. George Fitzgerald is the same stately old humbug, Sir Daniel Ridgeley; and Miss Augusta Haviland and Miss Blanka Stewart give first-rate portraitures of the feminine Ridgeleys. Mlle. Lilli Kear makes an amusing Thomé; and Miss May Harris acts very intelligently as the boy Derek.

PALACE THEATRE. — Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Miss Florrie Forde continues to delight the audiences with her songs; Mr. Burt Shepard is perhaps more popular than ever; Mr. Fred Land's eccentricities are highly relished; Lyster and Cooke, the "musical astronomers," give a very enjoyable turn; Little Vio-lette is a dashing male impersonator and dancer; Duncan and Godfrey make a success with their coster comedy, *Me and 'Er;* Mr. George Bernard is a good actor-vocalist; Mr. Arthur Goodman, a smart comedy juggler; and Bolano receives hearty applause for his dexterity as a juggler and equilibrist.

BEACH PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. David Thomson.—This entertainment is usually crowded to the door at both of the daily performances. Mr. Jack Marson is one of the newcomers. His voice is heard to fine effect in a variety of popular songs. The other members of the company continue to increase in popularity.

ABERTILLERY.—THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom.—*The Power of Gold* is being played here this week by Mr. Frank Ayrton's company. A pleasing performance is given, and the setting and dresses are distinctly good. Mr. R. F. Stacy's representation of Paul Judson leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Frank Ayrton as Sammy Smudge and Miss Madge Seymour as Norah Donnelly are highly diverting; Mr. George Lyttleton is good as Hadgi Zambra; Miss Amy McNeill as Lady Brandon has a powerful part, and plays it exceedingly well; Mr. Frank Holyoake as Mark Harley is good; Miss Lily Prescott as Meg Judson engrosses her audiences; and Mr. W. Victor and Little Prudence also do their share capably.

PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. E. and H. Tilney; General-Manager, Mr. E. Pryce.—The *chef d'œuvre* on the bill this week is provided by the Brothers Luck, who evoke screams of merriment in *The Demon of the Cellar*. Allsopp and Bekwith in duo comedy are distinctly clever and amusing; the Two Errolls give a farcical turn; Dai Daviss, with his patter and whistling, keeps the house in a roar; the Sisters Charnley, with song and dance, are very good; the Wambas are funny and skilful on curious musical instruments; La Belle Lily and Albert give an expert gymnastic turn; Florence Inman is excellent in coon songs; and the Pavilion Bioscope completes an entertaining bill.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—*The Prodigal Parson* is being presented here by Messrs. Alfred Northway and V. Garrod's company. The title-rôle is cleverly interpreted by Mr. Garrod; Enoch Jaggins finds a capital exponent in Mr. Fred Beckett; and the part of the brother, Ben, is successfully portrayed by Mr. A. Tomlin; while Mr. Owen Remonde does justice to the part of Phil Drive. The part of Fern Godley is pleasingly played by Miss Bertha Kingston; Miss May Grayce is an able representative of Gretchen von Crans, and Miss Violet Jeffries gives an excellent impersonation of Myrtle Godley.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Director, Mr. F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—The Original Ten Loonies head the bill here, and prove most amusing; Ariel and Astarte are talented gymnasts; Frank Coyle pleases as usual; Violet Morgan and Jack Ford give a capital turn; Henriquette Maude, the Little New Zealand Girl, meets with success; Three Royal Temples merit praise as Welsh duettists; Clifton and Gibson are an amusing pair of comedians; the Varleys prove capable duettists. The Bioscope pictures complete the bill.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gladwin.—*The Eve of Her Wedding* is being sustained here by a powerful company, led by Mr. Wilson Benge. Mr. Benge as Tremain was most effective; as Mavis Miss Sadie Smith, in her portrayal of temporary mental derangement, showed an emotionalism which stamped her as a clever actress; as the adventuress Miss Madeline Raby was distinctly good; Mr. Henry Lloyd made a clever villain; Mr. Chas. Groves, jun., as Cairshaw was cool and clever; Mr. David Battie made a dashing Giovanni; and Mr. Chas. H. Gallin portrayed the wastrel son very naturally; Kinkie, the unruffled Yankee girl, had an able exponent in Miss Charles Digby; Jack Hearne was well played by Mr. Arthur E. Holland; and in the dual part of Squire and Bill Groggins Mr. Arthur Keand did well.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill. — *The Silver King*, played by Messrs. Polini and Melford's company, is a popular attraction here this week. A very fine interpretation of Wilfred Denver is given by Mr. Fred D. Daviss; Miss Adah Barton appeals successfully to the sympathies of the audience as Nelly Denver; Mr. E. J. George is still the unapproachable representative of the faithful old servitor, Daniel Jaikes; good work is done by Mr. L. St. George Lowther as the Spider; and as his accomplices in crime, Messrs. G. Belmore, A. Wright, and F. Kingsley, as Corkett, Coombe, and Cripps, are adequate. Mr. Byron Pedley is a smart detective; and able impersonations are given of minor parts. Miss E. Temple is amiable and true to a bad husband as Olive Skinner; and Misses Flossie H. Daviss, Louie Hale, Bessie Wright, and Mary Simpson also act creditably.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The programme is good for the week, and opens with an expert comedy turn on the rings by Rinlo and Zinlo. George Edney sings patriotic songs, dressed neatly in naval costume; Ariston's Cats are undoubtedly well trained; and Dolly Ross gives a smart coon song and dance. The farce, entitled *The Will*, by R. Cameron Matthews, is well presented by the author and Misses B. Armytage, A. Graham, B. Deares, and Mr. B. W. Allison; Horace Sade is a nimble dancer; Larry Lewis is a singing comedian with a quiet, but effective style; Kendrick and Laura are popular as ever in song, dance, and dialogue; the Wakomie Brothers are remarkably good in instrumentation; the Geni Family (ten performers with three ponies) present a really smart "show"; and the pictures of the Bioscope are up to date.

ATTERCLIFFE.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. —Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bert Lester.—An excellent programme is provided here this week, large audiences being the result. Mr. Charles Dixton and company in a sketch full of laughter-provoking situations, entitled *Uncle Obadiah*, hits the popular taste, and the parts are all well played by Messrs. W. H. Bradford, Barry Keay, Charles Dixton, Misses Edith Madelle, Emily Kelsey, and Flo Harris. A pleasing item is that supplied by Miss Maude Mortimer, a charming vocalist, whose songs are highly appreciated; Lachie Thomson's "top weights," Tom and Neil, give an interesting exhibition of club-swinging, boxing, and wrestling; Mr. E. C. Clayton's Attergraph pictures include a dramatic story, "Just in Time"; a hearty reception is accorded to Mr. Percy Farrimond, Lancashire singing collier; Vincent, acrobatic table expert, is paying a return visit; Allen and Hall are a couple of amusing comedians; and the Three Behans are good in their quick-change singing and dancing speciality.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone. —Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *Peter's Mother* is here. Mr. Ernest Ruston is in every way admirable as Sir Timothy Crewys, Bart.; and Miss Violet Ley is a centre of interest as Lady Mary Crewys. The part of Peter Crewys is artistically done by Mr. E. F. Meads; and the John Crewys, Q.C., of Mr. Henry Renouf is a finished performance. Mr. William Mallalieu as Doctor Birch and Mr. Townsend Whitling as Dr. Blundell are also conspicuously successful. *Chalk and Cheese*, by Eille Norwood, precedes.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Lawrence Brough's company in *The Lady of Ostend* is here. Mr. Brough plays the original part of Le Baron de Longueville with admirable verve, and Mr. Henry Hampson does the merchant, Dick Whortles, to perfection. Mr. Dan Rose is excellent as Joseph Carbrory, and Mr. Watkin Wynn is a capital Toby Krockitt. Miss Maud Buchanan, in the title-rôle, is a charming actress; Miss Vera Vallis is a winning Millie; and Miss Kate Mitford is a good Dorothy Whortles. The piece is preceded by *Margaret's Stratagem*.

BARRY DOCK.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. R. Horrocks.—This popular place of entertainment continues to draw crowded audiences, and the bill of fare provided gives universal satisfaction. Selections from the standard operas are given under the direction of Mr. Frank Pemberton, late of the Moody-Manners Opera Company, with Miss Evelyn De Lara as prima donna, assisted by Miss Vera Vizard (contralto) and Mr. Albert Chapman from the Carl Rosa company. On Monday *Maritana* was presented, and on Wednesday *Il Trovatore*, *The Bohemian Girl* being announced for Friday. Clarke's Nippers, with their club juggling and ball-punching, are decidedly clever; Frank Lyndo, a versatile comedian; and Mlle. Ada Gately, lady juggler and swinging wire artist, assisted by Mme. Ella, are also well received. Stuart and Stuart, entertainers; Julian Mack, "the suffragette"; and the new pictures on the Electric Bioscope, are highly appreciated.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—The first musical attraction for the autumn season is *Veronique*, which has been received with great cordiality by good houses throughout the week. Mr. Charles Macdona's company is a particularly strong one, and includes a great Bath favourite in Mr. Daley Cooper, whose inexhaustible energy and spontaneous humour find full play in the character of Coquenard; and, together with Mr. Oliver J. Round as Loustot, is the life and soul of the piece. Mr. Sidney Bracy is excellent as the bridegroom Seraphin; and Florestan is undertaken with both vocal and histrionic success by Mr. Arthur Stroud. A fascinating Veronique is found in Miss Mabel Lait, her singing, acting, and dancing securing her warm approval; Miss Stella St. Audrie scores a legitimate hit, her comedy acting being admirable; Miss Elsie Probyn makes an engaging Denise. On Monday, in the absence of Miss Roberta Williams, the rôle of Agatha was played by Miss Marie Wyse, who must be congratulated upon stepping into the breach with such pleasing results. The chorus and orchestra, under Mr. Victor Champion's direction, added to the enjoyment of a delightful performance.

PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Leoni Clarke is once again exhibiting his wonderful army of trained animals, which is a turn that always creates great interest in old and young alike; Miss Cora Duncan and Mr. Albert Brasque present their playlet, *A Society Butterfly*, with success; the Brothers Adderley, in their musical comedietta, *An Officer's Servant*, are well received; Will Driscoll, the swell comedian and clever dancer, is always welcomed in Bath; the Sisters Lytton, in the vocal duets, harmonise effectively; Dale and Vale, as pedestal and step-dancers, maintain their position; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux continue to please with new subjects. Amy Bellwood, comedienne and dancer, secures many admirers.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—The National Animated Picture Company are remaining here for another week, putting on The Life of Christ as the leading draw. On Thursday a matinée in aid of the Mayor's Hospital Fund was arranged, the staff having generously given their services for the occasion.

BEDFORD. — ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week Mr. J. M. Barrie's *Walker, London*, is being presented by Mr. Arthur A. Horner's company. The staging is excellent, a houseboat on the Thames being charmingly depicted. Mr. Harry C. Morton successfully impersonates Jasper Phipps, the modest scheming hero; Mr. W. Rene Hammersmith puts plenty of go into the part of Reynard von Burg; Mr. C. H. Hughes, as Kit Upjohn, has the sympathies of the audience in his attempt to win the love of the beautiful B.A., who in turn is prettily presented by Miss Katherine Parry; Mr. Forrester Harvey is a boyish as well as a boisterous W. G., and Mr. Charles Middleton is good as Ben, a boatman; Miss Ruby Hamilton Belasco, as Mrs. Golightly, proves to be an accomplished actress; Miss Eleanor Papera is a vivacious Nanny O'Brien; and the humorous character, Sarah Rigg, is very cleverly handled by Miss Jennie Douglas-Hicks. The curtain-raiser is *Curing a Husband*.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. M. McCann.—There have been many representations of *Macbeth* in this city, but certainly Mr. William Mollison is to be congratulated on the scholarly manner in which he impersonated the rôle on Monday. Throughout his work was superb. Miss Evelyn McNay in the part of Lady Macbeth rose to a high level of dramatic power; Mr. W. A. Makersy's Duncan was also good; and the Macduff of Mr. William Calvert was also noteworthy; Mr. Whitford Kane, a native of the district, played as the first Witch, and was clever in every way. The other pieces performed include *The Bonnie Brier Bush*, *Hamlet*, and *As You Like It*.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The Six Brothers Luck top the bill here in their pantomime absurdity *Blazes*. Sammy Shields, comedian, is heard to advantage in his songs and football stories; Carrie Laurie's Miniature company, in a sketch, *The Belles of the Kitchen*, take well; as do the Grisse Trio in an acrobatic speciality; José Collins, a pretty comedienne, is encored; the Sisters Edwards, a couple of good duettists and dancers, captivate the house; and also appearing are Charles Lilburn and the Palace pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Downs.—Wilson and Waring, in *A Bit of Nonsense*, are top of the bill here; that pathetic play, *The Little Colonel*, played by Ernest Montefiore and company, takes very well; Chas. Fisher's company, in *The Music Master*, bring down the house; Zanfretta and Napio's musical act is smart in every way; a gymnastic novelty is provided by the Four Rio Brothers; and P. A. Hopo, vocalist; Harry Wright, comedian; Nellie Gannon, serio; Harry Conlin, comedian; and the Hipposcope pictures make up a good bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Miss Queenie Leighton takes premier place on the programme here, and her songs are much admired; a laughable sketch, *Captain Cupid*, is well played by Geo. C. Dougherty and company; the musical act of Will Cornish is smart; the speciality of the Calcotts is a good item on a well-balanced programme, which includes Bert Danson, Will Montgomery, Tom Wootwell, and the Empire picturcs.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. S. Neill.—The Alhambra company this week is playing *The Woman in Black*. The company all do well in the drama, notably Messrs. Fred Terriss (Frank Edenbridge), Cyril Grier (Count Ivan), Tom H. Solly (Bob Stokes), with the Misses Nina Blake-Adams (Ruth), Kathleen Magee (Countess Marie), Mattie Crawford (Gwenny), and Alice Clarke (Mrs. Mendall). The Short-sighted Sportsman forms the subject of the Bioscope picture.

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Battersby.—Messrs. Fred Acton and H. C. Nash are presenting *Between the Lights*. Mr. William R. Winning undertakes the heavy lead, and makes Stanley Crofton the rogue he is supposed to be. The actor who works most effectively in the piece is Mr. Frank Orchard, in the dual rôle of Oswald Warren and Ben Armley; whilst Mr. Edward Stream uses his opportunities to the full as Captain Hinton. Mr. Fred Acton enacts Jimmy Tickle, and Misses Phyllis Elton, Fanny Williams, Millie Doris, and Winifred Acton work with a will towards the success of the drama.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL — Sole Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. V. Leveaux's company are fulfilling a highly-successful return engagement with *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Wilfred E. Payne secures the sympathies and interest of the audience throughout by a clever and artistic impersonation of Jack Frobisher. He is admirably supported by Miss Dora Hole, who, as Lady Alethea, plays a difficult part with much skill and effect; Mr. E. Spencer Geach unmistakably scores as Hankey Bannister; the Marquis of Steventon is appropriately enacted by Mr. W. Kingsford Pearce; and Miss Margaret Murray as Lady Westerby, and Miss Elsie Ross as Lady Lucy Derenham are efficient. Other parts are adequately represented, and the production is carefully staged.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—One of Fred Karno's companies is presenting the mirth-provoking sketch, *The Bailiff*, with great success. Mr. Fred Kitchen sustains the title-rôle with great verve, and the production goes with a rare swing from start to finish. Mr. Tom Costello, the popular comedian, is on a welcome return engagement; and Mr. Charles Norton, mimic; Miss Gertie Gitana, comedienne; the McConnell Trio, in their sketch, *Mrs. Skinner's Lodgers*; Miss Elly Adair, comedienne and dancer; and Brown's Royal Bioscope complete an excellent company.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS, ROCK FERRY.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton.—The popularity of the Pierrot entertainment here continues unabated.

THE TOWER, NEW BRIGHTON.—Manager, Mr. William Holland.—The comic ballet, *Monte Carlo*, the ballet divertissement *Wonderland*, a strong variety show, and a host of competitions continue to attract crowds of visitors.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*The Cingalee* has returned here with Mr. Charles Macdona's company. Miss Marjorey Grey shines among the ladies with her fascinating picture of the Cingalese girl, Nanoya; Miss Lydia Flopp is rapturously applauded for her graceful singing and dancing as Peggy Sabine; Miss Cora Mansell is successful as Lady Patricia; and the *pas seul* in Act II. by Miss Violet Hope (the charming Angy of the play) is very popular. Mr. Wilfred Heath makes a devoted and melodious lover as Harry Vereker; Mr. Milroy Cooper does well with the part of Boobhamba; Mr. W. J. Austin is among the most successful as Bobby Warren; Mr. Frank Sutton scores as Sir Peter Loftus; and Mr. Tom Payne keeps the audience in laughter with his merry humours as the Baboo lawyer, Chambhuddy Ram.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston. — The Moody-Manners Opera Company opened here to a good house on Monday with *Aida*, so successfully revived on the last visit here. Mme. De Vere-Sapio once more held her auditors in delightful thrall with her perfect exposition of the title-rôle; Mr. Joseph O'Mara gave the music allotted to Radames with splendid tone and manly feeling; Miss Toni Selter achieved a genuine success as Ammeris; Mr. Chas. Magrath was impressive as the King; Mr. Lewys James was both vocally and dramatically excellent as Amonasro; Mr. Charles Manners sang in his fine, sonorous style as the High Priest; and Miss V. Brown succeeded as the Priestess. On Tuesday, and for the first time in the provinces, *Madame Butterfly* was given, when Mme. Fanny Moody, whose impersonation scored alike in the tragic and the lighter passages, was supported by Mr. O'Mara, who as the hero won further honours, and a splendid all-round cast. *Lohengrin*, *Tannhäuser*, *La Bohème*, and *Faust* are also in the programme.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood.—*Her Love Against the World*, with the hall-mark of its Lyceum success, has brought crowded houses to witness the fine efforts of Messrs. Hallatt and Howard's company in this popular play. Miss Grace Heywood gives a capital impression of the Princess of Idalia; Mr. Frank E. Petley brings down the house with his fine manly acting as the Earl of Strathmere; Mr. Mayor-Cooke gives considerable colour to the schemes of Prince Ulric; Mr. W. H. Hallatt lifts the part of Prince Otamar into much prominence; Mr. Fred Emery is clever in his treatment of Prince Maurice; Miss Gertrude Price appears as Shula with distinction; Miss Julia De Esco shines as the dancer, Corona; Miss Rossie St. John is happy in her acting as Nello; and the Misses Lizzie Lennon and Hettie Ferguson as the maids, and Messrs. Henry B. Lewis and J. Fulton Millar as Henrick and Fritz, light up the play with some clever flashes of humour. The remaining rôles are in excellent hands.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Female Swindler* is being played by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company. Miss Cecilia Dare assumes the characteristics of Lu

Valroy with much power and ease; Mr. Joseph Miliane embodies the rôle of the detective, Coulson, in a particularly able manner; Mr. Stanley Radcliffe makes the rascally character of Geoffrey Warden sufficiently bad and clear; Mr. Frank Woodville hits off the rôle of the receiver, Mikestein, admirably; Mr. Henry Wright as "the ambitious young man" plays four distinct parts with a fine appreciation of scope; Miss Jessie Belmore wins sympathy for the rôle of May Andrews with her charming acting; Mr. Walter H. Domoney is quite at home as the lover, Harold Travers; Miss Jessica Ford is well in the running as Mary Ann Mee; and the other characters are good.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*Her Marriage Vow* is given here by Mr. Edward L. Garside and Mr. J. Forbes Knowles and company. Mr. Garside's acting as Gilbert Carlton is marked with all the success that is to be expected of this tried and popular actor; Mr. George Beverley has calculated his opportunities as Ned Benton to a nicety; Miss Ruth Shepherd as the wife comes in with some touching scenes; Mr. J. Forbes Knowles as Daffy Dan is well liked; Miss Nelly Garside's efforts in the fun-making as Maggie are wholly successful and well recognised; Miss Nelly Shirley presents Hester Norton in a very acceptable light; Mr. Dan Ryan is a valuable and humorous contributor as Larry Leary; and Mr. Walter Wilby as Jim Burke, Mr. Wilford Bailey as Eben Chubb, Mr. John W. Rider as Walters, and Miss Annie Beaumont as Almira do good work.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*The Power of the Cross* is represented here by Mr. Lingford Carson's company. Mr. George A. De Gray clothes his assumption of Curzola with absorbing interest and mystery; Miss Marie Menzies as the heroine, Margaret, exercises all her wonted fascination; Miss Lilly Roselle exhibits more than ordinary skill in her delineation of Rita Lascelles; Mr. Frank Brunell as Gerald Fairfax and Mr. Alexander J. Haviland as Leslie Fairfax are both worthy; Miss Phyllis Vaughan as Blanche Kingsley and Miss Etta Turner as Dolly Gray act successfully; Mr. A. Hall Menzies is a salient character of the play as Benjamin Hawke; Mr. John S. Chamberlain gives the rôle of Timothy O'Dowd its due unction; and Mr. Sydney Fiennes and Mr. Dan Rose play good parts.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—At the head of the bill is Harry Randall, who has several new songs, which are admirably suited to the public taste. Edward Lauri, too, is very quaint in his musical mélange, *In Her Boudoir*, in which, assisted by May Beatty and company, he has plenty of opportunity afforded him of displaying his ability as a quick-change artist. Alexandre and Hughes are mirthful without vulgarity; while the musical part of their turn is not the least interesting. Eadie and Ramsden are very successful in *Charlie's Visit*; while Leipzig, the conjurer, has a series of very clever tricks with cards, coins, and other articles, in the manipulation of which he is very successful. Hilda Playfair, ballad vocalist; Kerr and Coe, in *Yards and Houses*; Charles Robinson, with illustrated songs; and the Sisters Casselli, duettists and dancers, also contribute excellent items.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thos. Barrasford.—Brinn's remarkable performances in his act, *Pastimes on a Battleship*, are greatly admired; Kellie and Agnas give a taste of Australian comedy, and the sample is very acceptable; the couple are not only singers and dancers, but also clever acrobats; Dora Lyric, vocalist, speedily sings herself into popularity; and Colby and May, the ventriloquist and dancing "doll," are of course heartily welcomed. The Flockton-Foster Comedy Company, Graham's Juveniles, and the Vyponds are also responsible for interesting turns.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Mr. F. W. Purcell's company occupy the premier position in the programme this week in a comedietta entitled *That Brute Simmons*; Tom Hearn, "the laziest juggler on earth," gives that comic interlude of his which met with so much favour at one of the local pantomimes last season, his physical culture burlesque being uproariously funny; a highly-exciting sketch is *Zululand; or, With Royston's Horse*, which is vividly portrayed by a competent company, and retains the attention of the audience from start to finish; Lillian Lowe has a splendid mezzo-soprano voice, and her rendering of "The flight of ages" meets with that approval which is always attached to high-class singing at this house; Will Cromwell, comedian; Daniel and Son, acrobats; and O'Malley and Brown, in a duologue of Irish-American flavour, were most successful in pleasing the audience.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here in *A Country Girl* on a return visit. Mr. Martin D. Pitts is an effective Geoffrey Chaloner; Mr. Bernard Vaughan as the Rajah of Bhong and Miss Poppy Dale as the Princess use their talents to the best possible advantage; Miss Blanch Lynd gives a good interpretation of Nan; and Miss Gladys Christol as Marjorie Joy is very charming. Mr. Arthur Staples is an amusing Barry; Sophie is in the capable hands of Miss Gipsy Touzeau; and Mr. W. O. Billington (Sir Joseph Verity) and Mr. Fred Carrington (Granfer Mummery) sustain their respective parts with credit.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company have paid a successful visit with *The Breed of the Treshams*. The most prominent rôle, that of Lieut. Reresby, otherwise the Rat, was undertaken by Mr. Sidney Bland, who proved himself to be an actor of great ability, and was accorded a hearty reception; Mr. Alfred Hollies was acceptable as Viscount Dorsington; Mr. Benson North, as the Hon. Hungerford, gave a fine reading of the part; Mr. George Traill was good as Colonel Sir Henry Curwen; and Mr. Robert Noble played with great success as the Hon. Frances Tresham; the Batty of Miss Grace Harlington was a most artistic performance; and the other parts were in good hands.

GAIETY.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. George B. Good.—Viry Bert and Bert, knockabout artists; Addie Rose, song and dance artist; Will Bowman, quaint comedian; Owen Deed, comedian; and the Cardonians, illustrated song artists; and the Bioscope make up a good programme, much appreciated by large audiences.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. William Tudor.—Messrs. Doyle and Connell, the new lessees, opened on Monday with a pleasing programme of pictures and variety turns, and were well patronised.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. B. Lloyd.—This week we are having a return visit of *Mr. Smith*, presented by Mr. Russell Norrie and his company. Mr. Russell Norrie himself sustains the part of Mr. Smith with conspicuous ability; and Miss Gladys Lloyd gives a clever interpretation of Lady Mary Hildergate.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Clever turns appearing here are headed by Kelly, Gillette, and Bart in a unique act as bounding billiardists. Doran Brothers appear in a funny gymnastic display; Annie Casey, comedienne; Percy Johnson, comedian; Carlotta Levey, late of the Three sisters Levey; Charlie Chard, comedian; Mollie Woolstenhulme, operatic vocalist; Harry Rogerson, the tired comedian; the Sisters Temple, dainty and refined vocal duettists; Mozzetto, juggler; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope are also among the attractions.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—Fred Gimnett's company in a miniature melodrama, entitled *Beacon Bell*, is the chief turn here this week, and is played to advantage by the members of the company. The Jees present their musical and knockabout sketch, the *Musical Smithy*; Phillips and Marriott, society entertainers, indulge in clever song and dance; Hyde and Cody, acrobatic comedians, provide a very mirthful turn, in addition to executing some clever tumbling; Jimmy James, humorist and banjoist, is well appreciated; Bessie Lind is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; a novel hand-balancing turn is introduced by the Picquays; and the Hippodrome pictures conclude a capital programme.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—Mr. James Welch's company, in *When Knights Were Bold*, is paying a first visit here. Mr. Vincent Erne as Sir Guy de Vere gives an extremely humorous impersonation; to Miss Ernita Lascelles a special word of praise must be accorded for her excellent rendering of Lady Rowena; Mr. V. Sansbury as Isaacson, Mr. Cecil Clayton as Widdicome, Mr. Campbell Bishop as the Dean, and Mr. Cory Thomas as Sir Brian are capital in their respective characters; while good performances come from Mr. Clarence Napier, Mr. Reginald Hunter, Miss Thyrza Norman, and Miss Ethel Royale.

SHAFTESBURY HALL. — After a season of seven weeks, with two performances daily, Mr. J. T. West's pictures continue to draw large audiences. The great attraction this week is a film showing motor-car racing at Brooklands, taken from a competing car, running at a speed of 60 miles an hour. The interludes are most capably filled by Pino Conti, a versatile actor, and Miss Kathleen Chipman, who is possessed of a voice of excellent quality.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's magnificent production, *Tom Jones*, is drawing packed audiences here this week. In the title-rôle Mr. Harry Welchman achieves much distinction. As Benjamin Partridge Mr. Dan Rolyat's humour and eccentric dancing simply convulse the audience; Miss Carrie Moore's bright performance of the maid, Honour, too, is another feature of the opera; Miss Ruth Vincent's very charming voice and grace fit her well for the part of Sophia; the old favourite, Mr. Ambrose Manning, is most diverting as Squire Western; Mr. John Morley as Mr. Allworthy, and Mr. Arthur Soames as Blifil, are well cast; Gregory is capitally played by Mr. Jay Laurier, with a fine sense of humour. Mr. Edward German's quaint music is delightfully rendered, and Mr. Hamish McCunn has the fine chorus and augmented orchestra well, in hand, and the scenic effects are charming.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow are this week again delighting Mr. Laidler's patrons with the breezy American drama, *At Cripple Creek*, and Mr. Stanley Bedwell is earning distinction as the manly hero, Joe Mayfield; very charmingly Miss Nancy Roberts supports him as Belle Gordon; the part of Martin Mason, the villain of the story, Mr. Eric Hudson fills with effect; and Miss Daisy Carlton, Mr. Will Hook, Mr. R. Harley-West, and Miss Rosie Hopkins are seen to advantage in the humorous side of the drama.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—In a fine programme Mr. Harry Roxbury and his smart company are very prominent in the capital musical mélange, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*. The clever Craggs are also to the fore with fine acrobatic work in their comedy sketch, *Billy the Steward and the Channel Queen*; Harry Weldon's "coon" burlesque is very funny; a very clever horizontal bar performance is gone through by the smart Moulier Sisters; the Haytors are responsible for good comedy in a short sketch, *Cabby and His Fare*; J. A. Wilson and his clever dog Towser are diverting; in her musical incident, "The Schoolboy's Dream," Miss Rhoda Paul is interesting and well received; In crayon drawings, illustrative of popular songs, Rossi Ashton displays great skill; and there is some good vocalism by Ellis Barrieton, and acceptable Scotch comedy by J. B. Preston.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Herbert Clifton displays originality and cleverness here this week as a mimic, and Burnetti is clever as a character musician and quick-change artist; the Custances contribute a smart comedietta, *A Game for Two*; in *The Red Letter*, an incident suggested by the Thaw case, Miss Lily Pearl as Evelyn and Mr. H. Leslie Bell as Whyte act well, and have excellent support; a most diverting acrobatic comedy act is presented by Wild, Willie, and West, "The Bounding Navvies"; Lord, Murray, and Lord are good in a comedy gymnastic mélange, *The Intruder*; there is some excellent harmony by the mirthful Tally Ho Trio; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux show some fine pictures.

BRIDLINGTON.—NEW SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. — Manager, Mr. Henry Hague.—Mr. W. Penrhyn Forster's company has been here with a new musical play, *The Officers' Mess*, in which Mr. Harry Liddle as the officer's servant Rugg is remarkably clever. The singing and dancing of Miss Nellie Sheffield in the part of Rose Smith give great pleasure. The other rôles are all capably filled. Mr. George Grossmith gave two of his capital entertainments on Tuesday and Wednesday, in which he showed his great powers as a laughter-maker. He had the assistance of Miss Dorothy Scott, who submitted humorous songs and stories; Miss Dorothy D'Egville, a talented vocalist; and Miss Bernadette Rawstron, pianiste. The attraction for the remainder of the week was supplied by Mr. Ralland's company in *La Poupée*.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and her Shakespearean company are giving a round of plays here this week. On Monday, in *The Taming of the Shrew*, Miss Harris gave a very fine representation of Katharine; Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., played the part of Petruchio with great effect; Mr. Mark Draper was admirable as Baptista, as was Mr. E. Stuart Vincent as Hortensio. Mr. Aubrey Mather as Lucentio, Mr. Percival Madgwick as Gremio, Mr. Percy H. Vernon as Tranio, Mr. Herbert Halford as Biandello, and Mr. Arthur Landor as Grumio were most efficient. Miss Gertrude Gilbert gave a fine rendering of the part of Bianca, as did Miss Muriel Dole as Curtis, and Miss Nora Golden as the Widow. On Tuesday *Romeo and Juliet* was played, with Miss Harris and Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., as the lovers; Wednesday, *The Merchant of Venice*; and the other plays of the répertoire include *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Twelfth Night*, and the Drury Lane drama, *The Royal Oak*.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. Harry Thornton, a fine baritone, is the vocalist at the promenade concerts, under Mr. Joseph Sainton, who is constantly introducing novelties for the entertainment of the visitors. In the Grand Hall, Mr. Flockton-Foster and his merry band of entertainers are still a great draw, as are also the Loyal Dominion Animated Pictures, which are a never-failing source of pleasure to both young and old.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS. — General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—Herr Simon Wurm and his Imperial Viennese Orchestra concluded their season on Sunday evening, and gave one of their best programmes in the theatre to a large audience. This week Mr. Surrie Lindon and his Vaudeville Entertainers are giving some of their choicest items, Miss Frey, Mr. Harry Collard, Mr. Bob White, and the other members of the company being very effective in their several clever turns.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—Those popular entertainers, the Waterloo Pierrots, are giving their amusing minstrel show this week in the old "Christy Minstrel" style, with black faces, and also producing their burlesque pantomime, *Cinderella*.

PALACE.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Delmar.—The Brisian Animated Pictures continue to be a great attraction here, and the amusing contest of "Whirling the Whizzer" causes great amusement. Saturday last was a grand gala day.

BRIGHTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. C. P. Levilly's company opened here on Monday with *La Poupée*. Miss Stella Gastelle made a charming Alesia, and displayed very artistic vocalisation; Mr. W. H. Powell as Hilarius afforded great amusement with his eccentricities and dry humour; Mr. F. Maxwell Stewart was admirably suited as the modest novice, Launcelot; Mr. Ernest Torrence was highly successful as Father Maximo; Miss Dulcie Garland's Mme. Hilarius and Miss Kitty Cavendish's Henri were well played; the gay old beaux, Loremois and Baron Chanterelle, had diverting representatives in Mr. Leon Simkin and Mr. Arthur Gibbons; and able support was given by Mr. Vernon Reed as Balthazar and Mr. Vernon Booth as the Notary. The chorus and orchestra were very effective under the direction of Mr. Harry Rushworth. At Thursday's special matinée Miss Ellen Terry, supported by Mr. James Carew and her London company, gave a performance of *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company is here this week with *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*. Miss Beatrice Homer appears with great success in the title-rôle; Mr. Philip Darien is highly effective as Jack Merryman; Mr. Leyton Cancellor submits a good character study as Hubert Gold; Mr. Leonard Thackeray's Antonio Luchesi is a capital impersonation; Miss Nell Oliver displays able acting as Rose Courtenay; Miss Nellie Jackson gives an admirable representation of Aggie Brown; Miss Violet Macaree's Morita merits praise; and Mr. Harold Standing as Tom Redvers and Mr. Harry Wimpenny as Raggles are successful. Especial commendation is due to Mr. Tubby Edlin for his clever and very entertaining impersonation of Tubby Herrick. The drama is splendidly staged.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—The Four Flying Eugenes submit a clever aerial gymnastic performance; Edie Veno is an eccentric comedienne and dancer; Johnny Dwyer is a pleasing comedian; Ada Parker is a charming singer and dancer; the Celtic Trio are well received in a medley of music, mirth, and melody; the Sisters Judge give an excellent turn with their performing cockatoos, macaws, and parrots; Cestrian, the acrobatic waiter, wins cordial applause; Charles Austin, comedian, appears in his latest success, *Mr. Perkins*; Conway and Leland are merry monopedes; and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Arthur Roberts, supported by a capital company, affords great amusement in *The Importance of being Another Man's Wife*; Pat Rafferty, the Hibernian comedian, achieves great success; the Delomes are warmly applauded in *The Phantom Clogs*; Horace Lane is a very smart and entertaining comedian; Mountford and Walsh are clever speciality artists; Winifred Ward, "the immaculate boy," gives a capital turn; Martine and Son are effective American song illustrators; Charles Cavalli, ventriloquist, wins well-deserved applause; the Three Royal Temples are pleasing operatic vocalists; Millie Howell is a refined songstress; and the Barrascope pictures are amusing.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company, under the management of Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Leveaux, is here this week with *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. H. Laurence Leyton gives a fine portrayal of Jack Frobisher; Miss Edith Cuthbert's Lady Alethea is admirably enacted; Mr. Ben Lewin makes a capital Marquis of Steventon; Miss Nona Wynne is a charming Lady Lucy; Miss Pauline Strauss as Miss Mornington merits praise; Miss Amaide's Lady Westerby and Mr. Russell Barry's Hankey Bannister are admirably played; and other effective impersonations are submitted by Mr. Eustace Burnaby (Harry Dallas) and Mr. George Percy (Bertram Hannaford).

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer and company opened here on Monday with *Catherine, Duchess of Dantzig*. Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer as Catherine in the prologue and as Mme. La Marechale Lefebre in the play achieved great success by her very artistic acting. Mr. Walter Raynham made a bluff Marechal Lefebre; Mr. Howard Rose acquitted himself admirably as Adrian; Mr. Ernest Griffin was well suited as Napoleon; Mr. F. Skein gave a good portrayal of Fouche; and Mr. Harry Colbeck's Sergeant Pierre, Miss Irene Knox's Mme. de Staël, Miss Katherine Herbert's Princess Pauline, and Miss Gwladys-Faunce's Rosalie also merit commendation. The programmes for the week also included *The Merchant of Venice, School for Scandal, East Lynne, Sapho*, and *Nell Gwynn*.

GRAND SKATING RINK.—The Mondial Cinema again provides afternoon and evening entertainments here. New subjects are represented, and the animated pictures prove very attractive.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Leonard Boyne, supported by his London company, is here with the successful play, *Raffles*, by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman. The staging of the play is admirable, and it is capitally acted. Mr. Leonard Boyne presents an excellent exposition of Raffles; he is cool and collected as required for the part, and sufficiently powerful when necessary. Mr. E. W. Thomas makes a good part of Curtis Bedford; Mr. Arthur Willoughby is a dignified Earl of Amersteth; Mr. Harold West makes the most of Viscount Crowley; Mr. Lewis Edgard acts well as Harry Manders; Mr. Dalziel Heron displays considerable power as Crawshay; Miss Lilian Hallows is convincing as Mrs. Vidal; Miss Dorothy Shawe is pleasing and sympathetic as Lady Ethel; and Lady Melrose, Gwendoline Conran, and Marie are satisfactorily taken by Miss Alys Rees, Miss Maud Cressall, and Miss Dorothy Gordon. The performance commences with a one-act play by Eric Lewis, *A Lesson in Shakespeare*, cleverly played by Mr. Dalziel Heron, Mr. Harold West, and Miss Dorothy Shawe.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company is very successful here with *Leah Kleschna*, the play being staged with liberality. Miss Bessie Rignold is admirable in the title-rôle, her performance being very powerful and interesting; Mr. William Clayton acts excellently as Kleschna; Mr. William F. Grant is dignified and impressive as Paul Sylvaine; Mr. Hamilton Deane makes the most of Raoul Berton; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid presents a good study of Schram; Mr. Charles Barrett is curt and soldier-like as General Berton, and in the earlier part of the play he and Miss Violet Thorold are really amusing in the parts of Valentine Favre and Sophie Champonnier. The remaining parts are carefully taken by Miss Ethel Russell, Miss Emmie Wallace, Miss May Hammond, Miss Edith Summers, Messrs. Bert Gunter, Bernard Rain, Arles Conway, Frederick Bannerman, and Henry Buxton.

PALACE. — Resident - Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Rousby's *Around Paris* is the leading attraction here, the production attaining a high state of perfection in electric and scenic effects; Mark Melford and company amuse with the sketch *Only a Wedding*; the Brothers Durant score with their speciality, *The Æroplane of the Airship Kings*; the Glenroy Troupe are expert dancers and speciality performers; Maxwell and Francis do a good comedy act; Frank Seeley, eccentric comedian, obtains applause; Harry Wenburn, comedian, is successful; and Jack Rae amuses as a comedy gymnast. The performance concludes with animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—John Tiller's company is here with *A Trip to Paris*, the sketch being amusing, and serving to introduce much comic business, good singing, and smart dancing; Siems does some clever illusions, card tricks, &c.; Daisy James, comedienne, presents a pleasing turn; Will English, coloured comedian, is successful; Kenneth and Kane do a good dancing and patter turn; Piquo is successful in a pot-pourri gymnastic act; and the Four Sisters Victoria please with their musical and dancing entertainment. The performance concludes with animated pictures.

COLSTON HALL.—Ralph Pringle's animated pictures continue to attract good houses. This week a new feature has been added in the form of the chrono-megaphone, Harry Lauder being selected to commence the series. Lauder's voice is unmistakable, and his tricks of movement and characteristic style is faithfully produced. Amongst other new films may be mentioned La Milo as Lady Godiva in the Coventry Pageant. The variety company and excellent band are also attractive.

DRILL HALL.—The Royal Italian Circus is here for a short season. The animals are all admirably trained, over two hundred taking part in the entertainment, and comic business is introduced by the Clowns Piccolo, Fiori, Nimble Nip, and Wee Wullie.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*The Lancashire Lad* is a new piece by Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, which gave much satisfaction on Monday to a full house. In another column will be found a full notice of it.

BURNLEY. — VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Crowded houses are here witnessing Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds's company in *Women and Wine*. Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds takes in admirable style the rôle of Dick Seymour; Miss Cissie St. Elmo gives a clever representation of Marcel Rigadout; Mary Andrews is capably performed by Miss Violet Sims; and Miss Joan Pereira is good as La Colombe. Mr. Harry Harrop as Charles Sauter and Miss Ethel Vinroy as Janet Marlow keep the ball of humour rolling; Mr. Edwin Kisby is a striking Caliban; and the dancing of the Lottie Stone Troupe is fully appreciated, as also is the charming singing of Miss Madge Northcote.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—At the head of the bill here this week is Captain Frank Taylor's troupe of educated baboons, whose tricks are greatly applauded. The Daunton Shaw Troupe, Australian cyclists, display ability and smartness; a drama in tabloid form, *The Fight in the Forge*, works the audience to a high state of excitement; the Cymros, Welsh duettists, sing "Keys of Heaven" in a most acceptable manner; Harry Fife, comedian, is good; Fiorette and Miss Elly are smart in a jumping act; and Lily Levey takes exceedingly well. Joe Humphrey, vocal comedian, and the great band contest by the Empire Theatroscope complete the programme.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company is here with *The Morals of Marcus*. Mr. C. H. Croker-King depicts with spirit and pathos the rôle of Marcus Ordeyne; the unsophisticated Carlotta is played with naïve simplicity by Miss Hilda Antony; the cynical villainy of Sebastian Pasquale is commendably portrayed by Mr. Richard Neville; as an emotional actress Miss Joan Burton (Judith Mainwaring) is entirely satisfactory; creditable interpretations of their respective rôles are given by Mr. A. H. Leveaux, Miss Kathleen O'Conner, Miss Gladys Purnell, Miss Mary O'Neill, and Miss Annie Windsor.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. Auguste A. Peuleve. — *The Tyranny of Tears*, admirably presented by Mr. Austin Leigh's company, is the attraction here. The Clement Parbury of Mr. Austin Leigh is a capital piece of acting; Mr. E. Vernon, as George Gunning, acts with distinction and refinement; another enjoyable performance comes from Mr. H. G. Mason as Colonel Armitage; Mr. M. Trieve is a satisfactory Evans; Miss Mabel Archdall skilfully portrays the tearful but charming Mrs. Parbury; and Hyacinth Woodward is played by Miss May Saker with piquancy and freshness.

BUXTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby. — On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday this week we had Mr. Mouillot's company, in *The Girl Behind the Counter*. Mr. Arthur Cartwright was effective as Charles Chetwyn; and Mr. Ellis Holland did good work as General Sir Wilkie Willoughby. Miss Winifred Knightley was the Lady Willoughby; and Mr. Howard Cridland had a good dude part as Gushington. M. Jules Charmettes was the Monsieur Duval; Miss Florence Dee was a taking Millie Mostyn; Miss Eileen Clanford proved to be a sprightly Ninette; Susie was ably portrayed by Miss Irene Lavington; the comedy was supplied by Mr. Frederick Park as Dudds, and Messrs. A. M. Moore and William Amery as Waiters. Miss Norah Brocklebank was the Winnie Willoughby. The piece is admirably staged.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—To the delight of a great many the theatre was opened on Monday for the season, and a good house welcomed Messrs. A. Hamilton Warden and Chas. V. Sandford's company in *A Woman's Past*. Miss Maisie Hanbury has a winsome presence as Bessie; Miss Mary Mallalieu as Dorothy Heath was very natural; Mr. J. Cook Hinton was first-class as David Heath; Mr. Charles V. Sandford as Frank Dellannoy was funny in the part; Mr. G. Mouton-Williams as Uriah Craven was excellent as the villain; Mr. Hamilton Warden gave a good representation of Clement Harper; Miss Nesta Sandford's Clara Darrell was entirely successful.

GUILDHALL.—Messrs. Gale and Polden's interesting exhibition of animated pictures illustrating "Life in the King's Service" is here. Besides the pictures a variety entertainment is also given, consisting of songs and a ventriloquial display.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Robert Redford.—Patrons of the New Theatre are favoured this week with a return visit of Pinero's comedy, *His House in Order*, and an appreciative audience assembled on Monday night to witness Mr. George Alexander's company's rendition of this highly successful piece. The rôle of Hilary Jesson is still in the hands of Mr. Frank Fenton, and a more effective impersonation could not be desired; Mr. Fenton was well received upon his first appearance, the memory of his previous fine performance being evidently still fresh in the minds of Cardiffians; Miss Marie Polini's delineation of Nina is exceptionally fine, her portrayal of the part is indeed a splendid piece of acting; Mr. Ernest Young gives a faithful rendering of Filmer Jesson; Mr. Richard Dalton and Mr. Langford Browne are quite at home in the parts of Sir Daniel and Pryce Ridgeley; while as Lady and Geraldine Ridgeley, Miss Madge Johnstone and Miss Henrietta Leverett acquitted themselves most creditably; Mr. Charles Tyrel makes the most of Major Maurewarde; and a charming impersonation of little Derek comes from Miss Maisie Richardson; Miss Jean D. Cadell is also worthy of praise as Mlle. Thomé.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—*In Holy (!) Russia* is presented by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company. Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy as Renée Rubinoff submits a delineation which is well acted and charmingly portrayed; Miss Ada Roscoe in the rôle of Catska Lavotski also presents a clever rendition; Mr. J. Rice Cassidy appears as Colonel Richard Forrest, and proves a capital and humorous representative of the part; Mr. J. Cuthbertson as Micky Nolan ably supports him with an excellent interpretation; Laurice Steragoff is powerfully acted by Mr. Carl Rovinelli, while Count Petrolski is most faithfully produced by Mr. Rolf Leslie.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—Popular Hetty King is delighting her audiences this week by her cleverly rendered songs; as a male impersonator this well-dressed little lady would be hard to beat; George Formby is a comedian who sings his excruciatingly amusing songs in a style entirely his own; Cruikshanks is as entertaining as ever in mirth and song; the Musical Johnsons are undoubtedly past-masters in the art of xylophone playing; Wyndham and Kitty (the former a native of Cardiff) provide an excellent wire act; while Rauschle, an impersonator of makers of history; Eda Mardy, a gifted vocalist; Rose Hamilton, a refined comedienne; Anna Kenwick, a true exponent of coon songs; and the welcome Bioscope complete the programme.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—Miss Alice Raymond's players are here in a novel musical extravaganza. Miss Raymond is undoubtedly one of the finest cornet players heard in Cardiff for some considerable time; Abdullah and La Superbe present a marvellous electrical fantastic display, the pretty effect being quite pleasing; quite an unusual turn is that of Willie Gardner, who is a splendid exponent of ice and roller skate step dancing; Lillith in a great aerial act is capital, her performance being distinctly deceptive; Mlle De Rose, premier lady baritone vocalist, and Lillian Warren, pictorial songstress, both sing well in their particular style; while Zarmo, billed as the mad juggler, is really clever and amusing; to complete the programme J. H. Hawtrey, fine actor-vocalist, is numbered; also Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—The first visit of Mr. George Testa Sante's company, in *The Life of a Showman*, drew a crowded house on the opening night. The piece is remarkably well staged, and includes a circus scene, in which several smart variety turns are given. Messrs. Chas. Osborne, Morris Maud, Edward Warden, Frank Sante, and the Misses Constance Medwyn and Eileen Bamford fill the principal parts with skill and credit; and the numerous minor characters are also ably impersonated.

PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The Klien Family present a remarkably clever and sensational cycling act; Abel and Welsh, eccentric knockabouts, are repeating their former successes; a marvellous trampolin act is submitted by Hayes and Merritt; Raie Walters is as popular as ever in her fishing song; Tatten Hall, a smart comedian, sings and patters well; Conan and Doyle are amusing cross-talkers and dancers; Onda and Leon, triple-bar performers, meet with a good reception. The Pepiscope completes.

PUBLIC HALL.—The Prince Edward's animated and talking pictures are drawing good houses here, and a splendid show of films is submitted, varieties being supplied by Mr. Bean, the marvellous young basso; and Miss Gertie Prince, juvenile vocalist.

TIVOLI.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edgar G. Laban.—Bob Hutt and company, at the top of the bill, are exceedingly entertaining with their musical sketch entitled *Welcome Home*; Kent and Keith, in their comedy duologue, are remarkably smart; Helen Marlen has a pleasing voice, which she uses with effect; Dan Conroy is as popular as ever; and his patter is fresh and quaint; Frank Sylvo is in the first rank as a comedy juggler; Frazer and Haley, contralto duettists and dancers, supply a good turn; and Vernon's Bioscope has some new pictures, which are much enjoyed.

HIPPODROME.—Under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The entertainment here by the Fred Newman British Empire Picture and Variety Company is excellent, and continues to draw good houses. Miss Stirling and Miss Hepworth, the vocalists, were very deservedly well applauded.

CARMARTHEN.—ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietors, Public Rooms Co.; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—Mr. Z. Andrews visited the town this week with his fine répertoire company, and presented *The Prince of the Temple*. Mr. Walter H. Wilson gave an admirable impersonation of Valerius, and Miss Flora Leslie as Præstantia was similarly commendable. Mr. Taliesyn Davies as Appius Aerdonius was exceptionally good; Mr. Arthur L. Read was a realistic chief priest in the character of Decus Fronto; and Mr. R. Armstrong as Schofas, the slave, is also impressive; and Miss Gipsy Alexander a decided success as Polita. *Under Two Flags* and *The Gamester of Metz* were presented on succeeding evenings.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman.—A well-filled house assembled on Monday to welcome a first visit of Mr. Junius Booth and company with *Monte Cristo*. The scenery is good and the dresses appropriate. As Edmond Dantes and afterwards Count of Monte Cristo Mr. Booth displays much histrionic ability; Miss B. Doyle fully brings out the dramatic situations that fall to her share as Mercedes; the character of M. Nortier is successfully undertaken by Mr. Beckett Bould; Baron Danglars finds a finished exponent in Mr. Augustine Bowerman; Mr. E. H. Johnson gives a faithful portraiture of Fernand Mondego; Caderousse finds a most amusing representative in Mr. Finn Doyle; the Lieut. Albert Morcef of Mr. Kendrew Milsom is worthy of praise; Mr. C. W. Crowe as Villefort, the King's Attorney, plays an unpleasant part with much skill; commendation may be accorded to Miss Alice West as La Carconte; and as Sophie Danglars Miss Doris Dallimore is successful; Mr

tine, Mr. Dillon Shallard; and Siebel, Miss Christine Ritx. Each of the artists was enthusiastically applauded, and the production was most successful throughout. The programme for the remainder of the week was as follows:—Tuesday, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci*; Wednesday, *The Bohemian Girl*; Thursday, *Il Trovatore*; Friday, *Tannhäuser*; Saturday, matinée, *Carmen*, and evening performance, *Maritana*.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Host Barnard's bill of fare includes Ruby Emmerson, comedienne; a quintette of entertainers who appear under the style of the Five Welsh Cadets; Ernest Powell, whose pianoforte contributions find much favour; Henry Carlton and company, who create much laughter in *One Night Only*; Elsa Joel, a very big favourite here, her imitations being very popular; George Rapley, burlesque comedian; the Burnells, in a farcical sketch entitled *On the Links*, which concludes with xylophone selections and a display of bâton manipulation; and Mahatma, who completely mystifies the audience in her second sight act, in which she is assisted by Prof. Chas. N. Steen.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis.—This week we have Charles Verner, comedian; Mabelle May, a spirited dancer; Rudge Whitworth, in a well liked scena; Belloni's cockatoos, who perform some surprising feats and give unbounded satisfaction; Keith and Merson, a pair of amusing acrobats, who score in their hunting absurdity, entitled *The Meet*; Rose Harvey, who catches on and has her choruses taken up very readily; and the Trapnell Family, a troupe of smart gymnasts and equilbrists; while the Edisonograph has a capital film, A Horse of Another Colour.

TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, Chatham Town Council.—A highly appreciative audience assembled here on Wednesday to witness the well-known act of the celebrated Zancigs, who gained a very warm reception. They were supported by an excellent concert party, including Miss Ethel Grimes, soprano; Mr. David Brazell, baritone; Miss Katie Moss, soprano and violinist; and Mr. E. Thornley-Dodge, humorist and lightning sketch artist; Mr. Harold E. Scott, solo pianist and accompanist. The tour is under the direction of Mr. Alfred Moul.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—This week *John Glayde's Honour* is being presented by one of Mr. George Alexander's admirably chosen companies. Mr. Philip Cuningham as the husband and Miss Auriol Lee as the wife make the play; Mr. H. C. Bentley impersonates Lerode forcefully; Miss Beatrice Smith is particularly natural as the Princesse; Mr. E. C. Vaughan does well as Howard Follingham; Mr. Cyril Catley is good as Shurmer; and the part of the cynical but well-intentioned Branley is in the able hands of Mr. Cecil Bevan; Miss Gwynneth Dalton's study of Lady Lerode is praiseworthy, and Miss Mary Sumner is well placed as Dora Longman.

CHESTER. — ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—*The Blue Moon*, as presented by Mr. Mouillot's company, is making its first appearance here. Mr. Charles Stephenson as Private Taylor is the life and soul of the piece; Moolraj has an amusing representative in Mr. Percy Cahill; Bobbie Scott is made a sprightly youth by Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson; Mr. C. F. Howard plays and sings with considerable skill as Captain Ormsby; Major Callabone is ably filled by Mr. Chas. Ross; Mr. Robert Grey (who is the stage-manager) makes a dignified Prince Kharikar; Chandra Nil has a sweet representative in Miss Catheline Severn; Miss May Audrey as Millicent Leroy is full of vivacity; Mr. Douglas Eley, of *Gipsy Maids* fame, is the popular manager for Mr. Mouillot; and the orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Herbert Robinson.

CHORLEY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Hemingway.—Mr. Chas. H. Lester's company in the detective play, *The Bank of England*, is here this week. Mr. Lester takes the part of Sherlock Holmes with distinction. Mr. Clifton Earle submits a vigorous portrayal of Stephen Hartley, being ably assisted in his villainous schemes by Mr. Edmund O'Grady as Gordon Isaacs. Mr. J. H. Firman enacts the part of Sir Sydney Barraclough commendably; Godfrey Dane and Eric Dane are well sustained by Mr. F. Ernstone and Mr. Harry T. Wood respectively; and Miss L. Hart is impressive in the part of Margaret Dane. Miss D. Riddell gives a good impersonation of Sylvia Barraclough. Other parts are creditably accounted for by Mr. Chris Phelton, as the Hon. Bertie Burlington; Mr. Victor Leglere, as Tommy Sprouts; Miss Annie Thomas as Lucy Lockett, and Miss Lallah Davis as Aminta J. Beane, an American widow. *The Sorrows of Satan* was announced to be presented by the same company last night.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ed. Charles Howitt.—For the first three nights of this week we have Mr. Dickie Clare's company in the musical farcical absurdity, *Lucky 'Liza*. Mr. Clare does good work as Silas Slim; Mr. Peter Pettitoe is well played by Mr. T. W. Benson; and as his son Paul Mr. Martin Alwyne is highly successful. Mr. H. Griffiths is worthy of praise as William Biffins; Miss Madge Brownie is a host in herself, her acting and singing being of a high order; Miss Victoria Carman as Sadie Potts acts and sings well; Miss Vesta Brownie makes a dashing Virginia Blatherwick; Barnsby Blatherwick is safe in the hands of Mr. A. W. Thompson; and the dancing of the La Belle Trio is applauded. The remaining three nights are to be filled up by Mr. E. H. Bostock's vaudeville company.

COLCHESTER. — HIPPODROME. — Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fred Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Bert Dickham, the all-round athlete, specialising in "man versus motor," tops the bill this week. The Marsumas, in a comedy cycling act, are intensely funny; Ella Lorraine, singing her illustrated songs, easily maintains her undoubted popularity; and Godfrey James, the singing collier, possesses a particularly sweet tenor voice. The Three Danbrooks show their ability on numerous musical instruments; Victor Courtney is well received as a humourist; and Winnie Murray is a most expressive comedienne.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. Frank Thorne and his excellent company are here this week with that gentleman's latest production, *The Woman Pays*. Mr. Phil Harper is a capable Sid Armstrong; Mr. Raymond Thomas is a very good Roger Marchant; and Mr. Frank M. Thorne as Mickey Maloney and Miss Anena Walton as Polly Stokes are very funny; Mr. Beresford Innes as Cyrus and Mr. Dunlop Stewart as Luke play their respective rôles satisfactorily; Miss Maud Russell is highly capable as Madge Armstrong; and as Nell Morland Miss Edith Wallis well deserves the applause accorded her.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—*The Beauty of Bath* is being produced here this week by Mr. George Dance's company. Miss Gladys Guy gives a dainty performance in the title-rôle, her vocalism and dancing being good; as Lieutenant Dick Allington Mr. Andrew Higginson acts and sings in a robust and merry style; as Viscount Bellingham Mr. Fredk. C. Leister is dignified; Mr. Jack Crichton as Sir Timothy Bun proves himself a diverting figure, his dancing being much admired; Mr. Bay Russell gives an interesting study of Beverley; Master Basil Clifford as Lemon Goodge is very clever; Miss Gertrude Hope and Miss Jessie Lennon are pleasing; and Miss Ida Laurie as Mrs. Goodge is satisfactory.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—The programme here is of a high standard, the chief attraction being Slippere, the blind musical entertainer, who plays on the piano, and sings in good voice. De Wynne Brothers are a pair of clever gymnasts; Tom W. Royal is a first-class clog expert; the Royal Quintette are clever dancers; Billy Elliott is a comedian with good songs; the Sisters Clare are a pair of good comediennes and dancers; Le Brun and Irene are a capital pair of jugglers, assisted by Little Edie, vocalist; Picitt and Lisette, "the crazy cooks," are smart illusionists; and Carl Rosine is a finished magician.

COVENTRY.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Mr. William Maclaren's company is here playing *Claudian*. Mr. Maclaren takes the title-part most admirably; Miss Bandmann is powerful as Almida; and Mr. Douglas Earle plays Agazil with vigour. The piece is elaborately staged, and when Claudian's palace is demolished the effect is startling in the extreme.

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lennox Barry.—A very enjoyable programme is presented to the patrons of the above place this week. Larola gives some very good juggling; Raglas is also responsible for clever work; Denton and Rowlands' company appear in a scena, entitled *The Punch and Judy Girl*; Dicks' comedy acrobats and dance artists are most amusing; and a series of pictures brings the evening's entertainment to a close.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Kay Draco.—Mr. Bert Gilbert is appearing here in the burlesque, *The Ticket Collector*. Mr. Fred Lindsay is clever with his stock whip; *Beauty and the Burglar* is very much liked as presented by Nellie Engler and company; and *The Banana Queen* is a lively scene given by Miss Anderson and company. Some high and long jumps by Lord's Siberian Wolfhounds are marvellous.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company in *Are You a Mason?* is delighting playgoers here. Mr. E. H. Paterson is highly successful as Amos Bloodgood; Mr. Eric Albury is a capable George Fisher; Mr. Howard L. Tracy a clever Frank Perry; Mr. Buchanan Wake is suitably placed as John Halton; Mr. G. R. Austin is quite at home as Hamilton Travers; and Mr. Erskholme E. Clive is a capital Ernest Morrison. Miss Adelaide Grace acts the rôle of Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood excellently; and as Eva, Annie, and Lulu Misses Corisande Hamilton, Babs Stuart, and Dorothy Mackenzie are charming. Miss Gwen Clifford gives a meritorious performance of Lottie, and Miss Rita Narcell is a talented Mrs. Halton. The play is preceded each evening by a musical sketch, entitled *A Christmas Pantomime*, in which Miss Gwen Clifford is highly appreciated.

CROYDON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Mr. Arthur Hardy's company is winning approval here in *Beauty and the Barge*. Mr. Blake Adams gives an exceptionally smart sketch of Captain James Barley; Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu is a gentlemanly Lieut. Seton Boyne; Mr. Atheling Farrar is suitable as Herbert Manners; Mr. Walter Pemberton is capital in the part of Major Smedley; Mr. Fred Knight does wonders as Tom Codd; Mr. Horace Kenney is good as Augustus; Mr. Charles A. White is commendable as John Dibbs; and Mr. Ewart Drake is amusing as George Porter. Miss Dido Drake is delightfully fresh in the rôle of Ethel Smedley; Miss Mona Robin does well as Mrs. Smedley; Miss Mary Pemberton is a charming Lucy Dallas; Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite is excellent as Mrs. Porter; and Miss Kate Osborne deserves praise as Mrs. Baldwin.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James.—Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company, in *The Still Alarm*, is proving attractive here this week. Mr. Glenville submits a fine impersonation of Jack Manley; Mr. Geo. Arthur depicts the villain, John Bird, in telling style; Mr. Tom Beasley is commendable as Willie Manley; Mr. Fred Osmond as Doc Wilber does good work; Mr. Lewis Gordon ably represents Franklyn Fordham; Mr. J. Sutton Pateman does credit to the rôle of Joe Jones; Mr. Ernest Hamilton is good as Jenkins; and the Messenger Boy is capably represented by Mr. Frank Wilson. Miss Mabel Veriton plays the part of Mrs. Manley with great tact; Miss Mamir Leighton as Carrie Wilber is excellent; and Miss Francis Waring sustains the part of Elinor Fordham with much charm and sympathy.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—The programme here includes John F. Preston's powerful company in the stirring sketch, *Rogues of the Turf*; the Bollingers, Parisian rag pickers, give a novel and interesting turn; Martin Henderson, blind musician, is applauded; Lawrence Barclay, comedian, is quaint; Rosie Reval is a neat comedienne; the Two Kays are great in their vocal scena, *The Nightingale*; Dan Whitley is a droll comedian; Cecilo and Francois are appreciated in their acrobatic dancing and novelty act; and the Bioscope pictures are capital.

PUBLIC HALL.—Gale and Polden's Animated Pictures are in their third week, and business is still very good. The pictures are exceptionally steady and clear, and would be hard to improve upon.

DARLINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Bell.—Mr. James Bell's company is here this week with the new drama, *The Idol of Paris*. Miss Annie Bell as Flare-Flare takes the audience by storm; Mr. Otto Minster is clever in the heavy part of Phillip D'Esterre; Mr. Arthur McCullock gives a fine exhibition as H.R.H. Prince Sergius Zoreski; Miss Grace Noble is a typical dresser in the Green Room; and Miss Esther Carthew as Madame Sancterre is all that could be desired; Mr. Bert Ware as Gustave Langlois displays marked ability; Mr. Sidney Arnold as Victor Cashelle makes the part a complete success; Mr. H. Vyvian Thomas makes an excellent Tarave; Miss Annie Megson as Ann does well; and other parts are in the hands of Miss Pharo Anderson, Mr. Chris. Roberts, Mr. Gordon Roby, and Mr. Gerald Travers.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Hersee.—Big crowds assemble here twice nightly to see the first visit to Darlington of the Selbini Troupe of cyclists, who are up-to-date in their clever tricks; Lillie Le Breton is very expert on the trapeze; Bishop and Vale score with their eccentric acrobatic dances; Three Sisters Silcott, vocalists and dancers, are old favourites in this town; Walter Emerson, comedian, is a real good laughter-maker; Barton and Franklin Trio take well in their varied musical and vocal items; the Avrignys, Japanese jugglers, are extra good; and the fine entertainment is closed with the Pepiscope, with latest pictures.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and L. Maitland's company is here with *The Coal King*. Mr. Sydney Leyton is an excellent Tom Roberts; Mr. W. P. Mansfield being equally successful as the villainous Walter Hartford; Dick Shirley is naturally played by Mr. Frank Dalton; Mr. Ernest Rivarz is a capable Sir Reginald; and as Jim Williams Mr. Alfred Terris scores heavily. Miss Sinna St. Clair acts with considerable power as Mad Ann; Miss Dorothy Clifton is a winsome Grace Shirley; and Miss Winifred Love does well as the maid Araminta.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Chas. Denley.—Mr. George Dance's company is paying a return visit here with *The Spring Chicken*. Mr. Fred Payne again appears as Mr. Girdle, and it may fairly be said of him that custom does not stale his infinite variety. Mr. Percival Knight is delightfully versatile and in every way successful as Gustave Babori; Mr. H. R. Averill plays Boniface with acceptability; as Felix, Mr. Frank Attree is exceedingly diverting; Mr. Louis Victor as Stephen Henry and Miss Lilian Errol as Emmy Lou are highly amusing, the latter being especially praiseworthy; Mr. E. Bartlett should be mentioned for his depiction of Baron Papouche; as Rosalie, Miss Violet Loraine sings and dances with great grace and charm, while displaying histrionic ability of a high-class order; Miss Nellie Kavanagh repeats her success as Mrs. Girdle, and leaves nothing to be desired; Dulcie Babori is in the capable hands of Miss Nellie Wigley; and Miss Poppy Poole deserves special mention for her Baroness Papouche.

PALACE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes, Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—A capital star turn is provided here this week by the Stein Esthor Trio, sensational acrobats, whose feats are very smartly accomplished. Shirley and Ransome are eminently successful in the latest duologue, entitled *'Arf a Quid*; the Elgars are agreeable vocal entertainers; the Morimuras, clever jugglers, are also meritorious; Geo. Rae proves himself a diverting comedian; Smarte Bros., eccentric tumblers, are praiseworthy; Maude Ford is a pleasing comedienne; and the Bioscope submits some amusing films.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—*The Gay Parisienne*, as played by Mr. Charles Macdona's first-class company, is proving a huge draw. The company is particularly strong in all departments, the humorous business being exceedingly well done. Mr. Will Harman as Mr. Ebenezer Honeycombe, and Mr. Charles Maclagan as Major Fosdyke, an irascible army major, working hard in this direction; Miss Alice Nixon in the title-rôle sings and dances with grace and charm; Miss Adeline Burgon is fascinating as Nora; and Mr. Cycil Biddolph as Tom Everleigh, a barrister, has a typical legal style.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Grand Theatre Company, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—Excellent houses have prevailed at the Grand Theatre for the presentation of Mr. Michael Morton's adaptation of a French play, *My Wife*. Mr. Eille Norwood plays the principal character, and achieves success; Miss Cicely Stuckey made a pretty Trixie; Mr. J. W. Deverell impersonates Gibby with great skill; the Miriam Hawthorne of Miss Mary Dibley is quaint; and Miss Edith Cochrane is well suited as Madam Duprè; Mr. W. Hartell capably acts the part of the worldly-wise old butler; and Mr. Barber made the most of the character of M. Duprè.

THE GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—Miss Annie Hughes, in a beautiful play, *Miss Tommy*, beautifully interpreted, has made a great impression in Douglas. Mr. Jerome K. Jerome can write the most delicate sentiment in the daintiest manner; and Miss Annie Hughes can make quick his brain-children. Her Miss Tommy is a really exquisite creation. She is excellently supported by Mr. Evelyn Vernon, whose Peter Hope has admirable qualities; Mr. Charles Esdale, who makes William Clodd quaintly humorous and dramatically effective; Mr. Reginald F. Beach was well placed as Flipp; and Mr. Rupert Lister was subtly emotional as Dick Danvers. The *pièce de résistance* was preceded by a clever curtain-raiser from the pen of the Star, entitled *After Many Days*, adequately portrayed by Mr. Rupert Lister, Mr. Charles Esdale, Miss Mary Duggan, and Miss Mabel Trevor.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—Mr. Harry Woods' Orchestra still tempts those who love dancing to delightful music, and the variety programme is greatly appreciated. Mr. Alec Kendal is a natural and genuinely funny comedian; Mr. L. C. Smith and Miss Johnson present a picturesque performance; Wee Mona is really a talented child actress; Dome continues to model in clay, and captures the Philistine imagination by his artistry. In addition, Vernon's Bioscope and dance competitions with large money prizes.

Mr. F. J. Connor announces the last six nights of the Hippodrome, and the week will be devoted to benefits. Thelma and Groves appealed successfully to their many admirers on Monday; Mr. W. R. Albino, the popular ring-master, had a crowded house on Tuesday; the advertising staff were equally fortunate in securing patronage; and the popular manager, Mr. F. J. Connor, will expect to see his friends—and their name is legion—to-night, Saturday.

Mr. Charles Dare is still maintaining his popularity on Douglas Head, and at the Empire Theatre, where he presents two shows nightly.

DOVER. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew. — Messrs. Henry Swinerd and J. W. Cordiner's company is here this week with an entirely new version of *The Girl from Japan*, to which special reference is made in another column.

THE PAVILION, PROMENADE PIER. — Lessees, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—The Royal English Ladies' Orchestra and the Royal Entertainers, under the direction of Mr. Hickman-Smith, have been engaged for this week. The orchestra render popular items in a manner deserving of all praise, and Mr. Hickman-Smith, who has a good baritone voice, sings pleasingly. The rich contralto of Miss Marie Westcott has won her many admirers; and Mr. Percy Stanhope is the smartest of smart ventriloquists.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME. — Lack and Ford are here this week with a clever comedy acrobatic act; and a smart ventriloquial turn is contributed by Barney Vox. Daisy Hicks's songs go well; and Harry Milton, Dutch boy, is an expert dancer. Chris Baker is a humorous comedian; Dave Laird also scores; and Raleigh, Abrahams, and company cause much merriment with their boxing absurdity, *Fun in a Pawn Shop*. The Bio-tableaux are quite up to their usual order of merit.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh commenced a pleasant week's engagement here this week. On Monday night Alfred Sutro's satirical play, *The Walls of Jericho*, was played. Mr. Bourchier's portraiture of Jack Frobisher was excellent acting; Miss Violet Vanbrugh gave a most convincing study of Lady Alethea Frobisher, displaying much power and impressiveness in her work; Mr. Charles Goodhart was particularly good in his reading of Hankey Bannister; and Mr. Arthur Whitby's abilities were cleverly distinguished in the character of the Marquis of Steventon. Mr. Cyril Keightley portrayed the part of Harry Dallas in an efficient manner; while Mr. Douglas Imbert did splendidly as Lord Drayton; and Mr. Leon Quartermaine was all that could be desired as Bertram Hannaford. The remaining parts, the Hon. Wilfred Renton (Mr. Alfred Bristowe), Lord Marchant (Mr. William Burchill), the Hon. Jasper Twelvetrees (Mr. F. Cecil), Lady Derenham (Miss Pamela Gaythorne), Lady Westerby (Miss Nella Powys), Miss Mornington (Miss Margery Fane), Duchess of Skye (Miss Mary Weigall), Lady Parchester (Miss Eva Killick), Miss Wyatt (Miss Winifred Bateman), and Mary (Miss Annie Stuart) were all sustained in good style.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—A large and fashionable audience was present here on Monday, the attraction being Mr. H. B. Irving and company, in *The Lyons Mail*, which was most enthusiastically received. Mr. H. B. Irving was accorded a very hearty welcome on his appearance in the dual rôles, Joseph Lesurques and Dubosc, in which he distinguished himself with every confidence, his acting throughout the play being most powerful and realistic; Mr. Frank Tyars displayed considerable skill and ability in his clever representation of Jerome Lesurques; as the members of a gang of robbers, Courriol, Choppard, and Fouinnard, the Messrs. Eric Maxom, Charles Dodsworth, and Tom Reynolds acted their respective parts most successfully; Miss Dorothy Green made an effective Janette; and Miss Eily Malyon gave an excellent portrayal of Julie; and Miss May Holland was particularly good as Marie. The staging was magnificent. *The Lyons Mail* was preceded by *King Rene's Daughter*, in which Mr. F. Tyars appeared with success as King Rene, Miss Dorothy Green as Iolanthe, and Miss E. Frances Davis as Martha; while Mr. Bernard Limpus made a capital Tristan de Veaudemont. On Tuesday *Charles the First* was presented, and *The Bells* is also billed.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, sings his songs in acceptable style, and is warmly applauded; Hermann Melot mystifies the audience with his neat conjuring act, and secures his usual gratifying reception; and Bessie Butt, comedienne, sings and dances with animation. John Grun Marx maintains a foremost position in the rank of athletes; and Gus Garrick, in "Music Hall Tit-Bits," keeps the house highly amused. Walter Purvis and company, in their sketch, *Cauliflower Joe*, create great hilarity; and Miss Dot Hardy sings her songs with fine effect. Les Frasettis, in a charming musical entertainment, score successfully; and the Empire Pictures never fail to amuse.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Miss Mary Moore Duprez occupies the place of honour here in no uncertain manner, for she is at once a favourite with an audience which very unwillingly allows her to depart; Daniel Gillen is an undoubted success as a ventriloquist; Charles Santon, soprano vocalist, contributes some good songs; a turn of exceptional ability is provided by the Four Athos, ball manipulators and novelty acrobats; and Alf. Gibson is a comedian with a style peculiarly his own, and he makes many friends. The illustrated songs of Lennard and Vereker are pleasingly greeted; Eugene, in a smart musical act, achieves success; as does also Elsie Kerry, comedienne, and J Hurst, gymnast. The Bioscope concludes a good bill.

ROTUNDA.—The Irish Animated Photo. Company has now successfully entered on its sixth week here. The programme is again greatly varied, one of its features being the number of attractive pictures which have been introduced. The excellent vocal items contributed by Messrs. Patrick O'Shea and R. W. Goggins, and Miss Mary Durkin, are greatly appreciated.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, BALL'S BRIDGE. — The attractions here this week are A Ba Bee, in an artistic novelty, *The Picture Post-card Album*, which is greatly admired; the Yo-San Troupe of Japanese do some clever balancing and juggling feats; the Two Daniels, negro comedians, appear with success; the bands, H.M.S. Royal Horse Guards Blue (Mr. Samuel Bilton, conductor), and orchestra of Royal Marine Light Infantry (Mr. Frank Winterbottam, conductor), are warmly appreciated for their excellent selections.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—At this pleasant resort the Hollanders, variety entertainers, are appearing with success. The company includes Miss Hilda Vining, Mr. Hal Gazes, Miss Marna Chalcraft, Mr. Alec Clunes, Miss Mabel Dent, and Mr. Harry Buss. The animated pictures are also an interesting item of the programme.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—Capital turns are given by the Two Cashlings, duettists and dancers; Ivy Vine, ballad vocalist; Bert Dove, ventriloquist; James Murphy, comedian and dancer; Albert Morrow, comic conjurer; and the Cinématograph.

DUNDEE. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is here in *The Christian*, earnest and capable representation of the part; As Glory Quayle Miss Daisy Scudamore gives an Mr. Frank Beresford makes a manly John Storm, and acts in a powerful and vigorous manner; Mr. Wilfred Noy gives a careful and clever study of the part of Horatio Drake; Mr. W. J. Butler as Lord Robert Ure is well placed; and Mr. Edwin Ling acts in a dignified and able manner as Father Lamplugh. Miss Dorothy Milne's acting of the part of Polly Love is highly commendable; and Miss Molly Hayden is an excellent Mrs. Callender.

PALACE THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam McIntosh.—Lady Mansell and Juveniles, who head the bill this week, gain a huge success in their comedy speciality, *A Concert Rehearsal*, their smart singing and dancing being loudly applauded; Mill May and Theresa are a clever couple, their quick changes being accomplished with remarkable rapidity; the Pasquali Brothers, in their acrobatic turn, display a number of remarkable feats; Sisters Love, duettists, are well received, their singing being high class; Natalia and Diana display their marvellous agility as trapeze artists; the Haverleys, American song illustrators, are pleasing singers; Jimmy Shields, one-legged comedian and dancer, an old favourite here, is very successful; and Jock Walker, Scotch comedian, takes well. Vernon's Bioscope completes a capital programme. The management have introduced gramophone recitals prior to the commencement of the performance, which are proving very popular.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Geo. Collins, a quaint comedian, proves exceedingly diverting; Flo Hilton, male impersonator, is a great favourite, and is loudly applauded; Nell Cotter in her songs is much appreciated; Zelda proves herself an expert performer on musical novelties; Rubie and Elsie Redfern are very successful as instrumentalists, vocalists, and dancers; an enjoyable turn is that of the Three Coopers, harmonising vocalists; Lola Patey, vocalist, an old pantomime favourite, is well received; George Melvin is a very funny Scotch comedian and an excellent dancer; Caselli is recalled for his clever banjo playing; Billy Richardson, stump orator and comedian, and Wal Owen, the comedy man, complete a good bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Jack Blair, a funny little comedian, causes much amusement in an original turn; Mons. De Lil, card expert and illusionist, mystifies the audience with his clever tricks; the Decars, in their burlesque scena, *Off to the Races*, are popular; Prof. Hulbert submits an amusing ventriloquial turn; Wilton and Ford, comedians and dancers, afford satisfaction; Jack Easy, eccentric comedian, is clever; Jessie Fraser takes well as a ballad vocalist; and Nellie Hawthorne, a sweet singer, completes an enjoyable programme.

EASTBOURNE.—THE PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—For the first three evenings of the week *San Toy*, *The Geisha*, and *Greek Slave* were played. In the first of these Miss Joan Ritz was a pretty, delicate, and refined San Toy; Miss Florrie Saunders was a most happy Dudley, singing and dancing in bright and delightful style; Miss Constance Fox did excellently as Poppy; Miss Ivy Proudfoot was a pretty-voiced and charming Tub Sli; Miss Aubrey Ashton a handsome Ko Fan; Miss Ethel Twichen a graceful dancer; Trixie and other parts were well filled. Mr. Edward Carlton provided any amount of fun as Li; Mr. Cyril Dare excellently represented Captain Bobby Preston, and sang well; Mr. Lionel Braham sang and acted in a rich and individual manner as Yen How; Mr. James R. La Fane was an animated Sir Bingo; Mr. A. J. Nicolls made much of his part of the Emperor; Mr. Sam Lockridge sang in splendid style as Lieut. Ducker; Mr. J. Mansell Stringer contributed good help as Fo Hop; and Mr. George Taylor did the same as Sing Hi. Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison appear later in the week in *The Stronger Sex*.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE. — Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Company; Managers, Messrs. Murray, King, and Clark.—Mr. Hubert Bruce's company is appearing here in *The Lottery*, as a clever front piece, followed by *The Pocket Hercules*. In the former, Mr. H. Athol Forde gives an extremely fine performance as Father Antoine; Miss Daisy Atherton is a girlish and sympathetic Lisette; and Mr. Douglas Hamilton as Jean and Miss Amy Coleman as Mabeleine ably help. In the same farce Miss Ruth Mackay, handsome and delightfully natural, does all that is possible as Daisy Faye; Miss Daisy Atherton is a praiseworthy success as Muriel; and Miss Amy Coleman does good work as Sophia; Mr. Stanley Cooke works hard and successfully as Ferdinand; Mr. H. Athol Forde is a dignified Lord Dyderdown; Mr. C. Herbert Hewetson is a fine, manly Dick Power; Mr. T. J. Bell is a cleverly amusing Meakin; and capital help is given by Mr. Douglas Hamilton as Septimus and Mr. F. Finch Smiles as Thomas. Mr. Charles Cartwright, Mr. Charles Collette, and others will appear later in the week here in *David Copperfield*.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—At the top of the bill are the Royal Tokios, who give an arobatic turn of quite exceptional daring and cleverness; Harvey'sAmerican Boys and Girls are highly successful in a varied act; Miss Kate Traill is deservedly popular for her talented turn; Warden Reed and Miss Stevens appear to advantage in *Married or Photographed*; and others contributing to a very good bill are the Two Pemms, speciality artists; Mr. A. G. Uno, comedian; and Miss Nina St. Elmo, comedienne.

EDINBURGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—*The Dairymaids*, with the magnetic presence of Miss Phyllis Dare in the cast, has proved a first-class attraction here, and the popular young actress had no cause to question the cordiality of her reception on Monday evening. Among the other ladies engaged in the piece, Miss Beryl Vaudrey and Miss Cissie Sephton deserve unstinted praise; while the comedy vein is admirably worked by Mr. Harry Dent, in his old part of Joe Mivens, Mr. E. Statham Staples, and Mr. Frank Steward. Chorus and orchestra lend efficient aid to a performance which goes quite gaily from the rise to the fall of the curtain.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—The company who bring *Amasis* on a return visit, after a six months interval, miss none of the Gilbert-and-Sullivan-like fun of this delightful comic opera. Of Mr. Rutland Barrington as Pharaoh and Mr. Lauri de Frece as Sebak the audience cannot have too much; and of Miss Winifred O'Connor, as the Princess and Mr. Roland Cunningham as the Prince they would willingly have a great deal more. Nor do they tire of Miss Madge Vincent, in the lively part of Natis, with her old and young lovers, Ptolemy, the Court embalmer, and Psamtik, the stalwart Captain of the Guards, characteristically impersonated by Mr. Arthur Watts and Mr. Frank Perfitt; Mr. George Fox makes a fine high Priest; Mr. John Doran is commendable as Cherio; Miss Muriel Seymour Hodges does well as Queresa; and an exceptionally good chorus, with an augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. J. van Heuvel, contribute to the perfection of an ideal performance.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—Clever dancing is much in evidence in this week's programme, the Legay Quartette of Parisian dancers introducing some original movements in their very energetic performance; and Charles Parker's Six Æolians combining high-class vocal music with a lively dancing act; while Whalen and West, in the eccentric line, and Esta Stella, a spirited comedienne, also provide smart terpsichorean turns; Bella and Bijou create much amusement with their new sketch, *The Suffragettes*; the instrumental music provided by the Sisters Carina is greatly enjoyed; Conn and Conrad appear successfully as comic burglars and sensational balloonists; Marguerite Broadfoote sings several songs charmingly; Powell's Marionettes are exhibited in conjunction with fountains and fine coloured light effects; and scenes from the Liverpool pageant are shown by the Bioscope.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—A good holiday bill is headed by the Tampico Trio of Mexican Troubadours, who give a most enjoyable musical entertainment; the acrobatic feats of the Three Braggs, including "The Living Bridge," and other novelties, are deftly performed; Webb and Edna Branston render a series of operatic selections in very pleasing style; and the Chinese magical act of the Okito Family is something to wonder at; surprising results in bird and animal training are shown by Mlle. Marvelle's collection of cockatoos and parrots, and by Abdy's dog circus; Otto and Olga contribute some diverting burlesque opera; the comedy turns of Lola Halby and Peter Bermingham are acceptable and popular; and interesting Bioscope pictures are displayed.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Ventom Swift.—Attractive holiday fare has drawn large audiences to this popular house, where the Brothers Brooks exploit some smart comedy business in excellent style; the singing and dancing of the Sisters Brand are much in favour; Little Lizzie Leaver's vocal contributions are greatly appreciated; and Johnny Beveridge, a blind pianist, adds story-telling to his musical accomplishments; songs are also acceptably contributed by Sam Thomson, deputising for J. G. Aitken, and by John Williams; while Lilian Victoria proves herself a good male impersonator; and Beaufort is a kind of boneless wonder as a contortionist.

PORTOBELLO NEW TOWER PAVILION.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. H. Marvello.—A pleasing pierrot entertainment of songs and sketches is provided at this marine variety house. Foremost among the artists contributing to a successful and interesting programme are Messrs. G. E. Corn

(Dick Wargrave), Mr. Roy Sydney (Hon. Crewe Boodle), Mr. Frank A. Wood (A. Bunker Bliss), Miss Florence Wix (Elphin Haye), Miss Lina Hicks ('Liza Shoddam), and Miss Beatrice Anderson (Mrs. Shimmering Black).

FLEETWOOD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—The popular Eastern play, *Secrets*, is here this week, drawing good houses. Mr. J. E. Tomlinson as Ibrahim al Murad is very clever; while Mr. Reggie Brown is a capital Lieut. Markham. Mr. Victor T. Raymond keeps the audience in good humour with his rendering of the part of the Hon. Cecil Cholmondeley; Miss Nina France is a charming Ismalia, and is very popular. The Verona Troupe are accomplished dancers.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company opened here on Monday with *Peter's Mother*. Miss Lilias Earle played the title-rôle in a particularly charming manner; Mr. Percy Hutchison gave a good portrayal of Peter; Mr. Alfred Bucklaw as John Crewys submitted a well-studied impersonation; Mr. F. G. Thurstan's Canon Birch left nothing to be desired; Miss Mary Griffiths and Miss Annie Stalman were very amusing as the two sisters; Miss Hilda Honiss was a piquiant Sarah Hewell; Mr. Drew Mackintosh made a capital Doctor; and Mr. Charles Harley displayed marked ability as Sir Timothy. Mr. George Edwardes's company in *See-See* were billed for the latter part of the week.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—The Browns of Brixton, a clever company of artists, are here this week; Miss Dorothy Payn, a local favourite, is warmly applauded for her bright songs, her dancing being particularly good; Mr. Laurence Hanray is an excellent reciter, and gains the full attention of his audience; Mr. Alfred Bennett is a smart comedian; Miss Violet Orme sings some tasteful melodies; and Mr. Edwyn Wolseley is heard to advantage as a baritone.

VICTORIA PIER.—Manager, Mr. Robert Forsyth.—The Scarlet Mr. E.'s and their Jester are paying a return visit here this week, and submit a very pleasing programme. Mr. Walter Dowling as the Jester is the life and spirit of the show, and works hard.

GATESHEAD. — KING'S THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager and Licensee, Mr. Harold Arnold.—J. W. Hall, many years ago, made himself a favourite with Gateshead audiences, and he has this week been accorded a welcome of which any artist might be proud. Albert Wyndham and company, in an abridged version of *Shylock*, are highly appreciated; Swan and Vesta, in the scena, *In Nelson's Days*, are very successful; Ryan and Hall, tumblers and comedians, find the maximum amount of favour; Copeland and Son prove clog-dancers of the best quality; Theodore Jones and company, in the vocal scena, *Jack Sheppard*, win merited applause; and dainty Marie Neilson, and pictures by Vernon's Bioscope, are also appreciated.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company, in the excellent drama, *The Midnight Wedding*, has drawn large audiences. A perfect delineation of Poul Valmar is presented by Mr. Alfred Paumier; Miss Annie Saker's Princess Astrea is most artistic; Rudolph Von Scarsbruck is made sufficiently detestable by Mr. Ernest E. Imeson; and the contemptible weakling, Eugene Von Streisburg, is faithfully portrayed by Mr. A. E. Winnington Barnes. The lighter nature of the drama is in the hands of Messrs. James E. Page, Vernon Vane, and Algie Spalding, as Max, Otto, and Bobo; whilst Miss Ada Champion makes Kathie a very amusing young lady.

GLASGOW. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphreys. — *The Lady Slavey* was reproduced in Glasgow on Monday in a fresh and bright garb by Mr. Robert Crossman's company, which is one of high standard. The songs, dances, and other new features were enjoyed by a very large audience, encores being numerous. In the name-part, Miss Winnie Volt combines a charming appearance with fine singing and clever dancing; Misses Evie and Gladys Anderson, as Maud and Beatrice, the other daughters of the Major, sustain the parts well, and dance gracefully. Miss Rita Presano as Flo Honeydew sings in brilliant and effective style, and is also an actress of excellent quality. Major O'Neill is capital as the impecunious host in the care of Mr. Keino Johnston; the somewhat thankless part of Lord Lavender is made enjoyable by Mr. Frank Henderson, while Roberts, a sheriff's officer, proves a veritable mine of comedy thanks to Mr. W. L. Thompson. As the millionaire, Mr. F. C. Piddock acts and sings as correctly as ever, being repeatedly encored.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane. —Glasgow playgoers have this week an opportunity of again seeing Mr. George Edwardes's company in that gay and tuneful production, *The Lady Dandies*. The outstanding feature of the present visit is the appearance of Miss Evie Greene in the part of Lodoiska, of which she gives an accomplished rendering. Mr. Eric Thorne is still with the company, giving his highly amusing portrayal of the eccentric Prefect of Police. As Dorlis, Mr. W. Talleur Andrews sings and acts with fine romantic feeling; Mr. John Humphries' keen sense of humour finds scope in the rôle of Tournesol; the dandies, Valcourt and Melval, are handsomely represented by Mr. Norman and Mr. Jack Bates; as Des Gouttiers, the dancing ability of Mr. A. H. Majilton is conspicuous; Lagorille (Mr. Harold Thorley), Malicorne (Mr. Grafton Williams), and Alexis (Mr. Clinton Reynald) are all well-filled parts. The Illyrine of Miss Dolly Castles is a very pleasing performance; Miss Ada Thomas's Liani is good, and the company possesses two exceptionally smart dancers in Miss Mabel Russell (Egle) and Miss Vivien Talleur (St. Cyr). The chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Cuthbert Hawley, are up to the usual standard of this management.

GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Anthony. —William Holles and Nannie Goldman's company is here this week with *The Stepmother*. Mr. Holles as Bob Bristow gives a fine impersonation of an honest, bluff sea captain; and the boy-part of Danny, the captain's son, is charmingly played by Miss Goldman. Miss Winifred Symonds represents the Captain's invalid wife with tenderness and pathos; and her friend, Johanna Jones, is humorously depicted by Miss Florence Harcourt. A county policeman finds a comical exponent in Mr. Fred Dark; a good study of character, strongly rendered, by Mr. William Macready, is that of Luke Trixel; Mr. Arthur Rodney as Abraham Wiggins depicts the villain with a spice of comedy; and Miss Phyllis Manners as Anna Vickers, the stepmother, vividly emphasises the vindictiveness of the part. Miss Ida Taylor enacts the spoiled child, Clara Vickers, in a lively manner, while the stern detective from Scotland Yard is ably expressed by Mr. Murray Yorke. Mr. David Cox as Lapworth and Mr. W. Haynes as a verger complete a satisfactory cast.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—A large audience greeted Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey in the new Irish legendary play, *Rollicking Rory*. Mr. Mackay, as Rory, displays his ability as an Irish comedian. Mrs. Mackey is seen to advantage as Mrs. Ashleigh; and other important parts are capitally filled by Messrs. David Macfarlane, St. John Stuart, Charles Homer, and Miss Adele Liddon. Miss Nana Flensburg is a smart singer and a neat dancer; Mme. Constance Bellamy is very successful with her vocal contributions. The staging of the production is realistic and effective.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. James Willard's company in *A Woman's Pluck* is the attraction here this week. The callous and unprincipled Dick Darrell is presented in an easy and natural manner by Mr. Jackson Willcox; and Miss Marion Fawcett as Grace Daremont (the lady boxer) imparts just the right touch to the character; Mr. Matthew Boulton submits a capital reading of Winstone Dale, and a satisfactory Matthew Pope is found in Mr. Harry Emmerson. Mr. J. P. Dryden, in the dual rôles of Mark Scanlon and Jim Daremont, does excellently; and Mr. Herbert Claremont is very successful as Sir John Daredevil. A smart performance is that of Miss Hetty Johnstone as Bertie Daredevil; Mr. Dick Bird as Roger Pippin and Miss Fanny James as Ophelia Pippin raise many a hearty laugh; Miss Dolly Gilroy is a dainty Jessie Pope, while Mr. Arthur Temple, Miss Nora Kingsley, and Miss Elsie Maitland play their parts in fine style.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Excellent houses have welcomed Mr. Walter Melville's latest play, *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*, after its successful run at the Princess's here, and Govan playgoers have been hearty in their commendation. Mr. Roy Redgrave, Miss Rona Merrick, Miss Hilda Baynton, Mr. Sidney Sarl, and Miss Marie Kildare all are happily suited in the principal parts.

EMPIRE.—District-Manager, Mr. Sam. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Manners.—At the post of honour here this week are the Seldoms, in their classical statuary act. Miss Harriet Vernon has lost none of her winning ways, and is well received; the Lukushimas produce their really clever Japanese entertainment with much acceptance. J. P. Ling is responsible for an entertaining turn; Howard and St. Clair are capitally received in their sketch, and Haley's "Garden of Girls" are smart, clever, and talented vocalists. May Fayre (comedienne), Corcoran Bros. (musicians), and Parisch and Edelweiss (vocalists) also contribute to an enjoyable programme, which concludes with the Bioscope in a series of interesting films.

ZOO-HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The star turn this week is Mrs. John Lawson and Co. in *The Devil's Sunday*, Mrs. Lawson acting the part of a giddy young married lady with great spirit. Olgar and Elgar are well worth hearing in their refined songs; the Six Lancashire Lasses are graceful dancers and pleasing singers; Mesdames Henny and Blanc, in *Continental Experience*, perform some enjoyable acrobatic dances. Gwilym Nash is a powerful baritone singer, whose songs are finely illustrated; George Reeves, comedian, keeps his audience in constant good humour; Lena Willard is a very engaging comedienne; Haley's company in *The Garden of Girls*, do some graceful dances and elegant poses under a variety of electric lights. Derenda and Green blend lots of fun with their juggling feats, and the Bioscope completes a fine evening's entertainment.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—The phenomenal voice of Ada Colley still excites the wonder of large audiences, apart from the artistic merits of her singing. Stewart and Morgan are a very popular pair of duettists; one of the best of our variety comediennes is Maidie Scott, and her singing of "Everybody works but father" is a gem of quaint comedy. Cyrus Dare's imitations of little children in song or play are marvellously lifelike; D'Arc's Marionettes provide a clever show; Henri Bekker is a conjurer with a dash of good comedy; the Musical Schaffers contribute an ingeniously arranged musical turn; Fred Keeton again scores as a comedian; and Sam Redfern is an amusing negro stump speechist. Several fine solos on the violin by Mr. Howard W. Galpin formed one of the most enjoyable items of the evening.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—*The House of Tinn*, a lively farcical sketch, presented by Mr. J. Gar Kiddie, is responsible for hearty laughter, as played by Mr. J. W. Graves, Miss Lizzie Payne, and Mr. Gar Kiddie. A smart knockabout turn is contributed by the Five Osranis; Crosby and Walker have some amusing cross-talk; the dancing of Fraser and French evoked great and well-deserved enthusiasm; Anthony, "swank" conjurer, is smart, and his Bioscope introduction is novel; J. K. Macfarlane, Scotch comedian, takes well in his humorous ditties; the Sladenbacks give a clever trapeze and hand-balancing display; the Sisters McCalla are a clever young pair of duettists and dancers; the Raymond Trio give an enjoyable musical and dancing turn; and Harry Cave, baritone vocalist, completes a lengthy programme.

COLISEUM.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Miss Ella Retford has a good reception from her Glasgow admirers, her songs being well chosen, clever, and capitally sung, while she is a dancer of great ability. Carrie Laurie and her juvenile entertainers again delight in their kindergarten performance; the Gotham Comedy Quartette are adding more lustre to former laurels won for their unique and enjoyable turn; the chorus songs, with pictures, are well featured by Reg. Williams, and in duet and dances Lester Bros. make a good impression. *An Evening at Home* brings the Napoli Sextette to the front in a fine musical mélange, notable for Mr. John Lloyd's fine tenor work. A funny display is given by Rezene and Robini; a fine sketch, by Horace Pollock and company, entitled *Hester's Mystery*, is depicted. In a pleasing musical duo, Virto and Venita are heard at their best, and have a good reception, and there is always pleasure to be derived from the Bioscope display.

GAIETY, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. A. Cowe.—H. O. Wills, described as "a man with a funny voice," takes the top of the bill, and provides much amusement. Another effective turn is Vela, whose ability as a wire equilibrist cannot be questioned; the Cedrics in their original act also cause much merriment, while the Rowantrees are amusing in their comedy work. As a cornet and post-horn artist, D. W. Watson excels; and good turns are also provided by Karl Bennie (singing ventriloquist) and Sheila McNeil ("the Lass frae Killiecrankie"). The programme is terminated by an exhibition of new films on the Bioscope.

BRITANNIA.—Proprietor, Mr. A. B. Pickard.—An enjoyable programme here is contributed to by Mabel Ormonde, vocalist and dancer; King and Gledhill, the clever cyclists; F. H. Dundas, actor-vocalist; the Sisters Lorraine, a smart couple of duettists and neat dancers; and Yettmah, in Japanese magic. The Bioscope shows the latest films.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—Miss Alexandra Dagmar tops the bill this week here, and Los Granada's Continental Grotesques are billed as of next importance. Mr. Will Godwin, descriptive comedian; Drum and Major, clever duettists; Will Hitchings, lightning cartoonist; The Santerons, agile jumpers; Bob Hartley, comedian; Lavelle Bros., quaint comedy acrobats; J. W. Gallagher, eccentric comedian; The Gentrys, humorous duo; and Will Hughes, sand dancer, etc., are also in the bill.

GRANTHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. A. Campbell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Marshall. — Miss Violet Osmund's company is here this week in *The New Barmaid*. Mr. Alexander Loftus plays the important part of Bertie White with skill; Mr. James Grant as William White causes much amusement; a clever performance is that of Mr. Charles Adeson as Mons. Bonsor; and Mr. Jos. Hawkes is great as Captain Lovebury; Miss Aimee Roberts, in the part of Etel Jay, charms by her singing; Miss Grafton as Brenda Louth and Miss Mabel Harrison as Lady Moulton are both good; Miss Violet Osmund is a vivacious Dora Heather. There is also some good dancing by the Sisters English.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. David Hart.—Starred here for this week is Jimson's novelty sketch, entitled *Jimson's Pets at Home*, which takes the house by storm; Jessie Harper, comedienne, is an entertaining turn; Andy Fagan, comedian and dancer, is a big success; and Maude Leverne is a particularly smart burlesque actress. A speciality act, *A Music Hall Agent's Dream*, contributed by Fred and Beattie, causes endless mirth; Wills and Mackenzie, operatic duettists, sing remarkably well; Charles Sloman, comedian, adds to the merriment of the evening; and Hill and Lane are novel speciality artists. The Edisonograph, with a complete change of films, completes a good entertainment.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Milton Bode's company, in *The Belle of Mayfair*, is here. In the title-rôle Miss Queenie Finnis is charmingly effective; Miss Veronica Brady sings and acts brightly as Pincott; Lady Chaldicott is cleverly depicted by Miss Nellie Cozens; Mr. Haddon Cave is amusing as the Earl of Mount Highgate; Mr. Fern Pounds is admirable as the Hon. Raymond Finchley; Mr. Harry Parker is easy, natural, and humorous as Sir John Chaldicott; Princess Carl is capitally depicted by Miss Agnes Tandy, who sings delightfully; and Miss Aurelie de Loriere scores as the "Gibson" Girl.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Robert Crossman's company is here this week with *Sergeant Brue*.—Mr. Arthur Brewster assumes most successfully the rôle of the love-sick Sergeant; Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy is excellent as Michael; Aurora is charmingly played by Miss Daisy Dale; Miss Marion Hargrave is a bright, quaint Daisy; Mabel Widget is archly and effectively represented by Miss Ethel Ivimey; Miss Mary Hay is a smart Lady Bickenhall, who delivers her songs with point and expression; Mr. E. B. Davies is admirable as Gerald Treherne; and Mr. T. A. Shales is dry and droll as Crookie Scrubbs.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert. —Zampa gives an expert performance on the slack wire; Jack Yelding's bare-backed riding is exceptionally clever; Miss Chloe Convere and her cake-walking horse win loud applause; the Floras contribute a fine balancing turn on the slack wire; Luigi Salvino gives an enjoyable musical turn; Lillo, Loto, and Otto do a wonderful act on cycles; Clown Vinta introduced his trained geese; the Beau-ideal Troupe of Juveniles sing and dance charmingly; and the "Globe of Life" proves as attractive and exhilarating as in the previous week.

BRITANNIA PIER.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—Miss Marie Dainton is the chief star, and her life-like imitations and charming manner are packing the Pavilion nightly. Lauri Wylie, with his clever show, the Mimicking Manikin, provides one of the best turns of the kind; Ellis and Watts, comedians, present some excellent singing, dancing, and patter; the Three Doreen Girls are dainty and pleasing, and their dancing is far above the average; Maisie Mildare, Lancashire clog and top-boot dancer, achieves success; and Curtis Leo, the magical marvel, is responsible for some original and mystifying tricks that bring forth applause; the Great Stowe Brothers, sensational equilibrists, and the National Troupe of Character Dancers also give pleasing turns. On the pier the grand fancy-dress carnival and battle of flowers drew thousands of sightseers on Monday night.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The "Gems," who proved so popular here earlier in the season, are again attracting large audiences; and Mr. Kenna Lawson, Mr. Ernest Attwell, Mr. Walla Kennedy, Miss Mortimer, and Miss Nessie Walker provide a first-class entertainment.

CHAPPELL'S PROMENADE CONCERTS.—This is the last week of the season here, and on Tuesday Mr. Syd Beckett, accompanist, took his benefit, when a large and enthusiastic audience thoroughly enjoyed an exceptionally good programme. Chappell's concerts seem yearly to grow in favour, and much of their success is due to Mr. Harry Barker, the genial general manager.

GREENOCK.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. E. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. Brandon Thomas's company are here in *Charley's Aunt*. The title-rôle is undertaken by Mr. Spencer Trevor, who is particularly happy in his characterisation; and so, too, is Mr. C. B. Walker as Stephen Spettigue. Mr. Sydney Compton is entrusted with the part of Sir Francis Chesney, which suits him capitally; Jack Chesney and Charlie Wykeham are ably accounted for by Mr. Hastings Lynn and Mr. Richard B. Mason; while Mr. David Denard is good as Brasset. Miss Lena Macnaughton makes a dignified Donna Lucia; Miss Amy Brandon Thomas as Kitty Verdun, and Miss Grace Russell as Amy Spettigue, play in charming style; and Miss Sylvia Morris scores as Ela Delahay.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees, The Greenock Empire Syndicate; General-Manager, Mr. Harry L. Skivington.—Lowenwirth and Cohan, Hebrew comedians, are meeting with well-deserved success. Another excellent turn is that provided by the Society Quartette, their singing and dancing being much appreciated; an amusing sketch is supplied by the Elvio Trio in *Those Troublesome Slaveys*; and the humorous contributions of Haraggon and Cole are received with vociferous applause. The Cosmans (comedy artists) and Ethel Loftus (the comedy girl) also find appreciation.

PAVILION, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—A bright and varied programme includes the Eight Lancashire Lads, who are accorded a hearty reception; Alma Obrey, charming comedienne, who proves herself a favourite with her songs; Bob Baxter, an up-to-date comedian; Kloof and Ramsey, in a novel musical turn; Edie Coolville, comedienne and dancer; and the Paviscope with interesting pictures.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's romantic drama, *Revenge*, is meeting with considerable favour, for it is well staged, and is played by a thoroughly capable company. The author himself takes a prominent part, and depicts the usurping Prince Orloff with complete success; Miss Violet Carlyle represents the Queen in appropriately stately manner; and another popular figure is Mr. George Daiper as Captain Vanessa. Miss Alice Barber depicts the conspirator, Draga Vanessa, with considerable dramatic force; whilst others contributing to the success of the play are Miss Mary Stafford Smith as Cora Brook, Miss Cissie Podmore as Lieut. Maurice, Mr. William Heilbronn as the King, and Mr. Sinclair Holden as Captain Carr. The comedy, which is a strong feature, is made full advantage of by Mr. Russell Bogue as Jim Jennings, a British man-of-warsman, and Mr. Francis Searle as Count Musant.

THE TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North. — A capital exposition of the art of jiu-jitsu is given by Frank Long, who gives lucid demonstrations of scientific methods of self-defence. He is assisted by Miss Omoyo San and Ajax. A dramatic episode of considerable merit, *The Woman with the Red Hair*, is presented by Mr. Webster Lawson and Miss Minnie Sadler; Ernie Mayne creates much laughter with his droll comedy; and Mr. "C." is also responsible for much merriment, his patter being decidedly smart. Speedwell shows exceptional skill as a portrait painter; Gladys and Alber give a novel turn, comprising singing, dancing, and clever somersaulting; Maud Courtney is a pleasing vocalist; Richard Finberg gives realistic impressions of celebrated actors; and Ivy Aberdare is a charming dancer.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Grimsby Palace and Buffet, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry. — Harry Brown, coloured comedian, has established himself a favourite here; Miss Madge Grey is a clever mimic and an accomplished Lancashire dialect comedienne; Little Dott Moss contributes engaging songs and dances; and the Florodora Girls are prominent for their vocal and dancing speciality. Wyndham and Waters combine music and comedy with pleasing effect; Simms and Simms are divertingly eccentric musicians; Onda and Ariel are a couple of smart gymnasts; Prima Vesi is an expert billiard-ball manipulator; and Tom Moore is a successful comedian.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Big business is being done here by Mr. W. W. Kelly's powerful company, in the latest play, *The Gayest of the Gay*, which is most admirably presented. Sterling is the performance of Mr. Ernest Outtrim as Jack Latimer; Mr. Leonard Yorke has much to recommend him as Hubert Steele; and Mr. Henry Belding and Mr. Alfred Grenville act well as Draycott and O'Brien respectively. Miss Laura Walker is effective as Kate.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sam Winks. — A strong attraction is furnished here by Miss Amy Augarde, in a miniature representation of *Carmen*, entitled *La Carmencita*. Miss Augarde is adequately supported, but her own charming embodiment ensures packed audiences. Irresistible Tom Lloyd is here again, singing and telling stories as he only can; one of the tidiest jugglers we have had is Rapoli, who has a host of new tricks; the O'Brien Brothers, bar performers; Silbon's Circus; Ned Graydon, the musical one; together with Ida Brophy, in song and dance, create favourable impression, as do the fine pictures on the Rayograph.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. H. Foster.—Georg Hackenschmidt is defeating all comers here; fascinating Dot Stephens, who had such a miraculous escape from death a while back, is thunderously applauded, her singing of "What is home?" being especially sweet and pleasing; W. B. Raby enhances his reputation; Prince Kokin, Lawson and Namon, and Rosalie Jacobi are other attractions.

HANLEY. — ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—A welcome visit is being paid this week by the D'Oyly Carte company. *The Mikado* was presented on Monday. Mr. Stafford Moss as Nanki Poo sang and acted admirably; Mr. Chas. R. Walenn made a delightful Ko-Ko; Mr. Fred Billington's Poo-Bah was, as usual, a most entertaining performance; Mr. Lester Tunks as the Mikado was heard to much advantage; Miss Hope Hastings as Yum-Yum, Miss Beatrice Meredith as Pitti-Sing, and Miss Mabel Graham as Peep-Bo are most accomplished vocalists; and as Katisha, Miss Theresa Rassams is distinctly successful. Mr. T. Silver does excellent work as conductor. *The Gondoliers*, *Patience*, *Iolanthe*, and *The Yeoman of the Guard* are in the week's programme.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—The Brothers Griffiths head the bill in their patter sketch, *The Motor Car and the Duel*; Miss Annie Purcell renders her songs delightfully; Clito, in a marble statuary performance, is excellent; the Howards, in their musical sketch, are much appreciated; Carl Lynn as an animal mimic has few rivals; Miss Edie Gray, assisted by two male singers, does well; Cissie Curlette is a mimic of no mean ability; Bertha Winder is a wonderful dancer; and the pictures are quite up to date.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—For the first three nights of this week the Benson Shakespearean Company occupied the theatre. Monday night *The Taming of the Shrew* was in the bill. As Petruchio Mr. F. R. Benson was greatly admired; Mrs. Benson as Katharine portrayed the vixenish shrew to the life; Mr. E. A. Warburton was good in what little he had to do as Baptista; and Mr. George Buchanan was excellent as Lucentio; a special word of praise must be given to Mr. Stanley Howlett for his clever and finished performance of Hortensio; Miss Olive Noble made a pretty Bianca; and Mr. George Weir was as amusing as ever in the part of Grumio. Mr. J. P. Wilson was well placed as Biondello; and Mr. Murray Carrington made a creditable Tranio. The rest of the cast was in reliable hands. *The Merchant of Venice*, *As You Like It*, and *Hamlet* were also staged. For the rest of the week Mr. Mouillot's company in *The Girl Behind the Counter* was in the bill.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. Julian Clifford; Assistant-Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. Eldrid.—Mr. Fowler Burton, vocalist, and the Pansy and the Owls, entertainers, were here the early part of the week. The last café chantant of the season is announced for to-day.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles B. Scutt.—Mr. George Edwardes's company on Monday gave the first performance in Hastings of *See See* to a well-satisfied and numerous audience, whose demands for encores were frequent. Mr. Tom Nelldon gave a clever and agile performance as Hang-Kee; and Miss Mora Hersee as Lee shared his success in a song and dance. Miss Mysie Devine made a pretty appearance as See See, and sang acceptably; Mr. Alec Worcester as Yen was in excellent voice, and rendered his songs with fine effect. The gem of the evening was his duet with Mai-Yai, the fortune-teller, who had a capable representative in Miss Nina Carlton, the possessor of a rich contralto voice. Miss Gertrude Parker as So-Hie danced with gracefulness, and was much applauded; Miss Dorothy Firmin was a winsome Humming Bird; Mr. Tom Redmond won much applause as Cheoo; and his wives were amusingly presented by Misses Mary Morison, Francis Olgar, and Flora Jones. The orchestra was directed by Mr. W. Forbes-Martin, and the chorus sang well. For Thursday and the remainder of the week *Peter's Mother* was billed.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Vivian Fisher; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—Miss Enid Lawrence is an accomplished soprano; Ray and Darwin are clever in their musical act, *Home from Sea*; the exhibition films are new and amusing; the comic effusions of A. C. Spry are much enjoyed; Miss Fanny Robins scores a success, her songs being rendered in sprightly manner; Miss Florry Cooper, whose voice is fresh and of good range, earns a cordial welcome; the Danbys (Charles and Arthur) are droll knockabout entertainers; Mr. Charles Deane sings his songs in a spirited fashion; and Alice and Edwards introduce a laughable sketch, *Let to Two*, which is admirably acted.

PIER PAVILION. — Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—An attractive and varied entertainment is securing large audiences. A musician of great ability and solo violinist, Rafalewski, gains great applause; Miss Lili Sharp, the Australian soprano, gives pleasing expression to her songs; a magical and ventriloquial sketch is cleverly enacted by Hercat and Miss Dolly Charet; and Miss Edith Trew gives exquisite renderings of her songs. Mr. J. D. Hunter, Mr. Charles Hawker, and Miss Blanche Bayley are associated in amusing comediettas; Mr. Walter Graham is very clever with his living marionettes, introducing music hall artists and their songs of years ago; Maurin's Fairy Fountains are quite a novelty here; Payne's Biophotoscope introduced the following subjects:—"Forty Winks," "Cosmopolitan Dancers," "Geneviève de Brabant."

ST. LEONARDS PAVILION THEATRE.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. W. P. Jury's animated pictures make a welcome return here. The subjects are up to date and the films clear and distinct. Miss Mona King skilfully performs on the violin; and Prof. Stanley Collins, the popular conjurer and coin manipulator, mystifies the audience.

HORWICH.—PRINCES THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. A. P. Patterson; Manager, Mr. Alec Harcourt.—The theatre, which has been reopened under the new management this week, has for its chief attraction Mr. Valentine Beadon's company in *The Best Must Win*, under the direction of Mr. Sidney C. Cranston. Mr. Cranston's Paul Dumaresq is a fine performance; Mr. E. M. Heanley's The Panther is black enough to suit the most exacting; Mr. Harold Turner plays Juan Minos with gusto; Mr. Valentine Beadon gives a pathetic rendering of Sabretache; Mr. Herbert Woodin fairly revels in the part of Jacques Courcel; and in song and dance he is ably assisted by Miss Madge Palmer as Suzette. Miss Cicely Desmonde's dual rôle, Therese Dumaresq and Lucille La Ffranche is a most artistic performance; Miss Daisy Humphrey's Denise is capitally played; and Miss Dorothy Laine gives a fine portrayal of the Marquise.

HOYLAND.—METROPOLE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. R. Baker.—Miss Dora Dench and Mr. Sydney Dench's company opened to a good house on Monday with *A Prince of Rogues*. Mr. Robert Hall is a manly Frank Farrell; as Geoffrey Flint Mr. Leonard Laurence is excellent; Mr. Sydney Dorey as Gilbert Kenry is all that can be desired; an effective Richard Harwood is found in Mr. Newton Buckland; Mr. Bert Dench causes great amusement as Josh Buggins, ably assisted by Miss Alice May as Polly Dibbs; Miss Lorna Trehearne is an excellent Rita Congreve; and as Winnie Harwood Miss Dora Dench is in every way adequate.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon. — It has been a real pleasure to receive a return visit of *The Lion and the Mouse*. Mr. Maxwell's company has been most judiciously chosen, and includes Mr. Leslie Carter, who repeats his intense and cultured presentation of John Burkett Ryder; Mr. Gordon McLeod is manly as Jeff Ryder; Mr. Herbert Chown plays with much discretion as the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley; Miss Maud Townsend is clever as the weak-nerved wife of Ryder; Miss Evelyn M. Read is a quite adequate Kate Roberts; and Miss Florence Jackson shows great ability as Shirley Rossmore, her fine work at the end of the third act fairly taking the house by storm. The play is thoroughly well mounted, and the ladies' dresses are perfect pictures.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Rudinoff, the star turn, has proved a big attraction with his clever presentation of smoke pictures, lightning sketches, imitations of birds, and shadowgraphy. Others appearing are the Albano Troupe of musicians; the Olympians, singers and dancers; Les Voces, operatic duettists; Marriott Edgar, light comedian; C. H. Charlton, illusionist; Chevalier Cliquot, sword swallower; and amusing films on the Bioscope.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mrs. Russ Whytal has struck the right key in bringing Tom Taylor's famous play, *Clancarty*, before a new generation, to whom it was unknown. As Lady Clancarty Mrs. Whytal revives memories of the best of her predecessors in that rôle; she receives admirable aid from Mr. Arthur Burne, who as Clancarty is the essence of gallant ease. A very stately figure was that cut by Mr. Stratton Rodney as the King; Mr. Arthur Hardy furnishes us with a fine picture of Woodstock; Miss Mabel Knowles proves that talent is not one-sided in her family, and as Lady Betty Noel ranks near her sister (Mrs. Whytal). The heavy rôle of Goodman is efficiently portrayed by Mr. Henry J. Crane. When Mrs. Whytal joins Mr. Tree the provinces will lose a prime favourite.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*Florodora* has such a host of friends that its presentation is always looked forward to with pleasure. So long as Mr. Fred Eastman is cast as Tweedlepunch, so long will it have its host of admirers. Dolores on this occasion is played by Miss Maisie Ellinger with conspicuous success; the Lady Holyrood of Miss Edith Houseley is full of verve, and she brings the house down with her song.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*The Village Blacksmith* is a play that likewise is well known in the city. Mr. Sam Livesey and the blacksmith seem to be synonymous terms. Mr. Joseph Carter is well fixed up in the rôle of Captain Leo. The Kate Strong of Miss Maggie Edwards is full of dignity; Miss Bertha Hancock is a more than usually clever child actress.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Milton Ray's company, in *Don Quixote*, top the bill; Mr. Graham's company, including Harry Pleon, in *Muldoon's Picnic*, is another prominent feature. Other turns consist of Dusty Rhodes, Ormonde Penstone, Lillie Currie, and Burns and Bentley.

THE EMPIRE.—General Manager, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Halma tops the bill in a clever juggling act; Percival and Morley are very amusing in a comedy sketch, *Turtle Doves*; Cliff and Kean make a big hit; and other artists include

BUCHANAN'S
"BLACK & WHITE"
THE WHISKY OF WORLD WIDE REPUTE

Madge Allen, Russell Carr, Charles Cassell, and Irene Ray.

The Circus.—General Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—Dyson's Diorama and Gipsy Choir are staying here for fourteen days.

HYDE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's company, in *A Girl Redeemed from Sin*, is this week drawing crowded audiences. As the heroine Miss Olive Fulton has the entire sympathies of her audiences; Miss Ada Oxley is a piquant and clever little Lancaster lass; Miss Nellie Waddington well fills the rôle of the troubled mother; and Miss Gertie Paule gives a clever character study. The hero of Mr. A. H. Barnes is played with ability and force; Mr. Gifford Reynolds gives a sound portrayal of the stricken father; Mr. Walle Spinner and Mr. Wm. Burgess are capable villains; and Mr. Harry C. Momber and Mr. Wallace Cowan ably supply the necessary fun.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—Mr. Henry Bourchier's company in *The Morals of Marcus* opened on Thursday evening last week to an excellent audience. Mr. C. H. Croker-King gave an admirable impersonation of Sir Marcus, and Miss Hilda Antony was charming as Carlotta; Mr. A. H. Leveaux gave a delightful sketch of the character of Hamdi Effendi, Mr. Richard Neville acted well as Pasquale, and Miss Joan Burton scored a success as Judith Mainwaring. The minor characters were also admirably filled. On Monday the Austin-Leigh Répertoire Company opened for six nights with *The Liars*, Mr. Austin Leigh capitally sustaining the part of Col. Sir Christopher Deering. The elderly Archibald Coke was impersonated by Mr. Ernest Cossart, who has previously delighted Ipswich audiences; Mr. K. Brampton was quite a success in the part of Edward Faulkner; Gilbert and George Nepean were in the hands of Mr. H. G. Mason and Mr. Edward Vernon respectively; and the henpecked Freddie was well done by Mr. C. F. Wright. The ladies of the company were excellent; a better Lady Jessica than Miss May Salsor it would be difficult to find, or than the Lady Rosamund of Miss Mabel Archdale. Two further performances of *The Liars* will be given, the rest of the week being occupied by Haddon Chambers' *Tyranny of Tears* and Du Maurier's *Trilby*.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor Mr. E. H. Bostock; Manager, Mr. Stead.—Le Diablo, in Satanic costume, gave his sensational performance of looping the wheel with success, and received unstinted applause from a delighted audience. The Three Garganis gave a marvellous exhibition of balancing and feats of strength, and had a flattering reception on their first visit to the town; a novel performance was that of the Tennessee coloured Guards, a lightning drill team of eight members, who execute gun drill and wall scaling with great rapidity and precision; Oakdene, with his ventriloquial scena, *The Stowaways*, has been in Ipswich before, but his singing portraits are new and are deservedly popular; Mr. Fred Carey is a droll comedian with much original patter; Charles J. Johnson, the Black Diamond, is another Ipswich favourite, and had a hearty welcome on his return. Messrs. Regan and Ryan are excellent comedians, pleasing both in song and dance; as is also the case with Miss Patty Yole. The Bioscope concludes.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Rex Sugden.—Mr. Augustine Knight's company, in *The Assassin*, is a powerful attraction here. Mr. Knight's contribution to the play as Prince Demetri is a well-marked performance; and Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson shares largely in the success as Ivan Ipanoff; and Miss Ella Vane is held in much admiration as Countess Wanda. Miss Eva Trevanna is sympathetic as Nita, the Prince's victim; and Miss Hettie Senior as Connie is ably supported by Mr. E. Swinton as the Baron, Mr. Tom J. Taylor as Peter, and Miss M. E. Robertson as Katrina, also are very highly appreciated for their humour. Mr. Edward Fryer does full justice to the part of General Nicol, Chief of Police; while Mr. Theo Balfour is seen to advantage as Duke Karl; and Mr. Edwin Jenner is quite at home in the part of Captain O'Neil.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. E. Marris.—Mr. Eugène C. Stafford's company is here this week with *The Private Secretary*. Miss Dora Gray is a delightfully charming Edith Marsland; Miss Elsie Davison is a handsome Eva Webster; Miss Cecily Wade is good as Mrs. Stead; and Miss Ashford is well represented by Mrs. Alfred Davis. Mr. David James as the Rev. Robert Spalding is as funny as ever; and Mr. W. Hargreaves is splendid as Mr. Cattermole; whilst the remaining characters are in safe hands.

Triangle Park.—"The Merry Madcaps" conclude their engagement here this week. Mr. Alan Stainer is an exceedingly clever ventriloquist; and Miss Lilian Gosling is a bright comedienne.

Oddfellows' Hall.—That renowned entertainer, Mr. Robert Ganthony, is appearing here with marked success, and is assisted at the piano by Miss Rita Felix, L.R.A.M.

Lauren's Field.—Sloan's Hippodrome opened on Monday.

KEIGHLEY.—Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall.—Hardie and Von Leer's company are here in *Two Lancashire Lassies in London*. Mr. Edward Chester scores a success as Jim Price; he is excellently suited to the part. The humorous rôle of Sam Hallett is in the excellent hands of Mr. Chris Mason; Mr. Herbert Pearson is seen to advantage as John Edmunds; Mr. E. Rayson Cousins gives an admirable interpretation of the Rev. Mr. Selby; Mr. Arthur Elwyn is a capable Jonas Deane; Miss Rosslyn Vane is decidedly good as Constance Howard; and Miss Ada Hatchwell depicts Nellie Hallett in an excellent manner. Miss Marguerite Trevosper carefully plays the part of Bessie Edmunds; Miss Evelyn Shaw is a competent Jane Adelaide.

KIDDERMINSTER.—New Opera House.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—A visit is being paid this week by Miss Ida Millais's company, under the direction of Mr. Henry Herne, in the play entitled *No Man's Land*. Mr. Herne ably portrays the character of Harry Oakands; Mr. Herbert Cecil as Silas Moore, a solicitor, is good; and Gilbert Bathurst and Captain Norman Bathurst are in the capable hands of Mr. Henry Carlisle. Miss Ida Millais gives an admirable rendering of the rôle of Mary Bathurst. The play is well mounted.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—Mrs. F. J. Kirke's company is here this week with the dramatic musical comedy, *The Naval Detective*. Mr. E. Bertram sustains the triple rôle of naval lieutenant, a missionary, and an Irishman. Mr. G. H. Holloway appears as Dr. Schreiner, Mr. Walter Hybert as Capt. Hustle and Mr. Lorimer Stuart as the Hon. Bertie Fairlox. Of the ladies, Miss Louie Fountaine appears as Phyllis Leslie, and Miss Marie Ellie as Lulu Kauffman.

KIRKCALDY.—King's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan.—Another variety bill was provided for the early part of the week, headed this time by Munroe's Black and White Comedy Team, whose coon singing and dancing were certainly very good. Kahn and Kahn, in their illusory act, were first favourites; Jack Neil, comedian, had a flattering reception; and the Three Eltons contributed a smart turn. The Gregson Trio, in their speciality act *The Dummy*, were clever; and Miss Phyllis Hampton, illustrated song singer; Mlle. Sara's Marblesque Trio; R. Dunning, ventriloquist; Andie Burn, comedian and dancer, and the pictures were all good.

LANCASTER.—Athenæum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—Mr. Alex. C. Grant's company in fulfilling a three nights' engagement with *The Woman from Scotland Yard*, opening to a good house on Monday. Mr. George Edwin Clive makes a capital hero of Harry Stanhope, being ably supported by Miss Eveleen Clyde as Edith Mayne. As the villain, Paul Obanoff Mr. Alex. C. Grant appears to special advantage, whilst Miss Violet Crawford gives a capital rendering of Lady Mary Stanhope. The comic element is introduced by Mr. Walter Clarke as Algernon Fitzmaurice. For Thursday, Friday, and Saturday Mr. J. W. Turner's opera company is billed.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. John Porter and W. J. Fergusson.—The Four Roubertys, equilibrists, head the bill this week with a marvellous performance. Miss Helen Charles, mimic and vocalist, is recalled nightly; and Shirley Liggins and company, coloured artists, have a good reception; Sidney Parker and Frank Parr sing well; Mabel Hind is a pleasing vocalist and dancer; Bert Oakley and Polly James win hearty applause; and Les Belles Americaines, quartette of lady vocalists and dancers, not forgetting the Hippograph, complete.

LEAMINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Walter P. Wright.—The "star" turn this week is the Atlas and Vulcana Troupe, whose performances are very clever; Lonnen Meadows and company produce a funny farcical comedy, entitled *Kiss Your Father; or, the Irish Doctor;* Mr. Charles Lestrée gives some clever exhibitions of juggling; and Mr. Cyril Carle, actor-vocalist, is effective in his dramatic song-scena *Dreams*. Miss Florence St. Roy, comedienne, is popular; and Alpho gives some amusing ventriloquial sketches. Miss Amina Rinder in her illustrated song pictures is successful, and her contributions are well received. Excellent pictures shown by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope conclude a first-class programme.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—The production of Mr. G. Bernard Shaw's *Cæsar and Cleopatra* on Monday brought to us that accomplished actor, Mr. Forbes Robertson, with Miss Gertrude Elliott, and their talented company. Mr. Robertson's conception of the new Cæsar is a piece of consummate acting, and so impressed his audience that repeated calls were made at the end of each act, and amid an enthusiastic scene at the close Mr. Robertson acceded to an insistent demand for a speech. The part of Cleopatra is a most trying one, but in each of its varying moods Miss Elliott acquitted herself superbly, and a large share of the praise bestowed was for her. The valiant Rufio had a strong and forceful exponent in Mr. Percy Rhodes; a clever delineation of the clerkly Brittanus is effected by Mr. Ian Robertson; Miss Elizabeth Watson's Flatateeta is worthy a special word of commendation; the courtly Apollodorus is a fine personation by Mr. Lewis Willoughby; whilst the declamatory powers of Mr. J. M. Troughton have great scope in the rôle of Achilles. Master Philip Tonge plays the youthful Ptolemy in good style; and effective work is also done by Mr. Walter Ringham, Mr. Frank Ridley, and Mr. Charles Langley.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—One of Mr. Frederick Melville's most attractive dramas, *Her Forbidden Marriage*, is this week presented here. The part of Madison, the great inventor, has a masterly exponent in Mr. Henry Lonsdale, whose work throughout is most strenuous and effective. Miss Gertrude Hunt is also a big star as Lady Lancaster, and much show of appreciation greets her fine acting. Mr. Louis Hector is the unscrupulous Charles Devereux, successfully raising the ire of the "gods"; and Mr. Leonard Maxwell plays the important rôle of Geoffrey Broughton in perfect style. Miss Nellie Fletcher is to be complimented on a talented effort as the Mother Superior; and the child's part is very carefully presented by Little Lucy.

Empire Palace, Ltd.—District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—The Boissetts remain on here for a second week, the vehicle for their fun on this occasion being the laughable episode, *A Trip to the Continent*, which presentation is much enjoyed by full houses. That evergreen Yorkshire veteran, J. W. Rowley, again occupies a big line in the bill, and suffers no decline in popularity; whilst Ben Albert is also very amusing with quaint comedy items. Lily Burnand is as captivating as ever, and her new songs take well; Frank Elliston and company evoke merriment in a clever farcical sketch; the Miles-Stavordale quintette are doing a fine musical turn; Burley and Burley are expert and amusing in novel acrobatic business; the Stella Girls dance with untiring energy and precision, and the rest of the programme is subscribed by Nettie Starr, comedienne and dancer, and Ella Dean, a popular vocalist.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—A clever and attractive sketch, *Kleptomaniacs*, is put on here this week by the versatile Fred Edwards, and, with the assistance of a good company the presentation is very successful. The sensational acrobatic act done by the Bounding Pattersons has aroused unlimited enthusiasm nightly. A pair of very smart comedians are this week engaged in Will Dalton and Bert Weston; performing cats are presented by the Cheers; a speciality act by the Kinnards goes well; whilst Vera Mayne, vocalist and dancer, and Lillit Luraine, solo instrumentalist, also contribute good things.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—The outstanding feature of this week's bill is the remarkable ballet *Electra*, a wonderful electric show, unique in its way, and its presentation is enthusiastically received by crowded houses; Dorothy L. Clark is a vocalist of conspicuous ability, and she delights her many admirers in clever new songs; Ernest Rees, in song and patter, is vastly amusing; another big success is achieved by Billy Williams, the Australian artist; the Three Sisters Thurban are well liked in a capable instrumental turn; a neat comedy-drama by Fredk. Lawrence's combination goes well; another popular comedian appearing this week is Bert Brantford; and the Sisters Hall (refined vocalists) and Agnes Asher (comedienne) are other members of a good company.

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—That versatile entertainer Jack Lorimer leads the bill here in irresistible style, and is extremely popular. A talented musical comedy pair, Tom and Marie Motramo, are very pleasing in a drawing-room sketch; Spry and Monti add to their reputation as smart and humorous entertainers; we are pleased to renew acquaintance with Stephens and Rennoir, comedians and dancers. Stella Stahl, comedienne, displays ability above the average; Beatty and Blanche are a conspicuous success with duets and dancing; whilst T. C. Callaghan, the character comedian, and Cara Magda, novelty gymnast, are each doing capital turns.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. Charles Hermann.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Whittaker, are presenting here for the first time locally the romantic and interesting play *Robin Hood*. In the name-part Mr. Ethelbert Edwards is to be highly complimented on a good all-round portrayal; and Miss Fyfe Alexander as Lady Marian shines with a performance of exceptional merit; Miss Madge Devereux makes an excellent impression as Queen Eleanor; Mr. Henry Lesmere is very good as King Richard; and as Prince John, Mr. E. Bellenden Clarke is capital; Miss Barbara Hannay is a success as Adela; and Mr. Henry Kerr as Allan a' Dale, Mr. C. Bruce Winston as Friar Tuck, Mr. Leslie Rea as John Little, Mr. Roland Hope as the Abbot of Jourvoux, and Mr. Ernest Gray as Fitz Alwynne are to be complimented on capable embodiments.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—We are this week being entertained with a return visit of Mr. Frank Lindo's company, in the domestic drama, *Home, Sweet Home*, in which Miss Marion Wakefield as Joan and Mr. Frank Lindo as Stephen Armitage play with their accustomed ability and success. Miss Daisy Rochefort is excellent as Dora; Captain Gerald Gambier as the Duke of Ancaster is well suited; Mr. F. Miles Hodgson is capital as Lucas Lyle, and Mr. George Overs is good as Dick Redmayne. Miss Hettie Webster as Lady Summerton deserves praise; Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle plays with effect as David Armitage; and both Miss Ray Rochefort as Sybil Fay and Mr. T. Armitage as the Hon. Percy score with popular and humorous embodiments. In the first act, Mr. Tom E. Lewis introduces his bones speciality. The play is carefully staged.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—A most cordial greeting is being extended here this week to Eugene Stratton, whose exquisitely-rendered coon songs and extremely smart and nimble dancing are so delightfully given; Henry Coutts is making a splendid impression on a first visit with his lightning-change production *Outflanked*, in which Mr. Coutts proves remarkably smart; Signor and Mme. Borelli, as usual, are receiving a hearty reception for their versatile turn; Bowman and Morton raise great merriment in their comedy duo, *She Loved a Policeman;* Percy Honri plays the concertina in a masterly manner, his various selections being highly appreciated; Tom Parker is a really funny comedian; Grace Merton, the original street singer, goes well; Fred Lincoln is a comedian of ability; and Marie Weston raises applause for her clever dancing.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence.—Spangles and Sawdust take the lead here this week with a clever and novel stage aerial act; Frank Hardie and company are scoring a success with the interesting dramatic episode, *The Man in Possession;* the Sisters Cora are chic and popular duettists and dancers; Percy Curry is a funny comedian, who scores a well-deserved success; Bert Terrell, comedian, is responsible for much merriment; and Eva Daunton, burlesque actress, and Beal and Broadway also entertain. Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope, which is a regular and popular feature of the programme, is showing The Seaman's Widow, Too Stout, &c.

Temperance Hall.—A packed house here on Monday greeted Mr. Walter Jeffs' New Century Pictures. The entertainment is a thoroughly enjoyable one, and evoked unstinted applause. Among the large number of pictures shown are Cairo to Khartoum, the Victoria Falls, Review of the Home Fleet, Life's Struggle, the Lady Godiva Procession at Coventry, the Cowboys' Camp, Motor Racing at Brooklands, the Lost Umbrella, &c. The "show" is interspersed with well-rendered vocal selections by the Misses Florence and Rose Showell.

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Childs.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is this week paying a return visit with *The Sin of Her Childhood*. Mr. Frank Liston gives a sound and natural embodiment of Captain John Thornton; Mr. Guy Hastings does full justice to the part of the Rev. Alan Grey; Mr. Wilson Summers is conspicuously successful as the villainous Stephen Haysel; Miss Nellie Thorne-Hallam, who undertakes the title-rôle, submits a charming interpretation; Maria Haysel is cleverly enacted by Miss Clara Santley; Miss Nellie King acts with ability as Hannah Spry; Mr. H. Brady as Barney O'Reilly and Miss Katie Lever as Eliza Muggins keep the house in good humour; Little Dorothy speaks her lines well as Eric Dugdale.

Assembly Rooms.—The Sovereign Animated Picture Co. continue to draw good houses, and the films shown are both instructive and interesting.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Gratifying evidences of popularity attend the run of the juvenile pantomime, *The Sleeping Beauty*. Wee George Wood continues to be the leading favourite with his taking songs and variety turns; but a full measure of appreciation is bestowed upon Miss Molly Dodds (the Sleeping Beauty), Miss Kitty Trewhitt (the Prince), Miss May Gibson (the Fairy Queen), and Master Jack Harrison in the part of the King. Among many attractive elements, the singing and dancing merit high praise, and the performance reflects credit on all concerned.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Mr. George Edwardes sent an excellent company here this week with *See-See*, and large audiences have been present to enjoy the merry tuneful comic opera. Miss Denise Orme, in the title-rôle, was particularly charming, and for her violin playing earned loud applause; Mr. Leonard Mackay acted and sang well in the part of Yen; Mr. Frank Danby as Hang Kee, and Mr. W. H. Rawlins as Cheoo created endless laughter; and worthy support came from Miss Maud Boyd (Mai Yai), Miss Dora Langham (So Hie), and Miss Daisy Revett (Lee).

Shakespeare Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. E. Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Mr. Beerbohm Tree commenced a fortnight's stay here on Monday, giving popular selections from his large répertoire. Opening with *Colonel Newcome*, the distinguished actor held a large and charmed audience in his grip, the fall of each curtain being the signal for loud and prolonged applause. Liverpool's welcome to a favourite artist is always extremely cordial. Miss Viola Tree's Ethel Newcome was regarded on all hands as a lovely picture, marked by sweet gracefulness, and she shared in the expressions of approval showered upon her father. Mr. Basil Gill looked the part of Clive Newcome, into which he infused a deal of feeling; Mr. William Haviland repeated his admirable impersonation of Sir Barnes; and included among the other excellent artists were Messrs. G. W. Anson (Fred Bayham), Harry C. Hewitt (Arthur Pendennis), Charles Quartermaine (Lord Farintosh), Miss Muriel Alexander (Lady Kew), Miss Hilda Moore (Nurse), and Miss Cicely Richards (Mrs. Mackenzie). Other works produced during the week were *Richard II.*, *Red Lamp*, *Van Dyck*, *Julius Cæsar*, *Trilby*, and *The Man Who Was*.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*Lucky Durham* has paid another visit to Liverpool, the city wherein the late Wilson Barrett gave it birth. As on previous occasions, large audiences have gathered to enjoy this remarkable drama, which has been presented by a first-class company controlled by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh.—Mr. Edmund Kennedy stood out conspicuously in the title-rôle; Mr. Arthur Leigh, as the reckless, wayward Steighton, thoroughly grasped the author's intentions; Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood played Lord Mountfallon in excellent style; the minor part of Ben Verstein was cleverly handled by Mr. W. F. Clitherow; Miss Alice Esther Belmore found favour as Helen Vallerton; Miss Rosabel Dodd presented a most satisfactory Lady Mountfallon; thanks were due to Miss Lilian Mason for her thoughtful portrait of Mrs. Durham; and commendable support came from Messrs. A. E. Walker (Mr. Vallerton), W. Dunlop (Arthur Walcombe), and Miss Florence Dulhunty (Margaret Steighton). The staging of the drama was particularly good.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Here this week large audiences have enjoyed *Second to None*, Walter Howard's fine military play. Mr. T. Edward Ward's company have certainly done full justice to it. Mr. Jerrold Heather played with distinction as Harry Wilding, receiving excellent support from Mr. Clifford Rean, who was his brother Frank; Mr. C. W. Spencer held the rôle of Sir Reginald Greystone with credit; Mr. J. G. Maine proved an admirable Sergeant Horseman; Miss Ward, through indisposition, was prevented from assuming the part of Nell Greystone, but the work was ably undertaken by Miss Violet Ennis Lawson; Mr. T. G. Vane made an amusing Lieut. Ballater; Mr. Alfred Brandon did well in the rôle of Captain Mannering; and excellent comedy came from Mr. Allan Carruthers (Joe Ruggles), Mr. Charles A. Preece (Private Flutter), and Miss Yandle (Norah). Miss Maudie Grayson proved an efficient May Greystone.

Queen's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—*When Woman Hates* has been given here this week by Mr. Fred Bulmer's company. Miss Chrissie Dunbar did well as Cora Daintry; Miss Gladys Hawthorn displayed a deal of feeling in the rôle of Mary Rokeby; Mr. Eustace Day made a striking figure of the rascally Godfrey Lawton; as General Rokeby Mr. H. B. Davis acquitted himself creditably; and valuable support came from Messrs. Fred Lloyd (Lieut. Rokeby), Tod Squires (Alphonse), Evan Roland (Patrick), and Miss May Day (Edith Rokeby).

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—A delightful sketch, entitled *Charles—His Friend*, tops the bill here this week, Courtice and Louie Pounds, with their excellent company, supporting it; Clarice Mayne, an accomplished comedienne and mimic, found favour on all hands; Hooker and Davis, with six beautiful girls, introduced a neat song-scena; *Black Justice*, presented by Brown and Le Clerq, has proved eminently diverting; a pleasing music and song turn came from Hill and Whitaker; the singing and dancing of the Eight Empire Girls afforded every satisfaction; as comedy artists and expert dancers the Three Clarions showed much ability; and likewise in the programme were Beatrice Willey, vocalist; and Elsie Roby, with the musical comedy act, *The Slavey's At Home*.

Tivoli, Ltd.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Fred Karno's *Dandy Thieves* are foremost here this week, delighting everybody; Frank Maura proves himself a marvellous foot equilibrist; Ada Spencer has some popular songs; *My Pal Jemmy* is a pleasing scena provided by Frank Harwood; smart work as trapeze and rope artists is shown by the Fitzroys; and Kisbey, the call-boy, also appears.

Lyric.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—At the top of the bill here this week are Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery, with their laughable trifle *The Would-be Actors*, which has been richly enjoyed; Robert Dohn's show as an athlete and equilibrist, including the balancing and firing of a gun, has been watched with deep interest; Fred Curran, the funny parody singer, proved as acceptable as ever; some clever juggling was shown by the Cromwells; most expert trick cycling was performed by the Brothers St. Clair; Frank Cass had a hearty reception for his songs; as a quaint comedian Cliff Ryland proved particularly amusing; and others in the list were Blanche Marion, a neat comedienne and dancer; Baker and Balfe, operatic and xylophone couple; and Fyne and Hurley, "the dude and the coster."

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Included in a lengthy bill here this week are the Bensons, who have given a capital musical and comedy act entitled *The Maid and the Page;* an operatic and humorous absurdity presented by the Columbia Comedy Trio has proved exceedingly enjoyable; Jack Collinson's company appeared in a laughable farce entitled *Topsy-Turvy School;* Bennett and Martell caused much merriment as the "shipwrecked mariners"; smart songs and dances were provided by the Sharp Brothers; Nash and Noel showed themselves to be versatile comedians and dancers; Andrews and Thompson had a high-class humorous singing act; and others who appeared were Mabel and Winnie Brooke, vocalists and dancers; Ted Cowan, comedian; and Mike Cray, comedy juggler.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock company here are this week producing *Life*, from the pen of Herbert Barrs. Included in the principal characters are Messrs. Harry Tresham (Jack Lockheart), Sydney Grant (Sir Horace Lester), R. Wilton (Joe Pippitt), and Cecil Ravenswood (Peter Thorpe and Jacobs); Miss Florence Palmer (Ruth Thorpe), Miss Beryl Ravenswood (Beatrice Ferrars), and Miss Florence Cameron (Jess).

Paddington Palace.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Edwards.—*Brave Hearts*, by Messrs. George Comer and Fred Benton, has been produced here this week by the stock dramatic company. Mr. Ernest Wingfield was an excellent Guy Barrington; Mr. H. Hesslegrave played well as Joe Ferrett; Mr. H. G. Brandon made a funny Sam Sawyer; and others who afforded valuable support were Miss Gladys H. Walton (Kate Edwards) and Miss Florence Barnes (Nellie Bligh).

Haymarket.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and company continue to enjoy great popularity here with their smartly-presented sketches. This week the selected one is *When Snowflakes Fall; or, A Bitter Atonement*. Dave Miller is an Irish comedian of ability; Davis and Agar are a funny pair of comedians with plenty of patter; Charles Coll has several amusing songs; and the Bioscope projects some excellent pictures.

Olympia.—District-Manager, Mr. Albert Bulmer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—The big attraction here this week is Ivan Padoubny, a wrestler, who has issued a number of challenges which were accepted by local contestants, all of whom he easily vanquished; Happy Fanny Fields comes from the Empire; *The Wreck of the Hesperus* is a pleasing musical trifle contributed by Hamish MacCunn; Ella Shields sings in attractive style several coon songs; Seener and Fridkin's Imperial Russian troupe of international singers and dancers are particularly good; a talented musical entertainment is given by the Jackson Family; and also in the list are Will Poluski, jun., an eccentric comedian and dancer; Three Cape Girls, comediennes and long boot dancers; and Rich and Rich, comedians.

Roscommon.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The stock dramatic company here are still doing good business. This week Mr. Percy Boucher and company are presenting *Shadows of a Great City*, from the pen of Joseph Jefferson. Among the principal characters are Tom Cooper (Mr. Herbert H. Young), George Benson (Mr. J. D. Geddes), Abe Nathan (Mr. C. H. Maxwell), Annie and Nellie Standish (Miss Lilian Beaumont), Jim Farren (Mr. Percy Boucher), Mrs. Higgins (Miss Jenny Maxwell), and Biddy Roonan (Miss Enid Wild).

LLANDUDNO.—Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. A. E. Vaughan; Manager, Mr. J. Ritson.—Mr. J. Maundy-Gregory's company appeared for three nights in the military play, *Lights Out*. Mr. Arthur Stone is good as Captain Von B. Bannewitz; Mr. Herbert Lugg as Lieut. Von Howen is well placed; Mr. Wernham S. Ryott as Lieut. Von Lauffen gives an excellent impersonation; Sergeant Volkhardt is in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Powel; Mr. Francis J. Bithell (Corporal Queiss) and Mr. Reginald Payne (Corporal Helbig) play in good style; and Klara Volkhardt is creditably portrayed by Miss Dorothea Desmond. *The Angel of the Swamp* is played as a curtain-raiser. *A Bunch of Violets* was announced for the remainder of the week.

LONG EATON.—St. James's Theatre.—*A Wife's Triumph* was presented by Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company on Monday, while *Sapho* was staged on Tuesday and Wednesday, and *Trilby* and the *House of Shame* on Thursday and Friday. Mr. Abbott is capital as the Yorkshire squire; Miss Ada Abbott is a graceful Bessie Dewhurst, whose influence gets back the Wilton home, imperilled by the nefarious tricks of betting men. Mr. W. H. Davis-Brown figures well as the sturdy trainer; Mr. Frank Stephens is very good as Frank Wilton, in the clutches of Messrs. W H. Garbois and Weedon Ross, the "bookies"; and Mr. R. Ernest makes up capitally as the American bookmaker. Mr. Edwin Keene has scope for his versatile powers as the village constable and then the landlord, ably assisted by Miss Marjorie Tennant, and they are the funny pair. Mr. Keene is heartily encored for his vocal number.

LUTON.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Graham Falcon; Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—Mr. Hoggan Armadale is paying the town a visit with his sensational drama, *The Face at the Window*. Mr. Armadale himself is playing the rôle of Lucio Delgado, an Italian, alias Le Loup, and is perfect in the part. He is ably supported by a strong and efficient company, which includes Mr. Dunscome as the detective, Mr. Warne as De Brisson, a wealthy banker, and Mr. Geo. Hineson as Peter Pottlebury, an English tourist. The scenery is especially good and very effective.

MACCLESFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. H. Gattey.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company is here in *Honour Thy Father*. Mr. J. W. Evelyn gives a splendid portrayal of Gabriel Garth; Mr. E. Turner is quite at home in the part of Jack Halyard; as Duncan Bly Mr. H. Travis gives a sound impersonation; whilst Mike Copplestone's career is in the capable hands of Mr. F. W. Graham. Mr. H. Black is most typical as Ned Pennycomquick; and Mr. C. Merton does justice to both George Bloggs and Job Merry. Miss Kate Newton is a most fascinating Gertrude Garth; and Miss Violet Hammersby is really charming as Lillian Garth; Miss Lizzie Jacobs is merry enough as Poppy Cornleigh; Miss Winnie Donovan is splendid as Mercy Merry; and Miss Maud Grey as Violet Wilfred portrays the part in a most enchanting manner.

MAIDENHEAD.—Town Hall.—Secretary, the Town Clerk.—A good audience assembled on Monday to see *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*, played by Miss Inez Howard's company, under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattell. The Sophie Coventry of Miss Edith Knight deserves high commendation, the parts of Jack and Lucy Fenton are well sustained by Mr. Ted Dennis and Miss Carrie Ellis, and Mr. Leslie Beaufort is a manly representative of the British tar. Mr. Charles Coleman and Miss Nita Langford both display ability as the unscrupulous adventurers, Mr. Charles Leverton gives a good character study of Bill Slater, and much amusement is afforded by Mr. Will Glaze and Miss Betty Seymour as Johnny Walker and Poppy Slater.

MAIDSTONE.—Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—The programme this week is headed by Arthur Reece, who has a good selection of songs, and sings them well. Picton Roxborough and company are amusing in the sketch, *Cockie;* Jack Lane, mimic and entertainer, is deservedly popular; Les Valdos, eccentric acrobats; and Phern and Phern, instrumentalists, all do well. Miss Amy Sullivan, comedienne, and Miss Ethel Dunford, vocalist, together with the Bioscope, complete the bill.

Corn Exchange.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Beslee.—The St. Louis Animated Picture Company is paying its annual visit, and to judge from the enthusiasm of the audience this fine exhibition of animated photos has lost none of its popularity. The chief attraction is Mr. Harry Lauder, this popular artist being presented with lifelike realism by means of Gaumont's Chronophone.

MANCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—A splendid house welcomed Mr. George Alexander and his company in *His House in Order* at this theatre on Monday. The reputation of this fine play was endorsed by the audience's rapt attention and enthusiastic applause, the prime honours of the evening going, of course, to Mr. Alexander, in the rôle of Hilary Jesson, and to Miss Irene Vanbrugh, whose depiction of Nina, in depth and power, could hardly have been surpassed. Mr. Cyril Harcourt's Filmer Jesson was well studied and natural; and the Ridgeley group found excellent exponents in Miss Ruth Maitland, Mrs. Kemmis, Mr. E. Lyall Swete, and Mr. George Silver. Mr. Norman Trevor also did well as Major Maurewarde; and the same may be said of Miss Beatrix de Burgh as Mlle. Thomé; while great praise is due to Miss Iris Hawkins for her clever and natural acting as Derek. In addition to frequent curtains, a magnificent ovation was accorded to Mr. Alexander and Miss Vanbrugh at the close.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—*Robin Hood*, presented here on Monday by Mr. Lewis Waller and company, proved a great treat to a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Waller's depiction of the famous outlaw is, as might be expected, a fine and gallant piece of work. He is supported by Miss Nora Lancaster as Lady Marian de Vaux, and the figure she makes in the play is a charming one. Mr. Shiel Barry as Prince John handles his part in capital style; Mr. Frank Woolfe is very well suited to the rôle of Richard Cœur de Lion; Mr. J. H. Irvine makes an excellent Hugo de Longespee; and Mr. Charles Rock submits a highly acceptable sketch of Friar Tuck; while very pleasing and dainty work is added by Miss Dora Barton as Adela, Mrs. Helen Leyton as the Queen-Dowager, and Miss Eleanor May as Alison Much. Others who contribute to the brilliant effect are Mr. Cecil Cameron as Alan A'Dale, Mr. Herbert Jarman as Little John, Mr. Owen Roughwood as Will Scarlet, Mr. Herbert Vyvyan as the Abbot, Mr. S. J. Warmington as Much the miller, and Mr. G. B. Brereton as Fitz Aylwynne. Lyrics and choruses are introduced, and the scenery is magnificent.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—*The Maid and the Motor-Man* is in its third week here, and is proving a decided draw. The piece has benefited by the introduction of new features, including several taking lyrics, and a successful future seems to be assured.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-

Harry Nelson, comedian, is also prominent and popular; and good turns are added by Yeotha and Captain Grade, in a novel scena, *Indian Pastimes;* Ajax and George, novelty artists; King and Starling, versatile artists; the Victorians, cultured duettists; and Moon and Morris, comedians and smart dancers. Snowball and Miss Dolla did not appear on Monday.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—Mr. M. Romanney presents here this week a sensational drama, entitled *By London's Mighty River*, by T. G. Bailey. All the elements of excitement are embodied in the story, which is well unfolded by a capable company, among whom Mr. J. R. Darnley as Lionel Carstairs makes a bold and breezy hero; Miss M. Pascoe as Madge Mayfield is a pleasing heroine; Mr. Douglas R. Munro is sufficiently sinister as Graham, the villain and swindler; and Miss Ella Merrydew and Mr. A. Russell act well in dual rôles. The remaining characters are well varied and amusing, and the whole goes with a swing.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dey.—The fare here this week is *For Her Sake* (Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company), which was played last week at the Royal Osborne Theatre.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Huge audiences are drawn here nightly by George Robey, who is in his best form, and, consequently, vastly amusing in his various funny songs and business. Oswald Williams, also prominent in the bill, submits a smart and elaborate series of illusions; a very good turn is added by the Warsaw Brothers, in a merry musical sketch; Farley, Rennie, and Farley provide their novel comedy act, *Fun at a Railway Station;* and other pleasing items are Olive and Owen, the "roadside tinkers"; the Vernon Troupe of expert xylophonists; Ethel Haydon, ballad vocalist; Charles Pastor, comedian; and Florence Vic, character comedienne. The pictures show recent local events.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan. *The Typhoon* is still the *pièce de résistance* at this popular house, and is greatly enjoyed. De Gracia's elephants are wonderfully well trained; the Three Prestons, in their absurdity, *The Liftman's Rise*, are highly amusing; Ted E. Box is a capital comedian of the eccentric order; and a clever comedy whistler, La Berat, submits a most astonishing dancing act as the Mystic Fire Maiden; the Leonards are very entertaining in a comedy act, *Point Duty;* and the Sisters Pine are seen in *Maggie's Day Out.* Two vocal items by the choir, and the Lifeboat Saturday Procession, shown on the Bioscope, are also included in the programme.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tealor Wade.—Big crowds are attracted here this week by R. G. Knowles, whose turn is long, and quite in his very best style. Admirable turns are given also by Gus Harris, the popular Hebrew character delineator; Bosanquet, wonderful violinist and speciality musician; Francis O'Flynn, phenomenal banjoist; May Newall, dainty vocalist; Milner Verren, the popular tenor; Harry Zetta, comedian and eccentric dancer; and Gregson and Goodfellow, a smart comedy duo. The pictures are good, as usual.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Billie Barlow, with her charming manner, is the bright particular star here this week, and meets with a splendid reception. Stanley Damerell and Cecil Rutland and a capable company are highly successful in an absurdity, entitled *House Full.* Nat Travers, coster comedian, sings two songs in good style; the Greys are excellent singers, and are well received; some capital singing and dancing is done by the Emerald Gems; Cissie Lupino is an exceedingly clever juvenile dancer Woolmer Young is a good vocal comedian; the Brothers Baker are amusing patterers and Eva Compton is a neat comedienne. Raymond's Vivagraph pictures complete.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—Mr. Arthur Rigby is here with his capital song-scena, *The March of the Married Men;* the Cumberlands are wonderfully clever trick cyclists and acrobats; and Captain Roberts, the herculean musician, is very entertaining; the Forestiers, in an up-to-date quick-change sketch, are capital; the Columbia coloured coons sing and dance well; and Carney and Armstrong have some amusing patter. The Storey Trio are clever hand-balancers; whilst good work is also done by Arthur Pearl, comedian; and Harry Leaton, vocal comedian. Very interesting pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor.—Prominent and well-received turns here this week are those of the Emmell Comedy Company, including Adele Levey, in a mythical muddle, entitled *My Statue of Grace;* Tina Clementa's wonderful sporting act; Mlle. Rennie, an exceedingly smart juggler; the Sages, burlesque artists and dancers; and Mark Henton, comedian. Other entertaining items are offered by Angelo, the lightning painter; the Irving Trio of harmonising vocalists; Edith St. Clair, comedienne; Roy Beavis, the merry magician; and W. G. Wesley, a quaint comedian. An Amateur Athlete is the subject of the animated pictures.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay.—The Six Yuilians head the bill here this week, and go through an exceptionally smart acrobatic performance. The Wakeman Quartette are excellent in a musical comedy sketch; and Clare and Pastor are entertaining speciality artists; Fields and Lewis, in their latest act, are good; Connie Mascot is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Freddie Field, comedian, is capital; and Harrigan and Holt are as popular as ever. Very clever are Paul Gascoigne and Correze and Keith in their respective juggling acts; and Yorkshire Tom is warmly received for his excellent mimicry. The pictures are very laughable.

MANSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting-Manager, Mr. Mark Lorne.—Miss Maud Western and company, in *The Prodigal Son*, are the attraction here this week. Captain Harry Fanshaw is admirably portrayed by Mr. W. A. Buckstone; and Mr. Claude Seaton is capable as Jack Fanshaw; Mr. J. O. Stevenson gives a powerful rendition of the part of Ralph Marsden; Mr. W. Chapman is at home in the rôle of Corbett; Miss Maud Western finds many admirers by her artistic playing of the rôle of Dick; Miss Helen Reece is all that can be desired as Nellie Birke, and the same remark applies to Miss Ada Hender as Margaret Marsden.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Captain Cecil Clayton.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company, in *The Convict's Daughter*, is occupying the boards here this week. Mr. Frank Bertram fills his quadruple rôle with credit; Mr. W. Graham plays the part of Harold Trevelyan capably, as also does Mr. E. de Vere that of Frederick Neville. The rôle of Jasper Thorne is in the able hands of Mr. E. Robson; as Marian Thorne Miss M Beard displays ability; and the rôle of Edith is creditably portrayed by Miss Lilias Deane. The comedy element is well looked after by Mr. S. Roberts as Patrick O'Laragan and Miss L. Nordan as Betty Hyne.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wallis Clark.—Mr. Lionel Glenister and Mr. Wood-Ingram's company has made a successful appearance here this week, with *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.* Miss Kate Cutler, in the title-part, has given a delightful impersonation; as the Hon. Jimmy Keppel Mr. Lionel Glenister, with his clever and refined acting, has scored a pronounced success; and a capital piece of character-acting has been contributed by Mr. J. W. Wood-Ingram, as Lord Crackenthorpe; Miss Kate Wingfield is the haughty and stately Lady Crackenthorpe to the life; Mr. Colin Johnstone does excellently as the retired Major Phipps; and Miss Leonora Thomas plays the Hon. Millicent Keppel with grace and charm; Miss Naomi Nelson is deserving of praise for her impersonation of Mrs. O'Mara, with a rich brogue which is refreshingly natural; Miss Estelle Despa makes a good Hon. Mrs. Colquhon; and other most satisfactory presentments are contributed by Mr. W. H. G. Wynne as Jack Menzies, Mr. Harry Phillips as Parker, and Mr. P. Fitzgerald as Lucas. The comedy has been preceded each evening by a dramatic episode, *After Seven Years.*

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—The attraction here this week is Chung Ling Soo, whose clever feats have completely puzzled and mystified audiences; Frank Keegan and Co. give a clever knockabout cycle act; the Twin Brothers Dean, step dancers, are good; the Forrest Combination appear in a mirth-provoking sketch; Arthur Croxon, comedian and mimic, is an excellent turn; and the Zerbinis give a high-class musical mélange.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—*When it was Dark*, presented by Mrs. T. Morton Powell's company, is here this week. As the Rev. Basil Goitre Mr. Frank Tennant plays in manly fashion; an excellent representation of Sir Robert Llewellyn is given by Mr. Edward Valentine; Constantine Schuabe is ably presented by Mr. Cuthbert Imrie; Mr. Ernest St. John presents an excellent study of the Rev. Mr. Byars; Mr. Lionel West skilfully enacts the part of Charles Gayfly; and Mr. R. B. Drysdale is good as Nunc Wallace. Miss Beatrice May merits praise for an excellent portrayal of Gertrude Hunt; Mrs. Morton Powell makes a sympathetic Helena Byars; and Miss Dorothy Hildebrande a pleasing Grace Goldeye.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The Macdonald Trio in their "musical garden" provide an enjoyable entertainment; Wallace Whitney scores with his songs; Miss Beattie Foster is a delightful comedienne; Mephisto, a clever contortionist; Leo King sings in excellent style; Vendome and Chase are smart dancers; Mlle. Sollo gives a graceful gymnastic turn; and J. H. McCann's roller-skate dancing is well received.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. Geo. Burton's vaudeville company occupies the boards here this week. Herr Blumenfeld's troupe of performing dogs exhibit rare sagacity and excellent training. Other turns are the Deroneys, comedy act; Chas. Rowen, comedian; Wyman, trick skater; Little Doris Jeffs, quick-change artist; Flo Lister, a talented contralto vocalist, with a voice of remarkable timbre and purity; Terry and Snowden, vocal comedy artists; Chris Van Bern, comedian; Monti Santos, society juggler; P. J. Durney, globe walker; Miss Lena Debarr, comedienne; and the Tivoli Girls, vocalists and dancers.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles Imeson.—Mr. Edward Terry and his company opened on Monday night with *Sweet Lavender.* Mr. Terry in the rôle of the shabby, drunken, and yet good-hearted Dick Phenyé was at all times natural and convincing; while Miss Ruth Nightingale gave a flawless portrayal of the title-rôle; Mr. B. A. Pittar acted with great distinction the part of Clement Hale; and Mr. Thos. Holding as the persistent Yankee was very amusing; Miss Marion Ripley was charming as Minnie; and Miss Agnes Knights was pleasing as Ruth Halt. The part of Mr. Wedderburn found an excellent exponent in Mr. Chas. B. Bedells; and Miss Eugenie Vernie as Mrs. Gilfillian, Mr. Wm. Dexter as Dr. Delaney, Mr. H. A. Samson as Mr. Maw, and Mr. Percy Crawford as Mr. Bulger were all that could be desired. The piece is admirably staged. *Liberty Hall, The Magistrate, The Rocket,* and *Paul Pry* have also been staged during the week.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. Ed. Jowsey.—Mr. Walter Melville's play, *The Soldier's Wedding*, is played by an excellent company. Mr. Wingold Lawrence is quite at home in the part of Jack Brown, the hero; while Miss Marie McAulay impresses the audience with her capital impersonation of Julie De Beauvrais; Miss Jessie Winter was very effective in the rôle of Nancy Lee; and the part of her grandfather, Nathaniel Lee, found a most capable exponent in Mr. Fred Yorold; Mr. Beresford Whitcomb was good as Colonel Graham; and the difficult part of Charles Courtney was in the capable hands of Mr. Raymond Wood; Mr. Frederick Pyron was good as David Munroe; and Miss George De Sara was excellent in the rôle of Peggy Munroe.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Walter King creates roars of laughter here this week with his humorous songs and patter; and the Norman and Leonard Trio make a good impression in their musical act; Sylvia Cavaho and company are exceedingly pleasing in a dramatic episode, entitled *Lulu;* while Walker and May, coloured vaudeville artists, score a great success. The Three Sisters Tree provide a most delightful vocal and dancing turn; and Little "Tich" Bourne pleases. Other artists who add to a capital programme are Tray and Rich, and Forest and King.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—The Wonderful Emilions give a most daring and clever acrobatic display; Ted Karno and comedians create roars of laughter in their farce, *Dinner Hour;* as do also Tom Kelso and company in a short comedy, entitled, *The Silly Servant;* a pleasing turn is given by the Meymotts; and Bob Morgan is an excellent vocalist; Syd Herman, comedian, does well; and other turns are given by the New Macs and the Sisters Dorrell.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—Mr. Reginald Dance and his company have been appearing during the week with great success in *Raffles.* Mr. Dance has sustained the titular rôle with distinction, and has been loudly applauded at every performance. It has really been a wonderful bit of acting, and the sangfroid of the amateur cracksman has been well maintained throughout. Mr. Ed. Irwin as the cute Yankee detective, Curtis Bedford, has also scored, and Messrs. Brisco Owen (Bunny), Oswald Griffiths (Lord Amersteth), Rivers Bertram (Crawshay), and Stanley Lathbury (Lord Crowley) have played their allotted parts extremely well. Miss May Brook has been an ideal woman of the world as Mrs. Vidal, and Miss Katie Yates has been excellent as the confiding girl Gwendoline. Miss Rita Ward has been a conspicuously successful Marie, the French maid. *Poor Pillicoddy*, a farce by Maddison Norton, has been the curtain raiser.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hales.—Mr. James Welsh's company is proving a strong attraction here this week, in *When Knights Were Bold.* As the matter-of-fact little autocrat, Sir Guy de Vere, Mr. Nelson Keys is irresistibly funny. Mr. Charles Ommanney is equally admirable as the bumptious Irishman, Sir Brian Ballymote; Mr. William Lockhart is unctuously humorous as the Dean; very amusing is the Charles Widdicombe of Mr. Thomas Pauncefort; Wittie and Barker are aptly impersonated by Messrs. Talbot Homewood and W. Hubert; Miss Emelie Polini is altogether admirable as the sentimental Lady Rowena; and Miss Marjorie Chordiss is a handsome and fascinating Miss Isaacson. Other ladies who contribute to an excellent ensemble are Mesdames Eva Leonard Boyne, Vera Herbert, Lena Flouerdue and Nannie Hume. Mr. Talbot Homewood and Miss Eva Leonard Boyne are seen to advantage in a clever curtain-raiser, *The Miller.*

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. Martin Harvey and company opened a week's engagement on Monday evening with the first presentation to a provincial audience of Karl Rossler's religious play, *Great Possessions.* In the part of the gentle, idealistic Nathaniel, Mr. Harvey achieved another great triumph, giving a poetic and imaginative touch to the character. In very effective contrast is the impersonation of old Shylock of Mr. Charles Glenny; and an excellent piece of acting is the Ruth of Miss Coleridge. Miss N. de Silva as Simon and Mr. Albert Raynor as Rabbi Jehuda also contribute able studies, and undeniable evidence of the appreciation of the audience of the play as a whole was often enough forthcoming. Also included in the bill for the week is *The Corsican Brothers, Rouget de L'Isle,* and the ever-popular play, *The Only Way.*

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—The musical comedy, *Miss Hook of Holland*, was given its first presentation in Newcastle on Monday evening, and, judging by the reception it gained from a large audience, this merry, lively, and pleasing "Dutch incident in two acts" was destined to have a very successful week's run. Mr. George Dance sent a capital company, including Mr. Leslie Holland, who as Mr. Hook was very quaint and amusing; and Miss Deborah Volar, who played the part of Sally with charming naïveté. Miss Mabel Sealby fairly revels in the rôle of Mina; and Mr. Arthur Harrold, who has a good voice, was a distinct success as Van Vuyt. Mr. Fred Lyne as Simon Slinks, Mr. Frederick Hobbs as Captain Adrian Paap, and Mr. Charles D. Cleveland as Ludwig Schnapps all deserve favourable mention.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. T. W. Rowe.—A company, under the able leadership of Mr. Lester Collingwood, appear in the drama, *When London Sleeps,* and chief among those to the fore in a successful presentation are Mr. R. Ferris, Mr. E. P. Ashby, Mr. F. E. Thomas, Mr. D'Arcy Kelway, Mr. Tom Roydon, Miss Mabel Scudamore, Miss Lilla Wilde, and Miss Emmeline B. Lewis.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—*The Sign of the Cross* is being played here this week. Mr. Cyril Austin Lee impersonates Marcus Superbus with both grace and vigour, and Mr. C. Yorke makes a most admirable Emperor; while the parts of Tigellinus and Licineus are capitally assumed by Messrs. Charles Aldred and J. Wetherall. Miss Gladys Leslie makes a charming Mercia, and Miss Lena Gordon gives a careful study of the part of Berenice.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wells.—Miss Vesta Tilley, as charming and talented an artist as ever, draws a succession of crowded houses this week, all her songs going well, and none better than the old favourite "Following the dear old dad." Launceston Elliott contributes a novel strong man's act as the "British Hercules." Old favourites in Mr. George Spry and Miss Florrie Austen score as heavily as ever, Frank Cumminger is a smart sand dancer, and others meeting with success are the Sisters Poole, the Clement Trio, Miss May Henderson, and Mark Adams and company.

PAVILION THEATRE.—The Barrasford Company; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. H. Boardman.—The Fourteen Black Hussars, coloured instrumentalists, who play with great power and marvellous precision, are a capital turn, quite to the liking of Newcastle audiences. An old favourite, but always contributing something original and distinctive, Mr. Martin Conway has again a flattering reception; clever and amusing are Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene and company in the comedietta, *My Lady's Chamber;* and a football match on bicycles by Hinton and Wooton produces great enthusiasm. Williams and Warden contribute an Irish vaudeville act full of fresh humour; and a decided hit is made as a male impersonator by Miss Nellie Moore. In musical comedy speciality Stiddar and Dunbar are also favourites; and the Hartfords, in an acrobatic bicycle act; Ford Williams, vocalist; and Wright and Lawson, eccentrics, assist ably in a capital entertainment.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Baron H. Harriss's company is delighting good houses here this week with the musical comedy, *The Prince of Pilsen.* Mr. Harry Kilburn, as the involuntary impostor, keep the house in roars; as the Prince proper Mr. Frank Crewys does well; as Mrs. Maddison Crocker Miss Sophie Harriss has a fine stage presence, and infuses into the part a mixture of vivacity, grace, and humour that is irresistible; Nellie Wagner (Miss Hazel Saqui) sings sweetly; Mr. Lindon Lang is a capable exponent of the rôle of Lieut. Tom Wagner; and he has a fascinating partner in Miss Ernestine Desborough. As the Earl of Shrimpton Mr. Bernard Russell is distinctly smart; and Mr. Ernest Clifford shows ability in the part of François, a French waiter. Sidonie is admirably suited to Miss Connie Lever; and other characters are well sustained.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Manager, Major Gallagher. — Herbert Darnley's company, in the sketch, *The Skirmishers,* provides the principal attraction in the bill here. Another cleverly worked-out sketch, *Love Germs,* is presented by the Smythsons; Belle Davies and her pick-chick actors are accorded a warm reception; Cull-Pitt, who is assisted by Mlle. Adele, proved himself a trickster above the average; and Westland, a Scotch comedian, does well in song and patter. Gertrude Bradshaw is a soprano of ability; the Erik Brothers are a couple of clever equilibrists; and Frank Darwin, an actor-vocalist, is warmly recognised; while the Bioscope, showing a pictorial drama, The Light that Failed, completes the Bill.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett.—Mr. George Dance's principal company in *The Catch of the Season* has drawn crowded houses this week. Miss Moya Mannering scores a brilliant success as Angela; Miss Enestine Walker acts and sings well as Lady Crystal; Miss Doris Greville and Miss Muff Carew are excellent as the Hon. Honoria and the Hon. Sophia Bedford; Miss Louie Bentley is admirable as the Duchess of St. Jermyn's; Mr. Frank Lincoln as the Duke of St. Jermyn's is excellent throughout; Mr. Tom Shelford gives a good delineation of the modern Lord Dundreary; Mr. John Wigley is good as Sir John Crystal; Mr. Frank Miles is a quaint Mr. William Gibson; and Master Peter Grata as Bucket, the page, is an immense favourite.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans.—Two strong attractions in the Palace programme this week are Jan Rudenyi and company in a musical, dramatic episode, in which the gifted Hungarian violinist is ably supported by Miss Dora de Winton and Mr. John D. Saunders; and the first appearance in Northampton of Lottie Collins, the dashing and chic comedienne, was also accorded a big reception. Other attractions are Currie and Scott, who please with song and dance; Phil Rees, who gives some good imitations of various coloured artists; C. Vincent, with the Palace pictures; Lewin and Binns, comedy duologue artists; Harry Sims, comedian; and the Lauri Brothers, smart Society gymnasts.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company commenced a week's engagement here on Monday with *A Beautiful Fiend.* Mr. Oliver Birrell appeared as Ivan Paulovitch, and gave a capital portrayal of the character; and Mr. Harry C. Robinson represented Count Karetoff in clever style; Mr. Matt Russell acted admirably as Sergius Strogoff; Mr. Harry Oates was deservedly popular as Crackles; and Mr. W. Robertson Foulis made the most of Malachi. As Wanda Miss Sidney Crowe made a decided hit; Miss Phyllis Brent as Nadine Karetoff was worthy of the highest praise; and Pattie Woodlands found an able representative in Miss Annie Clunn. Last evening (Friday) the popular acting-manager (Mr. Horace Lee) took a complimentary benefit, extra attractions being announced for the occasion.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—This week we have the Four Herberts, the Californian farmers and maid, who meet with their usual hearty reception; Mr. Jack Sheppard, handcuff king, performs some clever feats; and Miss Cass Leighton, juvenile comedienne, is smart. The Brothers Obo, laughing and patter comedians, make a great hit; the Three Handels present an enjoyable musical act; Mr. Harold Carlyle, Scotch comedian; Mr. Jack Douglas, comedian and bâton manipulator; and the Bio-Photoscope complete the programme.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. S. Golden.—An excellent presentation of *Proof* has been given this week by Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's talented company. Mr. Penn Hamilton's Lazare was altogether good; Mr. Carl Beechy was a humorous Chamboran; Count D'Aubeterre was nicely played by Mr. Bernard Elliott; Mr. G. Ridgeway Thorne did very well as Victor De Laugney; and Mr. S. Herbert Humber's Pierre Lorance was a powerful embodiment, his ability being thoroughly proved in the great situations of the piece. Miss Ehelma Kurz as Adrienne effectively exercised her undoubted talents; the Mme. Deprets of Miss Elizabeth Dexter was a most consistent performance; Duchess D'Aubeterre was well represented by Miss Emelie Wilson; and Miss Alicia Raleigh stood out pre-eminently with her clever presentation of Valentine.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Hendie and Von Leer's company is here this week, in *Two Little Vagabonds.* Mr. Wilson Coleman gave an excellent representation of George Thornton; and Mr. Douglas Cecil was equally good as Capt. Darville; Mr. Joseph Brandon was very successful as John Scarth; Mr. John F. Trayner acted well as Bill Mullins, the Gaffer; and the Dido Bunce of Mr. Frank Gordon, and Mr. Fred Archer as the Coughdrop, deserve every praise; Miss Violet Ellicott as Marion Thornton excited much sympathy; Miss Helena Millais was good as Barbara; and Miss Marie Pritchard did well as Biddy Mullins; Miss Marjorie Murray as Dick and Miss Josie Beltram as Wally won golden opinions for their acting.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas are very diverting in an amusing little sketch, entitled *Her Birthday;* Professor Duncan puts his collies through various clever tricks; Mlle. Lumiere, assisted by Mr. D. J. Birteno, in her novel act, *The Fairy Grotto,* is a pleasing turn; Minnie D'Aubyn is successful as a vocalist; Mount and Corelli are much appreciated as Society entertainers; Charley Russell as a comedian is a favourite; and Tom Dunmore is well received; the Three McGregors are entertaining musicians; and the Hippo Biograph has some amusing scenes depicted on the screen.

ST. ANDREW'S HALL.—It is long since this hall was used by professional artists, other than at concerts, &c., but on Monday M. and Mme. Zancig gave two of their marvellous performances, to the wonder and amusement of fairly large audiences.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*The Scarlet Pimpernel* has a particular attraction for playgoers here, inasmuch as it was first produced in this house, and Monday night's audience gave a very warm welcome to it; indeed, so warm that Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry were compelled to repeatedly bow their acknowledgments. The Lady Blakeney of Miss Neilson is, as ever, a delightful performance; Mr. Terry's polished assumption of Sir Percy Blakeney revealed his wealth of artistic temperament; Miss Mary Mackenzie looked and acted charmingly as Suzanne; and Miss Claire Pauncefort was sufficiently pathetic as the Comtesse. Mr. Horace Hodges portrayed the subtle and sinister character of Chauvelin with consummate skill; Mr. Alfred Kendrick (Sir Andrew) and Mr. Malcolm Cherry (Lord Anthony) made their parts thoroughly interesting; and the Prince was capitally embodied by Mr. Wigney Percyval. Mr. L. Race Dunrobin conceived Armand St. Just on the right lines; and Mr. R. E. Pickering smartly delineated the volatile Vicomte de Tournai. Mr. T. Carter Edwards (Brogard) and Mr. D. J. Williams (Jellyband) supplied appropriate character studies.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—*The Midnight Mail* is staged here this week, and the various members of the company are well up to their work. Mr. George Harvard enters thoroughly into the spirit of his part as Harry Steyne, playing with intelligence and care; Miss Christine Errington acts with power and pathos in the rôle of Mary Steyne; and Miss Mildred Carr makes a vivacious and humorous Nancy. Mr. Erison's drollery as Billy Brewer is highly amusing; Mr. E. Ferguson offers some sound work as Leonard Royle; and Mr. R. A. Beaton plays the knavish Hassan Fadisha with easy nonchalance. Miss Jeannie Weston does exceedingly well as Lady Phyllis; and Mr. J. Mann as Gerald Eustace gives an effective reading.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—A notice of *Peter's Finish* appears in another column. The second place on the bill was occupied by Ferguson and Mack, with patter and quaint antics; O'Gust once more demonstrates his power of artistic mimicry; Amy Marsden is a comedienne with a style peculiarly her own; and the whistling, singing, and remarks of E. J. Sheldon cause endless amusement. A turn with distinctly novel features is that of the Sleedes in *The Mysterious House;* while the part-singing of the American Comedy Four, together with their humorous interludes, bespeak for them a gratifying ovation. Sinclair and Parr are actor-vocalists of superior attainments, and their scena, *Keeping an Appointment,* is clever and amusing. The programme is brought to a conclusion by some good pictures on the American Bioscope.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company opened here on Monday with *The Belle of Mayfair.* Miss Winifred Preece, a dainty Julia, makes quite a hit with her songs and dancing; Miss Nancy Yorke gives a pleasing interpretation of the vivacious Pincott; the Gibson Girl finds a capable exponent in Miss Grace Mackay; Mr. Sydney Burt is an amusing Sir John; a good Raymond Pinchley is found in Mr. S. Ravenscroft; and Mr. Michael Raven gains applause for his capital assumption of Hugh Meredith. Mr. Stephen Hall (Earl of Highgate), Mr. Edwin Oxlee (Comte de Perrier), and Miss Denny Fitz-Herbert as Princess Ehrenbuitstein all do excellent work.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. R. Courtneidge presented *The Blue Moon* here on Monday before a large audience. Miss Clarice Lockstone as Chandra Nil gives her numbers in a capital manner; Miss Maude Aston acts and sings in excellent style as Millicent Leroy; Mr. Reginald Switz as Private Chas. Taylor keeps the ball of fun merrily rolling; Mr. Alfred Beers as Moolraj is decidedly quaint; Mr. Alfred Clarke is a capital Major Collabone; Mr. J. Edward Fraser a smart Capt. Jack Ormsby; Mr. Horace Manger a good Bobbie Scott; and Miss Ida Stratham an excellent Evelyn Ormsby. Miss Laura Leycester is a stately Lady Brabasham, and Miss Marjorie Seymour a dainty Ramah. Mr. H. Ashton Tonge makes a fine Prince Badahur.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—*The Little Bread-winner* is being staged here, and Mr. J. A. Campbell's company does full justice to this excellent drama. The acting of little Marjorie Lawrence as Meg makes her a big favourite; Miss Lissa Young also acts well as Bobby Trott; Miss Janet Warden as Margaret Daventry plays feelingly; and Miss J. Bostock as Bridget O'Flanaghan makes a breezy Irishwoman. Miss Kitty Melville as Ruth Cherry and Mr. Norman Hall as Chas. Prior are capital in some smart comedy. Mr. Louis Lingard works hard as Richard Lawrence; Mr. A. Maurice is a capable villain as Joseph Prior; Miss Gwen Stewart is very good as Kate Cherry; Mr. H. B. Peppin acts in a capable manner as the Quaker, Lord Dorrington; and Mr. Wallace Carey is a good Dr. Chadwick.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Ernest Shand is the big attraction here, and his songs and patter cause roars of laughter. Jennie Johns, with new songs and old favourites, has a grand reception; the Dandies provide a smart musical mélange of song, mirth, and dance with success; Mlle. Renee is excellent in her refined musical drawing-room entertainment; Chas. Ulrick, the barrel king, also takes well; Carl Howard, a comic card, provides some good fooling; the Trentanovi Sisters are capital in a transformation gymnastic act; Joe Conway is a smart comedian; and the Dottoscope concludes with the latest films.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—The Jackley Trio provide a smart comedy act, introducing a capital whistling comedian, George. Lillie Lassah, comedienne, has a flattering reception for her excellent singing; the Steinway Quartette are capital vocalists in "Songs of the sea"; Joe Chevers is a good comedian and patter vocalist; Mme. Collard exhibits a cleverly-trained troupe of dogs; Wat Tyler is also good as a character vocalist; and the Dottoscope exhibits a new film, entitled "Wild Animals."

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Proprietors, Oxford Theatre Company, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. Herbert Darnley's company is here this week with his play, *A Mother's Sacrifice,* which was well received. Miss Louie Adair displays considerable power in her performance of Mary Foster; Miss Evelene Ward looks the handsome adventuress to the life, and her Lady Brenton is a fine impersonation; Miss Daisy Byford is a bright and amusing Ann, and Miss Beatrice Lett satisfactorily fills the part of Mrs. Martin. Little Winnie Crisp makes a charming Doris, and gives a display of dancing that cannot be beaten at her age; Miss Pauline is good as Willie Brenton, and Dora and Jack Crisp are well suited as Tessie and Tim; in fact, Mr. Darnley's "Dots" work hard and successfully right through the play. Mr. R. Payne acts with vigour as Jack Brenton; Mr. C. Douglas Fox is well suited as the saturnine villain Richard Foster; Mr. Herbert Stimson is full of fun and go as Peter; and Sir John Brenton, Signor De Lara, and P.C. Pimperton find capable exponents in Messrs. R. R. Fox, W. Glower, and G. Roberts.

EAST OXFORD THEATRE.—Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill; Manager, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is here with *The Woman Who Gambles.* Mr. George Steele is a pronounced success as Count Otto Steinbach; Mr. Percy Ballard is equally to the fore with his excellent delineation of Baron Crantlaw; Mr. Reginald Fox makes a manly Lieut. Carl Ctzarteriski; and Mr. Fred P. Carlton is successful as Hon. Bertie Bray. Mr. Walter Platt Carr is good as Peter Peterhof; a word of praise is due to Mr. Arthur Brandhurst as George Orloff, and also to Mr. Gilbert Dance, a highly-amusing Manifred Speinlitch; Miss Lilly Malven is effective as Stella Malakoff; and Miss Brenda May makes a vivacious Zanette. Miss Dora Pass gives a very commendable impersonation of Cora, and Miss Lillian Herries easily wins sympathy with her exceptionally clever and powerful representation of Countess Natalie.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*Guilty Gold* is being played here this week by Horace Stanley's company. Mr. Wallace Campbell makes the part of Harold Elmore stand out convincingly; the Ralph Bartlett of Mr. Fred Wilberforce is a powerful performance; Mr. David Curtis does well as John Middleton; Mr. Gerald Byrne as Martin Haldane acts capably; a first-rate impersonation of Uriah Fudge is given by Mr. Alaric Burton; Mr. Arthur E. Francis proves satisfactory in the rôle of Algernon Carruthers; and clever and humorous are the presentations of Septimus Sweet by Mr. Horace Stanley and William Maggs by Mr. Arnold Harley. Miss Effie Bartlett acts with telling effect as Rhoda Hampton; Miss Rosalie Heath admirably sustains the part of Elsie Middleton; Miss Josephine Lee's Hetty Hoyle is excellent; the Bertha Blossom of Miss Evelyn M. Walton is quite satisfactory; and Miss Kate Kilpack makes a capital Nancy Bright.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—Syd May is delighting enthusiastic audiences in his clever impersonations of star artists and a burlesque imitation of Hackenschmidt, the latter being excruciatingly funny; Karr and Kooney, comedians and vocalists, make a decided

rôle, to which her style and personality are excellently suited; Mr. James Hawkes as Captain Lovebury acts well, and is the happy possessor of a fine voice, which he uses with discretion; Mr. Frank Collins does well as Colonel Claymore; Mr. Alexander Loftus and Mr. James Grant keep the house in roars as Bertie and William White; and Mr. Charles Adeson is an excellent Mons. Bonsor; Miss Aimee Roberts is a charming Ethel Joy, and Miss Grafton, Miss Mabel Harrison, Miss Maisie Ivie, Miss Marion Vyner, Mr. F. Williams, and Mr. John Cole all do well in their respective parts.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*The Silver King* is visiting the Royal this week, and Messrs. Poloni and Melford's fine company does full justice to this entrancing play. Mr. Herbert Ford furnishes a capital study of the title-rôle; Mr. Henderson Bland as the Spider illustrates the blacker side of human nature with realistic force; Mr. Tom Paulton gives a fine rendering of Daniel Jaikes; and the smaller parts of Wilfrid Denver's children are well played by Master E. Dene and Miss L. Leicester. Particular mention must be made of the highly creditable portrayal by Miss Viola Holland of the difficult part of Nellie Denver.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Jimmy Laurie does well with his smart wheezes and patter; Jack Pheasants is also particularly strong in the same line; Victoria Dagmar performs some difficult yet graceful evolutions on the horizontal bar; Irene Rose furnishes an attractive number, entitled *Her First Engagement;* Russell Brandon is an accomplished acrobatic comedian; and Starr and Leslie introduce some clever club swinging into their turn; Fred Storey, in the star turn, *Rip Van Winkle*, is loudly applauded; and Mr. and Mrs. Lucas score in their sketches from Dickens.

PONTYPRIDD. — Royal Clarence Theatre. — Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenehard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenehard.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is here this week with *The Silver King*. Mr. E. Stanton Sharp admirably portrays Wilfrid Denver; Nellie, his wife, is in the able hands of Miss Florence Radcliffe; Mr. Roland Howard scores as Daniel Jaikes; and Mr. Paul Beckett ably impersonates Captain Skinner. Well worthy of praise are Miss Dorothy Love as Cissie, Miss L. Thorne as Ned, Mr. Ralph Leo as Henry Corket, Mr. Wm. Dempsey as Elijah Coombe, and Miss Georgie Longcrain as Olive Skinner.

PORTH.—The Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—Topping the bill here this week is George French, comedian, who scores a success; Rodin, tramp cyclist, is a much appreciated turn; Magna, in poses, meets with a capital reception; Edie Endon makes a hit as an acrobatic dancer; T. C. Jaques does remarkably well as a comedian; the Three Royal Dreadnoughts give an excellent exhibition of shooting; the Paolias in a refined drawing-room act, are really good; Barney, Burke, and Bray, in their spectacular absurdity, *London to Madrid*, are responsible for some excellent amusement; Tom Laurel meets with approval as the burlesque comedian; and the Palace Electric Bioscope with an entire change of films is thoroughly up-to-date.

PORTSMOUTH. — Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—A cordial welcome was given on Monday to Mr. Charles Macdona's able company in the musical comedy, *Mr. Popple of Ippleton*, which is here for the week. Mr. Arthur Longley is unaffectedly easy and entertaining in the name-part, the country squire being hit off capitally; Miss Millie Hylton as La Bolero is brilliant, both in singing and acting; Miss Nellie Hodson is vivacious and natural as Louise; Miss Alice Rene and Miss Anton Laing interpreted their respective parts of Mrs. Doring and Mrs. Hennay with much spirit and ability; and Miss Cora Lingard is charming in the rôle of Violet Brinton. Mr. Wentworth Fane makes excellent use of his opportunities as Norman Popple; Mr. C. E. Paton does sound work as Platt; George Hennay and Henry Doring are commendably played by Messrs. Sidney Young and James Stevenson; Mr. Douglas Phillips as Jacques Kenyon also does well; and Mr. W. H. Morgan as the head waiter, Maurice, is very capable. The comedy is lavishly dressed and mounted.

Prince's Theatre. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—*Driven from Home* is staged here for the week by Mr. Andrew Melville's company. Mr. Felix Pitt plays Anthony Raybrook with great judgment and excellent effect; Geoffrey Waring, his unscrupulous nephew, is admirably personated by Mr. Charles Burdon; Mr. Francis Everard is painstaking as Walter Hatherleigh; Mr. Edward Finley as Dick Saunders, a bad sample of British workman, is characteristic and clever; and Mr. Villiers Stanley wins golden opinions as Willie, an outcast. Mrs. McCarthy, a good-hearted Irishwoman, and Peggy, a flower girl, find capital exponents in Miss Amy Williams and Miss Florence Wilson; Miss Muriel Dean in the dual rôle of Laura Raybrook and Walter Hatherleigh the younger, portrays the characters in excellent style.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Captain Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Roma and Romani, in classical musical act, are expert instrumentalists; Sisters May prove attractive as duettists and dancers; George Antill is an eccentric vocal comedian with mirth-provoking mannerisms; Sinclair and Whiteford, in comedy duologue, *Getting Even*, are much liked; Eric, ventriloquist, with some novel effects, scores; Annie Laurie, a pleasing comedienne and dancer, does well; Tom N. Mills, the real John Bull, gives a powerful turn; Carr and Rose, the harmonious singing duo, are a sprightly pair; the Three Rubys, a trio of graceful lady acrobatic contortionists, are brisk and daring; Miss Maud Rochez and her well-trained monkeys in "A Monkey's Music Hall," create roars of laughter; and Cissie Coman in illustrated songs, and Payne's up-to-date pictures complete the programme.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Heading the bill here for the week, Mr. George Gray and company give the stirring and exciting episode, *The Fighting Parson*, with gratifying results; the Sisters Aindow are smart instrumentalists; Mr. T. E. Finglas, coon delineator, gives some excellent patter songs; and Miss Belle Braham, the pictorial songstress, is graphic in her descriptive singing. The Sisters Dixon are a clever pair of banjo duettists and dancers; Mr. William Lee and company in new comedy, *A Friend in Need*, are responsible for much merriment; Miss Sylvia Du Barry, South American vocalist, sings well; and the Hippodrome Pictures submit interesting subjects.

PRESTON. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Exors. of the late W. Johnson; Resident Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company is paying a welcome visit here with *The White Chrysanthemum*. Mr. Victor Kahn makes a pleasing Lieutenant Reginald Armitage, and Mr. Erskine Lang as Lieutenant Chippendale Belmont introduces much quiet humour into the character. Mr. Frank Weir as Sin Chow, and Mr. Walter Westwood as Private Perks draw hearty laughter and applause; while Mr. William Hartigan as Admiral Sir Horatio Armytage, K.C.B., both looks and acts the part, winning hearty applause for his topical song in the last act. As Sybil Cunningham (Osan, the White Chrysanthemum) Miss Lilian Hubbard displays her rich soprano voice to great advantage; Miss Harriet Fawn as Betty Kenyon plays and sings well; and Miss Blanche Astley as Cornelia Vanderdecken proves herself a dainty dancer, and gives an excellent rendition of the songs allotted to her. As the admiral's escort, Messrs. C. Hoddy, Louis Fitzgerald, J. W. Woodbridge, James Reidy, A. R. Galloway, and Ernest Ridgewell sing well; and Miss Bessie Lewis, Daisy Severn, Helen Temple, Marie Laurence Flora Bradfield, and Lillie Hodgson are winsome and dainty as Sybil's Japanese maids. The choruses are well sung, and the piece is admirably staged, the costumes being fresh and effective; while the augmented orchestra, under Mr. Hubert Boggetti, adds in no small measure to the success of the production.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—*Two Little Sailor Boys*, with Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company, occupies the boards here this week. Mr. H. E. Herbert is a manly Commander Noel Tregarthen, R.N.; Mr. Charles Boult as Captain Tom Yorke is very natural in the part; Mr. Forbes Harrison presents a very good character study of Admiral Grey, R.N.; and Mr. Ambrose Horton and Mr. Leonard Clarke as Jim Royston and Lieutenant Richard Redstone, R.N., sustain the characters of the two evil geniuses of the play in a satisfactory manner. The comedy parts are in the capable hands of Mr. Tom E. Sinclair as Ben Baxter and Miss Lucy Chambers as Lucy Wilson; and Mr. Oscar Power as Jack Jolly, A.B., adds in no small measure to the humour of the play. Miss Blanche Steele as Lola Grey gives a powerful portrayal of the adventuress; Miss Alice Defoe as Mildred Grey wins the hearts of the audience; and as the "Two Little Sailor Boys" Miss Effie D. Crawford and Miss Beryl Mercer soon established themselves as the particular pets of the audience. The rest of the caste is ably sustained by Messrs. George Drew, Frank Greyson, Albert Newton, and Ernest Brunton, Miss D. Harrison enacting the part of Mary Primrose.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—Edward Crossland and company supply in *The Burglar's Dream* a musical turn far above the ordinary, the quartette of pianos and Darren Llewellyn's baritone solos being especially good. Enzer gives pleasing juggling and swordsmanship feats, while his exposition of ju-jitsu, assisted by Clarice, the lady ju-jitsu expert, is instructive and amusing. The Sisters Belmont, duettists and dancers, elicit loud applause; Lucy Coventry is a versatile comedienne and expert dancer; and Will Sullivan, comedian and patterer, is amusing in *Our Billy*. Denton, Roscoe and Galley, who are three colliers now working in a Manchester colliery, please with their songs and trios; the Fullers (Fred and Louie) present a pretty song-scena, *The Shoeblack's Dream*; Eva Chadwick, a ballad vocalist, with a refined voice of good quality is successful; and B. Troba performs some marvellous feats with billiard balls and shrapnel shells. The pictures entitled Limburger Cheese keep the house in roars of laughter.

Public Hall.—The U.S.A. Animated Picture Co. is paying a return visit here, and command good houses. The Prince Milner Trio, jugglers and equilibrists, add to the popularity of the entertainment, which is under the management of Mr. Victor Hamilton.

RAMSGATE.—Amphitheatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—On the first three nights of the week Mr. Herbert Ralland's company made a most successful appearance in *Mice and Men*. Mr. J. Graeme Campbell made a fine Mark Embury; and Mr. Frederick Tyrell was a capital Roger Goodlake; Mr. J. Henry Twyford's Captain George Lovell was an excellent piece of work; and the other gentlemen of the cast were responsible for valuable assistance. Miss Helena Parsons as Peggy, Little Britain, the foundling, adopted by Mark Embury, quickly gained the sympathies and applause of the audience for the artistic manner in which she impersonated the part; Miss Grace Baring admirably portrayed Joanna Goodlake, the lady of fashion; and Miss Julie Temple was extremely successful in a rôle which does not provide her with great scope for the display of talent—she sustained the character of Embury's housekeeper, Mrs. Deborah, in a style which called only for complimentary reference. The scenery and general mounting of the play were all that could be desired. For the last three nights of the week Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's company were billed to play *Sherlock Holmes*.

Royal Victoria Theatre.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Jules Richeux.—*What the Butler Saw*, played in excellent style by Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche's company, has given great satisfaction here. Mr. Lionel Rignold, in the rôle of Pike, the butler, is wonderfully droll; and Miss Ada Blanche scores a big success as Mrs. Barrington, the wife of amorous Jack Barrington, the last-mentioned part being interpreted in meritorious style by Mr. Charles Fawcett; Mr. George Ascot plays with excellent effect as peppery General Dunlop; Mr. H. H. Rignold contributes considerably to the success of the production as Abraham Wenstein; Mr. Leo St. Clair is good as Sydney Clifford; Mr. Hornby Warburton does well with the part of the histrionic Verede Bogyne; and Messrs. Cecil Harrison (Sir Charles Foden), Roy Byford (Professor Shale), and Dudley Raymond (Dr. Clayton) are capital. Miss Julie St. George gives a clever display of character acting as Mrs. Hake; and Miss May Hart creates a favourable impression as Sophonsiba; Miss Eleanor Gilbart successfully sustains the rôle of Miss Foden.

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode.—Mr. Edmund Tearle is appearing this week in a round of his most notable characters. The répertoire for the week comprises *The Three Musketeers* on Monday and Wednesday, and at a special matinée on Wednesday, *Othello* on Tuesday, *Macbeth* on Thursday, *Julius Cæsar* on Friday, and Boucicault's *Octoroon* on Saturday. Mr. Tearle imparts great dramatic power to the leading characters he sustains, and is well supported by a capable company. Miss Clinton distinguishes herself as leading lady; Mr. William J. Miller, Mr. Vernon O. Crabtree, Mr. G. T. Grieg, and Miss Mary Campbell are also worthy of special notice for the able way they sustain their parts.

ROCHDALE.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague. —*The Country Girl* is paying a welcome visit here this week. Mr. Anthony Gordon is heard to great advantage in the part of Geoffrey Challoner; Mr. Helier Le Maistre makes an imposing Rajah of Bhong; and Mr. Coningsby Brierley is the life and soul of the play as Barry. Miss May Rawlinson sings with power as Marjorie Joy; Miss Nellie Deveney, in the part of Princess Meehelanah, both acts and sings with stirring effect; Sophie is in the safe hands of Miss Poppy Wilkinson; and Miss Ellaline Thorne charmingly enacts the part of Nan.

Circus and Hippodrome.—Lessees, Messrs. J. and J. Jackson and J. White; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Jackson, sen.—An interesting programme is submitted here this week. Haigh and Novel contribute an amusing and clever gymnastic turn; Marie Jones in *The Way to Win a Bet* obtains a favourable reception; Lieutenant Albini and his lady assistants astonish the audience with their illusion, *A Sailor and his Lass;* Miss Beattie Bloom, vocalist; Charles Coverdale, comedian and mimic; The Musical Keiths; and the Circus Biograph complete the bill.

Empire.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Tom Foy and company, in *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, create roars of laughter; Lily Flexmore submits a remarkable exhibition of dancing; Maggie Rimmer sings in pleasing style old and new songs; David Poole is an up-to-date ventriloquist; and other items on the programme include Charlie Craston, comedian; the Bioscope, and Foy Brothers and company in *Pat in China*.

ROTHERHAM.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company are here this week with *Under the Russian Flag*, under the direction of Mr. Walter Howard. Mr. Jack Haddon, who is an old local favourite, makes many friends by his excellent acting; and Miss Masie Raynor as Luka Marishla, gives a clever and finished portrayal of a difficult part. The mounting and scenery are of an exceptionally fine character.

RYDE.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Constant. — This week *The Sorrows of Satan* is being played. Mr. Edward Neville gave an effective touch to his impersonation of Prince Lucio with his mystical sleight-of-hand performances; Geoffrey Tempest was adequately represented by Mr. F. Douglas Howard; and Mr. J. Le Fleming was an excellent Earl of Elton. Lady Sybil Elton was effectively acted by Miss Rosie Neville; and Miss Loie Esmond was an entertaining Diana Chesney. Miss Cecil Byrne was an amusing Mrs. Grimes.

Pier Pavilion.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Jay; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. L. Furst.—Gaumont's Chronophone company have been here this week, and their remarkable series of life-like pictures have been received with much interest. The Pelicans, who have been here during the whole of the season, took their farewell on Saturday evening before a large audience.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—The domestic and military drama, *A Woman Worth Winning*, proved very acceptable to a large house on Monday, when it was presented by the author, Mr. A. B. Mackay, who ably sustained the part of the villain, General Borinski; as Roma Pauloff Miss Cissie Bellamy does good work; Mr. Cartage Caldcleugh gives a good character-study as Ivan Bardoff; capital work is done by Mr. Percy Horton as Fergus Lovinsky; Mr. E. Hall Eldon as Bertie Scribbles, Mr. E. Kendrick as Peter Popples, and Miss Ida Mackay as Katerina Kloss are irresistibly funny; Mr. Wynne Davies as Fedor Petronovitch does satisfactorily.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson. —Lew Lake and company have a very clever amusing sketch, *My Pal Jerry*, and the programme also includes Ted Saunders, Lalie Brooke, Alf Ripon, Millie Denham, Bert Kemble, Gus Hinnell, and the Silver Tone Quartette. Tuesday was the anniversary of the opening of the theatre (in 1895), and about sixty turns were gone through at the matinée and two performances at night. These included Billie Barlow, Harry Rogerson, Jennie Johns, Bosanquet, Arthur Rigby and company, Carney Brothers, Cissy Lupino, Moon and Morris, Milner Verren, and a host of other stars from other theatres and music-halls in the locality.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth. —Phil Herman has some good songs and funny tales, and a sketch, *The Last of the Desmonds*, was well acted by himself and his company. Leo Trainer with his patter; Les Elgonas, very neat gymnasts; Carney Brothers, character duettists; Four Regals, very strong men; Dancing Gilberts; George Young, expert blind musician; Howard and Wallace, in *Taming a Wife*, and Sadler and Ross, dancers and Irish cross talkers, also appeared with much appreciation from good houses.

Stretford Pavilion.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Weatherilt.—Among the attractions here this week are Blanco J. White, comedian and dancer; Marie Walton, Creole songstress; Johnny Stell, quaint comedian; Beatty Wood, clever comedienne, and Fred Erick, versatile comedian.

SALISBURY.—Victoria Park.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. F. D'Alton Tebby; Manageress, Miss Jessie D'Alton.—These popular entertainments have now drawn to a close, Mr. D'Alton Tebby and his wife (Miss Jessie D'Alton) had a record house on the occasion of their benefit. Mr. Tebby was the recipient of a clock presented to him by the members of the company in token of esteem.

SEACOMBE.—Irving Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company is proving a brilliant attraction here this week with *The Duchess of Dantzic*. The title-rôle is admirably played by Miss Edith Hickson; Mr. Harold Batt puts in plenty of good work as the volatile Papillon, and Mr. Marshall Vincent makes almost an ideal Lefebvre; Mr. Vincent Galley as M. D'Alagro and Mr. C. B. Williams as Adhémar do well in their respective parts; Miss Alice Hamilton is an impressive Josephine, and Miss Daisy Kersey an effective Renée, Lisette being charmingly depicted by Miss Edith Martin.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones is presenting *When Other Lips* with gratifying success here. Mr. Jones (the author) interprets Ted Daunton in meritorious style; Basil Cunnington is realistically drawn by Mr. Edwin J. Collins; Mr. Hyland O'Shea as Tommy Neccles is humorous; and as Davy Mr. Dick Everton is also pleasing. Mr. David Hamilton as Duddle Topwash does well; and as Jenkins Mr. W. S. Parkes is commendable. Ruth Lingley is invested with much charm by Miss Marie Daventry; Octavia is carefully depicted by Miss Kate Froude; Kitty is cleverly drawn by Miss Lucy Murray; and Miss Ivy May Clarke is a charming Nancy.

SHEERNESS.—The Hippodrome. — General-Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—Amongst the chief items of this week's bill is a capital sketch entitled *The Stowaway*, supported by a strong company; other specialities comprise the Three Sisters Jerome, song and dance artists, who are received with hearty applause; Correlli, in a pot pourri act, the *Magic Lesson*, gains favour; Capt. and Miss Manard, rifle experts, are well received; Alec Alex and Leo Lilly, juvenile cross-talk comedians, win applause; other successful contributors include Dardan and Iris, in an eccentric dancing act; Ida Kathrena, the dolly girl; and Estrella, International dancer.

SHEFFIELD. — Lyceum Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*The Earl and the Girl* was again played to a delighted audience on Monday by Mr. W. Greet's company, which includes that diverting comedian Mr. William Stephens, who kept the large house in roars by his diverting impersonation of Jim Cheese; Mr. Thomas Kennard acted and sang agreeably as the young heir; Miss Chrissie Ralland made a graceful and tuneful heroine, and Miss Ethel Erskine is a charming representative of Daisy Fallowfield. The catchy "Swinging" song and other favourite numbers were encored, and the entire performance goes with exhilarating vivacity and freshness.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—G. R. Sims's famous drama, *The Lights o' London*, is again being acted to sympathetic audiences. That old and deserved local pantomime favourite, Mr. Payne Fletcher, is quite at home in the part of the genial, good-hearted showman, Jarvis; Mr. C. F. Collings acts in an earnest and convincing manner as Harold Armytage; Miss Jeannie Burgoyne, with her well-known dramatic ability, depicts the trials and sufferings of Bess; and all the other characters are ably personated by the talented members of Mr. Herbert Hollister's company.

Alexandra Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Foredike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The exciting drama, *A Soldier's Honour*, performed under the direction of Mr. F. S. Kimberley, met with a hearty reception here on Monday. The rôle of the beautiful adventuress Cora Lee, was cleverly represented by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; Miss Edie Macklin submitted a clever sketch of a "slavey" as Jemima Ann; Mr. Clavering Craig, in deportment and earnestness, freely bore out the description, "a soldier and a man" as the dashing Captain Deane, and the part of Captain Temple was excellently acted by Mr. C. Quinton Fulford; Miss Violet Langley was a pretty and interesting Doreen, and other careful impersonations were Miss Mona Grey's Gwendolyn, Miss Isa Lyndon's Queenie, Miss Eva Elwes' Mrs. Deane; Mr. Arthur Pringle's Henry Thornton; Mr. Edward Bikker's General Rochester, Mr. Charles Rogers's Percy Brattle, Mr. A. Anderson's Old Holly, and Mr. Vernon Cowper's Burly Bill. The scenery and effects were first-rate.

Empire Palace.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar. —Packed audiences have welcomed with enthusiasm the inimitable Mr. Harry Lauder, who was recalled again and again at the end of his heavy turn; old favourites are the Poluskis, and they, as usual, proved very acceptable; Orpheus meets with a warm reception, and other successful performers are the Bros. Redmond, comic acrobats; Mr. Dion Wade, eccentric comedian; Leo Tell, instrumentalist and animal mimic; Miss Lottie Govelle, comedienne; Hanid Alexander, drawing-room entertainer; and Miss Marion Scott, vocalist.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—Miss Georgette Thierry's sketch troupe opened on Monday with the Nancy Sikes episode from "Oliver Twist"; other artists this week are Harry Brayne and Bert Lloyd, sketc hartists; Mr. Chas. Ashdowne, comedian; Miss Nora Stockells, serio comedienne; the vivacious Sisters Della, and Pallister with the Bioscope, always a popular item in the Grand programme.

Central Hall.—Proprietors, the Jasper Redfern Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—Animated pictures, supplemented by the efforts of Mr. Langhorne, Miss Marie Kay, Messrs. Douglas and Gordon, and others give satisfaction to Mr. Holmes's many patrons.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—Mr. Weedon Grossmith's most diverting piece, *The Night of the Party*, was played here on the first four nights of this week to delighted audiences. Miss Jenny Lynn was graceful and an ideal spoiled irresponsible "old man's darling" as Lady Hampshire; Mrs. Elizabeth Maud was successful as Mrs. Young; Miss Mab Paul, in the part of Gipsy Vandelier, which requires delicate handling, was attractive, high-spirited, and thoroughly capable; Miss Stella Cedron, as Nannie Portland, a part affording her very limited opportunities, was all that could be desired, her lines being clearly delivered; Miss May Grantham was satisfactory as Baby Hastings; and Miss Lillian Williams made a smart, alert, and most natural housemaid as Paulina. Mr. Frederick Castleman played carefully and well as Sir Chris. Hampshire; Mr. M. Carter Slaughter made an aristocratic and clever Mr. Frank Frayne; Mr. Edwin W. Wynne as the irrepressible Mr. Crosbie was the right man in the right place, keeping his audience in perpetual merriment by his cool audacity and smart resourcefulness; Mr. J. Edward Hall merited high praise as the pompous servitor, Mr. Flamber; Mr. Percy Robinson played creditably the part of Roundle; Mr. Stanley Arthur made an admirable Mr. Bogle; Mr. Allison played with care and ability the part of Alderman B. Hargen; Mr. A. E. James made a capital Buttons; and other minor male parts were in capable hands.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is on a welcome return visit with *The Dairymaids*. Mr. John Osborne, an old favourite, is the life and soul of the piece as Joe Mivens; Mr. Clifford Seyler acts and dances in dashing style as Sam Brudenall; Mr. A. W. Ashdowne is a capital Captain Fred. Leverton; Miss Vera Vere scores as Winifred; and Miss Dorothy Ward sings delightfully as Helene; Miss Maud Denny is excellent as Eliza, and Miss Madge Avery is good as Miss Penelope Pyechase.

Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaughten; Resident-Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—The chief item is Mr. Sydney Dooley and Mr. Charles Seymour's company in *King for a Day*, which is remarkably well played and staged. The Two Bostons, novelty showmen; Cole and Rags, quaint jugglers; Cullen, Carthy and Little Chiley, smart dancers; McDonald and Huntington, American entertainers; the Sisters Morgan, duettists; and Maud Vere, comedienne, also appear with success.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—Fred Karno's comedians appear in *London Surbibia* here for the first time, and score a big success; the Achmed-Ibrahim Troupe of Bedouin Arabs are marvellously clever acrobats; Alfred Nardi, the blind Italian violinist, is very smart; Barney Armstrong, comedian; the Katos, living marionettes; the Brothers Hayes, comedians; Lena Brunton, mimic; and Blarney and Kennard, comedians, also do well.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—Empire Theatre, Ltd. —Managing Director, Mr. George Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Capital patronage is this week being accorded to the Moody-Manners Opera company, who gain exceptional merit by their successful presentations of opera in English. Monday's reception of Gounod's *Faust* left nothing to be desired. Tuesday's attraction was Wagner's *Lohengrin*, in which Messrs. Jn. Child, Frederick Erle, Van Lachterop, and Charles Moorhouse, with the Misses Mary Norton and Enriqueta Crichton, were able exponents of the various parts, their singing giving great satisfaction. *Il Trovatore* followed on Wednesday as a matinée, with *Maritana* at night, *Tannhäuser* for Thursday, *Carmen* for Friday, and *The Bohemian Girl* for to-night (Saturday).

The Kursaal.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—Performances are given only in the theatre this week, where plenty of good amusement is found. An item of interest was the reappearance of Mr. Fred Marlow, who, after an absence of several years from the stage, still shows wonderful vigour in dancing, while his popularity as an entertainer is marked; Miss Emily Adams, too, is popular in her musical scena, entitled *Mary Ann*. The sagacity of both cats and dogs is pleasingly shown by Mr. Gilbert, who educates his animals with cleverness; Miss Kitty Gresham gives a musical mélange with success, and Miss Beattie Benson, soubrette vocalist, gains a good hearing. Special pictures of the usual excellent character by the Bioscope are shown at intervals.

Pier Pavilion.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—The attraction for this week included three entire changes of programme. On Tuesday two performances were given by the world-renowned Zancigs, who were accompanied by a first-class company of talented artists under the direction of Mr. Alfred Moul. Wednesday's programme was a repetition of Monday, when a variety entertainment of exceptional merit proved most popular. Those who contributed were: Mrs. J. W. Bowie, ballad vocalist; Mr. W. Edward Kaye, with Miss Winifred Kaye, who gave character sketches from Charles Dickens; Miss Ada Brandon with harp solos; Mr. George Robins, society humorist; Miss Elmie Kemp, vocalist and elocutionist; and Mr. Tom E. Cliffe, comedian and eccentric dancer, all of whom won well deserved recalls. On Thursday Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company made a welcome appearance. *The Merchant of Venice* was the first night's attraction; *The School for Scandal* following on Friday; with *As You Like It* for this afternoon, and *Hamlet* in the evening.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House, Winter Gardens. —Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Local patrons of the drama have this week an opportunity of welcoming the popular and distinguished artist, Mrs. Patrick Campbell, who, supported by Miss Stella Patrick Campbell and an excellent company, is fulfilling an engagement here prior to her departure for America early in November. On the opening night *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* was presented to a large audience, and needless to say the well-known character of Paula was brilliantly interpreted by Mrs. Patrick Campbell, who fascinated the house by the power and pathos of her artistic delineation. The rôle of Aubrey Tanqueray was depicted by Mr. Chas. Garry in a natural and polished manner; Mr. Julian Royce presented a capital portraiture of Cayley Drummle; Mr. James Gelderd was eminently well suited in the character of Sir George Orreyed, Bart.; Capt. Ardale was characteristically and cleverly impersonated by Mr. Alfred Goddard; Miss Stella Patrick Campbell presented a graceful and natural study as Ellean; Miss Margaret Watson played Mrs. Cortelyon with excellent effect; Miss Catherine Dupont was a commendable exponent of Lady Orreyed; and Mr. Wallace Aston and Mr. Aidan Lovett did well as Gordon Jayne and Frank Misquith respectively. *Hedda Gabler* and *Magda* were also announced.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company, in *A Fight for a Throne*, is delighting audiences here this week. The company is under the general management of Mr. Charles E. Linney, who appears with great success in the important rôle of Prince Otto; Mr. Sam Arthur gives a manly interpretation of Jack Fortescue; Miss Elma C. Turner wins honours as the Princess Esmee; and Miss Evelyn Robson submits an artistic reading of the part of the Countess Valeska. Mr. Karl H. Edwards scores heavily as Lieut. Paul Rodna; and as General Rodna Mr. W. S. Stevenson is no less a success. Sir Charles Coventry and King Nicholai both receive excellent treatment from Mr. Edwin Clarke and Mr. John B. Murray respectively. Mr. Leonard Maitland and Mr. Fred Hodson supply plenty of fun as Lieut. Percy Fitzmaurice and Tom Ferrett, and their efforts are admirably seconded by Miss Evelyn Marrable as Lady Pat.

STAFFORD. — Lyceum Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—A good variety company here includes the Smalleys, clever triple-bar performers and dancers; J. C. Heffron, a comedian with really good patter; the Sisters Valli, who, with music and dance, win applause; and Nell Brough, the champion whistler. The Boy Hackenschmidt, a youthful wrestler, provides an exciting turn; Miss Ivy Dene is a neat and dainty dancer; and the pictures by the Empire Co. more interesting than ever.

STALYBRIDGE.—Grand Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Fioni; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. A. Jackson.—Rappo and Ella, in their marvellous acts of equilibrium, deservedly hold the premier position on the programme; Bob Hamilton is as popular as ever; the Three Sisters Kilner give an agreeable entertainment; Violet Ashcroft is a pretty ballad vocalist; and the other artists include the Mitchells, speciality artists; Alfonso, fool equilibrist; Pete and Juno, coloured comedians, and the Mostyns, burlesque artists.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House, Ltd. —General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—Mr. Douglas Prince's company, with *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*, is here this week. Mr. Chas. Whitlock is excellent as the Rev. Robert Everton; Mr. Edward Lloyd is manly and effective as Jack England; Mr. Frank Adair submits a powerful representation of Captain Caversham; and Mr. George Mitchell is successful as James Sutton. Miss Ethel Bracewell is sympathetic and convincing as Molly Vernon; Miss Lydia Manniugton does justice to the rôle of Marian Franklyn; and Miss Joan Ellis is charming as Rose Seymour. Mr. George H. Asquin is very amusing as Dick Punch, and is ably seconded by Miss Daisy Moynard as Isabella Jones.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic Carnell.—Luis Hardt wins enthusiastic applause for his feats of strength and artistic poses; the Sivronis, comedy duo, create roars of laughter; and other excellent turns include Miss Eva Hope, assisted by Mr. Charles Mayho, in duologues; Mr. Ernie Myers, comedian; Miss Lily Lonsdale, vocalist; the King's College Boys, vocalists; Story and Trigg, burlesque eccentrics; the Three Seabornes, equilibrists; and the Barrascope.

STOCKPORT. — Theatre Royal and Opera House. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun.—The first visit of *The Bondman* has been a strong attraction here this week, and the representations, as given by Mr. George D. Day's company, have afforded much pleasure. Mr. Frank Cooper's realistic acting as Jason was much appreciated; Mr. Henry Doughty's impersonation of Michael Sunlocks was a fine performance; Father Ferrati had a thoroughly capable representative in Mr. Gilbert Yorke; and Miss Ida Phillips as Greeba was charmingly sympathetic.

Empire. — Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black. —Walton and Lester, comedians and comic conjurers, are the chief attraction here, and are very mirth-provoking. The Cattaneos troupe of comedy acrobats accomplishes exceptionally clever feats; the Soho Trio, vocalists and dancers, are entertaining; George Prince, comic vocalist, causes plenty of laughter; Lottie de Abbey is a pleasing ballad vocalist; Jean Seul, illusionist, is successful; and Edwards and Espinosa, in their musical and dancing speciality, and Hans and Lux, "the argumentative college chums," meet with marked favour.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Hippodrome.—General Manager, Mr. Robt. A. Nicholson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stainton.—*Casey's Court* heads the bill here this week, and is greatly enjoyed. Gus Merriman, the singing page-boy, is both interesting and amusing; Alice Loretti, with her marvellously-trained dog, is greatly appreciated; Carlos Menard, trick violinist, is very clever in his farmyard imitations; Dora Barrington presents a delightful song-scena, *Sentiment and Jest*, ably assisted by Miss Netta Grey; Mulvey and Miriam are amusing as comedy artists; Hector and Paulos are skilful hand-balancers; the

truly artistic manner; Las Sados are clever jugglers and equilibrists; Kiaro, the upside-down marvel, is well received; the Kauvens are clever acrobats; the Melroses are seen in a funny sketch, viz., *The New Page;* Alf. Bishop scores a distinct success in his humorous songs; Maude Beaumont is a smart comedienne; and the pictures are interesting.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—Mr. Edward Marris's company is here this week with the musical comedy, *Somebody's Sweetheart.* The singing and dancing of the several artists engaged are of a high-class character. Mr. Stephen Leverton is well played by Mr. Charles Edward King; while the character of Stanton Ashleigh could not have been given to a more suitable artist than Mr. Cecil W. Parke. Mr. George Brentwood makes the most of Martin Blabbs; Miss Norah Melton, in the title-rôle, is well suited, and is possessed of a sweet voice; and the same can be said of Miss Maisie Jerrard as Zora. Miss May Morris makes a dashing Freddie Ashleigh, her song winning much favour.

STROUD.—SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS.—Manager, Mr. H. J. Twitchett.—A crowded house assembled on Thursday evening, when the popular drama, *The Silver King,* was presented by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company. Mr. E. Stanton Sharpe is very successful in the title-part; Mr. Paul Beckett as Captain Herbert Skinner (the Spider) was particularly good; Mr. Roland Howard was a capital Daniel Jaikes; Miss Florence Radcliffe did admirably as Nellie Denver; and Miss Georgie Longerain made an excellent Olive Skinner.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. L. Carlo.—Mr. George Dance's *The Lady Dandies'* company is proving a strong attraction here. Mr. O. E. Lennon as the Prefect of Police is very much in evidence throughout, and Messrs. Tom Seymour and J. E. Walker as Tournesal and Malicorne respectively also add considerably to the comedy element; Mr. Ripley Evans scores with the well-sung musical numbers falling to the lot of Dorlis, and Mr. Geoffrey Berwick is creditably made up as the aged Des Goutheres; Mr. Charles Hanbury is admirable as Lagorille, and Mr. Philip Taylor and Mr. Rudd Allen in the minor rôles of Melval and Valcourt do what is necessary; whilst Mr. Albert Burton ably fills the part of the waiter Alexis; Miss Nancy Rossiter is seen to considerable advantage in the rôle of Illyrine, receiving a well-deserved encore for her rendition of the "Cuckoo" song; Miss Maisie Gay's embodiment of the lively Lodoiska is full of go and bright vivacity, her topical numbers going exceedingly well; Miss Peggy Primrose trips it lightly as Egle, and Miss Nellie Taylor is entrusted with the part of Madame Ragot; the Lady Dandies are well sustained by Misses May Marshall, Ethel Richardson, May Leslie, Elsie Allen, Bertha Card, and Amy Bingham.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Mr. Harry Foswell's *A Broken Heart* company drew a full house on Monday, and the various incidents of the interesting drama were closely followed by the audience. Miss Louisa Peach portrays the rôle of Mary Burnand with real histrionic ability; Miss Nancy Mitchell contributes some excellent comedy as Sally Tovner; and a word of praise is due to Miss Florrie Leal, who is responsible as Little May. Mr. Charles Vivian submits an excellent account of the character lead Gach Gill; Mr. Harry Foxwell brings acumen and experience to his dual interpretation of Rev. Mr. Staunton and Skrimp; Mr. Will Lindsay enlivens the proceedings as Tony Tibbits; and Mr. George M. Newall imparts interest to the part of Stephen Raylton.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—A diversified bill is headed by Mr. George Lashwood, who secures a warm reception; Mlle. Eldee does some picture-posing on novel lines, artistic effects being procured by means of a cleverly-worked device with coloured lantern slides; the Four Jumels contribute a musical act; Mezetti and Mora are above the average on the triple horizontal bars; Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris appear in a comedy duo, entitled *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp;* Ross and Grayson submit a musical, singing and dancing mélange; and other items include Winnie Derson, comedienne; Harry Anderson, comedian; Sisters Brenton, comediennes and dancers; Alexandra Edwin, soprano; and the pictures

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees, The United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Browne and Stringer.—Chief honours easily go this week to the Great Roland, the wonderfully clever illusionist; Deamond and Beatrice score in manipulating the saxophone, &c.; the Kimberley Boys are quaint comedians; and Walter Wade, mimetic comedian, is entertaining; George Acre, comedian; Kitty Clover and company in *Mr. There's Heir* sketch; Janet H. Reynolds, vocalist; Ethel Whiteside and Pics, musical sketch artists; and the Palace pictures complete the bill.

SWANSEA. — THE GRAND.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—The continued popularity of the evergreen *Belle of New York* is amply demonstrated here. Mr. Paddy Dupres utilised to the utmost his many opportunities as Ichabod Bronson, and Mr. Ernest Moyar admirably filled the rôle of Harry; Mr. Frank Lawton was in grand form as Blinky Bill, his whistling and dancing being as good as ever; Mr. Jos. R. Tate was a funny Karl Von Pumpernick; and a great success was scored by Mr. W. Uridge as Mugg. Mr. Alfred Shandoe was a good Doc Snifkins; Mr. J. A. Watts (whose dance "La Kraquette" with Miss Browne was one of the features of the evening) and Mr. Roy L. Cody as the Portuguese Twins did well. A more captivating Belle than Miss Hebe Kniller it would be difficult to find; as Fifi Miss Olive Lenton was very pleasing; Miss Winnie Brown was also a decided success as Cora Anglique; and as Kissie Fitzgarter Miss Florence Hersee made good use of her opportunities.

THE STAR.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. J. Powell.—*The King of Crime* is being presented here. Mr. Henry Bedford's impersonation of Ronjarre was a masterly one, his ability being very marked; as the treacherous Simon Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes acted throughout in good style; Mr. Sam Wilford made a quaint landlord; and Mr. Arthur Robinson as Louis was very efficient. Miss Doris Brooks made an excellent impression as Henrietta, playing the part with great power; comedy was provided by Mr. Bob Anderson and Miss Gertie Henderson.

EMPIRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—Mr. John Lawson and an excellent company head the bill here this week with a sensational society episode, *The King's Minister,* which is well received. The Brothers Egbert, the happy dustmen, are in the forefront of comedy merchants, their turn being good; Harry Grey is funny; and the Lyons, pantomimists, fully sustain their reputation. Millie Payne should not be missed, and Alf Chester is as good as ever. Florenoca and Lilian are first-class musical specialists, and Boyd and Gilfain excel at their business. The Bioscope presents a tour through Egypt in a striking way.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Business-Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. H. Keates Hale's company, in the new musical piece, *The Pet of the Embassy,* under the management of Mr. Hamilton Baines, is a great attraction here this week. Miss Ethel Dunford is charming as Hilda Graham, and is delightfully supported by Miss Florence Watson as Dorothy Stanley. Miss Julia Bassett as Mrs. Bung creates roars of laughter; Mr. Laurence Wensley is admirable as Eric Brown, and is much applauded for his vocal efforts; that fine comedian, Mr. Harry Fischer, is seen at his very best as Mr. Brown; Mr. Ralph Lynn's performance as Percy Brassington is particularly smart, and deservedly appreciated; and Mr. Walter Champney is amusingly clever in the part of John Willie. One of the outstanding features of the piece is the excellent chorus under the direction of Mr. Albert E. Wilson.

TAMWORTH.—ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Manager, Mr. F. Hughes.—Mr. J. H. Tomkinson opened his nineteenth autumn tour here for four nights with his Royal Gipsy company and colossal amusement amalgamation. Capital turns were given by Chas. Bradford, the Sisters Dudley, Teddy Lennon, Fred McLean, and Sam Paul. A thrilling performance on the slack wire was given by Elsie Rubina, an artist of exceptional appearance and ability; the Recars, Chinese acrobats, created no little amusement by their antics; whilst the Rigarelis, lady gymnasts, on the high trapeze, received quite an ovation. Miss Brenda Leslie was heard to advantage in her illustrated songs; Miss Frances Loft was a clever trombone soloist; Lottie Lonsdale, the child artist, sang Scotch and Irish songs, in character, with pleasing effect; La Sylph, in her kaleidoscopic dances, showed taste and agility; and the whole concluded with animated pictures from the American Kayograph. Crowded houses nightly were the rule. On Sunday night the company gave a sacred concert to a packed house.

TONYPANDY.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. S. Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Counsell.—*The Grip of Iron,* a sound favourite, is being played here by Mr. E. H. Knight's company. Mr. F. Powell plays his old part of Simmonet in his characteristically successful manner; Lorentz de Ribas, the adventurer, is well assumed by Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner; Mr. W. Curnock is suitably cast as Paul Blanchard, a remark also applicable to Mr. W. Annesley as M. de Belford. Messrs. W. T. Riley and John Brittain do well as the new and old style of detective respectively; Miss M. Fontaine's is a good character sketch of Cora Simmonet; while as Sophie Blanchard Miss F. Trevoir displays great pathos.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Thomas; Acting-Manager, Mr. D. Armstrong.—The Schallers, Fred Horsefall, and the Sisters Holly are well received. Interesting turns are provided by M. Marchi, the Lashmars, and Miss Lucy Pound, and Mr. Fred Conway is a clever dancer.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Robert Macdonald's company in *The Dairymaids* is here this week. Miss Empsie Bowman made a daintily pretty Peggy, and was well supported by Miss Doris Dickens, a charming Winifred; the part of Helene was well sustained by Miss A. Heenan; Miss Maud Lucy made a characteristic maid of all work; as Lady Brudenell Miss Molly Tremaine was imposing and stately; and Miss D. Gordon displayed the requisite austerity as Miss Pyechase. In the rôle of Dr. O'Byrne Mr. A. Gordon Begg was excellent; as Sam Brudenell Mr. Richard Telford introduced much humour; and as Lieut. Brudenell Mr. Robert Bottomley also did well; to Mr. Dan Agar is due much praise for his clever handling of the part of Joe Mivens, and general hilarity prevailed whenever he was present.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—An excellent entertainment is provided here this week by "The Gaieties." Miss Ruby Wilson is an attractive comedienne, Miss Beatrice Jeffreys a good soprano, and Miss Lois Barker, an able contralto, also proves an efficient accompanist; Mr. Percy Watson (tenor) does well, and Mr. Wilson James is a clever humorist; Mr. Charles Conyers, also an excellent humorist, gives ventriloquial sketches that are above the average.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Welton Dale.—*Dr. Wake's Patient* has been meeting with a most cordial reception this week. Mr. Cecil du Guè is admirable as the doctor, and Miss Marie Leonhard is a charming Lady Geranta. Miss Lait as the Countess and Mr. Shirley Lea as the Bishop also contribute materially to the success.

TYNEMOUTH. — PALACE-BY-THE-SEA.—Proprietor and Director, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—The Jolly Japs occupy a prominent position in this week's bill, and the quartette of male and female artists submit an extensive and varied répertoire. Mme. Frederic's clever terriers and wonderfully trained ponies are an entertaining item; and Joseph Cheetham, tenor vocalist, is also a popular turn. The Bioscope pictures remain a strong and interesting feature of the bill.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co. — Messrs. C. and F. Renad and company are here this week in the pantomimical absurdity, *The Swiss Express.* As the eccentric servants, James and John, Messrs. Renad are as amusing as ever; Dr. Gull is ably impersonated by Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon; Mr. Basil Reynolds does well as Virginia's lover, Bob; and Virginia herself has a bright and vivacious exponent in Miss Celestine Brandon. Mr. Alec Wyrlie is good as Dudley Green; and Mr. Charles Gray does good work as Mr. Septimus Squeeze; and Miss Blanche Vernon is admirable as Mrs. Septimus Squeeze. The minor rôles are ably filled, and the dancing of Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers is heartily applauded.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The following are here this week:—Mr. Harry Leybourne, double-voiced comedian, delights with his clever mimicry and singing; Miss Nellie Atherton and company are very successful in a sketch entitled *Wanted, a Partner;* Poppy Lytton and Jack Bland, comedy artists, make a hit; Bert and Dora are a smart comedy couple; Little Frankie, juvenile comedian, proves highly popular with Scotch songs; the Two Fordyces win applause with their dancing; and Miss Edie Anderson, comedienne, completes the bill.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Pride of place here is given to Whit Cunliffe, who proves very entertaining. Johnson and Bert, in their novel act, entitled *A Queer Customer;* Ina Lorimer, smart Scotch comedienne; the Hovyns, in their comedy act, *The Fancy Baker;* Nance Elder, Tyrolean vocalist; Vernando, tonsorial ventriloquist; the Carmos, novelty jugglers; and the American Bioscope are also among the attractions.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Messrs. Chas. H. Phelps and Jas. W. Mercer's company is appearing here this week in *One Woman's Wickedness.* Mr. Frank Moy appears with success as Philip Beaufort; Paul Roque is in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Hertie; Mr. Clifford Spencer merits high praise as Lord Algernon Fitznoodle; Mr. Chas. H. Phelps plays Jem Craggs with rare enthusiasm; Miss Irene Carrington is an excellent Janet Raymond; Miss Cissie Clarke an amusing Jenny Jiggles; and Miss Mabel Hall a charming Lillian Craggs.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred. J. Reece.—Mr. Samuel James's company in *Saved from the Sea* is here this week. Mr. David G. Noble as Dan Ellington acts with natural force; Miss Marie Auckland's portrayal of the heroine is associated with a charm sufficient to win all hearts; Mr. George Wallace exhibits a clever sketch of Jim Weaver; and Mr. G. Lodge Percy is good as Richard Fenton. Mr. Frank Litchfield scores as Peter Scalcher; clever work is introduced into the character of Jenkins by Mr. George K. Ashley; Mr. William Skelton is an entertaining Billy Snooks; and a coy Polly Blake is Miss Elsie Walton.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Waters; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Lady Julia, described as the "human monkey," is reappearing here this week, and her natural instincts create the greatest interest. Ike and Wall Scott are as entertaining as ever; Harry Tuft is a delightful silleur; Will Johnson is a lively comedian; the Sisters Walmsley are charming duettists; Daisy Martell is welcome as a comedienne; the Coes supply a delightful musical scena; Windermere and Mansfield are smart duologue artists; and Arthur Woodville an expert swell comedian. The Royal Bioscope pictures are delightfully entertaining.

WEDNESBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. T. Kuner. —Mr. F. B. Woulfe and specially-selected company are here in the historical play, entitled *Lady Godiva.* Miss Ethel Griffies, in the rôle of Godiva, achieves a decided success, her acting being most artistic; as Lady Aldyth, her sister, Miss Theo Henries is responsible; well-merited applause is accorded Miss Edith Lorraine for her talented representation of Elfrida; the important part of Tom o' Coventry is admirably played by Mr. F. B. Woulfe; Mr. R. S. Innes successfully enacts the rôle of Leofrci, Earl of Mercia; and as Algar Mr. Clifford Kean renders the part highly interesting. Valuable assistance is also rendered by Mr. A. Holland Day in his able embodiment of Unwolf. For Wednesday and Thursday evenings *The Light of the World* is billed, and on Friday *Jane Shore* is to be staged.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Messrs. Cowper-Smith and Douglas Payne's *Such a Nice Girl* company is here this week. Miss Rosa Bennett makes a handsome and charming Hilda Coleman; Miss Maude Percival is delightful as Cerise; Miss Amy Fauchette gives a clever impersonation of Martha Grimm; Miss Beatrice Sutherland evokes much laughter as Jane; and Miss Nina Neilson is praiseworthy as Flossie. Mr. Mark Lester gives a thoroughly artistic interpretation of Colonel Bullett; Mr. Douglas Payne is ludicrously funny as Brown; Mr. C. Lionel Brocknor is decidedly good as Bertie Holbrook; and so, too, is Mr. Henry Ainsworth as Harry Harrow.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson. — The Strolling Players proved a great attraction here on Monday. Mr. Victor Wallace was loudly encored; Mr. G. W. Desmond met with a fine reception for his song and dance; Mr. Sydney is a ventriloquist above the average; Miss James and Miss Clarice May, two charming ladies, were heartily applauded for their respective songs; Mr. Frank Lens shows some excellent pictures on the bioscope; and Herr Kàndl's Austrian Blue Band is much appreciated.

WHITEHAVEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Clark; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Clark.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company is appearing here in *The Drama of Life.* Mr. A. J. Hicks displays power as Harry Beech; Mr. J. D. Clyde is good as the detective, Brenten; Mr. E. M. Hamilton is well cast as Walter Beech; Mr. C. Ibbotson is an amusing Sir Dobson Wilde; Miss Marie Ramus a pleasing Lady Wilde; and Miss Kate Hallam an excellent Sylvia Beech.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co. — Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company has during the week attracted large audiences in the presentation of *The Traitor.* Miss Marie Robson as Zula, Miss Gwynne Warren as Countess Zicka, and Miss Jessica Black as Lieut. Nicolas, play their respective parts intelligently and with much effect. Of the chief male characters, Messrs. Graham Woods, Stephen E. Scanlon, Wilton Reed, Edw. Duff, and Alfred Richards are exceedingly well received.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Von Etta, the world's "only lady illusionist," gives a really novel and mystifying performance; and the Orros present a marvellously clever gymnastic act. The Donatos, the famous one-legged acrobats, are great favourites; and Harry Taylor, the Wigan comedian, delights the audience with a couple of excellent songs. Other tip-top turns are furnished by Richardson Taylor, ventriloquist; Le Green Trio, eccentric comedy artists; Chris Masters, vocalist and comedian; Harwood's Juveniles, the Ottawas, and Rosa Tilley, comedienne and dancer.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Le Wards.—Variety shows are again in favour, and on Tuesday evening Miss Louie Freear paid a flying visit for a matinée. She was supported by a capital company, which included Mr. Edwin Bennett, a talented portrayer of Dickens' characters; Mr. Vivian Foster, comedian and impersonator; Miss Hilda Elen, and Mr. Brightwell. Miss Freear delighted a crowded house in a successful farcical comedy, *Snooks.* The programme for the nightly shows throughout the week includes James Willard and his comedy sketch company in the dramatic and amusing episode, *Did He Deserve It?* the Factory Nightingales (Dolly, Agnes, and Maud); the irresistible comedians, Fame and Fortune; Vasey and Ramsey, clever dancers and contortionists; the Lizette Troupe of lady acrobats; and the Woodwards, in their astonishing balancing business.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—On Monday night there was a large and influential audience to witness the performance of *Maritana* by Mr. J. W. Turner's opera company. Mr. Turner as Don Cæsar had an enthusiastic reception, and sang with fine effect; Miss Christine Gomez was successful as Maritana, her freshness of voice and vivacity of acting proving very attractive; Mr. John Ridding gave a fine representation of Don José; and equally praiseworthy was Mr. T. Griffiths as the King. Miss Jessie Dennis as Lazarillo also sang with effect and pathos, and was encored; Mr. R. Cummings was amusing as the Marquis, and was well partnered by Miss Maud Esdale as the Marchioness.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager Mr. C. W. Collings.—This week the Lovelaces, in their charming entertainment as song illustrators, have proved a big attraction. Juan and McQue provide a very clever knockabout show, and as comedians their sayings cause roars of laughter; Max Merlin, "the crocodile," proves a most agreeable turn; while Miss Gracie Logan, a chic soubrette, and Marquis and Mignonette, in their refined and funny act, also do well.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*The Girl from Kay's* is always sure of a welcome here, and the visit this week has proved no exception to the rule. Mr. Johnny Schofield as Hoggenheimer has proved a tower of strength; he is indefatigable, and his efforts have provoked much laughter. He is ably supported by Mr. G. H. Liot as Fitzchistle, Mr. Claude Dampier, a quaint Joseph, and Mr. Archer Brown, an amusing Mr. Chalmers Mr. Herbert Franklyn is entitled to unstinted praise for his racy performance as Harry Gordon; Miss Mavis Hope renders the songs incidental to the part of Nora with much taste; Miss Margaret Cathcart is a fascinating Winnie Harborough; and Miss Irene Vere dances well as Ellen. Mention must be made of Miss Marie Shield's graceful performance as Mrs. Chalmers.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—Sydney Bacon's company has done well this week with *The Duchess of Tooting.* Bert Harrow is an amusing comedian; the Mayfair Comedy Quartette sing well; and Zeta Grey and company, Coward, Earle and Melville, Arthur Slater, an expert whistler, and the Bioscope complete the list.

THE REAL "HAMLET."

AND HOW IT SHOULD BE STAGED.

BY PERCY FITZGERALD, M.A.

(Continued from last week.)

VIII.—THE FENCING MATCH.

In the talk between Hamlet and Horatio immediately after the interment is revealed yet another of the base plots of the King to destroy his stepson. He had sent directions to England, that on landing his head should be struck off. That shrewd Prince, suspecting the treachery, got up in the night, stole the commission, re-wrote it, with a direction that the *bearers* of the document should be instantly put to death. These were of course Rosencrantz and Guildenstern—the King's instruments. Hence there was a regular, elaborate, and most fiendish plot for the destruction of the Prince. Hamlet relates that the vessel met a pirate, and that he was captured and released later. The two commissaries "held their course for England—of them I have much to tell." They were going to their doom. He contrived to get a letter sent to the King, couched in mysterious language, announcing his arrival for the morrow, when he would recount the reasons for his return. The King, amazed and confounded, calls out at once, "Are all the rest come back, or is it some abuse, or no such thing?" He has a suspicion that Hamlet has discovered his plot, or has perhaps murdered these men; so, grown desperate, he sees that something must be done at once to get rid of his hated enemy. Then he develops his scheme of a fencing-match.

What a gathering of horrors in all this! The two men plotting—one to destroy, the other to baffle; the man he had sent away to be murdered on his arrival now posting back, inflamed with fury and eager for revenge. For now Hamlet held two of his secrets—one, the murder of the late King, which he would disclose, as it was already disclosed in the play; the other, his own plot for Hamlet's murder. So he must be put to death, and at once, as soon as he arrived. This match, by the way, was a clever thought, and, I fancy, was suggested by Hamlet's killing of Polonius, also apparently an accident.

Now, after all these complicated horrors what a different complexion the trivial scene of the fencing bout assumes! But these matters have to be "cut out." We find the King, in rather childish fashion, suggesting the contest as an agreeable diversion—as, it might be, a game of lawn tennis. Every spectator always feels there is something trivial and highly improbable in this, but when we know that it is the last desperate resource of the Royal gambler, led up to by stages, to be followed by a more desperate attempt if *that* failed, how different it all seems!

Omitted always—as far as I know—is the King's artful method of getting Laertes to fall in with the plot; for as Laertes was a gallant young fellow, and would not relish assassination, he tells him of a great fencer, the gentleman of Normandy, Lamond by name, who had so extolled Laertes' skill in fencing that he could match anyone. Hamlet, he added, when he heard of these praises, became quite envenomed with jealousy, and was longing to meet him. With this he proceeds to work on Laertes, asking, did he love his father? And thus it comes about that the wondering spectator looks on troubled and anxiously as he sees this noble and generous Prince involved in this last deliberately-planned scheme for shis destruction, contrived by the Royal villain, who felt that there was not an instant to be lost if he would save his own wretched life. How different all this from the exhibition of the frivolous Osric and his mission which, when placed alone and unsupported, imparts quite a farcical tone. The whole appears as a sort of impromptu business contrived by a weak man instead of being, as it is, the last touch in a craftily-planned scheme. What is further brought out by this deliberative arrangement of the matter is the generous and trusting nature of the Prince, who is so gained over by Laertes' handsome act of forgiveness that he lends himself gladly to the *mal-à-propos* exhibition of the fencing.

The King's suggestion of the fencing match comes when they have just returned from burying Ophelia, and the King is lightly made to suggest a little play with the foils, and Hamlet accepts as lightly. But what is the fact? The cutters and abbreviators have been at their work. It was an elaborately-contrived plot between the King and Laertes. The former describes how a Frenchman had admired Laertes' skill, and how envious Hamlet had shown himself. Smarting at the death of his father and sister, Laertes enters at once into the murder scheme, and it is arranged that as soon as Hamlet arrives he shall be drawn into this combat. The King throughout this episode should exhibit all the marks and tokens of villainy. All this is cut away in the acting versions. And it is astonishing how much is lost. This combat and the previous stabbing of old Polonius are frittered away by this curtailing treatment, instead of being great solemnities with a vast influence on the play.

The confusion in the fencing is really incredible. The stage direction runs that the two combatants in their scuffle should change rapiers, when Hamlet stabs the other with his own weapon. Irving introduced a bit of business which was much admired, but which seemed curious. He gracefully threw his rapier over to Laertes, who returned the compliment with *his!* We have only to reflect a moment that Laertes would be quite unprepared for Hamlet's movement, so the rapier would fall to the ground. But why change rapiers. The bout was evidently fought with "foils," which were presumed to have the buttons on. Laertes would have substituted a buttonless one, the point being prepared with poison. The truth was that Hamlet, feeling that he was wounded, saw at once the plot, and, closing with his opponent, wrested the weapon from him and stabbed him with it. Here was the change of foils and the reason for it. Could anything be more natural or coherent? A good bit of preparatory "business" might be that Laertes or the King should be seen fumbling with the weapons, before the match began, secretly removing the button and laying on the poison.

We have rarely seen Laertes played up to the situation, which is a most pathetic, passionate one. He is repentant at the end, he makes confession, begs forgiveness from the man he has wronged, acquits him of all injury, and denounces the arch-villain. The moment should be full of passion and feeling. But the fact is, we want to see Hamlet die, and hear him say his last words—"the rest is silence." How these words have been twisted from the context. He is made to gasp and grow gradually faint and be scarcely audible, until he feebly utters "the rest is silence." But this is not the way in which poison works. There are pains and agonies and clouds, but the voice remains strong. The heroic Prince is thinking what will become of the deserted kingdom. Fortinbras must succeed, "he has my dying voice": he must be told how matters had fallen out: the dying Prince is going on eagerly, pouring forth his instructions when he feels the last pang at his heart, then sinks, moaning "the rest is silence."

So we have the King dreading Hamlet, dreading Laertes, uncertain as to his hold of the throne; wishing to destroy the Prince, yet not daring on account of his popularity; and so, how natural that he should contrive an artful plot by which Hamlet should come by his death owing to an accident. Again, does not this give a wholly different air to the fencing match?

Not having all these particulars before them, even our best actors have always contrived to make this fencing bout appear a different thing from what it was intended to be. We are to be impressed by the commonplace preparations—the making a ring, as it were. Hamlet takes off his outer coat, he bends the foils, switches them about in a dapper fashion usual to professionals; there is the graceful salute, the measuring distance, &c. —things quite out of place, and too petty for treatment. One is tempted to say what the Prince did to the players who were "going to begin."

It is often forgotten that in this fencing scene the King had two strings to his bow, the bared foil and the poisoned wine. He knew that the first method was uncertain, for Laertes might only give a slight prick. Laertes, however, proposed to add poisoned ointment, which would be effectual. But still doubtful—Hamlet might be too clever, and there might be no hit at all—then the King settled on the wine, which the heat and exertion would tempt Hamlet to drink. This he evidently relied on, and during the combat repeatedly pressed the goblet on his nephew. "I dare not yet drink—by and by," he said. Then seeing that he could not be persuaded, Laertes says to the King, "I'll hit him now." The King, still doubtful, replies, "I do not think't." Then Hamlet, accusing Laertes of not exerting himself sufficiently and of merely playing with him, Laertes determines on action and does hit him. The choice of time shows that Laertes was the superior in skill, and that his adversary was too agitated to be cautious.

It may be asked how could Laertes—in the case of Hamlet's death from his stroke—expect to clear himself from the charge of using a foil with the point bare? Hamlet was exceedingly popular, and the excuse of an accident could not be put forward. This must have been the reason why the King was so anxious for the poisoned cup. In the last resort, it would have to be claimed that it was a mere accident—the button had come off the foil, etc.

One incident in the final struggle is often omitted, and yet it is most effective. After stabbing the King, Hamlet seizes the poisoned cup and forces him to drink it off.

As I have said before, all these successive incidents make the fencing scene a long-drawn-out drama in itself. The three chief characters are slowly acting their parts and striving elaborately to carry out their scheme. There is the secret selection of the pointed foil, the loud advertisement of the poisoned challice made into a ceremonious health-drinking, saluted with cannon, all tempting Hamlet into drinking — a pressure which he puts aside twice. Then there is the combat, allowing Hamlet to make a couple of hits and so throw him off his guard; then Laertes's serious attack, the scuffle, the change of the foils, the wounding of both combatants, and Hamlet's renewed challenge, "Nay, come again." Then the Queen crying out, the stabbing of the King, and the forcing him to drink the poison.

Now instead of all this—making it a regular slaughter-house, as Garrick called it—we could fancy it made a most deliberate affair, each incident growing naturally out of another. The moment when the Queen calls out that she is poisoned would be an awful one, for up to that Hamlet seemed uncertain whether his wound might not have been an accident. But here came conviction. I could fancy an awful pause of horror —everyone in agitation, and Hamlet, who had been eager to renew the battle, suddenly transformed into an agitated, half-mad avenger.

Everyone will recall the superficial way in which the queen's death is treated. Her affectionate interest in her son during the conflict is shown to the last. Her death is caused by it. She must drink to his success. Her husband interposes to stop her; but he merely says "It's the poisoned cup: it is too late." Here he showed more excitement and agitation than is usually exhibited. He should be restlessly looking at her. Meanwhile the poor lady should be showing signs of the effect of the potion, though she affectionately falters out: "Come, let me wipe thy face." Growing worse—though in the common acting version no one seems much to mind her—tossing her arms, &c. Then comes the scuffle. After which she sinks down on the ground; and the trivial Osric is the only one to notice it, calling out, "Look to the queen there. Ho!" But nobody minds him. She should be seen writhing on the floor. Hamlet at last exclaims "How does the queen?" The King, artful to the last, says, "She swoons to see them die." When she frantically starts up, exclaiming "The drink, the drink! Oh, my dear Hamlet. . . . I am poisoned," and so dies. Now all this is generally huddled up and glossed over. No one minds her or wants her, or cares much. She interferes with the *real* business, which is Hamlet. And yet how pathetic and how tragic it is! It is a most important death scene.

Another really important element often suppressed is the Fortinbras episode, and the menace he offered to the King's power. Here was another of the troubling forces which were gathering round the Royal villain and disturbed his peace. This invasion is foreshadowed from the earliest scenes, when he sent away emissaries to try and arrange matters. Later on they return, having agreed to let Fortinbras "have passage over the kingdom" to subdue the Poles. The young general had, however, designs on Denmark, and it is novel for the audience to find him meeting with Hamlet in the field. This menace, therefore, was bringing a fresh danger to the wicked King.

It is usual at the close to work up Hamlet's dying moments into something that is pathetic and melodramatic. "The rest is silence" gives the keynote, then the green folds of the curtain descend slowly. But how different is the reality, and far more matter-of-fact. Hamlet, after his appeal to his friend to vindicate his memory, is interrupted by the shouts of soldiers without. Here is Fortinbras arriving. Hamlet is told what the sounds mean, and then says he cannot live to hear the details; but he gives his dying voice for the election of Fortinbras. "So tell him, with the occurrents more or less, which have solicited —the rest is silence . . ."

Fortinbras comes in with his soldiers, and is awe-stricken by the horrors that confront him, and then signifies his intention of seizing on the throne. Here is shown the grand moral—the wholesale destruction of all concerned in this ghastly tragedy. The King, the Queen, Ophelia, Laertes, Polonius, Hamlet, Rosencrantz, and Guildenstern are all swept away—the throne is empty with no one to succeed, and a soldier of fortune, returning home, stops to seize it. Horatio, almost the sole survivor, invites him. Fortinbras orders four captains to carry Hamlet away, and bids "the soldiers shoot." As he is carried out, "a peal of ordnance is shot off."

The original form of the finale seems to me truly grand and classical, quite different from the clap-trap Hamlet's death—"the rest is silence." Then the slow-falling curtain, the agony of Hamlet at the thought that his good name would suffer, as it would be impossible for anyone to explain the transactions. He meant that he would be credited with the murder of the King and Laertes, while there would be no one who would be able to say that *they* had plotted to murder *him.* This is highly tragic. Then the arrival of the soldiers in all the pomp of war, and of Fortinbras, who was now claiming the throne. Hamlet at the instant of his death was thinking of this important point, who was to succeed him, for he was on the throne then as actual King by succession. And he named Fortinbras as his successor. There is satisfaction in hearing him announce that the two false courtiers had been done to death. How fine the raising of Hamlet's body and the carrying him away! This should be done with great state and solemnity, to the firing off of "shots."

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the Play, by Hall Caine, entitled,
"THE BONDMAN."

Another Drury Lane drama in the shape of *The Bondman* has this week repeated its success at the King's to enthusiastic audiences. The tale of self-sacrifice which Hall Caine so powerfully and sympathetically tells has appealed to the suburban playgoers in no uncertain fashion, with the result that the theatre has been crowded nightly—a sight joyful enough to managers in these times when the drama in general is decried as unfashionable. No complaint can be raised against Mr. Wentworth Croke upon the manner in which he has produced the play. Actors and scenery are alike most satisfactory. The cast is an extremely lengthy one, but there is no square peg placed in a round hole. The character which excites our profound sympathy and admiration is that of Jason, and Mr. Cecil A. Collins scored a conspicuous triumph for an impersonation at once telling and well-nigh perfect. As Michael Sunlocks, Mr. Arthur Bawtree acted vigorously and in manly style, his helplessness when blind being excellently and feelingly expressed; Mr. H. C. Lanceley rendered Adam Fairbrother with great effect; and Mr. Norman Wrighton made the most of the inhuman part of Governor Testa. Mr. W. H. Rotherham, first as Grandfather and subsequently as Father Ferrari, gave able and distinguished renderings of two totally distinct characters; Doctor Boni and the Marshal of Police were capably enacted by Mr. F. J. Waller and Mr. Scrope Quentin; the children, Mona and Danny, were very winningly represented by Miss Gertrude Helene and Master Arthur Clarence; Mr. Alfred Humbert was a dignified naval captain; Miss Grace Chalmers played Greeba with power and earnestness, and wholly deserved the unqualified approval leading to her recall time after time; Christian Ann was successfully undertaken by Miss Beatrice Whitney; and the two Callow girls were delightfully represented by Miss Florence Hunt and Miss Julia Willis. Mrs. Fairbrother was amusingly pictured by Miss Madge Lanerton. The new scenery by Mr. Ernest Howard was much praised, and the incidental music by Mr. J. M. Glover gave every satisfaction.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the Musical Comedy,
"A CHINESE HONEYMOON."

The management's choice of *A Chinese Honeymoon*, which is the attraction here this week, is proved by its reception to be a wise one. Played by Mr. Milton Bode's excellent company, this "hardy perennial" is still raising roars of laughter. The play was well received on the opening night, and has proved a great success throughout the week. Mr. Bode must be congratulated upon the excellence of his company, every member being worthy of the highest praise. Mr. Rudolph Kloss as Hang-Chow, the Emperor of Ylang-Ylang, gives a soundly humorous piece of acting, and makes the most of his opportunities; Mr. P. Allerton Turner has a grim make-up as Chippie-Chop, the Lord Chancellor, and is admirably suited to the part; Mr. Leonard May as Hi-Lung, the Lord High Admiral, plays excellently; and Mr. Harry Jennings gives a breezy and vigorous representation of Tom Hatherton, scoring well with his musical numbers. Mr. Pineapple is played by Mr. George Rydon, and that is equivalent to saying the part could not be in better hands. Mr. Rydon is droll to his finger-tips. He works hard and very successfully, and scores with the well-known song, "A happy land." Miss Rosie Begarnie as Mrs. Pineapple plays with plenty of life and animation, and her rendering of "The à la girl" delights the audience. Another good number is her "Ohio" song, the stage effects and chorus of "darkies" accompanying being both clever and picturesque. Her bridesmaids—Florrie, Violet, Elsie, and Maud—are suitably portrayed by Miss Dorothy Radcliffe, Miss Mary Gray, Miss Cecily Leslie, and Miss Phyllis Grosvenor. The official Mother-in-law, in the hands of Miss Maud Adams, is cleverly represented. Miss Gwennie Harcourt as Fi-Fi gives an excellent performance, and proves herself a very clever comedienne. She receives well-deserved encores for her humorous rendering of "When I make my de-but" and "I want to be a lady." Miss Elsie Skillings is a sweet Soo-Soo, and her musical contributions, "Chrysanthemum," "Maid of Pekin," and "Egypt," are notable successes. The parts of Sing-Sing and Yen-Yen, Soo-Soo's maids of honour, and Mi-Mi are ably filled by the Misses Ada Booth, Edie Ross, and Madge Elliott. The effective and well-trained chorus and augmented orchestra are under the able directorship of Mr. Edward Mitchell. The dressing, mounting, and staging are all that could possibly be desired.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Sept. 16, Bernard Shaw's Comedy,
"CAPTAIN BRASSBOUND'S CONVERSION."

Miss Ellen Terry's admirers have assembled in force this week at the Coronet Theatre, where the great actress makes her first London appearance since her tour in America. Large houses have been the rule, and "curtains" innumerable have marked the delight which existed in all parts of the house. In *Captain Brassbound's Conversion* Mr. Shaw is in his most reasonable mood, and the piece possesses elements which can appeal to the ordinary playgoer as well as to those who have cultivated a taste for the Court Theatre dramatist. Brilliant examples of satire are frequent in the play, into which, moreover, a moral lesson can be read by those so disposed. The rôle of the irresistible Lady Cecily Waynflete might have been written with Miss Terry in the author's eye, so perfectly does it fit the personality of the artist, who acts with all her customary charm, perfection of speech, and grace of movement. Miss Terry looked radiantly beautiful in her elegant dresses, for which, by the way, her daughter, Miss Edith Craig, is responsible—and the consummate art of the actress allied to the cleverness of the part resulted in a performance that no words could overpraise. Miss Terry was recalled again and again at the end of each act and enthusiastically cheered. A welcome little less cordial was extended to the popular lady's husband, Mr. James Carew, who was Miss Terry's leading man in America. The rugged force and dogged perseverance which Mr. Carew infuses into his part were admirable, and the redoubtable Captain Brassbound is a picturesque figure throughout. Much effect is gained by the transition in the second act from the browbeating bully to the cowed and contrite man, and Mr. Carew rightly shared in the enthusiasm which the scene provoked. A performance of sterling worth is also that of Mr. Rudge Harding as the stubborn Sir Howard Hallam; his rich voice and finished elocution make every line tell, and the strenuous scene in the castle on the hills, when every nerve seems to quiver with emotion, is played with artistic restraint that heightens its effect. Mr. Story-Gofton gives an admirable study of the benevolent missionary, the benignity and lovableness of the Rev. Leslie Rankin being maintained throughout. The "hooligan" propensities of Felix Drinkwater are skilfully brought out by Mr. George Elton, who is gifted with a countenance that should prove a precious possession. His comicalities are a source of much merriment, his appearance after a bath, by means of which the fact that he has red hair is realised for the first time, putting the audience into uncontrollable laughter. Mr. William Walshe gives a character study of rare excellence in the part of the burly Johnson. Mr. Dare Austin presents the foppish Redbrook effectively, and the Italian, Marzo, is rendered with many realistic touches by Mr. David Hallam. The comely Sidi el Asif is impressively portrayed by Mr. David Powell; Mr. W. T. Lovell is smariness personified as the United States captain; a typical specimen of the American bluejacket is given by Mr. James Fergusson; and Mr. John Hood, Mr. Gerald Hoffman, and Master Roberts complete an ideal cast.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the play, entitled
"THE PRODIGAL SON."

Mr. Hall Caine is very much to the front at the present moment, and no less than three of his plays are being played in London this week. *The Prodigal Son*, which is being performed here, is undoubtedly a play of much interest, despite its shortcomings, and it is drawing most excellent houses, who are evidently well pleased with the production The company, which is under the direction of Mr. Wentworth Croke, is very complete, and is staged in the most lavish manner, with all the scenery and effects from Drury Lane. Mr. Henry Watson is a splendid Oscar Stephensson, and he portrays the character in a most able and finished manner; while Magnus is likewise cleverly depicted by Mr. Hugh Montgomery, who scores by his earnest and convincing acting, and the contrast between the two brothers is well marked by these two actors. Miss Margaret Murch gives a fine delineation of Helga; and Miss Maude Drewry's rendering of Thora leaves nothing to be desired; her picture of this unhappy girl is indeed fine, while her portrayal of Thora's daughter Elin, in the latter scenes, is most natural and winning. The stern Stephen Magnussun is ably embodied by Mr. Richard A. Green, who imparts much force into his acting. Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood finds in Oscar Neilson, the factor, a character which suits him well, and which he handles with marked ability. Miss Barbara Gott is good as Anna; and Miss Marie Harcourt is most successful as the factor's sister Margaret. There is a very long list of minor characters, which are in each case well played, and we would specially mention Mr. Charles A. Maynard, who gives a finished study of Neils Finsen; also Mr. Chauncey Morris as Dr. Olsen, and Mr. Philip Renouf, who presents a delightful sketch of the old Pastor. We have already alluded to the general mounting of the play, which is most picturesque. The Casino scene is especially brilliant, and the whole reflects the utmost credit on Mr. Charles Maynard, who is responsible for the staging of this very heavy production. Mr. Howard Sturgess is the business-manager for the company, and Mr. Wilfred Stanford is still to the fore as the manager of the theatre for Mr. Robert Arthur, who has made such a fine list of bookings for the autumn at this theatre.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the Drama,
"THE SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD."

Billed as a new moral domestic drama, in a prologue and four acts, *The Sin of Her Childhood* is being presented here by Mr. J. M. East's stock company. The plot hinges on the poisoning of her ailing step sister by the heroine (in the prologue a young girl) at the instigation of her villainous brother, so that the money necessary for sending the child away to a sanatorium may be devoted to keeping him at a musical school. In the subsequent four acts are shown the punishment and repentance of the heroine, and the happy ending. Miss Valerie Crispin well sustains the part of the repentant and atoning heroine. Mr. A. Clifton Alderson as her clerical friend, and afterwards lover, is a manly clergyman, down on hypocrisy and cant. Mr. William Felton gives a powerful impersonation of the villainous brother. Mr. E. H. Brooke makes a gallant Captain of the Indian Army. Mr. Maitland Marler is a rollicking, good-hearted Irishman, and his songs and witticisms are much applauded. He is well supported by Miss Agnes Paulton as his sweetheart. The staging, &c., leaves nothing to be desired. Mr. W. H. Pease, the genial acting-manager, has now returned from a well-earned holiday.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."

Mr. Frederick Melville's novel drama, *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*, is the attraction at the Standard this week, and is meeting with an enthusiastic reception. The story is one of great interest, and is decidedly original, whilst the unfolding of the plot is safely entrusted to a most capable body of players, and the production is a conspicuous success. Mr. Ashley Page, a great favourite here, met with quite an ovation on Monday evening, and he certainly well deserved the applause which from time to time rewarded his efforts. As Jack Merriman he played with intelligence and ability, and in his performance the meaning the author wished to convey must have been fully realised. His scene in the third act with the ugliest woman on earth was powerfully enacted, and Miss Marion Denvil must be heartily congratulated for her share in the good work done. In the title-rôle she was perfect, acting as she always does with great intensity and feeling, and giving the character the prominence it deserves. Mr. J. C. Aubrey played with his customary ease and skill as Hubert Gold, and without any apparent effort made the heavy rôle one of strength and interest. The part of Antonio Luchessi was admirably supported by Mr. Frank Harrison, who portrayed the Italian, both in manner and speech, with considerable ability. Mr. Roland Daniels did all that was possible with the small part of Tom Redvers; and Mr. Gerald Morgan showed skill in the manner he discharged his duties as Griffiths. Mr. Johnny Chippendale used every chance he was offered as Tubby Herrick to raise a laugh, and was most capably assisted in the lighter scenes by Miss Mattie Everett as Aggie Brown. A clever characteristic sketch of a London hooligan was supplied by Mr. John Sargent as Raggles. His make-up was good, and his delineation all through was the essence of careful thought and judgment. Mr. Frank Denis was a very satisfactory Doctor Carr. A pathetic interpretation of the part of Morita was contributed by Miss Minnie Waller, whose ability in characters of this description is unquestionable. The late Britannia favourite, Miss East Robertson, proved of great service, and was powerful and convincing as Rose Courteney. The minor characters were all in safe hands, and the staging and mounting of the piece were done on Mr. Melville's usual lavish scale. Mr. H. A. Chappell, the courteous acting-manager, works energetically in front of the house, and ably attends to the comfort of the audience.

THE SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the Play, in Four Acts, founded on Ouida's Novel, by Edwin Elsner, entitled
"UNDER TWO FLAGS."

Of the plays that have lately been presented at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, few have been more to the taste of local playgoers than *Under Two Flags*, which, with a company furnished by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow, commenced a week's run on Monday evening, and has been delighting crowded houses during the week. The company is a thoroughly capable one all round, and their efforts have been received with unstinted applause. A word of praise is also due for the excellent manner in which the play is staged, especially the representation of a dust-storm in the desert, which is very realistic. Chief honours are carried off by Miss Ida Molesworth, who quickly rouses the enthusiasm of the audience by her acting in the arduous rôle of the vivandière, Cigarette. Throwing herself heart and soul into her part, and presenting the various phases of the character with masterly skill and artistic restraint, Miss Molesworth scores a decided success. Mr. Mark Blow is naturally well gifted for the embodiment of Bertie Cecil Royallieu, and bringing his ripe experience to bear upon the part, makes a deep impression by the quiet and convincing force of his acting. Mr. Harry Benson gives an admirable interpretation of the character of Rake, and proves his versatility by giving an excellent song and dance, which were enthusiastically encored. Mr. Austin Milroy acquits himself with success in the rôle of Lord Rockingham; and Mr. Dermott FitzGibbon is satisfactory as Barklie Cecil Royallieu. Colonel Chanteroy finds a capable exponent in Mr. Roy Jackson; and Mr. Charles Brooks as Lord Royallieu, Mr. A. Cotton Holmes as Captain Claude de Chansellon, and Mr. Fred Prior as Erzy Baroni, also render valuable support. An ideal Princess Venetia Corona is found in Miss Edith Coleman, who contributes a charming and agreeable performance. Miss Madge Stevens is seen to advantage as Lady Beatrice Guinevere; and Miss Kitty Douglas as Lavinia wins golden opinions for her excellent singing and dancing. Mr. G. M. Montanini is acting-manager for Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 16,
Mr. Chas. Macdona's principal company in
"THE WHITE CHRYSANTHEMUM."

This pretty lyrical comedy, fresh from good business on the South Coast, is filling Mr. J. Bannister Howard's house here, and Sydenham audiences are glad to be able again to see some of their old favourites, who have appeared here in other characters. Miss Muriel George, in the title-role, was a great acquisition, and showed herself to be possessed of a clear soprano voice and a manner full of charm, and her artistic rendition of her songs met with instant approval. As Betty Kenyon, a young widow and chaperone, Miss Dorothy Sephton was quiet and effective, her vocalisation being pretty; and Miss Rosa Sullivan's impersonation of Cornelia Vanderdecken, the American heiress, was sprightly and vivacious, for she can dance well and give full point to her songs and business. Mr. John T. MacCallum made a bluff and hearty Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage, with an apparently unlimited supply of excellent topical verses to his song in the third act; and Mr. Merville Florance as his son, Lieut. Reginald Armitage, entered fully into the sympathetic part of the lover, and sang and acted with much discretion. The part of his chum and adviser, Lieut. Chippendale Belmont, was in the hands of Mr. Victor Kerr, who raised hearty laughter by his droll methods and extravagances, although he was never out of the picture in his fooling. Mr. James Craydon as Sin Chon, the Chinese cook, was one of the best made up Orientals we remember having seen, and his agile dancing and quaint manner produced roars of laughter. The stolid Marine, Private Perks, was a study of drollery of another order, and Mr. Jamie Dallas made this soldier-servant a telling part. The pretty dresses, dancing, and singing of the six little Japanese maids who waited on the heroine added greatly to the "go" of the piece, and the six jolly bluejackets who escorted the Admiral were as bluff and virile as one could desire. Mesdames Nance and Marie Wickenden, Dolly Varden, Rosa Abrahams, Gwen Yates, and Kate Rolls introduced a pleasant variation to the representation as Japanese strolling singers. The company carries the entire scenery for the three acts, and each tableau was perfectly and efficiently set, and added much to the completeness and success of the production.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the Musical Extravaganza, entitled
"SATURDAY TO MONDAY."

"Laughter holding both its sides" is in evidence at this popular South London house this week. *Saturday to Monday* is a merry, irresponsible, plotless, and rollicking piece of nonsense, which finds many admirers among the playgoing public. The principal member of Mr. Fred Karno's company is Mr. Rolando Martin, who plays the rôle of the eccentric John Willie Jaggs with much success, imparting a flavour of mock earnestness and dignity to the part which is really comic. Mr. Martin is nearly always on the stage, and his impersonation is all important to the success of the piece. Miss Amy Rogerson makes a prepossessing Clarinda, and plays especially well in her domestic scenes with Jaggers and the children. Mr. V. H. Crawford is amusing as John Willie Jaggs, jun., and a particularly clever piece of character-acting comes from Master T. McDonagh as Jane Ellen Jaggs. Mr. C. Curtis displays a pleasant voice to much advantage as the young lover, Tom Freeman, and his sweetheart, Violet Blake, is daintily and engagingly enacted by Miss Ethel Beech. Miss Ada Maskell is very humorous as Aunt Skinner, Mr. Dick Harcourt is a lively Major Potts, and Miss Pensive is well played by Miss Louie Lilian. Mr. J. W. Bradbury as Mr. Blake and Mr. Fred Palmer as Spinks also contribute their share to the general success. The small but efficient chorus work very effectively, notably in the finale to the second act. The scene of the third act, the sands at Saltsea, is a pretty piece of brushwork.

THE DALSTON.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the Comic Opera, entitled
"THE LITTLE MICHUS."

Mr. George Dance's company is scoring a decided success at the Dalston Theatre this week with *The Little Michus*, the production of which is rendered complete by full opera chorus and orchestra under the direction of M. Jean Desormes. The great hit in the representation is of course Mr. Foster Courtenay's impersonation of the eccentric character, General des Ifs. All the time Mr. Courtenay is on the stage there is almost continuous laughter, either at what the General says, at what he does, or at what, by an attitude or even a look, he infers. Mr. Courtenay clearly demonstrates the fact that it is not humorous lines alone which afford the real comedian his opportunity. Mr. E. Wynn as Gaston Rigaud and Mr. Alfred Drinkwater as Aristide Verdt are well to the front, Mr. Drinkwater's representation being particularly noteworthy; while Mr. William Benson's Pierre Michu forms an amusing study. Mr. Gilbert Childs, who plays Bagnolet, also undertakes the duties of stage-manager. The little Michus are represented by Miss Alice Coverick and Miss Gracie Sinclair, who act with grace, sing musically, and generally deport themselves in charming manner. Mlle. St. Cyr, described as a famous dancer of the period, is realistically portrayed by Mlle. Marjorie, who is rewarded by hearty applause. Special reference must be made to Miss Mary Young, who sings well, and renders the character of Mme. Michu thoroughly interesting and essential to the performance. Others in the cast include the Misses May Stephenson, V. Ashcroft, M. Leigh, M. Elswick, L. Searle, E. Perose, Dot Lee, Stella Raleigh, and Kitty Farrell; and Messrs. E. Stanley, W. Herbert, and A. Gervaise.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, by Paul A. Rubens and Austen Hurgon, entitled
"MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND."

Thanks to Mr. Peter Davey, the enterprising managing-director of the Royal County Theatre, Kingston, is the first of the London suburbs in which this bright, tuneful, and amusing London success has been produced, and there was a bumper house to witness the first presentation on Monday night, the audiences being equally as numerous during the week. Mr. George Dance is touring the play, and he has managed to gather around him a company of most capable artists. Chief honours are deservedly won by Mr. Fred Winn, whose drolleries are irresistible and keep the house in constant good humour. Mr. Percy Carr, well-known to many Kingstonians, makes a praiseworthy appearance in the part of Bandmaster Van Vuyt; and Mr. J. T. Bolesworth wins much favour also as Captain Adrian Paap. The part of Ludwig Schnapps is ably portrayed by Mr. Harry Talbot. Amongst the ladies, Miss Maggie White wins universal favour for her captivating picture of Miss Hook; whilst others deserving of special mention are Miss Rita Everard as Mina, the maid; Miss Dolly James as Freda Voos; and Mr. Albert Kavanagh as Simon Slinks.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the Drama, entitled
"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."

Fresh from its triumphant success at the famous house in the Strand, Mr. Walter Howard's drama was produced on Monday evening at this theatre; and, it is needless to say, again scored heavily. It is produced by Messrs. W. H. Hallatt's and Walter Howard's company. A large house throughout the evening received the thrilling situations with ringing cheers, and a popular success was obtained. The play is mounted exactly as at the Lyceum, the beautiful stage pictures being all that could be desired. Especially noteworthy was the scene of Prince Ulric's palace at Ravensburg. In the rôle of Eric, Earl of Strathmere, Mr. Walter Howard proved himself a capable and manly hero, and he soon won the affections of his audience. Miss Ethel Warwick, as the beautiful princess, looked the part to perfection, and her representation of Iris will linger long in the memory; Miss Ivy Millais, too, gained enthusiastic applause for her capital acting as Nello, the brother of the hero; Mr. Lewis Gilbert as the vindictive Ulric, Prince of Ravensburg, well brought out the relentless spirit of the character; Mr. Ronald Bayne was excellent as Prince Othmar; and Mr. Douglas Vigors admirable as Prince Maurice of Saxonia. Mr. T. W. Henson was a soldierly Kaspar, and Mr. Percy Compton as Heinrich and Mr. E. H. Dobell as Fritz provided much fun as the lackeys. Miss Maisie Ash as Katinka and Miss Kathie Lennon as Gretchen, the maids of honour, were both deserving of praise. Mr. A. H. Hallatt gave a good character-study of the kind-hearted surgeon, Captain Helgar; Miss Evelyn Hope made a capital Countess of Rassellyn; and Miss Annie Pearson also did well as Corona. Mr. Richard Webb is a capable stage-manager. At the conclusion of Act II. Miss Ethel Warwick was handed a beautiful basket of flowers. There is little doubt but that *Her Love Against the World* will repeat its success at the house on Brixton Oval. Mr. R. W. Allum still looks after the comfort of his numerous patrons as Mr. F. Melville's acting-manager.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the Play, entitled
"THE STRONGER SEX."

By arrangement with Mr. Otho Stuart, Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison present at Mr. Robert Arthur's Kennington Theatre this week *The Stronger Sex*, the entire London production from the Apollo and Royalty Theatres being used. Crowded houses nightly testify to the popularity of this play, the artists being recalled again and again after each act. Mr. D. Lewin Mannering as the Hon. Warren Barington gives a clever delineation of a difficult part; Mary (his wife) is played by Miss May Blayney, whose wonderful charm of manner won for her the admiration of the entire audience. Her impersonation of the young American heiress deserves the highest praise. Mr. Stanley Harrison as Oliver Thorpe, a rich young American, is a strong favourite; as also is Miss Nancy Beresford as Joan Forsythe. Miss Gladys Ffolliott is excellent in the character of Mrs. Van Garkerken. All the lesser parts are admirable, and the scenery and staging leave nothing to be desired. The play is preceded by the clever one-act comedy, entitled *The Peacemaker*, which is well received.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the Drama, entitled
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."

Islington is this week favoured with a visit from Mr. Frederick Melville's company in his latest play. Still following the plan which has dominated his other productions, he paints in striking colours the evils and consequences attending certain modes of life, and has constructed a play of great interest and attraction. He is well served by a hard-working company, who labour wholeheartedly for the general success. Mr. Robert Faulkner as Frank Temple acts with power and sincerity, and submits an excellent performance. Mr. J. Knox Orde as Tom Wells is also to be commended for a capital study of the journalist. Mr. Alex Bradley as Hardy enacts the heavy rôle with force, and does very well. Mr. Arthur Byron as Boots works hard and with success in provoking laughter, and finds admirable support in Miss Marie Wright as Jennie Cackling. Mr. Dane Clark portrays the Bishop with the requisite dignity. Mr. Victor C. R. Monro as Cholmondeley is to be commended; Mr. Ernest Hiswell as Sir John Lewis deserves commendation; Miss Alice Bowes as May Willoughby plays naturally and with considerable success; Miss Nellie Bonser in a triple rôle is quite admirable, giving a finished performance; Miss Eva Moss as Jess Willoughby acts with dramatic intensity, and deserves much praise. Smaller parts are satisfactorily filled by Miss Violet Cane and Messrs. William Lynton, F. C. Brooke, W. Brooke, Thomas Henry, &c. The mounting is in Mr. Melville's most lavish style, and Mr. Thomas P. Fish has composed some appropriate incidental music. The performance goes with great smoothness. A capital house witnessed the production on Monday, and a lengthy and prosperous career would seem to be certain.

TERRISS THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the Drama, entitled
"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."

Exciting episodes, continual change of scene, and opportunities for vigorous acting, make *The Worst Woman in London* always sure of a favourable reception, and this week has proved no exception to the rule at the popular Rotherhithe playhouse. As Frances Vere Miss Olga Andre looks and acts the part to perfection. She is ably supported by Mr. Vernon Travers, who makes considerable dramatic capital out of the part of James Milford; Mr. George Gaisford is admirable in the arduous rôle of Jack Felton; and the wealthy speculator's daughter, Ruth, is well portrayed by Miss Elizabeth Watkins. Mr. Will Corrie as Bob Goldfinch and Miss Polly Marsh as Matilda Parker keep the house in a continual titter, and brighten considerably an otherwise sordid play. The part of Jane Nogood could scarcely have been in better hands than those of Miss Mysie Monte's, and the scene in Hyde Park between her and Kingston, the policeman—well acted by Mr. A. Rushen—called forth deserved applause. As Frances Vere's father Mr. H. W. Monte is excellent; and Mr. Paul Barry-Lewers as the polished villain, Vincent Lyle, is well cast. As the ruined gambler, Philip Armstrong, Mr. Leonard Booker held his audience closely; and in the Circus scene Messrs. Winstanley B. Featherstone, H. Manners, and John Lee, did excellent and useful work, as also did Messrs. Harlee, Wantage, and Atkinson. Mr. Pitsey and Mr. Fortesque made picturesque firemen. The mounting was excellent, and the combined efforts of the well-selected company made the play go with a snap from start to finish.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Sept. 16, for the first time in London, the Musical Comedy in Three Acts. Written by Owen Trevine and St. John Hamund. Music by Owen Trevine, entitled
"THE SCARLET PATROL."

Lord Robert Cumberland ..Mr. J. S. Durant
Phineas Fogey .....Mr. St. John Hamund
Nicholas Quiller .....Mr. Arthur Stigant
Inspector Jury.....Mr. Leonard Russell
Mr. Cooper .....Mr. E. Percy Rogers
Johnny .....Mr. J. H. Bishop
Cecil .....Mr. Joseph Bruce
Algernon .....Mr. Leo Minster
Freddy .....Mr. W. B. Gulson
Monty .....Mr. Day Chester
Maurice .....Mr. H. Pinnock
Ferdinand .....Mr. E. A. Bennett
Claude .....Mr. C. H. Stowell
Desmond .....Mr. Max Wakeham
Amazon North .....Miss Reydon Dallas
Ernestine .....Miss Florence Linton
Myra Myrtle .....Miss Elise Cooke
Maud .....Miss Kathleen Kinross
Sybil .....Miss Florence Baseley
Edith .....Miss Lucy Kipling
Daisy .....Miss Hettie Leslie
Ethel .....Miss Hilda Rennards
Miriam .....Miss Mamie Russell
Susan .....Miss Doris Cammwell
Joyce .....Miss Mollie McGuigan
Little Girl .....Miss Nellie Lamport

All the elements of musical comedy are present in the latest specimen of the class, which was introduced to London on Monday. There are tuneful numbers, merry dialogue, lively dances, and a plot which is easy to follow, and the favourable judgment of Fulham playgoers was shown in continued laughter and many encores. Details of the story were given in our notice of the production at the County, Kingston, on the 26th ult., and all that is needed now is to remind the reader that the piece opens at a ladies' Club in Boston, and passes thence to the Island of Zillaree, where the members of the club take the places of the police force, and are known as the Scarlet Patrol. The island belongs to the fair president of the club, named Amazon North, but by the terms of an eccentric will should she fail to marry a certain Lord Robert Cumberland the property passes from her hands into those of Phineas Fogey, a crafty lawyer. Amazon vows never to submit to such arbitrary dictates, and Phineas does his best to encourage her determination, but the young aristocrat comes to the island in the character of a newspaper correspondent, and meets Amazon with the inevitable result. The greater number of the original exponents of the parts are retained, and must be heartily commended for the spirit and energy which they infuse into their renderings. Mr. Arthur Stigant is a pillar of the cast as Nicholas Quiller, the lawyer's clerk. He exploits quite a fresh vein of eccentricity, and his resources for fun-making are unlimited. A topical song sung in Act II. gains many encores, and the luscious humour of the impersonation is throughout irresistible. A heavy responsibility is also borne by Miss Elise Cooke, who in the rôle of Myra Myrtle, a leading member of the Amazon club, acts and sings in agreeable and animated style. Her admirable voice is utilised in many numbers, chief of which is "Carrie, the Country Girl," a well-written song with a lilting refrain. "The Scarlet Petticoats," a piquant and tuneful lyric, descriptive of the lady police, is also sung by Miss Cooke, whose impersonation is marked by smartness and refinement throughout. Vocal excellence is also supplied by Mr. Leonard Russell, who plays an Irish Inspector of Police, a rôle into which he infuses dignity and no little sly humour. The richness of his voice is revealed in several songs, including one, in praise of Ireland, which is vociferously encored, and "The Night Patrol," a most effective composition, which wins well-deserved approbation. A duet of "Under the Moon," sung in conjunction with Miss Cooke, also gains recognition, the aspects of love before and after marriage being amusingly presented. Mr. St. John Hamund is entitled to every credit for a droll depiction of the lawyer, Phineas Fogey; his rendering of a song in conjunction with the chorus, representative of counsel, being well received. Daintiness and grace distinguish the acting of Miss Reydon Dallas as the heiress, and Mr. J. S. Durant enters thoroughly into the spirit of the rôle of Lord Robert Cumberland, who poses as a journalist. The fun of the piece is added to by Mr. J. H. Bishop, who seizes upon every occasion to create a laugh, and is heard appreciably in his coon song of "Linda Lou," in which the services of a coloured lady are requisitioned. Mr. E. Percy Rogers gives a comic complexion to the part of Mr. Cooper, a London tailor and would-be poet, who lapses unconsciously into rhyme; and Miss Florence Linton is well to the fore as Ernestine, a prominent member of the Amazon Club. Great reliance is placed upon the other members of the cast, who as the Gibson Boys have to become Chinese laundrymen, and the Sabine girls, who emerge into dainty representatives of the Scarlet Patrol, assist loyally to win success. The piece, which is produced under the direction of Mr. Herbert Cottesmore, is elaborately mounted and dressed.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the Comedy, entitled
"THE ELDER MISS BLOSSOM."

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal are paying their first visit to this theatre this week with a répertoire consisting of *The Elder Miss Blossom*, *Still Waters Run Deep*, and *The Ironmaster*. The first-named was the attraction on the night of our visit, and the large audience testified their delight by prolonged applause. Mrs. Kendal is at her best as Dorothy Blossom, and her performance is that of a great artist—always natural, unexaggerated, and altogether charming. Mr. Kendal's Andrew Quick is admirable in every respect; Mr. Ernest Hendrie presents a clever portrait of Christopher Blossom; Mr. Bassett Roe sustains his well-won reputation as Major Twentyman; Mr. C. W. Standing is well suited to the character of the Rev. Arthur Leacroft; Mr. R. Burnett is judiciously placed as Tyrol Jones; and the same may be said of Mr. Metcalfe Wood as Withers, the valet; and Mr. W. M. Rutherford as Wells. Miss Jessica Thorne, a clever and attractive young actress, is seen to great advantage as Sophia Blossom; Mrs. A. B. Tapping is a smart and capable Cooper; and Miss Kate Bishop brings her experience to bear on the part of Mrs. Wells with most satisfactory results. The liberal catering of the Broadway management is warmly appreciated by the frequenters of this theatre, which is excellently managed by Mr. William Giffard and his courteous and popular lieutenant, Mr. T. N. Walter.

A copyright performance of a three-act comedy by Cosmo Gordon Lennox and Clyde Fitch, entitled *The Smoke and the Fire*, was given on Tuesday morning last at the New Theatre.

At the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, on Monday, a repetition of Mr. S. Feinman's adaptation from *Le Maître de Forges*, entitled *The Woman*, was played. Mme. Diana Feinman presented a powerful study of Ada, and Mr. Sigmund Feinman impersonated with striking effect the complex character of Louis Stern. Miss Cecilia Feinman was an engaging Lize, and Mr. B. Sheingold a robust Herman. During the week successful performances have been given of *Haman the Second*, *The Somnambulist*, *The Witch*, *Deborah*, and *The Jewess*.

THE A.A. AND TRADE UNIONISM.

The first fortnightly business meeting of the Actors' Association, which took place on Friday, the 13th inst., was devoted to the consideration of trade union principles for the Association. The chair was occupied by Mr. Frederick Morland, and there were also present Miss Blanche de Lorme, Miss Elsie Carew, Miss Cynthia Carewe, Miss Alice Maude, Miss Edith Anton Laing, Miss Barbara Fenn, Mr. Lawson Butt, Mr. Willox Cadogan, Mr. Lewis Casson, Miss Hilda Fletcher, Miss Dorothy Hammond, Miss Cicely Hamilton, Miss Kathleen Russell, Miss Winifred Mayo, Mr. C. F. Collings, Mr. A. M. Seaton, Mr. Reginald Rivington, and Mr. Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary).

The debate was to have been opened by Mr. Roy Horniman, but a telephonic message was received stating that he had been detained by business of serious importance. The Chairman accordingly stepped into the breach, and said the Council in bringing the question before the Association were anxious not to take any step without the knowledge and approval of the members. It was very important not to make any confusion between turning the Association into a trade union and merely working it on trade union lines. In the former case the Association would have to be registered as a trade union, and come under the trade union law. The Association was under the Companies Act, and had a fixed constitution, which could not be altered except by an extraordinary general meeting, and he doubted if it would be possible even at an extraordinary meeting to so alter the constitution of the Association that it could become legally and technically a trade union. In any case, there was no immediate question of the Association becoming technically in law a trade union. It was, however, a perfectly different thing to carry the Association on on trade union lines, and he wanted them to keep that distinction clearly before them. The question, then, was whether the Association of wage-earners should be carried out as such in their interests, or whether the actual wage-earning aspect of the organisation should be comparatively subordinated. The fact of their being in the ordinary sense of the word wage-earners should distinctly be kept in view, and therefore the main object of the Association should be economic, and should be directed towards the improvement of salaries. There were, of course, a very large number of them who found it difficult to earn what was usually called a "living wage," and the Association, being a wage-earning society, should take every possible step to so improve matters that every competent actor should be able to depend on his profession to live in a fair amount of comfort and prosperity. It was often flung in their teeth that the sole and only purpose of a trade union was the organising of strikes and generally making things uncomfortable for the employer, but nobody who read the utterances of men like John Burns and Ben Tillet would doubt that the main object of trade unions in England was to avoid strikes. Therefore, to work the Association on trade union lines did not in the least mean any distinct encouragement of strikes. But while they wanted to emphasise that as clearly as possible, they were not blind to the fact that if a certain number of wage-earners combine together with a view to improve the position and salary of those who are worse paid, there was only one extreme weapon which they could resort to if their just demands were not conceded, and that was the strike. They had to consider the fact that the financial position of the Association made anything like an organised strike absolutely impossible. Therefore, the main purpose of the Actors' Association, carried on on trade union lines as efficient associated wage-earners, must be to lay by as a large reserve fund as possible in order that they might avail themselves of every means of securing a decent living wage. They all devoutly hoped, however, that they would be successful in avoiding strikes. The word "strike" did not actually describe the position so well as "boycott," which was a much more simple and easy thing, for the reason that whereas workers in the provinces could not well leave their wives and families to seek employment in other towns, actors, especially those likely to be involved in a boycott, were not so circumscribed. Were the Association in a better financial position it might be driven to warfare should circumstances make it imperative, but at present extreme measures were not likely to be resorted to. Managers, he was sure, were not necessarily opposed to any attempts the profession might make to improve their economic position; many, indeed, sympathised with the efforts of actors in that work. With regard to the minimum, the Council had established a Minimum Wage Committee, and the question was constantly being brought before the readers of the theatrical newspapers. The Council did not pledge itself to any particular minimum, but it seemed generally agreed that £2 should be the sum. A great many people said it was perfectly absurd that in the minor companies actors playing smaller parts should demand £2. What seemed to him absurd was that for an actor competent to take a part in a piece £2 should be considered too high a wage. An actor appearing in the provinces as a rule thought himself fortunate if he got forty weeks' work in a year, in which case his salary would be £80, and when they were told that £2 was absurdly high for an actor to live, to "dress well on and off," &c., as the advertisements said, it was time for actors to put aside all ideas of the dignity of the art which they followed, and be classed with tailors and plumbers. Every penny must be devoted to strengthening the Association as an association of wage-earners, and all their efforts must be directed to that one object. He hoped his remarks would lead to a discussion by which the Council might be enlightened as to the views of the members on that very important question. He would do his best to urge a trade union policy on the Council, but they did not want to embark on such a course unless sure of support.

Mr. Lewis Casson said his views were entirely in accord with those of Mr. Morland. Their efforts towards improving their position would force individual members into forming a union of their own. Of course, that union did at present exist, but it did very little at present to work together in any matter affecting the economic interests of the actor. The tendency would certainly be to strengthen the Managers' Associations and make them deal with the actor, but there was nothing whatever to fear in that. The manager who worked with the artist through his own Association was much more likely to treat his people well than if he worked as an individual. Most of the trouble with regard to low salaries came, not from the well-known manager, but from the more insignificant one, who did things in a hole-and-corner way, and about whose terms little or nothing was known. Those were the people they had to fear, and they would be more likely to act in a reasonable spirit towards a union. It had been stated that no artistic profession had so far attempted to work as a trade union, but he would point out that the Musicians' Union in America occupied what was in many ways equivalent to a legal status. No one could get into it without a strict examination, and it was impossible for anyone who failed to pass to get an engagement in any respectable theatre in the whole of America. The National Union of Teachers, members of another profession, were organised entirely on trade union lines, and all would agree the art of teaching was just as much separated from the plumber's and carpenter's as was that of the actor. A strike among them was unknown, yet they were able to dictate terms to people who employed them, and in the dispute between the teachers of the elementary schools and the West Ham education authority the teachers won through being backed by their union. It was practically impossible now for actors to strike, whatever they might do in the immediate future. The Association numbered, however, a very considerable proportion of the profession, and were quite strong enough to approach the managers as a representative body of wage-earners as to the formation of a permanent conciliation board, consisting of representatives of the Actors' Association and the Actors' Union, with an independent chairman, together with representatives of the Theatrical Managers' Association and the Touring Managers' Association. Such a board, he was aware, already existed—without, however, the Actors' Union—but he wanted it to go further, and actually settle the terms on which the actors should be employed.

Miss Cicely Hamilton feared the actor in the eyes of the Trade Unions Congress was a great deal below the plumber and carpenter, and belonged to what she believed was described as the parasitic trades—*i.e.*, trades whose members do not earn sufficient to entitle them to be recognised among unionists. She, however, agreed with Mr. Casson as to the necessity of forming a trade union. The great art work of the Middle Ages was done by the old guilds, the trade unions of the period, who produced all the best work.

Miss Winifred Mayo said one great argument in favour of a trade union policy was the increase in the efficiency of work produced. The cotton and other industries of England were the best in the world and their trade unions were the strongest.

The Chairman said he thought he might report to the Council that there was no very strong opposition among those present to a trade union policy so far as the Council could take it up.

Mr. A. M. Seaton entirely disapproved of strikes. He characterised the Variety Artists' Federation strike as a howling failure, in which everybody concerned suffered. Where, too, was the strength of the Association for trade union purposes? The actor's profession was a precarious one from beginning to end, and all the trade unionism in the world would not alter it.

Mr. C. F. Collings also spoke, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Morland concluded the meeting.

Tea was served an hour preceding the meeting, Miss Winifred Mayo presiding.

PLAY WRITING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Whatever lecture may be ultimately addressed to students of stage-craft, they can be little more than amplifications of two statements in your recent leader, unless the lecturer strays into by-paths of prejudice. You say, "It (playwriting) is a question of the raw material, which we call life, passing through temperament, and being converted in passing to certain uses. . . . The only education which can be satisfactory is a constant study of the best materials."

With your permission I will use the quotation as a sort of charge for an imaginary motor, and drive at once, in company with incipient dramatists, through certain parts of life where there is always plenty of unused raw material.

I must assume that my companions are lookers-on at dramatic evolution in life, as well as actors in human drama. That they are keen, instinctively keen, observers of natural logic—cause, process, consequence. That they are not under the domination of "precedent," but respect it. That humdrum events are to them significant of great happenings. That by the use of mental X-rays they can see into the "heart of things." That they find men and women to be lovable beneath various circumstantial aspects, and conventional attractions or repulsions. That they look into their own hearts frequently, and therefore know what are the main qualities of man with their shadows ("defects of his qualities"), and know that if Nature is a "dear old nurse," she is also a severe one, and never blabs divine secrets, though she hints at them often. That her pains and penalties are for selfish blunderers, and her prizes are for obedience to her behests. That artifice is not art, and trickiness is not technique.

Without the preliminary knowledge here indicated there is no capacity for working up raw material. Playwrights of the stage-carpenter type may, and often do, do excellent work, of the "hot cakes" order, by manufacturing shoddy from rags discarded by greater men. Our hope is not in manufacturers, but in artists.

As motoring tourists pass through many varieties of country, up hill and down dale, along stretches of level road and over zigzag and uneven ways, so mental travellers must expect to fare. Too much anxiety about the "machine" will prevent our enjoyment of the scenery, and therefore hinder us from seeing its dramatic possibilities. That anxiety must be removed. Then we discover that surface life is ugly or beautiful, according, largely, to its place in the "scheme of things." Deep down there is much similarity in Nature—animate and inanimate. On life's surface the sources of comedy, tragedy, and of all that partakes of drama, are "in the air," so to speak—sun and shower, heat and cold, calm and storm.

These furnish raw material for easily-understood plays. Plays that will be great or little, as is the mind in which they were conceived. It is not magnitude of subject that suffices for great drama, but largeness of vision in the writer.—Yours faithfully,

RAD YORKE.

After a long and tedious Sunday journey, the bane of the pro.'s life when on tour, how welcome the bottle of "Whitbread's" (that the thoughtful landlady has got in overnight) when we arrive, fagged out, hungry, and thirsty, at our humble digs! And what a debt of gratitude is due to the enterprising firm of brewers whose name is a household word throughout the United Kingdom for the facilities they have afforded the traveller of being able to obtain, almost anywhere, a draught of good, honest, English beer, in perfect condition by natural process, free from that nauseating taste so common amongst the bottled beers matured artificially. Messrs. Whitbread have a wonderful system of business; they have built it up in the provinces by the establishment of depôts in so many of the principal towns as follows, viz., at Brighton, D'Avigdor-road, Hove; Birmingham, Crown Brewery, King Edward's-place, and Curzon Hall Vaults; Bradford, G.N.Ry., Preston-street; Cardiff, East Wharf; Glasgow, 434, New City-road; Hull, The Boulevard, Anlaby-road; Kingston, on-Thames, Ceres-road; Lewisham, 170, Lewisham-road; Liverpool, 13 and 15, Pall Mall; Leicester, Wimbledon-street; Leeds, The Calls; Manchester, 10, 11, 12, and 13, Store-street; Manor Park, Romford-road; Nottingham, L. and N.W.Ry., Manvers-street; Newport, Mon., Lloyd-street, Liswerry; Newport, Isle of Wight, Wighthall Brewery, Quay-street; Norwich, Abbey-lane, King-street; Northampton, Newland; Newcastle, The Arches, Orchard-street; Poole, Hill-street; Ramsgate, Hereson-road; Preston, Marsh-lane; Sheffield, 3, 4, and 5, Navigation-hill; Southend, Guildford-road; Tottenham, Bell Brewery; Willesden, Scrubbs-lane; from all of which the grocers in the other towns and villages around are kept well supplied with their famous bottled stout and ales. They have, during this last twelvemonth, opened depôts at Brussels (2, Quai Du Chantier) and Antwerp (25, Rue Marnix), so the performer, even on a Continental engagement in Belgium, will be able to obtain his favourite beverage at all the principal cafés in Brussels, Antwerp, and all other principal towns in Belgium, at very reasonable prices.

Matinées of *Fiander's Widow* at the Garrick Theatre are now being given every Saturday in addition to those on Wednesday.

"THE LANCASHIRE LAD."

A Drama in Four Acts, by G. Carlton Wallace, Produced at the Victoria Theatre, Broughton, on Monday, September 16.

David Elmore .....Mr. Henry Wolston
Max Carton .....Mr. Graham Winsford
Jem Wincote .....Mr. Jo Monkhouse
Dr. Hunnable .....Mr. Chas. Frankfort
John Willie Wardle .....Mr. Harry Rousby
Tum-o'-the-Swillitub .....Mr. Chas. F. Lloyd
Samuel Rishton .....Mr. M. J. H. Mason
Prof. Napoleon Boulanger..Mr. Jo Monkhouse
Burly Bill .....Mr. A. J. Murray
Silent Charlie .....Mr. Oliver Turnbull
Inspector Fairclough .....Mr. Theodore Hill
P.-C. Peffers .....Mr. F. Blake
Jessie Wincote .....Miss Gertrude Sterroll
Lorna Wincote .....Miss Florence Dalton
Kitty de Vere .....Miss Alice Williams
Jane Alice Clitheroe .....Miss Nellie Rene
Maggie Ramsden .....Miss Julia Calcroft
Mary Ann Burns .....Miss Violet Hays
Mother Wardle .....Miss Harriet Russell

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The story told by Mr. G. Carlton Wallace in *The Lancashire Lad*, produced on Monday at the Victoria Theatre, Broughton, is developed along popular lines of melodrama, but with the distinction that the villain of the play becomes a reformed character under the elevating influence of the heroine. Max Carton, the rogue in question, has wrongful possession of mills, which belong really to David Elmore, the Lancashire lad. Both men are in love with Jessie Wincote, whose choice lies with David, a selection which in ordinary drama would give rise to the most bitter and jealous enmity on the part of the rejected suitor, Carton, however, is not made of very sinister stuff, though his conduct has been questionable. He is beset by Lorna Wincote, wife of Jessie's brother Jem. She it is who embodies the really villainous element. A discarded mistress of Carton, her jealousy and hatred of Jessie lead her to inveigle the latter into a situation which compromises her with Carton in Elmore's eyes. Not satisfied with separating the lovers—Elmore sending Jessie away from him in unmerited shame, a shame she suffers for her brother's sake—Lorna foists upon her husband, Jem, a crime which she has herself committed, and for which he is compelled to fly for his life to the shelter of a ruined abbey in the neighbourhood. Carton, to celebrate his righteous renunciation of the mills to Elmore, treats everybody to a holiday at Blackpool, and this leads to a long interlude on one of the piers, in the course of which a number of acceptable songs are introduced. The thread of the story is taken up when Lorna makes a passionate appeal to Carton to take her back again to his heart. Finding herself spurned, she enlists the help of a willing coster, who, for ten pounds, will seize Jessie in a cloak and throw her into the sea. Foiled again, however, by the appearance of Carton and Elmore, she stabs Carton in the back and throws vitriol in the eyes of the Lancashire lad, and upon the reappearance of the crowd ascribes the double crime to Jessie. From the consequences of this, however, Jessie is saved by the intervention of John Willie Wardle, a cheerful village carpenter, who has seen the whole business from a convenient hiding-place. In the subsequent evolution of the plot Lorna is hunted by the angry villagers, and finally arrives, exhausted and terrified, at the cottage where Jessie is nursing Elmore's eyesight back again. Jessie, after severe reproaches, is induced to give her shelter, on condition that Lorna reveals the whereabouts of the fugitive, Jem; learning which Jessie goes forth to take food and drink to her starving brother. In the meantime the coster aforementioned has persuaded the people that Jessie is the real murderess and vitriol-thrower, and the upshot is an expedition of the people, headed by Lorna and the coster, to the abbey ruins, so that Jessie may be executed by means of the rope there and then. The scene in which the attempt takes place is effective; but Nemesis is at hand in the shape of police, Jem Wincote, and David Elmore. The latter denounces the true culprit, and Jem seizes an opportunity to strangle her, which he does before he can be torn away.

As Jessie Wincote, Miss Gertrude Sterroll acted with intelligence and quiet charm; and Miss Florence Dalton furnished a highly-effective contrast as the passionate and unscrupulous Lorna. Mr. Henry Wolston's David Elmore was distinguished by a manly and vigorous impersonation, well subordinated to the situation of the later scenes; and as Max Carton, Mr. Graham Winsford played with a careful understanding of the rôle. One of the best characters is that of Jem Wincote, which was capitally rendered by Mr. Jo Monkhouse (also responsible for the comedy character of Prof. Napoleon Boulanger, a showman on the pier); and much acceptable humour was supplied by Mr. Harry Rousby as John Willie Wardle and Miss Nellie Rene as Jane Alice Clitheroe. As Mother Wardle, Miss Harriet Russell gave a good sketch of a typical Lancashire housewife; and some smart vocalism and dancing were contributed by Miss Alice Williams as Kitty de Vere. All the minor parts were passably well handled, and the staging left nothing to be desired.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Frank Bateman, entitled "SENTENCED FOR LIFE."

This play has been most favourably received in Marylebone this week, and its success was quite deserved. Mr. W. Bradford brought the rascalities of Captain Paul Derrick well to the fore; Mr. Conrad Heywood was earnestly impressive as Lieut. Roy Stillwell; Mr. Terence Hyde conscientiously enacted the Rev. Parson Orris, and Mr. Harry Cooke made the hit of the evening with his really clever impersonation of Percy M'Gentle. Whilst he was on the stage the interest never flagged for a single moment, and his emphatic success was unmistakable. Mr. Harry Pyne Warburton as Bill Sharkey and Mr. Reg Oldroyd as Toby were also responsible for a good deal of healthy fun. Miss Maud Warburton imparted much distinction to the rôle of Adele Gray; Miss Mabel Tremere was well placed as Kate Rennel; Miss Mary Dalley was a most painstaking Lady Stillwell; whilst Miss Kitty Huntley did exceedingly well as Lady Gray. Several of the minor characters were skilfully handled, and mention might be made of the Sir Wallace Stillwell of Mr. Brancepeth-Nevill and the Henry Beckworth of Mr. Howard Keane.

LADIES AT CRICKET.

Miss Cecilia Fowler's XI. v. Miss Irene Bradley's XI. Played near Clifton Downs, Sept. 14. Miss Cecilia Fowler bowled in fine style. Scores:—

Miss Fowler's XI.—Miss Minnie Leonard, b Miss Montgomery, 5; Miss Gracie Leonard, b Miss Montgomery, 13; Miss Ethel Bowman, b Miss Montgomery, 3; Miss Lillie Belding, b Miss Bradley, 8; Miss Cecilia Fowler (captain), b Miss Montgomery, 5; Miss Lilla Carter, b Miss Bradley, 0; Miss Ivy Bowman, run out, 2; Miss Nellie Bailey, b Miss Bradley, 17; Miss Bertha Godfrey, b Miss Montgomery, 0; Miss Lillie Clayton, b Miss Bradley, 2; Miss Rosie Davies, b Miss Bradley, 0; total, 55.

Miss Bradley's XI.—Miss Florrie Hooper, b Miss Fowler, 0; Miss May Fisher, b Miss Fowler, 0; Miss Irene Bradley, b Miss Fowler, 7; Miss Alice Gibbs, b Miss Fowler, 0; Miss Kitty Montgomery (captain), b Miss Fowler, 4; Miss Maude Burgess, b Miss Fowler, 0; Miss Lucy Norris, b Miss Belding, 11; Miss Trixie Maynard, b Miss Fowler, 0; Miss Alice Mitchell, b Miss Belding, 2; Miss Jessie Stevens, b Miss Fowler, 0; Miss Dora Kingsley, b Miss Fowler, 0; total, 34.

ACTORS' UNION.

LONDON.

Mr. Arthur Bawtree presided at the usual weekly meeting of the Actors' Union, held on Tuesday afternoon at the Bedford Head. There was not a large gathering, owing, no doubt, to the fact that so many members of the Union are fulfilling engagements in the provinces, but amongst those present were Messrs. Roy Barraclough, A. E. Johnstone, Arthur Bawtree, Arthur St. John, J. W. Braithwaite, Ewart Drake, Watty Brunton, Carl Lyle, Herbert M. Laidman, R. C. Forster, Walter Bishop, Charles Durie, E. J. Carlin, Oswald Marshall, Albert Wainwright, Frank Fairley, Edwin Ramsdale, Mr. Kenneth Blackmore (secretary), and Mesdames Louie L'Estrange, Gertrude Harrison, Helen Vicary, Kitty Marion, Adelaide Gracey, May Conrade, J. W. Braithwaite, Gertrude Tate, Gertie Fawcett, Gladys Ffolliott, Helene Forest, Bessie Armitage, Nellie Howitt, and Adeline Mercandalli.

The Chairman stated that it had been decided that ladies should not serve on the general committee, but that a sub-committee should be formed, to consist exclusively of members of the fair sex. He had to ask the lady members to send in their names to the secretary and to notify him of their willingness to act on that body. Any grievances they had could be discussed between themselves, and then could be brought before the general executive. Speaking to all the members, he begged them to organise and to attend meetings when on tour. He regretted to find when he paid a visit to Portsmouth the other day that, although a room had been placed at their disposal, no meeting had been called or attended, and no stamps had been sold. The worst thing they had to fight was apathy. It was their deadliest enemy. They should tell their brother and sister artists that the Union was not formed for the purpose of slaughtering the managers. When they became a powerful body, whatever improvements they brought about, or in whatever way they ameliorated the lot of the actor, the results would be just as beneficial to the managers as to the actors. Managers would know, when they engaged an artist who was a member of the Union, that they had a strong hold over that artist. One thing the Actors' Union could do, and that was to eradicate the shady and dishonourable behaviour of certain artists.

Miss Gladys Ffolliott, speaking as to the necessity of a union for actors and actresses, referred to the abuses which were taking place in the profession. The only weapon with which they could fight and vanquish these abuses was a big and powerful body, such as a Trade Union. Until some remedial measures were taken, matters would become worse and worse. Why should they be treated in a manner that the ordinary mistress of a house dare not employ in her relations with her cook? But actors and actresses had only their own supineness to blame for such treatment. They had hitherto been afraid of showing fight. There had recently been passed a law by which they were as much entitled to benefit as the window-cleaner or the domestic servant. If any one of them in the course of his or her employment was injured, the employer would have to look after the ailing person. This meant, of course, that managers had to insure against such risks, according to the salary of the artist. What had happened? Certain managers compelled the members of their companies to pay 10s. each for purposes of insurance. In fact, some managers were actually fattening on fees obtained in this way, and then, when artists were taken ill, or injured, no salary or compensation was paid to them! On another point, she thought it would be an excellent thing if there could be an Actors' Union Day Fund. From time to time they gave money to brother and sister artists who were temporarily down on their luck, and it would be well if in future similar amounts of money were sent direct to the Union. She, herself, would be pleased to start a kind of provident fund by handing a piece of gold to the secretary.

The Chairman, after directing attention to the fact that numerous subscriptions remained unpaid, asked his hearers to regard the Union as their dearest friend. He would mention, before bringing the meeting to a close, that a dinner would be held on Sunday week, the 29th inst., at seven o'clock, at the Boulogne Restaurant in Gerrard-street, which would be made the occasion of a little celebration of the successful six months' existence of the Actors' Union. Tickets for the dinner could be purchased for 2s. 6d., and he (the chairman) trusted that all who could assist in the musical programme which was to follow would send in their names to the secretary.

Mr. Arthur St. John deplored the jealousy which had created so much bad feeling in the profession. He was of opinion that members of the Actors' Union should be able to get employment at the Trades' Union clubs all over London.

"GIRL FROM JAPAN" AT DOVER.

The fact that *The Girl from Japan* first started her illustrious career at the Theatre Royal, Dover, some three years ago is only one of the reasons accounting for the large audiences attending this, the first week of the new tour by Messrs. Henry Swinerd and J. W. Cordiner's company. For the others, a cast of exceptional strength, new dresses of much magnificence, pretty scenery, a bevy of prepossessing chorus girls, and a previous acquaintance with the tuneful music, explains the source of attraction. Monday night's performance was smoothly stage-managed, and the audience either kept in continual laughter or were rapturously applauding from the rise to the fall of the curtain. Mr. Cordiner has done wisely in retaining Mr. George Hudson for the part of Lord Allenbury. His fine voice and the sincerity of his acting, enlivened with a touch of genuine comedy, make a performance of more than ordinary interest. The daintiness and charm of Miss Florence Wilton's voice and manner are eminently suited to the rôle of Violet Meadows (the girl from Japan), a part which relies chiefly on the personality of the actress for its effectiveness. Miss Janet Lawton is, vocally and artistically, a conspicuous success as Polly Perkins, and her musical items are rendered with a verve and swing that invariably win a recall. Miss M. Sadie' sprightly comedy and good stage presence suit well the rôle of Maud, and her flying machine song, "Up we'll go," bids fair to become one of the most popular numbers. Miss Nellie Parker Dent, in her old part of Lady Flippington, causes no end of laughter for her amusing impersonation, which is really a clever piece of character acting. Another funny portrayal is that of the Rev. John Smith by Mr. Ernest Spaling, an energetic and droll comedian, who extracts every ounce of humour from the character. Mr. H. Buckstone Clair admirably enacts that "gay old dog," Sir Mulberry Flippington, and his performance throughout reaches a high standard of excellence. The elderly beau and military hero, General Baugh, is again played with commendable skill by Mr. Percy Baverstock; Mr. James Salter keeps the ball of fun rolling continuously as Bingle, his quick change of dress, voice, and deportment being smartly effected. Mr. Ted D. Dennis also contributes to the merriment by his humorous embodiment of Horatio Binks. Some expert and graceful dances are given by the Misses Daisy Cane and Edna Corri, and the chorus, numbering forty, are both excellent dancers and powerful vocalists. Mr. H. Buckstone Clair produced the comedy. The augmented orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. Alan D'Albert; Mr. F. Berger is responsible for the excellently-worked electrical arrangements; and the tasteful costumes were made by Mme. Eleanor.

A WORD FOR THE STAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The article entitled "Why I Failed on the Stage," which recently appeared in the *Grand Magazine*, is one of the most scathing indictments of the dramatic profession that has ever appeared in print. Every sentence is a sneer, and every paragraph an accusation; indeed, so sweeping is it in its wholesale denunciation that one can but feel surprise that so far it has been allowed to pass practically unchallenged.

I do not for a moment intend to question the good faith of the writer of the article—I am content to take her word that she has spoken the truth and nothing but the truth; but I have no hesitation in saying that her experience and the series of circumstances that have led her to write so bitterly were altogether out of the common, and can no more be taken as typical than the abnormal creatures of Ibsen's plays can be accepted as true types of the world we live in.

My mother was an actress, so were her sisters. I have relatives on the stage at the present time, and many friends; I am myself a humble member of the profession; so I think I may fairly claim to know something of my subject, and my knowledge is not of a few years, but of a lifetime.

I quote now from the article in question:—

"For six long years I foolishly imagined that a woman might earn an honest living in a calling known as the dramatic profession."

And again:—

"The vast majority of the others who succeed have to pay a heavy price for their laurels, promotion, more often than not, being at the cost of all a true woman holds most dear."

This is a terrible accusation, and a cruel slur on the hundreds of women who can and do earn an honourable living on the stage. I am speaking of the rank and file of the profession—the hard-working provincial actresses and the conscientious players of small parts in London—to those "who stand in honoured places on the summit," "An Actress" does generously accord a full measure of morality and self-respect; they do not need defence; they are the exceptions who prove the shameless depravity of the rest!

To write in such a strain is folly. No profession could be allowed to exist under such conditions at this era of the world's history. "An Actress" is a little out in her mental view of things. She has pictured to herself the morals and manners of the Regency, and fancied she saw their reflex in her own surroundings. There are many things in connection with the stage that call for reformation, but it does not deserve the withering condemnation she has meted out to it.

Our "Actress" came upon the stage without training of any kind; she had everything to learn; and acting is not learned in a day, or a year, or many years; and there is no doubt that £1 a week was full value for her untrained services. It probably seemed a small sum to her, fresh from the comforts of a country home; but a great many girls just beginning their career do contrive to live upon it, honestly and morally, with perhaps a little assistance from relatives or parents, and so gain their professional training. The writer of the article had cut herself off from these home supplies on which most girls fresh to the stage are able to rely until they have gained a little experience, and with it a rise of salary; but at the end of six years she leaves the profession into which she had flung herself so recklessly, and proclaims that she has failed to earn a living as an actress because she would not buy success by immoral means.

Did it never occur to her that other causes besides her rigid morality may have militated against her advancement on the stage? Causes such as lack of opportunity to prove her talent in suitable parts—parts not only suited to her personally, but good enough to make her remembered; a small part, however well played, is apt to be overlooked or quickly forgotten. And there is another and most potent reason that may have led to her failure and to the success of others—the possession of that subtle, indefinable something that is called "dramatic instinct." Without it you may be a respectable mediocrity and earn a bare living, but nothing more; with it, you may achieve anything, for if your opportunity comes, you have in you the wherewithal to meet and make the most of it. Was this her case, I wonder? A woman is not always the best judge of her own capabilities.

She also seems to have wilfully placed herself in positions she was bound to find unpleasant. Why, for instance, if she so thoroughly objected to appear on the stage in tights, did she apply for an engagement in musical comedy? I note that she afterwards swallowed her scruples, and appeared in both musical comedy and pantomime! I have had very little experience of either, but I know that the weekly "audition," or interviewing candidates for engagements is the most business-like affair imaginable. The following is not a fancy picture, but an account of the actual experience of a girl of eighteen, who hopes to earn her living as a dancer.

Scene.—A London Theatre, entirely devoted to musical comedy.

Dramatis Persona.—The young lady in question, who had received an intimation that she might present herself at the audition.

On giving her name at the stage door she was at once shown into the green room, where about sixty girls were already assembled. The call-boy handed to each a printed form, which had to be filled up with the candidate's name and address, quality of voice, if a singer, and, in all cases, height. These forms were presently collected, and a few moments later the audition began. Four names at a time were called from a list, and the owners conducted on to the stage, where the pianist was ready at the piano, and a gentleman seated at a table with a pile of filled-in papers before him. One after another, as quickly as possible, the candidates sang or danced—sometimes stopped after a few bars, by the listener at the table, sometimes heard to the end or asked to sing again.

"Thank you, that will do," said Mr. ——'s representative, making a note as each girl finished on the form bearing her name, "you will hear from us by letter." Four others were ready to take their turn as the first four left the stage, and so the audition proceeded.

No one was allowed to stand about the stage or in the wings, or to remain in the theatre after they had been seen and heard. It is at these auditions that the chorus is filled up, and dancers chosen for new editions or productions.

I am sure anyone connected with the management of a musical comedy theatre will vouch for the truth of this, and I ask my readers if there is anything to offend the most delicate susceptibilities. If there is, I must confess I cannot see it. In branding the dramatic profession as one in which it is impossible to earn enough to live and retain one's self-respect, the writer of "Why I Failed on the Stage" does a monstrous injustice both to the stage as a profession and to those who follow it. I maintain that her unhappy experience was not typical, but exceptional in every way; that the great majority of women who make their living on the stage have feelings no less fine than her own, and regard life and its obligations from as high a standpoint.

She speaks of returning to the stage should it ever be "reformed." Perhaps in preparation for that time she will ponder the words of Paul the Apostle, and learn a little of that charity which "thinketh no evil."—Yours faithfully,

AN UNDERSTUDY.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM has had the trouble to write and explain that the extract from a Parisian paper which the *Tribune* recently copied and commented on contained an important misrepresentation. What really happened was that Sir Charles was standing outside the Théâtre Français, when a gentleman accosted him, and in the course of conversation asked him whether he did not think that the English stage was financially in a very bad condition. To this query Sir Charles's answer was to the effect that he thought it very satisfactory. The gentleman next referred to the regrettable fact that classical or serious plays were not so acceptable to the English public as they were to the French, and challenged Sir Charles to deny or explain it. Sir Charles agreed with him, and ascribed the possible frivolity of English public taste to the possible popularity in the past of musical comedy. With this the conversation ended. "Neither during the conversation nor afterwards," says Sir Charles, "did I realise that I was being interviewed. Perhaps I was foolish, but one always gets so innocent when one goes to Paris."

SIR CHARLES has returned greatly invigorated from his holiday, and has resumed rehearsals, together with Miss Mary Moore, of *The Mollusc*, the new comedy, by Hubert Henry Davies, which is to have its production shortly at the Criterion. In addition to Mr. Davies's play, Sir Charles has also in his possession, and will eventually produce, a new piece entitled *Bellamy the Magnificent*, by Roy Horniman, whose *Education of Elizabeth* is shortly to figure on the stage of the Apollo.

MR. OTHO STUART has consented to act as judge at the British Empire Shakespeare Society's annual elocution competition, which will take place at the Court Theatre at 3 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 28. The preliminary qualifying examination will be held at the same theatre at 2.30 p.m., on Monday, Oct. 21. The list of entries closes on Oct. 1.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE, who began his tour last week at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, in a lengthy repertory including two Shakespearean productions and several modern plays, successfully resisted the sudden advent of summer, the theatre being crowded throughout the week. Mr. Tree's days are devoted to rehearsals of Mr. Locke's new play, *The Beloved Vagabond*, which is to see the light at Dublin in October. Among the new members of Mr. Tree's company is Mr. Claude Flemming, an actor well known in Australia and the United States, who is now appearing for the first time in this country.

MR. WEEDON GROSSMITH will celebrate the 2,000th performance of *The Night of the Party* on Monday, Sept. 30, when he starts his tour at the Coronet. An entirely new set of scenery is being prepared, and the piece will be staged as thoroughly as if it were a West-end production. In addition to Mr. Grossmith, the cast will comprise Misses Roxy Barton, Annie Hill, Esme Beringer, Muriel Mason, Marion Ashworth, and Margaret Marshall, and Messrs. Henry Stephenson, W. T. Lovell, Hubert Druce, Frank H. Denton, Robson Paige, W. R. Staveley, Sebastian Smith, John Mason, Gerald Bruce, H. Tims, and E. Curb.

MR. PHILIP COOPER, a member of the *Earl and the Girl* company, now playing in Sheffield, invited a select party of friends to supper on Monday night, and provided an appetising spread. When Mr. Cooper arrived with his guests, however, he found he had been anticipated, and all the viands had disappeared. Burglars had been there before him, and, taking advantage of the absence of the landlord and landlady, who had gone to the "second house" at the Empire, had entered the place through an unlatched window of the back kitchen, and appropriated whatever they could conveniently carry away, even the sheets and quilts of the beds.

The thieves opened two large portmanteaus in Mr. Cooper's room, and extracted all that they contained, with the exception of a few shillings thrust away in a side pocket. "They took my all," said Mr. Cooper. "I've absolutely nothing but what I stand up in. They even carried off my South African medal. I went through that war with the Duke of Edinburgh's Mounted Rifles and Warren's Mounted Infantry." Another member of the same company lodging in the house was more fortunate. His waistcoat and boots were missing, and the blankets on the bed had been taken off and folded ready for carrying away; but at this point the burglars had evidently been disturbed, and decamped. The robbery and impromptu supper party proceeded so quietly that two children who were asleep in an adjoining bedroom were not awakened.

MR. MULHOLLAND'S new theatre at Wimbledon will be enhanced by several features of a novel kind, the most notable of which will probably be found in the construction of the auditorium, which, instead of being the usual square-shaped space having parallel walls, will be built in the form of a fan, so that while the width immediately by the stage boxes will be just over sixty feet, it gradually increases to just on ninety at the back of the pit. The obvious effect of this bold departure from the orthodox will be an improvement in the sight lines and an enormous increase in the holding capacity, while the cosy appearance of a medium-sized theatre will be preserved. In fact, without looking any larger than Mr. Mulholland's fine King's Theatre, the projected house will hold nearly a thousand persons more, which means something approaching an aggregate of 4000.

THE first provincial performance of Mr. Martin Harvey's new production, *Great Possessions*, occurred last Monday night at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, in the presence of one of the most brilliant audiences ever gathered in a Newcastle theatre. The play was received with enthusiastic applause, and there is no doubt that its unusual character, coupled with its exquisite setting and the nobility of its theme, will combine to give it a very high place in the regard of country playgoers. Mr. Harvey is so much encouraged by the reception accorded to Herr Rössler's work that he has decided to present it on four occasions both at Glasgow and Edinburgh, and *Great Possessions* will be the attraction when the popular actor opens at the Lyceum Theatre in the latter town on Monday.

MR. J. E. VEDRENNE has decided that the opening of the New Queen's Theatre in Shaftesbury-avenue shall be postponed a week, in order that every detail of the new house may be fully completed. The date of the production of *The Sugar Bowl* with which the new theatre will be inaugurated will therefore be Tuesday, Oct. 8. The length to which Mr. Vedrenne has gone to ensure the comfort and convenience of his audience is indicated in the fact that at the back of each chair is fitted a capacious bag, in which opera-glasses, fans, and hats may be deposited. Mr. Herbert Sleath has secured Mr. Frederick Kerr for the principal man's part. Miss Ellis Jeffreys, as we have stated, will play the leading rôle, and the cast will also include Miss Beatrice Ferrar and Mr. Charles Sugden. Mr. J. E. Vedrenne has appointed Mr. B. A. Meyer to be acting-manager of his new theatre.

MR. OSCAR ASCHE and Miss Lily Brayton, in conformity with their original intention, are rehearsing *As You Like It* for presentation before their season at His Majesty's closes. The production promises to be one of remarkable beauty, the setting including five different views of the Forest of Arden. Miss Brayton's representation of Rosalind will be awaited with interest, and further engaging studies will be those of Mr. Henry Ainley as Orlando and Mr. Oscar Asche as Jacques. Mr. Alfred Brydone will play old Adam, and Miss Muriel Ashwynne, Celia, and Mr. Courtice Pounds as Touchstone will sing "The Cuckoo" and "Too-whit" songs from *Love's Labour Lost*, and join in the duet, "It was a lover and his lass.' A copy of the acting version of the comedy, containing portraits of Miss Brayton and Mr. Asche, will be presented as a souvenir of the opening performance.

THE Irving Club, Liverpool, has recently welcomed a number of distinguished members of the theatrical profession into its ranks. Among its latest adherents are Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Hicks (Miss Ellaline Terriss), Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier (Miss Violet Vanbrugh), Mr. and Mrs. James Carew (Miss Ellen Terry), Mr. Arthur W. Pinero, and Mr. Charles Santley. Sir Edward Moss and Mr. J. M. Barrie are life members of the club, the secretary of which is Mr. W. L. Wright, of 14, Moor-place, Liverpool.

MR. LAWRENCE IRVING is evidently determined to adhere to the original title for the new play which he has written for Mr. E. H. Sothern, for it was copyrighted at the Court Theatre on Thursday, under the title of *The Inheritance of the Meek*. The alternative title was the more clumsy one of *The Fool Hath Said in His Heart, There is No God*. The piece is to be produced at Chicago on Sept. 23. The authbr took part in the performance on Thursday, and the other principals were Miss Mabel Hackney (Mrs. Lawrence Irving), Miss Ethelwyn Arthur-Jones, Miss M. Murray, Miss Florence Adale, Mr. Chas. V. France, Mr. Leonard Calvert, Mr. Herbert Grimwood, and Mr. Reginald Eyre.

WE regret to announce that Mr. Greene Taylor died in the General Hospital, Birmingham, on Thursday, Sept. 12. Mr. Taylor had been suffering from enlargement of the heart for some time, and the malady becoming serious he was received into the General Hospital, Birmingham, where he died suddenly from heart failure. He was buried at the Church of England Cemetery, Birmingham, on Sunday last. Wreaths were sent by Messrs. Greet and Engelbach and the Messrs. Gatti, and also by William Greet's principal *Earl and the Girl*, of which Mr. Taylor had long been a member.

MISS CARLOTTA ZERBINI has resumed at the Palace Theatre her original part of Mrs. Simmons, in *That Brute Simmons*, and is meeting with great success. Miss Zerbini, it will be remembered, played the part for the entire run at the New and Haymarket Theatres.

MR. FARREN SOUTAR and a powerful company, including Messrs. Charles Allan, Walter Pearce, Alban Atwood, and Miss Lilias Waldegrave, are shortly starting a brief tour of a new farcical comedy by Russell Vaun and Alban Atwood. The piece is designed for eventual London production.

THE gentlemen of Mr. Charles Macdona's *Toreador* company played the Pontypridd Cricket Club on the 11th inst., and were beaten by a few runs only. Mr. Goodwin Woodward, the manager of *The Toreador* company, then arranged a match between the winning team and the ladies of the company. The gentlemen bowled and fielded left-handed, and were easily beaten, great amusement being derived from the contest by an interested crowd.

THE inmates of the Mansfield Workhouse were given on Saturday afternoon last a free opportunity of witnessing at the Hippodrome a performance of Mr. Darnley's new play, *A Mother's Sacrifice*, by invitation of Messrs. Darnley and Jennings. Various tradesmen of the town provided the inmates with tobacco, sweets, bananas, ærated waters, and packets of tea. The guests had a very enjoyable time, and passed a hearty vote of thanks to Messrs. Darnley and Jennings.

MR. ALFRED LESTER returns to the theatres again next Easter to create a principal comedy part in a West End production. He concludes this week at Blackpool a most successful variety tour of his monologues and duologues, and opens at the Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, on Monday next, with a new version of his very funny skit, *A Restaurant Episode*, the duologue which the critics have so unanimously praised. He will be supported by Miss Florence Wakeman, a clever and pretty young actress of French extraction.

MR. ALAN MACKINNON and the Countess of Lathom are arranging an amateur performance of *Under the Red Robe*, in celebration of the anniversary in October of the opening of the Tunbridge Wells Opera House. The occasion is also to serve for a complimentary benefit to Mr. Welton Dale.

THE Crystal Palace Theatre, which started its dramatic season so auspiciously last week, will have as its attraction on Monday the famous play *Sherlock Holmes*, with Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart in his clever impersonation of the detective. There will be a matinée on Wednesday and Saturday, but, owing to the Brass Band Festival, no performance will be given in the evenings of those days.

MESSRS. VEDRENNE AND BARKER have selected a number of popular artists for Mr. John Galsworthy's new comedy, *Joy*, which will be produced at the Savoy on the afternoon of Tuesday, Sept. 24, and repeated at a series of Tuesday and Friday matinées. The cast will consist of Mr. A. E. George, Miss Henrietta Watson, Miss Florence Haydon, Miss Mary Barton, Mr. Frederick Lloyd, Miss Wynne Matthison, Miss Dorothy Minto, Mr. Allan Wade, Mr. Thalberg Corbett, and Miss Amy Lamborn.

MR. HUGH WRIGHT, an exceptionally clever comedian of the Harry Fragson type, with a distinctly reminiscent touch of the late Dan Leno, has been specially engaged for the Dame in the Maundy-Gregory pantomime. The principal boy comes direct from the most prominent theatres and variety houses of New York.

MISS GERTRUDE HARRISON, who is playing Cora in *The Fatal Wedding* at Dalston next week, was one of the principal sufferers from the burglary which took place at the Carlton Theatre, Birmingham, last week. Her boxes were ransacked and jewellery and money stolen.

MR. GERRARD GRANT ALLEN'S production of *The Knave of Hearts* at the Royalty, Glasgow, on Monday resulted in success instantaneous and complete. The striking plot of Miss Gladys Unger's clever piece, which recalls the most theatrically effective scenes of *Leah Kleschna* and *Raffles*, is referred to elsewhere in our columns, and will be found to contain dramatic scenes of great distinction. The local Press, as well as many London papers, are unanimous in praise of the piece, and all agree that Miss Nina Sevening, who plays the heroine, has made a distinguished hit; while Mr. H. A. Sainsbury and others of the strong company have also scored powerfully. At the close of the performance Mr. Allen led the authoress on the stage, and was obliged to acknowledge the clamorous calls for a speech.

THE Italian Opera season at Covent Garden will begin on Thursday, Oct. 3, and will last eight weeks, during which eighteen works will be produced. The novelty of the season will be Franchetti's *Germania*, which was originally produced at La Scala, Milan. Puccini will be represented four times, namely, in *Manon Lescaut*, *La Bohème*, *Madama Butterfly*, and *Tosca*, and Verdi appears thrice on the list, his works consisting of *Rigoletto*, *Aida*, and *Traviata*. The rest of the programme will comprise *Adriana Lecouvreur* (Cilea), *Don Giovanni* (Mozart), *Mefistofele* (Boito), *Carmen* (Bizet), *Faust* (Gounod), *Gioconda* (Ponchielli), *Pagliacci* (Leoncavallo), *Andrea Chenier* (Giordano), *Cavalleria* (Mascagni), and *Fedora* (Giordano). The conductors will be Signor Panizza and Signor Serafin.

MANY of our readers will be sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Henry Nicholson, the eminent flautist, which took place at his residence on the Hinckley-road, Leicester, on Saturday morning last, at the advanced age of 83. Mr. Nicholson was well known and highly respected in the musical world, and also numbered among his personal friends the late Mr. J. L. Toole and Sir Henry Irving. Mr. Nicholson was present at Mr. Sims Reeves' first appearance in 1847, and for a considerable time acted as his manager.

FOR a great number of years the deceased musician carried on grand concerts at Leicester, and under his management all the famous instrumentalists and vocalists appeared. After sixty-two years of professional life the veteran retired on November 24, 1898, a grand farewell concert being given at the Temperance Hall, Leicester. During his career the deceased gentleman has received many testimonials from actors, vocalists, and public societies. Inscribed in his flute case are the names of many theatrical and musical celebrities. The funeral service took place at St. Mary's Church, Leicester, on Tuesday afternoon, and was attended by a large number of representative public men.

PECKHAM playgoers will be specially favoured during the week beginning Sept. 30, when Mr. Wentworth Croke will present Hall Caine's stirring drama, *The Prodigal Son*, at the Crown. The production is direct from Drury Lane, and is enhanced by all new scenery, dresses, and effects. A first-class company has been secured regardless of expense.

A SIMILARLY powerful attraction, for which Mr. Wentworth Croke's enterprise is responsible will be presented the same week, at the Fulham Theatre, where the superb drama, *The Bondman*, by Hall Caine, will be played. The production is also direct from Drury Lane, and new scenery, dresses, and effects are commensurate with the associations of the National Theatre. Miss Grace Chalmers plays the part of Greeba.

MR. AND MRS. WHITTY reopened their Batley Theatre on Monday. During the closure the theatre has undergone a complete transformation, being redecorated and relighted throughout. The lamps used in the electric installation are of the very newest pattern, the order being the first delivery by the makers. Electric experts have expressed the opinion that the lamp will create a revolution in electric lighting.

MESSRS. ARMITAGE AND LEIGH have decided to produce their new play, *With Edged Tools*, dramatised by Mr. H. Armitage from Henry Seton Merriman's novel of that name, in February next at the Theatre Royal, Hull. Miss Haidee Wright will appear in the cast, along with Messrs. Hamilton Deane and Campbell Goldsmid, and Miss Marie Leonhard.

MR. CHARLES FRY has resumed his lessons at his private studio, 58, Berners Street. Mr. Fry numbers among his pupils artists now well known to fame. Among the most conspicuous in public favour may be numbered Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Nora Kerin, Miss Margaret Halstan, Miss Agnes Miller, Miss Nita Faydon, Miss Muriel Ashwynne, Mr. Lewis Casson, Mr. James Annand, Mr. Henry Morrell, and Mr. Arthur Fayne, all of whom have taken important parts in West-End theatres.

MR. CHARLES MACDONA'S *Veronique* Company has an exceptionally long journey to-morrow, having to travel from Bath to Cork. The G.W.R. are providing a corridor train, timed to leave Bath about 6.30 a.m. Sunday morning, which will go via the Severn Tunnel route to Chester, where it is due by 11 a.m. From here the L. and N.W. take over the arrangements for the company to continue their journey to Holyhead and Dublin, where the Great Southern and Western Railway take up the connection to the southern Irish port, which will be reached the same evening.

MISS GLADYS ROSE-JONES has been re-engaged by Mr. Robert Arthur for pantomime at Christmas. She made a great success as Leslie Tremaine at Kennington last year.

"THE MADEIRA GIRL" is to be the attractive title of Mr. Charles Carey's new production. The action takes place chiefly on the island, and really beautiful scenery is being painted. The music of the opera is entirely by Harry M. Wellmon and Mark Strong. The libretto is by Mr. Carey himself. In the meanwhile *Little Lord Fauntleroy* is once more revived, with the Earl of Dorincourt as usual in Mr. Carey's hands.

MR. MAUNDY-GREGORY is a great believer in going about to find real talent in the theatres. One of his latest acquisitions is Miss Dulcie Greatwich, who starts on a long contract with him at Christmas.

THE Play Actors' Society, an association still in its infancy, which gave its first performance in the late spring at the bijou theatre in Bedford-street, will recommence operations on Sunday, Sept. 29, when a programme including scenes from *Much Ado About Nothing* and *The Marriage of Figaro*, together with an act from a play by Sybil Ruskin, entitled *The Monk of St. Marco*, will be put upon the stage. The last-mentioned piece (which was seriously considered for production by the late Sir Henry Irving) deals with an episode in the life of Savonarola. On Oct. 13, a three-act problem play, entitled *The Charmer*, by Arthur Rickett, will be produced by the Play Actors at King's Hall, Covent Garden. An encouraging feature of the Society's first effort was the fact that one of the pieces then produced was sold outright immediately after the performance.

MISS HAIDEE GUNN, we understand, has been engaged for lead by Mr. Ian Maclaren for his forthcoming tour, and will once again play the Shakespearean rôles in which she made her first successes. Miss Gunn possesses both youth and talent, and such a rare combination should assure her a great artistic success. We are glad to learn that Mrs. Michael Gunn, the managing directress of the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, who recently had an operation performed on her shoulder, is progressing favourably.

THE growing interest in Shakespearean plays is evidenced by the fact that Mr. F. R. Benson is sending a fourth company into the Provinces with selections from the Bard of Avon's storehouse. The company will be known as the "Midland" Company, and the first performance, which took place on Thursday last at the Pier Pavilion Theatre, Southend-on-Sea, received gratifying testimony of its excellence. The company will visit many of the East Coast towns.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN celebrated on Friday evening the 150th night of *The Truth* at the Comedy. Miss Marie Tempest's assumption of the leading rôle is one which fully reflects the comedy talents of the accomplished actress, who wins the enthusiastic admiration of crowded houses. About the middle of October *The Truth* will be succeeded by Mr. Alfred Sutro's new four-act play, *The Barrier*, in which Miss Marie Tempest, Miss Lillah McCarthy, Miss Geraldine Olliffe, Mr. A. E. Matthews, Mr. A. E. Anson, Mr. Dawson Millward, Mr. Michael Sherbrooke, and Mr. Eric Lewis will appear.

MR. BERNARD SHAW, who is still chuckling over the scare which was caused by his reported disappearance among the Welsh mountains, furnishes some meagre but characteristic information with regard to the new work which may be expected from his pen. He is still in Wales, and the message he sends runs as follows:—"They say I am writing a play here: I'm not. Granville Barker's new piece, *Waste*, is a very good one, so I shall leave the field to him and others this season. But I know what my next will be about: it is all in my head. It will be about *Marriage!*"

THE sacred bond is also dealt with in Mrs. K. Clifford's new play, *Hamilton's Second Marriage*, which is to be produced by Mr. Otho Stuart for a series of matinées at the Court Theatre on Tuesday, Oct. 29. Messrs. Cyril Maude and Charles Frohman have given permission for Miss Alexandra Carlisle and Mr. Dawson Milward to appear in the play, in which other important parts have been allotted to Mr. W. Graham Browne, Mrs. Percyval, and Miss Frances Dillon.

"BARRY DOYLE'S REST CURE," the comedy in three acts by W. Gayer Mackay and Robert Ord, which is to be produced at the Court on Wednesday, Sept. 25, will be powerfully cast. Mr. W. Grahame Browne will embody the title-rôle—that of a young millionaire—and the other parts are distributed among Messrs. E. W. Garden, Arthur Holmes-Gore, C. M. Lowne, Edward Y. Rae, Claude Vernon, and Heath J. Haviland, and Misses Carlotta Addison, Beatrice Terry, and Rosa Musgrove.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN is playing to crowded houses on tour. On Saturday last all records for the Theatre Royal, King's Lynn, for that night were exceeded, the house being filled with a fashionable audience, of which residents from the surrounding country formed no insignificant portion.

SEVERAL members of Mr. Norman's company played a tennis match on Saturday with the King's Lynn Tennis Club, the result being as follows:—Messrs. G. F. Thomas-Peter and Alfred Gray beat Messrs. Catcleugh and Dow, 6—3, 6—2; Messrs. Thomas-Peter and Alfred Gray beat Messrs. Palmer and Smith, 7—5, 6—1. Mr. Norman had fully intended to play, but was prevented by illness, and, therefore, Messrs. Thomas-Peter and Alfred Gray played both matches, winning them fairly easily.

A MATCH was also played on Tuesday, at Lowestoft, Mr. Norman's company winning every set played, with one exception. Scores:—Messrs. Thomas-Peter and Alfred Gray beat Messrs. Hebbes and Smith, 6—1, 6—0; Messrs. F. Lock and Cyril Percy beat Messrs. Elias and Reynolds, 7—5, 4—6, 6—1; Messrs. Thomas-Peter and Alfred Gray beat Messrs. Elias and Reynolds, 7—5, 6—1; Messrs. Lock and Percy beat Messrs. Hebbes and Smith, 6—4, 6—4. Singles:—G. F. Thomas-Peter beat A. Hebbes, 6—0.

THE queues that nightly trail their length outside the Lyceum are abnormally large, and indeed must approach the records even of a theatre which has had a career of such popularity. Mr. Fred W. Carpenter states that during the first fortnight of *The Christian* the audiences totalled well over 70,000, and a glance at the crowds that nightly throng round the historic house seems to indicate that the number will be maintained indefinitely.

MADAME HELEN TOWNSHEND, the well-known expert in the art of voice production and singing, has now resumed her lessons and her "coaching" in songs. The accomplished teacher also gives breathing lessons, the utility of which is strongly recommended by physicians.

MR. J. W. BOUGHTON, the courteous and energetic managing director of the Portsmouth Theatres Companies, invited the Press and shareholders of the undertaking to a private view on the 13th inst. of the new King's Theatre, Southsea, which will be opened on the 30th of this month by Mr. H. B. Irving and his company. The house presents an elegant appearance, the general decorative scheme being cream and gold, with a curious shade of pale blue-green plush, which blends harmoniously. Every precaution has been taken for the safety of the audience, easy access to the streets being obtainable in the event of necessity. The ante-room, waiting, and tea-rooms are all attractively decorated and comfortably appointed.

MR. CHARLES BOULT has had a busy year. After successfully managing Messrs. Little and D'Arcy's *Sinbad the Sailor* pantomime, he played Mr. Gardiner in *Captain Swift*, with Mr. Russell Rosse, and was then engaged by Mr. Herbert Ralland to play Sir Christopher Dering in *The Liars*, *Jim the Penman*, Caleb Deecie, in *The Two Roses*, &c., and has now been retained by Mr. W. H. Hallatt to play Captain Tom Yorke, in *Two Little Sailor Boys*, for autumn tour.

MR. HERBERT DARNLEY has every reason to be pleased with the result of his first venture in drama management. His work as a musical-comedy manager has always received its just reward, and as a music-hall sketch proprietor Mr. Darnley is widely known. He has now added another feather to his cap by the success achieved with his new drama, *A Mother's Sacrifice*. In the new play Mr. Darnley has not overlooked the very important element of comedy, and full evidence is given that the hand which penned the gags for the late Dan Leno has lost none of its cunning. At Christmas Mr. Darnley is producing his own pantomime, in which he will himself take part.

IBSEN was installed in a temporary home at the Bijou Theatre, Bayswater, on Tuesday, when Mr. Leigh Lovel began a series of performances of the Norwegian dramatist's works, the series starting with *The Master Builder*. Miss Octavia Kenmore succeeded in making the part of Hilda varied and interesting, and gave further proof of her acknowledged dramatic ability. Mr. Lovel gallantly tackled the puzzling part of the Master Builder, whose distinctive qualities he portrayed with no little skill. The Mrs. Solness of Miss Ethel Carylon was an impersonation praiseworthy in every respect; and Mr. Arthur Chesney commanded equal commendation for good work contributed in the part of Knut Brovik. The experienced art of Mr. Julian Cross dealt effectively with the rôle of Dr. Herdal; and Ragnar, Brovik's son, was suitably sustained by Mr. H. Hylton Allen. A sound rendering of the piece was given, and warm encouragement was bestowed by the small but appreciative audience present.

MME. PATTI, who has been in the habit of giving an annual concert at the Albert Hall, Swansea, in aid of the funds of the local hospital, repeated the pleasing function on Thurdsay, when the gifted diva sang several songs, and was encored again and again. Thousands of people lined the streets of the Welsh town to cheer the great vocalist, and numberless bouquets testified to the love and reverence of the audience.

THE COUNTESS OF ROSSLYN in returning to the stage will resume her maiden name of Miss Anna Robinson, under which it will be remembered she was seen in London in *The Undercurrent*, at the Criterion in the autumn of 1901. Miss Robinson will play the part of the heroine in *The Education of Elizabeth*, the new play by Roy Horniman, which is to follow *The Three Kisses* at the Apollo. The new piece is described as a modern London drawing-room comedy, and the chief part is that of a simple and unaffected girl. The production will be especially welcome inasmuch as it will be the means of the reappearance of Miss Maude Millett, of whom London playgoers have such agreeable memories. Other prominent names in the cast will be those of Mr. Marsh Allen and Miss Lettice Fairfax.

THE appearance of Eleonore Duse at the Teatro Odeon, Buenos Aires, on the 13th ult., writes a correspondent, was the first event of the season, and the inhabitants turned out in hundreds to give the great Italian tragedienne a welcome. We are expecting the French opera, the Italian opera, and last, but not least, the English Musical Comedy company, which, headed by Stanley Brett, Martin Adeson, Nancy Langtyre, and Beatrice Edwards, has been organised by Seymour Hicks. They are due to open here by the time you will receive this, and the local impresario, Mr. Edouard José, has arrived here full of confidence in his enterprise.

THE success of the summer season in Berlin was *Raffles*, in German, at the New Schauspielhaus. While the company proper had vacated that imposing theatre for about six weeks, Herr Harry Walden got together a first-rate company, and gave the ever-popular comedy nightly to large and highly appreciative audiences. This clever character-actor himself played the name-part superbly, with the delightful nonchalance which is so great a feature of the part, and he was very well supported.

MISS WINIFRED PEARSON, who was for five seasons with Miss Olga Nethersole, has just concluded an eight months' engagement as Mrs. Morrison, the adventuress, with Miss Annie Hughes in *Tommy*.

COLONEL MAPLESON, the famous impresario, was with a party of friends on the Thames on Mr. Paterson's launch on Monday, and on landing at Cookham his hand was jammed between the boat and the landing-stage, the middle finger being broken. Colonel Fox, of the Salvage Corps, was on board, and rendered first aid until the arrival of a surgeon, who set the finger.

MISS LALLIE FORSYTH completed a tour of seventeen weeks on Saturday as lead in *The World's Great Snare*, and has been engaged by Mr. Collingwood Hope for the part of Fanny Flounce in *A Trip to the Highlands*.

A NEW romantic comedy, entitled *In Washington's Days*, will be the feature of an entertainment to be given at St. Francis Xavier's College Hall, Liverpool, on Wednesday, Sept. 25. The new piece is by Mr. Gerald Ransley, author of *The Risin' of the Moon*, and is in three acts.

"SOME years ago, when I was quite young," says Mr. Arthur Williams, "and when the constant change of play made necessary a constant change of wardrobe, I was in the habit of carrying this change to Miss Atkinson from her house to Sadler's Wells, for which I received the magnificent weekly remuneration of one shilling. One evening, with my hand clasping tightly my salary, I left reluctantly the theatre with all its glamour—so attractive to youth—and, lingering for a moment on the pavement outside the gallery entrance, I was accosted in a dramatic whisper by a sharp-featured, black-haired, Oriental youth, perhaps a year or so older than I, with 'Want to go in?' 'Very much,' said I. ''Ere you are, then,' he whispered again—looking carefully round to see that we devil-may-care conspirators were unobserved—'Give me tuppence, quick,' and, sidling up to me, he indicated by mysterious becks and nods the position of a dirty piece of pasteboard half concealed in his crooked hand. This I knew to be a pass-out check; but I did not share my casual acquaintance's knowledge that the colour of the checks was changed at every performance.

"I was not possessed of 'tuppence' in bronze, so I rapidly purchased a large orange from a stall, completed my negotiations with my supposed benefactor, buried my face in the fruit the better to conceal my identity, ran upstairs, and presented my ticket to the check-taker. He, with a seemingly benevolent smile, said quietly, 'Been in before, my little man?' 'Yes, sir,' said I, boldly. 'And what was they a-doing when you went out, my little man?' The play was *The Gamester*, but in my excitement I could only think of *Othello*, and boldly replied, 'Mr. Phelps was smothering Mrs. Vezin with the pillow.' What happened then I don't really quite know, but I realised the general law of physics—that it was easier to come down than to go up, especially when propelled by force, and also that they wore unnecessarily heavy boots in that neighbourhood. My young friend greeted me—he had evidently been waiting my meteoric return—with ''Ow did yer get on, matey?' An adequate reply was beyond me."

"THERE is," says Mr. Granville Barker in an interview in the *Daily Chronicle*, "for instance, a difficulty in finding actors. There are, of course, any number of young people new to the stage, full of enthusiasm and high dreams, and prepared to do anything for next to nothing, all of them ready and anxious to pass their first five years of work under the best conditions available instead of the worst; and the manager needs young people as men and maids of all work at his theatre, artistically malleable and drawing moderate salaries. But the well-trained, capable, comparatively mature actor is far more difficult to employ.

"CANDIDLY, our stage offers him just now no means of a self-respecting livelihood—unless he happen to become famous. For the actress who does not do wonders, there is nearly always marriage as a possible refuge. But while it is easy for the actor of moderate, though not world-shaking ability, to get a certain way, he now only reaches a position of uncomfortable self-respect from which it is difficult to advance further. Even brilliant acting is apt to be lost in the provinces—for, after all, every cat is grey in the dark. Perhaps, of course, he may tour with a so-called London success. But even then he has merely to imitate a London favourite, and stands a small chance of discovery and a great one of deterioration. So you see there are more things to be done than to pat oneself on the back, and this is one of them. I want to help the provincial actor."

"DRAMATIC capabilities," writes Mr. Horace Annesley Vachell to the *Daily Mail*, "manifest themselves at an early age, and are quite unmistakable to the observing eye. Out of a large family perhaps one child, without training, often without encouragement, reveals amazing powers of mimicry and an instinctive grace and naturalness of pose derived from Heaven knows where. These, I take it, are the God-given capabilities without which the tyro has but a slender chance of achieving success. Add to them a strong constitution, pluck, luck, and unlimited practice, and we may confidently expect the finished artist. If I were the managing director of a dramatic school I should rigorously reject the physically unfit and the slackers. And I would sack Venus herself if she had nothing but beauty to commend her."

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

MR. JOHN HARE, in an article entitled "Forty Years of My Life" in the *Daily Mail*, tells some amusing anecdotes. "I remember one night," says Mr. Hare, "when appearing with Sothern as an ex-policeman in *A Woman in Mauve*, an unrehearsed incident occurred. In the second act Sothern had a song, and we all joined exuberantly in the chorus, while I used to beat time with a telescope—the sole surviving relative of my late truncheon. Suddenly we felt inspired by the increasing laughter of the audience, though I soon found, to my dismay, that their enjoyment was not caused by the excellence of our acting, but by the fact that various articles of clothing used by me as padding were gradually making their appearance in an untidy pile on the stage. I bolted, and left the others to finish the scene without me.

"I REMEMBER once, when appearing as that aristocratic but irascible old earl Lord Kilclare, in *A Quiet Rubber*, in the somewhat pathetic scene where on account of a slight to his sensitive feelings he brings on a portmanteau to prepare for his departure, I was greeted with yells of laughter. I soon found, to my dismay, that my travelling bag inadvertently bore the placard of 'John Hare's Company, Manchester.'

"ON a later occasion, when playing in *A Pair of Spectacles* in Edinburgh, I had to come to the scene where Benjamin Goldfinch refuses to entertain his brother Gregory's suggestions and suspect his wife, when an encouraging but embarrassing cry came from the gallery—'Well done, old 'un; stick up for the missus!'

"ONCE, however, I was told that in Leeds or Bradford a playgoer had gone away bitterly disappointed with the same play, saying, 'A thowt it rot. A dunno what's coom to tha theayter lately. Thar's been na good moorder thar for last sax moonths.'"

IT was during the first run of *A Pair of Spectacles* that Mr. Gladstone came to see it, and went round to have a chat with Mr. Hare afterwards. As on other occasions, the actor happened to be made up for the stage, and Gladstone had not seen him in *propria persona*. Shortly afterwards they were dining at the house of a mutual friend, and Mr. Gladstone was asking his hostess the names of those he had not met before, and looked inquiringly in Mr. HARE'S direction. "Who's that?" he asked. "John Hare, the actor," was the reply. "Oh, yes!" said Gladstone. "I know his *father*, the manager of the Garrick Theatre." Later in the evening he laughed heartily over his mistake.

The Wrong Bell.

ON a Monday night recently a stage manager stood at the prompt corner and placed his finger on an electric bell-push to ring in the orchestra, at the same time peeping through the curtain to see if the band appeared. The first summons had no success. He rang again; still no success. On ringing a third time a man came towards him on the stage with the remark, "What can I get you, sir?" "Get me! Nothing that I know of at present," replied the stage manager, as he again pushed the bell. "But I've come for an order, sir," urged the man. "Hang you, and your orders too!" said the now irate manager, looking down into the orchestra viciously, and noting its deserted appearance he savagely placed his finger on the bell and kept it there. "I'm waiting, sir," again essayed the man. "Get out of it," blurted the stage manager, "cannot you see I am busy. I don't want you, I tell you." "But what are you ringing for?" asked the man. "Ringing for!" answered the manager. "I'm ringing for the orchestra, if you want to know." "Oh!" ejaculated the man; "don't you know you are ringing the bar bell?"

Dramatic Novels.

"IT would be well," said Mr. Tree recently to a representative of the *Birmingham Daily Mail*, "if authors would write their novels in dramatic form. There would be no difficulty then in adapting them for the stage. I have just been reading a novel by Louis Stevenson and a dramatic version which I have had offered me for production. I don't think Stevenson lived sufficiently in the atmosphere of the theatre to make a really great dramatist. His merit appears to be largely descriptive. He seems to have been endowed more with the passion of art than with the passion of life. He once told me that he did not care to write about love, and it is curiously difficult to escape from it. *Louis XI.* does not deal much with love, and although it was probably Irving's greatest character creation, I don't think it was a great money-maker, probably for that reason. I don't think the best art is self-consciously ethical. Any great work is ethical because the artist cannot help it being so, but once let the audience suspect it is being preached at, and resentment quickly follows.

"MY contention is that Shakespeare should be mounted with the same reverence as a modern play. Now I am quite with those who declare that Shakespeare is very good for the study, and the only excuse for putting him on the stage is to present him through the individuality of the artist. He makes Shakespeare to live on the stage and in the minds of the audience. In these strenuous days it is not easy for everyone to imagine the impression that Shakespeare intended to give, and that the artist-producer does for the public. Largely acted, Shakespeare becomes humanated, instead of giving that grey impression of black and white which the printed page often does. Wagner, who was the greatest producer, would have laughed to scorn the critics who declared that his works should not be pictorially improved. In fact, there is nothing that Wagner did not utilise."

Mrs. Calvert at Waterbury.

"SHALL I ever forget," says Mrs. Charles Calvert in an interesting interview in the *Pall Mall Magazine*, "an experience when on tour with Edwin Booth in America? We had got to Waterbury—the place where the watches come from; in a few hours we were to give *Hamlet* at the local hall, and the train had gone on with the truck which contained our scenery and costumes. There was a little scenery in stock, but it was not of much use in *Hamlet*, as the chief interior depicted a glass conservatory with gas-globes here and there. 'Whatever shal we do?' said Mr. Booth to the local manager in the evening. 'Will you recite?' said the manager. 'No, I really cannot!' said Mr. Booth. 'Never could! We must dismiss.' 'But they've come to see you act, and many of them have come hundreds of miles. They must either sit here or wait in the railway depôt.'

"IT was then decided that *Hamlet* should be played in our travelling costumes. We sent out for some muslin and lace, and borrowed a sword from the Masonic Lodge—Mr. Booth absolutely declined to go on without a sword at least—and a lady of the company happened to have some rouge which came in useful. Booth was Hamlet, Bella Pateman was Ophelia, I was the Queen, and Robert Pateman was the First Gravedigger. We scarcely dared to look at each other while the performance was going on. The King the Queen and the Player King were all killed sitting in Windsor chairs! Next day the manager of the watch firm, who had been present, said he wouldn't have missed it for five hundred dollars! And I don't believe he would!"

VEDRENNE-BARKER AT THE SAVOY.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the Pleasant Play, in Four Acts, by Bernard Shaw, entitled

"YOU NEVER CAN TELL."

Mrs. Clandon ..... MISS AGNES THOMAS
Gloria Clandon ..... MISS ELLEN O'MALLEY
Dolly Clandon ..... MISS DOROTHY MINTO
Philip Clandon ..... MR. NORMAN PAGE
Fergus Crampton ..... MR. A. E. GEORGE
Finch McComas ..... MR. NIGEL PLAYFAIR
Valentine ..... MR. HARCOURT WILLIAMS
Bohun ..... MR. JAMES HEARN
The Waiter ..... MR. J. D. BEVERIDGE
A Parlour Maid ..... MISS KATHERINE STUART

Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker acted judiciously in selecting *You Never Can Tell* to open their season at the Savoy Theatre on Monday. The piece was first presented to the public at a matinée at the Strand Theatre on the afternoon of Wednesday, May 2, 1900. The cast on that occasion was interesting, including as it did Mr. Hermann Vezin as Fergus Crampton, Mr. Charles Charrington as Mr. Bohun, Q.C., Mr. George Raiemond as Finch McComas, Mr. Yorke Stephens as Mr. Valentine, Mr. W. Graham Browne as Philip Clandon, Miss Audrey Ford as Dolly Clandon, Miss Mabel Terry Lewis as Gloria Clandon, and Mr. James Welch as the waiter. *You Never Can Tell* was avowedly an attempt by Mr. Shaw to temper the villainy of *Arms and the Man* with some consideration for the requirements of managers in search of fashionable comedies for West-end theatres. "I had no difficulty," wrote Mr. Shaw, "in complying, as I have always cast my plays in the ordinary practical comedy form in use at all the theatres, and, far from taking an unsympathetic view of the popular preference for fun, fashionable dresses, a little music, and even an exhibition of eating and drinking by people with an expensive air, attended by an, if possible, comic waiter, I was more than willing to show that the drama can humanise these things as easily as they, in undramatic hands, can dehumanise the drama." It is to be regretted that this obliging attitude of Mr. Shaw's was not accompanied by the carrying-out of his kind intentions, for *You Never Can Tell* is a series of trivial episodes illustrated by many excellent jokes, its want of form and purpose being more than compensated for by the delicious subtlety of its comedy scenes. Mr. Shaw's spontaneous fun and keen sense of humour, the fertility of his invention of amusing characters and side-issues, the drollery of his odd and eccentric imaginations, and the exquisite humanity of his sketch of the old waiter, make *You Never Can Tell* one of the most popular of his plays. The more obvious excellencies of the play have been often and deservedly praised, and the essentially "Shaw-ite" audience at the Savoy on Monday was quick to appreciate such subtle scenes as that, for instance, in which Valentine makes love to the priggish Gloria, while vigorously disclaiming any intention of doing so.

Renewed interest was given to the revival by the cast, which was excellent all round. Mr. J. D. Beveridge's part of William suited him exactly, and it is difficult to imagine a more gentle, a more persuasive, and a more philosophical old waiter than the personage so delightfully impersonated by Mr. Beveridge, whose mellow tones and comely and dignified appearance added greatly to the effect of his agreeable and effective impersonation. A palpable hit was made by Miss Ellen O'Malley as Gloria Clandon. Her share in the love-scene alluded to was most deftly and daintily done. The way in which she listened, her indication of each fleeting impression by means of minute gesture, and eloquent, but unexaggerated, facial play, made her performance highly ingenious and genuinely artistic. Miss O'Malley must be warmly praised for the intelligence and ability she displayed, and she is certainly a valuable member of any Shavian cast. Mr. A. E. George's view of the character of Fergus Crampton is not exactly ours; it seemed to us that he was a little too earnest and violent, but he was, of course, merely carrying out the author's instructions at rehearsal. As to the power and vigour of Mr. George's performance there could be no two opinions; indeed, at times, he was positively tragic in his depiction of desperate indignation and distress. Miss Agnes Thomas was unimpeachable as Mrs. Clandon, and played the part with a quiet polish which was very acceptable. Miss Dorothy Minto and Mr. Norman Page did all that was necessary with the rôles of Dolly and Philip Clandon, and cleverly made the most of the Twins; and Mr. Nigel Playfair contributed a crisp and comic character-sketch as Finch McComas. Mr. Harcourt Williams's Valentine was admirable in every way. He caught the spirit of the rôle exactly, and handled it with excellent tact and judgment. Where emphatic expression was required, Mr. Williams was ready with it; when a lighter touch was demanded, he was not found wanting. His voice, manner, and appearance were also excellent, and, altogether, his impersonation was entirely satisfactory, and won general approval. Mr. James Hearn scored a complete success as the ponderous and predominating Bohun, and filled the rôle in the most capable and convincing way; and Miss Katherine Stuart was efficient as the Parlour Maid. *You Never Can Tell* had a cordial and appreciative hearing from a cultured and very friendly audience.

THE RECONSTRUCTION OF "HAMLET."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—While thanking you for the insertion of my letter on the above subject in last Saturday's issue, I should like to mention that on July 2, 1881, a long article of mine was printed in your journal on the acting version of *Hamlet*, in which I called attention to those discrepancies between the text of the play and that used on the stage, to which Mr. Percy Fitzgerald, in his articles on "The Real Hamlet," refers.—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM POEL.

Sept. 18.

MR. EDWARD CHARLES HOWITT, recently acting-manager for Mrs. Ann Hughes's *Young Lieutenant* company, has been appointed resident-manager of the New Gaiety Theatre, at Clydebank.

A NEW operatic version of Oscar Wilde's *Salomé*, composed by M. Mariotte, a French musician, is to be produced during the winter at the Grand Theatre at Lyons. M. Mariotte first read "Salomé" in 1895, when he was a naval officer and on his way to China. Later he left the service, and studied music under the most modern masters in Paris.

FUNERAL OF WYBERT ROUSBY.

The funeral of the late Wybert Rousby took place on Saturday at Mont-à-l'Abbé Cemetery, Jersey, the body being followed to the cemetery by many folk with whom the late veteran actor was intimately associated during his long residence in Jersey. The mourners assembled at St. Helier's Parish Church, where the first portion of the service was conducted by the Very Rev. S. Falle, M.A., Dean of Jersey.

The first coach was occupied by the Very Rev. the Dean and the Parish Clerk. Following came two coaches in which were the following gentlemen, who acted as pall-bearers, all of whom were closely associated with the deceased during his theatrical career in the Island:—Messrs. J. Le Cras, H. Pinwell, A. McKee, L. B. Romeril (of the old theatre staff), W. Baker, and C. Mallet.

The glass-panelled hearse followed, in which was the body enclosed in a leaden shell and outer casket of oak, with brass mountings, the breast-plate bearing the following inscription:—

WILLIAM WYBERT ROUSBY,
Died Sept. 10th, 1907,
Aged 72 years.

The mourners were as follows:—

First Coach: Mrs. Wybert Rousby and Mrs. Miller.

Second Coach: Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Godfray and Mrs. Blissett.

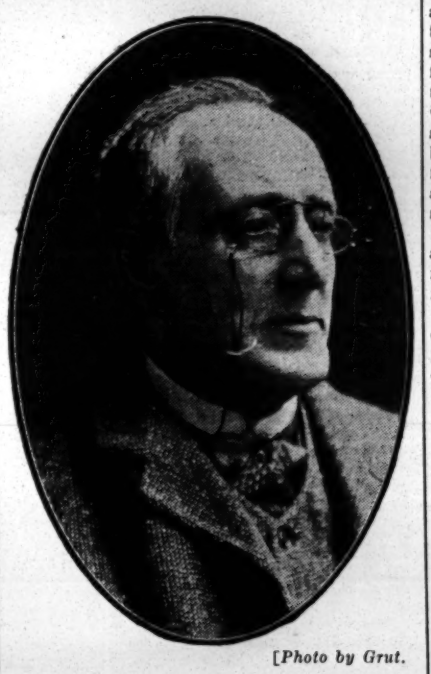
Third Coach: Messrs. F. J. Hooper and C. V. Hawksford.

Fourth Coach: Messrs. P. M. De La Mare and E. C. Boielle.

Fifth Coach: Messrs. P. E. Amy and T. D. Bennett.

Sixth Coach: Messrs. C. P. Du Parcq, Stanley Hope, and J. Blampied.

Other coaches followed for the accommodation of several friends of the deceased who met the



[*Photo by Grut.*

THE LATE MR. WYBERT ROUSBY.

cortège at the Parish Church. These included Dr. M. Moffat, Mr. T. Dorey, Mr. S. Henderson, and the Opera House staff.

The church bell was solemnly tolled, and as the coffin was borne into the building, Mr. J. Hubert, organist of the Town Church, played "O, rest in the Lord."

There was a large number of spectators both in the churchyard and in the church, while large numbers gathered about the gate as the mourners entered and left the sacred edifice.

The service was read by the Very Rev. the Dean in a most impressive manner. After the concluding prayers, the "Dead March" in "Saul" was played by Mr. Hubert, during which the mourners remained standing, while, as the last portion of this most impressive composition was being played, the body was borne slowly out of the church.

The interment took place at Mont-à-l'Abbé Cemetery, the committal prayers being read by the Very Rev. the Dean.

A large number of wreaths and other floral tributes were sent from, among others, the following:—The widow, the Guille Allez Library (Guernsey), Mr. and Mrs. H. Becker and Miss Clayden, Mr. and Mrs. Basil T. Rounsewell, "Lily," Miss Peyton and Mrs. R. R. Raymer, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Boielle, Mrs. Bernard Copping, "George and Bessie," P. H. Malzard, P. M. Malzard, and the Opera House staff.

MUNDEN, the comedian, was one night playing with Jack Johnstone in *The Committee*; in the scene where Teague plies Obadiah with liquor from a black bottle, Johnstone, who played Teague, was surprised to remark the extraordinary grimaces Munden made over the draughts he gulped down. So irresistibly comical, indeed, were Munden's grimaces, that not only did the audience shriek with laughter, but Johnstone was almost too convulsed to proceed. When the scene was over, Obadiah, as usual, was borne off the stage; but no sooner was he out of sight of the audience than he commenced bellowing for a stomach-pump. "I'm a dead man!" he shouted. "I'm poisoned! Where's the villain that filled that bottle?" And then in an agony of disgust, pointing to the empty bottle, still in Johnstone's hand, he cried, "*Lamp-oil! lamp-oil!* every drop of it." It was true: the property-man had mistaken a bottle containing lamp-oil for one half filled with sherry and water. When Munden had in some measure recovered, Johnstone naturally asked him why he should, after the first taste, have allowed him to pour the whole of the filthy stuff down his throat, when the slightest hint would have prevented it. Munden's reply, in gasps, was as follows:—"My dear boy, I was about to do so; but there was such a glorious *roar* at the first face I made upon swallowing it, that I hadn't the heart to spoil the scene by interrupting the effect, though I thought I should die every time you poured the accursed stuff down my throat."

MRS. MOUNTFORD, the famous seventeenth century actress, during her last years became deranged, but as her disorder was not outrageous, she was not placed under any rigorous confinement, but was suffered to walk about her house. One day, in a lucid interval, she asked what play was to be performed that evening, and was told it was to be "Hamlet." Whilst she was on the stage she had acted Ophelia with great applause; the recollection struck her, and with all that cunning which is so frequently allied to insanity, she found means to elude the care of her attendants, and got to the theatre, where, concealing herself till the scene where Ophelia was to make her appearance in her mad state, she pushed upon the stage before the person appointed to play the character, and exhibited a representation of it that astonished the performers as well as the audience. She exhausted her vital powers in this effort, was taken home, and died soon after.

SHERIDAN AT THE ST. JAMES'S.

On Saturday, Sept. 14, Revival of Sheridan's Comedy,

"THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL."

Sir Peter Teazle ..... MR. ERIC LEWIS
Sir Oliver Surface ..... MR. CHARLES GROVES
Joseph Surface ..... MR. HENRY AINLEY
Charles Surface ..... MR. EDWARD COMPTON
Crabtree ..... MR. HENRY CROCKER
Sir Benjamin Backbite ..... MR. G. WALLACE JOHNSTON
Careless ..... MR. REGINALD E. BESANT
Rowley ..... MR. PHILIP GORDON
Moses ..... MR. E. M. ROBSON
Snake ..... MR. B. BUTLER
Trip ..... MR. E. S. COMBERBACH
Sir Harry Bumper ..... MR. CHARLES R. ROSE
Sir Toby ..... MR. GOLDSTEIN
Servant to Joseph ..... MR. HARRY WINTON
Lady Sneerwell's Servant ..... MR. LAURENCE MEADE
Lady Teazle ..... MISS LILIAN BRAITHWAITE
Mrs. Candour ..... MISS MARIE HASSELL
Lady Sneerwell ..... MISS VIOLA COMPTON
Maria ..... MISS PHYLLIS RELPH
Lady Teazle's Maid ..... MISS MARY CARNEGY

Mr. Edward Compton's revival of *The School for Scandal* at the St. James's Theatre on Saturday was certainly a courageous step. It is difficult to imagine any satisfactory presentation of the piece with the resources at the disposal of any manager. *The School for Scandal*, as Lamb remarked, is incongruous, "a mixture of Congreve with sentimental incompatibilities." The enjoyment which used to be derived from the play was created by the opportunities which it gave for the employment of an artificial style of acting, which is now almost obsolete, and only lingers as a tradition in the care of a few veterans. Year by year the spirit of the stage has been moving further and further away from that of Sheridan's piece. In the attempt to reconcile its discordant elements we are likely to fall more or less between two stools. We are pouring new wine into an old bottle. Endeavour to modernise the play in performance merely destroys the effect of its polish, and discloses rather painfully its tawdry shallowness. Altogether, a satisfactory revival of *The School for Scandal* is a problem which it is almost impossible to work out; and Mr. Compton may be congratulated upon having approached as nearly as possible to its solution.

Mr. Compton certainly did his best in difficult circumstances. He cast Mr. Eric Lewis for the part of Sir Peter Teazle; and that excellent comedian proved himself well worthy of the selection. Mr. Lewis is a modern of the moderns, and his methods are absolutely opposed to the stilted traditions of old comedy. But there is a good deal in the character of Sir Peter Teazle which is independent of method, and that Mr. Lewis brought out with admirable skill. The irritability and peevishness created in Sir Peter by his sense of his position were most amusingly indicated; and in the quarrelling scenes with Lady Teazle Mr. Lewis was excellent, making every point with a humorous delicacy which can hardly be over-praised. All things taken into account, his Sir Peter was extremely, we might almost say surprisingly, good, and did immense credit to Mr. Lewis's adaptability. Miss Lilian Braithwaite freely emphasised the gaiety and playfulness of Lady Teazle, and her reading of the rôle was delightfully bright and buoyant. She developed most agreeably the girlish side of Lady Teazle's character, and her keen enjoyment of pleasure, fun, and mischief. It was a very pretty and piquant piece of acting, and its effect was both artistic and exhilarating. Mr. Henry Ainley gave a very encouraging performance as Joseph Surface, keeping well on the safe side of exaggeration and over-drawing. Mr. Compton's Charles Surface is so celebrated that criticism, at this time of day, is scarcely needed. We need only record that it has lost nothing of its polished ease, its good spirits, and its thorough amiability, and elegance and accomplishment. One of the best impersonations of the evening was Mr. Charles Groves's Sir Oliver Surface. Sound, firm, and richly humorous, with all the necessary dignity and weight, Mr. Groves's Sir Oliver was an admirable example of the thorough training of our older actors. Mr. Henry Crocker was capable and careful as Crabtree; and Mr. G. Wallace Johnston played Sir Benjamin with marked credit. Mr. Reginald E. Besant was a spirited Careless; and Mr. Philip Gordon was duly suave, sober, and respectful as Rowley. Mr. E. M. Robson as Moses was crisply quaint and quietly droll; and Mr. B. Butler was a satisfactory Snake. A really neat and clever representation of Trip was supplied by Mr. E. S. Comberbach; and Mr. Charles R. Rose sang Sir Harry Bumper's song gaily and in good voice. Miss Marie Hassell spoke Lady Candour's lines with point and pleasantry; Miss Viola Compton was an able and effective exponent of the character of Lady Sneerwell; and Miss Phyllis Relph was earnest and expressive as Maria. The minuet in the first act was prettily danced. The revival was received with enthusiastic approbation; and the good points of the production were keenly appreciated.

THE Crystal Palace Orchestral Society's Concerts will begin on Nov. 23, when the concert version of Edward German and Basil Hood's opera, *Merrie England*, will be given. Selections of Grieg's works, scenes from *Olav Trygvason* and Suite "Peer Gynt" (No. 1) are set down for Feb. 15; and Elgar's cantata, "The Black Knight," and orchestral works will be performed on April 11. The conductor will be Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock.

MR. WALTER W. HEDGCOCK, the musical director, has arranged a succession of famous artists for the fifty-second annual series of concerts at the Crystal Palace, which begin on Oct. 12, with a Pianoforte and Violoncello Recital by Harold Bauer and Jean Gerardy. On Oct. 19 a concert recital will be given by Kubelik; a recital by Marie Brema, Jan Hambourg and Boris Hambourg is fixed for Oct. 26; and on Nov. 2 Miss Marie Hall will be welcomed in a concert recital. Other arrangements comprise: Nov. 16, violin recital by Lionel Ovenden (aged fourteen years); Nov. 23, recital by the Brothers Cherniavsky; Nov. 30, grand orchestral concert by the British Symphony Orchestra; Dec. 7, violin and pianoforte recital by Lady Halle and Mr. Leonard Borwick.

MME. CLARA BUTT and Mr. Kennerley Rumford gave their first Australian concert in Melbourne on Tuesday. The success of the concert was so phenomenal that the box-office receipts amounted to a figure which is one of, if not the, highest ever realised at a concert in Melbourne.

MR. E. HEWITSON, general-manager to the Theatres Royal, Aston and Smethwick, is announced to take his benefit at the latter house on Wednesday, Oct. 9, when a special programme will be given in addition to the ordinary dramatic fare.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LE CURE DE FOREVILLE,"

Play in Five Acts, by M. J. de Gramont. Produced at the Ambigu, on Sept. 18.

Comtesse Blanchard ..... MME. BUSSY
Irma ..... MLLE. DIDIER
Marguy ..... MLLE. NORMA
Madame Martinet ..... MME. NORIS
Paulette ..... MLLE. BERENGERE
Folichette ..... MLLE. DELCY
Le Curé de Foreville ..... M. DALTOUR
Pierre Moutier ..... M. BAILLY
Lecoq ..... M. BALDY
L'Abbé Gabriel ..... M. MAXIME-LERY
Bardot ..... M. MORGAN
De Prégui ..... M. VIBERT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Sept. 20.—The new melodrama produced at the Ambigu is from the inexperienced pen of M. de Gramont, a youth of about twenty-one. Imbued with anti-clericalism, he shows us a scheming "curé," who carries everything before him, until at the end retribution overtakes him. Yet, in order to prove that all priests are not necessarily bad, we are also introduced to the Abbé Gabriel, a good curé, but whose influence is by no means as great as that of his wicked colleague. The latter has among his parishioners a certain Comtesse Blanchard, a retired demi-mondaine, who, old and repentant, gives to the Church the greater part of her ill-gotten gains. Despite her generosity, the elderly Countess is not only prompted by religious motives. She is ambitious. She has a daughter, called Irma, and she is anxious to pass as respectable, and to be received among the local gentry. She also wants a husband for her daughter, a young man of good family; and having consulted her bosom friend, the scheming curé of Foreville, their choice falls on Pierre, whose father is managing clerk of M. Chantalou, the notary. Difficulties, however, arise. Pierre Moutier, who is studying medicine at Nancy, is in love with a pretty workgirl, Marguy, M. Chantalou's ward, and he has engaged himself to her. Moutier's father consents to the marriage, and the banns are about to be published, when the bad curé calls on Pierre's father, and induces him to withdraw his consent to his son's marriage. But the loving couple soon overcome that difficulty. They go off together to Nancy, and live like husband and wife. The Comtesse is upset by this, but her spiritual adviser only smiles. He knows the world, and tells his client to await further developments. She has not long to wait. The runaway couple's funds run dry, and at that psychological moment the curé comes to Pierre with a proposal that he should marry the rich Irma. A few months elapse. Marguy is married to the gamekeeper, Bardot, and Pierre has become the luckless husband of the wealthy Irma. Pierre's marriage has proved in every way a mistake. He and his wife quarrel incessantly, until one day, after a violent scene, he walks out of the house, never to return. The wicked curé now is afraid that Pierre may return to his former love, Marguy; and in order to prevent this, and to put Bardot on his guard, he writes an anonymous letter, informing the latter that his wife has a lover. The jealous gamekeeper's anger is roused. He lies in wait for his supposed opponent, and when the curé opens the door of Bardot's house to call on Marguy, Bardot, hearing someone opening the garden gate, and thinking it is the lover, fires, and the wicked curé drops down dead. M. Daltour gave an effective rendering of the rather difficult rôle of the curé. M. Bailly showed himself a rather nervous lover; and M. Maxime-Léry took himself very seriously as the "good curé." Special praise is due to Mme. Bussy, whose impersonation of the repentant cocotte was exceedingly clever.

AT the Gymnase *Le Joujou Tragique* will soon see the footlights. As stated already, on a previous occasion, the work is the maiden effort of a young lady, Mlle. d'Orlhiac. The next novelties at that house will be *L'Eventail*, *Le Faux Pas*, by M. André Picard.

THE cast of *Cabotine*, MM. Tristan Bernard and Alfred Allin's new farce, to be brought out at the Nouveatés, will comprise MM. Germain, Colombey, Girier, Leubas, Landrin; and Mmes. Tempiey, Rosine Maurel, Clairville, Gente, and Jenny Rose.

M. FELIX CALIPAUX, the well-known comic actor, has been engaged by the management of the Châtelet for the spectacular piece to be given there in the course of November.

"RAFFLES" is still running merrily at the Théâtre Réjane. The next work will be *La Timbale*, by MM. Vandérem and Lenôtre. The piece plays in the year 1793; but, contrary to what was said, it is not an historical play.

M. LARMANDIE, just engaged by M. Guitry, will make his début at the Renaissance in a new comedy by M. Bernstein.

AFTER *L'Amour Veille*, by MM. de Fleurs and de Caillavet, the Comédie-Française will give us *L'Autre*, by MM. Paul and Victor Marguerite, wherein the principal rôles will be interpreted by Mlle. Cerny, and MM. Grand, Siblot and Numa.

M. MEVISTO intends opening his theatre towards the end of next month with *Le Déluge*, a sensational three-act play, by M. Henning Berger, the well-known playwright. The work has been adapted for the French stage by M. J. W. Bienstock and Mme. Garling-Palmer.

Now that Anastasie—the nickname given to the Paris censor—has been placed on the retired list, it may be interesting to know that in France the office of censor was an ancient one. Already as early as 1560 the authorities had to call to order the "clercs de la Basoche," who often produced plays of a questionable order. Then, in 1609, a police regulation came into force, forbidding anyone to perform plays without having previously applied to the authorities for a special permission. There was, however, no examiner of plays. This did not come till 1702, when *Le Bal d'Auteuil*, by Boindin, came upon the good Parisians like a surprise. The author, however, had gone a little too far. The King, we are told, sent for the actors, reprimanded them severely, and at once appointed a gentleman to watch over the morals of his subjects.

THE LATE WYBERT ROUSBY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In a recent obituary notice of the late Mr. Wybert Rousby I notice you alluded to his last appearance as taking place nine years ago. As a matter of fact, I went over to support him and star in a round of his first wife's favourite parts a little over seven years back, my mother, Miss Lawrence, who had played with Mr. and Mrs. Rousby as a child, being also of the company. Well do we remember the pleasant little Christmas party at Clyde Villa, Jersey, and the long hours through which Mr. Rousby held us spellbound with his fund of enthralling reminiscences. He was an actor of peculiarly sensitive temperament. It was not everyone he could act with, and he told us of many a famous and beautiful star he had refused to meet because she lacked the requisite magnetism or "support." I understood this feeling of Mr. Rousby's so well, and it was with pride, not unmixed with pain, that I beheld him completely break down and sob bitterly during a pathetic scene with me in *The Man in the Iron Mask*. He afterwards explained that the part I was playing had been a favourite one of his first wife's, and something in my voice and presence recalled her so strongly that he was quite overcome. The plucky veteran actually contemplated a tour of *'Twixt Axe and Crown*. He wanted to go straight on then and there, but his strength was gone.—Yours faithfully, GRACE MURIELLE.

Hastings, Sept. 19, 1907.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PALACE.

The policy of introducing amusing playlets into the Palace bill is one that finds favour with the large audiences that are so vastly entertained by Mr. Alfred Butt's well-considered schemes of amusement. The latest attraction at the Shaftesbury-avenue house is *That Brute Simmons*, an adaptation by the author and Herbert C. Sargent of Mr. Arthur Morrison's "Tales of Mean Streets." The comedietta, as it may be termed, is the means of introducing that ripe and unctuous comedian, Mr. Arthur Williams, to the variety stage, and that clever actress of old women's parts, Miss Carlotta Zerbini. It is the lot of the uncomplaining and meek Simmons to have met and married the relict of Bob Ford—a woman who sets considerable value upon herself, and stands no nonsense from her mate. He, poor, downtrodden man, brings home his hard-earned wages, and gives them timidly to his Katharina, with the delicate compliment of a nosegay. Quite loverlike, he has remembered that it is their wedding day. She has no time for such romantic nonsense, and after docking the cost of the flowers from his next week's money, she leaves Simmons to clean the fireirons and windows while she goes marketing. He is not altogether impressed with the cut or the pattern of the trousers that the sharer of his wages has been making for him, and he is ruminating on his lot when through the open window he sees the face of a man peering in. This is none other than Bob Ford, the first husband of the shrew, who was saved by a passing vessel when the "Mooltan" went down. Bob will bargain with Simmons. For a trifle of £5 he will go away and never trouble him more. Eventually Bob reduces his price for silence to a drink. The colloquy between the men is interrupted by the return of the wife, and Bob Ford goes into hiding. Mrs. Simmons, afflicted with economy, not only "combs" her husband's hair figuratively, but cuts it actually with a pudding-basin as guide to the shearing operations. The victim in the chair tries to lead the conversation round to the first husband, when Ford emerges from his place of concealment intent on making his escape. Before my lady decides who shall occupy the position of husband she inquires of her first the amount of his earnings, which are considerably below the sum so punctually given her by the despised second. An amusing argument ensues, and eventually both men leave the doubly-married shrew—much to her astonishment. Miss Carlotta Zerbini emphasises very cleverly and amusingly the shrewishness and nagging propensities of Mrs. Simmons, and Mr. Lytton Grey is very welcome in the part of the first husband.

Miss Jean Alwyn, the Scotch lassie, with surer touch, has become a great Palace favourite, and easily gets home with a new song, "Bang went Saxpence," and with the old favourite, "Coortin." Mr. Leslie Stiles sings "Cupid's Mistake," and "In June Light," both of which have been written and composed by himself; Miss Eileen Douglas, comedienne, possesses a pleasing personality, and is a graceful and attractive comedienne; and Bromley and Fontein exploit what is called a novel operetta in *The Man Behind the Music Stand;* Goleman's cats and dogs are responsible for the acting of an amusing little farce with a canine comedian and a harmless necessary feline in the chief parts; Mlle. Mistinguette is fulfilling the last week of her engagement; and the programme has other contributors in Hall and Earle, grotesque comedians, the Palace Girls, and the Bioscope.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

Under the able management of Mr. A. W. Deer, assisted by Mr. Harold E. Montague as acting-manager (the latter may be remembered for the prominent parts he has played in musical comedy), this house not only maintains, but continues to enhance, its reputation as a centre of interest and amusement amongst a variety-loving public, and while its patrons are so abundantly catered for there is no reason why it should do otherwise. Prominent in the current week's programme is Jake Friedman, who presents a Dutch operetta, entitled *Happy Holland*. The Anglo-Dutch comedian is supported by a powerful cast and a well-trained chorus. As Jakey Oodlevasal Mr. Jake Friedman causes much amusement; Miss Florence Hunton makes a dainty Gretchen, her songs being well rendered; and Mr. John Tudor, Mr. Wal Philips, Mr. Leigh Ellis, and Miss Daisy Nelson all do well in their respective parts. The sketch is well mounted and picturesquely dressed. Mr. Sam Mayo makes a welcome reappearance, and his songs, sung in his own particular style, meet with a flattering reception, and although several demands for encores are acceded to, the audience remains unsatisfied. Manson and West, in a farcical interlude, *Telling the Tale*, keep everyone amused. The sketch deals with a husband who has stayed out all night, and on arriving home in the early morning, somewhat the worse for wear, is confronted by his wife, who demands explanations. Of the mirth-provoking opportunities of "telling the tale" advantage is taken; and although not a novelty the sketch is well received. Miss Mabel Bright, with "Honey, I'm waiting," and other songs, gains well-merited success. Terry and Bentley are paying a return visit, and keep the ball of humour rolling with their ludicrous chatter, songs, and dances. Miss Florence Deighton has a powerful voice, but her enunciation might be improved upon. Her second song, "Come back to Erin," is much appreciated. Topsy and Usher, coloured comedians, distinguish themselves in song and dance, Topsy being particularly clever on her feet; and Ted Waite, a noteworthy comedian, obtains much laughter. The Bioscope, with two amusing films depicting the ups and downs of A Would-be Athlete and A Seaside Girl, evokes much merriment.

THE BEDFORD.

Packed audiences are still the rule at this comfortable hall, where this week there is a programme full of good things. First and foremost is undoubtedly the capital sketch, *Wanted*, which is played by Mr. Herbert Terry and company, who are now quite old friends here, and are most popular. This sketch deals with an episode in everyday life with the Frontier Police in Canada, and tells of one Morgan, who is wanted for holding up a bank. Morgan gets lost on the prairie, and turns up at the Police Post, where he is recognised by one of the police, Ned Bicknell, who is just engaged to Kitty, a pretty damsel, who, it seems, is Morgan's sister. Ned is confronted with that great problem—love or duty? He chooses the latter, but luck turns up, too, and love goes with it, so all ends happily. Mr. Herbert Terry is excellent as Ned, and gives a capitally-drawn sketch of this fine specimen of a son of the Empire. The play received a rousing reception, and at the end all the players were heartily applauded. Lorne and Hope are a very entertaining couple, who give a duologue, *Capital and Labour*, in which one is the factory owner's daughter and the other a mill girl. They introduce some very pretty numbers, and together sing some well-known songs, which pleased everyone. Cline and Clark are the most indefatigable duo imaginable. The sing a couple of songs at a break-neck speed, and finish up their turn with some marvellous dancing, which fairly brings down the house, and they are critics at the Bedford of this art.

Miss Barbara Fenn and Co. appear in an original farce, *The Lady and the Bath*, by Kenyon Musgrave. It is a slight story, and tells of the troubles of Lord Fitzpompom, who has apparently been caught in a breach of promise by a dashing Spanish lady, who follows him to his flat, and finding him indulging in a vapour bath extracts many promises from the unhappy man. It is a very slight idea, and at the present needs much working up; however, it is full of fun, and has even more possibilities. It was very well received, and Miss Barbara Fenn is most successful as the Spanish lady, and she has good support from the actors who play the two male characters. That capital comedian, Harry Russon, is delighting all with his song, "Oh! Charley," which is a very quaint and amusing ditty. Mr. Russon is not only a comedian, for he displays his versatility by reciting Kipling's "Gunga Din" in a magnificent fashion and a most dramatic style, which was greatly appreciated, and received with thunderous applause. Trevor and True are an amusing couple, and provide an entertaining turn, one as a waiter and the other as a swell. They have endless very amusing patter, and finish off with a good song, and score a big success. That clever artist, Miss Ethel Walker, is here with her piano entertainment. She renders her songs in the most dainty and fetching manner, and quite captivated the audience. Kirk and Saraski are a clever couple of young ladies, who give a most graceful and novel diving and swimming entertainment, and accomplish some clever acrobatic feats under water, and they should make a mark for themselves in future. Eva Lumley and Freda Eitrick appear in a comedy sketch, entitled *Jimmy all of a Twist*, and provide a very amusing interlude. The Eight 'Varsity Girls are also on the bill, and they look most fetching in their caps and scarlet robes. They sing several songs which catch on, and one of the ladies has a very fine, deep contralto voice, which she makes full use of. It is a very charming turn, and highly sucessful. Sadie Seymour, comedienne and dancer, is also on the bill, and the Bioscope completes the programme. Mr. G. R. Hatley's orchestra, as usual, acquit themselves well, and add greatly to the enjoyment of the evening. Mr. A. F. Lovesey, the genial manager, is well to the fore, and is busy all the evening finding room for his would-be patrons and generally looking to their comforts.

EAST HAM PALACE.

With each succeeding week the popularity of this place of amusement becomes more manifest, and such popularity is largely due to the enterprising efforts of Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, the Palace's popular manager, who knows exactly how to please his patrons. Mr. Fred Karno's company of renowned comedians give a highly amusing sketch, entitled *A Tragedy of Errors*, which is productive of roars of laughter from beginning to end. The cast includes Mr. H. C. Barry, Jimmy Fletch, Victor Smith, and Miss Blanche Fawcett, and these capable artists keep the audience in a merry mood throughout the sketch. The dramatic sketch *Varna's Revenge*, by Miss Violet Fulton and Company is a very commendable turn. The plot is a very realistic and tragic one, and the highest praise must be accorded to Miss Violet Fulton for her fine delineation of Varna Villdaine. Mr. Fred S. Jennings is excellent in the rôle of Captain Richard Stewart, and Miss Rose Pradine is very good as Marie, Varna's maid.

The high quality of the entertainment is further enhanced by several clever variety turns. Paul Vandy gives a smart exhibition of juggling, and his many tricks are really good. Miss Florrie Bray sings two excellent songs, and at once instals herself a favourite. The new up-to-date satire, *The Demon and the Fairy*, by Harry Claff and Molly Maguire, is excellent in both conception and portrayal. Their singing is much above the average, and very warmly appreciated. Another clever comedienne is Miss Evelyn Taylor, her two songs, "I wish the little girl I loved loved me" and "What makes me love yer as I do?" being quite catchy.

The performance of Mr. Henry A. Moore is a very interesting one, his mimicry and elocution being worthy of unstinted praise. Miss Maud Esmond is a great favourite, and her songs are quickly taken up by the audience. A sparkling entertainment concludes with some excellent and funny pictures by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

If appearances go for anything excellent business is being done at this bright and cheery hall, situate near Putney Bridge. Monday evening last found assembled a large and appreciative audience, whose thorough enjoyment was unmistakably shown by the unstinted applause given to the various artists contributing to the lengthy and varied programme presented by the management, ably represented by Mr. Foster C. Marner. Following the overture—a brisk march—Miss Kittie Upton, a comedienne, with a charming presence, sang of the time "When the fields are white with daisies." This was her only effort, and her exit left the audience wishing for more. Park's Eton Boys next filled the stage, opening with the part-song, "Excelsior," individual solos by various members of the party followed, a pleasing feature being the well-harmonised choruses faultlessly sung. At the conclusion of the turn well-earned plaudits were repeated again and again.

Miss Isabelle Dillon also found her way into favour in her "Golliwog" and "Pansy" ditties, much of her success being attributable to the assistance received from a youthful female vocalist, who took up the refrains, and joined her elder in the graceful dances which terminated each song. Another artist whose appearance seemed to be eagerly anticipated was Mr. Ambrose Thorne, faultlessly dressed. He first sang of what he would do if he was a Member of Parliament, and it is needless to add that the many reforms suggested are not at present planks in any particular political platform. His next and best contribution was a very tuneful song, entitled "The merry widow," which has a rhythmic refrain, easily taken up by the audience, who threw themselves into it enthusiastically. "The merry widow" is destined to become a favourite.

The Four French Canadians provided the next turn. Their best effort was concerted musical selections on curiously-fashioned instruments; George Gilbey, termed the football comedian, had a good reception and scored heavily in a song with patter of the George Robey order. Arthur Aldridge's fine tenor voice was heard to advantage in a couple of ballads, "Dreamland" and "I bring thee red roses." Messrs. Fred Kitchen and Frank Lister's company, in the American dramatic episode, *No. 99*, presented an exceedingly well-played sketch, the characters of the cool-headed Yankee Attorney, and that of the ex-convict No. 99, were equally well portrayed, and a pleasing domestic interest was conveyed by the little miss who so well took the part of the attorney's daughter. It is not too much to say that this is one of the very best sketches we have seen presented on the music-hall stage.

Other items in the programme included some capital pictures by the Imperial Bioscope, illustrating views in Belgium and an exciting rescue from a burning building; and Jack and Evelyn, in their very laughable duologue, entitled *Come into the Office*, which excited the risible faculties of the audience to a very large degree.

"PHARAOH'S DAUGHTER."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In your issue of the 7th inst. there appeared a paragraph under the heading of "Variety Gossip" stating that Miss Ethel Ra Leslie produced, for copyright purposes, an original opera, in one act, by "herself," entitled "Pharaoh's Daughter," with lyrics and music by Joseph Tabrar.

I beg to inform you that I, the undersigned, am not only the composer of the music, but the plot. Book and lyrics are also my sole invention, as is the title "Pharaoh's Daughter."

By inserting this letter you will greatly oblige, yours truly,

JOSEPH TABRAR.

Sept. 19.

THE WILLESDEN HIPPODROME.

The energetic and enterprising Mr. Walter Gibbons, who already controls close on a dozen houses devoted to variety, on Monday evening opened to the public the Willesden Hippodrome, certainly one of the finest and best equipped entertainment palaces in the suburbs, or, indeed, in London. The building, one of the largest in the kingdom, seating an audience of some 3,500, has been designed by the well-known architect, Mr. Frank Matcham, and is an imposing structure, fitted with all modern appointments. The building boasts an extensive stall area, to which access is obtained by a passage under the pit. The pit itself is a large one, with an excellent rake, and there are also a spacious circle and a commodious gallery, an uninterrupted view of the stage being secured from all parts of the house. A much-appreciated feature will be the waiting-rooms provided for the "second-house" patrons. There is a sliding roof; and, in fact, everything possible has been accomplished for the comfort of the audience. The interior decorations are mainly in white and gold, and the handsome plush tableaux curtain, the box and other hangings are all of a rich red, set off by gold braiding and tassels. A pleasing feature of the decorations is a sky picture on the dome, executed in artistic style.

Mr. Percy H. Gallagher, Mr. Gibbons's courteous first lieutenant, was gladdened by the crowded and certainly most enthusiastic houses on Monday, and the entertainment provided gave evident delight to all. Royalty graced the bill, the Prince and Princess de Broglie being notable performers in the initial entertainment. Sullivan's "Let me dream again," and "'Tis the day" were the two excellently rendered songs of the Princess Estelle de Broglie, the possessor of a sweet and cultured voice; and in response to a demand for an encore the Princess obliged with "Annie Laurie," the Prince conducting the orchestra and sharing the enthusiastic reception accorded his charming wife. The poetic fantasy, *The Sea Nymph*, was an entertaining trifle as presented by Lennie and Hast, the lady of the duo presenting a most alluring appearance, and her partner also contributing considerably to the success of this enjoyable interlude. The wonderfully intelligent thought-reading dog, Pilu, accomplished his arithmetical tasks in the same old knowing and correct fashion, much amusement being created when he tells the ages of different members in the audience, and answers other questions put to him by his proud possessor, Ancilotti. Certainly one of the cleverest and 'cutest canines that ever trod the boards, and evidently greatly attached to his trainer, who is to be congratulated on the success of a most entertaining turn. The accomplished child comedienne, little Maudie Francis, was accorded a hearty reception for her pleasing rendering of the song "Sunshine," and also for a neatly-executed dance; and the pretty "Carnival Scena" given by Haley's Juveniles also greatly appealed to the audience, especially the solo singing of Dot and Spot, programmed as the "smallest duettists before the public." "Rainbow," "My Creole Sue," and other popular numbers were included in the vocal interlude so attractively presented, and the youngsters were loudly applauded at the conclusion of their turn.

The sensational tumbling, somersaulting, pirouetting, and pyramid-forming of the Abdullah Arabs excited great enthusiasm, the agile and muscular members of the troupe apparently deriving as much enjoyment from their exercises as the audience; and the comic effusion of Mr. Hal Chapter amused immensely. Mr. Herbert Rule aroused merriment by his droll rendering of "I don't know," and persuaded the majority of the audience to exercise their vocal abilities in the chorus of his second effusion, "Wait for me." Much mirth was the outcome of the comic film shown by the Bioscope; the pictures representing King Edward on board the "Dreadnought," and various incidents in connection with the huge vessel proving especially interesting. No more popular item could have been provided than *The Coster's Beano*, so amusingly exploited by the favourite comedian, Mr. Alec Hurley, and his excellent company. Particularly to be commended is Mr. Hurley's singing of a love ditty to his "donah," and his other songs were all admirably rendered, the comic business, of which there is such an abundance, creating much hilarity. Miss Olga Doré, a ballad singer of considerable culture, is also in the programme. The excellent orchestra is under the careful control of Mr. Horace Sheldon.

WARRINGTON'S NEW HIPPODROME.

The order of despatch has been carried out to the full by Mr. C. W. Davenport, of Warrington, the bulider of the New Palace and Hippodrome, Warrington, who in conjunction with Mr. G. F. Ward, of Birmingham, the architect, has provided the West Lancashire town with a house worthy of the name. The building will accommodate no fewer than 2,100 persons, namely, pit 800, circle 500, gallery 800, and the stage can be seen with ease from every part of the house. There is a 29-feet opening for the proscenium. The depth of the stage is 30 feet, while the width from wall to wall is 60 feet. The fire-proof curtain will work automatically. The place is lighted both by gas and electricity.

Special attention is being paid to the furnishing and decoration of the building, and in these respects no expense has been spared. The fibrous plaster and decorative work have been wisely entrusted to Messrs. Dean and Sons, of Birmingham. This excellent firm has also supplied the tip-up seats. Those in the circle are of plush green; those in the pit are upholstered in Pegamoid, whilst every comfort has been provided for those who will patronise the gallery.

On the fine ceiling is seen a group of cupids in the Venetian style, while Music and Art are represented by historical paintings, the whole being relieved with gold lines. The disc in the centre is festooned in the style of Louis XV. The front of the boxes in the circle is enriched with crimson and gold. The panels on the sides of the boxes are in the Wedgwood style, enriched with gold, and the decorations round the orchestra are of tapestry form in panels. The bases of the proscenium are picked out in representations of Chippelinia marble. The paper in the pit will be of a rich red, and in the circle gold and green, intermixed and festooned. Great ingenuity has been exercised in the arrangement of the means of ingress and egress from all parts of the house, which can be emptied in the remarkably short time of three minutes. The eight dressing-rooms have been fitted up with great care.

The orchestra will number ten, all skilled musicians, and they will be under the direction of Mr. Widdop, who was formerly at Southampton, under Mr. Macnaghten's management. All the scenery has been painted in London by Mr. Bull. The refreshment bars will be of an attractive and comfortable character. The house will be controlled and run under the personal supervision of Mr. Frank Macnaghten, owning and operating the well-known variety theatres constituting "The Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit." The whole of the work is being supervised on behalf of that gentleman by Mr. Sydney Arthur, of London, who has had considerable experience in the profession, and Mr. G. D. Bradbury will be the resident manager.

The opening performance will take place on Monday next.

The first Covent Garden ball will take place on the 27th inst., and prizes will be awarded for the most handsome dominoes. The balls will continue fortnightly, as usual, and will run concurrently with the autumn opera season, which is to begin on Oct. 3, and last for eight weeks.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The staff and band of the Blackpool Hippodrome, to the number of upwards of forty, held their annual picnic on Sunday last. The weather was all that could be desired, and this fact, combined with the kindness of the many friends who had so liberally contributed to the funds, made the outing most enjoyable. The party, which included Mr. T. P. Duignan, the manager, and Mr. T. Campbell, musical conductor, assembled at the Hippodrome shortly before nine o'clock in the morning, and were photographed in front of the building before starting by tram to Fleetwood. After the long sea journey to Knott End, they were met with motor char-à-bancs and proceeded to Lancaster, passing Pilling Sands, and through the quaint old villages Over Wyre, arriving at Lancaster shortly after twelve o'clock noon.

Having regaled themselves with some light refreshments, the party proceeded to Morecambe, where, at the King's Arms, a substantial dinner awaited them. The health of the manager, Mr. Duignan, was received with enthusiasm. A drive round Morecambe and along the banks of the river Lune once more brought the party to Lancaster, where tea was served. About 6.30 p.m. the party once more boarded the motors and proceeded on the return journey, Blackpool being safely reached shortly before ten o'clock. The health of the lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden, having been duly honoured, expressions of thanks to the secretary, treasurer, and committee for their excellent arrangements closed a most enjoyable outing.

The first outing of the Abertillery Pavilion orchestra took place last Sunday, the party, numbering twenty, journeying by brake to Gilwern. The arrangements were made by Mr. Wm. Dexter, the popular and capable conductor. An enjoyable dinner was provided at the Corn Exchange, after which many felicitous speeches were made, including a hearty tribute to the owners of the Pavilion, and Mr. R. Pryce, the general-manager. Mr. Dexter was in the chair, and a capable vice was found in Mr. Geo. Austin, leader of the orchestra. Boating was indulged in, and proved very enjoyable, some, we understand, partaking of an involuntary bathe. However, the party arrived home in the best of spirits, and are already looking forward to their next outing.

The staff of Terriss Theatre held their last outing under the present management on Sunday, when an excursion to Hastings was made. The party, numbering nearly sixty, left New Cross in a special saloon carriage shortly after nine, arriving at their destination by noon. The day was gloriously fine, and a ramble round the old town occupied the time before dinner, which took place at the Provincial Hotel, where a sumptuous repast was provided. The health of the firm (Messrs. W. and F. Melville) was proposed in happy terms by Mr. Tom Taylor, and Mr. Will T. Taylor suitably replied. During the afternoon trips by yachts and coach rides were indulged in, and the merry party returned after tea by the 7.15 train, which steamed into New Cross shortly before ten. The genial acting-manager, Mr. Will T. Taylor, upon whom the burden of the arrangements fell, was the recipient of enthusiastic appreciation for the excellent manner in which he had conducted the affair.

BARNARD'S, GREENWICH.

Mr. Bert Dent has placed an excellent programme before his patrons this week, and the hall has been well filled despite the warmth of the weather. After the overture "Under the Double Eagle," rendered with spirit by the band, presided over by Mr. William Skerry, the first item on the programme is the capital singing of "The Shoemaker," and original and funny patter by Mr. Tom Keane. Miss Rosa May appears with success in her songs, entitled "I've Enough" and "Mabel, the Tennis Girl, and Marney and Maurice caused much laughter with their quaint duologue and patter. Miss Nan Farren creates a favourable impression with her song, "A Land of Snow," and a well-executed dance.

Johnny Holland and Co. appear to advantage in a bright little sketch, entitled *New Milk for Breakfast*. The trifle is well acted by Mr. Holland, Mr. E. W. Edmonds, and Miss Rita Warne. Mr. Harold Lewis contributes an excellent extra turn, consisting of grotesque dancing. The Panas, as society entertainers, supply a most attractive item of the bill; the Sisters Allen are very good indeed in their songs "What is the good of knocking at an empty house?" and "The Big Bassoon," while the dancing is very dainty. Mr. Maurice Lee, a capital light comedian, sings successfully of "Willie on the War-path" and "The Taximo." Jock McKay, the Scottish comedian, is loudly applauded in "John McAll," "Both go home together," and "Lizzie." Miss Josie Delaine gains admirers for "Sally," and a neat dance.

Miss Florrie Gallimore is enthusiastically welcomed and warmly applauded; no less than four songs are extracted from the talented artist, who sings in her best style "Always look after Number One," "I wish you luck," "Give us a chance," and "Has anyone seen a German Band?" A graceful and comical act on the elevated wire is done by the Weimars, who also introduce twenty different musical instruments, including the bugle on which Mr. Weimar with his regiment, the 9th Lancers, sounded the famous charge, when with Lord Roberts in his memorable march from Cabul to Kandahar. The pictures by Ruffel's Imperial Bioscope are new and interesting.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

Bristol X.L.C.R. First and Second Eleven v. Music Halls and Theatricals.

Played on Clifton Downs, Sept. 14. Joe Lacey scored the three goals for Music Halls and Theatricals, and Fred B. Nicholls played admirably in goal. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R.:—W. J. Horton, goal; B. Davies and F. Thorne (captain), backs; H. Slade, E. Poole, and F. White, half-backs; A. English, J. Aubrey, E. Belding, H. Clements, and E. Bowman, forwards.

Music Halls and Theatricals:—F. B. Nicholls, goal; C. Ormond and J. Tyley (captain), backs; J. Lacey, W. Hinder, and Franklyn, half-backs; H. C. Douglas, F. Boyce, H. Collings, W. Addison, and Milton, forwards.

Referee: T. Bishop. Linesmen: L. Clayton and A. Mattock.

Result: Bristol X.L.C.R., nil; Music Halls and Theatricals, 3 goals.

"A Fight for a Throne" Co. v. The Spennymoor Shop Assistants. Played on the Spennymoor Northern League ground, on Sept. 18, before 500 spectators. Spennymoor won the toss, and started with the wind and sun in their favour. After a very fast game the result at half-time was nil. Spennymoor scored about ten minutes after the second half commenced, and five minutes later *A Fight for a Throne* equalised, and the match ended in a tie.

"A Fight for a Throne" Team.—Fred Hodson, goal; Chas. E. Linney and J. B. Murray, backs; B. Rose, G. Organ, and Edwin Clarke, half-backs; Leonard Maitland, Karl H. Edwards, H. Haslemere, G. Forsyth, and H. Winter, forwards.

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ON THE ROAD, SEPT. 23.

All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—T. R., Morecambe
Amasis.—King's T., Glasgow.
Assassin.—Palace T., Newcastle.
At Cripple Creek.—Prince's T., Accrington.
At Duty's Call.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Austin, Mary.—Grand T., Nottingham.
Beautiful Fiend.—Gaiety T., Leith.
Beauty and the Barge.—T. R., Hanley.
Belle of Mayfair (Bode).—O. H., Southport.
Belle of Mayfair (Howard).—T. R., Worthing.
Belle of New York (Howard).—Vic., Broughton.
Benson, F. R. (M.).—Maldon and Sudbury.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—T. R., Torquay.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Lossiemouth and Nairn.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—Grand T., Derby.
Blue Moon (Mouillot's).—T. R., Blackburn.
Blue Moon (S.).—Alexandra T., Greenock.
Bondman, The (Croke).—Grand T., Croydon.
Bondman, The (Day).—Winter Gardens, Blackpool.
Boyne, Mr. Leonard.—Londesboro' T., Scarboro'.
Breed of the Treshams.—Grand T., Douglas.
Bulmer, Mr.—Theatre Royal, Barnsley.
Campbell, Mrs. Patrick.—T. R., Hull.
Carl Rosa Opera.—T. R., Brighton.
Cassidy, J. Rice.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Chinese Honeymoon (Bode).—Southend and Eastbourne.
Christian, The (Croke).—Paisley T., Paisley.
Claudian.—Empire, Oldham.
Convict's Daughter.—Crown T., Peckham.
Dairymaids.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
Dairymaids (No. 2).—T. R., Portsmouth.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—T. R., Scarboro'.
D'Oyly Carte Opera.—T. R., Worcester.
Earl and the Girl (Howard).—Winchester and Littlehampton.
Eve of Her Wedding.—East Oxford, Oxford.
Face at the Window.—Lyceum T., Pentre.
False Wife.—O. H., Workington.
Fatal Wedding.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Female Swindler.—T. R., Wolverhampton.
Florodora (Howard).—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
For Her Sake.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Gayest of the Gay.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Geisha.—Theatre Royal, Exeter.
Girl from Japan.—Worthing and Tunbridge Wells.
Girl Redeemed from Sin.—Court T., Bacup.
Girl Who Went Astray.—T. R., Chesterfield.
Glossop-Harris.—Victoria T., Bridlington.
Greed of Gold.—T. R., Cardiff.
Guilty Gold.—T. R., Clydebank.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—T. R., Cambridge.
Her Lost Self.—T. R., Tildesley.
Her Love Against the World.—T. R., Bristol.
Her Luck in London.—Grand T., Nelson.
Her Marriage Vow.—New T., Cambridge.
Her One Great Sin.—Dumfries and Horwich.
His House in Order (Alexander).—Court T., Liverpool.
His House in Order (Kempton).—Ripon and Hexham.
His House in Order (N.).—H. M. T., Dundee.
His House in Order (S.).—Lyceum T., Newport
Honeymoon, The.—Whitby
Hughes, Miss Annie.—Grand T., Llandudno.
In the Shadow of Night.—Met. T., Devonport.
Irving, H. B.—T. R., Manchester.
John Glayde's Honour.—Prince's T., Bristol.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Banff and Arbroath.
Lady Dandies.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Lancashire Lad.—T. R., Leigh.
La Poupee (Levilly).—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
La Poupee (Ralland).—O. H., Wakefield.
Leah Kleschna.—O. H., Cheltenham.
Lion and the Mouse.—Spa T., Scarborough.
Little Breadwinner.—T. R., Lincoln.
Little Lord Fauntleroy.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Love of a Life.—Miners' T., Ashington.
Lucky Durham.—Kirkcaldy and Falkirk.
Manxman.—T. R., Goole.
Martin Harvey.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Mice and Men.—T. R., Merthyr.
Midnight Mail.—T. R., Leeds.
Mollison, Wm.—T. R., Preston.
Moncton Hoffe Comedy Co.—T. R., York.
Monte Cristo.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Moody-Manners (A.).—Palace T., Halifax.
Moody-Manners (B.).—T. R., Norwich.
Moore, Miss Decima.—O. H., Middlesbrough.
Mr. Popple.—Boro' T., Stratford.
Mr. Smith.—T. R., Jarrow.
My Darling.—T. R., Newcastle.
My Wife.—Buxton and Southend.
Peter's Mother (M.).—Barnstaple and Taunton.
Peter's Mother (N.).—T. R., Bournemouth.
Peter's Mother (S.).—T. R., Bolton.
Power of Gold.—Lyceum T., Crewe.
Prince of Pilsen (Harriss).—Grand T., Swansea.
Private Secretary.—Guernsey.
Prodigal Daughter.—T. R., Birkenhead.
Prodigal Parson.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Prodigal Son (Croke).—Aquarium, Gt. Yarmouth.
Prodigal Son (Day).—T. R., Rochdale.
Prodigal Son (Western).—St. James's T., Long Eaton.
Proof.—Court Theatre, Warrington.
Raffles (Dance).—O. H., Barrow.
Rollicking Rory.—Century T., Motherwell.
Royal Divorce.—Grand T., Islington, N.
Second to None.—T. R., Sheffield.
Secret Wedding.—Horwich.
Sentenced for Life.—T. R., Barnsley.
Sherlock Holmes.—Crystal Palace Theatre.
Shulamite, The.—Mansfield.
Sign of the Cross.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Silver King (Howard).—Aberavon.
Silver King (Polini and Melford).—T. R., Stockport.
Silver King (Polini and Melford).—Barry Dock.
Sin of Her Childhood.—T. R., Grantham.
Soldier of France.—T. R., W. Stanley.
Soldier's Honour.—P. O. W., Mexborough.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—T. R., Stratford, E.
Still Alarm.—T. R., Windsor.
Stronger Sex (N.)—P. G., Folkestone.
Stronger Sex (S.).—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Swiss Express.—O. H., Burnley.
Terry, Edward.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
Terry, Miss Ellen.—P. O. W., Kennington.
Traitor, The.—T. R., Aston.
Two Lancashire Lasses in London.—Manchester.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—Star T., Liverpool.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—Grand T., Chorley.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.).—T. R., Ilkeston.
Tyrant, The.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Under the Russian Flag.—T. R., Croydon.
Village Blacksmith.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—Hastings and Folkestone.
What the Butler Saw.—T. R., Huddersfield.
When It was Dark.—Royalty T., Llanelly.
When London Sleeps.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
When Other Lips.—Bishop Auckland.
When Woman Hates.—T. R., Chesterfield.
Why Men Love Women.—Hippo., Salford.
Wilkie Allan and Co.—Irving T., Seacombe.
Woman from Scotland Yard.—T. R., Bilston.
Woman Pays.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Woman Worth Winning.—Grand T., Walsall.
Woman's Past.—Alhambra T., Stourbridge.
Worst Woman in London.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Youngest of Three.—Victoria, Ramsgate.
Young Lieutenant.—T. R., Glossop.
£1000 Reward.—Town Hall, Macstag.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

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All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

E. W. SMITH.—*We have been fortunate enough to be able to refer your question to a celebrated gymnast who has retired from the profession. He remembers the performance of Abachi and Mazuz, Moorish acrobats. Mazuz did a double forward somersault from the ground at the Hippodrome, Paris, in 1881. The pair performed in this country in the early eighties, and might have been at Birmingham, as you state. Olchansky, another acrobat, did a double backward somersault.*

JOHN DARLISON.—*We are unable to tell you when Siberia was produced in America. It first saw the footlights at the Princess's on Dec. 14, 1887. Information about copyright may be obtained possibly from Samuel French, Ltd., Southampton-street, Strand; or, Mrs. Douglas Cox's Dramatic Authors' Agency, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C. Mrs. Ennis Lawson toured the play for years.*

INQUIRER.—*The Waterloo Theatre, Whitby, is the original Star Theatre, built in 1878. The licence was relinquished and the place let as a sale-room until about two years ago, when it was reopened as a theatre. It holds barely 500 persons, and has a small stage.*

A. E.—*"Queen of my heart" in Dorothy was sung by Mr. Hayden Coffin towards the end of the year 1886, and was sung both at the Gaiety and Lyric Theatres.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

DUNNING.—Sept. 10, at the Brunswick Hotel, Paragon-street, Hull, the wife of Herbert S. Dunning, of a son.

NOBLE.—Sept. 14, at 16, West Lea-avenue, Otley-road, Harrogate, the wife of Milner Noble, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

FAUE—WALLIS.—James Faue, of the Three Faues, to Elizabeth Wallis, by special licence, at Brixton, Sept. 18, 1907. Whimsical Walker gave the bride away.

MCDONALD—JACOBI.—Wm. McDonald, Musical-Director, to Rosalie Jacobi, on Sept. 12, at the Camberwell Registry Office.

DEATHS.

HEATH.—Sept. 12, at Barnsley, Mrs. Florrie Heath, widow of Fred Heath (formerly of Heath and Garton), music hall artist.

NICHOLSON.—Sept. 14, at his residence, Hinckley-road, Leicester, Henry Nicholson, flautist, formerly manager for the late Mr. Sims Reeves, aged 83.

ROSA. — Madeline Rosa (lady ventriloquist, Mrs. Frank Travis), passed away on Thursday, Sept. 19, at her residence, 62, Morley-road, Leyton. Peace at last.

TAYLOR.—Sept. 12, at the General Hospital, Birmingham, of heart failure, Greene Taylor, actor and vocalist.

ULPH.—Sept. 17, at Grafton Mansions, Duke-road, Stella (formerly Stella Lauri, première danseuse), widow of the late Harry Ulph, jun., aged 44.

IN MEMORIAM.

AINSLEY.—In loving memory of our adored mother, Mary Ainsley, wife of the late Captain Ainsley, of Liverpool, who passed away, Sept. 22, 1906. While God gives us memory, never forgotten by your loving daughters, Marie and Kitty (Sisters Ely).

DAY.—In loving memory of James Day, who departed this life at Glasgow, Sept. 26, 1905. Rest in peace. Inserted by his daughter, Mrs. S. Mackintosh, The Carnival, Glasgow.

EVANS.—In loving memory of our dear sister, Mrs. Fred Evans (Florador), who passed away Sept. 19, 1904. Never forgotten by her sister and brother, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Jee Burnell. R.I.P.

LAKE.—In ever-loving memory of Charles Herbert Frederick Lake, only brother of Lily Lake (Mrs. C. A. Thimm), who passed away Sept. 18, 1905, at Tunbridge Wells. "He giveth His beloved sleep."

LEYBOURNE.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband, George Leybourne, who died Sept. 15, 1884. Never forgotten by his devoted wife, ANNIE LEYBOURNE.

MOORE.—In loving and affectionate memory of George Washington Moore, jun., who passed away Sept. 20, 1901. Still sadly missed by his loving father and family. Peace, perfect peace, dear George.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Arthur Roberts—Saturday, Sept. 21.
Charles Hawtrey—Saturday, Sept. 21.
(Miss) Mab. Paul—Saturday, Sept. 21.
Frank Hemming—Saturday, Sept. 21.
Val Gully—Saturday, Sept. 21.
Fred Clarke, jun.—Saturday, Sept. 21.
Clara Jecks—Sunday, Sept. 22.
Lilah McCarthy—Sunday, Sept. 22.
Dickie Claro—Sunday, Sept. 22.
J. Lynward Grahame—Sunday, Sept. 22.
Billy Ross—Sunday, Sept. 22.
William Archer—Monday, Sept. 23.
Sylvia Morris—Monday, Sept. 23.
Adria Hill—Tuesday, Sept. 24.
Gertrude Kingston—Tuesday, Sept. 24.
(Miss) Leslie Warner—Tuesday, Sept. 24.
Gertrude Kingston—Wednesday, Sept. 25.
Yorke Stephens—Thursday, Sept. 26.
Percival Craig—Thursday, Sept. 26.
Edmund Gwenn—Thursday, Sept. 26.
Fred Fulton—Thursday, Sept. 26.
Clifton Bingham—Thursday, Sept. 26.
Angelo A. Asher—Thursday, Sept. 26.
Will Hebden—Thursday, Sept. 26.
Hugh Montgomery—Thursday, Sept. 26.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list.

Aarons, Mr. A. E.
Austa, Miss Amba
Ball, Mr. Elijah
Banford, Mr. Harry
Banks, Mr. Chas.
Barass, Mr. Frank
Barker, Mr.
Barnes, Miss E.
Beaudyn, Mr. Montague
Beaue, Belle
Bell, Mr. Arnold
Bickford, Mr. Melville
Biddall, Brothers
Black, Miss Jessica
Boggis, Mr. Percy
Brockbank, Mr. H.
Brown, Mr.
Burdett, Mr. Frank E.
Burrow, Mr. C. Kennett
Busta Ben Arabs
Calvert, Mrs. A.
Cameron, Mr. Chas.
Cameron, Miss Elsie
Campbell, Miss A. E.
Cane, Mr. B.
Cartmell, Miss Violet
Castle, Mr. Chas.
Chipperfield, Mr. James
Clifton, Mr. Stanley
Cohen, Miss Bessie
Coleman, Mr. George S.
Coleman, Miss Nellie
Colman, Miss Fannie
Combes, Mr. Arthur
Comely, Miss Mabel
Conquest, Mr. A.
Conyers, Mr. Fred
Cooper, Miss M.
Correze, Mr. H.
Corrick, Mr. A.
Courtenay, Mr. P.
Cronin, Mr. Morris
Cunningham, Miss M.
Dampier, Mr. Alfred
Dare, Mr. Harry
Davey, Mr. Phil
Deane, Mr. Charles
Dempsey, Mr.
Diamond, Mr. Charlie
Dooley, Mr. Sid
Dryden, Mr. Leo
Dundas, Miss Lillian
Durell, Mr. Leonard
Earl, Miss Ethel
Edgar, Mr. Marriott
Edwards, Miss Bee
Elder, Miss Mance
Elliott, Miss Maxine
Emery, Mr. Lawrence
Endon, Miss Edie
Fischer, Mr. Harry
Flemming, Mr. Herbert
Frantz, Miss A.
French, Mr. Billie
Fuller, Mr. Fred
Gibraltar Girls
Gilbey, Mr. Tom
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Ginnett, Mr. George
Giovanni Brothers
Grosby and Walker
Hall, Mr. G. Edward
Hall, Mr. Tatten
Hampton, Mr. Jack
Hardy, Mr. Fred
Hare, Mr. James
Harrison, Mr. W.
Harvey, Miss Kate
Hebden, Mr. Will
Hemming, Miss Bessie
Henries, Le
Hickey, Mr. Joseph P.
Hickley, Mr. Leo
Hoblyn, Mr. F. H.
Holt, Mrs. Bland
Housden, Mr. H. F.
Howard, Mr. J. Myron
Howard, Mr. Wilfred
Howards, The
Hugh, Miss Francis
Huntley, Mr. G. P.
Ireland, Mdme Maude
Ireson, Mr. Dudley
Ishmael, Mr. Prince P.
Jacobi, Miss R.
Jeffries, Miss Maud
Jewell, Miss Jess
Jones, Mr. C. Emlyn
Judge's Cockatoos
Kisbey, Mr. H. J.
Kitchin, Mr. Fred
Klein, Mr. Cecil
Knighton, Mr. T.
Kroney Brothers
La Dor Troupe
La Mara, Miss Chummie
Land, Mr. Fred
Langton, Mr. Stephen
Langtry, Mrs.
Lashwood, Mr. G.
Law, Mr. Thomas L.
Le Roy, Miss Mabel
Lotto, Mr. G.
Lovell, Mr. H. C.
Loveridge, Mrs. Emily
Lukushima Troupe
Lynne, Mr. Frank
MacLaren, Mr. Ian
Madderson, Mr. Bates
Manders, Mr. Albert
Marshall, Miss
Matt, Miss Edith
McHugh, Mr. Fred
Melia, Mr. Martin
Milian, Mr. Max
Mintos, The
Monson, Miss M.
Moore, Miss Lucy
Morgan, Mr. J. M.
Negus, Mr. J.
Norman, Mr. A. W.
Odell, Miss Maude
O'Gorman, Miss Lil
Ord, Mr. S. D.
Pakenham, Mr. R. D.
Palmer, Mr. Geo. G.
Paull, Miss Ethel G.
Pearson, Mr. Boyd
Phipps, Mr. John
Potter, Miss May
Potter, Mrs. Cora U.
Prinellas, The
Queade
Ravenswood, Mr. Edwin
Revington and Gordon
Rich, Mr. Alf
Ringnol, Miss N.
Roberts, Mr. Arthur
Robertson, Mr. Forbes
Sandell, Mr. Harry
Scroggs, Mr. Chas.
Scudamore, Mrs. F. A.
Shine, Mr. J. L.
Sinclair, Mrs. Victor
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Smith, Mr. Horace G.
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Temple, Mr. Chas.
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Thorburn, Mrs. Charles
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Turnbull, Mr. A. D.
Valentine, Mr. H. R.
Vane, Miss Edith
Vincent, Mr. Leonard
Volter, Mr.
Vousden, Mr. Ernest
Wakefield, Miss Kate
Walker, Mr. W.
Walonell, Mr. J.
Waterfield, Mr. C.
Whittington Trio
Wielan, Miss Clara
Williams, Mr. Ford
Wilson, Mr. Wm.
Wood, Mrs. John
Woodville, Mr. Arthur
Wright and Elton
Wylie, Mr. Laurie
Wynne, Mr. E. S.
Zerbinis, Mr. Victor

CRICKET.

MR. F. R. BENSON'S XI. V. E. B. RAILTON'S SCARBOROUGH XI.

Played at Scarborough on Thursday, Sept. 12. Scores:—

F. R. Benson's XI.—Leslie Holland, c Southwell, b Colson, 4; J. P. Wilson, c Cole, b Venables, 73; F. G. Worlock, c Smith, b Southwell, 1; G. Hannam-Clark, b Venables, 10; J. Robertson, c Railton, b Southwell, 49; G. Rathbone, b Railton, 24; M. Carrington, c Southwell, b Railton, 4; E. Buchanan, b Railton, 4; H. O. Nicholson, b Taylor, 3; S. Howlett, not out, 17; F. R. Benson, c Southwell, b Railton, 2; extras, 39. Total, 229.

Mr. Railton's XI. was dismissed for 80 runs.

THE LADIES OF "THE TOREADOR" CO. V. MR. GRADY'S PONTYPRIDD XI.

Played on the Pontypridd C.C. ground on Sept. 12.

"TOREADOR" Co.—Miss Moore, c Grady, b Lloyd, 2; Miss Leonard, b Lloyd, 0; Miss Simpson, b Strong, 3; Miss Craven, b Cadbie, 2; Miss Toussant, c Cadbie, b Williams, 1; Miss Howard, c Cadbie, b Williams, 4; Miss Baum, b Lloyd, 2; Miss Leigh, c Lloyd, b Grady, 3; Miss Wood, b Grady, 7; Miss Taylor, c Strong, b Lloyd, 2; Miss Wright, run out, 2; Miss James, not out, 2; Miss Russell, b Grady, 1; extras, 17. Total, 48.

MR. GRADY'S PONTYPRIDD XI.—L. Cadbie, lbw, b Wright, 4; T. Williams, b Wright, 0; A. Owen, lbw b Moore, 3; Lloyd, b Howard, 12; Strong, run out, 2; D. Williams, lbw, b Howard, 0; E. Williams, run out, 0; Heaton, b Simpson, 0; A. McGregor, not out, 10; J. Grady, b Howard, 0; W. Lewis, b Leigh, 0; extras, 4. Total, 35.

MR. R. CROSSMAN'S "LADY SLAVEY" XI. V. MR. LINGARD'S XI.

Played on the Halifax ground at Thrum Hall, for the benefit of local charities, on Sept. 13.

"Lady Slavey" Co.—Saker, c Coyle, b Dodds, 18; Thompson, c Montgomery, b Wright, 7; Jones, b Dodds, 23; Croker, not out, 36; Henderson, b Dodds, 0; Irving, b L. Montgomery, 23; Gywne, b Dodds, 13; Hilton, not out, 1; extras, 19. Total (for 6 wickets; innings declared), 140.

Mr. Lingard's Team.—Coyle, retired, 57; Lewin, retired, 27; Montgomery, c Lemp, b Hilton, 17; E. Calvert, b Croker, 1; C. V. Wright, b Croker, 18; Greenwood, not out, 10; R. Calvert, not out, 12. Total (for 5 wickets), 152.

F. R. BENSON'S CO. V. LESLIE HOLLAND'S "HOOK OF HOLLAND" XI.

Played on the Scarborough Ground on Sept. 13. Scores:—

F. R. Benson's XI.—J. P. Wilson, b Holland, 8; G. Buchanan, b Barker, 9; F. G. Worlock, c and b Binks, 46; G. Hannam-Clark, c Robertson, b Barker, 0; G. Rathbone, b Holland, 43; H. O. Nicholson, not out, 65; F. R. Benson, b Binks, 10; M. Carrington, b Binks, 0; S. Howlett, b Binks, 0; T. Lucas, b Robertson, 49; J. Johnston, b Binks, 0; extras, 41. Total, 271.

Hook of Holland XI.—Dr. Barker, b Rathbone, 5; F. Taylor, b Rathbone, 2; E. B. Railton, c Nicholson, b Rathbone, 29; L. Holland, b Rathbone, 0; Binks, b Buchanan, 5; J. Robertson, lbw, b Rathbone, 11; Cleveland, b Buchanan, 0; J. Benson, b Buchanan, 0; Harrold, b Rathbone, 0; Russ, b Buchanan, 0; Reeves, not out, 0; extras, 8. Total, 60.

Rathbone took 7 wickets for 34, Buchanan 3 for 0.

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"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

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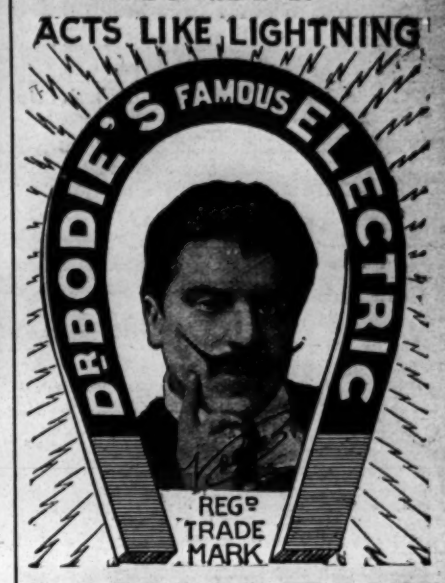

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
A compendium of great value to all interested professionally or otherwise, in music and the drama is "The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual, the issue for 1907 of which has just been issued (London: 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, 1s.). Especially attractive are the stories told by some twenty artists, whose photographs and autographs are included.—Glasgow Herald, Jan. 31.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
That invaluable annual, "The Era" Almanac, has just made its appearance for 1907. In addition to its usual record of the important productions and revivals of the past twelve months in London and Paris, there is a series of bright contributions by Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Edward German, Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Charles Collette, Miss Alma Murray, and other well-known members of the profession.—Sunday Times, Jan. 27.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual for 1907 will be cordially welcomed by the profession, as well as by all who are interested in the modern theatre and concert-hall. It contains some racy little sketches by Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Pollie Emery, Mr. Charles Collette, and other well-known artists; much useful information and many illustrations.—Leicester Daily Post, Jan. 23, 1907.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for 1907, published at a shilling from 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, is, as usual, a happy combination of record, almanac, and literary symposium. The last-mentioned aspect is one that most commends the work to the lay reader. The literary contributions are signed by well-known artists who have contributed personal experiences of remembered incidents, and whose portraits adorn the pages. A touch of pathos is lent to an otherwise cheery publication by the inclusion of stage and music-hall favourites who died last year, one of whom was Mr. J. L. Toole.—Financier and Bullionist, Feb. 6.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for 1907 is out, published from the offices of "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. It is the usual complete record of doings in theatreland during the past year, and possesses a live interest in the number of excellent personal contributions by well-known managers, authors, actors, and actresses of the day.—Sportsman, Jan. 22, 1907.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for the current year, besides having all the usual valuable features which make the work so necessary for reference, has, for a special feature, a series of short articles, stories, or sketches by prominent members of the dramatic and musical profession, a well-executed portrait of each writer accompanying the text. The obituary for last year—unfortunately a heavy one—is given in a series of photograph likenesses of those departed. The full-page portrait of Mr. J. L. Toole is, indeed, worth more than the humble shilling at which the Annual is sold. The monthly calendar is, as usual, a storehouse of interesting facts connected with the stage. — Weekly Times and Echo.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
The "Era Annual" for 1907 is now out. It is full of good things, and will be eagerly perused by all who are interested in dramatic and musical affairs and personnel. Portraits of, and original contributions by, several public favourites and managers appear, including Miss Ellen Terry, who tells "How I Spend My Day"; Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Charles Collette, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Matthew Brodie, Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Edith Cole, and Mr. Tom Craven. There is, in addition, the usual store of miscellaneous theatrical information which is indispensable to all who are interested in stage matters.—Liverpool Post, Jan. 26.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
A capital shilling's worth is the "Era Annual," with its valuable lists of new plays produced during the year in London, the provinces, Berlin, and Paris. It contains, also, many readable articles by stage favourites, notably a characteristic contribution, "How I Spend My Day," by Miss Ellen Terry.—Daily Express, Feb. 2.

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Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.
Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.
Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

HOW I SPEND MY DAY.
By ELLEN TERRY.
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See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1907.

LOVE AND THE DRAMA.

The opening of the VEDRENNE-BARKER season at the Savoy Theatre on Monday has been accompanied by the publication by A. H. BULLEN of a very acute and analytical "commentary and criticism" by DESMOND MACCARTHY, entitled "The Court Theatre—1904-1907." It was inevitable that the discussion of the enterprise of Messrs. VEDRENNE and BARKER should chiefly consist of a consideration of the art of Mr. BERNARD SHAW, and the extraordinary gentleness and moderation which Mr. MACCARTHY displays are as commendable as they are rare. Few persons can approach Mr. SHAW in a really judicial frame of mind. Either the critic is so bewildered by Mr. SHAW's flow of rhetoric and so crushed by the fertility of his arguments as to "throw up the sponge," and seek refuge in the weak remark that "No one takes SHAW seriously," or he becomes irritated, and gives back blow for blow. Mr. MACCARTHY has calmly steered between these two extremes. The delightful manner in which he has proved Mr. SHAW inconsistent is only equalled by the almost fatherly way in which, after passing the hardest of judgments, he has framed the sweetest apologies for the convict.

The prime defect of most of Mr. SHAW's work is that it is scientific, not intuitive and instructive. Mr. SHAW cannot be described as "very human." The resistance which he evokes from many worthy people is due to the sense that though they are talked down by the writer, and unable to grapple with him in argument, their own knowledge and consciousness assures them that he, not they, is in the wrong. And, feeling this, and also resenting the bounceable, bumptious tone which is habitual to Mr. SHAW, the individual becomes indignant. This, of course, is just what Mr. SHAW likes. An article like the recent attack on him in *Blackwood* is worth many pounds to an author in the way of advertisement. Thus both parties are pleased. The critic is relieved of his bile; and Mr. SHAW's name is kept well before the public.

It is one of his greatest complaints that the attraction of the sexes for one another has been made far too much of as the mainspring of drama. "His quarrel with modern dramatists," says Mr. MACCARTHY, "is that they represent a passion which is only all-powerful in day-dreams as pervasively effective in practical affairs."

We are surprised in this connection that Mr. SHAW has not derived more benefit from the study of his favourite SCHOPENHAUER. He was a cross-grained little hermit, and, personally, one of the pack of "philosophers" for whom Mr. SHAW avowedly writes; but he had an eye for truth, and he realised the importance of Love as a mainspring of action in real life. This is where Mr. SHAW fails.

It is the view he takes of Love as a temporary insanity or a kind of nervous disease that makes Mr. SHAW's love-scenes so dry and unreal. Funny as they are, they are, taken as art, simply fantastic. Take, for instance, the following extract from the wooing of Gloria Clandon by Valentine in *You Never Can Tell*, performed at the Savoy last Monday:

GLORIA (*uneasily, rising*): Let us go back to the beach.

VALENTINE (*darkly—looking up at her*): What! you feel it, too?

GLORIA: Feel what?

VALENTINE: Dread.

GLORIA: Dread!

VALENTINE: As if something were going to happen. It came over me suddenly just before you proposed that we should run away to the others.

GLORIA (*amazed*): That's strange—very strange! I had the same presentiment.

VALENTINE: How extraordinary! (*Rising*). Well: shall we run away?

GLORIA: Run away! Oh, no: that would be childish. (*She sits down again. He resumes his seat beside her, and watches her with a gravely sympathetic air. She is thoughtful and a little troubled as she adds*) I wonder what is the scientific explanation of those fancies that cross us occasionally!

VALENTINE: Ah, I wonder! It's a curiously helpless sensation, isn't it?

GLORIA (*rebelling against the word*): Helpless?

VALENTINE: Yes. As if Nature, after allowing us to belong to ourselves and do what we judged right and reasonable for all these years, were suddenly lifting her great hand to take us—her two little children—by the scruffs of our little necks, and use us, in spite of ourselves, for her own purposes, in her own way.

It does not require to be gifted with genius to perceive that the above, as a representation of the courtship of a middle-class young woman by a young dentist, is absurd. It is neither observed nor truly imagined. It is machine-made art, turned out by a workman of special faculty, but with glaring limitations. One of the reasons why so many people persist in treating Mr. SHAW as a mere intellectual buffoon is the absence from his equipment of instinctive insight into things which are common perceptive property. "Mr. SHAW's principal failing," says Mr. MACCARTHY with benevolent understatement, "is to exaggerate the stupidity of mankind." An artist who approaches his material in this spirit may be very clever and ingenious, but there will always be a certain shallowness and aridity about his work. It is very natural that Mr. SHAW should vote for the exclusion of Love from the stock-in-trade of our dramatists. The man who is colour-blind wants everyone to paint in monochrome. Vivie in *Mrs. Warren's Profession* is an educated icicle; Candida is what Lickcheese would call a "calker-latin' machine"; Ann, so far from being Everywoman, is simply a brazen hussy, and only a crazy fool like Tanner would be conquered by her. Curious characters these, interesting and amusing in a way. The only trouble is that they are not alive, and that no amount of preface-writing or artistic acting can make them so.

"THE FOLLIES" AT TERRY'S.

Again are the Follies adding to the gaiety of London by an entertainment of the lightest texture, the scene of their frivolling being now transferred to Terry's. The crowd was a most acceptable attraction at the halls; but in the short half-hour allotted them there they were unable to exploit their talents to the full, and that there is a place for them in the economy of London amusements apart from legitimate entertainments of the stage or variety was conclusively proved on Monday by a large audience, which treated Pelissier's Pierrots to a rousing welcome.

Their present entertainment is made up largely of travestie. The possibilities of musical parody have never, we think, been so happily utilised as in "1912: an Overture Shemozzelle by Take-offski." It need hardly be said that this is a skit on Tschaikowski's overture "1812," which, as most of our readers know, is a work that describes with considerable "pomp and circumstance" the disastrous retreat from Moscow of Napoleon's Army. At intervals in the serious work we hear snatches of "The Marseillaise" and the Russian National Hymn, with the clash of the great bell in the Kremlin and the noise of cannon. In the skit the melody of "Rule Britannia" is feebly given out, to be immediately drowned by all sorts of alien melodies. The "majestic cacophony" is announced as the greatest, last, and only work of Pelitzierovitch Takoffski, the sublime young maëstro of Poland (Street). "Born of humble parents (possibly the first alien refugees to invade our shores), he started life as a trouser-hand under the immediate supervision of his father. Surrounded, as he was, by exiles from almost every European country, who had by that time annexed Soho, and influenced by a natural distaste for the nation that had fostered him, there is little wonder that the imagination of the romantic youth was obsessed by the glorious vision of an England entirely under a foreign yoke—an admittedly egg-otistical view of the situation. In a prophetic moment he fixed the date on which his desires would be consummated at 1912, and proceeded to evolve what is accepted by all who have heard it as one of the most heartrending tone-poems ever conceived by the brain of man."

"Vast orchestra" is represented by a cleverly-painted cloth by J. T. Bull and Sons, and the orchestra is conducted by a counterfeit presentment of Mr. Henry Wood, and Mr. Pelissier is at the piano; Mr. Lewis Sydney contenting himself with the repetition of a melancholy phrase on the tin whistle. A really clever piece of fooling!

Burlesques of *Hamlet* have been known on the London stage ever since 1810, when Poole's *Hamlet Travestie* saw the footlights. It was performed at Covent Garden in 1813 with Mathews, the elder, as Hamlet, Blanchard as the King, Liston as Ophelia, and Mrs. Liston as the Queen. It was part of Poole's method to put the soliloquies in the form of songs. Messrs. Pelissier, Arthur Davenport, and Walter Davidson only hint at the soliloquies, having a very natural predilection for song and dance. Hamlet is threatened with the lock-up in the first scene for uttering bad language, and later, imbibing his father's spirit, which is "Black and White," sings a topical song. In the play-scene he, seated in a box, enjoys with Ophelia (Miss Gwennie Mars) a burlesque of the Follies; and "get thee to a nunnery" forms the cue for a funny concerted piece. Hamlet gives way to homicidal mania at the finish, and after polishing off everybody is shot by Shakespeare.

In a most amusing "foreword" to the new burlesque Mr. Pelissier says, "In taking sundry liberties with the text, and particularly in introducing 'song and dance,' we feel justified by the result of our careful researches through many tomes, and by the admitted adaptability of the great dramatist. He was no narrow-minded conventionalist, but a man who lived and thought up to date. Beyond all doubt, therefore, the writer of *Hamlet* would, at the present time, knowing the present tendency of modern taste, have written his play in the form of musical comedy." Again, "With all respect to the great actors and managers who have ventured to play and produce *Hamlet* from time to time, it appears to those who are responsible for this new acting version of the work that hitherto the whole foundation of the Prince of Denmark's character has been overlooked. Does he not talk of his 'too too solid flesh,' and is he not described in the immortal bard's own words as 'fat and scant of breath'? Why, then, should he be portrayed as a romantic, often cadaverous figure"? Why, indeed, when Mr. Pelissier, who boasts of fourteen stone at least, is so ready to amuse us by a great Dane, less "dogged" in his obstinacy, and obviously less peevish. He has some beautiful curls in a wig of solemn black made by Clarkson, and is genuinely funny. Mr. Lewis Sydney plays the King in a most entertaining fashion; and Miss Effie Cook, who sings particularly well, has quite the proper mock tragic mood as Gertrude. The first part of the entertainment is largely made up of items previously noticed.

HAYDN, the musician, was an enthusiastic admirer of the seventeenth century actress Mrs. Billington; and one day calling on Sir Joshua Reynolds, he found her sitting for her portrait to that celebrated painter. This was Sir Joshua's famous singer, in which Mrs. Billington is represented in the character of St. Cecilia, listening to the celestial music. Haydn, having looked for some moments attentively at the portrait, said, "It is very like—a fine likeness; but there is a strange mistake." "What is that?" said Sir Joshua, hastily. Haydn answered, "You have painted her listening to the angels; you ought to have represented the angels listening to her." Mrs. Billington was so much charmed by this compliment, that she sprang from her seat, and threw her fair arms around Haydn's neck.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

THE usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held at 10, King-street, Covent Garden, on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. Fred Grove (chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Rose Mathews, Wynne Matthison, and Lucy Sibley, and Messrs. Arthur Applin, Granville Barker, Cecil Brooking, Lewis Casson, Edmund Gurney, Fredk. Morland, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The hon. solicitors reported further correspondence in three cases for the recovery of salary. The cases were considered, and further instructions given. It was agreed that the seal of the A.A. be affixed to the power of attorney authorising the sale of £83 2s. 2d., being all the £2 10s. per cent. consolidated stock standing in the name of the Actors' Association. The seal was accordingly affixed.

A PROPOSITION was before the Council that they should adopt the report of the committee appointed to consider matters in connection with the proposed meeting at Manchester or elsewhere. This report recommended that resolutions be submitted to the meeting:—1. Insisting on the need that actors should organise as wage-earners to protect their own interests. 2. Advocating a Trade Union policy for the A.A. with the object of ultimately raising the salaries of the worst paid in the profession. An amendment that the report of the committee be referred back to them as being of too revolutionary a character was lost. An amendment that the Council approve of the principle of the committee's report, but ask them to redraft it without using the words "trade union," found no seconder, and the original resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

IT was agreed that the secretary should write to Mr. S. Major Jones, asking him whether he would, if elected, serve on the Council in the place of Mr. Spencer Trevor, retired. The further consideration of the question of filling the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. Athol Forde was adjourned until next week.

MR. FREDK. MORLAND gave a report of the proceedings of the recent fortnightly meeting, and it was agreed that Mr. Arthur Applin be elected as chairman of the next meeting, to be held on the 27th inst. Mr. Applin agreed to accept the position. The chairman read the replies from those written to on the subject of election on the Social Committee, and Mesdames Winifred Mayo, Edyth Olive, and Phyllis Relph, and Mr. P. L. Julian were elected members of this committee, and the secretary was directed to write to Miss Margaret Cavania and Miss Beatrix de Burgh asking them if they would also accept seats.

THE chairman read a letter with regard to an alleged bogus manager from a non-member, and the secretary was directed to file same for future reference, and to write suggesting that the complainant should communicate with the theatrical press on the subject. The secretary suggested that he should, on the 1st proximo, send out to the landladies advertising from Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, 1907, in *The Era* and *Stage* and in the "A.A. Year Book" for 1907, circulars he submitted, soliciting advertisements in the "A.A. Year Book" for 1908. He also submitted that in cases where landladies' advertisements had already appeared, no further recommendations were required. This was agreed to.

THE secretary suggested he should send a circular letter to the hon. medical officers asking for particulars as to alteration of addresses and addition of degrees (if any), times of attendance, telephone Nos., &c., as probably since the publication of the present issue of the "Year Book" some had ceased practice, changed their addresses, were dead, or were not desirous of continuing their appointments, and he deemed it advisable that the list published in the "A.A. Year Book" for 1908 should be as correct as possible. He was directed to carry out his suggestion.

THE secretary was directed to call a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee for to-day (Saturday) at eleven o'clock. The secretary referred to the requisition from the Metropolitan Water Board, and he was directed to carry out instructions. Ruby Wyndham, Mary Deverell, and Julietta Milo were nominated for election; Helen MacGregor, Florence Morris (late Nairne), Beatrice Ferrar, Ada Melrose, and Leslie Lees were reinstated; John W. H. Sutherland was elected.

"THE PLAY-ACTOR."

Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Charles Riminton, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Preston, on Thursday, Sept. 12.

Charles Barnes ....MR. W. RENE HAMMERSMITH
Tobias Marsh .....MR. HARRY C. MORTON
James Marsh .....MR. C. H. HUGHES
Rev. Thomas Topham ..MR. FORRESTER HARVEY
G. R. Simpson .....MR. CHARLES MIDDLETON
Mrs. Marsh.....MISS ELEANOR PAPERA
Charlotte .....MISS CATHERINE PARRY
Mme. Legrand....MISS RUBY HAMILTON-BELASCO
Fanny Sparkes ....MISS JENNY DOUGLAS-HICKS
Sophie Sparkes .....MISS FREDA BELMONT
Jane .....MISS LILIAN FRANCIS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Tobias Marsh is a soap maker who has "made his pile," and is desirous of his daughter Charlotte forming an alliance with the Rev. Thomas Topham, an extremely mild and simple dissenting parson, quite under the influence of James Marsh, Tobias's hypocritical brother, who, knowing that Tobias intends providing his daughter with a marriage portion of £10,000, has induced Topham to promise him a very considerable portion of this amount should he marry his niece. Charlotte refuses to fall in with her father's wishes, being in love with Charles Barnes (a play actor), whose suit is ably seconded by her mother. The first act concludes with a stormy scene between the father and daughter, who threatens to send her abroad for her obstinacy, and the entrance of the Rev. Thos. Topham, who is carried in liberally ornamented with sticking plaster and bandages, after having, accidentally or otherwise, nearly fallen into one of his prospective father-in-law's soap vats while viewing his works.

The scene of Act II. is laid in Boulogne, where Charlotte has been sent, under the care of Mme. Legrand, a susceptible French widow, who has strict injunctions to allow her to see no one with the exception of her father, uncle, and the reverend gentleman, who presumes to try and win her affections. Her lover, Charles Barnes, assumes the character of waiter at the Hotel des Baines (which is fortunately owned by an old friend of his father), succeeds in making the Rev. Topham hopelessly drunk, and, after gaining possession of an agreement between Topham and James Barnes in which the former agrees to pay the latter a large sum of money out of Charlotte's marriage portion, decorates him with a table-cloth and some paper frills from the ham, places him in a Bath chair with a cigar in his mouth, and wheels him on to the verandah. Mme. Legrand and Charlotte arrive. Barnes discloses his identity to Charlotte, and then agrees to impersonate her uncle, and makes violent love to the susceptible widow, finally asking her to marry him, a proposal she is not slow to accept, Charlotte arriving on the scene just as she falls into his arms. Two ladies then saunter in, Fanny and Sophie Sparkes, with whom Barnes is evidently acquainted. He asks them to follow Tobias and James, who have gone to the Casino, and endeavour to induce them to return with them to dinner. In this they are successful, and in a high state of hilarity the quartette indulge in a song and dance, which is interrupted by the appearance of Mrs. Marsh and Charlotte. The act closes on the reverend gentleman, just recovering consciousness, being wheeled in in the Bath chair, while Mrs. Marsh showers her indignation on her delinquent spouse and his hypocritical brother.

In the third act all are back at Camberwell. Mme. Legrand comes to claim the fulfilment of his promise of marriage from James Marsh, who is naturally bewildered at her demands. Charles produces the document signed by Topham, who, being cornered, confesses to the plot. Tobias sees through the plans of his scheming brother James, whom he denounces, asks his wife's forgiveness for his momentary folly while in France, gives his blessing to his daughter Charlotte and Charles, and all ends satisfactorily as far as the book is concerned. Whether the audience thought so too is a matter for conjecture. The piece dragged considerably, and while some of the situations had a tendency to be funny, there was an absence of novelty in them. The humour of the piece was intended to be assisted by the antics of Simpson, a somewhat boisterous page, who was very much in evidence in each act. We reserve comment on the acting, as the piece had evidently been insufficiently rehearsed.

"THE KNAVE OF HEARTS."

A "Drawing-room Melodrama," in Four Acts, by Gladys Unger, Produced at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, on Monday, Sept. 16.

Crofts .....MR. WM. J. REA
Jupe .....MR. W. WALFORD
Flynn .....MR. LEON M. LION
Henry Bruder .....MR. GEORGE DE LARA
Hattie Flynn .....MISS HAIDEE WRIGHT
Australian Jack .....MR. H. A. SAINTSBURY
Helen Brentwood .....MISS NINA SEVENING
William Brentwood .....MR. JOHN WILLES
Durham .....MR. STANLEY LOGAN
James Revilo .....MR. LEON M. LION
Binda .....MR. M. A. SCOTT
Scudari .....MR. H. B. HAMPTON
First Russian Workman .....MR. G. LEE
Second Workman .....MR. TADVILLE
Third Workman .....MR. CORNEILLE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The hearty reception accorded Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen's production of *The Stormy Petrel* at the King's, Glasgow, in July last, amply justified Mr. Allen in submitting his latest venture to a Glasgow audience, and Miss Gladys Unger's drama received a most encouraging welcome. producer and author being both called at the conclusion. The new play, which recalls *Raffles* and *Leah Kleschna* at times, tells how Australian Jack, who had led a rough life in gambling dens at the diggings, is induced by a gang of thieves to take the place of the lost heir of a wealthy ironfounder. The real heir had been stolen by the gang five years before, with a view to ransom, but had unfortunately died in their hands. In this new capacity Jack proves a decided success, managing the works, controlling the men, and securing the love and affection of the old ironfounder and his daughter, Helen. Later he finds his love for his supposed sister awakening his better instincts, and he declares the truth of the fraud he has been a party to After a stormy scene, he is spurned by both the father and daughter, but having saved the life of the former from an attack by an alien workman, the real feelings of Helen become apparent, and the curtain falls on a happy solution of Australian Jack's future career. The story is cleverly worked out, and there are several dramatically strong and theatrically effective scenes. Mr. H. A. Saintsbury made a striking and notable success as Australian Jack. As Helen Brentwood Miss Nina Sevening marked a distinct advance on her previous dramatic efforts, and made a most charming heroine. Miss Haidee Wright had a strongly pathetic part in Hattie Flynn, this clever actress making every point tell from first to last. Her companions in crime were ably represented by Mr. Wm. J. Rea as Crofts and Mr. W. Walford as the amusing Jupe. Mr. George de Lara made a melodramatic part of Bruder, the scheming manager of the ironworks, who is in league with the thieves. Mr. Leon M. Lion cleverly doubled the parts of Flynn, an American criminal, in the first act, and James Revilo, a detective with a most "villainous" make-up, in the later scenes. Mr. John Willes was duly impressive as the old ironfounder, Brentwood; and Mr. Stanley Logan made a distinct success as the stolid butler, Durham. The aggrieved Italian and Russian workmen, who proclaim themselves free-born Britons "under the Union Jack-a," were cleverly acted by Messrs. M. A. Scott, H. B. Hampton, G. Lee, &c. A crowded house welcomed the first performance, and gave the play a hearty send-off. Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen at the conclusion expressed his thanks in a few words, and the authoress, Miss Gladys Unger, bowed her acknowledgments. The action of the play is comprised in two scenes, the first act taking place in an Empty House in Soho, and the other three acts in Jack's Sitting-room at Brentwood's Country House. Mr. George de Lara was responsible for the stage-management, and the performance went with absolute smoothness all through.

MISS CLAIRE ROMAINE, "London's pet boy," began what promises to be a very pleasant and prosperous engagement at the New York Theatre last Monday. It is just ten years since she was here before, and there were many in the audience who remembered her clever impersonation of the Cockney call-boy in the musical comedy *In Town*. Miss Romaine received an enthusiastic welcome at both the afternoon and evening performances, the house being crowded. Her first vocal offering, "I'd like to know when you can," had a very catchy refrain, and the amorous curiosity of a precocious Eton boy was most amusingly conveyed in speech and gesture. The next number, "That's what little Willie wants to know," ticked the audience immensely, and confirmed the impression that Miss Romaine's character creations were true to life, and had an originality and finish which lifted them far above the ordinary level of such impersonations. But most of all the audience enjoyed "I haven't told my mother up to now," with its lively air and pointed allusions to things about which the youthful "terror" found it advisable to "keep mum." Several times the audience sent up such a yell of delight as is seldom heard in a New York music hall. After an unsuccessful attempt to retire, Miss Romaine had to confess that she really didn't known any more, and asked the audience to sing the chorus with her. The first attempt was very weak, and it was not until Mr. Fred Solomon (appropriately addressed by his clever niece as "Uncle Fred"), who led the orchestra, and who knows a thing or two about London music-hall methods, started the chorus in hearty fashion that the audience followed his lead and sang with a will. The orchestra, under Mr. Solomon's able direction, co-operated admirably with Miss Romaine and Mr. Gus Elen in their several songs.

AT Hastings on Wednesday a cricket match was played between Mr. George Edwardes's *See-See* company and the Hippodrome company, resulting in a win for the Hippodrome by an innings and 20 runs. Scores:—*See-See* Company: Simpson, b Edwards, 7; Burdett, b Edwards, 0; Worcester, b Lamb, 0; Swainson, c and b Lamb, 29; Ford, b Nason, 5; Leguir, b Nason, 5; Glynn, b Nason, 9; Pye, not out, 6; Black, b Lamb, 9; Clark, b Lamb, 1; Nellden, st and b Lamb, 5; total, 90. Hippodrome Company: Lamb, c Leguir, 62; Nason, c Nellden, 41; Edwards, c Glynn, 1; Bint, b Glynn, 1; Norman, b Swainson, 0; Duke, b Swainson, 0; Jenner, b Simpson, 0; Makerlo, c Worcester, 22; Champion, b Glynn, 13; Vaughan, c Glynn, 7; E. White, not out, 5; extras, 7; total, 159.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"WERTHER,"
Musical Drama, in Three Acts and Four Scenes, by J. Massenet,
Produced at the Komische Oper, Sept. 12.

Werther .....HERR NAVAL
Albert .....HERR EGENIEFF
Der Amtmann .....HERR MANTLER
Lotte .....FRAULEIN DE PADILLA
Sophie .....FRAULEIN LORENZ
Schmidt .....HERR KREUDER
Johann .....HERR BEGEMANN
Brühlmann .....HERR BROSE
Käthchen .....FRAULEIN GREFFIN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Sept. 19.—The success of this production was not due to the intrinsic merits of the work itself, but to its excellent interpretation and brilliant setting. The story of the sorrows of Goethe's unfortunate hero is too well known to need description; the music is not among Massenet's best efforts, and fell—on the whole—very flat. Fräulein de Padilla was a most sympathetic Lotte, and Herr Naval did more than justice to Werther; while Herr Gregor—as usual—mounted each scene with faultless taste.

A NUMBER of interesting novelties have been acquired by Herr Gregor for production at the Komische Oper during the coming season. D'Albert's new opera, *Tiefland*, will be given at the end of the present month, Fräulein Labia and Herr Naval singing the principal rôles. Then come Leoncavallo's *Zaza*, and a little later Charpentier's *Luise*, with Fräulein Alten in the name-part. Pizzi's one-act opera, *Rosalda*, and *Auferstehung*—a four-act opera by Altano—are also announced.

AT the Royal Opera the American tenor, Francis Maclennan, has been engaged for a term of five years. The artist's voice is rich and powerful—a treat to listen to after the mediocre tenors that are, alas! but too plentiful here—and particularly adapted for Wagner rôles. Thus Mr. Maclennan—who sang Parsival over one hundred times in America—is a decided acquisition to our Opera House. He made his début as Turiddu last week (Fräulein Destinn giving the rôle of Santuzza), and was received with enthusiastic applause. As a special privilege, and quite unprecedented in the Royal Opera annals, Mr. Maclennan was permitted to sing in English, not having yet mastered German sufficiently.

"MADAMA BUTTERFLY" is in rehearsal at the Opera House, and will be produced shortly, with Miss Farrar in the title-rôle. Fräulein Frieda Hempel made a great hit at the Royal Opera last week as Lucia, the flute-like colorature of the talented young artist bringing down the house.

THE METROPOL has produced a new burlesque pot-pourri by Julius Freund, music by Victor Holländer, the popular collaborators, who have so often furnished entertainment at this house. It is entitled *Das muss man sehen*, and is a series of bright, capitally-acted tableaux, well mounted, full of fun, and all to the accompaniment of pretty, if not very original, music.

THERE have been no novelties worth recording up to the present, but a number of important revivals have been given. Foremost among the latter is Ibsen's epilogue, *Wenn Wir Toten Erwachen*, with Fräulein Irene Triesch in the rôle of Irene—perhaps the best in this famous actress's comprehensive repertory. It was Mrs. Frederic Lamond's (her name in private life) first appearance for some months, and she met with an enthusiastic welcome.

GEORG ENGEL'S tragic drama, *Ueber den Wässern*, has been revived with a good cast at the Neues, and Kleist's historical play, *Prinz Friedrich von Homburg*, at the Deutsches, each making its mark; and the Royal Schauspielhaus includes the latter piece in this week's bill also. Herr Bonn has produced yet another of his "Sherlock Holmes" travesties at the Berliner—*Die tänzenden Männchen*—and is giving this alternately with a very inadequate representation of *Richard the Third*.

"EIN SELTSAMER FALL," drawn from the melodrama *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, also enjoyed a long run during the summer at the Neues; while the Thalia produced a musical farce with the awkward title *Ihr Sechs Uhr Onkel*, which is still drawing well. Herr Thielscher—the popular comedian—who was so many years the chief star at this theatre, has left it for the Metropol, but his place is satisfactorily filled by Herr Sondermann, and the author-managers, Herren Schoenfeld and Kreu, may be congratulated on the success of their latest piece.

NEW HIPPODROME, PETERBOROUGH.

The opening of the New Hippodrome, Peterborough, on Monday was an event of much local interest, and was graced by a large and appreciative audience, which included the Mayor and many members of the Town Council. The house will easily seat between eight and nine hundred people, and its appointments are as comfortable as can be desired. The first impression one receives on entering is the cosiness of the place. The walls are of a warm red colour, and the upholstering has been so carried out as to harmonise with this background. The orchestra stalls are, of course, the best seats in the place. Here for 1s. 6d. one is provided with a plush chair seat placed on luxurious carpet. Accommodation is here provided for 140. The seats throughout the building are all, however, exceedingly comfortable, and, most important of all, command a good view of the stage. Indeed, throughout, the comfort and safety of the audience have been the first consideration. There are no fewer than nine exits leading directly into the street. Smoking is, of course, permitted, and special ventilation is provided by a patent arrangement. Yet draughts have been effectually banished. The lighting is excellent. A special band of eight musicians has been organised for the hall, and their abode is well below the stage and concealed by heavy plush curtains. The conductor is Mr. Thomas Richardson, who comes from Collins's. There are three short staircases leading to the auditorium. Palms and flowers enhance the beauty of the stage, and the scenes are excellent.

It was 'directors' night" on Monday as well as the people's night, and the Sylvester Hippodrome Syndicate, Ltd., must have been gratified with the patronage their latest venture received. The entertainment has been continued through the week, and has been keenly appreciated. At the top of the bill is Miss Elsie Earle, a charming vocalist, who receives a warm welcome for her well-rendered songs; Edgar Button is a capital dancer and bone soloist; the Five Bombays are prominent with clever song and dance; Esme Gordon is a successful vocalist; Harry Lawson becomes a favourite comedian; the Brown and Kelly combination in *What the Butler Knows* succeed in keeping everyone in a continual roar of merriment; the Four Cicillians are speciality artists, and give a clever show; the Sisters Geretti prove themselves exceedingly clever lady acrobats and trapeze artists; and the Bioscope, showing the departure of the Lusitania, finishes a capital entertainment.

SALIDA AND VONE have lost their only boy, aged nine months. He died at Bury, on Tuesday.

THE MARCONIS, mental telepathists, are crossing the pond on board the Adriatic, and are enjoying excellent weather.

MR. ARTHUR G. H. HUNT has regretfully to announce the closing of the Royal Albert, Canning Town, on Saturday next, pending the renewal of the licence by the local authorities.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

MISS MARIE LLOYD, the "one and only," in conjunction with Mr. Alec Hurley, will sail next Thursday from Liverpool, per s.s. Cedric, for America, where both are engaged for a tour through the States. Mr. and Mrs. Hurley are to be the guests of the Eccentric Club on Monday evening, when a select company from the world of Bohemia will drink bumpers to their success, and wish them *bon voyage*. Miss Lloyd is this week at the Metropolitan and Paragon, where she has been putting on a coster song that she regards as one of the very best she has ever had.

WHILE having a little luncheon on Tuesday, at Simpson's, Mr. Alec Hurley presented Mr. Fred Higham with a magnificent single stone diamond ring, in recognition of his good fellowship and the services rendered by him as sole agent for over ten years. Needless to say, Mr. Higham thanked the popular comedian sincerely, and wished both himself and wife (Miss Marie Lloyd) *bon voyage* and a safe return.

THE emphatic hit made by Mr. Gus Elen at the New York Theatre may be guessed from the following congratulatory letter sent to the famous coster comedian by Mr. R. C. Mudge, president of the White Rats of America, the greatest variety organisation on the other side. The letter is dated "1553, Broadway, Sept. 10," and runs as follows:—"Dear Friend,—It gave me much pleasure to see your act last night, and know the gigantic artistic hit made by you. I know that you were somewhat nervous, but still you must be satisfied with the greatest success ever made in New York on the opening night of an English performer."

MR. OSWALD STOLL has given the following reasons for his withdrawal from the Entertainments Protection Association:—"Except on fundamental questions, our business conflicts with that of many members of the Association; and it appears that many members are trying to evade certain points in the Arbitrator's Award. The Arbitrator's Award was fair to both sides, consistently with the welfare of the industry generally. We have, therefore, no sympathy with a desire to upset it."

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS was, unfortunately, taken ill last week, and sent home from Norwich with severely ulcerated throat. He is also suffering from neuritis. His temperature was 102 during the journey, and he has been in bed ever since. He is rapidly mending, and hopes to keep faith with his Blackpool admirers on Monday.

AN informal meeting took place on Wednesday at the offices of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, to consider plans for establishing residential chambers and restaurants for young ladies of the theatrical and music hall profession. Those present were, Mrs. Fred Ginnett, Miss Lil Hawthorne, Mrs. Bradgate, Miss Hawkes, Mrs. Collins, Miss E. Clarke, and Miss De Grey. A meeting will be held in October with a view to forming a committee to further the scheme. Ladies and gentlemen—more especially the latter—who are willing to sit on the committee, are invited to send Miss de Grey their names and addresses. Address, 2, York-street, W.C.

OLD favourites with new songs are promised by Mr. Joseph Wilson for Monday next at the Tivoli. Little Tich and George Robey return there. The former will sing "The captain of the pier," in which he delineates the gentleman we all know so well—he of the officer's uniform, semi-naval style, gold bands, stripes, etc., but is yet a long-shoreman, the only deck he paces being the firmly-fixed one of a pier. He is more aristocratic than "Billy, of Portsmouth town," of whose exploits popular baritones have sung for so many years. Mr. Tich will also give a finished character study of a peppery old general. Both songs are entirely new.

IT may now be regarded as certain that the new Empire ballet by M. Wilhelm will be produced within the next ten days. Mlle. Genée will appear as the *Belle of the Ball*, and will be seen in a variety of opera rôles, in which her extraordinary talents for impersonation will have the amplest opportunities. She will be supported by M. Wilhelm's collaborator, Mr. Fred Farren, who will also appear in many different characters. Mlle. Francesca Zanfretta, Mr. Paul Sundberg, Miss Elise Clerc, and other distinguished soloists and pantomimists, will have excellent parts in the new production.

IN view of the early production of the new ballet at the Alhambra, rehearsals are in daily progress, and the choreographic adaptation of Planquette's *Cloches de Corneville* may be looked for in about three weeks' time. To Mlle. Bordin, the *premiere danseuse* of the establishment, has been allotted several impersonations. As the Spirit of the Bells she will treat her admirers to a display of classical dancing, and will also, in other characters, make a new departure, at least in England, as a *danseuse du genre*. With Signor Rossi, the incomparable mime, as the old miser, the Alhambra management has secured an artist who will give due expression to a fine tragic situation. Ballerine in mail will be a feature of a glittering spectacle.

"THE AVALANCHE" will be produced at the Hippodrome on Monday. Previous to the production there will be a special rehearsal, whereat sundry journalists and more desirable persons will be invited to try the tobogganing facilities to be installed in the arena by that inventive genius Frank Parker. Messrs. Fred Trussell (who now talks Norwegian) and Will Bennet will be the gay pilots to guide the *facilis descensus*.

WE learnt with considerable regret of the death, in the early part of the week, of Mrs. Stella Ulph, widow of the late Harry Ulph, jun., who was in the early eighties part proprietor, with the late Mrs. J. J. Poole, of the South London. In those days there were many excellent ballet productions at that house, and these were invariably led by Stella and Luna, who belonged to the well-known Lauri family of dancers and pantomimists. The young pianist of those days was Walter Slaughter, who composed a good deal of the music for the divertissements so happily devised by Paul Valentine. Luna became Mrs. Walter Slaughter, and is the mother of Miss Marjorie Slaughter, the girl composer; and Stella, as we have stated, became Mrs. Ulph. As is well known, the marriage was a most unhappy one.

MR. MAURICE FARKOA, who has lately returned from a tour in musical comedy in America, has been engaged for a special season of two weeks by Mr. Alfred Butt, at the Palace, prior to his return to the theatres. The gifted Anglo-French singer will probably repeat some of his past successes in musical comedy, such as "I love you in velvet," and "Philosophy."

MISS BERTHA STUART, who is scoring a big success at the Tivoli nightly, where she remains several weeks, goes out to Australia in 1909 under the direction of Mr. Harry Rickards, who saw her turn a few weeks ago and at once booked her.

MISS FLORENCE LLOYD, who besides being one of the best theatrical "boys" on the stage has distinguished herself in low comedy parts, will, in conjunction with Mr. Horace Lane, appear shortly at a West End hall in *Angelina's Lover*. Miss Violet Lloyd, her sister, who has just finished a successful engagement at the Palace, goes to the Tivoli at Christmas.

MR. CHARLES MUSSETT, until recently manager of the Empire Theatre, Glasgow, is now assistant-business-manager at the Colonial, Percy G. Williams's chief vaudeville theatre, Broadway and Sixty-second-street, New York City.

THE New Palace Theatre, which has just been erected in Cheapside, Reading, from the designs of Mr. W. G. R. Sprague, will be opened on Monday, Sept. 30, with a grand vaudeville programme. Performances will be given twice nightly, at 7 and 9.

MR. C. FINCH-HATTON, the acting-manager of the Palace, Leicester, and Mr. George Robey appeared in a football match, playing as forwards for the Nomads against Derby Thornhill. Mr. C. Finch-Hatton, who is quite a good "socker," scored a beautiful goal for his team in the second half. Unfortunately the popular comedian had few opportunities, but nevertheless did excellent work for his side. Probably we shall hear more of the prowess of Mr. Hatton, as at one time he played for the Gainsborough Reserves and the Newlands Club, now Hull City.

MR. WILLIAM FINDLATER presided on the 12th inst. at the meeting of the shareholders of the Star Theatre of Varieties, Ltd., Dublin, and in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, explained the difficulty the directors had experienced in securing first-class talent. Mr. Lo'tus Walsh seconded, and the report was adopted. A dividend on the 10,000 Accumulated Preference Shares at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum was declared for one year and a half to Nov. 30, 1906. Mr. Edward Armour was re-elected a director, and Messrs. Stokes, Brothers, and Pim were also re-elected auditors.

MR. FRANK MACNAGHTEN towards the end of April decided to erect a Palace and Hippodrome at Burnley, and about the middle of May a company was floated and draft plans approved. The roofing-in has just been completed, and the house will be opened to the public on Monday, Dec. 16, practically six months from the letting of contracts. The site, at Munn's-corner, St. James's-street, is in the very heart of Burnley, where the whole of the tramways from the populous outside districts are centralised. St. James's-street is 106ft. wide at this point.

THE site has a gradient of nearly 20ft. from front to back, and is 130ft. deep. The frontage of 80ft. includes a private passage 7ft. wide down the west side vailable for exits. Where this passage adjoins the stage it is covered over and two floors of dressing-rooms arranged. The vestibule, entered from St. James's-street, is at the same level as the circle, which contains 400 tip-up seats in addition to two boxes. The pit, with continuous upholstered seating for 900, is sunk down below the street level, and in front of it are stalls covered with wilton carpet and with nearly 300 luxurious tip-up seats. The upper circle has seating accommodation for about 600.

THE front, of Yorkshire stone, is designed in the Georgian style of architecture. The pit seating is to be in pegamoid and the floor covered with cork carpet. The architects are Messrs. Richard Horsfall and Son, of Halifax.

THE death is announced of Mrs. Florrie Heath, professionally known as Miss Flora Garton, who passed away on the 12th inst. at her residence, 22, Silver-street Barnsley. The deceased lady was the widow of Fred Heath, who died on April 6, 1900, at the age of forty-three. As duologue artists they were popular in the eighties, and were known as Heath and Garton. The remains of the deceased were interred in Barnsley Cemetery on Sunday.

A NEW and original turn, entitled "The Satinettos in their Sketches in Satins and Silks," will be seen at the Paragon on the occasion of Mr. Beecham's benefit, on Thursday next. Only satin and silk are used in producing pictures which are so realistic that they could easily be taken for oil paintings. Each picture is worked on a different coloured backing, with lightning rapidity, and with the aid of a revolving frame and expensive fit-up. The Satinettos should prove a turn that the public will certainly appreciate.

ANOTHER group of English artists leave for the Continent next week, including the Stavordale Quintette, who are bound for Brussels and Antwerp. They return, however, in time to open at Willesden on October 28. They have been doing remarkably well on the Gibbons' circuit, and are rebooked for 1908.

"CAPTAIN DREYFUS," a new and sensational French military episode, by M. D. Waxman, is to be presented by that genetleman, Miss Fanny Waxman, and a selected company, at the Paragon on Monday. For much of the information, on which are founded the incidents in this sketch, the author (Mr. John Jackson) is indebted to Major Alfred Dreyfus.

OUR Cardiff correspondent informs us of the great success Mr. Frank Macnaghten is meeting with in his new venture—the Palace and Hippodrome in Westgate-street, Cardiff. Scarcely a day passes without a congratulatory letter being received by the manager from some influential person, remarking on the high standard of excellence attained in the programme and the excellent management both before and behind the curtain. Opposition is very strong in the town, but Mr. Macnaghten is holding his own in every way. Mr. Arthur Burton is the manager at this house.

MR. DORASAWMI, who opens at the Palace on Monday, comes here with a tip-top reputation as a violinist, and it is anticipated that he will create something approaching a sensation on his first music hall appearance in London. His act will consist of a piano solo, a violin solo, piano and violin dual performance, violin imitations of animals, and of the phonograph, the bagpipes, ending with a reproduction in sound of the breaking of a violin. Mr. Dorasawmi has performed with much success at the Bechstein and the Æolian Halls, where his dual instrumentation of "Home, sweet home," has been greatly admired

MR. HARRY INSTONE has had a good offer from a London manager to produce his new scena, "In Old Virginia," at a London hall. He will, however, open with it on Monday next at the Royal Theatre of Varieties, Oldham. The production will be one of the best on tour, including about fourteen juveniles, and some excellent scenery and lighting effects. Mr. E. Dottridge is booking the show.

HENRY FLETCHER GORDON, 32, financial agent, of 37, Great James-street, Holborn, was charged on remand on Tuesday at Clerkenwell with, on July 10, obtaining by false pretences from Ronald Charles Power, a cheque of the value of £20. Mr. Wallis prosecuted for the Treasury, and Mr. David White defended. Gordon had a large connection as a moneylender amongst music-hall artists, but was without capital. Gordon was to take the monies and Power was to receive three-quarters of the profits. The remanded case was that of Mr. John O'Connor, professionally known as "Jack Wayho," and the prosecution proceeded with other cases. The proceedings were again adjourned.

MR. ALFRED BUTT, who but recently returned from a holiday spent in France, is departing again for the Continent in search of novelty, and will probably visit Berlin, Vienna, Hamburg, Dresden, and Paris.

SPECULATION is rife as to the attitude of the present Theatres Committee of the London County Council towards the question of the drink permit. It has been always a legitimate cause of complaint on the part of Sir Edward Moss and Mr. Oswald Stoll that, while their rivals on all sides have the licence to sell alcohol, and rejoice in palatial bars, they are refused such reasonable facilities. The trite fallacies concerning the dangers of allowing people to drink alcohol will, we may be sure, be trotted out at the licensing sessions in November, but we expect the Hippodrome to get its licence.

MR. HARRY LAUDER, who goes to America shortly, bade farewell to a big audience at the Tivoli on Saturday. On finishing his turn he was cheered again and again, and at length was constrained to make a few remarks. He would like to thank them adequately for the favour they had shown him, and he would leave no stone unturned to endeavour to secure a like reception in America.

WHIMSICAL WALKER is a man of many parts. Twenty-five years ago, at Hengler's Circus, he was vaulting a double somersault over eight horses. He subsequently purchased, for £1000, the giant elephant, Jumbo, chartered a steamer (which cost another £1000), took him and other "wild fowl," including two of the smallest people in the world, viz., the Aztecs, to the other side of the pond, spent another £1000 in advertisements, opened with Tony Pastor in New York, and played to an average of 15,000 dollars nightly.

HE has also appeared before many of the crowned heads of Europe, including King Alphonso, father of the present King of Spain, Queen Isabella (by command), President Garfield, and our beloved King Edward (when he was the Prince of Wales), fifteen times. This is a record of which any artist might be proud; but here is another that we venture to say none can beat: The Whimsical one was engaged in 1904 by Harry Rickards, for Australia; the contract read twelve months, but he had scarcely landed before a cablegram arrived from Arthur Collins saying, "Return immediately," consequently he only appeared for five nights and two matinées. He will shortly sail for America again to his old friend, Tony Pastor, with a number of sketches, dramatic and otherwise, and we wish him the same success this journey as awaited him on his former visits.

WAS it the late Ambrose Maynard or Mr. Charles Merion, at one time manager of the now defunct Trocadero Music Hall, who wrote a farce for the music-halls, entitled *Pepper and Salt*, in which first the Twin Brothers Wems and then the Twin Brothers Clayton played the title-rôles? The servants' parts were originally played by the now deceased Sisters Mario (Dot and Minnie), who had to give up their engagement in order to appear in Drury Lane pantomime.

NOW we have the female Dromios in Twin Sisters Clifton, with a hilarious novelty, *How Papa Found His Twins*, which met with much success at the Empress, Brixton, last week. The sisters are supported by Mr. Arthur St. George, the author. The sketch is being much sought after.

OUR readers will not be surprised to hear of the death of Miss Madeleine Rosa (Mrs. Frank Travis), who passed away on Thursday at her residence, 62, Morley-road, Leyton. In her early career Mrs. Travis was a very fascinating danseuse, and later became the first lady ventriloquist to make a name in the halls. She leaves a daughter, Miss Bessie Travis, who has become popular as a polyphonist.

THE Crystal Empire, Battersea, opened on Monday, on the two houses a night principle, and its brightness and beauty are conspicuous. Nothing dull is to be allowed in the bills, and Mr. Humphrey E. Brammall, the managing-director, is evidently determined to spare no exertion to make the place a pleasant rendezvous for the toiling workers of the neighbourhood.

THE hall, it will be remembered, was originally built by the veteran entertainer and minstrel proprietor, Mr. George Washington Moore, who christened it after the first President of the United States. We shall, no doubt, see many prominent American entertainers there under the present managerial enterprise. There is no barring clause in the Crystal Empire contracts.

THE annual general meeting of the Music Hall Railway Association has been provisionally fixed for Sunday, Oct. 27, at the Camberwell Empire, kindly lent by Messrs. Sparrow and Bawn.

THERE is scarcely any necessity for us to contradict the ridiculous report current in variety circles of the death of Mr. Harry W. Wieland, the well-known variety agent, but as we are anxious to allay the anxiety that must be felt by that gentleman's many friends, we hasten to say that he is at the moment particularly fit and well.

MESSRS. W. A. HAINES AND ALAN BORTHWICK, the latest recruits from the "legitimate" to the variety stage, who have for the last two and a half years been associated with Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry, are fulfilling their first London date with their enormously successful sketch, *Half-a-Dollar*, at the Bedford next week.

MISS DAISY JEROME, the charming American artist, has adopted another rôle, *i.e.*, that of author and composer. While appearing at the Holborn Empire and the Crouch End Hippodrome this week she put on no less than six new songs, and these not coming up to her expectations, an idea struck her, and she immediately wrote one herself, giving it the up-to-date title "In London Town." The number depicts the various ways the ladies of the great City have of deporting themselves in order to become the rage. It has a very catchy refrain, and should be quickly snapped up by any enterprising publishers. Miss Daisy Jerome will shortly open for a season at the Oxford.

MISS BETTY OHLS, a little lady from Texas, who has been well received by the American colony in Paris in her entertainment, will come to the Empire on Monday to sing in French and English. She will give "Verdur Ouette" (Weckerlin) and "If no one ever marries me."

MR. TOM CARNEY, who has become very popular at Gorleston, near Yarmouth, was presented with a handsome diamond ring by a few friends on his benefit night at the Pavilion, which was packed.

MR. ALFRED MOUL'S latest engagement at the Alhambra is La Milo, the beautiful Australian girl, who is reproducing her ride in the Coventry Pageant, in which she was clothed in a manner that disarmed the ultra-sensitiveness of the local edile. A series of cinematograph pictures is ingeniously employed by way of an introduction and to give coherence to the story. The charming poseuse is seen at home, on her way to the theatre, and arriving at the stage-door, and just as she is beginning to disrobe. The turn is particularly interesting, and is nightly heartily applauded.

A NUMBER of friends attended at Waterloo Station on Saturday to bid Vesta Victoria *bon voyage* on her trip to America. Amongst the company present were the directors of the Camberwell Empire, who presented her with a beautiful basket of flowers, and a contingent of members of the Terriers' Association, including Messrs. Jesse Sparrow, Percy Ford, E. C. Webb, F. H. Kohler, G. Burgess, A. E. Chapman, Ben Woodger, and several others.

A LARGE and influential gathering assembled at the Empire, Camberwell, on Friday evening, the 13th, to bid good-bye and God speed to Miss Vesta Victoria, previous to her departure for America, where she is making a stay of about nine months under the management of Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger. In the absence of Mr. Tom Barrasford, who was detained in the provinces, the chair was taken by Mr. Jesse Sparrow.

AFTER proposing the health of Miss Victoria, which was heartily drunk by all present, Mr. Sparrow wished her a prosperous journey and a safe return. He only regretted that she was going away for such a long stay, and looked forward to the time when she would be back home again. He referred in glowing terms to the successful stride the Music Hall Home (of which fund Miss Victoria was one of the presidents) had made during the last twelve months, and hoped it would continue to improve, and that when she returned they would be able to report an even more satisfactory state of affairs.

MISS VICTORIA, in reply, said she could hardly thank Mr. Sparrow and all present for the kindness and good wishes she had received. She hoped she would soon be back amongst them again, as, although she was treated very kindly and had a lot of friends in America, there was no place like home. She made a special appeal for the Music Hall Home, and said that although she would not be here herself at Christmas, she would like to know that the inmates would be well provided for, and had pleasure in handing Mr. Jack Fruin, the secretary, a guinea for each member of the Home, to be expended as the committee thought best. She appealed to the members of the profession to give something. If not a subscription, clothes would be equally welcome; in fact, anything useful would be appreciated. Mr. Jack Fruin, in reply, thanked Miss Victoria for her kindness, and also thanked her on behalf of the inmates of the Home.

A LARGE silver loving-cup, which was presented to Miss Vesta Victoria by Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger upon her last trip to America, was filled with champagne, and all present had the pleasure of drinking Miss Victoria's health and wishing her bon voyage. The proceedings were kept up until the wee sma' hours, and terminated by everyone joining hands and singing "Auld Lang Syne."

AMONGST those present were Messrs. Jesse Sparrow, Joe Lawrence, Leon Bassett, Bob Vorley, Harry Tate, Jack Fruin, Percy Ford, Dick Trengrove, Billy Nutt, R. Sarjent, F. Kohler, F. Upton, Gerald Burgess, E. C. Webb, Jack Norton, Ben Woodger, C. R. Chapman, Geo. Vivian, H. Ospovat, and Bob Watson.

OUR New York correspondent makes some comments on the boom in New York for English music hall talent. He says:—"Knowing New York as it is to-day and as it was ten years ago, I am inclined to say that Mr. Elen's tardiness in crossing the 'pond,' instead of being anything to his detriment, showed him to be a man of foresight and good judgment. As the proverb says, there is a time for all things, and between English music hall artists and American audiences there appears to have been a 'psychological moment,' just as there is between individuals. Some there have been—no need to mention names—whom Londoners have idolised, and for whom one would have predicted success in any part of the English-speaking globe. Their experiences in America were humiliating. They came here too soon.

"Since those days, however, the acute New Yorkers have broadened out very considerably. Their globe-trotting has familiarised them with lots of things that once upon a time were merely hearsay, and has taught them that they have no monopoly of humour. Being able to understand, they can laugh at the funny people of other countries than their own. Why, even the 'canny' Scot has been over here with his unfamiliar dialect and his own special brand of humour, and the Americans took him to their hearts and voted him 'too funny for anything.' *Autre temps, autre mœurs.* Ten years ago they would have had none of him

"And now that those astute managers, Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger, have decided that the second city of the world is big enough and cosmopolitan enough to stand at least one big music hall on the English plan, there should be a wider field for the clever people of the English music hall stage. A Cockney may be allowed to smile when a variety programme such as Londoners have enjoyed at their music halls for twenty years or more is heralded as 'advanced vaudeville,' and may be excused for saying that it is the people, not the vaudeville, who have 'advanced,' when he remembers how Koster and Bial, at their magnificent place in Thirty-fourth-street, and Oscar Hammerstein, at Olympia, showed the New Yorkers what a London music hall was like, and were impoverished for their pains. But, after all, what's in a name? If it gives us Gus Elen and others like him they may call their vaudeville by any name they please."

MENDEL, the blind pianist, now plays a different tune with each hand and at the same time sings another. Some gentlemen recently wrote to ask if he could sing the words of a different song to the tune selected for singing, and if so, would he decide a wager by giving the same at the Monday night's performance at the Tivoli. He did so, and the experiment was so successful that Mendel has adopted it in his performance permanently. It is a feat of concentrated memory that has never been heard of before in the annals of music.

ONE of the chief items in the exceptionally interesting programme presented this week by Mr. Arthur J. Barclay at the Walthamstow Palace is a new sketch, entitled *Bill's Birthday Party*, presented by Mr. Leonard Barry and company. By an unfortunate mistake, the new sketch was both billed and placed in the programme as *The Costers' Ball*, instead of its correct title as given above, "the costers' ball" being merely the name of one of the songs sung. *Bill's Birthday Party* is an amusing sketch, in which a combination of farce and knockabout business makes a merry entertainment. The advent of a coster, Bill Jones, to a fortune, and the impossibility of the gentleman and his wife to conform to the usages of their new position form the groundwork of a clever little piece of pantomimic absurdity, and when the company have become accustomed to their parts and had time to elaborate their ideas it should prove highly diverting. As it stood on Monday night, Mr. Leonard Barry and the clever company supporting him succeeded in keeping the audience in a continual state of laughter, punctuated with hearty applause, and there seems no reason why *Bill's Birthday Party* should not soon settle down into an assured success.

EUSTON'S platforms in the sunshine on Friday last, the 13th inst., presented an animated spectacle, for quite a number of the men who write the nation's songs and the principals of the firms who publish them had assembled to bid farewell to Mr. Stanley E. Mullen (of the firm of Stanley E. Mullen and Co.), who was returning to Melbourne after an enjoyable stay in the Old Country, in which pleasure had been combined with business; business which it is safe to prophesy will be eminently to the advantage of authors, composers, and the Australian public generally.

AMONG the early arrivals were Messrs. A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott (Star Music Publishing Company), and Messrs. J. P. Harrington and J. Kandt (Monte Carlo Company), Mr. and Mrs. David Day and daughter, Messrs. John Smith, Lester Barrett, L. Bellamy, F. Collier (of the John Church Publishing Company), with whom the voyager was once associated; Felix McGlennon, H. Moccatta, and B. Feldman (of B. Feldman and Co.); H. E. Darewski, jun., William Francis, jun., Chas. Hall (Willis and Hall), Ph. Le Sueur (B. Williams and Co.), Walter Reynolds (Price and Reynolds), Warwick Williams (accompanied by his wife), Chas. Wilmott, Fred Mullen, and numerous private friends.

MRS. DAVID DAY, looking particularly well, graciously pinned on the traveller's coat the finely-executed "Sixpenny Pops" emblem in gold and enamel, an illustration of which appeared in our last issue, and added a sprig of white heather for luck, and a great cheer was raised as the last was seen for a long time of Mr. Stanley E. Mullen, with whom was his charming partner. Many valuable presents had been showered on the twain, notably a handsome writing-case, a case of pipes, and other useful articles.

MR. R. H. PATTERSON WILSON, manager of Miss Evelyn St. Maur's Variety Touring Company, is lying seriously ill in Guy's Hospital. He occupies No. 47 bed, in the Addison Ward. His wife, Mrs. Wilson, is getting up a benefit for him in London on Oct. 22, and will be pleased to hear from any professional sympathisers and friends who would give their services.

MR. ERNEST LEATHLEY, comedian, is the latest to join the Terriers Association. He was initiated into the mysteries of the order on Sunday. Terrier Harry Herald, who was in the chair, performed the ceremony.

FOR the first time in twenty years Billie Bint was induced to play in a cricket match at Hastings last Wednesday—the Hippodrome against the *See See* company. Billie felt quite a boy again, and his joy was shared by another forward youth, Walter Norman, who was also playing. Billie got one run, and missed an easy catch.

MR. BARNEY STUART has deputised for Sam Mayo this week at the Hippodrome, Woolwich, and scored an instantaneous success, being personally complimented by the manager, who has secured this talented artist for a month in the near future.

AT the 528th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, held on Wednesday, the attention of members was drawn to the rule whereby artists placing their names on vouchers by which they do not eventually travel, and omitting to inform the secretary of the alteration in their arrangements, are liable to pay the other parties on the voucher whatever they may be charged in excess through the lapse of those who have not adhered to the voucher. It should also be noted that at certain London termini the entire party must get tickets at the same time in order to procure the concession. The secretary read the weekly statement, which showed a total of £43 17s. Forty-three new members were enrolled during the week.

MISS MAIDIE SCOTT has had her contract at the King's, Gateshead, next week cancelled through appearing at the Pavilion, Newcastle. Since the cancelling Miss Scott has received offers from ten managers to take over the date, and she has accepted the Pavilion, Greenock.

THE Royal Banzai Family of real Japanese last Saturday, in Manchester, took part in the lifeboat procession, and helped the collection, which amounted to a good sum. They were heartily thanked by the members of the Lifeboat Association.

OWING to last year's success of *Aladdin* at the Crystal Palace, Mr. Bannister Howard has commissioned Mr. Fred Bowyer to write the book of the next pantomime, the subject of which is to be *The Forty Thieves;* also the book for the Royal, Plymouth.

LA BELLE OTERO was fined £6 2s. 6d. at Paris on Thursday afternoon for motoring at an excessive speed. Her car knocked down a house-painter and smashed up his bicycle.

MR. CHARLES DENIER WARREN, who will be remembered as the principal comedian of the professional children's pantomime at the Grand, Clapham Junction, and the Royal, and who is now managing the Paris branch of M. Witmark and Sons, the music publishers, is paying a short business visit to London. Mr. Warren has, by his individual efforts, built up a large business in Paris, and has succeeded in interesting many of the leading French music hall artists and revue-writers in the many successful American songs controlled by the Witmarks. Mr. Warren's last theatrical engagement was at the Garrick, where he was very successful in the boy's part in *Whitewashing Julia*.

MR. EDMOND BOSANQUET writes to say that his lost medal has been found and restored to him by a Liverpool postman, and that he feels very gratified at again having it in his possession.

THE latest quotations of music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1 7-16; Canterbury, ½; Drury Lane, ½; Empire (15s. paid) 1⅜, ditto (10s. paid) 1; Gaiety, 1½; London Pavilion Ordinary 4⅜, ditto Pref. 4⅞; London Coliseum, 1-16; Metropolitan, ½; Moss' Empire 4⅞, ditto 5 per cent. Pref. 3⅞; Oxford, 6½; Palace, 14s. 3d.; Tivoli, 5⅞; Variety Consolidated Theatres, 14s. 6d.

A NEW turn which promises to make great strides to popularity is the Limericks (three gentlemen and a lady), who are appearing this week with most encouraging success at the Barnard's Palace, Woolwich. In their skit, *The Final Hit*, they introduce some good comedy boxing, buck-dancing, and singing, making altogether an excellent show.

HORSES with a good stage presence are somewhat rare; but the noble steed bestrode by La Milo as Lady Godiva in the Coventry Pageant and on which she will appear at the Alhambra, is quite an artist. He has appeared in several notable productions, and it is related of him that he, for a quadruped, takes a sagacious interest in his work. Once when appearing, carrying a well-known actor-manager in a gorgeous spectacle, he was seen by the agent of a rival actor, who also wanted a white horse in a forthcoming costume play, and was anxious to know if the animal would suit him. "Well," said he to his manager, "is he all right—good manners?" "Y-e-s," replied the agent, "he behaved very well, only one fault—he yawned twice during X's big speech." "Um," said his employer, "seems a bit of a critic."

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

THAT delightful coon number, "Bayou," written and composed by Harry Marlow, will be sung in America by Miss Gertrella all round the Keith tour when this talented artist commences a lengthy engagement in the States early next month, and will be embellished by specially-painted scenery and novel effects. The same lady will also sing Mr. J. F. Lambe's charming and popular song, "Queen of Old Samara," on the same tour. Both numbers are published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company, and will be issued by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter in America, by special arrangement with the younger firm.

MISS VESTA VICTORIA has taken with her to New York a song by Messrs. Leigh and Pether, of 'Waiting at the church" and "Poor John!" fame, a song fully in keeping with the reputation of these well-known writers. It is entitled "Don't get married any more, ma!" and is the piteous plaint of a maiden whose appeal to her mother who has divorced several husbands is to "Let me have a permanent papa!" It has been secured by Messrs. Francis and Day, who have also in hand a humorous number of the same artist's, entitled 'Wing tee wee," by Fred Murray and Chas. Hilbury.

MISS MARIE LLOYD has disposed of, to Mr. David Day's firm, a ditty, by Leigh and Powell, called "She doesn't know that I know," and one entitled "Oh! Mister What's-a-Name!" by Fred Murray and Kenneth Lyle.

NEW dance music which will be much in evidence during the coming festive season, and which Messrs. Francis and Day have in the press, include "Lady Tatter's Waltz," by Karl Kaps, and "The Pageant Lancers," arranged by Warwick Williams.

AMONG other songs secured during the last few days by Messrs. Francis and Day are:—"Mr. No-One from Nowhere" (featured by Miss Gladys Mavius), by Geo. A. Stevens; "I can't go no farver; or, My little stick" (Tom Woottwell), by Barnes and Weston; "Scarlet and Gold," by F. Ford and Cuthbert Kelly; "A dainty little pair of shoes" (Maie Ash), by A. Du Soir and J. A. Dix; "My wigwam just holds two," by Dave Hall and Chas. Collins; and "I'm waiting here for you" (Miss Agnes Hanson), by Lambe and Thurban.

ADVICES from Australia state that Mr. Hamilton Hill has made an enormous "hit" with Edward St. Quentin's beautiful ballad, "Queen of Love." The words are by Clifton Binghan. Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter publish the morceau.

AT the Aldwych Theatre there is one song that stands out above all numbers in the *Gay Gordons*, and that is Miss Ellaline Terris's charming and fascinating song, "Humpty and Dumpty." This dainty ditty, sung as only Miss Terris can sing it, is from the clever team of song-writers, Charles Wilmott (whose words are as words should be) and Herman E. Darewski, jun., whose melodies will haunt one with the charming and dainty "catchiness." Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter may be congratulated on having the only interpolated number and the undoubted success of the piece.

MISS MARIE LLOYD has this week being "trying on the dog" Messrs. Harrington and Tate's song, "Don't grumble at woman," with a view to breaking it in for America, where she will also exploit (from the same fecund pens) "Aha, that's tellings!" "It's your own look-out," and the popular number, published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company, "Customs of the country," specially Americanised by Mr. Harrington, and with an apropos verse addressed to the sons and daughters of Uncle Sam which ought to be, as the Yanks say, "'way out of sight."

IN view of the forthcoming pantomime season, the Monte Carlo Publishing Company are issuing something like twenty new numbers this month, including their Monte Carlo Selection, No. 2, for which full orchestral parts are being printed. This selection contains some of the finest "plums" in the Monte Carlo basket, notably, "Bayou," "Fatherland," "Carolina," "Goo Goo," "Somebody cares for you," and "I'm going to try my luck in London."

MISS BERTHA STUART, the beautiful Scotch vocalist, has introduced at the Tivoli a new semi-martial song by Mills and Scott, entitled "You are still my Highland Laddie," which has caught on in no uncertain manner. A hearty burst of applause after the first verse and chorus is a sure sign that the subject has "gripped" the audience, and needless to say the song is enhanced by Miss Stuart's artistic rendering. The Star Company will issue this number immediately.

MISS MAUD ESMOND should be counted a rising star. At the East Ham Palace she is accorded a great welcome and numerous recalls. Miss Esmond is specially featuring Collins and Wallis's great song, "We all came in the world with nothing," which the Star Company are printing in large quantities.

MISS ELSIE STEADMAN will produce at the London Pavilion on Monday Alf. E. Rick and Maurice Scott's catchy chorus carol, "Swing me higher, Obadiah," which has been such a huge success at seaside resorts this summer. It is published by the Star Music Company.

Two of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott's "real good things" for the forthcoming pantomimes are going great guns just now. Mr. George Lashwood is making everybody sing the chorus of "Oh! the merry widow," at the Empire, Sunderland; while at Walsall Mr. Whit Cunliffe is doing the "hat-trick" with his rollicking "Oh! the steamer," for which Mr. Stoll is having a scene specially painted. Both these winners are published by the Star Music Company.

MISS ROSE HAMILTON has accepted from the Shapiro Von Tilzer Music Company a new Norwegian song, entitled "Christina," which she intends to produce at an early date.

THE same company is also publishing Miss Florrie Gallimore's song, "I wish you luck," with which she has been making such a success on her provincial tour.

ANOTHER new song about to be issued by the Von Tilzer Company is "Dinky-Doo," Mr. T. E. Dunville's big winner, written and composed by Alf. Ellerton.

THE Von Tilzer Music Company's tuneful ballad, "Let me return to Dreamland" (Lidden and Edgar), will be sung by Mr. Dave Carter. Mr. Arthur Aldridge is also featuring this song specially at the Pavilion.

TESTIFYING eloquently to the world-wide popularity of Mr. J. F. Lambe's delightful song, "Queen of Old Samara," is the fact that talented instrumentalist, Orpheus, has elected to make a special feature of the melody in his entertainment nightly. Apropos, Mr. Hugh Nolan's company will shortly introduce the same popular song into the new musical comedy sketch, *Miss Gretchen*, while the Sisters Jonghmanns still continue to charm all hearers on the Macnaghten (London) circuit with their rendering of the song in question.

So highly did Miss Vesta Victoria think of Harrington and Tate's novel song, "The Queen of the Jujah Islands," that she sent to Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger some weeks before her departure to America, last week, a model of the special scenery she required them to paint to give "local colour" to this quaint description of an English girl's adventures on an island which only exists in the fertile imagination of the author. Miss Victoria's costume and general make-up for this song will be unlike anything that has ever yet been attempted on the music hall stage, and it is hoped, and expected, by all concerned that this song will prove, as the Americans themselves term it, a "riot" in America.

MR. HARRY FRAGSON, whose return to Paris was acclaimed with delight by his many admirers, has added to the joy of the Gay City by producing at La Scala a very clever song, entitled "Delicieuse Promenade," the words of which were written by P. Gavault, the author of the play *My Wife*, who has used the ear-haunting melody so popular in America and England under the title of "Bill Simmons," or "I've got to dance till the band gets through."

MISS RACHEL LOWE has scored a great success in her new song, "Take me down to Blackpool." In Manchester last week the audience caught the chorus immediately, and voiced their appreciation in no uncertain manner. Miss Lowe will shortly give London audiences the opportunity of passing their opinion on her latest effort.

MR. DAVE CARTER is again at the Canterbury, where he delights the audience with his charming rendition of "Love me, and the world is mine."

MISS MARY ANN BROWN, who does not depend upon a fanciful name for popularity, is making a good record at every engagement. Her list of Witmark songs is one that, combined with the voice and personality of the singer, never fails to make each performance a noteworthy one. "It was persuasion," "I'd rather be like pa," and "You'll have to get off and walk," are the songs she will sing at Proctor's next week.

ALICE BANTA, since her first appearance in vaudeville, has gone steadily forward, so that she is booked from one season to the next. "Love dreams," "Door of hope," "My dear," "As long as the world rolls on," and "I'd live or I'd die for you," are bringing her more encores than she knows what to do with. Miss Banta is always on deck with the latest popular songs.

GERTRUDE FISKE has recently pleased her audiences with the new songs, "I'd live or I'd die for you," "As long as the world rolls on," and "Door of hope." She has a most convincing way of carrying her audience with her.

M. WITMARK AND SONS have reason to be pleased with the enormous success of their songs, "Will you love me in December as you do in May" and "Love me, and the world is mine." The Witmarks stand alone among the popular music publishers as being opposed to the cheap editions of music, and naturally are jubilant at the great success of their numbers at the ordinary price.

MISS GLADYS HUXLEY, who is considered one of the prettiest ladies on the stage, appeared on Monday at the Oxford, where she received many recalls for her dainty and charming rendering of "Won't you go with me to Gogo?" by J. F. Lambe, music by T. W. Thurban, of "Brooklyn Cake Walk" fame. This number certainly caught on, and showed every promise of becoming most popular. Miss Huxley is a fine sportswoman. Her favourite hobby is motoring, at which she is an expert. She is the niece of the famous scientist Huxley.

MASTER E. FRISBY is storming them at the Shepherd's Bush Empire with his songs, "Starlight" and "At the Old Cross Roads."

MISS BERTHA STUART has just produced a new song at the Tivoli with great success. It is entitled "Bonny Mary o' Glengary," and Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., the publishers, have every reason in anticipating that this will be another winner. It is from the pens of Weston, Barnes, and Maurice Scott.

MESSRS. B. FELDMAN AND CO. have just issued a very catchy chorus song, entitled "I love to see the ocean." The simplicity of the refrain makes it very attractive to popular audiences, and it is in very great demand. It is written and composed by Alf. E. Pick and Maurice Scott.

THE Sisters Edwards are scoring big with "Lavender," another fine number by Charles Wilmott and H. E. Darewski, jun.

MISS WINIFRED HARE was greatly surprised the other evening whilst singing "Cheer up, Mary!" to hear a boy in the gallery (a perfect stranger) singing the refrain of this song which she has so popularised. This occurred at the second and third hall where she was working, the singer evidently being the same. She made inquiries as to who the boy was, and it was eventually found out that it was one of "the Manchester gallery boys," who had heard Miss Hare there, and, coming up to London, wanted to show that he had not forgotten her.

AMERICAN PUBLISHER'S TRIP.

Mr. Isidore Witmark, who recently returned from Europe, where he transacted a large volume of business, is greatly pleased with the results, both as to productions and songs he placed on the other side, as well as with the novelties he brought back with him.

His itinerary covered Hamburg, Berlin, Leipsic, Dresden, Prague, Vienna, Salsburg, Munich, Nürnburg, Frankfort, a trip up the Rhine, Cologne, Dusseldorf, Aix-la-Chapelle, Paris, and London. In all his journeyings business necessarily occupied his first attention, but after that, where time permitted, a historic spot or subject of interest was indulged in.

Mr. Witmark states that business matters in all the cities he visited proved very satisfactory. "In Vienna I found the light school of operatic music is becoming better known; all over the Continent, even London, is adopting much of it. Notwithstanding this fact, I closed some very important contracts in Vienna for our house, and arranged, among other things, for the production of De Koven's *Highwayman* and other American operas in the near future. Also I brought back with me Regel's famous ballet pantomime, *The Red Shoes*, having the production and all other rights. This ballet ran a year in London, and also was produced in Vienna, Berlin, Milan, and Budapest. I have an option also on several others of a similar character."

A matter which held a large place in Mr. Witmark's heart is the question of copyright, and his work in the behalf of publishing houses, authors, and composers will undoubtedly be of lasting benefit. In the principal cities that he visited he studied the question, in Berlin with Prof. Ostereich, and in London with Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., who made so many friends in New York on the occasion of his last visit there. One of the pleasantest recollections which Mr. Isidore Witmark has of his recent visit to London is of a cosy little tea party on the terrace of the House of Commons, when he was the guest of Mr. O'Connor. Other members of the party were Mr. Nathan Burkan, solicitor to the firm of Witmarks, and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift.

GUS ELEN IN AMERICA.

INSTANTANEOUS SUCCESS.
IN ADVANCE VAUDEVILLE.
GUS ELEN'S DEBUT IN AMERICA.
THE SINGER AND THE SONGS SCORE HITS WITH THE HEARERS AND BECOME POPULAR AT ONCE.

In the New York Theatre last night Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger gave advanced vaudeville another upward boost by presenting on the bill headliners of the English vaudeville stage.

Mr. Gus Elen, an interpreter in song of English types, familiar on the streets and byways of London, made his American début, and if the welcome given to him is any criterion it will be a long time before the "'alls" of old London hear his voice. Mr. Elen does not imitate Albert Chevalier. He has a style all his own.—New York Herald, Sept. 10, '07.

LONDON TYPES IN NEW YORK.
GUS ELEN, ADMIRABLE SINGER OF COCKNEY SONGS, MAKES AMERICAN DEBUT.

A few minutes with Gus Elen at the New York Theatre is almost as good as a trip to Whitechapel or the Limehouse district. For some people it will seem better, for they will get the east-side London types without the accompanying discomfort. They will also save steamer and 'bus fares.

Mr. Elen picks up that most interesting of London street types, the cockney workingman, and delivers him on the stage very much as he is in his own environment. The calcium man does his best to hide Mr. Elen's light under the theatrical bushel, but he does not succeed. As a matter of

Photo by Karoly.
MR. GUS ELEN

fact this music hall artist does not need such aid. His make-ups are true pictures, and they seem built up from within, not merely pictorial representations. You get the Bow Bells voice—that strange, raucous, quavering voice with its queer breaks into the treble, the shambling gait and the sudden jerky gestures of the coster, with all the little mannerisms that serve to make him what he is. The mannerisms are inexplicable, but they are quaint and belong to no other human type. He is notably comic in "'Alf a pint of ale," in which the wheezy old cockney tells his opinion of poor misguided folk who like coffee, cocoa, and such stuff. His song about the pavement scriveners would be funnier to the average American if he were familiar with the kind of art it satirises. But it is a capital little song, and goes very well.—New York Times, Sept. 10, '07.

Mr. Elen must have felt proud of the reception given him. He certainly has every right to, for it is not often that a Broadway audience takes a foreigner—in vaudeville, at any rate—to its heart right at the jump, so to speak. He is a singer somewhat on the order of Mr. Chevalier, but with a repertory—at least judging from his songs last night—lacking the quiet songs requiring repression that are the gems of Mr. Chevalier's collection.

Mr. Elen is a master of facial expressions—of all expressions of attitude—and he can give an audience a vivid impression of the attributes of a character by the crook of an elbow, the kick-up of a leg. He shows the lower London types, the crossing-sweeper, the carpenter, and all sorts of costers. He is said to be the greatest exponent of the coster on the stage, and one may well believe this after hearing him sing the four songs he sang last night.—The Morning Telegraph, Sept. 10, '07.

VIDE NEW YORK THEATRE ADVT.
Glorious triumph for Gus Elen.

Mr. Elen is a singer of cockney and coster songs, Miss Romaine is an impersonator of boys. In his act Mr. Elen sang several of his London hits, and showed himself a finished artist. Still, it is doubtful if his act will "go" as well here as in England. He presents the cockney as he is, not as American theatre-goers are used to seeing him represented, and for this very reason he did not score as heavily as if he had exaggerated the characters. The longer he remains the better he will be liked.—The World, Sept. 10, '07.

MORE ENGLISH VAUDEVILLE.

Gus Elen's cockney impersonations are masterly in make-up, voice, and action. In both pathos and humour they are trenchant, even a little grim. Particularly artistic is their realism and restraint. At one point there were loud cries from the audience for his famous song, "'E dunno where 'e are," but when the orchestra struck up the opening bars it was quite evident that the players were in a similar predicament. That song, it seemed, had not been rehearsed, so Mr. Elen sang instead an amusing ditty about "'Alf a pint of ale."—The Globe and Commercial Advertiser, Sept. 10, '07.

COSTER SINGER WELCOMED.
ELEN CAPTURES PATRONS OF THE NEW YORK THEATRE.

Gus Elen, a favourite coster comedian of the London music halls, received a respectable imitation of an ovation last night at the New York Theatre. The audience indicated that it intended to like him as soon as his name was posted. Each of his four songs was cheered heartily.

Elen's admirers liked him just as much in the guise of a crossing-sweeper as in the more opulent attire of a cabman, and waxed equally enthusiastic over his impersonation of a despiser of soft drinks.—The Sun (New York), Sept. 10, '07.

NEW SINGER FROM LONDON.
GUS ELEN, COSTER COMEDIAN.

Mr. Elen presents that interesting type, the cockney workman. His make-ups are admirable, and he suits his voice to the characters he assumes with accuracy and fidelity. Especially was he happy in a ditty called "'Alf a pint o' ale," in which he tells of his disgust for people who drink and think they enjoy "soft" beverages.—Evening Mail, Sept. 10, '07.

FRANK GERALD'S PRESENTATION.

We absorbed several interesting facts at the complimentary dinner given to Mr. Frank Gerald on Sunday evening at the Victoria Hall, Criterion Restaurant. First and foremost, the genial chairman—the apostle of drama written on business principles, with both eyes glued on the box-office receipts—Mr. Cecil Raleigh, confessed himself not only a Trade Unionist, but a Socialist. Had he not as far back as 1885 sold copies of *Justice* in Regent's Park, and was he not a disciple of H. M. Hyndman? He also told us that the music-hall strike in January last was compromised by the stars. Then Jimmy Glover, Mayor of Bexhill and maestro of Drury Lane, a colleague and chum of Cecil Raleigh's, informed us what rousing work he had done in the fast-advancing south coast resort referred to, and how, after being treated with contumely and ingratitude, his ever-increasing phalanx of friends had made him mayor and threatened to do it again. Then Mr. Frank Gerald, we learnt, had been an actor in Australia before he became a variety artist in England, and had secured the good word as a man and actor of no less an authority than the Hon. G. S. Coppin, who died last year at the advanced age of eighty-seven.

The speeches mostly ran in one groove. There was general agreement that both actors and music-hall artists can only secure a living wage by adopting Trade Union principles; and the work of Mr. Frank Gerald in forming, last January, the triple alliance between the Amalgamated Society of Musicians, the National Association of Theatrical Employees, and the Variety Artists' Federation, and putting himself in the forefront of the music-hall strike was the theme of more than one fervid speech. It will be remembered that the Federation did not re-elect Mr. Gerald as its secretary, and that his work as an organiser and his abilities as a speaker found an outlet recently when he attended as delegate of the Actors' Union at Bath. To this appointment was due no doubt the sprinkling of actors who came to the banquet on Sunday to do honour to Mr. Gerald, who was rewarded during the evening with a substantial testimonial—no less than fifty guineas having been subscribed by the Artists' Protection League, a new organisation for watching the interests of entertainers of all kinds, pioneered by Mr. Harry Mountford, whose name was very prominent as an organiser and speaker during the music-hall strike.

Among those present were Messrs. Cecil Raleigh (in the chair), James W. Glover, George Gray (in the vice-chair), Harry Mountford, J. B. Williams, Wm. Johnson, Harry Gosling, L.C.C., Harry Orbell, Pat Carey, Pat Doherty, Richard Judd Green, Leonard Mortimer, H. G. Hibbert, Fred Harrison, James O'Grady, M.P., Frederick Ross, S. Major Jones, Frederick Morrison, Henry Armstrong, Cecil Gray, Edgar Lee, Miss Lucy Sibley, Frank Hardie, Mrs. Pete Curran, and other ladies and gentlemen.

After the loyal toasts, Mr. CECIL RALEIGH, the chairman, rose to propose the toast of "Mr. Frank Gerald." He thought the dinner that night had a future. It might be the genesis of a great annual festival in celebration of the first introduction of the principles of Trade Unionism to the world of entertainment. Mr. Gerald had spoken of the grievances of artists years before but to no purpose, and the solid fact remained that unless organised and strong enough to strike workers did not obtain redress for their grievances. Mr. Raleigh went on to refer to the evils of the truck system, and the necessity of the Truck Acts. Trade Unions were formed to define the law of supply and demand, and to obtain an honest minimum living wage. He remembered when rural postmen, who worked seven days a week, and walked ten miles a day, applied to Mr. Fawcett, then Postmaster-General, and asked for an increase on their pittance of 13s. per week, receiving for answer, "There are plenty more where you come from." Their earnings scarcely paid for shoe-leather, but they had to grin and bear it, for there was no organisation. It had been left to Frank Gerald to bring into the music-hall calling Trade Union principles. The artists had stood by those principles, but had thrown over their advocate and apostle as the German Emperor threw over Bismarck, who out of a dozen twopenny States constructed a great Empire. It was the fate of pioneers and reformers to get more kicks than halfpence; and therefore they in that hall desired to show their appreciation of Frank Gerald. The work was there; all honour, then, to the man who did it. Mr. Gerald now represented a weak-backed Union; he should make it strong. Mr. Raleigh read a telegram from the Gallery First Nighters' Club, and Lionel Brough, congratulating Frank Gerald on a plucky fight, and concluded by expressing the pleasure he felt in presiding, and in proposing their guest's very good health and future prosperity.

MR. HARRY MOUNTFORD "rallied" the chairman on his descent from the greater Sir Walter of Elizabethan days, quoting at the same time a letter written by that worthy to his royal mistress while he was confined in the Tower. The name of "Cecil," too, suggested to the speaker that Mr. Raleigh had a Burleigh-like nod. He could understand Mr. Raleigh's advocacy of drama twice nightly, as it meant a double percentage. Addressing himself to the work of Mr. Frank Gerald, he said that gentleman, after spade work for five or six years, assisted to found the V.A.F., and afterwards, with Messrs. Jesson and Johnson, the Alliance, the agreement being entered into on paper and signed by the three secretaries. The Alliance, too, received unanimous recognition at every meeting in London or the country, and the Alliance helped the artists to win. He had in the early days of the movement gone so far as to pay £30 out of his own pocket as initial expenses, which had never been returned to him. He had been attacked and maligned in every way while secretary of the Federation, but he had been loyal and true to the cause, and he had been hustled out of the position by the very men whom he had educated to the business. Well might he exclaim with the poet, "I perish by the people I have made." Mr. Gerald had nothing whatever to do with the Arbitration, as a resolution was passed by the V.A.F. committee that neither he nor their guest that night should appear before the Arbitrator, and now artists were crying over the Award. In obtaining that Award the Alliance were legal partners, moral partners, and financial partners. Frank Gerald was loyal to that Alliance. He had taken up an honourable position. It was his pleasant duty on behalf of the Artists' Protection Union, which he represented, to present Mr. Gerald with a cheque for fifty guineas.

MR. J. B. WILLIAMS said that when a man set out on the path of reform as Frank Gerald had done, and became, as it were, a figure-head, he must expect metaphorical brickbats, carping criticism, and what he might term victimisation. It was the common lot of Trade Union leaders. As a result of the music-hall dispute the musicians had obtained an increase of £2000 in salary. He had understudied Oliver Twist, and hoped to obtain more in the future. From the newspapers he learnt that the Award was not all the artists thought it was. Men who were now criticising Gerald never did a stroke of work until the fight was over. It took a clever man to build up; any fool could pull down. In conclusion, he desired to show his appreciation of Frank Gerald, and he was proud to be there to support him.

After speeches by MR. W. JOHNSON, MR. HARRY ORBELL, MR. HARRY GOSLING, and MR. PAT CAREY, MR. GEORGE GRAY, who filled the vice-chair, said it generally fell to his lot to follow the top, bottom, and middle of the bill, and keep the audience in in conjunction with the bioscope. He had come specially from Southampton to speak of his bosom friend Frank Gerald, and he was glad to meet Mr. Cecil Raleigh, Trade Unionist, Socialist, and friend of the Lord Chamberlain. As far as he could make out, every Socialist held different views. There could be only one view of Frank Gerald. With him it was not a question of L. S. D. He worked with single aim and purpose. The Federation had been sold by those seeking office and self-aggrandisement. He hoped one day to see a grand amalgamation of every branch of their profession, and if that came about they would ask Frank Gerald to be at the head.

MR. CECIL RALEIGH, in handing Mr. Gerald several cheques and a gold watch "to mark time," said that everybody had to suffer in pioneering a cause, and, like General Baden-Powell, he thought the best things to go through life with were a sense of humour and a thick stick.

MR. FRANK GERALD, on rising to return thanks, was most enthusiastically cheered. He said it had really been most embarrassing to him to sit there and hear one speaker after another eulogise his services; but it meant a great deal to a man to see around him a gathering like that, and to know that there were so many who had trust in him. During the last six months he had had many days of bitterness, many moments of despair. Friends had said to him, "What did I tell you? You neglect your own business; make an enemy of every manager, and then at the end you are turned out without a 'thank you.'" He, however, had always believed in the rank-and-file of the profession, who had a sincere honesty. He most distinctly charged the Variety Artists' Federation with an act of treachery towards the musicians and stage employees—an act that he would not associate himself with—and until the Federation wiped that blot away there would be a stain on its escutcheon. His music-hall career was now at an end. It was no fault of his. The managers would not have him: he was barred and boycotted. He had just returned from Bath, where actors for the first time had been represented at a Trade Union Congress. He himself should like to see the Actors' Association and the Actors' Union one. He could see no obstacle in the path of unity. He was glad to see the older society taking example from its younger brother. He welcomed, too, the formation of the Artists' Protection League, which would welcome to its ranks artists of every kind. He was still in the van of the movement, and was still going to fight for it. He had devoted the last five years of his life to it, and he meant to see it through to the end. To him that would be a memorable evening. He did thank them all and those who were not present most sincerely. He thanked them for their kindness and their generosity. They would dispel the gloomy thoughts that came over him; and he trusted that he should never do anything that would forfeit their confidence and trust.

MR. J. M. GLOVER, in a speech full of amusing personal references, proposed the health of their chairman, whom he had known for twenty-seven years.

MR. CECIL RALEIGH briefly replied.

The proceedings were enlivened by comic songs by Mr. Sam Mayo, and Miss Vera Terranova sang with considerable expression "Absent." Both artists were accompanied by Mr. Angelo Asher.

THE TIVOLI.

The pianoforte is so often seen now on the stage, and solos on that instrument are always so acceptable to music-hall audiences, that one is not surprised at the exceedingly warm reception accorded to Mendel, the blind pianist, who is paying a return visit to the cosy little house in the Strand. As a performer Mendel is quite a virtuoso, and, besides, possesses a marvellous gift of memory, which he utilises by repeating a melody immediately after it has been played by another. The only difference that one notices is that Mendel's treatment of the bass is fuller and more scholarly, and that he often improves on the original harmonies. Early in the Tivoli programme we have a "hands across the sea" song in march time, which triumphantly proclaims the fortuitous circumstances arising from the marriage of "Tommy Atkins and Dolly Gray." Miss Margaret Ashton sings it with rare spirit and go. A hearty reception is given shortly afterwards to Miss Clara Alexander, an American raconteuse, who has had plenty of opportunities in her own country of observing very closely the habits and peculiarities of the "coon," and gives London audiences a taste of her quality in imitations of an old nigger and negress.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Grattan, both facile exponents of light comedy, are responsible for a neat little duologue entitled *Packing Up*. Mr. and Mrs. Chugwater are going out, and when the curtain rises both are dressing—Mrs. C. off. Mr. C., while shaving, cuts himself—an annoying incident which evokes emphatic language. Then he loses his collar-stud; and the amiable consolations of Mrs. C. only seem to add to his irascibility. Eventually, however, the lady declares she has had enough of his temper, and from being submissive and angelic becomes shrewish and aggressive. This new phase of his wife's character effectually quells the irritability of Chugwater, but through the chapter of accidents the train is missed and they remain at home. Brightly and cleverly played, *Packing Up* is an agreeable little episode that is heartily received.

We have had many sand dancers; but there are few who retain their supremacy so completely as does My Fancy, who brings down the house by the music of her twinkling feet. Mr. Tom Edwards, in his ventriloquial act, has avoided the shibboleths of the old-fashioned school. He puts many amusing witticisms into the mechanical mouth of his figure, Curly, and utters jokes against himself like the true sportsman that he is. The quieting of the baby is a particularly amusing addition to the act, and one that appeals with particular force to the ladies of the audience.

Miss Bertha Stuart gives Scotch songs something more than the cut-and-dried rendering to which we are so unhappily accustomed from singers who miss their dramatic significance. To her fine interpretation of "Caller Herrin'" she gives a generous measure of intensity. The house responds warmly to her efforts, and she is called and recalled. Mr. Phil Ray has an amusing song, and also indulges in a burlesque recitation; fun is in the ascendant with the jolly juggling and jesting of Radford and Valentine; Mr. Wilkie Bard makes plenty of fun with "You, you, you"; Foreman and Fannan are whimsical cross-talkers; and the programme has other contributors in Dandy George and his dog, Sam Mayo, Victoria Monks, the Three Laurels, and the Twin Andersons. It is always a pleasant experience to meet Messrs. Joe Wilson (the manager) and James Howell (the treasurer) "in front" at this very popular and well-conducted house.

MR. MAURICE LEE, a light comedian of great promise, has been appearing with considerable success at Greenwich during the week, and has been well equipped by Messrs. Murphy and Lipton with songs. His "Taximo" number is greatly to the liking of the public.

MR. GEORGE BROOKS produced with great success, at the Holborn Empire on Monday, a new comic song by Fred W. Leigh and E. Bateman, the music by the former, entitled "Jack of all trades—master of none."

MISS ANNIE MARS will shortly appear at the Alhambra in a new song-scena specially written for her by Messrs. Wilmott and H. E. Darewski.

THE V.A.F. AND THE AWARD.

Peace was predominant at the mass meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation, which took place at the Camberwell Empire on Sunday last. Mr. Joe O'Gorman, chairman of the Federation, presided, and was supported by Mr. W. H. Clemart, vice-chairman, Mr. Monte Bayly, secretary, and most of the executive of the Federation; while a number of labour leaders present included Mr. J. Havelock Wilson, M.P., and Mr. James O'Grady, M.P. The meeting was called (1) To discuss an alleged evasion of the Arbitrator's Award; (2) receive the report of the negotiations with the Arbitrator since the Award has been issued; (3) to decide the methods to be adopted to enforce the Award.

The chairman prefaced his remarks by reading numerous telegrams from various members of the Federation regretting their inability to be present and wishing success to the cause. One from Mr. Wal Pink, who was described as "an esteemed and trusted leader" read: "Regret absence, which please explain. Whatever happens, the Award must be upheld. We won the matinées, and we are not going to be robbed of the fruits of our victory. Fight to the last to enforce the Award. Better die fighting like men than live trembling like cowards. Long live the Federation." Another from Mr. Harry Lauder was as follows: "Feeling very much indisposed with sore throat; better rest to-day. Nevertheless, whatever decision arrived at you may be assured I am with you. I will be pleased to hear the result of the meeting." Letters from prominent Labour M.P.'s were also read, and enthusiastically received.

The Chairman, addressing the meeting as "Sister and Brother Artists," said they would readily agree that it was with the utmost reluctance that they thought it necessary to call that meeting there that day. Mr. Clemart, Mr. Pink, and himself had been arbitrating for over six months. Mr. Askwith, after twenty-three days, gave the Award; but he gave the managers a month's grace, and during that month their friends, the managers, had made very good use of their time in booking people up before July 14. With very few exceptions, notably Mr. Stoll, managers had disregarded some of the terms of the Award. He held no brief for Mr. Stoll, but he did know he was an honourable man, and anything he contracted to do he did. If he cut down your salary you had a kicking, and if he put his (the chairman's) up he would kick; but he did not think there would be much kicking. The Arbitrator gave his Award, and they were prepared as honourable men and women to accept that Award whatever it was. The proprietors also said they would accept it; why, then, did they not accept it at once, and issue contracts on July 14? Artists objected to the deduction of commissions, and intended to object right to the very finish. The chairman referred to an article in a contemporary, in which the V.A.F. was described as a society remarkable for the fact that they expelled each other according to the balance of power. It was true there were a few malcontents looking after personal notoriety, who had gone outside and made a noise, but he did not think that their organisation had been weakened thereby, but strengthened. There was no dissension now—nobody looking for glory. All in the Federation wanted to do everything in their power to further the cause of the great industry in which they were interested. But their moderation from the day they went to arbitration had been mistaken, and there was not the slightest doubt that people in the north were "twisting the contract on them." They thought that the Federation was weak, that there was disruption in their ranks, but they would find out their mistake. All over the country there was absolute unity, and their numbers were increasing. They had got the Award, and were entitled to the privileges it gave them. He would say nothing to embitter the situation between Mr. Tozer and themselves, but there was not the slightest doubt that little proprietors in the north had taken their lead from him, and had said, "Do you think it fair to make me follow the Award when you allow Mr. Tozer to act differently?" He asked Mr. Clemart to read the correspondence which passed between the Federation and Mr. Tozer during the last few days.

Before reading the letters, Mr. Clemart said the representatives of the Federation, consisting of Mr. O'Gorman, Mr. Doughty, and himself, had a meeting with Messrs. Wells, Tozer, and Walter Payne before the Arbitrator on Friday, Sept. 6, when the points at issue were discussed. Up to that time the syndicate contract was made out that "the artist accepts an engagement to appear every evening and on Saturday afternoon (making seven performances per week) at the salary stated in the schedule hereto." Then lower down in the body of the contract appeared Clause 3. "The artist agrees to appear at any matinées required by the management, and shall be paid for each matinée at the rate of one-seventh of the weekly salary." At the bottom of the contract was the schedule .... weeks commencing on .... 190.., at a salary of £.... per week, followed by the amazing clause:—"Of which said salary six-sevenths shall be deemed to be in respect of six evening performances, and one-seventh of such salary shall be deemed to be in respect of one Saturday matinée as above."

Where, then, were they going to pay for their matinée on that? After a long argument it was decided that after "Every evening and on Saturday afternoons" the words "In accordance with Clause 3" should be inserted. In the schedule, after "at a salary of £.... per week" "six night performances" should be added, and the clause splitting the salary into sevenths should be deleted entirely, thus establishing the fact once and for all that the weekly salary is that paid for the evening performances, and that the matinée money is extra.

The day following, Mr. O'Gorman received the following letter:—

1 Durham House-street, Strand, W.C.,
Sept. 10, 1907.

Dear Mr. O'Gorman,—You will be glad to know that the Arbitrator has approved the altered wording of the schedule in the Tivoli and similar contracts. Whilst of opinion that the previous wording (and I think that most reasonable critics would agree therein) was in entire accordance with the meaning of the Award, we assent to the phraseology being altered so as to meet any possible objection in regard to the extra amount being specifically stated in pounds, shillings, and pence, both (a) in relation to the aggregate six nights' salary and (b) in relation to the matinée salary.

Mr. Askwith writes in fulfilment of his intimation on Friday last that he has *no objection to the inclusion of the words*:—"Saturday matinée, £.... Total £...." We shall have proof ready on Thursday or Friday of the altered form so as to put the fresh contracts into use forthwith. Would you like to have one when ready?

In this matter we have been happy to meet your views as far as practicable, and trust that should any further question arise upon the Award we may be equally successful with yourselves in settling such point or points by agreement.—With kind regards, yours faithfully,

(Signed) Henry Tozer.

In reply to that Mr. O'Gorman sent Mr. Tozer a wire that it was an absolute evasion of the Award, and they would not have it. Mr. Tozer wired back to Mr. O'Gorman that he was under some misapprehension, and he was writing. In the meantime counsel's opinion was taken, and it was decided to hold a special committee meeting on Thursday. As Mr. O'Gorman had not time to get the letter Mr. Tozer had sent him to Cardiff, he telephoned for the letter to be sent to him in town. The letter was as follows:—

Sept. 12, 1907.

OXFORD AND TIVOLI CONTRACTS.

Dear Mr. O'Gorman,—I enclose you copy of letter sent to Cardiff last night.

It seems to me there is but little real difference between us; at the most it is but one of form. My co-directors and I are, as stated in the enclosed letter, determined to abide by the Award and by the Arbitrator's fiat upon its interpretation.

Where practicable and possible we are, as we always have been, desirous of mutually arranging points of difference.

With regard to the clause as to matinée payment, my co-directors and I cannot comprehend your wishes. In order that we may do so, will you kindly say "Yes" or "No" to each of these three propositions:—

1. Do you wish that the artist shall clearly understand from the contract what he is to receive in pounds, shillings, and pence for his week of six night performances?

2. Do you wish that the artist shall clearly understand from the contract what he is to receive in pounds, shillings, and pence for his Saturday matinée?

3. Do you wish that the artist shall clearly understand from the contract what total payment in pounds, shillings, and pence he is to receive for his seven performances?

Awaiting your reply, I remain, yours faithfully,

(Signed) Henry Tozer.

(Enclosure.)

Sept. 11, 1907.

Dear Mr. O'Gorman,—Many thanks for your telegram. Possibly I did not explain the matter sufficiently clearly, and there is therefore some misunderstanding on your part.

You may rest assured that we shall not issue any form of contract whatever until and unless first submitted to and definitely approved by the Arbitrator.

I suggest that you had better see proof when same is ready. Shall you be in town shortly, so that we may meet and clear this up, if necessary?

With yourself and your colleagues I hope we shall be able to satisfactorily arrange any different points of view that may seem to exist, and to work together harmoniously and profitably.—Faithfully yours,

(Signed) Henry Tozer.

These communications were put to the meeting and discussed, and the outcome was that the following letter was sent to Mr. Tozer by unanimous resolution:—

Sept. 12, 1907.

Henry Tozer, Esq.,
1, Durham House-street,
Strand, W.C.

Dear Sir,—In reply to yours of Sept. 10, 11, and 12. We have taken our counsel's opinion on the communications you have sent to Mr. O'Gorman—that the Arbitrator has allowed you to make alterations in your contract other than those agreed upon before the parties on Friday last.

On our counsel's instructions, we now give you until Sept. 14, at 12 noon, to forward us a copy of your "revised" form of contract, and if there is any alteration, amendment, or addition to what was agreed upon before the parties, we give you notice that we shall take immediate steps to enforce the Award in any way we deem necessary. The only alterations we can accept are those made before the Arbitrator last Friday, which are as follows:—

1. The insertion of the words "in accordance with Clause 3," after "every evening, and on Saturday afternoon."

2. The addition of "six night performances after the words "at a salary of £.... per week."

3. The deletion entirely of the paragraph commencing "of which said salary six-sevenths shall be deemed," &c.

Further, we require the alteration in reference to the commission clause, that the words "ten per cent." be changed for the words "the commission payable on this contract." We also require the entire deletion of Clause 2, which limits the artist's appearance at any other theatre.

We are aware that many contracts have been signed between the 14th of July, and now an undertaking from you will be necessary to the effect that all contracts signed, and issued by you from July 14 up to the present moment shall be amenable to the new conditions.

This letter is sent you, having been carried unanimously by the Executive Committee now sitting.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) Monte Bayly,
General Secretary.

Mr. Tozer replied:—

1, Durham House-street,
Sept. 13, 1907.

The Secretary,
Variety Artistes' Federation,
Wellington-street, W.C.

Dear Sir,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 12th inst.

The point of difference between us appears to be what was the exact decision of the Arbitrator on Friday, the 6th inst., your contention being that the copy contract as altered in red by the Arbitrator constituted the whole of his decision; on the other hand, we contend that the decision included *something in addition*. You will, I am sure, agree that this sums up the cause of the present regrettable misunderstanding.

Neither my colleagues nor myself have acted nor desire to act in any way contrary to the Arbitrator's decision nor to the spirit of the Award. Inasmuch as Mr. Askwith is now in Ireland, and cannot for the moment decide the point at issue between us, we have meanwhile no objection to our contracts being made in entire accordance with the form altered in red ink by the Arbitrator on the 6th inst., a copy of which was then given to me by your counsel.

With reference to the Commission Clause, this was not at that time gone into before the Arbitrator, but we are willing to leave the rate of commission in blank, to be filled in by the artists when signing the contract. This will give effect to your suggestion and at the same time leave no possibility of dispute as to what the "commission payable" is.

We requested Mr. Rutland some time since to place this matter before you, and presumed you were in communication with him upon it.

With reference to contracts made between July 14 and Sept. 7, it was agreed before the Arbitrator on Friday last by your counsel that those should remain untouched, but if this agreement is disputed, we are quite prepared to deal with the matter in such manner as Mr. Askwith may suggest.

Lastly, with reference to your suggestion upon Clause 2 in our contracts, we have not had an opportunity of discussing this with you, and it was a pity you did not mention it to us when before Mr. Askwith on the last occasion. If there is any very serious objection to it, we have no doubt that we shall be able to meet you in the matter.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) Henry Tozer.

In reply to that the Committee wrote:—

Sept. 14, 1907.

Henry Tozer, Esq.,
1, Durham House-street,
Strand, W.C.

Dear Sir,—In reply to yours of the 13th. We regret the misunderstanding equally with yourself, and are only too anxious to avoid any unpleasantness, which would undoubtedly only result in loss to both sides.

We cannot see any reason for the additions you claim Mr. Askwith has allowed you to make to what was agreed before the parties on Friday, Sept. 6. If the *weekly* salary is stated together with the matinée clause, we fail to see how any possible misunderstanding can arise.

We shall be glad to accept your offer of your contracts being made in entire accordance with the form altered in red ink by the Arbitrator on the 6th inst.—not as a temporary arrangement, until he returns, but as a *permanent* settlement of the point in dispute between us.

If this meets your views we shall be glad of a letter to that effect to-day for the purpose of reading it at the Camberwell meeting, with the intention of allaying the feeling amongst our members, which we assure you is at the present moment most acute.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) Monte Bayly,
General Secretary.

Mr. Tozer's reply was as follows:—

1, Durham House-street,
Sept. 14, 1907.

Monte Bayly, Esq.,
Variety Artistes' Federation,
28, Wellington-street, W.C.

Dear Sir,—I am in receipt of your favour of yesterday's date, and shall be glad in every practical way to further your efforts to allay the feeling among your members.

Reciprocating your desire for a friendly settlement, we shall be willing, in accordance with your wish, to permanently adopt the form altered in red. It will, of course, be advisable after the Arbitrator's return to have this and the other little points formally settled with the impress of his approval.

With regard to the allegations of *mala fides* on our part, it would only be "fair," "just," and "courteous" that these should be withdrawn, which, I presume, you will arrange to be done at your meeting.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) Henry Tozer.

In reply to that the Committee wrote:—

Sept. 14, 1907.

Henry Tozer, Esq.,
1, Durham House-street,
Strand, W.C.

Dear Sir,—Many thanks for yours of to-day's date just to hand. We assure you that we are only too anxious to allay the feeling of our members and avoid any possible disturbance of the music hall industry. We learn with the greatest pleasure that you are willing to adopt the form altered in red, and in order to avoid the slightest chance of any possible misunderstanding we enclose you a copy made out in your office on Sept. 6. We shall be glad if you will return the same with a short note stating that this is the basis of the agreement between us. We shall, of course, be agreeable to have this confirmed by the Arbitrator on his return, and also to decide before him the other little points referred to.

In regard to the allegations you speak of, it will be a pleasure to inform our meeting that the misunderstanding between us has now been entirely cleared up.—Yours faithfully,

The Variety Artistes' Federation,
(Signed) Monte Bayly,
General Secretary.

Mr. Tozer replied:—

The Tivoli, Strand,
Sept. 14, 1907.

Dear Sir,—Herewith I return form duly endorsed. Nothing now remains but to await the Arbitrator's return.

I trust your meeting will be satisfactory to everybody, and that, as far as we are concerned, your Chairman will withdraw in no grudging spirit the imputation of *mala fides*.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) Henry Tozer.

The reading of the final letter was greeted with prolonged cheers.

The Chairman said he must add to what Mr. Clemart had read that on the Friday where Mr. Tozer says our counsel agreed that the contracts already made could not be touched, both Mr. Clemart and himself tried to correct that statement. They did object to them standing, but were not allowed to do so by Mr. Walter Payne, and from that moment he told Mr. Clemart that if that was the way they were going to be treated he had done arbitrating, and was not going before Mr. Askwith any more. The appreciation with which they had just greeted that statement showed that they heartily supported their action. That was considerably emphasised by the reports of the members' meetings in answer to the following question, which was sent out to all their meetings to vote upon:—"That this meeting gives their support to any action that the Executive Committee deem necessary to enforce the Award." Unanimous replies had been received from all quarters. The chairman went on to say that in reply to that part of Mr. Tozer's communication regarding the suggestion of malafides, he withdrew any intention of making a public statement that Mr. Tozer or anybody else acted dishonourably. They wanted Mr. Tozer to be reassured that, so long as he acted straightforwardly with them, they would always act straightforwardly with him. He called upon Mr. Clemart to move the resolution.

Mr. Clemart said the greater portion of the trouble since July 14 was caused by those managers who had not taken the trouble, and evidently had no intention until they were made, of reprinting their forms of contract. It was not fair that they should go on issuing old forms of contract to members of the profession after they had had a month to get reprints. He was not wrong in saying that there were not a dozen managers in the country who had issued new contracts. Messrs. Stoll, Gros, Gibbons, Broadhead, and Curry had carried out the agreement, and other managers were trying to conform. Mr. Grimes, of Brixton, had notified his intention that his contract should conform to the terms of the Award. Why did not men who were represented before the Arbitrator, and who had bound themselves to accept his Award, immediately they saw that Award set about reprinting their contracts? He maintained it was a desire to evade the Award. A manager had no right to keep a contract open to try and tempt an artist to sign it. He would go further, and say there was not only danger in signing such a contract, but there was danger in signing an old form, even if it had been endorsed. They had been advised to write on the outside of such contract, "In accordance with the Arbitrator's Award," and if the manager accepted the contract on those conditions, he was binding himself to that Award. He instanced a case in which an old contract was used by the London Pavilion management, which was endorsed in the manner referred to, but when the artist went to treasury expecting his salary and one-seventh extra, he received only his bare salary. It was argued that the contract was a bargain between artist and employer, and, to their horror, the Arbitrator upheld that view, but they were going to maintain the principle, and sue the London Pavilion for one-seventh part of that salary. That would show the danger of accepting the old form of contract, which they must insist shall be abolished, and he would ask them to support the committee in enforcing a proper form of contract. As regarded the new forms of contract he did not think they would have a lot of trouble with the other people. Mr. Tozer had seen that he was mistaken, and honestly admitted it, and they were going to make the smaller fry admit it. The Award was said to declare that there should be no strike until 1912, but it also laid it down that the Award should be abided by. If managers broke their contracts then the artists would be freed in a similar way. They wanted all the old contracts thrown on the dust heap, and if employers could not afford to print new ones then they would print them for them. They wanted the new contracts printed, and the sum of money per week to apply to evening performances; they could do their own arithmetic with regard to the matinées. They wanted managers to abide by the letter and the spirit of the Award. The difference was this. The letter of the Award was where they finished with Mr. Askwith, but if a manager chopped off salaries just as much as would pay for the matinée, then he would be breaking the spirit of the Award. That was what they would very likely have to face. He would read a letter from an agent to an artist, which pointed to the breaking of the spirit of the Award. The letter was in reference to engagements at certain halls, and the engagement came out at £6 per week, whether there was a matinée or not. The letter concluded as follows: "You can write in the margin as follows: 'If no matinée the salary to be £6 a week.'" Where, then, was payment for matinées? The manager of the hall affected would be asked to pay the same salary all round his tour, and not lower it where there was a matinée. He had the greatest pleasure in moving the resolution, which was as follows:—

"That this meeting deplores the fact that so few managers have made any real attempt to conform with the Arbitrator's Award, and now calls upon the Arbitrator to insist upon all such managers to immediately relinquish the issuing of old forms of contract, and to at once reprint their forms of contract, in the 'form' laid down by the Arbitrator in his Award, and, further, if this be not done, that this meeting empowers the Executive Committee to take any such steps as may be deemed necessary to enforce the same."

Mr Tom Costello seconded the resolution, and said he wished to sound a warning note to artists and proprietors. He had watched the struggle very very closely, and had come to the conclusion that the last stage was about to be reached and finality was close at hand. If proprietors were wise in their generation they would drop this childish quibbling and legal phraseology over contracts and come down to the plane of common sense. If they kept the artists at that business none of them would have time to get up new business to attract the public. As he said at the alleged "peaceful" dinner which preceded the strike, when asked to give a toast—"Here's your very good health, and here's hoping the public will never find us out." The same bridge carried proprietors and artists alike, and if the employers, by their twisting and wriggling, brought about another awful state of affairs, their blood would be on their own head. None of the artists wanted to strike, and had done all they could to bring about a peaceful ending. When they saw the state of *ad nauseam* that had set in during the late struggle they said "Stop the strike." They had satisfied the public. They went to arbitration; they got an Award, and they had heard how it had been twisted. He begged those proprietors who still held out to work with the Federation, and eventually they would so strengthen the profession that any artist who erred in regard to his work would be liable to be had up before a tribunal of his own people.

Mr. Joe Elvin, who had a rousing reception, in supporting the resolution, said he would make his usual rough-and-tumble speech. They had heard the resolution, which he was sure would be carried unanimously. He had not spoken since the strike, and had almost forgotten how to make a speech. He saw the reports of the trouble in the papers on Saturday, and said, "I can see myself on the old green again at Chelsea, spouting for all I am worth." He was, however, pleased to find that a crisis had been averted, and things looked more peaceful They had all fought honestly, and could make a fair start together. They were all pleased to go to arbitration, and they decided that whatever arbitration gave them they would abide by it as honourable men and women. If, however, the proprietors twisted and turned and tried to "nobble" the Arbitrator, then there was only one thing to do. They had been given a bit of the old joint—only a "little bit off the knuckle," but they would be satisfied with that, and if proprietors did not abide by it they would have to strike again. What annoyed him very much was that they should go to the Arbitrator without taking the artists' representatives. He sincerely hoped they would not have another music-hall strike; but if they did have another strike they would have to be as they were before—unanimous. They would strike and strike until they got their rights, and if they got those rights they would be satisfied; if not, they would fight, and he would have his last "tenner" on the Federation.

Mr. Fred Herbert addressed himself to the smaller fry of the profession. If ever the time came, he said, that they had to take the same action as before to maintain what they had been awarded, he asked them to stand loyally by the leaders and not think too much about themselves. Let them put the cause almost before everything. While they had those in high positions who sacrificed so much in behalf of their humbler brethren, the smaller fry must be prepared to sacrifice something on behalf of the larger fry. It was not a fight ranging round the stars, but a fight ranging round the whole of the profession. It was mainly the smaller turns who would benefit, because the larger people of the profession could possibly afford a great deal better than the smaller to work without getting the little bit that was derived from the payment of matinées. Although the majority of them did not agree with strikes, they must use every possible method available to secure their rights. They had a weapon up their sleeves, and they must resort to that weapon if they did not get what the Arbitrator had given them. He asked them that when the resolution was put to them every hand would go up in favour of it. He asked them to stand loyally by the executive of the V.A.F. because he was a member of that executive, and knew the work they were doing. They might not blaze forth and publish all they were doing, but he was sure that ever since the inception of the Federation men who were sitting upon the platform had sacrificed not only time and money, but their position in the profession in the fight on the artists' behalf. In every battle there were soldiers left dead on the field, while others came out with honour attached to them; but there was no desire for glory on the part of the executive. If in the battle they were fighting the members were prepared to fall with them, then the executive were prepared to fall with the members. They would fight earnestly and honourably in the endeavour to get that which had been justly awarded them, and whatever may come, they would at least have the comfort of knowing they had died in a just and noble cause. If they were obliterated they would have to find a living in some other sphere—they might even have to get into Parliament. He urged them to pass the resolution unanimously, stick by the Federation, and so long as the Federation was in existence they would stick by them. They intended to get that which had been awarded them, and would be satisfied with nothing less. Let them pass that resolution and leave the rest in the hands of the Federation.

The resolution, which was also supported by Mr. James O'Grady, M.P., and Mr. J. Havelock Wilson, M.P., was put to the meeting, and carried unanimously.

The Chairman read a commmunication from Mr. Henri Gros, in which that gentleman complained that the Award was not being adhered to by the artists. He reminded them that in the Arbitrator's Award there was a clause which provided that artists should send in copies of songs and bill matter fourteen days previous to opening. Notwithstanding that he had printed notices to that effect in all the halls with which he was connected, he could not get artists to comply with the requisition. That was a very important question, as it enabled a manager to remove all objectionable matter, to the advantage of the artists, the public, and the management, and was very essential at the present day. He would thank him to bring that letter before the executive, as they expressed a desire that the provisions of the Award should be faithfully carried out. The chairman said he must tell the meeting that the condition referred to in Mr. Gros' letter was agreed to at the Arbitration, and he should advise them by all means to carry it out. It was a small point, but if they considered the proprietors on small points as given by the Arbitrator, then they could hope to be similarly treated on questions of larger significance. He took that opportunity of putting the question before the members of the Federation.

Mr. Bartram said that the Federation had by no means finished their work; there was a much larger world to conquer. English variety artists travelled the universe over, and there were rights to maintain in foreign countries. He referred to abuses which existed in Germany and in America, and said there was work for the Federation to do there.

Mr. Clemart proposed a vote of thanks to the Press, which was seconded by Mr. George D'Albert and acknowledged by Mr. Chance Newton. A vote of thanks to the Members of Parliament who were present was moved by Mr. Dutch Daly and seconded by Mr. Monte Bayly, who expressed the hope that at the next General Election the Federation would run a candidate for the Kennington Division in Parliament.

Mr. Bernard Stavordale, seconded by Mr. Mayville, proposed a vote of thanks to Messrs. Sparrow and Bawn for the use of the hall, a vote which was cordially endorsed.

The Chairman congratulated those present on a very successful meeting, and the dignity and admirable tone which had been maintained. In closing the meeting he urged them to do everything possible to meet the wishes of the proprietors if those wishes were in strict conformity with the Arbitrators' Award. Although they had won, he wanted them to do no boasting or bragging, but to go straight home and—keep their powder dry.

A vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed by Mr. Tom Costello and seconded by Mr. Barney Armstrong, concluded the meeting.

In the course of the meeting the chairman announced that Mr. Oswald Stoll had resigned his membership of the Entertainments Protection Association.

THE AWARD AND CONTRACTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Publicity having been given in various newspapers to disquieting and misleading statements, it is due to the public and to the variety industry that the facts concerning certain London variety theatres affected thereby should be clearly stated. The point at issue has been simply the phraseology to be used in providing for matinée payments to the artists.

Previously to the arbitration in the spring of this year the Oxford and Tivoli contracts, for about fifteen years past, contained the following proviso, which I will term A.

(A) The artist agrees to perform at
every evening and on Saturday afternoons
(making seven performances per week)
at a salary of per week.

This was pronounced by the artists' representatives in their evidence before the Arbitrator as fair and acceptable; but it having thereafter been agreed by all parties to the award that the proportion of the salary for the matinée should be specifically stated as one-seventh of the week's salary, the following new wording as to salary was adopted by the Oxford and Tivoli managers on July 15 last. This I will term B.

(B) The artist accepts an engagement to appear every evening and on Saturday afternoons
(making seven performances per week)
at a salary of per week, of which said salary six-sevenths shall be deemed to be in respect of six evening performances and one-seventh of such salary shall be deemed to be in respect of the Saturday matinée required as above.

A proof of this new form was submitted to the Arbitrator before being printed, was returned by him without correction, and has been in use for the past two months.

The Variety Artists' Federation recently objected to this inclusive method of stating the salary, and after an interview on the 6th inst. between the Arbitrator and both parties, the following altered wording was agreed to at my suggestion. This I will term C.

(C) The artist accepts an engagement to appear every evening and on Saturday afternoons (making seven performances per week) in accordance with clause 3 [which states that each matinée shall be paid for at the rate of one-seventh of the weekly salary], at a salary of £ per week (six night performances).

It was pointed out by me at this interview that an artist would naturally desire to understand clearly from the contract not only what he was to receive for his six night performances, but also what he was to receive in pounds, shillings, and

THE AWARDS.

THE

THREE INTERIM AWARDS

AND THE

FINAL AWARD,

CORRECTED AND REVISED BY

GEORGE RANKEN ASKWITH, ESQ.,

THE

OFFICIAL ARBITRATOR

appointed in the Music-Hall Dispute, may be had in pamphlet form at—

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5, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.

pence for his Saturday matinée, and printed provision for this logical addition to the above wording was approved then and since by the Arbitrator. This I will call D.

The Variety Artists' Federation, however, do not desire any such printed provision, which we thought desirable in the interests of the artists themselves.

The Arbitrator is absent from London for a few weeks, and my co-directors and I have therefore agreed to use the form C, without the printed provision (D) of the actual amount of matinée salary. Which method of stating the salary, A, B, C, or D, may be considered the most complete and satisfactory I do not now wish to argue. Business men would, I apprehend, be of one opinion; but in the little dispute no practical issue has been involved, no evasion of any part of the award has occurred, and no admission of error on either side has been made. We have said "Tweedledum"; the other side have said "Tweedledee." Now both have agreed to say "Tweedle."

Thus, through conciliation and compromise, concord has been reached, to the satisfaction of both parties.—Yours faithfully,

HENRY TOZER, Chairman, the Oxford and the Tivoli.

In connection with Mr. Tozer's letter we may quote the following telegram which has been received by both parties from the Arbitrator:—

"Understand some doubt has arisen on my decision and other points not argued. Advise both parties leave any matter in dispute for me to decide on return, in accordance with award.—ASKWITH."

In their reply to Mr. Tozer's letter (which appared in the *Daily Telegraph* of Tuesday) Messrs. Joe O'Gorman, W. H. Clemart, and Wal Pink, writing on behalf of the Federation, criticise the statement "that they or their representatives in their evidence before the Arbitrator pronounced that seven performances at an inclusive salary was fair and acceptable." They say, "Quite so, and there were many other things that they pronounced fair and acceptable before the Arbitrator. But the Arbitrator gave his Award, and in it differed from the artists' representatives in most of their contentions in favour of the managers, with the exception of the fact that all matinées should be paid for; or, in other words, that for extra work they should have extra pay." In regard to Mr. Tozer's statement that on July 15 he adopted a new wording as to salary, a proof of which was submitted to the Arbitrator before being printed, and that, as it was returned to him without correction, it had been in use for the past two months, the writers say: "That one party to an arbitration should be allowed to go back to the Arbitrator for an interpretation of his Award without the other party being given the opportunity of attending and protecting their own interests, must surely appeal to people as being not only unfair and unjust, but almost unbelievable. Yet Mr. Tozer states that the contract to which we objected immediately it fell into our hands (which was not before the end of August) had been passed by the Arbitrator, without any consultation with us, and has been in use for the past two months. This is our greatest grievance, and one which we think will receive general condemnation." As to the statement that "concord has been reached to the satisfaction of both sides," the representatives of the Federation say, "There is neither concord nor satisfaction." They add, "Will Mr. Tozer and any other managers who fancy his lead kindly remember that the executive committee has in its pocket a mandate from the members of the Variety Artists' Federation to enforce in any manner deemed necessary the keeping of the Award?"

"PHARAOH'S DAUGHTER."

An ancient Egyptian operetta, in One Act, by Ethel Ra-Leslie.

Produced at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, Sept. 16.

Prince Rameses .....MR. WENSLEY RUSSELL
Ptolemy .....MR. FRANK LESTER
Grecian Dancing Girl .....MISS RUBY RAVIS
Jambres .....MR. R. STOCKWELL
Hataska .....MISS ELSIE MELBOURNE
Princess Ameusis .....MISS ETHEL RA-LESLIE

Elaborately staged and well acted and sung, *Pharaoh's Daughter* is sure to win admirers wherever the piece is staged. A pretty little love story is wedded to some charming music, which is admirably rendered. At the opening the Princess is found seated on her throne on the roof of Pharaoh's palace on the banks of the Nile. Hither comes the King's adviser, Ptolemy, with a scroll from his royal master, by which the Princess learns that her lover, Prince Rameses, is decreed to wed one of the Princess's ladies-in-waiting, Hataska. This enrages the Princess, who bids Ptolemy go back to her father and tell him that none shall wed the Prince but herself. The Prince arrives, and the Princess tells him of Pharaoh's decree, and, knowing the iron will of the King, the lovers are in despair. The Prince leaves to crave an audience with the King, and the Princess summonses her rival, the dark-eyed Hataska. In her jealous rage she draws her dagger to kill the kneeling girl, but relents, just as the Prince returns with Ptolemy, who informs the Princess that her royal father had made an error, and meant to give Hataska to her own lover, the Keeper of the Sacred Cat, and that she is free to marry Prince Rameses.

Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie looks bewitching in her royal Egyptian robes and jewels as the Princess, while her acting and vocalisation are beyond praise. She is the fortunate possessor of a voice of great purity and range, and her elocutionary powers enable her to be heard and understood. Her rendering of "Rameses, my king," and her duets with the Prince, "Still we love in secrecy" and "Beloved, good-bye," fairly brings down the house. Mr. Wensley Russell as Prince Rameses renders loyal assistance to his fiancé, and shares in her triumphs. Exponents of the minor parts do what they have to do thoroughly and well, while a special word of praise is due to the tuneful and well-balanced chorus and to the dainty dancing of Miss Ruby Davis. The lyrics and music by Mr. Joseph Tabrar are a strange but agreeable admixture of weird Egyptian melody, and some catchy music reminiscent of popular musical comedy.

"A SISTER'S HONOUR."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I do not in any way seek to belittle the charm of Miss Lofting's writing, nor wish to rob her of her just due as the authoress of the main idea. Miss Lofting, however, is possibly unaware that the above sketch had a trial in its *original* form, and it was not until *after* this first production that Mr. Acton arranged with me to write up the finish.

Apologising for so trespassing on your space, and assuring Miss Lofting that both Mr. Acton and myself have nothing but commendation for her admirable work,—Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR O'KEENE.

Streatham Hill, S.W., Sept. 17.

AN excellent source of revenue is derived from the letting of the curtains at music halls and theatres for advertising purposes. The London and Provincial Advertising Agency have a special department for negotiating for these rights. They are already contractors to the Moss Empires, Ltd. Managers who have curtains to let will do well to apply to Mr. Frank Wood, managing-director, London and Provincial Advertising Agency, 110, Strand, W.C.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

GUS ELEN IN NEW YORK.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Gus Elen has never been away from home before. He has never even crossed the Irish Channel, and he assured me that for weeks before he started the very thought of all the "up and down motion" he would have to go through to get to America made him "sea-sick" on *terra firma*. If he had been one of those who are always sighing for new fields to conquer he might have enrolled himself on the list of international music hall favourites years ago. But an artist who is an established favourite with the immense multitude that gathers nightly at the music halls of London and the provinces has a pretty good excuse for saying, "Old England is good enough for me," even when a pile of Uncle Sam's dollars looms in fancy before his eyes. At last, however, Mr. Elen decided to accept an American engagement, and after the magnificent welcome he received at the New York Theatre last Monday he must have felt well repaid for waiting. There are many Cockneys in New York, but, as everyone knows, Cockneys are not clannish, and one gets an idea of their numerical strength only on such special occasions as the first appearance here of an artist of the regular or music hall stage whom Londoners claim as their own and delight to honour. Having "assisted" at a number of these reunions during a long residence in America, I can testify that on these occasions they do their best to make their fellow-townsmen feel that he is among friends as well as strangers, and the enthusiasm that prevails makes the blood tingle and warms the cockles of the heart.

This is not to say, though, that the Cockneys did all the welcoming this time. By no means. The audience was a unit in that respect. Nervous as he may have been—and it is quite an ordeal this facing a foreign audience for the first time—Mr. Elen's trepidation must have been relieved by the cordial greeting he received, and completely banished by the manifestations of approval and delight which broke out in all parts of the auditorium after each of his songs. Mr. Elen had heard of the terrible cyclones that visit certain parts of the American continent, and to the writer he had expressed the hope that New York wouldn't see any of them whilst he was there. But he encountered something very like one last Monday when a cyclone of merriment struck the big audience at the New York Theatre and caused quite a disturbance of the ordinary atmospheric conditions of a sedate American music hall, usually filled with people accustomed to the mild sort of excitement aroused by performing dogs and moving pictures.

Mr. Elen sang four songs, and if it had been possible for him to comply with the vociferous demands that came from upstairs and downstairs and all over the house whilst he was trying to thank the audience for its kindly reception of him, he would have exhausted his entire répertoire. Mr. Elen was wise in reserving what I believe is his best characterisation till the last. Some little doubt had existed in the writer's mind as to the likelihood of such a song as "The pavement artist" being understood in New York, because that quaint and interesting character, so familiar to every Cockney, is not to be found in this city. But the song is cleverly written, and the character is so vividly and amusingly described by the singer, that only the veriest dunce would fail to understand it. All doubt on that score was dispelled at the end of the first chorus—

If he draws somebody's phiz
You can soon tell who it is
By the writing what is written underneath.

—which evoked a gust of appreciative laughter and applause, not merely from the enlightened few, but from the entire house. "The pavement artist" would "go" with any audience that understood the English language.

"Down the road" was the first song, and it was well chosen, being one of those lively jingles that tickle the ear and put an audience in a good humour at the start. First impressions are everything. In spite of his very evident nervousness, Mr. Elen had a splendid grip on the song and the character he was drawing, and after the first few lines sang it with a spirit that was simply irresistible. Call it animal magnetism, infectious gaiety, or what you will, it certainly came over the footlights in liberal doses. The little pathetic touch near the end about the old mare's death brought into fine relief the spirited chorus at the close, and when the storm of hand-clapping was reinforced by loud cheering the indications that Mr. Elen was making a triumphal entry into the New World were very plain indeed.

The next number began with a pantomimic display of pugnacity from a "bloke" in corduroys and a loud jersey, who "put up his dukes" and sparred all round an imaginary ring. He seemed to be one of those individuals who would "rather fight than eat." When he expressed in forcible language his contempt for tea and coffee and an overweening fondness for "'arf a pint of ale," we understood where all the fighting blood came from. The more so as his modest breakfast allowance of his favourite fluid was increased to alarming proportions by supper time. The song went very well indeed, the singer's masterly make-up, his expressive grimaces, and his characteristic "walk round" at the finish provoking roars of laughter.

"It's a great big shame" came next, and the playing of the familiar air by the orchestra stirred the memories of many in the audience, and caused them to express their delight in a spontaneous burst of applause. The subjugation of the brewer's drayman with a "leg o' mutton fist" and an altitude of 6ft. 2in. by a wife little more than half his size; and the feeling of disgust it created in his pal's manly breast were described and illustrated in a highly-diverting manner. The applause that followed became tumultuous when it was seen that the singer was about to retire and would not be stilled until Mr. Elen advanced to the footlights and declared his willingness to sing another song. Then the English contingent broke loose, shouting for this song and that one, but more for "'E dunno where 'e are" than any other. As this ditty had not been rehearsed with the orchestra, however, Mr. Elen gave them "The pavement artist" with the happy results already recorded.

Mr. Elen is staying at the palatial Hotel Astor, directly opposite the big amusement pile in Times-square, which comprises the New York Theatre (formerly Hammerstein's Olympia), with its spacious roof garden, and the Criterion Theatre, and there I had the pleasure of an interesting chat with him, and also with his fellow-voyagers, Mr. and Mrs. Romaine. They told me that the big Baltic behaved splendidly, so it may be inferred that Mr. Elen's fears were happily not realised. In fact, the trip was a very enjoyable one.

Arriving here with more than a week to spare before the opening night, they were able to "see the sights" and discover the thousand and one new, strange, and wonderful things to be found in the American metropolis. Mr. Elen had already conceived a partiality for "clam cocktails," and had even tried a "horse's neck"—one of those liquid concoctions peculiar to the States of which there is such an amazing variety, and of which the names alone are sufficient to arouse the curiosity of a visitor. There have been certain artists and others from the old country who have professed to be so overcome with the delights of the New World that (according to the newspapers) they have hied themselves post haste to the naturalisation bureau and declared their intention of becoming American citizens. Needless to say, however, neither the "clam cocktails" nor the "horse's neck" had prompted Mr. Elen to forswear his allegiance to the Crown or lessened his regard for the congenial customs of Clapham Common. He tells me it is ten years or more since he was first tempted with the offer of a lucrative American engagement.

FILM GOSSIP.

Showmen will read in this column news with regard to the best and newest films in the market. Most of these films we have seen ourselves, and can confidently recommend showmen to add them to their stock, either by purchase or hire.

WE direct the attention of our readers and of cinematograph operators to the admirable regulations which are in operation in all the theatres, music halls, and other premises under the control of the London County Council. These regulations will be found in another column of this week's issue of *The Era*.

The Charles Urban Trading Company.

ON ACCOUNT OF A MOTH is a capital comic film upon which Messrs. Urban may be congratulated. Briefly, the story is this: Jones, calling upon a bachelor friend, Smith, is warmly welcomed, and stops to dine. Seated at table, a large moth disturbs the comfort of host and guest. It hovers over the table and about the viands. The host seeks to destroy the moth by means of a plate, to the destruction of the plate. The guest is next troubled, for in his anxiety to capture the pest he upsets the lamp, with dire results. The moth returns to the attack; both men grow reckless, and chase the creature round the room. Plants are upset, china is broken, pictures are ruined, but the moth is merrily elusive. The alarmed servant, entering to learn the cause of disturbance, is met in the doorway first by the moth and then by Jones wielding a plate, which he smashes upon the head of the domestic. Exit the servant. The moth is not at all dismayed. He flits from point to point, pursued by the now irate Jones and Smith, who are determined to secure him at all hazards. The table is overturned and the dinner hopelessly ruined, but the chase is still in favour of the moth. Smith and Jones are now desperate. They must secure that demon moth! Instead, he takes sanctuary above the china cabinet, making an occasional sortie. In their efforts to dislodge the disturber the cabinet itself is overturned and its contents distributed in pieces about the room. The moth, beginning to find the affair rather stupid, escapes by the open window to carry elsewhere its demoralising influence. Jones leans out to watch its flight, overbalances, and follows the moth, but he does not soar. The photographic quality of this film is perfect.

A WILD GOOSE CHASE, a second Urban number, amusingly depicts the difficulties of a countryman in taking his geese to market. Giles, loaded with geese snugly packed in baskets, bids adieu to his wife and goes to market. Soon there is trouble with the geese, for they escape. In the chase Giles receives willing assistance from his friends. The startled geese run under a ladder and through a china shop, devastation resulting. A hawker's barrow is upset, but the geese give no pause. They next take to water, and are quite at home. Regardless of soaked garments, young men and old wade knee deep and stumble along in excited procession. It is, indeed, a wild goose chase by this time. Down the picturesque stream the hunt is continued; one is caught, and the capture of the whole flock is soon effected.

Pathé Freres.

THIS firm has just issued five very attractive subjects. One of these is 906ft. long, and tells the tragic story of The Adventuress. It seems that a daring woman is engaged to procure certain papers belonging to a foreign government. We see her off to the frontier, and we follow her movements. Of course, she meets with rebuffs and disappointments, but eventually she falls in love—or pretends to—with a young officer. By gaining admittance to his private quarters she is enabled to secure the much-prized documents, after awaiting the opportunity afforded by his temporary absence. Then she returns to two secret service agents, who are anxiously warming their heels in a wood some little distance away. Apparently, however, some shuffling conduct occurs on the part of these men. They do not appear willing to carry out their portion of the contract, and the woman decides to take the papers back to the man from whose room she stole them. She is, of course, closely followed by the secret service agents, and meets with her death as she is performing the honourable action of making reparation.

THE ENCHANTED GLASSES, also a Pathé film, is one of the most wonderful specimens of coloured photography that we have so far seen. At the spell of an enchantress several beautifully-attired young ladies spring into existence and perform various gyrations. They disappear quite as mysteriously, but lo and behold! a few seconds later the magician pours out into half a dozen or more glasses a liquid—which is supposed to represent the girls in essence form—and once more these charming ladies are smiling at us. The colouring of the film is its especial feature, and as a novelty and a clever trick film we can thoroughly recommend it to our readers.

THE HIGHWAYMEN is another extremely interesting but tragic subject which Messrs. Pathé have devised. The period is the period of Claude Duval. A countryman has returned to his cottage with a bag of money, which is to be paid as rent to the landlord the following day. He secretes it under his bed. Unfortunately, however, he has been watched by a band of highwaymen, who force an entrance into his dwelling-place, murder him, steal what they can conveniently take away, and then decamp. The cottager's little son determines on revenge. Shouldering his father's rifle, he sets out upon the track of the marauders. After a variety of adventures he succeeds in shooting seven of the band, and marks that number on a cross which indicates the burial-place of his father. The scenes in this film are exceedingly well arranged and pictorially perfect.

MESSRS. PATHE can also boast a couple of attractive series in The Riding School at Saumur and Poor Little Pig.

The Vitagraph Company.

FROM over the Atlantic there come a couple of splendid films, the productions of the Vitagraph Company. One of these is Two Thousand Miles Without a Dollar, and this is the tale it tells. Dan Burke, a young husband, buys a new hat for his young wife, and takes it home to her. She doesn't like it, and they have their first quarrel over it. Dan packs up his grip, goes out West and becomes a cowboy on a ranch. A few months later a cowboy rides up to the ranch with a telegram for Mr. Dan Burke. Dan opens it and reads "Unto you a child is born—Anna." He immediately becomes wild with excitement, and, jumping on the telegraph messenger's horse, gallops away. The messenger gives the alarm, and a posse of cowboys forms and gives chase to the "horse thief." He is soon caught—a rope is placed around his neck, and he is about to be lynched, when he produces the telegram which caused him to dash away in such a hurry. The boys free him, and send him away with their congratulations. Dan arrives at the railroad station as the train for the east is pulling out. He races along the track, leaps from the horse to the rear platform of the train, and scrambles aboard. The conductor asks for his fare. Dan has no money, but the telegram is his passport; the conductor congratulates him and pays his fare. Arrived in New York he jumps in a cab and speeds to his home. Cabby demands fare. Dan shows telegram; Cabby says "Good luck" and drives away. Dan rushes in, is met by grandpa, who goes into another room and brings out a tiny, little, new baby. The father is very proud and delighted. Grandpa makes another trip and produces another—"twins." Dan holds them both. Grandpa exits again and emerges with a third. Tableau!

MAN, HAT, AND COCKTAIL is also a pleasing Vitagraph novelty. One Jenkins buys a new silk hat, and with it goes to the club. His friends there see the new tile and decide to have some fun. One of them shows Jenkins how to mix a new cocktail, and while the lemon, whisky, sugar, and ice are being put into the glass by one of the jokers, their accomplice is mixing similar ingredients in the new silk hat. Jenkins drinks the cocktail, and then puts on his hat and gets soaked. He goes away in a rage. While visiting the hatter for the purpose of buying another hat his friend Brown comes in. Jenkins takes Brown back to the club expressly to play the joke on him. He tips the boys a wink, and while they are showing Brown how to mix the new drink Jenkins fills Brown's new hat with ice, lemon, whisky, and water. But one of the club jokers changed hats just before the trick started, and Jenkins finds, to his utter disgust, that he mixed the drink in his own new hat. The laugh is on him again. He rushes to the hat store, buys another hat, and just then Jones comes in to buy a new silk hat. Jenkins determines to play the trick on Jones. He insists on taking Jones to the club and keeping a watchful eye on his hat, introduces another victim to the "boys." Jones is shown how to mix the "new drink," and Jenkins industriously fills Jones' hat; but to the consternation and chagrin of all, after Jones finishes his drink, he takes out of his hat a nice little tiny pail, drinks its contents, and putting his hat on his head, gives the "boys" a knowing wink and walks away, while Jenkins, whose feelings overcome him, sinks into a chair and then jumps three feet into the air because he discovers that he has just sat upon his own hat, which one of the jokers thoughtfully placed under him as he seated himself.

THE British Cinematograph Company, who have for some months past successfully conducted a cinematograph show at the Balham Empire on the principle of two houses a night, inform us that they intend opening other theatres and halls with similar entertainments in London and the provinces. Already additional theatres have been taken in London, Liverpool, and Manchester. On the 9th of next month the company will give a matinée in aid of the Lord Mayor's Cripples' Fund, and his lordship has promised to attend.

SINGING PICTURES.

BY AN OPERATOR

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—To those readers who possess the inborn faculty for practical thought and invention relative to the production of present-day amusements, and who have, at one time or another, witnessed one or more of those shows that result from a clever combination of machines of the kinematographic and gramophonic type—two of the most remarkable inventions the world has known concerning refined entertainment—it will perhaps not come in the nature of a surprise when it is said that the majority of competent judges of the public tastes do not look upon what might be termed the "marriage" of the two popular instruments aforesaid as being likely to create, or rather re-create, the furore that either one or the other of them was responsible for as mere infants. And, indeed, one need not look beyond the "calls" of the different variety theatres appearing each week in the advertisement columns of *The Era* to prove the truth of this assertion, it being easily seen that the Bioscope, without any 'phono attachment, figures in these handy notices to the odds of about 100 to 1. And why?

Surely the manufacturers of such "combinations" have now had ample time to submit their wares to alert managers, who are prone to snap up any novelty at any cost, providing it possesses the power of attracting the public. Yet the number of phono-bio's is not augmented on the numerous "tours" by one a month. "How, then," I ask, "does it come about that the combination of two of the most interesting instruments in the world, resulting in the 'singing picture,' hangs fire?"

One would have thought, and quite naturally, that the novelty and interest embraced in either the kinematograph or the gramophone would, by means of synchronous operation, be compounded into one solid mass of popular amusement; but in this respect it utterly fails so far to become more than of very common interest. Why?

As a practical person who has been responsible for the comparatively successful production of shows such as those under consideration, and who has closely observed the numerous phases of the motion photo, from its inception to finality from the showman's standpoint, I venture to say that, up to now, the singing picture has failed to "catch on" as an entertainment through being overburdened with science, from the trammels of which it does not seem able to escape.

If each machine is in itself capable of entertaining to a high degree, the failure of a synchronous combination of the two must, in my opinion, rest entirely with the stage managers of the show, and if these persons should happen to be scientists instead of showmen it's long odds that, unlike the showman who delights himself (financially and otherwise) by pleasing others with any mortal thing that lends itself to his purpose, the scientist would rather die a poor man that wander or cause others to wander from his scientific principles to please anybody: so science is placed first and last. Now, science, while always producing food for thought and wonder, very seldom creates a good laugh without the aid of the showman's magic touch, but it is altogether too dry for our present purpose in the hands of the scientist alone.

What does a crowd of people out for pure and simple enjoyment know or care about such a thing as "synchronism," especially when every person in that crowd has been taught—by the bustling, laughable, thrilling, and enjoyable scenes of activity shown by the kinematograph during the last decade—to expect something more from their ever-resourceful favourite than a mere view of a person singing a song in front of an inanimate "cloth" without any variety? What do they care for synchronism? Not two straws. Synchronism is nought without imagination; and in the case of the singing picture synchronism is made *the* feature of the show, which, nine times out of ten, causes disappointment.

I could always feel that same disappointment myself when directing such shows, and have always considered the results upon the screen an insult to the beautiful instruments used in the productions; machines that must have cost a fortune to invent and make—not to mention the mental strain inseparable from such complicated inventions—and every time I moved those under my care, one of them—the talking one, of course—seemed to say to me, "It isn't our fault. My colleague and I are capable of much greater triumphs, but we must answer the electric button, you know. We have accomplished all that has been asked of us!"

That is how it has often occurred to one who dearly loves a smart piece of mechanical ingenuity; but, of course, to make known my real feelings to my superiors would, in all probability, have meant dismissal; or, worse still, aroused suspicion of my having common sense and reason, so I held my peace till now. I was, and am still, of the opinion that the advent of the really popular singing picture will be the means of restoring to the practical and competent operator his position or status that has of late years been unfairly and unsuccessfully held by persons who, in many cases, had not the common ability to make the necessary electrical connections to the apparatus which they were supposed to operate and understand!

I still entertain the fond hope that the singing picture proper will change this order of things, because I'm given to understand that the competent old-time operators intend to meet any new development as a solid, combined body of men. Then it will be found that instead of the limes-baggage-programme-operator, who no doubt served his mechanical apprenticeship watching the operation of a street organ, we shall have the competent men back again whose work and talented instincts, under the most trying conditions of wrongly-constructed and rudimentary apparatus, laid the solid foundation of the most interesting entertainment in the world to-day.

The sooner the popular singing picture makes its appearance the sooner will the cheap operator and his cheap master disappear; for it's a certainty that the properly-applied combination of instruments will always lick the single machine, and, backed up by a strong combination of skilled men, who do not rely upon the support of penny journals, which in turn rely solely upon the trade advertisements for an existence, we should soon say "good-bye" to the "scopes" that have brought about their premature doom. Yes, good-bye; and good riddance, too.

I trust the promoters of the singing pictures of to-day will pardon my audacity in openly giving them a hint which is put forward as being likely to be found capable of restoring some of the lost vivacity and animation into the kinematographic portion of their singing picture entertainments, and that hint is for them to try a simple process of "illustration" as a remedy.

Illustration, need it be said, is really what this particular kinematographic instrument is intended for; and I'm sure that more interest would be added to displays of the kind under consideration, if instead of the promoters paying such particular attention in making the synchronism—their scientific achievements—the most pronounced feature of the show, and which is, after all, a mere bagatelle as far as the entertainment proper is concerned, they would but devote a little time to illustration. The process is as simple and as cheap as the making of the pictures that have utterly failed to captivate, if not more so, and a trial is recommended.

The modus operandi is given in one paragraph. Place your artist who is to sing the song by the side of a stage whereon you have actors who go through a performance which will serve to illustrate the story conveyed by the words of the song as they appear to issue from the lips of the said artist. Be such words of a comical, sentimental, or descriptive nature, let us have animation. It is absolutely essential. And let us have scientific synchronism by all means, but don't allow it to rob the kinematograph of its interest. Illustration is a very wide term as applied here. For by this means of illustration those beautiful operatic passages which the delicate and refined ear loves to listen to could be dealt with in a manner befitting their importance. And here again we require the competent operator, for to entrust work of this kind to the "Woodbine" martyr would be as disastrous to the success of the undertaking as many of the present-day shows are dangerous to human life. Yes, the singing picture has come to stay, but not in its present form. Try the animated illustrated songs, wherein the artists are plainly visible and each word distinctly audible, and wherein every incident relative to such songs is faithfully and intelligently carried out in a life-like manner, and present these to any audience that has but lately watched and listened to the singing picture as it now stands, and find out which method is best and which is most interesting.

Remember, I only ask the promoters to try the idea. It occurred to me during one of the spells of despondency referred to, as the audience was leaving the show after a performance, every member of it trying to look pleased, but each one doubtless in the same state of mind as the poor touring "pro." is often in after luncheon, when for the juicy beefsteak he has been looking forward to all the morning with the healthiest of appetites he has—through the culinary machinations of "Ma"—been forced to swallow something that resembled an ink-eraser both in taste and appearance. The "banquet" was spoilt through bad cooking in each case. Disappointment was manifest, the audience invariably left the hall quickly, and the next "house" always filled very, very slowly.

That something would have to be done I felt certain, and whether the idle idea set forth herein receives a fair trial or not the same remark applies. Some thing will have to be done; something must be done to give these elaborate mechanisms a proper scope for their work. Pray let it be soon. Good men and good money are waiting.—Yours truly

GEO. R. BEAUMONT.

"PETER'S FINISH."

A Funny Episode, produced by Tom Terriss's Sketch Company, on Monday, Sept. 16, at the Empire Theatre of Varieties, Nottingham.

Peter Piper .....MR. LIONEL VICTOR
The Professor .....MR. FRED L. CONNYNGHAME
Hon. Horace Fitz-John Brougham..
MR. BERTIE WHITE
Fuzzy .....MR. PETER GRATA
Mrs. Piper .....MISS EMILY STEVENS
Ida Piper .....MISS JOSEPHINE ELLIS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Tom Terriss's company produced on Monday, for the first time on any stage, a new sketch, entitled *Peter's Finish*. It is the story of a sober-minded provincial Mayor, who, on a visit to London, while watching the frolics of the younger generation in Trafalgar-square, suddenly became imbued with the idea of being young again himself. The opportunity presented itself in the shape of a certain professor, the inventor of elixirs, who offers him the chance by drinking a few drops of one of his decoctions. In his eagerness to obtain his desire Peter swallows a whole bottleful, and immediately becomes an infant. Naturally he is desirous to undo the mischief, and the professor promises him relief by another elixir. Mistakes seem to be the order of the day, for the wrong potion is given to Peter, who, childlike, again drinks the lot, and by the action of the liquid is transported back through ten thousand years, thus becoming what his primeval ancestors were supposed to be—a monkey.

Judicious pruning in places, with careful elaboration in others, will doubtless result in making *Peter's Finish* a first-class sketch. Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the staging and mounting. The scenery is of a high order, the presentment of Trafalgar-square, including the Nelson column and lions and the National Gallery, being particularly good. The dresses are beautiful, and evidently no expense has been spared, the result being seen in some very pretty stage pictures. Mr. Lionel Victor worked very hard as Peter, and succeeded in creating a lot of amusement; whilst the rôle of the Professor was ably undertaken by Mr. Fred L. Connynghame, his contortions when demonstrating the action of his elixirs being excruciatingly funny. Mr. Bertie White did well as Horace; and Mr. Peter Grata made a capable Fuzzy. Miss Emily Stevens was in her element as Mrs. Piper, and Miss Josephine Ellis looked very charming as Ida. The chorus was very good, and the various musical numbers pretty and well rendered.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Fairs Ahead.

THE fairs ahead for next week are:—Bowdon, on the Cheshire lines; Bugsworth, on the Midland; Idle, on the Great Northern; Iron Acton, on the Midland; Uttoxeter, on the Great Northern; Ashby-de-la-Zouch, on the Midland; Bridgwater, on the Great Western; Brierley Hill, on the Great Western; Heyford, on the London and North-Western; Kenilworth, on the London and North-Western; Arundel, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast; Cambridge, on the Great Eastern, Great Northern, London and North-Western, and Midland; Haslemere, on the London and South-Western; Over (Cheshire), on the London and North-Western and Cheshire lines; Pickering, on the North-Eastern; Solihull, on the Great Western; Birmingham, on the London and North-Western, Great Western, and Midland; Hartland, on the London and South-Western; High Wycombe, on the Great Western; Morton, on the Midland; Spalding, on the Great Northern, Great Eastern, and Midland; Todmorden, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Eleven Lane Ends Feast; Alton, on the London and South-Western; Ampthill, on the Midland; Chesham, on the Metropolitan; Cranbrook, on the South-Eastern; Dorchester, on the South-Western and Great Western; Gloucester, on the Great Western and Midland; Long Stratton, on the Great Eastern; Studley, on the Midland; Tyldesley, on the London and North-Western; Uxbridge, on the Great Western and Metropolitan and District; Wath-on-Dearne, on the Midland and Great Central; Dumfries, on the Glasgow and South-Western and Caledonian; Fraserburgh, on the Great North of Scotland; Abergavenny, on the London and North-Western and Great Western; Cowbridge, on the Taff Vale; and Llanfyllin, on the Cambrian railways.

News from the West.

BARNSTAPLE FAIR was held on the 18th, 19th, and 20th of this month, and, as usual, attracted a big crowd of the most interesting shows on the western round. The cinematograph theatres and variety palaces of Messrs. Anderton and Rowlan, W. C. and S. Hancock, and J. Jones were the big shows. That prince of esoteric magicians—Samouda and his equally-gifted wife, "the Princess"—created a furore with their mystic telepathic demonstrations; Alfred Wright and school of boxers gave frequent exhibitions of the manly art of self-defence, and delighted their many patrons with their feats of strength and skill; these, with Smith's novelty booth, completed the list of shows proper.

THE machine list was a very strong one, and included the exhibits of the West of England firms—W. C. and S. Hancock, Marshal Hill, Anderton and Rowland, J. Herbert, T. Wilshire, and Brewer. Swings, big and little, were provided by Chapman, Tucker, and Russet. The Hancocks also exhibited the helter-skelter or "slipping the slope," which was an immense source of interest and the novelty of the fair.

Shooting Ranges, Bottle Batteries, and Varieties.

THESE were provided by Messrs. Middlewick, Oldridge, J. Jones, J. Herbert, W. Whitlegg, G. Russet, J. Gratton, W. Connelly, J. Herbert, T. Rowlands, Chapman, and Wilshire.

Mansfield Fair.

THIS old Derbyshire charter fair was well maintained by the best shows and concerns on the Derbyshire circuit. These included the cinematographs of Messrs. Tuby, Proctor and Farrer, and Tyler, Professor Ruby's two shows, and the freak museums of White and Hobson. The machines were those of Tuby and Sons, Holland, Holdsworth, and Joy. The other novelty providers were Messrs. Lever, Tuby, sen., Richards, Pullan, Brannan, Farrar, Doubtfire, Holdsworth, Wallser, Walker, E. Farrer, D. Farrer, T. Waller, and Griffiths.

Morchard Bishop Fair.

THIS out of the world Devonshire village feast was entirely in the hands of local showmen. The novelties consisted of ranges of park swings, high-fliers, shooting galleries, and the usual coker-sheets and throwing games.

The Leeds Circuit.

"THE dispersion of the clans," which usually follows the great gathering of Yorkshire showmen at Holbeck Feast, provides the material for a number of smaller fixtures in the immediate neighbourhood of Leeds. York-road Feast at the other end of Leeds to Holbeck attracted the most important fairground novelties, and these included Murphy's big show and roundabouts, Dennis' circus, Texas Bill's menagerie, Westray's dime museum, Watson's boxers, Traynor's novelty show, Redfern's machines, Dobson's machines and shooters, Waddington's yachts, and the well-known varieties and throwing games by Cooper, Ashcroft, Baines, Townend, Lee, and other caterers. Gem swings, horses, and motors were in splendid array, and provided by Messrs. Cooper, Gledstone, and Johnson.

ARDSLEY, on the same round, had for its principal entertainers Harry Ashington, with cinematograph and marionettes, Dennis' circus, Warwick's fine art gallery, Mrs. H. Waddington with racing motors, juvenile motors, and miniature swings by Gavan. The other fun merchants with shooting ranges, football penalties, throwing games, and varieties were the Brothers Guthrie, W. Bassett, R. Hayes, C. Warren, W. Williams, C. Johnson, Barker, Vanner, and Jameson.

The Apotheosis of the Fair.

SHOWMEN have been waiting during many centuries for the dawn of the better day when their work and enterprise would receive justice and fuller appreciation. The humanities of the fairground have been treated with some measure of adequacy by writers and historians, who, like the Rev. T. Horne in these latter days, have written with some knowledge of the showman's life. No department of the showman's work has been so much maligned, scorned and ridiculed, as the music of the fairground. There is, in fact, a body of Acts of Parliament and a great mass of municipal bye-laws that have for their set purpose the punishment, and, if possible, the abolition of the music of the fair. It is of great importance for showmen to notice that not only does their life supply material for our authors and romantic writers, but that that much-abused medley of merry sounds that constitutes to the populace one of the charms of the fair, has inspired the motif for one of our gifted British composers. Mr. Havergal Brian's wonderfully original treatment of the music of an English fair is the subject of the successful suite played with great acceptance at the Queen's Hall concert last week. The poetic basis of the composition is the emotion aroused by an English fair. The first movement introduces the gathering of the holiday-makers to go to the fair. Then, after a bustling exordium, the composer takes us through the various side-shows—the dancers, the Punch and Judy, and the fat woman.

THIS movement introduces variations on the dance music incidental to the outside parade and free performances of the shows, and it includes a notable movement in which the composer shows a true grasp of fairground music, great humour, powerful imagination, and most delicate discrimination, for, although he essays many orchestral jokes, they all come off successfully, and are not extravagant, although the grotesquerie is well maintained. The occurrence of "God Save the King," the brass in the midst of the Punch and Judy—tootle toot—and the mock solemnity of the delightfully scored passage that introduces the giant lady met with the quick appreciation of the audience that filled every portion of the great hall.

WE need not despair of the milennium, when the so-called "pandemonium" and "ear-splitting orgy of sound" inspires a dramatic composer and poet with a theme strong enough to receive the universal and unstinted measure of praise which has rewarded the daring effort of Mr. Havergal Brian.

Showmen's Generous Gift.

A VERY pleasing feature of the Lifeboat Pageant in Manchester on Saturday last was the gift of the "White City" to the lifeboat fund. The *Manchester Guardian* says:—"The best of all the gifts was awaiting the arrival of the lifeboat procession at the White City, where Mr. J. Calvin Brown, on behalf of the proprietors, handed to the Lord Mayor a cheque for £300, which was promptly passed over to the hon. treasurer, Mr. W. A. Bentham.

Astwood Bank.

TEMPLE'S Cinematograph Exhibition has been paying a welcome visit to Astwood Bank.

MRS. SINCLAIR'S Popular Portable Theatre will shortly pay a two-months' visit to Turner's Feild, Astwood Bank.

Redditch.

AT the Public Hall, Redditch, we have had Tomkinson's Gipsy Choir.

Evesham.

SHOWMEN and others please take note of Evesham Statute Fair on Friday, Oct. 4.

Alcester.

STATUTE FAIR, Tuesday, Oct. 8.

Neath.

MESSRS. WADBROOKE have prolonged their visit for a few nights. Mme. Melita made a great hit in her great Russian dance on Tuesday. Some grand new pictures, under the direction of Mr. Jeffries, are also shown. Mr. Haggar's superb No. 2 show is also staying. The great Victoria Falls is one of his many specialities. Mr. E. Danter with his fine new show, for the first time in Neath, is also extending his visit; some very fine pictures and varieties draw good houses. Messrs. Dooner, at Brynmawr, are playing to crowded houses, introducing some smart varieties. Our old friend Gus makes a capable guide. Mr. Goode, the head master of the Neath Reformatory, desires to thank the several showmen friends who so generously entertained the lads on Friday and Saturday.

IN the Swansea Valley Messrs. Henry Studt and Son are holding their annual fairs. Miss Amy Russell, the clever little dancer, who has been for five years with Messrs. Wadbrooke, is marrying Mr. John North, jun. She received a number of useful presents from her many friends. The employees of Messrs. Wadbrooke's also made a handsome present, also Mr. Henry Scard, who felt justified in the old-time remark, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

Glossop Wakes.

LARGE crowds have invaded the wakes, held last Friday, Saturday, and Monday, Sept. 16. The attractions were Messrs. J. Hibbert's galloping horses, cockerels, and swings; W. Royle's photograph; M. Thomas's dolly stall and cocoanut alley; A Sedgwick's shooting saloon; W. Royle's shooting gallery; J. Cordwell's cocoanut alley; W. Cordwell's dolly stall; J. Montgomery's refreshment booth and little horses; W. Montgomery's refreshment booth and steam swings; H. Thomas's cocoanut alley and dolly stalls; G. Sunderland's dolly stalls; A. Whatmore's cocoanut alley and dolly stalls; W. Shaw's striker; D. Montgomery's football; W. Shaw's exhibition; &c.

Witton Wakes (Northwich).

CONTINUING the Round of Cheshire Wakes Messrs. Scott and Sager's premier cinematograph theatre, and Miss Margaret Collins, with aggregation of machine novelties, Mrs. Symons' ghost illusion, and other attractions were at the old Cheshire Wakes of Witton. Famous as the birthplace, and now the resting-place of one of England's greatest showmen—the late James Dean, Witton lends itself admirably to the old customs that cluster round the Wakes, and one of the features of the festival was the presence of the Dixon family, the son, daughter, and grandchildren of the famous showman with their stalls and fairground novelties. Amongst the other notable entertainers and fairground providers were Messrs. Hough, Fletcher, Hall, Simmonds and Hughes

Farnworth Wakes.

THE shows at this notable fixture were the cinematograph palaces of Captain Tom Payne, and Colonel Clarke, Leyland's marionette theatre, and Wortley's colliery show. The machine list, a big one included machines by W. Mitchell, John Collins, and Ben Mitchell. There were a goodly array of throwing games and other fairground novelties.

On the Southern Round.

WE have news of Penn Fair. Chittock's Metropolitan show was the chief attraction. The machine novelties were provided by the Matthews' family, and throwing games in splendid variety by the enterprising caterers on this Round.

AT Maldon Fair the cinematograph theatre was Barker's electrograph; the principal machines were provided by Mr. Bibby, and all the jolly fun of the fair was provided by an attendant throng of amusement caterers.

JACOB STUDT'S entertainments are at Reading for a short season. A splendid series of animated pictures is being exhibited. Purchase's Menagerie will be on view at Reading September Fair, which takes place to-day (Saturday) and Monday.

MITCHAM FAIR ECHO.

SHOWMAN SUMMONED AND FINED FOR OBSTRUCTION BY CROYDON MAGISTRATES.

THERE was an echo at Croydon on Saturday of the Mitcham Fair dispute. Alfred Ball, a showman, was summoned for obstruction.

A police-sergeant said the defendant had a show erected on waste ground at London Road, Mitcham. He was showing animated pictures, and to obtain an audience various artists appeared on the stage in front. He was warned if he persisted he would be summoned.

Defendant: If they had allowed the fair to be where it ought to have been there would have been no obstruction.

The Chairman: All you did was to get the people in?

Defendant: That's it, sir. I've just come up from Oxford to put in an appearance. I think you might dismiss it with a caution.

The Chairman: You must pay a fine of 2s. 6d. on each summons, and 5s. 6d. costs in each case—in all, 16s.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

SHOWMEN'S GUILD IN SCOTLAND.

Up to the present moment the propaganda work of the Showmen's Guild, to bring the claims of trade protection and defence before the Showman World, has met with remarkable success. So great was the need for this work that, at some of the earlier meetings, between Easter week and Whitsuntide, the very strangeness of the effort seemed to prevent the attendance and enthusiasm so vital to its success. To hold meetings on the fair-grounds during the show season was so rare an event that it took some little time for the idea to take root in the minds of show-people, and so it happened that every meeting was an improvement, both as regards attendance and enthusiasm, upon the meeting just going before. It was not that the average showman was indifferent to his own interests and the interests of the whole Showman World, but that he required to be impressed and moved to a great extent in order to break the habit of his working life, to take Sunday to himself either for necessary rest or for social intercourse with his fellows. Habits of life are very difficult to break when once formed. It was not only a novelty to ask him to attend a two hours' conference in the afternoon, and the Guild service, lasting quite an hour, in the evening; but it was also a demand upon his all too scanty spare moments, that nothing short of urgent necessity could justify.

The Guild Executive and Trade Defence.

The necessity for increasing the interest in the trade defence movement, and thereby increasing the financial support of the people engaged in the show business, was fully recognised at the annual meetings of the Society, in both London and Manchester. Following the splendid, though hastily arranged, benefit night for the Guild funds at Rotherham Statutes, when close upon £26 was realised, and the annual benefit, the proceeds of the Bolton ball amounting to £21 19s. 4d., the executive committee decided that a special effort should be made to place the Guild on a sound financial basis. A number of the principal lessees of fair-grounds and show proprietors present at the Manchester committee promised to organise Guild benefits at the fairs under their control. Amongst those who have already carried through this generous intention we may mention Messrs. P. and J. Collins and George Green. Benefit performances have taken place in addition to the one at Rotherham already mentioned, at Queen's-road (John Collins's management), Wrexham (P. Collins's management), at Longsight (P. and J. Collins, in conjunction with J. Whiting and other proprietors), and at Ayr, under Mr. George Green's management. It is extremely gratifying to notice that Scotland has established two records this year—at Greenock Fair, under Mr. John Wilmot's control, the biggest gathering of show-people gathered to hear the organising chaplain that had, up to that date, rewarded his missionary effort; at Ayr the Greenock record as regards attendance was broken, and the highest record with regard to money taken at the benefit was established.

Hard Work and Good Results.

It is to the honour of Mr. George Green and his admirable and original business methods that the two highest records, one for attendance at the showmen's meetings and the other for financial results, were attained.

In order that the tenants at Ayr Fair might understand what was expected of them *re* the benefit for the Trade Defence Fund, Mr. George Green sent out the following circular to his showmen tenants:—

AN APPEAL.

It has been proposed to give a benefit to the Van Dwellers' Protection Association on the opening night (Thursday) at Ayr Races, the organisation which has done so much for the protection of travellers' interests in Parliament and elsewhere.

This Society has been kept alive, to a great extent, by Lord George Sanger, who has yearly contributed £100 to the Society's funds.

Notwithstanding this, the Society is considerably in debt owing mainly to the expensive Parliamentary work, and an endeavour is now being made to place it on a sounder financial footing, as it is felt to be a reflection on travellers generally that the Association should be so largely dependent on the generosity of one gentleman.

Those who are not in for the Thursday can give their first night's takings.

If you are willing to give your first night's takings as above kindly sign here—

Yes .....

If you are not willing, sign here—

No .....

All subscriptions will be acknowledged in the giver's own name.

It is to the credit of the whole showman body in Scotland that not a single refusal was sent in, and in one notable instance a show proprietor (already an annual subscriber, and this year a special subscriber) to the Guild funds—we refer to Mr. Arthur Henderson—sent a donation of £5 to the benefit funds although for business reasons he was not able to take Ayr Fair this year.

Taking Up the Guild Benefit.

Very unfortunately, the first night of the fair was marred by showers of rain at the very time when the patrons of the fair were deciding whether they would visit the opening night or not. But for the untoward downpour of rain, there is very little doubt that a very much larger sum would have been actually taken at the various shows, riding machines, shooting galleries, stalls, and fairground novelties. Even as it was, the record sum of £52 12s. 9d. was the magnificent response to Mr. George Green's appeal. We give the list of subscribers with this explanation, that in several notable instances, marked in the list with the words "and donation" the amount actually taken was supplemented by an additional sum freely given to augment the fund:—

George Green (including donation); £12 12s.; John Wilmot (including donation), £10; Arthur Henderson, second donation 1907, £5; P. Swallow, £2 12s. 6d. (including donation); Mrs. Johnson, £1 10s. 5d.; Mr. Macintosh, £1 7s. 10d.; C. Baker, £1 2s. 2d.; J. Howard, £1 3s. 9d.; J. Biddall (circus), £1 1s. 6d.; J. Wingate, £1 1s.; W. Moore, £1 1s.; Mr. Rayner, £1 9s. 2d.; T. Paulo (circus) £1 1s. 6d.; Mr. Gibbons, 12s.; J. Day, 10s. 6d.; H. Irvine, 10s. 1d.; H. Irvine, jun., 10s.; J. Wilmot, jun., 10s. 6d.; S. Rostron, 9s. 5d.; Mrs. Newton, 5s. 10d.; J. Caddick, 6s. 6d.; Mrs. Lawrence, 7s. 6d.; Mr. Dawson, 5s. 8d.; W. Merrick, 5s. 9d.; J. Anderson, 5s.; D. Moore, 8s.; Mrs. Stevenson, 5s.; Mr. Westray, 5s.; Mr. Beatty, 7s. 10d.; Mr. Milligan, 5s.; Mr. Buckley, 6s.; J. Blockley, 4s. 9d.; Mrs. Bradley, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Goldberg, 1s. 3d.; Mr. Robertson, 3s.; Mr. Styles, 3s. 2d.; Mr. Dunseath, 1s. 2d.; Mr. Hiscoe, 1s. 1d.; C. Irving, 1s. 10d.; Mr. Sheeran, 2s.; C. Nelson, 3s. 4d.; J. W. Kelly, 2s. 11d.; Mr. Brady, 1s. 1d.; Mrs. Blockley, 3s. 8d.; Mr. Stevenson, 3s. 8d.; Mr. Russell, 2s. 8d.; Mr. Gow, 2s. 7d.; Mr. Dobbing, 3s.; H. Smith, 3s. 8d.; W. Irvine, 2s. 1d.; George Blockley, 2s.; Mr. Hughes, 4s. 2d.; Mr. Millar, 6d.; Mr. Newey, 2s. 11d.; D. Kennedy, 2s. 1d.; Mr. Testo, 1s.; N. Boswell, 1s.; Mr. Davis, 4s.; Mr. Martin, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Johnson, 6d.; Mr. Kelso, 8d.; Mr. Hadfield, 7d.; Mr. Shaw, 3d.; Mr. Cook, 11d.; and Mr. Knight, 2s. 1d.

We have given the smallest amount the same acknowledgment as the larger sums, because even the "threepence" represented the business result at a small stall which, owing to the bad weather, only took the three pennies, and it was given in loyal compliance with the universal idea that governed the benefit. Every concern, big or little, was to give its takings, and we are glad to say that "the widow's mite" was as welcome as the rich man's guinea or pound.

Conference of Scottish Showmen.

Mr. George Green's cinematograph pavilion was quite half filled with show people only—men and women, proprietors, artists, and employees at both machines and shows—in fact, as we have already intimated, notable as the gathering at Greenock was, the splendid answer to the call to attend the meeting at Ayr created a second record. Space forbids us giving individual names; we must content ourselves with saying that practically every showman and stallholder on the ground was present at the conference. Mr. Geo. Green, vice-president, was voted to the chair, on the motion of the Rev. T. Horne and John Wilmot, V.P. On rising to address his fellow-showmen, Mr. Green was received with cheers. In one of his characteristic and business speeches (terse and to the point) he intimated that the principal object of the gathering was to hear the story of the Showmen's Guild from the organising chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne. He was proud to have the pleasure of introducing their reverend friend to so representative a gathering of Scotch showmen. He had known Mr. Horne now for many years, and he ventured to assert that he proud to be numbered amongst the many keen admirers of their reverend friend and champion. He had seen Mr. Horne at work; and whether it was in addressing large public meetings, advocating the showman's claim to recognition and to just treatment by the State or by municipal bodies, or whether it was in the committee-room of the House of Commons, speaking in their behalf and in defence of the trade and business, or interviewing Members of Parliament and obtaining their assistance against obnoxious Bills, or in the deliberations of their committees, he had ever found Mr. Horne the sturdy champion, defender, and wise counsellor of his people. In fact, it was to him an utter impossibility to conceive how they could have achieved the noble work which the Guild had accomplished without the ability and the leadership of such a man as the Rev. Thomas Horne. He therefore had much pleasure in asking Mr. Horne to deliver his promised address and to read (as he had undertaken that it should be read) the individual contributions to the Guild Benefit Fund. (Cheers.)

The Organising Chaplain's Speech.

Mr. Horne was received with acclamation. He very gladly assented (he said) to the request of their Chairman to read out each individual contribution that made up the record benefit of the present year for the funds of their Society. He could assure them that it was an added pleasure to the many pleasures he was enjoying by his renewed acquaintance with his Scotch friends, to find that all the prospective work of arranging for and taking up the benefit was already finished, concluded and settled before he had set his foot in Ayr. He felt also at the very outset of his remarks that he ought to express his personal satisfaction not only at the magnificent result, but at the unanimity and the loyalty of the whole body of fairground traders in responding to Mr George Green's appeal, and further that he must add a generous tribute of acknowledgment to those proprietors who to their actual takings had added additional money by way of a donation.

Scotland, he said, had established two notable records. Of the very encouraging and important meetings he had addressed this year, the gathering before him in the point of numbers was the greatest, and also that the money realised at the Benefit, £52 19s. 9d., was more than double the highest previous record of benefits given upon fairgrounds for the funds of the society. (Great applause.)

He then read the names and contributions given in detail above.

Proceedings with his address Mr. Horne dwelt with considerable length upon the Parliamentary work of the Guild, making a special reference to the very objectionable Private Bill dealing with the education of vagrant children which the Parliamentary agent of the society was successful in getting blocked in the Session of Parliament 1906. In order to make the bearings of this Bill understood by his hearers, Mr. Horne read the important clauses of the Act, as follows:—

Be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:—

1. When a child is so moved from place to place as to prevent such child from receiving regular education under the Elementary Education Acts, 1870 to 1902, the parent or person having the custody or charge of such child shall be guilty of an offence against this Act, and shall be liable, upon summary conviction, to imprisonment with hard labour for a term not exceeding three months and such child may be adjudged to be a child of vagrant parents within the meaning of this Act.
2. Any constable may take into custody without a warrant and charge before a Justice of the Peace with the commission of an offence under Section 1 of this Act, any person whom he shall have cause to suspect of having committed such an offence, and such Justice of the Peace may order the detention of such person in prison until the charge is heard, and such constable may take charge of any child in respect of which an offence is suspected, and deliver him for safe custody to the master of the workhouse of the parish or union in which the aforesaid person has been apprehended until the charge is heard.

Here was a Bill that ostensibly aimed at the unfortunate children of criminal parents, tramps, and begging imposters—the wretches who drag a string of cruelly ill-used children about the country for either begging or criminal purposes. That, on the face of it, was the pious intention of its promoters—with that intention the showmen were in fullest sympathy. But, and the reservation was a most important one for them, no case was taken; no attempt was even made to discriminate between the child of the criminal tramp and professional "moucher" and the child of the genuine worker out of work and seeking it—as thousands were obliged to do owing to fluctuations in trade—or the child of the hard-working showman or fairground trader.

First of all notice, he continued, that the Bill would create an entirely new offence; it makes the parent guilty of a criminal offence if they move from place to place, taking their children with them. No attempt is made to distinguish between parents and parents, children and children, showmen and itinerant traders. Circus, variety, and theatrical children, and their parents, would all come under the stigma and power of this law, and would be classed with criminal parents and tramps as being vagrants, and subject to the pains and penalties of the Act. In the second clause it gives any constable power, on suspicion, without any warrant, to apprehend the parent and to take the child to the nearest workhouse. Now, we ask you (he demanded) to imagine how this would affect some of the most interesting of our travelling shows. For instance, the small circus or variety show, in which every member of the family takes part. The show enters a town; the constable, with the responsibility of this Act upon his shoulders, notices that one or two of the children appear to him to be under the age of fourteen. He is empowered, without any warrant from a magistrate, to lodge the parents in prison, and to take the children suspected to be under fourteen to the nearest workhouse. The parents are in prison, the children are pauperised, and the show is sold up to pay the expenses of the prosecution. There is nothing in the Bill to prevent the picture we have drawn you from being realised in fact. You must not forget that in all legislation it is not the pious intention of the legislators that becomes law, but the actual wording of the Bill when it passes Parliament, and has become part and parcel of the statute law of the land. (Shame.)

Mr. Horne briefly referred to the great and constantly growing departments of the society's work—the defence of shows and showmen whenever unjustly attacked.

The Work of the Showmen's Guild.

In a powerful concluding passage he made eloquent reference to the great work that the Guild had done, and was still doing, for the protection and betterment of the show business of the Empire and the popular amusements of the people. All that he had done had been, from first to last, inspired by the one great and enduring ambition of his life to be of use to the men, women, and children of the road—his brethren of the fairground. He asked them, therefore, to not only subscribe—as they had already generously done in the benefit—but also to join the Society and become members and yearly subscribers to its funds, that its great and beneficial endeavour may go forward to higher planes of usefulness and to the preservation to the peoples of the Empire of the time-honoured open-air entertainments and recreations of the fair. (Great and continued applause.)

The Conference and its Speakers.

The CHAIRMAN, in asking for speakers on the subject before the Conference, added that there was one important clause that Mr. Horne had not referred to in his masterly treatment of the Vagrant Children's Education Bill. That was the third clause, and it read thus:—

"3. When any parent has been convicted of an offence under Section 1 of this Act, the Court may adjudge any child in respect of which an offence has been committed to be a child of vagrant parents, and may order that the child of vagrant parents shall be received into the workhouse or the union in which the parent was taken into custody, or the child was adjudged to be a child of vagrant parents, whereupon Section 1 of the Poor Law Act, 1899, as amended by Section 1 of the Poor Law Act, 1899, shall apply, and the Guardians of the poor of such union shall be empowered as regards such child of vagrant parents *to pass a resolution vesting in themselves*, as provided by the said section, *the rights of the parent or parents of such child.* If the Court orders such child of vagrant parents to be received into a workhouse, the Court may order that the whole or any part of the cost of the maintenance of such child shall be provided by the parent of such child, and paid to the Guardians by whom such child is maintained." (Shame!)

They would thus see how completely the family life of show people (obliged to travel, as some were, with their children) was threatened by such proposed and ill-considered legislation—the parents cast into prison, the concern sold to pay the lawyers, and the children forcibly taken from parental control and care and emigrated. Such was one specimen of threatened legislation that Mr. Horne, acting for them, had been able to avert. (Cheers.)

A Circus Proprietor on the Bill.

Mr. TOM PAULO felt that it was his bounden duty to thank Mr. Horne and the Guild for the good work they had done for him and his family. His was just the kind of show that would have suffered most if that Bill had not been defeated. They knew, he proceeded, that the entire performance in his circus was given by his family. His heart misgave as he thought of what possibly would have happened to him, going about the country with his circus, in happy ignorance of the doom threatening him and his, until the fatal bolt fell, and he found himself, at the mere whim or prejudice of any casual informer, or constable, cast into prison as a criminal, for neglect of a duty—the care of his family, for which he had always been ready to use his whole mind and strength. It was monstrous. It was, indeed, an outrage on all the best feelings of their homes and their lives to even threaten such evil. (Great applause.) Mr. Green, their worthy Chairman, had spoken with intimate knowledge of Mr. Horne and his great work. He would now assure Mr. Horne that he and all his fellow-showmen in Scotland would better appreciate, and better support, his grand work for their good, because he had come amongst them, and had told them in his own glowing words what the old Society had done in the past. (Cheers.)

Mr. John Wilmot's Speech.

At the urgent desire of the Conference, the "Father of the Scotch Fair-grounds," Vice-President JOHN WILMOT, said a few words. He was too full for mere words, he said, his heart was good enough, but speech was faltering. This he would say, that from its very inception up to that grand meeting he had ever been a supporter of, and whenever possible a worker for, the Society. Their meeting at Greenock was a most successful one in every way. This one was—he rejoiced to see it—a greater success still. He was geting on in years, and the tale of his life would, he anticipated, be soon told. Gladly, therefore, he welcomed the younger generation—men like their good Chairman, George Green, to enlarge their ideas, and to carry forward their work to greater perfection and success. He counselled all present to join the Guild, and to give it at all times generous support. (Cheers.)

Votes of Thanks to the Speaker and Chairman.

Mr. JAMES STYLES, in moving a vote of thanks to the Rev. Thomas Horne for his address that afternoon, paid an eloquent tribute to the personal force of character and ability of the Guild Chaplain. He felt sure that those who had enjoyed the privilege of listening to the addresses of Mr. Horne would agree with him, that no man living had greater powers to move his listeners, particularly his showmen friends, than the Rev. Thomas Horne. The secret of his wonderful power was the manifest sincerity of his soul, and the intense sympathy he always displayed when pleading for a larger charity and a fuller hope for humanity at large. He moved, therefore, with great pleasure the best thanks of the meeting to Mr. Horne. (Great applause.)

The CHAIRMAN seconded the vote, and it was passed amidst great enthusiasm.

The Rev. T. HORNE fittingly acknowledged the vote, and concluded by moving a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Mr. GREEN concluded his reply by reminding the meeting that new members could be at once enrolled by the conference secretaries, Messrs. Styles and T. Caddick, jun.

New Scotch Members, 1907.

Per Messrs. Styles and Caddick:—John Howard, £1; Mr. Sheenan, 5s.; J. Day, 5s.; Mrs. E. Blockley, 5s.; R. Russell, 5s.; J. Blockley, 5s.; J. Biddall, 5s.; J. Hughes, 5s.; J. Anderson, 5s.; J. W. Kelly, 5s.; W. Moore, 5s., G. Carter, 5s.; G. Dobbit, 5s.; C. Nelson, 5s.; W. Merrick, 5s.; H. Irvin, 5s.; H. Irvin, jun., 5s.; C. Irvin, 5s.

The Guild Service.

George Green's superb show was crowded to its utmost capacity by the showpeople and their Ayr friends in the evening. The Guild service was taken up heartily by the great congregation, and it went with a devotional fervour that was most encouraging to feel and to participate in. The hymns were led by a few ladies from Newton Church, the organist was Miss Rainee from the Manse, and Mrs. Rainee, the wife of the minister of Newton Church, took part in leading the congregational singing of the service and the hymns from the Guild Service Book. The Guild Chaplain preached on the subject of the Holy Gospel for the day, and was listened to with the deepest attention. The Rev. J. Vavasour Hammond, of Holy Trinity Church, Ayr, has consented to act as Hon. Local Chaplain to the Guild.

AYR FAIR.

The County Burgh of Ayr is famous as the birthplace of Robert Burns, the Cottar Poet, who "sang the songs of the people."

It is a place of pilgrimage for all "the Intellectuals" of "all peoples, kindreds, and tongues." Not to have visited Ayr, not to have stood in the humble cottage where Burns was born at Alloway, in Ayr, is (if you have passed the opportunity by) to stand confessed a sorry worshipper at national shrines.

No showman would be so untrue to all the inspirations of his life as to miss the great national show at Alloway in Ayr.

The town itself, with its many monuments of a glorious past, and (not less important) its many signs of a vigorous and progressive present, is also worthy of note. In the world of shows Ayr has a distinctive place.

Only in one direction has Ayr been reactionary, and that is the way in which the Burgh Council have treated the showmen. The ancient fair of Ayr was held at the Quayside, an admirable site for the ready access of the people. When the time came to recognise the yearly increasingly congested nature of the old fair-ground at the Quayside, owing to two causes—the growth of the town, and the yet more rapid development of the shows and machine novelties attending the fair—the Corporation took a very arbitrary line in deciding to remove the fair without any consultation with or regard for the expert opinion of the showpeople. The leading Scotch showmen, Messrs. Wilmot, Green, and Swallow, speaking for the best interests of the fair, wished it to be removed to the spacious green and esplanade on the sea front, an ideal site within easy reach of the heart of the town, and every scope for the fair to grow with the growth of the town. But the leading spirits on the Council were most evidently out of sympathy with the fair, and not at all anxious to give better opportunities. They rejected the advice and opinion of the showmen and banished the fair to Newton Park, a suburb of Ayr, and a long and expensive (to working people) tram ride from the centre of the town.

The New Fair-Ground.

Had English conditions of freedom of trade obtained in Scotland (but alas! they do not) the enterprising showman would have settled the question by taking a suitable piece of land near at hand for the people, and letting the Corporation pay for its own lack of business enterprise.

In Scotland the show business is handicapped by a bad old law, which compels the showman to obtain a licence from the Mayor or the bench of magistrates before he opens his show. Acting within the severe compulsion of this law, the Corporation refused to license any ground but their own at Newton Park. We understand the Corporation endeavoured to impose a number of vexatious and unfair conditions with regard to the letting of Newton Park. So loyal to their leaders were Scottish showmen, that various attempts to set one lessee against another, and so to divide them, utterly failed. So real and so keen was the struggle between the Corporation and the showpeople that one year there was no fair. The whole of the allied fair-ground traders kept away, and the attempt to exploit them for the gain and profit of outside interests was defeated by the splendid generalship of George Green, who had behind all the principal lessees and proprietors in Scotland. It was, indeed, an object lesson in effective combination, and it served its purpose, for the fair is controlled for the showpeople by Mr. George Green, and it is set out in a manner that reflects the highest credit upon the expert originator and controller of the Glasgow carnival, whose praise is in all showland.

How to Nurse a Fair into Popularity.

To make a fair—nearly two miles away from its proper base—a business and a popular success is no small enterprise, and requires persistent pluck and enterprise.

One method—in fact, the only successful foundation to build upon—is to see to it that only the best and the most acceptable shows and amusements are allowed on the ground. This is an essential mark of show enterprise as far as we have investigated in Scotland. Both at Greenock, under the control of John Wilmot, and at Ayr, under George Green's management, only the very best of entertainments are admitted on the ground.

The second essential condition of success is to secure the sympathy and the patronage of all good men and true, who have liberal and broad-minded ideas about the pleasures and the recreation of the people. This is a much more difficult work in Scotland than in England, for the severest types of religion obtain, and puritanism takes longer to die down in the Scottish mind than in the English. In connection with this side of our subject, the work of the Guild in holding services, and in enlisting the sympathy of the clergy, is of real value.

Another means, and one that all wise showmen never neglect, is the judicious feeding of the Press. Showmen, of all men, cannot afford to let their light be hidden. They must show to the world what they are doing; they must "advertise." We do not presume to say a single word about the necessity of advertisement to the expert lessee of Ayr Fair-ground. His well-known up-to-date methods are a proverb in the land of shows. You can neither walk nor ride in Ayr without having before your eyes bills and placards directing your attention to the shows and entertainments at the fair. You are not left to ask your way, for every tramcar is labelled "To the Shows," "To the Shows."

The Setting Out of the Fair.

There is one great advantage at Newton Park—when you get there: it is large enough to hold the ideal modern fair; there is space enough and to spare to display every show, every machine every stall, every shooting gallery, to its fullest advantage. We only know one or two other places where the advantage of ground space is so ample as it is at Ayr. We refer to Hull and to Gloucester under their modern conditions. The ground is arranged in four-square form. One side of the huge quadrangle is occupied by shows big and little, one side by shooting concerns, and the two other sides by throwing games, stalls, and variety frames.

The centre of the ground is set apart for the big riding machines, and well and fully displayed they are. We have never seen a better-arranged or more carefully-thought-out plan of a fair than the one we saw last Saturday night, in all its magnificent display of moving charm of life and electric lighting.

The Shows—the Shows.

George Green's premier cinematograph theatre, Mr. J. Styles' lectures and dramatic illustration, both at the screen to describe the up-to-date films and at the front to speak to the outside crowds.

Mrs. Johnson's variety Empire, hippodrome, and living picture annexe; Paulo's circus, with the clever arena turns of the Paulo Family; Biddall's variety and cinématograph theatre; Buckley's menagerie and trained animals; Rayner's model of divers at work; Davies's technical mining school—a coal-pit model in working order below and above ground; Prof. Moore, the Scottish Sandow, and school of athletes; and several side shows, with palmistry and white magic.

The World of Whirligigs.

What an amazing, bewildering, entrancing, whirling world it is! In very truth, the heart and centre of the fair. Here you pay your penny and you take your choice. Motor-cars, airships, flying ostriches, mountain ponies, gondolas, Roman chariots, galloping and jumping horses, helter-skelter, steam and manual swings, overboats, oscillating Japanese wheeley whirley, all alight with electric glory, all ablaze with brightest colour and golden glitter—the world of machine novelties, ready to be your world for the open sesame of a "bawbee." This magnificent aggregation of steam and electric driven marvels of mechanical skill and invention consisted of the concerns of George Green (two sets), John Wilmot (two sets), Peter Swallow, J. Wingate, C. Baker, J. Howard, J. Wilmot, jun., Stevenson, and Lawrence, with juvenile and gem sets by Wilmot, Baker, and Swallow.

The Shooting Ranges and Galleries.

These were well displayed, and occupied nearly the whole length of one side of the fair-ground. Winchester ranges, shooting tubes, bottle and egg smashing batteries, by Messrs. Lawrence, J. Wilmot, jun., Sheeran, J. Day, Rostron, Dawson, Smith, Hughes, Merrick, Newton, and Irvine.

Throwing Games, Varieties, and Stalls.

These gave a most attractive display with an immense frontage, nearly two sides of the quadrangle. The up-to-date concerns of Messrs. Macintosh (2), Merrick (2), Kelly (2), Sheeran (2), Hiscoe (2), Knight (2), Wilmot, jun. (2), H. Irvine, sen. (2), J. Anderson (2), Smith (2), and single concerns by Messrs. Cooke-Nelson, Stevenson, Stevenson, jun., C. Irvine, H. Irvine, jun., Russell, J. Blockley, J. W. Kelly, J. Dobbit, Wm. Merrick, jun., and Mesdames E. Blockley and Newton. The refreshment booths were those of Hughes, Moore, and Galloway. At the principal entrance to the fair stood the well-known photo. van of J. Caddick and Son, the fair-ground photographers from the Fun City, Olympia, and famous on the great fair-grounds of the Empire.

CINEMATOGRAPH REGULATIONS OF THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

As a good many mistaken notions exist as to the safety of cinematograph apparati and performances, we give the following regulations respecting the use of cinematograph lanterns, etc., in theatres, music halls, and other premises licensed by the London County Council:—

(1) No cinematograph, or other similar apparatus involving the use of a lengthy combustible film, shall be exhibited on premises licensed by the Council, until the Council has been satisfied that all reasonable precautions have been taken against accident and danger to the public.

(2) Notice of any intended exhibition shall be given to the Clerk of the Council by the licensee of the premises in which such exhibition is to be given, and the licensee shall be held entirely responsible for the proper and safe use of the apparatus. Such notice shall be given at least three days before the first day of exhibition. Opportunity shall also be afforded to the Council's inspector of inspecting the apparatus before the public exhibition takes place, in order to allow time for any necessary alterations to be carried out and approved by the Council. No gangway or exit must be in any way affected.

(3) The cinematograph shall stand in a suitable fireproof room or closed sheet-iron box of sufficient dimensions to allow the operators to work freely, and fitting closely to the floor, which shall be covered with fire-resisting material within such room or box. The door or doors shall open outwards and be self-closing, and of the three windows which are necessary in the front face of the enclosure, the centre one shall not exceed 8in. square, and the windows on each side shall not exceed 6in. square; a flap-screen to cover all these three holes shall be fitted and actuated both from the inside and from the outside of the enclosure; the space separating the audience and seats from the iron enclosure shall not be less than 2ft. in width at the sides and in the front of the enclosure, and the space at the back in which the door is situated shall not be less than 6ft. from the enclosure. The audience shall be completely excluded from the above space around the enclosure by a suitable barrier. No unnecessary combustible material shall be within the enclosure, and, as far as possible, all necessary combustible material shall be rendered fireproof, or shall be enclosed in fireproof receptacles. The part of the film immediately opposite the lens shall be provided with an apparatus which prevents the film, if kindled, from burning towards either of the spools.

(4) The body of the lantern shall be constructed of wood or other non-conducting material, and shall be coated inside with asbestos; it shall also have an inner lining of sheet-iron, and an air space shall be left between the iron and the asbestos lining. In the bottom of the lantern shall stand an iron tray, which shall be surrounded by a vertical edge at least 1in. in depth. The lantern shall be provided with a metal shutter, which shall fall freely between the source of light and the condenser. This shutter shall be immediately dropped in the event of any accident to the apparatus or stoppage of the film, and shall only be raised when the film is in motion for the purpose of projection. One of the firemen of the establishment shall be in attendance near the apparatus with a wet blanket and two buckets of water.

(5) Where possible the electric arc light shall be adopted as an illuminant, the usual rules for securing safety in an electric installation being observed. Ether and other inflammable liquids shall not be employed under any circumstances for producing light. If limelight be used in the lantern the general regulations for its safety, which are issued by the Council, shall be complied with, and any additional precautions which the Council may deem necessary for securing safety shall also be adopted. The use of acetylene gas, other than "dissolved acetylene," will not be permitted. When "dissolved acetylene" is used the conditions set out in Order No. 6 of the Secretary of State, made under the Explosives Act, 1875, must be complied with, and the gas must not be allowed to come into contact with copper or copper alloys.

(6) The space in which the cinematograph stands shall, where possible, be illuminated by electric glow lamps; but a miner's safety lamp may be substituted, if necessary. No naked gas or oil flames or matches shall be allowed in the space. The lighting of the hydrogen flame in the lantern shall be accomplished by means of an electric lighter.

(7) The films, when not actually passing through the lantern, shall be kept enclosed in metal cases. The film which is passing through the lantern shall be re-wound, either automatically or by hand, upon another bobbin as fast as it emerges from the lantern front.

(8) Not less than two, nor more than three, operators shall be engaged within the lantern space, and no other persons shall be within the lantern enclosure during the exhibition. The whole duty of one of the operators shall consist in taking charge of the film after it has passed through the lantern.

(9) The licensee shall be held responsible for the employment of competent, experienced, and trustworthy operators, and shall be prepared at any time to supply to the Council satisfactory credentials in this respect.

(10) Smoking within the lantern space shall be absolutely forbidden at all times.

(11) The Council reserves to itself the right of modifying any of the above regulations and of requiring the adoption of any further precautions, in addition those specified above, as circumstances may require.

G. L. GOMME,
Clerk of the Council.

MR. TOM E. SWIFT, the popular comedian of the Cleveleys Bohemian Entertainers, by permission of Mr. Stratton Wells, was accorded a benefit on Thursday last, the 12th. Several presentations and speeches were made, and a capital programme was contributed.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, SEPT. 11.—*The Ranger*, a realistic and exciting melodrama in four acts, by Augustus Thomas, has been well received at Wallack's Theatre. In the first act Captain Esmond, in command of a company of rangers, arrives in Gordo Loma, a small town on the Mexican frontier, pursuing a couple of miners, who have robbed and murdered one of his men. The fellow has sought the protection of Mr. Harrington, the manager of a mine being operated for American capitalists. Harrington, in addition to robbing his employers, has incited the hatred of the natives by buying a Mexican girl from her mother without the father's consent. Harrington has previously employed "Jack" Blennus, one of the murderers, in some of his own crooked work, and tries to save him. But Esmond orders him to be shot on the spot, and the rangers obey their leader. The other murderer escapes in a buggy borrowed from the United States Consular official, who is a friend of Harrington. In the meantime the mine owner, with his daughter Dorothy, has arrived on the scene, and it develops that she and Esmond have figured in a romance on a previous occasion, when he fished her out of the river with his lasso. The act is brought to a close by an attack of the Mexicans, who demand Harrington's life, but Esmond, mounted on a pony and armed with a six-shooter, puts them to rout.

In the second act the Americans are awaiting further attacks. Water is low and bullets scarce. Esmond learns that the Mexicans are armed with dynamite, and realises that their only safety lies in a relief by troops stationed sixty miles away. After some parleying—he believes it is safer to go than to stay, and tries to induce Harrington to make the journey—he is chosen as the one to make the ride for life. Then he tells the girl of his love for her, leading up to it with descriptions of plays and actors, ranging from John McCullough in *Virginius* to a cheap répertoire company in *The Relief of Lucknow*. Before he can complete his history of the acted drama the girl is in his arms. Then he bravely rides away. It is now discovered that the thief who was shot by Esmond's orders carries a passport proving him to have been Dorothy's brother; and subsequently Harrington, who loves the little lady himself, tells her that Esmond is responsible for the boy's death. Being a villain of the deepest dye, he further imperils Esmond's chances of matrimonial bliss by laying the blame for the uprising on Esmond's shoulders and charging him with his own crime.

In the third act the corral is shown in badly-damaged condition, the Mexicans having used dynamite to get at the superintendent, whom they hate. Things are at their worst when Esmond comes back; the American regulars on the other side of the Rio Grande have refused to ride into Mexican territory He brings no help, but he has come back to share with his friends and the girl he loves an almost certain death. But as dawn breaks shots are heard, and over the Mexican mesas come a party of Mexican soldiers. Their relief is for everyone but Esmond, who is told that he is under arrest for riding into Mexican territory and for killing a man. There is a quick trial; Esmond is found innocent, while Harrington's villainies are all laid bare, and he is stabbed by the father of the Mexican girl he bought from a worthless mother. Then it turns out that Dorothy's brother was not killed after all, and she finds happiness with Captain Esmond.

Mr. Dustin Farnum, who appeared as Esmond, made a manly hero, acting with commendable sincerity and self-restraint, and scoring a complete success. Mr. Charles Lane as Harrington acquitted himself well; and Miss Mary Boland as Dorothy Osgood was a winsome heroine.

"THE MAN ON THE CASE," a comedy in three acts, by Grace Livingston Furness, produced at the Madison-square Theatre on the 4th inst., kept the audience in a good humour from start to finish, and won several hearty rounds of applause. Courtney Longacre, "of Wall-street," is caught on the wrong side of the market, and, in order to tide over his difficulties, he first robs his wife of her jewels, which he pawns, and then plans to marry his daughter, Nell, to one Carroll Dempsey, of lowly lineage, but heir to thirty millions. To prevent any suspicion attaching to himself in the matter of the theft he has gone so far as to hire Betterton, the famous detective, to look into the case. So much we learn before the curtain has been up five minutes. Dempsey reaches the Longacre country place before Betterton—head foremost from his motor-car over the garden wall. Being mistaken for Betterton by the Longacre family, who have not previously made his acquaintance, he has the inspiration of persuading Betterton, when he does appear, to exchange identities with him. While he is masquerading as the detective Nell Longacre falls in love with him, but not with his calling. He well sustains the character he has assumed, however, by discovering that Longacre himself has taken his wife's jewels and pawned them, and by quick action is able to save his prospective father-in-law from exposure. This means, of course, the dismissal of the real detective and a happy understanding between the lovers. Betterton, the professional "sleuth," is a coarse, ill-bred fellow, who naturally shocks the girl he is presumably to marry, while Dempsey, the millionaire, has the manners of a Chesterfield. Moreover, the amateur triumphs over the professional at every turn. One of the funniest moments in the piece comes when he tells his sweetheart of some of his famous cases, and is interrupted by such questions as this: "But how could you tell by the cigar ash on the doorstep that it was the cook who stole the famous jewels?" To all of the questions he makes the illuminating reply, "Yes; that's just it." Finding a short yellow hair in the drawing-room gives him the clue that the culprit was a blond. When he learns that it was shed by the household dog he finds another clue.

Mr. Jameson Lee Finney, as Carroll Dempsey, realised all the humorous possibilities of the part, and made a decided hit. Miss Elsie Leslie, who endeared herself to thousands of theatre-goers as the gifted child actress in *Little Lord Fauntleroy* many years ago, emerged from a long retirement to play Nell Longacre, and received an enthusiastic greeting, her performance pleasing the audience immensely. Miss Mary Hampton and Messrs. Charles Lamb, Fred W. Peters, William Herbert, and Chester W. Beecroft played prominent parts well. Produced under the direction of Mr. Walter N. Lawrence, the piece has some pretty scenic effects that are admirably carried out on a very shallow stage, these including a storm of wind and rain and a set showing two lighthouses in the distance—one with a fixed white light, the other red and revolving. This is probably the last season of the Madison-square Theatre, as it is to be pulled down when the lease expires to make room for another "skyscraper."

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Bra.*

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, AUG. 13.—PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson.—*Lady Madcap* is here. It can only be staged for three more nights, the theatre having been taken by Mr. Edwin Geach for a short season, starting from Saturday evening next, when he will present the English actor, Mr. Ernest Leicester, and a specially imported company in the powerful play *Human Hearts*.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis.—On Saturday evening *The Ragged Earl* was here. Mr. Andrew Mack has introduced a number of new and tuneful ditties into the production, which met with great approval. Although in the zenith of its popularity, *The Ragged Earl* can only be played for three more nights, as Mr. Mack's season is rapidly drawing to a close.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Bland Holt; Business-Manager, Mr. Simonsens.—*The Bondman* is here. On Saturday evening there was a record house, hundreds having to be turned away long before eight o'clock. The vigorous acting of Mr. George Rignold never fails to reach the audience. He is ably supported by the rest of Mr. Bland Holt's capable company. The realistic scenic work of Mr. John Brunton nightly calls forth loud applause.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—On Saturday evening Mr. Edward Cranston made his first appearance in Australia, presenting his original Irish racing sketch *Terry*. During the action of the sketch the audience is treated to a number of highly dramatic situations, while the acting of Mr. Cranston and his company is entirely to the taste of the Opera House patrons. A number of changes have been made in the programme, which includes Bijou Russell, Leonard Nelson, Techow's Cats, Baby Watson, Ernesto, Fred Bluett, Pearl Hellmrich, Harold Reeves, Carden Wilson, Eileen Lyons, the Four Rosebuds, the Ranger Sisters, Joseph Dewhurst, Harry Saddler, Nellie Kilburn, and Les Warton; while too much praise cannot be bestowed upon Mr. Hamilton Hill, baritone, for his splendid singing. Mr. Hill is the possessor of a voice of great strength and richness.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Joe Solomons.—Thelma Woods, contralto, and Vesto, trapeze artist, made their first appearance on Saturday evening, and were each accorded good receptions for their respective turns. A strong programme was presented by the rest of the company, which includes Jerry Hart, Bella Perman, Walter Melrose, Nellie Hill, Harry Leggett, George Silcock, Gertie McLeod, and many others.

WEST'S PICTURES and the Brescians continue to attract large audiences at the Athenæum Hall. On Saturday evening there was a complete change of programme, when a new series of pictures were shown, which met with great approval. The musical portion of the programme was also greatly appreciated.

THE Royal Besses o' th' Barn Band gave their final concert at the Town Hall on Saturday evening, in the presence of a large audience. The programme submitted was an excellent one, and each item was thoroughly enjoyed.

SYDNEY, AUG. 13. — HER MAJESTY'S. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. G. L. Goodman.—*La Mascotte* fills the bill to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. On the 17th *The Belle of New York* will be revived. In this cast Mr. Alf. Stephens is to be the Ichabod Bronson, as Mr. George Lauri is to have a needed rest.

AT the Criterion *Mr. Hopkinson* is fulfilling its laughter-making mission, with Miss Grace Palotta, Mr. Hugh J. Ward, and Mr. George Willoughby as chief perpetrators.

THE Palace is doing good business with Miss Florence Baines and her company in *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, and the comedienne is increasing in favour. His Excellency the Governor, learning that the breach of etiquette was unintentional, has fixed another night as a vice-regal command night, to witness the performance.

THE Royal sees Miss Maud Hildyard in her vigorous and forceful acting in *The Great Awakening*. But good as the lady is in these melo-parts, it is evident that she is capable of higher thespian flights, and we are hoping to see her in a legitimate rôle. Meanwhile, she, Miss May Congdon, and Mr. Charles Vane are ably supported in making money for Meynell and Gunn, their enterprising "chiefs."

"THE PRAIRIE SCOUT" is the play at the Hippodrome, and Mr. E. J. Cole has cast it well. For a popular-priced house things are done remarkably well.

THE Tivoli holds a full hand at present. The newest cards played by Mr. Harry Rickards are Fred Graham and Nellie Dene in a screaming sketch, *Packing Up*; and Miss Olive Sinclair, a new ballad singer, charmed her audience, and made a legitimate success. The Svengalis, Michael Nolan, Agnes Hazel, Ernest Fitts, and other clever artists, give a fine show, and the new bioscopic views are a most attractive finale.

WEST'S pictures at the Lyceum are witnessed by a crowded house every night, each event of the day being taken by Mr. West, and reproduced as speedily as possible.

THE National Amphitheatre has a very long list of artists in its programme, the latest additions being the Driscolls and Jarvis and Martyn. The actor-vocalist, Sam Gale, has returned, and Mr. Brennan has an inexhaustible stock of talent, managed by Mr. Bain.

THE city is full of picture and vaudeville shows, and each additional one is as well patronised as the last.

THE late Mrs. Edouin Bryer was sixty-five, not seventy-five, as I was informed.

MME. BLANCHE ARRAL (Mlle. Claire Lardonois) finished her series of operatic recitals on the 10th amid a scene of wild excitement. The glorious singer sang selections from the operas, and one or two ballads in English, loud cheers being given at the conclusion. At the end of the programme the audience refused to leave, and Mme. Arral, with the tricolour flag in hand, sang "La Marseillaise," everybody standing, and when the singer joined the flags of England and France, and sang "God Save the King," the delighted folks joined in and made it an event never to be forgotten by anyone present. Signor Torzillo played several harp solos, and Herr Paans led an orchestra which was conducted by Miss Ruby Guest.

MISS BEATRICE DAY and Mr. Herbert Flemming left for London on the 10th in the Miltiades to organise a new company and secure more plays for Australasia. On the 8th some four score ladies and gentlemen met at the A.B.C. Café to witness a presentation to Miss Day from the company now disbanded. Mr. H. W. Varna made the presentation—a set of solid silver flower vases and a large block of opal, surmounted by a silver emu (from Mr. Flemming)—in a graceful speech, to which Miss Day replied in felicitous terms. All had tea and cakes, and said regretful adieus.

THE departing conductor, Signor Roberto Hazon, is to have a mighty send-off. Large committees are collecting moneys for a testimonial.

THE engagement, to be married, is announced of Miss Gillian Scaife and Mr. Warburton Gamble, of the Willoughby and Ward Comedy Company, now at the Criterion.

MR. ALFRED W. NEWTON, the popular manager of the Corporation entertainments, Cheltenham, on Wednesday evening took a benefit in the Town Hall. Several of the season's favourites rallied round him for the occasion.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS.
ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

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NO STAMPS.

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THE PUBLISHER,
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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Dec. 16, Feb. 10, 17, 24, March 2, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Nov. 11, Dec. 2, Feb. 17, March 2, 9, 16, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Dec. 16, Feb. 10, April 6, 13, May 18, 25, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Feb. 17, March 2, 9.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Nov. 11, 18, Feb. 10, March 2, 9, 23, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Jan. 6, 20, Feb. 3, 17, 24, March 23, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Feb. 3 April 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Dec. 16, Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 17, 24, on.
Panto. required for Jan. 27 and Feb. 3.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Nov. 7, 14, 21 (3 nights each),
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton,
Nov. 11 and 18;
Reading, Nov. 11, Dec. 2.
Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
1907, Dec. 16; 1908, May 11, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
1908, March 9, April 13, May 11, onwards.
Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole T., Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Oct. 28, Nov. 4, Dec. 9, 16, 23, onwards. No dramas.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Nov. 25, Dec. 16, 23, 30, Jan. 6, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, 11, 25 (3 nights only).
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions,
Oct. 28 and Nov. 4,
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.

WANTED, Good Companies, Dec. 2, and on.
Musical Comedy and Light Attractions first three days, and Dramas the last three days of each week. Good Pantomime for a week in January.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
Vacant Nov. 4 and on.
Wanted, Good Pantomime, for Jan. or Feb.

DUMFRIES AND HAWICK.
All Bookings complete to Feb. 10.
OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Vacant Oct. 14 or 21, and Dec. 2.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
All bookings complete for this year.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

KING'S THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Vacant Nov. 18, Dec. 2, 9.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, GREENOCK.
Vacant Dec. 2 and 9.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
WANTED, First-Class Pantomime Production, for four weeks' run, commencing Dec. 23. The above Theatre is one of the best Pantomime houses in the North, and Managers meaning business can on application see receipts of former productions.
Address, with full particulars, to
R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Sept. 30, for T. R., Bury St. Edmunds, unexpectedly vacant, through releasing (three nights), Nov. 11, 18 (?), Dec. 9 (three nights), only vacant dates this year. Apply, A. A. PEULEVE, General-Manager. Companies may be booked in conjunction with King's Lynn.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, three nights, Oct. 21, 28, 31, Nov. 7, several dates onwards; also Pantomime or good Musical Comedy for Xmas. Only First-class Attractions need apply to C. ADOLF SEEBOLD, as above.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Musical and other London Attractions, Nov. 25, Dec. 2, Jan. 6, 13, and big Panto. for Xmas. FRED GRANVILLE, Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE,
RAMSGATE.
WANTED, First-class Companies only.
Address, HENRY BOWMAN.

AVENUE THEATRE, KETTERING.
WANTED, Companies, Musical Plays or Dramas, Oct. 3 (3 nights), Oct. 7, 14, 28, and onwards. A good Pantomime write. FRANK PAYNE.

WANTED, A1 Attractions, Musical Comedy preferred, Oct. 21, 28, 29, 30, Nov. 11, 12, 13, 25, 26, 27, all Dec. except 30th, Jan. 13, 14, 15, on, with exceptions. Mr. H. POTTS, Opera House, Dunfermline.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, a First-Class Pantomime, for Xmas, vacant through obliging Mr. C. Constant.

Address,
GEO. CONQUEST.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Thornley, co. Durham, Companies, for Sept. 30, Oct. 14, and onwards. Business excellent. Manager, S. J. LIDDLE.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction, Three Nights, Oct. 24, 25, 26.
R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Musical Attractions, Nov. 4, 18, Dec. 2 23, and Panto., New Year, Grand, Chorley; also Dec. 23, good Panto., Jan. 6, Grand, Radcliffe. SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, for Prince's Theatre, Preston, good Pantomime, Dec. 30.
Address, SAWYER and WOODRUFF.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
First-Class Attractions for Dec. 2, 16, Pantomime, Dec. 30, on, Jan. 6, 27, March 2 and 9, 16, 23, 30.
Apply,
JAMES KIERNAN, Manager and Owner.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Dec. 16, March 9, onward, with exceptions.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Nov. 25, Dec. 16, onward, with exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Nov. 4, 18, Dec. 2, onward, with exceptions.

THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY DOCK.
Vacant Nov. 25, Dec. 16, Jan. 13, 27, onward, with exceptions.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Oct. 3, 24, Nov. 11, onward, with exceptions.
(Last three nights of each week.)

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Sept. 30, Oct. 21, onward, with exceptions.

ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre, the Fashionable Theatre.
The only Theatre in the town allowed to advertise on the electric cars. Lighted throughout by electricity. Brilliant success of after entire re-building. Press and public enthusiastic. Described as the most beautiful Theatre in the North.
Holding capacity second to none in the town.
Bookings include: "The Dairymaids," Mr. James Welch's Co. in "When Knights were Bold," Miss Annie Hughes in "Tommy," Mr. Norman Macowan in "Monsieur Beaucaire," "The Little Stranger" (including Master Edward Garrett), "A Trip to the Highlands," Mr. Walter Maxwell's Co., "The Lion and the Mouse" (third visit), Mr. Charles Cartwright and Co., "In the Bishop's Carriage," Mr. Frederick Mouillot's Co., including Miss Decima Moore, in "The Truth," Mr. Percy Hutchison's No. 1 Company, "The Stronger Sex," Mr. Brandon Thomas' No. 1 Company, "Charley's Aunt," Mr. Walter Melville's Drama, Mr. Frank Lindo's "Home, Sweet Home," Mr. Morton Powell's Companies, Mr. Edward Marris's Co., "The English Rose," and Mr. Lawrence Brough in "The Lady of Ostend," "Rollicking Rory," "The Knave of Hearts," &c., &c.
WANTED, Exceptional Attractions. Only Vacant Dates Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 20, Feb. 3 (?), 24, onwards.
CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H.M.T., Barrow.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
April 6, 13, 27, May 18, 25.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
Dec. 2, 16, Jan. 13, 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Nov. 25, Kilmarnock and Ayr, 3 nights each; Nov. 25, Kirkcaldy, 6 nights.
Dec. 16, Ayr and Kilmarnock, 3 nights each; Dec. 23, Falkirk and Ayr, 3 nights each.
Address, R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

HASTINGS and FOLKESTONE.
WANTED, First-class Companies (probably), through re-arrangement of dates, Oct. 28, whole week each town, or two Companies three nights each
Apply, H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

CRITERION THEATRE, WORKSOP.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for last three nights of each week; Share or Rental.
S. GOODMAN, Proprietor.

PRINCE'S THEATRE,
LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, good Companies,
Oct. 17, on, three nights.
Apply J. RITSON, General-Man.

THEATRE ROYAL, EXETER.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Nov. 25 and Dec. 9; High-class Drama preferred.
Apply, E. J. DOMVILLE, Managing-Director.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, a First-class Travelling Pantomime, complete and well equipped.
Vacant Jan. 27 and Feb. 10.

WILFRED ESMOND,
Victoria Theatre, Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Attractions Touring Scotland to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness, N.B.
Vacant dates, apply to Manager, CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, good Companies, for Selwyn Theatre, Wisbech, Oct. 24, 25, and 26, Nov. 14, 15, and 16, 21, 22, and 23. GATES, Manager.

WANTED, for Temperance Hall, Tredegar, Mon., Fit-up Companies, for Oct. 1, and onwards, with exceptions. Sharing terms. T. JONES.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The most successful Play produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Nov. 4 and 11, in First-Class Theatres only.
Wire or write, W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, weeks of Dec. 30 and Jan. 6.
Wire or write, W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" and
"THE OCTOROON."
"Uncle Tom's Cabin."—This charming and pathetic story has never failed, and, judging from last night's magnificent house, the piece is likely to have a singularly successful run at the Gaiety.—Irish Times, Dublin.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 7, 14, Nov. 11, Xmas.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
WANTED, Dec. 30, Jan. 6, 13, 20.
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
T. R., Worthing (3); O. H., Tunbridge Wells (3).
See Companies Advertisement, Page 2.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Dec. 9, Feb. 10, 17.
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
T. R., Worthing (3); O. H., Tunbridge Wells (3).
See Companies Advertisement, Page 2.

MRS. ANN HUGHES'S COMPANY,
in the
Latest and Greatest Musical Success,
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."

WANTED, Oct. 7, between New T., Oxford, and Southend.
This, Durham; next, Royal, Glossop.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Oct. 14 (South), also Oct. 28.
Wire, EDWARD MARRIS, County T., Bedford.

THEATRES WANTED.

Grand Autumn Production,
Walter Melville's New Play.
WANTED, Dec. 23, Jan. 20.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres,
Dec. 2, Jan. 6, 13.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 24, April 13, 20.
Apply,
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 9, 23, Feb. 3.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 2, 9, and 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 25, Dec. 2 and 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 9, Feb. 17.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, 18.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Oct. 21, Dec. 2, 23, 30.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 9, 23, 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 11, 18.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatre, Sept. 16.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 23,
Feb. 3, 17, Mar. 2, 23.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Grand Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 7.
Various Onward Dates.
A most desirable Attraction; perfect in detail.
Crowded with Mystic and Electric Effects.
Massive, powerful, two-manual Organ.
A plenitude of Palms, Shrubs, Flowers, Cushions.
Now playing delightful holiday tour, Isle of Wight, with excellent financial results.
Splendid series of bookings for 1908.
Nearly all return dates.
Wire, to-day,
LOIE ESMOND, Grand Pavilion, Ventnor.
Sept. 23, T. R., Ryde
(return, playing "Nana").

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
by Frank Lindo.
Played over 1000 times.
WANTED, good Theatre, Christmas.
Fast filling 1908.
Managers wishing to book this piece next year are requested to apply early.
Mr. Frank Lindo and Miss Marion Wakeford in their Original Parts.
Address, FRANK LINDO,
Metropole, Birmingham (return).

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S
"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Nov. 11 and 25.
Xmas and New Year's Week Vacant.
Communications to DOUGLAS TREMAYNE,
Grand Theatre, Nelson.

WANTED, Known, Miss Mary Neil is now Rapidly Booking her New Play,
"FROM SHOP-GIRL TO DUCHESS,"
by Charles Darrell.
Communications to GEORGE KIRK,
Grand Theatre, Nelson.

THE CARTWRIGHT-TAPPING REPERTOIRE COMPANY, in
"DAVID COPPERFIELD."
"DOMBEY AND SON."
MR. CHAS. CARTWRIGHT,
MR. A. B. TAPPING.
MR. CHAS. COLLETTE.
MISS EDITH CARTWRIGHT.
WANTED, Oct. 14, Nov. 4.
Wire, TAPPING, to-day, D. P. T., Eastbourne; next week, New Theatre, Cardiff.

WILLIAM HOLLES AND NANNIE GOLDMAN'S CO., the Great Domestic Drama by Arthur Shirley,
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
Enormous Success Everywhere. Refer Managers, Oldham; Junction, Manchester; Keighley; Grand, Middlesbrough, &c., &c.
WANTED, for this Great Attraction, Oct. 7, 21, 28. Wire, WILLIAM HOLLES,
This, Enormous Success, Grand, Glasgow; next, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

The MONCKTON HOFFE COMEDY COMPANY.
By arrangement with Mr. George Alexander.

"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST,"
"LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN."

WANTED, Oct. 7, Midlands, Oct. 14 (?), Dec. 9 and 16, Feb. 3 (North), Autumn, 1908.
RALPH WOLLASTON HUTTON, T. R., York.

"A PRINCE OF ROGUES."
WANTED, Oct. 7, 21, 28,
Good Company, Good Play, Good Printing.
DORA DENCH, Met., Hoyland; next, Fleetwood.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S "FLORODORA" COMPANY.
WANTED, good Theatre (North), Oct. 7 (through sudden closing of a theatre).
BANNISTER HOWARD, Observatory, Ryde.

"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
H. Hamilton Stewart in the Title-rôle.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 23, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, WALTER J. BAYLISS, Crystal Palace Theatre.

"THE GRIP OF IRON" No. 1 COMPANY.
WANTED, Nov. 18, Nov. 18, Nov. 18, London or Midlands; also March 2 (follow Portsmouth) and March 9. Apply.
E. H. KNIGHT, 7, The Crescent, Barnes, S.W.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"THE BEST OF HER SEX."
Miss DORA PRICE as VERA DELORME.
The Dramatic Success of 1907.
Bookings and re-bookings include:—Palace, Newcastle, Aston, Grimsby, Queen's, Liverpool, Oldham, Doncaster, T. R., Wolverhampton, Burnley, Ashton, Coventry, Dewsbury, Wakefield, Leicester, Luton, Chesterfield, Crewe, &c., &c. Please refer.
WANTED, Sept. 30 (follow Liverpool), Oct. 14 (follow London), Oct. 21, and onwards, with exceptions. Wire for Sept. 30, WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, this, Lyceum, Crewe; next, Queen's, Liverpool.

The New Version of
"THE LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
"THE LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, Oct. 28,
Oct. 28, Oct. 28.

GEO. TESTO SANTE,
to-day, Carlisle; next, Athenæum, Lancaster.

"THE WOMAN PAYS."
WANTED, Oct. 14 (North or Scotland), Nov. 11, Dec. 2 (?), 30, Jan. 6. F. M. THORNE, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

"THE VENGEANCE OF WOMEN,"
By F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, for this First-Class Attraction, Nov. 4, 18, and on, with exceptions. New scenery, new printing, and a first-class cast, including Miss Violet Crawfurd and Mr. Percy Ballard. A second "Silver King." Address, F. E. CHABOT, Green's Hotel, Paignton, S. Devon.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
A Triumph
in
York.
Tremendous Success
in
Manchester.
Brilliant Reception
in
Liverpool.
Sterling Success
in
Merthyr,
London, Wigan, Leeds, Birkenhead, Sheffield, Oldham, Southampton, Portsmouth, Hastings, Torquay, Brighton, Bristol, &c., &c.
All unanimous in pronouncing
"WHEN IT WAS DARK"
one of the
Greatest Plays of the Year.

The support of the Pulpit.
The support of the Press.
The support of the Public,
has been accorded to
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."

Draws Money Everywhere.
Draws Money Everywhere.

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
An All-Star Cast.
An All-Star Cast.
A Superb Production.
A Superb Production.
A Great Play.
A Great Play.
Vacant,
Vacant,
Nov. 7, 8, 9 (?), Nov. 11, 25, Dec. 2.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates for
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
A Brilliant High-Class Money-Making Drama.
Exceptional Company.
Beautiful Stage Pictures.
Handsome Costumes.
Boomed by Experts.
Vacant,
Dec. 16, 23, Jan. 6, 13, 20, on.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Dates for
"GREED OF GOLD."
The Wonder Worker.
Taking more Money than ever.
The Revival of this Spirited Play,
A Success,
A Success,
Striking Scenery.
Novel Effects.
Company of First-Class Artists.
Every Part well Acted.
Vacant,
Oct. 21, Dec. 16, 23, Jan. 6, 20, on.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates for
"HONOUR THY FATHER."
Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28.
Well Acted.
Well Advertised.
Well Mounted.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY and
MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO., in
the highly successful Comedy,
"MY WIFE," "MY WIFE."
Now playing to crowded houses at the HAYMARKET THEATRE, LONDON.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for
Sept. 30,
Sept. 30,
and Nov. 11.
Wire, Mr. S. DAUNCEY, West Pier, Brighton.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
Mr. David James as the Rev. Robert Spalding.
WANTED, Oct. 7, 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25, Dec. 23, 30. Managers with above dates kindly write, E. C. STAFFORD, Sept. 16, O. H., Jersey.

"HIS SISTER'S HONOUR,"
by Eva Elwes.
A consistent successful money-maker.
Refer W. D. Forsdike, Esq., Alex., Sheffield.
WANTED, Big Theatre, Oct. 21, to precede T. R., Leeds.
Wire, E. A'DELL, O. H., Treherbert.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, Nov. 4 and 25, Nov. 4, 25, and Dec. 9.
Cast, Scenery, and Printing Al. Refer.
FRANK AYRTON,
Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Theatre, Nov. 18, through transferring to oblige a Manager; only First-class Theatre entertained. Also New Year's week Vacant, few Autumn, 1908, and Spring, 1909. Guaranteed to be the Greatest Success ever Produced by this Firm. Beautifully dressed and mounted. Refer. Wire for Nov. 18 to F. G. KIMBERLEY, P.O.W. Theatre, Mexboro'.

DONALD A. CAMERON'S
American Military Musical Drama.
WANTED, Theatres, "Under the Stars and Stripes," vacant Nov. 11 and 18 (Midlands). Now rapidly booking Spring and Autumn, 1908. March 9 (precede Batley), 23 (precede Alex., Sheffield). SYDNEY MILTON, Gen.-Man., 45, Lauderdale-street, Preston.

"WHEN OTHER LIPS."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres. Managers in search of paying Attractions are strongly advised to see the above. The public require twice as good a show as they formerly were contented with. This has been studied in the above production.

PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S TOURS.
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
WANTED, Jan. 20, 27, also for North Co., Dec. 15, Jan. 27, March 16, 23, April 27, on.
ALFRED PAUMIER, Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Oct. 14 (South), also Oct. 28.
Wire, EDWARD MARRIS, County T., Bedford.

WANTED, for this recognised Musical Attraction, "THE HONEYMOON,"
Oct. 21, follow Barrow.
Wire, GILBERT PAYNE, T. R., Hebburn; next, Waterloo T., Whitby.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
Répertoire:—SHAKESPEAREAN and CLASSICAL DRAMA; also "THE GLADIATORS," "THE THREE MUSKETEERS," &c., &c.
WANTED, Oct. 14, 28, Nov. 18
Wire, County Theatre, Reading.

"HIS DISHONOURED WIFE."
"HIS DISHONOURED WIFE."
An emphatic Success.
Again turning money away, Gaiety, Dundee.
WANTED, Oct. 21, Dec. 30, and various on.
HARRY TILBURY, Theatre Royal, Blyth-by-Sea.

"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
The Complete Production Carried.
WANTED, Oct. 21, Nov. 11 and 25.
JAMES HARE, Metropole, Glasgow.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Renowned Attraction
Good Theatres for weeks of
Sept. 30,
Oct. 21, 28,
Nov. 4, 11, 25.
Address, C. and F. RENAD, Opera House, Burnley

WANTED, Nov. 18, Nov. 18, only vacant date
"Under Two Flags." MARK BLOW,
11, St. Edmund's-terrace, Regent's Park, London

"PRINCE OF PILSEN."
No. 1 London Company of Fifty Artists.
WANTED, Oct. 14, for this Great Attraction
Only Vacant Date until Autumn, 1908,
through King's Theatre, Edinburgh, closing.
Address, BARON HARRISS, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
"THE PET OF THE EMBASSY."
The latest Successful Musical Comedy.
Special New Scenery. Gorgeous Costumes.
Terrific Cast of well-known Artists.
Full London Operatic Chorus.
WANTED, for this sound Attraction, Oct. 7, Oct. 7, Oct. 7,
to follow Birmingham and precede Glasgow;
also,
Nov. 11, 18, and 23.
Wire re Oct. 7, HAMILTON BAINES, Queen's Theatre, Swindon. Next, Head Office, Market-place, Burslem. Telephone 428. House, 600.

A Rollicking, Roaring Success.
MR. AND MRS.
CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
in
the New Romantic, Musical, Irish Legendary Play,
"ROLLICKING RORY."
"ROLLICKING RORY."
"ROLLICKING RORY."
"ROLLICKING RORY."

Tremendous Reception by
Packed House
at
Princess's, Glasgow.

No Vacant Dates
this year.

WANTED, Theatres, for
Few Spring Dates, still open.
Write,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
Motherwell and Coatbridge,
Sept. 23, three nights each.

ALFRED B. CROSS' TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
Supported by Miss Watersford (Mrs. Cross), and Powerful Company. Sixth Year of Tour.

WANTED, Oct. 14 and 21, and few Later, "DIVORCED," and "DAVID GARRICK," if required. Both Solid Successes.
Sept. 23, T. R., Goole.

LINGFORD CARSON'S SUCCESSES.
By Geo. A. De Gray.
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS"
and
"A FIGHT FOR A THRONE."
WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, Nov. 25, Dec. 30,
Oct. 7, 14, Nov. 25, Dec. 30.
GEO. A. DE GRAY, T. R., Aston, Birmingham; next, T. R., Smethwick.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for Lingford Carson's No. 1 Co., Oct. 14 and 28; also Spring Dates.
Address, EDWARD VAN BIENE, T. R., Macclesfield.

"MICE AND MEN."
"MICE AND MEN."
WANTED, Sept. 30, and onward dates.
"LA POUPEE,"
"LA POUPEE,"
Wanted, Sept. 30, unexpectedly vacant.
HERBERT RALLAND, Shakespeare T., Clapham, S.W.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S No. 1 COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for
Oct. 28 and Nov. 18.
Oct. 28 and Nov. 18.
Oct. 28 and Nov. 18.
Address, CECIL BARTH, General-Manager.
The Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.

WANTED, Theatres,
"SAVED FROM THE SEA," by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck, Vacant Sept. 23, Xmas week.
"THE LOVE THAT LASTS FOR EVER," by Edward Thane, Vacant Oct. 21, Xmas week.
"AS GOOD AS GOLD," by Fred S. Jennings.
"LOVE'S CROSS ROADS," by Frederick Somers.
Vacant Oct. 14 (three nights), Xmas week.

Apply,
SAMUEL JAMES, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

HERBERT DARNLEY'S MONEYMAKER.
"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."
WANTED, Sept. 30, and onwards.
Strong Cast and Specialities, including
Miss Louie Adair
and
Herbert Darnley's Dots (Little Winnie Crisp).
Wire for the 30th.
HERBERT DARNLEY, Hippodrome Theatre, Mansfield, Notts.

MISS ADA FRANK'S TOUR.
"THE FIGHT FOR LIFE."
By arrangement with F. G. Kimberley, Esq.
A sound and perfect production.
WANTED, Theatres, still vacant Jan. 6 (to precede Birmingham), 27 (to precede Manchester), Feb. 10, 17, March 9 and 23 (to precede and follow Alex., Hull).

Address, COURTNEY ROBINSON, Hippo., Accrington.

"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE."
WANTED, Oct. 7, onwards, for this great drawing Drama.
A Play that draws the women. The men follow.
Screaming Comedy. Heartrending Pathos.
Striking Speeches, and Situations which gain cheers. Strong Company.
Miss Louie Adair as the Mother, and Herbert Darnley's Dots. Little Winnie Crisp, the greatest Child Dancer.

Address,
HERBERT DARNLEY, Hippodrome, Mansfield.

HARTWELL J. KIRBY'S CO.,
including the well-known Actress,
Miss V. ST. LAWRENCE,
with the successful, moral, up-to-the-minute Melodrama,
"MAN'S ENEMY:
or, THE LOVE THAT WON."
WANTED, Oct. 7. Wanted, Oct. 7, Vacant, Oct. 7.
All coms., MARTIN COMSTOCK,
Theatre Royal, Croydon.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S CO.,
"THE TRAITOR."
WANTED, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2, 9.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Theatre Royal, Aston.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Nov. 4,
between Chesterfield and Keighley.
DICKIE CLARE, Opera House, Dunfermline.

WANTED, Theatres, for "The Youngest of Three," Nov. 4 and 11, Dec. 2 (between Blackpool and Kingston). WYN WEAVER, Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 25 (only vacant dates), for Clarence Corri's "Dancing Girl of Spain." Wire, HALDANE CRICHTON, Grand, Llandudno; next, Widnes.

"DICK WHITTINGTON."
WANTED, Feb. 3, between
Wakefield and Grimsby.
EDWARD MARRIS, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, a few Dates, for the J. MAUNDY-GREGORY COMPANIES.
See Companies Column. J. T Grein says:—"Lights Out," a play which borders on greatness.

RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, Sept. 30, for Thomas Thorne and Co.
Wire, T. R., Belfast.

"AT BREAK OF DAY,"
by W. Bailey, jun., and Chas. Berte, Authors of "A City of Millions." A First-Class Company, including Mr. Cyril Vernon as Richard Thornecroft, Miss M. E. Ellis as Henrietta Stubbs. Fine printing by David Allen. Everything carried.
WANTED, Oct. 7, 21, on. Address, A. D. VERNON, T. R., Peterborough.

MESSRS. ELLIMAN'S ENTERPRISES.
"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, Sept. 30, through transferring, also Oct. 7 and 14, for this sound attraction. Refer any manager visited. Wire for Sept. 30, ELLIMAN, T. R., Waterhouses, co. Durham.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Oct. 14 (South), also Oct. 28.
Wire, EDWARD MARRIS, County T., Bedford.

"A MOTHER'S LOVE."
WANTED, Sept. 30, first three nights Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 11. FRED L. CONNYNGHAME'S
Spa, Whitby (3), Brighouse (3).

THEATRES WANTED.

"HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."
"HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."
"HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."
"HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."
H. RALPH KIMPTON'S COMPANY.
WANTED Known, H. Ralph Kimpton is touring the smaller towns of the United Kingdom, A. W. Pinero's successful Comedy, "His House in Order," by arrangement with Mr. George Alexander, and has a few vacant dates in the Spring.
Write for Xmas week. Within 50 miles of London.
Jan. 20, Ireland, for six weeks.
March and April, Scotland and North of England.
June, July, and August,
Seaside, West and South of England.
Payne Seddon, Esq., said after first night at Lincoln, 12/9/'07, although our Contract had been signed some weeks: "I am so agreeably surprised with your complete production and excellent company, I will give you 5 per cent. more for Dumfries and Hawick." Ask Mr. Payne Seddon how many patrons wrote and complimented him for procuring for Lincoln a
GREAT PLAY, SO SPLENDIDLY ACTED AND MAGNIFICENTLY STAGED.
D. Vernon, Esq., T. R., Peterborough, offered 10 per cent. more for a return visit.
Peterborough Citizen says: The company is composed of real actors and actresses. To say that the audience were delighted on Monday evening would only be to write a half-truth—they were bubbling over with enthusiasm.
Lincoln Gazette says: Mr. Ralph Kimpton has not done things by halves. The excellent acting is backed up by effective scenery, and by very tasteful dresses.
Write at once to permanent address,
H. RALPH KIMPTON,
15, Conway-street, London, N.W.;
or en route, see Stage, The Era, Daily Telegraph, and Referee.
Business Manager, Mr. H. Gee.
Stage Manager, Mr. Frederick Sandy.

WANTED, Oct. 7, 8, 9, and 28th (one week), good Theatres only.
"IS MARRIAGE A FAILURE."
A new Three-Act Farcical Comedy,
by Russell Vaun and Alban Atwood,
Authors of "Oh, Susannah," &c.
Preceded by
"THE QUEEN'S MESSENGER,"
from the Haymarket Theatre.
FARREN SOUTAR. FARREN SOUTAR.
And Powerful London Company,
including Mr. Charles Allan (from Haymarket Theatre), Mr. Alban Atwood (from Adelphi Theatre, &c.), Mr. Walter Pearce (from Garrick Theatre), and Miss Lilias Waldegrave (from Wyndham's Theatre), &c., &c.
HENRY TWEEDIE, Bus.-Man., 3, Parsifal-rd., Hampstead, N.W. Dates Booked: New King's Theatre, Portsmouth; Devonshire Park, Eastbourne; Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Oct. 21, Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 16, 23, 30, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27.
Easter, Whit, and Christmas, 1908, vacant.
Sept. 23, Town Hall, Maesteg.

MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S CO.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 7, New Year, Jan. 6, Feb. 10, 17, 24, March 23, onwards, for the above Attraction.
Address, ARMADALE and WARREN,
To-day, Grand T., Luton; next, Lyceum T., Pentre.

"FROM SCOTLAND YARD."
WANTED, Oct. 7, 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25.
FRED BULMER, Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, 18, Xmas.
FRED BULMER, Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
WANTED, Oct. 7, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2.
FRED BULMER, Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18. FRED BULMER, Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

"FAIR ONE WITH GOLDEN LOCKS."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Feb. 3, North, for above Pantomime.
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

WANTED, Theatres, for "Her Nameless Child." Mrs. Sam Duckworth's Co. A Magnificent, Stirring Domestic Drama, and a genuine financial success. The entire production carried. Splendid plant of pictorials. A perfect cast. Vacant Oct. 28, Nov. 4, Dec. 30, Jan. 6, 13, 27, Feb. 3, 17, 27. Now booking autumn, 1908. SAM DUCKWORTH, Ton-y-Pandy; FRANK EDEN, Lyceum, Pentre.

SIDNEY RENNEF'S COMPANY.
"LOVE RULES THE WORLD," by T. G. Bailey.
WANTED, Jan. 27, Feb. 10, 24, March 30 (North). Bookings include Sheffield, Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Oldham, Stanley, Blyth, Leith, Coatbridge, Falkirk, Warrington. G. M. COPPING, Gaiety, Ayr (3); then, T. R., Coatbridge (3).

"A NOBLEMAN OF NATURE."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
Vacant Sept. 30, Oct. 7,
WHITMORE LEDGER,
to-day, Yeadon;
next, Metropole, Hoyland.

An Unmistakable Success.
THE FAMOUS NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA.
Twelve Coloured Ladies and Gentlemen.
Survivors of the recent terrible earthquake.
Record houses everywhere. Return dates at increased terms.
H.R.H. the Princess Henry of Battenberg and party were delighted at the original and unique performance.
WANTED, first Vacant Date, Nov. 18, and onwards, with exceptions.
Sole Managers, Messrs. H. E. JONES and A. DOUGLASS, 21, Water-street, Liverpool.
'Phones 5650 and 2449 Central.
Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, Hippodromes, or any place that will hold money, for Leoni Clarke's No. 1 Vaudeville, with a galaxy of talent that fear no opposition
Dates Vacant:—
Oct. 7, 14, and 28, Nov. 4, 11, 18, and
Dec. 2, 23, and 30,
Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, March 16, 23, 30,
April 6.
Communications,
Palace, Bath.

FABBRO'S ELECTRIC SINGING PICTURES (Gaumont's Chronophone) and High-Class Vaudeville Company.
WANTED, good Theatres, Oct. 7 and 14 (L. and Y.), and Nov. 11 (between Weston and Folkestone). HARTLEY, Prince's, Bradford.

WILL ONDA'S TOUR.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
for the Most Successful Variety
and Bioscope Combination on the Road.
Vacant Sept. 23,
Oct. 14 and 21.
Wire, ONDA, Alhambra, Morecambe.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Oct. 14 (South), also Oct. 28.
Wire, EDWARD MARRIS, County T., Bedford.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Gentlemanly Heavy Man, Juvenile Leading Man, Strong Character Actor for Aristocratic Heavy Father, Dramatic Sketches, London. Those working London next week state where. Letters only, FRED BROOKE, 55, Ridley-road, Dalston.

"HER LUCK IN LONDON."
WANTED, Powerful Character Actor, for Stephen Harborne; also Responsible Lady, capable of understudy, dresses found; both rehearse immediately. Photos., refs., and full particulars in first letter to save time. to GEORGE KIRK, Grand Theatre, Nelson.

WANTED, for "Jane" Tour, Kershaw, Schaleton, Claud (page boy), Pixton, Acting-Manager. Refs., terms (rehearse Sept. 30), MANAGERESS, 5, Duddery-rd., Haverhill.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING" TOURS.
WANTED, to Open in Dec., Robust Actor for Crown Prince, Leading Man for Paul Valmar, Dashing Young Heavy Man for Prince Eugene, Short Comedian for Bobo, Gentleman for Father Gerard, combine Acting-Management or Double Orderly, Bright Young Comedy Actress (red hair or wear wig) for Kathie, Robust Young Fair Actress for Short Heavy Part (Satanella). All must understudy.
Terms, refs., exact height, photo., three weeks' address.
PAUMIER and HOWARD, T. R., Sunderland.

WANTED, Juvenile Lady (fair, emotional) and Gentleman, also Singing Comedian. Age, height, photo., references, REEVE, 68, Winchester-street, South Shields.

WANTED, Soubrette; also good Responsible Actor and Assistant Stage-Manager for Tour. BALMAIN, T. R., Bath.

WANTED, Gentleman for part of Duke of Glastonbury, special production of new Comedy; rehearse Monday (London). Terms, refs., photos., to MANAGER, 16, Park-mansions, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Tall, Robust Heavy, with good delivery, and powerful.
Address, CHURTON, New Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, tall Character Actor. State parts played, references, terms, height, MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, Regent's Park, London.

H. HAMILTON STEWART'S COS.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES," "BOOTLE'S BABY."
WANTED, to complete Cast, two Robust Character Gentlemen and Juvenile Gentleman; must be 5ft. 11in. Full particulars, height, photo., and references, Crystal Palace Theatre.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman, to walk on and understudy, &c.
NORMAN V. NORMAN, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy, Sopranos for Chorus, able to sing B flat, also Contraltos, Stage Carpenter; long tour. References, terms, Box 5,408, "The Era."

WANTED, experienced Alto Soloists; must be able to reach D in treble cleft clearly; age 14 to 16, and small, to join well-known troupe, shortly touring England; First-class Engagement, good home. Address until Sept. 30, NELSON, Reichshallen Theatre, Köln, Germany.

WANTED, good Male Voices, Tenor and Bass, ages 18 to 20. Apply, CARTER, 40, Fitzwilliam-road, Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, for Continent, Six Young Pretty Acrobatic Dancers; three months' Engagement, probably longer; rehearse in London. Send full particulars, KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, London, W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known.—Voice Production for the Operatic Stage, Pianoforte Taught, by Italian Professor; many years Covent Garden Theatre. OPERA, 60, Berners-street, W.

WANTED, Known, Frank Medhurst, Character, Light or Low Comedy, Disengaged Oct. 5. Pelham House, Paignton, Devon.

WANTED, Known, First-Class Hotel Ladies' Trio, Disengaged Nov.; attractive costume, large rép.; Vocalist, Mandolinist included; splendid refs. Box 5,417, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, First-Class Efficient Lecturer and Guide, with Speciality, at Liberty Oct. 21, on. Address, SPECIALITY, 148, Caversham-road, Reading.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

MILTON BODE'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, First-Class Chorus Ladies.
Apply, with photo. in Boy's Dress, Age, and Height,
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists, Comedians, Principal Ladies, Musical Conductors, Dancers, &c., &c.
Write, stating full particulars and lowest terms, to JOHN TILLER and Co., 15, Lime-grove, Oxford-road, Manchester.

"DICK WHITTINGTON."
WANTED, Idle Jack, Dame, Wardrobe Mistress, to combine Chorus; also Chorus Ladies. Age, photos., references, and absolute lowest terms, LAWRENCE, 102, Hainton-avenue, Grimsby.

"SINDBAD," "BABES," "CINDERELLA."
WANTED.—Artists Vacant for Pantomime, also smart Chorus Ladies, and First-Class Acrobatic Dancers, are invited to call, 11 to 4, or communicate with me, with full particulars, absolute lowest salary, references, photos., &c.,
Mr. SINCLAIR, 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Principal Boy, First and Second Girl, Fairy Queen, Second Boy and Girl, Dame, Baron, Page, Ugly Sisters, Demon, Singing and Dancing Quartette, Male Ditto, and Speciality. Applicants must send full particulars of last pantos., actual lowest, and enclose photos., along with permanent addresses, GEO. AYTOUN, Variety and Pantomime Agent, 120, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Artists, Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Panto., &c., nothing too big.
BARNARD'S Agency, 33, Shaw-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Show Ladies, for Pantomime. Send photos., references, terms, &c., to ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Miss Daisie Morell, the Popular Principal Boy. Monday, Hippodrome, Burton-on-Trent. Thanks Sidney Cooper, Esq, for offer.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Lilian Neville, Soprano and Operatic Vocalist, now touring with Poole's Myriorama. Public Hall, Camborne, Cornwall.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Chant and Chant (Prin. or Second Girl and Comedian). Hippo., Hyde, Cheshire; next, Grand, Manchester.

WANTED, by E. E. Giles, jun., good Panto., Animal, Demon, or Comedy, Traps, &c., last year with Fred Karno, Esq. (Dog); year before Crown Theatre, Peckham (Cat, "D. W."). Just got back from Paris. Big success as Boy in the Box, "Mumming Birds," Reed Pinaud's Co. Address, Empire, Southend.

WANTED, Known, Will Franks, Singing Comedian, Liberty for Panto.; 19th week with Churchill, Llandudno; resting next. 1, Rosamond-pl., Manchester.

WANTED, by Fred Clements, Comedian, offers for Panto.
This, Skegness; next, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Jack Foley at Liberty for Panto, Dame. Palace, Dover. Perm., 7, Canonbury-avenue, Highbury, London, N.

WANTED, Pantomime Engagement, by experienced Performer, Animal Imitator, Donkey, Gorilla, Wolf, Cat, Goose, Traps, Flights, Clown, &c. Box 5,422, "The Era."

WANTED, First-Class Panto., by Syd Crossley and George Battle, the clever Comedy Versatile Pair. Sure hit. The Lawn, Skegness.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Conan and Doyle, Comedians and Dancers, Vacant Pantomime.
Address, Hippodrome, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Denby and Dent, Pantomime.
Monday next, Empire Theatre, Rochdale.

WANTED, Woodbee Wonders, Comedy Herculean New and Novel Speciality, free for panto. Don't miss this. A sure draw and success. Never failed. Private address, 143, Spring-hill, Birmingham.

WANTED, Pantomime Engagement, for Miniature Circus, riding dog, very small pony, leaping dogs, &c.; Little Syd, comedian; Phil Royston, char. comedian and management; and Ada Royston, second girl and speciality dancer. A big act for Palace Scene. Particulars, ROYSTON, Voryd Hotel, Rhyl.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, good Scenic Artist and Poster Writer. Send age, lowest wages, names, and addresses, last two references. CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, a Good Scenic Artist.
Apply, A. E. ABRAHAMS, 26, Great Eastern-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, at once, Scenic Artist, own tools, &c. Wire, SAPHRINI, Palace, Boston.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery; Effective, Artistic Work, Good Joinery, moderate prices. Large studio and workshop. CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-rd., Croydon.

WANTED, Contracts, for Carlyle Scenic Studio; High-class Scenery at very lowest prices. W. B. ROBINSON, 6, Napier-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery; First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting-room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Stage Manager, who thoroughly understands Lightning Programmes, and is a good workman.
Apply, with full particulars, Box 5,396, "The Era."

WANTED, a Stage-Manager for Shakespearean Tour in America, sail Sept. 28, must be of experience and good disciplinarian. Apply, G. V., 46, Grove-lane, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Experienced Acting-Manager; must have good refs. State terms, refs., height, MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, Regent's Park, London.

WANTED, Assistant Secretary, used to music hall or theatrical business. State age, qualifications, &c., and last two references, which will be applied for, A. E. PICKARD, Britannia Panopticon, Glasgow.

THEATRE ROYAL, BELFAST.
WANTED, to open at once, a thoroughly competent Electrical Engineer.
Apply, FRED W. WARDEN, as above.

WANTED, thoroughly practical Electrician; open immediately.
Hippodrome, Portsmouth.

WANTED, experienced Carpenter; must have good references for work and sobriety. State references, terms, MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, Regent's Park, London.

THE JOSEPH POOLE'S No. 1 MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, a Dozen Good High-window Billers; must be really competent men, and able to use the sticks, commence Sept. 30. Silence polite negative. J. WOLSELEY POOLE, Queen's Palace, Rhyl.

WANTED, Re-engagement by thoroughly experienced Manager, at a First-class Establishment, Theatre, Variety, or Gardens; good organiser, and can show results; accountant; highest possible credentials; society's guarantee. Address, Box 5,413, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Gentleman with good experience seeks berth as Manager or Assistant, Theatre, Pavilion, Music Hall. Cash security. Box 5,405, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Smart Young Business Manager, wide experience, reliable worker, good organiser, &c., Theatres, Music Halls, Tours, Animated Pictures, &c., or work up Entertainment Bureau for Picture Firm, or Book and Room anything sound. Offers invited to Box 5,409, "The Era."

WANTED, Situation as Box Office Clerk; six years' experience; knowledge of Shorthand and Typewriting; excellent references; age 22. Apply, Box 5394, "The Era."

WANTED, position as Acting Manager, London or Suburban Theatre, 16 years' experience; excellent references. Box 5,371, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly Experienced Electrician, theatre installation, would tour. Excellent refs. ELECTRICIAN, 52, Chasefield-rd., Tooting, London, S.W.

WANTED, by Young Man, Shop, assist billing, and useful, capable of turn, dancer, join at once. MACK, 73, Oliver-street, Stockport.

WANTED, by Lady, Situation as Housekeeper to one or more Gentlemen in Flat (has some furniture), or as Companion-Housekeeper to Professional Lady. A. B., Flat B, 38, Grand-parade, Harringay, N.

WANTED, Engagement, as Maid or Secretary to Professional Lady; good refs. Address, A. HASLAM, Gorebrook House, Pink Bank-lane, Longsight.

WANTED, re-engagement, as Useful Maid, Town or Tour; thoroughly experienced, good packer, lately left Star Artist; or temporary Sewing Maid at lady's house, or to make self useful in any way. Box 5,411, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for Hamilton Hippodrome, Opening Oct. 14, Conductor (Violinist), Two First Violins, Double Bass, Pianist, Flute, Clarionet, Solo Cornet, Trombone, and Drums with Effects; must be thoroughly competent, steady, and well used to Variety Business.
Address, with terms (twice nightly and 1 matinée), E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo Hippodrome, Glasgow.
N.B.—Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, open Sept. 30. Full particulars, references, SAPHRINI, Palace, Boston.

WANTED, Smart Musical Director (Pianist), capable arranging voice parts and training four-part harmony. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, a good and steady Violinist, as Leader; well up in Variety Business.
Apply, with references and terms, to SAM TUTE, Musical-Director, Empire Theatre, Stockport.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Leader, for Provincial Theatre; must be accustomed to the Business; firm lead and reliable. Terms and refs. to Box 5,416, "The Era."

WANTED, First-Class Second Violin, Flute, Cornet, and Trombone, to open Sept. 30, for Collins's Music Hall, London, N.; must be thoroughly experienced in Variety and reliable. Age, terms, and references to CONDUCTOR, 19, Gibson-square, Islington, London, N.

WANTED, a Good Repetiteur, to open Sept. 23, well up in dramatic and operatic business. Refs. and salary to MUS. DIR., H. M. T., Aberdeen.

WANTED, First-class Leaders (Solo Violins), Pianists, 'Cellists, and Bass Players, for Cunard and White Star Services.
Mr. CHARLES WM. BLACK, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, at once, Violin, Viola, Bass (combine wind instrument), Flute, Clarionet, Cornet, Euphonium. LEADER, 12, Lawn-road, Exmouth.

WANTED, Violinista, 'Cellist, Pianist, good Orchestral experience and Soloist, 12 months Johannesburg, trial essential. Lowest, DELIKIT, 92, West End-lane, N.W.

WANTED, good First Violin, experienced in Variety, twice nightly and matinée. Permanency. Commence Monday next. SYDNEY DAVIES, Conductor, Hippo., Ipswich.

WANTED, good First Violin, for Exeter, Sept. 30, Variety.
TIDSWELL, 29, Alma-road, Great Yarmouth.

J. H. TOMKINSON'S ROYAL GIPSY CO.
WANTED, for Tour, commence Sept. 30, First-class Lady Violinist (Solo and Orchestral), used to Variety. Photos. and particulars, TOMKINSON, Queen's Theatre, Longton, Staffs.

HIPPODROME, NORWICH.
WANTED, good Solo Cornet, also Double Bass, to commence on the 30th; permanency if suitable. Silence polite negative. Address, with terms, refs., and age, to VINCENT C. WHITE, Conductor.

WANTED, Good Cornet Player, for Permanent Shop, one who will assist billing. Lowest terms and refs. to RENSHAW, Grand T., Mansfield.

LORD JOHN SANGER AND SONS, LTD., ROYAL CIRCUS.
WANTED, Good Cornet, can join at once. Salary 35s. Apply, BANDMASTER, to-day, Harrow; Monday, Kensal Rise.

WANTED, Band 3rd Royal W. Kent Regt., First B flat Clarionet Player, twelve years' man preferred, who has just left the Army; must be under thirty years of age.
For particulars apply, CHAS. GEE, Bandmaster, Barracks, Maidstone.

WANTED, Clarionet, Solo Cornet, Bombardon, Drums. Woodage and Beard write. SECRETARY, Town Band, 30, St. George's-place, Cheltenham. Terms shares.

WANTED, to Commence Oct. 7, for about thirty weeks (or possibly permanent engagement), First-class Double Bass, experienced in high-class music, two concerts daily, no Sunday work. Apply, with terms and references, to Mr. DAN GODFREY, Musical Director, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Bombardon, to commence immediately. Write, DALES, 2, Bargate-cottages, Bargate, Grimsby.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Managing-Director, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR.
WANTED, competent 'Cello Player, to commence Oct. 7, 1907. Apply, with references, &c., to J. O. SHEPHERD, Musical-Director.

WANTED, at once, 'Cellist, for Café in Provinces.
Reply, stating terms, and copies of latest references, to L. BAXTER, 44, Hanover-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for three weeks, Oct. 7, 'Cello and Second Violin. Terms and references, A. M. LOUDER, Opera House, St. Helens.

WANTED, Good 'Cello, permanent, open Monday. Wire lowest terms, CONDUCTOR, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, 'Cello, Steady and Reliable, good reader, for theatre. Terms and refs. to M. D., 48, Cornmarket-street, Oxford.

WANTED, good Viola, for Theatre Royal, Bournemouth. Apply, with lowest terms and references, to W. HANNAN, Mus.-Dir.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, Oboe, French Horn, and Solo Cornet, all must be First-class Players. Terms and references (copies), CHAS. W. JOHNSON, Musical Director.

WANTED, good Oboist, commence Sept. 30. Copy references.
CHAMBERS, Prince's Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, to Commence Oct. 7, for about thirty weeks, First-class Harpist, experienced in high-class music, two concerts daily, no Sunday work. Apply, with terms and references, to Mr. DAN GODFREY, Musical Director, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Orchestral Harpist, immediately, no Solos, twelve weeks' tour, £2 and fares. Refs. (not experience) necessary. Box 5,418, "The Era."

WANTED, a good Flute and Piccolo Player; must be strictly sober, young, single. Wire lowest terms, six nights, two matinées weekly. Permanent to suitable man. Open Monday.
SEEBOLD, Theatre, Worthing.

WANTED, Flute and Piccolo, String; could finish Season.
FLUTE, 7, Little Drummond-street, N.W.

WANTED, for Café Trio (Ireland), Brilliant Pianist (gentleman), must know standard répertoire, and be good sight reader. Salary 30s., evenings free; open 25th. S. PHIPPS, M.D., 27, Lower Mount-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Good Pianist, well up in Dramatic and Variety, permanency to suitable man. Particulars, references, lowest terms, CHARLES ELDERTON, Theatre Royal, Hebburn-on-Tyne.

WANTED, First-Class Pianist, must be strictly sober and attend to business. Address lowest terms, Dr. CARL HERMANN, Public Hall, Troharris.

WANTED, an Accompanist, Music, £1 1s. per week, London and Provinces. Will Ladies write again, as their letters were mislaid? H. R., 99, Mortlake-road, Ilford.

WANTED, good Drums and Effects, to open Monday, Sept. 23; permanent if suitable. Terms, age, and refs., CHAS. ELPHINSTONE, T. R., Hanley.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept., "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster, "Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

THE HULL AND DISTRICT TRADES AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION,
Artillery Barracks, Hull,
Oct. 21 to Dec. 7, 1907.
To be opened by the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Hull (Alderman Feldman, J.P.).
WANTED, Band of Six Young Ladies; must be First-class Players, and have good attractive costumes. The Blue Viennese, Grenadier Guards, Kandt's Band, Royal Marines, 2nd Life Guards, &c., are already engaged.
All particulars to GEORGE STANLEY, General-Manager, 16A, Midland-street, Hull.

WANTED, for Permanent Staff, Worcester Regt., Solo Clarionet, Solo Euphonium, and E flat Bass Players; must be reliable men, age limit 30; Army men preferred, and former service to count for pension. Apply, J. KNIGHT, Bandmaster, Norton Barracks, Worcester.

WANTED, Musicians, all Lines. Send lowest wages, age, names, and addresses, last two references, CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, experienced Orchestral and Solo Musicians (ladies), all instruments; long engagements. Particulars in first instance to Box 5,407, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Instrumentalists, for Trades Exhibition, Nov. 11 to 23 inclusive. STOCKHAM, Villa Grove, Handsworth, Birmingham.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Conductor, Pianist-Conductor or Accompanist, by First-rate Musician, read anything first sight, improvise light or humorous music brilliantly, compose, transpose, arrange; reliable, disengaged; highest references. MUSICUS, 73, Alexandra-road, Reading.

WANTED, any reliable Engagement, by Mr. Lorenzo Lewis, Variety Pianist-Conductor, or self (arrange); ever reliable; late Moss and Stoll's Panto. Tour, Répertoire, Overtures, &c. 1, Rock Vale-villa, Holme-road, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by smart Variety Pianist-Conductor. Refer Mr. Percy Broadhead. OLIVER CAMPBELL, Conductor, King's Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, Disengaged Sept. 28.
VICTOR NELSON, Tower Circus, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Musical-Director (Violin), with own Pianist, Cornet, and Bass; would like a change; Variety preferred; experienced. Box 5,400, "The Era."

WANTED, by Musical-Director (or Pianist), Engagement, Variety, Musical Comedy, &c. Disengaged Sept. 23. LENNOX, 115, Hanley-road, Stroud Green, N.

WANTED, by Smart Variety Conductor, Engagement, young, thoroughly experienced and reliable, composer and arranger. Address, Box 5,414, "The Era."

WANTED, by Musical-Director, permanency (Theatre); South Coast preferred; Piano and Viola, Orchestrator and Composer. G. B., Glenwood, Sanderstead-road, South Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, Second Violin and Baritone, thoroughly experienced, total abstainer, open Sept. 30, no pitching. Apply, H. MAURER, Bideford, Devon.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Oct. 1, First Violin, London preferred.
All communications, Box 5,397, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Violinist, Employment, any business; smart, good appearance, sober, young, and good worker. E. ROGERS, 100, Longley-road, Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First Violin, young. Write, 15, Rothwell-street, Regent's Park-road, N.W.

WANTED, Shop, as First Violin; leaving through reduction of Orchestra. At Liberty Sept. 30. MARSH, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, by Young Lady Violinist (experienced), Engagements, orchestra, quartette, &c., or solo, London preferred. Write, B., 21, South-side, Clapham Common.

WANTED, by Violin and Viola (late Leader), Engagements, Theatre, Concerts, Dances, &c.; thoroughly experienced. Young, Violinist, 39, Marian-square, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin; any Business, London or Suburbs; last week Carl Rosa; steady and reliable. VIOLINIST, 34, Robson-road, West Norwood.

WANTED, by Violinist (Pianist), Engagement, Hotel, Club, Café, &c.; good répertoire, London, Provinces, or Abroad. Box 5,338, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Second Violin, any Bus.; abstainer; good refs.; vacant Sept. 28. Apply, Box 5,406, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, Miss Violet Forrester, Violinist, good experience orchestral playing, Disengaged Nov. 4.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, David Williams; Clarionet, Walter Jordon; Lib. after Sept. 29, together or separate. Excellent refs. Tower Orchestra, New Brighton.

WANTED, good Engagement as Cornettist, thoroughly experienced and reliable, at Liberty Sept. 30. ARTHUR FAULKNER, Palace, Douglas.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Solo Cornet, sober, reliable, and competent, any business. J. ALLAN, Ty-Newydd, Old-road, Llandudno.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet or Violin, Dramatic or Variety, efficient refs.; can open at once. Wire or write, JONES, 8, Northcote-road, Bournemouth (Central).

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, Worthing Season Band, Engagement; at Liberty Sept. 30. D. SHEEHAN, 9, Woodford-terrace, Pavilion-road, Worthing.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist, good any business; good refs. F. MARLEY, 11, Beaumont-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Clarionettist; good refs.; Theatre preferred.
Address, GARNER, The Porches, Rainhill.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, Theatre or Variety, experienced and reliable; good refs. T. CRAWSHAW, 33, Stowe-road, Shepherd's Bush, London, W.

WANTED, by Clarionet, experienced, good references, Engagement, any business, reliable. Wire or write, GEORGE, Ivydene, 13, Overdale-rd, South Ealing.

WANTED, Engagement, Bassoon, at Liberty Sept. 29, fifth season solo bassoon for Messrs. A. E. Bartle and Wm. Rimmer, Corporation Band, Southport. Address, ROBINSON, as above.

WANTED, Engagement as String Bass, now Disengaged, any district.
J. REEVES, 12, Heathfield-terrace, Plumstead, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass Player; reliable, and thoroughly practical, any Business. Address, W. FURNIVAL, Contra Basso, Grand Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, First-Class experience, Theatre or Music Hall, now at Liberty. Address, MUSICIAN, Church-street, Bawtry, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Trombone, Theatre, Music Hall, at Lib. Sept. 30, steady, reliable. ALBERT MATTHEWS, c/o Hiram Henton's Band, Worthing.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement, any Business; experienced and reliable; can join at once. Wire or write, SMITH, 7, Baker-street, Reading.

WANTED, Engagement, for Good Trombone, any business, steady and reliable, abstainer, good refs., South Wales preferred. A. W. TAYLOR, 3, Bath-st., Bath.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Euphonium Soloist (combine Trombone). Finishing Second Season with Southport Corporation Military Band. At Liberty end Sept. WILLIAM ROLPH, Cambridge Hall, Southport.

WANTED, by Experienced Euphonium, Engagement, can open at once. Wire or write, CHARLES GRICE, 12, Pitt-street, Barnsley, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Trombone, twelve years in Army band, sober and reliable, any business. T. MORRIS, 28, Poplar-avenue, West Bromwich.

WANTED, by L. Carvelli, late Solo Horn Lamoureaux Orchestra, Scala Theatre, Milan, Manns' Orchestra, Carl Rosa Co., Scottish Or., &c., Engagement as First Horn, Concerts or Theatres; at Liberty Oct. 15. 14, Gipsy-hill, Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, by First Horn, also Second Violin, Engagement; good Transposer; and abstainer; Disengaged. G. RANDALL, 22, Adelaide-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Engagement as French Horn, string preferred. Address, EDMUND CHAPMAN, 6 St. Philip's-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLS, 37, Great Percy-st., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Engagement by Lady 'Cellist, good Soloist; experienced in Hotel. Apply, 'CELLIST, 5A, Milverton-street, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced 'Cellist, London.
F. DEANE, 29, Addison-gardens, W.

WANTED, by First-class Oboeist, Engagement, at once; Disengaged through finish of season at Spa, Bridlington; highest references. WM. RICHMOND MORTON, 42, Solon-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboe, experienced in any capacity, late R.A. Band, Woolwich; sober and reliable. FIELD, 28, Cardozo-rd., Holloway, N.

WANTED, Known, Violoncellist, Disengaged Sept. 30, thoroughly capable in Variety and Dramatic business; good refs. Address, M. C., Pavilion Orchestra, Ilfracombe, N. Devon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboe Player; thoroughly experienced, any Business; at Liberty Sept. 23. OBOIST, 8, May-avenue, Seacombe, Cheshire.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist, an Engagement. Address, H. KING, 38, Ainger-road, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Harpist, Disengaged Sept. 28. Address, "HARPIST," Post Office, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Engagement, as Flautist, steady and reliable, good refs., distance no object. FLAUTIST, 20, St. Mathias-place, Kirkstall-rd., Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, young and reliable, good refs. State wages, &c., SCHMITT, Grand Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, any business, distance no object. CH. GRUB, Add., 38, Ferndale-road, Hoylake, Cheshire.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Boardman, Pianist, fully experienced, Variety and Dramatic; first-class refs; at Liberty shortly. 87, Invicta-road, Sheerness.

WANTED, Known, Pianist, Deputy-Conductor, experienced, second instrument Violin, requires Theatre, Sight Reader; age 33, height 5ft. 11in. G. L., 19, Manwood-rd., Brockley.

WANTED, by Accompanist, Young Lady, Engagements, practice or rehearsals not objected to. C. F., 32, Pembury-road, Clapton, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Pianist, well experienced; good sight reader and accompanist; Hotel preferred. M. WAND, Post Office, Broadstairs.

WANTED, Immediate Engagement, by Lady Pianist. Wire, Miss HUTCHINS, Town Hall, Burton. Write, 35, Leamington-rd.-villas, Westbourne Park, London.

WANTED, by Pianist, Shop for Winter; concluded 18 weeks, "White Coons," Clacton; excellent memoriser. Wire or write, FRED BAKER, 5, Canbury-avenue, Kingston, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, Double Drummer, Disengaged, own Tymp. and all accessories; used to Variety business. J. E. CLEGG, 58, Greek-street, Soho-square.

WANTED, Known, Harry Wood, Tympanist, Drums, &c., at Liberty Sept. 30, end of Season, Grand Theatre, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Engagement, by Tympanist or Double Drummer (First-class), Disengaged Sept. 30. JOHAN JEZIAK, Victoria Pier, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Engagement, in any business, by Double Drummer, experience in every business. 134, Block F, Thrawl-st., Commercial-st., E.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Theatre or Music Hall, London preferred, good instruments. DRUMS, 38, Draycott-avenue, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Double Drummer, with Effects, steady and reliable; refs. JAMES GILLIGAN, 12, Alexandra-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Drummer, with Effects, steady, reliable, good refs. TED CALLCOTT, 16, Burlington-street, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, Quartet disengaged autumn. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Known, Small String Orchestra, at Liberty, Family. Terms moderate. Late Music Hall Bandsmen. First-class Répertoire. HERBERT, 5, West-hill, Wandsworth.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

Fred Ginnett.
WANTED, Circus People in all Lines, Tumblers, Riders, Clowns, Acrobats, &c., must make themselves useful in all Sketches and Entrées, and capable of holding "objects" (if there are any such people left); also two good Agoustes. All the Austins and Scott Family please write. To open in London. State lowest terms and number of Acts. Address, FRED GINNETT, 143, Kennington-road. 'Phone 2848 Hop. Telegraphic, "Kickup, London."

GILLENO'S GREAT AMERICAN CIRCUS, WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER.
WANTED, for Mr. Gilleno's Winter Season in London, commencing Boxing Day, Equestrians, Three-bar Act, Tumbling Clowns, &c., &c. Lowest terms and full particulars to Mr. GILLENO, as above. Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Good Funny English Clowns. Those known to me write lowest terms. Long Engagement.
FRED KITCHEN, Argyle, Birkenhead. Cattle write.

WANTED, a Good Agouste; must be small. Send photo. to CARAN, Palace, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Young Lady, for Single Trapeze, a finished Artist; also strong Young Lady, with some knowledge of Trapeze; long engagement with renowned Troupe. State tricks, age, weight, and terms. Photo. (will be returned). Address, J. W. J., 17, Daneville-road, Camberwell, London.

WANTED, Lady Gymnast, about 18 years, with knowledge or as apprentice. Apply, with photo., stating height, to VETTER, 132, Kennington Park-road, London.

WANTED, Second Mounter, able to tumble, for well-known troupe. State particulars first letter. CLIFTON, 28, Sutton-st., Holloway Head, Birmingham.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Pete Simple, Talking and Knockabout Clown, at Liberty for the Winter, or would join sketch company. Perm. Address, Primrose Cottage, East Topping-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, the Maros, Comedy Bar Act. Next week, Empire, Rochdale (third return). Liberty Sept. 30. Address as above.

WANTED, Known, Thelma and Groves wish to thank Mr. F. J. Connor for a most pleasant eleven weeks' season, Hippo., Douglas; also that Thelma and Groves's benefit, Monday, Sept. 16, broke all records. Lib. Sept. 30, on, for home or abroad. Address, 88, Rusholme-road, All Saints, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, George Davilla, Marvellous High Vibrating Telephone Wire; Touring South Coast. Permanent, Forest View, Honey-lane, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

WANTED, Dates, by Leo and Roland, Marvels of Equilibrium and Hand-balancers. A neat, novel, and original act, introducing our great sensational ladder feat. Complimented everywhere. Managers requiring an act that can draw, book this. Liberty Oct. 7, 14, 21, Nov. 11, Dec. 2 and 9. This week, Colston Hall, Bristol; next week, Guild Hall, Plymouth.

WANTED, Lady Ornamental Swimmer and Diver, for the sea. Send lowest terms, with particulars and photo., to Prof. Davenport, The Pier, Hastings.

WANTED, to Buy, handsome, intelligent Horse, 15 to 16 hands, with long mane and tail, and bone and substance; suitable bareback performances, and a free harness horse; must be perfectly sound and absolutely docile.
Riley, Longham, Wimborne.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and HIPPODROME, BARRY DOCK.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.
No wires, please.
Arthur Carlton, Palace, Worcester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, for England, all dates, and
The Biggest Acts in the Profession,
The Biggest Acts in the Profession,
The Biggest Acts in the Profession,
for Paris, Nice, Algiers.
Acts for Continent must have Lithos.
The following Artists already booked:—
The Famous Boccaccios, Schiavoni Troupe, the Pirmans, Pauline Lloyd, Jack Rae, Royal Quintette, Young Hackenschmidt, Queenie West, and Florence Bell.
Particulars, with full vacant dates, apply to C. Cliquot, 34, Commercial-street, Huddersfield.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Monday, Sept. 30, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to Kitchingman, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Big Tops, Sept. 30, and on. Address, Kauffman, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, co. Durham.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, Sept. 30, and onwards. A. E. Pickard, address as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists of every Description, Sept. 30. Only Artists of Repute. Fred Conway, Manager for Pitt's Animated Pictures, Col., Aberystwyth.

HIPPODROME,
SPENNYMOOR.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, must be new to Spennymoor; nothing too big with drawing powers, no fancy prices, for Oct. 14 and onwards. Artists engaged must send Bill Matter.
Address,
Felix Green,
Hippodrome, Spennymoor.

WANTED, Star Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
WANTED, Artists, suitable for Concert Platforms, three Halls, one night only, Saturdays. Vacant dates and lowest terms to Wm. Biggam, 126, Rottenrow, Glasgow.

HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY,
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock, N.B.
WANTED, for Glasgow, Greenock, and district, Star Artists in all Lines,
Empire, Greenock.
Big Tops for immediate dates.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, for Glasgow Concerts. Interviews, appointment only. Lowest terms to The Scottish Musical Agency, 107, George's-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from now, onwards. Apply.
Mr. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, First-class Artists, all Lines, for the North. Send bookings, &c., to Frank Lynne, Alhambra, Brighton. Telegrams, "Skidoo, London."

WANTED, Artists every description, Sept. 30, onwards. Low terms for small Hall.
Noble and Wood, Picture Palace, Walker-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Artists for Oct. 1, 2, 3, 4, for Trades Exhibition, Teddington. Apply, Mr. Pat Carey, Clarence Hotel, Teddington. Good Conjuror write. No fancy prices.

THE PALACE, OLDBURY.
WANTED, Artists all Lines. Doubles doing Singles, Sisters, and Specialities; Hall Small. No Agent and no Commission stopped. Lowest terms, Jas. Tyrer, Proprietor.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Variety, two houses a night, from Sept. 30 and on; also good Cinématograph. All particulars, Hamilton Baines, Market-place, Burslem. Telephone 428.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Oct. 7, 14, 21, onwards. Charles A. James, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin. Good Living Freak open at once.

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Hey, Miss Muriel	September 15, 1906.
Hitchens, Mr. H. J.	September 8, 1906.
Howard, Mr. J. Bannister	July 20, 1907.
Humphrey, Miss Ola	Sept. 7, 1907.
Hunter, Late Mr. Harry	October 20, 1906.
Illington, Miss Margaret	June 2, 1906.
Irving, Late Sir Henry	Oct. 21, 1905.
Ivatts, Mr. C	Aug. 10, 1907.
Jackson, Mr. T. Ellis	July 27, 1907.
Jerrard, Late Mr. J. F.	April 28, 1906.
Kinghorne, Late Mr. Mark	November 10, 1906.
Kingston, Miss Bertha	February 24, 1906.
Knowles, Mr. J. Forbes	July 7, 1906.
Lacy, Miss Maude	Feb. 23, 1907.
Lamonte, Miss Syria	November 10, 1906
Lancaster, Miss Nora	Feb. 2, 1907.
Lauri, Mr. Edward	July 28, 1906.
Lazarus, Mr. A.	May 5, 1906.
Leitch, Late Mr. George	May 25, 1907.
Le Roy, Servais	June 23, 1906.
Lewes, Miss Miriam	June 16, 1906.
Leyton, Mr. H. Lawrence	Feb. 2, 1907.
Livermore, Late Mr. L. C. J.	October 13, 1906.
Livesey, Mr. Carter	March 24, 1906.
Loftus, Miss Kitty	June 8, 1907.
Lloyd, Mr. Samuel	Aug. 10, 1907.
Lugg, Mr. William	October 6, 1906.
Macmillan, Mr. J. T.	May 26, 1906.
Maude, Mr. Cyril	June 2, 1906.
Maynard, Miss Jennie	March 23, 1907.
Mayne, Mr. Eric	April 13, 1907.
M'Culloch, Mr. Arthur	November 10, 1906.
Miller, Mr. Fred.	October 6, 1906.
Miller, Late Mr. Kennedy	March 10, 1906.
Millis, Mr. F. W.	May 5, 1906.
Milstead, Mr. Robert	Dec. 22, 1906.
Montague, Mr. Harold	Feb. 23, 1907.
Morgan, Late Mr. William	April 27, 1907.
Morris, Miss Sylvia	October 6, 1906.
Morrison, Mr. Graham	June 22, 1907.
Munroe, Mr. Walter	June 8, 1907.
Murray, Miss Alma	August 25, 1906.
Murray, Miss Lillian	October 6, 1906.
Murielle, Miss Gracie	April 6, 1907.
My Fancy	February 24, 1906.
Nicholls, Mr. Harry	Feb. 23, 1907.
Norman, Mr. Percy	July 28, 1906.
Norris, Mr. Ernest E.	July 28, 1906.
Palmer, Miss Ada	November 3, 1906.
Parker, Mr. Frank	April 7, 1906.
Paxton, Mr. Sydney	September 29, 1906.
Payne, Late Mr. Adney	May 18, 1907.
Payne, Miss Millie	November 3, 1906.
Payne, Mr. William	September 8, 1906.
Paulton, Mr. Harry	March 10, 1906.
Phelps, Late Mrs. Edmund	Jan. 12, 1907.
Poole, Late Mr. Fred.	Feb. 2, 1907.
Poole, Late Mr. Joseph	October 27, 1906.
Proctor, Late Mrs.	August 11, 1906.
Renee, Mlle.	June 2, 1906.
Rickards, Mr. Harry	July 13, 1907.
Rind, Miss Kathleen	October 6, 1906.
Ronald, Mr. Landon	Dec. 8, 1906.
Ross, Miss Adelaide	May 26, 1906.
Saintabury, Mr. H. A.	September 15, 1906.
Saker, Miss Annie	March 3, 1906.
Sargent, Mr. Frederick	April 7, 1906.
Scott, Mr. Bennett	May 4, 1907.
Sheridan, Late Mr. J. T.	Dec. 8, 1906.
Shirley, Mr. Arthur	March 3, 1906.
Smith, Mr. Aubrey	Jan. 19, 1907.
Smith, Mr. George H.	March 16, 1907.
Stafford, Late Miss Emily	March 9, 1907.
Stayton, Mr. Frank	Jan. 12, 1907.
Swanborough, Mr. Edward	June 16, 1906.
Talma, Mlle.	September 15, 1906.
Terry, Miss Ellen	May 5, 1906.
Thorne, Late Miss Emily	March 9, 1907.
Tilley, Miss Vesta	July 7, 1906.
Toole, Late Mr. J. L.	Aug. 4, 1906.
Urban, Mr. Charles	May 18, 1907.
Victor, Late Miss M. A.	March 16, 1907
Victoria, Miss Vesta	June 16, 1906.
Walford, Late Miss Marie	July 21, 1906.
Walker and May	March 3, 1906.
Walton, Miss Gladys	March 17, 1906.
Warren, Mr. Charles	October 27, 1906.
Weeks, Late Mr. Frank	Aug. 4, 1906.
Wheatley, Mr. Horace	Aug. 17, 1907.
Wilson, Mr. Joseph	Dec. 8, 1906.
Witmark, Mr. Julius P.	June 29, 1907.
Woods, Mr. Alfred	August 11, 1906.
Woolf, Miss Gipsy	June 22, 1907.
Woolf, Mr. Jack	March 31, 1906.
Worrall, Mr. Henry	November 3, 1906.
Worswick, Late Mr. John	October 20, 1906.
Worth, Late Miss Beatrice	April 20, 1907.
Wright, Mr. Stewart D.	Nov. 17, 1906.
Zangwill, Mr. Israel	April 6, 1907

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, SEPT. 23, 1907.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

"The Avalanche," Harry Rochez's Dogs and Ponies, De Wynne Bros., Boccaccios, Gasch Sisters, Wulff's Horses (two acts), Polo Act, The Grassis, Helen Gerard, Magantini, Four Fratellini Brothers (two acts), Chronomegaphone.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30, for :—
Tom Terriss and Co. in "Peter's Finish," The Sleedes, Harry Anderson, Winnie Derson, Russell Wallett, Mark Sheridan, Woodhouse and Wells, Ian Colquhoun, Clement Trio, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Bella and Bijou, Four Jumels, Lowell and Lowell, May Mars, Le Gay Quartette, Marguerite Broadfoote, Bioscope, Georgia Piccs, Lowenworth and Gold, Illustrated Song.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Bob Hutt and Co., Madge Osmond, Conn and Conrad, Powell's Marionettes, Lola Patey, Whalen and West, Reg. Williams, Bioscope, Barrett and Knowles, Hymack.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
George Lashwood, Eight Empire Girls, Bros. Corcoran, Alexandra Edwin, "Wreck of the Hesperus," Oswald Williams, Bioscope, Francis Letty, Esta Stella, Charles Gardiner.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
The Craggs, Lily Burnand, Frank Sylvo, Will Poluski, jun., Walter Curtis, Lady Mansel's Juveniles, Ellis Barrieton, Carina Sisters, Bioscope, "Prince of Monte Carlo."

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
J. W. Rowley, Zerbinis, Spry and Austin, Miles Stavordale Quintette, Hanid Alexander, Leo Tell, Bros. Redmond, Marion Scott, Dion Wade, Ella Dean.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Tom Foy and Co., Lockhart's Elephants, "Dida," Launceston, Elliot, May Henderson, Rita and Roma, Florence Esdaile, Beatrice Renee, Horace White, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
The McNaughtons, Bert Gilbert, Orpheus, J. A. Wilson, O'Gust, "Casey's Army," Walter King, Erik Bros., Bioscope, Alice Lloyd.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
T. E. Dunville, Maud Courtney, Mysterious Mr. C., Johnson and Bert, Violas, Hovyns, Bioscope, Max Gruber.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Fanny Fields, De Gracia's Elephants, Vanando, Ben Albert, Rich and Rich, Elsie Roby, Farley, Rennie and Farley, Grace Merton, Frank Elliston's Co., Imperial Russian Troupe.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
The Boissetts, The Wedburns, Burley and Burley, Stella Troupe, Nettie Starr, Tom Parker, Whit Cunliffe, Ted and May Hopkins, Ella Shields, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Harry Randall, Gwladys Elvey, Rhoda Paul, "That Brute Simmons," Warsaw Bros., Gus Garrick, Bioscope, Six Lancashire Lassies, Hermann Melot, Bessie Butt.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Eugene Stratton, Three Sisters Kilner, Dot Hardy, R. H. Douglass, Albert Whelan, Six Æolians, Grace Moore, Bioscope, Les Frasettis, Marquis Dassie.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Ernest Shand, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitane, Donaldson Bros. and Ardell, Sisters Caselli, Conway and Leland, Nora Emerald, Alexandra Dagmar, Master Edward Frisby, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
A. C. Lilly and Co. in "Drummed Out," Victor Travers, Lupino Bros., Nipper Lane, Chirgwin, The Sylvas, James Stewart, Daisy Dormer, Amos Howard, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
R. A. Roberts, Little Ganty, Madge May, Lena Verdi, Gardiner and Vincent, Nellie Wallace, Phillipi Bros., Tribune Trio, The Kirbys, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Fred Karno's Co. in "London Suburbia," Chas. Vincent, Vernon Troupe, Kitts and Windrum, Three Dumonds, Takio, Illustrated Song, Alice Maydue, Sisters Jerome, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Padoubny, Lil Hawthorne, Dutch Daly, The Mayvilles, Signor and Madame Borelli, George Westland, Rossi Ashton, Marie Reeve, Bioscope.

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
George Formby, Musical Johnstones, Rauschle, Cruickshank, Rochez's Monkeys, Anna Kenwick, Wyndham and Kitty, Eda Mardy, Rose Hamilton, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Joe O'Gorman, Harry Grey, Boyd and Gilfain, Lyons Trio, Millie Payne, Bros. Egbert, Florence and Lillian, Alf Chester, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
The Elliott Savonas, Belle Davis and Piccs, The Smythsons, Eadie and Ramsden, L. A. Cooke and Co., Ina Lorrimer, Walter Munroe, Josie Mooney, The Haytors, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for :—
Isabel Derrie and Co., E. J. Sheldon, Cissie Curlette, J. B. Preston, Amy Anderson and Co., Harry Ford, Sisters Grovini, Frank Cumminger and Colonna, Leipsig, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Courtice and Louie Pounds, Gertrude Bradshaw, Frank Darwin, Walker and May, Olgar and Elgar, Illustrated Song, Bioscope, Ferguson and Mack, Brown and Le Clerq Co.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"The Typhoon," Carl Howard, Fred Lincoln, Sisters Simms, Hill and Whittaker, Clarice Mayne, Illustrated Song, Bioscope, Jabez Wolffe, Beatrice Willey.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Arthur Lennard, Lizzie Fletcher, Andos Troupe, Selma Braatz, Sid Cotterell and Co., Will H. Fox, Mariedl, Mabel Sinclair, Australian Woodcutters, Bioscope.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten, Bert Danson, The Calcotts, Tom Wootwell, Will Cornish, The Lashmars, Geo. C. Doughty and Co., Pictures, Queenie Leighton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1, for :—
G. H. Elliott, Ella Retford, Rezene and Robini, Virto, Howard and St. Clair, J. P. Ling, Cullane's Comedy Co., Pictures, Harriett Vernon.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Vesta Tilley, D. W. Watson, Cul Pitt, Sisters Morgan, St. Clair Bros., Millie Denham, Edgar Buddon, Pictures, Mark Adams and Co. in "The Wanderer."

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
The Tennesse Guards, Ethel Dunford, The De Breans, Sisters Valli, Jimson's Animals, Murray Moore, Ellis and Watts, Four Canadian Girls, Pictures, Clifton Alderson and Co.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12, for :—
Casey's Court, Lilian Lowe, Illustrated Song, Bioscope, Harry Friskey, Daniel and Son, Rousbey's Electric Show, Lily Langtry.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3, for :—
Matthew Brodie and Co., Tom Edwards, Keith Merson and Co., George Newburn, Harry Bedford, Harry Marte, Frank Seeley, Nellie Wilson, Ray Maskell, Ten Dixie Girls, Sisters Terry, Dandy George, Sisters Aindow, Pictures, Lloyd Morgan.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
Both Performances.
George Robey, Abdullah Arabs, Drew and Alders, Keith Merson and Co., Frank Leon, Olga Dore, Hetty Chattell, Frank Couch, Fred Herbert, Will Dalton, Pictures.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
"Moving In," Terry and Lambert, Barnard's Marionettes, Pat Rafferty, Amiel, Howard and Harris, Fred Dunstone, Lucy Weston, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND
Rehearsal at 2, for :—
George Gilbert, Verno and Voyce, Phillips and Terry, Three Cape Girls, Hinton and Wootton, Netherlands, Bros. Griffiths, Lauder's Chronomegaphone, Trippello, Mark Henton.

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Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

Notice.—Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose a stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.
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"IF THE MAN IN THE MOON WERE A COON"
(F. Fischer).
The Coon Song of the Year.
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(Lambe and Thurban).
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The Rage of England and America.

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Sung by Miss Isabel Dillon.

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Sung by Miss Marie Kendall.

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"Up We'll Go."
(MURPHY and CASTLING.)

MISS HILDA JACOBSEN.
"You Shall Live in a Chalet."
(MELLOR, LAWRANCE and GIFFORD.)

MISS FLORRIE FORDE.
"She's a Lassie from Lancashire."
(MURPHY, LIPTON and JOHN NEAT.)

MISS DAISY DORMER.
"I Wish I were You."
(COLLINS and CASTLING.)
"In Manila."
(ARTHURS and MURPHY.)

MISS MAUDE MORTIMER.
"I wonder if the Girl I'm thinking of is thinking of me."
(CASTLING and JOHN NEAT.)

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CALLS for MONDAY, SEPT. 23, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE PLYMOUTH.
Arthur Roberts and Co., Jack Rae, Bros. Durant, Harry Wenburn, Talbot and Pearce, Maxwell and Frances, Vernon's Bioscope, The Sisters Finney.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Fred Storey and Co., Irene Rose, Marriott Edgar, Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, Victoria Dagmar, Jimmy Laurie, Starr and Leslie, Vernon's Bioscope, Winifred Hare.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Florrie Forde, Arthur Goodman, The Kroney Bros., The Monckton, Albert Wyndham and Co., John Lloyd's Gondolier Glee Singers, Vernon's Bioscope, Glenroy Troupe, J. W. Hall.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Ethel Whiteside and Pics, Walter Wade, L. B. Athol, Kitty Clover and Co., Jock Walker, Vernon's Bioscope, Fred Land, Booker and Narbis.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
The Great Roland, The Cosman Couple, George Acre, Glennie's Marionettes, Natalia and Diana, Jimmy Shields, The Society Quartette, Gramophone, Three Sisters Glenn, Vernon's Bioscope, The Pasquali Bros.

PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE.
Frank Hardie and Co., Janet H. Reynolds, The Two Walonells, George Bernard, Gramophone, James Toner, Lola Dalby, Dunningarto, Little Vio-Lette, Vernon's Bioscope, Ryan and Hall.

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(Pelham and Rule).
Sung by DAVE CARTER.

CANOODLE IN MY CANOE.
(Pelham and Rule).
Sung by GEO. D'ALBERT.

ANY OLD PLACE WHERE THE SUN SHINES.
(Paulton and Van Dixie).
Sung by Miss GLADYS MAVIUS.

I'M THINKING ALWAYS OF YOU.
(Pelham and Rule).
Sung by MARK ADAMS.

ISN'T IT LOVELY TO BE IN LOVE?
(Pelham and Rule).
Sung by GEO. D'ALBERT.

DEAR LITTLE TYROLESE.
(Harrington and Tate).
Sung by Miss FLORRIE GALLIMORE.

DON'T START TO WORRY.
(Written, Composed, and Sung by Harry Marlow)

FATHERLAND.
(Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford).
The Seaside Mascot.

I'M GOING TO TRY MY LUCK IN LONDON.
(Pelham and Rule).
Sung by Miss CARLOTTA LEVEY.

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OH! THE MERRY WIDOW.
PEARL. PRIMROSE.
WE ALL CAME IN THE WORLD WITH NOTHING.
SWING ME HIGHER, OBADIAH.
WHEN THE LILAC BLOOMS IN SPRINGTIME.
OH! THE STEAMER, OH! THE SEA.
I'VE GOT A SPOONEY-OONEY FEELING.
WHEN YOU'RE TIRED OF ROAMING.
YOU CAN'T DO WITHOUT A GIRL.
CAROLINA BROWN OF CHINATOWN.
HAS ANYONE SEEN A GERMAN BAND?

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CALLS. CALLS.

THE VAUDEVILLE SYNDICATE.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, SEPT. 23, 1907.

PALACE, DOVER.
Jack Foley, Louie Hurman, Geo. Brookes, Lizzie Daniels, Metz and Metz, Leo, Jessie Star, Raymond, Sidney Mason and Co.

ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.
Kemp and Harris, Dave Laird, Victoria Glenn, Raymond, Johnny Worman, Madge Daly, Raleigh Abrahams, Carlotta De Yonsen and Co.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Percy Currey, J. H. Hawtrey, Mdme. De Rose, Raymond, Grace Langley, The Custances, Sisters Ford, Four Hernes.

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CALL, Monday, Sept. 23, 1907.

Rose Elliot, Morny Cash, Two Wiltons, Gerhardi Mohr, Tatten Hall, Jeffreys and Benson, Harry Maxim, Mayfair Quartette, Lowenwirth and Cohan.

General-Manager, HARRY MCKELVIE.

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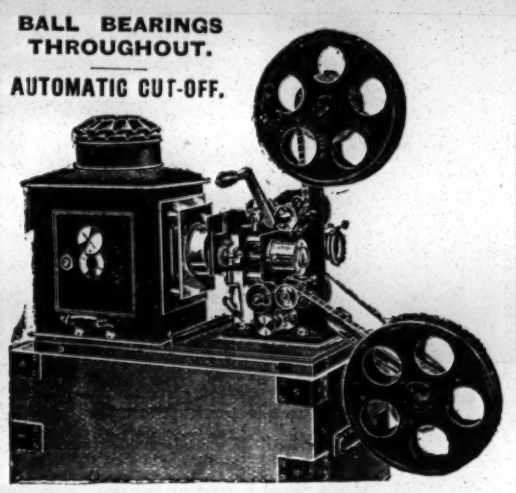

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Dan buys new hat for his wife. Doesn't suit. Quarrel. Dan leaves home, goes West. Becomes cowboy. Months later cowboy delivers telegram proclaiming him a father. Steals cowboy's horse. Caught. Nearly hanged. Message saves him. Takes train for East. Telegram is his passport. Arrives in New York. Rushes into cab. No money. Again message saves him. Reaching home, "Grandpa" brings out tiny baby, then another, and finally the third one. A grand surprise after travelling 2,000 miles without a dollar. **Length, 430ft.**

MAN, HAT, AND COCKTAIL: A NEW DRINK, BUT AN OLD JOKE.

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Gentleman wearing new silk hat calls on his friends. Invited to have a drink. While one man prepares decoction in glass his accomplice mixes a drink in Jones's new silk hat. Jones tries to work same joke on a friend. Friend changes hats and Jones gets drink in his own hat. **Length, 400ft.**

THE EASTERNER: A TALE OF THE WEST.

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Outside typical Western hostelry. A group of cowboys and Mexicans are startled by sudden appearance of automobile (first they've ever seen) with a young "Easterner" and his bride as occupants. "Bad Bill," a notorious character, appears. His horse shies at strange vehicle. Bill contemptuously glances at auto, and offers to race his horse against machine. Wager is laid and exciting race ensues in which horse is bested. Back to the hotel. Wager is paid. Defeated man enters in bad humour. Attempts to shoot young bridegroom. Held up himself. Autoist agrees to fight "man fashion." Easterner soundly thrashes "Bad Bill."

A GENUINE "VITAGRAPH" HIT. **Length, 475ft.**

THE STARVING ARTIST: OR, REALISM IN ART.

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Poor artist in garret room bewailing his ill-luck. Looks out of window, sees links of sausage hanging in butcher's shop across the street. Paints on canvas a realistic picture of same. Substitutes painting for real article. Returns home. No means of cooking ill-gotten meal. Paints a fire on canvas so realistically that flames burst forth. Butcher discovers deception, suspects artist, summons officer, and starts for thief. Artist hears searching party. Paints open fireplace on window shade. Butcher, officer, and followers see apparent opening, rush in, fall through window into street below, while artist devours sausage with evident relish.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for the current year, besides having all the usual valuable features which make the work so necessary for reference, has, for a special feature, a series of short articles, stories, or sketches by prominent members of the dramatic and musical profession, a well-executed portrait of each writer accompanying the text. The obituary for last year—unfortunately a heavy one—is given in a series of photograph likenesses of those departed. The full-page portrait of Mr. J. L. Toole is, indeed, worth more than the humble shilling at which the Annual is sold. The monthly calendar is, as usual, a storehouse of interesting facts connected with the stage. — Weekly Times and Echo.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
The "Era Annual" for 1907 is now out. It is full of good things, and will be eagerly perused by all who are interested in dramatic and musical affairs and personnel. Portraits of, and original contributions by, several public favourites and managers appear, including Miss Ellen Terry, who tells "How I Spend My Day"; Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Charles Collette, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Matthew Brodie, Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Edith Cole, and Mr. Tom Craven. There is, in addition, the usual store of miscellaneous theatrical information which is indispensable to all who are interested in stage matters.—Liverpool Post, Jan. 26.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for 1907, published at a shilling from 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, is, as usual, a happy combination of record, almanac, and literary symposium. The last-mentioned aspect is one that most commends the work to the lay reader. The literary contributions are signed by well-known artists who have contributed personal experiences of remembered incidents, and whose portraits adorn the pages. A touch of pathos is lent to an otherwise cheery publication by the inclusion of stage and music-hall favourites who died last year, one of whom was Mr. J. L. Toole.—Financier and Bullionist, Feb. 6.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
That invaluable annual, "The Era" Almanac, has just made its appearance for 1907. In addition to its usual record of the important productions and revivals of the past twelve months in London and Paris, there is a series of bright contributions by Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Edward German, Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Charles Collette, Miss Alma Murray, and other well-known members of the profession.—Sunday Times, Jan. 27.

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Abrahams, jun., Mr. Morris	Aug. 10, 1907.
Alexander, Mr. Alex.	June 2, 1906
Alexandra, Late Miss Ada	March 23, 1907.
Anderson, Late Mr. Reddick	Jan. 19, 1907.
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Ashton, Mr. George	May 5, 1906.
Ashton, Miss Margaret	September 1, 1906.
Atkin, Late Mr. John A.	Jan. 5, 1907.
Ball, Mr. Alf	September 1, 1906.
Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barclay, Mr. Arthur J.	May 26, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barnett, Mr. Orlando	October 6, 1906.
Beatty, Miss May	November 10, 1906.
Beecham, Mr. Charles	Dec. 22, 1906
Bent, Miss Buena	April 6, 1907.
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Bertoldi, Late Miss Ena	April 7, 1906.
Bolder, Mr. Robert	July 20, 1907.
Bordin, Signorina Maria	September 15, 1906.
Brandram, Late Miss R.	March 2, 1907.
Brickwell, Miss Mamie	Nov. 24, 1906
Brookfield, Mr. Charles	Dec. 22, 1906.
Brooks, Mr. George	Dec. 29, 1906.
Bruno, Mr. Albert	Feb. 23, 1907.
Burns, Mr. W. C.	Feb. 2, 1907.
Butt, Mr. Alfred	August 25, 1906.
Callaghan, Mr. T. C.	Feb. 23, 1907.
Camp, Late Mr. Jack	April 6, 1907.
Cannon, Miss Mayme	July 13, 1907.
Carter, Late Mr. John	July 13, 1907.
Chappell, Late Mr. James.	Feb. 2, 1907.
Cinquevalli, Mr. Paul	May 5, 1906.
Clancarty, Late Lady	Jan. 5, 1907.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Collins, Mr. Patrick Ross	March 16, 1907.
Collins-Rolfe, Mr. Arthur	April 13, 1907.
Conquest, Mr. Arthur	May 26, 1906
Cooper, Miss Florry	Aug. 10, 1907.
Cooper, Mr. Charles K.	Feb. 23, 1907.
Coote, Mr. Bert	June 16, 1906.
Cotterell, Mr, Sid	July 14, 1906.
Courtice, Mr. Thomas	Dec. 22, 1906.
Cox, Mr. Ernest H. G.	Feb. 23, 1907.
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Craven, Mr. Tom	Dec. 15, 1906.
Crisp, Late Mr. Henry	May 26, 1906.
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Denton, Mr. Jack	Feb. 2, 1907.
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Ellis, Miss M. E.	Feb. 2, 1907.
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Fogerty, Late Mr. Robert	July 6, 1907.
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Francis, Mr. Nelson	May 4, 1907.
Fuller, Mr. John, jun.	July 27 1907
Green, Mr. Richard	Jan. 19, 1907.
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Lancaster, Miss Nora	Feb. 2, 1907.
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Werth, Late Miss Beatrice	April 20, 1907.
Wright, Mr. Stewart D.	Nov. 17, 1906
Zangwill, Mr. Israel	April 6, 1907

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MACREADY'S EARLY DAYS.

At the early age of sixteen, says Macready in his "Reminiscences" collected by Pollock, my lot was decided, and henceforward my resolve was taken to do the best I could with the means presented to me. My kind friend Birch undertook to pay the Rugby bills, exceeding £100. My brother Edward, younger than myself by five years, continued his studies at a day-school at Manchester, whilst I, making myself as useful as I could to my father in his struggle through the remainder of his theatrical season, divided the time at my disposal between occasional snatches of work at my old classic authors, taking lessons in fencing, and getting by heart the words of such youthful characters in the drama as would seem most likely to suit my age and powers. I have had reason to question the judgment of my father in much that he would recommend and insist upon in my preparation for the stage. With a certain amount of cleverness, his notions and tastes were what I may call too "stagey" to arouse or nurse the originality of a first-rate actor. He referred always to what he had seen, and cited the manner in which past celebrities would deliver particular passages. Among dramatic poets his preference ran rather to Otway, Rowe, &c., than to Shakespeare, and in after life I had in consequence the difficult task of unlearning much that was impressed on me in my boyish days. Among players his models of excellence in their particular walks were Macklin and Henderson, the theatrical Titans to whose remote grandeur he looked back with confident veneration. He held with high esteem Kemble, and even Pope and Holman, with whom he was contemporary; but Macklin and Henderson, who had been the admiration of his early youth, held the foremost rank in his estimation. He had acted the part of Horatio in the Dublin Theatre three times in one week with three different Hamlets—Holman, Kemble, and Henderson—and with all the personal advantages of the two former, he regarded Henderson as immeasurably their superior. A criticism in one of the papers of the day distinguished the three; Holman as Hamlet; Kemble, Prince Hamlet; and Henderson, Hamlet, Prince of Denmark. His career was short, but from the testimony of those who witnessed his performances, he must have been a worthy successor of Garrick, and indisputably pre-eminent in the characters of Hamlet, Iago, Falstaff, Shylock, Benedict, &c.

Macklin, whose personation of Shylock to its true reading had elicited the impromptu of Pope, "This is the Jew that Shakespeare drew," was my father's theatrical oracle. His portrait hung over the fireplace of our little dining-room, with the inscription, "Charles Macklin, aged 98." In some of his visits to Dublin he had instructed my father in the part of Egerton in his comedy of the *Man of the World*, and on the occasion of his last benefit there he sent for his pupil from Waterford (where my father was playing) to act Egerton.

It was said of him that at nineteen he could not read. It is, however, certain that he was servant, similar to what at Oxford is called a "scout," at Trinity College, Dublin. The custom was for these servants to wait in the courts of the college in attendance on the calls of the students. To every shout of "Boy!" the scout first in turn replied, "What number?" and on its announcement went up to the room denoted for his orders. After Macklin by his persevering industry had gained a name as author and actor, in one of his engagements at the Dublin Theatre some unruly young men caused a disturbance, when Macklin in very proper terms rebuked them for their indecent behaviour. The audience applauded, but one of the rioters, thinking to put him down by reference to his early low condition, with contemptuous bitterness shouted out "Boy!" Poor Macklin for a moment lost his presence of mind, but, recollecting himself, modestly stepped forward, and with manly complacency responded, "What number?" It is unnecessary to add that the plaudits of the house fully avenged him on the brutality of his insulters.

His manner was generally harsh, as indeed was his countenance. So much so, that on someone speaking to Quin of the "strong lines" of Macklin's face, he cut short his remarks with, "The lines of his face, sir? You mean the cordage." My father has described to me his mode of speaking to the players at rehearsal. There was good advice, though conveyed in his gruff voice and imperious tone. "Look at me, sir, look at me! Keep your eye fixed on me when I am speaking to you! Attention is always fixed; if you take your eye from me you rob the audience of my effects, and you rob me of their applause!"—a precept I never forgot, and to which I have been much indebted.

After he had left the stage, which the utter loss of memory compelled him to do, my father paid him a visit in London, and his account of it gave curious evidence of an inveterate prejudice surviving the decay of physical and intellectual power. The old man, with lack-lustre eye, was sitting in his arm-chair, unconscious of anyone being present, till Mrs. Macklin addressed him: "My dear, here is Mr. Macready come to see you." "Who?" said Macklin. "Mr. Macready, my dear." "Ha! who is he?" "Mr. Macready, you know, who went to Dublin to act for your benefit." "Ha! my benefit? What was it? What did he act?" "I acted Egerton, sir," said my father, "in your own play." "Ha! my play. What was it?" "*The Man of the World*, sir." "Ha, *Man of the World*. Devilish good title! Who wrote it?" "You did, sir." "Did I? Well, what was it about?" "Why, sir, there was a Scotchman ——" "Ah, d——n them!" My father finding it useless to prolong this last interview with his old preceptor, took his leave.

The weeks between Christmas and midsummer dragged their slow length along, and a miserable period it was. My poor father, in frequent apprehension of arrest, was from time to time obliged to absent himself, and to study modes of concealment whilst taking measures (at that time necessary, from the state of the law) to make himself a dealer in goods, in order to pass through the Court of Bankruptcy. By the kind aid of friends he was enabled eventually to accomplish this; in the meanwhile his release from the Manchester Theatre was obtained by the sacrifice of all the valuable property he had placed in it, and an additional £1,000 paid by his securities, my grandfather and uncle. Before the close of the theatre, Mr. John Fawcett, an excellent comic actor, a man very much respected, and an old friend of my father, came down to fulfil engagements with him at the Manchester and Newcastle Theatres. During his performances at Manchester he was our guest, and in discoursing on the subject of my adoption of the player's profession, he most kindly urged the advisability of my seeing the first actors of the day, of my learning to fence from the best masters, and very kindly gave me an invitation to spend some weeks at his house in London for this purpose. At the close of his Manchester engagement, I travelled with him to Newcastle-on-Tyne, where he acted during the race week, and where I was commissioned by my father to overlook the course of affairs during a short summer season; in fact, to be the deputed manager.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.
(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.—New Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's company is here in *The Gay Parisienne*. Mr. Will Harmon is an exceedingly quaint Ebenezer Honeycombe; Mr. Chas. MacLagan as Major Fosdyke is decidedly good; Mr. Cyril Biddulph as Tom Everleigh is most successful; Miss Alice Nixon makes an excellent Julie, her singing and dancing being of a high standard; Mr. Herbert Walton as M. Pompier worked hard for the success of the piece; Miss Holford Beringer is a most efficient Mrs. Honeycombe; Miss Adeline Burgon is deserving of great praise as Nora; Miss Madge Soutter as Ruth creates much laughter; Mr. C. A. James as Amos Dingle and Mr. T. Brooklyn as Algernon P. Ducie are worthy of special mention. The vocal quartettes given by Messrs. Jones, Rose, Biddulph, and Fitzjames were greatly appreciated. The Major's daughters were well taken by the Misses G. Davies, E. McHardy, Loie James, and L. Sheldon.

ABERDEEN.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Mr. Wilfred E. Payne plays Jack Frobisher in *The Walls of Jericho* with great freedom; Miss Dora Hole is an excellent Lady Alethea; Mr. Spencer Geach as Hankey Bannister, Mr. Kingsford Pearce as the Marquis of Steventon, Mr. Charles Fancourt as Harry Dallas were all good; and in Miss Elsie Ross Lady Derenham found a first-class exponent. All the ladies of the company were well placed, and served materially to make a fine all-round representation of this excellent play.

Palace Theatre. — Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Roland succeeds in mystifying the audiences to an extraordinary degree. He is ably assisted by Miss Marjorie Russell. The next great turn is that of the Pasquali Brothers, who are extraordinarily agile acrobats; Natalie and Diana are remarkably good aerial artists; the Society Quartette are admirable singers and dancers; and Mr. Jimmy Shields is, as usual, loudly applauded. Among the other artists included in the company are the Cosman Couple, clever comedians; Mr. Geo. Acre, a promising comedian; Recco, who combines acrobaticism with amusing comedy; and the Three Sisters Glenn, vocalists and burlesque actresses.

ABERTILLERY.—Theatre Metropole.—Lessees Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Geo. W. Dentom.—That amusing musical comedy drama, *A (K)night in Armour* is being well presented here this week, much merriment being evoked by the numerous comic situations. Mr. Louis Nanton as Bill Newton is extremely funny; James Melbourne is admirably played by Mr. Harold B. Lewis; Mr. Fred J. Webb scores heavily as Frank Melbourne; Mr. Walter Kenyon takes the part of Dorminie Domino in a delightful manner; Lady Priscilla is well played by Miss Lallah Price; Miss M. Danvers-Smith is excellent as Olive Webb; Miss Emmiline Roselle is good as Florrie; the Misses Cleveland and Dorris are much appreciated in their dances; and Mr. George Paradise as Warder Keyes; and Mr. Tom Hanley as William Herlock do full justice to their respective parts.

Pavilion.—Lessees, Messrs. E. and H. Tilney; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Pryce.—The Yiulians give a truly marvellous Risley acrobatic turn; Ryde and Beeman are very amusing and clever acrobats; the Paolas, in a refined act, give expositions of strength and muscle; Nellie Potter is highly successful with chorus songs; Harry Wright supplies topical songs, his impromtu verses producing much merriment; Peggy Fame, with songs and dancing, is good; Nellie Gannon is well received with descriptive songs; Nancy Renshaw contributes a song and bone solo; Geo. Penn, with fiddle, and Bioscope completes a most entertaining performance.

ACCRINGTON.—Prince's Theatre. — Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—This week we have a return visit by Mr. Mark Blow's company in *Cripple Creek*. Mr. Stanley Bedwell, in the leading part of Joe Mayfield is capital; Mr. Eric Hudson gives a good performance as Martin Mason; Mr. R. Harley-West must be complimented for his impersonation of the faithful Indian; Mr. J. L. Leigh cleverly depicted Manuel Alvarez; Mr. Will Hook, a very smart comedian, played Reggie Harwood with success; Miss Nancy Roberts gives a very pleasing performance as Bell Gordon; Miss Daisy Carlton is an ideal Maggie Mason; Miss A. Verity is happily cast as Dynamite Ann.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Mould.—A very smart bill is provided this week, including Fred Moules and E. D. Nicholls' company in *The Battle of Belles*, which fairly brings down the house; the Falcons are very clever comedy acrobats; Will Johnson was very soon in favour with his songs and patter; Stelling and his very clever dog were loudly applauded; Ted Saunders is very good as mimic; the Ellimans must be complimented for their musical turn; Daisy Martell is chic and pleasing, and was duly appreciated.

ALDERSHOT.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Gladwin.—*The Dairymaids* is being played by Mr. Robert Macdonald's company. Joe Mivins, the ubiquitous, effervescent, always-on-the-spot Jack Tar, is provocative of most of the mirth, and in Mr. Dan Agar the A.B. had a most capable and energetic exponent, and with Miss Maud Lucy, as Eliza, he was the hero of quite a romantic little episode in the last scene; as Peggy, one of the precocious sisters of Lady Brudenell, Miss Empsie Bowman was chic and clever; and in conjunction with Mr. Richard Telford, as Sam Brudenell, she is responsible for several smart duets, the marionettes being very funny, while in her solos Miss Bowman was tuneful and appreciated, especially in "The little stranger"; Miss Annie Heenan, as the educated sister Helen, showed herself possessed of a voice of fine range and marvellous sweetness, and in "The little wild rose" she received a vociferous recall; Miss Mollie Tremaine was stately and dignified, while as Captain Loverton Mr. Victor Huntley sang a baritone song; Miss Dalla Gordon, as the head of Pyechave Academy, had the "tube stare" badly, but it was greatly appreciated; as the Irish Naval doctor Mr. A. Gordon Begg was clever, and as Lieut. Brudenell Mr. Robert Bottomley did splendidly; Miss Doris Dickens made an extremely sweet Winifred.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's chief combination for the provincial performance of the lyrical comedy *The White Chrysanthemum* is here. Miss Lillian Hubbard gives a charming impersonation of Sybil Cunningham, and as actress and vocalist wins many plaudits; she is most ably supported by Mr. Victor Kahn, who makes an excellent Lieut. Reginald Armitage; another favourite is Mr. Erskine Lang, who sustains the part of Chippendale Belmont; Chippy is represented with that quiet, unobtrusive humour which finds immense favour; he scores with his song, "I wonder." Mr. Frank Weir as Sin Chon scores both in dance and song; no less funny is the Private Perks of Mr. Walter Westwood; Miss Blanche Astley is a sweetly pretty American girl as Cornelia; Miss Harriet Fawn is well placed as Betty Kenyon; Mr. William Hartigan capably sustains the character of the Admiral.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—There is a splendid bill at the Hippodrome, and it is difficult to do justice to the many talented artists in the limited space. A capital and popular opening is made by Elzer (late Sergt.-Major, Army Gymnastic Staff) with Clarice, lady ju-jitsu expert. His many clever juggling and balancing feats are away from the beaten track; Fields and Lewis give a funny burlesque display; Charles Serra "on the Roman column" gives a graceful display of posing; the popular Harry Nelson reappears with his capital "dame" song; Angelo's portraits of present and past celebrities are exceedingly good; Mabel Holt, ballad vocalist, sings a tuneful song; Harry Wedon creates great fun with his burlesques of the coon artist; and the Wakeman Quartette (with a dancing parlourmaid) are a combination of great vocal ability and pleasing humour. The Melody-Makers, in *The Burglar's Dream*, present a most original and entertaining show; and the famous Cumberlands, four in number, who pay a return visit, commaud attention and applause as readily as ever.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Palace Theatre of Varieties. —Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bert Lester.—An exceptionally strong and attractive bill is presented here this week, headed by the Soho Trio in a pleasing original drawing-room entertainment. Mr. Frank Purcell and his comedy company, including Miss Fanny Newnes, present a laughable sketch, entitled *Husbands Three*, which is received with hearty applause; Zanfretta and Napio, eccentric musicians, are well received on a return visit; Mr. Clayton's Attergraph pictures include "A Case of Arson"; the Melroses (lady and gentleman) furnish an acceptable item in an amusing scena, *The New Page*; fun and skill are pleasantly blended in an acrobatic act by the Smarte Brothers; Miss May de Rowse is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and Mr. Tom Moore finds favour as a descriptive vocalist.

AYR.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—Following on *Sunday* and Miss Nita Faydon's fine interpretation, we have this week again a variety show, under the auspices of Mr. E. H. Bostock's Hippodrome company. Miss Delaine made a good impression with songs and dances; Williams and Warden got plenty of fun out of their act, entitled *Dooley;* Souplessi, both as a contortionist and gymnast, gave a clever performance; and the animated pictures were exceptionally interesting. The Rio Tintos, comedians and acrobats, made the audience roar with laughter; Johnny Danvers, an old pantomime favourite, sang three songs in his own quaint style; then followed the star of the evening—Miss Florrie Gallimore. This lady at once made herself a prime favourite. She has a fine presence, a powerful voice, and a charming manner. The Eight Lancashire Lads received much applause for their singing and dancing.

BACUP.—New Court Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood.—Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's company is appearing here this week in *A Girl Redeemed from Sin*. Miss Helena Walbran is deserving of praise for her embodiment of Nancy Lee; the part of Will May is played in a highly acceptable manner by Mr. A. H. Barnes; Mr. Harry C. Momber gives a brisk impersonation of Jim Jakes, being ably assisted by Miss Ada Oxley as Peggy Gray. Mr. Gifforde Reynolds furnishes a good impersonation of Samuel Lee; Miss Nellie Waddington as Mrs. Lee is well placed; Mr. Walle Spinner as Robert Denham is responsible for a reliable performance; and Mr. Wm. Burgess as the villainous Ernest Sylveston plays with considerable ability. Mr. Wallace Cowan is exceedingly amusing as the Hon. Bertie Boyes; and Miss Gertie Pawle, as Nancy's landlady, acquits herself creditably.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone. —Mr. Reginald Dance's company in *Raffles* is here. He himself in the title-rôle is exceptionally diverting, and Mr. Edward Irwin gives a fine performance of Mr. Curtis Bedford. Miss Katie Yates is a charming Gwendoline; Miss May Brooke a capable Mrs. Vidal; Mr. Briscoe Owen a good Harry Manders; and Mr. Rivers Bertram as Crawshay, Mr. Oswald Griffiths as Lord Amersteth, and Mr. Stanley Lathbury as Lord Crowley all distinguish themselves. Miss Rita Ward as Marie is seen to advantage.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The musical comedy, *A Trip to the Highlands*, is here this week. Mr. Wal Croft is a versatile and diverting Scottish comedian as the MacMutchkin, and Mr. Frank Barclay is very capable as the Hon. Fredk. Lackington. Miss Isa Bowman as the heroine, Miss Winnie, is artistic and smart; Miss Nellie Burdette is a winning Fannie; Miss Clara Moore a good Flora; and Mr. Willie Scott a capable valet. Misses Grace Desmond and Kate Robey and Messrs. Wellesley Smith, James Somerville, and Harry A. Gribben all do excellent work.

Tivoli Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Edgar Laban.—The Klein Family of cyclists do some clever things; the Maples in their latest success, *How to Treat a Burglar*, are popular; Whisper, comedy juggler, is responsible for some good tricks; Rosie Colema i is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; De Voy and Cameron are refined comedy artists; Harry Conlin is an amusing comedian; and Miss Bloom a good singer and dancer.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—A revival of *Our Flat* forms the bill for the current week. Mr. Rollo Balmain and Miss Sara Mignon are starred in the leading characters of Nathaniel Glover and Bella, each giving highly amusing impersonations of their rôles. Amongst the rest of the company by far the best acting is that of Mr. Percy Watson as Reginald Sylvester, who rattles through the embarrassments of the part in the true spirit of farce, receiving hard-working support from Miss Athole Robertson as Margery. An engaging Lucy McCullum is found in Miss Miriam Holt; Miss Vera Fordyce is satisfactory as Madame Volante; Mr. Wilfred Compton undertakes the light-hearted Clarence Vane with success, Mr. McCullum being enacted by Mr. G. Randall. In the dramatic playlet *One of the 93rd* Mr. Rollo Balmain is seen to advantage as Sergeant Branscombe, being assisted by Miss Athole Robertson (Nelly) and Mr. Wilfred Compton (Harry).

Palace Theatre. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—The feats of marksmanship by the Three Dreadnoughts are creating no little stir amongst local rifle shots this week, their exhibition being received with much applause. The sweet vocalism of Flora Leonard in "Roses blooming" and a Scotch medley is charming; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden appear in one of their smart little farces with capital results; Maude Vera, comedienne and dancer, has a taking manner and appearance; Harry Morgan, coloured comedian and dancer, is a great favourite; as is Harry Simms, a light comedian of promise; the Bros. Ashley, with Mr. Frank Yapp in his old part of the Barber, are once again giving their well-known boxing sketch *Next, Please;* Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are always of the best.

Assembly Rooms.—On Wednesday and Thursday the Brothers Howard gave their mystifying entertainment of silent telepathy, which aroused considerable curiosity as to "how it's done." Mr. E. Leslie Conroy was the business-manager.

Roman Promenade.—To-day marks the opening of the season of the famous Pump Room Orchestra, again under the musical directorship of Mr. Max Heymann. The vocalist engaged for the occasion is Miss Edith Clegg, the well-known ballad singer and light opera artist.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—There was a very hurricane of hearty, sustained, and infectious laughter at the above this week, caused by the antics of *The Dandy Doctor*, a three-act musical "something to laugh at," by Mr. Edward Marris. And it was Mr. Marris's excellent company who so ably presented the piece. As Ivy Pondered, Miss Ethel Ward is as dainty and delightful an actress as can be imagined; Miss Florence Smithers, an old favourite here, is exceedingly clever as the "general"; and Miss Rosie Chandler introduced some clever dances. Mr. James Danvers is the soul of humour as the tinned-meat millionaire; Mr. Herbert Pearce as Col. Pendered left nothing to be desired, and his song, "Roses," was deservedly encored. Mr. Walter Nugent was screamingly funny as the well-groomed Bertie Bolingbroke; and Mr. Leslie Winter was a capital hero.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. George Edwardes's company is here with the Chinese comic opera, *See-See*. The cast includes that delightful actress, Miss Denise Orme, who in her original part of See-See completely captivates all hearts. Mr. Leonard Mackay appears to much advantage as Yen, his fine baritone voice being heard with pleasure in several items; and who could desire a more droll impersonation of Hang Kee than that furnished by Mr. Frank Danby? Mr. W. H. Rawlins was also excruciatingly funny as Cheoo, and there was not a dull moment while he occupied the stage. Miss Maud Boyd was unfortunately unable through indisposition to appear on Monday, but her rôle of the fortune-teller, Mai Yai, was admirably sustained by Miss Lilian Hewitson. Mr. Ernest Freshwater was inimitable as Hang-Wang; and Miss Daisy, a pretty See, made quite a hit in the humorous scenes. Miss Dora Langham appeared as So-Hie, and her graceful dancing was much admired by all. Other rôles were cleverly sustained by Miss Octavia Barry, Miss Adeline Lester, and Messrs. E. Climpson, T. Birtley, &c. The excellent chorus and talented orchestra were under the able direction of Mr. Arthur Spittle.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris. —The chief attraction here is provided by the Colini Clarion Octette, who have made a great hit with their novelty, *The Artists' Festival*. Graham's Premier Juveniles are certainly a most excellent troupe of national singers and dancers; and Imro Fox, the original comic conjurer, contrives to keep the audience highly amused with his really entertaining act. The Osranis Troupe of Continental eccentrics create roars with their pantomimical absurdity, *Yvette's Birthday;* and Mr. Frank Harwood acquits himself with distinction in the scena, *My Pipe*. Also in the programme are the Fitzroys, society athletes; Miss Helen Martin, comedienne, and the Palace pictures.

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will Sley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Miss May Moore Duprez tops the bill, and this fascinating comedienne—whose Dutch impersonations are such a treat—has been most successful. The Hadji Mahomed troupe execute some marvellous tumbling feats; and Klein and Clifton, the American comedy duo, appear to the utmost advantage in their novel speciality act. Mlle. Sylvia's vocal tableaux is one of the best items on this excellent programme; and Mr. Gus Harris, as a Hebrew delineator, would be difficult to surpass. Miss Nellie Lunelle is a bright and clever comedienne; and also here are Mr. Albert Letine, impersonator and speciality artist; Eugene, comedy musical act; and the Hipposcope pictures, which are always a great attraction.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Mr. G. H. Elliott tops the bill, and his coon songs and dances have been accorded a good reception. Miss Harriett Vernon, the charming comedienne, delights all with her rendering of several songs; and Miss Ella Retford gains deserved encores for her clever treatment of catchy songs, while her dancing is certainly first-class. Fred Cullane and company produce with much effect their miniature musical comedy, *Pipple from Poppleton;* and Virto and Venitas's musical act is one of the best before the public. Rezene and Robins's gymnastic act is certainly par excellence; and also here are Howard and St. Clair in their sketch, and Mr. J. P. Ling, comedian and mimic.

New Alhambra Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Sinclair Neill.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company, under the personal direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, present here this week the ever-popular Irish drama, *The Shaughraun*. A feature of the piece is undoubtedly the droll impersonation of Con by Mr. Thomas H. Solly. A charming embodiment of Moya is submitted by Miss Nattie Crawford. The iniquities of Corry Kinchella are well portrayed by Mr. Wilford Cheetham, his acting throughout calling for high praise; and his coadjutor in crime, Danny Mann, was admirably represented by Mr. Cyril Grier. Mr. Fred Terriss plays the rôle of Captain Molyneux in manly style; and Miss Nina Blake-Adams delighted all with her charming impersonation of Claire Ffolliott. A word of praise is due to Mr. Ed. Smythe for his admirable impersonation of Robert Ffolliott; and Mr. Elmore Frith was Father Doolan to the life. Miss Kathleen Magee would be difficult to surpass as Arte O'Neale; and other rôles were sustained by Miss Alice Clarke (a capital Mrs. O'Kelly), Miss Louie Tetley, and Messrs. R. Gogan and J. E. Davies. The stage management was in the able hands of Mr. Tom H. Solly, and more than a passing word of praise is due to Mr. J. E. Davies for his admirable scenery, which certainly reflects much credit on him. The Alhambra Bioscope exhibits a fine picture this week, entitled Just in Time.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Battersby.—Yet another partly Russian drama comes to this house under the title of *The Woman from Scotland Yard*. Mr. Alex. C. Grant is responsible for his part of Paul Obanoff as well as the management of the company, and it is almost needless to state that his exertion in the rôle is as effective as his superintendence of the entire cast. He obtains excellent aid from Mr. George Henry Clive as Harry Stanhope. Miss Evelyn Clyde makes herself very useful as Edith Mayne, the title-character. Mr. Frank Lester as Sergius Strogoff and Miss Dorothy Wilkinson as Mary White appear successfully; and so do Mr. John L. Schofield as Ivan and Mr. Louis Newman as Algernon Fitzmaurice.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Secretary, Miss Isabel Morris.—Mr. Joseph Betts' company, in *The Prodigal Daughter*, forms an attractive entertainment. Mr. Charles Herberte is prominent with a capital performance of Sir John Woodmere; Mr. G. Clifton Boyne exhibits a thorough grasp of the part of Maurice Deepwater; Captain Harry Vernon is cleverly sustained by Mr. Frederick Harker; Mr. Lionel Attvill is well suited as the Hon. Julian Belford; and Mr. Sydney Lynn is a good Lord Banbury. The important rôle of Rose Woodmere is admirably undertaken by Miss Millie Ford; Violet Woodmere is suitably enacted by Miss Marjorie Davenport; and remaining rôles are in efficient hands. The play is produced with due regard to scenic effects.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Mr. Fred Karno's company, including Mr. Fred Kitchen in *The Bailiff*, are in the second week of a highly successful engagement, the house being packed twice nightly. Mr. Dan Crowley, a comedian of resource, is received with acclamation; and Miss Marie Blythe, an accomplished comedienne, is a general favourite; Haig and Novel, acrobatic and variety artists, present a capital turn; and Mr. Charlie Williams, negro comedian, Miss May Marton, comedienne, Mr. Fred Keeton, comedian, and Brown's Royal Bioscope are also prominent.

Olympian Gardens, Rock Ferry.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton.—The pierrot season here continues to be a success. This week's company comprises Mr. Charley Harvey, the droll; Mr. J. W. Hughes, basso vocalist; Mr. Norman Osborne, ventriloquist; Miss Emilie Tait, soprano; Mr. Harry Herbert, comedian; and Mr. J. A. Tunbridge, pianist.

The Tower, New Brighton.—Manager, Mr. William Holland.—Mr. John Tiller's sketch *The Alabama Coon* and the divertissement *Her Birthday* are prominent attractions during this, the last, week of the present season.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*Tom Jones*, Robert Courtneidge's brilliant success from the Apollo Theatre, is drawing the public here. Miss Ruth Vincent is with the company in her picturesque and inspiriting portrayal of Sophia; Mr. Dan Rolyat's peculiar form of humour as Partridge affords the utmost amusement; Miss Carrie Moore gives a charming performance as the maid, Honour; Mr. Harry Welchman acts the part and sings the songs allotted to the title-rôle with an air of distinction; Mr. Ambrose Manning's assumption of Squire Western is popular; Mr. J. L. Laurier is very successful with the rôle of Gregory; and Messrs. John Morley and Arthur Soames as Mr. Allworthy and Blifil respectively, act in strict accordance with the spirit of the play; Miss Dora Rignold shows dramatic ability as Lady Bellaston; and the general support is excellent, while the scenery and dresses evoke great praise.

Prince of Wales's Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*Liberty Hall* on Monday once more showed that clever and esteemed comedian, Mr. Edward Terry, in his popular part of the quaint old bookseller, Todman. Mr. Terry was pathetic and humorous in turns, after his own inimitable, convincing style; Mr. Thos. Holding was a very manly and satisfactory hero as "Mr. Owen," otherwise Sir Hartley Chilworth; Mr. B. A. Pittar gave a good account of himself as Harringay; Mr. William Dexter played the difficult rôle of Brigginshaw in a very capable manner; Miss Marion Ripley marked the transition in character of Blanche Chilworth with rare charm; Miss Evelyn Ormonde was effective as Amy; Miss Eugenie Vernie gave a clever piece of low-comedy acting as Crafer; and the other parts were well done. Since Monday Mr. Terry has delighted his admirers with *Sweet Lavender*, *The Magistrate*, *The Rocket*, and *Paul Pry*.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood.—*The Stepmother* is winning fame here, with Mr. William Holles, Miss Nannie Goldman, and company. Mr. Holles as the captain, Bob Bristow, gives an impersonation which finds much favour with the audience; Miss Goldman as the son, Danny, has a keen grip of the part; Miss Winifred Symonds as the wife, Amy, displays a clever capacity for pathos; Miss Phyllis Manners as the stepmother, Anna Vickers, duly emphasises the malevolence of the character; Mr. Murray Yorke is well placed in the part of the detective, David Blake; Mr. Arthur Rodney exercises a commanding influence on the play as Abraham Wiggins; Mr. William Macready combines the rôle of stage manager with that of Luke Trixel, of which he makes a clever character study; Mr. Fred Dark brings humorous relief as Timothy Yapp; Miss Ida Taylor is successful as Clara; Miss Florence Harcourt is a lively Johanna Jones; and the remaining parts are also well played.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*Home, Sweet Home* is the theme here, played by Mr. Frank Lindo, Miss Marion Wakeford and company. Mr. Lindo gets rapt attention and much enthusiasm for his earnest acting as Stephen, the husband; Miss Wakeford is intense and emotional in a very clever way as Joan; Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle makes a successful appeal as the old fisherman, David Armitage; Capt. Gerald Gambier makes a dignified rôle of the Duke of Ancaster; Mr. F. Miles Hodgson is successful in a subtle way as the secretary, Lucas Lyle; Mr. Geo. Overs is forceful and sympathetic as Dick Redmayne; Mr. T. Armitage as the Hon. Percy as Miss Ray Rochefort as Sybil Fay lend acceptable humour to the scenes; and Mr. Ernest E. Owens, Miss Hetty Webster, and Miss Daisy Rochefort are well suited to their rôles.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*Dan, the Rake*, is received here with tears, cheers, and laughter, for the excellent humour and pathos it contains. Mr. Martin Cross's company is responsible, and Mr. Cecil Morand in the title-rôle provides a perfect feast with his clever songs and diverting acting of the rôle; Miss Gertrude Walsey as his vis-à-vis, Madge, also sings and acts with great vivacity and talent; Mr. Stephen Crossley does excellently in the serious and heroic rôle of Lieut. Kavanagh; Mr. George H. Doyle has a steady grip of the audience as the villain, Captain Cooper; Mr. John S. Sheridan is quite perfect as Col. Flamer; and Messrs. Walter Clarke, Albert Verner, and George Nelson Wallace ably fill their positions; Miss Florence Halton as Helen wins much affection; Miss Rose Carew gives a clever sketch of Dan's Mother, Mrs. Donnelly; and the mounting is very good.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. B. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles. — *The Traitor* is once more playing to excellent business here with Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company. Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan enacts the title-rôle, the traitor Chief, with great skill; Mr. Graham Woods makes an interesting character of the Crown Prince, Rudolph; Mr. Wilton Reed is most reliant as General Hertz; Mr. Alf Richards is resourceful as Captain Ross; Mr. Edward Duff acts well as General Franz; Miss Marie Robson gives a strikingly dramatic impersonation of Zula; Miss Gwynne Warren enacts the Countess of Zicka in clever style; Miss Lilian Matthews contributes a good portrayal of Elsie Dupres; Miss Jessica Black renders valuable aid as "the little martyr"; and the humorous passages are played in a bright and entertaining manner by Mr. Val Gully as Jack Boult, and Miss Polly Denville as Cen-Cen; assisted by Mr. Henry Heller as the rival, Zoff.

Empire.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham. —The bill this week boasts of several star turns, of which top place must be given to Bert Gilbert, who gives an idea of a drunken kangaroo with great success; Alice Lloyd, the chic comedian, ranks next, with some very pretty songs, which are well rendered; the Casey Army also prove a big draw. A neat turn is given by J. A. Wilson as a recruiting sergeant, with a remarkably intelligent dog as a private; the Parisian mimic, O'Gust, proves very entertaining, as usual; and the McNaughtons are as drolly quarrelsome as ever; Orpheus shows himself to be a master of melody, as he is aptly described; and the evolutions of Grik Bros. are worthy of praise; Mr. Walter King, comedian, also does well.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thos. Barresford.—Music reigns supreme at this house, under the able direction of Master Max Darewski, the youngest composer, conductor, and pianist in the world; another musical turn is provided by Birmingham's old favourites, the Bensons, who are appearing in a scena, entitled *The Page and the Maid;* Jack Collinson's Troupe, in their screaming farce, *The Topsy-turvy School*, provide plenty of fun; and the Hartfords exhibit some very clever acrobatic feats, in which a bicycle takes part; Arthur Reece has a capital song, "Bohemia," of which he makes the most; and Arthur Albert is also high in favour. Agnes Asher is a very dainty singer; while Nash and Noel provide the fun; Ted Cowan and Bert Brantford, comedians, complete a capital programme.

Gaiety.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—One of the many good items on the bill here is a capital sketch, *The Bank Clerks*, which is produced by Charles Baldwin and a clever company of comedians; a welcome return visit is that of Harry Champion, who has several new songs; Swan and Vesta produce a pretty little sketch, *In Nelson's Days;* and the Howards appear in an original turn, entitled *Military Mad*. A musical scena by Bosanquet, and several other good turns complete the bill.

Bordesley Palace.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—The Violas (the White Mahatmas) are mystifying Palace audiences with a performance similar to that of the Zancigs; T. E. Dunville, in his own inimitable style, provides unlimited mirth; Mysterious Mr. C. tells some funny stories, which are heartily appreciated; Max Gruber and Miss Adelaide present a clever animal combination; a sketch by Johnson and Bert, entitled *A Queer Customer*, and another by the Honyns, *The Fancy Baker*, are very well received; and Maude Courtenay, soubrette, sings very prettily.

Curzon Hall.—Animated pictures still continue to attract large audiences with up-to-date films, Chain-making at Cradley Heath being extremely interesting to Birmingham people. The musical part of the show is provided by Miss La Clair, illustrated songster, and Mr. William Kingsley with selections on a peal of silver bells.

King's Hall has been established permanently in the town by Messrs. Moore and Kennedy, with a good show of animated photography, and variety artists, and is successful in obtaining audiences at three performances daily.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — Eden Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones' company is here this week, in *When Other Lips*. The part of Ted Daunton is creditably sustained by Mr. T. Arthur Jones; Mr. Edwin J. Collins as Basil Cunningham is satisfactory; Mr. Albert H. Clarke presents Robert Lingley capably; and Mr. W. S. Parkes does well as Phylocrates B. Jenkins; Messrs. David Hamilton, Hyland O'Shea, Robert A. Felton, and Miss Lucy Murray, in the respective parts of Duddle Topwash, Tommy Neccles, and Ginger and Kitty Topwash, cause great merriment.

BLACKBURN. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—Mr. Frederick Mouillot's company are proving a capital attraction, in *The Blue Moon*. The part of Childra Nil, Blue Moon, is prettily taken by Miss Kathleen Severn, whose singing and acting are both excellent; Mr. Charles T. Howard is good as Captain Jack Ormsby, and he also sings exceedingly well; Mr. Robert Brog gave a realistic representation of Prince Badahur Sanatsinghi. The chorus is strong, and the piece is excellently staged.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred Somerfield's company are appearing here in the drama, *The Tyrant*.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Among the artists here is Miss Dot Stephens, whose first appearance in the town it is since she recovered from her terrible accident. She is well received in her little sketch, *What is Home?* Another capital turn is that of Alice Raymond and her musicians, who appear in a picturesque musical scena, entitled *A Night in Egypt;* Will Van Allen, musical comedian, Lawson and Namon, speciality artists, Will Gardner, skate dancer, and W. B. Roby, comedian, contribute to a capital programme.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—*The Bondman*, played by Mr. George D. Day's company, is drawing big houses here this week. The engagement is all the more attractive by reason of the fact that Mr. Frank Cooper appears in his original part of Jason, and fully maintains his high reputation. Greeba is capitally played by Miss Ida Phillips; Mr. Henry Doughty makes a good Michael Sunlocks; Father Ferrati is capably impersonated by Mr. Gilbert Yorke; Mr. Edward Gee plays with distinction the part of Dr. Boni; and Mr. Adam Alexander as Adam Fairbrother and Mrs. Edwin Palmer as Mrs. Fairbrother likewise merit approbation. The staging is a special feature.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Mr. George Dance's company is reaping a good harvest here this week with *Miss Hook of Holland*. In Mr. Leslie Holland the important part of Mr. Hook has a tip-top exponent; whilst the title-rôle is played by Miss Deborah Volar in a manner most bewitching. Miss Mabel Sealby does well as Mina; Miss Barbara Dunbar is exactly suited to the part of Gretchen; Messrs Frederick Hobbs, George Ide, and Arthur Harrold find congenial parts as officers of the Mounted Artillery; and credit is also due to Mr. Charles D. Cleveland, who plays Ludwig Schnapps, and to Mr. Fred Lyne for his Simon Slinks—a very clever character sketch. The quaint dances are warmly appreciated.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The programme here this week is replete with turns of unusual excellence. Bransby Williams, who tops the bill, meets with an ovation nightly. Sid May, who occupies the second place, likewise comes in for a most cordial reception at every performance; Muir and Bartlett find favour with an amusing sketch; Prince Kuroki proves himself to be a clever conjurer; Shirley and Ransome present their very popular coster sketch; the Vernon Quartette fully merit the hearty plaudits bestowed on them for the tuneful and highly artistic manner in which they sing several well-known ballads; Carpo Bros. give a clever equilibristic exhibition; Sinclair and Parr are favourite comedians and vocalists; and Will Haines is an able character comedian.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. T. P. Duignan.—Although this is the last week of the season, the bill contains some very good names. Lalie Brooke, in an original scena, entitled *Girls, Past and Present;* the Stanley Four, in a musical comedy, and the Three Phydoras, in an eccentric musical novelty act, are the chief stars. The other contributors are Ada Martine, comedienne; Charles Batchelor, vocalist; Maud and Sidney Wood, duettists and dancers; Robb Gilmore, comedian; Pearl Mystr, conjurer; Steeley and Dowton, comedians; and Marie Gibson, a sweet singer.

North Pier Pavilion.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. James Walker.—Mr. Harrison Hill gives his recital, *Mirth and Music*, here this week with great success.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—*The Blind Foundling*, on a return visit, has proved a strong attraction here, Mr. Harry Tilbury's excellent company being responsible for the production.

Gaiety.—Lessee and Manager, Mr George E. Good.—The Attillor Bros., in feats of strength, are the chief item. Marie Liston poses as the ideal principal boy, and has a good reception; Sinclair, in a juggling act, does well; the Sandows, in Olympian games, render a pleasing turn; the Clarkes are good fun-providers; Maudie Clifton, comedienne; J. F. Ellis, comedian; and the Bendons, in song-scena, also appear

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. B. Lloyd.—*Peter's Mother* was submitted for the first time to a Bolton audience on Monday last by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. Miss Violet Ley delights her audiences with her charming and dignified portrayal of Lady Mary Crewys; Mr. E. F. Meads was successful as the selfish and arrogant Peter, whose father, Sir Timothy Crewys, had an excellent representative in Mr. Ernest Rusten; Mr. Henry Renouf acts with great dramatic power as John Crewys, Q.C., and evoked enthusiastic applause in his stirring scene with Peter in Act III; Miss Hilda Sims made a bright and winsome Sarah Hewell; Mr. William Mallalieu's Canon Birch and Mr. Townsend Whitling's Dr. Blundell were good character studies; and Miss Eileen Barry was effective as Mrs. Hewell; while Miss Evelyn Shelley as Lady Belstone and Miss Mallalieu as Miss Georgina Crewys were delightfully entertaining. The comedy is preceded nightly by a one-act play, *Chalk and Cheese*.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—The attractions here comprise a return visit by the Dandies, who appear in a musical mélange, entitled *Song, Mirth, and Dance;* Sylvia Martin, with her Arabian mare and dogs; George Young, blind musician and concertinist; Alice York, supported by Mr. Royston Keith, in a duologue, *A Yacht for Sale;* F. V. St. Clair, versatile and extempore comedian; Lady Julia, "the ape with a human brain"; Mark Merry, quaint comedian, in *Mirthful Melancholy;* the Narow Bros., comedy cyclists, and the Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE. — MUNCASTER THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmott; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—The Muncaster stock company are this week presenting *Jane Shore* to crowded houses. Mr. Stanley S. Gordon is a good John Milverton; and Mr. H. Arnold Allen is well placed as Lord Hastings. Mr. Alfred D. Adams is seen to advantage as Richard, Duke of Gloucester; Miss Nina Vaughton is a capable Jane Shore; and Miss Lilian Radbourne a good Queen Elizabeth. Miss Effie Macintosh scores in the part of Drusilla.

BOSCOMBE. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—The premier position on the bill here is occupied by the Achmed Ibrahim troupe of Bedouin Arabs, whose acrobatic feats command much applause. Howard and Collinson present a neat little comedy and dancing act, entitled *The Porter and the Parcel;* Henry A. Moore, actor-mimic, is exceptionally clever; Janet Hall, lady baritone, is gifted with a fine voice; Cole and Rags are a pair of eccentric jugglers; Frank Cass is a popular vocal comedian; the Brothers Hayes, Australian humorists, cause much laughter; and the Hippodrome pictures still prove an attraction.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company are paying a return visit with *Peter's Mother*, which is drawing large audiences. Miss Lilias Earle, in the name-part, is highly successful; Mr. Percy Hutchison as Peter repeats a clever sketch; Mr. Alfred Bucklaw is really excellent as John Crewys; while Mr. Charles Harley as Sir Timothy is very well cast. Miss Mary Griffiths as Lady Belstone, Miss Annie Stalman as Miss Crewys, and Mr. F. G. Thurstans as Canon Birch complete a strong company.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager Mr. J. Richardson.—On Monday night last Mr. Hart presented his magnificent revival of *As You Like It* to a very large and highly appreciative audience. Mr. Gerald Lawrence gave a finished and highly artistic performance of the part of Orlando, and the brilliant performance of Miss Fay Davis as Rosalind was marked by much grace and sweetness; Mr. William Farren, jun., earned well-merited applause for a well-studied performance of the character of the melancholy Jaques; Touchstone was quaintly and cleverly played by Mr. Harry Paulton; there was much charm in Miss Valerie Salberg's acting as Celia; Mr. John Nesbitt as the Duke, and Mr. Francis Chamier as Frederick, left nothing to be desired; Mr. Fred Percy effectively filled the part of Charles; Miss Violet Chamier made an acceptable Audrey; Adam was excellent in Mr. Orlando Bennett's hands; and the other parts were well filled. The forest scenery and sylvan surroundings are beautiful, and Mr. Edward German's incidental music is well rendered.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—*The Girl who took the Wrong Turning*, another of Mr. Walter Melville's very striking dramas, is being played for the first time here this week, and its reception is very cordial. The company is a good one, and as Sophie, the country girl, whose doings suggest the title of the piece, Miss Rona Merrick acts sympathetically and with grace. She has good support. As her good sister Lucy Miss Hilda Baynton earns distinction; Miss Nannie Meade is fairly impressive as the mysterious Vesta le Clere; and very brightly Miss Marie Kildare fills the part of the good-hearted Poppy Fitzgerald; Mr. Roy Redgrave gives a good breezy performance of the tender-hearted tar Willie Mason; Mr. Kenneth Black is good as Richard Fenton; Mr. Walter Thornton is effective as the undiscovered criminal James Harcourt; Mr. Sidney Sarl fills the character-part of Bill Slater well; and as Johnny Walker Mr. W. Reid is in evidence.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—A very welcome return visit is being paid here this week by Happy Fanny Fields, who is as bright and merry as ever in her Dutch character sketches; De Gracia's wonderfully trained performing elephants go through an astonishing performance as cricketers and football players to great applause; Ben Albert's comedy and humour are very laughter-provoking and original; and there is much humour in Vanando's turn as a ventriloquial barber. *Aunt Matilda* is a very funny sketch, submitted by Frank Elliston and company; Rich and Rich submit a turn full of capital comedy; there are some clever dancing and singing by the agile Imperial Russian Troupe in national dress; Elsie Roby as a comedy pianiste "The Slavey" is good; in *Fun at a Railway Station*, Farley, Rennie, and Farley go through some clever acrobatic dancing; and Grace Merton, the street singer, earns plaudits for her well-rendered soprano songs.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harrison.—Shirley Liggins and company are here with the pleasing turn, with good part-singing, *Farmyard Pastimes;* Sadie Simpson, comedienne, and Tom Yorke, comedian, both provide excellent and acceptable turns; and there is much quaintness in the style of Coverdale, the comedian. In the speciality turn by Bert Coote's Yankee Doodle Girls there is plenty of dash and "go." A very notable contributor to the programme is Anthony, the conjurer, the "Swanky-Swankier," who is smart; Cullen and Carthy (with Little Cluley) are very amusing; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux show some good pictures.

BRIDLINGTON.—NEW SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. Henry Hague.—Mr. Hague has afforded the patrons of the new theatre a great treat by the engagement of Mr. Herbert Ralland's company in *La Poupée*, in which Mr. Fred Seymour gives a most finished rendering of Hilarius; Miss Alice Rocke plays the part of Alesia in just the right vein; Mr. Arthur Cozens is admirable as Lancelot; and Mr. Walter Balfour's fine baritone voice is heard to advantage in the part of Father Maxime.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The Flockton-Foster Entertainers, who have been such a great success during the season, and Mr. Will H. Emerson, of the Loyal Dominion Animated Picture Company, who has given such delight to thousands of visitors, were accorded a complimentary benefit on Friday night (20th), when they were rewarded with a crowded house in the Grand Pavilion, and had the assistance of a host of talent, including Mr. Flockton-Foster's musical play, *A Country Comedy;* Mr. Charles Beanland and Mr. Bob White, in humorous items; Mr. Harry Thornton, baritone; that clever little artist, Miss Dolly Palmer, in a special song and dance; and Will Erardo, harpist. The Loyal Dominion Animated Pictures were a source of delight, and the Waterloo Pierrots played one of their laughable farces.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS. — General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Harry Hague.—Mr. Andie Caine and his pierrots are giving some capital programmes here this week. Mr. Caine's songs and dances are cleverly rendered. Mr. Percy Loftus is amusing in his various items; Mr. Victor Denning renders nicely some capital baritone songs; Mr. Joseph Bell and Mr. Kenneth Scott are loudly applauded for their numbers; and Mr. Ernest Westley is an efficient pianist and accompanist. The sketches are well put on and capitally played.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—This is the last week of the popular Waterloo Pierrots, and they are still a big draw to this popular resort. The songs and concerted numbers are admirably given, and the Pierrots' sketches and burlesques are most amusing. Wednesday night was a specially attractive one, and the programme included a grand beauty show, for which valuable prizes were awarded to the prettiest ladies competing.

BRIGHTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—The Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company opened a week's engagement here on Monday. *Tannhäuser* was announced for the initial performance, but on the termination of the opening scene of the first act further representation of the opera was abandoned, Mr. Julius Walther, who was suffering from a sudden attack of hoarseness, being unable to continue his enactment of the title-rôle. The overture had been played superbly, and Miss Amy Rolda had sung admirably as Venus. Mr. Walter Van Norden, in a short speech, claimed the indulgence of the audience, and announced that the last four acts of *Faust* would be performed. Owing to the excellence of the local stage-management, only twenty minutes' delay occurred, and a fine rendering of the greater portion of Gounod's popular opera was given. Miss Grace Nicoll sang and acted with distinct success as Marguerite; Mr. Edward Davies acquitted himself admirably as Faust, and sang superbly; Mr. Arthur Winckworth fairly surpassed himself as Mephistopheles; and Mr. Dillon Shallard was highly effective as Valentine. Miss Edith Alvord as Siebel, Miss Douglas Wilson as Martha, and Mr. Alec Richard as Wagner gave excellent support. The choruses were well sung, the orchestra displayed sterling work, and the duties of conductor were ably carried out by Mr. Eugene Goossens. The programmes for the week included *Carmen, Rigoletto, Il Trovatore, Don Giovanni, Lohengrin*, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. The performances have attracted large audiences.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company is here this week with *Her Road to Ruin*. Miss Eva Moss submits a very fine impersonation of Jess Willoughby; Mr. Robert Faulkner gives an excellent enactment of the Rev. Frank Temple; Mr. Alex. Bradley acts with great skill as the villainous Philip Hardy; Mr. J. Knox Orde is admirably suited as Tom Wells; Miss Alice Bowes makes a charming May Willoughby; Mr. Arthur Byron as Billy Boots, and Miss Marie Wright as Jennie Crackling are very amusing; Miss Nellie Bonsor appears with great success in a triple rôle; and Mr. Dane Clarke as the Bishop also merits commendation. The drama is well staged.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is an excellent company here this week. Kitty Gordon is a great favourite, and in her latest successes the popular songstress wins very hearty applause; Lillian is a clever cyclist; the Burnells are well received in their musical and comedy sketch *On the Links;* Eric gives a novel ventriloquial entertainment; Meier and Mora are very effective in a pot-pourri turn; the Two Bostons, as the novelty showmen, merit praise; Harry Seymour is a capital impersonator; Emmie Milsted and Joe Bell appear in a pleasing Indian musical comedy-scena, *The Belle of Arizona;* Frank Lynne, the "funnymatograph," is very diverting; and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A very attractive programme is sustained here this week. *The Fourteen Black Hussars*, submitted by Lasky, Rolfe, and company—a coloured musical organisation—is a distinctly clever and original entertainment, which is warmly appreciated; Austin Rudd is very humorous, and is especially effective in a parody on "The Zuyder Zee"; Sinclair and Whiteford, accomplished society entertainers, are very amusing in *Getting Even;* Vaughan Williams' company win hearty applause in the bright musical mélange *Willie off the Yacht;* Ted E. Box is a lively comedian and gifted siffleur; Roma and Romani are effective in a musical act; Bert Williams is a very clever ventriloquist; Mike Cray, comedy juggler, is very diverting; the Sisters Brooke are dainty vocalists and dancers; the Vyponds, society entertainers, give a capital turn; Harris and Worth, sporting comedians, are cordially applauded; and the Barrascope pictures are entertaining.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here this week with *Dr. Wake's Patient*. Mr. Cecil du Gué gives an admirable representation of Dr. Forrester Wake; Miss Marie Leonhard imparts great charm to her portrayal of Lady Gerania Wyn-Charteret; Mr. H. Carnelly-Joye is amusing as Duff Wynterden; Miss Lilyan Lait is capitally suited as the Countess; Mr. Thomas W. Ford's Andrew Wake is a masterly character study; while Mr. Albert Bernard's Bishop of Selby, Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald's Harriet Bronson, Miss Dorothy Mayhew's Mrs. Murdoch, Miss Annie Travers' Mrs. Wake, and Mr. Walter Russell's Earl of St. Olbyn are well played.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope proves very attractive here, the pictures being interesting and also very humorous. The comic songs of Mr. Frank Fagan and the pleasing ditties of Miss Marie Yorke add materially to the success of the afternoon and evening entertainments.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. George Alexander's company is here with *John Glayde's Honour*, which is admirably staged. Mr. Philip Cuningham acts excellently as John Glayde; Miss Auriol Lee is exceptionally clever in the difficult part of Muriel Glayde; Mr. H. G. Bentley presents a telling exposition of Trevor Lerode; Miss Beatrice Smith is effective as Princess de Castagnary; Miss Gwynneth Galton avails herself of all opportunities as Lady Lerode; Miss Dorothy Moore-Lane makes the most of Mrs. Rennick; and Miss Mary Sumner is pleasing as Dora Longman. Howard Collingham, Christopher Branley, and Michael Shurmur have satisfactory exponents in Mr. E. C. Vaughan, Mr. Cecil Bevan, and Mr. Cyril Cattley; Mr. Frank Elton does well as Walters; and Mr. Alfred Lugg and Mr. Walton Palmer, as the two servants, complete a capital cast.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Ally.—The Lyceum success, *Her Love Against the World*, is being played here by Messrs. Hallatt and Howard's company, the drama being staged satisfactorily. Miss Grace Heywood is pleasing in every way as the Princess Iris, displaying power when required; Mr. Frank E. Petley acts admirably as Eric, Earl of Strathmere; Miss Rosie St. John is an interesting and capable exponent of Lionel; Mr. Mayor-Cooke is consistent as Ulric; Mr. W. H. Hallatt is decidedly good as Prince Othmar; Mr. Fred Emery makes a dignified Prince Maurice; Miss Gertrude Price is effective as Shulah; and the comic parts of Henrick, Fritz, Katinka, and Gretchen are capitally taken by Mr. Henry B. Lewis, Mr. Fulton Millar, Miss Lizzie Lennon, and Miss Hettie Ferguson.

PALACE. — Resident - Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Fred Storey and company are here with *Rip Van Winkle*, which is well mounted and carefully played. Winifred Hare presents a pleasing turn; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lucas please with their scenes from Dickens; Jimmie Laurie, patter comedian, obtains applause; Marriott Edgar, comedian, has a good reception; Victoria Dagmar is exceptionally clever in her horizontal bar act; Irene Rose, comedienne, is successful with her monologue, *The First Engagement;* Starr and Leslie score in a speciality act; and the performance concludes with interesting animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Lelia Roze, comedienne, is highly successful here with her musical quick-change scena, *A Dressing-room Dream*, for which she obtains much well-deserved applause; the Eight Varsity Girls present an artistic turn of song and dance; Bertha Norwood, soubrette and dancer, does an attractive turn; Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard have a good comedy sketch in *Coming Home;* Montague Biggs, female impersonator, is successful in a speciality; Nevil Graham and company have a good dramatic item in *The Man in the Street;* the Sisters Hall are effective duettists; Vasey and Ramsey score in a quaint comedy and table dancing act, *Jerks the Butler;* and Harry Lawson, comedian, obtains appreciation. The performance concludes with animated pictures.

COLSTON HALL.—Ralph Pringle's animated pictures continue to attract good houses, the films embracing every variety of subject. The chrono-megaphone production of Harry Lauder's songs obtains much appreciation. Included in the variety entertainment are the Sisters Judge's trained cockatoos; and Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, vocalists and cardboard box makers.

DRILL HALL.—The Royal Italian Circus continues to attract a very large attendance at each performance. The entertainment is in every way pleasing, all the animals being admirably trained.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*The Belle of New York*, with its new features and new costumes, was well received on Monday night. Mr. Paddy Dupres is very amusing as Ichabod Bronson; the younger Bronson is well sustained by Mr. Ernest Moyar; Miss Hebe Kneller, in the title-rôle sings sweetly, and a most vivacious Mamie Clancy is presented by Miss Florence Hersee, who is a charming dancer; Miss Olive Lenton sustains the part of Fifi admirably; Mr. Frank Lawton's whistling and acting of Blinky Bill gain much applause; Miss Winnie Browne as Cora Angelique, Mr. Alfred Sandoe as Doc Snifkins, and Mr. Walter Bridge as Mugg are an amusing trio; Mr. J. A. Watt and Mr. Ray L. Cody as the French twins cause much laughter; Mr. Jos. R. Tate is very funny as Karl Von Pimpernick. The choruses, under the direction of Mr. B. J. Paterson, are well rendered.

BURNLEY. — VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—*The Swiss Express* is causing much laughter here this week. The acrobatic work is capably maintained, and the pretty music is very pleasing. Messrs. C. and F. Renad as John and James keep the audience convulsed with laughter; as Dr. Gull Mr. Wilfrid Brandon is seen to great advantage; in the character of Virginia, Miss Celestine Brandon, with her graceful manner, completely wins the audience; Bob Rollingstone is a character admirably undertaken by Mr. Basil Reynolds; and Dudley Green is well portrayed by Mr. Alec Wylie.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The top of the bill is occupied here this week by the Four Rio Brothers, clever gymnasts; Captain Harris's Comedy Five introduce a most acceptable sketch, with dancing and boxing; George Goodfellow and Jennie Gregson are funny in a smart little comedy; and Harry Bickley has a novel humorous lecture; Maxford and O'Neill are funny patterers; and the Fimans, in a fire station scene, have some good jokes; Captain Harris's boxing competition causes much laughter; Rosa Tilley sings pleasingly; and a funny picture by the Empire Theatroscope completes the bill.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. Clifford King.—J. C. Boswell's Stage Circus (consisting of highly-trained ponies, dogs, and donkey) meets with hearty applause; a clever and pleasing show is given by the Maximilian Trio, their balancing powers being really marvellous; Rowland Hill soon sings himself into favour, his patter and get-up causing much merriment; Claire Tastings, the possessor of a good voice, meets with a hearty reception; a clever comedy act, entitled *The Doctor and the Patient*, is well played by Helm and Cozens; Rubie and Elsie Rerfern, lady banjoists, vocalists, and dancers, prove themselves clever artists; and Daisy Morell captures the house with her coon and other songs. The Operascope is in evidence with some of the latest.

BURY (LANCS.).—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Frank Marks.—Mr. Fred Karno's company are playing *Saturday to Monday* here this week. The piece is full of good fun. The principal parts are played by Mr. Rolando Martin as John W. Jaggo, Mr. Dick Harcourt as Major Potts, Mr. Fred Palmer as Alphonse, Mr. Victor Crawford as Jaggs, jun., Miss Ada Maskell as Mrs. Coppall, Miss Amy Rogerson as Clorinda Blake, and Miss Ethel Beech.

THE HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—A good programme is presented here by Mr. R. C. Matthews and company in a farce entitled *The Will;* Gustave's company of comedians in a pantomime sketch of *Cinderella;* the Fullers, a good crowd of juveniles; Correze and Keith, jugglers and comedians; Hector and Paulas, acrobats; Moon and Morris, dancers; Harry Leaton, vocal comedy man; and Dolly Ross, singer and dancer.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Messrs. Garside and Knowle's company opened here on Monday night for the week with the sensational drama, *Her Marriage Vow*. Miss Ruth Shepherd is the heroine of the play, and the part of Kate Walters showed her to be a most painstaking actress; Mr. Edward L. Garside as Gilbert Carlton made an excellent villain; Mr. George Beverley was specially good as Ned Burton; and Mr. J. Forbes Knowles gave a clever representation of Daffy Dan; Miss Nellie Garside made a charming Maggie Clare. The remainder of the cast was safe in the hands of Mr. John W. Ryan, Mr. Dan Ryan, Mr. Wilford Bailey, Mr. Walter Wilby, Mr. John Herdman, Miss Nellie Shirley, and Miss Anna Beaumont.

CARDIFF.—NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—A return visit is this week being paid by the Charles Cartwright and A. B. Tapping Co., who presents, with much success, the ever-welcome *David Copperfield*, and an appreciative audience gave a flattering reception to the artists on Monday night. Mr. Cartwright's impersonation of Dan'l Peggotty is a powerful piece of acting, and evoked genuine admiration; Miss May Yates submits a delightful rendition of Little Em'ly; Mr. A. B. Tapping, as Uriah Heep, gives an exceptionally realistic performance; Mr. Arthur Royston proves his ability in the part of Steerforth; while the popular Mr. Charles Collette is again seen in his well-sustained interpretation of Mr. Micawber. Mr. M. A. Wetherall submits a faithful rendition of David Copperfield; Miss Edith Cartwright is seen to decided advantage as Rosa Dartle; and Mr. Allan Pollock deserves praise for his representation of Ham. Other parts are capably filled, and the whole performance is enthusiastically received.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company presents this week the stirring drama *Greed of Gold*. Mr. A. G. Stretton plays with sincerity and earnestness the part of Arthur Erroll; Mr. E. J. Preston gives an excellent study of the rascally Harry Hood; a capital delineation of the racing tipster, Cully Sing, is submitted by Mr. Sydney Bryant; and Mr. Bert Fox acts the difficult rôle of Tom Walstead to perfection. Miss Amy Venimore is a graceful Dora Hood, and Miss Annie Barclay a dignified Mrs. Maxwell; Miss May Eddie offers a winning portrayal of Cecil Hood; Mr. Denis Campbell, as Con Creamer, provides much merriment, excellent assistance being rendered by Miss Cissy Murdock as Patty Mayfield. All the other parts are in exceedingly capable hands.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—An item of considerable interest at the Empire this week is the wrestling performance of the Cossack, Ivan Padoubny, who creates much excitement in the locality by his sensational challenges and wrestling bouts; another turn which is greatly appreciated is that of the charming comedienne, Lil Hawthorne; Dutch Daly, with his inseparable concertina, proves entertaining; Rossi Ashton, the eminent London artist and war correspondent, provides a novel speciality, *Song Sketching;* while Signor and Madame Borelli, in "catchy" tit-bits, win flattering applause. The Malvilles, the Lilliputian Actors, Marie Reeve (a pleasing comedienne), Westland (Scotch comedian), and the up-to-date Bioscope pictures complete a varied programme. An augmented performance is being arranged in celebration of the anniversary night on Oct. 1.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Barton.—At the head of the bill this week the Six Brothers Luck present *The Hotel Grande*, which was the occasion of uproarious mirth on the part of a packed audience. The Juanitas, Spanish acrobats, give a performance that is certainly marvellous; and another meritorious turn is that of Elton and Elma in their comedy triple bar act. As an expert dancer, Marie Neilson would be hard to beat; while Horace Lane is a comedian of the first water. Other items given by McDonald and Huntington, American entertainers; Lynch, the man with the educated feet; and the usual Bio-Tableaux pictures.

CARLISLE.—H. M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Mr. Thos. Courtice and Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Thos. Courtice.—The visit of *A Country Girl* has created great interest, and the house was packed in every part on the opening night. Mr. Charles Macdona is responsible for the production, and he has brought a most capable company. Mr. Anthony Gordon, who appears as Geoffrey Chaloner, has a fine baritone voice, which he uses with the utmost effect; Mr. Helier Le Maistre, who has also a voice of exceptional power, was seen to much advantage as the Rajah; Mr. Brown Elliot was quite successful as Sir Joseph Verity; and Mr. Coningsby Brierley, a bright and attractive comedian, made a big hit as Barry, his dancing being particularly neat and lively. As Marjorie Miss May Rawlinson contributed a delightful performance, and sang sweetly; a pert and agreeable impersonation of Sophie by Miss Poppy Wilkinson met with great favour; Miss Ellaline Thorne as Nan soon became a warm favourite by reason of her dainty dancing and lively singing; and the Princess had a clever representative in Miss Nellie Deveney, whose charming vocalism was one of the most popular items of the performance. The minor characters were well cast, and the mounting and dressing good.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The Paxton Trio of head and hand balancers give a remarkable show; J. W. Rickaby, a great favourite here, scores heavily; Walker and Lake submit a clever, funny, and original patter act; Frazer and Haley are contralto vocalists of a high standard; the Bohemians, instrumentalists, are smart, and meet with a good reception; the Three San Remo Girls present a neat dancing act; Lillie Le Breton, trapeze artist, is much appreciated; and the Pepiscope projects some good pictures.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman.—Mr. Harry Foxwell and company are appearing here this week in *A Broken Heart*. Mr. Harry Cullenford as John Barnard has a part of which he makes the most. Mrs. Harry Foxwell is an admirable Mary Barnard; Mr. Harry Foxwell as the Rev. Mr. Staunton brings the part into due prominence; Stephen Raylton is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Geo. M. Newall; Mr. Chas. Vivian is responsible for a well-studied sketch of the drunken reprobate, Gash Gills; Miss Margaret Thorne gives a capable impersonation of Mrs. Barnard; Mr. Will Lindsay is successful in causing laughter as Tony Tibbets; Miss Maud Stuart gives a pleasing portraiture of Grace Fanshawe; Little May has a clever exponent in Miss Florrie Sorsby; while Miss Nancy Mitchell as Sally wins deserved appreciation.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, Messrs. Chas. Beanland and W. H. Emerson; General-Manager, Mr. Will H. Emerson.—The Five Palmers are submitting a clever musical turn here; Stanley's Urchins, in harmony, comedy, and dancing, are immensely popular; Mlle. Du Roche is delighting the audiences with her songs; Lomas as the man-monkey gives a smart performance in mid-air; Henri Foden wins applause for his hand-jumping speciality; Harry Clyo and Rose Rochelle in comedy act, *A Lively Gent*, create boisterous hilarity; Charles Cassell as a descriptive vocalist is much appreciated; Miss Daisy Palmer in song and dance is worthy of much praise; and the Loyal Dominion Company's animated pictures are very entertaining.

CHESTER. — ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—This week's attraction is provided by Mr. Geo. Dance's *Spring Chicken* company. Mr. Percival Knight gives a breezy representation of Gustave Babori, scoring well with his musical numbers; Boniface is suitably played by Mr. H. R. Averill; as the eccentric waiter, Felix, Mr. Frank Attree; Mr. Geo. Fisher is eminently suitable as the proprietor of the Crimson Butterfly; Mr. Fred Payne fairly revels in the part of Mr. Girdle, and, with Mr. Percival Knight, brings the house down in the duet, "On a Sunday afternoon"; Miss Nellie Kavanah infuses plenty of life into the character; Miss Poppy Poole is well to the front as the Baroness Papouche; as the children, Stephen Henry and Emmy Lou, Mr. Louis Victor and Miss Lilian Errol play with plenty of life and animation; Miss Violet Loraine is a very charming Rosalie.

MUSIC HALL.—Mr. Waller Jeffs' New Century Pictures opened a two-weeks' visit on Monday evening to a packed house. The latest humorous and up-to-date films are projected on the screen with capital results.

CHORLEY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Hemingway.—Hardie and Von Leer's company is appearing here in *Two Little Vagabonds*. The part of George Thornton is admirably portrayed by Mr. Arthur E. Melbourne; Mr. Fred Bell scores a success as Captain Darville; and Mr. T. Lionel Ellis is powerful as Bill Muggins; Mr. Stanley Field and Mr. Harry C. Wright are capital exponents of Dido Bunce and Cough Drop respectively; and Mr. Harry Reynolds is satisfactory as John Scarth. Miss Georgie Wynter gives a pathetic portrayal of Marion Thornton; Miss Madge Severne does full justice to the rôle of Barbara Scarth, and Miss Violet Vivian ably undertakes the part of Biddy Mullins. The two little vagabonds are capably represented by Miss Winifred Williamson as Dick and Miss Ethel Frances Greene as Wally.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ed. Charles Howitt.—The attraction here this week is the sensational drama, *Guilty Gold*, presented by Mr. Horace Stanley's company. Mr. Wallace Campbell is well suited as Harold Elmore; the unscrupulous Ralph Bartlett is convincingly represented by Mr. Fred Wilberforce; Mr. Gerald Bryne does good work as Martin Haldane; Mr. David Curtis is a satisfactory John Middleton; Mr. Horace Stanley is highly amusing as Septimus Sweet; Miss Effie Bartlett is to be complimented on her fine portrayal of Rhoda Hampton; Miss Rosalie Heath looks and acts well as Elsie Middleton; Miss Josephine Lee is successful as Hetty Hoyle; Mr. Dennis Clyde deserves high praise for his impersonation of William Naggs; and other parts are well played by Miss Kate Kilpack, Miss Evelyn H. Walton, and Mr. Alaric Burton.

COLCHESTER. — HIPPODROME. — Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. Jack de Frece; Resident Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Mr. Fred Ginnett's capable company is presenting the highly dramatic sketch, *Beacon Bell*, in a very satisfactory manner, the casts including Miss Florence Creagh, and Messrs. Dick Cruickshanks, Frederic Lloyd, W. P. Shean, Arthur Stratton, and A. E. Mayne. The Tokio Troupe of Equilibrists submit a sensational turn; Ella Lorraine sings in her well-known popular style; Flo Cecil's re-appearance is hailed with applause; Dick Graham goes in fine style with a couple of good songs; Minnie Wren hits off well with songs of a military flavour, and D. J. Pedley, humorous items and eccentric dancing are well received.

COLNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Gerald Harding.—For the first three nights of the week the boards here were occupied by Miss Bonwin Carlton's company in *The Old, Old Story*, an interesting drama, which received marked approval. Mr. W. Lowther as John Hazel was most effective; Mr. Fred Rivers made a powerful John Marlow; Mr. Ed. Surrey as Grimshaw, the detective, took the part well; and Mr. C. Wilson played in droll fashion as Bobby Blossom, the bookie; Miss Bonwin Carlton was an excellent Tilly; Miss Demster portrayed Nellie Hazel effectively; Miss Kittie Maynard as Little Jessie was responsible for an interesting interpretation; and Miss Lamont ably represented Janet Marlow, the outcast.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company is presenting here *A Fight for a Throne*. Mr. Sam Arthur is a manly Captain Jack Fortescue; as Nicholai I. Mr. J. B. Murray does well; Mr. Charles E. Linney appears with success as Otto, Prince of Weimar; Mr. Karl H. Edwards as Lieut. Paul Rodna and Mr. W. S. Stevenson as General Rodna score in their respective parts; Mr. Edwin Clarke is a dignified Sir George Coventry; and the comedy element is well supplied by Mr. Leonard Maitland as the Hon. Percy Fitzmaurice, Mr. Fred Hodson as Tom Ferrett, and Miss Evelyn Marrable as Lady Pat; Miss Evelyn Robson is to be commended for her careful rendering of the part of Countess Valiska, and as Princess Esmee Miss Elma C. Turner receives her due share of applause. The play is beautifully dressed, and is exceedingly well put on.

CORK. — OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is producing here *Veronique*. Miss Lait, in the title-rôle uses her voice with ease and taste; Mr. Daley Cooper as Monsieur Coquenard is well suited to the part; Mr. Arthur Stroud as Florestan is good; and Miss Marie Wyse as Mme. Coquenard, Miss Elsie Probyn (Denise), and Miss Constance Groves (Aunt Benoit) are all very successful.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Thomas F. O'Brien.—This popular music hall provides a capital bill of fare. John Grun Marx, the modern Hercules, deserves his name, and his weight-lifting is wonderful; T. W. Rawson and Lily Bertram as *Would-be Actors* brought forth roars of laughter; the Almo Trio show much gymnastic skill; Charles Clarke, character comedian, is well received; Lilith, the mystery, poses in mid-air, and dances without any apparent effort or support; A-Ba-Be's Picture Postcard Album shows some pretty series of living pictures; the Strads, in a musical speciality act, play some beautiful airs on violins; Lilian Warren, a delightful singer, is assisted by pictures; the Sisters Carton are sprightly dancers, and Alf Gibson, the star comedian, sings very clever songs without moving a muscle.

COVENTRY.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. William Bennett.—*The Morals of Marcus* is drawing large houses, the play being produced under the direction of Mr. Arthur Bourchier. Mr. C. H. Cookes King scores a big success as Sir Marcus Ordeyne; Miss Hilda Anthony gives a charming and fascinating representation of Charlotta; Miss Joan Burton is seen to advantage as Juliet Mainwaring; Mr. Richard Neville is clever for her capable rendering of the heavy character of Sebastian Pasquale.

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lennox Barry.—Mrs. Arthur Watson and Flo Stanley's company keep the house in continual laughter with their sketch, entitled *The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory;* Tom Costello creates unbounded laughter; La Diabelo gives a sensational performance, entitled *Looping the Devil's Wheel;* Will Musgrave, comedian, is very successful; and other capital artists are Harry Bancroft, Rosie Lloyd, Emmie Ames,

ton introduces much humour into the character of Sammy Smudge; and Mr. James Willoughby gives a meritorious rendition of Mark Harley; Miss Amy McNeill is seen to advantage in the rôle of Lady Brandon; Miss Lily Prescott wins the hearts of all by her sympathetic rendering of Megg Judson; and Miss Madge Seymour infuses plenty of "go" into the part of Norah Donnelly; Little Prudence as the Street Arab sings sweetly.

CROYDON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Mr. Wentworth Croke is presenting the interesting drama, *The Bondman*, here this week, and the company carries excellent scenery. Miss Grace Chalmers submits an artistic and womanly rendering of Greeba; Miss Gertrude Helene is good as Mona; Miss Beatrice Whitney is natural as Christian Ann; and Miss Madge Lanerton is in every way satisfactory in the rôle of Mrs. Fairbrother. Mr. H. C. Lanceley is well placed as Adam Fairbrother; Mr. Cecil A. Collins gives a scholarly and impressive portrayal of Jason; Mr. Arthur Bawtree is quite up to the mark as Michael Sunlocks; Mr. W. H. Rotheram makes a decided hit in the dual rôles of Father Ferrati and grandfather; Mr. Norman Wrighton is suited to the part of Governor Testa; Mr. F. J. Waller makes the most of Doctor Boni; and Master Arthur Clarence deserves a word as Donny.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James.—Mr. Jack Haddon's company in *Under the Russian Flag* is the attraction here this week. Mr. George Murray figures well as General Romanoff; Mr. Gerald Ord and Mr. Chas. Stafford represent the General's two sons, Michael and Ivan, in an impressive manner; the rôle of Captain Demetrius is played with considerable tact and energy by Mr. Jack Haddon; Mr. Temple Ellis as Alexis deserves praise; Mr. Hal Forde as Peter Poluski does well; and Mr. H. Naylor Grimson submits a good impersonation of Wolf Marischla. Miss Beatrice Balfour is well adapted to the part of Vera; Miss Molly Hackett as Ogarita is appreciated; and Miss Marie Rayner as Luka Marischia proves herself a capable actress.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Queenie Essex, an enchanting comedienne and vocalist, is winning applause here; John Lawson's company is a decided attraction in the sketch, *Sally in Our Alley*; E. Chimes, in musical novelty, deserves praise; Feldman's Beau-Ideal troupe of juveniles are commendable; Blake and Granby are smart duo artists; Zaro and Arno are great in their comedy bar act; Les Belles Americaines are untiring dancers; the Bioscope Pictures are successful; and Mr. Sydney R. Axford is fully qualified as musical director.

PUBLIC HALL.—The Zancigs paid a return visit here on Wednesday, and met with a cordial reception. Their performance caused general surprise.

DARLINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. Walter Melville's company are here this week with *The Soldier's Wedding*. Mr. Wingold Lawrence distinguishes himself as Jack Brown; Mr. Beresford Whitcomb is admirable as Colonel James Graham; Mr. A. Gambier Melford is excellent in the comedy part; Mr. D. J. Hennessey makes a good auctioneer; Mr. J. Morgan makes a typical old farmer; Miss Jessie Winter as Nancy Lee is delightfully ingenuous in the part; Miss Georgie de Lara is admirable as Peggy Munroe; Miss Ettie Carlisle makes fine comedy out of the part of Lizzie Walker. The other characters are efficiently represented by Miss Maggie Burton, Miss Marie McAulay, Mr. Raymond Wood, Mr. James Fielding, Mr. Arthur Rowton, and Mr. Frederick Biron.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome Theatre, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Hersee. — The Coloured Meisters win loud applause for their glee songs; Norman and Leonard, in a musical incident, *The Itinerant*, come in for a large share of favour; Miss Raie Walters scores with her "Fishing" song; John Cronow, great facial expert, is clever; Eno deserves the name of King of Mimics; Francis and Alfred are excellent comedy jugglers; Abel and Welsh are to be congratulated upon a genuinely funny turn; and the Pepiscope, with latest pictures, concludes the performance. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. M. Mendoza, late of the Tivoli, London.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company is here this week in *Honour Thy Father*. Mr. J. W. Evelyn makes a great hit as Gabriel Garth; Mr. Howell Travis gives a capital portrayal of Duncan Bly; as Jack Halyard Mr. Edwin Turner is happily suited; Mr. F. W. Graham causes amusement as Mike Copplestone; Mr. Claude Merton is capable in the two parts, George Bloggs and Job Merry; and Mr. Kenneth Black does well as Ned. Miss Kate Newton is excellent as Gertrude Garth; Miss Violet Hammersley is a charming Lilian Garth; as Mercy Merry Miss Winnie Donovan is good; and Miss Lizzie Jacobs is a lively Poppy.

PUBLIC HALL.—Messrs. Dobito and Buxton's animated pictures are attracting large audiences here.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson opened here on Monday night with *The Taming of the Shrew*. It is late in the day to do other than remark of Mr. Benson's Petruchio and Mrs. Benson's Katherina that they remain the admirable stage portraits which playgoers have never wearied in admiring for so many years past. Miss Olive Noble was responsible for a charming presentment of Bianca; and a manly and commanding Lucentio was found in Mr. Geo. Buchanan; Mr. H. O. Nicholson and Mr. Stanley Hewlett were in every way well fitted as Gremio and Hortensio respectively; Mr. E. A. Warburton was a capable Baptista; and a capital depiction of Biondello was given by Mr. J. P. Wilson; Mr. G. R. Weir repeated his finished characterisation of Grumio; Mr. Murray Carrington was an acceptable Tranio; and Mr. R. McLeod played Vincentio very well; Mr. Hannam Clark was good as Pedant; and among minor parts that of Miss Cissie Saumarez should be mentioned, as also her tuneful rendering of "Should he Upbraid." *Macbeth* for Tuesday, *The Merchant of Venice* for Wednesday, *Julius Cæsar* for Thursday, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* for Friday were underlined.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Madge Grey, baby mimic and comedienne, is allotted the chief place this week, and has a fund of good things with which to entertain a most appreciative audience. The sketch element is provided by C. Wordley Hulse and Dramatic company in *The Fight in the Forge*, which is capably portrayed and staged; Hill and Mac, comedians, have some smart patter; Percy Farramond, Singing Collier, is a vocalist of no mean order; Maude Beaumont, comedienne, introduces some tuneful numbers; Les Kauvers, acrobatic equilibrists, give a smart turn; Vincent, the high table expert, acts up to his designation; and the Bioscope terminates with two capital films.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. G. S. King.—The celebrated spectacular play, *In the Shadow of the Night*, by James Willard, is proving a big attraction at the Metropole, it being on of the best dramas staged at the Metropole for a considerable period. Mr. H. Dobell Lyle gives a highly accomplished rendering of the part of Gordon Allington; Mr. George Harvey is creditable as John Allington, Squire of Hazelmere; Mr. Charles Clifford is excellent as the villain Clifford Yorke; and Miss Nina Shaw contributes—as Mollie—no small share to the success of the production.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—*Robin Hood* is presented by Mr. Lewis Waller's company. Mr. Ethelbert Edwards easily idealises the valiant forest outlaw, Robin Hood; Mr. Edwards succeeds, moreover, in convincing with the excellent quality of his elocution; Lady Marion de Vaux (Miss Fyfe Alexander) is particularly bewitching, and a more picturesque and fascinating heroine one could not desire to meet; Mr. Leslie Rea is worthy of very warm praise for an essentially well-conceived version of John Little, the large outcrop of humour emanating from the character being due to the painstaking and thoughtful work of this more than intelligent actor; Mr. Bellender Clarke plays Prince John in an exceedingly creditable manner. The intriguing suitor, Hugo de Longespée, is in the excellent hands of Mr. Elliott Ball, who makes the character thoroughly virile; the rôle of Friar Tuck is filled by Mr. C. Brune Winston with peculiar gusto and marked judgment; Miss Madge Devereux impressed one as a stately and regal Eleanor of Acquitaire; Adela was portrayed by Miss Barbara Hanney, whose sauciness of manner and speech gave a piquancy highly palatable; Allan A'Dale, the minstrel, was characterised efficiently by Mr. Henry Kerr. The numerous pastoral songs are creditably rendered by the artists, and add much to the play's interest. Richard Cœur de Lion was well acted by Mr. Henry Lesmere.

DONCASTER. — NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—The *tout ensemble* of the company appearing in the musical comedy, *The Cingalee*, is equal to anything previously witnessed here. The Hon. Harry Vereker is admirably presented by Mr. Wilfred Heath; and Mr. Tom Payne in the rôle of Chambhuddy Ram, a Baboo lawyer, has a perfect conception of its requirements; Miss Cora Mansell is responsible for Lady Patricia Vane, and, being a cultered vocalist, gives a number of acceptable and popular songs; Miss Margery Gray, in the title-rôle is exceptionally dainty; Bobby Warren, plantation overseer, has a clever exponent in Mr. W. J. Austin, who is vociferously received. The scenery is well adapted, the orchestration fine, the dresses handsome, and large houses are being nightly delighted.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood. — Good attendances have been the rule here this week, during which Mr. Frank Bertram's company has been appearing in *The Breed of the Treshams*. The romantic play has been received with applause, and it is enacted with enthusiasm. Miss Grace Harlington is dramatically effective as Batty. The Lady Margaret Hungerford of Miss Mildred Hodson is a talented impersonation; the performances of Miss Madge Cottier and Miss Mildred Hodson are quite good; Mr. Sydney Bland gives a fine rendering of Lieutenant Reresby, alias "the Rat"; the Viscount Dorrington of Mr. Alfred Holles is painstaking. The rôle of Colonel Sir Clement Hungerford is efficiently portrayed by Mr. Benson North; and Mr. George Trail and Mr. Robert do justice to the characters entrusted to them. The drama is well equipped in regard to scenery and effects.

THE PALACE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—This, the last week of the season at the Palace, has been well attended. Mr. Harry Wood's orchestra, dance competitions, and an excellent variety programme have proved attractive. Miss Ada Fawn, a clever serio-comic singer, has made a popular success. Other artists appearing are Mlle. Sylvester, the Three Seabornes, and Dexter; they have one and all secured public approval.

DOVER. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Messrs. Cowper-Smith and Douglas Payne's company opened here on Monday with the musical absurdity, *Such a Nice Girl*. The title-rôle is taken by Miss Rosa Bennett, an attractive vocalist and a graceful dancer. Some pleasing numbers are given by Miss Maude Percival, a pretty Cerise, who also dances exceedingly well. Much laughter is caused by the rendering of Martha Grumm by Miss Amy Fanchette; while Miss Kate Glover as Little Flossie impersonates a precocious child with success. Mr. C. Lionel Brockner is to be complimented on his humorous portrayal of Bertie Holbrook; Mr. Henry Ainsworth is a manly yet romantic Harry Harrow; a clever study of Brown, a butler, is contributed by Mr. Douglas Payne; and Mr. Mark Lester is a dashing exponent of Colonel Bullet, V.C. The Smart Set Girls, capitally played by Misses Ada Smart, Millie Hazelton, Linda Lange, and Ethel Adams, add brightness to the various scenes; and Miss Beatrice Sutherland gives a quaint performance as Jane. *The White Chrysanthemum* was billed for the latter part of the week.

THE PAVILION PROMENADE PIER.—The Zingari Ladies' Orchestra, under the able direction of Mme. Clara Muntz, is this week pleasing everyone by some tastefully rendered selections. The concert artists assisting included Miss Agnes Appleton, whose brilliant vocalism is warmly applauded; Mr. Henry Jordan, a melodious tenor; and Mr. Edgar Berte, the well-known and versatile humorist. A special Irish night was arranged for Wednesday, and a grand Scotch concert for to-night (Saturday), the last night of the season.

ON Wednesday a testimonial benefit was given to Miss Agnes Beckwith, when, in addition to the charming performances of Miss Beckwith, and the Misses Maud, Mabel, and Ethel; G. W. Houghton, the champion high diver, gave a sensational and scientific swimming exhibition, and also an effective dive in flames of fire from the pier head.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Sydney Mason and Theresa Moore's company have a fine dramatic sketch in *The Parson of Daneville*. Mr. Brooks is a particularly successful comedian; Metz and Metz are clever dancers, and Lizzie Daniels a prepossessing vocalist; Jessie Star's Scotch songs are applauded; and Leo, the ventriloquist, is wonderfully good. Louie Hurman scores in her "goey" songs.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—*The Girl Behind the Counter* is being played here this week by Mr. Mouillot's excellent company, and has been well received. Mr. Arthur Cartwright acted the rôle of Charles Chetwyn in capital style, and his vocalism was well appreciated. Miss Nora Brocklebank was a pleasing and effective Winnie Willoughby, her songs being excellently rendered; Mr. Ellis Holland gave a clever and humorous reading of General Sir Wilkie Willoughby, and was warmly applauded; Miss Winifred Knightly was excellent in her portraiture of Lady Willoughby; and Mr. Howard Cridland's conception of the Viscount Gushington was particularly good. In the part of the office-boy, Adolphus Dudds, Mr. Frederick Park caused no end of laughter, and his duets with Miss Irene Lavington, who makes a captivating Susie, were heartily encored. Monsieur Duval was successfully represented by Monsieur Jules Charmettes; Miss Florence Lee as Millie Mostyn and Miss Eileen Clanford as Ninette were praiseworthy. The chorus and orchestra were satisfactory under the conductorship of Mr. G. M. Saker.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in *The Dairymaids* is paying a return visit here this week, and proving a big attraction. Miss Phyllis Dare, although suffering from a bad cold on Monday night, made a delightful Peggy, singing and dancing with much grace and charm. Mr. John Alexander keeps the fun at high pressure as Joe Mivens; and Miss Edith Blanche gives a capital study of the rôle of Lady Brudenell. Lieutenant Brudenell has an efficient representative in Mr. Frank Steward; and Miss Gay Gilvani is also very acceptable as Winifred; as Dr. O'Byrne, Mr. Percy Marshall acquits himself thoroughly well; and Miss Cissie Sephton is particularly good as Eliza. Sam Brudenell is capitally represented by Mr. E. Statham Staples; and Miss Beryl Vaudrey as Helene and Miss Hetty Chapman as Penelope Pychase are both creditable in their respective parts. The ladies who appear as the farm hands, dairymaids, and schoolgirls are also worthy of praise; and the chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Edwin Thornton, discharge their duties ably.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The star turn here this week is Carrie Laurie's kindergarten in *The Model School*, which meets with an enthusiastic reception. Queenie Leighton achieves a triumph in her captivating songs; and Tom Wootwell is a quaint comedian who causes much laughter by his humorous ditties. George C. Doughty and company are appearing in a comedy scena, entitled *Captain Cupid*, which is well received; and Will Cornish gives a much-appreciated musical turn. The Lashmars in their comedy act, *Bits and Pieces*, are highly diverting; and Bert Danson's funny songs and smart patter keep the house in good humour. The Calcotts, speciality artists, win assured success, and the ever-popular Empire pictures conclude a well-varied entertainment.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Wilson and Waring, in an amusing sketch, entitled *A Bit of Nonsense*, convulses the audience with laughter; Charles Fisher's Pocket Opera Company, in their speciality, *The Music Master*, are highly successful; P. A. Hope, baritone vocalist, is heard to advantage in several well-chosen songs; Ernest Montifore and company, in their sketch, *The Little Colonel*, are nightly recalled; Lily Eyton is a pleasing character vocalist; Lennard and Vereker, in illustrated songs, find much favour; Bennett and Martell are an amusing pair of comedians; the banjo selections contributed by the Clarkes are well appreciated, and H. Scott Leslie, character-actor, scores a distinct success. The Bioscope exhibits some good pictures.

ROTUNDA.—After a most successful season the Irish Animated Photo Company entered on their last week here on Monday, when large audiences were present both at the afternoon and evening performances. The new pictures exhibited were highly appreciated, and the vocal items contributed by Messrs. Patrick O'Shea, R. W. Goggens, and Miss May Durkin were loudly applauded.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, BALLSBRIDGE. — The Virginia Serenaders, instrumentalists, coon singers, and buck dancers, are attracting very good audiences here this week; and Mr. Arthur Helmore, reciter, also appears with success. The band of H.M. Grenadier Guards, under the conductorship of Mr. A. Williams, Mus.Doc., receive a hearty welcome; and Herr Mority Wurm and his Viennese Blue Orchestra are paying a return visit to the delight of everyone. Mr. Brendan J. Rogers' organ recitals are well patronised; Ludwig's concerts and the cinematograph by Films, Ltd., also come in for a good share of appreciation.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—An attractive programme of vocal and instrumental music, interspersed with amusing sketches and some clever dancing is provided here this week by Randal's Middies and Maids company, consisting of Mr. Walter Forder, Miss Mabel Ashtown, Mr. Douglas Marrs, Mr. Arthur Mervin, Mr. William Bradley, Mr. Bert Williams, and Mr. Arthur Randal. The animated pictures are both interesting and entertaining.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—A good variety bill here includes Albert Morrow, comic conjurer; Bert Dove, ventriloquist; James Murphy, comedian and dancer; Ivy Vine, ballad vocalist; the Two Cashlings, duettists and dancers; and the cinematograph.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Miss Ida Millais' company is here with *No Man's Land*. The piece is under the direction of Mr. Henry Herne, who in the principal rôle of Harry Oaklands acts in manly and spirited style, while Miss Millais as Mary Bathurst quickly wins the sympathy of her audiences, and brings down the house in the last scene where she takes a real "header" into the old weir. The villainy of the piece is well put in by Mr. Herbert Cecil as Silas Moore and Mr. Ernest Percy as Mat Marsden. The comedy element is well to the fore in Solomon Jacobs by Mr. Charles Daly and Thompson Poodle by Mr. Leonard Marshall. Another prettily-played part is Bessie Poodle by Miss Sybil Hammersley, and Miss Emma Stockley is an excellent designing widow as Mrs. Poodle.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred. H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. B. Peberdy.—Great amusement is being caused here this week by the Great Hughes, who in his sketch, *Codology*, exposes the many tricks of hypnotism. Hyde and Cody, the eccentrics, are exceptionally clever and amusing; Phil Rees, double-voiced vocalist, is a great favourite; and Alpho, novelty ventriloquist, also receives a good reception. Other good turns are given by Lewin and Binns, musical comedy duologue artists; Gladys Warren, in songs and dances; Jock McKay, Scottish comedian and piper; and the Empire Bioscope.

PUBLIC HALL.—Honorary Secretary, Mr. William Pearson.—The London Animated Pictures Co. is presenting a series of pictures that is interesting, pathetic, and amusing. There is a change of programme nightly, and at intervals during the show Mr. Walter Arnold, American song illustrator, entertains the audiences.

DUMFRIES.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Payne Sedden.—For the first three nights of this week we have Miss Lydia Donovan's Company in *Her One Great Sin*. Mr. John Cecil as Ruben Warhurst played his part in a most successful manner; Mr. Jack Armitage was well placed as Arnold Thornhill; Mr. Alfred G. Raymond as Jerry Jumble kept the house in merriment; Miss Nellie Lambert was very smart as Nancy; Miss Lydia Donovan as Grace Warhurst played her part with great power and pathos, the rest of the company lending good support.

DUNDEE. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. George Alexander's company is here with *His House in Order*; Mr. J. Edward Pearce repeats his highly successful delineation of Filmer Jesson; Mr. Stephen T. Ewart in the attractive character of Hilary Jesson submits an earnest and impassioned rendition of the part; Mr. George Fitzgerald is very successful as Sir Daniel Ridgeley; and Mr. E. R. Hollway does well as the priggish Pryce Ridgeley; Miss Grace Armytage Noble as the sorely-tried Nina gains the sympathy of the house, her acting being extremely fine; Miss Augusta Haviland is admirable as Lady Ridgeley; the Geraldine of Miss Blanka Stewart is a very capable piece of acting; Mlle. Lilli Kehr makes a clever and attractive French Governess; and Miss Victoria May Harris submits a good study as the child Perek; the other parts are in capable hands.

PALACE THEATRE. — Lessees, United County Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam McIntosh.—*The Honour of the Regiment*, a stirring military sketch, occupies chief place here this week; the piece is elaborately mounted, and the acting is in capable hands; Ryan and Hall are an exceedingly smart pair of acrobats, and as comedians they excel; Geo. Bernard, descriptive vocalist, raises the enthusiasm of the house in his dramatic scena "The Charge of the Light Brigade"; James Toner, the Belfast Newsboy, in his impersonations of well-known artists, takes well; Little Vio-Lette as a male impersonator, is well received; Janet H. Reynolds has a sweet voice, and renders her songs in a pleasing manner; Dunningarto provides an excellent sleight of hand turn; the two Walonells in their acrobatic and gymnastic turn are very clever; Lola Dalby, comedienne and dancer, and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope complete the programme.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—The Tally Ho Trio, who top the bill here, are recalled again and again, their singing being delightful; Mlle. Eldee, in her refined and artistic poses is loudly applauded; Spencer and Marks in their original act "The Page's Holiday" are very entertaining; the Sisters Love are charming duettists and dancers; Lizzie Hands, vocalist and comedienne, sings some catchy songs; Mlle. Haydee, aided by brilliant electric effects, submits a very good marionette show; and a funny sketch entitled, "They Wanted to Act," causes roars of laughter; the electro-motoscope concludes a first-class programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—An entertaining programme is being submitted here this week by Kennedy's Juvenile Highland Band, who create a good impression with their musical selections, while the songs and dances given by members of the band are greatly appreciated; Gaumond's chronophone is a great success, besides which many brilliant and interesting animated pictures are shown.

DUNFERMLINE.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—Mr. Dickie Clare's company of comedians, in the musical farcical absurdity, *Luck 'Liza*, is here this week, and opened on Monday to a large house. Mr. Clare in the triple part of Silas Slim, the Judge, and the French Waiter is a host in himself. Mr. T. W. Benson as Peter Pettitoe proves himself an actor of no mean order; Mr. Martin Alwyne puts in some good work as Paul Pettitoe; Mr. H. A. Griffiths is a capable William Biffins; Mr. A. W. Thompson makes a capital Barnaby Blatherwick; and Mr. Bert Collins is highly amusing as Thomkins, the Court Usher. Miss Madge Brownie as Eliza Bird is a great success, Miss Vesta Brownie is a charming Virginia Blatherwick, Miss Helen Douglas is characteristic as Marie Pettitoe, and Miss Victoria Carman sings well as Sadie Potts. The clever dancing of La Belle Trio is much appreciated.

EASTBOURNE.—THE PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. C. W. Somerset and his capital company are appearing here very successfully in *The Sorrows of Satan*. Mr. Somerset again enacts the part of Prince Lucio, and his experienced work is powerful and impressive; Mr. G. H. Lindon is a pleasing and polished Paul; Mr. W. A. Lister does happy and effective work as Adolphus; and Mr. Will Smith helps as Crafton Lyle. A special word of praise must be accorded to Miss Agnes Russel for her refined, expressive, and sympathetic work as Margaret Foster; Miss Helen Russel, too, plays the trying part of Lady Delila with real artistic ability; Miss Geraldine Somerset, bright and smart, is an admirable Ethel Vane; Miss Florence Nelson is a handsome Lady Dragnette; Miss Pollie Marshall a particularly good Mother Wurrell; and Miss Iris Forsyth a satisfactory Mary Foster. *A Chinese Honeymoon* is billed for the latter part of the week, and Miss Louie Freear will appear at a special matinée.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE. — Proprietors, the Devonshire Park and Baths Company; Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company is appearing here during the week in *The Duchess of Dantzic*. Miss Anna Hickisch is quite a triumph as Sans Gêne, for her acting and singing are both deserving of very high praise; Miss Edith Martin is full of brightness and life, and is a pretty and happy Lisette; a delicate and charming Renée is found in Miss Daisy Kersey; Miss Alice Hamilton is a stately and dignified Josephine; and Miss Catherine Burke, with Miss Gertrude Hart, are admirable as the sisters of Napoleon. Mr. Frank Bradley plays with realism and distinction as Napoleon; Mr. Harold Batt is a graceful dancer and very good Papillion; Mr. Marshall Vincent sings very ably, and is a very fine Lefevre; Mr. C. B. Williams is finely effective as Phillip and Adhemar; and other parts in a long cast are capably filled. An excellent and tuneful chorus and orchestra are under the direction of Mr. J. Morton Hutcheson.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day.—Mr. Joe Osgood as top of the bill gives exhibitions of wrestling; Billy, a splendidly-trained horse, is very popular; the Eva Lumley Trio play very cleverly in a taking sketch, *All of a Twist*; one of the prettiest and most graceful wire acts to be seen is given by Mlle. Yetta, and is highly appreciated; the Vaudeville Cadets give a varied and pleasing turn; Miss Ethel Dove is a pretty dancer and effective singer; Mr. J. Morris is a highly-amusing comedian; Miss Carrie Victoria is a successful comedienne; and new pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—Increased interest in Mr. Martin Harvey's ever-welcome appearances in Edinburgh has been aroused by the production of his new play, *Great Possessions*, which was seen here for the first time on Monday evening. Mr. Harvey's artistic impersonation of Nathaniel was marked by the care and finish characteristic of all his stage creations; and able support was prominently rendered by Mr. Charles Glenny in the strong part of Asarga, Mr. Charles J. Cameron as Joram, Mr. Albert E. Raynor as the Rabbi Jehuda, and Mr. Vincent Sternroyd, who made a vigorous Spintharos. Other parts notably well filled in an excellent all-round cast were the Malchiel of Mr. Philip Hewland, the old Beggar of Mr. Fred Wright, sen., and the Zaccheus of Mr George Cooke. The leading feminine rôle of Ruth was suitably acted by Miss Coleridge; Miss Maud Milton made the most of the comparatively minor part of Rachel; and another small part was played in spirited fashion by Miss Bessie Elder; while in Miss N. de Silva the possessed boy, Simon, found a sympathetic and earnest interpreter. *The Breed of the Treshams* was on the bills for Friday and Saturday.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—*The Lady Slavey* is one of the phenomenally successful musical comedy productions which comes round annually, and is always welcomed as an old friend. On the present visit, Mr. Keino Johnston is again in the genial rôle of Major O'Neill; Messrs. W. T. Thompson and Paul Presano still revel in the humours of the Sheriff's Officer and his Mate; and Mr. J. C. Piddock has the original part of the Tomato King. Needless to say, all these players are as effective as ever in developing the fun and interest of the piece, the attractions of which are further maintained by Miss Winnie Volt as Phyllis, Miss Rita Presano as Flo Honeydew, and Mr. Frank Henderson as Lord Lavender; with Misses Evie and Gladys Anderson as Maud and Beatrice, and Miss Ethel Ford and Miss Amy Hilton as the two French milliners.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—The popular pantomime favourite, Mark Sheridan, has been the leading attraction this week, much to the delectation of his many Edinburgh admirers, who evidently do not tire of his quaint methods and lively style. Other vocal artists contributing commendable turns are Harry Anderson, Winnie Derson, and Ian Colquhoun, whose fine baritone voice is heard to great advantage in sundry ballads. The Clement Trio appear in a novel trapeze act, exhibiting some difficult feats very dexterously performed; Russell Wallet creates considerable amusement as a female impersonator; the Sleedes combine humour with mystery in their original illusions; Woodhouse and Lee put in some comedy patter and clever dancing; Tom Terriss's sketch company submit a farcical episode, entitled *Peter's Finish*; and the Bioscope shows a series of new films.

KING'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Edinburgh Construction Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Amand Mascard.—Miss Annie Purcell charms the audience by her expressive rendering of several melodious songs. On Monday she was the recipient of a handsome bouquet, and had a vociferous recall after singing "In the valleys of Switzerland"; she responded with a piquant interpretation of "The Zuyder Zee." Miss Mabel Mavis's musical act is clever; and Farr and Farrland are not only excellent comedians, with fresh patter, but proficient players of the banjo. Miss Violette Gibson and her Four White Coons are expert dancers; and the McConnell Trio are highly successful as vocalists and actors in a laughable sketch. The Woodwards, in an exciting equilibristic performance display marvellous powers of balancing; while the comedy element is strongly supported by the entertaining sketches of Mr. George French and Mr. George Reeves. Mr. Pinero's comedietta, *Hester's Mystery*, is one of the most enjoyable items in the programme. An admirable piece of acting, full of strength and pathos, is given by Miss Pattie Groves as the Nance Butterworth of the play; Miss Maude Terry is a graceful Hester; and good work is done by Mr. Horace Pollock as Mr. Owen Silverdale; Mr. Arthur Edwards as John Royle; and Mr. H. Grey Dolley as Joel, the old farm servant.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Ventom Swift.—Nothing is lacking in diversity and interest in the bill at this house. Enthusiasm marks the feelings of the audience at the clever, pretty performance of little Dolly and Madge McAlla, two gifted children; Miss Sheila McNeil, Scottish comedienne, deserves the hearty applause she receives; and Grant and Allen evoke peals of laughter in the amusing sketch, *Where's Snooker?* Capital turns are also given by the Lorrisons, in a smart act; by Miss Rosie Morris, a graceful comedienne; and by Messrs. Harvey and Holt, comedy artists, and Mr. Nat Travers, an effective coster comedian. The Alhambrascope winds up a capital programme.

PORTOBELLO NEW TOWER PAVILION.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. H. Marvello.—Excellent business is being done at this house, the Indian summer of September having attracted crowds of visitors to popular Portobello. The esteem in which Mr. Marvello is held is shown by the strong bill for his benefit on Friday, at which many well-known artists are announced to appear.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. Frederick Mouillot's Daly's Theatre Repertoire company is here this week, and on Monday *The Geisha* was presented to a crowded and appreciative house. In the rôle of O Mimosa San Miss Joan Ritz was splendid, and her voice earned her several recalls; Miss Florrie Saunders was a vivacious Molly Seymour, while Miss Violet Kenyon was good as O Juliette Diamente. Miss Eva Howard as the Middy was all that could be desired, and Miss Aubrey Ashton did well as Lady Constance Wynn. As Wun Hi Mr. Edward Carlton well sustained the reputation he has gained as a clever comedian, while Mr. Lionel Braham, whose imposing form well suits him to the part, was very amusing as Marquis Imari. Mr. Cyril Dane was in excellent voice as Reginald Fairfax, and was encored for both his numbers. The augmented orchestra is under the able direction of Chevalier Le Grand. During the visit *A Greek Slave* and *San Toy* will be produced.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—One of Mr. E. H. Bostock's Hippodrome companies occupied the boards of this theatre on the three first nights of the week, and served up a first-class variety programme, varied by Bioscope views. Prominent in a good company were the Sisters Cecilia, lady instrumentalists, whose turn was highly pleasing. Yamamoti, the Japanese Blondin, Dunlop and Gold, comedians, the Sisters Lotus, juvenile duettists, Euston and Pancras, black and white comedians and dancers, Nan de Courcy, a clever lady juggler, Adams and Ward, eccentric comedy acrobats, and J. Gar Kiddie and company, in their laughter-provoking absurdity, *The House of Tinn*, made up the rest of a thoroughly entertaining programme. For the remaining nights of the week, the bill was filled by H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company in *Lucky Durham*.

FLEETWOOD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Miss Dora Dench's company in *A Prince of Rogues* occupies the boards this week. The company is a strong one, with Mr. Newton Buckland standing out as a dashing hero, Richard Harwood; as his wife, Winnie Harwood, Miss Dora Dench merits the applause which greet her efforts. The villain of the piece, Geoffrey Flint, is in the capable hands of Mr. Leonard Lawrence; while Mr. Bert Dench as Flint's servant, Josh Buggins, quickly puts the audience in good humour. On Wednesday and Thursday *Conn, the Shaughraun*, was played.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland. — Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's principal company, in *The Stronger Sex*, opened here on Monday, to an appreciative audience. Mr. H. J. Carvill acted in the best possible manner as Warren Barrington; Miss Margaret Fareleigh took the difficult rôle of Mary with an ease and charm which won all hearts; Mr. George Rowlands was an excellent Oliver Thorpe; Miss Margaret Cavania acted brightly as Joan; Mr. Claude Agnew and Mr. George Child submitted amusing studies of Joseph Jameson and James Josephs; and Miss Emma Hutchison played the part of Mrs. Van Garkerken with complete success. During the latter part of the week *The Walls of Jericho* occupied the boards.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. D'Arcy Clayton.—The Gipsies and their Jester are paying another return visit, and meet with every success. Mr. Will Gane, the Jester, keeps the house in roars. On Wednesday, the genial and hard-working manager, Mr. Clayton, took a well-deserved benefit, and was rewarded with an overflowing house, a novel programme being submitted.

BUCHANAN'S
"BLACK & WHITE"
THE WHISKY OF WORLD WIDE REPUTE

GAINSBOROUGH.—King's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Stear.—Mr. W. Penrhyn Foster's company appeared here this week in *The Officers' Mess*. Miss Nellie Sheffield gave a lively representation of Rose Smith; Miss Edith Harmer was a charming Sybil, and introduced some pleasing songs; Mr. Charles Danvers and Mr. Harry Liddle were amusing as Antonio Wilkins and Thos. Rugg respectively, and the rest of the cast was well filled by Mr. Jerrold Manville, Mr. Victor Tollemache, Miss Clara Nicholls, and Miss Millie Gordon. Miss Minnie Dorina and the Alston troupe contributed some clever dances.

GATESHEAD. — King's Theatre. — Lessees, United County Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager and Licensee, Mr. Harold Arnold.—"Starring" here this week we have Ethel Whiteside and Picaninnies in some new songs and dances. They go well. Booker and Narbis are capital comedy duettists; Fred Land is the fortunate possessor of songs that are really funny, and the very music of which compels laughter; Kitty Clover and company present a clever little sketch, entitled *Mr. There's Hair*, which is duly recognised; Walter Wade tells some genuinely funny stories; and L. B. Athol (descriptive vocalist), Jock Walker (Scotch comedian), and the usual pictures are also on the bill.

Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Councillor Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France. — Mr. Harry Foxwell's company in *An Abandoned Woman*, appears at this house this week. Mr. Albert Sefton portrays Herbert Seaton with good effect; Mr. Frederick Hendry is excellent in the part of Marmaduke Seaton; Phillipe Malvoisin is well looked after by Mr. Hag-Gray; comedy is a dominant feature in the drama, and Mr. Jun. K. Woods makes the most of every opportunity to score with the lines of Paddy Boyle; a clever impersonation of Ninon is submitted by Miss Edith Blande; Miss Christine Middleton is sweet and womanly as Eleanor Dene, and a bundle of vivacity is found in the person of Miss Elsie Dene who plays Sally Sloper.

GLASGOW.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—The amusing musical comedy *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)* is paying a second visit to this city, the company being under the management of Mr. Charles Macdona. Mr. Edwin Brett and Miss Emmeline Orford appear with every success as Mr. Popple and his fair charmer, La Bolero. As Popple's smart brother, Norman, Mr. Louis du Cane bears himself well; the fine resonant voice of Mr. Francis Rayne (Kenyon) is heard in several pleasing numbers; as Platt Mr. Tom May is very good; amusing character-studies are seen in the Hennay of Mr. Sydney Courtenay and the Doring of Mr. Henry Chichester; Miss Kate Graham Beck gives considerable style to the rôle of Mrs. Doring; the part of Mrs. Hennay is handsomely represented by Miss Ella Daincourt; Miss Raynor Golden is charming and ingenuous as Violet Brinton; and as the maid, Louise, Miss Nora Morra is smart. The chorus and orchestra are under the able direction of Mr. W. T. J. Damant.

Royalty, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. M. Downie.—There were many indications on Monday that Mr. James Welch's company, in *When Knights were Bold*, are going to have a successful week here. Admirably acted throughout, the farce is bound to prove a popular draw for a long time to come. Mr. Nelson Key's Sir Guy de Vere has much to commend it; he displays an excellent grasp of the character, and handles it in an able manner. Miss Emilie Polini makes a fine Lady Rowena Egginton; Mr. Charles Ommanney brings the part of Sir Bryan Ballymote into due prominence; and the Isaac Isaacson of Mr. Augustin Symonds was a clever performance. Mr. William Lockhart is well cast as the Rev. Peter Pottleberry; Mr. Thomas Pauncefort sustains the rôle of Charles Widdicombe in fine style, his jester song and dance meeting with much favour. Miss Lena Flowerdew does good work as Hon. Mrs. Waldgrave, as also did Miss Marjorie Chard as Sarah Isaacson; Miss Nannie Hume gives a good impersonation of Alice Barker. The farce was preceded by a duologue by H. O. Hughes, *The Miller*, the characters in which were undertaken by Mr. Talbot Homewood and Miss Eva Leonard Boyne.

King's, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane. —*Amasis* is being presented by Mr. Louis Calvert's company. The chief performers may be specially noted in Mr. Rutland Barrington as Pharaoh, Mr. Roland Cunningham as the Prince, Miss Winifred O'Connor as the Princess, Miss Madge Vincent as Natis (her maid), Mr. Lauri de Frece as Sebak, and Mr. Arthur Watts as Ptolemy. All these artists delight and revel in their respective parts, and they make a combination, whether as actors, humorists, singers, or dancers, that would go to make any production a sure success. Where there is so much in the departments indicated that is in every way excellent we need not particularise, save to add that Mr. George Fox as the High Priest, Mr. Frank Perfitt as the Captain, and Mr. John Doran as the Scribe are each worthy of note for good work done.

Grand, Ltd.—Managing-Director Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Anthony. —This week the Grand presents to crowded houses Miss Annie Bell and company in *The Idol of Paris*. The drama is a new one, and depicts some of the many occurrences in modern aristocratic and Bohemian life in the French capital. Miss Bell, who portrays the principal part of Flare-Flare, is admirably suited to the part, and her clever acting is much appreciated; as Victor Cashelle Mr. Sidney Arnold is quite at home, and he, too, is the recipient of well-merited applause; the part of Phillipe D'Esterre, which is an onerous one, is ably carried through by Mr. Otto Minster; Mr. Arthur McCullock gives a capital rendering of his part as Prince Zoreski; Mr. Bert Ware is well suited as Gustave Langlois. To Miss Annie Megson and Mr. H. Vyvian Thomas is due a word of praise for their acting. As Ann and Tarave respectively this couple get through excellent work. Miss Esther Carthew makes an ideal Mme. Sancterre.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Gordon Jefferson.—Mr. James Hare's company is here this week with *A Destroyer of Men*, in which Mr. Hare acts with telling effect the part of the exiled Karl Mischla, and also assumes successfully various disguises. Olga Mischla, an adventuress, and the "destroyer" referred to in the title, is strongly depicted by Miss Irene Clifford; while the contrasting character of Vida Ravel is pleasingly rendered by Miss Emmie Barton. Miss Alice Buckland as Nina Pattakake contributes some lively comedy, ably assisted by Mr. Ross Warren as Coco Totchoski, both artists enlivening their parts with songs; Mr. C. P. Wentworth as Count Starevitch acts the villain successfully; while the hero, Michael Mischla, has a fine exponent in Mr. Charles Bickell. Military and police characters are ably undertaken by Mr. Charles Coventry as a Police Spy, Mr. Arthur Swain as Col. Linievitch, and Mr. Arthur Conroy as General Drakensburg.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—That stirring play *The Sign of the Cross* is being given here this week by Mr. Wm. Greet's company, and the patronage accorded it proves that it has lost none of its attractiveness. Mr. Cyril Austin Lee makes a dignified and striking representative of Marcus Superbus; and as Mercia Miss Gladys Leslie is particularly well placed. Mr. C. Yorke as the hard-hearted Nero and Miss Mary Newcombe as Poppœa give able performances; Mr. Charles Aldred acts well as Tigellinus; the part of the boy Stephanus is played with much pathos by Miss Dulcie Greatwich.

Empire.—District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners.—Those great favourites Bella and Bijou are again here in a capital burlesque sketch on a new woman subject, and it may safely be said they have not hitherto given a more enjoyable item. The Georgia Piccaninnies, in a realistic American series of negro songs and dances, depict the life admirably. Marguerite Broadfoote, a charming comedienne, Lowenwirth and Gold, Hebrew comedians, and Gwilym Naish, in chorus songs, have each a good reception; and other turns of varied excellence are ably given by the Four Jumels, musical artists; the Legay Quartette, Parisian singers and dancers; and May Mars, a popular artist in Glasgow, in a neat song-scena, each have a large share of pleasing recognition. Very amusing are Lowell and Lowell, whether as acrobats, jugglers, or dancers. The Bioscope is again notable for the interesting pictures shown nightly.

Zoo-Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The bill this week is headed by Bob Hutt and his company in a laughable sketch called *Welcome Home*, in which Mr. Hutt acts the part of a bridegroom who is welcomed home by his mother-in-law and a noble army of spring-cleaners whom he finds in possession. Hymack, the chameleon comedian, gives a novel turn, in which the colours of his clothing change as if by sleight of hand. Lola Patey is a talented burlesque actress and pleasing singer; Madge Esmond is very engaging in her impersonations of a schoolboy on holiday and an up-to-date young man; Whalley and West keep the fun going briskly with lively patter; Conn and Conrad blend lots of fun with their daring trapeze feats; Powell's marionettes, trained dogs, and chromatic fountain constitute a pleasing turn; Reg. Williams, with his powerful voice, gives vivid expression to his finely-illustrated songs; Barrett and Knowles are comedians of great versatility, whose fun never flags; the Bioscope concludes an excellent entertainment.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—The *Zampa* overture is finely played, and opens an attractive programme, in which the conductor, Mr. Howard W. Galpin, is specially down for a violin solo; he shows technique and style of admirable quality, and his playing is very warmly applauded. Harry Tate and company provoke the usual merriment with their funny scena, entitled *Fishing;* and the smart show by the Three Sisters Silcott, in song and dance, wins them a loud recall. Tom E. Hughes is again a most popular comedian, and scores with his latest song, "Can London do without me?" Wyndham and Waters, comedy artists, are very amusing in a light musical sketch; the Okito Family, in a Chinese magical act, and Ethel Loftus all contribute with success; and much applause denotes the ability of Alma Obrey, a clever Australian burlesque artist. The genial Bob Baxter is also favourably received, and this popular house has always its big share of patronage at each performance.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Rose Elliot, with her tuneful choruses and sensible songs, is always a great favourite here, and is repeating her former success. Morny Cash as a comedian takes a leading place, and he is heartily enjoyed; Lowenwirth and Cohan give an amusing Hebrew comedy sketch; Geoffreys and Benson cause much amusement with their lively sketch, *Spoofed*. Tatten Hall is another smart comedian included in this week's bill, as is also that amusing artist Harry Maxim. Gerhardi Mohr does some wonderful feats in jumping. The Wiltons are clever duettists; and the turn of the Mayfair Comedy Quartette made a decided hit.

Coliseum.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—George Lashwood has been enthusiastically received here this week, and his "Oh, for a night in the west" and the new scena, in which he is assisted by the Eight Empire Girls, are two striking items. Oswald Williams is a conjurer of much ability, and his illusions are cleverly carried through; Esta Stella receives the welcome of an established favourite, and her songs go well; the Bros. Corcoran give a smart musical turn; Frances Letty scores a success in her latest songs and dances; the Eight Empire Girls give an enjoyable turn, and are equally successful singing or dancing. An attractive item on the programme is Hamish McCann's musical setting of *The Wreck of the Hesperus;* Charles Gardiner, a smart comedian, and the Bioscope complete a first-rate programme.

Gaiety.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Andrew Cowe.—A smart and clever cycling show by the Five Sisters Warwick receives a well-deserved recall; and another outstanding turn is that by May Lilian Levey, who is heard with much favour in some bright chorus songs. The Decars, in *Off to the Races*, give a burlesque sketch, introducing a donkey, and they create much merriment; Mary Gray gives a fine rendering of several Scotch songs, including "Caller Herrin'." Tom Kelso and company, in *The Silly Servant;* Wal Owen, "the comedy man"; and Zelda, an able performer on novel instruments, go to complete a first-rate programme, in which the Bioscope plays a good part. Good audiences are attracted nightly.

Britannia.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard.—The quality of the entertainment here is well maintained, amongst the artists being Bert Brecon, eccentric comedian; and Bristol and Hull, patterers and comedians, who are specially well received. Other commendable turns are given by May Garry, Irish vocalist; Dave Abbott, comedian and dancer; and Reiff Knott, who features naval songs. A well-selected series of films is shown on the Bioscope.

GLOSSOP.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mrs. Ann Hughes' company, in *The Young Lieutenant*, is paying a welcome visit this week. Mr. Saxton Granville, in the title-rôle, gives a fine portrayal, and renders his songs with fine effect; Mr. Harry Walsh gives an amusing portrayal of the part of Dick Bouncer; Mr. Edwin Sykes as Admiral Sir Stoke Newington is well placed; and Mr. Llewellyn C. Hughes is exceedingly successful as Duke of Bowminster; Mr. Leslie Hawkins is effective as First Lieutenant Charles Greenlaws; Mr. Steane Louch as Bill Barnacle sings the bo's'un's song in a finished manner; Miss Maggie Robertson as Marjorie Mayfair possesses a rich musical voice, and is applauded for her artistic assumption of the character; Miss Katie Kyrle as Dowager Lady Harlington is very pleasing; and Miss Ethel Robertson as Lady Evelyn Archer is fascinating; Miss Marion Lewis creates humour as Mother Price; Miss Hettie Gale as Polly is full of vivacity, and scores with songs and dances; Miss Lily Armstrong (Kitty Green), and Miss Flo De Ferry (Nellie Brown) sustain their parts in a creditable manner. The chorus and orchestra are under the able conductorship of Mr. Alexander Humphreys.

Victoria Hall.—Proprietors, Corporation of Glossop.—The Aldwych Animated Picture Company, under the direction of Herr Pareezer, is at the above hall this week. In addition to the latest up-to-date films, a good variety entertainment is presented by Dick Bradley, tramp trick cyclist; Miss Sophia Pareezer, coon and serio vocalist; Mint and Mart, comedy sketch artists. Miss Mildred Needham is an able accompanist.

GLOUCESTER.—Palace.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—The bill is headed this week by Sahib Fasola, Eastern wonder worker, whose illusions are exceptionally clever. Barney, Burke, and Bray, in spectacular absurdity, *London to Madrid*, amuse; and the Emmell Comedy company, including Adele Levy, in *My Statue of Grace*, are entertaining. Harry Jennings, comedian and dancer; Miss Jennie Fergus, comedienne; Martinette and Wallace, comedy musical artists; Tom Laurel, comedian; Miss Alice Lovette, in unique statuary act; and Alec Kendal, comedian, are also billed. The Bioscope completes the programme.

GOOLE.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John E. Tomlinson.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross and company presented *The Manxman* here on Monday night, when a large audience received the play enthusiastically. Mr. Cross is to be complimented on his earnest and zealous acting as Pete; Mr. Sydney C. Kearns gives a powerful portrayal of Philip; Mr. E. W. Cudd is excellent as Cæsar Cregeen; and Mr. Howard Brenan is a capital Ross Christian. Miss Minnie Watersford submits an artistic and impressive portrayal of Kate Cregeen; Miss Kathleen Barrett ably presents Miss Christian; and Miss Dorothy Duncan is a charming Nancy. The minor parts are in capable hands. *David Garrick* and *Divorced* were also announced.

GRANTHAM. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. A. Campbell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Marshall.—The attraction this week is Mr. Campbell's own company with *The Sin of Childhood*. Mrs. Campbell, who plays the title-rôle, is a talented actress. The part of the villainous Stephen Haysel is ably played by Mr. W. Summers; Mr. Guy Hastings does full justice to the part of Rev. Alan Grey; Mr. Frank Liston also gives a good interpretation of Captain John Thornton; Mr. H. Bradey as Barney O'Reilly and Miss Katie Lever as Eliza Muggins contribute the humorous element of the piece. Little Dorothy does her part as Eric Dugdale very well. Miss Nellie King acts with ability as Hannah Spry; and Maria Haysel is also cleverly enacted by Miss C. Santley.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is this week presenting *The Prodigal Son*. Mr. Hugh Montgomery gives a virile and forceful representation of Magnus Stephenson; Oscar is well played by Mr. Henry Watson; Miss Margaret Murch realistically portrays the temptress Helga; and Thora is sweetly represented by Miss Maude Stewart Drewry.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert. —The Bob Hanlon troupe give an exceedingly clever acrobatic turn; Miss Chloe Convere introduces her cake-walk horse; Amurat contributes a musical turn; De Ora submits a daring aerial act; Arthur Kenny gives a sensational display of cycling; Silbon's circus wins high favour; and many other items in the programme gain plenty of applause. Baby and Beauty shows are billed for the last days of the week.

GREENOCK.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. E. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in *The Blue Moon* is here. The title-rôle is capitally sustained by Miss Clarice Lockstone, whose acting and vocalisation are equally popular; Miss Laura Leycester makes a fascinating Lady Augusta; Miss Ida Stratham achieves distinction in the rôle of Evelyn Ormsby; and Miss Maude Aston vocalises sweetly and dances charmingly in the rôle of Millicent Leroy. Mr. Alfred Clark makes an excellent Major; Mr. J. Edward Fraser acts well and sings to perfection as Capt. Ormsby; Mr. Horace Mauger does well as Bobbie Scott; Mr. Alfred Beers amuses greatly as Moolraj; Mr. Reginald Switz scores as Private Charles Taylor, his dancing and singing being much applauded; and Mr. H. Asheton Tonge is seen to advantage as the Prince. The chorus is strong and tuneful, and the augmented orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. Carlton Mason.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessees, The Greenock Empire Syndicate; General-Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The New Macs top the bill here this week, their appearance being greeted with warm applause; the Two Eltons are good as horizontal-bar performers; the Marblesque Trio appear in a series of beautiful poses; Henri Bekker's skilful conjuring feats are seasoned with quaint humour; Cyrus Dare's interesting turn includes clever imitations of children; Ivey Aberdare, coon singer and sand dancer, Sisters Dorrell, duettists and dancers, and the Empire Pictures make up a good bill.

Pavilion, Ltd. — General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—Maidie Scott is the star attraction here this week, and had a splendid reception. The Musical Schaffers submit a pleasing instrumental speciality; the Bros. Obo amuse with eccentric comedy; Karr and Kooney, vocal comedians, are much appreciated; and Miss Olive Tree is a pleasing vocalist, while the Paviscope shows an amusing series of pictures.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—The actor-musician, Auguste van Biene, is again presenting *The Broken Melody*, Monday being the 4,770th performance. The centre of interest is, of course, Mr. van Biene himself, whose acting as Paul Borinski is an admirable realisation of the artistic temperament of a gifted musician. Miss Lena Burnleigh portrays the strongly emotional part of Mabel with complete success; the Duchesse of Verviers is most satisfactorily represented by Miss Constance Elgin; Mr. Henry Ludlow is a prominent figure as General Ivanoff; Mr. Brember Willis is good as the faithful Dickson, and Mr. G. H. Child is a capital exponent of the quaint character of Mortimer.

The Tivoli. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North. — Scottish comedy, as depicted by Jack Whiteford is highly diverting, and his burlesque of a football spectator is especially funny; Miss Ray Wallace repeats her realistic impersonations of well-known artists; Texas Hattie gives a novel display on the tight rope; Les Elgonas contribute a smart gymnastic act; Maggie Bowman and Tom J. Morton appear in an amusing comedy speciality; the Claymores combine good dancing with club jugglery; the Tiger Lily is a coloured vocalist and acrobat with original business; Madoline Rees is a popular vocalist, and Sylvesta mystifies with his wonderful clock.

The Palace.—Proprietors, The Grimsby Palace Theatre and Buffet, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—A mystifying exhibition of illusions is given by Mlle. Von Etta, the feats being entirely new in character; Martin Conway is as popular as ever in his quaint songs and smart patter; Will English scores another success; the Herald Comedy Four combine harmony and humour; Aeriel and Astarte are skilful gymnasts; Maud Mortimer is an engaging vocalist; Morell and Mooir are versatile artists; Harry Morris presents comedy; and Russell Carr contributes a good ventriloquial turn.

GUERNSEY.—Theatre St. Julian.—Lessee, Mr Edward Marris.—On Monday Mr. Eugenie C. Stafford's company opened here with *The Private Secretary*. Mr. W. Hargreaves has a part in Mr. Cattermole in which he excels; Mr. David James enacts the Rev. Robert Spalding with a considerable spice of originality; Miss Dora Gray is not only charming as Edith, but her performance is thoroughly artistic throughout; a very effective and winsome Eva is Miss Elsie Davidson; Miss Cicily Wade carefully utilises her chances as Mrs. Stead, and Mrs. Alfred Davis is very acceptable as Miss Ashford. On Thursday Mr. Van Maclaren's Shakespearean Répertoire company came.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*The Lady Dandies* is being played to capital houses by Mr. George Dance's company.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Sam Winks. —The proprietors here are continuously changing, and after a sequence of vaudeville programmes they are trying the experiment of drama twice nightly. This week Mr. Lingford Carson's company are putting on *Heart of a Hero, The Shaughraun, The Octoroon*, and *Ticket-of-Leave Man*, which have been well patronised.

Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. H. Foster.—The popular lessee of this important house of amusement is to be congratulated for his enterprise in being gallant enough to bring the great Moody-Manners' company, in a répertoire of grand English opera, to a town of Halifax's dimensions. When they opened on Monday with *Aïda*, Verdi's masterpiece, the cheering was deafening and curtain calls most frequent. From a dramatic standpoint the production was brilliant in every way, while the magnificent singing of the principals and chorus alike, together with the delightful music extracted from an orchestra of forty-five skilled musicians, completed a performance previously foreign to us here. The Oriental rôle of Aïda was picturesquely embodied by Mme. de Vere Sapia, who looked the part of the Ethiopian slave to perfection, while her superb vocalisation enchanted all present. Nothing could be finer than Mr. Joseph O'Mara's characterisation of Radames, captain of the Egyptian Guards. Blessed with a magnificent, well-trained tenor voice, his lines were beautifully delivered. At times, however, he was badly interrupted, so persistent were the people in applauding him. As the High Priest Mr. Charles Manners sustained the character with dignity, and his rich, deep voice has lost none of its old-time effectiveness. To eulogise too highly Mr. Lewys James as Amonasro is an impossibility. Possessed of more than a little histrionic talent, it is delightful to hear his superb singing and to study his deportment. Mr. Chas. Magrath was excellent as the King of Egypt. The celebrated bass singer was in his very best mood, and sang brilliantly throughout the opera. Miss A. Brown, Miss Toni Seiter, and Mr. Charles Moppett were one and all admirable. The composer's work was beautifully rendered, especially the intricate music, orchestrated under the vigilant eye of Signor Romualdo Sapio.

HANLEY. — Royal, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Mr. Arthur Hardy's company in *Beauty and the Barge* is again welcomed here. The cast has altered but little since its previous visit, and includes, as before, Mr. Blake Adams, whose impersonation of Captain James Barley is immensely amusing and interesting; as Lieut. Seton Boyne Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu is distinctly successful; Mr. Walter Pemberton is capital as the fiery Major Smedley; Mr. Atheling Farrar acts with ease as Herbert Manners, his impersonation being both natural and effective; Mr. Charles White is seen in the character part of John Dobbs, and his portrayal is excellent; Mr. Horace Kennedy does well as Augustus; Mr. Ewart Drake gives a smart representation of George Porter; Mr. Fred Knight is seen to advantage as Tom Codd; Miss Dido Drake contributes a charming performance as Ethel Smedley, this young lady portraying the part most cleverly; Miss Mona Robin makes an impressive Mrs. Smedley; and the Lucy Dallas of Miss Mary Pemberton is a performance of all-round excellence; Miss Kate Osborne is all that can be desired as Mrs. Baldwin; and Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite's Mrs. Porter is most amusing. The mounting is excellent, the last scene being a real masterpiece.

Grand.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. James Wynes.—A bill of all-round excellence is drawing packed houses here this week. Harry Lauder holds the premier position, and scores a gigantic success; Tom and Marie Motramo return in their exceedingly funny musical sketch; the Daunton-Shaw company of cyclists provide a truly clever and daring act; Dan Conroy tells stories capitally, and sings a good song; J. H. McCann is a clever dancer on roller skates; the Lukushima Troupe of Japanese acrobats are highly appreciated; Howe and Ardie, comedy acrobats, are well received; Beattie and Blanche are capital dancers; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux shows some admirable pictures.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. F. Smith.—This week the attraction here is Mr. George Edwardes's company in the new Chinese opera, *See-See*. As See-See Miss Dorothy Chard sang very well; Mr. Colin Coop made an amusing Cheoo, and Mr. Edmund Sherras looked and sang well as Yen. Mr. Bertie Wright as Nang-Kee was a host in himself, and both sang and danced well. Miss Lena Maitland's Mai-Yai was one of the features of the show, and Miss Lilian Pollard appeared with great success as So-Hie; Miss Kate Chard was well placed as Poo-See, and made the most of her scene with Cheoo. The play was beautifully mounted and dressed, and Mr. Leonard Leslie conducted.

The Kursaal.—Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. Julian Clifford; Assistant-Manager and Secretary, Mr. R. Eldrid.—On Monday afternoon and night Miss Madge Lessing and Mr. Nelson Jackson were the attractions. On Tuesday Miss Agnes Coates, soprano, and Mr. Curtis Leo, conjuror and magician, were in the bill for all the week. For the last three nights Mr. Wilfred Virgo, tenor, is the vocalist. On Thursday Miss Bessie Stibbs was announced as solo pianist.

HARTLEPOOL.—Empress.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—The principal item in the bill for this week is Frank E. Burdette's company in a military sketch, *Mutiny*. Nebu Singh has a capital exponent in Mr. Gerald Spencer; Mr. Walter Steele does justice to the rôle of Lieut. Manley; Ghuznah is played with excellent effect by Miss Agnes Kingston; Mr. Michel Madden is droll as Terry O'Brien; and Miss Marion Mayne does well as Kitty. The Waldrons are irresistibly funny in their absurdity, *The Silly Burglar;* sand-dancing is well demonstrated by Pete and Juno; Joe Humphreys is as breezy as ever; the Sisters Brenton are smart dancers; and Sira, a one-legged hand-balancer, Charles Rowson, comedian, and the pictures complete the bill.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—A return visit was paid here on Monday by Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's company in *The Walls of Jericho*, the fine drama proving of thorough interest to the large house assembled. Jack Frobisher was admirably presented by Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton; Mr. Russell Barry played effectively as Hankey Bannister, and also stage-managed; and the Marquis of Steventon had a good exponent in Mr. Ben Lewin. Miss Edith Cuthbert did excellently well as Lady Alethea Frobisher; Miss Nona Wynne ably played Lady Lucy Derenham; Miss Millie L. Emden was commendable as the Duchess; as also was Miss Pauline Strauss as Miss Mornington. Effective impersonations were also submitted by Mr. Ed. Coutts, Mr. Eustace Burnaby, Mr. Geo. Percy, Mr. Douglas E. Hayward, and Mr. H. Browning. For Thursday and the remainder of the week *The Stronger Sex*, by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, was announced.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Vivian Fisher; Acting-Manager, Walter Norman.—A varied and interesting programme is opened by the Sisters Bronson, duettists and dancers; Hal Chapter is very original in his songs and patter; Saxo is very expert on a variety of instruments; the special films on the Bioscope are exceedingly amusing, particularly The Fatal Sneeze; Elsie Earle gives a sweet rendering of her song scena, "Holly and Mistletoe"; Barney Stuart gives a capital portrait of a miser in his song scena of that name, a character that is admirably drawn; a clever and successful turn is introduced by Lieut. Albini, who changes the position of two young ladies, locked and corded in a box, an illusion watched with keen interest; Geo. Adams possesses a fine baritone voice; the songs and business of Rell and Butt are most amusing, their droll sayings and manner are much appreciated.

Pier Pavilion. — Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—A variety entertainment is holding the boards here this week. Kahn and Kahn are specially attractive as expert drawing-room illusionists; Miss Constance Milestone sings some pleasing songs; the interesting films shown by Payne's Biophotoscope contributes a good turn to the bill; Mr. Charles Coborn, a superior comic vocalist, is accorded a hearty reception; Walter George's Smart Set entertainers introduce some very tuneful and pretty singing, and when associated submit delightful renderings of trios and quartettes, which are thoroughly appreciated.

Beach Concert Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Blackmore.—This is the last week of Mr. Wallis Arthur's season, and his excellent company of vocalists and comedians has met with the success it deserved from the large audiences attracted both here and at the daily al fresco entertainments in the Park and St. Leonard's Gardens.

St. Leonards Pavilion Theatre.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—*Little Lord Fauntleroy* is being performed here this week. Miss Minnie Omar is singularly natural in the part of Cedric Errol, evincing decided aptitude for comedy; Miss Rosemary Rees in the character of Mrs. Errol is exceptionally gentle, sympathetic, and womanly; Miss Madge Lacey acts admirably as Minna; Mr. Arthur Goodsall gives an intelligent representation of Mr. Hobbs, the storekeeper; the Earl of Dorincourt, by Mr. Charles Carey, is a performance sound, conscientious, and entirely satisfactory; Mr. Chas. Swinburne is very good as Mr. Higgins.

HEREFORD.—Garrick Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. P. Barnsley.—Messrs. Quartermayne and Raynor's company are presenting *A Bunch of Violets*. Mr. Frederick Annerley as Sir Philip Marchant gives a fine reading; so dexterously does he handle the part that there is not the slightest suspicion of over acting, yet all his scenes are powerfully rendered. Miss Katherine Harrington undertakes the part of Lady Marchant in a charming manner, playing upon the feelings of the audience most effectively and holding its sympathies throughout. Miss Enid Ross as Mrs. Murgatroyd has a character in which she excels. Mr. Leonard Cheetham is satisfactory as Harker. The small parts are without exception admirably handled, and the piece is creditably put on.

HORWICH.—Princes Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. A. P. Patterson; Manager, Mr. Alec Harcourt.—Mr. Stanley Carlton's company in *A Secret Wedding* had a very hearty reception on Monday. Mr. Carlton's Herbert Harrington is a very fine performance; Mr. Herbert-Evelyn plays the villain, Edgar Hartington, with power; Mr. Kellen Taylor's Ben Drummond, the old butler, is good; Mr. Fred Conway as P.-C. Foot is a fine specimen of the Force; Mr. Edgar Morgan as Billy Barton is responsible for plenty of comedy, being very ably assisted by Miss Nellie Freeland in the part of Polly; Miss Maude Steeple plays Jack, a waif, in good style; Miss Florrie Vennimore as Elise Marchand is satisfactory; Grace Edmondson is ably played by Miss Rubie Maude; and Miss Ethel Lawson appears as the Avenging Angel.

HOYLAND.—Metropole.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. R. Baker.—Miss Hettie Jeffries and company are presenting *A Nobleman of Nature*. A manly Prince Ivan is found in Mr. W. H. Wilson, and Mr. Whitmore Ledger is an excellent Paul Berndoff. Mr. David Urquhart as Philip Hampton and Mr. Richard Harris as Michael give an excellent reading of their respective characters. The comedy element is introduced by Mr. Dan Mining as Bill Drinkwater, ably assisted by Miss Dot Russell as Polly Bouncer. Miss Alvina Mining gives an excellent interpretation of the twin sisters, Edith and Katusha, and as Vera Miss Hettie Jeffries is very winsome and pathetic.

HULL.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—For the first time, Mrs. Pat Campbell appears in Hull with her own company, having, however, been previously seen on the occasion of the visit of Mme. Bernhardt, when the former essayed to play in French. The opening item this week being *Mrs. Tanqueray*, it is obvious that in a rôle which made this artist famous there is nothing new to add. Excellent aid was given by Miss P. Campbell, who in her impersonation of Stella gives evidence of great promise. That sterling actor, Julian Royce, was a delightful Cayley; whilst Mr. Chas. Garry played Aubrey with merit. Suderman's *Magda* and *Hedda Gabler* (Ibsen) are also in the bill.

Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Local Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—English opera at its best can be well applied to the Turner Opera Company, who gave an admirable interpretation of the old favourites. Mr. Turner, whom one remembers pleasantly for his work in this city as a member of the old Carl Rosa company, in addition to management, undertakes several of the heaviest rôles with wonderful effect, his voice being still flexible and pure. In the title-rôle of *Maritana*, with which the company opened, Miss Christine Gomez sang her numbers with much feeling. Admirable was Miss Jessie Dennis as Lazarello. The music of the King of Spain was well rendered by Mr. Tom Griffiths; Mr. Turner was a fine Don Cæsar; and the Don José of Mr. Ridding was commendable. The chorus is effective and the orchestra well balanced. During the week *The Bohemian Girl* and *The Lily of Killarney* have been in the bill.

Alexandra Theatre.—Mortons, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*For Her Sake* is here this week, presented by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. The company is a strong one, and includes Miss Mabel Manners, a favourite here, to whom is entrusted the rôle of Olga; Mr. Wellesley Drage, a fine Prince Vladimir; and Miss G. Nellerville, an American heiress. The comic relief gives full scope to Mr. Sydney Benson and Miss Maimie Rendal.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Appearing here are Jack Lorimer, Dorothy L. Clark, Stella Stahl, Charles Ulrick, Jonty Hayton, Tyrol Bros., Bob Morgan, and the Meymotts.

The Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—A very good programme is provided by the Four Watsons, the Days, Edie Anderson, Bert and Dora, Mozetto, Evie Hamilton, and Harry Rayley.

The Circus.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson. —Dyson's Choir are proving most popular here.

HYDE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—*The Coal King* pays a return visit here this week, and Messrs. G. M. Polini and L. Maitland's company present the play in an able manner. Mr. Sydney Leyton as Tom Roberts makes a manly hero, whilst the villainies of Mr. W. P. Mansfield as Walter Hartford earn due recognition from the

Unsolicited Testimonial. — Criterion Theatre, Piccadilly, W., Sept. 23rd, 1907. Dear Mr. Harris,—I am glad to be able to state that Miss Mary Moore and Sir Charles Wyndham are very satisfied with the manner in which you have cleaned the tableaux curtains and all the draperies at the New Theatre; they look as good as new.—Yours very

gallery. Mr. Ernest Rivars makes a stately Sir Reginald Hartford, J.P., and as Dick Shirley Mr. Frank Dalton is excellent. The humour is in the hands of Mr. Alfred Terris as Jim Williams, and he receives capital support from Armaminta Green played by Miss Winifred Love. Miss Dorothy Clifton makes a charming Grace Shirley, and a clever character sketch is given by Miss Sinna St. Clair as Mad Ann. The scenery and effects are special features of the production.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*Two Little Vagabonds* is proving an attraction here. Dick is charmingly portrayed by Miss Marjorie Murray; Miss Josie Belham plays with pathos as Wally; George Thornton is well handled by Mr. Wilson Coleman; Miss Violet Ellicott's clever impersonation of Marion Thornton is much applauded; Barbara Scarth is capably presented by Miss Mabel Ormonde; and Miss Lenna Vernon is well suited as Sister Randall. Mr. Douglas Cecil gives a good reading of Capt. Darville; Mr. John F. Traynor fills the rôle of Bill Muggins capitally, and Miss Marie Pritchard as Biddy Muggins is grimly humorous.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—On Monday Mr. Junius Booth and company opened with *Monte Cristo*. Mr. Booth deserves high praise for his interpretation of the chief part of Edmond Dantes; Danglars was well sustained by Mr. A. Bowerman; Mr. C. W. Crowe as Fernand and Walter Huson as the King's Attorney were most satisfactory; and Miss B. Doyle as Mercedes showed ability.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor Mr. E. H. Bostock; Manager, Mr. Stead.—The programme this week is a strong one. Miss Minnie Hunt and Mr. Rhys Thomas appeared in an amusing duologue, *Her Birthday*, in which Miss Hunt has good scope for her vocal powers. Miss Minnie D'Aubyn is a pleasing vocalist, and Charley Russell, who gave his experiences of managing a coffee stall, was well approved. Mr. Henry Coulle is clever and expeditious in his many changes. Messrs. Mount and Corelli have a duologue entitled *Master and Maid*, which caused much laughter; The Three McGregors were heartily welcomed back; Madame Lumiere in the "Fairy Grotto," with lights of various colours, was a very charming impersonator. Another return visit was Professor Duncan with his beautiful Scotch collies.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Rex Sugden.—Mr. Russell Norrie's company is paying a visit here with the comedy-drama, *Mr. Smith*. Mr. Norrie gives a clever rendering of the title-rôle; Capt. Simmons Lynn as the Duke of Angleland is interesting; Mr. C. Cecil is responsible for a good account of the Millionaire; and Miss M. Cottell looks and plays the part of Ruth Anheuser, the Millionaire's daughter, to perfection; Miss Sophie Lingwold is well placed as Mrs. Smith; Miss Bertha Forest gives an excellent rendering of the Duchess of Angleland; Mr. C. Willis, as the Earl of Oxted, is at home in the part; and Miss Gladys Lloyd is a charming Lady Mary.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—There were packed houses last Saturday when the Zancigs made their bow before the Jersey public. Amongst those present at the evening performance were His Excellency Major-General H. S. Gough, C.B., C.M.G., Lieut.-Governor, Mrs. Gough and party, Lady Otway, Mr. A. Hilgrove Turner (H.M.'s Attorney-General), the Officers of the 1st East Surrey Regiment, etc. Miss Ethel Grimes gave a perfect interpretation of Thomas's "I'm Titania," and a couple of songs were well rendered by Miss Katie Moss, a great favourite here; whilst Mr. Thornley Dodge's sketches were highly appreciated; Mr. and Mrs. Zancig received quite an ovation for their inimitable performance.

KEIGHLEY.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall.—A capital variety programme is headed by Mr. James Willard's company in *The Ace of Hearts*. Mr. James Willard, Mr. Jackson Wilcox, and Miss Mabel Carr are excellent in their respective parts. Other turns are provided by Tate and Tate, the Four Ramlos, the Olmars, Russell Brandow, Shrills, the Cromwells, Irene and Laura, and Ray Ford.

KIDDERMINSTER.—NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—For the first three nights of this week Mr. Charles Macdona's company appeared in *A Chinese Honeymoon*. Mr. Leo Kloss as Hang Chon is excellent; Chippie Chop is in the capable hands of Mr. Louis Ashmeade; and Mr. Lindsay Harmon makes a perfect Li Hung; Miss Lydia Bland is a charming Loo Loo, and Miss Fanny Bass a pretty Mi Mi. There is a capital chorus under the direction of Mr. Leonard Gautier, and the piece is well mounted.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—Mr. Arthur H. Horner's company has been presenting the two farcial comedies, *Walker, London*, and *The Play-Actor*, here this week. In the former Mr. Harry C. Morton sustains the part of Jasper Phipps in a droll manner; Mr. Forrester Harvey gives an admirable interpretation of the part of "W.G."; Mr. C. H. Hughes makes a sturdy Kit Upjohn; and Mr. W. Rene Hammersmith capably fills the rôle of Renard von Burg. Miss Katharine Parry is extremely good as Belle Golightly, B.A., and Miss Ruby Hamilton Belasco is well placed as Mrs. Golightly.

KIRKCALDY.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan.—*Lucky Durham* was presented on Monday night by Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company. Mr. Edmund Kennedy was responsible for a sound and effective rendering of John Durham; as Lord Mountfallow Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood filled the villainous rôle splendidly; Mr. A. E. Walker was very successful as Mr. Vallerton, while Mr. W. Dunlop made quite a pleasant Arthur Walcombie; Mr. John Hartt as Tasker was undoubtedly clever, and Mr. Arthur Leigh as the Hon. Reggie was quite inimitable. Praise is due to Miss Alice Esther Belmore and Miss Florence Dulhunty who, as Helen and Margaret, were satisfactory in every way; Miss Rosabel Dodd was decidedly good as Lady Mountfallow, as was also Miss Louisa Gourlay as Mrs. Durham.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—Mr. George Testo Santé and company are presenting here *The Life of a Showman* to good houses; Mr. Santé in the rôle of Brien Leader appears to special advantage both as actor and athlete; the villain, Hendrick, is well presented by Mr. Morris Maud; and a clever impersonation of the Rev. Cyril Arliss is given by Mr. Edward Warden; Miss Constance Medwyn is most successful as Agatha Winter, and the juveniles, Miss Lizzie Power and Master Harry Warden, do very well.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. John Porter and W. G. Fergusson.—*Are You a Mason?* the attraction here, is being capitally presented by Mr. C. Macdona's company; Mr. Howard L. Tracy displays excellent qualities in his depiction of Frank Perry, and Mr. Eric Albury's highly characteristic impersonation of George Fisher causes keen enjoyment; Mr. E. H. Patterson plays Amos Bloodgood with well sustained comedy; Mr. Buchanan Wake is droll as John Halton; Mr. G. R. J. Austin is successful in the rôle of Tarvers; and Mr. Erskholme E. Clive submits a finished portraiture of Ernest Morrison; Miss Adelaide Grace gives a capital portrayal of Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood, and the Lotty of Miss Gwen Clifford is a clever and artistic study.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Walter P. Wright.—The celebrated Hungarian actor-violinist, Jan Rudenyi, is this week topping the bill in his musical romance, entitled *The Power of Music*, in which he treats the audience to some artistic playing; Miss Marie Jones, a versatile protean actress, presents her quick-change novelty duologue, *The Way to Win a Bet*, a clever performance; whilst the Lannons are well received in their high pedestal dancing act. Other interesting turns are given by Billy French, the clever American wooden shoe dancer; Percy Johnson, an excellent comedian; Wheeler and Wilson, eccentric acrobats; and the Sisters Bartholomew, vocalists and dancers. Some interesting and amusing pictures are shown by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—An enthusiastic welcome was here accorded that popular pair, Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry on Monday last, when a crowded house foregathered for the opening performance of their successful romantic play, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. Mr. Fred Terry enacted the many-sided character of Sir Percy in delightful style, every phase being depicted with consummate skill; as Lady Blakeney Miss Neilson has a heavy part, and her acting, both of tragedy and comedy episodes, is superb and convincing; that sterling actor, Mr. Horace Hodges is well placed as the French envoy, Chauvelin, and gets through his work with distinction; Miss Mary Mackenzie displays great ability in her handling of the part of Susanne; Mr. T. Wigney Percyval plays the royal part in satisfactory style; whilst those other well-known members of the company, Mr. Alfred Kendrick, Mr. Frederick Groves, and Mr. Malcolm Cherry, enact their usual parts in accomplished manner.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—The popular drama, *The Midnight Mail*, opened here to good business on Monday, and a fine presentation by Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Willard's company was much enjoyed Mr. George Havard plays the important part of Harry Steyne in great style, his work being much applauded; his wife, Mary, is a distinctly pleasing effort by Miss C. Errington; whilst Miss Jeannie Weston and Miss Mildred Carr are seen to advantage in other leading feminine rôles. Mr. Ernest Evison is to be complimented on an excellent effort as Billy Brewer; and Mr. E. Ferguson achieves distinction as Leonard Royle.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—That clever comedian, Toy Foy is vastly amusing in his *Yorkshire Lad in London* sketch; Lockhart's elephants go through a most interesting and intelligent performance under the guidance of Captain Taylor; the mystery, "Dida," arouses a big show of interest; May Henderson makes quite the "hit" of the evening in a vivacious song and dance speciality; an impressive strong-man show by Launceston Elliott is well received; Horace White, the ventriloquist, achieves the usual good success; charming Florence Esdaile pleases her numerous admirers with vocal renderings; whilst Rita and Roma, speciality entertainers, and Beatrice Renee, dialect vocalist, also encounter a good reception.

QUEEN'S.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—At this popular place of entertainment a pretty vocal scena, *The Garden of Girls*, is the *pièce de résistance*, and is cleverly enacted by Haley's company of vocalists and dancers; Agnes Molteno brings her company in a well-acted and enjoyable playlet; a popular comedian, Ernie Myers, is a strong success; and J. W. Gallagher is another favourite comedy contributor. Ruby Dahl presents her novel marionette show; and other good turns this week are the Sprees, novel speciality; Jack Martin, actor-vocalist; Mezzetti and Mora, acrobatic humorists; and Pietro, contortionist.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—The musical comedy production, *The Duchess of Tooting*, is a merry thirty minutes' interlude, and has proved very attractive this week at the above hall; Mr. Stephen Adeson is the chief executant, and is very humorous in a liberal part; the Columbia Comedy Trio are immensely sucessful in an original act; a very smart acrobatic show by the Hilgert Arkas Troupe is received with acclamation; whilst Wright and Lawson are also deservedly popular in a turn which comprises some remarkable acrobatic feats. Nell Emerald, in song and dance, is as lively and pleasing as ever; Ford Williams, the vocalist, finds favour; a comedy act by Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene and company goes well; and Stidder and Dunbar, in musical comedy, complete a strong programme.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—The clever and versatile Harvey Boys lead the Varieties bill this week with a popular entertainment; Curwen and Belle find great favour in a neat musical comedy sketch; Johnny Holland and company are doing a knock-about sketch, which is uproariously funny; the Ottawas, in vocal and instrumental interlude, are a popular feature; two good examples of the up-to-date comedian, George Prince and Charlie Dillon, are having a good week; and of the rest, Gena Manon, vocalist; and the Sisters Albert, duettists and dancers, are particularly well received.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. Charles Hermann.—A good all-round performance of the musical play *The Blue Moon* is being given here this week by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's principal company; Miss Marie Wilson gains golden opinions for a charming impersonation of the title-rôle; Miss Florence Imeson makes a captivating Millicent Leroy, and Miss Ethel Callanan as Ethel Ormsby, Miss Violet Hobson as Oma, and Miss Marie Regnold as Lady Augusta Brabasham are also prominent; Mr. Edward Lewis maintains his reputation by creating endless laughter as Moolraj; Mr. Horace Mills is very good as Private Charles Taylor; Mr. Roland Bottomley sings and acts well as Captain Jack Ormsby; Mr. Jack Cannot is excellent as Major Vivian Callabone; and both Mr. George Mudie, jun., as Bobbie Scott, and Mr. Jack Spurling as the Prince are deserving of high praise; a meed of commendation should also be accorded the chorus and augmented orchestra under Mr. Ernest Hurman; the play is staged and dressed in a tasteful manner.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer and her well selected répertoire company form the attraction this week. On Monday evening a really fine performance of *Catherine, Duchess of Dantzig* was given, which evoked unstinted praise, the costumes and staging being done on an elaborate scale; in the principal part Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer displayed her histrionic abilities in a manner calling for nothing but the greatest approbation; Mr. F. Skein as Fouche is also to be complimented on a performance of exceptional merit; Mr. Ernest Griffin made an excellent impression as Napoleon I., and Mr. Walter Raynham as Marechal Lefebvre, Mr. Howard Rose as Lieutenant Adrian Lefebvre, and Mr. A. Harvey as D'Esparre acquitted themselves admirably; Miss Gwladys Faunce was good as Rosalie, and Miss Irene Knox was a capital Madame de Stall. *Bast Lynne, Hamlet* (with Mrs. Palmer in the chief part), *Sapho*, and *Jane Shore* were also underlined for presentation.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Harry Ford tops the bill here this week, and creates great merriment with some really funny songs and patter; Miss Isabel Derrie and Co. present the military episode, *La Vivandière*, in a manner leaving nothing to be desired, Miss Derrie as Cigarette being especially good; Amy Anderson and Co. cause the heartiest laughter with her popular scena *The Banana Queen*, in which a male member of the company gives a remarkable acrobatic display; the Sisters Grovini are seen in a smart acrobatic act; Leipzig does some clever things as a conjuror; Cissie Curlette is a popular and entertaining mimetic vocalist; J. B. Preston is a funny Scotch comedian and neat dancer; Cumminger and Colonna, the Octoroon and the English girl, are good, the sand dancing of the former arousing the usual applause; E. J. Sheldon also entertains, and the bioscope depicts "Life on a British Reformatory Ship," etc.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joe Lawrence.—J. Wright Aitken and Co. take the lead here this week with the sensational dramatic romance *The Devil's Hand*, which is meeting with great success; Miss Una Wright as Dorothy Milburn, and Mr. J. Wright Aitken as Victor Margo being very conspicuous, and Mr. George Stanley as Frank Vernan, and Miss C. Durano as Nurse Williams lending able assistance; Wild Willie and West create roars of laughter in their comedy acrobatic act; Will and Rose are entertaining in their funny pot-pourri act *Le Café Magique*; the Sisters Della, descriptive vocalists, are meeting with a cordial reception; Little Dando, eccentric comedian, scores a well-deserved success; and Bert Keppel, coon vocalist and sand dancer, and Alvar, gymnast, also appear; Walter H. Pallister's bioscope, with "A Tour Through Switzerland," and a beautifully coloured subject, "The Enchanted Glasses," is a great feature.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Mr. Walter Jeffs's New Century Pictures have attracted full houses, who have evinced the greatest delight with the entertainment submitted, comprising as it does the very latest films, both comic and serious, and many beautiful coloured ones. The visit will be brought to a close this (Saturday) evening.

ASSOCIATION HALL.—Messrs. Maddox and Lawton and their Bohemian Concert Party have given delightfully enjoyable and refined entertainments here, which have been received with unstinted applause; Mr. Harry Lawton is a smart humorist and mimic, and others who are also to the fore are Will Giddings, light comedian and dancer; Arthur Bearle, society jester; Ernest Cass, baritone vocalist; Dan Harley, droll comedian and dancer; Reginald A. Maddox, vocalist; and T. E. Maddox, a solo pianist of ability.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Walter Childs.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company, in the new play, *The Lancashire Lad*, is drawing good houses here this week. Mr. Henry Wolston commands great admiration for his exposition of the title-rôle; Miss Gertrude Sterroll plays with a deal of tact and sweetness as Jessie Wincote; Max Carton has a creditable exponent in Mr. Graham Winsford; Miss Florence Walton ably depicts the womanliness of the wife's character; Miss Alice Williams is highly successful as Kitty de Vere, her singing and dancing being greatly admired; Miss Harriet Russell soon instals herself a favourite as Mother Wardle; and too much praise cannot be allotted to Mr. Harry Rousby as John Willie Wardle, his eccentricities throughout being as original as they are amusing. A better exponent than Miss Nell Rene as Jane Alice Clitheroe could hardly be found, her singing in Act. III. calling forth great applause. The remaining parts are all in capable hands, and the scenery is most excellent.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The emotional Russian melodrama *A Beautiful Fiend*, with Miss Sidney Crowe seen to great advantage in the title-rôle, has been staged here this week by Mr. Montague Beaudyn's Company; the parts of Ivan Paulovitch and Nadine Karoteff, hero and heroine of the piece, are well played by Mr. Oliver Birrell and Miss Irene Munroe; the funny element is plentifully provided by Mr. Matt Russell and Miss Annie Clunn as Christopher Crackles and Patty Woodlands; and Mr. Beaudyn himself is successful in his impersonation of the arch-villain Count Karoteff; Sergius Strozoff finds a capable exponent in Mr. Julien Mitchell, and minor parts are all adequately filled.

LINCOLN.—ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, Mr. W. Payne Seddon and Mr. Ernest Pope.—*The Little Breadwinner* is presented by the company of Mr. J. A. Campbell, the author of the play. Miss Marjorie Laurence is charming as Meg; and the other characters are admirably played.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—A remarkably clever animal turn is given by Leoni Clarke's trained pets; Mulvey and Mirian in *The Reporter*, Lord, Murray, and Lord in *The Intruder*, with some smart boxing, and the Bros. Adderley in *An Officer's Servant*, present clever sketches; and the Sisters Lytton sing most tastefully. Ena Richards is a taking comedienne, and Raymond's Bioscope adds to the interest of a very strong programme.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—A hearty welcome has this week been accorded to Mr. George Alexander and Miss Irene Vanbrugh, who have submitted, for the first time in Liverpool, *His House in Order*. Pinero's brilliant work has proved exceedingly acceptable, and so great was the demand for seats that an additional matinée had to be arranged. In the rôle of Hilary Jesson, Mr. Alexander has added another to his already long list of stage triumphs; the fine dramatic power of Miss Vanbrugh, with all their delicate lights and shades, were shown with effect in her impersonation of Nina; Mr. Cyril Harcourt played adequately as Filmer Jesson; Miss Iris Hawkins showed delightful intelligence in the difficult childish part of Derek; Mrs. Kemmis gave a picture of the staid Lady Ridgeley that would be hard to surpass; Miss Ruth Maitland deserves every praise for her rendering of Geraldine Ridgeley; Miss Beatrix De Burgh made an admirable French Governess; and worthy support came from Messrs. E. Lyall Swete (Sir Daniel), George Silver (Pryce), Norman Trevor (Major Maurewarde), and Reginald Owen (Harding).

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. E. Stevens and R. C. Buchanan; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Mr. Beerbohm Tree put in another seven performances here, staging the same programme as last week. Public support has been enthusiastic.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Mr. Hill-Mitchelson paid a visit to the north-end house with his own drama, *Rogues and Vagabonds*, which has delighted large audiences. Mr. Mitchelson gave a fine rendering of the part of Nathan Baxter; Mr. George Dalper proved eminently successful as Harry Stamford; Miss Violet Carlyle ably played the character of Hilda Jeffries, the escaped convict; Mr. W. Heilbron acquitted himself well as Ferdinand Delair; and other satisfactory rôles were undertaken by Miss Alice Barber, Miss Mary Collier, Miss Cissie Podmore, and Mr. Russell Bogue.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*Two Little Sailor Boys* has been played here this week before large audiences. Included in Mr. W. H. Hallatt's able company were Messrs. Horace E. Herbert, whose Commander Tregarthen was a capital study; Miss Beryl Mercer and Miss Effie D. Crawford, the two boys; and Miss Blanche Steele, a powerful Lola Grey. Others who worked hard towards a successful presentation were Messrs. Leonard Clarke, Charles Boult, Forbes Harrison, and Miss Alice Defoe.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—*The Best of Her Sex* has been given here during the week, and has proved a source of keen enjoyment to large audiences. Mr. William A. Armour, who brought the company, distinguished himself in the part of Philip Faringdon; Mr. Herbert J. Walton held the rôle of Colonel Faringdon with credit; Miss Dora Price showed high accomplishments as Vera Delamore; and other worthy supporters were Messrs. Wilfred Protheroe, Herbert De Ville, Cole Aspinall, and Fred Rignold. The play was well put on.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Harry Randall has met with a rousing reception here this week; the mystifying conjuring of Hermann Meiot was watched with the deepest interest; F. W. Purcell's company, which included Herbert Russell, George Elliston, and Ethel Stalman, gave the laughable sketch, *That Brute Simmons*; Rhoda Paul submitted a pretty musical incident, entitled *The Schoolboy's Dream*; Gus Garrick pleased immensely with his "music hall tit-bits"; the clog-dancing and singing of the Six Lancashire Lassies proved particularly enjoyable; a merry musical sketch, *The Bugler*, came from the Warsaw Bros.; and also in the list were Bessie Butt, soubrette and dancer; and Gwladys Elvey, musical comedy artist.

TIVOLI, LTD.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; Manager, Mr. James Marks.—Top of the bill here this week are the humorous Six Brothers Luck, with *Blazes*, which has been richly enjoyed; Walter Emerson, the tall comedian, has been responsible for much laughter; the Grisse Trio of Continental speciality artists have proved very diverting; some excellent banjo playing has been given by Francis O'Flynn; the Temples Trio are admirable vocalists; the juggling by Saidos is particularly clever; Violet Morgan proves a talented mimic; and Charles Lilburn is full of eccentricity.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—In big type here this week we have Mme. Irma Glasen's living art bronzes, which have proved exceedingly interesting; the harmonious singing of the King's College Boys has been appreciated; Ford and Barras gave a pleasing turn of dancing and music; Sadler and Ross, Irish comedians, caused much laughter; a refined musical act came from the Coes; Frank Coyle had a number of funny songs and patter; and also in the bill were Edna Latonne, vocalist; Eileen Douglas, comedienne; and Harry Lewis, comedian.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the programme here this week is the beautiful ballet divertissement, *Electra*, which has proved a source of delight; Mooney and Holbein, with their vaudeville intermezzo, have earned cordial appreciation; as a mimic of animals, Carl Lynn distinguished himself; Herbert Clifton, "the man with the £1,000 voice," had a most hearty reception; a smart comedy acrobatic sketch was submitted by Lanos and Montes; as cross-talkers and dancers, Conan and Doyle were especially entertaining; Nellie Moor's character impersonations proved popular; a neat little comedy, *My Landlord*, was presented by Fred Lawrence's combination; and the list likewise included the names of Ailsa Douglas, vocalist; and Joe Conway, comedian.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The Royal stock company have been giving *Why Woman Sins* here this week. Mr. Harry Tresham proved a manly Lieut. Maxwell; Mr. Sydney Grant played strongly as the scoundrel, Captain Carlton; Mr. R. Wilton afforded every satisfaction in the rôle of Cecil Spencer; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood creditably held the parts of Oliver Desmond and Admiral Steadfast; and good work was likewise done by Miss Beryl Ravenswood, Miss Florence Palmer, and Miss Florence Cameron.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Edwards.—Excellent business continues to be done here by the established stock company. This week *The Mistress of the Seas* has proved an attraction, the principal rôles being undertaken by Messrs. Ernest Wingfield, Frank S. Strickland, Charles Winter, W. E. Griffith, H. G. Brandon, H. Hesslegrave, Francis B. Wybert, Miss Gladys A. Walton, Miss Lina Nazeby, and Miss Florence Barnes.

PARK PALACE.—Proprietors, Liverpool Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.—The stock dramatic company here have this week given *The Voice of the People*, from the pen of Max Goldberg. In the rôle of the Rev. Walter Meredith, Mr. Hugh Carmichael played with excellent effect; Mr. Albert Sember gave a fine rendering of the broken-down actor, Phelps; the villainous sweater, Morris Morris, was cleverly handled by Mr. Walter Foster; Mr. Archie Helsby did well as Steve Morris; Miss Nelson Ramsay infused a deal of tenderness into the unfortunate Liz; and Miss Lilian Burns made a sweet Mary Maynard.

HAYMARKET.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Harry Calden and his dramatic sketch company continue to occupy the greater portion of the programme here. This week they have given *The Shamrock, Rose, and Thistle; or, Unity*. The Brothers Patty are pleasing vocal duettists; Preston Holmes shows much skill on musical instruments; and Cissy De Prenton and company have a funny absurdity, entitled *Mrs. Mink's Mistake*.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Principal here this week are Charles Windermere and Clare Manifield, a smart pair of comedy artists; Dick Powell and company present a very funny sketch, entitled *An Antiquarian*; Jack Lane, the Yorkshire comedian, has some humorous songs and sayings; the popular Charles Santon renders a number of acceptable songs; and Violet Stockwell, comedienne, also appears.

OLYMPIA.—District-Manager. Mr. Albert Bulmer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wighton.—The always-popular Eugene Stratton has delighted everybody here this week; Miss Marquis gives an interesting show with her highly-trained cobs; Albert Whelan proves as entertaining as ever; a high-class vocal and dancing act comes from Charles Parker's Six Æolians; as vocalists and acrobatic dancers, the Three Sisters Kilner show much ability; Gracie Moore's illustrated chorus songs find ready acceptance; the smart monologue artist, R. H. Douglass, comes in for hearty applause; and also in the list are Les Frasettis, musical entertainers; and Dot Hardy, character comedienne.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—*The Octoroon* has been the attraction here this week, presented by the stock company. Mr. J. D. Geddes was a capital Jacob McClosky; Mr. Herbert H. Young acted well as George Peyton; Mr. C. H. Maxwell afforded satisfaction in the part of Wah-No-Tee; Mr. Percy Boucher played his old part of Salem Scudder with credit; Miss Lilian Beaumont put a deal of feeling into the character of Zoe; Miss Evelyn Kington was Paul; and Miss Enid Wilde did justice to Dora Sunnyside.

LONDONDERRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon.—Mr. Lawrence Brough is here this week producing *The Lady from Ostend* and *Saucy Sally*. In the former Mr. Harry Hampson fills the rôle of Dick admirably, and as his wife Miss Kate Milford is capital. Mr. Dan F. Roe and Miss Bessie Harrison as Dick's father-in-law and mother-in-law fill their parts excellently. Mr. Watkin Wynne as the prize-fighter delighted the audience, and as the Baron Mr. Brough himself is very good indeed.

LONG EATON.—ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—A visit is being paid this week by Miss Maude Western's company in the military melodrama, *The Prodigal Son*. Sir John Fanshaw, the squire, is well taken by Mr. F. Dudley; his sons, Captain Harry and Jack, capably represented by Mr. W. A. Buckstone and Mr. Claude Seaton. Much of the fun of the piece rests with Mr. Godfrey Hunsley as Larry McGehan, and the maid, Miss Connie Meadows, who is encored for a smart dance. Mr. John Levey as Bill Burke and Miss Molly Rees are effective in their respective parts. The military business is prominent, and Miss Western figures as the pet of the regiment with distinction.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Manager, Mr. H. A. Smith.—Mr. C. W. Poole's myriorama is here this week. Amongst the pictures is a striking illustration of the Battle of Trafalgar. The variety turns include Miss Kitty Woodford's performing dogs in a clever act.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Frank Freeland.—The animated pictures here are still meeting with warm approval, crowded audiences being the general rule at each performance. The recent motor races at Dieppe are a fine item. The variety artists include Les Uniques, gymnasts; J. H. Crewe, comedian; The Florias, wire artists; and W. H. Downs and his piccaninnies in *The Darkies' Dream*.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—Luton people are interested this week with the visit of Go-Won-Go-Mohawk and her American company in the sensational drama, written by herself, entitled, *Wep-ton-no-mah*; some very interesting scenes are witnessed, especially those in which two ponies take part.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—The return of Mr. Lingford Carson's company in *The Drama of Life* is welcome. Mr. Algernon J. Hicks is admired for his portrayal of Harry Beech; Mr. Edward M. Hamilton gives force to the part of Walter Beech; Mr. Clarence Ibbotson in his clever way makes the most of Sir Dobson Wilde; Messrs. Andrew Money and George Vinning as Jack Lawson and Dare Crane respectively present striking portrayals; Mr. J. Dobson Clyde ably represents Richard Benton; and Mr. Edward Van Bienne is successful as Count De Foi. Miss Marie Ramus gives a charming rendering of Lady Jane Wilde; Miss Kate Hallam is seen to advantage as Sylvia Beech; and Miss Amy Ross-Clyde is a droll Betty Black.

MAIDENHEAD.—TOWN HALL.—Secretary, the Town Clerk.—Three nights' good business has been done by the Great Western Animated Picture Co., the business manager of which is Mr. Harry Berry. The subjects illustrated are of a varied description, and include the singing pictures, "Death of Nelson" and "The Old Chorister." Mr. Albert Groves in an excellent manner performs suitable pianoforte selections.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—A visit of Mr. H. B. Irving and his company to this theatre was welcomed by a large audience on Monday. Mr. Irving appeared as Mathias in *The Bells*, and achieved a distinguished success. It is, of course, essentially a one-part play, but the support rendered by (among others) Miss Gwladys Wynne as Annette, Miss Elly Malyon as Catherine, and Mr. Bernard Limpus as Christian, was valuable and noteworthy. It was preceded by *The Lion and the Unicorn*, Mr. H. B. Irving playing King Charles the Second in this clever and entertaining farce. On Tuesday, *Charles the First* was successfully presented; on Wednesday, *The Lyons Mail*; and on Thursday (for the first time by Mr. Irving), *Louis XI*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—An excellent performance of *The Walls of Jericho* is the nightly fare here this week. Mr. Arthur Bourchier's delineation of Jack Frobisher, always good, could not have been better than it was on Monday night; and Miss Violet Vanbrugh's depiction of Lady Alethea was as near to perfection as could have been desired; Mr. Charles Goodhart remains in the cast as Hankey Bannister, a capital impersonation; Mr. Arthur Whitby is excellent as the Marquis of Steventon; and Miss Pamela Gaythorne as Lady Lucy is quite one of the successes of the cast. Among others, Mr. Cyril Keightley as Harry Dallas, and Miss Nella Powys as Lady Westerby, are worthy of praise. Mr. Bourchier and his company remain three weeks, with a highly interesting change of programme.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—*The Maid and the Motor-man* continues popular here.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company are here this week, with *Two Lancashire Lasses in London*. Mr. Herbert Pearson as the poor inventor, Edmunds, acts in manly style; Mr. Chris. Mason makes a robust Lancashire lad as Samuel Hallett; the Rev. Frank Selby is capably impersonated by Mr. E. Rayson-Cousens; and Mr. Arthur Elwyn successfully brings out the villainies of Jonas Deane; while as Jim Price Mr. Edward Chester has a strong part and does well, supported by Mr. Walter Walmsley as Gabbitt. The two sisters, Constance and Nellie, have able representatives in Miss Rosslyn Vayne and Miss Ada D. Hatchwell; and other good parts are well handled by Miss Marguerite Trevosper, Miss Evelyn Shaw, and Miss Elsie Forster. The play is well staged.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hearn.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company are here this week in a sensational drama, *An Unwedded Wife*. The play is above the average, and is very well received. Miss Ethel Van Praagh as Marion, the title-rôle, is really admirable; while valuable support is rendered by Mr. Bernard Copping as the villainous Philip Blakstone; Reggie is well played by Little Doris, a juvenile actress; and Miss Beatrice Kelvin does well as Elsie Langham. Plenty of fun is supplied by Mr. J. Edward Whitty as P.C. O'Runyin, Mr. Will Casey as Napoleon Boomer, and others.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry.—*A Girl's Cross Roads*, last week's attraction at the Royal Osborne Theatre, is being played here with equal success this week.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The top attraction here this week is provided by Courtice and Louie Pounds, the well-known vocalists, in a sketch, entitled *Charles, his Friend*. Brown and Le Clerq are also here in their negro comedy business, which proves highly popular; while a fine vocal and musical turn is offered by Olgar and Elgar. The programme is

in halves, breaking a horse-shoe, giving an illustration of ball-punching, and successfully holds in check two motor-cars set at high speed, and, finally, wins in a severe tug-of-war with a powerful motor. A splendid musical turn is offered by the Sisters Transfield; Edie Veno is a smart comedienne and dancer; Talberto and Douglas are clever acrobatic comedians; Harry Taft whistles Sousa's marches in vigorous style; Alfredo Nardi plays classical selections in masterly fashion; Carrie Laurie's Juveniles are smart singers and dancers; Jose Collins, comedienne, sings "My Firefly" in a pleasing way; the Jackley Trio introduce some clever tumbling and acrobatic feats in their speciality, and one of the trio is a smart whistler and dancer; and Horace Wheatley, an old favourite here, scores with funny patter and neat step-dancing. Pictures complete.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Miss Ethel Newman tops the bill here this week, and is exceedingly good in her latest monologue, *Her Wedding Day*. Some clever and weird dancing is done by La Malaya and troupe of eight ladies, in an effective scena; Ike and Will Scott score a distinct success, both being good comedians; Cliff and Kean make a hit with exceptionally smart dancing; and Ye Merrie Peasants are good singers. Other enjoyable turns are those of Lilian Rigby, in a musical dancing act; the Sisters Edwards, vocalists, drummers, and dancers; and the Trefelyn David Duo, in a smart vocal duologue scena. On the occasion of our visit De Vere and Oakes, American Duo, did not appear, but Maston, a clever mimic, was a good substitute. Raymond's Vivagraph Pictures complete.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek.—An excellent programme is provided here this week. The Gem Family, who head the bill, are wonderfully clever Risley artists, and meet with a big reception. An interesting show is given by Yeotha (an Indian girl) and Capt. G. Grade in a bow and arrow shooting act; Lucy Coventry is a smart versatile comedienne and dancer; King and Stanley receive applause for their patter and singing; and Kendrick and Laura sing and dance exceptionally well. The Lyricos, operatic duettists, sing in admirable style; Stephens and Rennior are smart sand dancers; and Vardon is a good ventriloquist. Entertaining turns are also given by Freddie French, comedian; Will Freedo, comedian; and Bert Weston, comedian. Accidents Will Happen is the subject of the Bioscope.

King's, Longsight.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor.—Prominent here this week are Ajax and George, in their clever act, *A Scene on Board*; the Five Musical Tritons in a great instrumental act; Leo Trainer, vocal comedian; and Harrigan and Holt, comedians. Other entertaining items are furnished by the Victorians, duettists; Horace Sade, dancer; the Sisters Belmont, duettists and dancers; Alf. Ripon, Scotch ventriloquist; and the Carney Brothers, character duettists. A smart deputy turn appeared on the night of our visit, in the place of Perrette and Mona, who figure on the programme. Pictures complete.

Hulme Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Kay.—Arthur Rigby, the well-known comedian, and Carney and Armstrong, comedians, are highly successful here this week; David Poole, ventriloquist, is greatly enjoyed; and capital turns are offered by the Wakomic Brothers, instrumentalists; Troba, juggler; Gibbon and Bell, in smart speciality; Arthur Pearl, a versatile comedian; the Dancing Gilberts; and Will Sullivan, patter comedian. The Unfortunate Lady is shown on the Bioscope.

Mansfield. — Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, Mansfield, Sutton and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing Director, Capt. Cecil Clayton.—By arrangement with Mr. Wm. Greet *The Shulamite* was produced here this week. Mr. Scott Leighton in the rôle of Simeon Krellet proved himself an actor of great power; Mr. Bartlett Garth capably filled the part of Robert Waring; as Jan Vanderberg Mr. George Rammell was quite at home; comedy was well supplied by Mr. Albert Rogers as Klass; and Miss Chrissie Bickersteth as Memke. In the difficult part of Deborah Krellet Miss Ella Thornton played with exceptional brilliance, and Miss Corona L'Estrange was effective as Tante Anna.

Hippodrome.—Managing Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings; Acting Manager; Mr. Mark Lorne.—Mr. A. Campbell Kelly's company is here this week with *The Trail of the Serpent*. Mr. S. Lannen in the double rôle of Gerald Kingston and Old Jack played with ability; Mr. Henry K. Penn filled the rôle of Sir Gerald Kingston with credit; Mr. A. Campbell Kelly gave a powerful rendering of Ralph Hammond; Mr. George Porteous was capable as Gipsy Jake; and the same remark applies to Mr. Peter Morris as Ben Chucks. Miss Nana Cameron gave a brilliant exposition of Rachael; Miss Mamie Stanton was a sympathetic Ethel; and the comedy part of Rose Wilson was finely played by Miss Jennie Gibson, Mr. G. H. Godfrey being amusing as William Higgins.

Margate.—Theatre Royal.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wallis Clark.—An excellent change from musical comedy and modern drama has been provided this week by Mr. Norman Macowan's company with the costume play, *Monsieur Beaucaire*. The piece has been admirably presented, Mr. Norman Macowan playing the title-rôle with conspicuous success. Miss Violet Sterne has endowed the part of Lady Mary Carlisle with dignity and sweetness, her acting being particularly refined and graceful. Mr. Murray Hathorn has done exceedingly well as the sinister Duke of Winterset. Other parts were capably presented by Mr. Ramsey Forman as Captain Badger, Mr. Robert Antwistle as Beau Nash, and Miss Mary Masters as Lucy Rellerton.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Monillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—The bill here is headed by Brinn in his "postures on a battleship," in which he performs some remarkable balancing feats; H. C. Lovell and company appear in a laughable sketch, *Mlle. Pom-Pom*; and other contributors include Ned Neiman, ventriloquist, who used to visit Margate in the palmy days of the Assembly Rooms; Flo Schubert, comedienne; Alice Durrant, with her pictorially illustrated songs; Godfrey James, the singing collier; and Harry Russon, comedian. The Hippodrome pictures are as amusing as usual.

Merthyr Tydfil.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—*Mice and Men* is here this week, presented by Mr. Herbert Ralland's company. Mr. J. Graeme submits an excellent study of Mark Embury; Miss Helena Parsons makes a graceful and charming Peggy; Mr. J. H. Twyford skilfully enacts the part of Captain Lovell; and Mr. Fredk. Tyrrell is successful as Roger Goodlake. Miss Grace Baring is delightful as Joanna Goodlake; and Miss Julie Temple is all that could be desired as Mrs. Deborah.

Temperance Hall.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The Arthur Saxon trio occupy the top of the bill, and present a capital weight-lifting show; Slippere, the blind entertainer, is loudly applauded for his musical efforts; the Four Dorians are gymnasts of ability. Also appearing are the Prunellas in a farm-yard scena, entitled *A Country Flirtation*; Magna, in classical poses; Drum and Major, comedians; Jimmy James, humorist; Rodin, the comedy cyclist; and the Biograph is showing some excellent pictures.

Mexborough.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is presenting here *A Soldier's Honour*. Mr. Clavering Craig makes a fine soldierly figure of Capt. Deane, the Capt. Temple of Mr. G. Fulford is another highly capable rendering; Mr. Arthur Pringle gives a vigorous interpretation of Henry Thornton; Mr. A. Anderson cleverly typifies the hypocritical character of Holly; Mr. Edward Bikker is a dignified General Rochester; Miss L. Addison (Mrs. Kimberley) plays with her accustomed skill and dramatic force the rôle of Cora Lee; the Doreen Illingsworth of Miss Violet Langley is thoroughly sympathetic and womanly; Miss Edie Macklin presents a delightfully humorous study of Jemima Eliza; and Miss Isa Lyndon is a winning child-actress as Queenie.

Middlesbrough.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—The realistic play *When London Sleeps*, by Charles Darnell, pays a welcome return visit here this week. It is a most natural and interesting piece, and is presented by Mr. Lester Collingwood's company. Miss Mabel Scudamore gives a capital rendition of what is a most exacting part, and the rôle of David Engleheart is in the capable hands of Mr. Edward Ashley; Mr. Richard Ferris does full justice to the part of Captain Haynes, and Mr. D'Arcy Kelway is amusing as Billy Blyth; Miss Lilla Wilde is good as Hilda Carode, and Miss Emmeline B. Lewis is pleasing in the rôle of Carrie Jones. Mr. Frank Howard, Mr. F. E. Thomas, Mr. Ernest Edwards, Miss Bella Power, and Miss Ethyl Sinclair are also entrusted with interesting rôles.

Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. Jno. Ed. Jowsey; Manager, Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—Miss Decima Moore and her company produced for the first time on Teeside the comedy *The Truth*, by Clyde Fitch. This charming actress filled the difficult rôle of Becky Warder in a manner that gave much delight to the large audience. Miss Moore found full scope for her great abilities in an admirably written piece, and at the fall of the final curtain she was the recipient of hearty applause. Mr. Robert Minster acted with great distinction in the rôle of Tom Warder; whilst for the part of Becky's father a clever representation was given by Mr. Arthur Hare. Miss Maud Lindon was charming in the rôle of Eve; and Miss Kitty Lofting as Laura Fraser was exceedingly good. Miss Elspeth Dudgeon was very amusing as Mrs. Crespigny, and Mr. Hugh Ardale was excellent as Fred Lindon. Mr. Howard Leslie as Jenks and Mr. W. H. Herdman as the messenger did well.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—Some exceedingly good representations of classical statuary are given by the Seldoms here this week: the posing and grouping are most artistic throughout. Charles Diamond and Miss Beatrice provide a most pleasing musical turn; while Dusty Rhodes creates roars of laughter with his patter. The Two Bees are excellent in their new scena, *The Man in the Moon*; Charles Denton is a capital comedian; and other turns are provided by Woolmer Young, vocal comedian, and Mamie Cannon, comedienne.

Oxford Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—A very entertaining turn is given by the Bros. Horn here this week in a sketch entitled *The Biter Bit*. Considerable amusement is caused by the Flockton-Foster Sketch company in a sketch entitled *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*; and Miss Gladys Wells, a charming ballad singer, has a great reception.

Morecambe.—Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram's company have been appearing with marked success in *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*, a clever comedy by Ernest Denny. The character of Peggy O'Mara is admirably suited to Miss Kate Cutler. She has captivated everyone with her delightful interpretation of the Irish girl—original, impetuous, candid, "all-of-a-sudden," in fact. Mr. Lionel Glenister is also excellent as the Hon. Jimmy Keppel, who is put on to "dazzle" Peggy, and ends in marrying her. Mr. Wood-Ingram does exceptionally well as Lord Crackenthorpe, who specialises in spiders; and he has a staunch scientific friend in Mrs. O'Mara, a part successfully played by Miss N. Neilson. Miss Kate Wingfield is capital as Lady Crackenthorpe; and other parts are well played by Misses Estelle Despa and Leonora Thomas, and Messrs. Colin Johnson, W. H. G. Wynne, Harry Phillips, and Patrick Fitzgerald. The comedy is preceded by *After Seven Years*, by Marie Muggeridge.

Motherwell.—New Century Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hales.—Mr. Chalmers Mackey and his company are paying a return visit here in a new Irish legendary play, *Rollicking Rory*. In the title rôle Mr. Mackey is decidedly effective, his sly humour keeping the house in a continuous ripple of laughter; Mr. Charles Homer appears with success as Desmond Fitzgerald; and Mr. David M'Farlane is sufficiently villainous as Stephen D'Arcy. Miss Nana Fleusberg is bright and pleasing as Rosie, and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey admirably sustains the rôle of Rosaleen. A pleasing feature of the production is the vocalism of Madame Constance Bellamy. For the last three nights of the week Mr. Louis Calvert's company in *Sunday* was announced.

Nelson.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Mudd.—Mr. Geo. Kirk and Miss May Neil's company, in *Her Luck in London*, have occupied the boards here this week. Miss Mary Neil charmingly presents the character of Nellie Harborne; whilst as Richard Lenowen Mr. Charles Stirling acts very effectively. The rest of the characters are in capable hands, Mr. Stephen Langton as the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor and Miss Florrie Groves as Maud Gladys Shovepenny being specially good. There have been large and appreciative audiences each night. The play is well staged, and the dresses pretty.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—The company here is playing in *My Darling*; Miss Marie Studholme acts daintily and engagingly and sings with pleasing archness; Miss Ethel Negretti also vocalises with much success, and Mr. J. Robert Hale makes a capital Jack Hylton; the part of Le Blanc is undertaken by Mr. Alexander Chentreus, a good tenor; Mr. J. F. McArdle makes a hit as the proprietor of "The Daily Butterfly"; Miss Alice Barth contributes an able study of Lady Heldon, and Miss Edyth Goodall is heard to advantage; Mr. Tom Graves, Miss S. Ronalds, Miss Watt Tanner, Master Archie McCaig and Mr. Frank Hector are other members of a good company.

Tyne Theatre and Opera House.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—The George Edwardes's company is here in *The Lady Dandies*; Evie Greene's beautiful singing and engaging manner again captivate all; Miss Dolly Castles as Illyrine, and Miss Mable Russell as Egle are both charming and able; and Mr. W. Talleur Andrews in the part of Dorlis sings magnificently; the comedians—Messrs. Eric Thorne, John Humphries, and Grafton Williams—are a fine trio; the graceful and skilful dancing of Miss Vivien Talleur is also admired.

Palace Theatre.—Manager, Mr. T. W. Rowe.—*The Assassin* is here this week, played by Mr. Augustine Knight's company; the rôle of Prince Demetri is sustained by Mr. Knight, and is in excellent keeping; Ivan Ipanoff is ably portrayed by Mr. Bonhote Wilson, and as Countess Wanda Miss Ella Vane displays real dramatic power; Miss Hettie Senior as an American girl, and Mr. Edwin Jenner as a British officer supply amusement, and agreeable fun is created by Messrs. E. Swinton and Tom J. Taylor.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Mr. Douglas Brace's company is here with *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*"; among those who portray principal rôles are Mr. Charles Whitlock, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Frank Adair, Mr. George Mitchell, Mr. George H. Asquin, Miss Ethel Bracewell, Miss Joan Ellis, and Miss Lydia Manning-ton.

Empire Theatre.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wells.—The Boissets head the bill here in *The Bricklayers*, which is becoming more amusing than ever; Mr. Whit Cunliffe is a smart comedian; in coon songs Miss Ella Shields scores a distinct success, and Ted and May Hopkins contribute a quaint and amusing interlude; Burley and Burley are clever acrobats and finger balancers; Collins' Eight Stella Girls provide a good dancing act, and others in the programme are Miss Nettie Starr, comedienne and dancer, and the Wedburns, instrumentalists and dancers.

Pavilion Theatre.—The Barrasford Company; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. H. Boardman.—A novel performance is given here by Captain Frank Taylor's educated baboons; Billy Williams, a comedian, makes a hit, his humour being enjoyable; Colby and May present an excellent entertainment, "The Ventriloquist and the Dancing Doll," and in a refined episode "Hunting," the three Sisters Tree display ability; Datas again proves very entertaining; Ernest Rees is a droll comedian, and Ruby Aston, comedienne and dancer, does a capital turn; the three Sisters Thurban, vocalists and instrumentalists, show undoubted skill.

Newport.—Lyceum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—*His House in Order*, presented by Mr. George Alexander's company, is paying a return visit here this week, and commands good houses. Mr. Frank Fenton's Hilary Jesson is a fine piece of acting; Miss Marie Polini plays Nina with fire and energy; and Mr. Ernest Young is the insufferable prig, Filmer Jesson, to the life. Miss Maisie Richardson makes a charming boy as Derek; Mr. Richard Dalton does well as Sir Daniel Ridgeley; and Mr. Chas. Tyrel presents an adequate performance as Major Maurewarde. Mr. Langford Browne's Pryce Ridgeley is all that could be desired; Miss Madge Johnstone makes a capital Lady Ridgeley; and Miss Henrietta Leverette does well in the part of Geraldine Ridgeley. Miss Jean D. Cadell (Mlle. Thomé), Mr. Frank Hill (Dr. Dilnott), and Mr. Burnett Parker (Harding) acquit themselves creditably in their respective parts.

Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Manager, Major Gallagher.—A good bill is provided here this week, headed by Harry Grey, the Australian Nugget, whose witticisms and humour keep the house in roars; the Lyrus Trio, in their sketch, present a popular turn; Millie Payne, a capable comedy artist, scores; and the artistic musical turn of Florence and Lillian is accorded a warm reception. The Brothers Egbert cause much amusement with their sketch, *The Happy Dustmen*; and Alf. Chester, a clever comedian, is extremely amusing. Boyd and Gilfain sing songs that are acceptable. Mr. Joe O'Gorman, and the Bioscope, showing pictures of the International Horse Show at Olympia, complete the bill.

Northampton.—Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett.—*The Scarlet Patrol*, fresh from Fulham, is gaining high approval here. Miss Blise Cooke, a dainty Myra Myrtle, makes a bewitching chief of police in a well-fitting, smartly-designed scarlet costume. Miss Reydon Dallas is graceful and *distingué* as the heiress Amazon North; Miss Florence Linton is very nice as Ernestine; Mr. Leonard Russell as Inspector Jury has a fine baritone voice, and his solos and also his duets with Miss Cooke are deservedly applauded; Mr. Arthur Stigant as Nicholas Quiller is full of eccentricities, and his topical song in the second act with local allusions is a great hit. Mr. St. John Hamund is quaintly comic as Phineas Fogey; Mr. Percy Rogers also provides fun as the rhyming London tailor; and Mr. J. H. Bishop scores as a coloured boy servant. Mr. Mark Strong controls the orchestra, and the production is under the personal direction of Mr. Herbert Cottesmore.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Manager, Mr. Thos. A. Evans; Musical Director, Mr. Walter Ashton.—Rachel Lowe is paying us a return visit, and her song, "Take me down to Blackpool," is a big success. Dan Thomas, comedian, provides a very funny turn; Clifton and Gibson cause great merriment with their cross-talk; and Sylvene, assisted by Mlle. Florence, gives a good balancing display. The Palace pictures, operated by C. Vincent, are intensely interesting this week. Amy Elcock is a pleasing vocalist; Mr. and Mrs. Shelly provide a laughable duologue, *Miss Summerson's Baby*; and the Manards are clever exponents of small bore marksmanship.

North Shields.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—The boards here this week are occupied by Mr. James Willard's company in *A Woman's Pluck*. Mr. Harry Emmerson scores heavily as Dick Darrell; Mr. Matthew Boult as Winstone Dale presents an admirable rendering; Mr. Arthur Temple as Sir Noel Fordyce does full justice to the part; Mr. Clive B. Rawlings is good as Matthew Pope; Mr. J. P. Dryden in the dual rôles of Mark Scanlon and Jim Daremont displays considerable ability; and Mr. Herbert Claremont has much to recommend him as Sir John Daredevil. As Grace Daremont Miss Marion Fawcett depicts the character in a clever manner; Miss Kitty Johnstone is smart as Bertie Daredevil; Miss Dolly Gilroy makes the most of Jessie Pope; Miss Nora Kingsley is pleasing as Lady Daredevil; and Mr. Dickey Bird as Roger Pippin and Miss Fanny James as Ophelia Pippin make quite a hit.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Messrs. Deranda and Green in their smart juggling act are meeting with great success here; Messrs. Juan and McQue, comedians and dancers, create much hearty laughter; Jean Seul, illusionist, performs some clever feats; Miss Grace Darling, with her illustrated songs, is received with much favour; Mr. Dan Noble, actor-vocalist, is popular; Mr. Tom E. Odlin, comedian, is funny; and the Bio-Photoscope concludes.

Northwich.—Central Theatre.—Proprietress, Mrs. S. Golden; Secretary, Miss E. Golden.—Theatre-goers here this week are given a treat by the visit of the Milton Rays in *Don Quixote*, in which, from first to last, merriment reigns supreme. Mr. Arthur Milton as Sancho Panza is the source of endless amusement; as Donna Betsiana Mr. Joe English is the possessor of a never-failing fund of dry humour; Messrs. Sandy and Carl are two marvellous dancers; Mr. Forshaw Kershaw, the well-known society entertainer, gives high-class entertainment, his musical monologues being very fine; and the entertainment concludes with a sketch entitled *Rich and Poor*.

Norwich.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—The Moody-Manners Opera company is delighting large audiences here this week. On Monday *Faust* was rendered in excellent style. Mr. Seth Hughes in the title-rôle sang admirably; Mr. William Anderson was an interesting Mephistopheles; Mr. Rosina Beynon a delightful Siebel; and Miss Una Bruckshaw a most pleasing Marguerita. Miss V. Barry as Martha and Mr. Mann as Wagner deserve mention. *Lohengrin, Il Trovatore, The Lily of Killarney, Carmen, Tannhäuser*, and *The Bohemian Girl* are also in the répertoire. Mr. Harrison Frewin is a most painstaking and efficient conductor.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—Belloni's Cockatoos are one of the principal attractions this week; their marvellous training and intelligent tricks are wonderful to see. Ethel Arden and Geo. Abel's (Ltd.) company gave a laughable turn, entitled *Three of a Kind*; the Four Emilions are skilful acrobats and hand balancers; Miss Lilian Travellic, ballad vocalist, and Miss Barbara Babington, vocalist and vaudeville artist, have good receptions; Munro's Black and White comedy team are very amusing; George Antill is successful as a comedian; and Sam Dalton scores in his turn.

Nottingham.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The visit of Mr. Lewis Waller, in the romance, *Robin Hood*, has caused a flutter of excitement. Here, in the heart of Sherwood Forest, the picturesque outlaw is again made to enact some of his doughty deeds, and a packed house on Monday gave ample token of their pleasure. Mr. Waller was repeatedly called before the curtain, and finally expressed his thanks in a few words. In depicting the chivalry and boldness of Robin Hood, Mr. Waller's easy syle made him an ideal hero, and he moved through the scenes with a breeziness that was truly delightful to watch. Miss Norah Lancaster, graceful in figure, and of winning mannerisms, made an alluring exponent of Lady Marion, and her artistic rendering of the part won all hearts; Mr. Shiel Barry essayed Prince John, his fine acting giving point to the scheming of that unsavoury character; Mr. J. H. Irvine played carefully as the merciless Longespee; and Mr. S. B. Brereton furnished a capable study of Fitz Aylwynne. Mr. Frank Woolfe realised the dignity of King Richard; and Mr. Herbert Vyvyan humorously portrayed the Abbot of Jourvaulx. Miss Dora Barton invested Adela with all necessary pertness and natural liveliness; and Miss Helen Layton aptly assumed the unscrupulous Eleanor of Acquitaine. Miss Eleanor May capitally represented the light-hearted and buxom Alison Much; Mr. Herbert Jarman made many friends as John Little; and the Friar Tuck of Mr. Charles Rock was an excellent embodiment of that bibulous old reprobate. Too much praise cannot be accorded Mr. Cecil Cameron for his singing of several songs.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harry Upton.—*Woman and Wine* had a hearty reception here on Monday last. Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds gave a forcible impersonation of the misguided and weak-minded Dick Seymour; while Mr. J. Milne Taylor did well as the blind father, Hugh Seymour. Mr. Fred W. Goddard vigorously enacted the rôle of the bully, Alphonse Beaudet; and Mr. Edwin Kisby played Caliban in a light and humorous vein. Miss Cissie St. Elmo thoroughly illustrated the heartlessness of Marcel Rigadout, putting plenty of dash and abandon into the part; Miss Violet Sims made a graceful and refined Mary Andrews; and in striking contrast was the La Colombe of Miss Joan Pereira. Mr. Wm. Manning offered a comical reading of the frivolous Professor Sauter, in which he was capitally aided by Mr. Harry Harrop as Charles Sauter. Miss Ethel Vinroy proved amusing as Janet Marlow; and Miss Madge Northcote sustained Mme. Perinet satisfactorily.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—'Midst gorgeous scenery and dazzling electrical effects, the Elliott-Savonas manipulate their various musical instruments with delightful results, and are accorded an enthusiastic reception. Belle Davis presents her two pick-chicks, whose nimbleness and dexterity in dancing evoke the heartiest applause; the Haytors compel laughter in a sketch, *Cabby and His Fare*; James Edie and Cissy Ramsden introduce a musical duo, in which the former includes some remarkable gymnastic feats; the Smythsons supply a humorous piece of work, entitled *Love Germs*; and interest is shown also in a sketch by L. A. Cooke and company, descriptive of Zululand. Walter Munro's Irish songs and patter find a willing response from his audience, and a smart little dancer is seen in Ina Lorimer. Jessie Mooney contributes her original song, "Silly Sally," and the American Bioscope shows interesting films of Casa Blanca.

Nuneaton.—Prince of Wales' Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's *In Holy Russia* company is here. Mr. Cassidy as Mikey Nolan is enthusiastically received, and the Renee Rubinoff of Mrs. Cassidy at once gains favour; Mr. Robert Cockroft as the Czar is effective; Mr. Henry Compton as Colonel Richard Forrest is deserving of praise; Miss Ada Roscoe cleverly portrays Catska Lavaski, and Mr. Austin Lauraine capably represents Michael Natolski; worthy of mention are Mr. J. Cuthbertson, Baron Von Pleve; and Mr. Rolf Leslie, Count Gregori Petrolski; the remaining characters are ably taken.

Oldham.—Empire Theatre.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—A welcome return visit is being paid by Mr. Wm. Maclaren and Miss Lily C. Bandmann in *Claudian*. Mr. Maclaren, in the title-rôle, delights the audience with his fine acting; and Miss Bandmann is no less successful in her portrayal of Almida. Miss Maud Garth is a capital Edessa; Mr. Chal T. Chaloner an amusing Belos; Miss Kitty Field a very good Clio (with solo); Miss Pamela Hodson a successful Galena; and Miss Nellie C. Bilbe an effective Hera. Miss Rosa Webster is very capable as Serena; and Little Geraldine Meredith makes an interesting Carenos. Mr. Weston Hubbard is a capital Alcares.

Colosseum Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—*The Prodigal Parson* is staged here by Messrs. Northway and Garrod's company. Mr. W. V. Garrod as the Rev. Tom Godley acts the part of the wrongly-accused man in a powerful manner; Miss Bertha Kingston as Fern is excellent; Mr. Fred Beckett is responsible for a good study of the hypocritical Enoch Jaggins; and Mr. Arthur Tomlin is a satisfactory Ben Jaggins. Miss Violet Jeffries as Myrtle acts cleverly; Miss M. Grayce as Gretchen is very bright; and Mr. Owen Remonde causes hearty laughter as Phil Drive.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Miss Amy Augarde heads the bill here in her vaudeville version of *Carmen*, singing delightfully. Good support is given by Mr. W. Howard (Don Jose), Mr. Cameron Carr (Lucas), and Messrs. Colman and Barton. The Great Carmos are a fine juggling and balancing duo; Miss Gertie Gitana, on her first visit here, has an enthusiastic reception for her singing; Kioto has also caught on in his balancing feats; Lieut. Travis is a capital ventriloquist; and James and Alexander are a good pair of entertainers. Tod Lowen, comedian, also appears with success.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Nuttall.—Miss Lillie Soutter is meeting with success with "Tumpti No. 1" Flo Hilton is a dashing male impersonator; Topsy and Usher are excellent in plantation songs and dances; Ormonde Penstone, assisted by Tsaou-Ngo, gives a capital sleight-of-hand show; Miss Marie Wall, comedienne, sings nicely; Fraser and French, with their dancing, are repeatedly recalled; Harry Zetter is very good in his eccentric dances; and the Dottoscope is showing a most amusing picture.

Oxford.—New Theatre.—Proprietors, Oxford Theatre Company, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Arthur Carlton's company, including the Stebbing Troupe of acrobats, is here this week in *The Span of Life*, which met with an uncommonly hearty reception from a good house on Monday. Mr. Arthur Chisholm as Richard Blunt is a manly and natural hero; Mr. Sanderson Moffat gives a most realistic performance of Dunstan Leech; Mr. Walter Dale causes many a hearty laugh by his droll acting as Nutty Brown; and Mr. Leon Ainscliffe gives a clever impersonation of the lighthouse keeper, Joshua Gurnet. Miss Phyllis Graham does well in the boys' parts of Cecil Jeff and Cecil Blunt; Miss Phyllis Hamilton is a satisfactory Mrs. Jelf; Miss Ella Wilmer an interesting Kate Heatchcott, and Miss Kitty Russell—excellent alike in song and dance—a vivacious and laughable Shrove Tuesday. The Stebbing Brothers contribute some very clever acrobatic business.

East Oxford Theatre.—Lessees, Miss Winifred Stuart and Mr. C. Watson Mill; Manager, Mr. Frank Stuart.—Mr. Wilson Benge's company is presenting here this week *The Eve of Her Wedding*. Mr. Wilson Benge gives a manly, simple, and unaffected portrayal of the hero, George Tremain; Mr. Henry Dawson works meritoriously as Dean Clifton; Mr. Gilbert Ainslie deserves well as Giovanni; and Mr. Charles Groves, jun., is successful in the dual rôle of Paul Cairshaw and Hiram P. Younger. Mr. Charles H. Gallier sustains Dick Leverton with ability, and Mr. Charles Digby shows he possesses humour as Rudolph Earle. Mr. Arthur E. Holland makes a natural and effective Jack Herne, while Mr. Arthur Keand makes the most of Squire Leverton. Miss Adeline Raby's acting as Renie de Telle deserves high encomium, her performance being clever and telling; Miss Violet Ingram does well as Gwendoline Younger (Kinkie); and Miss Sadie Smith appears to great advantage with her sympathetic and graceful interpretation of Mavis Leverton.

Paisley.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—The engagement of Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in *The Christian* is resulting in satisfactory business. Mr. Frank Beresford endows the rôle of the Hon. John Storm with considerable dramatic intensity; and Miss Daisy Scudamore looks very handsome as Glory Quayle, and acts with distinction; Mr. Edwin Ling gives a very fine impersonation of Father Lamplugh; Mr. John J. Hooker as Archdeacon Wealthy is in every way excellent; Lord Robert Ure is most effectively portrayed by Mr. W. J. Butler; Mr. Wilfred Noy presents an admirable study of Horatio Drake; the rôle of the Faro King is well sustained by Mr. Bert Conway; Mr. Charles Hill is quite satisfactory as Parson Quayle; and Mr. P. Gedge Twyman makes a capital Brother Paul. Miss Dorothy Milne submits a capable and sympathetic rendering of Polly Love; Mrs. Callender has an excellent exponent in Miss Molly Hayden; and others in the cast include Misses May Dudley, Violet White, Nelly Hastings, Kate Lee, May Weir, Messrs. Arthur E. Maskell, and James Ryan.

Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Douglas F. Bostock.—Tom Hearn, in his novel and amusing eccentric comedy juggling act, tops the bill this week, and is well received; the Donatos, one-legged acrobats, are loudly applauded; and O'Malley and Brown, in an amusing comedy sketch; Selby and Myres, comedians and dancers; Stewart and Morgan, in a vocal speciality; the Elvio Trio, in an up-to-date absurdity; Julia Kent and Alex. Keith, comedy duologue artists; the Raymond Trio, in a musical and dancing act; and the Hippodrome Bioscope complete a very effective programme.

Peterborough.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Miss Ida Molesworth's and Mr. Mark Blow's company opened here on Monday night with *Under Two Flags*. Mr. Austen Milray gave an admirable impersonation of Bertie Cecil Royellieu; and Miss Amy Maitland gave a delightful portrayal of Cigarette. Excellent work was done by Mr. Dermot Fitz-Gibbon as Barklie Cecil Royellieu, Mr. Charles Brooke as Lord Royellieu, Mr. C. Faulkner as Lord Rockingham, Mr. Harry Benson as Rake, and Mr. Roy Jackson as Colonel Chanteroy. Miss Kitty Douglas was an excellent Lavina, and Miss Madge Stevens was successful as Lady Beatrice.

The Hippodrome.—This week we have the Tom Davies' Trio, who motor in mid air; Dan Filmer, comedian and dancer; Lozelle, gymnast; the Lynches; Spry and Monti, in *The Guardsman*; Joe Macklin, speciality artist; Gordon Walsh, comedian; and Austen Lenton and company, in *The Bigamist*.

Plymouth.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*The Beauty of Bath* is on her first local visit, and is drawing crowded houses every evening. To Miss Gladys Guy is entrusted the title-rôle, and this accomplished actress gives a finished rendering of a part requiring very careful treatment; Miss Jessie Lonnen is particularly smart as Truly St. Cyr, her dancing being an additional strong feature; Miss Gertrude Hope has an excellent voice, by which she does full justice to the songs allotted to her; Miss Ida Laurie gives a clever impersonation of Mrs. Goodge—a character of the Louie Freear creation; and Miss Edith Cruickshanks is dignified as the mother of Lieut. Allington. Mr. Andrew Higginson infuses plenty of "go" into a part for which he is admirably adapted, that of a naval lieutenant, his topical song, "Humpty-Dumpty," being rapturously redemanded; Mr. Jack Crichton as Sir Timothy Bun, the father of the Bath Buns, is excrutiatingly funny, his comedy work being excellent; Master Basil Clifford as Lemon Goodge, a love-smitten programme boy, should have a brilliant future as a comedian; and Mr. F. C. Leister is good as the aristocratic Lord Bellingham.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The principal attraction is Mr. Arthur Roberts in his inimitable sketch, *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*. The well-known comedian has not been West for some years, and a large company assembled on Monday to greet him and enjoy his ever-original fun. Another first-class contribution was that of the Brothers Durant, who treated the audience to a marvellous exhibition of contortionist business; the Sisters Finney provide a turn of a distinctly novel nature, giving an attractive aquatic display; Talbot and Pearce are possessors of excellently-trained voices, and are heard to great advantage in a Japanese monologue; Harry Werburn has some taking songs; and Maxwell and Francis and Jack Rae conclude a very good bill.

Pontypridd. — Royal Clarence Theatre. — Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—The attraction at the above theatre this week is furnished by Mr. E. H. Knight's company in *The Grip of Iron*. Mr. Fred Powell

PORTSMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—*The Dairymaids* is being presented here this week by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's good all-round company. Mr. John Osborne as Joe Mivens keeps the house in great good humour by his eccentricities; Sam Brudenell is well taken by Mr. Clifford Seyler; Mr. Richard Adams is a very able Lieut. Brudenell, R.N.; Dr. O'Byrne is well sustained by Mr. H. Langdon Bruce; and Mr. Boris Bellew also does capable work as Lieut. Bereton, R.N. Miss Maud Denny is a delightful Eliza; Miss Mabel Younge a careful and dignified Lady Brudenell; and Miss Vera Vere a vivacious Peggy. Miss Dorothy Ward as Winifred does well; Miss Aimée Grey is all that could be desired as Helene; and Miss Madge Avery thoroughly realises the part of Miss Penelope and Pychase.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. Tom H. Taylor's well-selected company is here this week in Walter Melville's successful drama, *The Worst Woman in London*. Miss Olga Andre gives a powerful and realistic rendering of Frances Vere; Miss B. Watkins as Ruth Milford acts with well-sustained force; Jack Felton is ably depicted by Mr. George Gaisford; Vincent Lyle, in the hands of Mr. Paul Barry Lewers, is well drawn; and Mr. Leonard Booker gives an impressive portrayal of Philip Armstrong. Mr. Vernon Travers does well as James Milford. The comedy is well looked after by Miss Polly Marsh as Matilda Parker, Mr. Will Corrie as Bob Goldfinch, and Mr. H. W. Monte as Hugh Drayton.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Captain Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—John Lawson and company are here in a series of their capital productions. On Tuesday evening the powerful and exciting society episode, *The King's Minister*, was given, John Lawson playing the name-parts in most convincing style to a very large and appreciative audience; Little Don, rightly named "the quaint oddity," sings and patters amusingly; Estella, International dancer, is a clever terpsichorean artist; Challis's dogs, with capital tricks, please well; the Clarion Trio of comedians and dancers are encored; Nellie Chandos, soubrette and danseuse, is popular; Vere and Royal, in a speciality act, are warmly greeted; T. C. Callaghan, character comedian, sings most agreeably; Margaret Ismay and White Coons, in the Indian scena *Kickaboo* gain great approval; Effie Stuart, Scotch comedienne, is much liked for her admirable dancing; Baker and Balfe are excellent exponents of xylophone playing; and Payne's Bioscope, with some fine pictures, complete the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Mr. George Gray and company are engaged here for the second week, and are giving a new sketch, *Parson Gray, V.C.* The presentation is most realistic. The Katos, living marionettes, are most amusing; Blarney and Kennard are a smart pair of comedians and banjoists; the Picquays, equilibrists, are exceedingly graceful; Miss Nina St. Elmo is a pleasant comedienne and dancer; Miss Helen Charles, a versatile entertainer, gives a turn of great merit; the Jees, in *The Village Smithy*, create much merriment; and the Hippodrome's very interesting pictures complete a capital programme.

PRESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Exors. of the late W. Johnson; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—A very welcome attraction here this week is the visit of Mr. William Mollison. A large audience on Monday fully appreciated the representation of *Macbeth*, in the title-rôle of which Mr. Mollison gave a finished and scholarly rendering, which made a deep impression. Miss Evelyn McNay as Lady Macbeth treated her hearers to a consummate piece of acting. Mr. W. A. Mackersey was an excellent Duncan; and Mr. William Calvert distinguished himself as Macduff. As Banquo, Mr. Henry Worrall gave an admirable portrayal of the part; those of Malcolm and Donalbain were sustained by Mr. Henry Deas and Miss Jeannie Fitzgerald; and Mr. Alec F. Thompson and Mr. Whitford Kane as the Porter and First Witch respectively did well. The remainder of the caste was in the able hands of Messrs. Leslie Lingham, Stuart Black, Murray Graham, Lee Antony, Harold Neville, Fred Ellis, William Hughes, Kendal Chalmers, Miss Hermina Black, Miss Josephine Woodward, Miss Alice O'Dea, and Miss Elsie Vron, each and all of whom gave a good account of themselves. During the week *Hamlet*, *As You Like It*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *The Bonnie Briar Bush* were to be given.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—Miss Adria Hill and Robert Ayrton's company is presenting *A Gambler's Daughter* here this week. As Desmond O'Dare, Mr. Robert Ayrton appeals powerfully to the audience; Mr. Alfred Sanders as Solomon Solomons and Mr. A. G. Lytton as Stephen Brand present as good a pair of cold-blooded stage villains as one could desire. Miss Harriett Loydall as Auntie Zeb (a negress) adds considerably to the humour of the play. Mr. Richard Pitt as John Grant is effective; and the part of Jack (his son) is ably sustained by Mr. Bazil Mitchell; Mr. Harry Belford portrays the character of an American capitalist in quietly effective style; Mr. F. Croft as Captain Stanhope is much in evidence. Miss Adria Hill showed considerable versatility in the dual rôle of Miriam and Mildred Grant (mother and daughter); and Miss Lizzie Gordon is a spirited adventuress in the character of Carmen Sancho. The rest of the caste is in good hands. For Friday, *East Lynne* was billed.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Lindsell.—An attractive bill is enthusiastically received by two huge audiences nightly. Miss Lydia Yeamans, supported by Mr. Fred J. Titus, tops the bill, and richly merits the generous applause she receives for her inimitable impersonations in the musical pot-pourri, *The Wrong Organ*. A turn that is always welcome here is that given by Barton and Franklin, a pair of refined versatile musical artists. Kirke and Saraski, billed as aquatic acrobats, perform a variety of evolutions while submerged in a tank of water; the Four Regals give a marvellous exhibition of strength; Bonetti and Corrie cause much laughter with their funny juggling act; Edith Sinclair is an acceptable comedienne; and Sam Shipley causes roars of laughter in his song and patter as the policeman. Lambeth and Robertson have a novel sketch, *Scots Folk's Wooing*, in which Miss Lambeth renders some of the old Scotch songs in a most captivating manner; the Sages (Will and Jenny) display a good deal of novelty and versatility in their song-scena, *If You're Coming In, I'm Going Out*; the Bros. Foy and company present an amusing pantomimic knockabout sketch, entitled *Pat in China*. Jessie Jukes also contributes an acceptable turn, and displays some good all-round dancing. The pictures depict the woes of an amateur athlete.

RADCLIFFE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. George T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here with *A Country Girl*. The oddities and eccentricities of Mr. Arthur Staples as Barry receive constant applause; Mr. Bernard Vaughan as the Rajah and Mr. Martin D. Pitts as Geoffrey Chaloner are both in fine voice, while Mr. W. O. Billington does ample justice to the part of Sir Joseph Verity. Miss Gladys Christie is charming as Marjorie Joy; Miss Barwell does good work as Madame Sophie; and Miss Poppy Dale both sings and acts with much effect as Princess of Bhong. The vivacity and splendid singing of Miss Blanche Lynd makes the part of Nan a great treat. The choruses are full and well balanced, the entire musical production reflecting great credit upon Mr. Ernest Wolfe, the musical director.

RAMSGATE.—AMPHITHEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—At the Amphitheatre on each evening of the past week Mr. Charles Harrington's No. 1 company in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* has been giving excellent representations. Mr. Albert G. Wray makes an effective Mr. St. Clair; and Mr. Charles Vincent scores in the rôle of George Harris; Miss Hathway does excellently in the part of Eliza; as Phineas Fletcher Mr. Harrington is as good as ever; Mr. J. Carr portrays Uncle Tom with decided skill; Miss Hetty Johnson makes a capital Cassy; Mr. J. Henry Rogers is appropriately severe as Legree; Miss Sylvia Stella is a lively Topsy; and the remaining parts are capably handled. Incidental music and other variety turns are introduced, and considerable local colour is given to the performances by the participation in the play of a talented body of negroes and negresses. The plantation festival is extremely effective.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Jules Richeux.—Mr. Jules Richeux has established a reputation for good bookings at the Royal Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate, a reputation which is sustained by the production there this week of the pretty play *The Youngest of Three*, the old-world style of which is distinctly refreshing. Mr. H. F. Maltby achieves a notable success in the part of the father, whose alternate severity of demeanour and tenderness of affection give a fine opportunity to the capable actor, and Mr. Maltby is undoubtedly a capable actor. Another fine feature of the production is the character of the young lover as presented by Mr. Wyn Weaver; while the manner in which Miss Daisy England sustains the rôle of the charming heroine calls for nothing but eulogistic reference. As a comedian Mr. F. Stuart Wilson presents the dual part of Prynne and Paul in praiseworthy style; and the Philip Radford of Mr. W. Reginald Favell and the Somuel Johnson of Mr. William E. Passmore are interpretations thoroughly creditable to those to whom they are entrusted. The other parts are in good hands, the contributions of Miss Janet Hodgson and Miss F. Hunter-Watts adding to the general excellence of the production. On Thursday *Sir George of Almack's* filled the bill, being repeated on Friday, with *The Youngest of Three* for Saturday.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Harcourte.—Mr. George Dance's principal company is appearing here in *The Catch of the Season*. Miss Moyra Mannering is a captivating Angela; Mr. Frank Lincoln sustains the part of the Duke of St. Jermyns very successfully; Master Peter Grata causes much amusement by his acting as the page boy; Mr. Franklin Miles gives a good sketch of Mr. Gibson; Mr. Tom Shelford is a humorous Lord Dundreary; Mr. John Wigley represents Sir John Crystal well; Miss Louise Bentley acts with dignity as the Duchess of St. Jermyns; Miss Ernestine Walter as Lady Crystal and the Misses Doris Greville and Muff Carew as the two step-daughters sustain their parts excellently; Miss Irene Averill is a graceful dancer; and Miss Emily Mellon plays the part of Lady Caterham, the modern Fairy Godmother, very effectively.

REDHILL.—MARKET HALL.—Proprietors, Market Hall Co.; Secretary, Mr. A. Simmons.—Miss Inez Howard's well-balanced company in *The Girl who took the Wrong Turning* is here, under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattell. Mr. Charles Leverton makes Bill Slater a character to be both pitied and admired; Mr. Ted D. Dennis makes a pleasing Jack Fenton, whilst the Johnny Walker of Mr. Will Glaze creates roars of laughter. Mr. Charles Coleman's portrayal of the villain James Harcourt leaves nothing to be desired; the Richard Fenton of Mr. Arthur Knight is strong. Miss Betty Seymour is a most amusing Poppy Slater, the cake-walk scene being particularly funny; Miss Nita Langford gives a splendid impersonation of the heartless courtesan as Vesta Le Clere; Miss Carrie Ellis as Lucy Coventry shows true sisterly devotion in her efforts to reclaim Sophie (Miss Edith Knight) who "took the wrong turning," in such a capable manner as to carry the interest of the audience throughout the performance; Willie Mason, a true-blue British tar, is admirably done by Mr. Leslie Beaufort.

RHYL.—QUEEN'S PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Fred Benton.—Joseph Poole's myriorama opened here on Monday; the pictures, with beautiful effects, were greatly appreciated. An excellent variety company includes De Marce's well-trained animals; the Four Rosaires, the Seddons, the Tissots, Johnny O'Rourke, Eileen Mayne, the Three Boleros; and a capital guide is found in Bert S. Berry.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. J. Macdermott.—A great success, as usual, attended the visit of Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's "Gay River Party," who give their well-known entertainment to full houses. Frank Dunlop, Welsh comedian; Bert Byrne, comedian; D. Gibson, tenor; Mildred Bryan, soprano; Winifred Norman, comedienne; Eleanor Crawford, comedienne; and Casa Crawford, contralto, all contribute good turns. Jack Macdermott pleases everyone with his song, "On the isles of Anglesea" and several other items.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*The Prodigal Son* appeared for the first time here on Monday evening, and was greeted by a full house. Mr. Albert Ward is an actor of high rank, and submitted a fine impersonation of Oscar Stephenson; Mr. Oswald Cray is no less an artist, portraying with realistic power the part of Magnus Stephenson; Mr. Lewis Sealy was admirable as Stephen Magnusson; Mr. James Skea acted to the life the part of Oscar Neilson; Doctor Olsen and the Pastor were cleverly represented by Mr. Robert Forsyth and Mr. H. H. Barrington. Miss Betty Castle enacted with skill the part of Helga Neilson; Miss Isabel Grey deserves every praise for her spirited portrayal of Anna Magnusson; Miss Mima Renouf acted with true motherly feeling as Margaret Neilson; and the talented Miss Lily Hall Caine showed true histrionic abilities in an impassioned embodiment of Thora and Elin.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. J. and J. Jackson and J. White; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Jackson, sen.—The Jackson Family, musicians, are paying a most welcome visit here after their tour round the world, their brilliant and cultured execution on various instruments fairly bringing down the house. Ed. E. Ford, Australian Sundowner, created roars of laughter with his burlesque entertainment; Miss Marie Weston, vocalist and dancer; Sisters Brand, comediennes; Bros. Brooks, in a comedy act; the Three Zaracs, comedy sketch artists; the Ladderites, and the Circus Biograph complete an unusually attractive bill.

EMPIRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—A capital programme is submitted to the patrons here this week. The Selbinis contribute an amazing performance on bicycles; Charles Chard is an amusing comedian and dancer; May Zant and her juveniles contribute songs and dances that win great favour; other artists appearing include Alpharado and August, the Continental barrel kings; Denby and Dent, comedy act; Maros, triple bar comedians; Annie Casey, comedienne; and the Empire Bioscope.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Constant.—The Parisian play, *Nana*, was presented here on Monday before an appreciative audience. Mr. F. Douglas Howard was an easy and admirable Phillipe Duval; Miss Rosie Neville played effectively in the part of Nana; Mr. Edward Neville sustained that of Hector with success; Mr. Edwin Ramsdale was a life-like M. Fontaine; and good impersonations were submitted by the Misses Loie Esmond and Ethel St. Baube. Mr. J. Le Fleming was an excellent George Hugon. A flying matinée was given on Tuesday by Miss Louie Freear and her company. Miss Freear made decided hits with her three songs, rendered in her own characteristic fashion, and she later appeared in the amusing farcical absurdity, *Snooks*, in which she impersonated Jemima, the slavey. Mr. Vivian Foster's clerical impersonations were funny, and Miss Belle Green proved herself a clever mimic. Mr. Edward Brightwell's pianoforte playing was highly appreciated.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Jay; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. L. Furst.—Good business is being done with William Seaton's animated pictures, with a varied and interesting programme.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Seal of Silence*, Mr. C. Watson Mill's play, appeared to give every satisfaction on Monday to the large audience. Jack Ellerslie is well played by Mr. E. G. Batley; and Miss Florrie Green is well placed as Victor. Miss Daisy Tueskie is charming as Lilian Desbrooke; Mr. H. Balesmere cleverly portrays the villain, Hedley Norman; Mr. Mark Draper makes an impressive Dr. Mark Renwood. Comedy is presented by Mr. Henry P. Kennedy as Bimbo Bouncer, Miss Nora Temple as Dora Jenkins, and Mr. Thompson Carruthers as Sharkey Shepps; and good character-studies are also provided by the various other members of the company.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wilberforce Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Several old favourites are paying return visits this week, prominent among whom are Marie Santoi and the merry little Japs, in the vocal scena, *A Japanese Tea-Garden*; Grant and Grant, American octoroons, in *A Georgia Flirtation*, are also well received. The programme also includes Vera Mayne, vocal comedienne; Walton and Lester, comic jugglers; Annie Laurie, comedienne and dancer; Charles Ashdowne, eccentric comedian; Captain Devereux's performing dogs; Hans and Lux, patterers, &c.; and D'Arc's marionettes.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Son; Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—*Why Men Love Women* is presented here twice nightly, and Miss Ellen Snow creates a good impression as Violet Livingstone. Mr. Hilliard Vox ably sustains the part of Gerald Fielding; Captain Staniloff is represented by Mr. Lionel Gadsden with ability; Mr. Harwood Roberts as Orlando, and Miss Nita Owen and Miss Freda Vaughan as Birdie and Baby, contribute to the laughable scenes.

STRETFORD PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sidney Weatherilt.—This week's programme includes Jack Dunn, quaint comedian; Nellie Brennan, with her illustrated songs; Little Dot Wren, coon singer and dancer; Amy Connolly, soprano; Sam Howell, versatile entertainer; the Brothers Redmond, comedy acrobats; Jack Webb, comedian and dancer; Len Rayton, clever ventriloquist; and Bainton Boscoe's living pictures. A complimentary benefit was given to Mr. Sidney Weatherilt, on which occasion a large number of artists gave their services.

SALISBURY. — COUNTY HALL. — Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company, with *The Earl and the Girl* have played to crowded houses here this week. Mr. Bert Beswick as Jim Cheese kept the house in roars of laughter; as Dick Wargrave Mr. Cecil Lloyd, who has a fine voice, acted in manly fashion; Mr. Arthur Radcliffe as Crewe Boodle handled his part in faultless manner; Miss Dorothy Dempster, a capital Elphin Hay, sang daintily; Miss Ada Waugh made a diverting Liza, dancing skilfully; Miss Daisy Lake as Daisy Fallowfield made a great hit with Sammy; and as Mrs. Shimmering Black, Miss V. March was excellent. The remaining parts were all creditably played.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Son; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—*Raffles* is here. Mr. Leonard Boyne as Raffles is admirably adapted for the part; Mr. E. W. Thomas as Curtis Bedford acts with realism; as Bunny, Mr. Lewis Edgard does exceedingly well; Mr. Dalziel Heron as Crawshay is most realistic; Miss Dorothy Plonden as Lady Ethel is praiseworthy; and as Mrs. Vidal, Miss Lilian Hallows is admirable.

PEOPLE'S PALACE.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The chief attractions here are the Gentrys, who are great favourites; Caselli, banjoist, is a master of his instrument; Mr. Hy. Liston and Miss Lumley are seen to advantage in *Merry Moments*; Vela is clever on the wire; Harry Bentley, comedian, causes amusement; Miss Editb Cummins has a well-trained voice; the Cedrics, speciality artists, receive warm recognition; Prof. Jennion's Electric Fantochies, are entertaining. The Bioscope is an important item in the programme.

SPA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. Fras. Goodriche.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company is here in *The Lion and the Mouse*. As John Rider Mr. Leslie Carter is in every respect adequate; Miss Florence Jackson as Shirley Rossmore shows real culture; Mr. Gordon McLeod as Jefferson Ryder is admirable; Mr. H. Montague Love as Alfred Stott is effective; and Mr. Herbert Chown as the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley is full of humour.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. Garside; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—Here this week is *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Mr. Walter Ashley plays Capt. Geo. Fielding with telling effect; Miss Dorothy Desmond in the title-rôle may be highly complimented; Mr. Henry Ward, as the villain, deserves cordial recognition; Mr. Harry Ugar as Silas Crump shows ability; Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith is lively and vivacious; the Misses Blake do some original dances; and Mr. Louis Batten as the Parson assists materially in the success of the evening.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and his repertoire company are here this week with *Hamlet*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Othello*, *Bamboozling*, *The Sleigh Bells*, and *Richard III.*; in the first named Mr. Allan Wilkie played the title-rôle with ability, and Mr. Alexander Marsh declaimed excellently as the Ghost; Mr. Paul Lovett (Laertes), Mr. John Paley (Claudius), Mr. George Munro (Polonius), and Mr. Ernest Diggs (Horatio), all gave adequate impersonations; the first and second grave diggers were invested with humour by Mr. George Munro and Mr. Edward Beverley respectively, and the players were skilfully presented by Mr. Charles Kingsley, Mr. T. Willoughby and Miss Mildred Surrey; Messrs. Gordon Ash, G. Lampton and Gordon Philpott did well as Rosencrantz, Guildenstern and Osric respectively; Miss Carrie Bailey gained golden opinions for her artistic rendering of Ophelia, and Miss Mary Lovett played cleverly as Gertrude.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Messrs. Fred Acton and C. H. Nash's company is here with *Between the Lights*. Capt. Robert Hinton finds a skilful representative in Mr. Edward Stream; Mr. Frederick Garrett is a capable Gerald Warren; the villainy of Stanley Crofton is ably shown by Mr. Wm. R. Winning; Mr. Frank Orchard presents the rôles of Oswald Warren and Ben Armley with much skill; as Charles Stott Mr. Frank Daleno is very amusing; Mr. Fred Acton supplies a highly amusing study of the part of Jimmy Tickle; Violet Warren finds a charming exponent in Miss Phyllis Elton; Miss Fannie Williams is a capable Madge Armley; and as Kittie Miss Millie Doris is very popular.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. Bannister Howard's company opened to a large and evidently delighted audience on Monday in the popular musical play *Florodora*. Mr. Fred Eastman kept the house in roars as Tweedlepunch; Mr. J. B. Fox sang his tuneful numbers with sympathetic expression; Miss Edith Housley made a pretty and vivacious Lady Holyrood; and other characters were cleverly played by Mr. Edmond Russell, Mr. Harold Perry (a dashing Captain Donegal), Mr. C. Roadnight, Miss Marion Armytage (a charming Angela Gilfain), and Miss Maisie Ellenger (a graceful and accomplished representative of Dolores). The well-known songs were encored, and the chorus, dresses, and scenery were admirable. Mr. Hubert S. Brook conducted.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. Walter Howard's interesting drama *Second to None* was performed to a good house on Monday by Mr. T. E. Ward's company. That excellent dramatic artist Mr. Jerold Heather did sound and conscientious work as the manly hero; and Miss Ward won the sympathy of the audience by her womanly and charming acting. All the characters were effectively played, and the artistic scenery was much admired.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company, including Mr. Sam Livesey, are again acting the stirring drama *The Village Blacksmith* to crowded and enthusiastic audiences.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The *pièce de résistance* this week is a lively musical farce, in three scenes, entitled *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, which is played with exhilarating "go" and vivacity by Mr. Harry Roxbury and a first-rate company. The Craggs are loudly applauded in the acrobatic sketch *The New Steward*, and others scheduled are Mr. W. Poluski, jun., eccentric dancer; Mr. Walter Curtis, humorist; the Carina Sisters, two elegant and clever musicians; Mr. Frank Sylvo, comedy juggler; Mr. Barrieton, vocalist; Lady Mansell's talented juvenile troupe; the Bioscope; and Miss Lily Burnand, the handsome and dashing comedienne.

GRAND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—Mlle. De Roze, vocalist; Mr. Percy Currie, eccentric comedian; Mr. J. H. Hawtrey, comedian; the Custances, novelty entertainers; the Sisters Ford, duettists; and the Four Hernes, in a smart comedy act, are doing good business at this popular resort.

ALBERT HALL.—Mr. Sydney Carter's artistic animated pictures entertainment, with all the latest films, is affording pleasure and instruction to large and appreciative audiences.

CENTRAL HALL.—Mr. Mark Melton, the Sisters Selwyn, the Lancashire Harmony Boys, Little Bobbie, and the Bioscope constitute the programme this week.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—Mr. J. Maundy-Gregory's talented company was here on the first three nights of this week, with *Lights Out*. Mr. Arthur Stone made a fine Capt. Von B. Bannewitz; Mr. Herbert Lugg acted splendidly as Lieut. Von Howen; Mr. Wernham S. Royott, in the trying rôle of Lieut. Von Lauffen acquitted himself with distinction; Mr. Frank Powell acted with power and considerable ability as Sergeant Volkhardt; Mr. Thos. Heath made a smart and capable Corporal Queiss; Mr. Alexander Munro was a soldierly and dignified Major Pascke; Mr. Lambert Plimmer acted creditably as Capt. Lebdenburg; Mr. W. Victor merited praise as Lieut. Hagemeister; Mr. Francis J. Bithell as Corporal Helbig was worthy of high commendation; Mr. Geo. W. Barnes made a capital Private Michael; Mr. Willie H. Smith was a satisfactory Private Speiss; Mr. J. Lister was bright and amusing as an Orderly; and Miss Dorothea Desmond, the only lady in the play, was graceful and accomplished in the exacting rôle of Klara Volkhardt, which she played splendidly.

SMETHWICK.—ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard, Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*The Power of the Cross* is represented here by Mr. Lingford Carson's company. The chief character is ably portrayed by the author of the piece, Mr. George A. de Gray; Miss Marie Menzies plays the rôle of Margaret Seaton with commendable skill; Miss Lily Roselle displays more than ordinary skill as Rita Lascelles; and Mr. Alexander J. Haviland as Dr. Leslie Fairfax and Mr. Frank Brunell as Gerald Fairfax are both capable in their respective rôles; Miss Phyliss Vaughan as Blanche Kingsley and Miss Etta Turner as Dolly Gray act successfully; Mr. A. Hall Menzies is well placed as Benjamin Hawkes; and Mr. John S. Chamberlain as Timothy O. Dowd creates much merriment.

SOUTHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Monillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—The first visit of *When Knights Were Bold* has been an empahtic success; in the leading part, that of Sir Guy, Mr. Vincent Erne scores all along the line and is the life and soul of the play; Miss Ernita Lascelles as Lady Rowena is excellent; Mr. Cory Thomas as Sir Brian is particularly good, and the other members of the lengthly cast are all good in their respective rôles.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—*Paul Kauvar* is admirably presented by Mr. Arnold Bell's company; Mr. Bell himself plays the title-rôle in admirable style, and he is well supported; Mr. Marshall Moore appearing successfully as the Duc de Beaumont; Mr. Leslie Bell and company are responsible for a sketch on the Thaw case entitled, *The Red Letter*, which is magnificently played and staged; Zarmo, the mad juggler; Will Driscoll, comedian; the Delomes, expert dancers; Leoni Dixon, clog dancer, and Nellie Farrell, comedienne, complete a capital programme.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—Chung Ling Soo mystifies every one with his wonderful tricks, and his performance evoke thunders of applause; Fred. Carey is a smart comedian and a sort of Robey and Dunville rolled into one; the Twin Brothers Dean dance beautifully together; the Elgars, vocalists; Bob Hamilton, Scotch comedian; Frank Keegan and Co. excel as cyclists; Martine and Son, pictorial songsters; and Henderson, blind musician, complete an excellent programme.

PIER PAVILION.—Acting Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait.—The Creoles are giving the concluding performances of the season at this favourite resort; the artists include Miss Hilda Vining, Miss Mabel Dent, Miss Marna Chalcraft, Mr. Alec Clunes, Mr. Hal Gaze, and Mr. Harry Buss, comedian, and they gain unstinted applause for their original entertainment.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. George Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—The ever-popular *Chinese Honeymoon* was presented for the first three nights of this week, Mr. Milton Bode's company providing merriment of the highest order by a bright and enjoyable portrayal. Mr. Edward H. Whitehall gave entire satisfaction as musical director. The dresses were of a pleasing and costly nature. Chief honours fell to Mr. Rudolf Kioss as Hang Chow, Emperor of Ylang-Ylang; Mr. Harry Jennings as Tom Hatherton; Mr. George Rydon, a most popular Mr. Pineapple; Miss Rosie Begarnie, who as Mrs. Pineapple, sang and danced admirably; Miss Maud Adams, who gave a commanding interpretation of Mrs. Brown; Miss Gwennie Harcourt, who as Fi-Fi, acts with humour; and Miss Elsie Skillings, who sang and acted with distinction as Soo-Soo. The other attraction commenced on Thursday in *My Wife*.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—The return visit of Mr. Norman V. Norman is heartily welcomed. On Monday and Tuesday first-class presentations of *The Adventure of Lady Ursula* gave real enjoyment to thoroughly appreciative audiences, who accorded repeated recognition of good work at the end of each of the four acts. Mr. Norman as Sir George Sylvester and Miss Wilson in the title-rôle gave masterly impersonations; while other notable exponents were Messrs. Alfred Gray, Francis Hope, G. T. Norman-Burt, Norman Leslie, Chas. Casson Freer, Thomas Peter, and Fredk. Lock, and the Misses Hilda Gregory and Sybil Ruskin. By special request, *Mr. Sheridan* was produced on Wednesday and Friday, while *David Garrick* proved a pleasing attraction on Thursday, and will be repeated this (Saturday) evening.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—An attractive entertainment is furnished here this week by Mr. Milton Bode's principal company, with *The Belle of Mayfair*. Mr. Harry Parker plays Sir John Chaldicott in highly-diverting style; Miss Queenie Finnis depicts the title-rôle with charming vivacity and effect; Miss Nellie Cozens is an admirable exponent of Lady Chaldicott; Miss Veronica Brady is smart and attractive as Pincott; Princess Carl has a chic representative in Miss Agnes Tandy; Mr. Fern Pounds submits a praiseworthy portraiture of the Hon. Raymond Finchley; and Miss Aurelie de Loriere figures prominently as the "Gibson" Girl.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Coulson.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell's Juvenile Pantomime Company appear in *The Sleeping Beauty* to good houses. Miss Dolly Dodds makes a charming Beauty and renders her vocal numbers in excellent style. Her duet with Miss Kittie Trewhitt as Prince Florizel stands out. Another good vocalist is Miss May Gibson, who enacts the Fairy Queen; King Fearnought is smartly interpreted by Master Jack Harrison; Wee George Wood is a wonderful child performer, giving good recitations and impersonations of various artists; plenty of fun is contributed by the Brothers Armstrong, Messrs. Doyle and Gibson, and Pat Sloan and S. Jefferson; the piece is bright and entertaining, the ballets smartly arranged, the well-balanced chorus and efficient orchestra being under the baton of Mr. W. B. Levy.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. George F. Thompson.—Crowded houses welcome the return visit of Vesta Tilley, who sings her latest songs, "When the Right Girl Comes Along" and "The Seaside Smile," with all her old charm and vivacity, and an old favourite, "Following in Father's Footsteps"; Mark Adams goes well in a musical episode "The Wanderer"; St. Clair Bros., trick cyclists, cause a good deal of fun; Cull-pit contributes some smart patter and conjuring; D. W. Watson is an expert on the cornet and coach horn; the remaining enjoyable items are Sisters Morgan, duettists and dancers; Millie Denham, comedienne; Edgar Budden, speciality dancer, and the bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance; Resident-Manager, Mr. David Collins.—On Monday night a crowded audience assembled to witness the first performance locally of *The Master Criminal*, as presented by Miss Winifred Chalmers' company. Miss Chalmers appears as Cecile, and her fine stage presence enables her to fill the part with success. Mr. Henry L. Osmond's interpretation of the name-part does that artist infinite credit; Mr. Edward Avinal submits a good all-round portrayal of Philip Manners; and as Mabel Manners Miss Kate Somerville submits a charming delineation of that heroine. Mr. John C. Carlyle appears to great advantage as the detective, Ben Beaudy; as Gentleman Jim Mr. Victor Vernon is at times very droll, and Mr. Walter Rousby as the irrepressible Tommy Dale is always mirth-provoking. Miss Nellie May submits a smart impersonation of Peggy Perks, and little Nellie Stephens is very pleasing as Winnie. Last (Friday) night the company presented *Oliver Twist*.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—A fine performance of *Her Forbidden Marriage* by Frederick Melville's Company under the management of Mr. Roland Yorke commands excellent business; Mr. Henry Lonsdale earns considerable popularity by a vigorous and incisive performance of George Maddison; Mr. Louis Hector gives a telling rendering of Charles Devereux; Geoffrey Broughton is admirably impersonated by Mr. Leonard Maxwell, and Mr. E. Campbell is an excellent Sir George Lancaster; Miss Gertrude Bonser is a charming representative of Lucy; and Miss Gertrude Hunt as Lady Lancaster, and Miss Imlay as the Mother Superior are irreproachable; the comedy element is brought well to the front by Mr. Fred de Vere, who as Timothy Tuttutt is very funny, and he is ably supported by Miss Sybil Hare as Patty Lovejoy.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic Carrell.—Kelly, Gillete, and Bart, "The Bounding Billiardists," head the bill this week, and are heartily applauded for their smart performance; Miss Carlotta Levey scores a success with her songs; other capital turns include Rappo and Ella, gymnasts; Mr. H. O. Wills, comedian; Miss Patty Yole, comedienne; Mr. Arthur Woodville, swell comedian; the Riberoes, musicians; and Regan and Ryan, comedians.

STOCKPORT. — TH

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Sept. 23, the Musical Comedy, by Seymour Hicks and Ivan Caryll, entitled
"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."

The present visit of this lively musical comedy is announced as its farewell. Regret will be expressed at the departure, as in its time it has served to create many a hearty laugh. *The Earl and the Girl* has had a fair innings. Written by Mr. Seymour Hicks, it necessarily possesses all the mannerisms peculiar to that mercurial comedian's humour, while Mr. Ivan Caryll's music is always graceful and melodious. The audiences at the King's this week have been very appreciative of the piece, and the efforts of the artists have met with due reward. A most humorous characterisation is that of Jim Cheese, the dog trainer, in which Mr. William Stephens is screamingly funny, and proves himself a comedian of infinite resource. Mr. Thomas Kinnard as Dick Wargrave plays exceedingly well, and is approved. The Hon. Crewe Boodle has a spirited representative in Mr. Percy E. Wright, and Mr. H. Courtin portrays the heavy uncle, A. Bunker Bliss, with truly American emphasis. Mr. W. Norman is a sprightly and energetic Downham, and Mr. George Ruff's Mr. Talk is of the usual stage type of solicitor. Mr. R. Mansell Fane is admirable as Mr. Hazell, host of the Fallowfield Arms. Miss Chrissie Ralland as Elphin Haye charms everyone by her dainty rendering of the American heiress. As Liza Shoddam Miss Jennie Richards gives a very correct picture of Jim Cheese's Cockney sweetheart. Miss Kathleen Gerard is an imposing Mrs. Shimmering Black, and Miss Virginia Bliss is neatly undertaken by Miss Frances James. Miss Ethel Erskine acts pleasingly and sings artistically as Daisy Fallowfield. The chorus is an excellent one, and the costumes and scenery are in the best taste.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

Holloway is again favoured by a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, who with their company are this week appearing in a number of well-known plays with which they have been associated for so long. The répertoire includes *Still Water Run Deep*, *The Housekeeper*, *A Tight Corner*, *The Elder Miss Blossom*, and *The Ironmaster*. An overflowing audience assembled on Monday to greet them in *Still Waters Run Deep*. Mr. Kendal as John Mildmay and Mrs. Kendal as Mrs. Sternhold have parts eminently suited to them, and they are very ably supported by Miss Jessica Thorne, who as Mrs. Mildmay acts throughout with praiseworthy earnestness and sincerity; by Mr. Bassett Roe, who treats the part of Captain Hawkesley with much skill; and by Mr. Ernest Hendrie, who plays throughout most naturally and interestingly as Mr. Potter. The remaining characters—Dunbilk, Langford, Markham, Gimlet, and Jessop—are capably handled by Messrs. Metcalfe Wood, R. Burnett, C. W. Standing, F. Chas. Pool, and Mr. W. M. Rutherford, and the mounting of the play is also worthy of favourable mention.

That *The Housekeeper* is a highly-popular play as presented by Mr. and Mrs. Kendal and a well-appreciated one was well shown on Tuesday evening by the state of the house, which was well filled throughout. The interest naturally centred in the impersonations of Colonel Lionel Trent by Mr. Kendal and Lady Audrey Whitby by Mrs. Kendal, and both scored distinct triumphs. The delightful ease and force of their readings kept the entire house in rapt attention throughout. Mr. Bassett Roe scored well in the part of Lord Runswick, and Mr. C. W. Standing distinguished himself as Robert C. Sledmere. We have nothing but praise for Mr. Ernest Hendrie's portrayal of William Hickson; and Mr. F. Chas. Pool was well placed as Pennington Greene. Mr. Metcalfe Wood took full advantage of his few opportunities as Crane, the butler; Mr. W. M. Rutherford's finished playing was of valuable assistance to the general scheme, and his Chippenham Berkeley must be recorded as a notable success; Mrs. A. B. Tapping was happily cast as Lady Robertson; and a delightful portrayal of Mrs. Rellington was given by Miss Dora Fellowes. We have seen Miss Marie Löhr in parts far more worthy of her ability than Cicely Blake, but she made the most of the rôle. Miss Jessica Thorne completed the cast as Mrs. Pennington Greene. The scenery was pretty and appropriate.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Sept. 23, the Play, entitled
"THE STRONGER SEX."

Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's principal company are proving an attraction here this week, where they are appearing in that interesting play by John Valentine, *The Stronger Sex*, which is being played by arrangement with Mr. Otho Stuart, and all the original scenery and dresses are being used, so the production is on the most complete scale, which alone should secure success. Miss May Blaney undertakes the character of Mary, the American wife, who proves herself to be such a strong character, and no better choice could have been made, for Miss Blaney acts the part in a most perfect and finished manner, and charms everyone by her winning personality. The Hon. Warren Barrington is depicted with much skill by Mr. D. Lewin Mannering, who plays in an easy style, making a great success for himself; Mrs. Van Garkerken, the good-natured but outspoken widow, is depicted in the most effective way by Miss Gladys Ffolliott, who causes many rounds of laughter by her wittily-spoken lines; Mr. Stanley Harrison is decidedly good as Oliver Thorpe, the man from Texas who has such a droll way with him, and never wastes his words; Miss Nancy Beresford is very entertaining as Joan Forsythe, a rôle which she plays in a delightful and most natural fashion; Miss Ida Richardson is good as Mrs. Davenporte; and Miss Eva Stuart does well as Mrs. Prescott-Lane. The two money-lenders find a couple of clever representatives in Messrs. R. Van Ranney and G. H. Kersley, who make the most of the one short scene in which they appear. There are many other smaller parts, which are all carefully played. The play is preceded by that clever little piece, *The Peacemaker*, by E. M. Bryant, in which Mr. R. Van Ranney and Miss Eva Stuart are most successful. The mounting of the play is very pretty, and the dresses must have been of interest to the fairer members of the audience. Mr. R. F. Symons is the manager for the company. Mr. George F. Ford's orchestra also contribute greatly to the evening's pleasure by their melodious selections.

THE DALSTON.

On Monday, Sept. 23, the American Play,
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

Plenty of excitement is being provided for patrons of the Dalston Theatre this week by the performances at that popular house of the American play, entitled *The Fatal Wedding*. The piece is presented by members of Mr. Bert Coote's company, and the choruses rendered by a number of well-trained children, together with some specialities by artists, prove as attractive as ever. Mr. Cecil A. Melton as Howard Wilson (a wealthy clubman) submits an interesting impersonation, and Miss Ethel Kay as Wilson's wife assists materially in sustaining the dramatic power of the story. Miss Gertrude Harrison gives a clever portrayal of Cora Williams, an adventuress, and the audience appears to be quite gratified when she meets with her deserts. Robert Curtis, a man about town, finds a telling representative in Mr. Henry W. Hatchman; Mr. Charles Locke as Toto, a French butler; Mr. Cyril Melton as Peter Schwartz; Mr. Frank Ashley as O'Reilly, a policeman of the right sort; and Mr. J. Newton as the Rev. Dr. Lanceford, are each indispensable in their way. Miss Ethel Sarjient causes amusement as Bridget, a lady cook; while Miss Marie Wilson as Jessie, the "little mother," and Miss Hilda Mahlert as Frank, Jessie's little brother, elicit a good deal of applause.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Sept. 23, the Comedy, in Four Acts, by Madeleine Lucette Ryley, entitled
"MICE AND MEN."

Mr. and Mrs. Forbes Robertson form an artistic alliance that has very deservedly won the heartiest recognition of English-speaking playgoers in the two hemispheres, chiefly because they uphold the best traditions of the British stage by their great gifts and their high ideals. The reappearance, therefore, in the London district of the happily-associated pair has received an enthusiastic welcome this week at the Coronet, where packed houses have enjoyed their most interesting repertory, which includes *Mice and Men*, *The Light that Failed*, and *Hamlet*. Madeleine Lucette Ryley's clever comedy was given on the opening night. Mr. Forbes Robertson, in his original part of Mark Embury, who finds that the wayward heart of woman can never be ruled by gratitude when Cupid lays siege to it, once again delighted us by his polished humour, and the little touches of pathos that distinguish his rendering of a favourite part. Both the *gaucherie* of the waif and the tenderness and devotion of the carefully-nurtured ward of the philosopher are conspicuous in Miss Gertrude Elliott's rendering of Peggy. There was good support forthcoming, too, in Mr. Charles Langley's Roger Goodlake, a ripe impersonation; in Mr. A. Wheatman's Kit Barniger, and in Miss Elizabeth Watson's housekeeper. Mr. S. A. Cookson made a dashing and loverlike Captain George Lovell; Miss A. Gordon Skinner was responsible for a capital study of the frivolity of a would-be woman of fashion as Joanna; and other parts were adequately filled by Miss Dorothy Paget, Miss Lily Price as the matron, Mr. Frank Ridley, Mr. Sam T. Pearce, and Mr. W. Pilling. Mr. Ian Robertson stage managed.

On Wednesday was revived *The Light that Failed*, adapted from Rudyard Kipling's novel by George Fleming (Constance Fletcher), and originally produced at the Lyric Theatre. The infinitely touching portraiture of Dick Heldar by Mr. Forbes Robertson again held the house in thrall; and Miss Gertrude Elliott's Maisie has gained in sureness of touch and depth of sympathy. Miss A. Gordon Skinner as the Red-Haired Girl has the tragic intensity demanded; Miss Dorothy Paget is characteristic as Bessie Broke; and Miss Elizabeth Watson as Mrs. Haynes is cockney to the finger-tips. Mr. Ian Maclaren as Torpenhaw, Mr. Percy Rhodes as "The Nilghai," Mr. S. A. Cookson as James Vickery, Mr. Walter Ringham as Cecil Vincent, Mr. A. Wheatman as Beeton are responsible for excellent work in their respective parts, and Messrs. Frank Bickley, J. Troughton, C. B. Vaughan, Frank Ridley, and Lewis Willoughby add to the effectiveness of the representation.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 23,
the Comedy, by Bernard Shaw, entitled
"CAPTAIN BRASSBOUND'S CONVERSION."

Miss Ellen Terry's suburban tour brings her this week to Mr. Robert Arthur's Kennington Theatre, where nightly a large and enthusiastic audience eagerly awaits the rise of the curtain in order to give this famous actress, so dear to the hearts of all theatre-goers, a hearty welcome to South London. Miss Terry selected Mr. Bernard Shaw's comedy, *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*, for her visit to this theatre, in which she appears as the light-hearted, unsuspecting Lady Cecily Waynflete. Admirably suited to her part, "the Lady of the Lyceum" displayed even more than usual those charms of manner, gesture, and grace with which she and the part have become identified. At the conclusion of each act Miss Terry was the recipient of a magnificent ovation, and at the conclusion of the performance was several times recalled. Mr. James Carew as Captain Brassbound easily established himself a favourite, and may expect a welcome greeting on his next appearance at this theatre. Of the other parts, it is almost needless to say that Mr. Rudge Harding as Sir Howard Hallam made a decided impression by the forcefulness of his acting; and the "true inwardness" of the problem was most adequately interpreted by, amongst others of a very excellent company, Mr. Story-Gofton as the Rev. Leslie Rankin, Mr. George Elton as Felix Drinkwater, Mr. Dare Austin as Redbrook, Mr. William Walshe as Johnson, Mr. David Hallam as Marzo, Mr. David Powell as Sidi el Asif, Mr. Frank Powell as the Cadi of Kintofi, Mr. John Hood as Osman, Mr. Gerald Hoffman as Hassan, Master Roberts as Muley, Mr. W. T. Lovell as Captain Hamlin Kearney, U.S.N., and Mr. James Fergusson as an American bluejacket. The mounting and stage arrangements, under the direction of Mr. Frank Powell, were fully up to Mr. Robert Arthur's usual standard of excellence. Now that the autumn season has set in, it may be expected that with the promising programme that has been provided, the Kennington Theatre will be a constant centre of popular attraction.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Sept. 23, the Light Opera,
"THE LITTLE MICHUS."

The clever, tuneful, and amusing production above-named is delighting numerous audiences at the Royal County Theatre at Kingston this week, a capable company, under the direction of Mr. George Dance, giving a creditable representation of the play. Miss Alice Coverick and Miss Gracie Sinclair appear as the Little Michus, and make a most favourable impression, their singing being especially well received. Mr. Foster Courtenay as General des Ifs makes a great hit, his whimsicalities keeping the house in constant good humour. He is ably assisted in this respect by Mr. Gilbert Childs, who makes an amusing Sergeant Bagnolet. Others in the company who deserve special mention are Mr. Edward Wynn as Captain Gaston Rigaud, Mr. Wm. Benson as Pierre Michu, Miss Mary Young as Mme. Michu, and Mlle. Marjorie, whose clever dancing is one of the features of the performance. It is needless to add that the opera is admirably mounted.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, Sept. 23,
the Play, in Four Acts, by Walter Howard, entitled
"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."

The very successful play, *Her Love Against the World*, is paying a return visit to the Standard this week, and this, coupled with the fact that the interval between the two visits has been but a few months, is sure testimony that the play is an attraction of an unquestionable nature. On Monday an enthusiastic reception was accorded to the excellent interpretation supplied, and the performance all through was a conspicuous success. Much praise is due to Mr. Walter Howard for his conscientious impersonation of Eric, Earl of Strathmere; his embodiment was stamped with genuine manliness and ability, and created a profound impression. Miss Ivy Millais scored exceedingly well as Nello; her reading of the rôle was the essence of pathos and feeling, and her efforts in declamatory elocution were delivered with pleasing effect. As Ulric, Prince of Ravensburg, Mr. Lewis Gilbert played with all the necessary vindictiveness, and discharged his duties of a callous nature in a manner worthy of special commendation. Mr. Ronald Bayne made an excellent Prince Othmar; whilst Mr. Douglas Vigors admirably portrayed Prince Maurice of Saxonia. Mr. T. W. Henson was a satisfactory Kasper; and Mr. A. H. Hallett gave an excellent character-study of the good-natured surgeon, Captain Helgar. The parts of Hendrick and Fritz Pimpernickle were played with irresistible drollery by Mr. Percy Compton and Mr. E. H. Dobell respectively; and the Katinka and Gretchen of Miss Maisie Ash and Miss Kathie Lennon were amusing to the extreme. Miss Annie Pearson did all that was possible as Corona; and Miss Evelyn Hope made a decided success of the part of Shulah, Countess of Rassellyn. Miss Ethel Warwick successfully encountered and overcame the many difficulties offered in the rôle of Iris, Princess of Idalia. She played with telling effect throughout, and thoroughly deserved the applause which, from time to time, rewarded her efforts. The play was admirably staged and mounted.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 23, the Play, entitled
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."

From the opening scene until the curtain fell on the happy conclusion of the last act on Monday, the audience was closely held and thrilled by the many strong situations and dramatic surprises in this clever play, and its success was in no small measure due to the realistic and convincing representation given to it by each and all concerned. The personality of Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart was most telling in the title-rôle, as he possesses in an eminent degree that quiet force so necessary to this part. The somewhat unsophisticated Dr. Watson was intelligently acted by Mr. Douglas G. Murray; Mr. Norman B. Cannon infused much meaning into the part of John Forman, Holmes' helper and spy; and Miss Beatrice Egerton as Therése, the French maid of the Larrabee's, had a similar task, well performed. Professor Moriarty was a grim study in the hands of Mr. H. Ryeland Leigh; his assistant, Alfred Bassick, and his creatures, Jim Cragin, Leary, and McTague, being strongly played by Messrs. W. Mountjoy, C. M. Davidson, H. Pinder, and Harold Broughton respectively. A special word of praise must be given to the page boy, Billy, of Master Leslie Hall, whose small part is so necessary to the piece. Miss Celia Gordon made Madge Larrabee a most uncompromising "villainess," in no way sparing herself or her sex in her rendering of an unpleasant character. As the unhappy Alice Faulkner, Miss A. Bruce-Joy could not but enlist the sympathies of all by her life-like impersonation of the unhappy heroine; and Miss Angela Cunningham was all that was required as Mrs. Faulkner, her mother. Miss Grace Howard was Mrs. Smeedley, the volatile visitor at Dr. Watson's consulting-room; and Mr. Wm. Wilson and Mr. Charles Hood filled the parts of servants satisfactorily. Messrs. Hy. Littlejohn and Frank H. Moore appeared as Sir Edward Leighton and Count von Stahlburg in the last act, assuming effectively the needful dignity of such exalted personages.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 23, the Drama, entitled
"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."

Another enormously successful Melvillian drama, *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*, is presented here, and secured a warm greeting on Monday evening. It is well staged and mounted, and the scenic accessories deserve praise. In the title-rôle, Miss Beatrice Homer displays great ability, especially good being her fine performance in the third act. Valuable support is accorded by Mr. Philip Darien as Jack Merriman. In the scene where Philip is rendered blind, this clever actor carried the house with him. As Hubert Gold Mr. Leyton Cancellor was the cool, calculating villain to the life; and his accomplice, Antonio Luchessi, found a worthy representative in Mr. Leonard Thackeray. Mr. Alfred E. Wood gave a good study of the kindly Doctor. Mr. Tubby Edlin caused roars of laughter by his comical acting as Tubby, and soon made himself a favourite with the Brixtonians. Miss Nellie Jackson as Aggie gave a bright and charming rendering of the part. Miss Nell Oliver was duly passionate, and made a handsome Rose Courtenay; Morita, the Italian girl, was in the hands of Miss Violet Macaree, especially fine. Her pathetic scene in broken English made a deep impression on the large audience. The Purser of the steamship found a breezy representative in Mr. Gerald Valentine; Mr. Harry Wimpenny was first-rate as Raggles; and the remaining parts were all well played. The resident orchestra played nicely the incidental music and some selections throughout the evening, under the able conductorship of Mr. Edwin Moss. Mr. Tubby Edlin is business-manager, and Mr. L. Thackeray the stage-manager for Mr. F. Melville. A beauty competition was announced for yesterday (Friday) evening, when valuable prizes were to be presented to the prettiest Brixton ladies.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Sept. 23, the Drama,
"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."

A special attraction has been provided for patrons here this week in Mr. Fred Melville's complete production of his own drama, *Between Two Women*. It is splendidly staged and mounted, and the excellent company engaged could not be bettered in their respective rôles. The drama is much to the liking of audiences here, and the continued applause is most marked. Mr. Edward Thane, in the rôle of the Earl of Millard, is an elderly English nobleman who has made a large fortune on the diamond mines in South Africa and has returned home to reclaim his impoverished estates. Mr. Clifford Denbigh capably fills the part of his rather "go-ahead" son, whose entanglement with the two women gives the title to the drama. Mr. Fred Morgan as James Durwood makes a sufficiently intense villain, who by his nefarious schemes poisons the hero's mind against his wife; he is well assisted in his villainies by Mr. Herbert Goddard, who is Major Strangeways, and whose experience of hard work in the Army is living on champagne and tinned meat. The important part of the Rev. Philip Carton is entrusted to Mr. Harry Turner, and he it is who has to strangle Major Strangeways, who he finds has compromised the heroine by a trick. The subsequent contrition and remorse for his impulsive act are well expressed. Miss Louise Frampton fills the part of the sorely-tried and compromised heroine, and her pathetic treatment of it called for much sympathy from the audience. Miss Winnie White is the heartless Carmen de Savereaux, the woman who tries to lure the hero from his wife, and, when she fails, falsely accuses him of murder, and only relents when confronted with her blind son, who has been lost to her for some years. Miss Lulu Bowes is a very pathetic figure as the Blind Boy, and her song of the same title is much appreciated. Mr. Newman Maurice as Jack Pringle is the cause of much merriment, especially in his "shop-lifting" business, and there are no dull moments when he and his extremely able and pretty partner, Miss Sybil Hare (Pollie Popp), are in possession of the stage.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Sept. 23, the Drama entitled
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."

George R. Sims' famous drama, *The Lights o' London*, twinkled brightly in Marylebone this week, and Mr. Herbert Hollister's carefully selected company obtained a hearty West London welcome. Mr. C. F. Collings sustained the important rôle of Harold Armytage with much genuine fervour and restrained force; and Miss Jeanne Burgoyne won the sympathy of all by her patient, womanly impersonation of the sorely-tried Bess. The old showman, Jarvis, found a realistic representative in the person of Mr. Payne Fletcher, who acted with much unctuous humour; Mr. W. J. Buckley deservedly scored a big hit as Jim; Mr. Herbert Morgan was a cool and calculating Clifford Armytage; and Mr. Herbert Hollister kept his emotions well under control in his masterly rendering of Seth Preene. Miss Violet Temple's ripe experience well suited the part of Mrs. Jarvis; Miss Nellie Maynard played with much intelligence as Shakespeare Jarvis; little Dorothy Bird pathetically portrayed the little waif Joey; and Miss Kate Randolph as Hetty Preene looked exceedingly handsome, her success being well marked. The rest of a long cast all played adequately, whilst the mounting and effects left nothing to be desired.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Sept. 23,
the Domestic Drama, by Gordon Holmes, entitled
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."

This week we have a return to full-blooded, exciting drama of the type so beloved by the good folks of Peckham in the shape of *The Convict's Daughter*, which is attracting good houses. Mr. Frank Bertram's clever company gives an excellent interpretation of the piece. Mr. Frank Bertram, as the tramp, Michael Grahame, has the leading rôle, and is thoroughly successful, his acting in his various disguises being admirable. Miss Lilias Deane portrays the part of Edith with much pathos and power; Mr. Walter Graham is a manly young lover as Harold Trevalyen; and the villainy of Jasper Thorn is well sustained by Mr. Escot Robson. Mr. Sam Roberts is very amusing as the Irish policeman, Patrick O'Laragan; and Miss Lilla Nordan as the maidservant, Betty Hyne, ably aids him in the laughter-making. Good character-sketches come from Miss Maud Beard as Marian Thorn and Mr. Edward De Vere as Frederick Neville. The minor parts are all well played. The scenery and effects are a special feature of the production, the escape of the convict on an express train being most realistically managed.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Sept. 23, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"SERGEANT BRUE."

The trials and tribulations of the worthy sergeant still amuse crowded houses, and Mr. Robert Crossman's company is doing well at Fulham. It is a strong company, and the piece is well put on. Mr. Arthur Reynolds makes an excellent representative of the Sergeant, and plays with unflagging spirit and a strong sense of humour. Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy is a more than usually attractive representative of Michael Brue, and his songs go well. Mr. T. A. Shale is in his best low comedy vein, and as Crookie Scrubbs scores a decided success. His amusing facial contortions and expressive by-play keep the house in continual laughter, whilst the singing of his songs give evidence of musical gifts considerably above the level of the usual "comic man." Mr. Chas. Sims is amusing in his sketch of the magistrate, Mr. Crank, and Mr. W. Payne Palmer acts very smartly as the brusque Inspector Gorringe. Miss Daisy Dale looks and plays well as Aurora Brue; and Miss Mary Hay carries through the important part of Lady Bickenhall with much brightness and charm; Miss Marion Hargrave being amusing in the smaller part of the servant, Daisy. Mr. E. Farmer as Mr. Lamb, Mr. W. Jeffery as Captain Bay, and Mr. H. Soutar as Mr. Habisham fill their parts with satisfaction; and the chorus of ladies and gentlemen are up to the mark in song and dance. The music was under the direction of Mr. Sydney Shaw, and Mr. Charles Howard and Mr. Tom Robertson act for Mr. Crossman before and behind the curtain respectively.

GRAND, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, Sept. 23, the Drama entitled
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

After a somewhat lengthy absence, Mr. W. W. Kelly's company in *A Royal Divorce* again forms the attraction, and a good house was present on Monday to renew their acquaintance with the fine play. The whole production, which is that used for the Scala Theatre, is of a very elaborate character, the scenery from the brushes of Messrs. W. T. Hemsley and Charles Fell being excellent examples of the art. Mr. Frederick Victor still portrays all the varying moods of Napoleon with conspicuous success. Mr. Tom Robertson as Talleyrand submits a capital study of the unscrupulous Minister of State; and Mr. Frank Stone is responsible for a good piece of work as De Beaumont. Mr. William Ellonby as Augereau is amusing; and derives great assistance from Miss Clara Earle, who acts with spirit as Stephanie. Mr. J. J. Gordon as Grimaud gives a neat thumb-nail sketch of the innkeeper; and Messrs. St. George Frere and Mr. C. Jackson in smaller parts are to be commended. Miss Beth Elliott, who now appears as Josephine, assumes a difficult and arduous rôle with happy results, her acting throughout being of a high order. Miss Leah Marlborough as Marie Louise is also to be congratulated on a sound performance. Miss Ethel Love as the Little King of Rome is clever; and Miss Loyale Frere as the Gouvernante is good; the remaining smaller parts all finding careful exponents in the other members of the company.

TERRISS THEATRE.

Manager Taylor is to be congratulated on having secured that interesting play *The Eve of Her Wedding* for this week's bill of fare, and a full house showed its appreciation of the management's enterprise on the play's first representation in Rotherhithe. Mr. Ashley Page, always an ideal hero, played the double rôle of George Tremain and Nemo in his usual finished and taking style, and was ably supported by Miss Marion Denvil as Mavis Leverton. Mr. J. C. Aubrey invariably makes an effective villain, and his Dean Clifton is no exception to the rule; Mr. W. J. Holloway's Jack Herne was a touching and well-studied performance, and was duly appreciated by the audience; Mr. Bensley Evans in the trying part of Paul Cairshaw made a distinct hit, his acting in the old ruined mill scene being particularly good; the parts of Squire Leverton and his son Dick were ably portrayed by Mr. F. F. Evans and Mr. Roland Daniels; Mr. J. Chippendale never fails to interest and amuse, and his Rudolph Earle was a consistent performance; thanks to the finished acting of Mr. Frank Harrison and Miss East Robertson in the parts of Giovanni, the Secret Service agent, and Renie de Telle, an adventuress, the attention of the house was closely held throughout; and as the American millionaire and his daughter Mr. Frank Denis and Miss Everitt were just right. Mr. John Sargent was a splendid Bill Groggins. The play is particularly well mounted, the exterior of the church being really beautiful.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Sept. 23, the Musical Play,
"SOMEBODY'S SWEETHEART."

As a change from the staple fare at this popular melodrama theatre, Mr. Edward Marris's company, in *Somebody's Sweetheart*, is the attraction this week, and the piece is meeting with much success. The large number of interpolated songs and dances necessarily interfere with the thread of the story, but this is not of much account, for what the audience lose in one way they gain in another. Mr. Cecil W. Parke plays Stanton Ashleigh in manly style, and renders the numbers allotted to him with fine effect. Mr. Charles E. King portrays the villainous Stephen Leverton on sound lines; and Leverton's confederate, Lem Lee, is forcibly rendered by Mr. Percy Maitland. Mr. George Brentwood proves himself a very alert comedian as Martin Blabbs, and his vocal contributions are very enjoyable. The negro servant, Old Joe, receives careful treatment from Mr. Frank Gala; and Mr. Arthur Slade is a smart Detective Wilson. Miss Norah Melton is a pretty and vivacious Lulu, and sings charmingly. Miss Maisie Jerrard handles the part of the gipsy Zora with skill, and is responsible for a delightful rendering of "Lotus land," one of the best items in the piece. Miss Lily Williams and Miss G. de Monte, as Norah and Molly, contribute some capital dances; and Miss Dora Hargreaves plays very naturally as Miss Ainsley. Miss May Norris makes a bright and entertaining Freddie Ashleigh, and looks quite spruce in her well-fitting male attire.

"HIS HELPMATE."

A Play, in One Act, by Charles McEvoy, produced for the first time at the Midland Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Sept. 23.

Mrs. Chartris ..... Miss Jessica Waters
Lionel ..... Miss Nonny Lock
Mrs. Ormond ..... Miss Mona Limerick
Walter Ormond ..... Mr. A. G. Somers

The opening performance of the Playgoers' Theatre Company, established in Manchester for the local exploitation of new plays and choice masterpieces, was signalised on Monday by the production of *His Helpmate*, a sarcastically-named play in one act, by Mr. Charles McEvoy. It is the story of a woman who has married a man much older than herself for his money and its social advantages, and who, when misfortune comes to him through no fault of his own, refuses to believe his story, and suggests that he would be better dead. Pending the crisis, the contrast of Mrs. Chartris is made good use of, this being a lady who has married a comparatively poor man for love, and who declares strenuously that love is more conducive to happiness at home than money. Mrs. Ormond, however, having married for money, and being essentially cold and heartless, is not affected by the argument, and her son Lionel is seen to be developing similar traits of character. Ormond discovers that his partner in business is a defaulter, and that the firm cannot meet its obligations. These are the circumstances in which his wife brings him to the pass already indicated. The discovery of a letter of confession from the defaulter is made by Mrs. Ormond, through the instrumentality of Lionel; but it is too late to prevent the suicidal shot which brings down the curtain.

Miss Mona Limerick gave a powerful and accomplished depiction of the cold and selfish Mrs. Ormond; Mr. A. G. Somers as Walter Ormond was particularly good in the scene with his wife, when he tries to make her believe his story, and leaves with the revolver in his pocket; Miss Nonny Lock was effective as Lionel; and Miss Jessica Waters as Mrs. Chartris contributed to the argument in a clever and natural manner. The play was very well received and neatly staged.

On the same evening a revised version of the comedy of *David Ballard*, also by Mr. McEvoy, was presented by a very capable cast. The story of the young clerk with the ambition to become an author, but with the ability only—in spite of his ideas—to descend again to the level of ordinary life, glorified more or less by the love of a woman who chooses him for himself alone, is well told and garnished with interesting and significant characters. The moral is hard and practical, and Mr. B. Iden Payne's rendering of David was emotional enough to justify the young man's failure to achieve his fine ambitions. Mr. Charles Bibby as Percy Ballard acted the snob to the life; Miss Lillian M. Revell played Gladys intelligently; an excellent delineation of Mrs. Ballard was given by Miss Clarge Greel; and Mr. A. G. Somers as Simon Ballard made the most of a part that was hardly worthy of his powers. Mr. Charles Charrington added a capital impersonation of Darwin Snodge; and, with the remaining parts proportionately well handled, the total effect of the play was quite satisfactory, and received unstinted applause.

THE SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 23, the Comic Opera, entitled
"LA POUPEE."

The visit of Mr. C. P. Levilly's company in the delightful comic opera, *La Poupée*, was eagerly anticipated by patrons of the popular Clapham Theatre, and the opening performance on Monday found the house filled with an appreciative audience. That their expectations were fully realised was very evident by the enthusiasm which prevailed throughout the play; and, indeed, it could hardly have been otherwise, for the sparkling music and witty lines, together with a capital company and fine scenery, made the performance as bright and attractive as could be desired. The acting and singing was excellent all round. Miss Stella Castelle made a charming appearance in the part of Alesia, and won unstinted applause for her excellent acting and singing. Mr. W. H. Powell as Hilarius was the life and soul of the piece, and his clever acting and amusing antics kept the house in uproarious laughter. Miss Dulcie Garland was interesting as Mme. Hilarius; and Miss Victoria Wray made a dainty Guduline. In the rôle of Henri Miss Kitty Cavendish was seen to advantage, and acted the part with marked ability. The three dolls were attractively presented by Miss Frances Lane, Miss Belle Gray, and Miss Hilda Milburn; and minor parts were capably sustained by Miss Florence Wynn, Miss Rose Lytton, and Miss Nita Lingham; and Lancelot was excellently sustained by Mr. F. Maxwell Stuart, and his excellent voice was heard to advantage in several songs. The crusty pessimist, Loremois, was ably portrayed by Mr. Leon Simpkin; and Mr. Arthur Gibbons as Baron Chantrelle acquitted himself with success. Father Maxime was admirably embodied by Mr. Ernest Torrence, and he was accorded a well-deserved encore for his rendering of the song "A jovial monk." Messrs. Vernon Reed, P. J. Bannon, D. Rowlands, and H. J. Edwards, and the chorus, under the direction of Mr. Harry Rushworth, rendered the concerted pieces with due effect. Mr. Herbert Ralland is general-manager and Mr. Leon Simpkin stage-manager for Mr. C. P. Levilly.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Sept. 23, the Musical Comedy,
"MR. POPPLE (OF IPPLETON)."

The bright and entertaining *Mr. Popple* is paying a return visit to Stratford this week, and on Monday night was very favourably received. Mr. Charles Macdona's company has Mr Arthur Longley as Freddy Popple, and his droll doings and sayings always compel laughter Miss Millie Hylton portrays La Bolero on somewhat original lines. Miss Hylton's songs go wonderfully well, and she meets with much success. Mr. Wentworth Fane is an energetic and buoyant exponent of Norman Popple; and Mr. Douglas Phillips is exceedingly good as Jacques Kenyon. The two gay old parvenus, George Hennay and Henry Doring are depicted in genuine comedy vein by Mr. Sydney Young and Mr. James Stevenson respectively; the "better half" of each being safely entrusted to Miss Anton Lang as Mrs. Hennay, and Miss Alice Rene as Mrs. Doring. Mr. C. E. Paton is a very alert and amusing Platt, much of his good work being in conjunction with Miss Nellie Hodson, who, as the maid Louise quickly wins her way into favour. Miss Cora Lingard is a very prepossessing Violet Brinton; and the large number of minor parts all receive careful treatment; while the efficient chorus and augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Julian Rutt, render the concerted music in praiseworthy style.

Messrs. Chappell's ballad concerts will be resumed at Queen's Hall on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 12. Among the artists engaged are Miss Agnes Nicholls, Miss Miranda, Miss Carmen Hill, Mme. Kirkby Lunn, Miss Gertrude Mellor, Mr. Ben Davies, Mr. Dalton Baker, and Mr. Fritz Kreisler.

Makes the Skin as Soft as Velvet.—Beetham's "La-rola" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, irritation, chaps, &c., and Keeps the Skin Soft, Smooth, and White at all Seasons. Invaluable for the Complexion, Delightfully Soothing and Refreshing after golfing, cycling, motoring, tennis, boating, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association took place at 10, King-street, Covent Garden, on Tuesday. There were present Mr. Fred Grove (chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Rose Mathews and Lucy Sibley, and Messrs. Arthur Applin, Cecil Brooking, Lewis Casson, C. F. Collings, Edmund Gurney, Roy Horniman, Fewlass Llewellyn, Fredk. Morland, and Chas. Cruikshanks, secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. It was decided that the fortnightly meeting fixed for the 27th inst. be not held. The hon. solicitors reported correspondence on behalf of three members in the matter of the recovery of salaries, and received instructions.

The secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee. It was proposed by Mr. Fredk. Morland and seconded by Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn that the recommendations of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on the 21st inst., namely, (1) In view of the present financial position, it is advisable to place the Association in liquidation; (2) that a meeting of the Association be called for Monday, Sept. 30, to lay the position before the members, be adopted.

It was also agreed that "All other business be suspended pending decision on the above." After considerable discussion, in which the various alternatives were reviewed, the proposition was adopted. The secretary then asked for instructions. He was directed to call a meeting by a notice in the office for Monday next, at 3 p.m.

It was agreed that the statutory meeting should be held on Monday, Oct. 14, at 2.30, followed by the further meeting of Oct. 28, at the same time to submit to the members a resolution to place the affairs of the Association in liquidation.

The question of the vacancy on the Council was further postponed. The resignation of Mr. W. Graham Browne was accepted with regret. Mr. Graham Browne gave as his reasons for resigning his seat on the Council an engagement at the Court Theatre which would make it impossible for him to attend Council meetings.

The secretary reported that a late member, whose name was removed from the register of members on Aug. 6 last, had since gone to America, and he asked for further instructions as to forwarding letters. He was instructed to write to him and acquaint him that after Oct. 14 his letters would be returned to the D.L.O. marked "No longer a member of the Actors' Association."

The Chairman referred to a letter received from the secretary of the Touring Managers' Association, stating that the A.A. letter of July 26 regarding the question of the minimum wage was read at their last committee meeting.

The Chairman read a letter from the Touring Managers' Association, and the secretary was directed to acknowledge receipt and state that the matter was under consideration.

A complaint from a member regarding the state of the dressing-rooms at a provincial theatre was considered, and the secretary was directed to write to the management on the subject.

With regard to the nominations for election of Charles King, Winifred Rae, and Minnie de Worms it was agreed that their records were satisfactory, and the secretary was ordered to exhibit their names in the usual way, but he was instructed to return the fees paid by them with a letter stating that their nominations had been accepted but their election had been postponed, and that the Council trusted to be in a position to communicate with them further on the subject in the near future.

The secretary reported that the names of Mesdames Ruby Wyndham, Mary Deverell, and Julietta Milo had been duly posted, and they were now eligible for election. It was, however, agreed that they could not be elected at the present time, and the secretary was directed to return the fees paid by them, with a letter stating that the Council agreed that they were eligible for election, but such election had been postponed, and the Council trusted to be in a position to communicate with them further on the subject in the near future.

The secretary reported that Miss Beatrix de Burgh had written to say that she could not spare time to serve on the Social Committee and that he had received no reply from Miss Margaret Cavania.

The reinstatements of Stephen H. Langton and Ruth Wingrove were confirmed.

"IN WASHINGTON'S DAYS."

A Romantic Comedy, in Three Acts, by H. Gerald Ransley, produced, for the first time on any stage, at St. Francis Xavier's College Hall, Liverpool, on Wednesday, Sept. 25.

Captain Delamere ..... MR. GERALD RANSLEY
Lieut. Philip Maurice ..... MR. JOS. F. BOON
Dr. Cumberland ..... MR. J. SIDNEY GORRIE
General Bryce ..... MR. EVAN HARDING
Murty Maloney ..... MR. CHAS. ROBINSON
Sergt. Howard ..... MR. T. RIGBY ARMSTRONG
Erasmus ..... MISS ALMA CLARE
Rosie Willett ..... MISS OLGA HILBERRY
Martha Mutch ..... MISS STELLA VERNON
Mrs. Maurice ..... MISS VERA MOULTON
Virginia Marlowe ..... MISS WINNIE BROMLEY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This is a rather pretty love-story, in which self-sacrifice plays a prominent part, while the interest awakened at an early stage is well maintained to the close. The scene opens at Claremont Hall, during the American War of Independence. An English captain named Delamere, operating in the neighbourhood, billets himself for the night, in the course of which Lieut. Maurice, of the American Army, and son of the lady of the Hall, steals his despatches. The Captain, however, discovers the theft, and is about to shoot Maurice; but on the pleading of his mother, and his cousin, Virginia, is spared, on condition that he at once rejoins his regiment, and does something to regain his good name. Subsequently, Delamere is made prisoner by the American soldiers, and conveyed to their camp. Here he is followed by Virginia, who, actuated by a desire to repay the Captain's kindness in sparing the life of her cousin, demands that the latter will plead with General Bryce, commanding the American troops, for the release of the Englishman. The Lieutenant refuses, but on Virginia threatening to act as advocate herself, and reveal her cousin's theft and falsehoods, gives way, and makes a clean breast of the affair to his General. Delamere is accordingly released, and Virginia gives him her hand in marriage.

Although the play was presented by amateurs, brought together by Mr. Ransley, it met with much acceptance. The author held the rôle of the English Captain with dignity and soldierly bearing; Mr. Evan Harding handled the character of General Bryce with discretion; Mr. Joseph F. Boon presented a thoughtful study of Lieut. Maurice; Mr. J. Sidney Gorrie proved a sufficiently villainous Dr. Cumberland, an adept in administering poisons; a lively and most amusing Irish servant came from Mr. Charles Robinson; Miss Vera Moulton played tenderly as Mrs. Maurice; and Miss Winnie Bromley looked sweet and spoke her lines well as Virginia. The minor parts were also satisfactorily presented. The new play was preceded by a humorous sketch, entitled *The Lottery Ticket*, in which Messrs. Ransley, F. Crosby Dare, and Armstrong; along with Miss Moulton and Miss Hilberry, took part.

MR. CHAS. HOWARD has been kindly released by Mr. Robert Crossman from his engagement with *Sergeant Brue*, on tour, to enable him to take over the resident-management of the Hippodrome, Eastbourne, where he will commence his duties on Monday next.

ACTORS' UNION.

LONDON.

Mr. H. TRIPP EDGAR presided at the weekly meeting of the Actors' Union on Tuesday at the Bedford Head. Among the others present were Messrs. Frank Gerald, Harry Paulton, jun., Watty Brunton, Stanley Burt, Norman Wrighton, Fred Bentley, James English, Edward S. Petley, J. W. Braithwaite, and Harry Townley; and Mesdames Eva Stuart, Eveleen Mills, Kate Randolph, Ada Melrose, May Conrade, Adelaide Gracey, Kitty Marion, Bessie Armytage, W. Bentley, and Gladys Ffolliott.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said that he had to advance a serious warning against members accepting anything but the authorised programme as laid down by the executive committee. No one had the right to declare the policy of the Union except the council which they, as members, had elected. If he (the Chairman) had thought for one moment that the object of the Union was to create a strike then he should withdraw from the committee. He had to tell them that Mr. Walter Gibbons was applying for the Standard (Shoreditch), the Prince's (Poplar), the Grand Theatre (Islington), the Grand (Woolwich), and the Terriss (Rotherhithe) to be turned into variety houses. Another manager was desirous of converting the Camden and the Coronet into music halls. Members of the Union would have to consider their position as actors in this matter. He had also to inform them that the committee had that day appointed Mr. Frank Gerald as honorary delegate for the Union. They considered that they wanted a good organiser, as they were not forging ahead as well as they should. Then, as to the possibility of benefits accruing to members of the Union, he would point out that they ought to have their orphanage fund. If they had a sufficiency of funds at their back they could start the scheme by endowing a bed at the orphanage and calling it the "Actors' Union Bed." There had likewise to be taken into account the subject of old age pensions and a burial club.

Mr. FRANK GERALD said that he highly appreciated the confidence shown in him by his appointment as honorary delegate, and it would be his chiefest endeavour to prove himself worthy of the post. He believed that the time was ripe for the Union to be "up and doing." As to what the chairman had said about strikes, he thought there was a good deal of misunderstanding on this point. Some actors and actresses appeared to be holding aloof because they believed that the Union intended forcing a strike. That was the last thing they wanted to bring about. They would be interested to learn that on Sunday, Oct. 20, the Union would hold a mass meeting in London. It would be open to all trade unionists on production of their card, as well as to any actor or actress on showing his or her card. The object of that meeting would be to preach the gospel they had started out to preach. They would be supported on the platform by some of the great Labour leaders, as well as by representatives of trade unions in the country. Similar meetings would be held in the various provincial towns of England and Scotland.

Miss GLADYS FFOLLIOTT explained the advantages of the Union appointing a delegate. It was absolutely necessary for them to have a man who understood the requirements of the working profession. They would all realise the difficulties which confronted a few actors and actresses who desired to bring their grievances before their managers. They knew very well that the man who acted as spokesman in such a manner would be a marked man, and he would find difficulty in getting engagements afterwards. Mr. Frank Gerald thoroughly understood their position, and she (the speaker) did not think they could possibly have a better man.

The CHAIRMAN announced that a dinner had been arranged for Sunday at 7 pm. at the Boulogne Restaurant, Gerrard-street, which was open to members of the Union and their friends. Tickets could be obtained from the Secretary, at 49, Bedford-street, the price being 2s. 6d.

Mr. NORMAN WRIGHTON suggested that the Union should have a symbol, which could be worn by members as a distinctive badge.

NEW MUSIC.

Messrs. Ascherberg, Hopwood, and Crew, Ltd., have recently published "A True Blue English Girl," words by Arthur Wallis, music by Fred Morley. The author of the verses speaks freely as to the merits of a "true blue English girl," and does not hesitate to give her the first place, Continental wives being "nowhere." Mr. Morley well seconds the author. His music has no particular claim to originality. Indeed, he starts with an introduction based on an Old English hornpipe, and winds up with an echo of the National Anthem. But he so skilfully interweaves these familiar passages with his own ideas that we cannot find fault with him. Neither will the auditors of his song, but will applaud lustily when the "true blue" maiden is heard in these ditties. The publishers—who, by the way, now issue their works from Mortimer-street, Regent-street—allow the singing of the ballad in the concert-room, but do not permit it at the theatres or music halls. Messrs. Ascherberg and Co. also publish "Layonara," a series of Japanese love songs written by Florence Hoare and composed by Joseph L. Roeckel. There is a singular quaintness about these compositions, the author and musician having cleverly caught the simplicity and somewhat monotonous cadence of Japanese music, which, however, has considerable charm and effect. The same writer and composer are associated in a song of a totally different character. It is called "Little Miss Vanity," and the author laughs to scorn the "Vanity of vanities—all is vanity" of the old Scriptural writer.

"Slippers and Rice" carries with it a reminder of an event which some of us remember with much pleasure, and pleasantly tells of a little incident which leads in due course to a "slippers and rice" conclusion.

"Le Baiser" valse Boston, by Octave Crémieux, has had great success in Paris, and the languishing figure on the frontispiece will no doubt add to its popularity in London. The exclamation "Take pity on the heart that adores you" is just what we should expect from such a sentimental young lady, and explains the sale of 35,000 copies in the French capital. Messrs. Ascherberg, Hopwood, and Crew will no doubt find a ready market in London for the work of a musician so well known in Paris as M. Crémieux.

MISS WINNIE VOLT.

A DELIGHTFUL PERSONATION.

Miss Winnie Volt, as the domestic drudge of her family, who captivates an American millionaire, gave a delightful personation, acting throughout with great spirit and vivacity, and she was warmly applauded alike for her singing and dancing.—The *Scotsman*.

SHE HAS THE AUDIENCE EVERY TIME.

The Lady Slavey. We are pretty well acquainted with this volatile and smart young lady, but I doubt if she has ever been smarter or in gayer spirits than she is this week in the enchanting little figure and personality of Winnie Volt. Her whole present performance is full of charm, and she has the audience every time.—The *Porcupine*.

COMEDY POWERS OF A HIGH ORDER AND IRRESISTIBLE NAIVETE.

Miss Winnie Volt, who undertook the title-rôle, is a winsome young actress, possessing a sweet voice, comedy powers of a high order, and irresistible naiveté. She secured the admiration of her audience at the outset, and held it with increasing power till the end.—*Irish Times*.

THE WORK OF THE PRODUCER.

CHAT WITH MR. ERNEST CARPENTER.

Mr. Tree's recent utterances on the subject of the actual production of plays aroused considerable interest in theatrical circles, and the opinion of a producer of plays like Mr. Ernest Carpenter—who can claim many years' experience of this department of stage work, and, even apart from this fact, the successful manner in which he has brought out three dramas within a period of six months at the Lyceum entitles his judgment to some consideration—must be of real value.

A man of ideas, it was not long before Mr. Carpenter plunged into his subject. "Sufficient importance has not been attached in London for some time past to the position of the producer, whose work, I quite agree with Mr. Tree, is second only in importance to the work of the dramatist. I rather fancy there has been a tendency in London to let the ladies and gentlemen of a company play their scenes according to their own individual ideas, with the inevitable result that there has been in many instances a want of cohesion in the complete performance. There has sometimes been lacking that master mind which should blend the whole together."

It is Mr. Carpenter's opinion that there would be less talk about the decadence of the drama if there had been of late years a greater supply of practical producers. "You cannot," he affirms, "get that strong dramatic effect which grips a audience unless you have the capable producer to supervise everybody and everything. One

MR. ERNEST CARPENTER.

sees dramatic scenes so often played in a disjointed manner. You will realise that a producer is in the position of a general of an army. He must not bow down to the individual likes and dislikes of the various units he is supposed to control. I recognise that it is my business to consider the tout ensemble, and that alone."

It is not necessary that we should detail at length Mr. Carpenter's methods of rehearsing his company. Briefly, though, we might mention that it is his custom, after he has selected a play for production, to study that play thoroughly at his home, and then to read it as it should be read to the assembled artists. Having been an actor himself, this work comes perfectly natural to him.

"What are the essential qualities that go to the making of a successful producer, you ask? Well, I can answer that question without a moment's hesitation. The necessary qualities are tact and a keen dramatic instinct. Preferably a producer should be an actor of some experience. In fact, I will go so far as to say that he actually must have been 'through the mill' before he can produce really good shows."

"No, I do not consider that authors are good producers. In regard to the other point you raise, as to the length of rehearsals, I would say that in London five weeks is not too long a period in which to prepare and make perfect a series of characterisations in a new play. Of course, much depends upon whether or not the producer knows the play thoroughly. If I know a play I can produce it in a fortnight, but, naturally enough, if I have to handle an entirely new thing, it takes much longer. When we first took the Lyceum for the production of *Her Love Against the World*, I had only three weeks in which to engage the company, make the production, rehearse, and produce the piece. I think that is almost a record for London."

Turning the interviewee's attention to the present play, *The Christian*, Mr. Carpenter said that he thought the success of the piece was due not so much to the controversy it had caused as to the great human sympathy and heart-interest to be found in the story. "It is a very remarkable fact," he went on, "that, notwithstanding all the severe things that have been said about the play, there has never been one dissentient voice in the theatre from the first night onwards, and we have played to four thousand people every performance. You will have read the opinions of the clergymen who witnessed the production at a special matinée a little more than a week ago. Those opinions were flattering in the extreme."

It may be of interest to mention at this time that Mr. Carpenter started his professional career twenty-three years ago, since which time he has played nearly every possible kind of part and run every possible kind of entertainment, in addition to many touring companies. His first playhouse was the Theatre Royal, Darwen, and from there he migrated to Bristol, where he had the Theatre Royal, then at its lowest ebb, and now, thanks to Mr. Carpenter's careful and judicious management, one of the most successful drama houses in the country. He then bought the Empire, Hanley, turned that from a failure into a prosperous concern, and sold it at a good figure. The same thing occurred with the Empire, Bristol. Mr. Carpenter subsequently built the new Queen's Theatre, Swindon, ran it for three years, and profitably parted with it. Afterwards he had control of the Grand Theatre, Brighton, which was in a deplorable condition when he first took it in hand, and we know into what a popular establishment his energetic efforts transformed it. His latest enterprise, of course, is his joint management of the Lyceum with Mr. Smith.

Mr. Carpenter has had a great experience in "stock" business, both as actor and producer, being one of the few managers in the country who have successfully, for some years past, run stock seasons.

Outside his theatre work, Mr. Carpenter has for some years past taken a great interest in municipal affairs. He was a member of the first Town Council at Swindon, and last year he was elected to a seat on the Town Council of Brighton, in the work of the corporation of which he continues to play a leading part. He was mainly instrumental in organising the Municipal Orchestra, which has proved such a boon to the town. And all this has been done by a man who is now only in his fortieth year!

"THE THIEF."

A Play, in Three Acts, by Henri Bernstein, Produced at the Lyceum Theatre, New York, on Sept. 9.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Le Voleur was the title of this play in the original French, and the leading rôles were played by M. Guitry and Mme. Le Bargy when it was first produced in Paris. The play begins in the grand salon of M. Lagardes' château near Paris at 9 p.m.; is continued during the second act in a boudoir of the château at 2 a.m.; and ends in the library about eight hours later. When the curtain rises, Richard Voysin and his young wife, Marie Louise, familiarly called Marise, are making ardent love to each other, nothing abashed by the presence of their host and hostess, Raymond and Isabelle Lagardes, and their fellow-guest, a certain M. Zambault. The uxorious Voysin leaves his young bride, and Fernand Lagardes, Raymond's son, a youth of nineteen, chock-full of De Maupassant, immediately takes his place, and reproaches her for her coldness towards him, protesting that he is desperately in love with her. She tells him that his foolish infatuation has gone far enough, and sends him out into the garden to cool his fever. Returning from the smoking-room alone, M. Lagardes makes startling disclosures. For some time past, he says, money and valuables have been stolen from his wife's sécretaire, and one of his guests, none other than M. Zambault, whose unaccountable presence in the house has been much commented upon, is a detective. Furthermore, M. Zambault has just announced that he has discovered the thief. The detective is summoned, and M. Lagardes tells him to name the guilty one. At first he refuses to do this, but M. Lagardes insists, and, finally, to the consternation of everybody, he tells the master of the house that the thief is none other than his own son. The father flies into a terrible rage, and declares there must be a mistake, his life-long friend M. Voysin joining him in a vituperative outburst, during which the detective remains calm and positive. Then he asks that the young man be sent for, so that he may question him in his father's presence, and Mme. Voysin volunteers to go and find Fernand. She returns in a few minutes, and says that he is nowhere to be found; but a moment later the youth comes from another direction to say good-night. The detective questions him sharply, taxing him with an intrigue with an actress and having bet large sums of money on horses. And, while the father stands dumbfounded and overcome with shame, the lad confesses. He goes further. From his pocket he takes out four hundred francs that were stolen from M. Lagardes' sécretaire that morning, and hands the money to the detective. The curtain falls as M. Voysin and his wife retire to their apartment, leaving the grief-stricken host and hostess to weep over the terrible discovery that the cherished son is a self-confessed thief.

The second act shows the apartment of the Voysins immediately after. The husband is almost as much saddened by the discovery as is his host, for they have been dear friends for many years. It is all a mystery to him why the young man should steal, and his perplexity leads him to experiment on a bureau in the room. He finds he can open it with a penknife, as Fernand says he opened the sécretaire. He is surprised at the quantity of expensive finery which the drawer contains, but his wife tells him that she is a great bargain-hunter, and that the things have not cost as much as he imagines. Opening another drawer in the same way, he takes out a pocket-book, joking with her the while as she scolds him for his inquisitiveness, and, in spite of her protests, inserts his fingers to find out why it is so "fat." To his utter amazement, it contains six thousand francs. The wife explains that she has accumulated the sum by practising strict economy, laughs it off, and retires. But the husband, as he thinks of her modest allowance and the manner in which she has gratified her modish tastes, sees that the thing is impossible. In a peremptory tone he summons her from her bedroom, and demands she tell the truth. She protests, temporises, prevaricates, and pleads, until he wrings from her that it was she who stole the money. In a torrent of weeping she tells him that she was afraid she would lose his love unless she dressed becomingly and made herself attractive. The more she grew to love him, the more she feared his indifference, and, when the temptation to steal beset her, she was ready to fall. She puts her arms around him, and begs him to forgive her, because it was all for love of him, and for a moment he is reconciled. But his doubts are not to be dispelled so easily. It suddenly occurs to him to ask why young Fernand should be so ready to sacrifice himself for her. She tries to tell him that there has been nothing more between them than a boy's foolishness, which she has checked that very evening; but Voysin is mad with jealousy now, and flings her from him, crying, "You lied to me once; I shall not believe you a second time." He tells her that she is a depraved woman, and starts to leave the room to wake up the young man and have it out with him, when his wife declares that the moment he leaves her she will throw herself out of the window. By doubting her purity he has changed her grief into scorn and anger.

"Then we will pass the night face to face, and to-morrow will tell," he says.

"Nothing will please me better," she replies, and the curtain falls.

The tension is not relaxed in the last act until the husband, in the final moments of the play, becomes convinced that his wife is a pure woman, and is reconciled. Lagardes decides to send his son out of the country for a year. The lad is heart-broken, but gives no hint of the sacrifice he is making. He says good-bye to each in turn, but when Mme. Voysin is reached she suddenly breaks down and confesses that she is the culprit. Lagardes, overjoyed to know that his son is no thief, is all pity for the wife of his old friend, and freely forgives her. Voysin's accusation of infidelity still stands, but his wife's manner partly restores his confidence, and when she demands that the lad be questioned in her presence Voysin is satisfied, and the play ends with the husband and wife in each other's arms.

Mr. Kyrle Bellew and Miss Margaret Illington as the Voysins carried off the principal honours, the scene in their apartment in the dead of night, in which the infuriated husband cross-questions his wife and taxes her with being unfaithful to him, being very effectively enacted. Mr. Sydney Herbert played the suave M. Zambault in his usual careful and finished manner; Mr. Herbert Percy gave a fine impersonation of the father, Raymond Lagardes; Mr. Leonard Ide was an excellent Fernand; and Miss Edith Ostlere bore herself charmingly as Isabelle Lagardes.

THE London Ballad concerts, which for some time past have been held at Queen's Hall on Fridays, will this year take place at the Albert Hall on Saturday afternoons. Messrs. Boosey have engaged an attractive list of artists, among whom are Mme. Donalda, Miss Edith Evans, Miss Marie Hall, Mr. John McCormack, Mr. Ivor Foster, and Mr. Raoul Pugno. The concerts, which have reached their forty-second season, will begin on Oct. 12.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

ACTORS' DAY.

The annual collection in connection with Actors' Day is due this year on Thursday, Oct. 17. Cheques should be made payable to the Trustees, Actors' Day Fund, and addressed to the Trustees, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

Return forms will be sent in due course, enabling contributions to be clearly and simply set forth.

The total amount of contributions to Actors' Day, 1906, was £1,509 10s. 2d. The expenses up to Dec. 31, 1906, were £31 12s. 2d.

The Advisory Board have, in deference to the expressed wishes of many contributors, recommended the trustees to hand over to the committee of the Actors' Benevolent Fund the sum of £622 14s. 7d., which sum the Advisory Board, after careful investigation, have computed to be the maximum loss which the Benevolent Fund may have suffered through the institution of Actors' Day. Donations of £40 each have also been made to the Actors' Orphanage and the Theatrical Ladies' Guild.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—As the date for Actors' Day, the third Thursday in October, is fast approaching, I should like, as an elected member of the Advisory Board representing acting-managers, to urge my confrères in London and throughout the country to give us all the help they can in bringing Actors' Day to the favourable notice of the members of their company, and by undertaking on their behalf to forward contributions to the trustees.

A system has now been devised by which the amounts contributed can be readily and accurately checked, without in any way departing from the principle that amounts contributed by those who give up their one night's salary once a year shall not be divulged.

The Advisory Board have, after careful consideration, arranged that every contributor shall in future have the opportunity of saying whether he wishes his contribution to be set aside for the exclusive benefit of those who, like himself, are willing to give up their one night's salary once a year; or whether he wishes his contribution to be a gift without condition for the Actors' Benevolent Fund, the Actors' Orphanage, or the Ladies' Theatrical Guild.

The difficulties that arose last year in the minds of some have thus, we hope, been quite removed, since every contribution will now be applied in accordance with the wishes of the contributor. I earnestly commend the scheme to my brother acting-managers, and hope they will give us their most cordial support. Even should there be any among them to whom this admirable scheme does not personally appeal, I still hope they will be kind enough to place the matter before their companies, and undertake to forward their contributions.—Yours faithfully,

C. T. H. HELMSLEY.

St. James's Theatre, Sept., 1907.

P.S. — Acting-managers will render valuable assistance by sending at once lists of their company, with the name of the theatre at which they will be playing on Oct. 17, to the Organising Committee, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, of whom all further particulars may be obtained.

A REAL CRITERION FARCE.

A second visit to the Criterion Theatre is not necessary to confirm our opinion that *A Night Out* is one of the funniest farces that has ever been adapted from the French. We formed that opinion when it first saw the footlights in London at the Vaudeville. It is a compound of whimsicality rivalling *Charley's Aunt* in its reckless fun, and to analyse it is out of the question. In the second act, where we see all the personages assembled for the wildest of wild games of blind man's buff and *quiproquo*, the authors have paved the way for indispensable coincidences by sundry preliminaries that are most ingenious.

Fortunately for *A Night Out*, we have that practised actor and comedian Mr. George Giddens showing us the breadth and versatility of his methods in the character of Pinglet. The builder, as we all remember, though he has been married for twenty years, still possesses some of the ardour of his youth. He finds in the neglected wife of his friend Paillard a sympathiser and she an admirer. The pretty scheme arranged by Pinglet for a quiet *souper à deux* at the Hôtel Mascotte goes very much awry, and no peccant husband on the stage—as far as our experience tells us—can be quite as funny as Mr. Giddens. His upbraiding of the innocent and unfortunate Madame Pinglet in the last act is the drollest episode in a succession of uproariously comic scenes, and the actor revels in a part that he has certainly made his own.

Miss Margaret Leslie is new to such a rôle as Madame Paillard, to which she gives ample expression, endowing it also with a personality altogether sweet and gracious, and we have had no more fascinating representative of the character since Marguerite Caron originally played it at the Nouveautés in 1894.

Mr. Bertram Steer's solidity as Paillard is in excellent contrast to the airiness and frivolity of Mr. Giddens as the amorous Pinglet, and herein lies the strength of a capital impersonation.

Miss Alice Beet has a really difficult rôle to play in that of Angélique, and she gives just the shrewish touch that is necessary in the first act. Again does she score a genuine triumph in the last act by Angélique's expression of terror at the bare thought of being compromised by an assignation with another woman's husband at a shady hotel.

Miss Frances Vine makes a skittish and saucy Victorine, playing with considerable cleverness in the scene with Maxime in the first act. Her success is shared by Mr. George Desmond, who makes the unsophisticated (!) lad's study of Plato's ethics very amusing.

The creation of Mathieu is essentially French. No one but a Parisian dramatist would conceive the idea of making a character stammer with every break of the weather. This peculiarity leads to the screamingly funny situation in the last act, where Mathieu's tongue, paralysed by the brewing storm, is unable to reveal the peccadilloes of Pinglet. Mr. Frederick Volpé, always a sound comedian, plays with an unconsciousness that is very mirth-provoking, and Mathieu's apparition in *déshabille* at the Hôtel Mascotte evokes screams of laughter.

Mr. P. L. Julian as Botticelli is sufficiently truculent, even for a raffish Italian; Mr. Reginald Walter's Brochard is quite in the best vein of French officialism; Mr. F. W. Permain's Bastien has lost nothing of its unctuousness; Mr. Lawrence White's Boulot is most effective; Mr. Geoffrey Saville's Ernest is quite gentlemanly; and Miss Millicent Forsyth is a graceful and attractive representative of a lady, the four Mathieu girls being vivaciously presented by the Misses Nell Toller, St. John Denton, Leonora Caldwell, and May Hollom.

MR. FREDERICK WHELEN, Mr. Beerbohm Tree's able secretary, has just returned from Liverpool, where Mr. Tree's company has been busy rehearsing *The Beloved Vagabond* for Dublin. It is spoken of as very promising.

A RECITAL of the compositions of Mr. Coleridge-Taylor will be given in the school hall of the Crystal Palace School of Art, Science, Music, and Literature on Monday evening next. The artists will include Miss Grace Burchell, Miss Agathe Manns, Mr. Peter Musson, Mr. Nevill Swainson, Mr. C. Aves, Mr. C. A. Crabb, and Mr. S. Coleridge-Taylor.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

A special general meeting of the Actors' Association will be held in the saloon at three o'clock on Monday to consider the financial position of the society. The vital nature of the business will be apparent when it is added that the council at their meeting on Tuesday passed the resolution, moved by the Finance and General Purposes Committee, that "In view of the present financial position it is advisable to place the Association in liquidation." Mr. G. K. Chesterton has kindly consented to be present and speak at the meeting.

The following resolution will be submitted to an extraordinary general meeting, which will be held at the Bijou Theatre, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, on Monday, Oct. 14 at 2.30:—"That the Actors' Association be wound up voluntarily under the provisions of the Companies' Acts, 1862 to 1900." Should the resolution be passed by the requisite majority it will be submitted for confirmation as a special resolution to a subsequent meeting of the Association, when, in the event of it being adopted, a further resolution will be proposed for the appointment of a liquidator or liquidators for the purposes of the winding up and fixing their remuneration.

Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton's production of *As You Like It*, for which such elaborate preparations are being made at His Majesty's, will be sustained by players of rare distinction. In addition to the artists above named, the cast will consist of Messrs. H. R. Hignett, Kay Souper, Ernest Groom, J. Fisher White, Tripp Edgar, Herbert, R. Ian Penny, J. Fritz Russell, Henry Ainley, Alfred Brydone, Courtice Pounds, Henry Kitts, Caleb Porter, Godfrey Tearle, and F. R. Anson, Masters Glandon Williams and Moxham, and Misses Muriel Ashwynne, Leila Morris, and Marianne Caldwell.

The comedy, which will be produced on Monday, Oct. 7, will be presented in three acts, and the following synopsis of scenery will show how Mr. Asche has arranged the play: Act I.—Scenes 1 and 3—Oliver's Orchard. Scenes 2 and 4—A lawn before Duke Frederick's palace. Act II.—Scenes 1 and 4—The Forest of Arden. Scene 2—Another part of the forest. Scene 3—Before the banished Duke's cave in the forest. Act III.—Scenes 1 and 5—Outside Rosalind's cottage in the forest. Scene 2—By a lake in the forest. Scene 3—Another part of the forest. Scene 4—The banished Duke's cave in the forest.

The late J. L. Toole left instructions that the residue of his property, after its distribution to the various legatees, should be disposed of in charity at the discretion of his executors. Several excellent institutions have already benefited, and the latest to have its funds augmented are the Royal Dental Hospital, Leicester-square, to which £250, less legacy duty, has been allocated, and the Royal Sea Bathing Hospital, Margate, which has received £225.

Miss Phyllis Dare has sent to the secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund a further sum of £5 5s., which she has collected by means of autograph postcards. Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree daily forwards to the Fund the postal-orders he receives in exchange for his autograph. Miss Dare and Mr. Tree herewith thank the collectors for their contributions.

Miss Lena Ashwell, who is opening the Kingsway Theatre, in Great Queen-street, on Wednesday, Oct. 9, with Mr. Anthony P. Wharton's *Irene Wycherley*, heads the cast in the title-rôle. The other parts in the new play are allotted to Misses Muriel Wylford, Gertrude Scott, Nannie Bennett, Dorothy Brunt, Christine Silver, Francis Ivor, and Doris Lytton, and Messrs. Norman McKinnell, Henry Vibart, Dennis Eadie, C. M. Hallard, and Graham Hope. The chief piece will be preceded by Mr. Alfred Sutro's *A Maker of Men*, with Miss Edyth Olive and Mr. Douglas Gordon in the principal parts. At Miss Ashwell's "At Home" on Thursday, Oct. 3, the band of the Coldstream Guards, under Lieut. Mackenzie Rogan, will play throughout the afternoon.

Mr. H. B. Irving, who is among the London "stars" now illumining the provinces, has shared largely in the favour which has been generally bestowed on popular favourites. At the close of his performance of Mathias in *The Bells*, at the Gaiety, Dublin, on Saturday, Mr. Irving was wildly applauded, and, coming before the curtain for the third time, he said:—"Ladies and Gentlemen,—I should feel myself ungrateful if I did not take this opportunity to thank you with all my heart for the reception you have given me this week. I know that you have seen these plays before, but I was anxious to know what your verdict would be, and I can only say I appreciate the way you have received them, and express my hope that before long I may be back here again. I am sorry that this week has come to an end, and once again I desire to thank you with all my heart."

Mr. Arthur Bourchier, who with Miss Violet Vanbrugh has had a cordial reception throughout their stay in Dublin last week, was enthusiastically called upon for a speech on Saturday, the last night of his engagement at the Theatre Royal. In response, the eminent actor-manager said that a very brilliant orator once stated that an impromptu speech took him far longer to compose than any other speech. He had spent a long time that morning preparing an "impromptu" speech; but he went to the Exhibition and got on the water-chute. The speech was then in his pocket, but when he got off the water-chute it was gone. He tried to find it, but it was no good. He knew that there was something in the speech about "thanks, thanks, ever thanks," and there was also something in it about coming again. Renewed applause, it need scarcely be added, greeted the last announcement.

Despite the extent and variety of his professional work during his tour, which includes the production on October 7 of the new play, *Simple Simon*, Mr. Bourchier will find time for religious and social activity. On Sunday, October 6, he is to read the lessons at the special "harvest home" service at St. Ann's Church, the sermon at which is to be preached by the Bishop of Manchester; and on October 11 he will lecture before the Manchester Playgoers' Club, when his discourse is sure to prove profoundly interesting.

Mr. Henry Neville, the Worshipful Master of the Year, presided over the regular meeting of the Jubilee Masters' Lodge of Freemasons, No. 2,712, held at the Hotel Cecil, on the 20th inst., when General Sir Francis R. Wingate, Sirdar of Egypt, District Grand Master of Egypt and the Soudan, was the guest of the evening. At the banquet which followed, Mr. Neville proposed the health of the Sirdar, and remarked that Sir Francis had won a name for himself, and for the Empire, which would never fade. A hearty reception was given to the toast of the Master, who, before closing the proceedings, announced that Sir Francis Wingate had consented to become an honorary member of the lodge.

Miss Kitty Clayton is naturally disturbed by reports of her death, which, by some inexplicable means, have obtained currency. Miss Clayton, we hasten to state, has been playing Fifi with Mr. Chas. Macdona's company of *A Chinese Honeymoon* for the past twelve months, and assures us that she has never enjoyed better health.

Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche are still delighting provincial audiences with their clever comedy, *What the Butler Saw*. This week they are at Huddersfield—the greatest holiday week of the year—and the house resounds nightly to roars of laughter. Mr. Rignold intends sending out, in the late autumn, the Broadhurst comedies, *What Happened to Jones* (which ran for over twelve months at the Strand Theatre), *Why Smith Left Home*, and *The Wrong Mr. Wright*, with new scenery and specially selected company. Mr. Rignold is noted for the manner in which he produces all his ventures, and the three clever comedies mentioned should furnish a powerfully attractive bill.

Mr. Austin Melford was greeted with quite an ovation on his re-appearance at the Lane. The limited opportunities afforded him in his new rôle of the Rev. Martin Hope do not allow of a creation in any way equal to his Father Ferrati of last season; but it must be admitted that *The Sins of Society* could not have been the gigantic success that it undoubtedly is, had it not been got within reasonable time. The striking sermon from the pit, which is now omitted, was a splendid example of Mr. Melford's elocutionary skill.

The members of the Seymour Hicks South American Opera Company arrived at Rio de Janeiro on the 4th inst., fit and well, on board the R.M.S.P. Magdalena. The company was booked to open at Monte Video on the 9th, and later on to fulfil an eight weeks' season at Buenos Aires. The tedium of the journey across the ocean was enlivened by a concert given on the 3rd by the members of the company in aid of the R.M.S.P. Widows and Orphans Benevolent Fund, when a substantial sum was realised by the sale of programmes, the price of which was fixed at a minimum of 6d., but which in many cases realised 5s. apiece.

Mr. Martin Adeson, the principal comedian, did yeoman service in the cause, rendering a humorous song and a "burlesque oratorio," and taking part with Miss Clara Bernard in a diverting pot-pourri. Contributions were also made by Messrs. Stanley Brett, Arthur Appleby, Savill Foster, Walter Heal, Fred Leslie, and Harry Emeric, and Misses Nancy Langtyre, Beatrice Edwards, and Maisie North. The company will be back in England at Christmas.

An inexplicable error has been perpetrated in at least two of our contemporaries, who have this week asserted that the pantomime at Drury Lane is to be *The Forty Thieves*, gravely adding the names of the artists to whom the parts of Robin Hood, Maid Marion and Friar Tuck were allotted. How such essentially English characters as those named could figure in a story from the "Arabian Nights" it is hard to imagine, but in *Babes in the Wood*, which, of course, is the real theme of the next Drury Lane annual, they would, manifestly, be quite at home.

The "book" is being written by Mr. J. Hickory Wood in association with Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. J. M. Glover is composing the music, and Signor Attilio Comelli is designing the costumes. Mr. Walter Passmore and Miss Marie George are to be the "babes," and Mr. Harry Fragson will make his appearance for the first time in England in petticoats, in the part of a French governess. Miss Madge Vincent, who played Nates so charmingly to her sister Ruth's Amasis at the Duke of York's, will be Maid Marion, and Miss Queenie Leighton Robin Hood, and the incomparable cast will also include Mr. Harrison Brockbank, Mr. Johnnie Danvers, Mr. Arthur Conquest, Mr. Neil Kenyon, Messrs. Drew and Alders, and Miss Meredith Meredro. The clever Pender Troupe will be responsible for the harlequinade.

Mr. Alfred Sutro sailed on Wednesday from Liverpool for New York, where he intends to produce his play, *John Glayde's Honour*. Mr. George Alexander was on the quay to wish the eminent dramatist *bon voyage*.

We are enabled this week to offer congratulations to Mlle. Zelie De Lussan, a famous member of the lyric stage, who was married on the 11th inst. at St. Peter and St. Edward's, Palace-street, S.W., by the Rev. Father Foster, to Mr. Angelo Fronani, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emanuele Fronani, Diplomatic Service, Washington, U.S.A. In spite of her foreign name, the bride is, like her husband, an American, and was born in New York. She was trained by her mother, and without having studied music she could sing several operatic pieces. She was four years at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, and eight years at Covent Garden, her fame being closely associated with the rôle of Carmen.

The bride's last appearance on the London stage was at the Lyric during the Moody-Manners season, when one evening, in consequence of the indisposition of Miss Kate Anderson, she played at short notice the part of Cherubino in *The Marriage of Figaro* to the Susannah of Miss Fanny Moody and the Figaro of Mr. Lewis James. Mr. Fronani is a professional pianist of repute, both in England and abroad, and acted in the capacity of accompanist for Mlle. de Lussan during a concert tour in America some four years ago. An attachment sprung up between the couple, with the felicitous result which we announce. Mrs. Fronani will happily continue her operatic career, and will in future be known as "Madame" Zelie De Lussan.

Many stars of the variety firmament will assist at a matinée to be given at the Chelsea Palace on Thursday, Oct. 24, in aid of the Lord Mayor's Cripples' Fund. London's chief magistrate will himself attend in state, and will be met by the Mayor of Chelsea and members of the Borough Council. An influential committee consists of Major Fountain Woods (chairman), Mr. W. Mead, Mr. W. Ross, Dr. Glassington, Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon, Mr. Henri Gros, and others. The stewards will be Mr. James W. Mathews and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift.

It will be remembered that the Lord Mayor took the chair at the recent dinner of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, and successfully advocated the cause of charity in behalf of the actors. It would be an act of grace if some members of the dramatic profession would offer their services at this matinée, as it is desirable that both the legitimate and variety stage should be represented on the programme. Any offers of assistance will be gladly received by Mr. F. H. Pedgrift at *The Era* office.

"Sweet Kitty Bellairs" is due at the Haymarket next Saturday. Mr. Louis Calvert, who is producing the piece in conjunction with Mr. Frederick Harrison, will be the Colonel in command of the 51st Regiment, and Mr. Henry Neville will devote his sterling abilities to the portrayal of a Colonel of the Inniskillings. The title-rôle will be embodied by Miss Eva Moore, Miss Minnie Terry will be the Miss Doll, and Miss Nita Faydon, who has for some time been a popular "Sunday" on tour, will be entrusted with the rôle of Lady Standish (Julia). The remainder of the characters will be sustained by Messrs. Eille Norwood, Owen Roughwood, Loring Fernie, Donald Fergusson, E. H. Brooke, Montague Elphinstone, Cecil Yapp, R. Fielding, J. M. Napper, Gerald Venning, G. Brookes, and Reginald White, and Misses Minnie Griffin, Maud Hoffman, Ada Mellon, Gladys Erskine, Maud Leslie, Nellie Moore, and Evelyn Beaumont.

Mr. Alfred Sutro's new play is to be produced at the Comedy on Thursday, Oct. 10. The production will be remarkable for the fact that by its means Miss Marie Tempest will be seen in a serious vein. Miss Tempest has already turned with conspicuous success from musical comedy to comedy pure and simple, and to accomplish the same results, as may well be anticipated, in still another branch of her art will indicate the possession of genius on an exalted plane.

Mr. A. E. Matthews, who bore himself so well in *Peter's Mother*, and won many a hearty laugh over the drollery of Gibby in *My Wife*, will also touch the pathetic note in the part of the younger son of a Duke who is engaged to an actress, the rôle in which Miss Tempest will appear. Other members of the cast will be Miss Lillah McCarthy, Mr. Eric Lewis, and Mr. Dawson Milward. The action of the new play takes place partly in London and partly in the country, and covers only the space of two days.

The hero of *Hamilton's Second Marriage*, the new play by Mrs. W. K. Clifford, which is shortly to be produced at the Court, is a distinguished Civil Servant, whose first matrimonial venture was a failure. On the death of his wife he determines to try again, and proposes to a charming young girl, with the result that the gifted authoress reveals in her own way in the course of the piece. Whatever may be the outcome of the story, there can be no doubt that the theme will be treated in interesting style.

A mass meeting of the Actors' Union will be held in London on Sunday evening, Oct. 20, when the speakers will include Members of Parliament and leaders of the Labour movement. Every member of the theatrical profession will be admitted on production of his or her card. The London meeting will be followed by mass meetings of a similar nature at Liverpool on Tuesday, Oct. 22, Manchester, Oct. 23, Glasgow, Oct. 24, and Birmingham, Oct. 25. Those members of the A.U. who are in the above towns on the dates named are asked to communicate with the secretary.

The following letter has been addressed to Mr. Richard Bell, expressing the sympathy of the A.U. with the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants in the present crisis:—"Actors' Union, 49, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C., Sept. 25.—Dear Mr. Bell,—At a general meeting of our members held yesterday, the 24th inst., a resolution was unanimously carried expressing sympathy with the Amalgamated Railway Servants' Association in their present difficulty, and appreciating the moderation and determination you yourself are displaying in this great crisis. We beg you to accept our sincere good wishes.—Yours very faithfully, Kenneth Blackmore, Secretary."

Mr. Norman V. Norman will stage Miss Gladys Unger's play, *Mr. Sheridan*, at Brighton next week with a powerful cast. It was at Brighton that the piece was originally produced before it went to the Garrick Theatre. Esther Ogle will be played by Miss Beatrice Wilson, Lord Cray and Tom Sheridan by Messrs. Norman-Bent and Alfred Gray, and Kitty Montgomery by Miss Sybil Ruskin.

"The Ballet of the Clouds" is the name given by Mr. Maundy-Gregory to the new terpsichorean spectacle invented by Miss Lizzie Maynard for the elaborate pantomime to be presented by him at Christmas. A scene of quite a fresh character is being painted for the setting to the fairies' dances.

A new play of a farcical nature, called *Gentlemen Boarders*, by Arthur Eckersley, who writes for a number of London magazines, will be produced by one of the Messrs. J. Maundy-Gregory companies at the New Assembly Theatre at Malvern on Monday next.

"Great Possessions," in its second week of provincial representation at Edinburgh Lyceum Theatre, has entirely justified Mr. Martin Harvey's belief in its original and telling qualities, and was played four times to very large and appreciative audiences. Mr. Harvey is so delighted with the success of the new production that he intends also to represent it four times at Glasgow next week and three times at Manchester during the week following.

Mr. J. F. Elliston made a personal application at the Town Hall, Bolton, on the 25th inst., for his twenty-eighth consecutive dramatic licence. It is well for him that Mr. Elliston has reached that period when flattery exercises no ill effect, otherwise the many and various complimentary remarks that were made by the chairman, Alderman Nicholson, J.P., and other members might have adverse influences.

Miss Gertrude Kingston appeared before Mr. Curtis Bennett at Westminster on Thursday to an Excise summons for keeping a carriage, "wearing and using" armorial bearings on a carriage, and employing two male servants, without the respective licences. Miss Kingston in private life is Mrs. Gertrude Angela Mary Silver, and an Inland Revenue officer deposed that on June 4 he called at her residence at Victoria-square, and a man-servant answered the door. Subsequently Mrs. Silver appeared, and he questioned her about an electric motor-car at a garage in her name. The lady said she had only had it six months from relatives. Witness afterwards saw at the door a motor-car on which were armorial bearings. The defendant was officially written to in May, and again afterwards, but no licenses were taken.

Defendant said that what she told the Excise officer was that the car was lent to her by a lady and gentleman friend. It was kept in her name at a garage until June 15, when she purchased it. The crest on the car was not hers, but that of her friends. The chauffeur was supplied by the garage company, and paid by agreement with them. She had no idea that licenses were required, and rather resented the Excise officer's manner and the way he cross-examined and heckled her. She had a butler—a Frenchman—and his wife in her service.

The magistrate said with regard to the chauffeur it could not be said that he was in defendant's employ when the garage company had power of dismissal, &c. So that summons would be dismissed. But a licence had to be taken for keeping a carriage, and anyone using armorial bearings was liable. It need not be their own crest, as in this instance, so there would be fines of two guineas, to include costs, on each of two summonses, and an additional fine of 15s. and costs of summons (to include a licence) for the manservant who opened the door. Mr. Curtis Bennett added that he was sure there had been no intention on the part of defendant to defraud the Revenue, and that she had only acted in ignorance.

"Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," which was recently transferred from Terry's to the Adelphi, will register its 200th performance in London on Tuesday, Oct. 15, and to mark this special occasion Mrs. Madge Carr Cook is again inviting the "Mrs. Wiggses" of London to a special matinée. Only applications coming directly through clergymen can be dealt with, and seats will be allotted as far as possible to all applications received up to Sept. 30. Mrs. Gaston Mayer and Mr. Tom B. Davis are lending every assistance to Mrs. Cook in her kind endeavours, and the entire *Mrs. Wiggs* company have generously volunteered their services for the occasion.

Miss Olga Nethersole began her American tour at Kansas City, Mo., on the 12th inst., appearing in *Carmen*. Early in February she will fulfil an engagement at the Astor Theatre in this city, where she will be seen in four new plays, viz., *The Enigma*, by Paul Hervieu; a dramatic version of *I Pagliacci*, by Charles Brookfield; *The Rival*, adapted from the French by Louis N. Parker; and Paul Hervieu's latest play, *The Awakening*.

The Paris stage has lost an esteemed celebrity in the death of Ernest Blum, the prolific dramatist, who passed half a century in writing plays. M. Blum, who died on the 19th inst., was born in 1836, and had his first play produced when he was only 18. It was called *Une Femme qui Mord*, and was staged at the Variétés. M. Blum had collaborated with most of the authors of his time. With M. Henri Rochefort he wrote a charming comedy, *Les Memoires de Réséda*, but his most assiduous collaborator was Raoul Toché, and between them they produced no fewer than forty pieces, prominent among which were *Voyage en Suisse*, *Adam et Eve*, and *Madame Satan*. The first-named piece, it may be recalled, has been popularised by the Brothers Renad throughout the kingdom under the title of *The Swiss Express*. M. Blum was a chevalier of the Legion of Honour.

Miss Joan Derry, who has just finished a long engagement with Mr. Charles Collette, has been retained by Mr. Charles Cartwright for his Dickens répertoire company to play Agnes Wickfield in *David Copperfield* and to create Susan Nipper in *Dombey and Son*.

Mr. Henry Tweedie this week celebrates his silver wedding, and has our heartiest congratulations. Mr. Tweedie commenced his theatrical career some twenty years ago as co-lessee of Theatre Royal, Eastbourne, and afterwards toured for many years as business-manager with the late Captain Gilbert Elliott in G. R. Sims' famous drama, *The Romany Rye*. Drama followed drama, and subsequent to a long spell of musical comedy with Milton Bode's companies came three tours, representing Forbes Robertson with *Mice and Men* and *The Light that Failed*. A busy career has also included a long itinerary in association with Miss Olga Nethersole's *Sapho* company.

Another company organised by the enterprising Maurice E. Bandmann left England's shores last week by the P. and O. ss. Persia bound for the Mediterranean, India, and the Far East. The entertainment will be on the lines of the Follies, and is styled the London Frivolity Company. All the principal theatres of Mr. M. E. Bandmann's circuit will be visited.

Mr. Charles Constant, the enterprising proprietor and manager of the Theatre Royal, Ryde, was again honoured by a Royal visit on Tuesday last, when Prince Leopold of Battenberg, with Mr. Victor Cockran, motored over from Osborne Cottage in order to be present at the flying matinée of Miss Louie Freear and her talented company. This is the third occasion on which the management of this popular house has received Royal patronage during the past season.

Mr. Allan Wilkie's next addition to his already extensive répertoire will take the form of a special production of *Julius Cæsar*. An entirely new wardrobe is being prepared, and new scenery painted by expert artists.

Miss Stella Brereton Douglass, one of our most able teachers of elocution, acting, and deportment, has resumed her classes at 30, Park Village East. Miss Douglass's methods are entirely practical, and the result is that she has turned out a large number of young persons equipped not only with the necessary elocutionary ability, but with the knowledge of stage business, dramatic gesture, and appropriate movement, which too often have to be acquired by aspirants at actual rehearsal, much to the extra annoyance of unfortunate "producers." Miss Douglass does not spare herself, and the training she gives is correspondingly effective.

The Actors' Union has arranged a dinner for Sunday next, to take place at 7 p.m., at the Boulogne Restaurant, Gerrard-street, to which members and their friends are invited. Tickets may be obtained of the secretary, price 2s. 6d. each, at 49, Bedford-street.

The "King's" Time-table, issued by Mr. Mulholland with the programme should be welcomed by the patrons of his handsome playhouse at Hammersmith, and the idea might be adopted by more central theatres with great advantage. Not only are the trains after the performance on the many convenient railways and "tubes" clearly given, but the tramway and omnibus facilities can be seen at a glance, and attention is even directed to the fact that the King's Theatre is a few yards outside the four-mile radius, but that the radius does not affect the taximeter cabs.

The fancy dress balls at Covent Garden will be given approximately every fortnight until the end of March, and will not be interfered with by the autumn opera season. The prizes offered last evening for the most handsome dominoes consisted of a lady's dressing case, with solid silver fittings; a lady's silver toilet set, in case; a silver-plated flower-bowl; and a silver-plated afternoon tea-set.

Mr. Sutton Vane, the author of *The Span of Life*, which has enjoyed such extended prosperity on tour, and of *The Cotton King*, one of the Adelphi productions of former years, has been prostrated by a paralytic stroke. At the time of the seizure he was engaged upon a play intended for immediate production by Chas. Cartwright, but which must now remain unfinished. Mr. Vane's illness is causing great anxiety.

Mr. George R. Sims has taken in hand, for the purposes of revision, his fine play, *The Harbour Lights*, for Messrs. Savery and Pigott, in order that all business may be brought up to date for the forthcoming tour of this well-known Adelphi piece.

A new comedy, in three acts, entitled *Dynecourt's Venture*, by Geraldine Kemp, will be produced at the Theatre Royal, Great Yarmouth, on Oct. 9. The piece will be produced under the auspices of the "New Play Company," a society formed for the exploitation of new authors.

"Mr. Popple of Ippleton" will be the attraction at the Crystal Palace Theatre next week. Mr. Bannister Howard is fortunate in being able to secure Mr. Macdona's chief company, which includes Miss Millie Hylton as La Bolero, Mr. Arthur Longley as Mr. Popple, and a strong cast.

Interesting conclusions regarding the "musical ear" were furnished in a lecture delivered by Dr. John Warriner at Trinity College of Music on Wednesday. An ear for music, declared the speaker, although occasionally inherited, was largely the result of environment at a time when the perceptive faculty was strongest. A child who heard no music had no ear for music. Children of the upper classes—by which he meant the children of titled parents—because they did not go to school in the ordinary way had not usually a good ear for music. With children of other classes who went to school at an early age it was different. All class-singing, drilling to music, kindergarten, had its effect. Even the pianola and the street organ were useful in creating an ear for music.

Mr. T. G. Hales, who is now enjoying a well-earned retirement, keeps a close eye, nevertheless, on the deserving members of the profession with which he was so long connected. His wide experience of the ups and downs of stage life makes him a keen sympathiser in cases of real distress, and in writing to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*, about the unfortunate Mr. Marshall Moore, he says:—"I am sure the case is a deserving one. I know nothing but good of him, and also know him to be a persevering and conscientious worker." Words are cheap, but Mr. Hales is a practical philanthropist, and backs up his kindly remarks with a cheque for £5.

Messrs. Alban Atwood and Russell Vaun's new farcical comedy, *Is Marriage a Failure?* will start on tour at the Theatre Royal, Worthing, on Oct. 10. The company will comprise Messrs. Farren Soutar, Charles Allan, P. H. Clayton Greene, Alban Atwood, Edward Sidney, William Vaughan, and Clyde Burchett, Misses Lilias Waldegrave, Beatrice Selwyn, Vere Gerald, Florence Le Clerc, Nellie Dade, Alice Gwynne, and Mrs. Edgar Colona. Mr. Henry Tweedie will be the business manager.

Mr. C. Finch Hatton, the popular acting-manager of the Palace Theatre, Leicester, in addition to his prowess as a cricketer and footballer, is also an expert golfer, but met his match on the Birstall Links last week, when he, in conjunction with Mr. Percy Honri, who was appearing at the Palace, challenged Mr. Frank Lindo and his manager, Mr. Helsby Wright, to a foursome. After a keenly-contested game, the latter won by 14.

Mr. Herbert Sleath has engaged Mr. Arthur Bertram for his business-manager during his season at Mr. Vedrenne's New Theatre in Shaftesbury-avenue.

At the meeting of the directors of the Oldham Empire Theatre Co. this week, the advisability of pulling down and rebuilding the Hippodrome Theatre was considered, and it was decided to put the matter on the agenda for further discussion at their next meeting, when the important question of whether the new theatre shall be designed for a first-class dramatic or opera house or for a variety theatre will have to be decided.

Large and enthusiastic audiences have welcomed Mr. T. Edward Ward's first visit to the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, this week with his new production, *Second to None*. The keenness of the audience imparted quite an edge to the efforts of the players, and this notwithstanding the absence of cutlery in the play, for *Second to None* has been evolved without the aid of murderous weapons of any description.

"When Other Lips" has fully sustained the promise made on its production, and Mr. T. Arthur Jones is delighted equally with its artistic and commercial success. The piece is playing to record business everywhere, and this week, at Auckland, money has been turned away in the popular parts every night.

The Leeds Musical Festival will be held on Oct. 9 and three following days. The rehearsals of the principals and band will take place at the Royal College of Music, London, on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, and two following days, the first full final rehearsal being fixed for Friday evening, Oct. 4, and full rehearsals for Oct. 5 and 7.

The exterior of the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, has recently been greatly improved by the erection of a number of powerful electric arc-lamps, and many other useful innovations have been introduced by the new management. It may be added that communications concerning business matters should be addressed to Mr. J. Langdon Lee, the resident-manager.

Mr and Mrs. Wilfrid Compton (Miss Miriam Holt) are again renewing their acquaintance with *Our Flat*, playing the young lovers, Clarance and Lucy, with great success. Mr. Compton has had a long innings with this favourite comedy at different periods, whilst Miss Holt registers her seventieth performance this afternoon at the Theatre Royal, Bath. Next month Mr. Compton and Miss Holt play Sir Christopher Frayne and Muriel Eden in *The Gay Lord Quex*. They return to the "halls" next May, opening at the Empire, Hackney.

The attraction at the Dalston Theatre, S.E., on Monday, Oct. 7, will be a powerful one, consisting as it does of Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in the wonderfully engrossing and stirring drama, *The Prodigal Son*, by Hall Caine. The production, which is direct from Drury Lane Theatre, has the advantage of new scenery, dresses, and effects, and the company is of a first-class order.

The full cast of *The Sugar Bowl*, the comedy in four acts by Madeline Lucette Ryley, which Mr. Herbert Sleath will produce on Oct. 8 in conjunction with Mr. J. E. Vedrenne at the new Theatre in Shaftesbury-avenue, will consist of Mr. Frederick Kerr, Mr. Charles Sugden, Mr. Wilfred Forster, Mr. George Bealby, Mr. Herbert Sleath, Mr. Edmund Gwenn, Mr. G. D. Burnaby, Miss Kate Sergeantson, Miss Beatrice Ferrar, Miss Mary Ralph, Miss Hilda Dick, Miss Lena Halliday, Miss Denton, Mr. Albert Sims, Mr. Mark Paton, Mr. Harry Glover, and Miss Ellis Jeffreys.

An excellent football contest under Association rules was witnessed by a large attendance on the Whipcord-lane Ground, Chester, on Wednesday, when Mr. Geo. Dance's *Spring Chicken* company put up a good resistance to the Chester Wednesday Football Club. Miss Violet Loraine (Rosalie) kicked off, and the home team won by 6 goals to 3. *The Spring Chicken* team was composed of Messrs. Percival Knight (captain), Payne, Corray, Berkley, Fisher, Lascelles, Ossay, Percival, Arunell, Crane, and Swift. Messrs. Knight, Payne, and Lascelles each scored a goal.

Hereditary talent has been manifested in the case of the winner of the tenth George Edwardes's Scholarship at the School of Music and Dramatic Art, 77, New Oxford-street, which was secured on Sept. 19 by Miss Doris Cameron, a daughter of the once famous comic opera artist, Violet Cameron. The Foundation Open Scholarship, which was competed for on Sept. 18, was awarded to Miss Gladys Voile, aged 17, whose versatility was exemplified in a ballad, a comedy song and dance, a dramatic extract, and serious and humorous poems. The school has now started its autumn term, but pupils may be admitted at any time.

Miss Sophie Lingwood is playing Mrs. Smith in Mr. Walter Reynold's comedy, *Mr. Smith*.—Miss Louie Adair, who created the leading part in the new drama, *A Mother's Sacrifice*, is to be complimented on a big success, her performance being a highly artistic one.

Mr. Desmond M. Raleigh, who is so successfully running *Her Son* at the New Theatre, is under contract to produce *Mrs. Ellison's Answer* by an early date, and should he be unable to find a theatre, it will be necessary to withdraw Mr. Vachell's charming comedy in order to allow the staging of *Mrs. Ellison's Answer*. This, however, is a measure Mr. Raleigh is loth to adopt, as during the last two weeks the business at the New Theatre has increased to an enormous extent. It is to be hoped that a house suitable to the requirements of the piece may be found, and that Mr. Raleigh's double enterprise may pursue a prosperous course.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

In Defence of Liverpool.

THE speech delivered by Mr. Beerbohm Tree on Saturday last at the annual dinner of the Liverpool Stage Club has, writes a correspondent, been strongly commented on in that city. He said that his enquiries as to the dramatic history of the city "filled him with profound depression," and he "deplored the fact that Liverpool should have developed so one-sidedly," also that the "support given to what had hitherto been known as the legitimate drama was deplorably small as compared with that which welcomed musical comedy," &c. Liverpool has for years shown a decided affection for the "legitimate." "A glance at the columns of *The Era*," says our correspondent, "will reveal the fact that there are sixteen places of amusement in the city on the Mersey, at nine of which drama is staged. In your issue of July 20 mention was made that in Liverpool the two performances per night of drama were becoming very popular, and that four halls, formerly variety, had abandoned that class of entertainment within recent years. Further, the Muncaster, at Bootle, had adopted drama twice nightly, thus giving Liverpool the credit of possessing five stock dramatic companies, a record that is not equalled by any other centre in the British Isles."

Dainty "Diggings."

"I WAS once," writes an old actor, "on an all-night journey by rail from Scotland, and arrived at Bolton, Lancs., at seven in the morning, cold, hungry, and wretched. The theatrical public-house had just opened, and the barman gave me a lodging-house address kept by three elderly maiden sisters. One of these, in answer to my application *re* apartments, said, with a trembling voice and looking very pale and scared, 'Yes, sir! You can have a sitting and bedroom, but not until this afternoon!' 'Why?' I asked. 'Well—you see—the—the gentleman who occupied your bedroom that is to be hung himself in it last night, and we're waiting for the parish people to take the body away!'"

A Quadruple Wig.

"WE had a very clever scenic artist," says the same correspondent, "who wore a 'chameleon' wig. I use the term advisedly, because its colours varied according to the light—daylight or artificial—which it was subjected to. I have said that he wore a wig; I should have said he wore four wigs: a short one for the first week in the month; then another, a little longer, for the second week; one longer yet for the third week, and one longer still for the fourth week. Then, remarking incidentally, 'I think I'll have my hair cut!' would go home and put on jasey No. 1. It pleased him and deceived no one."

Instead of Stockings.

POOR Charles Vernon, a light-hearted, devil-may-care, clever leading man, was once announced to play Hamlet at Oldham, but, on looking out his props for the night found that his black silk tights were in "ladders" and holes. Putting 15s. in his pocket he rushed over to Manchester to purchase a new pair, but, having "a heart open as the day for melting charity," and meeting the "boys," he dipped too deeply into his purse and came back to Oldham without the black tights. Being a young man of fertile resource, he black-leaded his legs with the stove polishing brushes, and, report sayeth, they looked better than silk itself.

Admiration All Right.

MR. HENRY ARTHUR JONES, who is in America, superintending the rehearsals of his new play, *The Galilean's Victory*, which is to be played at the Knickerbocker Theatre, on Monday, in speaking of the bicycle accident he recently met with in London, said, "My collar-bone is dislocated, but my admiration of America is still in the right place." The scenes of the play are laid in Trentistown, an English manufacturing town. In the course of an interview Mr. Jones said:—"There seems to be a broader field for serious plays in New York than is afforded in London. Just now over there there is less appetite for the serious drama than in many seasons. The trend of popular approval is toward the lighter forms of theatrical entertainment, such as musical comedy and burlesque, which promise to be the 'fads' of the season."

As She is Wrote.

DRAMATIC criticism is indeed being raised to a high plane; indeed, almost above the heads of ordinary playgoers. Mr. Holbrook Jackson, in his recently-published book on Bernard Shaw, says:—"Ever since that incident occurred in life which produced man, a battle has been going on between the result of the incident—man—and the probably unwitting cause of it—Nature, alias the Life-force. At one point in the course of evolution, the highest form of sentient matter—man—commenced to think about itself. Self-consciousness was born. The Life-force, as exemplified in the mind of man, became a mirror in which man saw himself. . . . From the instant man became obsessed by his own beauty and wisdom, evolution ceased. If it had been possible for the apes to have acquired this conceit, evolution would have ceased with them just the same." There is evidently a good deal more in the drama than most people are aware of.

Actors' Incomes.

An actor, says Mr. George Grossmith, jun., in *London Opinion*, never has an income in the ordinary acceptation of the word, and it is obvious that rules for the cultivation of thrifty habits which are intended for people who have incomes can be of little use to people who have not. Under normal conditions, an actor only earns money when he has an engagement. When the piece he is playing in stops, so does his engagement, and, consequently, his pay. Therefore, to say that an actor receiving £100 per week is making £5,200 per annum is absurd. His salary may cease at any moment. I know an actor who jumped from £5 a week quite suddenly into a salary ten times that amount. But just as he was beginning to adjust his expenditure in accordance with his salary, the piece he was playing in stopped, and so, of course, did his £50 a week, and he found, as many an actor has done before, that a salary of £50 a week is a very different thing from an income of £2,600 a year, though there is an apparent similarity between the two.

Saving and Seclusion.

The fact that an actor's earnings are liable to fluctuate in this way really makes it impossible for him to observe ordinary rules of thrift. He must devise rules to suit the needs of the moment. One of these might be to save money when his salary exceeds the amount of his ordinary expenditure. This seems a simple rule to observe, but in practice it is not so. An actor who lives a good deal in the world, and has plenty of friends, may, and often does, help to attract people to a theatre better than the man whom no one ever sees except on the stage. But the former finds it excessively hard to save money. I know there are actors who deliberately hide themselves from the world because they find it pays them to do so, on the principle that the public take a greater interest in a man whose private life is strictly veiled from their gaze than one who is at no pains to shroud himself in mystery. The recluse plan of living certainly enables a person to cut his living expenses to a minimum, and if it in addition increases an actor's drawing powers, its advantages are obvious.

"JOY."

A Comedy in Three Acts, by John Galsworthy.
Produced at a matinée at the Savoy Theatre, on Tuesday, Sept. 24.

Colonel Hope ..... MR. A. E. GEORGE
Mrs. Hope ..... MISS HENRIETTA WATSON
Miss Beech ..... MISS FLORENCE HAYDON
Letty ..... MISS MARY BARTON
Ernest Blunt ..... MR. FREDERICK LLOYD
Mrs. Gwyn ..... MISS WYNNE MATTHISON
Joy ..... MISS DOROTHY MINTO
Dick Merton ..... MR. ALLAN WADE
Hon. Maurice Lever .... MR. THALBERG CORBETT
Rose ..... MISS AMY LAMBORN

There is room on the English stage for the gratification of the most opposite tastes; and those who prefer for their afternoon's amusement a painful and unpleasant situation, a certain reality of pettiness, and a problem which is left unsolved at the final descent of the curtain, will find their desires catered for in *Joy*.

The "motive" of Mr. John Galsworthy's play, which was produced at the Savoy Theatre on Tuesday afternoon, is the discovery by a young girl of her mother's adultery. Joy, the heroine, is a merry, artless maiden, who, when the action opens, is staying on one of the upper reaches of the Thames with her uncle, Colonel Hope, a retired officer of limited means. His wife is a tyrannical, conceited woman, who rules the household by sheer force of "nagging" and self-assertion. She is impatient at the Colonel's preference of a safe three per cent. investment to more perilous ventures, and wants him to invest part of his capital in a gold mine in Mexico, which is being promoted by a certain Hon. Maurice Lever. Mrs. Gwyn, a relative of the Colonel's, has quarrelled with her husband, who has practically deserted her, and has gone away to India. She has formed an immoral alliance with Lever, with whom she is passionately in love. The Hon. Maurice and she come down to the Thames-side place, and the Colonel becomes interested in the mine, in which he ultimately decides to invest £2,000. As the mine is more or less of a swindle, Mrs. Gwyn asks Lever not to accept the Colonel's offer of investment, and, in the end, it is refused. But Joy, who, from the first, has conceived a bitter hatred for Lever, comes upon him and her mother in a position which leaves no doubt of their relations; and the girl makes a passionate appeal to her mother to break off the liaison. This, however, Mrs. Gwyn, having chief regard for her own happiness, refuses to do, and Joy, having fallen in love with a young man named Dick Merton, is more inclined to be indulgent to her mother's frailty, the play ending with things being allowed to remain in their present condition. The part of "chorus" to the drama is played by an elderly governess, Miss Beech, who is of such an essentially benevolent nature that she will not judge Mrs. Gwyn, believing, as she says, that we are all the same, and that we always erect our personal errors into the category of "special cases." Other characters in the play are the Colonel's married daughter, Letty, a colourless personage, and her husband, Ernest Blunt, a phlegmatic critic of the general action. The details of middle-class life in somewhat straitened circumstances are added with much humour, and all the accessories, especially the single scene, are supplied with great care and solicitude.

The piece was well acted in the quiet, natural style of the present Savoy management. Mr. A. E. George played Colonel Hope so as to give the character all the necessary prominence, and depicted the irritable, high-strung, and contradictory old officer in a most realistic and effective way. The contrast between the Colonel's habitual submissiveness to his wife, and his occasional outbursts of independence when goaded beyond endurance by her tyranny, was admirably drawn by Mr. George, who hit the happy mean between exaggeration and under-acting, and emphasised the author's irony with commendable skill. Miss Henrietta Watson as the domineering wife was very brisk and vivacious, and depicted the utter unconsciousness of the termagant, and her absolute confidence in her own wisdom very smartly and neatly. Miss Florence Haydon's performance as Miss Beech could hardly have been improved upon. The quiet good-sense of the amiable old maid, her placid acceptance of the inevitable, and the deep feeling with which she discussed with Mrs. Gwyn her painful and puzzling position were all rendered by Miss Haydon with almost faultless repose and harmony. Miss Amy Lamborn hits off nicely the blank, unexpressionless face, and the insensible monotone of the well-drilled servant; and the little touch of nature when Rose—the real girl coming out for a moment—has a solitary waltz in the moonlight, was neatly and cleverly put in. Mr. Frederick Lloyd supplied a very real and unforced sketch of a familiar type as the smiling, slangy, imperturbable Ernest Blunt, his lazy grin and languid drawl being especially effective. Miss Dorothy Minto as Joy showed herself to be not only an agreeable and attractive representative of a young girl on the brink of womanhood, but an actress of much emotional power. Joy's ingenuous artlessness was well shown, and Miss Minto's acting in the scene between mother and daughter was full of strength and feeling, and intensely and irresistibly impressive. Mr. Allan Wade handled the rather difficult character of Dick Merton with much tact, the infusion of burlesque in the love-making in the last act being just sufficient, and not overdone, and the lines being delivered with all the necessary youthful fervour. Mr. Thalberg Corbett made the Hon. Maurice Lever just the self-contained, politic, and worldly-wise individual suggested by the text, and his able interpretation of the rather repulsive character accentuated the irony of the main situation. Miss Mary Barton as the quite commonplace Mrs. Blunt, was quite satisfactory, and did all that the part demanded. Miss Wynne Matthison looked very handsome and attractive as Mrs. Gwyn, and, for the poignancy and deep significance of her emotional acting, deserves our warmest praise. Her performance was not only strong, but subtle; and the delicate art of the embodiment was only equalled by its earnestness and truth. The piece was listened to with attention by an obviously interested audience, who gave *Joy* and its author a very cordial reception.

Shakespeare and Shaw.

"The reason Shakespeare belittled Cæsar and that no later English dramatist touched this greatest of all protagonists until I saw my chance and took it, was simply that Shakespeare's sympathies were with Plutarch and the Nonconformist Conscience, which he personified as Brutus." This passage occurs in a letter from Mr. Bernard Shaw in the *Play Pictorial*. It is quite characteristic of the attitude of the little artist with reference to the great artist, whom the smaller man usually conceives in his own image, as a person with sympathies and theories instead of an intuitive creator, solely intent on realising his imaginations. Still, every letter helps. Since the Welsh mountain episode, we expect every day to hear of Mr. Shaw diving off Westminster Bridge in order to "boom" Cæsar's jump in the amusing Shavian sketch.

A Model Wife.

MISS AMELIA BINGHAM, an American actress, is appearing this season in a new play, called *A Modern Lady Godiva*, by Frederick F. Schrader and Lloyd M. Bingham. It tells the story of an English noblewoman who sacrifices her modesty for the sake of her ruined and invalid husband by posing for a picture of Lady Godiva. Miss Bingham's supporting company includes Mr. William L. Abingdon.

"BARRY DOYLE'S REST CURE."

Play, in Three Acts,
by W. Gayer Mackay and Robert Ord,
Produced at the Court Theatre,
on Wednesday, Sept. 25.

Earl of Strathesk ..... MR. E. W. GARDEN
Barry Doyle ..... MR. W. GRAHAM BROWNE
Jack Harverson .... MR. ARTHUR HOLMES-GORE
Cotter ..... MR. C. M. LOWNE
Angus Macdougal ..... MR. EDWARD Y. RAE
Footman ..... MR. CLAUDE VERNON
Servant ..... MR. HEATH J. HAVILAND
The Countess of Strathesk
MISS CARLOTTA ADDISON
Lady Jean Hamilton .... MISS BEATRICE TERRY
Lady Hazel Pearce-Warrener
MISS ROSE MUSGROVE

Messrs. W. Gayer Mackay and Robert Ord's comedy belongs to the category of light but pleasant plays, and forms a very agreeable two hours' entertainment of an amusing and diverting nature. There is not very much in it; but it is so neatly written and so admirably acted that the impression it creates is warmly favourable. Barry Doyle is a young man who, after various experiences in the Colonies, has been left a large fortune by a relative, and is now one of London's millionaires. His secretary is his old and trusted friend, Jack Harverson, with whom he worked in Australia. Barry is disgusted with the shameless manner in which the match-making mammas try to catch him as a husband for their daughters. After an exciting ball he has proposed to Lady Hazel Pearce-Warrener, whose mother has assured him that her daughter is deeply in love with him. Lady Hazel, however, was only acting under orders, her heart being given to Harverson. On the morning after the ball, she calls on Barry and asks him to give her back her promise, confessing that she cares for somebody else. Doyle willingly releases her; but the incident makes such an impression on him that he resolves to fly from the mercenary metropolis to a cottage in Scotland, exchanging identities with his faithful secretary. The cottage turns out to be dilapidated; and the two young men are taken by the proprietor, the Earl of Strathesk, an impecunious and thrifty Scotch peer, into his castle, where Barry, in the character of Harverson, falls in love with the Earl's daughter, Lady Jean Hamilton. The persevering attempts of her parents to marry her to rich men have disgusted Lady Jean with millionaires, for whom she proclaims an especial aversion, much to Doyle's embarrassment. Before he can explain matters, Lady Hazel, who is an old friend of Lady Jean's, comes to stay at the Castle, and precipitates matters by recognising Barry and Harverson. The Countess, who has just told Barry that, as a poor man, his pretension to Lady Jean's hand is absurd, is greatly relieved by the discovery; but Lady Jean is highly indignant at the way in which she has been deceived, and breaks off her engagement at once. The last act takes place in the cottage, to which the young men have returned, and where they amuse themselves with repairing the premises. By representing to Lady Jean that Doyle is becoming seriously ill as the result of her cruelty, she is induced to reconsider her decision; and, Harverson and Lady Hazel eventually pairing off, all ends well and cheerfully.

The piece was played in just the light and bright style necessary, and with an admirable amount of polish and refinement. Mr. W. Graham Browne as Barry Doyle hit off exactly the easy, natural, animated nature of the newly-made millionaire, and depicted, very expressively, his genuine good nature, his warm and honest impulses, and his droll anxiety. The love-scenes with Lady Jean were treated with agreeable tact and skill; and altogether Mr. Browne's reading of the rôle was one which could only have been supplied by an artist of real gift and ripe experience. Mr. E. W. Garden's firm, humorous, and reposeful method was well suited to the character of the Earl of Strathesk, whom Mr. Garden endowed with all the necessary bland good nature and "canny" thriftiness. Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore handled the rôle of Jack Harverson very ably and well. The part is one which requires sustained skill and much quiet consideration; and Mr. Holmes-Gore's performance was convincing by reason of its complete unconsciousness and entire freedom from strain and exaggeration. Mr. C. M. Lowne was superbly refined and marvellously self-respecting as Cotter, the immaculate valet who takes himself so seriously as to create ample amusement. In appearance, tone, and demeanour Mr. Lowne was an ideal body-servant; and his Cotter was one of the most comical things in the play. Mr. Edward Y. Rae contributed a quaint and characteristic sketch of a Highland gillie, his broad Scotch being excellent; and Mr. Claude Vernon did good work as the Footman at the Castle. Mr. Heath J. Haviland was efficient as a servant. That admirable actress, Miss Carlotta Addison, gave an almost faultless rendering of the rôle of the Countess of Strathesk, the scheming and mercenary nature of the lady and her style and dignity being equally well depicted. A bright and bewitching Lady Jean Hamilton was Miss Beatrice Terry, who won all hearts by a judicious mixture of ingenuousness and individuality, and by her charming appearance and dainty and delicate delivery. The success of the comedy scenes in the second and third acts owed much to the assistance of Miss Terry, who had the keenest appreciation of the possibilities of her part, and took advantage of them to the utmost. Miss Rose Musgrove was a very pretty and pleasing representative of Lady Hazel Pearce-Warrener. Lady Hazel's uneasiness in the interview with Doyle in the first act was ably indicated; and Miss Musgrove's acting throughout was full of cheery expressiveness. She managed to be animated and amusing without ceasing to be essentially well-bred.

Barry Doyle's Rest Cure, which had a very favourable reception, was preceded by the one-act play by E. M. Bryant, entitled

"THE PEACEMAKER."

Elizabeth Lavendar .... MISS VICTORIA ADDISON
Joyce Harford ..... MISS INA PELLY
Doctor Burton ..... MR. REGINALD EYRE
Richard Harford ..... MR. EDMUND BREON
Parsons ..... MISS ELLA TARRANT

This pleasant little piece, which was first performed in front of *The Stronger Sex* at the Apollo Theatre on Jan. 22, is capably performed at the Court by a well-chosen cast. The benevolent Miss Elizabeth Lavendar, whose attempt to reunite the young married couple who have quarrelled and are separated is so little appreciated by the pair, has an intelligent and agreeable representative in Miss Victoria Addison, who plays the part with all the necessary gentleness and grace, and with the acceptable addition of excellent style and feeling. Miss Ella Tarrant is extremely amusing as the stupid servant Parsons; and Miss Ina Pelly and Mr. Edmund Breon give neat interpretations of the characters of Joyce and Richard Harford, Mr. Reginald Eyre sustaining with tact and judgment the rôle of the doctor who finally wins Elizabeth's heart by his patient devotion.

MR. TREE AT LIVERPOOL.

Mr. H. B. IRVING, the president of the Liverpool Stage Club, occupied the chair at the Club's annual dinner at the Exchange Station Hotel last Sunday, and amongst those present were the guest of the evening, Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree, Sir Alfred Jones, the Rev. T. W. M. Lund, Mr. F. Salisbury (Postmaster of Liverpool), the Hon. J. L. Griffiths (United States Consul), and Messrs. Austin Harford, C.C., and F. L. Joseph, C.C.

The PRESIDENT, in proposing "Our Guest," said they were deeply indebted to Mr. Tree for attending the club's annual dinner. He suspected that one reason why Mr. Tree was so ready to be their guest was because he knew that they were a young club. Ever young himself, Mr. Tree was always in sympathy with and delighted in encouraging those who were young. That was a trait in his character which endeared him to many. Perhaps the whole of the secret of Mr. Tree's success was that he kept himself young and abreast with the movements of the time. He did not suppose that Mr. Tree had ever supported anything quite so young as they outside his own home. They were not yet two years old, but they were a very lusty and thriving infant, and they hoped to grow up worthy of their sponsors. One thing about the young was that they never forgot those who encouraged them in their youth, and the Liverpool Stage Club would never forget Mr. Tree's kindness in giving them his help in their early days. They were very proud to have him with them that evening, because all those who loved the theatre respected and admired his work, and recognised that by his art, and by the spirit and the energy of his management and the work he had done in the theatre he had upheld the highest and best traditions of our stage—traditions which have always in this country depended for their perpetuity and their very existence on the efforts of the individual. It was to such as Mr. Tree and to other actors in the past that they owed the very existence of our national drama, and the fact that Shakespeare and all that was best in the the theatre still held its own, even in these days of severe competition; and it was only by the spirit and determination of men such as Mr. Tree that England had been able to secure some sort of local history for the greatest drama that the world had ever seen, but which had met with the least recognition in the country that gave it birth.

Sir ALFRED JONES supported the toast. He said he did not attend that gathering simply for pleasure, but because he thought it an act of duty to pay respect to his friend Mr. Tree. He regarded men such as Mr. Tree and their president as doing a great deal to keep the people straight and to educate them and elevate them.

Mr. BEERBOHM TREE, in reply, said:—"I feel it a great privilege to be present on this occasion, when you are celebrating your second year of existence. Much depends on the first two years of a club's life, but I am glad to hold your pulse to-night and to record the vigour of your constitution. I have very pleasant recollections of the hospitality extended to me in Liverpool some years ago, when I was a guest at the Liverpool Press Club. A genial Bohemian there, seeing through his glass lightly and talking through his hat darkly, in the course of a speech in my honour, said, "Ah, Mr. Tree, you are a great man—you are, indeed, a great man—you ought to be a member of the Toxteth Board of Guardians." Well, I am going to talk to you to-night in my capacity as a guardian. All well-wishers of the theatre must welcome such an institution as this, for it tends to engender and to keep alive an interest in the serious drama. Such a watch committee is, indeed, needed in every great centre if the theatre—that is, the higher theatre—is to maintain its proper place in the body politic. I have read during the past week a very interesting correspondence which has appeared in the Press on the subject of the preference of the Liverpool public for the lower forms of art, and I understand that a recent Shakespearean production, reputed to be of high merit, has been neglected, while the music halls have been crowded to suffocation. From the point of view of the theatre, that is, of course, a regrettable state of things, but it is a state of things which is chronic, and can only be dealt with by the gradual evolution of education and of taste. The tendency of fashion here—as elsewhere—is no doubt towards lighter forms of entertainment; and, indeed, it is quite understandable that the masses should spend their money where they are made most happy. I believe that the need for a club of this kind is really considerable. In my peregrinations through the city I have noticed one or two rather striking facts which have led me to make some inquiries as to the dramatic history of your city during the past generation. Not far from the hotel when I am now staying there still stands a relic of a famous Liverpool theatre, the old Theatre Royal. The Royal Arms are still over the front entrance, flanked on either side by medallions of Comedy and Tragedy. Beneath these relics of a past age I saw the legend "Liverpool Cold Storage and Ice Company." I presume that is a definition of the higher drama. But worse is to follow. A few yards away there still stands another disused theatre, the old Prince of Wales's Theatre—the theatre in which, I believe, our friend Mr. John Hare made his first appearance, and on the boards of which the father of our chairman of this evening has frequently delighted Liverpool audiences. In this theatre I remember playing in my very early days—twenty-seven or twenty-eight years ago. Here, above the legend which says "Open nightly—Matinées Wednesdays and Saturdays," hangs a great board, printed in plain letters, so that those who run may read, "This theatre to be sold." Gentlemen, you will understand why these facts made me inquire as to whether we had gone backwards or forwards in Liverpool as far as the drama is concerned. I inquired naturally of members of your club, and they have given me particulars of the past history of Liverpool, which would fill me with profound depression were it not that I realise by such a gathering as we see here to-night that you are alive to the situation and are prepared to cope with it. About twenty-five years ago I understand there were four leading theatres in Liverpool and three music halls. You had the Amphitheatre, which was given up mainly to melodrama, interspersed with opera. You had the Prince of Wales's Theatre for comedy, light opera, and burlesque. You had the Rotunda, the home of melodrama. You had the Alexandra Theatre, sacred to Shakespeare and to what was known as the legitimate drama. In the twenty-five years Liverpool has not diminished in population. The opportunities of the Liverpudlians for intellectual development have not diminished. You still have but four theatres, but your three music halls of twenty-five years ago have increased to eight, giving two shows nightly. Well, gentlemen, I have no word to say against the music halls, which give entertainment and enjoyment to multitudes, but I cannot help deploring the fact that a town such as Liverpool—the second city in the Empire—should have developed so one-sidedly as appears to be the case to-day, and this does not exhaust the position, for I understand that in Liverpool the support given to what has hitherto been known as the legitimate drama is deplorably small as compared with that which welcomes musical comedies, which almost continuously occupy the boards of certain theatres. Again, gentlemen, I wish it to be quite understood that I am not saying a word against musical comedy—there is plenty of room for musical comedy in the dramatic fare of our times; but I cannot help regretting the support which is given to musical comedies as compared with plays of another type. This club will fulfil its highest mission if it does something effective to encourage the taste for the higher drama, so that Liverpool may not continue to be entirely dependent on the occasional incursions of stars from London. If the national theatre is something in the nature of a nebular hypothesis, the municipal theatre is, to my mind, nearer being within the reach of practical politics. Such a theatre might well come from the joint efforts of the municipality and of a voluntary committee, of which the nucleus might be found in this society and the active co-operation of your most distinguished citizens. But, above all, it must have the guiding inspiration of a personality. We have here Sir Alfred Jones, and if my distinguished fellow-guest had the time to spend some of his energies on this problem, I should regard the wild dream as an accomplished fact.

THE DUKE OF YORK'S.

Fortune has smiled benignly on *Brewster's Millions*, and another half-century has marked its triumphal progress at the Duke of York's, where it recently reached its 150th performance. The success of the piece might be ensured by one scene alone, that of the storm at sea, surely an example of stage ingenuity that cannot be surpassed. The play, which came to us on May Day from America, where it had already enjoyed a large measure of prosperity, is a dramatisation by Winchell Smith and Byron Ongley of a story by George Barr McCutcheon, and is staged by the first-named author. The present cast is practically identical with that of the first production, and each part is fitted to a nicety.

Mr. Gerald Du Maurier's conception of the title-rôle is one that displays his abilities as a light comedian in a still higher degree, and adequate as are the opportunities presented in the lines of the part, Mr. Du Maurier manages to supplement them by numberless diverting touches which intensify their drollery. The difficulties of the young legatee squandering huge sums of money with a lavish hand, yet having to fight against overwhelming prosperity in his financial affairs, are realised with irresistible effect by the actor, whose airy ingenuousness and business-like smartness provide an amusing combination. Mr. Du Maurier exerts a powerful fascination, and the part stands out as a character study of wonderful skill, perception, and intelligence.

Miss Beatrice Agnew maintains the freshness and charm of her impersonation of Peggy. Daintiness and refinement are the distinguishing marks of the embodiment, and the clever young actress presents the part in such engaging fashion with such maidenly modesty and reserve as to heighten its artistic effect. There is a wealth of tenderness in the expression of her affection for the apparently faithless Brewster, and the sympathies of the audience are throughout given to such an appealing case of "beauty in distress."

Prominent among a long list of subsidiary characters is the Archie Golding of Mr. Louis Goodrich. A buoyant and dashing style and a right appreciation of the part make it one of exceptional merit, and the love scene with the "emancipated" Janice Armstrong on board the yacht is marked by a sense of drollery which is irresistible. Admirable support is lent by Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, whose finished elocutionary methods are of great value in the rôle of Janice, a part which is rendered effective both in appearance and delivery.

Distinction is lent to the character of Mr. Grant by Mr. Edward Sass, who gives the rôle the necessary suavity which belongs to the family solicitor. The chief points which set going the perplexing plot are in the keeping of the lawyer, and Mr. Sass, by the employment of his finely-modulated voice and the exercise of his practised art, puts them with all possible plainness. The excitable Joseph McLoud is competently enacted by Mr. Percival Stevens, who gives full prominence to the resentment of the canny Scotsman at his friend's extravagances. Mr. Clarence Blakiston gives character to the part of Colonel Drew, lending due weight to the scenes in which he appears. The erring Charlie Harrison is feelingly portrayed by Mr. J. L. Mackay, whose pathos in the scene wherein he confesses to embezzlement is made profoundly touching. Master C. Hersee has only limited opportunities for the display of his comedy gifts in the part of the office boy, but of these he makes the most; and Miss Jane May grasps the humorous possibilities of the typist effectively. Mr. George Bellamy adopts the airs and graces of the frenzied Frenchman with life-like fidelity; and a quietly comic creation is the butler of Mr. Arthur B. Murray, whose dryly droll utterances are keenly relished. A prepossessing appearance is made by Miss Kitty Melrose, who acts delightfully as the musical comedy actress, Trixie Clayton; the magnificent presence and musical voice of Miss Mollie Lowell are admirably adapted to the part of the stately Mrs. Dan de Mille; and Miss Hazel Thompson is a graceful Barbara Drew. The state of bewilderment existing in the minds of Brewster's associates is well maintained by Mr. George Lestocq as Frank Bragdon, Mr. Courtenay Foote as Tommy Smith, Mr. Vernon Davidson as Horace Pettinghill, and Mr. Arthur Minton as Jack Gardner; and the bluff and hearty manners of a sea-captain are capitally assumed by Mr. Webb Darleigh. The house continues to be filled to its fullest capacity, and audiences keenly alive to the merits of play and performers exact innumerable curtains.

"THE JEWESS."

A Tragedy, in Five Acts, by M. Lerner,
Produced for the first time at the Pavilion Theatre, on Friday, Sept. 20.

Eliazer ..... MR. S. FEINMAN
Rachael ..... MME. D. FEINMAN
Cardinal Browni ..... MR. B. ROSENTHAL
Prince Leopold ..... MR. B. SHEINGOLD
Princess Euvdoci ..... MME. KAYZER
Roderigo ..... MR. N. ISAACOVITCH
Gilbert ..... MR. HAMBURGER

The simple story of Lerner's adaptation of "The Jewess" is well known to those who have witnessed Halévy's opera of *La Juive*. As is generally the case in the writings of the Yiddish dramatists, the motive is in connection with the persecutions undergone by the Hebrews in times past. Cardinal Browni for a supposed offence has ordered Rachael, the daughter of the jeweller Eliazer, to be burnt at the stake. It happens, however, that Rachael is not a Jewess, but the natural daughter of the Cardinal, whom Eliazer has adopted. The Cardinal, discovering that he has condemned his own child to death, endeavours to prevent the execution taking place, but is too late. This brief resumé of a somewhat gloomy story was watched with keen interest by a large audience. Mr. Sigmund Feinman was good as Eliazer, his bearing, manner, enunciation, and histrionic methods being well in keeping with the character. Mme. Diana Feinman presented a portrait of Rachael that was refreshingly natural; while the necessary dramatic force was sustained with good effect. Mr. B. Sheingold was happily placed as the lover, Prince Leopold, to which he imparted the requisite amount of vigour, while his fine resonant voice and excellent deportment, together with a pleasing personality, added considerable charm to his efforts. Mr. Boris Rosenthal was well suited as Cardinal Browni, which he portrayed with conspicuous success, and his "make-up" was worthy of the highest commendation. Mme. J. Kayzer secured approbation by her satisfactory impersonation of the Princess Euvdoci; the military bearing of Mr. N. Isaacovitch as Roderigo denoted ability; and Mr. Hamburger did well as Gilbert. The scenery and mounting were in every way admirable. Sir Charles Wyndham was an interested spectator on the occasion of the production.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The funeral of Mr. John Bradley, for fifteen years master carpenter at the St. Helens Theatre Royal, took place on Saturday last at the St. Helens Cemetery. Deceased, who passed away on Tuesday in last week, had been in indifferent health for the last twelve months, but had attended to his duties up to the Saturday prior to his death, the cause of which was chronic bronchial pneumonia. He was forty-three years of age, and leaves a widow and grown-up daughter to mourn his loss. The funeral was attended by the relatives of the deceased, representatives of the theatre staff, Mr. Frank Tarbuck, representing the St. Helens Hippodrome, Mr. C. J. McCarthy, representing Mr. Roland Yorke, &c.

On Sunday, Sept. 22, a picnic was held at Southport by the stock company and staff of the Roscommon Theatre, Liverpool. Beautiful weather favoured the outing, which was a great success. After a drive to Freshfield and back, a company of thirty-five sat down to dinner, well served at the Royal Hotel. Toasts were afterwards given, and the health of Mr. Boucher and the continued success of his enterprise at the Roscommon was received with much applause.

A fatal accident happened to Mr. H. Body, a member of the electrician staff at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, on Thursday morning. Mr. Body was engaged in putting up a sign relating to the forthcoming fancy dress ball, and was at the top of a long ladder. How the mishap occurred is not quite clear, but Body fell from the ladder a distance of thirty feet on to the iron railings below. He was removed to King's College Hospital, and died a few hours after admission.

The Executive Committee of the National Association of Theatrical Employees are arranging the annual concert in aid of the benevolent funds, and it is hoped that one of the West-end theatres may be secured for this purpose. The date under consideration is a Sunday early in December.

Mr. J. Brunskill, lately master carpenter at the Savoy, will occupy a similar position at Mr. Vedrenne's new theatre in Shaftesbury-avenue. Mr. W. H. Marsh will be the electrician in charge.

Trade and Labour Councils in various parts of the Metropolitan area are acting in the interests of the musicians and stage employees, and the following letter is an interesting result of the intervention of the Shoreditch Trades Council, who report that the management in question were quite in sympathy with the purpose of the agreement, which, obviously, removes any probable ground for friction in the future between the organisations interested and the directors of these halls:—

"Mr. A. P. Brown, Secretary, Shoreditch Trades and Labour Council, Tee-To-Tum, High-street, Shoreditch, E.

"Dear Sir,—With reference to my conversation with you relative to the conditions of employment at our halls, this matter was duly considered by my Board of Directors, and the following decision arrived at:—'That we do hereby undertake to employ only members of the Amalgamated Musicians' Union for our orchestras, and members of the National Association of Theatrical Employees in the various stage departments of the music halls below mentioned, and that we will not pay less than the rates and observe the conditions of employment laid down in the Music Hall Award until such time as we are able to pay a dividend of 5% to our shareholders, when we undertake to pay to the musicians and stage employees not less than the minimum rates of pay agreed with such Unions respectively.'

"Signed on behalf of the Directors of the London Music Hall, Shoreditch, the Cambridge Music Hall, Cambridge-street, E.

"Thos. G. Richards, Director."

A NEW COMPOSER.

On Thursday, at Queen's Hall, the programme was of exceptional interest, opening with the magnificent third act prelude to *Die Meistersinger*, in which the genius of Wagner is shown so remarkably. It was played by the orchestra and conducted by Mr. Wood in such a way as to do the most perfect justice to this glorious work. The band also gained great credit in Tschaikowsky's "Casse Noisette," the dance of the Sugar-plum Fairy being delightfully rendered. The new March No. 4, "Pomp and Circumstance," by Sir Edward Elgar was another brilliant item; and Richard Strauss's "Till Eulenspigel" had as many admirers as usual. The vocalists were Mrs. Henry Wood and Mr. Robert Burnett, and Mr. Willibold Richter was heard in the No. 4 Concerto of Brahms' for the pianoforte in D minor, one of the composer's finest compositions. The novelty of the evening was a new overture, "Shylock," by Mr. Felix H. White, a British composer who is likely ere long to be much better known than he is at present. His overture has great merit. The composer has taken passages from the play, and has illustrated them with great felicity. For instance, Portia's speech, commencing "The quality of mercy," supplies a suave and graceful theme, which contrasts admirably with the fierce outbursts of the Jew, in which Mr. White employs the full force of the orchestra. The drums and cymbals tell the story of Shylock's rage in "If I can catch him once upon the hip," and other passages. The reception of the overture was quite enthusiastic, and at the conclusion the youthful musician was called to the platform and greeted with hearty cheers, which in time to come will, we feel assured, increase in proportion to his achievements, for it can hardly be doubted that the name of Mr. Felix H. White is destined to shine prominently in the list of native composers. It was the first occasion when he was so fortunate as to have such a splendid orchestra to convey his ideas to the public; but Mr. Wood, who has a generous sympathy with native musicians, will certainly give this promising young composer other chances of being heard, and there is no fear that the musical public will be deaf to his claims. Audiences now do not rush from the hall when a British musician is announced; they know what to expect, and several calls to the front proved the genial appreciation of the crowded house. Among other items should be mentioned Sir Charles Stanford's "Songs of the Sea," admirably sung by Mr. Robert Burnett, and Mrs. Henry Wood was heard with the greatest satisfaction in her songs.

Mme. Calvé arrived at New York on the 19th inst. on board the Cunard liner Pannonia. Most of the prima donna's spare time during the voyage was devoted to making rag dolls for the children in the steerage. Before the ship reached New York one of the steerage children came aft to thank her for the gifts. Two of the dolls, it is stated, were raffled, and fetched £53.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's new play, *The Galilean's Victory*, was copyrighted on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Stockport. The initial production of the play at the Lyceum Theatre, Rochester, on the same day was a decided success. It's New York début will be made next Monday at the Knickerbocker Theatre.

Arrangements between the members of the Motor Club and the British Motor Boat Club were recently completed at the Motor Club house, Coventry-street, and the amalgamation of the two institutions is now *un fait accompli*. An inaugural dinner to celebrate the event is being arranged.

IN GARRICK'S DAY.

Garrick, says Mrs. Clement Parsons in "Garrick and his Circle," advised Ned Shuter, whose low comedy he pronounced genius, to avoid being too comical. He knew that there is no more deadly sin in art, especially in the art of acting, than over-emphasis, and he knew how prone the true-born English actor is to it. Garrick was severely "down on" the performer who was so silly, and so little an artist, as to laugh at his own humour, or at anyone else's, before an audience, thereby telling them it was not such and such a character, but "the humorous negligent Mr. Wou'd-be the actor." Garrick himself, once, and once only, laughed out of his part. It was at a wicked, sly whisper of Kitty Clive's. So wicked and so sly was the whisper that he was seized with such a violent attack of merriment he could not finish Lovemore in Murphy's *The Way to Keep Him*, but was obliged, after two or three efforts, to make his bow, "amidst a roar of electrical laughter." It is sad to think we shall never know what it was Kitty whispered.

An actor, in those days, always made a parting bow. It was a rather begrudged gain for realism when he did not preface his purple patches of soliloquy by advancing to the centre with a bow and some arm-waving. Yet, in spite of it all, in comparing those times with ours, it is difficult not to come to one's grandsire's opinion that the old actors were in many respects better than the people we see to-day. At any rate, their method was more of an art, i.e., less a personal affair, an exhibition of always to be repeated individualisms. Study counted for more, and even second-rate players took their craft perfectly seriously. On the other hand, everything being mapped out, new parts lent themselves too readily to stock criticism. The audiences, in consequence, were definite and explicit as to what constituted good acting. They required it straight and strongly underlined. The playgoing public, if small (Foote estimated it in London as twelve thousand), was exceedingly keen, and in every way stimulated by the répertoire system, which at the same time kept the actors in perpetual variegated practice, and permitted the manager a large range of fresh and untried pieces. Where there was no great effort or expense over staging, the acting was the thing people paid to enjoy and criticise.

Between the performers and the lookers-on there were more direct relations than nowadays. What Mr. H. B. Irving, in an article on Colley Cibber, called "the kind of happy family feeling that naturally sprang up when two theatres were sufficient for the needs of playgoers," occasionally led to curious recontres. That to talk to any person in the house is indecorous and unbecoming has been a stage maxim since the time of Thespis, but even that was sometimes set aside.

Nathaniel Dance-Holland, and George Dance, R.A., are now remembered for having painted portraits of Garrick and his associates. Foote, perhaps, had Love in his mind's eye when he made one of his puppets say, "As to player—whatever might happen to me, I was determined not to bring a disgrace upon my family; and so I resolved to turn footman." Then, as now, Philistia was invincible, and the foggy person of substance from the City feared artists, in whatever genre, and uttered contempt of them. Probably, each actor's social position was what he had the character and taste to make it, and varied *ad infinitum* with the individual. Colley Cibber justly says in his "Apology," that persons who might otherwise have been mercers or milliners, but, by dint of ability, became players instead, stood a much better chance of "entering into conversations" with the great than had they remained in the station to which their original fortune would have destined them.

CORRECT COSTUMES.

It is only in quite recent times, says Dutton Cook, in "A Book of the Play," published in 1876, that the correctness of stage costumes has undergone systematic consideration, and been treated as a matter of real urgency, although occasional experiments in the direction of reform are to be found recorded in early accounts of the drama. Mr. Pepys describes his visit to the theatre in 1664, to see *Heraclius, or the Emperor of the East*, Cariell's translation of Corneille, and notes, "the garments like Romans very well . . . . at the beginning, at the drawing up of the curtain, there was the finest scene of the emperor and his people about him, standing in their fixed and different postures, in their Roman habits, above all that I ever saw at any of the theatres." But attempts to be accurate in this way were only of an intermittent kind; any enduring amendment can hardly be found until we approach a period that is within the recollection of living playgoers. Mr. Donne, lately the Examiner of Plays, writes in one of his essays on the drama: "We have seen *The Rivals* performed in a sort of chance-medley costume—a century intervening between the respective attires of Sir Anthony and Captain Absolute"; and he adds, "we have seen the same comedy dressed with scrupulous attention to the date of the wigs and hoops; but we doubt whether in any essential respect that excellent play was a gainer by the increased care and expenditure of the manager.' Sir Walter Scott had previously written: "We have seen *Jane Shore* acted with Richard in the old English cloak, Lord Hastings in a full court dress, with his white rod like a Lord Chamberlain of the last reign, and Jane Shore and Alicia in stays and hoops. We have ascribes to Voltaire "the sole merit of introducing natural and correct costumes. Before his time the actors, whether Romans or Scythians, appeared in the full dress of the French court; and Augustus himself was represented in a huge full-bottomed wig surmounted by a crown of laurel." Marmontel, however, claims to have had some share in this innovation, and also in the reform of the stage method of declamation, which had previously been of a very pompous kind. Following his counsels, Mlle. Clairon, the famous tragic actress, had ventured to play Roxana, in the Court Theatre at Versailles, "dressed in the habit of a Sultana, without hoop, her arms half naked, and in the truth of Oriental costume." With this attire she adopted a simpler kind of elocution. Her success was most complete. Marmontel was profuse in his congratulations. "But it will ruin me," said the actress. "Natural declamation requires correctness of costume. My wardrobe is from this moment useless to me; I lose twelve hundred guineas' worth of dresses! However, the sacrifice is made. Within a week you shall see me play Electra after nature, as I have just played Roxana." Marmontel writes: "From that time all the actors were obliged to abandon their fringed gloves, their voluminous wigs, their feathered hats, and all the fantastic paraphernalia that had so long shocked the sight of all men of taste. Lekain himself followed the example of Mlle. Clarion, and, from that moment, their talents thus perfected, excited mutual emulation, and were worthy rivals of each other."

Upon the English stage reform in this matter was certainly a matter of slow growth. A German gentleman, Christian Augustus Gottlieb Gœde by name, who published, in 1821, a long account of a visit he had recently made to England, expresses in strong terms his opinions on certain peculiarities of its theatre. "You will never behold," he writes, "foreign actors dressed in such an absurd style as upon the London stage. The English, of all other nations the most superstitious worshippers of fashion, are, nevertheless, accustomed to manifest a strange indulgence for the incivilities which this goddess encounters from their performers. I have seen Mr. Cooke personating the character of Sir Pertinax McSycophant in *The Man of the World* in a buff coat of antique cut, and an embroidered waistcoat which might have figured in the court of Charles II.; though this play is of modern date and the actor must of course have been familiar with the current costume. In *The Way to Keep Him*, Mr. C. Kemble acted the part of Sir Brilliant Fashion, a name which ought to have suggested to him a proper style of dress, in a frock absolutely threadbare, and obsolete doublet, long pantaloons, a prodigious watch-chain of steel, and a huge *incroyable* under his arm. This last article, indeed,

STRATFORD THEATRES OUTING.

The above illustration represents the combined staffs of the Borough Theatre and Theatre Royal, Stratford, at their annual outing at the Broxbourne Gardens on the 1st inst.

One of the quaintest of the customs was that of an actress-mother leading on her "debuting" daughter (usually as Juliet) bathed in tears. It is stated that when Garrick, in 1747, rose from a sick-bed to play for Quin's already postponed benefit, his friendly letter to Quin was printed at the head of the playbills. "Gentlemen, it is not my turn to speak," said Mrs. Cibber, after a long pause, when one of the actors had hopelessly lost his cue. It is amusing to find how George II. communicated to the audience in Drury Lane Theatre the news, just received by him in his box, of the victory of Culloden. "Animated with all that majestic grace which he so eminently possessed, he held out the paper, and with an ineffable smile of grandeur and beneficence, uttered the exclamation, 'Oh!'"

We can but hope it was during an interval that Boswell, one night, entertained the Drury Lane audience "prodigiously," by lowing in the pit like a cow. "Encore the cow!" cried the galleries, till, finally, the Rev. Dr. Hugh Blair found it necessary to restrain his young friend's "very inferior" imitations of other animals by the caustic recommendation, "My dear sir, I would confine myself to the cow!"

It must have been excessively difficult for performers to keep their tempers, and act on in an easy way, when "half-eaten pippins," "suck'd oranges," or, in the case of actresses, the rind, were being aimed at them as demonstrations of the gallery's disapproval. One actor, adapting Beatrice's pun, speaks of two or three uncivil oranges bursting at once on his devoted head, and mentions that his nerves never could endure the sound of the cracking of nuts since a York audience once treated him for a whole evening with this sign of his incapacity to interest them. In the Macklin strike at Drury Lane in 1743, the disaffected brought pea-shooters to prevent walking on the stage. Even when inaudible for tumult, Garrick and his lesser brethren used, by "respectful bows" and "apologetic gestures" to attempt pacification in cases where we can only imagine a modern actor stating "in emphatic language what he'd be before he'd stand it." There was far more servility in a crude form then on the part of the servants of the public.

As regards the social position of the old actors generally, evidence is conflicting. The London patentees and Foote were expected to go to Court, and would on no account have missed a birthday. On the other hand, Arthur Murphy was denied admittance as a barrister by both the Middle and Inner Temple on account of his having been an actor; and the son of the architect of the Mansion House changed his name when he went on the stage from Dance to Love, in order not to imperil the reputation of his relations. The brothers of this James Love, Nathaniel Dance, afterwards Sir seen Miss Young act Zara, incased in whalebone, to an Osman dressed properly enough as a Turk, while Nerestan, a Christian knight, in the time of the Crusades, strutted in the white uniform of the old French Guards!"

Even as late as 1842 a writer in a critical journal, reviewing a performance of *She Stoops to Conquer* at the Haymarket Theatre, reminds the representatives of Young Marlow and Hastings that the costumes they wear being "of the year 1842 accord but ill with those of 1772, assumed by the other characters. The effect of the scene is marred by it," writes the critic. And ten years before Leigh Hunt had admitted into the columns of his *Tatler* many letters dwelling upon the defects of stage costume in regard to incongruousness and general lack of accuracy. One correspondent complains of a performance of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* at Covent Garden, in which Bartley had played Falstaff "in a dress belonging to the age of the first Charles"; Cains had appeared as "a doctor of the reign of William and Mary, with a flowing periwig, cocked hat, large cuffs, and ruffles"; while John Rugby's costume was that "of a countryman servant of the present day." Another remonstrant describes Kean as dressing Othello "more in the garb of an Albanian Greek than a Moor; Richard goes through the battle without armour, while Richmond is armed *cap-à-pie;* and Young plays Macbeth in a green and gilded velvet jacket, and carries a shield until he begins to fight, and then throws it away." A third correspondent draws attention to *The School for Scandal* and Mr. Farren's performance of Sir Peter Teazle in a costume appropriate to the date of the comedy, the other players wearing dresses of the newest vogue. "Even Sir Oliver," it is added, "appeared in a fashionable modern drab great coat." In a note Leigh Hunt records his opinion that Mr. Farren was right, and that it was "the business of all the other performers to dress up to his costume, not for him to *wrong* himself into theirs," and adds, "there is one way of settling the matter which puts an end to all questions except that of immediate convenience and economy; and this is to do as the French do, who rigidly adhere to the costume of the period in which the scene is supposed to take place. Something of immediate sympathy is lost, perhaps, by this system, for we can hardly admire a young beauty so much in the dress of our grandmothers as in such as we see our own charmers in; but this defect is compensated by a sense of truth and propriety, by the very quaintness and novelty of the ancient aspect, and even by the information it conveys to us."

The condition of the Parisian stage in regard to its improved and splendid scenery, decorations, and accessories owed much to the special intervention and patronage of Louis XIV. Sir Walter Scott was an appendage of 1803, but all the rest presented a genuine portrait of an indigent and coxcombical journeyman tailor. He must have known that pantaloons and an *incroyable* rumpled and folded together are incongruous articles of apparel—that no gentleman, much less Sir Brilliant Fashion, would make his appearance in a threadbare coat; and that steel watch-chains, as the chronicles of the Birmingham manufactories plainly evince, have been out of date these four-score years. Neither would he, I am perfectly convinced, parade in such a costume off the boards of the theatre. Why, then, should he choose to exhibit such a whimsical figure upon them? May I venture to offer my own conjecture on the subject? The real cause probably is that an absurd costume is perfectly fashionable upon the English stage!"

PATENTS.

The following are abridged descriptions of theatrical patents specially compiled for *The Era* by Messrs. Hughes and Young, registered Patent Agents and Engineers, of 55-56, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom our readers may obtain all information and advice relating to British and foreign patents, designs and trade marks free of charge.

12,925.—Emergency-exit fastenings. Patentee, Mr. J. Bull, 9, Nansen Road, Lavender Hill, London, S.W. In an emergency-exit or like fastening for the door of a theatre or other building, the push-bar terminates in a pin, which operates a lever to turn a crank fixed to a spindle, which operates a latch, by means of a follower. The latch is locked against operation from the outside by means of a spring-pressed pivoted lever, which is released from engagement with a shoulder of the latch, either by means of the tail of the follower, or by the nose on the tumbler, raised by the key during the operation of the slide to withdraw the latch by the hook arm. After withdrawal the latch is held back by the spring-pressed hook until the door is slammed, when the auxiliary latch is retracted, causing the nose thereon to engage the end of the hook.

12,535.—Fire-extinguishing. Patentee, Mr. G. I. Rockwood, 52, Summer Street, Worcester, Massachusetts, U.S.A. Sprinklers automatic. A cap is retained on a nozzle by means of a post, a lever, and a strut formed of two parts, united by fusible solder. The lever bears against a boss depending from the top of arms, the lowed ends of which are connected to a collar engaging screw-threads on the nozzle, so that the resisting pressure on the cap-retaining device can be adjusted. When this adjustment has been made, retaining-pins are inserted in holes in the joint between the collar and the screw-threaded portion of the nozzle.

ON THE ROAD, SEPT. 30.

All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—Ryde and Worthing.
Amasis.—T. R., Newcastle.
Assassin.—T. R., Castleford.
At Cripple Creek.—T. R., St. Helens.
At Duty's Call.—Grand T., Stalybridge.
Austin, Mary.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Beautiful Fiend.—Motherwell and Coatbridge.
Belle of Mayfair (Bode).—Empire T., Oldham.
Benson, F. R. (M.).—Chelmsford.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—Weston-super-Mare.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—T. R., Inverness.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—O. H., Leicester.
Blue Moon (Mouillot's).—O. H., Burnley.
Blue Moon (S.).—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Bondman, The (Croker).—Grand T., Fulham.
Bondman, The (Day).—Court T., Warrington.
Boyne, Mr. Leonard.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
Breed of the Treshams.—Court T., Wigan.
Bulmer, Mr.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Campbell, Mrs. Patrick.—T. R., Cardiff.
Carl Rosa Opera.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Cassidy, J. Rice.—Victoria T., Broughton.
Christian, The (Croke).—O. H., Perth.
Claudian.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
Convict's Daughter.—T. R., Sheffield.
Dairymaids.—T. R., Belfast.
Dairymaids (No. 2).—T. R., Brighton.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Prince's T., Accrington.
D'Oyley Carte Opera.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Elliman Co.'s.—Goole and Gainsborough.
Eve of Her Wedding.—O. H., Coventry.
Face at the Window.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
False Wife.—Athenæum T., Lancaster.
Fatal Wedding.—T. R., Chatham.
Female Swindler.—H. M. T., Barrow.
For Her Sake.—T. R., Blyth.
Geisha.—T. R., Plymouth.
Girl from Japan.—Pier Pavilion, Southend.
Girl Who Went Astray.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Glossop-Harris.—Londesboro' T., Scarboro'.
Go-Won-Go Mohawk.—T. R., Stratford.
Greed of Gold.—King's T., Sutton.
Grip of Iron.—T. R., Barry Dock.
Guilty Gold.—Gaiety T., Clydebank.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—T. R., Widnes.
Her Love Against the World.—Grand, Brighton.
Her Love Against the World (sub.).—Hammersmith
Her Luck in London.—New T., Cambridge.
Her Marriage Vow.—P. O. W., Salford.
Her One Great Sin.—Spa T., Whitby.
Hill-Mitchelson.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
His House in Order (Alexander).—P. O. W., Birmingham.
His House in Order (Kempton).—Crook and Durham.
His House in Order (N.).—T. R., Bolton.
His House in Order (S.).—T. R., Bath.
Honeymoon, The.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
Hughes, Miss Annie.—Royalty T., Morecambe.
In a Woman's Grip.—T. R., Leicester.
In the Shadow of Night.—T. R., Bristol.
Irving, H. B.—King's T., Southsea.
John Glayde's Honour.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Knave of Hearts.—Queen's T., Manchester.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Kelty, Fife, and Markinch.
Lady Dandies.—Grand T., Hull.
Lancashire Lad.—T. R., Ashton.
La Poupée (Levilly).—Broadway T., Deptford.
La Poupée (Ralland).—T. R., Shrewsbury.
Leah Kleschna.—Grand T., Swansea.
Lion and the Mouse.—Royalty T., Chester.
Little Breadwinner.—Grand T., Walsall.
Lucky Durham.—Kilmarnock and Ayr.
Man's Enemy.—T. R., Croydon.
Manxman.—Miners' T., Ashington.
Martin Harvey.—T. R., Glasgow.
Midnight Mail.—T. R., Aston.
Monckton Hoffe Comedy Co.—T. R., Lincoln.
Monte Cristo.—T. R., Norwich.
Moody-Manners (A.).—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Moody-Manners (B.).—Tunbridge Wells.
Moore, Miss Decima.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Mr. Popple.—Kirkcaldy.
Mr. Smith.—O. H., Radcliffe.
My Darling.—Harrogate and Southport.
Old Folks at Home.—Junc. T., Manchester.
Peter's Mother (M.).—Sidmouth and Brixham.
Peter's Mother (N.).—T. R. Hanley.
Peter's Mother (S.).—T. R., Yarmouth.
Power of Gold.—T. R., Macclesfield.
Prince of Pilsen (Harriss).—T.R., Middlesbrough.
Private Secretary.—Victoria T., Ramsgate.
Prodigal Daughter.—T. R., Glossop.
Prodigal Parson.—T. R., Batley.
Prodigal Son (Croke).—Crown T., Peckham.
Prodigal Son (Day).—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
Prodigal Son (Western).—Albert T., Brighouse.
Proof.—Theatre Royal, South Shields.
Raffles (Dance).—Irving T., Seacombe.
Rollicking Rory.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Royal Divorce.—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
Second to None.—T. R., Jarrow.
Secret Wedding.—Gaiety T., Dundee.
Sentenced for Life.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Sherlock Holmes.—Grand T., Luton.
Shulamite, The.—Doncaster.
Sign of the Cross.—King's T., Edinburgh.
Silver King (Polini and Melford).—Dundee.
Silver King (Polini and Melford).—Reading.
Soldier of France.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Soldier's Honour.—T. R., Darwen.
Still Alarm.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Stronger Sex (N.).—Gaiety, Hastings.
Stronger Sex (S.).—Grand T., Southampton.
Swiss Express.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Terry, Edward.—O. H., Blackpool.
Terry, Miss Ellen.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Traitor, The.—T. R., Smethwick.
Two Lancashire Lasses in London.—T. R., Hyde.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—Grand T., Islington.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—Prince's T., Preston.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.).—T. R., Cardiff.
Tyrant, The.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Under the Russian Flag.—T. R., Leeds.
Village Blacksmith.—P. O. W., Mexborough.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—H. M. T., Dundee.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—Grand T., Blackpool.
What the Butler Saw.—T. R., Birkenhead.
When It Was Dark.—Lyceum T., Pentre.
When London Sleeps.—T. R., Sunderland.
When Other Lips.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
When Woman Hates.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Why Men Love Women.—T. R., Merthyr.
Wilkie Allan and Co.—Town Hall, Rugby.
Woman and Wine.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Woman from Scotland Yard.—T. R., Wednesbury.
Woman Pays.—Gaiety T., Leith.
Woman Worth Winning.—Criterion T., Worksop.
Worst Woman in London.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Youngest of Three.—Worthing and Bexhill.
Young Lieutenant.—New T., Oxford.
£1000 Reward.—Mountain Ash and Treharris.

Quin was once at a very small dinner-party. The master of the house, pushing a delicious pudding towards Quin, begged him to taste it. A gentleman had just before helped himself to an immense piece of it. "Pray," said Quin, looking first at the gentleman's plate and then at the dish, "which is the pudding?"

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

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All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

E. M. BURNARD (Surbiton).—*It is quite probable that* Everyman *will be revived next year during Holy Week. Mr. William Poel might be able to give you more definite information. Write to him, 5, Amersham-road, Putney, S.W.*

W. B. JONES.—*It would be difficult to place a song that is not published at a London theatre. Possibly if you were to submit the manuscript of the number to any of the firms of publishers in our columns they might think it worth while to take it up. Send the words and music to Francis, Day, and Hunter, with sufficient stamps for return. You will find the names of many ladies in our advertisement columns on the back page of* The Era *who play principal boy's parts.*

DOUGLAS BLAIR (Harrogate).—*Yes; Mrs. Kendal has played the part in America, but we cannot give you the date.*

U. S. (Glasgow).—*We are making inquiries, and will let you know in this column as soon as possible.*

A NEW READER.—A Mother's Sacrifice *is at Oxford this week. We do not know the town where the company appears next week. Letter, care of* THE ERA, *would probably answer your purpose to both lady and gentleman.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

BREAMER.—Sept. 20, the wife of Bert Breamer (Miss Kate Tansley), of a son. (Alexandra Theatre, Bargoed.) Both doing well.

COLLINS.—Sept. 24, Mrs. Tom Collins (Beatie Kent), of a fine boy. Both are doing well.

MARRIAGES.

FRONANI—DE LUSSAN.—Sept. 11, at St. Peter and St. Edward's, Palace-street, S.W., by the Rev. Father Foster, Angelo Fronani, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emanuele Fronani, Diplomatic Service, Washington, U.S.A., to Zélie, second daughter of the late Count Paul de Lussan and Mme. de Lussan, of 131, Victoria-street, S.W.

GAMBLE—SCAIFE.—Aug. 17, at St. John's Church, Glebe, Sydney, N.S.W., by the Rev. S S. Tovey, C. Warburton Gamble to Miss Gillian Scaife, both of the Ward-Willoughby company.

MARLE—COLONA.—On Sept. 22, 1907, at the Church of the English Martyrs, S.E., by the Rev. J. Rhead, Clifford Marle, eldest son of Dr. John Rafter, of Liverpool, to Josephine, only daughter of the late Edgar Colona. Address, O. H., Northampton.

PARKHURST—TREMBATH.—Sept. 15, at Holy Trinity Church, Salcombe, by the Rev. E. D. Merritt, George William Parkhurst to Helena Trembath, of Miss Ada Lauderdale's company.

PIKE—ARMSTRONG.—At the Parish Church, Chester-le-Street, on Sept. 18, by the Rev. A. De Moleyns, M.A., Rector, William Charles, only son of the late R. J. Pike, R.N., and Mrs. Pike, of Holyhead and Liverpool, to Edith Elizabeth, second daughter of Thomas Armstrong, Manager, North Eastern Bank, Chester-le-Street.

REES—RAY.—Sept. 24, at the Registry Office, Birmingham, Phil Rees, late manager, Alfred Grahame's Juveniles, to Carrie Ray, Birmingham.

SLOAN—SANDERSON.—Sept. 21, in New York, Tod Sloan, jockey, to Miss Julia Sanderson, actress.

DEATHS.

BLUM.—Sept. 18, Ernest Blum, French dramatist, aged 71.

BRADLEY.—Sept. 17, at St. Helen's, of pneumonia, John Bradley, for fifteen years master carpenter at the Theatre Royal, St. Helen's, aged 43.

BRINKLEY.—Sept. 22, at Orford, Suffolk, after a brief illness, R. J. Brinkley, proprietor of the Horns, Kennington, aged 54.

HAGEN (Grace Woodward).—Sept. 23, at "Ye Hutte," Old-road, Clacton-on-Sea, after prolonged suffering, Grace Agnes, the dearly-loved wife of Warner Hagen. Interment to-day (Saturday), Clacton Cemetery, 2.30.

HANSON.—Sept. 20, of bronchitis and heart failure, Johnny Hanson, clown and comedian, aged 64.

VINCENT.—Sept. 26, at his residence in Kennington-road, E. S. Vincent, actor, late of John Lawson's sketch companies.

IN MEMORIAM.

SPURR.—In fondest memory of my dear father, Mel B. Spurr, drawing-room entertainer, who went to his last resting place at Melbourne Sept. 25, 1904. Never forgotten by his affectionate mother, my dear mother, and his only child, Brenda. "Give unto him eternal rest, O Lord."

DR. WALFORD BODIE, who had arranged with the Alf. Wood Amusement Co., New York, for a tour of America, has had to postpone his engagement owing to several managers refusing to release him. He should open next month at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, which is the Drury Lane of America. He has been greatly boomed for the last six months, and had booked a special saloon on board the "Kaiser Wilhelm II.," having paid £100 deposit three months ago. What has been America's loss will be Britain's gain, as there is a great demand for the doctor's latest sensation, *The Cage of Death*, and he is already fast filling up his vacant dates. Last week at the Hippodrome, West Bromwich, he broke all records, playing to close on £500. Next week he returns to the Albert Hall, Swansea.

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Henries, Le
Hickley, Mr. Leo
Hilton, Mr. A. T.
Hoblyn, Mr. F. H.
Howard, Mr. J. Myron
Howard, Mr. Wilfred
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Wynne, Mr. E. S.
Zaro, Mr. James

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen :—

Henry Arthur Jones—Saturday, Sept. 28.
Mabel Syringa—Saturday, Sept. 28.
Lena Ashwell—Saturday, Sept. 28.
Simeta Marsden—Saturday, Sept. 28.
Lilian Williams—Saturday, Sept. 28.
Tom Terriss—Saturday, Sept. 28.
Mrs. B. M. de Solla—Sunday, Sept. 29.
Fred Russell—Sunday, Sept. 29.
Victor du Cane—Sunday, Sept. 29.
Charles Magrath—Sunday, Sept. 29.
Kit Keen—Sunday, Sept. 29.
Winifred Hamilton—Sunday, Sept. 29.
Violet Fulton—Monday, Sept. 30.
Kate Bishop—Tuesday, Oct. 1.
Harrison Brockbank—Wednesday, Oct. 2.
Fred Maple—Wednesday, Oct. 2.
Hugh Metcalfe—Wednesday, Oct. 2.
M. E. Braddon—Friday, Oct. 4.
Nellie Clarence—Friday, Oct. 4.
Kate Winstanley—Friday, Oct. 4.
Agnes Booth—Friday, Oct. 4.

CRICKET.

GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS *v.* HIPPODROME.

Played on the Central Cricket Ground on Sept. 24. Scores :—

Hippodrome.—E. Edwards, not out, 52; F. Christmas, b Picknell, 0; F. Burwell, b Picknell, 0; W. Norman, b Simmons, 0; W. Freeman, b White, 3; E. White, b Picknell, 0; E. Webster, c Coleman b Simmons, 6; A. Puss, b White, 0; De Gruchy, hit wicket b White, 0; M. Malins, st Quick b Simmons, 2; W. Griffiths, b White, 1; extras, 3. Total, 67. Second Innings.—E. Edwards, b Blackman, 3; F. Christmas, b Coleman, 12; F. Burwell, b Blackman, 2; W. Norman, not out, 10; W. Freeman, b Coleman, 7; E. White, b Coleman, 0; E. Webster, b Coleman, 0; A. Puss, c Blackman b Day, 20; De Gruchy, b Coleman, 1; M. Malins, b Coleman, 0; W. Griffiths, c T. Quick b Taylor, 25; extras, 6. Total, 86.

Gaiety.—B. Taylor, c and b Edwards, 19; T. Picknell, b Edwards, 77; H. Simmons, c E. White b Christmas, 1; P. Wilkins, c and b Christmas, 0; A. E. White, run out, 0; R. Jones, not out, 3; D. Quick, b Edwards, 1; J. Quick, c Edwards, 0; P. Day, b Edwards, 3; C. Coleman, b Edwards, 0; J. Blackman, b Edwards, 3; extras, 15. Total, 122. Second Innings.—B. Taylor, not out, 11; H. Simmons, not out, 13; extras, 8. Total (for no wicket), 32.

Mr. H. Vivian Fisher, the general-manager of the Hippodrome, presided at luncheon, and proposed the health of Mr. Rowland and Mr. Scutt, general and acting-managers respectively of the Gaiety Theatre. Mr. A. E. White gave the health of Mr. Griffiths, formerly of the Gaiety and now managing-director of the Hippodrome, who spoke of the pleasure it gave him to be associated with his old staff. Mr. Scutt pledged the health of the general staff of the Hippodrome, to which the acting-manager, Mr. Walter Norman, suitably responded.

Unfortunately, during the second innings of the Hippodrome, Mr. Walter Norman slipped and sprained his ankle, so Mr. Gates, another member of the Hippodrome, kindly took his place. The Hippodrome has now challenged the Gaiety Theatre for a football match.

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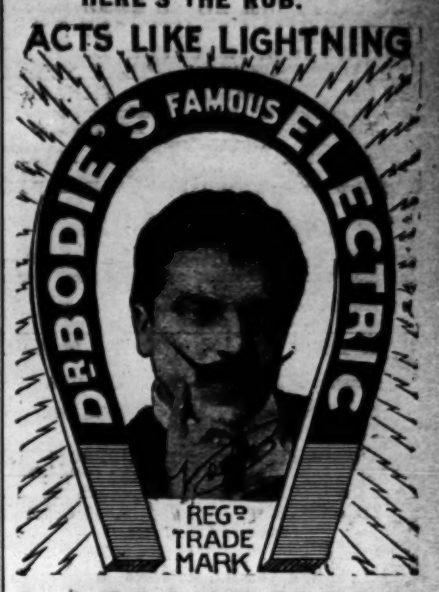

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

Another book which calls for attention is that excellent and almost indispensable work of reference, "The Era" Almanack and Annual. In this handy shillingsworth one has a complete record of the past dramatic year, and the arrangement is so admirable that no time is lost in finding the desired subject, title of play, revival, or new production, and all that appertains to the drama of the year. The same remark applies to the information concerning the stages of Paris and Berlin; and I should like to see next year the American stage included, because it is becoming so intimately allied with our own, by reason of the production of plays, the interchange of actors, and the comprehensive interests of managers. In addition to the solid pages of facts, there are included short tales and stories by well-known actors and actresses, and altogether the book is one which should find its way into the hands of all genuine lovers of the drama.—Morning Advertiser, Feb. 23, '07.

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"That the Actors' Association be wound up voluntarily under the provisions of the Companies' Acts, 1862 to 1900."
Should the said Resolution be passed by the requisite majority it will be submitted for confirmation as a Special Resolution to another meeting of the Actors' Association to be subsequently convened.
Should the said Resolution be passed, a further Resolution will be proposed at the same meeting for the appointment of a liquidator or liquidators for the purposes of the winding up and fixing their remuneration.
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INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his textbook on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
A capital shilling's worth is the "Era Annual," with its valuable lists of new plays produced during the year in London, the provinces, Berlin, and Paris. It contains, also many readable articles by stage favourites, notably a characteristic contribution, "How I Spend My Day," by Miss Ellen Terry.—Daily Express, Feb. 2.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Annual for 1907 is out, published from the offices of "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. It is the usual complete record of doings in theatreland during the past year, and possesses a live interest in the number of excellent personal contributions by well-known managers, authors, actors, and actresses of the day.—Sportsman, Jan. 22, 1907.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.
"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual for 1907 is up to its usual standard—in fact, it is, if possible, smarter than ever. There is an excellent budget of articles from the pens of Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Cicely Richards, Miss Pollie Emery, Messrs. Frank Cooper, Arthur Collins, Charles Collette, Frank Curzon, Edward German, Cliff Ryland, and many others. The illustrated obituary, the alphabetical list of plays produced in London and the provinces, and all the other valuable features of the Annual are as complete as ever, and make this handbook extremely useful not only to members of the profession, but to the infinitely wider circle interested directly or indirectly in the drama.—Whitehall Review.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1907.

DRAMATIST AND PRODUCER.

With the return of September came the revival of the interest in the drama which is always evident after the holidays, and a very spirited debate between Mr. BEERBOHM TREE and Mr. PINERO, with reference to certain views expressed by the latter gentleman on the subject of play-producing. In the course of his remarks Mr. PINERO stated that he regards an elaborate scenario as carpenter's work, belonging to a low form of composition; that he never alters anything at rehearsals; and that with every play he writes he has to learn afresh the art of playwriting.

Mr. TREE seems to have seen in these statements an attempt to diminish the importance of the actor and producer; and in an interview he claimed for them a large share of the credit attached to any successful stage production. "The artist," said Mr. TREE, "must always have a substantial influence upon the situation; from his individuality, from his creative faculty spring effects which authors cannot invariably determine beforehand. It is largely this fact that entitles him to the place he holds in the eyes of the public. It has been gravely advanced that the star system is antagonistic to the best interests of the drama. The pre-eminence of the individual actor, whether manager or not, is, however, created, and exists solely by the favour of the public. Broadly speaking, the playwright loses as much as he gains by holding stubbornly to the ideas conceived and elaborated in the study. Again and again I have seen plays developed on the stage, to their manifest advantage, and I am bold enough to contend that a first-class producer not infrequently stands upon a level very little beneath that occupied by a first-class dramatist. The author who comes to rehearsals with an open mind, with a mind prepared to receive and act upon suggestions, can hardly fail to benefit by the fact."

Asked how he regarded the matter of the dramatist's absolute supremacy, Mr. TREE admitted that he could not, save in very exceptional circumstances, submit to the thraldom of such a system, which he honestly believes must have a paralysing effect upon every actor. "Had I, however," said Mr. TREE, "the advantage of producing a play by Mr. PINERO, and he insisted that 'nothing should be altered at rehearsals,' I should defer to the wishes of so experienced a craftsman."

To this Mr. PINERO replied in a letter, in which he said: "The actor, so far as my experience enables me to judge, rarely fails to give a cordial welcome to the work of a dramatist who carries into the theatre a play which is as complete as the author can make it, and who has a definite notion of the way in which his play should be interpreted."

Discussions of this kind between persons of such distinction as Mr. TREE and Mr. PINERO are deeply interesting. We have no hesitation in saying that both gentlemen are absolutely in the right in their main contentions. The methods which suit one playwright and one class of play are inappropriate to another dramatist working under different conditions; or, indeed, to the same dramatist at a different period of his development. For instance, Mr. HENRY ARTHUR JONES would probably have resented any attempt to "teach him his business" in the production of *The Hypocrites;* but he may not have been so sensitive in the case of Mr. WILSON BARRETT and *The Silver King.* There are playwrights *and* playwrights, just as there are plays *and* plays. There is the intellectual drama, which depends entirely for its power over an audience on the clash of characters and the war of emotions; and there is the play which leaves sufficient scope by its very omissions for alterations and embellishments. There is the practised playwright, who comes to the first rehearsals with definite ideas down to every detail of what he wants done; and there is the rising dramatist who is learning his business and has not yet acquired the ability to see his work through a theatrical medium, and requires to have it played before his eyes before he can say exactly what he would like. When Mr. STEPHEN PHILLIPS first read *Herod* to Mr. TREE he was at the outset bored and sceptical, and wanted nothing so much as to get through with it. Gradually he grew more interested and excited, until Mr. PHILLIPS came to the passage where the trumpets are heard in the distance. At that point Mr. TREE, we are told, sprang from his seat. "Ha!" he said to his secretary; "you see the reason of that?" Then, turning to Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. TREE enquired, "Have you ever been on the stage?" "Could anything," said Mr. PHILLIPS to Mr. ARCHER, who was interviewing him for "Real Conversations," "have been finer than Mr. TREE's stage-management of the last act of *Herod?* And, remember, there was real and high imagination in it; true invention—no mere working up of old stage tricks."

Supposing, however, that Mr. PHILLIPS had furnished his play with elaborate directions like those which Mr. BERNARD SHAW adds to the dialogue of his works, there would have been nothing left for Mr. TREE to invent or suggest. The complete dramatist doubles the parts of author and producer, and reigns at rehearsals by virtue of his proved capacity. The incomplete dramatist, whatever his literary or constructive gifts may be, must submit to receive assistance from those who, though they may not have his special genius, possess, either by nature or from long familiarity with the actual effect of a performance, that "sense of the stage" which is something apart from the dramatic instinct. Of course, in the case of melodrama, the producer becomes a much more important factor of the success attained; and the interesting interview with Mr. ERNEST CARPENTER which we print this week shows what an influence the producer has on the fortunes of a popular piece. But even in a much more delicate class of work there are little things which, though apparently trifling, are really of the utmost importance; and it is merely a question whether the dramatist has perceived them and arranged how they are to be done, or has contented himself with preparing a dramatic play, and has left the purely technical and theatrical element to be supplied by actual experiment and by the assistance and advice of the "producer" at rehearsal. The end aimed at is to get the greatest possible effect out of the situations and dialogue; and the means by which it is attained are, after all, comparatively unimportant.

ACTORS' SATURDAY.

APPEAL FOR THE ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

We have once more to draw the attention of our readers to the necessities of the Actors' Benevolent Fund in general, and to Actors' Saturday in particular, the date being the last Saturday in January. Papers will be sent out by Mr. Colton, the able secretary of the A.B.F., to every theatre and touring company in the United Kingdom, in order that a collection may be made for the benefit of the fund. In saying this, we cannot too strongly impress upon actors and actresses the fact that the Actors' Benevolent Fund has for more than quarter of a century rendered invaluable assistance, by way of monetary grants, loans, and pensions, to thousands of members of the profession and their dependents.

At the present time the fund is granting seventy-five weekly allowances, which are renewed from quarter to quarter, and were the committee to publish the names of those in receipt of these pensions it would be found that many of our stage favourites of former years would be in the direst straits had it not been for the goodly offices of the fund. The affairs of every applicant for assistance, however, are regarded as sacredly confidential, and no one who is suffering from some temporary misfortune need fear that his name or the nature of his transactions will ever be divulged.

Another aspect of the beneficent work of the fund is, that no player nowadays, when the hand of Death has put an end to his earthly labours, will be permitted to be laid to rest in a pauper's grave, but will be buried at the expense of the A.B.F. in the event of his having died in poor circumstances. Surely this is a benefit which cannot be lightly overlooked for the self-respect of the profession. Then, were every guarantee needed as to the bona-fide and just distribution of the money at the command of the executive committee of the fund, it would be found in the list of names of eminent and responsible actors comprising that committee. Thus, Sir Charles Wyndham is the president, and Mr. Tree, Mr. George Alexander, and Mrs. D'Oyly Carte are vice-presidents, while the committee includes Messrs. Harry Nicholls (treasurer), Edward Terry, Cyril Maude, Robert Courtneidge, Lionel Rignold, Algernon Syms, Isaac Cohen, Harry Loveday, Morris Abrahams, J. D. Beveridge, M. R. Morand, J. Bannister Howard, Charles Cruikshanks, Arthur Williams, Fred Wright, Akerman May, A. V. Tapping, Lionel Brough, E. H. Bull, Sydney Paxton, and Fredk. Carr, the trustees being Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. Tree, and Mr. Edward Terry.

We would urge all those ladies and gentlemen who will collect for Actors' Saturday to persuade each member of her or his company to contribute something to the only fund which can afford assistance in the hour of need. In the year 1906 the committee dispersed the sum of £3,400 in pensions, gifts, and loans. Surely no further recommendation is necessary to induce actors and actresses to loyally support the fund which has done, is doing, and will continue to do such an incalculable amount of good. We do not think that those who are now following in the artistic footsteps of the late Sir Henry Irving could pay a better tribute to his memory than to lend their moral influence and financial aid to the institution of which he was the president and founder.

THE Royal Choral Society's season at the Albert Hall will open on Nov. 7 with a performance of *Elijah.* Bach's Mass in B minor, Handel's *Messiah,* and *Israel in Egypt,* Rossini's *Stabat Mater,* Sir Edward Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius,* and Mr. S. Coleridge-Taylor's *Dream of Hiawatha* will also be presented.

THE committee of the St. Leonard's Entertainments Association have voted £80 per week for ten weeks for the maintenance of an orchestra, the season of which is to commence in January. The grant is subject to the condition that before Nov. 1 400 season tickets at one guinea each are secured.

A WELL-KNOWN composer and pianist passed away at Vienna last week in the person of Ignaz Brüll, whose works comprise almost every branch of music. His songs and chamber music were widely popular, being of a refined character, and naturally melodious. His greatest success was the opera *The Golden Cross.*

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"IHAVATRATHE,"

Drama, in Two Acts, by Julius Bersti, Produced at the Neues Theatre, Sept. 19, 1907.

Ihavatrathe	FRAULEIN REINGRUBER
Dagar	FRAULEIN WINKLER
Iramith	FRAULEIN PRILL
Fatime	FRAULEIN MIRYTA
Shitrima	HERR SCHINDLER
Hiriaka	HERR ZIEGOLD
Der Sklave	HERR CHRISTIANS
Vrster Sklave	HERR HAHN
Zweite Sklave	HERR HERMANN
Erste Sklavin	FRAULEIN BOCCAY
Zweite Sklavin	FRAULEIN REINING

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, SEPT. 26.—This is the longer of two novelties—the first of the season—produced on one evening. Herr Bersti is a dramatist hitherto unknown to the world, and his first play is full of the faults of youth and inexperience; yet the talent displayed justifies expectation of better work in the future. A few words will suffice for the very poor plot. Ihavatrathe is a beautiful Indian Princess, who falls in love with the head slave of her father, the King of Anywhere. The slave—whose name does not transpire—abuses the maiden's affection, endeavouring to gain her concurrence in a plot to murder the King and create himself ruler over the people. This Princess Ihavatrathe very properly declines to do, and after a great many tirades and passionate struggles with herself, she orders the slave to be put to death. Herr Christians did as much justice to the part of the slave as was possible, but it was a rôle unworthy of this excellent actor's powers. The name-part was well played by Fräulein Reingruber, and the remaining characters were adequately sustained. A favourable reception was accorded, the young author being called and applauded.

The second piece in the bill was a one-act comedy, entitled *Liebe,* by the eminent Danish dramatist Gustav Wied. It is drastic, and at times funny, but cannot be placed on a par with any of Wied's former works. It is the sketch of a village love-story. The heroine, a pretty peasant who has been reading blood-and-thunder novels, demands that her lover must do some doughty deed to gain her hand, whereupon he simulates a suicide, and so receives his reward. This piece, too, was brightly acted and met with a cordial reception, but I fear neither will hold the boards for long.

AMONG the Chamber plays at the Deutsches, Herr Schnitzler's drama *Liebelei* has had a place this week. It was satisfactorily interpreted and created a favourable impression. Wedekind's realistically repulsive play, *Spring's Awakening,* is still drawing well, that unhealthy kind of fare unhappily appealing to the public taste.

IBSEN'S early work, *Der Bund der Jugend,* has been produced at the Lessing in a manner worthy of all the traditions of "Ibsen Theatre" *par excellence,* and Dr. Brahm may be warmly complimented upon its success. The famous writer's caustic satire has perhaps never been so blended with humour—real, genuine, laughable humour—as in this fascinating play. That great pains had been spent on both cast and mounting goes without saying. Herr Bassermann as the boastful barrister, Stensgard, was perfectly delightful; it was a masterpiece of humour. Herr Meinhardt was equally good as Hejre; while Herr Sauer gave an admirable impersonation of the old "grand seigneur"; and Herren Marr, Reicher, and Forest each gave a well-nigh faultless rendering of his respective rôle. Fraulein Eberty was most amusing as Mme. Rundholm, and the lesser rôles were all satisfactorily given. This week, by the bye, is devoted, with one exception, entirely to Ibsen's works.

AN exceptionally talented young operatic singer, Miss Marcella Craft—an American—made her début at the New Royal Opera recently in *Traviata.* Miss Craft, who was engaged for several years at the Mayence Opera, met with an enthusiastic reception here. Her voice is well trained and of very beautiful quality, while her acting is exceptionally powerful; she should, therefore, have a brilliant career before her. After singing Violetta several times, Miss Craft sang in Hoffman's *Erzählungen* at the Komische Oper, with equally good results.

"MADAMA BUTTERFLY" will be produced at the Royal Opera to-morrow. Miss Farrar sings the name-part, and Mr. MacLennan that of Pinkerton. For Caruso's four performances at the end of October the ordinary prices have been doubled. There will be two performances of *Aida,* and one each of *Rigoletto* and *Lucia.*

A NEW cycle of one-act plays by Sudermann is anticipated with great interest. The first is a drama, entitled *Margot;* the second, also a serious play, is called *Der letzte Besuch* ("The Last Visit"); while the third is a comedy—*Die ferne Prinzessin.* The collective title is *Rosen.* There will be a simultaneous production of the cycle in November at the Burg Theatre, Vienna, and our Lessing Theatre.

A PLAY, drawn from Oscar Wilde's powerful story "Dorian Gray" was recently produced at the Josefstadt Theatre at Vienna. I am told it is an unworthy travesty of the original. Two other theatres have acquired the story for dramatising purposes.

ARTHUR VERNE FUND.

SUBSCRIPTIONS ALREADY RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Henry Swinerd	5	5	0
J. W. Cordiner	5	5	0
Messrs. Power and Kirby's Co., per Martin Comstock	2	10	6
Horace Stanley	2	2	0
Sam Livesey	2	2	0
Dan Rolyat	2	2	0
The Tyrant Co., per Roy Fortescue	1	16	6
Nellie Harcourt	1	1	0
George Brooks	1	1	0
Lyn Harding	1	1	0
G. Howard Watson	1	1	0
Mrs. Hy. Mayhew	1	1	0
George Arliss	1	1	0
Queenie Leighton	1	1	0
Lodge "Star," No. 219, Glasgow	1	1	0
Nettie Ware	1	1	0
Lizzie Primmer	1	0	0
Charles Barnard	0	10	6
H. E. Angless	0	10	6
Lester Collingwood	0	10	0
Walter H. Nightingale	0	10	0
James P. Moore	0	10	0
Charles Boult	0	10	0
Bert Edwards	0	7	6
Deane Cliffe	0	5	0
W. C. H.	0	5	0
Arthur Hartley	0	5	0
Walter Ashley	0	5	0
Henry C. Ward	0	5	0
Maire Vere	0	5	0
W. E. Mowbray	0	5	0
K. Ernest Irving	0	5	0
T. F.	0	2	6
C. H. T.	0	2	6
E. H.	0	2	6
F. T. (Preston)	0	2	0
B. A.	0	1	0
	37	11	0

MARGATE is reaping the benefit of the belated summer, and large numbers of holiday-makers are still in the town. The briskness of business thus obtained is appreciably affecting the outdoor entertainers, all of whom have had their engagements extended by the Corporation.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"MAMAN ROBERT."

Comedy in three acts, by M. G. Sabatier, produced at Antoine's on Sept. 19.

Louise de Cléry	MLLE. DE FELBERG
Paulette	MLLE. FARNA
Mme de Rutbey	MLLE. LAVIGNE
Comtesse de Cléry	MME. LISE FLEURIE
Mariette	MLLE. MARTHE TALMONT
Robert de Rosbourg	M. ROUYER.
D'Estillac	M. HARRY BAUR
D'Arcel	M. HENRY HOURY
Pierre de Rosbourg	M. GERBERT
Du Tois	M. MARCHAL

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, SEPT. 26.—*Maman Robert,* M. Sabatier's new comedy, brought out at Antoine's, is an amusing and, above all, a healthy play, such as we would be glad to welcome on an English stage. Moreover, the personages therein—society men and women—talk and behave like well-bred people, and not—as we only too often see on a Paris stage—as if they had received their education in a Montmartre cabaret. Maman Robert, as the title seems to imply, is not a lady. It is the name given by the author to Robert de Rosbourg who, since his parents' death has watched over his younger brother Pierre with motherly care. And Pierre, the good-natured weakling, is only too happy to follow blindfolded the directions of his big, strong-minded brother. As to the latter, no sacrifice is too great where the youngster's happiness is at stake. Robert is engaged to Louise de Cléry. Yet, when he discovers that Pierre and Louise secretly love one another, he breaks off his engagement and allows his brother to take his place. When the curtain rises on the second tableau Pierre and Louise are married, but thunder clouds which nobody could foresee are gathering over their heads. The feeble and undecided Pierre cannot do without his brother's guidance, and Robert therefore advises him like he did when he had had him under his sole charge. Louise resents this interference; she is jealous of Robert, her rival, and she so far forgets herself as to reproach him his meddling in her husband's affairs. It then dawns upon him that he has been lacking in tact, and he seeks counsel with Paulette, Louise's half-sister, a sagacious young girl, but for whom he would never have known of Pierre's love for Louise. Little Paulette does not mince matters. She tells Robert that his attitude in Pierre's household is more that of an interfering mother-in-law than of a brother, and she winds up by advising him to secure a wife and manage his own home. If Robert had not been so wrapped up in his brother's affairs he would have known that a charming wife was within his reach in the person of little Paulette. But he is blind to all this, and, finally, Louise's anger reaches such a pitch that to rid herself of Robert she stoops to crime, and scribbles a note, in reply to one supposed to have been sent to her by Robert, wherein she forbids him to persecute her any further with his declarations of love. Poor Pierre reads the note and is dumbfounded. And when in a violent scene with his brother the latter refuses to disculpate himself, Pierre seizes a revolver to blow out his brains. Robert, however, wrenches the weapon from him. Louise implores their forgiveness for the deed she committed, and Paulette brings everything to a pleasant close by giving Robert plainly to understand that she is quite willing to become his wife. The work, which met with an excellent reception, was capitally acted by Mlle. de Felberg, who made a good *début* in the rôle of Louise; by Mlle. Farna, a fascinating Paulette; by M. Rouyer, an impressive "Maman Robert"; and by M. Gerbert, as Pierre.

"LA SACRIFIEE."

Play in Three Acts, by M. Devore, produced at Antoine's on Sept. 19.

Jeannine	MLLE. MADELEINE LELY
Mme. Baudricourt	MME. EVEN
Suzanne	MLLE. GERMAINE LECUYER
Françoise	MLLE. SYLVERINE
Pauline	MLLE. JASMONDE
Dorville	M. GEMIER
Baudricourt	M. JANVIER
Roizel	M. COLAS
Julien	M. GEORGES FLATEAU
Jean	M. PIERRE LAURENT

The idea of M. Devore's play *Sacrifiée* is by no means novel, but the work was so well acted as to secure it a success which it otherwise would not have achieved. The milieu, too, into which we are introduced is anything but a pleasant one. Baudricourt, a rich manufacturer, has three daughters: Françoise, blossomed into an old maid, Jeannine, and Suzanne. It is on the last-named that M. and Mme. Baudricourt's affections are centred. She is the darling, and her sisters count for nothing. Françoise, the uncomplaining, accepts this situation philosophically, but not so Jeannine, whose independent spirit rebels against this injustice. She has fallen in love with Dorville, her father's foreman, an honest, hardworking man who, deserted by his parents, had to fight his way up in the world. When the story opens, Roizel, a financier, supposed to be immensely rich, has applied for Suzanne's hand for his son Julien, but he insists on the girl having a million francs dowry. As it happens, Baudricourt can dispose of this sum, which he has put aside for his daughters in the event of their marrying. And M. and Mme. Baudricourt do not scruple to despoil Françoise and Jeannine by giving the entire sum to Suzanne. Jeannine does not mind the loss of the money, but, smarting under this fresh indignity, she opens her heart to Dorville, and confesses her love for him. Dorville at first tries to reason with her, but as he reciprocates her feelings he rejoices in the idea of making her his wife. And then he informs her that he knows for a certainty that Roizel, the financier, is nothing but a common swindler, who reckons on Suzanne's dowry to help him out of his difficulties. Jeannine communicates this to her parents, but her mother replies that she is only inventing these stories because she is jealous of her sister's marriage. Then follows a violent scene between Jeannine and her parents, ending in the former declaring that she will now leave the house to go to her lover Dorville. In the last act, Dorville supplies such proofs of Roizel's rascality that the match is at once broken off, and Baudricourt offers to give Dorville the dowry originally put aside for Jeannine. But Dorville and Jeannine refuse. They believe in "free love," and scorn family ties and social prejudices. As stated before, the play was admirably acted, especially by Mlle. Madeleine Lély, who showed herself really great in the anything but easy rôle of Jeannine.

The Gymnase brought out *Joujou Tragique,* by Mlle. Jehanne D'Orliac. The lady is only twenty-two, and this is her first attempt at playwriting. Poor little lady! The public behaved very cruelly to her, laughing at the most pathetic scenes. The work certainly is very foolish, but the ladies and gentlemen in the stalls might have thought of the exponents, who, owing to these unseemly demonstrations, could hardly act their parts. "Why on earth did they produce this play at a house like the Gymnase?" I heard a guileless old gentleman exclaim. This question, my dear, sir, you had better put to the management.

THE beautiful black wig with curls worn by Mr. Pelissier as Hamlet was made by Mr. Hans Hugo.

"THE WOMAN PAYS."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Frank M. Thorne, produced at the Royal Princess's, Glasgow, on Monday, Sept. 23.

Sid Armstrong	MR. PHIL HARPER
Roger Marchant	MR. RAYMOND THOMAS
Micky Maloney	MR. FRANK M. THORNE
Cyrus Treadgold	MR. BERESFORD INNES
Luke Morland	MR. DUNLOP STEWART
Doctor Trevor	MR. CHARLES ARTHUR
Nathan Moss	MR. CLAREMONT GASKELL
Captain Holt	MR. A. T. JONES
Peter Hallam	MR. W. G. CLEMANTS
Doctor Wintcombe	MR. H. W. PERCIVAL
Motor Man	MR. ARNOLD BROWNLAW.
Madge Armstrong	MISS MAUD RUSSELL
Nell Morland	MISS EDITH WALLIS
Polly Stokes	MISS ANENA WALTON
Tabitha	MISS FLORENCE THORNE
Nurse Agnes	MISS S. PORTSOUS

This new play, by the author of *Her One Great Sin* and *A Beautiful Fiend,* contains all the elements that go to make a popular success. The story is clearly and succinctly told, and the author has labelled his characters in no uncertain manner. A good old landowner, Cyrus Treadgold, finds himself slowly but surely being overcome by monetary difficulties, partly due to the machinations of his "unjust steward," Roger Marchant, who hopes by completing the old man's ruin, to force Madge Treadgold into marrying him. Treadgold has written to a wealthy brother abroad for a remittance; and as the arrival of this would upset Marchant's plans, the steward waylays and murders the old postman and steals the registered letter. The murder is seen by two persons, Micky Maloney, an itinerant photographer, and Nell Morland, the discarded mistress of the steward; but neither of them informs the police. The non-arrival of the letter completes the ruin of the old landowner; and Marchant seizes the opportunity to make an offer for the hand of Madge, only to discover that she is secretly married to a young fisherman, Sid Armstrong, between whose father and Treadgold there had been a family feud for years. The discovery of the marriage by the old landowner, and the scene in which he orders his daughter out of his grounds, forms a striking and dramatic close to Act I.

The second act shows troubles accumulating on the heads of the young couple, due chiefly to the evil influence of Marchant. Sid Armstrong's boat is cut adrift and wrecked; and when his wife goes to London to appeal to her father for help, the steward artfully makes it appear that she has eloped with a young doctor; and, in despair, Armstrong goes off on a long voyage to the Arctic regions. His vessel is lost, and he is thought to be drowned; but after three years he comes back from Australia, rich and prosperous. Meanwhile, Marchant has managed to get his discarded mistress, Nell, into a lunatic asylum, and in the hope that she will never escape, he proposes marriage to the supposed widow, Madge, and is this time accepted, on his undertaking to clear off the debts of old Treadgold. The wedding party is coming from the church, when a double surprise is in store for them; for the lost husband, Sid, arrives on the scene, and Nell Morland escapes in time to denounce the treachery of Roger Marchant. After suffering severely at the hands of the young sailor, the steward is nearly lynched by the villagers, and meets his death by the knife of Luke Morland, Nell's father. The clouds of suspicion being now cleared away, the curtain falls on a happy reunion of husband and wife, and their reconciliation with the lady's father.

Mr. Frank M. Thorne's company give a first-rate rendering of every part. The author himself plays the comic photographer, Micky, with much humour, and is ably assisted in the comedy business by Miss Anena Walton as Polly, and Miss Florence Thorne as Tabitha. Mr. Phil Harper makes an excellent Sid Armstrong, and acts in a bright and breezy manner that is much enjoyed. Equally well suited is Miss Maud Russell as Madge. Miss Edith Wallis infuses a wealth of power and pathos into the trying part of Nell Morland, and is a valuable member of the cast. Mr. Raymond Thomas makes a most unscrupulous and vindictive Roger Marchant, and is duly hissed for his able performance. Mr. Beresford Innes is well suited as the old landowner, Treadgold. An excellently-played character is the Luke Morland of Mr. Dunlop Stewart; make-up, voice, and gait being all admirable. Mr. Charles Arthur as Dr. Trevor, Mr. Claremont Gaskell as Nathan Moss, Mr. W. G. Clemants as the old postman, and various subordinate parts were all ably filled. The play is well staged, the fishing village from the Manor grounds being a particularly fine set.

AN UNFORTUNATE ENTREPRENEUR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In the face of various paragraphs which have appeared in the Press it is well that a definite statement should be made regarding the circumstances of my recent unfortunate trouble. Firstly, *re* capital. For obvious reasons, it would not be wise to print names, but it had been arranged for, and the interested subscribers were gentlemen of such status that in the ordinary way none would have doubted the validity of their promises. Suffice it that when the actual putting down of cash was required, each, for some reason or another, found himself debarred from fulfilling his undertaking. This difficulty I moved heaven and earth to overcome in time. This, unfortunately, I was unable to do until after the trouble.

I am, unfortunately, terribly reduced privately (financially), as I had for many weeks past been spending out of my own purse for all the touring preparations, and, truly enough, had got down to my last penny. I had gone too far; and I was, in common fairness, obliged to notify the theatre managers involved so that they might be able to replace my bookings with some other attractions. In my state of distress I worded my letter to the company somewhat hysterically, and this being published gave rise to the various paragraphs which appeared, effectually bringing about the final stroke by shaking the confidence of those from whom there was still a possibility of securing help.

At this juncture Mr. Arnold Bell, to whom I told my trouble, at once held out a helping hand personally by introducing into his fine *Leah* sketch an additional scene, necessitating the engagement of another artist—myself—and this week in his *Paul Kauvar* sketch found use for me again as Duc de Beaumont (Henry Neville's old part). A grim humour of the local management (Southampton) has been to advertise Mr. Bell as supported by the missing actor, Marshall Moore; so, you see, I am not endeavouring to hide myself. I have received a number of kind letters from various managers and well-known artists, amongst them the following:—

(COPY.)

MY DEAR MARSHALL MOORE,—As Rob Roy says to Mr. Owen, "Things are not so bad but what they may be mended." I am indeed very and truly sorry for you in your present little trouble. You were led into it by someone else, and it cannot be helped—that is the long and the short of it.

The worst of the affair is personally for yourself, I consider, because it must do your position no good, but the reverse, with a gentleman of your ability and standing. Personally, I have not the slightest complaint to make against a friend who has encountered bad fortune over a project, but the most generous sympathy.

Yours faithfully,
MARSHALL MOORE.

THE pastel by Alfred Stevens, recently stolen from the Alcazar Theatre, Brussels, has been discovered left at a house as a security.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Managers, proprietors, and syndicates in the country and London are falling into line on the question of the model contract; and though the condition of things of late presaged another storm between artists and proprietors, equity and moderation have had their sway, the immediate result being calmness and conciliation. As the interests of each are bound up with the other we can tender hearty congratulations to both sides on the happy issue.

Miss Marie Loftus, the popular comedienne, sails for Africa to-day under engagement to Messrs. Hyman, of the Empire, Johannesburg, and the Tivoli, Cape Town. The favourite "Glesca lassie" will have a grand send-off at Waterloo at 11 a.m., and we hear it whispered that some of the boys will be presenting her a trophy of flowers that will symbolise "Good luck." Marie Loftus will carry with her the good wishes of thousands of our readers, and we have no doubt that her gifts as a comedienne will evoke the enthusiastic admiration of the warm-hearted folk on the Rand. Miss Loftus has had the special permission of Harry Lauder to sing "I love a lassie." She sails by the Walmer Castle.

Mr. Alec Hurley was the guest of his fellow-members at the Eccentric Club on Monday evening. Mr. Jack Harrison, the popular honorary secretary, who was in the chair, proposed the health of the coster comedian in cordial terms, and expressed very happily the goodwill felt by every member of the club towards Alec and his popular wife, Miss Marie Lloyd, who afterwards sang.

It is interesting to know that while the London halfpenny Press on Saturday last was busy with rumours of Mr. Marshall Moore's disappearance, he was playing the part of Smithson in a copyright production at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, of the one-act play, *An Actress's Honour*, by Arnold Bell and Ivan Patrick Gore.

Many stars of the variety firmament will assist at a matinée to be given at the Chelsea Palace on Thursday, Oct. 24, in aid of the Lord Mayor's Cripples' Fund. London's chief magistrate will himself attend in state, and will be met by the Mayor of Chelsea and members of the Borough Council. An influential committee consists of Major Fountain Woods (chairman), Mr. W. Mead, Mr. W. Ross, Dr. Glassington, Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon, Mr. Henri Gros, and others. The stewards will be Mr. James W. Mathews and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift. Any offers of assistance will be gladly received by Mr. F. H. Pedgrift at *The Era* office.

Mr. Walter Gibbons's application for a music hall licence for the Standard Theatre is to be opposed by the Shoreditch Trades and Labour Council. At a meeting held last Sunday the following resolution, proposed by Councillor Parker, seconded by Councillor Girling, was adopted:—"That this meeting of the inhabitants of the Borough of Shoreditch strongly protests against the granting of a music hall licence for the Standard Theatre, and calls upon the L.C.C. to refuse to grant such a licence on the ground that this district is adequately supplied, there being already twelve music halls within a radius of two miles from Shoreditch Church." Another meeting on the same subject will be held on Sunday in Church-square, Hoxton, at which representatives of the Council and others will speak, including Mr. Frank Gerald for the Actors' Union, Mr. C. Jesson for the Musicians' Union, and Mr. Harry Mountford for the Artists' Protection League.

A petition on the same subject is being issued throughout the borough, which is being supported by the Trades Council, the Actors' Union, the Musicians' Union, the Theatrical Employees' Society, workmen clubs, and various representatives of the religious bodies. The petition states an additional reason, viz.:—That Mr. Walter Gibbons owns or controls fourteen halls and theatres and has family interests in, and works in conjunction with, syndicates controlling another eleven halls, making twenty-five halls and theatres.

It is stated that opposition on the same lines will arise in Poplar in regard to the application for a music hall licence for the Prince's Theatre; in Rotherhithe in regard to the Terriss Theatre; and in Islington in regard to the application for a music hall licence for the Grand.

In her interesting play, *Warp and Woof*, produced at the Vaudeville in 1904, the Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton attacked the fashionable dressmakers of the West-end and their sweating methods. The powerful aid of Mrs. Patrick Campbell, who played the over-worked and sorely-tempted heroine, did much for the piece, but it was a failure.

Mr. John Lawson, who is in the habit also of impeaching abuses and assailing the sins of society from the footlights, is now concerned with the evils complained of in a recent strike of shop-assistants at Kentish Town, and will produce a new sketch at the Holborn Empire next January entitled *Living In*.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. E. S. Vincent, who was so well known on the variety stage as an actor in Mr. John Lawson's sketches. Mr. Vincent was for years a comedian in the stock company organised by George Conquest in the eighties at the Surrey, and he and his deceased wife (Miss Jenny Lee) played parts in some of the finest dramas ever produced at the house "across the bridge." He made his mark on the lesser stage as the villain Cuthbert in *Humanity*, and his famous struggle with Mr. Lawson as Jacob Silvani will be remembered by all who saw it on that eventful night at the Middlesex years since when John Lawson started his successful career as a sketch producer.

Mr. Vincent also appeared in *The Shield of David*, *Sally in Our Alley*, and other of the Lawson productions, and his death will be much regretted. He passed away on Thursday at his residence, 121, Kennington-road, S.E., and will be buried on Monday, at 11 o'clock, at the Lambeth Cemetery, Tooting. The funeral arrangements are in the hands of Mr. Theophilus Dunkley.

A most interesting turn at the Palace this week is Doraswami, a clever and cultured musician, who plays both the piano and violin. His enthusiasm for music at an early age took the form of a love for the violin, which he holds in similar fashion to that generally adopted by players of the 'cello. This method does not apparently handicap him unfavourably, for on the night we heard him he gave a brilliant rendering of the "Waltz L'Araqonesa," by Alard, a French composer of the De Beriot school. Doraswami adopts native dress, and opens his entertainment with a pianoforte solo, and closes it with some clever imitations on the fiddle of the bagpipes and the banjo.

He is accompanied on a fine Brinsmead piano by Miss Dorothy Manners, a clever young pianiste, with a high reputation for solo playing both in this country and in Australia. Miss Manners, who is very young, contemplates giving piano recitals in the West-end, when we hope to have the pleasure of hearing her in classical works.

A site has been acquired at Watford for a new Hippodrome, and the building is to be commenced forthwith. The capital is being subscribed locally, and the management is in the hands of Sylvester's Hippodromes, Ltd.

Mr. Geo. Saphrini commences his third season at the Palace, Boston, on Monday next. During the summer vacation great alterations have been made. A new stage has been installed, new scenery hung, a spacious gallery built, and the place generally thoroughly renovated. Mr. D. J. Rees has been appointed assistant-manager and Mr. Bert Mortimer musical director.

We regret to learn that Mr. Mark Lorne, acting-manager of the Mansfield Hippodrome, is at present seriously ill, suffering from inflammation of the lungs.

Mr. Sydney Payne will conduct the orchestra at the Cardiff Empire next week, in the Miserere scenes from *Il Trovatore*, having been engaged by Mr. Oswald Stoll on behalf of the Moss Empires, Ltd., to act as musical director for Mme. Alice Esty's forthcoming tour with that syndicate.

"In Old Virginia" is a new spectacular and vocal scena, invented by Mr. Harry Instone, and produced by him at the Royal Theatre of Varieties, Oldham, on Monday. The curtain rises on a plantation scene. Slaves are seen bringing in the cotton they have picked, to be weighed, and the overseer is checking the weight. On the ringing of a bell the darkies at once commence enjoying themselves. In the midst of their festivities appears Miss Rosie, whose father has decided to free all his slaves in honour of her birthday. Solos and part songs are indulged in, and some capital dancing is introduced, the whole concluding with a grand finale showing Britannia protecting the slave and the downfall of the slave dealer.

The scene reflects great credit on Mr. Instone, the stage-manager and producer. The properties and lyrics are also the results of his labours. The music is from the pen of Mr. Fred Eplett, the able director of the theatre band, the scenery being by Mr. H. O. Richardson, scenic artist. Among the artists engaged are two clever juveniles, Miss Rosie Harrison and Master Monty Burgess, who appear with great success. The show had a good reception, and Mr. Instone had to respond to repeated recalls, the result being a complete success.

It will be remembered that a few weeks ago one of Miss Ella's lions (Gundar) killed an attendant at the Palace, Gloucester, on the Sunday evening prior to giving their performances. The accompanying paragraph from the Gloucester *Citizen* will be of interest to our readers:—"Mme. Ella's lions left Gloucester on Thursday morning. Two of the largest were bought by Mr. George Sanger last week, while the rest, including Gundar, go to the Blackpool Tower Menagerie. Mme. Ella wished to continue her show with the lions, but her husband has by no means recovered from his accident (one of the cages fell on him), and so she has decided to start something different altogether, and with this aim in view has become the possessor of the famous double-maned horse, Linus, and several other animals."

The following letter from Charles Merion, formerly manager of the Trocadero Music Hall, reveals a sad state of things. Writing from 61, Arthur-road, Brixton, he says:—"Unfortunately, some few months since I had an attack of effusion of blood to the head, and but for the timely assistance rendered me by Doctor Fraser, of Akerman-road, Brixton, I should have been paralysed or dead. I shall be seventy in a few days' time, and am still unable to follow any regular employment if I could get it, and am terribly reduced in circumstances. This last week or so I have scarcely had the barest necessaries. I have two sons, the younger out of employment. The elder pays my rent here, but can do little more, having a wife and young children."

"The Modern Godiva," L. Austin Millais's dramatic episode, created a sensation at bottom of bill at the Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, under the management of Mr. James Elphinstone. Lord Leighton's Venus, Mr. L. Austin Millais, and Mr. Harry Barron (the author), of D'Oyly Carte fame, playing in the production. They were repeatedly called before the curtain.

Mr. Henry de Groot introduced a new feature in the Crouch End Hippodrome programme this week when he presented Mr Henry Austen in the humorous-pathetic poem written by the late Robert Buchanan and entitled "The Wake of Tim O'Hara." That refined, intellectual turns are appreciated by music hall audiences was amply proved at the finish of the poem, when the actor received unstinted applause.

A grand matinée which was given on Wednesday at the Prince's Theatre of Varieties, Poplar, in aid of the Lord Mayor's Cripples' Fund, realised over £100 clear profit for the charity. Mr. Walter Gibbons generously defrayed all the printing and preliminary expenses. Lord Mayor Treloar attended in state, and expressed from the stage his heartfelt thanks to artists, musicians, and stage staff.

The Sheerness Hippodrome celebrated its first anniversary last week, having a bright company and good attendance. A number of London managers sent their congratulations by wire to Manager Fred Leighton, who, before the interval, made a neat little speech thanking all and sundry for their patronage and good wishes.

Mr. Tony Iverson, "the Ragman at the Piano," was, on Sunday evening last, initiated into the Terriers Association at the Dover Castle Hotel, Terrier Gage presiding over a lively meeting.

The regular meeting of the Chelsea Lodge of Freemasons was held on Friday (the 20th) at the Town Hall, Chelsea. The officers present were Brothers Serpentello, W.M., Harry Coutts, S.W., W. Hitch, J.W., Harry Bawn, S.D., Robert Duce, acting J.D., G. H. Dyball, I.G., Angelo Asher, Organist, Albert Le Fre, I.P.M., J. W. Mathews, P.M., W. S. Lyon, Treasurer, C. J. Doughty, Secretary, and J. H. MacNaughton, Tyler. The W.M. initiated Messrs. Hubert Bartlett, Ernest Leathley and Willie Benn, and vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Albert Le Fre, who initiated Messrs. Gerald O'Connell and Austin Rudd, after which the W.M. gave the charge to the whole of the initiates, and retired to allow Bro. Wolfe S. Lyon to advance his son, Bro. James S. Lyon, and Bros. Tom Mellor and Joe Robbins. Then Bro. Serpentello again occupied the chair and further advanced Bros. J. Laurie Graydon and Monte Bayly.

At the close of the business Bro. J. W. Mathews raised a discussion as to some minor details of the work of the Lodge, and it was determined to adhere to that of the Genesius and Logic clubs. The following members, in addition to those already mentioned, were present:—Bros. B. A. Bigny, L. G. Sharpe, Fred Clay, Fred Neiman, Dan Lipton, Fred Farren, R. E. Wilding, H. R. Mayville, C. H. Burton, P. H. Bingham, W. Permane, W. C. Jeapes; and as visitors Messrs. A. G. Laurence, G. W. Jennings, J. T. Ladly, B. Shelton Logan, W. A. Bennet, A. Meers, D. M. Trytel, Frank Lister, J. H. Smith, G. Burgess, and J. Blades. The members and visitors adjourned to the Six Bells Hotel, where a pleasant hour was spent.

In view of important developments a mass meeting of the members of the Variety Artists' Federation was held at the Bedford Head Hotel on Friday (yesterday) at noon.

Mr. Harry Barnard on Thursday was elected a director on the board of the Camberwell Palace. Mr. Barnard has for many years been a shareholder. He is well known for his charitable activities, notably in connection with the Music Hall Home, which we are glad to say is in a very prosperous condition at the present time.

Mr. Manny Warner, of Somers and Warner, arrived in London from New York on Monday, and owing to urgent business in connection with the Klaw and Erlanger Circuit, had to leave for the Continent the following morning.

The name of Harry Randall is missing from the names of the cast of Mr. Arthur Collins's forthcoming production at Old Drury of *The Babes in the Wood*. But if the absence of the comedian of Cockneydom is to be regretted, there will be some consolation for pantomime lovers in the engagement of Mr. Neil Kenyon, the Scotch comedian, who was given his first chance on the variety stage in town by Mr. Frank Glenister at the London Pavilion. Scotch comedians of late seem to have ousted the Irish variety from their pride of place, and Mr. Kenyon's pawky humour should be a distinctly refreshing feature of the National Theatre annual.

It is ten years since the subject of "The Babes" was utilised for a Christmas entertainment by Mr. Collins, who, for his production in 1897-98, had the valuable help of Dan Leno and Herbert Campbell as the Kiddies. Other notables in the cast were Alice Barnett and Alfred Balfour. Alas! all have since joined the great majority.

Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Knowles and Miss Hetty King were passengers on board the Carmania, which sailed from Liverpool on Wednesday for New York. The American comedian is bound for a long lecturing tour, and we on this side shall not look on his white ducks for some time. Miss Hetty King will be on the other side for six weeks. Mr. Alfred Sutro, author of *The Walls of Jericho* and *John Glayde's Honour*, was a passenger by the same boat.

Miss Sable Fern has been compelled to give up her engagements during the past five weeks on account of a severe attack of neuritis. She had hoped to make her reappearance next week at Coventry, but this is now impossible, and the English singer of English songs will take a further week's rest.

Mr. Sam Lohenwirth notifies all managers, agents, and fellow artists not to be deceived by any person or persons using a colourable imitation of his name. He is the only Sam Lohenwirth, and is in partnership with Charles Cohan.

The Oxford announces for Monday Blake and Amber, an entirely new American turn, brimful of the latest quips and cranks. Their entertainment is entitled "Sowing a Little Smile Seed and Reaping a Whirlwind of Laughter."

The Right Hon. Isabell Maude Penrice Countess of Clancarty ("Belle Bilton"), of Garbally Court, Ballinasloe, co. Galway, formerly well known on the variety stage, who died on Dec. 31 last, left personal estate in the United Kingdom valued at £446, and administration has been granted to Mr. Alexander Knox McIntire, of Bankruptcy-buildings, Four Courts, Dublin, the official assignee acting in the matter of Lord Clancarty, a bankrupt.

Thousands of admirers of Planquette's opera, *Les Cloches de Corneville*, the subject of the forthcoming ballet at the Alhambra, will be curious as to how Mr. G. W. Byng, the musical director of the establishment, will treat the music. We are assured that the greatest care has been taken to preserve the composer's sparkling melodies, and not one of the favourite numbers will be missing. Due justice will be done by the magnificent orchestra of the Alhambra to such popular airs as "The legend of the bells," "Just look at that: just look at this," the cider song, "That night I'll ne'er forget," the hiring fair, and many more. In addition, the connecting links necessary in a ballet for the perfect weaving of the whole have been provided by the musical director and Mr. Alfred Moul.

Not for the first time has ballet been associated with Planquette's opera, *Les Cloches de Corneville*. When the opera was originally produced in Paris on April 19, 1877, at the Folies-Dramatique, it was such a success that it was transferred to the Gaite Théâtre, a much larger playhouse, and to fill the stage a ballet was added, *La Cuilette des Pommes*, in other words, the Apple Harvest, and some of this music has been introduced in the new ballet shortly to be produced at the Alhambra. Among those engaged to impersonate the various characters are Signor Rosi, who will be Gaspard, the miser; Mlle. Bordin, the Spirit of the Bells and several other parts; Mlle. Morino, who should be a charming Serpolette. Miss Julie Seale, another old favourite at the national theatre of varieties, is also included in the cast.

Every now and again we hear of the revival of the curfew in country places, and, ever up to date, the management of the Alhambra is going to utilise this return to old feudal customs by arranging for the citizens of London to be reminded every evening, not that they ought to go to bed, but that they should proceed to the Alhambra to see the new ballet, *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Every night when the curtain rises on the choreographic version of Planquette's opera the inhabitants of the West-end, at least, will hear the bells ring out the fascinating and rhythmic chimes which have immortalised his work.

So successful has the engagement of La Milo been at the Alhambra as Lady Godiva, that her other artistic poses have been added to, and now nightly she gives living form to such studies as Hebe, Maidenhood, Diana, and Una and the Lion, all, it need hardly be said, perfect embodiments of living statuary.

Lieut. Albini, the big-line attraction at the Hippodrome, Hastings, met with a great reception there on Monday night on his return, the patrons voting the accomplished showman and illusionist brighter than ever.

Crowds of spectators thronged the sides of the lake at the Balkan States Exhibition, Earl's Court, on Wednesday, to see Mariedl, the Tyrolese giantess, "shoot the chute." Coaxed into the centre of the boat the 8ft. 2in. lady shot with more than ordinary rapidity down the slide, and when she struck the water the tidal waves were a sight to see. Mariedl had been driven from the Shepherd's Bush Empire (where she is appearing nightly) to the main entrance of the Exhibition in a powerful, large-sized motor-car. Dressed in the national costume of the Tyrol, topped off by a large conical hat, the gigantic fair one stepped with dignity from the car, and passed through the admiring crowd into "Old Japan." In the Japanese tea-garden, at the invitation of Messrs. Spiers and Pond, the party sat down to refreshment. The pygmies were so awed by her presence that they crowded together, showing the whites of their eyes in alarm. After visiting the Servian section, where an appropriately large-sized brooch was presented to her, Mariedl, looking pleased with her visit, drove off.

Mr. Alfred Lester's return to the Palace Theatre with *A Restaurant Episode* synchronises with large audiences, in spite of the midsummer heat, which is doing so much for belated holiday-makers. The droll trifle has been much elaborated, and Miss Florence Wakeman, a very graceful and attractive young lady, who, we understand, is of French extraction, plays particularly well as the actress who demands refreshment and bilks the waiter. There are many hearty laughs during the progress of the sketch, and Mr. Lester's impersonation of the waiter who is "dicky on his plates" is one of the funniest character sketches to be seen just now in London.

We have witnessed many smart and intrepid performances at the London Pavilion on the part of English and Continental artists, and we were greatly impressed with the turn that is being contributed to the current programme by Celest—an alert, skilful, and handsome athlete. When the curtain rises Celest is hidden by a large property shell, from which he emerges after a pistol shot, and immediately commences some extremely vigorous bâton-twirling. This is merely a preliminary to an extremely daring wire-walking act. He promenades the thin filament of steel from a height, but the "line" is immediately loosened, and he continues the act on a slack wire. He swings easily and gracefully while continually changing his position, and, finally mounting a ladder held in position by himself, he finishes his wonderful balancing by a display of English and American flags which suddenly grow out from the sides of the ladder.

Mr. Allan McAskell, manager for Pringle's Animated Pictures, terminates to-night his fourth week at Guildhall, Plymouth, and has been re-engaged for two weeks longer to look after the Mechanics' Institute, Nottingham, commencing Monday next, Sept. 30.

Mr. Yorke Stephens is the latest acquisition to the variety stage, having been secured by Mr. Joseph Wilson to present at the Tivoli Mr. R. C. Carton's clever duologue *Dinner for Two*, which has always been a popular curtain-raiser at the theatres. In it Mr. Yorke Stephens appeared on the occasion of his benefit a few years since at Wyndham's Theatre, when he was supported by Sir Charles Wyndham. On Monday next at the Tivoli his colleague will be Mr. Windham Guise, a Gaiety comedian, who has won considerable popularity at the Hippodrome. One of Mr. Yorke Stephens's earliest successes on the theatrical boards was as the war correspondent in *Held by the Enemy* at the Princess's.

"The Belle of the Ball," the new ballet, will be produced at the Empire on Monday at 9.45. Dealing, as it does, with every popular element in the music of the hour, and traversing so many light operas familiar to playgoers, it should achieve a great success.

Mr. Arthur Playfair's success in the sketch *327 Finsbury* at the Empire has appealed very vividly to every lover of the Turf, and remains a feature in the programme, and Miss Betty Ohls, the new American soubrette, has fully vindicated the most confident anticipations formed regarding her new turn, her success both in English and French songs being immediate.

The Satinettos made their first appearance on Thursday on the occasion of Mr. Charles Beecham's benefit at the Paragon. From first to last their rapid and artistic pictures, constructed entirely in satin and silk, met with immense success, the effects obtained by these clever artists being nothing short of marvellous. A figure of the Yeoman of the Guard met with unbounded enthusiasm. Rapid changes by means of a revolving frame save all unnecessary delay, so that picture follows picture, and the interest never flags. The Satinettos should have a long and prosperous career before them for such an original entertainment.

Miss Elsie Kerry, the accomplished young comedienne, has had a succession of triumphs on her Irish tour, which has just concluded. It is not a far cry from Belfast to Dublin, but many a capable artist has had reason before now to appreciate the difficulty of catering for audiences in the two great Irish centres with the same fare. It is to the credit of Miss Kerry's art and manner that she has succeeded where others failed. Her reception at the Hippodrome, in the Northern capital, was only eclipsed by the hearty greeting that awaited her in the city of her birth, where, at the Tivoli, she had nightly recalls, and was the recipient of quite a profusion of floral tributes. She opens on Monday at the Walthamstow Palace.

Mr. John Fuller, jun., is still globe-trotting. Writing from San Francisco, he mentions that he is just leaving for Japan, and will be back in New Zealand at Christmas. He has had a splendid time, and while travelling through America has seen, in all its branches, the show business, which he says seems to be going with a perpetual boom, while Sunday performances give the American manager a "holiday house" once a week. Mr. Fuller further remarks that America is a very expensive country to live in, and that any English artist coming to America should ask double the ordinary English salary if he, or she, expects to get on level terms. Whilst in America Mr. Fuller received a cable from his firm, announcing that they had purchased His Majesty's Theatre, Dunedin. This very fine house is almost the facsimile of Herald-square Theatre, New York, and has accommodation for 1,700 people.

Mr. C. W. Somerset, the well-known actor, who is at the Hackney Empire next week, with *The Great Poison Case*, fulfilled his first engagement in London with Miss Marie de Grey at the now extinct Olympic. Later, in 1882, he appeared as Siward, in *Macbeth*, at Drury Lane. Since then he has played in many successful West End productions, notably as the old Earl in *Little Lord Fauntleroy*, at the Prince of Wales, and as Dr. Marshall in *Her Advocate*, at the Duke of York's. Everyone remembers his Earl of Harpenden, in *Boys Together*, produced at the Adelphi, at the back end of 1896. Since then he has adventured provincial touring companies in melodrama, and has taken part in some of Mr. Tree's most important productions, notably in *Herod*.

Mr. Frank Gerald desires, through the columns of *The Era*, to express his sincere gratitude to all those members of the theatrical, musical, and variety professions who contributed so generously to the testimonial presented to him at the Criterion Restaurant on Sunday week last, 15th inst., and to tender his best thanks to the Labour Members of Parliament and Trade Union officials for their support, and to the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Committee, for their work in carrying the affair through to such a successful issue.

The special arrangements for Mr. Fred Miller's benefit at the Canterbury on Oct. 24 next are in the care of a committee, of which Messrs. David Cowis and Charles Meggy have been appointed joint hon. secretaries and treasurers.

A grand Bohemian smoking concert will be given at the Vaudeville Club, 98, Charing Cross-road, on Sunday (to-morrow), at 9.30 p.m. Mr. W. W. Sampson will be in the chair. Among those who have promised to appear are Little Tich, Wilkie Bard, Harry Tate, Tom Costello, Neil Kenyon, Wal Pink, Dave Carter, Ryder Slone, Paul Knox, Wensley Russell, Apollo, Johnny Gilmore, and Barney Armstrong.

We hear that it has been decided to reopen the Coliseum in November next. The house will be conducted on popular lines, and prices of admission have been fixed at extremely moderate rates. Certain alterations will be made in the internal arrangements, and a number of the small boxes around the grand circle will be removed. There will be two performances daily.

A pretty little girl in blue: a brunette with a vivacious style, who magnetises her audiences—such is the brief description of Daisy Dormer at the Oxford. At this hall, where Mr. Blyth Pratt is giving an all-star programme, Daisy fetches them most unmistakably in "I wish I were you" and a rag-time song and dance that keeps one's eyes glued to the stage. Daisy is now firmly established as a top-liner.

Among the passengers who sailed from Liverpool by the White Star liner Cedric on Thursday for New York were the Rhondda Male Voice Quartette, who are booked for a six months' tour in the States.

The visit of the Municipal Council of Paris to the Palace Theatre on Tuesday, Oct. 8, will be signalised by special numbers in Mr. Alfred Butt's programme, and Mr. Herman Finck has in preparation a special surprise "bouquet" of music for that evening. Lor' Maire Treloar and the Sheriffs will attend the performance in state.

A reminiscence of Miss Florrie Gallimore, who appears at the Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, this week, is sent to us by Mr. Arthur Brogden. "It was," he writes, "just about the time when musical prodigies were both numerous and fashionable—child pianists, 'celloists, violinists, and vocalists were all the rage—I had a little mite of a girl amongst my musical freinds—the possessor of a wonderful contralto voice and a remarkable gift of mimicry. She had only seen nine summers, and yet was sufficiently clever to command a salary that not only kept the family, but left quite a nice little sum each week for her bank book. We called her Baby S——, and on the halls she was considered a little star. She would often make calls, take tea, and play with my children, and it was on one of these occasions a very pretty incident occurred, which I think worth while relating, and which will also serve the purpose of introducing the chief character in my story.

"Miss Florrie Gallimore, the well-known music-hall star, occupied a suite of rooms in the same house as myself and family in the busy town of M——. Looking over the banisters one day, I saw the great star and the little star meet on the stairs. There was the sound of a kiss, a mutual recognition, and the little star disappeared in the arms of the big star behind the folding doors. What took place I can only guess, for I know there were plenty of good things in there for little children, but when Baby S—— once more made her appearance her little face was buried in a monster bouquet of most expensive and beautiful flowers, which must have cost guineas. Baby S—— lost her mother shortly afterwards—she died very suddenly—and Baby's guardian removed her from the stage and sent her to a French convent. I have not seen her since. Miss Florrie Gallimore is still a great star and an ornament to her profession, and when I see her again I shall not forget to remind her of that meeting of the two stars."

The members of the staff of Jasper Redfern, Limited, the enterprising pictorial entertainment firm of the Central Hall, Sheffield, Grand Theatre, Manchester, and Public Hall, Barnsley, had their annual outing on Sunday, Sept. 15. The place chosen was Blackpool. The company, which numbered 105, arrived at their destination about 11 a.m., and proceeded to the Winter Gardens Restaurant, where dinner was served under the presidency of Mr. Jasper Redfern, the managing-director, supported by Mr. George Mettham and Mr. Joseph Thompson, directors. The weather was beautifully fine, and after a full day's enjoyment the party returned home in the best of spirits. The arrangements were made by Mr. Jasper Redfern, ably assisted by Mr. F. W. Holmes, his genial manager at Sheffield, Mr. J. Rolmaz (Manchester), and Mr. T. Johnson (Barnsley).

It was with considerable regret that we learnt of the death of Johnny Hanson, who passed away after a long period of ill-health on Friday, the 20th inst., at the Middlesex Hospital, whither he had been removed at his own request from his residence, 64, Frith-street, Soho. The deceased comedian made his last appearance on the stage at the Middlesex, where he had always been such a favourite, but his state of health was such that he lost his voice and broke down. The immediate cause of death was heart failure, which supervened on chronic bronchitis.

As far back as the 'seventies, Johnny Hanson headed a team of clown cricketers, and he and his merry men assisted to raise charitable funds at many a fête and gala. His favourite character with the crowd was Soft Sammy. He was, we believe, in the original production of *The Queen's Birthday*, which became highly popular at the Middlesex, the Canterbury, and other London halls. The first cast included several ladies who afterwards became famous, the Sisters Mario, Katie Seymour, the Sisters Casselli among the number. The company also included Millie Howes, Louie Austin, and poor Issy Holt, who afterwards died by her own hand.

Miss Minnie Mario for some years played with the deceased comedian in a sketch founded on "The Tinted Venus" of Anstey, author of "Vice Versa." Other popular sketches which Johnny made famous were *A Country Nurse* (afterwards known as *The Lily*) and *The Doctor's Boy*. Probably his most important engagement in the theatres was when he played Hobbedehoy in Sir Augustus Harris's last production of *Cinderella* at Drury Lane. A few years since he played Widow Twankey and Clown at the West London in Mr. William Bailey's production of *Aladdin*. In 1891 he was the Queen Elizabeth in *Queen Bess Bamboozled and Leicester Squared* at the Middlesex, but of late years his appearances at the halls have been few and far between.

The late Mr. Hanson started his stage career at the age of thirteen, and died at the age of sixty-four, so that he was for over fifty years in the glare of the footlights. While pursuing his calling as a printer he met with an accident, and one of his hands was disfigured by the loss of several fingers.

Johnny Hanson was twice married, his second wife, who survives him, being Miss Mattie Hepburn, who in her younger days was a famous dancer, and fulfilled at the Nottingham Theatre Royal a five years' engagement with Mr. T. W. Charles. She was the principal dancer in the spectacle *Sardanapalus*, which toured the provinces. Miss Agnes Hanson, her second daughter, is in the profession, but the other four children are not following the stage.

The remains of the deceased comedian were interred in Manor Park Cemetery on Thursday. There were several beautiful wreaths from members of the family and friends in the neighbourhood. Miss Gladys Huxley, Miss Alice Clifton, and Mr. and Mrs. Wal Douglas also sent floral tributes. Miss Clifton and Mr. and Mrs. Douglas, who had supported the deceased comedian in his sketches, were at the graveside.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

AMONG the songs published during the week by Mr. David Day's firm are Mr. R. G. Knowles's latest acquisition, "The house, the flat, and the bungalow," by George Arthurs and C. W. Murphy; "Jack of all trades—master of none!" (sung by Mr. George Brooks), by Edgar Bateman and F. W. Leigh; "Where the daffodillies grow" (Mr. Harry Bedford), by Barnes and Weston; "Come, come to Iowa" (Miss Agnes Hanson, Mr. Johnny Hanson's daughter), by J. F. Lambe and T. W. Thurban; "I'd like to have you for my girl," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford; "I knew I loved you when you went away," by Harry Castling and Fred Godfrey; and two new numbers of Mr. Alec Hurley's, "She's been a good wife to me," by Worton David and Orlando Powell, and "Liz; or, let me call her mother too," by Fred Murray and Charles Hilbury.

"I AM COMING HOME TO ENGLAND" is the title of an up-to-date chorus song, secured by Miss Florrie Gallimore for immediate production. It is written and composed by Harry Marlow, the clever writer of this year's plum number, entitled "Bayan," published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.

MR. SAM MAYO has just published with the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., a new song, entitled "Tally Ho," which he intends to feature shortly. The same firm have also acquired the publishing rights of a new number, "Take me to hear the band play," which Miss Florrie Forde will produce shortly.

MISS VESTA TILLEY is still scoring enormous successes with her two successful numbers, "When the right girl comes along" (David and Lyle) and "The seaside smile" (David and Lyle), and the publishers, the Von Tilzer Co., are having big demands for the songs.

CLARKE AND HAMILTON are making good at the Oxford with a charming song, "My Princess of Japan," which is being published by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co.

PARK'S Eton Boys have been making their usual success this week at the Palace, Hammersmith, and Collins's, where they have been specially featuring three of the Star Co.'s popular songs, "Has anyone seen a German band?" "Oh! the Isle of Anglesey," and "When the lilac blooms in springtime."

MR. GEORGE LEYTON, at the East Ham Palace, has during the week made a great and lasting impression on the patrons of that very fine house. His song, "You can't do without a girl," has grown in popularity each day until it has become quite the accepted anthem East Ham way. The Star Co. are the publishers.

MASTER NIPPER LUPINO LANE, who is making a huge success on the Stoll tour, has arranged to specially feature Mills and Scott's great pantomime song, "Has anyone seen a German band?" in Mr. Chute's forthcoming "annual" at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

MR. FRANK COYLE has just bought this week another good song, entitled "Would you like me to sing you a song?" It is from the pen of Mr. James Hargreaves, and is a certain winner. Mr. Coyle's number, "The only man left in the world" has turned out a gigantic success.

MISS FLORENCE EDAILS has made a great and artistic success with a new and charming song, by Edward St. Quentin, entitled "Our castle of dreams." It has been secured by Messrs. Enoch and Sons, the eminent firm of Great Marlborough-street.

MR. RYDER SLONE has caused a furore nightly at the Stoke Newington Palace by his artistic singing of "This is my silver wedding; or, the night watchman." The idea is very humorous, and was suggested by Mr. Ben Albert to his brother artist, and the song has been put into verse by the author of "The 'ouses in between," who was specially selected for the task. The music is by C. W. Murphy, whose characteristic and flowing single chorus is taken up with avidity. Mr. Slone is at the Palace, Camberwell, next week.

THE outlook for the musical season of 1907-8 has not been considered by many as brilliant as some which have preceded it, but Messrs. M. Witmark and Sons state that when facts are brought out and a close reckoning made, there is no doubt that it will prove equal to, and perhaps surpass, any of its predecessors as far as they are concerned.

MISS JESSIE PRESTON, "a wee drop o' rale Scotch," during the past week has been entertaining her friends in the East at the Queen's, Poplar, singing six songs nightly, viz., "I can't forget auld Reekie," "Will somebody see me hame?" "I love a laddie"; also a humorous ditty, entitled "Bang went saxpence." Miss Preston also works the Oxford, where she remains another two weeks. Mr. Blythe Pratt is to be complimented on the beautiful scene which he has provided for Miss Preston. You can almost scent the heather across the footlights. We may mention that all Miss Preston's songs are from the pen of Mr. J. F. Lambe.

MARIE LLOYD'S FAREWELL.

To enumerate a third of the names of those who assembled on No. 6 platform at Euston on Thursday morning to bid farewell to Miss Marie Lloyd and Mr. Alec Hurley on their departure for "the Americas," as the old chroniclers quaintly called the land of our cousins, would fill a column almost of this paper. Proprietors, managers, brother and sister artists, publishers, journalists, authors, and composers, scores of personal friends, all vied with each in making the send-off something to remember and be proud of. Liveried servants, commissionaires, and messenger boys arrived in relays laden with flowers and bearing messages from various quarters of the Metropolis for the popular pair, and the cheer that went up when the train moved off and the queen of all comediennes, looking radiant in a dark blue travelling costume, smiled a last farewell from the carriage, was deafening.

AMONG the many well-known folks present were Messrs. J. L. Gregory, Joyner, Harry Rickards, H. G. Hibbert, David Day, H. J. Didcott, Lester Barrett, Herbert Clarke, Worton David, George Fairburn, Jack Lotto, Fred W. Leigh, Henry E. Pether, Orlando Powell, Charles Wilmott, Mr. "Sixpenny Pops" Smith, Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter's manager, H. E. Darewski, jun., and the whole of the members of Mr. Alec Hurley's sketch company, including Mr. Ted Hanley and the two veterans George Moore and Victor Liston. Miss Lloyd's father, mother, brother, and also her daughter were present, as likewise were the Misses Alice and Rosie Lloyd, and Miss Ella Lane, Miss Alice Lloyd having run up from Birmingham specially, being due back there at 3 p.m. Miss Annie Lloyd accompanies the voyagers to America. Many journeyed to Liverpool to witness the embarkation and departure of the White Star liner Cedric.

ALMOST Miss Marie Lloyd's last action at Euston was to place a flower in the coat of a well-known writer of coster and cockney songs, saying, "A rose for you in token of your 'Little bunch of daisies' for me."

OUR Liverpool correspondent writes:—"Miss Marie Lloyd, and her husband, Mr. Alec Hurley, had a grand send-off from Liverpool on Thursday, when they sailed in the big liner Cedric for the United States.

"ON their arrival from London they were met at the Riverside Station, on the Landing Stage, by a large crowd of local theatricals, headed by Eugene Stratton, who, after speaking a few complimentary words, presented Miss Lloyd, on behalf of the local branch of the V.A.F., with a magnificent floral arrangement in the form of a heart, the central white flowers showing the words, 'Our Marie's heart,' the upper decoration being the letters 'V.A.F.' prominently displayed. Great cheers were given as the huge liner gently receded from the stage.

"AMONG the company who joined in the farewell were Eugene Stratton, Harry Randall, Mr. and Mrs. Wood (parents of Marie Lloyd), Ella Lane, Maud and Sydney Wood, Mrs. Egerton ('American Bar,' who organised the presentation), Carrie Joy, Mr. Girling, Fred Higham, Amy Russell, Walter Emerson, Mr. and Mrs. Gunnup, Ted Hanley, and others."

MR. AND MRS. HURLEY on Wednesday at Romano's entertained a select party of friends, among whom were Messrs. Graydon, Tozer, Walter and Jack de Frece, H. J. Didcott, Wilkie Bard, Fred W. Leigh, Charles Wilmott, J. P. Harrington, and Orlando Powell.

"THE AVALANCHE."

A Sensational Episode, written by F. Neville,
Staged by Frank Parker, and Produced
at the London Hippodrome, on Monday, Sept. 23.

André ..... MR. LAUDERDALE MAITLAND
Pierre ..... MR. CECIL M. YORK
Jacques ..... MR. A. WALCOTT
Lizette ..... MISS JANET ALEXANDER
Mr. John Smith ..... MR. W. FULBROOK
Herr Grimerstein ..... MR. A. LISLE
Mons. Fairi ..... MR. F. RICKARDS
Caleb Hudson ..... MR. S. LEICESTER

In his latest production at the Hippodrome Mr. Frank Parker has left the peaceful shores of the Zuyder Zee, with its quaint Dutch folk and pictures, for the equally interesting but more picturesque steeps of the Alps, and on Monday evening a large audience stamped with the hall-mark of its approval *The Avalanche*, which surely is the most sensational thing in stage catastrophes that we have seen even in the popular arena of such productions. It is as thrilling as it is startling, and as deeply impressive as it is stupendous. Besides these qualities, however, it reproduces the gaiety of the peasantry of the mountain-side, the light-heartedness of the merry Swiss boy and girl in their village vestival. Truly the Switzer is a courtly gallant, and his fräulein the most fascinating of coquettes, who both find expression for their love-lilts in the elusive but ear-haunting Tyroléenne. We formed our impressions from the interesting and highly artistic performance of the De Freggers Tyrolean Troupe—the brightest and most gifted combination of the kind that we have ever heard.

The setting of *The Avalanche* is wonderful in its realism. Far up the height at the back of the stage we see the summit of a snow-covered steep towering above a yawning ravine. Close to the foot of the ascent, which is in the neighbourhood of the Matterhorn, is a pretty Swiss village, and when the curtain rises the peasants are *en fête*, celebrating the nuptials of the handsome young guide André and Lisette. Joy is everywhere save in the heart of Pierre, the disappointed suitor for the girl's hand, who takes his rejection very badly indeed, and vows vengeance on the bridegroom, who, brimming over with happiness, offers him the hand of friendship, which is churlishly refused. The men quarrel, knives are drawn, and bloodshed is only averted by the intervention of Lisette. But Pierre gets his opportunity, which comes when he takes a party of tourists up the Matterhorn, and his successful rival, tempted by the offer of £100, pioneers a solitary Englishman. We see the rivals in the throes of a deadly struggle, when the scene darkens, the fury of a storm outbreaks, and from the height, with a suddenness that is awe-inspiring, rushes down the awful avalanche, sweeping guides, tourists, and peasantry away from its path.

The hero is of course saved, according to the accepted melodramatic traditions, and the villain swept into the ravine. The ingenuity of the whole thing is really extraordinary, and Mr. Frank Parker may be here heartily congratulated on the greatest triumph of his career as a stage-manager.

Mr. F. Neville has done his share of the work well, the comedy being sufficiently obvious without being tedious. There is none too much dialogue, however, and the company has little chance. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland, who is acting at the Hippodrome for the first time, makes a handsome and manly André; Mr. C. Morton York broadly sketches the truculent and revengeful nature of Pierre; and Miss Janet Alexander makes a winsome bride of Lisette, whose distress of mind she sufficiently accentuates. Mr. W. Fulbrook as John Smith, an Englishman in search of Alpine flora, is particularly welcome as a fun-maker, his silent and expressive-featured companion, Binks, being played in whimsical fashion by a diminutive actor whose name is not on the bill. Mr. A. Walcott makes a jolly innkeeper; and the minor characters are efficiently represented. Tiller's Eight Snowdrops play the parts of dancing Swiss girls with their customary chic and vivacity; and in the tobogganing the real mountain guides, Rudolph Bernet and Christien Bohren distinguish themselves. Mr. Carl Kiefert has written the appropriate music, which is well rendered by the orchestra under the direction of Herr Erhorn. The "1812" overture by Tschaikowsky is impressively played by the Hippodrome musicians during the setting of the scene for *The Avalanche*, which should at least run until Christmas.

GRANVILLE ANNIVERSARY.

The ninth anniversary of the Granville, Walham Green, was celebrated in auspicious style on Friday, the 20th inst. The performance benefited by the patronage of the Mayor of Fulham (Councillor J. M. Littleboy) and the Mayoress, the former appearing in his robes of office. Mr. William H. Lennon, the acting-manager, had altogether a busy time of it, for the proceedings began at seven and did not terminate until well after eleven. The honorary stage-managers for the evening were Messrs. G. Ernest Aplin and Laurie Graydon. In a long list of artists were Mabel Le Roy, Francis, Johnny Walker, Arabella Allen, Arthur Gill, Sisters Anderson, Winifred Hare, W. T. Ellwanger and company, Austin Rudd, Vernon's Bioscope, Caryl Wilbur and company, Fred Herbert, Maud Laverne, Blake and Granby, Dan Crawley, Margaret Ashton, Rosie Archer, Abdullah's Arabs, Adie and Wylie, Jennie Alexander, Frank Boyce, Arthur Boyne, The Brontes, Geo. Brooks, Chas. Bailey, Minnie Thurgate, Harry Champion, Cribb and Cribb, Jack Charman, Flo Cecil, Little Cliff, Venie Clements, Cambrian Trio, Czar's Russian Troupe, Crown Trio, Olga Dore, Doody and Wright, Jack Daw, Eileen Douglas, Daisy Dormer, David and Longmore, Fred Elton, Lill Elfreda, Harry Ford, Ed. E. Forde, Violet Grazia, Little Ganty, Chas. Gardener, Dorothy Gould, Lil Hawthorne, Percy Hannan, Hughes and Elliott, Alfred Harmsworth, Three Sisters Jonghmanns, Tom Jones, Sisters Julian, Edie King, Letine, Pete and Minnie Lee, Fred Lester, Mendel, Aida Martine, Cecilia Maude, Bertram Noel, Victor Newman, Alice Pierce, Rita Rhylle, Rogers and Merry, Rose Sartella, Walter Stanley, Harry Thurston, Clive Watts, Maud and Sidney Wood, Johnny Worman, and the Zampas.

UNDER the spirited and energetic direction of Mr. Matt Raymond, the Victoria Hall, Walthamstow, is fast taking a firm hold of the Walthamstow public. The main feature relied upon is undoubtedly the series of Bioscope pictures. The subjects, ranging from Uncle Tom's Cabin to The Boy, the Bust, and the Bath, from the Bombardment of Casa Blanca to Father's Quiet Sunday, and from The Gipsy Bride to Tommy Atkins Minds the Babe, to mention only a few, show the wideness of their range. Two illustrated songs, "Only a message from home" and "Honey, stay in your own backyard," are well sung by Miss Winnie Winn. A great favourite is Happy Martin, the Ragman at the Piano, who plays that instrument and indulges in many quaint sayings to the great delight of his audience.

MARIE LLOYD'S FAREWELL.

"PHARAOH'S DAUGHTER."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your issue of the 21st inst. I noticed a letter from Mr. Joseph Tabrar, stating that the "plot" and "title" of *Pharaoh's Daughter* is his sole invention. This is not so. It is mine. I am the authoress, and what Mr. Tabrar did was at my dictation. By saying that the lyrics and music were by J. Tabrar, I was giving him credit for more than he has done, for the solo dance of the Greek slave is by Chas. Bendix. The lyrics were also very much altered by Mr. Francis Thackeray. As a very young girl my pet hobby was ancient histories, especially Greek; and so I wove my little romance and title of *Pharaoh's Daughter*. Mr. Tabrar was commissioned by me to write an opera in one act. I supplied him with full plot, characters, and each correctly named. I even lent him a certain ancient book so that he might study the style of language.—Yours truly, ETHEL RA-LESLIE.

Manor House, Brancaster-road, Streatham, S.W.
Sept. 24.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I note in your current issue that Mr. Joseph Tabrar claims the right of the title, "Pharaoh's Daughter." My novel under that title was published by Mr. J. W. Arrowsmith in 1887. It ran through many editions, and I hold the copyright.—Faithfully yours, EDGAR LEE.

25, Wellington-street, W.C., Sept. 25.

AT the Holborn Empire Mr. Charles A. Marshall has been appointed acting-manager in place of Mr. William A. Salmond.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE SURREY.

With thirteen performances a week Mr. Frank Macnaghten is endeavouring to accommodate his patrons here, and a sea of eager faces is always present to please equally the eyes of manager and artist. The big item of a programme full of variety is Fred Karno's combination of clever comedians in the pantomimical absurdity *Early Birds*, with its comical scenes, which keep the audience in a constant roar of merriment. In direct contrast to the above is Mr. Leonard Mortimer's sketch *The Good Intent*, and the intense interest taken in its many exciting incidents is a tribute to the dramatic abilities of this well-chosen company. Mr. Albert Guyon assumes the rôle of the Rev. Leslie Melford with manly earnestness; while his fighting scenes with the coiners are received with a roar of approbation. As his sweet fiancée, Barbara Warren, Miss Madge Morley imbues the part with a delicacy and feeling that win the hearts of her audience. Mr. Charles C. Ludlow as the faithful coffee-shop drudge, Feddon Nort, is admirable. As Elsa Wylsdon, Miss Guinevere Shilton acts with intelligence and conviction. As the brutal coiner, Kelsey Warren, Mr. Harry McClelland invests the part with cool and callous villainy; while as his accomplice, Harvard Wyssdon, Mr. Henry Hare brings out all the brutal coarseness of a nature steeped in crime. In the small part of the detective, Mr. War Maskell plays with skill. The locale of the action is laid in Ratcliffe Highway, and it certainly does not add to the realism of the scene to see all over the interior of the coffee house posters advertising Christmas hampers in the Waterloo-road.

Among the variety turns, premier honours fall to Josh Dixon, a very lively comedian and dancer, who, both in appearance and methods, is a striking replica of the late King's Jester. He is able to extract humour from his patter song, "I'm one of the ancient martyrs." The Donnas Trio, in their marvellous trapeze balancing scena, give an exhibition of balancing that is throughout original, daring, and wonderfully skilful, and evoke astonishment and admiration. Fox and Melville, in their illustrated songs, "Somebody's waiting for me" and "All is fair in love and war," not only give excellent point and expression, but get the audience to join heartily in their tuneful choruses; Blanche and Diacoff, on their inverted cycle track, indulge in some exciting races and daring blindfold feats of cycling, and win much approbation; Fred Walker has a choice comic ditty in "Shan't give my advice any more"; and Miss Norman Grant, while seated at the piano, sings two good songs, "It does go" and "Georgie," both of which "go" with a gusto that must gladden the heart of the fair performer. Flo Wood wins many admirers with her pretty song, "Wedding Bells"; while Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Lightning Sketches, concludes an enjoyable entertainment, which is heightened by the excellent work of the Surrey orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Rattray. Good order is ever maintained by Mr. Charles Craig, the courteous acting-manager.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

Variety is still the watchword of the programme at this popular hall, and business continues to be excellent. Miss Norah Emerald, who opens the proceedings, is a pleasing singer and a capable dancer, and her act is warmly greeted. Alcide Capitaine is a particularly accomplished lady gymnast, who presents a daring and skilful act that was deservedly the subject of much applause. Edward Frisby, a boy vocalist, who is featuring "Starlight," displays a capital voice, and gained a cordial call. The Sisters Caselli, duettists and dancers, do well, the latter item of their act being very good, and their turn makes a good impression.

Miss Alexandra Dagmar is one of the bright, particular star turns, sings and mimics her way straight to the heart of the audience, and tells some good stories in addition. Her singing of "Red Wing," a song she is introducing to London, gained an enthusiastic reception, and for an encore she gave a "yodel" song. Binns and Binns also make a hit. Their introductory business is very smart, and their musical act as good as ever. For an encore they gave their well-known bell duet, and the audience seemed loth to part with them. Conway and Leland present an uncommon show, Billed as the Merry Monopedes, this couple make light of the circumstance that they only possess one leg apiece, and display much ability as cyclists and dancers, while the humour of their business proves infectious.

Donaldson Bros., Ardel, and company, who are at the bottom of the bill, present their well-known act, *A Zoological Comedy*, in which knockabout business of a vigorous kind finds full play. The stage effects are elaborate, the company work hard, and complete success crowns their efforts. Ernest Shand is the remaining attraction, being at the top of the bill. His first song, "Toorle-i-oorle," goes well; his second, "Hope for the best," which enables him to give a good skit of a clergyman, is even better; and his third, a tirade on bachelors, is accompanied by some excellent patter. Altogether his appearance is a great success. The Bioscope is, as usual, good, and Mr. Walter Johnston's fine orchestra gives an effective selection from *Lohengrin*, as an overture.

CHELSEA PALACE.

Receipts must be constantly on the rise at the commodious and snugly-appointed Palace at Chelsea where audiences representing coin of the realm are numerous in attendance and lavish of applause. Expressions of approval have been abundant during the present week, the programme for which includes the name of Mr. Joe Elvin, who exacts incessant laughter with the sketch *King of the Castle*. Mr. Elvin's creation of the limp and languishing householder, who by the aid of a drug forcibly administered asserts his authority as the master of his domicile, is an example of comedy which much add largely to the popular Joe's reputation. He had the house in continuous laughter on the occasion of our visit, and was recalled again and again. A sketch in which fun is also prominent is that of *The Express Baby*, in which Mr. Frank Esmond as the young husband who foists a wax doll as his heir upon a short-sighted aunt acts with indefatigable buoyancy and humour. Miss Edith Evelyn appears to advantage as the extravagant young wife, and a remarkable representation of a miserly old lady is given by Miss Kitty Dease, whose facial expression is a study.

Weird and wonderful is the "turn"—or rather series of "turns"—supplied by Serpentello, who contorts his figure in a way that even a snake could hardly hope to rival. Few, we imagine, would care to attempt to pick up with his mouth a handkerchief which reposes on the floor behind his back, but Serpentello indulges in the feat with evident relish, afterwards facing completely round and walking with his toes pointing in the opposite direction. The same degree of pleasure apparently attends the dislocation of the neck, which the performer accomplishes with ease and dispatch, so that when he stands on his hands the head is seen wriggling about after the manner of a fowl which has just undergone the process of neck-twisting. Princess Pauline receives a royal reception in her well-rendered songs, the more impressive of which is "The old red, white, and blue," the cheers which break out when a tremendous Union Jack is unfolded being a tribute to the patriotic impulses of the audience and to the ability of the fair artist.

The new entertainment offered by the Poluski Brothers is called *The Prevaricator*, and allows the popular drolls to revel in an entertainment which is quite up to form. There is no end to the laughter while they occupy the stage, their duet of "Haven't we? Yes, we have" being the principal cause of mirth. Miss Kitty Wager is warmly welcomed, and delights all with her tuneful voice and dashing style in "Girls at the Penny Bazaar"; Mr. Fred Poplar scores his customary success; Mr. Fred Barnes wins favour as a light comedian; and the pictures shown on Veapes' Graphic, which has enjoyed such extended popularity at Chelsea, include the Easterner and The Showman's Treasure. The orchestra is directed by the experienced hand of Mr. Angelo Asher, and Mr. J. Norman Berlin officiates genially and tactfully as acting-manager.

THE BEDFORD.

"AT LARGE."

Jacques Strop ..... Mr. Harry Pleon
Robert Macaire ..... Mr. Percy Hayes
Charles Gossamer ..... Mr. Chas. Weaver
Pierre ..... Mr. Fred Houghten
Mme. Germaile ..... Miss Mira Collings
Clementine ..... Miss Celia Kent

Mr. Alfred Graham's company, with the popular comedian, Mr. Harry Pleon, at its head, is appearing at the Bedford this week in a very entertaining sketch, *At Large*. It deals with Robert Macaire and Jacques Strop, and their arrest and escape, ending with Macaire's death. These two gentlemen turn up at a wayside inn, just in time to assist at the wedding festivities of the adopted daughter of the house. Macaire takes an opportunity to rob one of the guests; the bride is accused of the theft, and Macaire finds she is his own daughter. The gendarmes come in and arrest Macaire, but in the attempt to escape he is killed. As Jacques Strop, Mr. Harry Pleon is seen in his most whimsical mood, and he keeps the audience in a roar of merriment. His versatility is shown by his clever acting at the end of the story, where he strikes the pathetic note for a few moments. Mr. Percy Hayes is very good as Macaire; and Mr. Charles Weaver is seen to advantage as Charles Gossamer. Miss Mira Collings does well as Mme. Germaile; and Miss Celia Kent is a very captivating Clementine, and scores with her song and neatly-executed dance. The sketch is capitally staged, and it met with a most enthusiastic reception.

ROYAL STANDARD.

Mr. T. S. Dickie can always be relied on to give the habitués of the famous Pimlico establishment programmes of sound quality and "good measure." This week there are fifteen excellent items, among which are one or two new acts. Mr. Nelson Watts-Phillips presents

"SNIPED,"

a Military Episode, by C. Cane-Horton.

Jim Taylor ..... Mr. Algernon Syms
Jack Watson ..... Mr. James A. Story

The author acknowledges his indebtedness to General Baden-Powell, a story by whom in the *Windsor Magazine* suggested the idea for the sketch. In a sangar on the hills of the North-West frontier two British soldiers are fighting side by side. For the moment they appear to be isolated, and during intervals between the firing they indulge in confidences, as men will under such circumstances. Jim Taylor tells his chum the tragedy of his life. He loved a woman very dearly, he and she were to have been married, but at the eleventh hour she proved faithless to him. Still, however, he carries her photograph about with him, and he abjures his comrade to see that it is buried with him when he falls. He feels that he has no desire for life, and would gladly welcome a bullet from the enemy. That bullet is not long in coming, and Jim drops helpless to the ground and quickly expires. His chum, looking at the portrait, finds that it has been pierced by the same bullet as that which ended the life of Jim Taylor; but with a cry of anguish he finds also that the photograph is that of his own wife. The playlet is extremely well acted by Mr. Algernon Syms as Jim Taylor and Mr. James A. Story as Jack Watson.

An Irish comedienne who wins great favour with her songs is Miss Eileen Bernard. The lady is the possessor of a charming personality, and she has a most happy style. Her verses on the subject of the "illigant party" at the christening of McSaley's twins, as well as those relative to the adventures of McGilligan's daughter Mary Ann, are extremely amusing, and rendered with appropriate characterisation. Mr. Charles Verner also furnishes a good account of himself as a comedian; and Miss Cissie Hare distinguishes herself as a comedy artist. The Weimars appear in their exceedingly popular pot-pourri act, in which assistance is rendered by Mr. Duly, the bugler to Lord Roberts on the famous march from Cabul to Candahar. Mr. Luis Hardt, described as the original boy Samson, is seen, and, needless to say, admired in his novel athletic scena, *Flights of Imagination*. A good-looking young gentleman in evening dress is reclining in a chair in his ancestral mansion. Seemingly he dreams or imagines a variety of incidents, in which he plays the part of a veritable Samson. Thus he is able to support a weight of half a ton, made up of men in armour and powdered footmen, and he performs other feats equally remarkable for physical strength, skill, and endurance. Then, as the curtain goes down on the whole scene, we see him once more fast asleep. Mr. Hardt may be congratulated on a pretty and attractive "show." A capital and most entertaining comedy turn is that of Mr. Chris Baker; and Miss Fatmah Diard, the American prima donna, enchants everyone by her expressive and cultured vocalisation. Mr. Leo Fields is exquisitely comical in his song, "I'll call again a little bit later on," as well as in that concerning a hunt. His quaint mannerisms are irresistibly funny. Mr. Dave O'Toole, in the character of a most engaging female, contrives to make himself one of the merriest specimens of the sex we have yet come across, and the chorus of his song concerning the admirable advice given to young ladies to always "look under the bed" is heartily sung by the audience. Miss Addie Lennard has a dainty vocal number in "Pearl," which tells all about a sweet little baby girl. In her succeeding song Miss Lennard, in a most pleasing manner, describes how the different classes of human beings make love. Miss Addie Dorina, in her quick-change interlude, *Dr. Spot's Patients*, demonstrates her wonderful versatility as an actress by playing seven distinct characters, the changes of costumes and make-up being effected with astonishing rapidity. Mr. P. Waddock renders able service in the one male rôle. Mr. Sandy McNab and company present the absurdity *The Egyptian Mummy*, Mr. McNab creating great hilarity by his representation of the title-rôle. The Edisonograph treats us to an interesting new series of animated pictures, the film depicting the employees of the Army Clothing Department leaving their work being particularly commendable. The front of the house and the comfort of the patrons generally is well looked after by Mr. Maurice Volny, the able assistant-manager.

THE CROUCH END HIPPODROME.

Mr. H. de Groot, the courteous manager at this hall, is presenting this week a programme which is rich in variety and talent, and which maintains a high level of excellence. The orchestra, so well trained and directed by Mr. J. H. Hutchinson, contribute two interesting items, which are excellently rendered and much appreciated. The Sisters Allen set the ball rolling with a capital duet, "What's the good of knocking at the door?" and as a second turn do some clever dancing, for which they deserve commendation. Simosa San achieves a notable success as a juggler. Her act is augmented by the aid of some half-dozen performing pigeons. Mr. Frank Hawthorne gains much applause in his rôles of raconteur, singer, mimic, and reciter. Among his best items are capital imitations of Harry Ford, Knowles, and T. E. Dunville, a pathetic little poem, entitled "A Tramp's Story," and the preparing, mixing, and drinking of an American cocktail. Prominent in the current bill is Henri Cazman, in an entertainment which he describes as *Le Café Chantant*, a music hall entertainment, in which Cazman portrays the various artists. He is a capital mimic, and the marvellous rapidity with which he effects his quick-changes stamps him as a protean artist of no mean order. His first contribution to the entertainment is as a Frenchman, in a capital conjuring turn, followed by a clever impersonation of a lady aiffleuse. These are followed by imitations of distinguished musicians, their style of playing and conducting. Mr. Cazman concludes an excellent turn with a smart shadowgraph show. Johnny Johnston is one of the popular members of the company. Raconteur, musician, singer, whistler, and dancer, he gains loud applause by his well-chosen contributions, and achieves further success in his monologue, entitled "Violin." An admirable poetic fantasy, entitled *The Sea Serpent*, is presented by Lennie and Hast, and the applause they receive is hearty. Miss Florence Yamen, caricaturist, is a comedienne who sings two clever songs, and does some eccentric dancing, which wins warm applause. Mr. Edwin Boyde's quaint rendering of "My old woman," a parody on "The old apple tree," is enjoyed, and in response to a persistent encore he gives a comic recitation. Another first-class turn is that of Daisy James, who sings "He's just the same as me," "A home for mother," and her great success, "The Gibson Girl." Miss Minnie Letta, with her sporting girls and whippet, Firefly, in a novel performance on a rolling stage, take a prominent place in the programme, and have an enthusiastic reception. The last turn is the ever-popular Bioscope, showing several up-to-date pictures with clearness and success.

THE GRAND, CLAPHAM.

Despite the counter attraction of the new Crystal Empire, which has recently been reopened near here, the business at this house is still most flourishing. For this week a very interesting programme has been arranged, and one which—to quote a cricketer's expression—possesses no tail. It is being received in the heartiest manner by houses of the most liberal proportions. The evening's amusement is started by the Two Nightingales, the possessors of most pleasing voices, whose turn is received with every expression of goodwill. The most popular turn on the programme is undoubtedly Phil Ray, the well-known comedian. His numbers are interspersed with some amusing abbreviated patter, and are quite up to his usual high standard. On concluding he has to bow his acknowledgments in front of the curtain. W. H. Clemart, the clever ventriloquist, now making one of his periodical visits to this hall, is meeting with his customary success. With the aid of several figures he provides a most interesting and laughable item. In Little Agnes Tina is to be recognised a wonderful child actress. This youngster can but scarcely be in her teens, but she sings and dances with all the *aplomb* of an experienced performer. Amongst other items, she gives some very clever imitations of some of our leading music hall artists. Fred Earle, the "seaweed merchant," sings a couple of amusing songs, in which his quaint expression and oddity of manner enable him to score. The Brontes are here again with their successful sketch, *Saucy Maude*, which has been somewhat altered since last we saw it. To the lady member, in the dual rôle of Saucy Maude, the servant, and Maude Cunningham, the actress, certainly must be given pride of place, as whilst she is in possession of the stage her diverting behaviour causes considerable amusement. George d'Albert, the popular comedian, is singing a number entitled "Ten jolly old sports," which is distinguished by a vein of genial hilarity that exhilarates the audience in all parts of the house. It is a great pity that owing to the length of the programme he is unable to respond to the repeated demands for an encore.

Les Valdos, described as the eccentric motor-bus men, introduce some clever and original acrobatic work into their turn, in which they show themselves to be past masters of their work. The Three Laurels, in their fun on a ping-pong table, provide a most interesting number, the comedy merchant especially being a very humorous person. His many quaint comicalities fairly convulse the house, and he certainly contributes largely to the success achieved. Dolly Elsworthy, supported by a powerful company, is presenting the sketch on the subject of Nell Gwynne, entitled *The Orange Girl*. On this artist's shoulders the bulk of the work falls, and all through she plays the part of the King's favourite in a manner that deserves and wins success. An enjoyable evening is brought to a conclusion by some amusing pictures on the Bioscope, which are followed with interest from start to finish.

THE CRYSTAL EMPIRE.

Brilliant results, both in regard to the transformation of the interior and to the patronage of the public, have been secured at the old-established suburban hall, formerly known as the Washington and the Battersea Empire, which was reopened last week under the management of Mr. Humphrey E. Brammall, so long connected with the entertainments at the Crystal Palace at Sydenham. The interior of the building has been thoroughly renovated, and presents an attractive appearance. The colour scheme of terra-cotta, light blue, and gold makes a charming combination, but the distinctive feature of the decorations is found in a myriad of crystal pendants connected by rods of the same lustrous material, which extend all round the hall. It is estimated that 3000 crystals are contained in each pendant, the whole aggregating no less than three millions, and the effect of the tiny glass lamps when lighted by electricity is exceedingly brilliant without being dazzling. The lighting plant, which is known as the French Pearl system, is said to have cost over £1000, but the initial outlay is saved by the minimum of current expended. The attractiveness of the interior is further enhanced by an electric fountain of glass at the side of the proscenium, in which a pleasing variety of colour is displayed. Wall paper in two shades of red gives the hall a cosy appearance, and comfort is also suggested by a handsome carpet adorning the floor. New scenery and front cloths, too, materially assist the brightness of the entertainment.

The patronage secured for the new enterprise, as we have hinted, is very gratifying to its promoters, the second house on Monday, the night of our visit, being filled to overflowing with an audience made up of the respectable classes of the locality. A powerful draw is found in Mr. Fredk. Maxwell and company, who receive a hearty welcome in the sketch *Lord Harkaway*, among the many thrilling incidents of which is a realistic boxing match. Mr. Maxwell is one of the pioneers of sketches on the halls, and his productions always bear the impress of excellence both in acting and mounting. The present piece is no exception to the rule, the sketch being elaborately staged and played with skill. Mr. Maxwell repeats his impressive portrayal of the redoubtable Lord Harkaway, acting with reserved force and energy. He is loyally assisted by Miss Lois Du Cane, whose refinement and artistic finish as Grace Deane is pleasingly apparent, and other parts are adequately enacted by Messrs. Chas. Levey, Gerald Blake, and Sam Harcourt. A flattering reception is also extended to Miss Lilian Lea, whose exquisite scena, *Primrose Farm*, gives the greatest pleasure. Miss Lea's singing of the two ballads incidental to the item is greatly enjoyed, no less pleasure being derived from the dainty dancing of the comely lady who assists in the refrain of each. The scena is prettily set, and the dresses are tastefully designed.

The side-splitting act of Burg, Haud, and Wise, *Ye Brown Cow Inn*, which has so long and successfully ministered to the merriment of variety lovers, goes on its mirthful way, distinguished by some remarkable acrobatic evolutions on the part of its exponents. Little Zola's quaintness is utilised with his customary effect in his songs, "Four foot two-and-a-bit" and "Whoever would have thought it?" and Miss Nellie Navette makes a dashing appearance as "One of the Dandy Fifth." Miss Amy Campbell, comedienne, contributes to the programme; Mr. Pat Carey sustains his well-won reputation in the songs "They're Irish every one" and "How do you like the chorus?" and an old friend is also found in Witty Wattie Walton, who in his character as a page-boy indulges in some diverting patter, and in deference to recalls submits imitations, among others, of a Scotchman, a Frenchman, and a football player, the last-named character giving excuse for a comic recitation of "Casey at the goal." The latest medium for the display of living pictures is in keeping with the character of the house, and is called the Crystalscope, by means of which amusing films are presented. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Guillaume Leone, and Mr. Chas. A. Barnett discharges the duties of acting-manager quite in the manner of an expert.

THE FORESTERS'.

A good programme is being given this week at this capitally-conducted establishment, the principal item being Lionel Vaughan's company in a good comedy sketch, entitled *In Trouble*. The scene is the reception-room at the Hotel, Brightlink, and great fun is caused by the close resemblance between Harry de Vere and Teddie Grantly, which leads to amusing mistakes on the part of one's wife and the other's sweetheart. The character of James, the attendant, is well played by Mr. Charles Kenny, who gets many laughs by his odd sayings. Marjorie Cassini as Rose Grantly and Miss Josephine Richards (Leonora Stanton) play well throughout. Quite the hit of the piece is that made by Miss Sybil Hardcastle as Mrs. Stanton, her rendering of the character being perfect. Messrs. J. Herbert-Willis and Edwin Coates work hard as the Dromios of the sketch.

Mr. John B. Coyle sings in good style "Don't you think he ought to see a doctor?" and "In the sea," giving some very amusing patter in the last item, and retiring to the merry music of applause. The Sisters Jonghmann render excellently "Queen of Old Samara" and "Excelsior," the latter duet suiting their voices "to a nicety." An interesting item is supplied by Vandinoff (lightning oil-painter), his colourings of flowers being very true. A clever piece of work, too, is that of painting a bouquet whilst the frame is revolving. Ernie Williams, vocal comedian, sings "Swing me higher, Obadiah" amusingly, and his second number, "Will you dance with me, Marie?" is very tuneful and well rendered. Miss Billie Burford (an attractive young lady) gives with a powerful voice "Come with me in my submarine" and "A grain of help," the latter possessing a catchy chorus which takes well. The Royal Russian Dancers, a clever troupe, work hard, and gain well-deserved applause.

Mr. Tom E. Conover and company in the farcical sketch, *The Drink Cure*, are very entertaining. The wife and her brother decide to try and cure the husband of his drinking habits. The latter, disguising himself as a Frenchman, makes love to the lady in the husband's presence. This naturally leads to an altercation between the husband and lover, and a duel is arranged. Whilst the necessary arrangements are being made the husband makes out his will, bequeathing his belongings to various friends, but quite omitting his wife. The duel takes place, causing great laughter. The wife, donning male attire, acts as second. The husband, getting the worst of the argument, asks for pity, which is given, after he has promised to refrain from intoxicants in future.

The Sisters Melba, two bright little ladies, sing tunefully "When the sunset turns the ocean blue to gold" and "Until we meet once more." Mr. Nat Watkins, comedian, is funny in his songs, "Turn round" and "Lucy, my rag-shop girl." Some interesting films are shown on Raymond's Bioscope, the most important, "He Would be an Athlete," being decidedly clever.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE OF VARIETIES.

The excellent list of artists weekly engaged at this house continues to pack it to its utmost capacity, and Mr. J. C. Coe and his popular manager, Mr. Lewis Vincent, have every reason to be satisfied with their results. Last week Miss Marie Lloyd headed an excellent programme, and this week the figure-head is the renowned Mr. Wilkie Bard, who continues to amuse with "Let me sing," in which he has an extremely funny argument with the fireman. He also scores with "You, you, you," and a Dutch ditty. Miss Marie Kendall is a great favourite, and her two songs, "She came home in a taximeter car," and "Kiss the girl if you're going to," are very well received. The Poluskis give their new humorous entertainment *The Prevaricator* in their usual excellent style; Cribb and Cribb are another clever pair, who have a good song in "They are the simple things that we require"; Miss Daisy Jerome is well described as having "a dazzling personality," and is in high favour with the audience; Park's Eton Boys sing as excellently as ever; and Elmo and Rego (also in Eton suits) cause much mirth by their acrobatic tricks.

Mr. Herbert Terry and company appear in a dramatic episode entitled *His Brother's Keeper*, the plot of which is rather vague, but when slightly altered should prove a successful sketch. Brown and Kelly and company have a laughable sketch, *The Lay Figure, or Why Jones Left Home*. Mr. Frank Seeley, comedian, Hurman, juggler, Miss Ruby Emerson, comedienne, and Mr. Victor Courtney, comedian at the piano, complete, with the Edisonograph, the exceedingly enjoyable entertainment.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

An extremely entertaining and varied programme is offered to patrons of this excellent hall this week. The bill is headed by an exhibition of tree-felling and expert axemanship by the two champions of Australia, Messrs. Jackson and McLaren, a novel and very interesting item. The stage is set to represent as closely as possible a small clearing in one of the large forest tracts of Victoria (Australia), and is very picturesque. A match was arranged to take place at one of the performances on Friday evening this week between Jackson and McLaren and a couple of London axemen.

Mabel Sinclair provides a very pleasant ten minutes of so with a ventriloquial entertainment of high merit. Arthur Lennard achieves his usual success with three typical ditties, which include "The only little flower in my garden" and "Mother." Selma Braatz, a charming young lady, appears in a very clever juggling act.

The most uproarious entertainment of the evening is that provided by Sid Cotterell and company, in a farcical sketch, entitled *The Substitute*. The scene is the husband's bedroom in the flat of a newly-married couple. The husband, desiring to be out late, makes the porter attached to the flats (of course, a low-comedy part) occupy his bed during his absence, and by snoring lead the wife to suppose that her husband is in his room as usual. The wife, however, discovers the trick; but eventually all ends happily. The sketch is highly diverting and very well played.

A fine acrobatic turn is contributed by the Andos Troupe of happy little Japs; and Lizzie Fletcher scores as a comedienne. Mariedl, late of the Hippodrome, the famous Tyrolean giantess, and stated to be the tallest woman in the world, is introduced to the audience (along with her sister, who is quite of normal size), and after various particulars have been imparted by her introducer, she descends from the stage and strolls among the audience, shaking hands with any who may care to do so.

Will H. Fox, having discarded his red wig and dilapidated evening dress, appears in a smart suit of bright purple, with a bowler hat of the same shade, and a "clean" make-up. He is not at all handicapped by this drastic change, and scores as cleverly as ever. The programme is completed by the American Bioscope, showing some striking pictures from Casa Blanca, the most fascinating of which are those taken of the actual engagement on Aug. 18, in which mounted Arabs can be seen moving about in the far distance. Mr. B. G. Maclachlan continues as the deservedly popular acting-manager.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

The belated summer weather in which we have been revelling during the past few weeks has certainly had no appreciable effect of a detrimental kind on the business done at this popular place of amusement. Some folk may say that the undoubted coolness of the evenings has been responsible for driving people indoors, but we are inclined to think that the excellence of the programmes presented by Mr. Arthur J. Barclay are solely responsible for the happy result. Certainly amusement-seekers would be hard to please who would cavil at the fare placed before them this week; but, if there be any such, they form an absolutely insignificant minority. Mr. Geo. F. Slatter, returning, on Monday night, to his acting-managerial duties after a well-deserved holiday, has had plenty of work to fill his hands.

A full account of Mr. Fred Eustace's new dramatic sketch, *Salvation Jack*, will be found in another column, so requires no further notice here. Mr. Harry Harris, a new mimic at the piano, soon makes himself popular with his clever imitations of various music-hall celebrities, those of Alec Hurley, Sam Mayo, and Gus Elen being loudly applauded. Miss Amy Marsden renews her acquaintance with an audience always delighted to see her, and sets the whole house laughing with her rendering of "I'm simple silly," and a parody on "The mocking bird was singing on the tree." A great success is made by Allis and Cassati, a lady and gentleman, who crack sundry amusing wheezes, sing well, and dance better. Miss Bertha Winder, who may fairly be described as the queen of clog-dancers, performs prodigies that send her audience into shouts of delight. Mr. Julian Ross, actor-vocalist, sings in a ringing voice, "The best friend I've had" and "The girl in blue," and is at once received into high favour. A most enjoyable vocal and instrumental comedy sketch, *From Pavement to Stage*, is given by the Markies. The lady of the pair has no mean powers as a low comedy actress, and sings well, while the gentleman's performance on the bottles and other instruments, and their joint manipulation of the musical glasses in "Alice, where are thou?" provokes some of the loudest applause of the evening. The Markies' pretty show is greatly enhanced by the beautiful electric lighting of the stage. No more charming and original comedienne and dancer could well be found than Miss Venie Clements, whose song, "Arguments" is clever in itself and admirably rendered. This is followed by a very pretty dance, in which agility and grace are well combined, and after it is over Miss Clements gives her wonderfully clever and artistic imitation of the quaint sayings of a number of small children at a "school treat." The young comedienne may be put down as one of the most popular turns seen here for some considerable time. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope shows some excellent, up-to-date animated pictures. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. H. Petersen, performs a tuneful overture capitally. Mr. Joseph Grant is, as usual, to be commended for his admirable stage-management.

"PEPPER AND SALT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In your present issue you inquire as to the authorship of a sketch, *Pepper and Salt*. The sketch to which you allude was called *Chickweed and Groundsel*, performed by the Bros. Wemms, the Bros. Clayton, and the Sisters Mario. This sketch was written by me, and became the property of the late Mr. Ambrose Maynard.

A week ago you had a paragraph speaking kindly of me, saying you were afraid I did not get the credit due to me for these trifles. This is explained by the fact that music-hall proprietors at that time were so harassed by common informers' actions for stage play infringements that in bills and programmes little was inserted likely to call attention to these playlets.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES. MERION,

61, Arthur-road, Brixton, S.W., Sept. 23.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In *The Era* of last week, in the "Variety Gossip" columns, you mention the farce *Pepper and Salt*, in which the Sisters Mario (Dot and Minnie) and the twin Brothers Wems played. I do not know whether Mr. Chas. Merion or Mr. Maynard wrote it, but Mr. Maynard engaged me to produce it, and it was rehearsed at the Bedford Music Hall, Camden Town.—Yours faithfully,

TOM WARDHAUGH.

75, Bath-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Sept. 22.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In answer to the query appearing in the variety gossip columns of *The Era* of Sept. 21, I desire to inform you that the late Ambrose Maynard was the writer and producer of the farce entitled *Pepper and Salt*.—Yours faithfully,

E. MAYNARD

(Widow of the late Ambrose Maynard).

Ambrose, Grange-road, Gunnersbury, Sept. 24.

"SAM HALL."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—As an old reader of your indispensable journal and an occasional contributor of letters you have kindly published on the subject of music-hall songs, &c., may I ask if you can oblige me with replies to the following queries, or can refer me to any reliable old-timer well up in the subject:—

1. In what year (and where) died the comic singer, W. G. Ross (of "Cyder Cellars" fame)?

2. Was Ross's famous song, "Sam Hall," ever published in song-form (nobody in the trade seems to know definitely). If not, are the words, without music, obtainable? They must, I imagine, exist, if only in manuscript form. Being in touch with so many connected with the variety world you may possibly be able to assist me in tracing a copy of the song in question.

I enclose my card, and with thanks in anticipation,—Yours truly,

VERITAS,

Knight's Hill, S.E., Sept. 19.

The Brewster Troupe, after a highly-successful tour, embracing Austria, Hungary, Bohemia, and Poland, open at the Folies-Marigny, Paris, on Oct. 1. The troupe returns to England in December for pantomime.

We regret to announce the death, at his native home, Orford, Suffolk, after a brief illness, of Mr. R. J. Brinkley, proprietor of, among other places, the Horns Hotel and Assembly Rooms, at Kennington. The deceased gentleman was well known to the variety profession, and a personal friend of many. The fancy dress carnivals that he had organised for some years were largely attended by artists, with whom he was highly popular. He was a past trustee of the Licensed Victuallers' School, and a warm supporter of the other trade charities. He was in his fifty-fifth year.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES, FOR OCTOBER.

(Copyright.)

ENGLAND.

Oct. 1. Bracknell (2,200)	Oct. 12. Crich (3,076)
Oct. 1. Long Sutton (2,400)	Oct. 12. Farnsfield (942)
Oct. 1. Peterborough (30,870)	Oct. 12. Hitchin 10,000)
Oct. 1. Woodstock (1,628)	Oct. 12. Ilmington (705)
Oct. 2. Alvechurch (1,600)	Oct. 12. Inkberrow (1,631)
Oct. 2. Atherton (16,200)	Oct. 12. Marlborough (3,000)
Oct. 2. Belford (1,600)	Oct. 12. Middleton (Stoney) (300)
Oct. 2. Braintree (5,300)	Oct. 12. Needham Market (1,300)
Oct. 2. Bridport (5,700)	Oct. 12. Pinxton (2,412)
Oct. 2. Croydon (134,000)	Oct. 12. Stratford-on-Avon (11,862)
Oct. 2. Hingham (1,600)	Oct. 12. Tapton (229)
Oct. 2. Kineton (1,000)	Oct. 12. Wantage (4,000)
Oct. 2. Lambourne (900)	Oct. 12. Warwick (12,000)
Oct. 2. Liskeard (5,028)	Oct. 14. Bakewell (3,600)
Oct. 2. Lymington (4,200)	Oct. 14. Barkerend Feast
Oct. 2. Retford (4,200)	Oct. 14. Burley-in-Wharfedale (3,600)
Oct. 3. Nottingham (239,384)	Oct. 14. Cirencester (7,600)
Oct. 3. Tiverton (10,400)	Oct. 14. Fazeley (1,800)
Oct. 4. Evesham (7,100)	Oct. 14. Great Grimsby (63,006)
Oct. 4. Macclesfield (34,700)	Oct. 14. Halesowen (9,000)
Oct. 5. Brough Hill (1,000)	Oct. 14. Hockley Heath (755)
Oct. 5. Glodwick (16,900)	Oct. 14. Sherborne (6,000)
Oct. 5. Horwich (15,000)	Oct. 14. St. Ives (Hunts.) (6,700)
Oct. 5. Ilkeston (9,825)	Oct. 14. Southam (1,800)
Oct. 5. Kirkby Lonsdale (1,500)	Oct. 14. Shipston-on-Stour (1,700)
Oct. 5. Marlborough (3,000)	Oct. 15. Salisbury (17,100)
Oct. 5. Pilsley (2,347)	Oct. 16. Axminster (3,500)
Oct. 5. Wibsey (4,586)	Oct. 16. Hereford (21,400)
Oct. 5. Winchcomb (2,964)	Oct. 16. Market Bosworth (911)
Oct. 5. Woburn (2,731)	Oct. 16. Newbury (11 000)
Oct. 7. Abingdon (6.500)	Oct. 16. Wigan (70,096)
Oct. 7. Cirencester (7,600)	Oct. 17. Banbury (13,000)
Oct. 7. King's Norton (5,000)	Oct. 17. Ivinghoe (1,300)
Oct. 7. Middleton Feast (13,000)	Oct. 17. Maidstone (33,500)
Oct. 7. New Wortley (15,100)	Oct. 18. Caistor (Lincs.) (2,000)
Oct. 7. Selby (8,000)	Oct. 18. Daventry (3,800)
Oct. 7. Tamworth (7,300)	Oct. 18. Hatfield (4,000)
Oct. 8. Alcester (2,500)	Oct. 19. Arnold (7,800)
Oct. 8. Houghton-le-Spring (8,000)	Oct. 19. Leek (15,500)
Oct. 8. Kingsclere (2,000)	Oct. 19. Sleaford (5,500)
Oct. 8. Ledbury (3,300)	Oct. 19. St. Austell (3,487)
Oct. 9. Colne (23,000)	Oct. 21. Bridlington (12,500)
Oct. 9. Hartlepool (22,800)	Oct. 21. Chichester (12,300)
Oct. 9. Hungerford (5.000)	Oct. 21. City Road (Bradford) (236,240)
Oct. 9. Northleach (180)	Oct. 21. Devizes (6,600)
Oct. 9. Tavistock (5,700)	Oct. 21. Princes Risborough (1,300)
Oct. 9. Tetbury (2,000)	Oct. 22. Gainsborough (17,700)
Oct. 9. Worksop (13,000)	Oct. 24. Cinderford (3,000)
Oct. 10. Chipping Norton (3,800)	Oct. 24. Market Drayton (6,540)
Oct. 10. Gosport (29,000)	Oct. 24. Upper Ottery (700)
Oct. 10. Lancaster (40,300)	Oct. 25. Clitheroe (11,400)
Oct. 10. Leicester (211,600)	Oct. 26. Edwinstow (936)
Oct. 10. Wadebridge (2,300)	Oct. 26. Holmfirth (9,000)
Oct. 11. Basingstoke (10.000)	Oct. 26. Heath (406)
Oct. 11. Burwell (2,000)	Oct. 26. Kirkby (4,756)
Oct. 11. Henley-in-Arden (1,000)	Oct. 26. Littlehampton (7,400)
Oct. 11. Highworth (2,500)	Oct. 26. Warminster (5,600)
Oct. 11. Hull (234,300)	Oct. 26. Wingerworth (382)
Oct. 11. Lowestoft (30,000)	Oct. 28. Horncastle (4,000)
Oct. 11. Nuneaton (25,000)	Oct. 28. Wellington (7,300)
Oct. 11. Ramsbury (2,200)	Oct. 29. Great Marlow (6,000)
Oct. 11. Tewkesbury (5,400)	Oct. 29. Hindon (500)
Oct. 11. Thame (3,000)	Oct. 29. Wellingborough (18,400)
Oct. 11. Tring (1,400)	Oct. 30. St. Just (Hunts.) (6,000)
Oct. 11. Wooler (1,500)	Oct. 31. Belper (11,300)
Oct. 12. Ashton-in-Makerfield (18,700)	Oct. 31. Bingham (1,500)
Oct. 12. Aylesbury (9.300)	Oct. 31. Bishop Auckland (12,000)
Oct. 12. Basford (11,500)	Oct. 31. Ely (8,000)
Oct. 12. Bedford (25,300)	
Oct. 12. Buckingham (3,400)	
Oct. 12. Clowne (2,416)	

SCOTLAND

Oct. 12. Alloa (11,417)	Oct. 14. Forfar (12,061)
Oct. 14. Dundee (153,056)	Oct. 28. Edinburgh (208,059)

WALES.

Oct. 5. Macsycwmmer (800)	Oct. 7. Maesteg (11,000)
	Oct. 10. Pembroke (16,000)

Bury September Fair.

BURY (Lancashire) has two fairs. The principal one, known as Bury March Fair, is mainly famous from the fact that it is practically the start of the great Lancashire pleasure fairs. There is no doubt that the September fair would attract a larger number of big shows but for the coincidence at this time of the year of many other first-class fairs. We are glad to see, however, that "Kemp's Dreamland" (one of the most superb cinematograph shows travelling) was the principal attraction, closely followed by Norman's varieties and living picture show. There were also many high-class machines, including J. Green's motor set, P. Makin's motors, J. Collins's razzle-dazzle, W. H. East's galloping horses, W. H. Davis's gallopers, J. Green's ostriches, Mrs. Holden's ostrich set, William Mitchell's steam yachts, W. Holmes's helter-skelter, and sets of park swings by J. Starkie and Holland. There were many high-class shooting concerns, including Winchester ranges by George Cornwell, J. D. Humphrey, Mrs. Jewell, and N. Holland; rifle saloons by J. Starkie, George Cornwell, Mesdames John Cornwell, Cottam, and Harrison; throwing games in great variety by Messrs. Forshaw, Houghton, Crick, Deeks, Ingham, Lorenzo, Finn, Slater, Wood, Marsden, Middlebrook, Smith, Boss, Holland, Harrison, Goodworth, Dale, Bullas, Clegg, and local caterers.

Balloch (Scotland).

HELD at the foot of Loch Lomond, this was once a celebrated horse fair, but owing to the changing conditions of Scotch life it has now become more of a pleasure than a business fixture. It is now under the able management of Walter Wilmot, who exhibited his ever-popular jumping horses and his new sensation, the great American helter-skelter. The other roundabouts were James Wilmot's Argyle racing motor-cars, and gem horses and swings by Wilmot Bros. and Talbot. There were swings and an aerial railway by Messrs. Palmer and Vetch. The goodly array of shows included Mrs. Manders's waxwork and living pictures, W. Clark, jun.'s, ghost illusion and cinematograph, Montano Bill's Far West expert shooting exhibition, a giant-girl show, and Stewart Bros.' boxing pavilion. The shooting concerns were those of Palmer, Wright, Strand, McIndoe, Freeman, and Horne. Throwing games, coker sheets, and football penalty frames were provided by Strand, Morris, Talbot, McIndoe, Thomas, Rotter, Knowles, Matchett, and others. This fair is growing in popularity, and although the weather was dull and showery business was quite up to the usual standard.

Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie.

THIS "national institution" has been visiting a number of the towns in the Black Country. Amongst other places Bilston, Wednesbury, and Brierley Hill had the opportunity of answering to the "Call of the Wild." A notable event has been a double birth in the menagerie. Two lionesses have just given birth to cubs, one to three and the other to two. All are doing well, and they form an attractive feature of the exhibition.

Princess Gooma and the Dahomey Warriors.

THE Princess, with the Dahomey warriors under their chief, Lobogola, are touring Scotland, and are scoring success wherever they visit. After most successful exhibitions of Dahomey life and native customs at Nairn, the Provost requested Mr. John Hickey (manager for the troupe) to give a special performance to himself and brother magistrates. This was done, to the evident satisfaction of the select company assembled. After the performance the troupe was entertained to tea by the Provost, who presented the Princess Gooma with a valuable necklace. Chief Lobogola thanked the Provost and his friends in the name of the Princess and the troupe. At the conclusion of the chief's remarks, duly interpreted by Mr. John Hickey, the warriors gave, in their native tongue, three cheers for the Provost and party.

Circus.

THE Sports Ground, Redhill, has been the venue this week of large audiences, drawn there by Sir Robert Fossett and Sons' circus and hippodrome. Among the excellent numbers of the programme we mention the Two Rennes, in their clever cake-walk on the double invisible wire; Miss Fossett, in her pleasing trick act on her bare-back horse; Miss Marie, the charming serpentine dancer, on the revolving globe; Robert Fossett, jun., in a really wonderful jockey act; Thomas Fossett (Texas Tom), in cyclone and expert riding; Ida Evilo, in a most pleasing and daring trapeze performance; and Topsy, a performing elephant, interests everyone by a series of seemingly impossible feats. Of the horses, Patience does some graceful evolutions in the ring; Diamond is an astonishing calculator; whilst Cezar stands his ground in spite of sparks, flame, and thunder. A number of amusing pictures on the Bioscope completes an altogether delightful programme.

Sandbach Wakes.

THE shows, &c., at this Cheshire Wake were:—Scott and Sagor's palace of delight, living pictures, and varieties, Simon's ghost illusion, and Gallagher's exhibition, Miss M. Collins's racing cockerels, park swings, and gem sets; shooting concerns, coker-sheets, and throwing games by Messrs. Clough, Hall, Sheldon, Dearden, and Symonds.

The Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union.

NOTICE will be found in our advertising columns of an important gathering of the above society at Nottingham next week.

Dumfries Fair.

IMMEDIATELY following Ayr Fair, Dumfries attracts some of the best concerns from that important fixture. The shows at Dumfries are those of Messrs. Green, Biddall, Paulo, Johnson, Lavan, and Moore, and numerous side-shows. The machines are those of Wilmot, Green, Howard, Lawrence, Day, and others.

AMONGST the providers of minor amusements are Messrs. Kelly, Hiscoe, Day, Rostron, Wilmot, Sheeran, and Merrick.

Wombwell Feast.

TUBY AND SONS' coliseum and Proctor and Farrar's similar concerns were the big show attractions at this Yorkshire fair. White's two ground booths, the freak museum, and the miniature menageries were also on exhibition. The superb machines of Tuby and Sons, Harniess, and Amos, and the park swings of Messrs. Pullan, Fisher, Turner, Harniess, and Hepworth were also well patronised. The fun merchants and stallholders were Messrs. Shaw, Green, Tucker, Whatmore, Saunders, Moore, Cannon, Wallsen, Pullen, Fisher, and Williams.

Reading Fair.

HERE were Jacob Studt's mammoth Bioscope palace, racing motors, and four-abreast galloping horses; Purchase's Royal No. 1 Menagerie, with performing lions, bears, and wolves; also trained seals and hyenas; Reader's novelty show, Wilson's fine art gallery, Barber's giant girl show, Thomas's steam roundabout, and a crowd of minor amusement caterers, with all the fun of the fair.

Dunstable Fair.

THE entertainments here were principally supplied by the Metropolitan show caterer, Mr. Fred Gray, whose superb sets of motors and galloping horses drew the town. Mr. Gray, in addition to high-class riding-machines, provided shooting-range and other fairground varieties. With Mr. Gray were associated Messrs. T. Short, Sully, and Draper with throwing games and varieties.

The Moor Meadow, Maidenhead.

SIR ROBERT FOSSETT AND SONS' grand hippodrome and circus drew great crowds on Monday last to the meadow, and excellent shows were given to delighted audiences.

Cambridge Fair.

THE fair at this ancient University is under the management of Thurston's, who provide the greater part of the entertainments. Their exhibits this year were motor-cars and galloping horses; Harris, the local caterer, had big boats and ranges of swings, highfliers, and throwing games. Professor Goldsmith's school of boxers and athletes were much patronised, and Messrs. Gray and Martin exhibited varieties and stalls.

Guild Subscriptions, 1907.

PER Mr. Shaw:—Mr. Pullan, 5s.

ANSWERS TO SHOWMEN.

EQUESTRIAN.—*We do not know the European office of the firm you want. We advise you to address a letter to the manager of the circus in question, care of "The New York Clipper."*

MITCHAMITE.—*All the principal parties to a possible settlement are away on vacation, so that negotiations are at present dormant. All in good time correspondence will be resumed at the first possible moment.*

WALTER WILMOT, LARKHALL.—*Kindly send next week's address to Guild Secretary, "The Era" office. We are addressing a letter to you at Larkhall acknowledging receipt of letter and P.O., but fear it may not reach you.*

WILL Mr. John Barker communicate with *The Era* offices? There is a letter waiting for him.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

A NEW musical comedietta, entitled *Miss Cook of California*, from the pen of Roland Oliver, with music by Louis La Rondelle, will shortly be produced by Mr. C. H. Mannon.

SHOWMEN OF TO-DAY.

MR. JOHN WILMOT.

Affectionately known as "The Father of Scottish Fairs," Mr. John Wilmot has endeared himself to the whole body of Scotch showpeople by his transparently honest and upright dealings with his fellow travellers in the land of his adoption. Mr. Wilmot is not a Scotsman, although the greater part of his busy life has been spent over the Border. Born at Bath in 1843, the "call of the showground" came to him whilst quite a lad, for his earliest experiences of show life were with the Brewer family, the old West of England show people. John Wilmot tells many stories of those early days, "the days of his youth," and points many a lesson to the youth of to-day by recalling "the bad old days," when show people were regarded with suspicion and were subjected to gross injustice on account of the narrow-minded prejudice that classed them as gipsies and outcasts of the road.

Show life in the early 'fifties of the last century was indeed a hard and trying school; a rough-and-tumble training; yet it had its glorious moments—when joy and life and merriment for all was the motive and the inspiration of its followers. From his apprenticeship with the Brewer family he passed to such notable showmen as Isaac Gregory and Wm. Manders. In early manhood—somewhere about his twenty-second year—he struck out for himself with various stalls and penny games. With these he prospered, finding the best field for his business ability and perseverance in Scotland.

With the advent of the steam roundabout came

MR. JOHN WILMOT.

John Wilmot's great opportunity. If not exactly the pioneer of the steam roundabout in Scotland, he was certainly in the first flight of those enterprising men who foresaw its vast possibility.

With the rapid development of the steam roundabout also came the growth of the fairs, and the opportunity of the private lessee of fairgrounds. The roundabout, on the new scale, needed the central position and also a rearrangement of the fairground and its principal attractions. This necessitated the leasing of the whole ground wherever it was possible in order that good positions for roundabouts might be secured. Following on the lines of this great revolution in fairground business, Mr. Wilmot became lessee of a considerable number of important fairs.

Mrs. Wilmot has been both the partner of his home and of his business life, and is equally esteemed with her husband for the unfailing goodness and generosity of her character. In very truth "a mother in the Israel of Showland," "her children call her blessed," and rightly too. There are six sons and three daughters, and all of them in the show business. Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot have added a new clan to the clans of Scotland, "the Clan Wilmot."

"The gathering of the Clan Wilmot" would make a fair. The chief of the clan controls three high-class machines; John Wilmot, jun., controls shooting galleries, gem machines, swings, and fairground varieties; James Wilmot has two big machines; Walter Wilmot two or more; the three younger sons are still with their father and mother in the working and management of "the old firm," so are the daughters of the house. Miss Wilmot takes a deep personal interest in all that concerns the religious life of her people. In fact, the Wilmot family is a remarkable example of the reality and the enduring strength of the home life of show people.

For twenty-three years past Mr. Wilmot has been identified with Sir Edward Moss in the Waverley Market Christmas and New Year Carnival, Wilmot's roundabouts being a special feature of that immense winter fair at Edinburgh.

The Wilmot family have so won the heart of Scotland that wherever they go they are held in the highest respect and esteem. We gladly quote from the *Helensburgh News* of July 18, 1907, "an appreciation" of Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot:—

"Few men have more friends than Mr. John Wilmot, the veteran showman, who has been 'on the road' for close on half a century. . . . Many a struggling showman has he helped with a kindly word and something more tangible to tide him over a nasty road. . . . Knowing the value of money and its uses, no man is more generous to deserving objects. . . . Although we cannot claim for Mr. Wilmot the honour of being a Scotsman—of course, that's no fault of his!—he belongs to the country that is second in importance to Scotland. . . . At first his roundabouts were driven by manual labour, but eventually steam and electricity were used as motive power. Mr. Wilmot is the pioneer of the electric light in Scotland, being the first to use that illuminant in this country. It was employed in connection with his 'Caledonian Hunters,' and when in rural districts people came from far and near to see the strange white light.

"At present he is the lessee of all the principal showgrounds in Scotland, is welcomed at all the towns he visits, is able to take his place in any company, and is familiarly spoken of everywhere as 'Honest John.'

"It is many years since Mr. Wilmot first came to this town, while in Greenock he has been there for the past forty-three summers. Besides, he has been a householder in Glasgow for over forty years—all these facts being a record of which any man may be proud.

"Mr. Wilmot gives the reasons for his success, which, in brief, were simply sobriety and strict attention to business. Associated with the 'Grand Old Man of the Road' in his business is Mrs. Wilmot, who has shared his joys and sorrows and proved herself a loving helpmate all these years, and their six sons, three of whom assist with the management of the 'home' concern, while the others are more or less engaged in shows of their own.

"The caravan in which Mr. Wilmot travels is a marvel of ingenuity, its accommodation containing, among other conveniences, a separate bedroom and a well-appointed kitchen. Portraits of relatives and friends hang round the walls, and this gives an added cosiness to the neat little abode.

"Let us hope that for many years to come Mr. Wilmot and his sons will be spared to visit our town to help to enliven and amuse both young and old."

Mr. John Wilmot has been a sturdy champion of showmen's rights and a defender of the fair fame and domestic purity of the life of the travelling showman. He is a vice-president of the Guild, and has been on the Executive Committee of the Society from its very beginning in 1889.

A most liberal subscriber to its funds, his example has been of the utmost value in the growth of the movement for the co-ordination of all the varied interests of the show business.

We gladly endorse all the good things said about the Wilmot family in the land of Scotia, and in that wider domain—the Empire of Showland.

"SALVATION JACK."

A Dramatic Sketch, in four scenes, by E. B. Matthews and Charles Stanley Self. Produced at the Walthamstow Palace, Monday Sept. 23, 1907.

Jack Chester	MR. FRED EUSTACE
Philip Hawke	MR. JOHN WALCOTT
Mark Benjamin	MR. HERBERT LLOYD
Tommy	MR. CHARLES GORDON
James Ward	MR. GEORGE BUTLER
Kate Russell, Nell	MISS MARY EUSTACE

At last the world-renowned organisation, conceived and carried on so successfully by the now elderly gentleman who is affectionately known to his multitudinous followers as "The General," has reached the stage by way of the variety theatre, and the disinterested good work done by the "Army" has been employed as the foundation for an interesting dramatic sketch. Although Mr. Fred Eustace (for whom the piece has been especially written, by Messrs. E. C. Matthews and Charles Stanley Self) is careful to point out in his printed address "to the audience," that, in the eyes of many, he may be treading on somewhat delicate ground, there is nothing in it, from start to finish, to shock the susceptibilities either of the friends or the enemies of the Salvation Army. As a matter of fact, *Salvation Jack* aims at being little more than a miniature melodrama, the setting of which happens to be, for once, of a nature somewhat unusual for theatrical purposes; and a liberal, but by no means overwhelming series of appeals to the sympathies of popular audiences are all on the side that makes for good. It is but fair to say that on Monday night the rousing speeches put into the mouth of Jack Chester, and finely delivered by that accomplished elocutionist, Mr. Fred Eustace, were received with evident approval and volleys of the heartiest applause.

The story may be briefly told: Jack Chester, a rich Colonial, while making a visit to England, meets Philip Hawke and his friend Mark Benjamin, commonly known as the Major, at Ascot, and the pair having ascertained that Chester is a rich man, they invite him to spend a few days at Richmond with them. Cards are introduced as a means of robbing Jack, but the plot is spoilt by Kate. The scene is interrupted by the entrance of Nell, Kate's sister, a Salvationist, and, owing to her gentle words, Jack realises the uselessness of the life of pleasure which he is leading. Having failed to cheat Jack, Philip Hawke determines to rob him by force. Kate tries to protect him, and she is accidently shot by Hawke, who escapes, and Chester determines to devote his life to good work, and bring Hawke to justice. After this dramatic episode, nine months elapse, and Jack, who has joined the Salvation Army, has fallen in love with Nell, and is devoting his time and money in assisting them in their good work. Hawke, who has been in hiding all these months, is now in very reduced circumstances indeed, and when he accidently meets, and is scornfully repudiated by his quondam accomplice, Mark Benjamin, there is likely to be a wild scene, which is frustrated by the entrance of Jack, who, failing to recognise his old enemy, Hawke, pours oil upon the waters; that is, feeds and shelters him. In the end, just as Chester and Nell are about to be married, the former discovers the identity of Hawke, and, after a fierce desire to wreak his vengeance, listens to the voice of mercy, and tells the wretch to "go, and sin no more."

The interpretation of the piece by the clever company leaves nothing to be desired. On the broad shoulders of Mr. Fred Eustace, as Jack Chester, the heaviest portion of the work naturally falls, and most ably does the actor respond to the innumerable calls made upon his resources. Both as the rich young man, gradually drifting towards ruin, and the earnest, cheerful, and kind-hearted worker in the "Army," Mr. Eustace is very fine, while, as already hinted, his declamation gives every inch of significance to his telling speeches. Miss Mary Eustace artistically contrasts the widely-differing characters of the twin sisters Kate and Nell, not sparing herself in the earlier scenes as the abandoned woman, and still being full of sweetness and delicacy as the pure-minded Salvation "lass." Mr. John Walcott is a picturesque Philip Hawke and Mr. Herbert Lloyd an amusing personage as the rascally Jew, Benjamin. Mr. Charles Gordon is clever as the thorough "wrong 'un," Tommy, and Mr. George Butler a supremely stolid policeman. *Salvation Jack* has been staged with great care, and when a few more performances have given the necessary smoothness in many directions, it should prove not the least successful among Mr. Eustace's many successes.

THE services of Mr. John Alexander have been secured by Messrs. Jesse Sparrow and Harry Bawn for Christmas to produce a "spectacle" at the Empire, Camberwell.

A COMPANY is being formed, with a capital of £25,000, for the purpose of building a new theatre in Oldham. Gentlemen of Oldham and Manchester are interested in the venture. The house is to be after the style of the Ardwick Green Empire, with tea rooms, &c.

FRED SOUTHERN writes that *The Fatal Letter*, written by Brien McCullough, which he produced three weeks since at Sandgate, is both a financial and artistic success, and is one of the best sketches—if not the best—he has in his répertoire.

MISS ETHEL WALKER'S entertainment at the London Pavilion matinée last Saturday left nothing to be desired. The popular comedienne at the piano contributed no less than three distinct items—viz., "Are we downhearted?" followed by four amusing stories, each of which went home to the audience, and then concluded by singing that favourite song with the orchestra, entitled, "If you only, only knew," with a result that before leaving the stage Miss Walker took no less than three curtains.

THE latest quotations for music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1 7-16; Canterbury, ½; Empire (15s. paid), 1⅛; Empire (10s. paid), 1; London Pavilion Ord., 4⅛; London Pavilion Pref., 4⅞; London Coliseum, 1-16; Metropolitan, ½; Moss Empire, 4⅞; Moss Empire 5 per cent. Pref., 3⅞; Oxford, 6½; Palace, 14s. 3d.; Tivoli, 5⅞; Varieties Consolidated Theatres, 14s. 6d.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

WARRINGTON PALACE AND HIPPODROME.

A spontaneous outburst of enthusiasm was manifested at the opening of the above new house on Monday, the second performance being honoured by the presence of the élite of the district, the Mayor and representatives of the Town Council and Corporation occupying nearly the whole of the dress circle. The proceedings were opened by the band, under the able conductorship of Mr. Widdop, playing the National Anthem, the audience joining in the singing in a hearty manner. The Sisters Reno danced most delightfully, and their quick changes were smartly accomplished. Tennyson and Wallis are a pair of excellent comedians, and their cross-talk is both clean and highly amusing. Kurkamp, the singing conductor, supplies a delightful turn, and is ably assisted by a clever harpist named Chapman. John Tiller's company are seen to advantage in *High Jinks*. Bob Selvidge as George Jesmond Dene is the personification of humour, and there are continuous risible features when he is on the stage. Harold Wardroper is well placed as William Plataganet; and Inspector Smart is made a good character-sketch by Teddy Gibbs. The diminutive Barney Dixon is an eccentric William Glum; Miss Jessie Templeton charms all as Mrs. Jesmond Dene, and Miss Minnie Cecil is decidedly amusing as Mary Ann, a maid-of-all-work. Mr. Tiller's troupe are brilliant exponents of the terpsichorean art, and a big success was scored in the last setting with a bell-ringing and dancing display. The musical director is Mr. William Corri, who has a well-balanced chorus under his control. The Bioscope pictures depicting a Nurses' Strike were excellent specimens.

Much of the success achieved at this the opening performance is due to the untiring efforts of Mr. Sydney Arthur, who has laboured very hard. Mr. Bradbury is the resident-manager, and Mr. Widdop has an orchestra numbering sixteen under his control.

During an interval in the programme, Mr. Macnaghten said he wished to make a statement with reference to the policy he intended to pursue. He had come to Warrington as a stranger, but he hoped he had come to stay. He hoped also to be successful as an entertainer. He was addressing them in that beautiful theatre, the nineteenth which had been built in Great Britain. The foundation stone of the new building was laid on May 1, and that was only September 23, and they had had practically only four months in which to complete the work the audience now saw. It certainly reflected credit on their townsman, Mr. Davenport, who had done magnificent work. It was a work which spoke for itself; his (Mr. Macnaghten's work) they would see in the days to come. He was in a fortunate position in the matter of providing entertainments, as he controlled so many houses of entertainment, which put him in the position of providing the best talent the world produced. That was a figure of speech, no doubt, in many cases, for every "showman" made a similar remark. Sometimes they gave the best show, sometimes they did not, but so far as he was concerned he would provide them with an entertainment which he hoped they would appreciate, and he hoped to be able in the years to come to stand before them and receive their congratulations. He would not take up their time by making a long speech; all he wished to do was metaphorically to shake hands with them over the footlights, and tell them what he contemplated. He would specially cater for the ladies. (A Voice: "And it never fails.") It never had, and he did not think it would. There were many ladies present that evening, and he wished to thank them for their attendance, because he often found when a person opened a theatre that they held back until they had heard from their male friends what the entertainment was like, and if it met with their approval they came. They had shown confidence in him that night, and it was a compliment he deeply appreciated, and he could assure them there would never be any item on the programme to which the most fastidious could reasonably take exception. He could not stay with them always, but his manager, Mr. Bradbury, would do everything that was possible in their interests, and it at any time there should be anything to which they took exception they knew where a letter might find him. If they wrote to him and told him what they wanted, their letters would not be discarded, and he would promise to answer them with courtesy, and do everything to please them, and to popularise the theatre over which he had the honour to preside.

At the evening's performance Mr. Macnaghten was presented with a massive bouquet in the shape of a horseshoe as an emblem of good luck, and this now occupies a prominent place in the main entrance to the theatre.

ROBERT PHILLIPS, aged twenty-six, a music-hall artist, living at Vicary-street, Brixton, was charged at the West London Police-court on Saturday, before Mr. Garrett, with shooting at John Howard, baker, of 32, Avalon-road, Fulham, with intent to do him bodily harm. The accused, a dwarf, who is a member of Mr. John Tiller's variety company, was being followed on Thursday by a crowd at Walham Green, and, after telling them to go away, fired the revolver in the air. Mr. Garrett fined the accused 40s. for discharging loaded firearms in the public street.

MESSRS. HARRY BRAYNE and Bert Lloyd will be at the Empire, Camberwell, next week, in their novel act, *The Tree of Truth*. Managers should not miss seeing this sketch.

THE eleventh annual general meeting of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association will be held on Sunday, Oct. 27, at the Empire, Camberbell, commencing at 5.30 p.m. Mr. W. H. Clemart (president) will be in the chair. Due notification of any resolution for discussion at the general meeting must be sent in writing to the secretary fourteen days prior to the date fixed for that meeting, and the attention of members of the Association is drawn to Rules 8, 10, 13, and 14, which concern the honorary officers and executive committee.

OWING to ill-health Miss Lillie Dene (of Dene and Dawson) has been compelled to retire from the profession for the winter. She hopes, however, to resume work next year, for which the pair are well booked up.

MR. AND MRS. FRANK H. FRANCE (Miss Edith Stewart) start on Monday at Richmond a lengthy tour of the Moss and Stoll halls with their highly exciting and very successful sketch, *The 100 to 1 Chance*.

REHEARSALS in connection with the seventh season of the Crystal Palace Orchestral Society will commence on the evening of Monday, Oct. 7, in the Concert Room. Among the entertainments arranged are German's *Merrie England* (concert version), on Nov. 21; Grieg's "Olav Trygvason," pianoforte concerto, "Peer Gynt," suite, &c., Feb. 15, at 3.30; and Elgar's "Black Knight," and orchestral pieces, on April 11.

THE Auxeto Gramaphone free concerts, which proved such a success at the Crystal Palace, will be resumed on Monday afternoon next and continue till further notice. They will be held in the concert room, and the public will have an opportunity of hearing such celebrities as Melba, Patti, Caruso, Battistini, Edward Lloyd, John Harrison, Harry Lauder, and many others.

FILM GOSSIP.

Showmen will read in this column news with regard to the best and newest films in the market. Most of these films we have seen ourselves, and can confidently recommend showmen to add them to their stock, either by purchase or hire.

Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd.

There is a modest gentleman who speaks with an American accent who has during the past few years played an important part in the cause of education and scientific training. That gentleman is Mr. Charles Urban, F.Z.S., and it is to be hoped that one of these days a grateful British Government will publicly recognise his handsome services to humanity at large and to the people of these islands in particular. A few months ago we dealt at some length with an interesting publication, of which Mr. Urban is the author, explaining the value of the cinematograph in science, education, and matters of State. And not only in subjects academic, but in subjects entertaining and amusing, will Mr. Urban's name be associated.

Across the Balkan States.—Mr. Urban's latest collection of films afford a unique pictorial record of an expedition across the Balkan States, organised by the Urban Company, under the direction of Mr. Harry de Windt, the eminent explorer. These series should be of special interest to showmen. They were secured only by great expenditure of time and money, at considerable danger and grave risks, and they are remarkable for enlightening scenes which depict the manners and customs of the inhabitants of so-called "Savage Europe," and for the quaint and attractive sidelights which they throw on the character and sentiment of the Eastern States. It might be mentioned, too, that they are the only animated pictures of the Balkan States in existence. Thus, we are taken to Herzegovina, Bosnia, and Dalmatia—countries formerly inaccessible to the stranger—and are shown beautiful railway and other panoramas, curious towns, typical native characters, habits and customs, bazaar incidents, street scenes, wild, rugged, verdant, and tropical valleys, mountains and gardens, and foaming torrents.

Life and Scenes in Servia.—In this set are included pictures of great historical importance, containing, as it does, the portrait group of actual conspirators who murdered the late King and Queen of Servia. Picturesque military scenes are also afforded as the royal guard assemble and march past the camera, and further inspiring views show various branches of the army in training. Then we get views of Servian peasants on their way to market with droves of pigs, &c., others driving bullock carts laden with timber and produce, and excellent portraits of the natives in their national dress. In the series dealing with Macedonia there are thrilling pictures of insurgent bands, who took up arms to throw off the yoke of Turkish tyranny. The fighting scenes are fascinating in the extreme, and pathos is furnished to a remarkable degree by pictures of the refugees at Rilo, and interest and entertainment are afforded by the railway panoramas, the village festivities, and customs.

Bulgaria and its Citizens brings us into touch with the picturesque town of Tirnova, the grain traffic of Bulgaria, the home life of the country, and the thousand and one incidents of ordinary and ceremonial life in that much-debated land. Another set shows us various units of the Bulgarian Army at work, on parade, in review, at play, at mess, and on the march. One learns a great deal, too, from the series, Roumania, Its Citizens, and its Soldiers. The production comes at a particularly opportune moment, by reason of the peasants' rising in Roumania. The panoramic and other scenes of palaces, mansions, monuments, and parks, and of soldiers of every arm at drill and manœuvres, are of great beauty and clearness. Montenegro and the Albanian Alps are treated in a most comprehensive manner in still another film. It would be possible to devote a page of *The Era* to descriptions of these various productions, which are highly commendable from every point of view.

Pathé Frères.

This firm seems to have in its service a genius who employs his wonderful talents of ingenuity upon the production of trick films. Of this order of film, one of the best we have seen for some time bears the title of A Clever Tailor. We had always laboured under the impression that eighteenth-century manufacturers were much more slow and thorough in the execution of work than we of this day. But Messrs. Pathé disillusionise us on this point. Into a quaint, old-fashioned tailor's shop there steps a gallant gentleman, who is measured for a new suit with wonderful rapidity. And with equal rapidity are the clothes made. In fact, the wizard who manipulates the scissors has scarcely cut a length of cloth from the roll than it has assumed a portion of the garment, brocaded and shaped, as it is intended to be worn. The sleeves fairly fly on to the arms of the customer, and in almost shorter time than it takes to tell the story the gallant gentleman is more gorgeously attired than ever. In the tailor and his assistant are two capital comedians.

A Drama in Seville is a tragic episode of the love affairs of a matador. The bull-fighter is desperately smitten with the charms of a beautiful girl, who appears as if she has not quite made up her mind whether she will accept his advances or those of a less adventurous individual. We see her seated with the latter among the audience at a bull-fight, wherein the matador distinguishes himself by his superb skill and daring. But an accident happens. He trips in the arena, and is gored by the savage beast, whom he and others have goaded to a state of ferocious excitement and fury. He is quickly taken to the hospital, where he expires in the presence of the woman whose heart and hand he has endeavoured to capture by the display of his reckless bravery.

Naples and Vesuvius, also a Pathé film, treats us to some realistic scenes of that historic locality which even now affords us some idea of the former glory of Herculaneum and Pompeii. Of course, such a series would be incomplete without a view of Mount Vesuvius, the eruptions of which are shown with fine colour effects. One wonders how this striking pictorial representation was secured. Another Pathé subject depicts the pottery industry in Japan in a most interesting way; while a further notable novelty is The Heart's Bidding.

Vitagraph Company.

The Baby Elephant is a Vitagraph novelty that should find a ready market. It is a capital film, which contains many amusing incidents. A Persian nobleman possesses a very wonderful elephant, which a sultan is desirous of buying. The sultan sends two of his emissaries, a Turk and an African, to barter for the animal. Its owner refuses to sell it, but shows visitors how clever and intelligent the baby elephant is by making it perform many wonderful tricks, such as standing on its head, standing on his hind legs, walking the tight-rope, and sitting at the table during dinner, eating its meal in a most interesting manner. Finding that the Persian positively refuses to sell the elephant, the sultan's messengers finally steal the animal, but they find they have truly "an elephant on their hands," for it will not perform any of its tricks, and after acting like a stubborn donkey, it suddenly becomes vicious and makes a furious attack on its captors, chasing them all around the country, until they jump over a precipice to escape its fury. The intelligent elephant then kicks up its hind legs and runs back to its lawful owner.

Bathing Under Difficulties is also a Vitagraph production. A gentleman and his family are resting at their summer home. Father is sleeping peacefully in the hammock and is discovered by his young son, who is bent upon mischief. Securing a feather duster he tickles his father's face, waking him, for which he is soundly spanked. The son watches his chance for revenge. As papa is enjoying a quiet plunge in the river, the son comes upon him and makes off with the "Old Man's" clothes. Papa's pleadings are of no avail, and he has no alternative but to wait until the coast is clear or until help arrives. His loneliness is broken first by a young lady who takes a seat on the bank and reads. Finally she goes away, only to be followed by the "Boston Young Ladies' Botanical Society," who gather an assortment of specimens, meanwhile keeping the poor bather under water during their stay. They have scarcely departed before a young lady artist appears, sets up her easel and proceeds to sketch. Again "Pop" is compelled to keep "under cover." To further add to his discomfiture a crab gets hold of his foot. Removing the crab, in desperation he throws it on the bank, almost hitting the artist, who becomes frightened, gathers up her paraphernalia and beats a hasty retreat. Next to appear is a Sunday School delegation led by the parson. One of the party implores the preacher to save the "drowning man," so the parson takes off his coat, plunges into the stream, and swims out to rescue, when he is made aware of the awful predicament in which the other man is placed. He returns to the bank, imparts the said information, and all hands depart. By this time the poor man is chilled to the marrow and about ready to collapse. A tramp comes along, decides to surprise himself with a little bath, and plunges in, clothes and all. Here is father's chance. Grabbing the tramp, he disrobes him, appropriates the clothes, and gets home about dead. His wife sees him, and hardly recognises him in his new outfit. Explanations are in order, and while these are going on, the cause of all the trouble comes along dressed in "papa's" clothes and smoking a cigar.

SINGING PICTURES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Replying to the letter from Mr. Geo. R. Beaumont in your last issue, I am afraid that his contention as regards the failure of the combination of kinematograph and phonograph to appeal strongly to an audience, except as a curiosity, cannot be disputed.

Without wanting to depreciate the labour that has been put into the combination, one cannot deny that its chief interest is that of a scientific curiosity, and the human voice appeals more directly to an audience than any reproduction of it. Doubtless the combination indicated by your correspondent, that is to say, "Song Illustration," is a promising one.

Some seven or eight years ago I produced a number of such animated illustrations for popular songs, in which the action of the picture synchronised exactly with the descriptive matter in the song.

Some of them met with very considerable success when produced at St. George's Hall, the Agricultural Hall, and other places, and among them were "'Arry on the steamboat" (as sung by Mr. E. J. Lonnen), "Britain's tribute to her sons," and others, which were thoroughly appreciated by the audience, and I should be delighted to see a revival and extension of this form of entertainment.—Yours faithfully, ROBT. W. PAUL.

Animatograph and Film Works,
Sydney-road, New Southgate, N.
Sept. 26, 1907.

AMUSEMENTS IN BRUSSELS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

At our national theatre, La Monnaie, the management has revived Reyer's *Salammbo*, with Mme. Lina Pacary as the heroine and M. Verdier as Matho. Delibes' *Lakmé*, which has given Mlle. Yvonne de Creville an opportunity to score, Gounod's *Faust*, and Berlioz's *Trogans* have also been on the bills.

The Alcazar has changed its name to La Nouvelle Comédie, and has been completely renovated. Alfred Capus' *La Veine* is being performed by a fine company.

The Molière has wound up its melodrama season with Dumas' *Dame de Montsoreau*.

Constantino Bernardi has been the principal attraction at La Scala.

As for the Palais d'Eté, our cold summer has been a boon to the management; it has been full up every night. The turns introduced this week include Mlle. Challigny, chanteuse; Nadir and her cleverly-trained cats; the Flers-Barlay duettists; Amylla and Myosis, in a mythological dumb show; that fine juggler Drawee, with his funny blackie and his clever collie dog; the Kubans, singers and dancers; the Four Perez, with their thrilling ladder act; the Five Cliftons, in their Olympian games; Max Waldon, a young female impersonator with a fine voice; and Tom Grave, looping the loop, in his "infernal" wheel.

Horace Goldin is still drawing big audiences at the Antwerp Scala.

The Olympia and the Galeries, now both under the management of M. Fonson, are about to reopen with modern comedy and operettas.

"THE ERA."

EARLY DELIVERY.

Special Newspaper Express Services now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible:—

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BURNLEY	9.28
LEICESTER	4.36
NOTTINGHAM	5.10
DERBY	5.35

Mr. Harry Marlow and Miss May Manton come to the Palace, Hammersmith, on Monday with their clever comedy sketch, *Other People's Babies*, which has been proving so successful round the provinces and at one or two of the outlying London halls.

One of the season's most catchy songs, viz., "Cherries are blooming," owes much of its success to the charming costume in which the singer, Miss Bessie Butt, is attired. This dress was "built" from the design of Miss Butt, and is being extensively copied in all directions. Needless to say, Miss Butt feels highly flattered, but would like it known that she was the originator of cherry trimmings.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, Aug. 20.—Princess's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Sub-Lessee, Mr. Edwin Geach.—A crowded audience assembled on Saturday evening to witness the first performance of *Human Hearts*, billed by the management as "the sweetest play on earth." Taken on the whole, the performance was a decided success. Mr. Ernest Leicester as the hero, Tom Logan, displayed great talent. His best work was in the prison scene. Mr. Leicester succeeded in keeping interest on the stretch to the last. The low comedy was supplied by Mr. Berkeley in the form of a tramp of the Weary Willie pattern, a clever piece of acting for which the actor received well-deserved applause. The character of Jeanette Logan was admirably played by Miss Valentine Sidney; while the part of the villain, Frederick Armsdale, her partner in crime, found an able exponent in Mr. George Montford. Miss May Hesford (Samantha Logan), the blind mother, was well placed; while Miss Florence Redfern as a newspaper boy did some capital work. The rest of the cast was ably sustained by other members of the company. Owing to the theatre being otherwise engaged *Human Hearts* can only be staged for twelve nights and two matinées.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis.—Mr. Andrew Mack and his company faced a packed house on Saturday evening, when they staged *Jack Shannon*, a play that proved the most successful of Mr. Mack's productions during his last season in Melbourne. Of Mr. Mack's acting and singing it need only be said that he commanded his audience as completely as he had done hitherto. Mr. Martin Alsop as the treacherous Tyrrell presented a clever piece of acting; while the Mrs. Fairleigh of Miss May Stephenson was alternately charming and hateful as the play demanded. Miss Jane Kelton as Maura Sherlock, Mr. Fred Cambourne as Father Lawler, Mr. McCormick as Clifford Sherlock, Mr. N. Townsend as Lucy Sherlock, and Mr. Edwin Lester as Hugh Dillon all sustained their parts well. Special praise is due to little Miss Gwennie Walshe, who took the part of Peggy; her acting throughout was both charming and natural.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Bland Holt; Business-Manager, Mr. Simonsens.—Mr. Bland Holt's production of *The Bondman* continues to attract large crowds to this popular theatre. The scenic effects and the able acting of Mr. George Rignold, Miss Francis Ross, and the other members of Mr. Holt's company make the production highly successful. Taken on the whole, *The Bondman* is about the finest production Mr. Holt has presented to his patrons during his present season in Melbourne.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Ayton.—A bright and varied entertainment was presented to a full house on Saturday evening. Mr. Hamilton Hill, baritone, is the leading attraction at present, his fine rendering of the two songs "Queen of Love" and "Honey Boy" nightly calling forth loud applause. Techow's Cats are established favourites; Mr. Edward Cranston and company present a pleasing little sketch, entitled *Terry*; Ernesto, the musical juggler, gives a clever performance; while other excellent turns are contributed by Baby Watson, Carden Wilson, Fred Bluett, the Four Rosebuds, Eileen Lyons, Claude Leplastriere, Bijou Russell, Nellie Kilburn, Harold Reeves, Leonard Nelson, and a host of others.

West's Pictures and the Brescians continue to draw good houses at the Athenæum Hall. A fresh series of pictures are being shown, while a number of new items have been introduced into the musical portion of the programme.

The Glaciarium is nightly thronged with enthusiastic skaters. On Saturday evening next Miss Emily Fox will give an exhibition of fancy figure skating.

SYDNEY, Aug. 20.—Mr. J. C. Williamson's Royal Comic Company—minus George Lauri, invalided—revived *The Belle of New York* under Mr. Gerard Coventry's direction, at Her Majesty's on the 17th. Miss Florence Young was the latest Violet Grey, an entirely new kind of rôle for her, but her superb voice and artistic singing pulled her through. Mr. Alf Stephens was Ichabod Bronson on traditional lines; Mr. Reginald Roberts played Harry Bronson as a typical "Murrikan," nasal alike in singing and speaking; Mr. W. S. Percy was an amusingly polite lunatic; while Mr. Fred Leslie made the showiest hit in the cast as Blinky Bill; and it goes without writing that Mr. Claude Bantock made the most of Sniffkins and Miss Alma Barber made a piquant Fifi; Miss Nellie Wilson made Cora Angelique a prominent feature; and Mr. Arthur Crane sang "Old Glory" with all the necessary fire.

Miss Maud Hildyard is attracting more attention than is usually bestowed upon melodramatic actresses. She is absolutely unique, natural beyond our experience, and her method of delivering asides is perfectly delicious. In *The Great Awakening* Miss Hildyard has a part which would be a scowling fiend with most actresses, but her murders are done smilingly, and every strong line has its humorous echo, and all so natural. The play abounds in strong male characters, and two good female parts. The latter are enacted by Miss May Congdon and Miss Violet Dene.

At the Palace Miss Florence Baines keeps *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, going for all she is worth, and as it is absolutely a one-horse play, the lady has an exhausting time. But the true Lancashire ring charms us from the Old Land, and those of the new who have never heard the real accent before. The Governor has made the 31st a vice-regal command night.

The Tivoli has a new big star turn in the Four Geraldos, the first of Mr. Harry Rickards' latest engagements. They were warmly welcomed and cheered. Miss Mabel La Blanche also made her first appearance here; Mr. Fred Graham and Miss Nellie Dent are as popular as ever in their sketch, *Packing Up*.

West's Pictures at the Lyceum announce last nights. There is no apparent reason for closing the season; the house is full every night.

The National Amphitheatre has a full vaudeville company. The Victoria Hall, London Biotableaux, Haymarket, Hippodrome, Oxford Theatre, Glaciarium, Queen's Hall, and several smaller shows are all doing paying business; in fact, amusements are all prospering.

On Saturday (17th) afternoon Mr. C. Warburton Gamble and Miss Gillian Scaife, of the Ward Willoughby company, were married at St. John's Church, Glebe, by the Rev. S. S. Tovey, whose brother, the late Arthur Redwood, was a popular and talented actor here in the eighties. Some two score fellow-artists and friends celebrated the event, and the happy couple didn't lost one night's salary, leaving for the National Park on Saturday night and returning for Monday's performance at the Criterion.

The death is announced in Paris of M. Ernest Blum, one of the most prolific French playwrights of the nineteenth century. With M. Raoul Toché he wrote over a quarter of a century since *Le Voyage en Suisse*, of which the adaptation *The Swiss Express* has been running for years at provincial and suburban houses, where it is still being pioneered by the Brothers Frederick and Charles Renad.

The Awards. The three interim Awards and the final Award, corrected and revised by George Ranken Askwith, Esq., the official arbitrator appointed in the Music Hall Dispute, may be had in pamphlet form at "The Era" Offices. Copy, including postage, three-half-pence. Address: The Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

SPANISH DANCES.

Spain, the land of warmth, of sunshine, of music, of art, says Reginald St. Johnston in his "History of Dancing," can justly claim pre-eminence among the nations for her graceful and beautiful dances.

Not perhaps so vigorous, nor yet of such intricate and involved movements, as those of her Northern sisters, they are nevertheless the acme of all that is pleasing and artistic in the rhythm of motion. Dancing comes as naturally to her daughters as swimming to the Polynesians, or singing to the Germans; while Cervantes, who had such a keen insight into the natures of the Spanish people, was undoubtedly thinking of his countrywomen when he said, "There ne'er was born a woman yet, but she was born to dance."

Yet, even now, while she is a nation laid low amongst those whom she once despised, she can still claim a great distinction, for it is from Spain that those dancers come who by the grace and perfection of their dancing become the wonder and admiration of every capital of Europe.

The dances peculiar to Spain are mostly of Moorish extraction; but the interval has been so long, and the dances have been so added to and improved by the people themselves, that there is now but little trace of their ancient origin. Andalusia is the classic home of the dance, and it is there that one sees the best displays of the national dances. These are three in number—the Fandango, the Bolero, and the Seguidillas, though, of these, the Seguidillas is really only the Fandango or the Bolero danced by a greater number of people. The Fandango, which means literally "Go and dance," is danced in slow six-eight time, by two people facing each other. It is the prototype of all the others, and is the most popular of the Spanish dances. In this, as in all the others, the arm movements play an important part, and much of the peculiar grace and charm of the Spanish dance is due to them. The performers hold castanets in their hands, and often the clicking of these and the rhythmical hand-clapping of the onlookers is all the music they have, though sometimes a mandolin or a guitar is added.

There is a curious old story in connection with the Fandango, which nearly all the Spanish historians vouch for as true. It is said that in the year 1700 the Sacred College, or Ecclesiastical Court from Rome, condemned the Fandango as an irreligious performance, and were about to forbid the dancing of it anywhere.

But some enthusiastic votaries of it asked to be allowed to have it performed before the Court, to show the learned members how harmless it was. So some dancers started it, and so contagious was the music and the rhythm of it, that eventually the whole Court joined in, and there was to be seen the unusual spectacle of the Sacred College dancing the Fandango, which they had specially met to prohibit!

The Bolero is a more modern dance, and is found less in the Southern than in the Northern districts, as it is of French extraction and was introduced from Provence, passing through the Basque country into the North of Spain. It is a dance for a solo performer, almost always a woman, and the hand and arm movements are a great feature in it. It consists of sharp turns and revolutions of the body, of short quick rushes of two or three steps, now to one side, now to the other, the feet always stamping on the floor in time to the music, while at intervals, when there is a sudden pause in the tune, the dancer stops rigid in a picturesque pose, with the body bent slightly backwards, the hands on the hips, and the head erect and defiant.

The Seguidillas is in quicker time than the Fandango or Bolero, and is a combined dance of eight people. The performers range up in two files, with three or four paces interval between them, and commence dancing to the usual accompaniment of castanets, guitar, &c. It is a very exact and definite dance, and the bars of the music are counted for each fresh movement. Thus, on the fourth bar the dancing begins, on the ninth there is a pause, while at intervals, just as in the Bolero, the performers stop in a rigid and immovable pose, this, if good, being especially applauded by the onlookers.

There are numerous other minor dances of Spain, among which the Sarabanda, made historic by its performance by Cardinal Richelieu to please Anne of Austria, La Cambelas, and the Chacona, are the most important.

There is also the Cachucha, which is a comparatively modern dance, brought into prominence by Fanny Elssler, the famous première on the Paris Opera stage.

About this dance James Russell Lowell, the American writer and statesman, remarked in his account of the wedding celebrations of the late King of Spain:—"By far the prettiest and most interesting feature of the week was the dance, in the Plaza des Armas, before the Palace, of deputations from all the provinces of Spain, in their picturesque costumes. The dances were curious rather than graceful, and it was odd that the only one which we are accustomed to consider pre-eminently Spanish, the Cachucha, was performed by two professional dancers. The rest, had, however, higher interest from their manifest antiquity and almost rudimentary characters."

A famous dance of Naples is the Tarantella, a dance with surely the most strange and curious history of any. For it is said to have originally been invented to cure a disease, Tarentism, from which it got its name! This peculiar remedy was organised as early as 1374, when the disease, which was the terrible "dancing mania," a form of hysterical madness which once spread over the whole of Germany, first made its appearance. This Tarentism was for a long time thought to be the result of a bite from the Tarantula spider, owing probably to a confusion of names; but it is now practically certain that it was merely a form of nervous hysteria, of which the better known "St. Vitus' Dance" is a distant branch.

In France, the great revolution having removed the sharp dividing line between the upper classes and the lower, there is now no real national dance; for, just as in England, the dances of the country people have become assimilated with those of the upper classes.

In remote country districts, it is true, one may still find occasionally the "contre danse," a dance not unlike our own Sir Roger de Coverley, and of which our old-fashioned "country dance" is a corruption, while there is, of course, in Paris, the "Can-can"; but, apart from these, one may safely say that the present dancing of France is in all respects similar to that of England.

Not so in Russia. Here we have dances of a wilder and more vigorous kind than are to be found in any other European nation. And I think it may be regarded as a general rule that the colder the climate of a country may be the more vigorous will be its dancing.

The dances of Russia (I am not speaking of their society dances, which are, of course, the same as those of any other civilised country) are of many varieties, as is only natural in a country so large and divided into so many provinces; but through them all runs one general type.

I was once fortunate enough to see some Russians performing one of their national dances, and was struck by the really difficult and exhausting nature of the movements. Some seven or eight men and girls took part in the performance, though most of the time only one of them would be dancing, the others meanwhile standing round and making the music by clapping their hands, singing, and beating tambourines; although at certain intervals they would all join in, passing and repassing each other, dancing the whole time, till some fresh performer commenced a solo once more.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Sept. 18.—*The Movers*, a drama in four acts, by Martha Morton, is the first offering of the new season at the Hackett Theatre. The theme of the play is somewhat similar to that of *The Climbers*. Chudleigh Manners, a young broker, and his wife, Marion, have been living beyond their means. When the crash comes, and their home is sold under the hammer, Chudleigh confesses to his wife that he is an embezzler and commits suicide. His example, however, does not serve as a warning to his brother-in-law, who buys the luxurious furnishings, and with an equally extravagant wife, plunges headlong down the same path. Marion Manners becomes a hospital nurse, and in course of time comes to her sister's house to take care of her during an illness. The young couple are on the verge of ruin, and Marion can save them by contracting a certain marriage, which, however, she refuses to do, and the mortgage on their house is foreclosed. But under Marion's influence they change their wasteful way of living, and get on their feet again; while Marion, herself a changed woman, finds happiness as the wife of John Stirling, her family physician, who has long been her friend. The play promised well in the earlier scenes, but fell flat after the second act, and for that reason its reception has not been altogether favourable. Miss Dorothy Donnelly, Miss Ida Waterman, Mr. Vincent Serrano, and Mr. W. J. Ferguson acquitted themselves creditably in the more important rôles.

Mr. Henry Miller is collaborating with Mr. Hartley Manners on a new adaptation of the German military play, *Krieg Im Frieden*, which was the original of Augustin Daly's *The Passing Regiment*. Mr. Daly's version was a five-act comedy, with scenes laid in New York. The new version is to be a three-act comedy, with the scenes laid in Quebec. Mr. Laurence D'Orsay and Miss Cecilia Loftus will have the leading rôles, the former appearing as an officer of an English regiment stationed in Canada.

"Ruth," a domestic drama, in four acts, was recently produced in Washington, with Miss Fernanda Eliscu in the title-rôle. The play was adapted from the Yiddish of Z. Libin, by Professor Addison Hervey, of Columbia College. The first three scenes show the library in the home of the Buchanans, and the last an exterior picture of their summer home with a midsummer setting. The play deals with the confession to her husband of Ruth, who, impelled by conscience, after having been married six years, tells him of a past when, struggling for existence, she met a man who promised her all the glittering things of life, and, tempted by the vision of a happy future, she had fallen. The husband, of a forgiving disposition, would condone her fault, but his sister, having overheard the confession, begins to persecute Ruth. Finally, the husband grows suspicious, and accuses his wife of taking a small sum of money to provide for an orphan in an asylum, who might be her own child. The wife leaves him to resume a life of drudgery, but poverty forces her to return in the hope of being forgiven, and the husband welcomes her with open arms.

Mr. Joseph Vandenberg, formerly of London, is directing an opera company at the West End Theatre, in Haarlem, and is reviving all the favourite operas in an attractive manner.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PIETERMARITZBURG, Aug. 27.—Town Hall.—The Bohemians gave a satisfactory performance on Saturday last. Miss Clara Pierse is the possessor of a well-trained contralto voice; and Miss Madge Nicholson gained no end of applause. Mr. Alfred Thomas proves himself to be a thoroughly finished entertainer. Watty McNab, a Scotch comedian, did well; and Mr. Alf Hurley is a quaint little comedian.

Scott's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. D. Scott; Lessees, B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. Wyburd.—Mrs. Brown Potter and company are here this week in a répertoire of plays. On Monday *La Tosca* was staged, Mrs. Brown Potter as Floria Tosca presenting a finished study of a difficult rôle. Miss Price Owen as Marie Carolina (Queen of Naples) gave a dignified rendering; Baron Scarpia was in the capable hands of Mr. A. G. Poulton, who brought out all the hatred and vindictiveness of the part in an able manner; Marco Cavaradosi was ably portrayed by Mr. Chas. A. Deran; Mr. Esme Percy as Cæsare Angelotti is deserving of high praise; Mr. Chas. A. Daly (Le Machese Attavanti), Mr. Harold Carfax (Scharoni), and Mr. H. Ashton (Procurateur Fiscal) all lent able support. The company are down to play *The Ironmaster*, *School for Scandal*, *Lady of Camelias*, *Mary Queen of Scots*, and *Forget-Me-Not*.

The Woods-Williamson dramatic company are doing good business at Kimberley.

The Leonard Rayne company are at present at His Majesty's Theatre, Johannesburg.

Fillis's Circus has opened for a short season at Durban.

By insuring each ankle and foot for £15,000, La Belle Otero is merely following the example of other famous artists and musicians, who find it necessary to make provision for the loss which would follow their non-appearance on the stage or platform, owing to an accident to the throat or hand. Kubelik was the first to start this idea of insuring against loss of income, and he pays a premium of £300 a year in order to insure his right hand for £10,000, while Paderewski's right hand is insured for just £1000 less.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 13.)

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—HIPPODROME THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Robt. A. Nicholson; Acting-Manager, Geo. Stainton.—Chas. Majilton and company head the bill with a comedy act, *Round the Clock*, which is greatly appreciated; Nancy St. John, comedienne and dancer, scores greatly; and Parker and Parr cause great amusement as the Welsh Musicians; Trentanovi Sisters present a sensational gymnastic act, while a delightful musical turn is provided by the Musical Keiths; Alix Lukos receives a flattering reception for his scena, *Pictures in the Fire;* and Ouda and Artell, gymnasts, are well received. The pictures conclude the programme.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—Duncan and Godfrey in their coster comedy, *Me and 'Er*, are here, and prove a very attractive turn; the Moutier Sisters present a sensational horizontal bar act; while the sketch of Ted Karno and company creates great amusement; Syd Herman, Hebrew comedian, is greatly appreciated; and Dolly Denver proved herself a dainty comedienne and dancer; a humorous sketch provided by Dene and Dawson is very amusing; Bartlo, concertina soloist, has made a great impression. The pictures are most attractive.

STOKE. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—At the head of the bill here this week are Mr. Frank Long and Miss Omoyo-San in an exhibition of jiu-jitsu, which is decidedly interesting. Sam Redfern scores a success with his amusing patter; the Whittington Trio provide a clever turn; Sterling and Love are seen in a good sketch, during which some smart vocalism and instrumental items are introduced; Whimsical Walker and company present *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*, which is decidedly interesting; Maude Forde is a smart comedienne; George Rae, a Scotch comedian of merit, is successful; Burnes and Bentley are very fine dancers, and the pictures are capital.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—*A Woman's Past* is finding great favour here this week. The company is under the direction of Messrs. A. Hamilton Warden and Charles W. Sandford. Miss Maisie Hanbury as Bessie proves a talented artist, and the same may be said of Mr. J. Cook Hinton as David Heath. The shady characters of the drama are admirably depicted by Mr. G. Moreton Williams as Uriah Craven, and Miss Nesta Sandford as Clara Darrell. Plenty of good humour is furnished by Mr. Charles V. Sandford as Frank D. Maney and Miss Mary Mallalieu. Mr. A. Hamilton Ward is a favourite as Clement Harper.

SUNDERLAND.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing Directors, Messrs. Stevens and Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. L. Carlo.—*The Girl from Kay's* receives able interpretation from Mr. Charles Macdona's capable company. Mr. Johnny Schofield is especially delightful in his amusing delineation of the rich Max Hoggenheimer, there being nothing but hearty laughter whilst he occupies the stage; another clever and highly-amusing item is Mr. Claude Dampier's droll impersonation of the hotel hall porter Joseph; Miss Margaret Cathcart makes an exceedingly winsome and happy Winnie Harboro'; as Nora Chalmers Miss Mavis Hope proves a charming, well-favoured bride, singing her allotted numbers with admirable taste and skill; Miss Irene Vere is a pert and saucy Ellen, dancing most acceptably; and Miss Marie Shields gracefully enacts the more sedate rôle of Mrs. Chalmers. Mr. Herbert Franklyn capably accounts for the honeymooning husband, Harry Gordon; Mr. Geo. H. Liot gets many a laugh with his droll make-up of the Hon. Percy; and Messrs. Arthur Jackson and Archer Brown are both adequate as Uncle Theodore and Mr. Chalmers respectively. Misses Clapton, Eden, Wall, Madle, Plummer, and Chalmers are responsible as the Assistants at Kay's; and the Misses Molloy, Hope, Younger, Brame, Gummerson, and County make charming bridesmaids; whilst Miss Barbara Evangeline is responsible as Jane. Mr. Richard Keith and Mr. B. Strathmore enact the respective parts of Pepper and Archie Pembridge, and Mr. Ivan Ewart is entrusted with the rôle of the waiter Frank.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's *The Midnight Wedding* company is here. Mr. Alfred Paumier appears in his original character of Paul Valmar, playing with great acumen and ability; Miss Annie Saker also is seen in her original and dual rôle of Lieut. Karl Helsburg and Princess Astrea Von Strelsburg, sustained with histrionic power; Mr. Ernest E. Imeson as Captain Rudolph earns the execrations of the house by his adequate interpretation of the generally unthankful rôle of the villain; Mr. F. W. Freeman succeeds as Prince Leopold; and Mr. A. E. W. Barnes is sufficient as Eugene Von Strelsburg. Mr. W. S. Hardy is a capital Father Gerard; Mr. James E. Page, as Sergeant Max, along with Messrs. V. Vane and Spalding as Corporal Otto and Private Bobo, contribute the necessary humour and lighter element; and Miss Ada Champion's embodiment of Kathie, of the Golden Lion, is most amusing.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The bill is headed by George Gilbey, who scores as "Spouty, the goalkeeper." Verno and Voyce prove most acceptable in their autoplane burlesque *The King of the Clouds*, both in regard to their vocalism and smartly set together patter on topical and other current events; the Griffiths Brothers are as amusing as of yore with their motor-car and duel; and the Netherlands, a quartette of girls, appear in a song and skipping dance scena entitled *Dutch Pastimes*. The Three Cape Girls, smart long-boot dancers; Phillips and Terry, duologue artists; Tripello, chime manipulator and clever saxophonist; Mark Henton, comedian; Hinton and Wooton, in an exciting bicycle football match; and last, but by no means least, the Chronomegaphone in Harry Lauder's well-known successes, complete the list. The programmes of this handsome and commodious house still lacks sufficient variety and "tip-top" items of interest, and are by no means up to the fame of the other houses coming under the control of the Moss' Empires Company in the near vicinity of the large Wearside town.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees, The United County Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Browne and Stringer.—A great draw this week is found in the visit of the popular burlesque artists, Florrie Forde, who secures a most flattering reception, and after singing "After you with the girl," "He's my pal," and "Up to one of your tricks," the audience would not be denied, when the fair artist responded with "Has anyone seen a German band?" At each change the audience lustily sang the respective choruses, after having been first tutored by the popular songstress. Another strong turn that is welcomed and applauded is the comedian J. W. Hall, who scores with some of his old and new numbers; the Glenroy Troupe, with their smart costumes and characteristic dancing, also come in for a fair share of applause. Albert Wyndham and company appear in the Shakespearean episode *Prince Arthur*, which is somewhat unique in music-hall programmes, but a welcome interlude withal. It is played, staged, and dressed in the most adequate manner. Others appearing include Arthur Goodman, comedy juggler; the Moncktons, in comedy act; John Lloyd's Gondolier Glee Singers; the Kroney Brothers, in their *London's Lazy Coalmen* act; and the Palace pictures.

SWANSEA. — THE GRAND.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Brooks and Woodbridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Dean.—Baron H. Harriss's talented company presents *The Prince of Pilsen* for the first time in Swansea in a style that will long be remembered; one of the most talented actresses seen here for some time is Miss Sophie Harriss, and as Mrs. Madison Crocker she is delightful; Miss Minnie Muir, and Miss Ernestine Desborough are graceful dancers and charming singers, and in their respective parts of Nellie Wagner and Edith Adams are seen to great advantage; Miss Connie Leon as Sidonie is a great success, her dancing being excellent; Mr. Harry Kilburn is in great form as Hans Wagner, keeping the audience in one big roar of laughter; Carl Otto, the Prince of Pilsen, has a realistic impersonator in Mr. Frank Crimp; as the Earl of Shrimpton Mr. Bernard Russell is one of the successes of the play; Lieutenant Wagner is smartly played by Mr. S. Lindon Lang, and as the hotel concierge Mr. Ernest Gifford is good.

THE STAR.—Manager, Mr. William Coutts; Assistant Manager, Mr. S. J. Powell.—Mr. Andrew Melville and company give *The Scales of Justice* in a manner that delights the Star patrons; Mr. Andrew Melville is eminently suited by his part of Tony Wilkins, and fully sustains his reputation; Miss Rose Ralph plays the dual part of Mary and Jennie Maxwell in a manner that does not fail to charm every one; a large and talented company gives Mr. and Mrs. Melville excellent support.

EMPIRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. Mitchell; Assistant Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—George Formby is the chief figure of a good bill at the Empire this week; Cruickshank, "the fool of the family," acts the part to perfection, and does particularly well; the Musical Johnstons are true artists and their turn a most enjoyable one; Maud Rochey's monkeys give a really wonderful performance; as an impersonator of makers of history Ranschle excels, and Rosa Hamilton, as usual, is excellent; Wyndham and Killy do a sensational wire walking turn; Eda Mardy is a vocalist worth hearing, and Anna Kenwick sings and dances in good style; Bioscope pictures maintain their high standard.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Business-Manager, Mr. Alfred Manner.—After its successful production at Glasgow last week, by Mr. J. Grant Allen's company, that new play, *The Knave of Hearts*, has been moved in its entirety to this house, where it was enthusiastically greeted on Monday. Mr. H. A. Saintsbury must be complimented on his admirable impersonation of Australian Jack; Miss Nina Sevening is most charming as Helen Brentwood; and Miss Haidee Wright cleverly undertakes the part of Hattie Flynn; Mr. Stanley Logan's efforts as Durham, the butler, are much appreciated; Mr. George De Lara, as Henry Bruder, and Mr. John Willes, as William Brentwood, should each be commended for some really good work; Mr. Leon M. Lion has much to do, not only as the general-manager of the company, but he also doubles, very cleverly, the parts of Flynn, a criminal, and Revils, a detective. Mr. W. J. Rae and Mr. W. Walford stand out prominently in smaller parts.

TAMWORTH.—ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Manager, Mr. F. Hughes.—Miss Maggie Morton's company, under the direction of Mr. F. K. Herman, appeared here to crowded houses on Friday and Saturday nights in *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr. Victor Rae in the title-rôle showed himself to be an actor of muscle and mettle; Mr. Henri Gerald as Captain Leo acted so realistically that he was rewarded by the execrations of the "gods"; Mr. Frank Waller was successful as Lucas Marlow; Miss Cicely Clutterbuck, as Kate Strong, the blacksmith's wife, early enlisted the sympathies of the audience; Mr. F. K. Herman as Jeremiah Parkins and Miss Amy Lloyd-Earle as his wife were a highly amusing couple; Mr. Frank Venn as Billy Trigg was responsible for no little laughter; Miss Kathleen Willoughby as Ruth Parkins and Miss Josephine Melbourne as Harry Strong also deserve favourable mention.

TONYPANDY.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Counsell.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. Andrew Melville's company in *Driven From Home*. Mr. Felix Pitt is well placed as Antony Raybrock; Mr. Charles Burden scores heavily as Geoffrey Daring; Mr. Francis Everard makes a good Walter Hatherleigh; Mr. Villiers Stanley does justice to the rôle of Willie, the Outcast; the comedy relief is well supplied by Mr. Fred Imbert and Miss Susie Bevan as John and Margaret Anderson; and Miss Muriel Dean makes a dainty Laura.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. Thomas; Assistant and Stage-Manager, Mr. D. Armstrong.—The chief attraction here this week is the Two Errolls. Other items on the programme are Allsopp and Bekwith, Vendome and Chase, Lizzie North, La Belle Lily and Albert Lodge (champion whistler), J. C. Heffron, Sisters Henley, and Leo King.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company (North) is this week providing a welcome change here, and the performance of *Julius Cæsar* was very enthusiastically greeted. In the title-rôle Mr. Charles Francis acted with dignity, power, and restraint throughout; whilst Mr. Henry Herbert gave an excellent representation of Brutus. As the scheming Cassius, Mr. Clarence Derwent was all that could be desired; and Mr. Ross Shore was very good as the blunt Casca. In the character of Antony, Mr. Baliol Holloway was full of vigour, and his acting was frequently applauded. The rather trying characters of Portia and Calphurnia were very ably sustained by Miss Gladys Vanderzee and Miss Rosa Burgess respectively. The minor parts are in capable hands. Included in the répertoire are *Henry V., The Rivals, Hamlet, The Merry Wives of Windsor, As You Like It*, and *The Merchant of Venice*.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—The Olympian Entertainers, under the direction of Mr. Paul Mill, who were so popular here last season, are here this week, and are drawing large audiences. Miss Haidee St. George has an excellent soprano voice, and she is well supported by Miss Happy Carton (contralto) and Miss Bertha Callen. Mr. Sydney Mannering renders some good songs very acceptably, and Mr. Harry Harmer also does well. Mr. J. G. Taylor, last year's favourite, fairly brings down the house with his amusing patter; and Mr. Paul Mill is quaintly humorous. Mrs. Paul Mill proves a capable accompanist.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA.—Proprietor and Director, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—The place of honour this week is held by the Red Cloaks company in a merry musical mélange that proves most entertaining. Lillian Payne, contralto vocalist, gave no less than three songs and two encores; Arthur J. Hill, cyclist Prince of Lilliput, is both clever and amusing; La Tostia is a mandolist above the average; and secures an excellent reception. The Bioscope depicts the Scottish Highlands, and proves extremely popular.

VENTNOR (Isle of Wight).—PIER PAVILION.—On Monday Mr. Henri Goddard had his farewell benefit. Under his management the season has been most successful. The Evening Stars shone most brilliantly; Miss Gladys Haysack, soprano, is the possessor of a sweet voice and a charming personality; Mr. Stanley Ridout has an excellent and well-trained tenor voice; Miss Lizzie Finch is a fine contralto; and Miss Beatrice Cowley a most efficient pianist.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Herbert Ralland's *La Poupée* company pays a return visit here, and was welcomed with a crowded house on Monday evening. Mr. Fred Seymour gives a fine impersonation as Hilarius, and is exceedingly funny; Mr. Arthur Cozens was highly successful as Launcelot; Mr. Fuller Allen is very effective as Baron Chamerelle; Mr. Walter Balfour's fine voice is heard to advantage as Father Maxime; Miss Edith Hunter is admirable as Mme. Hilarius, and Miss Alice Roche gives a charming portrayal as Alesia.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The programme here this week comprises Gorman's Juveniles, a clever combination of juvenile talent; Mr. Tom Lloyd, comedian, who scored a decided success in his funny songs; Halma, society juggler, performs some capital feats; Zenora, hand balancer, provides an interesting turn; the Sisters Russell, character vocalists, prove popular; Mr. W. C. Wensley, comedian, is amusing; and Miss Madge Allan, comedienne, dances well.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Brimful of genuine fun is the sketch, *Casey's Court*, which, as played by Harry Cadle's Midget Mimics, with Bob King as Mrs. Casey, is being received nightly with roars of laughter. Lilian Lowe is a charming vocalist; Lively Lily Langtry creates much fun; Daniel and Son are exceedingly clever acrobats and balancers; Harry Friskey proves a marvellous juggler; Charles Hargreaves' chorus songs, with illustrations, provide a capital turn; E. Rousby's electrical review of reviews, "Around Paris," proves most interesting; and the American Bioscope shows some capital pictures.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—A visit is being paid here this week by Mr. Percy Norman and company in the military drama, *A Woman Worth Winning*. Mr. Sidney Barton as Czar Nicholas is very successful; Mr. Gilbert Standing is a capable Amos Pauloff; Mr. Percy Horton is an excellent Fergus Lovinsky; General Borinski is well played by Mr. A. B. Mackay; Miss Trixie Leighton as Lota Kalnovky is well portrayed; Miss Cissie Bellamy displays great ability as Roma Pauloff; and other characters are well sustained.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—A large house gave Mr. and Mrs. William MacLaren's company a capital reception in *Proof* on Monday. The members of the cast are well balanced, and the staging and dresses are very effective. Mr. S. Herbert Humber's delineation of Pierre is an exceptionally fine piece of acting; Mr. P. Hamilton as Lazare depicts all the remorselessness the author intended; and the hearty, buoyant nature of Chamboran is ably portrayed by Mr. Carl Beechy; and a suitable air of dignity marks Mr. Bernard Elliott's Count D'Aubeterre. Miss Beatrice Sinclair is eminently succesful as Madeline; and a really clever juvenile is Miss Doris Dunville, who enacts Adrienne. Miss Emelie Wilson well fills the part of Duchesse D'Aubeterre; and rich histrionic abilities are displayed by Miss Alicia Ralegh as Valentine.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Waters; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Ross and Grayson are a capital pair of comedians; the Sivronis score in their sketch, *Opera Gone Mad;* and Eva Hope, assisted by Jack Wayho, supplies a delightful turn in a series of duologues from works by Dickens. Miss Lily Wood is a dainty comedienne; and Blanche Marion a refined vocalist and dancer. Harry Luck is a funny comedian; and Fyne and Hurley score well as the Dude and the Coster. The Rowleys are clever speciality artists; and the Bioscope shows some excellent pictures.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Kuner.—After an absence of some few years Dr. Walford Bodie and his variety company are paying us a visit here this week. It is needless to mention that his presence in the town is always a big attraction and a huge success. His mesmeric performance combined with the electrical entertainment creates roars of laughter and evokes continuous applause.

WEST BROMWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Messrs. Charles H. Phelps and James W. Mercer's company opened here on Monday with *One Woman's Wickedness*. Mr. Frank Roy was all that could be desired in the part of Philip Beaufort; the same remarks apply to the acting of Mr. Arthur Lynton as John Fossett; Mr. Frank Hertie presented a strong and telling portrayal of Paul Roque; Mr. Charles H. Phelps skilfully enacted Jem Craggs; Mr. Clifford Spencer did well as Fitznoodle; Mr. Harry Howe scored in the rôle of Limpy Larry; Miss Irene Carrington acted with distinction as Janet Raymond; Miss Mabel Hall submitted a clever interpretation of Lilian Craggs; and Miss Cissie Clarke evoked humour with her acting and songs as Jenny Jiggles.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert Withers.—A strong programme is again presented here. Bert Woodward gives a clever cycling act; smart songs are rendered by Belle Bromley; a treat in the way of dog training is presented by Prof. Macann and his Irish terriers; Rose Cabani submits some refined and clever songs; the New York Nippers cause great fun; a return visit is paid by Jack Pleasants, who keeps the house in roars with his humorous songs; Larola is all that he calls himself, viz., "the clever man with funny ways"; the Gotham Comedy Four gain encores; and a series of interesting pictures is thrown on the screen.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. Herbert E. Feather.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company in the original version of *East Lynne* is appearing here. Mr. Alfred Beaumont's conception of the character of Archibald Carlyle is a capital one; Lady Mountsevern has a capable exponent in Miss Helen Lowther; Miss E. Hardacre is an amusing Cornelia Carlyle; Miss Kate Evelyn a successful Barbara Hare; and Miss Jessie Sydney does well as Joyce; Lady Isabel is effectually played by Miss Julie Kennard; and Mr. Alfred Tate is a droll Bullock.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The Three Florodora Girls make a hit here in their speciality, *Two's Company, Three's None*. Prince Kokin is indeed a smart juggler; Charles Mildare a good whistler; Copeland and Son are well remembered in the district for their dancing; the Bros. Ralston are successful in duets; and Rosalie Jacobi (soubrette), and Nora Stockelle please all; Harry Taylor in original Hebrew comedy, and some capital films on Raymond's machine are other features of a good bill.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. N. Payne.—Messrs. Henry Chattell and G. W. Bowes' *The Sign of the Cross* company is here this week. Mr. Wallan G. Court is highly dramatic as Marcus Superbus; Mr. B. W. Yaldwyn is good as Nero; as Tigellinus Mr. G. Osmond Tearle shows much histrionic talent; Glabrio is humorously portrayed by Mr. Donald McAdam; Mr. W. Burton's interpretation of Favius is most artistic; Miss Olivia Eltone is remarkably handsome, and shows exceptional talent as Mercia; Miss Effie Dane's Stephanus deserves the highest eulogy; Miss Kathleen Day as Poppoea, Miss May Beatrice as Berenice, and Miss Dorothy Lambert as Dacia, are all praiseworthy.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John H. Stevenson.—The Royal Comedy Entertainers are the attraction this week. Mr. Fred Daniels song, "The Blue Moon," was humorously rendered; Mr. Alfred W. Newton's mandoline solo was loudly applauded; Mr. Sydney Locklynne's imitations are extremely clever; and Mr. Owen Clark excels as a conjurer; Mr. John Warren's ventriloquial interlude was well received; and Miss Ada Tunk's fine voice was heard to advantage in "Prince Charming," for which she was loudly encored; Mr. Frank Lens showed some splendid pictures on the Bioscope; and the Austrian Blue Band showed marked improvement under the baton of Herr Herni.

WHITEHAVEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Clark; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Clark.—Miss Emma Litchfield's company is here in the drama *A Clever Impostor*. Mr. Stuart Cleveland is exceptionally good in the title-rôle; Mr. Arthur Page is clever as Captain Desmond; comedy is well represented by Mr. A. Lightfoot (Harris) and Miss F. Gomer (Annie); and Mr. John McEbroy is good as Jim Brightside. Miss Isabel Singleton makes a pleasing Masie, Miss Violet Lesborough a disagreeable Margaret, and Miss Emma Litchfield an excellent Norah.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Jas. Kiddie.—This week we have here Mr. Clarence C. Corrie's company with *The Dancing Girl of Spain* and *Office Hours*. The new musical comedy goes with a swing, and the music is tuneful. When the comedy parts are "written up" a big success is certain to be achieved. Mr. Lawrence Emery is excellent as Don Julian Alvarez; Mr. Geo. Danvers is a fiery Sir Jeremiah Joyce; Mr. Geo. Delaforce is a comical McGinty; Mr. Philip Hartley plays the Jew well, and his bone solo turn is extremely clever; Mr. Johnnie Schofield, jun., as the dancing parson, reveals himself an expert in the terpsichorean art; Mr. F. Owen Bates as Don Carlos is good; the Guitarez of Mr. Arthur White is quite the funniest thing of the evening; Miss Pauline Hague looks very sweet and sings well as Marie Montressor; Miss Millie Neal is good as Juanita; Miss Eva Kelland in the part of Chequata Joyce reveals herself both as actress and vocalist of unusual merit. The dresses are charming and the staging is very pretty. *Office Hours* is a screaming farce, in which Mr. Arthur White as an irrepressible office boy fairly "brings down the house." Mr. F. Owen Bates lends excellent assistance.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co. — Mr. Fred Karno's pantomimical play, *His Majesty's Guests*, has attracted large audiences during the week. Mr. George Hester as Sergeant Lightning, Mr. Harry Howe as the Bouncing Bunker, Mr. Sid. Kearns as Mr. Minks, and Mr. George Denham as Fritz are most entertaining. Other prominent artists in a clever company are Messrs. F. Morton, Tom Manardo, C. Usher, and Miss Lenora Castelle.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—The Piccolinos, marvellous lilliputian performers, are first-rate dancers, cyclists and gymnasts; Jennie Johns is a popular soubrette; and Rapoli is a clever juggler; Will Vay's Troupe of Juveniles are excellent in the sketch, *Life in the Slums*; and Ariston's Cats are entertaining animals; Mollie Wolstenholme, operatic vocalist, is well received, and capital comedy is furnished by Bert Harrow, Fame and Fortune, Cliff Ryland, and Master Clifford.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager Mr. F. Le Warde.—The D'Oyly Carte principal répertoire company is paying a week's visit, and a change of programme each evening has served to attract packed houses. The week's engagement opened with *The Mikado*, which is to be repeated at Saturday's matinée and evening performance, and on successive evenings there has been given *The Gondoliers, Iolanthe, The Yeomen of the Guard*, and *Patience*. The company includes many old favourites, to whom a nightly ovation has been accorded, and principals and chorus have throughout the week scored signal successes. Amongst the most prominent members of this numerous and talented company are Messrs. Fred Billington, Leicester Tunks, Leo Sheffield, Henry Burnand, and Charles R. Walenn; and Misses Hope Hastings, Jessie Rose, Mabel Graham, and Theresa Rassam. The fact that the augmented orchestra is under the personal direction of François Cellier ensures an artistic interpretation of the works in hand.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—On Monday night there was a large audience to witness *A False Wife*, by F. Marriott-Watson's company. Mr. F. H. Constable was manly as the hero; as Rattler Mr. E. Morton was effective; Mr. F. Marriott-Watson was successful as Jean; as Sir Colin Mr. Geo. Langham was painstaking; as the heroine Miss Arnold Hylton was charming and pathetic; Miss Ivy Chandos was sprightly as Bessie; Miss F. E. Florence gave a fine rendering of the part of Estelle.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Messrs. Henry Swinerd and J. W. Cordiner's No. 1 company are here for the first three nights, presenting *The Girl from Japan*. Mr. George Hudson does well as Lord Allenbury; Mr. H. Buckstone Clair is an able Sir Mulberry Flippington; Mr. Percy Baverstock is an extremely droll General Baugh; Mr. Ernest Spalding a whimsical Rev. John Smith; and Mr. Ted D. Dennis a diverting Horatio Binks; Miss Florence Wilton puts in excellent work as Violet; Misses Daisy Cane and Edna Corré dance well. On Thursday Miss Ida Molesworth, Mr. Mark Blow, and company appeared in *In the King's Name*.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*Lady Windermere's Fan*, played four nights this week by the Monckton Hoffe Comedy company, has proved a great attraction, and has been notable for the charmingly natural rendering of the rôle of Mrs. Earlyn by Miss Lydia Busch, this clever lady had a most gratifying reception; a convincingly strong rendition of Lady Winderemere is given by Miss Nona Hoffe, an emotional actress of exceptional merit; Miss Maude Henderson gave a characteristic study of the part of the Duchess of Berwick; and Aubrey Fitzmaurice was a lively Cecil Graham; as Lord Windermere Mr. Monckton Hoffe had ample opportunities to display his undoubted abilities, and proved in every way a success: Mr. H. Lane-Bayliff gave a very fine performance as Lord Darlington; and Mr. Ralph W. Hutton caused much amusement as Lord Augustus Lorton. A pretty curtain-raiser is seen in *A Breezy Morning*, in which Aubrey Fitzmaurice and Winifred Vallant do exceedingly well. *The Importance of Being Earnest* was played two evenings.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—Tina Clementa's sporting act is generally admired, it is a marvel of animal training; Hunter and Maris introduce some novel and amusing business; Bains and Reed are expert tumblers; Helen McGregor is a clever singer; and Wilson Hallett's mimicry of children is a pleasing item; Harwood's Juveniles give a pleasing show; and Atlas and Vulcana give an athletic show of great cleverness, which is loudly applauded.

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NO STAMPS.

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THE PUBLISHER,
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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Dec. 16, Feb. 10, 17, 24, March 2, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Nov. 11, Dec. 2, Feb. 17, March 2, 9, 16, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Dec. 16, Feb. 10, April 6, 13, May 18, 25, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Feb. 17, March 2, 9.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Nov. 11, 18, Feb. 10, March 2, 9, 23, 30, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Jan. 6, 13, 20, Feb. 3, 17, 24, March 23, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Feb. 3 April 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Dec. 16, Jan. 20, Feb. 17, 24, on.
Panto. required for Jan. 27 and Feb. 3.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Nov. 7, 14, 21 (3 nights each),
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton,
Nov. 11 and 18;
Reading, Nov. 11, Dec. 2.
Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
1907, Dec. 16, wire; 1908, March 16, May 11, on.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
1908, March 9, April 13, May 11, onwards.
Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole T., Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
Oct. 28, Nov. 4, Dec. 9, 16, 23, onwards. No dramas.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Nov. 25, Dec. 16, 23, 30, Jan. 13, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25 (3 nights only).
Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Oct. 28 and Nov. 4.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Canterbury, Oct. 7 (three nights).
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.

WANTED, a Special Attraction for Christmas Week, also March 2 and 30, and certain Autumn dates next year.
Bookings for the present season include Miss Ellen Terry and Company, Mr. Wm. Mollison, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Geo. Alexander's Companies, Mr. F. R. Benson, The Moody-Manners, Mr. George Edwardes' Companies, The D'Oyly Carte Company, Miss Decima Moore, Mr. Robert Courtneidge's Companies, "The Lion and the Mouse," "The Prince of Pilsen," "The Hypocrites," "Veronique," Miss Annie Hughes, "The Silver King," "The Bondman," "Sherlock Holmes," "The Prodigal Son," "Her Love Against the World," &c.
Address, SIDNEY COOPER.

PRINCE'S THEATRE,
LLANDUDNO.

WANTED, good Companies,
Oct. 17, on, three nights.
Apply J. RITSON, General-Man.

GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

WANTED, Powerful Musical and other London Attractions, Nov. 25, Dec. 2, Jan. 6, 13, and big Panto. for Xmas. FRED GRANVILLE, Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
Sole Proprietors, Messrs. TRENCHARD and JONES.
This Theatre re-decorated and fitted throughout with electric light. Only Vacant Date this year, Nov. 4. Now booking 1908.

WANTED, Musical Comedies and First-class Attractions. Apply, CHARLES TRENCHARD, Manager, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.

WANTED, First-Class Attraction, for Nov. 4 (unexpectedly vacant),
Musical Comedy or good Drama preferred.
Address,
LAWSON-LAMBERT, as above.

WAKEFIELD OPERA HOUSE.

WANTED, Musical Comedy, Nov. 25, Sound Attractions, Dec. 2, 9, Jan. 6; Sound Pantomime for fortnight, commencing Feb. 3 or 10.
All communications to be addressed,
SHERWOOD and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.

WANTED, good Companies, Dec. 16, Jan. 6 (three days), 13 (three days), 20, Feb. 17, and on, Musical Show preferred. Theatre Royal, Loughborough, may be booked in conjunction last three days.

THE SPA, WHITBY.

Wanted, Musical Plays, for occasional Dates, from Nov. 4 on; also good Dramas. Bridlington may be booked in conjunction.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

WANTED, Strong Dramas,
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON,
Dec. 9 and 16.
Apply,
F. MOUILLOT, 1, King-st., Covent Garden

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant Dec. 16, March 9, onward, with exceptions.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Nov. 25, Dec. 16, onward, with exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Nov. 5, 18, Dec. 2, onward, with exceptions.

THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY DOCK.
Vacant Nov. 25, Dec. 16, 23, onward, with exceptions.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Oct. 3, 24, Nov. 4, onward, with exceptions. (First three nights better for Musical stuff; last three nights Drama.)

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Sept. 30, Oct. 21, Nov. 11, onward, with exceptions.

ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre, the Fashionable Theatre. The only Theatre in the town allowed to advertise on the electric cars. Lighted throughout by electricity. Brilliant success of after entire re-building. Press and public enthusiastic. Described as the most beautiful Theatre in the North.
Holding capacity second to none in the town. Bookings include: "The Dairymaids," Mr. James Welch's Co. in "When Knights were Bold," Miss Annie Hughes in "Tommy," Mr. Norman Macowan in "Monsieur Beaucaire," "The Little Stranger" (including Master Edward Garrett), "A Trip to the Highlands," Mr. Walter Maxwell's Co., "The Lion and the Mouse" (third visit), Mr. Charles Cartwright and Co., "In the Bishop's Carriage," Mr. Frederick Mouillot's Co., including Miss Decima Moore, in "The Truth," Mr. Percy Hutchison's No. 1 Company, "The Stronger Sex," Mr. Brandon Thomas' No. 1 Company, "Charley's Aunt," Mr. Walter Melville's Drama, Mr. Frank Lindo's "Home, Sweet Home," Mr. Morton Powell's Cos., Messrs. Polini and Melford's No. 1 Company, "The Silver King," &c., &c.
WANTED, Exceptional Attractions. Only Vacant Dates Dec. 16, Jan. 6, 20, Feb. 3 (?). 24, onwards.
CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H.M.T., Barrow.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
"A great item for good items."
One of the finest and best-equipped houses in the Provinces.
Holding capacity, 3,500.

Success Succeeds.
Success Succeeds.
Success Succeeds.

WANTED, Oct. 21 (unexpectedly vacant), Dec. 2 and 16. First-Class Attractions only.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1908.
Vacant, Feb. 17, 24, March 2, 9, 16, 30, April 6, 27, and on, with exceptions

Bookings include:
Miss Decima Moore, in "The Truth."
Mr. George Edwardes' Co., in "See-Saw."
Middlesbrough Amateurs, in "The Mikado."
No. 1 "Country Girl" Company.
No. 1 "Cingalee" Company.
No. 1 "Beauty of Bath" Company.
Messrs. Fredk. and Walter Melville's Dramas.
No. 1 Moody-Manners Opera Company.
Mr. Russell Norrie and Co., in "Mr. Smith."
Mr. Percy Hutchison's No. 1 Company, in "Peter's Mother."
Mr. J. F. Elliston's Grand Pantomime, "Mother Goose."
The D'Oyly Carte Répertoire Company.
Miss Marie Studholme, in "My Darling."
"The Little Michus,"
&c., &c., &c.

All communications to
JNO. ED. JOWSEY,
Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.
Telephones, 413, 426, 500

Silence a polite negative.

LYCEUM THEATRE, GOVAN, GLASGOW.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Dec. 2 and 9.
One of the handsomest and best-equipped Theatres in Scotland.
Last week's receipts £385 (six nights).
Refer Walter Melville, Esq.
Since re-opening for Autumn Season on Aug. 5, the Theatre Receipts for past seven weeks amount to £1,455, an average of over £200 weekly; all with Melodrama only.
Mr. Waldon is open to negotiate with First-Class Pantomime for Jan. 13, 20, Feb. 17.
Address,
RICH. WALDON, Lyceum Theatre, Govan, Glasgow.

WANTED, excellent Pantomime for Xmas and following week, or any big Spectacle Show; the New Opera House, Bridlington, a great success; played to thousands; large stage, electricity throughout; holds over £100; liberal bill-posting, and everything done to ensure big success. Special railway facilities in surrounding district. HAGUE, Opera House, Bridlington.

BRIDLINGTON OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, good Drawing Attraction, for six nights, Oct. 7, sharing terms; nothing too big; Variety Company, Troupes, Equestrian Spectacle, or Musical Plays; large stage; popular prices; holds over £100. Write or wire, HAGUE, Manager. Silence polite negative.

WANTED, good Attractions, Oct. 7 (six nights), sharing terms; nothing too big; large stage; holds over £100; popular prices. New Opera House great success. Address, HAGUE, Opera House, Bridlington.

WANTED, A1 Attractions, Musical Comedy preferred, Oct. 21, 28, 29, 30, Nov. 11, 12, 13, 25, 26, 27, all Dec. except 30th, Jan. 13, 14, 15, on. Mr. E. POTTS, Opera House, Dunfermline.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies, Oct. 31 (three nights) and Nov. 14 (three nights).
Address, GERALD HARDING.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Oct. 7, 8, 9. Vacant through disappointment; also Oct. 28, 31, Nov. 7, several dates, onwards, three nights each instance. Xmas Vacant for Panto. or Good Musical Comedy.
Wire or write, SEEBOLD, Worthing.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-Class Musical Attractions, Oct. 28 (through cancelling), Nov. 25.
JAMES BELL.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS, S.E.
WANTED, Wanted, Known.—It is possible week Nov. 4 may fall vacant for West-end Star Attraction, or Musical Comedy only.
Address, WILLIAM GIFFARD, Broadway Theatre.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE,
First-Class Attractions for Dec. 2, 16, Pantomime, Dec. 30, on, Jan. 6, 27, March 2 and 9, 16, 23, 30. Apply,
JAMES KIERNAN, Manager and Owner.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Powerful Attractions, for QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, April 6, 13, 27, May dates.

ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
High-Class Musical and Dramatic Attractions (three or six nights),
Dec. 2, 16, Jan. 13, 27, Feb. 3, 10.

MORTON POWELL,
Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

CRITERION THEATRE, WORKSOP.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for last three nights of each week; Share or Rental.
S. GOODMAN, Proprietor.

WANTED, Companies, for Hippodrome, Coalville, Oct. 21, onwards; no opposition; Dramatic Licence; Trade very good; District Population 25,000. Great success last week of "Wanted by the Police" Co. Refer to Herbert Barrs. Apply, D. R. BARNES, Hippodrome, Kidderminster.

WANTED, for Temperance Hall, Tredegar, Mon., Fit-up Companies, for Oct. 7, and onwards, with exceptions. Sharing Terms. T. JONES.

THEATRES WANTED.

Grand Autumn Production,
Walter Melville's New Play.
WANTED, Dec. 23 and Jan. 13.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 2, Jan. 6, 13.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 24, April 13, 20. Apply,
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 9, 23, Feb. 3.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 2, 23, and 30.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 25, Dec. 9 and 23.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

FRED MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION.
"HER ROAD TO RUIN."
WANTED, Dec. 9, Feb. 17.
FREDERICK MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 11, 18, March 2.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 9, 23, 30.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 23, Feb. 3, 17, Mar. 2, 23.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, 18.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Oct. 21, Dec. 2, 23, 30.
ANDREW MELVILLE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The most successful Play produced during the year 1906.
WANTED, Nov. 4 and 11, in First-Class Theatres only.
Wire or write, W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, weeks of Dec. 30 and Jan. 6.

Wire or write, W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" and "THE OCTOROON."
"Uncle Tom's Cabin."—This charming and pathetic story has never failed, and, judging from last night's magnificent house, the piece is likely to have a singularly successful run at the Gaiety.—Irish Times, Dublin.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Xmas.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Staines and High Wycombe.

"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
WANTED, Dec. 30, Jan. 6, 13, 20.
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
Sept. 30 Pier Pavilion, Southend-on-Sea.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Dec. 9, Feb. 10, 17.
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
Sept. 30, Pier Pavilion, Southend-on-Sea.

MRS. ANN HUGHES'S COMPANY,
in the Latest and Greatest Musical Attraction,
"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT."
A Story of 1805.
Nelson's Glorious Days.
WANTED, Nov. 4, Midlands.
All communications,
Mrs. ANN HUGHES,
This, T. R., Glossop; next, New Theatre, Oxford.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
Mr. David James as the Rev. Robert Spalding.
WANTED, Oct. 7, 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25, Dec. 23, 30. E. C. STAFFORD, Victoria T., Ramsgate.

"SAVED FROM THE SEA,"
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
WANTED, Theatres, only vacant date this year, Dec. 23.
"LOVE'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Frederick Somers,
Vacant Nov. 25, Dec. 23, 30.
"AS GOOD AS GOLD,"
By Fred S. Jennings.
"THE LOVE THAT LASTS FOR EVER,"
By Edward Thane.

SAMUEL JAMES, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Oct. 14 (South), also Oct. 28.
Wire, EDWARD MARRIS,
4, Tavistock-place, W.C.

THE CARTWRIGHT-TAPPING REPERTOIRE COMPANY, in
"DAVID COPPERFIELD,"
"DOMBEY AND SON."
MR. CHAS. CARTWRIGHT,
MR. A. B. TAPPING.
MR. CHAS. COLLETTE.
MISS EDITH CARTWRIGHT.
WANTED, Oct. 14, Nov. 4.
Wire, TAPPING, to-day, New T., Cardiff; next, Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.

THE MONCKTON-HOFFE COMEDY COMPANY.
By arrangement with Mr. George Alexander,
"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST,"
"LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN,"
by Oscar Wilde.
WANTED, Nov. 4 (South), to follow Ipswich, Nov. 25 (South), Dec. 2 (?), Dec. 23, Feb. 10, several March dates, and Autumn, 1908.
RALPH WOLLASTON HUTTON, T. R., Lincoln. Oct. 3, 35, Atholl-mansions, S.W.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Known, a few dates vacant only.

Address, JOHN B. SHINTON,
Sept. 30, Gaiety T., Burnley.

"MICE AND MEN."
"MICE AND MEN."
WANTED, Oct. 7, and onward dates.
HERBERT RALLAND,
Broadway Theatre, New Cross, S.E.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Dates for

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."

The Greatest Success of Modern Times.

A Triumph
A Triumph
in
London,
London,
Liverpool,
Liverpool,
Manchester,
Manchester,
York,
York,
Birmingham,
Birmingham,
Birkenhead,
Birkenhead,
Bristol,
Bristol,
Swansea,
Swansea,
Merthyr,
Merthyr,
Wigan,
Wigan,
Coventry,
Coventry,
Oldham,
Oldham,
Southampton,
Southampton,
Torquay,
Torquay,
Hastings,
Hastings,
Rotherham,
Rotherham,
and
Wherever Played.
Wherever Played.

MRS. MORTON POWELL
MRS. MORTON POWELL
and
All-Star Cast.
All-Star Cast.

Vacant,

Nov. 11, Nov. 11, Nov. 11,
Dec. 2, Dec. 2, Dec. 2,
Dec. 23, Dec. 23, Dec. 23,
and
Later Dates.

MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"GREED OF GOLD."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Brilliant Success
of this
Great Revival.
Playing to Packed Business
everywhere.
Enormous Success
at the
New Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.
A Veritable Triumph.
Finest Cast ever Toured with the Piece.
Vacant,
Dec. 23, Jan. 6, 20, 27, and later.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates for
This Great Romantic Play.
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES,"
Dec. 16, 23, Jan. 6, 13, 20.
Dec. 16, 23, Jan. 6, 13, 20.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Oct. 7, 14, 28.
Oct. 7, 14, 28.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MORTON POWELL ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 23, 30.
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES,"
Dec. 16, 23, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27.
"GREED OF GOLD."
Dec. 16, 23, Jan. 6, 20, 27.
"HONOUR THY FATHER."
Oct. 7, 14, 28, Dec. 2.
"THE LITTLE OUTCAST,"
Jan. 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

LINGFORD CARSON'S SUCCESSES.
By George A. De Gray.

"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Oct. 7, Dec. 2.
Oct. 7, Dec. 2.

"A FIGHT FOR A THRONE."
WANTED, Oct. 14, Nov. 25, Christmas.
Oct. 14, Nov. 25, Christmas.
Wire for Oct. 7 and 14.
GEO. A. DE GRAY,
T. R., Smethwick; next, T. R., Wolverhampton.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for Lingford Carson's No. 1 Co., Oct. 28; only vacant date this year.
Also good Spring Dates.
Address, EDWARD VAN BIENE, O. H., Kidderminster.

FARREN SOUTAR. FARREN SOUTAR.
The New Screaming Farcical Comedy,
"IS MARRIAGE A FAILURE?"
By Russell Vaun and Alban Atwood,
Authors of "Oh! Susannah," &c.
Company includes Mr. Charles Allan, Clayton Greene, Alban Atwood, and Miss Lilias Waldegrave, &c.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 28 and onwards.
HENRY TWEEDIE, Business-Manager, 3, Parsifal-road, Hampstead, N.W.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, and 28, for the Successful Novelty Drama.
Excellent company; excellent printing.
STUART CLEVELAND, Opera House, Workington.

WANTED, Theatres, for "The Youngest of Three," Nov. 4 and 11, Dec. 2 (between Blackpool and Kingston). WYN WEAVER, Worthing and Bexhill.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Nov. 4, between Chesterfield and Keighley.
DICKIE CLARE,
T. R., Dumfries.

"WHEN OTHER LIPS."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres. Will Managers kindly see or refer? As business men it will pay them. Written with an eye to the requirements of the modern Drama Public. A good Play, large Cast, and splendid Scenery. T. ARTHUR JONES, Queen's, Liverpool.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, Oct. 21, Nov. 4,
Oct. 21, Nov. 4.
Sept. 30, Public Hall, Mountain Ash.

THEATRES WANTED.

The new play rivals anything that the popular comedian has yet brought to the city.—Glasgow Herald.

MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO., in the Romantic Irish Musical, Legendary Play,
"ROLLICKING RORY."
"ROLLICKING RORY."
"ROLLICKING RORY."
"ROLLICKING RORY."

As a producer of Irish musical plays, Mr. Chalmers Mackey deserves well of his public. Last night his reception was enthusiastic. The scenery and costumes were especially elaborate.—Citizen.
Attracted an exceptionally large audience last night. The scenery and costumes are on a rich and effective scale, and befitting the picturesque period to which the play belongs.—Times.
"Rollicking Rory" ranks as the best of the famous Irish comedian's productions.—Daily Record.

Business Phenomenal.
Increase of Receipts,
Increase of Bookings,
Nightly,
Culminating in a Packed House on Saturday Night.

No Vacant Dates this Year.

1908,
WANTED, Few Spring and Autumn Dates, Jan. 6 and 13 (North), Feb. 17 and 24, on, with exceptions. CHALMERS MACKEY, Lyceum, Govan. Sept. 30, Six Nights.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Big Theatres, Nov. 11 and 25. Xmas and New Year's Week Vacant.
Communications to DOUGLAS TREMAYNE,
New Theatre, Cambridge.

WANTED, Known, Miss Mary Neil is now Rapidly Booking her New Play.
"FROM SHOP-GIRL TO DUCHESS,"
by Charles Darrell.
Easter Week and Aug. Bank Holiday vacant
Communications to GEORGE KIRK,
New Theatre, Cambridge.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Oct. 21, 28.
FRED BULMER, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

"FROM SCOTLAND YARD."
WANTED, Oct. 7, 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25.
FRED BULMER, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, 18, Xmas.
FRED BULMER, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
WANTED, Oct. 7, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2.
FRED BULMER, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 11, 18.
FRED BULMER, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Oct. 7, Oct. 7.
F. BULMER, to-day, T. R., Barnsley; next, Alex., Sheffield.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Oct. 14 (South), also Oct. 28.
Wire, EDWARD MARRIS,
4, Tavistock-place, W.C.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Oct. 14.
Oct. 14.
An Instantaneous Success.
Miss Annie Bell as Flare-Flare.
A Brilliant Success.
Everything carried, including Carpets and Furniture. Wire for Oct. 14, wire.
JAMES BELL,
T. R., Darlington.

"HER NAMELESS CHILD?"
MRS. SAM DUCKWORTH'S CO.
WANTED, for this Gigantic Money-making Success, Oct. 14 (Wire), Oct. 28, Dec. 30, Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 17 (?), 24 (?), April 20.
Wire for Oct. 14. FRANK EDEN,
To-day, Lyceum, Pentre;
next, Alhambra, Stourbridge.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S No. 1 COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Oct. 28 and Nov. 18.
Oct. 28 and Nov. 18.
Oct. 28 and Nov. 18.
Also a few Spring Dates Vacant.
Address, CECIL BARTH, General-Manager, The Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, W.

"HIS SISTER'S HONOUR,"
by Eva Elwes
A consistent successful money-maker.
Refer W. D. Forsdike, Esq., Alex., Sheffield.
WANTED, Big Theatre, Oct. 21, to precede T. R., Leeds.

Wire, E. A'DELL, O. H., Treherbert.

The New Version of
"THE LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, Wanted, Known, only vacant date this year, Oct. 28, Oct. 28, through obliging Bootle; also Jan. 13, 27, Feb. 3 and 10, onwards.
GEO. TESTO SANTE,
to-day, A., Lancaster; next, T. R., Bilston.

MISS ADA FRANK'S TOUR.
"THE FIGHT FOR LIFE."
By arrangement with F. G. Kimberley, Esq. Thanks to Jas. Culcen, Esq., for Contract for Gaiety, Burnley.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 6 (to precede Birmingham), 27 (to precede Manchester), Feb. 10 and 17, March 9 and 23 (to precede and follow Alex., Hull). Every Scene and Property carried.
COURTNEY ROBINSON, 141, Camberwell-grove, S.E.

"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 16, 23, 30, Jan. 6, 13, 27, Feb. 3, 17.
Add., FRED ACTON, T.R., Seaham Harbour, Durham.

"THE WAY OF THE TRANSGRESSOR."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 16, 23, 30, Jan., on. Address,
FRED ACTON, T. R., Seaham Harbour, Durham.

"A PRINCE OF ROGUES."
WANTED, Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 4.
DORA DENCH, Prince's, Horwich.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Oct. 14 (South), also Oct. 28.
Wire, EDWARD MARRIS,
4, Tavistock-place, W.C.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Renowned Attraction, Good Theatres for weeks of
Oct. 21, 28,
Nov. 4, 11, 25.
Address, C. and F. RENAD, Osborne T., Manchester.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4. "Oliver Twist" played in conjunction if required. HENRY L. OSMOND, Spennymoor; next, Consett.

SIDNEY RENNEF'S COMPANY.
"LOVE RULES THE WORLD," by T. G. Bailey.
WANTED, Feb. 10, 24, March 16, 23. Bookings include Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, Newcastle, Cardiff, Swansea, Oldham, Leith, Coatbridge, Motherwell, Falkirk, Warrington, Manchester. G. M. COPPING, Victoria Theatre, Broughton.

WANTED, Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 25 (only Vacant Dates), for Clarence Corri's "Dancing Girl." Wire, HALDANE CRICHTON, Theatre, Widnes; next, Southport.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, for Thomas Thorne or Répertory, Oct. 7 and onwards. Wire, 10, King-st., W.C.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE LOVE OF A LIFE."
WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, Nov. 4, 11, 18.
Important Theatre, Xmas.

Address, JOHN B. SHINTON,
To-day, Miners' T., Ashington.
Sept. 30, Gaiety T., Burnley.

"FAIR ONE WITH GOLDEN LOCKS."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Feb. 3, North for above Pantomime.
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, Oct. 7 and 21, various onward dates.
A most desirable Attraction; perfect in Detail.
Owing to financial success,
Isle of Wight Tour prolonged.
Wire for Oct. 7.
A few Theatres played this year:
T. R., York; T. R., Croydon; T. R., Belfast; T. R., Cardiff; Grand, Blackpool; Theatre Royal, Sheffield
(where we drew close on £1,000, Whit week).
Refer Mr. John Hart;
Grand, Nottingham; T. R., Merthyr; Grand, Hull; T. R., Middlesbrough; Metropole, Gateshead; Princes', Glasgow; T. R., Norwich; T. R., King's Lynn; Julian's T., Guernsey; T. R., Jersey; Pier, Southend; T. R., Ryde; &c.
In many of these receipts touched £200 gross; in several close on £300.
By courteous permission, refer any theatre quoted.
Wire to-day, LOIE ESMOND, Victoria Hall, Cowes.
Sept. 30, Medina Hall, Newport, I.W.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Theatre, Nov. 18, through transferring to oblige a Manager; only First-class Theatre entertained. Also New Year's week Vacant, few Autumn, 1908, and Spring, 1909. Guaranteed to be the Greatest Success ever Produced by this Firm. Beautifully dressed and mounted. Refer. Wire for Nov. 18 to F. G. KIMBERLEY, T. R., Darwen.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, for this Successful Attraction, Oct. 21, Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 16, 23, 30, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27.
Easter, Whit, and Christmas, 1908, vacant.

Sept. 30, Public Hall, Mountain Ash.

MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S CO.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 7, New Year, Jan. 6, Feb. 10, 17, 24, March 23, onwards, for the above Attraction.
Address, ARMADALE and WARREN,
To-day, Theatre, Mountain Ash, S. Wales; next, Clarence T., Pontypridd.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Continued Success. Third Year.
WANTED, Oct. 21 (3 nights), Nov. 4, 25, and Dec. 9.
Cast, Scenery, and Printing Al. Refer.
FRANK AYRTON,
Theatre Royal, Macclesfield (return).

HARTWELL J. KIRBY'S CO.,
Including the Well-known Actress,
Miss V. St. Lawrence,
with the Successful, Moral, Up-to-the-minute Melodrama,
"MAN'S ENEMY; OR, THE LOVE THAT WON."
WANTED, Oct. 7. Wire. Wanted, Oct. 7. Oct. 7 Vacant. Wire. Oct. 7 Vacant. Wire for Oct. 7. Wire. Wire for Oct. 7.
MARTIN COMSTOCK, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S COMPANY,
in
"THE TRAITOR."
"THE TRAITOR."
"THE TRAITOR."
Splendidly Played and Produced.
WANTED, Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2, 9.
Address, E. HILL-MITCHELSON,
Alexandra Theatre,
Birmingham.

WILLIAM HOLLES and NANNIE GOLDMAN'S CO., in the Great Domestic Drama by Arthur Shirley,
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
WANTED, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4.
Wanted, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4.
Wire, WILLIAM HOLLES,
this week, Alex., Birmingham;
next week, Osborne, Manchester.

"A MOTHER'S LOVE."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 28, Nov. 5, Nov. 11 (?).
Exceptionally Strong Cast.
A First-class Show.
Well acted.
Well mounted.
Well dressed.
FRED L. CONNINGHAME,
To-day, Brighouse; next, Yeadon.

MR. FRANK BERTRAM'S COS.
WANTED, for "The Convict's Daughter," Nov. 11 and 25 (Midlands or Suburban); also Dec. 2, only vacant dates this year; Aug. Bank Holiday, and various Autumn dates. Wanted, for "The Breed of the Treshams," Nov. 18 and Xmas week.
Only vacant dates this year.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn next year.
Address,
BERTRAM, Killarney, Lewisham, S.E.

First Favourite at the Box Office.
PERCY NORMAN'S CO.,
"A WOMAN WORTH WINNING."
Book it; it will pay you.
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, 25, Dec. 23, Jan. 27, various spring. A. B. MACKAY, this, G. T., Walsall; next, Q. T., Worksop (3).

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, a First-class Travelling Pantomime, complete and well equipped.
Vacant Jan. 27 and Feb. 10.

WILFRED ESMOND,
Prince's Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, a few Dates, for the J. MAUNDY-GREGORY COMPANIES.
See Companies Column. J. T Grein says:—"Lights Out," a play which borders on greatness.

"A HEART'S DESIRE."
WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, and 28, for this Sound Attraction. Big Business Everywhere. Refer any manager visited. Additional plant of printing now ready. ELLIMAN, Goole (3), Gainsboro' (3).

"THE WOMAN PAYS."
WANTED, Oct. 14 (North or Scotland), Nov. 11, Dec. 2 (?), Jan. 6 (?), 20, and Feb. 10. F. M. THORNE, Gaiety T., Leith.

"THE GRIP OF IRON," No. 1 COMPANY.
WANTED, March 2 (South or Midlands), 9 (Midlands, Lancs., or Yorks.), May 4 (Lancs. or Yorks), Whit week (London); only vacant dates. Apply, E. H. KNIGHT, 7, The Crescent, Barnes, S.W.

HARDIE AND VON LEER'S CO.
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres (North), Oct. 28, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, 9, 23.
E. P. CLIFT, 110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Wires, "Vagancy, London." Tel. No. 7504 Gerrard.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Oct. 14 (South), also Oct. 28.
Wire, EDWARD MARRIS,
4, Tavistock-place, W.C.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, Hippodromes, or any place that will hold money, for Leoni Clarke's No. 1 Vaudeville, with a galaxy of talent that fear no opposition
Dates Vacant:—
Oct. 7, 14, and 28, Nov. 4, 11, 18, and Dec. 2, 23, and 30,
Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, March 16, 23, 30, April 6.
Communications,
Palace, Bath.

WANTED, good Theatres, Oct. 14 (L. and Y.), and Nov. 11 (between Weston and Folkestone), for Fabbro's Electric Singing Pictures and Vaudeville Co. This, Alex., Hull; next, T. R., North Shields.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, Engagements, &c., shares or certainty, for Great American Bioscope and Pictorial Illustrated Songs, with First-class and Up-to-date Films, and Star Vaudeville Variety Company. Artists of startling ability and wonderful achievements, tremendous success everywhere, including Fontainbleau's World-famed Troupe of Canine Marvels, the talk of every town they visit. All communications for dates, terms, &c., FONTAINBLEAU,
King's, Longsight, Manchester.

THEATRES WANTED.

ALFRED B. CROSS' TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
Supported by Miss Watersford (Mrs. Cross), and Powerful Company. Sixth Year of Tour.

WANTED, Oct. 14 and 21, "DIVORCED," and "DAVID GARRICK," if required. Both Solid Successes.
Sept. 30, Miners' T., Ashington.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
by Frank Lindo.
Played over 1000 times.
WANTED, good Theatre, Christmas. Fast filling 1908.
Managers wishing to book this piece next year are requested to apply early.
Mr. Frank Lindo and Miss Marion Wakeford in their Original Parts.
FRANK LINDO, Grand T., Mansfield (return).

An Unmistakable Success.
THE FAMOUS NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA.
Twelve Coloured Ladies and Gentlemen.
Survivors of the recent terrible earthquake.
Record houses everywhere. Return dates at increased terms.
H.R.H. the Princess Henry of Battenberg and party were delighted at the original and unique performance.
WANTED, first Vacant Date, Nov. 18, and onwards, with exceptions.
Sole Managers, Messrs. H. E. JONES and A. DOUGLASS, 21, Water-street, Liverpool.
'Phones 5650 and 2449 Central.
Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, shortly, for the Bandmann Comedy Co., India and the Far East, a First-class Leading Lady, a good Character Actor, a thoroughly capable Heavy Leading Man.
Terms, photos., references, &c., to ALFRED DOVE, Sole Representative for M. E. BANDMANN, 28, Gerrard-street, London.

WANTED, to Open at Once, Gents., Lead, Heavies, Old Men, Responsibles, Pianist, and Property Man, Lady, Old Women and Heavies. All young, turns preferred. Lowest terms, GREENSLADE, Portable Theatre, Poole, Dorset.

WANTED, Leading Gentleman, also Comedian (good) and Young Girl for Small Part; experienced, Musical Sketch, London Hall. Letters, OSCAR NILSSEN, 4, Ilchester-mans., Kensington, W.

"THE MEMBER FOR SLOCUM."
WANTED, Epps, Smith, Mrs. Epps, Arethusa; those who have played the parts preferred; must give a trial show. Write, "D.," Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, W.C.

WANTED, for Good Winter Portable, First-class Leading Gentleman; must be tall, young, and have good props.; also tall, young Heavy Gentleman, of good appearance; also First-class Artists (ladies and gentlemen), in all lines, with turns preferred; also quick Scene Painter (to wait on himself), and practical Stage Carpenter, for nightly sets; all must dress well on and off. Photo., terms, &c., to Mrs. POULTON, County Theatre, Aylesbury.

WANTED, Juvenile Lady, and Heavy Gent., for Special Week, Sept. 30, "The Seven Sisters" Sketch; can rehearse Saturday if convenient. Terms, &c., to J. P. MOORE, King's Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, Lady, for Character-Comedy Part in "The Youngest of Three," and for Light Comedy Juvenile in "Sir George of Almack's," open Oct. 7, rehearse Bexhill Oct. 3, young, and good appearance. All costumes found. Apply with full particulars, H. F. MALBY, to-day, Victoria T., Ramsgate; Sept. 30, T. R., Worthing.

"HER LUCK IN LONDON."
WANTED, Responsible Lady, and capable of understudy, also to assist Miss Mary Neil in her Dressing-room and take charge of her Wardrobe. References, photos., and full particulars, GEORGE KIRK, New Theatre, Cambridge.

WANTED, Oct. 7, rehearse immediately, good Juvenile Actor, 5ft. 9in. or taller, Sketches, London. Apply, letters only, enclosing photos. and references, to MONTE BAYLY, 35B, Morat-st., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Petite Young Soubrette, Page Part; also Eccentric Walking Juvenile Comedian; both sing and dance; Chorus, Contraltos, Sopranos; good voices, smart appearance for Musical Comedy. Lowest terms, references, Box 5,446, "The Era."

"A WOMAN'S PAST."
WANTED, to Open Shortly, First-class Juvenile Leading Man, tall (not built up), capable power and intensity, good appearance and voice; also thoroughly experienced Heavy Lady, tall, must dress part handsomely. Fullest particulars, references, photos. (essential), terms, WARDEN and SANDFORD, Theatre, Bognor.

WANTED, Tall Second Heavy Gentleman. Character Comedy Gentleman. State terms, height, parts played. BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

WANTED, tall Gentleman, for Military Parts; also Society Villain, and First-class Leading Lady. SECRETARY, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham.

WANTED, for First-class Portable, good Comedian and Chambermaid, Sing and Dance. Open at once. Age, references, terms, HOWARD and VAUGHAN, Theatre, Birtley, R.S.O., Co. Durham.

WANTED, Known, to Amateur Gentlemen, a splendid opportunity to have sound, practical experience in stock business, in good portable theatre; must be tall, young, educated, and have (or be able to get) good props., wigs, tights, &c., for ancient and modern plays. Address, Mrs. POULTON, County Theatre, Aylesbury.

WANTED, Choristers, for Operatic Sketch, Music Halls, must have good powerful voices; also Chorister, as experienced Baggage Man, to combine. Apply full particulars, Box 5,434, "The Era."

WANTED, good Soprano Chorister, also powerful Contralto, for Quartette; talented beginner may apply, after 6 p.m. 6, Laura-place, Lower Clapton-road, N.E.

WANTED, Lady Vocalist, to open Monday, Theatre, Galway; also smart Agent, that knows Ireland. Wire, ALMA, 9, Hardwick-st., Cork.

WANTED, for Continent, Six Young Pretty Acrobatic Dancers; three months' Engagement, probably longer; rehearse in London. Send full particulars, KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, London, W.

WANTED, tall, smart, pretty, stylish Girls, must be good dancers and sing a little, lengthy engagement at First-class Theatre on the Continent. Send full letter, &c., to Box 5,436, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Dancers, now working. Letters only, 17, Waller-road, New Cross.

WANTED, Heavy Ladies, Leading Men, and Small Part Juvenile Men, to see advertisement in this week's Stage. FRED MOULE.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Voice Production for the Operatic Stage; Pianoforte Taught by Italian Professor; many years Covent Garden Theatre. OPERA, 60, Berners-st., W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Versatile Comedian; good voice and songs; Drama, Pictures, Variety, &c. RAYMOND, 11, Victoria Grove-West, Stoke Newington, London, N.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines, and Chorus for Pantomime. Write full particulars to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, for London Pantomime, First-class Principal Boy and Girl, Two Comedians, with Speciality; must be first-class. Two First-class Wardrobe Mistresses, and two Master Carpenters. Also Stage-Manager for Provinces. None but well-known Artists need apply. C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, Artists disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Good Principal Boy, for Dick Whittington, also Fairy Queen. Lowest salary, photo., names and addresses last two refs., CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester. Mark envelopes, "Pantomime."

WANTED, for Pantomime, "Dick Whittington," a Comedian for Fitzwarren, and a smart Second Boy. Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

HOLLAND AND WOOD'S "ALADDIN."
WANTED, two Knockabout Comedians, to play Policemen and Comic Scenes; Small Comedian, to play Wishee to Mr. Percy Curry's Washee; must be willing to feed the other Comedian. Apply, WILLIAM HOLLAND, Tower, New Brighton.

WANTED, immediately, for Panto., London and Provinces, Principal Boys, Girls, Comedians, Knockabouts, Specialities, Chorus Ladies. Call GOLDEN'S Agency, 12, Little Newport-st., opposite Hippodrome, London, W.C.

WANTED, for Pantomimes, Ballets, &c., Provinces, London, Paris.
Ladies to train for Chorus and Dancers.
Apply by letter, enclosing photo., or personally, Tiller Schools, 143, Charing Cross-road, W.C.
Immediate Engagements for experienced Dancers.
Voice Trials and Dancing Dress.
Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 12 till 4.

WANTED, for Fred Lyndo and Edward Clark's "Aladdin," New Gaiety Theatre, Glasgow, First-Class Chorus and Show Ladies, good Troupe of Dancers, also Young Gentleman (amateur not objected to) as Secretary. Full particulars to FRED LYNDO, Palace T., Gloucester.

WANTED, Young, Attractive Chorus Ladies, Ballet, and Extras, also fine attractive Women. Apply, VALENTINE, 8, Dean-st., Oxford-st., London.

WANTED, Fifty Good-looking Chorus Ladies, also Dancers for Quartette, Comedians, pair of clever Sisters, must sing and dance, and Specialities. GUSTAVE, Metropole, Manchester.

WANTED, Dancers, for immediate and Panto. Write, 62, Clarence-gardens, Osnaburgh-st., Regent's Park.

WANTED, Expert Dancers, now Rehearsing, and for Panto.
PERCY HALL, 2, Friday, Monday, and Tuesday.

WANTED, all Artists Engaged for Arthur Carlton's Pantomimes to Send Photo. Block or Photo., for book of words. CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Florence Leonard, Vacant for Fairy Queen, First-class Vocalist. For terms, refs., photo, 54, West-square, S.E., or BLACKMORE'S.

WANTED, Pantomime by Miss Daisie Morell, the Popular Principal Boy. Monday, New Palace, Reading. Thanks Sidney Cooper, Esq., for Offer.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Lilian Neville, soprano and operatic vocalist, now touring with Poole's Myriorama. Add., Falmouth, Cornwall.

WANTED, Known, Thelma and Groves, Lib., for panto. speciality, animal part and clown. To be seen working, Sept. 30, Hippo., Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Leonzi, Marvellous Aerial Stage Contortion Act, Lib. Panto; Animal Part and Great Speciality. Perm. add., 80, Northfield-road, Crookes, Sheffield.

WANTED, First-Class Panto., by Syd Crossley and George Battle, the clever Comedy Versatile Pair. Sure hit. The Lawn, Skegness.

WANTED, Known, Jack Foley, at Liberty for Panto, Dame. Palace, Bow. Perm., 7, Canonbury-avenue, Highbury, London, N.

WANTED, by Conan and Doyle, Comedians and Dancers.
Vacant Pantomime.
Address, Hipopdrome, Leeds.

WANTED, Panto. Engagement, by Norman and Allan, comedians, patterers, and dancers; also few dates open for Nov. Address, Palace, Bristol.

WANTED, by Denby and Dent, Pantomime.
Monday next, Hippodrome, Oldham.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, good Man, to Touch Up, with own brushes, &c., Thursday, Friday, and Saturday next. Send terms to GRANT, Hippodrome, Burton.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Scenery Contracts, Productions. Our Paint Frames, 40 by 24; Theatres completely fitted with Scenery, Ropes, Blocks, Cleats, &c. Estimates and Designs submitted free. Scenery bought and exchanged. FRED WILKINS and BRO., LTD., 54, Whitechapel, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Theatrical."

WANTED, Contracts, for Carlyle Scenic Studio; High-class Scenery at very lowest prices. W. B. ROBINSON, 6, Napier-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

WANTED, Contracts, for Painting Scenery; First-class Work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS, Painting-room, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery; Effective, Artistic Work, Good Joinery, moderate prices. Large studio and workshop. CHARLES SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-rd., Croydon.

WANTED, by Alfred Ford, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract Work, town or provinces. 110, Wenlock-st., New North-rd., Islington.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery. Write for estimates; good work guaranteed. J. NELLA, Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy, S. Wales.

WANTED, Contracts for all Description of Scenery; Pantomime work a speciality. WHYATT and SONS, Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Young Gentlemen, to learn Resident-Management (good Provincial Theatre), with or without premium; good tuition in every department. Apply by letter to Box 5,445, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Chance occurs for Young Gent. to Learn the Duties of Acting-Management; salary to commence. MANAGER, 27, Merchant-st., Bow.

WANTED, for Fit-up Tour, open immediately, Baggage Man, to combine props. and small parts. Full particulars and references (with addresses), to ARTHUR KNIGHT (till first post Monday), Post Office, Dartford; then, P.O., Sittingbourne.

SOUTH AFRICAN ANIMATED PICTURE CO.
WANTED, Baggage Man, capable of working Pictures and assisting Operator, must be able to Operate if required. Terms 35s. per week; permanent engagement to good man. Send references to EMANUEL GUIDI, Palace Theatre, Bristol.

WANTED, at once, Picture Workers, High Window Billers, and Baggage Men. Apply, J. W. POOLE, Pier Pavilion, Colwyn Bay.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, good Wardrobe Mistress, able to cut out and make. Lowest terms and refs. to WILLIAMS, Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Known, Harry Hunter, Acting-Manager, Disengaged, Varieties or Theatre; excellent Book-keeper, thorough knowledge of Bars; Fidelity Insurance; late T. R., Leamington, and County T., Reading. Resigned after over twelve months with Milton Bode, Esq. 107, Loughborough-rd., S.W.

WANTED, Appointment as Resident-Manager (Theatre, Variety, Gardens, &c.), by Advertiser; long and first-class varied experience in every detail; energetic, and good organiser, accountant; credentials of the highest order; moderate salary. Address, Box 5,441, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Carpenter, practical bench hand, total abstainer, own tools, good refs., open Monday, 30th. Add., T. KENT, West London Theatre, W.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Engagement in Music Hall or Theatre; experienced in bar, also cash desk. Address, A. D., 18, Myddelton-square, Rosebery-avenue.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Resident Musical-Director, to play First Violin if required, well up in Dramatic and Pantomime business; quick reader, with good Répertoire of Music. State age, experience, last two references, and lowest terms. J. H. OAKDEN, Lyceum Theatre, Govan, Glasgow.

WANTED, Competent Répétiteur, to open at once. Apply, with references, to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, H.M. Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, First-class Leaders (Solo Violins), Pianists, 'Cellists, and Bass Players, for Cunard and White Star Services.
MR. CHARLES WM. BLACK, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Theatre, Perth, N.B., First Violin and Cornet. Apply, with refs., to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR.

WANTED, First Violinist and Flautist, used to variety business, twice nightly. Age, terms, and references, T. A. EDWARDES, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, First Violin; must be well up in variety, to commence Monday next, Sept. 30, evening dress. Wire, CONDUCTOR, Hippodrome, Peterborough.

WANTED, Young Man, Good Violinist, for town band; good engagement for steady man. Apply, F. ROWLAND, Longsmith-st., Gloucester.

WANTED, First Violin and Solo Cornet for Special Week, Sept. 30; both must be First-class Performers.
MANAGER, Prince's Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, Violin and Oboe, Oct. till March, must be really good and experienced, Concert work. Terms (twice weekdays only) and references to HORACE TEAGUE, Musical-Director, Municipal and Opera House Orchestras, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Pavilion, Abertillery, First Violin, competent, steady, and dependent; others save stamps.
Terms and full particulars, E. PRICE, as above.

WANTED, Lady Violinist, and Double Bass; must be good, for six months' engagement abroad. Terms, &c., 183, Parliament-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, a good First-class Solo Cornet; must assist in Comedy Business, for Big Musical Comedy Act. Open at once, or first week in October; must be single; to a good man, sober and reliable, a permanent situation for years. All railway fares paid after joining. Personal interview can be had in London during next three weeks. Good smart Military Man preferred.
State age and lowest salary required to Box 5,424, "The Era."

WANTED, Second Cornet, used to Variety business, can join immediately. Lowest terms for twice nightly and one matinée to C. W. POOLE, Palace, Gloucester.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, BRISTOL.
WANTED, Solo Cornet, to commence Monday, Oct. 7. Full particulars, salary required, age, &c., to G. R. CHAPMAN, Musical-Director.

WANTED, a First-rate Cornet Soloist (useless others applying), for long tour, commencing middle of October; French Horn and Oboe also may write. Fullest particulars to BANDMASTER, Box 5,439, "The Era."

WANTED, good Solo Cornet, for Animated Picture Co. and Military Band, commencing Oct. 7; permanency if suitable. Lowest terms to GUIDI, 47, Chelmsford-street, Weymouth.

WANTED, Good Bass Player; must be used to variety business.
Permanency to suitable man.
W. DOBING, Conductor, Empress Varieties, Hartlepool.

WANTED, Trombone, used to Music Hall Business. Apply, stating full particulars, to D. J. CLARKE, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Trombone Player.
Age, references, lowest terms,
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, 'Cellist, Pianist, good Orchestral experience, Double Handed, Soloist preferred; 12 months Johannesburg. Trial essential. Lowest, DELIKIT, 92, West End-lane, N.W.

WANTED, First-class 'Cellist, to open Monday next; must be used to Variety, and steady, or no use. WORSWICK, Hippodrome, Wigan.

WANTED, for a First-class Touring Co., in India, Pianist; must be good Sight-reader, Transposer, and Soloist. Apply by letter only, stating lowest salary, to C. E. MUMFORD, 54, Daleview-road, Stamford Hill, London, N.

HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.
WANTED, good Pianist, to open Oct. 7, must be well up in Variety business. Apply, with references and lowest terms, to MANAGER.

WANTED, a good Pianist and Vocalist, lady or gentleman, must be able to both play and sing well, suitable for Pictures and Illustrated Songs. MANAGER, Pictures, Central Hall, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Brilliant Solo Pianist, well up in Dramatic and Variety business; sobriety and reliability essential; permanency. W. E. POTTS, O. H., Dunfermline.

WANTED, Pianist, open Monday, in Durham. Lowest terms, MILFORD, 1, Albert-terrace, Shotton, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Musicians, for Hippodrome, Barry. Names and addresses, last two references, age, lowest salary, ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept., "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.
Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster, "Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Michael Connelly, Musical Director (violin), Engagement, pantomime, resident or good tour. Concluding five months' season, Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate.

WANTED, by Musical-Director, permanency (Theatre); South Coast preferred; Piano and Viola, Orchestrator and Composer. G. B., Glenwood, Sanderstead-road, South Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, as Conductor or Leader (violin), experienced all lines, refs., Lib. Oct. 7. Add., MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, Musical-Director, 26 years' experience (late Queen's Royal Theatre, Dublin), seeks an appointment in similar capacity. PHILLIP M. LEVENSTON, R.I.A.M., 35, South Frederick-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Miss Violet Forrester, Violinist, good experience orchestral playing Dis. Nov. 4. C/o ALLEN, 19, Caulfield-rd., Peckham.

WANTED, Engagement, Second Violin and Baritone, thoroughly experienced, total abstainer, open Sept. 30, no pitching. Apply, H. MAURER, Bideford, Devon.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violin; just terminating Engagement, Grand Theatre. CORNER, 106, Peter-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Violinist, Employment, any business; smart, good appearance, sober, young, and good worker. E. ROGERS, 100, Longley-road, Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, by Second Violin, abstainer. SIDNEY BURGESS, Tower Circus, Blackpool; after to-day, 88, Lister-avenue, Wakefield-road, Bradford, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by High-class Solo Violinist (Pupil of Johannes Wolff, and Jan Hambourg), and experienced Accompanist. FRANK NICHOLS, 37, St. Mary's-road, Peckham.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged (Violin), First or Second, any business, Birmingham vicinity preferred. Box 5,427, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Violinist, experienced all Lines, wishes Engagement.
Address, C. PHILLIPS, Violinist, Empire, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, just finishing Summer Season, at Liberty Oct. 7, any Business. WILLIAM CRONIN, 51, Joy-street, Belfast.

WANTED, by A. Hodcroft, Solo Cornet with Prof. Speelman, North Pier, Blackpool, Engagement, any Business.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Cornet and Trombone, any business; excellent refs.
Address, Royal Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet Soloist, Theatre or Variety.
Box 5,449, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, experienced, proficient in Transposition, late Moody-Manners. Box 5,433, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Solo Cornet, thoroughly experienced and reliable, excellent refs. Address, HARRY HODGKISS, 53, Wynford-rd., Islington, N.

WANTED, by Clarionetist, young, of good appearance, any Business; good refs. R. ATKINSON, 8, Hunter-road, Ross Walk, Leicester.

WANTED, by an E flat and B flat Clarionet Player, permanent job, in small band. Wages moderate. Apply, ARKWRIGHT, Brox-road, Ottershaw, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, Disengaged through disappointment, good refs., any business. Address, J. RYAN, 9, St. Paul's-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, Worthing Season Band, Engagement, at Liberty Sept. 30. D. SHEEHAN, 9, Woodford-ter., Pavilion-rd., Worthing.

WANTED, Engagement, Lady Clarionet; thoroughly experienced and reliable.
Permanency preferred.
Address, Box 5,448, "The Era."

WANTED, permanency, by experienced Double Bass, Liberty Oct. 27 (South preferred); first-class references. BASSO, 25, Magnolia-road, Chiswick.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Trombone, twelve years in Army band, sober and reliable, any business. T. MORRIS, 28, Poplar-avenue, West Bromwich.

WANTED, by Trombone Engagement, any business; excellent refs.; four years last shop. TROMBONE, 77, Old Palace-road, Norwich.

WANTED, by First-Class Trombonist, Engagement; highest references; at Liberty Oct. 7. BIDMEAD, Victoria Pier, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, first-class experience, theatre or music hall, now at Liberty. Add., MUSICIAN, Church-st., Bawtry, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, Bassoon, at Liberty Sept. 30; abstainer; good refs.
Address, POPE, 7, Gordon-road, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, theatre or music hall, could join at once.
Address, F. PEEL, Grand Theatre, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Trombone, London or Provinces, Touring or Permanency, Theatre, Music Hall; steady, reliable. ALBERT MATTHEWS, Oadby, near Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone, Finishing Season; good refs. E. BERCHEY, Pier, Eastbourne, Saturday; after, 117, Murray-road, South Ealing, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Reliable Euphonium Player, any business; can join at once. Address, J. HILTON, 51, Joy-street, Belfast, Ireland.

WANTED, by Experienced Euphonium, Engagement, any business, good refs., can open at once. CHARLES GRICE, 12, Pitt-st., Barnsley, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, as Bombardon or String Bass, any Business; steady and reliable. Address, AUGUST FRITZ, 38, Ferndale-road, Hoylake, Cheshire.

WANTED, by L. Carvelli, late Solo Horn Laroureaux Orchestra, Scala Theatre, Milan, Manns' Orchestra, Carl Rosa Co., Scottish Or., &c., Engagement as First Horn, Concerts or Theatres; at Liberty Oct. 15. 14, Gipsy-hill, Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, by E flat alto saxophone (late Army experience), Employment, any Business. S. GALES, 11, Leighton-gardens, Kensal Rise.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 37, Great Percy-st., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, by good 'Cellist; thoroughly experienced in Orchestral Work, and Soloist; at Liberty. 'CELLO, 1, St. George's-esplanade, Guernsey.

WANTED, Engagement, as 'Cello, 22, in music hall, good sight reader. Disengaged. 'CELLO, 30, Nansen-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced 'Cellist, Café or Orchestral; London preferably. F. DEANE, 29, Addison-gardens, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Viola; excellent references; any Business; would Deputise. WHITE, 10, Station-parade, Archway-road, Highgate, London, N.

WANTED, by First-class Oboeist, Engagement, at once; Disengaged through finish of season at Spa, Bridlington; highest references. WM. RICHMOND MORTON, 42, Solon-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboeist, thoroughly experienced any business, combined with Second Violin. OBOEIST, 8, May-avenue, Seacombe, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, any business, distance no object. CH. GRUS, Add., 38, Ferndale-road, Hoylake, Cheshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady Flautist, good orchestral experience. Moderate terms. Box 5,435, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Flautist; thoroughly competent and steady, at Liberty Oct. 12. Address, R. S. BALLANTINE, 10, North Marine-road, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement; steady, reliable, experienced, any Business; start at once. ROMERIL, 28, Argyle-road, West Ealing, W.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Flute and Viola (London only); both reliable; Disengaged Oct. 6. R. B., 47, Pembridge-road, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Flautist, any business, thoroughly experienced and reliable, London preferred. FLAUTIST, 1, Margaret-street, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, thoroughly experienced and reliable. Good refs. FLAUTIST, 2, Tudno-street, Llandudno.

WANTED, Engagement by Flautist, good, Riviere's Orchestra, Colwyn Bay, at Lib. Sept. 30. Address, 41, Cambridge-st., Edgware-rd., W.

WANTED, Known, Wm. Boardman, Pianist, at Liberty on the 28th Sept., thoroughly experienced in Variety and Dramatic. 15, Wolseley-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Jim Wilkinson, Variety Pianist (or Piano-Conductor), at Liberty Sept. 28; can also supply full Orchestra, First-Class Musicians. Offers invited. JIM WILKINSON, Central Pier, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Accompanist (Lady), good sight reader, Concerts or Quartette Parties, near London. LLOYD, 3, Lebanon Park-mansions, Twickenham.

WANTED, by good Pianist, Engagement, day time of evening, London preferred, any business. 112, Brunswick-street, Haggerston.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo or Orchestral Pianist; excellent Accompanist, Sight-reader. Good offers only; London preferred. MAUDE TREVELYAN, 109, Forest-rd., Dalston.

WANTED, immediate Engagement, by First-Class Pianist, thoroughly conversant all lines, Opera, Mus. Com., Variety, &c. 1, Lovaine-row, Tynemouth.

WANTED, by Drums and Tymps., Engagement after Oct. 5. Address, JAS. O'DAY, Prince's Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums, Effects, in any business, experience in every business. 134, Block F, Thrawl-st., Commercial-st., Aldgate, E.

WANTED, Known, Tympanist or Double Drummer, First-Class, Disengaged Sept. 30. JOHAN GEZINK, Victoria Pier, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Drummer, steady and reliable, Disengaged Oct. 5; good references. GRISS, Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Engagements for Scarlet Domino Ladies' Band, Ladies' Salon Quartette and Florentine Quartet, Quartet disengaged autumn. Apply, BUREAU, 8, Bedford-terrace, Kensington.

WANTED, Known, The Ladies' "Zinga" Orchestra, just completed 5 weeks, Dovercourt. The Royal English Ladies' Orchestra, eight weeks, Tankerton; last, Dover; this, Folkestone. The Royal English Ladies' No. 2 Band, 8 weeks, Pier, Aberystwyth. Also the English Ladies' Orchestra, now playing Olympia, Sept. 19 to Oct. 19. Tubular Bells and Effects. For vacant dates, write or wire, Madame NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Madam Wilton Davis's Ladies' Orchestra, just completed 18 weeks, Rhyl, Great Success; Open for Engagements. 42, Linton-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, Known, First-Class Hotel Orchestra Disengaged; exceptional references; Attractive Music Library; uniforms or Evening Dress. Box 5,437, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Miss Strebelli's Quartette, at Liberty; also Lady 'Cello. 34, Grafton-square, Clapham.

WANTED, Known, Small String Orchestra, at Liberty, Family. Terms moderate. Late Music Hall Bandsmen. First-class Répertoire. HERBERT, 5, West-hill, Wandsworth.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

GILLENO'S AMERICAN CIRCUS,
WHITE CITY, MANCHESTER.
Great Success.
WANTED, for the above, subsequent White Cities, and Winter Season in London, Artists, in all Lines of the Circus Profession, now and later.
Vacant dates and lowest terms to HENRY GILLENO, Circus Caterer to The White Cities, Ltd. Gen.-Man. (for the Gilleno Enterprises), CHARLES POWELL.

WANTED, Wanted, Immediately, First-Class Triple Horizontal Bar Performer, must be able to do good work on Bars.
Engagement from two to five years or longer, with a First-Class Act, and good treatment.
Must be willing to go to any part of the world with Act; must be sober and reliable.
I pay all travelling fares.
State terms and kind of work you do on Bars.
Address, WILLIAM MURRAY, C/o Mrs. Fisher, 31, Chesson-road, West Kensington, London.

WANTED, good Agouste; must be small. Thanks for letters. Address, C. CABAN, Gilbert's Circus, Exeter.

WANTED, Girl, over fifteen, for Single Trapeze. State tricks, age, weight, experience, send photo. (returned), J. W. E., 17, Daneville-rd., Camberwell, London.

WANTED, at Once, smart Tumbler; must be able to Second Mount. State age, height, and weight, with lowest terms, Box 5,443, "The Era."

WANTED, Boy about 14; one that can Hand-balance well, and Bend; good home for a good boy. Letter only.
W. P., 10, Alberta-street, Penton-place, Kennington.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Bob Davies, Jockey Act Rider, at Liberty about March, own Horse. All coms., 14, Anglesey-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Handy Andy (Frank Anderson), Clown, and his Comical Trained "Asses," just concluded three months, Hippodrome, Douglas.
Address, Gilbert's Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Comical Walker, Talking Clown, good entrées, also globe speciality. Vacant Oct. 7. Wire, Theatre Royal, Bilston.

WANTED, Known, Pete Simple, Talking Clown and Comedian, still at Liberty for the winter. Per. address, Primrose Cottage, East Topping-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Thelma and Groves, Lib. Oct. 7, with special entrées, clown, agouste, and specialities. Sept. 30, Hippo., Yarmouth.

WANTED, Monday, by The Maros, Greatest Three Bar Act; big hit Empire, Rochdale, wire; after Saturday, 126, Porter-street, Hull.

WANTED, Known, George Davilla, the Marvellous High Vibrating Telephone Wire Performer, Walks the Wire when Vibrating, Mounted on Stilts. Touring the South Coast. Permanent address, Forest View, Honey-lane, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Bellini, Equilibristic Juggler and Gymnast on the Silver Frame, now touring, T. Fossett's. Permanent, 248, Guinness-house, Old Kent-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, the Sylvenes, Novelty Equilibrists, Sept. 30, Oct. 7. Wire, till Sunday, Palace, Northampton; after, 100, Chobham-road, Stratford.

WANTED, Known, one Young Lady Trick Cyclist, smart rider, smart appearance, wishes to join Cycling Troupe.
Address, Box 5,428, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Novel and Funny Cycling Acrobat, free Nov. 4, onwards.
Perm., 106, Bigland-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Hand Jumper, Hand Balancer, Hand to Hand Top Man, Staircase, Chairs, &c.; Straight or Comedy. "TINY" ROBERTS, 21, Mersey-street, Notting Hill, London.

WANTED, by a smart Acrobat, join First-Class Troupe, good Catcher, Second Mounter, and Tumbler. CASINO, 5, Park-street, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, Engagement, as Horse Trainer or Stud Groom; 18 years with Prof. Crocker as Understudy and Stud Groom; good references; can join at once. Address, W. UTTERIDGE, 8, Bede Burn-road, Jarrow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WORCESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES and HIPPODROME, BARRY DOCK.
WANTED First-class Variety Artists, all Lines.
No wires, please.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Palace, Worcester.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Monday, Oct. 7 and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Nothing too Big. Full particulars to KITCHINGMAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Oct. 7, onwards. Hall small. State lowest first letter. BRANLAND and EMERSON, Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Big Tops, Oct. 7, and on. Address, KAUFFMAN, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Oct. 7 and onward Britannia Theatre, Glasgow. A. E. PICKARD, address as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists of all Descriptions, must be First-Class, for several First-Class Halls in England, all dates. Following Artists communicate at once: La Berat, Mlle. Renée von Etta, Frank's Midgets. Bounding Pattersons wire address; Paris Contract waiting.
Address, CLIQUOT, 34, Commercial-st., Huddersfield.

HIPPODROME, BELFAST.
The Largest Theatre in Ireland.
WANTED, Artists, Novelties, Sensational Turns. Big Tops. WILL SLEY. Note New Address, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester. Telephone, 09144. Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
WANTED, Artists, suitable for Concert Platforms, three Halls, one night only, Saturdays. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, 126, Rottenrow, Glasgow.

HARRY SKIVINGTON'S AGENCY,
48, Brisbane-street, Greenock, N.B.
WANTED, for Glasgow, Greenock, and district, Star Artists in all Lines.
Empire, Greenock.
Big Tops for immediate dates.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, for Glasgow Concerts. Interviews, appointment only. Lowest terms to THE SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George's-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Sept. 30 and future Dates. All Artists must leave Weymouth or Southampton not later than Saturdays, 12.50 midnight; no boats Sunday nor Monday. Sloan's Hippodrome, Jersey.

WANTED, First-class Artists, all Lines, for the North. Send bookings, &c., to FRANK LYNNE, Tivoli, Grimsby. Telegrams, "Skidoo, London."

THE PALACE, OLDBURY.
WANTED, October, on, Artists, all Lines, Doubles doing Singles, Sisters, and Specialities; Hall Small. No Agent; no Commission stopped. Lowest, J. TYRER, Proprietor.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Monday, Blyth; Big Top, Oct. 7, 14, two towns, North. Shares. Fullest particulars, D'ALCORN, Gaiety, Blyth.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, Big Specialities, Novelties.
Oct. 7, onwards. Lowest terms, booking, EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Tels., "Stebbing, Manchester." 'Phone 09261.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 11, 18. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin. Good Living Freak open at once.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for the Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool, and other Halls in the North of England. Address, EDWIN W. SMITH, Alliance Theatrical and Variety Agency, 18 and 20, Manchester-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Films." Telephone 6782 Central.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, at once, Oct. 7, onwards, big and small.
When communicating for Monday next, please state house address, Saturday to Monday.
JESS VERNO'S Agency, 15, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists, Musicians, Scenic Artist, Carpenter, Props., and any Novelty suitable for Portable; open 5th, rehearse 4th. BECKITT, Telegraph Hotel, Beverley.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Monday next, Sept. 30, also Oct. 7.
ONDA, Alhambra, Morecambe.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
COVENTRY HIPPODROME.

WANTED, Known, Artists holding Contracts who have not already applied are requested to apply immediately for confirmation of dates to
S. T. NEWSOME,
Managing-Director,
Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, Known, Will Sley has Removed to Larger Premises, 180, Oxford-road, near Owen's College, Manchester. Telephone, 09144. Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, Stars for London and Provinces.
LORD GEO. AYTOUN, 120, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E. 'Phone 1949 Hop. Wires, "Antics, London." Pantomime Artists also write.

WANTED, Big Stars, Share or Salary, Artists, all Lines. Particulars, lithos., lowest possible terms, GEO. SAPHRINI, Palace, Boston. Call for Monday, Permane's Bears, Maud Ethelda, The Mays, Kyoto, May Geraldine, Chant and Chant, Frank Rainbow, Burg, Haud, and Wise, Bioscope, &c.

HIPPODROME, NEW BROMPTON.
Manager, W. J. MACKAY.
The Finest Building of its kind in Britain. Big Stage, Magnificent Band, Up-to-date Management.
WANTED, Big Stars, with own Combinations, Vacant Oct. 21, Rehearse Sept. 30, 2 o'clock, John Lawson's "Unwritten Law," Philip Levar, Roy Barraclough, Harrold's Comedy Company in "My Son's Wife," Nellup's Mirrorgraph, Billee Baily, The Abadaroffs.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Known. Wanted, Known.

DALTON'S AGENCY.
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DALTON'S AGENCY. Big, Sensational, and Drawing Top of the Bill required for Dec. 16. Nothing too big that can draw money.
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DALTON'S AGENCY. Artists remit vacancies, with full list bookings, and the very lowest terms, any printing, and their permanent address. New acts state where can be seen working.
DALTON'S AGENCY.
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DALTON'S AGENCY. It is very important all artists keep me advised directly any fresh bookings are made.
DALTON'S AGENCY.
DALTON'S AGENCY.

Telegrams, "Granbeste, Withington Lanc."
Telephone 193 Didsbury.
29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.

VENTOM SWIFT'S AGENCY,
Alhambra, Edinburgh.
WANTED, for Edinburgh and the North, Oct. 7 onwards, the very best of Talent; nothing too big or small if good. All first-class Turns North communicate.

WANTED, for Town Hall Palace of Varieties, Hounslow, Oct. 14, onwards, First-class Talent. Terms must be low, as Hall is very small. Artists working London same week preferred. Terms, &c., to
ARTHUR AISTON, Town Hall Palace of V., Hounslow.

PALACE, KILMARNOCK.
WANTED, Star Acts all Lines, absolute lowest (once nightly). Lessee and Manager, J. CUMMINGS.

WANTED, Acts all Description. Contracts await Vowles and Bryan, Moneta Ford, Three Behans, Four Louberts, and Gascoignes. DAN NOBLE'S Agency, Palace, North Shields.

GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY,
GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY,

HIPPODROME,
SCARBOROUGH.

Telephone 288. Telegrams, "Zalva."

WANTED, to open Oct. 26 and following weeks (North),
Big Specialities,

On demande, Oct. 26.
Attractions de Première Ordre.

Gesucht, Oct. 26
ten Schau Nummern Aller Arten.

Lowest terms,
full bookings,
and say where can be seen if unknown to me.

HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Oct. 7, First-Class Specialities in all Lines; also good Comedians and Double Turns, from Oct. 14, on, during winter months. Apply, with lowest terms, GEO. ZALVA.

WANTED, Known, real good Novelties can rely on Booking for all parts through V. Golden's Agency, 12, Littel Newport-st., London, W.C. State where can be seen. Also Ladies Wanted for Panto.

WANTED, Oct. 7, onwards, Dramatic Sketches and Variety Acts, all Lines. Full bookings, towns, vac. dates, T. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, for November, for Calais (France), Dumb Shows, every line. Write, full particulars, lowest terms, &c., J. LORETTE, 61, Holland-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Deetrich's Vaudeville Bureau, 31, Islington, Liverpool, representing the world's greatest Acts, has vacancies for Top Liners. Big English and American numbers desiring Continental Engagements are invited to communicate. Mr. Chas. Deetrich commences his Continental Tour in October.

WANTED, for Palace Theatre, Bridlington, good Combinations, Dioramas, Choirs, Minstrels, Dramatic Companies, Oct. onwards; gas and electric. J. W. DELMAR, Manager.

WANTED, Sisters, Sing, Dance, also Pianist-Vocalist, for High-class Picture Pavilion (no parading). Lowest terms; live in; long tour. Particulars, Box 5,442, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, Two Good Ladies, between 18 and 25, and three Gentlemen (one comic), for Pierrot Troupe, starting Oct. 1. Permanent. Write, stating lowest terms, WHITTAKER and GREEN, 74, St. Kilda-road, West Ealing.

H. and F. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, to open Oct. 14, Lady Vocalist, for (if suitable) long tour; good Illustrated Singer would suit. Send all particulars, state salary required, and where could be heard, to
POOLE, Myriorama, Falmouth.

WANTED, Desired, Wished for. Comedians, Comediennes, Double Turns, Acrobats, Animal Shows, Dumb Acts, Specialities. Immediate Dates. Immediate Dates. Nothing too Big to Book.
Write at once to
HARRY S. HART'S Agency,
Star Palace Varieties, Bermondsey, S.E. 'Phone, 1048 Hop. 'Grams, "Hart, Star, Bermondsey."

NEW HIPPODROME, PETERBORO'.
Managing-Director, T. M. SYLVESTER.
WANTED, for Oct. 7 and onward, Funny Comedians, Funny Comedians, Comedy Acts, Comedy Acts. Wire, wire particulars to LEO FRITZ'S Variety Agency, Glenshaw-mans., Brixton. 'Phone, 457 Brixton. Telegrams, "Evelyncia, London."

NEW PAVILION, ABERTILLERY.
WANTED, Comedians, Comedy Acts, for immediate dates. Wire, LEO FRITZ'S Agency, Glenshaw-mansions, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, good Knockabout Song and Dance Comedian, to open Sept. 30; also Funny Couples doing Singles and Doubles. Lowest terms for two weeks. Teddy Lennon wire if disengaged. Monday, HOWARD and VAUGHAN, Theatre, Birtley, R.S.O., Co. Durham.

WANTED, for one week, Oct. 7, probably longer, refined, well-dressed Gent., with own Light Comedy Songs (à la Lashwood), also to act in ten-minute Musical Comedy.
Also clean and really Funny Young Comedian; Own Songs, and must have a distinct Comedy Act in addition.

Call with songs, DE BURGH, Percy Hall, Tottenham Court-road, on Monday, Sept. 30, at 3 o'clock.

WANTED, for Sketch, good Coloured Comedian. Billy Taylor write. Apply, L. JENSEN, 24 Worcester-street, Gloucester.

DREW BAYLEY'S AGENCY.
170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Star Turns, for Glasgow, now and on, also Specialities that can be done in a Circus. Small Turns write, nothing too big, nothing too small, DREW BAYLEY.

WANTED, Star Turns, good Living Statuary Shows, Variety Artists, and Novelties, Oct. 7 and on. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum T., Stafford.

WANTED, for Monday next, good Speciality Turn (no singing or dancing), must be a Novelty. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum T., Stafford.

STALYBRIDGE HIPPODROME.
WANTED, Turns,
Oct. 14, 21, and 28.

JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns,
Something New and Up-to-date,
Novelties and Sensational Acts,
for Immediate and Future Dates, for
London, Liverpool,
Birmingham, Leeds, Newcastle,
Glasgow, Belfast,
Dublin, Manchester, Bolton,
Wolverhampton, Oldham,
Hartlepool, Shields, Barrow,
Carlisle, Darlington,
Hull, Middlesbrough, Stockport.
Blackpool, Morecambe,
Brighton, Boscombe, Margate,
Portsmouth, Southampton,
Bath, Lincoln, Leicester, Bradford,
Halifax, Sheffield, Blackburn,
Lancaster, Stockport, Burnley, Derby,
Attercliffe, Stoke, Grimsby,
St. Helens, Accrington, Warrington,
Bury, Hanley, Stockton, &c., &c.
Send at once terms, dates, and lithos.
Those having a good act can rely on getting Immediate Work.
WILL SLEY,
180, Oxford-road,
Manchester.
Telephone, 09144.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

HIPPODROME, SPENNYMOOR.
WANTED, Star Turns, Oct. 14, 21, onwards, must be something with drawing powers.

Rehearsal Monday, Oct. 7, at 2 o'clock: Captain Taylor's Baboons, Lilly Lonsdale, Ernie Myers, The Kinnards, Bros. Harrold, Lilly Lauraine, August and September, Weisker's Pictures. Impossible to answer all. Silence polite negative.
FELIX GREEN.

WANTED, Wanted Wanted.
Several Big Dumb Turns,
Oct. 14 and 21.

JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Clever Variety Turns, in all Lines, for Nov. 18, onwards, to follow the Zancigs. Lowest terms, B. PAREEZER, Hippo., King's Lynn.

WANTED, two Smart Young Men, Talking Knockabouts. State qualifications and particulars, E. EDMUNDS, 127, Camberwell-road, S.E.

WANTED, two smart Lady Cyclists, for Sensational Cycle Act. Apply BLANCHE and DIACOFF, Sadler's Wells Theatre, Islington, London.

WANTED, Girl, over fifteen years, small figure, one who cycles and used to stage preferred. Add., J. W. E., 17, Daneville-rd., Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, at once, Lady Trick Cyclist, or would undertake smart Girl as Apprentice. Address, JOHNSON'S Agency, 55, Waterloo-road, London.

WANTED, reliable, trustworthy Male Mesmeric Subjects, for London.
Apply, Box 5,415, "The Era."

WANTED, 1½ hours' complete Picture Show; open Thursday next for Tour, Electric and Lime. Wire terms, THOMAS, Post Office, Banbury.

WANTED, Operator, with own Machine and Up-to-date Pictures; hour and half show; Sacred Pictures for Sunday. Lowest terms; find own gas. Open Oct. 7, one or two weeks. ALLNUTT, Pavilion, Belper.

WANTED, Competent Bioscope Operator; must be first-class electrician, and understand limelight, &c.; also good pianist. Box 5,425, "The Era."

WANTED, Operator, with own Machine; also Camera for Snapshots; hour and half show (Tour). TRIXO, 112, St. John's-road, Bootle, Liverpool.

WANTED, a Cinématograph Operator, must be qualified. Write full particulars to MANAGER, Central Hall, Chesterfield.

WANTED, good Operator, used to Electric and Gas, to open immediately. Wire, HOWARD, Town Hall, Trowbridge, Wilts.

WANTED, at once, Bioscope Operator. Apply, B. COHEN,
63, Whitechapel-road, London, E.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Sons' Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Managers, in case of Disappointment, to wire "Stebbing, Manchester," or ring up 'Phone 09261 Manchester. EDGAR STEBBINGS, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

The World's Greatest Mystery.
WANTED, Wanted, Known,
The Prettiest and most Sensational Mystery ever presented. Elaborately Staged.
Always a Sensation.
Proprietors and Managers requiring a big Attraction should secure this Star Act.
Also, LILIAN WARREN'S VOCAL PICTURES, with beautiful dissolving effects.
At Liberty Monday next and Oct. 7. Wire for Monday, Palace, Cork;
After, 77, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Gertrude Martini, Liberty Monday next, Pier Pavilions or Halls. Pier Pavilion, Penarth; next, 61, Edward-st., Lower Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, between Birmingham and Scarborough, one week (Sept. 30), by Amina Kinder, contralto, in illustrated songs. THE GOODS, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Known, Miss Nance Elder, Versatile Comedienne, Vacant Oct. 7. Tremendous success in new business. All coms., Glenfield-place, Sowerby Bridge.

WANTED, by Nellie Nora, Musical Act, Monday next, also Oct. 7, 14, 21; no other Vacancies. Wire, 2, Aliwal-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Roma, the Lady Hackenschmidt, taking on all comers at her own weight in the female line, Disengaged and open for Panto. 4, Handley-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Sept. 30, Babs Lloyd, Star Artist: also Nellie Vance, Comedy Artist and Dancer. Wire, B., 158, Witton-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Nella, Refined Speciality Pot-Pourri Act. Vacant Oct. 7, onwards. Address next week, Palace Theatre, Derby. Write.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Oct. 7, onwards, Cuthbert Rose, Humorous Monologue Entertainer, concluded eighteen weeks' summer tour. This, Temperance Hall, Leicester; next, Music Hall, Chester. Refinement and ability.

WANTED, Known, Neddy Vokes, Refined Comedy, Musical, and Patter Comedian, Liberty Oct. 7, 14. Address, Queen's Theatre, Castleford, for Funny Act.

WANTED, Known, Musical Silvo provides a very prominent feature of the programme, and the signs of admiration for his particularly clever performances are numerous. The people seem to marvel at the novel way in which he brings forth some of the sweetest music that could possibly be heard.—Kentish Independent, June 28, 1907.
At Liberty, Oct. 7.
Address, Sept. 30, Hippodrome, Accrington.

WANTED, Known, Neville Delmar, the Whistling Dandy; Panto., fixed, Abanazer; vacant Oct. 7. This, Canning Town. 19, Mark-mansions, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Oct. 7 and 14, by Sam Walsh, Comedy Conjurer, &c. All real, clever tricks, not cod conjuring. One big roar of laughter. Sept. 30, Palace, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, Harry Kirk, Comedian, Vacant Oct. 14; also Vacant for Pantomime. Good refs. 15, Warren-road, Rhyl.

WANTED, by Fred Hadley, Comedian and Dancer, at Liberty Monday next. Wire, 44, Mawson-street, Ardwick Green, Manchester.

WANTED, by Oliver Conroy, Comedian, Monday next, also Oct. 7, 14, 21, Nov. 4, 25, and Dec. 9, 1907. Address, Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Sept. 30, week only, by H. G. Clark, clever young comedian. Grand success, second week, Pavilion, Chorlton. Wire, 50, Lodge-st., Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, Mon. next, by Li Chang Hi, Chinese Conjurer; also Oct. 7 and 14, for a Novelty that Draws. CHANG, 79, Grosvenor-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Oct. 14, Nov. 4, 18, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist). Next week, Theatres, Coatbridge and Clydebank (three nights each).

WANTED, Known, to Managers, Hason, the Arabian Magician, Juggler, and Equilibrist, gave his first performance in Europe at Royal, Wexford. Owing to big success, the Sylvester Costume Co. have engaged him for their tour. Agents should see this pretty Act.

WANTED, Oct. 7, onward, by Kyoto, great Japanese Pot-Pourri Act, Contortionist; also May Geraldine, Comedienne, Dancer. Sept. 30, Palace, Boston, wire.

WANTED, by Ted Young and Ada Twibell, Oct. 7, 14, and 21. Offers invited.
Address, Hippodrome, Hastings.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt and Florence Bell, both a Terrific Success, People's Palace, Portsmouth. Early return booked. Complimented by Frank Pearse, Esq., whom refer. Write, 6, Montague-street, London.

WANTED, by The Two Plants, Offers for Tour or Halls, at Lib. Oct. 6, Novel, Comic, Musical Act, both do Singles; Gent. Comedian, Lady Wonderful Male-voiced Vocalist; just concluded third season at Douglas. This and next, Empire Theatre, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Monday, by Two Palmers (Maud and James), comedy duettists and patterers; also single turn. Wire, one or both, Queen's T., Fleetwood.

WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, by Syd Herman, Hebrew Comedian; Lil Dresden, Vocalist; Ray Thorne, Comedienne and Dancer. Wire for one, two, or three, Grand Theatre, Stockton.

WANTED, Known, Thelma and Groves, Comedy Couple, in "A Lady Sculptor," Lib. Oct. 7, on, home or abroad. Sept. 30, Hippo., Yarmouth.

WANTED, Monday next, 7th, and 14th, Jimmy Green, Comedian, May Mayne, Descriptive. This week, Palace, Porth, where wire for Talent.

WANTED, Monday, by Sandes and Vincent (Will and May), Great Comedy Legmania Act. Singles if wanted. Wire, 21, Bridport-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Oct. 7 (South), by Will and Roze, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurers, and Alvar, Gymnast. Big Success Pav., Leicester. Next, Grand, Sheffield.

WANTED, Monday next, by The Monckton (Fred, Lillie), in Latest Laughable Success, "Are Wives Dummies?" An Act artistically written, played, dressed, and staged. Wire, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Monday next, Ryder Davis, Comedian; also Eva Ward, Comedienne. Wire till Sat. night, one or both, Cinque Ports Hotel, Margate.

WANTED, Monday, Sept. 30, by The Gentrys, through postponing, Comedy, Dancing, Singing, and Acrobatic Act. Wire until Monday, 5, Prospect-place, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Leo and Roland, Marvels of Equilibrium and Hand-balancing, in a Neat, Novel, and Original Act, introducing our Sensational Ladder Feat. Complimented everywhere. Managers requiring a genuine Act, that can draw, book this. Vacant Oct. 7, 14, 21, Nov. 11, and Dec. 2 and 9. This week, Guildhall, Plymouth; next week, Mechanics' Hall, Burnley.

WANTED, Sept. 30, by Jordan and Marks, Popular Patter Comedians, introducing Great Comedy Boxing Act, vacant through Barring Clause. Wire, G.P.O., Peterborough.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, Comedy Artists, Vacant Monday, one or two acts. Wire, Empire, Cradley Heath. Wire.

WANTED, by The Decars, Oct. 7, 14, 21, Comedy Acrobats, with Educated Donkey, only vacancies until Jan., 1909. Pav., Greenock.

WANTED, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, by Los Granadas, the other star turn, were alike clever and amusing in their "Sensational Happenings Outside an Hotel." They also prove wonderfully clever on horizontal bars fixed up in the wings, and altogether give a display which should not be missed.
Palace, Gloucester.

Palace, Porth.
After Saturday, see Cards.

WANTED, Oct. 7 and 21, London or district, by Atlas and Vulcana Troupe.
Conclude Emp., York; 30th, Empire, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, the Le Brun Trio, introducing Little Edie, the talented Child Juggler and Vocalist, the girl that juggles five balls, and can sing a good song. Great success P., Cork; vacant Oct. 7, on.
Address, Empire, Wrexham.
Wire for Oct. 7.

WANTED, Oct. 7, 14, 28, by the Arthur Saxon Trio, New Act. Monday next, Empire, Battersea. Come and see new act.

WANTED, Oct. 28, Nov. 4, by Titan, Telka, and Wyllie, three acts, strong show, musical act, and ballad vocalist. Hippodrome, Jersey.

WANTED, Known, the Four Cecilians are storming everywhere, Vac. Sept. 30, Oct. 14. Perm. Add., 120, Victoria-dwellings, Clerkenwell, London.

WANTED, Known, Walker's Comedy Nippers; Globella, Speciality Artist; two distinct turns, Vac. Oct. 7. Wire, Theatre Royal, Bilston.

WANTED, Known, Young Colossus, age 19 years, weighs nearly 35st. and L'Homme Miniature, age 25 years, weight 2st. 6lb.; the man with the smallest head on earth. £500 paid to anyone who shows a similar Attraction. Agent wanted. Offers for Nov. 4, 1907, and on, invited. Address, YOUNG COLOSSUS, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for Ethel Ra-Leslie's "Pharaoh's Daughter," one-Act Ancient Egyptian Opera, the only two weeks out this year, Oct. 14 and 21; the latest London production. Re gigantic success ask Mr. Sparrow. Money was turned away nightly at the Empire, Camberwell. Managers who want a big draw address
E. RA-LESLIE,
Manor House, Brancaster-road, Streatham, S.W.
See last week's "Era" and "Stage."
Posters by D. Allen and Co.

WANTED, Known, "My Statue of Grace" Co., Vacant Oct. 7 and 14, 224th successful performance to-night. Wire, ADELE LEVEY, Palace, Porth.

WANTED, Vacant Monday, Sept. 30, Lieut. Albini and Ladies, "Sailor and Lass" Mystery. En route, Empire, Glasgow, wire, Hippodrome, Hastings.

WANTED, Known, Lieut. Albini, at the Hastings Hippodrome. Large audiences have nightly witnessed Lieut. Albini's Illusion, and were mystified to such an extent that many who were present will not resist a temptation to see it all again, &c., &c.—See Argus. Comfortable apartments, Mrs. Wells, 15, Castle-gardens, Hastings.

WANTED, Oct. 7 and 14, through misunderstanding, by Le Diabelo,
Looping the Devil's Wheel, and Riding on the Outside. Share or certainty.

This week, Hippodrome, Coventry;
Next week, Barnard's, Chatham.

WANTED, Known, Caban's French Circus, Ponies, Donkey, Goat, and Dogs, at Liberty Dec. All offers to C. CABAN, Sept. 30, Gilbert's Circus, Exeter.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Comedy Troupe of Variety and Dramatic Dogs, the Funniest Show on Earth. A Show that hits the Audience everywhere. Liberty Oct. 21, 28. Palace, Lincoln.

WANTED, Alice Fontainbleau's World-famed Troupe of Canine Marvels. Next week, 30th, King's, Longsight, Manchester. Few Vacancies.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Young Lady who wishes to join Cycling Troupe;
good Double Worker, smart appearance.
Box 5,429, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Young Man wishes to join Comedy Triple Bar Act. Address, MARZELLO, c/o Mrs. Elliott, 17, Belgrave-street, Sandyford, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, First-class, Efficient Lecturer and Guide, with speciality, at Liberty Oct. 21, on. Good credentials. Add., SPECIALITY, 149, Caversham-road, Reading.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
D'ARC'S MARIONETTES,
D'ARC'S MARIONETTES,
D'ARC'S MARIONETTES,
D'ARC'S MARIONETTES,
Open for Oct. 7,
Open for Oct. 7,
Open for Oct. 7,
Open for Oct. 7,
to follow Leeds.
to follow Leeds.
to follow Leeds.
to follow Leeds.
The Only Vacant Week.
This Act
Tops Bills Everywhere.
One price only.
Full money, or a week's holiday.
All letters,
City Varieties, Leeds.
W. J. D'ARC, D'Arc's Marionettes.

WANTED, Engagement, Public or Private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Travers' Bioscopes, at Lib. Moderate terms; latest Films. TRAVERS, 154, High-street, Clapham, S.W. Telephone 1412 Battersea.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman, Silver King (regd.), Auctioneer, Valuer, Expert and Authority, Auctioneer to Lord George Sanger (England's Greatest Showman), and Leading Showmen of Great Britain. Sales and Commissions conducted in any part of the World.
If you want to Buy or Sell
Anything Connected with the Business,
Consult TOM NORMAN, Auction Dept.,
"The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand.
Change of address. Wanted to purchase or engage, all kinds of Novelties and Curiosities (alive or dead), if suitable for exhibition.

WANTED, Known, .22 "R" and "D" Cartridges, Globes, Balls, Winchester and New Military Repeaters, Pistols, and all repairs done. GREENE, 74, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, for Prompt Delivery of Future Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, and other Automatic Cards rely on the old firm, KENYON, 21, King-street, Blackburn.

WANTED, Known, as a Special Inducement to Country Clients to inspect our Unique and Extensive Variety of Slot Machines at the Brewers' Exhibition (opening Oct. 19 and closing Oct. 26), we will forward ticket of admission free of charge upon application, and will allow the return (third) fare at cheap ticket rate of all whose purchases total £50 upwards. Cheap fares from all points in the U.K. MINERVA AUTOMATIC Co., 14, Charterhouse-buildings, London, E.C. Telegrams, "Minervauto, London." Nat. 'Phone, 5705 Holborn.

WANTED, Showmen to Save Money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared Paints, Colours, Varnishes, Brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

PLEASURE BEACH, BLACKPOOL.
Greatest Combination of Open-air Attractions in the Country.
WANTED, Known.—For concessions for real Novelties for Summer Season, 1908.
Address, PROPRIETORS, Pleasure Beach, Blackpool.

BARRON'S EXHIBITION, HIGH-STREET, LOWESTOFT.
WANTED, some good Novelties, to open here on Oct. 7 and onwards, for two weeks, one week here and one week at Yarmouth. Terms, half shares, 50 per cent. Will Dahomey Troupe write?

WANTED, Big Novelty, for Houghton-le-Spring Feast, Oct. 4, large hall, with stage, scenery. Tremendous crowds visit. RAYNE, 20, Bog-row, Hetton, Durham.

MANSFIELD AND DISTRICT GENERAL TRADES AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, VICTORIA HALL, Saturday, Oct. 5, to Saturday, Oct. 12, inclusive. Admission by programme, 1d.
WANTED, First-Class Side Show Good La Morte Show write in.
MANAGER, Exhibition Office, Vic. Hall, Mansfield.

WANTED, Giant Man or Giant Lady, to exhibit as a contrast with troupe of midgets, for tour in America. Terms and photograph in first letter, PROPRIETOR, 100, Lower Marsh, Lambeth, London.

WANTED, Useful People, for Parading with Picture Show, those that can do a turn inside, and used to show business, preferred (singing, dancing, or tumbling), ladies and gents. Good money to the right people. Terms and particulars, wire, Sat., W. BIDDALL, Electric Exhibition, Huntingdon; after, Peterborough. Thoroughly experienced Traction Engine Driver (Fowler) can join at once.

WANTED, for Hastings and Whayman's Bioscope Show, two Knockabouts, used to fair business. Carnival Grounds, Margate.

WANTED, for Payne's "Dreamland," Pair of Sisters, or Man and Wife, for parading, and doing turn inside, well up in fair business. Write or wire lowest terms, Cattle Market, Guildford.

WANTED, Tattooist, Rent or Sharing Terms.
Call,
571, High-road, Leytonstone, E.

WANTED, Known, Signor Rupert, Famous Character Reader; magnificent success Irish International Exhibition. Address, HUBERT MAUDE, 14, High-street, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.

WANTED, Engagement, Mora, Lecturer, Baritone Vocalist, and Musical Grotesque, or as Doorsman, Agent, or Manager, not a dud. Beach, Littlehampton.

WANTED, Known, Milton's Marionettes, at Liberty shortly.
Address, "The Era" Office, London.

WANTED, by Tall Gentlemanly Young Man, berth as Doorsman or Attendant in Animal Show; abstainer. D., 10, Clifton-street, Brighton.

GLOUCESTER BARTON FAIR AND MOPS.
WANTED, by the Corporation of Gloucester, Tenders for Licence to Use and Sub-let Standings on the Corporation Show Ground, on the Oxleaze, Gloucester, during the periods from Sept. 24 to Oct. 14, 1908, 1909, and 1910.
The Show Ground comprises about three acres, and Light Railway Cars run to the entrance to the Ground.
For particulars and forms of tender, apply to the TOWN CLERK, Guildhall, Gloucester, at whose office tenders should be delivered before noon on Oct. 30, 1907.

WANTED, Known, One or Two Spaces to Let (Jewellery, Engraving, Optics, &c.), in old-established Touring Trades Exhibition; Scenic stalls, gas-fittings, and gas provided. Second Scottish Tour comprising towns never previously visited by Trades Exhibitions; open at Forres, Oct. 1 (95th consecutive town). Address, MANAGER, Exhibition, Institute Hall, Forres, N.B.

WANTED, to Let, a Few Spaces at the General Trades Exhibition,
Drill Hall, Bolton, Oct. 26 to Nov. 9;
also latest Novelties and Side Shows.
Last year's Exhibition great success.

Apply early.
H. V. WALMSLEY, 12-14, Old Hall-st. South, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, the Ninth Annual Novelty Exhibition opens Oct. 7, for 8 weeks, during Scotch Fishing Season; one remaining Space to Let. Wanted, Glass Blower or other Novelty. SHERMAN, Revolving Tower, Great Yarmouth.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Important Notice.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
The Next Meeting of the
BRITISH ROUNDABOUT PROPRIETORS' AND SHOWMEN'S UNION
will be Held at the
Talbot Hotel, Nottingham,
on Friday, Oct. 4, at 10.30 a.m.,
when all Members are requested to Attend.
Business Important.
(Signed) THOS. HURST, Secretary.

WANTED, Known, the World's Fair, Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, N., Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. E. Read, will open this Stupendous Home of Amusement on Xmas Eve, until Feb. 8, 1908, with a Gigantic Programme of Attractions, an entirely new Grand Free Circus Company Continental Star Artists, new to London; big Combination of Aerial Artists, direct from the Continent, first appearance in England; Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie (Great Indoor Zoo); Grand Free Ballroom (new innovation); forming the cheapest, most varied, and popular entertainment in London.
Admission Sixpence.
29th consecutive year of genuine success.
Space can now be Let
for any First-Class Shows, viz., Marionettes, Swimming, Illusions, Mechanical, Waxworks, Peep Show, or any other up-to-date Shows. Apply T. E. READ, as above, who has also acquired a new Large Hall, adjoining the Big Main Hall, giving extra floor space of 235ft. by 160ft. Fine opportunity for a good Kraal with a big Tribe.

WANTED, Showmen and other Travellers, to Know
that I have
Ground to Let
at
Leicester Fair, Oct. 10 to 15;
Tamworth Statutes, Oct. 7 to 10;
Handsworth Wakes, Sept. 30;
and numerous others to follow
to the end of the year.
All applications to
P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall.
Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."
'Phone No. 80 Walsall.

CANTERBURY MICHAELMAS FAIR.
WANTED, Known, that a Monster Fair will be held in the Football Fields, near Canterbury East Station. This is undoubtedly the best position ever secured to hold Canterbury Fair. For two weeks, commencing Oct. 9.
Open to All. Rent reasonable.
HASTINGS and WHAYMAN, Margate;
or E. GILBEY, 2, Jerrard-street, Lewisham, S.E.

OSWESTRY PLEASURE FAIR, 1908.
"THE WHITE LION CROFT," Established Half-century.
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Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Queenie Leighton, Frank Couch, Clement Trio, Boswell's Circus, Ferguson and Mack, Geo. C. Doughty and Co., Marguerite Broadfoote, Wee Mona, Bioscope, "Peter's Finish."

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"Casey's Army," Tom Woottwell Carl Howard, Chas. Fisher and Co., Max Gruber, Will Cornish, Whalen and West, Bioscope, Jabez Wolfe, Lottie Lennox.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Millie Payne, Prof. Vox, Gordon Highlanders, Three Rubys, Frank Cumminger, Hill and Whittaker, R. H. Douglas, Ray Wallace, Bioscope, C. W. Somerset and Co.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Ernest Shand, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Donaldson Bros. and Ardell, Sisters Caselli, Conway and Leland, Nora Emerald, Alexandra Dagmar, Illustrated Song, Bioscope

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Victor Travers, Lupino Bros., Nipper Lane, G. H. Chingwin, James Stewart, "Drummed Out," Mabel Sinclair, Hayden Coffin, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Little Ganty, Madge May, R. A. Roberts, Lena Verdi, Gardiner and Vincent, Nellie Wallace, Phillipi Bros., Tribune Trio, Bioscope, The Kirbys.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
Lily Langtry, Andos Troupe, W. J. Churchill, Selma Braatz, Sid Cotterill and Co., Addie Dorina, Alice Esty, Will H. Fox, O'Gorman Bros., Bioscope.

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
The McNaughtons, Alice Lloyd, Lil Hawthorne, Dutch Daly, The Mayvilles, The Borellis, Rossi Ashton, Marie Reeve, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
Geo. Formby, Musical Johnstons, Rauschle, Cruickshank, Anna Kenwick, Rose Hamilton, The Woodcutters, Bioscope, Edia Mardy.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Harry Grey, Erik Bros., Boyd and Gilfain, Ted and May Hopkins, Lukushimas, The Craggs, La Danseuse, The Violas, Mariedl, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30, for:—
Belle Davis and Piccs, Tom Owen, Smythsons, Beatrice Willey, Walter Munroe, The Savonas, Josie Mooney, Margaret Parker's "Sunshine," "Hester's Mystery," Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
"Zululand," Marquis Dassie, Amos Howard, Dot Stevens, Lilian Lowe, Hermann Melot, Imperial Russian Troupe, Les Frasettis, Kilner Sisters, Leonard Barry and Co., Bioscope.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Passmore, Fraser, and Co., Gus Garrick, Four Jumels, Rhoda Paul, Albert Whelan, Lancashire Lassies, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, The Grassis, Bert Gilbert.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Karno's "London Suburbia," Chas. Vincent, Vernon Troupe, Kitts and Windrum, Three Dumonds, Takio, Lucy Weston, Joe O'Gorman, Clarice Mayne, Bioscope.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

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Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Ella Retford, Harriett Vernon, Rezene and Robini, J. P. Ling, Cullane's Comedy Co., Virto, Pictures, Howard St. Clair.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1, for:—
Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten, Madge Osmond, Luigi, Salvino, Esta Stella, Four Royal Welshmen, Joe Mac, Pictures, Conn and Conrad.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Ella Shields, Tom Parker, Stella Troupe, Nettie Starr, The Haytors, Burley and Burley, The Wedburns, Pictures, Tom Foy and Co.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas, C. F. Best, Halter and Ray, Sisters Aindow, France and Stewart, Bennett and Stirling, Pictures, "Nancy Sykes" Co., Olive Lenton.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12, for:—
George Gilbey, Howard and Harris, Fred Dunstone, Maggie Rimmer, Billy French, The Sylvas, Bioscope, Johnny Fuller.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3, for:—
Victoria Monks, H. E. Terry and Co., "His Brother's Keeper," Will Dalton, Arthur Rayce, C. Jerome, Alfred Harmsworth, Henny and Blanche, Amy Marsden, Mabel Bright, Lily Maxwell, Baker and Balfe, Terry and Bentley, Conway and Garland, Crown Trio, Pictures.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Both Performances.
Dandy George, Ryder Slone, Carl Lynn, Guy Ryder, Mark Leslie, Harry Bedford, Maud Vera, Baker and Balfe, Conway and Garland, Pictures.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Clito Clifford, "Duchess of Tooting," Edie Endon, Kerr and Koe, Harry Friskey, Ruby and Laws, Hilgert, Arkas and Co., Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND
Rehearsal at 2, for:—
Sisters Poole, Oswald Williams, Bob Hutt and Co., The Carlyles, Ina Lorrimer, Larry Lewis, Violet Stockelle, Bioscope, Padoubny.

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Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

NOTICE.—Artists' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

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The Coon Song of the Year.
Sung by G. H. Elliott.

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(Lambe and Thurban).
Sung by Miss Gladys Huxley.

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Sung by Miss Amy Clevere.

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(Castling and Godfrey).
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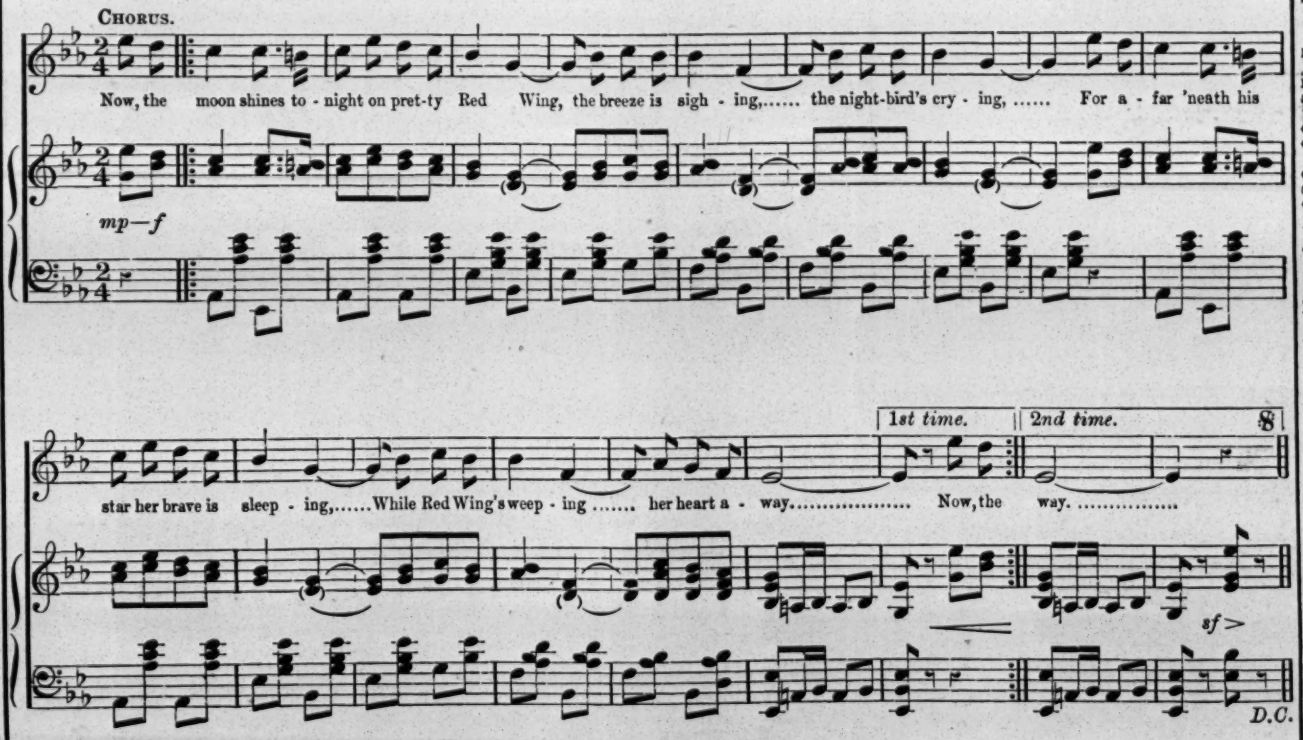

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Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

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CALLS for MONDAY, SEPT. 30, 1907.

Rehearsals at 1 p.m.

PALACE THEATRE PLYMOUTH.
Hackenschmidt, Marie Neilson, James Kurry, Trapnell Family, Adeline Yohle, Marriott Edgar, Vernon's Bioscope, Winifred Hare.

PALACE THEATRE, BRISTOL.
Arthur Roberts and Co., Les Prinellas, Talbot and Pearce, Alf Chester, Flo Inman, Fred Elton, Vernon's Bioscope, Three Sisters Finney.

PALACE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
Bros. Horne, George Prince, Orpheus, The Cosmans, Maude Mortimer, Mill May and Theresa, Glennie's Marionettes, Vernon's Bioscope, "House of Tinn," J. Kar Kiddie and Co.

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Herbert Clifton, Earle and Melville, Raie Walters, Louis Kerno, Leotard Bros., James Toner, Tom Kelso and Co., Vernon's Bioscope, J. T. Macmillan, Alice May and Co.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDEEN.
Frank Hardie and Co., Dunningarto, The Woodwards, Prof. Bartle, Violet Gibson and Coons, The Donatos, The Walonells, Janet H. Reynolds, Ryan and Hall, Rose Elliott, Vernon's Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE.
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(Pelham and Rule).
Sung by DAVE CARTER.

CANOODLE IN MY CANOE.
(Pelham and Rule).
Sung by GEO. D'ALBERT.

ANY OLD PLACE WHERE THE SUN SHINES.
(Paulton and Van Dixie).
Sung by Miss GLADYS MAVIUS.

I'M THINKING ALWAYS OF YOU.
(Pelham and Rule).
Sung by MARK ADAMS.

ISN'T IT LOVELY TO BE IN LOVE?
(Pelham and Rule).
Sung by GEO. D'ALBERT.

DEAR LITTLE TYROLESE.
(Harrington and Tate).
Sung by Miss FLORRIE GALLIMORE.

DON'T START TO WORRY.
(Written, Composed, and Sung by Harry Marlow)

FATHERLAND.
(Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford).
The Seaside Mascot.

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OH! THE MERRY WIDOW.
PEARL. PRIMROSE.
WE ALL CAME IN THE WORLD WITH NOTHING.
SWING ME HIGHER, OBADIAH.
WHEN THE LILAC BLOOMS IN SPRINGTIME.
OH! THE STEAMER, OH! THE SEA.
I'VE GOT A SPOONEY-OONEY FEELING.
WHEN YOU'RE TIRED OF ROAMING.
YOU CAN'T DO WITHOUT A GIRL.
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CALLS. CALLS.

THE VAUDEVILLE SYNDICATE.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, SEPT. 30, 1907.

PALACE, DOVER.
Kemp and Harris, Victoria Glenn, Edwards and Dacre, Welda and Wynne, Raymond, J. Worman, Madge Daly, Carlotta De Yonsen and Co.

ALHAMBRA, SANDGATE.
Metz and Metz, Leo, Jessie Star, Bert Terrell, Maud Prenton, Raymond, Della Sisters, Sydney Mason and Co.

CRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Cambo, Harry Taylor, Little Dando, Will and Roze, Alvarr, Wright, Aitken, and Co., Duncan and Brasque, Bert and Dora, Pallister's Pictures.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.
Sole Proprietor and Manager, RICH. WALDON.
Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.
CALL, Monday, Sept. 30, 1907.
Hadj Abdullah Troupe, Fanny Humber, Selby and Myers, Alice Blandford, Willie Frecar, Billy Williams, Gladys and Alber, The Trippers, Gus Harris.

General-Manager, HARRY MCKELVIE.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.
NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL, Monday, Sept. 30.
Rehearsal 12.30. The Bouncing Dillons, Chas. Casseli, The Selwyns, Mlle. Lucretia, New Operascope, Piquo, Grant and Allen, Mlle. Ghita Corri.
Artists Requiring Immediate Dates, apply H. PERCIVAL YOUNG, Sole Booking Representative, Shakespeare Theatre Offices, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.
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Sept. 23, 1907.

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"If Those Lips Could Only Speak"
Is not a Free Song:
No one but myself must sing same.—WILL GODWIN.

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All artists carrying scenery must have same fireproofed in accordance with L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.
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In cases of emergency after office hours, Mr. Baugh may be consulted at the Foresters' Theatre, Cambridge-road, E.
Telephone, 5954 Avenue.
Telegraphic address, "Stageyness, London."

CALLS.

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MONDAY, SEPT. 30, 1907.

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Tennyson and Wallis, Grace Langley, Wild, Willie, and West, Carina Sisters, Bert Coote's Girls, Enrico Marcialo Trio, Tom Yorke, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Tiller's "Alabama Coon," Spangles and Sawdust, Sadie Simpson, Anthony, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Mlle. Flora Lumiere, W. B. Raby, The Custances, Coverdale, Will van Allen, Sisters Lytton, Chapman and Cairns, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
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PAVILION, LEICESTER.
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"A Wife's Triumph."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"A Woman's Pluck."

THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.
"Under the Russian Flag."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Picture Entertainment.

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Matinée Monday.
John E. Coyle, Sisters Melba, Leonard Mortimer's Co., Royston and Royce, Ernie Williams, Mabel Le Roy, Billie Burford, Sisters Jonghmanns, Raymond.

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Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Tony Iveson, Dolly Harmer, Flo Wood, Cosgrave and Burns, Fred Hallam, Rose Gaston, Three Demons, Ruby Bijou, Raymond, "Sorrows of Satan."

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Herbert Rule, Phil Bransby, Ethel Dunford, Lew Lake and Co., Blanche and Diacoff, Bob Hamilton, Meir and Mora, Harding and Preston, Norman Grant, Lionel Vaughan and Co., Raymond.

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All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band Parts.
Matinée every Monday.
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(Felix McGlennon.) The Daintiest of Ditties, by a World-famed Composer.

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(John James, Esquire.) (Lawrence, Mellor, & Gifford.)
Those who featured "Good-night, Mr. Brown, I'm Out," should secure this At ONCE

THE MOON HAS HIS EYES ON YOU.
(Johnson & Albert von Tilzer.) An Ideal Number for Moon Effects.

WON'T YOU GO WITH ME TO GOGO?
(Lambe & Thurban.) A Tale of Timbuctoo.

CHERRY.
(Gillespie & Albert.) Vocal Version of the famous Intermezzo.

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(Castling & Godfrey.) A Melody for the Multitude.

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(Arthurs & Murphy).
A Quaint Conceit with a characteristic "Murphy" Melody.

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PANSY.
(Wilmott & Darewski.) A Charming Number for Floral Effects.

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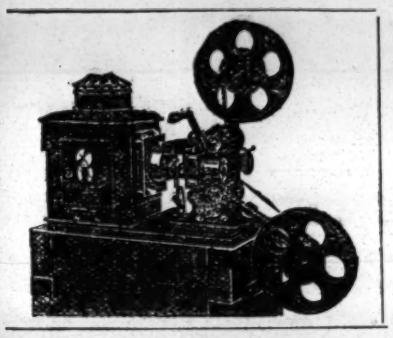

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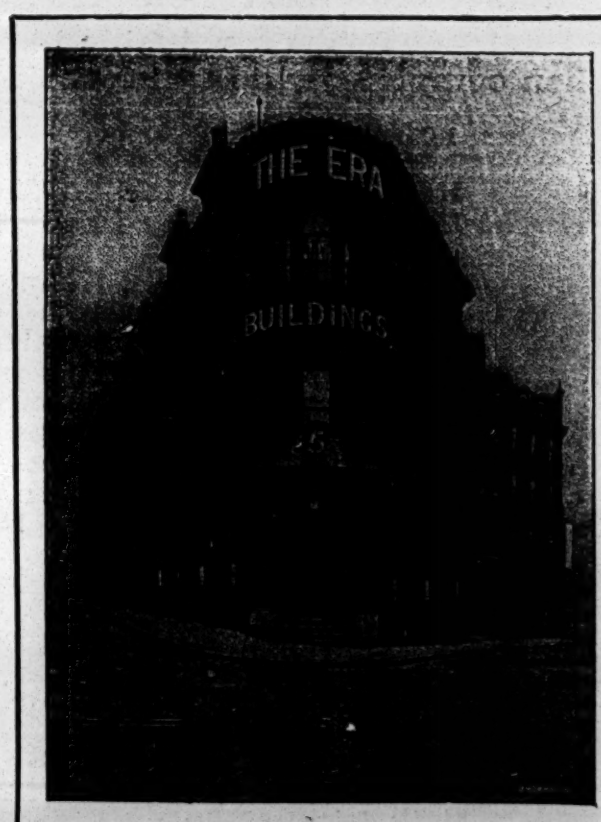

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